

The Immortal's Wine Store #Chapter 161 - Xia Xinyues Misunderstanding - Read The Immortal's Wine Store Chapter 161 - Xia Xinyues Misunderstanding

Chapter 161 - Xia Xinyue's Misunderstanding

The moment Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue stepped inside the Green Wood Pavilion, two rows of scantily dressed maids bowed at them as they spoke in unison. "Welcome, Young Master (Young Miss)."

Xia Xinyue was embarrassed at this reception and she could not help but blush while looking at Jiu Shen's side profile. She wanted to see what his reaction would be while facing these women clad in revealing clothes. Any man would have revealed licentious or lecherous expressions if they encounter a scene such as this, but to her surprise, Jiu Shen appeared to be unmoved even after he looked at the ladies. After looking at the women casually for a moment, he then moved his gaze towards the interior design of the building. He didn't seem to be interested in them even by the slightest bit.

'How come Lord Sect Master isn't attracted to them? Could it be that he doesn't like women?' Xia Xinyue's heart turned cold and she hurriedly erased the thought in her heart.

How could a person like Jiu Shen be attracted to any random woman? Just that, she could still not help but feel worried in her heart since Jiu Shen's reaction was just too unbelievable for a man. There should at least be a little bit of reaction, right?

Xia Xinyue glanced suspiciously at Jiu Shen, and the latter could help but feel perplexed when he saw Xia Xinyue's weird gaze.

However, how could he know what she was thinking? If he knew what was in her mind, he would surely laugh in amusement.

How could he fancy the women of a mortal world? There might be a few peerless beauties here, but were they even comparable to the immortal goddesses of the Primordial God Realm? Surely not.

A woman in her late twenties suddenly walked towards them with a sweet smile plastered on her face. Her exposed and towering bosom trembled as she moved, while her seductive eyes were scanning Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue from head to foot. She was enchanted when she saw Jiu Shen's face and her heart beat faster when their eyes met. 'What a handsome man!' After exclaiming in her heart, her expression recovered her smile.

"Welcome, dear guests! Please allow me to introduce myself. I am Liuli, the proprietress of Green Wood Pavilion. I would assume that you are a couple. You just came at the right time! We still have some unoccupied rooms meant for couples like you guys." Liuli chuckled meaningfully, causing her explosive assets to produce fleshly waves that could make any other man crazy.

Xia Xinyue let out a shy smile when she heard Liuli say 'couple', and she could not help but take a look at Jiu Shen's reaction. However, he remained detached as if he didn't take Liuli's words to his heart. Seeing this, Xia Xinyue's suspicion intensified. 'No! I have to make sure that...that Lord Sect Master is a man...'

Xia Xinyue then looked at Liuli's cleavage that revealed a deep ravine. The latter's chest continuously rose and fell as the latter chuckled to her heart's content.

'This seductress! Hmph!' Xia Xinyue muttered coldly in her heart.

With an impatient look, Xia Xinyue gloomily stared at Liuli's face as she said in a cold voice. "Madam Liuli, please give us one room."

Hearing her words, Jiu Shen wanted to speak, but he decided not to. He knew that it was troublesome to involve himself in the dispute between two women.

When Liuli felt the coldness in Xia Xinyue's tone, she merely smiled as she nodded her head. "No problem, young miss. I will take you two to your room. Please follow me." She then turned around leaving behind a lingering womanly fragrance in the air.

Liuli was wearing a short dress that only covered a tiny portion of her hot figure. Her long legs were partially exposed, giving her a tempting and arousing atmosphere.

Looking at their proprietress leading the pair to their room, the women who greeted Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue earlier were a bit surprised.

"Who are those two? Madam Liuli is actually leading them personally."

"Didn't you see the man? He looks so dashing. He should be someone with a great background."

"Shhh! Don't let the proprietress hear you guys or she would surely punish you later."

The Green Wood Pavilion has ten floors in total, and Liuli led the pair to the highest floor where only the most luxurious rooms can be found. Xia Xinyue didn't know why Liuli was treating them with this much courtesy, and she had even forgotten that she had asked for a single room for herself and Jiu Shen.

Just then, Xia Xinyue suddenly remembered the rumors about the owner of this establishment. 'Could she be the true owner of this place? If that's the case, how come I

did not see anything special about her? According to the rumors, the owner should be an unfathomable expert with a mysterious background. However, aside from her hot figure, this Liuli looks just like an ordinary mortal woman with no cultivation...' Xia Xinyue muttered in her heart as she glanced at Liuli's seductive back figure.

On the other hand, Jiu Shen was looking at Liuli with interest. 'Things are getting interesting. It seems like the hidden experts of the Profound Dragon Continent are slowly gathering in this place. However, what does the Silver Wing Empire possess for it to attract this many top experts? Elyk. Elyk. Elyk. It looks like you're still hiding many things from me...' Jiu Shen muttered to himself.

"Dear guests, this is your room, and here's your key. If you want to order food or something else, just press the alarm button inside the room." Liuli handed a golden key to Xia Xinyue with an alluring smile. She also didn't forget to wink at Jiu Shen provocatively which made Xia Xinyue frown in displeasure.

"Thank you for leading us here, Madam Liuli. You may take your leave now. We can handle everything else on our own." Xia Xinyue blocked Liuli's field of vision as she spoke in a slightly annoyed tone. Liuli's flirtatious advances towards Jiu Shen are getting on her nerves, and she didn't want to give her any more chances.

Liuli chuckled while looking at Xia Xinyue with a provocative smile. She then walked away while intentionally brushing against Jiu Shen's arms.

Liuli's seductive laughter reverberated within the tenth floor of the Green Wood Pavilion, making Xia Xinyue curse the former in her heart.

"Elder Xia, let's go inside." Jiu Shen had just broken through the Nascent God Realm after consuming two Fruits of Cultivation, and he wanted to consolidate his strength before going back to Beltran City.

Like a startled rabbit, Xia Xinyue jumped in surprise as she looked at Jiu Shen's expression. 'I will be staying in one room with Lord Sect Master...' She felt embarrassed when she thought about it which made her cheeks turn a shade redder.

Jiu Shen took the golden key from the stunned Xia Xinyue and with a clicking sound, the door of their room abruptly sprung open, revealing a spacious room with an amorous air. It was indeed a room meant for couples...

Without waiting for Xia Xinyue, Jiu Shen had already stepped inside the room. He wanted to quickly enter into a meditative state and consolidate his newly gained strength. The Fruit of Cultivation didn't disappoint him and he was indeed able to advance to the Nascent God Realm after eating the two fruits. He still had the God Crystals inside his space earring, but he was not in a hurry to further advance his cultivation level. He wanted to stabilize his realm first to prevent unnecessary problems in the future.

There was a king-sized bed in the middle of the room, and it could fit almost ten people at the same time. However, Jiu Shen was not in the mood to admire it, and he quickly jumped onto the bed and sat cross-legged.

Swoosh.

Xia Xinyue was still dumbstruck and she didn't know what she should do in this kind of situation. A man and a woman in one room...it was just too ambiguous, but a determined expression blossomed on Xia Xinyue's face. She wanted to know if Jiu Shen was truly a man...

She then stepped inside the room and locked the door behind her before she walked towards the big bed with a nervous look. She was already forty years of age, but because of her high cultivation level and the countless beauty products she had consumed, Xia Xinyue still had the face of a young woman in her early twenties. In fact, she could still be considered as a young woman in the cultivation world.

Oblivious to her thoughts, Jiu Shen who was sitting cross-legged, sunk deeper in his meditative state as he slowly regulated his breathing while checking the changes in his body.

Jiu Shen's tribulation lightning was too strong this time, but luckily, the system helped him in decreasing the might of the God Exterminating Divine Eye or he would have turned to ashes in merely a second. He was even able to nourish his physical body and soul using the bolts of lightning produced by the God Exterminating Divine Eye.

Chapter 162 - Consolidating Strength

Liuli, the proprietress of Green Wood Pavilion went to a secret room. Inside the room, was a simple wooden chair and a table, and there was a fist-size crystal ball on top of the table that emitted a dull and dim white light.

She then lit up the lamp inside the room before she took a seat on the only chair inside.

"That woman is merely a 7th-rank Emperor realm cultivator, but that man... I can't detect his cultivation level at all no matter how I look at him. I don't believe that someone with that kind of temperament is merely just a normal man. Let me see who you truly are..." Liuli muttered to herself as she placed her hands on the fist-sized crystal ball while mumbling an incomprehensible mantra.

A moment later, the crystal ball suddenly lit up, and an image can be seen within the crystal ball. If one would look closely, the scene playing within the crystal ball was actually the room of Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue.

Liuli saw that both Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue were on top of the bed. The former was seated cross-legged with his eyes shut tight and he looked to be cultivating. On the other hand, Xia Xinyue was sitting on one corner of the bed while looking at Jiu Shen's side profile.

Liuli furrowed her eyebrows when she saw this scene, and just then, she saw that Jiu Shen who was just closing his eyes a few moments ago suddenly opened his eyelids. He then took a glance straight towards a random corner as if he had already realized that somebody was looking at them.

The last scene that Liuli saw was Jiu Shen flicking his right arm before the vision within the crystal ball vanished.

"Hehe. It seems like my guess was right. That man isn't someone ordinary at all, but... Who is he?" She muttered with a contemplating look. There were only a handful of people who could enter her eyes, but she knew almost every one of the experts in the Profound Dragon Continent. However, she had no idea who Jiu Shen was...

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Jiu Shen glanced at the broken crystal ball lying inconspicuously in one corner of their room. Earlier, he felt that someone was watching them through the crystal ball, so he immediately destroyed it without hesitation. He didn't want the feeling of being watched when he was in a vulnerable state, so he felt a bit angered by this. "Proprietress Liuli... that woman actually dared to monitor me? Hm... I will punish you later..." Jiu Shen muttered with a cold smile before he closed his eyes.

Xia Xinyue had also seen Jiu Shen destroying the crystal ball, and when she heard his words, she instantly became incensed. "That seductress! I know she's up to no good! Hmph!"

Jiu Shen was now at the early stage of the Nascent God Realm and he could be considered as one of the strongest beings in Nuar right now. Even those rumored god beasts in the Divine Beast Continent shouldn't be as strong as him, but it was uncertain since there might be god beasts stronger than a Nascent God Realm cultivator living within the Divine Beast Continent.

After eating two Fruits of Cultivation, Jiu Shen's strength experienced a qualitative increase. It was not just his cultivation prowess that improved, even his physical body and spiritual power had also reached the Nascent God Realm! Aside from that, the bolts of lightning produced by the God Exterminating Divine Eye also helped him in strengthening and solidifying his realm. Now, he only needed to consolidate all his gains and he would be good to go.

'This time, I've truly gained a lot. I didn't think that I would actually summon the God Exterminating Divine Eye when I'm only breaking through to the Nascent God Realm,

then just what kind of tribulation lightning will I summon if I decide to break through to the Celestial God Realm in the future? Sigh. It's no use thinking about this now since it would still be long before I can recover my past cultivation level.' Jiu Shen thought in his heart.

The cultivation levels after the 9th-rank Saint realm are as follows:

Nascent God Realm

Origin God Realm

Ancestral God Realm

Sovereign God Realm

Heavenly God Realm

Celestial God Realm

In his past life, it took Jiu Shen several billions of years before he reached the Heavenly God Realm, so it was unknown whether how many years it would take him to attain his former level of strength in this life. However, he was optimistic about his cultivation speed with the help of the system.

Jiu Shen sat cross-legged on the bed for several hours as he slowly consolidated his strength. It was not a long process, but it needs his full concentration. That's why he chose to meditate in this inn instead of meditating in the wilderness where there are many variables.

Xia Xinyue was becoming restless as time goes by, but she didn't dare disturb Jiu Shen since she knew that he was at a critical juncture in his cultivation.

"He should be done any time by now. Should I call a servant over to get us some food? Okay, it's decided." Xia Xinyue muttered silently before she stood up to press the alarm. She then told a servant to bring some food to their room.

Not long later, Xia Xinyue heard a series of soft knocks on their door, so she hurriedly stood up to open it since she didn't want to disturb Jiu Shen.

After opening the door, Xia Xinyue saw Liuli, the proprietress of the building holding a pushcart with a tray filled with various delicacies. Xia Xinyue frowned when she saw Liuli and she immediately revealed a hostile expression.

The former stepped out of their room before closing the door.

"Young Miss, this is the food that you ordered. Do you want me to help you place it inside your room?" Liuli asked with a charming smile as she looked at the annoyed look of Xia Xinyue in amusement.

Xia Xinyue exhaled a breath of warm air before she replied in a cold voice. "You don't need to do that, Proprietress Liuli. I will bring it inside on my own."

Liuli smiled as she nodded her head. "If that's the case, then I will leave this cart here. After you guys eat, just press the alarm to call a servant to bring this back after you guys use it."

Xia Xinyue nodded her head impatiently. She then opened the door to their room and grabbed the cart before pushing it inside. "Proprietress Liuli, I advise you not to anger Lord Sect Master. You wouldn't want to become enemies with him." Xia Xinyue's icy voice was full of warning, and just as Liuli was about to reply, the door to Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue's room was already closed.

Slam!

"This woman's temper is a bit fiery. Hehe! To think that she actually dared to threaten me. It has been long since someone had such guts. What an interesting pair!" Liuli smiled as she looked at the closed door with a mysterious glint in her eyes. It was as if she wanted to poke a hole in it.

Inside the room.

Xia Xinyue pushed the cart near the bed as she looked at Jiu Shen who was still sitting cross-legged with his eyes closed. It was only around this time that she dared to look at his handsome face with unblinking eyes. "I just hope that my suspicion about Lord Sect Master isn't true, but how would I know about the truth? Should I do that...that..." She muttered in a mosquito-like voice.

Just then, Jiu Shen slowly opened his eyelids, showing a pair of golden pupils. Before he reached the Nascent God Realm, his eyes were still silver in color, but after his breakthrough, it suddenly turned golden. Furthermore, his eyesight had also strengthened and he no longer needed to use his spiritual perception to detect an illusion. He didn't know why his eyes have become like this, but it was most likely related to his Seamless Deity Physique.

Looking at those unfathomable golden eyes, Xia Xinyue was suddenly lost in her own thoughts as if she beguiled by the depths of his eyes.

"Elder Xia." Jiu Shen called out gently as he jumped out of the bed.

Xia Xinyue broke away from her stupor when she heard Jiu Shen's charming voice, and she could not help but put on a meek look. She was actually caught by Jiu Shen when she was still looking at him, how embarrassing!

"Ah... This... L-Lord Sect Master, please eat this. Although you no longer need to eat food with your current strength, the feeling of eating something is still enjoyable. Furthermore, these are the best dishes of Green Wood Pavilion." Xia Xinyue hid her embarrassment as she spoke with a smile.

Jiu Shen didn't want to decline when he saw her eager expression, so he agreed right away. "In that case, join me in eating these delicacies, Elder Xia."

Xia Xinyue's lips curled upwards when she heard his words, and she nodded her head excitedly. She felt over the moon when Jiu Shen invited her to eat with him. Although it was only a minor thing, she still felt happy about it. She was usually a cold and detached woman like most of the elders and disciples of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect, but in front of Jiu Shen, she was like a young woman in her teens.

The two sat down side by side as they ate the food on the tray. They revealed satisfied looks as they stuffed food after food in their mouths.

Chapter 163 - Poaching Liuli

Jiu Shen stood up after eating his fill. Although the food wasn't that good in his eyes, it was still palatable and refreshing for him.

"Elder Xia, stay here for now and wait for my return. I'll just do something quickly." Jiu Shen's eyes flashed with a cold glint when he recalled the crystal ball that he had destroyed earlier. He knew that Liuli the proprietress of Green Wood Pavilion had something to do with it.

Swoosh.

Xia Xinyue wanted to speak up, but Jiu Shen's silhouette had already vanished from where he previously stood. She heaved a soft sigh before muttering silently to herself. "I wonder what will happen to that seductress..."

Inside the secret room within Green Wood Pavilion, Liuli was seated on a simple wooden chair with a thoughtful expression on her face as she cupped her chin with both her hands. "That woman called her as Lord Sect Master. That means he has a sect, but considering his strength, his sect should be well-known throughout the whole of the Profound Dragon Continent. Unless... Unless if he had ordered his sect to refrain from intervening in the affairs of the continent. Hmm... That should be the case."

Just then, Liuli's eyes suddenly dilated when she sensed an ominous presence appearing before her.

Swoosh.

A man with long silver hair and golden eyes stood in front of her with a cold expression on his face. He was looking directly at her which caused the hairs on her body to stand on end. She couldn't even muster the courage to stand up from her seat and she could only watch him in horror and surprise. "D-Dear guest, i-is there anything I can help you with?" She stuttered as she spoke with a forced smile while looking at Jiu Shen's face, but upon seeing his pair of icy-cold golden eyes, she hurriedly averted her gaze in fear. It was as if she was looking at a demon at the depths of hell!

Jiu Shen ignored Liuli and just quietly grabbed a seat from his space earring. He then placed the chair in front of her and took a seat with a nonchalant expression.

Liuli felt a bit embarrassed after having been ignored, but she didn't dare voice out any displeasure since she couldn't see through the man in front of her. However, when she saw him suddenly appear in front of her like a ghost, she knew that his strength was most likely greater than her own, so she could only watch as Jiu Shen comfortably sat before her.

Jiu Shen leaned on his chair and placed one of his legs on top of the other while looking at Liuli with a cold look. "Proprietress Liuli, do you know why I'm here?" Jiu Shen's voice was distant and aloof.

Liuli felt her heart turn cold when she heard his icy voice. She knew that Jiu Shen was offended when she had secretly peeked at their room earlier.

"D-Dear guest... Please don't misunderstand this little woman. I-I only did that out of curiosity and I have no ill-intentions." Liuli let out a pitiful smile as she replied in a trembling voice. She was truly scared at Jiu Shen's unfathomable strength, and she was afraid that he might do something serious for what she did earlier.

Jiu Shen's lips curled upwards to form a cold smile, causing shivers to run down Liuli's spine. She was already an expert at the early stage of the 9th-rank Saint realm, but she felt like she was just a hapless chicken in front of this man.

"Proprietress Liuli, I don't like the feeling of being spied, so I came here to punish you for that." Jiu Shen spoke as if it was only natural for him to punish her. His bloody aura suddenly enveloped the whole room, making Liuli feel as if she was standing at the gates of hell with a pile of corpses crawling towards her feet. Thousands of ghosts were wailing and screaming as they circled around her with baleful looks. This sensation made her tremble that she almost pissed her pants in fear, and the eyes she used to look at Jiu Shen contained extreme trepidation. Just how many lives had he taken for his aura to emit this kind of terrorizing atmosphere?!

Liuli's face fell and regretted her actions earlier. If only she knew that Jiu Shen was this powerful, then even she had the guts of steel, she still would not dare to spy on them.

Liuli's mouth was already dry and she tried to speak, but no words came out of her mouth.

Looking at her expression, Jiu Shen lost his interest and he immediately recalled his aura.

Huff. Puff. Huff. Puff.

Liuli panted heavily as she wiped the sweat on her forehead with her quivering hands. She didn't even dare lift her head to look at Jiu Shen and her usually seductive expression was now dark with horror and fear. It was the first time she had felt that kind of overpowering aura and even those old freaks from the Alliance didn't give her that kind of suffocating feeling. Is he perhaps a 10th-rank God realm cultivator? She thought fearfully.

The room was filled with rough breathing sounds from Liuli, and if someone from outside would hear her panting sounds, they would certainly misunderstand what was happening within the room. Luckily, only Liuli knew the passage to this room.

"Proprietress Liuli, I want you to work for me..." Jiu Shen's indifferent voice was filled with confidence as if he knew that Liuli would not decline his offer. At first, Jiu Shen wanted to discipline her even further, but since she harbored no malice, he decided to drop the matter.

Liuli revealed a stunned look and she could not help but lift her head to take a look at Jiu Shen, but when she saw his eyes, she hurriedly looked away.

"T-This lord... I-I don't even know your name and origin...I mean I don't mind working for you, but can you at least tell me your esteemed name?" She muttered helplessly. Her Green Wood Pavilion had many branches within the Silver Wing Empire, and she also had many experts working under her. She had been carefree and unrestrained for more than ten years, but who knew that she would actually provoke such a maleficent existence today...

Jiu Shen let out an amused smile as he looked at Liuli's quivering figure. She looked like a small rabbit trapped by a big bad wolf.

"My given name is Shen and my surname is Jiu, and I'm only a wine store owner, nothing special." Jiu Shen calmly said.

Liuli almost cursed out loud when she heard his casual reply. 'Wine store owner my ass! Who would believe that an expert like you is only a wine store owner?! Even if you beat me to death, I still won't believe your fart! Hmph!'

Although Jiu Shen can't read her thoughts, he could still sense that Liuli didn't believe him, but he didn't bother to explain it to her and just silently stared at this woman whose figure is as bewitching as a fairy.

When Liuli saw that Jiu Shen was staring unblinkingly at her, she felt a bit scared, but after she looked closely. She realized that his eyes didn't have any impure or indecent thoughts which were always present in the eyes of the men that she had interacted with in her life.

Most men would display a chivalrous and gentlemanly facade, but she could sense that they wanted to devour her body. However, the man in front of her was different. His golden eyes which were like two deep pools of ocean didn't contain any trace of impurity or obscenity. Liuli couldn't even see a ripple in his indifferent expression. Looking at this, she suddenly felt that her charm was ineffective against this man, making her feel a bit annoyed.

"L-Lord Jiu Shen, if you don't dislike this little woman, then...then I will serve you from now on." Liuli gritted her teeth after making a choice. Since she no longer had any choice, she could only accept his offer. Furthermore, it wouldn't be embarrassing to serve such a strong person. Just that, she felt a bit reluctant because this signified the end of her carefree life.

"Since you're already one of my people, I will drop the matter about you spying on me, but you'll have to follow me back to Beltran City to take orders from me." Jiu Shen already had the thought of poaching Liuli under his banner when he had first laid his eyes on her. It was rare to see a 9th-rank Saint in the Profound Dragon Continent, and he was also lacking in people with acute management skills like her. Although his senior disciple Lu San could handle sect matters, she was not as good as Liuli in handling people. Furthermore, the latter could lead her Green Wood Pavilion to such heights in merely a few decades, so she should be proficient in managing, right?

With the help of Liuli, the growth of his sect would surely increase tremendously. Of course, he still had to observe this woman and make sure that she wouldn't betray him, but Jiu Shen was certain that he could gain her absolute loyalty after some time.

Liuli heaved a sigh of relief and she felt as if she was given a new lease on life, and when she heard that she needs to follow Jiu Shen to Beltran City, she strangely felt curious as to what he was up to. "I obey, Lord Jiu Shen."

"Good. Settle your matters here since we won't stay in Green Wood City for long. Also, bring a few experts with you. I might need them for my plans..." Jiu Shen ordered with a calm look. He knew that it wouldn't be long before the Silver Wing Empire would be engulfed by the flames of war, so he had to make some preparations to make sure that nothing would go wrong. After all, if many people from the empire died, then how would he continue his wine business? He should at least do something to prevent the empire from falling apart.

Chapter 164 - A Warm Night

"Lord Jiu Shen, please wait a moment. I need one day to prepare everything before I can go with you. I don't want anything to happen to my Green Wood Pavilion while I'm gone." Liuli said as she grabbed Jiu Shen's arm with a pitiful look.

Jiu Shen's expression remained peacefully calm even after Liuli's sudden intimate actions, but he still nodded his head at her. He didn't mind waiting for another day as long as he could get the help of this 9th-rank Saint realm cultivator. "Mn. Tomorrow evening, we will leave immediately."

Liuli gratefully nodded her head before she released Jiu Shen's arm with an embarrassed look. Usually, she would only act coy and shy in front of the nobles in order to fool them into spending more True Crystals, but this time, her reaction was natural and not faked.

"Thank you, Lord Jiu Shen." Liuli bowed deeply, revealing her jade-like cleavage that almost jumped out of her clothes because of its sheer size.

Jiu Shen took a glance at her and shook his head internally. 'This woman is indeed good at seduction, but if she wants to seduce me, then she needs to train for a few billions of years.'

Swoosh.

When Liuli lifted her head, Jiu Shen's silhouette had already vanished inside the room, and only his lingering manly fragrance remained. Liuli closed her eyes as she inhaled Jiu Shen's scent, and when she opened her eyes, she revealed a dreamy look. "I guess it wouldn't be that bad following Lord Jiu Shen..."

* * *

It was already night time when Jiu Shen teleported back inside his room. He didn't think that he would actually gain a strong subordinate here in Green Wood City. Just that, Liuli's origin was still unknown, so the moment he comes back to Beltran City, he will ask Ren Shuang to investigate her identity before he could place his trust in her.

When Jiu Shen arrived inside the room, he felt a bit stunned because he saw that Xia Xinyue was lying naked on the middle of the king-sized bed, and she was only covering her most intimate parts with a white quilt. Looking at her shy and blushing expression, Jiu Shen already had a rough idea of what she was planning to do, but he feigned ignorance and asked her with a calm expression. "Elder Xia, what's the meaning of this?"

Xia Xinyue felt the coldness in Jiu Shen's tone, but since she had already decided about this some time ago, she didn't want to back out midway, so while biting her lower lip, she said with a shy look. "Lord Sect Master, please allow me to warm your bed."

Jiu Shen's eyes twitched when he heard her enchanting voice, but his facial expression was still calm and indifferent. He could sense that Xia Xinyue was a bit reluctant to do this, but then what was pushing her to this thing? Furthermore, after interacting with her for quite some time, he knew that Xia Xinyue wasn't the kind of woman who treated her body casually. Besides, he could even sense that she was still a virgin, so why was she suddenly doing this?

Jiu Shen furrowed his eyebrows as he pondered. 'This girl, does she want to gain more power by becoming my woman? No, she doesn't seem to be like that...'

After seeing that Jiu Shen was still standing unmoved, Xia Xinyue gritted her teeth and she slowly removed the quilt that covered her youthful body, making Jiu Shen see every inch of her curvy figure. Her towering bosom, her pink cherries, and that maiden crevice that was sparsely covered with thin curly hair were all laid bare before his eyes

It would be a lie if Jiu Shen said that he wasn't tempted, but with his third level of heart realm, he managed to force down the rising evilness within his heart. After all, it has been long since he had touched a woman, and what kind of man would remain unmoved after seeing a young and beautiful lady lying naked in front of him?

Jiu Shen wasn't completely an unromantic person. In fact, he had a few wives that lived together with him during his earlier years.

Jiu Shen's tranquil eyes suddenly fluctuated as he recalled his women who had long since died after the perpetual passing of time. He couldn't even do anything to keep them alive, and he could only watch as they slowly died of old age. Jiu Shen's lips trembled as he closed his eyes to remember their wrinkled faces when they were at death's door. Jiu Shen saw their endless love and affection for him from their cloudy eyes; and their dying smiles before they parted with him forever...

Jiu Shen didn't want to experience that kind of pain again. It was a heart-wrenching experience to carry the memories they left behind, and starting then, he no longer accepted the affections of countless immortal goddesses.

The moment Jiu Shen opened his eyelids, he immediately walked towards Xia Xinyue while putting up a warm smile. Although he didn't know why she was doing this, he didn't blame her.

Xia Xinyue's breathing became hurried when she saw Jiu Shen walking towards her, but when she saw his gentle smile, the restlessness in her heart slowly evaporated. His smile was filled with warmth and tenderness, but Xia Xinyue could see that his eyes

were blank as if he was thinking about something. Looking at his bleak and forlorn eyes, Xia Xinyue felt as if her heart was being crushed for some reason.

Jiu Shen's golden eyes became blurred as the memories during his youth surged within his mind like a recorder playing backward. It happened in an instant, but to Jiu Shen, it felt as if several years had passed by. Now, when he looked at Xia Xinyue's naked body, his golden eyes revealed a hint of tenderness.

He softly caressed her silky smooth cheeks with his hand while looking at her eyes with warmth.

Xia Xinyue felt her heart melting when she saw his gentle expression. Was this still the cold and aloof Jiu Shen that she knew? He looks like a different person when he smiles. She thought as she stared at Jiu Shen's face, and she could already feel that her maiden heart was slowly softening.

Jiu Shen glanced at her naked body and sighed with emotions. He then slowly climbed on top of the bed and lied closely to Xia Xinyue.

He could already feel her warm and ragged breath blowing to his neck. He could also see her slightly quivering body that was starting to become restless after he suddenly lied beside her.

Seeing this, Jiu Shen gently rubbed her back to pacify her uneasiness as he stared at her pair of onyx eyes that were looking at him with mixed emotions.

'Her eyes are still so innocent and pure... She could already be considered as a mature woman in terms of age here in Nuar, but she seems to be inexperienced with the matters between men and women... What a cute young lady...' Jiu Shen expressed his heartfelt opinion when he saw her dazed eyes.

Xia Xinyue was both nervous and excited when Jiu Shen lied beside her, but she could not help but look away when she saw his handsome face. 'Do I really deserve to be intimate with him?' She thought as her self-esteem slowly crumbled when she faced Jiu Shen up close, but when she felt that gentle hand stroking her back as if it was caressing a precious jade, her tensed heart suddenly calmed down and she closed her eyes to enjoy this feeling.

Her lips parted and formed a joyful smile.

"Xinyue, what made you do this? I know you have a reason for doing this." Jiu Shen's gently said as he lightly caressed her back. There was not even a trace of lust in his golden eyes.

Xia Xinyue felt ashamed for doubting Jiu Shen's sexuality, and she finally realized that she had only misunderstood him. "L-Lord Sect Master, I-I... I saw that your eyes never

revealed even a trace of desire when we were welcomed by those little seductresses at the entrance earlier, so...so I thought that you might not be interested in women which made me a bit worried..." Her voice was so small that anyone would find it hard to hear, but after his recent increase in strength, Jiu Shen heard her words loud and clear.

Pfft.

He couldn't help but chuckle when he heard her response. To think that someone actually doubted his...

Hahaha!

Jiu Shen who had never laughed for millions of years suddenly erupted into peals of laughter, making Xia Xinyue reveal a surprised expression.

So Lord Sect Master can also laugh like this? Xia Xinyue thought as she stared at Jiu Shen's face with an infatuated smile.

Her maiden heart that was aloof and detached for several decades suddenly thawed at that moment.

Looking at this man who was beyond handsome, Xia Xinyue unconsciously touched his face with her hand.

Not long later, she felt a strong pair of arms embracing her delicate body. She then rested her head on his sturdy chest and let out a contented smile as she slowly drifted into her dreamland.

When Jiu Shen heard her calm breathing, he smiled and held her closer to his body. He suddenly recalled her bold words earlier.

"Lord Sect Master, please allow me to warm your bed."

"Silly girl... This warmth is already enough." He muttered as he closed his eyes with a gentle smile.

Chapter 165 - Meeting The Crown Prince Again

Xia Xinyue opened her eyes slowly and when she realized that she was naked, she suddenly recalled the events that happened last night. Thinking about that, her face turned bright red as she hastily covered herself with a quilt to hide her embarrassment.

She then checked her body and she found out that Jiu Shen didn't touch her most intimate part. She heaved a sigh of relief, but she also felt a hint of disappointment.

Touching the empty bed, Xia Xinyue could not help but let out a broken smile. In the end, she could only bury her sorrow while thinking about Jiu Shen's hearty laughter last night.

On the ground floor of the Green Wood Pavilion was the public dining area. Jiu Shen sat alone in one corner while pulling the cork of the wine bottle that he ordered from the kitchen. He wanted to try if their wine was at least comparable to his Mystic Jade.

Pop.

After removing the cork, Jiu Shen filled his cup with wine, but when he saw the slightly cloudy yellowish liquid that streamed down to his cup, his interest faded a bit. He then held the cup near to his nose and took a light sniff.

What a sour smell!

Jiu Shen frowned and his curiosity died down after smelling the sour smell of the wine. He didn't like it, but he still took a small sip from his cup.

Sip.

Jiu Shen's lips twitched as he disappointedly placed his cup on the table. "It seems like there are only a few good wines in this world. What a pity." He muttered silently as he watched the diners with a curious look. Among them, he could see the familiar face of the crown prince Reinhardt, and he was talking with a few middle-aged people that looked to be mercenaries. Their strength wasn't bad, but it was still not enough to enter his eyes. However, because of his curiosity, he decided to listen to their conversation through his spiritual sense.

"Your Highness, what do you think about that senior who faced that huge eye with great heroism and majesty?"

Hearing the question, Prince Reinhardt's eyes flashed with a look of admiration as he recalled that scene. "That senior is so much stronger than most of the experts in our Silver Wing Empire. I think only the emperor father could be his match." Although he sounded a bit unconfident, he didn't want to undermine the strength of his father the emperor. After all, he had also seen how his father had faced off against a dragon in Beltran City. He was even able to scare off the dragon with his might.

Everyone still believed that it was Emperor Elyk who made the dragon retreat since they didn't see everything too clearly at that time.

At the mention of the emperor, admiration and worship flashed on the eyes of the mercenaries before it suddenly dimmed down. Although the emperor was a strong person, the man they had seen yesterday was just too awesome, and they believed that

he should be stronger than the emperor, but they didn't dare say it out loud as they might be punished for it especially with the presence of the crown prince.

"Your Highness, can you tell us why you called us here?"

Prince Reinhardt smiled at them and replied. "I wanted to go back to Beltran City, but I found a beautiful fairy here in Green Wood Pavilion, so I decided to stay for one more day here."

The mercenaries looked at each other with knowing smiles when they heard the crown prince's words. They knew that this seemingly harmless man was a fickle person who loves beautiful women, so they were not surprised when they heard his words.

"Then what do you want us to do, Your Highness?"

Prince Reinhardt's smile vanished and was replaced by a serious look as he recalled the man with long silver hair. Reinhardt felt a sense of defeat when he saw that man's incomparably handsome face. Even someone as confident as Reinhardt felt his self-esteem taking a huge hit when he compared himself with that man.

With a forced smile, Prince Reinhardt said. "It's not that hard. I only want you guys to prevent the man who is together with that fairy from intervening in my matters. Of course, there is no need to use violence, or I might be placed under house arrest by emperor father."

"Oh, so it's like this. Don't worry, Your Highness. We won't allow that man to interfere when you make a move to claim the beauty's heart. Hahaha!"

"That's right! Leave this to us, Your Highness!"

The mercenaries laughed confidently as they cheered the crown prince with fawning smiles. They were also experts, but they didn't have a strong background like the crown prince, so they wanted to latch themselves on his thighs to get more resources to boost their cultivation. They were ready to do anything just to get in his good books. After all, this man was the crown prince, and he was the most likely person to inherit the throne.

Jiu Shen who was listening from the sidelines was amused at their conversation. 'Ays, Elyk. Your third son is talented in the art of military and stratagem, but he is arrogant and conceited. Your second son is most likely dead since a demon is now occupying his body. As for this eldest son of yours, he might be talented in cultivation, but his fickle heart will be the downfall of him. What a pity! Although your three eldest sons are tigers like you, their characters are flawed.'

Suddenly, Jiu Shen saw a familiar figure at the corner of his vision. He raised his head and saw the proprietress of the Green Wood Pavilion, Liuli. She had a charming and

seductive air as she walked towards the dining area, and she would smile at her guests from time to time.

Everyone that looked at her smiled mysteriously as they stared at her exposed skin. Their eyes were already twinkling with unknown light as they glanced unblinkingly at her voluptuous figure.

Liuli was already used to this kind of scene, so she didn't take their actions to heart.

"Proprietress Liuli, what a coincidence to see you here!" Prince Reinhardt rose from his seat as he greeted Liuli with a charming smile. She was one of the women that he coveted the most, but her strength was unfathomable so he didn't dare behave wantonly in her presence despite his identity as the crown prince.

Liuli stopped in her tracks and she covered her small mouth as she giggled coquettishly while looking at the crown prince. "Oh, so it's Your Highness! What a surprise to see you here this early! I wonder what brought Your Highness' esteemed presence here in my humble establishment." Liuli glanced at the crown prince with a curious smile even though she already knew that he was here for a beauty. In fact, the crown prince always came here for the same reason, to hunt beauties. However, she didn't expose him since it was unwise to provoke the crown prince for a matter like this. Of course, if he was here to take liberties with her, then that would be a different story.

Prince Reinhardt merely chuckled when he heard her question. He also didn't forget to take a quick look at Liuli's deep cleavage. 'Ays! This fox is too tempting that I want to grab her and be done with it. What a pity that she has a bit of strength, but it won't take long before I can get you for myself. By then, no matter how strong you are, you can't escape my wolf claws... Hahaha!' A strange glint flashed imperceptibly in his eyes as he smiled at Liuli like how a gentleman would.

As Liuli was talking with the crown prince, she saw a lone silhouette seated in a random corner. He was looking at her with an indifferent expression, but she didn't mind this. She then smiled at the crown prince as she curtsied elegantly. "Your Highness, I still have some matters to do. Please excuse this little woman. Hehe."

Reinhardt nodded his head at her with a warm smile and sat back on his seat. Just then, he saw Liuli walking towards a certain direction with quick steps, but when he saw who the person she was headed to, the smile on the crown prince's face turned ugly and malevolent, but he quickly concealed it. 'That bastard! It's him! What's his relationship with Proprietress Liuli? It looks like their relationship is not normal. This fucking shit actually dares to steal my woman in front of my eyes!'

The eyes of the crown prince almost spurted fire when he saw how Liuli acted in front of Jiu Shen. Even a retard would know that their relationship was not shallow especially after looking at Liuli's respectful and genuine smile.

'This bastard! See how I trample you later!' Reinhardt concealed his fury as he walked towards Jiu Shen with his signature charming smile.

Sensing his arrival, Jiu Shen ignored the noisy Liuli as he took a look at this amusing crown prince.

Liuli furrowed her eyebrows in displeasure after having her time with Jiu Shen suddenly interrupted by someone, but when she saw who it was, she repressed her annoyance. "Your Highness, do you need anything else from me?"

Prince Reinhardt shook his head with a smile and said. "I just want to make friends with this gentleman here. I hope Proprietress Liuli would introduce me to him."

Chapter 166 - Returning To Beltran City

Liuli was a smart woman and she already knew that the crown prince was up to no good, but she was confident that Prince Reinhardt couldn't do anything to Jiu Shen, so after a moment of hesitation, she nodded her head at the crown prince. "Since Prince Reinhardt wants to know this gentleman here, then how could I refuse?" She smiled charmingly.

Liuli then took a glance at the poker-faced Jiu Shen and she almost laughed after seeing his disinterested look. "Lord Jiu Shen, let me introduce this man to you. He is a great personage here in our Silver Wing Empire. He is the crown prince, Prince Reinhardt Silveria."

Reinhardt raised his head slightly after her introduction. He was obviously pleased with it, but when he saw that Jiu Shen didn't even bother to greet him, the crown prince's face darkened. This fellow didn't even bat an eye after Liuli told him his identity.

He actually dared to embarrass him in front of his woman? What a cocky bastard!

Looking at Jiu Shen's calm look, Liuli coughed lightly to get his attention.

Cough. Cough.

Jiu Shen decided to give her some face since she was already his subordinate, so he nodded his head at the crown as he said with an apathetic look. "I've heard a lot about you."

Prince Reinhardt's anger almost burst out, but Liuli hurriedly spoke to pacify the tensed atmosphere. "Hahah! Don't mind him too much, Your Highness. His name is Jiu Shen, a very strong expert, and I am one of his people." She decided to tell her relationship with Jiu Shen to prevent things from escalating further. She didn't want the reputation of her

Green Wood Pavilion to be tarnished, so she could only do this. Furthermore, with the crown prince's power, it wouldn't take long for him to know the relationship between him and Jiu Shen.

After hearing her words, the crown prince was a bit surprised and he couldn't help but take a doubtful look at Liuli before glancing at the calm Jiu Shen. Although he couldn't read the exact strength of Liuli, he was certain that she was at least at the 8th-rank Divine realm. However, she emphasized that Jiu Shen was a very strong expert and she was also working under him. Does that mean that he was the true owner of the Green Wood Pavilion? Thinking about that, Prince Reinhardt thought that things were becoming a bit complicated, but still, he didn't want to give up on getting this seductress Liuli for himself no matter how strong Jiu Shen was. 'After I inherit the throne and awaken the slumbering ancestor, who would dare disobey me!?'

In only an instant, the crown prince's expression returned to normal as he cupped his fists at Jiu Shen. His bright smile masked the towering wrath in his heart. "So it's Lord Jiu Shen. What a great hero to actually have the ability to take Proprietress Liuli as your subordinate. I admire you!"

Admire my ass! I can't wait to tear that fucking boytoy face of yours. I will also let you watch how I fuck this little bitch Liuli in front of you! Hmph!

Jiu Shen didn't know what Reinhardt was thinking, but he could sense the rage that he tried so hard to suppress. And if not for his friendship with Elyk, he would have already punished this fickle and conceited prince. Having lost his mood to stay here, Jiu Shen ignored the crown prince as he stood up. He then took a sidelong glance at Liuli and said in a cold voice. "Don't delay our matters and pack up right away."

After hearing his cold voice, Liuli shivered and she hurriedly bowed at him with the utmost respect. "Yes, Lord Jiu Shen."

After that, Jiu Shen left the scene without even taking one last look at them. The disdain and contempt in his actions almost made Prince Reinhardt lose his control, but he gritted his teeth and clenched his fists tightly as he suppressed his anger.

"Prince Reinhardt, I advise you not to act impulsively. Lord Jiu Shen isn't someone you want to mess with. I'm only saying this to you on account of your father. Farewell." Liuli left after speaking in a slightly annoyed tone. It was the first time Reinhardt heard her talk to him that way, so he felt incomparably incensed.

"Jiu Shen is it? I remember you." He muttered with dense killing intent.

He then left the Green Wood Pavilion, leaving behind the middle-aged mercenaries with blank looks.

"What happened to the crown prince? Why did he leave in such a hurry?"

"I don't know, but it seems like our work has to be put on hold. What a pity!"

* * *

Night arrived, and the moon illuminated the night sky with a dim white light. It was a tranquil dark sky, but for how long could this tranquility remain?

There were still quite a number of people within the streets of Green Wood City, and most of them were still talking about the fantastical event that happened yesterday morning.

Looking above, eight figures could be vaguely seen on top of the Green Wood Pavilion's building, but because it was night time, it was difficult to see their facial features.

"Let's go back home." Jiu Shen muttered as he glanced at the sky.

Liuli who was standing behind him nodded her head as she took out something from her space ring.

It was a huge flying boat with an intricate design. It was a precious treasure that could fly through the skies, and its flight speed was even comparable to that of a 9th-rank cultivator. Although this flying boat is such a valuable and rare treasure, using it also burned a lot of True Crystals. However, True Crystals meant nothing to the rich Liuli.

She then glanced at Jiu Shen and Xia Xinyue before taking a glance at the five subordinates that she chose to bring with her. All five of them were men, and the strongest among them had the strength of a peak stage 7th-rank Emperor realm expert, while the remaining four were at the early stage of the 7th-rank Emperor realm. "Hop in, everyone."

Swoosh. Swoosh. Swoosh. Swoosh.

Swoosh. Swoosh. Swoosh.

After everyone hopped inside the flying boat, Liuli grabbed a handful of True Crystals and placed it inside the core of the boat, causing it to produce a bright luster.

Swoosh!

The huge flying boat streaked through the skies under Liuli's commands. She then asked one of her subordinates to control the flying boat.

* * *

Beltran City, Xue Family Estate.

"Is Elder Ming not out of seclusion yet?" Xue Yangkai muttered with an impatient tone. He was already dying to create chaos within Beltran City to avenge the death of his son, but they still had to wait for Elder Ming before making a move.

Xue Yangkun glared at him and snorted. "Patriarch, I've already told you that Elder Ming's retreat might take a few months or more. Just wait patiently, okay? The moment he comes out, you can do whatever you want."

Actually, Xue Yangkun was also becoming tensed especially after they had entered Jiu Shen's store. They discovered that the store wasn't as simple as it seemed to be, and it was even protected by an unfathomable expert. Recalling that man with long wavy black hair who stood like a stone statue outside of the store's second floor, Xue Yangkun felt his heart turning cold.

That being said, this idiot patriarch in front of him might also spoil the grand plans of Elder Ming, so he had to keep an eye on him to prevent him from destroying the plan that they had brewed for dozens of years. 'I hope that Yangkai this idiotic old man can remain patient during this time that Elder Ming is still absent. This is an opportunity for our Xue Family to rise, and after Elder Ming's breakthrough, we would be able to gain sufficient authority to control a part of the Alliance. However, things might be complicated if that store intervenes in our matters...'

Chapter 167 - Progress

The glaring sun radiated with a bright light that lit up the whole of Beltran City, awakening everyone from their deep sleep. The clouds drifted across the sky as the morning wind passed by. It was another sunny weather for the capital city.

Jiu Shen who was seated cross-legged on the floor inside his room abruptly stood up and stretched his muscles after the first rays of sunlight touched his face.

Crack. Crack. Crack.

The cracking of his muscles can be heard as he stretched his limbs with a bit of force. This sudden noise awakened the little beauty who was lying on top of Jiu Shen's bed. She raised her head and took a glance at Jiu Shen with a beautiful smile on her face. This woman was Xia Xinyue.

After she had slept naked beside Jiu Shen that night, she had already treated herself as his woman even though he didn't receive his acknowledgment.

She would be satisfied as long as she could stay with him.

When they arrived last night in Beltran City, Xia Xinyue even insisted to stay inside Jiu Shen's room which was immediately rejected by the latter, but after her endless pleading, Jiu Shen agreed reluctantly.

"Lord Sect Master, do you want me to make tea for you?" Xia Xinyue's soft voice drifted inside the room.

Jiu Shen glanced at her and nodded his head with a calm look. Regarding Xia Xinyue's feelings for him, he already knew about it, but his heart wasn't prepared to accept this kind of emotion yet.

After that, Jiu Shen stepped out of his room and went downstairs to tell his subordinates to open the store. He also wanted to check the progress of the kids that he left in Can Ye's care. Aside from that, he will inspect the relocation process that was promised by the emperor.

When she saw Jiu Shen leaving the room without even speaking to her, Xia Xinyue sighed lightly, but her expression was still full of affection. "Even if I serve you as your maid, I will be willing..." She muttered tenderly.

On the second floor, Jiu Shen saw Ren Shuang who instantly stood up after sensing Jiu Shen's presence.

"Good morning, master." Ren Shuang bowed respectfully as he spoke.

Jiu Shen nodded his head at him and recalled about Liuli's matter. "Shuang, I want you to investigate the woman that came with me last night. I don't need to tell you who I'm talking about, right?"

Ren Shuang shook his head confidently. There were only two women that came together with Jiu Shen last night. Among the two, one was an elder of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect, and the other one was someone he wasn't familiar with, so he was certain that Jiu Shen was talking about the latter one. "Master, during your absence, experts from the Xue Family and the Undying Corpse Sect visited the store frequently. Their top experts always visited the second floor to enjoy the fast cultivation speed, while their mid level members stayed within the first floor to gather information about us. Aside from this, I did not discover any strange movements from them, so they should be still waiting for that Elder Ming to come out of his seclusion."

While Jiu Shen was away from Beltran City, Ren Shuang wasn't idle. He continuously monitored the movements of the Xue Family and the Undying Corpse Sect. He also secretly protected the one hundred young slaves that were staying in the beast fighting arena, but he didn't know that there was already a god beast progeny protecting those kids.

Jiu Shen's eyes flashed when he heard Ren Shuang's words. He then patted the latter's shoulder and said. "Good job. Now go and investigate Liuli for me. The second floor will temporarily be protected by her while you're away."

"Yes, master." Ren Shuang bowed before his figure vanished with a faint swooshing sound.

Swoosh.

On the first floor, he saw that Theia and Hestia were already preparing to open the store. He also saw eight young women dressed in western maid outfit that barely covered their youthful figure. Hestia was dressed in a similar fashion, while Theia was still wearing a knight's armor.

Looking at those four additional waitresses, Jiu Shen was a bit stunned, so he gave Hestia a curious look.

Hestia immediately understood his questioning gaze, so she flashed a pretty smile at him as she explained. "Master, the customers of our store doubled after you left, so I asked Sulan to bring four more disciples to work here. I hope you don't mind."

Jiu Shen slightly shook his head. He wasn't good at managing his store since he didn't experience doing this in his past life, so he didn't really mind the additional young waitresses. "It doesn't matter. You may open the store now."

After hearing his words, Theia nodded her head and grabbed the door, slowly opening it.

Looking outside, there were already a number of customers waiting, and they were even standing in line with patient looks on their faces. In fact, no one among the customers would dare to behave wantonly anymore since they have already heard the rumors about Theia. Even the Bai Family which was a reputable noble family in Beltran City didn't dare let out a fart despite knowing that the death of one of their clan members was related to Theia...

"Hestia, I will leave the store for a while. If Liuli comes here, tell her to guard the second floor temporarily." Jiu Shen ordered before leaving the store.

Hestia bowed at where Jiu Shen had previously stood. "Liuli? She should be that woman." Her voice was gentle like the spring breeze.

* * *

At this moment, Jiu Shen teleported above the sky of Beltran City to survey the ongoing relocation. There were still a few people that refused to leave their houses, but it was

only a matter of time before they will leave since this was handled by the emperor. "Elyk that old brat is indeed trustworthy. Not bad."

His figure then vanished as he teleported inside the beast fighting arena.

Before Jiu Shen left Beltran City several days ago, he gave the training schedule to Can Ye and he also told him to instruct the young men in their practice.

One hundred teens with youthful faces were doing their morning routine under Can Ye's orders. The kids were afraid of this middle-aged instructor since he looked scarier compared to Jiu Shen appearance-wise, so they didn't dare complain during his lectures.

Can Ye treated this seriously since this was his master's orders, so even though he was a bit bored here, he didn't neglect his duties as the trainer of the young men.

Looking at this, Jiu Shen nodded his head in satisfaction. "Good. Looks like no one is slacking."

Just as the words left his mouth, he saw a ball of fur lying inconspicuously in one corner of the arena. If one would look closely, this ball of fur has a furry tail wagging left and right.

Jiu Shen's lips curved upwards when he saw this. "I take back my words. This cat is still as lazy as always."

Chapter 168 - Ice's Human Form

A chubby white cat who was sleeping soundly on the floor just a few moments ago suddenly rolled sideways before abruptly rising on its feet. It then glared towards where Jiu Shen was roughly located. It could sense a very strong presence in this direction which greatly surprised it, but when it saw Jiu Shen's face, it revealed a dumbfounded human-like expression.

Swoosh.

A streak of white light traveled towards Jiu Shen, and an adorable fat cat came into his view. This was none other than Ice, the lazy cat that Jiu Shen left here to protect the kids secretly.

"Stinky human, how come you look different now? Strange. This is very strange indeed. Aren't you just a 9th-rank Saint realm expert? Could it be... No way! You just left for a few days and you're already a Nascent God Realm expert?! Impossible! I must be

dreaming! Yeah, that's right! This must be a dream! Meeow!" Ice's lolita voice reverberated inside Jiu Shen's head.

Jiu Shen ignored her words as he smiled and smacked the fat cat's head. "Lazy cat." He muttered.

Smack.

Ow! Ow! Meow!

Ice put on a hostile look as she grabbed her big furry head with both her front paws. Of course, she wasn't really injured since she was already a Nascent God Realm beast. She just felt that she was being treated like a kid by Jiu Shen, so she immediately became incensed.

"Smelly human! Don't treat this cute cat as a kid! I'm already more than a hundred years old! Hmph! Meow!" Ice crossed her front paws on top of her bulging belly as she stood in front of Jiu Shen like how a human would.

More than a hundred years old? Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart as he tried to recall his age, but to no avail. He had even forgotten when he had stopped counting how old he was. If he celebrated his birthday, he might even fill a whole world with candles and lit it ablaze. That would be amusing...

With a look of disdain, Jiu Shen smiled at Ice while looking at her huge belly. "You lazy fatso does nothing but drink milk and sleep all day. Look at your tummy, it's already so big. Do you want to become a pig?"

Ice's cat face darkened as she tried to look at her belly, but she couldn't even look downward anymore due to her excessive fats. Her expression revealed a human-like dejection when she realized this, and she could not help but glance at Jiu Shen pitifully. "Smelly human! How come I've grown this chubby after merely a few months?! Huhuh! I don't want to be a fat pig! Meow!"

Jiu Shen almost burst into laughter when he saw the comical appearance of the fat cat. "Aren't you a Nascent God Realm god beast progeny? Try transforming in your human form and see if you are still as fat as you are now."

The eyes of the chubby cat lit up and she immediately raised her thumbs up to Jiu Shen with her front paws. "Right! Why did I not think of that? You still have some brains for a smelly human! Meow!"

After saying those words, Ice's figure slowly morphed into a small girl with short white hair. She looked like a little girl at the age of six with her baby face and short and chubby limbs. If she were to stand in front of Jiu Shen, she would only be as tall as his knees.

Looking at her adorable face, anyone's heart would surely melt and they would certainly want to hug this little lolita in their embrace. She looked just like a little angel in her white furry clothes. Truly cute!

Ice stretched her four limbs as she familiarized herself with her human form, and she was pleasantly surprised when she realized that she could now look at her belly. Although her limbs were slightly chubby, at least she could now move normally unlike in her cat form.

"Hahaha! I can now see my belly! Hey! Smelly human, look! I can see my belly! It's not that big! Meow!" Ice was ecstatic at her discovery and she could not help but grabbed Jiu Shen's arms to get his attention. Her cute smile almost reached her ears as she erupted into peals of laughter.

Jiu Shen's face turned gentle as he rubbed Ice's little head. "Let's go back to the store. I'll let you drink some milk." He said with a smile.

After hearing his words, Ice's expression lit up and she immediately nodded her head with an expectant look. "Hehehe! I want three bowls of yummy milk! Meow!"

Jiu Shen smiled as he hugged the lolita in his arms before he teleported with her back inside his store.

The sudden appearance of Jiu Shen inside the store surprised the customers, and they could not help but cast a series of curious glances towards the cute little lolita in Jiu Shen's arms.

What a beautiful and adorable little girl! Is she Wine Master Jiu's daughter? Thinking about that, everyone's eyes went wide as they stared at the duo who had suddenly appeared out of nowhere. Even Hestia and Theia had doubtful looks on their faces as they stared at Jiu Shen and the little girl in his embrace.

"Master, this is?" Hestia asked as she looked at Jiu Shen in bewilderment.

"Don't ask so many questions. Just give me a glass and fill it with milk." Jiu Shen said as he ruffled Hestia's hair.

Ah!

Hestia covered her head as she looked at Jiu Shen in surprise. There seemed to be something different with Jiu Shen and he seemed more cheerful than usual, but when she heard that he wants a glass of milk, she glanced at the young girl with a head of white hair in his arms with a suspicious look.

Theia who was standing near the entrance of the store was also curious, but she didn't bother asking Jiu Shen. She believed that he would explain it to them at the right time.

Aside from that, she could sense a familiar aura from that little girl... "Could she be...so my guess was right. That cat must be a god beast progeny. A creature that is already at the Nascent God Realm at the moment of its birth..." She muttered with a look of realization.

Theia had bits and pieces of information in her memory, and it should be related to her past life. Suddenly, she saw a scene that always flashed inside her head.

A lonely silhouette with a short sword strapped behind his back as he gave lectures about sword comprehension. "I can't recall his name... Who is he?"

Chapter 169 - Daughter?

"Wine Master Jiu!" An excited exclamation rang out inside the store. This surprised everyone and they could not help but take a look at the direction of the voice.

At the entrance, they saw two figures dressed as a waitress and a waiter respectively, and when everyone realized who they were, their expressions immediately eased up.

Jiu Shen similarly glanced at them, but his face remained unperturbed. He had already expected their presence in his store since he had discussed this with Emperor Elyk.

Just then, he suddenly felt a supple and fragrant body hugging him tightly like an octopus.

The fragrance of a young jasmine flower assailed his nostrils.

"Wine Master Jiu, you're finally back! Huhu!" This was none other than Sylvia, the fifth child of the emperor and the only daughter he had.

Looking at the young girl with long and silky black hair, Jiu Shen recalled the day he had first met her and he could not help but let out a smile.

The fourth prince, Prince Dante who was about to pull his sister from Jiu Shen suddenly saw the latter's smile and he almost staggered from shock. "Wine Master Jiu?" He muttered absent-mindedly.

Was this really the aloof Wine Master Jiu that he knew? Then what was that smile just now?

Jiu Shen gently pushed Sylvia away as he spoke to them. "Why are the two of you late for work?" He asked.

Prince Dante and Princess Sylvia glanced at each other before taking an embarrassed look at Jiu Shen.

"Wine Master Jiu, the imperial palace is far from here and since the area around your store is under relocation, there is no place to stay nearby. Emperor father also prohibited us from living outside of the imperial palace, so we had no choice." Prince Dante explained while scratching the back of his head with a forced smile.

Beside him, Princess Sylvia nodded her head like a chicken pecking on rice. She was happy to see Jiu Shen again, and when she recalled that she had actually hugged him out of excitement, she dipped her head to hide her blushing face. 'Ah!! I hugged him?! He smells so nice. Hehe!'

Jiu Shen thought for a moment and realized that the fourth prince's words made sense. He knew that the emperor prohibited them from living outside of the imperial palace because it'll be dangerous for the both of them. The Silver Wing Empire might be calm on the surface, but he knew that it could erupt any time by now.

"In that case, you both should get to work. After the store closes later, you must stay and follow me somewhere." Jiu Shen said as he rubbed the head of the little lolita in his arms.

The fourth prince and the fifth princess finally saw the small figure in Jiu Shen's arms, making them dumbstruck.

"Wine Master Jiu, this...is she your daughter?" Princess Sylvia asked in a slightly trembling voice.

Everyone listened attentively, including Theia who appeared to be calm outwardly.

Jiu Shen's expression was calm as he shook his head. "No...but you could also take it that way."

Everyone was confused, but they no longer asked Jiu Shen when they saw him walking away with the little girl in his arms.

Ice who was surprisingly silent throughout the whole conversation suddenly trembled, but Jiu Shen hurriedly rubbed her tiny head gently, making her ease up considerably.

Ice covered her adorable pair of eyes with her chubby right arm as she sobbed quietly. She then buried her face into Jiu Shen's chest since she was afraid that the other people might see her crying.

"Let's go to my room. You can tell me your story right there." Jiu Shen said as he embraced the lolita closer to him. He knew that she might have recalled her family earlier.

After arriving on the second floor, Jiu Shen saw that Liuli was already standing at the entrance of the second floor with a bored expression and pouted lips. Seeing this, Jiu Shen chuckled in his heart. 'Girl, that's what you get for messing with this Heavenly God.'

Liuli's eyes lit up when she saw Jiu Shen, and when she saw the little girl in his embrace, she was a bit stunned but she didn't ask him any questions and just pursed her lips to express her dissatisfaction with Jiu Shen's arrangements for her. After all, she was a 9th-rank Saint realm expert, but she was actually working as a door guard? She couldn't stomach this kind of treatment especially after leading a carefree life for many years, but who told her to provoke this malevolent being in front of her? She only had herself to blame for this...

"Don't worry. This is only a temporary arrangement for you. Think of it as my little punishment to you." Jiu Shen said as he patted the head of the pouting Liuli.

Liuli wanted to smack his hand away, but when she sensed the warmth and his gentle touch, she couldn't bear to do it, so she could only puff her cheeks like a little girl. She was surprised at herself that she actually displayed this kind of expression to someone else and it was even to a man at that.

"Lord Jiu Shen, I know I was wrong. I-I..."

"Go inside and see for yourself. You might even want to get this position forever after you check this second floor that you're guarding." Jiu Shen cut her off as he went straight to the third floor without turning his head back.

Looking at his back figure, Liuli stomped her foot in a bit of annoyance, but because of her curiosity, she went to check the second floor.

"Huh?! This! What?! So that's why he is so confident... Hahaha! He's indeed right. I'd be willing to work as a guard in this kind of place!" Liuli exclaimed as she checked every corner of the second floor. She was stunned at the concentrated amount of true essence inside, and she realized that cultivating in this place was even much better than in her own abode.

"What a good cultivation environment! How did Lord Jiu Shen create this place? He's truly an unfathomable man..." She muttered as she looked around the second floor with a dazed look.

Chapter 170 - Ice's Past

Jiu Shen pacified the sobbing Ice by gently rubbing her head. Along the way, they met Xia Xinyue who was holding a cup filled with tea.

Xia Xinyue was startled when she saw Jiu Shen holding a crying little girl in his arms, and when she saw how beautiful the little thing was, she instantly had one question in her heart: Is she Lord Sect Master's daughter?

"Lord Sect Master, I was just about to deliver this tea to you." Xia Xinyue said as she looked at Jiu Shen with an affectionate smile. Anyone who knew Xia Xinyue would certainly be dumbstruck if they saw her expression right now. After all, she was one of the coldest and most aloof elders of the Ice Cloud Sword Sect, but she was actually displaying such a tender womanly expression to a man.

Xia Xinyue hasn't experienced love before, but she was a hundred percent sure that she wants to be together with the man in front of her. Even if he rejects her, she would still follow him.

Jiu Shen's expression warmed up a bit when he saw how considerate Xia Xinyue was. "Xinyue, bring it to my room."

Xia Xinyue's smile became wider when she heard how Jiu Shen addressed her. During their time in Green Wood City, he would only refer to her as 'Elder Xia', but now, he was willing to call her by her first name. Although it was only a form of address, it still made her beyond elated since it can already be considered as a step forward to their relationship.

Jiu Shen walked towards his room while carrying Ice in his embrace. Following behind him was a happy Xia Xinyue who was holding a cup of tea.

Jiu Shen went straight to his bed and let the little lolita sit on his lap. Xia Xinyue sat beside him after putting the cup of tea to a nearby table.

"You've been quiet along the way, do you want to speak about what had happened to you before you came here in the Profound Dragon Continent?" Jiu Shen asked as he ruffled Ice's white hair.

Ice pouted in dissatisfaction but she could not conceal the happy smile on her face after feeling Jiu Shen's gentle touch. "Smelly human! I'm not a kid! I'm already a hundred years old!"

Xia Xinyue giggled as she looked at the adorable little girl in Jiu Shen's lap.

Jiu Shen shrugged flicked Ice's forehead. "Little tiger, I know that god beasts like you have long lifespans, so you can still be considered as a kid. Age-wise, your not even a millionth as old as I am." Jiu Shen said in a joking tone, but he was actually speaking the truth.

Ice puffed her cheeks as she brandished her claws in front of Jiu Shen, but she then realized that she was in her human form, so her actions looked cute and comical instead.

"Stinky human, you infuriate this cute cat!"

Looking at them bantering, Xia Xinyue giggled while covering her small mouth with her hands.

"Come on, just tell us about it. We will listen to your story." Jiu Shen smiled as he pinched the little girl's cheeks.

Ow! Ow! Ow!

"You're tearing my face apart! Meow! I'll speak! I'll tell it to you!" Ice pleaded while looking at Jiu Shen pitifully with her huge eyes.

Jiu Shen released her cheeks and waited for the lolita to speak. He had coincidentally found this god beast progeny injured near his store, and he immediately knew what her origin was the moment he saw her. Without hesitation, Jiu Shen brought her inside the store and treated her injuries. Starting then, the emaciated little white cat slowly increased in weight, but she still didn't talk to him even after many days. It was only until recently that she started talking to him, but he still didn't ask about her past.

Ice's cheeky expression turned serious before it turned sad. Her lips quivered as she held back her tears from falling. "I'm a Glacial Sovereign Tiger, a god beast with an ancient bloodline. I lived peacefully in the Divine Beast Continent with my parents. Both of them are only normal savage beasts of the Tiger Clan, but they gave birth to me, a god beast with an ancient bloodline. They didn't know why this happened and only treated it as a miracle, but they were also cautious, so they didn't divulge my identity as a god beast to anyone. Everything was fine for a hundred years until an elder of the Lion Clan discovered my identity."

Ice's voice paused since she could barely prevent her tears from spilling out. After a few seconds, she continued with a slightly trembling voice. "The Lion Clan is one of the strongest beast clans in the Divine Beast Continent since they have an old ancestor with a cultivation at the Origin God Realm. After that elder of the Lion Clan discovered my identity, the Lion Clan started to covet my bloodline. They wanted to capture me and consume my ancient bloodline to strengthen their own..."

Hearing this, Xia Xinyue and Jiu Shen felt surprised and angry at the same time.

"The Lion Clan waged war with our Tiger Clan, but our clan was powerless against them since the strongest expert of our Tiger Clan was only at the peak stage of the Nascent God Realm. Left with no choice, my parents decided to send me far away using a teleportation array formation, and they told me to never come back. I-I'm so...so useless

even though I am a g-god beast progeny! I couldn't even protect my parents and my clan... Now, I-I don't know wha-what happened to them..."

Ice balled her tiny fists as glistening tears streamed down her face.

Jiu Shen cupped the little girl's face with both his hands as he wiped away the tears on her cheeks with his two thumbs. "Little tiger, after finishing the matters here, I will bring you to the Divine Beast Continent to search for your parents and your Tiger Clan. Don't worry. I will let those from the Lion Clan pay for their crimes." Jiu Shen's cold voice drifted inside the room.