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At the same time, Rachel's mother received another promise.

Her family could select one additional person to receive another dragon-emblem bronze token and another six-month supply of the antidote. However, she would first have to choose a suitable candidate and inform Cheng Yanni. Cheng Yanni would then make another trip, personally hand over the bronze token, and witness the recipient taking the six-month supply of antidote.

For Rachel's scholar family, this kind of honor and recognition was almost unprecedented.

In terms of status, only the two scholar families that had infiltrated the An family years ago could compare. However, both of those families had failed at the final stage. Unlike them, Rachel's family had infiltrated not an enemy family, but the Rothschild family itself. Their position would therefore be considerably safer in the long run.

To demonstrate just how highly he regarded Rachel's family, Wu Yongzhen did something entirely out of character: he arranged a private banquet at one of his personal residences to entertain Rachel and her mother.

This was unprecedented treatment for a scholar family. Wu Yongzhen did not dare make the arrangement public, so he chose his private residence in the Bay Area of Los Angeles and entrusted only his most trusted subordinates with organizing the event. He wanted to prevent any information from leaking out.

After all, if Wu Feiyan discovered that the dignified Left Army Command was entertaining members of a scholar family, she would undoubtedly become suspicious.

The reason Wu Yongzhen was willing to risk arousing such suspicions by inviting Rachel and her mother was that he wanted to win their loyalty through concrete actions.

Upon hearing the news, Rachel's mother was naturally overwhelmed with excitement. She immediately boarded a flight to the Bay Area to meet her daughter, who was studying at Stanford.

Wu Yongzhen also departed directly from Miami for the Bay Area, bringing only Cheng Yanni with him.

By this point, Wu Yongzhen had fallen completely into the trap Charlie had laid for him. His mind was now entirely occupied with figuring out how to turn the one billion dollars he had earned into ten billion.

If he continued lining his own pockets through the old methods, he had no idea how many years it would take to accumulate such a fortune. Therefore, his only hope lay with Rachel.

When Rachel learned that Wu Yongzhen was traveling all the way to the Bay Area to invite her and her mother to dinner, she immediately understood his intentions.

She was equally excited, but for an entirely different reason. Wu Yongzhen had already reached the edge of the enormous pit Charlie had dug for him. He was now just one step away from falling straight into it.

There were only three people at this private family banquet: Wu Yongzhen, Rachel, and her mother.

Both Rachel and her mother felt somewhat nervous in Wu Yongzhen's presence. Setting aside the fact that Rachel was already cooperating with Charlie, a scholar standing before a Grand Commander was like an ordinary citizen standing before a powerful feudal lord. The difference in their status was simply enormous.

Wu Yongzhen deliberately wanted to lower himself in their presence to raise Rachel's expectations and make her feel overwhelmed by his favor. In doing so, he hoped she would become even more loyal and work harder for him—or, more precisely, find ways to make money for him.

Facing Rachel, Wu Yongzhen behaved like a kind and caring elder, smiling warmly as he asked, "Rachel, how are your studies going? Have you encountered any difficulties or problems lately?"

Rachel replied respectfully, “Reporting to you, Grand Commander, my studies are going quite smoothly. I haven’t encountered any particular difficulties or problems. Thanks to your care and support, after receiving the dragon-emblem bronze token and the six-month supply of antidote, I’ve gained considerably more freedom in both my personal life and relationships.”

After speaking, Rachel glanced at her mother before respectfully addressing Wu Yongzhen again.

“I must also thank you on behalf of my mother. Without your generosity, she would never have had the opportunity to receive these things.”

Wu Yongzhen was extremely pleased with Rachel’s attitude. Smiling, he said, “Oh, I’m always considerate toward my subordinates. Your scholar family hasn’t had an easy time over the years. To put it bluntly, you’ve been burdened with far too many restrictions. But things will be different from now on. As long as you continue working hard, I believe your family will receive more and more resources before long!”