

The Good 421

Chapter 421: Going Too Far (5)

Are we still friends?!

“Are you going to tell me the truth?” Shen Yanxiao persisted with her question.

Tang Nazhi wailed and then plopped on the chair with his hand on his head.

“Okay, okay! I’ll spill, alright?”

Shen Yanxiao shot a glance at Qi Xia, and he quirked his eyebrows. Then, both of them sat down on the couch.

Tang Nazhi raised his head, and as he looked at Shen Yanxiao, who had a firm expression on her face, he moaned inwardly.

“The incident started on the seventh day after you left. You still remember about the gamble that we had with Shangguan Xiao, right?”

Shen Yanxiao frowned. Of course, she remembered that incident.

“After you left, I did not find Shangguan Xiao to honor the wager as you instructed. However, on the seventh day after you left, that bastard could not tolerate it any longer and came here instead, so I told him what you said before you left.”

“And?” Shen Yanxiao asked.

Tang Nazhi hesitated for a moment before opening his mouth. “But that bastard seemed to be a little crazy, and he wanted to compete with you again. I told him you were not there but he would not take no for an answer. Furthermore, he broadcasted it all over the Herbalist Division and badmouthed you too.”

“He wants to compete for another round?” He had the courage to do that? Shen Yanxiao narrowed her eyes.

“That’s right. I meant to ignore him, but a few days later, a group of students from the Bluebird Dynasty’s Yates Academy came to our Herbalist Division for an exchange. Shangguan Xiao seemed to be acquainted with one of the students there and that student proposed a friendly match between each academy, with three students from each side. That person knew your name from Shangguan Xiao and nominated you to compete against him, but you weren’t on campus at that time.”

“That bastard’s mouth was so poisonous, and he spoke badly of you in front of all the students. He claimed that you were a coward and hid because you were afraid... Then, Pu Lisi, that narrow-minded bastard put your name forward in that friendly match. If you were absent from that, then they would expel you for sully the Saint Laurent Academy’s reputation. I didn’t want that to happen, so I went on your behalf.” Tang Nazhi’s voice grew softer toward the end.

Even though Tang Nazhi sounded uncertain, Shen Yanxiao understood the situation. The so-called Yates Academy student had teamed up with Shangguan Xiao to attack her. Coupled with Pu Lisi, that narrow-

minded old man, the three of them wanted to chase her out of the Herbalist Division while she was away.

To protect her, Tang Nazhi had participated in the match on her behalf.

Shen Yanxiao could already guess how the match had ended; she was familiar with Tang Nazhi's skills in herbalism.

"Even if you lost when you took my place in the match, it did not mean that you would need to drop out of the academy!" Shen Yanxiao said with a frown on her face.

Tang Nazhi clenched his teeth, but he remained silent.

Qi Xia shot a glance at Tang Nazhi and slowly said, "Right now, Pu Lisi is the nominal head of the Herbalist Division."

"What?" Shen Yanxiao was stunned. As a Great Herbalist, Pu Lisi had assumed the position of the division's head?"

"The main issue wasn't with Tang Nazhi losing the match. It was Pu Lisi. He looked at Tang Nazhi's results from the enrolment test, and he commented that he was not suited to become an Herbalist. He suspected that you had helped Tang Nazhi with his previous potions, and so he had asked him to replicate the process." Qi Xia's voice carried a trace of coldness.

Chapter 422: Going Too Far (6)

Even though Tang Nazhi did not have many talents in herbalism, he was not hopeless. Shen Yanxiao might have also helped him in his assignments, but he had personally brewed all of those potions.

As long as he had enough time and someone to guide him, he could always complete a potion.

Tang Nazhi was not Shen Yanxiao, but alas, he still could not produce a new potion after only one demonstration.

It was obvious that Pu Lisi had made things difficult for Tang Nazhi. Other than Shen Yanxiao, no other student from the first-year purple class could pass his test!

"Tang Nazhi failed in that test, and Pu Lisi used that as an excuse to confirm that you had completed all of his assignments. So he expelled Tang Nazhi for supposedly cheating in his work." Qi Xia knew that Tang Nazhi did not want to mention that, so he did it for him.

Shen Yanxiao took a deep breath, and her eyes narrowed dangerously. A ball of rage had flamed in his chest.

How could she not know the reason for Tang Nazhi's plight?

She had been Shangguan Xiao's eyesore for quite a long time. She had also won the bet for Tang Nazhi, so it was only natural that Shangguan Xiao wanted her to disappear from his sight. As for Pu Lisi, he did not even hesitate before he took on the role of a division head. It was clear he wanted to deal with her, and at the same time, implicate Tang Nazhi in the scheme.

If she had not left the academy, they would probably use those tricks on her.

Tang Nazhi was in such a predicament because he had taken the blow that was meant for her!

Those so-called Yates Academy's herbalists and the friendly matches were all tricks that Shangguan Xiao had schemed with that student!

They must have wanted to remove their standing in the Herbalist Division!

"They're too much!" Shen Yanxiao clenched her teeth and fists as she spat out those words.

She had not wanted to aggravate Shangguan Xiao, nor did she wish to provoke Pu Lisi. However, the narrow-minded mentor and student duo had not wanted to let things be.

Since they could not do anything to her, they targeted her friends instead!

"With my name on stake, if I don't avenge this debt, I shall not touch potions ever again in my whole life!" Shen Yanxiao stood up in a flash, and Tang Nazhi slightly startled before immediately pulled her.

"I swear if I can't avenge this debt, I shall not touch a single potion in my life, ever again!" Even though Tang Nazhi was started when Shen Yanxiao stood up suddenly, he managed to pull her.

"Xiao xiao, this incident is also partially due to my incapability. It's alright if I can't become a herbalist. There are no issues there, and my grandfather dotes on me the most. He would never make things difficult for me so you can rest assured that I will still be in one piece when I get home." Tang Nazhi was surprised by Shen Yanxiao's expression. She looked so furious and cold that it was quite impossible to gaze at her.

He did not know what she had intended to do, but his instincts told him that he should not let her leave at that moment.

"Let go of me!" Shen Yanxiao coldly said.

"Xiao xiao..." Tang Nazhi ignored her command. He was afraid that if he were to let her go, she would dash toward the cowardly mentor and student duo.

"I am going home tomorrow, don't you want to accompany me today? We won't be able to see each other every day in the future!" Tang Nazhi tried to talk some sense into Shen Yanxiao. He even looked at Qi Xia for help.

However, Qi Xia sat on the sofa, and it did not look like he cared about their conversation.

Tang Nazhi felt like he could cry, but no tears would come out.

He already told them that they should not let Shen Yanxiao know about that situation. Since she had known about, she looked as if she was ready to pounce and bite other people!

Chapter 423: Do You Dare to Have a Match (1)

Shen Yanxiao stopped in her tracks and turned to look at Tang Nazhi, who had a tight grip on her arm. The fury on her face softened, and she even smiled at him.

Tang Nazhi was startled with the rapid change of her mood, and he looked at Shen Yanxiao with uncertainty.

Had he managed to tame that little rabbit who had exploded with rage?

Shen Yanxiao slowly raised her hand with a sweet smile on her face. Then her index finger gently touched Tang Nazhi's forehead.

"Weak."

Tang Nazhi immediately felt as if tens of kilograms was pressed on his body as he suddenly sprawled on the ground with his four limbs spread outward.

How could he forget that the little rabbit was not only an herbalist, but she was a talented warlock as well?

Shen Yanxiao turned and left the casino as Tang Nazhi wailed in the background.

At the Saint Laurent Academy's Herbalist Division, Shangguan Xiao sat in the library with a handsome young man with an arrogant temperament.

"Thanks to you, Luo Fan, we've managed to chase Tang Nazhi out of the academy." The usually-alloof Shangguan Xiao had a meek attitude that one could only see once in a blue moon.

The young man by his side was the student from Yates Academy's Herbalist Division, Luo Fan.

If Shangguan Xiao was the best student in the Saint Laurent Academy, then one could describe Luo Fan as the best in the Blue Moon Dynasty. He was only 19 years old, but he was already an Advanced Herbalist. He had talents that would shame everyone who was studying to become an herbalist.

Luo Fan smiled and said disapprovingly, "That sort of trash is delusional enough to become an herbalist? He has bitten off more than he could chew. Shangguan Xiao, why would you need to be so serious about trash like that? The Saint Laurent Academy is barely on par with the academies out there. They would not have been able to sustain their status if not for the few Great Herbalists here. Except for you, no one else is worth my time."

Shangguan Xiao revealed an awkward smile.

The Yates Academy had sent their students there to learn from their Great Herbalists. As the best student from the academy, Luo Fan had already started his research with the Great Herbalists at the library. He had given Shangguan Xiao some face due to Pu Lisi's influence, but he had not spared a single glance to the other students there.

He had also helped them as a favor to Pu Lisi.

However, Luo Fan was somewhat vexed. Even though Pu Lisi was a powerful herbalist, he had wanted to learn from the number one herbalist in the Longxuan Empire, Ye Qing.

However, Ye Qing had rejected his multiple requests to meet him.

He had yet to see Ye Qing even once while he was at their academy.

"What about the Shen Jue that you have mentioned previously? Why has he not appeared yet? I would like to see how he looks like since he could obtain Great Master Ye Qing's favor." Luo Fan was still in a

bad mood because he could not meet Ye Qing. He could not believe that Ye Qing would accept the responsibility to mentor a first-year student from the Herbalist Division.

Only a few students from the Saint Laurent Academy's Herbalist Division had the right skills to show off to others. Luo Fan even thought that Shangguan Xiao's skills were pretty average, so he was surprised that someone had managed to catch Ye Qing's attention in a trashy place like that.

Chapter 424: Do You Dare to Have a Match (2)

Shangguan Xiao's expression immediately soured when Shen Jue's name was mentioned.

"Who knows where that little brat is hiding? I have not heard anything about him in a month." Shen Yanxiao had made him lose face in front of everyone else a month ago, and he was still hung up about that.

"However, he's only an Intermediate herbalist, and he is nothing when compared to you.

Luo Fan revealed a proud smile.

"I would not normally pay attention to a little brat like him, but if I could defeat him, then Ye Qing would realize that he had chosen wrongly, and I'm his best choice." One could describe Luo Fan as a rare genius herbalist that one could only see once in a century within the Brilliance Continent as he had accomplished so much at his young age. Regardless of that, he could still need someone of sufficient status to be his teacher.

He had locked onto Ye Qing because the teachers at Yates Academy could no longer teach him anything new. Ye Qing, who was almost a Grandmaster Herbalist, was the only one fit to be his mentor.

So, he would never allow anyone to snatch his chance away.

That was the reason Luo Fan had worked hard to help Shangguan Xiao deal with Shen Yanxiao. Not only could he sell Pu Lisi a favor, he could also thoroughly eradicate the trash that had stolen his mentor. He had wanted to let Ye Qing know that he was the best candidate for him.

"Indeed, throughout the entire Brilliance Continent, who could defeat you in herbalism? Shen Jue is merely a clown on a tightrope." Shangguan Xiao sneered as he aimed his hatred toward their common enemy.

Just as both of them dissed Shen Yanxiao and imagined their brighter future without her, that certain someone had quietly arrived at the Herbalist Division's library.

All the students in the library immediately shifted their curious gaze toward her when they saw her angry silhouette.

"Isn't this my senior, Shangguan Xiao?" Shen Yanxiao's arrogant ice-cold voice entered both of their ears.

Shangguan Xiao stood up immediately as he glared at Shen Yanxiao, who had previously embarrassed him in public!

"Shen Jue! You've finally appeared," Shangguan Xiao said as he gritted his teeth.

Luo Fan looked at the skinny youth with surprise. He had imagined the appearance of the first-year student who had managed to defeat Shangguan Xiao, but he did not expect he would look like that.

Shen Jue looked to be thirteen to fourteen years old, and his unattractive appearance with his overly thin figure would not attract any attention if he were thrown into a crowd.

That was Ye Qing's student? The first-year student who had defeated Shangguan Xiao?

Luo Fan finally understood why Shangguan Xiao was humiliated with his defeat.

No herbalist would be scared to lose a contest. However, Shangguan Xiao had lost to a much younger brat who did not have the slightest distinct feature on his face or body. Any herbalist would take that particular defeat as a disgrace.

That must have been the biggest joke of the year; a top student was still inferior to a little brat who had yet to reach adulthood.

If Shangguan Xiao had lost to someone nearer to his age, then that bitter would have been much easier to swallow.

"You're Shen Jue?" Luo Fan narrowed his eyes as he stared at the little guy in front of him. If it were not for Shangguan Xiao's cry of surprise, he would not have associated the young fellow with the Shen Jue that he had only heard from the rumors.

Chapter 425: Do You Dare to Have a Match (3)

Shen Yanxiao glanced at Luo Fan with indifference and asked, "Who are you?"

"I am Luo Fan from the Yates Academy's Herbalist Division."

"So, it's you," Shen Yanxiao sneered. Very well, she had managed to locate both of them at the same place, so that would save her some time.

Luo Fan furrowed his eyebrows as he was uncomfortable with Shen Yanxiao's tone of voice.

"Senior Shangguan, weren't you looking for me all over the academy? I've returned." Shen Yanxiao shifted her line of sight from Luo Fan's face to stare at the furious Shangguan Xiao.

"Good, very good. Your return is timely!" Shen Jue still looked so arrogant, and it was as if he wanted a beating. Shangguan Xiao wished that he could pounce and strangle that brat to his death.

"I heard that Senior Shangguan was not satisfied with the previous defeat and wanted to compete for another round?" Shen Yanxiao said.

Was not satisfied with the previous defeat...

Shangguan Xiao nearly spat out blood from anger.

"Brat, don't be too arrogant. It was all because of Great Master Ye Qing that allowed you to win by chance the previous time." Shangguan Xiao had been depressed for a long time after he had lost to her. He did not understand how a first-year student could have defeated him. It took him a while until he found a perfect reason for his loss.

That reason was... Ye Qing!

Shen Yanxiao was Ye Qing's student, and she had concocted Ye Qing's newly developed Pseudo Death Potion. Therefore, he did not lose to Shen Yanxiao, but instead, he had lost to Great Master Ye Qing!

Shen Yanxiao's victory was merely due to good luck.

"Oh?" Shen Yanxiao chuckled and looked at Luo Fan.

"I've been absent from the academy for nearly a month, and I heard that Shangguan Xiao was not the only one who had wanted to compete with me. This guest, who had come from afar, also seemed to have the same thoughts?"

Luo Fan snorted.

"I heard that Shangguan Xiao said that you have some skills. However, after meeting you today, it seems your reputation exceeds you. You don't look like you amount to much." He hated the look on that brat's face. It was as if he thought that Luo Fan was merely an ant.

"Is that so? Would the both of you dare to compete with me?"

Shen Yanxiao sneered. It did not matter if they were Luo Fan, Shangguan Xiao, or Pu Lisi; she would not let anyone use underhanded tactics against her.

She would make them understand that she was not someone they would easily provoke.

Luo Fan and Shangguan Xiao looked at each other. They were surprised that Shen Yanxiao would challenge them on her own accord.

Luo Fan looked at Shen Yanxiao with contempt. Even though he did not know why Shangguan Xiao had lost, it was obvious that his opponent was merely a thirteen to fourteen-year-old little brat. So what if he was talented? Luo Fan was also a rare herbalist genius in the Brilliance Continent!

That brat, Shen Jue, must not have known his place that he dared to challenge him to a match!

Shangguan Xiao smiled. Perhaps the two of them might be equally-matched, but Shen Jue was nothing when compared to Luo Fan. That fool must not have been aware of Luo Fan's skills that he could dare to challenge them by herself. How ignorant!

"Sure, how shall we compete?" Shangguan Xiao immediately agreed to the match.

However, he did not notice the evil glint that flickered in her eyes.

"Since we are herbalists, we would compete with potions, of course. However, ordinary matches are too boring. Why don't we compete with something new?" Shen Yanxiao's voice was like a devil that hid in the dark to tempt ignorant fools to jump into the abyss.

Chapter 426: Do You Dare to Have a Match (4)

All the students in the library were distracted by their conversation.

All of them were from the Herbalist Division in the Saint Laurent Academy, so they knew all three participants in that talk.

Shangguan Xiao had always had a widespread reputation at the Herbalist Division, and Shen Yanxiao had become a celebrity due to her previous match with Shangguan Xiao. As for Luo Fan, he was an herbalist from the Blue Moon Dynasty, and he had fully displayed his abilities in the previous friendly match.

Almost everyone knew how Luo Fan had completely dominated Tang Nazhi in that friendly match. The newly appointed honorary division head of the Herbalist Division, Pu Lisi, had even expelled Tang Nazhi from the academy shortly after that.

Furthermore, Shen Yanxiao and Tang Nazhi had always had a good relationship. The first-year student had disappeared for a month, and the first moment she was back, she had issued a challenge for Luo Fan and Shangguan Xiao. Even a fool knew why she had done that.

“Oh my, Shen Jue wants to challenge Luo Fan?” A few students from the Herbalist Division had gathered together and sneakily glanced at the trio’s direction.

“Luo Fan is an Advanced Herbalist, so there’s no way Shen Jue would defeat him.” Those students had seen Luo Fan’s skills in herbalism not too long ago. Even the top student in their division, Shangguan Xiao, could only concede defeat in his presence.

Shen Yanxiao had won against Shangguan Xiao once, but she had disappeared from their lines of sight after that.

The students from the Herbalist Division were still unfamiliar with that talented first-year student, who had disappeared after she made her mark. Shen Jue was just not as famous as Shangguan Xiao.

If Shangguan Xiao could only concede defeat toward a super genius, how could Shen Jue possibly be his opponent?

Most of them were not optimistic about Shen Yanxiao’s challenge. They knew that she wanted to avenge Tang Nazhi, but her opponent was too powerful.

“So what if he’s Luo Fan? Is Yates Academy really so great? What did they think they had that they could just stroll around our academy with arrogance? I think they’re an eyesore, and Shangguan Xiao is only a coward who only knows how to flaunt his skills in front of us. He did not even dare to fart in Luo Fan’s presence.” One of the students got a little too emotional.

Ever since students from the Yates Academy arrived in their division, the Saint Laurent Academy had suffered a complete annihilation throughout several friendly matches.

They had lost so many matches, and most of them felt as if they could not even lift their heads in their home ground. Furthermore, Shangguan Xiao, the best student in their division, did not even strive for vindication and even colluded with their enemy. That had allowed the students from the Yates Academy to run rampant in their academy. Most of the students had been very dissatisfied with that.

However, they also knew that they did not have the skills to compete with their opponents from the Yates Academy.

Yates Academy had sent eight students from their Herbalist Division, led by the Advanced Herbalist, Luo Fan. The other seven students were Intermediate Herbalists, and they, too, had utterly crushed the other students from the Saint Laurent Academy.

The students from the Saint Laurent Academy were furious as they felt oppressed from the losses.

Their morale was boosted the moment Shen Yanxiao stepped up to challenge Luo Fan.

Chapter 427: Do You Dare to Have a Match (5)

“You’re right. We should not be afraid! It’s just a match.” The other students had also started to agree in unison.

That was a kind of great honor. When Shen Yanxiao participated in the monthly competition as a first-year student, it had brought recognition to her fellow year mates. At that moment, Shen Yanxiao represented the entirety of Saint Laurent Academy’s Herbalist Division, and everyone looked forward to her triumph so that they could shut their opponents’ mouths for once!

“What new method do you have in mind?” Luo Fan looked at Shen Yanxiao arrogantly. Regardless of the competition, he was confident that he would win it.

In the world of herbalism, no one else was as talented as him in the same age group!

She was merely an insignificant first-year student. How could she be his match when other students from higher years were not even his opponent!

He would accept her challenge and defeat her right in front of everyone. Then Ye Qing would realize that he was one who deserved to be his student!

Shen Yanxiao smiled and said, “Simple, the three of us would prepare a potion with detrimental effects, and our opponent will consume it. Then, with our skills, we would have to guess what it was that we had drunk, and we would also have to make the antidote in the shortest time possible.”

“A potion with detrimental effects?” Luo Fan looked at Shen Yanxiao in astonishment. He did not expect her to come up with such a crazy idea.

Herbalism is not only about potions with beneficial effects, but some carried detrimental effects as well. Even though those potions could not kill a person immediately, it could have frightening effects on one’s health too.

Luo Fan knew of some potions with detrimental effects that would render someone as good as dead.

Why would Shen Yanxiao want to compete in that? That did not even sound like a competition. Instead, it seemed as if they would need to fight with their lives!

Who could guess the adverse effects that a random potion could inflict on their bodies? It meant that they would have to work in the dark to speculate the type of potion that they had drunk, and they had to do that while they suffered the effects from the potion too. That was simply unimaginable.

Luo Fan was momentarily speechless.

He had never seen someone who would use a detrimental type of potion as the basis of competition.

Shangguan Xiao was also dumbstruck. He did not expect Shen Yanxiao to be that crazy!

The students in the library were also frightened by what they had heard.

“Erm, Shen Jue, is this not too cruel?” One of the students gulped. She would dare to use a potion that could kill an enemy and harm oneself?!

Furthermore, she had to compete against two people. That meant that she would have to consume two potions with detrimental effects!

If she were to make one tiny mistake, then her life would be in great danger!

Had Shen Jue gone crazy?

“Why? Do you not dare to do it?” Shen Yanxiao crossed her arms and raised her chin slightly as she looked at both of them with scorn in her eyes.

That seemingly crazy competition was her ‘Thank You’ gift to Luo Fan and Shangguan Xiao!

Even if she could not slaughter them, she could still use their most prideful potions to destroy their futures!

When Luo Fan came to his senses, he gritted his teeth as he glared at the arrogant little brat. Everyone had already heard her suggestion, so if he were to cower, would he not be the laughingstock in the academy? Furthermore, he had always said that he wanted to compete with Shen Yanxiao. If he were to eat his words, then he probably could no longer walk around with his head held high.

“It’s only a match, why would I be afraid? When would you like to do it?” Luo Fan clenched his teeth and agreed.

However, Shangguan Xiao was secretly surprised with his decision.

Shen Yanxiao narrowed her eyes as a cold glint streaked across them. “Tomorrow afternoon. I’ll wait for the both of you in the first-year student’s lab.

Chapter 428: Do You Dare to Have a Match (6)

Shen Yanxiao’s challenge against Luo Fan and Shangguan Xiao was immediately spread throughout the Saint Laurent Academy. Almost everyone knew that the first-year little kid who had once defeated the top student of the Herbalist Division was back!

The Herbalist Division was in an uproar. They had been long-oppressed by Luo Fan and his fellow students from the Blue Moon Dynasty, and they finally found an outlet to vent their frustrations. Almost all students secretly cheered for Shen Yanxiao.

At that moment, students from different years in the division all regarded Shen Yanxiao as a representative from their division.

After she issued the challenge, Shen Yanxiao could not be bothered about the two idiots with an odd expression on their faces, and so she turned to leave. Then she made her way toward the casino.

Luo Fan and Shangguan Xiao had also left the library soon after her departure. It looked like they were in a discussion about their countermeasures for the competition.

When Luo De heard about the news, Shen Yanxiao had already gone back to the casino. As a result, Luo De had not been able to capture that little brat.

Since he could not find Shen Yanxiao, Luo De had no choice but to seek Ye Qing in the upper levels of the library.

“Great Master Ye Qing, please discourage Shen Jue from continuing with the competition. It is too risky.” Luo De could not believe it when he heard about the challenge that Shen Jue had issued.

No one in the Brilliance Continent had ever used detrimental potions as the basis of competition before that.

All herbalists had a much weaker physique than those from other professions. If they were to consume a potion with detrimental effects, no one could predict the harm to their bodies. The potion might destroy their sense of smell, taste, and vision too. If the damages were permanent, the losses could send the herbalist to a downward spiral.

The human’s five senses were crucial to an herbalist, especially when they needed to prepare potions.

Due to their weak physique, an herbalist would not be able to withstand any detrimental effects from a potion.

Luo De believed Shen Jue had gone crazy. He knew that the reason Shen Jue had done that must have been related to Tang Nazhi’s recent expulsion from the Saint Laurent Academy.

Even though Luo De wanted to help Tang Nazhi when he had been framed, he could not go against Pu Lisi. So he felt quite guilty about that.

He could no longer stand at the side and allow Shen Jue to continue to take extreme and stupid measures in his quest for revenge.

However, Ye Qing had remained calm when he heard about the competition from Luo De. He could only sigh and said, “Even though Shen Jue is a friendly person, he could also be stubborn with his opinions. Since he had issued the challenge publicly, there is no changing his mind now.”

Even though he had not had much interaction with Shen Yanxiao, Ye Qing knew her personality well.

“Shen Jue is similar to a sleeping dragon, gentle and harmless on normal occasions. However, if someone were to cross him, then that sleeping dragon would wake up and soar toward the horizon, and use the most extreme method to retaliate against the culprits.” Ye Qing looked up to the sky outside the window.

“But... that is too much of a risk! Furthermore, Luo Fan is already an Advanced Herbalist!” Luo De was still worried, and he wanted to do something lest a gifted student was destroyed.

Ye Qing shook his head and said, “You’re not understanding me. Forget it. When tomorrow comes, you’ll know that your worries have been for nothing.”

Chapter 429: Farewell (1)

In the underground casino, the five members of Phantom had gathered at that rest lounge as they abandoned their other tasks on hand. Tang Nazhi was due to leave the Saint Laurent Academy the next day to return to the capital.

When Yan Yu and Yang Xi arrived, Tang Nazhi was slumped over the chair with a sad expression while Qi Xia and Shen Yanxiao enjoyed their pastries beside him.

“Well, you’ve become the most popular student at the academy the moment you return.” Yan Yu had heard about Shen Yanxiao’s challenge with Luo Fan and Shangguan Xiao, and he was quite shocked about its content.

“That type of person deserves a good lesson.” Yang Xi had agreed with how Shen Yanxiao had dealt with that issue.

How could they be happy when someone had conspired to expel Tang Nazhi from the academy? However, they could not deal with Shangguan Xiao even if they had wanted to as they were in different divisions.

“Are you confident about the match?” Yan Xi asked.

Shen Yanxiao shrugged her shoulders.

As he enjoyed the exquisite pastries, Qi Xia said. “I have some news about Luo Fan, and I can even give it to you for free.”

“Luo Fan is from the Luo Family in the Blue Moon Dynasty, and their family’s reputation is comparable to our five great aristocratic families. Like Little Yu’s family, they are also famous for their potions. They had a Great Herbalist in the family, but he had left the dynasty many years ago to go to the Lunar Continent to do research on herbalism.”

“Lunar Continent?” Shen Yanxiao frowned. The Lunar Continent was the territory of the elves, and they possess a racial advantage in regards to herbalism. All elves were rumored to be Intermediate Herbalists, and Grandmaster Herbalists were also not rare in that continent.

All archers and herbalists dreamed of going to the Lunar Continent. Many had set off toward that magical land, but most of them had disappeared at sea. For centuries, except for trading ships, none of them made their journey back to the Brilliance Continent.

“The Lunar Continent is more than a rumor. Even though the Luo family lost their Grandmaster Herbalist, they still have a few Great Herbalists. According to my sources, Luo Fan had represented the Luo Family of the Blue Moon Dynasty to invite Shangguan Xiao to join their influence.” Qi Xia was like Wikipedia, but no one knew how he obtained that confidential information.

Even though the Blue Moon Dynasty and the Longxuan Empire were powerful countries in the Brilliance Continent that looked calm on the surface, there had been constant friction behind the scenes.

There were many unwritten rules between the two countries. One of them was treason if a citizen were to join the opponent’s country’s influence.

It was apparent that not many knew about Luo Fan’s offer to Shangguan Xiao to join their banner. Otherwise, Shangguan Xiao would have already been arrested for treason.

“Pulling Shangguan Xiao to join them? From what I could see, I thought Luo Fan would want Pu Lisi instead,” Yang Xi sneered.

Qi Xia declined to comment on that.

“It has been centuries since the Luo Family had a Great Herbalist and so they wanted to win one over. There are a few families in the Blue Moon Dynasty that had the same status as the Luo Family, and all of them have a Great Herbalist to support them. How could they remain calm?” Yan Yu said.

Chapter 430: Farewell (2)

“Luo Fan is an Advanced Herbalist, and if you were to compete against the both of them, you could ignore Shangguan Xiao for now. However, you must be on your guard against Luo Fan. An Advanced Herbalist’s potion is never simple. Furthermore, the Luo family had many secret formulae and I have yet to investigate all of them. You would be at a disadvantage if you were to compete with them with detrimental potions.” Qi Xia furrowed his eyebrows, and that was something that he rarely did. Even though he was not an herbalist, as the next Qilin family’s head, he was expected to have some knowledge about the profession.

Potions were indispensable items in the Brilliance Continent, and potions with beneficial effects were high in demand. As for potions with detrimental effects, it would also intimidate many.

However, no matter the production process or understanding of medicinal ingredients, it was still several times harder than usual. That was why Qi Xi was not very confident about it.

Shen Yanxiao leaned against the chair as a sneer curled on her lips.

“Disadvantage? I’d like to see exactly who’s the one at a disadvantage tomorrow. Rest assured that I know my limits. I will make them suffer tomorrow.” She would resort to strategies like killing a thousand enemies at the expense of her troops. All she wanted from that match was a total annihilation without any blood on her hands.

The other four students remained silent when they saw Shen Yanxiao’s confident expression. They trusted that she would know what to do in the competition.

After they discussed the upcoming match, everyone then shifted their attention to the fact that Tang Nazhi would be leaving the next day.

They did not want him to go, but the head of the Black Tortoise family had demanded that he returned to the family. Tang Nazhi had no choice but to leave.

The five friends remained at the casino for the rest of the night. They wanted to spend those precious moments together while they still could.

The lights in their lounge area remained aflame in the night, as Yan Yu prepared a sumptuous meal for their midnight party.

Tang Nazhi had complex emotions about his departure, but he was comforted by his comrades’ offer of friendship. However, he also felt lonely as he was about to leave them.

Regardless of anything, he would always remember that he had a group of friends who would share meals and miseries with him at the Saint Laurent Academy.

Suddenly, Tang Nazhi stood up and raised his cup as he looked at the four people around the table. His eyes were red, and he was a little drunk when he declared, "People said that I'm a miserable person with no accomplishment of any kind. As a member of the Black Tortoise family, I had even abandoned the road of magic and battle aura for herbalism. With my limited talents, I have stumbled along the way without any success at all. For those who waited for me to become a joke, let them laugh all they want tomorrow. From today onward, I won't have anything to do with herbalism anymore! After several years of studies, it is unfortunate that I have to return empty-handed. However, even these are not relevant. More importantly, I have all of you by my side. So what if the masses humiliate, despise, laugh, or scold me? I have all of you by my side, and that is enough! I shall take my leave tomorrow, and I'd like to offer all of you a toast to show my thanks for your help these past few months!"

Tang Nazhi gulped his drink in one shot, and his eyes continued to redden as the sadness in him welled.

Ever since he decided to become an herbalist two years ago, everyone had waited for him to screw up.

Well, let them laugh. Let them laugh all they wanted.

Even though he could not become an herbalist, his life was fulfilled by the sincerity that his friends had offered him!

The four of them raised their glasses before they downed theirs as well.

Shen Yanxiao's eyes narrowed as the heat of the wine swirled down her throat.