

Powerful 681

Chapter 681: The Heavenly Dao Can Be Defied, But Not Deceived

"Haha! I'm afraid this ability is something you don't really want, right? Initially, you were just a widow, then you turned solo using tricks, and eventually, you became the one with three flaws, right?"

Yang Yan said calmly.

"How do you know that?"

The old man looked at Yang Yan in surprise, as if seeing him in a new light.

Yang Yan chuckled gently, then said seriously:

"Not only do I know the order in which you did these things, but I also know how you did them. I even think I know your sect."

"But none of that matters. I just want to ask you now, do you regret doing all this?"

"I..."

The old man hesitated, as if tasting bitterness.

It wasn't only Yang Yan who asked him this; even he had asked himself countless times.

Was it really worth it?

"For a bit of power, or rather to live better, you repeatedly deceived the Heavenly Dao. It's truly a miracle that you're still alive!"

Yang Yan said with some sarcasm.

"Haha! Easy for you to say! A little power? This is inherently a world where the strong prey on the weak. If you can make yourself a bit stronger, how many competitors can you defeat?"

"I can tell, you're not over thirty, but your strength is imposing even from a distance."

"But how could someone like you, favored by the heavens, understand the heart of us ants, striving step by step to climb upward?"

The old man's tone suddenly filled with inexplicable resentment.

"So, you used tricks to change your five misfortunes and three deficiencies? Have you not considered the harm this could cause to those around you?"

"The Heavenly Dao can be reversed but not deceived. You're not only harming yourself with your actions; this world is far more complex than you can imagine."

Yang Yan said earnestly, seeming to want to prevent the old man in front of him from going astray, going further down the wrong path.

"I..."

The old man opened his mouth but fell silent again.

After a long pause, he sighed and said:

"Yes, the Heavenly Dao can be reversed but not deceived!"

"But it's too late for everything. Now I just want to save Ergou's life. Even if it costs my own life, it's worth it."

The old man said firmly.

"Haha!"

Yang Yan sneered, then turned and walked directly towards the door.

Seeing him turn away, Zhou Hanyun frowned slightly and quickly followed.

"You can use the Emperor's Blood Jade for now, but I'll take it back when you no longer need it."

"Also, you should start making preparations! Under the might of the heavens, you've lived long enough."

Yang Yan suddenly stopped, coldly reminded a few words, and then left the place that couldn't be called a dwelling.

"Can't we help them?"

After leaving the old man's home, Zhou Hanyun softly asked Yang Yan.

Yang Yan shook his head helplessly, sighed, and said:

"There's no way, the Heavenly Dao can be reversed but not deceived! That old man overdid it."

"So, now not only does he have to bear the consequences, but anyone with him will be implicated."

"But..."

Zhou Hanyun hesitated before continuing:

"That child is innocent! He's so young, he doesn't understand anything."

Seeing the expectation in Zhou Hanyun's eyes, Yang Yan showed a bitter smile.

He reflected for a moment, then explained:

"Hanyun, this is something that can't be helped! Although I know the child is innocent, what can you do when he's the blood relative of that old man?"

"The Heavenly Dao is not human; it has no emotions or compassion. It is a rule, a rule that governs everything in this world."

"If someone violates this rule, they must bear the corresponding consequences."

"The severity of these consequences depends on whether that person can understand the boundaries."

"This old man wants to gain power that defies destiny but doesn't want to bear the corresponding karma. How can such a convenient thing exist in the world?"

"That's why earlier, I didn't even want to ask for his name. Otherwise, we might also get entangled in this karma."

Zhou Hanyun listened to Yang Yan's words and fell into silence.

She sighed softly, still somewhat compassionate, and said:

"Even though I don't know what kind of existence the Heavenly Dao is, I still feel that the child is too pitiful and want to do something for her."

Seeing the hopeful look in Zhou Hanyun's eyes, Yang Yan also felt a pang of sympathy in his heart.

He gathered his thoughts, then gently smiled:

"Let's go! This is an issue I can't and don't want to get involved in. We should see if there are any interesting raw stones to look at instead!"

As the familiar ringtone of his phone rang, Yang Yan took out his phone for a look.

It was a very unfamiliar number calling.

"Hello!"

Yang Yan answered the call.

"Dr. Yang, some seriously injured patients have arrived at the clinic. They say they need to see you immediately. Can you come back?"

The call was from Catherine.

"Wait for me, I'll be back shortly, about half an hour."

Yang Yan replied immediately.

"What's wrong? Is there an issue?"

Beside him, Zhou Hanyun noticed Yang Yan's urgency and couldn't help but ask.

"Yes, some patients arrived at the clinic, I have to go back."

Yang Yan said somewhat apologetically.

He had just told Zhou Hanyun they were going to look for raw stones, but now he couldn't go.

And he could tell Zhou Hanyun was still thinking about the grandfather and grandson, wanting to distract her with the raw stone task.

"It's okay, saving lives is important, you go ahead! I'll look around here on my own."

Zhou Hanyun smiled and shook her head.

Clearly, she never intended to be a burden to Yang Yan.

"Alright! But be careful here. This is not just the capital of the United States; it also has the title of Sin City."

Yang Yan reminded her seriously.

"Don't worry, in broad daylight, nothing like what you said should happen."

Zhou Hanyun said with a smile.

"Understood, I'll head back then. If anything happens, just call me."

Yang Yan said and left.

However, after walking a distance, he suddenly turned back to look at Zhou Hanyun.

"Don't follow me for now, stay with Zhou Hanyun, make sure nothing happens to her."

Yang Yan said into the air.

"Understood."

A voice suddenly responded from the direction he was looking, followed by a fleeting figure.

"Alright, let's see which uninvited guest is disturbing my pleasant time. The fee will definitely increase!"

Yang Yan chuckled to himself as he spoke.

Chapter 682: Keep Your Dog in Check

When Yang Yan returned to the clinic, a crowd had already gathered outside the door.

Judging by their attire, these people were likely Chinese like Yang Yan, from Huaxia.

"Can someone tell me what's going on? What are you guys doing surrounding my clinic?"

As Yang Yan pushed past the people standing outside the door and walked inside, he raised his voice slightly and asked.

"Who the hell are you?"

As Yang Yan entered the clinic, someone blocked his way and asked with an unfriendly expression.

"Who am I? You gather such a big crowd outside my clinic door, and you're asking who I am? Are you some kind of clown invited by a monkey?"

Yang Yan looked at the man in front of him and said unceremoniously.

Standing before Yang Yan was a Chinese man in a white suit.

He wore gold-rimmed glasses, but instead of appearing genteel, he seemed rather sleazy.

"Enough, Chao Liang, don't be rude."

Behind the man, there was an elderly person with white hair sitting there.

However, looking at his condition, it seemed he was gravely ill and not long for this world.

"Are you Dr. Yang? My name is Golden Cauldron, Hall Master of the United States Heaven and Earth Society."

The elder spoke calmly.

"Oh? Heaven and Earth Society? Haven't you returned to the Hidden World?"

Yang Yan asked suspiciously.

In fact, from the moment he walked in, he had sensed the strange aura emanating from the elder.

Although it was unclear whether this aura was a superpower or Huaxia Inner Strength, this elder was undoubtedly a master.

At least an S-level master.

"Just say whatever you have to say! If I can help, I will. If I can't, then you better find someone else!"

Yang Yan thought for a moment and decided it was best to be straightforward.

A little face had to be given to the Heaven and Earth Society.

After all, they shared the same roots and bloodline from Huaxia.

"We do have a reason to seek you out, Dr. Yang. But first, please take a look at these youngsters."

Golden Cauldron pointed to a few people lying on nearby beds.

If it was for treatment, Yang Yan certainly wouldn't refuse.

On the way here, he had already decided to earn handsomely.

Moreover, the Heaven and Earth Society was a big and wealthy organization, unlikely to be short of money.

Without saying much, he walked over and began to examine the people on the beds.

"I'm not asking who injured them, and you don't have to tell me. What I can tell you is that this one can be saved. This one, I'm afraid, cannot."

Yang Yan glanced at the two on the beds and turned to Golden Cauldron.

On the beds, one was a man, the other a woman.

The one Yang Yan said could be saved was the woman.

As for the man, his life force had already completely dissipated.

Yang Yan was truly powerless.

"Lin can't be saved? Dr. Yang, could you try your best? I watched that child grow up."

At this point, Golden Cauldron's face turned somber.

Though he wished Yang Yan could give it one last try, he knew how severe the man's injuries were, probably beyond saving.

"I'm a doctor, not a god. I can save the woman, but I can't save the man."

Yang Yan seriously reiterated.

"I was presumptuous."

Golden Cauldron got up and made a fist-to-palm salute towards Yang Yan:

"In that case, please save Tingting first. As for the rest, we can discuss later."

Yang Yan waved his hand indifferently and said:

"No need for that, I genuinely don't want to know the details. But you should know, my services aren't cheap."

"I'm not in a great mood today, and the situation of this beauty is very dire, so my price will be higher than usual."

As soon as Yang Yan finished speaking, Chao Liang, who had previously blocked Yang Yan, couldn't help but shout:

"Kid! Do you know who you're talking to?"

Yang Yan put away his smile, slightly raised an eyebrow, and said coldly to Golden Cauldron:

"Control your dog! If you can't, I don't mind stepping in to help."

"Also, considering who you are, making a scene in front of me is going to double your treatment fees!"

Upon hearing this, Chao Liang immediately got angry.

"What did you say? Say it again if you have the guts!"

He glared coldly at Yang Yan, his aura surging, ready to attack at any moment.

"Heh! Want to make a move? Don't cry for help later!"

Seeing that the other party was ready to strike, Yang Yan squinted his eyes and sneered.

He hadn't had his fill of hitting people today!

If there was such a punching bag, it wouldn't be bad to have some exercise!

"Shut up! Chao Liang, go outside! Don't come in unless I say so."

Golden Cauldron glared at Chao Liang and harshly reprimanded him.

Hearing the elder's angry shout, Chao Liang's eyes momentarily flashed coldly.

However, it was quickly concealed.

"Understood, Uncle Jin! I'm going out now."

After Chao Liang spoke, he instinctively adjusted his gold-rimmed glasses, a cold smile curving at his mouth, and walked out.

What an interesting fellow!

Yang Yan captured that moment of coldness that flashed in the man's eyes, whether the elder noticed it or not.

"Lin and Tingting are severely injured, so Chao Liang was a bit anxious. I hope Dr. Yang doesn't take it to heart."

"As for the treatment fee, I will make sure Dr. Yang is satisfied, and I hope you will do your best."

Golden Cauldron said apologetically.

The saying goes, don't hit a smiling face.

With the Hall Master of the Heaven and Earth Society adopting such an attitude, Yang Yan naturally wouldn't be overly harsh.

He waved his hand and said calmly:

"Don't worry, if I say I can save, then I can save. As for the fee, let's talk after I treat them! I certainly won't give you a discount today."

Golden Cauldron nodded without a care:

"Very well, Dr. Yang probably needs a quiet environment, so we won't disturb you here. We'll wait outside."

After saying this, Golden Cauldron led a large group of people out of the clinic and waited outside.

"Who are those people?"

At the side, an anxious Catherine looked at Yang Yan and asked.

Buman had long been hiding behind the rest area door, quietly watching everything outside.

"Have you heard of Hongmen? These people belong to Hongmen. Moreover, they are of very high status within Hongmen."

Yang Yan casually explained.

Yang Yan's explanation wasn't very detailed, but Catherine wasn't a fool. She knew what to ask and what not to, and she didn't continue to question further.

Because she understood well that sometimes, the less you know, the better.

Chapter 683: Conspiracy, the Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram as Bait

"Prepare some hot water. First, clean the blood off this woman so I can examine her wounds properly."

Yang Yan glanced at the woman on the bed and instructed Catherine.

He had to admit, having an assistant like Catherine with nursing experience was indeed a good thing.

"Alright, but I've never seen injuries like these before. At first glance, it looks like they were torn by a wild beast."

"However, upon closer inspection, some parts seem to be ripped by some kind of metal hook-like sharp tool."

Catherine said, frowning.

Yang Yan chuckled lightly, flipped his hand, and suddenly a silver needle appeared:

"Those are matters for the people outside to worry about. Right now, we just need to save this woman."

After spending more than two hours, Yang Yan gently wiped the sweat from his forehead, quietly relieved.

The woman on the bed was now breathing steadily and her pulse was strong, completely out of life-threatening danger.

The man beside her had taken his last breath an hour ago.

But to spare him from too much pain, Yang Yan had given him two needles, so he passed peacefully.

"People outside, come in!"

Removing a silver needle from between the woman's eyebrows, Yang Yan called out toward the door.

"Dr. Yang, is Tingting okay?"

Golden Cauldron heard Yang Yan calling him and immediately entered, asking anxiously.

"The woman is fine. The man will never have problems again."

Yang Yan said indifferently.

Golden Cauldron fully understood Yang Yan's meaning of "no problems" for both individuals.

He walked to the man's side, a bit sorrowfully, gently caressing his now cold cheek before speaking:

"Take Lin back; after all, we owe him."

Yang Yan shook his head slightly:

"Alright, if there's nothing else, you can leave. Also, this time the consultation fee is ten million US dollars, but I'm not taking cash this time."

Hearing Yang Yan's words, people around him glared at him indignantly.

Someone had just died, yet this cold-blooded guy was talking about consultation fees at such a time?

"What? Do you have an issue with the consultation fee?"

Yang Yan glanced coldly at the surrounding people.

"How could it be, Dr. Yang? You overthink."

Golden Cauldron said hearing Yang Yan's words.

"No objections, pay up and get out."

Yang Yan said unceremoniously.

"Everyone leave. I have a few things to discuss with Dr. Yang. Go wait outside for me."

Golden Cauldron did not answer Yang Yan, but instead spoke to the people around him.

Once everyone was outside, Golden Cauldron coughed lightly and then said to Yang Yan:

"Isn't Dr. Yang curious about how Tingting got her injuries?"

"Not interested!"

Yang Yan waved his hand, rejecting outright:

"How her injuries came to be has nothing to do with me."

"Uh... Mr. Yang, you must be joking. Tingting's injuries are so peculiar. As a strong figure in the Hidden World, how could you not be curious about them?"

Golden Cauldron said somewhat awkwardly.

"What? Just because the injuries are unusual, I have to investigate them out of curiosity?"

"Old Man Jin, what are you trying to say? Get to the point and stop with the nonsense."

Yang Yan said impatiently, even changing his way of addressing Golden Cauldron.

"Alright, then I'll assume Dr. Yang is not interested in Tingting's injuries."

Golden Cauldron said with a wry smile.

"What do you mean by 'assume'?"

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow, speaking irritably:

"I genuinely am not interested in her injuries! Speak up if there's something to say, otherwise leave."

"Then how about the Eight Trigrams Diagram?"

Golden Cauldron stared intensely at Yang Yan, trying to maintain a calm tone:

"Is Dr. Yang not interested in the Eight Trigrams Diagram either?"

"Hm? What did you say? What Eight Trigrams Diagram?"

Yang Yan asked in confusion.

"What other Eight Trigrams Diagram could there be? Naturally, it's the Huaxia's Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram!"

Golden Cauldron asked with a smile:

"So, is Dr. Yang interested in this?"

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow, finally showing a slight smile:

"Haha, so it's that thing, it is somewhat interesting. Please continue."

Golden Cauldron quickly said:

"A few months ago, when the Arbitration Committee required all Hidden World members to return to the Hidden World, someone from the United States unexpectedly brought out Huaxia's Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram."

"Surprisingly, the person used this Eight Trigrams Diagram as a prize and held a Hidden World martial arts tournament here. It was said that the first place winner could obtain this Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram."

Yang Yan asked with furrowed brows:

"So, this woman got injured in this competition?"

Golden Cauldron shook his head, angrily stating:

"It would have been understandable if the injuries were from the competition. Tingting was attacked by two werewolves in an assassination after qualifying."

"Although we also managed to kill them, Tingting and Lin still..."

At this point, Golden Cauldron's voice choked up.

"Tell me more, what exactly is the matter with this tournament?"

Yang Yan said in a deep voice:

"Logically speaking, such a big event should have been known throughout the Hidden World, shouldn't it?"

"Why hadn't I received any information before? Could it be that someone deliberately wanted to hide something?"

Golden Cauldron smiled bitterly:

"Not just you, even within the Hidden World, not many knew about this."

"However, after the day after tomorrow, the news should spread."

"After all, before this, it was the other party who told us and requested us not to leak the news."

Yang Yan furrowed his brows, evidently not expecting it would be as he had guessed.

Of course, the other party did not intentionally withhold information from him but intended to selectively block information within the Hidden World.

Evidently, they succeeded.

"So you mean, they approached you directly, had you participate in this so-called tournament, and didn't allow you to tell others?"

Now Yang Yan just wanted to know what was the other party's intention in doing so.

At least from Golden Cauldron's brief account, he had already sensed a whiff of conspiracy.

"At the time, we too did not understand why they were doing this, but eventually, we figured it out."

At this point, Golden Cauldron's voice carried a clear trace of anger.

"Please tell me! Why did they do this?"

Yang Yan couldn't help but press the issue.

Golden Cauldron took a deep breath, slightly calming his emotions, and then said in a low voice:

"The other party is a powerful group led by Saraf, and their goal is the Lance of Longinus that stabbed Jesus!"

"By using the Eight Trigrams Diagram as bait, the other party wants to gamble the Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram against us for the Lance of Longinus."

"As for the tournament, it was merely a pretense to cover their tracks."

Chapter 684: The Fiery Woman Who Practices the Hidden Sword Technique

"The Lance of Longinus is in your hands?"

Yang Yan asked with some shock.

Before this, he had heard rumors of this weapon falling into the hands of people from Huaxia.

He just hadn't expected it to end up in the hands of the Heaven and Earth Society.

"Yes!"

Golden Cauldron nodded and explained:

"It was previously with a Huaxia merchant, but later that merchant took it to the United States."

"By chance, one of us saw it, and we bought it at a high price."

Yang Yan asked again:

"What's the deal with the contest? Since the other side has already put the Eight Trigrams Diagram out as a prize, naturally they can't bet with you anymore, right?"

Golden Cauldron sneered and said:

"That's the disgraceful part about them! They offered us the condition that we must win the championship to get the Eight Trigrams Diagram."

"Moreover, we can only send two people to compete, and their age must not exceed fifty."

"If we fail to win the championship, then the Lance of Longinus must be given to the other side."

Upon hearing this, Yang Yan was momentarily frozen.

At least five seconds passed before he bitterly smiled and said:

"Are you guys stupid? Such harsh conditions, and you agreed?"

"If the other side uses the Eight Trigrams Diagram to threaten you, can't you threaten them with the Lance of Longinus?"

Though he said so, deep down, Yang Yan didn't actually believe these strategists wouldn't see through this.

After all, the Eight Trigrams Diagram is important to them, but the Lance of Longinus is equally significant to the other side.

"What if the other side tells us the location of the River Map after we win the championship? Do you think we have any other choice?"

Golden Cauldron bit his teeth fiercely, his tightly clenched arm slightly trembling.

"What did you say? Say it again!"

Upon hearing Golden Cauldron's words, Yang Yan suddenly stood up, nearly shouting.

"If we can win the championship, they'll tell us the location of the River Map! Otherwise, how could we submit!"

Golden Cauldron said coldly.

Interesting, really interesting!

The other side actually knows the location of the River Map?

That Saraf guy seems to be living recklessly!

Yang Yan thought to himself with determination, intending to drag that guy out and give him a good beating first.

"Since the other side has limited the age, they surely won't allow any old monsters over fifty years old to participate, right?"

"What, you can't deal with your peers?"

Yang Yan asked Golden Cauldron.

At this moment, he seemed to have already guessed what the other side wanted him to do.

Golden Cauldron gave a bitter smile:

"I originally thought the same. People from the Hidden World of Huaxia, facing opponents of the same age, generally have a high winning rate."

"However, I heard the other side has reincarnated an Angel."

Yang Yan visibly paused, furrowing his brow tighter:

"An Angel reincarnated? Those guys are really willing to pay!"

An Angel's reincarnation is never a trivial matter.

After all, each reincarnation greatly affects the party's strength and lifespan.

This kind of cost is an enormous sacrifice for an Angel.

"Yes!"

Golden Cauldron nodded again and said to Yang Yan:

"Moreover, I hear the other side has reincarnated more than one Angel!"

"Therefore, we have no choice but to select the two strongest young individuals. The result, you already know."

Yang Yan asked again:

"Didn't you notify the Huaxia authorities? If you did, Huaxia's Little Sword God Zuo Fei's winning rate is still quite high!"

Golden Cauldron shook his head helplessly:

"Only local Chinese can participate, that's one of the other side's conditions."

Yang Yan laughed in anger:

"Heh! The other side really has many conditions! I suppose that's the reason you and those from Hongmen sought me out?"

Golden Cauldron nodded seriously and said:

"Correct, Hongmen was tasked to find young Chinese Hidden World experts, and you were our unexpected finding."

Yang Yan suddenly laughed:

"How do you know I can do it? What if I'm just a somewhat special doctor, then what?"

He still had confidence in his identity.

At least these people from the Heaven and Earth Society should not yet associate him with Moonlight Yang Yan.

"We're just doing our best and leaving the rest to fate!"

Golden Cauldron laughed:

"If you truly have no combat ability, then we'll bear the loss."

"Even if it means turning against them, we will never let them succeed so easily."

Saying this, Golden Cauldron paused and flashed a confident smile:

"Moreover, we do have some assurance! Although we're unclear about who you really are, we're quite certain of your strength."

"After all, who would believe that someone daring to run a clinic in a foreign land, specifically serving people from the Hidden Sect and Hidden World, wouldn't have any combat capabilities?"

Yang Yan smiled noncommittally and directly asked:

"When is the contest? Also, are there any special requirements?"

Upon hearing this, Golden Cauldron visibly breathed a sigh of relief and immediately replied:

"The contest will be in five days, and the special requirement is for two people to compete together, with competitors' age under fifty."

"Understood."

Yang Yan nodded and said:

"You can go back now, leave this woman here, I'll have her fully recovered in a few days."

"I don't expect her to help me in the contest, as long as she doesn't hold me back."

"Don't worry, I won't hold you back. If necessary, I'll drag the opponent to death with me!"

"Trust me, I absolutely have the ability."

Unbeknownst to him, the woman had already awakened.

Though still weak, there was a flame of confidence burning in her eyes.

"Tingting, you're awake? Feeling better?"

Seeing the woman awake, Golden Cauldron hurriedly rushed over, asking with concern.

"Don't worry, Grandpa, my body is almost recovered, I certainly won't delay the contest."

Tingting smiled with difficulty.

But everyone could see she wasn't in a good state yet and needed some time to recover.

"Don't force it! I'm more aware of your body's condition than you."

"However, I didn't expect this; your temperament is quite fierce! Actually practicing the Hidden Sword Technique, impressive."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

Hearing this, both Tingting and Golden Cauldron's faces changed slightly, looking at Yang Yan with some surprise.

After a full ten seconds of silence, Tingting finally spoke:

"Since you know I practice Hidden Sword Technique, you should know how powerful the sword I've kept hidden for twenty years can be."

"Even if the opponent is an Angel, I believe I have the ability to slay him."

She spoke with great seriousness, showing strong determination and confidence.

This is precisely the most important mindset for a swordsman.

Chapter 685: You Think You're So Hot?

Unfortunately, Yang Yan sneered at this.

He laughed coldly:

"And then what? Then you'll completely lose all your skills and end up dying on the competition stage?"

Facing Yang Yan's gaze, Tingting bit her lip and said coldly:

"For Huaxia, I am willing to give anything! What's a mere life worth? I, Situ Tingting, will absolutely not disgrace my Situ Family's name."

When Tingting mentioned her surname, Yang Yan was visibly taken aback and said somewhat wearily:

"You're from the Situ family?"

Situ Tingting didn't respond, but Golden Cauldron spoke up.

"Yes! Tingting is indeed from the Situ family. At the same time, she is also the first heir to our Heaven and Earth Society."

Yang Yan rubbed his temples, sighing deeply:

"Ah! What kind of sin did I commit? Never mind, Old Man Jin, you should leave first, this girl stays with me."

"I will heal her in these two days. As for that competition, I promise you all, I will participate."

Hearing Yang Yan agree so easily, Golden Cauldron was overjoyed.

After all, time was too tight and the conditions were too demanding, Yang Yan was the best candidate they could find.

"Really? That's great! Otherwise, with time being so tight, we wouldn't have had time to find someone. Having Dr. Yang participate is the best outcome."

Seeing Golden Cauldron's excited expression, Yang Yan's face looked even more bitter.

"Alright, alright, you should leave, hurry up, don't delay me healing this girl."

"Earlier, I just gave her an emergency treatment. Don't be fooled by her lively appearance; if it comes to a fight, she wouldn't even compare to an ordinary woman."

Yang Yan said with a headache.

"Alright, I won't disturb Dr. Yang anymore. I'll send the medical fee over later."

Golden Cauldron said excitedly.

"Forget it, no need for the fee. After all, I still owe the Situ family a favor."

"If that guy finds out I took your money, my clinic might really have to close down."

Yang Yan hurriedly said, seemingly very apprehensive about the person he mentioned.

Not waiting for Golden Cauldron to say more, Yang Yan turned to Catherine:

"Catherine, you take Buman and head back first! You've worked hard these last two days, take this ten thousand US Dollars and use it."

While speaking, Yang Yan took a stack of money from the drawer and stuffed it into Catherine's hand.

"This isn't necessary, Dr. Yang, if it weren't for you, I might be dead right now."

Catherine, holding the stack of green US Dollars like a hot potato, quickly put it back on the desk.

Yang Yan chuckled lightly, picked it up again, and shoved it into Catherine's hand, saying seriously:

"This money is not just for you, Buman has a part too. Besides, there's still a lot of expenses for Buman in the future, consider it a preparation."

"So, just take it honestly! Think of it as for the child."

"As for the specifics, I'll talk to you after I'm done with these days. The path Buman will take in the future is beyond your imagination."

Hearing Yang Yan's words and seeing his serious expression, Catherine hesitated for a moment, then nodded gently and kept the ten thousand US Dollars, then seriously said:

"Dr. Yang, I'm not sure who you really are, but if there is ever anything my son and I can help with, just say the word."

Yang Yan smiled and waved his hand:

"Alright, I really don't have time to discuss future matters with you now, wait for these few days to pass."

"Also, no need to come over tomorrow, just come to open the door in five days."

After Catherine and her son left, Yang Yan turned to Situ Tingting and said:

"Alright, it's just the two of us now, time is of the essence, I'll treat your injuries shortly."

"I can assure you, as long as you listen to me, I have confidence to fully recover you in five days."

As someone from the Hidden World, Situ Tingting understood that Yang Yan was likely going to use some unconventional methods to heal her.

She nodded slightly:

"Understood, do whatever you need to!"

"Then let's begin!"

Yang Yan turned around and closed the clinic door, then called Zhou Hanyun to say he wouldn't be coming back for a few days.

"First, take off your clothes, remember to strip completely."

Yang Yan said calmly while arranging the silver needles.

"Ah?"

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting's face instantly turned red.

She was mentally prepared for Yang Yan's methods to be quite unusual.

However, she hadn't expected to be asked to strip completely!

"Ah what! Hurry up."

Yang Yan said with a deliberately stern face.

If he had a choice, he wouldn't want Situ Tingting to strip either.

After all, there was a guy in the Situ family that he thoroughly disliked, but simply couldn't get rid of.

"Can't I not strip? With your skills, can't you point out my acupuncture points without looking?"

Situ Tingting asked, biting her lips with some hesitation.

"No nonsense! I'm asking you to strip for your own good. Otherwise, your clothes will be ruined, and I'll have to buy you new ones!"

"Anyway, do you want to participate in the competition or not? You just said you dared to risk your life, why are you hesitating now?"

Yang Yan said impatiently.

Hearing Yang Yan's words, a determinate flash appeared in Situ Tingting's eyes.

She gritted her teeth hard, turned around reluctantly, and started removing her clothes one by one.

"Tsk!"

Seeing Situ Tingting naked, Yang Yan gave a disdainful snort.

"Hey! What do you mean by that?"

Though Yang Yan's voice was low, it was impossible to hide it from Situ Tingting, who was also from the Hidden World.

"I don't mean anything, looking at your reluctance, to be honest with you, I am even less willing to see your body."

Yang Yan said seriously.

"You..."

Situ Tingting was at a loss for words by Yang Yan's retort, standing there glaring at him fiercely.

"What do you mean!"

Yang Yan said irritably:

"Do you think there's much to see? You think I want to look at you?"

"Honestly, if it weren't for the River Map, I could guarantee you, I wouldn't have anything to do with your Situ family."

Hearing this, Situ Tingting was clearly taken aback, suspiciously asking:

"So, do you have a vendetta against our Situ family?"

She had to clarify Yang Yan's relationship with the Situ family.

After all, it concerned whether the competition could proceed smoothly in five days.

If this guy really had a grudge against the Situ family, she would have to consider what Yang Yan's true intentions were.

Chapter 686: Burning, Accelerated Cell Division

Yang Yan raised his eyebrows and said with a bitter smile:

"Don't go snooping around, I have no grudge against your Situ Family."

"I can also tell you accurately, not only do I have no grudge against your Situ Family, but your family actually has shown me kindness."

"However, don't think you can use this to coerce me or make me do something."

"I've already repaid the Situ Family's kindness, and I've repaid it dozens of times over."

Situ Tingting was even more puzzled.

"The Situ Family showed you kindness? And you've already repaid it?"

She seriously searched her memories, but she couldn't recall having any interaction with Yang Yan.

Moreover, she hadn't heard of anything happening in the family these past few years.

But looking at Yang Yan's expression, she felt he didn't seem to be lying.

"Alright, stop guessing, and don't expect to get any information from me."

"I really don't want to have any more entanglements with your Situ Family, give up that hope!"

Yang Yan finished speaking and directly pulled out a silver needle, thrusting it hard into Situ Tingting's body.

He was now using the Ghost Gate Thirteen Needles in combination with his True Qi to stimulate Situ Tingting's potential, thereby prompting cell regeneration to help her recover quickly.

"Listen carefully!"

Yang Yan's voice suddenly became very magnetic, as if it came from the Void, with each word echoing like a deep bell toll in Situ Tingting's heart:

"You practice the Hidden Sword Technique, and although you might become an ordinary person after unleashing that sword strike, it's not entirely disadvantageous."

"You should know that in a human lifetime, the number of cell divisions is limited."

"After that sword strike, it's as if you cut off the past, everything starts anew, and the number of cell divisions resets."

"So, the method I'm using now might greatly harm others, but for you, it basically has no impact."

"What you need to do is cooperate well with me to stimulate your cell division, understand?"

Situ Tingting instinctively wanted to nod but found herself unable to move; however, her control over her body became extraordinarily clear.

It was as if the change of every cell and the flow of every strand of breath were clearly imprinted in the depths of her mind.

In a person's life, cells can divide approximately fifty times.

Yang Yan's approach was to induce early cell division in Situ Tingting's body.

Moreover, it wasn't just once or twice, at the very least, it was over ten times.

This might be fatal to ordinary people, but for someone like Situ Tingting who practices the Hidden Sword Technique, it's no big deal.

After all, the Hidden Sword Technique is an obscure spell that treats one's physical body as a Sword Scabbard and the soul as the Sword Blade.

This spell is powerful but likewise can only be used a few times in a lifetime.

As time passes, its power grows, which is why it's rarely executed.

Of course, the terrifying consequences of employing the Hidden Sword Technique are one of the fundamental reasons why practitioners are reluctant to use it lightly.

"Understood."

Feeling the rapid rise in her body temperature, Situ Tingting communicated with Yang Yan using Soul Communication, then tried to compose her mind to cooperate.

As Yang Yan's silver needles continued to pierce, Situ Tingting felt her body's temperature surge explosively.

Gradually, she felt as if she was about to combust.

In the end, with her peripheral vision, she clearly saw faint flames beginning to emerge on her body.

Luckily, Yang Yan had her strip her clothes off beforehand, otherwise, she might have had to buy new clothes.

"Stop the random thoughts, carefully feel the changes within your body."

Seeing Situ Tingting getting distracted, Yang Yan hurriedly reminded her.

It wasn't clear how long it took, but he started to remove the silver needles from Situ Tingting one by one.

Eventually, Situ Tingting gradually regained her senses and began to regulate her breathing actively, trying to guide the power saturating her body.

Unlike when Yang Yan first treated her wounds.

Before, Yang Yan just preserved her life.

Now, Situ Tingting could clearly feel her power returning.

She even felt her strength had grown significantly.

"Do you feel your strength has increased? Let me tell you, don't get too excited yet, this power boost comes with a price."

Yang Yan said seriously.

"Doesn't matter."

Situ Tingting seemed very relaxed instead, smiling gently:

"To have my injuries completely healed in such a short time and my strength increased like this, I really am curious now, just who are you?"

Yang Yan chuckled:

"Why worry about who I am? I've already told you, it's best for your Situ Family to stay away from me, otherwise, I'm really afraid I might do something to you all."

Pfft!

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting finally couldn't help but laugh aloud with a puff.

She certainly didn't know who in her family had entanglements with this mysterious man before her.

But seeing Yang Yan's expression, she indeed found it somewhat amusing.

"Well, how long do you plan on staying naked? Aren't you going to hurry up and put your clothes on?"

Yang Yan said coldly.

Honestly, Situ Tingting wasn't unattractive.

One could even say she had a fairy-like air about her.

This was one of the benefits of cultivation.

As long as they are cultivators, their Essence, Qi, and Spirit are naturally much better than ordinary people.

So, except for those Evil Cultivators, all cultivators, regardless of gender, young or old, are invariably more appealing than normal people.

And a woman like Situ Tingting, with good looks and a good figure, is even more attractive to the opposite sex.

Healing her wholeheartedly just now didn't leave an impression, but now that the treatment was finished, she laughed in a flirtatiously charming way.

Yang Yan truly feared he might lose control and take justice into his own hands.

At that point, the Situ Family guy surely wouldn't let him go.

"Humph! What? Does seeing my body make you feel wronged?"

Situ Tingting glared at Yang Yan dissatisfiedly.

"Say what you will, if it were someone else, I might take a few glances or even make a move."

"But you... heh, kindly put your clothes on, I don't want to go blind."

Yang Yan said disdainfully.

"You..."

Never had Situ Tingting quarreled like this with anyone, naturally, she stood no chance against Yang Yan.

"Grumble grumble..."

Just as Situ Tingting wanted to make one last stand, her stomach made a sudden sound.

Hearing the noise from Situ Tingting's belly, Yang Yan couldn't help but frown, then said:

"Hurry and put your clothes on, let's go get something to eat. It's been three days, I haven't had a drop to drink either!"

Chapter 687: Can't Handle the Old, So You Bully the Young—Shameless

"Three days already?"

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting was also taken aback.

She thought only a short while had passed!

"What did you think?"

Yang Yan rolled his eyes, responding:

"You couldn't really believe that your injuries were minor, right? Recovering to this state in three days is quite good already. After some food, one last treatment, and you'll be fully healed."

"You're saying... I have to take my clothes off again later?"

Situ Tingting blushed, weakly asking.

"Of course!"

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow:

"Your clothes would burn away with your True Qi anyway, the difference is whether you take them off, you'll have something to wear later."

"If you don't take them off, after the treatment you'll have nothing to wear, your choice."

Situ Tingting glared at Yang Yan fiercely:

"Hey! What's with you, guy? Even if someone from our Situ Family offended you, I didn't, right? Do you have to be so cold to me?"

Yang Yan sneered:

"You know someone from your Situ Family offended me? It's already quite good that I'm helping you recover; you expect me to be nice to you? Dream on!"

"How can you be like this? I haven't offended you!"

Situ Tingting was also anxious.

Yang Yan gave Situ Tingting a hard look, coldly saying:

"That's just how I am! No matter what you say, I just don't like people from your Situ Family."

"Not to mention you're from the Heaven and Earth Society. Even if you're just from Hongmen, I don't like you all the same."

Situ Tingting was initially stunned, then burst into laughter.

Yang Yan frowned, looking at her suspiciously:

"Are you sick? After being treated like this, you can laugh? Do you have a masochistic tendency?"

Situ Tingting laughed until her sides ached, wiping tears from her eyes before she seriously said:

"I'm really curious now. Someone from our Situ Family must have offended you badly?"

"Also, judging by your current demeanor, you should be a top-tier expert even in the Hidden World."

"But why this look? Haha! Like you want to kill him but can't get your hands on him..."

"Let me think, let me think—there aren't many in our Situ Family who could achieve this against you..."

"Could it be... Mr. Qingyun?"

When Situ Tingting mentioned Mr. Qingyun, she smiled like a sly fox.

At this name, Yang Yan's eyebrows twitched, then he viciously said to Situ Tingting:

"I warn you, if you bring up that old scoundrel's name again, don't blame me for being rude!"

Unfortunately, Yang Yan's threat was weak before Situ Tingting; his smile not only didn't retract but instead became even brighter.

Yang Yan could only helplessly roll his eyes and then follow up with laughter.

This smile left Situ Tingting slightly dazed.

She frowned at Yang Yan:

"What are you laughing at?"

Yang Yan blinked mischievously, grinning:

"Judging by your strength, your status in the Situ Family must not be low, right?"

"So what if it is!"

Situ Tingting said defensively.

"If I were to do something indescribable to you and let your Situ Family find out, then walked away, do you think that old man would be furious?"

Yang Yan said with a smile.

Unfortunately, Situ Tingting didn't seem to care, shrugging:

"Haha! You're really funny. Can't handle the elders, so you vent on me?"

Seeing this little troublemaker, unfazed by anything, Yang Yan was completely dumbfounded.

Seems like scaring this little girl won't work, what else could he say?

Just as expected of someone from the Situ Family, nerves are pretty thick.

"Enough, quit the nonsense. Three days without food, let's go out and eat something first! I'm starving enough to eat a cow right now."

Situ Tingting glanced at Yang Yan and then started slowly putting on her clothes, heading out once dressed.

The whole process was so natural, it seemed she didn't mind Yang Yan's gaze.

"Indeed, Situ Family people are born with invincible thick skin."

Yang Yan murmured.

Leaving the clinic, Situ Tingting insisted on going to Chinatown for food.

She said she couldn't get used to Western food.

But it's clearly far from Chinatown here!

"Chinatown is too far, let's just grab something nearby. Don't forget we have important things to do."

Yang Yan spoke in a negotiating tone.

He truly didn't want to go that far.

Three days without food and while Situ Tingting was always asleep, claiming she'd eat a cow, Yang Yan had been busy the whole time and surely was even hungrier.

"What do you mean far from Chinatown? Don't you know there's a Chinatown nearby?"

Situ Tingting said laughing.

"Where would a Chinatown be here? This is Queens."

Hearing Situ Tingting's words, Yang Yan was surprised.

"Haha! It's clear you're such a homebody. Anywhere there are people, there'll be Chinese."

"Moreover, this is the capital of the United States, Washington; of course, there's a Chinatown."

"Let me put it this way, it's not only Manhattan that has a Chinatown, all five boroughs have one."

"But the one in Manhattan is the largest and most famous."

Situ Tingting explained to Yang Yan with a laugh.

"I really didn't know that."

Yang Yan laughed awkwardly:

"I only know Queens is the most chaotic compared to the other four boroughs and the poorest."

"That's why I chose to open my clinic here. After all, my patients often walk the gray areas."

Situ Tingting shrugged:

"See, I said you're a homebody and I'm right! And you narrow-minded guy, your viewpoint and temper are just as narrow."

She seized the chance to hit Yang Yan when it was given.

Just like Situ Tingting said, as long as there are people, there'll be Chinese.

Walking here and there with Situ Tingting the local, both soon arrived at Queens' Chinatown.

"Wow! Really impressive!"

Yang Yan sighed at the sight.

"How is it, pretty nice huh?"

Situ Tingting said proudly:

"If we get the chance, I'll take you to Manhattan's Chinatown. Over there is much bigger in scale."

Chapter 688: Countless Rumors, Layer Upon Layer of Doubts

No wonder Yang Yan sighed inwardly, it's because these buildings before him were essentially the same as those in Old East Sea and Old Guang Province from the late 1990s.

Even the large signboards beside them looked exactly the same.

"What era is this? How can it still look like this here? You know, even in Huaxia, such buildings are hardly seen anymore, except for a few preserved as heritage sites."

Yang Yan asked in confusion.

"What's wrong with this? It's perfectly normal!"

Situ Tingting explained:

"You have to know, the people who come here are all expatriates! And quite a few of them are undocumented immigrants."

"Everyone has a sense of nostalgia. These people are no exception, so this place retains the old Huaxia look."

Situ Tingting spoke as if it were obvious, but Yang Yan questioned:

"Doesn't this give people the impression that Huaxia is very backward?"

Situ Tingting sneered:

"Haha—only an idiot would think that way. In today's world, who dares to look at Huaxia with outdated eyes?"

"Whether in the current world or the Hidden World, Huaxia is now at the forefront globally."

"In terms of Huaxia's influence, it is by no means inferior to countries like the United States."

"Most notably, Huaxia is still in a period of rapid development, with a future described as bright."

If someone else said this, Yang Yan would definitely use his status of having abandoned his country's identity to make a point.

But the person before him was from the Situ Family.

And the contributions of the Situ Family to Huaxia are beyond words.

"Okay, I know Huaxia is impressive. But do you need to act like I love Huaxia, and Huaxia loves me? Quickly get something to eat, that's what matters."

Yang Yan watched Situ Tingting talk enthusiastically, seemingly with no intention of stopping, and shook his head helplessly as he reminded her.

"You guy, how can you not have a bit of patriotism? You know, one of the Four Emperors, the Moonlight Emperor, has always been working hard for Huaxia."

"As for you, with all your abilities, why don't you ever think of serving your country? Instead, you've thrown yourself entirely into the pursuit of money!"

Situ Tingting looked at Yang Yan with disdain.

"Uh... I never noticed that this Moonlight Emperor has always been working for Huaxia?"

Hearing Situ Tingting's words, Yang Yan felt a sense of chaos.

"Hehe! That's why it's a matter of soul level, different personal pursuits naturally lead to different life realms."

"The Moonlight Emperor even helped Little Sword God Zuo Fei escape from the United States, and also killed the powerful individuals pursuing Zuo Fei at the border of the United States!"

"You have to know, accomplishing such feats is incredibly difficult. Just thinking about it is awe-inspiring."

At this moment, Situ Tingting no longer had the celestial demeanor Yang Yan saw before.

Rather, she looked like someone starstruck, holding her hands together, eyes filled with admiration for her idol she didn't know, talking about how strong and handsome he is.

The more Yang Yan thought about it, the more amusing he found it, so he couldn't help but ask:

"You've said so much, haven't you considered the feelings of the person involved?"

"What if Moonlight doesn't like your type? Or what if Moonlight, like me, is equally repulsed by people from the Situ Family?"

Being admired by a beautiful woman is certainly a pleasing thing.

But just thinking that this beautiful woman is from the Situ Family, especially a junior of that Situ Qingyun, made Yang Yan unable to find any joy.

"Tch—this is precisely why someone can become one of the legendary Four Emperors, and you're stuck running a small clinic in a place like Queens! Vision, you know, vision!"

Situ Tingting seemed addicted to teasing Yang Yan.

For a moment, Yang Yan saw the shadow of Miss Zhou Er in her.

Oh, and also the influence of Han Ruyu.

"I'm not sure about anything else, but the Moonlight Emperor sure has a heart as big as mine. We're definitely the same type of person."

Yang Yan said teasingly.

"Alright, I'm done talking to you. Talking to you is like playing the lute for a cow!"

"Hmph! How could a recluse like you ever understand the heart of the great Moonlight Emperor?"

With that, Situ Tingting went straight into the nearby restaurant.

"Boss, we'd like some beef balls, please."

Situ Tingting said loudly as soon as she walked in.

"Got it! Find yourselves a seat, and we'll prepare it right away."

The attendant inside responded loudly, with a thick regional accent.

"I'm telling you, this place does more than just retain the old Yangcheng look on the outside; the food here keeps the same old flavor too!"

Situ Tingting said with a bit of bragging.

"Alright, that's not important. You should tell me more about the contest!"

"Why did those guys tell you to keep it a secret at first, and now they're making the competition public?"

Yang Yan asked in confusion.

"It's very simple!"

Situ Tingting explained:

"Those guys initially knew that we had the Lance of Longinus, and now they've learned that other forces have similarly valuable items, so they set this up intending to catch everyone in one sweep!"

"How is that possible?"

Yang Yan said, furrowing his brows:

"Those legendary items—while not all under the control of major forces—shouldn't just be out there, right?"

Situ Tingting said carelessly:

"That's unclear. What we do know is that items from various forces are scattered around the world."

"It's not only some of Huaxia's legendary items, but other countries' items too."

Yang Yan's brows furrowed deeper, quickly asking:

"What other items have appeared? Tell me!"

Situ Tingting thought for a moment before saying:

"We don't know much now. But we can confirm the appearance of the Holy Grail, the Lance of Longinus, and our Huaxia's River Map."

"Oh, by the way, I've heard the Luoshu has also emerged. But I don't know whose hands it's in now."

"What else have you heard about?"

Yang Yan asked again.

"There are a few other items, but the information isn't confirmed."

Situ Tingting said with a furrowed brow.

"Alright then!"

Yang Yan shook his head helplessly:

"Why don't you tell me about what forces are participating in the competition right now!"

"As for anything else, let's figure this out first before worrying about it."

In his view, since the other information is inaccurate, there is no need to dwell on it.

For now, he should think about how to get his hands on the Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram first!

Chapter 689: Are You Taking It Off or Not?

"We don't know either."

Situ Tingting gently shook her head:

"After all, there are too many people coming. In a place like the United States, there are usually quite a few people from the Hidden World gathered, not to mention how many hidden people have been drawn in by the news those guys released these past two days."

Yang Yan couldn't help but squint his eyes and mutter softly:

"This is quite interesting. Aren't those guys afraid of angering the Arbitration Committee by doing this?"

"Those old folks just issued an order for the people of the Hidden World to withdraw from the present world! What a big risk they're taking!"

Situ Tingting gave a wry smile:

"That's something they've already considered. The competition location is on an uninhabited island on the border of the United States."

"And around the island, a barrier has been set up by those who are proficient in Space Law, so it won't affect the present world."

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow and said disdainfully:

"So they say it won't affect, and it won't? If that's the case, why don't those guys just go to the Hidden World to fight? If they fought in the Hidden World, they wouldn't have to worry about these things!"

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting looked at him in surprise.

That look was as if she was looking at an alien.

"You really don't know about this?"

Yang Yan frowned and retorted:

"Know about what? Are you saying there's something else going on here?"

Speaking of which, Xiaocao was basically in charge of these things.

And he did tell Xiaocao not to bother him unless it's something particularly important.

After all, if I want Red Dust Heart Refining, I need to stay away from the Hidden World stuff.

Situ Tingting explained:

"Whether it's the Innate Eight Trigrams Diagram or the Lance of Longinus, or something else, none of these can be brought into the Hidden World."

"Because once they enter, they'll disappear without a trace, only to reappear somewhere in the present world."

Yang Yan furrowed his brow and murmured to himself:

"Oh? There really is such a thing?"

The Luoshu has always been carried on the back of that Black Tortoise guy, and Yang Yan had never taken it into the Hidden World, so he wasn't aware of this rule.

"I told you you're becoming a hermit, and you didn't believe me. Now what, got nothing to say, huh!"

"To be honest with you, there have been quite a few incidents in the Hidden World these past two years."

"Especially here in the United States. Nearly every day, some person from the Hidden World is killed."

Situ Tingting spoke with a serious expression, as if intentionally warning Yang Yan.

"That's not surprising, as the Hidden World isn't exactly a nice place for everyone."

Yang Yan understood what she meant, but he seemed indifferent.

Situ Tingting frowned and said:

"But the frequency is too high! How many strong people does the Hidden World have?"

"There are deaths here every day. Sometimes it's not just one or two. How many strong people can the Hidden World afford to lose?"

Hearing her say this, Yang Yan also realized the situation.

He frowned and asked:

"You mean, all those who died were strong warriors?"

Situ Tingting nodded and said seriously:

"Yes! At least A-level and above. Even some SS-level individuals have died."

"Now that's interesting."

Yang Yan squinted his eyes again and muttered softly.

He hadn't been aware of these things because he never paid attention to them.

Since Xiaocao didn't remind him proactively, it was evident that he believed Yang Yan could handle it on his own.

"Alright, let's not talk about this while eating; it might spoil my appetite."

Situ Tingting laughed, effectively bringing an end to the topic.

The beef shank meatballs lived up to their name. One bite, and your mouth is filled with broth.

Situ Tingting might have been in a rush to eat, as some broth dripped from the corner of her mouth...

Surprisingly, the taste was quite authentic.

"This is pretty good. Can you pack me some to take away? Also, do you deliver here?"

After trying some, Yang Yan was quite impressed and couldn't help but loudly ask the owner.

"We do, we do!"

The owner replied with a warm smile, saying hurriedly:

"But for now, we only deliver around Queens. Any further, and we just can't manage. It's simply too busy."

As they say, it's better to have one person eat a thousand times than a thousand people eat once. That's just how it is.

Seeing how much Yang Yan liked his food, the owner generously added a lot of extra beef meatballs in Yang Yan's order.

After finishing the meal, and having ordered quite a bit of takeaway for Zhou Hanyun and the others, Yang Yan and Situ Tingting returned to the clinic.

After all, Situ Tingting's injuries hadn't fully healed, and being treated at the clinic, without interruptions, would speed up the progress quite a bit.

"Do I really have to take everything off?"

Back at the clinic, Situ Tingting hesitated, looking at Yang Yan, and asked as they prepared to start the treatment.

"Obviously!"

Yang Yan exaggeratedly rolled his eyes, saying in a bad mood:

"You know what happens to your body after I perform acupuncture, so why even ask?"

"Of course, if you don't mind having no clothes to wear afterward, I won't stop you."

"But let's agree on one thing! I'm certainly not going to run out to buy clothes for you!"

Situ Tingting blushed and, with a shy face, said:

"But... I'm still an unmarried girl! You're going to see my whole body, what am I supposed to do afterward?"

Yang Yan scoffed, giving a cold laugh:

"What do you want me to do? You expect me to take responsibility? Keep dreaming!"

Upon hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting exploded in anger.

She roared furiously:

"Hey! What do you mean by that? What's this about me dreaming? Am I so terrible that you can't even look at me?"

No wonder Situ Tingting was so worked up.

As a young maiden, having him see everything and not demanding responsibility was gracious enough. Yet, he showed such disdain—what's the deal with that look?

"Heh, enough with the nonsense; I'm not interested in women from the Situ Family!"

"Are you going to take it off or not? If not, I'll do the acupuncture like this."

"But I'll tell you in advance, this session won't be short. You might wake up with those Heaven and Earth Society guys waiting outside."

"If you end up without a stitch on, don't expect me to find clothes for you! My clothes are off-limits to people from the Situ Family."

"Asking me to buy clothes for you? Forget it."

Yang Yan sneered as he reminded her.

"You..."

Situ Tingting found herself, once again, lost for words under his infuriating remarks.

Chapter 690: Give Me the Clothes

After thinking carefully, Situ Tingting realized Yang Yan's words did make some sense.

After all, once he used needles on her, her Inner Strength might burn her clothes.

Moreover, she was wearing the clothes she had on when she got injured, and even though that nurse washed them, they're still a bit tattered.

After weighing the pros and cons for a moment, Situ Tingting gritted her teeth and obediently took off her clothes one piece at a time.

Yang Yan couldn't deny that a woman is most alluring when she's dressing or undressing.

Especially when that woman is as attractive as Situ Tingting, Yang Yan felt his heart race.

As he became parched from watching, Situ Tingting finally removed all her clothes.

"Have you seen enough? If you have, hurry up and start,"

Situ Tingting glared sternly at the drooling Yang Yan, speaking with some anger.

If she didn't know that the damn guy wasn't lying to her, she would have already shown him why flowers are so red.

"Start? Isn't that a bit too rushed? Honestly, I don't want any association with your Situ Family!"

Yang Yan suddenly put on a serious expression and spoke formally.

"What indecent thoughts are you having, you shameless guy? I'm telling you to start using the needles, not harboring dirty ideas."

Upon hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting became furious.

She knew he was deliberately saying this to embarrass her.

"Sorry, sorry!"

Yang Yan laughed sheepishly:

"With a woman stripping naked in front of me and asking me to start, my mind is bound to wander."

"But rest assured, you're absolutely safe here with me."

Situ Tingting felt completely provoked by Yang Yan's words.

She furrowed her brows and coldly questioned:

"What do you mean by that? What do you mean by I'm absolutely safe with you? Explain it clearly!"

Yang Yan realized she was genuinely angry and quickly waved his hands:

"Haha! Don't misunderstand, please don't. What I mean is, as long as you're from the Situ Family, I absolutely won't have any relationship with you. Not that you're not pretty."

"You saw, I actually did have a reaction, but reason prevailed, so you're very safe."

Even if Yang Yan had deep grudges against the Situ Family, he couldn't bring himself to say anything negative about Situ Tingting's appearance.

After all, his conscience would bother him if he told lies.

After hearing Yang Yan's explanation, Situ Tingting's expression lightened quite a bit.

But thinking carefully, isn't he still implying disregard for her?

"Alright, don't fret those details. Now, let's focus on healing! I'm really curious about that competition."

Yang Yan said with a smile.

This time, the needle treatment was same as last time.

However, the good thing was that Situ Tingting didn't have that severe injury anymore.

And what Yang Yan needed to do was stabilize her power level and internal injuries completely.

Two days passed by in a flash.

When Situ Tingting woke from meditation, Yang Yan was eating beef balls sent by the shop at the counter.

"Awake? Would you like to eat something?"

Yang Yan glanced at Situ Tingting, picked up another beef ball and asked indistinctly.

"What time is it?"

Situ Tingting asked.

"What time do you think? Of course, it's been two days."

Yang Yan paused before continuing:

"The old man who sent you last time is outside now. He brought a few women with him who seem to be holding something."

"Jin's here already? Why didn't you wake me sooner, you fool?"

Upon hearing Yang Yan's words, Situ Tingting complained and hurried to grab clothes to put on.

"You were meditating, why would I disturb you? Anyway, those women outside should be holding clothes."

"Why? You plan to wear this outfit to the competition?"

Yang Yan chuckled as he watched Situ Tingting put on her clothes.

"Why didn't you say so sooner?! Did you do it on purpose?"

Situ Tingting glared fiercely at Yang Yan, gritting her teeth.

"You didn't ask!"

Yang Yan replied innocently.

Situ Tingting glared at him again and took off her clothes one piece at a time.

She felt sort of resigned now.

Having already been seen completely by this guy, it didn't matter if he saw her again.

"Uh... I didn't let them bring the clothes inside as I didn't want to disturb you!"

"Are you planning to go out naked now?"

Though Yang Yan didn't mind watching her dress again, he kindly reminded her.

"You scoundrel!"

Situ Tingting erupted with a thunderous shout.

"Jin, don't you want to go in and check? I think I heard Tingting shouting,"

came Chao Liang's voice from outside.

Then came Jin's roar:

"What's there to check? I warn you all, until Dr. Yang allows us to enter, no one should disturb them inside! Or else, don't blame me for being rude."

While Jin was busy reprimanding those around him, the clinic door opened.

Yang Yan, sporting dark circles, walked towards the women holding clothes:

"Give me the clothes, then you can prepare for departure. We'll come out soon."

After seeing Yang Yan return inside, the people outside were briefly stunned. Then some, with livelier thoughts, quickly imagined something extraordinary, staring in surprise at the clinic door.

"What did that guy do to Tingting? Why does he have to get clothes for her?"

Chao Liang growled angrily.

And this time, Jin didn't stop Chao Liang's anger.

Although he regarded Yang Yan highly, that didn't mean he would allow Yang Yan and Situ Tingting to have any dealings.

After all, as the heir of the Situ Family, Situ Tingting's future husband is not her choice.

"Jin, don't stop me, I have to see what that guy did to Tingting."

Chao Liang was about to knock on the door as he finished speaking in a hurry.

Just as he was about to knock on the clinic door, Jin finally reacted.

"Chao Liang, what are you doing?"

Jin yelled sternly:

"Stop immediately! If you interrupt Dr. Yang treating Tingting at a crucial moment, what then?"

Chao Liang replied in distress:

"But Jin, the guy came out to get clothes for Tingting!"

"You know, Tingting has never let a man get clothes for her since childhood..."

At this point, Chao Liang's face twisted.

His heart felt as if it were torn with pain.