

## Lady Gu 1251

### Chapter 1251 Killing Three Birds With One Stone

Qiao Xi was silent for a moment before raising her eyes to look at Gu Zheng. “The He family is different from the Meng family. Back then, the He family did their best to help you, but they weren’t as greedy as the Meng family. Other than betraying you back then, it seems that they haven’t done anything else.”

“That’s right.” Gu Zheng’s lips curled into a cold smile.

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows. “Then what do you plan to do? At that time, He Weinian was your master. He appeared when you were at your most helpless and difficult time. Perhaps he had already started planning something more than ten years ago. He didn’t get to finish the plan, so he returned to Li City again. Is that right?”

Gu Zheng’s eyes were bright like stars. “Xi Xi, you’re right.”

Qiao Xi could not help but fall into deep thought. He Weinian was not asking for money or power. Did he want world peace, or did he want to live forever?

These words were truly far-fetched. After thinking for a long time, Qiao Xi was unable to come up with a reasonable excuse.

After the two of them finished eating in the cafe, they had just walked out of the door when Qiao Xi saw Xia Yunlou and Xia Mengyan walking out of Xia Corporation’s building together. Their faces were full of smiles. Xia Mengyan held Xia Yunlou’s arm intimately, while Xia Yunlou’s face was filled with affection. Her eyes were filled with affection, making her look like a gentle mother.

Gu Zheng had a smile on his face as he looked at Qiao Xi. “Looks like Miss Xia is in a good mood!”

“Xia Mengyan is just shameless.” Qiao Xi blinked and sneered.

Gu Zheng lowered his eyes to look at Qiao Xi, who was beside him. Her eyes were filled with confidence as if Xia Mengyan’s actions were within her expectations. Moreover, her target had never been Xia Mengyan but Xia Yunlou.

Xia Yunlou and Xia Mengyan did not notice Qiao Xi opposite them. They got into the car and left together.

Qiao Xi sighed lightly. “The two of them are so intimate. Those who don’t know might even think that Xia Mengyan is Xia Yunlou’s biological daughter! Their relationship is that like of a mother and daughter!”

Gu Zheng smiled. “Xi Xi, are you planning to kill two birds with one stone this time?”

Qiao Xi’s eyes were filled with innocence. “What do you mean kill two birds with one stone? I don’t understand what you’re talking about!”

Her plan was clearly to kill three birds with one stone!

After the two of them returned to Longwan Residential, Gu Zheng went to the study to work while Qiao Xi went to the studio to draw designs.

Swoosh—

A hidden weapon passed through the gap in the window and landed on the floor. Qiao Xi widened her eyes and picked up the hidden weapon. She hurriedly pushed the window open and scanned the area. After confirming that there was no one around, she walked out of the studio and saw a black figure standing in the corner.

Seeing her walk over, the man bent down and said respectfully, “Eldest Miss.”

“Yes, what is it?” Qiao Xi frowned.

“Young Master sent me to protect you. Please forgive me for disturbing you.”

Qiao Xi’s eyes narrowed slightly. “What does Second Brother know?”

The man replied, “I don’t dare to casually guess Young Master’s thoughts. I only obey his orders.”

Qiao Xi was slightly puzzled. Even though her strength was far inferior to Second Brother’s, it was more than enough to deal with ordinary people. Moreover, she had hidden weapons that could save her life. However, Second Brother actually sent the fifth-ranked assassin from Xuan Island to protect her. Moreover, he even appeared in Longwan Residential.

She raised an eyebrow. “Since you’re here to protect me, why can’t you do it openly? Why did you have to send me a message so late at night? Can’t we let Gu Zheng know about this?”

The man’s voice was calm as he replied respectfully, “I don’t dare to casually guess Young Master’s thoughts. I only obey his orders.”

Qiao Xi was instantly speechless: “...”

She waved her hand helplessly. “Alright, if you want to stay, then stay. I’ll ask Second Brother myself! By the way, did Second Brother agree to the invitation from the cultural relics professor?”

Before the man could speak, Qiao Xi spoke first, “If you don’t know, then shut up. There’s no need to repeat what you just said.”

“I do know. Young Master said that if he can go to the capital with you, he’ll meet that cultural relics professor.”

Qiao Xi’s eyes were filled with pleasant surprise. “Second Brother has agreed!”

“But you must go with him.”

Qiao Xi blinked. A batch of ancient books needed to be repaired. There were many experts in this area in the country, but the Luo family was definitely top-notch in this aspect.

“Young Master said that you can handle such a small matter yourself and he doesn’t have to do anything at all.” The man added, “Young Master also said that you have many talents when it comes to repairing ancient books...”

“Shut up!” Qiao Xi nervously interrupted the man and lowered her voice. “Stop talking. It’s fine as long as you know it in your heart. You don’t have to say it out loud.”

Previously, she learned how to restore ancient books and paintings from Luo Qing. She originally wanted to casually pick a book to practice on, but in the end, she accidentally restored a scroll. At that time, the seniors in the cultural relics world spent a year but were unable to restore the scroll. She only used a month to do it. After that, she became famous in the industry. She was known as the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor.

#### Chapter 1252 Childish Name

Qiao Xi's expression was slightly subtle. She did not want to mention this matter because she was still young at that time and had watched an ancient drama. Coincidentally, there was a woman called Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor in it, so she thought of this name.

She still remembered that when she handed the scroll to the professor of cultural relics, the old professor held her hand excitedly and asked her what her name was. She had always been low-profile, so she naturally could not reveal her real name. Hence, she said that she was called the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor. From then on, this name was circulated in the cultural relics world.

Ever since then, she stopped restoring ancient books, but the cultural relics world still remembered her. Moreover, everyone knew that a damaged scroll that many professors were helpless about was actually restored by a young lady and the young lady disappeared after leaving her name.

This matter had spread throughout the industry. Everyone treated her as a fairy who had descended to the mortal world. When the scroll was restored, she returned to the sky. Moreover, because the name she gave was too strange, she even became popular online for a period of time.

At that time, the scroll she restored and the restoration techniques she used were taught in textbooks for relevant majors. The teachers often mentioned this mysterious figure in class, so everyone treated the work of the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor as the benchmark for the restoration of ancient paintings and calligraphy.

Qiao Xi really did not want to face what she had done as a young and frivolous girl.

The man was puzzled. "Eldest Miss, why don't you let me say it? Do you think the name Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor isn't nice?"

Qiao Xi was speechless. "Yes, this name sounds like it was given by a child! At that time, I was brainwashed by that TV show. I regret it so much now!"

"But... Young Master said that this name makes you sound like a cute little fairy!" the man said seriously.

Qiao Xi widened her eyes. She very much doubted her second brother's standard of appreciation. He actually thought that this name was cute and pleasant?

She returned to the bedroom with grief and indignation. She turned on her computer and found Xia Mengyan's information. Her expression was serious. She was in a very bad mood now, so she would destroy the Xia family as soon as possible!

At this moment, in Gu Zheng's study.

Song Shiyu said seriously, "President, I heard Young Madam and that man talking about the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor. From what they said, Young Madam seems to be the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor!"

Gu Zheng smirked.

Song Shiyu instantly became nervous. "Why did Young Master Luo send someone to protect Young Madam behind your back? Does he think that the guards of Longwan Residential are all useless?"

Gu Zheng smiled and instructed, "Keep an eye on him."

"President, don't you think..." Song Shiyu's breathing trembled. He stopped mid-sentence and sighed softly. "I have to say that the name Young Madam came up with is too childish! She actually called herself the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor! I didn't expect Young Madam to..."

"The Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor?" Gu Zheng muttered, his eyes filled with gentleness. "As expected, every name of Mrs. Gu sounds so nice. She's like a little fairy."

Song Shiyu: "???" 'Please don't lie through your teeth!'

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The next day, at Xia Corporation.

Many shareholders and higher-ups were gathered in the meeting room. Now that the collaboration with the Luo family had been finalized, everyone was full of smiles.

"Chairman Xia, it's a joyous occasion to be able to collaborate with the Luo family. Why are you unhappy?" one of the higher-ups asked.

Xia Cheng frowned. "Of course, it's a joyous occasion to sign the contract. It's just that Xi Xi is still so young and has never taken on such an important collaboration. Moreover, most of Yunqiu's designs are damaged. Xi Xi doesn't know how to restore the designs at all. If anything goes wrong, what if the Luo family blames us?"

"After all, Xi Xi has never worked in the company and doesn't know the ways of the world. What if she accidentally offends the Luo family? Actually, she shouldn't be in charge of this matter, but the Luo family just had to ask for her. Sigh..."

The higher-up knew what Xia Cheng meant and followed his words. "That's easy! Although the person in charge now is Miss Qiao, she still lacks helpers. Director Xia, you should send a few capable people to help Miss Qiao complete the collaboration. I think... Miss Xia is a very good candidate!"

"I heard that Miss Xia previously restored an ancient book in the capital! At that time, it even caused a huge commotion in the cultural relics world in the country. Many professors admire Miss Xia very much. If the Luo family learns that Miss Xia has skills in restoration, they'll definitely agree to let her join the collaboration. After all, no one is more suitable than her to restore Miss Yunqiu's designs."

The moment that was said, everyone looked at Xia Mengyan, their eyes filled with shock and admiration.

## Chapter 1253 This Seat Belongs To Me

No one was interested in the restoration of cultural relics, but after all, the Xia family was collaborating with the Luo family this time. Hence, they had also learned about this beforehand. They heard that a scroll that the professors spent a lot of effort to restore six years ago was finally restored by a young lady who called herself the 'Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor'. Moreover, she used a special method. There were no traces of the restoration at all. At that time, this matter caused a sensation in the industry.

However, no one expected that the young lady was Xia Mengyan.

Xia Mengyan smiled in embarrassment. "I'm not as good as you make me out to be. Maybe I'm just lucky. I still have to work harder in the future. I don't have much work experience, and I'm still lacking in ability. I hope you can help me. The company will rely on all of you in the future."

Her words were very beautiful. She did not directly admit that she was the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor, but her words implied that. In everyone's eyes, she was being humble. Moreover, even though she was already so outstanding, she was still very respectful to everyone and asked to rely on her seniors. Everyone felt smug when they heard her words and thought highly of the daughter of the Xia family.

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In the past, they did not accept Xia Mengyan when she joined the company because she was the daughter of an illegitimate child. However, when everyone heard these words, they could not help but waver.

Although Xia Mengyan was Xia Ji's daughter, she was much more outstanding than him. Xia Ji was stupid and useless, while Xia Mengyan was the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor. Not only could she manage the company, but she could also lead the collaboration between the Xia and Luo families. The heir Xia Cheng had nurtured since he was young was really different!

Everyone smiled in satisfaction, but someone suddenly asked, "Chairman Xia, we naturally agree to let Miss Mengyan be the assistant of the person in charge, but if Miss Qiao is unwilling—"

Xia Cheng said arrogantly, "This is a collaboration with the Xia family. Even if Xi Xi is the person in charge, we can't let her do as she pleases. We can't just watch her ruin the collaboration. Moreover, Mengyan knows restoration technology and can help her at work. Qiao Xi has no reason to disagree!"

Seeing that Xia Cheng had already decided, everyone smiled and echoed, "Chairman Xia, you're right!"

"Miss Qiao is the person in charge chosen by the Luo family, but she's not as outstanding as Miss Mengyan. Moreover, the fate of our Xia Corporation can't be handed to a little girl!"

"Miss Mengyan, we'll leave the collaboration with the Luo family to you. We believe that you'll definitely succeed!"

Xia Mengyan had a smile on her face as she said shyly, "I'll do my best. It's just that when Xi Xi comes later, don't say such things in front of her. I'm afraid she'll be unhappy. After all, she's the person in charge. We still have to listen to her opinion."

The higher-up from earlier knew that Xia Cheng did not like Qiao Xi, so he instantly grunted coldly when he heard this. "Why should we listen to her? We informed her of the meeting yesterday. It's already come to this point, yet she hasn't arrived yet. She hasn't even called. She's so irresponsible. How can we be at ease handing the collaboration to her?"

"That's right! She doesn't look reliable. Fortunately, there's Miss Mengyan. She'll definitely facilitate the collaboration. Qiao Xi only relied on Gu Zheng's power to get to this position. She can still—"

"Is there a problem with me relying on my own husband? Is this gentleman jealous of me because he doesn't have anyone to rely on?" A cold female voice interrupted the higher-up.

The entire venue was silent. The higher-up swallowed the words in his mouth, and his face was ashen as he looked at Qiao Xi in shock and fear.

Qiao Xi stood at the door and wore a simple suit, but she had fully released her aura. Her tone was icy-cold. "Since everyone doesn't want me to be the person in charge, I'll go talk to Young Master Luo. I'll get him to quickly replace me!"

Everyone from Xia Corporation was stunned for a moment. They were dissatisfied, but they did not dare to criticize Qiao Xi in front of everyone. She was the person in charge that Luo Qing had acknowledged. If she went to look for Luo Qing and said that she wanted to withdraw, Luo Qing would definitely not agree. Perhaps the collaboration would be canceled.

"If there are no objections, I'll still be the person in charge." Qiao Xi pointed at the middle position. "Then this position should belong to me, right?"

That seat was where Xia Mengyan was sitting. After she entered, she took the opportunity to sit there. No one thought that it was inappropriate. Now that Qiao Xi had asked Xia Mengyan to give up her seat, it angered the higher-up from earlier. He said unhappily, "Miss Qiao, there's an empty seat beside you. Why do you have to snatch Miss Xia's?"

"Since that's the case, I'll go look for Young Master Luo now." Qiao Xi's tone was very calm, but her words terrified everyone.

Chapter 1254 Let Her Be Your Assistant

Qiao Xi did not take these people seriously at all and directly took out her phone. The higher-up's expression changed abruptly. "Miss Qiao..."

"Xi Xi, I'll give up my seat to you." Xia Mengyan hurriedly stood up and smiled helplessly. Then, she found a corner seat and sat down. "It's just a seat. I can sit anywhere. Xi Xi, quickly take a seat."

Qiao Xi did not even bother to look at her. She sat arrogantly in the middle and did not care about the strange gazes from the surroundings.

Such arrogant behavior angered the shareholders and higher-ups so much that their faces turned red. One of the older higher-ups could not take it anymore. They had already made a concession by letting this brat be in charge. Now, not only was she late, but she was also showing off in front of them. She did not take them seriously at all!

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“Miss Qiao, we already informed you yesterday that the meeting would start at ten, but it’s already half past ten. We’ve been sitting here for half an hour!”

“That’s right! You’re late for the first meeting. How can we leave the collaboration to you?”

“Look at Miss Xia. She arrived half an hour earlier and even specially decorated the meeting hall. Why is the difference between you two so big?”

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows, and her cold gaze landed on Xia Mengyan. Xia Mengyan’s face was pale as she moved her body uneasily.

The next second, Qiao Xi took out her phone and placed it on the table. She pressed the play button, and a recording sounded.

“Xi Xi, come to the company for a meeting tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. sharp. The company’s higher-ups and shareholders value this collaboration very much. As the person in charge, you must perform well.”

Xia Mengyan’s face was pale, and her lips were trembling slightly.

Qiao Xi picked up her phone and said casually, “Everyone, did you hear that? Am I late, or did someone deliberately inform me of the wrong time? It’s me this time, but if you inform Young Master Luo of the wrong time in the future, could it be that you’ll blame Young Master Luo for being irresponsible?”

The face of the higher-up who stood up just now turned red as he glared at Xia Mengyan. She bit her lip tightly, and her eyes turned red from grievance. “Xi Xi, I’m sorry. It’s my fault for making you late.”

“If you know your mistake, improve yourself. I hope you won’t make such a mistake in the future, Miss Xia. I can forgive you this time, but I can’t say the same if you repeat the mistake.”

Hearing Qiao Xi’s cold words, Xia Mengyan felt as if a rock was stuck in her throat, and her heart ached.

What right did Qiao Xi have to be so arrogant? She had just remembered the time wrongly. She had already admitted her mistake. What else did Qiao Xi want? Did she think that just because she became the person in charge, she could order her around? She was the eldest daughter of the Xia family!

Xia Mengyan lowered her head, and her eyes were filled with viciousness. She would not let this go. She would definitely find a chance to snatch back the position of the person in charge. She was clearly more outstanding than Qiao Xi. If it were not for Xia Yunqiu, the Luo family would absolutely not have chosen Qiao Xi to be the person in charge.

“It’s just a small matter. Forget it,” Xia Cheng said. There was some dissatisfaction in his eyes, but his tone was very gentle. “Xi Xi, we’ve already confirmed most of the matters regarding the collaboration. I asked you to come over today because I have something else to discuss with you.”

Qiao Xi slowly raised her eyes. Her eyes were clear and calm like a lake. She looked indifferently at Xia Cheng and smiled lightly. “Alright, tell me.”

Seeing that Qiao Xi was still considered gentle, Xia Cheng went straight to the point. “Xi Xi, you’ve never been in charge of such an important collaboration before. Moreover, the Luo family has very high expectations. We can’t afford to make any mistakes!

"I know you're capable, but the person in charge has too many things to do every day. I'm worried that you'll tire yourself out, so I want to send someone to be your assistant."

Qiao Xi had long seen through Xia Cheng's thoughts, but she pretended to be puzzled and asked, "Who do you think is suitable?"

Xia Cheng shot the shareholders a look. One of the small shareholders who did not have a lot of shares stood up and said, "Miss Qiao, you should know that Miss Xia has been in charge of several company collaborations in the past and has completed all of them very well. Hence, it's perfect for her to be your assistant. You'll be much more relaxed, and we'll be at ease too!

"Moreover, a portion of Miss Yunqiu's designs are damaged and need to be restored. I heard that the Luo family's restoration technology is top-notch, but Miss Qiao, you don't know anything about it. It's better not to get involved. If you accidentally damage the designs further, it'll inevitably make the Luo family unhappy.

"Miss Xia has once learned ancient book restoration technology. Moreover, her ability has been affirmed by many professors in the industry. It's most suitable for her to cooperate with the Luo family to restore the designs. Miss Qiao, what do you think?"

#### Chapter 1255 Waiting For Xia Mengyan To Jump Into A Trap

Qiao Xi raised her eyes and looked at Xia Mengyan with a faint smile.

Xia Mengyan felt a burning gaze land on her. She raised her eyes slightly and met Qiao Xi's cold eyes. Her heart thumped violently, but she still had to remain calm and smile in embarrassment. "Seniors, you're too kind. I'm not as outstanding as you say. I just want to do something for the company."

"Oh? Miss Xia, you know ancient book restoration technology?" Qiao Xi asked with slight ridicule.

Before Xia Mengyan could say anything, the higher-up at the side snorted. "Miss Qiao, you must have heard of the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor, right? That famous cultural relic restorer is Miss Xia. A few years ago, she caused a sensation in the cultural relic world! If you don't know, you can search it up online. You'll definitely be able to find relevant information."

"That's not necessary." Qiao Xi's expression did not change. She knew that she was very famous, so of course, she did not need to look up information about herself online. However, what did the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor have to do with Xia Mengyan?

Originally, Qiao Xi's plan was to let Xia Mengyan participate in the collaboration, then let the Luo family plot against Xia Mengyan. Then, she would let the Luo family expose Xia Yunlou's true identity. This way, Xia Mengyan would completely offend the Luo family. The Xia family and the Luo family would part ways, and Xia Yunlou's secret would not be kept anymore. Hence, it was a plan to kill three birds with one stone.

However, Xia Mengyan had actually taken the initiative to give her a new plan. Qiao Xi was overjoyed and suddenly felt a little grateful to Xia Mengyan! Was she going to let her experience the thrill of four kills?

The higher-up had a serious expression. Could it be that Qiao Xi did not agree?



He hurriedly said, "Miss Xia is so outstanding. Let her—"

"Sure!" Qiao Xi smiled gently at everyone, and there was no dissatisfaction in her eyes.

The higher-up had originally prepared countless words to deal with Qiao Xi, but now, he held them all in his throat.

She actually agreed? She agreed so easily?

If Xia Mengyan became Qiao Xi's assistant and cooperated with the Luo family to restore the designs, Qiao Xi's identity as the person in charge would be useless. After all, Xia Mengyan was from the Xia family, while Qiao Xi's surname was 'Qiao'. Moreover, she was not close to the Xia family, so everyone would naturally not give her credit. However, Qiao Xi was not dissatisfied in the slightest and agreed with a smile. It seemed that she was a fool and did not understand the reason at all.

Everyone's eyes were filled with mockery as they heaved a sigh of relief. They originally thought that Miss Qiao was not easy to deal with, but they did not expect her to be fooled with just a few words.

However, this was good too. It was best if she was just all looks and no brains. She should obediently stay in the position of the person in charge. She did not have to interfere in other matters.

Qiao Xi smiled as she looked at everyone. "Is there anything else?"

Xia Cheng sized up Qiao Xi with slight doubt. Seeing that her expression was normal, he slowly said, "Xi Xi, now that you've agreed, let Mengyan follow you to the Luo family tomorrow. After all, she has negotiated collaborations a few times and is more experienced than you. If the Luo family has any requests, you can negotiate with her."

Qiao Xi raised her eyebrows. "Sure! Right, Young Master Luo even called today to say that for the sake of celebrating this collaboration, he'll send over a porcelain sculpture as a gift for Xia Corporation's new mall."

The moment that was said, everyone widened their eyes. Xia Cheng could not remain calm anymore and was instantly overjoyed. The Luo family was actually willing to give the Xia family a porcelain sculpture. Now that they had the Luo family's backing, the Xia family could quickly escape their predicament and improve.

Xia Mengyan's voice trembled with excitement. "Xi Xi, did Young Master Luo really say that? When will he come?"

"Miss Xia, you'll know when you go to the Luo family with me tomorrow." Qiao Xi smiled meaningfully.

There was a trap in the Luo family that was waiting for Xia Mengyan to jump into!

She planned to bring Xia Mengyan to the Luo family from the start. Now that the Xia family had brought it up themselves, it definitely made things easier. After all, it would definitely arouse suspicion if Qiao Xi was the one who brought it up.

Xia Mengyan could not understand why Qiao Xi was smiling. Her power was clearly about to be taken away, so how could she still smile?

After the meeting ended, Qiao Xi walked out of the meeting room and bumped into Xia Yunlou.

Xia Yunlou looked up at her and looked away guiltily. She said in a low voice, "Xi Xi..."

Qiao Xi ignored her and directly walked past her to leave. In that instant, the guilt on Xia Yunlou's face vanished. Her eyes were filled with resentment, and she had completely changed into a different person.

When Xia Mengyan came out, she walked forward warmly. "Mengyan."

"Aunt." Xia Mengyan held her hand with a smile. The two of them were more like biological mother and daughter.

#### Chapter 1256 Unexpected Gains

"Mengyan, has Xi Xi agreed to let you be her assistant?" Xia Yunlou asked anxiously.

Xia Mengyan rolled her eyes and replied, "Yes. Xi Xi even asked me to go to the Luo family with her. Young Master Luo will give a porcelain sculpture to Xia Corporation! But I'm a little unhappy. I know that in terms of status, Xi Xi is the legitimate daughter of the Xia family, while my father is an illegitimate child. No one likes me. I'm afraid that one day, Xi Xi will snatch my inheritance.

"If Xi Xi completes the collaboration with Xia Corporation this time, my situation will be even more difficult in the future. If she wants to snatch the inheritance, I won't be able to resist at all. I..."

Xia Yunlou's heart skipped a beat, and the last trace of guilt she had for Qiao Xi instantly vanished. She looked at Xia Mengyan with a face full of heartache and comforted her softly. "How could that be? You're the daughter of the Xia family. Xi Xi is just an outsider. If it weren't for you, she wouldn't be able to be in charge of this collaboration at all. To put it nicely, she's the person in charge. To put it bluntly, isn't she just a decorative piece? Go to the Luo family with her tomorrow. You must be careful. Don't let her cause trouble. The Luo family isn't an existence we can offend!"

Qiao Xi stood in a corner and quietly listened to their conversation. The corners of her mouth could not help but curl up as she quickly left the Xia Corporation building.

At the entrance of the building, Song Shiyu saw Qiao Xi walking over and looked at her with a subtle expression. He lowered his voice and said, "Young Madam, Madam Xia came to look for the president while you were in a meeting."

"Madam Xia? Xia Mengyan's mother went to look for Gu Zheng?" Qiao Xi's face was filled with question marks. Why was she looking for Gu Zheng?

Madam Xia was a special existence, and she rarely appeared. She did not attend any banquets held by the Xia family. Everyone even thought that Madam Xia had long passed away.

Moreover, the last time she was in the Xia family's villa, it was Madam Xia who secretly ran over to save her behind everyone's backs. Madam Xia even said that she was good friends with her mother back then. What was her motive for looking for Gu Zheng now?

Her status in the Xia family was inferior to that of a servant, so she rarely went out. Wasn't she worried that she would be discovered if she rashly ran to Xia Corporation to look for Gu Zheng? What was it that made her take the risk to see Gu Zheng?

"Why is she looking for Gu Zheng?" Qiao Xi asked.

The corners of Song Shiyu's mouth twitched. He glanced at Gu Zheng, who was leaning against the backseat with his eyes closed. He said frankly, "Young Madam, she went looking for the president mainly because she wants to see you."

"Huh?" Qiao Xi widened her eyes. Why was Xia Mengyan's mother looking for her at this time?

Although Madam Xia kept saying that she was her mother's good friend back then, she was Xia Mengyan's mother, after all. Could it be that she wanted to meet her to talk about Xia Mengyan?

Moreover, Qiao Xi was very sure that Madam Xia usually lived in seclusion and rarely went out. Even if she went out, someone would definitely follow her. Could it be that she had secretly run out?

Qiao Xi became more and more interested. "Where is she? I want to see her. Perhaps I'll gain something unexpected!"

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In the coffee shop beside the building of Xia Corporation.

Madam Xia sat on the sofa uneasily with her hands crossed on her lap. The coffee on the table was already cold.

Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi walked in and broke the silence in the air. Madam Xia raised her eyes nervously, while Qiao Xi leaned against the sofa and asked, "Madam Xia, why are you looking for me?"

Madam Xia looked at Gu Zheng worriedly.

Qiao Xi understood what she meant and said without the slightest hesitation, "Gu Zheng and I are husband and wife. There's no need for me to hide my matters from him. If you think Gu Zheng is unreliable, then let's not talk about it first."

Madam Xia hesitated for a moment and said carefully, "Miss Qiao, no matter what you plan to do in the future, I'll do my best to support you."

Qiao Xi smiled and said casually, "Madam Xia, even without your support, I'll still do whatever I want. Did you specially come over to say this?"

Madam Xia was silent as if she did not know how to speak.

"Do you know what I want to do?" Qiao Xi suddenly asked with narrowed eyes.

"I—"

This woman looked submissive. She had been trapped in the Xia family for her entire life. Her skin was very fair as if she did not get to see the sun all day long. When she talked to someone, she did not even

dare to look into their eyes. She said in a low voice, "I know that you want to deal with the Xia family and Mengyan."

Qiao Xi looked at her with a faint smile. It seemed that Madam Xia was well aware of this and was much smarter than the Xia family. Unfortunately, she did not just want to deal with the Xia family. She wanted the truth.

Since Madam Xia was a smart person, Qiao Xi did not hide it anymore. She sat up straight and looked at Madam Xia at eye level. "Madam Xia, you said that you'll support me. But if your daughter becomes someone else's, will you still continue supporting me?"

Chapter 1257 Xi Xi, Have You Heard Of The Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor?

The private room was silent. Madam Xia's expression changed. She clenched her fists so tightly that her fingers turned pale. Her nails had already pierced through her skin, but she did not notice it.

Qiao Xi was not anxious and quietly looked at her. After a long silence, Madam Xia took a deep breath and choked slightly. "I... I'll support you. As long as you want to do it, I'll support you!"

As soon as she finished speaking and before Qiao Xi could speak, Madam Xia abruptly stood up. "I'm sorry, Miss Qiao. It's getting late. I should go back. They'll definitely look for me when they notice that I'm missing."

She left in a hurry, leaving Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi in the room.

Gu Zheng's expression was still gentle. In front of Qiao Xi, he would always be a noble young master who was as gentle as jade. He thoughtfully poured a cup of coffee for Qiao Xi and looked at her dotingly. "Xi Xi, did you gain anything?"

"Yes! Madam Xia's answer just now made me even more sure of the relationship between Xia Yunlou and Xia Mengyan." Qiao Xi nodded, her eyes filled with coldness.

Madam Xia was only Xia Mengyan's mother in name. She specially came to look for her to tell her this secret about Xia Yunlou and Xia Mengyan.

"Madam Xia looks like a little white rabbit on the surface, but her IQ is much higher than those idiots from the Xia family. She has been locked up by the Xia family for so many years, but she secretly ran out to tell me this secret today."

Gu Zheng gently stroked her hair and said softly, "She probably thinks that you're someone she can trust, and only you can expose the truth."

Qiao Xi seemed to be lost in thought. What other secrets did Madam Xia have?

The cafe was under Gu Zheng's name. When the manager found out that Gu Zheng was here, he hurriedly entered to report his work. After he was done, the manager said again, "President, I've found the ancient painting you asked me to look for, but the painting was burned. I'm looking for someone to restore it."

"What ancient painting?" Qiao Xi asked curiously.

Gu Zheng took a sip of coffee and replied gently, "It's just an ordinary painting. It's the work of an old friend of mine."

Qiao Xi nodded, and Gu Zheng instructed in a low voice, "You don't have to look for anyone. I'll arrange for someone to restore it."

"Alright, President." With that, the manager hurriedly turned around and left the private room.

After the manager left, Gu Zheng looked at Qiao Xi with interest and asked, "Xi Xi, aren't you curious why I'm looking for that painting?"

Qiao Xi waved her hand. "Since it belongs to your friend, it's not strange for you to be looking for it!"

Gu Zheng smiled and said in a bewitching tone, "But that painting has already been destroyed. It has to be restored. I don't know if it can still be restored to its original state."

Qiao Xi did not notice Gu Zheng's strange behavior and casually replied, "There are many professional restorers in the capital. Send someone to invite one back."

With Gu Zheng's current power, not to mention finding a restorer, it was not difficult for him to invite all the restorers in the world. Moreover, as long as he gave the order, those people would definitely fight to help him restore the painting.

Gu Zheng frowned. "But... most of those people are unreliable. I'm worried about leaving it to them."

Qiao Xi was just about to speak and say that she could help introduce a professional to him, but before she could speak, Gu Zheng said with a smile, "I heard that there's a famous restorer in the capital. It'd be great if we can find her."

Qiao Xi raised her eyes and met Gu Zheng's smiling eyes, and her heart couldn't help but tremble.

"Six years ago, she repaired an ancient scroll. Many professors in the cultural relics world were unable to complete the task, yet she completed it in a month alone. Moreover, the traces of the restoration were almost impossible to see. At that time, her name caused a sensation in the cultural relics world, and she became a top figure. Xi Xi, have you heard of this person?"

Qiao Xi instantly choked, and the corners of her mouth twitched slightly. "I-I've never heard of her."

"I haven't even said who it is, yet you already said you don't know her! She goes by the name of Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor, and the restoration technique she uses is very similar to the Luo family's. Xi Xi, you and Luo Qing are siblings. I thought you'd definitely know!"

Qiao Xi: "... " This bastard was bullying her again! He was deliberately exposing her!

She gulped and retorted indignantly, "There are so many people on Xuan Island, so how could I know all of them? Moreover, the technology she uses is only similar to the Luo family's. Maybe she doesn't know Second Brother at all! How would I know who she is?"

Gu Zheng looked at her with a smile. "Then why don't you help me ask Young Master Luo? I really want to meet the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor!"

Qiao Xi: "???"

At this moment, she was a little confused. Did Gu Zheng know her identity or not?

Chapter 1258 I'm Still An Innocent Young Man

Qiao Xi sized up Gu Zheng. He really did not seem to know that she was the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor!

She calmed down for a moment and asked softly, "Ah Zheng, you want to invite her to restore the painting?"

Gu Zheng nodded and said, "Yes, I heard that the Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor's skills are outstanding. I'll be relieved to have her take charge."

Qiao Xi instantly felt slightly smug. Gu Zheng was worried about handing it to others, but he believed in her ability. This man had good taste!

However, Qiao Xi still had another question. She asked tentatively, "Ah Zheng, don't you think that the name Thousand Faces Immortal Doctor sounds very childish and silly?"

Gu Zheng lowered his eyes to hide the smile in them. The corners of his mouth curled up slightly as he said gently, "No, she sounds like a little fairy."

A cold male voice entered her ears. Qiao Xi abruptly raised her eyes to meet his smiling eyes, and the smile on her face instantly stiffened.

Qiao Xi: "..."

As expected, this bastard was lying to her. He clearly knew about it long ago, yet he still pretended not to know.

"Actually, whether the name is nice or not depends on who the person is. If it's a fairy-like young lady, the name is very suitable. Any name for her will be beautiful."

Gu Zheng slowly said sweet words, and Qiao Xi's heart thumped. Her fair cheeks were instantly dyed red, and the man's smile was imprinted in her starry eyes.

The two of them looked at each other deeply, their ambiguous feelings drifting between them. Gu Zheng's hand that was holding hers gradually moved up and landed on her shoulder. He suddenly pulled her into his arms.

Qiao Xi was already in a daze and was not prepared at all. She was shocked by his sudden embrace and abruptly leaned forward. The two of them fell onto the soft sofa at the same time.

Gu Zheng quickly reached out to protect her head and pulled her into his arms. Even if she really fell, she would not be injured.

Qiao Xi lay on Gu Zheng's body and smelled the faint sandalwood scent emitted from his body. Her expression was slightly dazed as she lay in Gu Zheng's embrace. After a moment, hurried footsteps suddenly came from outside.

Gu Yao and Song Shijing seemed to be discussing something. Song Shijing said anxiously, "Second Young Master, tell the president yourself. I wonder what the He family is up to."

“I don’t f\*cking know either, so I came to ask Gu Zheng. He’s so smart. He’ll definitely be able to guess the He family’s scheme! The He family suddenly gave me so many benefits. I was almost scared to death!”

Song Shijing said, “Young Master, you’re a person of status now. Watch your words.”

“Watch my words, my \*ss! My \*ss is already burning now. I can’t calm down at all! What is that old fart, He Weinian, trying to do? He’s also interfering in the collaboration between Xia Corporation and the Luo family. Now, he’s giving up benefits to the Gu family’s company. Everyone knows that Gu Zheng owns Gu Corporation. He shouldn’t care about the Gu family’s company at all. Why is this old fellow suddenly giving up so many benefits? Is he crazy?”

“Everyone is praising the He family for being loyal. Although they left Li City and stopped contacting the president during that period of time, they’ve been treating the president so well since coming back. It means that they want to reconcile with the president,” Song Shijing said.

“Reconcile, my \*ss! Dream on! Don’t I know what He Weinian is thinking? He doesn’t do things that are not worth his effort. Moreover, since Gu Zheng decided to cut off all contact with the He family back then, he must have had his own reasons. Now that the He family is doing all this and Gu Zheng doesn’t reconcile with the He family, he’ll be known as an ingrate who doesn’t care about past relationships. That family is really good at moral coercion!”

Gu Yao’s indignant voice came from outside the door. Qiao Xi looked at their current posture and struggled to get up, but her palm that was on the sofa suddenly slipped. She fell into Gu Zheng’s arms again.

At this moment, Gu Yao and Song Shijing had already walked to the door. Their faces were filled with anger. Gu Yao was thinking about how to tell Gu Zheng when he suddenly pushed the door open. He was about to reprimand the He family for their inhumane behavior, but before he could say anything, the words in his mouth were stuck in his throat.

Gu Zheng and Qiao Xi were hugging each other in an ambiguous posture on the sofa. The anger in Gu Yao’s heart instantly dissipated. His eyes were filled with disdain as he said helplessly, “Can the two of you pay attention to the occasion? Why am I always bumping into you two like this?! I’m still an innocent young man. This kind of thing will leave a deep impression on me. Why are you so anxious to be with each other?”

The room was silent. The blush on Qiao Xi’s face instantly spread to the back of her ears like a delicate rose.

Chapter 1259 Unaccountably Solicitous

Qiao Xi struggled to get up from Gu Zheng’s body, and her face was red as she glared fiercely at Gu Yao. Was this kid asking for a beating again? He actually dared to tease her and Gu Zheng?

Gu Zheng stood up and calmly straightened his clothes. His expression was calm without the slightest awkwardness.

Gu Yao pointed at Gu Zheng while trembling and shouted, "Gu Zheng, I really didn't expect you to be such a person! Although this is a private room, how can you fool around here? You're already an adult. Don't you have any self-control?"

The moment that was said, the private room fell silent. Gu Zheng was still sitting on the sofa with a straight face. Gu Yao looked up at Gu Zheng. The other party did not seem to have any intention of getting angry, so he heaved a sigh of relief.

"Gu Yao." The next second, Gu Zheng suddenly called out to Gu Yao with a faint smile. His gentle voice sounded. "You're talkative, aren't you? If you say another word, I'll sew your mouth shut."

Gu Yao: "..."

Damn! Gu Zheng was so scary! His expression was clearly so gentle, but the words he said were so terrifying. Gu Yao suddenly felt his entire body hurt, and his heart trembled.

Then, Gu Yao seemed to have lost his memory. He no longer mentioned what had just happened and complained about the He family's actions in front of Gu Zheng. Gu Zheng listened quietly, and his expression did not change from beginning to end. He even leaned lazily on the sofa and narrowed his eyes. "If they're willing to give in, then let them. It's a good thing for the company."

Gu Yao was stunned and said angrily, "He's unaccountably solicitous. He must be up to no good! He Weinian must have ill intentions. If we really accept this money, won't we fall into his trap?"

"Heh..." Gu Zheng sneered. His voice was still gentle, but his entire body was filled with coldness. "Since Elder He insists on giving it to us, of course, we have to accept it."

Since He Weinian was willing to sacrifice money to maintain his image and reputation, he would take advantage of the situation and go along with the He family. Why not?

Gu Yao choked. Compared to the extremely calm Gu Zheng, he was like a panicked rabbit. The He family grabbed his ears, and he fled in a sorry state.

The anger in his heart surged. He could not help but roar, "Is the He family crazy?! Why would they give in so easily? Don't the shareholders have any objections? They gave me such a large sum of money for no reason. Are they sure there's a trap waiting for me to jump into?"

Gu Zheng smiled. "Gu Yao, you've finally grown up."

He straightened up slightly and said calmly, "He Weinian naturally has his reasons for doing this. Every step he takes is to pave the way for the future. He has sacrificed a sum of money now, but he'll take it back from us in the future."

Gu Yao looked confused. "You clearly know that He Weinian has ill intentions, so why are you ignoring him and letting him do this?"

"What else can we do? It's a good thing that he chose to give in to us. If we refuse, it'll seem that we don't know what's good for us."

Qiao Xi understood in her heart. The He family was putting on an act, and they urgently wanted to display their selflessness and kindness in front of everyone. They would naturally not let others have any



evidence against them, so if they said they would give in, they would. They would not play any tricks for the time being.

This matter was a good thing for Gu Yao and Gu Zheng. What reason did they have to refuse? Moreover, if they did not cooperate with He Weinian's acting, how would they know He Weinian's true motive?

Gu Zheng raised his eyes slightly to look at Qiao Xi and said in a gentle voice, "You're already very busy every day. You don't have to worry about the He family's matters, lest you hurt yourself."

Gu Yao said, "How can I not care? He's already riding on my head. Who knows what he'll do next?! I don't want to be schemed against by him!"

Song Shijing: "..."

The president was clearly speaking to Young Madam. What was Second Young Master doing?

...

The next day, Xia Corporation was going to send someone to the Luo family's residence in Li City. They wanted to discuss the details of the collaboration with Luo Qing in person and bring the designs over for the Luo family to choose from.

Xia Cheng personally sent Xia Mengyan to the villa, and she was followed by many higher-ups of Xia Corporation. Everyone waited at the door happily to witness this glorious moment.

"Mengyan, the Luo family is different from the outside world. Their family probably practices many rules. You have to be careful and not cause trouble. Although you're not the person in charge, you're the future heir of our Xia family. You represent the entire Xia family. You can't embarrass the Xia family!" Xia Cheng reminded softly.

Chapter 1260 The Ninth Apprentice Of The Family Head

"Xi Xi is still young, after all. I'm really worried about leaving the collaboration to her. It'll definitely be best if you can persuade Young Master Luo to change the person in charge, but if Young Master Luo is unwilling, you can't force him. As long as you can say a few more words to Young Master Luo and make him see you in a new light, this trip will be worth it."

Xia Mengyan nodded gently. "Grandpa, I understand. I'll definitely do my best to complete the mission, but..."

She looked behind her. "Why isn't Xi Xi here yet? Didn't we agree on the time yesterday? If she's late, Young Master Luo might be unhappy."

Xia Cheng frowned as a trace of disgust flashed past his eyes. "I really don't know why Young Master Luo insisted on choosing her to be the person in charge. She clearly doesn't have the ability..."

Before he could finish, the door of the Luo family's villa was pushed open. A young man in a suit walked out and smiled at the two of them. He asked respectfully, "May I know if you're the person in charge?"

Xia Mengyan was slightly hesitant, but Xia Cheng's gaze changed. He looked around, and there were no cars approaching in the distance. Not only was Qiao Xi late, but she also did not even call. It was really rude to let them wait here.

"Yes! She's the person in charge and my granddaughter." Xia Cheng walked forward and introduced Xia Mengyan.

The man did not suspect anything and smiled gently. He made way and bent down slightly. "Miss, please come in."

Xia Mengyan's heart trembled as she looked at Xia Cheng in shock. Xia Cheng shot her a look and said softly, "Mengyan, go in first. I'll help you handle the rest. Perform well and strive to win Young Master Luo's favor, do you understand?"

Xia Mengyan nodded. If Young Master Luo asked why Qiao Xi was not here, she would just say that Qiao Xi was late. Grandpa was afraid that Young Master Luo would be anxious from waiting, so he had her go in first. She would let Young Master Luo know that she was the most suitable person in charge. She was more outstanding than Qiao Xi!

At this moment, she was not uneasy but filled with confidence. She raised her head and stuck out her chest as she followed the man into the villa. The servants and bodyguards on both sides all bowed to Xia Mengyan. The young man's attitude was also very respectful. "Miss, may I know your name?"

Xia Mengyan's body suddenly tensed up as she replied tentatively, "My surname is Xia."

She was afraid that the other party would realize that she was not the real person in charge, so she sounded a little uneasy. However, the other party did not seem to notice it and was still gentle and respectful. "Miss Xia, our young master found out that Xia Corporation has built a new mall. He'll send a gift, but he suddenly has something urgent to handle and has already left Li City. He won't be able to send the gift on time. He asked me to apologize to you."

Xia Mengyan's face was filled with disappointment. The man lowered his head and curled his lips into a mocking smile. When he looked up again, his expression had already returned to normal. "Our family head knows about this and has decided to personally carve the gift. I believe it'll be completed soon. At that time, the family head will send someone to Li City to hand it to you, Miss Xia."

"Miss Xia, you should also know that our Luo family has never interacted with the outside world, so it's not convenient for us to appear on the day of the mall's opening. As long as you take out a gift personally carved by the head of the family, that'll be enough to prove the relationship between the Xia and Luo families."

Hearing these words, Xia Mengyan was so excited that her entire body was trembling. She was really flattered by the Luo family's goodwill. The head of the Luo family actually wanted to personally carve a gift for the Xia family? He even allowed her to show it to everyone on the day of the mall's opening.

But who was this man? Were his words reliable?

The man could tell what Xia Mengyan was thinking. He smiled and said softly, "Miss Xia, I forgot to introduce myself. I'm Luo Chenjiu, the ninth apprentice of the head of the family. This is my business card. Miss Xia, feel free to look for me if you need anything."

Xia Mengyan took the man's business card and could not help but feel shy facing the young, handsome, and extraordinary young man. However, she did not notice the disdain that flashed past Luo Chenjiu's eyes.

"Miss Xia, you're the person in charge recognized by our young master. If there's any problem during the collaboration, we'll contact you directly and you'll pass the message along to the Xia family. Do you have any problems with that?"

Luo Chenjiu's eyes were filled with bewitchment. He had given Xia Mengyan a lot of power. She was the bridge between the Xia and Luo families. From now on, she could represent the Xia family to discuss a collaboration with the Luo family. At the same time, she would convey the Luo family's intentions to the Xia family.