

## Three-Time 441

Chapter 441: 441. A blessing in disguise

Old Man Wen quickly stood up, “Doctor Su is too humble. I dare not ask for advice. I came here this time to exchange ideas with Doctor Su.” He admired Su Liang’s beautiful face, clear eyes, and extraordinary presence, and couldn’t help but have a good impression of her.

“Please sit down, no need to be too formal.” Su Liang smiled, “Senior Wen can just call me by my name. The titles of divine or ghost doctors are nothing more than vanity. None of us are great immortals, but since we have chosen this path, we ought to do our best, so as not to live up to the name of a healer.”

Old Man Wen clapped his hands, “Young friend, your thoughts are exactly the same as mine!”

Wen Ran couldn’t help but laugh. Seeing Su Liang looking at her, she revealed a shy but generous and bright smile, “My grandfather has been longing to meet Doctor Su for a long time. Today, he feels as close to you as an old friend. He probably wishes Doctor Su was his granddaughter!”

“Ahem!” Old Man Wen coughed lightly, “Ranran, don’t talk nonsense.”

Wen Ran blinked at Su Liang, and Su Liang’s lips curved slightly, “That’s my honor.”

Qi Yan brought hot tea and desserts. Su Liang asked the Wen family’s grandfather and granddaughter if they were hungry and needed to rest in the guesthouse first.

Wen Ran’s stomach growled, and Old Man Wen laughed, “I haven’t traveled this far in many years. At my age, I really need to eat something and take a nap.”

After Su Liang ordered, Qi Yan quickly prepared it.

While waiting, Old Man Wen asked Wen Ran to take out the gift he had prepared for Su Liang.

Wen Ran unwrapped the bundle and took out an oil paper package. After unwrapping three thick layers of oil paper, Su Liang finally saw what it was.

Two books, which seemed old but well preserved, with only slight wear on the covers.

Wen Ran handed them over, and Su Liang’s eyes brightened. They were actually the long-lost Thousand-Poison Formula and Antidote Formula! Su Liang had only heard of these two ancient texts from Imperial Physician Gao, who knew about Su Liang and Gu Ling’s great abilities and suggested that they could look for them. If they could find them, Su Liang’s ability in detoxification would be greatly improved.

“The last rumor about these two books was that they were in the hands of a divine doctor surnamed Feng, but that was a very long time ago. Over generations, it’s unknown where they ended up.” That’s what Imperial Physician Gao had said back then.

As for Old Man Wen, Su Liang and Gu Ling hadn’t previously heard of him. Since he was found on Xingluo Island, he was no ordinary person, just that his past was too low-key, not greedy for fame

and fortune, and well-hidden. Su Liang didn't expect that these two treasured ancient texts she had been looking for would end up in her hands.

"This is exactly the treasure I've been looking for!" Su Liang didn't hide her surprise, "Senior Wen has brought me such a great gift right away. I don't know how to repay you."

Seeing Su Liang's reaction, Old Man Wen knew she appreciated the value, and he looked at his granddaughter, saying with heartfelt emotion, "I'm an old man now with only this one granddaughter left. In the past, I didn't want to cause trouble, so she didn't live a good life, and I won't be able to take care of her for much longer. If Miss Su could look after Ranran, I could leave this world in peace."

Wen Ran frowned, "Grandfather, don't say that... "

Old Man Wen laughed, "It's nothing. Life and death are natural processes. I'm old enough now that I can take everything in stride; I just worry about you and want to find you a good home."

Wen Ran rubbed her forehead, "Here we go again. If they didn't know better, they'd think my grandfather wants me to marry Doctor Su!"

Old Man Wen looked at Su Liang. She nodded, "Senior Wen and Sister Ran are welcome to stay here and not leave. I'll be responsible for Ran's future."

Not only because of these two treasured ancient texts, but also because of Gu Ling's previous interactions with this grandfather-granddaughter pair, and what she saw today, Su Liang quite liked them. Old Man Wen was easygoing and reasonable, while Wen Ran was an innocent and yet sensible and generous girl. Moreover, Su Liang wanted to consult Old Man Wen whenever she encountered problems in the future.

Actually, it was the same for Old Man Wen. He gave away a family heirloom at their first meeting and asked if Su Liang could take care of his granddaughter because he disliked beating around the bush. Moreover, Gu Ling had interacted with them before and saved them without asking for repayment. In addition, they had heard many rumors about the couple Gu Ling and Su Liang. Old Man Wen had no doubts about Su Liang's character and ability, and today's meeting only confirmed his admiration.

Hearing Su Liang's straightforward and sincere agreement, Old Man Wen couldn't help but sigh, "We were right to come here; we should have come earlier."

Just then, Nangong Qian led Gu Xiaonuan in. The eyes of the Wen family's grandfather and granddaughter couldn't help but be glued to Gu Xiaonuan and couldn't move away.

Su Liang thought that Old Master Wen was going to hold Gu Xiaonuan, but he said that after traveling a long way, he would wash up and change his clothes before getting close to the child.

Although the Wen family's grandfather and grandson seemed to be dressed like they were from the countryside, their manners were quite proper and they were not pretentious. Su Liang liked such people.

Qi Yan brought some hot soup and hot rice. Su Liang wasn't hungry, but she ate a little with the Wen family's grandfather and grandson.

The guesthouse had been prepared beforehand. After dinner, Qi Yan took the Wen family's grandfather and grandson to the guesthouse, where hot water for bathing had been prepared.

Once Wen Ran entered the room, she saw several sets of new clothes and shoes prepared for her. The fabric was elegant and felt comfortable, and the size was just right. There were also new clothes for Old Master Wen.

The grandfather and grandchild didn't know whether it was Gu Ling who had anticipated their arrival and prepared for it in advance, or whether Su Liang had asked someone to prepare after seeing them today. Either way, it was evident that Su Liang treated them with great care. Being warmly welcomed at a stranger's home made them feel at ease.

After delivering the child to the Wan family, Gu Ling returned. By the time he arrived at Yuanming Pavilion, Su Liang was already engrossed in reading the "Antidote Formula."

Gu Ling walked over to Su Liang, put his hand on her shoulder, and asked, "The one given by Senior Wen?"

Without looking up, Su Liang replied, "Yes, it's those two that we've been looking for." It really was true that when people say 'seek far and wide, only to find it easily in the end.'

It could also be considered fate and coincidence that Gu Ling met the grandfather and grandson. It was because of a chance encounter and his unique ability. If Gu Ling hadn't stepped in to save them at the time, even if Old Master Wen had heard many rumors about Su Liang, he wouldn't have come here rashly. He was genuinely intending to visit, but between thinking about it and doing it, he needed an opportunity to make the low-profile and reclusive Old Master Wen take this step.

Gu Ling picked up the other book, the "Thousand Poisons Formula," and began flipping through it beside Su Liang.

When the Wen family's grandfather and grandson came to Yuanming Pavilion again, they had washed and changed their clothes, looking refreshed.

Upon entering the door, Old Master Wen went straight to Gu Xiaonuan.

Gu Xiaonuan, who was not shy, let Old Master Wen hold her and sweetly called him "master."

Old Master Wen was taken aback for a moment before smiling, with his eyes squinting, as Su Liang explained, "She is treating Senior Wen as one of my masters." With his aged face and white hair, Old Master Wen looked quite similar to Qiao Cong, who had just left home a few days earlier.

Old Master Wen was actually considering taking Su Liang as his disciple, but for one, he hadn't yet shown his abilities for Su Liang to see, and second, he felt that Su Liang's medical skills might be even higher than his. So he planned to wait and see.

However, Su Liang took the initiative to say, "Since Xiaonuan has already called you 'master,' if Senior Wen doesn't mind, please accept me as your disciple!"

Old Master Wen nodded without hesitation, "I couldn't ask for more, but at your young age, you're already so skilled. Maybe there's nothing left for me to teach you."

"How could that be? I'm sure there's still a lot I can learn from my master." Su Liang had no doubt about Old Master Wen's abilities.

They were all delighted with the outcome. Master Wen became Su Liang's fifth master but her first medical master.

Old Master Wen was somewhat surprised by the "first" title. Su Liang laughed and said that the expert who taught her medicine in the past didn't allow her to become his disciple. That was in her past life when she learned from many teachers in school, who taught her different stages or subjects and were not the same type as the masters here.

Old Master Wen looked serious, "Then I must quickly teach you all my life's knowledge so as not to be unworthy of being your first medical master!"

"There are some problems that I haven't been able to solve, and I would like to consult my master about them," Su Liang said.

Barely sitting down, Old Master Wen stood up again, handed Gu Xiaonuan to Wen Ran, who was watching anxiously, and said, "Let's go, where shall we talk?"

Su Liang and Gu Ling invited the old man Wen upstairs to the study.

Wen Ran taught Gu Xiaonuan to call her aunt, and Gu Xiaonuan not only called her, but also leaned over and kissed her, kissing right on the red birthmark on Wen Ran's face.

"Flower!" Gu Xiaonuan pointed at Wen Ran's birthmark and laughed.

For the first time in her life, Wen Ran is moved by a naive child. Over the years, she has become accustomed to the ridicule of her appearance by others. Because she does not know these people and does not care how they evaluate her, she can be indifferent. But when she came to Su Mansion, where there were many beautiful people, Wen Ran liked the people in this family and naturally hoped to be accepted. Everyone in this family showed no unusual expression towards her appearance, she was certain.

Gu Xiaonuan stretched out her little hand, "Out!"

Wen Ran couldn't help but laugh, "Okay, aunt will take you outside to play." As she spoke, she picked up the hat next to Gu Xiaonuan, put it on her, and carried her outside.

At the doorway, a person who came in face to face made Wen Ran stunned because she didn't understand: why was there a monk in Su Mansion?

What happened below was even more surprising to Wen Ran. Gu Xiaonuan shouted "Uncle" at the monk?!

Does Su Liang have an unknown brother who became a monk... this is what Wen Ran thought at the moment.

Cheng Yun went to Huguo Temple early this morning and had just returned, unaware that there were guests at home, so he paused when he saw Wen Ran.

"I came to visit the mansion with my grandfather today, my surname is Wen. Are you Su Liang's sister's brother?" Wen Ran asked.

Cheng Yun answered, "I am her brother."

Wen Ran nodded, “Young Master Su, nice to meet you.” Seeing the hair growing on Cheng Yun’s bald head, she figured he had returned to lay life.

Cheng Yun: ...This is the first time someone called him Young Master Su. Although he had returned to lay life, he didn’t actually know what his original surname should be, so Su was fine too.

“Uncle, Flower!” Gu Xiaonuan pointed at Wen Ran’s birthmark on her face and told Cheng Yun.

Cheng Yun’s eyes were gentle, “Hmm, it’s a flower.”

“Sister Su Liang is upstairs with my grandfather.” Wen Ran told Cheng Yun again, and then carried Gu Xiaonuan out.

“Uncle!” Gu Xiaonuan called Cheng Yun while lying on Wen Ran’s shoulder.

Cheng Yun then silently followed them.

The old man Wen said his name was Wen Ming, and he laughed that he didn’t want to be “famous.”

The first question that Su Liang asked Wen Ming was about an issue that had been bothering her and Gu Ling for a long time, but they hadn’t found a solution yet: How to recover after losing memory due to medication?

There is an urgent need for this at the moment – although it is not important whether Lian Shan’s memory is restored or not, and she doesn’t care about it herself, it might be possible to provide some important information if the memory of Old White and Ying Ying, who were rescued from Xingluo Island not long ago, could be restored. Since they had lost their memory due to medication, it meant that they knew some things that Mo Yan didn’t want outsiders to know.

After Su Liang finished asking her question, Wen Ming’s expression became serious, “What kind of drug caused the memory loss?”

Gu Ling immediately took out the prescription and the pill for Wen Ming to see.

Wen Ming first looked at the prescription and didn’t say anything, then picked up the pill and smelled it before picking up the prescription again, “I need to check carefully.”

Su Liang and Gu Ling looked at each other, feeling hopeful.

Gu Ling stood up to open the window, and saw Wen Ran and Cheng Yun each holding Gu Xiaonuan’s hand and playing by the lake.

When Gu Ling returned, Wen Ming had begun discussing with Su Liang. He quietly stood aside and listened, pouring tea for them.

When the sun wasn’t so warm anymore, Wen Ran and Cheng Yun took Gu Xiaonuan back to Yuanming Pavilion. Wen Ran had already found out whether Cheng Yun was a monk and why he was Su Liang’s brother during this period.

Cheng Yun had previously heard Gu Ling mention the Wen family’s grandfather and granddaughter, and since Wen Ran said that Su Liang had already acknowledged her grandfather as her master, Cheng Yun asked and answered questions, almost telling Wen Ran all his life’s experiences, including the fact that his biological father and brother were both bad guys.

Gu Ling came downstairs and called Cheng Yun to help him start the fire.

After a while, Gu Xiaonuan called her dad, and Wen Ran carried her to find Gu Ling and Cheng Yun. To her surprise, the rumored beauty Gu was actually cooking.

This is a “shocking journey” that everyone who comes to Su Mansion must go through, and Wen Ran is no exception.

Today, the Marquis Zhong Xin Mansion sent fresh mushrooms. After Gu Ling processed them, they were fried in oil. The aroma filled the room before they were even out of the pot.

Placing a plate of the fried mushrooms, Gu Ling handed it to Wen Ran and told her to take it to Wen Ming and Su Liang while it was still hot.

Wen Ran went upstairs with Gu Xiaonuan in one hand and a plate in the other, already hearing Wen Ming’s laughter.

Entering the room, Su Liang was seen writing something on a piece of paper, while Wen Ming paced around the room with a smile, “I think it’s almost right this time, and when the medicine is ready, you can let that Lian Shan girl you mentioned try it, it’s harmless to the body.”

“I think so too, my master reminded me. The direction I was thinking with Gu Ling before was wrong.” Su Liang picked up the written paper and was also full of smiles.

“Mom! Grandmaster!” Gu Xiaonuan called again, and the two in the room who were focused on medical skills finally returned to their senses and looked at them.

Wen Ran carried the plate of Fried Fresh Mushrooms over, “This is made by the prince, said to let grandpa and Sister Su Liang eat it while it’s hot.”

“Little Gu can actually cook?” Wen Ming was surprised and tasted a bit, nodding his head repeatedly, “Delicious!”

“Master, take a break and have something to eat. I’ll also go and cook something for you and Sister Ran to eat.” Su Liang said.

Gu Xiaonuan was carried away by Su Liang, leaving only Wen Ming and Wen Ran in the room. The grandfather and granddaughter ate the delicious Fried Fresh Mushrooms and talked about their feelings after coming to Su Mansion today.

“Grandpa, this is the real paradise.” Wen Ran’s face was serious, and then she laughed, pointing to the red birthmark on her face, “Nuannuan said there are flowers on my face.”

Wen Ming sighed, “We really turned misfortune into fortune when we met Xiaogu that day.”

Su Liang went to the kitchen and told Gu Ling that she had thought of the antidote prescription under Wen Ming’s guidance.

“Good.” Gu Ling nodded while gently stirring the chicken soup in the pot, “I’ll make the medicine tonight, and let Lian Shan try it tomorrow.”

Chapter 442: 442. Reward you with another chance

After putting their daughter to sleep, Su Liang and Gu Ling kept busy until the second half of the night, finally making the medicine determined under Weng Ming's guidance during the day. Now they had an abundance of materials at their disposal, and lacking none, quickly gathered them all.

Looking at the two small round pills on the table, Su Liang sighed with relief, "Finally... but we still don't know the effect; only after Lian Shan has taken it tomorrow will we know if it works. I hope nothing goes wrong." Both she and Weng Ming could confirm that the medicine was harmless to people, but they couldn't be entirely sure of its effects on memory.

"Let's sleep," Gu Ling said as he put the two pills in a bottle and cleaned up the cluttered table.

The two of them went to bed after a simple wash.

Early the next morning, Su Liang got up and went to the dungeon to see Nian Ruxue.

Nian Ruxue was still alive but on the verge of madness. Seeing Su Liang, she couldn't possibly have a friendly face. She knew Su Liang wouldn't kill her for the time being, but she couldn't let her go either. The daily torture drove her almost mad.

Su Liang didn't bother with small talk and directly controlled Nian Ruxue, forcing a pill into her mouth.

Nian Ruxue stiffened and fell unconscious.

What Su Liang fed Nian Ruxue was an amnesic drug. She and Gu Ling had made the antidote last night, planning to have Lian Shan test it. But upon waking today, Su Liang decided to find someone in the mansion to test it on first, and Nian Ruxue was the chosen one.

After taking Nian Ruxue's pulse, Su Liang didn't notice any abnormalities and thought she would wake up soon.

About a quarter of an hour later, Su Liang saw Nian Ruxue's eyelashes flutter, indicating she was waking up.

As soon as Nian Ruxue opened her eyes, Su Liang saw the confusion on her face.

Nian Ruxue stared blankly at Su Liang, and then around the room, mumbling, "Who are you...?"

Su Liang didn't answer but took out another pill made last night and shoved it into Nian Ruxue's mouth.

This time, Nian Ruxue did not faint, but held her head and kept complaining of a headache. Su Liang thought it was due to the strong stimulation the drug had caused her brain in such a short time.

As she kept yelling, Nian Ruxue began to curse Su Liang, her eyes filled with hatred, "What have you done to me...?"

Su Liang saw that Nian Ruxue had already remembered their past grudges, her expression the same as before.

With that, Su Liang left without asking her anything else.

Returning to the Yuanming Pavilion, Su Liang told Gu Ling, "It should be fine. Let Lian Shan try it too. I don't know if the longer memory loss will have any impact."

After breakfast, Su Liang and Gu Ling, along with Gu Xiaonuan, personally went to the Lian Mansion, and Weng Ming also joined them.

Previously, Su Liang had always been busy, so Madam Lin often brought Lian Shan to the Su Mansion, while Su Liang rarely visited the Lin's Family. Seeing her suddenly at their door with a child in tow, Madam Lin was overjoyed, "What a great day! Xiaonuan is here!"

Madam Lin held Gu Xiaonuan and saw an unfamiliar old man with them. Assuming there was some business, she quickly invited them to take a seat.

Yuan Pei happened to be at home as well.

Once all the Lin Family members, except Lian Shan in Jiaye City, had gathered, Su Liang began to speak. She introduced Weng Ming first, and then talked about the amnesic drug and the antidote they had made.

The Lin Family members were all a bit surprised. Lian Shan had lost her memory for over a year, and they had never thought her memory could be restored, as Su Liang had been unable to help at the time.

"No wonder you can become a Divine Doctor, Xiaoliang. You are still studying it after so long." Madam Lin sighed.

It was not long ago that Madam Lin learned about Su Liang's involvement in the case of Ying Ying's memory loss.

"Although it's good that she's alright, one of my masters has also lost his memory. He's old and has no children, so he's been living by his memory alone. The memory loss causes him great pain and he's unable to face reality," Su Liang spoke of Old White. Lian Shan, after all, was young, and she had loved ones who care for and support her, as well as a happy and complete family. The impact of her memory loss was far less than that of Old White's.

Continuing, Su Liang said, "Secondly, they were captured previously. If they can regain their memories, they may provide some important information that could help us solve our current biggest problem."

With these words, Su Liang explained to the Lin Family members why it was necessary to make the antidote. Su Liang also mentioned that they had tested it on someone and it was harmless to the body. However, everyone's constitution is different and it might not be necessary for Lian Shan to recover those memories, so they wanted to consult the Lin family members.

The reason why Lian Shan also tried the antidote after Nian Ruxue was because Nian Ruxue wouldn't cooperate for Su Liang to carefully observe her situation after taking the antidote. It required the person who took the medicine to explain it to him to know how well the memory was restored.



After listening to what Su Liang had said, Lian Shan quickly spoke, "If I can recover, of course, it's best." It was different hearing about the situation from others than having the memory herself.

Father Lin, Mother Lin, and Yuan Pei all said it was no problem. They believed in Su Liang and thought it was a good thing. Yuan Pei naturally had no objections.

Thus, under everyone's watchful eyes, Lian Shan, who was the first to be drugged and lost her memory, took the antidote made by Su Liang and Gu Ling.

"Do you have a headache?" Su Liang sat beside Lian Shan, checking her condition.

"A little," Lian Shan frowned, her face slightly pale.

Su Liang took Lian Shan's pulse, told her not to be nervous, close her eyes, relax her body, and not think about anything.

After a while, Lian Shan opened her eyes, her face full of joy, "I remember everything! Everything!" But before she could finish her sentence, she fainted.

Father Lin, Mother Lin, and Yuan Pei all became nervous. Su Liang held Lian Shan as she took her pulse, and then had Weng Ming check her. They both thought she was fine, perhaps just a big shock from the memory returning, and she just needed a little time to recover.

After watching over Lian Shan for about an hour, she finally woke up slowly.

"How do you feel?" Su Liang asked softly.

Lian Shan opened her eyes and saw Su Liang, but her expression was somewhat confused and slightly nervous, "Who are you... What do you want?"

Su Liang's heart sank: What's going on? Could it be that the antidote not only didn't work, but also caused Shan to lose her memory again?

Madam Lin quickly asked, "Shan'er, do you still recognize your mother?"

"Mother... Where are we?" Lian Shan saw Father Lin, Mother Lin, and Yuan Pei, it was clear that she recognized them all, "Where is my elder brother? He needs to be told right away that Che Yun is a bad person! All the people in the Che family are spies!"

Yuan Pei frowned, "So Shan only recovered her memory before the memory loss, but forgot everything that happened afterward?" Otherwise, she wouldn't have woken up saying such things and not recognizing Su Liang.

Upon further investigation, Su Liang found that Lian Shan had indeed recovered her memory, but she could not remember anything that had happened in the past year or so.

"I'm sorry, I didn't expect this to happen." Su Liang sighed repeatedly.

Father Lin and Mother Lin both reassured her that it was nothing, and compared to the memories of the past sixteen years, the events of the past year or so were trivial.

Su Liang knew they were sincere and wouldn't blame her, but when she looked at Yuan Pei, who was frowning, she didn't know what to say. Because it was during Lian Shan's memory loss before that she was with Che Yun and broke off her engagement with Yuan Pei. Over the past year or so,

Yuan Pei and Lian Shan had truly confirmed their feelings and were already engaged, just waiting to get married.

Yuan Pei smiled wryly, rubbing his forehead, "Don't worry about me, I'm fine..." The twists and turns he'd experienced with Lian Shan had made his emotions quite complicated.

After taking her pulse for a second time, Wen Ming pulled Su Liang aside. "She has just taken the antidote, perhaps she hasn't fully recovered yet."

Su Liang pondered, "Master means..."

"Normally, her memory loss shouldn't have occurred, but the brain is unpredictable," Wen Ming sighed slightly.

"Maybe her memory will gradually recover?" Su Liang thought to herself. "We can't tell for now, we can only wait and see." Or it may not recover at all.

Su Liang asked Lian Shan if her head hurt again, and Lian Shan said it was just a bit hazy.

Madam Lin had already told Lian Shan that all her concerns had passed and everything is well with their family.

Su Liang gave her a calming medicine and told her to have a good rest. They would talk again when she wakes up.

"It's really fine, don't feel guilty. This is a good outcome," Madam Lin comforted Su Liang. "The fact that you've made an antidote is already impressive, and your amnesic master's memory can be restored. I know you're busy, go deal with your work. When Shan'er wakes up, we will properly talk with her about the recent changes."

"Alright, we'll be leaving now." Su Liang looked at Yuan Pei, "If Lian Shan feels unwell when she wakes up, or if she remembers things, inform me immediately."

Yuan Pei seemed calmer, slightly nodding. "No problem." Upon seeing Gu Xiaonuan looking at him, he showed a gentle smile and waved at Gu Xiaonuan.

In the carriage heading back, Su Liang couldn't help but knock her head against the carriage wall, but Gu Ling caught her. "Don't overthink it, it was a success."

"But not a complete success," Su Liang scratched her head, regretting not testing the antidote adequately on Nian Ruxue. However, the outcome was the same regardless of who tested it.

Wen Ming pondered, "The antidote itself is not wrong, but whether it can be further improved, I need to think about it. Even if we change it, we can't ask that miss to try it again, it won't be good for her."

"Yes, that's the best we can do for Lian Shan," Su Liang sighed subtly. She felt sorry, not because she felt she owed Lian Shan, as the Lin's family members accepted the outcome and it wasn't a bad thing for Lian Shan, but it was a bit awkward for Yuan Pei. The main reason was, Su Liang originally planned for Lian Shan to be a guinea

pig, not developing the antidote for her specifically, but for the likely future use by Bai and Yuan Ying. Therefore, Su Liang thought she owed Lian Shan for using her as a guinea pig without the expected result.

But with the current antidote, for Yuan Ying and Bai, it would work as intended and not have the problem Lian Shan faced. After all, they were saved not long ago, and there were no significant events in between.

On the way, Qi Yan suddenly said, "Master, Young Master Cheng Yun is coming."

Cheng Yun arrived on horseback. Dismounting, he greeted Su Liang and Gu Ling with a solemn face, "I just received news that something has happened in Jiaye City." He handed them Lian Shun's letter.

The carriage stopped on the side of the road, as Gu Ling and Su Liang read the letter. Lian Shun wrote that people from Xingluo Island had sneaked into Jiaye City and kidnapped three children.

"Something did happen after all," Su Liang recalled Gu Ling's worries.

Gu Ling remained calm, "We don't know the outcome yet, don't worry too much. We should soon have more updates." Regardless of the situation, they had to wait until the results were known before deciding their next move.

Upon returning to Su Mansion, Wen Ming went to think about how to improve the antidote.

Su Liang and Gu Ling had prepared two antidotes the previous night and used both. They planned to make a few more and send them to Yuan Ying and Bai in Jiaye City before obtaining new information about the city.

Suddenly, it was evening, and Su Liang and Gu Ling had prepared the antidote. Wen Ming had locked himself in his room to think, asking not to be disturbed.

Dinner was prepared by Weng Ran and Qiuyue together. They had tasted the dishes cooked by Gu Ling and Su Liang and wanted to show their own culinary skills. Although Weng Ran claimed her cooking was average yesterday, it was actually quite good.

Upon receiving Su Liang's praise, Weng Ran was very happy, "I don't know much, I still have a lot to learn." As Weng Ming's granddaughter, of course she knew medical skills. Perhaps she was not as good as Su Liang, but among her peers, she was definitely one of the best. She just didn't have much experience in practicing medicine.

Weng Ming did not come to Yuanming Pavilion for dinner, so Su Liang sent it to him instead.

"Master, don't think too much, relax and take a good rest, maybe inspiration will come," Su Liang said. "The current antidote can meet our immediate needs. And in the future, if our people are drugged and lose their memories, they can quickly take the antidote without experiencing the problem Lian Shan had."

"We can only settle for this for now." Weng Ming felt that the antidote was not perfect, failing to meet Su Liang and Gu Ling's trust in him. After all, this was the first

favor he had done for Su Liang since he took her as his disciple. But in reality, he was overthinking it.

Close to midnight, Su Liang and Gu Ling finally received news from Jiaye City. They had not slept and waited for it all along.

Gu Ling read it and handed it to Su Liang. After seeing that it was a safe situation, she sighed with relief, "That's great, Lian Ershan is still very smart. This crisis is resolved, and now, it'll be much more difficult for the people on Xingluo Island to come ashore or leave."

At the end of the letter, Lian Shun wrote about his confession to Ying Ying, and every word seemed to be filled with his joy.

Su Liang was happy for Lian Shun and Ying Ying. She always believed that they were born to be together, and it was only natural for them to end up together.

However, after reading the letter, Su Liang realized something awkward: they would soon send the antidote to Ying Ying and Lao Bai in Jiaye City. Ying Ying would definitely want to take the antidote if she had the chance to regain her memory. And just like Lian Shan, she would forget Lian Shun's wonderful confession...

Su Liang could imagine how furious Lian Shun would be when he found out. Of course, he would support Ying Ying in taking the antidote, but he would certainly be frustrated, just like Yuan Pei was today.

"This is good news for Qiao Jing." Gu Ling said calmly.

Su Liang coughed lightly, "Well, I can imagine how Lian Ershan shows off his successful confession in front of Qiao Jing, seizing every opportunity to flaunt their love. There is no choice but to add some novelty to his love life."

"Tomorrow morning, let Cheng Yun take the antidote to Jiaye City and stay there to help." Gu Ling said. The capital was also important. Sheng Yue was not trapped on the island, so he might come back to kill at any time. Therefore, Gu Ling could not leave his home without an emergency.

Su Liang nodded, "That's fine. Cheng Yun is not weak. If Master regains his memory, let him come back home. He needs to be comforted by Gu Xiaonuan to heal."

The next day, Cheng Yun agreed to go to Jiaye City without hesitation.

Su Liang gave Cheng Yun a wig and a hat, saying they were for warmth, wind protection, and disguise. His current short haircut was very handsome but too eye-catching.

Cheng Yun put on the wig and felt strange.

Su Liang asked Gu Xiaonuan, "Does your uncle look good?"

"Like a flower!" Gu Xiaonuan had her own unique answer to the question.

Upon hearing this, Cheng Yun smiled and hugged Gu Xiaonuan, speaking to her with a serious expression, "Uncle is going to the south. When you grow up, I'll take you out with me."

Gu Xiaonuan couldn't understand and rubbed Cheng Yun's face with her little hand, "Uncle!"

In the meantime, Yuan Pei came to report his safety. He said that Lian Shan woke up today without any discomfort. Unfortunately, her memories before her amnesia were confirmed to have returned, but her memories of the past year were truly gone.

Yuan Pei believed that this was not a bad thing, as Lian Shan had once forgotten their childhood relationship and memories, but now recalled them. They would have no more issues, and he was confident of that.

Cheng Yun reluctantly said goodbye to Gu Xiaonuan, then secretly visited Wan Family to bid farewell to Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu. Finally, he left the capital and headed south to Jiaye City. In addition to the antidote, he also brought a letter from Gu Ling to Lian Shun, with a sentence: Good job with the confession, rewarded with another chance to do it again.

Chapter 443: 443. Gu Xiaoling, come over here

After Cheng Yun left, Su Liang went to Lian Mansion again to see Lian Shan.

Lian Shan's complexion was good, but when she saw Su Liang, the familiar feeling of knowing each other for a long time was gone, replaced by curiosity and admiration. She had already learned from her parents about what had happened over the past year and knew about Su Liang's abilities, as well as the help and care she and Gu Ling had shown to Lian Family.

"How do you feel now?" Su Liang asked.

Lian Shan shook her head, "There's nothing uncomfortable, it's just that my family now feels a bit unfamiliar."

Su Liang took Lian Shan's pulse and found everything normal.

The wedding dress Lian Shan had been embroidering before yesterday was on the table, because according to the original plan, she and Yuan Pei were going to get married in the early next year.

Seeing Su Liang looking at the wedding dress, Lian Shan's expression became a little melancholy, "Yuan Brother and I grew up together, and we got engaged when we were young. I felt the most relaxed and at ease when I was with him. I really don't understand what I was thinking back then when I broke off our engagement for a man I didn't even know well. Moreover, after Grandpa Yuan passed away, those days were tough for him..."

As she spoke, Lian Shan's eyes turned red, and tears flowed down her cheeks.

Su Liang let out a small sigh, patted her shoulder and comforted her, "It's okay, it's all in the past."

But Lian Shan shook her head, "Whenever I think of how I once hurt Yuan Brother, and how he didn't hold it against me and still loved me, wanted to marry me, and treated me so well, I feel guilty and unworthy of him, and even more so of Grandpa Yuan."

"You were too naive back then and were deceived by someone. It's not your fault." Su Liang said earnestly. It was normal for teenagers to be confused and have misconceptions about love. At that time, "Che Yun" was indeed outstanding and had close ties with the Lian Family. Yuan Pei, on the other hand, was too familiar to Lian Shan, making it easy to overlook his efforts, especially because he was naturally

tolerant and forbearing. In fact, “Che Yun” pursued Lian Shan with ulterior motives, wanting to control her after her memory loss, so that she wouldn’t recall anything to reveal their plans. The dissolution of their engagement also happened after Lian Shan’s memory loss.

Now that “Che Yun” no longer existed, Qiao Jing completely severed ties with his past dark life, and Situ Xie, who had controlled him, was long dead.

“Would it be too shameless of me to accept Yuan Brother’s kindness again as if nothing had happened?” Lian Shan asked, clutching the handkerchief in her hand and looking at Su Liang.

Su Liang smiled, “If he truly loves you, then the best thing you can do for him is not to dwell on the bad things and be with him wholeheartedly, treating him better in the future. If you reject him because of those random thoughts, that’s the real harm to him, don’t you think?”

The fog in Lian Shan’s eyes disappeared instantly. “You’re right, I understand.” As she finished, she sighed and held Su Liang’s hand, “Actually, I think it’s right to have my memory back. When I had amnesia, everyone only told me the good things, glossing over the bad ones. But I should remember those things because otherwise, it’d be unfair to Yuan Brother.”

Earlier, Su Liang had heard footsteps stopping at the door without leaving, and she knew it was Yuan Pei, but she didn’t tell Lian Shan.

Yuan Pei didn’t intend to eavesdrop. Madam Lin told him that Su Liang had come, asking him to go to Lian Shan’s room as well.

After finishing talking to Lian Shan, Su Liang opened the door and saw Yuan Pei standing outside. He didn’t bother to pretend to have just arrived, asking only how Lian Shan was feeling.

“She’s fine. She wants to see you. You go in, I’m leaving.” Su Liang waved to Lian Shan as she left.

As Yuan Pei entered the room, he saw Lian Shan’s eyes were red. He sighed, “We agreed the day before that I’d accompany you to the academy today. Are we still going?”

Lian Shan nodded immediately, “Let’s go.” Then she asked, “Which academy? Have I been there before?”

Yuan Pei laughed lightly, “You’ve been there before. The leaf collage on the wall was made from leaves we picked up from the academy mountain this autumn. I even climbed a tree to pluck some of them.”

Lian Shan looked at the colorful picture in her room made of various leaves that formed an orange tree. Her favorite place to spend time with Yuan Pei since childhood was the Orange Garden in Jiaye City. They spent many hours there together.

“Next year let’s go back to our hometown to pick oranges.” Lian Shan smiled.

Yuan Pei’s eyes softened, “Alright.”

When Su Liang returned home, she saw Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu helping Gu Xiaonuan walk by the lake.

“How come you’re back today?” Su Liang walked over and asked.

Ji Xiaoshu turned around when he heard the voice, let go of Gu Xiaonuan, and ran into Su Liang’s arms, “I missed you, Master!”

Su Liang rubbed Ji Xiaoshu’s head, hearing Zhengzheng say they’d go back to Wan Family to sleep tonight.

Gu Ling’s figure appeared at the window on the second floor of Yuanming Pavilion, but seeing Su Liang was not looking at him, he flew down from the window, pulled Ji Xiaoshu away, and then hugged Su Liang and left...

Ji Xiaoshu was very angry, “Master, are you the one acting like a child? Can you not live without your wife?”

Gu Ling did not look back, and replied with one word, “Yes.”

Ji Xiaoshu: ...

Gu Ling was not competing with the children for affection. He had something to discuss with Su Liang. However, he would definitely not explain it to Ji Xiaoshu. This was the way the master and disciple interacted.

Back in Yuanming Pavilion, Gu Ling informed Su Liang about what he had discovered during his study of the “Thousand-Poison Formula”: a mysterious poison called Guixi Pill could make people enter a state of fake death.

“Fake death? What happens next? How can they recover?” Su Liang was immediately interested.

Gu Ling showed her the unfolded “Antidote Formula”, as the two books were a set. The page he turned to was the antidote for the Guixi Pill. However, the antidote had to be taken within three days, or the person would be really gone.

“Very magical.” Su Liang sat down and read it carefully. “Has someone really tested it? Could it just be a hypothesis since the Guixi Pill is part of the fatal poisons section of the ‘Thousand-Poison Formula?’ ”

“Let’s try it out.” Gu Ling said.

Su Liang nodded, “Let’s choose someone from the dungeon to test the poison. If they die, it won’t matter.” She glanced at the thickness of the “Thousand-Poison Formula”. “Although there are not a thousand poisons, we know about many of them. But there are also many we have never seen. The scum in the dungeon is just wasting food. Let’s use them as our test subjects.” Including Nian Ruxue, Nangong Lin, and Yue Mei.

When Weng Ming learned that Su Liang and Gu Ling intended to make Guixi Pills, he was interested. Although he knew the contents of the two books he had given Su Liang by heart, he hadn’t practiced most of the medicines due to the lack of available herbs. He had not seen the real effects of those medicines.

There is a great advantage to having Su Liang as a disciple, Weng Ming no longer has to worry about medicinal ingredients. Su Liang and Gu Ling are capable of finding even the rarest of ingredients. They themselves have already stored many rare herbs, many of which were collected and cherished by Lao Bai throughout his life and gifted to Su Liang.

Su Liang told Weng Ming that he could use whatever herbs he wanted and create whatever medicine he fancied without holding back. They also provided test subjects for experimental tests.

For Weng Ming, it was like a dream come true, not to mention being around adorable children all the time and having his granddaughter spend her days happily with her friends.

Guixi Pill required many ingredients, and it took Su Liang and Gu Ling two days to gather them all after searching through the treasure vault of the Imperial Palace. In response to this, Weng Ming could only say that he is very lucky to have such a disciple. He would have been happy to worship Su Liang as his teacher if it allowed him access to such a wide variety of herbs. Moreover, Su Liang does indeed know many things that Weng Ming doesn't, especially in the area of treating external injuries.

Gu Ling and Su Liang shared their masters. After another two days, the three master and disciples made a Guixi Pill together.

"Wait for the antidote to be made before testing." Weng Ming was very excited.

"Let's test it now. Test it earlier and save some food." Su Liang said.

Weng Ming's mouth twitched, "You guys decide."

The test subject chosen was Nangong Lin, who was in the best physical and emotional condition.

In the dungeon, Nangong Lin sat cross-legged and asked calmly when he saw Gu Ling, "Ling'er, are you here to send your master on his final journey?"

Gu Ling nodded slightly without saying a word, took out a pill bottle, and walked towards Nangong Lin.

As Gu Ling approached, Nangong Lin's composure disappeared. It was apparent that his previous calmness was just a facade. He frowned and said to Gu Ling, "No matter what, I am still your master. Without my teachings, how could you have achieved what you have today?"

Ignoring him, Nangong Lin clenched his fists, "Ling'er, you guys are fighting against Xingluo Island, and you need masters. Give your master a chance to atone for his sins! Since you can forgive Jingjing, why must you put me in such a deadly situation? You could use medicine to make me forget my past, heal my body, and make me do whatever you want in the future. How is this not beneficial for you?"

Gu Ling had already reached Nangong Lin, with an indifferent expression. "It's too late." After saying that, he grabbed Nangong Lin's chin and stuffed the Guixi Pill into his mouth.

Nangong Lin's face quickly turned pale, his body stiffened and he fell down. After a brief moment, he stopped moving.

Gu Ling checked Nangong Lin's breathing. There was none, and he looked like a dead man.

The antidote had not been made yet, so Nangong Lin remained in the dungeon.



Two more days passed, and Gu Ling and Su Liang finished the antidote for the Guixi Pill, but they waited until the third day to give Nangong Lin the antidote.

About two quarters of an hour later, Nangong Lin gradually regained consciousness. When he opened his eyes and saw Gu Ling, he knew where he was. He thought he had been unconscious for an unknown period of time and couldn't remember anything else. He was a bit confused, "You said you were going to kill me, so why am I still alive?" It felt like he had died once, but he couldn't remember anything else.

"I was just testing the poison on you. The poison is lethal, but the antidote works as it should." Gu Ling said and then walked away.

Nangong Lin's face froze, cursing at Gu Ling's retreating figure, "You guys are celebrating too early! The people of Xingluo Island will eventually ruin your family! Just you wait!"

Gu Ling couldn't be bothered with him, returned to Yuanming Pavilion, and told Su Liang about their success. The Guixi Pill and the antidote had the same effects as described in the book. Even though they didn't need them right now, who knew if they would come in handy later? So, they made three more Guixi Pills and three antidotes for storage.

Last year, when Su Liang and Gu Ling left home and encountered some troubles afterwards, Lao Bai prepared various medicines with the available medical herbs in the household and stored them in the underground secret chamber. In the past few days, Weng Ming had been frequenting the secret chamber, treasuring the rows of medicine cabinets.

After that, the capital city was temporarily peaceful. Sheng Yue's whereabouts were unknown. Gu Ling and Su Liang stayed home, looking after their children and making various medicines according to the books, with Weng Ming available to consult whenever they encountered any issues.

One day during lunch, Weng Ran asked, "Cheng Yun should be arriving at Jiaye City, right?"

Su Liang nodded, "He should be there today." She chuckled and said to Gu Ling, "What do you think Lian Ershan's reaction will be when he reads your letter?"

Gu Ling very calmly said, "Gu Xiaoling, come here, try and see if I don't kill you."

Su Liang couldn't hold back her laughter, "The words are similar, but the tone is wrong. Great God, can you imitate Lian Ershan's tone?"

Gu Ling shook his head, refusing. His reason was, "It's too silly."

Gu Xiaonuan learned a new word, "Silly!"

Ji Xiaoshu chuckled and asked Gu Xiaonuan, "Little sister, who is silly?" He kept glancing at Gu Ling, giving her a hint.

As a result, Gu Xiaonuan giggled and pointed at Ji Xiaoshu, "Big brother! Silly!"

Gu Ling's lips curled into a faint smile, "Nuannuan is really smart."

Ji Xiaoshu taught Gu Xiaonuan, "It's your dad who is silly."

Gu Xiaonuan quickly learned and clearly said to Ji Xiaoshu, "It's your dad who is silly!"

Everyone burst into laughter.

Ji Xiaoshu held his forehead, "Little sister is really smart. It's true that my dad is a bit silly."

Cheng Yun arrived at Jiaye City in the afternoon. He was worried about delaying matters and had been traveling day and night, rarely resting or eating properly. He finally relaxed when he arrived at Lian Mansion.

Stealthily entering the mansion and searching for a while, Cheng Yun spotted Qiao Jing from afar and immediately approached him.

Qiao Jing had just finished lunch and was about to go out when he saw a person seemingly fall from the sky. Instantly on guard, he gripped his sword hilt.

Cheng Yun had disguised himself and was wearing a wig, appearing completely unfamiliar to Qiao Jing. "Who are you?"

"It's me." Cheng Yun replied.

Qiao Jing was stunned for a moment, "Cheng Yun?" He had received a letter from the capital city and knew about Sheng Yue's situation in Pucheng as well as Cheng Yun being Sheng Yue's younger brother. He also knew that Cheng Yun had now become Su Liang's elder brother after forsaking the monastic life.

Cheng Yun tugged at his wig, "It's fake."

Qiao Jing nodded, "I know. Real hair can't grow this fast. Did Su Liang and Gu Ling send you? Is there any new information?"

Cheng Yun nodded, "Where is Lian Shun? Xiaogu said to tell both of you the news at the same time."

Upon hearing this, Qiao Jing felt there was no urgent matter. He asked Cheng Yun to rest in his room while he went to look for Lian Shun. Qiao Cong was with Lao Bai and Lao Mu, who were still suffering from poor mental health.

When Qiao Jing found Lian Shun, he was pestering Ying Ying to go watch the sunset on the mountain with him that day.

"Ying Xiaoying, Little Ying Ying, just agree to it! Before, I saw Gu Xiaoling and Su Xiaoliang go climb the mountain together to watch the sunset, with Gu Xiaoling carrying Su Xiaoliang on his back. I was so envious! Let's do it too! I'll carry you! And then I'll write a letter to Gu Xiaoling to tell him, haha!" Lian Shun shook Ying Ying's hand excitedly.

Ying Ying shook him off, "I'm not free, and I don't like being carried by others."

"Well, you can carry me instead, I don't mind." Lian Shun grinned cheekily.

Qiao Jing: ...Can't bear to watch...

Ying Ying had already seen Qiao Jing; she put down the wooden sword she was polishing in her hand. It was a gift she planned to give to Gu Xiaonuan when they meet.

“Cheng Yun is here, I don’t know what it’s about yet, but he said he wants to tell us both at the same time.” Qiao Jing turned around and left as soon as he finished speaking.

Lian Shun looked puzzled, “Could it be that Gu Xiaoling has decided between Qiao Xiaojing and me as to who can be Nuannuan’s godfather?”

Ying Ying raised her hand and knocked on Lian Shun’s forehead, “You’re overthinking it. If Gu Ling chooses, Nuannuan wouldn’t have a godfather.” After saying this, she walked out.

“Ying Xiaoying, what nonsense are you talking about!” Lian Shun chased after Ying Ying.

Seeing Qiao Jing and Lian Shan, as well as Ying Ying, entering the room one after another, Cheng Yun put down the teacup in his hand and took out a pill bottle from his pocket.

“The reason I’m here is that Su Liang and Gu Ling have made an antidote that can restore memory.” Cheng Yun said.

Ying Ying’s face brightened, “That’s great!”

Lian Shun was also happy, “Then Senior Mo won’t have to worry anymore.” But then he felt something wasn’t right, “Is there something else besides delivering the antidote? Why do we all have to be here?”

Cheng Yun nodded slightly, “There’s a letter, Xiaogu wrote it for you.”

Lian Shun blinked, “For me? No one else got one? Is Gu Xiaoling specifically blessing me?” He happily opened the letter Cheng Yun handed over.

Qiao Jing thought it was impossible for Gu Ling to write a letter just to bless Lian Shun, even though he must be wishing him well, he wouldn’t do it this way. So he was also curious why Gu Ling would write a letter for Lian Shun alone. If it was something formal, anyone should be able to read it anyway.

“What’s wrong?” Ying Ying saw Lian Shun’s face suddenly turning stiff.

Cheng Yun explained that the antidote had some side effects.

After hearing this, Ying Ying’s expression remained unchanged, “No big deal. Compared to the recent short time, I still want to find my original memory.”

Now, Qiao Jing understood why Lian Shun’s face was off. Lately, Lian Shun and Ying Ying have been really sweet together after his confession, and it even made Qiao Jing uncomfortable. Lian Shun liked to show off, and whenever Ying Ying smiled at him, he would specially go share it with Qiao Jing no matter if it was day or night. Qiao Jing really wanted to say, he didn’t want to know...

Also, Qiao Jing realized why Gu Ling wanted him and Lian Shun to be present together: It was purely out of a wicked sense of humor, letting him enjoy the sight of Lian Shun going crazy, and finding some psychological balance.

The next moment, Lian Shun crumpled the letter in his hand into a ball and clenched his fist, “Gu Xiaoling, come here, watch me kill you!”

“What are you getting excited about?” Ying Ying took the crumpled paper and unfolded it. Seeing the last sentence “Your confession was great, reward yourself with another try,” she couldn’t help but twitch her mouth, “I support you in hitting him, but I suggest not to because you definitely won’t be able to win.”

Lian Shun hugged Ying Ying’s arm, “You see? Gu Xiaoling is so hateful! I have no choice but to oppose it. If there’s something to be said, just say it. But he had to specifically write a letter to mock me! Ying Xiaoying, will you help me beat him when the time comes?”

Ying Ying nodded, “No problem. But after I take the antidote, I’ll forget that I promised you.”

Lian Shun: ...

In the end, Qiao Jing was still on Lian Shun’s side and offered a suggestion, “Ying Ying, you can write down what happened recently, and when you forget it, you can read it again and know everything.”

Lian Shun’s eyes lit up, “Right!”

Ying Ying crumpled the letter again and threw it at Lian Shun’s forehead, slightly hooking the corner of her lips, and smiled brightly, “I won’t write it. When the time comes, you can just tell me. Whether I believe you or not depends on your ability.”

Chapter 444: 444. You cannot be irresponsible to me

Qiao Jing arrived at the door and heard Old Mu coaxing Old Bai again.

“Look, the weather outside is so nice, why don’t you go for a walk?”

“My head hurts, I don’t want to.”

“What do you want to do then?”

“I want to smash my head against a wall, maybe that’ll help me regain my memories? Otherwise, what’s the point of living... I don’t know anything, it’s like I’m an idiot, I’ve wasted so many years of my life!”

“Ah, you, why can’t you learn from Xiao Yuan and think more positively? You’re at this age now, just live your life well, what’s the use in thinking about the past?”

“You haven’t lost your memory, so it’s easy for you to say.”

“Enough of that! I think you should just go back to the capital city! It’s pointless for you to stay here, you’re nothing but a downer!” That’s Qiao Cong.

Old Mu quickly said, “Old Bai, it’s not that we’re annoyed with you. If you go back to the capital city, you’ll have your apprentice and your child there, it’s definitely better than here. If it weren’t for the fact that I still have things to do and need to stay here and help, I’d have gone back already!”

“I’m just a useless person... I want to drink alcohol...” Old Bai’s voice sounded utterly disheartened.

“What alcohol? You almost drank yourself to death once before, if you drink again I won’t consider myself part of the Mu family!” Old Mu was also angry.

Listening to the three old men arguing until they almost came to blows, Qiao Jing knocked on the door heavily twice.

Qiao Cong opened the door, snorted softly, “I’m here to take care of business, not to coax him! He’s worse than Zhengzheng and Xiaoshu, even Nuannuan is more sensible than him!” He was about to leave with a flick of his sleeve.

Qiao Jing stopped Qiao Cong, “Grandfather, don’t leave yet, Cheng Yun is here.”

Qiao Cong’s eyes lit up, “Is it a message for me to go home?”

Qiao Jing: ...Her grandfather was the one who volunteered to help since he didn’t trust him. But like when he had been in Xuanbei City, he came, but every day he kept complaining about wanting to go home and how he was looked down upon.

“Not that,” Qiao Jing said, “She came to deliver medicine. Su Liang has made an antidote that can help restore memories.”

Old Bai raised his head, instantly reinvigorated, “Really? Where is it? Give it to me quickly!”

Old Mu also breathed a sigh of relief, “That’s great! I knew it, Xiaoliang never disappoints anyone! Hurry up and give Old Bai the antidote, or I won’t be able to hold back from wanting to throw him into the sea to feed the fish!”

Qiao Cong glanced at Old Bai displeased, “Once you regain your memory, we will properly settle the accounts of this period!”

Old Bai, having lived this long, was still a very emotional person. His state during his memory loss was similar to when he used to drink heavily in the past – sometimes lifeless, sometimes overly emotional. If it weren’t for the outwardly irritable but in reality gentle and tolerant old friend Old Mu accompanying and comforting him, Old Bai would have broken down a long time ago.

Qiao Jing cleared his throat, “Grandfather, there’s a small issue with the medicine.”

Qiao Cong frowned, “What’s the problem? Will it cause paralysis after consumption? Or could it even be fatal?”

Old Mu stopped Qiao Cong’s negative talk, “If there were such big risks, Xiaoliang wouldn’t have sent it over at all! You better stop talking nonsense! Let Xiaoqiu speak the truth!”

“It’s not that serious, and there’s no risk. It’s just that after taking the antidote, one can only regain memories from before the memory loss; they will forget what happened during the period of memory loss,” Qiao Jing said, “So when Grandfather wants to talk to Mo Senior about the events during his memory loss, he won’t remember.”

Qiao Cong shook his head, “What Mo Senior? Sounds like calling Mo Yan. I’ve told you, just call him Old Bai.” Old Bai’s real name was Mo Fei, and Old Bai was his alias.

Old Mu urged Qiao Jing to give the antidote to him, "Nothing good happened during this period anyway, so it's better if it's forgotten!"

Soon after, Old Bai took the antidote, and his gaze gradually became clear. Then, he passed out.

Old Mu furrowed his brows, but Qiao Jing told him it was a normal reaction. The impact of the returning memories was too much for the brain, so he should let him rest for a while to recover.

"I'll stay and watch him, you all go and get on with your work," Old Mu waved his hand.

Qiao Cong and Qiao Jing, the grandfather and grandson, walked out. Qiao Cong asked about Ying Ying, "Has Xiaoying taken the antidote?"

"Not yet." Qiao Jing shook his head, "Lian Shun insisted on going to watch the sunset with her and said they would wait until they came back."

"Look at Xiaolian, he knows how to please girls so well! You two are so close, why don't you learn from him?" Qiao Cong nagged at Qiao Jing again.

Qiao Jing: ...Become thick-skinned like Lian Shun? He couldn't and didn't want to learn that.

"Hurry and get these trivial matters done, and go back to the capital city to marry Min Rou!" Qiao Cong declared.

Qiao Jing coughed lightly, "Grandfather, the horoscope is still not even a little bit complete..."

Qiao Cong kicked Qiao Jing, "Then hurry up and complete it! Have you written that letter I told you to write to Rou girl? Let me see it!"

Qiao Jing's face turned awkward. As soon as Qiao Cong arrived, he insisted that he write a letter to Min Rou to get acquainted before meeting. Qiao Jing felt it was inappropriate and had been avoiding it with excuses.

"You're so stubborn! What's wrong with it? If you like her, tell her, if she doesn't want it, it's over, nothing more! She's not a stranger!" Qiao Cong was extremely disappointed.

"No one is going to the capital city for now, I'll wait until someone..." Qiao Jing still wanted to procrastinate.

Qiao Cong interrupted him, "When Elder Bai and Xiaoyuan remember something important, they'll definitely go back to the capital city to inform Xiaoliang and Xiaogu! Even if there's nothing, they have to tell them! Then they can bring your letter back! Hurry up and write it, go write it now! Also think carefully about what things are available here but not in the capital city, and send Rou a gift!"

"Tangerines, but it's off-season." Qiao Jing blurted out and got kicked by Qiao Cong again.

The sun set in the west, Lian Shun and Ying Ying sat on a large rock on the mountain top, enjoying the magnificent sunset and the peaceful Jiaye City below. This was a place Su Liang and Gu Ling had visited before.

“Are you worried that I won’t agree to be with you after I regain my memory, so you insist on coming here now?” Ying Ying asked.

Lian Shun shook his head, gazing at the sky at a 45-degree angle, “I’m not worried, I just don’t want to miss today’s sunset. The mood, the view...”

Ying Ying raised her hand and knocked Lian Shun’s forehead, a gesture she particularly enjoyed, “Speak properly, don’t be so pedantic.”

Lian Shun’s lip corners raised, regaining his cynical look, “Ying Xiaoying, let’s leave a memento on this rock for such a beautiful sunset! Let’s carve our names on it!”

Ying Ying shook her head in refusal, “You still lack confidence in yourself.”

Lian Shun sighed, leaned his head on Ying Ying’s shoulder, “To be honest, there is a little bit. The moment you take the antidote, only I will remember our past time together, and I want to cherish it a little longer.”

Ying Ying pinched Lian Shun’s face, frowned in thought for a while, and then made a proposal, “How about we get married today, spend our wedding night, and when I retrieve my memory tomorrow, I’ll already be your wife and can’t run away, how about it?”

Lian Shun was shocked and almost fell off the big rock. He straightened his body and looked squarely at Ying Ying, “Are you serious? You’re not joking with me, are you?”

Ying Ying nodded, “If you don’t make up your mind within three breaths, then forget it. Three, two, ...”

Lian Shun’s heart raced, and when Ying Ying counted to the last number, he exclaimed loudly, “I accept your proposal!” Then he grinned cheekily, “It’s a deal, no backing out, or you’ll be a little dog!”

Ying Ying nodded, “It’s settled then.”

“Let’s hurry down the mountain and bow to heaven and earth!” Lian Shun pulled Ying Ying up.

“Shall we do it here?” Ying Ying asked.

Lian Shun’s face instantly turned red, “Ah? Ying Xiaoying, you...you want to do it here, with the sky as our blanket and the earth as our bed... Although there’s nobody else around, but... if you really want to...”

Ying Ying stood up and kicked Lian Shun, “I was talking about bowing to heaven and earth! What were you thinking?”

Lian Shun: ...He couldn’t help it; his wife was too domineering, and it was hard not to overthink it.

However, when they went down the mountain, Lian Shun calmed down after a cool breeze and discussed with Ying Ying, “My parents are in the capital city as well as most of your friends. I really want to marry you, but it’s too hasty and unfair to you like this.”

Ying Ying furrowed her brow, “I didn’t think about your family being in the capital city at the time.” After all, she had lost her memory, and they were now in Lian Mansion.

“So, forget it?” Lian Shun said, still feeling a little regretful.

Ying Ying thought for a moment, “If your parents know, will they be unhappy?”

Lian Shun immediately shook his head, “That’s impossible! My parents want me to get married as soon as possible, they’ve been nagging me for years! And they know you and like you very much. Before, they were just worried that you wouldn’t want to be with me! If you were to marry me today, my parents would be overjoyed! As for those rituals and whatnot, I don’t care, I just feel that it’s not solemn enough and unfair to you.”

Ying Ying shook her head, “It’s not unfair, I don’t like those either. I won’t change what I’ve promised.”

Lian Shun’s eyes lit up, “Then let’s just do it today...” As he said, he grabbed Ying Ying’s hand and shouted to the sky, “I’m getting a wife!”

Elder Bai hadn’t woken up yet, and the other antidote was still in Qiao Jing’s hands. He, Qiao Cong, Cheng Yun, and Ying Ye were having dinner together, hearing footsteps coming from the entrance, they knew it was Lian Shun returning.

Then, Lian Shun and Ying Ying walked in hand in hand, with Lian Shun smiling like a flower.

Qiao Jing thought to himself, “He’s going to show off again,” and took out the medicine bottle from his pocket and placed it on the table, “Since you two are back and have already seen the sunset, Ying Ying, you should hurry up and take the medicine.”

Ying Ye looked up at Lian Shun and Ying Ying’s intertwined hands, then lowered his head to continue eating. He liked Lian Shun very much and was no longer afraid of being separated from Ying Ying.

Lian Shun cleared his throat, “I have a big announcement.”

Cheng Yun put down her chopsticks and listened carefully.

“Ying Ying and I have decided to get married today,” Lian Shun grinned.

Qiao Jing stared for a moment, “Aren’t you two being too hasty?”

Qiao Cong tapped Qiao Jing’s head with his chopsticks, “What’s hasty? It’s perfect like this! What do you know? I approve!”

Cheng Yun was surprised, “It’s almost dark.”

Qiao Cong chuckled, “It’s perfect for entering the bridal chamber when it’s dark.”

Cheng Yun silently lowered her head and picked up her chopsticks to continue eating.

Qiao Jing frowned and got up, saying that he wanted to talk to Lian Shun alone.

When they went outside, Qiao Jing sighed, “No one objects to you two being together, but do you really have to get married today? Your parents and sister don’t even know, it seems too hurried and not quite right.”



“I know. But this is Ying Ying’s idea, and she, a girl, took the initiative to say she wants to marry me, not caring about anything. If I don’t agree, am I still a man? Besides, I also want to get married sooner rather than later,” Lian Shun said seriously.

Qiao Jing was stunned, “It was Ying Ying who brought it up? Are you bragging?”

Lian Shun gave Qiao Jing a big eye roll, “You’re incapable, don’t assume everyone else is like you. It’s absolutely true.”

“You’re the one who’s incapable,” Qiao Jing muttered.

Lian Shun chuckled, looking at the rising moon in the sky, “This is like a dream come true for me! In those years when I was always running around outside, I once told my parents that maybe one day I’d meet a girl and get married on the spot. How carefree and unrestrained! When it comes to matters of the heart, when the time is right, you just want to be willful, not caring about anything, and be together today! Ying Xiaoying fulfills all my fantasies, I won’t waste time talking to you, I have to go prepare for the ceremony!”

Qiao Jing watched Lian Shun’s retreating figure, and didn’t go back in immediately. He looked up at the moon, reflecting on whether he had been too bound and rule-oriented from childhood. Qiao Cong said he didn’t understand romance, and indeed, compared with Lian Shun and Ying Ying, he was a rigid person.

Of course, Qiao Jing thought Lian Shun’s approach to relationships didn’t suit him, and it only worked for a bold and independent girl like Ying Ying. But he did learn a few things from it, like expressing himself openly, even if it means failure, at least there are no regrets.

In the presence of everyone, Lian Shun and Ying Ying paid their respects in the simplest way. They agreed to go to the capital city later and pay their respects to their parents properly.

Qiao Jing was happy for them, but still reminded Lian Shun that Ying Ying must take the antidote tomorrow, otherwise it might delay important matters. Lian Shun assured him that there wouldn’t be a problem and that he was mentally prepared.

“Qiao Xiaojing, I’m going to enter the bridal chamber! Haha!” Lian Shun happily rushed into the bedroom.

Qiao Jing smiled and turned around, deciding to go back and think carefully about how to write a letter to Min Rou.

The next day, when Qiao Jing saw Lian Shun again, he was beaming with joy, obviously having had a great time last night.

Old Bai had woken up once yesterday, complaining of a headache. After taking some Calming Medicine, he went back to sleep and hadn’t woken up since.

After breakfast, Qiao Jing took out the antidote again and handed it to Ying Ying.

Ying Ying took it, and Lian Shun sighed. Even though he was mentally prepared and knew it was the right thing to do, he still felt a bit regretful that Ying Ying would forget everything that had happened between them during this time.

Lian Shun handed a warm cup of water to Ying Ying, "Just eat it. I'll let you know what you've forgotten."

Ying Ying leaned over and whispered in Lian Shun's ear, "After I regain my memory, I probably won't let you get into my bed easily again. You'll have to work hard and impress me, so you can conquer me sooner."

Lian Shun's face stiffened, and he saw the teasing in Ying Ying's eyes. Suddenly, it dawned on him that the reason why they got married and consummated their marriage yesterday was to torture him? His life was going to be so hard if he was just deflowered and then had to abstain from sex. How could he live like this?

"I think our life will be very interesting from now on, my husband." Ying Ying winked at Lian Shun and swallowed the antidote.

Lian Shun covered his face and lay down on the table: This wife was sent by heaven to torment him... it was too stimulating...

Perhaps it was because Ying Ying was young and had a strong body, her recovery was quite fast. After being unconscious for half an hour due to the medicine, she woke up. Her face didn't change much, she just had a slight headache.

"Ying Xiaoying, how are you feeling?" Lian Shun nervously held Ying Ying's hand.

Ying Ying frowned and shook him off, "What are you doing? Who said you could touch me?"

Lian Shun: ...Although he had anticipated it, he still felt like he had been stabbed in the heart...

Old Mu quickly pulled Lian Shun away and began telling Ying Ying about what happened after she was rescued.

"Xiaoliang made the antidote? I knew it, she's so amazing, she can do anything." Ying Ying's eyes softened a bit when she mentioned Su Liang, "Xiaoliang and Gu Ling had a daughter? That's great! Where are they?"

"In the capital city. Can you first think about your experience on Xingluo Island after you arrived? And do you know anything about the forbidden area on the island?" Old Mu asked.

Ying Ying's eyes narrowed, "I need to see Xiaoliang and Gu Ling as soon as possible and tell them some things!"

"Then let's go to the capital city!" Lian Shun hurriedly said, "We got married yesterday, and you haven't met my parents yet."

Ying Ying looked incredulous, "Got married yesterday? With you? How is that possible?"

"Really, I swear." Lian Shun raised his hand.

Old Mu laughed, "It's true, and it was you who proposed that we should get married yesterday."

"We consummated our marriage." Lian Shun said weakly.

Ying Ying frowned, "I'm not counting what I can't remember for now. I need to see Xiaoliang immediately."

Lian Shun wanted to cry but had no tears, "Ying Xiaoying, you can't be irresponsible to me like this!"

Ying Ying stared at Lian Shun, "I know who you are and we used to have a good relationship, but now I really want to hit you for some reason."

Qiao Jing: ...Why did he suddenly feel like laughing?

Lian Shun coughed lightly, "In that case, let's go to the capital city together. We can talk more on the way." He had already foreseen how fascinating the upcoming days would be, but somehow, he was also looking forward to them...

Chapter 445: 445. The Secret of Xingluo Island

Elder Bai appeared before everyone again, sweeping away his previous depression and losing himself, and regaining his once aloof and deep look, which made Qiao Jing quite unaccustomed to it.

When Elder Bai woke up today, he had already been informed by Old Mu of the current situation, and what he cared about most was Su Liang, of course. Upon learning that Su Liang had given birth to a daughter safely, Elder Bai was even more eager to return to the capital city to see Su Liang and Gu Xiaonuan.

At that time, Elder Bai accompanied Ying Ying to Yin Country to save Ying Ye, and Su Liang was still pregnant. Now the world has lost Yin Country, Elder Bai has gone through hardships and woke up again, feeling as if he had gone through a lifetime.

"Does Elder Bai need another day to rest?" Lian Shun asked.

Elder Bai immediately shook his head, "No need. My body is not so weak, I want to return to the capital city today. Are you coming with me or not? If not, I will go alone."

Lian Shun nodded, "Then let's go together today." He, Ying Ying and Ying Ye. Ying Ying also wanted to take Ying Ye to the capital city as soon as possible to see if Su Liang had a way to cure Ying Ye. He had been underwater and injured his brain, and his mind was still like a child even though he had grown up.

Qiao Jing looked at Old Mu, who sighed, "I really want to go back and hug Xiaonuan, but it's impossible now! There is still something to do here, so I won't go back this time. Let Elder Bai, Xiaolian, and Xiaoyuan go back first."

As soon as Qiao Cong, who had been eager to return, saw Qiao Jing looking at him, he said irritably, "Isn't it all for you? Otherwise, what am I doing here? Really!"

Qiao Jing: ...Yes, it is all his fault. Who let him not have the strong skills and wisdom of Gu Ling so that the elder always worried about him.

However, Qiao Cong speaks one way, but his actions are reliable. He always missed Qiao Jing, but if Gu Ling and Su Liang needed Qiao Jing to do anything, Qiao Cong did not stop him and never mentioned him going back to the capital city. Instead, he came here to protect his grandson.

Now it's settled that Lian Shun, Ying Ying, Ying Ye, and Elder Bai will leave for the capital city in the afternoon.

"We will pack our bags now." Lian Shun said and was about to hold Ying Ying's hand but was immediately thrown off.

Ying Ying told Ying Ye that they were going back to their real home and meet the Sister Liang she had talked about before. Ying Ye was very happy, "I remember, Sister Su Liang, my lifesaver! And beautiful brother, sister said he will be my brother-in-law!"

Because his intelligence was flawed, he was not drugged but did not know any important matters.

Upon hearing Ying Ye's words, Lian Shun felt a stab in his heart and put his face in front of Ying Ye, "Xiaoye, look who am I?"

"Brother-in-law!" Ying Ye said with a smile.

"You only have one brother-in-law, who is he?" Lian Shun asked again.

"It's Brother Ersan!" Ying Ye hugged Lian Shun's arm.

Lian Shun smiled and glanced at Ying Ying, then asked Ying Ye another question, "Who is Gu Ling?"

"He's the beautiful brother my sister likes!" Ying Ye answered immediately.

Lian Shun: ...Of course, he knew that Gu Ling had known Ying Ying for a long time before he met Su Liang, and Ying Ying had indeed liked Gu Ling, just as Lian Shun had liked Su Liang... It had to be said that this was their special fate as husband and wife!

Of course, Lian Shun would not be angry. He knew that Ying Ye had not changed his view of Gu Ling just because he saw Ying Ying married to Lian Shun.

Ying Ying rubbed Ying Ye's head, "Your Sister Su Liang is married to Brother Gu Ling."

"Oh," Ying Ye nodded obediently, "That's great!"

Ying Ying packed Ying Ye's luggage first, then returned to her own room, turning back to see Lian Shun had also come in.

"This is also my room." Lian Shun said seriously, "I swear, the thing about getting married last night was really your idea, not me taking advantage of someone in need."

Ying Ying frowned, "I know, they all said so. I believe they wouldn't lie to me."

"Would I lie to you?" Lian Shun was a little hurt.

Ying Ying shook her head, "You probably wouldn't, but I think... "

Lian Shun blinked, and Ying Ying rubbed her forehead, "I feel weird and not used to it."

Lian Shun smiled, "That's understandable. Let's take our time, and I'll pursue you again. Let's make a bet that I'll make you call me 'Husband' before we get to the capital city. Dare you?"

Ying Ying snorted lightly, "Why not? But let me tell you, don't touch me, or I can't guarantee I won't cripple you. Sister Xiaoliang's face won't help you either."

Lian Shun was imagining a three-step plan of holding hands, hugging, and kissing, but was stunned by Ying Ying's words. However, he thought about it and figured it would be better to take a step by step approach since they were already close and he would make Ying Ying remember.

Lian Shun went out and let Ying Ying change clothes and pack her things first.

Ying Ying looked at the unfinished red candle on the table and paused, closing her eyes, but her memory of Lian Shun was still before her trip to Yin Country. She really couldn't remember anything about getting married, even if it had happened last night.

However, as a woman, Ying Ying could feel the changes in her body, knowing that her wedding night with Lian Shun was real, and the forgotten memories were also her own heartfelt actions, with no one deceiving her or forcing her. She didn't reject Lian Shun, but as she said, it felt strange, and she needed some time to get used to it.

Opening the wardrobe, she saw their clothes put together and let out a small sigh, organizing her own clothes.

Actually, they had just decided to get married yesterday, and it was too rushed. The two of them didn't originally have their clothes together. But Lian Shun had deliberately moved his clothes when Ying Ying was unconscious due to the antidote. It was normal; they just didn't have time for it last night.

Ying Ying tidied up and called Lian Shun to come in, not leaving the room herself.

Now it was Lian Shun's turn to feel uncomfortable. As he was organizing his clothes, he knew that Ying Ying was watching him, examining him, and he couldn't help but feel a bit nervous: would she suddenly find him displeasing to the eye?

After a while, Lian Shun coughed lightly, "Well, I need to change my clothes. Do you want to turn away?"

Ying Ying shook her head, "If you don't mind, I won't turn away."

Lian Shun was stunned for a moment, what was going on? Was Ying Ying trying to see if he had a good figure? The development of things had indeed become very strange...

However, as a man, Lian Shun couldn't back down from this kind of thing. If Ying Ying wanted to look, he was of course happy to let her. He was quite confident in his own figure.

But undressing in front of Ying Ying was still very embarrassing, so he turned his back to her to change clothes.

While changing, he heard Ying Ying comment, "Not bad."

Lian Shun's hand paused, almost tearing the strap of the clothes he was putting on. Finishing dressing, he turned to Ying Ying and asked in a serious tone, "What do you mean, not bad? Is it good or not good?"

Ying Ying suddenly laughed, "I haven't seen anyone else, so there's no comparison."

Lian Shun's face darkened a bit, "Who else do you want to see? I'm your husband!"

"I know, you've told me many times. I just wanted to see what kind of feeling I would have." Ying Ying said.

Lian Shun immediately asked, "So, how do you feel?"

"I told you, not bad. Not hateful." Ying Ying said and looked up and down Lian Shun once more.

Lian Shun inexplicably felt as if Ying Ying was undressing him again, unable to control his thoughts of the wedding night...

"Hurry up, in a while elder Bai will come and scold us. He's in a hurry to leave, and I'm eager to see Sister Liang too." Ying Ying urged.

"I'll be done soon!" Lian Shun's eyes filled with a smile. Since they were honest with each other, and Ying Ying didn't know what shyness was, he would take the initiative to strike, and take her down again as soon as possible! Otherwise, once they reached the capital city, even though they were married, they might have to sleep in separate rooms, and Gu Xiaoling would probably laugh at him for a lifetime!

When Qiao Cong entered the room, Qiao Jing unconsciously covered what he was writing.

Seeing this, Qiao Cong's eyes lit up, "A letter to Sister Rou? You keep writing, I'll read it when you're done!"

Qiao Jing shook his head, "Grandfather can't read it."

"So it really is a letter to Sister Rou? Haha! I knew it, you're still thinking about her even though you're playing tough! I won't read it, hurry up, Elder Bai is in a hurry to leave!" Qiao Cong urged.

Qiao Jing wrote another line, then sealed the letter up, not willing to give it to Qiao Cong, fearing he would peek, and insisting on giving it directly to Ying Ying.

That afternoon, the group of four prepared to ride on horseback.

Before leaving, Elder Bai suddenly said to Elder Mu, "Thank you."

Elder Mu was stunned for a moment, then laughed, "Why are you being polite with me? Hurry back, Nuannuan is calling me 'master,' she hasn't called me yet, you took the lead! When I get back to the capital city, I'll have a good fight with you!"

Elder Bai nodded, "Alright." Although he had forgotten, he knew what his condition would be like after losing his memory, even worse than he had imagined. And over the years, it wasn't the first time Elder Mu had saved him. The last time, Elder Mu had carried him all the way to Su Liang's home when he was drowning his sorrows in alcohol, which had given him a new lease on life.

Qiao Jing gave the letter to Ying Ying, asking her to help deliver it to Su Liang. There was nothing written on the envelope, but inside was another envelope that Su Liang would recognize.

“Qiao Xiaojing, you’re not right, why don’t you give it to me and insist on giving it to my wife? Is there a secret?” Lian Shun noticed immediately.

Qiao Jing shook his head, “You’re too impulsive; it’s safer to give it to Ying Ying.”

Lian Shun was instantly discontent, “Qiao Xiaojing, are you my brother? You’re actually talking bad about me in front of my wife! I’m cutting ties with you!”

Qiao Jing nodded, “Alright. In the future, if there’s an issue, I’ll find Ying Ying, not you.”

Ying Ying saw Lian Shun deflated and felt happy, so she smiled slightly. “Just come to me. I think he’s pretty impulsive too. He knew I would lose my memory but didn’t even let me write a document. So stupid!”

Lian Shun got “angry” at her words, “Qiao Jing, witness it, didn’t I say that it was Ying Ying who refused?”

Qiao Jing’s expression was indifferent, “When did you say that? I’m not sure. Ask Xiaoye if he knows.”

Ying Ye heard his name and ran over immediately, “Brother Jing, are you looking for me?”

Qiao Jing asked Ying Ye if he knew about Lian Shun’s suggestion for Ying Ying to write down what happened during her memory loss. Ying Ye shook his head, “No! My brother-in-law never said that!”

Although he called him brother-in-law, what Ying Ye didn’t hear was omitted. Kids don’t lie.

“Let’s go.” Ying Ying raised her hand and knocked on Lian Shun’s forehead, “If we don’t leave now, senior Bai will come and beat us up.”

Lian Shun was delighted by the knock, and chased Ying Ying on horseback, “Ying Xiaoying, you were the first to touch me! I need to touch you back, otherwise it’s not fair!”

“You want to knock on my head too? Beat me first!” Ying Ying said with a laugh.

Qiao Jing always thought that even if Ying Ying forgot about the marriage, there would be no problem between her and Lian Shun. Now he was even more certain.

As he watched them leave, Qiao Jing turned his head to see Qiao Cong and Elder Mu hooking their shoulders, preparing to go to the beach to collect shells....

“I saw a really beautiful one last time, but I was too busy to pick it up!”

“We’ll go and find more to make a beautiful necklace for our precious Nuannuan!”

As Qiao Cong passed by Qiao Jing, he said, “You should stay at home and reflect on why you’re still single.”

Qiao Jing: ...Why didn’t his grandfather and Elder Mu invite him to pick shells? He wanted to go too...

Lian Shun's imagined journey of accompanying Ying Ying side by side on horseback, and talking about love under the stars and moon at night did not come true. Because the decision maker was Elder Bai, who only wanted to get home as soon as possible, avoiding doing anything that would delay them, including eating and sleeping. Their journey was minimalist, just staying alive was enough.

Of course, Lian Shun didn't dare to have any objections. Elder Bai would really beat him up. Most importantly, they both needed to meet Su Liang as soon as possible.

Besides Ying Ye calling Lian Shun "brother-in-law" to comfort him, Lian Shun still felt a little lonely and cold whenever he looked at Ying Ying beside him. The torment of not being able to touch his wife was unbearable. He didn't even think about anything else, just holding her hand would be enough, or letting her lean on him when feeling tired during their journey. But there was nothing.

When Ying Ying started loving to knock Lian Shun's forehead again and became increasingly proficient, they had arrived at the capital city. Under Elder Bai's lead, they went straight to Su Mansion.

When they were close to the entrance of Su Mansion, Lian Shun negotiated with Ying Ying, "After meeting Su Liang and discussing the main issue, can we go to my house? I have to tell my parents that we got married and didn't bring you back. They must break off our relationship."

"Sounds good." Ying Ying agreed readily.

Lian Shun paused for a moment, and then his face lifted up with happiness, "Then you have to give me some face when the time comes."

"Didn't you say you'd bet that before arriving in the capital city, I would call you 'my husband'? You lost." Ying Ying said.

Lian Shun: ...There were too many depressing things, and he had even forgotten about the bet.

"Ying Xiaoying, you must give me face, or else Gu Xiaoling would laugh at me for the rest of my life. This is my lifelong event." As Lian Shun dragged Ying Ying into the Su Mansion by the corner of her clothes.

Ying Ying looked back, saw Lian Shun's tired, thin, and pitiful face. She reached out, pinched it, and laughed gently, "We'll see how I feel then."

At dusk, everyone in Su Mansion was having dinner.

Zhengzheng was feeding Gu Xiaonuan soup, Ji Xiaoshu was fighting with Gu Ling for a chicken leg, Weng Ran and Nangong Qian were discussing going to find Lian Shan to play tomorrow, while Cen Man and Su Liang were focusing on eating. Because the sour radish and duck soup made by Gu Ling today was really delicious.

"Xiaoliang!"

Suddenly hearing Elder Bai's voice, Su Liang, who was gnawing on a duck leg, looked up with joy, "Master is back!"

When Elder Bai appeared at the door, Su Liang heard Lian Shun's voice as well, "Gu Xiaoling!"



“Uncle Ersan!” Zhengzheng’s eyes lit up.

Ji Xiaoshu scratched his head, “I don’t know him.”

Lao Bai rushed to Gu Xiaonuan in three steps and looked at her excitedly, his eyes reddening. In an instant, his voice became gentle, “Nuannuan, I’m your master!”

Gu Xiaonuan had many masters and was familiar with this title, so she happily called out, “Master!”

Lao Bai held Gu Xiaonuan in his arms, and the memories he had regained and the longing of these days made him shed tears, “Such a good girl...”

Su Liang had expected this and was not surprised. She got up and went over, hugging Ying Ying, “Sister Ying, it’s so good to see you safe.”

Indeed, as Lian Shun said, Su Liang had many female friends, most of them older than her, but Ying Ying was her one and only sister.

Ying Ying’s smile was as dazzling as ever, “You said you’d wait for me at home, so of course, I came back.”

Su Liang let go of Ying Ying and went straight to Gu Xiaonuan, “So cute! How can she be so much like Gu Ling?”

Su Liang looked at Ying Ye, whose eyes sparkled brightly. In one big stride, he hugged Su Liang and said happily, “Sister Su Liang! I’ve missed you so much!”

Su Liang couldn’t help but laugh. They were meeting for the first time, perhaps because Ying Ying talked too much about her.

Gu Ling came over, separated Ying Ye and Su Liang, then hugged Ying Ye himself, patting his back, “Do you still remember me?”

“I remember! It’s the handsome brother!” Ying Ye hugged Gu Ling even more happily. They had met before.

Only Lian Shun was standing at the door, ignored by everyone...

Zhengzheng ran over and grabbed Lian Shun’s hand, “Uncle Ersan, why aren’t you coming in? I miss you so much.”

Lian Shun was instantly healed, “Zhengzheng is the only one who treats me well.”

Ying Ying couldn’t take Gu Xiaonuan away from Lao Bai, so they all sat down after getting another bowl and chopsticks. Lian Shun cleared his throat, “I have big news to announce, Ying Ying, and I have already married in Jiaye City.”

As soon as he finished, Lian Shun looked at Gu Ling’s reaction. However, Gu Ling had no reaction. He just ladled soup for Ying Ye.

“Really? Congratulations! Congratulations!” Su Liang was very happy.

“Gu Xiaoling, we’re brothers, and you don’t even congratulate me?” Lian Shun teased Gu Ling.

Gu Ling looked at Ying Ying, “Do you remember getting married?”

Ying Ying shook her head, "I don't remember. He told me all about it."

Lian Shun felt a bit awkward for a moment, but then Ying Ying said something shocking, "But he's mine now. I'll take responsibility for him."

Weng Ran and Nangong Qian were both stunned.

Zhengzheng gave a thumbs up, "Aunt Ying is so awesome!"

Ji Xiaoshu snickered, "Congratulations, Uncle Ersan!"

"Awesome! Ersan!" Gu Xiaonuan learned two new words.

Lian Shun: ... Nuannuan, sweetheart you really know how to summarize!

But in fact, Lian Shun was overjoyed in his heart. Wasn't that a good show of face? Look how domineering his wife was!

Gu Ling raised a glass to Lian Shun, "Congratulations on getting married."

Lian Shun hummed, barely hiding his pride, "Not as amazing as your wedding."

Zhengzheng's little face was confused, "Can men also marry people?"

Ji Xiaoshu nodded, "Of course. With aunt Ying and master's wife being so handsome, I always thought that master got married by using his charm!"

After enjoying a happy meal, the kids and Ying Ye went upstairs to play, and it was time for serious matters.

"I went to the forbidden area of Xingluo Island and almost died there." Ying Ying's gaze was solemn, "There was a cave with a deep pool inside it. Mo Yan made people jump into it and dive down without coming up until the time was up. That time, I saw a man drown with my own eyes, and his body floated up. Yue Mei forced Ying Ye and me to practice swimming since we were children, which was related to this. That's why Ying Ye had a brain injury and how I survived from the forbidden area of Xingluo Island. But I was going to be arranged to go there a second time, but Mo Yan was out, so I didn't go. When he came back, you saved me before he could arrange it. Otherwise, I wouldn't be sure if I could still come out alive if I went a second time."

Upon hearing this, Lian Shun clasped Ying Ying's hand but wasn't rejected this time.

Su Liang and Gu Ling exchanged glances. Ying Ying didn't know what Mo Yan wanted, but they knew. That deep pool was probably Mo Yan's way back, but he didn't want to take the risk. So he kept forcing people to jump in, hoping for a miracle to happen...

Chapter 446: 446. Ruby Ring

Ying Ying recounted her experiences since leaving home last time. She arrived at Yue Mei's former hideout in Yin Country, but neither Yue Mei nor Ying Ye were there—only the trap left for her. Despite Old White's efforts, they were eventually trapped.

Later, they were taken to Xingluo Island by Yue Mei. Min Rou said that she witnessed Yue Mei bringing Ying Ying and Ying Ye to the island. Old White wasn't seen that time because he was constantly cursing and yelling at Yue Mei while awake and extremely unstable, so Yue Mei knocked him unconscious, put him in a box, and carried him to the island.

Ying Ying was arranged by Mo Yan to be a "white mouse" (test subject), while Ying Ye, who had already been injured and extremely afraid of water, escaped by a hair's breadth as he couldn't possibly participate. The main reason he wasn't killed was that Yue Mei and Mo Yan wanted to use him to control Ying Ying—Mo Yan's "experiment" had to be done without resistance from the subjects while underwater, otherwise, they would be drowned. This wouldn't achieve Mo Yan's goal.

As for Old White, considering his grudges with Yue Mei, he was treated as her personal property and merely "stored" on the island. Therefore, during his imprisonment, nobody touched him or paid any attention to him after Yue Mei left the island. He never met Mo Yan and had no idea about Shen Qingxue's marriage to Mo Yan. Of course, he asked Yue Mei about Shen Qingxue's subsequent fate, but as Yue Mei hated Shen Qingxue the most, she wouldn't tell Old White the truth. Instead, she made up stories laced with foul language to provoke him and cause him immense pain.

It wasn't until Old White took the antidote and regained consciousness in Jiaye City that he learned from Old Mu that Shen Qingxue had married Mo Yan and had a daughter with him, and that Su Liang was the granddaughter of Mo Yan and Shen Qingxue.

For Old White, this wasn't something comforting since he knew that his innocent, kind-hearted little junior sister wouldn't willingly marry Mo Yan. She must have been forced. From the fact that Mo Yan was the master of Xingluo Island, but Su Liang's mother had to give birth to her in exile before dying, it was hard to say that Mo Yan cared for Shen Qingxue or their child.

But Old White's hatred for Mo Yan didn't contradict his regard for Su Liang as his most important family member. Now he had an additional member, Gu Xiaonuan.

After listening to Ying Ying and Old White's stories, it was already late. Su Liang told them to rest first and discuss the rest the next day.

Lian Shun, who had been sitting beside Ying Ying and holding her hand all along, immediately stood up, "Ying Xiaoying, let's go home!"

Ying Ying let go of Lian Shun's hand, "I want to sleep with Liang tonight."

Su Liang's lips curved slightly, "I'm fine with that. Great God, you won't object, right?"

Lian Shun made a face at Gu Ling: Say no if you're a brother!

However, Gu Ling just nodded slightly, "Sure."

Lian Shun once again clutched Ying Ying's hand, their fingers tightly interlocked, "I don't care; you have to go home with me tonight! Tomorrow you can sleep with Su Xiaoliang, and I'll sleep with Gu Xiaoling! Hmph!"

"Alright then." Ying Ying agreed.

Lian Shun:...So they were just teasing him on purpose earlier? They even teamed up to tease him? Su Liang and Gu Ling were so mean! Ying Xiaoying was so cute!

Ying Ying went to find Ying Ye, who was happily playing with toys shared by Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu. Seeing Ying Ying, he said he wanted to sleep with Zhengzheng and Xiaoshu tonight.

Ying Ying originally intended to leave Ying Ye here, so she was relieved. She even smilingly asked Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu to look after Ying Ye.

Gu Xiaonuan was already asleep, lulled by Cen Man. Ying Ying went to see her, her eyes filled with tenderness.

When Lian Shun finally led Ying Ying out of Yuanming Pavilion, he breathed a sigh of relief, "I really thought you were going to choose Su Xiaoliang over me."

"Why choose? I want both." Ying Ying laughed lightly.

Lian Shun grinned, "I agree, I support this! You said it yourself, I'm all yours now, and you have to take responsibility for me!"

The next moment, Ying Ying's hand was released from Lian Shun's grip. He was so frustrated; this kind of thing happened a lot, but every time, it still made him feel like he was being abandoned.

In the end, Ying Ying simply tapped Lian Shun's forehead and then took his hand again, "Can you stop acting like I'm bullying you? Xiaoliang and Gu Ling will think I'm a tigress."

Lian Shun puffed out his chest and held his head high, "Understood. Wife, let's go home and see my parents!"

"It's so late, wouldn't they be asleep by now? How about I stay with Xiaoliang tonight, and we go tomorrow?" Ying Ying asked.

"No way, we're going right now!" Lian Shun pulled Ying Ying along as he ran, seemingly afraid that Su Liang would suddenly appear and whisk Ying Ying away.

"You're too slow." Ying Ying let go of Lian Shun and ran ahead of him.

What was supposed to be a romantic moonlit jog turned into a race with Ying Ying's sudden burst of speed. Lian Shun couldn't admit defeat, so the two raced to the entrance of Su Mansion, leaving Qi Yan, who was about to greet them, dumbfounded.

"I won, so you'll sleep on the floor tonight," Ying Ying said with a smile.

Lian Shun sighed and suddenly noticed Qi Yan standing nearby. His expression stiffened, and he immediately grabbed Qi Yan. "You didn't hear anything just now, understand?"

Qi Yan held back a laugh and nodded. "I understand, don't worry, Master Lin."

"If I find out you've told Gu Xiaoling, I won't let you off!" Lian Shun threatened.

Qi Yan nodded. "I won't." Since he only mentioned Gu Ling, it should be fine to tell Su Liang, right?

Lian Shun seemed to see what Qi Yan was thinking and immediately said, "You're not allowed to tell Su Xiaoliang either! No one can know!"

“Oh.” Qi Yan finally laughed, but since Lian Shun cared so much about this matter, he should keep it to himself. After all, it concerned a man’s dignity.

On the way from Su Mansion to Lian Mansion, Ying Ying suddenly stopped her horse. “I forgot something.”

Seeing Ying Ying turn her horse around, Lian Shun frowned and asked, “What is it? Is it about Xingluo Island?”

Ying Ying shook her head. “It’s impolite to go empty-handed like this.”

Lian Shun finally understood what was going on and hurriedly stopped Ying Ying. “We’re already engaged, so don’t worry about it. My parents won’t care about these things. It would be stranger if you go back to Su Xiaoliang’s house and get some valuable gifts to give them. It’s already late, let’s hurry back, meet my parents, and then go to sleep. I’m exhausted.”

“Alright then.” Ying Ying thought about it and agreed.

At the entrance of Lian Mansion, Lian Shun reminded Ying Ying again to save face for him in front of his parents... please...

When the guards at the entrance of Lian Mansion heard the knock on the door, they opened it and gaped when they saw Lian Shun. “Young Master! The Young Master is back!”

“And the young mistress.” Lian Shun threw the reins to the guard and led Ying Ying inside.

In fact, Lian Shun rarely stayed in the family home in the capital city. When the Lin Family first moved there, he stayed behind in Jiaye City. Then he had returned with Ying Ying once, only to leave again quickly.

Father Lin and Mother Lin were awakened and were very happy to hear that Lian Shun was back, so they quickly got dressed and got out of bed.

“Sunsun!” Mother Lin walked over quickly, with Father Lin following behind.

Lian Shun stood up with open arms and a big smile to greet them. Ying Ying, who had been sitting, also stood up and admired the Lin’s warm and sweet family relationship. Her only relatives in her previous life had been Yue Mei and Ying Ye, but the “grandmother” she called for so many years was just a poisonous woman, and it was highly possible that they were not related at all and that she had been abducted by her. Ying Ye needed her care and was like her own child.

Just as Lian Shun was about to hug Mother Lin, she saw Ying Ying standing behind him. Her eyes lit up, and she quickly pushed Lian Shun aside and walked towards Ying Ying. Grasping her hands, she said, “You must be Miss Ying, right? Xiaoliang always talks about you, and I’m glad to finally meet you.”

Lian Shun didn’t feel left out and happily hugged his father’s arm, grinning. This was the reaction he wanted.

Father Lin whispered to Lian Shun, “Why did you bring Miss Ying here so late? Is it...”

It was true that Ying Ying had a home in the capital city – the Su Mansion – so it was unusual for her to come to Lian Shun’s house so late at night.

Lian Shun winked, “Dad, you guess.”

Father Lin frowned and pulled Lian Shun a little further away, “Did you bully the girl?”

Lian Shun shook his head, “I’m not that kind of person.”

On the other side, Lin’s mother had already warmly pulled Ying Ying to sit down and was asking about her well-being. Actually, she and Lin’s father had the same thoughts; Ying Ying came to their house so late, there must be something between her and Lian Shun, perhaps Lian Shun had bullied the girl.

Although Ying Ying was very close to Su Liang, it was her first time to be treated so kindly by an elder. Even she, who was always domineering and unrestrained, felt a bit constrained.

Lian Shun was delighted in his heart. He cleared his throat and announced solemnly, “Father, Mother, Ying Xiaoying and I have already gotten married in Jiaye City!”

Who would have thought that as soon as his words fell, Lin’s father picked up a duster in the small hall, and Lin’s mother also changed her expression, standing up and pinching Lian Shun’s ear.

Ying Ying frowned. Could it be that Father Lin and Mother Lin were unhappy about their private wedding? Indeed, both of them were impulsive at that time. Since ancient times, marriages have been arranged by parents...

“It’s your good fortune that Miss Ying is willing to marry you. You actually made such a mess with the marriage, treating it like child’s play!” Lin’s father said as he hit Lian Shun with the duster.

Lin’s mother, while pinching Lian Shun’s ear, changed positions with him, standing right between him and Lin’s father, “Sunsun, you were too reckless!”

Lian Shun hurriedly begged for mercy, “Father, Mother, I know I was wrong. It was all my impulse.”

Lin’s mother didn’t let go of Lian Shun, her apologetic eyes looked at Ying Ying, “Xiaoying, it’s Sunsun’s fault. You both got married in Jiaye City without telling the family, causing you such distress. I will teach him a lesson properly. As for the marriage, we will choose another auspicious day to bring you in with a grand celebration. What do you think?”

Ying Ying shook her head, “Aunt, don’t blame him. It was me who proposed to get married at that time. Because the situation was special, I would forget our time together after taking the antidote and recovering my memory.”

Father Lin and Mother Lin suddenly understood. They were well aware of Lin Shan’s memory loss and recovery, as well as Yuan Pei’s frustration, so they immediately understood the situation.

Lin’s father, across Lin’s mother, hit Lian Shun again, “Look at Miss Ying, she explained everything with just one sentence. Why were you mute just now?”

Lian Shun: ... didn’t dare to speak.

“So that’s how it is.” Lin’s mother let go of Lian Shun, and went over to hold Ying Ying’s hand, “You are so good to Sunsun. Otherwise, if you forgot about him, he wouldn’t know how sad he would be. But as for the marriage, we still need to do it according to our way, with a proper ceremony. Otherwise, it would be against etiquette, and it’s inevitable for people to gossip. I can’t let my good daughter-in-law be gossiped about.”

Seeing Lin’s mother’s earnest gaze, how could Ying Ying refuse?

Lian Shun saw this and quickly said, “I have no objections! I want to have another wedding night!” After saying this, he was hit again.

“I heard Xiaoliang say that you are very free-spirited, so don’t worry about the trouble. You don’t have to do anything, just attend the wedding ceremony with Sunsun at the right time. We’ll make all the preparations. You don’t know how idle his father and I have been since we came to the capital. We’ve been waiting for the day when Sunsun would bring you home so we could arrange the marriage!” Lin’s mother said earnestly.

Ying Ying smiled, “Then I will have to trouble uncle and aunt.”

Lin’s mother was delighted, “As long as you agree, we will choose an auspicious day tomorrow and hold the wedding this year.”

Lian Shun reminded, “Ying Xiaoying, you should change the way you address me.”

“Since the previous ceremony doesn’t count, let’s wait until we officially get married.” Ying Ying said as she stood up, “I will stay with Xiaoliang tonight.”

“That’s fine too,” Lin’s father nodded, “Sunsun, send Miss Ying back and then come back.”

Lian Shun was dumbfounded. This wasn’t what he had planned. He had thought that he could share a bed with Ying Ying tonight. How did it suddenly change from being married to being engaged?

Lin’s mother, holding Ying Ying’s hand, accompanied her to the door, “Don’t think too much about it. We are very happy that you can be with Sunsun, but since you youngsters don’t care about these things, we elders cannot let Sunsun mess around. Even if we don’t care, outsiders will inevitably gossip about it in the future. We have to be prepared for a long life together and can’t skimp on certain things.”

Ying Ying knew that Lin’s mother truly had her best interests at heart. The living environment of Jiaye City and the capital was quite different. There were many high-ranking officials and nobles in the capital. Although the Lin Family had only been in the capital for a year, they were once a famous military family in Qian Country, and now they were associated with not just ordinary people. Lian Shun had a promising future if he wanted, and Ying Ying, who followed Lian Shun without a matchmaker or dowry, couldn’t stop people from talking about it, even if Lian Shun treated her well. She didn’t mind, but what about when they had children later? Moreover, this

would definitely affect the reputation of Lin Family, as Lin Shan hadn't gotten married, and Lian Shun had uncles and brothers. The family's reputation couldn't be ruined.

This was different from Su Liang and Gu Ling's situation. Both of them had no elders above them and had special identities. Even so, Gu Ling had specifically asked Old Master Qin to propose marriage to Su Liang, and the Lin Family and Xing Family took care of Su Liang's side. With Lin's parents present, if Ying Ying really moved into Lin's house just like that, Father Lin and Mother Lin would never be able to raise their heads again.

Ying Ying felt somewhat apologetic, "Auntie, it's my fault for not knowing the rules."

Mother Lin quickly shook her head, "Don't say that, we're all family now. You go rest in Xiaoliang's room first, and tomorrow we'll have a matchmaker come to formalize the marriage. And then, I'll take Shan over to see you."

Father Lin frowned and scolded Lian Shun again, realizing that the hasty marriage was really inappropriate, and that the fault lay with him.

So, in the middle of the night, Lian Shun took Ying Ying back to Su Mansion. Father Lin and Mother Lin, worried that Ying Ying would overthink things, escorted her all the way to the front door.

The lanterns were still lit in Yuanming Pavilion.

Gu Ling and Su Liang had only recently learned the biggest secret of Xingluo Island from Ying Ying, and were now discussing their next plan.

Hearing Lian Shun calling them from downstairs, Su Liang was a bit surprised, "Why is he back?"

Gu Ling's expression was indifferent, "His parents wouldn't let Ying Ying stay here tonight." Obviously, he had anticipated this.

Su Liang was taken aback, "That's true, I should have thought about that." After all, she was a transmigrator, and she had no parents since she arrived here, so she wasn't very sensitive to these matters.

The two went downstairs to see Lian Shun looking dejected, "My parents beat me up."

Ying Ying laughed though, "Looks like I'll be able to sleep with my sister Liang tonight!"

"Gu Ling, can I sleep with you?" Lian Shun asked.

Gu Ling coldly replied with one word, "Scram."

"Alright, I'll scram. Ying Ying, see you tomorrow. I'll come to propose marriage tomorrow." Lian Shun reluctantly held onto Ying Ying's hand.

Ying Ying waved her hand, "I know, go ahead."

Su Liang asked Gu Ling to escort Lian Shun, "His martial arts skills are average. If he gets captured by Sheng Yue, Ying Ying will have to find another groom."

Lian Shun: ...

Gu Ling was actually going to escort Lian Shun, which Lian Shun wasn't expecting, but he was also very happy about it.



Once the two men left, Su Liang took Ying Ying upstairs, "Speaking of Xingluo Island, I have one more thing to ask Ying Ying."

"What?" Ying Ying asked, "I've told you everything I remember."

"There might be some things Ying Ying saw but didn't pay attention to," Su Liang said, "Did Mo Yan wear any jewelry? Like bracelets or rings?"

Ying Ying went to Su Liang's room and glanced at the sleeping Gu Xiaonuan before sitting down. After pondering for a while, she replied, "There is a ring with a red gemstone on it, which looks extraordinary."

Su Liang had also asked Min Rou, who mentioned the same ring and said that Mo Yan never took it off.

"Is it something special?" Ying Ying asked.

Su Liang nodded, "It might be." She and Gu Ling were just discussing what Mo Yan's storage space might be. If they could steal it, that would be great.

Chapter 447: 447. Act according to circumstances

"Gu Xiaoling, did you expect things to go this way tonight?" Lian Shun asked Gu Ling.

"Hmm." Gu Ling nodded slightly.

Lian Shun snorted lightly, "Why didn't you stop me then?"

"It's useless. You've done what you should and shouldn't have done. Whether Ying Ying goes or not, your parents will beat you anyway. Letting her go is a way to get you out of trouble." Gu Ling's expression was indifferent.

Lian Shun sighed, "You're seeing this clearly as an onlooker. It's indeed my fault. I should have considered what Ying Xiaoying didn't think of. I was really impulsive at that time. But if given another chance, and Ying Xiaoying actively wants to marry me, I would agree to whatever she wants."

"That's because you know your parents won't object." Gu Ling hit the nail on the head.

Lian Shun laughed, "You're right!" His "wilfulness" was actually because someone spoiled him. Even if he messed up, his parents would not be really angry but would only try their best to help him do better. Moreover, what he said to Ying Ying at the time, that his parents would definitely accept her as their daughter-in-law, was 100% certain without any doubt. And indeed, that is the case.

Compared to friends like Gu Ling and Qiao Jing, Lian Shun always felt that he was the luckiest because he had a happy and complete family since childhood. The first setback he encountered in his life was being betrayed by his cousin Duanmu Che, but looking back now, it wasn't a big deal, and it was precisely because of this that he became friends with Su Liang and Gu Ling, embarking

on a more interesting and meaningful new stage of life. Later, when he and his family encountered danger several times, Su Liang and Gu Ling came to the rescue, including his fate with Ying Ying, which was entirely thanks to Su Liang.

As Lian Shun thought about this, he couldn't help but feel a little emotional. Suddenly he stopped, hugged Gu Ling, and said, "Gu Xiaoling, thank you all for everything over the years."

Although Gu Ling always looked like he disliked Lian Shun, at this moment, he didn't push him away but simply said, "I won't sleep with you tonight, so give up."

Then, Lian Shun's hearty laughter rang out in the quiet streets of the capital city. "Gu Xiaoling, has anyone ever told you that you're getting cuter and cuter?"

"Of course." Gu Ling replied.

Lian Shun, of course, knew who it was: Su Liang loved Gu Ling the most, and even after getting married and having a child, she still called him the Great God.

The two arrived at Lian Mansion, Gu Ling watched Lian Shun go in, and then turned and left.

Father Lin and Mother Lin hadn't gone to bed yet, waiting for Lian Shun's return.

When Lian Shun entered, Mother Lin finally breathed a sigh of relief. Earlier, Su Liang had specifically reminded them that even though the world was peaceful now, there were still some sinister forces lurking in the shadows, waiting for an opportunity to strike, so they must be careful not to go to deserted places alone.

"It was Gu Xiaoling who personally sent me back, and he's already left," Lian Shun said with a smile.

Father Lin sighed, "Both of them have been really good to you."

Lian Shun made a face-holding gesture with his hands, "That's because I'm so lovable to everyone."

Father Lin raised the feather duster in his hand that he hadn't put down, and Lian Shun immediately straightened up, "Father, mother, I was really wrong about the whole matter about our marriage."

Mother Lin, who deeply cared for her son, quickly said to prevent Father Lin from punishing him again, "What's done is done, and no outsider knows about it. Let's just follow the rules and proceed with the marriage. Ying is a sensible girl, she won't mind, will she?"

Lian Shun shook his head. "No, she understands Father and Mother's intentions."

"That's good." Mother Lin sighed softly. "Really, it's Ying's first time in our house, and she hasn't even had a cup of hot tea or tasted the dishes I cooked. Now, she has to go back in the middle of the night... It's all your fault!"

Lian Shun nodded weakly, "Yes, it's all my fault. Father and Mother, don't get too angry and harm your health. Go to rest quickly, we have important things to do tomorrow."

Upon hearing this, Mother Lin said, "Your father and I have already discussed it, and we even asked Old Master Qin to be the matchmaker. Your father will go early tomorrow morning. The betrothal gifts are almost ready."

Lian Shun was nodding as he listened to the previous conversation, but when he heard the last sentence, he paused, "When did you prepare this? How did you do it so quickly?"

Lian's mother glared at him, "Could we still count on you? Ever since Xiaoliang revealed that you liked her sister, we started preparing your betrothal gifts."

Lian Shun was beaming, "Father and mother are truly wise!" He linked arms with his mother and continued, "Has mother ever thought about the possibility that Ying Xiaoying might not want to marry me?"

"Of course, I've thought about it. After all, she is Xiaoliang's sister," Lian's mother knew that Su Liang had many female friends, but only recognized one as her sister, which made her quite special. Furthermore, she knew very well the type of girl her son would like.

As Lian's mother spoke, she laughed, "If Xiaoying refuses, then there's nothing we can do. We'll have to rely on Apei and Lian Shan to give us grandchildren sooner." Even if Yuan Pei didn't marry Lian Shan, Father Lin and Mother Lin still saw him as their own son.

Lian Shun sent his parents back to rest, and his mother reminded him to go to bed early, not to go out and misbehave, afraid that he would secretly go to find Ying Xiaoying late at night. It wouldn't be an issue if others didn't find out, but since they wanted to follow the customs, it was better not to cause a ruckus.

Lian Shun cleared his throat, "Mother, don't worry. Ying Xiaoying will be sleeping with Su Xiaoliang tonight, so I won't go there."

When Gu Ling returned home, Su Liang and Ying Xiaoying had not gone to sleep yet.

After talking about the ruby ring on Mo Yan's hand, Ying Xiaoying asked Su Liang a core question, "What is really going on with all of this? What secrets are hidden in Mo Yan's forbidden area? It seems like you know something, Liang. Why are they so determined to capture Xiaogu? It's not because he's good at swimming, but because he has something to do with the secret of the forbidden area, right?"

Su Liang looked into Ying Xiaoying's eyes. She wanted to know because, for a long time, she and the Ying siblings had been tormented by the secret of Xingluo Island and its forbidden area. Ying Ye had even been seriously injured and almost died, leaving him with the mental age of a child even after he came of age.

After thinking it through, Su Liang decided to tell Ying Xiaoying the truth. At this point, if she didn't say anything, Ying Xiaoying wouldn't pursue the matter and wouldn't blame her. However, as Ying Xiaoying's most trusted person, she should be more honest with her. She believed that Ying Xiaoying, who was Gu Ling's earliest friend besides Nian Jincheng, would not object.

"Actually, I am the person Mo Yan is looking for," Su Liang said.

Ying Xiaoying's expression turned serious, "You are Mo Yan's granddaughter, but he must not be looking for his own bloodline." There was no dispute about Gu Ling's lineage as his paternal and maternal families were both extraordinary, and his looks had a direct connection to his background.

"Indeed, he's not looking for his bloodline, and Gu Ling has nothing to do with Mo Yan," Su Liang said. "Mo Yan might not know that I am his granddaughter, but actually, I'm not. That's the reason he's looking for me. As for why he approached Gu Ling, it's because we sensed their intentions from previous incidents and deliberately misled them, making them think Gu Ling was that person."

Ying Xiaoying felt that the mist that had troubled her for years had been partially dispelled at once, but she still couldn't make clear the whole story. A barrier seemed to be in front of her, both close and distant, which she couldn't touch with her own abilities.

"It's normal for Sister Ying not to be able to think of it," Su Liang sighed softly. "Because this matter is quite bizarre. If it weren't for what you've experienced, I'm afraid that even if I told you, you wouldn't believe it."

Ying Xiaoying shook her head, "No, I'll believe whatever you say."

However, when Su Liang told her about being a Transmigrator, Ying Xiaoying was still shocked and took a long time to digest this mysterious information.

"So, Mo Yan is also a Transmigrator like you?" Ying Xiaoying asked. The barrier in front of her eyes was shattered in an instant, and everything became clear.

"He is, but it seems different from me. I came in my soul, while he probably came in his physical body," Su Liang said, feeling as if she sounded like a fortune teller.

Ying Xiaoying's eyes narrowed slightly, "Could it be that he came from that deep pool that has drowned countless people?"

Su Liang nodded, "As far as we know, it is from there. He has concerns on the other side, which he can't let go of and wants to return to. He's afraid that the road back won't be easy, and he might die inside, that's why he's been capturing people to test the way. Ordinary people can't achieve that. What he wants is valuable pathfinders like me, who are of the same kind."

Ying Xiaoying furrowed her eyebrows, "Are there many people like you?"

"Of course not," Su Liang shook her head. "But since there are already two, there might be a third one. At least we can confirm that there used to be a third one, that is, Sheng Yue and Cheng Yun's mother. But she is already dead. Sheng Yue claimed that she was killed by Mo Yan, probably drowned in the deep pool of the forbidden area."

Upon hearing this, Ying Xiaoying felt as if she had returned to the dark and gloomy forbidden area. The deep pool appeared as a black mirror in her mind, as if to suck her in, making her feel extremely uneasy.

The near-drowning experience was not without its impact on Ying Ying, but she had always had friends around her since being rescued, and later, the sunny and cheerful Lian Shun accompanied her, so she subconsciously avoided thinking about it.

Even when she voluntarily shared her experience with Gu Ling and Su Liang earlier tonight, she was able to speak about it with ease because they were with her.

At this moment, when Su Liang unveiled the fog for her, the sinister and cruel truth wrapped in the icy water of the deep pool stirred up a huge wave in Ying Ying's mind. She felt cold all over and her body trembled slightly, as if she was back in the moment when she was floating and sinking in the water, unable to breathe...

Su Liang hugged Ying Ying and gently patted her back, "Sister Ying, it's okay, don't be afraid."

Ying Ying closed her eyes, and some hidden memories flickered like fragments in her mind. She saw it, she saw the bottom of the deep pool!

Ying Ying suddenly opened her eyes, cold sweat on her forehead, she pressed Su Liang's shoulders and said, "I saw it!"

"What did you see?" Su Liang quickly asked.

"A ray of light!" Ying Ying said, "There's a ray of light at the bottom of the pool! Could it be the path Mo Yan is looking for? Is there really such a path?"

Su Liang's eyes narrowed. Ying Ying said that Yue Mei had been forcing her and Ying Ye to practice diving since they were young, training them to hold their breath underwater, indicating that Yue Mei had long been cultivating "guinea pigs" for Mo Yan, but she couldn't have been told the real secret. Mo Yan may have made up some pretext, leading Yue Mei to believe there were treasures or some such in the forbidden area, thinking there were profits to be had.

Therefore, Ying Ying had a better ability to swim than most, which was also the reason she was able to make it out alive after being brought into the forbidden area. It seemed that most of the others who had been brought in had died inside.

If so, it was indeed possible that Ying Ying had dived deeper than the others and had not been as strongly fearful as they were. So, if she had really glimpsed the secret of the deep pool, it was possible.

"Why didn't Mo Yan try to get the water out of the pool? Wouldn't that give a direct view of the path at the bottom of the pool, if there was such a path?" Ying Ying frowned and said.

Su Liang shook his head, "That's not the kind of path we ordinarily understand, so it definitely won't be that simple. If it could be done that way, Mo Yan would have done it already, or perhaps he had tried and failed."

At this moment, Gu Ling returned.

Su Liang shared with him the information he had just learned from Ying Ying. Gu Ling nodded slightly, "I see. We'll talk about the rest tomorrow, you two should go to bed."

Su Liang took Ying Ying to stay in another courtyard, while Gu Ling still stayed in their room, responsible for watching over Gu Xiaonuan.

The next day, Su Mansion was very lively.

Early in the morning, Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu went for their morning exercise, and Ying Ye followed them for a jog. Although he was tall, his mentality was not as smart as the two clever kids, Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu.

From the moment Ying Ye arrived, he had fallen in love with the place. He had the benefactor sister and beautiful brother whom he had known for a long time and had been thinking about, two lovely little companions, many toys he had never seen before, delicious food, and he could even hold the Nuannuan baby.

Ying Ying got up, and together with Su Liang, they went to the Yuanming Pavilion. They saw Ying Ye across the lake happily waving at her, then ran to Zhengzheng's side.

"I knew Xiaoye would definitely like it here." Ying Ying looked relieved.

"I'll show him today and see if he can be cured." Su Liang said, "And I now also have a Divine Doctor as a master."

"That's good. But don't put pressure on yourself, if he can't be cured, it's not a bad thing for him to live a simple and happy life like a child. I'll take care of him for the rest of my life." Ying Ying said.

Soon after, Old Master Qin brought Lian Shun to formally propose marriage to Ying Ying.

Today, Lian Shun was dressed up very spiritedly, and Ying Ying also wore the new clothes prepared by Su Liang.

The elder from Su Mansion who was involved in the matter was Cen Man.

On the day when the two formally got engaged, the Lin's Family picked an auspicious day for the wedding, which was less than half a month away in the beginning of the twelfth lunar month. Father Lin and Mother Lin worried that Ying Ying might become pregnant and wanted to expedite the process of marriage.

Ying Ying had no objection to any of this. When she saw Lian Shun, she didn't mention the secret Su Liang had told her the night before.

After Old Master Qin left, Su Liang and Weng Ming both took Ying Ye's pulse, but whether it could be treated or not still needed further study. After all, it was the brain that was injured, and they dared not administer needles or medicine rashly.

In the afternoon, Mother Lin and Lian Shan came to Su Mansion as guests, of course, for Ying Ying. They gave her a set of valuable jewelry, saying it had been handed down from their ancestors.

Mother Lin had long known about Ying Ye's situation, so she brought some homemade dessert and candied fruit for him. Lin's Family had an orange garden in Jiaye City, and Mother Lin's skill in making dried oranges was unparalleled. Gu Ling had specially asked for her advice before.

In the evening, Ying Ying and Su Liang sat on the rooftop of Yuanming Pavilion watching the sunset, and they could hear the laughter of the children chasing each other in the forest. The kitchen was filled with the smoke from cooking, and Gu Ling was preparing the meal.

Ying Ying sighed, "These are the happiest days I could ever dream of. Thank you, Sister Liang."

“Don’t be so formal with me,” Su Liang laughed lightly. “Sister Ying, just rest well at home for a while, and wait until the wedding.”

The next moment, Ying Ying asked, “What are your plans for Xingluo Island? Just let me know what you need me to do. As long as I’m in the capital city on the wedding day, I’m fine.”

Su Liang lightly coughed, “Lian Ershan would be heartbroken if he heard that. How can Sister Ying act like she’s ready to abandon him at any moment?”

Ying Ying shook her head, “I’ll take him with me wherever I go.”

Speak of the devil, Lian Shun’s affectionate call came from below, “Ying Xiaoying, jump down! I’ll catch you!” He saw Ying Ying sitting up high, her dress and black hair fluttering and dancing in the evening breeze, extremely beautiful.

Ying Ying glanced at Lian Shun, somewhat disgusted, “So stupid.”

Su Liang smiled and said, “This kind of stupidity is not something everyone can see.” With that, she pushed Ying Ying down.

Lian Shun opened his arms wide and caught Ying Ying steadily, his smile brilliant, “Let’s go shopping together and eat dinner outside.”

Ying Ying landed and shook her head, “It’s fine to eat at home. Xiaogu is cooking.”

“He cooks every day, and we can still eat his cooking tomorrow. But today, I don’t have a chance to talk to you alone. I have so many things I want to say to you.” Lian Shun shook Ying Ying’s hand back and forth.

Seeing Ying Ying frown, Lian Shun quickly changed his attitude, becoming more domineering, “Ying Xiaoying, you must accompany me to go shopping and eat, or else I will go back to my parents and tell them that you bullied me!” He was domineering but not entirely so.

Ying Ying smiled and knocked on Lian Shun’s forehead, “Alright then.”

That night, Ying Ying didn’t ask Su Liang to accompany her again.

Su Liang and Gu Ling read the Antidote Formula together late into the night before washing up and going to bed.

After lying down, Su Liang asked Gu Ling, “Sister Ying asked me today about our plans for Xingluo Island. Of course, the plan is to destroy them. If we can take Mo Yan’s portable space, that would be even better. Should we take the initiative to attack, or should we just watch and see how things unfold?”

Gu Ling gently stroked Su Liang’s hair, “Be prepared and act according to the situation.”

Chapter 448: 448. Sheng Yue visits

Time flew by, and before they knew it, it was the day before Ying Ying and Lian Shun’s wedding.

Ying Ying was to get married out of Su Mansion, and everything had been prepared. Ren Dong was the last one to get married from here, so the Qi Yan and Qi Jun brothers had a good amount of

experience in wedding preparations. Furthermore, the next event should be Nangong Qian's wedding with Qi Yan, awaiting the return of grandpa and grandson Qiao Cong and Qiao Jing to the capital.

At times like these, kids are always the happiest. Ji Xiaoshu rode on Ying Ye's neck, hanging the last red lantern on a lofty tree branch. Clapping his hands, he joyously declared, "Done!"

Ying Ye put Ji Xiaoshu down, stooping over to give him a high five.

Hearing Ji Xiaoshu say, "Uncle Xiaoye is the best!" Ying Ye's eyes narrowed in delight.

Zhengzheng ran over with a plate of fried fish nuggets which Gu Ling had just made. The three of them went to the pavilion by the lake and quickly finished eating. Ying Ye then ran out of the pavilion carrying the empty platter, "I'll go get another plate from beautiful brother!"

Ji Xiaoshu turned around, sitting with his back to the stone table. He looked up at the floating clouds in the sky through the corner of the pavilion and sighed, "It's already the twelfth lunar month, the New Year will be here soon. Why hasn't my dad come back yet? If he doesn't return soon, I'll start calling master 'Dad'!"

Zhengzheng knew that although Ji Xiaoshu usually complained about Ji Yuebai, he cared for him a lot. Ji Yuebai had been away for a long time and Ji Xiaoshu missed him; he just had a peculiar way of expressing it.

So Zhengzheng comforted Ji Xiaoshu, "He might be back tomorrow. We still have half a month before the New Year, just wait a bit longer."

"Didn't you hear Master and Mistress say? That big bad guy Sheng Yue probably went north, if he runs into my dad, he'll definitely capture him!" Ji Xiaoshu frowned.

Zhengzheng spoke sternly, "You shouldn't think like that. By that logic, everyone in the north is in danger. In my opinion, Sheng Yue is very cunning, if he needed a hostage, he could just capture one after he arrives. He wouldn't need to bring a hostage all the way from afar. Besides, your master is a martial arts master, he will protect your dad."

"Big brother, you make a good point! But my dad is not just anyone. Even though I always say he's not important anymore, but what if he's important in the eyes of the bad guy?" Ji Xiaoshu sighed, "Honestly, why did he have to go so far away? Even if Master and Mistress are taking care of me, he has to take care of my little brother."

Ji Xiaoshu's stepmother had given birth to his little brother. Although he didn't like being close to his stepmother, he loved his little brother very much. Occasionally, he would return to King Yin's mansion to visit his brother. In fact, three days ago during his last visit, he told his stepmother that if she ever ran into any trouble, she could come to Su Mansion to inform him. At that time, his stepmother couldn't help but laugh, patted Ji Xiaoshu's head and agreed. Ji Xiaoshu then ran off.

"Well...maybe we could go to the Huguo Temple to pray for your dad? Pray for Buddha's blessing for your dad to safely return!" Zhengzheng suggested after some thought.

Ji Xiaoshu's eyes lit up, "Great! It's still early, let's go now. Let's get Master to come with us!"



Just then, Ying Ye came running over with a second plate of fried fish, nibbling while running.

As Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu left the pavilion, the three of them shared the delicious fried fish nuggets as they dashed towards the kitchen.

It was midmorning and still not time for lunch. It was only because Ying Ye tasted the fried fish Gu Ling made last time and fell in love with it, he'd been pestering Gu Ling since morning saying he wanted to eat it.

"Master, master, take us to Huguo Temple!" Ji Xiaoshu hugged Gu Ling's leg.

Gu Ling picked Ji Xiaoshu up and tossed him out the door, then fished the last piece of fried fish out of the frying pan.

"Master, Little Tree is worried about his dad, he wants to go to Huguo Temple to pray." Zhengzheng explained the situation.

Gu Ling glanced at Ji Xiaoshu, "I don't believe it."

Ji Xiaoshu coughed lightly, "Master, you're free at home anyway."

"What does my free time have to do with you?" Gu Ling countered.

Ji Xiaoshu fully understood Gu Ling's meaning. Covering his face, he yelled, "Yes, I miss my dad! OK?"

Gu Ling tapped Ji Xiaoshu's head with a cooking spatula, "You are still young, but you always say one thing and mean another. You should change."

"Didn't I learn this from master? Master obviously likes me, but he refuses to admit it!" Ji Xiaoshu posed with a cheeky face.

"One of the biggest false impressions in life is thinking that someone else likes you." Gu Ling remembered a joke that Su Liang shared earlier.

Ji Xiaoshu looked a bit disappointed, until he heard Gu Ling continue, "But in your case, it's not a false impression. Perhaps a little one."

Zhengzheng laughed and asked, "What about me?"

"More than Xiaoshu," Gu Ling replied.

Ji Xiaoshu shook his head, "I don't believe you!"

Ying Ye joined the fun and asked, "What about me? Does the handsome brother like me?"

"The same as them," Gu Ling replied.

Ying Ye happily picked up Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu and said, "Let's go to Huguo Temple!"

Gu Ling took the fried fish to Su Liang. She was discussing with Weng Ming about the treatment plans for Ying Ye. Several plans had been suggested and were being tweaked.

When she heard that Gu Ling was taking the kids to Huguo Temple, Su Liang asked him to borrow the medical books from Master Pu Hui's Scripture Pavilion. Su Liang and Gu Ling had previously

returned the books after reading them, but didn't have time to copy them, and now Weng Ming wanted to read them.

This time, Zhengzheng and Ji Xiaoshu didn't ride horses. One rode with Gu Ling and the other sat in front of Ying Ye. Although Ying Ye had the mind of a child, he could ride a horse and knew martial arts, and he was very skilled. As long as he did not speak, he looked like a handsome young gentleman.

At Huguo Temple, Gu Ling lit incense with the kids, and then went to find Master Pu Hui.

Pu Hui readily agreed to lend the books, and asked how Cheng Yun was doing.

Gu Ling said that Cheng Yun had gone to Jiaye City and was doing well. He would come back once he was finished with his work.

Master Pu Hui sighed, "That child has a connection with you. Please take care of him. His innocence makes it hard for him to distinguish between good and evil."

Gu Ling nodded slightly, and then left.

He retrieved the books from the Scripture Pavilion, took the children to see the Cloud Sea at the back of the temple, ordered several vegetarian dishes in the temple, and then went down the mountain.

Su Mansion.

Nangong Qian was showing Ying Ying around the mansion, looking at the decorations in each place. The once aloof and spacious mansion which felt rather cold due to fewer people was now decorated with festive cheer all around. The couplets were written by Gu Ling and the children, even the characters for celebration were cut by them. There were various styles of lettering, some of the paper-cuts on the window were fairly complex and intricate, all were done by Gu Ling.

While looking around, Ying Ying marvelled at how creative Gu Ling was, a trait that Su Liang had previously praised. She remembered the cold and reticent Gu Ling she had first met. At first glance, the Gu Ling of today didn't seem much different, but in reality, both his actions and speech had changed greatly, becoming warmer. Ying Ying believed that this was Su Liang's doing.

Nangong Qian also liked these things; even though they were present at the time when Ren Dong was married, she and Qi Yan were not yet engaged. Now that they were officially betrothed and she was making her wedding dress, seeing these decorations evoked completely different feelings.

As the two women came to the front gate, they saw the brothers Qi Yan and Qi Jun also coming from the other direction. They were heading out to a restaurant to confirm the food for the next day. Currently, the food of Su Mansion was mostly supplied by Wan Family Restaurant.

Nangong Qian shared a smile with Qi Yan, and Qi Yan asked her if she wants to go along.

Qi Jun smiled, "Sure, Big Brother, take your wife along. I'll go find Ren Dong."

Nangong Qian hurriedly declined, "I don't know anything about this."

Ying Ying laughed and pushed her a little, "You'll understand once you see it."

Just as Qi Jun was about to turn around and go back, he heard the sound of horse hooves outside the main gate. Thinking that Gu Ling and the children had returned, he rushed to open the gate.

However, when Qi Jun and Qi Yan pulled open the gates together, they were not greeted by Gu Ling and the kids, but by Ji Yuebai.

Qi Jun laughed, "Prince, if you didn't return soon, Xiaoshu would have gone to look for you."

Ji Yuebai alighted from his horse, his face full of smiles, "Really? Did Xiaoshu say he missed me? I don't believe it."

"He didn't say so before, but he particularly misses you today and was worried that Sheng Yue had captured you. We had to take him to Huguo Temple to pray for blessings," said Qi Yan.

Ji Yuebai was surprised, "Really? Haha! My son has really grown up! Have they not returned from the temple yet?"

"Not yet, they should be back soon. Prince, would you like to come in and wait, or return to King Yin's palace first?" Qi Jun asked.

"I'll wait here and bring Xiaoshu back with me later. Are you guys holding a wedding celebration at your mansion? Who's getting married?" Ji Yuebai asked.

Ying Ying replied, "It's me and Lian Shun." However, her gaze passed over Ji Yuebai to a man who was still on his horse behind Ji Yuebai.

"Congratulations! I suppose you are Su Liang's big sister, Ying Ying!" Ji Yuebai turned around and called to the man behind him, "Brother Cheng, get down, we're here. Let me introduce you to Divine Doctor Su."

When that man dismounted, Ying Ying stared at his hanging right arm sleeve and the empty space where his hand should have been, lightly swaying in the wind. Her gaze hardened, she drew Qi Jun's waist sword, and in a swift move, her foot turned, and the sword was aimed at the man's throat!

Ji Yuebai was startled, and both Qi Yan and Qi Jun also realized something was wrong with this man.

"Do you know him?" Ji Yuebai was confused.

Ying Ying grabbed the man's right arm, which was lacking a hand. She snorted coldly, "Sheng Yue, you really have guts, to just walk right up to us in broad daylight!"

The expressions of Ji Yuebai and his master, who was now standing beside him in a protective stance, changed at once. They knew the name Sheng Yue, but had never met him and didn't know about him losing a hand to Gu Ling. This had happened after Ji Yuebai had left the capital to head north.

The man who called himself Cheng Feng was someone Ji Yuebai had encountered on his way back. On this trip, he did encounter remnants of the Situ Imperial Family and was pursued by them for half a month. These people had quite a few skilled fighters, and in one dangerous situation, Cheng Feng happened upon them and stepped in to help, leading to their acquaintance.

Cheng Feng claimed that he had contracted a strange disease and needed to seek treatment from Divine Doctor Su in the capital city. At first, Ji Yuebai didn't trust him and didn't travel with him. However, they bumped into each other twice more, and after some enjoyable conversation, they decided to travel together.

Now, the man who had introduced himself as Cheng Feng to Ji Yuebai was being held at sword point by Ying Ying, but his expression didn't change. His thin lips parted slightly, and he said four words, "I am Sheng Yue."

Ji Yuebai's heart sank! He had almost let a wolf into his house! But on second thought, something didn't seem right. Given Sheng Yue's cunning, he couldn't have hidden his hand. He should have known that the moment he entered the Su Mansion, he would have been exposed. Moreover, he chose to follow Ji Yuebai in broad daylight. With his martial arts skills, he could have easily dodged Ying Ying's attack earlier, yet he did not move an inch. Even now, he had not made any attempt to deny his identity. Something was amiss.

Ying Ying also sensed that something was off. She asked coldly, "Don't tell me you came here to surrender?"

Sheng Yue shook his head. "Su Liang and Gu Ling invited me to discuss a cooperation."

Ji Yuebai stared intently at him, "Did you deliberately approach me?"

Sheng Yue shook his head again, "It was a coincidence that I ran into you. Saving you was a way to demonstrate the sincerity of my visit."

Qi Jun frowned, "You didn't bring Yan Shiba back. What kind of sincerity are you talking about?"

"She's following behind." Sheng Yue said, "I just wanted to get here as soon as possible."

Qi Yan had already run off to inform Su Liang.

Just as Ying Ying was preparing to escort Sheng Yue into the mansion, the sound of horse hooves could be heard in the distance once again.

Ji Yuebai looked over, and saw a little kid sitting on horseback waving at him, "Dad!"

Ji Yuebai's spirits lifted, and he ran to greet his son. He then saw Gu Ling pick up Ji Xiaoshu and toss him over.

In the meantime, Gu Ling had spotted the person being held at sword-point by Ying Ying, and from his figure, he instantly recognized him to be Sheng Yue.

As he dismounted, Gu Ling asked Ying Ye to take Zhengzheng into the mansion first. Ji Yuebai also went into the mansion with Ji Xiaoshu in his arms, to avoid any danger to the child in case Sheng Yue suddenly broke free. Sheng Yue's escape from Ying Ying's grip was not entirely impossible.

"Xiao Gu, your return is timely. He says you invited him to discuss cooperation. Yan Shiba is following behind," Ying Ying told Gu Ling.

Gu Ling had already opened his bag, took out a medicine pill, and held it in front of Sheng Yue, "Eat it or I'll kill you."

With Ying Ying and Gu Ling surrounding him, and missing a hand, Sheng Yue didn't have much of a chance to escape.

Sheng Yue glanced at the sword in front of him. His left hand was blocked, so he couldn't reach for the medicine. With a calm expression, he said, "You feed me."

Qi Jun frowned. That sounded strange.

Sheng Yue opened his mouth, and Gu Ling accurately tossed the medicine pill into it. Soon, Sheng Yue began to feel weakness in his limbs.

Gu Ling gave Ying Ying a look. Ying Ying sheathed the sword and handed it back to Qi Jun, "You go check on the food."

Qi Jun was stunned for a moment, then remembered what he had initially stepped out to do. He was supposed to let Qi Yan take Nangong Qian, but after Ying Ying pulled out her sword, Qi Yan ran off with Nangong Qian to find Su Liang.

Sheng Yue walked into Su Mansion shoulder to shoulder with Gu Ling. After Qi Jun took the horse to the stable, he left the mansion.

"About what happened before, I'm sorry. I had no intention of harming any child, nor did I intend to kill you," said Sheng Yue.

Gu Ling was nonchalant, "Now that you're here, it means that on Xingluo Island, your real objective was to avenge your mother's death?"

Sheng Yue nodded, "Yes. I won't deny that I also wanted to see the place you came from, so I never made a move on Mo Yan. Another reason is that he has a magic treasure. From the food supplies, you should have guessed it. I want it but haven't found the chance."

"How do you wish to cooperate?" Gu Ling asked.

Sheng Yue replied casually, "I admit, I was very arrogant before and vastly underestimated your capabilities. Now, the only viable option is to cooperate so that we can achieve our respective goals in the safest possible way. My plan is to first seize the magic treasure, then let Mo Yan jump into the deep pool that has drowned countless people and see what happens."

Chapter 449: 449. Sheng Yue's Confession

Yuan Ying was carrying a lunch box and bookcase behind her, originally thinking that Gu Ling would take Sheng Yue to Yuanming Pavilion to find Su Liang, but halfway there, Gu Ling suddenly pulled Sheng Yue's arm and turned into an uninhabited courtyard.

It's not quite accurate to say no one lived there; while there was no one in the courtyard, there were three prisoners in the dungeon: Nangong Lin, Yue Mei, and Nian Ruxue.

The secret chamber beneath the Yuanming Pavilion had always been used for temporarily detaining people, and it was inconvenient to keep someone there for a long time. The only remaining value of these three people was to test medicine and poison for Su Liang, Gu Ling, and Weng Ming.

Gu Ling opened the entrance to the dungeon, and Sheng Yue's face remained calm, "Is this your sincerity in cooperating?"

Gu Ling's face was indifferent, "You have come a long way, first rest a while, then we can talk about other things. This is my sincerity as a host."

With a slight sigh, Sheng Yue didn't resist and obediently walked into the dungeon, allowing Gu Ling to bind iron chains on his feet as well.

The noises attracted Nangong Lin, who had been lying curled up in another cell, to slowly sit up and look over. The dungeon was very dim, but it was enough for him to recognize Gu Ling at a glance. His hands grabbed the cold iron bars, dragging his stiff body toward them as he weakly spoke, "Apprentice... Ling'er... please have pity on your master, I have been kind to you!"

Gu Ling didn't even glance at Nangong Lin. Recently, he had been used to test several drugs, causing him to truly experience the despair of being better off dead than alive. Consequently, he had stopped cursing Gu Ling and Su Liang, instead begging them to spare his life.

But Gu Ling knew Nangong Lin's type, a person with no moral bottom line: if they were to really release him, once he found an opportunity, he would fight back viciously, continuing to hurt others. Such a person treated other people's lives like grass, taking advantage of their superior martial arts to trample on others' lives, but when it came to themselves, they were extremely fearful of death.

Sheng Yue had already recognized who the three prisoners in the dungeon were before he had arrived, and asked, "Why don't you get rid of them and be done with it?"

"To test poison," Gu Ling answered, "You have a unique constitution, so we need to borrow some of your blood."

Upon hearing the last sentence, Sheng Yue hesitated for a moment, "Do you really want to cooperate with me, or do you just want to capture me?"

"We'll talk later," said Gu Ling, and he closed the cell door, turning around and leaving.

"Can you untie the ropes on my hands? They're too tight," Sheng Yue asked.

Gu Ling didn't look back, and the sound of his footsteps gradually faded away, disappearing into somewhere unseen by them.

It was gloomy inside the dungeon, but it wasn't colder than outside. Sheng Yue saw Nangong Lin staring straight at him but didn't say a word, waiting for Nangong Lin to ask, "Sheng Yue? Is it you?"

They had met before, so Nangong Lin recognized Sheng Yue's voice.

Sheng Yue didn't answer, which Nangong Lin took as a confirmation. Nangong Lin suddenly got excited, "How did you get caught too? Where's your master Mo Yan? Is he dead?"

"He's not dead," Sheng Yue spoke in a low voice, "But if you are waiting for Mo Yan to defeat Gu Ling and save you, don't even dream about it."

Hearing this, Nangong Lin's hand loosened and he fell to the ground, crying and howling, "If I had known this, I should have strangled him back then... smashed him to death..." Of course, he was referring to Gu Ling as a child.

Yue Mei sat in a dark corner, watching everything coldly with a grim gaze, looking like a vulture that had lost all its feathers and was left with only skin and bones.

Nian Ruxue was sleeping but was awakened by the crying and howling. She saw that a new person had come but didn't recognize that it was Sheng Yue, so she asked, "Who are you?"

Sheng Yue closed his eyes and ignored her.

Nangong Lin answered Nian Ruxue's question, "Sheng Yue, it's Sheng Yue... Mo Yan's most capable subordinate! He's been caught too, hahaha... trash... all trash! I shouldn't have trusted you!"

Upon hearing this, Nian Ruxue's face stiffened, and she muttered, "How could it be..." In her eyes, Sheng Yue's strength was on par with Gu Ling's.

Since Gu Ling had locked Sheng Yue here, he wasn't afraid of them communicating. Sheng Yue also knew very well that those three useless people couldn't provide any useful information. In fact, they knew far less about many things than he did, so he couldn't be bothered to pay them any attention.

When Yuan Ying entered the Yuanming Pavilion, Su Liang had already learned from Qi Yan and Nangong Qian that Sheng Yue had arrived. Ji Yuebai had already brought the child first and was telling Su Liang about the beginning and the end of his acquaintance with "Chai Feng".

"I'm sorry, it was my lack of vigilance," Ji Yuebai sighed.

Su Liang shook his head, "It's nothing, he didn't hurt you. And even if you hadn't traveled with him, he would have come anyway."

As she sat on Ji Yuebai's lap, Ji Xiaoshu furrowed her brows and complained about Ji Yuebai, "Father, you are really careless, keeping someone with an unknown background close to you. Fortunately, Master and Madam had planned early, or that bad guy would have hurt you!"

Ji Yuebai hurriedly admitted his mistake, "Yes, yes, it's all my fault, thank you Madam."

"Of course." Ji Xiaoshu snorted lightly, "My master is very magnanimous and won't be mad at you for my sake."

Su Liang laughed softly, "Yes, for Xiaoshu's sake, I won't hold King Yin's mistake against him this time."

"Why hasn't Xiaogu brought Sheng Yue over yet?" Ji Yuebai looked at the entrance, "That man better not be playing tricks again, master..."

Ji Yuebai's master was about to get up and check when Ying Ying entered, "It's okay. Xiaogu has locked Sheng Yue in the dungeon."

"Master, please sit down. I'll go get you some tasty food!" Ji Xiaoshu slid down Ji Yuebai's legs and quickly ran upstairs.

"My son has really grown up." Ji Yuebai sighed and then bowed to Su Liang, "Thank you so much for taking care of Xiaoshu." It wasn't that no one took care of Ji Xiaoshu, but he was unhappy in King Yin's mansion. He appeared mischievous, but he had

been melancholic ever since he lost his mother. Gu Ling and Su Liang gave Ji Xiaoshu a new, happy, and loving home.

“Why are you being so polite? Xiaoshu is part of our family.” Su Liang smiled. She and Gu Ling didn’t have a son of their own, and they didn’t plan to have one for the time being. They loved the two children in their home and raised them as if they were their own.

Ji Yuebai laughed heartily, “You’re right!”

Ying Ying had already taken out the vegetarian dishes that Gu Ling had brought back from Huguo Temple from the food box, but since they were delayed, the dishes had gotten a little cold. Su Liang suggested heating them up again before eating.

Ji Xiaoshu came downstairs, holding a box. As soon as Ying Ye saw it, he grinned, “Little orange dried fruit!”

It was a snack of dried little oranges that Gu Ling had learned to make from Madam Lin. The sour and sweet taste was very delicious. Ji Xiaoshu had specially saved some for Ji Yuebai.

After Ji Xiaoshu fed Ji Yuebai and his master a taste, Ji Yuebai nodded, “Really delicious.”

“My master personally made it!” Ji Xiaoshu was quite proud of this.

Just then, Gu Ling entered the room. Ji Yuebai laughed and said, “Xiaogu, you’ve surpassed me in my son’s heart.”

Gu Ling looked at Ji Xiaoshu, “Is that so?”

Ji Xiaoshu immediately shook his head, “Why bother competing? My favorite is, of course, my master!”

They sat for a little while, and Ji Yuebai did not ask Gu Ling about his plans for dealing with Sheng Yue. Ji Yuebai then got up to leave since his wife and children were still in King Yin’s mansion.

Ji Yuebai hugged Ji Xiaoshu again, “Do you want to go home with me?”

“No, Aunt Ying and Uncle Ersan are getting married. I have things to do. Remember to come to the wedding tomorrow! See you then!” Ji Xiaoshu waved his hand casually.

“Alright, see you tomorrow.” Ji Yuebai tousled Ji Xiaoshu’s head and left with his master.

The children went to the kitchen to see if Qiuyue and Weng Ran had finished cooking. Gu Ling and Su Liang went upstairs. Weng Ming and Lao Bai were discussing the issue of Sheng Yue being immune to poison. They both agreed that they should study Sheng Yue’s blood to see if it had any detoxifying effects.

After hearing Gu Ling recount the events and Sheng Yue’s statements, Su Liang pondered, “It seems that Pu Cheng found him, and he came here as soon as he saw our message. But even if he surrenders willingly, I still think we can’t trust him easily.”



Gu Ling agreed. Otherwise, he wouldn't have thrown Sheng Yue into the dungeon, "Let's just wait and see."

On the sixth day of the twelfth lunar month, it was a good day for marriage.

With a beaming face, Lian Shun led the wedding procession, making a grand entrance at the gate of Su Mansion.

The door-blocking team went into action again. Ji Xiaoshu led the team, followed by Zhengzheng and Ying Ye, and this time the children roped in Gu Ling for support.

Last time, when Qi Jun married Ren Dong, the children had blocked the door once before. Qi Jun had informed Lian Shun beforehand, but he had omitted the crucial fact that he, as an insider, had been given the answers by Su Liang in advance, so there was actually no difficulty involved.

This time, the questions were specially crafted for Lian Shun by Gu Ling, who didn't give him a chance to cheat.

The second question stumped Lian Shun. "Give me another hint!"

"Uncle Ersan, you can do it!" Zhengzheng encouraged warmly.

Lian Shun scratched his head in anxiety, "Xiaoshu, please be lenient! I'll send you a treasure in return!"

"No bribing! We can be lenient. There were originally ten questions, but now you only need to answer five correctly to enter! My master arranged the task because Aunt Ying got up late and hasn't finished dressing yet. Besides, it's not time to start, so don't worry."

Zhengzheng still gave Lian Shun a hint, and Lian Shun quickly answered the second question.

Ji Xiaoshu covered Zhengzheng's mouth, "Eldest senior brother, don't betray us!"

Zhengzheng nodded, but he gave another hint for the third question.

"Master, arrest the eldest senior brother!" Ji Xiaoshu commanded.

Gu Ling glanced at him coldly, "I told you, I prefer Zhengzheng."

Ji Xiaoshu: ...

Ying Ye climbed onto the wall and waved at Lian Shun, "Brother-in-law! Brother-in-law!"

Lian Shun's eyes lit up, "Xiaoye, help me!"

Ying Ye reached out, "Sure! Brother-in-law, reach out, and I'll pull you over!"

Lian Shun coughed lightly, "No need, you better go back."

Although it was not easy, Lian Shun still managed to answer all five questions with Zhengzheng's help. Ying Ye opened the door, hugged Lian Shun, and asked, "Brother-in-law! Are my sister and I going to sleep at your house tonight?"

Lian Shun quickly appeased Ying Ye, "Xiaoye, you can go another day." Just joking, he couldn't let anyone disturb his wedding night, especially the naughty little devil Ji Xiaoshu!

Seeing Lian Shun looking over, Ji Xiaoshu quickly cupped his fist, "Congratulations, Uncle Lian! I wish Uncle Lian and Aunt Ying a hundred years of happiness and a beautiful child soon!"

Lian Shun saw the lovely children sending their blessings and couldn't help but smile, "Thanks!" Then he strode inside, patted Gu Ling's shoulder as he passed by, "I'm most grateful to you, Gu Xiaoling!"

Zhengzheng pulled Ying Ye to Lian Shun, "Hurry! Uncle Xiaoye, you still have to send Aunt Ying out!"

Hearing the noise outside, Su Liang covered Ying Ying with a red veil. Ying Ye rushed in, "Sister! Brother-in-law is coming!"

Su Liang asked Ying Ye to carry Ying Ying on his back, and Ying Ye wanted to lift the veil to see what Ying Ying looked like after her makeup was done.

So, Lian Shun stood outside the courtyard door and heard Zhengzheng exclaim, "Wow! Aunt Ying looks so beautiful today!"

Lian Shun tried to peek inside, but he couldn't see anything, and he was getting anxious.

Soon, Ying Ye carried Ying Ying out steadily. When they reached the courtyard door, he solemnly repeated what Su Liang taught him, "Brother-in-law, you have to be good to my sister, or I'll beat you!"

Lian Shun's attention was all on Ying Ying. He nodded without hesitation, "I will. I swear."

The rest of the wedding went smoothly, and the Lian family hosted a lively celebration, inviting many guests.

By the time Zhengzheng, Ji Xiaoshu, and Ying Ye were brought over by Gu Ling, they just caught the newlyweds' wedding ceremony.

Ji Yuebai was also there, holding his little son in his arms. The little boy saw Ji Xiaoshu and clapped his hands happily, "Brother! Brother!"

Ji Xiaoshu ran over and picked up his little brother, asking Ji Yuebai, "Father, can you prepare the betrothal gifts for me and my brother when you have time?"

Ji Yuebai coughed, "Isn't it too early?"

"We will grow up fast! I want to marry a wife as good as my master's!" Ji Xiaoshu expressed his ideal.

Ji Yuebai nodded repeatedly, "Ambitious! My son, keep up the good work! Leave the betrothal gifts matter to me."

The wedding ceremony ended, and the children went to the bridal chamber to play for a while before being chased out.

According to the rules, Lian Shun hadn't seen Ying Ying for three days. He lifted the red veil with a balance, and his eyes were amazed. Ying Ying's features were originally gorgeous, but after Su Liang's skillful touch, they were even more beautiful. Lian Shun couldn't help but exclaim, "How come I am so lucky to marry such a beautiful fairy!"

Ying Ying laughed, "Wipe the drool from the corner of your mouth."

Lian Shun raised his hand to wipe it unconsciously, then realized he'd been teased. He chuckled, quickly drank the wedding wine, removed Ying Ying's headpiece, and then pushed her down.

He had just tasted the forbidden fruit and was longing for it ever since. Finally, it was time for the wedding night again.

Gu Ling returned home with the children after having the wedding wine and it was already late in the afternoon.

"Master, how should we deal with that scoundrel? Are we going to kill him?" Ji Xiaoshu was still thinking of Sheng Yue.

Gu Ling shook his head, "Not killing him for now, he is still useful."

Before long, when the children were playing on the open ground at the entrance of Yuanming Pavilion, they saw Gu Ling take Sheng Yue to the pavilion on the opposite side of the lake and have some conversation.

"Eldest Senior Brother, how does that scoundrel pee with only one hand?" Ji Xiaoshu asked Zhengzheng.

Zhengzheng lightly coughed, "I think...with one hand...it should be possible."

"Humph! He even changed his name to Chai Feng, making it sound like he's brothers with Uncle Cheng Yun, so shameless!" Ji Xiaoshu complained.

Zhengzheng nodded, "Indeed. Although he is truly Uncle Cheng Yun's elder brother, he treated Uncle Cheng Yun too badly!"

Gu Ling didn't know what the children were discussing. He untied the ropes on Sheng Yue's body but didn't unlock the chains on his feet, fearing that he would run away.

"When did you go to Xingluo Island? Since Mo Yan knew your mother, why didn't he recognize you?" Gu Ling asked.

"You know, I look like my father." Sheng Yue looked at the children playing on the opposite bank, his gaze fell on Ying Ye, with a faint expression, "Mo Yan never saw my father because my father was a coward who was good at hiding."

"What about Pu Cheng?" Gu Ling asked.

"I don't know." Sheng Yue shook his head, "His martial arts have been crippled by you, and he is useless to me now. I let him go, where he wants to go, it's up to him."

"Put your hand here." Gu Ling pointed to the table, and there was a sharp knife and a porcelain bottle in his hand.

Sheng Yue knew what Gu Ling was going to do, but he didn't refuse, so he placed his only hand on the table, allowing Gu Ling to cut his wrist with the knife and let the blood flow into the porcelain bottle.

It wasn't until the bottle was almost full that Gu Ling stopped, put down the knife, sprinkled some hemostatic powder on Sheng Yue's wrist, and wrapped the wound with gauze.

Then Gu Ling flew across the lake, entered the Yuanming Pavilion, and handed the blood he had taken to Su Liang. Weng Ming and Lao Bai were also waiting.

Sheng Yue saw Su Liang's figure flash past the second-floor window of Yuanming Pavilion, his eyes narrowed slightly, lowered his head, and pressed the wound with his arm without hands.

Soon, Gu Ling returned.

"Can you answer a question for me, considering my cooperation?" Sheng Yue asked.

"Go ahead." Gu Ling wiped the blood-stained table with a damp cloth.

"You can have foresight, right?" Sheng Yue asked.

Gu Ling shook his head, "No."

Sheng Yue frowned slightly, "You're not telling the truth."

"Believe it or not, it's up to you." Gu Ling said.

"How did you get to this side? My mother said this is called a parallel world, and she accidentally fell into the Gate of Time and Space." Sheng Yue said, "Is the forbidden area in Xingluo Island the Gate of Time and Space? I don't understand these things very well, but I think you must know."

Gu Ling asked back, "How did your mother die?"

Sheng Yue paused for a moment, sighed deeply, "In the end, you still found something wrong. Indeed, my mother didn't die in the forbidden area of Xingluo Island. Otherwise, if she couldn't go back, Mo Yan would have given up his obsession long ago. My mother's death is related to Xingluo Island, but in fact, she died at the hands of my father."

Gu Ling's gaze condensed slightly as he heard Sheng Yue continue, "My mother was discovered by Mo Yan after giving birth to me. According to my father, before that, my mother had already resigned herself and never thought about going back. She was taken to Xingluo Island and learned about that forbidden area. But before Mo Yan had a chance to do anything to her, his daughter, your mother-in-law, saved my mother and escaped with her. This is why your wife and my brother both have the same two jade pendants, which are tokens of their shared suffering."

"Later, my mother reunited with my father and soon became pregnant with Cheng Yun. However, over time, my mother could not forget the forbidden area of Xingluo Island. When she found a way, she wanted to return to her original world more than ever, saying that if she could return, it would mean that the way was open and she would definitely come back to pick us up and lead us to a more civilized and beautiful life that is a thousand times better than here."

"My father was naturally strongly opposed to this idea. My mother wanted to leave home and go to Xingluo Island just after giving birth to Cheng Yun, but she was

brought back by my father several times. The last time, they had a fierce argument and started fighting. I saw my father push down my mother with my own eyes, and her head just hit the knife on the ground.” Sheng Yue’s face was still calm, and his eyes seemed like a calm, deep pool, “After my mother died, my father was heartbroken and took Cheng Yun to become a monk. He was going to take me too, but I refused. People have different aspirations, and as a son, I do not want to blame either of them or dissect their so-called love. But isn’t it true that Mo Yan ruined my family and killed my mother? Maybe I just want to see what kind of world of bliss that path leads to, the one that my mother would rather leave us behind for.”

Chapter 450: 450. New Discovery

The weather suddenly turned overcast and the children playing across the lake were called into the Yuanming Pavilion.

After Sheng Yue confessed some things that Gu Ling and Su Liang didn’t know before, the atmosphere fell silent.

It was already December. The surface of the lake was coated with a layer of ice. The gaze of Gu Ling and Sheng Yue fell on the ice, seemingly frozen.

After what seemed like forever, Sheng Yue spoke again, “I’ve said so much, do you still doubt my sincerity? If not, please answer my previous question – can you foresee the future?”

“Yes.” Gu Ling looked at Sheng Yue, his gaze fixed on his forehead, devoid of darkness, still the same unremarkable face.

It’s not that Gu Ling felt he should be fair and confess something to Sheng Yue in return. In fact, he couldn’t really predict the future. The conditions, if there were any, were very harsh. He didn’t explain, and Sheng Yue couldn’t possibly know what was going on.

“I envied that.” Sheng Yue said, looking at Gu Ling.

“I lied.” Gu Ling said, his expression aloof.

Sheng Yue’s gaze was slightly condensed, “Fine, at this point, I’m in no position to make any demands. Have you decided what to do?”

Gu Ling shook his head, “We’ll talk later.” He grabbed Sheng Yue, ready to send him back to the dungeon.

Sheng Yue just sighed, he didn’t resist. As he walked around the lake, he asked, “Where is Cheng Yun? He doesn’t seem to be at your house.”

“It’s none of your business.” Gu Ling said.

Just as they were about to enter the dungeon, Sheng Yue suddenly stopped, “I thought you already knew this, but just in case, I’ll ask.”

Gu Ling was silent, listening to Sheng Yue say, “Do you know the background of Ying Ying and Ying Ye?”

Seeing that Gu Ling didn’t respond, Sheng Yue shook his head slightly, “Yue Mei, that poisonous woman, indeed didn’t say anything. If she had spoken, she wouldn’t have survived till now. Ying Ying and Ying Ye are indeed siblings, and their father is indeed the biological son of Yue Mei and someone from Starfall Island, but their mother’s identity might interest you.”

At this point, Gu Ling already had a guess.

He heard Sheng Yue continue to say, “She’s another transmigrator, that’s how my mother described people like you. In fact, there are more people like you than you thought, although I can count the ones I know on one hand. But, I suppose, at one point you thought you were the only transmigrator in this world, didn’t you?”

“What else?” Gu Ling asked.

“As I said, you’ll be interested.” Sheng Yue’s tone seemed to hold amusement, but his icy face betrayed no emotion, “That woman, the mother of Ying Ying and Ying Ye, was not a physically strong and highly skilled warrior like you but rather an ordinary woman with impaired senses. She was weak, afraid of water, and continuously muttered words that others couldn’t understand. Before she was burned to death, Mo Yan found her. However, she had no ability to help Mo Yan find the way. So, you can probably guess what she was used for.”

After pausing for a moment, Sheng Yue continued, “To bear children. Yue Mei has always been a part of Starfall Island, and her son was selected. Mo Yan thought that the children of the transmigrators might be blessed with special abilities that would allow them to pass certain routes. Shortly after the transmigrator, whose name I do not know, gave birth to Ying Ye, she died. Yue Mei’s son couldn’t bear everything happening on Starfall Island. After killing his father, he committed suicide. Before that, Yue Mei had taken Ying Ying away and later took Ying Ye as well. She raised them outside, trained them to have enough patience to deal with Mo Yan’s test, at the same time, using them as bargaining chips to negotiate with Mo Yan. My father had Cheng Yun to become a monk in order to protect him, lest he be found by Mo Yan because Cheng Yun looked very much like my mother. You can say I’m cold-blooded, but in comparison with people like Mo Yan and Yue Mei, I’m not that bad. You know how my father was to me. Don’t you dare expect me to care about him or be dutiful to him, that’s not gonna happen. As for Cheng Yun, I didn’t grow up with him, and my life wasn’t easier than him. I’m not his father, so I feel no responsibility towards him. But if I were to have a child, I would never harm my own grandchild.”

After he finished, Sheng Yue looked at Gu Ling and said his last sentence, “Believe me, even if Mo Yan knew that Su Liang was his granddaughter, he wouldn’t show any mercy.” With that, he walked into the dungeon.

After Gu Ling locked Sheng Yue up in the dungeon and came out, he looked at the dark sky, took a deep breath, he felt scared, not for him, but for Su Liang.

He believed that even if she didn’t meet him, Su Liang, being clever, would hide herself well, but like Sheng Yue said, in addition to being a transmigrator, Su Liang had another identity – the blood

descendant of Mo Yan, another transmigrator. Who knows if that crazy old man would be mad enough to use even his own granddaughter as a tool to achieve his goal.

Gu Ling returned to Yuanming Pavilion and saw the children playing on the carpet in the flower hall on the first floor. Gu Xiaonuan was in Ying Ye's arms, smiling sweetly at Gu Ling, "Dad!"

Following were two voices saying "Master", and another saying "Handsome Brother." Gu Ling smiled at them and then went upstairs.

Weng Ming and Lao Bai were debating on how to use Sheng Yue's blood, Su Liang opened the window, saw no one in the pavilion, turned around, and saw Gu Ling appear at the door.

"How was it?" Su Liang came out and held Gu Ling's slightly cold hand.

Gu Ling pulled Su Liang back to their room and held her tightly.

"What's wrong? Did Sheng Yue launch any magic attack on you?" Su Liang asked inexplicably, making a joke.

"I just feel very fortunate." Gu Ling sighed.

Su Liang frowns, pulled Gu Ling to sit down, and rubbed his brows, "What's going on? What did that man say?"

Gu Ling then told Su Liang everything that Sheng Yue had explained.

Su Liang was also deeply shocked.

Before this, she really thought that Sheng Yue's mother died in the forbidden area of Xingluo Island, but she didn't expect she was accidentally killed by Pu Cheng. Pu Cheng even acted like a romantic hero in front of her, which was disgusting! Su Liang's mother not only saved Pu Cheng's wife but also formed a sisterhood pact with her. Pu Cheng knew everything before, but he acted like he didn't, proving that he was just a selfish and shameless person.

What Su Liang couldn't even think of was the origin of Ying Ying and Ying Ye. Given how indifferent and even cruel Yue Mei was to Ying Ying and Ying Ye, Su Liang once thought that these two children were abducted by her. She planned to raise them as puppets, even suspecting Ying Ying and Ying Ye were the descendants of Yue Mei's enemies and she stole. Unexpectedly, Yue Mei was actually their grandmother, and their mother was a Transmigrator.

"Sister Ying said that she saw a light at the bottom of the pool..." Su Liang focused on, "Though I believe Mo Yan's idea of raising descendants of transmigrators as tools is despicable and useless. But could Ying's discovery have any connection with her mother's identity?"

Su Liang admitted that her mind was a little messy at the moment. Perhaps as a fellow transmigrator, her method differed from the others. She had no special abilities or magic treasures and didn't come from any space-time gate... No, perhaps it was, just a different kind of space-time gate?

Gu Ling shook his head, "There's no need to think about these. But we need to remind Ying to be careful." As a person who survived from the forbidden area and a descendant of a Transmigrator, it's hard to guarantee that Mo Yan wouldn't target her again.

"Right!" Su Liang stood up, "We have to tell Sister Ying right now! Our defense in the south can only temporarily stop the ships of Xingluo Island. If they make a big enough detour, they can bypass our defensive line." The coastline was so long, it's closest and most convenient to land near Nanshan City and Jiaye City, but does not mean they could not land elsewhere.

"Let me go." Gu Ling pulled Su Liang to sit down, "You need some rest."

"Damn it, I really want to skin Yue Mei alive now! How can she do such a thing? She didn't reveal a word while being tortured before, probably afraid that revealing the truth would lead to a quicker death!" Su Liang said coldly. They have interrogated Yue Mei about the truth of Ying Ying and Ying Ye's origins before. Ying Ying came to see Yue Mei after returning to the capital city, trying to find out who her parents were from Yue Mei, but Yue Mei insisted they were just short-lived ordinary people.

Gu Ling gently patted Su Liang's back, "It's not worth getting angry over such a person."

"She's not even human." Su Liang snorted coldly.

Gu Ling nodded, "I'll go get Ying Ying, you talk to her." He then left.

Lian Mansion.

Yesterday was their wedding, today, Lian Shun brought Ying Ying to meet his parents. Ying Ying received two more gifts, Lian's mother held her hand, liked her no matter how she looked.

Lian Shun was pulled by his father to play a game of chess, then he looked outside absent-mindedly.

Lin's father shot him a glance, "Your wife isn't going anywhere. Your mother is just talking to her."

"Alright, I admit defeat." Lian Shun put down the chess piece haphazardly, stood up and said, "I'm not skilled in chess. Dad, you might as well play with Uncle Lin."

"I would love to, but Brother Lin wins every time with his excellent chess skills. Now I don't have enough hands to carry two grandsons and a granddaughter, no time at all!" Lin's father exclaimed.

Lian Shun laughed, "Dad, do you really want to hold your grandchildren? If so, it's best you stop asking me to play chess or have mother chatting with my wife. We are quite busy!" With that he ran out.

Lian's father laughed in exasperation, "Rogue boy..."

However, before Lian Shun could meet Ying Ying, he saw Gu Ling dropping out of the sky, appearing in front of him.



Lian Shun froze, “Gu Xiaoling, why are you here? Don’t tell me you missed me and came to play with me. I just got married yesterday and I don’t have time for you!”

“Not here for you.” Gu Ling shook his head, “Where is Ying Ying?”

Lian Shun frowned, “My wife doesn’t have time either!”

“My wife is looking for her.” Gu Ling replied, sounding indifferent.

Lian Shun touched his forehead, “What... What is with Su Xiaoliang? Can’t she understand that we just got married? Who would return to their parent’s house so soon after marriage?”

Ying Ying, hearing the commotion, came out. Seeing Gu Ling, she was very surprised, “What happened?”

When she heard that Su Liang was looking for her, Ying Ying nodded without hesitation, “OK, I’ll be right there.”

Lian Shun: ... He knew it would be like this. However, he also knew that if Su Liang and Gu Ling were looking for Ying Ying today, it must have been something really important otherwise Gu Ling wouldn’t have come at all.

“Let’s go together.” Lian Shun said.

Gu Ling glanced at their clasped hands, and didn’t object. As for whether she should tell Lian Shun about certain things, that’s her decision to make.

However, when Lian Shun and Ying Ying entered the Yuanming Pavilion following Gu Ling, the children excitedly ran up and dragged Lian Shun away to play with them. In particular, Ying Ye, shaking Gu Xiaonuan’s hand, called for Lian Shun.

Lian Shun suspected Gu Ling was behind this, but he couldn’t resist the children’s enthusiasm and allowed Ying Ying to go upstairs by herself.

This made Lian Shun suspicious: was there something they didn’t want him to know? It couldn’t be...

The door shut, leaving only Su Liang and Ying Ying in the room. Su Liang looked at Ying Ying’s complexion, “It seems your wedding night went well.”

Ying Ying maintained her composure, “Did you think I would be tired? There are some things I would never concede.”

Su Liang coughed lightly, “Very good, quite amusing. Lian Ershan is very lucky. Alright, let’s get down to business.”

“Yes, what’s the matter for which you approached me today? Has Sheng Yue given any instructions that involve me? Or is there something you need me to do?” Ying Ying asked seriously. However, she felt the last scenario was unlikely. Even if they now needed help, and she was willing, neither Gu Ling nor Su Liang would let her go.

Su Liang nodded, “Yes. Sheng Yue explained it was related to Ying Ying’s origins. Even though he can’t be trusted, making up such a lie wouldn’t benefit him at all.” If his deceit was discovered, it would affect the trust Gu Ling and Su Liang had in him.

After all, as the principal person in question, Yue Mei was at the Su Mansion. She hadn't revealed anything, but now that they knew the truth, Gu Ling and Su Liang could interrogate Yue Mei to determine the validity of the facts. Maybe Yue Mei would admit everything once she realized her secret had been exposed.

Upon hearing this, Ying Ying immediately perked up, "Really? Who are my parents?" What she didn't ask was, were they still alive...? Once an arrogant and independent woman, Ying Ying was forced to toughen up from a fragile and young age due to countless hardships. As she endured beatings and chastising from Yue Mei and nearly drowned numerous times, she always hoped her parents would swoop in to save her. And her younger brother Ying Ye, who hadn't grown much mentally due to trauma, constantly cried for his mother and repeatedly asked Ying Ying why everyone else had parents but they didn't.

At that moment, Ying Ye was downstairs with Gu Xiaonuan in his arms, laughing with all his teeth showing while he played games with Ji Xiaoshu, because their team had just won a game against Zhengzheng and the newcomer, Lian Shun.

Earlier, Su Liang had candidly revealed to Ying Ying about the transmigrator. Now, after revealing Ying Ying and Ying Ye's true parentage, Ying Ying's hand abruptly gripped the edge of the table and her previously bright complexion immediately turned few shades duller. She said to Su Liang, "I'm okay." But then, she abruptly stood up, "I'm going to find Yue Mei! I have to ask her!"

"Go ahead, Ying Jing. You know where she is, do whatever you want," Su Liang wasn't surprised by Ying Ying's reaction.

Kind people often believe in the phrase 'tigers don't eat their children'. But in reality, throughout life's unexpected turns, it's inevitable that one sees the opposite. Su Liang in her previous life had seen in the news about wicked parents, in collaboration with their illicit lovers, flinging their biological children down the stairs leading to a premature death. To this date, she still vividly remembers the parents performing an insincere act of grief on the television.

Yet, when such incidents happen to someone else compared to when they potentially involve oneself, the pain and grief experienced are completely different.

Su Liang hadn't experienced Ying Ying's suffering. She could sympathize but not empathize with her pain, she could only empathize with her. However, she didn't regret revealing the truth to her. Ying Ying deserved to know the truth.

Lian Shun noticed Ying Ying's figure passing the doorway in a flash. He quickly got up to follow, but she was already out of sight.

"Gu Ling, what on earth is going on?" Lian Shun turned to find Gu Ling standing behind him.

"She went to the dungeon." Gu Ling said.

Lian Shun immediately followed her.

Later that evening, Qi Yan came to report that Lian Shun and Ying Ying had left to go home, and that he had cleaned out Yue Mei's body from the dungeon according to Su Liang's instructions, discarding it at the burial mound.

After dinner, Gu Ling held Su Liang closely as they walked by the lake.

“Great God, you said, Mo Yan was willing to do anything to go back. What’s it for? Is it really for his lover over there?” Su Liang asked.

Gu Ling shook his head, “No.” Mo Yan had transmigrated for decades, it was unlikely that he had not considered that his lover in the other world had likely remarried or even passed away due to sickness, old age or some unfortunate accident.

“Yeah, if he really cared that much, he wouldn’t forget about his parents over there... Although there are people like that who are so engrossed in love that they don’t care about anything else, even their parents. Their brains must be broken!” Su Liang complained, “I was thinking today, if Mo Yan has been trying to go back for so long, fearing death so much, could there be another reason? Could he be fantasizing that going back could prolong his life?”

In her previous life, Su Liang liked sci-fi books and movies. In that genre, there are often plots about future worlds enabled by technology that could cure all diseases, including cancer, and even allow humans to live for centuries through hibernation. Even though it seemed like fantasy then, the speed of human technological progress was unpredictable.

At least, the medical technology of that world was far more advanced than here, and people there certainly lived much longer on average. Humans in that world were also continuously exploring outer space, constantly pushing the limits of technology. As they say, the only limit is one’s imagination.

Since Su Liang had shared everything with Gu Ling, he knew what she was talking about and what she was thinking. He shared her sentiment, “In this world, Mo Yan is already the ruler of Xingluo Island. Plus, he has the portable space. His ambition has swollen, he’s not satisfied with his current status, and doesn’t want to die a natural death. Perhaps he imagines he can take his magic treasure back to the original world, bring a large amount of gold and silver treasures, become someone important, make up for his past humiliation, and seek revenge on his past enemies.”

Gu Ling didn’t make this assumption without basis: If Mo Yan’s world before transmigration was a lawful society, it was possible that someone like him who had such scant regard for human life might have been a failure or even a serial killer. Even a good person couldn’t instantly become evil simply because they had transmigrated.

Su Liang sighed deeply, “We need to have a serious discussion about cooperation with Sheng Yue.”