

Full-Level 591

Chapter 591 - 591: Lian Zixin 3

“Why is she grounded?” Upon hearing this news, Lian Zixin immediately grew anxious. “What happened to her? Aren’t you and my brother-in-law the ones who love her the most? Why would she be punished like this?”

Lian Mengzhu couldn’t help but let out a deep sigh.

Then, she explained what happened yesterday. In the end, she couldn’t help but sigh again.

“Wanwan’s temperament really needs some refinement. Both your brother-in-law and I share the same opinion. Moreover, being grounded is just a trivial punishment.”

“This is not Wanwan’s fault at all.” After hearing Lian Mengzhu’s account,

Lian Zixin immediately spoke up. “It was clearly a setup by that person called Ye An’an. Wanwan is young, and she fell for it. What you should do is comfort her, not punish her.”

“Zixin, what are you saying?” Lian Mengzhu shook her head disapprovingly. “Wanwan initiated this from the beginning. The other party simply took advantage of the situation. How can you say it’s their fault? I know you love Wanwan, but you can’t be so biased towards her!”

“Sis!” Lian Zixin said anxiously. “Wanwan has a strong sense of self-esteem since she was young. Now, being set up, she must feel uncomfortable. How can she handle it if you punish her like this!”

However, Lian Mengzhu remained firm. “Zixin, let’s not discuss this matter. Your brother-in-law and I have our own perspectives.”

“But, Sis...”

“Zixin, let’s end this matter here.” Lian Mengzhu raised her hand and joked, “You, as an auntie, are really good to Wanwan. If others didn’t know, they might think you’re her biological mother, and I’m the stepmother!”

Of course, she was only joking. She understood why Zixin showered Wanwan with such affection.

“Sis, what are you talking about?” A trace of unease flashed in Lian Zixin’s eyes, but she quickly returned to her usual self and coquettishly said, “You know, I’ve always treated Wanwan as my own daughter.”

At this point, a hint of sadness appeared on Lian Zixin’s face. “If my daughter hadn’t died prematurely, she should be the same age as Wanwan now.”

“Zixin,” Lian Mengzhu quickly comforted her, “This matter happened a long time ago. Don’t dwell on it. Besides, you still have Chenlang, Xiaolei. They are also your children!”

After her sister’s child died prematurely, Lian Zixin’s health had not been good. Later, she gave birth to two children, Chenlang and Xiaolei, but couldn’t fully recover.

Not long after her sister’s child passed away, Wanwan was born, and she was a girl. Probably for this reason, her sister had always treated Wanwan as her own daughter. Sometimes, even better than Chenlang and Xiaolei.

“I know.” Lian Zixin’s face was filled with grief, and her tone carried a hint of sobbing. “It’s just that whenever I think of my daughter who died young, I can’t calm down.”

After saying that, Lian Zixin seemed unable to control her emotions and began to cry.

Seeing her sister’s sorrow, Lian Mengzhu wanted to comfort her but didn’t know what to say. She could only silently accompany her and hand over a tissue.

After a while, Lian Zixin wiped away her tears and somewhat embarrassedly said, “Sister, I...

“It’s okay.” Lian Mengzhu shook her head and said gently, “I understand how you feel, but the past is the past. You should relax. I think your daughter wouldn’t be happy if she knew you’ve been sad because of her. Whether for the living or the departed, you need to pull yourself together!”

She had already spoken these words to Lian Zixin many times. However, she also understood that some things couldn’t be resolved with just a few words. Nevertheless, she still had to say them.

Lian Zixin nodded, uncertain if she took it to heart.

Seeing Lian Zixin’s demeanor, Lian Mengzhu sighed and said nothing more.

“Sis, I’ll go check on Wanwan!” Lian Zixin smiled and said, “It’s been a while since I’ve seen her. I really miss her..”

Chapter 592 - 592: Lian Zixin4

“Alright, Wanwan is staying in her own courtyard,” Lian Mengzhu instructed. “After meeting Wanwan, remember to come back. I’ve prepared some herbs and medicinal pills for your health. You’ll need to take them with you.”

“Alright.”

Without guidance, Lian Zixin swiftly reached Ye Wanwan’s room, knocked, and entered upon receiving permission.

Upon entering, she found Ye Wanwan diligently writing something at her desk.

“Wanwan.” Lian Zixin approached, looking at Ye Wanwan with affection. “What are you writing?”

“It’s nothing.” Ye Wanwan shook her head, stood up, and politely smiled at

Lian Zixin. “Auntie, when did you arrive?”

“Just met your mother.”

Lian Zixin’s tone turned indignant. “I’ve heard about your situation from your mother. They even grounded you for such a minor issue. Clearly, it wasn’t your fault.”

Ye Wanwan’s face stiffened momentarily at Lian Zixin’s words, but she quickly recovered. Seating herself with Lian Zixin on the sofa, she poured a cup of tea for her aunt. “Auntie, Father and Mother are doing this for my own good. Besides, it’s just a few days of confinement. The Family Competition is approaching, and I need to focus.”

She couldn’t quite say whether she liked her auntie or not. However, she found the continuous efforts to please her somewhat tiresome. It was manageable when she was younger, but as she grew older, she wasn’t very inclined to spend time with Lian Zixin. Her auntie’s attitude towards her always seemed peculiar, treating her better than her own biological children. At times, there were even strange glances.

Although she knew from her mother that her auntie treated her as her own daughter due to having lost a daughter before, even with this knowledge, she couldn’t shake off the discomfort.

However, for the sake of her mother’s face, she couldn’t afford to be too confrontational. Thus, she maintained a polite facade in her interactions with her aunt.

Ye Wanwan didn’t continue the topic after Lian Zixin’s words and instead shifted to the events of the previous night. “Wanwan, what happened last night wasn’t your fault. It was orchestrated by someone named Ye An’an.

Don’t dwell on it.’

“I know.” Ye Wanwan’s eyes flashed with a trace of resentment. “I was impulsive, and even if it was a setup, I can only accept it.”

Lian Zixin immediately reassured her, “Wanwan, don’t worry. I won’t let you suffer. Tell me who this Ye An’an is, and I’ll find a way to seek revenge for you.”

Just now, Lian Mengzhu only briefly mentioned a few words, so she was still unclear about who Ye An’an was. However, witnessing Ye Wanwan being punished because of the other party fueled her anger, and she thought about seeking justice for Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan clarified, “Auntie, let’s forget about this matter. Father doesn’t want us to stir up more trouble.”

She detested Ye Aryan, but she hadn’t lost her sanity. Ye An’an was the fiancée of the Huangfu family patriarch, making her formidable. Even the Ye family had to tread carefully; what could her aunt do? The Yan family, even in its prime, couldn’t contend with the Huangfu family.

“Wanwan, just tell me. Whatever you want to do is my concern.” Unaware of Ye Wanwan’s hidden meaning, Lian Zixin urged, “Even if something happens, it’ll be my responsibility.”

Seeing Lian Zixin's expression, Ye Wanwan frowned but politely said, "Auntie, that Ye An'an is Huangfu Lings fiancée, and she accompanied him to the banquet last night."

Was her aunt's mind functioning correctly? Those who attended the auction were not ordinary. Even if Ye An'an wasn't Huangfu Lings fiancée, could the Yan family, a small clan, confront those who attended the auction? What was the point of forcing her to reveal this information?

After hearing Ye Wanwan's words, Lian Zixin's face displayed unease. She laughed it off. "Wanwan, I think your father and mother are right. Since it's in the past, don't dwell on it."

Ye Wanwan's eyes revealed a hint of mockery upon noticing Lian Zixin's change in attitude. "Auntie, you are right."

The room fell into an awkward silence.

Quickly changing the topic, Lian Zixin said, "By the way, Wanwan, the Family Competition is about to start. Are you prepared?"

"There's nothing to prepare." Ye Wanwan shrugged. "These competitions ultimately depend on individual strength. There's no use cramming at the last minute. Just treat it normally."

"Wanwan, your strength is unparalleled among your peers. You'll surely achieve excellent results this time," Lian Zixin said proudly. "Everyone in the Hidden World knows how outstanding you are! If only Chenlang and Xiaolei were half as good."

The Yan family couldn't participate in the Family Competition. Only renowned families in the Hidden World qualified. However, Yan Chenlang and Yan Xiaolei attended as Ye family disciples, as they cultivated alongside the Ye family.

"They are doing well. Don't worry, Auntie," Ye Wanwan reassured politely.

Lian Zixin nodded and continued, "Wanwan, I know you're diligent in cultivation, but you still need to take care of yourself. Your body is crucial. You're still young, with many possibilities."

Annoyance flickered in Ye Wanwan's eyes at Lian Zixin's concern, but she obediently responded, "Don't worry, Auntie. I'll take care of myself."

Lian Zixin persistently cared about Ye Wanwan's well-being, and though it was late, Ye Wanwan could only endure it for her mother's sake..

Chapter 593 - 593: Inquiry 1

When Ye Wanwan could hardly bear it any longer, Lian Zixin finally got up and left.

However, before departing, she continued to remind Ye Wanwan to take care of herself and not overexert.

As soon as Lian Zixin exited the room, the smile on Ye Wanwan's face vanished instantly, replaced by an air of indifference. Normally, she might have been in the mood to deal with her aunt, but at the moment, she was in no such disposition.

If it hadn't been for her mother, she wouldn't even have allowed this so-called auntie into her room. Clearly, she thought she had made her stance very clear and had no desire to get closer to this aunt. However, the other party acted as if she hadn't noticed anything, remaining consistently affectionate.

At times, Ye Wanwan wondered if her auntie's kindness was for the benefit of her children. But in her presence, her aunt rarely mentioned her own offspring.

Therefore, she couldn't comprehend what her aunt was scheming.

On the other hand, after Lian Zixin left the courtyard, she once again met Lian Mengzhu, carrying a load of items before heading home.

Within the Huangfu family, Ye Lengan and Huangfu Ruiling hadn't gone outside for several days.

Initially, they planned to spend a day fusing the fragments of the Shennong Cauldron back into its main body. However, things didn't proceed as smoothly as expected.

It was unclear whether it was because the fragment had been separated from the main body for too long or because the main body had already acknowledged its master, but it unexpectedly rejected the fragment. This complication made the entire fusion process less smooth. Fortunately, Huangfu Ruilings extensive experience in alchemy allowed them to complete the fusion, just taking much longer than anticipated.

With a delicate small medicinal cauldron in hand, Ye Lengan wore a smile on her face.

The small cauldron in her hand no longer bore a dusty appearance. Its body was now ink-black, standing on three legs with two ears emerging from the cauldron's mouth. The pitch-black walls were adorned with depictions of various ancient and mystical creatures -strange three-legged birds, robust and twining ancient vines, and mysteriously blossoming magical flowers. The small cauldron's body encompassed myriad elements, suggesting an eternal, inexhaustible essence.

Even before revealing its true form, the cauldron emitted an ancient and mysterious aura. However, if others were to see it, they wouldn't recognize it as the Shennong Cauldron. The current appearance differed vastly from its auction presentation. Even alchemists like Ye Hongxuan wouldn't be able to identify it.

With a turn of her hand, Ye Lengan made the Shennong Cauldron vanish.

Stepping forward happily, she took Huangfu Ruilings hand, smiling. "Let's go, I'm treating you to a meal!"

Hearing Ye Leng'an's words, Huangfu Ruiling couldn't help but chuckle. He extended his hand, tapping Ye Leng'an's nose. "Oh, do you have any Spirit Coins on you?"

A single remark left Ye Lengan momentarily stunned. However, she quickly regained composure, maintaining her smiling demeanor. "I only said I'm treating, not that I'll pay the bill! Besides, as my fiancé, are you going to let your future wife pay?"

"Alright," Huangfu Ruiling shook his head with amusement, his eyes filled with tenderness. "I'll follow your lead."

Hand in hand, the two headed out.

Yet, in the corridor, they encountered a familiar face, though recognition was one-sided. Huangfu Ruixiang was accompanying a disciple of the Huangfu family. While not his first time in the Hidden World's Huangfu family, in the past, he mostly stayed in the outer sect and rarely ventured into the main family.

Nevertheless, each time he entered the main family, he couldn't help but marvel. Unlike the mortal world, everyone here was a formidable figure. Moreover, in this realm, as long as one was powerful enough, lifespan could be continuously extended.

No one wanted to leave the Hidden World, and he was no exception. However, he was well aware of his own strength and knew it would likely be challenging. Yet, even so, he remained determined to strive and perform well in the upcoming Family Competition. Only then might he be recognized by the family and allowed to stay..

Chapter 594 - 594: Inquiry 2

As he followed the disciples of his family inside, he noticed two individuals approaching.

Though both were masked, it was evident that the man possessed a tall and upright figure, while the woman had bright eyes and a graceful demeanor. Walking together, they formed a perfect match of male talent and female beauty.

For some reason, he felt a sense of familiarity with the two individuals ahead. Before he could ponder further, the disciple who escorted him pulled him aside, lowering his head, unwilling to meet the gaze of the approaching pair.

The man and woman, however, paid no attention to them, walking straight past.

Once the two departed, Huangfu Ruixiang immediately turned to the disciple in front of him and asked, "Senior Brother, who were those two just now?"

The family disciple who brought him in had a haughty attitude and remained indifferent when interacting with him. Uncomfortable as he was, he couldn't say much. After all, even if the disciple was ordinary within the family, he still held a higher status than an outer sect disciple from the mortal world.

But observing the once arrogant disciple now showing great respect to the young couple, it was evident that these two held a significant position within the family.

"What nonsense are you talking about!" The disciple scolded Huangfu Ruixiang in a low voice and explained, "That's the patriarch of our Huangfu family and his fiancée, Miss Ye. They are not people we can casually discuss." "The patriarch?" Huangfu Ruixiang widened his eyes in disbelief. "He's so young."

Having rarely visited the main family, he never had the chance to meet the family head. In his imagination, the patriarch would be older. He couldn't believe that the person, not much older than him, was the family head. "Don't you know our family head?" The disciple frowned. "Our family head is very young. Although he hasn't been in power for long, our family has become much stronger under his leadership."

Filled with admiration and pride, the disciple spoke.

Huangfu Ruixiang was silently shocked and chose not to say more, As for the fleeting sense of familiarity, he dismissed it as an illusion. How could he possibly know the family head?

In a unique restaurant in the Hidden World, Huangfu Ruiling and Ye Lengan sat facing each other.

They occupied a table by the lobbys edge, having arrived late with no private rooms available. They didn't mind.

After placing their orders, Ye Lengan looked at Huangfu Ruiling and smiled. "Aren't you going to say anything?"

"Hmm?" Huangfu Ruiling raised his eyebrows, looking at Ye Lengan with a hint of doubt.

"Huangfu Ruixiang!" Ye Lengan immediately mentioned. "I didn't expect him to be here in the Hidden World. There's still some time before the Family Competition, and he's here quite early!"

"Of course, he has to come early," Huangfu Ruiling said with a flat tone. "This Family Competition is crucial for his future, In the past, he didn't even qualify to participate. So, he naturally needs to seize the opportunity this time."

"Wasn't it different before?" Ye Lengan was surprised. "I thought registration was open!"

"Of course not." Huangfu Ruiling chuckled. "If that were the case, who knows how long it would take! Although only major families qualify for the Family Competition, even so, the combined number of participants from these families is unknown. If everyone joined, it might take more than a month! That's why there are age and cultivation restrictions. It's all to train the younger disciples, preventing senior disciples from getting involved."

Ye Lengan understood, nodded, and continued, "After this, do you plan to let Huangfu Ruixiang stay?"

She had heard that Huangfu Ruixiang had some talent, but in the Hidden World, he could only be considered an ordinary existence..

Chapter 595 - 595: Inquiry 3

However, whether to retain Huangfu Ruixiang rested solely in Huangfu Ruilings hands. If Huangfu Ruiling decided to let Huangfu Ruixiang stay, even with Huangfu Ruixiangs ordinary talent, he could remain.

"Let him stay!" Huangfu Ruiling responded calmly. "It's also giving him a chance. However, I can only offer him an opportunity to stay. As for the future, I won't be involved anymore."

He was willing to extend this chance based on their blood relation. However, this familial tie only went so far. Beyond that, he had no concern.

Ye Leng'an wasn't surprised by Huangfu Ruiling's decision. She sighed and commented, "Then Li Yiran doesn't know what to do. She's still pregnant! It won't be so easy to reunite with the child's father in the future."

Though she expressed this, there was no trace of pity on her face. Instead, it bore a hint of coldness.

"No." Huangfu Ruiling shook his head. "Considering Huangfu Ruixiang's talent, although he can stay, he'll likely return within a year and a half. He can't stay in the Hidden World indefinitely."

Ye Leng'an understood and nodded.

As they conversed, a hesitant voice interrupted them.

"Miss Ye, is that you?"

Both turned towards the voice and recognized an acquaintance approaching Nangong Xuyao. Without exchanging words, the two observed him.

Nangong Xuyao hesitated but proceeded towards them. Unaware of Huangfu Ruiling, he only recognized Ye Lengan as the woman he had seen at the herbal store, identified solely by her surname, Ye.

Ye Lengan raised an eyebrow, expressing doubt. "You are..."

"Miss Ye, you may have forgotten, but we met at the herbal store. I was with Zhongyu Jiarui," Nangong Xuyao explained, aware that she likely didn't recall him.

Upon hearing Nangong Xuyao's words, Ye Lengan appeared to have an epiphany. "Oh, it's you! What brings you here? Don't tell me it's to seek revenge for Zhongyu Jiarui!"

She doubted that Nangong Xuyao had identified her true identity. As Huangfu Ruiling suggested, even if someone recognized them, confirmation was impossible. As long as they denied it, no one would bother about their true identities.

Huangfu Ruiling regarded Nangong Xuyao with a cold gaze.

Nangong Xuyao initially looked curiously at Huangfu Ruiling, but sensing the coldness in his eyes, he shivered and averted his gaze.

"No," Nangong Xuyao hastened to explain, "I'm not here for that. I just have something to ask Miss Ye."

He had wanted to inquire with Miss Ye before but refrained due to her previous conflict with Zhongyu Jiarui. He couldn't abandon Zhongyu Jiarui to pursue Miss Ye, risking the loss of his previous efforts.

Considering approaching the Huangfu family, he hesitated, uncertain of Miss Ye's status within the family. Brashly seeking her out might result in being barred from entry.

Originally, he had already planned to give up. However, unexpectedly, today, when he went out for a meal and ran into her. So, he was determined to seize the opportunity to inquire about the things he wanted to know.

“Oh, what is it?” Ye Lengan propped her chin on her hand, looking at Nangong Xuyao. “If I remember correctly, we’ve only met once. We haven’t even spoken before!”

She doubted that Nangong Xuyao recognized her. If he truly did, he would also recognize Huangfu Ruiling. If that were the case, Nangong Xuyao wouldn’t be so composed.

“Miss Ye, I’d like to inquire about the Nine-Cycle Soul-Returning Pill,”

Nangong Xuyao asked straightforwardly.. “Have you ever used the Nine-Cycle Soul-Returning Pill to save anyone?”

Chapter 596 - 596: Inquiry4

After hearing Nangong Xuyao’s words, Ye Lengan was momentarily stunned. It then occurred to her that she had used a Nine-Cycle Soul-Returning Pill to save Nangong Xuyao when he was in a life-threatening situation. However, at that time, Nangong Xuyao was unconscious. Could it be that he now remembered something?

On the side, Huangfu Ruiling had initially paid no attention to Nangong Xuyao’s arrival. However, upon hearing him mention the life-saving favor again, he couldn’t help but furrow his brow.

Though her mind was in turmoil, Ye Lengan maintained a calm demeanor. “What do you mean? How is this related to you?”

“To be honest,” Nangong Xuyao quickly explained upon hearing Ye Leng’an’s words, “I was gravely injured before, and someone saved me. They used a Nine-Cycle Soul-Returning Pill. It was when I caught a whiff of the same pill e s scent at the herb store that I recalled it was you.”

Could it be that the young lady before him was truly his savior(

“Oh, really?” Ye Leng’an’s eyes revealed a hint of understanding. She replied, “I didn’t save you. Moreover, considering the rarity of the Nine-Cycle Soul-Returning Pill, it’s impossible for me to casually use such a precious elixir.”

If she hadn’t recently transmigrated and sensed Nangong Xuyao’s plight, reminiscent of her near-death experience, she might not have intervened. Furthermore, her act of saving him had also indirectly benefited Ye Xiyuan. In hindsight, it was quite exasperating.

Yet, her assistance had been impulsive, and she hadn’t expected any particular gratitude or repayment from Nangong Xuyao. The debt for saving his life had long been settled with monetary compensation. Consequently, she had no ongoing connection with Nangong Xuyao and had no intention of acknowledging the rescue.

Upon hearing Ye Leng'an's response, a trace of disappointment flashed in Nangong Xuyao's eyes. Nevertheless, he persisted, asking, "May I ask if Miss Ye has ever given the Nine-Cycle Soul-Returning Pill to someone else?" Aware of the slim likelihood, he couldn't help but ask.

"Do you find that plausible?" Ye Lengan chuckled nonchalantly. "For such a precious elixir, I intend to keep it well. Besides, do you think I can produce eight or ten of these pills at any given moment?"

Blushing at her retort, Nangong Xuyao bowed, expressing, "I apologize for the intrusion. Thank you for clarifying matters today, Miss Ye."

"No problem," Ye Lengan responded with a faint smile. She continued, "However, I understand your desire to find your benefactor. Have you considered that they might not want to be found? Perhaps, saving you was just a casual act without much significance to them. So, I advise you not to obsess over this matter, especially if your intentions are impure. Disturbing them would be unwise."

Her counsel wasn't directed at Nangong Xuyao but rather at herself. She wished to avoid any connection with him and preferred he remained unaware that she was his savior.

As Nangong Xuyao left, Huangfu Ruiling remarked with a faint smile, "I really don't want him to know you were the one who saved him."

"Please," Ye Lengan responded with an eye roll, as if politely declining. "Judging by his expression, he's not upset about being unable to thank his savior. He's disappointed because he can't establish a relationship with a potential alchemist."

Not a fool, Ye Lengan had seen through Nangong Xuyao's motives. However, her reticence wasn't solely due to that. She found the idea of having any connection with Nangong Xuyao distasteful, especially considering his past assistance to Ye Xiyuan.

After Ye Lenz'an's words, Huanzfu Ruiling's smile became more amicable.

"You see things quite clearly! He knows the value of the Nine-Cycle

Soul-Returning Pill and understands that someone capable of using it to save him is no ordinary person. His actions are just an attempt to enhance his bargaining position."

"It seems his days in the Hidden World won't be easy." Ye Lengan nodded, recalling. "So, it appears that his association with Zhongyu Jiarui is also for this reason."

"Zhongyu Jiarui is blinded by love, but the head of the Zhongyu family is no fool," Huangfu Ruiling remarked, a hint of sarcasm in his smile. "Master Zhongyu is an old fox. Nangong Xuyao's intentions are probably transparent before him. Although he may not love Zhongyu Jiarui the most, she is still his biological daughter. He won't allow Zhongyu Jiarui to jump into a fire pit."

"So it seems Nangong Xuyao won't find success on this path. What a pity," Ye Lengan said without regret. "But how do you know so much?"

With suspicion, her gaze fell on Huangfu Ruiling, as if she expected to glean something from his expression.

Huangfu Ruiling remained composed and calmly replied, "It's not difficult to deduce such a simple matter. With Nangong Xuyao's status, he can't marry the daughter of a prominent family. He's merely daydreaming."

Although he appeared calm on the surface, his heart skipped a beat. In truth, the reason he was so well-informed was that after Ye Lengan mentioned encountering Nangong Xuyao, he dispatched someone to investigate Nangong Xuyao's activities in the Hidden World. Consequently, he had acquired detailed information.

Of course, his action wasn't a lack of trust in Ye Lengan but rather a mild aversion to Nangong Xuyao. Especially considering Nangong Xuyao's persistent attempts to find his savior, he wished to prevent any connection between Nangong Xuyao and Aryan.

Moreover, he could sense that An'an harbored the same sentiments. Hence, he decided to investigate and take preemptive measures. Naturally, he couldn't deny the tinge of jealousy in his actions.

However, he had no intention of letting Ye Lengan know about these details. Revealing them would only invite her mockery..

Chapter 597 - 597: A Necklace Made of the Same Material 1

Time passed swiftly, and Ye Lengan had spent quite a while in the Hidden World, with the imminent Family Competition approaching.

During this period, Ye Lengan enjoyed her time here as if on vacation. On regular days, Huangfu Ruiling accompanied her on various outings if he had the time. Otherwise, she explored the surroundings on her own. Occasionally, she joined Huangfu Ruiling in handling official matters and offered insightful suggestions. Many times, her suggestions left a profound impact.

In a short span, the elders of the Huangfu family fully accepted Ye Lengan. Apart from her innovative ideas, they were impressed by the occasional displays of her strength. Upon learning that she was also a high-level alchemist, they adapted well to the revelation.

The elders were ecstatic. While politeness was initially extended to Ye Lengan due to her being Huangfu Ruilings fiancée, witnessing her capabilities made them realize the family head's discerning judgment in choosing a fiancée. They couldn't compare.

Therefore, Ye Lengan's status within the Huangfu family was steadily rising, now on par with Huangfu Ruiling.

One day, Huangfu Ruiling and the elders discussed the upcoming Family Competition. Uninterested, Ye Lengan chose not to participate and left the Huangfu family alone for some outdoor recreation.

While passing the martial arts field, she encountered Huangfu Ruixiang again. Unwilling to reveal her identity, she didn't spare Huangfu Ruixiang a glance before departing.

Observing her departure, Huangfu Ruixiang felt an inexplicable familiarity, not just with Miss Ye but also with the family head. However, due to his status, encounters with them were rare.

A fellow female outer sect disciple couldn't help asking when she noticed Huangfu Ruixiang's contemplative expression, "Ruixiang, what are you thinking?"

Her cheeks reddened as she spoke to Huangfu Ruixiang. She had harbored feelings for him since their first meeting. Despite being just an outer sect disciple, Huangfu Ruixiang stood out, resembling a refined scion of an aristocratic family. Furthermore, his surname, Huangfu, suggested a connection with the Huangfu family. She speculated that Huangfu Ruixiang's status as an outer sect disciple was temporary; he would likely advance to the inner sect in the future. Thus, she liked him and harbored her own aspirations.

Observing Huangfu Ruixiang's distraction after encountering Ye Lengan, she didn't dwell on it. Everyone knew Ye Leng'an's identity – she was the family head's fiancée, beyond their reach.

"I'm fine." Huangfu Ruixiang shook his head and turned to her. Softening his tone, he inquired, "I don't know why, but I feel like I've seen the family head's fiancée somewhere before. Right, Yating, do you know what kind of identity that Miss Ye has?"

Despite both being outer sect disciples, Huangfu Ruixiang's status in the Hidden World differed from Zhong Yating's background in a remote mountain village. He was an outer sect disciple of the Huangfu family, while Zhong Yating, without a fortuitous encounter, would never have become one. Moreover, being an outer sect disciple might be the pinnacle of Zhong Yating's achievements in her lifetime.

Zhong Yating, infatuated with him, naturally noticed. However, despite enjoying Zhong Yating's tenderness, Huangfu Ruixiang had never contemplated developing any relationship with her. In his heart, Zhong Yating couldn't compare to Li Yiran. At least Li Yiran's face retained an ethereal allure, while Zhong Yating was, at most, a modest girl from a humble family..

Chapter 598 - 598: A Necklace Made of the Same Material 2

However, even in such a situation, he did not resist Zhong Yating's tenderness. After all, he was just an ordinary man, so he naturally enjoyed this kind of ambiguity.

"This isn't something we can know." Zhong Yating looked at Huangfu

Ruixiang, her smile becoming even warmer. "But they say her name is Ye An'an. The elders in the family really admire her! I heard that now, in the family, her status is exactly the same as the family head."

"Ye Aryan." Huangfu Ruixiang frowned, a hint of doubt flashing in his eyes.

"The family head's name is Huangfu Ling, right?"

"Yes!" Zhong Yating smiled, responding to Huangfu Ruixiang's words. "Ruixiang, what's wrong with you?! Can't you even remember the family head's name? But, in the future, it's better not to directly utter those three words. The family head's name

is not something we can casually mention.” At this point, Huangfu Ruixiangs confusion deepened.

Huangfu Ling and Huangfu Ruiling, Ye An’an and Ye Lengan – why were their names so similar? No matter how he looked at it, it seemed like aliases. More importantly, he hadn’t seen Huangfu Ruiling since he arrived in the Hidden World.

Huangfu Ruiling had joined the Huangfu family earlier than him, and he knew well that Huangfu Ruiling held a significant position in the family. However, he couldn’t find any information about Huangfu Ruiling within the Huangfu family. Yet, he never believed Huangfu Ruiling was lying, as an elder had warned him not to inquire about Huangfu Ruiling.

At that time, he wouldn’t have connected Huangfu Ruiling with Huangfu Ling.

But now, knowing that the family head Huangfu Ling’s fiancée was named Ye An’an, an absurd thought surfaced. Could Huangfu Ruiling and Huangfu Ling be the same person? His brother, Huangfu Ruiling, was the head of the Huangfu family in the Hidden World.

No, it was impossible.

On second thought, Huangfu Ruixiang felt he might be overthinking. Huangfu Ruiling was in a wheelchair, while the family head, Huangfu Ling, was not. He had never doubted Huangfu Ruiling’s leg injury, certified by numerous authoritative doctors. Even when his grandfather was alive, attempts were made to consult Hidden World physicians, and all diagnoses unanimously affirmed that Huangfu Ruiling would never stand again.

Though he kept reassuring himself, the seed of doubt in Huangfu Ruixiangs heart continued to sprout.

“Ruixiang, Ruixiang, what’s wrong with you?” Zhong Yating quickly called out to him. “What are you thinking?”

With Zhong Yating’s call, Huangfu Ruixiang snapped out of his thoughts. He smiled and shook his head. “Nothing, I just miss home a little.”

“Oh, do you?” Zhong Yating smiled and continued, “It’s okay. After the Family Competition, you can go home and take a look. But I really envy you! I don’t have a home. Even if I want to go back, there’s no one at home. So, even if I have free time, I won’t go back.”

Towards the end, her tone carried a touch of sadness, and her eyes even appeared moist. After saying that, she quietly awaited Huangfu Ruixiangs comfort.

Yet, she didn’t see any response from him.

Huangfu Ruixiang didn’t even register Zhong Yating’s words. His mind was consumed by his own speculations. Although he considered it pure fantasy, he couldn’t suppress the irrational thoughts.

Observing Huangfu Ruixiangs inaction, Zhong Yating decided to take matters into her own hands.

Just then, Huangfu Ruixiang smiled at Zhong Yating and said, “Yating, I’m sorry. I suddenly remembered there are some matters I need to attend to. I’ll head back first. Practice well on your own!”

With that, Huangfu Ruixiang hurriedly departed.

He intended to find a way to contact his parents first and ask for their help in checking if Ye Lengan was still in the mortal world..

Chapter 599 - 599: A Necklace Made of the Same Material 3

If Ye Leng’an was still in the mortal world, then it was very likely that he was overthinking. However, if Ye Lengan wasn’t around, then his speculation might be accurate.

If Huangfu Ling and Huangfu Ruiling were indeed the same person, then his biological brother would be the head of the Huangfu family. Would that make him the family head’s younger brother?

At the thought of this, Huangfu Ruixiang couldn’t contain his excitement. Even though nothing was certain yet, he couldn’t control the thrill in his heart.

If his hunch was correct, even if he didn’t share a deep connection with Huangfu Ruiling, his status in the family would be altered as the younger brother of the family head!

With this in mind, Huangfu Ruixiang quickened his pace, a hint of urgency in his steps.

On the other side, Huangfu Ruiling and Ye Lengan were unaware that

Huangfu Ruixiang harbored such speculations due to their similar names.

Nevertheless, even if they knew, they probably wouldn’t care, Wearing masks and using pseudonyms was primarily for convenience. However, even if Huangfu Ruixiang discovered it, they wouldn’t be overly concerned.

Moreover, as long as they didn’t acknowledge it, even if Huangfu Ruixiang correctly guessed and confirmed it, it would be inconsequential. This was the Huangfu family, and Huangfu Ruiling was the family leader. So, if he claimed to be Huangfu Ling instead of Huangfu Ruiling, no one would dare to challenge him.

During this period, Ye Lengan explored many places in the Hidden World. The area where the ten great families of the Hidden World resided was the central hub, akin to the capital in the mortal world. It was named the Imperial City, mirroring its mortal world counterpart.

Ye Lengan had traversed the entire Imperial City. Her interest stemmed from the stark differences between this place and the mortal world, exuding an ancient charm that transported her back to the cultivation world.

Presently, she was casually strolling down the bustling streets of the Imperial City. Unintentionally, she found herself in front of a jewelry store.

Even in the Hidden World, many women appreciated jewelry. Despite being born in the Hidden World, a woman’s innate fondness for beautiful and exquisite things remained unchanged. Consequently, jewelry stores were popular among women in the Hidden World.

Being a girl herself, Ye Lengan naturally found interest in such adornments. However, unlike the mortal world, the jewelry stores in the Hidden World were quite similar, and the styles didn't differ much. Hence, though she saw many appealing pieces, she felt no inclination to purchase them. She merely observed casually.

Unlike the mortal world, once inside a jewelry store, no shop assistants were tailing you, urging or promoting. As long as you didn't have specific needs, you were free to browse on your own and request assistance when needed.

Suddenly, a subtle gleam flickered in Ye Leng'an's eyes, but her facial expression remained unchanged. She beckoned a shop assistant and pointed to a necklace, saying, "Hello, please show me this necklace."

"Alright." The polite shop assistant promptly retrieved the necklace, handing it to Ye Lengan.

Ye Lengan accepted the necklace and began inspecting it.

This necklace didn't differ significantly from others. A silver chain embedded with dazzling blue diamonds that sparkled under sunlight. However, her focus wasn't on the gem; it was the material of the necklace.

If she wasn't mistaken, the material matched the bracelet she received from Pang Tingting. Huangfu Ruiling mentioned that this material was commonly used for weapon forging and rarely for jewelry. So, was there a connection between this necklace and the bracelet in her possession?

The nearby shop assistant patiently waited, making no rush or introductions. They would only speak if the customer expressed a need.

After a considerable time, Ye Lengan looked at the shop assistant, smiling as she spoke, "This necklace is quite attractive! Additionally, the material used for the necklace seems quite unique! I don't think I've seen it before.."

Chapter 600 - 600: A Necklace Made of the Same Material

"Yes, indeed, this material is quite unique," the shop assistant smiled, responding. "Normally, it's more commonly used for weapon refinement and less so for crafting jewelry. However, there's another special meaning when this material is used for making jewelry."

"Oh, what's that?" A hint of interest played on Ye Leng'an's face.

"Because this material is usually employed in crafting weapons, it's exceptionally durable," the shop assistant explained with a smile. "So, it metaphorically represents an incredibly sturdy love for you."

"Oh, really?" Ye Lengan smiled. "That's a rather nice symbolism! Many people might buy jewelry made from this material for their loved ones!"

“Exactly!” The shop assistant continued, “However, not all craftsmen can work with this material, so the finished products are quite limited.”

“Are these kinds of jewelry available in all stores, or is it exclusive to your shop?” Ye Lengan asked.

Though Ye Leng’an’s questions seemed peculiar, the shop assistant didn’t pry and replied, “Due to the expensive nature of jewelry made from this material, not all stores carry it. Only a few major jewelry stores have it.”

Ye Lengan nodded, placing the necklace back on the counter. She smiled and said, “Wrap this jewelry up for me, please.”

She didn’t particularly favor or dislike the necklace. However, having asked the shop assistant numerous questions and received detailed explanations with a good attitude, she decided to make the purchase.

Despite maintaining a courteous demeanor, the shop assistant’s eyes flickered with joy upon hearing Ye Leng’an’s decision. In this hidden world, many rules mirrored the mortal world, and the earnings of these shop assistants were primarily commission-based.

The necklace that the customer was purchasing held substantial value, contributing to a considerable commission. Naturally, the shop assistant felt delighted seeing the customer make such a high-value purchase.

“Alright, please wait a moment.”

The shop assistant promptly took the necklace and left the counter.

As Ye Lengan waited for the shop assistant to complete the transaction, she idly glanced around. Apart from the necklace, none of the other accessories appealed to her, extinguishing any desire to make additional purchases.

While waiting, she noticed Ye Wanwan entering the jewelry store. Accompanying her was a woman who appeared to be in her thirties. Though the woman seemed to be in her thirties, discerning her real age was challenging in the hidden world.

Ye Leng’an spotted Ye Wanwan, and, naturally, Ye Wanwan noticed Ye Lengan.

Upon seeing Ye Lengan, Ye Wanwan momentarily hesitated, and then her expression soured. Each encounter with Ye Lengan brought back memories of the auction and the consequences her family faced, all due to Ye Lengan.

Today marked the end of her confinement. Originally, she had no intention of going out, but her mother insisted, so she accompanied her.

Her mother ventured out because her auntie’s birthday was approaching, prompting her to select a gift here. While she wasn’t enthusiastic about gift-giving, she did appreciate the jewelry in this store. After all, she was a young girl who naturally liked such accessories.

Unexpectedly, upon entering the store, she was greeted by the sight of the person she detested. Truly, enemies always crossed paths, didn’t they?

Ye Lengan also pondered the ill-fated connection she shared with Ye Wanwan. Despite their mutual dislike, they continually encountered each other. What an unfortunate coincidence! She hadn't been in the hidden world for long, and the Imperial City wasn't small. Yet, she had already crossed paths with Ye Wanwan three times.

Lian Mengzhu noticed her daughter's peculiar behavior, reached out, and patted Ye Wanwan's shoulder. "Wanwan, what's wrong?"

Ye Wanwan withdrew her gaze. Although reluctant, she still turned towards Ye Lengan and said, "Mother, that's Miss Ye Aryan, the fiancée of the head of the Huangfu family."

Following Ye Wanwan's gaze, Lian Mengzhu easily spotted the person standing there. However, a single glance rendered her unable to look away.

The girl appeared to be the same age as her daughter. Despite wearing a small mask covering a quarter of her face, she radiated beauty capable of captivating a nation.

Her silky black hair danced in the wind, complementing her slender phoenix eyebrows, sparkling eyes, delicate nose, rosy cheeks, cherry-like red lips, a flawless oval face, and smooth, snow-white skin. Her figure exuded grace and elegance.

However, what captivated her gaze wasn't just the girl's beauty and grace. It was an inexplicable sense of familiarity and closeness as if she had seen the face behind the mask before.

This time, Ye Wanwan furrowed her brows. She observed her mother's absent-minded state and promptly pulled her hand. "Mother, how are you feeling? Is anything wrong?"

For some reason, she disliked her mother's gaze lingering on Ye Anan. It made her uncomfortable as if her mother were about to be taken away.

Unable to explain this feeling, she just experienced it without reason. Moreover, she felt that she and Ye An'an were arch-enemies. She didn't want the people around her to pay too much attention to Ye An'an.

"No, I just feel that Miss Ye looks very familiar." Lian Mengzhu returned to her senses, smiling lightly. "Perhaps it's just my imagination!"

"Mother, what are you talking about!" Ye Wanwan couldn't help but frown.

"What's so special about this Ye An'an? You've never seen her before."

"That's true." Lian Mengzhu smiled and nodded. She continued, "Well, since we've met, let's go and say hello! She's the fiancée of the head of the Huangfu family. Ignoring her would not be good, as it might affect the relationship between our two families.."