

Three-Time 91

Chapter 91: 091. Confrontation

The cold moonlight filtered through the window lattice, only illuminating Ning Jing's perfect jawline.

He seemed like a merciless specter, descending from the heavens, encircled by an eerie and terrifying aura.

"Xiaoqin, is it really you?" Ning Yao suddenly raised his voice after a brief moment of panic, his feigned surprise so false that it shattered.

Ning Jing retorted, "Aren't you happy to see me?"

Ning Yao shook his head repeatedly. His hands, hidden behind his back, clenched the dagger hidden in his sleeve, but his face showed a forced smile. "I'm just so shocked. I thought you didn't want to come back, and I never expected you to suddenly return!"

"Why would I not want to return?" Ning Jing pressed.

Ning Yao sighed deeply. "We have deep misunderstandings between us. I've always wanted to explain them to you, but haven't had the opportunity." "Explain." Ning Jing's voice was devoid of any emotion.

Ning Yao closed his eyes, "It's too dark in here. Let me light a lamp, prepare some food and drink, and we can have a proper chat."

"There's no need." Ning Jing refused.

Ning Yao sighed repeatedly, "Xiaoqin, you've truly changed from before. You must have suffered a lot outside."

"Enough of this nonsense." Ning Jing said coldly.

Ning Yao forced a bitter smile, "Fine. Let's get to the point. When Father married into the Ning Family, Mother was kind and tolerant, accepting us. I've always been grateful for that. When Mother suddenly fell ill, you rushed back from Pingbei City, tending to her day and night, seeking famed doctors around the world. However, it was all in vain, and she passed away last year. You were devastated during that time. I tried to console you, from persuading you not to drown your sorrows in alcohol, to eventually drinking with you, just to let you know that I was there for you, that we were real brothers, and that you could trust me at any time."

"That night, both of us were drunk and later, the warehouse caught fire. By the time I sobered up from the binge, the damage was already done. Father wanted to drive you out of the house to resolve the issue. No matter how much I pleaded, even offering to take the blame for you, Father was unmoved."

"I never expected that shortly after you left, I overheard Father telling my stepmother that he could only regain his dignity and truly be the master of the Ning Family by driving you away..."

Ning Yao sighed deeply. The stepmother he spoke of was the current Madam Ning, his birth mother. Before Ning Jing's mother passed away, she was the Ning Family's second wife and became the principal wife last year.

An oppressive silence filled the air, and Ning Jing seemed like a statue, unmoving, and speechless, even his breath seemed to have stopped.

Ning Yao spoke again, "Don't say you didn't see it coming, even I didn't know that Father had such intentions. It was then that I began to suspect that the incident of the warehouse fire and the damaged tribute tea was Father's plot to frame you, so he could catch you at an advantage and drive you out. With you gone, he could pretend not to be a mere son-in-law, but the rightful head of the Ning Family."

"When I confronted Father, he shamelessly admitted it!"

"I wanted to find you, but Father said there was no need, as you wouldn't live for much longer. Even if I found you, it would only be your corpse."

"Upon further questioning, he said that he had been slowly poisoning your food for years, and after Mother's death, he had increased the dosage. To avoid criticism for poisoning his own child and seizing the family fortune, he had plotted to make you commit a grave mistake and drive you out with apparent justification."

"Hearing those words and seeing Father's crazed form, everything I believed in crumbled."

"In a frenzy, I searched everywhere for you but found no trace. For a long time, I truly believed you were no longer among the living."

"I hated Father so much. Even a mother tiger would not devour her own cubs, but he was so cruel to you. To avenge you, I began to retaliate in kind, poisoning Father's food to make him suffer and die in despair, just like you."

"If it weren't for suddenly getting news of you, Father would have died from poisoning three months ago. In order to give you the chance to exact your own revenge, I allowed him to live until now."

"However, no one in the family cares about you, except for me. Stepmother even wanted to sever our mother-son connection, and my younger siblings thought I was out of my mind. They all sided with Father, believing I was in the wrong, that I was insane."

“When my sixth brother went out and ended up missing for a long time, I found out from my questioning that Stepmother had secretly overheard me talking to my retainer about you being alive and staying in Bei’an County. She ordered my brothers to get rid of you as soon as possible. Not only did they hire the most formidable assassin from Yanyun Building, but Sixth Brother even personally went to Bei’an County to eliminate you.”

“After all, they are my birth mother and siblings born of the same mother. I’ve been trying to persuade them not to be obstinate and continue to sin, but unfortunately, they only pretend to comply.”

“I never sent anyone to Pingbei City to invite you back, fearing it might be another plot by Stepmother. I was more than happy knowing you were lucky enough to participate in the imperial examination elsewhere, hoping you would achieve your aspirations. I believed you would succeed!”

“Xiaoqin, as your eldest brother, I promised to protect you but failed to do so. It’s only right for you to resent and hate me. But you must believe that I never have, nor will I ever, betray you or our brotherly bond! I swear!”

Having said that, Ning Yao’s eyes glistened with unshed tears. He looked at Ning Jing intently, “I received news that you passed the preliminary examination and was overjoyed! I couldn’t wait to find you and celebrate together! Now that you’re back, I can return all your rightful inheritance of the Ning Family to you. However, since you will have to continue your examination in the capital city, if you need me to, as your eldest brother, I can help manage it for you!”

Ning Jing nodded, “So that’s how it is. I misunderstood you.”

Ning Yao’s expression changed, “Xiaoai, you must have had a hard time outside for more than a year, right?”

Ning Jing shook her head, “Not as hard as you. Caught between me and those heartless bastards, you must have suffered a lot.”

Ning Yao shook his head, “I’m fine. As long as you’re alive, nothing else matters.”

“You’ve done so much for me, I can’t bear to see you struggle anymore.” Ning Jing said emotionlessly, “Since it was your father who harmed me, and your mother, brother, and sister who have always wanted to kill me, let them all die. To alleviate your suffering for more than a year, you can do it yourself. Kill them all in front of me, alright?”

Ning Yao’s face stiffened, “Xiaoqi, I can send my father off for you, but my aunt and siblings, they are after all...”

“They have nothing to do with me.” Ning Jing said coldly, “If you want to save them, you can commit suicide to atone for their sins. After you die, I will only drive them out

of the Ning Family at most, not take their lives. Even if they become beggars, they can still survive.”

“Xiaoqi, are you really so cruel? They may harbor evil thoughts towards you, but aren't you alright now?” Ning Yao asked in a deep voice.

Ning Jing nodded, “If you put it that way, fine. All of you get out of the Ning Family, without taking a single needle, thread, or copper coin. I wanted to kill you, but you are still alive, it's as if I hadn't done anything.”

Ning Yao forced a bitter smile, “Xiaoqi, you never believed me, and won't forgive me...”

“If you die to prove your loyalty, I'll forgive you and spare your flesh and blood. Isn't that a good deal?” Ning Jing said coldly.

Ning Yao lowered his head, his voice low, “Xiaoqi, are you really so heartless?”

Ning Jing replied, “I don't think it's necessary to have feelings for beasts.”

Upon hearing this, Ning Yao suddenly looked up at Ning Jing. His previously pained and struggling face instantly turned sinister, “Ning Jing, you don't listen to reason, you're seeking your own death! Yan Shiqi, kill him!”

As Ning Yao's words fell, a cold smile appeared at the corner of his lips, as if in the next moment, he would see Ning Jing's head severed by his secret guard!

Ning Jing remained calm.

The atmosphere in the room was silent. After Ning Yao issued his order with confidence, no third person appeared.

As time passed, Ning Jing remained still, but cold sweat broke out on Ning Yao's forehead. He shouted again, “Yan Shiqi! Come out! Hu Wei! Come out!” Only the wind outside the window answered Ning Yao.

At this moment, Ning Yao's face finally revealed a look of panic and fear, a stark contrast to his heartfelt performance as a grieving brother earlier and his proud demeanor as a king ready to deal a fatal blow.

“Yan Shiqi?” Ning Jing spoke, breaking the silence, “You must have paid a huge amount of money to hire him as your guard. But it seems he never told you why, as an assassin from the Yanyun Building, he was free to take on private jobs.”

Clutching the dagger in his sleeve, Ning Yao's hand trembled uncontrollably,

“What do you mean?”

“Yan Shiqi had the chance to swindle your money because the owner of Yanyun Building, Yan Sui, is dead.” Ning Jing's voice remained calm, “I killed him.” Ning Yao's eyes widened in disbelief, “Impossible!”

“So, I think Yan Shiqi must have been here not long ago, but when he learned that I was coming, he took your money and ran. I don’t know who Hu Wei is.

Since he’s not here, maybe Yan Shiqi killed him and took his money as well.

You’re very courageous to do business with an assassin.” Ning Jing said slowly, “Although money can do a lot, they are greedy and treasure their lives even more.”

Ning Yao’s face turned pale, “In just one year, how could you possibly have such advanced martial arts...”

“I originally wanted to let you live until next year, but you couldn’t wait to die.

It’s a pity that I haven’t been able to eat well or visit Zhenzzhenz these past few days.”

Suddenly, Ning Yao turned and ran towards the door!

Ning Jing’s wooden sword grazed Ning Yao’s face and flew past, pinning against the door, leaving a deep bloody mark on Ning Yao’s cheek!

His body went limp, and he collapsed onto the ground!

“It’s just that you were so useless, I can only blame ‘my’ previous blindness for failing to recognize people properly and being forced to the end of the road.” Ning Jing’s eyes were icy cold, “You have already confessed the sins of your parents, brother, and sister. I will invite them here, and you as a family can discuss who will go first on the road to the netherworld. I promised someone that I would make you all die in a spectacular fashion..”

Chapter 92: 092. Cruel Truth

“Jingjing, how could your father harm you? It’s all Ning Yao’s doing! He framed you! I’m in this state because of him too! It’s because I said I wanted to bring you back!”

“Young Master Seven, I’m of lowly birth, and the madam kindly took me into the Ning Family. I am forever grateful to her, and I would never dare or have the ability to harm you! It’s all because of that restless Sixth Brother that I can’t control him...”

“Seventh Brother, I’m just a scoundrel who indulges in eating, drinking, and whoring. I know nothing!”

“Old Seventh, whatever our parents and elder brother did has nothing to do with me!”

“I’m already married, and I have no share in the Ning Family’s property. Why won’t you even spare me, Seventh Brother?”

“Seventh Brother, my stepmother forced me to poison our mother! I admit it! Please spare my life for the sake of my young and ignorant age. I’ll kowtow to you and obey whatever you command!”

Aside from the Sixth Young Master Ning Huan who died in Bei’an County and the Ninth Lady Ning Xinxin who married into the Capital City, all of the Ning Family members knelt before Ning Jing, defending themselves one after another.

The father shifted the blame to his son, the son shifted the blame to his mother, the mother shifted the blame to the son who died outside, and the siblings blamed each other. What a dramatic play it was.

From the looks of their denial, none of them had ever thought that Ning Jing would return for revenge. They didn’t even bother to get their stories straight.

Or perhaps they didn’t achieve a warm and harmonious family after killing the real Ning Jing, and everyone harbored their own secrets.

It was obvious that the death of the real Ning Jing’s mother was also a conspiracy by this group of people. Even the youngest Lady Ten, who once received the most love from Ning Jing’s mother, was involved.

Ning Jing did not speak. He just watched them coldly.

A bunch of despicable people, desperate to save their own lives, revealed even more dark secrets of the family, trying to prove their loyalty while competing in their wickedness.

They hoped that Ning Jing would eventually kill the most despicable person and let the less despicable ones off the hook.

For example, Ning Jing’s maternal grandfather, the old master Ning, was also murdered by that despicable son-in-law, Ning Feng.

Several stewards who used to oppose Ning Feng had been framed and expelled by him. His ruthless methods were appalling.

As Hua Mei, a woman who hailed from a brothel, heard her children all accusing her and making her take the blame, she had a mental breakdown.

With a piercing scream and eyes red as blood, she stared at Ning Jing, revealing the ultimate secret of the Ning Family, “You are not even Ning Feng’s biological son!”

In an instant, the atmosphere became eerily silent as Ning Feng and Hua Mei’s children looked at her with shocked expressions, turning their gazes towards her.

This included Ning Yao. Apparently, he didn’t know either.

Ning Feng slumped on the ground, his head hanging down, as if he were dead.

Ning Jing’s eyes narrowed slightly, “What do you mean?”

“I was with Ning Feng when I was fifteen years old. At that time, his name was still Wan Feng.”

“We were partners, and he flirted with women everywhere, running away with their money after tricking them. Sometimes I pretended to be his maid, and sometimes I pretended to be his sister, helping him deceive people.”

“Then one day on the main street of Xunyang City, we saw Ning Qingqing and learned that the vast Ning Family had no heir. Old Master Ning only had one precious daughter, and he was looking for a husband for her.”

“Ning Feng decided to make a huge move. If he succeeded, he could become a great person and enjoy boundless wealth for the rest of his life! He sent me away and went to the Ning Family’s shop himself. Starting as a young shop assistant, he gradually became the manager, and then ‘coincidentally’ got to know Ning Qingqing.”

“He had played with many women and easily captured Ning Qingqing’s heart, making her insist on being with him despite Old Master Ning’s opposition.”

“Not long after they were married, Ning Feng began to poison Old Master Ning. He also secretly gave Ning Qingqing abortion medicine, causing her not to have children for many years, making her feel guilty and more obedient to Ning Feng. ”

“Do you know how you came to be? Ning Feng set a trap, causing Ning Qingqing to be abducted and violated for days before rescuing her!”

“Ning Qingqing wanted to commit suicide, but Ning Feng stopped her, saying he didn’t mind anything! Hahaha! How ridiculous! He just didn’t want Ning Qingqing to give birth to his own child. Otherwise, it would be hard for him to be ruthless when it came to seizing the family property!”

“Later, Ning Qingqing became pregnant, but not with Ning Feng’s child. She didn’t want an abortion, but Ning Feng insisted that she give birth, saying that it was fate playing tricks on them that they had incompatible bodies, and that child was a gift from heaven to them!”

“Don’t you wonder how people like us who have nothing to do with the Ning Family managed to have a place in the family? Ning Feng constantly suppressed Ning Qingqing, making her feel that everything was her fault and that she owed Ning Feng, so when she learned of my past with him, she encouraged Ning Feng to bring me and my children back!”

“You don’t even know how big a scheme this man you’ve called father for so many years has designed! None of you know! Hahahaha!”

“He waited until you grew up to make his move, so he could use you and your mother to suppress me and my children, controlling us like puppets!”

With her hair disheveled, Hua Mei laughed hysterically, finally revealing the deepest secret she had been hiding for so many years. It seemed as if she gained a sudden liberation. Her head held high, her eyes were full of a strange, frightening light. “What a pity, what a pity! He couldn’t kill you. Otherwise, all these years of planning would have succeeded! Succeeded! Everything in the Ning Family would have been ours! It would belong to my children and grandchildren in the future!”

Even Ning Yao was dumbfounded and couldn’t speak.

He thought he was unscrupulous, but after learning the truth from Hua Mei’s mouth, he realized that compared to Ning Feng, he was way out of his league.

It also vividly demonstrated to Ning Jing the so-called “PUA” technique that Su Liang had mentioned to him before.

Ning Qingqing was completely mentally controlled by Ning Feng, turning her into his puppet. Even the real Ning Jing, who had lived in this deformed family since childhood, did not find out until the accident that this so-called big family had already been hollowed out from its roots by someone else.

In a certain sense, Ning Feng really had “real skills”. He had a handsome appearance, honest and upright temperament, smart and capable handling of affairs, and was ruthless and unfeeling in his methods.

What’s more pitiful is that when the real Ning Jing chose to die in despair and pain, Ning Feng had already succeeded.

Now, the one seeking revenge is an outsider.

Hua Mei finished speaking, and her children fell silent.

Ning Jing walked over to Ning Feng’s side, leaned down, and grabbed his collar, “Who is my biological father?”

Back then, Ning Qingqing had been kidnapped and then saved, all of which was arranged by Ning Feng. So, the man who violated Ning Qingqing should also be a specific person found by Ning Feng to avoid chaos afterward.

Ning Feng, who had been tortured by Ning Yao to the point of being neither human nor ghost, looked at Ning Jing and chuckled coldly, “A man crazier than me. Just wait, he will definitely come to find you.”

Ning Jing let go of Ning Feng, turned around, and emotionlessly twisted Ning Er’s neck.

Ning Feng’s body trembled, and Hua Mei screamed in horror.

Ning Jing turned his head, “Tell me, or I will kill your children one by one right in front of you.”

In pain, Ning Feng closed his eyes, “Even if I tell you, would you spare them?” “No,” Ning Jing shook his head and killed another one.

In his suicide note, the real Ning Jing had accused Ning Feng, Hua Mei, and all their children of how they had torn off their masks. One by one, they were all once the most trusted and intimate family members in Ning Jing’s life. Unfortunately, in the end, the brutal truth proved that they were a whole family, and he was just extra and should die.

At this point, even living one more second would be good.

All of Ning Feng's surviving children, including Ning Yao, urged Ning Feng to confess.

Ning Feng laughed softly, "You can kill them all; I won't tell you. After so many years, let it be the last surprise I give you. I will go to the underworld to find your mother, she must still be waiting for me like a fool!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Ning Feng used all his strength to throw himself against the wall.

Blood gushed out from his head.

Suddenly, Ning Jing walked out and closed the door from the outside.

The surviving few didn't know what Ning Jing wanted to do, and they felt a glimmer of hope mingled with a deeper fear.

In the darkest hours before dawn, in the silent depths of Ning Family Mansion, where Ning Qingqing used to live, a fire broke out in the courtyard.

Ning Jing stood quietly in the courtyard, watching the flames dancing wildly in the night wind, illuminating a patch of sky above his head.

He didn't know if the real Ning Jing's soul was in heaven, nor did he know if there really were eighteen levels of hell. When he went back, he could ask Su Liang, who knew "science" and would have a clear answer.

If there was, Ning Jing thought this family would end up there.

Because he was born with special abilities and was raised in a well-off family in the capital city, he had seen all kinds of people since childhood and knew that the evil of human nature could reach unimaginable depths.

At this moment, he just felt that the real Ning Jing was not worth it.

Only Ning Xinxin, who was married in the capital city, was left. Ning Jing would deal with her later.

Originally, Ning Jing had just wanted to come to kill people and didn't want to deal with the follow-up issues.

But when the news of the Ning Family's troubles spread, if he didn't take over, the vast tea business would soon be devoured by others. Those who swallow it will not rest assured, they will not let him go.

To avoid trouble, Ning Jing planned to make arrangements before leaving.

When he goes back and tells Su Liang about the Ning Family, she will definitely want to dig Ning Feng and the others out to lash their bodies again.

Let Su Liang handle the "crazier" man, the real Ning Jing's biological father when he appears..

Chapter 93: 093. Crush the Bones and Scatter the Ashes

Dawn broke.

The Ning Family was quiet. The servants, with uneasy expressions on their faces, hurried about with their heads low.

The stewards and servants in the Ning Family Mansion located in Xunyang City were all gathered at the entrance of the Ancestral Hall, as silent as cicadas in the cold.

The great clan, which had almost been swallowed up by the outsiders since the death of the Ning Family's elder, finally had its bloodline return!

But when referring to the great clan, only one descendant was left.

Fortunately, both Ning Feng and Ning Yao, the father and son, wanted to take control of the Ning Family's property and develop it further, never intending to destroy Ning Family.

Thus, over the years, although the Ning Family was not as glorious as before, it had not fallen and was still among the top four merchants of Qian Country.

The conflicts within the Ning Family arose due to the bloodline inheritance. A group of people who were once loyal to the Ning Family's elder saw Ning Feng's ambition to devour the Family. They suspected that the elder was murdered by him and wanted to support Ning Qingqing to seize power, expelling Ning Feng. Unfortunately, Ning Qingqing was just too naive, she exposed those people to Ning Feng, causing the loss of many capable stewards in the Ning Family. However, there were also many who did not recognize Ning Feng and chose to submit to him for survival. Now that they had heard Ning Jing had returned, they nurtured some hope.

"The Seventh Young Master is here!" someone exclaimed.

Everyone turned around and saw Ning Jing walking alone from the misty morning fog, his thin clothes and tall stature making his cold and detached face seem like that of a banished immortal.

As he got closer, they noticed that Ning Jing was holding something in his hand – a spirit tablet.

As they got even closer, they saw what was written on the tablet, and everyone was horrified!

Ning Jing passed through the crowd and entered the Ancestral Hall.

People outside could see him placing the tablet he brought under the tablets of the Ning Family's elder and Ning Qingqing, then lighting incense.

"Why did Young Master Ning Jing set up his own spirit tablet..." An old steward couldn't help but speak up.

The others were also puzzled.

That was because the tablet read "Ning Jing's Spirit Tablet." The scene was quite eerie.

When Ning Jing turned around, the stewards and servants lined up to watch him walk out, calmly saying, "The old Ning Jing is dead. From now on, I am the head of the Ning Family."

Zhen Ningjing longed for freedom and didn't want to take over the Ning Family's business, which was related to Ning Feng and Ning Yao's brainwashing.

The genuine members of Ning Family were all gone.

Ning Jing was not doing this for Zhen Ningjing. He just wanted to minimize trouble because as long as he had this identity, he could never break away from the Ning Family.

“What about the Master and the Madam...?” someone asked in a low voice.

All they knew was that a courtyard in the mansion caught fire the night before, but they didn’t know what had happened to Ning Feng, Hua Mei, and their children.

“There are no Master or Madam in this family. This has just been me all along.” Ning Jing’s expression was indifferent. “The people you are thinking of never belonged to the Ning Family. Last night, Wan Feng admitted to murdering my grandfather and mother. Hua Mei and their children are all accomplices.”

Although everyone had some suspicions about these matters, it was still shocking to hear Ning Jing speak them out so bluntly!

“They have gone to the Underworld to apologize to my mother.” Ning Jing said without any expression, dropping another bombshell.

Everyone had previously known the Seventh Young Master to be the gentlest and kindest of them all.

After a year, nobody expected that upon his return, Ning Jing would assume the posture of a murderous Asura. His first move not only wiped out the unwanted son-in-law and his woman and children but also eliminated the evil forces within the Ning Family.

Certainly, there were those who had followed Ning Feng and Ning Yao in the past, but with those people gone, no one would dare to challenge Ning Jing’s authority in the family at this moment.

Because, from the very beginning, Ning Jing was the only legitimate heir to the Ning Family.

This was also the reason why those evil people, who had already gained control of the Ning Family’s power, wanted to drive away the real Ningjing, killing him and desperately hunting him when they learned that he was not dead.

“In an hour, I want to see the account books and know the current state of the Ning Family’s business. I can let go of the past, but the Ning Family doesn’t keep idlers, ” Ning Jing coldly said. “Go and prepare.”

The stewards’ expressions changed, and they all hurried away.

Ning Jing looked at the remaining servants, finally resting his gaze on the middle-aged housekeeper.

This was not the original housekeeper when the Ning Family’s elder was alive. He was Ning Feng’s confidant. He was sweating profusely, his head hanging low and his face pale.

“I have a task for you,” Ning Jing said.

The housekeeper immediately nodded, “Yes, Master, please give your orders!”

“Go and throw Wan Feng, Hua Mei, and their children’s bones on the wild cemetery, and scatter their ashes!” Ning Jing coldly ordered.

The housekeeper looked horrified, and the other servants were also frightened.

“Master, if we go during the day and the outsiders find out...” The housekeeper’s voice trembled.

“Go openly and honestly. If anyone asks, tell them the truth.” Ning Jing stated.

The housekeeper nodded with a grim facial expression, “Yes.”

“For those who want to leave, you can go to the Accounting Office to take 100 silver taels and leave today. For those who want to stay, everything remains the same.” Ning Jing declared.

The Ning Family was rich and did not need so many servants now. Ning Jing had given them a choice.

With that, he left and went to the courtyard where the real Ning Jing had lived from childhood to adulthood.

Only a year had passed, and the courtyard was covered in weeds.

Opening the door, dust filled the air.

He fetched some water and cleaned the room where Zhen Ningjing had lived, cleared the weeds in the courtyard, and then lay on the bed to sleep.

That day, the weather in Xunyang City was gloomy.

A group of strong young servants came out of the Ning Family Mansion, carrying poles and bamboo baskets, with the housekeeper looking serious by the side.

Someone approached to see the charred human bones in the bamboo building and screamed in terror.

Those who knew the housekeeper asked him what was happening. He told them as Ning Jing instructed, “The real master of the Ning Family has returned. The son-in-law Wan Feng and the poisonous Hua Mei, along with all their children, conspired against Lord Ning and Ning Qingqing. With conclusive evidence, they all committed suicide in apology.”

These words left everyone speechless and wide-eyed!

Everyone believed that Wan Feng and Hua Mei from the brothel had conspired to take the Ning Family’s property. Many people had suspected that they had murdered Lord Ning and Ning Qingqing.

But to say that the poisonous couple, along with their children, committed suicide by self-immolation in apology—who would believe that?!

Nearly everyone thought that this was Ning Jing getting revenge after returning. They all believed that all of them were killed by Ning Jing! Who would ever choose to bring their children with them to commit suicide by self-immolation? The bones were all burned black!

“Where are you taking these corpses?” someone asked.

Forcing himself to speak, the housekeeper said, “As instructed by our master, we are throwing these mongrel bones at the Chaotic Burial Mound. As for their ashes, they should be scattered!”

As the procession led by the Ning Family to the Chaotic Burial Mound departed, the news of Ning Jing's return and his thunderous revenge spread at lightning speed throughout Xunyang City.

Some people say that whether it was Wan Feng or Ning Feng, both were Ning Jing's biological fathers. He was a bit too cruel.

Others argued that a son-in-law wasn't really a legitimate father. Losing their family name, these men were not officially Ning Jing's fathers. Ning Jing was the only real heir to the Ning Family, and Wan Feng was just a man who sold himself into the Ning Family. Not to mention, as a son-in-law, Wan Feng had a bunch of illegitimate children who were older than Ning Jing. It was ridiculous.

As for Wan Feng poisoning Ning Qingqing and even driving Ning Jing out of the house, who didn't know how evil his intentions were? He deserved to die! As for Hua Mei and her children, they were nothing more than servants after joining the Ning Family.

Ning Jing should have been this assertive long ago, taking back everything that belonged to him and getting rid of those greedy villains!

Some people applauded Ning Jing's thunderous means.

Others condemned Ning Jing for being too ruthless and vicious.

The news that Ning Jing had taken the imperial examination in Pingbei City and won the Top Scholar position had recently reached Xunyang City.

After waking up and washing his face, officials from the Xunyang Government Office came to question him.

It was normal for the government to investigate when there had been such a disturbance and several deaths.

So Ning Jing went to the government office under watchful eyes.

He came out soon after, unscathed.

Although there was a murder in the Ning Mansion, Ning Jing, by status, had the right to dispose of those who were not of the Ning Family but still relied on them for survival. Even if they were nominally of the Ning surname and had lived lavishly before, once Ning Jing turned against them, their status would be no different from a servant.

The government could cause trouble for Ning Jing if they wanted, but with the dead bodies burned and Ning Jing claiming they self-immolated, they didn't have any evidence to prove that Ning Jing set the fire.

Most importantly, Ning Jing had won the Top Scholar title, and his future was boundless. The officials in Xunyang City did not want to go against him. The questioning was just a formality, a courteous gesture.

Upon returning to the Ning Mansion, the stewards were waiting in the council hall.

Ning Jing went over and asked them to hand over the account books one by one, reporting on the business operations they were in charge of.

Some stewards thought Ning Jing knew nothing about business and tried to deceive him. However, they were immediately exposed, and without even a chance to defend themselves, they were stripped of their positions and sent away.

The servants served tea and dessert twice and two meals, but Ning Jing barely ate.

Not until late at night, after the last elderly steward finished reporting, did Ning Jing gain a preliminary understanding of the Ning Family's business.

However, he didn't plan to stay and manage it. Instead, he would use today's "interviews" to select a few clear-headed and experienced stewards to promote, reassign, and ensure that the Ning Family's business wouldn't fall into chaos after he left.

The only reason why Ning Jing went to the government office today and took over the affairs of the Ning family, was to prevent anyone from attacking him openly.

But the same reason applied: he was a Top Scholar. Perhaps in half a year's time, he would become the top talent, suddenly transform into an official, and who would dare to provoke him?

Moreover, everyone had seen the ruthlessness of Ning Jing's methods when crushing the bones and scattering the ashes of his enemies—an enormous deterrent to both internal and external forces.

After giving the order to throw Wan Feng and the others' crushed bones and ashes away, the original housekeeper was taken by Ning Jing's men to the Government Office, accused of stealing the master's property and conspiring to kill several people.

This was not a false accusation.

The housekeeper had secretly helped Wan Feng do many evil deeds, harming many original stewards in the Ning Family, and a large number of valuables were found in his house.

Although they were actually awarded by Wan Feng, if Ning Jing said they were stolen, then they were stolen.

As for evidence to prove he harmed people, Ning Jing didn't have any and didn't have time to investigate. He simply suggested that the government use torture.

The newly appointed housekeeper was an old man in the back garden responsible for the flowers and trees. He had originally been in charge of purchasing for the mansion, but later claimed he was not in good health and hid in the garden.

Hearing that Ning Jing wanted him to be the housekeeper, the old man's eyes overflowed with tears. He kept saying, "The old master and the young lady can rest in peace now that they've seen your capabilities, young master!"

Before dawn, Ning Jing left Xunyang City alone on horseback, taking only two boxes of tea leaves: one for Lin Shuzhi, and one to share with Su Liang.

He was pressed for time, so his arrangements for the Ning Family may have been hasty, but they should ensure that no problems arise for the time being. As for the future, he would ask Su Liang if she was interested in taking over the Ning Family after their meeting..

Chapter 94: 094. Reunion

The capital city of Qian country lies moderately north of the Central Plains, the winter here was not as cold as the one in Bei'an County, but even on sunny days, there wasn't a hint of warmth.

Xing Yusheng let Qi Jun buy a pure white rabbit, put it in a delicate bamboo cage, and brought it to see Qin Yujin.

Qin Yujin fell ill after going out for a trip about half a month ago. An Imperial Physician was called to examine her and said it wasn't serious, but she has been feeling downcast and hasn't left the house since then.

As soon as the maid saw Xing Yusheng, she rushed to announce, 'Miss, the Crown Prince is here!'

Qi Jun pushed the wheelchair to the door and let go, and Xing Yusheng pushed it himself inside with the little rabbit on his lap.

Qin Yujin looked thinner, pale, and managed a weak smile, "Cousin."

Seeing Qin Yujin hardly noticed the gift he brought, Xing Yusheng lifted the bamboo cage and gently smiled, "Cousin, this gift is for you."

Qin Yujin took it and placed it on the table, played with it for a while, and then went to pour tea for Xing Yusheng with a lackluster attitude.

"Cousin, what actually happened that day?" Xing Yusheng asked sternly.

Upon his words, Qin Yujin's eyes turned red, "I don't want to discuss it. It's just troublesome."

Xing Yusheng sighed, "Cousin, if the trouble has already arisen, covering it up will only lead to a bigger problem next time."

Qin Yujin paused for a moment, finally beginning to share her incident when she went to visit the ancient temples on the outskirts of the city.

She was caught up in enjoying the scenery and got separated from her servants, where she encountered Prince Duanmu Ao.

As soon as he heard the name Duanmu Ao, Xing Yusheng's face turned grave. He was already aware that Duanmu Ao was not a good person due to the incident wherein the entire Su Yuanzhou family was wiped out, leaving only Su Liang behind.

Sure enough, Qin Yujin said that Duanmu Ao started making inappropriate advances, confessed his long-held affection for her and expressed his desire to make her his Imperial Concubine.

The expression on Xing Yusheng's face was furious. "Damn! What did he do to you?"

Qin Yujin shook her head, "Nothing. A young master intervened."

Xing Yusheng was surprised, "Who?" It must have been someone extraordinary to be able to rescue her from Duanmu Ao.

"I didn't know him, but I have seen him once before with General Nian. He introduced himself as Lin Bojun," Qin Yujin replied.

Xing Yusheng remembered, he was aware of this name as the Martial Arts

Champion from the cohort before Nian Jincheng.

Although the Lin Family came from a common background, the father and his two sons were all top scholars. Lin Bojun's father, Lin Shuzhi, was a famous scholar in Qian country and currently served as the dean at Qianshan Academy in Pingbei City.

He then remembered that Ning Jing was taking the provincial exam in Pingbei City.

The exam results had not yet arrived in the capital city and he had already sent Qi Yan to gather information.

Qin Yujin said, Lin Bojun intervened without knowing the Prince's identity, and even hit him...

"Upon returning, I immediately told my father, who instructed me to stay at home and put the incident behind me. I really have no idea what to do at this point," said Qin Yujin with teary eyes. "Actually, I'm perfectly fine, it's just that I'm worried that Prince Duanmu would seek revenge on Master Lin."

Xing Yusheng looked somber.

Due to the marital relationship with Bei Jingwang mansion, the Qin Family was also cautious, and offending Prince Duanmu was not a wise move. Duanmu Ao was known for his amorousness and he held grudges.

Luckily, Qin Yujin was unharmed.

However, Lin Bojun, who stood up for what is right, might face great trouble.

"Don't overthink it, cousin. I'll go and discuss it with Uncle, and send someone to inquire about the situation of the Lin Family Brothers." , " Xing Yusheng said.

Qin Yujin nodded repeatedly, "Good! I'll wait for your news then! "

Xing Yusheng hadn't reached the door when he heard Qi Yan's voice, "Master, I found out! Ning Jing topped the Imperial Scholar!"

"Is Ningjing the person you met in Bei'an County?" Qin Yujin asked.

Xing Yusheng nodded, "He is the descendant of Xunyang's Ning Family, Su Liang's sworn brother."

Although Qi Yan had brought back the news that Ning Jing and Su Liang's marriage was a ruse and they became sworn siblings instead, suggesting that Xing Yusheng could pursue Su Liang,

But even though Xing Yusheng admired Su Liang, he felt inadequate for such a confident and strong girl, and he decided not to pursue her further.

At this moment, hearing that Ning Jing had topped the Imperial Scholar, Xing Yusheng was not surprised, he was only happy for him.

Hence, after the New Year, Ning Jing and Su Liang would definitely come to the capital.

Xing Yusheng found his uncle, Qin Kang, and learned that he had already met with Lin Bojun privately to express his gratitude, as well as caution him to be careful. He even suggested Lin Bojun to request to assist Nian Jincheng in Bei'an County to avoid trouble.

Beyond that, the Qin Family currently didn't have the ability to help.

Lin Bojun thanked Qin Kang for his kindness, but he didn't plan to apply for a transfer away from the capital.

"He originally planned to head north with Nian Jincheng, but now he can't, he's concerned about his elder brother," Qin Kang sighed.

Xing Yusheng frowned, "After all, in the capital city, the Lin Family Brothers are famous young talents. Prince Duanmu wouldn't dare to act openly against them. But I'm worried that Prince Duanmu might seek to harm their family members."

Qin Kang nodded, "I thought of this as well. Bo Jun said that he and his brother already applied for leave, and as soon as it's approved, they will together return to Pingbei City, to bring their father and sister to live in the capital. They have already set off a few days ago."

"That's good." Xing Yusheng gave a sigh of relief, "I hope they have a safe journey."

Qin Kang had been busy with official duties for the past half month, and hadn't gotten the chance to inform Qin Yujin.

Knowing that she was still scared, he asked Xing Yusheng to tell her that nothing had happened for the time being. If the Lin Family were to face trouble in future, the Qin Family would not stand idle.

"There are rumours in the court that the fourth prince has found the mastermind behind the iron mine smuggling." Qin Kang had a serious look on his face, "Some say it's South Mingwang, others say it's your father."

Xing Yusheng forced a smile, "Whether my father was involved or not is hard to say. Anyway, if something happens to Bei Jingwang Mansion, grandfather and uncle must not bother about me anymore."

Qin Kang frowned, "What are you saying? You carry the blood of the Qin Family, this is an indisputable fact. Your mother married your father because of the Former Emperor's decree, not because the Qin Family wanted to ally with the Xing Family. Even if the worst-case scenario happens, the Qin Family still has a token of immunity from death to offer you. Stop talking like that!"

Xing Yusheng felt warm in his heart, but he was also very worried. If the Xing family were exterminated, he might be able to rely on the protection of the Qin family, but what about his grandmother?

Upon learning that the Lin Family Brothers had left the capital to fetch their family, Qin Yujin felt slightly relieved, but soon began worrying about the possibility of the Second Prince sending men to assassinate them on their journey.

"I'll send Qi Yan with some men to catch up and escort them back to the capital." Xing Yusheng said.

At last, a genuine smile appeared on Qin Yujin's face, "Cousin, you're the best!"

Pingbei City.

Lin Shuzhi initially wanted to leave the academy only when his sons sent someone to fetch him, but the newly appointed dean from the Government Office was eager to take his place.

Lin Shuzhi did not make any futile struggle. After saying goodbye to the teachers and students at the academy, he moved back into the city with Lin Xueqing and Su Liang.

The following days were peaceful and uneventful.

Su Liang worked out every day, read books, instructed Lin Xueqing in exercises, and practiced Tai Chi with Lin Shuzhi.

The three of them lived comfortably and easily.

One morning, Su Liang estimated the days and figured that ten days had already passed since Ning Jing left. If everything went smoothly, he should be back by now.

Su Liang prepared both lunch and dinner for Ning Jing, but until late at night, he was nowhere to be seen.

Su Liang wasn't worried something bad might have happened to him. What could possibly happen to someone who could even kill Yan Sui?

However, another three days passed and Ning Jing still didn't return, Su Liang felt something was wrong.

"Miss Su, you are worrying about Brother Ning!" Lin Xueqing said seriously.

Su Liang nodded, "Yes, according to his abilities, even if he was delayed, he should have been back in no more than eleven or twelve days."

Lin Xueqing wanted to comment on Su Liang's feelings for Ning Jing, but seeing how frank she was, it was clear she was only concerned about a good friend.

Lin Xueqing also shared her worry, "What if something bad really happened to Brother Ning?"

Su Liang thought for a moment and said, "I'll wait another two days. If we still don't see him, I'll go to Xunyang City to find him." To their surprise, Ning Jing returned that very night.

But he wasn't alone.

With him were Lin Shuzhi's two sons, Lin Boyan and Lin Bojun.

"Elder Brother! Second Brother!" Lin Xueqing was overjoyed, quickly ran toward them, grabbed her two brothers' hands, her eyes filled with tears, "You're finally back!"

Seeing his two sons' rundown appearances and bloodstains on their clothes, Lin Shuzhi became very worried!

Ning Jing had already walked to Su Liang's side.

"They were being chased and you happened to encounter them?" Su Liang asked. It was clear the Lin Family brothers had run into trouble on the road.

Ning Jing nodded, "So it seems."

Actually, Ning Jing first encountered the people pursuing the Lin Family brothers, and he noticed that the leader had a black cloud between his eyebrows. Therefore, he decided to secretly follow them. Only after that did he meet the Lin Family Brothers.

If he had directly bumped into the Lin Family Brothers, they would have recognized him but he wouldn't recognize them, which would have raised suspicions.

They were delayed on the road for several days due to Lin Boyan falling sick.

The reunion of the Lin Family stirred strong emotions in all of them.

However, Ning Jing did not mention Su Liang on the journey, and they missed the letter Lin Shuzhi sent to the capital, so they didn't know who the strange girl in their house was.

Seeing Lin Boyan looking at Su Liang, Ning Jing spoke, saying only one word,

"Hungry."

Su Liang nodded, "I'll go make some late-night snacks for you, you light the fire." She decided not to disturb the family reunion.

After the two left the room, Lin Boyan finally asked, "Who was that young lady just now?"

"Didn't Jing tell you about her on the way?" Lin Shuzhi was surprised.

With a beaming smile, Lin Xueqing said, "Su is Brother Ning's, why would he introduce her to his brothers?"

"Oh? So she's Ajing's fiancée?" Lin Boyan was shocked, "He was quiet all along the way. I didn't expect him to have such a close female friend."

Lin Shuzhi lightly coughed, "Yes, but not really."

Lin Bojun was confused, "What do you mean? Father, you still love to beat around the bush."

Lin Shuzhi glared at his second son.

Lin Xueqing chuckled, "It's a long story, listen while I explain slowly!"

In the kitchen, the firelight illuminated Ning Jing's handsome face. He was telling Su Liang about the situation of the Ning Family in Xunyang.

Su Liang bustled about the kitchen, chopping up ribs on the cutting board. Hearing about Wan Feng's atrocities, she fiercely chopped the bones into pieces and coldly said, "If I were there, I would reduce those bad people to ashes!"

"Hmm." Ning Jing nodded slightly, "I did."

"There are two things in the world that one cannot stare at directly, one is the sun, the other is the human heart." Su Liang sighed, remembering the words of a famous writer in her past life. The real Ning Jing died in vain. If Gu Ling hadn't avenged him, those wicked people would have taken everything from him and lived carefree lives.

“Let’s leave the Ning family issue aside for awhile. After you finish your exams, and if you choose not to take up official duties, you can say you’re going back to take over the family business.” Su Liang smiled, “At that time, it will piss off a lot of people..”

Chapter 95: 095. Lin Family Brothers

Hot steaming meat noodles were served for the late-night snack, with eggs under the noodles, and tender green vegetables on top.

“Wow! It smells so good! Is there a serving for me?” Lin Xueqing appeared at the kitchen doorway with her hand around one of her brothers, smiling brightly as she said, “See, big brother and second brother, was I right or not? Miss Su is an omnipotent genius, skilled in both literature and martial arts. She is good at everything!”

Lin Boyan and Lin Bojun were twin brothers.

They were about the same height, and their facial features were very similar when looked at individually.

However, their body shapes and temperaments were quite different.

Lin Boyan was gentle and elegant, with fair skin, looking very much like a young Lin Shuzhi.

And Lin Bojun was tall and sturdy, with healthy wheat-colored skin, giving people a powerful feeling.

Lin Xueqing had already explained the backgrounds of these two brothers to Su Liang early on.

Lin Boyan didn’t talk much, and never made unnecessary chatter. Despite his gentle outward appearance, he was a decisive person at heart.

As for Lin Bojun, he was a born military commander—upright, righteous, adventurous, and fearless.

“You two might want to wash up and have some late-night snack.” Su Liang smiled.

Ning Jing passed by her and washed his hands with the hot water she just served.

“Thank you, Miss Su. Not only have you saved my father and sister, but you’ve also taken care of them during these days.” Lin Boyan loosened Lin Xueqing’s hand and bowed respectfully to Su Liang.

“What’s the point of being so formal, big brother? We’re not outsiders!” Lin Bojun retorted and patted his chest, looking at Su Liang, “From now on, you’re my little sister! If anyone dares to bully you, just come to find me!”

Lin Xueqing blinked, “What if Ning brother is the one bullying Su sister?”

Lin Bojun blurted out, "I can't beat Ajing, and neither can my big brother. We'll ask our father to beat him!"

Lin Boyan nodded solemnly, "I second that."

After washing his hands, Ning Jing carried his late-night snack and drifted past the three siblings, heading to the small hall to enjoy the delicious food.

"I'm starving!" Lin Bojun dashed into the kitchen and grabbed a bowl before leaving.

Martial artists weren't particular about small matters, so the enticing aroma made him forget to wash his hands.

"Second brother, Su sister will dislike this!" Lin Xueqing took a wet cloth and went to wipe Lin Bojun's hands.

Only after washing his hands did Lin Boyan thank Su Liang again.

Su Liang smiled softly and said, "Big brother Lin, you don't have to be so polite. Master and Xueqing have treated me very well."

Lin Boyan found Su Liang very special. At first, he thought Lin Xueqing was exaggerating, but Lin Shuzhi said it was all true. Moreover, Su Liang had abilities that they didn't know about yet and hadn't shown.

Meeting Su Liang now, her temperament and presence impressed Lin Boyan. There was no hint of awkwardness, arrogance, or flattery in her demeanor. She was comfortable, equal, and sincere when looking at you, but also not easily approached.

No matter it was encountering assassins, poison attempts at the academy, or teaching Lin Xueqing self-defense, Lin Boyan was very grateful for everything Su Liang had done.

He earnestly expressed his gratitude, as it was proper and also to see Su Liang's attitude.

In response, Su Liang's answer also made Lin Boyan, like Lin Bojun, decide that from now on, this girl would be his little sister.

The three of them had their late-night snack, while Lin Xueqing never ran out of things to talk about, and Su Liang was reading a book.

Lin Shuzhi watched the warm and peaceful scene with the five young people and felt content. He sincerely hoped that Su Liang and Ning Jing could live with them, but knew it wasn't possible for the time being.

"By the way, big brother and second brother, how did you come back so quickly? We haven't even sent you a letter yet. Did you have a premonition that dad and I would be in trouble?" Lin Xueqing finally sobered up from her admiration of Su Liang and asked a serious question.

Lin Bojun, who had already finished a big bowl of noodles and even drank the soup, put down the bowl, wiped his mouth, and sighed, "I haven't had such a comfortable meal in a long time!"

"Second brother, what happened? Who did you offend?" Lin Xueqing pressed on.

Lin Boyan kept eating his late-night snack and showed no intention of speaking. Naturally, Ning Jing, who had already learned the details on their way back, wasn't going to answer Lin Xueqing's question either.

Lin Bojun opened his mouth, "Of course, it was me!"

Lin Shuzhi rubbed his forehead, "You mischievous boy, you caused trouble and you're still so self-righteous?"

However, Lin Xueqing shook her head, "Second brother has beaten many people since we were kids, but all of them deserved it! I believe this time is the same. So, who did you beat up?"

Lin Bojun said three words, "Second prince."

Su Liang's finger, flicking through the pages of her book, paused for a moment. She hadn't met the second prince, Duanmu Ao, but he was one of the targets she was planning to investigate in the capital. He was suspected of being the culprit behind the massacre of Su Family.

Lin Shuzhi's face darkened, and he abruptly sat up straight, "What exactly happened?" He certainly knew his son's character, but hitting a prince was no small matter!

Lin Xueqing's little face also became frightened, "Big brother, second brother, did you both get dismissed from your positions and couldn't stay in the capital, so you came back?"

Based on the common people's simple understanding, if one offended a member of the royal family, they needed to be cautious about keeping their head, let alone having a career.

"No, he doesn't dare to do anything to us in the capital. Big brother just got praised by the emperor and was promoted two levels recently. We took leave out of fear that he might harm dad and little sister in secret. But we still returned late. It's a blessing that Ajing and Xiaoliang were around!" Lin Bojun said.

"Second brother, you haven't said why you hit the second prince? What bad thing did he do?" Lin Xueqing asked.

"He blatantly harassed Miss Qin right on the sacred grounds of Buddhism in broad daylight. I just happened to pass by and decided to help out, without realizing he was the second prince, so I gave him a really good kick!" Lin Bojun said.

Su Liang then asked, "If you had known from the beginning that he was the second prince, what would you have done?"

Lin Bojun clenched his fists and snorted, "Of course, I'd pretend not to know and kick him a few more times! If I had already hit him, wouldn't it be a pity if I didn't hit him harder for all the food I've eaten? Xiaoliang, these noodles of yours are really good. Do you have any more?"

Lin Shuzhi could only laugh and cry.

Lin Xueqing gave a thumbs up, "Wow, Second Brother, you're so cool! What a hero saving the beauty!"

Su Liang couldn't help but smile, "If the noodles get too bloated, they won't be tasty anymore. There are still some fried buns in the pot." She had decided to make some for everyone lest they still be hungry, frying up the sauce meat buns left over from dinner.

Lin Bojun went to the kitchen and brought back a plate with six sauce meat buns, giving one to Ning Jing, one to Lin Boyan, and claiming four for himself, justifying it with, "I have a big appetite. You two are so skinny anyway, it'd be a waste if you ate them!"

Su Liang agreed, "Second Brother Lin is right." Some people just never seemed to put on weight no matter how much they ate.

But Lin Xueqing was itching to hear the details of the heroic rescue. Lin Bojun would take a bite of a bun and explain a few things, then go on eating and continue explaining after finishing.

By the time he had finished all four buns, he had roughly outlined the situation at the time.

Simply put, Duanmu Ao saw Qin Yujin alone and felt lustful, intending to take advantage of her. Lin Bojun happened to be passing by, heard someone call for help, and charged forward to kick Duanmu Ao away, pulling Qin Yujin to safety.

Duanmu Ao then angrily threatened Lin Bojun, who remained unyielding. Eventually, Duanmu Ao vowed to make Lin pay for what he did.

And that led to the events that followed.

Su Liang pondered, "Miss Qin? Is she Crown Prince Bei Jingwang's cousin?"

Lin Bojun nodded, "That's right. You and Ajing both know Crown Prince Xing? How's your relationship with him?"

Su Liang thought for a moment and said, "Not bad."

Lin Xueqing laughed, "Sister Su might think it's just not bad, but Crown Prince Xing is definitely interested in her. He asked General Nian to bring her many precious old medical books from Old Master Qin's collection! Miss Qin even gave Sister Su a sachet she made herself. Clearly, they want to be friends!"

"That's great!" Lin Bojun's face lit up. "I like Miss Qin. Xiaoliang, help me be the matchmaker!"

Lin Shuzhi, who was just about to take a sip of tea, nearly dropped his cup.

Lin Boyan continued eating his bun gracefully, apparently already aware of his brother's intentions.

Ning Jing glanced at Lin Bojun and then resumed eating his bun.

Lin Xueqing was delighted, "Wow! Second Brother, you've finally come to your senses! I always said that heroes saving beauties should be accompanied by love at first sight for it to be truly romantic!"

Su Liang coughed softly, "Xueqing, hand over the romance novels you've been hiding, and we'll use them for firewood tomorrow."

A glimmer of amusement flashed in Lin Boyan's eyes, and Lin Bojun laughed, "Xiaoliang, you're so funny! But you must promise to help me with the match-making!"

Isn't it the master's responsibility to propose marriage?" Su Liang asked.

Lin Bojun shook his head, "What if they don't think highly of me? Xiaoliang, I'll need your help to arrange a meeting first. Once the timing is right, we'll formally propose marriage, so as not to tarnish Miss Qin's reputation!"

"I didn't expect you to be so considerate, Second Brother. You must think she's very beautiful, right?" Lin Xueqing was genuinely excited, almost as if she couldn't wait to see her future sister-in-law.

Lin Bojun nodded. "She's only about three points more beautiful than my younger sister, and maybe half a point more beautiful than Xiaoliang!"

Lin Xueqing "attacked" Lin Bojun, declaring that she would cut ties with him for prioritizing beauty over family.

Although Lin Family was indeed a scholarly one, both Lin Boyan and Lin Bojun could only be considered as low-born talented young men. Their futures were promising, but their current status really wasn't very high, and they were worlds apart from Qin Family.

With Qin Yujin's background, she could even qualify to be a prince's wife.

Lin Shuzhi, of course, thought highly of his son, but he also feared his enthusiasm would eventually lead to heartbreak.

"Alright. Once I get to the capital city and meet Miss Qin, I'll make sure to put in a good word for Second Brother Lin." Su Liang promised.

"Old man, how about you?" Lin Shuzhi asked Lin Boyan if he had any women he liked.

Lin Bojun answered for him, "My big brother lives like a monk in the capital city. If it weren't for me going back to drink with him from time to time, I bet he'd become a monk one day!"

He then turned to Ning Jing, "Ajing, be careful not to get hooked into an arranged marriage after getting the top scholar position! If you and Xiaoliang have any grievances, just air them out now, resolve them, and get married! Once we're in the capital city, there'll be a whole pack of wolves waiting for such a fine lady as Xiaoliang!"

Ning Jing seemed lost in thought, as if he hadn't heard anything.

Su Liang lightly coughed, "Second Brother Lin, don't worry about us. He's going to take the imperial examination, and I'm planning to take the military exam. If I become the top scholar, any wolves or dogs that dare to approach will get beaten into submission."

Lin Bojun's expression turned serious, "Xiaoliang, you're going to take the military exam? Ambitious! Come on, let's go outside and spar, so I can evaluate your skills!"

As Lin Bojun and Su Liang went out to spar, Lin Xueqing was about to follow when she noticed that Ning Jing was not moving. She hurried over to him and whispered, "Brother Ning, you should go too. After my brother and Sister Su finish sparring, you can defeat my brother in one move. Sister Su will definitely think you're very cool!"

Ning Jing stood up, "I'm tired. Where can I sleep?"

Lin Xueqing turned and left without a word, "I'm going to see Sister Su defeat my brother! "

Lin Boyan smiled and stood up, "Ajing, let's go together.."

Chapter 96: 096. You're the Weird One

Lin Bojun was a powerful martial artist with agility and strength. With a single sweep of his long blade, it felt like he could cut through the cold and piercing wind, exuding a heavy and oppressive might.

Ever since he was a child, he was extremely hardy. Sitting down to read never suited him, and he never lost or shied away from a fight.

Lin Shuzhi didn't expect his two sons to follow the same path as him. The eldest son loved studying, and it seemed right to fully support and guide the second son who showed aptitude for martial arts. Lin Shuzhi managed to pull some strings through a friend and invited a famed master of blade technique from the martial world to teach Lin Bojun.

At that time, the master's condition was that Lin Shuzhi had to teach his grandson to read.

Lin Bojun's strength was far from weak. Had it not been for protecting Lin Boyan this time, he should've been able to handle the assassins sent by Duanmu Ao on his own – at least, his life wouldn't have been at risk.

Before the fight with Su Liang, Lin Bojun made up his mind to show restraint and avoid harming her at all costs.

However, he quickly realized that he had been too arrogant.

Su Liang's strength was formidable and her experience in battle was far from lacking.

Watching the battle intently, Lin Shuzhi and Lin Xueqing couldn't decide who had the advantage. For a while, they thought Lin Bojun had the upper hand, forcing Su Liang to continuously retreat. Yet, she always managed to counterattack effectively at crucial moments.

"Sister Su is so strong!" Lin Xueqing's eyes sparkled. "I bet Sister Su will win."

Lin Shuzhi's expression was serious. "I also think Liang has the edge."

Upon seeing Lin Boyan and Ning Jing walking side by side, Lin Xueqing said, "Let's bet on who will win. The loser won't be allowed to eat for an entire day tomorrow! "

Lin Boyan didn't quite understand but after watching for some moments, he felt that Su Liang's steps were steady, and her moves were versatile and full of surprises. In comparison, his younger brother seemed to be a bit clumsy. He smiled and said, "I think Sister Su will win."

"What about you, Brother Ning?" Lin Xueqing asked Ning Jing.

Ning Jing's expression was indifferent. "Su Liang will lose."

Lin Xueqing was surprised at Ning Jing's judgment, but since they had different opinions, the betting was on. She confidently said, "Just you wait and see, Brother Ning!"

In the end, Lin Bojun and Su Liang fought for half an hour, appearing evenly matched. Forced to retreat once more, Su Liang didn't counterattack. Instead, she feigned a fall and announced, "I lost."

Lin Bojun's face was bewildered. "Xiaoliang, what are you doing? Get up and fight on!"

Lin Xueqing couldn't accept the result. "Sister Su, you clearly lost on purpose! Were you in collusion with Brother Ning?"

Su Liang got up from the ground, her smile gentle. "Heavens and earth are my witnesses, I did not collude with him. Brother Lin has been through a lot, and I wouldn't feel honorable if I won given his condition."

Lin Xueqing stomped her foot. "But I, my father, and elder brother all bet on

Sister Su! Now that you've admitted defeat, we can't eat tomorrow!"

Su Liang's lips curved slightly. "Listening to it all, it seems less fun to make Ning Jing be the only one who can't eat. If three people don't eat, it'll save more food."

Lin Shuzhi rubbed his forehead.

Lin Boyan couldn't help but laugh.

Lin Bojun laughed heartily. "Xiaoliang's reasoning is impeccable! Let's save it for another day!"

Lin Xueqing sighed. "Sister Su, you're so mean! I really misjudged you!" She turned to Ning Jing. "Did you guess that Sister Su would lose on purpose?"

Ning Jing shook his head, his expression calm. "I was just going along with your plan." There would've been no fun in the bet if he'd also chosen Su Liang to win, as he was the last to express an opinion.

After the fight, Lin Bojun exclaimed, "If only I didn't have someone I'm in love with, I'd definitely pursue Xiaoliang! But my elder brother is too weak to match her. It's still the best for her to be with Ajing!"

As for the insistence that Ning Jing and Su Liang should get married right away and start a family, Su Liang was used to it by now and had made a habit of ignoring it.

As for the bet about not eating, it was just a joke.

"Jingjing, where do you and Liang plan to go next?" Lin Shuzhi asked. Though Ning Jing initially planned on escorting Su Liang back to Bei'an County after returning, there had been a few changes. Duanmu Ao hadn't given up, and his retaliatory acts were persistent. Lin Shuzhi wondered if they might choose to travel to the capital together.

"We'll return to Bei'an County tomorrow," Ning Jing replied.

Lin Boyan spoke up. "My brother and I don't have much time left on our leave. We need to return to the capital as soon as possible, preferably tomorrow."

“But what if Master runs into danger on the way?” Su Liang asked, voicing Lin Shuzhi’s concern. She didn’t think Ning Jing intended to wash his hands of it all. She had assumed they might need to make a trip to the capital first.

Once the Lin family arrived in the capital, they wouldn’t necessarily enjoy peace, but at least the Second Prince wouldn’t dare harm them openly.

Furthermore, Duke Qin had already declared that if the Lin family got in trouble, the Qin family wouldn’t sit idly by.

Moreover, Su Liang believed that once Xing Yusheng knew Lin Bojun had saved his cousin, he would lend a hand if he could. The sachet from earlier had already proven that he and his cousin had a close relationship.

Ning Jing’s expression was calm. “I’ve hired a master who will secretly protect you all.”

Clearly, he had already made arrangements.

“So let’s settle on this for now, and get some rest. We can talk about anything else tomorrow.” Lin Shuzhi said.

“Where am I going to stay?” Ning Jing asked again.

Lin Xueqing, holding Su Liang’s arm, said, “Little Su has been looking forward to Brother Ning’s return for the past few days, and has prepared a room for him, in the same courtyard as our father!”

Ning Jing walked over and, just when Lin Xueqing was full of confusion, heard him say, “Get out of the way.”

Lin Xueqing: ...

Su Liang cleared her throat, “Master, you guys go ahead first. We still have something to talk about.”

Lin Xueqing muttered under her breath, “Brother Ning is acting as if I stole his wife, really...”

Everyone from the Lin family left, leaving only Su Liang and Ning Jing in the back garden.

“Who did you hire?” Su Liang asked.

Ning Jing said a name, ‘Yan Shiqi.’

Su Liang raised her eyebrows, “Wasn’t he hired by Ning Yao and then ran away at a critical moment? How did you find him?”

“He found me,” Ning Jing replied.

Yan Shiqi had ignored Ning Yao and avoided Ning Jing at the time but didn’t go far, just watching him nearby.

When Ning Jing was leaving Xunyang City, Yan Shiqi followed him all the way and only showed up a day later, stating that they had no grievances or enemies and he had no hostility towards Ning Jing; he just wanted to talk business with him.

Su Liang was somewhat surprised, “He wants the Yanyun Building Master’s MO Yu ring?”

Ning Jing nodded, affirming her guess.

Back then, Ning Jing didn't know that the two Lin brothers would return from the capital city, and he planned to hire Yan Shiqi because no matter whether Lin Boyan or Lin Bojun would come to pick them up, the road to the capital city would not be safe for Lin Shuzhi and Lin Xueqing.

Ning Jing mocked Ning Yao for talking business with an assassin.

But he himself agreed to Yan Shiqi's transaction.

In the former case, Ning Yao was completely fooled by Yan Shiqi.

In the latter case, what Ning Jing asked Yan Shiqi to do didn't pose much difficulty for him. If Yan Shiqi dared to cheat, he should be worried about being killed by Ning Jing.

In the end, it boils down to a matter of strength.

But there is another issue for Su Liang regarding this matter. She had previously told Yan Shiba to get lost with the MO Yu ring when they clashed.

Although Su Liang was under no obligation to give the ring to Yan Shiba for free, if Yan Shiba learns that Ning Jing gave the ring to someone else, she won't let it go given her temperament.

Su Liang wasn't afraid, nor did she think there was anything wrong on their part in this matter. She just felt it was troublesome.

"I promised Yan Shiqi that once the task is done, I'll tell him where the MO Yu ring is," Ning Jing said.

Su Liang nodded, "That works too. If Yan Shiqi and Yan Shiba have a grudge, let them fight it out. Maybe they were actually on good terms in the first place." With that, she suddenly looked around, "He's not nearby, is he?"

Ning Jing shook his head, "He's in the city, not nearby." He would be secretly following the Lin family tomorrow.

"So, are we still going to see Zhengzheng?" Su Liang asked.

"Yes," Ning Jing nodded, "Talk business with Zhengzheng's mother while you're at it. Write a letter to collaborate with Yang Yu and target the Li family."

Of Qian Country's four big merchant families, Ning Jing and Su Liang have the Ning Family, Yang Family is an absolutely trusted ally, the Wan Family has a great opportunity to be wooed and has a longstanding feud with the Li Family.

Everything is in their favor.

Su Liang shook her head, "I don't understand business."

"Both the Wan family and Yang Yu do," Ning Jing said.

Su Liang smiled, "Not bad, I'll give it a try."

Ning Jing added, "Zhengzheng is Li San's biological son, but he doesn't need that father. Take the Li family's property and give it to Zhengzheng as a gift."

Su Liang nodded, "Agreed. But didn't you find kids weird at first?"

"You're the weird one." Ning Jing said and left right away.

Su Liang: .

Chapter 97: 097. Afraid You 'Il Be Exhausted to Death

Su Liang wrote a letter to Yang Yu before bedtime, which would be given to the manager of Yonglong Embroidery Workshop tomorrow, asking him to arrange for someone to send it to the Yang Family.

A quiet night passed.

Early the next morning, the Lin Family Brothers got up and went out, only to see Lin Shuzhi in white clothes practicing Tai Chi in the courtyard, his every move exhibiting elegance.

Lin Xueqing had mentioned Tai Chi the night before, but this was the first time the two brothers had seen it.

After watching for a while, Lin Boyan felt that although the movements were slow, they contained a gentle yet tenacious strength.

Lin Bojun, however, was eager to give it a try, "Let me give this set of boxing a try!"

Lin Boyan quickly stopped his younger brother from going over to exchange martial tips with Lin Shuzhi, "Little sister said that this is for strengthening the body."

After completing the Tai Chi routine, Lin Shuzhi looked relaxed, smiling at his two sons, "We're setting off today and can't spare any time. When we get to the capital city, I'll teach you. Old big brother, you're especially weak."

Lin Bojun burst into laughter and slapped Lin Boyan on the shoulder, "Big brother, you're not even as good as our father now, let alone our little sister! I've heard that Xiaoliang taught her a lot of tricks! I need to learn from her when we get back!"

Lin Boyan smiled, "I did see our little sister look much better yesterday. I'm willing to learn this set of boxing from our father."

At this moment, Su Liang and Lin Xueqing were preparing breakfast after their morning exercise.

The three had returned late last night, and only they had a late-night snack. This was the first time the six of them ate together, and they would part ways after the meal.

"Big brother, second brother, try my cooking and guess which dishes are mine?" Lin Xueqing said expectantly.

The two brothers had long experienced their sister's culinary skills, which were not very tasty. However, they always complimented her cooking out of love.

After tasting the breakfast this time, they found all the dishes delicious.

Lin Bojun looked shocked, "It's all so tasty! None of these were made by Xiaoliang, right?"

Lin Xueqing felt extremely validated by her brother's comment, which made her feel that her cooking skills had improved rapidly. She happily revealed that half of the dishes had been made by her.

Lin Boyan sincerely praised, "Little sister's cooking skills have improved enormously."

Lin Bojun directly affirmed Su Liang and Lin Xueqing's culinary skills with his appetite.

"Xiaoliang has taught me how to cook a lot of dishes, and even gave me her exclusive recipe book! When we get to the capital city, I'll cook for my big and second brother every day!" Lin Xueqing gave all the credit for her progress to Su Liang.

Lin Shuzhi coughed lightly, "What will your father eat?"

Lin Xueqing giggled, "I'll just cook my father's favorite dishes, whether my big and second brothers like it or not."

Lin Shuzhi nodded, "Alright."

After their harmonious breakfast, it was time to part ways.

The decision to go to the capital city wasn't made abruptly when Lin Boyan and Lin Bojun returned home; Lin Shuzhi and Lin Xueqing had been preparing for it early on.

Although Ning Jing said he had hired a master to secretly protect them on their journey, he didn't reveal the master's identity, nor did he allow them to meet.

The Lin family didn't pry, knowing that some masters could be temperamental. They trusted that Ning Jing's arrangements would work out.

Originally, Lin Xueqing and Su Liang laughed and promised to meet in the capital city after the New Year, but when the time came to part ways, Lin Xueqing hugged Su Liang, her eyes welling up with tears, "Sister Su, I really don't want you to leave."

Su Liang patted Lin Xueqing's back, "If you keep crying, you'll become ugly."

"I wasn't as pretty as you to begin with." Lin Xueqing said, unable to hold back a laugh. She let go of Su Liang, her eyes glistening with tears, and said earnestly, "After the New Year, you must come to the capital city to find me!"

Su Liang nodded, "Don't worry, we will."

T.in Sh117.hi came over. looked at Ning Ting. and sighed. "No matter where von are or what you do, you must take good care of Xiaoliang. See you in the capital city next year!"

Ning Jing nodded slightly, "Take care, Master."

"Xueqing." Lin Shuzhi called her several times before Lin Xueqing reluctantly let go of Su Liang, turning back every three steps, waving at her.

Ning Jing and Su Liang stood inside the Lin family's gate, watching as Lin Xueqing was helped onto the carriage by Lin Bojun.

There was another big carriage behind, carrying Lin Shuzhi and Lin Xueqing's luggage. They were going to the capital city for a long stay, and they needed to bring many things, including several large boxes just for Lin Shuzhi's books.

In addition to the smoke gauze, Su Liang also gave Lin Xueqing two other top-quality fabrics to make new clothes when they arrive in the capital city. All of them were new products from the Yonglong Embroidery Workshop, available in the capital city, but only in limited quantities for sale.

There were also two more pieces of good fabric, one for Lin Shuzhi and the other for the Lin family brothers.

Lin Bojun drove the carriage, and the three of them sat inside, lifting the curtain to look back at Su Liang and Ning Jing, waving goodbye to them.

The carriage slowly started moving, leaving the entrance of the Lin family's mansion.

After the gates closed, Su Liang and Ning Jing, with their belongings, secretly left from the back door and returned to the mansion they bought after arriving in Pingbei City. Ning Jing had already brought the horses there last night.

Upon opening the courtyard door, Su Liang saw a wooden box placed on a table in the yard.

Ning Jing had returned last night, and it must have been him who placed the box. Su Liang didn't ask, but just walked over and opened it, only to be dazzled momentarily.

The box was filled with gold ingots, and a wooden box was sandwiched in the middle of them. Inside it was a thick stack of high-value silver notes.

"You've been playing Robin Hood again," Su Liang thought. "Did you steal from the magistrate's small treasury in Pingbei City?"

Ning Jing nodded, indicating that she hadn't guessed wrong.

The magistrate of Pingbei City was extremely corrupt, and the money Ning Jing brought back last night was just a small part of it. After Lin Shuzhi arrived in the capital city, he would report the corruption in Pingbei City to the court.

The reason for going to the magistrate's house last night was that Ning Jing, the head of the Ning family, had forgotten to take more money when he left Xunyang City, and they had spent a lot of money in Pingbei City. The wallet was running thin, so they needed to replenish it.

"This is so heavy, not easy to carry." Su Liang took out the silver notes, thinking that the box of gold was too cumbersome.

"Put it under the bed for future use," Ning Jing said.

Su Liang, dressed as a man and wearing a straw hat, drove away from Pingbei City where she had lived for nearly a month. Her letter to Yang Yu had already been sent to Yonglong Embroidery Workshop.

Ning Jing had gone to Xunyang City and come back, not having rested for several days, and now fell asleep in the carriage.

The two planned to visit Zhengzheng at the Wan family first, and then return to Bei'an County.

At best, it would take eight or nine days to travel from Pingbei City to Qingyang City, where the Wan family lived.

During the journey, the two took turns driving the carriage during the day and stayed in inns at night. It was winter, and the temperature was low at night, making it impossible to stay outdoors.

There was even more silence between the two than when they were on their way here, each doing their own thing. At times, even when they were together, they didn't feel like talking. At least Zhengzheng was there when they were on their way here, making it a bit more lively.

Three days later, during an evening at an inn, Su Liang brought up the Lin family people while they were eating dinner. She casually said, "They always want to match us up, but we're really not suitable for each other, as we have nothing to talk about."

Ning Jing nodded, but rebutted Su Liang's words. "At first, you didn't know anything about this side, so I told you everything. After that, you promised to teach me about your side and teach me different languages, characters, and things that you know but I don't. But you've been busy, and when you're free, you're always reading, so I haven't asked you to fulfill your promise yet. If you want to talk, of course, you can."

With an embarrassed expression, Su Liang asked, "Are you sure you want me to start teaching you now?"

Ning Jing's face was indifferent. "It's you who don't have time for me, and you're not used to being too quiet."

Su Liang held her forehead, "Boss, I was wrong. What do you want to learn first?"

"Acupuncture," Ning Jing said.

Su Liang was taken aback and asked, "Why do you want to learn this first?"

Ning Jing replied calmly, "To avoid situations where you have to treat someone, and since you've seen their body, they demand that you take responsibility. And to prevent cases similar to the poisoning at the academy, where you'd be solely responsible for too many lives. You'd be exhausted and still unable to save everyone."

As a female doctor, there were many inconveniences when treating male patients.

Su Liang's medical practice was based on her past life's mindset and didn't care about it. However, others, including the patients themselves, wouldn't treat her as a male doctor.

Recalling the fatigue from the night of the poisoning incident in the academy, Su Liang still felt apprehensive about it now.

And Ning Jing had long expressed interest in medical skills; it's just that Su Liang hadn't had time to teach him.

With a serious tone, Su Liang said, "Thank you for your concern.. I'll start by teaching you this then!"

Chapter 98: 098. Guarantee to Make You Satisfied

Su Liang drew a very detailed human acupoint map.

The next morning, when it was Su Liang's turn to drive, Ning Jing sat in the carriage and studied the map.

After looking at an acupoint, Ning Jing would ask Su Liang if hitting this acupoint could be fatal.

After asking three times in a row, Su Liang was somewhat speechless, "As a martial artist, you should know about this."

"Hmm." Ning Jing's voice came from the carriage, "I need to confirm it with you. Don't you want to talk?"

Su Liang:... She shouldn't have said that last night...

Ning Jing had an excellent memory, and having memorized all the human acupoints, it was time to practice needle techniques.

That night, Su Liang had just picked up a book when she heard a knock on the door, "Come here for a moment."

Su Liang closed the book and went to Ning Jing's room next door.

"I want to try the needle technique." Ning Jing said.

Su Liang was stunned, "You... you're not going to practice on me, are you? I refuse." Most of the acupoints were under the clothes, and although she wasn't too strict about male-female contact, she couldn't go that far.

Su Liang realized she didn't need to remove any clothes while treating people during the poisoning case at the academy.

Only in the beginning, when treating Xing Yusheng, he needed to be shirtless. But Xing Yusheng's feelings for Su Liang had nothing to do with her seeing his body...

"You can stab a straw man." Su Liang seriously suggested.

Ning Jing shook his head, "That way, there's no feeling."

Su Liang coughed lightly, "Even if you don't see me as a woman, this really won't do."

Ning Jing frowned slightly, "What are you thinking about?"

Su Liang was stunned, only to see Ning Jing walk to the side of the bed, sit down facing her, and then untie his belt.

Su Liang was dumbfounded as she watched Ning Jing take off his outer garment, revealing his inner clothes, and then continue to untie the belt, exposing his chest...

She didn't expect him to look so skinny, but when he undressed, there was flesh... Su Liang snapped out of it and immediately turned around, "What on earth are you trying to do?"

Ning Jing's voice was faint, "You can still feel shy?"

Su Liang turned back, "I'm just baffled. Why are you taking off your clothes for no reason?"

Ning Jing's expression was calm, "I want to try the needle technique on myself. You said it won't kill me."

Su Liang held her forehead, "Well...okay." Her golden needle was already in Ning Jing's possession.

"You help me see if there's any misalignment." Ning Jing said.

"Oh." Su Liang nodded, sitting at the table, boldly enjoying Ning Jing's figure, thinking that it was truly a feast for the eyes! If she measured it with a ruler, it would surely conform to the perfect golden ratio.

Ning Jing spoke again, "Come closer."

Su Liang moved a chair over, sat next to him, and looked openly, "Go ahead."

Soon, some suggestive words were heard in the room.

"What does it feel like?"

"Painful."

"Pain is correct, you missed the spot."

"Why didn't you say that earlier?"

"This is an easy mistake to make, so I'm letting you learn."

"What about this time?"

"Numb." "Can't you say one more word?"

"Very numb."

"You can't reach the ones on your back, just forget them for now."

"You do it."

"Alright. Such a good back, it would be a pity not to cup."

"What is cupping?"

"I'll let you try it another day, it's very exciting."

Finally, it was over. Ning Jing put his clothes back on, and Su Liang was about to leave when he said, "Wait."

"Big brother, any other instructions?" Su Liang yawned.

Ning Jing glanced at the ceiling.

Su Liang was stunned for a moment, then realized that someone was on the roof.

Although Ning Yao's family was gone, Ning Jing's enemies were more than just that one. Assassins from the Li Family, Xiao Family, or Yanyun Building might come to trouble him.

Ning Jing fastened his belt and picked up the golden needles that hadn't been put away yet. He slid one between each finger of his left hand and said calmly, "Tonight, I'll try that needle technique you taught me."

Only Su Liang understood this, "that" referred to the technique she had told Ning Jing about, where stabbing certain acupoints simultaneously would make a person wish they were dead.

As soon as the words fell, Ning Jing pushed open the rear window and leaped out.

Su Liang heard some slight noises from the roof and then it quickly returned to silence. She figured Ning Jing had led the person to another place.

She sat in Ning Jing's room waiting. Since there was nothing to do, she took out the four treasures of the study and continued to write the acupuncture prescription for Ning Jing to see.

Su Liang wrote attentively and didn't know how long it had been when the rear window shook, and Ning Jing returned.

He still looked the same as when he left, his clothes immaculate, only bringing in a hint of chillness, with a faint flash of gold between his fingers.

"Your needle technique is not bad," Ning Jing said, "They were fake Yanyun Building assassins hired by the Li family."

"Fake?" Su Liang raised her eyebrows, "Is it because after Yan Sui's death, Yanyun Building fell into chaos, and some third-rate little assassins have the guts to pretend to be Yanyun Building's people and take on tasks?"

Ning Jing nodded.

Su Liang stood up, "If they were really capable assassins from Yanyun Building, they should know that Yan Sui died at your hands. Yan Shiqi was clever enough to just scam people without risking his life."

On the other hand, the Lin family was heading to the capital city, being cautious all the way.

They stayed at an inn that night, having booked an independent courtyard. When assassins approached, Lin Bojun heard the commotion and hadn't yet taken action when Yan Shiqi appeared and quickly killed them all with lightning speed.

He was Yan Sui's most outstanding disciple, but not as famous as Yan Shiba because Yan Shiba's father was the previous owner of Yanyun Building, and she was like a young lady of Yanyun Building with a special status.

Lin Bojun only caught a glimpse of a black shadow before the trouble was resolved, and even the corpses were quickly dragged away.

He could only marvel at how powerful the friend Ning Jing found.

In the middle of the night, Lin Bojun suddenly got up, drawing a knife from under his pillow! He heard movement in the courtyard! He opened the door to see masked Yan Shiqi attacking someone.

"Master Lin! I am from Duke Qin's Mansion!"

Qi Yan, who was being continuously driven back, had no choice but to call out for help. He had been ordered by Xing Yusheng to protect the Lin family, and after a few days of hurried travels, he finally arrived at Pingbei City, only to find out that he had missed the Lin family and hurriedly pursued them, finally catching up.

He didn't expect that before seeing the Lin family, he encountered a ferocious roadblocker.

Upon hearing this, Lin Bojun immediately spoke up, "Stop fighting! He's one of us!"

Yan Shiqi sheathed his sword and disappeared without saying a word.

Qi Yan breathed a sigh of relief, came forward to salute Lin Bojun, "My name is Qi Yan, I'm not considered a member of the Qin family, but my master is Crown

Prince Bei Jingwang."

Lin Bojun hadn't met Qi Yan, but he had heard of the name of Xing Yusheng's guard.

Seeing Qi Yan take out Xing Yusheng's crown prince token, Lin Bojun no longer doubted his identity.

"General Lin saved Miss Wan previously. She has been worried about General Lin and his family, so our master sent me to protect them. There are a few other brothers. After entering the city, they went to other inns to check and will join us shortly," Qi Yan said, "I didn't expect that General Lin has a master protecting him."

Lin Bojun felt delighted when he heard that Qin Yujin was concerned about his and his family's safety, so Qi Yan came, "Thank you, Brother Qi!"

"If General Lin doesn't mind, we will escort you in secret and complete our master's task from now on," Qi Yan said.

Lin Bojun shook his head, "Of course I don't mind, I'm very grateful! When I get to the capital city, I must thank Crown Prince Xing and Miss Qin in person!"

Lin Shuzhi and Lin Boyan came out when they heard the sound, and they also expressed their gratitude to Qi Yan when they learned of his identity.

Qi Yan thought that the Lin family was very nice, treating a guard like him with such courtesy. No wonder Duke Qin once said that the Lin family all had an admirable character.

"You don't need to worry about us, I'll meet up with my brothers, and we'll follow you in secret," Qi Yan said and was about to leave when he suddenly remembered something and turned back to ask Lin Shuzhi, "Does Master Lin know Ning Jing?"

Lin Shuzhi was not surprised that Qi Yan would ask about Ning Jing, because it was well known that Ning Jing was participating in the Imperial examination using Xing Yusheng's token.

"Yes," Lin Shuzhi answered.

Qi Yan hurriedly asked, "Is there a young lady by Ning Jing's side?"

Lin Shuzhi nodded, "Yes, there is a young lady." "Have they gone back to Bei'an County?" Qi Yan asked.

“Yes,” Lin Shuzhi replied.

Qi Yan didn’t ask any further questions, thinking that perhaps Lin Shuzhi only knew about Ning Jing because he was the top scholar.

When they set off again the next day, Lin Xueqing learned that someone had come last night and it was someone Xing Yusheng had sent to protect them.

“Miss Qin is really kind,” Lin Xueqing said.

Lin Bojun, who was driving the carriage, frowned, “Could it be that Crown Prince Bei Jingwang and Miss Qin’s cousins are getting engaged?”

Lin Xueqing shook her head, “No way, Brother, don’t speculate. In my opinion, Crown Prince Xing clearly likes Sister Su! But Sister Su has Ning Jing by her side!”

Lin Shuzhi frowned, “Stop making wild guesses. Except for Xiaoliang and Jingjing’s relationship, everything else is nonsense.”

Ning Jing began to hope for someone to come and kill him, so he could practice acupuncture on assassins and also test Su Liang’s homemade poisons and antidotes.

Unfortunately, the number of assassins coming to kill him decreased as he had already killed their leader.

When the two arrived in Qingyang City, Su Liang drove the carriage while Ning Jing sat inside, holding a straw man, practicing acupuncture based on the prescription written by Su Liang.

Qingyang City was a large trade hub in the northeast of Qian Country. It was surrounded by Qian Country’s most important grain production area, and inside the city was one of the four major grain merchants, the Wan Family.

It was already afternoon, and as Su Liang drove down the main street, she heard many people discussing the Wan family.

After listening for a while, she roughly understood the situation.

“That shameless Li San sabotaged Zhengzheng and failed, so he reported to the local government and the Qingyang City government, asking both sides to intervene and take the Wan family to the blood test for their lineage. The Wan family couldn’t defy the Government Office, so they could only agree,” Su Liang said coldly.

She was telling Ning Jing, but there was no response in the carriage.

Su Liang looked back, lifted the curtain of the carriage, and saw Ning Jing still focused on “stabbing the straw man”...

“I heard it,” Ning Jing said without lifting his head, “Go to the Wan family.” “Go openly?” Su Liang asked.

“Yes,” Ning Jing replied, “As the head of the Ning family, I am here to discuss business. Can you guarantee that the blood test won’t succeed?” Su Liang nodded,

“Easily. This kind of method has no scientific basis in the first place. Your blood and Zhengzheng’s can blend together.”

“Very well,” Ning Jing nodded slightly, sticking a needle in the brow of the straw man, “I want to practice acupuncture on Li San. You figure out a way.” Su Liang let the curtain down and smiled slightly, “Sure. I promise you’ll be satisfied..”

Chapter 99: 099. Blood Relative Recognition

“Mother! Mother!”

A little red-faced ball of energy struggled to step over the threshold, holding an orchid in his hand, excitedly running in, and throwing himself onto Wan Hui’s legs. He raised his chubby little face, his eyes sparkling, “Flower! Give it to Auntie!”

Wan Hui picked up little Zhengzheng, sitting him on her lap, and laughed softly, “How did you manage to pick your little uncle’s favorite orchid? He’ll be mad when he finds out!”

“Give it to Auntie!” Zhengzheng waved the poor flower in his hand, smiling brightly.

There was a large suitcase in the room, its lid open, and inside were all kinds of things.

Gold and silver jewelry, vases and scrolls, tea cups and bowls... All of these treasures were “stolen” by Zhengzheng from his grandfather and various uncles and aunts after he returned home.

Anyway, no matter who said something was good, the little guy would claim it as his own, saying it was for “Auntie” or “Uncle Ning”...

A young man in brocade appeared at the door and called out, “Elder sister.”

Zhengzheng happily called out to his little uncle, hiding the orchid behind his back.

The visitor was Wan Hui’s younger brother, the fifth son of the Wan Family, named Wan Li.

“What’s in Zhengzheng’s hand? Let your little uncle take a look.” Wan Li entered, smiling and teasing Zhengzheng.

Zhengzheng buried his head in Wan Hui’s embrace, “Nothing, nothing! There’s nothing!”

Wan Li sat down beside them and sighed, “My precious orchid that I’ve been nurturing for so long finally bloomed, and in the blink of an eye, the flower disappeared. How strange!”

Zhengzheng’s voice rang out loudly, “I don’t know; Zhengzheng was asleep!”

Wan Li smiled and looked at Wan Hui. He sighed again as he spoke, “Elder sister, the people from the Government Office and the Li family are in the front hall. Even Old Lady Li has arrived, and father couldn’t stop them. The Master Zhifu said that a blood test will confirm the relationship, and if Zhengzheng is truly of Li family blood, he must be returned to the Li family.”

Wan Hui’s expression darkened, “Zhengzheng is my child; by what right do they want to give him to the Li family?”

Wan Li sighed deeply, "Elder sister, I understand how you feel. None of us want to hand Zhengzheng over to the Li family and separate you and your son. If only Li Chen had other sons, he wouldn't be so persistent."

Wan Hui hugged Zhengzheng tightly and said coldly, "They can only take my son away over my dead body!"

"Elder sister, don't speak out of anger." Wan Li's expression was helpless, "With the government involved, hiding is no longer a solution."

"Young Lady, Fifth Young Master, the master has asked you to bring Young Master Zhengzheng to the front hall, saying that Master Zhifu is waiting."

Hearing the servant's voice outside the door, Wan Hui suddenly had red-rimmed eyes.

Her husband, Lu Yu, strode inside. He used to be Wan Hui's guard when she was in her maiden home, and had always loved her but never married.

When Wan Hui returned to her maiden home after her divorce, only she knew that she was pregnant with Li Chen's child. She wanted to keep the child but didn't want any connection with the Li family, so she married Lu Yu, who quickly became her husband.

Lu Yu knew that Zhengzheng wasn't his son, because the couple consummated their marriage only six months after the child's birth. However, he didn't mind and treated Zhengzheng as his own son.

"Father!" Zhengzheng was picked up by Lu Yu and called out to him. Realizing his feigned sleep had been exposed, he quickly hid the orchid and lay down again.

Lu Yu rubbed Zhengzheng's head and helped Wan Hui up, "Don't make your father's job difficult; let's go over there."

Wan Hui's face was bitter, and thinking about the possibility of losing Zhengzheng made her heart ache as if it was being cut by a knife.

But she heard Lu Yu whisper in her ear, "Don't be afraid; at worst, I'll kill Li Chen.'

Wan Hui grabbed Lu Yu, "Don't do anything foolish."

"Elder sister, brother-in-law, let's go," Wan Li urged again.

Today, there were many "distinguished guests" in the main hall of the Wan residence.

Old Lady Li and Li Chen, the third master of the Li family, were seated on one side.

Although Li Chen was the third son, his two elder brothers had passed away due to illness, leaving him, a hedonist who indulged in drinking, gambling, and all sorts of vices, as the head of the household, in charge of the family business. Being childless was a pressing issue for the Li family.

Wang Zhifu, the official in charge of Qingyang City, was seated in the main seat.

Additionally, there was a government official sent by the Zhifu of Dejing City, where the Li family resided, to negotiate with Wang Zhifu.

Wan Hui's father, Wan Qiang, was in poor health; his chronic cough had worsened since the beginning of winter.

Wan Hui's several brothers were present, except for Wan Li, who had gone to call her. The cold gazes from all of them lingered on Li Chen.

Everyone in the main hall was waiting for Wan Hui to bring the child, the silence only interrupted by Wan Qiang's coughing, making the atmosphere increasingly tense.

The old housekeeper appeared at the entrance to the hall, "Master, Master Ning Jing from the Ning family of Xunyang City has come to pay a visit!"

Everyone looked surprised.

Wan Qiang snapped out of his shock and quickly ordered, "Quickly, invite him in! "

The second brother of Wan Hui stood up, "Father, I'll go welcome the Ning family's master."

"Quickly, all of you go! Master Ning's visit is an honor to our Wan family!" Wan Qiang looked at his sons.

As a result, the three young masters of the Wan family stood up in unison and went out to welcome Ning Jing.

After a moment of contemplation, Wang Zhifu asked Wan Qiang, "Is it the seventh young master from the Ning family who recently earned the title of Jieyuan?"

Wan Qiang nodded, "That's him."

"I heard he scattered the ashes of his biological father and siblings, quite a ruthless man." Wang Zhifu let out a laugh, "I didn't expect Master Ning to forgo going for the exams in the capital and not managing the family business at home, but rather come to Qingyang City. What kind of relationship does he have with the Wan family?"

Wan Qiang's face also showed a hint of a smile, "There is a relationship. It was

Master Li who played matchmaker."

Li Chen's face had turned dark ever since he heard Ning Jing's name, and it was now even darker than before.

When Wang Zhifu asked Li Chen if he was friends with Ning Jing, Li Chen replied sarcastically, "I'm not worthy to be friends with such a talented person as Master Ning."

As they spoke, the three sons of the Wan family returned.

Everyone turned their gaze towards the entrance, and a young man in dark brocade clothing appeared. His face was handsome, and his cool and indifferent demeanor gave him an ethereal atmosphere.

Wan Qiang also stood up to greet him, "Master Ning, it is an honor to finally meet you!"

Ning Jing nodded faintly, "Uncle Wan, I'm sorry to intrude."

With this “Uncle Wan,” the faces of those in attendance changed in a variety of ways.

Li Chen’s face was as dark as ink, with his eyes on Ning Jing like sharp knives.

Wan Qiang invited Ning Jing to sit on the top seat, the difference in treatment compared to Li Chen was like night and day.

“I wonder what brings the Ning Family Head to the Wan Family so suddenly,” Li Chen began asking.

Ning Jing picked up his teacup with poised elegance and took a deliberate sip, acting as though he hadn’t heard the question.

Li Chen’s anger flared, “Is the Ning Family Head hard of hearing?”

“So it was Li Family Head who was speaking. I thought I heard a dog barking.” Ning Jing looked at Li Chen without emotion on his face.

Even Wang Zhifu was astonished. Indeed, this was a ruthless person. Had the days of smooth business dealings come to an end?

The three young masters of the Wan Family couldn’t suppress their laughter.

Li Chen slammed the table and shot up from his seat, “Ning, what do you mean by that?”

Ning Jing set down his teacup, “Take it literally. If you can’t understand, read more.”

Li Chen snorted coldly and sat back down, “I won’t lower myself to argue with a person like you, who can even kill his own father and brothers. What kind of scholarly honor did you achieve? I’m afraid it was bought with the money of the Ning Family, right?”

Ning Jing nodded, “I will pass on your doubt to the Chief of Pingbei City. You’re questioning his acceptance of bribes and the sale of official positions.” Li Chen’s face turned rigid, “Don’t bluff me! Today, we’re here to solve a matter concerning the Li and Wan Families. It has nothing to do with the Ning Family. If you dare to interfere, don’t blame me for being impolite!”

“Since when has Li Family Head been polite to me?” Ning Jing continued, “This is the Wan Family, and I am their guest. Li Family Head, as the man who was divorced by Young Lady Wan, comes to the Wan Family and flaunts his power.

Your thick skin is truly admirable.”

“We had an annulment! ” Li Chen’s face was flushed with anger.

“Isn’t an annulment just you divorcing her and her divorcing you at the same time?” Ning Jing’s expression was calm.

“The Ning Family Head speaks the truth!” The second young master of the Wan Family agreed.

Old Lady Li, who had remained silent until now, fiddled with the Buddha beads in her hand and looked at Li Chen, “Chen’er, don’t forget the purpose of our visit today.”

Li Chen shot Ning Jing a cold glance but said nothing more.

Su Liang appeared at the doorway. Ning Jing spoke up, "That's my sworn sister. "

The young master of the Wan Family quickly invited her to come in and take a seat.

Li Chen stared intently at Su Liang, knowing that she had spoiled his plans along with Ning Jing.

Soon after, Wan Li appeared at the entrance holding Zhengzheng.

"Aunt! Uncle Ning!" Zhengzheng was overjoyed to see the people he had been missing so much, right at his home. He hurriedly kicked his legs and signaled for Wan Li to put him down.

Su Liang got up and, with a smile, greeted the little one who rushed towards her.

However, Li Chen suddenly stood up and strode over, wanting to snatch Zhengzheng away.

Wan Qiang's expression darkened, and Su Liang dashed over, kicking Li Chen away and making him sit back precisely where he had been, letting out a muffled groan!

As Zhengzheng was bewildered by the stranger who suddenly appeared in front of him, Su Liang picked him up.

"Aunt! It's really you!" Zhengzheng happily leaned in and gave Su Liang a kiss. He then raised the wilted orchid in his hands and presented it, "Flower for aunt!"

Ning Jing coughed lightly.

Su Liang held Zhengzheng and walked over, "I should give it to Uncle Ning instead. He likes it."

As everyone watched, Zhengzheng affectionately hugged Ning Jing, and his eyes softened considerably.

In fact, everyone from the Li and Wan Families knew what had happened, except for the government officials.

Previously, the Li Family had tried to take Zhengzheng but were intercepted by Ning Jing, who then took Zhengzheng away and gave him to the Wan Family.

If Li Chen had succeeded that time, it would have been difficult for the Wan Family to find the child.

"It's Su Miss who advised my elder sister and brother-in-law to avoid the situation, saying she had a way to prevent the Li Family from taking Zhengzheng away," Wan Li whispered to Wan Qiang.

Wan Qiang heaved a sigh of relief, and his expression eased.

Old Lady Li watched Zhengzheng with an emotional expression, and stopped fiddling with her Buddha beads. She immediately said, "He's the spitting image of Chen'er when he was a child!"

The Wan Family didn't like hearing that.

Wan Qiang snorted coldly, "It's too early for Old Lady Li to say so. Zhengzheng resembles me."

Wang Zhifu, having lost his patience, asked why Wan Hui hadn't arrived yet.

Wan Qiang said bluntly that his daughter didn't want to see certain people.

Wang Zhifu then said, "As long as the child is here, that's fine. Let's proceed with the blood test."

Wan Qiang was about to instruct the servants to prepare the items when he heard Old Lady Li speak, "For the sake of security, we have brought along all the necessary materials, including the water needed to dissolve the blood, so there's no need for Wan Family Head to worry."

It couldn't be any more blunt than implying the Wan Family would tamper with the items.

Wan Qiang looked at Su Liang, who said, "Fine. It'll save the Li Family the trouble of not shedding tears until they see the coffin."

Since neither side raised any objections, Wang Zhifu allowed the Li Family to bring forth everything they had prepared.

There were two silver needles and two exquisite ceramic basins, one as a spare. There was also a bucket of water, all placed on a table in the center of the hall.

"Let's begin," Wang Zhifu said.

Li Chen stood up and walked to the center. He picked up a silver needle and, with a frown, pricked his finger to squeeze a drop of blood into the basin.

Ning Jing held Zhengzheng and walked over alongside Su Liang, who held her homemade hemostatic ointment in her hand.

Li Chen and Old Lady Li stood by their side, watching their every move. Wang Zhifu himself went over, and the Wan Family members gathered around.

All eyes were on the two drops of blood in the basin.

Li Chen was confident, convinced that Zhengzheng was his son.

The members of the Wan Family were somewhat tense.

As a result, the two drops of blood slowly merged together.

Old Lady Li's eyes brimmed with tears, and she clasped her hands, "Amitabha, the Li Family has an heir!"

Wang Zhifu sighed deeply, "Master Wan, this child does indeed share the blood of the Li Family. Since he's Li Family Head's only son, it's best to return him."

Li Chen wore a triumphant expression, "Ning, do you see that? That's my son! Give him to me!"

Wan Qiang's eyebrows furrowed, and he looked at Su Liang once more.. She calmly spoke up, "Wait!"

Chapter 100:100. Uncle Ning, Hurry Up and Chase

"Miss Ning...anything else to add?" Wang Zhifu asked.

"I'm a doctor and I know some things that seem to be greatly misunderstood by everyone." Su Liang said, "Sir Wang, would you be willing to provide a drop of blood for a test?"

Wang Zhifu was curious and so, he nodded.

"Young lady, what on earth are you trying to do? If there's something we of the Li family have done to offend you, we will make amends for it. Please, stop harassing us!" Old Lady Li pleaded with Su Liang.

Su Liang chuckled, "Old Lady Li, don't overthink things. I am doing this for your own good too. After all, matters of bloodline should not be confused, but proven beyond doubt."

"Zhengzheng is my grandson, irrefutably!" Old Lady Li said with a stern face.

"Well, that's not necessarily true." Su Liang shook her head, "Don't worry, there will be no foul play. It is all from the Li family; the water of the Li family, I will not touch anything."

As she said this, Su Liang asked them to fill an empty container with water, and then instructed Li Chen to drop a drop of blood into it.

Li Chen was reluctant, as he believed the result had been determined.

Wang Zhifu then became stern, "If the master of the Li family does not cooperate, I would have to question whether you've tampered with anything, we can only assume that the result of the test is null and void."

Li Chen's face darkened, "We have not tampered with anything!" He dropped another drop of blood reluctantly into the basin.

Su Liang turned to Wang Zhifu, "Sir Wang, could you please provide a drop of blood."

Everyone was a bit confused.

Old Lady Li felt her dignity had been severely insulted, and she was so angry that her face turned green, "What are you trying to imply?"

It took Su Liang a moment to realize that Old Lady Li thought she was insinuating something between her and Wang Zhifu. She hurriedly clarified, "Do not read too much into it. Uncle Wan, you drop a drop of blood too!"

When Old Lady Li heard this, she was even more infuriated!

Su Liang realized the misunderstanding had deepened, so she didn't want to bother the Wan family anymore. So, she changed and asked Wan Li, a boy in his teens, to squeeze a drop of his blood into the basin.

So, Wang Zhifu, Li Chen, and the fifth son of the Wan family, three completely unrelated people, each squeezed a drop of their blood into the same basin. Everyone watched on as the three drops of blood, initially separate, slowly merged together...

The outcome startled everyone!

Old Lady Li's face was one of utter disbelief, "This is impossible! You must have played some tricks!"

Su Liang held up her hands, "It was brought by your family, I didn't touch anything from start to end. If there are any tricks, it would have been done by you."

"Auntie!" Zhengzheng, holding Ning Jing's hand, came over to touch Su Liang's face, as if he found it very amusing.

Su Liang deftly avoided him and said to everyone, "Recognizing your parent by blood is nothing but a lie. Blood from unrelated people can also merge. If it doesn't, then it's been tampered with. So whether Zhengzheng is Li Chen's biological son or not, a blood test cannot prove it. Only his mother has the right to decide. If she says he's not, then he's not."

"You!" Old Lady Li was so angry she nearly fainted, "On what account does her word become final? Zhengzheng is indeed blood of the Li family!"

"Just because Zhengzheng was born from her after ten months of pregnancy." Su Liang scoffed, "The Wan family is reasonable. If you have another method that can really prove Christa is the Li family's blood, you are welcome to debate this at any time. Stop relying on a blood test, it's completely useless. If you insist that the first blood test demonstrates blood relation between Master Li and Zhengzheng, alright then, let's wait for another old beggar to come and take a blood test with Master Li, as long as Master Li doesn't mind having an extra father. "

Wang Zhifu's mouth twitched uncontrollably, "Miss Ning certainly gets to the point. I was watching, and no one manipulated the results. Miss Ning has clarified a misunderstanding that we have had for a long time, the blood parentage test is untrustworthy. The child belongs to Miss Wan because she gave birth to him, and moreover, she gave birth after she divorced Master Li. Since the Li family cannot prove any relationship between them and the child, the child naturally belongs to the Wan family."

The government officials from Dejing City looked unhappy, but at this point, they had nothing else to say.

Wan Qiang's cough had suddenly healed and he was smiling brightly, "Thank you, Sir for upholding justice!"

The four sons of the Wan family were all overjoyed and started mocking Li Chen, telling him to focus on making a son and suggesting that he visit a doctor to check his health.

The people of the Li family left dejectedly. As Li Chen left, he glared at Su Liang with such hatred that he seemed to want to tear her apart!

When Wan Hui learned of the outcome, she was overcome with joy, sobbing that Su Liang was sent by Buddha to save her.

During those few years being married to Li Chen, she was mentally tortured by him and Old Lady Li. She had long since seen Li Chen for the scum he was, and how the old lady was all sweet talk

but venomous. She had finally escaped from the torment, how could she send her own flesh and blood back to that dreadful place?

Zhengzheng didn't know what had happened. He didn't even spare a glance at Old Lady Li or Li Chen, he was solely preoccupied with playing with his favorite Uncle Ning and Aunt.

Zhengzheng was playing a game, where he needed to touch Su Liang's face with Ning Jing's hand.

After evading him a few times, it only served to increase the child's determination to succeed, he was enthusiastic and persistent!

"That lady isn't married, is she?" Wan Li admired Su Liang.

Wan Qiang kicked his son, "She belongs to Master Ning!"

Wan Li silently withdrew his gaze. Ning Jing was a legendary strong man who had scattered the ashes of his entire family, he certainly didn't want to provoke him.

"Auntie, don't run away!"

"Uncle Ning, hurry up and catch her!"

Zhengzheng was having a blast.. He found this more fun than hide-and-seek!