

Powerful 251

Chapter 251: Did the Human Skins Come Alive?

"Hey! Something's off here, too off. Be careful, be very careful."

At this moment, Black Tortoise, who had been silent all along, suddenly warned Yang Yan through transmission.

"I know. But do you know where this place is connected to by that guy? I feel the blood smell in the air is somewhat strange!"

Yang Yan asked calmly.

"Who are you talking to? What's wrong here? Is there something amiss?"

Xia Bing gently furrowed her brows.

Yang Yan turned his head to glance at Xia Bing, only to see that the emblem on Xia Bing's police cap had begun to rust.

As for the emblem on her uniform, it was so rusty it was about to fall off.

However, Xia Bing didn't notice any of these changes at all.

"Is there something wrong with me?"

Noticing Yang Yan's gaze, Xia Bing couldn't help but ask suspiciously.

But soon her eyes fell on her police emblem.

Seeing the emblem so rusted it was about to fall off, Xia Bing froze directly.

She was stunned for a full five seconds before mechanically lifting her head and stammering:

"How... how could this happen?"

"Corroded by the aura here, it's only like this because Huaxia is currently prosperous. In a less fortunate country, this emblem would have been completely corroded."

"But it doesn't matter, it will return to normal once we're out, this happens because the area is isolated by the other party."

Speaking of which, Yang Yan frowned and thought for a while before continuing:

"The upcoming events may be very bloody, make sure you're psychologically prepared."

Hearing Yang Yan speak like this, Xia Bing instinctively swallowed hard and nodded heavily.

"Let's go!"

Coming here, Yang Yan could locate the crime scene without Xia Bing's direction.

The intense blood smell in the air couldn't be hidden.

Just follow the scent.

Rooms in Sunshine Garden are numbered, and this family's door number is 401.

Yang Yan glanced at the door number and couldn't help but smile wryly.

This family is truly unafraid!

"Ready? We're going in."

Yang Yan quietly reminded the somewhat trembling Xia Bing.

"Mm!"

Xia Bing was very tense now, her hand holding the gun was already wet with sweat.

Yang Yan smiled, then directly kicked the door.

Yang Yan's kick was so powerful that the door, covered in seals, was kicked open.

The room maintained the state it was in at the time of the crime, with blood stains on the walls and floor.

When Yang Yan and Xia Bing's gaze fell on the living room, a hissing sound suddenly came from the bedroom.

Hearing the eerie noise, Xia Bing's nerves tightened instantly.

She glanced at Yang Yan with a pale face.

Yang Yan squinted and then headed towards the bedroom first.

"What's inside?"

Xia Bing followed closely behind, trembling as she spoke.

Yang Yan didn't answer Xia Bing. The bedroom was filled with heavy Yin Qi.

Though he didn't know what was inside, it certainly wasn't human.

Yang Yan slowly approached the doorway, then reached out to open the door.

The lights in the room were off, and the visibility was low, but it was still possible to see something squatting and eating something.

The hissing sound was coming from this thing.

Xia Bing nervously pointed her gun at the shadow in front.

Yang Yan didn't stop her; he slowly reached for the light switch.

As soon as the light flashed on, Xia Bing let out a scream.

In front weren't just things, but the human skins of the victims.

Due to unclear vision before, only one was seen, now there were four.

They were squatting there, eating something unknown.

Unable to bear it, Xia Bing screamed, and fired three shots following the screech.

The skins fell as the shots reverberated.

Seeing this, Yang Yan directly went to Xia Bing and pulled her, saying:

"Quick, let's go. Guns are useless against them."

The two hurriedly exited the room.

On their way out, Yang Yan didn't forget to slam the door shut.

Outside, Xia Bing was gasping heavily.

This scene was indeed too stimulating for her.

Even though she had previously witnessed supernatural phenomena, she was still frightened by what just happened.

"Why are the skins here, the coroner should've taken them back!"

Xia Bing quickly regained her senses and muttered, seemingly to herself.

"I might know what the killer is this time. If I'm right, they should be on the rooftop."

Yang Yan spoke coldly.

"What is it?"

Xia Bing looked curiously at Yang Yan.

"It should be a person's Evil Thought Body, but we need to go up to confirm. If it really is their Evil Thought Body, then many things make sense."

Yang Yan said coldly.

"What is an Evil Thought Body? Also, what about here when we go up? Will the things inside come out?"

Xia Bing asked worriedly.

The thought of the skins reviving made her feel cold inside.

"These things can't come out, the question is whether the others have arrived."

Yang Yan smiled bitterly.

"Others?"

Xia Bing paused, then immediately understood.

"You mean there are more skins?"

Yang Yan nodded gently:

"Mm! Seems like it. These creatures lingered here because this was their death place."

"But the others might be different. Anyway, stay as cautious as possible!"

Yang Yan finished speaking and pushed open the entryway to leave.

"Where are we going now?"

Xia Bing followed closely behind Yang Yan.

"To the rooftop, of course. There's no point doing anything else without dealing with the guy up there."

Yang Yan spoke coldly.

"Will what we're doing disturb the residents here? More importantly, will they be collateral damage?"

Xia Bing voiced her concerns.

Such a situation is hard for ordinary people to handle, even for Xia Bing who was mentally prepared.

Critical is the potential harm to others as a result of this incident.

"Don't worry, the beads placed by those officers restrict humans. As long as they are in this area, they won't wake up no matter what. You're an exception."

Yang Yan laughed as he spoke.

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Xia Bing felt relieved.

Looking at the dark stairwell corridor, Xia Bing's heart filled with anxiety once more.

She now needed to worry about herself.

"Why are the stair lights all broken here; does the management not care at all?"

Xia Bing complained.

Chapter 252: Your Majesty?

"You're mistaken about them."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

"The corridor lights are out because that thing doesn't want us to go up, not because the lights are broken."

"But don't worry, I have a good idea of what's upstairs. Although it's troublesome, it's not the worst-case scenario."

"At least, for me, that thing upstairs is quite easy to deal with. You should feel lucky."

Ever since he figured out what the monster upstairs was, he was much more at ease.

He had thought of the worst-case scenarios when he came, but in comparison, the monster he had to face was relatively easier to handle.

The two of them headed towards the rooftop, and as they reached the twenty-something floor, the corridor lights above were actually on.

Although they were flickering, at least they were on.

"Oh! The lights are actually on, it seems even it is starting to get scared!"

Yang Yan said nonchalantly, looking at the flickering lights.

"I'd rather it be off."

Xia Bing muttered softly.

Although the lights were on, the flickering made the atmosphere even more terrifying.

Moreover, apart from their footsteps and Xia Bing's own heartbeat and breathing, the silence was eerily frightening.

The dim corridor, flickering streetlights...

It all looked like a scene from a horror movie.

"Let's go, don't be afraid, I've got this."

Yang Yan said with a smile, then grabbed Xia Bing's arm.

With that grasp, Xia Bing froze slightly, and the fear in her heart seemed to be dispelled considerably.

The two continued to hurry upward.

As time passed, they were getting close to the rooftop.

Yang Yan glanced at the stairway marker and finally showed a hint of a smile.

"The 33rd floor, the main target is on the rooftop. Why don't you wait here? I'll go alone. Don't worry, once I go up, it won't have the chance to come after you."

Xia Bing didn't even think and immediately refused:

"No! I want to go up with you, no matter what's up there, at least I'll have you by my side."

"If you leave me here alone, I'll probably go crazy before anything even shows up."

She said while clinging pitifully to Yang Yan's arm.

Yang Yan smiled helplessly:

"Alright, then let's go."

So, the two held hands and continued upward.

There were only thirty-three floors in Sunshine Garden, but since the entity was on the rooftop, it was like thirty-four floors to Yang Yan and Xia Bing.

They soon reached an iron door, and Yang Yan turned to look at Xia Bing and said:

"Ready?"

Xia Bing nodded vigorously.

Then, Yang Yan placed his right hand on the iron door, and with a loud clang, the door opened.

Yang Yan quickly stepped out, followed closely by Xia Bing.

The rooftop of Sunshine Garden wasn't very large, but because there were beams linking the adjoining buildings, it wasn't small either.

At this moment, in front of Yang Yan and Xia Bing, more than a dozen objects were swaying, looking like toddlers learning to walk.

"How... can there be so many?"

Xia Bing said, eyes wide, stammering.

"Very normal! This thing isn't from East Sea City, who knows what it did outside. Just having this few is already good. I initially thought the whole rooftop would be full of these things!"

Yang Yan chuckled lightly.

"Each one is a human life! What kind of thing did this, so cruel."

Xia Bing said coldly.

At this moment, anger had overcome fear, and the righteous policewoman in Xia Bing resurged.

"Look! The culprit you're after is over there!"

Yang Yan, sensing Xia Bing's change, chuckled and pointed to the top of the signal tower on the rooftop.

Xia Bing looked in the direction Yang Yan pointed, and indeed, there was a black silhouette there.

Because it was dark and the distance was considerable, they couldn't see what it looked like.

It stood there like a three-dimensional shadow, eerily standing out.

Xia Bing raised her eyebrows, lifted her hands, and aimed her gun at the figure.

Although she knew her gun might not have any effect, her long years as a police officer made her instinctively take this action.

And as Xia Bing aimed her gun, it seemed to sense it immediately and was furious.

Hidden in the shadow, it also raised its hand, gesturing lightly towards Xia Bing.

Immediately, the skin puppets around began to turn around and slowly move towards Xia Bing.

Seeing this terrifying scene, Xia Bing's face changed dramatically and she wanted to shoot.

But just as her finger pressed the trigger, Yang Yan stopped her.

Standing in front of Xia Bing, with his back to her, Yang Yan said:

"Don't get excited, and don't shoot. I told you when we were coming up, follow my lead. Captain Xia, don't go back on your word!"

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Xia Bing paused, then bit her lip and obediently put the gun away.

Then, she glanced at the shadow standing high and the skin puppets approaching them, instinctively stepping back half a step.

Just then, Yang Yan suddenly spoke loudly:

"I wonder what Your Majesty's purpose is in coming to East Sea City? Do you know that this is no longer your empire? Aren't you afraid of the Heavenly Dao's punishment for killing so many here?"

Your Majesty?

Did I hear that right?

Xia Bing looked at Yang Yan in confusion.

With Yang Yan's words, the shadow visibly trembled.

The surrounding skin puppets also abruptly stopped, no longer moving towards them.

"Does the Emperor need to explain to you where to kill? And what of the Heavenly Dao? Is the Emperor afraid?"

The shadow spoke, its voice majestic, echoing like thunder in the air.

"If it were back then, there would be no talk of it, no one would dare. But now, times have changed, doesn't Your Majesty think it's no longer your empire?"

Yang Yan said with a calm smile.

"Who are you? How do you know who I am?"

The shadow asked, puzzled.

"At first, I didn't know it was Your Majesty who arrived, but after some small investigations, I had some guesses."

"Even then, it was not enough to determine it was Your Majesty, only until I saw you with my own eyes could it be confirmed."

Yang Yan said lightly.

"What are you doing? Stalling for time?"

The shadow said coldly.

"Is it that obvious?"

Yang Yan responded disappointedly.

"What is that?"

The shadow asked in a deep voice, pointing at the thing in Yang Yan's hand.

Chapter 253: Why Pretend to Be a Big Shot?

"Just a little trinket, it'll take a bit of time to prepare, hope Your Majesty will like it."

Yang Yan's smile grew even brighter.

As soon as he finished speaking, Yang Yan tossed what he was holding into the center of the skin.

Poof!

With a sound like a leaking tire, the item Yang Yan threw burst open all at once.

It was a hexagonal sphere, and at this moment, it was slowly shattering.

As it shattered, it emitted a faint glow.

"Has Your Majesty ever heard of the Five-Colored Divine Light?"

Yang Yan said with a smile.

"Five-Colored Divine Light? What is that?"

The shadow asked, puzzled.

"How should I put this?"

Yang Yan chuckled lightly before explaining:

"It's the life-bound divine technique of a great peacock, with the power to absorb anything. Because Your Majesty's Corpse Skin People are no longer within the Three Realms and Five Elements, I didn't have too many options."

"However, as luck would have it, I happen to have this little trinket that someone lost to me in a bet, and it couldn't be more fitting to deal with your Corpse Skin People."

The shadow's voice trembled noticeably as it said:

"Can something deal with my Corpse Skin People? Impossible!"

Others may not know the use of these skins, but as their master, how could it not be clear?

The Corpse Skin People refined through blood sacrifices do not belong to the Three Realms nor the Five Elements, making them difficult to conquer.

However, the refining process was inevitably somewhat troublesome.

Otherwise, it would be easy to reclaim its territory and restore its empire.

"Your Majesty doesn't believe it? It's okay, you'll find out soon enough."

Before Yang Yan finished speaking, the sphere had already completely shattered.

At the same time, an earthen yellow light emanated from it.

As this light touched the Corpse Skin People, they were suddenly engulfed in flames and then transformed into a stream of light that disappeared into the sphere.

"It's true! How is that possible?"

The shadow exclaimed in shock.

"See, I told you that Your Majesty would soon know. I didn't deceive you!"

Yang Yan said while picking up the hexagonal sphere that had returned to its original form with a smile.

"How could it be? That person said that not even those with Great Power could subdue the Corpse Skin People."

The shadow had yet to accept the reality before him as it muttered to itself.

"That person clearly deceived you. In this world, everything has its nemesis; nothing is invincible! Just because you've stepped beyond the Three Realms and aren't bound by the Six Paths, doesn't mean anything can escape the vast net of heaven, nothing is absolute."

Yang Yan said softly.

"But he said that these Corpse Skin People were invincible at least within the territory of Huaxia! How dare he deceive me."

The shadow became more agitated as it spoke, and the space surrounding it began to distort slightly, becoming unstable.

"Oh dear! I was hoping for a peaceful resolution, but that seems impossible now."

Yang Yan looked at the shadow, then glanced at Xia Bing, who was dumbfounded at the side and grimaced.

As she heard this, Xia Bing snapped back to reality, frowned, and asked:

"So, what are we waiting for? Strike first, act quickly!"

"Alright, no need to rush, haste makes waste. Now there's something you can help me with, it might be a bit dangerous, so make sure you think it through."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

Xia Bing quickly glanced at the space that seemed to be on the verge of collapse, impatiently urging:

"What is it? Just say it already!"

"You saw how this thing absorbed those Corpse Skin People, right?"

Yang Yan pointed at the hexagonal sphere in his hand.

"Yes!"

Xia Bing nodded heavily.

She was astounded by the incredible power of the artifact just now.

"I need you to take this downstairs and first collect those guys on the fourteenth floor, then go downstairs to help others."

Yang Yan said earnestly.

"Just tell me how to do it!"

Xia Bing had no hesitation at all; she was worried about running out of time.

Yang Yan was leisurely pointing at a button on the sphere:

"Open it from here, then point it at someone. However, since it's in your hands, after collecting one, you need to close it before opening it again, understand?"

"Yes, I understand. Is there anything else I should be careful of?"

Xia Bing carefully examined the magical hexagonal sphere in Yang Yan's hand and couldn't help but ask.

"Just be careful not to aim it at people, otherwise I won't be able to save you. Also, please be very careful, I'm really worried about you. I'm sure Frost Heaven will give me trouble if anything happens to you."

When Yang Yan said this, he quickly glanced at the shadow already on the verge of exploding before continuing:

"Go quickly, be daring, and try to stay as far away from those skins as possible."

With that, he handed the hexagonal sphere to Xia Bing, then turned to face the shadow, which was already starting to expand.

Xia Bing took the sphere and immediately ran downstairs without looking back.

"When that woman used a hidden weapon on my Corpse Skin People earlier, you could have dealt with them then, right?"

The shadow had now calmed down, speaking in a collected tone.

Seeing the calm shadow, Yang Yan couldn't help but frown.

If the opponent were in a rage, at worst, it would just be a battle.

But now, it might prove to be a bit tricky.

However, he had nothing to hide, and he nodded lightly:

"Indeed, I could have collected those Corpse Skin People earlier. But if I did that, you might have known my cards."

"Moreover, those guys were also your test for me, right? We're in the same boat."

"Nice! Better than I imagined. But you're indeed bold, no one has ever dared to treat me like this."

The shadow said coldly, as a formidable aura erupted from its body.

In an instant, thunderclouds roiled in the sky, and the entire space trembled slightly.

"Sigh! I didn't want this, but you..."

Yang Yan sighed and then his expression changed, becoming insouciant.

"What do you mean by that?"

Yang Yan's demeanor clearly provoked the shadow, which roared in anger.

"What's with the big talk? Didn't that guy make a fool out of you? Besides, what age do you think it is now? Do you really believe you're an emperor? You're just an Evil Thought Body putting on airs!"

As Yang Yan's playful banter sounded, the thunderclouds in the sky collided madly, and lightning snakes danced wildly in the air.

"Very well, you're the first to dare speak to me like this, I'll make you one of my Corpse Skin People."

"Not just you, I'll make your friends and family my Corpse Skin People too."

The shadow's enraged roar tore through the thunder, echoing in the air for a long time.

"I was going to ask about that person, but it seems unnecessary now."

Yang Yan looked coldly at the shadow, revealing a cold smile.

With that, he suddenly vanished from his original position.

When he reappeared, he was already behind the shadow, delivering a fierce kick.

Chapter 254: Memories Revealed, the First Appearance of the Black-Robed Figure
Bang!

With a dull sound, the shadow was kicked away by Yang Yan.

"How could it be? I'm intangible, how can you still hit me? It hurts!"

The shadow roared.

"Seems like you're nothing but evil and brutal! Not having a physical form means I can't attack you? What logic is that?"

Yang Yan looked at the shadow and sneered.

He was speaking, but his hands did not slow down at all.

In a flash, he was in front of the shadow again, unleashing a storm-like attack.

The shadow seemed stunned by the blows, unable to counter, only passively taking hits.

"Haha! So that's how it is, that's how it is."

The attack lasted for at least twenty seconds when the shadow suddenly started laughing, muttering to itself.

Hearing this, Yang Yan sneered, and his movements grew even faster.

"Even if you keep attacking me, it's useless, it can't hurt me! Hahaha..."

The shadow laughed wildly.

"Is that so? Ignorance is ignorance! You'll see what happens soon enough. I thought I'd have to put more effort into dealing with you, but you're just a fool."

Yang Yan's smile grew brighter.

He initially thought this guy was an Evil Thought Body derived from someone, and would require some effort to deal with.

But Yang Yan didn't expect that this guy would be like a fool, only getting hit passively.

And from the tone, it seemed even those Corpse Skin People were taught to him by others.

This made Yang Yan wonder how exactly this guy came into being.

"Your attacks are useless."

The shadow seemed very confident, still yelling wildly.

"Is that so?"

Yang Yan suddenly stopped the attack, smiling as he looked at the shadow.

As the shadow tried to say something more, cracks started appearing on its body.

Moreover, the cracks began to spread outwards across its body.

"How... how is this possible? Your attacks were useless on me! How could this happen..."

Yang Yan coldly looked at the shadow and said lightly:

"You're probably not naturally born, right? I guess someone must have cultivated you?"

Yang Yan looked at the figure and spoke lightly.

"How could this be? This shouldn't happen! I am the ruler of all under heaven, why am I dying at the hands of someone like you?"

The shadow, until the moment of its destruction, still found it incredible that Yang Yan could harm it.

"With that intelligence, nothing more to say. Let me see for myself then!"

Yang Yan finished speaking, reaching out his right hand to press onto the shadow's head, and scenes began to appear in the Void.

The first scene Yang Yan extracted was of a person clad in a black robe.

Because the robe shrouded the entire body, it was unclear whether it was male or female.

The person in the black robe stood in front of the Evil Thought Body, speaking continually.

While simultaneously striking the Evil Thought Body with a purple-gold talisman.

Once the Evil Thought Body sat up, the robed figure spoke:

"I offer you immortality in exchange for your remaining Imperial Qi and national fortunes, do you agree?"

The voice of the robed figure seemed disguised, making it impossible to discern whether they were male or female.

Hearing the promise of immortality, the ambitious creature naturally agreed without hesitation.

After receiving confirmation, the robed figure immediately produced something resembling a Jade Seal and extracted a stream of yellow energy from the corpse behind it.

That should be the Imperial Qi and national fortune the robed figure spoke of.

After completing all of this, the robed figure embedded a white talisman into the Evil Thought Body, then said:

"Follow the instructions recorded here, and you will achieve immortality. This thing is beyond the Three Realms and outside the Five Elements, even Great Powers find it hard to tame. In time, you will be able to attach to it successfully."

After speaking, the robed figure left.

The Evil Thought Body's memory only reached this point, followed by a blank.

Yang Yan guessed this was because it fell into a long sleep again.

Until it awoke half a year ago, and began killing and skinning people as instructed by the talisman.

"After all that, so that's how it is! This guy is really meticulous, leaving nothing to chance!"

Yang Yan sighed, then turned and walked downstairs.

Right after he left, the Evil Thought Body began to collapse, first fracturing into pieces, then turning into swirling black smoke.

Not long after, it completely dissipated into the heavens and earth, as if it had never existed.

Downstairs, at the entrance of Sunshine Garden, the ground was covered with bullet holes.

And the soldiers and police were all weakly slumped on the ground.

As Yang Yan approached them, someone immediately reacted, pointing the muzzle of a gun at him, seemingly ready to shoot.

"Don't panic! It's me!"

Yang Yan said urgently.

It seemed these soldiers were highly tense, shooting had become a reflex.

"Hold fire! It's Yang Yan!"

Xia Bing was the first to react, shouting hurriedly as well.

Upon seeing Yang Yan, the others relaxed their tense nerves.

Instantly, several who had struggled to stay standing finally couldn't support themselves and collapsed to the ground.

"Are you alright? Is everything upstairs taken care of?"

Xia Bing asked, concerned, as she looked at Yang Yan.

"Do I look like I'm hurt?"

Yang Yan smiled as he replied.

"Matters have been resolved, much easier than expected. What's going on here? Even if those Corpse Skin People rushed out, you should have held out for quite some time, right? How did it end up like this?"

Yang Yan looked at their exhausted state, a bit puzzled.

"Mr. Yang, you knew those ghouls would charge out, didn't you? You should have given us a heads-up, so we could be mentally prepared! Almost scared us to death."

Liu Jun said with a wry smile.

At this moment, his legs were still trembling, and his heart was pounding.

"Once I engage him directly, he won't have the energy to control those things. Those things will instinctively run back to their corpses, so I told you to shoot them on sight for this reason."

Yang Yan said calmly.

These were things he had known for a while, so he didn't deny it.

"But come on, brother! Can you let us know beforehand about something like this? You don't know how we felt when we saw those things!"

"If Captain Xia hadn't returned quickly, we might have all died here."

Liu Jun was evidently frightened, feeling a wave of resentment.

Even when facing the mysterious Yang Yan, he couldn't help but grumble a bit.

Chapter 255: Ask Whatever You Want

Yang Yan chuckled and explained:

"Sorry, sorry! The reason I didn't tell you all in advance is actually because I know those things aren't harmful without someone controlling them."

"They would instinctively move towards their bodies. If it weren't for the fear of frightening others outside, we wouldn't even need to bother."

At this moment, Wei Kingdom also walked over, frowning and asked:

"What are those things exactly? Did the higher-ups know what was happening here all along?"

Yang Yan thought for a moment and said somewhat helplessly:

"How should I explain it to you all? These things are classified, top-tier secrets. If you want to know, you can ask your superior directly."

"Of course, whether he knows or whether he will tell you, I don't know."

Wei Kingdom clearly frowned; such an answer was obviously not satisfying to him.

Unfortunately, Yang Yan had no intention of explaining further. He clapped his hands and instructed:

"Alright, you've worked hard. Let's consider this matter concluded. Clean up here and then go take a rest!"

"Is it really over?"

Liu Jun asked in disbelief.

"That's right, this time it truly is over. This kind of thing won't happen again. You should all go back and rest; it's been a long night."

After saying this, Yang Yan was the first to sit in the police car and then closed his eyes to relax.

"Everyone, clean up the battlefield."

Although Wei Kingdom still had many questions, seeing Yang Yan unwilling to elaborate, he quickly gave orders to his troops.

Though many had been sitting on the ground just now, this unit was well-trained and disciplined; they immediately started to get busy.

By this time, Xia Bing also got into the car.

She didn't know what Yang Yan had experienced up there, but he seemed to be in good spirits and uninjured.

The only thing she couldn't quite grasp was that he seemed to have something on his mind.

"What's wrong? Encountered something tricky?"

Xia Bing asked cautiously.

"I didn't expect Captain Xia to be quite attentive."

Yang Yan said with a bitter smile.

"Can you tell me what it is? Maybe I can help."

Xia Bing said with a smile.

Yang Yan lightly shook his head:

"I've figured out some things, but new problems have arisen, which makes me a bit vexed."

"It seems you're not planning to tell me. However, since you can't figure it out, just don't think about it for now. You've worked hard all night, let me take you home to rest early!"

Xia Bing showed her considerate side.

"Let's wait a bit! I'll go back when they're done cleaning. After all, this matter can't be spread carelessly. Also, there are some things I need to explain to you all specifically."

Yang Yan waved his hand and said.

The troops cleaned up the battlefield quickly, and soon this place was almost tidied up.

Ordinary people would, of course, never know that there had been a fierce battle here.

Wei Kingdom, who had been cleaning up the battlefield with the soldiers, also came to Yang Yan's side, and asked with a troubled expression:

"Mr. Yang, how am I supposed to report this to the higher-ups? I can't draft this report!"

"Don't worry, your superiors won't require you to write a report. For this matter, you just need to impose a gag order on the soldiers involved today."

Yang Yan said with a grin.

"Using so many bullets, how can the higher-ups not investigate?"

Wei Kingdom asked in confusion.

Although they were on a mission and had received the highest command, after all, they weren't out here for war.

Using this many bullets at once, according to usual practice, would require a report.

Wei Kingdom truly didn't know how to write this report.

If he told the truth, those above who didn't know the inside details would certainly think he was an idiot.

"Just put your mind at ease! I guarantee that your superiors won't inquire, and no colleagues will question you. You just take your men back and remember to impose a gag order—nothing more to worry about."

Yang Yan patted his shoulder, reassuringly.

After hearing Yang Yan's assurance, Wei Kingdom didn't question further.

That seemed to make sense.

He had orders from above to fully obey Yang Yan's commands, and since the main person involved was sending him back, it was likely that those above would come to communicate with Yang Yan.

He was just an executor, and the higher-ups wouldn't be bothered with such a minor character.

As Wei Kingdom led his soldiers away from the scene, the officers who had started investigating this with Yang Yan also gathered.

Yang Yan glanced at them and said in a deep voice:

"I know the events of these past two days have been hard to accept, and you've been quite frightened, but it's not that you've gained nothing."

"In the upcoming period, you'll gain a windfall that might exceed your expectations. But no matter the money, it's best to use more than two-thirds for charity."

"As for the remainder, spend it however you want. And it's best to distribute it quickly since windfall and unexpected wealth are hard to retain; be careful of disaster following joy."

Originally, they thought Yang Yan had something serious to discuss, but didn't expect him to remind them of this instead.

Though they had heard that after seeing Black and White Impermanence, one might encounter unexpected financial gains, the way Yang Yan talked, the amount wouldn't be small.

"Alright, as the saying goes, fortune and disaster are intertwined. After all the fright you've been through, consider the money as a consolation. Remember, money not earned through work—it's best to donate two-thirds for good causes! Don't be greedy; excess leads to misfortune!"

Yang Yan emphasized earnestly once more.

Although Liu Jun and the others had only known Yang Yan for a short time, they had endless trust in this mysterious young man.

Everyone felt that listening to him wouldn't lead them astray, so they all nodded sincerely, promising to do what Yang Yan advised.

"Alright, remember to keep these past few days a secret, and go back to rest."

After saying that, Yang Yan closed his eyes again and stopped talking.

Seeing this, Xia Bing suddenly announced:

"Go rest, everyone! Remember Yang Yan's words and it's best to follow his advice. Also, you don't need to come to work for the next few days. I'm giving you a break, so go home!"

Upon hearing Xia Bing say this, everyone cheered and headed off in different directions in their vehicles.

"I'll give you a ride home. Is it Prosperous Court or the apartment?"

Xia Bing asked with a smile.

"To Prosperous Court! At this hour, going back to the apartment might disturb them. They'll ask a lot of questions, and it'll be quite a hassle!"

Yang Yan said with a wry smile.

Though there weren't many cars on the road, Xia Bing drove very slowly.

This was not like her usual self.

Yang Yan glanced at Xia Bing and said with a smile:

"If you have questions, just ask! Drive a bit faster, please. It's been a long day, and I want to get back soon."

Xia Bing bit her lip lightly and cautiously asked:

"What exactly is that shadow? I'm really curious! You actually referred to it as 'Your Majesty'."

Chapter 256

"How should I put this?"

Yang Yan hesitated for a moment before explaining:

"You know Zhu Yuanzhang, right? The founding emperor of the Ming Dynasty, who killed quite a few people in his lifetime. That guy loved to flay people, and this shadow is his Evil Thought Body."

"However, it didn't come into existence by itself; someone used special means to create it."

"Evil Thought Body? Right, I heard you mention it on the rooftop. Is this thing very powerful?"

Xia Bing asked curiously again.

Yang Yan nodded:

"Yes! It is indeed not a simple thing. If it were naturally born, it would be quite formidable."

"We don't know if we are lucky or unlucky. Although we encountered it, it was artificially created, so it's much weaker. Thankfully, it was dangerous but not too risky."

Women are always fond of gossip and can go on endlessly.

Apparently, even this beautiful police officer is no exception.

Although she knew she might be asking too many questions, she couldn't resist asking:

"Then... what about those human skins? How did they end up in the neighborhood?"

Yang Yan clearly saw Xia Bing's hesitation and smiled to reassure her:

"Don't worry, I won't find you annoying."

"You noticed, huh?"

Xia Bing said awkwardly.

Yang Yan shrugged lightly and answered her previous question:

"That Evil Thought Body attracted them! Some guy told it he could grant it immortality, and surprisingly, it believed him."

"The so-called immortality told to this Evil Thought Body was to flay humans and possess their skins, then repeat the cycle. As long as there are human skins, it wouldn't dissipate."

"Is there really such a thing as immortality in the world?"

As soon as Xia Bing asked, she couldn't help but stick out her tongue.

This playful gesture caught Yang Yan's eye, and he couldn't help but smile knowingly.

"Perhaps there is!"

Yang Yan replied, somewhat uncertain.

Then, he earnestly added:

"But it definitely won't be in this way!"

"I suppose so."

Xia Bing nodded in agreement.

"Yeah! Doing it this way will lead to nothing but divine wrath and public anger, and no good outcome. Moreover, until now, he hasn't managed to find a suitable human skin to possess."

"Hehe! If you want immortality, no matter the method or path you take, it will inherently involve countless hardships and obstacles; it's not that simple."

Yang Yan said with profound significance.

After listening to Yang Yan's explanation, Xia Bing seemed finally satisfied, and the car sped up, heading towards Prosperous Court like a whirlwind.

As they were nearing Prosperous Court, Xia Bing broke the silence again:

"So... is my cousin the same as you?"

Though the question was a bit ambiguous, Yang Yan understood what Xia Bing meant.

He nodded gently:

"Yes! He's also different from ordinary people, but apart from being very capable, he's relatively normal, not as perverted as some lunatics."

As he spoke, Yang Yan suddenly seemed to remember something funny and couldn't help but laugh.

Xia Bing frowned suspiciously, hesitated for a moment, and eventually swallowed back her words without further questioning.

In fact, getting so many perplexing matters resolved from Yang Yan's mouth already made Xia Bing very satisfied.

At that moment, the police car Xia Bing was driving had already parked in front of Prosperous Court.

Yang Yan got out of the car and, after walking a couple of steps, suddenly stopped.

He turned back to Xia Bing and said:

"Someone will come to handle the aftermath of these past few days, so don't worry about it, just pretend it never happened. You should get some rest early! Women age faster when they're overtired."

Being alone with a woman, Yang Yan was too embarrassed to invite Xia Bing to rest upstairs.

As he was about to enter the corridor, Xia Bing suddenly stuck her head out and said:

"Um, your pants aren't on properly."

With that, Xia Bing drove off.

"Ah!"

Yang Yan hurriedly looked down, widening his eyes in surprise.

What a big misunderstanding.

The Black Tortoise somehow tore a hole in his pants.

And just this scene was caught by Xia Bing.

It's not that kind of head!

Yang Yan internally groaned.

"Moonlight, it seems like that guy isn't simple!"

The Black Tortoise showed no concern for Yang Yan's current mood, speaking with a hint of worry.

"Damn it, when did you tear my pants? How am I supposed to go out like this?"

Yang Yan looked at the Black Tortoise's head pulling back repeatedly, feeling a surge of anger as he lashed out uncontrollably.

"Well... I've been in the pocket all along, unable to speak, wasn't it suffocating! Besides, I just opened it not too long ago, don't worry, no one else saw me."

The Black Tortoise said sheepishly.

"I... well, what else can I say! I'm really impressed with you coming up with such an excuse. Also, what did you mention about things not being simple?"

The matter had already occurred, so Yang Yan couldn't pursue it further.

Looks like I'll have to wait until next time to explain to Xia Bing.

After all, she's Frost Heaven's cousin, and the two share a good relationship, so they will surely meet again.

"That black-robed person! Who else could it be? I just don't know if he's the same person who set the trap for me. If he is, it's trouble."

The Black Tortoise admitted uneasily.

"It might really be the same person! From comparing the soul imprint of the Evil Thought Body and your memories, it's still somewhat evident."

Yang Yan's tone grew cold.

"What exactly does that guy want to do? Why does he want Imperial Qi and the national fortune? And in particular, why from the long-past Ming Taizu Zhu Yuanzhang? That little amount of national fortune and Imperial Qi is nearly dissipated, what use does he have for it?"

The Black Tortoise asked puzzledly.

"This, I actually know. He's using it as a false claim to trick a little girl who walks the Ancient Cyan Dragon Road. Probably for this reason, that seal can pass off the spurious as genuine, deceiving the naive young girl."

Yang Yan said with a sneer, then told Black Tortoise all about how Ruyi was deceived.

"Wow, there's that kind of maneuver?" Black Tortoise exclaimed.

"What exactly does that black-robed person want? Even if he's setting up a Four Symbols Killing Array, that's too much! The balance of effort and gain is out of sync. There's definitely some other reason involved."

"Alright, everyone knows it's not that simple. But so far, there's no clue, let's get through this period first, then slowly investigate. Besides, I have some hypotheses to verify tomorrow."

Yang Yan said, frowning.

When he got home, Yang Yan took a shower, then lay on the bed without thinking about anything and drifted into dreamland.

As for the Black Tortoise, he tossed it back into the fish tank.

Chapter 257: Sea Fishing on Paradise Island

Early the next morning, Yang Yan woke up, did a simple wash, and then started making breakfast.

This was also a habit cultivated over many years.

As long as conditions allowed, he would always whip up a few dishes for himself, then take out some treasured good wine and sip a little, giving the new day a pleasant start.

While Yang Yan was enjoying a sumptuous breakfast with fine wine, Black Tortoise was not idle either.

It didn't consider itself an outsider and now helped itself to milk from the fridge.

This guy claimed it didn't taste good, but its actions were quite honest.

After breakfast, Yang Yan took Black Tortoise out the door.

They had been out for a few days, and without reporting back soon, Zhou Hanyun and the others might think he had been captured.

Since it was Saturday, Zhou Hanyu, Cai'Er, and Ruyi didn't have school, so they curled up on the sofa watching TV.

Seeing Yang Yan's arrival, Zhou Hanyu greeted indifferently and then focused back on the TV show.

Cai'Er and Ruyi both sweetly called out, "Dad."

Looking at his two daughters in front of him, Yang Yan felt an unprecedented sense of satisfaction.

Vacationing should be like this, right?

Fighting and killing all day long, how is that a vacation?

Yang Yan glanced at Zhou Hanyu, then at the two little girls who were also engrossed in the TV show, and suddenly suggested:

"Why don't we... go out and have some fun?"

As soon as Yang Yan said this, all three turned their heads to look at him, and in unison, very synchronously, they asked:

"Where to?"

"Uhh..."

Yang Yan was momentarily stunned.

It wasn't because the three girls were so in sync, but because this idea was just a spur-of-the-moment thought, and he had no specific destination.

Yet, seeing their somewhat expectant expressions, Yang Yan's mind raced, and a thought suddenly popped out.

"How about... we go fishing?"

Hearing Yang Yan mention fishing, their interest waned immediately.

What's fun about fishing?

It would be better to stay home and watch TV!

Seeing their expressions, Yang Yan chuckled to himself.

He seemed to have overlooked that three little girls wouldn't be interested in fishing.

However, having conjured up the idea of fishing, he didn't want to change this thought so easily.

So he smiled and said:

"We'll go sea fishing, a bit farther away. The environment for sea fishing around East Sea City is pretty good, and with some luck, we might catch some big fish."

"Once we catch them, we'll grill them on the spot. What do you think? Plus, you don't have school tomorrow, so we can even spend the night at sea tonight."

Hearing Yang Yan talk about sea fishing, their interest was piqued immediately.

Fishing and sea fishing are two different concepts.

Ordinary fishing, they naturally had no interest in.

Sea fishing was different.

Thinking about the beach and the waves, Zhou Hanyu was quite interested.

Though the weather was already quite cool, it didn't diminish her love for the beach.

Moreover, spending the night at sea today, just thinking about it felt exciting.

"Okay, let's pack up a bit then."

With that, Zhou Hanyu took Cai'Er and Ruyi into the room.

As the big sister, she directly stripped the two little girls of their voting rights.

Before long, Zhou Hanyu and the others came out, carrying a bag in their hands.

It was unclear what was inside the bag.

"Which beach are we going to?"

Zhou Hanyu asked Yang Yan with excitement.

"With the weather this cold, any beach won't be good. Follow me, you won't be disappointed today, I promise you'll have an unforgettable weekend."

After saying that, Yang Yan walked forward.

"Should I call my sister and see if she can come?"

Zhou Hanyu suddenly asked.

"Sure, give her a call!"

Yang Yan thought for a moment, realizing this was a rare chance, so he decided to invite Zhuge Wushuang and Fatty along as well.

One phone call later, they immediately received an enthusiastic response.

Yang Yan told them the meeting address, then Zhou Hanyu drove the Bentley and set out.

They first picked up Zhou Hanyun, then went to meet Zhuge Wushuang and the others. Finally, the group stopped by a nondescript beach in East Sea City.

Zhou Hanyu looked at Yang Yan suspiciously and asked:

"Mr. Yang, is this where we're going to have fun? If so, this weekend would be quite unpleasant!"

"How could it be? Just wait a moment."

Saying this, Yang Yan walked toward an abandoned warehouse by the beach.

It was a place he had stumbled upon a few days ago while passing by during a Hidden World intrusion.

Yang Yan muttered something under his breath, then with a flick of his hand, a door glowing with white light slowly opened.

Since everyone here wasn't an outsider, there was no need to hide anything.

"Let's go!"

Yang Yan smiled as he pointed to the Gate of Space.

Zhou Hanyun was relatively calm, though surprised, she wasn't too astonished.

But Zhou Hanyu was utterly taken aback.

Even though she knew after the Kalfa Squad incident that Yang Yan wasn't ordinary, this was the first time he openly displayed his powers in front of her.

"Where does this lead to?"

Zhou Hanyu asked hesitantly, looking at the glowing Gate of Space in astonishment.

"To a warmer place. The weather in East Sea hasn't been great these past few days. Instead of catching fish, we might end up catching cold. As for going somewhere farther, well, this time, it's indeed quite far."

Yang Yan said with a smile, not directly answering Zhou Hanyu's question.

Everyone could see he seemed to be intentionally keeping the young girls in suspense.

Zhuge Wushuang and the others didn't say anything and just went straight in.

Fatty stood by Yang Yan, watching everyone enter, then chuckled and said:

"Damn! Boss, this is a grand gesture. Using spatial teleportation just to amuse the girls, you're really something!"

"You talk too much! Are you going or not? If you don't, I'll leave you here."

Yang Yan glared at Fatty.

"Of course, I'm going! With so many beauties around, it'd be a waste not to look."

With that, Fatty quickly dashed into the Gate of Space.

Yang Yan shook his head with a smile, then slipped inside.

Soon after, the Gate of Space closed up, as if it had never appeared.

On the other side, Zhou Hanyu and the others were stunned by the scene before them.

"Welcome to Paradise Island, the Hidden World's top vacation destination. Many Hidden World individuals come here for a break after long periods of conflict,"

Yang Yan said proudly.

"Wow, boss, that's not fair! How did you get the coordinates for here? Isn't teleportation to this place forbidden? How come you were able to teleport us here?"

Not only Fatty but also Zhuge Wushuang and the others looked at Yang Yan in puzzlement.

Chapter 258: Poor Fatty

Fatty wasn't wrong; space transmission is indeed forbidden here.

Not only that, to be precise, using superpowers is not allowed here at all.

Everyone who comes here must act like an ordinary person.

Anyone who dares to violate this rule will be hunted down by the forces behind Paradise Island.

The key point is that no outsider knows the coordinates here, so even if you wanted to teleport, you wouldn't know where to go.

So even Zhuge Wushuang and the others have to go through the official procedures.

"It's pretty awesome, indeed!"

Red Dust also commented in awe.

"Haha! That's a long story."

Yang Yan said with a smug look on his face.

Curious, Zhou Hanyu was just about to ask something when Yang Yan suddenly waved his hand:

"Alright, stop worrying about how I know the coordinates here, just enjoy today and tomorrow. Let's go, let's find my boat. I haven't been here in ages; wonder if they've maintained her well."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

"Whoa..."

This time, not only Fatty exclaimed, but even Mu Qingcheng, usually so cool and composed, couldn't help but swear.

Paradise Island is unlike any other place in the Hidden World.

You can come here to play, but you're forbidden from using anything from the Hidden World.

Thus, the boats here are all brought over from reality.

Bringing something so large from reality into the Hidden World costs a lot more.

So, someone like Yang Yan, who owns a boat on Paradise Island, is akin to owning a private airstrip in reality.

With excitement, they all went to the dock and found many boats of all sizes there.

Of course, they were all remarkably luxurious, leaving everyone quite awestruck.

When Yang Yan walked up to one of the most luxurious yachts, not only Fatty, but even Xiaocao gave Yang Yan a strange look.

"Wow, is this yacht yours?"

Zhou Hanyu exclaimed in surprise at the yacht.

"Yep! What are you all doing, hurry up and get onboard! Looks like it's been well-maintained, worth every penny I paid."

After saying that, Yang Yan was the first to go up to the boat.

On board, Yang Yan took keys out of a drawer, started the boat, and began to leave the dock.

People around watched the yacht leaving the dock, all casting curious glances at it.

It signified that a big shot had come to Paradise Island for vacation!

And when they saw it was the most luxurious yacht, they were even more shocked.

This yacht had been docked there for years without moving.

When they first saw this yacht, they had been guessing which big shot it belonged to.

Who would have expected the yacht to suddenly move today?

"Quick, inform the princess, tell her the Starry Sky has moved, that lord must have returned."

A female staff member in charge of patrolling by the dock excitedly said into her walkie-talkie.

All the staff on Paradise Island are women.

Of course, they're not ordinary women.

To be precise, they're not women from Earth.

This is the domain of the daughter of the Olympian deity Zeus.

Everything here is under her control.

By some twist of fate, Yang Yan has formed a certain connection with her.

Though it's not the kind of relationship between a man and a woman, they are quite close.

The yacht was a gift from her to Yang Yan.

It's just that Yang Yan had hardly used it before.

However, she has issued strict orders that once this yacht moves again, she must be informed immediately.

"Wow! The sea breeze here feels so nice!"

Zhou Hanyu stood on the deck, arms wide open, and shouted.

"Ah! It's indeed comfortable here! It's been more than two years since I last came."

Fatty's large body flopped onto the deck, lazily said.

Yang Yan set the next course and switched the boat to autopilot, then joined them on deck.

Zhou Hanyu, Zhuge Wushuang, and a few others were whispering by the sun umbrellas.

Seeing him appear, they glanced over intentionally.

Yang Yan didn't bother with them.

He headed back inside, changed into a pair of beach shorts, then ran back on deck to find a sun chair and lay down to soak up the sun.

Fatty and Red Dust followed suit, putting on beach shorts, and lay down on the lounge chairs on the yacht, enjoying the gentle sunlight.

Seeing this, Zhou Hanyu and the others followed suit and ran inside.

"Ah! This is the life! Boss, do you have any hidden dealings with the princess here? Why would she give you such a nice yacht?"

"You know, this stuff could fetch a great price on Paradise Island, maybe even trade for a legendary weapon."

Fatty, wearing black sunglasses, gossiping loudly towards Yang Yan.

Finally aware of tact, he lowered his voice deliberately.

Plop!

A splash was heard, and Fatty's large body was kicked straight into the pool by Zhuge Wushuang.

"Get out of my way!"

Zhuge Wushuang said domineeringly.

She was now in a bikini and looked especially seductive and alluring.

Zhou Hanyun and the others also came out, also in bikinis.

Though the styles differed, each had its unique charm.

Fatty, just climbed out of the pool, was stunned by the scene before him.

So many beauties gathered together, it was like a feast for the eyes.

This scene, nothing less than a painting of vibrant beauties.

Just as he felt his nose starting to heat up, another foot swiftly came his way.

This time it was not Zhuge Wushuang but Mu Qingcheng who kicked him.

"Good dogs don't block the way, and neither do fat pigs!"

Poor Fatty was kicked into the pool again.

Cai'Er and Ruyi each grabbed a floatie and laughed as they ran towards the pool.

The child queen Zhou Hanyu, of course, followed closely behind.

"Tsk tsk! Didn't expect it, Zhou Hanyu really has some assets!"

Yang Yan remarked with admiration while attaching the fishing hook.

"Boss, between these sisters, who do you like more?"

A careful Fatty crawled out of the pool and lowered his voice to ask toward Yang Yan.

"What do you mean like more? Our relationships are pure, okay? You think everyone's like you with your filthy thoughts?"

Yang Yan said righteously.

"Uh... You pure? If you're pure, then there's no impurity in this world. I was such a good young man at first; it's all because of mixing with you that I turned jaded!"

Fatty pouted, making a wounded face, sighing heavily.

"Get lost, don't block the way!"

Creak! This time Fatty was directly kicked into the sea.

Red Dust glanced at Fatty in the sea, then looked at Xiaocao helping Yang Yan with the bait, and shook his head helplessly.

Chapter 259: What Is the Cat Scheming as It Circles the Bird?

Sure enough, if you don't court disaster, you won't die.

Why provoke anyone else? It's better to discuss these things privately, yet you dared to speak ill of the king in front of Xiaocao.

Aren't you just asking for trouble?

"Alright, ready now."

Yang Yan held a fishing rod and said with a smile.

Yang Yan cast the fishing line and then lay on the deck chair to leisurely fish.

Fatty crawled up from the side and, without a hint of complaint, quietly started fishing with another rod.

Zhou Hanyun and the other women basked in the sun on the deck, while Cai'Er and Ruyi, led by Zhou Hanyu, had great fun in the swimming pool.

"I greet you, Moonlight Emperor."

Suddenly, a somewhat abrupt voice sounded.

Beside the yacht, a small boat had appeared unnoticed.

A tall man stood on the small boat.

Yang Yan leaned out to take a look, frowned, and said:

"Who are you?"

"This is a gift our king sends to Lord Moonlight."

The man finished speaking, tossed a package at Yang Yan, then turned around and vanished.

Yang Yan looked at the package in front of him, puzzled, staring at the direction in which the man disappeared, saying nothing.

At this time, Red Dust also came to Yang Yan's side, suspiciously looking at the package on the ground.

"What is this thing?"

Fatty asked curiously.

"I don't know. The guy said nothing, only that it was sent by his king. Heaven knows what it is."

While speaking, Yang Yan squatted down to pick up the package, then slowly tore it open.

Inside was a red birdcage, with a...

Vermilion Bird!

Fatty glanced in the direction the man disappeared, then suddenly rushed towards it and vanished too.

"King, this Vermilion Bird seems to be poisoned."

Red Dust frowned and said.

Fatty, who had rushed out, returned, unwillingly saying:

"It's gone, no trace at all."

"Looks like someone has been watching us all along! Actually managed to find us here. Now, besides Cyan Dragon, the rest of the Four Symbols are gathered here with you."

Fatty said somewhat mockingly.

Yang Yan looked at the Vermilion Bird in his hand, extended his index finger to bite it, then dropped two drops of blood on the bird, and placed it aside.

"Don't bother with it. I came over today on a whim, and they managed to find me. Moreover, they mentioned their king, the range is already much smaller."

"We'll investigate this slowly when we return. Right now we're here to have fun, let's not discuss unpleasant matters."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

Fatty and Red Dust glanced at Yang Yan and then returned to their tasks.

Red Dust continued to sleep, while Fatty quietly fished.

And he tried to stay as far away from Yang Yan as possible, to avoid being seen as a nuisance again.

"Dad, when will you catch a fish? I'm getting a bit hungry."

Ruyi said from the side.

"Uh, this... today, these fish, I don't know what's going on. They just keep not biting!"

Yang Yan said helplessly.

"Oh! Seems like no luck with food today."

Ruyi sighed lightly and turned to play with Cai'Er.

"No choice, I'm being forced to use my ace here!"

Seeing Ruyi's disappointed look, Yang Yan gently put down the fishing rod, stood up, and walked to the side.

"Hey hey hey! Moonlight, what are you doing?"

The Black Tortoise, which had been lying on the deck sunbathing, suddenly found itself being lifted, and struggled to say.

"What else can I do? Quickly go catch some fish for me. Otherwise, we'll be having a cold breeze for dinner tonight."

Yang Yan said coldly.

"Hey! You're disrespecting the great Black Tortoise, I won't succumb!"

The Black Tortoise roared in struggle.

Yet Yang Yan ignored it and directly walked to the ship's side, throwing the Black Tortoise forcefully into the distant sea:

"Don't forget to bring back some big tuna, sashimi is nice too!"

The Black Tortoise's efficiency was quite high.

In no time, it caught some especially large tuna back, which Mu Qingcheng sliced into thin pieces and placed on the dining table.

"Ah! So satisfying!"

Zhou Hanyu said, touching her belly with a sigh.

"Yeah, had a really fulfilling meal!"

Zhuge Wushuang immediately echoed.

"Why don't we go shopping? Perfect to walk off the meal."

Zhuge Wushuang suddenly suggested.

"Hey, are there shops here too?"

Zhou Hanyu asked curiously.

"Of course! Except for the people here being from the Hidden World, everything else isn't much different from the current world, and there are plenty of shops too."

"And those shops sell Hidden World items too. You'll definitely be interested."

Zhuge Wushuang said enticingly.

Zhou Hanyu's cheerful nature paired with Zhuge Wushuang's carefree manner made them get along well, at least on the surface.

Whereas Zhou Hanyun and Mu Qingcheng seemed relatively more mature and rational, giving them plenty to talk about when together.

Watching Zhou Hanyu and Zhuge Wushuang, who seemed no different from lunatics, Yang Yan shook his head helplessly, continuing to fish.

The bluefin tuna sashimi was indeed nice, but he still hoped he'd catch one or two to make grilled fish.

"Wow! She can get along so well with Zhuge, looks like that girl is quite the Little Witch too!"

Fatty said thoughtfully from the side.

"I'm going to tell Wushuang about that."

Xiaocao handed Yang Yan a cocktail and said with an air of mystery.

"Uh... Please don't! Xiaocao, we're so close, you can't just sell me out like that! I misspoke, just babbling incoherently."

Fatty exclaimed and quickly pleaded.

"Alright, enough chatter. When we get back, you two start investigating today's man. Also, check into the origins of the Vermilion Bird."

"It's getting more and more interesting, seems like someone's restless to make a move on us!"

Yang Yan squinted slightly, then said calmly.

Fatty and Xiaocao looked at Yang Yan's expression and knew he was genuinely angry.

No matter what their purpose is, at least for now, they've successfully enraged the Dark Night Emperor, one of the Four Emperors.

"Should we call Jing Hong and the others back? I can't shake the feeling that we're the real target here."

Red Dust, who was sleeping at the side, frowned and reminded.

"No need. When we return tomorrow, Xiaocao and Fatty will start their investigation, no need to call Jing Hong and the others back for now."

Yang Yan shook his head gently.

"Um... What do you think a cat is planning if it's circling a bird in a cage?"

Black Tortoise, lying on the deck sunbathing, unexpectedly came out with a remark.

"What plan? Of course, it's thinking of eating it!"

Yang Yan's words had barely left his mouth when his smile froze on his face.

Chapter 260: Paradise Island, Unspoken Rules

"Damn! Nine Treasures, what are you doing?"

Yang Yan dashed out and directly picked up the little white tiger.

"So you were planning to eat it! Tsk tsk! This little kitty is really cute, even the Vermilion Bird dared to eat it."

The Black Tortoise said with a smile.

Yang Yan gave it a harsh glare:

"Hurry up and catch some more fish, can't you see they're all hungry?"

The Black Tortoise opened its mouth, then jumped off the deck, making a splash as it landed in the sea.

"Wow! Wushuang, what is this thing? It looks so cute!"

Zhou Hanyu excitedly pointed at a furry little pet that looked like a ball and asked.

"This, oh, this is a Mao Li Beast! A harmless little pet, quite a few people in the Hidden World like to keep these pets. But they're very pricey."

Zhuge Wushuang said with a smile.

"Miss, do you like it a lot? How about I give you one?"

A blond, blue-eyed man nearby looked at Zhou Hanyu and said.

It seemed he had taken a fancy to Zhou Hanyu and was ready to spend a fortune to win her favor.

"No need, thank you! If she likes it, I will buy it for her."

Zhou Hanyun stepped up quickly, politely declining.

The man saw Zhou Hanyun, and his eyes lit up again.

Sister flowers!

And completely different temperaments.

Rare, truly rare!

"Miss, you might not know, the transactions here don't involve money from the normal world! You must use special currency. Money from the outside doesn't work here."

The man tried to appear courteous and explained patiently to Zhou Hanyun.

"Hey! Are you treating us like we're invisible?"

Zhuge Wushuang coldly said from the side.

"My friend, how could I treat you as invisible? But, bringing ordinary people to Paradise Island, isn't it to trade some things?"

"Naturally, I'm quite interested in those two people you brought. Name your price, I'll take them."

The man said confidently, full of self-assurance.

"Auntie Wushuang, what does he mean?"

Nearby, Cai'Er asked in a crisp voice, holding Zhuge Wushuang's hand.

Ruyi also blinked her big eyes, looking at Zhuge Wushuang.

Ever since Yang Yan gave her an appropriate cultivation technique, Ruyi's intelligence had started to drop drastically.

Now she was almost like a three-year-old child.

"Sister Wushuang?"

Zhou Hanyu also looked questioningly at Zhuge Wushuang.

"Hasn't she told you? Or were you tricked by her to come here? On Paradise Island, ordinary people can only be regarded as a type of commodity!"

"Even though trading is forbidden here, secretly there are still people buying and selling. Otherwise, why do you think Paradise Island would let ordinary people in?"

The man said with a smile.

However, in Zhou Hanyu's eyes, his smile was really irritating.

"I think you're mistaken, these two are our friends, not merchandise."

Mu Qingcheng smiled as she stepped forward to say.

"Oh? Spending a lot of money to bring two ordinary people onto the island? Are you worried that I can't afford it?"

The man frowned and said coldly.

"Really is an idiot!"

Zhuge Wushuang sneered at the man, unabashedly retorting.

"How dare you insult me? Do you know who I am?"

The man was furious upon hearing Zhuge Wushuang call him an idiot and said angrily.

"Let's go! Ignore this brain-damaged guy. We'll explain this matter to you later."

Zhuge Wushuang beckoned to Zhou Hanyun and the others.

After saying that, the group walked towards the street ahead.

Surprisingly, the man, who was already livid with rage, did not stop them. He clasped his hands tightly against his chest and said with a cold smile:

"You can't escape, you will definitely be mine."

Throwing down these words, he turned around and quickly disappeared into the crowd in the opposite direction to Zhou Hanyun and the others.

"How should I explain this to you... Let's put it this way, the Hidden World is a very chaotic world, much scarier than you could imagine."

"Here, killing and arson are as common as daily meals, it's far too normal. And the Paradise Island we're currently on is considered one of the few sanctuaries in the Hidden World."

"However, even here, those dirty things can't be avoided. For instance, bringing ordinary people here and then selling them is one of those things."

"So, whenever ordinary people land on the island, they have to pay a significant fee. Of course, those who know the coordinates and can directly teleport here are exceptions."

"Though, this is the first time I've seen someone directly teleport to Paradise Island. But for this to happen to the boss, it's actually not surprising."

"What I want to say is that every ordinary person meticulously chosen and brought here is often sold at a high price."

"Especially after ordinary people landing on the island need to pay a huge amount, the selling price is even higher. Because all costs have to be factored in. That's also why we were so amazed to see the boss's luxurious yacht."

After Zhuge Wushuang's explanation, Zhou Hanyun frowned tightly and asked coldly:

"Trading humans? Isn't there anyone to manage this here? What about the forces behind Paradise Island?"

Zhuge Wushuang forced a bitter smile:

"How should I put it? This is considered an unspoken rule here. As long as you're not caught by the law enforcement team, who would know? Or maybe the forces behind Paradise Island just turn a blind eye to such things."

After hearing this, Zhou Hanyun said somewhat agitatedly:

"So to them, ordinary people are no different than livestock?"

She initially had a pretty good impression of this island, but after this incident, she realized what she saw was just an illusion, leaving her feeling very disgusted.

"Sister, don't get excited." Zhuge Wushuang said with a smile, "Actually, it's just like the human traffickers in your world. Although it's equally prohibited, driven by high profits, there will always be people who take risks."

"Of course, if buying or selling ordinary people gets caught by the law enforcement team, it's death. This is actually far better than your world."

Hearing this, Zhou Hanyun felt somewhat relieved.

If this place was completely laissez-faire, then even if it were paradise, she wouldn't want to come a second time.

"Let's go, those guys don't dare to cause trouble here. If they act here, the consequences are not simply death. It would involve their families and forces behind them."

Mu Qingcheng comforted, holding Zhou Hanyun's hand, and continued walking forward.

The incident just now was just a small episode for them.

After all, the other side had just pointed out the unspoken rule and didn't say anything more extreme.

The key point was, that guy didn't make a move.

Otherwise, whether it was Zhuge Wushuang or Mu Qingcheng, either one could have easily dealt with him.