

Overbearing 861

Chapter 861: Meeting Mu Qingyin for the First Time V

She had clearly been overthinking.

‘Don’t twin siblings look alike?’

But, Feng Ruqing and Qin Chen did not look like each other at all.

So, Qin Chen adored her and they were not related to each other.

Chen’er did not have any other family except the Qin family.

“What about that young girl’s character? Was she married before?”

“Yes.” Tan Shuangshuang laughed, coldly. “She did have a husband before. His name is Liu Yuchen. He had always lingered around me. It was obvious that I never liked him. Feng Ruqing blamed it on me. She not only got my father fired but had also given me two hundred beatings.”

That was the most humiliating experience in her entire life.

She would never forget about it!

She hated both Feng Ruqing and Liu Yuchen.

Qin Fei’er was shocked.

Feng Ruqing was married before.

Qin Fei’er did not bother to verify what Tan Shuangshuang had just said. What was more important was that Feng Ruqing was someone else’s wife before.

If a woman could not be loyal to the man she loved, what right did she have to be married into the Qin family?

Qin Fei’er pursed her lips tightly. She was paled. She did not know how to reveal the excruciating truth to Chen’er.

Chen’er would be heartbroken.

He was lied to by a woman in such a way.

“Moreover, you can go and investigate it in Liu Yun Kingdom. You’ll find out that Feng Ruqing has hooked up with the state preceptor after she left Liu Yuchen. She had even captured handsome men and brought them back to the princess’s manor.”

Qin Fei’er’s facial expression worsened. She was unwilling to show her feelings in front of Tan Shuangshuang. Thus, she forced a smile.

“Thank you for telling me these things. Goodbye.”

She turned and walked toward the Qin family.

Her smile disappeared the minute she turned away. It was replaced with deep fury and pain.

She was infuriated with Feng Ruqing for lying to Qin Chen. She was even grieved by the fact that her beloved younger brother was being lied to by a woman.

"I'm prepared and willing to let her take good care of Chen'er. We don't care about the identity and status of the person whom Chen'er is going to marry."

Qin Fei'er took a deep breath. She appeared to have made her decision.

Chen'er had a rather special position in the Qin family. His parents would never allow him to marry young ladies from wealthy families who enjoyed high status in life. Although Feng Ruqing was adored by Gu Yiyi, her status in life was low and she was suited for Qin Chen.

So, her father would never reject such a proposition.

However, it would be a totally different circumstance if she was married before.

'It'll ruin the Qin family's reputation. Father will never agree to that!'

"Liu Xia, what do you think? Feng Ruqing doesn't seem like a wild girl. Why doesn't she understand the importance of a woman's ethics and virtues?" Qin Fei'er laughed bitterly. "It's what a woman should do, being loyal to a man her entire life. She needs to remain alone even if her husband dies before her. Even if she's divorced, she should never seduce anybody anymore. She should keep to herself instead."

She would never comment so much on a woman if the man involved was not her younger brother.

Hence, she would never allow Chen'er to marry a wild girl.

Liu Xia sneered. "Young Lady, some women assume that every man must like them as they are beautiful. Luckily, she has never met Young Master Nan Xian. If not, her target might be Young Master Nan Xian instead of Young Master Qin Chen."

Qin Fei'er smiled and shook her head. "No, Nan Xian is not that kind of man. I heard that a lot of women wanted to marry him. He was never bothered about them no matter how beautiful they were. Moreover, Nan Xian is a filial person. He would never be seduced if the young manor master of the Mu family does not agree to that."

Nan Xian was different from any other man.

He would never be seduced no matter how beautiful Feng Ruqing was. Otherwise, Qin Fei'er would never have fallen for him.

Chapter 862: The Woman Who Stayed at the Back Hill Near the Chief Manor I

"Xiao Qing."

Luo Li tilted her head and stared at Feng Ruqing in Tian Shen Manor.

"Is the young mistress of the Mu family not going to come back?"

Luo Li had never met Suyi. But, there were all kinds of rumors about her in Tian Shen Manor.

She heard that the young mistress of the Mu family was deeply in love with the young manor master. How could she give it up so easily given the depth of her feeling for him?

Luo Li stopped talking for a while. She remained silent.

If Little Fox wanted a concubine, Luo Li would never allow him to do so even if she adored him deeply. She could never endure the sight of them being together.

The young mistress of the Mu family might feel the same too.

Feng Ruqing smiled softly and said, "Her name is Suyi. She's not the young mistress of the Mu family. She's no longer related to the Mu family anymore."

Luo Li replied, obediently, "Oh, okay."

"Luo Li, how's your grandmother doing?" Feng Ruqing was unwilling to talk about the Mu family anymore. She changed the topic.

Luo Li seemed delighted when she heard that. "She's feeling better now after having the spirit herbal dishes. She will soon be cured. Xiao Qing, the time is late now. I need to get back and be with her. She's lonely being left at home."

Luo Fei rarely stayed at home now. He might have received too great a shock from what happened between him and Qin Xiaoyue. They did not even know what Luo Fei had done outside.

Although there were a lot of maids in the Luo family, they could not be treated like family. It was incomparable to a family's company. Luo Li did not want her old grandmother to stay at home all by herself for a long time.

"Fine."

Feng Ruqing smiled.

Luo Li then bid Feng Ruqing goodbye. She turned and left.

Feng Ruqing did not rush home after Luo Li left her. On the contrary, she turned and walked toward the chief manor.

Old Lady Luo was getting healthier now. She was sunbathing at the moment.

She saw Luo Li from afar looking just like a butterfly. A soft and gentle smile soon crept up upon her wrinkled face.

"Grandmother." Luo Li smiled and threw herself into Old Lady Luo's arms. "I'm back."

Old Lady Luo patted Luo Li's head gently. "Did you go and meet Young Lady Xiao Qing? Why didn't you ask her to come here given that your father is not at home? We're the only ones here."

Luo Fei deeply regretted what he had done.

He regretted being unable to recognize the wickedness in people. He had almost harmed the entire Luo family.

But, Old Lady Luo and Luo Li would not forgive him so easily even if he regretted what he had done.

They labeled him as a bastard and an idiot in their hearts.

“grandmother, I learned today that Xiao Qing does not come from Tian Shen Manor. She comes from a place called Liu Yun Kingdom.”

Old Lady Luo’s fingers trembled. “What did you say?”

“I said that Xiao Qing does not belong to Tian Shen Manor. I heard from the concubine of the Mu family. Feng Ruqing is a princess of Liu Yun Kingdom. Grandmother, what kind of place is that? If Xiao Qing leaves Tian Shen Manor one day, I still can go and look for her there.”

Luo Li seemed dazzled.

She had been to Paramount but there were numerous franchises on the entire mainland. The one in Liu Yun Kingdom was not the only one in the world.

Hence, Luo Li naturally did not know where Liu Yun Kingdom.

“Grandmother?”

Luo Li did not receive any reply from Old Lady Luo for a long while. She did not understand what was wrong. Then, she raised her head and was shocked.

‘What’s wrong with Grandmother?’

Chapter 863: c

Old Lady Luo’s wrinkles were trembling and her eyes were brighter than ever.

She was so excited to the point where it seemed like she would cry the very next moment.

Luo Li touched her head. “Grandmother, what’s the matter with you?”

Old Lady Luo closed her eyes. Her emotions were a little out of control and her heart was beating extremely fast.

The emperor of Liu Yun Kingdom...

Was she the daughter of the emperor of Liu Yun Kingdom?

Old Lady Luo opened her eyes after a while. Her voice was shaking. “Did you say that Xiao Qing is the princess of Liu Yun Kingdom? Li’er, tell me, is this true?”

Luo Li tilted her head. “It was the concubine of the Mu family who has said that. Xiao Qing did not deny it. It is probably true.”

Old Lady Luo’s lips trembled, but she could not speak. Her tears flowed down her old wrinkled face and instantly covered her face.

'Tian Ya...

'Your son is already married and has children.

'Your granddaughter has grown so big.

'She is as excellent as you.'

"Grandmother." Luo Li panicked. "Is there any relationship between Liu Yun Kingdom and the Luo family?"

Old Lady Luo smiled.

Ever since her father began to confront her for Qin Xiaoyue's sake, she had never been as happy as she was now.

However, Luo Li clearly felt that her grandmother was really happy this time.

"Li'er, Lady Xiao Qing is a good person. Remember, you have to stand by her side no matter what happens."

"Why?"

Luo Li was even more puzzled. Although her grandmother liked Xiao Qing, she had never been so decisive before. Hence, she concluded that there must be something that she did not know.

Why?

Old Lady Luo's gaze was dazed.

This was because the Luo family owed it to Tian Ya!

If her late husband had not gone to help Tian Ya himself, he would not have fallen into the trap only to be used to threaten Tian Ya.

How could Tian Ya who was so affectionate ignore her late husband?

Therefore, the Luo family was bound to owe Tian Ya.

"Girl, there is something that you don't need to know." Old Lady Luo said, "Otherwise, it's not good for you and also Xiao Qing."

Why did Tian Ya not use his real name?

He knew that he had offended many in order to protect the people.

If the people knew that she was Tian Ya's granddaughter, some people might take action against her since she was a part of the royal family of Liu Yun Kingdom.

Luo Li's heart trembled. She seemed to notice something and clenched her fists.

"Does someone want to attack Xiao Qing?"

Old Lady Luo was silent.

Luo Li continued to ask, "Since Xiao Qing is the princess of Liu Yun Kingdom, that means she is from the secular world. Aren't there certain rules in that world? Will they dare to attack her?"

Old Lady Luo shook her head. "She has already come to the reclusive world."

If Feng Ruqing was really related to Nan Xian of the Mu family, then she could not be considered as someone of the reclusive world.

In the secular world, the rule would no longer be effective if that person was in the reclusive world.

Tian Ya had had too many enemies. There were certain things that she did not even dare to tell her granddaughter. She was afraid that she would bring disaster to Tian Ya's family.

"But... Xiao Qing and Gu Yiyi have such a good relationship. Who would dare to hurt her with Tian Shen Manor is protecting her?" Luo Li lifted her stubborn face.

Old Lady Luo laughed helplessly. This little girl was really as naïve as ever.

"Little girl, do you know that no matter how the Mu family acts, the manor master would not meddle with it?"

Chapter 864: The Woman Who Stayed at the Back Hill Near the Chief Manor III

"Why?"

"Because Grandmaster Hai Rong is not the same as Grandmaster Qian Kun. Grandmaster Qian Kun has an in-depth understanding of medical knowledge, but he is rather poor in terms of strength. However, Grandmaster Hai Rong has very great strength." Old Lady Luo caressed Luo Li's head. "So, even if the old master of the Mu family was seriously ill, the manor master will at most only cause some troubles to the Mu family. He will not really punish them."

It was impossible for Grandmaster Hai Rong to damage the reputation of the Mu family due to his temperament. But he would also not avenge the Mu family.

Mu Ling also understood this very well. That was why he was so desperate to form an alliance with the manor master through Nan Xian's marriage.

What he wanted was power, not to protect the Mu family. Grandmaster Hai Rong could not give him what he wanted.

It was also because of this that the manor master had to cancel the marriage and refuse to let the Mu family visit his manor. Nonetheless, he would still not hurt the Mu family.

If their lives were in danger, Grandmaster Hai Rong would certainly help them.

"Let me give you a simple example. Everyone in the reclusive world knows Tian Ya. They know that he has no other stronger forces supporting him. He has always been fighting alone." Old Lady Luo smiled bitterly. "Tian Shen Manor, Deities Gate, and the Divine Herbs Sect are the three largest forces on the mainland. They are so famous all over the world because of their strong power."

“However, there are some strong men who don’t really care about that. They don’t want to build any forces. They are still many strong men who would rather fight alone like Tian Ya.”

Some people thought that building a force would slow down their cultivation. Therefore, they would always find a quiet place to cultivate.

There were too many such powerful men on the mainland.

They did not show themselves to the world. Thus, no one knew their names, which had led to the idea that the three major forces were the strongest in the world.

Luo Li finally understood.

If someone wanted to hurt Xiao Qing, even the manor master might not be able to protect her.

“Furthermore, there are still many places that you don’t know about in this world.” Old Lady Luo’s expression grew more helpless. “The place that Tian Ya has gone to still can’t be reached by anyone to this day. It is said that whoever goes inside the place would basically never return.

“At that time, someone has used a secret method to forcibly retain a soul and step into that world. Many years later, that person’s soul token was broken. Hence, everyone knew that he has died in that world. However, that person has only left a sentence to that soul that remained.

“He told all his disciples to not enter that world! That is their clan’s rule. Anyone who broke the rule would be kicked out!

“No one knows what that world looks like. But if it was not too dangerous, why would that person say this? Li’er, this world is too big. We can only reach certain places in this world. The strong men that you think as strong might not be really strong men.”

Luo Li remained silent. She listened to Old Lady Luo’s words quietly.

If it was not for her grandmother’s words, she really would have continued to think that the three major forces were the strongest in the world. She thought the manor master—Gu Shi could really protect Xiao Qing.

It was only now that she knows how naive she was.

“Grandmother, I understand now.” Luo Li raised her small head. Her eyes glowed. “This world is so big and there are many strong people. I will also work hard to cultivate and strive to catch up with my little fox in the future.”

Chapter 865: The Woman Who Stayed at the Back Hill Near the Chief Manor IV

The old lady who was initially amazed by Luo Li was bewildered after she heard Luo Li’s words.

“Li’er, do you really want to marry a fox?”

“Yes, the little fox is nice to me.”

“Actually, I think Qin Chen of the Qin family is quite good, really...” Old Lady Luo persuaded.

Luo Li pouted. "He is too cold. He is not warm enough. I don't like him."

"Then... what about Mu Qingyin? He is also not bad."

"No, he's too old. I'm still very young. Moreover, he is too mysterious and he is like the kind of person who can't be reached like the moon. I don't want to just look at a person from far away all my life. Besides, I'm not Qin Fei'er. I will not be stubborn and still like the person whom I know I have no future with."

Old Lady Luo sighed.

"Then when will you bring that little fox to see me?"

Luo Li's eyes brightened. She smiled. "Well, I will bring him back after he transforms into a human. By the way, did Qin Xiaoyue really want to hurt Gu Yiyi just because of some quarrels? And also, how did you find your father's spirit herb?"

Old Lady Luo smiled. "It was Qin Chen who told me that Qin Xiaoyue has exchanged the spirit herb. But he told me not to go too early. Otherwise, Xiao Qing will not be able to see a good show. Hence, I was already waiting outside with the spirit herb for quite a while."

Luo Li was speechless.

'Oh, so Qin Chen was this kind of person.'

"As for the spirit herb, it was Qin Li who had asked Qin Xiaoyue to change it."

"Qin Li?" Luo Li was shocked. "Does the manor master know about it?"

"The manor master is not a fool. He can see through it easily."

Was it necessary to poison Gu Yiyi due to some quarrels? Only a fool would believe this.

"The manor master loves Gu Yiyi so much. Why did he let the Qin family go?" Luo Li was puzzled.

Old Lady Luo sneered. "The manor master only pretends to let the Qin family go for now. But who knows what will happen in the future? Li'er, although the manor master did not gain his position rightfully, Gu Yiyi will still be the successor of the manor master. So, he can't take action toward the Qin family since there is no proof. However, the manor master is a ruthless person and also a lunatic."

If he was not ruthless, he would not have killed the former manor master.

"As long as there is a chance, he will definitely take revenge on the Qin family. He is a vengeful person. If he can't destroy the Qin family now, the Qin family will also not live well in the future."

The manor master was the strongest in Tian Shen Manor.

Although Luo Li did not know who was stronger, the manor master or Grandmaster Hai Rong. But still, the manor master had strong power and was far more superior than anyone.

Qin Li wanted to make the manor master crazy so that he had a chance to attack him. Unfortunately, things did not happen as he had wished. He could not take away the manor master position.

"I understand, Grandmother," Luo Li said with a smile on her face. "The Qin family will not exist for too long."

Everyone knew that the manor master cared most about Gu Yiyi. However, those people still dared to attack his daughter in order to defeat him.

The Qin family would not be living a good life since they had enraged this lunatic.

Dogs are really tender and cute. But if one really dared to hurt her cubs, even the most docile dog would bite and attack him.

Besides, Gu Shi was not a docile dog, he was an irritable and fierce Tibetan Mastiff.

Luo Li could not help but sigh again. She envied that Gu Yiyi had a father that would always protect her and stand by, unlike hers.

Her heart was cold.

Chapter 866: The Woman Who Stayed at the Back Hill Near the Chief Manor V

In the chief manor.

Gu Shi narrowed his eyes and scanned the girl standing in front of him.

"You want to go to the back hill?"

Feng Ruqing slightly nodded. "Yes."

At that moment, Gu Shi was so scared that his heart was about to stop beating. But he pretended to be indifferent.

Did Feng Ruqing know that a woman was imprisoned by him in the back hill? Did Feng Ruqing come to expose his secret?

What to do...

If his secret was exposed, his reputation that he had built his whole life would completely be damaged.

"Ahem." Gu Shi cleared his throat. He was embarrassed. "Lady Xiao Qing, there is really nothing in the back hill behind my manor. I am not lying to you. There is really nothing there."

The more he explained, the more he felt guilty.

Gu Yiyi was suspicious. "Father, are you really hiding a woman in the back hill? Otherwise, why is the back hill a forbidden area? I haven't been there in the past few years. Are you really hiding a woman there?"

She really had not been to the back hill. Furthermore, she did not have much interest in the back hill. But now that Feng Ruqing had mentioned it, she, too, wanted to follow along.

Too bad that her father was petty and did not allow anyone to enter the back hill.

Was he really hiding a woman?

If Gu Shi did not know that Gu Yiyi was just making random guesses, he might have thought that she had found out his secret.

His heart trembled after hearing what she had said.

“Yiyi, you know that this is a rule that has been passed down from the former manor masters. How could I not follow the rule when I am the manor master of Tian Shen Manor?”

Gu Yiyi did not really care about it. “You are not the kind of person that would follow the rules. When you first served as the manor master, you took out the grave of the former manor master. I don’t believe that you would follow Tian Shen Manor’s rules.”

It was ridiculous. Her father was not someone who would obey the rules.

Gu Shi was speechless.

‘Little Devil, is it really good to expose me like this in front of others?’

‘I still had to protect my reputation.’

“Yiyi, it’s not that I’m petty. I don’t allow people to enter the back hill because there is really nothing there.”

“It’s okay, it doesn’t matter. Xiao Qing and I just want to go to see the scenery.” Gu Yiyi smiled. “Father, even if you disagree, I will still bring Xiao Qing there, unless you lock me up.”

‘Lock her up?’

How could he do it?!

“Yiyi, let’s talk about it...”

Gu Yiyi picked up a white jade token and played with it before Gu Shi could finish his words.

“Father, whose grave have you robbed this time? Who has left this white jade token here? I can see spiritual qi flowing inside this white jade token. The person who can seal the spiritual qi within this token is strong. The sound of the token falling to the ground is also very pleasant.”

Gu Shi was speechless.

Gu Shi’s face was pale. He was about to cry. “Little Devil, don’t be impetuous. The sound is not pleasant. Please put it down.”

Crack!

Gu Yiyi smashed the white jade token onto the ground. It was broken into pieces. The sound as crisp as a bell made Gu Yiyi feel better.

Then...

She took another jade bottle from the shelf next to her.

Her father did not have many hobbies. The only thing he liked was these pieces.

She also did not have many hobbies.

The only thing she liked was the smashing sound of these pieces.

“Yiyi!” Gu Shi really wanted to cry. “You have already smashed so many things in the past. This is another batch that I have managed to get recently. Little Devil, please don’t do this to me. I’ll take you to the back hill now.”

Chapter 867: Xiao Ya I

What was saving face?

He did not know anything about it. He just wanted to protect these jade pieces.

Those were all his babies. If he absorbed all the spiritual qi from within these jade pieces, he could further improve his strength.

But...

His daughter had already smashed another one again before he could use it.

1“Good.”

Gu Yiyi put down the jade bottle and turned to Feng Ruqing with a smile. She was waiting for Feng Ruqing to praise her.

Gu Shi was even more heartbroken.

Her daughter was helping other people rather than him.

Feng Ruqing caressed Gu Yiyi’s head. “Which spirit herb do you want?”

Gu Shi who was still upset lightened up after he heard Feng Ruqing’s words. He hurriedly looked at Feng Ruqing and his breathing was fast.

But Gu Yiyi shook her head and refused.

“I didn’t help you because of the spirit herb. I don’t want it.”

Gu Shi wanted to help Gu Yiyi answer Feng Ruqing’s question. Nonetheless, he did not dare to say anything. He could only stare at Feng Ruqing.

Feng Ruqing remained silent for a while. “I have a spirit herb with me. Only those lower than Dark Warrior tier could use it. It can help speed up the cultivation speed. It will not have much effect on those who have achieved Dark Warrior tier. You are still not strong enough, so you should just keep it first. Wait until you have achieved Spirit Warrior tier.”

Gu Shi’s heart trembled. He gazed at Feng Ruqing with a complicated feeling in his heart.

He knew what Feng Ruqing meant. Although she was talking to Gu Yiyi, the spirit herb was mainly prepared for the chief manor.

What did the chief manor have the most? Members of Spirit Warrior tier!

Those who have achieved Spirit Warrior tier were definitely strong. But for Gu Shi's case, there were too many of them in the chief manor.

What if all of them got to achieve Dark Warrior tier?

By increasing the cultivation speed ten times faster than usual, what would happen to the chief manor?

There would no longer be any Spirit Warrior tier in the chief manor in one or two years.

"Okay."

Gu Yiyi smiled and accepted it.

She would treasure anything that Xiao Qing gave to her for the rest of her life. No one could snatch it from her!

The back hill was a forbidden area in Tian Shen Manor.

Gu Shi himself also did not know the reason why it was a forbidden area.

He just continued enforcing that rule because he did not want people to see the woman in the back hill.

Gu Shi was willing to take Feng Ruqing to the back hill because he thought that Feng Ruqing was just taking a stroll there. He believed that she would not find the woman he was hiding so coincidentally.

However, he started to panic a few minutes after they were in the area.

It was because Feng Ruqing was walking in the direction where he had hidden the woman.

He wanted to stop them, but he had no reason in doing so.

"Father, why is there a dungeon in this back hill?" Gu Yiyi realized that something was not right. He looked back at Gu Shi. "You have not really imprisoned any woman, right? Or have you?"

Gu Shi's face grew dark.

Did his daughter girl really think that he was such a bad person, a bad person like the former manor master?

Furthermore, with his handsome face and strength, many women were waiting in line to meet him. He did not have to do that.

But Gu Shi could not say anything when he thought of the woman who was reluctant to leave the dungeon.

"Yiyi," Gu Shi said with a smile on his face. "There is nothing to see here. I'll take you to see the scenery. There is also a hot spring in the other direction. It's quite good. What about..."

Under normal circumstances, Gu Yiyi would not have wanted to go visit a dungeon.

Chapter 868: Xiao Ya II

However, since Gu Shi kept urging them to leave, he had piqued Gu Yiyi's curiosity. She wanted to know who was actually locked in the dungeon.

"Xiao Qing, my father must have taken a lady back to the manor and locked her in there. Let's go and take a look." The more Gu Shi urged them to leave, the more curious Gu Yiyi got. She insisted on going into the dungeon.

Gu Shi simply could not stop her...

Gu Yiyi kicked open the dungeon door.

In a dark corner, a lady with her face covered by her hair could be seen crouching on the ground, ragged and dirty.

Gu Shi's heart skipped a beat. The color drained from his face. His image was completely ruined.

In fact, Gu Yiyi knew that Gu Shi would never take a lady back to the manor forcefully. It was just her casual remark.

Now, seeing the poor lady crouching in the corner, Gu Yiyi turned her head stiffly.

"Father, did you really do this? What kind of a monster are you?"

There was no wonder that the back hill was a forbidden place. It turned out that someone was hiding his shameful affair.

"I didn't do anything to her. She is the one who refuses to leave. I am innocent. Do you believe me?" Gu Shi's lips trembled.

"Father, do you think she is a fool? Why does she want to stay here and refuse to leave?"

Gu Shi wanted to say that Gu Yiyi was right. This lady was a fool. However, he could not say a word before his daughter.

Feng Ruqing walked slowly toward the lady. Her fingers brushed the lady's hair gently. A face full of scars appeared before her eyes, it was extremely hideous.

However, Feng Ruqing did not seem to feel disgusted.

'Qing Han led me to this place. Besides this lady, there is nothing else in the dungeon. Apparently, this lady is not the one who has called out to Qing Han.' Feng Ruqing sank into contemplation.

The lady raised her head, her face was full of anger.

Seeing the lady's face, Gu Yiyi sucked in a breath of cold air. Simply no one knew how much struggles this lady had gone through.

Now, if someone told Gu Yiyi that her father had taken this lady back into the manor by force as he could not stand the loneliness, Gu Yiyi would not even doubt it. However, her father would never disfigure the lady's face.

Lost in thought, the lady stared dazedly at Feng Ruqing. Suddenly, the lady seemed to have felt that was something different, her grubby hands quickly held onto Feng Ruqing's arms.

As this lady had not left the dungeon for a long time, her hands were covered with dirt, leaving fingerprints on Feng Ruqing's sleeves.

"Xiao Qing!" Panicking, Gu Yiyi wanted to walk up to Feng Ruqing but Feng Ruqing stopped her.

Feng Ruqing was still calm and composed. She did not seem to feel the slighted bit disgusted. She lowered her eyes to stare at the lady before her.

"You want me to bring you out of here?"

The lady nodded desperately. Her eyes were not as gloomy as before and were now sparkling like stars.

"Did the people here scar your face?" Feng Ruqing continued asking.

The lady nodded. Her eyes were filled with resentment.

Seeing this, Feng Ruqing and Gu Yiyi's turned to look at Gu Shi.

"I did not do this. It was the former manor master! I only know that she is here after taking over this chief manor. I asked her to leave, but she refused. I did not force her to stay here." Gu Shi's face was ghastly pale.

Feng Ruqing tilted her head and looked at the poor lady.

Chapter 869: Xiao Ya III

"You must take a bath and change your clothes before leaving together with me. I will take you out of here after that."

Although Feng Ruqing was very gentle with ladies, she was not an extremely kind person. However, when she saw this poor lady, her heart melted. She did not know why she wanted to take this lady out of the dungeon.

The lady held onto Feng Ruqing's arm tightly and did not let go of her. A look of resolute determination settled down upon the lady's face.

"Let go of my arm. I won't leave you behind." Feng Ruqing sighed.

Startled, the lady stared at Feng Ruqing, as if contemplating whether she could trust Feng Ruqing.

In the end, the lady did not loosen her grip on Feng Ruqing's arm. She did not trust Feng Ruqing.

"Am I not trustworthy?" Feng Ruqing could see the doubt in the lady's eyes. She turned her head around to look at Gu Yiyi.

Gu Yiyi nodded after pondering for a while. After all, Feng Ruqing was not someone who would keep her promise.

"As long as Nan Xian is still around, no one would believe in the things that you said."

Feng Ruqing would leave everyone behind and run off with Nan Xian if he wanted Feng Ruqing to do so. Naturally, no one believed in her.

Feng Ruqing raised her brows. She had never thought that she was an unreliable person in Gu Yiyi's heart.

Feng Ruqing turned her head sideways, her gaze fell upon the lady.

"How long do you want to hold my arm?" The lady pondered for a while. She shook her head, her hands were still holding onto Feng Ruqing's arm.

"Go and take a bath. I'll wait for you outside. I can't go in together with you. Although we are ladies, how could you take a bath without letting go of my arm?"

Feng Ruqing was right. The lady bit her lip and let go of Feng Ruqing's arm.

"Manor Master, could you please get some servants to freshen her up and then bring her back to me?"

"Alright." Gu Shi breathed a sigh of relief. He could finally send this lady away.

However, Gu Shi had no idea why this lady refused to leave this dungeon previously but wanted to leave now when she had seen Feng Ruqing.

The lady could not talk. Hence, Gu Shi would never get the answer.

Everyone looked suspiciously at Gu Shi when he brought the lady down the hill. Simply no one knew why Gu Shi brought a badly disfigured lady back from the hill.

Seeing many disdainful gazes pouring upon her, the lady hid behind Feng Ruqing. Her grubby hand held tightly onto the corner of Feng Ruqing's sleeve, her eyes were full of anxiety.

The lady's reaction was natural as she had not seen any light for years. Not to mention, now, many people were staring at her.

If Feng Ruqing was not by the lady's side, the lady would have rushed back to the hill.

Gu Shi tasked a servant to freshen up the lady and got Gu Yiyi to take Feng Ruqing around the chief manor.

"Manor Master, do you know why the back hill of Tian Shen Manor became a forbidden place?" Seeing that Gu Shi was about to leave, Feng Ruqing asked after pondering for a while.

Qing Han told Feng Ruqing that the lady in the dungeon was not the one who called out to Qing Han. In other words, there was something in the back hill that Feng Ruqing knew nothing about.

"I have no idea." Gu Shi frowned.

"I killed the former manor master too soon and did not manage to ask him about this. The dumb lady just now has nothing to do with me. She is here because of the former manor master. I asked her to leave but she insisted on staying at the back hill." Gu Shi's voice was full of grievances.

Chapter 870: Xiao Ya IV

"I was afraid that the people out there would think that I have kidnapped her. Hence, I continued making the back hill a forbidden area. Usually, the guards would guard the foot of the back hill and no one is allowed to step into it without my company. Fortunately, the lady has left the place. I can finally lift the ban."

"No, the back hill should remain forbidden and make sure to keep everyone out." Feng Ruqing shook her head.

"Why?"

"I don't know. I always think there is something that we don't know about on the back hill."

The back hill was part of the chief manor. If there was something there, Gu Shi would definitely know it sooner or later. However, Feng Ruqing did not explain further and left Gu Shi guessing.

Sure enough, Feng Ruqing's words had left Gu Shi pondering. He was still lost in thought when he left.

There must be a reason why all the former manor masters had made the back hill a forbidden place—a reason that Gu Shi did not know of. What could that be?

Under the setting sun, Feng Ruqing leaned lazily against the pavilion. Her eyes were fixed on the lady who was walking toward her with a servant.

The lady had a fine figure, her hair was long and straight like a waterfall. Now, she looked refreshing. However, her scar-covered face made her look horrifying.

Initially, the lady seemed unsettled. However, when she saw Feng Ruqing, she quickly calmed down.

'Fortunately, she is still here.'

"What's your name?" Feng Ruqing asked, as the corner of her lips lifted.

The lady pursed her lips together, her eyes lit up as she stared at Feng Ruqing.

"You can't speak? Can I call you Xiao Ya¹?" Feng Ruqing smiled sweetly

The lady's black eyes shone even brighter as she nodded hastily.

"Are you sure you want to leave with me?" Feng Ruqing got up slowly and walked toward Xiao Ya.

A look of resolute determination settled in Xiao Ya's eyes.

"I will heal your wounds. You will stay by my side from now on." Feng Ruqing paused.

Not only was the lady's face disfigured, but her cultivation was also crippled.

Even so, Feng Ruqing could tell the lady lacked talent. However, it did not matter. Feng Ruqing did not need someone with great talent. What she wanted was someone with strong perseverance.

Xiao Ya merely smiled.

As the lady's face was badly disfigured, her smile was not pleasant to the eyes. However, Feng Ruqing did not expect the lady's smile to be so dazzling under the setting sun.

"Let's go, I will heal your wounds and restore your crippled meridians. All you need to do is work hard to improve your cultivation." Feng Ruqing looked hard at Xiao Ya.

"Don't you ever forget this. You don't need to be a great talent, but you must work hard to improve your strength. No one in this world is born to be good for nothing. If you have no talent, you must work harder than those highly gifted people and surpass them."

Xiao Ya stared dazedly at Feng Ruqing.

Back then, when she wanted to recruit disciples, many ladies in this realm had gone against each other in order to be her disciple so the people in their clan would be protected for the rest of their lives.

She was like a god in everyone's mind. This lady thought so too. The lady wanted to be Feng Ruqing's disciple and even Xiao Ya's lack of talent could never stop her from taking the risk.

The lady was the most insignificant one among the many talents. She was bullied but it was the god in her mind who had brought her out of the crowd.

She would never forget the things that Feng Ruqing had said...