Gu Hanxing went into isolation with the determination to take revenge this time. He was determined to break through to the Heavenly Realm to make Lin Wenjing pay for the humiliation he had suffered.

When he returned to Bei Tian Society, he was severely scolded by his father, Gu Ze. It took him 2 billion to buy a grade-A Soul Cleansing Pill, while Lin Wenjing only spent 300 million to buy a grade-S Soul Cleansing Pill. The dignity of the Gu family was completely tarnished at the hands of Gu Hanxing.

Hence, Gu Ze ordered Gu Hanxing to break through to the Heavenly Realm at all costs.

With strong will and determination, Gu
Hanxing believed that he could definitely
reach the Heavenly Realm. As soon as that
happened, his abilities would improve by
leaps and bounds, and then his status would
be different—he would be able to soar
wherever he wanted in the vast sky of
possibilities!

Even if he had a firm determination, when it came to actually doing it, the pain was still unbearable!



The effects of the Soul Cleansing Pill were too strong. For ordinary people, it was a deadly poison—just a little bit of it would destroy their veins and ruin their organs. In no time, blood would seep out from their apertures and they would bleed to death. Only those who had reached the Pinnacle Realm had strong enough bodies to withstand the effects of the Soul Cleansing Pill.

But even if he could take it, the severe pain it brought was still unbearable. The amount of the pill was as little as a pinch of salt, yet it was sufficient to make him suffer intense pain as he rolled on the ground and was drenched in sweat.

If it were not for his father, Gu Ze, who was supervising him, he would have given up. The pain was simply not what the average people could bear.

It was even more painful than being in labor.

Although he had already reached the Pinnacle Realm, he didn't reach this stage based purely on training. His martial arts skills were largely dependent on his father, Gu Ze, who used drugs to force him up to this level. If he had relied on his own talent



and willpower, it would have been impossible for him to reach the Pinnacle Realm.

Hence, the pain and destruction caused by the Soul Cleansing Pill had broken his mentality down.

It took half an hour before he stopped screaming as the pill was finally digested by his body. He gasped for breath, covered with sweat from head to toe.

"I-It's too f\*cking painful," Gu Hanxing cursed with fear still lingering within him.

ТК

Gu Ze uttered, "It's only the beginning. You will continue to eat the Soul Cleansing Pill for the next ten days. As long as you get past it, you will become one of the mighty warriors from the Heavenly Realm."

Gu Hanxing shuddered strongly when he heard this. He blanched immediately as he stuttered, "T-Ten days? *Gulp*!"

The sharp pain just now was enough to terrify him; if he had to go through it nine more times, he couldn't persevere at all!

Gu Ze glared at him and reprimanded angrily,

"Why are you trembling? Do you know how powerful the Heavenly Realm is? Once you reach that realm, you will be extraordinary! There are billions of people in the world, yet fewer than a hundred people can truly reach the Heavenly Realm. If you are able to achieve that, Lin Wenjing will become someone you can defeat easily!"

Gu Hanxing's emotions were fired up by his father. When he imagined the glorious moment of reaching the Heavenly Realm, he couldn't help being excited. But when he thought of the pain he had just experienced, his spirits immediately dampened. It was not because his will was not firm enough, but the pain was simply too much!

When Gu Ze saw Gu Hanxing tremble, he exclaimed coldly, "No matter what, you have to continue this and break through to the Heavenly Realm, or else I would never forgive you!"

Gu Hanxing's body gave another jolt. He was not afraid of anyone except his strict father, and so he quickly replied, "Yes, father."

The next day, he started taking the Soul Cleansing Pill for the second time to train his body.



From its literal name, the function of the pill was to get rid of impurities in the body. The pill would actually cleanse the bone marrow, the meridians, and the internal organs, for its function was to transform and renew the body. An ordinary person who took this would suffer from severe pain and all kinds of different damages to the body.

As the saying went, there was no creation without destruction. To break through to the Heavenly Realm from the Pinnacle Realm was immensely difficult; it was equivalent to opening up the human's genetic code and modifying the genes. Without great will and courage, even if one had the Soul Cleansing Pill, they couldn't reach the Heavenly Realm because they couldn't persevere.

By the next day, the pain that Gu Hanxing felt had gotten worse, and his body felt as if it was being torn apart forcibly. The pain on the second day was even more intense than the first day, so much so that it was indescribable.

Moreover, the pain lasted longer than the first time. On several occasions, he couldn't bear it anymore and wanted to give up. But with his father, Gu Ze, watching over him, he didn't dare to give up easily no matter how



painful it was, and so he had to bear the pain courageously.

When it was finally over, he lay motionless on the ground, as if he had just walked out of hell

"Not bad, you have persisted the second time, and now, your physique has been significantly strengthened. If you continue this and take the entire Soul Cleansing Pill, you will become a master in the Heavenly Realm." Gu Ze nodded with satisfaction.

Gu Hanxing was void of all emotions at that moment. After a few minutes of rest, he suddenly stood up and clenched his fists. His eyes were bright and glowing, as if they were lightbulbs.

He practised a set of punches on the spot with great power. He was only punching around in the room, but he controlled the airflow there, as if a tornado appeared out of thin air. Meanwhile, the furniture and windows in the room made noises as they shook, looking a little spooky.

"Dad, am I in the Heavenly Realm now? I feel that I have inexhaustible strength in my body. One punch from me can even kill an



elephant!" Gu Hanxing exclaimed excitedly.

Gu Ze nodded. "That's right. You have survived the first two times, and your physique has vastly improved."

Gu Hanxing then asked excitedly, "Then am I in the Heavenly Realm now? I don't need to take the Soul Cleansing Pill tomorrow, right?"

Gu Ze's expression immediately darkened. "You're still far from done. Do you know how difficult it is to get into the Heavenly Realm? It's almost as difficult as flying! Your physique has become stronger because you have only digested a part of the pill. To break into the Heavenly Realm, you have to finish the entire Soul Cleansing Pill and strengthen it, and only then will you stand a chance to reach the realm."

"What? I still have to eat that?" Gu Hanxing's excited expression instantly disappeared.

Gu Ze glared at him fiercely. "Are you backing down even before the fight starts? How can you take revenge on Lin Wenjing like this? Continue taking the Soul Cleansing Pill tomorrow, and if you dare to disobey my instructions, I will break your leg myself."



Gu Hanxing trembled. He had no choice but to agree.

On the third day, he was already traumatized when he thought of taking the pill. Under Gu Ze's coercion, he forcefully swallowed a part of the Soul Cleansing Pill, and once again, he was tortured by the intense pain. It seemed to hurt more each time!

By the fourth day, he had completely lost his will and wanted to give up. He was then dragged back by Gu Ze, who forced the Soul Cleansing Pill into his mouth. This time, it was more painful. He felt as if his body was being torn apart, and he lost control of his bowel movements. The session ended with him covered in excrements, looking very unsightly.

On the fifth and sixth day, he really couldn't take it anymore. No matter how Gu Ze forced him, he refused to take the pill.

In the end, Gu Ze had no choice but to tie Gu Hanxing up and forcibly feed the pill into his mouth. Then he covered Gu Hanxing's mouth with a muzzle.

Using such methods, they finally persevered until Gu Hanxing finished all of the pill.

In the end, under Gu Ze's forceful methods, Gu Hanxing finally survived. When he opened his eyes, a streak of golden light seemed to flow through his pupils, and he exhibited a completely different aura. There was a huge amount of energy stored in his body.

While he stood up, the hemp rope that was used to bound him was broken away easily by him.

"Dad, I realized that I have continuous energy within me. One punch from me can pierce the sky!" Gu Hanxing said confidently before he punched the wall and created a hole in it, as if it was a fragile bubble.

Gu Ze nodded and congratulated him flatly.

"Dad, am I already in the Heavenly Realm now?" Gu Hanxing asked.

Gu Ze didn't answer right away, but he was silent for a while before he heaved a long sigh. "You're almost there."

"What?" Gu Hanxing opened his eyes wide, full of disbelief. "That's impossible! I feel that I have endless power now, and I'm much stronger than before. How could this not be



the Heavenly Realm?"

Annoyed, Gu Ze retorted, "It's all your fault! You don't have enough will to withstand the entire process. Toward the end, I had to pour it into your mouth forcefully. How is that able to produce a good result?"

Gu Hanxing suddenly shrank, looking like a wilted flower.

Gu Ze continued, "However, the effect of the pill is still in your body. As long as you work harder and digest it, there is still hope for you to break through to the Heavenly Realm."

ТК

"That's good, that's good." Gu Hanxing then suddenly thought of something. "Oh, no! Lin Wenjing has the grade-S Soul Cleansing Pill. If he's taken it, wouldn't he have reached the Heavenly Realm already?"

Indeed, it was normal for Gu Hanxing to have such concerns. Lin Wenjing got the grade-S Soul Cleansing Pill, which provided better medicinal effects, making it easier to reach the Heavenly Realm. Right now, Gu Hanxing hadn't even reached the Heavenly Realm, so when he met Lin Wenjing later, wouldn't he lose to him completely again?



However, Gu Ze sneered, "So what if he has the grade-S Soul Cleansing Pill? It is undeniable that the quality of his Soul Cleansing Pill is indeed better than yours. But this also means that the pain that the people from the Pinnacle Realm will suffer is even greater. If Lin Wenjing really dared to take the pill, then he would have experienced more than three times the pain you've endured. Do you think he can survive it? If he can't, he will reach his demise!"

Upon hearing that, Gu Hanxing instantly cheered up and laughed out loud. "If that's the case, Lin Wenjing, that animal, is doomed! Hahaha!" hergloated happily.

Gu Ze also smiled. However, deep within him, there was a faint worry. If Lin Wenjing had really survived that, then his level in the Heavenly Realm would be higher.

In that case, had Lin Wenjing gone through the process?

In fact, not long after Gu Hanxing finished taking the Soul Cleansing Pill, Lin Wenjing also started taking it.

Without the help of any outsiders, he shut himself in an isolated house and used his

## Chapter 291 Almost There

## own strength to break through after the preparations were completed.



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"Miss Qing, we really don't need to go in and watch Young Master?"

At a stone's throw away, two people were standing on an enormous tree that was more than ten meters tall. Indeed, they were Master Grim and Qing Shu, who stood firmly on the branches without using any tools for support. Fortunately, this was a remote mountain terrain, and it was night time right now, so there were no passersby. If someone saw them, they would definitely think that they had met some deities.

Qing Shu was still wearing the red dress made of flimsy material, looking extraordinarily beautiful like a goddess from the heavens.

Master Grim was known as the underground emperor of Hua City with many subordinates following his orders. However, in front of Qing Shu, he was extremely respectful. He kept his head low and arched his back, and he did not even dare to look at her, as if he would insult her with unnecessary glances.

"No need. Wenjing should be able to survive by himself," Qing Shu replied nonchalantly.

Master Grim thought for a while before

asking, "What if Young Master failed to complete it on his own and encountered some complications?"

Qing Shu looked at a distant room that was dimly lit with a meaningful gaze. "If he can't even survive such an ordeal, how can he rescue his mother from Sumeru Heaven?"

Master Grim nodded, acknowledging that Qing Shu was right. But deep down, he was still very worried about Lin Wenjing because he knew the strong effects of the Soul Cleansing Pill. Although he had not personally experienced it, he had heard of many people in the Pimacle Realm not being able to survive after taking the Soul Cleansing Pill. Eventually, some of them imploded and died, while others went mad as a result of the side effects.

Nevertheless, Qing Shu was right. If Lin Wenjing couldn't even survive this, he wouldn't have to make further plans to save Qin Yizhi from Sumeru Heaven.

Meanwhile, Lin Wenjing had already started taking the Soul Cleansing Pill. Even though he had been mentally prepared and knew that the process would be very arduous, the power of the pill was like a surging beast



that violently clashed in his body, making him shocked. At that moment, he almost couldn't hang on.

Fortunately, his willpower was strong enough, so he calmed himself down in no time.

Gu Ze was right—the grade-S Soul Cleansing Pill was even purer, so it had stronger effects and side effects. The pain was so intense that it was beyond normal human's limits.

If anyone were with him, they would have definitely been shocked by Lin Wenjing's appearance—his entire body was red, and his muscles moved as if there was a rat scurrying about in him; it was an eerie scene.

Lin Wenjing let out a low roar while the steel handrail of the stairs were twisted by him as though it was dough, depicting how powerful he was.

The intense pain lasted for 40 minutes before it stopped.

Lin Wenjing was not just sweating profusely; there was also some dirt on his body. Those

were the impurities that were forced out of his body.

He returned to normal after taking a breath. By just simply clenching his fists, he could feel a strong power through his veins, and his physique had become a lot stronger.

Then he rested for the night. On the next day, he began to swallow a portion of the Soul Cleansing Pill again. In no time, the pain immediately swept through him like waves, drowning him. However, this time, the pain lasted even longer—it went from 40 minutes to an hour.

тк

However, after the severe pain, the improvement within him was tremendous. Now, he could completely defeat two of his previous self, who had not taken the Soul Cleansing Pill. He finally understood why the pill was so precious and expensive.

On the third day, the pain became more intense. It was as if his flesh had been sliced apart piece-by-piece. If he hadn't a strong will, he wouldn't even be able to hold on now.

On the fourth day, he thought of giving up, but when he remembered his mother and his future opponents, he clenched his teeth and



persisted.

He survived the ordeal up until the eighth day.

At the moment, his body had become stronger and thinner—he had lost a lot of weight—but the strength within him had changed dramatically compared to eight days ago! Moreover, he was getting closer to the Heavenly Realm.

He also began to understand the true meaning of the Heavenly Realm gradually.

On that day, he looked at the remaining grade-S Soul Cleansing Pill in front of him and hesitated for a long time. Finally, he gritted his teeth and picked up one of the portions before swallowing it immediately.

This time, he experienced the pain for three long hours. It was a hell-like torture!

After three hours, the results were extremely obvious as his strength had shown a vast improvement.

Finally, he reached the tenth day.

Lin Wenjing built up his willpower and



determination before he swallowed the final portion.

On his final attempt, he experienced unprecedented pain, as if someone had destroyed every single part of his body, and every single cell within him hurt. He felt that he was constantly repeating the cycle of being destroyed and reborned.

However, this time he lasted the longest the pain went on for five full hours before stopping.

Then he passed out.

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When he woke up, it was nighttime again, and he rose from a pile of rubble.

The 100-square-meter house was turned to rubble due to his violent state.

Fortunately, he was located in a deserted suburb, so there was no one within a two-kilometer radius. Otherwise, they would have been scared to death, thinking that a monster had appeared.

After a long time, he opened his eyes, and a streak of light flashed around him, as if the entire world was illuminated!



A strong aura radiated from his body, causing insects and animals within a three-kilometer radius to flee. At this moment, his surroundings looked as if someone had pressed the pause button on the television; everything suddenly quieted down, making the atmosphere eerie.

This happened because his aura was too strong. The animals, having the most sensitive senses, felt his power at once, and they immediately trembled in fright and crouched on the ground, bowing down to him.

Even Master Grim could detect Lin Wenjing's aura from a distance. He felt as if his heart was being squeezed by a hand, and his brain went blank for a moment as he tried to catch his breath.

"Y-Young Master has completed the process," Master Grim announced, astonished.

Qing Shu, who stood next to him, showed a relieved smile that replaced her anxious expression. Then her figure flashed, and she disappeared silently. Master Grim, who was next to her, did not even notice her disappearance.



Lin Wenjing's aura only lasted for two seconds before he hid it.

Right now, he felt a little embarrassed, for he was stark naked. Although the house had collapsed, his suitcase was fortunately not damaged. Hence, he took out a set of clean clothes and put them on before he waved in the direction of Master Grim, who was standing in a distance. "Stop hiding. Come here now."

Master Grim's pupils shrank when he heard that. He was a few hundred meters away from Lin Wenjing, yet he was discovered by him in an instant. This showed that Lin Wenjing's skill had greatly improved.

When Master Grim walked to Lin Wenjing, he looked at his Young Master in front of him, overwhelmed by emotions. He had been there for Lin Wenjing since he was a child, and he watched him grow from a little kid to such an extraordinary human in the Heavenly Realm. "Congratulations, Young Master! You have successfully entered the Heavenly Realm!"

Lin Wenjing smiled and uttered, "Joker, thank you very much for protecting me all this while."



Master Grim was taken aback when he heard Lin Wenjing expressing his gratitude. "Don't worry about it. This is my job," he replied hastily.

Master Grim found that something was odd
—Lin Wenjing had clearly reached the
Heavenly Realm, but he actually felt even
more ordinary to Master Grim, who couldn't
even feel a trace of Inner Energy within him.

Before this, even though Lin Wenjing's realm was much higher than Master Grim's, he could still gauge the fluctuations in Lin Wenjing's Inner Energy, and he knew that he was very powerful. But right now, Master Grim couldn't see through Lin Wenjing at all; this also showed that his realm had exceeded him too much.

He couldn't stop himself from cursing in his heart, *Holy sh\*t*.

Nevertheless, he was still very happy for Lin Wenjing.

Indeed, now that Lin Wenjing had entered the Heavenly Realm, his aura was hidden deeper, and he looked more like an ordinary person. Hence, it was impossible for people who were not in the Heavenly Realm to



detect his strength.

"During the isolation, nothing happened to my family, right? Did Gu Hanxing make any trouble for them?" Lin Wenjing asked, narrowing his eyes.



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Master Grim suddenly felt a strong pressure and found it a little hard to breathe. He knew that Lin Wenjing didn't deliberately pressure him. Instead, it was given off imperceptibly, which made him panic. He now suspected that Lin Wenjing could kill him with just one casual punch.

Lin Wenjing really did not deliberately pressure Joker, but it was his natural reaction when he mentioned Gu Hanxing.

Master Grim quickly said, "Young Master, Young Madam and her family are fine during this period, and no one has come to cause trouble. As for Gu Harking, it is rumored that he is also in retreat during this period of time to break through to the Heavenly Realm, but there's been no news about him."

Lin Wenjing nodded. "That's good."

Next, Lin Wenjing didn't stay to waste time either. Now that he had successfully reached the Heavenly Realm, it was time for him to go back to Hua City.

Come to think of it, it had been almost half a month since he disappeared, so he had to make a call to report to Chu Ling.



The call soon got through, and Chu Ling's worried voice was heard. "Wenjing, where have you gone for the past two weeks? Why couldn't I get through to you? Are you okay now? Oh my god, you have no idea how worried I was!"

Before he had time to speak, Chu Ling spoke nonstop with a tone full of worry and agitation.

Feeling Chu Ling's concern for him, Lin Wenjing only felt warm in his heart. He was particularly moved as he muttered, "Silly, I'm fine. Didn't I tell you that I have something to take care of and that † would take half a month? I am calling you now, am I not?"

"But you didn't tell me that you would turn off your phone. You have no idea how worried I was, you idiot!"

"Sorry that I've neglected your feelings. I'm going back now," Lin Wenjing answered guiltily. During this period of time, in order to focus on breaking through to the Heavenly Realm, he did turn his phone off and ignored Chu Ling's feelings.

Chu Ling told him an address so that he could go and find her.

After hanging up, Lin Wenjing went on to call Wang Yunqian and Han Kunpeng to ask about their work. Both companies were still operating on the right track, so he was relieved.

After arranging everything, only then did he begin to leave here with Master Grim and head to Hua City.

Lin Wenjing bid farewell to Master Grim after reaching Hua City and went directly to Chu Ling.

It was true that absence made the heart grow fonder. After two weeks of separation, the yearning and joy in Chu Ling's eyes were almost overflowing when she saw Lin Wenjing, and everyone around her could feel it clearly.

Lin Wenjing was equally happy when he saw her. He went over and held her hand, and they looked at each other affectionately. "Chu Ling, I am here now."

Chu Ling nodded vigorously and nestled her head on Lin Wenjing's shoulder, flashing a happy smile.

They were at a diner. There were more than

a dozen peers, with some very well-groomed, whereas the others were dressed rather ordinarily. They were surprised when they saw Chu Ling, who had always been so distant and aloof, actually being so sweet and gentle to a man and throwing herself into his arms. Some men particularly felt even more uncomfortable as they looked at Lin Wenjing with a jealous and hostile look.

Lin Wenjing now looked tall and thin in sportswear, and he didn't look like a rich man at all.

"Chu Ling, who is this man next to you?" a woman asked.

Holding Lin Wenjing's hand, Chu Ling walked over and answered with a smile, "His name is Lin Wenjing, and he is my husband."

"Is this the live-in son-in-law? Didn't you say that he was good-for..."

"Ahem!" Chu Ling coughed immediately with an unkind look on her face. "Chunying, please give my husband the respect he deserves."

Xiao Chunying was a little embarrassed after being criticized by Chu Ling, and she forced

a chuckle without saying anything.

As for those men, they couldn't hide their jealousy and hostility toward Lin Wenjing.

They had eye contact and reached a consensus to unite and take turns to toast Lin Wenjing. They wanted to get him drunk so that he would make a fool of himself!

Of course, Lin Wenjing saw through their tricks and just smiled faintly. He didn't expose them, but he did not refuse those who came to toast him either.

At the beginning, they all secretly despised Lin Wenjing when he agreed so easily and was not vigilant at all. They felt that he was not very bright, and they grew even more complacent.

However, they found that something was wrong. No matter how much they asked Lin Wenjing to drink, he appeared to be fine; he was drinking strong white wine like he was drinking plain water, and matter what, he would not get drunk. Yet, some of them were a little dizzy after drinking, which began to make them wonder if Lin Wenjing did something to his cup. But they were the ones who gave him the cup, and they were



the ones pouring the wine. Everything was happening under their noses, so how could Lin Wenjing play any tricks?

In the end, they were afraid of drinking with Lin Wenjing and didn't dare to challenge him anymore. They looked at him as if they had seen a ghost, feeling terrified.

Later, Lin Wenjing learned that this group of people were Chu Ling's university classmates, and the men were all former admirers of Chu Ling.

"By the way, I think Zhang Hairong said that he will come over too!" don't know if he is here yet. I'll call him," said a man suddenly. When he spoke, he deliberately took a glance at Lin Wenjing.

When the others heard the name 'Zhang Hairong', their eyes lit up a little, especially the ladies, who seemed to look forward to it.

"Ah, is Zhang Hairong coming over too?"

"This is too sudden. Why didn't you tell me in advance? I'm not wearing my nicest dress."

"Zhang Hairong is the Prince Charming of our class. I haven't seen him for a long time.

I heard that after graduation, he set up a company and made a fortune."

"That's right. Now, Zhang Hairong is a successful man, and we can't call him by his name anymore. We need to address him as President Zhang."

Many people began to flatter Zhang Hairong.

Zhang Hairong was a legend in their class. Not only was he handsome, he also came from a wealthy family; he was the Prince Charming for many girls. Many of the women here used to want to pursue him. Unfortunately, Zhang Hairong didn't like them back then, for he only liked Chu Ling.

Now that Zhang Hairong was about to come over, they were all excited, and they unconsciously started to tidy up their appearance. Some of them even touched up their makeup on the spot to show him their most beautiful side.

When Chu Ling heard the name 'Zhang Hairong', she immediately frowned, and a look of disgust and rejection flashed across her face. Holding Lin Wenjing's hand under the table, she whispered, "Why don't we leave first? I don't want to see Zhang



## Hairong."

Indeed, since that incident, she particularly hated Zhang Hairong so much that she didn't even want to meet him!

Knowing what Chu Ling was thinking, Lin Wenjing patted her hand gently and said with a smile, "It'll be fine. This is your class reunion. Don't let your mood be affected by Zhang Hairong."



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Chu Ling whispered, "I don't want to see him. Let's go home."

Since Chu Ling insisted, Lin Wenjing didn't persuade her anymore. He didn't like to participate in such a class reunion, anyway. During the conversation just now, this group of people mainly talked about money. They all talked about which big company they worked at after graduation, where they bought a house, what luxury car they bought, and so on.

With Lin Wenjing's current status and mindset, it was true that he couldn't maintain a conversat on with such people. Moreover, these people were hostile toward him.

"Okay, then. Let's go back." Lin Wenjing spoke with a smile, and he was extremely gentle toward Chu Ling.

Feeling his gentleness, Chu Ling gave a sweet smile and nodded. "Okay. I'll make a cake for you when we get home."

Then Chu Ling stood up and said to everyone, "Everyone, I have something to do, so I have to go back first. Enjoy the rest of the evening, guys."



"Hey, Chu Ling, why are you leaving so suddenly? We were having a nice conversation," a plump woman who sat across from her immediately asked with a dissatisfied tone.

A tall and thin female classmate next to Chu Ling also grabbed her hand while pretending to be displeased. "Xia is right. Why are you leaving not long after you arrived? It's such a rare occasion for us to get together. We haven't even talked enough, and yet you're leaving already. Are you disrespecting us?"

"Yeah. Or is it because you are now a Chairman, so you look down on us?" a man asked sourly.

Other classmates also asked Chu Ling to stay while they mumbled their dissatisfaction toward her.

Chu Ling was a thin-skinned person. She was a little embarrassed by the complaints of so many classmates, and so she quickly explained, "You have misunderstood. I didn't mean that. I just happen to have something to do at home and need to go back."

A girl with a loud voice called out, "Chu Ling, who are you trying to fool? When I asked you

today, you said that you're free today, and you can chat till late hours! And now, it's only 8.00PM, and you're saying you have to go. You're obviously disrespecting us."

Another girl chipped in sarcastically, "I think all of you are not sensible at all. Don't you know what Chu Ling's current status is? She's the Chairman of a large company with a net worth of tens of millions, and she can make tens of thousands in an hour. Why would she share a meal with insignificant characters like us? That's such a ridiculous thought."

When these words were said, Chu Ling felt even more uncomfortable. "Yuelan, you've misunderstood me. I really didn't mean that."

Seeing Chu Ling being so anxious, Lin Wenjing took her hand and gave her a calm look before speaking. "Everyone, you've really misunderstood Chu Ling. As her classmates for many years, I believe you understand her too and know that she is not such a person. Right now, we really have something to do and need to go home. Since everyone is working in nearby cities, you can get together anytime."

A man who had been asked to drink a lot by

Lin Wenjing just now was immediately angered. He pointed at Lin Wenjing and yelled unceremoniously, "Hey, we're talking to Chu Ling. Who are you to interrupt? I think you're the reason Chu Ling wants to leave in such a hurry!"

The man's words were laced with hostility which were directly targeted at Lin Wenjing, causing Chu Ling to frown and become a little upset. "Hey, Liang Jianhua, what are you talking about?"

Lin Wenjing shot Chu Ling a look, hinting for her to not get so agitated.

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Another man spoke up. "In my opinion, Chu Ling lied when she said she wanted to go home because she had something to do. I think she doesn't have the guts to meet Zhang Hairong. After all, they have history."

After these words were said, Chu Ling's expression changed again. What she hated most now was Zhang Hairong. If it hadn't been for the timely appearance of the Chairman of Purple Jade Studios during the incident six months ago, she would have been raped by Zhang Hairong!

She didn't expect that a class reunion would

become like this tonight. If she had known that, she would not have come.

When the other classmates heard this, they also showed an intriguing expression, believing that Chu Ling was avoiding Zhang Hairong. At the same time, they also looked at Lin Wenjing gloatingly and mockingly.

Lin Wenjing was amused seeing them like this. Why should I be afraid of Zhang Hairong? He would probably be so scared that he wet his pants when he sees me.

However, he didn't bother to explain such things. Now he had broken through to the Heavenly Realm, and it had divided him from the ordinary people. Hence, he simply ignored these ridicules and misunderstandings with a smile.

But Chu Ling was different. She cared about this very much, so she couldn't help but lose her temper. She thumped the table and yelled angrily, "Bai Juncai! What are you talking about? Who said that Zhang Hairong and I have history? There's nothing between the two of us! Don't make slanderous accusations."

Bai Juncai chuckled. "Since there's nothing

between you and Zhang Hairong, why do you want to avoid him? Isn't this shooting yourself in the foot?"

Bai Juncai was also one of Chu Ling's suitors when they were in university. He wrote her a love letter, but she rejected him mercilessly.

It was fine if Chu Ling had married a rich boss, for he would feel that he was inferior. But now Chu Ling was married to an ordinary man who was actually a live-in son-in-law. He felt very upset, thinking that Chu Ling was looking down on him for marrying an ordinary man instead of him.

In fact, many people present had similar thoughts.

When Chu Ling was about to speak again, Lin Wenjing stopped her and spoke with a weird expression. "I'm a little curious. According to you, Zhang Hairong sounds so formidable. He hasn't arrived yet, but you are all rushing to flatter him."

When he said this, everyone present looked at him as if he was an idiot. Then Bai Juncai blurted out, "Are you really so ignorant or are you faking it? Zhang Hairong is the young



boss of the Hongyang Group. He is rich and handsome, and many women like him. Do you think he's like you, who got your rise to fame by marrying up?"

Another person chipped in, "Anyone could tell he is faking it. He deliberately pretended not to know Zhang Hairong, and his acting skill is a joke. Everyone knows Zhang Hairong has always been in love with Chu Ling. I think it was his idea to make Chu Ling leave, because he's afraid of seeing Zhang Hairong."

"He's so pitiful. He can't even defend his wife and even wants to sneak out."

"Isn't this a very normal thing? He is Chu Ling's live-in husband, an ordinary man. How could he compare with Zhang Hairong? Is he supposed to stay and watch Chu Ling flirt with Zhang Hairong if he didn't ask her to leave?"

The discussion was getting more and more out of hand. Meanwhile, Lin Wenjing hadn't reacted yet, but Chu Ling couldn't stand it anymore as she bellowed, "Enough! It's nonsense that my husband is afraid of Zhang Hairong! Let me tell you—my husband is a bad\*ss boss. When Zhang Hairong sees

my husband later, he will definitely not even dare to speak!"

Chu Ling spoke agitatedly, but the others simply laughed out loud, thinking that she was telling a joke.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Hahaha. Did I hear you right? Zhang
Hairong won't even dare to speak when he
sees this fellow? I think it's this fellow who
won't even dare to speak when Zhang
Hairong is here!" a man blurted out as his
brain got excited after having too many
drinks with Lin Wenjing earlier, and he didn't
care that he would offend Chu Ling.

In fact, all the men present drank a lot of wine, and their minds were not sober.
Therefore, they tore away the usual gentle disguise and voiced out their most primitive thoughts.

"This is hilarious. Just\*take a look at yourself in the mirror. Who are you to challenge Zhang Hairong? He is now a big boss with a net worth of tens of millions. How can you compare with him? With your Baleno outfits?"

"I didn't know what it means to have a narrow view of the world, but now I have witnessed it."

"I don't think it's as simple as having a narrow view of the world. Instead, he doesn't know his place and is acting recklessly!"

"Just wait and see. Zhang Hairong is on the



way, and he'll be here soon. When he arrives, you will know how formidable he is."

They didn't conceal their contempt for Lin Wenjing, and they even taunted Chu Ling.

This was especially true for those female classmates, who were far inferior to Chu Ling in appearance. They did not show it on the surface usually, but deep in their hearts, they were displeased with Chu Ling and were hostile to her. Now that they saw that she actually married an ordinary man who was even a live-in son-in-law, they were ecstatic and were especially looking forward to what would happerwhen Zhang Hairong arrives later.

Meanwhile, Chu Ling was so angry that she nearly cried. They were having a nice conversation over dinner just now, and she couldn't understand why these classmates turned against her all of a sudden!

She had a lump in her throat, feeling particularly wronged. At this moment, Lin Wenjing held her hand and whispered, "Silly, don't feel wronged. When Zhang Hairong arrives, I will do you justice."

When Chu Ling heard what he said, she felt



less upset, but she still didn't completely relax because she knew Zhang Hairong was particularly petty and would fight over the smallest trifles. He especially enjoyed bullying Lin Wenjing previously.

Lin Wenjing was the Chairman of Purple Jade Studios, and Zhang Hairong didn't know that. Even if Chu Ling said it out later, Zhang Hairong would definitely not believe it, so she would just end up humiliating herself!

Chu Ling sighed deep down. She didn't expect that it would be so humiliating in the end even after she became the Chairman of Sheng Ke Lighting. How depressing.

Meanwhile, Lin Wenjing could see through Chu Ling's thoughts at a glance. He didn't explain, as the truth would surface when Zhang Hairong arrived. Zhang Hairong wouldn't dare to fight him now, so Lin Wenjing didn't bother to say anything and just sat down to eat.

Speaking of which, since his isolation, he had not had a proper meal, so he was famished now and felt like he could eat a horse.



Compared to the Pinnacle Realm, the Heavenly Realm was a huge advancement. Whether it was physical fitness or spiritual realm, there was a huge enhancement, and so he needed more energy. Lin Wenjing's appetite alone now was comparable to that of five people. If he ate without holding back, ten people would not be able to beat him.

Chu Ling was very depressed when she saw that he was still in the mood to sit down and eat, but she didn't say anything and also sat down to watch him enjoy his meal.

As for the others, they just watched Lin Wenjing eat like a Viking and make a pig of himself. Soon, he finished half of the food on the table.

The food at this five-star hotel was very good, and they suited Lin Wenjing's palate. Hence, he ate without holding back, not caring what others thought of him.

Originally, he was someone who didn't care about other people's views of him. Now that he had broken through to the Heavenly Realm, not only did his strength and mental state change dramatically, his mentality was altered as well. In a sense, these ordinary people were just ants in front of him; how



could a man care about the opinions of ants?

"Chu Ling, don't you want to eat?" Lin Wenjing asked Chu Ling.

Chu Ling shook her head. "I have already eaten, so I am not hungry."

"Okay." Lin Wenjing nodded. Chu Ling was a little worried when she saw him gorging himself so hard. "Would you like to slow down? Eating so fast might give you a stomach ache," she advised.

Lin Wenjing smiled and replied, "It's okay. I know what I'm doing."

"Okay..." Chu Ling was a little helpless and felt very embarrassed, as if she was back to when Lin Wenjing used to embarrass her when they just got married.

When the others saw Lin Wenjing devouring the food, they despised and disliked him even more. They were all cultured people who ate politely, and they would not wolf down food like Lin Wenjing did. They thought he was obviously a poor, uneducated man from the countryside who had not eaten a big meal. They wondered



why Chu Ling fell in love with such trash and doubted if she was under a spell.

They hadn't eaten their fill and were planning to have more food, but after they saw Lin Wenjing gobbling down the food, they lost their appetite and felt disgusted.

At this moment, a phone rang. A man picked it up and exclaimed excitedly, " Zhang Hairong is here. I will go down to greet him!"

He left after he spoke, but before leaving, he sneered at Lin Wenjing. He would like to see how Lin Wenjing would continue to act ostentatiously when Zhang Hairong arrived later. Based on Zhang Hairong's character, he would definitely teach Lin Wenjing a lesson.

The remaining classmates also looked at Lin Wenjing coldly, waiting to see how he would get humiliated. They even thought of the scene where Lin Wenjing would kneel down in front of Zhang Hairong and beg for mercy.

Thinking of that scene made them look forward to it.

Chu Ling was fidgeting more and more, and there were several occasions where she

wanted to grab Lin Wenjing and leave.

"Wenjing, are we really not leaving? Zhang Hairong is not very easy to deal with," Chu Ling couldn't help but ask Lin Wenjing in a low voice.

Lin Wenjing smiled. "Don't worry. Zhang Hairong should be the one leaving, as I am more difficult to deal with than he is."

"But Zhang Hairong doesn't know that you are the Chairman of Purple Jade Studios. Even if we say it now, he won't believe it," Chu Ling said worriedly.

тк

"It's okay. Even without using this identity, I can scare him until he wet his pants," replied Lin Wenjing disapprovingly while he smiled faintly.

Now even Chu Ling felt that Lin Wenjing was bragging. She had known Zhang Hairong longer than he did, so she knew that he wasn't someone who would be so scared that he would wet his pants. But since Lin Wenjing said so, she couldn't say anything anymore and decided to just wait.

The minutes suddenly felt like hours. In the huge room, there was no other sound except

for the sound of Lin Wenjing eating. Everyone else tacitly said nothing while they waited for Zhang Hairong's arrival.

Finally, under the expectancy of many people, the room's door was opened, and several people walked in, and the one who walked in the front was none other than Zhang Hairong. Now, he was no longer decadent and wretched as he was during the auction of Grand Skylight Pavilion. Instead, he was full of spirits.

And standing next to him was the man who went to greet him downstairs and was now trying hard to flatter him.

When the other people in the room saw Zhang Hairong, they also showed a sycophantic look on their face. Many people also took the initiative to come up to Zhang Hairong and greet him.

"Wow, President Zhang, you are finally here. We've been waiting for you for a long time."

"You have a different status now; you are already a big boss! Look at your outfit. I think it's at least 300,000, right?"

"300,000? Are you kidding me? His gold

watch alone is worth 500,000 already!"

"F\*ck. A 500,000 watch. How cool is that? President Zhang is really something, and he's on a different level from ordinary people like us."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Listening to these old classmates' flattery, Zhang Hairong puffed up with pride, feeling especially great!

Since the Grand Skylight Pavilion auction, he had been living under the shadow of Lin Wenjing and having nightmares for several consecutive nights. He dreamed of various abuses and insults from Lin Wenjing and jolted awake in the middle of the night.

He didn't understand it. Lin Wenjing was clearly the live-in son-in-law of the Chu family, a complete trash. How did he suddenly become so powerful? Even a big shot like Gu Hanxing couldn't do anything to him. This was simply impossible! Could it be that Lin Wenjing had a stroke of luck, or did he befriend a bigshot?

The more he thought about it, the more puzzled he was, so he secretly investigated Lin Wenjing. However, the more he investigated, the more shocked he was. Lin Wenjing was actually the Chairman of Purple Jade Studios and the Young Master behind Master Grim! When he heard the news, he was stunned as his hair stood on end. It took him half a minute to come back to his senses, and he instantly felt depressed.



He had never understood why the Chairman of Purple Jade Studios suddenly appeared at Kunpeng KTV and threw him in jail. It turned out that the Chairman of Purple Jade Studios was Lin Wenjing!

Now, he understood one thing—Lin Wenjing was no longer the trash that he could bully easily, but an unattainable existence. Now, Zhang Hairong could only pray that he would not hold grudges and try to settle scores, otherwise even Gu Hanxing couldn't defend him.

That was to say, Zhang Hairong was relatively relieved in the past few days and was no longer so worried. He thought that since Lin Wenjing had not come to give him problems after so long, he should have gotten off his back already. He then happened to be informed by a university classmate that there was a small gathering, and he spoke with such a flattering tone that gave him heady pleasure again. There was nothing for him to do anyway, so he rushed over, planning to act ostentatiously to see if he could hook up with some former female classmates.

"You flatter me. Everyone here is too humble. I'm just a lucky man trying to earn my daily bread," Zhang Hairong waved his hand and chirped. He was deliberately showing off the gold watch on his wrist with an obvious cocky expression on his face.

"President Zhang, I heard that you have opened a new company now and that it's huge." A man immediately fawned on him.

When Zhang Hairong heard this, the smile on his face became wider. He then coughed twice and replied, "It's not very huge. It's just an investment of tens of millions. It's just a small corporation that is still very far behind compared to many big companies in Hua City."

In fact, the investment in his new company was only ten million, and yet now he bragged it as tens of millions shamelessly. He could brag it however he wanted since no one could verify it.

When those classmates in the room heard Zhang Hairong's words, they widened their eyes and gave him an admiring and enthusiastic look, especially those single female classmates, who were now looking at him even more passionately. Some of them who had better figures and looks even boldly approached him while constantly



flirting with him.

"Gosh! Tens of millions of investment. You truly live up to your name, President Zhang. You're too awesome!"

"President Zhang, does your company still need a toilet cleaner? Please hire me as your toilet cleaner."

"President Zhang, I don't ask for much. Just let me go to your company to be a security guard."

"President Zhang, do you need a bedwarmer? Let me warmyour bed. We could smooch during the day and sleep together at night."

"President Zhang..."

They rushed to curry favor with Zhang Hairong, and it made him overjoyed as he was unable to hide the smile on his face. He hadn't been so happy for a long time. This is the life I deserve.

Chu Ling felt like vomiting when she saw them fawning over Zhang Hairong. It was utterly disgusting. Why didn't I know that these classmates, who were so snobby just now, could be so shameless in order to flatter him?



At this moment, a male classmate suddenly said to Chu Ling, "Chu Ling, didn't you just say that Zhang Hairong would wet his pants when he sees your husband? Now that President Zhang is here, why don't you show me what you mean?"

Another person agreed. "Yeah, weren't you so arrogant just now? Now, President Zhang is here to speak for himself."

Suddenly, everyone, including Zhang Hairong, turned to look at Chu Ling.

ТК

When Zhang Hairong saw Chu Ling, he was obviously stunned, for he didn't expect her to be here.

Seeing Chu Ling's beautiful face, a covetous look flashed across Zhang Hairong's eyes. However, the next second, he saw the man next to her, and he immediately shuddered while his face blanched.

Even if Lin Wenjing had his back facing him, he would have immediately recognized him!

He now had a deep fear for Lin Wenjing and would tremble whenever he saw him.

Meanwhile, the others didn't know, and they were still fanning the flames.

"Hey, Lin Wenjing, you are still eating, huh? You have eaten the whole table of food. Did you really come from the countryside and haven't eaten such nice food in your life? You eat like you've starved for a century."

"Even sitting and eating at the same table with this kind of person makes us look bad."

"I've never seen such a shameless person, seriously."

"He's still eating. He must be so scared that he's afraid to speak after seeing President Zhang. Haha."

"Of course he's scared. Otherwise, did you really think that President Zhang would wet his pants when he sees him? Isn't that a joke?"

Many people were talking nonstop, not noticing that Zhang Hairong's face was getting paler and paler and that fear was creeping up on him.

Chu Ling bit her lip tightly, feeling very upset. She initially thought that she wouldn't be ridiculed anymore, now that Lin Wenjing was stronger. She didn't expect to face the same thing again.

But, at this moment, Lin Wenjing was almost done eating. He then slowly turned around and said to Zhang Hairong with a fake smile, "Zhang Hairong, you're so capable, huh? I haven't seen you for half a month, and now you've become President Zhang. So impressive, huh? Do I have to give way to you?"

Hearing this, Zhang Hairong trembled fiercely, and then he made a move that shocked everyone. Herdirectly kneeled down and tremblingly begged for mercy. "Chairman Lin! I was wrong, Chairman Lin! Please cut me some slack this time, please..."

Zhang Hairong begged for mercy while slapping his own mouth. Not daring to fake it, he slapped his face hard, and soon, his face was swollen.

Seeing him like this, everyone was dumbfounded, showing an expression that looked like they had just seen a ghost.

Some rubbed their eyes, suspecting that



they had hallucinations.

Zhang Hairong was really scared to the core now, and his heart was twisted into a ball. Dignity and pride were all worthless and not as important as his life at this time, for he knew that if he dared to be arrogant, Lin Wenjing would very well mutilate him.

Chu Ling also widened her eyes. She stared at Zhang Hairong in surprise and was unable to come back to her senses for a long time.

Lin Wenjing was also a little surprised that Zhang Hairong kneeled down so straightforwardly, which made it hard for him to strike out at him.

He smiled and uttered, "Oh, really? Tell me, then. What have you done wrong?"

Zhang Hairong was taken aback for a moment. Yeah, what have I done wrong? He was unable to say it. He'd just arrived here, and he didn't do anything, and he certainly didn't make a pass at Chu Ling.

But this was not the point. He had to admit his mistake in front of Lin Wenjing even if he didn't make any mistakes!



With asmack, he slapped himself hard in the face again and said in a crying tone, "I was wrong for not being alert enough of your presence and for not greeting you immediately after I saw you, Chairman Lin."

When everyone heard what Zhang Hairong said, they were even more bewildered as the scene before them felt unreal. The way they looked at Lin Wenjing now was drastically different.



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Lin Wenjing did not give Zhang Hairong a hard time. After the meal, he left together with Chu Ling as everyone else held their breaths. It was only nearly one whole minute after they left that some of them gulped before saying cautiously, "Isn't Chu Ling's husband just someone who married into her family? How could he..."

This question was echoing in all of their minds. Who exactly was Lin Wenjing?

Some of them sneaked a peek at Zhang Hairong.

At that moment, his face was blanched. He made his way to the door and looked left and right, and he finally loosened up when he was sure that Lin Wenjing and Chu Ling had really left the scene. Returning to his usual haughty demeanor, he strolled back to the private room with a frown and announced in a slightly stern tone, "No one is allowed to say anything about what happened today, and anyone who does otherwise will be deemed as my enemy. Although I am not as capable as Chairman Lin, I could still easily give all of you a very hard time."

He put on his sunglasses and left together

with both his bodyguards after making threats.

After more than ten seconds, a man commented sarcastically, "Tsk, what a pretentious guy he is. In the presence of Chu Ling's husband, he is just a nobody."

"Exactly. He even knelt down in front of him! What a lapdog."

"President Zhang? I think he should be called Coward Zhang instead!"

Some men started badmouthing Zhang Hairong after they were sure he had left in order to show off themselves before the girls.

"You guys only have the guts to badmouth Zhang Hairong when he is not around. Why didn't you guys say anything when he was here earlier?" challenged a rather gorgeous girl with heavy makeup on her face.

Immediately, the rest of the girls chimed in, "Exactly. Even though he got down on his knees, he is still a much more capable guy than all of you. At least he is an entrepreneur owning assets worth over tens of million. What about all of you? You guys are mere



employees. Are you guys even in the same league as him?"

"Have you guys forgotten how hard you tried to please Zhang Hairong when he was here earlier?"

"I am surprised you guys have the cheek to look down on Zhang Hairong. If any of you were bold enough, try saying those things to his face!"

Facing the sarcastic comments of the girls, all of the boys looked uncomfortable but they could not come up with anything to rebut them. It was because they were indeed very afraid of Zhang Hairong. Had anyone revealed their comments to Zhang Hairong, they would not be able to handle the repercussions.

"Sigh, it's a shame to have lived in the illusion that my life was actually better than Chu Ling's. It turns out that it's all my wishful thinking. She actually married a super wealthy businessman whom even Zhang Hairong could not afford to offend."

When such a comment was heard, all of the girls looked dejected. Back in their university days, Chu Ling had always been better than



them at everything. At first, they thought things would surely get better after graduation. In the end, the gap between Chu Ling and them just got larger and larger.

As for Lin Wenjing and Chu Ling, they did not head straight back home after they left the hotel. Instead, they planned to roam around the nearby area, treating that as a date.

Come to think of it, they had never had a proper date despite having been married for quite some time.

"When did you start having such a good appetite? Don't you feel bloated having so much food?" asked Chu Ling curiously as she stared at Lin Wenjing's stomach which remained flat instead of getting bulgy.

Lin Wenjing replied, "My martial arts skill has improved slightly, which is why my appetite became better."

"Oh." Chu Ling nodded. She had not a single idea about martial arts.

"Why aren't you asking me the reason Zhang Hairong was so afraid of me?" he asked out of curiosity.



She replied, "It goes without saying that you must have bullied him some time ago. That's why he was so afraid of you."

Lin Wenjing was speechless as what she said made a lot of sense.

"Chu Ling, you're getting smarter and smarter."

"However, I don't think you should offend everyone who crosses your path. I'm sure one of your enemies will seek his revenge on you one day," commented Chu Ling worryingly.

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With a sigh, Lin Wenjing lamented, "I didn't offend them. It's actually the other way round."

"In that case, what should we do?" asked Chu Ling nervously.

With a laugh, he answered, "What should we do? There's always a solution to a problem. Don't worry, nothing bad will happen to me. These guys are all just some nobodies who can't even threaten me with their presence. I intend to establish a new security company and train a group of strong and capable bodyguards to be specially responsible for



the safety of you guys."

Lin Wenjing had long harbored the thought of establishing a security company. Back then, he was just too busy and had no time to execute his plan. Now that he had made the breakthrough to the Innate Realm, the magnitude of his vital energy had improved by multiple times, and his IQ had increased substantially. He could now easily solve problems which used to be very challenging to him.

Chu Ling nodded in approval of his decision. She squeezed his hand and said in a serious tone, "No matter what, you have to keep yourself well protected and you can't allow anything bad to happen to you, do you understand?"

Lin Wenjing replied with full confidence, "Nothing will happen to me."

"Promise me that you will take good care of yourself!"

He gazed into her eyes and nodded solemnly, "I promise."

After that, they no longer talked about that and focused their minds on shopping. Out of

women's nature, Chu Ling dragged Lin Wenjing into numerous fashion outlets at which she would buy anything to her liking. She seemed to have boundless stamina.

Fortunately, Lin Wenjing had reached the Innate Realm and had inexhaustible energy. Otherwise, he would definitely have been exhausted by now as he was not the least bit interested in buying clothes. Even though he had at least tens of billions inside his bank account, he still dressed in a very minimalistic way up until now. It wasn't because he was stingy, but because he really did not have the urge to spend on clothes.

Suddenly, he sensed something from his surroundings. He glanced directly to his right and caught sight of a familiar figure. He was stunned for a brief moment before recognising the lady. At that moment, his heart skipped a beat and he quickly turned away. He planned to find a hiding place to avoid being seen by her.

However, life was indeed full of coincidences. It appeared that the lady, too, was heading to the same clothing store he was in.



This time, he was going to be in big trouble. He could not possibly hide himself in the fitting room, could he?

"Hey, isn't that... Young Master Lin?" After the lady entered the shop, she exclaimed in surprise as she caught sight of the back of Lin Wenjing. At the same time, her voice attracted Chu Ling's attention too.

In fact, Chu Ling had already noticed the lady's presence as soon as she entered the shop. It was hard not to be drawn by her presence as she looked very flirtatious and alluring.

тк

The lady was in fact none other than Tao Sanniang. Coincidentally, she was having a night out with two of her besties and she planned to do some shopping. It never occurred to her that she would bump into Lin Wenjing and she was pleasantly surprised deep down inside.

Lin Wenjing put on a glum look at once and lamented his bad luck in his mind. Why would he bump into Tao Sanniang here? If he had known about this encounter earlier, he would never have come to this mall to shop!



Now that Tao Sanniang had recognized him, he could no longer avoid her. So, he turned around and pretended to be surprised before greeting her, "It's really you, Tao Sanniang. It's an honor meeting you here."

He greeted her very politely mainly because of Chu Ling.

Tonight, Tao Sanniang was dressed modernly instead of wearing a red cheongsam. She looked very fashionable yet sexy at the same time. Although her attire was not very revealing, her perfect figure was still nicely outlined by the fabric. As a superbly attractive sight, it was unknown how many guys were smitten by her along her journey to the shop.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Tao Sanniang was the sort of woman who was alluring and seductive by nature. Even though she never deliberately acted flirtatiously, her aura was still a deadly attraction to men.

Despite not being sexually interested in Tao Sanniang, Lin Wenjing could not help but admit that she was indeed a stunner. In terms of femininity, even Chu Ling could not fight her.

At the sight of Lin Wenjing, Tao Sanniang's face brightened up. Instead of being sluggish, she cheered up substantially at once. Even she herset did not notice the change in her mood. Nonetheless, her two besties who were by her side noticed the change, and they stared at her in astonishment.

Being her best friends and knowing her for a great deal of time, they had never seen her be so interested in a man.

"Young Master Lin, it's really you! I thought I was mistaken. It seems like fate has brought us together!" Tao Sanniang's face broke into a radiant smile as she made her way to Lin Wenjing in order to get closer to him.



"Cough, cough." Lin Wenjing immediately let out a cough and took a step back to maintain a distance with her. He then said, "Tao Sanniang, where is Mr. Fan? Is he not here together with you?"

She rolled her eyes before answering, "Mr. Fan is just my superior, not my husband. Why would I be shopping together with him? Young Master Lin, are you very afraid of me? Why are you moving away from me?"

Catching sight of Chu Ling's murderous glare, Lin Wenjing felt that his head was going to explode at any minute. Immediately, he added, "Tao Sanniang, don't make jokes like that. I am here together with my wife. I wouldn't want her to get the wrong idea about us."

"Wife?" she echoed in surprise.

Lin Wenjing walked over to Chu Ling immediately and held her hands before walking back to Tao Sanning and introducing with a smile, "Chu Ling, this is my friend, Tao Sanniang. She is in charge of the auction at Grand Skylight Pavilion."

"Tao Sanniang, this is my wife, Chu Ling."



Awkwardness hung in the air as both Chu Ling and Tao Sanniang did not say a word and just stared at each other with hostility. Even Lin Wenjing could sense the sparks they were giving off in the atmosphere.

Chu Ling was the first to break into a smile and greeted Tao Sanniang with poise, "Nice to meet you, is your surname Tao?"

Tao Sanniang flashed a smile too and acted amiably as though the hostility in between them earlier was just an illusion. "Yes, I have the same surname as Tao Yuanming."

"Oh." After voicing her acknowledgment, Chu Ling did not say anything else. Instead, she said to Lin Wenjing generously, "Since your friend is here, you should hang out with her. I will shop by myself."

"Chu Ling, please listen to me, there's nothing going on between..." Lin Wenjing tried to clarify anxiously. However, he was interrupted by Chu Ling who said with a smile, "I know. I trust you. Just go."

With that, she went off shopping by herself. She acted with poise and maintained Lin Wenjing's dignity well.



Tao Sanniang squinted her eyes slightly as her hostility toward Chu Ling grew more intense. What a formidable opponent she had there.

Hey, why am I feeling this way? Tao Sanniang was taken aback by her own reaction. Could it be... No way, it's impossible! How could she have fallen in love with Lin Wenjing? Having seen all sorts of men in her life already, she would not fall in love with a man that easily, especially one she had only seen once in her life.

Lin Wenjing said, "Miss Tao, if there's no important business, excuse me for not keeping you company."

"Wait a minute," she said while staring at Lin Wenjing. "I have something to tell you."

He acted like he was listening attentively as she continued, "This is not a suitable place to talk. Please follow me."

With a smile, he countered, "Just say whatever you want to here. There's no secret in between us that cannot be overheard."

Suddenly, Tao Sanniang was slightly annoyed. After all, she was a very gorgeous

lady and a member of the management team of Grand Skylight Pavilion at the same time. Countless men who had a secret crush on her were not even given such an opportunity to speak with her. Now that she took the initiative to strike up a conversation with Lin Wenjing, he turned out to be uninterested. How detestable was that?

Taking a deep breath, she suppressed her anger and said solemnly, "It's about Gu Hanxing."

Seeing her serious expression, Lin Wenjing knew that she was not trying to play tricks on him and he started to attach more weight to her words. After giving it a thought, he nodded and said, "Okay, I will go with you."

He then informed Chu Ling about this before following Tao Sanniang to a place where they could talk. He asked, "How's Gu Hanxing? Has he attained the Innate Realm?"

With a slight frown, Lin Wenjing was doubtful. As he had just reached the Innate Realm, he knew how arduous the whole process was. With Gu Hanxing's level of determination, could he have endured the whole process?



Shaking off the solemness earlier, Tao Sanniang said with a grin, "Young Master Lin, aren't you being too aloof and distant? Do we only have the chance to talk when it's about serious business? Your indifference makes me really sad."

As she was talking, she deliberately made a sad face and pretended like she was going to cry.

Lin Wenjing was speechless.

Staring at her comical face, he said with resignation, "Well, Tao Sanniang, please stop teasing me. I know my appearance well. Judging by your standards, you would never be interested in me. So, we should stop bullshitting and get straight to business. Has Gu Hanxing reached the Innate Realm? Or is his father, Gu Ze, coming to look for my trouble?"

Being shrewd, Lin Wenjing had already reckoned such a turn of events when he saw Tao Sanniang coming to visit him.

Astonishment flashed through Tao Sanniang's eyes. What a brilliant mind he had! Before she had even begun to talk, he could already make a guess of about 70% or



80% of what she was going to say.

Nonetheless, she was enraged at the sight of Lin Wenjing's unruffled look. After all, I am quite a gorgeous lady, and numerous men have succumbed to my extraordinary beauty. Only you, Lin Wenjing, are ignoring my looks! I am so angry!

"If you give me a kiss, I will tell you everything," said Tao Sanniang with a grin before moving the left side of her face closer to him. She was sure he would cave in to her flirting skills!

However, she was devastated by his reaction thereafter.

After rolling his eyes, he turned around and left without saying a word.

Tao Sanniang was left speechless.

"Hold on!" called out Tao Sanniang quickly.
As Lin Wenjing had left with such
steadfastness, she could only admit defeat.

As he pretended that he did not hear her and continued walking away, she was livid.

"If you continue walking away, I will not tell

you this bombshell of a news story. You will definitely regret this later on!" she yelled angrily with irritation.

Finally, his pace came to a halt as he turned around and asked, "What's the bombshell?"

Looking like she was in need of some coaxing, Tao Sanniang crossed her arms and turned her face to the other side with a snort.

Being at his wit's end, Lin Wenjing could only walk back to her and urged frustratingly, "Speak."

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Tao Sanniang already had a very alluring figure in the first place. Now that she was crossing her arms in front of her chest, she provided an even more impactful view for Lin Wenjing. Therefore, he immediately looked away as he should not look at things which were contrary to propriety.



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"You should offer me an apology first," demanded Tao Sanniang haughtily.

Again, Lin Wenjing was speechless.
Although she was obviously being unreasonable, he found that he was unable to get angry at her. The world was indeed unfair because good-looking people were always favored and loved.

"Stop fooling around and just tell me. I have to return to my wife and keep her company," urged Lin Wenjing with annoyance.

With her lips pursed, Tao Sanniang acted coquettishly as if they were a couple and said, "I don't care. You have to apologize to me. Otherwise, I won't say a thing."

Being worried that Lin Wenjing would really ignore him, she quickly added, "Let me tell you, if you were to miss this bombshell, you will face plenty of trouble in the future"

In fact, Lin Wenjing found it hard to believe her. After interacting with her twice, he thought of her as a devious and fickle lady. Her actions were unpredictable and she was as cunning as a fox.

After mulling it over, he decided to apologize



to her as it would not do him any harm. If she really had important news, it would be a gain for him.

So, he said, "Fine, it's all my fault. Can you tell me now?"

Again, she turned away in a huff while saying, "That does not count. You are not sincere at all."

This time around, Lin Wenjing was really annoyed. He lifted his eyebrows and countered with a darkened face, "You know what? I really don't care."

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With that, he turned on his heels and left in large strides.

Sensing that his anger was genuine, Tao Sanniang didn't dare to tease him anymore. She immediately said, "Fine! I'll tell you, okay? I've never seen such a petty guy before!"

Lin Wenjing's face was filled with helplessness. If it wasn't for the impropriety, he wanted very badly to pin her to the ground and hit her bottoms. What a mischievous lady. He had never seen such a lady before!



Tao Saoniang stopped being playful and said seriously, "From the information I've gathered, Gu Hanxing has already consumed the Soul Cleansing Pill and successfully passed the hurdle. His father, Gu Ze, even held a celebration party for him. It is very probable that he has reached the Innate Realm."

As Lin Wenjing had already reckoned that, he nodded.

Tao Sanniang continued, "Gu Hanxing has always been notorious in the social circle as he is very arrogant and domineering, and many were bullied by mim badly. Also, Gu Hanxing is a person who will fight over the smallest things. As you have humiliated him badly at the last auction, I'm sure he will not go easy on you. Now that he has reached the Innate Realm, he will definitely come after you. You have to be careful."

Lin Wenjing narrowed his eyes and said in a cold tone, "If he were bold enough to come after me, I won't mind offering him an unforgettable memory."

At this moment, Tao Sanniang could sense an imposing and overwhelming air from Lin Wenjing. In her mind, it was as though he



had transformed into a war god who could traverse freely in the sky, and who could shake and break the earth with just one punch. In an instant, her breathing stopped.

"Have you reached the Innate Realm too?" asked Tao Sanniang in shock.

She had met Lin Wenjing just a fortnight ago. At that time, his aura had yet to become so terrifying.

Immediately, Lin Wenjing shook off his imposing aura and returned to the state of an ordinary man from a war god. Shaking his head, he said with regret, "Too bad I'm still one step away."

He did not reveal the truth to her because he thought it was unnecessary, not because he was afraid of any repercussions. Moreover, she was just someone from Grand Skylight Pavilion, and she was not even his friend. If she revealed the news to someone else, it would only bring him harm.

Now, Lin Wenjing handled things with maturity and steadiness like an aged wolf, and he was very careful.

Tao Sanniang's eyes flickered as she



pondered over his words. At last, she decided to believe him because she had encountered fighters who had reached the Innate Realm, and their aura was way stronger than his.

Deep down inside, she did not believe that he could actually reach the Innate Realm at such a young age.

Lin Wenjing and Gu Hanxing came from two totally different backgrounds. After all, Gu Hanxing had a great father like Gu Ze. Whenever he found it hard to get past an obstacle, Gu Ze would help him. As for Lin Wenjing, he did not have such a privilege.

Tao Sanniang continued, "Other than Gu Hanxing, you have to watch out for Gu Ze as he is the one who is truly strong, especially with the powerful Bei Tian Society supporting him."

Lin Wenjing nodded before falling into silence. Suddenly, he spoke, "How's Bei Tian Society in comparison to Sumeru Heaven?"

After that, he stared at her unflinchingly in hopes of gleaning some clues regarding Sumeru Heaven.



Nonetheless, she looked lost and asked in bewilderment, "Sumeru Heaven? What's that? I've never heard of it."

Lin Wenjing was surprised to hear that. As part of the management team of Grand Sky Pavilion, Tao Sanniang actually had no idea about Sumeru Heaven?

If he had not fixed his gaze on Tao Sanniang in order to observe the changes in her eyes, he would have suspected that she was lying to him.

As it turned out, she really had not a single clue about Sumeru Heaven.

In that case, Sumeru Heaven was indeed a formidable yet extremely mysterious force!

No wonder Master Grim had tried so hard to stop him from looking for trouble with Sumeru Heaven at the moment. No wonder Lu Dongbin saw everyone as lesser beings and thought that he was god then.

"It's nothing. I was just making a casual comment," he replied dodgily.

She stared at him in puzzlement as she thought he was making fun of her. Despite

being active in the circle for such a long time, she had never heard of Sumeru Heaven.

"Anyway, you have to be careful and watch out for dangers. Otherwise, you will be harmed by Gu Hanxing and his father," advised Tao Sanniang.

Lin Wenjing displayed a puzzled expression and said, "Tao Sanniang, we are not really related to each other in any way, so why are you giving me a heads-up? Aren't you worried that you will be in trouble if Gu Hanxing and his father get to know about this?"

Lin Wenjing had always been curious about this. Including this encounter, he had only met her twice and they could not even be considered as friends. Why would she come to where he was just to give him a reminder?

He would never believe a lady like Tao
Sanniang would fall in love with him as it
was not plausible at all. A lady of Tao
Sanniang's level would have already seen all
sorts of men in her life. Moreover, to have
attained such a prominent status meant that
she was a very capable lady with a brilliant
mind. Unlike those girls who were young and



naive, she would not make random pledges nor risk her life so readily.

To be honest, there was only one reason why Tao Sanniang came all the way here just to give him a reminder—Lin Wenjing was of some use to Grand Skylight Pavilion.

Battering her eyelashes, she said with a grin, "Young Master Lin, don't you think your question was rather redundant? Can't you tell what my intentions are? You're annoying!"

With that, she poked his chest lightly, and it made him shudder. Quickly, he said, "Okay, Tao Sanniang, stop putting up an act. Let's just say that I owe Grand Skylight Pavilion a favor for this tip."

She countered, "What do you mean by owing Grand Skylight Pavilion a favor? You owe *me* a favor. It has nothing to do with Grand Skylight Pavilion at all. Also, since I've already helped you to such an extent, aren't you going to do anything in return?"

Warily, he asked, "What do I have to do?"

"Oh I don't know, maybe treat me to a meal or bring me to a movie so that we can build



our relationship..."

"Bye!"

Without waiting for her to finish speaking, he straightaway turned around and left.

Stomping her foot, Tao Sanniang intended to run after him but realized she was wearing high heels, which made it hard for her to run in. Therefore, she could only watch as he vanished from her vision.

Suddenly, she thought of something and hit her forehead with her palm. "Damn it, I didn't even get his phone number. I'm such a failure!"



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By the time he returned to the fashion outlet, Chu Ling was already done shopping and was waiting for him. When she caught sight of him, she immediately greeted him with a smile. "Are you guys done?"

Lin Wenjing nodded and clarified, "Chu Ling, there is nothing going on between Tao Sanniang and I, so please don't..."

Before he could even finish, Chu Ling had already placed one of her hands over his mouth lightly and said with a smile, "There's no need to explain. I trust you."

Stunned, he asked somewhat doubtfully, "Chu Ling, why do you trust me so firmly?"

He was uneasy because it seemed like Chu Ling was trusting him too much. Tao Sanniang was a real stunner, and every single action of hers was both flirtatious and attractive. Hardly any men could resist that kind of seduction.

Chu Ling continued, "Why can't I trust you? In the past four years of our marriage, even though we slept in the same room, you have never done anything beyond the boundary. Is there anyone who is steadier than you in this world?"



## Hmm...

Lin Wenjing was speechless as her comment gave him an indescribable feeling. Was that a compliment or a mockery?

Nonetheless, since Chu Ling had chosen to trust him, he had nothing to worry about.

After all, a straight foot would not be afraid of a crooked shoe; his conscience was clear.

Thereafter, they did not stroll around for long and returned to Yulong Bay as Chu Ling was having her period today. Suppressing the lust in him, Lin Wenjing could only wrap his arms around her as they slept.

Early next morning, they made a trip to the Civil Affairs Bureau to restore their marriage.

Then, Lin Wenjing went to Purple Jade Studios and held a board meeting where the directors gave him an account of the company's recent progress and financial status.

At the moment, the market value of Purple Jade Studios had attained a staggering sum of eight billion. On top of that, the net profit of the company each month was a considerable amount. All the shareholders



of the company had made a fortune.

Everyone knew clearly that the success of Purple Jade Studios was mainly attributable to Lin Wenjing's effort. To be honest, many of his schemes and decisions were exceptionally brilliant. Not only had the business of Purple Jade Studios improved by leaps and bounds, it had also managed to get through many crises, and the scale of the business had expanded substantially.

They believed the business of Purple Jade Studios would get better and better at the helm of the chairman. More so, the company could even develop into the largest media company in the entire country!

Staring at the chairman who was sitting at the table's place of honor, their eyes were brimming with respect and admiration. When all the directors had finished their briefing, they awaited the chairman's speech.

However, what Lin Wenjing said next had all of them deeply shaken.

"Currently, the development of Purple Jade Studios has reached a plateau. I foresee that we will face numerous joint attacks from our



fellow competitors. We should slow down our pace and sell off 30% of the shares we own to reap some profits. From now on, all of us should get ourselves well prepared for the strenuous fight which looms ahead of us."

Upon listening to him, everyone was stunned. What was going on? Purple Jade Studios was currently heading toward the right direction, the market value of which was soaring higher day by day. The future of the company was bright and marvelous. How could the development of the business be at a bottleneck? According to the analysis of many professionals, the market value of the company could soar to at least twelve billion.

Now, the performance of the company would suffer because of self-created problems and limitations set by Lin Wenjing's decision.

The entire conference room plunged into a silence which lasted for half a minute. Almost everyone was puzzled and dissatisfied with his decision. Yet, none of them was bold enough to voice out any conflicting opinions as Lin Wenjing's presence was too domineering and

intimidating. As he stood at the head of the table, his existence felt like a lofty mountain which was exerting immense pressure on their mind, and they could hardly breathe.

Finally, a director in charge of shareholding who majored in finance voiced out his doubts. Cautiously, he said, "Chairman, in my experience, the company is currently in the stage of rapid development. 90% of our projects are very likely to succeed, and they are continuously adding value to the company. Moreover, we have a friendly relationship with our competitors. Forgive me for my ignorance, but judging from the current circumstance, but judging from the current circumstance, but judging from the scale of our business? Why should we start selling off our shares and put the expansion on hold?"

Another director chimed in, "Exactly, Chairman. I don't understand it. Are we facing any problems in any part of our expansion plan?"

Lin Wenjing had long expected that they would oppose him. After all, not everyone could reach the level of his brilliance as his IQ had achieved a momentous improvement. As a matter of fact, his learning rate was at least ten times faster

than ordinary people, and he was able to solve many complicated mathematical questions at a very fast speed. His appraisal of the future of the company became much more accurate and forward-looking because of this.

He could not be bothered to make an explanation and just said, "I know what I'm doing. Just do everything as per my instructions."

Many of them felt the urge to offer something in rebuttal. Nonetheless, when they caught sight of Lin Wenjing's expressionless face at the head of the table, they became diffident.

Although all of them were part of the board and were shareholders, Purple Jade Studios was de facto still owned solely by Lin Wenjing. As he owned 60% of the shares of the company, he had an exclusive say in the decisions of the company.

After a brief pause, Lin Wenjing continued, "One more thing. I'm planning to establish a new security company providing security services for affluent people. Whoever is interested in making an investment in the company is welcome to make an application

to me. This offer will lapse in two weeks and any offer made after the expiry date will be ignored."

They became even more surprised when they heard his words. Many of them started whispering among themselves.

"Did I hear him wrongly? Is the Chairman really going to establish a security company? This business is not going to be lucrative as there are already numerous formidable competitors in the field."

"Exactly. The establishment of a security company requires vast connections and a lot of professional equipment. We have always been involved in the media and entertainment industry which has nothing to do with a security company. How should we go about it?"

"Is the Chairman trying to crack jokes?"

"He doesn't seem like it. This time, his decision is too drastic. He has only just established an advertisement company not long ago. Now, he is trying to set up a security company. What is he trying to do?"

"In my opinion, he is starting to get full of



himself after achieving great success at Purple Jade Studios..."

"That's possible. As the Chairman has not even hit thirty this year, it's rather normal for him to be full of himself."

They believed their hushed voices would not be heard by Lin Wenjing. In fact, he could actually hear every single word they had said, but he did not get angry at all as he was not a petty man. With his level of brilliance, only a few in this world would be able to follow his line of reasoning. Therefore, it was unnecessary for him to explain himself to common people. The only thing they needed to do was to execute his instructions. That was all.

Wang Yunqian's eyes flickered as he doubted Lin Wenjing's two decisions for the first time ever. He planned to speak to him in private after the conference to get to the bottom of it.

"Since there are no objections, you guys are dismissed. Please do as per my instructions." Lin Wenjing got up to his feet with both of his hands pressed onto the table as his body leaned forward. He made a cursory glance at everyone's face and



ordered, "I would not like it if any of you do as opposed to what I have said even though you have agreed to it overtly. In the event such things were discovered by me, I will not be lenient. Do you understand?"

"Yes, Chairman!"

"Chairman, please don't worry. We will definitely carry out your instructions!"

"We would never do anything as opposed to your instructions. In fact, I think your decisions are very wise!"

"Exactly. We will follow your decision by all means..."

With satisfaction, Lin Wenjing nodded before walking out of the conference room.

Only when he left did the thirty over directors in the conference room heave a sigh of relief and started breathing smoothly. Just now, the presence of Lin Wenjing was too stressful for them.

They found it hard to understand why Lin Wenjing was equipped with such a domineering aura which was exerting such immense pressure on all the senior staff in

## spite of his young age.



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