

## Big Shot 491

Chapter 491:

Looking resentfully at Zuzi getting out of the car at the hotel, waving goodbye breezily, Bao Gucheng sat in the back seat with a stern face.

Wei Yang sneaked a glance at his boss through the rear-view mirror, feeling like the boss was a bit like a statue today.

Was it because he was going to visit the Old President, so he was a bit heavy-hearted.

Trying to lighten the mood, Wei Yang forced a laugh and said, "Mr. Bo, is the boat running smoothly?"

Bao Gucheng grunted in response.

The boat was fine, it was drinking that caused trouble.

Wei Yang: "I heard Miss Xi prepared a gift for you, can we have a look?"

Bao Gucheng lifted his chin, shifting lightly in his seat to feel the cloud-like comfort of the four-cornered pants, looking much better: "Not convenient."

However, there's also an umbrella worth showing off.

He picked up the plain white umbrella beside him, gently stroking the agarwood handle.

Seeing him happy, Wei Yang relaxed as well, chuckling: "Mr. Bo, I heard the ship's construction team left some practical items for us before they left, things to make life easier... Hey, is this umbrella one of their freebies?"

Bao Gucheng's face darkened: "No."

Wei Yang was puzzled as to why he became unhappy again: "Oh. Just as the cleaning lady at our camp said she needed an umbrella, if you don't want it maybe I can give it to her, since you don't like having clutter in the car..."

Bao Gucheng said coolly: "You planning to court the cleaning lady?"

Wei Yang: "...!"

Oh, felt like this sheep said something wrong again, but didn't know what it was!

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As soon as Zuzi returned to the hotel, Xi Rubao snuck over to inquire, "Sis, was brother-in-law impressive last night?"

Zuzi chuckled lightly: "Yeah, pretty impressive."

Riding a Great White Shark for the first time, he didn't even blink.

The boy sure was calm and composed, capable of being entrusted with important tasks.

Xi Rubao laughed mischievously, then pretended to be mature and gave serious advice: "Sis, did you take safety measures? Mommy said girls should know how to protect themselves!"

Zuzi: "Yeah, safe."

The boy absolutely won't recall the Undersea Dragon Palace incident, she was well-prepared, very thorough.

No matter how much she pried, her immortal sister remained calm and composed, not a hint of embarrassment, making Xi Rubao wonder inwardly if matters between men and women were so commonplace after all, was it really just like that after trying?

Just as she was puzzling over it, Zuzi asked her back, "How's Xiao Sha's comic going?"

Xi Rubao's eyes lit up with joy: "Superb, fans have exceeded ninety million, just waiting to see if we'll achieve the hundred million myth today, let me check..."

She opened her phone, about to count the followers on Penguin Reading, but a Weibo notification popped up blocking her.

"What? Shen Ying is stirring up trouble again? I honestly have no liking for this author at all!"

"Come on, last time they accused us of copying her theme, copying her author's name and were ridiculed, and now she's made the color palette with vivid details accusing us of plagiarism?"

"This must be paid trending, how can such nonsense even make it to the top three hot searches?"

Xi Rubao was fuming, rolling up her sleeves ready to fight back with a side account.

Zuzi smiled gently: "Little grass fish, how do you plan to counter that?"

Xi Rubao: "I, I..."

She suddenly realized today's situation was different from yesterday. Yesterday, they merely accused them of copying themes and names, which was child's play, simply a matter of arguing fiercely, whoever shouted loudest would convince people of the truth.

But today, faced with such a professional color palette accusation, mere arguing wouldn't solve the problem.

Rather, the other side's fans would call them unreasonable.

What should be done?

The little grass fish started to worry.

Chapter 492: Don't Argue With Fools, Let Me Do It!

Zuzi propped her chin and didn't seem anxious at all. She pulled out two delicate pink cards from the desk:

"These are the invitation cards to the socialite cocktail party from Xiao Yueyue. Xiao Caoyu, get ready, we're going to check it out tonight."

Xi Rubao: "Sis, but about mommy's comic, if we don't suppress those internet trolls quickly, it will have a huge negative impact on her reputation!"

As the saying goes, saliva can drown a person.

Zuzi smiled slightly, "Do you believe that color palette?"

"I don't believe it! Although I don't understand how such a color palette came about, I absolutely don't believe mommy plagiarized that green tea's 'Peaceful Years'. That one's a green tea spirit, never showing up herself and always commanding fans to stir up trouble. I can't stand such people!"

"Green tea spirit? Ancestor never heard of such a spirit?"

"Cough, cough, sis, your focus is so odd, that's a metaphor. The point is that the green tea spirit is targeting mommy, endlessly stirring things up, I'm really upset about it."

Zuzi still smiled gently, "Do you want to see Xiao Sha's fans reach a hundred million?"

Xi Rubao nodded vigorously, "Of course!"

"Then just wait a bit more."

"Sis, you mean..."

Could it be that sis wants mommy to take this chance to attract more new fans?

Let them hire internet trolls to do free promotion for us?

But that's not right, judging by the trending topics, those are all Blackies, they would mess up mommy's comic circle!

"Sis, even if we endure it for now, Penguin Reading won't just stand by, right? I heard their editor-in-chief is very strict. If mommy gets splashed with accusations of plagiarism, what if the editor-in-chief adds to it? Mommy's career is just starting and it would be done for!"

"Well, that depends on Ma Qie and his people, whether they have the courage and vision, and if they can remain calm."

Zuzi's gaze was determined and her tone calm.

Xi Rubao's anxious mood gradually calmed down. He thought to himself, sis makes sense. If Penguin Reading can't distinguish right from wrong and sides with the green tea spirit to bully mommy, then at worst, she won't draw comics for Penguin anymore.

Thinking this way, it's really no big deal.

Just let the bullets fly for a while.

Since sis said to wait, there's sure to be a reason for it.

==

Gu Shiyin was in a bad mood last night because she lost in her first Weibo battle with Qianshan. Even though Ma Qie agreed to compensate her with a popup recommendation, it couldn't mend her displeasure.

Early in the morning, she sent a message to Yin Hu, casually asking what Bao Gucheng was busy with.

Yin Hu, the honest kid, directly said, "Last night Mr. Bao seemed to have an appointment with Miss Xi. I haven't seen him today," making her already displeased mood even worse.

She couldn't get an appointment with Bao Gucheng and couldn't reach him on the phone, always thinking he was busy with work!

Who knew Bao Gucheng was actually with Zuzi!

When it came to her, he was always busy, busy, busy, but with Zuzi, he was free every day?!

Her foul mood improved only a little after she got up, washed, dressed, and saw the overwhelming accusations of Qianshan plagiarizing Shen Ying's color palette on Weibo.

She flipped through the comments from Qianshan's fans with interest, especially the four who were active and dominating the screen last night, "I'm a Little Fish", "Meeting You Is the Greatest Luck of This Life", "The Moon Is Bright in My Hometown", "Slowly the Little Fairy". Today, they were all silent.

Instead, Qianshan registered a new Weibo account herself and posted an update: "Everyone listen to the command and don't argue with fools, let me handle it!"

Ha, because all your fans abandoned you, you pathetic creature, you can only handle it yourself!

Fighting her, this low-tier little artist is simply too inexperienced.

Squeezing her out doesn't even require sophisticated means.

A color palette alone scattered all her fans, left them speechless, huh?

Chapter 493: Ma Jia Wants to Impress Mr. Bo with a Stunning Revelation

Gu Shiyin looked at Qianshan's Weibo with disdain.

She never needed to do things herself; she could maintain a high and unblemished posture quietly, unlike the likes of Qianshan, who had to personally get involved in petty fights.

Such a loss of face!

Feeling better, when she received a call from Gu Pinting, her tone softened a bit: "Pinting, what's up?"

"Aunt, are you attending the socialite cocktail party tonight?"

"Hmm, such parties happen several times a year. You young folks should enjoy them more."

"Aunt, you're young too, come on, join us. Besides, this one's different. It's specially organized for the return of the Xing family's eldest daughter. All the socialites in the city will be there. I want to take the opportunity to promote my TV show, get some investment, endorsements, and such. Isn't it a great opportunity? Aunt, please come help me!"

"Alright then." Gu Shiyin raised an eyebrow, agreeing in a tone that sounded reluctant.

Over there, Gu Pinting cheered and then sighed: "If only we could invite Shen Ying, sigh, but she has never appeared in public, too mysterious! Otherwise, given her current fame and popularity, she would definitely be the highlight of tonight's event, and our TV show could benefit from the association..."

Gu Shiyin chuckled: "What, you'd like to meet her?"

"Of course! Plus, the socialite circle is full of her fans. This morning, everyone was chatting about the party in a group, and someone even shared her fans posting color charts on Weibo to denounce the plagiarist Qianshan!"

"Really?"

"And everyone also complained that the last time she published her novel's finale in the hardcover edition, it was out of print even before they could grab one. Now if you want to buy a second-hand copy, it gets sold out instantly on the second-hand market. Shen Ying is just too awesome!"

Gu Shiyin paused, her smile deepening: "Huh, isn't it just a hardcover edition? How many copies do you want?"

"Huh? Aunt, do you have them? Quick, give me one!"

"Didn't you say your friends wanted them too?"

"But such a precious hardcover edition..."

"I have many. Count how many close friends you have in your circle, and I'll bring them to the party tonight so you can give them out on the spot."

Gu Pinting never expected her casual mention to actually come true.

Aunt is truly a boss!

"Aunt, you're amazing, letting me hand out the out-of-print hardcover edition of Shen Ying's novel at the event? That's such a big deal!"

"There's something even bigger, would you like it?"

"Aunt, tell me!"

"The hardcover editions I have are all signed by Shen Ying."

"Ahhh Aunt, you're the most amazing aunt in the world, I love you to death!"

Gu Pinting's tone was filled with unmistakable admiration and excitement.

On the other end of the phone, louder cheers and stomping could be heard.

On this end, Gu Shiyin maintained a deeply amused expression.

As for alternate identities, she had plenty.

Just pulling one out would be enough to astonish those around her, not to mention Qianshan, some low-level artist or Xi Zuzi, a small-town girl; they were no match for her.

She needed to plan, find an opportunity to reveal an impressive identity in front of Bao Gucheng...

==

The socialite cocktail party in the imperial capital is a traditional social gathering in the upper circles.

Entering requires a high threshold. If your family doesn't have assets worth over a billion, it's hard to get an invitation. Of course, if you have a billionaire friend willing to bring you along, that's an option too.

It's called a socialite party, but men also participate, as well as elites from various fields. For instance, someone like Xi Langyue, a popular male idol, though not from a wealthy background, gets invited as an exception due to his high status in the industry.

This is a party for young men and women within the upper circles and elite society!

Everywhere, the atmosphere is teeming with the scent of wealth and opportunity!

Chapter 494: Don't Panic, Just a Minor Scene!

Zuzi lazily stepped through the grand entrance of the socialite party.

Xi Rubao, holding the Invitation Card, finished verification and followed, muttering, "Second Brother said he would accompany us, but the filming schedule got delayed today, so he has to work overtime for a bit and finish his scenes before coming."

Why on earth was the schedule delayed?

It was all because Shen Ying's fans created a huge fuss on Weibo, causing unrest among the crew, fearing there might be actual issues with the script. If they needed to revise the script, wouldn't all the filming be in vain?

Finally, Director Ma, Xi Langyue, and Wu Qianman had to step in and assure everyone, so the other actors tentatively continued filming, but the efficiency was much lower than the previous days.

"Let Xiao Yueyue focus on filming, there's no rush." Zuzi remained unimpressed.

Xi Rubao was slightly nervous, "But sister, we've never attended such a socialite gathering. What if we mess up due to unfamiliarity with the rules..."

From a distance, she saw Gu Pinting being surrounded like a proud Princess by a group of socialites, preemptively feeling that if they bumped into Gu Pinting, she might intentionally make things difficult, making them the laughingstock.

Zuzi smiled slightly, "Of course not, it's a small affair."

Back in the day, the Ancestor would attend the Queen Mother of the West's Immortal Banquet every five hundred years, where such celestial gatherings were nothing much. Today's little gathering is hardly significant.

As they were speaking.

There was a commotion at the main entrance of the banquet hall. The already-present socialites stifled their voices, whispering in awe, "Fourth Master! Oh my, Fourth Master is here!"

Nangong Mo rarely showed up at such events.

But today, he walked into the socialite party, accompanied by bodyguards and servants, with an indifferent expression.

His fierce reputation was well-known, yet he was also an incredibly wealthy bachelor, making the socialites both fearful and enamored, hoping for his favor yet worried they might displease him and be fed to Sharks!

So as Nangong Mo walked through the banquet hall, the socialites obediently parted to make way, nervously toying with their evening gowns, tense and hopeful.

But what was strange was that Nangong Mo seemed oblivious to them, as if they were less than a lamppost in his eyes.

Yet, when he passed by the spot where Zuzi had just been standing, he suddenly halted, looking around.

He distinctly saw a glimpse of a white dress fluttering elegantly, yet upon approaching, there was nothing.

He scrutinized several socialites in various white dresses, but none was the woman he was looking for.

At this moment.

Zuzi had already pulled Xi Rubao to the bar two meters away from Nangong Mo's position and sat down.

She sipped a specially concocted drink, watching Nangong Mo search with great interest.

Don't worry, with the Ancestor's eye-blocking technique, you won't see the Ancestor's true appearance tonight.

Two meters may as well be the ends of the earth!

Unable to find the person he was looking for, Nangong Mo's face darkened as he sank into a sofa, allowing no one to approach him.

The banquet hadn't officially started yet. The early-arriving socialites took a moment of chaos due to Nangong Mo's arrival before returning to their small circles, whispering gossip among themselves.

When Gu Shiyin entered, the small circles gradually merged. The socialites politely greeted her:

"Miss Gu."

"Miss Gu Six."

"Aunt Shiyin."

Gu Shiyin responded modestly with a faint smile, then turned to Gu Pinting, pointing to a small box, "Shen Ying's autographed collectible book, Pinting, everything your friends wanted is here."

The socialites gasped collectively, even pausing their gossip, united in their aim:

"Is it the legendary Shen Ying's?"

"Is it the rare collectible edition?"

"An autographed edition?!"

Chapter 495: The Aloof and Haughty Boss!

"What's got them so excited over a book? Haven't they seen one before?"

Zuzi watched the group of noble ladies with confusion as they gathered around the book Gu Shiyin brought, their eyes gleaming like hungry wolves.

Xi Rubao chuckled, "Sis, it's not about the book itself, it's the signature they love. That's a limited edition, a rare resource, so having it is a status symbol. Upper society loves this kind of thing. But I can't stand that green tea bitch Shen Ying, no matter how rare her signature is, I don't care for it!"

Zuzi nodded thoughtfully, "Well, our Xiao Sha's signature will be more valuable in the future."

She recalled the snow wolf brush she found in the treasure chest last night, and instructed Little Crow to deliver it to Gu Qiusha in Qingcheng.

"Ancestor, I'll be back soon. If you need anything here, just call me!"

"Alright."

"Ha, Brother Jin, don't worry, the Ancestor still has me here waiting for instructions. I can handle it with a single qin!"

Little Crow turned back to glance at Fu Xiqin, who was making a confident guarantee, but still felt a bit uneasy. With so many people and voices at tonight's banquet, who knows if this chatterbox can be trusted.

It flapped its wings and sped away.

Zuzi activated the Blinding Immortal Technique on her end. In the eyes of ordinary people, her actions were completely undetectable, making it appear as if Xi Rubao was sitting alone at the bar drinking and talking to herself like a little fool.

Of course, there was also a mini Fu Xiqin at the bar, foolishly rolling around as well.

Not far away, Gu Pinting unintentionally glanced over and snorted, "Aunt, look, the girl from the small town is here again. I wonder whose card she used to sneak in, how pathetic! Tsk tsk, why did only one come? Where's the other one, Zuzi?"

Gu Shiyin heard and also looked over, seeing Xi Rubao talking to herself foolishly, her eyes flashed with disdain.

She wondered if Zuzi wasn't here because she was with Bao Gucheng again, which made her feel a little annoyed.

Thankfully, her career did not let her down.

Ma Qie's message arrived: "Shen Ying, the special pop-up recommendation arranged just for you, did it just go live? Tonight you should gain tens of thousands of followers!"

Pop-up recommendations are reserved for platinum masters and super performance authors, generally hard to arrange, you could say it's a special privilege.

Gu Shiyin felt a bit better, but Ma Qie's last remark still irked her.

Only tens of thousands of new followers?

With her influence, it should be a million overnight.

"By the way, someone is plagiarizing my book. Evidence is all over the color palette. Mr. Ma, aren't you going to address this?"

"Cough cough, is that so? I'll take a look later!" Ma Qie feigned ignorance.

"Do you still need to look? It's been on Weibo all day, you can't say you haven't seen it, can you?"

"Cough cough, it's because the other party hasn't responded yet. Don't we need statements from both sides to file a lawsuit?" Ma Qie could no longer pretend, so he had to speak the truth and then change the subject, "How about you check if the pop-up results meet your satisfaction?"

Gu Shiyin sneered and didn't reply.

A few minutes later, a message from the editor-in-chief also came: "Shen Ying, your fans did great; the Weibo issue has gone viral now, rest assured it will be resolved!"

"Thank you for the concern, Editor-in-Chief."

"Shen Ying, after some deep thought, I've realized that Weibo has more passersby, but Penguin here are your true readers. Qianshan is up for an update tonight, and most of her 90 million followers probably don't know there's an issue with her book. I can't officially represent the site to address this matter. Can you spread a word in the reader community? Use this opportunity during her updates tonight to amplify the impact?"

The editor-in-chief, frustrated with Ma Qie's inaction, proactively suggested to Shen Ying.

Unexpectedly.

Gu Shiyin maintained her aloof stance, "I feel disillusioned and don't want to meddle."

Editor-in-Chief: "... Sigh, Shen Ying really deserves better!"

## Chapter 496: It's a Thrill to Have an Alter Ego!

Out of a sense of injustice for Shen Ying, the editor in chief's sense of justice surged, and they directly checked Qianshan's current recommendation arrangements. Only then did they find out that Ma Qie had set up a lot of hidden recommendations for Qianshan!

So sneaky!

Mr. Ma is really incompetent!

The editor in chief thought about it. This matter had been brewing for a day, and tonight there would definitely be a wave of backlash against Qianshan. The fact that Qianshan plagiarized Shen Ying's book couldn't be hidden. Cutting off Qianshan's recommendations in advance should be fine.

Mr. Ma would understand him handling things impartially after it was all over.

Let's do it this way!

We can't let good people suffer.

After Gu Shiyin finished the conversation, she played with her phone for a bit. When she looked up, she heard the socialites holding signed books like treasured items, exclaiming:

"Shen Ying's great book got a popup!"

"Wow, this popup image is beautiful. It's Fu Xi kissing Nuwa, love it, love it!"

"Such a big recommendation as a reading popup, only platinum gods like our great Shen Ying deserve it!"

She smiled, enjoying the praise, relishing the secret pleasure of being a revered figure under a pseudonym.

However, the next second.

Someone suddenly mentioned, "Look, Qianshan is about to update!"

"Really, really? I'm dying to know the storyline of Qianshan's fifth Chapter! Last night's fourth Chapter left me hanging—Nuwa left only boxers on Fu Xi Emperor. How is he going to win back his wife in this metaphorical funeral scenario?"

"Will they really end up together as a couple? I have a feeling Qianshan doesn't follow the usual patterns, maybe won't write according to trope?"

"That's true, Qianshan has quite the imagination, different from other authors or artists!"

"This is called a creative genius, rare on the whole internet, appreciate it while you can!"

Gu Shiyin's smile couldn't hold anymore.

These dumb socialites, holding her book while praising another artist? Backstabbers!

The key point is, when they praised her, all they used were vague buzzwords. But when it came to complimenting Qianshan, they were specific about the plot lines, making her doubt if they are really her loyal fans, if they truly like her novel, or if they just wanted that limited edition signed book to show off?

At this moment, the pseudonym turned out to be her obstacle. She couldn't reveal herself to question these people, feeling almost internally injured with frustration.

Until...

When someone was reading Gu Qiusha's comic, they suddenly noticed a large banner at the top of the page:

"The financial manager of Shen Ying's household rewarded 'Ancient Love Letters: Fu Xi and Nuwa' with 1,000,000 book currency!—Qianshan the plagiaristic shrew, the color comparison charts are out, quickly confess to our great Shen Ying!"

This banner is also called a "world message".

It only appears when fans make a huge reward or offer support, as a global floating window.

In other words, everyone using Penguin Reading could see this long banner.

Not only could they see the fans' love for Shen Ying but also the accusation against Qianshan!

Simply killing two birds with one stone.

Once this strongly worded "world message" appeared, the socialites' attention was immediately captured.

Those fingers that were just about to follow Qianshan's fifth Chapter instinctively exited the comic page and turned to Shen Ying's novel.

The gossiping eyes searched for the "color comparison chart" mentioned by Shen Ying's fans.

"Turns out it really was copying our great Shen Ying. I didn't realize it before!"

"I can't believe I followed her for days! No wonder her work looked so good, turns out it was directly copying our great Shen Ying, too much!"

"I swear I'll never read Qianshan the plagiaristic shrew's comics again!"

The public opinion suddenly shifted.

Indeed, setting off fireworks in the book review section is much more direct than causing a scene on Weibo.

Well, the editor's lousy trick wasn't enough.

It's the world message that has a more stunning impact!

Gu Shiyin logged out of the "financial manager of Shen Ying's household" alt account, maintaining a cool and indifferent demeanor.

Not far away, Zuzi looked at the "world message" and asked Xi Rubao: "Is this what they call rewarding? Just like throwing money at a play?"

Chapter 497: Keep a Low Profile for Now, Smash a Thousand Silver Alliance Hierarchs!

Zuzi always makes surprising remarks, and Xi Rubao is very patient with her immortal sister:

"Yeah, sis, it's just like throwing money when you're watching a play—it's all about showing your sentiment, whether lavish or frugal. Like that world announcement just now, it came with a million book coins and they called it a Silver Alliance Hierarch!"

"Oh, Silver Alliance Hierarch, it sounds quite pleasant."

"Yes, being a Silver Alliance Hierarch is a very respectable title, like a boss among fans. But Shen Ying actually used the world announcement of the Silver Alliance Hierarch as a way to attack others, typical green tea behavior! I bet that's her alternate account; a normal Silver Alliance Hierarch wouldn't be so foolish, giving a reward while throwing insults!"

Zuzi curved her lips into a light smile: "Xiao Sha doesn't seem to have a Silver Alliance Hierarch yet?"

Xi Rubao: "Seems like she doesn't, there are only a few Golden Alliances. Ugh, Mommy's comic has only serialized five Chapters; it's too short!"

Zuzi supported her chin with her jade-like fingers: "Then let's start with a thousand Silver Alliance Hierarchs."

Xi Rubao: "!!!"

Fu Xiqin: "Ancestor is so dominating!"

"Sis, isn't that a bit too flashy?"

"Not at all, Ancestor originally thought of smashing a thousand; isn't one thousand considered low-profile?"

After all, she recently sold an antique wine jar, and Qiu Guosheng transferred her a large sum of money, she didn't count it carefully, but basically, there's plenty to spend.

Xi Rubao swallowed: "..."

The concept of low-profile in her immortal sister's mind is evidently different from that of mortals.

Xi Rubao received the task and started operating on her smartphone.

One minute later.

"I am a little grass carp tipping 'Long Immortal Road' with a million book coins! — Our great supports original work, no room for slander!"

"Little Fairy of Long Immortal Road tipping 'Long Immortal Road' with a million book coins! — Some outdated web novel authors are turning green with envy; please hurry and seek treatment!"

"The moon seems brighter in the hometown tipping 'Long Immortal Road' with a million book coins! — Isn't it sweeter to focus on your writings instead of splashing dirt on others because you're creatively bankrupt?"

"Meeting you is the greatest luck in life tipping 'Long Immortal Road' with a million book coins! — This cobbled-together palette has no legal validity, stop making a fool of yourself!"

...

Xi Rubao directly brought in alternate accounts of her uncle, second brother, and Wu Qianman for tipping, switching accounts with great enjoyment.

Every time she thought the account might run out of money with the next tip, the transfers were surprisingly smooth.

The account of the immortal sister is simply an endless bottomless pit, so powerful.

"Ding-ding—!"

"Ding-ding—!"

The sound of world announcement notifications kept ringing.

The socialites, who were discussing Shen Ying and Qianshan, looked in astonishment at the endless flashing world announcements until they were almost dizzy.

"Wow, it seems like Qianshan's fans do make a bit of sense."

"Is this really plagiarism?"

"Let's go to Qianshan's book review section and take another look."

"Qianshan's fans are so generous... there are already over a hundred Silver Alliances, breaking Penguin Reading's record, right?"

"Have you ever secured a Silver Alliance?"

"Not yet, I haven't met a creator I'm willing to support like that yet; even for Shen Ying, I didn't give her a Silver Alliance..."

Listening to everyone's discussion.

Gu Shiyin frowned: That Qianshan, a small-time artist, dares to oppose her? Daring to play the Silver Alliance smashing game?

Competing with her in financial strength?

She lowered her head to continue swiping her phone, making transfers, and followed with a few Silver Alliances.

But, she was far from keeping up with the speed at which Qianshan's fans were smashing Silver Alliances.

Chapter 498: Ancestor Isn't Worried: They Aren't Blind

The world messages Gu Shiyin was sending out were instantly overshadowed by the world messages from Qianshan's fans.

She had barely sent a few world messages, and Qianshan's comic had already swarmed with hundreds of world messages!

Absolutely crushed.

Tonight, Penguin Reading was flooded by Qianshan.

Even that special recommendation Shen Ying received—the big pop-up promotion—looked like a mosquito leg, hardly drawing any attention.

Gu Shiyin pursed her lips, her knuckles turning white from the tight grip.

This author alias of hers was one of the best nurtured, firmly seated as the queen of women's fiction, unrivaled, and now she's being crushed by some unknown, 18th-tier small-time artist?

Even after she had already released the palette accusing them of plagiarism?

Even after she received the website's big recommendation, while the opponent had all their recommendations pulled by the editor-in-chief?

Gu Shiyin took a deep breath, brushed a strand of hair from her temple, her smile graceful, her tone gentle: "Didn't you just say you are all big fans of Shen Ying? Why not give her a Silver Alliance?"

The ladies exchanged awkward glances, hesitantly: "Well, we never actually tipped before, we're not used to tipping for reading..."

Gu Shiyin said somewhat meaningfully: "But Shen Ying's opponent is bullying her like this, and you all aren't helping her fight back? I thought you liked her signed books so much, you were her die-hard fans."

The ladies felt a bit embarrassed.

Gu Pinting, who was tightly tied to Shen Ying's interests due to acting in her script, was the first to raise her hand to sing her praises:

"I've already tipped a Silver Alliance! Hey, when you guys begged me to ask Aunt for Shen Ying's signed books, you talked so nicely, saying you were all veteran fans, following her since she started in the industry. Were you lying to me then?"

The ladies' faces turned even more awkward.

Gu Shiyin casually said: "Actually, a Silver Alliance is just the price of a couple of bags, a few SPA visits, or a couple of meals for you..."

She pulled out her phone, and in front of everyone, she sent out three Silver Alliances in a row.

"Wow, Aunt, you're so generous!"

Gu Pinting exclaimed.

The ladies, who all mingled in the same social circles where reputation mattered, felt embarrassed at this time, thought Gu Shiyin made sense, it wasn't much for them, so they decided to tip as well...

"Count me in!"

"I'll do two!"

"I'll match Aunt Shiyin, three Silver Alliances!"

Though each individually didn't contribute much, there were many of them, so Gu Shiyin roughly calculated that with her insinuation, she could gain over a hundred Silver Alliances this way.

By the bar, Xi Rubao stretched her neck, watching these ladies chatting endlessly about the Silver Alliances with a vigilant look, worriedly saying to Xi Zuzi:

"Sis, they all seem to be fans of that green tea b\*tch, what should we do? These ladies are quite well-off financially, but their vision is a bit off, how could they become fans of that green tea b\*tch? What if they band together to crush mommy..."

Xi Zuzi wasn't worried at all, lazing comfortably, smiling slightly: "They won't, they aren't blind."

"But sis..."

Xi Rubao was still worried.

The next second.

Suddenly, someone gasped: "Look, Qianshan just responded to the plagiarism issue on Weibo trending searches!"

With juicy gossip to consume, for a moment the ladies forgot about tipping Silver Alliances and all refreshed Weibo for the scoop.

Gu Shiyin: "..."

Damn that 18th-tier small-time artist, couldn't they pick a better time to respond than now?

Causing her to lose over a hundred Silver Alliances in just minutes!

Chapter 499: The Face-Slapping Comes Faster and Fiercer than a Tornado!

Gu Shiyin was still brooding over the loss of her Silver Alliance Hierarch status, and didn't take Qianshan's response seriously at all.

With the color palette already out, the evidence is conclusive. What else could they possibly pull?

That Qianshan, just making a futile struggle.

Gu Shiyin calmly and composedly opened her phone's Weibo page.

However, when she clearly saw the content of Qianshan's response, the composure on her face could no longer be maintained!

Qianshan's response was shockingly simple—

"Sorry, the part you claim is similar was actually written in my comic book under the pen name 'Wu Ming' twenty years ago."

"So, please explain how I supposedly traveled from twenty years ago to plagiarize your book today?"

The two lines sparked a flurry of heated comments from netizens.

"What? Qianshan started drawing twenty years ago? And already came up with such impressive and classic lines back then?"

"Oh my god, I always thought I was a fan of a newcomer, but turns out they are an ancient treasure!"

"As a passerby, shouldn't Shen Ying come out and explain how she has the nerve to copy Qianshan's lines from twenty years ago and still have the audacity to strike back?"

"Shen Ying, come out and explain!"

"Shen Ying, come out and explain!"

#Shen Ying come out and explain#

#Shen Ying, you're the real plagiarist and green tea witch!#

The fierce flood of posts quickly took over the trending searches.

The socialites at the party patted their chests, still in shock and said: "Thankfully we didn't tip Shen Ying hastily earlier, oh my, she's the real plagiarist!"

Gu Shiyin's face almost turned green.

She had indeed sought inspiration by flipping through old comics from twenty years ago, but that obscure comic was utterly unknown and its artist wasn't famous at all, plus, most crucially, the artist called "Wu Ming" had long since stopped drawing, fading into obscurity.

She thought it was a clear opportunity to plagiarize without consequences.

Who would have thought it was such a coincidence that the old comic was actually drawn by Qianshan?

This face slap was as sudden as a tornado!

Wait, she can't lose her composure.

Her "Fu Xi and Nuwa" is so popular, and no one has come to challenge her until now, why did "Wu Ming," the original author, suddenly pop up tonight, could Qianshan be bluffing?

Gu Shiyin hurriedly logged onto Weibo, prepared to question Qianshan herself, only to find that the second wave of evidence had already been released—

"To avoid doubt, here's the notification of entry into the finals of the Empire Comic Contest from twenty years ago, proving it wasn't someone else's work but mine."

"I am Wu Ming, Wu Ming is me."

Short and powerful, not a word was wasted!

Gu Shiyin inexplicably felt that the tone of Qianshan's statement, although casual and lazy, was sharp and incisive, seemed particularly familiar, as if it was...

Before she could delve deeper into her thoughts, she saw the attached image below, and her heart was thrown into chaos!

The image clearly displayed Wu Ming's notification of entry from back then, with the classic lines from the comics marked in red and compared to today's so-called color palette.

This comparison showed Shen Ying's key lines were almost identical, copied directly from the comics of Wu Ming back then.

The color palette was a joke!

The audacity of a plagiarist to falsely accuse the original creator is laughable!

The netizens, who had been played all day, were furious.

The formerly massive fan base supporting Shen Ying's rights now matched the sheer size of those abandoning her.

The crowd spontaneously swarmed to Penguin Reading to give Shen Ying bad reviews and negative ratings... Shen Ying's original ten million fans were rapidly unfollowing, plummeting numbers.

Gu Shiyin's phone kept ringing incessantly.

She answered with slight annoyance, "Hello?"

Not far at the bar.

Xi Rubao, enjoying watching the drama unfold, sighed, "It would be nice if that Shen Ying gets exposed. Her Ma Jia is hidden so deeply, even though everyone online looks down on plagiarists and green tea witches, it doesn't affect her being so dignified in real life. Just thinking about it is frustrating!"

Zuzi's red lips curved slightly: "What, Little Crucian wants to see the Ma Jia exposed?"

"Yes, yes, yes!"

"Alright then, Ancestor will satisfy your curiosity on the spot just once."

Chapter 500: The Ruthless Little Ancestor Strips the Green Tea B\*tch's Ma Jia!

Zuzi leaned her jade arm on the bar, smiled softly, and gestured with her fingers, casting an Immortal Technique towards the crowd not far away.

The socialites were dumbfounded by the sudden reversal of events. Once they snapped out of it, they couldn't help but be filled with righteous indignation:

"Shen Ying deceived our feelings!"

"It turns out Shen Ying secretly plagiarized Wu Ming's comics from twenty years ago, and now she's biting the new alias Qianshan instead. That's just too bitchy."

"For authors, character comes first. If one's own values are wrong, there's no way to write a good work; only stealing others' ideas is possible. That's basically a thief!"

"Fortunately, I didn't tip her earlier, or I'd be fuming!"

"Same here, I'd rather feed dogs with my money than her!"

The harsh criticisms online disappear when you close the webpage.

But the clear and sharp accusations from those around her were impossible for Gu Shiyin to ignore.

Her face felt like it was being lashed continuously with a whip, causing unbearable pain.

Never before in her life had she encountered such a comprehensive negation and humiliation of her character.

At this very moment, the editor's call came through again. Annoyed, she answered: "Hello?"

"Shen Ying, what's going on with you? You swore to me that you were the victim, being plagiarized, yet you outright copied Wu Ming's comic lines..."

The torrent of accusations from the editor's side came crashing down, accompanied by the sounds of slamming files and keyboard clicking, showing just how furious the editor was.

"If you're just going to spew nonsense, I don't have time to listen," Gu Shiyin responded coldly, maintaining her aloof demeanor.

"And you're still putting on airs with me? Do you have any conscience? Do you know that for your sake, I offended the higher-ups, canceled Qianshan's recommendation on the sly behind Mr. Ma's back, and arranged a big promotion for you, suggested you use Weibo to broaden your influence, and planned world announcements on the website... all because I thought you were wronged and wanted to give you some fair support! And what did you do? You played me, deceived me, and now act righteously? Do you have a conscience?" The editor was truly driven mad by anger.

He had staked his entire career on Shen Ying, believing he was pursuing justice, only to become a laughing stock.

Gu Shiyin remained unmoved, her tone icy: "That only means you're too stupid."

She never asked him for a recommendation, let alone instructed him to pull Qianshan's recommendation.

Editor: "You...! Fine, I admit I was too stupid, believing your tranquility claims, thinking you didn't care about personal gains and losses, so I helped you! It turns out it was all my wishful thinking, my stupidity!"

The editor's shouting grew louder and more piercing.

Gu Shiyin held the phone a bit away, impatiently said: "Good that you know, my time is precious and not to be wasted by you. Goodbye!"

With that, she was ready to cut the phone call.

She noticed the surrounding had fallen into dead silence.

The socialites who were passionately discussing and condemning Shen Ying moments ago clammed up, all staring at her.

Gu Shiyin pursed her lips, thinking that during her phone call with the editor, she had deliberately not mentioned any identity, so people shouldn't have noticed.

Maybe her imposing aura scared these little girls.

She curved a smile: "No worries, just some business partners messed up, I'll handle it."

Silence, the scene was still dead silent.

Gu Pinting looked shocked and confused, trembling lips asked—