

Powerful 221

Chapter 221: Huaxia's Hidden World Is About to Fall into Chaos—He Can't Hold It Down Alone

Wuyan didn't know that anything Yang Yan praised was already proven to be extraordinary.

"Oh! It's another one. This is actually quite interesting. For something like this to happen, isn't Huaxia's government stepping in to intervene?"

The handsome man showed a hint of a wicked smile, stared at the dagger, and spoke meaningfully.

His voice was light, yet it clearly reached Yang Yan's ears.

However, Yang Yan knew that he still hadn't been discovered.

It was just that he used a special method to make people from the Hidden World hear his voice.

With his eyesight, he obviously knew this dagger was real.

But it's no wonder he's curious; having one of these things appear is one thing, but having two in succession with no one stepping up is quite intriguing.

So he simply provoked them directly, trying to agitate Huaxia's government officials.

Unfortunately, apart from the old man in the last row and the woman beside him whose expressions subtly changed, the entire auction hall remained calm.

"Forget it, since even Huaxia's government doesn't care, why should we unrelated people worry!? If it's a good thing, then just buy it."

The handsome man said with a smile, still using the same method to deliver his voice to the ears of those in the Hidden World.

"Ten million!"

The handsome man didn't care how much others shouted; he opened his mouth and directly reported the same price as before, then leisurely took a swig from his jug.

As the handsome man shouted his bid, a sudden exclamation erupted from the surroundings.

They'd seen wealthy people, but seeing someone so flamboyant while being rich was a first.

The auctioneer, upon hearing this young man shout ten million again, was so excited he was speechless.

This item's estimated selling price was around three million, and now it's fetching the same price as the previous dagger, making him overjoyed.

To know that the items he auctioned come with commission.

Exceeding the estimated price, they have a percentage return.

Now, with two items both fetching ten million, he's nearly earned two million just from these two items, surpassing his annual income, so how could he not be excited!

"Ten million once, ten million twice..."

He knew this item had actually been sold; the current chants were just formalities, who would offer a higher price for a dagger?

"Ten million third..."

However, surprises always occur.

Just as the auctioneer prepared to hammer down, a sudden sound emerged from the floor:

"Twenty million!"

Bang!

The floor instantly boiled over.

Among them, many had attended such auctions numerous times, but they had never encountered a bidding price soaring so high above the base price.

"Twenty... twenty million? Hmm! This venerable gentleman bids twenty million."

The auctioneer was crazed with joy.

Today must be his lucky day; both daggers fetched sky-high prices.

Moreover, observing the handsome man's determined expression, it seems this item's price could still rise significantly!

The handsome man smiled faintly, slowly turned to glance at the old man, and then his gaze settled on the woman beside the old man.

A hint of a wicked smile appeared at the corners of his lips, then he turned his head away, not continuing to bid.

Thus, the last auction item, "Sarahville", was finally successfully bought by this mysterious old gentleman at an astonishing price of twenty million, leaving the auctioneer in a state of mixed emotions.

"Who is that old man? And who is the woman beside him?"

Yang Yan couldn't help but turn his head and ask Jianghai softly.

"That old man is Xu Lianjiang, a local from East Sea City, and he's a veteran figure in the Xu Family. The girl beside him is Xu Yi, his granddaughter."

"Eighteen years old, attends Third High School, but is a kind of recommended student; early next year she'll directly attend Yanjing University in Kyoto."

Jianghai whispered.

"Uh... Xu Yi? Did you say her name is Xu Yi?"

Yang Yan trembled and immediately asked.

Jianghai's expression was momentarily dazed.

He didn't understand why Yang Yan didn't inquire about Xu Lianjiang or the Xu Family but asked about the girl Xu Yi.

Nevertheless, he nodded:

"Yes, her name is Xu Yi. Eighteen now, soon to be nineteen. She was supposed to attend Yanjing University last year, but for some reason, she didn't go."

"I heard she had been in communication with Yanjing University not long ago, and will go directly there next year. What's wrong, any problem?"

Yang Yan gently shook his head:

"Nothing."

After confirming that she was called Xu Yi, Yang Yan couldn't help but recall past events.

To be precise, he and this Xu Yi had a bit of a past encounter!

However, this Xu Yi shouldn't be eighteen; she should be twenty-three.

Due to certain circumstances, she lost five years of her time.

He got acquainted with her at that time.

"Sigh! Didn't expect to meet again!"

Yang Yan sighed heavily and spoke softly.

"What's wrong? You know her? Logically, you shouldn't know her! She spent her childhood abroad and only returned to Huaxia a few years ago. You were supposed to be over there at that time!"

Jianghai frowned slightly, full of doubt and said.

Yang Yan seemed very interested in Xu Yi; hence, he also became curious about the great lady of the Xu family.

"Because of certain matters, we can be considered acquainted. You go and tell your Lion over there that this guy with the jug isn't ordinary; tell him not to come over here, it'll be redundant anyway."

"Ask him to directly contact that old fellow, saying it's me who said this, and ask him to get his martial brothers to come forth, otherwise, Huaxia's Hidden World will be in chaos. He won't be able to handle it alone."

Yang Yan, after speaking, glanced again at the handsome man, then lowered his voice and said to Jianghai:

"Help me send her back, protect her, don't let anything happen like before."

"Are you in trouble?"

Wuyan, upon hearing Yang Yan tell this unfamiliar man to send her back, couldn't help but ask with concern.

A woman's sixth sense is always strong.

She seemed to have already sensed something wasn't right.

"Yes! I have some matters to handle today. He will send you back. Don't worry, although this fellow looks a bit ugly, he can be considered a good person."

Yang Yan paid no heed to Jianghai's expression, speaking to Wuyan self-assuredly.

"Are you going to confront him?"

Upon hearing Yang Yan say such things, Jianghai was so worried he didn't care about being called ugly, and hastily asked.

"Not necessarily; it depends on his attitude. Rest assured, even if there's a showdown, it'll happen in the Hidden World, not impacting the real world. Otherwise, destroying half of East Sea isn't worth it, even if I defeat him."

Yang Yan said with a smile, his eyes full of confidence.

Chapter 222: There's a Ghost Ahead

"Try not to use force if you can help it, Huaxia is in a tumultuous time right now. Even if you're not one of us, we don't want anything to happen to you. After all, you are a Huaxia person!"

Jianghai said sincerely.

Actually, almost everyone familiar with Yang Yan in the Eight Divisions shared a similar sentiment.

Even though Yang Yan wasn't officially one of Huaxia's people, he was still Huaxia's person, and all his actions were aimed at protecting Huaxia's interests. Naturally, these people didn't want anything to happen to Yang Yan.

"Look at what you're saying, making it sound like I'm going to commit suicide. Don't worry, nothing's going to happen to me. Even if I can't beat him, he can't do anything to me."

Yang Yan said confidently.

After saying this, he took out his phone and sent Fatty and the others a message, telling them what he was going to do next.

Without waiting for Fatty and the others to reply, Yang Yan turned off his phone and put it back in his pocket.

"Alright, you take her back first! It's dark, the auction has ended, and now the real show begins. Unfortunately, outsiders can't get in, so you won't get to see it."

Yang Yan said to Jianghai.

"Please be careful, and don't overexert yourself."

After Jianghai finished speaking, he stood up and gestured towards Wuyan, inviting her to leave.

"I don't know what you're going to do, I can't be of any help as a woman. I'll wait for you at Prosperous Court tonight. You can do whatever you want when you get back!"

Wuyan whispered in Yang Yan's ear.

Damn!

This is blatant temptation!

This little enchantress really is irresistible.

Yang Yan glanced at Wuyan, who had already walked away with Jianghai, and felt the desire in his heart rise again.

Once the last item at the auction was sold, the auctioneer was the most excited person there.

Everything today was successfully auctioned, with no items left unsold, and two items even exceeded expected prices, earning him a commission of three million.

At this point, those who bought items were waiting to sign contracts and complete transactions, while most of those who didn't buy anything had left.

Yang Yan also followed the crowd out towards the door.

Outside the auction venue, he found a dark spot and then disappeared into thin air.

When he reappeared, he was already standing on the roof of the auction building.

He stood atop the lightning rod, allowing the cold wind to blow his clothes wildly.

Even though his eyes were closed, the elderly man and the handsome young man's every move appeared in his mind.

The successful auction items were handled by dedicated personnel, with no need to wait in line.

At this time, the elderly man had completed his transaction, but the young man did not handle the paperwork personally.

An elder with a stern expression handled it for him.

He sat to the side, staring intently at Xu Yi without taking his eyes off her.

Yang Yan frowned slightly.

He didn't understand why the other person was staring at Xu Yi like that.

But judging from the man's expression, he likely wasn't interested in Xu Yi romantically.

How to put it, it was like a child seeing a delicious treat!

Yang Yan had seen many crazed individuals, but this was the first time he'd seen one like this handsome young man.

Xu Lianjiang took Xu Yi out of the auction, got into a black car, and drove towards the suburbs.

Earlier, Yang Yan had specifically asked Jianghai, and he learned that the Xu Family was in that direction.

Last time, Yang Yan attended a charity auction with Zhou Hanyun, where they encountered an old man with the surname Xu, named Xu Chuan. He seemed to be Xu Yi's third granduncle and also Xu Lianjiang's grandson?

"Ah! They're all old immortals!"

Yang Yan sighed and muttered.

Shortly after Xu Lianjiang and Xu Yi left, that handsome young man vanished into the shadows.

This surprised Yang Yan.

He had clearly locked onto the man with his Divine Sense, yet he still vanished.

"In my current state, I am indeed too weak."

Yang Yan smiled helplessly, then with a blink, he reappeared on another building.

Even though he couldn't find that handsome young man right now, Yang Yan understood very well that the man's target was either "Sarahville" or Xu Yi. That couldn't be wrong.

Therefore, he only needed to follow the Xu family's car, and that would be enough.

Once the car reached the suburbs, with no tall buildings for cover, Yang Yan could only hide his figure in the darkness, following the car like a shadow, quickly moving through the void.

In the car, Xu Lianjiang took up "Sarahville" and slowly examined it.

The auction was an industry under the Xu Family, but lower-level personnel managed it, so he didn't know what items would be auctioned today.

It wasn't until a member of Huaxia Eight Divisions contacted the Xu Family that he learned there was something remarkable on auction.

Despite rushing over, he was still a step too late.

The "Blood Amber" had already been auctioned off.

He could only buy "Sarahville."

Although he considered buying back the Blood Amber from the other party, he could sense that the person was no simple figure.

He even felt a sense of danger from the handsome young man, instinctively wanting to avoid conflict.

"Ah! Let's just go back first! It's surprising for such items to appear three times here... no, it should be three items. I heard one was privately bought at a high price. I'll investigate who bought it once we're back."

Xu Lianjiang stared intently at the dagger in his hand, speaking as if to himself.

"Grandfather, is there something wrong? Is this knife really full of curses as the auctioneer said?"

Xu Yi asked Xu Lianjiang softly.

"Hehe! Girl, it's nothing, the blade does have something extraordinary, but ominous things are always ominous. I'll explain more once we get back."

Xu Lianjiang looked at Xu Yi affectionately.

He adored this girl, especially since she could be considered a person of the Hidden World now.

However, due to special reasons, they've been concealing it so far.

Screech—

Suddenly, the car came to an abrupt stop, and Xu Yi lunged forward, but Xu Lianjiang quickly protected her.

Once the car stopped, Xu Lianjiang checked on Xu Yi and saw she was unharmed but just a bit scared. He then asked the driver:

"What happened?"

"Grandfather, there's... a ghost in front."

The driver stammered.

"A ghost?"

Xu Lianjiang furrowed his brow immediately upon hearing that.

He opened the car door directly and walked slowly towards the front of the car.

The driver wasn't wrong, there was indeed a ghost ahead.

A human head accompanied by ghostly flames floated in the air, eyes brimming with killing intent.

Xu Lianjiang could tell right away that this ghost wasn't a regular one. It didn't appear by chance; someone sent it deliberately.

Xu Lianjiang glanced at the ghost and quickly released his Divine Sense to survey the surroundings.

At this moment, although it was pitch black all around, it did not hinder Xu Lianjiang's exploration.

Chapter 223: It's Okay, I'll Beat the Answer Out of You

There were no signs of human life around, and farther away, there weren't even lights.

"This is the Hidden World!"

Xu Lianjiang said with a frown.

Only then did he realize that at some unknown time, the opponents had already dragged them into the Hidden World.

The most frightening thing was, he hadn't felt a thing.

This meant that the opponent's methods were very clever, or their strength was very strong, far surpassing his.

A ghost head floated toward Xu Lianjiang in front, and Xu Lianjiang let out a cold snort, striking the ghost head with both hands fiercely.

Bang!

With a muffled sound, the ghost head immediately dissipated.

Seeing the ghost head dissipate, Xu Lianjiang didn't breathe a sigh of relief but instead became more cautious.

He was very clear that this ghost head was merely a probe from the opponent.

It might not even count as a probe, just a greeting.

Xu Lianjiang tried his best to release his Divine Sense, hoping to find the opponent's traces.

In the life-and-death struggle within the Hidden World, the worst thing is not being able to find the opponent's trace.

Because if you can't even lock on the opponent, you naturally won't know what methods they possess.

In such cases, one often does not even know how they died.

While Xu Lianjiang was searching painstakingly, a handsome man suddenly appeared next to Xu Yi in the car.

He appeared in the car without any warning, and as soon as he appeared, he killed the driver in front.

Xu Yi wanted to cry for help but found she couldn't speak no matter how hard she tried.

She could only look as the opponent's wicked eyes stared fixedly at her.

"Tsk tsk! Truly quite the delicious appetizer! It's been a long time since I've encountered such a supreme specimen."

As soon as the handsome man finished speaking, he eagerly tried to lift Xu Yi's chin.

However, Xu Yi, terrified beyond measure, wanted to avoid it, but no matter how hard she tried, her body wouldn't listen, not even a finger.

"Don't worry, we have plenty of time. Let me introduce myself first... Hmm? What is my name? I'm sorry, it's been so long that I've almost forgotten, but they call me the Wine-Drinking Child."

"My home is at Da Jiang Mountain, how about it, beautiful lady, interested in spending a night with me? I guarantee you'll never forget it."

This handsome man gave a bizarre self-introduction.

"I was wondering who it was, turns out it's the Wine-Drinking Child? What is a ghost from the Island Country doing here in Huaxia?"

At this moment, a sudden voice rang out.

In the next moment, Yang Yan appeared out of nowhere between Xu Yi and the Wine-Drinking Child.

He seemed to have been sitting there all along, and was smiling as he looked at the Wine-Drinking Child.

Boom!

A violent explosion sounded.

"Not good!"

Xu Lianjiang's face changed drastically and he quickly ran back to the sedan behind.

At this moment, two figures flew out from the firelight caused by the explosion.

Yang Yan was holding Xu Yi, whereas the Wine-Drinking Child looked at Yang Yan with a grim face.

"Who are you?"

The Wine-Drinking Child asked coldly, looking at Yang Yan.

"You haven't answered my question yet! What is a ghost from the Island Country doing here in Huaxia? No wonder I've always felt something odd about you but couldn't pinpoint what it was; turns out you're a ghost from another domain!"

Yang Yan released the still-traumatized Xu Yi, then coldly asked the Wine-Drinking Child.

Seeing Xu Yi unharmed, Xu Lianjiang breathed a sigh of relief.

He had been truly frightened just now.

If anything happened to Xu Yi, how would he explain to the others?

Now, seeing Yang Yan confronting the Wine-Drinking Child, he slowly walked towards Yang Yan, seemingly wishing to fight alongside him.

Not to mention the conversation between the two, just based on Yang Yan saving Xu Yi's life, he was determined to lend him a helping hand.

Xu Yi stared at Yang Yan, her eyes gleaming.

Finally seeing him once again.

Ever since she last saw him outside the school gate, she thought she had let go, but it was only buried deep in her heart, never forgotten.

Later, she saw Zhou Hanyu, continuously reminding herself that as long as he's safe and happy, it's fine, and she would go to Yanjing to study, not affecting his life.

Whether it's divine arrangement or the tease of fate, she was saved by him once again.

"You won't speak? No matter, I'll hit you until you do."

Jiutun Tongzi finished speaking and swung his fist fiercely at Yang Yan.

"Watch out!"

Seeing the opponent attacking, Xu Lianjiang hurriedly shouted.

Yang Yan quickly pulled Xu Yi aside and leapt lightly backwards, avoiding Jiutun Tongzi's fierce attack.

With a loud bang, it seemed as though the ground itself trembled.

Xu Lianjiang was dumbstruck, staring at the ground hit by Jiutun Tongzi, where a huge pit at least five meters wide appeared.

With such power, if it hits a person, even someone with a body of steel couldn't withstand it!

"Your reactions aren't slow, huh!"

Jiutun Tongzi blew on his fist and said with a smile.

Yang Yan brought Xu Yi over to Xu Lianjiang and said:

"This isn't something you can intervene in. Take her a bit further back. I'll take care of this arrogant fellow."

Having said that, Yang Yan pushed Xu Yi into Xu Lianjiang's arms, extended his hand to flex his fingers, and then walked toward Jiutun Tongzi one step at a time.

"Be careful!"

Seeing Yang Yan preparing to confront the terrifying Wine-Drinking Child, Xu Yi hurriedly spoke.

"Let's go, we'll move back a bit. This level of combat isn't something we can intervene in. We should avoid affecting him."

Xu Lianjiang spoke as he quickly pulled Xu Yi back.

"Why have you come to Huaxia?"

Yang Yan asked.

Yet Jiutun Tongzi merely laughed coldly, squinting his eyes without answering.

Yang Yan snorted coldly:

"Not speaking, huh? Doesn't matter, I'll hit until you do."

Yang Yan repeated Jiutun Tongzi's words verbatim.

Then, his figure flickered, swiftly rushing toward Jiutun Tongzi, his right hand also fiercely coming down.

Another loud boom sounded as the ground produced an even larger pit.

Beside him, Xu Lianjiang looked at Yang Yan with a face of astonishment.

He knew that this unknown young man was anything but simple, but he never imagined that Yang Yan's attack would be equally formidable.

"Not bad! You indeed have the right to be arrogant. However, this level won't be enough to probe my motives!"

Jiutun Tongzi licked his lips and said lightly.

Over all these years, except for a few rare individuals, he's never taken anyone seriously.

Even those few were only strong in other areas.

Like Yang Yan, able to match him in physical attacks, this was the first time he had encountered.

"Don't worry! This is just the beginning, soon you'll be opening up obediently."

Yang Yan squinted his eyes, speaking coldly.

The two exchanged glances and then simultaneously charged at each other, fists swinging fiercely.

Boom boom boom!

The intense sound rolled like thunder, their punching speed too fast for the naked eye to capture.

Chapter 224: You Know Each Other?

In order to avoid being affected, Xu Lianjiang had to take Xu Yi to a farther place.

Because in just an instant, everything around them had become unrecognizable.

It seemed even the space was about to be torn apart, slightly twisted.

It's unclear how their bodies are structured; both were constantly being knocked back, but quickly charged back to continue fighting.

"Good! Over the years, you're the first to grapple with me to this extent. As respect, I'll start getting serious."

After Jiutun Tongzi finished speaking, his body began to transform.

His body expanded rapidly, muscles bulging, and long horns grew on his head.

Xu Lianjiang was shocked as he watched Jiutun Tongzi's transformation, with his mouth wide open, unable to say a word.

Just now, he wasn't even fighting at full strength?

"Getting serious? Indeed, after warming up, it's time to be serious."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

After hearing Yang Yan's words, Xu Lianjiang was completely at a loss for words.

"Both are monsters!"

In the end, that was all he could manage to squeeze out.

He had heard a little about Jiutun Tongzi's legend.

Although not so clear, he knew the other party was the Ghost King of the Island Country.

And Yang Yan, he had never seen at all.

This young man who appeared suddenly, was unexpectedly evenly matched with someone of Jiutun Tongzi's caliber!

If he hadn't seen it with his own eyes, he would never believe it.

As Jiutun Tongzi's body underwent an earth-shattering transformation, Yang Yan also donned the "Illusory Night."

Although the Island Country is no match for Huaxia, being a neighbor of Huaxia, it learned quite a bit from it, producing several remarkable figures.

Apart from the one before him, another person was quite renowned, that is the Great Yin-Yang Master Abe Qingming.

Wine-Drinking Child was also sealed by Abe Qingming.

But for some reason, this guy managed to break the seal and came out.

At this moment, Jiutun Tongzi was completely different, his five-meter height allowed him to look down upon Yang Yan.

And as Yang Yan donned the "Illusory Night," his aura kept rising.

Although his size was not as large as the other, in terms of aura, Yang Yan was not inferior at all.

The clash of their auras was quite a hardship for Xu Lianjiang.

As an A-level Hidden World person, he was not considered weak.

But in front of Yang Yan and Jiutun Tongzi, his strength was not enough.

Initially, he thought the attack just now was already astonishing, only to realize it was just their warm-up...

Jiutun Tongzi at this time pulled out a particularly large Wolf Fang Club from the Void, and thrust it head down into the ground.

When he put the Wolf Fang Club on the ground, the earth shook, trembling violently.

It was unclear how heavy the thing in his hand was.

Yang Yan furrowed his brows, also pulling out a giant Mo Saber from the Void.

"Huh? What kind of weapon is that?"

Jiutun Tongzi stared intensely at the Mo Saber in Yang Yan's hand and said.

"Stop staring, this is one of the Four Sabers of Huaxia, the Mo Saber, different from those little ones of your Island Country, it's the father of your Samurai Sabers."

Yang Yan said with a sneer.

It's not that Yang Yan was bragging, nor was he deliberately exaggerating.

"Tang Six Classics" Chapter Sixteen records:

There are four styles of sabers: one is the Ceremonial Sword, two is the Barrier Sword, three is the Horizontal Sword, and four is the Mo Saber.

Mo Saber, a long sword, held by infantry, was originally used to cut horses.

The saber weighs fifteen pounds, also known as a chopping saber, seven feet long, three feet blade length, four feet handle length, wielded by strong men to chop horizontally around the waist, anything in its path is rendered to dust.

This weapon was mostly used to deal with cavalry, and some Mo Sabers with narrow blades and small curves heavily influenced the Island Country's Samurai Sabers.

No wonder Jiutun Tongzi was momentarily stunned when Yang Yan took it out.

Jiutun Tongzi did not refute Yang Yan's statement.

Since the Tang Dynasty began, many cultures flowed into the Island Country, there's no denying that.

However, this did make Jiutun Tongzi somewhat annoyed, he shouted loudly raising his Wolf Fang Club and smashed it towards Yang Yan.

Yang Yan also raised his shiny Mo Saber and swung it upwards.

Boom!

With a loud clash of metal, their weapons collided fiercely.

In the next moment, the huge shockwave from the impact spread in all directions, sweeping away everything.

Xu Lianjiang was shocked, with such a level of shockwave before him, not only him as an A-level, even if an S-level came, they'd have to avoid its sharpness.

While Xu Lianjiang was struggling to hold on, the battle between Yang Yan and Jiutun Tongzi officially began.

They constantly changed positions, and relentlessly launched fierce attacks at each other.

The forces of both were evenly matched, fighting to a standstill in that moment.

In just the blink of an eye, the already battered ground around them was further leveled.

Within a mile, the earth was forcibly cut down by at least a foot in depth.

No, at this rate, today I might die here.

Xu Lianjiang felt he had reached his limit, not knowing how much longer they might fight.

Just then, a ghost head suddenly appeared next to Jiutun Tongzi.

The ghost whispered a few words into Jiutun Tongzi's ear, and the latter suddenly burst into laughter.

Then, he suddenly stood tall, jumped into the air, and smilingly said to Yang Yan:

"I've had fun today, but there are things I must do. So for today, let's end here, next time we'll go at it again, I believe you haven't fully exerted yourself either."

Having said that, he turned toward Xu Yi, speaking meaningfully:

"Beauty, wait obediently for me, I'll come back for you! Haha!"

Yang Yan glanced at the struggling Xu Lianjiang, then at the direction where Jiutun Tongzi vanished, revealing a wry smile.

To have the battle end like this was perhaps not a bad thing for him.

This fellow truly lives up to being the legendary Ghost King of the Island Country, indeed frightfully strong.

Though he wasn't afraid, the fact was that Xu Lianjiang and Xu Yi were right beside him; if they fought to the death, the two of them would inevitably be caught up.

"Are you alright?"

Yang Yan came to Xu Lianjiang's side and asked.

"So far, not about to die yet. Thank you for today's help, young friend."

Xu Lianjiang managed a difficult fist-pumping gesture towards Yang Yan, speaking with a wry smile.

"Are you alright?"

Xu Yi looked at Yang Yan, her eyes full of affection.

This time it was Yang Yan's turn to show a wry smile.

"I'm fine, it's just that the opponent ran."

Upon hearing Yang Yan say he was fine, Xu Yi secretly breathed a sigh of relief.

She just watched Yang Yan, regardless of her ancestor's suspicious eyes nearby.

"Do you know each other?"

At this point, even a fool could see Xu Yi and Yang Yan knew each other.

But Xu Lianjiang, full of doubts, couldn't help but ask.

Chapter 225: I Want to Go Back to School

"Yeah! He saved my life before."

Xu Yi nodded gently.

"Alright, let's leave today's matter at that. Don't tell anyone yet. I'll notify the Eight Divisions to fix this. Remember, this is crucial, no one should know."

Yang Yan looked at the increasingly suspicious Xu Lianjiang and said carefully word by word.

"Got it, don't worry, I won't tell anyone about this."

Xu Lianjiang knew it must be a serious matter and quickly assured.

"Okay, you guys head back first. I'm going to chase after him to see if I can find any trace of that guy."

Leaving these words, Yang Yan glanced back at Xu Yi, then turned and disappeared into the darkness.

Seeing Yang Yan leave, Xu Yi's eyes were filled with reluctance.

However, she knew Yang Yan had important business to attend to, and she couldn't hold him back.

Moreover, from Yang Yan's reaction earlier, he didn't dislike her and had saved her once again.

In that case, does it mean she could see him again...

Xu Yi's expression was clearly observed by Xu Lianjiang beside her.

Wise as he was in his old age, he certainly knew what his great-granddaughter was thinking, and he couldn't help but sigh inwardly.

Even he was unsure if Xu Yi liking such an outstanding man was a blessing or a curse.

But, children and grandchildren have their own fortunes, let everything go with the flow!

"Girl, talk to this old man, how did you two meet? How did he captivate the soul of the pearl of our family?"

Xu Lianjiang teased.

"That's not true at all! Ancestor, what are you talking about?"

When Xu Lianjiang hit the nail on the head, Xu Yi paused slightly, objecting bashfully.

"You call that nothing? I'm old, not blind."

Xu Lianjiang chuckled.

"Ancestor, how do we get back?"

Xu Yi apparently didn't want to continue on this topic, so she pulled Xu Lianjiang's arm in a hurry and asked.

Xu Lianjiang smiled helplessly, then led Xu Yi toward the direction where Yang Yan had just disappeared.

Yang Yan chased for a long time but still couldn't find any trace of the Wine-Drinking Child, so he had to give up.

After some thought, he decided to go straight to find Fatty and the others.

Arriving at the bar, Yang Yan went straight to the second floor.

Zhuge Wushuang and Fatty exchanged a look and immediately followed him up.

Upon reaching the upstairs, Yang Yan told them what had just happened.

"Boss, you couldn't keep the person?"

Fatty asked in astonishment.

"Yeah! He's very strong, at least compared to my current state, he's not a bit weaker. But that's not the main issue, what worries me is the reason he's come to Huaxia this time. Notify Xiaocao and let her pay attention."

After speaking, Yang Yan turned and left.

He hadn't forgotten what someone said—in the Prosperous Court, he could do whatever he wanted!

Back at the Prosperous Court, Yang Yan and Wuyan were wild and passionate all night.

Wuyan was incredibly proactive, and Yang Yan felt as if he were soaring into the clouds, witnessing the most beautiful scenery in the world.

In the morning, looking at the sleeping Wuyan beside him, a sudden thought sprang to Yang Yan's mind:

To awaken and wield power over the world, to be drunk and rest on the beauty's lap.

No wonder King Zhou would neglect state affairs for Daji, no wonder Emperor Tang Ming would skip morning court because of Consort Yang.

Even Yang Yan, at this moment, didn't want to get out of bed.

But despite his reluctance, Yang Yan finally relied on his willpower to crawl out of the gentle embrace, and then exercised a bit in the balcony garden to calm his restless little buddy.

Seeing that it was getting late, Yang Yan routinely went to the kitchen to make breakfast.

After the breakfast was ready, the exhausted Wuyan still hadn't gotten up.

Yang Yan went to the bedside and placed a hand on her shoulder, Wuyan's eyelashes fluttered slightly:

"Don't bother me, let me sleep a bit longer."

Wuyan said lazily, then turned over to continue sleeping.

Last night, the two were indulgent and reckless. Yang Yan, with his special physique, was naturally fine, but Wuyan suffered.

By the end of it, she was nearly exhausted and fell into a deep sleep.

"Darling, get up, the sun is shining on your backside."

Yang Yan patted Wuyan's firm buttocks and whispered beside her.

"It's all your fault, not caring whether I could handle it, tormenting me all night. Now my whole body aches badly."

Wuyan, though infused with a bit of energy by Yang Yan and having regained her strength, couldn't help but complain.

"Uh... How is it my fault when you were the proactive one last night?"

Yang Yan said with a mischievous smile.

Wuyan glared at him fiercely, then turned over and got out of bed.

She was uninhibited, not wearing a stitch but was unbothered in front of Yang Yan as she leisurely walked to the bathroom.

After a simple wash, Wuyan sat at the dining table, ready to enjoy the loving breakfast made by Yang Yan.

"I want to go back to study."

Wuyan suddenly said.

Yang Yan didn't say anything but gently nodded to show his agreement.

Actually, when he first met Wuyan, she seemed to have mentioned that she wanted to go back to university.

On this point, Yang Yan had no objections at all.

It's just that if she went back to college, they would have to be separated.

This was something Yang Yan was not very willing to accept.

"What is it? Are you reluctant?"

Seeing Yang Yan just nodding without saying a word, Wuyan asked with a smile.

"Indeed, a bit reluctant. I remember you're attending university in Kyoto, right? In that case, it wouldn't be easy for us to see each other."

Yang Yan said gently.

"Yes! Capital Financial Management College. If my mom hadn't gotten sick, I should be in my fourth year now."

Wuyan's mood turned a bit low.

Since Yang Yan was reluctant, she had already dismissed the idea at the first moment, prepared to give up this dream.

However, studying was her greatest wish, and she couldn't help but feel a bit unwilling.

She also wanted to be like other peers, finishing college properly, then finding a job, and eventually finding a husband.

But her mother's illness disrupted her life suddenly.

She had been on leave for two years, and didn't even know if her academic status was still active.

"Can you still catch up if you go back to study now?"

Yang Yan asked.

"There should be no problem. Going back would be to start from the second year again. Of course, if I go directly to the fourth year, with a little effort, it shouldn't be a problem, just don't know if there's enough time to earn enough credits. Even during my mom's illness, I didn't give up my studies."

Wuyan was a diligent person, with her family's financial situation being poor, she had largely relied on scholarships and working during breaks to support her studies.

When she applied for leave of absence, her teachers even advised her not to do so, otherwise, it would be too wasteful.

"If you want to go, then go! Capital Financial College, right? I'll help you arrange things there, just focus on your studies. Whether it's second year or fourth year, as you wish."

Yang Yan said gently.

"Are you really okay with me going back to study?"

Wuyan asked with suspicion.

Chapter 226: Xia Bing Is Here with Something Important

She initially thought Yang Yan wouldn't agree.

After all, she was just his mistress.

When she brought up the idea earlier, she had actually wrestled with it for quite a while.

But in the end, she still voiced it out.

Because she couldn't help but want to try.

She didn't expect Yang Yan to agree so easily.

Moreover, it was clear that he was genuinely a bit reluctant.

"Seeing how you look, how could I bear to refuse you? If you want to go, then go! Everyone has the right to pursue their dreams. Besides, you're just going to study, you're not doing anything else."

"If I miss you or you miss me, we can be together. Nowadays, it's so convenient to travel."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

After hearing Yang Yan's words, Wuyan suddenly stood up and gave him a loud kiss on the cheek.

"You're so good!"

"Good now? Or good at night?"

Yang Yan teased with a mischievous smile.

"You're so annoying."

Wuyan said shyly.

Seeing her reaction, Yang Yan almost pounced on her.

Luckily, he had pretty good self-control and managed to suppress that impulse.

Yang Yan's simple nod more or less settled Wuyan's decision to study.

Over in Kyoto, Yang Yan knew quite a few people.

Moreover, the Shuangtian Family is based in Kyoto, rich in history; they could help arrange Wuyan's study there.

As for what to do with Wuyan's mother, Yang Yan also asked.

Wuyan said her mother would stay here to take care of her younger brother, and once her brother finishes this year, they would see which school he gets into and then make further arrangements.

After discussing, the two couldn't help it and did it all over again.

Having Yang Yan's permission, Wuyan was even more active this time.

By the time they left Prosperous Court, it was already noon.

Yang Ran always felt Wuyan was a vixen.

As soon as he was with her, he practically didn't want to do anything else, his mind full of thoughts of that, becoming an animal that thought with his lower body.

Back at Zhou Hanyun's apartment, Yang Yan found there was no one home.

Those who went to work were at work, and those who studied were studying.

It seemed like he was the laziest person in this apartment.

Thinking it over, he took out his phone and called Wang Xue to see if she had time.

He had to get that driver's license after all.

Because he had signed up for a VIP class and paid enough, Yang Yan could basically learn whenever he wanted to.

Of course, Wang Xue had no problem with it, so Yang Yan took a taxi to her repair shop.

Currently, only Shiya Jie, Zhang Qian, and Wang Xue were there.

It was unclear where Wu Min and Zhao Yan had gone.

"You're here! What a rare guest."

Seeing Yang Yan arrive, Wang Xue greeted him warmly.

Now that they were familiar, Wang Xue joked with Yang Yan naturally.

"Yeah, I'm here. Had some things to handle lately, so it got delayed. Where should I start learning today?"

Yang Yan explained with a smile and asked Wang Xue.

Wang Xue couldn't help but roll her eyes at him.

Yang Yan could drive a car, but the exam might be a bit challenging.

However, for people like them, even if the standards were tough, buying a driving license outright wasn't too difficult.

"The car is over there, you can practice reversing first! Once you get the hang of it, you can go for the driving test."

Wang Xue said.

"What, you're not going to supervise me?"

Yang Yan glanced at Wang Xue, smiling as he asked.

"It's not crowded here, I've already adjusted the car, no matter how you mess around, there won't be any issues."

"Plus, that car can only run in that zone, once it's out it'll automatically stall and brake. So, rest assured!"

After Wang Xue finished speaking, she lowered her head again, focused on the car in front of her.

Sometimes she would compare it with a blueprint on the side and whisper with the other two.

Since Wang Xue said so, Yang Yan went to practice on his own.

Indeed, just as she said, this car was specially modified.

Look at the bumpers in the front and rear, as thick as the steel frames on a construction site.

Inside the car, there were quite a few electronic devices.

With a complete vehicle radar, there's full visibility in all directions, and as soon as the car moves, it gives a clear view of the surroundings, providing a 360-degree view without blind spots.

No wonder she said she didn't need to come over.

In this scenario, as long as one didn't intentionally crash, nothing really could go wrong.

Sigh!

Originally, he wanted to have a pleasant afternoon with the beauty, but it seemed like that plan was toast.

After complaining in his heart, Yang Yan started the engine and began practicing reversing repeatedly.

He felt like there was no difference between him and a robot, just following the prompts on the screen, simple but without any challenge.

Yang Yan spent the whole afternoon inside this car that Wang Xue and the others had specially modified.

When he was about to leave, Yang Yan glanced at Wang Xue with a resentful look.

But unfortunately, Wang Xue's mind was entirely focused on the modified car in front of her and she didn't even glance at him.

"Is there such a coach? Sigh! Truly unfortunate to have met this way!"

Yang Yan muttered under his breath and left helplessly.

Back at the apartment, Zhou Hanyu, Cai'er, and Ruyi had all returned.

The three of them lounged on the beanbags, eating snacks with relish, watching the classic animation "Havoc in Heaven."

Seeing Yang Yan return, Zhou Hanyu complained:

"I'm hungry, you should go cook! I've already bought the ingredients, put some effort into it, even if you don't care for the big ones, think about the little ones!"

Ever since Yang Yan lazily cooked a meal last time, Zhou Hanyu had developed a taste for it and was finding ways to get him to cook.

If Yang Yan wasn't around, there was, of course, no way.

But as long as Yang Yan was here, it was basically him doing the cooking.

Thus, Yang Yan was promoted from an amateur driver to a part-time chef.

Yang Yan was quick on his feet, and shortly a table full of delicious food was neatly arranged on the dining table.

Under the lazy encouragement of Zhou Hanyu, Cai'er and Ruyi went to help bring in the bowls and chopsticks, and then the four of them gathered to start dinner.

Just then, the doorbell suddenly rang.

Zhou Hanyu looked at Yang Yan with a strange look in her eyes.

Yang Yan pointed at himself:

"Me again?"

"If not you, then who? You won't ask these two little ones to open the door, would you?"

Zhou Hanyu said matter-of-factly.

Yang Yan really wanted to ask her why she asked the two little ones to fetch the bowls and chopsticks while she sat there first.

The most irritating thing was that this cheeky girl had placed her favorite dishes right in front of her.

However, Yang Yan didn't want to argue with Zhou Hanyu, so with a bitter smile he put down his chopsticks and went to open the door.

Opening the door, Yang Yan couldn't help but brighten up.

A beautiful policewoman was standing outside, it was none other than Xia Bing, whom he hadn't seen in a long time.

She looked at Yang Yan, with a look of wanting to say something but hesitating, as if there was something she wanted to tell him.

"What's up?"

Yang Yan asked.

"Yes!"

Xia Bing nodded her head hastily.

"Come in and talk!"

Saying that, Yang Yan walked inside first.

Chapter 227: A Bizarre Case—Unless It's Not Human

Zhou Hanyu saw that the one who came in was a beautiful police officer and looked suspiciously at Yang Yan:

"What did you do? The police have come all the way here."

"What are you talking about? What do you mean what did I do? I haven't done anything wrong; I also don't know why she's here."

Yang Yan said angrily.

To be honest, he really couldn't handle this quirky little girl, Zhou Hanyu.

"Mr. Yang hasn't done anything wrong, I just need his help with something."

Xia Bing quickly said.

"Did you hear that? She needs my help, I am a law-abiding good citizen. If I wanted to, I'd have won the Good Citizen Award of East Sea City this year."

Yang Yan puffed out his chest and said.

"Alright, stop being cocky, why don't you go and get some utensils for her, so rude!"

Zhou Hanyu said, curling her lips.

"Hmm?"

Yang Yan originally wanted to protest, but with Xia Bing on the side, he thought better of it and went obediently to get the utensils.

"Thank you, no need, I really can't eat. I'll wait for you to finish eating, then I have something to discuss with you."

Xia Bing sat down in the living room after speaking.

"Hey! What does she want with you? You still haven't cleared up that thing with that guy called Wuyan last time, and now a policewoman comes, Handsome Yang, you have quite the luck with women!"

Zhou Hanyu said with a fake smile.

At least the little girl knew to lower her voice a bit.

"How should I know what she wants with me? I haven't even met her that many times, okay? I don't even know how she found out I was here."

Yang Yan gave Zhou Hanyu a look and changed the topic.

"Alright, hurry up and eat, she's waiting in the living room! It's very impolite to make someone wait like this. If I were you, with a beautiful police officer waiting by the side, why would I still eat?"

After speaking, Zhou Hanyu, along with Cai'Er and Ruyi, devoured their food voraciously.

Nine Treasures lay on the ground pitifully, watching the three fighting over food.

In the end, Cai'Er didn't forget about it and gave it several pieces of ribs.

Nine Treasures whimpered gratefully, devoured them quickly.

Yang Yan looked at the table full of dishes, which in an instant became leftovers, and really didn't know what to say.

Ruyi and Cai'Er didn't show how much they could eat when snacking, but once it was Yang Yan's cooking, they ate like two little piggies, quickly, and a lot.

Coupled with Nine Treasures, their power was really something!

As for Zhou Hanyu, she could basically be ignored.

This was why Zhou Hanyu always wanted Yang Yan to do the cooking.

He casually grabbed a plate, poured the leftover sauce over his rice, mixed it, and finished it in a few bites, then headed to the living room to meet Xia Bing, without bothering to clean up.

As for the cleaning, he had no intention of letting Zhou Hanyu off the hook.

Although he knew, even if he pushed it onto her, Cai'Er and Ruyi would likely be roped in to do the hard work.

"So, what's the matter? How did you know I lived here?"

Yang Yan poured a cup of water for Xia Bing, and sat down on the sofa opposite her.

"This time, it's a special situation. I know Mr. Yang is not an ordinary person. These days I encountered a particularly strange case and I want to ask for your help."

Xia Bing said, somewhat apprehensively, afraid that he would refuse.

"A strange case? I think you've got the wrong person. I'm just an ordinary person, I can't help you."

Yang Yan refused.

Things were already chaotic enough lately, he really didn't have the energy to handle more.

Besides, if Xia Bing couldn't handle it, there would surely be someone to get involved.

There were quite a few members of the Eight Divisions recently around here. If it was truly a tricky problem, they wouldn't sit idly by.

"Mr. Yang, you must be joking, how can an ordinary person wipe out the entire Black Tiger Gang, hundreds of people, and even their Gang Leader who escaped out of town has mysteriously disappeared. I think he's probably disappeared from this world, don't you think?"

Xia Bing revealed a slight bitter smile, speaking with some embarrassment.

"What? Are you here to arrest me?"

Yang Yan looked at Xia Bing with unfriendly eyes, asking calmly.

"Mr. Yang, don't misunderstand, the authorities have already swept this matter under the rug. I came not for that, but because I've encountered such a bizarre case these past few days that I have no choice but to seek your help."

Xia Bing quickly said.

"Alright! Let's hear what the case is about, and I'll decide if I can help you."

Yang Yan thought for a moment, deciding to listen first.

Generally speaking, Xia Bing was quite reliable; she was obviously stuck on something crucial, which is why she came to him for help.

Perhaps he wouldn't have to act personally but could inform the Eight Divisions to help out.

The waters in East Sea are getting muddier, surely some people are trying to fish in troubled waters; having the Eight Divisions clean up a bit would be in order.

Hearing Yang Yan didn't directly refuse, Xia Bing quickly said:

"It's like this, in Sunshine District, there was a household, three days ago, inexplicably murdered in their home. A family of four, none spared, the youngest only four years old."

Yang Yan, knowing there was more to come, smiled and asked:

"Catching the killer is your task as a detective, right? What do you need me for? I can't help you."

Sure enough, Xia Bing immediately added:

"The main thing is the method of killing! All four were skinned alive. The forensic doctor speculates they... they were at least two hours dead after being skinned."

Xia Bing said, visibly shaken.

She picked up the cup of water in front of her and drank it in one gulp to calm down.

"Skinned alive? Died two hours later? How is that possible!"

Zhou Hanyu, who had somehow appeared there, asked in surprise.

Xia Bing, clearly hesitating, explained:

"Yes! That's what the forensic doctor said. I actually don't believe it myself. How could someone be skinned all over and die two hours later!"

"And... Sunshine District is fully inhabited. If they were skinned for two hours before dying, there would definitely be screams. How could no one hear?"

"Exactly!"

Zhou Hanyu agreed, nodding.

"Unless... the perpetrator isn't human."

As she said this, Xia Bing shivered, reached subconsciously for the cup, only to find it empty.

Yang Yan glanced at Zhou Hanyu, who smiled gently and immediately poured a cup of hot water for Xia Bing.

After thanking, Xia Bing drank over half in one go.

As a detective, she didn't usually believe in such things, but the current situation left her no choice.

Chapter 228: The Eerie Case Continues

"Why did you think of coming to find me?"

Yang Yan asked curiously.

Zhou Hanyu also looked at Xia Bing with a curious expression.

She knew Yang Yan was special, but she thought he would disguise himself well. How did this policewoman know?

"A friend recommended it. He said if I find you, the case could be solved."

Xia Bing said, hesitating as if reluctant to disclose this friend's identity.

"Friend? Who? Tell me, is it someone I know?"

Yang Yan asked with a smile.

"His name is Cui Shuangtian."

Xia Bing bit her lip and finally uttered a name softly.

It's this guy...

What a surprise!

Yang Yan glanced at Xia Bing and asked suspiciously:

"How do you know him?"

"He's my cousin. Since childhood, he was a bit different but always treated me well. Later, he disappeared. I asked my uncle, but they didn't know either, until a few days ago when I saw him here."

Xia Bing explained.

"Damn! Shuangtian that guy has a cousin like you? How come he never mentioned it?"

Yang Yan looked at Xia Bing and couldn't help but shout.

"Honestly, I barely recognized him. That day, he was the one who called me first."

Xia Bing laughed awkwardly.

"What else did he say?"

Yang Yan asked again.

"He told me to tell you that he and someone named Jing Hong are searching for some clues along the Yangtze River, and now he's no longer in East Sea."

"I don't know how he figured out I had issues, but he said if there was something I couldn't solve myself or something baffling, I should come to find you."

"As for your address, I found it myself. I'm a police officer, after all, that's a perk we have."

Xia Bing explained the whole story, and whether Yang Yan helps or not, she's just doing her best and leaving it to fate.

If it weren't for investigating Yang Yan due to the Black Tiger Gang incident, even if Shuangtian mentioned it, she wouldn't have come to find Yang Yan for this matter.

The Black Tiger Gang incident is full of uncertainties, but as the investigation deepened, she found Yang Yan increasingly intriguing.

"Let's go!"

Yang Yan grabbed a coat and said.

"Where to?"

Xia Bing hadn't reacted yet, frowned and asked.

"Of course to investigate the matter! Where else? There's no time to lose, let's go quickly! The sooner we go, the sooner we return; I have many things to handle and can't afford delays."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

"Oh! So you agree?"

Xia Bing said with surprise.

"That guy told you to find me, and you're his cousin. How can I not help you if you're in trouble? If he finds out later, he'll definitely babble on."

Yang Yan said, pouting.

"Well, okay! Thank you! Thank you very much!"

Xia Bing hurriedly got up to follow Yang Yan out.

"Hey! Be careful."

Zhou Hanyu shouted loudly from behind.

"Don't worry! There won't be any problem."

After leaving, Yang Yan directly got into the police car parked at the door.

He recognized the car; Wang Xue and the others had modified it for Xia Bing.

Apparently, it was to help Xia Bing better catch those in the Biker Gang.

Anyhow, Yang Yan somewhat couldn't understand why a perfectly good car was modified like this; it's not a racing car.

"Where are we headed now? Are we going to that Sunshine Garden community?"

Yang Yan asked Xia Bing in the driver's seat.

"No, that place is no longer of any investigational value now. We're going to Century Port."

Xia Bing started the engine as she spoke.

"What are we doing there?"

Yang Yan asked puzzledly.

"Sunshine Garden incident was only just the beginning; actually, three similar incidents have already occurred in the past few days. However, to prevent panic, we've just kept the news under wraps."

Xia Bing said with a frown.

"You mean three families have already fallen victim?"

Yang Yan's eyes narrowed, then continued:

"Are there any common traits among these three families? Have you investigated where they visited during this time?"

Before Xia Bing could answer, her phone suddenly rang in her pocket.

After answering the call, she turned to Yang Yan with a bitter smile:

"Now it's the fourth; a family just had an incident at Prosperous Court."

Upon hearing about Prosperous Court, Yang Yan hurriedly called Wuyan.

He wasn't worried about her being in any danger; she had a Protective Talisman he gave her, which he bought at Old Mountain Demon's shop during his visit to Spring City and later processed before giving it to Wuyan.

With that, even Jiutun Tongzi coming wouldn't be an issue; the Protective Talisman could persist until Yang Yan arrived.

Wuyan told him she wasn't at Prosperous Court then but was with her mother in the old city.

Yang Yan sighed quietly with relief, telling her not to return to Prosperous Court for the time being.

Out of concern that she might get scared, Yang Yan didn't explain the reason, just advised her to spend good time with her mother.

Sensible Wuyan sensed something was off but refrained from asking further, obediently agreeing.

Xia Bing drove expertly, speeding her way to Prosperous Court in no time.

The incident happened at Building Four.

When Yang Yan and Xia Bing arrived at the scene, it had already been cordoned off.

Several police officers were taking statements from the persons who discovered the bodies, and many officers inside were investigating, while the forensic team was busy conducting examinations.

"Captain Xia, you're here."

A policeman saw Xia Bing arrive and hurried over to greet her.

"What's the situation here?"

Xia Bing quickly asked.

The policeman glanced at Yang Yan, seeming hesitant.

He was unsure about the relationship between Yang Yan and Xia Bing and wasn't sure how much to say.

"He's Yang Yan, my consultant. He's been brought in primarily to help us investigate this matter. Say whatever you have directly; the more detailed the better. Let Mr. Yang understand the situation. I've briefed him on the previous incidents."

Xia Bing said succinctly.

"Hello, Mr. Yang. The situation is as follows..."

The policeman, realizing Yang Yan was specially invited by Xia Bing to handle the case, immediately divulged all the investigation findings.

As with the previous three events, there were no signs of forced entry on the doors or windows. All four incidents involved families of four, with two children and two adults each, and residents nearby didn't hear any noise during the incidents.

The current incident is still under forensic examination, but the previous three involved victims who were skinned alive and died at least two hours later.

No anomalies were found on surveillance cameras, and patrols nearby have reported nothing unusual.

"Who was the first to discover the situation here?"

Yang Yan asked.

"Here, it was the patrolling security guard; at Sunshine Garden, it was the cleaning staff; at Century Port, it was the next-door neighbor."

The policeman quickly replied.

While they were discussing and Yang Yan was catching up, the coroner emerged.

Chapter 229: You Have to Take Off Your Pants Too

The coroner in the white coat took off his mask and said to the male officer:

"Liu Jun, this case is the same as the previous ones, it's definitely a serial crime. You all should investigate quickly! This is really horrifying, the murderer is simply a pervert."

The coroner seemed to be very familiar with the male officer.

Soon, his gaze fell on Xia Bing, and he quickly said:

"Oh! Captain Xia is also here. Sorry, I was too shocked just now and didn't notice you all."

"Is it exactly the same as the previous times?"

Xia Bing asked.

"Yes, the method is exactly the same. It's also a case of skinning alive, and the time of death wouldn't exceed two hours."

The coroner nodded heavily and said with great certainty.

"How do you know that the victim died two hours after being skinned alive?"

Yang Yan asked curiously.

"Who is this?"

The coroner looked at Yang Yan and asked with some suspicion.

"He is the expert Mr. Yang Yan that Captain Xia brought in, specifically to investigate this incident."

Liu Jun quickly explained.

"Oh! Mr. Yang, hello. It's like this, once the skin is peeled off, it's already dead, completely different from being alive. We determine this through bloodstains and other related features."

The coroner had no doubts about Yang Yan's identity and immediately explained.

"I see... Forget it, let's go in and take a look first!"

After speaking, Yang Yan went ahead without caring about the coroner's reaction.

The scene had already been cordoned off by the police, and when Yang Yan approached, several officers came forward to stop him, asking why he was there.

Yang Yan pointed to Xia Bing and Liu Jun behind him and said:

"They invited me."

Several officers glanced at Xia Bing and Liu Jun behind him, apparently waiting for them to confirm.

Liu Jun hurried over and said:

"Let Mr. Yang in, he is an expert here to help us."

Yang Yan stepped into the room, immediately overwhelmed by a strong smell of blood.

No wonder Xia Bing said she couldn't eat when I asked her to dinner earlier.

Anyone living in Prosperous Court must be wealthy.

At this moment, Xia Bing's chief was communicating with the property management company.

Because the residents here often have very special identities, it's quite difficult for the police to keep the news sealed.

Also because the people living here often have high social status, if the news were to spread, the public panic would be terrifying.

The property company also certainly doesn't want the situation to spread.

Simply put, if the matter becomes widely known, the property management would face serious consequences.

So both parties agreed to keep the impact of this incident to a minimum.

Once inside the room, Yang Yan quickly searched around for clues.

There was blood everywhere in the room, on the ground, on the walls, creating an especially eerie and horrifying atmosphere.

From the moment Yang Yan stepped into the room, he knew this wasn't something Xia Bing and the others could solve.

Because this wasn't done by humans.

Yang Yan reached out and touched the bloodstains on the wall that hadn't completely dried, then rubbed it with his fingers.

The other officers who were busy collecting evidence saw Yang Yan, not wearing any protective clothing, come in and touch things at random, and hurriedly wanted to stop him, but Liu Jun blocked them.

"An expert invited by Captain Xia, continue with your work, don't mind him."

Seeing Liu Jun saying this, although somewhat suspicious, they continued with their tasks.

"Where is the body?"

Yang Yan asked Liu Jun.

"In the bedroom."

Liu Jun responded immediately.

Yang Yan walked into the bedroom, where the smell of blood was even stronger than outside.

Four bodies lay on the ground.

As they mentioned, all four had been skinned.

Yang Yan crouched down for a closer look, two adults, two children.

No matter the size, it was one male and one female.

Yang Yan lifted the head of one corpse with his hand, from his eyes it was clear he was in extreme pain and fear when he died.

Yang Yan sighed lightly, feeling a bit angry himself.

This was clearly the work of the Hidden World, already a target of scorn there, let alone using this method against ordinary people.

Especially since this is on Huaxia's soil, something Yang Yan absolutely won't tolerate.

No matter who it is, he has to find them and let them face justice, give the deceased a fair resolution.

"Where is their skin?"

Yang Yan asked in a deep voice.

Everyone had a look of fear on their faces when they heard Yang Yan's words, as if recalling something terrifying.

"It's in here, you'd better mentally prepare yourself before you look."

Liu Jun said with a bitter smile.

After speaking, he reached out to open the wardrobe.

Yang Yan noticed his fingers were trembling slightly, evidently due to fear.

The moment the wardrobe opened, even Yang Yan, who had seen so much carnage, was a little shocked.

Inside the wardrobe, four human skins were neatly hanging like clothes.

The killing intent in Yang Yan's heart could no longer be contained.

This method could no longer be described as perverted.

The perpetrator is a demon, a monster!

With Yang Yan's outburst of killing intent, the already grim room became even more chilling.

Many couldn't endure it and quickly left.

"Close the door, then turn off the light."

Yang Yan said to Liu Jun.

"What is it?"

Liu Jun asked, puzzled.

"Those born in the year of the Dragon, Tiger, and Rooster, go out."

Yang Yan didn't directly answer Liu Jun, but continued to speak coldly.

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Liu Jun wanted to ask more, but Xia Bing gestured for him to comply.

Soon, those born in the years mentioned by Yang Yan all went out.

Liu Jun walked in and looked at Yang Yan, saying:

"Everyone has left, should we close the door and turn off the light now?"

"Take off your uniforms, don't bring handcuffs inside, and leave anything with the national emblem outside too."

Yang Yan added another instruction.

Liu Jun became even more perplexed.

He already had difficulty understanding why those born in three particular zodiac signs needed to leave.

After all, this is an investigation, not a burial.

What on earth is he up to?

The so-called expert, is he actually some kind of charlatan...

Though these cases are indeed baffling, linking them to superstitious practices made Liu Jun quite skeptical.

Xia Bing couldn't help glancing at Yang Yan, but seeing his extremely serious expression, she gritted her teeth and started taking off her uniform.

It was already the depths of winter, and though indoors, it was still quite cold.

If not for the environment, watching Xia Bing take off her uniform would have surely made some drool.

Seeing Xia Bing undressing, Liu Jun hurriedly followed suit.

As everyone passed out their handcuffs, national emblems, and other items, the room seemed to grow eerier.

Yang Yan glanced at them, then said:

"You also need to take off your matching pants."

Chapter 230: Summoning

Xia Bing heard Yang Yan's words and couldn't help but furrow her brows.

The clothes weren't an issue, but if she had to take off her pants, it would truly embarrass her.

Even though she was still wearing long underwear underneath, what woman would want to disrobe in front of so many men?

"Do I really have to take them off?"

Xia Bing looked at Yang Yan, gritting her teeth as she asked.

"Yes! If you want to learn the truth, you must take them off."

Yang Yan wasn't in the mood to admire Xia Bing's graceful figure; he only wanted to find the mastermind behind this and use their soul to light the Sky Lantern.

Xia Bing hesitated just a bit before starting to take her pants off.

The other police officers were astonished, watching Xia Bing.

If it were any other time, they might have thought it was a stroke of luck, but now no one was in the mood.

"Brother Liu, do we need to take them off too?"

A young officer beside Liu Jun asked.

Liu Jun was also taken aback, watching Xia Bing removing her pants, then gritted his teeth and said:

"Take them off! Don't you want to know who's behind this? Besides, if Captain Xia is doing it, what are you afraid of?"

Then, a group of men started taking off their pants.

Some, due to their physique, weren't afraid of the cold, so they only wore one layer of pants.

To avoid awkwardness, they directly stepped out, standing at the door to help hand over items to those inside who were undressing.

Soon enough, everyone had taken off their uniforms and whatnot.

"What are you going to do, can you start now?"

Xia Bing asked impatiently, her delicate body trembling slightly from the cold.

"Close the door and turn off the lights! What happens next may challenge your perceptions, but please don't speak carelessly, as the consequences could be severe."

Yang Yan said solemnly.

After hearing Yang Yan's words, everyone present swallowed hard.

They sensed that this young man before them might really be some kind of shaman.

However, if they could witness something, everyone was still very eager.

As Liu Jun closed the door and turned off the lights, Yang Yan drew the curtains.

The room was pitch black.

While everyone's hearts were pounding, Yang Yan began murmuring something.

Then, something magical happened.

Though the lights weren't on and the curtains were drawn, the room gradually began to brighten.

As Yang Yan's voice grew louder, the light in the room grew brighter.

In an instant, it was as if everyone stopped breathing, only the pounding heartbeat resonated with Yang Yan's chanting.

At last, Yang Yan suddenly shouted:

"If not now, then when?"

As soon as the words fell, a gust of Yin Wind swept through the room, and suddenly there were two more people.

Or, more accurately, two ghosts!

And no matter their look or attire, everyone was very familiar, almost able to call out their names instantly—

Black and White Impermanence!

"Who is so bold? How dare you force open the ghost gate to summon us two up here?"

The Black Impermanence, with the hat that read "Peace under Heaven," glared and coldly demanded.

"I apologize for troubling you two ghost messengers, but I have encountered a problem here and am busy resolving it, so I had no choice but to invite you two to the world of the living."

Yang Yan said, bowing slightly to the Black and White Impermanence.

As Black and White Impermanence appeared, the officers in the room were already stunned.

They had never imagined that Black and White Impermanence truly existed in the world.

Fortunately, they were all seasoned detectives, accustomed to walking the edge of life and death, and familiar with corpses and such, so their courage had been honed.

Moreover, Yang Yan, with his unfathomable abilities, helped them stay calm to some degree.

Now, there was more excitement than fear.

To witness Black and White Impermanence as living people was, after all, a kind of blessing!

After hearing Yang Yan, Black and White Impermanence quickly exchanged glances, then began conversing in a language no one could understand.

"There's no need to mutter, I am Moonlight. Due to some reasons, I'm not complete right now, so I may seem a bit strange."

Yang Yan, understanding their language, straightforwardly revealed his identity.

"Moonlight? Has a new era arrived?"

White Impermanence frowned and said.

White Impermanence's real name is Xie Bi'an, attributed with Yang, wearing a hat that says "See Wealth." He's also known in folklore as the Side Wealth God.

It's said that if you see him and aren't dead yet, you'll become wealthy.

But how hard is it not to die after meeting White Impermanence?

Not to mention anything else, just White Impermanence's long tongue is enough to terrify anyone.

But if you look at these police officers, not only aren't they afraid, but they're intriguingly examining him.

This is the Side Wealth God, after all!

Now they don't have to worry about having their souls captured, who wouldn't be pleased?

"Whether a new era is coming or not, I don't know, but I am indeed the current Moonlight."

Yang Yan said in a deep voice.

"Why have you summoned us here? Even if you are Moonlight, you cannot casually break the barrier between worlds; you must understand this violates the Heavenly Dao."

It was Black Impermanence speaking.

Black Impermanence's name is Fan Wujiu, attributed with Yin, with a fierce appearance.

Notably, he shows no mercy to those violating laws or bearing guilt, hence the alias Fan Wushè.

And now, Yang Yan had indeed violated the Heavenly Dao, so a warm welcome wasn't expected.

"Let's leave those matters for later. I just want to know, are you two the ones who took away the souls here?"

Yang Yan, seeing the two ghost gods asking questions as soon as they appeared, was getting impatient.

Initially, Black and White Impermanence hadn't noticed the situation here after being forcibly summoned up, but after Yang Yan's inquiry, they surveyed their surroundings.

Soon, both showed expressions of shock.

"Is this... skinning?"

White Impermanence exclaimed in surprise.

"Yes! I only know it's a form of sacrifice, but I'm not clear on its exact purpose, so I had to ask you to come and take a look."

"Do you have any insight on this place, can you provide some leads? Also, where have their souls gone? There are things I wish to ask them."

Yang Yan asked earnestly.

"How could this happen? Who would be so audacious to commit such a cruel act within Huaxia?"

Black Impermanence said in shock.

Yang Yan, seeing that neither of them directly answered his questions, felt his anger rising steadily.

I called you here to get clarifications about this place, not to let you question everything.

If I knew who did it, would I need to call you here?

At this point, the temperature in the room was getting increasingly colder, and not just the police officers but even Black and White Impermanence felt the chill.

They turned to look at Yang Yan, whose eyes had changed to a moon-like silvery white.

Moreover, Yang Yan was emitting a kind of power that made even them feel apprehensive.

"I say, have you two not communicated with the living for so long that you've even forgotten how to interact with people?"

When Yang Yan spoke again, every word seemed to bring an icy sharpness.