

Versatile 881

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Chapter 881: The Kingdom of Death

A bathing pool...

Fang Shaoli was sitting on a black chair with her legs crossed. A pair of blue, sharp heels were tapping softly on the ground made of volcanic rocks.

The bathing pool was built with volcanic rocks. Heat was coming from the beehive of holes, warming the room.

At the front was a heart-shaped pool. In the past, the pool was normally filled with clean hot water and rose petals, but it was now filled with black unholy water full of bubbles, like it had dissolved lots of corpses. Just the sight of it was utterly disgusting.

Zhao Pinlin was kneeling in front of Fang Shaoli's short skirt, kissing her heels. His humble act was nothing like his usual tyrannical manner. It felt like he had turned into a completely different person.

Meanwhile, Wang Xuxu was right beside them. She was watching the scene in fear. Zhao Pinlin's strange act, and the woman acting all superior... it did not look like some kinky fetish, but pure evil. Wang Xuxu felt extremely uncomfortable.

"You've kissed the God of Death's foot. The master has accepted your sincerity. Now, it is time for you to act," Fang Shaoli smiled. The nobility in her smile was different than the disguise of the waitress she put on every day!

"The master you mentioned, are you referring to the one in the Ancient Capital..." Zhao Pinlin's eyes flickered with uncontrollable excitement.

If Zhao Pinlin had heard the name a week ago, he would surely have kept a good distance from the place.

However, he now felt like he had embarked on a journey to obtain unlimited power and status, led by the person who was able to stir chaos in the modern world. Why would he worry about fulfilling his own little ambitions?

"Please relay my will to master. I will contribute greatly to the organization," said Zhao Pinlin.

Wang Xuxu was simply in disbelief as she watched it all happen.

The Black Vatican!

Wang Xuxu finally understood why Zhao Pinlin had turned into a different man in just a few days. He was being influenced by the people of the Black Vatican!

What did the woman in heels do to change a well-behaved student into what he was now? It was like he had been possessed by a demon! His bones were filled with nothing but greed. He had completely forfeited the beliefs and teachings he had received for the past twenty years!

“What...what are you trying to do?” Wang Xuxu backed off in fear when she saw Zhao Pinlin approaching her like a demon.

“You can no longer provide me with any value. You will become the stepping stone for me to achieve my greater ambitions!” Zhao Pinlin declared in a cruel voice.

“Wake up, Zhao Pinlin, do you understand what you are doing? She’s with the Black Vatican, she’s only going to lead you into a bottomless abyss!” Wang Xuxu knew her life was in danger. She forced herself to stay calm and try to convince the man.

“Do you think I’ve lost my mind? To be honest, when I heard about the calamity of the Ancient Capital, my first thought was... how is it possible that a single person was capable enough to bring despair to such a huge nation?...” Zhao Pinlin laughed disdainfully.

Wang Xuxu was stunned. She could not believe she had heard that from Zhao Pinlin.

-Is he serious?

-Is he really revering the evil power instead of feeling regretful and angry when the calamity took place?-

“Zhao Pinlin’s background and his talents only make him a slightly wealthier, mediocre person. However, his wild ambitions and his ability to adapt are rather brilliant. What he lacks is a chance to offer his soul to the real God of Death.

“There is only one god, the God of Death. No one in this world could escape from the God of Death’s claws, including God himself. The Kingdom of Death is the true paradise, the place of eternity. Only those who have contributed greatly on behalf of the God of Death will be given a higher position in the eternal Kingdom of Death. Otherwise, when your temporary life comes to an end, you’ll end up as a slave like the Dark Beast Monster when you arrive in the Kingdom of Death!” Fang Shaoli declared to Wang Xuxu in a firm and proud voice.

Meanwhile, Wang Xuxu was staring silently at the passionate Fang Shaoli.

Fang Shaoli was not too bothered by it. How could a person who was about to be turned into a Dark Beast Monster possibly understand the truth?

“She’s all yours now, Zhao Pinlin. Once you push her into the pool, you will become a Gray Priest. Due to the intimate relationship between us, you’ll directly obey my orders. The other Black Clergy won’t be able to order you around. You will be my most brilliant student,” Fang Shaoli burst out laughing.

Zhao Pinlin nodded. He forcibly dragged Wang Xuxu over to the pool of disgusting, black liquid.

“The stupidest decision you ever made was choosing that useless prick Rong Sheng...that was the greatest humiliation I have ever felt. But don’t you worry, that asshole’s life won’t be any better than yours!” Zhao Pinlin no longer had the slightest pity for her.

Even he had never thought that the trip he organized to win Wang Xuxu’s affection would end up like this. The girl was fine when he first laid his hands on her, but he was soon bored. He did not feel uneasy even when he was about to push her into the pool.

Perhaps it was exactly what Fang Shaoli had mentioned, he had found his real talents!

Wang Xuxu fell into the pond. The corrosive, cursed water immediately corroded her skin and formed a layer of pitch-black substance around her.

“She has to be soaked in it for some time, to get rid of her living breath... I will then teach you how to perform the curse,” said Fang Shaoli.

Zhao Pinlin nodded in anticipation.

He always wanted power, but unfortunately he did not become a Magician. However, he never thought he would have the chance again when he was already in his twenties. It was a blessing from Heaven!

Fang Shaoli was about to teach Zhao Pinlin the curse when she heard a sound coming from her earring. It was actually a communication device with the shape of an earring.

“Don’t disturb me if it isn’t anything important. I’m teaching my student,” Fang Shaoli sounded rather impatient.

“Someone has snuck into the manor. They will be a threat to us!” the voice of a man came from the other end.

“Have you learned who they are?” asked Fang Shaoli with a frown.

“We weren’t able to learn their identities. They are too many visitors at the manor recently!” said the man.

“The Enforcement Union?” asked Fang Shaoli.

“No, we have been watching them all along. Not even a probationary member has entered the island,” replied the person.

“Humph, must be some idiots. Go investigate and give me a list of the suspicious people,” said Fang Shaoli.

“Got it!”

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Chapter 882: Things Are Not Looking Good

Fang Shaoli cut off the communication. She stared coldly at Wang Xuxu, who was struggling in the pond. After Wang Xuxu fell into the water, something was grabbing onto her legs. She could not break free no matter how hard she tried.

“Are we continuing?” asked Zhao Pinlin.

“We’ll need to handle the emergency first. It looks like our location has been compromised...is everyone you brought a classmate? Why is there a Magician among them?” said Fang Shaoli.

“Oh, are you referring to those three... I don’t think there’s any problem with them, since I was the one who invited them,” Zhao Pinlin explained the situation on the bus.

“They can easily fake their identities. Even though we can investigate them further, we will be wasting our time trying to do so. Since you’re now one of us, I’ll let you probe their identities. I’ll leave a Cursed Beast under your control. Remember, even if you did not learn anything useful, you must avoid exposing yourself at all costs. Once your identity is compromised, I believe you understand what you have to do, right?” said Fang Shaoli.

Zhao Pinlin was startled. He received a blue-red pill from Fang Shaoli.

“The death in this world is only the beginning to paradise. I know what I should do!” said Zhao Pinlin fanatically.

“Very well, you will become a brilliant member with enough resolution. You might even earn your chance to meet the Mater in person,” said Fang Shaoli.

“Really?” blurted out Zhao Pinlin passionately.

“Of course, I was the same as you a long time ago. I was her most brilliant student,” Fang Shaoli smiled.

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Master Mintian’s talk had ended. The reputable academic had already left, after bringing the manor quite a handsome sum. After all, the place was even more luxurious than a five-star hotel. A meal alone would cost many workers a month’s wage.

A few hundred people stayed at the manor. They were enjoying the unique environment and the secluded lifestyle while reflecting on Master Mintian’s teachings.

However, the same night, when most people had fallen asleep, the sound of battle came from the spacious field in the manor. The clueless Mo Fan pushed the curtains open and immediately saw a red fireball flying at him!

“F**k me!” Mo Fan cursed as he ducked.

The fireball flew past above his head. He soon smelled burning hair.

He turned around and saw the fireball had landed on the wall, leaving a scorched mark on it. Luckily, the wall was not made of wood, or it would have been set on fire instantly.

Mo Fan was speechless. Why would someone try to attack him with a Fire Burst as he was about to go to bed? He looked toward the noise and saw quite a number of Magicians fighting in the hedge maze. Judging from the Star Patterns, it seemed like there were quite a few Intermediate Magicians involved!

“What’s going on?” Mu Ningxue came onto the balcony. She was wearing thin sleepwear. Her smooth, perfect skin was partly visible under the cloth.

“I don’t know either, they started fighting all of a sudden,” said Mo Fan.

“Should we go take a look?” asked Mu Ningxue.

“No, we aren’t Magicians. You are only a Basic Magician now. We’ll walk down there and stand far away so we won’t expose ourselves,” said Mo Fan firmly.

“Sure thing!”

The two woke Lingling up and saw many people attracted by the noise as they headed downstairs. They were heading toward the noise to see what was going on.

The hedge maze was lit up by flames and rolling smoke, with occasional flickers of lightning. The people who did not practice magic were greatly astonished.

Rong Sheng, Guo Wenyi, and the others were here too. They had no idea what was going on, either; they only knew the fight seemed quite intense.

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“Humph, you can’t escape!”

“Why are you arresting me?” Carly glared at the group of people.

“Enough with your act, we already knew the deal between you and that useless captain. You’re trying to cover up your relationship with the Black Vatican using the disguise of the manager of this manor. Today, we, the Golden Battle Hunters will arrest you and bring you to the Enforcement Union!” said the man in a shirt and suit pants.

The man was dressed like a businessman, yet it was obvious that he was a rather strong Magician.

There were eight other people close to him. They were dressed in casual clothes, some even looked like they were here for a vacation, yet everyone was able to use magic!

“Damn, you can’t accuse me without any proof!” snapped Carly.

Lightning was spreading from her hands, preventing the Magicians from getting close to her. The rapid, purple lightning provided her with great protection that could kill anyone that came too close.

“You’re just a manager, yet you are able to cast such an advanced spell; do you take us as idiots?!”

“Enough talking to her, she is at least a priestess! Take her down, and find the rest of their people!”

The members who called themselves the Golden Battle Hunters made their moves. Carly’s cultivation was indeed powerful. She was almost comparable to some Advanced Magicians, yet she alone could not handle an elite team of Hunters. As a Giant Shadow Spike sneakily landed on her shadow, the spell immediately sealed off her movement and severely influenced her mind.

“Watch out, she might be able to summon Cursed Beasts!” shouted the leader.

“She can’t move any more!” Another Hunter with the Shadow Element launched a few more Giant Shadow Spikes, striking her in series to strengthen the force controlling her.

Carly could no longer move, dragged around by the Shadow Magician. Her eyes were filled with disdain and hatred.

“Alright, we’ve taken the clergy down!”

“HAHA, I thought the Black Vatican is stronger than this, so this is all they got?” boasted a rough-looking Magician with a thick beard.

“Don’t lower your guard! There must be more members of the Black Vatican around. Call the others in to arrest them!” said the leader through the communication channel.

As soon as the order was given, the manor covered in darkness was instantly lit up by the glow of spells.

Soon, the sound of people cursing, the noise of fighting, and cries of agony rose across the place, as if a raid was taking place.

The people who came for a vacation were trembling in fear. Somehow, the place had turned into a battlefield where lots of Magicians were fighting one another. The place was meant to have only rich people and reputable people; where did all these Magicians come from!?

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Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue stood at the entrance. Lingling was slowly jogging toward them.

When she saw the Hunters grabbing onto Carly, her eyes immediately flickered uneasily. “This is bad...” she said to Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue.

Chapter 883: Golden Battle Hunters

The loud sound of a helicopter came from up in the night sky. Its spotlight was directed onto the Magicians who referred to themselves as the Golden Battle Hunters.

A clamor was heard coming from outside the manor, too. The people saw blinding milky-white light combining into glowing walls surrounding the manor and the three ranches surrounding it.

Standing at the ranch, Mo Fan could see a huge, white barrier blocking the night sky above him like a cage. People raised their heads and stared at the white barrier in disbelief...

More helicopters appeared above the barrier. Meanwhile, lots of figures had also appeared in the distance. They stood outside the barrier, spreading around it evenly.

The space that the ranches occupied was rather impressive; they could imagine the immeasurable energy needed to construct a barrier surrounding them entirely. Mo Fan, Mu Ningxue, and Lingling were astounded upon seeing it!

-What’s going on?

-Did the Enforcement Union make their move?

-Who else apart from the Enforcement Union could invest so much effort and directly seal off the ranches and the manor with a barrier?-

“There are lots of Magicians out there; almost a thousand of them!” Lingling looked at the screen of her notebook.

The screen had an electronic map of the ranches. On it were countless tiny green dots.

Almost a thousand Magicians... that was almost the size of an army!

Mo Fan found it hard to understand what was happening. How did a thousand Magicians simply appear out of nowhere?

“Master Mintian,” whispered Lingling.

“Isn’t he just a speaker?” asked Mu Ningxue in confusion.

“They might have used his reputation and his talk as cover to gather thousands of people from different places. The truth is, they simply arranged for lots of Magicians to blend in with the crowd just to surround the manor. Perhaps the people of the Black Vatican didn’t even realize they were being surrounded,” said Lingling.

It was impossible for a thousand Magicians to show up out of nowhere. The Magicians disguising themselves must have waited until the talk was over and pretended to leave the place. However, they proceeded to set up the formation around the ranches, preventing the Black Vatican from running away.

“Why would they send us here if they were already planning such a huge operation?” wondered Mo Fan.

Considering the scale of the operation, the people in charge must be extremely confident with their move. They would only make the call if they assumed they could wipe out the remaining members of the Black Vatican here. Wasn’t Leng Qing’s arrangement and worry a bit too much?

“They aren’t from the Enforcement Union. It’s the Golden Battle Hunters. It’s a first-tier Hunter Group from our country. Many experts in their group are willing to take on quests submitted by the Enforcement Union, including taking down members of the Black Vatican. Even the Black Vatican was impressed by their sources of information at times. Someone in their group must be aware that the Black Vatican is hiding here, thus they decided to make their move without notifying the Enforcement Union,” said Lingling.

She was quite familiar with the Hunter Union. The Golden Battle Hunters had lots of members. They could have easily gathered a virtual army of Magicians.

“If that’s the case, our job is done here,” said Mu Ningxue.

Lingling shook her head. She looked fairly uneasy.

Mo Fan also agreed the whole thing would not end so easily. The Golden Battle Hunters seemed to have the situation under control with their quick, carefully-planned operation, yet they forgot to take into consideration that apart from the Black Vatican, the manor also had around a thousand visitors, and around five hundred workers. The woman called Carly they caught was obviously only a Gray Priest, but the intel provided by Leng Qing implied that there was a Blue Deacon here...

With such a huge operation, the Blue Deacon, the other Gray Priests, and the remaining members of the Black Vatican would surely hide their tails and blend in with the crowd, allowing them to sneak away easily.

There was no way a Hunter Group could take fifteen hundred people into custody and investigate them individually.

Most members of the Black Vatican were no different than ordinary people before their identities were compromised!

“All this effort just to catch a Gray Priest,” Mo Fan sighed. Somehow, he felt that the operation was too sloppy and reckless.

“Humph, consider themselves lucky if she really is one...” Lingling harrumphed. She was displeased by the Golden Battle Hunters’ flamboyant approach.

Why would Lingling not know what the Golden Battle Hunters were thinking?

In the past, when the Black Vatican was still active in their country, the Golden Battle Hunters mostly caught some unimportant members of the Black Vatican anonymously to exchange for the rewards.

However, they had blatantly revealed their identities, simply because the Black Vatican was almost wiped out entirely in their country. The ranches and the manor were the only base left. They even put up an act with thousands of people just to catch the remaining members of the Black Vatican off guard. It was likely that the media everywhere would be talking about the Golden Battle Hunters tomorrow.

The people of China hated the Black Vatican to the guts. Anyone who stepped forward to annihilate them would be praised as heroes.

It was obvious that the Golden Battle Hunters wanted to make a name for themselves, thus the huge operation.

Unfortunately, it was extremely dumb in Lingling’s eyes!

First, if a Blue Deacon was in charge of the base, only he or she would have the names of the remaining members of the Black Vatican in China.

Second, the manor had more than fifteen hundred people, and most of them consisted of ordinary people like Rong Sheng, Zhao Pinlin, Wang Xuxu, and Guo Wenyi. If they were not quick enough, the Black Vatican might even hold the people hostage!

“Lingling, why were you saying that this is bad?” asked Mo Fan as he recalled her mentioning it in the first place.

“This Carly, she’s only a smokescreen, according to my investigation...” said Lingling.

A few days ago, Lingling had thoroughly investigated Carly. She did have a name list, yet the list only consisted of...

As Mo Fan was ready to listen to Lingling’s results, he immediately heard the captain wearing a shirt smashing the communication device on the floor and kicking the paralyzed Carly furiously.

“Asshole!” cursed the captain.

“Pan Jin, what’s wrong?” said the Hunter with a beard.

“The people on this woman’s list are only a bunch of prostitutes!” Pan Jin felt like exploding from the rage.

“What prostitutes?” asked the other Hunters in confusion.

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Mo Fan had good listening. He could hear the captain’s voice from a great distance away.

“Prostitutes?” asked Mo Fan in astonishment.

“Mmm, this Carly is only the brothel keeper of this manor, providing sex services to the rich businessmen who came here on vacation. She keeps a list of names, and they only consist of university students, office workers, or even housemaids who work here part-time as prostitutes... she purposely hid the information confidentially, so it looked as if some secret organization is trying to cover it up, like the Black Vatican,” said Lingling.

“But this Carly is still a Magician, which means she’s a smokescreen that the Black Vatican has purposely put in place,” said Mu Ningxue.

“Exactly, the Golden Battle Hunters have set up such a huge operation and gathered more than a thousand Magicians. They even used Master Mintian’s name and the barrier that cost at least a hundred million, yet they ended up catching a group of prostitutes...I wonder what their leader, Ge Ming’s expression is now. How amusing! Even with so many people in the Hunter Group, none of them actually has a brain,” said Lingling.

“Looks like they are still going to make the headlines tomorrow!” added Mo Fan.

Chapter 884: The Dark Ritual

“What the heck is going on?”

“Such noise, don’t tell me something serious happened? They even surrounded the place with such a huge formation?”

“I’ve already called and asked, but the Enforcement Union, military, government, and Magic Association are totally unaware of it. That Golden Battle Hunters, are they really so full of themselves? Even if they are conducting an operation for their quest, they don’t need to make such a huge fuss about it!” protested a man who seemed to be a governor.

Most people who came to the manor were not Magicians, but rich and had certain authority. They would not necessarily lose their heads just because they were facing a bunch of Magicians, providing they were not aware that the Hunters were actually here to catch the Black Vatican.

Not long after, the people of the Golden Battle Hunters came to the hedge maze with some women with their hands tied up. They were indeed young and attractive...with a few relatively older, but still glamorous women.

The captain Pan Jin stood still and scanned the faces of the women. His expression immediately turned incredibly unpleasant. It did not matter how attractive the women’s faces or how hot their bodies were, he had the urge to kill himself by jumping into the Huangpu River.

“Humph, it’s true that we’re doing the unspoken deeds among the rich businessmen here, it might be illegal, but I don’t think it’s anything serious that you have to tie us up with Intermediate Spells?” Carly grinned mockingly.

“They might not be, but you won’t run away from us. I will now send you to the Enforcement Union and let them handle you!” snapped Pan Jin furiously.

“Captain, what about these ladies?” said a Hunter softly.

The women stood in rows. With just a glimpse of their different attires, one could easily tell that they were just a bunch of ordinary young women, or even married women here to curry favor with the rich and powerful hoping that they could live a better life. Some were elegantly dressed, and attending only a single customer. They were basically someone’s mistress. If they sent these women to the police station, they would simply be released after a mere scolding. There was no criminal offense...

However, considering the scale of the operation and the barrier and spells used to capture them, many of the young women were kneeling on the ground and shivering in fear.

They knew they were doing something shameless, yet they never thought it would bring so many Magicians here to arrest them. In comparison to the rich and powerful businessmen, the self-conscious women looked extremely pale!

If the Hunters simply released the people they arrested straightaway, it would imply that they had caught the wrong people, which would end up as a hilarious joke.

“What the heck are you all doing? We are only here to spend our vacation!”

“Even if these people are going to be arrested, it’s none of your Magicians’ business. Who do you think you are? Where is your respect for the police? This is ridiculous! The Hunters nowadays have started to abuse their power and disrupt the peace of society. Golden Battle Hunters, right? I shall have a word with your superior!” a rather plump governor stepped forward and snapped, pointing at the captain Pan Jin.

It went without saying that Pan Jin would not dare to mention the Black Vatican under such circumstances, as it would only make the matters worse.

He gathered his courage and said, “We’ve received permission for the operation, to clean up unhealthy businesses like this, using the luxurious manor as a disguise for the shameless acts... take them away, all of them!”

Pan Jin felt like giving himself a great slap to his face as he was speaking.

The people of the Golden Battle Hunters had no choice but to make the best of things after committing the mistake. They could only arrest these people and hand them to the police, then contact the Enforcement Union to verify their identities.

However, just by looking at these women, anyone could easily tell that they were not members of the Black Vatican.

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From within the attic of a tall building, a pair of cunning eyes watched the farce from a great height. The person's purple lips subconsciously curled into a disdainful grin.

"The Golden Battle Hunters is one of the most reputable Hunter Group in the Hunter Union, yet you managed to play them like a fiddle, brilliant!" Zhao Pinlin said humbly to Fang Shaoli from the side.

"They were pretty smart too, sneaking their men in without us noticing by using Master Mintian's name," said Fang Shaoli.

"Won't the manor be a lot safer after this is over?" said Zhao Pinlin.

Fang Shaoli was about to answer when the thing in her ear started buzzing.

Her cunning look changed instantly. She glanced at Zhao Pinlin beside her, signaling him to back away.

Zhao Pinlin heard a noise from the communication device hanging on her ear like an earring. He was curious why Fang Shaoli's expression would change so greatly after hearing it. The person trying to contact Fang Shaoli was most likely the owner of the manor.

Fang Shaoli consciously moved away. Fang Shaoli took the call when she saw Zhao Pinlin leaving.

"Master!" Fang Shaoli subconsciously knelt on the ground and lowered her head when she heard the soft breathing from the other end.

"You've done well," an indistinguishable voice came from the other end. It sounded like a cold, firm woman, but also like a man with a high voice.

"It's nothing worth mentioning compared to master's achievements. It seems like some experienced Hunters found their way here, meaning that the Enforcement Union will have their eyes on us very soon. I suggest we blend in with the ordinary folks after this is over and relocate ourselves," said Fang Shaoli.

Someone had found traces of the Black Vatican at the manor. It was unwise to stay any longer.

"Relocate? That isn't our style!"

"Master, what do you have in mind?"

"Many cowards have started showing up after I left, trying to wipe us out as if they were eager to serve justice. They thought they were saviors of the world just because they managed to arrest a probationary member of our organization. A bunch of ridiculous idiots, like rats that are only worthy to live in cracks. Let's use this Golden Battle Hunters to teach them a lesson, to make them realize that even when I, Salan, am not around, their lives are still in my control!"

Even through the communication device, Fang Shaoli could feel the murderous intent.

The person was not around, yet the fear remained. Her master was truly the God of Death. Fang Shaoli could not help but feel excited and passionate.

They had been maintaining a low profile for quite some time, so long that the world had forgotten how cruel and unoffendable they were!

"I understand!" said Fang Shaoli.

"Remember to look out for your cover. I only need smart people who still manage to fully withdraw after stirring a great chaos. Hu Jin was very good at that. Unfortunately, he was very disappointing during the final feast!"

The communication shut off. Fang Shaoli slowly bowed her head in the direction she was kneeling. Her head almost touched the ground. After five minutes, she slowly rose to her feet with a sharp gaze!

"Zhao Pinlin," summoned Fang Shaoli coldly.

"I'm here," Zhao Pinlin came to her side.

"Consider yourself lucky, to have the chance to witness a grand ritual even though you have only joined us recently. Come, enjoy the night that's going to be filled with cries of agony!" Fang Shaoli burst into laughter. It went from confident to wild, before her voice filled with malice!

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Chapter 885: The Deadly Black Blood

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"This is nonsense, back to sleep, I'm going back to sleep!" Some of the guests grumbled and proceeded to return to their rooms.

They thought it was something major, yet it turned out the Magicians were only here to arrest some prostitutes. Even the police would not bother to waste their time on petty matters like this. Were these Hunters too bored or something?!

"I was so scared," Guo Wenyi let out a relieved sigh and patted her chest softly.

"Yeah, I thought they found a huge demon creature. Otherwise, why would they send a thousand Magicians here?"

"HAHAHA, since when did the Golden Battle Hunters become prostitute purgers? The news is going to be interesting tomorrow."

The crowd slowly left as they went back to minding their own business after the false alarm.

Pan Jin almost went crazy when he heard the comments, especially when they were called prostitutes purgers. He had never experienced anything more humiliating than this. He swore he would kill the bastard that had provided them with false information!

"The owner of this manor is really something, to hide the information of a bunch of prostitutes like they are members of the Black Vatican... the police will never be able to find out their business here," said a Hunter called Da Tong.

“Da Tong, what are you waiting for? Bring them away now!” Pan Jin was utterly annoyed whenever he saw the women who misled them here. They were all in tears and sobbing pitifully.

“Yeah, yeah, I’ll be going now...” Da Tong did not dare to say further, knowing that his captain was enraged. However, when he was about to ask the others to bring the women away, he suddenly felt something stuck in his throat. He was trying to speak, yet he could not make any sound.

Suddenly, a tearing pain came from his throat. Da Tong coughed fiercely trying to spit out the phlegm, yet he surprisingly coughed out a mouthful of blood!

All the blood was spat on the captain Pan Jin’s face. Pan Jin was already enraged to begin with. He immediately turned mad after someone spat on his face, yet he shockingly discovered that it was all blood!

Blood, black-colored blood!

Da Tong’s throat seemed to be fully blocked by the black blood. He could not speak, and he could not even breathe.

He desperately tried to spit the blood out, mouthful after mouthful.

“What’s going on?”

“Da Tong is vomiting blood!”

“He’s injured, ask Gray Hand to treat him now!”

Da Tong was still vomiting. The blood had accumulated into a puddle. It looked rather eerie.

The Healer called Gray Hand was quite a distance away. When he finally arrived, Da Tong had already collapsed to the ground.

The man had already lost consciousness, yet the black blood continued to spill out from his mouth and his throat. It looked like filthy liquid from some underground sewers. In just a few moments, the ground around Da Tong was covered in black blood!

The Healer Gray Hand cast the Healing Spirit, yet the little healing butterfly circled around Da Tong helplessly, as if it had no idea how to treat the man.

The Healing Spirit was able to detect a person’s injury, but Da Tong did not seem to have any wound!

“It’s poison...or a curse!” Gray Hand frowned.

“Save him quick, if he keeps vomiting blood at this rate...” yelled Pan Jin.

The Healer shook his head, implying that he was totally clueless about it.

The blood continued to pour out. Initially, Da Tong’s body kept twitching as he was vomiting blood, but it had gradually stiffened over time.

A few hundred Hunters were standing nearby, yet there was nothing they could do apart from watching in fear.

Da Tong finally spewed out all his blood. His corpse was dried and black, as if all his blood, body fluid, and fat had been drawn away.

After Da Tong turned into a dried corpse under the crowd's gaze, it continued to turn dark like burned charcoal. His skin peeled off like gray ashes as the breeze swept past and scattered in the wind.

"This...this..." The Hunters froze.

Without a sign!

A man who was well alive a moment ago had died just like that!

"Da Tong!" Pan Jin yelled. He almost went crazy.

Dead, his brother who had fought alongside him for many years, had died a horrible death from an unknown cause!

"Captain, he might be poisoned. Your face is still stained with his blood, hurry up and wipe it..." The Hunter with a beard came over with a piece of cloth, yet his voice suddenly disappeared before he could finish.

The man with a beard was startled. He tried to say something, yet he could not make any noise.

It felt like his throat was stuck with phlegm. He subconsciously spat it out, yet it turned out to be black-colored blood. He spat it on the ground beside his foot. A small patch of grass immediately wilted when the blood made contact with it.

The man's face immediately turned pale...

"Big Beard!" Pan Jin immediately realized something.

"Gray Hand, Gray Hand!"

A few other teammates immediately realized Big Beard showing the same symptoms. The Healer called Gray Hand hurriedly made his way over.

Big Beard's throat was obviously throbbing as the black blood rose within it. The man immediately closed his mouth tight after what happened the first time. However, his throat continued to expand as if it was going to explode in any second!

"Ahhh!"

Finally, Big Beard could not hold it in further. The blood was spat a few meters high up into the air. The Hunters nearby immediately backed away.

Gray Hand quickly inspected Big Beard, yet not only did he fail to find the cause, he immediately felt terrified when he was soaked in the black blood.

The blood was pouring out rapidly. Big Beard fell backward onto the ground. He was exactly the same as Da Tong. His blood had turned black, and it kept pouring out from his mouth...

As he vomited up all the blood, his body began to dry up and darken.

A few minutes later, the rather muscular Big Beard had turned into a skinny, dried corpse, gradually turning into a piece of burned charcoal!

When the first person died, the others assumed that he had carelessly contracted some deadly poison or he had fallen victim to someone's poison. However, as the second person died the same death, they were immediately stricken with fear...

"Captain, captain, Li Ming is!..." a rookie Hunter came over in a panic to report something.

Captain Pan Jin immediately cleared a path heading toward Li Ming, yet his side glance caught a glimpse of the rookie opening his mouth without being able to say a word.

Pan Jin turned around and saw the rookie spitting out black-colored blood!

Everyone had yet to recover from witnessing Big Beard's death when the same scene happened once again, and this time, it was happening to a few people simultaneously!

Fear immediately spread among the crowd like a plague. The poison was spreading at a shocking rate. They initially thought an invisible demon was massacring them randomly, yet they quickly realized that there was more than one demon butchering among them, as more people began to vomit black blood!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 886: The Demon's Nest

"Leave, quick, leave this place!" yelled Pan Jin.

The number of people collapsing to the ground was still increasing. Everyone felt like they were going to be the next victim. Black blood stuck in their throat, turning into black charcoal and scattering in ashes. No one would want to end up like that!

The Magicians of the Golden Battle Hunters started fleeing, rushing toward the manor.

More people continued to fall as they were fleeing. There were more than twenty casualties already...

When they finally reached the barrier to run away from the random massacre of the invisible demon, they saw their leader Ge Ming stopping the people from leaving the ranches.

"Leader, we are under attack by something unknown. It seems it could spread through the air at a terrifying rate without any sign," Pan Jin's voice sounded like he was about to burst into tears.

He had been a Hunter for over ten years, fighting against lots of terrifying demon creatures and monsters, and had gotten used to seeing his comrades dying. However, he almost had a mental breakdown as he witnessed the unexplainable deaths of the people around him, dying as if they had all been poisoned. His only thought was to get his teammates away from the place!

Ge Ming stepped aside slightly to let Pan Jin see what was happening outside the barrier...

Black blood. The whole place was covered in black blood. The rather viscous liquid was flowing across the grassland outside the ranches, and had accumulated into a small pool following the slope.

One black corpse after another laid on the ground. When a random breeze swept past, their skin scattered in the air like flying ashes!

“Those who left the boundary of the ranches are all dead, not even a single survivor!” said Ge Ming to the people fleeing for their lives in a deep voice.

The Golden Battle Hunters had brought almost a thousand people. The group that conducted the operation at the manor only consisted of a small part. The remainder of the group was on standby outside the barrier, preventing the people of the Black Vatican from escaping after they were alerted. The ranches were quite spacious, so they needed quite a number of people to guard every direction.

When the people under Pan Jin’s lead started vomiting black blood, the people outside were showed the same terrifying symptoms too! Some immediately backed off in fear, but those who stepped outside the boundary died in less than fifty steps...

As a result, the number of corpses that turned into black ashes outside the barrier was the highest. The black blood could already form a stream.

The leader Ge Ming almost lost his mind when that happened. The Golden Battle Hunters had more than a thousand people, yet almost four hundred had died already from some unknown cause. Almost half of their group was wiped out! Most terrifyingly, they had no idea what had killed them, and were clueless who the next victim was going to be. The ranches had suddenly turned into Hell with black corpses scattered across the place. On top of that, those who tried to run away would immediately fall victim to it...

“You can’t leave, you must not go out there!” ordered Ge Ming sternly.

“I don’t believe it, I can’t wait and die here. Their deaths were too horrible. It must be a contagious disease spreading through air!” A female Hunter had totally lost her calm. She ran out of the barrier despite others’ efforts trying to stop her.

Pan Jin wanted to stop her, but Ge Ming immediately grabbed onto him.

Pan Jin lowered his head and realized that he almost stepped outside the fence of the ranch. Meanwhile, the female Hunter had already run ten meters past...

“Ahhh!”

Fresh blood poured out from the woman’s mouth. She finally halted in her tracks and tried to run back to the barrier!

Pan Jin watched her running in his direction while vomiting black blood. She desperately tried to scream as if she was asking for help, or begging the deadly unknown existence to spare her life.

However, as she reached the barrier, she collapsed to the ground, yet continued to crawl forward. Her hands, now covered in blood, grabbed onto the fence, trying to force her way in, as if she would be able to survive if she made it in.

Her body began to dry up. She finally moved past the tiny gap. Half her body was inside the barrier, but she had stopped moving.

Obviously, the deadly existence would not feel sorry for her just because she had realized her mistake in time. Half her body was stuck outside the fence as her skin gradually turned into black ashes...

Tears ran down Pan Jin's cheeks as he watched it happen. There was sorrow, pain, and terror!

No one could explain what was going on. It felt like everyone from the Golden Battle Hunters was being targeted by a demon visiting the mundane world. They were forced to obey the rules of the demon's game. No one was allowed to leave the circle it had drawn, yet everyone still had the chance to become its next target!

They could only hide in the cage and wait hopelessly until they were picked by the demon to be the next victim!

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The sudden turn of events scared the guests of the manor to death. The whole place turned utterly chaotic, as the Hunters were not the only one falling victim to the strange curse, but the same thing was happening among the fifteen hundred visitors and the workers, although the rate of it happening was significantly lower than the Golden Battle Hunters. That being said, it was still extremely frightening!

The members of the Golden Battle Hunters realized that the same thing was happening to the guests at the manor, too. They were startled when they saw the guests running to the outside.

"Quick, stop them, set up the barrier! Don't let them cross the fences!" yelled Ge Ming. He immediately contacted the Hunters standing close to the fences around the ranches.

"Do we really have the time to care about them now?" said Pan Jin.

"What are you talking about? We are the ones that started this! If innocent lives are involved, the Golden Battle Hunters will be taking all the blame. We don't know how all of this is happening, but we can't simply watch them die, even if you are going to be the next victim!" snapped Ge Ming furiously.

Most people in the Hunter Group had gone through situations of life and death before. As the rate of death slowly decreased, the Hunters calmed down and stopped the terrified guests from leaving the ranches, and led them back to the manor.

Luckily, they had yet to withdraw the barrier and were able to use it to save many lives. Otherwise, the field outside the ranches would be covered in corpses!

"Leader, I think the poison has stopped!"

"A Magician managed to sneak out of the barrier just then, but he died not long after!"

"The poison must have stopped spreading, but leaving the ranches is still suicide. Ask everyone to calm down!" Ge Ming ordered his people amid the chaos.

The minds of many people had already gone blank from fear. They were simply following their instincts to stay alive, but in certain situations, it would cost them their lives. Pan Jin had to admit that he was quite impressed by how Ge Ming was able to remain calm in the current situation.

That being said, none of them was able to comprehend the situation.

It was supposed to be a carefully-planned operation to take down the Black Vatican, yet somehow, they had all ended up in a demon's nest!

Chapter 887: The Source of the Poison, Part One

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Mo Fan had watched it all happen.

He could not help but admit that he too was terrified by what he saw. He was extremely cautious with every breath due to the fear that he might be the next person vomiting black blood!

"The odds of the Golden Battle Hunters contracting the poison are relatively higher. We should be relieved that there are more than a thousand people here. Based on the number of casualties, our odds of becoming the next victim are one percent," Lingling quickly inserted the information into her laptop.

"Unbelievable, how can you say that so calmly under the current circumstances?" Mu Ningxue looked at Lingling. She suddenly felt that the little girl was simply a monster.

Many adults around them had already wet their pants due in fear, yet Lingling was quietly observing it happen as if it was none of her business.

"This is bad, Lingling, we have really entered the Abyss of Death," Mo Fan said with a wry smile. He tried to think of Lingling's statement as her way of comforting them.

A chance of one percent, there's no way his luck could be that bad...

The problem was, when Mo Fan saw the victims vomiting black blood and their skin turning into black ashes, he could not convince himself that the odds were something he should be relieved about. What if everything was only the beginning?

He must admit that everything totally suited the Black Vatican's style, making their move without any signs beforehand, bringing death like a sudden storm. Even those who had gone through a lot in their lives would still suffer a mental breakdown.

"The poison seems to have stopped for now," said Mu Ningxue.

"I'm afraid it is only temporary," Lingling promptly said the unpleasant words.

"Do you have anything in mind? Is it some kind of curse?" asked Mo Fan.

Nothing made sense at all. How did everyone contract the poison so suddenly? Was it some kind of contagious disease spreading around the ranches?

However, how would that explain why the people would die instantly as soon as they stepped out of the ranches, and also why the deaths had stopped for now...

"If a curse is this strong, it must be the work of a Forbidden Magician," said Lingling.

Applying a curse to a single target was fairly simple. For example, the Demon Torture would strike a target once the appropriate Star Constellation was constructed. However, it was almost impossible for a single person to cast a curse on multiple targets!

"What should we do now?" asked Mu Ningxue.

"There's nothing we can do. Anyway, we can't afford to expose ourselves before we learn whether the poison can be applied to a specific target," Lingling told Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue in a soft voice.

It was obvious that the Golden Battle Hunters had infuriated the Black Vatican, and so the Black Vatican was trying to take revenge in return. Even the guests at the manor were in danger!

"What if they decide to kill all of us? We can't just sit here and do nothing," Mu Ningxue said worriedly.

She had finally witnessed the true cruelty and savagery of the Black Vatican today, finding herself in a situation where she could die of poison at any second. She was extremely cautious even when breathing.

The Golden Battle Hunters were keeping the situation under control. However, the uneasy atmosphere among the Hunters clearly implied that even they had no clue how to resolve the situation. Their communication devices were cut off, preventing them from contacting the outside world. Even if someone from the outside noticed that something had gone wrong, considering how fast the poison was spreading, most people would already be dead by the time help arrived.

"Wang Xuxu is missing, Wang Xuxu is missing..." Guo Wenyi cried out in a panic as she suddenly realized something.

"Yeah, where is Wang Xuxu? Zhao Pinlin, have you seen Wang Xuxu around?" asked Wang Bing.

Finding someone missing, considering the current circumstances, was the scariest thing.

"Who knows, I haven't seen her for the whole night. She said she was staying in her room as she was feeling uncomfortable. Wouldn't she be in her room still?" Zhao Pinlin answered curiously.

"Asshole, why didn't you look after her, if anything happened to her..." Rong Sheng was enraged. He almost went up to drag Zhao Pinlin's collars.

Zhao Pinlin pushed the enraged Rong Sheng away and said with a cold grin, "She locked herself in her room. What the heck can I do?"

"I've already looked, she wasn't in her room..." said Guo Wenyi.

"Don't tell me she has turned into one of those black corpses?" asked someone among the group.

Everyone was stunned. Rong Sheng and Guo Wenyi immediately snapped, "Stop talking nonsense, she will be fine!"

“We can’t even identify the corpses, how can you be so sure?” said Zhao Pinlin.

“Why would you say something like that!” Rong Sheng totally lost himself. He was like an enraged beast, lunging at Zhao Pinlin.

The two immediately ended up in a fight. Rong Sheng was obviously a lot stronger than the nerdy Zhao Pinlin. He managed to leave a few bruises on the nerd.

The others immediately pulled the two away. Zhao Pinlin touched the bruises on his face and looked at his torn shirt. His eyes flickered viciously.

However, he did not act too obviously. He took a deep breath and left.

“Zhao Pinlin, where are you going?”

“Don’t go somewhere else, it’s too dangerous!” Wang Bing and the others tried to stop him.

“I’m going back to my room, stop bothering me!” shouted Zhao Pinlin furiously.

“Rong Sheng, what the heck are you thinking? Zhao Pinlin already said he didn’t see Wang Xuxu the whole night, why would you still pick on him?”

“Alright, calm down, just be quiet. Are we seriously arguing among ourselves when we don’t even know if we are going to be the next victims? Let’s head over to the window. The Magic Association will send someone here to save us soon,” someone immediately stepped forward to maintain order.

Everyone hid in the room with the French windows where they had first arrived at the manor. They all looked extremely pale.

“I’m feeling quite thirsty. Can we ask the butler to prepare some tea for us?” said a man.

“Who has the mood to serve you at a time like this? Everyone might end up like the corpses out there. It’s contagious!” snapped Wang Bing coldly.

Lingling was still typing rapidly on her laptop. She was trying to organize the information she had gathered before and after the poison broke out, to find some clues about it. If they could not understand how they were poisoned, it was impossible for them to resolve the situation.

“Tea?” Mu Ningxue mumbled softly.

Lingling and Mo Fan raised their heads. They both assumed she was feeling thirsty and was trying to get something to drink. It was normal for anyone nervous to drink some water to ease their nerves.

“Mo Fan, Lingling, do you remember the black tea that the butler and Carly served us when we first arrived? They said it was a unique kind here,” said Mu Ningxue.

“Do you think something is wrong with the tea?” Lingling asked quickly.

Mo Fan was startled, before he smilingly said, “I don’t think so. Everyone here has drunk it, including those before us, but none of them were poisoned.”

“No no no, someone was poisoned before!” Lingling’s eyes suddenly brightened as if she had found an important clue about the incident!

Versatile Mage

Chapter 888: The Source of the Poison, Part Two

Lingling's fingers typed quickly on her laptop and brought up several blurred images.

"I was wondering why their deaths felt so familiar! Check this out, this is the incident about someone being poisoned that the manor is trying to hide. Don't you remember? The City Hunters even came to investigate it, but that perverted captain was easily taken care of by Carly!" said Lingling with excitement.

"What does this have anything to do with the tea?" said Mo Fan in confusion.

"I'm starting to put the pieces together. Just give me some time, and I should be able to find out more about the poison, and come up with an antidote to temporarily suppress it," Lingling rose to her feet and headed for her room with her laptop.

"Where are you going?" asked Mo Fan worriedly.

"I stored information related to all kinds of poison on the cloud. The signal is totally blocked off by the Black Vatican. I'll need to build a tool to bypass the signal to retrieve the information I need. This might take some time," said Lingling.

"It's unsafe for you to be alone," said Mu Ningxue.

"The Black Vatican is mainly focusing on the Golden Battle Hunters. They won't have time to care about us, as long as we don't expose ourselves. Even if they found out there are Hunters among the guests, they won't be suspicious of a first-schooler. You two better start moving and find the members of the Black Vatican. Otherwise, even if we managed to deal with the poison, they will still escape in the end!" said Lingling.

Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue nodded.

They decided to let Lingling handle the poison, since they could not provide her with any assistance. The Black Vatican was indeed impressive when it came to using all kinds of strange methods to achieve their goals. Luckily, they had brought the genius Lingling along. Otherwise, they would have no choice but to wait for rescue.

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After Lingling left, Mo Fan nudged Mu Ningxue on her elbow and said, "You're pretty observant. I almost forgot about the tea."

"It only crossed my mind for a second. I never thought it would actually be the case. Now when I recall it, it did seem like everyone here at the ranches was received by the manor, and everyone was served with the special black tea. Carly and the butler would watch them drink the tea, and even those that did not drink it during the day, a maid would bring the tea over at night and explain that it could possibly

help with sleep, or even serve the tea during breakfast. In simpler terms, you can find their special black tea everywhere...” said Mu Ningxue.

Now that Mu Ningxue had mentioned it, Mo Fan somehow recalled that the manor did not really provide them with drinking water, but their special tea...

“There must be people that didn’t drink the tea, but only a few, I assume. Almost everyone, including me, you, and Lingling, were poisoned by the tea. The poison stays inside the body, and will only relapse under certain conditions. The victim will then vomit black blood and turn into the black stuff... damn it, I believe I drank almost a whole bucket of the tea during our stay here!” exclaimed Mo Fan.

Mu Ningxue was too embarrassed to even mention it. When Mo Fan was told that the tea was their specialty and was provided for free, he had been drinking the tea like a bull. If the poison worked according to the amount consumed, Mo Fan would be among the first ten people to die of the poison.

Luckily, the few hundred corpses outside the manor had implied that drinking more of the tea did not necessarily make the poison stronger.

Mo Fan and Mu Ningxue did not share their discovery with the others, since they had yet to find the solution. It would only invoke fear among them.

The poison was on standby in everyone’s body. They were still unsure of how to control the poison. Standing out too much would only make them easy targets.

“Mo Fan, I beg you...” Guo Wenyi suddenly appeared beside Mo Fan.

Mo Fan looked at the tearful Guo Wenyi. It was obvious that Guo Wenyi thought Wang Xuxu was in great trouble.

“Please help me find her, Xuxu is my best friend. If I didn’t recommend she come, she wouldn’t even be here, since she was preparing for exams. If anything happened to her...” Guo Wenyi was totally blaming herself.

“I don’t know where she is either, this place is so big!” rejected Mo Fan.

Mo Fan simply had no time to waste on searching for a missing person. The Black Vatican was still waiting to strike behind the scenes. If they could not find a cure to the poison, everyone would die eventually, including Mu Ningxue and Lingling!

Mo Fan could understand Guo Wenyi’s feelings, since the two girls would not be in this mess if he actually decided not to take the job. He had to remain calm, yet he was running out of time. Even now, he had yet to find any trace of the Black Vatican!

“The others are not willing to help us look for her...it’s only me and Rong Sheng...” Guo Wenyi continued to plead. It seemed like since Guo Wenyi managed to overcome her fear, she had been overly reliant on Mo Fan.

“Come, let’s go look for Wang Xuxu,” Mu Ningxue rose to her feet. Mo Fan was fairly surprised. “We won’t find any clues if we keep sitting here,” Mu Ningxue told him.

Mo Fan agreed. Instead of staying here like sitting ducks, it was better for them to search around the place, and see if they could also find the missing Wang Xuxu. Saving an extra life was always better.

“Thank you, thank you so much!” Guo Wenyi was incredibly touched.

Rong Sheng’s eyes were filled with gratitude, too.

Their classmates were too scared to leave the hall. They did not dare to take even a step out of the building. None of them seemed to care about Wang Xuxu’s well-being, yet to their surprise, these two people who they only met less than a week ago were willing to risk their lives for them!

“A piece of advice, it’s better if you don’t go anywhere. If the poison is still spreading out there... you won’t be able to come back here.”

“Yeah, you heard what the Golden Battle Hunters said. We should just stay indoors and wait for help. Going out there is only going to make things worse,” advised Wang Bing.

The four ignored their advice and opened the door to start looking for the missing Wang Xuxu.

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Since Mo Fan had agreed to help, he would surely do his best. After all, Mo Fan was officially a Hunter Master. He had done lots of similar jobs, looking for missing people. As long as he was paid good money, he did not mind working as a private detective. A Hunter was pretty much an enhanced version of a private detective.

“When did you last see her?” asked Mo Fan seriously.

“In her room, after dinner, she said she was feeling uncomfortable, so she was staying in her room. I did go and knock on her door, but she didn’t respond. I thought she went somewhere else with Zhao Pinlin... oh, Rong Sheng, I didn’t mean to say that,” said Guo Wenyi.

“That asshole Zhao Pinlin, how dare he not look after Wang Xuxu!” Rong Sheng was still enraged.

“Let’s check her room out first. Maybe we can find some clues there. By the way, why did you think that she had left with Zhao Pinlin?”

“It’s because I went to look for Zhao Pinlin, too. He wasn’t in his room, either. Since they had already declared their relationship, I assumed they would be together if both of them weren’t in their rooms!” admitted Guo Wenyi.

Chapter 889: Zhao Pinlin, Something’s Wrong About Him!

When they arrived in Wang Xuxu’s room, Mo Fan unleashed his senses to scan the surroundings for clues.

Rong Sheng felt his heart aching as they walked into the room. The night had been like a dream to him, yet it came to an end immediately the next morning. Everything had changed since then.

“I don’t see any clues here, she must have left her room voluntarily,” said Mo Fan.

He turned around and was about to look behind him when he almost bumped into Rong Sheng, who was lost in his thoughts.

Mo Fan said helplessly when he saw Rong Sheng's expression, "You should stop thinking about it."

"Wang Xuxu seemed very scared lately. I tried to talk to her, but I felt like she was purposely avoiding me. I was really worried," said Guo Wenyi.

"What was she scared of?" asked Mo Fan.

"I don't know... but I feel like she was afraid of Zhao Pinlin," replied Guo Wenyi.

"It must be Zhao Pinlin! He must be threatening her, that must be it!" Rong Sheng suddenly came to his senses.

It explained why Wang Xuxu would suddenly lose interest in him, even though she had already accepted him the night before. Besides, if she was only concerned about his feelings, why would she allow him to caress her body?

"Zhao Pinlin did come to me that night," said Mu Ningxue.

"He went to you?" Guo Wenyi and Rong Sheng were startled.

Mu Ningxue briefly described the situation. Anyone could tell that Zhao Pinlin was actually trying to win Mu Ningxue's affection.

"Wang Xuxu said the same thing to me, too. She said that Zhao Pinlin isn't very reliable... she was being dead serious, it did not feel like she was joking," Guo Wenyi took out her phone and showed Mo Fan the messages.

Rong Sheng blurted out, "Look, what did I say, she wasn't just trying not to hurt me! Zhao Pinlin must have done something to her! He might even have something to do with her disappearance. She was too scared of Zhao Pinlin, so she decided to hide somewhere. Now that the manor is in such a terrifying situation, it's too dangerous for her to be alone! We have to find her as quickly as possible!"

Mo Fan read the texts. From the content, it seemed like Wang Xuxu was a fairly smart girl. She was able to see the true nature of Zhao Pinlin through his passionate, gentle disguise. In addition, Zhao Pinlin tried to invite Mu Ningxue to spend the night together too. It further proved Wang Xuxu's point, Zhao Pinlin was unreliable!

"Zhao Pinlin's gaze had been strange these few days," Mu Ningxue mused aloud.

Mu Ningxue was not low in IQ either. She could clearly sense Zhao Pinlin had changed lately, especially when he was looking at her. He was not embarrassed after being rejected, nor was he trying to act calm and normal in order to preserve his ego, but seemed rather aggressive!

A few times, Mu Ningxue felt like the man was trying to eat her with his eyes. His cold grin was even implied that she would eventually fall into his hands!

Mu Ningxue was a Magician, and a lot more observant than Zhao Pinlin. The man was utterly clueless that his desire to possess Mu Ningxue was completely exposed even though he was being extremely cautious.

As such, when everyone thought there was something wrong about Zhao Pinlin, she quickly shared her observations with them.

“Strange, how so?” Mo Fan did not realize it in the first place.

“I’ll briefly describe what I felt. Somehow, his gaze looked ambitious. He was watching me closely, but he didn’t actually do anything,” Mu Ningxue shared.

“He was interested in you. Everyone else could easily tell it. We were all discussing it when he invited you to the manor. He thought he was good at hiding his intentions,” said Guo Wenyi.

“No one would not like a pretty and special girl like Mu Ningxue,” whispered Rong Sheng.

“Can we not talk about love and hatred now?” interrupted Mo Fan.

Did they seriously have the mood to discuss this when there were so many corpses lying outside? Mo Fan was utterly speechless about Rong Sheng and Guo Wenyi.

Mu Ningxue was disastrously beautiful. Lots of people would fall for her at first glance, but why did it matter now? She was already his wife. No one was allowed to take her away, especially that idiot Zhao Pinlin!

“Mo Fan, I believe we must talk about Zhao Pinlin,” said Mu Ningxue sternly.

“What is there to talk about? Isn’t he the same kind as that retarded Guan Yu?” It was not like Mo Fan was not aware of Zhao Pinlin’s intentions, but he simply did not think of the clown as a threat.

“There’s something wrong about him,” declared Mu Ningxue. It was pure instinct. Mu Ningxue did not have any proof, yet her instincts were telling her that.

At first, Zhao Pinlin tried to win her affection through his polite manners. He left in frustration when she rejected his invitation. However, even after he was together with Wang Xuxu, he still displayed his strong desire to possess her. She even felt an evil aura from him...

“My instincts are telling me that if he used some dishonest methods on Wang Xuxu, he might use them on me, too. I was being extremely careful around him lately,” Mu Ningxue admitted.

“Careful?” Mo Fan was surprised.

Mu Ningxue had already reached the peak of the Intermediate Level. Her strength was even comparable to an Advanced Magician, yet she was still being careful around an ordinary person. That alone implied that there was something seriously wrong about him. When Mo Fan linked the information with Wang Xuxu’s sudden change of behavior, and the fear he sensed from her...

“Stay here, I’ll go find Zhao Pinlin,” said Mo Fan.

Mo Fan did not let them follow him. He was reluctant to show Rong Sheng and Guo Wenyi his Shadow Element. Who knew if those two were actually members of the Black Vatican?

—

Mo Fan came to Zhao Pinlin's room and saw the room was tightly shut.

However, it was far from a problem for Mo Fan. He first used his Lightning to destroy any surveillance devices nearby, just so the people of the Black Vatican were unable to see his magic.

Mo Fan snuck into Zhao Pinlin's room with the Fleeing Shadow, but the room was totally empty.

"Strange, didn't he say he was going back to his room? Where would he be? He's just an ordinary person; why would he dare to go to other places knowing that there's poison outside?"

"It seems like there's definitely something fishy about this guy!" Mo Fan grinned. "Where the hell could he be?"

"Swift Star Wolf, come out here and sniff at this guy's clothes, see if you can find him," Mo Fan summoned the Swift Star Wolf.

The Swift Star Wolf's handsome face was filled with disdain. It was a wolf, not a dog!

"Awooo, awooo~" The Swift Star Wolf's nose was more sensitive to blood. He quickly dragged a half-opened case out from under the bed. The case was full of adult toys that even Mo Fan was embarrassed to look at.

"I knew you were not an honorable wolf!" cursed Mo Fan.

"Awooo, awooo!~" The Swift Star Wolf totally disagreed with the unjust accusation.

"You are telling me that the whip has a faint smell of blood, and it's a woman's blood?" Mo Fan took out the whip and fell into deep thought while rubbing his chin. "The blood must have stained the whip when they were playing some thrilling game... how intense were they? Even if it's a role play, he didn't need to whip her until the girl was bleeding. That Zhao Pinlin seems like a gentleman, but he's actually mad inside."

Of course Mo Fan knew about roleplay!

However, whipping was only meant to bring pleasure through pain. If there was blood on it, he was simply torturing the girl!

This Zhao Pinlin, he was getting more suspicious!

[Versatile Mage](#)

Chapter 890: Dark Beast Monsters

Mo Fan sent the Swift Star Wolf back to his dimension.

If he brought a wolf beast with dark blue fur almost long enough to sweep the floor around, he was simply announcing to the Black Vatican that he had come here to serve justice, just like the Golden Battle Hunters!

Mo Fan regrouped with Mu Ningxue and the others after the Swift Star Wolf roughly pointed a direction out to him.

“How do you know he went this way?” asked Rong Sheng in confusion.

“Why are you asking so many questions? Do you want to find Wang Xuxu or not?” replied Mo Fan impatiently.

—

Rong Sheng did not dare to ask further. He followed Mo Fan as they headed toward the structure behind the main building.

Compared to the luxurious main building, the structure behind it was a lot dimmer. It was unlikely to be used by guests. They did not recall seeing any workers going in and out of the building, either.

After moving through a few dim corridors and taking a few flights of stairs, the Swift Star Wolf told Mo Fan that they were approaching the place.

The corridor was in the shape of a circle. It took them a while to reach the corners. The rug was dark red, with locked rooms on both sides of the hall. There were rooms with a single door, double doors, and even bulky, heavy double doors with ring handles like those leading to a huge hall...

The Swift Star Wolf told Mo Fan that the scent had come from the room with the heavy double doors. Mo Fan took a closer look around and saw a faint red mark on a white wall nearby. It was the size of a mouth print. It was easy to overlook it if one was not taking a close look at it...

Mo Fan nudged Mu Ningxue and said to her in a low voice, “It’s Wang Xuxu’s blood, I think it was left here by accident. It seems to be from a wound or bruise. There isn’t much blood on the wall. Judging from the height, it should be from her arm, close to her shoulder...”

Mo Fan remembered that Wang Xuxu was around Mu Ningxue’s height. Using Mu Ningxue as a reference, he easily speculated where the wound was.

The mark was thin and long, and the scent was the same as that left on the whip. It implied that Wang Xuxu had been here.

“Xuxu! Xuxu, are you here? I am Rong...” Rong Sheng began to yell.

Mo Fan immediately covered the guy’s mouth and snapped, “Stop yelling, she might be kidnapped! You are only going to make it harder for us to rescue her!”

Rong Sheng’s eyes bulged. He finally nodded after a while.

Mo Fan tried to push the door, and realized it was unlocked. The heavy door opened up. The sound echoed through the corridor beyond.

There was no light inside. Mo Fan could barely see some ancient decorations. There was a furnace, a deer head hanging on the wall, a huge table, and curtains tightly covering a window...

“There’s no one here, but I think I smell something,” Mo Fan said with a frown.

The scent of Dark Beast Monsters and Cursed Beasts was unforgettable to most people. Mo Fan had encountered the Black Vatican several times. He could still recognize the scent no matter how weak it was.

“This place has been enclosed for too long. It stinks,” said Guo Wenyi.

“Yeah, why do I feel like the smell is getting stronger,” Rong Sheng was already covering his nose.

Mu Ningxue look to the door and said, “The smell is coming from outside.”

Mo Fan felt the pungent smell slowly growing stronger. After they opened the door, the air flowing in from the corridor was also filled with the same stench.

“Something is out there!” Mo Fan immediately realized something. He hurriedly went to the doors and cautiously closed them.

The doors made some noise when they were closed. The sound of something sprinting through the corridor was heard immediately, and it was getting closer!

“What is it?” Guo Wenyi and Rong Sheng heard the sound too. Their expressions stiffened instantly.

“Shh, keep quiet, we might have come to the right place,” Mo Fan replied in an extremely soft voice.

Mo Fan asked the others to stick close to him. He was planning to use the darkness to conceal their presence.

Not long after, a clear sound was heard from the corridor. They could hear something moving outside the heavy doors...

Guo Wenyi was standing right by the door. She could barely see the corridor through the tiny gap. A skinny, eerie creature slowly crawled past her line of vision on all fours. It had pitch-black skin, and a savage appearance, like a demonic monkey!

Guo Wenyi felt her scalp turning numb. Wasn't this the same thing she saw eating a horse when she was walking home alone that night!?

It was the same, exactly the same!

Guo Wenyi was able to overcome her fear just recently with Mo Fan's help, yet she never thought she would see the real creature again today. Even with a door between them, Guo Wenyi still felt her hair standing on end, as if she had turned into the horse that was pounced on by the creature, its stomach torn open, and going to be eaten alive at any second.

“Dark Beast Monsters,” Mo Fan told Mu Ningxue.

Around a minute later, the noise outside the door gradually disappeared.

Rong Sheng and Guo Wenyi backed off to the table in disbelief, especially Guo Wenyi, who was totally overwhelmed by fear.

“What...what was that?” asked Rong Sheng.

“Nothing too serious, don't worry.” Mo Fan did not bother explaining further.

The Dark Beast Monsters were no longer able to pose any threat to Mo Fan, yet he could not afford to be careless. If a Dark Beast Monster was patrolling here, it meant they were already inside the Black Vatican's territory. Killing a Dark Beast Monster would simply alert every member of the Black Vatican. If that happened, things would no longer be as easy as handling a few Dark Beast Monsters on patrol, but a bunch of Dark Beast Monsters and Cursed Beasts surging at them like a black tide!

Even so, Mo Fan was not scared of them. Mo Fan was never afraid to start a fight. However, what he worried the most about was the poison. If the Black Vatican was able to target a specific person and trigger the poison, once he was exposed, he would soon be lying on the ground vomiting black blood.

He had come to the right place. Zhao Pinlin was indeed a member of the Black Vatican. Mo Fan could not help but raise his thumb to Mu Ningxue.

A woman's instincts were strong enough to tear down the Black Vatican's disguise, let alone finding out their man was having an affair...

"You all should stay here, don't make too much noise, and don't leave before I'm back," said Mo Fan.

Even though Mu Ningxue's secondary element was Wind, she was still no match for Mo Fan in terms of moving stealthily and sneaking around. It was best for Mo Fan to move on his own.

"Be careful," said Mu Ningxue.

"Remember, even if anything happens, try your best to hide your identity. The poison is the real threat to us," Mo Fan specifically reminded Mu Ningxue.

"Mmm."