

A Snake 871

Chapter 871: She Crawled In

I have a growing admiration for Lin Hang's youthful mind; he seems frivolous, yet his thoughts are meticulous.

A typical wolf in sheep's clothing, I used to put him in the same category as Yu Rongling.

Seems I misjudged; Yu Erha is genuinely foolish.

Lin Hang crouched, with his arms resting on his knees.

His deep temperament appeared mature, completely different from his frivolous smoothness during the day, "Not just Boss Zhu, I'm suspicious that the recent disappearances of several people are related to the Ten Thousand Poison Hall."

"How old are you to adopt such a world-weary appearance? Things will become clear in time," I reassured the deep-thinking youth like a senior, "Get some sleep if you can, I'll finish making the clothes, then we need to head to the Lin Family."

The processes for making the clothes in my hands are intricate, requiring two pieces of highly difficult Forbidden Technique clothing.

Originally, my father's notes didn't have these, only because I had seen the designs before, now I must forcibly recall the past.

The whole process is brain-racking and energy-draining, I'm afraid even if I try my best, I can't finish before dawn, so I have no plans to sleep tonight.

Lin Hang was particularly insistent, "I said I'd keep you company, and I will."

I couldn't argue with Lin Hang's stubborn temper, so I gave up the debate.

At midnight, the whimpering of wild dogs was incessant.

This Old Town District has been abandoned for twenty years, yet there are still wild dogs.

It reminded me of the wild dog with human eyes I saw at the Mass Burial Mound.

Especially the wild dog with Lin Gang's eyes, it was truly horrifying.

A dog's body, human eyes...

Supposedly, that wild dog was Meishan Mountain Witchcraft; it shouldn't relate to the Ten Thousand Poison Hall.

But my imagination made me break out in a cold sweat.

The broken window creaked as the cold wind blew, the hollowed window grilles continuously let wind in.

It caused the fire in the ruined temple to flicker and flare wildly.

I thought of drawing a few Wind-Setting Spells to paste on the pillars, or simply letting Xiao Honghong fly out to set the wind.

The Wind-Setting Pearl on the centipede has excellent wind-setting effects.

Suddenly, the flame on the fire pit went out.

The Old Town District is disconnected from electricity, and the night lacks any light.

Tonight's sky is peculiar, no stars or moon.

Once the fire pit extinguished, the ruined temple was left without any light source.

To make matters worse, after midnight.

The Old Town District's sinister energy swelled, my Spiritual Eye wasn't as sharp, and Lin Hang's Little Heavenly Eye was also obscured by the sinister energy.

So in the pitch black, neither Lin Hang nor I could see clearly.

At this moment, there appeared a glowing woman's face outside the door.

The woman's visage was gaunt, with high cheekbones.

Causing her cheeks to be slightly hollow, her cool-toned skin cast a pallid blue.

She craned her neck in, as if peeking at the temple's situation.

I'm braver now than before; at least I don't fear monsters or spirits.

But this thing seems like a female ghost.

In the bone-chilling wind, my teeth chattered.

Clenching my teeth, I pulled the flower hairpin from my head, "Who are you?"

"She... she seems to be a snake," Lin Hang pointed to the woman's lower body.

The woman's face bore no expression, her body clearly leaned further into the temple, her lower body half-hidden.

It seemed elongated, like kelp, bizarrely twisting.

I shook my head, "She definitely isn't from the Snake Tribe; if she were, I wouldn't feel fear."

Nor would I feel nauseous.

This woman exudes a muddy, rotten scent, as if buried in mud for a long time, like rotting pork dug up and exposed to oxygen.

"Could she be a centipede spirit??" Lin Hang noticed the woman's glowing red pupils, fumbling on his body, retrieving a thumb-sized toy-like Peach Wood Sword, and swinging it wildly in self-defense, "Her eyes are red, she... she she's crawling in!"

Chapter 872: The Talisman Paper Got Wet

As the woman stepped into the temple, her figure abruptly rose, like a skyscraper towering from the ground.

Her form resembled a mantis, but without the mantis's limbs.

In the darkness, only her face glowed with a cold white light, her body thick and terrifying, its size more like Godzilla, supporting that eerie head.

What... on earth is this thing!!

The woman slowly exhaled black gas, her icy, hollow eyes staring at us, "Eat... eat... so hungry... haven't seen... a living person in a long time..."

The Old Town District is rarely visited, so this man-eating monster must not have feasted for ages.

Since I have Corpse Clothing, she's not interested in me, instead, she eagerly fixates on Lin Hang.

Foul-smelling saliva dribbled from her mouth, forming a sticky puddle on the ground.

"The Three Souls are unsteady, the Refreshing Spirit floats, the fetal light takes shape, the ghostly essence disturbs and calls, Subdue Evil!!" Lin Hang's Taoist Heart was firm, and Demon-Breaking golden light flashed in his eyes as he suddenly stepped forward.

He brandished a Subdue Evil Curse, performing dazzling Hand Seals.

Yet as soon as the Subdue Evil Curse was thrown, it landed heavily on the ground.

Damp...

As if soaking wet!!

Lin Hang was taken aback and reached into his pocket for more talismans, "How unlucky, why are they wet?"

"Step back, your talismans aren't wet, they've been soaked with evil Qi." I pulled out the talismans from my own bag to check.

They were damp as well, with enough water to wring out.

I could only accept the bad luck and put them all back.

As Lin Hang had said, in the Old Town District, Mysterious Art was weakened to nearly unusable.

He had truly forgotten about this, throwing out talismans in vain self-defense.

The result was not only futile but almost led to him becoming a midnight snack for the strange woman...

Lin Hang was also quick-witted, in the eerie coldness, his whole body trembling uncontrollably.

He lay on the ground, rolling like a gourd to take cover behind me.

Seeing Lin Hang retreat, I felt somewhat reassured.

With the tip of the Hairpin Flower Chinese Crabapple, I carved the Cleanse and Punish Evil Curse into the palm of my hand, "This talisman is no ordinary one, with a stroke in the palm, rain clouds will quickly gather. The afflicted who consume it will be healed of all diseases, evil destroyed, urgent as law commands!!"

The red incantation in my palm detached and imprinted onto the woman's stout body.

The woman was fixed in the damp, icy air, contorting her strange, limbless body in distress, her facial features gradually twisting and becoming hideous, "Pain... so much pain!! Save me, Taoist... save me!! My stomach... save me..."

The woman had just wanted to eat Lin Hang.

Now she's actually asking for our help!

Though her shape was bizarre, the head and upper body still appeared human.

From my experience observing her characteristics, she was certainly not something transformed by evil.

That mournful gaze contained an indescribable despair...

"Sis, watch out!" In my moment of hesitation, Lin Hang shouted.

The woman's stout, barrel-like body unexpectedly stretched out a menacing tentacle, stabbing towards my heart.

I reflexively stepped onto the Golden Lotus, bouncing up instantly.

With both feet on the tentacle that newly sprouted, I used the sharp tip of the flower hairpin, slashing down without hesitation.

The tentacle was severed smoothly by the combined force of the Sharp Metal and Demon-Breaking Qi.

The next second, without any hindrance, I stepped up along the woman's body, the stable Taoist Heart allowing the Golden Lotus to make my movement agile and light.

With a swift whirl like a hawk, I leaped.

The flower hairpin slashed a curved line on the woman's massive body, splitting it into two parts.

With a thud, the upper body hit the ground.

An eerie transformation occurred.

The woman's upper body gradually shriveled and shrank, becoming much smaller.

On the ground lay a withered woman's corpse, her hair in disarray, her eyes wide open, staring at the ceiling.

Lin Hang peeked out, taking a glance.

Soon, he emerged fully from behind me, kicking the dark green tentacle on the ground, "Sis, this looks like... a large vine, no wonder it seemed so snake-like."

Chapter 873: Is This a Deity?!

"Stay away, this should be some kind of poisonous blood vine." I saw that the severed vine on the ground was still wriggling slightly.

My heart tightened, and I hurriedly reminded Lin Hang to be extra careful.

Just as Lin Hang retracted his foot, the shriveled half-severed vine on the ground suddenly came back to life.

It sprouted an ink-green branch.

The branch rapidly grew, flexibly like a whip, winding towards Lin Hang's ankle.

Lin Hang's face suddenly changed, and he retreated swiftly.

The vine was truly arrogant, directly branching into an eight-legged octopus.

Each vine even had suckers, forming a net to pursue Lin Hang.

If caught, he'd end up as the next female corpse, drained of nutrients by the vine, becoming a puppet host...

The charms Lin Hang carried were useless, and his protective Demon-Breaking Power was weakened.

Almost as fragile as a defenseless infant, he could only dodge continuously.

Did this bizarre vine monster insist on killing Lin Hang?

Anger surged in my heart, and I directly condensed the heavenly fire from within my body at my fingertips.

The heavenly fire emerged, blossoming into a bright red flower.

The red flower flew over, burning the eight-legged vines as if alive.

In the blink of an eye, it turned to ashes.

It went on to burn other vines like a predator, entangling them inescapably.

The vine from the woman's lower body seemed like the main vine, connected to some body, encountering this situation.

It immediately retreated swiftly, disappearing in a flash.

"Ah!" Lin Hang collapsed, sitting heavily on the ground, "You... you don't need a fire charm, you can conjure fire from your body, is this a Deity!!"

"Hush, keep it a secret." I put my index finger to my lips.

Lin Hang seemed to discover a shocking secret, shocked and covering his mouth, "Secret, secret!! Sis, are you the Mysterious Lady of the Nine Heavens incarnate, or some kind of Bodhisattva?"

"If I were, my first task would be to destroy the Ten Thousand Poison Hall!" Unfortunately, I'm just an ordinary woman, currently unable to face off with the Ten Thousand Poison Hall.

I glanced at Lin Hang and slowly approached the female corpse lying on the ground.

The nails on the ten fingers of the female corpse had turned black, her lips a purplish-blue.

Her abdomen was slightly swollen, it seemed...

Pregnant?

I half-closed my eyes.

In the presence of evil energy suppressing Spiritual Power.

I still managed to channel some to protect my palm, gently resting it on her forehead.

I intended to help the woman close her eyes, allowing her some peace and release in death, sparing her further torment.

Yet after the touch, the woman's eyes remained wide open.

I truly had no solution, gazing at her for a moment.

Then I bent down, whispering softly into her ear.

"Did her eyes close?" Before I could check on the female corpse, Lin Hang blurted out.

I sighed in relief and summoned Xiao Honghong with a thought.

As soon as Xiao Honghong appeared, it was as if the windows were repaired, and the old temple was windless.

Only then did I relight the extinguished fire, using it to dry the charms in the satchel around my waist.

Though this method was primitive and clumsy, it was the only option at present.

"Sis!! Sister!! What did you say to that female corpse that made her close her eyes?" Lin Hang clasped his hands, his face full of admiration.

I raised my eyebrows at him, as the fire charm in my hand floated over, igniting on the female corpse with a flameless burn, "Nothing much, I just said, I'll find the true culprit and avenge her child."

An ordinary woman's body cannot withstand the heavenly fire; it surely leaves nothing but ashes.

Using the Samadhi True Fire to burn, it would also instantly disintegrate.

However, it can leave behind ashes.

I'm afraid the vine might use this corpse again; it must be burned thoroughly.

"So that's it, no wonder grandpa always said you have a compassionate heart, combined with the decisiveness of an Emperor, perfect to succeed the Lin Family." Lin Hang spoke, then took off his school uniform, bare-chested, he went over, carefully gathering the ashes into his clothes, "It's almost dawn, sis, you keep busy."

Chapter 874: Mourning???

", I'll keep watch and stand guard."

I folded the two finished pieces of clothing and put them in the suitcase, "No need, I've already prepared everything."

"Shall we leave now?" Lin Hang asked me.

I nodded, casually took a neutral jacket from the suitcase, and handed it over to Lin Hang, who was temporarily scantily clad.

Originally, I intended to use the incense burner for storing ashes, to temporarily keep at the temple.

If the relatives of that female corpse are found later, it can be used for memorials. Who knew Lin Hang would be so kind-hearted, I naturally went along with him, not mentioning the incense burner.

As Lin Hang shyly got dressed.

I walked over to Yu Rongling, supporting my back, and searched his body for a bit.

Pulled out his phone, and left a message on the memo.

[Wake up, come find me at the Lin Family]

Lin Hang leaned over for a peek, "Are we going to the Lin Family just the two of us?"

"Yu Rongling doesn't treat Xintang as a precious treasure, don't worry." I grabbed Lin Hang's wrist.

"I was thinking, if the Second Master isn't coming, aren't we missing a... fighting... force... damn it!!"

Before Lin Hang could finish speaking, my Golden Lotus Seven Star Step had already been taken.

He looked in shock at the swiftly passing scenery, and was stunned for a full three minutes before coming to his senses, "I think, it doesn't matter whether the Second Master is here or not."

"I can't understand your map, tell me how to enter the tunnel." I really admire Yu Rongling's keen eye when it comes to deciphering Lin Hang's map.

Anyway, that whole set of ghostly symbols, I could never comprehend it.

Lin Hang chuckled and helped point me in the right direction.

We left the Old Town District via the tunnel and took a taxi to near the Lin Family Sect before dawn.

"Are you also here to mourn Old Master Lin? You're here quite early." The driver seemed to be well-acquainted with the area, casually mentioning the situation at the Lin Family Sect while settling the fare.

My hands paused mid-payment, "To... mourn Old Master Lin?"

"Your all-black outfit isn't for mourning... eh..." The driver stopped halfway through his sentence when I handed over two hundred bucks.

Inside, I felt a blaze burning.

Pushed open the car door, hurriedly got out.

Driver: "That's too much."

"No need for change, consider the rest a tip." Lin Hang got out of the car, quickly matching my steps.

In front of the Lin Family, the main gate was tightly shut.

Two white lanterns hung from the eaves, and the signboard was draped in soft mourning cloth.

The cloth fluttered in the wind, and the white paper money on the ground was blown towards my feet.

"Are we too late??" Lin Hang's hand clenched into a fist.

I pressed my lips together silently, gripping his wrist.

With a swift movement, we hid in the nearby Hairy Bamboo Forest.

The gate was pushed open by two Lin Family Disciples, and Yan Hua walked out, speaking with someone by his side, "The Dragon-Seeking Ruler indicated that the poisoner of the Sect Master, Lin Hang, is nearby, find him quickly."

Through the bamboo leaves, I could see the golden Dragon-Seeking Ruler in Yan Hua's hand.

This thing must be an antique from the pre-Qin dynasty palaces, shrouded in an ancient imperial aura.

When the Dragon-Seeking Ruler spun around and was about to point our way.

My heart leapt suddenly, and I took off the corpse clothing I was wearing and draped it over Lin Hang.

The Dragon-Seeking Ruler acted as if drunk, spun around a few times wildly, and pointed to another direction.

"Yes, Old Madam, we'll go find him now, won't let that little bastard get away." The person said through gritted teeth.

Led a large group of people off in a grandiose search for Lin Hang.

Old Madam Lin cast a cold glance outside, speaking to the two at the gate: "That little bastard Lin Hang must have informed Su Wan. If that bitch shows up, don't let her in, tarnishing the Lin Family's name."

Having said that, she turned and walked into the Lin Family Sect.

"I'm so angry, sis, that old witch actually slanders me!!" Lin Hang clearly did not know about Yan Hua pinning a crime on him, and now he was hopping mad.

His hands clenched on the barbed bamboo, squeezing tighter, "I've been wronged, but that's minor. She's running the Lin Family with an iron fist, and with grandfather gone, isn't my father's lineage going to be ruined by this witch."

"No way, evil cannot prevail over good!" I softly comforted Lin Hang, my eyes unable to hide a sense of grief, is grandfather really gone?

Chapter 875: Wouldn't That Make Me the Ultimate Victim?

No, it can't be!!

Apart from some needles and thread, my suitcase also contains a set of Divination Clothes.

This clothing can deduce the Eight Trigrams and assess fortune and misfortune.

I originally made it to give myself another skill in divination.

Yesterday, when making the clothes, I secretly put it on and cast a divination for Grandpa.

Although this calamity is extremely perilous for Grandpa, there remains a sliver of hope for survival.

It's a nine-lived one-death situation, seeking life within death.

Moreover, it's still my belief.

I think that evil cannot triumph over good, no matter how arrogant and sinister Ten Thousand Poison Hall is.

They cannot take the life of a dignified, righteous leader of the Mysterious Gate Orthodox.

"Without seeing Grandpa in person, I won't believe he's dead, nor will I accept it," I stated coldly and firmly, one word at a time.

Lin Hang was stunned, looking at me as if I were a possessed person, "But Grandpa's funeral has already been held..."

"You stay here, I'm going to infiltrate the sect," I thought carefully for a moment and said to Lin Hang beside me.

Lin Hang became anxious at once, grabbing my wrist and not letting me go, "Infiltrate? The sect is full of prohibitions and Formations, and Yan Hua's followers are there. How can you do something so dangerous while pregnant?"

"Little Brother Hang, let go; one cannot gain a tiger cub without entering the tiger's lair."

I glanced at Lin Hang, "Only by ensuring my mother's safety, will we not give Yan Hua the chance to use it as leverage when saving Grandpa later."

Grandpa's calamity is extremely dangerous; one wrong step could lead to eternal damnation.

Regardless, I must be cautious every step of the way, thinking one step ahead of Yan Hua and Ten Thousand Poison Hall before making any decision.

Lin Hang slowly released his grip, his eyes reddened beyond recognition, his voice hoarse and trembling, "Can you really be sure Grandpa is still alive? If he's still alive, I'm willing to trade all my lifespan for it."

"With me here, it won't be your place to sacrifice,"

I patted Lin Hang's shoulder, earnestly advising, "Though you're wearing Corpse Clothing, it's not foolproof. If they search the bamboo grove, you still need to find another place to hide and avoid being caught."

I worry that if Lin Hang is caught, he might be directly killed and then scapegoated for plotting against Lin Huan.

Wouldn't that make him a huge scapegoat?

Lin Hang handed me a piece of talisman paper, which can resolve most of the Formations and prohibitions within the Lin Family Sect.

However, Lin Huan had long since reconfigured the Lin Family's Formations and prohibitions to recognize me as their master, so they won't attack me.

I didn't say much more to Lin Hang and kept the talisman paper close to me.

Stepping on the Golden Lotus, I flipped over into the high walls of the Lin Family.

When I arrived at my mother's courtyard, I sensed something wrong.

The courtyard was shrouded in Yin energy, and the bluestone ground was covered with Spider Silk.

At a glance, I knew it had already been engulfed by Spider Gu.

Then... could it be that my mother and Zhang Che have already fallen victim...

Looking at the scene... it really... seems like it!!

My mind was anxious, my insides burning, as I swiftly rushed into the house, "Mom."

"Wanwan." My mother was sitting on the living room sofa, with her back partially exposed, facing Zhang Che.

At first glance, it could be easily misunderstood.

But with a closer look, you could see Zhang Che holding a peeled egg.

Using the egg white, he gently rolled it up and down my mom's back, showing no surprise at my entrance, he calmly said, "Here for the funeral? But Yan Hua wouldn't let you in easily; perhaps you climbed over the wall."

"Ahem~ It indeed was climbing. Nothing can be hidden from Uncle Che." I watched Zhang Che switch to another egg and asked quietly, "Is my mom poisoned with gu?"

"Spider Gu and Blood Gu, Yan Hua is truly ruthless, without a trace of mother-daughter sentiment." The egg placed on the tray by Zhang Che seemed moon-white as Bright Moon.

You could hardly see anything wrong, but gradually the egg trembled.

The egg white cracked, and a tangled mass of spiders rolled out.

These spiders turned out to be mutant monster spiders...

With blood-red threads wrapped around their legs and eight eerie eyes growing on their backs.

Chapter 876: Parents' Hearts Across the World

I've never loathed Yan Hua as much as I do now, "It really was Yan Hua who did this!!"

It was merely my subjective suspicion before, but I didn't expect she could actually resort to such a vicious method of poisoning her own daughter with a gu.

"Wanwan, your grandmother might have misunderstood me... causing harm to your uncle, that's why... she treats me like this." My mom is inherently a very traditional person. Hearing me call Yan Hua by name, her eyes flashed with unease.

I was burning with anger, looking at my mom with reddened eyes.

Thinking about all that she might have gone through when I was not at the Lin Family.

The anger in my heart dared not show even a spark in front of her, "Mom, I've misspoken, I shouldn't have talked nonsense."

"I just heard you say, you climbed over the wall to get in? Even if you're worried about your grandpa, your belly is so big now, moving around is inconvenient, what if you fall?"

My mom anxiously reprimanded.

From her demeanor, it's clear she isn't as perceptive as Zhang Che.

Completely unaware of the brewing storm at the Lin Family...

I was reproached and had no more tantrum, displaying a hint of embarrassment, changing the topic, "Uncle Che wasn't inflicted with a gu, right?"

"Yan Hua dared to try, but unfortunately she failed." Zhang Che let out a cold, dismissive snort.

I felt a sense of relief.

Seeing Zhang Che helping my mom with gu removal now, it's all thanks to Zhang Che's alertness in avoiding gu poisoning.

Otherwise, even if I carefully planned my steps to come in,

I might have found nothing but the cold, dead bodies of the two.

"Uncle Che, is that a fresh chicken egg you're holding?" I asked, staring at the egg in Zhang Che's hand.

Zhang Che nodded: "Gu insects love the new and the raw; a fresh egg is used to roll over the heart veins, which can lure out the hatched bugs in the blood vessels."

"But this method does nothing about the eggs in the blood vessels; before long, the eggs will hatch again and lay more." A perpetual cycle, tormenting and harming those with gu poisoning.

I said worriedly.

"Of course I know this method, temporary relief but not a cure, but aside from killing Yan Hua, there's currently no other way to eradicate it." In Zhang Che's serene eyes, a flash of undisguised murderous intent appeared.

I haven't told my mom about raising gu yet, all the setup before was to help her accept it better, "Um~ Mom, Uncle Che! I recently acquired a life-bound gu, maybe it can help with Mom's gu removal."

"What? Wanwan, you... you raised a gu? Why didn't you tell me before raising it?" My mom clearly couldn't fully accept the idea of me raising a gu, gasping softly.

Even Mystic Sect members hold biases against the witchcraft of gu, let alone ordinary people.

That my grandpa could accept it, only shows that he is open-minded.

Zhang Che pondered for a moment, persuading my mom: "Xiangnan, now isn't the time to probe into this, let Wanwan help you with gu removal first."

"Sigh, we can only do that." Though my mom nodded, she couldn't quite get over it in her heart, murmuring, "How could Snake Lord allow you to raise a gu?"

From her standpoint, if Yu Longting has my best interests at heart, he probably wouldn't easily let me raise a gu.

Opposing her daughter to coexist in life with a sinister bug is a natural instinct of a mother, a strict but protective love for her child.

Anyone who understands the love of parents all over the world should comprehend this.

With my thoughts aligned, Xiao Honghong flew out from my ear.

It circled twice in front of my mom, then swooped into her nasal cavity.

After a while, Xiao Honghong emerged from the other nostril, "It can heal, but thoroughly cleansing all the gu from the body will take an hour."

I nodded to show my acceptance.

Xiao Honghong rolled back inside.

The entire time, my mom cross-eyed watched her own nasal cavity.

She has always been afraid of bugs, now a bug has entered her nose.

Entering her body through her respiratory tract was a tremendous test for her.

Her face turned alternating shades of blue and white, the amount of courage it must have taken not to scream.

Zhang Che considerately picked up a coat, draping it over my mom's shoulders, softly saying to me, "Wanwan, your gu insect seems familiar, as if I've seen it somewhere before."

Chapter 877: The Red Hair Protector's Fire Centipede

"It really looks like the Fire Centipede of Ten Thousand Poison Hall, Red Hair Protector." My mother interjected with her keen insight.

Uncle Zhang Che was certain, "It's not just similar, it is the Fire Centipede."

"What??" My mother instantly flared up, "Wanwan, what on earth is going on with you? How did you get tangled with Ten Thousand Poison Hall?"

Getting a scolding right out of the blue from my mom left me dumbstruck.

Ten Thousand Poison Hall is wholly intent on trying to kill me, how could my loyal Xiao Honghong possibly be related to those scoundrels?

Furthermore, many well-informed people have seen Xiao Honghong, including the Granduncle from Tianying Village, Master Zhang Zidao, Yu Longting, and Grandpa Lin Huan...

No one has ever mentioned that Xiao Honghong has anything to do with Ten Thousand Poison Hall.

What's really going on here?

Uncle Zhang Che observed my expression for a while, then seemingly having thought of something, he tried to reassure my mom, "Maybe Snake Lord snatched it from Ten Thousand Poison Hall."

"If it's something from Ten Thousand Poison Hall, and if it develops a deviation, Wanwan could be bitten back." My mom was worried to death and began panicking.

I didn't have time to explain much, I comforted my mom, "Mom, the immediate priority is for you and Uncle Che to leave first. My Gu Raising can be discussed later."

"Fire Centipede's Gu Removal takes time. If Yan Hua discovers you before you can remove it, the consequences would be unimaginable once she activates the Gu Poison." Uncle Zhang Che also agreed to leave the Lin Family.

My mom looked at me, then at Uncle Zhang Che.

She compromised and nodded, "Alright, we'll leave first."

However, I knew she and Uncle Zhang Che were probably clueless about most of the events happening within the Lin Family.

Most likely, she merely thought Yan Hua was blamed by Lin Gang, and wanted to clarify the misunderstanding with Yan Hua, which is why she hesitated so much.

I stepped outside first, took out the fire charm, and burned the spider silk on the ground.

Soon, all the spider silk was incinerated in the flames.

Uncle Zhang Che emerged, supporting my mom.

I squeezed between them, grabbing their wrists simultaneously.

I stepped onto a golden lotus and directly transported them out of the Lin Family Sect, "Uncle Zhang Che, take my mom away, I still need to make another trip back."

"Your stepping technique just now was similar to our Zhang Family's... seven... nevermind." Uncle Zhang Che frowned slightly, not delving deeper into my Seven-Star Golden Lotus Step, "What are you going back for? The Lin Family is currently very dangerous."

"I want to investigate my grandfather's death." I responded seriously.

Uncle Zhang Che's eyes were thoughtful and heavy, "That can totally wait until your mother removes the gu, I'll help you seek justice."

"Uncle Che, trust me, I have my methods." I said earnestly.

My mom said, "How can you go on an adventure all by yourself, this is... Ah Che! What are you doing holding me?"

"Trust Wanwan this once." Without waiting for my mom to finish her words, Uncle Zhang Che lifted her frail figure horizontally.

With a light step, he whisked away gracefully.

From the back, they truly looked like a pair of deity lovers.

This must be the feeling between childhood sweethearts, truly enviable!

When I returned to the Lin Family Sect's main gate, a continuous stream of people from the Mystic Sect were attending the condolence.

I hardly recognized most of these faces, but a small portion of them knew who I was, "Isn't she the granddaughter of Sect Master Lin, who boasted multiple times about using the Lin Family's Demon-Breaking Power to slay the demon spawn from Corpse Lake?"

"It's said she is hideously deformed, with crooked eyes and mouth, a dwarf just over a meter tall, right?"

"I've seen photos of Lin Huan's granddaughter, she indeed looks like that. It's rumored the Lin Family has a hereditary illness called Blood-weeping Syndrome."

"Exactly, it seems she changed appearance when the syndrome acted up during the demon spawn killing."

Perhaps those who recognized me were only from the circle closely familiar with Grandpa Lin Huan.

However, there were so many people from various Mysterious Gate Noble Families present, and with so many rumors swirling.

Once it spread by word of mouth, it got around quickly.

The disciples guarding the entrance wanted to stop me as I entered, but I threw them a cold glance.

They looked at my menacing aura and then at the guests discussing me.

Stunned, they withdrew their hands meant to block me.

With my gaze unwavering, I strode swiftly toward the mourning hall, where my eyes fell upon the pitch-black casket at the center.

Chapter 878: Because Your Words Don't Count

In the funeral hall, there were two rows of redwood Eight Immortals chairs.

A total of nine important guests were seated, attending the condolence ceremony.

Long Xiangkui, sitting among them, saw me and suddenly stood up, "Su... Su Wan!"

"Why is Su Wan here? I specifically instructed that this spawn is not allowed in the door, who let her through??" Yan Hua in a white robe scolded me angrily upon seeing me.

Long Xiangkui glanced at the jumping Yan Hua, but instead turned cold, and sat back down.

The other condolence guests were all in an uproar.

Unclear as to why Yan Hua harbored such loathing and exclusion towards me.

I spoke calmly, "Why? Because your words carry no weight."

"Insolent!! Insolent!! How dare you speak to an elder like that? Someone, chase her out with sticks." Yan Hua trembled with anger, loudly commanding the Lin Family disciples.

Most of the Lin Family disciples were outside the hall, and upon hearing rushed inside.

Seeing me standing in the hall, they became excited, "Great, the Young Sect Master is back!!"

"The Young Sect Master has finally returned."

...

The Lin Family flourished with numerous collateral branches.

I couldn't guarantee their attitude towards me.

But I had suffered hardships with the direct line, and my relationship with them was generally good.

"What Young Sect Master? When the Sect Master needed her most, she was nowhere to be found! Now she has no right to be here." Yan Hua sarcastically mocked me, ordering them to expel me, "I order you as the Sect Master's Wife to drive this bastard out."

I couldn't be bothered with this malicious and selfish old lady, asking the Lin Family disciples beside me, "Could a few people help me open the coffin?"

"Brothers, the Young Sect Master wants to pay respects to the Sect Master's remains, fetch the tools."

"I have tools here."

"I do too!"

...

Opening the coffin is clearly taboo for the dead, especially one sealed with nails.

Yet none of the Lin Family sect's disciples listened to Yan Hua, instead, upon hearing I wanted to open the coffin,

none opposed, rather finding it reasonable.

Using the tools, they pried the nailed coffin open.

As for those cronies nurtured by Yan Hua, they intended to stop us but were powerless.

Stopped by more Lin Family sect members flooding into the hall, forbidding them to cause trouble.

The Lin Family, over which Yan Hua had control, immediately had its direction reversed; everyone sided with me...

The reversal happened so suddenly!

Everything had likely surpassed Yan Hua's calculations!

Yan Hua stood beside, stupefied, clearly furious.

Yet for a long moment, she didn't utter a word.

Long Xiangkui's reserved eyes squinted, his brow slightly raised.

With an expression of understanding, as though long anticipated.

When half of the coffin nails were removed, Yan Hua snapped out of it, collapsed into shouting, "Are you all mad? Just because Su Wan told you to open the coffin, you do it, do you want the Sect Master to be restless in his grave?"

"You're mistaken there, grandpa's most cherished junior in life was me, others opening the coffin might disturb him, but if it were me..." I deliberately left my sentence unfinished.

Because the latter part was self-evident, didn't need to be spoken, and everyone understood clearly.

The people on those eight Eight Immortals chairs nodded knowingly at each other, whether familiar with me or not, all treated me as a deeply beloved junior, "If Wanwan wants to look, let her, the girl had matters that delayed her, missing her dear grandfather's last moments, she's already felt bad enough."

"Exactly, open it since it's open, Old Man Lin bragged more than once about this granddaughter Wanwan to me, absolutely loved Wanwan, not only is she beautiful but also extremely talented, if not for her being married, I would have wanted her as my granddaughter-in-law."

"Now that Wanwan's Blood-weeping Syndrome's aftereffects are healed, letting Old Man Lin have one more look, he can rest in peace."

...

Not a single Lin Family disciple was swayed by Yan Hua, questioning my actions.

With the last coffin nail removed, they solemnly stepped aside, to avoid disturbing me.

Yan Hua leaned entirely on her cane for support, able to stand, her face filled with a sinister sneer, "Fine, Su Wan!! You forced me to this, today you'll witness your mother's body as well, bring Lin Xiangnan here."

Chapter 879: Opening the Coffin

"Don't waste your efforts. The gu on my mom has been dispelled by me, and she's temporarily left the sect."

I glanced at the trouble-making Yan Hua, my hands resting on the heavy coffin lid.

At this moment, I had the absolute advantage with both time and place.

But I suddenly felt cowardly, lacking the courage to push the lid away.

Yan Hua was shocked by my words again, "You... You wretched girl... You actually..."

"Grandfather, I'm sorry, your granddaughter doesn't want to lose you, and the Lin Family can't be without you either." My heart felt clogged, leaving no strength to deal with Yan Hua, and I whispered softly.

I took a deep breath, and with lead-heavy arms, slowly pushed the coffin lid open.

The screeching sound of wood rubbing against wood was incessant, and I finally saw the corpse covered in white cloth lying inside the coffin.

I gently lifted the white cloth, and that face was familiar yet strange.

At this moment, Grandfather appeared as a middle-aged man, his features extremely masculine and grand.

With a wide mouth and broad nose, his facial contours were sharp like those carved by knife and axe.

This face had about seventy or eighty percent resemblance to the youthful, spirited appearance I saw in the Illusion Realm.

Moreover, his body had suddenly grown quite tall, with shoulders as if carved.

One could imagine what a graceful demeanor he would have when awake.

It was as if throughout those long years before, the dust on the precious gem was finally wiped away, restoring its original brightness and clarity.

"Grandfather." I couldn't help choking up, tears soon blurred my eyes, making it hard to see his face.

My hand had already reached into the coffin, to touch the major artery in his neck.

Unable to feel any pulse there, I felt a bit of fear and went to check his breathing.

Trying to sense his breath, still nothing, and finally my hand touched over his heart, his wrist for a pulse...

Yet...

There was no sign of life whatsoever, and it was as if a heavy hammer struck the back of my head.

I felt completely dazed.

Grandfather was really dead!!

A piercing pain in my heart, the whole body felt suffocatingly uncomfortable.

In a moment, my mind cleared up.

I couldn't sink into despair; even if there's only a ten-thousandth chance, I must try.

Under the astonished gazes of everyone, I lifted Grandfather from the coffin.

Taking out the Life-extending Robe I carried, I put it on Grandfather.

I deliberately made the robe a size larger, but not knowing how Grandfather's restored stature would be, it still felt a bit small.

With my head bowed, I buttoned the robe for Grandfather one by one, "Grandfather, you must wake up."

"Wanwan! Are you crazy? You're giving him the Life-extending Robe??" Long Xiangkui, who had been indifferent all along, immediately recognized the robe as the Life-extending Robe.

This moment was like a drop of hot oil falling into boiling water.

Not only did the nine dear friends of Grandfather in the mourning hall turn pale and start discussing it with shock.

The guests preparing to come in to pay their respects outside also exploded into a frenzy, their discussions louder than ever. The Life-extending Robe must be worn simultaneously by both parties the first time it's used.

If there's too long of a gap, it loses its efficacy.

After calmly dressing Grandfather in the Life-extending Robe, I lay him back in the coffin.

The Life-extending Robe consists of a mother and a child piece, and I put on the child piece directly, "Because I believe my Grandfather isn't dead."

"I personally verified him when he died." Long Xiangkui's eyes were deep as she looked at me, "Child, are you out of your mind? Using your own life to exchange for your Grandfather's."

I looked down at the pale-faced, still motionless Grandfather, "I know Granny Long wouldn't make a mistake in verifying, and if Grandfather... if he really is gone, then the Life-extending Robe I made is useless."

"That's true." Long Xiangkui was reminded by this and her grave expression eased quite a bit.

Chapter 880: I Only Want My Grandpa

The guests sighed repeatedly, marveling at me, "This granddaughter is truly filial."

"If my grandson were half as filial, I could die in peace."

...

The praise from others is utterly useless to me right now.

My mind is solely occupied by Lin Huan's life and death, synchronized with my heartbeat.

Silently counting the seconds, the passage of time.

For the Yin Yang Life and Death Embroidery, it certainly isn't infallible.

If it doesn't show effects after being worn for more than five minutes,

It would prove the failure of the art.

Suddenly, a voice of doubt emerged from the crowd:

"Isn't the Life-extending Robe a Forbidden Technique? The Mystic Sect will never use it."

"This girl is really going all out to save Old Man Lin."

"Even if she's going all out, she shouldn't do such inappropriate things."

"I think this young girl is quite suspicious; her filial piety might be an act."

"Why do you say that?"

"After all, the Life-extending Robe is useless on the dead. She is so young and wants to inherit the Lin Family, she has to get rid of Old Madam Lin as a stumbling block. Doesn't she need to earn a good reputation?"

Faced with the increasing doubts, I turned a deaf ear.

Five minutes have passed, and my grandfather still showed no response.

The last hope in my heart was extinguished, and my mind was filled with grandfather's fondness and care for me.

In the past, how much I longed for family, how happy I was to have someone like grandfather appear.

The mournful emotions were enormous, like wheels repeatedly crushing my heart, torturing incessantly.

Yan Hua suddenly realized, every word a bloody accusation, "Su Wan, you made such a big scene at your grandfather's funeral, blatantly insulting me, a lonely widow, just to consolidate your status. How truly unfortunate I am..."

She cried with deep emotion, every sob shaking her.

Old Madam Lin's years of status are evident, and indeed without her son and husband by her side, she appeared quite forlorn and pitiful.

Many people were swayed by Yan Hua, casting contemptuous glances toward me.

"You old lady can act so convincingly, merely to force me to hand over the inheritance of the Lin Family." I've lost my grandfather and hold no nostalgia for anything of Lin Family, I lifted my grandfather's body from the coffin carefully onto my shoulder, "I only want my grandfather, as for the rest, I..."

"Cough, cough~" A series of heavy coughs came from my shoulder, instantly making my spine stiff.

The entire funeral hall fell into sudden silence, the atmosphere turning eerie.

Moments later, someone cautiously muttered, "Is there a ghost? How come I hear Old Master Lin's coughing?"

Everyone's gaze simultaneously shot towards me, expressions were quite complex.

Though no one spoke, it was plainly written on their faces.

You're not alone! We all heard it too!!

I suppressed my breath for several seconds and carefully began, "Gran... Grandfather."

"Yes." Lin Huan's 'corpse' on my shoulder responded heavily.

This time, the funeral hall was full of the sound of gasping in shock.

Some timid people urinated in fright while others knelt.

The atmosphere was increasingly bizarre and unfathomable. I could only sense Lin Huan stretching his stiff fingers slightly.

He supported himself on my shoulder, slowly standing up.

His body had been stiff for too long, and his bones creaked loudly, sounding even more like a ghost.

Under the pallor of everyone's face, Lin Huan glanced around with his slightly murky eyes, hoarsely speaking, "Could I trouble you all to please leave the funeral hall for now? I have some family matters to attend to, and later I will personally host a banquet to make amends."