

## Versatile 751

### [Versatile Mage](#)

#### Chapter 751: Hell Scorpion

Azure green sky, golden desert...

A towering giant was walking at a steady pace. Each step it took was enough to raze a sand dune to the ground, knocking the sand into the air.

The giant's head reached the sky while its feet stood on the sand. It was like a moving mountain. The savage hordes of scorpions and snakes residing in the desert immediately backed off when they saw the enormous trespasser...

The Wild Snake Scorpions were the scariest demon creature in the Taklamakan Desert. Their average strength was around the Warrior-level, and deeper into the desert were lots of Commander-level Deadly Plague Snake Scorpions. If one were to describe the most mysterious and dangerous place full of treasure in China, the Taklamakan Desert was definitely one of them. Every year, a dozen or more foreign Magicians would die here. The survival rate was exceedingly low!

The place was infamous because of how dangerous it was, yet many people still came to try their luck. After all, the place was called the Golden Desert. The risks were high, but the potential rewards were high, too!

However, the Taklamakan Desert now had an uninvited guest. Its enormous figure, as huge as a mountain, made the Snake Scorpion Horde tremble in fear. None of the creatures dared to show any resistance when their precious territory was invaded...

The packs of Wild Snake Scorpions immediately withdrew, yet a horde had powerful existences, too.

As the Mountain Zombie ventured deeper into the territory of the Wild Snake Scorpions, over ten Deadly Plague Snake Scorpions appeared on a sandy hill, each over fifty meters tall and thoroughly pitch-black. Their tails and pincers were bright red, implying that they were stained with a deadly poison...

A Deadly Plague Snake Scorpion was enough to take up an entire sand dune. Its body almost caused the sand dune to collapse under its weight. The desert wolves running away nearby were like little worms.

More than ten of the same Commander-level creatures had appeared. They were crowding around something in a strange arc.

Suddenly, four other sand dunes at the center of the group shook vigorously as they rose up.

The sand dunes rose slowly. It turned out that there was an enormous creature three times the size of a Deadly Plague Snake Scorpion under the sand dunes. The sand dunes slowly turned into a sandstorm as they reached a certain height, pouring down along the creature's shiny, pitch-black body.

Eight sharp and long scorpion legs poked into the sand. The distance between its front limbs and rear limbs was greater than the length of a soccer field!

Its arms wielded a pair of terrifying pincers. Even the slightest cut could snap a sandhill in half!

The thing surrounded by the Deadly Plague Snake Scorpions was obviously the ruler of the desert. It had been many years since any creature dared to challenge its authority. Most of the white bones buried under the desert were its masterpiece!

Hell Scorpion!

It was the infamous Hell Scorpion!

And now, the Hell Scorpion was being threatened. It had brought its Commanders along to surround the invader.

The invader's size was shocking. The Hell Scorpion was already huge, yet it was still a lot smaller than the mountain-like zombie!

The Hell Scorpion let out a furious roar at the invader, telling the creature that it had trespassed into its territory.

The Mountain Zombie came to a stop. It looked down at the ruler of the Taklamakan Desert coldly. Instead of starting a fight, it seemed like it was awaiting orders from the man standing on its head. It did not dare to act rashly without receiving an order.

The Hell Scorpion was extremely proud, too. It was about to start a fight with its tough opponent when its eyes widened after discovering another being standing on its opponent's head. It fixed its unblinking eyes on the tiny human figure.

The man standing on the mountain-like creature glanced down. His pitch-black eyes emitted a terrifying, cold light onto the sand with his gaze!

The Hell Scorpion subconsciously took a few steps back.

Meanwhile, the Commander-level Deadly Plague Snake Scorpions nearby were trembling in fear. Some that were weaker even burrowed into the sand and did not dare to show themselves again.

Not only did they have a Ruler-level creature protecting them, they were Commander-level creatures too, yet their battle intent completely dispersed after feeling that murderous gaze...

The Mountain Zombie resumed walking and stepped past the Hell Scorpion.

The Hell Scorpion stood there, yet it did not dare to utter the same challenging cry, let alone attack the Mountain Zombie that was right in front of it.

The desert continued to tremble under the heavy footsteps. The Mountain Zombie slowly disappeared into the distance, yet the Hell Scorpion still did not dare to make any move.

The Mountain Zombie was heading for Tianshan Mountain. After it disappeared for some time, the Hell Scorpion finally turned around and stared into that direction. The fear it felt from the man was still lingering deep inside its soul!

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The same vastness as a desert, yet the Pacific Ocean was a spectacular blue, an entrancing color, with a hint of intimidating mysteriousness.

Neither an island nor a cloud could be seen nearby, as if they had sunken into a giant blue canvas, making it impossible to tell the directions. Only the endless waves were pushing the ship forward!

Mo Fan had come from the mountains. It was his first time going out to sea. In fact, he was quite excited at the start, yet he simply spent most of his time playing cards with the others...

No humans, no sea monsters, no islands, all there was was water... the days were unendurable.

Mo Fan did not understand. Did they really have to go so far for the training? Wasn't it more efficient to take a plane to Japan? In the end, he could only play cards or cultivate on the ship, it was utterly boring!

"By the way, can't you Water Magicians make the ship go faster?" suggested Mo Fan, who had run out of patience.

"It's not difficult, but it's tiring," said Zhao Manyan.

"Just treat it as a way to cultivate, how long is it going to take to reach Japan at this rate?" Mo Fan prodded them.

"We'll have a go!"

The others agreed that the ship was too slow. Those with the Water Element took turns to cast their spells, transforming the ship into a speedboat sprinting across the ocean like an arrow.

It felt great standing on the deck, watching the waves splitting in half as the water splashed on their faces!

### [Versatile Mage](#)

#### **Chapter 752: The Shadow Under the Water**

The ship was a lot faster after it was turned into a speedboat, yet the journey was still extremely long compared to taking a plane.

"Zhao Manyan, let's fly up there to see if there's any island nearby. I can't stand it anymore," Every day on the boat felt like a year to Mo Fan.

"Sure, you're coming with me?" asked Zhao Manyan.

"Let's go."

Zhao Manyan brought Mo Fan into the sky. It happened to be a clear day. They could easily see the whole area with a single glance.

The sea was like an arc when glancing down from a great height. The two tried their best to fly higher, yet they still did not see any signs of land in the distance.

“Go higher, so that we can see even further,” Mo Fan told Zhao Manyan.

Zhao Manyan beat his golden wings fiercely and soared into the sky. The ship was now only a little white dot in their eyes.

Mo Fan tried his best to peer into the distance, and finally saw a meandering black shoreline on the horizon.

“We’re almost there, I can finally see land, it’s a long shoreline. It’s definitely not an island!” said Mo Fan.

Zhao Manyan could not see that far. He had no choice but to believe Mo Fan’s words.

He glanced down to check if the ship was heading in the right direction, and suddenly discovered something black suddenly appearing in the blue canvas of the ocean.

He tried taking a closer look, yet it was still a blur, so he had no choice but to ask Mo Fan, “Look at the sea water, why do I feel like it’s turning black.”

Mo Fan glanced down and discovered that there was a black shadow close to the white ship, it was not the water turning black. The shadow and the ship were stacked on top of one another.

Mo Fan did not think too much about the shadow, yet on second thought, he immediately realized that something was not right. He was utterly terrified by the thought!

Even though the ship that Lin Junxian gave them was not a huge cruise liner or anything, it was still more than thirty meters long, similar to three buses in a line. However, compared to the black shadow, the ship was like a little white dot on a piece of black paper. It clearly highlighted the size of the thing under the water!

Mo Fan subconsciously looked above him to see if it was the shadow of a cloud, yet the sky was perfectly clear. Not even the slightest vapor could be seen, let alone clouds, which meant that there must be something in the water!

It was an enormous shadow under the water!

“Zhao Manyan, we need to head down at once!” yelled Mo Fan.

Zhao Manyan did not react in time, yet when he saw Mo Fan’s stern expression, he immediately withdrew the wings and dove from the sky with Mo Fan.

Mo Fan’s heart beat rapidly. He could not believe his eyes!

What exactly was the thing in the water?

It was very close to the surface of the ocean. Otherwise, he would not be able to see it through the water!

Meanwhile, the people on the ship were totally unaware of the situation. The ship continued to drive forward...

### Versatile Mage

#### **Chapter 753: Unknown Creature**

Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan landed heavily on the deck, almost breaking holes in the deck's floor.

Nanyu immediately criticized the two, yet they ignored her and went over to the railing and stared into the water.

The sea water was very clear, allowing them to see quite deep into it. The black shadow was still under the ship. They finally realized how enormous the thing was when they were back on the ship. It felt like the whole ship had entered a black area. A great terror filled their hearts when they saw the black shadow extending into the distance!

"Holy shit, what the heck is that!?" screamed Jiang Yu.

His scream immediately attracted everyone's attention. They quickly gathered at the railings and discovered an enormous shadow in the water. It looked like a huge abyss that could suck the whole ship into it at any second!

Cold sweat slid down their necks. Even though they did not sense any aura from the thing in the water, they still felt a great pressure, as if their lives were completely under its control!

No one was talking. Their eyes widened as their bodies stiffened.

None of them dared to take a closer look at the thing in the water, as they were worried that it would turn out to be a giant mouth devouring them or an enormous claw smashing their ship into pieces. It was not mere imagination; they strongly believed the creature in the water could do it!

"What...what the hell is that thing?" asked Zhao Manyan, his face stiff.

Mo Fan took a deep breath and slowly shook his head, "It looks like it's diving deeper into the water."

The shadow in the water gradually blurred. The fear looming in everyone's heart slowly dissipated.

Sometime later, the water finally returned to normal. Glancing into the distance, it was the same dark blue everywhere.

However, for some reason, whenever they looked at the sea water or tried to look deeper into it, the fear would return out of nowhere. They could not stop thinking about the giant shadow!

On the ship, everyone was exhausted from tension. Jiang Yu even collapsed on the deck!

The ship continued to move forward, yet the people aboard remained silent for a long time. Sometime later, Jiang Yu finally rose to his feet and glanced at the people around him.

“For some reason, I suddenly felt like a frog at the bottom of a well,” said Jiang Yu.

There were too many things that were still unexplored in this world. Jiang Yu thought he had learned about most of the demon creatures, and he could easily identify their kind just by looking at their shadows.

However, he had no clue what the shadow was. He could not even see its whole appearance...

He did not know what the creature was, apart from the fact that it was not recorded, and it was right here in the Yellow Sea!

“I’m afraid it’s one of the reasons the advisors sent us here for training, but... a creature of that size, it’s at least... at least Ruler-level, right?” asked Nanyu.

“It’s hard to say; we don’t even know if it’s a living creature. Strange, a Ruler-level creature should have a strong presence, yet I didn’t feel anything from it,” said Mo Fan.

Gong Yu sneered at Mo Fan’s words and said disdainfully, “You’re talking as if you’ve seen a Ruler-level creature before. Based on what I know, it’s easy for a Ruler-level creature to conceal its presence.”

Gong Yu was simply asking to be humiliated. Not only had Mo Fan seen a Ruler-level creature, he had even fought more than one before.

For example, the Black Totem Snake in Hangzhou was just like his guardian beast. If Mo Fan poked his finger in Hangzhou’s territory, the creature would immediately show up and tear at the thistle. Judging from the fight between the Black Totem Snake and the Silver Skyruler, the Black Totem Snake was one of the strongest at the Ruler-level.

Leaving the Black Totem Snake aside, it time to talk about the Mountain Zombie...

The Mountain Zombie was the leader of the eight Ruler-level creatures of the Ancient Capital, yet didn’t Mo Fan still beat the crap out of it?

Of course Mo Fan knew what Ruler-level creatures were! The shadow in the water was incredibly huge, thus it was reasonable to describe it as a Ruler-level creature, yet Mo Fan was confused by its living presence...

“Either way, it’s gone now. I almost shit my pants!” said Zhao Manyan.

Mo Fan nodded. Regardless of what it was, it had indeed disappeared. It did not show any hint of hostility to them, yet the terrifying encounter served as a great lesson to Mo Fan and the others. The vast world was full of unknown things, and they could not help but wonder how many enormous and powerful life forms and unknown places were yet to be discovered...

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Mo Fan and Zhao Manyan had already seen the shoreline when they were flying. After the team had their frightening experience, the ship somehow sailed slightly off course, so it took longer to reach the harbor.

Since the ship was already registered and even had its name written in Japanese, it successfully entered Japan's maritime space.

They immediately saw some fishing boats after entering the safe zone. There were two types; one was modern fishing vessels that relied on machinery to catch thousands of fish and deliver them into a freezer. The other kind was the primitive boats that each had one or two fishermen and some simple tools. There were lots of similar fishing boats back at Feinia City.

Japan had primitive fishing boats too, yet the majority of them were the modern ones. The place was well known for its seafood, so the fishing industry was quite developed.

The area inside the safe zone was full of fishing boats. The boats were mostly painted gray, so the white ship from China was fairly eye-catching when it entered the area.

After the team arrived at the port and stepped onto land, Mo Fan immediately felt relieved.

For some reason, he did not feel safe at sea. Their recent encounter with the unknown creature proved that the sea was extremely dangerous. He had almost wet his pants. Also, the land did not shake continuously, unlike the ocean, and it was easier to identify directions!

As they were on the ship for too long, they were all walking as if they were drunk.

"Does anyone know how to speak Japanese?" Mo Fan soon asked.

"I do, I like to watch Japanese dramas," Jiang Shaoxu smiled.

"Oh, me too," said Mo Fan.

Jiang Shaoxu was not a naive girl either. She immediately rolled her eyes and snapped when she saw Mo Fan's evil grin, "Pervert!"

Mo Fan rubbed his nose. What was wrong with liking Detective Conan?

## [Versatile Mage](#)

### **Chapter 754: Punishment of the Ocean**

"Let's find a resting place, we shouldn't stay here for too long. It will be troublesome if they suspect us of being some illegal immigrants from China," said Ai Jiangtu.

Speak of the devil, and he will come. As soon as Ai Jiangtu finished talking, a few Japanese that looked like inspectors approached them. They took a glance at the ship that was docked at the harbor and began to ask some questions.

Jiang Shaoxu realized that something did not seem right. She quickly urged the rest to keep quiet and took the initiative to chat with the inspectors.

Jiang Shaoxu was quite fluent in Japanese. and her tone, manner of speaking and temperament immediately turned her into an attractive, glamorous Japanese woman. Her eyes even flickered innocently, with alluring glitter.

“We are from the Lin Group’s ship. We have the permit to come ashore,” said Jiang Shaoxu to an inspector with a mustache.

The inspector looked at the others suspiciously. He walked up to them and started asking questions.

He was asking Jiang Yu, who kept nodding and smiling without saying a word.

They would immediately expose their identities if they said a single word. Even though they knew a few basic international phrases, they were disguised as Japanese. Speaking English would instantly tell the inspectors they were foreigners. Of course, Jiang Yu basically kept repeating to himself, Asshole, stop asking me questions!

The inspector felt even more suspicious. He proceeded to ask Nanyu questions, who remained silent, too.

The other inspectors also noticed something was wrong with them. They quickly exchanged glances with one another, as if they were about to get physical!

“Hey, why are you even asking them questions? Didn’t I mention that I’m a teacher of an institute for the deaf and mute? They are a bunch of deaf and mute students from a wealthy background. They won’t be able to understand you, you have to use sign language!” Jiang Shaoxu said to the inspectors, rolling her charming eyes.

Jiang Shaoxu immediately made some hand gestures at Nanyu. The hand gestures were commonly used among Battlemages. Nanyu quickly reacted and responded with hand gestures, too.

The inspectors could not understand sign language. Half of their doubts were cleared after hearing Jiang Shaoxu’s explanation.

Not long after, the captain of the ship handed the inspectors the permit. The inspectors finally let them go.

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“Damn it, I really have the urge to beat them up!” said Mo Fan unpleasantly.

There were so many people entering and leaving the harbor, yet the inspectors happened to pick on them. There only did so because the girls in their group were gorgeous, a bunch of perverts!

“Alright, we’ve just arrived, and we don’t have valid identities, so let’s try not to stir up any trouble with the police or Japan’s Magic Association. Otherwise, it will be nothing but trouble,” said Nanyu.

“Yeah, we should head to the place that the advisors mentioned. Not sure how far it is from Tokyo.”

Mo Fan did not share the same thoughts as them. He had finally made it overseas; if he did not stir some trouble, how could he possibly return to his country and face his people with glory?

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The team left the dock and passed the security. They were basically safe after reaching Xixiong City. The police in Japan was not so free that they would check everyone's identity. In other people's eyes, they were just a group of young adults.

Hotels and inns were basically no-gos, needing some kind of identification. There was no illegal inn in this city that was located close to the sea.

Left with no choice, the abject geniuses could only find a temple on the waist of a mountain. The temple agreed to let them stay for the night after receiving a sizable donation from them.

The temple was called Yanming Temple, a typical Japanese temple. The symbolic stone frame was located at the foot of the hill, with stairs made of marble leading up to the temple. The temple was not particularly huge, and there were not many visitors around. Apart from a few monks, the illegal aliens were the only ones in the temple!

The temple had two stone-carved turtles at the front, their size similar to guardian lion statues. The others proceeded to take a rest on the comfortable beds, yet Mo Fan chose to sit on the back of a stone turtle. From there, he could see all of Xixiong City, the jagged shoreline, and the Pacific Ocean extending into the east. In simple words, it was a temple with a scenic view of the sea on the waist of a mountain!

In their country, temples usually had lots of visitors. The monks were usually well-fed as a result, yet somehow, this Yanming Temple was cold and cheerless. Weren't urban residents more inclined to visit a quiet and secluded place like this? Or perhaps the monks had somehow ruined the reputation of the temple?

"You... what do you think you're doing? Come down quick, you can't sit on the Sacred Ghost, I've never seen such a disrespectful visitor!" a fairly good-looking monk came up and scolded Mo Fan.

The monk was speaking in Japanese, hence Mo Fan could not understand him. However, judging from his wild reaction and how he was waving his hands around, Mo Fan believed that he must be complimenting his exceedingly handsome appearance!

"Do you even talk?" The young monk was quite agitated. His tone was slightly furious.

Mo Fan finally understood what he was mad about. He quickly jumped down from the stone turtle and spoke in English, the international language, "Your temple doesn't have many people, and I feel like the decorations are quite unique. The location is pretty nice too, facing the sea, a stable Wifi connection..."

"You're not a local?" the young monk replied in English too. He was rather fluent, implying that he had achieved a good result in English when he was still a student, before he became a monk.

"I'm from China, I'm here to experience the Japanese culture," Mo Fan replied without hesitation.

The monk was not the police. He would not care if Mo Fan was an illegal alien or a legal visitor.

"Are you sure you're not here to disrespect our culture instead? You were sitting on the Sacred Turtle, it's utterly disrespectful. You'll receive the Punishment of the Ocean if you head out to the sea!" said the righteous monk.

Mo Fan squinted his eyes and glanced at the monk. The monk was around his age and fairly good-looking. His eyebrows were frowning sternly, yet he was clearly proud and arrogant.

“It’s just a statue for decoration purposes. You don’t have to be so serious. You haven’t answered my questions yet; why is the temple so deserted? I even heard some rumors from the people around here before we came here for the night,” said Mo Fan curiously.

“Humph, those idiots are just like you, they ignored our warnings and offended the Sacred Turtle with disrespectful words and acts. They don’t believe the Punishment of the Ocean, yet when something bad happened, they accused us of being responsible instead. They said that we’ve cursed us, and said that we’re a bunch of evil monks. How idiotic!” snorted the monk.

### Versatile Mage

#### **Chapter 755: A Monk and a Teenage Girl**

Mo Fan realized that the monk was the kind that considered evils as deadly foes. He did not purposely hide his emotions, or pretended to be big-hearted and serene like the monks in Mo Fan’s country, who chattered about helping people in distress... Mo Fan found it hard to communicate with him!

“What exactly is the Punishment of the Ocean you mentioned?” asked Mo Fan curiously.

“The sea to the horizon, including the areas you can’t see, are all under the Sacred Turtle’s control. All our living relies on the ocean, how can we disrespect the father of the ocean... asshole, stop leaning against it!” snapped the monk.

“Oh, my bad,” Mo Fan straightened up and signaled the monk to continue.

“I’m done. Anyway, stop touching the Sacred Turtle, and don’t disrespect it. Otherwise, the next time you go out to the sea, you will find yourself in a great disaster, I guarantee it!” said the young monk.

“That’s it? I was looking forward to a sad story. By the way, monk, what is your name?” asked Mo Fan.

“Nara Orisora!” declared the monk, before leaving with a book in his hand.

Mo Fan watched the monk in his long blue robe and white pants leave. However, the monk did not walk far before a teenage girl with a tall ponytail slowly walked up the stairs.

The girl had an adorable face. Even without smiling, she still had two charming dimples.

Her physique was petite, and relatively young compared to Jiang Shaoxu and Mu Ningxue. However, her vulnerable and slender appearance made it hard not to have a good impression of her.

The Japanese teenaged girl looked no different than the girls in China. If anything, the young girl’s makeup was lighter, and she had applied an alluring pink lip gloss, unlike the girls from his country, who still had no idea how to apply foundation. It was rare to see girls around her age who could apply make-up so naturally.

The girl walked up the stairs and immediately saw Nara Orisora. The smile on her face blossomed like flowers, fully displaying her youthful charm.

“Orisora-kun, good afternoon! I’ve plucked some flowers; you can dry them and brew some tea. It’s got great taste!” The girl went up and handed the basket she was carrying to Nara Orisora.

Nara Orisora glanced at her, but quickly shifted his gaze away. He quickened his pace and left without paying much attention to the girl.

The teenager looked slightly disappointed after the monk walked away. She finally aware realized Mo Fan was present when the monk left their sight.

Normally, Mo Fan would not simply reveal his perverted nature and temperament. His smile was rather friendly too. The girl had a good impression of him when he saw him smiling back at her. She immediately apologized, “I’m sorry, I didn’t notice you here.”

Mo Fan communicated with her in English, yet the girl was not quite fluent in it. However, she did not have a problem with basic communication.

“Do you like the monk?” Mo Fan was pretty straightforward. He arrived at the conclusion when he saw her disappointment.

“I...” The young girl did not expect that the foreigner would directly read her mind and expose her secret.

“Don’t be shy, just admit it... that being said, are monks in Japan allowed to date someone?” Mo Fan wondered aloud. He was an idiot when it came to geography, and just as clueless about the cultures of different countries, too.

“Let’s not talk about that. Since you’re new here, allow me to bring you around the temple. Oh, forgot to introduce myself... you can call me Miyata!” the young girl volunteered to be Mo Fan’s tour guide.

Mo Fan was feeling bored too. Why would he reject a pretty Japanese teenage girl’s offer to bring him around?

“Hey, what are you doing!?”

Mo Fan was following the girl into another direction when the weird monk Nara Orisora suddenly yelled at them.

Before Mo Fan could react, Nara Orisora ran over quickly and dragged Mo Fan toward him. His eyes were staring at the girl.

His gaze was incredibly sharp with a hint of hostility. Mo Fan even sensed the energy of magic from the young monk!

“I...I didn’t do anything, I’m just bringing him around so he can keep me company!” Tears almost broke out of the girl’s eyes when she replied with a wronged expression.

“Enough with your act!” the monk snapped aggressively. He sternly looked up and down at Mo Fan and said, “You can see her too?”

“Why can’t I see... f\*\*k me!” Mo Fan quickly shifted his focus toward the girl’s feet when he realized something.

Footprints!

The dirt nearby was loose. Both Mo Fan and the monk had left two lines of footprints behind, yet the girl's shoes tied with little blue ribbons did not leave any footprints. Mo Fan did not believe she was that light!

Mo Fan shuddered in fear! -Holy shit, did I really stumble onto a ghost while the day was still bright? Something isn't right about this girl!-

"We have some guests staying in the temple, so don't you dare prey on them. Otherwise, I won't show any mercy to you, do you understand!" said Nara Orisora, pointing at the girl Miyata.

"I...I..." Tears almost rolled down from Miyata's eyes. If Mo Fan did not realize that something was not right, he would most likely scold the monk for acting crazily. How could he treat a girl so rashly?

Miyata did not dare to stay any longer. She turned around and ran down the stairs.

Mo Fan quickly followed her, yet he discovered that the stairs leading to the temple were completely empty. There was no way the girl could disappear so quickly, no matter how fast she was. Besides, he was an Advanced Magician!

Similarly, Nara Orisora was quite surprised too. The young monk was also a Magician with fairly impressive cultivation!

"Hey, monk, what's going on? Was the girl a ghost?" Mo Fan asked.

"Why didn't you tell me you can see her!?" the monk blamed Mo Fan in return.

"She obviously came here to see you, I think she likes you very much, so I didn't want to disturb you two. Besides, is it weird that I can see her, too?" asked Mo Fan.

The monk looked at Mo Fan once again and said, "You're not just a visitor, you're a Magician... but, even if you're a Magician, you shouldn't be able to see her."

"Can you tell me what she is first?" asked Mo Fan.

The girl looked very alive. If she was a ghost, Mo Fan could have easily identified her through her presence. He was quite experienced with undead, there was no way he would get tricked by a little ghost, right?

"You don't need to know the details!" snapped the monk.

"Was she trying to hurt me?" asked Mo Fan.

"I don't know, but even if you can see her, you should avoid any contact with her. She's not friendly!" advised Nara Orisora.

"What exactly is she? Why is it weird that I can see her? Can't the others see her too?... hey monk, why are you so impolite, answer my questions, monk, bald donkey!..." Mo Fan was full of questions!

## [Versatile Mage](#)

### Chapter 756: You Can't See Her?

At night, the Yanming Temple was so quiet that not a single insect cry could be heard. The developed seaside city under the mountain seemed to have nothing to do with the temple. The light of a few oil lamps swayed in the dark. It was easy to forget about the existence of the temple..

"Mo Fan, why are you sitting here? You almost scared me!" exclaimed a woman.

"I think something is weird about this temple," Mo Fan frowned, still in deep thought.

"Didn't the monk already say we must stay five meters away from the stone statues, especially you!" said Jiang Shaoxu.

"Do you know, during the afternoon..." Mo Fan was just about to share his weird encounter with someone.

Mo Fan still could not figure out what the girl was. If she was a ghost, he had never seen a ghost appearing in bright daylight. Besides, she was too youthful and energetic for an undead. However, if she was alive, where were her footprints? Why did she disappear without a trace after heading down the stairs? Mo Fan was not naive enough to believe that she had tripped and rolled all the way to the bottom.

Jiang Shaoxu interrupted before Mo Fan could finish, "We'll talk when we take a stroll down the street."

"Taking a stroll down the street? What stroll? I never said I wanted to go anywhere," Mo Fan had been troubled by the little girl for a long time. As a professional Hunter, he had a strong thirst for knowledge. He would not be able to sleep well if he did not find out the truth...alright, Mo Fan admitted that he was just looking for something to do as he was too bored, and the encounter with the monk and the girl was quite interesting, too!

"Well, I'm planning to buy some stuff from the market," Jiang Shaoxu smiled, fully displaying her temperament as a vixen.

"You're asking me to go with you?" asked Mo Fan, raising his brows.

"You already told me something is weird; do you really want me to walk alone at night? It's quite a distance from here to the city. I'm just a weak girl, what if some pervert saw how attractive I am and wanted to do lewd things to me, like that asshole Gong Yu? Won't you feel bad for me?" Jiang Shaoxu flicked her hair, as if she was asking Mo Fan to netflix and chill with her.

Mo Fan was an honorable man. How could he possibly be seduced by the vixen? He jumped down from the stone turtle and said, "Let's go!" immediately.

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taking the stairs down, Jiang Shaoxu was far from a well-behaved woman. Whenever she was alone with a man, she would stick closely to him, trying to trigger some chemistry between them. Mo Fan was not an exception. Her arm would occasionally rub against Mo Fan's as she went down the stairs while swinging her hips...

Mo Fan was an honorable man...fine, forget it, there was no point acting further. Either way, the woman's skin was pretty smooth, he could easily feel it even when her clothes were between their hands.

"By the way, I feel like I've heard the name Mo Fan before, but for some reason, I can't remember where," said Jiang Shaoxu.

"My name is pretty common, similar to names like Jianguo, Ronghua, Jiahao, or names like Haohan, Zixuan, and Xuanyang in the twenty-first century. I bet there are at least a hundred thousand people with the same name!" said Mo Fan.

Mo Fan was actually overjoyed inside while he pretended to be low-key. Either way, he was a famous man who had saved countless women in countless cities, thus it was reasonable that someone had heard his name before!

"Perhaps, I remember every man who I'm interested with. Since my impression of you is a little vague, it's most likely because you're not worthy enough," replied Jiang Shaoxu honestly.

"..."

Mo Fan was lost for words at that instant, but a sudden fragrance swept past his nose. Mo Fan thought Jiang Shaoxu was flipping her hair again, yet on second thought, the fragrance was different from her rose perfume. It smelt refreshing, like some kind of herbs, and the fragrance of some innocent flowers on the side of the road.

As Mo Fan was still feeling confused, a person suddenly appeared on the stairs in front of them.

A neat ponytail tied up on her head, and side fringes dangling around her shoulders fully displayed the girl's delicate charm.

She was dressed in plain, simple-colored clothes. The only eye-catching part was the swallowtail butterfly pin on her slightly uplifted chest. Her breasts were not huge, but it was obvious that she was going through puberty, and together with her skinny physique, they gave her an obvious curve!

"Miyata?" Mo Fan remembered the girl's name. He looked at her in surprise.

In the afternoon, the sunlight was still shining on her as she was carried her little basket. She looked innocent and charming, just like some girl next door, yet it was quite scary how she had appeared on the stairs out of nowhere. No matter how innocent her smile was, it still looked somewhat eerie!

"What Miyata?" Jiang Shaoxu looked at Mo Fan in confusion.

"The girl ahead," said Mo Fan.

Jiang Shaoxu glanced ahead with a confused look.

However, she soon turned around and giggled, "I thought you're more interesting than the other guys, but you're using such a boring trick still. Do you think I'm going to dive into your arms just because you said there's a girl in front of us? You have to be better if you want to take advantage of me..."

Mo Fan's forehead was covered in black lines when he heard Jiang Shaoxu's words, "You can't see her? You seriously can't see her?"

"Stop trying to trick me, there's nothing ahead!" Jiang Shaoxu proceeded down the stairs.

After going down the stairs, Jiang Shaoxu passed by Miyata without noticing there was a girl standing right beside her.

Miyata looked at Jiang Shaoxu with a smile as she walked past. For some reason, Mo Fan felt a chill running down his spine when he saw it.

"I forgot to ask your name in the afternoon. I'm glad to meet you, friend from the east," said Miyata politely to Mo Fan.

Mo Fan was not the kind that would easily wet his pants after seeing something supernatural. He remained calm and said in a deep voice, "I'm Zhao Manyan. Is it true that my friend can't see you and hear you?"

Jiang Shaoxu took a few steps more before she realized that Mo Fan was still mumbling to himself. She turned around and smilingly said, "Are you seriously still going on with the joke? Stop talking to yourself, let's head into town. I've got things to buy. The air by the sea is too moist, I don't feel too comfortable."

"I'm not sure either, but since you and your friend are busy, I won't disturb you anymore. Zhao Manyan... not a bad name..." said Miyata softly.

She slowly disappeared into the darkness after finishing the sentence.

Mo Fan stared ahead with a blank face. There was nothing in front of him, apart from a lingering fragrance!

## [Versatile Mage](#)

### **Chapter 757: Soul Eater**

Mo Fan quickened his pace to catch up to Jiang Shaoxu, yet he was still preoccupied by his thoughts about Miyata.

The girl was like a ghost, yet she was not actually a ghost. Mo Fan was confused about why he could see the girl when Jiang Shaoxu could not?

"Such a boring man," Jiang Shaoxu rolled her eyes at Mo Fan and led the way. Either way, she was disappointed in Mo Fan's petty trick.

She did not think it was bad for a man to flirt and take advantage of a woman since she was such a gorgeous beauty, yet the trick Mo Fan used was too lowly...

As a matter of fact, Jiang Shaoxu was quite scared of supernatural stuff. Otherwise, she would not ask Mo Fan to keep her company. She found it hard to accept even though she knew Mo Fan was joking!

"Alright, my bad, guess I'll be going back to the temple. My mind is full of question marks now," Mo Fan did not want to waste his time further when he realized that the girl was actually mad.

"Don't go, we'll come back as soon as I buy the stuff I want," Jiang Shaoxu glared at him.

"Seriously, being so smug when asking for a favor? Do I look like someone that boring? I really meant it when I said there's someone there..."

— —

The atmosphere turned lively as they arrived in the city. The truth was, Mo Fan had never gotten used to staying in quiet places. He felt like he was abandoned by the world, like an old man spending their last years living alone on a mountain. He preferred to stay in big cities, with concrete walls and huge glass panels, luxurious cars, trams, youthful girls, mature girls...

Xixiong City was extremely clean, with lots of Japanese-style streets, paths, houses, parks and old trees scattered across the place, places where one could easily spend their entire afternoon enjoying the scenery...

They came to a busy street. Jiang Shaoxu was here to buy some skincare products and snacks. She did not buy anything special.

They saw a small izakaya on their way back, located at the intersection of two fairly quiet streets. The place was decorated with some lanterns, and a menu written in Japanese. There was a little hill behind it.

"Come, let's have some drinks," Jiang Shaoxu totally lost control of herself when she saw the izakaya. She immediately dragged Mo Fan over.

The owner of the business smiled when he saw the gorgeous lady, revealing his yellow teeth as he said something in Japanese.

Mo Fan looked at the owner as he spoke. Even though he could not understand a single word, Mo Fan never understood why the Japanese had to open their mouths so wide, just like the Koreans, when they were talking. -Can't they close their mouths after finishing their sentences? Must they really keep their mouths open and expose their teeth?-

Jiang Shaoxu chatted with the owner for a while, before the man gave her two bottles of sake. One warm, one chilled, to guarantee the taste of the sake.

Mo Fan had never tried it before. He almost poured the sake into a glass of ice water. Jiang Shaoxu smilingly tapped on his shoulder.

"So it's your first time in Japan," the owner spoke in a different language. It seemed like he was very aware of Mo Fan's presence.



“Yeah,” Mo Fan nodded and pointed at the barbecue rack to order some aromatic squid.

“Where are you staying at now?” asked the owner.

“In that temple,” Mo Fan pointed at the dimly lighted temple on the mountain.

The owner’s eyes widened and he stopped cooking the squid.

“You...you’re staying there? The Yanming Temple?” the owner’s voice turned strange all of a sudden.

“Yeah,” Mo Fan realized something from the owner’s expression. He was also bothered by lots of questions, thus he quickly asked, ‘Is there something strange about the temple?’

“Oh, oh, nothing, but I suggest you not to stay in the temple. It’s not a good place. It was once a good temple, but not anymore,” said the owner.

She blinked like a kitten and said with a soothing voice, “Tell us more about it, we just arrived here...” Jiang Shaoxu was now intrigued too.

The owner was indeed an old pervert. Even though he looked reluctant to spill the beans, he could not control his mouth at all. He lowered his voice and said, “Someone lost their soul there!”

“Lost their soul?” Mo Fan opened his eyes wide.

“In the past, the Yanming Temple was known for blessing people’s marriages. Even the young folk from other cities would come here just to pray in the temple. However, there was a young man who went to the temple and fainted for no reason. He never woke up since then, none of the Healing Spells worked... some old folks said that he had lost his soul, his body had turned into an empty shell,” said the owner.

Mo Fan’s jaw dropped.

Jiang Shaoxu completely treated it as a story. She always enjoyed listening to the gossip from the owners of izakayas in Japan.

“A piece of advice, just pretend you didn’t see anything even if you do if you really want to stay in the temple...” the owner lowered his voice further.

“What if we don’t?” asked Mo Fan. Somehow, Mo Fan believed in the owner’s words.

“That’s going to bring you nothing but trouble, you’ll lose your soul!” said the owner.

“Hehehe, I know how to steal someone’s soul too, check this out...muacks,” Jiang Shaoxu gave a passerby a fly kiss and blinked her eyes.

The passerby was a little drunk, and he staggered after getting teased by Jiang Shaoxu.

Jiang Shaoxu giggled when she saw the man trying to recover clumsily, showing her vixenish temperament.

“There’s nothing I can do if you don’t trust me.” The owner was too lazy to argue further.

Mo Fan wanted to listen more, yet the owner was reluctant to say any further. Even the squid was tasteless in his mouth...

—

After supper, the two went back to the stairs leading up to the temple. Mo Fan kept looking around him, worried that Miyata would show up again.

“Do you really believe the story? Stop being silly, you’re an adult now,” Jiang Shaoxu started laughing at Mo Fan.

“You didn’t want to believe me and the owner, just keep believing yourself then...” said Mo Fan indifferently.

Miyata did not appear. Mo Fan and Jiang Shaoxu went back to their room. The light was still on.

The people in the temple did not rely on electricity for lighting in order to save money. They normally used oil lamps. It was rather antique, yet when Mo Fan and Jiang Shaoxu came back, the electric lamp was still lit up. They could see blurry shadows moving back and forth inside the room.

“Did you find him?” asked Ai Jiangtu.

“No, he really went missing,” said Jiang Yu.

Mo Fan and Jiang Shaoxu went into the room as they were talking. The others immediately looked at them as if they had just seen a ghost.

“Who’s missing?” asked Mo Fan immediately.

“You two, we spent a long time looking for you. We thought you two were missing. Where did you go, we were almost worried to death,” said Jiang Yu.

“We went down the mountain to buy some stuff... by the way, is something wrong? Why is everyone so tense?” asked Jiang Shaoxu when she realized that something was not right.

The room fell silent, and no one answered her question.

Mo Fan looked around him and realized that someone was missing from the team.

Taking a second look, he immediately shivered in fear!

Zhao Manyan was missing!

### [Versatile Mage](#)

#### **Chapter 758: The Strange Incident in the Temple**

A golden-haired man was lying on the tatami. His face was covered by a thick blanket. For some reason, the temperature in the room was freezing, and the man under the blanket seemed to be the reason.

Mo Fan walked up to the man and flipped the blanket open. He saw Zhao Manyan’s face.

His face was pale-white. Although Zhao Manyan was the pretty-boy kind, his skin tone was normally quite healthy instead of its current pallor.

Mo Fan touched the blanket and realized that it was extremely icy too. The cold was coming from Zhao Manyan's body.

"Zhou Xu found him first. He was meditating in the room when he felt cold all of a sudden. It took him quite some time to figure out that Zhao Manyan was the source of the chill, like he was poisoned. He didn't react at all, and has stayed the same even until now," said Nanyu.

The incident was too bizarre. Apart from Zhou Xu, Zu Jiming was also in the room when it happened. They were busy minding their own business. Zhao Manyan ended up like this all of a sudden, giving them a great fright.

Everyone immediately gathered in the room when it happened, yet they realized that Mo Fan and Jiang Shaoxu were missing, sending them into a panic. Luckily, the two only went to the city to get some supper.

Now, the only problem was Zhao Manyan.

"He's alive, but he's in a deep sleep. Nan Rongni strongly suggested that we not wake him up forcibly. Otherwise, it would inflict serious damage to his spirit. We have to find out what poison it is first... the strange thing is, we asked an old monk to take a look, yet he immediately ran away while murmuring under his breath. He did not give us any useful information, so it's unlikely that they will give us any help," said Jiang Yu.

"Is the Healing Element not working?" asked Mo Fan.

Nan Rongni shook her head.

"Is his life in danger?" asked Mo Fan again.

"Not for now, but the cold from his body is quite strange. I'm afraid that it will severely affect the functions of his body," said Nan Rongni.

Mo Fan nodded. He understood the situation.

He turned around and saw Jiang Shaoxu with a shocked expression. She finally spoke up when everyone ran out of ideas, "Does this mean what the owner of the Japanese bar said is true? There's some kind of Soul Eater here? Zhao Manyan does look like he has lost his soul!"

"What Soul Eater?"

"Jiang Shaoxu, enough with your nonsense. Stop scaring us when we're on a barren mountain," said Mu Tingying unpleasantly.

As they were Magicians, it was not scary if they knew the demon creatures were responsible for it, yet if it involved something supernatural, it would be somewhat terrifying!

Jiang Shaoxu immediately told everyone what she heard from the owner of the izakaya.

Everyone felt uneasy after hearing the words. Did Zhao Manyan really lose his soul?

“Stop being so superstitious, we’re from the magic society,” Nanyu stopped everyone from thinking further.

“Mo Fan, you mentioned you saw a girl, was that real too?” asked Jiang Shaoxu as she recalled something.

Mo Fan did not respond, yet Jiang Shaoxu had her answer from his expression. Mo Fan felt a great chill go down his spine as soon as Jiang Shaoxu mentioned it!

“By the way, why did it have to be Zhao Manyan? There are so many of us here; if there’s really a Soul Eater, why did it only target Zhao Manyan?” Mu Tingying asked, a question that was indeed worthy to be discussed.

Mo Fan’s lips twitched. It all made sense now. Should he spill the beans?

Mo Fan was totally dumbfounded!

First of all, why was he the only one that could see the girl? What exactly was the girl, to come and go without a trace? He was already an Advanced Magician; it did not make sense that he could not sense if she was alive.

Second, did he really curse Zhao Manyan?

Mo Fan did not forget that he had given Zhao Manyan’s name to the girl, and Zhao Manyan turned out to be the victim!

Did that mean the Soul Eater could only target someone after learning their name?

Everyone was at a loss. Even after Zhao Manyan and Mo Fan told them what they knew, the others chose not to believe it. They were more willing to explain Zhao Manyan’s condition was some kind of poison.

“Does anyone know where did Zhao Manyan went tonight?” asked Zu Jiming.

“He didn’t go anywhere, just the mountain behind the temple, the well, the corridor, the memorial temple...didn’t we already investigate those places?”

“We should split up, but don’t go anywhere alone. You few should ask the old monks about anything strange in this temple. As for everyone else, go check the places Zhao Manyan has been to, see if there’s any plant nearby, since it’s more likely that he’s poisoned...” ordered Ai Jiangtu.

—

The team immediately split into smaller groups. They had to find the reason for Zhao Manyan’s being poisoned as quickly as possible.

Nan Rongni also mentioned that since the Healing Element did not work, they had to focus on finding the truth behind it. Zhao Manyan had stayed in the temple’s vicinity. It would not be difficult to find some clues.

Mo Fan was allocated to a small group too. Their job was to find the young girl.

Jiang Shaoxu wanted to know the truth, too. She volunteered to join Mo Fan's group. The others in the group were Jiang Yu and Mu Ningxue.

"What you said just then, was it real?" Mu Ningxue walked up to Mo Fan and asked sternly.

"Why would I joke about something like that? There's something wrong about this temple. If you don't believe me, I think you all should head down the mountain and ask the residents of the town about the temple," said Mo Fan.

If only he could see the girl, it would be meaningless for the others to follow him. Perhaps the owner of the izakaya or the residents nearby would know some useful information.

"I'll stay with you, it's dangerous for you to be alone," said Mu Ningxue.

"Mm, it's better to stay in pairs. Jiang Yu, let's go head down the mountain," said Jiang Shaoxu. She knew now was not the time to fool around. She immediately followed Jiang Yu down the mountain to ask around about the temple.

Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue walked toward the stairs. Mo Fan remembered there was a diverging path covered by weeds in the middle of the stairs. Mo Fan had no idea where the path would lead to, yet he remembered it was where the girl had disappeared. He might find some clues there. Besides, the path was purposely sealed off!...

## [Versatile Mage](#)

### **Chapter 759: May I Know Her Name?**

Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue went to the middle of the stairs where he had stumbled on the girl previously.

Mo Fan looked at the diverging flight of stairs and saw that the path was overgrown with weeds. Some vines were blocking the path.

There was also a white line across the path, implying it was a prohibited area. The white line felt even stranger the more Mo Fan looked at it, as if it was some kind of seal locking something inside.

Perhaps it was only him, but the path looked eerier under the dim moonlight!

"Is this where you saw the girl?" asked Mu Ningxue.

"Mm, but I saw her first in the afternoon. She went to the temple to look for a young monk, so she chatted with me because I was talking with the monk. I didn't notice anything odd about the girl at first," said Mo Fan.

"Most of the monks went down the mountain for some ritual just before nighttime. They told us they will be back in a few days," said Mu Ningxue.

"I know, or else I would be asking the bald donkey who can see the girl like me some questions. I bet he could easily tell us the truth," said Mo Fan.

Mo Fan had just learned that the monks had left, leaving only an old monk behind to look after the temple. The old monk was acting strange since he knew about Zhao Manyan's situation. He kept murmuring about how something was impossible.

"Sigh, it's my fault too," Mo Fan let out a sigh.

"Why is that?"

"The girl asked for my name, but I told her Zhao Manyan's name instead when I sensed something fishy about her, and now Zhao Manyan has lost his soul. I believe the girl needs to know her target's name beforehand," said Mo Fan.

Mu Ningxue was surprised after hearing Mo Fan's explanation. It was her first time hearing about it.

However, frankly speaking, Mo Fan was simply too unreliable. The girl had asked for his name, yet he immediately gave her Zhao Manyan's name with a straight face and ended up entrapping Zhao Manyan. It was indeed a misfortune to be his friend.

"Let's go deeper," Mu Ningxue did not want to waste her time on meaningless speculations. She walked around the white line and proceeded along the weed-covered path.

Mo Fan quickly followed her.

The two ventured further and ended up on the other side of the mountain. They could no longer see the city from here, not even a glimpse of light from the city. The only thing left was the dim moonlight from above, and the calm sea in the distance.

The path was so quiet that they could only hear their own footsteps. Mo Fan was not the kind that could keep quiet, so he went up to Mu Ningxue and teased, "Say, what if we found a small grave at the end of the path with the girl's portrait on the gravestone?"

Mu Ningxue turned around slightly. Her eyes flickered with annoyance as she said softly, "Do you seriously think I'm Mu Ningxue?"

Mo Fan opened his eyes wide and looked at the girl in disbelief.

Mu Ningxue was too lazy to waste her time on the idiot. She continued down the path. She did not feel anything even when Mo Fan tried to spook her.

Mo Fan finally collected his thoughts and caught up with a smirk, "You got me there. I didn't know that you're quite humorous too, hahahaha!"

"The path ends here," Mu Ningxue halted in her tracks. Her shoes softly tapped the edge of the last step. The place ahead was covered in weeds and yellow soil. There was no visible path nearby, nor did it look like someone had been here before.

"Err...it seems like the path is only half-constructed. Somehow, they never finished it," Mo Fan felt dumb when the scene from his imagination did not come true.

That being said, where did the girl go?

"I believe there's nothing interesting here," said Mu Ningxue.

“Guess I’ll have to do that...”

“Do what?”

“Miyata! Miyata! Can you hear me? Miyata... can you please come here, I have to ask you something!”

Mo Fan’s voice was extraordinarily loud on the mountain. The echoes persisted among the woods. The stray dogs down the mountain immediately started barking after hearing his call. Their endless calls echoed on the mountain!

Mu Ningxue looked at Mo Fan with her eyes saying, “Are you dumb?”

The truth was, his calling was completely useless.

Left with no choice, the two took the same path back. As they were approaching the stairs, a soft breeze came from the distance, sweeping at the flowers and grass on the mountain. Mo Fan sharply captured a familiar fragrance.

“Wait a second,” Mo Fan called Mu Ningxue. He glanced at the patch of wild chrysanthemums on the slope.

“What now?” asked Mu Ningxue.

“I remembered that the girl was holding a basket. She told the monk that she had plucked some herbs that could be mixed with tea. I remembered its smell, I think it’s the same fragrance from these wild chrysanthemums,” Mo Fan pointed at the stalks of wild chrysanthemums swaying on the slope.

The wild chrysanthemums were a faint yellow. They seemed like the ordinary kind, yet their fragrance was different from the perfume of ordinary chrysanthemums.

Mo Fan climbed up the slope and approached a small patch of wild chrysanthemums. He crouched down and sniffed at the flower.

Mo Fan was about to turn around to talk to Mu Ningxue but stopped when he caught a glimpse of Mu Ningxue’s dress and legs in the corner of his vision. “This must be it.”

Mo Fan extended his hand to pluck the flower. He decided to keep a stalk to himself, even though he had no idea if it was useful...

“Are you sure? There are so many flowers here,” said Mu Ningxue.

“I’m sure, my nose is...” Mo Fan suddenly paused in the middle of his reply.

Mu Ningxue’s voice came from down the slope even though she was standing beside him. This meant that she never came up the slope with him, thus the dress beside him...

Mo Fan was not the timid kind, he quickly raised his head and moved his face close to the person standing beside him!

As he expected, the beautiful face of an innocent girl was standing close to him.

If the girl had not appeared less than a meter away all of a sudden, Mo Fan would be dazzled by her looks too. She did indeed have a unique charm.

Mo Fan initially thought the girl's face would suddenly turn spooky or reveal her true appearance of a demon creature at close distance, yet she remained charming even after he stared at her for some time. Her delicate appearance reminded him of Liu Ru when she was still a weak girl, without the melancholy expression.

"Mi...Miyata?" It took Mo Fan some time to utter the name.

"We have met again. Is she your friend? She's so pretty, even I am a bit jealous. May I know her name?" Miyata had a faint smile. Her squinted eyes looked extremely pure and innocent.

### Versatile Mage

#### **Chapter 760: Testing the Poison with Names**

She was asking him for names again! Mo Fan shivered when he heard the girl's question.

Mo Fan's lips twitched slightly. He was lost for words when he tried to respond to the seemingly innocent, harmless girl. He finally forced a smile after a few seconds and said, "Her name is quite complicated, I'm afraid you won't remember it. By the way, I have a friend who suddenly fainted. His entire body turned extremely cold too. Since you have been around here for a long time, do you know the reason behind it?"

Mo Fan did not accuse her straightaway. The truth was, he was still unsure if she was responsible for what had happened to Zhao Manyan. Even if she was the culprit, Mo Fan believed there was no need for him to fall out with her straight away if she dared to show up again.

Of course, most importantly, Mo Fan still did not quite understand the situation. He had no idea how he could subdue her and how was she going to resolve Zhao Manyan's situation.

"Your friend? Which one?" said Miyata, while blinking her eyes, as if she knew nothing about it.

"I don't think you've met him. Golden hair, he's quite handsome, but not as handsome as I am... *(sigh)* anyway, do you know what happened to him?" Mo Fan began to act dumb.

Meanwhile, Mu Ningxue was looking at Mo Fan having a monologue with a weird expression.

The truth was, Mo Fan totally looked like he was bewitched when he was talking and smiling like there was actually someone in front of him.

However, Mu Ningxue did not say anything.

Even though she had lots of question marks in her mind, she was used to figuring out things on her own. It was unnecessary to ask questions if she figured it out on her own, but even when she failed to comprehend it by herself, she still did not bother to ask questions.

It was obvious that Mo Fan had stumbled into the invisible girl he mentioned before. He was currently conversing with the girl, and from Mo Fan's response, she was able to guess what the girl was saying.



-Why is he the only one that can see the girl?-

That was the biggest doubt that troubled Mu Ningxue the most.

"I have no idea, maybe your friend has caught a strange disease, I heard that someone else has caught the same disease before, and no one is able to find a cure for it..." said Miyata softly.

Mo Fan looked at her helplessly. It was difficult to link her innocent expression with his imagination of a harmful Soul Eater...

"I'll be honest with you, I lied to you the other day. My name isn't Zhao Manyan, it's the name of my friend who fainted. I have heard rumors about a Soul Eater around here, and my friend seems to have lost his soul, not long after I told you his name," Mo Fan probed further when he saw that the girl was still pretending to be innocent.

Miyata immediately realized what Mo Fan was hinting. She frowned and looked at Mo Fan with a complicated expression, "Are you implying that I have something to do with it?"

Mo Fan said while nodding, "I do hope that it has nothing to do with you. I'm hoping that you can help my friend recover."

Miyata glanced at Mu Ningxue down the slope and said with a self-mocking grin, "Is that why you're unwilling to tell me her name?"

"Well..." Mo Fan was lost for words. The upset look on the girl's face was convincing Mo Fan that she was not the culprit, yet his instincts were telling him that she was somehow related because she was like a ghost haunting the temple.

"You didn't trust me at the start, you're afraid that I will hurt you, so you gave me a fake name, is that right?" said Miyata, as if her feelings were hurt.

"Nope," responded Mo Fan.

"You're afraid that I will hurt her, so you're not willing to tell me her name, right?" said Miyata.

"That's not it," Mo Fan shook his head and said sternly, "First of all, there's something strange about you. The reason I gave you my friend's name is because I assumed it would not make a difference. If I thought you were dangerous from the start, I would give you my name instead. I'm not the kind that would put my friend in danger."

The hurt look in Miyata's eyes gradually disappeared after she heard Mo Fan's explanation. She had captured a hint of sincerity from Mo Fan's eyes. "How about this, I'll help your friend to recover, but I won't do a favor for someone who doesn't trust me. To prove that you trust me, you must tell me her name."

Miyata was very smart despite her innocent look.

She realized that Mo Fan was afraid to give her names, because the last time he gave her someone's name, the person had fallen unconscious. Therefore, Mo Fan would have to give her another name to earn her trust.

Mo Fan was immediately troubled by the condition!

He looked at Mu Ningxue who was looking back at him with a confused look.

“You can ask her for her opinion,” said Miyata.

Mo Fan was indeed troubled. Normally, the hot-tempered Mo Fan would simply beat the crap out of Miyata instead of wasting his time talking to her. She was most likely responsible for Zhao Manyan’s situation...

However, he did try while talking to the girl. There was something strange about her. He was unsure if he could use his magic on her. Since he was left with no choice, he could only proceed with caution.

Mo Fan returned to Mu Ningxue and told her about Miyata’s request.

“She wants to know my name?” said Mu Ningxue.

“Mm, I think it’s better for us to leave this place. There’s something strange about the girl... we’ll deal with her again when we’ve thought of a way,” Mo Fan was tricked the first time. He would not put Mu Ningxue’s life in danger.

“Do you think she’s responsible?” asked Mu Ningxue in a serious voice.

“I believe so, she might be tricking me to tell her your name. For some reason, she might only be able to do the act after someone gives her the target’s name,” said Mo Fan.

“I think we can try,” said Mu Ningxue.

“Don’t do it, we still haven’t figured out what happened to Zhao Manyan, if the same thing happened to you...” said Mo Fan.

“I think the others won’t be able to find any useful information to save Zhao Manyan. Use my name as bait; if nothing happens to me, didn’t she promise that she will help us save Zhao Manyan? If something did happen to me, at least you’ll know who the culprit is. As for what the next step is... Nan Rongni already mentioned that the strange disease won’t kill us in a short time,” said Mu Ningxue.

They were indeed puzzled by the situation. It was obviously more effective to seek the answers from the girl than using other ways. As such, she agreed to put herself at risk to find out the truth!

“If that’s the case, I’ll give her my name instead!” said Mo Fan.

“No way, only you can see her and talk to her. In other words, if she’s really the one, only you can deal with her!” rebuked Mu Ningxue.