

Big Shot 1061

Chapter 1061: Did the Ancestor Jump Out of the Grave? The Mysterious Gift Giver

Why did a peaceful, orderly reader meeting suddenly turn chaotic? It's not like an album release event for a celebrity.

Bao Gucheng, tall and slender, didn't need to get close. From afar, across the crowd, he could already see what happened at the center of the stage.

The commotion was caused by a giant all-white flower basket that was placed on a long table, ready for display.

The white flowers inside suddenly started shaking inexplicably.

The nearest circle of readers was initially surprised, then they saw a blood-red shadow jump out of the flower basket.

Alive.

Still dripping blood.

"Ghost, ghost, ghost! Saw a ghost!"

"Is it the Ancestor jumping out of the grave? Wah!"

"Oh my god, help! The ghost is biting my head!"

Now the readers were in frenzy, especially the girls hugged by the blood shadow, who couldn't help but scream, scrambling to escape.

But the crowd was so packed there was nowhere to hide.

As the blood shadow moved through the crowd, one after another, a chain of screams erupted, chaos filled the scene.

Bao Gucheng's steps, which he wanted to take, abruptly came to a halt. He frowned and said, "Zuzi, I'll go see what's going on, so Miss Gu won't be frightened."

Gu Qiusha was surrounded in the center, her petite figure obscured by the crowd, and Bao Gucheng couldn't see her situation, inevitably feeling a bit worried—for Zuzi's sake, of course.

Who knew Zuzi would tug at his sleeve, gently shaking her head, "It's not a ghost, just a small thing."

A small thing?

Bao Gucheng was puzzled.

Then he saw Zuzi extend her delicate hand, and amidst the crowd, the chaotic blood shadow instantly calmed down, then stepped over people's heads and obediently dashed towards Zuzi.

Within three seconds, a palm-sized, fluffy blood-red creature rolled to Zuzi's feet, crouching down.

Zuzi's red lips slightly curled, and her fair hand casually picked up a pot of wine from the buffet table beside her...

Just when Bao Gucheng thought she was going to smash the furry creature on the ground with the bottle.

Unexpectedly, she flicked open the bottle cap with her jade finger, and poured the whole bottle of wine over the blood shadow.

As the wine splattered, the blood color gradually washed away.

The shadow revealed its true form.

"Rabbit... a rabbit?"

"Alive!"

"Scared me to death, who played such a prank giving a rabbit to Qianshan big shot!"

"No, it's supposed to be a flower basket but hidden with a rabbit to scare people, and deliberately dyed red, what's the intention here!"

"Qianshan big shot can't have such a crazy fan!"

The fans came to their senses, each filled with indignation.

Bao Gucheng glanced at the small woman beside him, understanding she was so calm because she already knew it was just a rabbit, hence not letting him squeeze into the crowd and waste his time.

At this moment, the emcee on stage wiped sweat, awkwardly laughing as he pulled out a golden congratulatory card from the flower basket and read, "Congratulations to Qianshan big shot on the great sales of the new painting 'Chang Er'! Presenting a flaming Jade Rabbit and a Moon Palace flower basket..."

Turns out it was to commemorate the success of 'Chang Er'?

This line of thinking is bizarre indeed.

The fans all wiped their sweat, being at a loss for words about this reader's logic, while also becoming more curious, who was it?

Those invited to attend the meeting today were all seasoned fans of the Qianshan Fan Group, well-known within the Qianshan Fan Club and quite familiar with each other.

Who among them gave such a bizarre gift?

Everyone's gaze gathered on the emcee, who pursed his lips and finally announced the name of the gift-giver: "Miss Shangguan Wanwan... sends her regards."

Chapter 1062: Brother's Hug Is Truly Warm

"Who's Shangguan Wanwan?"

"Look at the initials 'SG' on the card, it's pretty fancy, and it's in Roman letters. Could it be a foreigner?"

"Wow, a foreigner is also a fan of Qianshan Da Da."

"I suddenly remembered, in the first set of character designs released by Qianshan Da Da, there was an image of Chang Er being reborn from the flames in a beautiful red dress, with even the Jade Rabbit reflecting a hint of red light. Could this foreigner have interpreted it as needing to pop out a red rabbit to fit the scene?"

"See, foreigners really do have bizarre ideas. Forget it, let's not argue with them..."

The startled fans finally calmed down gradually, chatting while using food to soothe their nerves.

Seeing the scene under control, Bao Gucheng then took Zuzi's hand and walked out of the banquet hall.

Although he would rather kick Nangong Mo out.

However, considering that this was Gu Qishu's first fan gathering, having a blood rabbit pop out was chaotic enough. If he kicked out Nangong Mo, that guy would definitely cause a commotion on the spot, only adding to Gu Qishu's troubles, which would surely unsettle Zuzi as well.

As a compromise, it was better to take the little woman out for some air.

Shortly after the two of them left.

Gu Yuzhi finally struggled through the crowd of thousands, squeezing to the center of the stage, next to Gu Qiusha: "Sha Sha, are you okay?"

"I'm... okay." Gu Qiusha bit her lip, her eyes still a bit bewildered.

Seeing Gu Qiusha still shaken, with blood-red paint splattered on her clothes, he felt an immense tenderness, and amidst the chaos, couldn't help but give her a quick, tight hug.

It was a touch and go.

His heart pounded wildly, and he uncomfortably pursed his dry lips, turning his face away: "Sha Sha, I'll get you something to eat to calm your nerves. There's the jujube osmanthus cake you like over there."

"Okay."

Gu Qiusha crossed her arms, the hug from her brother just now was really warm and comforting.

So much so that the shock brought by the name "Shangguan Wanwan" could slightly settle down.

Shangguan Wanwan, a distant cousin of the Gu Family.

Also known as the "Seventh Cousin" in Qin Tao's words, returning from abroad to visit relatives, and a legal expert just like Gu Yuzhi.

She had lost contact with the Gu Family for twenty years, so she was naturally unfamiliar with this Seventh Cousin.

When she left the Gu Family, the Seventh Cousin was probably only a few years old.

Even if someone in the Gu Family had told the Seventh Cousin her identity as a manga artist, given their relationship, why would the Seventh Cousin make such a public gesture with gifts at her reader's meeting?

This made her feel strange.

Especially thinking about what Mr. Gu had said that day, that Shangguan Wanwan was very compatible with Gu Yuzhi in every way, and there had been a verbal engagement between their elders...

Her heart became increasingly uneasy.

Shangguan Wanwan was very likely to become her sister-in-law!

Is that what her brother thinks too?

Her brother finally has a chance to get married, so why can't she be happy about it?

If she wasn't happy about her brother marrying a sister-in-law, did that make her a bit too selfish?

With her internal conflict soaring to a complex level, Gu Qiusha leaned on the side of the stage, absentmindedly plucking flower petals from the white basket.

Fortunately, the fans still didn't know that this desolate-looking woman was Qianshan Da Da, allowing her emotions to spread freely...

Just then.

Suddenly, a deep voice came from behind: "Gu Qiusha."

Gu Qiusha shuddered, her back stiffening.

Involuntarily, she responded with a "Huh."

Then she broke out in a cold sweat, realizing that the person had called her real name, not her pen name.

How could anyone here know her real name!

Who was calling her?!

Chapter 1063: A Sensational and Shocking Scene!

Gu Yuzhi took a piece of jujube osmanthus cake and also instructed the waiter to specially warm a cup of ginger jujube tea. He personally carried the tray, weaving through the crowd to bring it back for Gu Qiusha to enjoy.

Halfway through, his phone kept vibrating incessantly in his pocket.

Not knowing what urgent matter it was, he had to stop to take out his phone.

It turned out it wasn't a call, but a string of dense text messages.

From an unfamiliar number composed of nonsensical digits, he opened it to see a series of messages uniformly mocking: "Gu Yuzhi, do you still remember the woman you slept with in the bar back then? To save you the trouble of finding her, shall I help you publicly announce it later? Hehehe..."

The last three "hehes" made Gu Yuzhi's hair stand on end!

The woman he slept with in the bar back then?

Wasn't that just...

His heart pounded wildly; the scandal that almost came to light at the family gathering back then—to think that if Zuzi hadn't stepped in and pointed out that the man embracing Sha Sha in the drunken photos wasn't him, fooling them over, both Sha Sha and he would have been doomed.

If his social death was inevitable, so be it, but Sha Sha struggled to return to the Gu family, and if this scandal entangled her again, how would she possibly withstand it?

Moreover, Sha Sha seemed not to hope that the man who spent a chaotic night in the bar with her back then was him.

"Brother, it's a blessing it's not you."

He remembered that line clearly.

If someone revealed that photo again now, would Sha Sha be plunged into grief?

Sha Sha's career is booming right now, everything is going smoothly, if a scandal breaks out, everything will be ruined.

No, he must protect her.

Gu Yuzhi trembled as he dealt with the person on the other side.

"Who are you? What do you mean? I never messed around in a bar, that photo is fake!"

He remembered back then Zuzi had cleverly portrayed the red mole behind his ear as a speck of red ink on a newspaper, and pointed out discrepancies in hairstyle and attire that were contrary to his habits, which quelled the accusations of the photo.

Those who knew about the drunken photo must have been on site back then.

However, his inquiry was met with the person's ridicule: "Hehehe, who said the only thing I have is that photo? I have even stronger evidence. Would you like to share it with everyone? Gu Yuzhi, right when your sister is about to go on stage to speak, how about that? This big gift is on the house."

No!

Gu Yuzhi's heart nearly stopped.

It doesn't matter if he gets ruined, but please don't ruin Sha Sha.

He couldn't imagine, with Sha Sha going on stage as a renowned platinum comic artist in the Empire, eagerly anticipated by the fans below, only for evidence of her drunken misconduct—still, with her own brother—flashing on the big screen... what a scandalous and humiliating scene that would be.

His palms were sweating profusely.

Earlier, he harbored resentment towards Bao Gucheng upon entering, but at that moment, he wished Bao Gucheng would fly over, bringing Zuzi along, and brainstorm together on how to deal with such a sinister person.

Zuzi could help Sha Sha through a crisis before; maybe there's a way again this time.

Let him take back all the resentment and jealousy he ever had towards Bao Gucheng, just hoping Mr. Bo quickly sends Zuzi, this miraculous little ancestor.

However, his prayers did not seem to have any effect.

The crowd around was dense.

And unmarked texts continued bombarding incessantly.

"Gu Yuzhi, time's almost up, hehehe."

"Ten-second countdown..."

"Nine seconds..."

"Eight seconds..."

Gu Yuzhi shook violently, spilling all the dessert and drink in his hand, mind blank, as he pushed through the crowd with all his might, frantically running towards the center stage.

"Sha Sha! Sha Sha, don't go on stage! I beg you!"

Chapter 1064: Mr. Bo Regards Women's Names as Fleeting Clouds

Gu Yuzhi ran wildly like a madman.

People around him were pushed around, causing a burst of dissatisfied screams.

However.

By the time he finally squeezed in front of the stage, his eyes nervously scanning around, he couldn't see Gu Qiusha at all.

"Sha Sha?"

"Sha Sha!"

No one responded to him.

Instead, the emcee on the stage was holding the microphone, shouting, "Qianshan? Qianshan? The next segment is for you to speak to your fans, where are you? All the fans are eagerly awaiting!"

No one paid attention to "Sha Sha," everyone was following the emcee, shouting together, "Qianshan! Qianshan!"

Gu Yuzhi stood alone in the crowd, his palms sweaty, looking around in confusion.

Sha Sha disappeared.

Because of this, the big screen on the stage remained black, not showing the slideshow background that should have been displayed during Sha Sha's speech.

No one had the chance to play the so-called scandal photos...

But where was his Sha Sha?

Gu Yuzhi became nervous again, grabbing one fan after another next to him: "Did you see Sha Sha?"

"Who? Hey, are you trying to harass me, you old creep, I warn you to behave yourself!"

"No, I just want to ask if you saw where Sha Sha went?"

"Don't know!"

"How could you not know, she's your..." Gu Yuzhi stopped himself, eyes turning red, feeling extremely uncomfortable, "She's the girl just standing here in a pale yellow suit..."

"Never seen her!" "Crazy old man let go!" "Didn't see a girl but an aunt in a yellow outfit was standing here earlier, someone took her away." "Ah, such an old aunt competing with us for Qianshan, that's funny..." "Sigh, this crazy old man too, isn't he ashamed..."

Gu Yuzhi was suffocated: "Please tell me clearly, who took her away!"

==

Bao Gucheng drove away from the hotel with Zuzi.

The chaotic scene from the banquet hall still lingered.

He vaguely remembered that surname and frowned slightly: "The Shangguan Family people, they are relatives of the Gu Family, yet have no manners at all."

Zuzi rested her chin and thought for a moment: "What Shangguan?"

Bao Gucheng: "Don't remember."

He regarded women's names as fleeting, only had an impression because Mr. Gu mentioned it.

But...

He added: "Ask Gu Yuzhi later, he has an engagement with them, surely remembers clearly." He also planned to tease that Gu fool face-to-face another day, to prevent ruining his good times with Miss Zuzi.

Zuzi gave a light laugh: "Indeed."

Bao Gucheng initially thought Nangong Mo's appearance and the banquet hall's chaos would ruin Zuzi's mood but unexpectedly she could still laugh so gently and calmly.

He couldn't help but turn his neck and stare foolishly.

"Xiao Cheng, why are you looking at me?"

"Cough..."

Bao Gucheng was caught stealing a look, awkwardly turned his hand gripping the steering wheel.

In a flash, a sedan suddenly cut in ahead.

Seeing the two cars about to collide, Bao Gucheng quickly and forcefully turned the steering wheel and stepped hard on the brake, barely avoiding the sedan.

He took a deep breath and slowly said, "Miss Zuzi, now I finally understand the meaning of 'beauty and desire mislead people'."

Zuzi blinked her big eyes, curiously looking at him: "Xiao Cheng, are you saying it misleads you?"

Her slender finger pointed to his nape, where a furry thing was lying!

Chapter 1065: The Request Reaches Mr. Bo

Wasn't it Zuzi's captivating smile that enchanted him?

Bao Gucheng stepped on the brakes and glanced backward.

Only to see a fluffy creature perched on the back of his driver's seat, with its front paws resting on his neck.

He had been so focused on Zuzi that he hadn't noticed the little thing!

Since when did his vigilance drop so low?

Bao Gucheng pinched the little creature between his fingers and lifted it in front of him: "The rabbit from the banquet hall?"

A gift from Shangguan Wanwan to Gu Qiusha?

Zuzi nodded: "Yeah."

A cold glint appeared in Bao Gucheng's eyes: "Snuck into my car, almost caused an accident..."

He was about to roll down the window and toss the little thing out.

But was stopped by Zuzi's playful smile and outstretched hand: "Xiao Cheng, don't be so mean. Someone might need it."

"Who?"

"Children who love rabbits."

"?"

He couldn't fathom why anyone, even children, would like such fluffy things!

A moment later.

Bao Gucheng's car stopped at Xing Yue's villa.

Seeing Xing Yue joyfully come to greet the rabbit and holding Zuzi's hand with delight and excitement, Bao Gucheng admitted that there truly were people who loved fluffy creatures.

His gaze met the eyes of the cold bodyguard behind Xing Yue, and he saw a brief flicker in the man's eyes.

Bao Gucheng: "..."

Could it be that even a grown man likes rabbits?

Leaving Xing Yue's villa, Bao Gucheng couldn't help but ask Zuzi: "Zuzi, how did you know these two... would like rabbits?"

Zuzi smiled slightly: "The ancestor just knows, after all, Xiao Yueyue..."

Before she could finish, her phone watch vibrated on her wrist.

An unregistered number.

Bao Gucheng was about to say: "You can block spam calls."

Zuzi answered casually: "Xiao Yu, what's up?"

Gu Yuzhi's call?

Even though finding out Gu Yuzhi had Zuzi's contact made him a bit upset, the fact Zuzi hadn't even saved Gu Yuzhi in her contacts made him feel somewhat relieved.

On the other end, Gu Yuzhi sounded like an ant on a hot skillet: "Zuzi, have you seen your mom?"

"What's wrong with Xiao Sha?" As soon as she said this, Zuzi's brows furrowed slightly.

"She disappeared at the reader meet-and-greet! Someone said she was taken by a strange man! But I checked surveillance and didn't see it! I can't reach her by phone, I don't know if she's okay, can you ask Mr. Bo to help check the surveillance of the major roads outside the hotel? The person couldn't have flown away with her, right? Please, talk to Mr. Bo for me, I'm begging you!"

Gu Yuzhi's tone was sincere and anxious.

As Zuzi pondered without responding, Bao Gucheng had already taken her wrist and brought it to his lips, speaking into her phone watch with a slightly amused tone: "Lawyer Gu, if you're so eager to find someone, why not personally call me instead of asking Zuzi to relay the message?"

Gu Yuzhi was at a loss for words: "...". Of course, of course, it's because he's embarrassed to ask Bao Gucheng.

A few days ago, they were at odds with each other at the Gu Family, how could he dare to ask for help?

Bao Gucheng is really asking the obvious question!

"Xiao Cheng, let him off the hook." Beside him, Zuzi's beautiful eyes sparkled, and she couldn't help but laugh at him.

However, at this moment, with him holding her hand to speak on the phone, it was as if he was kissing her arm. The pleasant scent seeped into her acupoint bit by bit, making her almost want to let him tease Gu Yuzhi a little longer.

Thus, her tone was languid, not hurrying him at all, sounding more like a playful pout.

Chapter 1066: Nangong Mo's Motive

Zuzi and Bao Gucheng weren't in a rush, but on the other end of the line, Gu Yuzhi was getting anxious and couldn't help blurting out:

"Bao Gucheng, this isn't just my issue, this is, well, it's also a matter of great importance to you. Xiao Sha, she's your future..."

"Future what?"

Bao Gucheng's eyes were unfathomable, and his tone carried an intentional hint of teasing.

Gu Yuzhi's voice slowed down, still harboring some distrust towards Bao Gucheng, but he had to relent: "You're the old master's favored disciple, and she's practically your senior sister. You can't just stand by and watch her die!"

Senior sister, huh...

Bao Gucheng's lips curled slightly, and he stroked Zuzi's delicate wrist with his large hand before finally relenting, "Wait for the news."

He hung up the phone and instructed Chen Long to check the surveillance.

Zuzi watched him busying himself, her red lips lightly pressed together, saying nothing.

Soon, Gu Qiusha's whereabouts were discovered.

"That guy Nangong Mo, what is he scheming!" Bao Gucheng frowned, looking at the surveillance snapshots and maps sent by Chen Long. It was clear that Gu Qiusha was taken by Nangong Mo, driven to Desolation Buiten the villa he has in the suburbs.

Could it be that he couldn't get to the daughter, so he's holding the mother as a hostage to lure Zuzi into finding her?

Remembering the brief glimpse of Nangong Mo at the banquet earlier, that man's beast-like gaze never stopped wandering shamelessly over Zuzi, Bao Gucheng felt an impulse to annihilate him.

"Zuzi, I'll go fetch her. You wait for me at the school." He planned to go alone, ensuring Nangong Mo wouldn't have any chance to interact with Zuzi.

But who knew?

Zuzi shook her head, "No, I'll go with Xiao Cheng'er."

Bao Gucheng was taken aback, "Not confident in me?"

Zuzi gave a gentle smile, "Hmm, I'm afraid Xiao Cheng'er might be too impulsive."

Bao Gucheng: "..."

How did she see through what he was thinking!

Fine, taking her along, he's confident he can protect her well, and won't let Nangong Mo take the slightest advantage.

Let Nangong Mo see clearly, no matter what tricks he uses, Zuzi will always stand by his side, unwavering.

With this in mind, he nodded slowly, "Alright. Let's go together."

The car sped along the highway on the outskirts.

By the time they arrived, Gu Yuzhi, being a bit closer, had also just gotten there.

Getting out of the car, the two men glared at each other, the complexity of the emotions seen by Zuzi seemed like kids fighting over toys, she chuckled, "Let's go in and take a look."

Indeed, Nangong Mo's operations were massive, last time Bao Gucheng had shut down a seaside Underground Palace for him, and shortly after, he had acquired an even larger estate.

Nangong Mo's suburban villa was not your ordinary villa; it was practically an estate.

On the lawn stood a giant glass aquarium. Small sharks darted about inside, their deadly white teeth giving a chilling effect.

And a group of servants were carrying pieces of meat, tossing them into the aquarium. The pieces looked freshly cut, with wisps of steam still rising. It was unclear what kind of meat it was, but somehow it looked like leg meat.

For Gu Yuzhi, a sincere and honest scholar who had never seen such a setup, his breath nearly halted, and his legs felt like they were filled with lead.

He muttered, "I thought Sha Sha might be in danger if taken by a lunatic, but I never imagined it would be this perilous! How can Nangong Mo have such hobbies, is he even human?"

Bao Gucheng gave him a cold glance, "This is nothing."

You haven't seen him feeding people to the fish!

Chapter 1067: He Underestimated Bao Gucheng's Strength

Contempt from Bao Gucheng made the corner of Gu Yuzhi's lips twitch.

He originally planned to retort, but upon thinking that Sha Sha was still in danger, he needed to rely on Bao Gucheng's power to rescue her, so he had to temper his arrogance.

He swallowed his temper and said, "Mr. Bo, have your people arrived? Can you ask them to hurry up?"

Bao Gucheng cast a faint glance at him, "What's the rush?"

Gu Yuzhi: "... Of course, he was anxious, anxious to rush in, anxious to save Sha Sha. Otherwise, given just the three of them, would the servants at Nangong Mo's Mansion enthusiastically open the door and welcome them?

But he couldn't afford to clash with Bao Gucheng now, so he simmered with annoyance, his heart momentarily imagining a thousand little figures of Bao Gucheng being punctured.

When he saw Bao Gucheng calmly walk towards the ornate wrought-iron gate and knocked on the bronze ring, several menacing male servants came out to scold, "Who's making a racket here? The Fourth Master isn't seeing guests today, scram!"

Gu Yuzhi couldn't help but feel that Nangong Mo indeed nurtures vicious helpers, but Bao Gucheng ignoring his advice to bring more help was overly reckless.

While Gu Yuzhi was burning with impatience, unable to find a way in.

Yet Bao Gucheng remained cool, casually taking out a piece of paper and waving it in front of them, "The master has no time for this. Official business, open the door."

His tone was indifferent, yet every word resonated loudly.

The arrogant servants were momentarily intimidated by the man's aura, shrinking their lips and discussing quietly, "Is this... a search warrant? Did the Fourth Master get into some legal trouble or something, why are the authorities here to search? Maybe we should have the secretary's office consult the Fourth Master first..."

Gu Yuzhi's earlier disdain and resentment towards Bao Gucheng dissipated mostly upon realizing he was well-prepared, having completed the search procedures in such a short time?

But what if those servants used the excuse of reporting to actually inform Nangong Mo to transfer the hostage?

Sure enough, even though the male servants' arrogance had decreased quite a bit, they feigned and procrastinated, saying, "A search warrant, is it? Sir, please wait a moment, we'll report and get instructions..."

Bao Gucheng's gaze turned cold, he crumpled the paper into a ball and tossed it to Gu Yuzhi as if discarding waste, then looked afar, "The master never waits."

Upon his words, a loud rumbling sound came from above, whipping up a gale in the courtyard of Nangong Mo's Mansion, stirring countless blades of grass and dust.

Gu Yuzhi squinted his eyes and looked up, his lips slightly parted in surprise, as a helicopter carrying personnel descended, landing right on the large aquarium in the center of the lawn.

The loud noise from the helicopter startled the sharks inside the aquarium into scattering rapidly, making the tank appear as if it could shatter any moment, quite terrifying.

And from the helicopter, two rows of well-equipped team members jumped down, one row headed straight for the villa to search, another rushed towards the main gate, kicking aside the hostile servants, swiftly opening the door from the inside out. The team leader Chen Long reported, "Mr. Bo, the brothers are on the job."

Bao Gucheng nodded, holding Zuzi's hand, and walked inside unhurriedly.

Gu Yuzhi: "..."

Had he been underestimating Bao Gucheng's capabilities all along?

This guy's ability to manipulate events felt even more daunting than Nangong Mo!

The group marched straight in, facing a brief resistance from the bodyguards at the main building of the mansion, but Bao Gucheng's men dealt with them effortlessly.

Chen Long led the way, "Mr. Bo, the tracker indicates that Miss Gu is in the villa basement and hasn't moved, surely she's being imprisoned by Nangong Mo."

Bao Gucheng didn't reply, his face was stern as he walked inside.

Zuzi also maintained a calm expression, moving lightly.

Gu Yuzhi, however, felt as if a knife was twisting in his heart, as a myriad of tormenting visions of Gu Qiusha imprisoned and abused by Nangong Mo flashed before his eyes.

He couldn't bear it!

Chapter 1068: Your Mind Is So Complicated—It's Just That Thing Between Men and Women

Even though Gu Yuzhi was anxious, he couldn't bypass Bao Gucheng to rush into Nangong Mo's residence first.

Bao Gucheng's steady footsteps echoed with a rhythmic clang on the marble floor, and he paused slightly when he reached the entrance hall.

The entrance hall was wide open.

In the spacious hall, there was a retro ink stone tea table in the middle.

Nangong Mo himself, in wide robes and long sleeves, was slowly brewing tea.

The fragrance of the tea wafted in the air, lending Nangong Mo's originally sinister face an unexpectedly refined look. One might almost mistake it for a scene from a fantasy martial arts drama, were it not known that this was the residence of the Demon.

"Bao Gucheng, though my osmanthus tea is a rare find, one in a million, and worth a fortune, if you want a taste, just ask me, and I'm afraid I wouldn't give it? Why make such a scene by bringing people here to seize it?"

Nangong Mo spoke with a mocking tone, sipping his tea, although addressing Bao Gucheng, his gaze fell on Zuzi beside him.

Bao Gucheng looked at him coldly, not taking the bait: "Where is the person?"

Nangong Mo's gaze lingered on Zuzi, noticing that she was still as icy and indifferent as she had been at the hotel, completely different from her lively, playful attitude during their meeting at the ancient tomb.

Haha, is this a ploy to sever ties after taking my jade button, or a stratagem of playing hard to get?

He smirked discreetly, shifting his gaze to Bao Gucheng, feigning ignorance: "Which person are you talking about?"

Gu Yuzhi couldn't hold back any longer and confronted him: "Where are you holding Sha Sha? In the basement, right? What is your vile motive? Whatever game you want to play, spend your own money to do it. Why covet my innocent Sha Sha?"

Gu Yuzhi shouted loudly.

Nangong Mo remained unmoved, even mocking with a laugh: "Lawyer Gu, your thinking is truly complex. When a man invites a woman, is it only about what's in your mind or down below?"

Gu Yuzhi: "...You! When did I ever think that way!"

He, a dignified law professor, who could argue with anyone, now couldn't out-argue even the likes of Bao Gucheng, let alone someone like Nangong Mo?

From behind, Bao Gucheng patted him on the shoulder with a deep gaze: "No use in talking, let's go down and see."

Chen Long and his group had already found the entrance to the basement and cleared the surrounding dangers, making way for the three to go down.

Gu Yuzhi, eager to rescue someone, rushed ahead and almost slipped down the stairs in his haste.

When he reached the floor and steadied himself, he looked up and was stunned: "Sha Sha..."

In the bright, lit basement, the surrounding white walls had been turned into canvases, with one wall already painted halfway.

And Gu Qiusha stood atop a sandalwood chair, a palette in her left hand, a brush in her right, painting freely on the white wall.

What is the meaning of this?

Nangong Mo captured Sha Sha, only to have her toil as a painter?

Gu Qiusha, hearing Gu Yuzhi's voice, turned around in surprise: "Brother, why are you here? Oh, Mr. Bo, Zuzi, what are you all..."

Bao Gucheng, holding Zuzi's hand, spoke softly: "Was it that Miss Zuzi had already foreseen that Sha Sha was safe?"

Which is why she remained as calm as always, unruffled and composed?

Zuzi did not answer, lightly furrowing her brows as she looked at the half-finished painting.

A man as ethereal as a celestial being or demon lay drunk atop cloud mountains, half-bare, wearing only boxer shorts, while amidst the clouds and mist, a glimpse of a soft white arm reached towards the man.

The scene was both ethereal and intensely fragrant, stirring emotions and igniting the imagination.

This is clearly...

Chapter 1069: The Ancestor Never Expected It; His Character and Taste Aren't Bad

The half-painted artwork that evokes restlessness and affection is clearly a famous scene from "Long Immortal Road" —

After Nuwa was angered by Emperor Fu Xi, she tore his clothes, leaving him only with briefs for modesty, causing him to lose face in front of the Immortals.

The unfinished half of the painting naturally depicts Emperor Fu Xi's scattered robes and Nuwa's furious divine visage.

Zuzi watched with her delicate brows slightly furrowed, her eyes fluctuating with emotion, before replying to Bao Gucheng after a while: "The Ancestor never anticipated this."

She anticipated that Gu Qiusha wouldn't be in danger but didn't foresee Nangong Mo's shamelessness in wanting to paint such a scene in his own house, admiring it day and night.

Is he insane?

Gu Qiusha jumped down from the sandalwood chair, her cheeks still flushed with the excitement and thrill of creation: "Zuzi, I didn't expect it either, you know? The hardcore fan 'Jiangshan Rhymes in Ink' who sponsored my reader meet-up was actually Fourth Master. I used to think Fourth Master was a Demon and mistakenly thought she conspired with Gu Shiyin, but now it seems he isn't quite like the rumors..."

Gu Yuzhi's face changed as he listened: "Sha Sha! He's just a perverted Demon! Otherwise, why would he bring you here?"

Gu Qiusha pursed her lips, a bit stunned: "But during the fan meeting mishap, he was the one who escorted me away... Fourth Master was courteous all along and politely asked me to help him complete a painting for his home renovation. He, he meant no harm..."

Gu Yuzhi looked at his honest and naïve sister, feeling both angry and unable to scold her, he could only try to quietly remind her: "He's definitely not a good person. Have you ever seen a good person keep sharks at home for no reason?"

Gu Qiusha bit her lip: "His behavior is indeed unique, but he has quite a taste..."

"What's so tasteful about it!"

"The books he reads are decent."

Gu Qiusha pointed to the row of sandalwood bookshelves on the other side of the white wall.

Gu Yuzhi glanced over, the corner of his lips twitching: "... They were all different versions, collections, volumes, and merchandises of Sha Sha's manga... He indeed appeared to be a genuine book fan.

But why couldn't he believe it?

Nangong Mo, a grown man, would be obsessed with young girl's manga to that extent?

The entire underground study was piled with manga, not to mention he even painted a whole white wall with famous scenes from the books?

Unless Nangong Mo had transmigrated from being a woman, he wouldn't believe it!

"Lawyer Gu, as a legal professional, isn't it time for some reflection on such deep prejudices?"

A man's voice came from the staircase leading to the basement.

Nangong Mo was holding a teacup, his lips carrying a mocking smile, and the teacup in his hand had the style of a wine glass.

If it weren't for his unruly and mischievous conduct, there indeed was something charming about his stance and demeanor.

Gu Yuzhi gritted his teeth: "I won't believe you. Sha Sha, let's go!"

He suspected the person who sent the threatening text earlier at the meet-up might have been Nangong Mo.

Since the meet-up was funded by Nangong Mo, it would be his people who'd have more opportunity to cause trouble on site.

Why else would the timing be so coincidental, threatening him while snatching Sha Sha away, it was like stirring up trouble on both ends.

Upon hearing this, Gu Qiusa felt a bit awkward and whispered: "Brother, one must keep their promises. I've already agreed to help Fourth Master finish painting this wall, and anyway, he's provided plenty of sponsorship; I also feel somewhat indebted to him..."

Gu Yuzhi: "...!"

Now he wants to throw money at Nangong Mo's face and tell him to get lost, we don't want your money!

Chapter 1070: He's Not a Man Easily Conquered

Gu Yuzhi couldn't throw the money in Nangong Mo's face. Instead, Zuzi spoke calmly, "Xiao Gu, let Xiao Sha finish the painting."

Gu Yuzhi: "Zuzi! Why are you also..."

He was too frustrated to care about being called "Xiao", and he couldn't understand why Zuzi, who had always disliked Nangong Mo, would agree to that guy's shameless demand.

Nangong Mo, standing at the top of the stairs, cast an intrigued glance at Zuzi's back. Although the woman's slender waist was obscured by Bao Gucheng's broad figure, her flowing skirt and hair still captured his attention for a moment.

Interesting, was this woman who was sometimes cold, sometimes warm towards him now throwing bait again?

Is the tactic of feigned withdrawal to entice pursuit not working, so now it's the opposite?

Sensing the burning gaze from behind, Bao Gucheng's eyes darkened. He raised his arm to pull Zuzi fully into his embrace, completely shielding her from that covetous gaze behind them.

Zuzi nestled comfortably half-leaning against Bao Gucheng, lazily spoke, not answering Gu Yuzhi, but instead instructing Gu Qiusa, "Since others have paid a high price to support you, just painting boxers isn't innovative. Paint the ending as you envisioned."

Gu Qiusa's eyes lit up!

Zuzi truly understood her.

Not owing others favors was her principle in life, so simply leaving with her brother wouldn't work.

But just painting boxers, indeed the image seemed too garish, easy for her brother to misunderstand. If she added the ending... ah, then it would be the best of both worlds.

"Mmm! Zuzi, Mr. Bo, brother, please wait for me, okay? Fourth Master, you continue drinking your tea. I'll call you when I'm done." Gu Qiusha, full of energy, smiled brightly and climbed back onto the sandalwood chair to continue her painting battle.

Zuzi continued to lean against Bao Gucheng's chest, inhaling the soothing scent, with a cool and calm expression as she watched the mural slowly take shape.

Nangong Mo ascended the stairs with an empty cup to brew tea.

Inexplicably, images of Zuzi's strands of hair fluttering floated in his mind. Though hidden by Bao Gucheng, the more obscured, the more he wanted to uncover, wishing he could snatch her away from Bao Gucheng's embrace.

"Tch..." The heat of the tea water scalded his finger, instantly forming a blister.

He snapped back to reality, his eyebrows slightly furrowed.

Gu Qiusha's paintings were more in line with his memory, so why did he still have Zuzi on his mind?

Heh, he was not a man who could be easily swayed by trivial tactics like feigned withdrawal or enticement.

From now on, regardless of whether she showed a cold face or a warm face, it had nothing to do with him.

Bao Gucheng's time was running out. A woman dragging Bao Gucheng down was beneficial to him.

He just needed to wait patiently...

Using a tea needle to prick open the blister on his fingertip, he did not even frown, simply wiped it casually before continuing to brew the tea by hand.

The traditional tea brewing process was complex: the first boil resembled fish eyes, the second was a bubbling spring, the third boiled and surged like waves; adding tea, washing tea, swirling the aroma in the cup... every step required attention.

Nangong Mo was meticulously performing each step, while the tablet on the table casually played the daily news. Suddenly, several jarring phrases were heard—

"Recently, at the excavation site of the Pangu Tomb, an Ancient Coffin was discovered, made of hard jade, with a peculiar locking method, unable to be opened..."

"According to reports, this Jade Coffin was once opened at an archaeological research site by a woman who was present. Witnesses saw an axe-shaped tool inside the coffin, suspected to be the ancient Divine Artifact 'Pangu Axe'..."

"Today, the archaeological team conducted another laser scan of the Jade Coffin, only to find it completely empty..."

"Since the coffin cannot be opened, it's impossible to verify whether the scanning conclusion is correct, and whether the axe-shaped tool still exists within the coffin remains a mystery..."

Has the Pangu Axe disappeared without a trace?

Nangong Mo's pupils shrank sharply.