

A Snake 1201

Chapter 1201: Piano Among the Graves

"Wanwan, it's just corpse poison, I can endure it." Yu Longting was reluctant to give up the clues in front of him for the sake of his eyes.

I pulled him closer, feeling heavy inside, "Do you... know something? Are you lying to me to reduce my worry?"

"Wife, I'm not lying." Yu Longting said resolutely.

I said, "If you lie, may our family fall apart."

"Alright, I admit it." Yu Longting furrowed his brows. His mouth, hard as a dead duck, softened immediately, "I think the only reason they appeared here is that Su Qiang has become a demon."

In less than half a minute, I brought Yu Longting back to the bedroom in the small building.

I bowed my head to examine his eyes bleeding black blood, smelling a stench, "Keep talking."

If it weren't for Yu Longting's reminder today, I almost forgot that I still have such a cousin in this world.

"I've heard that when mortals turn into demons, they can achieve a golden body by devouring the innards of their closest relatives." Yu Longting smirked, pinching my waist and pulling me onto his long legs.

Though we're an old married couple, the sudden fall into his arms left my heart skipping a beat, only to quickly wake from the romantic moment due to the harsh reality, "Su Qiang wants to become an immortal?"

I once encountered that soulless demon spawn, which was actually Dumpling's body in his previous life.

Even without a soul, he never thought of eating me.

If he ate me, he could attain the golden body.

But if he had done such a thing, I would have known earlier that demons grow in such sinister ways.

"An immortal-bodied demon retains sanity and can be incredibly powerful." Yu Longting, now completely blind with unfocused pupils, said, "Regretting the impulsive actions just now? You care for me alone but might harm many others."

"I will find Su Xiaomin and my aunt; you stay home and switch your eyes. Trust me." Ever since leaving the Nether Pond, my mindset has darkened.

I care even more about Yu Longting's life, and would choose any means to protect him.

Suddenly, Yu Longting groaned, his arms spasming and holding me tightly.

The man who could remain calm even in the most extreme pain now couldn't bear it, trembling and softly moaning, "Wanwan... eye exchange... I'll be blind for three days... and unable to use spiritual power due to the pain..."

"Snake Brother, if I could, I really wish..." I pinched Yu Longting's chin and gave him a light kiss on the lips, "to return the eyes to you, even if we share one each, but now... there's more important matters to attend to."

"I understand." Yu Longting seemed to find some relief, with pain draining his strength, fully leaning against me, "I'll wait for your return home."

Without saying anything, I gently laid him on the bed.

The spider silk-wrapped twin infants in his arms were placed beside the pillow.

Suddenly, several black snakes slithered out of his sleeve, their long, slender bodies wrapping around the area where Yu Longting's eyes were.

The densely packed cocoon larvae would terrify many,

but I knew they were sacrificing themselves to save their Snake Lord.

I found the kin-seeking clothes in the wardrobe, draped them over my shoulders, and quickly left the small building.

In special times, the pain brought by the kin-seeking clothes' blood-sucking,

could be suppressed by sheer willpower, especially since I am now much stronger than the immature person I used to be.

Following the guidance of the kin-seeking clothes, I walked eastward, reaching the outskirts' mass burial mound.

Wondering how Su Xiaomin and the aunt could move so quickly, or if they were forcibly brought here by Su Qiang.

Yet Su Qiang was once just an ordinary girl, what capital does she have to become a demon?

As I reflected on Yu Longting's earlier words and began to harbor doubts, piano sounds emerged from the house where Immortal Liu and Liu Hongluan used to live.

Chapter 1202: I'll Let You Go for Now

Suddenly, a chilling sensation arose from the depths of my heart.

When I was a child, I visited Second Uncle Su Chongshun's house and heard similar music from his music box, called "Für Elise".

Due to my trust in Yu Longting, I accepted what he said in a short time.

On this path of pursuit, I began to have many questions.

Questions about the girl who had been manipulated as a tool by Second Uncle and later by Xuanjing.

Even following along in wrongdoing brought a certain degree of helplessness.

Moreover, the vulnerability of being an ordinary person remained throughout—it was always the case of the arm being powerless against the thigh.

Suddenly, such a frail and insignificant existence like a mayfly.

Is she going to become a demon?

It was somewhat absurd and made me faintly suspect Yu Longting might be mistaken.

To say Xuanjing was turning into a demon might have some credibility.

Beside me lingered the beautiful and melodious "Für Elise", yet coldness crept within my heart.

Vaguely, I felt the one playing the piano was Su Qiang.

I entered the room from where the piano music was emanating.

Blood, the scent of blood, permeated the room.

In the corner, a fat man screamed in terror amidst the slippery blood, his cries even more miserable than the evil spirits trapped in the Nether Pond for thousands of years, "Madman... you're a madman,

you wretched girl, weren't you supposed to bring us here to enjoy life? How could you... how could you do such a thing..."

"Hehe, what... did I do?" Su Qiang wiped off the blood from the corner of her mouth and looked over in my direction, "Wanwan is here, that old woman who wanted to gouge your eyes out and beat your snake fetus, I've taken care of her, isn't it a surprise, unexpected?"

Following Su Qiang's ghostly gaze, I saw Second Aunt's broken body and felt an indescribable sensation in my heart.

She was shattered, with only the upper half remaining, her pupil dilated.

As if witnessing something unbelievable happen, she had already died before coming to terms with it.

"You... you're a demon fairy now??" Even though my current strength was approaching that of forming a golden body, I couldn't help but feel my calves tremble slightly before Su Qiang.

Su Qiang clicked her tongue and spread her lips, stained with blood, red as blood.

She smiled enchantingly, with unparalleled allure, "You arrived too early, five minutes later and I would've devoured Su Xiaomin, gaining the Undying Golden Body."

"Wretched girl, you dare!! You're just a vessel for eyes, just like Su Jin in the TV drama, you were born... born to be..." Su Xiaomin cursed, then fell silent as he saw Su Qiang's eyes, blackened in fury without pupils, a trait only demons possessed.

He was spoiled by Second Aunt, and even seeing her tragic death, he inherently felt Su Qiang was inferior.

At first, I thought Second Aunt's death was somewhat tragic, but had no feelings for Su Xiaomin.

Suddenly, I felt some empathy with Su Qiang, thinking that if she weren't considering turning into a demon, these two deserved their fate.

Su Qiang stood up from the piano stool, stepping toward Su Xiaomin in her expensive luxury high heels, step by step, "Born to be what, huh? Hehehe, Su Xiaomin, are all men naturally superior? You wretched man, you're just like Su Chongshun, both despicable men—sacrificing me completely for a good future in front of Xuanjing!!"

"Sis, let's talk, let's... talk... don't kill me!!" Su Xiaomin cried like a pig being slaughtered.

I wanted to slit his throat right there, but was compelled to block him from her, "Su Qiang, with me here, you can't eat him. You let these residents of Spring Wind Town go today, and I shall let you leave."

Chapter 1203: Someone Else's Shadow

"You're... really quite confident." Su Qiang smiled with deep meaning.

From my understanding of Su Qiang, I immediately understood the implication of her smile.

Quickly turning around, I grabbed Su Xiaomin's wrist holding the dagger, "Trying to ambush me?"

"You and Su Qiang are both scoundrels." Su Xiaomin, in pain, crumpled to the ground, his mouth still spewing insults.

It seems he loathes Su Qiang just as much as he loathes me.

Perhaps he was threatened with his life, which forced him to attack me from behind.

The knife in his hand was a wooden one stained with mottled blood, emanating a strong evil aura.

If I had been stabbed, my entire Spiritual Power would be sealed instantly.

So... Su Qiang's real target...

Is it to consume me?

These complex thoughts flashed through my mind in a split second.

I pulled out the flower hairpin, and with a raised hand, cut off the black monster claw reaching for my heart from behind.

The claw dissipated under the Sharp Gold Aura, turning into black smoke as it hit the ground and vanished.

I then felt Su Xiaomin wrapping around my calf, trying to trip me up.

Considering Su Xiaomin might strengthen Su Qiang at any time and had twice harmed me, I showed no mercy.

I took out a fire charm and sent heavenly fire onto Su Xiaomin, "Do you really think I wouldn't dare to kill?"

Su Xiaomin completely misjudged me, mistaking me for the weak and easily bullied Su Wan from the past.

I wouldn't even leave his corpse intact to give Su Qiang a chance to consume him.

Almost in an instant, the nauseating smell of burning filled the air.

Su Xiaomin let out a wild scream, then turned into a pile of white powder on the ground.

Due to the intense heat of the flames, even the white powder dissolved into nothingness.

This scene left Su Qiang, who had never seen my true power, standing petrified.

"Sister... please spare me, I was forced into demonic ways, you swore an oath, you can't kill me." Su Qiang knelt on the ground, looking at me in terror, yet her lips intentionally curved upwards, "If you kill me, you'll die, Su Wan."

Her acting was god-like, unafraid of turning herself schizophrenic.

My gaze, sharp as a blade, fell on Su Qiang, suddenly lifting the flower hairpin in my hand.

The hairpin, cutting through her limbs like tofu, was followed by heavenly fire that burned them clean, "Who said I want to kill you, Su Qiang? You have only one path, and that is... to release the people of the town."

"I won't release them, Su Wan, do you know how many people your actions have doomed." Su Qiang, reduced to a human stump, continued to be utterly brazen.

Her bleeding wounds wriggled, regenerating limbs like sprouts, but the growth was slow, taking about ten seconds to grow a centimeter.

Greatly startled, I smoothly inserted the flower hairpin into her forehead, temporarily sealing the Demonic Qi in her body, "You... you're using the life force of the townspeople to heal your wounds???"

With her Demonic Qi sealed, Su Qiang immediately lost the ability to drain others' life force.

Had I been a second late, who knows how many lives would have been sacrificed.

"Yes, it seems you... have not only become stronger but have also gained some knowledge about demons." Su Qiang, her eyes filled with jealousy and hate towards me, looked me up and down with feigned nonchalance, "No matter how strong you become, you can't seal me forever. Whenever I'm hurt, someone must die."

This implies she's threatening me, claiming that as long as she's injured, she'll use lives to heal herself?

Fortunately, I can still suppress her for a while.,

"Tell me, where did you learn Meishan Mountain Witchcraft? This witchcraft is difficult to learn; without a decade or two of Virgin Skills, you can't possibly master it." I harbored some suspicions about Zhao Sihai, wondering if he, in his twisted mind, bestowed Su Qiang with Meishan Mountain Witchcraft before he left.

Otherwise, how could Su Qiang have the ability to achieve this kind of power?

Su Qiang chuckled softly, a sudden trace of pity in her eyes as she looked at me, "I truly pity you, pity you for being just a shadow of others, and not realizing it."

Chapter 1204: How Dare You, Wretched Beast?

"Trying to deceive me with lies?" I half-narrowed my eyes, not believing a single word she said.

In my heart, I calculated how to inform Yu Rongling.

Let him and Shenshen act together to seal Su Qiang with Kunlun Mysterious Ice.

By doing this, we can sever the close ties between Meishan Mountain Witchcraft and the townspeople.

From now on, as long as we silently recite the Azarhan Sutra, we can eliminate the spider threads.

Then feed everyone some tonic, and at least seven or eight out of ten will survive.

Su Qiang clicked her tongue, "I'll say a name, perhaps you've heard of it, or maybe, pathetically, you don't know she exists."

"Just say it." I replied.

Su Qiang smiled and said, "Sangsang."

"You..." Instantly, I understood, tightly gripping her jaw, "I wondered why you suddenly got infected with Demonic Qi and acquired strong Meishan Mountain Witchcraft. Did you eat that Medicinal Snake?"

"Aha, so you've seen Medicinal Snake Sangsang." Despite her bizarre appearance with limbs regrowing all over her body, Su Qiang laughed happily as if she'd heard an incredible joke, "Then didn't you ever suspect? Why do you and her Soul look exactly alike??"

"Could it be you know why??" I half-narrowed my eyes, a sense of crisis rising faintly within me.

This sense of crisis didn't stem from worrying that Su Qiang was a demon creature that might suddenly counterattack me, but rather that the truth about Sangsang might be unbearable for me.

Su Qiang slowly leaned her neck towards me, whispered a phrase near my ear, then said, "The fire you used to burn Su Xiaomin was heavenly fire! I've heard that only those who achieve a golden body can use it; have you never thought why you were born able to wield it??"

"Maybe the heavenly fire favored me." I said expressionlessly.

Su Qiang laughed even louder, "Deluding yourself, if I were you, I'd rather commit suicide than cheapen myself for others. It's really pathetic, merely a vessel, with no past or future, nothing at all..."

"We are alike; you're possessed, if you die, you won't enter reincarnation either." As I said this, I had already lost my confidence, Su Qiang struggled slightly.

My hand released her, and my whole body unconsciously stepped back.

Just as I was dazed and bewildered, Su Qiang pulled out the flower hairpin from her forehead, though her palm was scorched with black smoke from the hairpin.

Just after pulling out the flower hairpin, she threw it to the ground.

Nevertheless, she immediately regained power, and while I was in a trance, she summoned countless spider threads, madly absorbing nutrients towards the host at the other end of the threads.

"Damn it! If you dare to act, I'm ready to perish with you." Upon knowing the truth, I was almost in total despair, at this moment not even fearing killing Su Qiang in a sworn death.

If I continue living, Yu Longting may one day die because of me.

And if I die, even if he mourns me, his Soul can reincarnate.

But... if it's because of death... then it's not possible...

I wielded the flower hairpin again, using all the remaining fire charms on me, and summoned heavenly fire intending to extinguish Su Qiang before she completely absorbed her kin's flesh and spirit and became a golden body.

Su Qiang was startled, immediately stopping her actions, "Don't... don't move, I won't absorb anymore, farewell for now."

"Quickly cease your witchcraft!" I commanded, "I'll spare your life."

For now, I can only let Su Qiang go, encountering her next time when the opportunity arises, otherwise I'd truly endanger the lives of everyone in town due to my decision.

"Halt, vile creature!" Suddenly, a voice brimming with Sharp Gold Aura of Subdue Evil erupted, and a Bronze Sword emitting golden light descended, effortlessly slicing all the spider threads that could only be vanquished by the Azarhan Sutra into flying ash and obliteration.

Chapter 1205: Removed from the Family Registry?

The newcomer was a ragged teenager, wearing a vest full of holes and old beach shorts.

His two big white legs were exposed, yet the aura around him belonged to the most powerful figure in the Ling Family's world.

Terrified, Su Qiang desperately grew a complete pair of legs and fled.

The ragged teenager swung the long sword again, in the blink of an eye, cutting the demon spawn into pieces of flesh.

It was probably due to the Undying Golden Body, the pieces of flesh wriggled, trying to reassemble.

The teenager stomped on the ground, turning the flesh into lumps of meat paste.

He bit off the lid of the gourd at his waist and sprayed liquor onto the Bronze Sword.

No need for talismans, no need for hand seals.

Not even any oral spells.

Directly from his long sword flew out a Fire Phoenix.

The Fire Phoenix burned the flesh to ashes.

"Master, you're out!" At first, I didn't dare to acknowledge, but then I looked closely at his style of dress.

I believe that in the world, at least among the people I know.

There's no master who would dress themselves like a beggar.

Zhang Zidao laughed heartily, "You recognize me."

"Even if you got younger, Master's heroic wisdom and intelligence remain," I praised, flattering.

Zhang Zidao instinctively touched his non-existent beard, "Not bad, not bad, such keen eyes, good disciple, follow me on a trip."

"Where are you taking me?" I blinked at him.

Unexpectedly, Zhang Zidao grabbed my wrist, stepped out with Mysterious Step, and said, "To the Zhang Family."

"The Zhang Family is far from here, I'm not going, I want to find Yu Longting, he's not feeling well." I pondered constantly about Yu Longting, not wanting him to endure the pain alone in the dark.

And this town, just baptized by the spider silk catastrophe.

There are bound to be many issues, Yu Longting is already too weak to handle them, I must step in to find a solution.

Zhang Zidao didn't listen to me at all, his steps showed no hesitation, "No, I have no time left, if you don't return with me to recognize our ancestors, you'll have no chance later."

"You... You are... about to ascend to immortality?" I was stunned, finally resigning myself to follow Zhang Zidao.

He was originally the first ancestor after transcending tribulations in the mortal world.

Now, coming out of seclusion must mean he's reaching a new height.

This world is no longer a place for him to stay.

Zhang Zidao pursed his lips, "I probably have half a day left, but if I hold on, I might last three days."

"So soon??" I stared blankly at the teenager's side profile, filled with reluctance.

In my heart, there was no rebel against what Zhang Zidao wanted me to do, even though I didn't like being any leader or heir.

But I can first accept Master's wishes, and later, see to passing it to someone in the Zhang Family.

For the Zhang Family, I don't need to carry too heavy a burden.

Just consider myself as a conduit for passing down the flame.

Zhang Zidao nodded at me.

Suddenly, he shouted, and I thought something had happened.

Then, I heard him ask, "Your belly is gone? How long have I been in seclusion? You've already given birth?"

"You've been in seclusion for too long!!" I sighed helplessly.

Picked out a general story about things that happened after Zhang Zidao went into seclusion and told him.

Zhang Zidao clicked his tongue in wonder, suddenly stopped walking.

The rapidly moving scenery around us froze, and he directly took me to an ancient, solemn, and elegant room.

The room looked like a meeting was being held, with many elderly men, still some middle-aged people.

They, seeing Zhang Zidao and I suddenly appear, had a moment of blank expressions.

Two seconds later, an old man stood up, glaring at us with puffed beard, "Which family's branch are you two kids from? Daring to trespass the ancestral shrine, do you wish to be beheaded and erased from the family genealogy?"

Chapter 1206: I Hardly Recognize You Anymore

"Junior?" Zhang Zidao scratched the tip of his nose, "It's been a long time since anyone called me that.

Before I could publicly reveal his identity to avoid misunderstanding.

Zhang Zidao kicked the person with the chair from the head seat to the ground, more surprisingly, the person on the chair spat blood, but the wooden chair remained intact.

The one who spat blood was a frail old man, and the sound of a dislocated spine could be heard.

The elderly man, with gray hair, lay trembling pitifully on the ground.

He was truly pitiful.

"Elder Jia!" The core elders of the Zhang Family exclaimed and drew their weapons.

With tensions rising, they were ready to attack us, "Are you looking to die? You dare harm Elder Jia!"

Zhang Zidao said to me, "My dear disciple, move the chair."

"Yes, Master." I lifted the chair from the ground, whispering to Zhang Zidao, "Let me help you explain this, causing trouble on our own turf isn't ideal."

"Did I cause trouble? Clearly, they are just blind." Zhang Zidao sat in the chair, showing no intention to explain.

I'm left speechless, thinking to myself.

Indeed, with your seniority, you can afford to be willful.

When the time comes, you'll leave with no worries, but all the grudges will fall on me.

The elderly gentleman named Elder Jia was lifted by the Zhang Family and given an elixir for immediate treatment.

Seven experts quickly formed the Tiangang Formation, drawing their Bronze Swords to attack us.

At this time, a man in a black suit walked in, "What's going on? Why is the family shrine in such disarray?"

He was followed by seven or eight other young men in suits, looking formal and imposing.

"Master Che, two ignorant fools suddenly barged in and injured Elder Jia," complained a Zhang Family elder.

At first glance, I wished the earth would swallow me whole.

The leading man in the neat black suit was none other than my mother's fiancé, Zhang Che.

Among the men accompanying Zhang Che, stood Zhang Shuying, with a cocky stance and a strikingly enchanting appearance.

"Wanwan?" Zhang Che recognized me immediately.

Zhang Shuying was equally shocked, his mouth wide open enough to fit an egg.

I awkwardly greeted Zhang Che, "Hi, Uncle Zhang, what a coincidence meeting here."

"Spiritual Eye Sister!! Where's your Spiritual Eye? Why can't I see it? Was it gouged out?" Zhang Shuying exclaimed in surprise, spinning around me.

The Golden Silkworm Gu living in his ear flew out, affectionately bumping my cheek, "Long time no see, pretty sister~"

"Zhang Shuying, we'll discuss this later," I said, feeling extremely awkward being surrounded by a person and a bug, "Let me sort out the misunderstanding first..."

"It's a misunderstanding; she's not some random fool, she's my daughter." Zhang Che declared to everybody, his arrogance palpable.

Everyone present was left shocked, staring at me in disbelief.

Zhang Shuying raised a thumb in praise, "Uncle Che, you really have guts. If I had your skills at charming women, I would've..."

With a single glance from Zhang Che, Zhang Shuying's cocky words were swiftly silenced. Zhang Che turned to Zhang Zidao, "As for him..."

"He is my master, Uncle Che." I hastily winked at Uncle Che.

Zhang Che slapped the table and berated the crowd, "Can't you see? Our ancestor has merely rejuvenated, and now you fail to recognize him, even dare to be disrespectful!"

"Ah, Che, when did you become so worldly and smooth in handling matters? I barely recognize you anymore."

Zhang Zidao rocked the chair back and forth, balancing on just the rear two legs.

Chapter 1207: Don't Plead for a Wretch

The situation had come to this point, yet the Zhang Family members were still somewhat skeptical, whispering amongst themselves, "Is he really the Ancestor?"

"But isn't the old man famous for being rigorous and loving cleanliness?"

"Even if he has achieved cultivation and returned to youth, how does he end up looking like a beggar?"

"Could it be some yellow-mouthed child posing as him, even deceiving our Master Che?"

Zhang Che glanced at Zhang Zidao and lowered his head, "I've disappointed the Ancestor. I've already left the Zhang Family, but was temporarily invited back because you're not here."

"I know, you all think I'm dead. But how could that be?" Zhang Zidao suddenly realized, then looked at Zhang Jia, whom he had kicked to cough up blood, "They invited you to preside over the situation, why is he sitting in my seat?"

"It's just that his seniority is quite high, so..." Zhang Che explained with a frown, coldly sweeping his gaze toward the remaining people.

Immediately, the group of old folks who were tense just now knelt on the ground densely.

Their faces were filled with fear and trembling, "Our eyes were deceived, we ask the Ancestor to punish us."

The old white-bearded man named Zhang Jia was even more exaggerated; though his white beard was stained red with his own blood, he still crawled to Zhang Zidao's feet to admit his mistake, "Ancestor, we absolutely didn't mean to, it's my fault, I shouldn't have sat in your seat."

Zhang Shuying squinted his peach blossom eyes, raised his foot, and started running outside.

Before he reached the door, a red slipper hit him right in the back.

Immediately, young Zhang collapsed on the ground, falling so hard as if digging into the dirt.

He was inherently someone who refused to admit defeat, and after falling, he gritted his teeth and got up again.

Yet it was as if his bones were removed, sweating profusely with exhaustion.

He fell right back down, lying pathetically on the ground, angrily shouting, "Zhang Che, how did you ensure they brought me back?"

"I invited Shuying back; Ancestor, please don't make it difficult for him." Zhang Che bowed to Zhang Zidao, his attitude neither servile nor overbearing.

A certain fury flashed in Zhang Zidao's eyes, "A parricidal beast, why did you invite him back?"

"Do you think I want to return to this damned place? I long ago established my own path and founded the Gu Sect." Zhang Shuying's extremely handsome face was flushed with rage, "I'm no longer part of the Zhang Family; I come if I want, and leave if I want!"

The implication was to accuse Zhang Zidao of not letting him leave.

But I know too well Zhang Zidao's temperament; he's accustomed to being superior.

Don't be fooled by his usual approachable demeanor; that's because I humble myself before him.

He always prospers those who follow him and destroys those who oppose him.

"I've said, if I see this beast again, he'll die." Zhang Zidao opened his mouth, and from it spewed a red gold sword.

The red gold sword's power is several times that of his previous Bronze Sword, with a chaos-imbued sword edge that is chilling.

If this were to stab Zhang Shuying, it'd be an instant death.

I know I can't block the red gold sword, but the Mysterious Step speed can keep up.

Immediately, I stepped in front of Zhang Shuying, spreading my arms to block the sword edge, "Master, I've heard about Zhang Shuying's patricide, but his father wasn't a good person; this must have some hidden motives."

Seeing the red gold sword about to hurt me, Zhang Zidao waved his hand and recalled the red gold sword.

The red gold sword slowly rotated around Zhang Zidao's body.

"No matter what hidden motives, parricide is a capital crime." Zhang Zidao waved at me, coaxingly saying, "Good disciple, come over, come to your master, don't plead for a beast, it will only lower your status."

I pressed my lips tightly, stubbornly refusing to move aside.

I don't know about Zhang Shuying's past deeds, nor do I know whether he's right or wrong.

But I know, as soon as I move aside,

Given Zhang Zidao's temperament, he'll dismember Zhang Shuying just like he did to Su Qiang.

Zhang Che's gaze deepened, appropriately speaking up, "The Ancestor suddenly returns to the Zhang Family with Su Wan, surely there's a purpose, may I know what it is?"

Chapter 1208: Mystic Sect Arbitration Council

"Seeing that unlucky bastard, I almost forgot the main business!"

Prompted by Zhang Che's reminder, Zhang Zidao remembered the main issue, "I am about to ascend, and before I leave, I want to entrust the Celestial Master Sect to my good disciple."

"Entrust it to Wanwan? She's inheriting your mantle, it should be that way." Zhang Che's face softened considerably.

A clan elder said in surprise, "But I heard the girl has the surname Su, how can the Zhang Family be entrusted to an outsider?"

"Our ancestors definitely wouldn't be so muddle-headed." The elder, Zhang Jia, who was half-dead from a kick earlier, muttered again to himself, "Isn't she Master Che's illegitimate daughter? Earlier, Master Che said Su Wan was his daughter, perhaps she follows her mother's surname."

"Humph, from what I know, Su Wan is just Master Che's stepdaughter," another clan elder interjected with disdain in his eyes, "A stepdaughter with no blood relation to the Zhang Family, why should she control the Celestial Master Sect?"

Just as everyone was about to discuss it fervently, Zhang Zidao's icy glare swept over them, silencing the crowd, "Is it your place to interfere with the good disciple I chose?"

Although everyone fell silent in fear, they couldn't completely hide the scorn in their eyes.

Before coming to the Zhang Family, I predicted that it would be impossible to gain the approval of the Zhang Family members; families like these are extremely exclusive.

Just look at Zhang Che's position in the Lin Family; he is often insulted, called a pretty face or a stray dog.

Especially Yan Hua, who has frequently humiliated Zhang Che.

"Master, you forgot something important." I ignored the Zhang Family members who opposed me and whispered to Zhang Zidao.

Zhang Zidao asked me curiously, "What did I forget?"

"Elder Jia's prestige should be second only to yours, yet the Zhang Family invited Uncle Che back to take charge, and Uncle Che invited Zhang Shuying in return. I think..." I hesitated for a moment, but then expressed my thoughts frankly to Zhang Zidao, "I think the Zhang Family might be in trouble. Although it seems presumptuous to say so, given that the Zhang Family is the premier family of the Mystic Sect."

"You're indeed wise, my good disciple; how did I not think of that, Ah Che!" Zhang Zidao looked up and signaled Zhang Che with his eyes.

Zhang Che understood and nodded, glancing my way.

He then respectfully bowed to Zhang Zidao, "To answer the ancestor, Elder Jia and the others invited me back for an emergency."

Immediately, Zhang Che somberly recounted the circumstances of his invitation to the Zhang Family.

The issue was not with the Zhang Family, but with the Mysterious Gate Arbitration Council.

The Arbitration Council is composed of eleven directors selected by the major families to maintain order within the Mystic Sect.

Currently, the Lin Family holds the position of Deputy Director, while the Zhang Family is the Chief Director.

Previously...the Wang Family was the Chief Director and the leader of the council...

Since the zombie demon incident, the Wang Family has declined to the lowest position...

Now, besides the Lin and Zhang Families, the other nine directors have been afflicted by a strange gu poison.

They've been coerced into nominating an unknown person as the leader.

"Ancestor, even your wisdom probably couldn't foresee who this person is." Zhang Che lowered his head, whispering softly.

Zhang Zidao cast him a sidelong glance, pushed his ear, "Spit it out."

"It's Su Wan's biological father, Su Chongwen," Zhang Che said deliberately.

Zhang Zidao furrowed his brows, his expression turning extremely serious.

I felt a sinking sensation in my heart, my body involuntarily stiffening, "Uncle Che... are you... serious?"

"In this situation, how could I possibly joke?" Zhang Che looked at me intently, "After your mother saw him, she firmly identified him from his demeanor and appearance."

"But he died a long time ago; I saw him buried with my own eyes. Back then, he was so ravaged by illness that he was nothing but a skeleton." I thought I felt almost no affection for Su Chongwen, but recalling his burial now, my heart felt like it was bleeding.

Chapter 1209: Yet It Could Also Be Called Immortality

Zhang Che was noncommittal, "Su Chongwen is dead, yet one could also say he's immortal."

What does it mean to be dead, yet immortal??

I couldn't understand Zhang Che's words, but deep down I knew I've been living in a meticulously planned deception all my life.

This matter concerns my family secrets, and the wounds I cannot reconcile.

Zhang Che only said this much and didn't elaborate further.

And I didn't want to pursue Su Chongwen's matter in such a public setting.

Next, Zhang Che continued to recount the predicament within the Mystic Sect. Most of the core members of the Mysterious Gate Noble Family had been afflicted by Gu Poison and held hostage by Su Chongwen.

They were being coerced to use their own spiritual power to nourish a special kind of mystic insect.

It made the mystic insects spin silk, offering the threads to Su Chongwen.

The various major sect families were in misery.

The Celestial Master Sect intended to take a stand and deal with Su Chongwen.

With Ancestor Zhang Zidao absent, the Celestial Master Sect was leaderless.

There was no one to uphold the facade, especially Elder Jia, who had just been sitting at the head of the table, was of high seniority.

But really lacked the boldness, much less any capability.

The inner workings of the Zhang Family were even worse, with the old being old, and the rotten being rotten.

They could only bring Zhang Che back to take charge of the situation, and Zhang Che managed to persuade Zhang Shuying to return.

After explaining the situation clearly, everyone dispersed.

I intended to ask Zhang Zidao to release Zhang Shuying, but, unfortunately, Old Taoist Zhang didn't agree.

Zhang Che mediated, and finally convinced Zhang Zidao to temporarily lock Zhang Shuying in prison.

Then, Zhang Che and Old Taoist Zhang went together to see those afflicted by the Gu Poison.

Perhaps considering my feelings, Zhang Zidao didn't let me follow.

I was arranged to stay in a room at the Celestial Master Sect, and upon entering I saw my mother threading a needle and pulling thread.

Judging by her technique, she was definitely working on the Yin Yang Life and Death Embroidery, but the patterns and designs were ones I had never seen before, and the flowers in the design were somewhat poignantly beautiful.

Just as I wanted to get a clearer look at what she was embroidering, my mother quickly noticed and put away the fabric she was working on, "Why are you here?? This is the Zhang Family, did Uncle Che bring you here?"

"I... came with my master." I cleared my throat to ease the awkward atmosphere.

My mother immediately breathed a sigh of relief, "Ancestor, has he returned from his retreat? With him around, Uncle Che can lay down that heavy burden. But... what did the ancestor bring you back for?"

"It's probably... to have me inherit his mantle." I stammered.

Knowing my mother's temperament, she would certainly oppose anything that might cause trouble for me.

As expected, my mother's face darkened, "Before we could assume it was just talk, but now he's actually brought you here. With over ten thousand people in the Zhang Family, he only chose you as his successor, and to pass all his skills onto you—this doesn't seem appropriate."

I thought to myself, mom, don't worry, Zhang Zidao hasn't taught me anything.

The only thing I know related to the Celestial Master Sect is from the book Uncle Che gave me.

"Now that Uncle Che is back, there should be nothing left for me to worry about." I said this out loud, and it was also what I thought, "Back then, my master chose me because Zhang Shuying was expelled from the Zhang Family, and Uncle Che went to the Lin Family."

"When it comes to Shuying, that child truly has a bitter fate. Him ending up like this is still our..." My mom murmured halfway through, suddenly stopping, and said to me, "After the ancestor returns, does he... know the reason why Uncle Che came back to the Zhang Family?"

"Of course he knows, mom, in fact, I'm not surprised by this at all, you don't need to worry it will upset me." I quietly comforted her, but my mind was a tangled mess.

I once thought Su Chongwen wore a cheongsam to drag out his remaining days, just to live a little longer.

But now it seems, even after so many years of being dead,

he could suddenly wake up and stir up trouble, it seems he might not have been so afraid of death back then, perhaps it was just an act.

Then... why did he want to kill Yu Longting...

The White Python Cheongsam was made for prolonging life, after all. What exactly was his underlying motive.

My mom suddenly laughed at herself, "I'm not surprised either, for him to engineer such an elaborate plot to harm you, to have killed the Snake Lord through human means, only to be suddenly struck down by illness—it's absurd in itself..."

Chapter 1210: Tone It Down a Little

"There's one thing I don't understand, those skilled in Gu removal include Granny Long and Long Xiangkui, and if worse comes to worst, there's Bai Zhanhe, as well as the maternal granduncle from Tianying Village." I've never understood this point from the start, so I asked my mom, "Can Su Chongwen's Gu Art really control the entire Mystic Sect?"

"I really don't know about this; neither your Uncle Che nor I understand Gu Art. Therefore, we called Shuying back to join us and take a look, he might be of use." My mom frowned and said in deep thought.

I sighed and said, "Oh, the ancestor doesn't favor Zhang Shuying and insists on having him locked up."

Perhaps Zhang Shuying is in conflict with Tai Sui this year. What we seem to have barged into just now is a meeting led by the Zhang Family's Elder discussing how to deal with Gu Poison.

Unexpectedly, the ancestor Zhang Zidao returned from isolation with me, and Zhang Shuying probably hasn't yet had the chance to show his worth, but due to the ancestor's prejudice, he's been locked up.

"What..." My mom was incredibly shocked and then became worried, "What to do, the truth when Shuying killed his father years ago was not straightforward..."

I don't know what hidden truths are involved, but I've already decided to find an opportunity to see Zhang Shuying, and try to rescue him, "Mom, don't worry about him, I'll try to sneak into the prison later to see Zhang Shuying."

Just then, the door was suddenly knocked.

A woman in her forties, expressionless, entered; her gaze towards me was filled with cold disdain. She wore a gray Taoist robe, "Miss Lin, Elder Jia and Elder Sheng want to see you, please come with me."

Miss Lin?

Is she calling my mom?

But she clearly married Zhang Che, they even registered.

Yet still calling her Miss Lin.

Doesn't seem quite right?

"Do they have some matter?" My mom asked uncertainly.

The Taoist-robed woman laughed insincerely, "Of course, it's about discussing good matters, you are the woman kept outside by Master Che, and your daughter is deeply liked by the ancestor."

Her words were sarcastic, giving an uncomfortable feeling all over.

As children, how can we watch our beloved ones be humiliated?

"Slap." I stood up and gave the Taoist-robed woman a slap.

My mom was shocked to see my action, "Wanwan!"

In the past year, my character has changed drastically.

I haven't stayed by her side for long.

My mom probably never imagined that I could become so fierce one day.

The Taoist-robed woman's cheek swelled up high, her expression turned fearful, "You... even if you are the ancestor's direct disciple, you can't... you can't treat me like this! I am your elder, I'm... Master Che's cousin."

"Sorry, my hand was heavy. If I knew you were my aunt, I'd be gentler." I smiled and my eyes contained a golden Sharp Gold Aura, "Aunt, my mom married Zhang Che, Zhang Che was raised in the Lin Family since young, the people of the Lin family may call him a pretty face kept by my mom, but my mom is not the woman he keeps outside."

"But... but there was no parental approval or intermediary... nor a wedding ceremony... I was wrong, I was wrong, I'll stop talking." The Taoist nun wanted to continue speaking when I stuck a Binding Talisman on her forehead.

Her entire body was immobile, I raised my hand intending to strike again.

She could only beg for mercy, otherwise she would sport a swollen pig head face for at least a month.

My mom pulled me back, "We are under this so-called roof, after all this isn't the Lin Family, Wanwan, you, be more restrained."

"In the Lin Family, I can't act like this, everyone in the Lin Family treats me so well." I smiled at my mom, giving her a reassuring look, "In the future, I might manage the power at the Celestial Master Sect. If my methods are too appeasing, how can I win hearts and minds?"

"That might be true, but it's also not good to offend people too much." My mom was half convinced by me, while also worried, "Oh, you with a different surname, what's the ancestor thinking, having you come..."

The woman in the Taoist robe shrunk her head as the Binding Talisman's effect wore off.

She hurriedly took the talisman off, turning to flee.

I called out to her, "You said Elder Sheng and Elder Jia want to see my mom, you haven't invited her yet, why are you already leaving?"