

Little Girl 911

Chapter 911: The Five-star Spiritual Delicacy Master's Dilemma

Whether it was Xin Lin or Ma Jingtian, neither had ever run a large-scale Spiritual Food Restaurant.

Although Xin Lin was a Three-star Spirit Chef, she knew little about running a Spiritual Food Restaurant.

So she sought help from President Mu.

"I see, you're facing challenges in management, then you've come to the right person."

President Mu said with a smile.

He gestured for Xin Lin to sit down and poured her a glass of water.

"Let me tell you about the art of running a Spiritual Food Restaurant. According to the Spirit Food Association's regulations, a One-star Spirit Restaurant can only sell a maximum of five kinds of Spiritual Delicacies, and the level of the delicacies cannot exceed two stars. By analogy, a Two-star Spirit Food Restaurant can sell ten kinds of spiritual foods, with the highest level not exceeding three stars. A Three-star Spiritual Restaurant can offer twenty dishes, and the highest spiritual delicacies cannot exceed... For a Five-Star Spiritual Delicacy Restaurant, fifty kinds of spiritual foods can be sold, and the spiritual food level cannot exceed six stars. In addition, the level of the resident chef at the Spiritual Food Restaurant must not be lower than the highest sold spiritual food level. To date, there is no Five-Star Spiritual Delicacy Restaurant in Longteng Country, you should know this, right?"

At this point, President Mu sighed, with a hint of regret in his words.

To become a Five-star Spirit Chef, you must produce more than one Six-star Spiritual Food and more than five kinds of Five-star Spiritual Foods.

"President Mu, aren't you a Five-star Spiritual Cuisine Master? Logically you should be able to open a Five-Star Spiritual Delicacy Restaurant, why then..."

Xin Lin asked with a puzzled look.

As far as she knew, President Mu had also opened a Spiritual Food Restaurant in Longteng Country in his early years, and at that time, its fame and scale were not inferior to those of De Yue Building and Taoyao Pavilion. Later, for some unknown reason, he stopped managing it and then traveled outside with Mu Jin, and many years passed just like that.

"Back then, like Master Chen today, I was ambitious, wanting to open a Five-Star Spiritual Delicacy Restaurant, but in the end, I lost my wife and child for it. I regretted it deeply, lost all ambition, and gave up the idea of opening a Five-Star Spiritual Delicacy Restaurant."

President Mu spoke with a look of melancholy as he recounted his past.

Upon hearing this, Xin Lin learned that President Mu also had an untold past.

Seeing the sadness on President Mu's old face, Xin Lin felt it was inappropriate to ask further questions and could only change the topic.

"Earlier, didn't Master Chen say he was aiming to become a Five-star Spirit Chef?"

Master Chen was scheming, having obtained Master Ji's Nine-headed Abalone, precisely to become a Five-star Spirit Chef.

"He failed to create the Six-star Spiritual Food and ended up injuring himself instead. This happened earlier today, so it's not surprising that you didn't know. One of his hands was bitten off by the Nine-headed Abalone. Within just a few months, Master Chen lost his hand, and Master Ji passed away. The Dragon Ascending Gastronomy World now is experiencing an unprecedented winter."

President Mu shook his head.

"Isn't the Nine-headed Abalone a food ingredient? How could it hurt someone?"

Xin Lin became more and more confused as she listened.

Xin Lin had a premonition that something might have happened to Master Chen since the coffin shop deal had inexplicably fallen through.

Just earlier, she passed by De Yue Building and saw that it was closed early in the morning, indicating that something must have happened.

She just didn't expect the situation to be so severe. Master Chen losing a hand practically meant the end of his career as a Spirit Chef.

"This matter is a long story. The outside world thinks that being a Spirit Chef is easier than a Martial Artist, but in truth, becoming an advanced Spirit Chef is much harder than being a Martial Artist, especially becoming a Five-star Spirit Chef."

President Mu said, stretching out his left hand.

Chapter 912: Two Different Paths

President Mu slowly rolled up the sleeve on his left hand, and Xin Lin followed his arm with her gaze.

Upon seeing President Mu's hand, Xin Lin was taken aback.

President Mu was already not young, around fifty years old. This age, for a Spiritual Delicacy Master, wasn't particularly old; one could even say it was in one's prime.

On the surface, President Mu also appeared robust and strong, not like the usual frailty of an elderly person.

But his hand... Xin Lin saw a hand that was all skin and bones, and moreover, it was covered with scars of various sizes.

In her past life, Xin Lin had seen a considerable amount, and in this life, she had also acted as a half-trained doctor, so she could tell at a glance that President Mu's injuries were mainly from typical knife wounds, but more of them were bite marks.

The varied scars, the strange markings, included bites from beasts as well as stings from various insects. Some wounds were deep enough to reach the bone, with large portions of flesh bitten off, and some wounds were necrotic, evidently poisoned.

"This left hand is the price I paid to become a Five-star Spirit Chef. You were just asking, why would the Nine-headed Abalone bite someone? You were right, the Nine-headed Abalone in Master Chen's hands is an ingredient; theoretically, it shouldn't bite anyone. But he still got injured because he tried to cut corners, attempting to use bought ingredients to prepare Six-star Spiritual Food. In the Spirit Food World, Spirit Chefs above Five-star are at a watershed. The reason is that they must know how to prepare Six-star Spiritual Food, and from the level of Six-star Spiritual Food, the ingredients used become particularly special."

President Mu's tale unfolded, drawing Xin Lin into a world she had never before encountered.

A world of Spiritual Delicacy Masters, and of Xuan Spirit Beasts, uniquely apart.

The distinction between Spiritual Food and ordinary food lies in the fact that the ingredients used for Spiritual Food are largely spirit grass and spirit flowers or Xuan Spirit Beasts.

Although Xuan Spirit Beasts are difficult to hunt, their meat is even more delicious.

"In Six-star Spiritual Food, at least ninety-nine percent must be made from sixth-level, or higher, Xuan Spirit Beasts. And Xuan Spirit Beasts above the sixth level are no typical beasts; most have awakened spiritual wisdom. A Spiritual Delicacy Master wants to obtain ingredients, there are only two paths. One is purchasing, the other is personally hunting. The same applies to medicinal herbs."

As President Mu spoke, he rubbed his left hand with his right.

Clearly, President Mu chose the second route.

"But I didn't see anything related to sixth-level or higher Xuan Spirit Beasts in the Alchemy Hall."

Xin Lin exclaimed in surprise.

Having been in Longteng for so long, she had experienced much, and coupled with the Overlord Egg, the idea of Xuan Spirit Beasts becoming spiritual or monstrous and gaining wisdom did not seem odd to her.

"That's right, even in places like the Black Shining Market, it's rare to find such advanced ingredients. Even if they do appear, they are rare treasures, perhaps not seen even once a year. When they do surface, their prices can be ruinous, bankrupting families. Thus, most Spiritual Delicacy Masters, like me, choose to hunt for themselves. As far as I know, the Nine-headed Abalone in Master Chen's possession did not originally belong to him."

President Mu finished speaking and let out a small scoff.

Master Chen's tricks might fool others, but not President Mu.

"Did Master Chen get into trouble because the ingredients weren't personally hunted by him?"

Xin Lin asked curiously.

"Indeed, he was eager to become a Five-star Spirit Chef yet was unwilling to put in the effort himself, and his cunning backfired."

President Mu shook his head.

Chapter 913: An Unexpected Attack

What's the reason for this?

Xin Lin was increasingly puzzled.

"That Nine-headed Abalone originally belonged to his master, and later came into the hands of Master Ji. How it ended up with Master Chen, no one knows. Master Chen was determined to become a Five-star Spiritual Delicacy Master, but he didn't realize that using ingredients not hunted by himself carries a severe backlash. Xuan Spirit Beasts above the sixth level, though hunted, can develop resentment. If not killed personally, even if the ingredients are purchased, it's likely impossible to suppress them. Master Chen suffered from this very issue."

President Mu sighed repeatedly.

This secret is known only to a very few high-level Spiritual Delicacy Masters.

Master Ji had never pursued the title of Five-star Spiritual Delicacy Master, likely related to this matter.

He might have known something, perhaps his master told him back then.

Obviously, Master Chen was unaware.

He saw within the Imperial Palace, Xin Lin dazzling the crowd at the birthday feast with a dish of Emperor Clam Sashimi, while Chu's Restaurant stood out in the community with sugar lotus root and Ultimate Lingxiu Buns.

To reclaim his status, he forced himself to make Six-star Spiritual Food.

Who knew while preparing the Spiritual Food, the ingredients would suddenly change.

The Nine-headed Abalone, boiling nicely in the pot, bit his right arm.

With nine heads, the Nine-headed Abalone's nine mouths simultaneously tore at him, directly severing Master Chen's right hand, which fell into the pot.

By the time the hand was retrieved, it had already been cooked, and Master Chen fainted from excessive blood loss.

Needless to say, the Six-star Spiritual Food intended for Emperor Longteng was ruined.

Moreover, due to the defilement of the Spiritual Food, Emperor Longteng was furious and ordered De Yue Building to be sealed.

"Indeed, it's the Heavenly Dao cycle, retribution is unavoidable."

Xin Lin, shocked, felt no sympathy for Master Chen's predicament.

She fully detailed to President Mu how Master Chen hired assassins to kill Master Ji, and how Master Ji entrusted part of Taoyao Pavilion to her before he died, omitting only the matter of the Corpse Leech.

"I didn't expect the truth to be like this. Chen Nian this time truly deserved his fate. Tomorrow I'll remove him from his position as Chairman of the Purple Cloud City Spiritual Food Association."

President Mu's face was full of righteous anger.

He held a deep hatred for evil throughout his life, loathing people like the despicable Master Chen.

Just as President Mu was speaking, his left hand suddenly trembled, and half of his body couldn't stop shaking.

He couldn't control his body and suddenly fell to the ground.

"President Mu, what's happening?"

Seeing this, Xin Lin hurried forward to support President Mu.

"Grandpa! Don't touch my grandpa!"

The door was pushed open, and Mu Jin entered carrying some medicine, seeing President Mu in such a state, she hurried forward.

"It's nothing, it's nothing. It's an old ailment, the gout acting up again. My left hand was injured years ago, and the cold settled into it. After autumn sets in, it easily flares up. It can only be suppressed by taking some medicine. Poor Mu Jin has stayed by my side, taking care of me, sacrificing her future. I truly wrong her deceased parents in the afterlife."

President Mu leaned on Xin Lin and Mu Jin, and they helped him to settle down next to him.

"Grandpa, what nonsense are you talking about? I'm your granddaughter. If I don't take care of you, who will?"

Mu Jin chided, seeing that President Mu was slightly better, she carried the medicine to prepare it.

"Wait, let me have a look at the medicine you're holding."

Xin Lin stopped Mu Jin.

~Everyone, don't worry, on the 9th the big update will happen, satisfying you all at once with unprecedented updates. In the new month, if you have monthly tickets, please vote, and as always, please prioritize voting for the older book "Abandoned Genius Doctor." Mwah!~

Chapter 914: A Consultation Fee of One Copper Coin

"What are you doing? My grandfather has fallen ill and needs to take medicine immediately. Can you bear the responsibility if his condition worsens?"

Mu Jin said discontentedly.

She lost her parents when she was young and was raised by President Mu. That's why she's a bit unreasonable, especially when it comes to matters involving President Mu; she gets particularly anxious and sometimes makes rude remarks without realizing it.

"I suspect there's something wrong with the medicine you've prepared for the old president."

Xin Lin hadn't seen the specific herbs, but she relied on her sense of smell to identify some of them.

After joining the Medical Hall, Master Mo happily let go of his responsibilities, leaving almost all matters of the Medical Hall to Xin Lin.

Xin Lin wasn't familiar with medical skills before, so she had to learn and apply them simultaneously.

Thanks to daily consultations and the Mystical Medicine Book, Xin Lin also learned to recognize most of the herbs in the Medical Hall.

Upon hearing this, Mu Jin was full of disbelief.

"Don't say nonsense, this medicine was prescribed by a great master from the Holy Sun Country. My grandfather uses it, and it works immediately. How dare you, a mere Spiritual Delicacy Master, claim there's a problem with a great master's prescription?!"

"The medicine indeed has effects to suppress the gout poison. However, the frequency of President Mu's episodes should be increasing, and the dosage of each medication is likely increasing as well. If I'm not mistaken, the last time President Mu had an episode was two days ago."

Xin Lin's words left both Mu Jin and President Mu stunned.

"How do you know?"

Mu Jin was astonished.

"Isn't my father the Divine Doctor Chu?"

Xin Lin said it casually.

How did she know? Because when she entered the inn, she heard the attendant mention that President Mu's granddaughter broke a medicine pot while decocting medicine two days ago and didn't compensate for it.

"Mu Jin, let Xin Lin take a look at the medicine. Lately, the frequency of my episodes has indeed increased significantly. Not only is the left side of my body affected, but now even the right side is starting to go haywire."

President Mu sighed.

Mu Jin handed the medicine to Xin Lin.

Xin Lin examined the medicine.

These were all fire attribute herbs and spiritual items, each worth dozens to hundreds of silver.

"These medicines can relieve gout, but since they are fire attribute spiritual medicines, and medicine is three parts poison, long-term usage over five years will result in fire poison attacking the heart, initially corroding the meridians, then the five internal organs, eventually leading to death from the fire poison attacking the heart."

Xin Lin shook her head.

"What? That great master is harming my grandfather! What should we do? I can't lose my grandfather, you have to save him!"

Mu Jin said in shock and fear.

She no longer cared about her previous biases against Xin Lin and held onto her.

Xin Lin hesitated for a moment.

"I can try, but..."

"But what?"

Mu Jin asked impatiently.

"Do you want to hire me to treat President Mu?"

Xin Lin looked at Mu Jin.

"Isn't that a given? Asking you to save him means asking you to treat my grandfather. But we don't have much money left."

Mu Jin glared at Xin Lin, feeling a bit embarrassed.

President Mu can no longer prepare Spiritual Food, and most of the early savings have been used to buy medicine. The daily expenses of the grandfather and granddaughter are mostly covered by Mu Jin doing various odd jobs.

She prides herself on her dignity and doesn't want to work at a large Spiritual Food Restaurant, only assisting in smaller ones, so her daily income is very limited.

"Just consider hiring me, and as for the consultation fee, just give me a copper coin as a token of appreciation for President Mu's kindness in recognizing my potential."

Xin Lin thought for a moment and said.

Chapter 915: The Most Difficult Task

Xin Lin chuckled bitterly, it wasn't her being redundant, but the Heaven-defying Book was too rigid.

Earlier, as Xin Lin stepped into the inn, the voice of the Heaven-defying Book echoed in her mind.

"Life Book Notice: Doctor random task issued, within ten days, receive heartfelt gratitude from three patients or their family members. Upon completion, obtain a special small treasure box. Failure will result in the suspension of all Life Book auxiliary tools for ten days."

The release of this random task made Xin Lin stumble, almost tripping.

These random tasks were getting more capricious, but even the punishment was becoming more twisted.

Previously, it deducted Heaven-defying Value, this time it directly disables the Life Book auxiliary tools?

The Jade Purification Tank, Dan Wood Furnace, and Tuling hairpin on Xin Lin are all Life Book auxiliary tools, disabling any one of them would be a big problem, and the Life Book wants to directly suspend them for ten days?

Without the Jade Pure Spring for ten days, Chu's Restaurant can directly close down, and Master Mo and the Overlord Egg would starve to death.

So this random task is even more urgent than the most difficult task that deducted 1000 Heaven-defying Value points.

Xin Lin was now thinking desperately about how to obtain the heartfelt gratitude of patients and their family members.

Unlike the very satisfied evaluation from Spiritual Food, obtaining heartfelt gratitude for treating patients is very difficult.

Xin Lin had been in the Medical Hall for so long, and through daily exploration, she managed to summarize some patterns.

Xin Lin had been treating patients and diagnosing them for so long, and she only received heartfelt gratitude from a patient once, which was Zhao Gang's case.

Ordinary consultation, diagnosing and prescribing for ailments like headaches and fevers, even for patients at the level of Lu Yuan and Zuo Mingshang, only resulted in 'very grateful', and the Life Book would reward 1 or 2 points, at most 3 points of Heaven-defying Value.

Heartfelt gratitude equals 5 Heaven-defying Value points.

The more difficult the illness, the higher the chance of receiving heartfelt gratitude.

This is it, Xin Lin only encountered it once every few months. Getting 3 heartfelt gratitudes in ten days, no matter how you think about it, seems impossible.

But once a random task is published, there's no way to change it.

Fortunately, Xin Lin's luck wasn't bad. Right now, there's a good opportunity at hand.

However...

"One Copper Coin is enough, back then the great master charged me one thousand gold."

Mu Jin found it very unbelievable, doubting Xin Lin's Medical Skill.

"Mu Jin, follow Xin Lin's instructions."

The President Mu was curious too.

But Xin Lin could see through his symptoms at a glance, even identifying the patterns of his illness, which already far surpassed the great master from the Holy Day.

Mu Jin took out a Copper Coin and handed it to Xin Lin.

"I'll treat President Mu's illness now. First, go buy ten pounds of pork, it should be moderately fatty belly meat, black-haired pork over five years old is preferable. Also, we need some additional ingredients."

Xin Lin casually wrote the recipe for Wind Breath Roast Pork and handed it to Mu Jin.

Mu Jin took a look, isn't this a Spiritual Food recipe? Can it really treat illness?

Spiritual Food does have medicinal effects, but to treat grandfather's injuries, it obviously requires high-level Spiritual Food. Just a few pieces of pork, along with some regular herbs, what kind of Spiritual Food can it make?

She wanted to mutter a few words, but seeing President Mu's grim expression, she swallowed her questions and hurried to buy the ingredients.

Once Mu Jin had left, Xin Lin felt guilty and glanced at President Mu.

"President, I'm sorry, I just deceived you, your illness, I fear..."

Chapter 916: Using the Dragon Vein Again

Before Xin Lin could speak, President Mu waved his hand.

"My illness is incurable. I've known this for a long time, so you need not feel guilty. It's not just you, even if your father hadn't had that incident, he still wouldn't have been able to cure my illness."

President Mu looked as if he understood fully.

Clearly, he knew far more about his own physical condition than Mu Jin did.

"You knew this from early on?"

Xin Lin was quite surprised.

Earlier, much of what Xin Lin told Mu Jin was true.

For instance, President Mu's illness could indeed be alleviated.

For another example, taking the medicine of a great master would have significant side effects.

To avoid saddening Mu Jin, she did not reveal the whole truth to her.

"You mentioned earlier that after taking the medicine for more than five years, it would harm the tendons, meridians, and organs. I've been taking this medicine for nine years now. At first, it was just numbness in my left hand, but then I lost sensation on my left side. Around June of this year, my right side started to feel numb, and now, my limbs and eyes are somewhat unresponsive. I know these things myself, I just haven't told that child Mu Jin."

President Mu smiled bitterly.

He had lived for more than half a lifetime, experiencing rise and fall, prosperity and decay, life and death; there was nothing he couldn't accept.

He had always concealed his illness, continually increasing the medication dosage, just so his granddaughter wouldn't worry.

"Honestly, at the Emperor Longteng's birthday banquet, everyone thought I returned just to celebrate, but that's not the case. I actually came back to Purple Cloud City wanting Mu Jin to apprentice under Master Ji. On one hand, that child has talent, and Master Ji is a good person, so I'm at ease entrusting her to him. On the other hand, it's because I know I don't have long left to live. I wanted to return to my roots; I left Purple Cloud City and I wish to end my days on this native land."

President Mu said with a sigh.

It's a pity that plans can't keep up with changes.

When President Mu arrived at Purple Cloud City, he discovered that Master Ji had already passed away.

Consequently, Mu Jin was left without a caretaker, giving President Mu an unsettled heart.

"President Mu, there's no need to be too pessimistic. I said I couldn't cure your illness, but I didn't say I couldn't alleviate it. Your condition is gout, caused by consuming too many fire poison medicines, which attacked your heart. I have something on hand that can just counteract fire poison. By also consuming some Wind Breath Roast Pork I make, you should be able to alleviate some of the fire poison, preventing your body from further deterioration. However, the numb body parts likely cannot be restored."

Xin Lin said with regret.

This means President Mu cannot return to being a Spiritual Delicacy Master.

Her medical skill is limited, if her father were conscious, he might have been able to cure President Mu.

Now, she can only do her best.

"You mean you can prevent my condition from worsening?"

President Mu's face lit up with joy.

Back then, because of his greed, he had to pursue becoming a Six-star Spiritual Cuisine Master, and his family perished accompanying him on a hunting trip.

If not, his daughter-in-law wouldn't have died from grief when giving birth.

He had long given up hope of returning to the Spiritual Delicacy field.

He just wanted to watch Mu Jin grow up and get married, making it up to her parents and his late wife.

"I can try, but I can't promise success. Please close your eyes, I will puncture your drowsy acupoint and then start the treatment for you."

After speaking, Xin Lin took out the Xuanyu Bee Needle and pierced it into President Mu's drowsy acupoint.