

A Snake 901

Chapter 901: Thirty Thousand a Bottle

Although Boss Zhu is lustful, already having a wife and still keeping a mistress.

However, he is quite filial, coming to City A specifically to treat his mother's illness.

Under Boss Zhu's guidance, I sat down at a table exaggeratedly inlaid with marble and made of pear blossom wood, "I wonder what illness your mother has? Coming to a small city for treatment?"

"A terminal illness, muscular weakness, and atrophy." As soon as Boss Zhu mentioned his mother's illness, he sighed, then suddenly laughed, "Fortunately, she's now cured. The world's top experts couldn't treat it, yet a local folk doctor managed to cure it. Isn't that strange?"

I like to tap on things when I'm thinking, my fingers lightly tapping on the tabletop as I looked at the dazzling array of dishes served by the house servants, "Baoxian Hall?"

"Eh, how did you know? I didn't believe it at first either. I figured since it's a terminal illness, we'd just give it a try as a last resort." Boss Zhu continued to pour and drink, smiling, "This illness leads to paralysis bit by bit and certain death within half a year, who knew my mother miraculously recovered. I myself have also started taking Baoxian Hall's health products. Every Baoxian Hall brand product you see is personally sourced by me."

"Oh? How's the effect?" I looked at the baijiu (white liquor) Boss Zhu was drinking and suddenly thought of the drunkard I encountered earlier.

The drunkard's bottle was soaking a toad, disgustingly so.

Although the baijiu of Boss Zhu looked mellow and clear, almost the same quality as Maotai.

But I always felt the liquid in the bottle was quite strange, especially the worn and blurry label on the baijiu, also something something hall.

Boss Zhu laughed heartily, "The effect is obviously exceptional. I originally had kidney essence deficiency, and no supplement worked for long. Now... there's absolutely no worry, my wife even got pregnant..."

Indeed, not only did your wife get pregnant.

You are so energetic that you also managed to settle things with your female secretary.

I didn't want to continue chatting with Boss Zhu at all, focusing entirely on the liquor.

The medicinal and rotten smell in the liquor was particularly strong, like corpse water from an ancient preserved with herbs.

"It's a pity, Celestial Master Su, you're pregnant, otherwise, I'd definitely have invited you to try some."
Boss Zhu noticed where my eyes were, generously introducing, "These are all 20-year-old vintage liquors brewed by Baoxian Hall, three thousand per bottle."

Three... three thousand??

Still claiming it's 20-year-old vintage liquor!!

No wonder the label on the bottle was so worn, the words faded away.

Forgive me, the most expensive drink I've had was a two-yuan Tsingtao beer.

Boss Zhu gave me a dish, "No problem if you can't drink, all these dishes you're eating are made according to Baoxian Hall's recipe."

"Baoxian Hall even provides recipes?" my hand holding the chopsticks froze.

Looking at the eye-catching and delicious array of dishes, I instantly felt extremely nauseous.

Quick-witted, I feigned a few retches, apologizing, "Sorry, I suddenly have a bout of morning sickness, can't eat anything. Ugh~"

"These dishes are very nutritious, after eating them, it greatly benefits the fetus, these recipes were originally prepared for my wife." Boss Zhu recommended to me enthusiastically, "Sadly, she suddenly disappeared, now I can only use them to entertain Celestial Master Su."

"Boss Zhu, I think these recipes must be specially prepared for your wife." I still needed Boss Zhu, so I didn't plan to offend him, tactfully declining.

Hearing this, Boss Zhu indeed stopped inviting me to eat, "That's true, when my wife first became pregnant, she went to Baoxian Hall's headquarters in person, and their most senior Nutritionist tailored them according to my wife's physical condition."

"That's really considerate." Seeing Boss Zhu's firm belief in Baoxian Hall, I chose not to expose him directly, but instead planned to dig deeper, "I'm also interested in this stuff, is there a way to go to the headquarters for a custom fit?"

At this moment, footsteps came from upstairs, followed by the voice of a sullen old lady,

Chapter 902: Mastery Reached

Old Lady Zhu's voice was heard before she was seen—a deep voice saying, "Who is this young woman? Why is she eating at our home."

"Is this... your mother??" I turned my head and saw Old Lady Zhu's figure and appearance, my gaze becoming focused.

Although the old lady walked steadily, her figure was exceptionally hunched, and her entire body was asymmetrical.

The muscles in her right leg had clearly atrophied severely, like an apple dried under the sun for two months.

There's not a trace of moisture; it must have already necrotized.

In such a condition, paralysis is inevitable. She can walk—truly seeing a ghost.

Old Lady Zhu felt offended, squinting her eyes at me maliciously.

Boss Zhu went to support his mother, helping her sit in a chair, "This is Celestial Master Su, Sect Master Lin's heir, an enlightened master."

An evil aura, a thick evil aura emanates from this old lady.

Although she's still breathing, she must have died some time ago.

She's merely imitating human breath; what she exhales is all Corpse Qi.

From top to bottom, she's nothing but a walking corpse. Yet I can't discern what ghostly entity is attached to the old lady.

Allowing her to think independently, dragging a paralyzed body while walking like a normal person, usurping the old lady's identity.

Certainly not the poisonous Old Demon Vine. The Demon Vine can possess but cannot linger long, wasting time in an old lady's body.

And not only the old lady, the drunkard sipping Toad Wine gave me the same feeling...

Could the Vine Demon know the Cloning Technique?

Although it's a Vine Demon capable of splitting into countless vines, the vines cannot leave the original body.

According to this characteristic, the Vine Demon cannot possess multiple people simultaneously.

So what exactly is going on...?

"Nice to meet you, madam. My name is Su Wan. I'm here to assist Boss Zhu in finding the whereabouts of your daughter-in-law." I smiled warmly at Old Lady Zhu, reaching out my hand, while in my eyes emanated a gleam of the Sharp Gold Aura, directing this subtle light straight at her heart.

Old Lady Zhu shrieked, acting like she'd been blinded.

Aghast, she retreated several steps, finally bumped into the chair behind, and fell onto the ground with a thud, "Help! Stay away! Son, quick!! Get this woman out of here; she's a disaster devil bringing harm! You—stay away, don't take my life."

"What happened to your mother? I was merely shaking her hand." I looked at my own hand, feigning ignorance to Boss Zhu, with an innocent expression.

I never used to have so many tricks. It's all from spending too much time with Yu Longting, inadvertently picking it up.

Learning how to conceal a knife in a smile from him, I mastered it perfectly.

Boss Zhu was also quite puzzled. He went to help his mother up, instructing the servants to support her upstairs.

Scratching his hair, which was already scant—slicking back his greasy hair—with a belly full of suspicion, he said, "She used to be very hospitable. Anytime guests came, she was all warm welcomes. Why is she acting so strangely today?"

My gaze lingered on Old Lady Zhu's shaking body, like a sieve trembling, still not leaving, "Really?"

Old Lady Zhu, under my gaze, seemed to have legs turning to rubber.

If not held by the servants, she'd likely spin down like a rolling gourd.

It appears that whatever is hiding within Old Lady Zhu's corpse truly fears me—more accurately, fears the pure Evil-Breaking power within me, combinatorial of Zhang Family and Lin Family's forces!

"My mom does seem pretty afraid of you. I ought to accompany her for a while. Maybe we should call it a day. I haven't even had time to tell you about my wife's situation." Boss Zhu regretfully says goodbye.

Sent out by him, I responded without concern, "No worries, maybe I'm just not friendly-looking. Once I entered your home, I analyzed the Feng Shui layout. I have a basic understanding of your wife's situation; she should still be alive. As for whether the child can be saved... it's up to fate."

"You've deduced something? Where's my wife? How did you discern issues with my home's Feng Shui layout? Where is the problem? I'll fix it immediately!!"

Chapter 903: Guardian of the Dark Alley

Boss Zhu had a face full of urgency and sincerity, promising a hefty reward, "As long as you can help me, money is not an issue. I've worked so hard and finally have two sons at my old age. If I can't keep them safe, the Zhu family will end..."

Isn't having a corpse that brings prosperity enough to turn the home into a major ominous pattern?

The best way is to drive the monster out, but Boss Zhu might not listen, so we can only take a roundabout approach.

"No rush, Boss Zhu, I also want to buy something from Baoxian Hall," I said slowly. "After you take me to the headquarters of Baoxian Hall, I will certainly reveal everything."

Boss Zhu was anxious and seemed unaware of the threat in my words.

Still, he didn't get angry and directly agreed, "That's easy, I'll drive over to pick you up tomorrow morning and introduce you."

"Alright." I agreed immediately.

Boss Zhu called his family driver to take me from the villa.

As we neared, one of the streets was lined with food stalls.

The aroma of barbecue and stir-fry dishes filled the entire street.

The area was brightly lit, bustling with foodies indulging in late-night snacks.

With the car unable to drive further in, I had to get off ahead of time.

After passing the night market street, I needed to enter the residential area.

I had to go deep into the alley, about twenty or thirty meters long, with only one light.

Dim and secluded.

As I walked in, there wasn't a single person in the alley.

But soon, I caught the smell of alcohol.

A heavily drunk person followed behind me, likely spotting me from the night market and purposely tailing me all the way.

Using the Golden Lotus Seven Star Step, I could easily shake off this person.

My footing was light, with a steady Taoist Heart.

Clearly, I could condense a Golden Lotus in an instant, but it had only just begun forming when it failed, dissolving and shattering.

Startled, I looked up at the sky.

Somehow, dark clouds had obscured the moon.

The alley was filled with a terrifying evil energy, and I could feel that drunken person inching closer.

Running was futile; my body was too heavy to outrun the follower.

By a twist of fate, today of all days was the Qingming Festival.

Both hot and stuffy, with especially rampant Yin energy and evil energy.

At night, it was a chaotic dance of demons.

I couldn't help but recall an ancient poem, 'During Qingming, the rain drizzles and people on the road mourn.'

Though there was no rain, I truly felt a sense of soul-loss.

It was just bad luck that I chose to walk at night now.

I pulled out the flower hairpin, ready to respond at any moment, but felt unsure inside.

The person following me was full of evil energy, yet he was an ordinary person.

The flower hairpin was almost useless against ordinary people, and I had no strength to engage in a physical fight.

Using the heavenly fire would be too cruel.

The Three Souls and Seven Spirits would be burned to ashes.

What to do!!

Damn it!!

Finally, I was near the end of the alley.

Ahead was the spot where nearby residents liked to relax, brightly lit, and buzzing with people.

Yet I didn't rejoice prematurely, knowing the follower meant harm. He was definitely up to something.

He wouldn't let me leave the alley...

Sure enough, the footsteps behind me accelerated, and the smell of alcohol wafted over.

I quickened my pace, but his speed was even faster, seemingly reaching my back in no time.

The evil energy mixed with alcohol overwhelmed me, sending chills down my spine. I could feel his sinister gaze locked on me without even turning around.

Clutching the flower hairpin in my palm, if he really tried something on me,

I would have to use heavenly fire, but killing someone's soul might incur tremendous karma...

Suddenly, a man's muffled groan reached my ears.

Then came the loud thud of a heavy object hitting the ground!

I jumped in fright, but my mental resilience had improved somewhat.

Instead of succumbing to fear, I immediately turned around.

What I saw was a man lying face-up on the ground, struck by a Wolf Fang Club on his face.

The club's metal spikes had pierced his brow and left eye, blood flowing from his forehead and eye, with a sharp Triangular Knife next to him.

Wasn't this the drunkard who said he lived next door during the day?? Was he the one tailing me??

What was he trying to do??

"It hurts~ it hurts!"

The man cried out in pain, losing all combat ability and mobility.

This technique was crisp and efficient.

Directly blinding the man's eye.

Could someone... be secretly protecting me?

I immediately looked deeper into the alley, catching a glimpse of a tall figure in a light gray jacket, whose silhouette seemed all too familiar!!

Chapter 904: Is There a Little Vine Demon Growing in My Belly?

"Yu Longting, is that you? Don't go, I can't catch up with you." I followed that familiar figure, holding my stomach, struggling to chase after it.

In the end, my shoes came off, but I still couldn't keep up. "Hey, why are you hiding from me? Do you know..."

How much I've missed you these days!!

But that gray silhouette vanished into thin air like the wind.

I rubbed my eyes, then rubbed them again.

Could it have been an illusion?

Because I missed Yu Longting too much, I drove myself sick with longing.

I stubbornly stood there for a long, long time.

On my way back, I saw a half-dead drunkard whining on the ground.

It proved that what I saw wasn't an illusion at all, and certainly not a dream.

If it hadn't been for him, I would have committed a huge act of killing today!

Could that figure not have been Yu Longting??

Just someone who looks a bit like him?

Like, say... Dragon Dad?

That's definitely it, no matter who that person was, it certainly wasn't Yu Longting.

With my connection with Yu Longting, how could he possibly hide from me?

Being so close, he would definitely be the first to come find me!

With a jumble of thoughts in my mind, I opened the door to my rented room.

After entering and closing the door, I tiredly threw myself onto the freshly made bed and fell fast asleep.

The next morning, before seven o'clock, I was woken up by a knock on the door.

I thought to myself that Boss Zhu, being such an unrestrained wealthy man, could not possibly get up this early because people like him, unlike diligent bosses, needed time to enjoy life...

I hastily tidied my hair in front of the mirror and went over to open the door.

There stood Lin Hang, even more listless than I, with heavy dark circles under his eyes, "Cousin, I'm about to die of exhaustion, let me in to take a nap."

"Didn't you say you never wanted to stay in my rented room?" I teased as I led him to the only bedroom.

Lin Hang collapsed onto the bed like a dead dog, "Damn it, I did four or five hours of examinations at the hospital, went back to the Lin Family and the evil energy was so strong, I got attacked by the Formation! Grandpa made me soak in pomelo water for a whole night, I'm all prune, the evil energy's still too strong, can't stay at the Lin Family..."

"Hmm, it seems the cola you drank was really problematic." I handed Lin Hang a bottle of mineral water.

Lin Hang sat up in a gulp and took a big sip, "What on earth is this Baoxian Hall, I went to complain and was told there's no such brand."

"It's probably not a brand." I walked over to the mirror, adjusted the cheongsam I was wearing.

Lin Hang hurriedly asked, "Then what is it?"

Confident in the small room, I spoke to Lin Hang in front of the mirror, "I feel like it's more of a small personal workshop, with no registered trademark at all. Lin Hang, do vines have seeds?"

While speaking, I had finished washing up in the mirror.

"They should... probably have. My biology grades were terrible, asking me is worse than asking the internet." Lin Hang lamented his poor academic skills, suddenly running to my side, the mirror now reflecting a bewildered handsome face, "You weren't about to imply that the Dead Vine Demon that ran off the attic with you spreads its seeds??"

"I'm not quite sure either, based on what I've found online, if vines reproduce and flower by themselves, they should have seeds." I glanced back at Lin Hang, looking him up and down, suddenly feeling sorry for this kid's luck, "If there was any in the cola you drank, you shouldn't be too pessimistic..."

"Damn it!!" Lin Hang suddenly blew up, "That's why soaking in pomelo water for a night did nothing, I'm still full of evil energy, could it be that... I've got a Little Vine Demon growing in my belly?? Huh??"

Chapter 905: The Interlayer

I thought of a reliable person in my mind, "You might as well go to Granny Long and have her look at you. Her Miao Border medicine skills are extraordinary."

"Useless, she was the one who checked my pulse yesterday." Lin Hang waved his hand, looking indifferent.

I paused my movement while hanging the towel, "Her?"

Lin Huan's funeral invited half of the Mystic Arts Circle, only to end with him waking up from the coffin.

It was only polite for people to come from afar to pay their respects, but unexpectedly they encountered a blunder.

It was certainly necessary to host a banquet to explain and apologize.

But all of this happened during my time in the Snake Sect, and I did not participate in it.

Considering this time has passed, Granny Long should be back in Western Hunan, managing her inn.

Lin Hang posed as if complaining, saying: "Yeah, she said I was just contaminated by evil spirits and told me to soak in pomelo water."

"Since it's Granny Long's diagnosis, there shouldn't be a problem." I still believed in Long Xiangkui's authority, "We've all stayed in the old quarters, and the talisman paper got wet. It's not unusual to be contaminated by evil spirits."

Lin Hang disagreed with me, "But I only had evil spirits on me after drinking cola."

"Little Brother Hang, if something parasitic was in your body, Granny Long wouldn't fail to diagnose it." I still had faith in Long Xiangkui's medical skills, "Besides, the vine theory is merely my speculation, with almost no basis."

"I trust your judgment more than others." Lin Hang puffed up his cheeks, muttering.

Was it Long Xiangkui who misdiagnosed, or did my speculation have inaccuracies?

As long as we investigate thoroughly, there will surely be a conclusion.

There's no unsolvable mystery in this world.

I checked the time and instructed Lin Hang, "Alright, I have to go out for something. If you don't mind staying here, you can lie on the bed and rest for a while."

Looking at his state, except for the fatigue from a sleepless night, there didn't seem to be any other issues.

The evil spirits on him should slowly fade over time.

I felt reassured and went out to handle my affairs.

"Cousin, where are you going?" Lin Hang followed behind me closely.

I opened the door and stepped outside, "Baoxian Hall headquarters."

"Take me with you..." Lin Hang volunteered.

Suddenly a detail flashed through my mind as I opened the door just now.

Feeling like I was negligent about something.

Without time to answer Lin Hang, I turned back, "Little Brother Hang, look."

The wall behind the door, where some paint had peeled off, was nailed with wooden boards.

"What do you want me to see? That this house is a shoddy construction?" Lin Hang estimated that I didn't like the wooden wall.

He bent down and knocked on the wall, his expression suddenly changed, "Cousin, it's hollow inside."

"Find a way to open it and take a look." I thought of the traces left by the previous tenant in the rental house, and my heart trembled repeatedly.

Lin Hang probably thought the same as me, his face turned green.

He pulled out a Small Knife from his body, scraped off the wall paint, then pried open the gap in the wood, "Jin Yong wrote a novel called 'A Deadly Secret'!!"

"And then?" My mind was in chaos, I seemed to have seen this martial arts book, but I didn't know what Lin Hang was trying to express.

Lin Hang trembled and said, "There's a scene where a living person is buried in a wall, cousin, I'm scared."

"Not only are you scared, I'm a bit... scared too." I thought, could I be so unlucky?

This whole night, living under the same roof with a corpse.

If there really is a corpse in the wall, having died with grievances, will the Yin Soul linger?

Bang!

A piece of old wood was knocked loose and fell to the ground.

Chapter 906: The Terrifying Snake Wine

There really was a hidden compartment inside, but it only contained a row of glass bottles.

Lin Hang and I both breathed a sigh of relief, thankful it wasn't a corpse inside the wall.

Lin Hang used two tissues to wipe the dust off the glass bottles. "Hey, cousin, this is Snake Wine."

The so-called Snake Wine is made by soaking a snake in liquor.

This bottle of wine looked particularly strange, a triangular-headed snake was hanging its head, floating in the middle of the liquor.

Lin Hang wiped the dust off the other bottles, too, and they were also Snake Wine.

Each bottle was of a different color, some dark and some light.

The labels on the bottles read Baoxian Hall.

Suddenly, a snake floating in the liquor opened its eyes.

Those red pupils emitted a terrifying malevolence, and I watched as the hairs on Lin Hang's arm stood up one by one. I reassured him, "They only used live snakes for the wine. They're in a state of suspended animation and wake up when they hear noise."

"But these snakes look so odd." Lin Hang rubbed the goosebumps on his arms repeatedly, just as he finished speaking.

Hey! Something even scarier happened.

The other snakes in the bottles also woke up, gradually staring coldly at Lin Hang.

His hand trembled like someone with Parkinson's, and the bottle almost slipped to the ground.

Luckily, I reacted quickly and caught it. Otherwise, the bottle would have smashed on the ground and released that highly venomous snake. I warned, "I don't know what Baoxian Hall is up to, the animals they use for the wine turn out a bit strange."

It's not just these snakes in the wine, the toads in the Drunkard's Toad Wine were equally peculiar.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!!" The snake I held in my hand was actually banging its head against the bottle.

It didn't recognize me as the Lady of the Snake Lord, showing neither fear nor respect.

Startled, I almost tossed the bottle away like a grenade.

Immediately, the other snakes in the bottles also started banging their heads against the bottles.

Lin Hang noticed all the snakes were aiming their heads at him. "Why are they all bumping their bottles at me?"

"This is a hunting pose of snakes, Little Brother Hang, they're mistaking you for food." Suddenly, my hand was soaked as the bottle developed a crack from the snake's head butting it.

If this continues, the bottle will definitely shatter due to the hardness of the venomous snake's head.

Lin Hang sat down on the ground, "Why don't they want to eat you? Is it just because you're the Snake Lord's wife?"

At this moment, I really wanted to slap myself. I should have just left.

Why meddle and come back to check the wall, finding this hidden compartment?

If I hadn't done anything, these snakes wouldn't have been disturbed.

Unfortunately, there's no medicine for regret.

I immediately fetched the Corpse Clothing and draped it over Lin Hang. "I carry a snake fetus, so there's a bit of snake aura about me. The snakes in the Snake Wine seem only interested in living humans. I'll use the Corpse Clothing to conceal your living aura and see if it helps."

Sure enough, once he put on the Corpse Clothing,

the four snakes in the four bottles of Snake Wine calmed down quietly.

I didn't hesitate and put them back in the compartment, closing the wooden panel.

I then attached a talisman to the wooden panel as a seal.

"Cousin, I don't want to be alone. I want to go out with you." Lin Hang pleaded with me, nearly frightened out of his wits.

I was also worried that the seal couldn't hold the venomous snakes in the Snake Wine, and it wouldn't be good if Lin Hang got bitten by one while he was sleeping. I told him, "Alright, you follow me. When we come back, I'll rent another room."

Even though I was investigating the pervasive evil atmosphere in the area,

it doesn't mean I have to torment myself by staying in this eerie rental.

"Alright, that sounds like a good plan." Lin Hang nodded repeatedly.

Together, Lin Hang and I went outside. The sunlight was lovely, but no private car was in sight.

Checking my watch, Boss Zhu was over twenty minutes late.

As I was about to call him, a Bugatti slowly stopped, with Boss Zhu stepping out himself. "Sorry, sorry for being a bit late. I couldn't reach my secretary, so I had to drive myself. It's been a while, so I'm a bit rusty. Hiccup!"

Chapter 907: My Membership Level Is High

"It's okay, I was going to sleep in anyway. Boss Zhu, bring Lin Hang along too." I didn't bother with pleasantries with Boss Zhu and directly asked him to bring Lin Hang along.

Boss Zhu was obviously hesitant, "Adding another person, huh? I only applied for one spot."

"Boss Zhu, what kind of relationship do we have? You have a good thing and you're not taking me?" Lin Hang was good at mingling. He put an arm around Boss Zhu's shoulder, morally pressuring him.

Boss Zhu, despite being a drifter in the underworld, was quite loyal, "Technically, a member can only recommend one spot, but since it's me, bringing one more shouldn't matter. My membership level is high."

Lin Hang laughed, "That's the spirit."

"Much obliged." Lin Hang and I got into the car together.

These days, you really need money to do anything... Ah...

Even demon hunting is no exception!!

Baoxian Hall's headquarters is inside a commercial building.

"The top nutritionist is on the 33rd floor." Boss Zhu pressed the elevator button and introduced me.

I watched the flow of people moving back and forth in the building with great interest, "Boss Zhu, isn't that your secretary?"

Dark aura, all of it is dark aura!!

Almost everyone is soaked in dark aura; the difference is they are divided into two kinds.

One is the living, the other is the dead.

And Boss Zhu's secretary, right now, happens to be the latter.

"It really is her. Is she here to restock? Can she even afford it on her salary?" Boss Zhu saw his secretary, dressed in a red suit, and was about to go over and call her out.

With a ding, the elevator arrived.

Boss Zhu had an appointment with the nutritionist and seemed afraid of being late.

He had no choice but to give up finding his secretary and took me into the elevator, "There is only one top nutritionist here, very hard to book. If we're late, we'll have to wait for the next queue."

"Your secretary can't afford Baoxian Hall's products on her salary?" I actually found it quite odd.

The previous tenants in the rental property obviously weren't wealthy but had many Baoxian Hall products.

Yet Boss Zhu here claims his secretary can't afford Baoxian Hall's stuff.

But Boss Zhu clearly misunderstood my question, crossing his arms boastfully, "Even though I've paid her three or four million, Baoxian Hall's products range from mid to low-end. Three million could get you entry-level stuff. To access the products I buy, you'll need to add a zero."

"Oh?" I simply raised an eyebrow without making any comments.

Boss Zhu misunderstood again, flattering me, "The Lin Family is the local bully here. You're the Young Sect Master of the Lin Family, surely your resources surpass mine by countless times."

Apparently, he considered me part of his high-spending crowd.

While all the cash in my wallet combined might not equal the change his secretary carries.

"The top nutritionist is right inside, Celestial Master Su, please enter first." Boss Zhu guided me to a meeting room door, "Only one can enter at a time here. Master Lin Hang, wait for Celestial Master Su to come out before you enter. It was hard for me to get this spot."

Lin Hang frowned discontentedly, "What a ridiculous rule. My cousin is pregnant and needs care."

"Do I need your care? Stay outside, let me take a look." I pushed the door open, just taking a step in when the meeting room door closed by itself.

In front of an opulent red wooden Baroque-style desk, a man sat in a swivel chair with his back to me, "Name, age, identity, address..."

"Ha, Vine Demon, didn't expect you to be a nutritionist." I instantly recognized the unique demon aura on the man, couldn't help but let out a cold laugh, "I thought you'd at least be running your own small workshop, maybe even be a CEO or something."

The man clearly didn't receive pre-information about the arrivals. Hearing my voice.

He quickly turned around, seeing me standing there, his entire face twisted in distortion, "Su... Su Wan?? What are you doing here? We agreed to turn hostility into friendship. Now our water doesn't mix. I've already disobeyed orders from above and halted plans against you."

Chapter 908: Ferns

"Did I say something like that? Why don't I remember?" I pulled out a chair and sat down.

The Vine Demon stood up excitedly, "Yes, I originally brought it up, but you agreed to the condition nonetheless."

"Lan Shaotang, the name sounds nice, but the filthy and sordid deeds betray such a good name." I glanced at the metallic nameplate on the Vine Demon's desk, "I didn't agree to that condition, and even if I did, I can just go back on it."

"Su Wan, what exactly do you want?" Lan Shaotang slammed a fist on the table, his entire hand turning green, and a long crack extending across the tabletop.

If it were the old me, it would have been hard for me to start trouble with anyone.

But now, I have enough strength and a sense of responsibility on my shoulders.

Witnessing firsthand the series of heinous acts Lan Shaotang carried out under the orders of the Ten Thousand Poison Hall.

Even though I have no personal grievance with Lan Shaotang, I can't pretend I didn't see these things. "Originally, I came to the Baoxian Hall headquarters just to investigate, but it turns out you're the nutritionist Boss Zhu wants to introduce me to, which makes it much easier."

"Are you planning to kill me??" Lan Shaotang blurted out, instantly transforming into a green light.

He rushed towards the window at lightning speed.

The Palm Talisman that I had already drawn in my palm while in the car moved faster than Lan Shaotang's escape.

The Fire Phoenix shot out like a bolt of lightning, forming a wall of fire in front of the floor-to-ceiling window, "It's not that definitive; it depends on your attitude in admitting your mistakes. Tell me, what is Baoxian Hall really engaged in? What's the purpose?"

"With your intelligence, can't you figure it out? Everything was arranged and designed by the Black Hat Protector; I'm merely following orders. If you want trouble, go find issues with the Great Protector." Lan Shaotang's hand turned into vines, which rapidly extended, aiming to pierce my heart.

The speed was indeed too fast for me to react.

But the Fire Phoenix seemed to have independent thinking abilities, not needing any instructions from me.

It instantly appeared in front of me, the overwhelming heavenly fire filling the entire meeting room, turning tables, chairs, and pens into ashes.

Fortunately, this Fire Phoenix, despite its fierce nature, still held back.

At least it didn't destroy the windows; all the damage occurred indoors.

Lan Shaotang just lost an arm to the fire, and the flames continued to spread to other parts of his body as he stood stupefied, looking at the instantly devastated office.

"The Black Hat has already been dealt with by me, and his Vermilion Clam is gone as well. I can only come to you." With all chairs burned away, I had nowhere to sit, awkwardly standing.

The indoor temperature was exceptionally high, the heatwave sweeping across, yet I couldn't feel such high temperatures or even found the room quite comfortable.

I continued speaking distinctly, "Did you plant your seeds into those who died, turning them into your walking corpses?"

"What seeds? Those are my spores, just extracting the last bit of value before the corpse rots," Lan Shaotang said, realizing he misspoke, his eyes filled with fear of me, nervously retreating and patting the burning places on his body.

But the flames didn't extinguish, instead spreading to the other hand that wasn't on fire.

"Spores? You haven't only evolved leech abilities but also fern traits; what exactly are you? How long have you been alive??" I suddenly realized that the characteristics of Lan Shaotang were too peculiar; I had never seen any plant of such nature, potentially an unknown ancient plant.

Chapter 909: My Spores

"You don't need to concern yourself with what kind of plant I am. I was born ten thousand years ago, and my species has long been extinct, leaving no specimens behind. No one has named me."

Lan Shaotang suddenly dropped to his knees, crawled over, and held my feet. "Spare me, please. I was cultivating well, but I was taken to Ten Thousand Poison Hall by Zhao Zheng... and they kept me locked up, fed on carrion, until I became an Evil Demon."

"Such a pity. You spread your spores just to trick people out of their money?" I shuddered when I saw Lan Shaotang preparing to kiss the surface of my shoe, quickly drew my foot away.

Stepped back a few paces to maintain distance from this guy.

Lan Shaotang said, "What does a demon like me need money for? It's all for the funding of Ten Thousand Poison Hall. Once the bodies of those with spores rot, they can't be possessed anymore because they start to stink too much. People around them will get suspicious, so in the end, the bodies follow the regular process of cremation and burial, posing no great threat."

"You produce so many spores, how come there aren't other Vine Demons in City A?" I'm curious about this.

A flash of murderous intent appeared in Lan Shaotang's eyes, but he cleverly hid it behind an innocent facade. "I didn't let those spores survive. After all, this is Lin Family's territory. Once they absorb enough nutrients, they return to my main body."

Is this guy growing by devouring his offspring?

Although he's a plant, it's still pretty disgusting.

"Apart from those who are already dead and beyond saving, I will order the spores to leave the living. Spare my life, Su Wan, I beg you." Lan Shaotang shamelessly pleaded, bowing his head repeatedly.

Seeing that my expression remained icy cold, he raised the stakes, "The basement... all the people in the basement... I'll release them all... every single one, just spare me..."

"The missing people, including Boss Zhu's wife, are all locked in the basement by you? The basement of Baoxian Hall headquarters???" When I entered Boss Zhu's house, I used the remaining scent of his wife left in the residence.

Used the Divination Clothes to calculate, and his wife is still alive, yet unknown of her whereabouts.

Unexpectedly, she was confined in Baoxian Hall's basement by Lan Shaotang. He already has spores to feed him strength, so why imprison people?

I stared at Lan Shaotang for a while, my eyes moved slightly. "Do you have a habit of eating live people? Are they treated as storage for you?"

"I'll change, I'll definitely change... Don't kill me, only I know the electronic password to the basement. If you kill me, you won't be able to save them." Lan Shaotang pleaded and threatened simultaneously.

He seems terribly afraid to die.

Unfortunately, my heart has already been filled with the intent to kill.

I've never had such a profound urge to kill. Even when I killed Zhao Zheng, there was Zhang Zidao instigating me, plus Zhao Zheng tried to kill me several times.

But now, the intent to kill is entirely for those innocent victims.

My mind tumbled through a few thoughts, deciding to first appease Lan Shaotang and rescue those controlled and imprisoned. "You do the work first. When it's done well, I'll decide what to do."

With the movement of my mind, the Fire Phoenix withdrew into my body.

The whole room returned to calm, the air still held a residue of fiery heat.

With a bang, the conference room door couldn't withstand the heat and crumbled to ashes.

"Cousin, you're in here... Oh my... this conference room... so empty!!" Lin Hang came forward, astonished by the vast 200-plus square meter room that was utterly devoid of anything.

I nodded at Lin Hang but didn't engage him in conversation. I addressed Lan Shaotang, "Let's go to the basement first."

"Alright, I'll take you to the basement. Su Wan... the Palm Talisman drawn on the hand, once used, will lose its effect, right??"

Chapter 910: You Brought This Upon Yourself

Lan Shaotang coldly sneered, relying on the fact that I did not have a Palm Talisman and couldn't gather power in time.

Three tendrils shot out from him, one aimed at my heart, while the other two surprisingly targeted the hearts of Lin Hang and Boss Zhu.

Of the three present, he didn't intend to let any of us go!

Blood instantly filled my eyes.

I kicked off with a Golden Lotus beneath my feet, pouncing onto Lan Shaotang.

With swift hands, I pulled out the flower hairpin and stabbed it into Lan Shaotang's heart, "Vine Demon, you brought this on yourself."

"Su Wan, no... no... I was wrong, I dare not resist anymore... Just give me one last chance!!" The Vine Demon's heart was pierced by the Demon-breaking Sharp Gold Force, causing the tendrils to immediately retract into the body, and even his handsome face turned into a vine-like appearance.

Covered in plant texture, and then his entire being transformed into a vine form.

I rode atop Lan Shaotang's body, "This Supreme Taiji Technique, if practiced regularly, ensures the Soul is at peace, the corpse's impurities disperse, immortals live long, and clairvoyance is achieved!"

The moment my words fell, Lan Shaotang first dehydrated thoroughly.

Finally, his body exploded, turning into dust.

Boss Zhu let out a groundhog-like scream, "Ah... ah ah ah ah..."

"Why are you screaming? My cousin just killed the Vine Demon, we're safe now." Lin Hang, though pale a moment ago, now scolded Boss Zhu.

Boss Zhu covered his neck, gasping heavily, "Huff huff, huff huff~ Did my eyes deceive me?? I actually saw Lan Shaotang... turn into a vine monster!"

"Boss Zhu, find a decryption expert for the electronic lock to open the basement door." I had clashed twice with the Vine Demon head-on, and my body was reaching its limit, leaning against the wall with a slight tremor, "Your... your Madam is in there, treat her well... and those supplements of yours, don't drink the wine, and don't... talk to your lover and mother either."

"What do you mean?? What happened to them??" Boss Zhu asked in horror.

My body slowly slid down the wall, "They're all dead, your mother... has been dead for a while, her body has rotted, probably infested with maggots, you can confirm for yourself."

The most troublesome thing for me now is those spores residing in people's bodies.

With the Vine Demon dead, those spores, without suppression, could all become independent entities.

By then, even the peaceful City A would be rife with chaos.

"Cousin, you've exhausted too much Spiritual Power, stop talking." Lin Hang came up to help me up.

I whispered to Lin Hang, instructing him on how to deal with the spores, telling him to mobilize the Lin Family for assistance, asking the Lin Family Disciple to handle it, "Do you understand? Everything needs to be dealt with by midnight, I'm not sure if there are any in your body. But I have a way..."

"Yan Hua the Witch's Dragon-Seeking Ruler!" This time, Lin Hang and I spoke in unison.

We exchanged a glance, both knowing we might need Yan Hua's help this time, Lin Hang said to me, "Cousin, I'll send you back to rest first, then I'll go find Yan Hua."

"No need... the situation is urgent, go quickly. Boss Zhu, you too, those people in the basement, who knows how long they've been locked up, the sooner you get them out, the better..." I assured myself that it was just physical weakness, and after sending Lin Hang off, I took a taxi to a budget hotel.

Even though the Vine Demon was dead, there's the snake wine in the rented house, and who knows if those colas with dead mice will become hazards.

I had injured some vital energy, if I don't regulate it in time, it might affect Dumpling...

Moreover, during the adjustment process, the whole person will fall into extreme weakness, unable to withstand any outside disturbance.

If Yu Rongling didn't need to take care of Qing Li, I would have wanted him to come and protect me.