

A Snake 1171

Chapter 1171: A Brief Fling

It's very quiet at the bottom of the vat, but outside the sea of flames is full of explosive sounds.

The world above the cellar has long been burned to scorched earth.

The water temperature in the vat is already very high. We urged the Ice Curse in the Palm Talisman to resist.

It maintained the water temperature, but could not prevent the evaporation of the liquid.

"Oh dear, my goddaughter, I'm afraid we're going to roast to death here." Madam Zhao's voice in the water was indifferent to life and death, but there was still a slight regret for my impending demise.

I also felt a tinge of melancholy, not because I was about to die.

But because I genuinely believed that Piao Changji always kept this Chaos Fire.

Fearing that one day, he wanted to bring Madam Zhao or Zhao Sihai along to perish together.

Today I forced him into a dead end, so he used this fire.

At this moment, let's not even mention me and Madam Zhao.

I'm afraid the entire picture scroll, as I previously speculated, will also be burned down.

"The Chaos Fire seems not afraid of water, I wonder if it has any nemesis." The scar from the Gill Grass Spell etched on my palm, when I activated it, allowed me to breathe well underwater.

Madam Zhao didn't need that thing. She saw the gills growing on my neck, found it amusing, and gave it a touch. "Chaos Fire, this thing fears fire, fears a fire stronger than itself. Tsk, if I were above, I have so many fires that could easily destroy it, unfortunately, I didn't bring them down."

"Are you talking about the heavenly fire?" I felt a chill in my heart, sensing a glimmer of hope.

Madam Zhao said, "Yes, back where we come from, all fires are collectively called heavenly fire, but they are of different types, yet all can consume this wretched Chaos Fire."

"I... I have heavenly fire." I widened my eyes, seriously looking at Madam Zhao.

Madam Zhao was startled, coughed up water.

Spat out several bubbles, grabbed my wrist to investigate.

Then joyfully hugged me in her arms, kissed my cheek, "My big darling, you really have heavenly fire, although it's as vulnerable as an infant, it's definitely enough. Once the fire comes down, you release the heavenly fire, let it consume the Chaos Fire, not only can it save people, but your fire can also grow."

Am I... am I really this attractive to girls?

Got kissed by a girl again~

Sorry, Snake Brother, I had a momentary lapse.

"Alright, I'll listen to you and give it a try." I held my breath underwater, waiting for the Chaos Fire to reach the cellar.

If this were mundane fire, it definitely wouldn't reach the cellar before it extinguished.

But the Chaos Fire intends to burn even the scroll to ash, so it will naturally reach the cellar soon.

Before long, as the liquid in the vat rapidly evaporated.

A bright white light bloomed above, I surfaced, planning to release the fire.

Madam Zhao suddenly stopped me, "Hold on, I seem to sense that scumbag's aura."

"Zhao Sihai? Did he come into the painting??" My heart tightened, if I release the heavenly fire and Zhao Sihai sees it, will he also capture it for the heavens?

Or directly dig the heavenly fire out of me???

I hope Madam Zhao's mistaken, Zhao Sihai hasn't returned to his own residence in many years, and even if he did, he wouldn't come straight into the painting.

Madam Zhao pointed to the position of the bright white glow, "The Chaos Origin has been taken, only a pile of Mundane Fire is left, the old beast used his Colored Glaze Immortal Vase to collect it. I calculated that he was destined to lose the Colored Glaze Immortal Vase, has he found it now?"

"Ha, yes he found it, and it was me and my wretched wife who helped him find it." I awkwardly scratched my head, feeling guilty not daring to meet Madam Zhao's eyes, as she truly hated Zhao Sihai.

But Yu Longting and I ended up helping Zhao Sihai quite a bit, just hoping Madam Zhao doesn't hold it against me.

Chapter 1172: This Scene Is Such an Eyesore

Madam Zhao immediately understood, and seeing my flickering gaze, she comforted me, "I can see that you and Zhao Sihai aren't on the same side. If you don't retrieve the Colored Glaze Immortal Vase, this entire painting will be burned today."

"Well, I might be more like you," I mumbled underwater, puffing fish gills.

At least, in the matter of Zhao Zheng, Madam Zhao and I share the same goal.

It's just that she wanted to do it, but I already did it.

Through the half-evaporated water surface of the vat, I could see the fire being quickly extinguished.

The water temperature also dropped, so it should be safe outside now.

Madam Zhao and I poked our heads out of the water.

"Wh...what kind of demon?" a girl's sharp voice reached my ears.

A closer look revealed it was none other than Bai Zanhe, from the Four Great Protectors forced to follow Old Zhao with Ten Thousand Poison Hall.

Bai Zanhe was inspecting the vat's edge and got startled when she saw Madam Zhao and me emerge from the water.

I pushed my soaked tangled hair from my forehead, "Did you see clearly who I am? And you're calling me a demon?"

"Ancestor, a fish monster popped out of the vat," Bai Zanhe quickly ran to Zhao Sihai's side, timidly reporting, "It's so disgustingly weird-looking, please deal with it."

Touching the fish gills on my neck, I was filled with frustration.

Is Bai Zanhe face blind? Focusing solely on my gills and not recognizing my face.

Suddenly, a handsome man with a jade-like face and a striking presence walked slowly from behind Zhao Sihai.

The man was wearing a teal shirt with tailored slacks, and his enchanting and seductive phoenix eyes lowered, landing on my face, "Wanwan?"

Surprise filled the man's eyes, quite unexpected to see me here.

"Hi, Yu Longting, hehe, what a coincidence meeting you here." My spine stiffened, though seeing him should be a joy.

But unexplainably, a chill crept into my heart, feeling a bit guilty meeting him here.

Bai Zanhe's face was full of surprise, "You...you're Su Wan? I wouldn't have dared to recognize you if the Snake Lord hadn't noticed, how did you grow fish gills?"

"Used the Gill Grass Spell to stay underwater longer." I was also delighted to see Bai Zanhe, pulling out her earring I found last time from my pocket.

Bai Zanhe took it, her expression even more joyous, "Where did you find this, I've been looking...looking for a long..." time.

A terrifying chill emanated from a certain snake, making Bai Zanhe shiver and stutter.

Yu Longting squinted, his expression instantly becoming darker, "Why are you here?"

"I..." Standing in the warm vat felt awkward, I clumsily climbed out, "Just here to rescue people. Why does your face look so bad, are you unwell?"

A fresh breeze brushed my face, with Yu Longting standing against the light in front of me.

With a long finger supporting my bottom, stabilizing me half-hanging on the vat, "Who needs rescuing here? You were fine staying at the sect, why leave?"

"You didn't...say I couldn't leave, are you going to restrict my freedom? Besides, I've been to the Nether Pond, why fear such a small scene." I stammered, afraid to look at him.

Yu Longting seemed to oppose me, pinching my chin, forcing me to look up, "Just because you've been to the Nether Pond, I hope you never go to any dangerous places again in your life. What would you do today if Zhao Sihai and I hadn't come?"

"Wait...wait for the fire to go out." I thought if you hadn't come, I wouldn't die either.

The heavenly fire would absorb the Chaos Fire in no time, but I didn't dare say it openly in Zhao Sihai's presence.

Resembling a meek daughter-in-law, I continued to lower my head, not daring to look at him.

A gentle sigh sounded above me, as Yu Longting gently hugged me into his arms, "I left for just a few days, and you ran out, even to Piao Changji's lair. I should've known to keep you tied to me."

"When you ran around, you didn't inform me either, so we're even." I hooked my hands around Yu Longting's neck, gently bumping my forehead against his.

In terms of worry, Yu Longting is definitely more serious than me.

I must use the spear of one to attack the shield of another!

He is the one who lacks reason in this~

A cold, teasing laugh sounded, followed by mocking words about me and Yu Longting, "This scene is really eye-searing."

Chapter 1173: Jealousy from the Single Dog

Looking up, it was precisely Wuyue's arrogant yet chillingly charming face.

I felt embarrassed inside, hurriedly breaking free from Yu Longting's embrace, "It's none of your business if it hurts the eyes, you're just jealous, aren't you, single dog—ouch."

As I broke free from Yu Longting's arms, my body instantly lost its balance.

Falling backwards into the water tank, a large splash erupted.

I quickly dog-paddle to stand steadily in the water and saw Madam Zhao was still standing in the tank.

Moreover, the face she had just dried was wetted again by me.

Suddenly becoming nervous, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I didn't mean it, please don't be angry."

"It's just a bit of water, no worries." Madam Zhao's aura was much colder and more distant than usual.

She was like an untouchable iceberg lotus, the oppressive force around her more terrifying than anyone I've ever seen.

The One-eyed Taoist Nun and Wuyue had climbed up the mountain together, arriving breathlessly to pull Madam Zhao out of the water tank, "Are you all right? You scared me to death. If you died in the fire, how could an old nun like me survive alone?"

"Daiqi, the Taoist Temple has already burned down, and the Oath Curse you issued has turned to dust. Do you still want to stay here?" Zhao Sihai had not spoken a word until now, finally speaking, his indifferent gaze landed on Madam Zhao.

The One-eyed Taoist Nun used the fire charm to dry Madam Zhao's wet clothes, while helping her tidy her disheveled attire and hair.

Madam Zhao frowned slightly, her beautiful eyes coldly returning Zhao Sihai's gaze, "Whether I stay or not, what's it got to do with you."

"I've already captured Qingyang, I'm going back now." There was not a trace of affection in Zhao Sihai's eyes for Madam Zhao, "There's no need for us to keep sulking; hiding in the mountains refusing to see me."

"You old bastard, Zhao, I hid in the mountains because I wanted to never see you again." Madam Zhao shook her sleeves, "After all these years, I've figured it out. Sulking with you is a waste of life; I'm going back."

Zhao Sihai's face finally showed a relieved expression, coming over to borrow the Kin-seeking Clothes from me.

While they were exchanging biting comments, Yu Longting had already lifted me out, and the cheongsam I wore instantly dried.

It's just that my hair was still wet, hanging down with the hairpins undone.

Yu Longting has never cared about appearances; he took off his own shirt and carefully dried my hair.

While still advising that my hair is tangled, that I must use conditioner when I wash it back home.

He nags like a concerned mother, yet I don't find it annoying at all; instead, I feel as warm as the sun inside.

Nodding toward him continuously, smiling at him endlessly.

"Making Kin-seeking Clothes takes time; it'll take three or four months at the least." I saw Zhao Sihai wanted to leave with Qingyang and bring his daughter Zhao Zheng along.

If the Kin-seeking Clothes were made, it would surely reveal the faces of me and Zhang Zidao.

So reflexively, I felt I could drag this out for as long as possible.

Zhao Sihai's expression turned cold and gloomy, but he didn't blame me.

After pondering for a moment, he said to me, "I'll come for them in twenty years; I don't have time now, I have to leave."

"Sure, sure, I'll be waiting, like a gentleman's word is as good as gold." I felt a secret delight inside; this delay could last twenty years.

I wondered what Zhao Sihai had encountered that made him so eager to leave with Qingyang, no wonder Dragon Dad specially reminded me and Yu Longting that Zhao Sihai couldn't wait any longer.

He couldn't even wait the two or three months it takes to make clothes, and once he leaves, it'll be for twenty years.

"Just after recognizing you as a goddaughter, we have to part ways; it's truly hard to bear." Madam Zhao touched my face, her fingers brushed past my earlobe.

I felt my earlobe grow heavy, with a cool sensation.

As if an earring-like thing was hung there, in the blink of an eye, Madam Zhao and Zhao Sihai both transformed into two streaks of green light and disappeared.

Zhao Sihai took Bai Zanhe away with him, but Madam Zhao did not take the One-eyed Taoist Nun along.

I hurriedly grabbed Yu Longting's hand, "They just left like that? In this painting, how are we supposed to get out??"

Chapter 1174: Can't Leave? Isn't That Perfect?

"Can't get out? Isn't that just perfect?" Yu Longting touched my half-dry, somewhat dry hair, his eyebrows maintaining a slight frown of dissatisfaction.

Upon hearing this, my heart fluttered, and my eyes sparkled, "Yeah~ We can live in seclusion here, and every day can be just the two of us~"

This painting is like such a small world, akin to a land of idyllic beauty.

If I could live with Yu Longting, working at sunrise and resting at sunset, such simple and plain days, how joyous life would be.

"You two are truly loving. If Madam Zhao could meet a good partner, no matter how long life lasts, she should live as happily as you do every day." The One-eyed Taoist Nun sat cross-legged, looking at us enviously.

Suddenly, her face seemed like an eroded mound on a plateau, starting to weather from a spot on her forehead and spreading rapidly across her body.

In just a few breaths, she turned into half a skeleton.

Seeing the One-eyed Taoist Nun's whole body turning into a skeleton, I quickly asked, "What's happening to you?"

"I was a carefree person, and naturally, I go carefree." The One-eyed Taoist Nun smiled serenely, her voice echoed in the vast empty valley.

She completely sat in meditation, as if attaining enlightenment.

She followed Madam Zhao in her mortal body, surely due to some fateful coincidence.

I don't know why she built a Taoist Temple in the mountains of the painting, nor why she stayed by Madam Zhao's side.

I only know that when Madam Zhao left, she seemed complete in her life's work, finally able to leave peacefully.

My heart was heavy with emotion, and I couldn't help but reflect, "The mysteries of karmic fate are truly marvelous. I still don't know this Nun's name, coming like the wind, leaving like the wind, yet unforgettable."

The mountain breeze blew through my hair and the dust of the Nun's weathered remains, making the earrings in my ears chime.

Since childhood, I had my ears pierced, so the holes never closed after wearing tea stems for a long time.

Yet, this was my first time wearing earrings; as I touched them, they seemed to be a pair of delicate little wind chimes.

Whenever they chime in the future, I'll probably think of Madam Zhao.

"The Nun was named Jiu Hua. She used to be a ruthless female Demon Head, and she was also one of the Four Great Protectors of Ten Thousand Poison Hall. When we were young, Yu Qingxiao told me about the past of Ten Thousand Poison Hall." Yu Longting, unconcerned, with a light bulb-like Wuyue beside us, carried me down the mountain.

He also explained to me the relationship between Zhao Sihai and Madam Zhao.

Zhao Sihai and Madam Zhao originally came down together, considered a celestial couple.

Zhao Sihai was a special Immortal Envoy, and Madam Zhao accompanied him as his family member.

Their relationship was initially good, and they founded the Ten Thousand Poison Hall together.

When they recruited various sects from Western Hunan, they attracted many talented people, and Jiu Hua was one of those who submitted to Madam Zhao's formidable power.

Ultimately, only Jiu Hua followed Madam Zhao till the end.

In ancient times, it was common to have multiple wives and concubines.

Many people offered beauties to Zhao Sihai, and many beauties threw themselves at him.

Zhao Sihai had no concept of monogamy, nor any moral grounds that love was needed to engage in such acts.

He was never one to refuse anyone, thus having many descendants.

Madam Zhao killed most of these descendants, generally with Zhao Sihai's acquiescence, perhaps from spending too much time in the mortal world.

Zhao Sihai gradually developed a sense of familial attachment, reluctant to see his children killed.

Thus came the aftermath of Zhao Zheng becoming the eldest Miss of Ten Thousand Poison Hall; she should also be Zhao Sihai's only remaining bloodline.

"It's said they practiced Immortal Refinement, refining the Three Corpse God, and reshaped the Undying Golden Body, so they differ from a normal flesh body," Yu Longting specially explained to me about eliminating Zhao Sihai's offspring. "Generally, with such bodies, they shouldn't conceive, as most children born have flaws, usually personality defects, and if not eradicated, they grow into calamities."

"Different places have different rules, and the basic moral perspectives can be entirely different too." I took a deep breath, hugging Yu Longting's neck tightly, staring into his handsome face, "I can't manage much else; as long as our beliefs align, that's enough. Hey, do you know how Piao Changji managed to send a doppelgänger out of the ancient painting?"

Chapter 1175: Martyrdom by Crashing into a Zhuzi on the Spot

"Just Moving Position." Yu Longting said.

I immediately imagined the scene and murmured, "Piao Changji's main body swallowed the clone, and the clone was transferred outside? But Madam Zhao also knows this Art, yet she told Xiao Li and me that there's no way to leave the painting."

"People are selfish. Do you think Zhao Sihai's wife is a good person? She killed more people than the number of bridges you've crossed. You're quite naive, experiencing so many perils yet still as innocent as a blank sheet, unaware of people's malicious intents." Yu Longting sighed helplessly, then suddenly looked toward the mountain foot, reminding me, "Wanwan, look down the mountain."

I looked at the place where the flames were igniting, my heart sank, and I felt a sense of foreboding, "Why is there another fire in the city??"

"Don't know, my eyesight is still not as good as yours." Yu Longting said lightly.

"A bunch of bastard spirits are roasting people alive." Wuyue, with excellent eyesight, looked far ahead and saw everything clearly.

By contrast, Yu Longting was borrowing the eyesight of ordinary snakes.

After a while, their eyes would rot and need to be replaced. Seeing things already reached its limit.

I was not accustomed to snake eyes, unable to see the situation in the city clearly.

However, I could guess a thing or two, "Xiao Li! She's still in the city."

Leaving Xiao Li in the city was initially for her safety.

With Wuyue by her side, and Piao Changji being dead.

Thought it would be the safest, but now she was alone in the city, equating to being surrounded by enemies.

"Beichen's Wife came into the painting too?" Yu Longting, using Mysterious Step like the wind, frowned tightly, as if it could crush a mosquito to death.

Looking at his gloomy face, it seemed you could hear his irritable heart. Truly, none of those by his side could give him peace of mind.

In less than half a minute, Yu Longting reached the burning open space in the city.

On the ground were more than thirty wooden stakes, each tied with a pitiful young girl.

Among them, over ten were wearing bridal gowns, and a few were even pregnant.

It was the bastard spirits seeing their ancestor dead, wanting these girls as sacrificial offerings.

The fire had already started; the girls on the outskirts were already burned to charcoal, brutally beyond watching.

Thankfully, Xiao Li was tied towards the inside, only sweating profusely from the fierce heat.

Without thinking, Yu Longting invoked a Rain Divine Talisman.

His lips briefly touched, and the talisman paper summoned dark clouds.

A torrential downpour with hailstones fell upon the square, extinguishing the fire in no time.

The frenzied bastard spirits were drenched to the bone by the rainwater.

Numerous poisonous snakes slithered out from Yu Longting's sleeves, killing these cruel bastard spirits on the spot.

The girls tied to the stakes witnessed this, all instantly petrified.

Even though saved, their expressions were of terror, without a hint of relief.

Only Xiao Li, upon seeing me and Yu Longting, delightedly exclaimed, "Wanwan, Wanwan!! I knew you'd come save me, quick!! Come over and untie me; I almost got roasted like a pig."

"Let me down." I said to Yu Longting.

Yu Longting didn't hesitate for a second and gently set me down.

As my feet touched the ground, I ran toward Xiao Li.

Pulling out the Begonia Hairpin, using the sharp side of the hairpin to cut through the thick hemp ropes, "You're really unlucky, first forced into a bridal sedan, now tied for burning."

"No matter how unlucky, there's a great hero riding the Seven-Colored Auspicious Cloud to save me." Xiao Li once again lunged, hugging me tightly.

Yu Longting was already accustomed, only slightly frowning.

He didn't say much, but the released snakes bit off the ropes on the girls.

Yet they still stood there, completely soaked, shivering afraid to move.

I frowned at them for a moment, whispering, "Why aren't these girls moving? Standing still there, what's it all about."

Chapter 1176: Jump In, and You Can Leave

"Who knows, I'm not close to them either. Among Piao Changji's women, there's quite a number who aren't too bright." Xiao Li whispered in my ear softly, "Wasn't Piao Changji stabbed to death by you? A few of his women actually crashed into the pillar on the spot in a fit of passion."

"Uh...??? I thought to myself, there's got to be something wrong with their heads. He's short, ugly, and a perverted bastard spirit with a history of domestic abuse, yet someone still pines for him to the point of suicide?"

Now that he's dead, those women he imprisoned should be rescued. Shouldn't they be setting off firecrackers to celebrate?

The entire city was eerily quiet, with some regular folks hiding indoors.

Most of the Soft-shelled Turtle Spirits were bitten to death by Yu Longting's venomous snakes, their bodies flipping over with the tortoise shells scattered all around, blood seeping into the yellow soil.

This time and place bore the appearance of an Asura City.

Yet, I felt that this Demon City had finally been cleansed.

"Longting, is there really no way to let the people from the painting leave? Now it's not just us, there's Xiao Li, and Beichen is waiting anxiously outside." I initially wanted to linger a bit longer with Yu Longting in this newly purified land, but now I could only discuss with him a way to leave.

Yu Longting's tall figure cast a silhouette in the fiery sunset, "Yes, there is."

"That's good, you're amazing, MUA~" I tiptoed and gave him a peck on the tip of his chin.

The man squinted his profound eyes, his fingertip brushing the spot where he was kissed, seemingly savoring the moment.

Slowly, from the sleeve of his shirt with unfastened cufflinks, he took out a not-too-small-and-not-too-large bottle, "Jump inside, and you can leave."

Such a small sleeve, it could produce snakes and a bottle too.

Guess it's his special technique; I never figured out how he got it in there.

No, wait, just now when he took off his clothes.

There was no sign of a bottle or snakes in his clothing...

"Isn't this the Colored Glaze Immortal Vase?" I accepted it in my hands, only then confirming that I wasn't dreaming.

Yu Longting's fingernail lightly tapped the bottle, "Before I handed Zhao Sihai over to Qingyang, I made a request for his three bottles."

Although it was just an ordinary tap, I could feel the bottle's properties change. It seemed Yu Longting temporarily turned the Immortal Vase into a portal.

"So, does this mean you found the last bottle and handed it over to him?" I asked.

Yu Longting curved his lips, "When I went with Qingyang, I just conveniently dug up the bottle."

Since the bottle could be retrieved from Zhao Sihai, there was no question of pretending not to find it.

"Zhao Sihai couldn't stay long and was in a hurry to head back, so he naturally had to agree to your request." I bent down and placed the bottle on the ground, "Xiao Li, hurry over and jump into the bottle."

"Bottle?? Such a tiny thing, the mouth's not even as thick as my finger, and you want me to jump into it??" Xiao Li looked at me like I was crazy.

I scratched my head, grabbed a rope from a nearby wooden stake, and flung it towards the bottle's mouth.

The rope was instantly absorbed and disappeared, "See? Like how the King Golden Horn and King Silver Horn's gourd could trap Monkey Sun inside."

Actually, the art of turning a bottle into a portal isn't something unique to the Immortal Realm.

Many overseas special techniques have delved into similar practices, and plenty of folklore books describe them.

They mostly involved using a hedgehog's eye, yet still opening a rift into a Different Dimension.

Old Zhao's bottle wasn't from this world, so naturally, it was much more advanced.

Chapter 1177: Good Girl, I'll Buy You 100 Phones

"Alright then, I'm going in." Xiao Li excitedly jumped into the bottle and disappeared in the blink of an eye.

Then I asked Wuyue to jump in as well. Wuyue pressed her lips together and jumped in.

But things didn't continue to go smoothly. The women who were tied to the stakes for burial, except for those dressed in red wedding gowns who had just arrived, all obediently walked away.

The rest of them almost refused to leave. Some were afraid of being beaten by Piao Changji if he came back to life.

Some were simply brainwashed and didn't even remember who they were or their past memories, thinking they belonged to the world of the painting.

It's possible that people who are frequently subjected to violence will gradually lose their sanity, and their memories might start fading.

The words spoken by the abuser are instead taken as the truth.

Quite a few women were so thoroughly brainwashed that they spoke with unwavering conviction.

They claimed to be daughters of wealthy families in the city, growing up in the city since childhood.

I almost believed it until I pulled up their sleeves.

Each had the scar of a BCG vaccination, clearly innocent girls from the outside world.

But I am not good at psychological counseling, so after talking for a long time, no one was persuaded by me.

Yu Longting simply kicked them all out, one by one.

Seeing my stunned expression, he lowered his head and planted a quick, light kiss on my lips. "Wife, it's our turn now. Although Zhao Sihai's restrictions in the house have been lifted and it's safe for ordinary people to stay inside, it's still deep in the mountains, and someone needs to lead them out."

"Hey, there are still young men captured from outside in the city." I tugged at Yu Longting to remind him.

Yu Longting tilted his head, giving me a sidelong glance, "Piao Changji's clones are outside. He probably captured people from different eras, right?"

"More or less, so does that mean many in the city are native-born?" Even though I think being trapped in the painting might be truly pitiful,

when they finally get out into the new world, they might not fit in either, which is also quite pitiful.

Moreover, we think they live within the painting.

Trapped within a small area, like a frog in a well, unable to return home.

But who knows, maybe we outsiders are also living in another painting.

Yu Longting nodded, "There are several thousand people, recording each one and ensuring their future lives; such a thankless task, why bother? Everyone has their own fate, right?"

"You're right. I follow my husband, whatever you say." I obediently said.

The fate of the people in the painting was thus sealed. If one day the painting is destroyed, they too will face certain doom.

But who among us in this world doesn't live like ants? All of us are at the whim of fate.

Yu Longting took a step forward, and I pulled him back again. He asked me, "Changed your mind?"

"Piao Changji's inner core!!" I said seriously.

And so, we found Piao Changji's corpse, extracted the earthen turtle treasure inner core from the body, and only then did we leave the painting world.

Just as we jumped out, I saw dozens of women tied with a rope on the attic, unable to move.

The women, seeing me and Yu Longting, widened their eyes in panic and distress.

The culprits, Xiao Li and Wuyue, were sitting in the corner playing on their phones.

Wuyue was playing a fruit slicing game on Xiao Li's phone, and Xiao Li was watching him play, occasionally marveling at the speed of his hand movements.

It's the first time I've seen Wuyue get close to anyone, "Since when did you two become so close?"

"I'm the head of the family helping the Living Dead propose marriage; I'm this little girl's elder. Did you forget?" Wuyue said as he spoke, gently tapping the phone screen with his finger.

The phone's screen, though covered with a tempered glass protector, shattered from the inside out.

Xiao Li was petrified on the spot, wailing, "Hey, this was a phone Brother Chenn bought for me. It's new."

"Don't worry, I'll buy you a hundred of them." Wuyue patted Xiao Li's head.

Xiao Li didn't find it strange at all and looked at Wuyue gratefully, "No need for a hundred, I only want ten."

"Human Snake, are you planning to follow us all the time? Having an extra follower isn't bad." Yu Longting leisurely sat down on a chair opposite them.

Chapter 1178: A Perfect Match

Wuyue finally raised his head. Yu Longting was, other than myself, the first person he looked at directly, "Who will follow whom is still uncertain. You're a snake, you used to be a slave to our tribe."

"Did I share my memory with you for nothing? Ever heard of Darwin's theory of evolution? Survival of the fittest, that's all. You guys became extinct, and we snakes just got to sing the song of slaves turning over." Yu Longting chuckled, not at all angry.

Xiao Li, watching in disbelief from the side, edged closer to me and whispered, "Are they going to fight?"

"Probably not. They're as close as fish and water..." I barely said.

Two pairs of deep eyes glared at me, like machine guns firing.

I was scared into a cold sweat, covered my mouth and said, "Mistake in expressing. I was wrong, you guys go on."

"The world is so big, I want to see it. I'll take this painting." Wuyue tossed the phone and went to pick up that ancient painting with a bit of a burnt corner.

Anyway, the painting belonged to Zhao Sihai, who was far away now.

Yu Longting wouldn't mind anyone taking it, shrugged and said, "Take it and play, be careful not to fall in and get stuck."

"That's none of your business."

Wuyue took the painting and also snatched Xiao Li's phone, "Nice quality. Even with a cracked screen, it still works. This is mine now. Remember to find Su Wan and ask her to buy you a hundred phones."

"It's ten phones," Xiao Li cautiously reminded.

Before we knew it, Wuyue didn't stop for a moment and jumped out of the window, leaving.

"These girls..." I looked at Yu Longting, feeling a bit overwhelmed.

Yu Longting laughed, "Regretting being such a busybody?"

I nodded my head like a chicken pecking rice.

Dozens of people, how should we arrange this?

Later, Yu Longting came up with an idea to help.

Call the police to have someone come and take them, just say they were found in the mountains.

When found, they were already tortured into nerve confusion, with some hallucinations appearing.

Combining their slight hysteria and confused, rambling memories, our explanation could hold up to scrutiny.

Eventually, the authorities wanted our address and even wanted to send us a commendation banner.

We left the address, Spring Wind Town.

But the banner was waived, we only hoped these girls could all find their homes again.

Afterward, we looted a few things from Zhao Sihai's ancient house, some of Piao Changji's long-hidden treasures.

We called it: Looting the bag.

After looting, we headed back to Spring Wind Town together.

When Yu Longting and I came back from the registry office, with a freshly stamped marriage certificate.

Beichen got the news and rushed over with Dumpling and Qing Li.

"Dumpling, mama missed you~" As soon as I saw Beichen holding the cold and stern Little Cutie in his arms, my eyes lit up.

Yu Longting found it amusing, "Missing my foot, wonder who it was that wanted to stay in the painting longer."

"Yu Longting! Dare to ruin my moment again and see." I glared at Yu Longting.

Dumpling, upon seeing me, dropped his cold demeanor and suddenly turned into a little warm boy.

He reached out to me with his little short arms, "Mama."

I quickly collected my fierce expression and embraced Dumpling, along with handing him the marriage certificate, "What's this?"

Dumpling looked curiously at the two hard red books in my hand, his chubby little hands received the marriage certificate.

He opened it to see our photo, his face filled with joy, even kissed the corner lightly.

This little guy has a mind-blowing intelligence.

He can draw talismans, recognizing a marriage certificate shouldn't be surprising.

Chapter 1179: Legally Married Couple

"Yu Longting, Dumpling seems particularly happy that we're getting married." I looked up at Yu Longting.

Yu Longting looked at me intently, "I'm even happier."

Even if I were more oblivious, I would still understand the special meaning in his gaze.

My cheeks flushed slightly, I cleared my throat, and asked Beichen, "Why haven't I seen my mother-in-law?"

Before Beichen could answer, Yu Longting looked at the not too distant place, "Isn't she coming?"

Two people stood in front of the black business car, one with a slightly raised chin full of arrogance.

The other one was timid, trembling thinly.

"Do you still not understand the rules? When speaking to me, what should you address yourself as? Don't you know?" Qing Li lifted her chin beautifully, took off her sunglasses, and walked towards us.

Following Qing Li was a timid woman in tattered clothes, "Understood, I understand, from now on... I... no, this servant will... refer to herself like this."

"When you see Su Wan, remember to call her the esteemed young matron and kneel, do you understand?" Qing Li ordered coldly.

Liu Hongluan was inside a vividly lifelike Paper Man that would be indistinct without careful observation.

From her realistically painted eyes, a trace of resentment flashed as she pressed her lips tightly without saying a word.

Qing Li's palm contained the Water Curse, which dampened her palm.

She slapped Liu Hongluan's face, instantly breaking the paper face, "What are you staring at? Do you not understand me?"

Her character was unwavering, saying she would keep Liu Hongluan by her side to slowly torment her without a hint of ambiguity.

Liu Hongluan's time by Qing Li's side probably hasn't been pleasant for even half a day.

"This servant understands, understands! Call Lady of the Snake Lord esteemed young matron, call Snake Lord young master, I remember." Liu Hongluan knelt on the spot, shivering all over, yet dared not resist.

I frowned, though Qing Li's methods, while satisfying,

Liu Hongluan only outwardly complies, likely scheming vengeance at every moment,

Still, I need to find an opportunity to advise Qing Li.

"Dumpling, what are you holding in your hand, it's so red." Qing Li's icy facade shattered upon reaching Dumpling.

Her smile was so gentle and warm, giving the impression of being bathed in spring breezes

Seeing his grandmother arrive, Dumpling's eyes lit up.

He handed over two bright red certificates, happily chirping, "Grandma."

"Ah, my sweet little heart, you're way cuter than your dad was as a child." Qing Li loved her grandson unconditionally, smiling as she accepted the certificates.

Yu Longting's dark eyes flickered with allure, and his brows twitched slightly.

Seemingly indifferent, yet I knew.

He's just pretending to be unconcerned.

This scene is absolutely heartbreaking for Yu Longting.

It's said that Qing Li never showed her true face to him as a child, always wearing a mask.

Not to mention loving him like a mother, perhaps treating her son like a stranger.

I tugged at Yu Longting's sleeve and gently shook it, "Dumpling's so cute, you must have been adorable too, especially with an eggshell stuck on your head, even cuter and more silly."

"You..." Yu Longting stared at my face, his cold and enchanting expression suddenly froze, full of helplessness.

Did I say something wrong?

It shouldn't be, I was complimenting him for being even cuter than Dumpling.

I rubbed my forehead on his arm, "Mother-in-law must be just being tsundere, that's why she says that about you. All elders are like that, saying one thing and meaning another."

"You two finally decided to get married?" Qing Li's cold silhouette suddenly cast upon my face.

One second causing a stir, the next I was startled alive, "Yes... yes, mother-in-law, we finally got the certificate, we're legally married now."

Chapter 1180: Borrowing for Fun Temporarily

"Planning to be so shabby??" Qing Li's face turned increasingly cold as she questioned.

I broke into a cold sweat, "Mother-in-law, shall we go inside and talk?"

"What is this place?" Qing Li surveyed the area around Chen's Restaurant and, wearing high heels, stepped inside.

Liu Hongluan followed like a maid, her gaze lowered and afraid to look anywhere.

I followed Qing Li closely, clearing my throat, "You... seem to have been here before, my workplace."

"I remember, used to live here." Qing Li said slowly, suddenly turning her head toward me and Yu Longting, "You plan to continue living in such a shabby place?"

I almost bit my tongue in nervousness, "It's not that shabby."

"Pay attention to ceremony, understand?" Qing Li sat down on a long wooden bench, Liu Hongluan immediately half-knelt beside her, massaging her legs.

I don't understand, is she implying to hold a wedding now?

The pressure from Qing Li was so overwhelming that I didn't dare to ask.

I looked to Yu Longting for help, wondering what ceremony she meant, hoping for some hints.

Yu Longting lowered his head, his long fingers brushing past Dumpling's neck where red scales had grown, "Mom, whatever you need, just instruct us, we'll do it."

"At least change into suitable clothes and serve me tea." Qing Li watched Yu Longting play with Dumpling, her eyes blazing with a fire, her hands seemed itching too, "Hand my precious grandson over."

"Isn't that unreasonable, he's spent most of his time with you." Yu Longting shifted his body, shielding Dumpling, looking protective.

Qing Li checked her watch, "You're getting married today, no time to care for Dumpling, I'll help babysit. Isn't that reasonable?"

Unexpectedly, one day Qing Li might show a mundane and unreasonable side, just like in family dramas.

"Why don't we change clothes and let Grandma take care of Dumpling." I signaled to Yu Longting.

Qing Li was a bit domineering but also cherishes Dumpling.

There's no need for squabbles, coax Qing Li to happiness, so she'll naturally favor us both.

Isn't that wonderful?

Yu Longting furrowed his brows, again furrowing his brows.

His unpredictable expression made Qing Li's face grim, watching Yu Longting make a difficult decision, "Lending him for now, but you can't hog him for long, or Dumpling might grow distant from his parents."

"Dumpling, go play with Grandma, today is your parents' big day, they need to be busy." We explained to Dumpling and reluctantly handed him over to Qing Li.

Dumpling earnestly nodded, a look of seriousness and maturity on his innocent face, "Hmm."

As soon as Dumpling was in her arms, Qing Li beamed, "My lovely grandson, with red scales at such a young age~ The feel is so nice, so smooth and soft~"

Perhaps love extends to the child, Qing Li truly adored Little Dumpling's red scales, representing the True Dragon.

"You're back! Brother Chenn, why didn't you notify us, I missed you." Xiao Li, carrying bags, entered and immediately saw Beichen in the corner, blending in.

She bounced like a rabbit, diving into Beichen's embrace, "Still the comfort of Brother Chenn's arms, I can't sleep alone at night~ Give me a kiss."

"Hmm, I... I missed you too." The silent Beichen suddenly seemed vibrant, glowing brightly, "It's crowded here, let's... not kiss now, the Snake Lord's mother is here."