

Toddler 31

Chapter 31 Miraculous Rejuvenation

Yu Feng grabbed Yu Wan's arm. "Ah Wan, this kind of thing isn't child's play. Let's not..."

Yu Wan smiled. "Don't worry, Big Brother. I've treated that horse's illness before. I know my limits."

"You've treated this before? When?" Yu Feng asked with his eyes wide open.

"The year I left home." Yu Wan made up a lie casually. This was the closest and most reasonable explanation. Sometimes, Yu Wan was even very grateful for the Host's experience. Otherwise, she really didn't know how

to explain to her family about the abilities she gained out of nowhere.

When Yu Feng heard that it was during that year, he did not continue asking.

"What are you dawdling for? Are you going to treat it or not?" Courier Wang impatiently urged.

"Coming." Yu Wan entered the horse shed and walked towards the paralyzed horse.

This was a golden Ferghana horse, one of the rarest species of Ferghana horses. It wasn't as large as a Mongolian warhorse, but it had strong lines and well-developed muscles. Its explosive power and endurance far

surpassed ordinary warhorses. Even though it was paralyzed, it still exuded a kingly aura.

"It's so beautiful." Yu Wan knelt down on one knee beside the horse and took off the horse's bar snaffle bit.

Seeing her take off the horse's bar snaffle bit, Courier Wang's heart jumped to his throat. He was so anxious just now that he forgot to remind her that this was an untamed wild horse. If it didn't wear a horse's snaffle

bit, it would bite!

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The previous courier was bitten into the medical center by it!

They would only take off the horse's snaffle bit when they fed it, but they also wore armor and protective gear to remove it. He only said one sentence slower, and this little girl took off the horse's snaffle bit with her

bare hands. This, this, this...

Courier Wang wanted to rush over and pull Yu Wan back, but he saw her gently place her hand on the horse's head. You didn't run when you took the horse's snaffle bit, and you still touched it! However, what

happened next stunned him.

Under Yu Wan's touch, not only did the violent Ferghana horse not go crazy, it even rubbed against Yu Wan's palm gently.

Courier Wang : "..."

Yu Feng did not know anything about horses, so he thought that it was naturally docile. Therefore, he was not too surprised. He was more concerned about whether his sister could cure it.

After Yu Wan calmed the Ferghana horse down, she carefully examined it. The result was exactly as she had guessed. It was indeed prenatal paraplegic.

This kind of illness often occurred in livestock, however, it did not occur oftenly in wild horses, and there were many reasons for this. Perhaps it was due to malnutrition, or perhaps it was because the fetus was too

large or there was too much amniotic fluid, but the main reason was that it could not stand up and would lie on the ground. Generally speaking, there would be some signs before paralysis, but there was also the

possibility of a sudden illness. This horse belonged to the latter.

If it was not treated in time, it would easily induce infection. At that time, both the mother and the fetus would be in danger.

“I need a pair of silver needles,” Yu Wan said.

Courier Wang quickly ordered the courier. “Quick! Go buy some needles for the young lady!”

Yu Wan said, “Wait, there are herbs too. Bring me a pen and paper.”

Courier Wang personally took out a brush, paper, and inkstone.

Yu Wan naturally did not understand the words of this dynasty, but the Host seemed to know them. She wrote down the prescription smoothly and noted down the size of the silver needle.

Yu Feng was shocked again.

“Forty one grams of angelica, thirty two grams of paeonia lactiflora, forty one grams of rehmannia glutinosa. Are-are these herbs really effective?” Courier Wang read out the prescription.

Yu Wan put down her pen. “Whether it works or not, we’ll know once we try.”

Courier Wang had no other choice but to resort to desperate measures. He ordered people to buy needles and herbs from the clinic.

“Place the medicine stove right here,” Yu Wan said, pointing to the aisle in the horse shed.

Courier Wang obeyed.

Yu Wan started to administer acupuncture to the horse. The pain from the needle would often give the horse a fright, but the horse did not seem to be frightened at all. This was something that even the doctor could

not do!

Courier Wang was stunned.

He was not the only one who was stunned. A window had opened in the attic opposite the horse shed. The windows were hidden from view due to the trees. Although one could not see in from the outside, one could

clearly see from the inside.

This was the second best room of the courier station, second only to the best room. Sitting inside was a man in his fifties, dressed in gray clothes, and a handsome young man in green.

The young man did not understand why his great uncle did not want to get the best room. They did not lack money!

“Great Uncle, I’m afraid you’re going to lose. That horse is saved!”

Just an hour ago, the two of them had also discovered the situation of the horse shed. The man called Great Uncle shook his head without thinking and said, “What a pity for a good horse.”

The youth asked, “Does Great Uncle think it’s going to die?”

Great Uncle replied, “I don’t think so. It’s a fact that it’s dead.”

These words sounded strange. It was clearly still alive, yet Great Uncle spoke as if he had seen it die with his own eyes.

The young man blinked in confusion. “Shall we make a bet?”

On the other hand, Yu Wan had finished her acupuncture and the medicine was ready. Yu Wan turned the medicine into a pill and mixed it with the feed for the horse to eat.

About two hours later, a miracle happened. The horse that had been paralyzed for half a day was slowly standing up!

“Great Uncle, look! It’s standing up! It’s okay! It’s really okay!” The youth was so excited that he knocked over the teacup on the table.

He won the bet. The person who had helped him win his great uncle’s painting was actually an unremarkable little village girl. He was suddenly interested in the village girl.

The tea spilled all over Great Uncle’s body, but Great Uncle seemed to be completely unaware of it. He stared fixedly at the village girl in the horse shed with a blank expression. “That shouldn’t be... Where did she come from...”

The commotion caused by the Ferghana horse was too big, and it attracted many guests. When the paralyzed horse really stood up, the entire horse shed was in an uproar.

“Miss, you are really a living Bodhisattva!” Not only were there many people watching, even the courier wanted to kneel down in front of Yu Wan!

Even Courier Wang was shocked. He never expected that a mere village girl would have such good medical skills.

“Courier Wang, are you still keeping your word?” Yu Wan looked at Courier Wang.

Courier Wang cleared his throat and said, “Of course. I’ll give you the consultation fee later. As for your things... I’ve said that I’ll only take three. Take back one yourself.”

Yu Wan patted the horse’s back and turned around.

She had a bundle, a large jar, and two small jars. The bundle contained frostbite medicine and cotton clothes. The large jar contained the baked pancakes, while the two small jars contained pickled vegetables and meatballs.

Yu Wan thought for a while and picked up the small jar on the right. She took out the meatballs one by one and stuffed them into the jar containing the pancakes. There were still some gaps in the jar’s neck. Half of the

meatballs were stored, but the other half could not be stuffed in no matter what.

“There’s enough to eat,” Yu Feng said.

Yu Wan nodded. She had made more than a hundred.

“Come over and apply your handprint.” Courier Wang said to Yu Wan.

Yu Feng glanced at Yu Wan’s obviously haggard face. “Did you not sleep last night again? Forget it, I’ll go. Wait for me here. I’ll rent a carriage for you after I’m done with my handprints.” Renting a carriage was expensive, but this girl had not slept for two nights. No matter how Yu Feng thought about it, his heart ached more than his money pouch.

Yu Wan smiled and nodded. “Many thanks, Big Brother.”

Not long after Yu Feng left, a carriage stopped behind Yu Wan. At first, Yu Wan wasn’t sure if Yu Feng had rented it for her, but after waiting for a long time and seeing that the carriage didn’t leave, she carried the jar in

her arms and went up.

The exterior of the car did not look eye-catching, but it was very exquisite and warm inside. There was even a faint... pleasant fragrance floating around.

“Isn’t it a lot of money to rent a carriage like this? Big Brother has really invested a lot.” Yu Wan sat down on the soft cushion. The softness and comfort made her squint with pleasure.

Yu Wan did not know if she was too tired or the carriage was too warm, but after a while, she fell asleep while hugging the jar..

Chapter 32 First Meeting with the Young Master

Yan Jiuchao had merely gone to the washroom, and when he returned, he discovered that there was another person in the carriage.

A woman.

It can't be helped that no one was watching the carriage. Uncle Wan went to reserve a room, the coachman went to add charcoal, and the guards followed him. But even if no one was watching, not just anyone had the

guts to barge into Young Master Yan's carriage.

Every piece of furniture inside was engraved with the insignia of Yan City's City Lord Manor. If it were someone else, they would most likely be scared away by this insignia the moment they lifted the curtain.

Unfortunately... Yu Wan did not recognize it.

Yu Wan was sleeping soundly with the jar in her arms, completely unaware that someone had arrived in the carriage. She lay on her side, her eyelashes as long as butterfly wings, casting a faint shadow on her slightly

red skin. It was unknown if her cheeks were frozen or if it was because of the charcoal fire in the carriage, but the redness was somewhat alluring.

Yan Jiuchao stared at her flushed face as a murderous aura burst forth from his body.

In the blink of an eye, a little white ball darted in!

Who else could it be other than the little snow fox that Yu Wan had rescued from the beast cage?

The little snow fox steadied its small body and stood in front of Yu Wan, glaring fiercely at Yan Jiuchao. Ever since Yan Jiuchao snatched two of its meat buns, it had always been at odds with Yan Jiuchao three or four

times a day. However, it had already caused trouble four times today. Could it be that this little thing wanted to cause trouble for the fifth time?

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Yan Jiuchao calmly threatened, "Move aside."

The little snow fox stomped its feet angrily!

No way!

No possible way!

If you have the ability, step over me!

Smack.

Yan Jiuchao stepped on Little Snow Fox.

Little Snow Fox, who was lying on the ground and couldn't even be dug up : "..."

After being interrupted by the little thing, Yan Jiuchao's killing intent suddenly lessened. He walked calmly to the couch and sat down beside Yu Wan, who was lying on her side.

ot only did Yu Wan board Young Master Yan's carriage, but she also slept on his bed and wrapped herself in his brocade quilt.

Young Master Yan was afraid of the cold. His quilt was made of the finest fire silk from the Western Regions, and it was filled with the lightest and warmest fire silk. As fire silkworms could not be artificially raised, they

could only be gathered in the natural environment. Only three thousand fire silkworms could weave a quilt like this.

tt was said that every single strand of fire silk from all the tributes from the Western Regions had been sent to Young Master Yan's manor. Even the Emperor's own prince did not have this honor.

However, the blanket that was unique to the dynasty was now wrapped around a strange woman.

Yan Jiuchao gave her a dangerous look. "You're quite bold. Did Shangguan Yan send you here?"

Yu Wan was sleeping soundly. Of course, she could not answer him.

Yan Jiuchao harrumphed coldly before reaching out with his slender hand to grab her neck. Such a thin neck, it would break with a twist.

You can't twist it! Little Snow Fox picked himself up from the ground and flew over to bite Yan Jiuchao's hand.

Yan Jiuchao didn't even lift his eyelids as he stretched out the index finger of his other hand and pressed it back onto the ground.

The dumbfounded Little Snow Fox : "..."

Yan Jiuchao's hand landed on Yu Wan's neck.

Yu Wan had never covered herself with such a warm blanket before. Without realizing it, she felt warm. She moved her body and kicked the blanket away, revealing her shabby and tattered clothes.

Yan Jiuchao's hand that was about to strangle Yu Wan froze.

Yu Wan's dressing was so shabby that it would be an exaggeration to say that she was shabby. Yan Jiuchao had never had anyone who looked worse than this, let alone the woman Shangguan Yan had sent to his bed.

Wasn't he afraid that he wouldn't be able to take her? He knew Shangguan Yan well. His taste wasn't that bad.

So that means she recommended herself?

Yan Jiuchao wanted to kill her again!

The little snow fox jumped over for the third time. It could be said that the sun and moon could witness the vigilance of it defending Yu Wan! It jumped into Yu Wan's arms and stood on the small jar that was being held

by Yu Wan. It glared at Yan Jiuchao like a tiger watching its prey, and suddenly exerted strength with its hind legs!

Clang!

The jar lid was kicked off.

It should have flown out like an arrow that had left the bowstring, but its claws slipped and it fell face-first onto the jar!

The little snow fox was stunned again.

After the lid slid down, a rich meat fragrance wafted out from the jar. Yan Jiuchao, who had been starving for days, suddenly felt his stomach growl. A meatball rolled out of the jar and hung at the mouth of the jar as if it

could not fall off. The color was not very good and the workmanship was not exquisite, but it was fragrant.

Yan Jiuchao picked up the meatball and took a bite.

Yan Jiuchao was stunned. In the next second, he stuffed the entire meatball into his mouth. The meatball was quickly finished, and Yan Jiuchao took another one. He ate even faster.

Fifteen minutes later, Yan Jiuchao had already snatched the jar over. He held the jar in his left hand and held the meatballs in his right hand as he fed them one by one into his mouth. His cheeks were puffed up from

eating. Half of the meatballs were finished at an unbelievable speed. Young Master Yan, who couldn't even eat half a bowl of rice, was surprisingly not full.

He looked at Yu Wan. He seemed to have thought of something as he picked up Yu Wan's slightly glowing fingertip and calmly sucked it into his mouth.

On the other hand, Uncle Wan had gone to reserve the room. He thought that since it was almost the end of the year and there were many visitors, it would be difficult to book the best room. Who knew that he could

book it the moment he went?

it was fine as long as it was booked, in case there was any unhappiness. It didn't matter if others were unhappy, but if Young Master was unhappy, the world would change.

After Uncle Wan booked the room, he ordered the courier station to stir-fry a few refreshing side dishes. Young Master hadn't eaten much these few days. He wondered if he should change to a few light dishes as

there were too many meat dishes the past few days.

For example, meatballs and meat slices were not to be served!

Once everything was ready, he went to the carriage to call the Young Master. Unexpectedly, the moment he lifted the curtain, he saw Yan Jiuchao holding Yu Wan's finger in his mouth.

He was dumbfounded..

Chapter 33 A Slap

Yu Wan had not had such a comfortable sleep in a long time. It was so comfortable that she actually started to dream. This was really a rare thing. However, her dream was a little strange.

She dreamed that she was lying on a soft beach, comfortably basking in the sun. Suddenly, a little wild boar came out of nowhere and bit her finger. After a long time, she was unable to pull it out. Hence, she raised her

other hand and sent the little wild boar flying with a slap.

In the dark carriage, a translucent veil covered the luminescent pearl's clear radiance. The atmosphere was ice-cold to the extreme. Even breathing seemed to emit a trace of coldness.

Yan Jiuchao was sitting on a messy soft chair. There was a huge bump on his forehead and a large palm print on his right cheek. His face was ashen.

Uncle Wan sat at the side, not even daring to breathe. Who would have thought that the Young Master of Yan City, who had never been touched by anyone, would be slapped by a little village girl.

“Ahem!” Uncle Wan covered his mouth with his fist and said in a low voice, “Who asked you to take advantage of her?” The Princess Consort sent so many women over, but you didn’t want them. Instead, you had to

take advantage of a village girl. Young Master, your taste is a little too strong.

Of course, this wasn’t the most shocking thing. The most shocking thing was why the Young Master didn’t kill her.

Yan Jiuchao’s expression was extremely ugly.

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By the side, Little Snow Fox hugged the small jar that was emitting the fragrance of meat and fell asleep drooling.

Yan Jiuchao pinched it playfully and shook it awake! Little Snow Fox with a small tuft of fur on its head opened its eyes sleepily with a confused expression.

Young Master Yan: “You’re not allowed to sleep.”

Little Snow Fox: I want to sleep!

The man and the fox came at each other.

Uncle Wan was afraid that he would be the next one to be affected. He quickly stood up and said to Yan Jiuchao, “I saw that the snow has stopped outside. We can start our journey now. Why don’t we enter the Capital earlier?”

The real reason was that it was unsuitable for Young Master to go out to meet others with his glory. It would damage his high and mighty image. It was better for him to stay obediently in the carriage!

Uncle Wan went to check out of the room and paid the bill for the dishes that he had instructed the kitchen to prepare. He picked out a few light dishes and took them away.

Watching the carriage turn around and leave the courier station, the Great Uncle in the attic revealed a perplexed expression.

“Great Uncle, what’s wrong?” The young man had just gone to see the horse that had been cured by the village girl. The moment he returned to the room, he saw his great uncle staring blankly into the night.

Only when the carriage disappeared into the night did the shadow guards brought by that terrifying person finally seem to disperse from above his head. He found his voice. “Damn it, those that were supposed to die

didn’t die, those that weren’t supposed to die were dead... How did this happen?”

“What did you say, Great Uncle?” The young man did not understand.

“Ah, it’s nothing.” Great Uncle came back to his senses and sized up the young boy from head to toe. It was a look of regaining something he had lost, as if he couldn’t get enough of it.

“Great Uncle, why are you looking at me like that?” The youth tilted his head in confusion.

“I haven’t seen you in a long time...” A thin layer of moisture appeared in the Great Uncle’s eyes.

“Haven’t I always been with you?” The young man didn’t notice his great uncle’s strange behavior.

His parents had died early, and it was his great-uncle who had raised him. Wherever his great-uncle went, he went. Even when his great-uncle returned to the Capital to resume his duties, he would follow him!

“Do you still want to stay in the best room?” Great Uncle changed the topic.

The young man instantly forgot about his great uncle's weirdness. He hugged his arms and nodded vigorously. "I want to! This room is too cold! I'm shaking! Wait, we can get the best room now? Didn't they say we can't?"

"Now you can," said Great Uncle.

"Why?" The young man asked.

The Great Uncle smiled and patted his young head, but didn't answer him.

Yu Wan woke up from a bumpy ride. When she opened her eyes, she first saw a dim yellow lantern. Then, under the faint light, she saw her condition clearly. She was actually lying in a carriage that was many times

more tattered than before. Yu Feng was dozing off as he sat at the side, his head nodding like a chick pecking at rice.

She was puzzled. When did the carriage change while she's sleeping?

She sat up.

Creak—

The board that had been out of repair for years started to move.

"Achoo!" It was too cold in the car and she sneezed without warning.

Yu Feng's body trembled. He opened his eyes and turned to look at her. "You're awake?"

"Yes." Yu Wan rubbed her sore arm. "Big Brother, why did we change our carriage?"

Yu Feng glared at her resentfully. "It's not that the carriage has changed. You got on the wrong carriage just now!"

After Yu Feng finished his business with the Courier Wang, he rented a carriage and returned to the courtyard. However, he found that Yu Wan had disappeared. He searched inside and out and almost flipped the

courier station over, but she was nowhere to be found.

"Could she have been abducted?"

Yu Feng's face turned pale with fright with the courier's words. There were people coming and going at the courier station. His sister must have met with an accident. Just as he was about to report to the authorities, a

middle-aged man in his forties walked over and asked him if he was looking for a sixteen or seventeen-year-old village girl.

He had just found out that his sister had fallen asleep in someone's carriage.

"I couldn't wake you up no matter what from the outside of the carriage."

Thus, the middle-aged man had Courier Wang find two servants to carry Yu Wan back to his rented carriage.

Although Yu Feng hadn't seen much of the world, he could see that Courier Wang treated the person in the carriage more respectfully than the person in the North Garrison General Manor. It wasn't difficult to guess

that this person's background was even greater than the General Manor.

"It's rare that they didn't take issue with you," Yu Feng said as he glanced at Yu Wan. "You even pulled their blanket down!"

"Huh?" Yu Wan was stunned at first, then realized that she was indeed wrapped in a light and thin blanket.

Yu Feng was ashamed when he recalled the situation at that time. The elderly maid was sweating profusely while trying to pry it off her hands, but she couldn't get it off. Even the middle-aged man laughed. In the end,

the middle-aged man let his sister take the blanket away.

His sister immediately rolled the blanket over her body—

You know to roll the blanket around your body even when you're dead to the world. Yu Feng was speechless.

"Big Brother, where's my jar?" Yu Wan suddenly couldn't find her own jar.

Yu Feng thought for a while and said, "I probably left it in their carriage. I forgot about it."

Yu Wan wrung her hands. "There's still half of the meatballs left in the jar. I was planning to have a meat feast with you guys tonight... But now, it's all gone."

Yu Feng held his chest and heaved a sigh of relief.

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Chapter 34 His Fiancee

The carriage was faster than the ox cart, arriving at the village entrance at night.

Not to mention a poor little village, even in town, horse carriages were extremely rare and precious things. Even if it was a carriage that was so simple and crude that it was difficult to describe, the villagers would still

feel envious when they saw it.

“Aiya, that’s Little Feng and Ah Wan, right? Did they come back in a carriage?” An auntie surnamed He heard the sound of the wheels rolling and came out with her half-eaten bowl to watch the commotion.

Auntie Xu, who was next door, also walked out curiously. She was carrying her two-year-old grandson in one hand and holding a steaming sweet potato in the other. As she chewed, she said, “Old Yu’s family has grown

up. They even got on a carriage.”

Auntie He ate a mouthful of unpolished rice. “Is Old Yu’s family cooking something good again? It’s so fragrant.”

Recently, Old Yu’s mansion often smelled of meat. They could smell it even from half a village away.

Ever since Third Junior Yu had been taken away and First Junior Yu had broken his leg, the Yu family’s days had plummeted. No one expected that they would still be able to make a comeback even after they had

become salted fish.

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Of course, it was still too early to say that they had made a comeback. The Yu Family didn’t even earn enough money to treat Uncle Yu’s leg. However, in the eyes of others, being able to eat meat was already

considered a way out of poverty.

“Sigh.” Auntie He gave Auntie Xu a look. “Why doesn’t her family eat meat anymore?”

In the past two years, the Zhao Family was the only family in the village who ate meat.

Coincidentally, Auntie Zhang came out with a basin of bath water. When she heard this, she raised her voice as though she wanted someone to hear her. “The pig is gone. Where can she eat meat?”

Auntie He and Auntie Xu were laughing together.

Not far away, Mrs. Zhao, who was rolling eggs over her bruises on her face, naturally heard the commotion. She was so angry that her face, which had gone down by a third, swelled up again.

“Push (pfft)!” Mrs. Zhao, who had one of her front teeth knocked off by Madam Jiang, spat. “You dare to laugh at me! Fine, just you wait! When Ah Heng hits the jackpot, you’ll regret it!”

The Yu Family actually beat her up and even extorted a pig from her! When Ah Heng returned, she would divorce that wretched girl!

Yu Wan naturally didn’t know about the Zhao family’s movements. Even if she did, she wouldn’t care. She wasn’t the Host, so she didn’t care if she could marry Zhao Heng or not. Right now, she only wanted to earn

money so that her family wouldn’t lack clothes and food, so that her uncle could go to the Capital to treat his legs.

Before the siblings even entered the old mansion, they could already hear Little Bruiser chattering and the youngest daughter making a few sounds from time to time.

“Zhenzhen is more talkative than before,” Yu Feng said emotionally. Although she still didn’t say it very well, she still liked to talk. When did this start? It seemed like after the two families reconciled?

In fact, even if the two families had reconciled, the only person who would really accompany his sister to play was Little Bruiser.

But his sister was even happier.

They... they too.

“Sis!” Little Bruiser noticed Yu Wan and pounced on her like a whirlwind. He bumped into her and acted coyly. Then he looked at Yu Feng shyly and said, “Big Brother.”

The youngest daughter also turned over. “Sis... Big...”

Bang! She fell.

Yu Feng quickly picked up his sister and entered the house with Yu Wan and Little Bruiser.

The strong fragrance of braised meat wafted in the room, and the four siblings instantly felt hungry.

“Why did you guys take so long?” Yu Song walked in from the back door with a little firewood.

They set off before dawn and did not take long to buy things. The courier station was not too far away, so they should be back in the afternoon.

Yu Feng helped his brother put the firewood into the charcoal basin. “We were delayed by something.”

“What is it?” Yu Song asked. “Did someone bully you again?”

“What nonsense are you spouting?” Yu Feng glared at his younger brother, but he knew in his heart that his younger brother’s guess was correct. Today, they had almost been bullied, but the ending was a bit ridiculous.

“What are you laughing at?” Yu Song frowned. Before his brother could reply, his gaze landed on the quilt Yu Feng had placed on the chair after entering the house. “Did you buy a quilt?”

“Ahem.” Yu Feng couldn’t say that Yu Wan was the one who had shamelessly gotten it from someone’s carriage and dragged it out, so he could only give a vague “mhm”.

“Where’s Mom?” Yu Wan asked Little Bruiser.

Little Bruiser puffed up his chest and said, “She’s counting money with Aunt in the house!”

It turned out that Miss Bai had come today. She was here to try out Uncle Yu’s braised food. Uncle Yu had made a braised duck, a braised meat platter, a bowl of braised lotus root with dried tofu, and a pot of braised

mutton with carrots.

ot only did Uncle Yu's dishes taste good, but they also looked good. Miss Bai was very satisfied. She immediately decided to order all the dishes that she had tasted and paid half of the money in advance. She would

pay the other half after the birthday banquet.

However, the prices of the dishes were rising rapidly now. Who knew what would happen in three days? After extracting the cost, they would probably only receive less than one tael of silver.

But it didn't matter. There were many guests at the birthday banquet. If they could use this opportunity to make a name for themselves, their business would become increasingly popular in the future.

After Aunt Yu and Madam Jiang finished counting the deposit that Miss Bai had given them, they held hands and left the room with rosy cheeks.

Yu Wan, on the other hand, had already started to think about where she could reserve the ingredients for three days later.

It was snowing heavily in the long alley.

A luxurious carriage stopped in front of an ancient manor. On the plaque at the entrance of the mansion, there was a large "Yan Manor" written in brand new gold paint.

"Miss, we are here." The middle-aged maidservant alighted from the carriage and lifted the curtain for the girl inside. "It's snowing. Miss, watch your steps."

With one hand holding the heater and the other on the middle-aged maidservant's arm, Yan Ruyu stepped off the carriage on the exquisite wooden stool. She looked at the renovated manor and softly said, "Three

years, I'm finally home."

The middle-aged maidservant wiped her reddened eyes. "Yes, we're finally home!"

"My daughter!" A noble lady wearing a light purple cloak walked out with the help of a maidservant, trembling with excitement.

When Yan Ruyu saw her, her eyes instantly reddened and she kneeled down. "Mother!"

Mrs. Yan grabbed her arm and helped her up. She choked as she said, "Stop bowing and let me take a good look at you!"

Yan Ruyu raised her head and revealed a tear-stained face. She was extremely beautiful to begin with, and when she shed her tears, it really crushed one's heart.

"You've lost weight. You've suffered these past few years." Mrs. Yan touched her face.

"Your daughter is unfilial. I didn't come back early and caused Father and Mother to suffer." Yan Ruyu shook her head with tears in her eyes.

The Yan Clan had met with a mishap a few years ago, and it had only been stabilized a few days ago. There were only people who came to repair this manor after everything was stabilized. Mrs. Yan was much more

haggard than she was three years ago, but when she thought about her future glory, she felt that those hardships were nothing.

Mrs. Yan raised her eyebrows and said, "My daughter has given birth to Young Master Yan's flesh and blood. From now on, you will be the most respected madam of the dynasty. I have already sent out the invitations.

Three days later, it will be your welcoming banquet. I will let everyone in the Capital know that the daughter of the Yan family has returned. Young Master Yan's fiancée has returned!"

Chapter 35 Preparing for the Birthday Banquet

When they went to bed at night, the family of three were covered with the blanket that Yu Wan bought (pulled). The blanket was very thin, and Yu Wan was worried that it was not warm enough, so she added another

thick blanket for her family.

In the end, the family of three were heated into steamed prawns in the middle of the night and the mattress was drenched.

Breakfast was the leftover white steamed buns and braised food from last night. They could be eaten after heating up.

Yu Wan made a trip to the pigpen while the pot was steaming the steamed buns and braised food.

There were no more pigs in the pigpen. Yu Wan had cleaned the place thoroughly and was now using it to raise chickens. In order to keep the chicken warm, Yu Wan covered the outside with a cotton cloth. Although it

was not as warm as the walls, it was much better than sleeping in the open. Furthermore, Yu Wan even lit a brazier beside the chicken coop.

The chickens were placed in different chicken cages. Yu Wan went over one by one. When she touched the third one, her hand paused. "You didn't lay any eggs?" It hadn't laid any since yesterday.

"Ah Wan." Yu Feng knocked on the back door of the kitchen. He had come to take Yu Wan to town to buy groceries. He remembered that Little Bruiser and Third Aunt were still asleep, so he didn't want to wake them

up, so he came through the back door.

Yu Wan opened the door for Yu Feng.

Yu Feng saw the two eggs in her hands and said, "Are you collecting eggs?"

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The cold wind that blew in made Yu Wan shiver. She hurriedly welcomed Yu Feng in and closed the back door. "There's a chicken that can't lay eggs. I was thinking if we should sell it in town later, we should be able to

sell it for a good price."

Just as she finished speaking, a crisp clucking sound came from the chicken cage!

Yu Feng ran over to take a look. "Eh? It laid eggs."

Yu Wan dipped her white steamed bun in the stew and ate it. Then, she set off with Yu Feng. As usual, they went to Shuanzi's house to rent an ox cart. Unfortunately, the ox cart broke down and the two of them had to

walk.

Yu Wan was used to it and did not feel that it was too far away. Besides, she could save money by walking there. Even though they could eat meat every meal now, that was only because they were in the braised meat

business. After extracting the high cost of ingredients and salt, they didn't have much money.

And they needed to gather a hundred taels of consultation fees. There was still a long way to go before they could reach their goal.

However, as long as they worked hard, Yu Wan believed that they would be able to earn it one day.

"There's no need to buy vegetables. I've already told our fellow villagers. When the time comes, we'll go to their fields to pick them. We'll pay the market price." Along the way, Yu Feng said with a cold wind.

Yu Wan nodded. Vegetables weren't that important. It might not be easy to order in advance at the market. It would be best if they could buy from their fellow villagers. Moreover, benefits should stay in the family.

Wouldn't it be better to let them earn the money?

As for meat dishes, they had to be purchased from the market.

The two of them first went to the market where Yu Wan had sold live fish and winter bamboo shoots.

"How much is the streaky pork?" Yu Wan pointed at a beautiful long streaky pork and asked.

The stall owner said, "Twenty copper coins per pound."

Yu Wan paused. "So expensive? Weren't they only eighteen yesterday?"

The stall owner chopped off a pork trotter and said, "It'll be twenty-two when you come tomorrow! One price per day since it's the end of the year. Even if you go to other places to ask, you won't get a lower price."

Yu Wan didn't believe him at first. She pulled Yu Feng around the market, but just as the stall owner said, there were no lower prices. "Big Brother, are there any other markets in town?"

"Yes. One more."

The siblings went to another market. However, the most regrettable thing was that this market was closer to the entrance of North Town, so the price was even higher than the previous market.

"We still need to buy salt. The cost of ingredients is too high, so we'll be making a loss." Although Yu Wan didn't plan to earn much, it didn't mean she wanted to make a loss.

Yu Feng thought for a while and said, "There's a market in Xitou Village. I heard that the food there is cheap, but it's too far away."

Heavy snow fell from the sky like goose feathers. The two of them had to walk for more than ten miles before they finally arrived at the marketplace of Xitou Village.

Yu Wan's ears were red from the cold, her hands were stiff, and her face was numb. She couldn't even speak properly. Unfortunately, the food here was not cheap at all.

"Why are you here?" A carriage stopped beside Yu Wan. The curtain was lifted and Bai Tang looked at the siblings.

Yu Wan said strenuously, "We came to... buy... groceries."

"Why did you go so far to buy groceries? Is there nothing on the market?" Bai Tang asked.

"Buying. For. Old. Master. Bai's. Banquet." Yu Wan enunciated each word clearly. It wasn't that she wanted to say it so slowly, but her cheeks were stiff.

Bai Tang widened her eyes. "Didn't I make myself clear yesterday? I'll buy the ingredients. You guys can just go over and cook!"

When she heard this, even the usually calm Yu Wan couldn't help but be stunned. Miss Bai had promised them five taels of silver. Didn't it mean that she wants them to prepare their own ingredients? They'll go there to

make braised food for a day, yet they could earn so much money?!

What a prodigal daughter.

Bai Tang saw that Yu Wan couldn't speak properly and knew that she was freezing. She sighed. "Get in the carriage. I'll send you back."

It was inconvenient for Yu Feng to enter, so he only sat outside with the coachman. However, Bai Tang gave him a thick woolen blanket. He wrapped it around his body and felt as if he was on fire.

The carriage stopped at the village entrance.

Yu Wan thanked her sincerely.

Bai Tang waved her hand and said, "I'll send someone to pick you up the day after tomorrow."

Yu Wan said politely, "The town is not far. We can go there ourselves."

Bai Tang raised her eyebrows. "Who said my house is in town?"

In the afternoon, the snow was getting heavier. Outside the house, the wind and snow were blowing, but inside the pavilion, it was as warm as the late spring.

The red coal burned brightly.

Mrs. Yan was only wearing a thin short jacket, but she didn't feel cold at all.

In front of her, Steward Du, who was in charge of the kitchen, was asking for her advice. "... The deer meat has been ordered. Do you think we should prepare some fresh donkey meat as well? They all say that in heaven

there is dragon meat and on Earth there is donkey meat. These are very suitable to serve our esteemed guests. But the price..."

As Steward Du spoke, he revealed a troubled expression.

Mrs. Yan stroked the lazy white cat in her arms and coldly snorted. "Does our General Manor look like someone who lacks money now? What is good should be used to serve the guests. You just have to do what you

need to do. You don't have to ask me about everything. You only have to remember that the Princess Consort and Young Master Yan are also coming to attend the banquet. Don't neglect them!"

Steward Du trembled. "Yes, Madam!"

Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong!

A deafening drumbeat sounded nearby.

The white cat in Mrs. Yan's arms was frightened and jumped away with a meow.

Mrs. Yan frowned. "Who is so bold as to beat the drum in the manor? Don't they know that the Young Miss is resting after traveling for so long? Go and beat that suicidal servant out!"

Steward Du rubbed his nose and said embarrassedly, "He's not from our manor. He's from the Bai Manor next door. It's to be said that his master was going to celebrate his birthday so he specially invited an entertainer

over."

Chapter 36 Scallion Pancake

Just after midnight, the Bai family's carriage arrived.

The person who came to pick them up was a steward from the Bai Manor. His surname was Ding and he was about the same age as her uncle.

The original plan was for Uncle Yu, Yu Wan, and Yu Feng to go. However, Little Bruiser suddenly woke up and hugged Yu Wan, crying as he wanted to go with her.

"I am going to work, not play." Besides, it wasn't like she was selling things at the market and that she would be back in two to four hours.

Little Bruiser refused to let go of Yu Wan.

Yu Song walked out and cleared his throat. "Bruiser has never been to the Capital before. Let him go. At most, I'll keep an eye on him."

Yu Wan and Yu Feng shot daggers at him. You just wanted to go yourself, didn't you?!

Little Bruiser did not get Yu Wan to soften from his cotequish, but instead, he softened his uncle's heart.

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It was not a big deal to take care of a child. Almost all the chefs in the countryside would bring their children along, but it was different in the city.

Uncle looked at Steward Ding.

Steward Ding said generously, "It's fine, as long as there's someone watching."

Thus, Yu Song and Little Bruiser successfully boarded the carriage.

Other than Uncle Yu, this was the first time they entered the Capital. At first, they were a little excited and wanted to see the scenery along the way. However, they didn't even pass through Lotus Flower Town before

they all fell asleep in the carriage.

By the time they were woken up by Steward Ding, they had already entered the Bai Manor.

The sky was still dark.

"Hurry, hurry! Uncle Ding!"

As soon as Yu Wan alighted from the carriage, a young man with a dignified appearance led three vegetable vendors carrying poles and hurriedly walked past her.

The young man and Steward Ding greeted each other. Steward Ding gave an indifferent grunt of acknowledgement and gestured for him to go. The young man and the vegetable vendor entered the temporary bamboo

shed on the right. It was mainly used to store ingredients and tools. Ten steps further east was the kitchen.

The kitchen was huge. There were two courtyards in the front and back. There was a well in the backyard. There were nine stoves in the kitchen. Five around the wall, and four in the middle, and eight of them were

already occupied.

Steward Ding led Yu Wan and the others to the innermost stove and said slowly, "There's only one pot on each stove. If it's not enough, there's a small stove in the bamboo shed. I'll get someone to bring breakfast over

later. Thank you for your hard work today."

This supervisor did not pay much attention to the young man who greeted him earlier. He was only so polite to Yu Wan and the rest after Bai Tang said something to him.

Uncle Yu thanked him.

Steward Ding gave Uncle Yu a token to use to collect his things. "The Young Miss is in the reception pavilion. There are many guests today, so she probably doesn't have the time to come to the kitchen. If you guys have

any problems, just tell the servants in the bamboo shed to find me."

Yu Song mumbled, "The Bai Manor is so big. Why does she need to take care of it herself?"

Steward Ding smiled and said, "Young Miss is filial."

Yu Song: "Oh."

There were some things that Yu Song did not know, but Yu Feng had heard of them.

Miss Bai was the first daughter of Old Master Bai and his late wife. The late wife only gave birth to such a daughter after marrying Old Master Bai for ten years. After that, she did not have any more children. When Miss

Bai was five years old, she passed away.

A year later, Old Master Bai remarried and she gave birth to a fat boy.

[It was rumored that Miss Bai and her stepmother did not get along well.

Miss Bai didn't want the Bai family's assets to fall into the hands of her half-brother. If it were anyone else, they naturally wouldn't be able to do so. It was only right and proper for a son to inherit his father's business.

However, they couldn't stand the fact that their stepmother was of low birth and was always suppressed by the late wife.

"Miss Bai's grandfather was an official in court." As for what official position, Yu Feng didn't know.

Not long after Steward Ding left, a servant brought breakfast over. It was steaming white steamed buns and millet porridge, accompanied by pickled vegetables, salted eggs, and a plate of stir-fried cabbage with cured

meat.

Little Bruiser drooled.

Uncle Yu peeled a salted egg for him. Yu Wan gave him half a bowl of millet porridge and half a steamed bun.

Little Bruiser ate heartily.

After eating, he obediently moved a stool to sit in the courtyard. He was very obedient and did not make any noise.

At first, Yu Song kept a close eye on him. After a while, he noticed that Little Bruiser was able to sit still better than him. He coughed lightly and turned around to help his family.

There were chefs from the Bai Manor as well as people from the White Jade Restaurant who came to cook today. Both parties were from the Bai Family, except for Yu Wan's family.

"I heard that Miss personally went to the countryside to invite him."

"Miss is being ridiculous. How can she use a chef from the countryside for the Master's birthday banquet?"

Everyone shook their heads, clearly not believing that a few country bumpkins could make any delicious dishes.

Yu Feng and Yu Wan went to the bamboo shed to collect the ingredients. There were dozens of fresh ducks among them.

A duck must be slaughtered on the spot. This kind of work used to be Yu Feng's, but ever since Yu Wan came, Yu Feng's knife skills had been severely despised.

Yu Wan carried the duck to the backyard.

The sky gradually brightened.

Under the warm morning light, the girl was sweating profusely with the knife in her hand. The duck fur was blown by the cold wind.

In the Yan Mansion on the other side, Yan Ruyu slept until dawn.

The room was warm and cozy. Twelve maids entered in a line, carrying exquisite toiletries and eight sets of clothing for her to choose from.

Today was her big day. She had meticulously dressed herself up for a long time. She chose a long, lake-blue corset dress, a plain white rabbit fur halter jacket, and a pair of fine silver suet jade earrings.

The young girl was elegant and beautiful.

The moment Mrs. Yan entered the house, she saw her daughter, who looked like a fairy who had walked down from a mural, and she was completely stunned. She grabbed her daughter's hand excitedly. "My daughter,

Young Master Yan will never see another woman in his life after seeing you!"

Today was also Yu Wan's big day.

This was a rare opportunity. She wanted to help her uncle prepare the dishes and make a name for themselves. In the future, when she received many orders, she would no longer have to worry about not having

enough money to eat and treat illnesses.

All the ducks had been cleaned up, and her body was stained with blood. She was in a sorry state, but she couldn't care less about that. She hurriedly went to cut the carrots and sweet potatoes.

Apart from the texture, it was also very important for the plating.

She cut it extremely well. White petals, purple edges, yellow stamens. There were water droplets on the petals, layered and delicate. It didn't look like it was made of ingredients, but rather like it had just been plucked

from a tree.

"Sis." Little Bruiser walked over pitifully.

Yu Wan stopped what she was doing. "What's wrong? Are you hungry?"

Little Bruiser nodded. Lately, his appetite had increased and he was always hungry after a while.

It was not time to eat yet, and the meat in the pot was not cooked yet. Fortunately, Yu Wan was prepared. "I brought some scallion pancakes. I'll find a stove to heat it up for you."

Yu Wan went to the bamboo shed to get a small stove. She found a quiet corner in the backyard and carefully made a fire. She set up a small cauldron, poured a spoonful of oil, and placed three large and round scallion

pancakes inside. The fragrance of the fried scallions wafted out.

Little Bruiser moved the stool over.

After the scallion pancake was heated up, Yu Wan put out the open fire, leaving only a trace of charcoal to continue baking the bottom of the cauldron.

"Sis, go do your work. I'll eat by myself!" Little Bruiser said sensibly.

"Okay." Yu Wan went to work.

Little Bruiser stayed to eat the pancakes. This was a mutton, carrot, and scallion pancake made by Yu Wan herself. It smelled good, but the taste is...

"I'm not a picky little brother!" Little Bruiser said, patting his chest..

Chapter 37 Young Master Arrives

Yan Jiuchao had his own manor in the Capital. After he entered the Capital, he didn't go anywhere. He was focused on staying in his manor until this morning when Uncle Wan 'scooped' him up from his blanket.

Yan Jiuchao looks irritated.

Uncle Wan tried his best to persuade him. "Originally, the Princess Consort wanted you two to go together. If Young Master doesn't want to go, she can go too. After all, both of you haven't gotten married yet. This can

be considered giving face to the Yan Manor, but the Princess Consort suddenly has an urgent matter...

"It won't be long. Young Master can leave after showing your face.

"You've already slept with her. What's wrong with taking a look?"

"Yeah." It was unknown which words touched Yan Jiuchao, but he actually agreed good-naturedly.

Uncle Wan, who had saved a lot of saliva, was afraid that this little ancestor would go back on his words. He dashed out like lightning and got someone to prepare a carriage.

The Yan Manor had made ample preparations to welcome Young Master Yan.

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"I heard that Young Master Yan's taste is very picky. Yu'er specially hired a chef from Lu City. She's a very capable chef. Everyone is full of praise for her dishes," Mrs. Yan said as she looked at the madams and daughters

gathered in the greenhouse.

“Lu City? Is it Madam Du?” A lady who had been to Lu City said.

Mrs. Yan beamed with joy. “Mrs. Wang has also heard of Madam Du?”

“I’ve heard more than that. I even went there especially for the sake of tasting her dishes. Unfortunately, she only receives three customers a day and doesn’t accept reservations. Whoever she wants to do business

depends entirely on her luck. I don’t have the fortune to do so.” Mrs. Wang, the wife of the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Public Works, sighed and said.

In terms of status, the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Public Works was a major fourth-rank official while Yan Congming was merely a minor fifth-rank official. Mrs. Wang shouldn’t have treated Mrs. Yan with such

flattery, but who asked the Yan Manor to have a certain Young Madam?

The Vice Minister of the Ministry of Public Works didn’t even have a chance to carry Young Master Yan’s shoes.

“Miss Yan actually invited her over? This is incredible. Even Prince Rong was unable to invite Madam Du back then.” If one were to say that she was flattering her just now, then these words came from the bottom of

her heart.

Madam Du of Lu City was indeed proud and arrogant. She did not even think highly of the status of the head chef of the Prince’s mansion. She did not know how Miss Yan invited her out of Lu City.

However, Mrs. Yan skipped this topic and cleverly shifted the focus from Madam Du. “Everyone, try this fermented winter bamboo shoot. How does it taste?”

The ladies picked up their chopsticks and tasted the winter bamboo shoots on their plates. Everyone was stunned.

It was sour, spicy, refreshing, and it helped to digest the greasy food. They had eaten too many pastries just now, and now that they had a taste of the sour bamboo shoots, it was simply comfortable to the bone.

“Madam Du’s craftsmanship is indeed worthy of its reputation!” Mrs. Wang exclaimed sincerely.

Mrs. Yan pulled her daughter’s hand and said with a deep smile, “This isn’t Madam Du’s cooking, it’s Yu’er’s.”

“What? Your daughter?” The ladies exclaimed in unison.

Yan Ruyu smiled reservedly.

Mrs. Yan smiled and said, “On the way to the Capital, I’ve learned a few dishes from Madam Du. Today, I embarrassed myself in front of all the ladies.”

Everyone was stunned. This was called embarrassing herself? Then their chefs could simply end their own life!

Moreover, she had only learned it for a few days and already had such superb craftsmanship. Even those who looked down on Yan Ruyu because of her loss of virginity could not help but praise her for being exceptionally smart.

Mrs. Yan smiled smugly. Her daughter had been smarter than her brothers since she was young. Not only was she better at reading books than her brothers, but she was also proficient in zither, chess, calligraphy and

painting. Her riding skills and archery skills were outstanding. What was a mere cooking skill?! Even if she didn’t become a daughter, she could be an admiral or general!

A maid hurried in and reported loudly, “Madam, Young Master Yan’s carriage is here!”

Mrs. Yan’s eyes lit up. “Quickly inform Madam Du!”

Yan Jiuchao's carriage indeed came, but it didn't enter the Yan Manor. When the carriage was halfway there, he suddenly heard a smacking sound. He opened the curtain with a strange expression, and the fragrance of

fried onion oil and mutton fiercely rushed over.

His gaze froze.

"Stop the carriage."

The carriage stopped. The handsome attendant got out of the carriage and knelt on the ground.

Yan Jiuchao stepped on his back and walked into the alley between the two manors. He faced the tall wall that the fragrance had wafted from and stared at it for three seconds before saying, "Ladder."

The accompanying guards disappeared!

The accompanying guards came back again! And they came back with two ladders, one outside the wall and the other inside.

The ladder was tilted at an extremely high angle. Even without support, it was as if one was walking on flat ground.

Yan Jiuchao calmly walked over. The cold wind blew against his sleeves. He walked step by step, his expression cold and lonely. He was obviously trying to climb over someone's wall, yet he exuded the aura of a

coronation!

Little Bruiser grabbed the green scallion he had brought from the kitchen with one hand and his sister's scallion pancake with the other. He was engrossed in eating it when a ladder appeared behind him. A man walked

down the ladder and came up behind him.

Yan Jiuchao looked down at Little Bruiser and used his elegant toes to poke his butt.

Little Bruiser turned around with wide eyes.

Yan Jiuchao glared at him fiercely.

Little Bruiser's jaw dropped. How could there be such a beautiful brother... He was even more beautiful than Mom and Sis...

"Do you want some?" Little Bruiser handed over half of the scallion pancake.

Young Master Yan, who had thought of a hundred ways to snatch the pancake: "..."

It was time for the banquet to begin. Everyone was busy with their hands and feet. Even Yu Song was so busy that his feet did not touch the ground. No one slipped to the secluded corner in the backyard.

"Okay, it's hot. You should eat."

Not only did Little Bruiser warmly invite this handsome brother to share his sister's pancakes with him, but he even considerately started a fire and heated up the two pancakes that had already cooled down.

Young Master Yan picked up a scallion pancake with his chopsticks.

"It only tastes good when you add the scallions."

"I don't eat that!"

Fifteen minutes later, Uncle Wan finally caught up to his master with three large carriages full of congratulatory gifts. However, there was no one in the carriage anymore!

He hurried up the ladder to the wall. He looked into the distance.

He saw his noble young master, who was otherworldly, squatting in front of the stove like a poor old farmer with a country bumpkin who came out of nowhere. He held a scallion pancake that was bigger than his face

in his left hand and a scallion that was thicker than his finger in his right.

“Hold it!” Little Bruiser said.

“Make it!” Young Master Yan said..

Chapter 38 Humiliation in Public

On a deep winter night, lightning flashed and thunder roared. A strong wind blew. A hurried carriage stopped in front of the directorate.

The directorate’s door had been broken, and blood splattered all over the walls. There was a corpse on the threshold that hadn’t managed to escape in time.

Gao Yuan jumped off the carriage. The strong smell of blood filled his nose, and he could not help but retch.

“Fu Sheng... Fu Sheng... Fu Sheng!” He squatted down and shook the corpse on the threshold. Unfortunately, the corpse had long been frozen solid.

He stood up with a pale face and staggered into the directorate’s office.

“Feng Xu!”

“Ah You!”

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“Gu Chang!”

He called out to his students one by one, but no one responded.

A bolt of lightning struck the hall, and he saw the man standing on the steps. The man was dressed in black and stood tall. His eyes were so cold that they seemed like they were about to become one with the cold night.

When the man looked at him, Gao Yuan felt that he had seen Asura in the dark.

Gao Yuan said in fear and anger, "You... You... killed them... You... You killed them all?"

The man's lips curled into a cold smile. "Let me ask you again, where is my son?"

Gao Yuan's eyes turned red. "They didn't know! Why did you kill them?"

The man said calmly, "So you know about it?"

Gao Yuan stiffened.

"Great Uncle!" Accompanied by the sound of rapid horse hooves, a seventeen-year-old youth rushed in anxiously.

Gao Yuan's eyes trembled. "Who asked you to come! Go back!"

The man snorted.

"Great Uncle." The young man came to Gao Yuan's side and looked at the arrogant man. He frowned and said, "I recognize you! You are the person who snatched our room at the courier station!"

"Go back!" Gao Yuan shouted.

“I’m not going back!” The young man pulled out his sword and glared at the man. “If you dare touch a hair on my great uncle, I’ll kill you right now!”

When the man heard his threat, he didn’t even lift his eyelids. “Chancellor Gao, I will give you one last chance. I will count to three. If you still don’t tell me the whereabouts of my son, I will kill your little grandnephew.”

“You dare?!” The youth shouted loudly.

“One.”

Gao Yuan broke out in cold sweat.

“Two.”

Gao Yuan clenched his fists.

“Three.”

“I’ll say —” roared Gao Yuan.

“Too late.”

As the man’s cold voice fell, a long sword pierced through the youth’s heart.

“Qi Lin—” Gao Yuan screamed and sat up!

The young boy sitting on the edge of the bed looked at him strangely. “I’m here. What’s wrong, Great Uncle?”

Gao Yuan looked at the familiar house and then at the young man in front of him. He heaved a long sigh of relief. He wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and said, "Nothing. I had a nightmare."

"What did you dream about?" Qi Lin asked curiously.

Gao Yuan looked away and said, "...I forgot."

"Oh." Qi Lin expressed his understanding. After all, he could not remember what dream he had the moment he opened his eyes. "Oh right, Great Uncle, the decree for you to resume your official duties has been issued.

From today onwards, you are the Chancellor of the directorates again! Huh? Great Uncle, why are you unhappy?"

Gao Yuan did not answer him. He wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and grabbed his arm tightly. "Lin'er, promise me one thing. No matter what happens in the future, don't provoke this one person."

"Who is it?"

"Yan Jiuchao."

In the backyard of the Bai Manor, two big mutton, carrot, and scallion pancakes entered Yan Jiuchao's stomach.

Young Master Yan was in a good mood after having his fill. He looked at the little fellow beside him and opened his mouth.

"I'm Bruiser!"

Young Master Yan shut his mouth.

Soon, he opened again.

"I live in Lotus Flower Village!"

Young Master Yan closed his mouth again.

He opened his mouth the third time.

“My sister made the scallion pancake!”

The highest level of being a chatterbox was not only to speak his own words, but also to speak others' words, making others speechless!

Young Master Yan looked at Bruiser gloomily. Little Bruiser was embarrassed. He smiled awkwardly. “Just say what you want to say. I won't interrupt.”

Young Master Yan: I'm not saying anymore!

Yan Jiuchao moved his sleeves and walked the ladder with a calm expression.

Although he was shameless, Uncle Wan still had some shame and had always abided by his bottom line. He stood by the wall. When Young Master Yan came over, he chased after him worriedly. “Young Master, you've

gone overboard this time. You're the Young Master of Yan City, how can you casually eat something from an unfamiliar child?” Do you know that child? Do you know who he is? Aren't you afraid that someone will take

the opportunity to poison you?

“It's true that we can't just eat his food for free,” Yan Jiuchao agreed.

Uncle Wan was stunned at first, then tears welled up in his eyes. After working so hard for so long, the young master whose ears were as hard as stone finally listened to his advice!

Yan Jiuchao pointed at the three carriages behind him and said to the guard, “Send it to that little guy.” This can't be considered as eating it for free, right? He had exchanged it with things.

Uncle Wan, who felt like he had been shot in the knee :”...”

“What are you waiting for? Aren’t you going to visit the Yan Manor?” Yan Jiuchao looked at Uncle Wan with dissatisfaction.

Oh, you still remember the Yan Manor? But the congratulatory gifts are already gone! What was the point of going empty-handed?! Uncle Wan had no choice but to persuade Yan Jiuchao to stay in the carriage. He

rushed back to the mansion and hurriedly packed a bunch of congratulatory gifts.

Due to time constraints, he couldn’t get three carriages. There was only one small carriage left. However, what made things worse was that by the time he finally managed to drag the congratulatory gifts over, Yan

Jiuchao had already fallen asleep while hugging a large green onion.

In the end, Yan Jiuchao was unable to go to the Yan Manor.

Uncle Wan dragged a carriage full of gifts and braced himself to meet Miss Yan and Mrs. Yan.

Initially, they thought that Young Master Yan had personally arrived. The Yan family’s formation was extremely grand. Not only did they invite all the guests to watch, but they also nearly presented the ancestral

tablets.

In the end... They only saw Uncle Wan.

Uncle Wan had aged by ten years ever since morning after meeting such a troublesome young master. He did not look like a high-ranking steward at all. Instead, he looked like someone who did odd jobs in the garden.

They then looked at the carriage he had dragged over. The antique vase that was missing a leg (the car had bumped into it with a bump), the wooden chair that had lost its paint (the car had rubbed against it when he

dragged it over), the moldy Baiyue Frosted Tomato Pancake (His Majesty gave it to him last year, but he forgot to eat and throw it away).

Everyone: This-this isn’t a visit to the Yan family, but to humiliate them!

Mrs. Yan didn't manage to catch her breath. She rolled her eyes and fainted..

Chapter 39 Happy Bruiser

As the last dish of braised mutton was served to the table, the banquet finally came to an end.

The popularity of braised food had exceeded everyone's expectations, especially the white braised mutton. Even Uncle Yu didn't expect it to be so popular.

The people of the Central Plains were not used to the smell of mutton. In order to remove the smell of mutton, the chefs would often choose to add more spices and sauces. Thus, the red marinade, which had a more

spicy taste, became the first choice to braise the mutton. However, Uncle did the opposite and used a light white marinade.

In the end, the braised mutton was neither fishy nor rank. It was very tender, smooth, and refreshing. This was the only braised dish that finished its gravy. The remaining braised food wasn't bad either. They were all

the first dishes that had been finished off.

Previously, the chefs who didn't believe that Yu Wan and her group could make any good dishes all felt their faces burning. Naturally, they had also tasted the Yu Family's dishes. Indeed, they could afford to say that

they were extremely delicious. It was no wonder that Young Miss had invited them over from "afar".

"I admit defeat!" An old chef from the Bai family patted Uncle Yu's shoulder and said sincerely.

"This little girl can work too," said the chef from White Jade Restaurant. He had seen Yu Wan before and knew that she knew how to cook salt. However, Miss Bai had given the order to keep their mouths shut, so this

matter was not made public. What he did not expect was that this little girl's knife skills were also so good.

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If his apprentice was half as smart as this little girl, he would be able to serve dishes much faster.

Of course, the two young men were not bad either. All day long, they did all the dirty work without any complaints. Even their youngest son stayed obediently in the backyard and did not come in to complain at all.

They were exhausted, especially their uncle, whose legs were not in good condition. Yu Wan had already tried her best not to let him do anything other than braised food. However, even if he had to sit on the chair and

cut vegetables for an entire day, it would still be hard for him as he's injured.

"Where's Little Bruiser?" asked Uncle Yu breathlessly.

"The backyard," Yu Song said.

The three siblings went to the backyard. They were so busy today that they did not care about the little fellow's food. He must be starving. Little Bruiser sat in front of the cold stove and was tearfully eating the scallion

pancake that Yu Wan had left for him in the morning.

They felt so guilty that their conscience hurt.

However, when they went around the fence and came to the quiet corner, Little Bruiser, who was supposed to be covered in snot bubbles, was sitting on a box that they didn't know where it came from. The box was

extremely exquisite.

He sat with his legs crossed, one hand holding a bunch of crystal clear purple grapes, the other holding a piece of jerky that was both fat and lean. On the stove in front of him, the scallion pancake was gone, replaced

by a pot of white and thick stew.

Little Bruiser chomped down on the jerky and grapes, occasionally taking a sip of hot soup.

Yu Wan's lips twitched. So, they had worried for the entire afternoon and blamed themselves for three seconds for nothing. In the end, this little guy was even happier than a god?

Soon, Yu Wan found several large boxes beside Little Bruiser. Compared to these, Little Bruiser's anti-season fruits, dried deer meat, and cow tail soup were nothing.

"What happened?"

Under Yu Wan's detailed questioning, Little Bruiser honestly told her everything that had happened during the day.

The three of them could hear their hearts breaking after listening to Little Bruiser. They had worked themselves to death for an entire day, yet they were still inferior to Little Bruiser who just sold two pancakes.

"Ah, there's such a thing?" Uncle Yu seemed to be slightly surprised. It wasn't that there weren't any complacent young masters in the Capital, but he'd never seen such a troublemaker in his life.

They only had a few people when they came, but there were a few more carriages on their way back.

"I'll go ask the Bai Manor if they have any extra carriages to rent to us," Yu Feng said.

Uncle Yu nodded.

Yu Feng went to the bamboo shed to look for Steward Ding. Who knew that he couldn't find Steward Ding and instead was met with a cold shoulder.

"What did you say? You want to take away three large carriages? Who allowed you to take things from the Bai Manor?" The servant from the Bai Manor slammed the table.

The servant from before was no longer here. This was someone Yu Feng did not recognize.

Yu Feng explained, "It's not from the Bai Manor. It's ours."

"Your own? Why didn't I see you bring so many things when you came?" The servant didn't believe Yu Feng's words and hurriedly got someone to invite Mrs. Bai over.

This Mrs. Bai was the second wife of Old Master Bai. She was a few years younger than Mrs. Jiang, but she did not look as young and beautiful as Madam Jiang. However, she could be considered pretty and moving.

Mrs. Bai brought a large group of servants to the kitchen. The chefs, who were packing up and preparing to leave, were completely stunned by this scene.

"Where are the things?" Mrs. Bai asked coldly.

The servant replied, "In the backyard. Madam, please follow me."

Mrs. Bai entered the backyard with the servants and came to the place where the gifts were placed.

When Mrs. Bai saw the superior yellow pearwood boxes, her eyes widened. When she looked at the items inside, her eyeballs almost fell out!

Their family also had snow lotus, but who had seen such a big one?

She could afford fox fur, but when did she have the opportunity to wear the snow mountain purple fox's fur?

She had enough money to buy a cow mountain. Even if she had a hundred guts, she would not dare to kill one of them to make cow tail soup.

There were all kinds of items here. Although they were not gold, silver, or jewels, they were hard to buy.

“Madam, there are many guests today. They must have stolen the guests’ congratulatory gifts when no one was paying attention! If I didn’t discover it in time, the people in the manor might have already let them

smuggle the items out of the manor on Miss’s account!” The servant said with a face full of praise.

The servants were stupid and could not see the value of the congratulatory gifts, but Mrs. Bai had a clear background. With the Bai family’s status, if they had not gone through the connections of the late wife’s family,

they would not have been able to buy the manor on this street. How could the guests they invited obtain these rare items?

But... So what? She knew the truth, so she had to tell the truth?

Uncle Yu replied, “We didn’t steal anything. This is our first time coming to the Bai Manor. We don’t know where you put your gifts. Besides, we have never left the kitchen without permission.”

“Their whole family was cooking in the kitchen. I can testify that they have never left,” The old chef from the Bai family said.

The chef from White Jade Restaurant also stood up. “That’s right, we can all testify that they really never left.”

The servant scoffed, “Really? They haven’t even been to the toilet?”

This was unreasonable.

Yu Song pointed at the servant’s nose and said, “Then why don’t you try to go to the toilet and steal so many things for me!”

“You still dare to be arrogant!” The servant relied on Mrs. Bai’s support and did not put these countryside chefs in his eyes at all. He raised his fist and smashed it towards Yu Song’s head. He was a martial arts

practitioner. If he took this punch, Yu Song would definitely bleed.

At that moment, a hand grabbed his wrist. He was turned around and thrown onto the ground. Then, Yu Wan stepped forward and stepped on his chest!.

Chapter 40 Confrontation

The servant immediately revealed a pained expression. He was firmly stepped on and could not move at all.

The scene in front of them stunned everyone. No one expected the servant to make a move without a word, nor did they expect the servant to fail.

Everyone's gaze fell on Yu Wan.

They didn't sympathize with the servants of the Bai Manor. They believed that the Yu family was innocent. However, this girl's skills were too fast. They—they didn't even see how she moved before the servant was

trampled on the ground by her, wailing like ghosts and howling like wolves.

"What an audacious wild girl! She actually dares to commit such atrocities in the Bai Manor!" Mrs. Bai shouted furiously.

Uncle Yu and Yu Feng's expressions darkened.

"Get lost!" Mrs. Bai flicked her sleeves and shouted. Although Mrs. Bai did not come from a good background, she was, after all, the matriarch of the Bai family. Yu Wan was a little village girl who had no background and

no backing. She would not easily take her seriously.

So what if she had some skills? She did not believe that the Bai Manor could not control a wild girl!

"What are all of you waiting for? Hurry up and find the guards!" Mrs. Bai coldly ordered the maidservant at the side.

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Only then did the maidservant recover from her intense shock. She looked at Yu Wan in horror. That pair of cold eyes made the maidservant's heart skip a beat. "Ma... Madam... do you think..."

Mrs. Bai said impatiently, "Just go when I tell you to! What nonsense are you spouting!"

The maidservant did not dare to be negligent and took small steps to invite the guard.

The guard came quickly.

At this moment, the servant who was trampled on the ground had already fainted. He didn't know if it was Yu Wan who stepped on him or if it was him who had frightened himself.

"Madam." The head guard bowed to Mrs. Bai with cupped hands.

The corners of Mrs. Bai's lips curled up smugly. She pointed at Yu Wan and said, "You guys, arrest her!"

The leader of the guards looked at Yu Wan and said with difficulty, "Madam, they were invited into the manor by Young Miss. I'm afraid it's inappropriate for me to rashly arrest them. May I ask Madam, what exactly did

this young lady do?"

The guards at the manor were quite clear. The father and son trio secretly heaved a sigh of relief.

Mrs. Bai was a little unhappy. Since Bai Tang invited them into the manor, they didn't dare to arrest her. Did they still have her in their hearts?

"You mean... I can't order you around anymore?" Mrs. Bai asked sarcastically.

The leader of the guards said nicely, "That's not what I meant. I..."

“That’s enough.” Mrs. Bai “magnanimously” interrupted him. “I understand that this is your duty. I might as well tell you that she stole the Bai Manor’s congratulatory gifts and injured a servant in the manor. Do you

think... she should be arrested?”

“This...” The leader of the guards looked at the unconscious servant on the ground and then looked at the mountain of gifts. For a moment, he was hesitant.

Mrs. Bai felt a little humiliated. “The thieves have already entered the house. If you don’t help catch the thieves, what’s the use of the Bai family hiring you!”

“Mrs. Bai, we’re the ones you want to smear your reputation with. Why make things difficult for the guardhouse?” Yu Wan sighed softly.

“Who smeared your reputation?” Mrs. Bai straightened her back and asked.

Yu Wan said, “You keep calling us thieves. What did we steal?”

Mrs. Bai said, “Of course it’s these congratulatory gifts!”

Yu Wan said neither too fast nor too slow, “Since Mrs. Bai insists that these are the Bai Family’s congratulatory gifts, then why don’t we ask Mrs. Bai to bring over the list of gifts for today and discuss with everyone to

see which guests send these gifts?”

Mrs. Bai immediately choked.

“What? Mrs. Bai doesn’t dare?” Yu Wan asked lightly.

Mrs. Bai’s eyebrows twitched, but she cleverly ignored Yu Wan’s words. “I say, little girl, have you really not seen the world, or are you pretending not to? There are so many guests that came to the Bai Manor today,

and I’m afraid you won’t be able to count the number of congratulatory gifts they have sent in three days and three nights...”

“Then count them for three days and three nights.” Yu Wan interrupted her calmly. “It’s best if we invite the people from the yamen as well as the people from the Capital. Let everyone be the notary and see if we have

stolen anything from the Bai family.”

“You...” Mrs. Bai’s face turned red. “Who do you think you are?! Do you think I would give you the list when you said you wanted to check?”

“Since Mrs. Bai is unwilling to investigate, then I can only go and invite Miss Bai. Mister, I’ll have to trouble you to bring a message to Miss Bai. Tell her that we have something to discuss with her here.”

Yu Wan’s last

sentence was directed at the head guard.

Mrs. Bai glared at the guard. “How dare you!”

“Why wouldn’t she dare?” Bai Tang walked out from behind the crowd.

The moment she saw Bai Tang, Mrs. Bai’s expression changed.

“Miss Bai,” Yu Wan greeted.

Bai Tang walked to Yu Wan’s side and took a list from Steward Ding who was accompanying her. She said to Mrs. Bai, “The details of the birthday banquet are all here. If you can’t read, I’ll get someone to read it to you.

Or do you want to read it yourself?”

Mrs. Bai’s face turned green with anger from the rude words.

“Sister Bai, we didn’t steal anything.” Little Bruiser walked over quickly.

Bai Tang said, “I know. I believe you guys.”

Now that the list had been brought over, Mrs. Bai would be thoroughly shamed if she continued to cause trouble.

"If you insist on protecting these little thieves, then continue to do so! I don't care about the matters in this manor anymore!" Mrs. Bai said coldly and left angrily.

"Everyone, disperse," Miss Bai said to everyone. She did not forget to instruct Steward Ding beside her. "You've worked hard for the entire day. Remember to reward them well for me."

Upon hearing that there was a reward, everyone stopped watching the fun and went to the accountant's room with Steward Ding.

Bai Tang looked at the Yu family guiltily. "I'm sorry. We've wronged you."

Yu Wan said, "We should be the ones apologizing. Sorry for troubling you." Not everyone had the guts to fall out with their own family for the sake of a few outsiders, even if the other party was a stepmother who did

not get along.

Bai Tang said, "I've heard enough good words today, so don't stand on ceremony with me. It's getting late. I'll arrange a carriage to send you back."

Yu Wan smiled. "Thank you."

"What about you?" Yu Feng asked.

Uncle Yu glared at his son. "It's Old Master Bai's birthday. Of course, Miss Bai has to stay and celebrate with her father."

Miss Bai revealed a rare shy smile.

"Miss, Master is looking for you." Bai Tang was about to arrange a carriage when a servant serving Master Bai came over.

Bai Tang looked at Yu Wan and said, "Wait here. The carriage will arrive soon."

Yu Wan nodded. Bai Tang and the servant went to see Old Master Bai.

Not long after, several carriages arrived one after another. Three were used to pull goods, while the other two—

Actually, one carriage was enough for them.

Yu Wan paused and thought of something. She walked to the last carriage and gently lifted the curtain. She saw Bai Tang sitting in the carriage.

Bai Tang, who was high-spirited a second ago, looked like a child who had been wronged. Her back was stiff and her hands were holding onto her handkerchief tightly. Her eyes were red and large drops of tears fell..