

## R Woman 541

Chapter 541: Bi Mei Meng Jiang

Chu Jin followed beside Mo Zhixuan, asking, "Are you sure you didn't hear it wrong?"

Since Chu Jin was communicating with Zi using her consciousness, no one noticed anything unusual about her.

Zi affirmed confidently, "I'm sure I didn't hear it wrong. There's definitely Soul Resurrection Grass on this mountain."

"But Nanshan is so vast, where do we search for the Soul Resurrection Grass? Can you sense its exact location?" Chu Jin frowned slightly.

Nanshan was at least several hundred kilometers wide, wasn't this quest akin to searching for a needle in a haystack?

Upon hearing this, Zi sounded somewhat deflated, "I can't sense it either..." Then, she quickly added, "Otherwise, we could stay here a few more days. As long as we're sure that the Soul Resurrection Grass is on this mountain, we'll definitely find it."

Chu Jin raised her eyebrow slightly, "It seems that's the only option now. Hey, by the way, Zi, I remember someone often bragging about being invincible in the universe, possessing the strongest brain in the cosmos. How come now you can't even find a blade of grass?"

Zi's face turned red, "Hehe... Is that so? I don't seem to remember that."

The group of six headed towards the inn.

As soon as they walked in, a proprietress dressed in exotic clothing welcomed them, "Mr. Mo, please follow me."

It seemed Mo Zhixuan had reserved rooms in advance.

Since there were girls in the group, Mo Zhixuan booked three suites, each with their own bedroom and bathroom, making it convenient and safe to stay.

Being close to the mountains, at night, in addition to people, there were other things that could come out.

Mo Zhixuan naturally shared a suite with Chu Jin, Qin Jinyong and Miao Xinran, the siblings, shared another, while Mo Qingyi stayed in a suite with Duanmu Zhe.

"Brother, I don't want to share a suite with him!" Mo Qingyi retorted discontentedly.

Mo Zhixuan glanced at her, then emotionlessly unlocked the door of the neighboring room, pulling Chu Jin in with him and responding to Mo Qingyi with a 'bang' as he closed the door.

Mo Qingyi stamped her foot in anger, "Hmph! He forgets his sister at the sight of his lover!"

Duanmu Zhe, in a good mood, opened the door, "Come on, Mo 'Third Kid,' what are you waiting for?"

Mo Qingyi stood there unmoving.

"Mo 'Third Kid,' let me tell you, the mountains aren't like the Capital City. There is all sorts of stuff in these hills. You'd better come inside quickly. Lest you see something you shouldn't and then, don't blame me for not warning you," said Duanmu Zhe ominously.

Mo Qingyi glanced over to see that Miao Xinran and Qin Jinyong had already gone inside. The empty corridor was eerily quiet with no one around, scaring her into rushing into the room.

Once inside, seeing Duanmu Zhe's mischievous smile, Mo Qingyi picked up a pillow and threw it at him, "Damn it! You actually dared to trick me! I'll make you pay today!"

The two quickly started to bicker.

Of the six people on this trip, no one noticed that an extra woman's figure had appeared in the previously empty corridor.

She was dressed in a dark purple gown, with a strikingly beautiful and bold face, a purple peach blossom ornament dotted on her forehead, her long hair tied up high, a purple bead flower pinned on the left side of her head, and even her lips were purplish-red. The whole person looked very strange, gazing resentfully towards the room where Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan stayed.

It was Jia Zhuo.

Having not seen her for several months, Jia Zhuo had changed a lot, exuding a somewhat gloomy aura, as if she had become obsessed.

Ever since she heard about Zheng Chuyi's death, Jia Zhuo had become like this, barely able to accept the reality!

Had it not been for Zheng Chuyi's timely rescue back then, she would not be where she was today! Moreover, she had grown up with Zheng Chuyi from a young age like sisters! She hated herself for not being able to protect her 'sister' properly at that time!

She swore that she would avenge Zheng Chuyi!

Even if it meant sacrificing herself, she was determined to kill Chu Jin with her own hands!

But how easy could it be to deal with Chu Jin? Even with the skills of Jia Zhuo, even ten of her would be no match for Chu Jin!

So, she left the Superpower World and began to practice evil arts.

Jia Zhuo stared at that room door, her hands hidden under her sleeves tightly clenched, her fingernails digging deep into her flesh, completely unaware of the pain.

"Whether you are Jun Huang or Chu Jin, I will have you buried in these southern mountains! To avenge Sister Chuyi and dispel her grievances!"

"Xiao Zhuo, the guests in Building Three say that the air conditioning isn't cooling. Hurry up and go take a look," the landlady's voice came from downstairs.

"Okay, I'm coming." Jia Zhuo replied, resuming the appearance of an ordinary person and hurried downstairs.

The guesthouse was large, but did not host many travelers; the environment inside was also extremely elegant. Green plants and fresh flowers could be seen everywhere, magnolia carvings, and at the entrance of the hall was a considerable artificial hill. Beneath the hill was a small pond with several water lilies planted in it, their pink blossoms in full bloom. Various colorful goldfish swam around beneath the flowers, attracting a few groups of tourists who stopped to watch.

Mo Zhixuan had booked three suites, almost each with a separate bedroom and restroom, except the one he shared with Chu Jin, which did not.

"Why is there only one bedroom?" Chu Jin stood in the living room, her eyebrows slightly raised.

Mr. Mo was sitting on the sofa, looked up at her with his eyes slightly narrowed, "Hmm?"

His voice was already low, and now, deliberately subdued, it sounded even more magnetic.

Chu Jin cleared her throat and swirled a glass of water in her hands, "Mr. Mo, has anyone ever told you that you really, really are shameless? Hmm?" Chu Jin mimicked his intonation, the final 'Hmm' rising ever so slightly.

"Calling me 'Dad' again!" Mo Zhixuan's face fell. Was he really that old?

Chu Jin slightly raised her eyebrows, teasingly said, "I'm only eighteen! You must be eighty by now, right?" Indicating that calling him 'Dad' was letting him off easy!

Once again being considered old by someone, Mo Zhixuan's already stern features grew even colder, "No more calling random names from now on!"

He then added, rather gloomily, "I'm not that old yet..."

Surprisingly, Mr. Mo actually seemed angry.

Chu Jin's eyes bend into crescent moons, even happier, "Dad, Dad, Mr. Mo Dad..."

Her voice was clear and melodious, sounding very pleasant to the ear.

Mr. Mo grew even more frustrated and seeing Chu Jin pass by him, he reached out without thinking and grabbed her fair wrist, gently pulling her.

It was almost without warning.

After successfully leaving his mark on her, Mo Zhixuan lifted his head slightly, his phoenix eyes staring intently at her, "Will you call me 'Dad' again?"

"I won't! I promise!" Chu Jin surrendered quickly, recognizing a wise move when she saw one.

Mo Zhixuan lightly arched his elegant brows, "Really?"

"I swear."

Under the lighting, Mr. Mo stood there, tall and handsome, his features exuding a natural nobility that demanded attention, a cold halo created by the crystal light encasing him.

He was carelessly unbuttoning his sleeve's cufflinks.

It was a casual gesture, but he interpreted it with a noble air, like a sovereign supreme.

The diamond cufflinks reflected a dazzling light under the illumination.

Chu Jin continued, "I, I just remembered, Qingyi and Xinran were looking for me about something. I'll go check on them." With that, she dashed towards the door as if carried by the wind.

Just then, the doorbell rang.

She instantly reacted and then ran to open the door.

It was Miao Xinran and Mo Qingyi.

"Jin, we're going downstairs to eat, do you and Brother Nine want to join us?" Miao Xinran walked in and asked.

Mo Qingyi ran to the table, grabbed a beverage, and quickly unscrewed the cap, "I need a drink first, I'm dying of thirst."

Chu Jin nodded, linking her arm with Miao Xinran's, "Sure, let's go together, I'm hungry too."

Miao Xinran glanced at her and then looked down at her collarbone, swallowing hard, "Jin, do you want to... change your clothes?"

Mommy, in broad daylight, these two are too wild!

"Change clothes?" Chu Jin was initially confused, then she realized, covered her collarbone with her hand, and quickly ran inside, "Then wait for me a moment." Passing by Mr. Mo, she gave him an annoyed look.

The clueless Mo Qingyi carelessly sat on the sofa and said to Mo Zhixuan, "Bro, you really are vain. Isn't it just a meal? Is bathing and changing clothes necessary? Look how you've influenced Jin!"

Rushing to help, Miao Xinran picked up a slice of watermelon and handed it to her, "Qingyi, eat some melon, eat some melon."

It was best for them to stay quiet and be spectators.

Of course, Mo Qingyi, this careless melon-eater, was not an easy one to deal with. She looked around the suite and asked, "Bro, your suite is different from ours, huh? Why do you only have one bedroom here?"

Mo Zhixuan gave her a cool glance, with a chilly edge in his eyes, "You want to stay here too?"

Hurriedly, Miao Xinran handed her another slice of watermelon, "Here, Qingyi, eat this piece, it's sweeter."

By then, Chu Jin had changed and came out of the washroom. She had put on a white shirt and black pencil pants, and stepped into a pair of white sneakers, radiating youthfulness and energy.

The shirt collar just covered the kiss mark on her collarbone.

"I'm ready, let's go," Chu Jin said as she approached Mo Qingyi and Miao Xinran.

The three of them giggled and went downstairs, with Mo Zhixuan following behind them.

Duanmu Zhe and Qin Jinyong were already waiting downstairs.

The six of them stood there, the men handsome and the women beautiful, creating an exceptionally stunning scene that instantly captured the gaze of everyone in the hall.

Although Nanshan was not large, it wasn't a small place either, and it hosted many tourists each year. However, the innkeeper and the staff had never seen a group of six with such high attractiveness and presence before.

Each time they saw them, they couldn't help but secretly marvel.

"What should we eat?" Mo Qingyi asked.

Duanmu Zhe replied, "I've checked already, the most characteristic restaurant around here is not far ahead. We can walk there, a 15-minute stroll will get us there."

"Then what are we waiting for? Let's hurry up and go, I'm starving!"

The party of six walked out of the inn.

This was a very quaint little town, somewhat reminiscent of the water towns in the Jiangnan region, with cobblestone paths underfoot, small bridges over flowing streams, wooden boats drifting on the water and fishermen singing their fishing songs.

The air was incredibly fresh.

On the way, Mo Qingyi was as excited as a new farmhand in the countryside; she walked backwards, suggesting, "Jin, Xinran, after we eat, shall we come back here to row a boat?"

"Wow! This swan is so cool! Wow, it can catch fish too!"

"Ew, that's so gross! Why did it spit the fish it ate back out?"

Duanmu Zhe followed behind and explained, "Oh my dear lady! That's not a swan, its scientific name is cormorant, a large fish-eating water bird, adept at diving, and a great helper for fishermen to catch fish..."

Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan walked hand in hand behind the two, strolling leisurely.

Miao Xinran and Qin Jinyong followed behind them, with Qin Jinyong's gaze drifting towards Chu Jin now and then, his expression quite complex.

"Old Qin, what's wrong with you? You seem distracted?" Miao Xinran asked.

"Not at all. I just think the scenery here is really nice," Qin Jinyong said, glancing at her sidelong, changing the subject, "By the way, do you like it here?"

"Big brothers, buy a flower for the beautiful sisters," just at that moment, a little girl came towards them carrying a bamboo basket, which was full of brightly colored, flourishing wild roses.

The little girl was very spirited, not very tall, with fair skin, a typical Jiangnan person, not the prettiest but her looks were very charming, and the words she spoke were even more so.

The group stopped in their tracks.

Chu Jin stepped forward, picked up a flower from the basket, and sniffed it lightly at the tip of her nose, "Little sister, how much are you selling these flowers for?"

The group, at a glance, was clearly either rich or noble.

The little girl's eyes, clear-cut in black and white, spun around, "Originally, these flowers are 18 yuan each, but seeing as how pretty you are, sister, I'll sell them to you for 10 yuan each."

"What a sweet talker you are, little girl!" Mo Qingyi came over, "So, what do you think, how much would you sell one to me for?"

The little girl touched her chin and said with a beaming smile, "Hmm, the Buddha says, '500 glances in past lives for just one passing by in this one'—since we're so fated, and you're so beautiful, I'll also sell it to you for 10 yuan each."

In fact, the aura of everyone in the group was very strong, especially Mo Zhixuan and Chu Jin. Others felt intimidated by just a glance, and other hawkers lowered their voices upon seeing the group. Yet this little girl was not intimidated and even approached them to peddle her flowers.

"What about me? I want one too. Is it also 10 yuan each?" Miao Xinran approached, feeling like she had struck a great deal, unaware that these flowers were usually sold at 10 yuan for three.

"Of course," the little girl nodded, "The three sisters are even more beautiful than these roses, just as it says in the books... 'people are more delicate than flowers!' Today, I would be willing to give away all the flowers in my basket to the three of you for free."

The little girl looked at the three with a joyful smile in her eyes, without any obvious flattery, making it clear that she spoke from the heart.

"I like what you're saying," Mo Qingyi was so flattered she was almost lost, "I'll take the whole basket of flowers. Duanmu Xiaosi, pay up."

The little girl bowed deeply in thanks, "Thank you, pretty sister."

"By the way, little girl, what's your name?" Chu Jin asked, unable to resist such an intriguing little girl.

The little girl looked up at Chu Jin and said politely, "Sister, my name is Yinyin."

"Yinyin?" Miao Xinran asked with curiosity, "Is it the 'yin' from music?"

The little girl shook her head with a smile, "No, it's the 'yin' from De Yin. My mom said my name comes from the Book of Songs, 'There are Women in the Same Cart' - 'Meng Jiang was beautiful, her virtuous charm lingers on.'"

Chu Jin smiled faintly, "That's a nice name. So, Yinyin, how old are you this year?"

The little girl continued, "Sister, I turned 10 years old today."

Just then, a woman's voice rang through the air, "Meng Deyin, stop setting out your flowers and hurry home to take care of your brother! What kind of way is that for a girl to behave, always away from home!"

The little girl responded and then took the red bill Duanmu Zhe offered her, bowed and said thank you, handed the basket of flowers to Mo Qingyi, and then ran off.

"What an interesting little girl," Mo Qingyi remarked.

Miao Xinran frowned slightly, "Her mom sounded so fierce! Not like someone who would give such a poetic name."

Chu Jin took a rose from the basket and twiddled it in her hand, her downcast eyes showing a tinge of complexity.

These wild roses were clearly suffused with the scent of Soul Resurrection Grass, and quite heavily so!

Chapter 542: Life is Like a Play

Wild roses grew amidst the mountains.

It seemed that as long as one found a place with wild roses, the Soul Resurrection Grass could be found as well.

Chu Jin had wanted to ask Zi about the situation, but Zi had fallen asleep on the table again. Chu Jin frowned slightly; lately, Zi seemed a bit off.

It looked like he'd have to figure it out on his own.

With such vastness of Nan Mountain and his unfamiliarity with the terrain, where could he find wild roses?

Chu Jin gently smelled the wild roses in his hand, his thoughts deep in his eyes.

The bright red flowers against his jade-like cheeks were stunningly attractive, perfectly embodying the phrase "beauty that shames the flowers."

Seeing him like this, Mo Qingyi leaned in and asked, "What's wrong, Jin? What are you thinking about?"

Chu Jin snapped out of his reverie, and with a faint smile, he replied, "It's nothing. Shall we go? Aren't you hungry?"

Mo Qingyi knew that Chu Jin had his little secrets and did not pry further, cheerily pulling him and Miao Xinran forward.

Leaving the three tall men walking side by side, their striking looks and presence commanding attention.

This drew frequent glances from young girls, but they were just that, glances; none dared approach to strike up a conversation.

Mo Qingyi was like a child with ADHD, carrying a basket and bounding energetically along the way, and whenever he encountered people, regardless of gender, age or social standing, he would offer them a wild rose.

He even gave a nice-sounding reason for it: "Give someone roses and the fragrance lingers on your hands."

Passersby were startled when they received wild roses from Mo Qingyi, thinking to themselves, "Whose unruly child is this?"

And for those single young men who received flowers from Mo Qingyi, their faces turned beet red, their hands holding the flowers as they imagined scenes beyond reality.

Duanmu Zhe's face behind them was almost as black as the bottom of a pot.

Mo Zhixuan patted Duanmu Zhe on the shoulder and said meaningfully, "Bear with it a bit more."

Duanmu Zhe looked up in surprise, trying to suppress the excitement within him, "Ninth Brother?"

What did Ninth Brother's words mean? Was he offering his support?

But Mo Zhixuan didn't continue talking, reverting back to his noble and aloof demeanor, with his sharply-defined features partly shrouded in shadow, mysterious yet conspicuous.

Seeing him like this, Duanmu Zhe swallowed hard and said nothing more.

A flash of bright yellow crossed the corner of the street.

Qin Jinyong's pupils constricted, and he abruptly stopped. "Ninth Brother, Duanmu, I've suddenly remembered I've left something at the inn. I'll go back to retrieve it. You can go ahead; no need to wait for me," he said.

"Go ahead," Mo Zhixuan said, parting his lips lightly to utter two words indifferently.

Qin Jinyong nodded and turned, his steps rapidly carrying him back in the direction of the inn.

Meanwhile, Mo Zhixuan and Duanmu Zhe continued to walk forward.

The group soon arrived at the specialty restaurant Duanmu Zhe had mentioned, and Mo Qingyi had just finished handing out all the wild roses in his basket, even giving the basket itself away.

Like all nearby buildings, the restaurant was of ancient construction.

The restaurant was large, with many guests coming and going by the door, unlike the Hidden Ferry Inn where they stayed, which was quite deserted.

As soon as they entered the restaurant's main entrance, Chu Jin's gaze was captured by the stage set up in the middle of the hall, where a Qingyi was making an exquisite appearance, makeup and costumes on point.

The melodious strains of the opera echoed through the air, "It turns out that the garden is full of reds and purples, all succumbing to desolation and ruin..."

It was the most famous excerpt from the Kunqu opera "Peony Pavilion," "The Dream in the Garden."

Listening to the familiar tune and seeing the familiar makeup, Chu Jin's eyes gradually moistened.

In a previous life, when I was still Qin Jie, my grandmother was best at playing the role of Aunt Du Li. She would often dress in costume and apply Aunt Du Li's makeup, tirelessly practicing her lines alone in the garden.

Perhaps influenced by my grandmother, I also developed a fondness for Kunqu opera, even coming close to becoming a Qingyi actress myself. However, everything changed after I met Shen Lingtian.

For Shen Lingtian, I gave up my beloved Kunqu opera. I not only took up the pen to write but also wandered the marketplace, clinking glasses with strangers.

In the end, it all led to a raging fire.

Life is like a play, and a play is like life.

Just like Aunt Du Li on the stage, once awakened from her dream, what awaited her was emptiness.

How many years had it been since I last heard the long-lost sounds of Kunqu opera, yet by then, everything and everyone had changed.

My capriciousness had reduced my grandmother to nothing but bones, and I, I had become Chu Jin.

Our group made its way to the railing on the second floor and sat down.

The view from here was excellent; a mere glance downward captured the entirety of the restaurant.

After seating myself, my attention remained fixed on the stage below. My expression was serene, but my eyes were intent, even slightly red-rimmed.

"Jin, can you understand what she's singing?" Curious, Mo Qingyi leaned in closer, glancing down at the stage. As for her, she couldn't understand a single word—it all sounded like unintelligible murmurs, with such drawn-out intonations that it seemed utterly dull to listen to.

These days, young people prefer pop music, DJ sets, and upbeat tunes. How many of them would take an interest in such ancient operas?

Only the retired elderly would listen to opera music to pass their time.

I withdrew my gaze and said lightly, "I can understand a bit."

"Jin, you're not bluffing, are you?" For the first time, Mo Qingyi doubted me. "If you can understand, then tell us, what Huangmei opera is she singing?"

In Mo Qingyi's mind, all such operatic warbling were labeled as Huangmei opera, having come to know Huangmei opera through old Lady Mo, who often watched opera programs and occasionally hummed a few lines from "A Girl as Daughter-in-Law."

I glanced at Mo Qingyi and said softly, "She's singing Kunqu."

Mo Qingyi nodded thoughtfully, "So the Huangmei opera she's singing is called Kunqu, huh? But that's such a strange name..."

Mo Zhixuan: "..."

Duanmu Zhe: "..."

I, believing that it's wrong to mislead the youth, patiently explained to her the difference between Kunqu and Huangmei opera.

I spoke in great detail, yet not overly complex, in a way that was easy to understand. It was clear I had thoroughly researched the subject.

They say a person who is earnest in their pursuits is most attractive, and this description couldn't fit Chu Jin at the moment any better.

I explained earnestly to Mo Qingyi, my tone gentle like the bubbling of an approaching river, clear and melodious, each sound entering the ear, dispelling the gloom in the air and bringing enlightenment.

Full of grace and charm.

The admiration was visible in the eyes of the elderly at the next table, who nodded their heads in approval.

While Mo Qingyi struggled to grasp the nuances, seemingly understanding but not quite, Miao Xinran, after hearing my explanation, looked at me with eyes sparkling with admiration, "Wow, Jin, you're amazing, you even understand operas!"

I smiled faintly, "There was an elder in my family who particularly enjoyed studying these, so I picked up a little."

Mo Qingyi then leaned over, teasing, "Jin, tell me honestly, are you really not the Immortal of the Heavenly Mount? "

Can this person really be only eighteen years old?

Would an eighteen-year-old girl actually enjoy such old operas?

I shot her a glance, "If I were the Immortal of the Heavenly Mount, you would be the first one I'd devour."

After hearing my explanation, Miao Xinran became intensely interested in Kunqu. She grabbed my hand and pleaded, "Jin, Jin, tell me the story of 'Peony Pavilion,' okay?"

I nodded and proceeded to briefly yet succinctly explain the backdrop of "Peony Pavilion" to Miao Xinran. I concluded the tale with the line, "Beneath the peony flowers we meet, to wed even as ghosts is sweet."

Having learned the backstory, my heart stirred with a different sort of feeling when I listened once more to the sorrows sung by the Qingyi below the stage.

An innocent Du Li, yearning for marriage freedom yet oppressed by feudal ethics, whose beautiful love could only be realized in dreams, was undoubtedly pitiable.

"Du Li is so pitiable..." Miao Xinran lamented with reddened eyes.

Mo Qingyi patted Miao Xinran on the shoulder, "Hey, hey, hey, look at you, all weepy-eyed. Remember, you're eighteen this year, not eighty!"

Miao Xinran exclaimed, "You, with your lack of artistic sensibility, wouldn't understand."

Mo Qingyi pouted, dissatisfied, "Let's talk about it when I'm eighty..."

It was quite a while before Qin Jinyong finally made his late appearance.

As he made his apologetic entrance, he leaned over to sit next to Miao Xinran, "Sorry to have kept everyone waiting."

With everyone now present, Duanmu Zhe motioned for the waiter to serve the dishes.

The six of them had ordered a full table of delicacies, all unique to places outside Capital City.

At the dinner table, Mo Zhixuan kept adding food to Chu Jin's bowl, hardly touching his own chopsticks.

Occasionally, Chu Jin would peel a shrimp for Mo Zhixuan, dipping it into garlic spicy sauce and placing it on the dish in front of him.

Thus, Mr. Mo, who typically avoided spicy food, subtly ate all the shrimp she peeled for him.

Watching their interaction, Qin Jinyong's brow furrowed slightly.

Ninth Brother truly couldn't keep sinking into this.

If things continued this way, the one who'd be hurt the most would only be Ninth Brother.

He must act decisively and solve the situation.

"Zhixuan." A gentle, water-like voice emerged at the right moment.

Everyone at the table instinctively looked up to see a woman, in her twenties, approaching. She was dressed in a bright yellow gown with phoenix tails embroidered on the hem, her demeanor gentle, perfectly matching the appearance of a lady from the Jiangnan water towns.

Qin Jinyong immediately stood up, somewhat surprised, "Zhurao, what are you doing here?"

The woman smiled and nodded, "I didn't expect to bump into you all here, either."

Duanmu Zhe greeted her politely, "Good to see you, Sister Zhurao."

Qin Zhurao responded courteously.

It was clear to see, she was a lady brought up in a sheltered environment, with impeccable manners.

However, although she knew Qin Jinyong and Duanmu Zhe, she chose to call only Mo Zhixuan's name, which was quite intriguing.

Miao Xinran and Mo Qingyi were clearly seeing Qin Zhurao for the first time, and their eyes were filled with curiosity upon meeting her.

The waiter brought over a chair.

The round table, initially meant for six, now felt somewhat cramped with an additional person, and since the guests were all paired, no matter where Qin Zhurao sat, it appeared a bit awkward.

"Put it here by me," Qin Jinyong suddenly spoke.

Upon hearing this, the waiter placed the chair next to Qin Jinyong, who had Mo Zhixuan on his left and Miao Xinran on his right.

Now, Qin Zhurao was the person on the left of Qin Jinyong, and she also ended up being the person on the left of Mo Zhixuan.

Viewed this way, it gave the impression of being flanked on both sides.

It was unclear whether Qin Jinyong had done this intentionally or not.

Chu Jin, however, seemed unconcerned, finding it trivial whether it was one seat or another.

Mo Zhixuan furrowed his brows without a word, perhaps out of consideration for Qin Zhurao's feelings. He didn't raise any objections but instead moved his chair slightly closer to Chu Jin's side.

Upon Qin Zhurao's arrival, the atmosphere at the dining table changed instantly.

Mo Qingyi was so embarrassed that he couldn't even make loud chewing sounds while eating.

Qin Zhurao was indeed too gentle and elegant; even her speech was soft and delicate. She was like a lady from an ancient painting, not resembling a modern person at all.

"Zhixuan, it's been many years, and you still look the same, no change at all," Qin Zhurao said as she looked at Mo Zhixuan, her voice also the ultimate in gentleness.

From her words, one could tell that she and Mo Zhixuan were old acquaintances.

Mo Zhixuan pursed his lips and responded with only a faint 'hmm' before saying, "You too."

Qin Zhurao smiled lightly, "I can't compare with you," and then added, "By the way, I've heard about Chuiyi's situation. Don't be too sad; grieve moderately."

Bringing up a past lover in front of a current one at the dinner table—that's a rhythm of stirring up trouble.

Chu Jin subconsciously felt that this Qin Zhurao didn't come with good intentions.

However, Mo Zhixuan wasn't angry. He merely responded in his usual manner, "She brought it on herself, there is nothing deserving of sympathy."

It was clear that Mo Zhixuan treated Qin Zhurao differently from other women.

If it had been anyone else, Mo Zhixuan probably wouldn't have been so patient.

Qin Zhurao sighed, "Although you say that, Chuyi is after all the only bloodline of the Zheng family, and while Zilong was still alive..." She stopped abruptly and said, "I'm sorry! Did I say something wrong?"

Zheng Chuyi was not only the sole surviving bloodline of the Zheng family but also the most beloved sister of Zheng Zilong. Zilong's death had always been a knot in Mo Zhixuan's heart. He felt guilty towards Zilong, which was why, despite what had happened, Mo Zhixuan still treated Zheng Chuyi as family, even allowing her to stay in the Mo family during that time.

This was a promise, a commitment to the departed.

But now, Zheng Chuyi was dead, and moreover by the hand of Mo Zhixuan's fiancée. Wouldn't this make him seem like a dishonorable person?

With these words, Qin Zhurao intended to invoke Mo Zhixuan's sense of guilt toward Zheng Zilong, because she knew Mo Zhixuan had always been a paragon of virtue.

Once Mo Zhixuan felt guilty towards Zheng Zilong again, he would certainly alienate the real murderer. This move was also a deliberate attempt to drive a wedge between Mo Zhixuan and Chu Jin.

That Zheng Chuyi really was foolish enough, holding such a good hand and yet playing it so poorly!

In the end, she even ended up dead!

Indeed, after hearing these words, Mo Zhixuan's expression changed.

Qin Zhurao lifted the corners of her mouth in satisfaction.

In terms of tactics, she was more than ten times better than Zheng Chuyi. It was a pity she didn't have a brother as good as Zheng Zilong.

The table fell somewhat silent. Qin Jinyong and Duanmu Zhe both knew what had happened back then and had no idea how to break the silence.

Meanwhile, Mo Qingyi and Miao Xinran were confused, not quite understanding what was being discussed.

Chu Jin listened without changing her expression and did not join in the conversation.

Once her objective was achieved, Qin Zhurao didn't continue on the subject but went on to say, "Zhixuan, the young lady sitting next to you looks unfamiliar. Why don't you introduce us?"

It was then that Mo Zhixuan stood up, turned towards Qin Zhurao, and introduced, "This is my fiancée, Chu Jin." After speaking, he turned to Chu Jin and said, "Jin, this is Miss Qin Zhurao, who is also the one who saved my mother's life."

That was his way of explaining why he treated Qin Zhurao a bit differently.

Upon hearing this, Qin Zhurao said with a smile, "What lifesaver not lifesaver, Zhixuan, you're being too formal! As a descendant of Bian Que, it's my responsibility to practice medicine and save lives."

After speaking, she stretched out her right hand towards Chu Jin with a gentle voice, "Miss Chu, it's a pleasure to meet you here."

Chu Jin noticed that Qin Zhurao was still wearing a thin pair of gloves on her hands. They were transparent, like cicada wings, embroidered with lacy patterns. They were beautiful, indeed, but to wear gloves during a handshake seemed a bit disrespectful.

Chu Jin hesitated for a moment before touching the tips of her fingers, smiling slightly, "The pleasure is mine. I'm glad to meet you, too."

After they resumed their seats, Mo Qingyi looked at Qin Zhurao with a hint of curiosity and asked, "Did you just say you're a descendant of the medical sage, Bian Que?"

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"Yes," Qin Zhurao nodded and then said, "I suppose you must be Zhixuan's sister, Qingyi?"

"You know me?" Mo Qingyi was somewhat surprised.

Qin Zhurao smiled and said, "I've heard Zhixuan mention you before; he said you were quite mischievous as a child."

Upon hearing this, Mo Qingyi continued, "Since you say you're a descendant of Bian Que, then why is your last name Qin and not Bian?"

Probably only Mo Qingyi could ask such a silly question.

She could even forget the basics of junior high.

Qin Zhurao covered her mouth and chuckled, "Qingyi, you really have a sense of humor. The medical ancestor's surname was Qin and his given name Yue, while the words 'Bian Que' were merely a honorific used by later generations."

Mo Qingyi scratched her head embarrassingly and chuckled dryly, "So that's how it is..."

After the meal.

Qin Zhurao still had no intention of leaving, just following the group. What had been a party of six had become a group of seven, and the atmosphere was somewhat peculiar.

With the three girls walking in front, Qin Zhurao had no choice but to walk with the three men trailing behind.

She didn't deliberately walk next to Mo Zhixuan but instead stayed by the side of Qin Jinyong.

As the four of them walked together, Qin Zhurao broke the silence, "Miss Chu seems quite young, doesn't she?"

Mo Zhixuan raised his eyes to the girl walking ahead, a smile playing on his lips, "Hmm, she just turned eighteen this year."

Qin Zhurao teased with a smile, "In that case, it seems you're the one taking advantage of a young girl!"

Mo Zhixuan didn't speak anymore.

He was, by nature, not talkative. Qin Zhurao didn't mind and continued, "However, that little girl has the good fortune of catching your eye. At first, when I heard about Chuyi, I thought your fiancée might also be from the Superpower World, but it turns out she is from the mortal realm. The girl seems innocent and harmless, and she even looks quite charming. If you hadn't told me, I would have a hard time believing such a bright and spirited little girl is your fiancée. Indeed, appearances can be deceiving."

Appearances can be deceiving; those words carried some intrigue.

Could an eighteen-year-old girl have killed Zheng Chuyi? She looked so delicate, but who knew what kind of heart was hidden beneath that beautiful skin?

An eighteen-year-old girl being able to so easily catch Mo Zhixuan's eye? She probably used some unscrupulous methods, right?

Moreover, she mentioned Zheng Chuyi more than once, seemingly to remind Mo Zhixuan of the promise he made to Zheng Zilong.

Stirring, stirring, stirring.

Qin Zhurao was trying to sow discord again.

To someone like Mo Zhixuan, who was a righteous and upright man, he probably despised those manipulative white lotus types.

Although Qin Zhurao did not say so explicitly, the implications behind her words were quite clear.

Duanmu Zhe, who always stood up for Chu Jin, unusually did not say a word.

Qin Jinyong also remained silent.

Mo Zhixuan, with one hand in his pocket, still had his usual glacier-like expression, his lips pressed tightly, nearly forming a line. Amidst his coolness was a hint of scholarly refinement, which in turn exuded princeliness. On hearing her words, the corners of his mouth lifted in a rare contemplative smile as he spoke in a deep voice, "To have met her is the fortune of three lifetimes."

Every word landed, every syllable heard.

Qin Zhurao could never have dreamed that Mo Zhixuan would say such a thing.

In her mind, Mo Zhixuan had always been a cold and serious king. When had he ever been so heartfelt about protecting someone else? And that someone was a woman, no less—a woman full of faults!

He could actually put brotherly affection aside!

What was so good about that woman that she could ensnare Mo Zhixuan to this extent!

Qin Zhurao stopped talking and looked up at Qin Jinyong instead.

Qin Jinyong gave her a reassuring smile.

Duanmu Zhe felt somewhat uncomfortable. On that extremely dark night, Chu Jin had risked her life to protect them, but now, he was expected to betray her, which really was...

On one side was Chu Jin, and on the other was Mo Zhixuan.

It was impossible for him to choose.

Why couldn't two such people end up together?

Duanmu Zhe felt stifled, a discomfort he couldn't express.

They were approaching a bustling market town.

There were many people coming and going, with most of the stall owners being from South Mountain Town, mainly selling knick-knacks and local specialities, as well as some dealing in jade stones.

Mo Qingyi wanted to buy everything she saw, and soon Duanmu Zhe's hands were loaded with various items.

Although Miao Xinran was slightly calmer than Mo Qingyi, the amount of shopping she did was no less, and Qin Jinyong could only carry her bags without complaint, not daring to utter a single grumble.

Chu Jin, on the other hand, was composed; under normal circumstances, she merely watched the other two shop, only occasionally spotting a few items she liked, which were small trinkets that could easily be stashed in her backpack.

Seeing the other two with items in their hands, Mr. Mo had an opinion. He strode forward and came to Chu Jin's side, "Let me carry your bag for you."

Having someone offer to carry bags while shopping is one of life's small joys, Chu Jin slightly curled her lips, took off her backpack from her shoulder, and handed it to Mr. Mo, "Then I will have to trouble you!"

Mo Zhixuan looked at her, his gaze slightly deep, his seductive Adam's apple sliding up and down a few times before he leaned in and whispered in Chu Jin's ear, "Since you think I've put in the effort, how about a little reward? Hmm?"

His warm breath tickled her neck.

This man indeed had the talent of being a hooligan with complete sincerity.

Just at that moment, Mo Qingyi called out from the other side, "Bro Jin, come quick and look, this is so pretty."

Chu Jin pushed away Mo Zhixuan with her hand, "Can't be bothered with you," and then immediately ran towards Mo Qingyi.

Mo Zhixuan watched her retreating figure, a pleasurable curve forming on his lips.

The sunlight was just right, the breeze gentle and soothing.

Qin Zhurao came over leisurely, smiling, "The young lady seems delicate, let me carry the bag for you."

After speaking, she reached out her hand towards Mo Zhixuan.

How could a man like Mo Zhixuan easily indulge a girl by waiting on her hand and foot! He must have been worn down by the girl's persistence! Truly spoiled and arrogant! Qin Zhurao's gesture was also indirectly expressing her own understanding nature and graceful demeanor.

Mo Zhixuan glanced down at Qin Zhurao, "No need to trouble yourself, I am naturally a few years her senior; it's my duty to look after her."

His voice remained as deep and cold as always, and without giving Qin Zhurao another glance, he walked directly towards Chu Jin.

Qin Zhurao's hand froze mid-air, even her fingertips trembling slightly.

Embarrassment, annoyance!

Was this the Mo Zhixuan she knew?

The Mo Zhixuan who regarded children's romance as insignificant?

It took a while for Qin Zhurao to retract her hand.

Qin Jinyong, carrying a bunch of items, came to Qin Zhurao and consoled, "Zhurao, don't be disheartened, all beginnings are hard, Duanmu and I will help you when the time comes."

Qin Zhurao took a deep breath and then nodded her head.

Duanmu Zhe, standing behind the two, also sighed deeply; with things having reached this point, he could only follow through to the end.

Passing by a jade stall, Chu Jin was attracted by a palm-sized raw stone.

"Boss, how much is this?" Chu Jin stood in front of the stall, picked up the black raw stone and weighed it in her hand, asking.

The stall owner was a bespectacled middle-aged man; seeing the extraordinary man and the young lady with picturesque brows standing in front of his stall, he knew they were people of no ordinary status.

He immediately smiled and said, "The young lady has good taste. This is a piece of jadeite raw stone. Although it's small, it's extremely precious. Since we are fated today, I will sell it to you for twenty-eight thousand."

Chu Jin was not familiar with jade, but thanks to her abnormal senses, she could see a layer of spiritual energy swirling around the raw stone, invisible to the naked eye—a rare find indeed.

"I'll take this one." Chu Jin handed the raw stone to Mo Zhixuan and then took out her phone to transfer the money to the stall owner.

The stall owner, seeing her paying so readily, thought to himself that she must be some family's wastrel making trouble.

He had only made up a few stories on the spot! And she believed them! She was the epitome of foolishness! This black stone had been sitting in this corner for a long time, ignored by everyone, and today he finally met a big fool!

The stall owner quickly picked up a jade pendant and began to tout it to Chu Jin, "Young lady, I can see you're an expert! You know quality when you see it! Take a look at this jade pendant, this is exactly the one that was in Empress Yang's mouth when she was buried! Look at this color, this moistness, you won't find another like it in the world. For the sake of our fateful meeting, I'll sell it to you for eighteen thousand, what do you say?"

Chu Jin glanced at the jade pendant; it was nothing more than a piece of glass slag cobbled together into a fake, so fake it couldn't be faker, and the stall owner had the gall to hype it up, which was quite an effort.

Chu Jin slightly curled her lips and said to the stall owner, "Do you think I look like a fool?"

The stall owner: "..." By spending twenty-eight thousand on a pitch-black stone, aren't you a fool?

When one day the stall owner learned that the pitch-black stone was worth several hundred million, he sat in front of the television, crying as he beat himself to death.

The afternoon passed quickly.

When the group returned to the inn, it was already dark.

They had come back after having dinner.

Qin Zhurao was also there.

Because there was an additional person, Mo Zhixuan had opened another room.

At night, everyone retired to their own rooms.

Chu Jin was organizing the spoils of the day in the living room. She emptied everything from her backpack onto the coffee table; it hadn't seemed like much when packing, but now there lay a small pile.

Ding dong—

The doorbell rang.

Just then, Mo Zhixuan walked out of the bathroom in a bathrobe. The white robe was loosely tied around his waist, revealing hints of his abdominal muscles, especially enticing. Without even raising her head, Chu Jin said, "Go open the door."

Mo Zhixuan had no choice but to go and open the door.

Qin Zhurao, standing outside, was momentarily stunned upon seeing Mo Zhixuan. She quickly said, "Zhixuan, I'm sorry for disturbing you so late."

Mo Zhixuan stepped aside with a deep look in his eyes, "Come in first."

Qin Zhurao walked in cautiously, her heart pounding non-stop; she had never seen Mo Zhixuan like this before.

A brand new Mo Zhixuan.

She had never known that someone could wear a bathrobe like this.

Slightly languid, yet not losing the innate nobility and cool detachment.

And now, with a touch more of a king's aura.

Mo Zhixuan walked straight to his room and closed the door, while Qin Zhurao approached Chu Jin and spoke softly, "Miss Chu, I'm really sorry for disturbing you and Zhixuan so late."

Chu Jin gently looked up, her eyes smiling as she said, "What exactly does 'sorry' mean?"

Who could have expected Chu Jin to ask such a tricky question? Qin Zhurao was momentarily lost for words, unsure of how to respond.

At that moment, Mo Zhixuan emerged from the room. In the brief interval, he had changed his clothes, as if the man Qin Zhurao saw earlier was just an illusion.

Qin Zhurao recovered and began to apologize, "I'm sorry, Miss Chu, I was too abrupt just now. If my words offended you in any way, please don't take it to heart."

Wherever she went, the one who apologized first could always gain others' attention and sympathy.

Qin Zhurao was a wise woman; she knew this very well.

Especially with Mo Zhixuan still around, of course, she couldn't be confrontational with Chu Jin.

She was not like Zheng Chuyi, who foolishly ran headfirst towards trouble.

Chu Jin, still organizing the things in her hands and without glancing up, said, "If you have something to say, just say it directly. We're all adults here, there's no need for beating around the bush." From their interaction in the afternoon, Chu Jin knew that Qin Zhurao was no pushover.

She was most likely here to cause trouble.

Mr. Mo sure has a lot of unwanted suitors!

Qin Zhurao slightly bowed her head, her voice as tender as water, "Miss Chu, do you perhaps misunderstand me?"

She indeed was interesting.

Chu Jin looked up, her eyebrows slightly raised as she countered, "What do you think I'm misunderstanding about you?"

It wasn't Mo Zhixuan's place to interject in a conversation between women.

He leisurely took out a cigarette and lighter from his pocket, and with a 'click', the pale blue flame flickered in the air, the faint smell of tobacco spreading through the room.

Amidst the curling smoke, the man's sharp facial features appeared even more indistinct, adding a layer of haziness.

"If there's no misunderstanding, that's good," Qin Zhurao slowly started, "Miss Chu, don't laugh at me, but this is actually my first time being out. I'm a bit afraid of staying in a room alone at night, so, I was wondering... would it be too much trouble for you to stay with me for the night?"

This was Qin Zhurao's real plan; she couldn't let Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan stay together!

Two people, like tinder and flint, something was bound to happen!

So, she had to find a way to break up their cohabitation.

"No!"

"No!"

Mo Zhixuan and Chu Jin spoke in unison.

"I'm sorry," Chu Jin said in an indifferent tone, "I'm not used to living with strangers. Why don't you ask one of the female staff here at the inn to see who might be willing to keep you company for the night?"

Coming from the Superpower World and claiming to be scared of sleeping alone in a room! Who would believe that if it were said out loud?

"They are not worthy of sharing a room with me!" scorn filled Qin Zhurao's eyes, but she quickly remembered that Mo Zhixuan was present, and instantly resumed her gentle demeanor, "What I mean is, I also don't like living with strangers, but since I feel a connection with Miss Chu, I approached you. Miss Chu, you probably don't know this, but you look a lot like my younger sister. Every time I see you, I feel a special bond."

Qin Zhurao behaved as though she truly liked Chu Jin.

The smile on the corner of her mouth seemed to bloom flowers.

Those unaware would really think she had a sister who looked a lot like Chu Jin.

Chu Jin offered a slight smile, "I'm sorry, but I don't have the habit of wrongly claiming relatives, and you don't look anything like my sister." This statement didn't leave Qin Zhurao with any face at all.

Qin Zhurao responded with a forced laugh, thinking to herself that Chu Jin was no easy target—completely impervious to soft or hard tactics!

"Miss Chu really knows how to joke!" Qin Zhurao continued, "Since Miss Chu is reluctant to stay with me, how about I just spend the night here then? I can sleep on the sofa, you don't have to mind me."

Qin Zhurao was dead set on sabotaging the two of them.

Chu Jin was speechless; it was the first time she had encountered someone with such thick skin.

"Well, suit yourself then," Mo Zhixuan's voice was cold, a hazy mist spilling from his cool lips, an indescribably sexy sight, "Let's go." Having said that, he walked over to Chu Jin, grabbed all the trinkets from the table into a bag, and pulled her into the bedroom.

And slammed the bedroom door with a 'bang.'

Qin Zhurao hadn't expected Mo Zhixuan to pull Chu Jin straight into the only bedroom! How could he! Didn't she save old Mrs. Mo's life? Was this how he treated his mother's savior?

Qin Zhurao sat in the living room, biting her lip tightly, her face full of discontent!

However, now that she had successfully made her way into the suite, the next part of the plan was half accomplished! She refused to believe that nothing would happen inside the room when there was a living person in the living room!

Fortunately, the bedroom came with its own bathroom; otherwise, it would have been truly embarrassing!

Entering the room, Chu Jin threw the bag onto the bed with annoyance, "Mr. Mo, you really have quite some charm."

Unwelcome love interests were following him home.

Three people sharing a suite, what was this supposed to mean?

"Are you upset?" Mo Zhixuan sat next to Chu Jin and began to massage her temples, whispering, "She is a woman, after all; I can't very well physically throw her out, can I? Besides, she did save my mother's life..."

All in all, the main reason Mo Zhixuan could tolerate Qin Zhurao was that she had saved his mother's life.

Otherwise, he would not have had such patience.

Mr. Mo did have a point; with someone refusing to leave and thick-skinned at that, one could hardly manhandle her out.

Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly, her complaint tinged with sarcasm, "One minute it's Zheng Chuyi, the next it's Qin Zhurao, your family's troubles are never-ending."

Mr. Mo continued to massage her temples, "My fault, my fault."

Seeing that Mr. Mo's attitude in admitting his wrongs wasn't bad, Chu Jin let it go.

The bedroom was very soundproof; Qin Zhurao leaned against the door and listened for a long time but didn't catch a single word.

She was frantic.

As night deepened, Qin Zhurao picked up her nightgown and went to the bathroom for a shower.

The nightgown was made of real silk.

Pink, with a belt tied at the waist and a V-neck—it was neither conservative nor revealing.

She lay on the sofa, her posture incredibly sultry, her chest pushed up to create a deep ravine, a bold display of ivory skin, the epitome of springtime allure.

Everybody has urgent needs, and she didn't believe Mo Zhixuan wouldn't need to use the bathroom during the night.

Waiting intentionally for Mo Zhixuan to emerge, Qin Zhurao scarcely slept all night, maintaining her most seductive pose, ready to tempt him at a moment's notice.

Yet, all night long, Mo Zhixuan never opened the door.

The next morning, when finally the door opened, Qin Zhurao was fully prepared; she lay sideways on the sofa, pulling the collar of her nightgown down past her shoulder, pretending to be sound asleep while displaying unlimited allure.

Chu Jin glanced at Qin Zhurao on the sofa, the corners of her mouth curving up, and walked step by step towards her.

The soft footfalls seemed to stomp directly on Qin Zhurao's heart.

Her tension mounted—Mo Zhixuan was coming, he had noticed her. Qin Zhurao thought men were most impulsive in the morning; what would happen next?

"Miss Qin, putting on such a sexy outfit this early in the morning, are you waiting for Mo Zhixuan?" Chu Jin approached, her eyebrows slightly raised.

A simple sentence, like a bucket of cold water, instantly extinguished all of Qin Zhurao's hopes!

Qin Zhurao had never dreamed that the visitor would be Chu Jin!

A wave of disappointment flooded over her!

Why wasn't it Mo Zhixuan who came?

This woman was truly audacious, showing off so early in the morning right in front of her! She even dared to call Mo Zhixuan by his full name! Acting as if she was someone special! Such a young girl, living with a man without shame—utterly disgraceful!

Qin Zhurao hurried to her feet, straightening the collar of her nightgown, and said softly, "I've made Miss Chu laugh, I've always had poor sleeping habits."

Chu Jin leaned over, her lips curling into a smirk, whispered into Qin Zhurao's ear, "Trying to seduce Mo Zhixuan, aren't you?"

Chapter 544: True Goddess

Chu Jin's lips curved slightly, a faint arc brimming at the corners, her dimples shallow, yet the coldness in her eyes seemed to intensify.

That look, three parts wicked, four parts detached, three parts wild.

The serene beauty of her face was lit by the soft crystal light, especially captivating, making it impossible for one to look away.

In that moment, even Qin Zhurao had to admit that this was a woman of dazzling beauty.

No wonder even a man as abstinent as Mo Zhixuan had fallen deeply into her thrall.

The words 'seduce' were too blunt, too grating to the ear.

Turning into a sharp sword, they sliced off pieces of rotten flesh from the depths of her heart.

It was akin to death by a thousand cuts.

Qin Zhurao stepped back in shock, her face alternating between red and white, "Miss Chu, please be more respectful in what you say!"

A young lady with no sense of shame, daring to openly bring up such words!

"Respect?" Chu Jin's lips held a smile as she sized up Qin Zhurao, her tone even, "Clad in barely enough to cover oneself, coquettishly posturing to seduce another's fiancé, do you think you're worthy of that word?"

Not a single line left any dignity for Qin Zhurao, yet every word rang clear and definite.

Qin Zhurao, who prided herself as a descendant of Bian Que, capable of bringing the dead back to life, had always been held in high esteem wherever she went, and no one had ever dared to speak to her like this! Nor had anyone dared to insult her to this extent!

Even Mo Zhixuan was polite and respectful when he saw her!

And this Chu Jin! She actually dared to humiliate her like this!

It was intolerable!

What did she have but a pretty face?

Qin Zhurao's fists were tightly clenched, her nails digging deep into her flesh due to the excessive force, whitening at the knuckles!

"You! You!" Qin Zhurao angrily pointed at Chu Jin, stumbling over the word 'you' for quite some time without being able to utter another.

Compared to Qin Zhurao's flush of anger, Chu Jin was the epitome of composure, her exquisite face still held a trace of a smile, with a hint of mockery, "You want to seduce Mo Zhixuan, huh..." Chu Jin extended a finger, lightly lifting Qin Zhurao's chin, scrutinizing her features closely, eyes slightly narrowed, speaking from a position of superiority, "Tsk tsk, with features like yours, if you want to successfully seduce a man, I'm afraid you'd need a few more decades of refinement."

Chu Jin, originally 165cm tall, had recently grown by another 3 centimeters, making her present height 168cm, a full ten centimeters taller than Qin Zhurao.

She easily grasped Qin Zhurao's chin.

Qin Zhurao was almost powerless to resist.

Setting aside their facial features, in terms of presence alone, Qin Zhurao was already at a loss.

Qin Zhurao trembled with anger; humiliated several times in one day by the same person—wouldn't anyone find it hard to bear?

Chu Jin! You're finished!

With a sense of humiliation, Qin Zhurao clenched her fists, pushed Chu Jin away, and then ran out the door!

Chu Jin stood there watching her flee in panic, eyebrows slightly raised, a corner of her mouth curling into an arrogant arc.

She had thought Qin Zhurao was formidable, but it turned out she was just this.

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Elsewhere.

Now, the "National Goddess" on Weibo was famously red-hot, even eclipsing some top-tier celebrities in popularity.

The hot searches were dominated by images of the National Goddess's rise to fame.

The public spent their days discussing the National Goddess.

After all, this goddess was not only beautiful, but also kind-hearted, a true Goddess in every sense.

She was so much nobler than those celebrities who used donations as a means to garner attention and headlines!

Moreover, netizens uncovered that the National Goddess had recently made anonymous donations again.

This time, it was a considerable sum.

The total funds amounted to twenty-six million.

It was distributed among three locations.

The impoverished mountain area received ten million.

The flood disaster zone received ten million.

The stray cat and dog rescue station received six million.

At this, netizens were even more shocked! They praised the goddess as a True Goddess, not only for her love but also for treating all beings equally.

She did good deeds without seeking fame, and also harbored a pure and kind heart.

Netizens uploaded two photos regarding the rescue of the stray cats and dogs.

The first one was taken before the donation.

Hundreds of cats and dogs were confined in large iron cages with appalling conditions, waiting for euthanasia. Their eyes were filled with helplessness and a desire to live, heartbreakingly poignant to observe.

The second one was taken after the donation.

The cats and dogs, once awaiting euthanasia, were now happily running under the sunlight, their eyes brimming with vigor and hope.

The stark contrast between the before and after photos was overwhelmingly moving, bringing tears to many.

There was also a caption above the two photos.

"Grateful to the goddess for bringing them sunshine and hope!"

Beneath the comments were phrases like 'grateful to the goddess' and 'adopt, don't shop'.

The usual keyboard warriors, upon seeing these two photos and the caption, now found their fingers stiff, unable to type a single word, as their eyes began to glisten with moisture.

Human nature has its dark side, and also its kind side.

The National Goddess brought a full measure of positive energy to the people.

More fans established the National Goddess Fan Club.

Suddenly, the National Goddess became even more popular!

And at this time, a Weibo post forwarded by a well-known blogger caught everyone's attention.

The content of the Weibo post was simple, just a short sentence with a picture.

Comedy Ranking V: National True Goddess jpg.

The photo showed a young girl feeding the stray cats and dogs at the rescue station.

She wore exquisite clothing and her face was illuminated with a very warm smile.

The camera captured her front face close-up.

The netizens recognized her—she was the Sun family's sole heiress, Sun Manya.

As the situation developed, the true identity of the National Goddess emerged.

Sun Manya was thus touted as the National Goddess.

She herself hardly spoke a word.

It has to be said, the power of the internet promoters is immense.

After Sun Manyao became the National Goddess, the related departments specially sent people to the Sun family to congratulate, and even awarded Sun Manyao the title of Charity Ambassador.

Sun Manyao's glory knew no bounds.

She transformed from a wealthy heiress to a revered and exalted National Goddess.

Moreover, influenced by Sun Manyao, the Sun family's businesses were thriving, with people seeking cooperation flocking to their door every day.

Sun Manyao herself enjoyed all this immensely, living every day on the stage, in the spotlight, basking in the adoration of the public.

Leaders of prestigious universities scrambled to call Sun Manyao, hoping she would choose to attend their school.

They were not interested in Sun Manyao's scores.

But in her character and honor.

Once Sun Manyao enrolled, she could bring greater glory and prestige to the school.

At an experimental base.

Li Ruyu was helping Zhao Yiling take a walk in the base's backyard garden.

Nearly two months had passed.

Zhao Yiling's complexion had recovered remarkably well.

She was wearing a red dress, appearing no different from a healthy person now, and her facial features also looked much prettier than before.

"Mom, after we go back, let's call Chu Jin back. After all, she is Aunt's only daughter," Zhao Yiling started slowly, her tone flat. When she mentioned Chu Jin again, her face no longer held the towering hatred as before.

Li Ruyu slightly frowned. She knew that ever since her daughter had woken up, there had been a significant change in her disposition, but she hadn't expected that Zhao Yiling would actually take the initiative to ask for Chu Jin to be brought back! That little wretch had finally left, and to bring her back now, for what? To add to one's own troubles?

"Ling'er, have you lost your mind! Why would you want to bring that little wretch back? Don't forget that the reason you ended up like this is all thanks to that little wretch! We should be thinking about how to take revenge! How to expand and glorify the Zhao Clan! At this critical juncture, don't be foolish."

The corners of Zhao Yiling's mouth curled into a mocking smile, "Mom, rest assured, some mistakes are made just once! There will absolutely not be a second time! After I return, it won't take more than ten days before I'll make the Zhao Group re-emerge in the public eye. I have my plans, and for Chu Jin's betrayal, I will take my time to avenge it." By the time she finished the last sentence, a cold and vicious light burst in Zhao Yiling's eyes.

Li Ruyu nodded with satisfaction, patting Zhao Yiling's hand, "That's my good daughter."

Zhao Yiling casually pinched a flower in her hand, quickly staining her fingers with the flower's juice. She then asked, "By the way, what does godfather plan to do about the National Goddess issue?"

The title of National Goddess was supposed to be hers! And now it had been snatched away by Sun Manyao, which made Zhao Yiling somewhat unwilling to accept it! It was an extremely uncomfortable feeling, as if something that belonged to her had been taken away.

She was the one who was supposed to be looked up to.

She was the unparalleled National Goddess!

"Don't worry," Li Ruyu patted Zhao Yiling's hand, speaking with a firm tone, "your godfather said that as long as we observe for another three days, we can go home. By then, what's yours will naturally still be yours, and no one can take it away."

Li Ruyu wasn't in a hurry at all, looking as though she had everything under control.

As if she had prearranged everything.

"Mom," Zhao Yiling called out affectionately and naturally, her voice tinged with confusion, "What do you mean?"

Li Ruyu's lips curved into a cold smile, "The higher one climbs, the harder they fall. Don't worry, Sun Manyao won't have many more days of comfort left."

Hearing Li Ruyu say this, Zhao Yiling could also roughly guess what was meant, and a look of satisfaction flickered in her eyes.

This time, she was the phoenix that would rise from the ashes!

She wanted to utterly destroy all those who had harmed her and betrayed her!

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South Mountain Town.

A group of people wandered around the town, with Mo Qingyi suggesting they go boating.

Qin Zhurao still followed behind.

That morning's incident, for her, was as if it had never happened.

Chu Jin was somewhat speechless, someone's skin could actually be this thick, it was almost a form of cultivation.

Mo Qingyi rented three boats.

They originally planned to pair up in twos for boating. It wasn't until before boarding that they realized that their group of six had unexpectedly become seven.

For a moment, it was somewhat awkward.

They had completely forgotten about Qin Zhurao.

Duanmu Zhe scratched his head, facing immense pressure as he said, "Zhurao sis, neither Jin Yong nor I are good swimmers, so you might as well stay close to Brother Nine and sister-in-law."

Upon hearing this, Qin Zhurao looked at Mo Zhixuan and spoke softly, "Zhixuan, you don't mind if I disturb you and Miss Chu, do you?"

Qin Jinyong also spoke, "Zhurao, rest assured, Brother Nine and sister-in-law are not the petty type. You can feel at ease staying with them."

Chu Jin's brow furrowed slightly as she looked up at Qin Jinyong and Duanmu Zhe. She felt something was strange—these two men were pushing Qin Zhurao towards Mo Zhixuan by any means necessary! Could it be an illusion? Was she overthinking things?

Mo Zhixuan stood by the shore, not directly answering Qin Zhurao or Qin Jinyong's words, but instead turning to Mo Qingyi and saying, "Go rent another boat." His tone remained as cold as always.

His lips pressed together slightly, his sharp, pronounced features blending seamlessly with the waterside town as if part of a deeply evocative ink painting.

Qin Zhurao's face shifted in color.

Mo Qingyi quickly ran to rent another boat.

Duanmu Zhe let out a sigh of relief, while Qin Jinyong showed no change in expression.

Seven people, four boats.

All the others were in pairs, only Qin Zhurao remained alone. Looking at her solitary back, it seemed desolate and somewhat lonely.

Qin Zhurao hesitated on tiptoes before boarding the wooden boat, then withdrew her foot and told everyone, "You guys have fun, I'll wait for you on the shore." Her demeanor seemed somewhat pitiful.

Qin Jinyong appeared to be about to say something, but after glancing at Mo Zhixuan and then at Chu Jin, he swallowed his words.

This matter had to be taken slowly.

Couldn't be too hasty for success.

After thinking it over, Qin Jinyong said to her, "Zhurao, then you wander around by yourself first, we'll be back ashore soon."

Qin Zhurao nodded, "Okay." Then she turned and walked in the other direction.

Not many people were rowing their own boats on the river.

Three wooden boats floated leisurely on the water.

Bringing a burst of cool breeze.

Since the boats were self-rowed, there were no boatmen with them, so the task naturally fell on the three men.

Mo Zhixuan stood at the stern, handling the oar, while Chu Jin sat next to him enjoying the scenic view of the water village.

"It's so boring just to row boats. Let's race and see whose boat is faster," Mo Qingyi shouted from the bow of the boat.

Miao Xinran expressed her agreement, "Yeah, yeah, that sounds great."

Seeing that Miao Xinran had agreed, Mo Qingyi turned to Chu Jin, "Jin, how about you? Do you want to join in?"

When a woman is with men, the decision-making power always lies in her hands.

No matter what decision the woman makes, the men can but listen and comply.

"Jin, let's play too," Miao Xinran chimed in.

Seeing the two of them so excited, Chu Jin was also intrigued, stood up, and looked at them, "How about this, the losing side treats us to barbecue tonight, okay?"

"Yeah," Mo Qingyi's eyes lit up, "but let's agree upfront, no using special abilities, otherwise, it's cheating."

Chu Jin raised an eyebrow slightly, "Then it's settled, no one uses special abilities. See that reed marsh up ahead? This here is the starting point; the first one to reach the reed marsh wins."

"Okay!" Miao Xinran and Mo Qingyi said in unison.

And so, a competition was set.

Not one man raised an objection.

After a call to "start", the three boats shot out like arrows, chasing and contesting each other, no one giving way.

To cheer on their rowers, Mo Qingyi and Miao Xinran nearly screamed their throats hoarse.

Eager not to disappoint the girl of their hearts, Duanmu Zhe and Qin Jinyong were also full of drive.

"La la la, Xinran, we're ahead of you," Mo Qingyi stood on the bow, smug, "Duanmu Xiaosi, keep it up, let's catch up with the boat ahead!"

Miao Xinran was so angry that she stomped her feet, "Old Qin, can you actually do this? Qingyi has already passed us!"

Qin Jinyong answered somberly, "Whether I can or not, you'll find out soon enough!"

Miao Xinran failed to grasp the hidden meaning and urged him on, "Then make it quick, look how smug Qingyi is! We must overtake them! Better yet, surpass Brother Jiu too!"

No sooner had Miao Xinran finished her sentence than the boat's speed surged, quickly catching up with Duanmu Zhe and Mo Qingyi, "Qingyi, we've passed you!" Miao Xinran made a face at Mo Qingyi.

The boat sped on.

Now it was Mo Qingyi who became anxious, urging Duanmu Zhe, "Duanmu Xiaosi, hurry up! If it goes on like this, we're going to lose."

Qin Jinyong's outburst was strong; he quickly caught up with Mo Zhixuan and Chu Jin.

"Jin, Jin, we caught up with you," Miao Xinran, excited, waved to Chu Jin from the bow of the boat.

Chu Jin languidly stood up, stretched, yawned, and said, "You finally made it; we've been waiting for half the day."

Miao Xinran rolled her eyes, "Braggart!"

Chu Jin didn't bother to explain, just waved at Miao Xinran and casually uttered two words, "Goodbye."

Before Miao Xinran could react, Chu Jin had vanished from sight. When she looked up again, that small boat had already reached the reed marsh and was waiting for them.

Indeed... no bragging.

Chapter 545: Lawless City

In the end, of course, it was Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan who won.

Miao Xinran and Qin Jinyong came second.

Naturally, Mo Qingyi and Duanmu Zhe were the last.

The scenery in the reed marshes was nice, and the three of them rowed the boat into the midst of the reeds, collecting a lot of red water chestnuts.

It was the first time for both Mo Qingyi and Miao Xinran to see red water chestnuts, as well as the first time they tried their hand at picking them, they were both excited beyond measure.

The red water chestnuts of June, whose shells had not yet hardened, could be easily peeled away to reveal the white flesh underneath, which was crisp and refreshing to bite into, with an excellent texture.

Chu Jin took a lot of photos and posted a Weibo.

"The Return of the Past" V: The sun is shining just right, we are all here.

Image jpg, image jpg.

One picture was of fresh red water chestnuts, and the other was of the six people's reflections in the water. The reflections were very blurry, only the general contours of their figures could be made out, even people who knew each other well couldn't tell who was who.

After posting on Weibo, Chu Jin immediately turned off his phone.

Little did he know, below the Weibo post, another uproar was brewing.

Some astute readers had even guessed that this was South Mountain Town.

They had roadside barbecue for dinner that evening.

Duanmu Zhe was the host.

Qin Zhurao was still trailing behind the six, and when she learned that they were going to eat at a roadside stall at night, disdain showed in her eyes.

Roadside stalls were dirty and chaotic, and there were many mosquitoes, and such a picky person like her would naturally not be used to it.

But because Mo Zhixuan was also there, she gritted her teeth and sat next to Qin Jinyong.

She couldn't understand why someone of Mo Zhixuan's esteemed status could stomach such filthy food.

At the dinner table, Mo Qingyi saw that Qin Zhurao hadn't eaten a bite, and that there was a look of disgust on her face, which made her somewhat displeased as she directly asked, "Miss Qin, don't you have other friends here? Are you planning to keep following us like this?"

Mo Qingyi did not really like Qin Zhurao, this woman was obviously not from their world.

She seemed a bit hard on the eyes.

Always following them was not an ideal situation!

Qin Zhurao was taken aback, seemingly not expecting Mo Qingyi to ask this, and besides, she didn't think she had offended Mo Qingyi, had she?

Why would Mo Qingyi target her all of a sudden?

It must be Chu Jin stirring things up behind the scenes!

Qin Zhurao bit her lip, her complexion not looking too good. This Chu Jin really had some tactics!

Qin Jinyong hurriedly spoke up to smooth things over, "It was I who asked Zhurao to stay with us for a few more days to enjoy herself. She doesn't know anyone here, and it's not too safe for a girl to be out on her own."

Qin Zhurao's expression then eased a little.

Xinran watched Qin Jinyong defending Qin Zhurao in every way, and after a quiet glance at the two, somehow she understood something, and the look in her eyes darkened.

After dinner, Mo Zhixuan told everyone to head back to the inn first, while he and Chu Jin went for a walk.

Everyone nodded in agreement.

Seeing a rare opportunity, Qin Zhurao immediately stood up, her voice soft, "Zhixuan, I arrived two days earlier than you guys, and I'm more familiar with the environment here. Let me show you around."

Chu Jin raised his eyebrows slightly, this Qin Zhurao really knew how to seize every chance, not letting any opportunity slip by.

She was determined even in trying to steal someone's partner.

She only lowered her own value by doing so.

Mo Zhixuan glanced at her, his eyes slightly deep, exuding a sense of pressure that made Qin Zhurao shiver, daring not to say anything more.

The strong are like that, even a look in their eyes can make others submit and fear.

The surroundings became somewhat quiet.

Mo Zhixuan did not bother with the reactions of the people around him and walked away, taking Chu Jin by the hand, and the two quickly disappeared into the night.

Qin Zhurao bit her lip, her face full of unwillingness.

Qin Jinyong walked over, patted her on the shoulder, and silently comforted her.

Miao Xinran snorted lightly and pulled Mo Qingyi in the direction of the inn, leaving a confused Duanmu Zhe standing alone in the wind.

Chu Jin and Mo Zhixuan strolled at the foot of the hill, where the mountain breeze blew gently, very refreshing.

"I want to take a walk on the mountain," Chu Jin said, gazing at the rolling peaks.

Mo Zhixuan, somewhat puzzled, asked, "What for, going up the mountain?"

Chu Jin spoke truthfully, "To find a herb that can cure my mother's illness."

Mo Zhixuan's grip on her hand tightened slightly and without asking further, he slowly uttered three words, "I'll accompany you."

Those simple three words were the most enchanting sound in the world.

They also included a kind of promise.

Chu Jin nodded slightly, her eyes curving, reflecting the faint starlight, bright and mesmerizing. A gentle "Okay" spilled from her lips and, carried by the soft mountain breeze, floated into Mo Zhixuan's ears, softening the harsh contours of his brow in an instant.

The mountain path was rugged, with thorny weeds and scattered stones making it difficult to traverse.

Yet the two of them moved through the forest as if walking on flat ground.

South Mountain was vast, and finding a particular plant was not an easy task.

The night on South Mountain was eerie, filled with the constant rustle of leaves and the cries of unknown insects. Incredibly, Chu Jin even heard the howling of wolves.

After wandering the mountain for a good part of the evening, they had not found the Soul Resurrection Grass.

Continuing to search aimlessly wasn't a solution, so Mo Zhixuan looked down and asked, "What's the name of the herb you're looking for?"

Chu Jin bent down to examine an unknown plant, "Soul Resurrection Grass." As she spoke, she plucked a leaf, about to taste it, but Mo Zhixuan stopped her abruptly, "What are you doing, acting like a child, putting everything in your mouth? Aren't you afraid it's poisonous?"

Even if it wasn't poisonous, the plants in these woods had been crawled over by countless bugs and snakes, which wasn't sanitary at all!

Being a person with a penchant for cleanliness, Mo Zhixuan naturally couldn't bear to see her act like this.

"Afraid of what?" Chu Jin raised her eyebrows slightly, speaking nonchalantly, "The ancient doctor even tasted hundreds of herbs." With that, she plucked the unknown plant and put it into her backpack.

Ever since she learned ancient medicine, Chu Jin had grown increasingly interested in plants.

She discovered that almost every plant in this world had its own benefits and uses.

Even the inconspicuous grass by the roadside.

Now that she encountered a plant she had never seen before, of course she would not miss the opportunity to collect it.

Although Mo Zhixuan felt helpless, he indulged her little habits, and continued to inquire, "How do you know there is Soul Resurrection Grass on this mountain?"

"Do you remember the little girl selling flowers named Yinyin?" Chu Jin asked softly.

Mo Zhixuan's eyes narrowed slightly as he promptly replied, "Of course, I remember."

"The wild roses she sold were imbued with the scent of Soul Resurrection Grass. However, we've visited the entirety of South Mountain Town in the past few days and found no trace of wild roses, so I'm guessing they must grow up here on the mountain," Chu Jin said, her voice serene and measured.

Mo Zhixuan nodded thoughtfully, "So you mean if we find the wild roses, we can find the Soul Resurrection Grass?"

Chu Jin nodded slightly, "Yes, that's right."

"Come with me, I know where the wild roses are," Mo Zhixuan said as he pulled Chu Jin down the mountain.

The moon shone brightly, casting a faint glow on the two as they walked through the forest.

After walking for about twenty minutes, Mo Zhixuan brought Chu Jin to a stop in front of a rose bush.

The air was filled with a light fragrance, very pleasant to smell.

But there was no sign of the Soul Resurrection Grass.

"How could it not be here?" Chu Jin frowned slightly, "I clearly sensed the presence of the Soul Resurrection Grass on those wild roses."

Mo Zhixuan went over to comfort her, "The mountain is so big, there is certainly more than one place with wild roses. Let's keep looking and not rush."

Chu Jin nodded, "Okay." At the moment, there was no other option but to keep searching.

The two wandered aimlessly around the mountain for several hours, but failed to find any trace of the Soul Resurrection Grass, and had no choice but to go back down the mountain.

It was over 3 am when they arrived back at the inn.

After a hasty wash, they embraced and fell asleep together, and when Chu Jin woke up the next morning, it was already past nine o'clock.

Mo Zhixuan was nowhere to be seen in the room.

Chu Jin washed up and went downstairs, where she saw Miao Xinran and Mo Qingyi chatting happily with the innkeeper.

"Jin, you're awake?" Miao Xinran glanced her way as she saw Chu Jin descend the stairs.

"Mm," Chu Jin looked around briefly, eyebrow slightly raised, "How come it's just the two of you? Where is everyone else?"

Not only were Mo Zhixuan and the others missing, but even Qin Zhurao was nowhere to be seen.

"Oh right," Miao Xinran scratched her head, "Jin, Jiuge, my brother, and Duanmu Zhe had to leave suddenly for some urgent matters. Seeing you were sleeping so deeply this morning, Jiuge didn't want us to wake you. He said to let you know when you woke up that they'll come back to pick us up in three days."

Chu Jin nodded slightly and then asked, "Where's Qin Zhurao?"

Miao Xinran took a bite of the pancake in her hand and said, "She's probably still sleeping upstairs, right? I haven't seen her since I got up this morning." Then she turned to Chu Jin, "Jin, you haven't had breakfast yet, right? Come and have some pancakes. The innkeeper said these are called 'preserved vegetable pancakes,' a local specialty here."

"Alright." Chu Jin stepped forward, took the preserved vegetable pancake that Miao Xinran handed her, and began to snack on it leisurely.

Just then, the innkeeper brought a cup of hot soy milk and placed it in front of Chu Jin, "Young lady, have it with the hot soy milk. This is made from freshly ground beans, different from the powdered kind outside. I've also added some walnuts to it, try it, it tastes very good."

The innkeeper was a middle-aged woman in her forties, dressed fashionably and looking very young with her delicate makeup, she could easily be mistaken for a woman in her thirties.

"Thank you." Chu Jin took the soy milk and looked up to express her gratitude.

The innkeeper had been running the inn for a long time and this was the first time she'd seen such an outstandingly beautiful young girl. Though not a native of Jiangnan, she was more delicate and ethereal than the maidens there. While she was beautiful, she didn't seem frail, and the phrase 'graceful and poised' was more than apt to describe her.

At that moment, Qin Zhurao walked down from upstairs, striding past the trio with pride. Without the three men around, she didn't even bother to keep up her pretense.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk, just look at her, with that smug, aloof look on her face! I don't know what she's so pleased about!" Mo Qingyi said with a look of disgust, "I really don't understand how my brother and Duanmu Zhe could know someone like her, just looking at her is irritating."

When Mo Qingyi said this, she didn't lower her voice deliberately.

Worried, Miao Xinran quickly put a finger to her lips and shushed, reminding her, "Keep it down! She hasn't walked far yet!"

Mo Qingyi shrugged with an indifferent expression, "If she hears, so what? I'm just stating facts, I'm not slandering her, what's there to fear?"

Qin Zhurao paused in her step, glanced sideways at the three of them, a venomous look in her eyes, but she didn't linger and quickly stepped away from the inn.

Now with Mo Zhixuan, Duanmu Zhe, and Qin Jinyong all gone, if something were to happen to the three of them, no one would even know!

Around midday, Chu Jin once again joined the two in a stroll around South Mountain Town.

On the way back to the inn, Mo Qingyi ran into a group of classmates from her class, seven people in total, three women and four men. Coincidentally, two of them happened to be Miao Xinran's middle school classmates.

It's rare to meet classmates in a foreign land, so everyone suggested visiting a tea house nearby to sit, drink tea, and catch up on old times.

Since Chu Jin wasn't very familiar with the group and was still yearning for the Soul Resurrection Grass, she made her excuses and left shortly after having a cup of tea.

After Chu Jin left, one of Mo Qingyi's male classmates watched her departure and said, "Your friend is quite pretty."

Before Mo Qingyi could say anything, a girl beside her spoke up with a hint of sourness. "Huh, pretty snobbish, aren't they?" A beautiful girl always draws some jealousy from others.

Mo Qingyi laughed and said, "Well, if one has the privilege to be cold, it's certainly better than some people here spouting sour grapes."

"You!" The girl 'whooshed' to her feet but was held back by a companion next to her.

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Chu Jin came to the mountain again.

In contrast to the night, the mountain during the day seemed exceptionally peaceful.

South Mountain was already a tourist area, but the mountain itself had not been developed. The tourism sites were only at the foot of the mountain, so the mountain was rarely trodden, preserving a great ecological environment.

"Jin, head south." Chu Jin was aimlessly wandering on the mountain when suddenly, Zi's voice echoed in the air.

Chu Jin was somewhat surprised and said, "You're finally awake!"

Zi scratched her head sheepishly, "Actually, I didn't sleep that long." After a pause, she added, "Jin, I've located the position of the Soul Resurrection Grass. Just follow the map."

As Zi spoke, she waved her hand, and a transparent barrier appeared in the air, displaying red arrows.

Following the map's directions, Chu Jin swiftly moved through the woods, nearly a blur.

Finally, she stopped in front of a large cluster of rose bushes.

The map vanished into thin air, and Zi also said, "Jin, this is the place."

Looking around at the surroundings, Chu Jin frowned slightly. This was clearly where she had been with Mo Zhixuan last night, but she hadn't spotted any trace of the Soul Resurrection Grass here.

Chu Jin spoke calmly, "You got it wrong, didn't you? I was already here last night."

"Jin, are you joking?" Zi patted her chest and said, "How could the supremely powerful and invincible me make a mistake? It's definitely here. I'll stake my head on it. Take a closer look; maybe it was too dark last night, and you didn't see it clearly."

Chu Jin raised an eyebrow, "Are you sure you're not mistaken?"

"Absolutely certain." Zi nodded emphatically.

Seeing her so sure, Chu Jin circled the rose bushes again, even flipping over the stones nearby, but still found no sign of the Soul Resurrection Grass.

Half an hour later, Chu Jin was running out of patience. Looking at the thriving rose bushes, she reached out to pluck one.

But as soon as her hand touched the roses, it caused ripples like touching water, passing straight through them as if they had no physical form.

Chu Jin quickly withdrew her hand and picked up a stone from the ground, throwing it at the rose bushes. Just like her hand, the stone also caused ripples upon impact, disappearing into thin air.

"Is this some kind of barrier?" Chu Jin slightly lifted her brow, communicating with Zi in the Purple Lightning space with her consciousness.

Zi nodded, her expression serious. "It seems to be a barrier. Jin, I have a feeling the Soul Resurrection Grass is inside. Let's go in."

Hearing this, Chu Jin stepped into the Rose Sanctuary without any hesitation.

With a flash, she found herself in another scene.

It resembled a tall city tower.

Grand and splendid, just like one would see in a period drama.

Three large characters were carved at the top of the tower.

Lawless City.

The city gates were wide open with a continuous stream of people coming and going.

Apart from the ancient city tower, the people here wore modern clothing, and some were even playing with their phones while walking.

"Zi, what place is this?" Chu Jin stood outside the city gates, hesitating whether to go in or not.

Lawless City, a name she had never heard of before, and clearly, this was no longer the real world she knew.

Chapter 546: South Mountain

Zi obviously didn't know exactly what place this was either, holding the tablet in her hands without looking up, she said, "Jin, wait a second, let me check."

Chu Jin nodded, "Okay."

Zi was highly efficient at her job and quickly found the information.

"Look, Jin, this is all the information about Lawless City," said Zi as she waved her short hand, and a transparent barrier immediately appeared in the air, displaying detailed information about Lawless City.

Lawless City, as its name suggested, was an ancient city not governed by any laws.

So far, it had a history of over 800 years, and the people who gathered here were all exceptionally talented individuals who also carried murder cases on their backs.

Beyond the reach of the law, it was a haven for criminals.

The strong ruled!

There was an authoritative introduction at the bottom of the material: In Lawless City, there is no law, the Unparalleled Son is the law!

It was clear that this Unparalleled Son was the City Lord of Lawless City.

After skimming through the information, Chu Jin raised an eyebrow slightly, "Quite interesting."

There was actually a Lawless City in this world.

Zi obviously heard about Lawless City for the first time too, she said with some excitement, "Jin, it's still early, let's go have a look, the Soul Resurrection Grass must be inside."

Actually, he was more curious about the internal structure of Lawless City.

A place couldn't be squared without rules, and there could be no nation without systems.

A city without laws or systems, how would it maintain daily safety and stability?

"Okay," Chu Jin nodded slightly, she was also quite curious about the interior of Lawless City.

A city without laws, how should people interact with each other?

Did they have nothing but relentless plunder and encroachment among them?

Passing through this city gate would lead you into Lawless City.

Inside the city, it was buzzing with traffic, and people hurried on their way. Aside from the ancient gates, at first glance, it didn't seem much different from South Mountain Town; the situation inside wasn't as chaotic as Chu Jin imagined. Instead, it was very orderly, with people getting along harmoniously.

Nestled against the mountains and beside the water, the environment was very pleasant.

It was almost like a carbon copy of South Mountain Town.

However, Chu Jin noticed one phenomenon: everyone walking on the street, even if it was a three-year-old child, was endowed with Spiritual Power, not to be underestimated.

Chu Jin walked slowly down the street, until she saw a familiar figure, then her pupils constricted, and she hurried after it.

"Yinyin!?"

That girl selling wild roses, Meng Deyin.

"Pretty sister," the young girl didn't expect to bump into Chu Jin here, and her eyes held an undeniable surprise.

Her impression of Chu Jin was extremely deep.

She had been selling flowers since she was 6, and in 4 years, Chu Jin was the most beautiful customer she had met.

People always have a preference for beautiful things.

Chu Jin asked, "Yinyin, what are you doing here?"

The young girl smiled calmly and said, "I came here to pick flowers. Oh right, sister, how did you find this place?"

From her words, it could be heard that this wasn't her first time here.

She was neither shocked nor unfamiliar with Lawless City.

Chu Jin didn't answer her directly, but smiled and asked, "Then, can I join you in picking flowers?"

As long as they found those wild roses, they would surely find the Soul Resurrection Grass!

The young girl nodded her head and said happily, "Of course, you can, sister. Follow me, it's not far ahead."

Chu Jin followed her as she walked ahead.

The little girl took Chu Jin through the ancient town and up a nearby mountain.

The unbroken mountains, every grass and tree, all looked so much like South Mountain.

Mountains beyond mountains.

Cities within cities.

This South Mountain Town was truly a magical place.

"Sister, we're here; this is where I picked my roses," the little girl stopped in front of a cluster of rose bushes, the air filled with a refreshing fragrance that was very pleasant to the nose.

Chu Jin smiled faintly, "Yinyin, thank you for bringing me here."

The little girl was already deftly picking the flowers, "You're welcome, sister, it's just a small effort."

Chu Jin also reached out to pick a rose, held it to her nose, and sniffed lightly, narrowing her eyes slightly. The flower carried a very familiar scent; the Soul Resurrection Grass must be nearby.

Just then, Zi from the Purple Thunder Space suddenly spoke up, "Jin bro, I've locked on the location of the Soul Resurrection Grass, just follow the map now."

After greeting the little girl, Chu Jin followed the map's directions and walked towards another part of the mountain, her slender figure soon disappearing into the wilderness.

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In the blink of an eye, it was already 7 p.m., and the sky was getting dark.

Mo Qingyi and Miao Xinran had afternoon tea and dinner with their classmates, and they were currently sitting in the inn's lobby, chatting idly.

The topics of young people were always odd and eccentric.

Somehow, they started discussing ghost stories.

Mo Qingyi was afraid of ghosts, but couldn't resist her curiosity. Listening to their descriptions, she turned pale because she had seen a ghost with Chu Jin before, so she knew these things truly existed in the world.

As they chatted, their topic shifted.

One of them lowered their voice and spoke with a hint of mystery, "Hey, do you guys know about that super hot ghost-seeing game online recently? They say you can really see ghosts with it! Since we have about the right number of people, why not give it a try?"

All of them were young and brimming with vigor, unafraid of the unknown, so everyone was eager to try out the suggestion.

The method for seeing ghosts was roughly as follows.

The Ghost-Covered Eyes version of hide-and-seek, at night, find an open and deserted place, hold a black cat, and play hide-and-seek with everyone.

The more girls there are, the easier it is to see ghosts because females have heavier yin energy, but girls who are on their period must not participate, or the game will fail, as they are considered unclean during this time.

During hide-and-seek, you'll find that one or two friends cannot be found.

It's because they have been "ghost-covered eyes" and left in another world, never to return.

The few people discussed it eerily, and since they did not lower their voices much, neighboring people all listened in.

At this moment, the inn's proprietress, who was pouring tea and water, interrupted the conversation, "Young people, I advise you not to play such supernatural games. At night, the yin energy is strong, and black cats are spiritual creatures. What if you really do see a ghost? How will you end the game then?"

The proprietress spoke seriously; she had never seen a ghost herself, but some things are better believed to exist than not.

There are some taboos that it's better not to touch.

Mo Qingyi, knowing that it might indeed be possible to see ghosts in this game, also spoke with a pale face, "I think the proprietress makes sense. Let's not play. There might really be a chance of being left in another world."

Mo Qingyi spoke with such gravity that even her voice trembled slightly, making everyone laugh out loud upon hearing her.

This is the 21st century, spacecraft have flown to the moon; to believe in such ghost stories like Mo Qingyi was just too funny! All the debunking is on the internet, isn't it? These games are scams!

Mo Qingyi was really something else.

Seeing her like this, Miao Xinran patted her shoulder to comfort her, "It's okay, Qingyi, don't be afraid. There are no ghosts in this world, it's just a game, no need to take it so seriously."

Miao Xinran was very brave and, like everyone else, was an atheist; to her, this was just a game for amusement.

So, she decided to play this game with the others.

Mo Qingyi looked steadily at Miao Xinran and spoke earnestly, "Xinran, believe me, ghosts truly exist in this world!"

She had seen them with her own eyes.

Upon her words, the surrounding laughter grew even louder.

Mocking laughter rose and fell, Mo Qingyi was really too funny! Could she be mentally challenged? All those years spent reading the sages in vain!

To actually believe that ghosts exist in this world!

"Coward!" A disdainful snort came from around them.

Another girl, wearing a black T-shirt, added in a mocking tone, "It's getting dark outside, it's not safe. I think you better go home to your mommy, early."

"Pfft—"

"Haha—"

Mo Qingyi ignored their jeers and got up, turning to Miao Xinran, "Let them go if they want to, Xinran! Let's go back to the room."

Miao Xinran didn't stand up but said, "Qingyi, why don't you go upstairs first? We'll play for a while and then come back." Her interest in the game was piqued; with such perfect timing and conditions, she certainly couldn't miss this opportunity.

Although Mo Qingyi was afraid, she couldn't leave Miao Xinran alone. What if something happened?

She pressed her lips together and said, "Forget it, I'll go with you."

The group took advantage of the night to head out.

The landlady watched their figures disappear with a helpless shake of her head. The kids these days are so bold, they'll never grow up without learning a lesson or two.

As they walked, together with Mo Qingyi and Miao Xinran, there were nine of them in total.

Four boys, five girls.

It was already past 8 in the evening, and the streets were brightly lit, bustling with various street vendors on both sides.

The most important prop for the game was a black cat.

So, one of the students spent 50 yuan to rent a black cat from a barbecue stall owner.

Now that they had the black cat, next was the game location.

Perhaps it was everyone's first time playing such a spirit game, and they all seemed exceptionally excited. One of them pointed to a dark area and said, "I know there's a small grove over there, usually deserted. Let's go there; we won't be disturbed for sure!"

The small grove, shrouded by night, seemed particularly serene, pitch-black with occasional blue flames flickering in the forest.

"Ghost, ghost lights! Let's just go home!" Mo Qingyi's pupils shrank as she clutched Miao Xinran's arm tightly.

An icy, mocking female voice echoed through the air, "Making a fuss over nothing! Don't you know about phosphorescent fires? Really, how did you even study chemistry? With such a small courage, why did you even come along? You're only getting in the way!"

The girl who spoke was Chen Li, the same person who had made snide comments earlier.

Mo Qingyi pursed her lips and stayed silent.

Miao Xinran felt Mo Qingyi's palm sweating and whispered, "Qingyi, why don't you go back first?"

Mo Qingyi tried to stay calm, "It's okay, I'll stay with you."

The closer they got to the grove, the quieter the air became.

The moonlight spilled down faintly, coating the grove with a dusk glow. Through the moonlight, Mo Qingyi could even see the tombstones hidden behind the tree trunks.

Before the implementation of cremation, most of the deceased were buried.

The burials didn't have a unified cemetery; any uninhabited place could be used for burial.

This explained the reason for the phosphorescent fires they had just seen.

In such a spooky setting, everyone was not at all scared; on the contrary, they were very excited, looking around the environment in anticipation of the next part of the game.

"Who's going to hold the cat?"

The rule of the game was,

One person holds the cat and is responsible for seeking others.

All the others hide.

Only those who hide might see ghosts; the person holding the black cat will neither disappear nor see any ghosts.

So, no one wanted to hold the cat.

"Isn't Mo Qingyi a scaredy-cat afraid of ghosts? Let her hold the cat and look for people," suggested one of the students.

As soon as these words were spoken, everyone nodded in agreement.

Mo Qingyi had no room to refuse, so the task of finding the others fell on her.

She stood there holding the black cat, with a black silk blindfold over her eyes. After counting down ten numbers, she tore off the blindfold only to find that everyone who had been in front of her had vanished without a trace.

The small grove was pitch-dark, creating a somewhat oppressive atmosphere.

Mo Qingyi took a deep breath and slowly walked through the grove with the black cat in her arms, the silence only broken by the sound of her footsteps.

Stepping on deadwood, it made a creaking sound that seemed particularly eerie in the quiet night.

"Look at her acting like such a coward!" two female classmates hiding behind a tombstone scoffed disdainfully.

One of them was Chen Li.

They hid behind the tombstone, standing on a grave mound, feeling no impropriety in their actions but rather sporting playful grins.

Chen Li watched Mo Qingyi's figure and curled her lips into a mocking smile, "How about we dress up as ghosts and scare her? Do you think she'll pee her pants?"

"Yeah, let's give her a taste of her own medicine! Let's see if she dares to talk back to you next time!" another girl quickly nodded in agreement.

The two quietly discussed how they would frighten Mo Qingyi.

They were completely unaware that the silence in the woods was now somewhat chilling.

Miao Xinran leaned against a thick tree, waiting for a long time without seeing Mo Qingyi or the legendary ghost. She was understandably bored and started humming a tune to pass the time.

As she hummed,

Her voice suddenly stopped short, her ears pricked up.

Because behind her came the faint sound of footsteps.

Everyone was supposed to be hiding, so could it be Mo Qingyi?

If it was Mo Qingyi, then why wouldn't she speak upon hearing her voice?

If it wasn't Mo Qingyi, then who could it be?

In that instant, Miao Xinran's heart raced to her throat, and she gasped for air, hardly daring to look back.

The sound grew closer and closer, like the toll of a death knell. In the pitch-dark night where one couldn't see their hand in front of their face, it was especially sinister.

Don't be afraid! There are no such things as ghosts in this world! Miao Xinran comforted herself.

At the same time, she adjusted her breathing and mentally prepared herself, slowly turned her head to look behind.

She saw—

Nothing but darkness in the air!

The unseen was the most terrifying. Just a moment ago, Miao Xinran had heard very real footsteps, but upon turning around, she saw nothing at all. It was inconceivable! Miao Xinran swallowed hard, her face turning pale with fear, a sense of unprecedented terror sweeping over her! In an instant, all her strength seemed to be drained, and Miao Xinran, who usually didn't believe in ghosts and spirits, was genuinely scared!

She hadn't hidden very far away, so why hadn't Mo Qingyi found her yet?

She decided to wait another ten minutes; if Mo Qingyi still hadn't found her by then, she would walk out herself!

If she were to walk out now, it would be somewhat embarrassing.

"Xinran—"

"Li Yong—"

"Wang Keke—"

Mo Qingyi walked through the forest with erratic steps, calling out the names of several people as she went.

But all that responded to her were the silent echoes in the air.

The green eyes of the black cat in her arms emitted a strange glow, scanning every corner of the woods like a laser.

Suddenly, the cat's gaze fixed on a certain spot in the forest and let out a pitiful 'meow.'

The sound was like a child's cry, or the howl of a fierce ghost, piercing and sharp, echoing through the eerie forest, particularly terrifying and grating on the ears.

Mo Qingyi was so startled that she nearly stumbled, her whole body breaking out in cold sweat. She looked in the direction of the black cat's gaze and saw a piece of cloth protruding from behind a clump of brambles.

#### Chapter 547: come out

Someone must be hiding there! Mo Qingyi took a deep breath and slowly walked towards the bramble, her voice trembling, "Come out, I can see you."

Still, no one answered her.

Mo Qingyi's breathing grew increasingly rapid, her heart pounding faster and faster, "Come out, I really can see you! If you don't come out, I'll come over there!"

Just when Mo Qingyi thought there would be no answer, her classmates, Li Yong and Wang Lele, emerged from behind the bramble.

Li Yong said with a lack of interest, "Ah, this is really boring. We didn't see a single ghost, and you found us so quickly."

Seeing the shock still evident on Mo Qingyi's face, Wang Keke patted her on the shoulder with a smile, comforting her, "Don't be scared, there are no such things as ghosts in this world. Look, Wang Keke and I were in the bramble for such a long time, and we're totally fine, we didn't see anything."

Seeing the two familiar faces, Mo Qingyi let out a sigh of relief and swallowed hard, "There are others we haven't found yet, you two should come help me look."

The two boys nodded and followed Mo Qingyi, joking as they walked to try to ease her nervousness.

But Mo Qingyi's mood didn't relax at all, instead it was tense.

As the three of them passed a tombstone, a chilly breeze suddenly blew on their backs. Despite it being a hot June, it made them shiver with cold.

Mo Qingyi paused in her step, for she felt the black cat in her arms tense into a 'bow' shape, its creepy cat eyes staring intently at the tombstone as if it might jump out of her arms at any moment in alert. The black cat was a clairvoyant creature; its eyes could see things invisible to humans.

There was something behind the tombstone!

At this thought, Mo Qingyi's spirit was shaken! Her face turned ashen, and she stood rigidly, as if a spell had been cast upon her, unable to take another step.

A sense of chilling terror spread through her entire body!

The change in the black cat's body became more and more apparent!

This feeling was truly terrifying. She knew that at any moment, a ghost might drift out from behind the tombstone, but she could do nothing, she couldn't even run away! She could only watch with eyes wide open. At this moment, Mo Qingyi was drenched in cold sweat, wishing she could just pass out with her eyes closed!

The two boys following her noticed the change in Mo Qingyi and stopped too, asking, "Mo Qingyi, what's wrong?"

The sky seemed to grow darker.

The clouds obscured not only the moon but also the stars, adding to the oppressive feeling in the air.

Seeing that Mo Qingyi didn't respond, Wang Keke also called out.

"Mo Qingyi?"

Mo Qingyi stared blankly at the tombstone, her usually bright eyes now devoid of their usual luster, filled with intense fear. It was as if she didn't hear the calls of the two, absorbed in her own world, her face deathly pale against the heavy night sky, which was rather unsettling and chilling to the bone.

Wang Keke, worried, reached out and pushed Mo Qingyi, "Hey! What's wrong with you?"

Perhaps Mo Qingyi's state had frightened the two boys, as their expressions shifted from initial indifference to now tense.

After all, they were standing in front of a grave of the dead.

Pushed by Wang Keke, Mo Qingyi staggered a few steps before coming to her senses. Holding the black cat tightly in her arms, her voice shook as she said, "There, there's something over there, you, you didn't see it?"

"No! What did you see? Li Yong, did you see anything?" After speaking, Wang Keke turned his gaze to Li Yong.

Li Yong shrugged helplessly, saying lightly, "I didn't see anything either." With that, he patted Mo Qingyi on the shoulder, "You're just too nervous. There are no ghosts in this world, relax a little."

Mo Qingyi's lips trembled as she shook slightly, only managing to get her words out after a long time, "I, I saw... something on the tombstone smiling at me..."

At that, Li Yong and Wang Keke squinted, scrutinizing the tombstone carefully, but still saw nothing, "There's nothing there, you must be seeing things. We didn't see anything."

"There really is something. Believe me, it's smiling at me..." Mo Qingyi's voice now had a cry in it, and in extreme panic, she subconsciously reached out and clutched Li Yong's wrist, her nails digging deep into his flesh.

Pain made Li Yong furrow his brows, but he didn't say much, only murmuring comfortingly, "There's really nothing there, try to relax, don't be so tense."

"There is... there really is," Mo Qingyi said, her voice trembling, "it's still there now..."

Both of the big boys thought that Mo Qingyi was just too nervous, which had led to hallucinations.

After all, how could there really be ghosts in this world?

"Stop scaring yourself, there's nothing over there."

"Mo Qingyi, you seem so active in class, I didn't expect you to be such a coward."

Just then.

"Giggle giggle..." A sinister and penetrating laugh came from behind the tombstones.

It echoed distinctly in the little woods.

It made one's skin crawl, shivering without being cold.

The air suddenly quieted down, as the two big boys looked at each other, both seeing disbelief and panic in the other's eyes.

"Don't be afraid," Li Yong tried hard to calm himself down, "There are no ghosts in this world, it must be other students playing a trick on us."

Wang Keke echoed, "Right, right, it has to be that."

"Chen Li, is that you?" Li Yong asked.

No one in the air responded.

"Li Jiaqi? Come out, stop scaring people, we know it's you."

Still, no one responded.

A more horrific atmosphere began to spread through the air.

The two atheist big boys were getting tense too, the pitch-black environment only adding to the fear in their hearts.

At that moment, an even colder female voice came from behind the tombstones.

"It's so cold down here... so cold... I want you to come down and keep me company..."

Miserably, it traveled through the eerie air into the ears of the three.

Now, the two big boys were truly scared! Their faces were pale as sheets, and their pupils shrank with fear!

The darkness was like a demon from hell, emitting a sinister and decaying breath, enveloping the woods and chilling to the bone.

Li Yong swallowed and, mustering his courage, said, "Who's there? Stop playing the ghost! Come out now!"

"Giggle giggle..."

In this silent space, all that responded to him was a miserably penetrating laugh.

Wang Keke was so frightened that he hid directly behind Li Yong and Mo Qingyi, his body trembling. He couldn't stay in this terrifying atmosphere for another minute, he just wanted to leave immediately.

"Don't be scared!" Li Yong extended his hand to protect the two behind him, "There are no ghosts in this world. You two stand here, I'll go and check."

Compared to the terrified Mo Qingyi and Wang Keke, Li Yong was relatively calm. Although scared, he still firmly believed this must be other students playing a joke on them.

"Don't go, I'm scared!" Wang Keke reached out to grab Li Yong's sleeve, his voice trembling.

No matter how mentally strong a person is, once their defenses are completely broken, they become extremely vulnerable.

"Aren't you ashamed, being such a big boy and yet so scared?" Li Yong shook off Wang Keke's hand, "If you're scared, you can come with me."

Wang Keke swallowed, too frightened to do anything but take a step back, "You go... I'll stay here."

Mo Qingyi stood still, clutching a black cat, her face full of terror.

Li Yong carefully approached the tombstones; the closer he got to them, the higher his heart leaped, a layer of sweat breaking out in his palms!

Just as their prank was about to be exposed, the two hiding behind the tombstone were also getting nervous. They had intended to give these three a good scare, but they hadn't expected Li Yong to be so bold!

Boring! Dull!

The pair emerged from behind the tombstone without much enthusiasm. Chen Li brushed the dirt off her body and said, "Li Yong, I didn't see that coming. You've got quite the nerve! Much stronger than those other two cowards!"

But Li Yong acted as if he didn't see Chen Li and Li Jiaqi at all, continuing cautiously toward the tombstone. He took out his cellphone, switched on the flashlight, and called, "Who's there? Who's hiding? Come out now."

"Li Yong! Stop scaring people! We were just playing a joke on you!" Chen Li and Li Jiaqi walked toward Li Yong.

Still, Li Yong acted as if he didn't see them.

What was even more strange was that the air was once again filled with a "giggling" laughter.

Chen Li and Li Jiaqi looked at each other, their pupils shrinking with fear, seeing terror in each other's eyes.

This time, the horrifying laughter hadn't come from either of them.

And Li Yong's reaction was even more horrifying to them. They were standing right in front of him, alive and well, but Li Yong just couldn't see them! In desperation, Chen Li reached out to shake Li Yong awake, but her fingers passed right through his body!

At this, Chen Li and Li Jiaqi were completely panicked!

"Ah!" The two of them screamed in terror!

All of a sudden, they remembered the content of this game: the player being covered by Ghost-covered Eyes is taken to another world, which is why people from this world can't see them!

Li Jiaqi, terrified, clutched Chen Li's arm, crying, "What do we do? Chen Li, what do we do? There really are ghosts, we can't get out..."

But Li Yong simply walked right through them and kept moving toward the tombstone.

"Ah!"

Li Yong was startled by the scene behind the tombstone! He fell sitting straight into the mud! His face drained of color! Terrified and aghast!

It was horrifying! Li Yong would never forget what he saw behind the tombstone for as long as he lived!

Seeing this, Mo Qingyi and Wang Keke hurried to Li Yong's side. Wang Keke's voice trembled as she asked, "What, what, what happened? What did you see?"

Li Yong's hands shook as he pointed at the tombstone, stammering, unable to utter a word.

Chen Li and Li Jiaqi were filled with even more horror; they had just been hiding behind the tombstone, and there was clearly nothing there. So what could have scared Li Yong like that?

"Meow!" A sharp scream! Piercingly loud!

The black cat sprang from Mo Qingyi's arms and darted straight toward the tombstone!

"Wooh—"

In the dark night, the black cat arched its back and faced off against the tombstone, making an eerie noise!

Everyone was terrified, collapsing in a heap on the ground, supporting themselves with their hands and shuffling backward...

Utterly terrified!

In the end, they were all just teenagers. Faced with such an event, they had no ability to resist; all they could feel was fear.

Chen Li and Li Jiaqi held each other's hands tightly, afraid to let go. Their palms were sweaty with anxiety. They were scared that once they let go, they would never see each other again; at least they had each other for solace in this way.

"What do we do now?" Li Jiaqi asked Chen Li amidst tears.

Chen Li, remaining relatively calm, replied, "Let's get out of here first! Maybe they're the ones covered with Ghost-covered Eyes!"

"Right, right, right," Li Jiaqi nodded incessantly, "let's get going quickly!"

Hand in hand, the two of them ran as fast as they could toward the edge of the forest!

But no matter how fast the two of them ran, they could never escape the forest; they were just running in circles!

"What do we do, what do we do?" Li Jiaqi completely broke down! She started crying on the spot, "Mom and Dad, I miss you so much! Please come and save me!"

It was only now that she remembered the goodness of her parents.

Chen Li was also very afraid! She regretted playing this game more than once!

If given another chance, she definitely wouldn't have mocked Mo Qingyi; instead, she would have joined Mo Qingyi in opposing this game! Could it be that they were truly trapped by Ghost-covered Eyes and couldn't find their way out?

The sound echoing in Chen Li's ears was Li Jiaqi's crying. Chen Li was both frightened and annoyed, "Enough! Stop crying! Is crying going to solve anything?"

Perhaps frightened by Chen Li, Li Jiaqi's crying suddenly stopped with only intermittent sobs remaining, "Li Li... what do we do now?"

Chen Li took a deep breath and analyzed the situation coldly, asking, "Do you have your phone with you?"

Upon hearing this, Li Jiaqi hurriedly reached for her pocket, "Brought it, brought it."

Chen Li's spirits lifted, as if she had grasped a lifeline, reducing her panic slightly, "Good, give me the phone."

With a phone, they could ask for help from the outside world.

Li Jiaqi was scared out of her wits, her ability to think had left her, she just fumbled tremblingly for her pocket, took out the phone, and handed it to Chen Li.

Chen Li took the phone, her hands shaking, and quickly entered a familiar string of numbers, making a call, but the only response was the incessant busy signal.

Once, twice, thrice, the same each time.

Chen Li became panicked, and then dialed the emergency services, but the response was still only endless busy signals.

How, how could this be? Were they really trapped here? Could it be that they really couldn't get out?

A "clatter" sound and the phone fell to the ground.

"Let's go, we can definitely find a way out," Chen Li said, pulling Li Jiaqi as they staggered forward, knowing well they couldn't escape yet refusing to give up.

As they walked, they once again came upon the gravesite. This time, Mo Qingyi, Li Yong, and Wang Keke were nowhere to be seen; in the sinister forest, only a bizarre grave remained.

"Let's go, let's go take a look there; maybe we can use the tombstone to return to the world from before." After all, it was at that place where they had been originally trapped by Ghost-covered Eyes and brought into this odd space.

Fear had drained all of their strength, and they supported each other, dragging their heavy steps, moving toward the back of the tombstone one step at a time.

When they finally arrived at the tombstone and saw what was hidden behind it, they screamed in terror and fell to the ground!

They saw—

Behind the tombstone was the unmistakable figure of a human skeleton! Its ghastly, white skull was grinning at them with a sinister smile!

Even though it clearly had no eyes, it somehow gave the chilling illusion of staring straight at you!

The two were extremely horrified. It turned out that they had been sitting on this skeleton all along!

"What do we do? What do we do, Li Li? We're doomed! We're really doomed this time!" Li Jiaqi hugged Chen Li's arm, crying loudly.

Chen Li sat there with a wooden expression, her body stiff as a rock! Only her heart was pounding fiercely!

On the other side, Miao Xinran also decided to stop hiding.

She stepped out from behind the tree, feeling that something was not quite right.

Because the woods were really too quiet, eerily quiet! There were some faint footsteps before, but now, there wasn't a sound at all. The grove wasn't large; there were nine of them in total. Even if eight people were hiding, it shouldn't be completely silent!

"Qingyi," Miao Xinran called out loudly.

"Qingyi—" The echo of Miao Xinran's voice resonated through the forest, one voice after another, filled with dread!

Chapter 548:

Generally speaking, echoes only occur in enclosed spaces; an open area like a small grove should not produce echoes, which struck Miao Xinran as odd and caused her face to pale slightly.

What frightened her even more was that Mo Qingyi did not respond to her!

"Qingyi, come out, we're not playing anymore, I give up!" Miao Xinran shouted into the air once more.

But all that came back from the air were her own echoes.

"Qingyi, please come out," Miao Xinran hurried forward, searching for Mo Qingyi's figure as she went.

But in the quiet grove, there was no one to be found.

"Hey, everyone, come out, stop hiding, can't we stop playing?"

"Everyone, come out!"

At this moment, Miao Xinran noticed a strange problem; no matter how she walked, she couldn't exit the forest and seemed to be going in circles!

The color was slowly draining from Miao Xinran's face.

Her steps became somewhat frantic.

The pitch-black grove seemed to turn into a cage, trapping her within it.

What should she do? What could she do now?

Could this be the phenomenon of ghost-hitting-the-wall?

In her panic, she could only pull out her phone, but it had fallen into a state with no signal, and the most terrifying thing was that she couldn't even make emergency calls! It was then that Miao Xinran realized things had truly taken a serious turn!

For a moment, everything seemed to spin around her!

"Qingyi, Li Yong, Wang Keke... where are you?"

In her despair, Miao Xinran could only cry out everyone's names.

At this moment, Miao Xinran was truly scared! If she had known this would happen, she would have never agreed to play such a terrifying game, not even if it meant getting killed! Now she had roped herself in too! It felt like she really was trapped in another world!

On the other side, Mo Qingyi, Li Yong, and Wang Keke were also constantly searching for their friends' figures.

The black cat that had been in Mo Qingyi's arms had long since disappeared.

Now, they could only use the light from their phones to grope their way forward in the darkness, not knowing what they might encounter ahead.

"What do we do now? It seems like they've all disappeared! They couldn't really have been taken by a ghost to another world, could they?" Wang Keke said in a panic.

The three of them had been turning in circles in the woods for over half an hour, but they hadn't found a single person.

"Don't panic," Li Yong said, feigning composure, "there are no ghosts in this world. They must be hiding on purpose to scare us." Even though he said this, his heart was still in a state of chaos; this place was just too eerie!

Mo Qingyi shone the flashlight around, shouting loudly, "Xinran! Come out! We're not playing anymore!"

But there was no response.

The silence was so thorough that only their breathing could be heard.

"This place is too creepy; let's go back first. They're not children; if they can't see us, they'll definitely go back on their own," Wang Keke was already considering falling back.

"What are you talking about!" Mo Qingyi's voice suddenly turned cold, "We all came here together! Of course, we should leave together! I won't go back until we've found the others."

Scared as she was, she would never abandon her friends in a time like this!

Li Yong also spoke up, "Mo Qingyi is right! At a time like this, we absolutely cannot leave! What if they really met with an accident?" If a girl could stand her ground and not back down in such a situation, he, as a man, certainly could not show too much cowardice.

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Elsewhere, Chu Jin had arrived in front of a mountain cave, stopping as directed by the map.

Clearly, this was no ordinary cave.

Two long-robed figures stood guard at the entrance.

According to the map, Soul Resurrection Grass should be inside the cave.

But as things stood now, she couldn't get in.

Unless there was another entrance to the cave.

"Jin, have you forgotten that you still have half a bottle of Invisibility Water?" Zi from the Purple Thunder Space reminded her.

It was then that Chu Jin remembered; to deal with Zhao Yiling, she had asked Zi to prepare Invisibility Water for her, and after using half a bottle last time, she still had half left.

"Thanks for the reminder," Chu Jin said with a slight curl of her lip, taking out the remaining Invisibility Water from the space and consuming it.

After making sure there were no problems, she approached the cave entrance.

While walking, she also found a black baseball cap in the Purple Thunder Space and put it on her head.

She pulled the brim of her hat down further.

It concealed her exquisitely delicate features that were as beautiful as jade.

Zi continued, "Brother Jin, this Invisibility Water can only maintain its effect for half an hour, we must act quickly and decisively."

Chu Jin nodded slightly, "Got it, you also keep a close watch for me."

Zi patted her chest and said, "No problem, leave it to my three bodies of Zi Han."

Thanks to the Invisibility Water, Chu Jin smoothly entered the cave.

Calling it a cave was a bit of an understatement; it was more like an underground castle, opulent beyond compare, leading deep underground.

Everywhere he went, there were people patrolling back and forth! The defenses were extremely strict.

Chu Jin held his breath, avoiding one infrared beam after another as he made his way deeper underground.

The deeper he went, the more oppressive the air became! The guards became more numerous as well.

Zi reminded him anxiously, "Brother Jin, you need to move faster, we only have 20 minutes left!"

"I know." As he spoke, Chu Jin once again squinted and dodged another infrared beam.

Not only were there guards here, but there were also mechanisms everywhere, invisible to the naked eye, any slight misstep could trigger an alarm.

Just around the corner should be the place where the Soul Resurrection Grass was stored.

There were only 15 minutes left until the Invisibility Water would wear off.

There were many guards here.

More than all he had encountered on the way put together, indicating that the Soul Resurrection Grass must be extremely precious; otherwise, the defenses would not be so tight.

Chu Jin cautiously entered the room where the Soul Resurrection Grass was kept.

This was clearly a small treasury, filled with jewels flashing dazzling light. No wonder there were so many guards outside. Chu Jin quickly identified a wooden box emitting a red glow among the pile of jewels.

Inside it, the Soul Resurrection Grass should be stored.

It was a large wooden box, and it would be impossible to take away with the box itself.

The wooden box was locked.

An old-fashioned copper lock.

Chu Jin walked to the side, took a black hairpin out of his pocket, inserted it into the lock, and gave it a gentle twist.

"Click," went the sound.

The lock was open.

But it also drew the attention of the guards at the door.

"Who's there!" Suddenly, more than a dozen fully armed men appeared in the previously empty room.

Chu Jin quickly held his breath and moved aside.

But it was already too late, as one of the guards had noticed something was off with the wooden box.

A dozen dark gun barrels were all aimed at Chu Jin.

The urgent alarm sounded through the entire underground castle.

One of them threw a handful of unknown gold powder into the air, and Chu Jin's body immediately appeared in the air.

"Bang, bang, bang—"

The sound of gunfire resounded.

With a grasping motion out of thin air, an Oil-paper Umbrella appeared in Chu Jin's right hand.

As the umbrella opened, it emanated a fierce, blinding red light.

Not only did it block the bullets, but it also made it difficult for the guards to keep their eyes open!

Seizing the moment, Chu Jin flashed to the side, covering himself with the umbrella in his right hand, and quickly grabbed the Soul Resurrection Grass lying in the wooden box with his left hand!

"Catch her! Don't let her get away at all costs!"

More and more guards were arriving.

To walk out of here would undoubtedly require a bloody battle!

Chu Jin, trying not to harm anyone, dodged the bullets that flew towards him while making his way out!

But the guards would not give him any chance to escape!

"Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh!"

In the blink of an eye, five or six guards had already flashed in front of her.

Punching! Sweeping the leg!

Each strike aimed for vital points!

These five were skilled in close quarters combat, clearly not just any common fighters!

Chu Jin slightly squinted her eyes, one hand holding the Soul Resurrection Grass.

With a "snap", she closed the Oil-paper Umbrella and used the handle as a weapon! Her figure moved deftly among the five men!

Like a bewitching fish.

Her speed was so fast that her body almost turned into an afterimage!

Invisible to the eye and impossible to grasp.

The tip of the umbrella continuously struck the vulnerable acupoints of the five men!

Meanwhile, a man dressed in a suit and shoes was hurriedly making his way inside, his very being emitting an aura of dangerous hostility.

A subordinate was reporting to him the situation inside the cave.

"Second City Lord, the intruder is after the town's treasure! The Soul Resurrection Grass is already in his hands! Moreover, this person is highly skilled! Even the five Protectors are no match for him."

With a pair of enchanting fox-like eyes that could bewitch the heart, the man's lips curved slightly upon hearing this, "Daring to act recklessly in Lawless City, I'll make sure he comes in but never leaves!"

Having said this, the man's figure flashed and he appeared next to Chu Jin.

Chu Jin tossed the umbrella into the air and with a spinning kick, she almost didn't turn her head as she landed a blow under the jaw of the man behind her!

A "crack" as bones broke.

Bang! One down!

Meanwhile, the falling tip of the umbrella landed precisely on another person's Baihui Point!

Bang! Another down!

At the same time, Chu Jin's feet touched the wall, leaving two footprints on the snow-white surface, and with a backward somersault, her feet landed accurately on the shoulders of one man.

Her black cap fell due to her significant movement, drawing a perfect arc in mid-air, revealing a highly distinctive and clear face, a visage as lovely as jade intertwined with her black hair, stunningly heart-stirring.

She was a beauty as if taken from a painting.

Nothing more than that.

The man watching Chu Jin was momentarily stunned, clearly not expecting the person who dared to intrude alone into the Treasures Pavilion of Lawless City to be a woman!

But the man quickly recovered, gesturing towards his subordinates.

The subordinates immediately understood, and in the next second, a refined small pistol appeared in their hands!

Narrowing his eyes slightly, he aimed the gun muzzle at Chu Jin!

Indeed, it was a pity for such a beauty.

Chu Jin twisted the man's head with her feet, rotating, and with another "crack", the man plummeted straight to the ground! Then, with another side flip, she lifted her foot and directly kicked another person to her left.

The four men who were full of vigor a moment ago...

In the blink of an eye, "bang, bang" fell to the ground.

"Farewell, beauty," the man did not hesitate to pull the trigger, and a bullet shot straight towards Chu Jin's heart!

At the same time, Chu Jin reached out to catch the umbrella, which landed securely in her hand!

Also at this moment, a playing card imbued with an intense chill flew swiftly towards the man!

The man's pupils shrank suddenly!

He hadn't expected Chu Jin to discover him so quickly! Her observational skills were terrifying! For the sake of a surprise attack, he had purposely hidden among the crowd! The gun was even fitted with a silencer!

Just who was this person! She looked no more than a teenager! How could she possess such extraordinary skills!

It seemed he had underestimated her!

"Whoosh!"

"Pop!"

The bullet and the card collided in mid-air, creating a blinding spark! After a fierce impact, both the card and the bullet fell to the ground!

The man narrowed his eyes once more.

"Bang, bang!"

He fired two more shots in her direction!

Chu Jin hurriedly propped open the oil-paper umbrella, shielding herself from two bullets that were shot at her!

The number of enemies was too great, and moreover, a highly skilled one had now arrived; it wasn't suitable for her to confront them head-on!

Chu Jin had hoped Zi might be able to help her, but at the critical moment, he had been blocked again!

Under such circumstances, she could only take a gamble!

Chu Jin's brows furrowed slightly as she dodged the encroaching crowd, swiftly heading in the direction of the exit.

"Think you can escape that easily?" The man smirked, his lips curling into a smile that wasn't quite a smile. He deftly grabbed a dagger that gleamed with a cold light, leaped into the air, stepped on the shoulders of the crowd, and arrived in front of Chu Jin.

He raised his hand slightly, and the guards who were fighting with Chu Jin immediately retreated.

Leaving enough space for the two to fight.

Only then did Chu Jin indifferently lift her eyes to look at the man.

At the same time, the man also raised his eyes to look at her!

Their eyes met! Sparks flew!

The man slightly narrowed his fox-like eyes, his voice oozing charm, "Little beauty, drop the Soul Resurrection Grass, follow me, and I will ensure you a path of glory and riches. What do you say?" He never refused a beauty.

Especially one with her looks.

If he could have her, keeping her by his side as a bed partner would be wonderful.

Chu Jin didn't expect such shameless words from him, and immediately snapped the umbrella closed, her face growing cold. Transforming the umbrella into a sword, she slashed directly at the man.

The man's lips quirked up; she indeed had character. He first used his hand to block the attacking umbrella.

Then he switched from defense to offense, attacking Chu Jin.

A showdown between masters!

Their bodies almost turned into afterimages.

Tangling in mid-air!

For a moment, it was hard to distinguish superior from inferior.

Although Chu Jin had acquired ancient martial arts skills and was accompanied by her lightning superpower, she had not been training for long. Without the protection of the Empress' spirit, facing a real master, she was somewhat unable to cope!

Xiao Bai was recuperating!

Mo Zhixuan was in Capital City!

At this moment, she could only rely on herself!

The man brandished his dagger in the air, tangling it with flying strands of hair! The silky hair swiftly slid past his hand; soft, delicate!

At the same time, a strand of hair floated down from mid-air.

The man slightly lifted his lips, reached out and caught the strand of hair in the palm of his hand.

He brought the hair to his nose and inhaled gently; a faint fragrance immediately enveloped his senses, a pleasant scent that was extremely appealing.

"Beauty, since you can't beat me anyway, why not give up resisting while I'm still interested in you? I promise you'll live a life of luxury and spice," he said.

Chu Jin coldly raised her eyes, a chill accompanying her gaze, "Cut the crap!" With those words, a playing card sailed from her fingertips!

Imbued with a sharp aura, it shot straight for the man's temple!

The man calmly caught the flying card between two fingers, speaking lightly, "My dear, such dangerous games don't suit you. A scratch on that pretty face would take all the fun away!"

As he spoke, the man waved his hand, and the dagger in his grip shot towards Chu Jin's face! Simultaneously, he performed a side somersault and a spinning back kick, striking fiercely at Chu Jin's vital points!

The double attack caused Chu Jin's pupils to constrict sharply! Yet she quickly reacted, using the tip of her umbrella to deflect the incoming dagger!

A sharp snap!

The razor-sharp dagger buried itself deep in the pristine white wall!

Immediately after, Chu Jin's figure leaped, avoiding the man's attack, and with a firm grip on the umbrella handle, she swept the umbrella toward the man's neck!

Under these circumstances, she had to fight quickly and decisively!

Who knew that the man wouldn't be so easy to deal with! He grabbed the umbrella handle and pulled lightly, instantly reversing their positions! Chu Jin's body spun, her footsteps faltered, and she was drawn into the man's embrace!

A strange male scent engulfed her!

The man wrapped one arm around Chu Jin's waist and with the other, he held a gun to her temple, blowing a warm breath in her ear, before saying, "My dear, don't move, or else, my bullets won't show mercy!"

Chu Jin raised her eyebrow slightly but didn't make a move! As long as the man didn't pull the trigger, she still had a chance to turn the tables on him!

The man's lips curled, as he lowered his gaze to sniff at the hair near Chu Jin's face, his voice hoarse, "Follow me, and I'll spare your life. What do you say?"

Chapter 549: where are you?

Indeed, she was an extraordinary woman; even after being captured, she remained so calm and composed! If it were someone else, they probably would have begged for mercy by now, right?

Chu Jin slightly narrowed her eyes, flicked her fingertips gently, and quietly gathered the spiritual power within her body, summoning the purple lightning to her right hand!

Success or failure! In this one strike!

Chu Jin bent her right elbow sharply and slammed it into the man's chest, with bolts of lightning striking rapidly at his chest!

The man clearly didn't expect such a turn of events!

He was momentarily stunned, his fox-like eyes filled with disbelief!

Seizing this opportunity, Chu Jin performed a whirlwind kick on one leg, moving laterally forward! A high whirlwind kick! She kicked the gun out of the man's hand up into the air!

As the saying goes, it was slower to tell but faster to see., fast! fierce! accurate!

The man scrambled to grasp the gun, but Chu Jin struck his wrist with the tip of her umbrella! Then a playing card flew, nailing the gun in the air straight into the snowy white wall!

Everyone inhaled sharply!

Those present had never seen such a formidable woman before! Nor had they seen their wise Second City Lord at a disadvantage against a woman!

No! It should be said like this: never had any woman dared to confront the Second City Lord directly!

This woman in front of them must be the first.

The Second City Lord was also full of shock! He hadn't expected that a woman could have such agile movements and explosive power!

It seemed he had underestimated her!

Quite an interesting character.

The Second City Lord narrowed his eyes slightly, a cold and ruthless look flitting across his eyes!

Whoever invades Lawless City shall be executed without exception!

He quickly recovered, launching another attack in Chu Jin's direction! His moves were ferocious and lethal! This time, he left no room for mercy!

Chu Jin also used the full extent of her lightning superpower, entangling with the man in midair!

For a time, the victor was indistinguishable!

Just then, a shadowy figure joined the fierce battle!

By the silhouette and attire, one could tell that it must be a woman.

Two against one!

And the newcomer was a master too, her coordination with the Second City Lord was impressively in sync. With just a glance, they knew each other's intentions! Chu Jin gradually could no longer cope, forced to defend without any chance to attack!

The woman took the opportunity while Chu Jin fought with the Second City Lord, sending a chilling dart towards Chu Jin's lower leg!

Chu Jin felt a piercing pain in her knee, followed by her oil-paper umbrella being snatched away! Another dart flew at her, but this time Chu Jin was prepared! She kicked up her leg, and the dart shot back towards the woman!

In that brief moment, the Second City Lord struck with his hand towards Chu Jin's chest and promptly twisted her arms behind her back! She was thoroughly restrained by the man!

This time, the man used enormous force, as if intent on snapping her arms off, leaving her no chance to resist!

Meanwhile, the woman caught her own dart and approached with a smile, "Mu Chen, when will you ever stop being smitten at the sight of a beauty? If I hadn't come today, you might have already perished beneath the peonies, right?"

Mu Chen was good in every aspect but had one flaw.

He was fond of beauties.

If it weren't for his soft spot for beautiful women, how could any woman match him?

Mu Chen pursed his lips, saying nothing; he was well aware that he had not spared Chu Jin today, having used all his strength just to achieve a draw, and if it weren't for Mu Lian's arrival, he might have even been defeated by her!

Such skill at such a young age! With a few more years, how terrifying she would become!

"What is your name? What is your purpose in intruding our Treasures Pavilion?" Mu Lian lifted Chu Jin's chin with her hand, "Tsk tsk, you are indeed quite beautiful, but too bad your brain isn't quite there, daring to run wild in our Lawless City!"

Chu Jin looked at her, silent!

Even in captivity, her back remained straight as a whip! Proud as ever!

She would rather die standing than live kneeling!

Mu Lian curled her lips slightly, the corners of her mouth revealing a mocking smile, "Not talking, huh? I have plenty of ways to make you talk." With those words, she took out a red cord from her waist and bound Chu Jin with it.

The rope was of some unknown material, and as soon as it was tied around Chu Jin, she felt as if all her spiritual power had been completely drained, leaving her no different from an ordinary person.

After securing her, the woman clapped her hands, "Take her away, lock her in the dungeon!"

"Yes!" Two people immediately escorted Chu Jin toward that direction.

"Snap!" A crisp sound as a green-glowing object fell from her pocket to the ground.

Chu Jin's footsteps halted as he glanced sideways at the ground, only to see a jade pendant lying there conspicuously!

It was translucent and lustrous, with an exceptional quality!

Just as Chu Jin was about to speak, she was pulled forward by two people, one on each side!

She let out a soft sigh.

Now, she could hardly protect herself, let alone that jade pendant!

Mu Chen and Mu Lian noticed the jade pendant on the ground, and their expressions both changed! Mu Lian, swift-handed and quick-eyed, picked it up from the ground and said in surprise, "Isn't this Big Brother's jade pendant?"

Mu Chen's pupils also shrank, "There's no mistake, it's Big Brother's!"

Who was this woman, to have their Big Brother's jade pendant on her!

"Could she be acquainted with Big Brother? Did he give it to her?" Mu Chen narrowed his eyes, somewhat puzzled.

Mu Lian snorted lightly, countering, "I think it's most likely she stole it! This jade pendant is something Big Brother keeps close to his person! He values it more than his own life, how could he give it away so easily!"

Mu Chen remained silent, observing Chu Jin's retreating figure in a thoughtful manner.

Who was she?

Why was she trying to steal the Soul Resurrection Grass?

Why did she have Big Brother's jade pendant on her?

Did she really steal it?

Mu Lian didn't have the time to think so much, clutching the jade pendant she said, "Big Brother cherishes this pendant a lot, he must be very anxious since it's gone, I'll deliver it to him right away!"

With that, she ran quickly towards the direction of the exit.

And soon disappeared into the air.

Mu Chen, on the other hand, locked the Soul Resurrection Grass back into the wooden box, then said to everyone, "Be on strict guard! Let's not have a second occurrence of such an incident." He then stepped outside.

At this moment, day had not yet broken, and a pale glow of dawn tinged the eastern sky. Therefore, after Mu Lian went out, she did not immediately go to Mo Qianjuan but returned to her room instead.

She wanted to wait until it was a bit brighter outside, to dress up beautifully before meeting Big Brother—believing that he would definitely be delighted upon seeing the jade pendant.

However, before that, she intended to deal with the person who had stolen the pendant thoroughly!

Such audacity! To think she dared to steal from the City Lord of Lawless City!

She must beat that woman half to death!

And then, go to Big Brother to claim credit.

Thinking thus, Mu Lian's lips curled up in a satisfied smile.

She believed that this time, Big Brother would surely look at her with new admiration!

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On the other hand, Mo Qingyi was on the verge of despair! A long time had gone by, and they had only found another male student, while Miao Xinran and the others remained unfound.

The four of them aimlessly searched the forest with their phones in hand.

They had almost turned the forest upside down and still found no one else.

The battery of the phone was down to only 10%.

Even one of the students' phones had shut off after having the flashlight mode on for too long.

"Hasn't anyone noticed how strange it is? So much time has passed; why hasn't it gotten light yet?" Wang Keke's voice trembled as she spoke.

Not only had it not gotten light, but even the moon and stars were invisible.

"Maybe it's just not time for dawn yet," another boy said nervously, swallowing hard, unwilling to confront the fact that it hadn't gotten light yet.

Li Yong took a deep breath, "Everyone, stay calm, don't scare yourselves. When it's time for daybreak, it will naturally get light."

Only Mo Qingyi remained silent, continually calling out for Miao Xinran's name.

She was now deep in self-blame, thinking she should have held on to Miao Xinran! She should never have agreed to participate in such a dangerous game!

What now?

If anything happened to Miao Xinran, she would never be able to forgive herself.

Mo Qingyi just wanted to find Miao Xinran quickly, completely unaware that, like Miao Xinran, she was trapped in the forest as well! They were both trapped in the woods, only in different spatial fields, which is why they couldn't see each other.

Wang Keke spoke up again, "Can anyone check the time?"

The air immediately fell into a very oppressive atmosphere.

Three boys remained silent.

A moment later, Li Yong took out his cellphone from his pocket. "I'll do it," he said as he pressed the screen to light it up. Seeing the time displayed on the phone, his mind buzzed, and he almost thought he was hallucinating.

The phone glaringly showed 20:48.

It was the exact time they had arrived at the grove the night before. So much time had passed, how could it still be 8 PM?

Li Yong rubbed his eyes, trying to calm himself down, and then spoke up, "My phone's settings must be wrong. What about your phones? Hurry up and take them out to check!"

When the other three saw the numbers on Li Yong's phone, they too were dumbstruck. After a long moment, they took their phones out of their pockets.

3, 2, 1, they all lit up their phones at the same time.

And there it was, all three phones displayed the same set of numbers! 20:48!

"Ah!"

In unison, the four let out a terrified shriek, falling back onto the ground! It was too horrifying! Truly too horrifying! It wasn't that dawn hadn't broken. It was that time here had frozen!

"If, if I'm not mistaken," Mo Qingyi said with a trembling voice, struggling to lift his head, stammering with his lips, "we're trapped here, we can never leave this place..."

Upon these words, the surroundings became extremely quiet.

They looked at each other, each seeing the color of terror in the other's eyes!

Although they had yet to encounter a single ghost up to this point, this state of affairs was even more terrifying than encountering a ghost!

"What should we do... I don't want to die..." Another boy began crying out loud, covering his face.

Wang Keke also cried unabashedly, "I want to go home! I want to go home! Mom! Dad! Brother! Come save me!"

Li Yong didn't cry, but his complexion had turned extremely pale.

"Crying! What's the use of crying!" Mo Qingyi suddenly stood up and said coldly, "I've said it before, don't play these kinds of games. There really are ghosts in this world! You didn't believe me! Now do you understand the consequences?"

Hearing this, the two boys stopped crying and lifted their eyes to Mo Qingyi, feeling in this moment that he seemed so tall. Although he was the most cowardly among the nine, at this time, he was the most composed.

Li Yong also stood up and said, "Mo Qingyi is right, crying can't solve the problem at hand. We should first find the others, then together, find a way to leave this place."

The two boys wiped away their tears and stood up. Sniffling, they said, "But we've searched the entire forest and haven't found anyone. Could they be dead already?" As they spoke, tears began to fall again.

"Don't talk such nonsense!" Mo Qingyi kicked Wang Keke with one foot, speaking coldly, "If we didn't find them the first time, then we'll look a second time. If not the second time, then a third! Anyway, we must find the others!"

"If you want to search, then search! But I won't join you anymore! If it weren't for you, I would have left here already! How could I have delayed until now!" As soon as Wang Keke finished speaking, she ran toward the exit.

"I won't search either! You guys take your time!" Another boy started to run as well, "Wang Keke, wait for me. I will go with you!"

Li Yong looked at Mo Qingyi and said in a low voice, "I'm sorry, I have to go too!" After that, he turned and followed the others.

In the blink of an eye, only Mo Qingyi remained in the quiet forest.

They were not close to her! She had no right to ask them to accompany her in the search!

Mo Qingyi wiped away her tears, lit the flashlight again, and continued walking deeper into the forest alone, "Xinran, Li Man, Li Jiaqi, Chen Li, can you hear me talking?"

Li Jiaqi and Chen Li witnessed this scene.

Both of their eyes were somewhat moist. They had not expected, under these circumstances, that the person who would insist on searching for them would be Mo Qingyi!

Especially Chen Li, who remembered ridiculing Mo Qingyi in the inn just a short time ago, felt extremely uncomfortable!

"Mo Qingyi, we're here, we're right behind you!" Li Jiaqi's voice was somewhat hoarse. They stood right in front of Mo Qingyi, yet she couldn't see them! No one could understand this feeling of powerlessness and panic!

They could only watch helplessly as Mo Qingyi walked through their corporeal forms.

Just then, Chen Li accidentally kicked a stone underfoot.

Mo Qingyi's ears twitched, and she quickly turned around, asking with heightened alertness, "Who's there? Who's there?"

Chen Li and Li Jiaqi looked at each other, both seeing a glimmer of hope in each other's eyes. Although Mo Qingyi couldn't see them, she could see the objects they moved. This meant they were still in the same space!

Chen Li, being clever, immediately stepped in front of Mo Qingyi, picked up a stick from the ground, and began writing on the ground by pushing aside the fallen leaves.

Seeing a stick moving randomly on the ground and leaves rustling without wind, Mo Qingyi stepped back in fright.

Chen Li hastened her actions, writing two words on the ground, "It's me."

Mo Qingyi's eyes widened, slightly incredulous, and she asked, "Who are you?"

"Chen Li." Chen Li wrote quickly, "Li Jiaqi and I have always been by your side, but you couldn't see us."

Relieved to know that it was Chen Li and Li Jiaqi, Mo Qingyi then asked, "That's good. Are there any others with you? Is Xinran there? What about Li Man?"

Chen Li continued writing, "No, it's just the two of us, thank you Mo Qingyi." Thank you for not giving up on us.

Mo Qingyi gripped her phone tighter, "Both of you follow me for now. Let's find the others first, then think of a way to leave."

Chen Li quickly wrote the word "Okay."

On the other side.

Mu Lian came to the dungeon and looked coldly at Chu Jin, and pointing at the torture rack next to her, she said to the people nearby, "Go, tie her up on it for me."

"Yes, Miss Mu Lian." Two people immediately came forward and skillfully tied Chu Jin to the rack.

Mu Lian pulled out a whip drenched in salt water and walked up to Chu Jin. "Speak! Who exactly are you! Why did you try to steal the Soul Resurrection Grass? What unspeakable motive do you have for stealing my elder brother's Jade Pendant?"

Chu Jin knew that she couldn't escape today's ordeal and just glanced at her indifferently, her tone steady as she said, "If you wish to kill or to maim, I am at your disposal. Anything else, I have nothing to tell you!"

Those few plain words resonated as they hit the ground.

Just like her aura, as proud as bamboo!

Mu Lian sneered and, brandishing the whip in her hand, said sarcastically, "Then let's see if your bones are harder, or my whip is harder!" As her words fell, she swung the whip fiercely onto Chu Jin's body!

"Snap!" A bloodstain appeared on the white shirt.

With that whip, Mu Lian had exerted all her strength.

Even a grown man might not withstand it! But Chu Jin did not utter a single syllable, not even a muffled groan!

"Will you talk or not!"

"Snap!" Another lash of the whip.

After a dozen lashes, Chu Jin hadn't uttered a word, her body covered in bloodstains, and her white garment had become red. She clenched her lips tightly, her face pale as paper, with layers of cold sweat beading on her forehead.

"Truly audacious! You even dare to covet my elder brother!"

"Snap!"

The sound of skin tearing and flesh bursting.

The more Mu Lian thought about it, the angrier she became, and her blows grew heavier! This woman must be trying to throw herself at their elder brother, which is why she stole his things—to attract his attention! How shameless!

"Snap!"

The sound of the whip colliding with flesh was shrill and spine-chilling!

"Miss... Miss Mu Lian..." Someone nearby couldn't bear to watch and timidly spoke up, "The Second City Lord specifically instructed us not to torture this young lady. If you go on like this... we won't be able to explain ourselves later!"

"Get out! Mind your own business!" Mu Lian lashed out with her whip, hitting that person.

The person screamed in pain and dared not speak again!

This action unquestionably fueled the fire in Mu Lian's heart even more! She became ever more convinced that Chu Jin was here to seduce their elder brother!

Mu Lian continued to whip Chu Jin, "You shameless hussy! You have quite the talent for seducing men! Let's see if I don't beat you to death today!" As she spoke, she struck directly at Chu Jin's neck, the tail of the whip sweeping across her face and immediately leaving a bloodstain!

No one knew how long it lasted!

Chu Jin had lost all sensation, and only then did Mu Lian stop, throwing the whip to the side with satisfaction. She turned to the two people nearby, "Without my order, no one is to let her down; otherwise, you will end up just like her!"

The two people nearby shuddered with fear and bowed respectfully, "Yes, Miss Mu Lian."

Only then did Mu Lian walk satisfied toward the exit.

She walked all the way to the main city where the person was already dining.

He was still wearing the plain white Tang shirt, elegant and charming in every movement, with a face so beautiful that it made women feel ashamed and captivated souls.

This man was the City Lord of Lawless City, Mo Qianjue!

Mu Lian's heart unintentionally quickened its pace.

"Elder brother..." Mu Lian tried to calm herself down, slowly approaching Mo Qianjue.

Hearing her voice, Mo Qianjue slowly looked up, seemed startled for a moment, then said, "Mu Lian? What brings you here?"

Even though it was not her first time being close to Mo Qianjue, every time Mu Lian got near him, her heart would inevitably race, "Elder brother, I've come to deliver something."

Besides Mo Qianjue, she had never seen, in this world, any man who could reach such perfection!

"What is it?" Mo Qianjue asked tersely.

Mu Lian hurriedly took out the Jade Pendant from her pocket, "It's this, elder brother, look how careless you are, to lose something so important and not even know it. If it wasn't for me catching that thief..."

Mu Lian hadn't finished her sentence when Mo Qianjue stood up abruptly, taking the Jade Pendant from her hand with a burning gaze, "Where did you get this Jade Pendant from?"

Stunned, Mu Lian replied, "I found it on a woman. That shameless woman not only stole your Jade Pendant, but also tried to steal the Soul Resurrection Grass. She was caught by me and Brother Chen..."

Mo Qianjue cut off Mu Lian again, his voice cold, "Where is she now? Take me to her immediately!"

Chapter 550:

Mu Lian was stunned.

The reaction of Mo Qianjue was beyond her expectations.

At this moment, Mo Qianjue was obviously in a rage, with an urgency and impatience too.

It was as if he needed to verify something.

Mu Lian's heart also skipped a beat.

It must be that the Jade Pendant was too important to Mo Qianjue, which was why he had become like this.

Now that Mo Qianjue was angry, that woman was going to suffer the consequences. After all, Mo Qianjue's methods were at the opposite extreme of his appearance.

With this thought, Mu Lian's lips unconsciously curled into a smile.

Mu Lian gathered her thoughts and respectfully responded, "The person is locked up in the dungeon."

Mo Qianjue stood up abruptly and with a stern face said, "Lead the way."

"Yes." Mu Lian turned and stepped forward.

There was some distance between the dungeon and the main city.

Along the way, Mo Qianjue's pace was very fast.

As if the wind were at his feet.

At the Nine Turns rails, they encountered a little lolita playing with Bread. It wasn't until Mo Qianjue strode past her that the little girl reacted, calling out to his retreating figure, "Daddy, where are you going in such a hurry?"

Mo Qianjue's mind was now completely filled with the image of Chu Jin; he did not hear the little girl's words.

"Weird! Is Daddy on fire?" the little girl scratched her head in confusion.

"Woof!" Bread barked at Mo Qianjue's retreating figure, then started to sprint, catching up with Mo Qianjue.

Seeing this, the little lolita panicked and ran after Bread, shouting, "Silly Bread, wait for me!"

But Mo Qianjue and Mu Lian were moving too fast for the little girl and Bread, who chased after them for a long time without catching up.

In the dungeon.

The deeper they went, the darker Mo Qianjue's expression became, and the heavier the murderous air around him.

This also made Mu Lian, following behind, increasingly nervous.

The cells here were used to imprison heavy criminals.

She hoped it wasn't her.

Sweat was wrapped around Mo Qianjue's palms.

Upon reaching a certain cell, Mu Lian stopped, "Big brother, it's here."

Mo Qianjue emotionlessly said, "Open the door."

The two people guarding the door shook as they opened it, thinking, what could have happened to summon this deity here? After all, Mo Qianjue had never before stepped half a foot into the dungeon.

Who on earth was imprisoned here, such a terrible person?

As the door opened, Mo Qianjue stepped in with large strides, followed closely by Mu Lian, who sought to claim credit, "Big brother, look, it was this vile woman who stole your Jade Pendant! But rest assured, I've taught her a good lesson for you!"

Mu Lian spoke with a smile, completely unaware of Mo Qianjue's now utterly cold expression.

His whole body was erupting with anger.

Mo Qianjue had never imagined that this person would indeed be Chu Jin, nor that she had been injured like this.

She was tied up there, already unconscious, her face deathly pale. Her white clothes had been stained into a bloodied garment. Her eyes were tightly closed, her brows slightly furrowed, and the room was filled with a strong stench of blood.

Holding back his intense rage, Mo Qianjue spoke in a deep voice, "Who did this?"

Mu Lian, still unaware of what had happened, was thinking only of how to gain favor in front of Mo Qianjue and hurriedly stood beside him, saying with a smile, "It was me, big brother, I knew..."

"Slap!" A crisp and loud sound suddenly pierced the air, interrupting what Mu Lian was about to say.

This slap, Mo Qianjue did not spare Mu Lian any face.

She was struck so hard that she saw stars, her head spinning, with the right side of her face swelling up, spewing out a mouthful of fresh blood.

Mu Lian finally steadied herself, covering her right face, incredulously saying, "Big... big brother..." Why would Mo Qianjue hit her all of a sudden?

Could it be that big brother was also bewitched by this vile woman?

"Smack!" Before Mu Lian could react, another slap landed on her left cheek.

"Bang!" She was knocked to the ground, her entire body throbbing with piercing pain, unable to move.

The two prison guards nearby watched in horror, not daring to breathe a word.

Having trouble digesting the situation before them.

After dealing with Mu Lian, Mo Qianjue approached with trembling steps to free Chu Jin from her bindings.

Her body had been beaten until it was split open and raw, with some wounds crusted over and others still oozing blood. Even for him, a man, the sight was chilling to the bone, yet she still pursed her lips, remaining silent.

Who could have imagined that beneath such a delicate exterior lay such an indomitable will!

Mo Qianjue's hands trembled as he untied the ropes, his heart feeling as if it were being torn to pieces.

As soon as the ropes fell from her wrists, Chu Jin's body uncontrollably toppled forward.

Like a kite without a string.

Mo Qianjue quickly reached out to catch her, holding her horizontally in his arms. Before leaving, he turned to the prison guards in the cell and said, "Tie Mu Lian up, administer 80 lashes with the whip! Without my order, no one is to let her out!"

His voice was extremely cold.

Perhaps not even Mu Lian had seen Mo Qianjue like this before.

In her heart, Mo Qianjue had always been like a ray of warm sunshine.

Unattainable, yet capable of warming one's heart.

But today, Mo Qianjue had changed, as if he were someone else.

Now, he was even going to administer punishment on her—Mu Lian!

If it weren't for the two guards already moving to restrain her, Mu Lian might have thought she was hallucinating!

What is going on here!

Who is this woman that has caused Mo Qianjue to act in such a way!

Mu Lian was filled with indignation! She cursed herself for not having killed that woman right then and there!

A curse! That woman was nothing but a curse!

Meanwhile, the prison guards efficiently tied Mu Lian up, affording her no chance to resist.

Then came the "whack, whack, whack" of the whip.

Mo Qianjue carried Chu Jin quickly, self-reproach, guilt, and heartache consuming all his reason.

He had already hurt her once before, but unexpectedly, he had hurt her again, albeit indirectly!

If it wasn't for that Jade Pendant, might she not have died indirectly at his own hands?

Mo Qianjue hardly dared to think about it.

When he was leaving through the dungeon's main gate, Mo Qianjue ran into the little loli and the loaf of bread that had been searching for them.

The little loli was small and, because Chu Jin's clothes were soaked with red, she did not recognize that the person Mo Qianjue was holding was Chu Jin!

With his mind fully occupied with Chu Jin's injuries, Mo Qianjue was in no mood to pay attention to the little loli and continued walking forward without looking back, still holding Chu Jin.

However, the loaf of bread immediately started barking at Mo Qianjue's retreating figure.

"Woof!"

"Whine!"

It anxiously tugged at the little loli's clothes, pulling her toward Mo Qianjue's direction.

"Silly Loaf, what's with you today?" The little loli patted the dog's head.

"Woof, woof, woof!" Unable to speak, the loaf of bread could only bark loudly at Mo Qianjue's figure.

Suddenly, the little loli seemed to realize something!

Moments ago, that was clearly a woman Papa was holding! Papa is so wicked! Even though he is already with Brother Jin, he's still out there flirting with others!

With hands on her hips, the little loli hummed dissatisfiedly and quickly climbed onto the Loaf's back, "Silly Loaf, let's catch up to Papa quickly."

Seeing that his little master had finally come to her senses, the Loaf darted out like an arrow released from its bow.

Meanwhile, Mo Qianjue had already brought Chu Jin to the main city.

With a chill on his face the entire way, he scared all the passing servants into shivering tremors.

Inside a very luxurious room.

Mo Qianjue carefully placed the person in his arms onto the bed, not minding at all that the bloodstains from her body soiled the sheets.

The person in a coma seemed to feel uncomfortable and frowned slightly.

Beads of sweat formed in layers on her fair forehead.

Her lips also turned as pale as paper.

An observant assistant immediately brought over a basin of clean water. As he was about to wring out a towel to clean Chu Jin's wounds, Mo Qianjue instead took the towel from him and said, "Go and invite The Witch Doctor, and then have someone prepare a set of women's clothes."

From beginning to end, Mo Qianjue's expression was very solemn, a stark contrast to his usual demeanor.

This was the first time the assistant had seen Mo Qianjue care so much about a woman.

Even bringing her into his own room.

Before this, Mo Qianjue never brought strange women back to Lawless City, and certainly never allowed them to sleep in his bed.

It's unknown whose daughter she was to have the fortune of catching Mo Qianjue's eye.

"Understood, Chief," the assistant respectfully retreated and left.

Mo Qianjue took the towel and sat by the bed, gently wiping the sweat from Chu Jin's forehead with tender movements.

Soon, Pengpeng and Bread found their way to the door.

"Papa!" A crisp childish voice rang out from the entrance.

Mo Qianjue looked up. Before he could speak, Pengpeng strutted in with hands on her hips, huffing, "Hmph! Stinky Papa, did you fall in love with some other aunty outside? Do you not love Jin anymore? I'm telling you! Nobody but Jin can be my momma, and you better throw this aunty out right now!"

As Pengpeng spoke, she walked toward the bed.

Mo Qianjue sighed, unsure how to explain to Pengpeng, "I... Pengpeng, can you go out first? Daddy has some things to attend to, and will play with you later."

If Pengpeng saw Chu Jin like this, there's no telling how she might react.

Pengpeng pointed at Mo Qianjue, her big, bright eyes flashing with cunning, "Papa! You're feeling guilty! You scream in the room!" Realizing her mistake, she corrected herself saying, "It's 'hiding beauty in the golden house'! Papa, what you're doing is wrong! How could you do something to betray Jin? Tell me, who is lying on the bed?"

Mo Qianjue walked to the window and picked up a document from the table, saying calmly, "Nobody, stop meddling as a child and go back to your room. Daddy is busy with something else."

"I'd have to see a ghost to believe you!" Taking advantage of Mo Qianjue's distraction, Pengpeng quickly pulled back the bedding on the bed.

It was too late for Mo Qianjue to stop her then.

Pengpeng had originally intended to drag the 'bad woman' lying on the bed down.

But when she clearly saw the person's face, she froze entirely.

With a pale face, she uttered, "Jin... Jin, Jin..."

Good heavens!

This woman covered in blood was actually Jin!

Pengpeng could never have imagined that the person was Chu Jin!

Seeing Jin in this state, she couldn't be dead, could she?

Could it be that Pengpeng would never see Jin again?

Pengpeng cried out with a "waah!"

"Jin... you can't die..."

"Papa! Bad Papa! You killed Jin! You murderer!" Pengpeng threw a tantrum of punches and kicks at Mo Qianjue.

Because earlier, when she saw Mo Qianjue emerge from the dungeon carrying Chu Jin who was covered in blood, Pengpeng assumed it was Mo Qianjue who had harmed her.

"Wuu wuu wuu... I will avenge Jin," sobbed Pengpeng, crying heartbreakingly while beating on Mo Qianjue.

Bread also circled the head of the bed, continuously spinning around.

Whimpers of distress came from his mouth.

"Stop crying, it's Daddy's fault, Daddy apologizes to you," Mo Qianjue squatted down to make eye contact with Pengpeng, starting his apology with a sense of remorse.

It was indeed partly his responsibility that Chu Jin was hurt like this.

The little loli slapped Mo Qianjue across his handsome face, sobbing, "What's the use of an apology? You compensate me with Brother Jin... I don't want your apology, I just want Brother Jin..."

In her heart, aside from Papa, there was only Brother Jin.

Seeing him become like this, of course, the little loli was heartbroken. She really liked Chu Jin very much and even regarded him as her future mom.

She hadn't expected her unreliable Papa to disappoint her now!

Papa was really too detestable! He actually killed Brother Jin!

Thinking that she might never see Brother Jin again, the little loli cried even more sadly...

"She's not dead," Mo Qianjue stretched out his hand to wipe away the tears on the little loli's face. "The Witch Doctor is on his way, and he will surely be able to cure her."

Upon hearing these words, the little loli's emotions improved somewhat, and she stammered while sobbing, "Y-you're telling the truth? Brother Jin is really not dead?"

Mo Qianjue nodded, "When has Daddy ever lied to you?"

Only then did the little loli take the initiative to wipe her tears, walk to the bedside, tiptoe, and look towards Chu Jin, her little face filled with distress, "You've lost so much blood, it must hurt a lot, right, Brother Jin?"

Mo Qianjue stood to one side, feeling an immense sense of guilt.

The little loli leapt onto the bed and sat down. She took Chu Jin's hand, and on the pale back of it was a fierce lash mark. The little loli gently blew on the mark while crying and said, "Don't be scared, Brother Jin, I'll blow on it and the pain will go away."

It wasn't long before The Witch Doctor arrived.

The Witch Doctor was a middle-aged woman around forty years old, wearing a long robe with some fine lines at the corner of her eyes and a very compassionate face.

She greeted Mo Qianjue very respectfully, "Chief."

Mo Qianjue immediately stood up to lead The Witch Doctor to the bedside, "Please, Witch Doctor."

When The Witch Doctor saw Chu Jin on the bed, she didn't show any surprise but took out her medical kit with calm, and said to Mo Qianjue, "Chief, there is a distinction between men and women. Please excuse yourself."

Mo Qianjue nodded, "I'll leave everything in the Witch Doctor's hands."

"It's my duty," The Witch Doctor said indifferently, taking out various medicinal materials from her kit.

"Witch Doctor, please, you must save Brother Jin," the little loli jumped down from the bed and clung to The Witch Doctor's legs, pleading.

Only then did The Witch Doctor put down the herbs, lower her eyes to look at the little loli and show a kind smile, "Miss, don't worry, I will do my utmost. You go out with the Chief for now."

Mo Qianjue bent down to pick up the little loli and said to The Witch Doctor, "We are in your hands," and with that, he walked outside and closed the door.

The Witch Doctor walked to Chu Jin's side with her bottles and jars.

When she saw Chu Jin's face clearly, she first paused, then sighed.

Mo Qianjue and the little loli waited anxiously outside the door.

The soundproofing of the door was excellent, so not a whisper from inside could be heard.

About half an hour later, the door was finally opened.

Out came The Witch Doctor, looking weary.

Mo Qianjue immediately approached, somewhat anxious, and asked, "Witch Doctor, how is she? Is she all right?"

"Chief, rest assured, she's fully recovered."

A flicker of joy crossed Mo Qianjue's face as he hurried toward the door.

The little loli was so happy she could have jumped for joy.

That was great, Brother Jin could be her mom again!

In the room.

Chu Jin was still lying in bed, her bloodstained clothes had been removed, and although she had yet to regain consciousness, her complexion had turned rosy, her breathing was even, and the previously visible lash marks had disappeared.

The Witch Doctor's medical skills were indeed extraordinary!

"Chief," The Witch Doctor stood behind the father and daughter, and seeing their excitement, she slowly spoke up, "Forgive me for speaking out, but it would be better for you to keep some distance from this woman."

At these words, Mo Qianjue's brows slightly furrowed, and he looked up at The Witch Doctor, asking, "Why do you say that?"

The Witch Doctor did not elaborate further, only saying, "Chief, if you trust my words, it's best to keep your distance from her." With that, she took her medical kit and left.

Mo Qianjue watched The Witch Doctor's retreating figure with a complicated expression.

The little loli lay by the bed, sometimes pinching Chu Jin's cheeks, sometimes counting her lashes, but as Chu Jin still didn't wake up, she became somewhat impatient and said, "Papa, why hasn't Brother Jin woken up yet?"