

Indulgence 451

Chapter 451: Chu Yu is Annoyed

Han Tianci nodded seriously.

"I will try hard!"

"Good boy!"

It was many years later that Han Tianci understood, Chu Yu was not only a great big brother but also a great brother-in-law and a great father.

But the him of now didn't understand, he just felt that Sister's feelings for Big Brother Chu were extraordinary, and that Big Brother Chu was trying to steal his sister, so he guardedly protected her from Chu Yu when it came to Yun Jinnian's affairs.

Chu Yu caught Han Tianci and jumped down from the rooftop, sending him back to Yun Jinnian.

Seeing Yun Jinnian's gentle smile, Chu Yu also smiled and said, "I have brought Tianci back!"

Yun Jinnian smiled, "Mhm, thank you for taking him out to broaden his horizons, he didn't cause you any trouble, did he?"

"No, he's been very well-behaved and sensible, I'll take him with me again next time!" Chu Yu said, looking at Han Tianci, who now stood beside Yun Jinnian and was even a bit taller than her.

It was puzzling what kind of good food the child had eaten to grow so quickly.

Following Chu Yu's gaze, Yun Jinnian looked at Han Tianci. Although Tianci was now taller than her, he was still her most beloved younger brother, willing to risk his life for her, apologizing with his dying breath that he couldn't lead her out of the palace—her foolish younger brother.

Unable to bear Yun Jinnian's doting on Han Tianci, Chu Yu felt a sourness in his heart.

"I have something else to do, I'll go and get busy!"

"Alright!"

Yun Jinnian watched Chu Yu leave, looking at his tall figure, she felt a strange sense of familiarity, yet couldn't remember where she had seen it before.

"Sister..."

"Mhm?"

"What were you just thinking about? You seemed distracted!"

Yun Jinnian shook her head with a smile, "It's nothing. Sister Jiayu has prepared hot water for you, go wash up and put on clean clothes, come and have a bowl of Snow Lotus porridge and then go to bed!"

"Okay, I'll do as Sister says!"

Han Tianci joyfully went to bathe and change.

By the time he returned, Yun Jinnian had already ladled the porridge out.

It was light and bland, without any accompanying dishes, but Han Tianci felt his stomach warm and very comfortable after drinking a bowl of the thin porridge.

"Sister, can I sleep here tonight? I'll just sleep on that small couch!" Han Tianci said, pointing to a small couch on the side.

Yun Jinnian couldn't help but laugh, "Sleep on the bed. It's quite big, big enough for the two of us siblings!"

"Hehe, then I'm going to sleep!" Han Tianci said, and, fearing Yun Jinnian might change her mind, quickly took off his outer garments, leaving only his underclothes on, and happily settled into bed, pulling over a thin blanket to cover himself.

Yun Jinnian found it amusing and moved forward to take a fan and chase out the mosquitoes inside the bed, then she lowered the bed curtains.

"Sister, aren't you sleeping?"

"I still have things to do, you go to sleep first!"

Tianci guessed that his sister must be going to meet Big Brother Chu and feeling that the inn was very safe, he fell asleep with a peace of mind.

Carefree.

Chu Yu returned to his own room huffily, washed his face, gulped down a mouthful of cold tea, found the taste unpleasant, and heavily set it down again.

Luoyi entered the room, "Master, everything has been arranged properly!"

"Hmm, what about the Governor's Office?"

"It's in our hands now, the person will soon be brought to the inn. As for the bandits in the mountains, we have people infiltrating and will soon be able to capture them!"

Chu Yu's face remained stern, silent.

Luoyi felt that this was his true lord, the one who had been grinning beside Miss Yun certainly seemed like an impostor.

Such a big difference.

However, he also felt that the personable lord seemed truer and appeared more at ease—there was at least some liveliness.

Chu Yu said nothing, his finger tapping intermittently against the table, making a faint sound, causing Luoyi a bit of anxiety.

The master is in a bad mood.

Someone is going to be in big trouble.

At this moment,

In the Xiu Residence,

Xiu Bingsheng sat slumped on the ground, unable to recover for a long time, completely stupefied.

"Master..." Mr. Yi called softly, his heart also filled with trepidation and sheer panic, "What should we do next?"

Chapter 452: A Mess

"What should we do?" Xiu Bingsheng was also bewildered at this moment.

He had hidden his gold, silver, and jewels for so many years, and now they had all been emptied out. The prison had been broken into, and the person inside was taken away.

Fortunately, Mrs. Liu also disappeared without a trace.

Someone wanted her dead.

But who was this person? Where were they hiding?

Was it the remnants of the Xin Family? Or were those he had harmed in the past coming back?

He did not know, but he was inexplicably afraid and terrified, wishing he could just die, yet he couldn't bear to.

If he died, what would become of his son and daughter?

Xiu Bingsheng suddenly stood up, "Someone, someone!"

Immediately, two people entered the study, "Master?"

"Hurry, go and tell the madam, the young master, and the young miss to pack up their belongings and send them out of the city at once, go quickly!"

There was no time to wait, not a moment to lose.

Xiu Bingsheng secretly rejoiced that he still had a sum of Silver hidden away somewhere else, as long as he had that Silver, his children would never have to worry about food and clothing.

As long as they were not found out for who they were.

It was fortunate that he had arranged their registration long ago, just in case this day would come.

Mr. Yi also understood that Xiu Bingsheng had no other options, "Master, you must summon all your spirit now!"

"Yes, that's right, I must summon my spirit. Where is Xunxun? Have Xunxun leave quickly!"

Xiu Xunxun, Xiu Bingsheng's most beloved daughter. Although she was his daughter, at sixteen, she wasn't seeking marriage but instead spent her days fawning and acting coyly before Xiu Bingsheng.

Sometimes she even sat on Xiu Bingsheng's lap, feeding him food.

Affection between father and daughter was not to be taken issue with, but this was perhaps too intimate.

"Yes, I'll go inform the Sixth Miss right away!" Mr. Yi said, and then left the study.

He was a clever man, and now he knew that being by Xiu Xunxun's side was his only chance to live.

And Xiu Xunxun surely knew where Xiu Bingsheng's Silver was hidden.

The sixteen-year-old Xiu Xunxun was exceptionally seductive and enchanting, dressing provocatively, with skin well taken care of, snowy and tender to the point where it made people want to bite into it, yearning to pull her into their arms and ravage her, to see if different colors would bloom on that snowy skin.

Being far from the fire that broke out in the back of the house, she remained calmly in her own courtyard, sipping on fine honeyed wine, attended to diligently by a maid.

Xiu Xunxun was a very cunning woman and was clear about what she wanted. In this house, as a courtesan's daughter, if she did not rely on her father, she would be nothing. Knowing full well her father's thoughts, she had no qualms about playing up to him.

Furthermore, aside from being pinched here and there, touched a little, and kissed a bit, she had not lost a woman's most precious thing.

To gain so much, one must lose a little.

Seeing Mr. Yi approach hurriedly, Xiu Xunxun gave him a soul-enticing smile, both bewitching and coquettish, "Why has Mr. Yi come?"

Mr. Yi tried to calm his mind before speaking, "Sixth Miss, something has happened in the mansion. The Master has ordered his subordinate to help you leave immediately!"

"Leave?" Xiu Xunxun's eyes narrowed slightly, a flash of panic showed in them, but she quickly composed herself.

"Has something happened?"

"The prison was broken into, the study was robbed, and the back courtyard caught fire. It seems to be the work of one person. The Master is worried about the young miss and wants you to leave the city with his subordinate right away!"

Upon hearing this, Xiu Xunxun immediately instructed the maid, "You all quickly pack up a little, we'll leave with Mr. Yi right away!"

But then she remembered something.

If the father wanted her to leave, then her siblings would surely be leaving as well. If everyone left the city together, the chance of being caught would be greater.

She could not leave with them...

Chapter 453: Shameless Utilization

And now, the only person she could use was Mr. Yi.

"Mr. Yi, please come to my study to talk," she called.

Xiu Xunxun said this, then gracefully walked toward the study.

Clad in a thin gauze, her figure was enchantingly delicate, full and smooth, and her scent was pleasant; Mr. Yi even felt momentarily flustered.

He followed Xiu Xunxun to her study.

Once there, Xiu Xunxun proceeded to close the door.

The light in the study was dim and faint, with only a small oil lamp in the corner, placed there so that people entering the room wouldn't feel it pitch black and could find the tall lamp stand to light it.

Mr. Yi stood still while Xiu Xunxun slowly approached him, her slippery hand like a snake resting on his shoulder, pressing her body close, and with her red lips gently whispering, "Mr. Yi!"

Mr. Yi's body tensed.

He swallowed saliva with excitement.

He was aware of the affair between the master and the Sixth Miss and had secretly watched them several times; he had also seen the Sixth Miss's bare body.

Truly curvaceous and exquisitely graceful.

"Mi-Miss!" his voice trembled as he spoke, stammering.

A smile played in Xiu Xunxun's heart, "Do you like me, Mr. Yi?"

"This humble one wouldn't dare!"

"What if I were to give you a chance today!" Xiu Xunxun said, placing Mr. Yi's hand onto her soft curves.

Mr. Yi wanted to pull his hand away but couldn't bear to; in the end, he even pressed down harder, the softness too compelling to let go of.

"Hehe, hehe, I knew it, Mr. Yi likes me!" Xiu Xunxun laughed, suddenly kissing his chin and then slowly moving up to his lips.

"Sixth Miss, stop, if the master finds out..."

Mr. Yi said, but without much persuasive power.

"If you don't tell and I don't tell, who would know?" Xiu Xunxun said, moaning softly.

Savvy in the ways of love and deliberately seductive.

The two soon fell to the floor, Xiu Xunxun's body as soft and pliable as a serpent coiling around Mr. Yi.

With her moans and gasps, Mr. Yi could no longer contain himself, yet he knew this was not the time for such activities, and although he was in the prime of life at thirty-six, having grown a beard to gain the master's respect, he gave Xiu Xunxun a thorough kneading before asking hoarsely, "What is your plan, Sixth Miss?"

"I want Mr. Yi to take a fake Sixth Miss out of the city while I wait for you in the unused well in my backyard," Xiu Xunxun said, kissing Mr. Yi's chin, "Mr. Yi, do you fancy me?"

"I do like you, from the first moment I saw the Sixth Miss!"

And he was utterly enraptured.

But he still dared not.

Now that Xiu Xunxun had offered herself, he had no reason to push her away.

"So will you help me, Mr. Yi?" Xiu Xunxun asked, leaning into his embrace again.

"I'll help, I'll help!"

With beauty right before him, his heart was already in disarray, unable to distinguish north from south, so of course he agreed wholeheartedly.

Without a thought for the consequences of this agreement.

"I knew Mr. Yi truly cared for me!" Xiu Xunxun said, kissing him again.

After being entwined for a while, they each got up to tidy their clothes and hair ornaments.

When they left the study and returned to the small hall, Xiu Xunxun called a maid to follow her into the bedroom. When they came out again, the maid was covered with a cloak over her head and face, which Mr. Yi naturally understood.

This was to switch places.

"You all go ahead and wait outside the courtyard!"

"Yes!"

The maids obediently left the courtyard.

A woman dressed as a maid came out; who else could it be but Xiu Xunxun.

"Mr. Yi, there's no time to delay, follow me quickly!"

Chapter 454: Secret Trap

Mr. Yi did not dare to hesitate and immediately followed Xiu Xunxun to the courtyard behind her quarters, where indeed there was a dried-up well. Mr. Yi lowered Xiu Xunxun down, then turned to leave.

However, after Mr. Yi left, a black shadow silently swooped into the well. Xiu Xunxun looked at the incoming person and smiled, "Shadow!"

"Hmm!"

"You've come at the perfect time, quickly take me away from here!"

The Shadow shook his head slightly, "Can't take you!"

"Why not?"

"There are masters!"

Xiu Xunxun immediately understood. Shadow's martial arts were highly skilled; he could come and go alone perhaps, but taking someone with him who didn't know martial arts, like her, would be difficult.

"Then first bring me some food and water. I can stay in this dried-up well for a few days. You find the right opportunity to come and take me out!"

"Hmm!"

The Shadow assented and then silently departed.

Xiu Xunxun finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Fortunately, she had once saved Shadow in a moment of kindness, earning three years of repayment. Now, two years had passed, and when June of next year arrived, Shadow and she would have no relationship. The Xiu Family was likely beyond saving now, and her father could not be relied upon. She needed to quickly plan for herself.

On the other hand, Mr. Yi and his men quietly left the Xiu Residence. He thought they were being discreet, but he didn't know that someone had already been watching them closely. They had not gone far from the city gates when a group of more than ten men in black, appearing from nowhere, made a move to assassinate Mr. Yi and his men.

Mr. Yi was not lucky; he died on the spot.

Before he died, his eyes widened in disbelief, regret, and extreme horror.

The other several groups were no different. Anyone who left the Xiu Residence did not survive, and beside their bodies was a piece of paper.

The paper read, "The justice of heaven is clear, retribution never fails. It's not that there's no retribution; the time has just not yet come!"

Only the corner of the paper harbored a very peculiar and familiar pattern.

The Venerable Law, too restless to sleep, had gone for a walk and came upon the massacre. He watched indifferently but moved forward to examine the rice paper.

The totem in the corner...

It seemed familiar, as though he had seen it on Prince Chu Yu.

Picking up the rice paper and folding it, he immediately sent out a secret signal, and soon, the members of the Yue Sect that were hidden in Yangxi City hurried over, "Your subordinates are here to see the Venerable Law!"

The followers knew that the Saintess had arrived in Yangxi City, but they dared not act rashly and were on high alert at all times.

"Go and check if there are more of these killings tonight in the city, and see if there are any similar notes. Collect all of them and bring them to the inn!"

"Yes!"

The followers scattered to carry out the orders.

That night, the gates of all four sides of Yangxi City were quietly opened, and the family members that Xiu Bingsheng had sent out of the city were all murdered, a similar note beside them...

The Inn

Chu Yu went to see Lord Xin.

In just a few days, Lord Xin had aged considerably, no longer displaying his once-glory. Seeing Chu Yu enter, he looked up at him, then slumped back down despondently.

"Is it true that you conspired with bandits to kill the entire Xing Family, three hundred people from top to bottom?"

At this, Lord Xin said nothing but began to cry.

They were his family, his own blood. How could he dare? How could he bear?

But with Liuliu in Xiu Bingsheng's hands, what could he do but to take all the blame?

"A useless man, deserving heavy punishment!" Chu Yu snorted coldly, "Bring that woman here, let her tell us in her own words how she feasted and lived luxuriously at the Governor's Office, sleeping with one man today and another tomorrow, no different from a whore!"

Was such a woman worthy of people dying for her?

Chu Yu left and soon Mrs. Liu was brought in.

Already frightened, Mrs. Liu, upon seeing Lord Xin, hesitated for a long while before breaking down in tears, "Lord Xin, Lord Xin, it was not intentional, it was that beast Xiu Bingsheng who forced me, I really didn't do it on purpose, Lord Xin, you love me so much, you surely won't blame me, right?"

Chapter 455: The Truth Lingers

Master Xin was no fool.

Seeing Mrs. Liu dressed so luxuriously, her hair adorned with exquisite ornaments, and her figure far from emaciated—even if she was crying now, it seemed mostly for show.

These days, he had thought a lot.

He wasn't particularly handsome nor was he exceptionally talented, just a second-generation master in the family who relied on his elder brother; how then had he caught her eye?

He loved her deeply, always listened to her in everything.

Upon reflection, there were indeed flaws in her behavior.

On the first and fifteenth of each month, she insisted on going to offer incense, a trip that lasted two days, and she returned with a particular glow about her. He thought it was the spiritual renewal, but it turned out it wasn't...

And those idle gossips from before, now they seemed to be making sense!

"Tell me, is it you and Xiu Bingsheng who colluded to let the bandits into the Xin Family!" Master Xin's voice was heavy.

Mrs. Liu momentarily forgot to cry, stammering, "Second Master, what are you talking about, I don't understand, I..."

"Slap!"

Master Xin was truly furious and angry.

He slapped her hard, leaving Mrs. Liu unable to utter a word and forgetting even to cry.

"Get out!" Master Xin shouted.

For such a woman, to lose his home and ruin the people—no, it truly wasn't worth it...

Stunned, Mrs. Liu left the room, only then realizing she had nowhere to go.

Initially, it was Xiu Bingsheng's order that she get close to Master Xin, but over the years, she had indeed developed feelings for him. However, on the first and fifteenth of each month, she still had to secretly indulge with Xiu Bingsheng for two days.

At first, she was afraid, but since she was never caught, she became used to it and shamelessly so.

With such a significant hold over her, did she dare refute Xiu Bingsheng when he asked her to open the back door?

She did not dare.

Since she did not dare, she could only comply.

But she had not expected the second master who loved her so much to treat her like this.

To hate her, resent her, be angry with her, to hit her, and also to tell her to leave.

But once she left, where could she go?

Chu Yu felt annoyed, so he returned to his room, threw himself onto the bed, and as he thought about Yun Jinnian's partiality towards Han Tianci and his own cold treatment, he just couldn't fall asleep.

Thinking about Yun Jinnian almost drove him mad.

Yun Jinnian sat on the side, flipping through a book, but really not taking any of it in. After waiting for quite a while without hearing Han Tianci make a sound, she heard the faint sound of his snoring instead. She smiled indulgently, then took the pouch she had made for Chu Yu and left the room.

Shi Jiayu immediately stepped forward to greet her, "Miss, are you going out?"

"Mm, is there any Snow Lotus porridge left?"

"Yes!"

"Then ladle a bowl for me—make it a slightly larger bowl. I'm taking it to Big Brother Chu!"

Shi Jiayu hurriedly smiled, "Then I'll go get it from the kitchen. Please wait a moment, Miss. I'll bring the porridge over in a moment!"

"You go ahead, I'll wait here for you!"

Shi Jiayu clattered away, while Yun Jinnian stayed where she was.

Her room was flanked by the quarters of Shi Jiayu, Hemei, Henuan, and then the older female servants such as the nannies, creating a separation between her and all the men.

With Shi Jiayu gone, Hemei and Henuan approached her, "Miss!"

"You haven't gone to sleep yet?"

"Hehe!"

The two maids had become more cheerful during this trip, frequently bursting into silly laughter, and their demeanor had softened, showing the innocence of eleven-year-olds.

But this was only in front of her. Once away from her side or when strangers appeared, they immediately put on faces as cold as ice and unapproachable.

"Later, lay out a blanket and pillow on the couch, I'll sleep there tonight!"

Although Tianci was still young, he was eight years old and taller than her; it wouldn't be appropriate to share a bed anymore. Letting Tianci sleep on the couch wasn't good for his health either.

Hemei seemed to want to say something but ultimately remained silent, simply assuring that it would be arranged soon.

Shi Jiayu also brought over the food container. Yun Jinnian took the container, and without anyone accompanying her, she walked slowly toward Chu Yu's room.

Chapter 456: Coaxing Him to Happiness

Upon reaching Chu Yu's room, Yun Jinnian stretched out her hand and knocked on the door.

"Get lost!"

Chu Yu's suppressed and deep voice came from inside the room.

Yun Jinnian was taken aback, her raised hand hadn't yet fallen, remaining in the position of knocking.

A slight bitterness filled her heart, but she also understood that Chu Yu's words were not directed at her.

With a sigh, she pushed open the door and stepped inside.

The room was dimly lit, with only a thin oil lamp burning on the table. Yun Jinnian scanned the room and finally saw Chu Yu on the bed.

He was lying on his side, facing the inside of the bed, with his back to her.

Yun Jinnian glanced at him and, carrying the food box, walked to the table, placed it down, and opened the lid to reveal the porridge.

"I told you to get lost..." Chu Yu roared as he sat up but paused when he saw it was Yun Jinnian, swallowing the rest of his words, his face reddened as he stammered, "Why, why did you come?"

"Sister Jiayu made some Snow Lotus porridge, and I brought you a bowl. Eat it before you go back to sleep!" Yun Jinnian said, amused by Chu Yu's embarrassment, yet she didn't call him out on it.

"You brought me porridge!"

Instantly feeling as if the storm had passed, Chu Yu felt much better.

Eagerly getting out of bed, he walked over to the table with a cheeky smile, "It smells so good, it must be delicious!"

"It's just plain porridge. Try it and see if it suits your taste. If you like it, I'll make some for you every time!"

"It suits, suits, whatever you bring always suits my taste!" Chu Yu said and began to hungrily eat from the bowl.

Yun Jinnian smiled tenderly and sat down. after Chu Yu finished the porridge, she took out a purse and handed it to him, "I put some Insect-Repellent Herbs and the saliva of the Spiritual Poisonous Insect inside, wear it on you, and snakes and beasts won't dare come near!"

"For me!" Chu Yu exclaimed with joy, taking the purse and inspecting it carefully, wanting to attach it to his belt with great care but, in his excitement, failed to do so several times.

Yun Jinnian laughed, "Let me help you wear it."

She took the purse from Chu Yu's hands and fastened it on for him.

Then she straightened his clothes and said, "There, all done!"

"Hehehe!" Chu Yu chuckled foolishly.

He kept touching it and then chuckled again, foolishly.

Seeing Chu Yu so delighted, Yun Jinnian shared in his joy, "I was in a bit of a hurry, so I just made a simple one. Next time, when I have more time, I will make a more exquisite one for you!"

"Sure, sure!"

Chu Yu replied, his heart also merry.

It was then he remembered the purse Yun Jinnian had given him, tucked away in the Capital City's brocade box, which he couldn't bear to wear, fearing it would get damaged or dirty.

Now he thought it would be better to wear it all the time to let Yun Jinnian know his feelings.

At that moment, all shadows and unhappiness had dissipated.

"Today, I took Tianci out to do some things, but rest assured, I'll protect him!"

"I know, big brother Chu doesn't need to explain, it was Tianci who troubled you!"

"It wasn't a bother at all, we get along better and better. When we return to the Capital City, I'll teach him horse riding and archery, and I'll take him on adventures too!"

Without prying into the details, Yun Jinnian chatted a while longer before standing up to leave and return to her room.

"Then you should rest early. We'll be staying in Yangxi City for a few days. You can go to the streets and see if there's anything rare. Buy something to bring back for your aunt, or it could be a present for a friend, or you can keep it for yourself. I've got some Silver here!" Chu Yu said, taking out a stack of silver notes and placed them in front of Yun Jinnian.

His demeanor was that of a rich man saying you can spend as you like, don't come back if you can't spend it all.

Chapter 457: Showing Off

Yun Jinnian looked on and laughed, "I have silver!"

"What's yours is yours, and this is what I'm giving you!" Chu Yu said without a second thought, taking the silver and stuffing it into Yun Jinnian's hands.

Unable to refuse, Yun Jinnian could only accept it.

She thought she'd hold onto the silver for Chu Yu and return it when he needed it.

After tidying up the silver note, Yun Jinnian didn't count it carefully and wrapped it all in a handkerchief, "Chu Brother, you should rest, I'm going back to rest as well!"

"I'll walk you back!"

"It's just a few steps, no need to escort me!" Yun Jinnian headed outside, and Chu Yu followed in silence by her side.

Yun Jinnian, having no other choice, let Chu Yu walk her to her room door, "Chu Brother, go back!"

"I'll leave after seeing you go in!"

Yun Jinnian pushed the door open and entered the room, smiling faintly at Chu Yu.

Chu Yu suddenly grinned mischievously, "Alright, I'm leaving, I'm leaving now!"

He truly turned around and left.

Yun Jinnian smiled as she closed the room door.

The soft couch had been made ready, she had already taken a bath earlier, and there was no need to wash up purposefully now; sitting on the soft couch, she opened the handkerchief and began to count the silver notes.

After a session of counting, Yun Jinnian was shocked.

There were actually three and a half million taels, with several deposits of five hundred thousand taels each, which didn't need a seal; simply take the deposit note, and you can cash it at any bank in Tianchu Country.

Where did he get all these silver notes?

When she remembered that he went out with Tianci today...

Yun Jinnian took a deep breath, telling herself not to overthink it; Chu Yu was not one to act foolishly, and with his status, anything he wanted was at his disposal.

After securing the silver notes, Yun Jinnian extinguished the oil lamp in the corner and lay down on the soft couch to sleep.

She thought she wouldn't be able to sleep, but unexpectedly, she fell asleep quickly!

Chu Yu, with a grin on his face, swinging the purse around his waist, went to show off to Yuwen Ya.

Yuwen Ya had just returned from breaking out of jail and felt dirty all over; after taking a bath, he saw Chu Yu coming over with a smug face, utterly astonished, "Did you find a gold ingot?"

"Hehe!"

Chu Yu said and showed the purse hanging from his waist to Yuwen Ya, "Look, Jinnian just gave this to me, made it with her own hands, just like the one she made for Tianci!"

Yuwen Ya chuckled, showing no interest in his little uncle.

Utterly shameless.

Now, he didn't have a girl he liked, but the day when he finds one who likes him back, he will have as many purses as he wants!

"Then, congratulations to you!"

"Thank you, thank you. Right now you're a lone soul, with no girls giving you purses, I know you're sour about it, haha, I understand, I understand!"

"The door is that way, get going quick!"

"What's the rush? Haven't you eaten yet? Jinnian just personally brought me a bowl of Snow Lotus porridge, and it tasted extremely good. Do you want some? I can send someone to the kitchen to see if there's any left?"

Yuwen Ya took a deep breath.

He bellowed word by word, "Get, out, of, here, now..."

"Ahahaha, don't be mad, ahahaha, I'm just, hehe, leaving now, immediately, ahahaha!" Chu Yu happily bounced out of the room.

From afar, his smug laughter could still be heard.

Yuwen Ya, after his anger, began to smile as well.

He was happy for Chu Yu.

Having someone in this world that could make him so happy, someone willing to care for him, was good indeed!

Chu Yu, in high spirits, went to show off to Prince Yanjun.

Unfortunately, Prince Yanjun was kindly-natured and only smiled faintly as he watched him, making Chu Yu feel like he couldn't keep up the act, "Talking about this with Cousin is so uninspiring, well then, I'm going to sleep!"

"You've been busy these days, do take care of yourself!" Prince Yanjun spoke out, still as gentle as jade.

"Got it!"

Chu Yu happily returned to his own room, only to find the Law Master sitting by the table, the food box already taken away, and a cup of hot tea served.

"Wow, how come you're here, Elder?"

Chapter 458: Chu Yu Has a Realization

The venerable master held his teacup and sipped his tea.

He was also very fond of Chu Yu, otherwise, he wouldn't have tacitly allowed him to learn martial arts with Tianci.

It was clear he was a man of deep emotions and kept his promises. Although his relationship with the Saintess had yet to manifest into anything substantial, everyone in the Moon Worship Sect treated him as one of their own.

Since he was one of their own, they had to take extra care of him,

otherwise, the venerable master wouldn't have noticed the clues on that xuan paper.

After finishing his tea and setting down the cup, the venerable master took out a piece of xuan paper from his robe and handed it to Chu Yu, "Take a look!"

Chu Yu raised an eyebrow, took it and, after a short while, understood, "Such a fine trap indeed; after all these years, the endless schemes and conspiracies, he seems never to tire of them!"

Seeing Chu Yu's reaction, the venerable master knew his own involvement was no longer needed.

"Make your own decisions. If you need manpower, just mention it to the old man!"

Chu Yu was momentarily taken aback, but still clasped his fist towards the venerable master in gratitude, "Thank you!"

"Hehe!" The venerable master laughed and left.

Chu Yu clenched the xuan paper in his hands, his fists cracking audibly.

"Luoyi, Luoyer!"

"Yes, my lord?"

"Get ready. Once we return to the capital, I wish to present the Emperor with a grand gift!"

In this dynasty, many things were exclusive, such as xuan paper and the patterns in its corners.

Chu Yu sniffed the xuan paper, pinpointing it from the Prince Rui Residence without a doubt.

He had long known the Emperor had planted spies in the Prince Rui Residence but never imagined this spy could obtain such xuan paper.

"Activate the twelve Golden Guards to clean this up!"

Luoyi and Luo'er nodded, utterly astonished.

This was the lifeline the late emperor had left for Chu Yu.

For so many years, Chu Yu had never deployed them, so why now?

"He had guessed for so many years, now I shall let him know that the Emperor His father favored is me. I hold the Golden Guards in my hands. Let him panic like a cornered dog. I am through with these disgraceful days!" Chu Yu exclaimed as he threw the teacup, "I don't want those people to return to report back. And those two thorns hiding in the darkness, deal with them!"

The Emperor had sent Hidden Guards to monitor every move of Yun Jinnian, which Chu Yu knew, but given the abundance of experts in the Moon Worship Sect, those two Hidden Guards couldn't infiltrate.

He never had the desire to become Emperor, yet there were always some who suffered from persecution mania, constantly plotting against him.

"Yes!"

Luoyi took the order and left.

The Golden Guards were formed from the best of the Hidden Guards, all prodigies in their diversity of skills.

However, a Golden Guard could only serve their master in ten endeavors and if they were still alive after those, they could leave the Golden Guards and live a new life with a new identity.

The Emperor would no longer disturb their lives, ensuring the loyalty of the next Golden Guards to the Emperor.

Chu Yu sat on the chair, fidgeting with a sachet in his hands, thinking about how aimless the past nineteen years of his life had been.

In his youth, he spent his days raising birds and fighting dogs, and as he grew older, his indulgences only increased.

Whenever he left the house, he did so alone, accompanied only by Luoyi and Luo'er, fully aware the Emperor viewed him as a thorn in his side. What exactly was he gambling on? What did he hope for?

But now this was good, the facade had finally been torn away.

From now on, the fight for supremacy would depend on each one's ability!

Xiu Residence

"Master, master, terrible news, terrible news!"

Xiu Bingsheng's eyebrows twitched slightly as he inquired, "What's the trouble now?"

"Master, you feared that the madam, the young master, and the young miss might encounter trouble, so you dispatched an additional squad to shadow them discreetly. However, those men have returned, claiming that the madam, the young miss, and the young master are all dead!"

Upon hearing this, Xiu Bingsheng felt as if his mind had exploded, and he was momentarily speechless, "This means the end of my lineage..."

Chapter 459: Winning People Over

Who was so ruthless? Who could commit such a poisonous and cold-blooded act?

Prince Rui?

Xiu Bingsheng thought it could very well be Prince Rui, and that realization made him feel even worse.

"No, Prince Rui wouldn't do such a thing..."

"Indeed, I would not do such a thing!"

Just as Chu Yu's voice fell, he leaped down from the rooftop and landed in front of Xiu Bingsheng.

"Your Highness, Prince Rui!" Xiu Bingsheng called out and immediately knelt down.

"The silver and jewels from your study were indeed taken by my men, but your family was not touched by me. I might be unreasonable in my actions, but even I would not stoop so low as to bully the weak and sick, let alone show no mercy to a child in swaddling clothes!" Chu Yu said as he tossed the white paper to Xiu Bingsheng, "This was found at the crime scene. This paper comes from Prince Rui's Residence, but you are not foolish. If it was the doing of someone from Prince Rui's Residence, why would they leave such an obvious clue behind? And now in Tianchu Country, the only one who dares to frame me, Chu Yu, is none other than the one on the Dragon Throne!"

Xiu Bingsheng looked at the writing on the paper, his mind a complete blank.

All he knew was that he couldn't die. He had to live to avenge his children.

"Your Highness, please show me a clear path!"

Chu Yu looked at Xiu Bingsheng and, after a long while, said, "Xiu Bingsheng must die!"

"This subordinate understands!"

"I want the silver you've accumulated over the years. Once my plans are successful, you will surely be rewarded handsomely."

Xiu Bingsheng immediately understood.

Was Prince Rui planning a rebellion?

But he, indeed, also hated the Emperor. To speak frankly, he was the Emperor's man, yet when the Emperor targeted his wife and children, he showed no mercy at all.

However, did the Emperor really do this?

Or was it a play directed and performed by Prince Rui himself?

Yet, here he was, a fifty-year-old man still only a Magistrate, with all his capabilities untapped because the Emperor never truly utilized him. To say that he was the Emperor's man, nowadays the Emperor probably couldn't even recall who he was.

Perhaps following Prince Rui would be different. Once Prince Rui succeeded...

As for a wife and children, as long as he was alive, he would eventually have them again; he could have as many as he wanted.

"Your Highness, this subordinate is willing to go through fire and water for you, without any hesitation!" Xiu Bingsheng said, not hiding the location of his hidden silver, and immediately told Chu Yu.

Chu Yu had him write a letter of confession, shouldering all the blame upon himself, which also cleared Xin Er from the accusations, and then set fire to the Xiu Residence.

"Good news, good news! Xiu Bingsheng, fearing punishment, has hanged himself. Xin Er has been wrongfully accused; it was indeed Xiu Bingsheng who colluded with bandits!"

Early in the morning, the streets and alleys were all abuzz with the news.

They even dredged up all the sordid things Xiu Bingsheng had done over the years, and rumors were circulating that even Xiu Bingsheng's family had been killed, with Prince Rui resolutely pursuing the murderer.

Moreover, Prince Rui had even arranged for a Drum of Injustice to be placed outside the Governor's Office, inviting anyone with grievances to come and speak their truth.

Chu Yu would also send people to investigate thoroughly, to let the truth come to light.

In no time, Chu Yu's reputation in Yangxi City reached new heights, and people from smaller counties and towns also came forward with their grievances.

Although mostly minor matters, Chu Yu sent people to deal with them.

And so he was kept busy until the end of July.

Chu Yu had lost a lot of weight, but he looked spirited indeed.

Granny Qian had suggested Yun Jinnian return to the Capital City first, but Yun Jinnian did not want to. Han Tianci was even less willing, following Chu Yu around and getting tanned quite a bit. He grew taller and became much more sensible. The childishness on his face faded away, revealing a sharp intelligence.

Yun Jinnian had personally made several pouches and outfits for the two of them.

"These two really do wear out their clothes too quickly. Just the other day, Miss had just made some new ones and they're already torn. I said I would make one, but guess what the young master said?" Shi Jiayu complained to Yun Jinnian as she clung to her.

Chapter 460: Wholehearted Dedication

Yun Jinnian flashed a faint smile, "What did he say?"

"He said, the one Sister made is different from Jiayu's!"

Yun Jinnian laughed and finished mending the clothes.

The two of them were constantly coming and going, and their clothes and shoes wore out quickly. Yun Jinnian couldn't make new ones fast enough, and they were reluctant to throw the old ones away, so they had to keep stitching and patching to keep wearing them. Fortunately, Yun Jinnian was skilled with needle and thread, so even the areas that were mended couldn't be noticed by others, and they even seemed particularly unique.

"Sister Jiayu loves him, and he knows it!"

"Mhm, the little master is very clever. In the future, he will definitely be one of the most formidable figures in Tianchu Country!"

Yun Jinnian smiled.

She didn't think about things too far in the future; for now, she was focused on how to let Tianci grow up carefree, able to learn skills without feeling bored.

"Sister, we're back!"

Han Tianci ran into the house joyfully, his head covered in sweat and his body smelling of it.

"Go wash up quickly, the hot water is all ready. After you've washed up, come out and drink the soup. I've stewed a chicken soup with Snow Lotus for you!"

Although it was called Snow Lotus chicken soup, it was just a piece of Snow Lotus stewed with a chicken, along with some nourishing herbs.

"Thank you, Sister!" Han Tianci joyfully went off, while Shi Jiayu immediately went to prepare clothes for him.

Shi Jiayu hadn't forgotten that Han Tianci was the first person to pity and sympathize with her.

So, the most important person in her heart was still Han Tianci.

Chu Yu stepped in, darkened from the sun and also thinner than before, his head covered in sweat and his body smelling of it.

"Everything has been taken care of. We'll set off for the Capital City early tomorrow morning and will make sure to get you home before Mid-Autumn Festival. By the way, Jinfeng is also back in the Capital City. She sent a message saying she has a surprise for you, so be mentally prepared!"

Chu Yu rattled off so much, and although Yun Jinnian felt like laughing, she didn't let it show, "Mhm, I understand. You go back to your room first. The hot water will be sent over soon, and your clothes are placed by the screen. After bathing, come out for the soup, and there are a few side dishes as well!"

Chu Yu nodded.

If Jinnian became his wife and treated him like this for a lifetime, his life would be complete.

Chu Yu didn't understand why he had such a thought, but he knew he couldn't lose Yun Jinnian, absolutely not.

"Then I'll go first!" Chu Yu said, and with a smile, he stuffed a brocade box into Yun Jinnian's arms and quickly left.

Yun Jinnian looked at the brocade box, the damp sweat, opened it to find a verdant Jade Hairpin, its luster sleek and obviously of the finest Imperial Green. The carving was exquisite, with Magnolia flowers about to bloom, lifelike in every detail.

She liked it very much.

Since she liked it, Yun Jinnian decided to redo her hair, using only this Jade Hairpin to hold it in place.

She also wanted to hint to Chu Yu, out of so many things in the world, good and bad, she wanted only him.

Just like this hairpin, among all the fine things, she would wear only this one.

Could you understand my heart?

After Chu Yu had bathed and came over, he saw that Yun Jinnian had redone her hair and was wearing the Jade Hairpin he gave her, which filled him with immense joy.

He thought of looking for more beautiful jade hairpins to give to Yun Jinnian.

After drinking a bowl of chicken soup, Chu Yu felt thoroughly content, wishing he could nestle in Yun Jinnian's house forever, never leaving, doing nothing.

"Is everything packed?" Chu Yu asked,

"Mhm, I don't have much, everything is already packed. We can leave as soon as we get up early tomorrow!" Yun Jinnian replied, glancing at Chu Yu, "Have you taken care of all your matters, Brother Chu?"

"All taken care of!"