

Genius 158

Chapter 158: Apprentice Fame System_1

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No matter what the rumors outside had turned into, Qin Fang didn't do anything wrong and wasn't afraid of ghosts knocking at his door; he continued to do what he needed to do, and his affairs had indeed become quite numerous.

For example, attending classes, consulting the Oxford Dictionary, practicing boxing, keeping beautiful women company... and now, an additional task—teaching his apprentice.

Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue had originally planned to go to the shop for breakfast in the morning, but in the end, they didn't go by themselves and waited until after class in the afternoon to head over with Qin Fang.

"You are... Wen Yi?"

But when Qin Fang saw Wen Yi again, even he himself could hardly believe it, and the two beautiful women who had been laughing with him on the way over now wore extremely sinister smiles.

"Hello, boss..."

Perhaps after a day's rest and the staff's care, Wen Yi was no longer as scared as before and even looked at Qin Fang with eyes not so vigilant but somewhat grateful.

The girl, who had appeared pale and bloodless and dressed in a very earthy floral shirt, had changed into a new set of clothes and had tidied herself up a bit, transforming into a delicate and pretty girl with a gentle demeanor and a fair complexion. Barely put, she could also be considered a little beauty.

However, compared to Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue, who were already quite youthful, she seemed even more so; if Qin Fang hadn't known she was seventeen, he might have thought she was only fifteen.

"Go get ready, and in a bit, follow me to the kitchen..."

Not minding the expressions of the two beauties behind him, Qin Fang merely nodded lightly and instructed, while Wen Yi obediently nodded and went to wash her hands to prepare.

"Fangfang, shouldn't you explain to us..."

Wen Yi had left, but the two "lady bosses" came up with hands on hips, grabbing Qin Fang's arms from both sides and pushing him down into a chair, ready to interrogate him.

"Don't ask me, I'm still confused myself. When I saw her yesterday, she... she wasn't like this at all!"

Qin Fang was truly aggrieved; he had seen Wen Yi face to face, and yesterday she was not like this at all, but when he saw her today, she had completely changed.

It is said that girls change markedly when they grow up, but he had never seen such a rapid transformation.

"You're still denying it..."

The two beauties instantly became uncontainably furious, slapping the table to express their anger at the moment.

"Feifei, Muxue, you've got it all wrong; this really isn't Xiao Qin's fault..."

Luckily, at the critical moment, there was someone who stood up to speak for Qin Fang and serve as a favorable witness—Uncle Fang. He had been busy in the back and had asked Qin Fang to come back just to say hello, but he didn't expect to encounter this situation. Overhearing the situation and witnessing Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue's anger, he quickly stepped forward to defend Qin Fang.

"Uncle Fang, he's turned out this bad, and you're still covering for him..."

Tang Feifei was quite familiar with Uncle Fang, as she would buy soup buns from his stall to fill her stomach, and now that Uncle Fang was working for her, their relationship had become even closer. Uncle Fang cherished them almost as if they were his own daughters.

"Feifei, Uncle Fang isn't helping him; I'm telling the truth, it's not what you think..."

In fact, Uncle Fang was also a bit puzzled about the relationship between Qin Fang and the two girls, but since both girls were very nice, he liked them both, so it was hard to say which one Qin Fang should choose.

Of course, if someone else were to join in, Uncle Fang would definitely stand with Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue.

"But..."

Seeing that the facts were right in front of her, Tang Feifei still wanted to argue, but then she saw Wen Yi come out with her hands washed. She couldn't bring herself to speak in front of Wen Yi, showing at least that she knew to give Qin Fang some face.

"Xiao Qin, go handle your business in the back; I've got this..."

Qin Fang was embarrassingly unsure of how to explain since he himself was still puzzled, but Uncle Fang's timely intervention broke the tension. After giving the two beauties a courteous nod, he took Wen Yi to the kitchen in the back, specifically set up for making sauces.

Wen Yi obediently followed Qin Fang into the kitchen in the back, which was really just a small room specially sectioned off in the shop, equipped with all the materials needed for sauce preparation, containers used in previous marinations, and so on, which were needed daily.

Qin Fang, to ensure the freshness of the sauce, never made a particularly large batch each time, fearing that the flavor would change after sitting too long.

Not to mention that although it's already September, the weather is still unusually hot, and he certainly doesn't want to cause any unsanitary issues.

"Let's start with you, what can you do?"

Once in the kitchen behind, Qin Fang started to work, and Wen Yi watched, Qin Fang chopped ingredients and asked.

"I... I can wash pots, cook, feed pigs, herd geese, chop wood, carry water, transplant seedlings..."

At first, Wen Yi was a bit unfamiliar, but seeing that Qin Fang didn't say anything, she grew bolder and listed everything she could do, which left Qin Fang baffled.

"Stop! Stop! I didn't ask about these..."

Seeing that she intended to continue, Qin Fang hurriedly called a halt. The first few items might still be useful, but the rest... were completely irrelevant.

However, it was clear from this that Wen Yi's life in the countryside had not been easy. The tasks she mentioned were mainly hard physical labor. Even though Qin Fang himself came from a rural background, his experience was not to such an extent.

After hearing this, Qin Fang felt even more sympathy for the young girl. It must be that her family was in a difficult situation, which is why her parents let her come out to work and earn money, to help with her brother's tuition fees. That's also how she ended up in such a predicament.

"We're a restaurant... Did you say you can cook?"

Qin Fang smiled helplessly, but it seemed he remembered Wen Yi mentioning these things, so he asked offhandedly.

"Yes, when I was at home, I did all the cooking!"

Wen Yi nodded cautiously and said. She had already heard from Qin Fang that her current salary was one thousand yuan a month. Although it was a bit less than the other waitresses, for her, it was already quite high. Moreover, she planned to live in the rest room upstairs to save on rent. Plus, she could eat for free at the restaurant, so she could keep her monthly expenses below one hundred yuan, which would allow her to send money home.

It was precisely for this reason that she didn't want to lose this hard-earned job. Even though the pimp who had caught her said that if she was willing to serve as a hostess, she could make tens of thousands a month—indeed, an astronomical figure for her—she knew that money earned by selling her body was dirty money. She would rather die than do such a thing.

"Er, what are you thinking about?"

Wen Yi had been lost in thought, and Qin Fang, growing curious, couldn't help but cast a Mind Reading Technique. It hit the mark just as Wen Yi's emotions were agitated, so Qin Fang learned of her thoughts, and his expression turned indescribably strange.

"Nothing, nothing..."

By then, Wen Yi had also come back to her senses and spoke obediently.

"Since you have some basics, over there are knives, various ingredients, and chopping boards. Follow me and learn... I don't have very high demands, just being able to barely keep up is enough."

Clearly, Wen Yi's cooking skills were rough around the edges. Qin Fang didn't know how the taste would turn out, but she probably had some rudimentary skills, which is somewhat better than Tang Feifei's.

"Mhm!"

Wen Yi hummed softly and walked over to Qin Fang's side, picked up a knife, and began to imitate him earnestly, starting from the simplest tasks of cutting and chopping ingredients...

Qin Fang's movements were very quick, partly because his One-Handed Weapon Mastery allowed him to wield a kitchen knife skillfully, and having become very familiar with the tasks, his knife skills were fluid and effortless.

Wen Yi's movements were much more awkward, but she was serious and diligent. She busied herself with her tasks and almost every few minutes glanced at Qin Fang's side to compare the ingredients she had chopped with what Qin Fang had done, then spent extra time trying to approximate his skill level.

Seeing that Wen Yi was learning seriously, Qin Fang was quite satisfied with this apprentice. The most important thing was that Wen Yi did not show any signs of impatience.

Using a knife to chop ingredients is a very dull and boring task. Usually, Qin Fang might have played some music, but now, while teaching his apprentice, he refrained from such distractions.

It wasn't just Wen Yi watching and comparing by herself, but occasionally, when Qin Fang took a break, he would explain certain things she should pay attention to, even how to handle the knife and apply force. In short, his demeanor was no different from a master sincerely teaching his student.

Although sometimes the student blushed when her master Qin Fang guided her hands in cutting, hesitant to say something but unable to speak, because she could feel that Master Qin Fang did not harbor those sorts of intentions toward her.

And indeed, Qin Fang had no other thoughts, as what he valued more was the prompt he had just received in his mind:

"Apprentice Fame System activated!"

"Congratulations, you have gained an apprentice. Learned skill: Beginner Level Cooking, Proficiency: 0%."

"Apprentice Fame System, once a skill reaches Intermediate level, you may take on an apprentice, imparting a Beginner Level skill. The speed of Proficiency gain is one-quarter that of the master, with half going to the master, and one-quarter lost as system attrition."