

## Little Girl 901

### Chapter 901: The Mystery of the Mastermind

But just after a peaceful night and morning, around noon, the Chu Mansion sent someone to pick up Chu Beiqing, claiming that something had happened at the mansion. Initially, Chu Beiqing was unwilling to go with them.

However, at this moment, a woman got out of the carriage.

The woman had swollen, red eyes and pulled Chu Beiqing aside, crying a few words.

For some reason, Chu Beiqing agreed to go with them.

Overlord Egg wasn't having it and insisted on following them.

But when the woman saw Overlord Egg, she yelled "monster" and refused to let Overlord Egg follow, no matter what.

(How rude, that woman is so ugly, I didn't call her a monster, and yet she dislikes me first)

Overlord Egg wore a face full of resentment.

After that, Chu Beiqing told Overlord Egg to stay behind and got on the carriage alone.

Overlord Egg watched the carriage go with resignation, but remembering Mommy's words to always stay with Beibei, it stealthily followed the carriage.

"With your stalking skills, you didn't get noticed?"

Xin Lin was incredulous.

Overlord Egg could barely hide itself without revealing half its body.

(I used the Spirit Art, the one Mommy often uses, the swoosh, swoosh swoosh swoosh one)

Overlord Egg had a look of "Praise me, praise me" on its face.

"Ghost Escape Technique, when did you learn it?"

Xin Lin was surprised.

(I saw Mommy using it a few times and picked it up)

Overlord Egg looked nonchalant.

Truly, comparing a person and an egg can be infuriating. It seems Overlord Egg's talent in Spirit Art is indeed much greater than hers.

Xin Lin sighed inwardly.

Using the Ghost Escape Technique, Overlord Egg followed all the way without being discovered by the other party.

When the carriage left Qingtian Academy, it did not go towards Purple Cloud City's Chu Mansion as expected but headed towards Qin Mountain.

The carriage stopped at the foot of Qin Mountain.

The woman led Chu Beiqing off the carriage, but at this point, Chu Beiqing sensed something was wrong.

He refused to get off and no matter how the woman coaxed, it didn't work.

The woman, angry and embarrassed, used some method, and suddenly Chu Beiqing vomited blood and collapsed.

The woman hesitated as she looked at Chu Beiqing, then drew a knife.

But just as she was about to strike, Overlord Egg burst out.

Upon seeing the woman intending to harm Chu Beiqing, Overlord Egg naturally couldn't let it happen.

It charged forward, knocking the woman aside.

The woman's expression changed drastically after being hit by Overlord Egg, but she still had the strength to strike again.

She unleashed a set of knife techniques, attacks dense as a sudden downpour. Overlord Egg was slashed several times.

(That knife is so hard, Mommy look, my eggshell's dented, so ugly, whimper whimper)

Overlord Egg complained.

Xin Lin observed, indeed seeing several knife marks on Overlord Egg's shell.

The knife marks were deep; Xin Lin had long been aware of Overlord Egg's toughness.

It was clear the foe's knife techniques and knife were no average ones.

"I didn't expect that the Second Lady of the Chu Family was the hidden hand behind the scenes."

Xin Lin murmured.

She had always thought the most troublesome ones in the Chu Mansion were Chu Tianyi and his daughter, but surprisingly, the Second Madam's cultivation surpassed theirs.

But why does she insist on killing Chu Beiqing? Is it to avenge Chu Miaoyun and her father?

Or perhaps she's also a minion of the Poison Saint.

"Hold on, Overlord Egg, even if her knife techniques are good, with Spirit Art, she still can't do anything to you?"

Xin Lin had witnessed Overlord Egg's Lianhua Technique; a single spark could blow the Second Madam to pieces.

Chapter 902: Someone Else Behind the Scenes

Although the Overlord Egg is a summoning, it can learn various Spirit Arts, but for it, the most proficient are those Spirit Arts related to magic.

It can be said to be an entity that is worth two.

(The nest was chopped several times, got furious, and just planned to shoot a little star)

Just as the Overlord Egg was preparing to send a small star to reunite Second Lady Chu's family.

(A person suddenly emerged from behind, and unleashed a Spirit Art on the nest, the one that turned the nest into an ice lump, and then, the nest was caught)

The Overlord Egg drooped its head.

It was frozen.

In nature, all things arise and counterbalance each other. Although the Overlord Egg is domineering and strong, when it encounters Water Spirit related Spirit Arts, it has no methods.

Moreover, the Water Spirit Technique of the opponent's cultivation is several times stronger than the Overlord Egg, leaving it no strength to struggle.

"You didn't even see the appearance of the opponent clearly?"

Xin Lin then learned of the existence of a third person.

(That ugly woman called him master, and that person seemed to mention Beibei's name; it's a man)

The Overlord Egg tilted its head to recall.

Before it was frozen stiff, it could still hear voices, thinking that the opponent also presumed it was completely senseless, thus becoming careless.

After the Overlord Egg recounted the sequence of events, Xin Lin understood the general situation.

Yet there remained several things she did not comprehend.

Firstly, the cultivation level of Second Lady Chu; secondly, the mysterious third person.

The matter of the loony father's poisoning also became more mysterious.

Initially, Xin Lin thought the loony father was merely framed by Chu Tianyi.

Later, she found the affair involved the Poison Saint.

But now it appears the matter is related to Second Lady Chu, who likely acted on another person's orders.

Who exactly harbors such deep hatred against the loony father.

Years after he's become a fool, they still refuse to let him go.

"Being able to Ice Seal the Overlord Egg, the opponent must be quite a formidable Spirit Master, much more potent than the likes of Grandmaster Jin."

Xin Lin contemplated.

"Xin Lin, come quick. Beibei is acting strange."

Master Mo shouted urgently from the side.

Xin Lin hastened over, only to find her loony father curled up, his teeth chattering incessantly, lips bitten and marked with blood, his entire being hunched together.

His face was a bluish-purple.

"Father."

Xin Lin was horrified.

Despite having taken the antidote, why did the poison still flare up?

"Xiao Xin, quickly look at Beibei's mouth and nose."

Master Mo's expression changed.

Xin Lin inspected Chu Beiqing's mouth, nose, and ears, discovering something crawling out.

They were slender silver-white worms.

The worms continuously squirmed.

"Could this be the true cause behind the Three Corpse Poison?"

Xin Lin watched the bugs, speculating.

The Three Corpse Poison is a peculiar venom, rumored to be originally an insect poison cultivated by Insect Spirit Masters.

Insect Spirit Masters are a type of Summoning Master, but their summons are various insects.

Unexpectedly, Chu Beiqing's poison turned out to be insect poison.

These insects, evidently affected by the antidote, crawled out of Chu Beiqing's body.

Once escaping from Chu Beiqing's body, they raised their heads, scanning around.

Suddenly, their bodies straightened like arrows, shooting into the air.

"Master Mo! Quickly leave, these creatures have left their original host and are seeking new hosts."

Seeing this, Xin Lin alerted Master Mo, but a Three Corpse Worm was already darting towards Xin Lin.

Chapter 903:

The Three Corpse Worms came rushing in and bit Xin Lin's neck.

Xin Lin only felt a slight itch on her neck, like a mosquito bite.

"Xiao Xin!"

Master Mo's face changed drastically.

But before the Three Corpse Worms could burrow into Xin Lin's body, the worm's body suddenly expanded, from the thickness of a strand of hair to the width of a pinky finger in an instant.

With a loud bang, the Three Corpse Worms exploded like firecrackers.

This...

Xin Lin and Master Mo were both stunned.

Especially Master Mo, whose gaze towards Xin Lin became odd.

Goodness, the Three Corpse Poison is toxic enough already, could it be that Xin Lin's blood is even more poisonous than the Three Corpse Poison?

"Ignorant little worm, trying to taint the Fu Tian Pill, seeking its own death."

Pride Corpse said coldly, making Xin Lin snap back to reality.

It seemed the Three Corpse Worms also smelled the scent of the Fu Tian Pill on her and wanted to exploit it, little knowing they couldn't handle its power and exploded right away.

Xin Lin touched her neck, confirmed she was fine, and without hesitation, took out a bottle. Fearlessly, she captured all the Three Corpse Worms with her bare hands and stuffed them into the bottle.

These Three Corpse Worms are not ordinary poisons; keeping them will surely be useful.

After the Three Corpse Worms crawled out of Chu Beiqing's body, his complexion gradually improved, and his breathing calmed significantly.

"It seems the antidote is working."

Xin Lin breathed a sigh of relief.

Seeing Chu Beiqing was safe, Xin Lin asked Master Mo to prepare some blood-nourishing herbal soup.

"Master Mo, please watch over my father these days. If anyone asks, say he is gravely ill and don't let anyone visit him."

Xin Lin instructed.

Although her father's poison was cured and the Young Prince Tu fled, Xin Lin knew things weren't that simple.

The Second Lady Chu and that mysterious person who froze the Overlord Egg must be lurking in the shadows.

Until she could clear up who the enemy was, she had to be careful, and the cure of her father's poison had to be kept strictly confidential.

"Don't worry, Beibei's safety is my responsibility."

Master Mo assured, patting his chest.

Outside, voices were heard.

Xin Lin stepped out upon hearing them and saw Murong Ziyue and Little Xinzhuo standing outside.

"Xin Lin, I'm glad you're okay."

Both of them visibly relaxed upon seeing Xin Lin.

The news of the incident at the Chu Mansion had spread throughout Qingtian Academy.

Rumors were rampant outside.

Some said Xin Lin framed the Chu Family father and daughter because someone saw Xin Lin instruct the Imperial Army to harshly punish them the night before.

Others said Chu Tianyi was assassinated for revenge, and now everyone in Purple Cloud City is on their guard, with many high-ranking officials hiring Martial Artists from the Xuan Transformation Realm as guards. For a time, Martial Artists of the Xuan Transformation Realm were in high demand in Purple Cloud City.

"The Chu family father and daughter deserved their fate, but whoever killed them, Sister, you should be careful as well."

Little Xinzhuo said with concern.

"I spend most of my time at Qingtian Academy, no matter how vicious the killer might be, they wouldn't dare act out here. Besides, I know who the perpetrator is."

Xin Lin did not hide the matter and briefly explained the situation with the Young Prince Tu, only omitting the dangerous incident at the Chu Mansion last night.

"Tu Yuan Country? When did you provoke people from Tu Yuan Country?"

Little Xinzhuo, being young, did not know the background of Tu Yuan Country.

But Murong Ziyue had evidently heard of Tu Yuan Country's deeds.

Chapter 904: The Distinction Between Monarch and Vassal

"Do you know about Tu Yuan Country?"

Xin Lin asked in return.

"I know a bit. My third brother has been to Tu Yuan Country. It's a frontier sovereign state. Although its population isn't large, it's very strong, with formidable military strength equivalent to ten Longteng Countries. That's why I'm curious about how you got involved with them."

Murong Ziyue said, half puzzled and half concerned.

"Speaking of it, I was just about to ask you, what is a sovereign state and what is a vassal state? I've heard you mention them many times, but I'm not sure what they actually mean."

Xin Lin had heard people mention 'sovereign state' several times.

However, she'd searched through various books and those from Qingtian Academy, but found no relevant information.

"About sovereign states and vassal states, they weren't around since ancient times but have gradually formed over the past three hundred years on the continent. These aren't recorded in any official historical books; they're customary agreements between countries."

Murong Ziyue hadn't mentioned this before, not wanting to give Little Xinzhuo and Xin Lin too much mental burden.

But then she thought, Little Xinzhuo is the Seventh Prince of Longteng.

Earlier, while he wasn't favored, it didn't matter much.

But Little Xinzhuo has good talent, and his mother Shi Pin is gradually receiving Emperor Longteng's affection. Soon, he will inevitably get involved in the core struggles of the imperial family, so telling them about the sovereign-vassal struggle early is actually good.

After Murong Ziyue finished speaking, she asked Xin Lin to help find a set of writing tools.

She held the pen in her hand and began drawing on the white paper.

"The continent isn't only home to Longteng; there are over a hundred countries large and small. The whole continent is divided into five regions: east, west, south, north, and central. The different continents are connected yet isolated from each other. Longteng is located in the Eastern Continent, specifically at the northwest side of the Eastern Continent, which has 34 countries. The largest and strongest three countries are honored as sovereign states, or main countries. The remaining 31 countries or regions are referred to as vassal states."

Murong Ziyue's brush strokes quickly sketched an outline of the Eastern Continent in front of Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo.

Xin Lin sighed inwardly, truly the scholarly Ziyue, concise and clear. She glanced at the map of the Eastern Continent, noting that Tu Yuan Country is also part of the Eastern Continent and seems to occupy around one-fifth of its land.

The other two sovereign states are Holy Sun Country and Fuzhou; as for Longteng, its territory appears very small on the Eastern Continent, less than one-tenth the size of Tu Yuan Country. There are dozens of countries similar to Longteng on the Eastern Continent.

Murong Ziyue hadn't explained yet, but Xin Lin roughly understood the status disparity between Longteng and Tu Yuan Country.

No wonder, the death of Chu Tianyi and his daughter was widely talked about in Purple Cloud City, and she even specially reminded Captain Yang.

But after a whole morning, there was still no response from the imperial palace.

Chu Tianyi and his daughter were unlucky; their deaths were probably in vain, but this also serves as retribution for evil deeds.

"The difference between sovereign and vassal is significant. On the Eastern Continent, sovereign states have very high status, while vassal states are lowly. Every year, vassal states must supply half their taxes to sovereign states. If they don't comply, they risk annexation by sovereign states. The monarchs of vassal states, although monarchs themselves, are much lower when facing the monarchs of sovereign states. Not only that, even the citizens' status in sovereign states is slightly higher than those of vassal states. This situation has persisted on the Eastern Continent for nearly 300 years."

Murong Ziyue stated eloquently.

Chapter 905: Tax Turmoil

Half of the taxes?

Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo were both taken aback when they heard that.

So Longteng Country has to pay taxes to the Three Main Countries every year?

They weren't aware of this at all.

"That's why Young Master Tu acts so arrogantly in Longteng Country. Even Long Qingchen, as the Third Prince, doesn't dare offend Young Master Tu. Is it the same for the other four continents?"

Xin Lin glanced at the other four regions on the continental map.

"Each of the five major regions of the mainland has natural or man-made barriers set by the Main Countries. To pass through them, you either need extraordinary strength or the approval of the monarchs of the Three Main Countries. I've only traveled in the Eastern Continent, so I'm not familiar with the situation in the other four. Maybe my third brother knows something; he and my father once went to the Western Continent."

Murong Ziyue spoke with half envy and half regret.

Though she was born in Fengdong, due to her background, she was different from her siblings and had limited opportunities to travel, only slightly better than Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo.

"That's already quite remarkable. Little Xinzhuo and I have never even left Longteng."

Xin Lin joked.

If given the chance, she would love to see all parts of the mainland.

Unfortunately, with her father's situation unknown and bound by the Hundred Lifetimes of Evil Ghosts, she couldn't leave Longteng for the time being.

"It's still better not to leave, especially those Main Countries."

Murong Ziyue hesitated, glancing at Little Xinzhuo.

Ye Lingyue looked at Murong Ziyue, knowing she was hiding something, but since Murong Ziyue didn't speak, Xin Lin didn't press further.

"Year-end is the time for Vassal Countries to pay their taxes. This grand banquet by Emperor Longteng is not only for celebration but also because the year-end is near. The birthday banquet helps collect birthday tributes to pay taxes."

Murong Ziyue explained.

Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo exchanged bewildered glances; they hadn't imagined that the truth behind Emperor Longteng's banquet could be so bittersweet.

"Isn't Longteng Country's taxation sufficient?"

Little Xinzhuo asked, puzzled.

"Under Emperor Longteng's leadership, Longteng Country seems to prosper and ranks well among Vassal Countries. However, at the beginning of the year, some places suffered from droughts, causing many deaths and a significant decrease in taxes. Those places were once fertile lands, major contributors to taxes, so when disasters struck them, tax revenues naturally fell short. Such information was concealed, so it's no surprise you didn't know."

Murong Ziyue shook her head.

"If it was concealed, how did you know, Sister Ziyue?"

Little Xinzhuo asked curiously.

Murong Ziyue was momentarily stunned by the question, hesitating before answering.

"My family has some special connections to gather such information, which is entirely true. Originally, Emperor Longteng planned to collect more offerings during this banquet, but unfortunately, things went awry halfway, as Young Master Tu from Tuyuan Country arrived. In just ten days in Purple Cloud City, he reaped many benefits, causing Emperor Longteng's planned taxes to fall short."

Murong Ziyue shook her head.

"This little girl is rather interesting. What special channels? It's just as disasters and calamities multiply, there are more ghostly creatures among the populace. As a Ghost Cultivator, she knows best where many people have died, marking the occurrence of disasters."

Gui Hu sneered softly, adding coldly.

Chapter 906: Special End of Year Assessment

Xin Lin understood immediately upon hearing this.

It seems that this year, Longteng Country is going to have a hard time.

But whether this year is difficult or not is the Emperor Longteng's concern, Xin Lin wasn't inclined to meddle.

"You three have time to chat, you might as well spend it cultivating. The end of year assessment is approaching, are you all prepared?"

As the three were speaking, they saw Mu Chen walk into the School Clinic.

"Master Mu."

Little Xinzhuo said respectfully.

Xin Lin and Murong Ziyue remained silent.

"Little Xinzhuo, I heard your cultivation has made significant progress recently, almost breaking through to Great Spirit Master. Oh, I'm truly envious of your supervisor for recruiting such a diligent student. Unlike me, with a bunch of untalented and lazy recruits."

Mu Chen sighed with a face full of grievance, confiding to Little Xinzhuo.

At the recent birthday feast, Xin Lin shone brightly and even solved the Hai Zhang Country's gift dilemma.

Emperor Longteng was greatly pleased, rewarding Xin Lin with the title of Princess.

This was good news for Xin Lin, but it meant something different for Mu Chen.

Xin Lin is a Summoning Master, a Summoning Master!

Becoming a Spiritual Delicacy Master instead of a Summoning Master is a waste of her potential.

In Mu Chen's view, the greater Xin Lin's achievements in being a Spiritual Delicacy Master, the more it meant she was slacking in her spirit cultivation.

You can't serve two masters!

Especially since Xin Lin has her Five Meridians damaged.

"Master Mu, stop beating around the bush. Once the birthday feast is over, I'll start attending regular classes."

Xin Lin was feeling a headache coming on.

"Either way, you are the leader of our Shaking Light Class, you should act like one. You must strive hard in the end of year assessment to truly earn your title, and only then can you compete with the leaders of other academies."

Master Mu advised earnestly.

With this reminder from Master Mu, Xin Lin realized that the end of year assessment was only two or three months away.

It was already mid-autumn, and in three months, December would be here, along with Qingtian Academy's annual assessment.

Only by securing first place in both the foundational and practical exams in the annual assessment can one be recognized as the true leader.

Although Xin Lin was currently the nominal leader of the Shaking Light Class, it was because she saved Zhao Gang, who willingly gave up his position.

But this didn't mean that other classes, including the leaders of the Martial Arts Academy, acknowledged Xin Lin's leadership.

At least, Tuoba of the Yuheng Class wasn't pleased about it.

Last time, he was beaten up by the Overlord Egg and has held a grudge since then. He has openly stated he will defeat Xin Lin in the end of year assessment.

"Master Mu, you said 'leaders of other academies'? Aren't we talking about the leaders of the Martial Arts Academy?"

Xin Lin picked up on the implicit meaning in Master Mu's words.

Master Mu wouldn't usually get so worked up over an ordinary end of year assessment.

"I almost forgot. The academy hasn't officially announced it yet, so you may not know. This year's end of year assessment is special. Besides the usual Qingtian Academy assessment, there's also an inter-academy assessment. It's a special test for the leaders from the top forty elite academies on the Eastern Continent. Only the top three leaders from each academy are qualified to participate."

Such a thing! Forty academies, that must mean almost all the Jun Kingdom and Vassal Countries are participating in the end of year assessment, as mentioned by Murong Ziyue earlier?

Xin Lin, Murong Ziyue, and Little Xinzhuo were all very surprised.

#### Chapter 907: Three Slots

Xin Lin and the other two remained silent, especially Murong Ziyue, whose delicate brows furrowed even tighter.

"Heh heh, isn't it a pleasant surprise? This is a tremendous opportunity, with the top talents from forty elite colleges of the Eastern Continent participating. This year-end assessment is also known as the 'Little Eagle Conference.' Your current abilities aren't sufficient to make a name for yourselves at the Eagle Conference, but if you all put in great effort, there's still hope for the 'Little Eagle Conference.' The Dean has already stated that this year, our Spirit Institute must secure at least one spot among the three classes."

Master Mu looked meaningfully at Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo.

The Spirit Institute has always been weaker than the Martial Arts Academy.

Although this year, thanks to Xin Lin and others, the Spirit Institute has gained some momentum.

But that's only among the new students; including the old students, things aren't as simple.

Even someone as talented and skilled as Murong Ziyue may not rank in the top ten in a Martial Arts Academy with both new and old students, let alone the top three leaders of the academy.

As for Xin Lin, even though she used the Overlord Egg to give the old leader Tuoba a good lesson.

Zhao Gang also treated Xin Lin with respect, acknowledging her as the new leader.

But the year-end assessment doesn't allow summoning, and it's specifically for the "Little Eagle Conference," which means both new and old students all have to participate in the assessment.

With both foundational courses and practical courses considered, the competition between new and old students is bound to be even more intense.

"Thank you for your guidance, Master Mu. We will definitely work hard to bring honor to the Spirit Institute."

Little Xinzhuo was full of fighting spirit.

Xin Lin and Murong Ziyue exchanged a glance, both subtly shaking their heads.

Little Xinzhuo was still too naive.

This so-called "Little Eagle Conference" is definitely not just a simple collegiate exchange competition.

However, for most of the students at Qingtian Academy, this year-end assessment is undoubtedly very exciting.

At least, someone as innocent as Little Xinzhuo is firmly convinced.

"Sister, I'm going back to cultivate first. I'll visit you and Uncle Chu some other day."

With that said, Little Xinzhuo dashed off, disappearing from sight.

It's easy to imagine that in the coming months, that child would be frantically cultivating.

"Quite a teachable child."

Master Mu had a look of satisfaction, then glanced at Xin Lin and Murong Ziyue.

"There are some matters with the birthday banquet. I'll head into town and take a look first."

Xin Lin waved him off, blatantly ignoring Master Mu, and walked off on her own.

President Mu had earlier asked her to meet him at the inn. Xin Lin also wanted to ask about Yang Su, so she might as well make a trip to Fenglin Inn in the city.

"Hey, come back here. Did you even hear what I said?"

Master Mu looked frustrated.

Xin Lin simply didn't consider him, the supervisor, at all.

Unexpectedly, after walking a few steps, Xin Lin suddenly turned around.

"Ziyue, drop by the Medical Hall for dinner when you're free. You've gotten thinner lately. I've recently prepared some new dishes that are good for your health."

Murong Ziyue hesitated briefly, then nodded lightly.

Only then did Xin Lin wave her hand and leave.

As for Mu San, who had an overwhelming presence, he was once again splendidly ignored.

Mu Chen gritted his teeth in anger.

Xin Lin did it on purpose!

"Murong Ziyue, don't forget, you're from the Murong Family. I asked you to investigate Xin Lin, and you still haven't found any clues. Have you forgotten that your mother is still suffering in Fengdong? Without a Fu Tian Pill, your mother will never escape her servitude in this lifetime."

Mu Chen said coldly.

Chapter 908: In a Dilemma

Whoever made Fengdong's Third Young Master uncomfortable, he would make them even more uncomfortable.

Murong Ziyue's body trembled, and her beautiful face was full of anger.

"Mu Chen, don't push it too far! Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo don't have any Fu Tian Pill you mentioned, and they have nothing to do with the Corpse King!"

Murong Ziyue hated being constrained and threatened by Mu Chen.

Yet she had no way to break free.

Only when she was with Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo could she forget her tragic background.

But every time that happened, Mu Chen would appear.

The shadow of Fengdong, ever-present.

On one hand, she wanted to be close to Xin Lin and Little Xinzhuo, but on the other hand, she instinctively distanced herself from them.

She knew she was an ominous person, and sooner or later, she'd bring trouble to Xin Lin.

"Whether they are related or not, you know best yourself. Also, keep an eye on Chu Beiqing's situation recently. There's a rumor outside that Chu Beiqing has a Dragon Vein. The old woman in the Medical Hall is very cunning and guarded against me. Find a chance to investigate."

After speaking, Mu Chen glanced at the School Clinic.

That old Master Mo always seemed crazy and muddle-headed, but sometimes too shrewd.

He pretended to be sick a few times, trying to get close to the Medical Hall, but was always kicked out by Master Mo.

Not to mention, dealing with that fool Chu Beiqing.

"Dragon Vein? Could it be that this Eagle Chick Conference is also related to the Dragon Vein?"

Murong Ziyue was stunned.

According to what Mu Chen knew earlier, although this Eagle Chick Conference's main event wasn't in Qingtian Academy and Longteng Country,

this year's gathering point was set in Longteng Country.

As Murong Ziyue said earlier, Longteng isn't a particularly prominent Vassal Country in the Eastern Continent.

An assessment of this level should be set in the Three Main Countries even if it's just a gathering point.

The matter of the Dragon Vein and True Dragon seemed to be spreading only within a small range, but no wind is impenetrable in the Eastern Continent; both the big academies and powerful factions like Fengdong had already gotten the news.

Murong Ziyue and Mu Chen were no exceptions.

However, both found it very strange; they'd been in Purple Cloud City for so long yet hadn't heard any news about the True Dragon and Dragon Vein.

"You're quite perceptive."

Mu Chen neither confirmed nor denied it.

He was merely conveying the orders of the family.

The family wanted them to find the Fu Tian Pill, and without any clues, it was impossible not to have even a clue about the Dragon Vein.

"I will not harm Uncle Chu and Xin Lin, so just give up."

Murong Ziyue said irritably.

"It's not up to you. If the Dragon Vein is real, the True Dragon must be in Longteng Country. By then, Chu Beiqing will become a target; you'd better find out if he has the Dragon Vein and if so, take him back to Fengdong as soon as possible; it would be a favor to him and his daughter. Moreover, the family has ordered that you must enter the top ten in this Eagle Chick Conference."

Mu Chen said coldly.

"Top ten? Isn't that forcing the impossible? You also know the situation at Qingtian Academy, and those academies from the Vassal Countries are still manageable, but the nine major academies of the Main Countries are no pushovers."

Murong Ziyue complained.

This time's Eagle Chick Conference, with each of the thirty-one Vassal Countries sending a team, and the remaining Three Main Countries altogether dispatching nine, which means each Main Country sent three academy teams.

The students recruited by these academies of the Main Countries are far stronger than those from the ordinary Vassal Countries can compare to.

"I've already issued the orders. There are no weaklings in the Murong Family. Not entering the top ten would be a disgrace that Fengdong cannot afford to bear. As for how to get in and what methods to use, that's your business."

After saying that, Mu Chen strode away.

Chapter 909: Another Wave of Trouble

After leaving Qingtian Academy, Xin Lin first headed to Chu's Restaurant.

Today, Ma Jingtian arranged for the owner of the coffin shop to come over to discuss the transfer of the shop.

The discussion went smoothly, and Xin Lin finally spent the price of thirty thousand taels to transfer the shop from the coffin shop owner, Boss Ye.

While signing the contract, Xin Lin casually chatted for a bit.

"Boss Ye, I noticed your business is doing well, why did you suddenly think of transferring?"

"Master Xin, you're not aware of this, but I had no choice. My unfilial son learned all the bad habits, indulging in eating, drinking, women, and gambling. He got into a conflict at De Yue Building and injured someone, and now we have to compensate tens of thousands of silver. We're just an honest family, where could we find that much money? Originally, Master Chen from De Yue Building said he would buy my shop, but who knew he'd change his mind at the last minute? The agreed fifty thousand taels for the transfer was called off."

Boss Ye appeared quite dejected as he spoke.

Since the reopening of Chu's Restaurant next door, the popularity of this street has been driven up.

His coffin shop also saw better business, but then this incident occurred.

Xin Lin listened and felt a stir in her heart.

There is something fishy about this.

Getting into a fight at De Yue Building resulting in injury, and it happened to affect the coffin shop owner?

It goes without saying, this must be a scheme designed by Master Chen.

Master Chen has always regarded Chu's Restaurant as a thorn in his side, and Xin Lin stole the limelight from him at the banquet.

To deal with Chu's Restaurant, plotting to acquire the coffin shop was very normal.

But why did the agreed acquisition suddenly change?

Xin Lin felt quite puzzled.

Because of Master Chen's sudden change of plans, the coffin shop owner couldn't find a new buyer quickly and had to sell the coffin shop to Chu's Restaurant. Thirty thousand silver taels was already the base price.

After signing the contract, Xin Lin asked Ma Jingtian to take some brothers to tidy up the coffin shop.

As for Chu's Restaurant, she planned to expand after the banquet ends, selling snacks like sugar lotus root, Ultimate Lingxiu Buns, and roasted sweet potatoes. Once her father recovers, she will think of some methods to hire a Spiritual Delicacy Master to help manage Chu's Restaurant daily.

Otherwise, Xin Lin wouldn't be able to juggle the Spiritual Food Restaurant and academic responsibilities at Qingtian Academy all at once.

After seeing off Boss Ye, Xin Lin arrived at Fenglin Inn.

President Mu and his granddaughter, Mu Jin, were staying in a private room here.

"Young girl, you finally came, my granddaughter has been talking about wanting to eat your sugar lotus root."

Hearing that Xin Lin came to find him, President Mu smiled warmly, welcoming Xin Lin into the room.

"President Mu, I brought some sugar lotus root and candy gourd for you."

After Xin Lin finished speaking, she presented a small food box.

The young girl named Mu Jin saw the food box, her eyes lit up, and she quickly ran to Xin Lin's side. After hesitating for a moment, she couldn't resist the temptation of delicious food and accepted the food box.

When she opened the food box, it was divided into two compartments.

In the upper compartment were four plates of sugar lotus root, wrapped in golden honey with tender lotus root segments stuffed with translucent glutinous rice.

In the lower compartment, there were several strings of candy gourd wrapped in oil paper.

The reddish candy gourds were covered with a thin layer of icing, giving off a sweet and sour aroma without even tasting them.

The items were freshly made and delicious.

Mu Jin couldn't help but swallow secretly.

"You better not be here to bribe my grandpa. I won't fall for it."

She said as she handed the food box back.

Chapter 910: Seeking Advice

The food box was returned, but Mu Jin's pair of eyes were fixed on the food box, unwilling to let go.

Although she felt Xin Lin was quite unpleasant at their first meeting, Mu Jin had to admit.

Xin Lin's creations were really delicious.

That sugar lotus root melted in the mouth and wasn't overly sweet.

After returning to the inn, she secretly tried making the sugar lotus root, but the taste just couldn't match Xin Lin's version.

And the candied gourd was also made to perfection, better than any Mu Jin had tasted anywhere.

Of course, Mu Jin didn't know that all this was because of the Jade Pure Spring in Xin Lin's possession.

Spiritual Food made with Jade Pure Spring had a distinctively different taste.

"Mu Jin. Stop messing around, the young girl is here on my invitation, she doesn't know anything."

President Mu was both amused and irked, apologizing with a nod to Xin Lin.

"Miss Mu Jin, these are a token of my goodwill. If you don't want to eat them, I'll give them to the little beggars outside."

Xin Lin blinked.

"What! You dare to give my stuff to beggars!"

Hearing this, Mu Jin quickly grabbed the items back.

Her manner was exactly like that of the Overlord Egg protecting its food, which made Xin Lin think a little better of Mu Jin.

This young girl, although quite bossy, was very straightforward and wore her heart on her sleeve.

"Mu Jin, Grandpa has matters to discuss with Xin Lin. Take the food box and go play outside."

President Mu waved his hand, sending Mu Jin out.

Mu Jin hesitated, glancing again at President Mu.

"Grandpa, I'll go to the Alchemy Hall to buy medicine for you."

With that, she carefully carried the food box and went out.

"I must apologize for the lack of decorum. Speaking of which, Mu Jin and you are about the same age, both thirteen or fourteen years old, but compared to you, she falls far behind. I really envy Divine Doctor Chu."

President Mu said with half resignation and half admiration.

"You flatter me, Chairman. Given my father's current situation, there's really nothing to envy. Besides, my father is no longer the Divine Doctor Chu of his prime."

Mentioning her foolish father, Xin Lin's tone unconsciously grew heavier.

Chu Beiqing's poison had been neutralized, but those who wished him harm did not relent. She couldn't let her father hide away forever. Further, with Chu Tianyi and Chu Miaoyun's funerals coming up, she and her father would have to attend, inevitably causing more trouble.

"To an old man like me, he is still Divine Doctor Chu. You don't know that back in the day, when your father's reputation was soaring, we elders couldn't even compare."

President Mu sighed nostalgically, speaking of Chu Beiqing's past as a luminary of Longteng.

Xin Lin listened, her curiosity piqued.

She only knew of Chu Beiqing's outstanding medical skills, but judging by President Mu's reaction, perhaps Chu Beiqing had other talents back then?

Sensing Xin Lin's curious gaze, President Mu merely coughed twice, choosing not to continue.

"President Mu, you mentioned before that if I had any questions about Spiritual Food, I could consult you. Today I've come to seek your advice on how to manage the Spiritual Food Restaurant and how to advance my ranking as a Spiritual Delicacy Master."

Xin Lin stated directly.

Following the feast, she had gained recognition in the Spirit Food World, becoming a three-star Spirit Chef.

The reputation of Chu's Restaurant surged, and the business was to expand, but naturally, issues arose with such growth.