

1801 Requite kindness with enmity

Everyone turned to each other after hearing that.

After Ye Wanwan left China, Yao Jiawen announced that Ye Wanwan embezzled all of the Age of Immortals' funds and established herself as the Age of Immortals' savior who tenaciously stood by the Age of Immortals in its most difficult times before finally leading the Age of Immortals out of its problems. She painted her image to be immensely heroic.

However, Yao Jiawen's intentionally-drawn image was easily shattered by a few words from Ye Wanwan tonight.

If Ye Wanwan said this kind of thing with Ye Bai's identity, no one might believe her.

But if Ye Wanwan denounced Yao Jiawen as the big boss of Stars Corporation, the effect would be utterly different. "No... That's not it!" Yao Jiawen loudly tried to explain.

Ye Wanwan aloofly glanced at Yao Jiawen with a bone-chilling smile hanging from her lips. "Yao Jiawen, back then, I used my status as the Director of the Talent Recruitment Department to draw you into the Age of Immortals when you were hitting walls and failures every which way, and I wholeheartedly trained you.

"However, after I left, you embezzled all of the Age of Immortals' funds but claimed that it was me who embezzled funds to the outside world. Moreover, you forced the Age of Immortals' artists to shoot crude portraits, produce rotten films, and act as a garnish for Shao Heng..."

An uproar reverberated through the venue.

Before Ye Wanwan said this today, who would've expected Yao Jiawen to be this kind of despicable and shameless person?

When Yao Jiawen was penniless, it was Ye Wanwan who helped her, so it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say Ye Wanwan was Yao Jiawen's biggest benefactor in her life. However, Yao Jiawen took advantage of Ye Wanwan's absence to frame her and steal the Age of Immortals!

All the reporters rushed toward Yao Jiawen, surrounding her impenetrably.

"CEO Yao...Are Ye Bai's words true? Did Ye Bai help you in your most desperate times, but you repaid kindness with malice and stole Ye Bai's Age of Immortals after embezzling its funds?"

Yao Jiawen frantically shook her head. "It's a lie! What evidence does she have to say this? She was the culprit, but she's framing me instead now!"

"CEO Yao, you're saying Ye Bai is framing you?" A reporter looked at her derisively. "CEO Yao, Ye Bai is the owner of Stars Corporation. At the risk of sounding mean, is the Age of Immortals' funds greater than what Stars Entertainment can earn in an hour?"

"Why would Ye Bai have to risk violating the law to do this? Would you go and steal a dollar, CEO Yao?"

Yao Jiawen feebly opened her mouth but couldn't utter anything in response.

Every single one of her explanations would appear frail and empty. No matter what she said, no one would believe her...

All of this was attributed to the stunning truth of Ye Bai's identity as the big boss of Stars Corporation. This identity alone was enough.

All hell broke loose once again on China's various live broadcast platforms in response to Ye Wanwan's words and a myriad of insults and admonishment were directed towards Yao Jiawen.

Ye Yiyi imperceptibly sent a reporter a look.

Ye Yiyi knew that Ye Wanwan would attend Star's celebration tonight, so she intentionally hired a reporter to use this

opportunity to shatter Ye Wanwan's reputation completely and turn her into a street rat that everyone despised.

"Chairman Ye, can I ask you a few questions?" a reporter quickly asked Ye Wanwan.

"You may." Ye Wanwan nodded.

1802 I never succumb to this formula

“Chairman Ye, as everyone knows, you’re a member of the Ye family, and your father and brother were charged for murdering Ye Yiyi’s father with irrefutable evidence. Now, you seem to be unilaterally breaking off Stars Entertainment’s investment and cooperation with Emperor Sky Entertainment, which is the life’s work of the Ye family, like an act of vengeance...”

“Moreover, back then, your father was the CEO of Emperor Sky Entertainment but was kicked out of the Ye family because he embezzled company funds to pay off his gambling debt and was involved in criminal activities. Is everything you’re doing currently an act of revenge, Chairman Ye...?”

“If you are seeking revenge, I don’t think the Ye family has done anything wrong. Instead, the wrongdoers are you, your parents, and your brother, Ye Mufan.”

Everyone’s eyes landed on Ye Wanwan again.

An icy smugness surfaced in Ye Yiyi’s eyes but she sighed in reply, “Sister, I know you hate our family... But by using this kind of method, the entire Ye family, not just us, will come to ruin...”

“Ye Wanwan, Yiyi is still your sister after all and took great care of you once. She’s forgiven you for all of your wrongs... Although you’re now Stars’ big boss, how could you use such dirty and shameless methods? The Ye family didn’t do anything wrong.” Gu Yueze echoed in agreement.

This b*stard...” Ye Hongwei’s face was flushed red, and he had one hand clasp his crutch as he glared at Ye Wanwan. “I was thoroughly disappointed by your father and brother, and I even once considered giving you all a chance!

“However, they not only incompetently ruined the company but they also dared to commit murder! And you! Not only did you not reflect and repent on it, but you also used this kind of method to harm the Ye family. Are you still a person?!”

“Heh, Chairman Ye, don’t you think this is truly unjust?” The reporter from earlier continued to hound Ye Wanwan.

Following this round of inquiries, China’s various major live broadcast platforms welcomed another round of insults from the keyboard warriors.

Director Li glared at the reporter furiously. “Whose reporter are you? Security, kick him out!”

Ye Wanwan waved her hand and looked at the reporter with a chuckle. “You raised a good question.”

“First of all, I don’t hold any relationship with the Ye family, and the matter-of-course beliefs that you hold merely hijack morality to condemn me. Unfortunately, I’ve never succumbed to this formula.”

Ye Wanwan glanced at the reporter, Ye Yiyi, and Ye Hongwei before continuing: “Second of all, I’m the owner of Stars, so I need to be responsible for my company. I don’t think Emperor Sky Entertainment has the strength and qualifications deserving of investment and partnership from Stars.”

“We previously invested in several international artists from Stars, but Emperor Sky didn’t raise their popularity in China at all nor did they provide Stars with the anticipated profits. Hence, what issue is there in Stars choosing to withdraw our funds and terminate our partnership?”

The reporter furrowed his brows.

Ye Wanwan focused on the reporter. “Or do you think an international company like Stars manages to grow bigger and stronger from personal feelings alone and doesn’t need to consider the situation and the gains and losses? Everything I’m saying has obvious reasoning, but do you know why I’m talking in such simple terms?”

“What do you mean to say, Chairman Ye?” the reporter questioned.

“Because I’m afraid that you might not understand, considering your circumstances, if I said anything more profound,” Ye Wanwan answered.

1804 A surprising reward

Hongxing Gang sent news a few days ago that Huang Mingkun and Liang Meixuan's abductors were taken care of already and the recording was destroyed...

Did Hongxing Gang lie to her?!

Ye Wanwan aloofly watched Ye Yiyi's reaction.

Ye Yiyi definitely didn't expect that it was Ye Wanwan who made Hongxing Gang give them false information since Hongxing Gang had been following everything she said to the tee with Liao Jiaqi in her possession.

Ye Hongwei watched the big screen in disbelief after the recording ended.

Ye Shao'an... wasn't killed by Ye Shaoting and Ye Mufan... His second son died at the hands of Liang Meixuan and Steward Huang!

Then they framed Ye Shaoting and Ye Mufan for the homicide!!!

"Elder Ye, the Ye Yiyi you indulge so much isn't your granddaughter. She's the product of an illicit affair between Liang Meixuan and the Ye family's steward, Huang Mingkun. Elder Ye is so generous to hand over your life's work to an outsider," Ye Wanwan said to Ye Hongwei in amusement.

"Wh-what did you say?!" Ye Hongwei was stunned and incredulously turned to look at Ye Yiyi next to him.

"Don't slander me and start rumors here, Ye Wanwan!" Ye Yiyi loudly rebuked.

"Slander you and start rumors?" Ye Wanwan smiled. "Your mother's illicit affair with Steward Huang isn't fake, right? I've hired private investigators and possess evidence of the affair between your mother and Huang Mingkun."

Ye Yiyi frowned deeply... She truly underestimated this woman...

On the big screen, Huang Mingkun and Liang Meixuan were originally sitting in the audience as the victim's family but following the revelation of the recording, their expressions greatly changed. Didn't Yiyi say Hongxing Gang had already taken care of their abductors and destroyed the recording?!

"I-it's not like that... Someone abducted us and forced us to say that!!!" Liang Meixuan stood up and shouted loudly.

"Oh? You're saying you said this during your abduction? Isn't that absurd? Don't you know what these words represent?" Zhang He, China's top lawyer, asked with a snort.

"I know! But if we didn't cooperate with them, we would've died!" Liang Meixuan explained immediately.

"What a joke!" Zhang He exclaimed. "If it was really as you said, why don't you have a police record? Why would an abducted individual say this but not report it to the police? However, they didn't exhibit any changes from before the trial began until now. Don't tell me you forgot you were abducted?"

"I..." Sweat drenched Liang Meixuan's forehead.

When they got home and found Ye Yiyi, they did have plans to report the abducting to the police. However, Hongxing Gang guaranteed that the recording was destroyed already, so they were afraid it would cause unnecessary trouble and reveal her relationship with Huang Mingkun, and maybe even their business with Hongxing Gang...

"Who provided this recording?" the judge asked from his seat.

"I did," a middle-aged man replied as he stood up from the benches.

"Bullsh*t..." Liang Meixuan shouted, enraged.

The middle-aged man snorted before turning to the judge. "I'm a private investigator with a permit for operation and underwent professional training. Miss Ye Wanwan hired me, and through tenacious investigation, I finally discovered Huang Mingkun owed a large sum to loan sharks at the casino.

The supposed abduction that Huang Mingkun mentioned was his loan sharks merely finding him a few days ago and forcing him to pay his debts... Additionally, Liang Meixuan and Huang Mingkun had an abnormally intimate relationship...

“I discovered the particular hotel and hotel room that they frequently stayed in and installed taping devices in the room ahead of time. I originally just wanted to try my luck but didn’t expect to really get a surprising reward.”

...

1806 What a great show

Zhang He continued, “Based on what I know, Ye Shaoting was responsible for installing all of the Ye residence’s surveillance, so he thoroughly knew every point of surveillance inside and out.

“If Ye Shaoting wanted to kill someone, planned it for a long time and was operating with his son, Ye Mufan, how could he be foolish enough to expose himself on the surveillance footage multiple times? That isn’t logical nor reasonable.”

From the defendant’s seat, Ye Mufan looked at Zhang He in surprise. D*mn... No wonder he was China’s most famous lawyer that Wanwan hired with a huge sum of money... He was simply...

“Hence, based on the intact nature of the fingerprints... It’s apparent that this was pre-meditated and plotted to frame them for murder. This is all I have to say,” Zhang He concluded with a smile.

Huang Mingkun knitted his brows tightly and looked at their dumbstruck lawyer. He wanted to stomp his feet from anxiousness. Talk already!

The prosecutor was exasperated. What else could he say?

Fingerprints couldn’t be intact after the weapon was soaked in water for 10+ hours, but the fingerprints on the murder weapon were very intact, meaning they were planted there later... This point alone was enough...

Also, all of Zhang He’s explanations were flawless, and there wasn’t a point they could refute. Moreover, they had videos and recordings as evidence...

About half an hour later, when news rang out of Ye Mufan and Ye Shaoting being released and absolved of their guilt, Ye Wanwan finally revealed a trace of happiness from Stars’ anniversary celebration stage.

Although they couldn't use the recording as direct evidence, they could use it as a reference. Since Ye Mufan and Ye Shaoting were acquitted of their charges, the investigation on this case would be continued and eventually lead to Huang Mingkun and Liang Meixuan. Ye Wanwan would like to see how long they could hold on.

Soon, Ye Wanwan had someone turn the screen off, ending the live broadcast of the court hearing.

“So... does anyone want to say anything else...? For example, Elder Ye, Ye Yiyi, and CEO Gu?”

Ye Wanwan turned to the trio with an inscrutable smile on her face.

Ye Hongwei was stunned, his lips twitching, and unable to utter a word. Ye Yiyi's hands were twisted into themselves, and the color was drained from her face.

Gu Yueze had his brows deeply knitted. Ye Yiyi was actually a b*stard? The illegitimate daughter from a steward?!

A commotion ran through the venue of Stars' anniversary celebration following the judge's decision.

No one expected the truth of the matter to turn out like this!

What a great show!

The eldest miss of Emperor Sky Entertainment, Ye Yiyi, was actually the b*stard, and the madam of the Ye Group had an illicit affair with their steward. They worked together to frame Ye Shaoting and his son, Ye Mufan, and they might even be the culprits behind Ye Shao'an's murder!

This truth was simply horrifyingly bone-chilling!

A vacuum instantly appeared around Ye Yiyi, and everyone subconsciously distanced themselves from her.

Based on Ye Yiyi's expression, she had to have known her background. How malicious did this woman have to be to dominate the position as the eldest daughter of the Ye family for so long without any qualms?

How could this mother and daughter pair be so evil and vicious?

Everyone also naturally remembered how Gu Yueze broke his engagement with Ye Wanwan back then. There was no doubt he threw away Ye Wanwan, a watermelon, to pick up a pile of dog sh*t!

Gu Yueze naturally detected everyone's peculiar gazes and fervent whisperings.

His fiancée was actually the b*stard of a steward!

He had never experienced this type of humiliation in his life!

1807 Dark history

Yueze, I-let me explain...” Ye Yiyi paid no attention to other people’s eyes and tried to latch onto her final log, Gu Yueze.

Gu Yueze avoided her hand like she was something disgusting. He wore an extremely disappointed expression as he frostily said, “Yiyi, I always thought you were an innocent and kind girl. For you, I didn’t hesitate to break my engagement with Wanwan and shoulder the curses afterward, but I didn’t expect you to be so malicious.”

Ye Yiyi watched forlornly as Gu Yueze furiously left; she was instantly submerged by a swarm of reporters.

The event that could be called the biggest farce of the entertainment industry this year finally dropped its curtains.

After Stars Entertainment’s anniversary celebration ended, Ye Wanwan didn’t linger, and the venue slowly emptied of guests.

Ye Wanwan walked out of the restroom with her phone in hand and looked up, catching sight of someone standing in the hallway outside.

Gu Yueze...

He was evidently waiting there for her.

Ye Wanwan reflexively raised her brows at seeing Gu Yueze after a long absence on her part.

This man was undoubtedly her most disliked person. Not only because he was scum but because he truly represented the darkest part of her history during her period of amnesia!

Ye Wanwan couldn’t help but grind her teeth at the thought of the culprit behind all of this.

“Wanwan...” Gu Yueze examined this woman who seemed to have remolded herself thoroughly. “I don’t know how you did it, but I’m very surprised you would go to this extent for me.”

Even he couldn't help but exclaim "Beautiful!" at Ye Wanwan's flawless counterattack.

Although Ye Wanwan became more and more beautiful, he never regretted his decision.

For people like him, winning over beautiful women was way too easy.

Now though, he finally seriously considered this woman for the first time.

Ye Wanwan glanced at him speechlessly.

What did he mean by "go to this extent for me"?

What did this idiot narcissistically imagine again?

She didn't understand a word.

Gu Yueze continued: "I actually remember everything you said back then, Wanwan."

"Oh? But I've forgotten. What did I say?" Ye Wanwan asked with amusement.

Gu Yueze smiled as though he saw through her intentionally calm pretense and confidently said, "You once said to me that you would work hard to become someone worthy of me, Wanwan. Back then, I didn't think you said that seriously, so I didn't expect you to really... work so hard for me."

Ye Wanwan:

After breaking off my engagement with him, I partied my way to the heavens already, alright? Is he still living in the previous century?

Ye Wanwan was incredulous. Just who gave him this confidence and audacity?

"Heh... Mr. Gu, you're truly cute."

Ye Wanwan promptly left after saying that, unwilling to waste precious time with this idiot.

Gu Yueze wasn't angry as he watched Ye Wanwan leaving. Playing hard to get was kind of fun too.

No matter how outstanding a woman was, she couldn't escape from his grasp as long as they had emotional ties.

Ye Wanwan originally wanted to seek out Xie Zhezhi to ask about news related to Si Yehan, but Xie Zhezhi left already by the time she came out, so she had to meet with him a different time.

After bidding farewell to Han Xianyu and the others, she headed straight to the courthouse to take Ye Mufan and Ye Shaoting home.

When the family of four finally reunited, they tightly hugged each other, excited beyond words.

1809 You've also suffered a beating?

Han Xianyu sipped from his lemon water before saying: "Gu Yueze probably really thinks he's still Ye Wanwan's true love and that she never got over him. He thinks that as long as he shows a sign, Ye Wanwan will catch it immediately."

Ye Wanwan smiled at Han Xianyu. "Very accurate."

Gu Yueze probably actually thought that way since the previous "Ye Wanwan" was truly too infatuated with him and even did numerous idiotic things.

To Gu Yueze, Ye Wanwan's desperate love for him was a deep-rooted belief.

Even after discovering that she got together with Si Yehan, Gu Yueze merely thought she was trying to take revenge against him and still deeply loved him in her heart.

Big Dipper was sitting next to Gong Xu and leaned close to his phone to take a closer look at Gu Yueze's photo in the gossip article. "D*mn... No way, right?! Did you gorge on too much meat, Brother Ye? How could you stand to consume this type?"

"... Mind your words!" Ye Wanwan snapped.

What do you mean I gorged on too much meat? What meat did I eat?

Fu Mingxi lived his whole life in China so he naturally knew about Gu Yueze. He was instantly riled up when he heard that. "Sis... Brother Ye! You actually had an engagement with Gu Yueze?! What about me? We clearly had an engage—"

We clearly had an engagement prior to this!

Ye Wanwan almost lunged onto the table to cover his mouth.

Thankfully, Seven Star, who was sitting closer to him, did it for her.

"Woowoowo..." Fu Mingxi was forcefully silenced.

At that moment, the servers brought alcohol to the table.

To avoid the miscreants, Big Dipper and Fu Mingxi, from running their mouths off again, Ye Wanwan fiercely glared at them before picking up the wine glass on the table and standing up. "Ahem, alright, alright. It's rare for us to gather here so happily, so let's not talk about unhappy things like this!"

Ye Wanwan looked over everyone sitting at the table gently. "I'm truly happy to know everyone here and honored to have you all as friends! Cheers, here's a glass from me! We're not leaving until we're drunk tonight!"

Ye Wanwan gallantly raised the glass and tilted her head back to down the cup.

When Ye Wanwan was about to drink from the cup, nearly everyone jumped up—

Gong Xu: "Brother Ye, no!"

Luo Chen: "Brother Ye, you can't!"

Han Xianyu: "Ye Bai, hold on..."

Jiang Yanran: "Wanwan!"

Fei Yang: "Old Bro Ye, calm down!"

Ye Mufan, "Put it down, Wanwan!"

Seven Star: "Sis Feng!"

Big Dipper: "Boss, no, no, no! Put it down!!!"

...

Except for the clueless Fu Mingxi, nearly everyone at the table stood up and shouted, their hands reaching out to stop Ye Wanwan's glass.

The scene was... rather spectacular...

When everyone reacted identically, the members of the Age of Immortals reflexively exchanged looks with their two new friends.

Big Dipper leaned toward Gong Xu and quietly asked, "Bro, say... have you also witnessed Brother Ye drunk?"

Gong Xu nodded like he had met a bosom friend.

"You've also suffered a beating?"

"The new car I bought got a huge hole!"

Big Dipper: "..."

Gong Xu: "..."

After this exchange, the duo tightly clasped their hands together and looked like people who had finally found a companion after ending up at the other end of the world.

As for Ye Wanwan, she was dumbstruck. "..."

She exasperatedly looked at the group still recovering from their panic. "Really? When I'm drunk, I'm just slightly... slightly livelier..."

Everyone looked like a confused question mark meme. She calls that "slightly livelier"?

The ignorant Fu Mingxi asked with a frown, "That's right! The president is just drinking some alcohol, why are you all overre—"

Before Fu Mingxi could finish speaking, his mouth was covered by the expressionless Seven Star again.

"Woowoowo..."

1811 So handsome he shatters the earth's shell

Gong Xu grunted and continued to say to the phone, "They're incredibly loving, and the most important point is that Brother Ye's boyfriend is so handsome he shatters the earth's crust! A single hair from him could blow you to smithereens!

"Who wants you more than life itself? Who's deeply in love with you? Who's playing hard to get? You're the freaking embodiment of a drama king, alright? You're seriously too good at creating scenes for yourself! How could ugly swine like you dare to covet my Brother Ye?"

Everyone at the table, except for Big Dipper, Seven Star, and Fu Mingxi, had seen the "so handsome he shatters the earth's crust" boyfriend that Gong Xu mentioned.

Seven Star imperceptibly furrowed his brows and automatically glanced at Ye Wanwan.

Meanwhile, Big Dipper quietly blurted out, "Sis Feng has a... has a boyfriend in China?"

Fu Mingxi asked, "Boyfriend? What boyfriend?"

After Gong Xu finished his tirade in one breath, Gu Yueze's expression darkened as he listened to Gong Xu's voice on the other end.

Gu Yueze had people privately investigate the matter and hadn't discovered that Ye Wanwan was dating anyone during this period of time.

Hence, to him, this was merely a charade from Ye Wanwan.

As for artists like Gong Xu, Luo Chen, and even Fu Mingxi, he had never taken them seriously.

Soon, Gu Yueze responded with a voice message.

"Heh, Wanwan, I thought you were a clever girl and would know how to choose, but it appears I've overestimated you. I

think you should know that there's no one in Imperial City who's worthy of you rejecting me."

Gu Yueze's strange words rang again, but this time, Big Dipper, Seven Star, and Fu Mingxi's attention wasn't focused on him anymore.

"You're awesome, Brother Ye! You have a boyfriend in China too?" Big Dipper zealously asked.

Ye Wanwan: "...!!!"

How in the world does Big Dipper manage to do this? Why do his words cause misunderstandings every time so easily?

What does he mean I have a boyfriend in China too?

Do I have many, many boyfriends?!

Unfortunately, while Seven Star was able to successfully block out Fu Mingxi, he couldn't do anything about Big Dipper.

"Please erase the part 'in China too'! Thank you!"

"Hey! Who's Brother Ye's boyfriend in China? Is he really that handsome?" Big Dipper was already akin to a wild horse broken free of its reins and eagerly pulled on Gong Xu to inquire.

Gong Xu nodded. "Although I don't want to admit it, he really is very handsome..."

Fu Mingxi protested, "Gong Xu, aren't you exaggerating too much?!"

...

In the end, the meal wrapped up amidst everyone's insults for Gu Yueze and gossip about Ye Wanwan's Chinese boyfriend.

After the meal concluded, they exited the hotel to return home individually and were about to enter their cars when a dark hoard of reporters rushed up.

Fei Yang's expression instantly changed. "What's going on? Did our itinerary get leaked? Let's go!"

Any single person from their group could evoke a commotion, let alone so many gathered together.

To their lament, there were too many reporters and they were tightly blocking the hotel entrance, so Ye Wanwan and her group were stuck and unable to leave for the time being.

Thankfully, Big Dipper and Seven Star were martially inclined and stopped the crowd from pressing too close.

"Miss Ye Wanwan, regarding the rumors circulating around the internet about you and Mr. Gu, is there something you would like to say?"

"When you tearfully agreed to break the engagement back then, did you consider it your lifelong regret?"

"Did you publicly expose Ye Yiyi's background to make Mr. Gu turn around and rekindle his old flame with you?"

...

Question after question was launched at Ye Wanwan like a series of cannonballs, causing Ye Wanwan to unwittingly scratch her ears. She felt like she was about to go deaf.

1812 My taste isn't that awful

Ye Wanwan, who was walking forward while protected from the reporters, suddenly stopped and turned to one of the reporters.

A second of silence enveloped the scene.

When that reporter saw Ye Wanwan looking at her, she excitedly asked, "CEO Ye, I heard good things are coming for you and Mr. Gu? Will Stars Corporation collaborate with the Gu Group due to this relationship?"

Ye Wanwan humorously swept her eyes across all the reporters. "Gu Yueze and I? Apologies, but you seem to have misunderstood something."

The reporters were bewildered. "Misunderstood something?"

Ye Wanwan aloofly replied, "My taste isn't that awful."

All the reporters were stupefied. "..."

D*mn!

This Ye Wanwan is seriously arrogant...

With the Gu family's power in Imperial City and Gu Yueze's looks and character, he was the golden husband candidate for numerous socialites and heiresses. Otherwise, Ye Yiyi wouldn't have done everything she could to steal him from Ye Wanwan.

Back then, everyone in the industry witnessed how Ye Wanwan made a fool of herself to chase after Gu Yueze.

"Ahem, Miss Ye, your words..." The reporter was at a loss for words...

"Back then, my taste... yes... it might've indeed been rather weird... Now though, I have a boyfriend, so I'd like to request all my media friends to refrain from believing the rumors," Ye

Wanwan interrupted the reporter and dropped another atomic bomb.

What?!

Ye Wanwan has a boyfriend already?

The reporter and their fellow reporters had been digging for so long but hadn't been able to fish out any gossip like that!

Could it be someone in the industry too?!

"Miss Ye Wanwan, you already have a boyfriend? May I ask who he is? Is he from the entertainment industry?"

"Could it be a member of the Age of Immortals?" someone guessed.

Listening to the reporters' ardent inquiries, Han Xianyu, Gong Xu, and the others were also surprised.

Ye Wanwan had always been very low-profile, so they didn't expect her to publicize her romantic relationship so directly this time.

However, considering how revolting Gu Yueze's actions were, it wasn't strange that she would publicize her relationship.

Ye Mufan was also fairly astonished since he thought his sister had broken up with that pretty boy already.

After all, such a serious ordeal occurred in their family and his sister hadn't mentioned that man after returning to the country, so he didn't dare to mention it in fear of saddening her. He didn't expect her to suddenly bring it up out of her own initiative.

Ye Wanwan frankly answered, "He isn't from the entertainment industry. He's a businessman, and you all should know him too."

A businessman and also someone they knew?

Just who was it?!

"Could it be YL's CEO? I think he publicly declared he was a fan of Ye Bai earlier, and gossip about them circulated for some time!"

"YL's CEO is already more than 50 years old, no? He's been divorced twice too..."

"It can't be an artist under her, right?"

...

Amidst the intense discussion and pressing inquiries, Ye Wanwan nonchalantly continued, "His name is Si Yehan."

All the reporters: "..."

Ye Mufan: "...!!!"

Gong Xu: "...???"

Luo Chen: "..."

Fu Mingxi: "..."

...

Aside from Big Dipper and Seven Star, who didn't recognize the name "Si Yehan," the rest of their group and all the reporters were flabbergasted.

Ye Mufan nearly bit his tongue as he stared at his sister, stupefied. He quietly cursed, "Sh*t! Wanwan, wh-who did you say? You clearly didn't drink at all tonight!!!"

1814 Knew the truth bes

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“Ninth Brother! Hurry and watch this video! That ugly freak actually...”

Si Yehan turned to look at Lin Que instead of the notebook he brought toward him.

A chill ran down Lin Que’s back at once, and he gulped. “I was wrong, I was wrong... I misspoke! It’s Ninth Sister, Ninth Sister!”

No matter what Ye Wanwan looked like now, her eyesore appearance from back then was deeply engraved into his soul.

It was only after Lin Que changed his form of address that Si Yehan graciously looked at the laptop.

Lin Que immediately restarted the video from the beginning.

The video captured an interview, and Si Yehan recognized the girl surrounded by people at a single glance.

The reporters kept grilling Ye Wanwan about her relationship with Gu Yueze and whether she wanted to get back together with him.

“My taste isn’t that awful.” Ye Wanwan’s voice arose from the clamor.

When the reporter raised another question, the girl continued: “Back then, my taste... yes... it might’ve indeed been rather weird... Now though, I have a boyfriend, so I’d like to request all my media friends to refrain from believing the rumors.”

Lin Que finished watching the video earlier, so he excitedly watched his Ninth Brother’s expression turn awful and he intentionally taunted him: “Hehe, Ninth Brother. Guess the identity of the boyfriend Ninth Sister’s talking about?”

Si Yehan ignored him.

“He isn’t from the entertainment industry. He’s a businessman; you all should know him too,” the girl in the video continued.

A businessman... the reporters know him too...

“His name is Si Yehan.”

When Si Yehan heard his name, his unfathomable eyes contracted immediately.

Lin Que saw Si Yehan’s astonished expression as expected and was instantly satisfied. He excitedly exclaimed, “It’s all over the internet now! Ninth Sister has publicized it to the world!”

Before, Ye Wanwan always adamantly cut a clear line between herself and Si Yehan, afraid that other people would learn about her relationship with Si Yehan. To their surprise, she actually admitted Si Yehan was her man in front of so many reporters this time.

Si Yehan’s slender fingers touched the laptop screen and the video replayed Ye Wanwan’s lines “I have a boyfriend” and “His name is Si Yehan.”

Ye Wanwan’s interview spread through the internet like wildfire as soon as it was uploaded and rapidly entered the headlines of the major news outlets.

One of the main leads of this rumor featured the behind-the-scenes boss of Stars Corporation who just revealed herself while the other was the mysterious patriarch of the Si family who had never revealed his face. This rumor was a hundred times more explosive than the exposure Gu Yueze spent a large sum to buy.

Gu Yueze naturally saw this interview instantly.

Not a long time had passed since he sent a message to Ye Wanwan inviting her to dinner before being rejected. He didn’t expect her to appear in an interview a few hours later and publicly say something like that.

Si Yehan... was her boyfriend?

If the old Ye Wanwan publicly said something like that, she would’ve probably been submerged in laughter and ridicule.

Now though, as the behind-the-scenes boss of Stars Corporation, her words gained a few degrees of credibility.

However, he knew the truth best: She and Si Yehan were friends with benefits at most.

If they shared a respectable boyfriend-girlfriend relationship, why would Si Yehan have imprisoned her at Jin Garden like a slave and why would she ask Shen Mengqi to help her plead for him to rescue her?

Si Yehan merely treated her as a toy...

1816 Kicked by the Presiden

t

“President? What President?” Gong Xu twisted his head to look at Fu Mingxi like a curious child.

“Nothing. He drank too much. Big Dipper, Seven Star, escort Mr. Fu back.” Ye Wanwan signaled Seven Star and Big Dipper.

If Gong Xu and the others learned she was the leader of bandits, her persona would collapse.

And so, before Fu Mingxi’s grievances had time to erupt, he was securely carted off by Big Dipper and Seven Star.

“Let go! Release me! I want to see the President! I’m the President’s official fiance!” Fu Mingxi shouted as he wildly struggled.

Big Dipper rolled his eyes at Fu Mingxi. “Enough already!”

Fu Mingxi angrily cried, “What do you mean enough? The president said it herself! She praised me as good-looking after seeing my photo and agreed to an engagement to me with my grandfather!”

Big Dipper was rendered even more speechless. “Alright, alright, you’ve said it 800 times already! Please, have you never seen the President drunk? How can you believe anything she says when she’s drunk? She’d hit on anyone remotely good-looking when she’s drunk! If she took responsibility for all of them, she’d have married 100 men by now!”

Seven Star looked at Big Dipper with a frown. He didn’t think Big Dipper should smear the President’s image like this. Even if it seemed like the truth...

Fu Mingxi flung off Big Dipper’s hand, dark emotions flickering through his eyes. “I don’t believe it! I don’t believe it! Doesn’t Si Yehan just have a little bit of lousy power in China? How dare he steal the President from me?! I’m gonna

wreck the Si family and see how he'll steal the President from me!"

Big Dipper nodded. "I agree. Go! This way, you can turn around and get kicked by the President!"

Fu Mingxi became teary-eyed.

Within days, Ye Wanwan's interview rapidly spread like a virus and became the prime material of post-meal conversations.

As everyone gossiped about Ye Wanwan and Si Yehan, they undoubtedly paid close attention to Gu Yueze's reaction. Previously, Ye Wanwan being head-over-heels in love with Gu Yueze was the talk of the town, but then she turned around and said she had a boyfriend already and that boyfriend was Si Yehan. Didn't Gu Yueze's earlier words seem to be rather wishful thinking then?

However, a few days later, Gu Yueze posted a Weibo post that riled up a storm again.

[Before, it was me who didn't know to cherish you, so I only have myself to blame for your anger. This time, allow me to pamper you instead, @Ye Bai]

Gu Yueze's Weibo post obviously hinted that Ye Wanwan intentionally said she already had a boyfriend because she was angry at him.

To this, Gu Yueze graciously expressed his forgiveness and understanding.

Realization dawned on everyone after seeing this post.

So it was like that! After all, based on the glorious history of Ye Wanwan chasing after Gu Yueze back then which was circulating through the internet, she did appear to love Gu Yueze to death.

Even after Gu Yueze got engaged to Ye Yiyi, Ye Wanwan's pursuit merely became more intense and she even antagonized Emperor Sky Entertainment and Ye Yiyi at every turn she could for Gu Yueze.

It all made sense now; Ye Wanwan merely said what she did in front of the media to intentionally provoke Gu Yueze.

Moreover, the rumors always said Si Yehan kept his distance from women, so how did he obtain a girlfriend all of a sudden?

The matter had occurred several days ago now, but there was only word from Ye Wanwan without any reaction from the Si family, so who knew whether what she told the truth?!

This Weibo post from Gu Yueze instantly shifted the direction of public opinion.

Ye Wanwan's public announcement of a relationship turned into what looked like a couple's bantering and her throwing a tantrum at Gu Yueze. As for Si Yehan, a figure who solely belonged to legends, they didn't dare to imagine it at all...

...

1817 Boss hasn't spoken ye

Several days later, evidence of Huang Mingkun and Liang Meixuan being the murderers was found and the duo was forced to confess and admit their guilt.

Under the enormous pressure of public opinion, Ye Hongwei and the board immediately relieved Ye Yiyi of her position, and Ye Mufan officially took over Emperor Sky Entertainment.

After learning the truth, Ye Hongwei became seriously ill, and Tan Yilan accompanied him at the hospital and took care of him the whole time.

As soon as they thought about how their youngest son actually died at the hands of their most favored daughter-in-law and most trusted steward and how their most beloved granddaughter wasn't related to the Ye family by blood, the duo was immersed in painful regret and washed their faces with tears all day long.

When they recalled the eldest branch's good qualities, it was too late. Their past actions already caused them to become emotionally distant from the eldest branch, and they couldn't return to the past anymore.

Regardless of how Ye Hongwei and Tan Yilan treated Ye Wanwan and her family, they were their seniors, so Ye Wanwan and her family couldn't abandon them. Hence, after Ye Wanwan discussed it with her father and brother, they made proper arrangements for the two elders and merely didn't permit the two elders to interfere with the company's affairs.

As for Liang Meixuan and Huang Mingkun, they kept searching everywhere for connections to lessen their sentences. Unfortunately, the wheel of fortune had turned on them, and everyone couldn't be more eager to avoid them.

This included Liang Jiahao and his family, who previously curried favor with Liang Meixuan like she was his real sister.

Now, they frantically hid from the duo like the duo was an epidemic.

How could they have expected the princess they always buttered up to be a b*stard?!

Instead, it was that uneducated wench, Ye Wanwan, who became the owner of Stars Corporation, someone they couldn't hope to touch...

The chairman of Stars Corporation was his niece! If he didn't listen to his wife and treated his sister, Liang Wanjun, so terribly, he wouldn't have to worry for the rest of his life, relying on this level of relationship alone.

Now though, it would be useless even if he drowned in regret.

...

At Stars Entertainment's reception parlor:

Gu Group's vice president, Qiu Likuan, sat in his spot with a big grin. "Director Zhou, have you finished reading it?"

Zhou Tao read the proposal that Qiu Likuan handed to him and carefully deliberated his following words before speaking. "If I remember correctly, your company submitted this project proposal last month already, but regrettably, your company doesn't satisfy our needs."

Qiu Likuan chuckled and said with a meaningful expression. "We didn't suit your needs last month, but it doesn't mean we can't meet them this month!"

Gu Yueze and Ye Wanwan's gossip dominated the news this month...

With this layer of relationship present, their supposed desires weren't important anymore.

Zhou Tao naturally caught Qiu Likuan's hint and hummed. "Um... The boss hasn't spoken yet, so I wouldn't dare to decide without approval."

Qiu Likuan snorted. "Heh, Director Zhou, you truly don't know how to be flexible. The couple is just having a minor argument, but you're holding up this project. When the couple

makes up in the future, wouldn't you be making things difficult for yourself, stuck in the middle?"

Zhou Tao's eyes shifted. This Qiu guy wasn't wrong.

However, what was tricky right now was that big boss's affairs, especially her private affairs, couldn't be questioned by a person on his level.

He didn't dare to lightly make a decision without getting a good sense of the big boss's wishes.

Zhou Tao mulled it over before deciding to neither accept nor decline. He would drag it out first and observe the situation.

Hence, Zhou Tao chuckled and said, "Ah, I'm just an employee, so I'm only doing things according to the rules. How about this, Vice President Qiu—leave the information here, and I'll help you ask again."

Qiu Likuan looked confident, traces of triumph leaking through. "Thanks for the trouble!"

After saying that, the man left haughtily.

1819 Truly boring

As Gong Xu torrentially unloaded his hypothesis onto Ye Wanwan, Lin Que was saying nearly the same thing at a certain manor in Imperial City.

Lin Que said, “Ninth Brother, based on everything I said, Gu Yueze, that idiot, is probably preparing to propose to Ninth Sister!!! How can you tolerate this???”

If he could tolerate even this, wouldn’t it be a bit illogical?

SiYehan:“...”

Ye Wanwan frowned. Propose to me...? What the heck?!

Just as Gong Xu finished telling her the gossip, Ye Wanwan’s phone started ringing, and the caller was coincidentally Gu Yueze.

“Brother Ye, answer it, answer it!” Gong Xu urged anxiously, his face almost plastered to her phone screen.

Ye Wanwan pressed the answer button and carelessly held it up. “Hello?”

Gu Yueze seemed to be pleased by Ye Wanwan picking up the phone. With a gentle but also self-assured tone, he said, “Wanwan, meet me at Victory Grand Hotel tomorrow night at eight. I have something important to tell you.”

Gong Xu immediately mouthed: “See! See! I was right!”

Before Ye Wanwan could respond, Gu Yueze interrupted her and continued: “Don’t reject me, Wanwan. Believe me—I know what you want and I can afford it.”

Then Gu Yueze hung up, brimming with confidence.

Ye Wanwan mockingly glanced at her phone. “Heh, you know what I want?”

Gu Yueze probably thought she wanted him to marry her openly?

This would be correct if she was the previous Ye Wanwan. If Gu Yueze was willing to bestow her with such a grand proposal, she would've probably fainted from happiness.

Hence, Gu Yueze matter-of-factly thought he had an accurately grasp of Ye Wanwan's mind, so he employed this "ultimate finishing move" on her.

"Brother Ye, are you going?" Gong Xu asked with a blink.

Ye Wanwan looked at him cheerfully. "Do you think I'm that free?"

Randomly taking him out for a walk was fine, but she didn't have time to keep playing with him.

"Don't, Brother Ye! You're not free, but I'm free! Let's go and have some fun! How satisfying would it be to publicly reject that idiotic jerk and slap his face?!" Gong Xu enthusiastically suggested.

Ye Wanwan glimpsed at him dryly. "It's satisfying to slap the face of someone like him?"

She wasn't interested in doing something so easy.

"Fine, fine, it'd be kinda boring..." Gong Xu pursed his lips in disappointment.

"Stop thinking about having fun all day long. Let's get down to business."

She still had other important things to do during her trip in China, so she didn't have time to waste on these petty matters.

Soon, she would have to return to the Independent State, so she had no time to lose and had to swiftly take care of her business here.

Ye Wanwan ignored Gong Xu and entered Fei Yang's office. "Brother Yang, have you finished preparing for the press conference?"

Many things had happened recently—the switching up of Emperor Sky Entertainment's management, the redistribution of the Age of Immortals, and Stars Entertainment's upcoming

plans and collaborations. They needed to hold a press conference to officially announce it.

Fei Yang looked up from his computer. “It’s all done. I’ve reserved the Gold Hall at Yunfan Conference Center, and I’m currently drawing up the guest list.”

“Great. Thank you for your hard work.”

After drawing up the guest list, Fei Yang immediately invited all the major media outlets and reporters to their press conference. Meanwhile, Ye Wanwan sought out Ye Mufan to discuss the general outline of the press conference...

1821 More ignorant than this

Since everything was arranged ahead of time and an incredibly eager Second Elder had sent people to make proper preparations, Ye Wanwan merely had to sit there and hold down the fort.

The press conference went extremely smoothly.

Ye Wanwan rubbed her neck, which was aching from sitting too long. Seeing that the business with the company was almost done, she was prepared to toss responsibility to Ye Mufan shortly and swiftly finish her mission from the Academy so that she could accumulate enough honor points as soon as possible.

“Brother Ye, do your shoulders hurt? I’ll help you massage them! I’m really good at massages!” Fu Mingxi was steps away from her, as he’d been the past few days.

“No need.”

After the press conference ended, Ye Wanwan walked at the front with a parade of senior managers from the three companies along with reporters who hastily followed them, wanting to ask some questions, and they ceremoniously left the hall.

Kachak! The servers pushed open the two golden doors of the hall.

Ye Wanwan had her head lowered as she conversed with Fu Mingxi while walking forward.

The second the doors opened, though, an abrupt loud “Bang” rang and a rain of flower petals showered down from above followed by numerous colorful balloons floating up.

Ye Wanwan looked up with a frown.

The originally solemn Yunfan Conference Center had turned into a sea of flowers.

Expensive imported red roses formed a carpet that stretched from the Gold Hall to the center of the building.

Standing at the center stage was Gu Yueze dressed in a wine-red, expensive, high-class, custom-made suit while holding a bouquet of flowers as he looked at her lovingly.

Upon seeing this scene, Ye Wanwan's mind blanked.

Everyone behind her who saw this unexpected scene was also dumbstruck.

What... what was going on?

They all quickly reacted...

“D*mn! Mr. Gu is planning to propose?”

“Explosive! This is too explosive!”

“Isn't this surprise too heart jolting?!”

After a wave of shocked exclamations, everyone noticed the heart-shaped crystal platform at the center was actually layered with crystals from S Company. This platform alone probably cost millions of dollars!

If someone stepped on it, they had to tread cautiously in fear of breaking it.

Not to even mention the myriad of romantic decorations that stretched across the venue. An enormous sum of money was spent on everything.

The reporters who came to attend a business press conference all became excited.

They never would've expected to accidentally gain such a big scoop from the press conference!

Gu Yueze was about to publicly propose to Ye Wanwan!

“Wow!!! This is too romantic!”

“How could it not be romantic?! It's built on towers of money!”

“Which woman could reject this kind of proposal? I seriously envy Ye Wanwan too much!”

“It appears Ye Wanwan will get what she wanted!”

Amidst the reporters’ sea of envious gasps and exclamations, everyone waited for the female lead’s reaction.

Fu Mingxi fumed at this scene before him and immediately hurled insults: “What a cheap proposal! Is he nouveau riche? President, if you like surprises or a romantic proposal, I can give you one 100 times grander! Don’t be deceived by such a tacky proposal!”

Big Dipper pushed him to the side. “Shoo! Does our president look like someone this ignorant?”

Ye Wanwan:“...”

She was more ignorant than this in the past...

She would dry up a mere flower that Gu Yueze gifted to her and turn it into a bookmark and securely store it in her safe...

1822 Haven't become muddled to the point of being blind

Seven Star remained calm and silent from start to end.

Ye Mufan, however, was burning with hatred. "How dare this d*mn toad lust after a swan! Who gave him the courage to propose to my sister?! Wanwan, don't be foolhardy and impulsively agree to him!"

Ye Wanwan's expression darkened. "How foolhardy would I have to be?"

Ye Mufan grumbled. "Don't be so blasé, Wanwan. It's really easy for women to become dizzy and muddled in this kind of situation..."

"I haven't become muddled to the point of being blind."

No matter how Ye Mufan knew his sister had her own opinion and absolutely wouldn't accept Gu Yueze's proposal, he still couldn't help but worry.

He couldn't be blamed for overthinking things as Wanwan's boyfriend hadn't appeared since she returned to the country nor had Si Yehan made an appearance and responded, so he couldn't help but feel worried about his sister's romantic situation.

He didn't dare to believe his brother-in-law was truly Si Yehan either...

Of course, taking in mind his sister's temper, he didn't dare to voice his question.

The reporters all held their breaths in anticipation, and wave after wave of "Kachak" and camera flashes enveloped the venue.

All the reporters fervently snapped photos of Ye Wanwan's face, wanting to capture pleasant surprise, touched emotion, and even the female lead breaking down into tears.

After waiting for so long and finally obtaining what she wanted, she had to be very excited, right?

In truth, Ye Wanwan was rather irritated. She didn't expect Gu Yueze to block her all the way in Gold Hall to give her a so-called "surprise," giving her no path of escape. She felt like a pile of sh*t was forcefully stuffed into her mouth.

Gu Yueze looked at the girl on the other end of the red carpet. Ye Wanwan was wearing a black, clean and handsome form-fitting suit today. Although it looked very good on her... he thought she should've at least worn a more festively-colored dress for an occasion like today.

Thankfully, it didn't matter since the girl possessed skin whiter than snow and stunning looks, so her outfit highlighted another unique type of beauty.

Under everyone's eyes, Ye Wanwan stepped onto the red carpet of roses and prepared to leave without a wandering glance.

However, to Gu Yueze, Ye Wanwan's calm expression merely looked like she was dumbfounded with joy.

Gu Yueze stared at the girl with deep adoration and gently said, "Wanwan, I know you've waited for this moment for a long time. I'm sorry for going in circles and making you wait for me for so long.

"Time has made me realize that the person who loves me the most and feels the deepest affection toward me has always been by my side!"

On the crystal stage, Gu Yueze accepted a black velvet box from a staff member and opened the lid, revealing a ring crowned with a diamond the size of a pigeon egg. "Wanwan, marry me!"

Marry me...

These words echoed in the convention center's lobby, eliciting a string of ear-shattering cheers.

"MARRY HIM! MARRY HIM!"

"My god! I'm so envious! Ye Wanwan's seriously blessed!"

In the midst of everyone's cajoling, a woman's acidic curse was heard: "Ye Wanwan, you're a mistress!"

All the reporters bewilderedly turned to the source of the voice and saw that the newcomer was actually Gu Yueze's ex-fiancée and the previous Director of the Talent Recruitment Department at Emperor Sky Entertainment—Ye Yiyi!

"Wow! This is gonna be good! It's Ye Yiyi! Ye Yiyi actually came!"

"We're gonna see two women fighting over a man!"

...

1824 Si Yehan is coming for an inspection

It would be better if Gu Yueze didn't say that. By saying that, his words equated to admitting to everything Ye Yiyi said.

Ye Yiyi seemed to have suffered an enormous blow at witnessing Gu Yueze speaking up for Ye Wanwan. She stood up shakily, as though she'd faint at any second. "Wanwan, you've doggedly pursued Yueze ever since I got with him and didn't give up. I tolerated everything you did, seeing as we were sisters, and I really didn't want to do this, but I didn't expect you to act so tyrannically..."

"You pretended to be the victim, you purposefully played hard to get, you hired thugs to injure me and force me, and you even used Si Yehan to provoke Yueze, but aren't you merely doing everything to win over Yueze and obtain the status of Mrs. Gu...? Are you satisfied now?"

Ye Yiyi tearfully accused Ye Wanwan of shamelessness, causing the reporters' gazes toward Ye Wanwan to turn odder and odder.

"Although Ye Yiyi deserves to be punished, Ye Wanwan isn't anything good either!"

"Right?! She's seriously too manipulative and even intentionally made herself look good and claim Si Yehan was her boyfriend, but in the end, it was just a plot to force Gu Yueze to marry her!"

"The most poisonous heart truly belongs to a woman!"

As Big Dipper helplessly watched Ye Yiyi acting pitiful and caused everyone to insult Ye Wanwan, his fury erupted.

"D*mn! Aren't you Chinese women too shameless?! Just openly fight it out whenever you have any grievances! What kind of solution is this?!"

Ye Wanwan ignored Big Dipper. This industry was like this; he was merely seeing the tip of the iceberg.

“Miss Ye Wanwan, may I ask if Ye Yiyi told the truth? Did you really privately hire thugs to threaten her?”

“Doesn’t your conscience feel uneasy by using such unscrupulous methods to get the position of Mrs. Gu?”

“Can you really accept this grand proposal today with an easy conscience?”

Interrogation from reporters instantly slammed Ye Wanwan.

“Everyone, please calm down. All of this is just a one-sided statement from Ye Yiyi, and everyone knows our Chairman Ye already clarified her relationship with Mr. Gu Yueze earlier.”

Zhou Tao hastily stepped forward to resolve this soap opera, but unfortunately, the public typically sympathized with the weak, so none of the reporters believed Zhou Tao and they all sided with Ye Yiyi.

In the midst of this chaos, a reporter suddenly shouted, “What did you say? Si Yehan???”

“Si Yehan?”

“What about Si Yehan?”

Si Yehan’s name was like a drop of oil in a pot of boiling water and instantly attracted everyone’s attention.

“I heard the President of the Si Corporation, Si Yehan, returned from overseas today and is coming here to inspect this place.”

“Huh?!?!?! Seriously?”

Yunfan Conference Center, the most luxurious convention center in Imperial City, was under the management of Si Corporation, so it wasn’t strange for Si Yehan to show up there. However, wasn’t Si Yehan’s itinerary always kept tightly confidential with the surroundings under lockdown, prohibiting the appearance of a single reporter?

“It’s not true, right? If Si Yehan was coming, this place would have probably been cleared and locked down already!”

“I heard it was because of Gu Yueze’s sudden show, so by the time the center’s manager informed them, Si Yehan had arrived already. If you don’t believe me, go take a look for yourself! All the senior managers of Si Corporation and this convention center’s boss are at the entrance to receive him!”

“Wow! This trip today was simply too worth it!”

All the reporters bubbled with excitement.

1826 My girlfriend

The reporter was probably afraid that Si Yehan didn't know this person, so she tacked on an explanation.

After all, rumors said Si Yehan had been overseas during this period of time.

In such a romantic setting, the reporter could visibly detect an extremely displeased frostiness from Si Yehan. So, she thought she had disturbed and irritated the man and didn't hope for Si Yehan to respond, so she started retreating and wanting to flee.

To the reporter's surprise, she heard the man coldly answer: "I've heard."

He's heard!

However, it wasn't that strange since Stars Corporation not only had the most famous Stars Entertainment under its banner but was also involved in many other industries.

Could it be because they had some business interactions?

The reporter was incredibly pleasantly surprised Si Yehan answered her. She naturally didn't want to give this chance up and bolstered her courage to continue with her questions.

"Then President Si, may I presumptuously ask if you know Chairman Ye? What... relationship do you two have? Do you have business interactions?"

The reporter was obviously trying to trick words out of Si Yehan. As long as Si Yehan said he didn't know her or wasn't familiar with her, things would get interesting!

Silence descended around them again.

Many people turned to Ye Wanwan, waiting for a good show. Ye Wanwan was seriously unlucky!

Who would've expected Si Yehan, who appeared once in a blue moon, to coincidentally visit this place?

Now, her lie would be exposed.

Ye Yiyi smirked in elation. Ye Wanwan had finally miscalculated. Did she think her lie wouldn't be exposed simply because Si Yehan never made public appearances?

Let's see how she'd continue in this industry from now on!

Si Yehan didn't answer the reporter's question and seemed to be pondering over something, his mind drifting away. However, no one uttered a sound and everyone held their breaths in anticipation.

About 10 seconds later, the man returned to the present and suddenly walked past the reporter.

Everyone trailed after him.

Si Yehan headed straight toward Ye Wanwan!

D*mn!

What?

What's going on?

Is Si Yehan about to make Ye Wanwan pay?

Ye Wanwan's eyes were placid as a pool of dead water, and she ignored everyone's zealous gazes and calmly watched the man slowly walking toward her.

Finally, the man stopped before her.

They were both dressed in black and created an inexplicable sense of harmony as they stood in front of each other, face to face.

What's his... relationship with her...?

In front of everyone, the man in black slowly leaned down and planted a light kiss on the girl's lips.

The man's slightly raspy voice, which was as low as a cello, rang out next to everyone's ears. "My girlfriend." G-girlfriend!!!

Every reporter's face turned blank as they watched the scene in front of them, clueless as to the right expression to have.

Time seemed to have frozen and everyone stood unmoving without a sound.

It wasn't until the man pulled back from the kiss that a commotion shot through the place, a fervent uproar nearly piercing through the roof.

“D*mn! What” w-wh-what did I just hear? Was I hearing things?!?!?”

“No! You didn't! I also heard it! Si Yehan said... said Ye Wanwan is his girlfriend!!! My god! Si Yehan is actually Ye Wanwan's boyfriend! This is a shocking scoop!”

“Of course he knows her! How could he not? She's his girlfriend! The person who asked this question must've been an idiot!”

“Everyone thought Ye Wanwan was simply trying to aggravate Gu Yueze and didn't expect her boyfriend to really be Si Yehan! D-doesn't that mean... Everything that Gu Yueze did—posting on Weibo, inviting reporters, proposing to Ye Wanwan—it was all delusional, wishful thinking?”

Ye Yiyi is more hilarious, right? She was just claiming Ye Wanwan hired thugs to threaten her and force her to break her engagement with Gu Yueze! Her acting was seriously realistic...’

...

1827 I agree to this marriage

The schadenfreude expression on Ye Yiyi's face instantly distorted into an extremely awful expression, the color draining from her face. "That's impossible... Ye Wanwan... and Si Yehan...?"

How could that little b*tch, Ye Wanwan, become associated with the patriarch of the Si family?!

Ye Yiyi looked at the perfectly-matching, handsome and beautiful couple standing together on the dazzling crystal platform at the other end of the rose carpet, simply beautiful like characters who stepped out of a painting. The disbelief and jealousy in her eyes nearly caused her heart to explode.

Next to them, Gu Yueze's level of shock obviously wasn't any less than Ye Yiyi's. He had always thought that Ye Wanwan should be groveling with gratitude that he was still willing to marry her despite her history as Si Yehan's lover.

Never would Gu Yueze have expected Si Yehan to publicly say that Ye Wanwan was his girlfriend...

No way would Si Yehan go this far for a lover unless he really considered Ye Wanwan as a proper girlfriend.

Ye Wanwan had been telling the truth from start to end...

She really didn't care about him at all anymore...

Gu Yueze's face turned ashen. He felt like the bouquet of flowers in his arms was a pile of hot potatoes and the romantic decorations around them were a burning sea that made him unbearably embarrassed.

Not to mention the mocking gazes and snickers that surrounded him.

This confident and meticulously planned proposal turned into a complete joke.

"D*mn... S-so handsome..." Fu Mingxi was dazed and despair directly overcame him after seeing Si Yehan's looks

for himself.

It was only after witnessing it for himself that he understood that Gong Xu's description wasn't an exaggeration. It was actually too humble.

This man could seriously use his face to murder someone!

No wonder! No wonder the President was head over heels captivated by him!

"No... I don't agree! I don't agree to this marriage!" Fu Mingxi made one last dying struggle.

Ye Mufan shoved him to the side with his shoulders. "Who are you to disagree?! My sister and brother-in-law are a match made in heaven, so who cares if you disagree?! Shoo! As my sister's most respected and loved brother, I will make the decision to agree to this marriage!"

Ye Mufan then excitedly mused, "My sister is simply too awesome!" His brother-in-law was actually Si Yehan!

Si Yehan was his brother-in-law!

While everyone was amazed by Si Yehan publicizing his relationship with Ye Wanwan, there was someone more astonished by the audience.

Strictly speaking, they were horrified.

Big Dipper intently stared at the face of the man in front of his president, his eyes nearly falling out from shock. "Sh*t!!! L-l-lord Asura! Isn't this Lord Asura?"

Seven Star was just as shocked but quickly regained his wits. "They just look... alike... They aren't the same person."

Big Dipper pointed at the man's face. "Their looks are clearly identical! Only their hair color is different!"

"I previously heard Sis Feng mentioning that... the person she likes looks very similar to Lord Asura. This man is probably him."

Big Dipper gulped. "I thought Sis Feng was randomly making it up, but this person actually exists? D*mn! Seeing Si Yehan wearing Lord Asura's face and saying Sis Feng is his

girlfriend... It's simply too... horrifying! Horrifying! I'm too stunned!"

The people around them had exploded into an uproar, but as the protagonist of this matter, Ye Wanwan seemed to be absorbed in her own world and had her eyes solely focused on the man in front of her.

1829 Most beloved person

Finally, only Ye Wanwan and Si Yehan were left in the living room.

Ye Wanwan sat down on the sofa.

The man took off his jacket and hung it on the coat rack. He straightened his cuffs before walking toward the girl. “What do you want to drink?”

Ye Wanwan studied his calm face and clicked her tongue in wonder, propping her chin on her hand. “It’s been so long since we’ve seen each other; shouldn’t this be a dance of heaven’s lightning and earth’s lava[l]?”

“If you want.” I can accommodate.

Ye Wanwan’s expression darkened, and she lost interest in keeping up this pretense and placed down her hand, leaning back on the sofa. She frankly asked, “Why did you replace my memory?”

Si Yehan’s face imperceptibly started.

It appeared she really did find out...

“You know,” Si Yehan said.

Ye Wanwan looked at the man’s unchanged expression, and fury involuntarily rose in her eyes.

He didn’t show any panic or guilt, like nothing was wrong with what he did.

She looked for him and investigated the matter for so long in search of the truth and reason, but all she got from waiting so long was this nonchalant attitude.

“Why?! Give me an explanation!” Ye Wanwan shouted.

A flame ignited in her lucid eyes as she asked, “Si Yehan, just what have you been treating me as all this time?”

She thought she finally saw through him and understood him in this lifetime. She thought everything in the past was her own misunderstanding and she finally saw the genuine him. She didn't expect to have never understood this person at all.

"My most beloved person," Si Yehan replied.

Ye Wanwan was first taken back before laughter peeled out of her. "Si Yehan, don't you find it ridiculous to still say something like this even now? Love? If you loved someone, would you erase her existence? Would you transform her into a different person and turn her into your captive slave?"

Faced with her fury, the man was akin to a pool of dead water and continued, "Ye Wanwan is indeed my most beloved person."

Ye Wanwan knitted her brows and wanted to say something when a thought occurred to her. "You mean... the one you love is... Ye Wanwan... not me, am I right?"

If that was the case, everything would make sense.

The person that Si Yehan liked and loved dearly was Ye Wanwan, but Ye Wanwan died in that accident, so he had to find someone who looked similar to Ye Wanwan and transform her into Ye Wanwan...

At that thought, Ye Wanwan felt bone-chillingly horrified.

"Heh, so I've merely been a substitute all along?"

This explanation would indeed be flawless.

"A substitute?" An indescribable emotion surfaced in Si Yehan's eyes as he looked at her. "Your thoughts are very interesting."

Ye Wanwan frowned. "Just what do you want to say?"

Ye Wanwan originally thought that the person Si Yehan loved was Ye Wanwan from the Ye family who died long ago. Hence, because she looked similar to Ye Wanwan, he intentionally erased her memory and turned her into a substitute, but Si Yehan's answer indicated something else.

50 why did Si Yehan erase her memory then?

“Let me tell you a story.”

51 Yehan sat down on the sofa and calmly said, “In truth, the Si family in China is merely a tiny branch that was abandoned... The true main branch of the Si family is located in a place named the Independent State.”

[1] Also an expression of a spark of desire between a man and woman

1831 Reveal a flaw

If this ring remained with him and something went amiss, he might not have the chance to personally return it to her.

Before Ye Wanwan could say anything else, Si Yehan answered a call and seemed a bit “nervous.”

When Si Yehan hung up, he looked at her intently with his unfathomable eyes. “Wait for me in China... I will come back very soon.”

“Okay, I’ll wait for you in China,” Ye Wanwan said with great compliance.

Then Si Yehan stood up and left, disappearing without a trace in a few breaths.

The corners of Ye Wanwan’s mouth turned up with an inexplicable smile as she watched Si Yehan leaving. It had to be said that Si Yehan’s acting skills truly bulldozed the majority of the Best Actor winners; even she almost got fooled by him.

All of Si Yehan’s excuses were perfect and flawless, and nobody could discover a hole in them... Ye Wanwan herself believed him—almost.

However, Si Yehan did slip and lost to Ye Wanwan’s incredibly careless question.

It might’ve looked like Ye Wanwan was just offhandedly asking Si Yehan if he knew Lord Asura, but his answer was very interesting.

“I don’t know him... but I’ve heard of him.”

Si Yehan neglected an extremely unremarkable detail.

Where did Lord Asura come from? The Independent State.

But Si Yehan shouldn’t have known she went to the Independent State at all. When she said Lord Asura’s name

though, Si Yehan didn't react abnormally and answered without missing a beat.

If Si Yehan supposedly didn't know she visited the Independent State, why wasn't he surprised when she said Lord Asura's name?

In other words, Si Yehan knew she was in the Independent State prior to this or else he wouldn't have reacted that way.

Still, Ye Wanwan admired Si Yehan very much. Si Yehan's logic was meticulous and it was difficult to find flaws, but Si Yehan ended up letting something slip in some seemingly unimportant small talk.

What was more unfortunate was that Si Yehan didn't know Ye Wanwan discovered that she was Worryless Nie from the Nie family.

Si Yehan said they were hunted by the ancient Si clan because he married an outsider.

However, Ye Wanwan was Worryless Nie to begin with, the daughter of the Nie family, one of the Independent State's four great clans—not the outsider that Si Yehan claimed she was.

She learned too many things during her time in the Independent State, but Si Yehan didn't know this. In Si Yehan's mind, she was clueless, so he regrettably miscalculated.

The second Si Yehan decided to use this excuse, he exposed himself.

Ye Wanwan also knew that everything Si Yehan said just now was probably false too.

The fact that she was his wife before her memory was erased and how the ancient Si clan hunted down her and Si Yehan—it was all bogus.

If she really got married to Si Yehan, the Independent State would've definitely had information about this. Also, she was Worryless Nie, a resident of the Independent State, not the outsider that Si Yehan claimed she was. Hence, the ancient Si clan should've been joyous about a marriage between the Nie

family and the ancient Si clan, so why would they hunt her and Si Yehan down?

As for how Si Yehan urged her to wait for him in China before he left, that was the only real part.

Ye Wanwan was certain that Si Yehan was Lord Asura. Lord Asura reclaimed his identity as Si Yehan and specifically came to China this time to make her believe that Si Yehan and Lord Asura weren't the same person, to urge her to remain in China and to not return to the Independent State again.

By now, Ye Wanwan was almost overwhelmed from her curiosity about what happened back then. Why did Si Yehan mask her memory and why... why did Si Yehan want her to stay away from the Independent State...?

1832 Bring the ring back

Soon, Ye Wanwan also left and returned to Stars Entertainment's branch office.

After greeting Zhou Tao and the others, Ye Wanwan sat in the office and inspected the ring that Si Yehan gave to her.

Ye Wanwan played with the ring in her hand. Whether it was the material or the workmanship, it was very unusual, and there was an extremely inconspicuous stalk of weed engraved on the inside of the ring.

Si Yehan said this ring belonged to her, which was probably the truth. There was no point for him to pull out a ring to deceive her.

Aside from knowing she was the owner of this ring, he was clueless about its symbol, use, and everything else.

Minutes later, Ye Wanwan put the ring on her finger.

Perhaps it was just a normal ring that she wore before she lost her memory and there wasn't anything worth studying. Ye Wanwan didn't pay it too much heed.

At the same time, at some location in Imperial City:

A middle-aged man dialed a number.

"I've discovered the whereabouts of the ring," the middle-aged man said into the phone.

A cool voice came from the other end. "Is that so..."

"I didn't expect that ring was in Lord Asura's possession all along... However, Lord Asura has returned the ring to her, and it appears both of them don't know the ring's use."

The other speaker was silent for a long time before they said, "Bring the ring back."

"Understood." The middle-aged man hung up after receiving the order.

On the other hand, at the Si residence:

Qin Ruoxi's expression was dark as she read the news that blazed through the internet.

She originally thought Si Yehan was dead already... but to her surprise, he appeared in China again fine and well...

Si Yehan went missing for so long, and the current Si family was now the domain of her, Qin Ruoxi, so why did Si Yehan have to return at this time?! However, even if Si Yehan was back, he shouldn't delusionally think about regaining control over the Si family!

However, if Si Yehan really wanted to return to the Si family and seize control over the Si family again, it wouldn't be an easy matter.

“Bring that woman here.”

Qin Ruoxi turned to the captain of the hidden guards standing to the side and made the order a moment later.

The young man nodded and turned to leave.

At that moment, Si Yehan and Lin Que were sitting in the private room of a coffee house with extremely high privacy and drinking the coffee that had just been served.

“Say, Ninth Brother, will that ugly freak—um, I mean, Ninth Sister, believe you...?” Lin Que asked after taking a sip of coffee and looked at the expressionless Si Yehan.

Si Yehan glanced at Lin Que, his unfathomable eyes serene without a single ripple. “I don't know.”

“What...” Lin Que nearly spat out the coffee he just drank. Si Yehan actually had no idea whether the story they took so much time fabricating was enough to scare Ye Wanwan.

“It should be fine.” Si Yehan sounded apathetic.

Lin Que thought about it for a moment before nodding. He said, “That's true... What you said was nearly perfect without any holes, Ninth Brother, so that ugly freak, I mean, Ninth Sister, must think you and Lord Asura are two different

people. This way, Ninth Sister will definitely wait for you in China and won't head to the Independent State again."

An indescribable emotion surfaced in Si Yehan's eyes. If Ye Wanwan was in the Independent State, he would be able to see her any time.

1834 See what kind of trick they're playing

Big Dipper steadied himself and gave Third Elder a thumbs up. "I can tell you're an experienced driver, Third Elder!"

A dozen or so men exited from the small truck in front of them and marched toward them, surrounding their car.

"D*mn! What do they want? Are all the drivers so violent here and want to start fighting without a word?" Big Dipper looked at the dozen people in front of them, bewildered. "In this place, drivers bring fighters with them...? Aren't the drivers here too vicious?!"

Seven Star glanced at Big Dipper. "They're obviously here to look for trouble."

"Look for trouble?!" Big Dipper jolted fiercely, and his expression shifted. "It's always been us who looked for trouble; I've never run into someone who came to seek trouble! If I don't beat them to sh*t today, my name isn't Big Dipper!"

Big Dipper went to open the door and go out but was stopped by Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan saw two familiar faces amongst that group of men. If she was right, these people were most likely the Si family's hidden guards.

BANG!

A second later, the car doors were opened by the men in black's leader, a middle-aged man.

"Come out," the man ordered aloofly as he glanced at Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan's lips turned up with a bone-chilling smirk.

How interesting.

When she first returned to China from the Independent State, she planned to uproot the entire Si family, but since Si Yehan came back, she thought Si Yehan could take care of it himself, so she didn't do anything.

Now though, Si Yehan probably fled back to the Independent State and hadn't gotten involved with the Si family...

She didn't provoke the higher-ups from the Si family, but they delivered themselves to her doorstep.

"Where did you freaking come from? Do you know who I am?!" Big Dipper's temper erupted instantly.

"I'll say it again—all of you, get out." Impatience surfaced in the leader's eyes.

Before Big Dipper could respond, Ye Wanwan walked out.

Big Dipper and Seven Star hastily followed her out.

"Get in."

The men quickly stuffed Ye Wanwan and her group into the truck.

Big Dipper was dumbfounded by Ye Wanwan's complete lack of resistance. What was she doing...?

Since Sis Feng didn't attack... should he attack...? Why shouldn't he attack though?! But if he attacked without Sis Feng's orders... This was freaking the biggest dilemma of the century!

And so, in the midst of his inner turmoil, the conflicted Big Dipper was stuffed into the back of the truck as well.

Inside the pitch-black trunk, they could feel the truck moving rapidly.

"Sis Feng, why didn't we fight them?!" Big Dipper was bewildered. He was the tyrant of the Independent State, Big Dipper, so how could he get abducted and stuffed inside the trunk of a truck by a group of trash?!

If word of this freaking got back to the Independent State, how could he live from now on?! What would happen to his reputation in the Independent State?

“Sis Feng must’ve had her reasons for not attacking,” Seven Star replied.

“What reason could there be... This is too humiliating! After this humiliating event, it’ll be very hard for me to face my mom, who’s accepting treatment at the hospital after her car accident.”

Seven Star:”...”

Ye Wanwan: “...”

First Elder:”...”

Third Elder:”...”

“No need to act rashly. These people were targeting me, so just act according to my plan,” Ye Wanwan instructed. She’d like to see what kind of game the Si family higher-ups were playing.

1836 Is it you, Miss Wanwan?

Ye Wanwan was startled when she saw Eleven. She originally thought Eleven had left the Si family a long time ago but didn't expect him to have stayed behind.

"Master... why are you here?!" Eleven looked stunned and incredulous.

"Heh, now isn't the time for your reunion." The captain of the hidden guard snorted as he watched Ye Wanwan and Eleven.

Ye Wanwan turned to the captain. Why did he bring Eleven here...?

"Heh, Miss Ye, we're aware that you personally taught Eleven yourself, so he was your disciple basically. The relationship between a master and a disciple shouldn't be too weak, right... So if Miss Ye can cooperate with us and tell us where Si Yehan is and lure him out, I can guarantee the safety of you and your cohort, including Eleven... how about it?" the captain proposed with a chuckle.

However, Ye Wanwan remained expressionless. A moment later, she stared at the captain and aloofly asked, "And if I'm unwilling to cooperate...? What then?"

"Unwilling?" A cold glint flashed through the captain's eyes, and he immediately grasped Eleven by his neck. "If you're unwilling... then I'll kill your disciple first. Do you want to see Eleven die in front of you, Miss Ye?"

"Interesting..."

This time, it was Ye Wanwan's eyes that glinted frostily. "No one has ever dared to threaten me like this."

"Master... Disregard me..."

Eleven's face swelled red as he looked at Ye Wanwan.

Before Eleven could say anything else, Ye Wanwan gave Seven Star a look.

Seven Star shot up and before anyone could see his movements, the captain of the hidden guard flew into the air with a howl in pain and harshly crashed into the wall.

Eleven looked surprised, an inscrutable emotion surfacing in his eyes.

Soon, the interrogation room door slammed open. The enormous commotion in the room led dozens of Si family hidden guards there.

“Captain!”

Seeing their captain curled into a ball with an expression of agony, several hidden guards darted forward and helped their captain up.

“S-seize them!” the captain furiously shouted when he regained his wits a long while later.

Ye Wanwan and her group didn’t put up any resistance and allowed the hidden guards to throw them into the cell.

In the dim and damp cell, Eleven guiltily looked at Ye Wanwan. “Master... It’s all my fault...”

Ye Wanwan smiled faintly. “It’s not your fault.”

If they were willing, they could leave the Si residence’s prison anytime they wanted.

“Master, didn’t you say you left China...? Why did you come back...?” Eleven asked her.

Ye Wanwan shook her head. This matter was too complicated to explain.

“Oh right... Master, did you find... Patriarch?” Eleven voiced another question.

“I don’t have any accurate news,” Ye Wanwan replied.

“No way... Master, they said there’s a great possibility the Patriarch died outside after going missing, but I absolutely

don't believe it... How could the Patriarch have died? That's impossible!" Eleven exclaimed with a frown.

Suddenly, a weak and emotional voice rang out from a corner of the prison. "Is it you... Miss Wanwan?!"

1837 Helpless to do anything

“Sh*t! There’s someone else here!” Big Dipper jolted in fright.

Ye Wanwan was startled. This voice wasn’t unfamiliar...

“Xu Yi?” Ye Wanwan asked with a frown.

“Miss Wanwan...It really is you...”

Xu Yi’s voice was heard again.

“Steward Xu is imprisoned in another cell...” Eleven quietly explained.

Ye Wanwan couldn’t help but find it strange. With Xu Yi’s intelligence, he should’ve left the Si family very quickly after disaster struck. Moreover, with the power of Xu Yi’s clan, nothing should’ve happened to him, so why was he now imprisoned...?

“Miss Wanwan, how did you get captured by them...”

Xu Yi had been imprisoned for more than two months, so he was utterly clueless about the events of the outside world.

“You didn’t leave the Si family?” Ye Wanwan asked instead of answering Xu Yi’s question.

Xu Yi promptly sighed. He didn’t get imprisoned because of the Si family’s misfortune. It was because he offended several of the Si family’s higher-ups, so he was locked there to reflect on his mistakes. He should be released in a few days.

However, the Patriarch had been missing for many months, and Xu Yi didn’t hold much emotion toward the current Si family, so he would probably leave the Si family for good after being released.

“Miss Wanwan... you shouldn’t have come back...” Xu Yi sighed after a long while. The current Si family wasn’t the previous Si family anymore.

The current Si family had been completely usurped by Qin Ruoxi and her faction.

Back when Ninth Master was still there, Ye Wanwan offended nearly all of the Si family's higher-ups, and Qin Ruoxi had a bone-deep hatred for her. Now that Ye Wanwan had returned, how could Qin Ruoxi and her cohorts spare Ye Wanwan?

“Master, do you really not know where the Patriarch is...? If Patriarch is willing to appear, Qin Ruoxi and those higher-ups wouldn't dare to act so arrogantly! The Patriarch would definitely know how to fix the Si family and mete out deserved punishments to those traitors!” Eleven anxiously interjected.

“That's impossible. Ninth Master's been missing for too long, so Qin Ruoxi and those higher-ups have gained complete control over the Si family. Even if Ninth Master appeared now, there's nothing he can do,” Xu Yi rebutted helplessly. He also hoped for Ninth Master to return, but unfortunately, the Si family had completely entered the possession of Qin Ruoxi and her cohort, so what could happen even if Ninth Master returned? No one in the Si family would obey Ninth Master's orders any more.

“Steward Xu, you're just bolstering their morale and reducing our courage! Do you think the Patriarch can't take care of Qin Ruoxi and those higher-ups?!” Eleven was displeased.

“Eleven, you know the current situation full well. What? Do you think Ninth Master would have a method to overpower the current Si family even if he returned?” Xu Yi felt feeble.

“Steward Xu, the Si family back then was merely a bucket of loose sand and divided into individual factions, but Ninth Master also managed to unite and govern the entire Si family after his return!”

Eleven then turned to Ye Wanwan. “Master, you must know where Ninth Master is and can make Ninth Master come back... As long as Ninth Master returns, the Si family will definitely return to how it was in the past!”

“This is why you could only get by as the captain of the hidden guards in the Si family back then with this intelligence of yours, Eleven,” Xu Yi mocked.

“What are you saying, Steward Xu?! Do you think Ninth Master can’t reform the current Si family?” Eleven sounded indignant.

“Although I don’t want to admit it, that’s obviously the way it is. Am I wrong?”

1839 I didn't expect it to be you

“Snap Eleven’s neck?” Xu Yi turned to Ye Wanwan in surprise. This wasn’t something that the Miss Wanwan he knew would say.

Disbelief entered Eleven’s face, and the captain choking his neck was also surprised.

“Wow, I didn’t expect a woman like you to be rather cruel and absolutely unconcerned about your disciple’s fate. Then... I will slash his throat in front of you...”

The captain drew a dagger from his waist.

“Hurry and kill him already! What are you dawdling around for? How about I help you kill him?” Big Dipper yawned like he was watching a circus show.

“Kill him then,” Ye Wanwan said.

Eleven’s expression suddenly returned to normal, the red fading from his face.

“Heh... Master, aren’t you too cruel toward me? Could it be that my life isn’t worth Si Yehan’s whereabouts?” The corners of Eleven’s lips curled into a frightening smile.

“Eleven, you actually...”

Xu Yi looked at Eleven in disbelief. Was this man in front of him really the previous captain of the hidden guard that he knew? The disciple that Miss Wanwan personally taught?

“You can release me now,” Eleven ordered the captain holding him.

The captain of the hidden guard was dumbfounded. What’s going on? Didn’t Miss Qin Ruoxi say Eleven was Ye Wanwan’s disciple and tell me to use Eleven’s life to threaten Ye Wanwan to reveal Si Yehan’s info and lure Si Yehan?!

“How unfortunate... Mr. Eric.”

From a distance, Qin Ruoxi slowly walked toward them with several higher-ups from the Si family trailing behind her.

“Mr. Eric, it appears your life is worthless to Ye Wanwan. Your method of using your life to force Ye Wanwan to reveal Si Yehan’s whereabouts doesn’t seem to be too effective,” Qin Ruoxi calmly said to Eleven.

“Mr. Eric?”

The captain became increasingly baffled. Wasn’t this man Eleven, the previous captain of Si family’s hidden guard? Who the heck was “Mr. Eric”?

“Retreat to the side,” a Si family higher-up ordered the captain.

The captain nodded. He didn’t know what just happened, but it didn’t seem to be his business. He merely needed to listen to orders.

“Eleven, I originally thought you just defected to Qin Ruoxi’s side. I didn’t expect... I really didn’t expect you to really be Eric.” Ye Wanwan’s eyes swept across Qin Ruoxi and the others before focusing on Eleven.

She had never suspected Eleven because he really was too normal—so normal that he was easily forgotten...

Who would’ve expected that the person behind Si Mingli and Qin Ruoxi was Eleven from start to finish?

He hid his identity and assumed the alias of Eleven to infiltrate the Si family’s hidden guards... What was his objective?

“Heh...”

Eleven looked at Ye Wanwan, his lips turning up into a bewitching smile. “Master, I’m very curious how you saw through me. I don’t think I revealed any flaws.”

You thought your performance was flawless? Regrettably, your flaws were too big.” Ye Wanwan looked at him. “In the prison, you kept trying to brainwash me into falsely thinking that as long as Si Yehan returned, the Si family would return to

its original state. However, you merely wanted to use me to lure Si Yehan... Am I right?"

1841 Seventh Master of the Si family

Ye Wanwan paused. Not every brother died in Si Yehan's hands... Aside from Si Xia's father, there was one brother alive still ...

The Si family's Seventh Brother...

The Seventh Brother of the Si family that had never appeared...

"You are... the Seventh Master of the Si family?!" Xu Yi looked at Eleven in shock.

"Heh... Aside from eldest brother, only I, Old Seven, am left, no?" The corners of Eleven's lips turned up.

"D*mn... what the heck are they talking about? Why can't I understand anything at all?" Big Dipper turned to Seven Star.

Seven Star glanced at him. These were Sis Feng's connections during her years in China, so how could they understand? He just needed to silently watch the show like First Elder and Third Elder.

"H-how... how's this possible? You're actually Seventh Master..." Xu Yi looked at Eleven in disbelief.

There were a total of nine brothers in the Si family. Si Yehan was ranked ninth and had eight brothers above him.

Aside from the eldest brother, the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and eighth brother all died in Si Yehan's hands. Only the seventh brother remained overseas and never returned.

Xu Yi clearly remembered how the previous patriarch rather favored the Seventh Master Si and planned to pass down the position as the Si family's patriarch to him. However, Seventh Master was greatly drawn to being a businessman and was very independent, and he rarely returned. When Seventh

Master was young, he went overseas to follow and learn from some famous businessmen...

In the Si family, the seventh, eighth and ninth brother had a very good relationship despite being half-brothers from different mothers...

However, in Xu Yi's memory, Seventh Master was very gentle and possessed the air of an ancient scholar. This version of Eleven before him wasn't the slightest bit similar to that Seventh Master.

"Wait... When Sir was still alive many years ago, I saw Seventh Master once when he visited... Your appearance is greatly different from Seventh Master's appearance!" Xu Yi questioned suspiciously.

"Heh... You're right." Eleven pulled out an aged photo from his pocket.

There was a young youth in the photo, around 14 or 15 years old.

"If it weren't for Si Yehan, I wouldn't have needed to change my face to this, am I right?" Eleven mocked him as he pocketed the photo.

"Plastic surgery..."

Xu Yi furrowed his brows. He couldn't understand why Seventh Master changed his looks and how that was related to Ninth Master...

"What does this have to do with Ninth Master...? Before Ninth Master disappeared, he kept searching for news of you..." Xu Yi asked.

"Of course he did. Of course he wanted to find information about me. That Ninth Brother of mine wanted to find me... then kill me, right?" Eleven retorted with a faint smile.

"Um..."

Xu Yi was dumbfounded. What was going on...? Ninth Master had a good relationship with Seventh Master and never had any intention of killing Seventh Master. Moreover, why would Ninth Master want to kill Seventh Master?

Additionally, Ninth Master always missed Seventh Master and frequently mentioned Seventh Master to him, so there was no way Ninth Master wanted to kill Seventh Master!

“Aside from Eldest Brother and I, all the brothers died in Old Nine’s hands. Heh... With Eldest Brother’s personality, he wouldn’t threaten Old Nine’s position at all... So as long as I died, he could rest easy... I understand that intelligent ninth brother of mine the best,” Eleven said with a chuckle.

1842 Is there some kind of misunderstanding?

Ye Wanwan's lips twitched. She originally played into the plan to come to the Si residence to find Eric and discover what kind of person he was and his objective... Who would've expected she'd get such a good show... She never would've expected Eleven to be Eric and now this Eric turned out to be the seventh son of the Si family, Si Yehan's seventh elder brother!

During her time in China, Ye Wanwan frequently pacified Si Yehan and had heard him mention stories related to his brothers in the Si family.

Every single one of the brothers who died in Si Yehan's hands wanted his life. He originally didn't plan to attack them since they were brothers, after all, even if they were half-brothers from different mothers...

However, those brothers considered Si Yehan their mortal enemy and didn't appreciate or accept his continual merciful leniency. In the end, they crossed Si Yehan's bottom line, leading to him painfully make the decision to eliminate them.

The only sibling left aside from the eldest brother was the seventh brother, but Ye Wanwan had never heard Si Yehan mention his seventh brother...

Although Xu Yi didn't really want to believe that this man before him was Seventh Master Si, he carefully considered it and Eric didn't seem to have any reason to deceive them. Eric now gained complete control over the Si family, and judging from the attitudes of Qin Ruoxi and the Si family higher-ups, the power behind him was also frighteningly immense, so there was no reason for him to impersonate Seventh Master Si.

Xu Yi wasn't willing to admit it, but he knew very well that this person was Seventh Master Si indeed...

“Seventh Master... Is there some misunderstanding here? Ninth Master never mentioned attacking you,” Xu Yi hastily tried to explain.

“Heh... Is that so?” Eleven’s lips turned up into an icy smile. “Xu Yi—Steward Xu—do you think I would believe you?” “But Ninth Master really didn’t say anything about attacking you...” Xu Yi persisted.

“Forget it... All of this is meaningless now...” Eleven snorted. “We can ignore the other brothers... But why did Si Yehan kill Eighth Brother...? Eighth Brother died in his hands.”

At the mention of his eighth younger brother, a frighteningly chilly glint flashed in Eleven’s eyes.

When Eleven was young, there was a time where he and his eighth brother depended on each other overseas, so they were no different from full brothers despite being half-brothers.

Eleven couldn’t understand why Si Yehan would kill Eighth Brother for the mere position as patriarch... His eighth brother.

“Seventh Master... It really isn’t what you think. Ninth Master gave them a profuse amount of chances, but they teamed up to create a method to kill Ninth Master, so Ninth Master had no choice...” Xu Yi sighed.

“Shut up!” Eleven shouted harshly. “I don’t care about the others, but Eighth Brother had zero interest in the position as the Si family’s patriarch... nor would he have harmed Old Nine... All of this was because Old Nine wanted to eliminate all obstacles...”

“Eleven, Si Yehan isn’t that kind of person,” Ye Wanwan butted in, looking at him.

Both Ye Wanwan and Si Yehan were in China still, so Ye Wanwan knew quite a lot about this matter.

“Oh... so you’re saying Eldest Brother would lie to me?” Eleven coldly looked at her.

At the mention of the Si family’s eldest brother, Xu Yi shook his head helplessly.

The eldest brother of the Si family might look innocent and harmless on the surface, but he, along with his son Si Xia, secretly hated Si Yehan immensely.

1844 Actually married

This indifferent voice took everyone by surprise.

A second later, dozens of well-trained men wearing tight-fitting windbreakers rushed into the Si residence.

At the very front was a man in a black suit walking slowly. His aloof eyes swept across everyone, as though he was a king who walked out from the night.

His perpetual unfazed expression evoked fury and rage from everyone in the Si family.

Qin Ruoxi's eyes glinted coldly. This man was back...

“Si Yehan ...”

Xu Yi was overjoyed with excitement at seeing Si Yehan. Ninth Master, who had been missing for several months, had finally returned to the Si family... He knew that there was no way anything could've happened to Ninth Master!

At that same moment, a Si family hidden guard swiftly walked toward the captain of the hidden guards and said something.

The captain's expression shifted, and he hastily walked toward Eleven and whispered, “Mr. Eric, Si Yehan broke through the Si residence's defense... Most of our offensive power has been captured...”

An icy emotion surfaced in Eleven's eyes.

In her spot, Ye Wanwan pensively surveyed Si Yehan. Didn't Si Yehan tell her he had something to take care of and needed to leave China first? So why did he come to the Si residence at a time like this...

It didn't require much thought to realize that if Si Yehan was Lord Asura, then there had to be numerous spies around the Si residence. Otherwise, Si Yehan absolutely wouldn't have gotten news of her trouble as soon as it happened and rushed to the Si residence in such a short amount of time.

“Ahahaha, ugly freak, long time no see! How are you?” Lin Que walked toward Ye Wanwan from Si Yehan’s side and greeted her with a laugh.

“D*mn! Don’t you freaking know how to talk? Who are you calling ugly freak?” Big Dipper coldly rebuked him.

“Eh...” Lin Que was a bit embarrassed and could only laugh awkwardly before correcting himself. “I was wrong... Ninth Sister...”

Before Ye Wanwan could respond, Si Yehan calmly ordered, “Lin Que... Escort them out of the Si residence.”

“Understood, Ninth Brother.”

Lin Que looked at Ye Wanwan again. “Ninth Sister, I’ll take you out first. Let Ninth Brother handle the Si family’s situation.”

“Let Si Yehan handle it himself?” Ye Wanwan turned to Si Yehan. “Why?”

Si Yehan’s gaze landed on Ye Wanwan. The iciness disappeared and was replaced by an unusual gentleness. “It’s unrelated to you, so there’s no need for you to walk into this pool of muddy water.”

“Unrelated to me...? How so Ye Wanwan’s mouth curled up into an inscrutable smirk. “Am I not your wife... ? Since we’re married already, your business is my business. What’s there to separate between us?”

Si Yehan previously told her it was because they were married that the ancient Si clan of the Independent State hunted them down. According to Si Yehan’s explanation, they were legitimately married, so they should naturally share both fortune and misfortune as husband and wife.

“W-what the heck?!”

Big Dipper looked at Ye Wanwan and Si Yehan in shock. “D*mn... Married? Since when?! Why didn’t I know this?”

1846 Do we have a son?

“Third Elder, what are you saying? It’s not like you don’t know my Brother Shen’s background. If Sis Wanwan marries Eldest Young Master Shen... we can also benefit... All of the Shen family’s wealth and assets... we can take part in it.. Tsk tsk tsk...” Big Dipper brimmed with excitement.

Third Elder merely snorted. “What a joke... Do we lack money?”

He then promptly turned to Ye Wanwan. “In truth... I don’t care about the money. The main thing is that Eldest Young Master Shen is rather agreeable to the eyes and treats you especially well. I think it’d be very nice if you married Eldest Young Master Shen... You’d live a blissful life. How about... you get divorced from this Patriarch Si first?”

Ye Wanwan:“...”

First Elder: “...”

Big Dipper: “...”

Seven Star: “...”

“D*mn! Are you people that hungry for money? So what if Eldest Young Master Shen is rich? You can’t eat money as food!” Lin Que looked enraged.

“Brother, did your head get kicked by a donkey? You can’t eat money as food?” Big Dipper’s gaze landed on Lin Que.

He quickly curiously added: “You actually know Eldest Young Master Shen? Could it be you’ve been to...”

“Eh...” Lin Que, who regained his wits, was startled for a second before frantically shaking his head. “No no no, I haven’t gone, I haven’t gone... How would I know any Eldest Young Master Shen? Wasn’t it you who said Eldest Young Master Shen is rich...? I just said it randomly, so please don’t misunderstand... I just think that true love is priceless... and you don’t have money with you when you’re born, and you

can't take it to the grave with you... So it's not useful to want so much... Anyway, my Ninth Brother and Ninth Sister have married already, so what are you guys blindly urging her for? Haven't you heard of the saying 'Advocate for reconciliation and not for divorce'? Don't be so immoral!"

"Are you guys done chatting?" Eleven coldly interrupted before Lin Que could continue, his eyes coldly glinting.

Si Yehan turned to Eleven immediately. "It's been a long time, Old Seven."

"Heh...Ninth Brother, it's truly been a long time. Your heart has turned rotten." Eleven met Si Yehan's eyes.

"This is private business between us. Let Wanwan leave first," Si Yehan said.

Eleven chuckled. "Sure. No matter what, Ye Wanwan is my master still, and I never wanted to harm a hair on her head.

If it wasn't because I wanted to lure you out, I would be chatting with Ye Wanwan over some alcohol right now. Why would we have ended up in this plight?"

"You can chat, but you can't drink alcohol!" Big Dipper interjected.

Seven Star agreed. "Yes..."

Si Yehan ignored Big Dipper and turned to Ye Wanwan. "Go back first. This is my private business with Old Seven."

"I already said that we're married already, so there's no such thing as private business, alright?" Ye Wanwan retorted matter-of-factly.

Si Yehan frowned and wanted to say something, but Ye Wanwan's line blocked every rebuttal he had and rendered him speechless.

"Oh right... You previously said we were married... So I have a question for you." Ye Wanwan's eyes twirled, and she cheerfully looked at him.

"What question?"

"Do we... have a son?" Ye Wanwan asked nonchalantly.

“No,” Si Yehan answered.

“Oh really? But why do I keep feeling like we have a son...?”

1847 We're brothers

Si Yehan was silent for a moment, not knowing how to answer.

This supposed marriage was merely a lie generated to make Ye Wanwan believe the story he fabricated, so how could they have a son?

“What are you standing around for? Capture Si Yehan!”

The nearby Qin Ruoxi suddenly ordered coldly.

The Si family's hidden guards grew restless.

Although the fighting forces outside the Si residence were subdued by the people Si Yehan brought, there was still a lot of usable manpower inside the Si residence, so everything would go smoothly as long as they captured Si Yehan!

“I didn't order for Si Yehan to be captured right now.” Eleven looked at Qin Ruoxi frostily.

“But, Mr. Eric...” Qin Ruoxi frowned at him.

Eleven ignored her and turned to the nearby Xu Yi. “Prepare some food and alcohol, Xu Yi. Old Nine and I are going to talk.”

Xu Yi looked at Si Yehan and waited for his nod before actually leaving.

A moment later, several people followed Eleven into the living room while the Si family higher-ups and Qin Ruoxi waited outside. Si Yehan and Ye Wanwan's respective group also entered.

At the dinner table, Eleven smiled and said, “Old Nine, this is a plate of black-hearted meat specifically prepared for you.”

Si Yehan didn't pick up his chopsticks and simply watched Eleven calmly.

“Old Nine, you must've never expected me to change my face, hide in the Si family, and become a minor hidden guard,

right?” Eleven asked with a faint smile.

“Say, Seventh Brother, don’t be so foolish. From the first time you came to the Si family to apply to be a hidden guard, Ninth Brother knew you were Seventh Brother,” Lin Que said after throwing a piece of fatty meat into his mouth.

Eleven’s expression shifted. “Impossible!”

“How’s it impossible? Seventh Brother, don’t you know your own martial arts skills... With your skills, how did you manage to enter the Si family if it weren’t for Ninth Brother’s approval?” Lin Que explained.

Eleven sunk into silence.

A moment later, Big Dipper suddenly picked up his chopsticks and said to Seven Star, First Elder, and Third Elder, “Come, come, come, let’s eat and drink... None of it is poisoned.”

“How do you know it’s not poisoned?” Third Elder was puzzled.

“Of course I know.” Big Dipper pointed at Lin Que. “I watched this guy eat a bunch. He should be dead now if it was poisonous.”

Ye Wanwan:

Lin Que cursed, “F*ck... why are you freaking so evil?! You treated me like a guinea pig?”

“Pay attention to your tone and attitude when you speak to me... Or else I’m gonna make you the next headline.” Big Dipper rolled his eyes.

Eleven’s lips turned up. “Heh... So it’s like that... Nicely done, Old Nine, you saw through my identity but didn’t say a word and had me stay in the Si family within your sight... This way, you could kill me anytime you wanted.”

“Kill you?” the silent Si Yehan suddenly asked. “Why?”

“Why?!” Eleven abruptly stood up, nearly flipping the table. “Old Nine, why are freaking trying to pretend with me?!”

Si Yehan didn’t take offense and remained seated. He looked at Eleven and said, “We’re brothers.”

“Brothers?!” Eleven threw his head back with laughter. “Are we brothers? Was Old Eight your brother? Brothers, huh... My girlfriend, Lin Yun, died in the hands of the Si family hidden guards that you sent! But now you’re freaking telling me we’re brothers?!”

1849 Eldest Brother told me

“Forget it. It’s no big deal telling you guys; it was Eldest Brother who told me all of this,” Eleven answered.

Xu Yi’s expression shifted. The Eldest Brother of the Si family: Si Bayi...

Si Yehan looked contemplative when he heard it was Si Bayi who told him.

“Seventh Master... You mustn’t take Eldest Master’s words seriously!” Xu Yi urgently exclaimed. “Second Master... Third Master... as well as Eighth Master—it was because of Eldest Master’s wedge-driving words that they teamed up and wanted to kill Ninth Master!”

Although Si Bayi normally wasn’t any threat to Si Yehan in the Si family, his mouth was extremely sharp, and he frequently sowed dissension between his son, Si Xia, and Si Yehan, not to mention their brothers.

“Oh... Xu Yi, are you saying it was Eldest Brother, Si Bayi, who did all of this then framed Old Nine for it? Is that it?” Eleven looked at Xu Yi.

Xu Yi hastily shook his head. “N-no, I didn’t say it was Eldest Master who did it, but it’s true that Eldest Master likes to sow dissension.”

Xu Yi thought that there was a giant power behind Eleven supporting him and helping him concoct schemes. Who would’ve expected this supposed giant power to be Si Bayi... It appeared he overlooked Si Bayi.

Si Bayi typically didn’t physically threaten Si Yehan; there was just that mouth of his. This was why Si Yehan hadn’t harmed Si Bayi.

“Eleven, think about it—Ah-Jiu didn’t even have any intention of harming someone like Eldest Brother, Si Bayi, so would it be reasonable for him to have any intention of harming you?” Ye Wanwan asked.

“Heh... That’s just an excuse.” Eleven snorted.

Si Yehan asked, “Did I need to?”

“Old Nine, what do you mean?” Eleven turned to Si Yehan.

Si Yehan was silent for a moment before replying, “You said that I kept looking into your whereabouts and even killed your girlfriend.”

“That’s right.” Eleven angrily glared at him.

“Then...”—Si Yehan examined Eleven—“I’ve found you.”

Eleven frowned.

“If I wanted to kill you, you would be cremated right now,” Si Yehan concluded concisely.

“Say, Seventh Brother, how could you be so simple-minded? Ninth Brother’s men have completely controlled both the Si residence’s interior and exterior... Do you think Ninth Brother is refusing to admit it because he’s scared of you? Why don’t you go out and take a look?” Lin Que suggested.

Eleven didn’t reply and pulled out his phone.

He connected to all the surveillance located inside and outside the Si residence.

Both the interior and exterior of the Si residence had been completely seized by that unknown power, and the Si family’s higher-ups were under their control; only Qin Ruoxi managed to flee somewhere.

“What do you think?” Si Yehan asked aloofly.

“Si Yehan...” Eleven coldly stared at him.

“Seventh Brother, shouldn’t you switch tracks and think about it now? The Si residence is under Ninth Brother’s complete control now... If it was really as you said and Ninth Brother has been hunting you down... he should be attacking you now. Why would he waste his words on you for so long?” Lin Que asked.

Eleven frowned deeply and slowly sat down in the chief seat, taking a swig of alcohol.

Previously, Eleven thought that Si Yehan didn't admit it out of fear for him... Now though, the Si family was under Si Yehan's control and it would be a piece of cake for Si Yehan to kill him... So why didn't Si Yehan attack? Why did he stubbornly refuse to admit to his previous actions instead?

1851 Who's the mastermind?

“Master... I found Eldest Brother's address. Do you want to come with me?”

Since Si Bayi dragged Ye Wanwan into the matter, Eleven wanted Ye Wanwan to go with him.

Ye Wanwan considered it for a moment before finally nodding. “Alright, let's go together to see.”

Ye Wanwan brought Big Dipper, Seven Star, First Elder, and Third Elder with her and had Eleven lead the car.

On their way to Si Bayi's residence, Ye Wanwan ordered many Fearless Alliance elites to follow to prevent any unexpected circumstances.

Si Bayi's persona in the Si family had always been like this: he enjoyed sowing dissension. More than that, Si Bayi never hid this trait and made everyone aware of it. It appeared Eleven's matter was caused Si Bayi's provocation this time too, but Ye Wanwan kept feeling unsettled.

A while later, they arrived at a manor located in an extremely remote suburb of Imperial City.

They parked the car near the manor before entering.

Inside the manor, birdsong and fragrant flowers permeated the senses, and farmland, planted with a myriad of vegetables and fruit trees, filled their sight.

As soon as they entered the manor, they saw Si Bayi, the eldest son of the Si family, watering the fields in a white, Chinese-style outfit.

“Si Bayi!” Eleven angrily shouted as soon as he saw the man.

Si Bayi placed down the objects in his hands and looked toward them in confusion.

“Old Seven... And Sister-in-law... Why are you here?” Si Bayi swiftly walked toward them at once.

Si Bayi also carried several chairs over and had everyone sit.

He wiped the sweat from his forehead before asking, “How did you find me...?”

“Heh... Isn’t it easy to find you, Eldest Brother?” Eleven mocked.

“Eldest Brother, where’s Si Xia?” Ye Wanwan asked Si Bayi.

During this whole trip, Ye Wanwan hadn’t seen Si Xia once.

“That guy is really unruly; who knows where he went off to go wild? This home to him is nothing but an inn. He’ll come and go as he pleases,” Si Bayi answered genially.

“Eldest Brother, let’s not waste our words... You previously told me that Old Nine was hunting me and that my girlfriend, Lin Yun, also died in his hands. Didn’t you?” Eleven asked him.

Si Bayi’s expression shifted slightly, and he frowned. “Old Seven, those were just my guesses and analyses. I don’t have any concrete evidence...”

“What did you say?!” Eleven turned furious and grabbed Si Bayi by his lapels.

“Now you’re telling me it’s your guesses and analyses...? Did you know that because of your bullsh*t, you nearly caused me and Old Nine to harm each other?!”

“Haha, Old Seven, I said Old Two and Old Eight both died in Si Yehan’s hands. That’s correct, right... So it’s logical that he also wants to kill you.” Si Bayi remained unruffled.

“You can eat carelessly, but you can’t talk carelessly!” Eleven pointed at Si Bayi. “You really aren’t qualified to be the eldest brother!”

“Hold on...”

Ye Wanwan suddenly interjected and pensively studied Si Bayi.

“Hold on?” Eleven furrowed his brows.

“Eleven, did you tell Eldest Brother about your girlfriend passing away?” Ye Wanwan asked.

Eleven shook his head. “I didn’t. It was Eldest Brother who found me and told me... it was Si Yehan who did it.”

The second Eleven finished speaking, his expression changed as he instantly understood Ye Wanwan’s implicit meaning.

He never told Eldest Brother about Lin Yun passing away, so how did Eldest Brother know about it... and found him and told him it was Si Yehan who did it?!

Ye Wanwan’s eyes narrowed at the seemingly harmless Eldest Brother of the Si family, Si Bayi.

1852 You're all idiots

Si Bayi was still grinning as he looked at Ye Wanwan and chuckled. "Sister-in-law, this is our family business, so why are

you sticking your nose into it?"

Eleven's eyes coldly glinted, and he intently stared at Si Bayi, frostily asking, "Eldest Brother... Si Bayi...I never told you Lin Yun passed away back then, so how did you know?"

Si Bayi chuckled. "Old Seven, that's unimportant. I don't think there's any reason for you to engage in such unpleasantry with your brother for a woman, right?"

Eleven's expression was foreboding. "It's you... You killed Lin Yun!"

"Me?" Si Bayi started briefly and pointed at himself before shaking his head. "Of course it wasn't me who killed your girlfriend... It was the people I sent who killed her."

"Si Bayi... you freaking b*stard!" Eleven became extremely enraged. He couldn't accept that his eldest brother, this seemingly most harmless, cowardly, and timid brother out of all the nine brothers of the Si family, would be the one who killed his girlfriend and framed their Ninth Brother, Si Yehan!

"Heh..." Si Baiyi didn't get angry at Eleven's loss of composure and smiled instead. "Old Seven, I'm your eldest brother after all. It was just a woman—you can have as many as you want... Don't tell me you're going to fall out with me, your eldest brother, for a woman."

"You and your bullsh*t!" Eleven's expression couldn't be any darker as he looked at Si Bayi. "Si Bayi... For the mere position of the Si family's patriarch, you had no scruples against killing my girlfriend and framing Old Nine for it... Do you still remember we're brothers? Are you a person?!"

Si Bayi remained unperturbed and picked up some bird food with his fingers and fed it to the birds next to him.

The truth became clear.

“All of the Si brothers... Old Two, Old Three... Old Four, Old Five... even Old Eight... It was because of you sowing dissension with them that they ruined their lives!” Eleven rebuked him harshly.

“Heh, Old Seven... You can’t describe things like that. I didn’t press a knife against their necks and order them to kill Si Yehan, right? It was because they themselves were greedy, and I merely made them confront their greed... You’re different, though. You’ve been conducting business outside these years and the wealth and power you possess aren’t lesser to that of the Si family... Hence, a simple position as the Si family patriarch couldn’t tempt you at all... Your weakness was your girlfriend, Lin Yun. It was only by killing Lin Yun and telling you that Si Yehan was the culprit would you want to kill Si Yehan. It was you who exposed your weakness, so you can’t blame Eldest Brother for it,” Si Bayi said.

“Si Bayi... I want you dead!”

After learning that Lin Yun died in Si Bayi’s hands, Eleven couldn’t control his emotions anymore and picked up a brick from the ground before tossing it toward Si Bayi’s head.

“Idiot.” Si Bayi glanced at Eleven and lightly raised his right arm.

A second later, Eleven flew into the air and was struck back several meters.

After Eleven crashed to the ground, he swiftly got back up, but his face was pale and a rivulet of scarlet was dripping from his mouth.

Seven Star and Big Dipper met each other’s eyes, and even First Elder and Third Elder turned to Si Bayi in surprise. There was actually an expert like this in China...?

1854 Si Wutian

Ye Wanwan imperceptibly surveyed the Eldest Brother Si from far away. She never expected him to be the first prodigy of Si Yehan's brothers to be chosen by the ancient Si clan and brought to the Independent State to be trained. He concealed himself until now and typically pretended to be innocent, harmless, cowardly and timid in the Si family, but in reality, he was an expert who returned from the Independent State—a person like him was truly terrifying...

"I actually have another name in the Independent State... It's Si Wutian[1].M A bone-chilling smile spread across Si Bayi's face as he looked at Eleven and the others.

"Si Wutian? I've never heard of it." Big Dipper scratched his nose.

Seven Star also hadn't ever heard of some Si Wutian person in the Independent State; he was probably a minor figure. However, First Elder and Third Elder's expressions shifted.

Seven Star and Big Dipper were still young so they naturally hadn't heard of Si Wutian, but First Elder and Third Elder weren't unfamiliar with this name "Si Wutian"...

Back before the Fearless Alliance was founded, Si Wutian was a genius from the ancient Si clan in the Independent State. Later, he was expelled from the ancient Si clan due to his disregard of clan rules. However, Si Wutian proceeded to found the Lawless Gang and continuously recruited defected mercenaries and strengthened its power.

When Bai Feng created the Fearless Alliance later and swept across the Independent State, the Fearless Alliance once had an intense conflict with the Lawless Gang. After Bai Feng disappeared, the Lawless Gang launched a fierce attack on the Fearless Alliance, causing the Fearless Alliance to suffer immense damage, and many of their elites were abducted by the Lawless Gang.

They came to China this time precisely because they caught wind of the Lawless Gang appearing in China, so the President brought them there to look for information about the Lawless Gang and see if they could make any headway.

Based on the information they obtained, the Fearless Alliance elites that were abducted should be in China right now, so they informed their president of this, and the President brought them to China this time not only to finish her Scarlet Flames mission but also to see if they could find the Lawless Gang and rescue those hostages...

Who would've expected this man in front of them to be the leader of the Lawless Gang: Si Wutian?

In the Independent State, the Lawless Gang's leader was very mysterious and never made any public appearances; no one had ever seen Si Wutian. Now it turned out Si Wutian himself was in China and controlled the Lawless Gang from afar...?

"Si Bayi, I don't know what you're saying! However, if it's really as you said and you're so strong, go seek retribution from Old Nine yourself! Why did you have to harm us brothers?!" Eleven angrily shouted while pointing at him.

Si Bayi smiled and shook his head with a sigh. "Old Seven, I thought you would be cleverer than Old Two and Old Eight since you've been living rather well on the outside all these years... Who would've expected you to also be an idiot...? Old Nine was trained with a focus by the ancient Si clan, and they called him a supernova! If Old Nine died in my hands, the ancient Si clan wouldn't spare me... But if Old Nine died in his other brothers' hands, then... it'd be unrelated to me, no?"

"You b*stard... Did you think the ancient Si clan would spare you for causing our deaths?!" Eleven furiously asked.

If Si Bayi was telling the truth, weren't he and his brothers also members of the Independent State's ancient Si clan?

[1] Wutian can mean "lawless."

1856 The previous Eric of the Rose of Death

You dare?!” Eleven was instantly enraged.

Si Bayi smiled and lightly said, “I never like to kill people personally.”

As Si Bayi said that, a cold-looking woman slowly walked out from nearby.

“Qin Ruoxi...”

Eleven furrowed his brows upon catching sight of the woman.

“Mr. Eric.”

Qin Ruoxi ignored Eleven and reverently called as she looked at Si Bayi.

“Heh...” Si Bayi chuckled aloofly in response.

“D*mn, weren’t you Eric...? How did he become your eldest brother?”

Big Dipper turned to Eleven in confusion when he heard how Qin Ruoxi addressed Si Bayi.

“Eric isn’t a person’s name...” Eleven explained promptly.

“There are two meanings behind Eric. The first one is the English name ‘Eric’, and the other true meaning is... a leader... Back then, Eldest Brother Si Bayi secretly built a power in China and gave the title of the leader “Eric” to me so that I could operate more conveniently and have the ability to kill Old Nine... That was because I couldn’t mobilize ranked mercenaries in China with my personal name, but the title of Eric the leader could do it...”

“D*mn, so after all this, you weren’t only provoked and deceived by this old man but you were also his puppet... Nice job!” Big Dipper gave Eleven a thumbs up.

“Heh, Eleven, you’re wrong again,” Si Bayi said to Eleven tauntingly. “Aside from having the meaning of ‘leader ; Eric has an additional meaning in the Independent State... the Demon of Vengeance...”

“Eric... Eric... Could it be...?” First Elder narrowed his eyes. Even Third Elder couldn’t help but be surprised.

“What does he mean?” Ye Wanwan asked First Elder with a frown.

Ye Wanwan had always thought Eric was merely the name of a person.

“The Rose of Death...” First Elder whispered to Ye Wanwan extremely quietly.

“The Rose of Death?!”

Ye Wanwan was startled. What did this have to do with the Rose of Death...?

Wasn’t the Rose of Death a fictional character from a novel written by the Nie family? They even sold the copyrights to her...

Ye Wanwan was confused but she couldn’t express it.

“President... You should know about the Rose of Death... the previous Rose of Death’s alias was Eric,” First Elder explained softly, as though he was afraid to violate some taboo.

This freaking Rose of Death title can be inherited?! There’s a predecessor? Is there a first term, second term, and third term too?!

“The Rose of Death... They’re also called the terrifying avengers of the Independent State... Because their power was too immense and affected the balance of the Independent State, the Independent State couldn’t tolerate it anymore... As for the previous Rose of Death... I can’t remember it very clearly, but I think I’m correct... I think they were called Eric. In the Independent State, the previous Rose of Death was called the Demon of Vengeance... so this is what Eric means...” First Elder frowned deeply.

No one in the Independent State would intentionally mention the Rose of Death or tell the truth behind the annihilation of the Rose of Death... Moreover, only a few people knew how the Rose of Death was destroyed.

Ye Wanwan:

So Nameless Nie was spouting nonsense? “A novel he wrote”?! And he even swindled a copyright fee from me?!

1857 Member of the Rose of Death

However, what Ye Wanwan couldn't understand was why Nameless Nie and the Nie family prohibited any mention of the Rose of Death.

According to what First Elder said, the Rose of Death could be considered a taboo in the Independent State, and many people didn't dare to mention it. So by impersonating to be Black Widow and creating a brand new Rose of Death... she was freaking courting her own death!

"First Elder... You said the Rose of Death was destroyed?" Ye Wanwan lightly probed with a seemingly nonchalant expression.

First Elder looked at Ye Wanwan and shook his head before whispering to her, "I... am not sure, President... The Rose of Death vanished without a trace for too long, so I personally think they were annihilated... But that's just my personal opinion. No one knows what truly happened to the Rose of Death..."

Ye Wanwan was pensive. When she impersonated Black Widow and recruited manpower after founding a new Rose of Death, she heard from the new recruits that there were remaining Rose of Death members imprisoned in the Martial Arts Union... Could there be some shocking secret behind this again...?

Additionally, Nameless Nie and the whole Nie family prohibited anyone from mentioning the Rose of Death and even went as far as lying to clueless people that the Rose of Death and Black Widow were all fabricated... Could it be the Rose of Death was connected to the Nie family somehow...?

Ye Wanwan mulled it over for a moment with furrowed brows before tossing this thought aside. It didn't seem to be related to her.

She merely impersonated Black Widow and created a new Rose of Death, so she would just ask Nameless Nie about it when she went back. At worst, she'd change the name of her Rose of Death, as long as it didn't bring any trouble to her.

“Do you want to know what Eric represents?” Si Bayi smirked. “Once upon a time in our Independent State, this title represented blood and death... as well as hatred and revenge... Even if you people have never heard of the Independent State, you should've heard of the Rose of Death, right?”

“The reason I was expelled from the Independent State's Si clan was precisely because I secretly joined the Rose of Death...”

“Pitifully, it was soon discovered by the ancient Si clan... After I left the Independent State, I always wanted to return to the Rose of Death... But the Rose of Death regretfully vanished without a trace and couldn't be found anymore... Hence, I actually used the name 'Eric' so that the Rose of Death could discover me and allow me to return to the organization...”

Si Bayi glanced at them and shook his head; he had a lonely expression. “Forget it; you people are merely frogs at the bottom of a well. How could you know what the Independent State is...”

Si Bayi turned to Eleven again and smiled faintly. “Old Seven, do you know... it isn't just you... I granted the title of Eric to Old Two, Old Three, and Old Eight too, but unfortunately, you people truly disappointed me... You're an utter humiliation to the title of Eric.”

Qin Ruoxi's eyes glinted, and she turned to Si Baiyi. “You can consider bestowing the title of Eric onto me... I won't disappoint you.”

Si Bayi smiled. “Kill them first and show me your improvement.”

“Don't worry.” Qin Ruoxi surveyed Ye Wanwan expressionlessly.

Then without another word, Qin Ruoxi slowly walked toward Ye Wanwan.

During her time with Eric, she learned too many martial arts techniques, so she thought Ye Wanwan would fall from the first blow.

1859 Scram

Some time ago, Lawless Gang brought the Fearless Alliance members they abducted to China and one of the Fearless Alliance members broke through the defenses and escaped, leading to many Lawless Gang experts hunting them down. Qin Ruoxi happened to follow the group to learn from them.

That situation immensely affected Qin Ruoxi's mind.

A single member of the Fearless Alliance was absolutely dauntless in the face of a dozen or so experts from the Lawless Gang. The Fearless Alliance member faced them empty-handed and killed four or five people before dying in battle.

After that, the formidable strength of the Fearless Alliance became deeply ingrained in Qin Ruoxi's mind.

Now, it turned out these experts in front of her were from the Fearless Alliance of the independent state... And that elderly man claimed Ye Wanwan was the President of the Fearless Alliance!

“Why are you wasting your words with Si Bayi? Capture him first!”

Third Elder snorted and swiftly dashed toward Si Bayi.

In the blink of an eye, Third Elder and Si Bayi's palms met, sending each other back.

Surprise surfaced in both people's eyes.

The other person's strength made them wary.

“I'm gonna f*ck you up, old fart!” Big Dipper charged forward.

Seven Star also joined the fight with him.

Si Bayi's strength was extraordinary naturally, so they couldn't seize him easily even with three people teaming up.

“First Elder, wreck him!” Big Dipper shouted with confusion when he saw First Elder standing next to Ye Wanwan without

any intention of moving.

“Hn... Just you three attacking will suffice... My bones are old and brittle, so I won’t join the fun... It’d be better for me to stay by the President’s side and protect her... After all, the President’s safety is number one...” First Elder replied with a smile.

“D*mn... Aren’t you too... eh... aren’t you too unparticular, First Elder...? Sis Feng needs your protection...? Are you kidding me...?” Big Dipper glanced at First Elder with displeasure.

If First Elder joined the fight, they would’ve seized Si Bayi a long time ago, alright...

Eleven froze in his spot and gulped as he watched the fight, dumbfounded. Was this still a freaking fight between humans...?

Those Si family hidden guards were basically defenseless babies compared to these people!

“Master... I-isn’t this too much...?” Eleven reflexively turned to Ye Wanwan with a stupefied expression.

You’ll get used to it,” Ye Wanwan answered quietly.

“Master... I also want to become as strong as them... Teach me, Master...” Eleven brimmed with eagerness.

Ye Wanwan: When she wasn’t drunk, she couldn’t be considered inept, but she was a bumbling fool when compared to First Elder and the others.

“Heh, I’ll teach you whatever you want to learn. Don’t trouble the President—she’s very busy every day,” First Elder butted in.

“Really?” Eleven intently looked at First Elder. “Are you as strong as them?”

“Of course! I’m a lot stronger than them. Why else would I be the First Elder?” First Elder retorted.

“Awesome!” Eleven promptly gave him a thumbs up.

“They’re so fast; is it like water-walking...? Their palm

techniques are too frightening. Are they using Shaolin's 72 Absolute Techniques...? D*mn, that Big Dipper is fine after being hit by Si Bayi even though the wall shattered from his impact... Is that Golden Shell and Iron Armor...? I want to learn everything! I want to learn all of these master techniques!"

First Elder froze and silently glanced at Eleven before uttering, "Scram."

1861 I was raised by frigh

18611 was raised by fright

“When the Lawless Gang attacked the Fearless Alliance before, the Lawless Gang was also seriously damaged, but we abducted many Fearless Alliance elites... I’m sure President Bai is aware of this. As long as President Bai can let bygones be bygones, the Lawless Gang can become good friends with the Fearless Alliance still, and I can return those abducted Fearless Alliance elites to the Fearless Alliance.” Si Bayi proposed with a faint smile.

Everyone in the Fearless Alliance knew that Bro Flattop of the Fearless Alliance might be cruel and savage, but she was also very loyal and cared about her comrades. Hence, Si Bayi was planning ahead when he didn’t kill those abducted Fearless Alliance elites. If the Fearless Alliance was to return to its peak and sought them out for retribution or President Fearless returned someday, they’d have this bargaining chip on hand and could negotiate with the Fearless Alliance.

“Oh... Is that so?” Ye Wanwan’s eyes shifted.

“Heh. Of course, President Bai. I, Si Bayi, keep my promises... I can also give Qin Ruoxi to President Bai so that you can address your grievances...” Si Bayi responded.

“What...?” The color drained out of Qin Ruoxi’s face when she heard that.

“Qin Ruoxi?” Ye Wanwan frowned. “It appears you aren’t that sincere...She’s nothing to me.”

“D*mn, how can you freaking bring forward a random stray dog? Are you trying to mock our President?!” Big Dipper shouted scornfully.

A sense of overwhelming feebleness washed over Qin Ruoxi as she looked at Ye Wanwan.

Once upon a time, this woman named Ye Wanwan was akin to an ant in her eyes. If it weren’t for Si Yehan, she could’ve

easily pinched Ye Wanwan to death any time she wanted.

Now though, this so-called ant actually became a deep gorge that she could never surpass... She and Ye Wanwan—no, she was the President of the Fearless Alliance, Bai Feng, now—were people from two entirely different worlds and dimensions.

Ye Wanwan was the real titan now. And she had become a mere stray dog... Even Si Bayi was very wary and fearful of this woman...

“I will look for my people myself... As for you, a man who is scheming every second and minute and wanted to kill me just now... I don’t think there’s any point in us having an exchange,” Ye Wanwan responded disdainfully.

Si Bayi’s expression changed instantly.

“Heh... So you’re saying there’s nothing to discuss, President Bai...? Is that it?” A cold glint sparkled in his eyes.

You can interpret it like that.”

“Heh , President Bai Feng , I gave you a chance, but it’s you who didn’t wantit.. You insist on both sides perishing, so there’s nothing I can do... I think it’d be nice for all of you to die here today. I might suffer from the Fearless Alliance’s endless hunt, but... you’ll definitely die earlier than me.”

Si Bayi then whistled.

A second later, a dozen or so men in black dashed out from the manor with guns in hand.

Big Dipper and the other’s expressions changed. He was a resident of the Independent State, but he was freaking using guns...?

“You’re too f*cking despicable and shameless, aren’t you?! How could you use firearms as a member of the Independent State?!” Big Dipper angrily yelled as he pointed at Si Bayi.

“A member of the Independent State?” Si Bayi snorted. “I was expelled from the Independent State a long time ago... Moreover, I’m not in the Independent State right now, so no one can control whether I use a firearm or not.”

“Si Bayi... Are you trying to... scare me with these things? I, Bai Feng, was raised by fear!” Ye Wanwan walked forward without a hint of fear, a bone-chilling smile on her face.

1863 Audacious and shameless

Ye Wanwan's lips curled into an icy smirk when she saw Si Bayi looking at her with malice in his eyes.

She had made several plans on the way to Si Bayi's manor, so everything was under her control.

"Aren't you too shameless...? You actually called the police...?" Si Bayi fumed with rage between gritted teeth.

Si Bayi never would've expected Ye Wanwan to do something this audacious and shameless as the president of the Independent State's Fearless Alliance! She had utterly disgraced the Independent State!

As residents of the Independent State, any disputes or conflict was resolved with their martial strength. Who would call the police?! This was a humiliation to both sides, and one would rather die than do something so shameful!

Si Bayi never even had the notion to call the police or expected Ye Wanwan to do something like this.

"Si Bayi... I didn't expect you to be this kind of person... You actually privately possessed so many firearms... I misjudged you..." Ye Wanwan said with a sigh.

"Police officers, I have something to say! This woman buried a lot of time bombs under my manor!" Si Bayi shouted to the police officer near him.

Since Ye Wanwan called the police, then they would all die together. He wasn't the only one who violated China's laws. Many officers were startled. There were also time bombs at this manor?!

"Don't listen to his nonsense... If you don't believe it, you can verify it for yourselves!" Ye Wanwan refuted.

Si Bayi frowned deeply at Ye Wanwan's uncaring expression. Could it be that there weren't any supposed time bombs in his manor...? Was Ye Wanwan just intentionally trying to scare him earlier...?

Since Si Bayi's words were too serious, the police officers didn't dare to be careless and immediately called for the Explosive Department to conduct a search.

However, after the manor was searched inside out, they didn't find any traces of the time bombs Si Bayi mentioned.

"You..."

Si Bayi wanted nothing more than to skin Ye Wanwan alive... I got played by her!

How did this kind of shameless person survive in the Independent State?!

"What? I'm a law-abiding citizen. We're different," Ye Wanwan said expressionlessly.

"Law-abiding..." Si Bayi was incensed. "You're simply contemptible and shameless... You don't deserve to be a resident of the Independent State... So shameless..."

Even if Si Bayi didn't defeat the Fearless Alliance today or died in battle, he never would've sought help from the Chinese police... This was a matter of principle!

He wasn't the only one. None of the factions from the Independent State would do something like this if they traveled to another country. If news of it got back to the Independent State, where would they put their face?!

A second later, Si Bayi turned to Third Elder and the others.

"Why are you looking at me...? Why does it have to do with me... I wasn't the one who called the police... Don't talk carelessly." Third Elder glanced at Si Bayi with a tinge of guilt.

No one in the Independent State had any concept of calling the police.

To them, this type of conflict abroad was akin to a fight between two children who called their parents because they couldn't beat the other child... It was simply...

First Elder cut in: "Well... You did possess firearms illegally... so you did commit a crime... We didn't make you commit any crimes, so you brought it upon yourself... and it's unrelated to anyone."

1864 Clever indeed

First Elder blushed with embarrassment. This time... the President Fearless was truly a bit... shameless. But their Fearless Alliance was very shameless anyway and never obeyed any rules, so it wasn't too strange for the President to do something this shameless.

Big Dipper yelled, "What are you looking at, you criminal? Blah!"

Seven Star:

Eleven added, "I'm innocent... I just came here with Master to talk business. Who could've known my brother was a criminal...?"

In the end, Ye Wanwan and Si Bayi were all taken away so the police could learn about the matter in detail.

However, Ye Wanwan and her group were released in the evening.

After some investigation, Ye Wanwan and her group proved to be innocent while Si Bayi had an illegal organization in China and illegally possessed a large amount of firearms, violating China's laws. Even if Si Bayi wanted to drag Ye Wanwan down with him, he didn't have any grounds.

After all, Ye Wanwan didn't break any laws or illegally possess any firearms. The biggest thing was that Big Dipper gave Qin Ruoxi a beating, but that was considered rightful self-defense in this situation, so he couldn't even be charged with assault.

Qin Ruoxi tried her best to cut her ties with Si Bayi, but the police's investigation rapidly discovered solid evidence that proved Qin Ruoxi was Si Bayi's mistress and repeatedly managed many illegal dealings for Si Bayi.

Si Bayi never would've expected his downfall to be in the Chinese police's hands... What was more despicable was that

it was Ye Wanwan, a fellow resident of the Independent State, who reported him!

Si Bayi had encountered all sorts of people in the Independent State—shameless, malicious, etc.—but he had never encountered anyone as shameless as Ye Wanwan in his life!

...

After Ye Wanwan led her group out of the police station, she looked at them and asked with a smile, “So what have you learned from this matter?”

“I know, I know!” Big Dipper gave her a thumbs up. “I have to learn to be someone as despicable and shameless as Sis Feng!”

Ye Wanwan: Do you want to be freaking whipped?

“I have to learn to bullsh*t!” Eleven said.

“I think what the President wants to say is: If you can use outside force to solve something, then try to refrain from doing it yourself. It doesn’t matter how shameless you are...” Third Elder answered after a moment of contemplation.

“Eh... What I meant was: Don’t violate any country’s laws... Si Bayi is your lesson,” Ye Wanwan corrected with an embarrassed expression.

“Then wouldn’t our abduction also be considered a violation of Chinese laws?” Big Dipper asked, dumbfounded.

“Abduction?” Ye Wanwan glanced at Big Dipper. “That was you... not me...”

Big Dipper exclaimed admirably, “Clever, clever indeed!”

“Anyway, how could that be considered abduction? Liang Meixuan and Huang Mingkun were the true criminals, and we merely used some improper methods to force them to admit to their crimes. Also, did I hit them or curse them? No, right?”

Ye Wanwan added matter-of-factly.

“Then... then what about Liao Jiaqi?” Big Dipper questioned.

“That Liao punk won’t leave even if we make him. He’s pestering the President nonstop, so how could that be

considered abduction? He willingly cooperated with us,” First Elder replied with a faint smile.

Ye Wanwan nodded. “First Elder is right.”

1866 Hand over the ring

Unfortunately, a place like the Independent State wasn't suitable for everyone or else it would've been nice for her to move the Age of Immortals to the Independent State.

"Hello."

When Ye Wanwan passed by a remote spot, a slim man popped out from somewhere and stopped her.

Her location wasn't far from the Age of Immortals, and the skies were gloomy but it wasn't raining, so Ye Wanwan had decided to walk.

Ye Wanwan frowned as she observed the thin man blocking her. She didn't know this man nor had she ever seen him before.

"What is it?" Ye Wanwan probed furtively.

"No need to panic; I don't have any ill intentions," the man quietly answered. "I stopped you today merely to extract something that doesn't belong to you."

"Something that doesn't belong to me?"

Ye Wanwan was startled by his answer.

What did he mean "something that didn't belong to her"? She didn't know this man at all, so she shouldn't have ever taken anything of his.

Ye Wanwan snorted. "Heh... I'd like to hear what doesn't belong to me and what you'd like to take."

"The ring on your finger."

The thin man didn't beat about the bush and got straight to the point. His gaze landed on the ring that Si Yehan handed to her recently.

"This...?" Ye Wanwan looked at the simple ring pensively.

When Si Yehan handed this ring to her, he told her that this ring originally belonged to her and he merely kept it safe for her, but he didn't know the use and history of this ring either.

Ye Wanwan didn't expect she would become a target as soon as she received this ring.

"Who are you?" Ye Wanwan asked.

"You don't need to know that. This ring doesn't belong to you, so you just need to hand it over," the slim man answered expressionlessly.

"What a joke." Ye Wanwan smirked coldly. "I'm wearing this ring, so who does it belong to if not me? Don't tell me it belongs to you."

Ye Wanwan previously didn't take this ring to heart, but it appeared this ring definitely wasn't a simple accessory. There had to be some kind of secret behind it or else who would come and try to steal this ring?

"So... you aren't willing to hand it over...?" The slim man started slowly walking toward Ye Wanwan. "Then I'll have to take it myself."

The slim man stopped in front of her and reached for her ring.

Ye Wanwan tilted to the side.

However, the man's hand followed like a shadow and easily grabbed Ye Wanwan's left shoulder.

Only then did Ye Wanwan realize that this man could've even been a top expert in the Independent State!

She wouldn't be able to withstand even a move from this man in her sober state.

Unfortunately, Ye Wanwan hadn't carried any liquor with her after arriving in China since she never expected to encounter any sort of real danger here.

Ye Wanwan's eyes shifted, and she looked at the man. "There *is* a way for you to get this ring... You just need to tell me who you are... and why you want this ring. I'll give it to you then."

“None of your business,” the thin man retorted.

1867 Report your name

It appeared it won't be easy to weasel information out of this man.

Ye Wanwan examined her surroundings. She should find a way to leave this place in this current situation. Even if she got an answer regarding the ring's history and purpose, what would she do if this man stole the ring...

"I don't want to hurt you. You just need to give me the ring and I can leave. How about it?" the man apathetically asked.

Ye Wanwan snorted. "This is my ring. We'd have to see whether you can take it or not."

An icy frostiness surfaced in his eyes. "Don't do things the hard way."

His mission was to secure the ring on this woman. Although he received orders that prohibited him from killing her, it didn't mean he couldn't injure her.

Several shadows suddenly flitted past and landed around Ye Wanwan.

"We're late, President."

The men in black said to Ye Wanwan apologetically.

Ye Wanwan nodded upon seeing the newcomers. These people were the Fearless Alliance elites she brought from the Independent State, and they were all formidable experts who were responsible for operating in secret.

"Punk, I'm advising you to truthfully tell me who you are and why you want my ring. If you don't tell me, you won't be able to leave so easily today."

Ye Wanwan's confidence was bolstered by the arrival of the elites.

"Oh...?" The thin man swept his eyes over the men and aloofly said, "I'm afraid these people alone won't be able to

protect you.”

“Are you looking down on us?!”

The Fearless Alliance elites were enraged instantly.

They were members of the Fearless Alliance. When had they ever been looked down upon? This was an immense humiliation to them!

Ye Wanwan ordered, “Keep his life. Don’t kill him—”

Before she could finish, the Fearless Alliance elites were sent flying back under her nose.

The slim man retracted his hand and calmly looked at her.

“Give me the ring.”

Ye Wanwan was stupefied. What kind of monster was this man...? How was he so strong? Those were elites that Big Dipper and Seven Star chose meticulously, but they were sent back by this thin man within seconds?

“P-president... this man is truly too strong... We aren’t a match for him... so please attack yourself, President Fearless!” an elite said to Ye Wanwan reverently, his face pale.

“Punk... You’re dead... Are you blind? Do you know who this is?!”

To these elites of the Fearless Alliance, Ye Wanwan was equivalent to unbeatable, so that thin man would die without a doubt as soon as Ye Wanwan attacked.

Ye Wanwan: You were freaking better off not coming...

If these Fearless Alliance elites hadn’t come, she could’ve run at least. Now, this was just perfect. She couldn’t beat this man or escape. It wasn’t like she could flee for her life in front of all these Fearless Alliance elites.

“Wait!”

Ye Wanwan cleared her throat. “Um... I don’t let nameless ghosts die in my hands... Report your name first.”

1869 Invincible in the World

Silver hair that fell to his waist and an easy-going smile that hung on his face.

“It’s you...” Ye Wanwan was surprised.

After a pause, Ye Wanwan exclaimed, “Dugu Qiubai?!”

“Dugu Qiubai?!”

The Fearless Alliance elites’ gazes all landed on the man.

“D*mn, this name... Aren’t your parents too arrogant?!”

“It is a bit arrogant...”

There was actually someone named Dugu Qiubai in this world?! Did they read too many novels and watch too much TV?

The man flushed at their strange looks and hastily waved his hand. “What Dugu Qiubai... Cut it out. That’s my username... It’s a username, not a real name! Anyway, Dugu Qiubai is history; I’ve changed my username!” The silver-haired man quickly corrected her.

“Changed it...?” Ye Wanwan promptly blurted out, “What did you change it to?”

“Invincible in the World,” the silver-haired man answered.

Ye Wanwan:”...”

The Fearless Alliance elites:”...”

“Invincible in the World”? This is more freaking arrogant than Dugu Qiubai, alright?!”

Ye Wanwan carefully observed the silver-haired man. She once hit him with her car during her time in China.

However, the car nearly had to be scrapped from the impact, but the silver-haired man was fine, so she thought she’d seen a ghost. After that, this silver-haired man rescued her from the assassins sent by Nie Linglong.

Additionally, this silver-haired man claimed he had a disciple named “Little Worryless”...

Ye Wanwan suspected that this silver-haired man’s disciple was her, Worryless Nie.

The probability was great, but it couldn’t be confirmed before her memories were recovered.

“Chap, how could you do such an immoral, corrupt, disgraceful, and illicit act in broad daylight with the sun bright above us? It’s truly despicable,” the silver-haired man proclaimed as he looked at the thin man.

“...“Ye Wanwan felt there was something strange about his words.

“Chap, I can’t allow you to act in this manner in front of me! If you stubbornly persist in your path and refuse to leave...” — a cold glint flashed through the silver-haired man’s eyes — “then I’ll call the police.”

The Fearless Alliance elites:”...”

Ye Wanwan:Did calling the police require such a grandiose prologue?!

The thin man looked at the silver-haired man with a frown. “It’s you...”

“Fine, it’s a small world, so goodbye for now.” The thin man then turned to leave without a word and disappeared.

The silver-haired man smiled. “Young people nowadays truly can’t endure much fright. I didn’t even bring my phone, but he really thought I’d call the police.”

Ye Wanwan imperceptibly studied the silver-haired man. The thin man absolutely didn’t leave because the silver-haired man wanted to call the police; he seemed to recognize the silver-haired man instead...

Before departing, the thin man uttered: “It’s you...”

Ye Wanwan’s curiosity in the silver-haired man grew. Just who was he? The thin man possessed frightening strength, but the silver-haired man managed to scare the thin man off without

any fighting with his identity alone... It was truly unbelievable.

“President, do you still need liquor? I’ll go and buy it...” a Fearless Alliance elite asked as he stood up.

1871 Too bizarre

The silver-haired man stopped and sized Ye Wanwan up.

“What are you saying? You’re Worriless Nie?”

“Don’t I look like her?” Ye Wanwan retorted.

“Not really right now.” The silver-haired man shook his head.

Not really right now? So did I resemble Worriless more closely before? Or do I know how to change faces and switch appearances in the blink of an eye?

“You say you’re Bai Feng of the Fearless Alliance one minute and Worriless Nie the next. Are you trying to trick me?” The silver-haired man glanced at her strangely.

“I’m Worriless Nie...” Ye Wanwan said.

“If you’re Worriless Nie, then who is Bai Feng?” The silver-haired man frowned.

“I’m also Bai Feng,” she answered.

“If you’re Bai Feng... then what about Worriless Nie...? What mumbo-jumbo is this? My head is dizzy because of you.” The silver-haired man looked displeased.

Isn’t it me who should be dizzy...?

Ye Wanwan said, “Forget it if you don’t believe it.”

“What evidence do you have to prove you’re my disciple, Worriless Nie?” The silver-haired man asked after a moment of silence.

“Then what evidence do you have to prove you’re Worriless Nie’s master?” Ye Wanwan retorted.

Without concrete evidence that proved this silver-haired man was Worriless Nie’s master, Ye Wanwan kept her reservations about him even if he did save her twice.

“I don’t want to waste my time with you... Since you said you’re Worriless Nie, then let me ask you—why didn’t you

recognize your own master? Do you have amnesia?”

“You said you’re Worriless Nie’s master, so why didn’t you recognize your own disciple? Do you also have amnesia?”

You, little miss, are rather silver-tongued. Fine, after you return to the Independent State, I’ll have my method of confirming whether you’re Worriless Nie or not.”

After saying that, the silver-haired man turned and left without looking back, disappearing without a trace.

Ye Wanwan was speechless. Wasn’t this too bizarre?

If the silver-haired man didn’t know she was his disciple, Worriless Nie, why did he save her twice...? Or perhaps he merely couldn’t confirm it was her since she bore some similarities to Worriless Nie, as Nameless Nie once mentioned.

Ye Wanwan was very curious about this silver-haired man’s identity. Could he really be my master...?

Even if this silver-haired man didn’t recognize her despite being Worriless Nie’s master, she wouldn’t find it strange or odd. After all, even her own parents and brother didn’t recognize her.

Speaking of which, she was probably raised by her maternal grandfather since she was young and rarely encountered people from the Nie family. Perhaps her grandfather prohibited her from seeing Madam Nie and Patriarch Nie entirely, as well as Nameless Nie. If things were like that, it’d be pardonable for the Nie family to not recognize her. However, her master’s inability to recognize her was a bit... dumb, no?

Before Ye Wanwan could mull it over any longer, a car rapidly drove toward her and parked on the street.

A second later, Big Dipper, Seven Star, and the others rushed out of the car.

“Sis Feng, you got robbed?! Where is he? I’ll kill him!”

1872 Worth how much?

Big Dipper was the first to reach Ye Wanwan and furiously looked around her.

Ye Wanwan glanced at him. If she had waited for him, her corpse would've cooled already.

“Are you alright, Sis Feng?” Seven Star asked as he inspected her.

Ye Wanwan shook her head. “It's nothing.”

“How dare someone act as shameless as our Fearless Alliance and publicly rob someone in broad daylight with the sun bright above us? Are they trying to steal our business?!” Big Dipper exclaimed furiously.

“Do you know the other person's origin, President?” First Elder asked as he walked forward.

When they followed Eleven to investigate the whereabouts of the Fearless Alliance members imprisoned by Si Bayi, they received a call saying the President was ambushed and their Fearless Alliance elites weren't a match, so the other person probably came from the Independent State.

The Independent State probably,” Ye Wanwan replied.

Third Elder frowned in contemplation and said after a moment, “Could it be someone from the Lawless Gang, President...?”

They just tricked the Lawless Gang's leader, Si Bayi, into the police station, so it would be reasonable for the Lawless Gang to retaliate.

“I don't think so.” Ye Wanwan shook her head.

With the Lawless Gang's current state, an expert like that wouldn't fit in there. Moreover, that person's intentions were very obvious. He didn't come for her life; he came for her ring. So he probably wasn't connected to the Lawless Gang.

“Strange... Our elites said that person wanted to steal your ring, President...” First Elder said to her.

“That’s right.” Ye Wanwan admitted it frankly.

“President, what kind of ring is it? Would it be alright to let me take a look?” First Elder asked.

Ye Wanwan didn’t consider it for long since she didn’t need to stay on guard against First Elder and the others.

Ye Wanwan immediately pulled her ring off and handed it to First Elder.

Seven Star, Big Dipper, and Third Elder quickly surrounded it as well.

The ring in First Elder’s hand was simple and dull, forged from some unknown material. A closer examination revealed a stalk of weed inside the ring, but this ring couldn’t look any more ordinary.

“Are you done yet? Let me see.” Third Elder glanced at First Elder.

First Elder handed the ring to him.

Third Elder studied it for a moment but couldn’t uncover anything.

“Third Elder, come come come, let me see the ring too.” Big Dipper hastily extended his hand toward him.

Third Elder merely glanced at him but ignored him and directly returned the ring to Ye Wanwan.

“President, this ring has some years on it, and the material is a bit unusual... So it should be rather valuable...” Third Elder said after some thought.

“Valuable...? How much is it worth then?” Ye Wanwan asked reflexively.

“That’s hard to say...” Third Elder shook his head. He wasn’t a ring seller, so how would he know how much it was worth?

“Um, aside from being valuable, what other use does it have?” Ye Wanwan asked.

“Other use...? Well, it’s valuable...? Aside from being valuable, I can’t see any other purpose.” Third Elder was dumbfounded. Could this ring have another purpose?

Ye Wanwan immediately turned to First Elder.

Everyone knew that the most knowledgeable and experienced person in the Fearless Alliance was First Elder, so perhaps he knew other purposes for this ring.

1874 A ring that shouldn't exis

t

“I got it! You told me many times already! Look at how well-behaved I am—do I look like a disobedient person? Don't worry, I'll stay in the country and won't run around wildly!” Ye Wanwan vehemently promised.

Seven Star frowned when he overheard this.

Big Dipper quietly exclaimed, “D*mn! What's going on with Sis Feng? Didn't we decide to leave? Why did she change her mind the second she got a call from a stray cat outside? Isn't this too... unscrupulous?!”

Big Dipper was frightened by Ye Wanwan's fickle attitude.

Seven Star still remembered the love gu in Sis Feng, and they had to go back and think of a cure as soon as possible, so they definitely couldn't stay in China for long.

Now, she wanted to stay in China for a man? Wasn't she risking her life trivially?

On the other end of the call, Si Yehan refrained from commenting on her words but decided that Ye Wanwan wasn't lying after some thought.

After all, he managed to mollify her that other day, so there was no reason for her to return to the Independent State. Si Yehan's worries were eased temporarily, and he said, “Wait for me to come back.”

“Yes yes, I know. I'll be good and wait for you at home. Hurry and come back, okay?” Ye Wanwan's voice was especially soft and agreeable as she promised.

Seven Star's expression darkened with every word she spoke, and he wanted to interrupt several times but resisted.

After being lovey-dovey for a while more, Ye Wanwan finally hung up and promptly turned to look at Seven Star. “Did you book the plane tickets yet?”

“What?” Seven Star was startled and swallowed the words he wanted to say.

Ye Wanwan pursed her lips. “I’m talking about the plane tickets back to the Independent State tomorrow!”

Seven Star reflexively nodded. “I booked them.”

“Great! We’ll depart tomorrow then!” Ye Wanwan replied.

Seven Star asked in a daze, “Didn’t you just say... you were staying in China... Sis Feng?”

Ye Wanwan raised her brows and glanced at her phone. “You believe the words people say when they’re pacifying someone?”

Seven Star: “...”

Big Dipper: “...”

Sis Feng’s lip service was truly too slippery!

If it weren’t for her typical hoes over bros character, why would they worry? Who knew she’d resist beauty so staunchly this time?

Big Dipper whispered in Seven Star’s ears. “I know! It’s not because Sis Feng changed her nature; it’s because the Independent State has more beautiful men...”

Seven Star:

Ye Wanwan rolled her eyes at Big Dipper. “What are you muttering about? What are you saying this time?”

Big Dipper hastily waved his hand. “Nothing, nothing. Oh right, Sis Feng, I just wanted to ask... Are... are you really married to that patriarch of the Si family?”

The president’s marriage was very significant, after all!

Ye Wanwan cast her eyes down in silence for a moment before turning to look at the distant night. She aloofly replied, “Who knows?”

“Eh... what?” Big Dipper asked.

What does this mean...?

Doesn't Sis Feng know whether she's married or not?

Big Dipper and Seven Star looked at each other with clear exasperation in their eyes.

Ye Wanwan didn't say anything more and entered the car, ordering Big Dipper to drive toward the Age of Immortals.

At the same time, at some location in Imperial City:

The silver-haired man sat in a mini-van with a deep frown on his face, as though he was thinking about something.

“I didn't expect it to be that ring...” the silver-haired man murmured, surprise and worry surfacing on his face.

“Impossible... That ring should've been utterly destroyed after that incident in the Independent State, so why...” Unease grappled his mind.

Before Worriless Nie went missing, he clearly told her that the ring absolutely shouldn't exist and had to be destroyed! And his disciple, Worriless Nie, destroyed the ring in front of him...

So why... why did that ring still exist?! And why was it in Worriless Nie's possession...?

1876 Incredibly free

But they weren't able to see that man's appearance clearly.

Later, the silver-haired man caught wind of some news, so he came to China in search of Worriless Nie's whereabouts.

To the seductive woman, Master was probably unwilling to reunite with Little Junior Sister because he pampered Little Junior Sister too much.

If Little Junior Sister kept hounding Master, he probably couldn't withstand it and would spill everything...

Once Little Junior Sister learned the truth...

The consequences would be inconceivable.

"Master, should we leave the Little Junior Sister alone without any care then...?" The woman looked at him in incomprehension.

They finally managed to confirm Little Junior Sister's identity after all the trouble and found her. Shouldn't they reunite with her...?

The silver-haired man stayed silent for a moment before looking at her. "What's there to worry about? Your Little Junior Sister couldn't be any freer! As the President of the Fearless Alliance, she has a bunch of experts around her protecting her."

The seductive woman carefully thought about it and realized that was the truth.

"Then... Master, when can we reunite with Little Junior Sister?"

"Let's wait until Worriless recovers her memory on her own." The silver-haired man sighed.

At the same time, as Big Dipper drove, he kept peering at Ye Wanwan in the back. "Hey, Sis Feng... Just how much is your ring worth...?"

“Drive properly. Stop looking at me.” Ye Wanwan glanced at him.

“Okay.” Big Dipper had no choice but to focus on driving and didn’t dare to look behind him again.

“Have you found the Fearless Alliance members abducted by Si Bayi?” Ye Wanwan asked as she turned to the others. Seven Star nodded expressionlessly. “Yes, we found them.”

“Sis Feng, we had a total of 20 something members abducted by the Lawless Gang, but only 11 people remained. Ay...

But we called the police and got Si Bayi and a dozen or so Lawless Gang members captured, so we didn’t lose anything and got our revenge,” Big Dipper hastily interjected.

Third Elder, in the front passenger seat, glanced at Big Dipper. Can he freaking stop mentioning how we called the police?!

“Say, Sis Feng... Isn’t it a bit too... humiliating... how we called the police to capture Si Bayi in China? If word got back to the Independent State and other factions learned we called the police... where would our pride go?” Big Dipper asked.

Third Elder:

Ye Wanwan glanced at Big Dipper. “What’s humiliating about that? It was Si Bayi acting shameless first by using firearms, and we called the police second. It’s not like we called the police while everyone was fighting with their bare hands.”

“Eh... that’s the principle, but... the prohibited usage of firearms is only the Independent State’s rules. Members of the Independent State aren’t as restricted in other countries,” Big Dipper refuted.

“That’s right. As you said, there aren’t as many rules in China, so why should we abide by the Independent State’s rules still...? We’re in China, a country with a proper legal system,” Ye Wanwan retorted.

Third Elder: “Thinking about it like that, that does seem to be the case.”

Seven Star agreed. “Yes...”

Big Dipper also added, “True... I’m convinced.”

Ye Wanwan swept her eyes over the other four. When they were in the Independent State, they didn’t find anything humiliating but they had so many concerns after coming to China. How surprising.

With Ye Wanwan’s directions, Big Dipper soon parked the car in front of the Age of Immortals.

“Director Ye!!!”

1877 Your goddess's boyfriend

When the guards at the Age of Immortals' entrance saw Ye Wanwan and her group appearing suddenly, they immediately received her in surprise.

“Hello, Director Ye!”

“Hello.” Ye Wanwan smiled at them.

The security looked flattered, as though they were dreaming.

Ye Wanwan was the top boss of Stars Corporation!

It was extremely difficult for even international superstars to see Ye Wanwan. They couldn't see her whenever they pleased.

“Is CEO Ye here?” Ye Wanwan asked.

“Huh... Aren't you Director Ye[l]...?” An employee blurted out automatically but realized something was amiss, so they immediately corrected themselves. “Oh... You're referring to Ye Mufan, CEO Ye...He's here, he's here...I'll bring you to him.”

“Sure.” Ye Wanwan nodded.

Soon, Ye Wanwan entered the Age of Immortals' canteen.

Aside from Ye Mufan, Jiang Yanran, Gong Xu, Luo Chen, Han Xianyu, and Chu Feng, who she hadn't seen for a long time, were also present.

They were sitting at the same table and eating the company canteen's food.

“D*mn, Brother Ye!”

Gong Xu was the first to see Ye Wanwan and shot up excitedly at once.

“Wanwan... why are you here?”

Ye Mufan immediately put down a half-chewed pig's foot and reflexively wiped the grease on his hands on his clothes.

"F*ck me... The expensive suit I just bought!" Ye Mufan looked like he ate shit as he stared at the grease stains on himself.

"..." Ye Wanwan thought: Wasn't it you who smeared that grease stain a second ago...?

"You're all eating!"

Big Dipper swaggered up and nonchalantly sat down next to Jiang Yanran.

"Hello... I think that's my seat..." The pushed-away Chu Feng stared at Big Dipper, baffled.

Seeing as it was someone brought there by Ye Wanwan, Chu Feng couldn't blow up rashly.

"What's that about your seat, my seat? Your name isn't on it, chap. Aren't you too tactless? Shoo shoo shoo, go sit somewhere else, right... Goddess...?" Big Dipper turned to Jiang Yanran toward the end.

Jiang Yanran:

"Sis Wanwan..." The bewildered Chu Feng immediately turned to Ye Wanwan. What was happening?

"Big Dipper." Ye Wanwan shot Big Dipper a displeased look. Chu Feng was Jiang Yanran's proper boyfriend, and they were about to get engaged. Why was he trying to butt in?

Seven Star expressionlessly walked toward Big Dipper before he could speak and picked him up before aloofly turning to Chu Feng. "Sit."

Chu Feng sat back down dazedly. Just what was happening...?

"D*mn... Old Seven, are you a freaking human? How could you separate me from my goddess...? Tell me, did you take a fancy to my goddess?!" Big Dipper was brimming with resentment.

"Big Dipper, this is Chu Feng, Jiang Yanran's boyfriend." Ye Wanwan was forced to tell him the truth.

Big Dipper looked at Chu Feng in immense shock and disbelief. “D*mn... No way! How is that possible... Punk, get up. I’m going to fight with you! We’ll sign a life and death pact...”

Chu Feng’s lips twitched. He didn’t seem too willing to pay attention to Big Dipper.

“D*mn, punk, can’t you freaking give us a break? Yanran is about to get engaged; what fuss are you making?” Ye Mufan glanced at Big Dipper.

[1] Many managerial positions are just shortened to “Manager XXX” in Chinese when addressing someone regardless of whether they are CEO, director, president, etc.

1879 Give me a girlfriend as compensation

“Leave? Where?” Gong Xu pressed anxiously.

“Far away.” Big Dipper sighed. Thinking about it , if he could stay in China and party every day with Gong Xu...it_d be rather nice too...

Then... when will you come back?” Gong Xu’s face filled with sadness.

“Winter probably...”

“Bro Big, aren’t you being insincere...?” Gong Xu’s lips twitched. Winter probably, he said.

Luo Chen dragged Gong Xu away before Gong Xu could say anything else.

“Oh right, how’s the investigation on Yao Jiawen?” Ye Wanwan pushed Ye Mufan, who resumed eating his pig foot again, to the side and sat down.

“That d*mn b*tch, that ingrate!” Ye Mufan put down his pig foot and scornfully said, “The investigation finished. She embezzled several large sums of money from the company and committed a white-collar crime, so she got arrested. She probably won’t be released within several decades.”

“We let her off lightly,” Han Xianyu commented with a smile.

“It’s a rather befitting punishment,” Jiang Yanran said.

Back then, Yao Jiawen secretly embezzled the company’s funds and shoved all of the crimes onto Ye Wanwan. Not only that, but she also acted like a mighty hero who didn’t fear hardship and led the Age of Immortals out of its plight. Just thinking about it made them nauseous.

Thankfully, after Ye Wanwan returned, she shattered Yao Jiawen’s public image and dished out some sweet justice!

Ye Wanwan knew Yao Jiawen would get arrested for sure, so she didn't pay it too much heed.

"How's Emperor Sky Entertainment?" Ye Wanwan asked her brother.

"I merged Emperor Sky Entertainment and the Age of Immortals. Emperor Sky Entertainment has quite a large number of artists... but the current focus is Han Xianyu, Gong Xu, and them. We won't consider other artists until they rise above the A-list," Ye Mufan replied.

"Haha, exactly. We shouldn't let one's own fertile water flow into others' fields... My Brother Ye is the boss of Stars Corporation. Before this, I never dreamed of signing a contract with Stars Entertainment... I've met so many of my idols! I love you to death, Brother Ye..." Gong Xu said.

Yeah..." Han Xianyu nodded in agreement.

Not everyone could sign onto an international entertainment company like Stars Entertainment. They possessed too many wealthy resources, so Stars Entertainment could easily make them into international superstars. As long as they didn't behave suicidally, there wouldn't be any problems.

"Brother Ye... Thank you..."

Luo Chen looked at Ye Wanwan and wanted to say something but could only make out "Thank you." No words could describe his gratitude toward Ye Wanwan. If it weren't for Ye Wanwan... he would be nothing...

"What? You want to make me cry?" Ye Wanwan asked Luo Chen in amusement.

"No..." Luo Chen shook his head.

"Wanwan, without you, we wouldn't be where we are..." Jiang Yanran said.

The greatest benefactor she'd met in her life was Ye Wanwan. Ever since their school days, the assistance Ye Wanwan had given her was truly too, too much.

"Sis Wanwan... I'm also grateful for you. If it weren't for you... I wouldn't have gotten together with Yanran..." Chu

Feng also said.

“What?!”

Big Dipper was surprised and instantly turned to Ye Wanwan grievously. “Sis Wanwan... It was actually you who introduced my goddess to this punk... I don’t care, you owe me a girlfriend! Give me a girlfriend as compensation.”

Ye Wanwan glanced at Big Dipper. “I’ll sit with you for a bit.”

Big Dipper: “...”

1881 Are you saying my daughter isn't worthy of him?

As soon as Ye Wanwan entered the kitchen, Liang Wanjun kicked her out and exclaimed, "Ah, no need! It's smoky in the kitchen, so go and wait on the sofa! There's some fruit on the coffee table—have some! Let your brother do it!"

Ye Mufan also frantically nodded while he had his apron on. "How could a girl do such rough work?! I'll do it!"

And so, Ye Wanwan had no choice but to move to the sofa.

Ye Shaoting, who had been hesitant to speak the whole night, cleared his throat and sat down next to his daughter. He furtively probed, "Wanwan, where's Little Ninth... ahem, I mean, President Si? Why haven't we seen him recently?"

His daughter's boyfriend was actually the President of the Si Corporation; he still felt like he was dreaming.

Ye Wanwan took a bite from an apple before replying, "He's been busy abroad lately. I'll bring him home another day!"

Ye Shaoting sighed worriedly. "Oh, child, how could you keep such an important matter from us?"

Ye Wanwan coughed. "Dad, I didn't lie to you though. He does work at the Si Corporation..."

Ye Shaoting glanced at his daughter exasperatedly. "Ah, you, I don't know who you resemble! Your guts are growing bigger and bigger!"

"Dad, of course I resemble you! A tiger father doesn't beget a dog child!" Ye Wanwan promptly flattered him.

"Ah, you. President Si has a powerful position... Is he in a serious relationship with you?" Liang Wanjun asked fretfully.

Ye Shaoting glanced at his wife. “What are you saying? Who do you think my daughter is?! Forget about the Age of Immortals and Emperor Sky Entertainment, but she’s also the boss of Stars Corporation! Are you saying my daughter isn’t worthy of that Si Yehan? What a joke!”

Yes yes yes, you’re right,” Liang Wanjun placated him with a smile.

Ye Wanwan paused as she watched this blissful scene with her family.

Even though she already knew the truth behind her background, she hadn’t grown emotionally distant from Father Ye, Mother Ye, and Ye Mufan.

The warmth they gave her filled an empty and unfulfilled corner of her heart.

She previously had someone secretly investigate Ye Wanwan and discovered that the real Ye Wanwan died many years ago in that terrorist attack abroad.

In truth, she was hesitant about whether she should tell them the truth or not. On one hand, she herself didn’t know all the details and didn’t know how to explain it. On the other hand, she was truly worried they couldn’t accept it.

Regardless of the reason, the reality was that she took over Ye Wanwan’s identity.

Out of guilt and responsibility, as well as the warmth they provided to her, she would definitely safeguard the Ye family and their happiness and wellbeing for the rest of their lives even if she wasn’t the real Ye Wanwan.

At that moment, she sharply heard Ye Mufan hastily dashing over with a metal spatula in hand. “What? Busy with work? How could any work be more important than his girlfriend? Ah, Wanwan, Brother is telling you, you mustn’t believe this ‘busy with work’ excuse! You have to keep a close watch on him and prevent him from getting up to no good! You’re better off believing there are ghosts in this world than a man’s mouth!”

Ye Wanwan was speechless. Please, you're also a man, alright? What man would talk about men like you?

"That's why I'm going to visit him tomorrow!" Ye Wanwan didn't want to reflate him and went along with him.

Since she needed to leave China and return to the Independent State, she naturally needed an excuse, so she straight-up told her family she was visiting her boyfriend.

This was indeed a great excuse.

Yes yes, that's right. You have to keep a strict watch on him! I'll take care of the company and Dad and Mom, so don't worry!" Ye Mufan vehemently promised.

Liang Wanjun affectionately looked at her daughter. "Regardless of Little Ninth's identity, he looks like a good child and treats you well, so be sure to get along with him well. Plus, Wanwan, it's time for you to plan for your marriage. Indulge in some romance and go out to have fun and relax. Don't worry about us and the company."

Ye Shaoting also nodded. "That's right. Leave everything else to your brother and me. Rest easy and go have fun."

Ye Shaoting always felt like he owed his daughter a lot and tried his best to make it up to her.

Warmth brimmed with Ye Wanwan's face. "Thank you, Dad, Mom!"

Don't worry... I'll definitely bring a certain someone back here!

1882 You have to use some tricks on men

Ye Mufan glanced at Ye Wanwan and lightly bumped her shoulder with a laugh. “Actually... You have to use some tricks on men, and a man like Si Yehan requires extra techniques. Sister, I’m telling you, that I, your brother, am endowed with immense advantages and extensive experience in this area. Do you want me to give you some tips...?”

Ye Wanwan’s expression was strange when she heard this. Endowed with immense advantages and extensive experience... Why does something sound odd about that...?

“I didn’t realize you studied men so much,” Ye Wanwan blurted out.

Liang Wanjun and Ye Shaoting glanced at Ye Mufan.

Ye Shaoting admonished him: “Don’t meddle in this and mess things up for your sister. How can a man like you say this kind of thing without any shame?”

Liang Wanjun looked worried. “Mufan... Don’t tell me... you don’t like girls?”

The corners of Ye Mufan’s lips twitched. “I’m a man, so I know a man best... Is there a problem with that...? How does it have anything to do with whether I like girls or not?”

“That’s good.” Only then did Liang Wanjun relax.

“Sis, I’m telling you... Approaching a man requires a lot of tricks, especially for a man like Si Yehan. You need to play hard to get and view it like flying a kite, keeping a good grasp on your rhythm and loosening or tightening the string skillfully...”

However, before Ye Mufan could finish, Ye Wanwan coldly interrupted: “How about I turn you into a kite?”

Does he think all men are as scummy as him?

“Forget it; loyal advice is jarring to the ear, so I’ll drop it. But sis, if Si Yehan bullies you, don’t be scared. Tell me and I’ll definitely pummel him to the ground!” Ye Mufan declared.

Who knows who’ll be the one pummeled to the ground?

“Alright alright, even food can’t keep your mouth shut. Hurry and eat.” Ye Shaoting chuckled.

Complicated emotions gushed into Ye Wanwan’s heart as she watched this harmonious scene, especially with the truth in mind.

Although she didn’t feel estranged from this family, her parents, and her brother at all, she still wasn’t the true Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan didn’t know if she should reveal the truth or how she should tell them the true Ye Wanwan died many years ago. Could her parents and Ye Mufan handle the truth...?

...

The next day:

Ye Wanwan was eating breakfast in the living room. Liang Wanjun had packed all her luggage for her already, bought a lot of new clothes for her and stored them in the suitcase. Aside from clothes, there was also a lot of food.

A mother couldn’t help but worry about their journeying child. That was how it always was.

“Mom, no need to prepare so many things! I can buy whatever I need later,” Ye Wanwan said to Liang Wanjun as she accepted the suitcase •

“Nonsense. Preparing everything ahead of time is better than fretting over it when it’s missing during your travels.” Ye Shaoting put down his book.

“Dad, I understand.” Ye Wanwan had no choice but to accept.

“Oh right... Wanwan, I have something I’ve been meaning to ask you...” Ye Shaoting looked at her and asked, “How did you become the owner of Stars Corporation...?”

“Dad, it’s a long story. I actually don’t have a lot of shares in Stars Corporation, but those friends of mine have a good amount, and... everyone thinks I have a decent mind for business... So they listen to me a lot...” Ye Wanwan concocted a random tale.

1884 Return to the Independent State

“President, I arranged for them to go back first,” Third Elder answered as he stepped forward. “They were missing from the Independent State for too long and missed home a lot. Plus, they weren’t in a good state, so...”

“Nicely done.” Ye Wanwan nodded.

Third Elder smiled and glanced at First Elder provocatively.

...

At the Independent State’s airport:

The plane steadily descended and landed. After switching several planes and taking two ferries, Ye Wanwan and her group finally arrived at the Independent State.

As soon as Ye Wanwan reached the Independent State, she released herself from her shackles and tossed aside her sunglasses, face mask, black haute couture windbreaker, and the brand-name necklace on her neck. She switched into the loose and ragged black martial arts clothes she typically wore in the Independent State as well as a pair of flip-flops.

Ah, not having the burden of an idol felt rather nice.

In China, she had to maintain her appearance in front of her artists and her fans.

Ye Wanwan couldn’t help but chuckle when she thought about this.

Once upon a time, when she first came to the Independent State, she still remembered how she had to tread on thin ice and lived every second in trepidation. Every word she spoke had to undergo careful deliberation.

Now, within a mere few months, she went from an illegal stowaway outsider to gradually adapting to life here and started living like a fish in water.

It was true. Even if her memory was tampered with, something that was in her bones couldn't be changed.

...

At the same time at Asura's headquarters:

In the garden, Lin Que languidly sat on a rattan chair and drank some tea before saying to the man who was reading documents next to him, "Ah, what a feat, what a feat! Congratulations, Ninth Brother, you finally took care of that girl!"

They originally thought it would be a series of tribulations, but they didn't expect Ninth Brother to take care of it just by showing his face.

Lin Que bootlickingly flattered, "You're still awesome, Ninth Brother. As soon as you appeared, you managed to make that girl listen to you with your face alone!"

Before they left, they called Ye Wanwan again to make sure and confirm that she wouldn't leave China before resting easy and leaving themselves.

Si Yehan looked at Lin Que on this rare occasion, evidently in a good mood.

"Inform Jiang Yan and summon all the branch heads. We're having a meeting in the afternoon," Si Yehan ordered.

Lin Que sighed. "As soon as you come back, you work nonstop with no regard for your life and only sleep two to three hours every night. Are you trying to become an immortal?!"

He suddenly missed that girl. At least she was someone who dared to force him to sleep...

Ye Wanwan and her group took the special channel, so they quickly reached the airport arrivals area.

"Ah! I hadn't had enough fun yet, but we're back already!" Big Dipper grumbled regretfully.

Seven Star rolled his eyes at Big Dipper and ignored him. He swiftly reported everything that happened in the Fearless

Alliance while they were gone and her upcoming agenda.

“En en en...” Ye Wanwan just woke up on the airplane and was a little dazed still. She scratched her hair and absentmindedly listened before saying. “Alright, alright, got it! Oh right, Seven Star, any news on the matter I had you investigate regarding Emperor Ji?”

Her main reasons for going to China were helping out her father and brother and searching for traces of Si Yehan. As for the academy’s mission, she only finished the A-rank mission of destroying the defected mercenaries’ organization to obtain 5,000 honor points.

At the Scarlet Flames Academy’s competition last time, she obtained 5,000 points for breaking the record and 10,000 points for winning first place at the competition. Combined with the 10,000 points from finishing two A-rank missions, she had a total of 25,000 points.

1886 Hereditary shamelessness

When Virus stood up, his black shadow towered over Ye Wanwan, and she wrapped her arms around him.

Great White also stood up immediately and paced around Ye Wanwan affectionately, appearing like he missed her a lot too.

Ye Wanwan chuckled happily and madly petted and rubbed her two pets.

“President... President, are you here?”

A familiar voice suddenly came from outside the office door.

Before Ye Wanwan could ponder it, the door was pushed open and a figure shot in.

“President...”

The figure was about to dash toward Ye Wanwan when a furious roar from Virus drained the color out of the newcomer’s face.

“Fu Mingxi?”

Ye Wanwan was startled when she saw the man in front of her. Wasn’t Fu Mingxi in China? Why was he here?

“Mingxi, don’t act insolently.”

An elderly man slowly walked into the office and shot Fu Mingxi a look.

This elderly man was the Second Elder of the Fearless Alliance.

“Fu Mingxi, why are you here?” Ye Wanwan called back Virus and had Fu Mingxi and Second Elder sit down.

“I asked Grandfather, and he told me you were coming back, President, so I came back a day before you,” Fu Mingxi answered.

Ye Wanwan: This punk truly won't go away! Isn't it good to be an international superstar in China? Why does he have to run about everywhere?

"Second Elder, thank you for your help this time." Ye Wanwan ignored Fu Mingxi and turned to Second Elder.

"What are you saying, President? Stars Corporation belongs to the Fearless Alliance, so of course the President can use it however necessary," Second Elder hastily replied.

Before Ye Wanwan could respond, First Elder, Third Elder, Big Dipper, and Seven Star entered the office.

When Third Elder saw Second Elder and Fu Mingxi, his expression shifted.

"D*mn... you're like a piece of dogskin plaster, punk! We can't shake you off no matter where we go!" Big Dipper said with a strange expression.

Fu Mingxi actually came back earlier than them! He freaking came prepared!

"Second Elder, aren't you too shameless...?" Third Elder looked at Second Elder with displeasure rolling off of him. "How am I shameless?" Second Elder's expression chilled.

"You actually made your grandson come... Are you trying to usurp the Fearless Alliance?" Third Elder jeered.

"I don't have time for you." Second Elder smirked. "It was the President who agreed to this matter back then. If the President gets together with Mingxi, then Mingxi has to help the President share her internal and external responsibilities. What's wrong with that?"

"You..." Third Elder nearly coughed up a mouthful of blood. He really couldn't find any good argument.

"Actually, President... I have several sons who are decent..." Third Elder immediately said to Ye Wanwan with a big grin on his face.

"President... I..." First Elder also wanted to say something.

“You what? Do you have a son?” Third Elder glanced at First Elder.

“Do you have a grandson?” Second Elder also asked him.

First Elder:

“Enough, enough.” Ye Wanwan exasperatedly waved her hands. What was this? A matchmaking party?

“My husband has been decided already, so stop the needless worrying,” Ye Wanwan said with a sigh.

“Grandfather, the President took a fancy to a pretty boy...” Fu Mingxi said to Second Elder.

Second Elder chuckled and said to his grandson meaningfully, “Ah, Mingxi, the President isn’t married yet, so as they say, contend for the President’s hand fairly. Grandfather believes in you.”

Ye Wanwan: Is this shamelessness hereditary...?

1887 The Independent State's taboo

“Don't worry, Grandfather!” Fu Mingxi looked at Second Elder, his face brimming with confidence.

“Go on, Mingxi, Grandfather believes in you.” Second Elder nodded at his grandson in satisfaction.

Ye Wanwan:

Didn't I tell them clearly that I have a lover already...? Do they not understand human words...?

“D*mn... you're so thick-skinned!” Big Dipper gave Second Elder and Fu Mingxi a big thumbs up. In terms of skin thickness in the Fearless Alliance, the winner had to be this grandfather and grandson duo, right?

Ye Wanwan helplessly left the office, allowing Second Elder and Third Elder to keep arguing. She drove herself to the Nie residence.

...

Everyone in the Nie family knew about Ye Wanwan's identity, and Patriarch Nie evidently gave specific instructions to the servants after the last time she took Tangtang outside, so she was allowed inside very smoothly.

In the living room, Madam Nie looked at Ye Wanwan with an indulgent and loving smile.

“Godmother, I brought this back from China for you.”

Ye Wanwan took out some presents for her and placed Tangtang's presents to the side.

“You're too kind,” Madam Nie said happily.

“Oh right, where's Tangtang?” Ye Wanwan impatiently wanted to see her darling son... her biological son...

Madam Nie answered, “We helped Tangtang enroll in school recently, so he’s at school right now!”

“Tangtang’s at school...”

Ye Wanwan realized that Tangtang was at the age for attending school. She was truly an irresponsible mom for not even knowing this.

Ye Wanwan nodded in response. She originally wanted to directly hand these presents to Tangtang, but she would have to come again next time.

...

After chatting with Madam Nie for a while, Ye Wanwan planned to leave. She came to the Nie residence to see Tangtang, and since Tangtang wasn’t home, she wanted to return to Scarlet Flames Academy.

Before Ye Wanwan left the Nie residence, she saw Nameless Nie wandering around casually.

“Nameless Nie!” Ye Wanwan shouted immediately.

“D*mn... You scared me to death!”

Nameless Nie was astonished when he saw her. “Didn’t you go back to China to party? When did you come back...?”

“Forget about that. I’m asking you—what’s the deal with the Rose of Death?” Ye Wanwan wanted nothing more than to take a chunk out of Nameless Nie. This liar told her the Rose of Death didn’t exist and conned a copyright fee from her!!!

“The Rose of Death?” Nameless Nie was bewildered. “What happened? What about the Rose of Death?”

“What else could’ve happened? The Rose of Death clearly existed, so why did you tell me the Rose of Death didn’t exist? Was it just to scam some copyright fee out of me...? Return the money to me.” Ye Wanwan extended her hand toward him.

“I don’t have any money... but I have a life...” Nameless Nie promptly shook his head. She wanted him to return money that entered his pockets? No way in hell!

“Then tell me what’s the deal with the Rose of Death...? Do you know that I created a new Rose of Death after I bought the copyright from you? You’re going to be the death of me!” Ye Wanwan was beside herself with rage.

“Ah, sister... It’s not that I was lying to you. Our family did write manuscripts for the Rose of Death...” Nameless Nie smiled guiltily when he caught Ye Wanwan’s murderous gaze. “Heehee... Alright, fine, the Rose of Death does indeed exist... But it’s a taboo in the Independent State, so who’d dare to mention it...?”

“So you’re saying the Rose of Death isn’t fictional...?” Ye Wanwan asked with a frown.

1889 Image will collapse

After returning from the Nie residence, Ye Wanwan didn't hurry and return to the Academy to submit her missions. Instead, she planned to wait until the charity auction finished in three days, after she won Emperor Ji's personal ring, before submitting all those completed missions together.

The next few days, she took care of all the paperwork for the Fearless Alliance that had piled up during her absence and studied the newly issued missions from Scarlet Flames Academy to see if there were any quick missions she could accept.

In the blink of an eye, the day of the auction arrived.

This annual charity auction was one of the largest banquets in the Independent State. It was organized by the four great clans—the Shen, the Ji, the Nie, and the Ling clans—and all the leaders and renowned people of the Independent State were invited.

They adhered to the principle “Love and charity are borderless,” so the invited guests weren't restricted by which side of the law they were on or their sects and factions.

Hence, even a notorious organization like the Fearless Alliance was given an invitation by the four great clans.

However, with the Fearless Alliance's temperament, they naturally wouldn't attend such an uncharacteristic charity auction.

Their Fearless Alliance also had the baggage of an idol.

On their way there, Big Dipper kept staring at the invitation and grumbling, “Ah, Sis Feng, do we really have to go to this charity auction? Our Fearless Alliance's image will collapse!”

When the Fearless Alliance typically wanted to do something good, they directly stuffed the money in that person's hands and the person had to take it whether they wanted to or not, or

else they would receive a round of beatings. Who would attend this kind of monotonous charity banquet?

Ye Wanwan rolled her eyes at him. “Enough nonsense! Did you figure out when Emperor Ji’s ring will be auctioned?” Big Dipper pursed his lips. “Who needs to dig into this? It’ll definitely be the climax, arranged toward the end...”

Ye Wanwan did some research about the event before coming.

The Independent State’s charity auction was similarly structured to China’s charity auctions.

Essentially, a prestigious brand name or organization invited celebrities of all circles to attend.

The invited celebrities would each donate at least one item that would be auctioned by the attending guests and the funds obtained from the auction would be donated.

There would be all sorts of items ranging from valuable and precious accessories and jewels to personal items of famous people like clothes, fountain pens or even used handkerchiefs. The prices for these everyday items depended on their owner.

For example, Emperor Ji’s ring. As the heir of the Ji family, one of the four great clans, and the Emperor of Europe’s underground with the title “Emperor Ji,” Ji Xiuran had an immensely high popularity and prestige in the Independent State. Hence, as one of the top treasures of the night, the ring would certainly be the focus of many people and be very popular and sought after.

However, what they probably couldn’t have expected was for a bandit boss to appear tonight...

Seven Star looked unhappy the entire journey, and his expression darkened further after he took a call midway through the ride.

“What’s up with you, Old Seven? Why do you look so unhappy? Are you also afraid of humiliating yourself? How about we conceal our faces together?”

Seven Star’s eye kept twitching, and he dismally said, “We can’t let the President go. I just got news that Lord Asura will

attend tonight too.”

Emperor Ji alone was enough to raise his nerves and set him on edge. But adding Lord Asura into the mix... Who knew what havoc Sis Feng would wreak?

Big Dipper’s eyes shot open. “F*ck me! Lord Asura is also going? That’s great! Our Fearless Alliance won’t be at the bottom anymore!”

Asura coming to this kind of event would definitely be more shocking than the Fearless Alliance! This way, they wouldn’t be as humiliated...

1891 Turned sick from longing

Lin Que got halfway through his “tut” when he met his Ninth Brother’s icy, snowy eyes. He immediately closed his mouth and shut up.

The man enveloped by ice took a deep breath and wanted to suppress the storm that wanted to engulf him, but this time, he actually failed...

He stared at the girl in front of him, his tone barely concealing his fury. “I heard President Bai went to China. Why are you back so soon?”

Jiang Yan was shocked when he saw his Lord starting a conversation with Bai Feng out of his own volition.

His Lord had never acknowledged Bai Feng much.

Ye Wanwan appeared to become more elated from Lord Asura’s words. Her curved and shimmering eyes caused her naked face to look extremely radiant and alluring.

Ye Wanwan mockingly teased: “I originally wanted to stay in China longer, but unfortunately, I turned sick from longing for a person, so I couldn’t help but come flying back.”

She intentionally emphasized the words “turned sick from longing” and cheerfully stared at his face.

Big Dipper:

Seven Star:

I knew it! The President would definitely talk without thinking as soon as she saw Lord Asura!

Didn’t she see how Lord Asura looks extremely displeased? Why couldn’t she rein it in a bit?

Next to Si Yehan, Lin Que grumbled quietly, “Eh? Turned sick from longing for a person? Who?”

As the atmosphere grew tenser, a gentle voice appeared from behind them. “President Bai.”

Ye Wanwan turned to the source and felt her little heart warming a few degrees from Lord Asura’s chilly breeze when she saw the newcomer’s kind and gentle face. She waved her hand and greeted him. “Ah, Emperor Ji! What a coincidence!” She then added casually, “I’ve missed you from our long days apart.”

Lin Que’s eyes shot open, and he blurted, “He’s that girl’s reason for ‘turning sick from longing’?”

Don’t tell me that girl really took a fancy to Ji Xiuran?!

Of course, she could also covet both Lord Asura and Ji Xiuran...

Lin Que kept glancing at Lord Asura with trepidation as he grumbled.

What a sin! Regardless of this girl’s reason for returning to the Independent State, the grassland above Ninth Brother’s head was so fertile that horses could stampede across it...

Ji Xiuran imperceptibly glanced at Lord Asura before looking at Ye Wanwan and said with a smile, “A coincidence indeed. Are you also here to attend the banquet, President Bai?”

Ye Wanwan heard the surprise in Ji Xiuran’s voice and explained, “Yeah! There happens to be something I’m interested in amongst tonight’s auction items.”

“Something you’re interested in?” Ji Xiuran asked.

Ye Wanwan coughed lightly. “Hehe, yeah!”

“May I ask what item struck President Bai’s fancy?” Ji Xiuran looked intrigued.

Ye Wanwan’s lips twitched. It wasn’t like she could say “I want your closely worn ring”, right? It sounded weird no matter how she said it.

“Ahem, nothing, nothing...” Ye Wanwan couldn’t make herself say it.

“Ahem, um, Ninth Brother...”

Lin Que wanted to say something but discovered Lord Asura had disappeared from his side and started entering the banquet hall already, so he hastily followed.

“Hmph, vixen!” Jiang Yan also quickly followed.

Ye Wanwan exasperatedly glanced at Jiang Yan. “Pft, can’t this guy... use a different name? Can’t he be more creative? One day, I’ll make you change it to Madam Asura...”

1892 She can't be here to crash the banquet, right?

Ye Wanwan's voice wasn't that quiet.

Seven Star's face was utterly dark. "President! Speak carefully!"

"Ah, life is unpredictable and anything could happen. Who knows, right?" Ye Wanwan soothingly patted Seven Star's shoulder.

Seven Star didn't want to say anything.

All the leaders and powerful figures of the Independent State gathered inside the banquet hall.

A glance across the room revealed that the majority of the guests present were "prestigious and upright" figures.

Although the four great clans had good intentions, some atypical groups and organizations didn't buy it and regarded an event like this disdainfully and wouldn't attend it.

When Ji Xiuran appeared, everyone turned to him.

The Ji family dabbled on both sides of the law and thrived in every area, so they attended this event every year.

A wave of whispers and discussion ran through the venue.

"Have you heard? This time, Emperor Ji donated the ring he wears every day!"

"Really? Emperor Ji has been wearing that ring for as long as I've known him!"

"Usually, a closely-worn ring like this is either a keepsake or holds some special meaning, but Emperor Ji actually donated it for the charity auction. He seriously shelled out a fortune! No wonder he's Emperor Ji; he's too sincere!"

"Ahhh! I must win Emperor Ji's ring tonight! No one is allowed to fight with me!" a girl wearing an aqua blue gown

exclaimed enthusiastically.

The girl in pink next to him couldn't help but rain on her parade. "Just forget it! I heard Third Miss Shen also has her eyes on this ring! Who can compete against the Shen family in terms of wealth? Moreover, her family happens to be the organizer and host of this year's charity banquet, so the winner of this ring will definitely be Third Miss Shen!"

"How could she?! Isn't that too much? She's crushing us with money!"

"What can we do? We can't stop the Shen family from being wealthy!"

The other socialites who also wanted to bid for this ring all complained with dissatisfied expressions.

In the banquet hall, all the big shots and celebrities were gathered in groups and conversing amongst themselves when someone suddenly cried quietly at the entrance. Silence enveloped the hall as though it had frozen.

A pair of slender legs entered their sight as a man in a black suit encased in frost slowly walked in.

Isn't... isn't this Lord Asura?

Why did Lord Asura come to this charity banquet?

Are we blind?

Even the organizer, the Shen family, was startled. The plump Patriarch Shen was in the middle of receiving Ji Xiuran. It took him a while to regain his wits before he hastily walked toward the entrance. "You honored us with your presence, Lord Asura!"

"You're too polite, Uncle Shen."

While everyone was immersed in their surprise about Lord Asura's arrival, a girl in frayed and loose black clothes languidly strode in with a pair of flip-flops on her feet...

"D*mn... Bai... Bai Feng!"

"Bro Flattop!"

“What’s going on with this charity banquet? Even Bro Flattop is here? This is a joke, right?! Why is she here?”

“She can’t be here to crash the banquet, right?”

Although Asura had a more vicious and cruel reputation than the Fearless Alliance, Asura was an organized and disciplined savage group. On the other hand, the Fearless Alliance didn’t act according to logic or reason and were willing to do anything.

There was no question that it was the latter group that induced a bigger headache and that most people were unwilling to provoke.

1894 Don't want to cause trouble

Normally, people would donate valuable or meaningful items to express their sincerity, so Ye Wanwan naturally wouldn't expose that she bought it on the spot.

Soon, the auction began and bidding for all the donated items started one by one.

All kinds of things were donated. There were conservative items like jewelry and accessories or items like pre-worn outfits to meaningful events or used fountain pens, weapons, and such donated by famous people.

Everything at the beginning was basically the warm-up, and the climax of tonight was three treasures.

The first treasure was the Nine Dragon Goblet donated by Patriarch Shen. Its value was very high and it was a rare treasure, so the bidder would not only contribute to charity but would also obtain such a great treasure. They would be killing two birds with one stone and wouldn't lose out at all.

The second treasure was a Tang dynasty backsword donated by the Martial Arts Union and was allegedly used by the previous President of the Martial Arts Union. It held immense collection value especially for practitioners of martial arts, so it was also the target of countless people.

The third treasure was Emperor Ji's ring. A ring worn closely by Emperor Ji all these years was naturally a rare treasure.

The auction vivaciously proceeded and the attendants all waited in the back row. Seven Star's gaze didn't stray from Ye Wanwan for a second, afraid that she would start trouble.

Ye Wanwan's target tonight was very obvious: the ring and her honor points. Everything could wait until she obtained her honor points, so she didn't plan to cause any trouble. Seven Star was seriously worrying too much.

In truth, Ye Wanwan indeed remained peaceful like nobody's business and docilely sat there, not doing anything.

Since the climax was near the end, Ye Wanwan leaned crookedly to the side and kept yawning for the next hour. The two men next to her were rather quiet. Emperor Ji had been seriously watching the auction proceeding on the stage, along with Lord Asura as well.

Ye Wanwan was truly bored from waiting. She propped her head on her hand and looked to the left then looked to the right. Then she tilted her head toward Lord Asura and blinked. "Eh, Lord Asura, what did you donate?"

The girl's sudden approach caused her warm breath to unexpectedly spray his neck, catching him off guard. The man frowned imperceptibly and didn't answer.

"Hm? Lemme guess! Jewelry?" Ye Wanwan pressed.

Veins bulged out of Seven Star's forehead as he watched his President trying to strike conversation with Lord Asura. He almost couldn't stop himself from rushing over.

She had stayed peaceful for barely two hours!

Ye Wanwan continued to guess. "Eh? It wasn't? Was it a fountain pen? Or a tie clip?"

She really wasn't trying to cause trouble! She was just seriously too bored!

Ye Wanwan kept talking into Lord Asura's ears, and her warm breath and alluring fragrance kept assaulting him... "All wrong? Was it a watch?"

It was finally the last straw for him, and his deep and hoarse voice coolly rang out: "Cufflinks."

"Ah! So it was cufflinks!" Ye Wanwan finally received her answer but didn't leave and kept an arm resting across the back of Lord Asura's chair.

Lord Asura:

Ji Xiuran suddenly called out next to Ye Wanwan's ears: "President Bai."

“What?” Ye Wanwan reflexively spun her head to look at him.

“It’s your donated item next,” Ji Xiuran replied.

“Oh, oh? That fast?” Ye Wanwan finally straightened herself and cheered up a little, turning to the auction stage.

1896 I can't even touch you now?

Ye Wanwan was almost blinded by Ji Xiuran's smile but breathed a sigh of relief at successfully persuading him. However...

However, just as she relaxed, a cold voice rang out next to her. Ten million."

D*mn! What...What_s happening?

Ten million?

"N-number 9, Lord Asura, bids 10 million." The auctioneer stared in the direction of the placard, flabbergasted, and another commotion ran through the venue.

"D*mn! That lousy bracelet is worth several ten-thousand at most, right? Emperor Ji is giving enough face by bidding one million! What's going on with Lord Asura? 10 million? Did I hear it wrong?"

"Don't tell me this bracelet is actually some kind of treasure?"

"It's possible. Otherwise, why would two powerful figures like Lord Asura and Emperor Ji fight over it?"

Shen Tianchen looked at Lord Asura then Emperor Ji, dumbfounded. What in the world was happening???

Ye Wanwan froze for three seconds before glaring at the man next to her.

D*mn! Ten million?! Was this man insane? Was money that easy to earn? How could he be so wasteful?!

If Ye Wanwan had unintentionally spoken easily-misunderstood words to Ji Xiuran earlier, Ye Wanwan earnestly felt her heart aching this time!

"Sh*t, sh*t!" Lin Que exasperatedly covered his face in the rear seats. My dear brother, you're going to lose your disguise

if you continue like this, do you understand?!?!?!

As expected... As soon as Ninth Brother collides into Ji Xiuran... he can lose control any second...

In the midst of Ye Wanwan's staredown of Lord Asura, she heard the occupant to her right speaking again.

"20 million," Ji Xiuran called.

Ye Wanwan was stunned. Hey hey, what's going on?

"Didn't you promise you wouldn't bid anymore?!" Ye Wanwan hastily asked Ji Xiuran.

The smile in Ji Xiuran's eyes ebbed a few degrees, and he calmly said, "Ignore us, Xiao Feng. This is business between Lord Asura and me."

Huh? Ye Wanwan was dumbfounded. How did it become their business? What business could they have?

What followed after was a whirlwind of price jacking that dazed the audience.

"100 million!" a voice suddenly shouted, shocking the entire venue.

It was Shen Tianchen, who finally regained his wits.

Ye Wanwan:

100 million?

Ye Wanwan's heart was on the verge of bleeding. Money! All of this is money! If you're that wealthy, can't you give it to me directly? I can use it to buy honor points!

This lousy bracelet was really, really cheap!!!

When Ye Wanwan saw Lord Asura about to raise his placard still, she pounced at him, pressing down his hand. "STOP!"

Her fragrance assaulted him, and he stared at her warm little hand, his stormy darkness slowly receding. It seemed like he had woken up from a dream and realized what he just did.

Lin Que, who witnessed the entire process of his Ninth Brother spiraling out of control, had a look of despair on his face.

Si Yehan pinched his brows with his fingers, gradually recovering his Lord Asura style of aloofness and coldness. He rigidly pulled out his pressed hand.

Ye Wanwan's lip twitched and her face swished to black.

I can't even touch you now?

You won't let me touch you, huh?!

Thankfully, Emperor Ji also stopped raising the price.

And so, in the end, this lousy bracelet, which cost less than 100 thousand after the discount, was sold for the astronomical price of 100 million to Tycoon Shen.

Everyone's eyes nearly popped out of their sockets when they witnessed this lousy thing sold for 100 million!

1897 Hurt a little from being crushed by money

“The Shen family is truly kind and charitable! Admirable, admirable!” Everyone marveled and flattered Shen Tianchen. Ye Wanwan:

Were all wealthy people foolish like this?

Shen Tianchen didn't detect any of the underlying ripples just now and giddily boasted to Ye Wanwan: “Goddess, I'll definitely treasure this bracelet for the rest of my life!”

Ye Wanwan wordlessly rubbed her forehead. Her head pounded right now... She hurt a little from being crushed by money...

She didn't cheat on a certain person despite being crushed like this! It was seriously true love, alright?!

After this auction round, Ye Wanwan simply felt like she was sucked dry, and it was pure willpower that kept her going as she waited for Ji Xiuran's ring.

Soon, the climax auction items were about to be presented, and everyone's attention slowly drifted back to the auction stage.

The first item was the Nine Dragon Goblet with a starting price of 80 million. An intense fight later, the goblet was won by an antique collector at the high price of 200 million.

Everyone couldn't help but muse that only a treasure, it was the climax auction items, and everyone's attention slowly gathered back to the auction stage, and at this level was worth 200 million. Yet, Bro Flattop's shoddy bracelet was sold for 100 million! This was a marvel never before seen in the history of the auction...

Next was the Tang backsword once used by the previous President of the Martial Arts Union.

When the red cloth was pulled back and the Tang backsword was revealed, Ye Wanwan's brows twitched for no reason.

Due to a long period of disuse, this sword looked a bit old and the blade was blunt. It silently laid there, emitting an ancient and profound sense of history and a striking bloodthirstiness.

This backsword was... very familiar...

While Ye Wanwan was confusedly examining the backsword and pondering over this strange feeling, the bid started in full swing.

In the end, Ji Xiuran won the bid for the Tang backsword, and the guests around them all politely and amiably toasted him. "Congratulations, congratulations!"

"Congratulations, Emperor Ji!"

Ji Xiuran nodded in thanks and looked at Ye Wanwan. "Xiao Feng, do you like that sword?"

When they were outside, Emperor Ji usually called her "President Bai," but for some reason, he reverted back to Xiao Feng on this occasion.

Ye Wanwan returned to the present. "No, it just feels weirdly familiar..."

Ji Xiuran looked at the girl deeply. "Is that so?"

"The next item to be auctioned is... Mr. Ji Xiuran's ring!"

The auctioneer's voice rang out from the stage.

Ye Wanwan straightened up instantly, all her attention on the stage.

Although the value of Ji Xiuran's ring certainly wasn't as much as the Nine Dragon Goblet, it was possible that its final sold price could be as high as the Goblet due to its owner.

The guests all rubbed their hands in preparation for tonight's battle.

Word had it that Third Miss Shen would also participate in the bid for this item, but many people still wanted to compete for it since no one present was poor.

Third Miss Shen's personal assistant reassured her with a smile: "Don't worry, Third Miss—Emperor Ji's ring will definitely belong to you!"

Third Miss Shen raised her chin and confidently said, "That goes without saying."

Then she fervently turned to Ji Xiuran.

"Now, the bidding begins! You may all start naming your bids!" the auctioneer passionately announced.

"10 million!" an upper-class woman called out, doubling the price immediately.

"15 million!"

"20 million!"

Bids surged one after another, and everyone tacitly raised their bids by an entire five million. The intense competition over this ring was apparent.

1899 Bro Flattop is about to wreak havoc!

“I heard Bro Flattop has a keen fondness for beautiful men... She probably took a fancy to Emperor Ji.” “D*mn! That’s possible!”

“What a pity! Emperor Ji’s in danger from being pestered by a hoodlum!”

President Fearless Bai Feng for 21 million, going twice!” the auctioneer counted down again.

“President Fearless Bai Feng for 21 million, going thri—”

As the auctioneer said that, he lowered the hammer in his hand. Ye Wanwan had nothing but excitement on her face. This is great! My honor points are home!

However, the second before the auctioneer slammed down the hammer, announcing the winner, a nonchalant voice rang out from the deadly silent crowd. “30 million.”

Swish swish swish—

Everyone automatically turned to the speaker to see who in the world had the courage to fight over something with Bro Flattop!

The person who raised the placard was... #9, Lord Asura!

D*mn!

Lord Asura?

N-no wonder...

The only one in the entire banquet who would dare to snatch something from the Fearless Alliance was probably Asura. Not to mention the shocked guests, but Ye Wanwan’s eyes nearly stuck to the man’s face with her hard glare.

F*ck!

My honor points were about to be mine but they got cut off...

“D*mn! What are you doing?!?!?” Ye Wanwan questioned aggressively without thinking in her fury.

The man’s expression was as cool and expressionless as always, as though nothing happened. “Bidding, of course.”

“You...” Bid your a**! He’s trying to anger me to death!

Ye Wanwan gritted her teeth. “31 million.”

She merely had an estimate of 20 million and didn’t have any more money than that, so she could only stubbornly persist.

The man next to her promptly said, “40 million.”

Ye Wanwan choked. “Forty... one million.”

“50 million.”

Ye Wanwan was about to spit out blood! But she couldn’t! She couldn’t stand this down!

Ye Wanwan ignored Seven Star’s frantic warning and continued: “51 million!”

Lord Asura’s eyes continued to chill as Ye Wanwan persistently tried to outbid him. “100 million.”

Ye Wanwan:

The auctioneer sensed the hostile atmosphere and asked with trepidation, “Lord Asura is offering 100 million. Does anyone else have an offer?”

Ye Wanwan was going to fight him on the spot!

She couldn’t do it! She had to brawl with this guy right now!

Ye Wanwan did exactly as she wanted. She shot up and fiercely glared at the man. “You’re doing it on purpose, aren’t you?!?!?”

Everyone reflexively retreated to the periphery. Sh*t! Bro Flattop is about to wreak havoc!

“What do you mean, President Bai?” Lord Asura peered up at her. From her position looking down, the man’s eyelashes

looked black and long, like the wings of a butterfly, and his eyes were extraordinarily good-looking.

F*ck! Ye Wanwan! What are you looking at now, of all times?! Ye Wanwan instantly reverted back to her enraged state. ‘You Si b*stard! Today, I’m—’

Two shadows swiftly dashed forward in the nick of time and each person held back one side of her body.

“Sis Feng, calm down, calm down!” Big Dipper yelled.

“Sis Feng, you can’t ; Seven Star advised.

Big Dipper was trembling with fear. “Ah, Sis Feng, our Fearless Alliance might be fearless of everyone, but... but this one... We really can’t... I’m still a little... a little scared... Can’t we stand down a bit?”

Ye Wanwan: “...”

Stand down your a**! I’m about to be angered to death by this guy!