

## Doctor 151

### Chapter 151: Thunderbolt

The Cuihun's silver needles were coated in poison, and upon contact with the skin, the toxin would permeate through the dermis into the bloodstream, then spread throughout the body. Within ten minutes, the poisoned victim would succumb to death.

Moreover, there was no antidote available for the poison on the needles; once stabbed, one could only wait for death's embrace.

Fang Bai collected Cuihun's silver needles with his hand. Although this move was executed beautifully, Cuihun believed that Fang Bai was simply courting death.

However, what Cuihun did not know was that in his former life, Fang Bai had ascended to the rank of Immortal Emperor by practicing medicine, and when it came to the arts of healing and poisoning, Fang Bai was of ancestral level. No one could outplay him, neither in his past nor present life.

"Return to you!"

Watching Cuihun laugh triumphantly as if Fang Bai was already dead, a hint of mockery flashed in Fang Bai's eyes. He shouted lightly and flicked his wrist, shooting out the three poison-dipped silver needles he had collected in his palm.

Just now, at a distance of dozens of meters, Fang Bai had managed to injure Cuihun with mere stones. Now, with only a dozen meters between them, and Cuihun's left leg wounded and his movement hindered, not to mention his unguarded laughing state revealing many openings, the three needles arrived in a blink of an eye and pierced both of his arms and right leg.

Uh—

Cuihun was like someone suddenly choked mid-laugh, cutting off abruptly.

His eyes wide with horror, he looked down at the three silver needles embedded in his arms and right leg. He tried to pull them out, but they were in too deep to be removed.

"Brother! How are you?"

Life-Snatching, who was dueling Fang Bai, perceived something was amiss and asked anxiously.

Cuihun's eyes turned blood-red as he yelled frantically, "I've been poisoned! There's no antidote! Apprentice brother, kill him for me! Kill him!"

Life-Snatching had an extremely close relationship with Cuihun in the Ghost Doctor Sect, much like brothers. Hearing Cuihun's plea, he was immediately driven by a desperate urge to fight.

If Cuihun was best known for his Poisonous Palms, then Life-Snatching was renowned for the endless hidden weapons concealed all over his body.

The two were known within the Hidden Sect as "Poisonous Palm Cuihun, Hidden Weapon Life-Snatching," speaking to one's prowess with poisonous palms and the other's exceptional ability with hidden weapons.

Life-Snatching took Fang Bai's "Tiger Roar Thunder Fist" head-on, using the force of the punch to retreat more than ten feet away. He then shuddered his body, releasing dozens of silver needles that transformed into a curtain of needles, blanketing the sky as they enveloped Fang Bai.

"Child's play!"

Fang Bai laughed heartily, drew circles in the air with his hands, and once again employed the "Intercepting Dragon Hand," capturing all dozens of silver needles.

Life-Snatching's expression shifted slightly. Not waiting for Fang Bai to counter with the silver needles, he raised his hands in succession, and three inch-long throwing knives in a triangular formation flew out, hurtling towards Fang Bai.

His technique in releasing hidden weapons was far more refined than Cuihun's. Although the weapons were not poisoned, they were aimed at vital acupoints, and being struck by any of them would result in immediate loss of combat capabilities.

Fang Bai did not have three heads and six arms. Life-Snatching did not believe he could catch dozens of silver needles and still have the hands free to catch his throwing knives.

But what Life-Snatching could never have anticipated was that Fang Bai was an ancestral figure in the use of hidden weapons; there was no amount of hidden weapons Life-Snatching could launch that Fang Bai couldn't effortlessly catch.

As the three throwing knives reached just in front of Fang Bai, he casually flicked his hands, capturing all three.

Life-Snatching's face turned the color of iron. He now realized that he was facing a true hidden weapon master, whose skill in catching them was so refined it was beyond his own capability.

However, Life-Snatching refused to concede. He moved continuously around Fang Bai, leaping and shifting positions, unleashing an endless array of hidden weapons of different sizes, persistently aiming at Fang Bai.

Two disciples from the Yunnv Sect and Baili Zhan watched Life-Snatching with their mouths agape, wondering just how many hidden weapons he had concealed and where they were all hidden.

Life-Snatching looked crestfallen, realizing that Fang Bai's strength far exceeded his own, and that continuing the fight would be futile. A look of despair couldn't help but emerge in his eyes.

"Junior Sisters, please lend me your strength. I shall repay you handsomely later!"

Life-Snatching suddenly yelled out loud.

His senior brother, Cuihun, had suffered injuries to both arms and legs and was hindered in his movements, unable to help much. His only hope to turn the tide of battle now relied on the two disciples of the Yunnv Sect.

Before Mo Ling and Mo Ming could respond, Fang Bai's hands moved as fast as lightning, tossing up over two hundred hidden weapons in an instant that he had caught just moments ago.

The over two hundred hidden weapons made different whooshing sounds as if each had grown eyes, sealing off all escape paths for Life-Snatching.

Just as Life-Snatching's cry for help ended, he saw a rain of hidden weapons covering an area of several feet in front of him, causing his pupils to dilate suddenly.

The hidden weapons came too quickly and covered too wide an area; he had no way to dodge them.

With a grunt of pain, Life-Snatching felt numbness all over his body. From head to toe, he was covered with hidden weapons, some of which directly hit his vital points such as the chest, throat, brow, and Qi Sea.

"Junior Brother!"

Seeing Life-Snatching shot like a hedgehog and falling to the ground dead, Cuihun, sitting some distance away, had bloodshot eyes and let out a scream.

"I'm going all out against you!"

Cuihun's face twisted ferociously, and with a fierce roar, a dark, egg-sized object appeared in each hand, which he threw with all his might toward Fang Bai.

"They're thunder bombs, get away quickly!"

Ever since Fang Bai had appeared on the scene, Baili Zhan had kept silent, attentively watching the battle between Fang Bai, Cuihun, and Life-Snatching. It wasn't until he saw Cuihun take out two dark orbs that he suddenly changed color, loudly warning.

Almost simultaneously with Baili Zhan's voice, the two Yunnv Sect disciples paled and their figures shifted, darting rapidly into the distance, apparently very wary of the thunder bombs mentioned by Baili Zhan.

Fang Bai also sensed danger, and rather than catching the thunder bombs, he used the Dragon Soaring to the Heavens Technique, shooting arrow-like to the side of Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi, grabbing one with each hand, and whisking them away into the distance.

Boom——

Boom——

Two deafening blasts came from behind, hitting the spot where Fang Bai had just been standing and exploding violently.

The two thunder bombs were extremely powerful, and their shockwaves were so strong that Fang Bai, who had dashed a hundred meters away in an instant, still felt threatened and had to continue darting dozens of meters before finally stopping.

Not only that, but after the thunder bombs exploded, the area within a hundred meters was quickly shrouded in a pale red fog.

Despite the distance, Fang Bai could still smell a nauseating, poisonous odor, realizing that the pale red fog must be a highly potent poison.

A series of ghastly screams came from the fog; Cuihun, who might have inhaled the poison or was suffering from the onset of the needle poison, was rolling on the ground in agony, frantically scratching all over his body.

Moments later, the clothes on his body were completely torn apart by his own hands, and his skin began to fester, oozing dark blood.

In such excruciating pain, Cuihun's screams gradually diminished until they finally ceased altogether.

#### Chapter 152: Baili Zhan's Pig-Slaughtering Knife

Looking at Cuihun's extremely tragic death, Fang Bai felt relieved that he had acted swiftly just now; otherwise, he wouldn't have been injured by the massive power of the thunderbolt bomb, but the poison fog would have surely doomed him.

Even if he had life-saving measures and might have been fine, Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi as a couple definitely would not have survived.

"Revenge... ah no, I should call you Uncle Baili now. You're free."

Fang Bai patted Baili Zhan a few times on his body, unlocking his sealed acupoints, and said with a smile.

Although Baili Zhan was covered in blood, his wounds were external and far from fatal. After Fang Bai unlocked his acupoints, he took a long breath and felt a wave of relief wash over him.

He looked deeply at Fang Bai, his eyes filled with both doubt and gratitude, then went to check on his wife, Jiang Yuzhi. After confirming that she was just unconscious, he slowly stood up.

"Mingyue is over there in the bushes. I've temporarily sealed her acupoints so she won't be discovered by anyone."

Fang Bai transmitted his voice to Baili Zhan, gesturing with his mouth towards a distant thicket.

"I can't thank you enough for your great kindness. Allow me to repay you later."

Excited, Baili Zhan glanced toward the bushes.

Fang Bai said with a smile, "In the future, just charge me less rent."

Fang Bai could afford to smile, but Baili Zhan was not in the mood for jokes. He turned slowly, looking at the two Yunnv Sect disciples who were rapidly approaching, having circled around the pink poison fog.

Although two disciples from Ghost Doctor Valley had died, two from the Yunnv Sect were still there. Their mission was to assassinate Jiang Yuzhi, and they wouldn't easily leave until their target was dead.

Before, Baili Zhan was restrained and unable to resist, but now that he was free and his combat strength remained intact, how could he allow them to harm his wife?

"Fang Bai, please take care of my wife and daughter for me."

As he spoke, Baili Zhan clenched his fists and advanced towards the two Yunnv Sect disciples, his eyes flashing with insane combat spirit and a resolute determination to fight to the death.

Baili Zhan knew that if his family wanted to continue living in that quadrangle house in the Yanjing suburbs, they had to deal with the two Yunnv Sect disciples. Then, they might gain another ten or more years of peaceful life.

The two Yunnv Sect disciples were formidable. It was no easy task to kill them, but for the sake of his wife and daughter's survival, Baili Zhan was resolute, even willing to risk his own life.

Baili Zhan didn't beg Fang Bai for help; he knew that if Fang Bai wanted to assist, he definitely would act on his own, otherwise begging would be useless.

Earlier, when Baili Zhan and his wife were kidnapped to the mountains, they thought they were certainly going to die. But surprisingly, in their most desperate moment, Fang Bai appeared at the crucial time, killing Cuihun and Life-Snatching from Ghost Doctor Valley, and saving his and his wife's lives.

The moment he saw Fang Bai, Baili Zhan knew he had misjudged him. He had not expected this seemingly harmless young man to be a master of hidden depths.

Especially since Cuihun and Life-Snatching, two Profound Level High Rank Martial Artists, had been successively killed in a horrible way, it made Baili Zhan incredulous and gave him a newfound respect for Fang Bai.

"Uncle Baili, your knife!"

Fang Bai seemingly pulled a pig-slaughtering knife out of nowhere and threw it to Baili Zhan, who was striding forward with great steps.

Under the star and moonlight, the cold gleam of the pig-slaughtering knife flickered, clearly extremely sharp.

This pig-slaughtering knife, which Fang Bai had found and brought from the quad house, belonged to Baili Zhan.

The first time Fang Bai had set eyes on Baili Zhan, he had noticed the slaughter knife hanging at his waist, sheathed.

Baili Zhan worked at a slaughterhouse not far from the village, and whether he was going to or coming from work, he always had the knife with him.

At that time, Fang Bai knew that this pig-slaughtering knife was Baili Zhan's weapon, which could be used not only for slaughtering pigs and sheep but also for killing people.

When Fang Bai discovered the pig-slaughtering knife, it lay on the ground in the courtyard, without even its scabbard drawn.

Fang Bai knew then that Baili Zhan must have encountered a high-rank martial artist and had been injured and subdued in fierce combat, with no chance to draw his knife.

Before Fang Bai set off in pursuit, he casually carried the pig-slaughtering knife with him, thinking that if he encountered Baili Zhan, he would hand the knife to him.

Baili Zhan never parted with his knife, indicating his high level of skill with the blade. With the pig-slaughtering knife to assist him, his strength would undoubtedly increase significantly.

Sure enough, once Baili Zhan received the knife, his entire demeanor abruptly changed. Just now he appeared as if he bravely faced certain death, but now he was filled with confidence of certain victory.

"Thanks."

Baili Zhan offered his thanks without looking back, holding the pig-slaughtering knife as he continued forward.

Fang Bai swept into the distant bushes, grabbing Baili Mingyue to bring back, placing her beside Jiang Yuzhi and then releasing Baili Mingyue's sealed acupoints.

"Mom..."

Baili Mingyue saw her mother lying unconscious beside her on the ground and rushed to her aid, sitting her up and glowering at Fang Bai, "What have you done to my mom?"

"Get your facts straight before you talk."

Seeing that Baili Mingyue had misunderstood him and thought he had harmed her mother, Fang Bai rolled his eyes and pointed to the fight that was already underway between Baili Zhan and two "Yunnv Sect" disciples, saying impatiently, "Your parents were beaten and taken here. I brought you to rescue them!"

After looking toward her father and thinking about the situation she had seen at home, Baili Mingyue put some faith in Fang Bai's words, retracted her angry expression, and softened considerably in tone, asking, "Then why... why couldn't I move or speak just now?"

"I sealed your acupoints! Otherwise, with you shouting and screaming, if we were discovered, it could've affected my rescue of your parents... You're like a dog biting the hand that feeds, not recognizing kindness!"

"Then... what's wrong with my mom?"

"She suffered a fit of anger and passed out, but there's nothing seriously wrong."

"Fang Bai, I'm sorry!"

Baili Mingyue was straightforward, knowing she had been wrong and sincerely apologizing to Fang Bai.

The confrontation between Baili Zhan and the "Yunnv Sect" female disciples Mo Ling and Mo Ming was intensely fierce from the start.

Baili Zhan was a Profound Level high-rank martial artist, and so were Mo Ling and Mo Ming. Logically speaking, with similar strength amongst the three, Baili Zhan should stand no chance against two.

But Baili Zhan, for the sake of his wife and daughter, dared to risk his life and fight, with almost every move striving for mutual destruction.

Mo Ling and Mo Ming, on the other hand, lacked the resolve and courage to face death, unwilling to engage in a life-and-death struggle with Baili Zhan.

In the confrontation, one side fought with all their might, while the other was full of reservation, and for a time, they were evenly matched.

"Your old man won't die just yet. I'll check on your mom's condition first..."

Fang Bai glanced at the ongoing fight and then stopped paying attention to it, crouching down to carefully observe Jiang Yuzhi's condition.

Jiang Yuzhi's condition was very grim. After fainting, her breathing became intermittent, and a wisp of black blood spilled from the corner of her mouth, signaling the imminent full-onset of the poison in her body.

Fang Bai felt that without him there, Jiang Yuzhi would have a hard time surviving the night.

#### Chapter 153: Butterfly Dance Through the Flower Sword Array

"Support your mother's body well, I will wake her first before we discuss anything else."

Fang Bai said, taking out the water and wood needles from the Five Elements Acupuncture Set, piercing the center of Jiang Yuzhi's forehead—her Sea of Consciousness—and below, her Qi Sea in the lower abdomen. Then, with both hands gripping the ends of the needles, he channeled two strands of True Yuan through them, slowly transferring them into Jiang Yuzhi's body.

One strand of True Yuan, passing through the Wood Needle, carried a trace of the Wood Attribute, which could stimulate Jiang Yuzhi's vitality to sustain her life.

Meanwhile, the other strand of True Yuan, after passing through the water needle, held the essence of the Water Attribute, capable of healing the internal organs of Jiang Yuzhi that had been corroded by the poison.

Both the Sea of Consciousness and the Qi Sea are crucial parts of a Martial Artist's body; the True Yuan entering these places would rapidly travel through the meridians and blood vessels, reaching the entire body, and could achieve the fastest and best effect.

Baili Mingyue glanced back and forth between her father's situation and her mother's, her expression tense and worried, not daring to even take a deep breath.

The events of this evening had been too shocking for Baili Mingyue, who had not seen much of the world, overturning many of her understandings.

Baili Mingyue never imagined her father could be so formidable; covered in blood with a ferocious face, the butcher knife in his hand flipping and flying, his figure darting and dodging, his shouts and roars vibrant enough to make one's eardrums buzz.

Each punch and kick he delivered carried a forceful wind, kicking up countless stones from the ground, striking fear into the hearts of onlookers.

And the two women fighting with her father, seemingly delicate in their flowing white clothes, also possessed the same terrifying power.

This was clearly the kind of master written about in legends, possessing immense strength and the ability to move at astonishing heights and speeds.

As for Fang Bai, with a wave of his hand, he made her mute and immobile; then just as easily, he restored her freedom, leading Baili Mingyue to believe he must also be a master.

Although Baili Mingyue did not understand why this night's events had happened, she could guess that her parents had certainly been concealing something from her.

Now, Baili Mingyue wanted nothing more than to go back home, lock her room door, and ask her parents for the whole truth.

Jiang Yuzhi had been poisoned for over a decade, the toxicity deeply ingrained in her viscera and even her bones and blood. Even with Fang Bai's divine medical skills, it would be difficult to heal her quickly; the best he could do was to awaken her from her comatose state.

In fact, in Jiang Yuzhi's current condition, any hospital would likely deem her beyond recovery and treat her as a "vegetative" patient. Although Fang Bai had the ability to wake her, it would be extremely challenging.

After the water and wood needles from the Five Elements Acupuncture Set were inserted at Jiang Yuzhi's major acupoints of the Sea of Consciousness and Qi Sea, Fang Bai continued to pour his True Yuan into her without interruption. In less than ten minutes, his forehead was already covered with a layer of fine sweat.

At the same time, the battle between Baili Zhan and the two "Yunnv Sect" disciples had also reached a fever pitch.

Baili Zhan grew increasingly brave and ferocious in battle, and in exchange for wounds all over his body from the swords, he had managed to inflict injuries on his opponents twice, adding a knife wound to each of the two "Yunnv Sect" disciples—and the wounds were not light.

Mo Ling and Mo Ming, the two sisters, appeared frustrated and furious, now realizing they had been tricked by Fang Bai.

When Fang Bai first appeared, he had put on a posture as if fighting desperately with Cuihun, claiming it was because Cuihun had taken his woman. This led to Mo Ling and Mo Ming choosing to stand aside, which ultimately cost them the chance to join forces against their enemy.

Otherwise, by now, Fang Bai would have been surrounded and slain by them, and the Baili family would have been executed, allowing them to complete their mission and leave.

But now, even though they realized Fang Bai had come to rescue Baili Zhan and his wife, it was too late.

Baili Zhan was fighting for his life with them, becoming more valiant and aggressive as the battle went on.

Although Fang Bai was not actively participating at the moment, the two women were certain that if Baili Zhan showed signs of defeat or was in critical danger, Fang Bai would not stand idly by.

With Baili Zhan, a master of equal realm, and Fang Bai, whose strength seemed even greater, it was uncertain whether the two sisters would gain any advantage.

That kid is just too cunning!

The more Mo Ling and Mo Ming, the two sisters who had been deceived by Fang Bai, thought about it, the more furious they became. Whenever they took a quick glance at where Fang Bai was, their teeth itched with hatred, and they wished they could charge over and stab Fang Bai to death with a sword.

Under their frustration and irritation, their strength invariably suffered, and before long, Mo Ming's left arm was slashed by Baili Zhan's pig-slaughtering knife, immediately bleeding profusely.

"Sister, let's use the Butterfly Dance Sword Array!"

Seeing that her sister was badly injured, Mo Ling's eyes turned cold, and, with a delicate shout, her swordsmanship changed dramatically, becoming more graceful and agile in movement.

As if telepathically linked, the two sisters coordinated flawlessly, no longer clashing head-on with Baili Zhan but instead circling around him ceaselessly, like a pair of white butterflies flitting playfully among flowers.

Their sword techniques, though not sharp and swift, were as dense as rain, continuous without end, and most often came in double strikes—left and right, front and back, or top and bottom—in a mysterious and unpredictable manner, making it hard to grasp.

Baili Zhan's knife technique was broad and powerful, with an imposing presence. Although it could seize the initiative with its aggressiveness, it significantly consumed True Yuan. Against an opponent of equal or greater strength, it would quickly seem inadequate over time.

Mo Ling and Mo Ming's swordplay was soft and unceasing, their movements unpredictable. Utilizing a mobile battle strategy to entangle with Baili Zhan, they made him feel quite uncomfortable.

It didn't take long for Baili Zhan to feel his True Yuan waning, his knife's force diminished, making him become anxious.

Hiss—

Hiss—

The tips of Mo Ling and Mo Ming's long swords suddenly emitted green sword beams identical in color to the blades.

The sword beams, only a few inches long, exuded a chillingly sharp aura. As the blades rapidly thrust forward, the sound of the sword beams slicing through the air was like a venomous snake hissing.

"Got you!"

The sisters seized a small opening in Baili Zhan's defense when his True Yuan faltered and, with a delicate shout, thrust their swords forward, leaving slashes on Baili Zhan's left arm and right leg respectively.

The wound on the left arm didn't greatly affect Baili Zhan, but the one on his right leg was severe—almost piercing through the limb.

Baili Zhan grunted, his right leg buckled, and he knelt on one knee.

A cold light flashed in Mo Ling's eyes as she swept her long sword horizontally towards Baili Zhan's neck.

Her long sword, capable of cutting iron as if it were mud, coupled with the infusion of True Yuan, would decapitate Baili Zhan if his neck was struck.

Roar—

A bellow, like a thunderclap on a clear day, suddenly exploded beside Mo Ling's ear, causing her eardrums to ring and her mind to dizzily sway for a moment, her sword's momentum involuntarily stalling.

Immediately after, several thin yet piercing strands of Qi attacked Mo Ling from the side.

If Mo Ling continued her strike, Baili Zhan would still be unable to escape, but Mo Ling herself would also be injured by the incoming Qi.

That guy made his move!

Without even looking, Mo Ling knew that the person who intervened must be Fang Bai.

## Chapter 154: Lend Me the Pig-Killing Knife!

"A life-for-life exchange is something Mo Ling would never agree to. Without giving it much thought, she took a step back, narrowly evading the burst of energy that came at her from the side."

"The force of the energy grazed past Mo Ling's body and struck a rock standing in the valley not far away, sparking several flames. They were actually the three flying knives that Life-Snatching had thrown earlier."

"And the one who had thrown the three knives was Fang Bai."

"Fang Bai had just roused Jiang Yuzhi from unconsciousness and hadn't even had time to catch his breath when he noticed that Baili Zhan was at a critical point of life and death. He immediately launched the Lion's Roar Sonic Wave at Mo Ling to disrupt her focus and hinder her movement."

"Although Mo Ling felt only a moment of discomfort, it gave Fang Bai enough time to pick up the three knives that had fallen to the ground and throw them in her direction, saving Baili Zhan's life just in time."

"As the knives flew, Fang Bai's figure also moved. Within a fleeting moment, he stood by Baili Zhan's side, protecting him."

"Mo Ling and Mo Ming, the two sisters, stood together, warily watching Fang Bai. For the moment, they did not dare to attack."

"Uncle Baili, are you okay?" Fang Bai asked nonchalantly without taking his eyes off Mo Ling and Mo Ming.

"I won't die easily."

"Having narrowly escaped death, Baili Zhan was drenched in a cold sweat. He knew that Fang Bai had saved his life once again and expressed his gratitude, 'Brother Fang, thank you.'

"As he spoke, he swiftly sealed several acupoints around the sword wound on his leg to stop the bleeding."

"Your wife is temporarily out of danger. However, the toxins that have accumulated in her body over the past decade have now been fully triggered. If you fail to find a cure for the poison within ten days, you better start planning her funeral." Fang Bai said calmly.

"Baili Zhan, surprised, asked, 'You... you can tell that Yuzhi has been poisoned?'

"He glanced at his wife, who was not far away, and saw that she had regained consciousness and was sitting on a rock."

"What surprised him even more was that his daughter, Baili Mingyue, was also sitting beside his wife."

"Seeing that both his wife and daughter were safe, Baili Zhan heaved a sigh of relief as if a great burden had been lifted from his shoulders."

"The 'Man-Eating Flower' poison can hardly escape my notice. The moment I saw your wife, I knew she had been poisoned with this, and for many years at that. The herbal medicines you've been brewing could only suppress the toxicity but couldn't eliminate it. I knew this much too." Fang Bai continued unhurriedly."

"Baili Zhan was even more astonished and blurted out, 'You know medical skills?'

"Of course!" Fang Bai countered with a sneer, "Not only do I know medical skills, but I also know quite a bit. Even though you're a disciple from the 'Ghost Doctor Valley,' your medical skills might not be as proficient as mine."

"Suddenly excited, Baili Zhan's voice trembled, 'Brother Fang, do you have a way...'

"We'll talk about this matter later." Fang Bai waved his hand, interrupting Baili Zhan's words, and pointed at Mo Ling and Mo Ming, "What do you plan to do with these two?"

"Baili Zhan, suppressing the urge to ask Fang Bai several questions, looked at Mo Ling and Mo Ming with eyes full of hatred, tightened his grip on the butcher knife in his hand, and said coldly, 'I don't like killing,

but since they came to my door threatening to kill my wife and daughter, I have no choice but to harden my heart just this once.'

"His family of three had been living peacefully in a quadrangle dwelling in that little village for over a decade, thinking that their sect had forgotten about them and would no longer pursue them. Sadly, this hope had finally been shattered."

"Baili Zhan and his wife, Jiang Yuzhi, came from the Hidden Sect's 'Ghost Doctor Valley' and 'Yunnv Sect,' respectively. Because of their love for each other and the birth of their daughter, Baili Mingyue, they had eloped and gone into hiding in the mundane world."

They didn't seek a life of fame and glory; they simply wanted to live quietly, even if during their elopement, Jiang Yuzhi was poisoned by the "Man-Eating Flower" from "Ghost Doctor Valley." The couple silently endured, never considering revenge.

But they never expected that the disciples of their martial arts clan would eventually find their hiding place and even attempt to eliminate their entire family.

If it weren't for Fang Bai, they might all have returned to the Underworld by now.

Since the clan had been ruthless, Baili Zhan was prepared to be merciless as well.

Now that "Ghost Doctor Valley's" Cuihun and Life-Snatching were dead, as long as Mo Ling and Mo Ming from "Yunnv Sect" were also killed, and their bodies were completely destroyed, perhaps another decade or so of peace could be secured.

Mo Ling, with a mocking look, sneered, "Senior Brother Baili, out of the three of us, you're the most injured, struggling even to protect yourself. Do you really have the ability to kill us?"

Then she warned Fang Bai, "Young man, this is a grudge between us. It's best if you don't get involved, or the disciples of 'Ghost Doctor Valley' and 'Yunnv Sect' won't let you off."

Fang Bai said, "I've already killed two people from 'Ghost Doctor Valley'. Do you think 'Ghost Doctor Valley' will let me go?"

Mo Ming sneered in response, "Definitely not. If we bring this news back to the Hidden Sect, even a hundred lives wouldn't be enough for you to die with!"

Fang Bai, with a smile, said, "If I kill you, then no one will know about it, right? Who knows who killed you?"

Mo Ling and Mo Ming's faces changed in unison. Although Fang Bai wore a smile, they could feel a dense murderous intent.

"Uncle Baili, you rest to the side for now. Lend me your pig-killing knife!"

Fang Bai reached out his hand to Baili Zhan.

Fang Bai was right; now that he was involved, the only way to avoid trouble was to kill Mo Ling and Mo Ming. To ensure a peaceful life in the future, Fang Bai decided that he might as well go all the way and eradicate the roots of the problem.

"Can you handle it alone?"

Baili Zhan handed the pig-killing knife to Fang Bai, unable to help but ask.

"Just two injured women... what a fine knife!"

Taking the knife from Baili Zhan's hand, Fang Bai couldn't help but praise it.

Although he couldn't tell what material the pig-killing knife was made of, it felt heavy in hand and emitted an icy chill. It was an exceptional knife, capable of slicing through metal and stone effortlessly.

It was a waste for Baili Zhan to use such a great knife for slaughtering pigs and sheep.

Of course, as good as Baili Zhan's pig-killing knife was, it wasn't a Spiritual Artifact. It could cut through metal and jade, but it would never stand a chance against the Five Elements Acupuncture Set obtained by Fang Bai, which was indeed a real Spiritual Artifact.

Once Fang Bai's strength reached the point where he could wield the Five Elements Acupuncture Set, it would unleash unimaginable power in his hands.

"Using a pig-killing knife on two women, and two rather attractive ones at that, truly spoils the scenery!"

Fang Bai, holding the knife, advanced step by step towards Mo Ling and Mo Ming, muttering to himself.

Mo Ling and Mo Ming, hearing Fang Bai's tone as if they were mere livestock waiting to be slaughtered, were so enraged that their eyebrows shot up and smoke seemed to billow from their seven orifices.

"Sister, let's kill him first. Then we'll kill Jiang Yuzhi's family!"

"Okay!"

The two sisters exchanged a glance, swords at the ready. Without waiting for Fang Bai to get close, they launched an attack.

Chapter 155: Dousing Blade Technique

"Uncle Baili, watch closely, the pig-slaughtering knife can also be played like this!"

Fang Bai let out a roar, and under Baili Zhan's gaze, his figure suddenly lunged forward. The pig-slaughtering knife transformed into a series of shadows in mid-air, unexpectedly meeting the two long swords stabbing toward him.

In the hands of Baili Zhan, the pig-slaughtering knife was robust and fierce, with a momentum like a rainbow. But when wielded by Fang Bai, that robustness and momentum were elevated to an extreme state.

With every swing of the knife that Fang Bai executed, it brought forth not just a rainbow-like blade light, but also a gust of wind.

The force of the knife mixed with the wind created a whirlwind in front of Fang Bai. The tempest stirred up by the whirlwind swept up the sand and rocks from the ground, enveloping Mo Ling and Mo Ming in its midst.

The two sisters were caught in the midst of the whirlwind's fury as if trapped in some sort of maze, barely able to open their eyes, their long swords unsteady in their grasp, their bodies difficult to keep standing.

And the sand and stones that flew all around them felt like hidden weapons, causing a faint pain upon impact.

The sisters were greatly alarmed and were just about to pull back when they suddenly felt their swords lighten in their hands, which had been chopped in half at the midsection by Fang Bai's pig-slaughtering knife.

Immediately after, they saw a figure rush toward them, moving around them with the rotating wind.

Although they could not see the face clearly, the sisters knew it had to be Fang Bai.

Within the whirlwind stirred up by the pig-slaughtering knife, the sisters completely lost the initiative. They were both frightened and apprehensive, frantically waving their broken swords, forming a curtain of blades around them to guard against any sneak attack from Fang Bai.

Such directionless passive defense consumed a lot of True Yuan, and before long, breaks began to appear in their curtain of swords.

"Fall for me!"

Suddenly, with a light shout from Fang Bai, Mo Ling and Mo Ming almost at the same moment felt a slight chill in their legs, as if something had swiftly grazed past.

"It's over!"

Both sisters were martial artists and immediately knew that the tendons in their legs had been severed, their eyes revealing a look of despair.

Fang Bai sheathed his knife and stepped back next to Baili Zhan, and the whirlwind covering Mo Ling and Mo Ming immediately vanished.

Baili Zhan watched intently, only to see Mo Ling and Mo Ming each holding a broken sword, their clothes in disarray, their long hair mussed, in complete disarray—where was there any semblance of a master's poise?

Clang—

Clang—

With two crisp sounds, the broken swords in the hands of Mo Ling and Mo Ming dropped to the ground, and immediately after, their legs gave way, their bodies lost control and they slumped to the ground, unable to stand up no matter how much they struggled.

"Uncle Baili, how about my swordsmanship?"

Fang Bai turned his head and smiled at Baili Zhan.

"This... what kind of swordsmanship is this?"

Baili Zhan's mind was still replaying the domineering swordsmanship Fang Bai had exhibited, which was capable of creating a windstorm. He felt his throat dry up, his voice trembling as he spoke.

Fang Bai's swordsmanship, from the start to finish, with each stroke cast, was bringing a whirlwind and fury along with it, unstoppable like a bamboo splitter, incomparably domineering, setting one's mind pounding and blood boiling.

Upon seeing Fang Bai display such swordsmanship, and then thinking about his own, Baili Zhan felt as if he was performing swordplay with the grandeur of Guan Gong at the gate but ultimately inconsequential.

"This is called the 'Dousing Blade Technique.'"

Fang Bai's finger flicked the butcher knife in his hand, saying, "Doesn't this butcher knife, matched with my technique, complement each other perfectly?"

"Dousing Blade Technique... Dousing Blade Technique... This is the real swordplay..."

Baili Zhan murmured, his gaze toward Fang Bai burning with fervor. His lips moved as if he wanted to say something but in the end, he didn't speak.

Although Fang Bai could guess what Baili Zhan was thinking, he just pursed his lips and smiled without continuing the conversation. Instead, he lifted the butcher knife in his hand and began gesturing over the bodies of Mo Ling and Mo Ming, who had already lost most of their combat strength, muttering to himself, "Killing two women... I find it a little hard to go through with, what should I do?"

"Let me do it!"

Seeing Fang Bai's reluctance, Baili Zhan grew anxious, strode forward, took the butcher knife from Fang Bai's hand, and stood in front of Mo Ling and Mo Ming with an expressionless face, saying, "Between us, it's either you die or I perish. There's no room for compromise, so I won't let you go... In the afterlife, don't blame me. Blame your sect instead!"

Baili Zhan's family of three had narrowly escaped death at the hands of the Ghost Doctor Sect and the Yunnv Sect. And tonight, they nearly lost their lives to the disciples of these two Hidden Sects again. So, Baili Zhan only felt hatred for these two sects' disciples and would show no mercy.

As a Martial Artist, Baili Zhan knew better than anyone that to be kind to an enemy was to be cruel to oneself.

Like Fang Bai, Baili Zhan valued his family and friends greatly. To protect them, they would become merciless killers without regret or complaint.

Fang Bai turned away and walked toward Jiang Yuzhi and Baili Mingyue. He knew the fate of Mo Ling and Mo Ming was sealed and didn't bother to look back.

"I'll send you on your way!"

Fang Bai had walked about a dozen steps away when he heard Baili Zhan's loud shout from behind, followed by the sound of the knife slicing through the air.

Baili Zhan's blade moved exceedingly fast. Mo Ling and Mo Ming, knowing that resistance would only lead to a more miserable death, remained seated and motionless as the butcher knife cut through their throats. Their consciousness was then engulfed by endless darkness, and they perished.

As Baili Zhan swung the butcher knife at the two disciples of the Yunnv Sect, Jiang Yuzhi reached out to cover her daughter Baili Mingyue's eyes, shielding her from the gruesome scene.

At the same time, Jiang Yuzhi sighed inwardly, knowing that after tonight's events, she could no longer keep certain things from her daughter.

If that was the case, then upon returning home, she might as well let her husband teach their daughter the ways of Ancient Martial arts, so that she could defend herself in the future.

"Should I call you Aunt Qiu now, or should I stick to calling you Aunt Jiang?"

Fang Bai approached Jiang Yuzhi and Baili Mingyue, asking with a smile.

Baili Mingyue found Fang Bai's question strange. There was still much she didn't understand and hadn't had the chance to inquire about.

Jiang Yuzhi gave a bitter smile and said, "You must already know our true identities and names... Mingyue's father's surname is Baili, with a single name Zhan; my surname is Jiang, and my name is Jiang Yuzhi..."

"Then I'll call you Aunt Jiang."

Fang Bai focused intently on Jiang Yuzhi's complexion as he inquired, "A while ago, I only managed to temporarily suppress the poison in your body to delay its effects, but it's quite troublesome to expel it completely. How are you feeling now?"

Jiang Yuzhi assessed her own condition, nodding, "I feel somewhat better than before. The symptoms of dizziness in my head have decreased substantially. Fang Bai, do you really have a way to rid me of the 'Man-Eating Flower' poison?"

Just earlier, Fang Bai had used the water and wood needles from the Five Elements Acupuncture Set, together with his own True Yuan, to wake Jiang Yuzhi from her unconscious state and had a brief conversation with her. This experience made her aware of Fang Bai's identity as a doctor.

Having lived with the 'Man-Eating Flower' poison for over a decade, Jiang Yuzhi had long since lost hope and let go of her fear of death. However, she heard a glimmer of hope in Fang Bai's words and felt the flame of hope ignite once again in her despairing heart.

If one could avoid death, who would choose to die?

Chapter 156: Fight Poison with Poison

"Yes,"

Fang Bai said confidently, "But to expel the 'Man-Eating Flower' poison, one needs a very rare and precious medicinal ingredient, it all depends on whether Uncle Baili can find it. If he can, there's a great hope of expelling the poison from your body, but if not..."

"What ingredient?"

Clutching his pig-slaughtering knife, Baili Zhan walked hurriedly toward them, his expression agitated as he asked loudly while walking.

Fang Bai enunciated each word clearly, "Man-Eating Flower."

"Man-Eating Flower?!"

Both Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi exclaimed in shock, their faces filled with disbelief.

"Yes, Man-Eating Flower,"

Fang Bai said, "Uncle Baili is also proficient in medicine, so you should know about the method of 'fighting poison with poison,' right?"

"Fighting poison with poison... fighting poison with poison... Brother Fang, can this really work?"

Jiang Yuzhi had suffered from the 'Man-Eating Flower' poison years ago, which made her live in agony for more than a decade. Using the 'Man-Eating Flower' to expel the poison, wouldn't that be adding poison on top of poison, accelerating the onset of the toxicity?

"Aunt Jiang's poisoning has lasted too long, and the toxicity has already spread throughout her body. Only by using the 'Man-Eating Flower' poison to stimulate all the latent toxicity in her body can it be expelled... Uncle Baili, you are a doctor, you must understand this principle, right?"

Seeing Baili Zhan's face turn pale, Fang Bai knew he was concerned that the detoxifying method he mentioned might hasten his wife's death and patiently explained.

Fang Bai was someone who did not like to meddle, but he wasn't one to drag his feet either. Having already become involved in this matter, he decided to help to the end.

Baili Zhan looked down and thought deeply about Fang Bai's words, his eyes gradually brightening up as he nodded and said, "It is indeed a good method, one I had never thought of..."

Fang Bai said, "Not to discourage you, but even if you'd thought of it, it would have been useless."

"Why?"

Baili Zhan was taken aback.

"To thoroughly expel the poison from Aunt Jiang's body, not only do we need to use 'Man-Eating Flower' to fight the poison, we also have to control the dosage based on her body's tolerance, a little too much or too little could both lead to irreversible consequences. Furthermore, we must supplement with True Yuan, acupuncture, massage, and other techniques..."

"Is it that complicated?"

Baili Zhan scratched his head vigorously, sighing, "I was thinking of trying your method after returning, but now that you've explained it, I daren't."

"So you go find the Man-Eating Flower, and leave the rest to me."

After a moment's hesitation, Baili Zhan nodded and said, "Okay."

Jiang Yuzhi hurriedly said, "The Man-Eating Flower is extremely rare, and it's hard to find in the secular world, only some Hidden Sects may have it. Zhan, you..."

Baili Zhan clenched his teeth, resolutely saying, "The 'Ghost Doctor Valley' cultivates 'Man-Eating Flowers.' I'll sneak back there, pick a few, and bring them back."

"No!"

With reddening eyes, Jiang Yuzhi pleaded bitterly, "Brother Zhan, I beg you, don't go to 'Ghost Doctor Valley.' That place is too dangerous; it's a certain death. I'd rather die than have you risk your life."

Baili Zhan walked up to his wife, gently placed his hands on her shoulders, and looked at her tenderly, speaking softly, "Yuzhi, from the moment we fled the Hidden Sect, my life has been for you and our daughter. As long as you two are well, what regret would I have in death?"

Jiang Yuzhi knew that her husband was a man of his word, his decisions unalterable by anyone. Overcome with sadness, she couldn't help but sob quietly.

Baili Mingyue said, "Dad, Mom, what on earth is going on between you two? All this talk of life and death is utterly confusing."

Baili Zhan let out a small smile, reached out and patted his daughter on the head, saying, "Mingyue, don't worry. Once we've dealt with matters here, we'll go home and talk about it slowly."

He found a hidden spot and dug a deep pit with two broken swords found at the scene, burying the bodies of the four Yunnv Sect disciples, then cleaned up the bloodstains from the fight before he and his wife and daughter, along with Fang Bai, returned to the courtyard residence.

That very night, Baili Mingyue learned many things.

She discovered that her parents were not ordinary people but disciples of those legendary, hidden sects, both possessing impressive martial arts skills.

She learned that her parents had fallen in love and after they had her, they faced fierce opposition from their sect and had no choice but to leave the Hidden Sect.

She learned that the reason her mother had been unwell for so many years was not due to sickness, but because she was poisoned by the "Man-Eating Flower" poison from a Ghost Doctor Valley disciple during their escape from their sect's assassins.

She learned that her father had spent years seeking valuable medicinal herbs to suppress the poison in her mother's body, nearly depleting all their family wealth.

She learned that every day her mother struggled against the poison within her, enduring agonies beyond the common person's imagination, living as though death would be preferable.

She learned that her real name was not Qiu Mingyue but Baili Mingyue, previously given the surname Qiu because her father harbored resentment towards Ghost Doctor Valley...

Additionally, Baili Mingyue found out that their only lodger, Fang Bai, was a concealed master. Not only was he a martial artist, but he was even slightly more formidable than her father. Even his medical skills had earned her father's admiration.

As for why Fang Bai was so formidable, he said he had been taught by a master, but whether this was true or not, no one knew.

Having learned so much in one night, an ordinary girl would be burdened with worries, becoming silent and withdrawn, but Baili Mingyue was exactly the opposite—she was overjoyed. That very night, she discussed with her parents her wish to start learning ancient martial arts once her father's injuries had healed and her mother's poison was expelled.

After the battle with the four Profound Level high rank martial artists from Ghost Doctor Valley and Yunnv Sect, Baili Zhan was seriously injured. But after only three days of rest at home, once his condition had slightly improved, he prepared to set out in search of the "Man-Eating Flower."

"You don't need to rush so much. I said Aunt Jiang could only live for ten days without my intervention. With me here, we can extend that period to a month. If you can bring back the 'Man-Eating Flower' within a month, everything will be fine," Fang Bai said to him before his departure and also transmitted the secrets of the Dousing Blade Technique to Baili Zhan for him to ponder and cultivate on his own.

Grateful for Fang Bai's kindness, Baili Zhan made a solemn promise to him, "Brother Fang, I can never repay your generosity. From now on, at just a single word from you, I, Baili Zhan will charge through fire and water, face death without hesitation!"

"During the time I'm away, I'll need Brother Fang's help to look after the house. Especially that girl Mingyue, Brother Fang, please keep her under your guidance. If she disobeys, feel free to punish or scold her as necessary."

The one Baili Zhan was most worried about leaving behind was his daughter, Baili Mingyue. He feared she might be bullied or start to follow bad influences. Knowing that Fang Bai would be looking after her gave him much greater peace of mind.

#### Chapter 157: Chenyu Calls

In addition, Fang Bai also instructed Baili Zhan to look for some medicinal herbs on his behalf if the opportunity presented itself, for the preparation of an ointment that could remove scars.

Fang Bai had never forgotten about the ten-million bet with Qian Haoduo.

As long as Fang Bai could eliminate the scars on his back within a year, he would receive the ten million in cash that Qian Haoduo had entrusted to Tang Chongshan for safekeeping.

Since the bet with Qian Haoduo, Fang Bai had not found the time to search for the medicinal herbs and prepare the ointment, but now that Baili Zhan was going to look for the "Man-Eating Flower," Fang Bai casually mentioned it.

For Fang Bai, it would be best if Baili Zhan could find the necessary herbs, but if not, there was nothing to regret; he could always find time to search for them slowly later on.

After Baili Zhan left, the peace and tranquility of the past days returned to the small village's courtyard house.

Fang Bai continued his routine of practicing every morning in the mountains and then going on with his internship at Yanjing Hospital.

Baili Mingyue still went to cram school every day, though her chivalrous heart, always ready to stand up for others and fight injustice, had not changed a bit; at home, however, she was noticeably more sensible.

And Jiang Yuzhi was just the same, every morning and evening, her daughter would wheel her out into the yard to bask in the sun, while she rested in her bed indoors at other times.

Whenever Fang Bai was present at the courtyard house, he would take the initiative to help with these tasks.

But sometimes, Fang Bai noticed that when he and Baili Mingyue were joking and laughing, Jiang Yuzhi would look at them with a slightly unusual expression, almost as if a mother-in-law was watching her son-in-law, growing more pleased with each glance.

Sometimes, during their chats, Jiang Yuzhi would also beat around the bush, asking Fang Bai if he had a girlfriend yet.

At these moments, Fang Bai would just laugh silently, thinking, do they really expect me to marry their daughter as thanks for saving their lives?

Fang Bai admitted that he liked unique and extraordinary beauties, but Baili Mingyue was not even eighteen yet and hadn't finished high school; he truly had no other thoughts about her for now.

Since the last time he felt Su Linglong's bones and discovered she had a Wood Spirit Root constitution, Fang Bai had taken the opportunity to teach her the Wood System Skill "Heaven's Net."

So far, Fang Bai had found two people in this world with special constitutions suitable for cultivating unique techniques.

One was his sister Fang Yun, and the other was Su Linglong.

Fang Yun had a Fire Spirit Root, and Fang Bai had taught her the Fire-based Technique "Redflame True Fire Technique" before coming to Yanjing.

A couple of days ago, when Fang Bai called his sister Fang Yun, he found out that her "Redflame True Fire Technique" had reached a stage where her palms would feel warm as soon as she circulated the

technique. This was a sign that Fang Yun had found the knack and, with persistent effort, great surprises awaited her in the future.

The Wood System Skill "Heaven's Net" that Fang Bai taught Su Linglong is also an extraordinary technique. Once cultivated to a certain realm, the True Yuan will transform into thousands of green tendrils, which can form a Heaven's Net at her will. The technique, both in attack and defense, is truly indescribable.

Fang Bai had passed on the techniques to Fang Yun and Su Linglong, but their ultimate level of cultivation would depend on their own fate and opportunities.

Fang Bai believed that with special constitutions like the Five Elements Spiritual Root, Fang Yun and Su Linglong would progress much faster than average martial artists if they diligently practiced their cultivation. As long as they don't encounter major setbacks, their future achievements would be boundless.

Since successfully treating Lu Jianfeng, who was injured in a car accident, Fang Bai had become famous at Yanjing Hospital. From the hospital director to the janitors, everyone knew that Fang Bai, the intern doctor from the acupuncture and massage department, was a Little Divine Doctor capable of miraculous rejuvenation.

Especially the elderly men and women whom Fang Bai cured of cervical and back pain—they personally spread word of his skill. As their testimonials spread from one to many, more and more patients seeking Fang Bai's care came to the hospital, specifically asking for his treatment.

The entire spotlight in the acupuncture and massage room was completely stolen by Fang Bai alone; although the senior doctors were dissatisfied, they dared not show it openly, as the recent lesson from Ren Ping, the former director of the emergency room, was still fresh in their minds.

Having a reputation and unlimited glory, this was undoubtedly a good thing, but because of it, Fang Bai became the busiest person in the acupuncture and massage room.

However, Fang Bai was not annoyed. For him, interacting with different people every day, treating different illnesses, with True Yuan depleting and then recovering, over and over, was also a form of cultivation—a cultivation not only of power but also of the mind.

When it wasn't too busy, Fang Bai would also give some guidance to Wu Tian, another intern like him, which greatly benefited Wu Tian. His acupuncture skills and massage techniques improved rapidly, and gradually patients were willing to see him as well.

The ordinarily quiet acupuncture and massage room, seldom sought after by patients, had completely changed due to Fang Bai's presence. Almost every day, it was bustling and filled to capacity.

In order to maintain the normal functioning of the acupuncture and massage room, the hospital had no choice but to implement measures, allowing patients to book appointments in advance, and stated that Fang Bai would only see ten patients a day.

That day at noon, Wu Tian and a few other hospital interns invited Fang Bai to a meal at a nearby hotel; just as they sat down, Fang Bai's cellphone rang. When he checked the number, it was actually from Xia Chenyu.

Seeing the name "Xia Chenyu" on the phone, Fang Bai immediately pictured a woman in a red dress, with a graceful figure and endlessly charming allure.

Fang Bai was somewhat puzzled. Since arriving in Yanjing, he hadn't contacted Xia Chenyu. Why would she suddenly call him at this time?

"Fang Bai, do you have time?"

Upon answering the phone, he could hear Xia Chenyu's voice, which sounded languid and seemingly carried a hint of fatigue.

"Sister Xia, from your voice, it seems you're not in a good mood?"

Fang Bai asked, smiling.

"It's not just not good, it's very bad!"

Xia Chenyu sighed as she spoke.

From her sigh, Fang Bai felt a kind of despondency, as of utterly losing heart.

"The Sister Xia I know is broad-minded, cheerful, optimistic, and passionate. What could have hurt you so deeply?"

Fang Bai said this, his heart moved, and then he added, "Could it be that your half-brother Shen Huanian has come to you again, forcing you into an arranged marriage with a scion of some major family?"

"It's not about Shen Huanian... but it is related to the Shen Family! Hmph, the Shen Family really intends to drive me to my death!"

As soon as the Shen Family was mentioned, Xia Chenyu's tone was filled with hatred, and Fang Bai could even imagine her grinding her teeth on the other end of the phone.

"Tell me what happened."

Fang Bai was curious, wondering what could make the always smiling Xia Chenyu sigh and lament so.

"Do you remember the last time I told you that my 'Beauty Company' had developed two cosmetic products that we were planning to bring to market?"

Xia Chenyu asked.

Chapter 158: Sister Likes to Listen

"I remember! At that time, you were full of ambition, saying you were going to snatch a portion of the market share from the Shen Family's 'Belle Group'... What, you've encountered some setbacks?"

"Sigh... not just a setback, but a big setback!"

Xia Chenyu let out a long sigh and said, "After our product went on the market, it was suppressed by the Shen Family and several other major brands, so sales weren't very good. Later, some people developed skin allergies and burns while using our product..."

"How could that happen? Your products couldn't possibly have such problems, could they?"

"Our products underwent a large number of inspections and tests before they were launched into the market, and we even had people try them out, there's absolutely no way they could have these quality issues."

Xia Chenyu said firmly.

"Could it be the Shen Family doing something behind the scenes?"

"I suspect so. Skin allergies were only isolated cases at first, but after the incidents, it was clear that someone was fanning the flames behind the scenes, as if they couldn't wait to make the situation known throughout the city. Now, the major malls and supermarkets in Zhongzhou have already pulled our products off the shelves, causing us to suffer heavy losses..."

"Sister Xia, try to see the bigger picture, doing business, after all, it's common to make and lose money."

Fang Bai said comforting her.

"But this time the loss was too big. All the money I've worked so hard to earn over the years, I've poured most of it into this... Fang Bai, I'm in a really bad mood right now, come and have a drink with me."

Xia Chenyu, when troubled by something, liked to drink a bit, and once she started, she would become somewhat drunk.

Fang Bai knew that she was drinking to drown her sorrows.

"Sister Xia, if I were in Zhongzhou, I would definitely come over and have a few drinks with you. But I'm in Yanjing! I'm actually out drinking with some friends right now..."

"Which road in Yanjing? Which hotel? Which room?"

Fang Bai was taken aback, not understanding why Xia Chenyu was asking this, but still provided the hotel's address, name, and the specific room number.

"Wait there, I'll be there in twenty minutes."

Xia Chenyu said and then hung up the phone.

"Arrive in twenty minutes? Could Xia Chenyu also be in Yanjing?"

Fang Bai scratched his head, then said to Wu Tian, "Wu Tian, ask the waiter to add another set of utensils, a friend of mine will be joining us for the meal soon!"

"Brother Fang, is it your girlfriend?"

Wu Tian greeted the hotel staff, and then winked at Fang Bai.

Fang Bai had not avoided Wu Tian and the others while talking on the phone with Xia Chenyu, and Wu Tian and a few interns had figured out that the person on the other end was a woman and that she was not old.

"Get lost!"

Fang Bai laughed and cursed, "She's not my girlfriend, she's a female friend. We've known each other since our time in Zhongzhou."

Since Xia Chenyu was coming, the group wasn't in a hurry to start eating, so they started playing cards in the room, patiently waiting for Xia Chenyu.

Twenty minutes later, the slightly ajar door of the room was pushed open, and a red figure accompanied by a waft of fragrance floated in.

It was Xia Chenyu.

Xia Chenyu wore light makeup, her complexion looked somewhat haggard, evidently, these days had not been kind to her.

She was still wearing a red dress, only the style was different from before, highlighting her \*\*\*\*\* beautifully shaped figure even more; the pair of red high heels she had on made her legs appear even longer and straighter.

She liked to wear her hair up, but now she had let it down, cascading like a waterfall behind her head, draping down to her waist, revealing a few hints of feminine charm within her noble aura.

Xia Chenyu's sudden appearance brought a brief silence to the room.

Aside from Fang Bai, several men were ogling Xia Chenyu, who exuded allure from head to toe.

Fang Bai even heard some of the men gulp, their sounds of swallowing audible.

"When I was outside just now, I heard lots of noise in your room. Why did you all fall silent when I came in? Don't tell me you're not welcoming me to crash your meal?"

After entering the room, Xia Chenyu's gaze drifted over the men, eventually resting on Fang Bai as she asked with a playful laugh.

Xia Chenyu was already accustomed to and undisturbed by the hospital interns like Wu Tian, whose gazes were fixated on her and hard to turn away.

Confident in her appearance and figure, Xia Chenyu would have been surprised if a man could remain unfazed upon seeing her.

However, Xia Chenyu preferred it when Fang Bai looked at her that way. Unfortunately, his look of appreciation was fleeting, and then he went back to his usual self.

Xia Chenyu's laughter seemed to carry a certain charm, causing the bones of the interns like Wu Tian to soften.

Wu Tian, who was very observant, came to his senses and immediately gave up the seat next to Fang Bai, inviting Xia Chenyu to sit down.

Fang Bai sighed, "Sister Xia, we are all men here. When a gorgeous woman like you, oozing charm, suddenly appears in front of us dressed so refreshingly, would it be normal if we didn't take a few extra glances?"

"Look at you, always so sweet-talking! But I like it!"

Suddenly feeling much better, Xia Chenyu "giggled" as she walked over to Fang Bai and sat down right next to him.

With Xia Chenyu's arrival, besides Fang Bai, the other men in the room became much more reserved, no longer rowdy as they had been before, each transforming into gentlemen of seemingly great cultivation, even speaking in lower and more magnetic voices.

Once everyone was present, the dishes and drinks started to arrive, and soon the table was full.

Wu Tian was about to pour a drink for Xia Chenyu, but she opted for a glass of white liquor instead.

"Fang Bai, it's been a while since we last saw each other, hasn't it? Here, let's drink up! And you guys join in too!"

Without having started the meal, Xia Chenyu picked up her glass, clinked it with Fang Bai's, and downed it in one go.

A glass like that, when full, contained at least two shots of liquor. Wu Tian, who considered himself a good drinker, wouldn't dare to drink so boldly. Seeing Xia Chenyu not even frowning after drinking, he couldn't help but utter a word of admiration for her "bottomless capacity."

Seeing Xia Chenyu instantly pouring another, Fang Bai said with a bitter smile, "Sister Xia, I know you're not in a good mood, but you can't just drink like this! What if you harm your health?"

"I'm here today specifically to drink with you, so don't try to stop me! Come on, Fang Bai, let's not stop until we're drunk... If I get drunk, you have to take me back to the hotel... My car's outside, the red Ferrari... I'm staying at 69 Jinghu Hotel on Chunjiang Road... make sure you remember..."

A drink down, Xia Chenyu's face was slightly flushed, her eyes glossy as she looked at Fang Bai, her gaze somewhat hazy.

When Wu Tian and the others heard Xia Chenyu's words, they looked at Fang Bai with lecherous expressions – when a woman says such things, it is usually a signal or hint for the man.

Fang Bai nodded and said, "Okay, if you want to drown your sorrows in alcohol, I won't stop you, but how about eating some food before you drink more? Just so you don't hurt your stomach."

"Sure, I'll listen to you," Xia Chenyu agreed with a sweet smile, took a couple of bites of food, and then downed a second glass.

As the meal progressed, she continued the pattern of eating a few bites and then taking a drink. In no time at all, she had already consumed four glasses of the white liquor.

Chapter 159: I Didn't Expect You to Be So Bad!

Xia Chenyu drank a lot, and Fang Bai also had quite a few drinks to keep her company. Unlike Xia Chenyu, whose face turned red all over, Fang Bai appeared unfazed, as if nothing was the matter.

Wu Tian and others were secretly amazed and full of admiration, thinking to themselves that not only was Doctor Fang skilled in medicine, his tolerance for alcohol was impressive too, and moreover, he had a beauty who had prepared a room at the hotel, ready to throw herself into his arms...

For a man to reach this level, it really was worth it.

Although Xia Chenyu could hold her alcohol well, there was a limit. After a liter, she started to lose the battle with the booze. Initially, she was laughing and talking with Fang Bai and the others, but in the end, she lay on the table and started to cry "wu wu."

Wu Tian and the rest looked at each other, puzzled.

Fang Bai knew about Xia Chenyu's past and realized that she had been holding in a lot of negative things. The business setback this time had also dealt a great blow to her, making her feel overwhelmed.

Fang Bai also knew that Xia Chenyu came to drink with him because she wanted to get thoroughly drunk.

As for why Xia Chenyu wanted to drink with him, and was not afraid of getting drunk, Fang Bai thought maybe she didn't have many friends in Yanjing, plus she trusted his character and would not take advantage of her when she was drunk.

"Which one of you can drive?"

Fang Bai took out the keys to the Ferrari from Xia Chenyu's small handbag and asked Wu Tian and the others.

"I can."

Wu Tian immediately raised his hand and answered.

"After dinner, drive us to the hotel."

"No problem... Do we need to buy some medicine on the way?"

"What medicine?"

"Of course, the kind that makes a man robust! Going to a hotel room with such a top beauty, if you don't perform like a seven-time hero in one night, that would be a huge loss."

"Get lost, do I look like that kind of person?"

"I think you do."

"..."

By the time the dinner party ended, Xia Chenyu was completely drunk. When walking out of the restaurant, she was entirely leaning on Fang Bai.

After stuffing the utterly inebriated Xia Chenyu into the car, Fang Bai also got in, then Wu Tian, driving the sports car, took them to the hotel where Xia Chenyu was staying.

Wu Tian was still excitedly flushed after getting a taste of speeding in a sports car. He circled the car a few times after getting out and then reluctantly handed the keys to Fang Bai before leaving.

Fang Bai helped Xia Chenyu to the door of her room, listened carefully, and knew there was another woman in the room, who had already fallen asleep, probably taking a nap.

Fang Bai didn't knock on the door and instead used Xia Chenyu's room card to directly open it, helping her into the room.

After entering the room, he saw it was a double room. The woman sleeping was lying on her side on the north bed with just a corner of the quilt covering her waist.

Perhaps due to the hot weather, even though the air conditioning was on, the woman was wearing very little—just a pitiful three pieces of cloth, inevitably revealing more than intended.

Cough—

Cough—

Fang Bai coughed twice forcefully, waking up the woman on the bed.

"President Xia, is that you?"

The woman slowly sat up, rubbing her sleepy eyes, and asked in a drowsy voice.

Fang Bai glanced at the woman and smiled, saying, "Xiao Meng, it's me."

The woman sleeping in the bed was Xia Chenyu's assistant, Zhao Xiaomeng. Fang Bai had seen her in Zhongzhou and knew she was very loyal to Xia Chenyu. Xia Chenyu had brought her along to Yanjing this time.

"Fang Bai? President Xia? You guys... ah..."

Zhao Xiaomeng knew that President Xia and Fang Bai were close, and she also knew President Xia had gone to drink with Fang Bai. Suddenly seeing Fang Bai and President Xia in front of her, she blurted out.

But then, she realized how little she was wearing and let out a shriek, grabbing the quilt to cover herself, her face turning bright red.

"I didn't see anything... Xiao Meng, who would have thought you had such a figure, not at all inferior to President Xia!"

Seeing Zhao Xiaomeng blush uncontrollably, Fang Bai couldn't help but feel mischievous, teasing her with a remark.

Zhao Xiaomeng's face turned even redder, and she pulled the quilt up further, only revealing her eyes, and chided, "President Xia said you were a very good person, and very decent, too. Who would have thought you... you could be so naughty..."

Fang Bai laughed, "Everyone likes to take a few more looks at beautiful things. It's only human nature!"

Zhao Xiaomeng, of course, wasn't really angry, secretly delighted that Fang Bai had called her "beautiful."

"Is President Xia... drunk?"

Seeing Xia Chenyu clinging to Fang Bai like an octopus, and reeking of alcohol, Zhao Xiaomeng asked.

Fang Bai nodded and laid Xia Chenyu on the bed, casually asking, "How did you and President Xia end up in Yanjing?"

When Fang Bai brought up the matter, the blush on Zhao Xiaomeng's face faded, and she sighed with a sorrowful expression, "President Xia came out to clear her mind, and also to borrow money from friends."

"Borrow money?"

Fang Bai frowned.

"Yes, the company has suffered severe losses, and even normal operations have become a problem. President Xia wanted to borrow some money to tide things over, but after asking several friends, all of them said they didn't have any... Sigh, President Xia has been so down lately, she's lost a lot of weight. Fang Bai, you must talk to President Xia..."

It was only then that Fang Bai realized the crisis faced by Xia Chenyu's "Beauty Company" was even more serious than she had mentioned in the bar earlier.

"How much money does President Xia plan to borrow for the turnover?"

"About a hundred million."

"..."

Fang Bai scratched his head, having originally intended to lend the more than ten million he had on him to Xia Chenyu. Listening to Zhao Xiaomeng, he dismissed the idea.

More than ten million compared to a hundred million was too little; it wouldn't help Xia Chenyu's company's predicament much.

"Xiao Meng, take care of President Xia for me... Have her give me a call tomorrow morning. I have something to discuss with her."

After Fang Bai said this, he left the women's room.

Stepping out of the hotel entrance, Fang Bai walked back to Yanjing Hospital, and on the way, he called Su Yifei, who was far away in Zhongzhou.

"Yifei, I need to borrow some money from you."

"How much do you need? Just say the word!"

"Two hundred million!"

"Alright, when do you need it?"

"By eight o'clock tomorrow morning at the latest. Just transfer it directly to my bank account."

"Okay, I'll let you know once the transaction succeeds, and you check it on your end."

"Yifei, thank you."

"We're brothers, no need for thanks! Later, you can teach me a few tricks."

"No problem."

...

After a few minutes on the phone with Su Yifei, Fang Bai borrowed two hundred million from him, without issuing any proof, which proved Su Yifei's trust in Fang Bai.

After work in the afternoon, Fang Bai was planning to have dinner and then return to the courtyard house, but Baili Mingyue called him, inviting him to try her cooking.

Since Baili Zhan left, Baili Mingyue, under her mother's guidance, had begun to learn cooking. The previous days were all about theory, and today was her first time cooking; she wanted Fang Bai to taste her food and give some feedback.

Moved by Baili Mingyue's good intentions, Fang Bai could not bear to refuse, so he quickly returned to the courtyard house and sat down at the table prepared by Baili Mingyue.

Baili Mingyue pushed her mother out of the room as well and then happily dashed to the kitchen, making a bustle of sounds; soon after, she brought out several dishes.

Chapter 160: You Deceiver!

After tasting the meal prepared by Baili Mingyue, Fang Bai believed that this girl was not cut out to be a chef at all.

Others' cooking was filled with color, aroma, and taste, but Baili Mingyue's had none of these qualities. Either she added too much salt or completely forgot to add any, and some dishes were undercooked...

To avoid damaging Baili Mingyue's self-esteem and enthusiasm, Fang Bai endured and finished the meal.

Moreover, to prevent Baili Mingyue from tasting her own "masterpieces," Fang Bai took it upon himself to eat all of the dishes she made, like wind sweeping leaves, leaving Baili Mingyue with only a bowl of rice porridge to drink.

Had the rice porridge not been slightly burnt but still bearable, Fang Bai would've surely finished that as well.

Baili Mingyue, sipping the porridge she had made, felt very satisfied. After all, it was her first time cooking, and to be able to make porridge of this level was quite an achievement.

Thankfully she didn't taste her own cooking, or else she would certainly have fainted at the dining table.

Jiang Yuzhi also tasted a few bites of her daughter's cooking, then put down her chopsticks with a frown, looking at Fang Bai with sympathy as he ate.

After dinner, Fang Bai had finished washing up and was about to close the door and go to bed when Baili Mingyue suddenly rushed in from outside, pummeling Fang Bai with small fists like raindrops.

"My cooking was obviously terrible, why did you say it was good? You liar, tricking me like this! Let you deceive me! Wu wuu..."

Baili Mingyue cried and hit him at the same time.

Her crying was loud, but her punches lacked strength and felt almost like tickles on Fang Bai.

Fang Bai hadn't expected Baili Mingyue to be so heartbroken over a meal and he said with a laugh, "The first time I cooked, I broke several bowls and dishes, cut my hand, and ended up not completing anything—that was true failure. You doing this well on your first attempt is already very good."

"Really?"

Baili Mingyue stopped crying and no longer hit Fang Bai.

"Really."

Fang Bai nodded earnestly, saying, "The Baili Mingyue I know should be the kind of person who gets stronger with more setbacks; crying is not your style."

Following this incident, Baili Mingyue's enthusiasm for cooking grew even more. Every day after finishing her lessons, she would delve into the kitchen to study culinary arts, tasting her own cooking until satisfied before serving it.

To encourage Baili Mingyue, Fang Bai started coming back to the courtyard house for meals more often.

Of course, Fang Bai didn't come for free meals; every time he returned, he would bring some fresh vegetables or chicken, duck, fish, and meat.

Although Baili Mingyue's cooking skills didn't improve much, the meals she made were at least no longer difficult to swallow. Afterward, Fang Bai and Jiang Yuzhi always lavished praise, as if it were the best delicacy in the world.

When Baili Mingyue tasted it herself, she also felt the flavor was nice and became excited as she beamed with delight.

The morning after sending Xia Chenyu back to the hotel, just as Fang Bai arrived at Yanjing Hospital's acupuncture and massage room, ready to start his work, he received a call from Xia Chenyu.

Not long after ending the call, Xia Chenyu drove her red Ferrari to Yanjing Hospital.

When Xia Chenyu, dressed in a red gown, hurried into the acupuncture and massage room, aside from Wu Tian and a few interns who had already seen Xia Chenyu and remained calm, the other doctors, interns, and patients were all staring with gaping gazes.

These people were no strangers to beauty, but they had never before encountered someone like Xia Chenyu, who was alluring in every aspect, both beautiful and charming, with an exceptional figure and temperament.

In the world, there are beautiful women with exquisite faces, charming figures, and otherworldly temperaments; yet Xia Chenyu combined beauty, body, and poise into one, her entire being effusing a captivating charm.

Such a top-notch woman, wherever she goes, draws countless eyes and becomes the center of attention.

The most lethal part is, Xia Chenyu wasn't only beautiful but also had a great sense of fashion. She knew how to further accentuate her advantages.

If Xia Chenyu's figure, appearance, and temperament were to be rated 9.9 out of 10, then with her dressing style, she would definitely be considered perfect.

It can be said without exaggeration that Xia Chenyu was the best dressed among the few women Fang Bai knew. In comparison, Baili Mingyue did wear makeup, but her smoky makeup skills were elementary compared to Xia Chenyu's style. It was like comparing a primary school student to a university student.

"Sister Xia, could you dress more simply next time you come? More like an average person? Once you stand here, all of us men can't help but stare at you, making it impossible to work."

Fang Bai brought Xia Chenyu to a neighboring office, closed the door behind them, and said seriously.

This office was specially prepared for Fang Bai by Yanjing Hospital after he became famous, where he could take short breaks during work.

Xia Chenyu laughed so hard her body shook, her watery, charming eyes fixed on Fang Bai as she said coquettishly, "Your compliments are getting better and better!"

"Did you sleep well last night, Sister Xia?"

Fang Bai changed the subject and asked.

"Not really. You dropped me off at the hotel at noon, and I woke up later at night. After waking up, I threw up a lot, took a bath after that, had some porridge, and wanted to continue sleeping in bed, but my headache was so severe I couldn't fall asleep until the late night. It was Xiao Meng who woke me up this morning... Fang Bai, is there something you wanted to talk to me about? Couldn't you say it over the phone?"

"Xiao Meng mentioned you came to Yanjing to borrow money? How much did you manage to borrow?"

"Over ten million..."

When Fang Bai brought this up, Xia Chenyu's smile faded, and her expression dimmed.

"Over ten million... That's still far from a billion! What are you planning to do next?"

"What else can I do, just keep trying to borrow more! I can't just watch the 'Beauty Company' my mother built disappear on my watch."

When Xia Chenyu mentioned her mother, tears welled up in her eyes.

"Even if you manage to borrow a billion, what then?"

Fang Bai continued asking.

"I... I don't know..."

Xia Chenyu's face showed helplessness as she sighed, "My mind is in such turmoil right now, I only think about getting through the current crisis. As for the future... I haven't planned that far..."

"You can't go on like this!"

Fang Bai said earnestly, "Even if you get a billion now, which could keep the company afloat, what about after the money is spent? Do you plan to continue borrowing? What will you use to repay the debts?"

"I... I..."

Xia Chenyu stuttered, failing to come up with a solution. The normally astute and efficient business president seemed like an inexperienced young girl at this moment, somewhat at a loss.

"You have to pick yourself up from where you fell!"

Seeing Xia Chenyu in such a dejected state, Fang Bai put his hands on her shoulders, looking straight into her enchanting eyes, and said word by word, "As a friend, I will help you through your difficulties. But you also need to gather your strength."