

Mr Han 1781

Chapter 1781: Follow Me

Shi Xiaoya had just entered and did not walk very far. Even if it was a coincidence, Han Zhuoling would not have walked towards this side.

“After I came in, I had been looking for a path to meet you at the first instance. Not long after, I saw a red shirt shadow and a bloody palm print and heard the tapping sounds. Right after that, I heard a man and a woman’s scream. I could tell that that was your voice, so I followed the sound to come over,” Han Zhuoling explained.

“Luckily, the entrances which both of us came in from were quite close, so I could still tell more clearly which direction your voice was coming from. If it was a little farther, it would have been hard for me to gauge.” Han Zhuoling heaved a sigh of relief.

Luckily, fortune had favored him and he chose the right direction when he ran into a fork. All the way here as he walked, he had never chosen wrong, and so he found Shi Xiaoya at the first instance.

“Let’s go. Follow me, it’ll be alright,” Han Zhuoling said.

His voice was very calm, yet it made her feel exceptionally assured.

He came, but even though it was only just one more addition to their group, she was no longer scared.

As she walked together with Han Zhuoling, he would shine the torchlight all around them with every step they took. He told Shi Xiaoya, “You just need to shine the torchlight at your feet, don’t shine it all around.”

He was worried that there might be something scary at some corner and Shi Xiaoya might just shine the light on it without being mentally prepared for it.

“Okay,” Shi Xiaoya agreed obediently.

Luckily, they were safe this time and did not meet with any incident again.

They wondered if it was because the actor who was in charge of acting did not dare to come and provoke them because of Han Zhuoling’s presence.

Both of them walked up to a fork, with a signpost arrow erected in each direction.

On the left side was written: “Gate to Heaven”

On the right side was written: “Gate to Earth”

Han Zhuoling shone the torchlight over.

Each of the signposts also had a few small lines of words on it.

It was the clues for the two pathways.

Shi Xiaoya did not voice her opinions.

Anyway, no matter which path Han Zhuoling chose, she would go on the same path.

In the end, Han Zhuoling chose the Gate to Earth.

“Why did you choose this side?” She had already turned together with him, and Shi Xiaoya had asked as she walked.

“It feels better to walk on steady ground,” Han Zhuoling said. “It’s more secure and steady to walk on Earth.”

Shi Xiaoya wondered if he really chose the Gate to Earth path because of this reason.

Not long after both of them began to walk, they saw a door.

It was probably the Gate to Earth that the signpost had mentioned earlier on.

At the doorway stood a middle-aged man in an ancient costume, with a fake beard attached around his mouth and chin.

If not for Han Zhuoling being around, Shi Xiaoya would have gotten a scare just from the other party’s getup.

If this were outside and she saw someone with such a getup, it would be nothing much, just a character in a role play.

But in such an environment, it was very scary.

“Greetings, you two. I am the gatekeeper for the Gate to Earth.”

“Hello.” Han Zhuoling cooperated and greeted him.

“The two of you chose the Gate to Earth. So then, before you go in, I need to make it clear to both of you. The moment you go in, you both are not allowed to regret it. If you’ve entered the wrong door, you will not be able to find the exit. Then you both will have to be disqualified from this round,” the gatekeeper said.

“But since you haven’t gone in yet, if the two of you want to choose again, you can still do it.”

“I will just enter the Gate to Earth,” Han Zhuoling said.

“And you?” the gatekeeper asked Shi Xiaoya.

“I also choose the Gate to Earth,” Shi Xiaoya said.

“Alright, both of you please come in.” The gatekeeper opened the door.

In *Survivor*, when it was an individual competition, the guests can rely on their own choices and freely choose to compete on their own or form alliances with others.

Chapter 1782: What Was He Blindly Saying Some Big Truth for

Of course, even if they’d formed an alliance, it was inevitable for them to scheme against each other.

Hence, the gatekeeper did not stop Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya from going in together.

After going in, they saw that there were two doors on each of the three walls, so there were six doors in total.

At this time, a beam of light shone on the stone platform in the middle, and a figure wearing a black robe with his face hidden by a hat appeared in the beam of light.

“Welcome, adventurers.” The man in the black robe’s voice rang out.

It was obvious that his voice had been altered to sound robotic, echoey, and hoarse. “Welcome to the Gate to Earth. Here, there are a total of six doors, but only one door is the right exit. Only when you’ve found the right exit can you find your way to the ancient castle. Elsewise, you will be trapped here forever. Forever and ever.”

They knew it was fake and was only arranged by the production team, but in such an environment, they would still feel a little nervous.

“Then now, you two have an hour to save yourselves,” the man in the black robe said. “Good luck to you, Adventurers.”

The man in the black robe disappeared together with the beam of light. Shi Xiaoya turned to Han Zhuoling and said, “What should we do next? I’ll do as you say.”

“Let me see first,” Han Zhuoling said.

The light in the room was enough to allow people to see, but not to the extent of being bright. Han Zhuoling used the torchlight to shine around the surroundings carefully. After making sure that there would not be any scary things, he then said, “Let’s look around first. Don’t let go of any clues. Who knows, it might just be something we can use.”

“Okay.” Shi Xiaoya glanced around and went to a table nearby.

Placed on the table were the Four Treasures of the Study, namely a calligraphy brush, paper, ink, and ink slab, the essentials of calligraphy and scholarship.

There were some words on the paper. Shi Xiaoya could not guess what clues there were in the words, but she felt that it was useful, so she took it.

She found a seal in the drawer and took it as well.

Han Zhuoling checked every door once. In between each door, he used his feet to measure the distance between each door.

“I only found these.” Shi Xiaoya passed the things she’d found to Han Zhuoling.

“It shouldn’t be too hard. There are other guests around, and they can’t possibly disqualify everyone,” Han Zhuoling said.

Director: “...”

What was he blindly saying some big truth for?

“It’s this door,” Han Zhuoling said.

“How can you be sure that that’s it?” the director could not help but ask.

“Every door has the same kind of pattern, and every door’s pattern is in the same position. Only this door’s pattern is slightly off.” Han Zhuoling raised his eyebrow. “When your production team is setting up the props, did you specifically ask to make one of the doors slightly different so that it would be easy for the production team to differentiate?”

Director: “...”

Actually, when they were setting up this level, they even looked up the Five Elements and Eight Trigrams, as well as used various mathematical formulas to calculate.

But to make it easier for the staff in the production team to recognize the door and not remember the wrong one then press the wrong door, they then deliberately hid a little part that was a bit different there.

But the right answer they left for the guests was definitely not because the patterns on the door did not match!

In the first episode, Han Zhuoling had freely come up with all sorts of mathematical formulas to calculate.

Who knew that this time, he was not going to play the smart student role and would just find this most simple and uncultured point.

“Could the clue be in the words written on this paper?” Shi Xiaoya passed the clues she had just found to Han Zhuoling.

“This is an ancient mathematical calculation method. At that time, the Arabic numerals and Western calculation formulas had yet to be passed along here, so we had our own set of methods for calculating during the ancient times,” Han Zhuoling explained.

Chapter 1783: Three-year-old Han

“I have a pen and paper here. Do you need it?” Shi Xiaoya asked.

“Actually, I don’t really need it, but for the show, and for the audience to see it clearer, I should just write it out,” Han Zhuoling said.

Director: “...”

If Tong Chunian were here, he would know that Han Zhuoling was simply trying to act cool in front of Shi Xiaoya.

If he only said that he needed to write it down, it might seem as if his intelligence was not high enough.

So he had to especially explain that it was for the audience to see, so that Shi Xiaoya would not misunderstand.

In the end, he got the three-digit number “352.”

“There’s also a seal?” Han Zhuoling asked Shi Xiaoya.

“Yeah.” Shi Xiaoya passed the seal to him.

Han Zhuoling took a look at it. He positioned it on the spot on the door where there was a square pattern and compared the patterns on them before pressing the seal into it.

Then he turned it three times, another five times, and lastly, another two times.

He used his hand to push hard, and the seal was pushed right into the door, becoming a part of the door.

Han Zhuoling pulled Shi Xiaoya to step back.

The door slowly opened.

Shi Xiaoya heaved a sigh of relief before exclaiming, “You solved it way too fast.”

Because of Shi Xiaoya’s praise, the corners of Han Zhuoling’s lips curved upwards, forming a smile that seemed to brim with pride.

“Not really.” Han Zhuoling tried to suppress his pride as he said that.

The director and videographer brother: “...”

They watched as First Young Master Han turned into Three-year-old Han right in front of their eyes. No one might believe them if they said it.

As the door opened, another tunnel appeared before them. But this tunnel was much brighter than the one before, and it was not as spooky.

With that kind of brightness, there was no need for a torchlight anymore.

Han Zhuoling turned to ask Shi Xiaoya, “Are you scared?”

To make it easier for filming, they still had to make some space for the videographer brother at the side.

So Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling could only walk with one person in front and one behind.

Shi Xiaoya shook her head. “This place is quite bright, I’m not scared anymore.”

Han Zhuoling suddenly stopped talking and stared a little sadly at Shi Xiaoya.

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

What was happening?

Did he still want her to be scared?

Han Zhuoling nodded, not saying anything else.

Shi Xiaoya carefully peeked at Han Zhuoling. Seeing that he did not look angry, she said, “Did you notice that the atmosphere now is different from just before? Besides the light becoming brighter, even the surrounding decorations look more modern now.”

Han Zhuoling nodded. “The production team probably wants to show that the times are changing as we journey from the past to the present.”

Shi Xiaoya finally realized it. "Right. That's how it feels like."

"Actually, this is just another kind of escape room game," Han Zhuoling said plainly.

Director: "..."

You could talk less!

We still have to cut you out later in post-production!

The level that they designed to be so cool and innovative sounded so simple and plain after Han Zhuoling explained it.

Actually, the core of it was indeed an escape room concept, but if you said it out loud and the audience saw that, that cool and innovative feeling would be gone instantly.

"I wonder if the other side with the others is also like this," Shi Xiaoya said.

"Not necessarily," Han Zhuoling said. "After all, the production team will also be scared that the guests might really not be able to get out of the escape room. And for the fun and variety aspect of the show, they won't let the audience see a repeat of the rounds. It could be that everyone was put into an escape room, but the clues and conditions for passing were different. But I feel that the production team's manpower is limited. It's already a lot of effort for them to come up with this escape room, so for them to think of at least three more different escape rooms, it would have been a little challenging."

Chapter 1784: Who's Intelligence Are You Looking Down On

"So maybe for the other levels, it might be different tasks, or it might be related to physical fitness, or it might be an intellectual test," Han Zhuoling said.

The director finally could not help it and said, "Young Master Ling, let me say it first. Our production team did not reveal the questions to you beforehand!"

Han Zhuoling: "..."

He turned to look at the director.

"I'm afraid if post-production doesn't edit well and your words really come out, the audience might really think we revealed the questions to you," the director explained.

"Do I need you guys to reveal the questions to me for this?" Han Zhuoling tsked at him and said, "Who's intelligence are you looking down on?"

Director: "..."

Okay, okay, you are the smartest.

Finally, both of them reached the second room.

The gatekeeper said, "Congratulations for passing the Gate to Earth just now. Now, as long as you pass this room, you can proceed straight to the exit from here."

“The question for the second room is with me right here.” The gatekeeper, who was in a modern getup, said, “After you both enter the room, choose one item that does not belong to the room. Take it and pass it to the gatekeeper at the exit. If your choice is correct, you can pass. If your choice is wrong, you have to return to the fork just now, go to the Gate to Heaven, and try to pass the levels again.”

If they failed, they had to start all over again. Hearing that sounded like a very depressing thing.

Han Zhuoling nodded. He asked the gatekeeper, “There is only one item. Then if there’s two of us, can we both pass the level at the same time?”

“No. Each person must choose one item,” the gatekeeper said. “The person who makes the wrong choice will return and attempt the levels all over again.”

“Okay.” Han Zhuoling nodded.

Shi Xiaoya stared in shock at Han Zhuoling. Then what was he planning to do?

“Let’s go in,” Han Zhuoling said to Shi Xiaoya.

Both of them went in, and Shi Xiaoya said, “Anyway, I will definitely lose. I will go back and choose the Gate to Heaven.”

“You dare to go back by yourself?” Han Zhuoling asked her.

“It should be fine. I’m a little used to the environment here now. And we are filming, so I just need to tell myself that everything is fake. I should be fine,” Shi Xiaoya said.

“Even if you reach the Gate to Heaven, you might not be able to pass the round.” Han Zhuoling’s words pierced her heart like an accurate dart.

“...” Shi Xiaoya thought to herself that he did not need to be so blunt. She said, “Then they can disqualify me. It’s my standards and skills that are not good enough.”

Han Zhuoling shook his head. “No need.”

He scanned the surroundings. The table and shelves were strewn with porcelain items and various other ornaments. There were even paintings hung on the walls.

But with one glance, Han Zhuoling could tell that they were all imitations.

They naturally could not place real items in such an environment for them to film the show.

Han Zhuoling went to take down a painting and passed it to Shi Xiaoya. “You take this.”

He then casually took another painting for himself.

“You... You’re going to give me the correct answer?” Seeing Han Zhuoling’s actions, what was there for Shi Xiaoya not to understand?

Furthermore, this man definitely would not take the right answer for himself and leave her alone either.

“From the porcelain items to the paintings and calligraphy, everything here originated from a time after the Tang Dynasty. Only the painting on your hand originated from the Han Dynasty,” Han Zhuoling said. “Let’s go out. You show this to the gatekeeper, I’ll go back to the Gate to Heaven to pass the levels.”

“No!” Shi Xiaoya immediately said. “This is an answer you found based on your abilities. You can’t just give it to me. I’m the one who’s not good enough, so I can just be disqualified. If you hadn’t walked with me, you would have passed the levels long ago. How can I make you waste time to go back and pass the levels again just because of me?”

Chapter 1785: Wait for Me at the Exit

“You don’t believe in my speed at passing the levels?” Han Zhuoling asked her.

“Of course I believe in you. But that doesn’t mean I can waste your time.”

“I never minded whether I lost or win. It’s fine even if I lose,” Han Zhuoling said. “But if you go back and walk the path that we came by again, you will be scared. The path before the Gate to Earth is different from now. Even if you know it’s fake and it’s all arranged by the production team, you will still feel terrified. From the start, when I came to find you, it was precisely because I was worried you would be scared. How can I let you go back and experience that again?”

Shi Xiaoya was stunned by his words and stared at him in a daze like a fool.

Her heart felt as if it had been knocked hard, and it softened so much that she could not speak a word.

Looking at Han Zhuoling, she started blushing.

This man before her, how was he so good?

He seemed cold, but his thoughts were so attentive, always considering everything for her.

“Be good and listen.” Han Zhuoling raised his hand and gently pressed on the top of her head, rubbing it twice.

His actions, and his words, were all filmed on camera.

The director thought to himself, “Oh my goodness. Han Zhuoling was not intending to hide at all. He acted like that right in front of the camera and did not give a damn at all! Who knows if we can air it when the time comes?”

“But—”

“If you are scared that I will lose because of this, then don’t worry. I promise you, I will definitely be the second to pass the levels. The first will be Shi Xiaoya.”

Shi Xiaoya shook her head. “Since you don’t care about winning or losing, I definitely don’t care either. I just feel that you are clearly the best one here, yet you keep getting delayed because of me—”

“I understand.” Han Zhuoling understood what she meant.

Although he did not care about winning or losing, he did have the capability.

She was not worried that he would lose, she just did not want to see him lose unjustly.

“After you pass the level, just wait for me there until I come out again, then I will go together with you.” Han Zhuoling promised, “I can assure you that if you are the first to pass the levels, I will be the second.”

Only then did Shi Xiaoya nod her head.

Han Zhuoling gave a small smile and held her hand, bringing her out with him.

“Quick film it! Film it!” the director reminded the videographer brother in a hushed voice.

“This... Even if we film this, we probably won’t dare to air it, right?” Though the videographer said that, he still obediently turned the camera towards the pair.

“Whether we can air it or not, we still have to discuss with Young Master Ling. But no matter whether we can air it or not, let’s film it first and talk later,” the director said.

The two of them followed them out.

Another gatekeeper had already changed into a modern suit and was waiting by the door.

“Have the two of you found your answers?” the gatekeeper asked.

“Yes.” Han Zhuoling passed the painting in Shi Xiaoya’s hand over to the man and said, “This is her answer.”

Even if Shi Xiaoya wanted to change her mind at the last minute, it would not be possible now.

Han Zhuoling’s actions were really too fast.

The gatekeeper took the painting, opened it to look, and then placed it on the table beside him.

He then took the painting Han Zhuoling passed to him and said, “This lady’s painting is the right answer. The person with the wrong answer has to return to the fork, choose the Gate to Heaven, and reattempt the challenge.”

Han Zhuoling nodded and was about to leave when Shi Xiaoya clutched his sleeve.

“Wait for me at the exit,” Han Zhuoling said.

“Okay.” Shi Xiaoya thought about it and said, “I also don’t care about being in first place, so don’t rush. Your safety is the first priority.”

“Okay.” Han Zhuoling gave her a smile and lowered his lids, glancing at her hand that was clutching his shirt sleeve.

Shi Xiaoya quickly let go.

Chapter 1786: He Hugged Her

But before she could retract her hand, he held it.

Shi Xiaoya quickly tugged to pull back her hand, but Han Zhuoling held it tightly, in a firm yet endearing manner.

“Don’t tug my shirt sleeve next time,” Han Zhuoling said.

“Oh.” Shi Xiaoya lowered her head and nodded dejectedly.

She then heard Han Zhuoling continue saying, “You can just grab my hand.”

Han Zhuoling held her hand and said, “Like this.”

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

The gatekeeper: “...”

Did he do something wrong?

He came to act as a gatekeeper, yet he still had to suffer from this display of affection?

Shi Xiaoya felt him clenching her hand again before letting go. “I’m going off now. Be good and wait for me.”

After saying that, Han Zhuoling turned and walked back in.

At that moment, the videographer brother and director were both thinking that, if this could be aired, their viewership ratings would really skyrocket.

At this moment, the gatekeeper said, “Walk straight ahead, and you will see the exit.”

Shi Xiaoya bade goodbye and walked towards the exit.

When she reached the exit, there was also another gatekeeper.

“For being the first adventurer to reach here, congratulations,” the gatekeeper said. “If you push the door and go out now, you will get the prize for being the first. This prize will be of great importance in helping you accomplish the next mission, and this prize will only go to the person in the first place.”

The gatekeeper gestured. “Please.

“If I go out now, can I wait outside?” Shi Xiaoya asked.

“Of course not. If you go out, you will immediately be shifted to a new location,” the gatekeeper said.

When she heard that, Shi Xiaoya immediately said, “Then I won’t go out.”

“You better think properly,” the gatekeeper said. “If you don’t go out, even if someone comes later than you but pushes the door open first, then the first place advantage will be his.”

“I thought it through already,” Shi Xiaoya said. “I want to stay here and wait.”

“Sure.” After the gatekeeper was done talking, he did not continue to persuade her and stood by the side, not moving at all.

Shi Xiaoya did not have a phone or a watch on her, and she did not know what time it was now.

She kept standing there to wait but did not even feel tired.

Finally, after an unknown period of time...

She heard the sound of footsteps closing in at a very fast pace towards this side.

Shi Xiaoya quickly turned to the source of the sound and stretched her head out to look.

She felt extremely nervous, afraid that the person coming forth was not Han Zhuoling.

Finally, she saw a tall and straight figure appearing within her line of vision. It was running quickly towards this side.

Finally, she could clearly see that person's face.

It's Han Zhuoling!

Shi Xiaoya broke into a wide smile of happiness and finally heaved a sigh of relief. Her whole body also relaxed.

She did not even pause to think and just ran towards Han Zhuoling.

Just when she was about to reach Han Zhuoling, she suddenly stopped.

She was almost about to run into Han Zhuoling's arms.

But seeing that Han Zhuoling still had a videographer beside him, she suddenly regained her senses and quickly stopped.

Luckily, she did not immediately run up to him, Shi Xiaoya thought fearfully in hindsight.

But right after that, her elbows were suddenly grabbed by Han Zhuoling.

Her whole body was pulled into his arms as he hugged her.

Shi Xiaoya was stunned. She stood stiffly in his arms, forgetting how to even move.

He...

There was someone following them to film!

No, this was not the main point.

Han Zhuoling... Han Zhuoling hugged her...

"Young... Young Master Ling..." Shi Xiaoya had been hugged tightly by Han Zhuoling. She could not move even if she wanted to and could only stutter.

Han Zhuoling gave a low chuckle as he asked, "What did you call me?"

Both of them were hugging each other tightly. There was no gap between them at all—they were that close and intimate.

Chapter 1787: They Came Here to Date in Reality, Right?

Even his voice was unprecedentedly close to her, even closer than last night.

Last night, she only felt that his low and hoarse voice tightly wrapped around the top of her head.

But now, his voice directly rested around her ears.

She wondered if it was her imagination, but Shi Xiaoya seemed to feel his lips gently brushing across her ear.

That gentle, soft, and warm feeling was very fleeting. She did not even catch it in time.

Hence, she did not know if it was just an illusion.

But even if that was an illusion, the heated atmosphere when he spoke beside her ear was certainly real.

Shi Xiaoya could not help twitching her ears. Not just her ears, her whole body was heating up uncontrollably.

“Young Master Ling... Young Master Ling?” Shi Xiaoya said again nervously.

“How did you call me when you first came in previously and screamed out in fear?” Han Zhuoling asked with a chuckle.

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

She was too nervous then, so how could she care so much? Of course she just shouted his full name.

How would she dare to now!

The directors and videographers who were in charge of following Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya, respectively: “...”

You guys are using the filming as an excuse. In reality, you guys came here to date, right?

This was a little too much!

It was not convenient in the present moment to talk about these things with her, so he could only let go of her first.

“Let’s go,” Han Zhuoling said. When he let go of her, he held her hand again.

Shi Xiaoya struggled uncomfortably but did not manage to break free. She could only stare at him helplessly and say, “Young Master Ling...”

“What?” Han Zhuoling turned to look at her.

“We’re filming,” Shi Xiaoya reminded him.

“So if we’re not filming, I can do what I want?” Han Zhuoling gave a low chuckle as he caught on her words.

Shi Xiaoya: “...”

She was only reminding him that he was filming a show and there were cameras around, so he needed to be more mindful. She did not mean anything else!

Shi Xiaoya stared at the hand that was being held by him uncomfortably.

She could not break free from his grasp, so she could only let him hold it.

Shi Xiaoya could only comfort herself that, luckily, this was a pre-recording and not a live-stream, so they could just edit this out.

Anyway, Han Zhuoling was not scared, so she had nothing to be scared of either.

Shi Xiaoya immediately changed the topic out of discomfort. "Luckily, no one had passed the levels all this while."

"I know," Han Zhuoling said confidently.

"You know?" Shi Xiaoya asked in surprise.

"Speaking of it, it's a coincidence too. The other four all chose the Gate to Heaven," Han Zhuoling said. "When I went back, they were still there going through the levels repeatedly. The Gate to Heaven isn't like the Gate to Earth, which can only be passed once. That path can be tried repeatedly after they failed on the first try."

"Why?" Shi Xiaoya asked.

"Because the mission there is a physical one," Han Zhuoling said.

Only then did Shi Xiaoya notice that his forehead was dotted with a few beads of sweat.

"Crossing wooden stakes, climbing, and jumping over obstacles. Not one stage can be failed. If you failed, you will need to start all over again. Although it looks very brainless, it's a little more challenging than the Gate to Earth," Han Zhuoling explained.

But Shi Xiaoya felt that this was only in Han Zhuoling's perspective.

If he could use his brain and solve the question easily, he naturally would not want to go there and waste his energy.

But the Gate to Earth was really not a level that just anyone could solve.

And even for the physical exertion levels, Han Zhuoling had been the last to go, but he actually turned out to be the first to pass the levels.

He was really a master of pen and sword.

Although Shi Xiaoya did not say it, her sparkling eyes said everything.

Being stared at with such admiration, Han Zhuoling could not help but straighten his back up.

He led Shi Xiaoya to return to the exit.

Chapter 1788: Prize

The gatekeeper repeated the words he'd said to Shi Xiaoya.

Shi Xiaoya said to Han Zhuoling, "You push it."

Han Zhuoling smiled and nodded his head. "Okay."

Once they'd pushed the door open, both of them went out.

Immediately, there were men in black who came over and brought the two of them into the car.

Luckily, they did not separate them this time.

After they got into the car, the screen in the car showed that man in the black robe whom they saw at the Gate to Earth.

“Congratulations on being the first adventurer to escape from the underground palace.” In the screen, the man in the black robe said, “I will now present to you the prize for coming in first place.”

“Now, look into the hanging pocket on the back of the seat in front of you. There is a pocket watch inside of it,” the man in the black robe said.

Han Zhuoling went to touch the pocket and indeed felt a pocket watch inside of it.

“This pocket watch can be used once tomorrow,” the man in the black robe said. “As long as you rewind the pocket watch hands, you will be able to go back in time. But the maximum duration you can turn back in time is 15 minutes.”

“Don’t underestimate this 15 minutes. It may be the critical point between victory and defeat.” After saying the last sentence, the man in the black robe disappeared from the screen.

Han Zhuoling raised his eyebrow and put away the pocket watch well.

In the end, they were sent to an artificial ancient city that had been built in later years.

The ancient city was very close to that ancient citadel which was a tourist attraction.

As the citadel had a quota on the number of visitors per day and there was only one citadel there, it was not touristy enough.

The local government then came up with an idea to build such an ancient city near the citadel based on the architectural style of the citadel.

At the heart of the ancient city was an ancient castle.

It was usually open as a hotel, but because of the filming, the production team had booked the whole area.

Shi Xiaoya thought about it and it made sense. The citadel was a protected cultural heritage, so how could they possibly allow the production team to go in to film?

The production team could only compromise and choose the ancient city that was built later on.

The car stopped at the entrance to the ancient city gates. Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya got off the car and walked into the ancient city.

As Han Zhuoling’s speed in passing the levels was way too fast, by the time both of them had reached the ancient city, it was right at noontime.

As for how long the others would take before they could pass the levels, that would be hard to say.

Both sides of the streets were filled with shops.

From the local snacks to local costumes, the artisan crafts, and the small restaurants.

“Are you hungry?” Han Zhuoling asked her.

The smell of food was already wafting out onto the streets. There was even someone who’d dressed up as a server from ancient times drawing in customers at the shop fronts.

Shi Xiaoya thought it was quite interesting and said, “Why don’t we go and have lunch?”

There was no reason for Han Zhuoling to reject of course, and he chose that shop with the interesting server standing at the shop front.

The moment they reached the entrance, that server with a white towel hanging on his shoulder said in a loud voice, just like that in a television series, “Guests, please come in!”

Along this stretch, besides Han Zhuoling and Shi Xiaoya, there were also the videographers and directors following them.

Shi Xiaoya invited them to sit down. The director sat down, but the videographers were still filming with the cameras.

Shi Xiaoya asked, “You guys even have to film while eating? Let’s eat together before filming again.”

One of the videographer brothers smiled and explained, “This is a full-day filming, and it will only end at night. The audience really likes to watch when the celebrities are relaxed and how they look like in private. We can’t possibly show the guests’ private life fully to them, so with this kind of ‘follow filming’ where we film the guests eating and chatting together, we can capture scenes that the audience really enjoy watching. But it still depends on how post-production editing turns out in the end. No matter what, we have to film it first.”

Chapter 1789: Congratulations to You Both for Joining the Small Dog Food Party

What a shame. She wanted to talk to Han Zhuoling in private during the course of filming, but now it seemed like she could not either.

Han Zhuoling ordered the dishes.

Shi Xiaoya felt that if they sat here eating but let the videographer brothers stare at them eat, it would really not be nice, so she suggested, “Then why don’t you put your cameras on a stand and just position it well for the filming? Then you all can eat first.”

The two videographer brothers were really hungry, so they accepted Shi Xiaoya’s suggestion.

They found a suitable spot for filming and positioned the cameras properly.

The two follow PDs also went to sit with the videographer brothers at another table.

Although only Shi Xiaoya and Han Zhuoling were left on that table, as there were still cameras around, they could not really relax and talk about anything they wanted to.

The flavors here were also on the spicier side and noodles were the more common dishes.

Although it was not as nice as the one where both of them ate along the local food street previously, it was still considered passable, just that the quality-price ratio was not very high. After all, this ancient city was targeted at tourists, so the food tasted average and was on the pricier side.

However, it was much better than in their previous shoots. At least now, they had piping hot meals to eat.

Both of them happened to sit near the windows. Shi Xiaoya looked out of the window and saw that on the streets outside, Cao Jingcheng and Cheng He were walking over together.

There were quite a lot of tourists around, and they almost went crazy when they saw Cao Jingcheng. They kept taking photos, and all surrounded both sides of the path and stopped walking away.

The security officers escorted the two beside them and made space for both of them to be filmed.

When Shi Xiaoya saw them, she opened the windows and shouted to them outside, "Brother Cao, Xiao He!"

Cao Jingcheng and Cheng He turned their heads at the same time. When they saw her, Cheng He called out in a silly sweet manner, "Sister Xiaoya!"

Cao Jingcheng hurried over with Cheng He and sat together with them.

As Han Zhuoling was around, Cheng He's behavior was more restrained.

Cao Jingcheng was very relaxed and said, "You guys have even ordered dishes already. You passed the levels really fast."

Shi Xiaoya smiled and said, "It's all thanks to Young Master Ling."

"I'm also surprised," Cao Jingcheng said. "We were still having a hard time trying our best at the Gate to Heaven, yet we suddenly saw Young Master Ling come over. I thought to myself, that's weird, how can he possibly come so late after us? But even though he came later than us, he passed the levels even faster than us."

Cao Jingcheng then told Shi Xiaoya about the mission at the Gate to Heaven.

"Each of us failed at either one of the levels and had to start all over again. He was the only one who managed to pass all the levels in one shot after going there. He's not human at all." Cao Jingcheng still felt amazed even when he recalled it now. "You will know when you see the show air later on. With him around, there's no game feel at all!"

"This was like meeting Xiao Cheng as an opponent in PUBG. You will just be eliminated on the spot," Cao Jingcheng said.

Shi Xiaoya laughed at his description.

Who knew Han Zhuoling would suddenly say leisurely at this moment, "She was waiting for me at the exit. I was afraid that she would wait too long."

Cao Jingcheng: "..."

Cheng He: "..."

He started abusing them single dogs once he became unhappy at their words?

The directors and videographer brothers signaled that they had already been abused throughout the whole journey. This was nothing.

Ding!

Congratulations to you both for joining the small dog food[1] party.

Cao Jingcheng could not help but glance at Shi Xiaoya, and then at Han Zhuoling. Previously in the hotel, he'd already felt that there seemed to be something between the two of them.

Now that he looked, it could not be any more obvious.

They were still filming a show now, yet Han Zhuoling did not decide to hide at all.

Were the two of them already together?

Cao Jingcheng then turned to the director at the side.

Although they were seated at different tables, the space in the small restaurant was limited so the space between the tables was very close, to the extent that they could even turn and whisper into each other's ears across tables.

Chapter 1790: Indigestion

Cao Jingcheng secretly poked the director beside him. The director turned and heard Cao Jingcheng ask in a small voice, "Young Master Ling and Xiaoya are..."

"I don't know either." The director shook his head hard.

"Look at how timid you are," Cao Jingcheng said disdainfully. "Not like I'm going to do anything. I'm just asking out of curiosity. Have they been like this all the way here?"

"Haha." The director looked at Cao Jingcheng with a "too young" look and said, "There were even more excessive things."

"Aiyo my goodness. What was it? Did they even kiss... kiss on the lips?" Cao Jingcheng asked in shock.

Director: "..."

The director was shocked too. *You are an internationally famous star, after all. Why do you speak so uncouthly... eh no, so bluntly!*

Kiss on the lips even?

"They didn't do that." The director quickly shook his head and said, "They just joined their little hands."

"Aiyo!" Cao Jingcheng was elated. "It's been hard on you guys this whole journey thus far."

The director was elated too. He did not expect Cao Jingcheng to be such a funny person. “It’s not hard on us, not at all. At most, we just got indigestion [1. Joke continuing from the dog food slang; indigestion from being stuffed with too much dog food, aka PDA].”

Cao Jingcheng: “...”

He almost could not hold back from sputtering out a laugh.

“But if you filmed this, can you air it when the time comes?” Cao Jingcheng asked further.

“I don’t know,” the director said. “But anyway, we will just film along the way. Whether we can air it or not when the time comes, we still have to ask Young Master Ling first.”

After eating lunch, they walked around to digest their food while heading to the ancient castle.

The four of them chose their rooms. Han Zhuoling very naturally chose a room that was right next to Shi Xiaoya’s.

After a long while, Liu Chuanhui then arrived.

The moment he came, he slumped down on the chair. “They really tired my old bones out.”

“Teacher Liu, you passed the levels too?” Cheng He asked in surprise.

Actually, when they were leaving, Liu Chuanhui was still trying his best at the second level.

Liu Chuanhui waved them off. How was that possible?

“I was disqualified.” Liu Chuanhui rubbed his old back and said, “Tomorrow, I will just watch you guys film.”

Liu Chuanhui had signed a two-day contract, so even if he was disqualified, he still could not leave.

And until then, there would also be scenes of him being disqualified added to the show. Even if he was disqualified, he could also wander around the others.

“I also want to be disqualified,” Cheng He said. “This is too hard.”

“What’s with your lack of ambition? You’re from the sports scene, after all,” Liu Chuanhui said.

“Teacher Liu, I am in e-sports,” Cheng He explained.

“E-sports is also a competitive game. For competitive games, you need to have a competitive spirit.” Liu Chuanhui patted Cheng He’s shoulder and said, “Young man, all the best!”

Cheng He: “...”

At that moment, Zhang Xiangyou came over.

Among them, his age was the closest to Cheng He’s. “Xiao He, I checked—there are computers here! Come, come, come, let’s go play together!”

Right at this moment, Cao Jingcheng ambled down with a bag of cuttlefish strips he got from some unknown place.

When he heard Zhang Xiangyou's words, he quickly took big strides and asked, "What's going on? Are you guys going to game?"

"Brother Cao, you play too?" Cheng He asked in surprise.

"Of course." Cao Jingcheng nodded immediately. "Bring me along. My luck is quite good."

"Then we are still short of one person. The previous time, I brought Sister Xiaoya along to play. Let me ask her." Cheng He went to ask Shi Xiaoya.

Before Shi Xiaoya could reply, Han Zhuoling said, "I'll play."

Shi Xiaoya thought to herself, "He even knows how to play this?"

"Er, okay, sure." The moment Cheng He heard that Han Zhuoling was coming, he instantly felt a little nervous.

This Young Master did not look like someone who knew how to play computer games.