

Quick Transmigration: Underdog Turns out to be Untouchable

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Upon hearing that exclamation, Qin Shuangshuang's heart skipped a beat. Could it be that Fang Yaoyao's arrow hit someone? Such bad luck—Fang Yaoyao had only shot two arrows today. The first almost hit herself, and who knows if the second hit someone.

The three hurried into the forest. Fang Yaoyao was so frightened she was almost in tears, her voice quivering as she said, "I'll never shoot an arrow again!"

The three quickly entered the woods. Luckily, the worst-case scenario didn't happen. Fang Yaoyao's arrow hadn't hit anyone but had landed in the bushes. Not far from the arrow, sitting on the ground, was the Eldest Lady, who had been scared out of her wits by the sudden arrow from the sky.

When the Eldest Lady saw Qin Shuangshuang, she got up and threw herself into Qin Shuangshuang's arms, sobbing. She had already been scared when she got lost in the mountains and was nearly hit by the arrow. Unlike Qin Shuangshuang, she didn't have the mental fortitude and was utterly terrified!

Qin Shuangshuang comforted the Eldest Lady for a long time before she stopped crying. After being questioned by Qin Shuangshuang, the Eldest Lady stammered out the reason she appeared there.

It turned out that after Qin Shuangshuang entered the mountains today, she was so excited to meet Fang Zhongyi that she forgot to go home. Usually, Qin Shuangshuang would leave the mountains within half a day, and today, as time passed without her returning, Mrs. Bai and the Eldest Lady started to worry.

Mrs. Bai, being an adult, managed to stay calm, as sometimes Qin Shuangshuang would come back late when she had a good harvest. However, the Eldest Lady couldn't sit still; she was so worried she daringly sneaked out into the mountains alone!

The Eldest Lady had never been in the mountains before. She got lost shortly after entering and wandered further away, becoming increasingly frightened, when suddenly, a stray arrow scared her stiff!

The Eldest Lady was scared half to death, and Qin Shuangshuang was equally frightened by her actions! This little rascal had so much gall—she was so young yet dared to venture into the mountains alone! Angry, Qin Shuangshuang grabbed the Eldest Lady and started scolding her.

The theme of Qin Shuangshuang's lecture was: The mountains are not a place for little girls like the Eldest Lady to venture into! What if you encountered a wild boar? A black bear? A tiger? A wolf...

Even if she were lucky and avoided any danger, what would she do if she got lost and couldn't find anyone, or if she ran into someone with ill intentions? Qin Shuangshuang grew more and more furious while lecturing, and the Eldest Lady, head bowed and fingers fidgeting, didn't dare to say a word.

Neither Qin Shuangshuang nor the Eldest Lady felt there was anything wrong with their behavior, while Fang Zhongyi and Fang Yaoyao, observing on the side, tried hard not to laugh!

A little girl was scolding another girl several years older about how daring she was to run into the mountains! It was utterly unconvincing since the scolder herself set a bad example first!

After scolding for a while, seeing that the Eldest Lady genuinely realized her mistake, Qin Shuangshuang finally let her go with a huff, then introduced her to Fang Zhongyi. Fang Zhongyi was very tall and strong, quite imposing in front of children. The Eldest Lady was somewhat afraid of him and greeted him timidly, then stayed close to Qin Shuangshuang without moving.

Seeing that they weren't far from the foot of the mountain, Qin Shuangshuang carried two rabbits and a wild chicken, bid farewell to the Eldest Lady and Fang Zhongyi, and went down the mountain. Fang Zhongyi stayed back to help Fang Yaoyao gather some commonly used medicinal herbs.

Qin Shuangshuang didn't head straight home but took the Eldest Lady to Old He's house at the village's end. Old He wasn't a village resident, so naturally, no land was allocated to him. He also hadn't bought any land, so his way of making a living was by transporting goods and people by cart and helping with plowing during busy farming seasons to earn wages.

When Qin Shuangshuang arrived, Old He was bathing his old yellow ox with warm water after a half-day of work, chatting with it as he scrubbed. The ox occasionally mooed as if responding, full of spirit.

Seeing Qin Shuangshuang and the Eldest Lady, Old He greeted them with a smile, "What brings you two young ladies here today?" He looked the Eldest Lady up and down, nodding approvingly, "The Eldest Lady looks well; there's color in her cheeks now."

The Eldest Lady, reserved and shy, usually didn't talk much in front of strangers, nodded to Uncle He, murmured a small thank you, and then said no more.

When the Eldest Lady fell silent, Qin Shuangshuang stepped forward, placing two wild rabbits and a couple of old ginseng roots on Uncle He's millstone.

She smiled and continued, "Thank you for your concern, Uncle He. My big sister is fine now, thanks entirely to your help that day. We two kids didn't know how to thank you properly. These gifts, small as they are, are our sisters' heartfelt gesture. Please accept them, Uncle He."

Qin Shuangshuang spoke so nicely that Old He couldn't help but grin but still refused to take the gifts, "I appreciate your gesture, but I can't accept these. It's not easy for two young girls to get some meat, and the Eldest Lady needs nourishing; how could I take them? Keep them for yourselves to build your strength."

"Uncle He, you must accept these. Though we're young, we understand gratitude. This is our sisters' token of appreciation. If you don't accept, how could we possibly ask for your help in the future? These items may be hard to come by, but I'm strong and can always gather more in the mountains. By not accepting, would you be rejecting our sisters' sincere gift as too modest?"

Qin Shuangshuang's words left no room for refusal. Feeling a bit embarrassed, Uncle He finally accepted, tapping Qin Shuangshuang's forehead with a smile, "You clever little girl, you sure have a silver tongue!"

Not taking Qin Shuangshuang's gifts without giving in return, Old He gave her a dozen finely milled black buns.

Black buns are made from unpeeled wheat, milled to remove some of the coarser parts. Some families, who value taste in food despite not affording white flour, will go to the trouble of refining the black flour several times, resulting in a product slightly inferior in texture to white flour. However, this method of refining black flour causes greater loss compared to regular black flour, which many families can't afford.

Carrying the three remaining three-year-old ginseng roots, a wild chicken, and some wild vegetables, Qin Shuangshuang headed back home with the eager Eldest Lady, who anticipated the ginseng chicken soup Qin Shuangshuang had promised to make her!

On their way home, Qin Shuangshuang encountered a middle-aged woman dressed in silk and satin, with heavy makeup and hair adorned with gold and silver hairpins, whom Qin Shuangshuang had never seen before. The woman walked alongside a young wife from the village.

Qin Shuangshuang thought the woman's gaze was very strange. The way she looked at Qin Shuangshuang and the Eldest Lady gave Qin Shuangshuang an inexplicable chill. Moreover, for some reason, seeing this woman made Qin Shuangshuang feel a heavy unease and restlessness!

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The woman and the young daughter-in-law left without saying anything to Qin Shuangshuang. Qin Shuangshuang stood there, staring at the back of the middle-aged woman in a daze for a long time before she brought the Eldest Lady back home.

The chicken soup in the evening was very fresh. The Eldest Lady's face was covered with grease as she ate, full of satisfaction. Even Mrs. Bai, after drinking a big bowl of hot chicken soup, had two faint blushes on her cheeks, adding a touch of beauty.

Of course, for the sake of appearances, Qin Shuangshuang endured her nausea and sent a bowl of chicken soup to the main room before eating. Old Chen and Mr. Qin accepted the chicken soup with cold, indifferent expressions, but Qin Shuangshuang didn't mind.

Although the chicken soup was delicious, Qin Shuangshuang drank it without savoring it. Lying in bed at night, the Eldest Lady and Mrs. Bai were already asleep. Qin Laoer hadn't been coming back to sleep recently. Qin Shuangshuang, tossing and turning, just couldn't fall asleep.

She felt very anxious inside, with a vague sense of panic! Qin Shuangshuang didn't know why she had such thoughts, but she was restless and scared, unable to find a reason, her mind unsettled!

The middle-aged woman she encountered today left Qin Shuangshuang with a bad feeling, yet Qin Shuangshuang couldn't pinpoint where this feeling came from, always feeling it was related to the memories she couldn't recall.

Why did her mother die exactly? Could it have something to do with this middle-aged woman, making her instinctively flustered and at a loss when she saw her, yet unable to find out why.

Pressing on her head, Qin Shuangshuang desperately tried to recall her forgotten memories, but no matter how hard she tried, she couldn't remember. As a result, she didn't sleep well all night, waking up the next day feeling a bit listless.

Due to an inexplicable sense of unease, Qin Shuangshuang, who originally planned to go into the mountains today hoping to meet Fang Zhongyi again, decided to stay at home to look after her mother, Mrs. Bai, not going anywhere.

Mrs. Bai had two little tails today. Qin Shuangshuang was Mrs. Bai's tail, and the Eldest Lady clung to Qin Shuangshuang, also becoming Mrs. Bai's tail. The two little girls followed Mrs. Bai back and forth; Mrs. Bai fed the pigs, chickens, and ducks, Qin Shuangshuang helped carry things, and the Eldest Lady helped mix various feeds.

Mrs. Bai found Qin Shuangshuang's behavior today a bit odd, but since Qin Shuangshuang didn't elaborate, she couldn't ask much more. Seeing that Qin Shuangshuang wasn't in any trouble, she didn't pay it much mind.

"Second Lady, Second Lady!" In the evening, a little head with two braids appeared on the dirt wall next to her home adjoining Aunt Hao's house. It belonged to a little girl with reddish cheeks, somewhat dark skin, but a very adorable smile.

This young girl was Aunt Hao's youngest daughter, Qin Qiao'er, eight years old this year, who had a good relationship with Qin Shuangshuang. Though Qin Shuangshuang didn't really play with children, Qin Qiao'er had always loved to be around Qin Shuangshuang since childhood.

Qin Qiao'er had been staying at her grandmother's place for a while and just returned today. As soon as she got back, she habitually climbed up the wall to greet Qin Shuangshuang!

Qin Shuangshuang greeted Qin Qiao'er from under the wall, with the Eldest Lady clinging tight to Qin Shuangshuang also reaching the wall. Qin Qiao'er, smiling, chatted with Qin Shuangshuang for a bit before climbing over the wall into the yard, mysteriously approaching Qin Shuangshuang, and pulling the Eldest Lady along, making three little heads huddle together.

Qin Qiao'er lowered her voice, "Did you hear? Cui'er who lived at the west end of the village was sold by her mother—just yesterday—and I heard she was sold into a wealthy family in the county town as a maid.

This matter was thanks to Cui'er's sister-in-law, who heard by chance when she went to the county for medical treatment that a rich family was looking to buy servants, seizing this good opportunity!

I heard that Cui'er was sold for fifty taels of silver, and even though it's a life contract, fifty taels of silver! That's more than some people could see in their entire lifetime. And the maids in wealthy families live better than the daughters of the landlords in our town.

Many people were envious and wanted to sell their daughters there too, to not only get silver but also find a good life for their children. Unfortunately, they only want good-looking ones; ordinary families' girls aren't in demand. Many in the village are jealous of Cui'er's mother.

I heard Sanyan and the others wanted to go work as maids in a wealthy family too, to eat and live well, and earn a few hundred coins a month. They say it's a golden opportunity hard to find," Qin Qiao'er said, noting the envy of many but with no taint of envy in her tone.

Qin Shuangshuang frowned. Ordinary folks always think the days in wealthy families are comfortable, even saying being a maid is a life of luxury. Selling sons and daughters is a wrongdoing, but selling a daughter to a rich family is a sought-after blessing.

Little do they know, wealthy families are truly ruthless, swallowing people whole. Girls sold into them first work as menial maids, with heavy work but little pay, and climbing up is difficult. Strife and suppression among servants are common. To live well, one must at least become a second-class maid.

Even becoming a second-class or first-class maid, there are still schemes among masters. A slight oversight or getting dragged in against one's will could mean being beaten to death or sold to places of ill-repute. Being a maid in a rich family is no easy task; this was Qin Shuangshuang's personal experience.

Moreover, when buying servants, wealthy families never choose based on looks. The primary demand is wit and loyalty; appearance just needs not to be frightening. For the family buying Cui'er to demand looks, it's not a good sign. Such a demand often means purchasing concubines.

The best outcome for a concubine is to become a mistress, but even a mistress can be given away. In her past life, Qin Shuangshuang was forced into being a concubine and then given away by the master.

Back then, Qin Shuangshuang was traded several times, living in great misery. Although she eventually found ways to prevent being given away further, her fate only allowed her to survive.

Qin Shuangshuang wasn't familiar with Cui'er, recalling her to be an honest and delicate girl. Such a person in a grand household was destined for a bleak end!

The thing that bothered her most about this matter was the purchaser of Cui'er. That unsettling middle-aged woman Qin Shuangshuang met the day before was likely the one who bought Cui'er, as the young daughter-in-law accompanying her was Cui'er's sister-in-law.

This matter was talked about in Qin Family Village for quite a while, but none of it related to Qin Shuangshuang. She was single-mindedly sticking to her mother, Mrs. Bai, taking only a moment to meet Fang Zhongyi at the foot of the mountain to collect her silver from selling a deer.

Fortunately, that live buck was very valuable, sold for as much as thirty taels of silver, a whole fifteen taels more than the buck Fang Zhongyi had with intact fur! All because Qin Shuangshuang's deer was alive!

One day, Qin Qiao'er mysteriously climbed over the wall again, muttering to Qin Shuangshuang and the Eldest Lady, "Do you two know? Cui'er's family has had a major incident!"

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Without Qin Shuangshuang inquiring, Qin Qiao'er immediately spilled all the information she knew.

It turns out that although Cui'er's parents sold her, it wasn't because they didn't like their daughter. In fact, they loved Cui'er very much, and the reason they sold her was hoping she would have a better life. When they initially sold her, they sent her off with thirty taels of silver for safety.

After Cui'er left, within a few days her parents began to miss her and thought of going to the county to see her. Even if the household rules of the wealthy family were strict and wouldn't allow a visit, they could at least ask someone to send a message to know how their daughter was doing.

However, once they entered the city, they stumbled upon a tremendous event! It turned out that the wealthy family hadn't bought anyone at all! Cui'er's parents were stunned on the spot, but soon realized they had been deceived. Cui'er was most likely sold to one of those filthy places!

Although society believes it's permissible for parents to sell their children, doing so without being forced into desperate circumstances leads to people criticizing them behind their backs, unless it's to a wealthy family who needs servants, which is an exception.

Selling a daughter into service for a prestigious family is considered by the common people as finding a very profitable opportunity, where more can be earned if done well. However, there are only so many affluent families, and they don't need many servants. Such opportunities are rare and hard to come by.

Apart from wealthy families buying servants, many other places buy people, such as buying concubines, child brides, laborers for factories...

But the only places that dare not openly declare buying pretty girls under the guise of wealthy families hiring servants are brothels!

After inquiring everywhere, and confirming that none of the wealthy families in the county had bought servants, Cui'er's parents collapsed on the spot. Her mother cried until she was limp, blaming herself for harming her daughter, engulfed in anguish.

Cui'er's elder sister-in-law was immediately sent back to her own family, and the whole family sought help everywhere to find news about their daughter!

Perhaps heaven does not disappoint the determined, but Cui'er's parents did manage to find her, right in a brothel in the county. Thankfully, Cui'er's strong temperament saved her from being fully trained, and the madam's greed for her virginal silver kept Cui'er intact.

The madam refused to release her, but human trafficking is a major issue, and the law prohibits fraudulent sales. Determined, Cui'er's parents threatened to go to the county government to demand justice, which frightened the madam. Plus, Cui'er was not a major asset, so she agreed to return the purchase price in silver and release Cui'er.

Qin Qiao'er, while recounting the story, felt relieved for Cui'er. Qin Shuangshuang, however, recalled the look in the middle-aged woman's eyes she saw that day. Was she assessing their worth, she and the Eldest Lady? Thinking this, Qin Shuangshuang suddenly felt uneasy.

Lying in bed at night, Qin Shuangshuang once again couldn't sleep. Listening to Qin Qiao'er's recount of Cui'er's story, she felt as if something was trying to surface in her mind but she couldn't quite recall it. The sense of unease and anxiety intensified, coming abruptly and refusing to dissipate.

After a sleepless night, she was naturally tired and weary early the next morning. To make matters worse, there wasn't even a warm meal. Old Chen in the main house had been in a foul mood recently. At first, she refused to give them rice or grains, and now she even forbade the use of firewood. Without firewood, it was impossible to cook.

Mrs. Bai, left with no choice, had to borrow a bundle of firewood from Aunt Hao next door to make breakfast. After breakfast, Qin Shuangshuang reluctantly picked up the rope and chopper to go to the mountain to chop wood.

Feeling very uneasy, Qin Shuangshuang worked especially fast that day. She hastily chopped some dead branches at the foot of the mountain and hurriedly ran home. Before she could reach her house, she saw Qin Qiao'er running towards her in a panic.

Seeing Qin Qiao'er's expression, Qin Shuangshuang felt a jolt in her heart, instinctively sensing something was wrong. Sure enough, Qin Qiao'er, upon seeing Qin Shuangshuang, immediately said, "Second Lady, something terrible has happened! The madam who came to buy someone from Cui'er's house last time came to your house with many thugs! Your grandparents sold you to that madam, and now those people are waiting at your house for you to come back, Second Lady, you must escape quickly!"

Qin Shuangshuang's head started to throb painfully the moment Qin Qiao'er mentioned that her grandparents sold her to that madam, as if it was about to explode. Her memories were like a floodgate being suddenly lifted, and images she had long forgotten flashed through her mind like a lantern.

Since her rebirth, she had been desperately trying to remember these memories, and finally, they all came rushing back in this instant! Qin Shuangshuang remembered everything!

In just a moment, Qin Shuangshuang broke out in a cold sweat from the pain, but she couldn't care anymore. She threw down the dry wood on her back and sprinted towards her home. It was all wrong, all her memories were wrong!

It turns out that Qin Shuangshuang's mother didn't die when she was six, but when she was five, almost six, which was precisely this time! No wonder Qin Shuangshuang had been feeling an inexplicable panic recently, for the madam's appearance indirectly led to her mother Mrs. Bai's death.

The incident with Cui'er also happened in the previous life, but while Cui'er was found by her parents, the Qin Family took a liking to the hefty sum of over fifty taels from her sale, and Qin Shuangshuang was much prettier than Cui'er, certainly worth more.

Coincidentally, the madam came with many thugs, roaming through villages wanting to buy a few pretty girls. After all, brothels need a continuous supply of new beauties.

Unfortunately, during this era, while many were willing to sell their children, very few dared to sell their daughters to a brothel, fearing social backlash.

So when the madam, once again roaming near the Qin Family Village, encountered Mr. Qin, who purposely sought her out, and learned that he wanted to sell a pretty girl to her, she happily came with her thugs.

In the previous life, it was also Qin Qiao'er, the closest to their house and quickest to get the news, who ran over to inform Qin Shuangshuang. But Qin Shuangshuang was just a child, physically weak, unable to run far, and was caught after a few steps by the thugs brought by the madam.

Seeing her daughter caught, Mrs. Bai remained unusually calm. She took advantage of the Qin Family's inattention, ran to the village ancestral hall, and rang the great bell of the Qin Clan Ancestral Hall.

The Qin Clan Ancestral Hall had a large brass bell, which couldn't be rung lightly, but once rung, signaled something significant!

For example, during clan sacrifices, or when a reputable member of the clan passed away, or when a clansman was oppressed—once the bell was rung, all members of the Qin Clan had to gather at the ancestral hall.

Mrs. Bai rang the bell, gathering all the members of the Qin Clan, then revealed that the Qin Family intended to sell her daughter to a brothel. She kowtowed three times,

imploring the clan leader and elders to save her daughter, then got up and dashed her head against the large green stone outside the ancestral hall, staining it with blood!

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Although most people in the Qin Clan survive by farming, there are a few wealthy families who send their children to study, and two of them have successfully passed the imperial exam to gain the title of Scholar.

The scholars were the first to get angry, as the court has laws specifying that officials cannot have someone with slave status within three generations of their family.

Unlike the previous dynasty, the current dynasty does not discriminate against those who sold themselves into servitude, so it is easy for someone with slave status to change to commoner status, as long as their master is willing to release them. However, slave status is different for those of lower, unchangeable status; once you become one, you can never change to commoner status.

Criminals automatically become part of the lower status, as do women who sell themselves to a brothel. Having someone of this lower status in the family is a disgrace to the entire clan.

This matter enraged the entire clan, and because of Mrs. Bai's tragic death, the Qin Family members were heavily punished and almost expelled from the clan. It was only after Mr. Qin and the Qin Family knelt at the ancestral hall for three days, agreeing to grind rice for the clan for ten years in shifts, that they avoided expulsion.

Qin Shuangshuang fell gravely ill due to her mother's death and became mentally slow. For three whole years, she wandered in a daze, calling every woman she saw "mother," unaware of how to eat or drink, and oblivious to the cold and warmth.

If her mother's death hadn't been so tragic, the Qin Family under the clan's supervision wouldn't have dared to let Qin Shuangshuang die. Reluctantly, they had to feed and clothe Qin Shuangshuang; otherwise, she would have starved or frozen to death.

Even so, Qin Shuangshuang was constantly in a state of hunger, often relying on the goodwill of villagers, eating from one house's share today and another's tomorrow to survive.

When she was extremely hungry, Qin Shuangshuang would eat raw vegetable leaves. At that time, the Eldest Lady would save some food every day to secretly feed Qin Shuangshuang, although even the Eldest Lady herself could barely eat until she was eight or nine-tenths full, so there wasn't much she could spare.

It wasn't until three years later, during the harsh winter, that Old Chen chased Qin Shuangshuang to the river to do laundry. She accidentally fell into the river, and after

villagers rescued her, she became seriously ill again. After recovering, Qin Shuangshuang was no longer mentally impaired; however, she forgot everything about her mother, Mrs. Bai, and even forgot those three years of being slow-minded. She only remembered that she was six years old when her mother died.

Due to malnutrition, Qin Shuangshuang remained thin and small, and being nine years old but looking like she was six felt very natural. The Qin Family didn't care for her, and no one told her she was actually nine. The villagers, afraid of stirring up her painful memories, didn't dare speak to her about the past, leading to a stroke of fortune where Qin Shuangshuang completely forgot about those three years.

Thus, after her awakening, the timeline of everything Qin Shuangshuang knew was wrong. Her mother didn't die when she was six; Mrs. Bai died just before her sixth birthday. The disaster year wasn't when she was eight; it happened when she was eleven!

To Qin Shuangshuang, Mrs. Bai's death was the most unbearable pain in the world. She was driven mad for three years, utterly erasing that memory because it was too painful. Except for forgetting, there was no way to resolve it.

All her life, whenever Qin Shuangshuang saw that madam, she would vaguely recall the feeling of forgotten memories. And when Qin Qiao'er told her to run because her family had sold her, the floodgates of her memory suddenly opened wide, and Qin Shuangshuang finally remembered everything!

Recalling that memory, Qin Shuangshuang ran frantically toward home, because today was the day of Mrs. Bai's death calamity!

At that moment, Qin Shuangshuang deeply hated herself for being so weak. Why hadn't she remembered earlier? Why recall now? No matter what, she absolutely could not let anything happen to her mother! She could not let Mrs. Bai die for her again!

Halfway through her run, Qin Shuangshuang encountered the thugs sent by the madam to capture her. These thugs were used to catching people; when they saw Qin Shuangshuang, they said nothing and just went to seize her. They even had a handkerchief prepared to gag her to prevent her from shouting and causing trouble.

Worried about her mother, Mrs. Bai, Qin Shuangshuang had no time to entangle with these people. Relying on her strength, she charged through them, knocking them off balance and continued to sprint home!

When she reached the gate, she kicked it open, sending the wooden gate almost flying!

Upon rushing into the yard, Qin Shuangshuang didn't see her mother, Mrs. Bai. Instead, she saw the madam with Old Chen and Little Chen talking in the courtyard, with a few thugs standing not far behind them.

Seeing Qin Shuangshuang, they all changed expressions. Qin Shuangshuang ignored them, quickly scanning the yard for her mother who wasn't there, she frantically called for her as she ran into the house, but there was no one inside—her mother, Mrs. Bai, was not in the house!

Qin Shuangshuang was almost in a panic, feeling uneasy without seeing her mother. Especially on this ominous day, her heart pounded fiercely, and she constantly had a sense of impending doom!

Desperately searching for her mother, Qin Shuangshuang became like a headless fly, while the women in the yard remained indifferent. The madam assumed her thugs had not captured Qin Shuangshuang.

At this moment, the madam, indicating Qin Shuangshuang who had searched the yard with no luck and was frantically heading out to continue her search, instructed her thugs, "Catch her!"

As luck would have it, at the same time the madam spoke, a deep, weighty bell tolled over the Qin Family Village! The bell's resonance was long and lingering, echoing from above the Qin Family Village!

This bell was unique to the large bell in front of the Qin Clan Ancestral Hall. It was the summons bell for the Qin Clan members, and all Qin Clan members who heard it must immediately proceed to the ancestral hall.

Qin Shuangshuang had a quirk; she was particularly afraid of the sound of bells! Previously, not having this memory, she didn't know why she feared the bell. Every time she heard it, she was extremely scared. Now recalling that memory, Qin Shuangshuang finally understood why she feared the bell so much.

Just like now, Qin Shuangshuang's heart sank to the depths with the bell, cold and chilling to the bone! Fear instantly filled her heart!

Qin Shuangshuang dashed toward the gate like a madwoman; she had to go to the ancestral hall, she absolutely would not let anything happen to her mother.

As Qin Shuangshuang tried to leave, the people in the courtyard were not agreeable. Since the bell tolled, Old Chen and Little Chen had to go to the ancestral hall, so they instructed the madam, "Quickly have this damned girl caught and then leave!"

The madam nodded nonchalantly, her eyes fixed on Qin Shuangshuang's face, unable to look away. Qin Shuangshuang's beauty could be considered a reserve for an Oiran. The madam had been intrigued for quite some time since their encounter by chance.

Back then, the madam thought Qin Shuangshuang looked healthy, assuming her parents were fond of her. She let her curiosity pass. Yet, she didn't expect to be so lucky, that in just one day, this girl who caught her fancy would fall into her hands.

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The madam could already imagine that this little girl, with her training, would bring in mountains of gold and silver when she grew up and started working! Therefore, when ordering those thugs to catch Qin Shuangshuang, she added an extra instruction, "Make sure not to harm her face!"

Qin Shuangshuang was almost going crazy with anxiety and couldn't care less about entangling with these thugs. She planned to break out as she did with the last group of thugs by charging through. However, just her luck, the group of thugs outside who were after her happened to come back at that moment!

The two groups of thugs teamed up into a group of over ten people, making it impossible for Qin Shuangshuang to escape easily. Frustrated and angry, she realized these people were still relentless in coming after her, so she decided to fight back hard!

Previously, Qin Shuangshuang would just knock people aside, focusing on escape. Now, seeing she couldn't get away without knocking them down, she started fighting them with her fists!

Qin Shuangshuang didn't know martial arts, but she was strong. It was said that brute force can overcome skill. Those thugs who pounced on her to pin her down got thrown several meters away by her strength, hitting the ground with a thud, half-dead, and they couldn't dream of getting back up.

Two other thugs worked together to restrain her arms and legs, trying to lift her. She shook them off, and not only didn't they restrain her, but they even ended up dislocating their arms. Her fists, capable of killing wild boars, when swung with full force, could break legs and arms. If Qin Shuangshuang wasn't afraid of causing fatalities and didn't aim for places beyond limbs, it wouldn't just be broken bones.

Qin Shuangshuang loathed the madam. After knocking everyone down, she grabbed one thug by the leg, spun around, and hurled him fiercely toward the madam, who scrambled in panic but couldn't outrun Qin Shuangshuang!

As a result, the madam was directly hit by the thug thrown by Qin Shuangshuang, collapsing to the ground with a distorted scream, likely breaking several ribs! The pain drained the color from her face, almost knocking the life out of her!

Qin Shuangshuang didn't bother to look at her handiwork; after clearing out the obstacles, she dashed towards the ancestral hall with ferocious determination. If her

mother really died this time, she wouldn't spare anyone from the Qin Family, the madam, or the thugs who delayed her!

When Qin Shuangshuang reached the ancestral hall, she saw her mother, Mrs. Bai, kneeling on the ground, knocking her head three times, then standing with a resolute face, crashing towards the large blue stone without hesitation. Mrs. Bai moved so fast that none of the surrounding people had time to react.

Already close, Qin Shuangshuang's pupils contracted, and she let out a shrill cry, "Mother!" Her speed increased to the maximum as she rushed towards Mrs. Bai!

Fortunately, upon hearing Qin Shuangshuang's voice, Mrs. Bai seemed to pause, but her determination to die for her daughter's sake had her moving too fast. As her head was about to hit the blue stone due to forward momentum, Qin Shuangshuang managed to rescue her with a dive.

Even so, Mrs. Bai hit her head hard enough to bleed, immediately passing out, showing how determined she was to die! Luckily, Qin Shuangshuang arrived just in time, preventing her mother from getting her brains dashed out like in the previous life.

Qin Shuangshuang was terrified, staring at her mother's bloody face unconscious in her arms, her fingers trembling uncontrollably, not daring to check Mrs. Bai's breath, fearing that she might feel no signs of life.

At this time, the village chief, his wife Mrs. Wang, a few clan elders, and people who were normally on good terms with Mrs. Bai gathered around. Mrs. Wang, seeing how frightened Qin Shuangshuang was, reached out to check Mrs. Bai's breath, then breathed a sigh of relief. Fortunately, she wasn't dead, just fainted!

Given Mrs. Bai's condition, both emotionally and logically, she needed to be quickly settled and a doctor called as soon as possible. There was no need for much discussion; Mrs. Wang made the decision to take Mrs. Bai to her house.

The village chief, also the Clan Leader, lived closest to the Qin Clan's ancestral hall, just a few steps away. Quickly, Mrs. Bai was placed in a sunny room at the village chief's house.

Throughout, Qin Shuangshuang held Mrs. Bai's hand without a word, silently staring at her mother's face, afraid that if she looked away, her mother might be gone. Everyone watching Qin Shuangshuang felt a bit heartbroken and harbored more disdain for the Qin Family who sold her to the brothel.

Although Cui'er was sold into the brothel by her parents, it was through deception. Once they discovered the truth, they turned the world upside down to redeem their daughter. Not only did the villagers not consider her parents cruel for selling their daughter, but they also sympathized with them deeply.

But in comparison, the Qin Family knowingly sold an innocent girl to a madam for silver. This made people despise and even spit on them!

Especially some elders in the village, who had educated family members, were infuriated. Being all relatives within three clans, if the Qin Family's actions were successful, it would cut off their children's path to success!

This time, the Qin Family appeared to only sell an unfavored girl, but according to the laws of the dynasty, it affected many people's interests, sparking public outrage!

The clan elders united in their opinion, fiercely proposing to the village chief to expel the Qin Family from the clan, as they could not tolerate such a scourge within the Qin Clan!

Mr. Qin and Mr. Qin, despite their experience and self-proclaimed knowledge, did not foresee this minor scandal in their eyes causing such an uproar!

Now, the Qin Family members stood outside, anxious and bewildered, wondering how things had blown up so much.

Expulsion from the clan was a severe punishment. Those expelled could not live in clan-gathered areas and had to move out of the village immediately. They could no longer claim to be Qin Clan members. In that era, lacking family support meant facing imminent bullying.

The Qin Family anxiously awaited their fate outside, while inside the village chief's house, the clan elders and a few influential people discussed the final resolution for dealing with the Qin Family.

Amidst the chaos, Old He arrived at the village chief's house, leading his old yellow cow pulling a cart. A gray-bearded, familiar-looking old doctor was being helped off the cart by Aunt Hao's son, Qin Yuan, who dragged him hurriedly into the house like a gust of wind.

As soon as the old doctor entered, he panted and said to Qin Yuan, "You young guys are always so hurried. This old body of mine can't keep up with you youngsters. Are you trying to pull me apart?"

Qin Yuan scratched his head, bowing and apologizing with a smile, "I'm sorry. Please bear with us. It's a matter of life and death, so I got a bit anxious and rough. Once you check Aunt Bai, I'll treat you to a meal as an apology!"