

The Good 451

Chapter 451: Karma (2)

Shen Yanxiao acted surprised for a moment and looked at Ouyang Huanyu doubtfully. "Competition? But I did not use any special potions. Were there any problems?"

Before she could finish her sentence, Fang Qiu had jumped out to yell at her.

"Stop with your acting! I cannot believe how a brat like you could be so evil-hearted at such a young age. You even schemed to get them killed! You had better hand over the antidote right now!" Fang Qiu shouted in an uncontrollable rage.

Shen Yanxiao blinked her eyes innocently and spoke with hesitance, "Evil-hearted? Teacher, what do you mean by that? Everyone saw the competition yesterday, and I had not done anything against the rules. Everything I did was in accordance with the rules."

"As for the antidote, I never said that I would not hand it over. Before I could do that, though, Great Master Pu Lisi had taken my seniors away. Even if I wanted to deliver the antidote, it was already too late," Shen Yanxiao said as honestly as she could.

Fang Qiu felt so provoked by Shen Yanxiao that he was choked with anger. She was right, Pu Lisi had told them to leave, and he also did not ask for the antidote. Everything looked as if Shen Yanxiao had nothing to do with it. It was as if that was the result of Pu Lisi's pride.

Even so, how would he dare to question Pu Lisi?

"Enough with trying to place blame! Shen Jue, give the formula to Fang Qiu so that he can prepare the antidote to save them," Ouyang Huanyu said as he tried to be the mediator.

Fang Qiu gritted his teeth and did not say anything else.

Shen Yanxiao handed two bottles of antidote to Fang Qiu without any hint of hesitation.

Shen Yanxiao had been so cooperative that the three animals felt there was something fishy about it!

Would Shen Yanxiao be so kind-hearted to give the antidote away for free?

What a joke!

However, the three friends stood still and continued to watch the show.

After Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan drank the antidote, nothing unusual happened. However, when Ye Qing and the Priest Division's head checked their condition, they discovered that the collision in their meridians had weakened.

"This antidote is real," Ye Qing said as he smiled.

Fang Qiu finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Shen Yanxiao's friends were somewhat confused. When had the brat become so kind-hearted?

"How is Luo Fan's current condition?" Fang Qiu asked in anxiousness.

“His condition has stabilized, and it’s no longer life-threatening. However... I’m afraid he can no longer be a herbalist,” Ye Qing said.

“What did you say?” Fang Qiu was frozen to the spot.

“Their meridians are severely damaged, and even though they had drunk the antidote, it could only prevent their condition from deteriorating. It would not reverse the damages that had already been done.” Ye Qing sighed helplessly. He had not interfered in worldly affairs for many years, but he knew that Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan were talented herbalists. Unfortunately, it looked like they could not continue on the path any longer.

Even though herbalists did not require battle aura and magic like the other professions, they would need to have perceptive five senses and intense mental energy. Shangguan Xiao and Luo fan’s meridians had been wrecked beyond repair, and their mental energy had almost been depleted. It did not look like there was any hope for recovery.

Fang Qiu looked at Luo Fan in astonishment. Ye Qing’s words were like thunderbolts in a clear sky that separated his body and soul.

A super-genius in herbalism had to give up potions in the future?

Chapter 452: Karma (3)

What a terrifying revenge that was!

Even though Luo Fan was still alive, his future had been ruined. Fang Qiu gasped and suddenly dashed toward and let loose a torrent of abuse. “You damned evil brat. It was only a competition, so how could you be so ruthless! How does a wicked brat like you deserve the herbalist profession!”

Shen Yanxiao frowned and sneered as she looked at Fang Qiu, who had hurled abuse at her. “You have said something interesting, though. What does their plight have to do with me? I wasn’t aware that my potion would cause any damage to their meridians. They are like this because of an arrogant person who had used the wrong antidote on them. How is that my fault?”

“You still dare to deny this? If you hadn’t given them a vicious potion like that, how would that ruin their future?” Fang Qiu asked in a fury.

Shen Yanxiao laughed out loud, and her expression turned cold in the blink of an eye.

“I have been respectful to you because you are a teacher, but since you are unreasonable, there is no need for me to care for your reputation. Please, tell me, how did my potion harm them? If you had not used the wrong antidote, would they have suffered so? Furthermore, you said that I had used a vicious potion, but was it any more vicious than the Concealed Poison Potion and the Chaos Potion?”

“Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan colluded and schemed to ruin my future as a herbalist yesterday, so don’t tell me that you were unaware of it!” Shen Yanxiao glared at Fang Qiu as her body emanated an invisible aura.

The bone-chilling aura had caused Fang Qiu’s expression to change.

“Speaking of viciousness, how could I compare to my seniors? They attempted to use my absence as a reason to kick me out of the Herbalist Division. It was only thanks to my good friend Tang Nazhi’s assistance that I had managed to keep my position. Then these two seniors even plotted with a certain unscrupulous bastard to force him out of school. So, please tell me, which was more vicious? Was it my transparent and legitimate competition or their sinister schemes?” Shen Yanxiao detailed the situation in a single breath.

“Can you not see that their plight today was due to their karma? As for their condition, why don’t you ask the person who had fed them the wrong antidote instead of shouting at me!”

Fang Qiu was left speechless by Shen Yanxiao’s rebuttal. He knew about Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan’s schemes, but he did nothing to stop them.

He thought that Pu Lisi’s favor was more important than an ordinary student’s life.

They would profit with Pu Lisi’s move to their country in exchange for the life of a random student.

Pu Lisi shivered from Shen Yanxiao’s words but remained silent. After he had personally destroyed Shangguan Xiao’s future, the spirited old man seemed to have suffered an enormous setback.

Furthermore, after he had heard what Shen Yanxiao had said, he realized that everything had happened because the little brat wanted to avenge her friend, who had been expelled from the academy. She had used such a method to destroy both Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan instead, and at the same time, she had crushed his confidence and pride.

“I’ve said my piece, and I’ve also delivered the antidote. If Dean Ouyang Huanyu does not need me for anything else, I shall take my leave first.” Shen Yanxiao said with no regard for everyone present in the room.

Chapter 453: Incomplete Formula (1)

Shen Yanxiao and her friends left the room, and as they walked out of the Herbalist Division, Yan Yu asked in doubt, “You’re letting them off just like that?” For some reason, he still felt that the little brat would not let things go so easily.

Shen Yanxiao raised her eyebrow and asked, “Do you know what detrimental potion they had drunk?”

“What was it?” Yang Yu was very curious to know about the potion that not even Ye Qing could identify.

Shen Yanxiao had an odd smile on her face as she said in a low voice, “It was merely an enhanced version of the Slow Potion.”

“Slow Potion? Then why couldn’t Pu Lisi and Ye Qing come up with the antidote?” Yang Xi propped his arm on Yan Yu’s shoulders like a curious cat.

“Because I added something to it.”

“What did you add?”

“A curse.”

“...” The trio was thoroughly speechless. That was the first time that they had heard about the usage of curses with potions.

“I had cast a singular curse on the antidote. The curse would invade their meridians as the Slow Potion spread throughout their body. Pu Lisi would never expect that I would use a curse on it. Even if he knew the antidote for the Slow Potion, it would be a futile attempt. Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan would never recover if I did not undo the curse.” A small hint of flame dances within her eyes as she explained. A small bottle of potion could be used as a sinister tool in her hands.

“Aren’t you afraid that Ouyang Huanyu would discover you?” Qi Xia touched his chin. No one from another profession had ever chosen to become a herbalist. They had to use a tremendous amount of effort to attain a certain level in a trade, and if they wish to learn both, they would not have enough energy to do that. Shen Yanxiao’s casual speech had shocked Qi Xia. At the moment, she was involved in three professions, and she even attained the intermediate level in all three. It was hard to digest the level of her progress.

Furthermore, she could even merge a warlock’s skills with potions. She was simply an overpowered character.

“I’m not that dumb. I added ingredients that could eliminate magic traces so that even Ouyang Huanyu would never notice any abnormalities.” She had already made preparations for such a situation, and she was not someone who would fight in a battle if she did not think she could win.

“Then what’s with that bottle of antidote?” Yan Yu continued to ask. They saw that Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan’s condition were better after they consumed the antidote.

“I cast a dispel curse on the antidote so that they could recover from it. Despite that, their condition is irreversible, and an entire day of damage had depleted their mental energy. Even if I did not provide the antidote, their condition would not have deteriorated any further.” Shen Yanxiao had managed to do Ouyang Huanyu a favor and eliminate further threats from her opponents; it was like killing two birds with one stone. Furthermore, it was almost an effortless action to push Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan into the pits without any hopes for recovery.

After Shen Yanxiao’s explanation, her friends looked at the seemingly harmless little brat with a weird expression.

A renowned expert was never the scariest figure as everyone knew not to provoke them.

Instead, it was those seemingly inconspicuous characters that stayed hidden in the dark that would chill one to their bone. There was no way to tell if one had offended them before calamity landed on oneself.

Chapter 454: Incomplete Formula (2)

Shen Yanxiao was someone like that.

On an average day, she was a kind and seemingly without any temper or prominent abilities.

However, if someone were to cross her, then her opponent would have to face an unimaginable force.

No one would have expected that a terrifying power was concealed under her gentle mask.

Just the thought of her casually added curses in a potion would cause others to tremble in fear.

“Are we allowed to write a letter to Tang Nazhi now?” Qi Xia sighed.

Shen Yanxiao’s expression faintly changed for the better as she nodded. “It’s time to send him this present.”

Stinky brat, I’ve dealt with those who had bullied you, and I hope you would be able to spend your days in the Black Tortoise Family in peace.

Shangguan Xiao and Luo Fan had been disabled after the incident. When they woke up and learned that they would not be able to make potions anymore, they almost went insane.

Luo Fan had transformed into useless trash overnight, and the setback had turned him into an idiot. He sat in the dormitory every single day as if he was a piece of wood that neither ate nor drank. Fang Qiu was worried that something worse might happen to him. So he decided to drop everything and set on a journey back to the Blue Moon Dynasty with his students after he bade farewell to Ouyang Huanyu and Pu Lisi.

Shangguan Xiao’s condition was no better than Luo Fan, and his silhouette could longer be spotted in the Herbalist Division. Furthermore, Pu Lisi had also disappeared along with him. Some said that Pu Lisi had left for the Blue Moon Dynasty, where herbalism flourished, with Fang Qiu and Shangguan Xiao in search of treatment methods.

Shen Yanxiao did not care if there was any truth to that news.

She could finally resume her normal life and split her time amongst the three divisions.

The only difference was that she could no longer see that certain someone who took care of her and was always by her side.

The vacant bed in the dormitory remained unused since his departure. Whenever Lin Xuan returned to the room, he was always afraid to talk to Shen Yanxiao.

Her world had turned quiet, and she was somewhat unaccustomed to it.

Fortunately, the three friends remained by her side, and the days went by as they fought in jest and for fun.

In the mornings, Shen Yanxiao would follow Ye Qing around the library to learn about herbalism. Ye Qing seemed to have formally accepted her as his disciple as he began to teach her peculiar potions.

One morning, Shen Yanxiao was at the library as usual, but she noticed that Ye Qing was at the table with a pile of herbs.

“Mentor, what potion are you making now?” Shen Yanxiao made her way there as she asked. Ye Qing had corrected how she addressed him several days ago, and they both had a tacit understanding of the reason behind his actions.

A friendly smile blossomed on his face when he saw Shen Yanxiao.

“This is a potion that the dean requested my help with. However, I am rather ashamed. I have had this formulation for years, and I have yet to complete it.” Ye Qing had a yellowed parchment that recorded all the processes for the potion.

Shen Yanxiao took a casual look at it, but she was shocked by what she had seen on the paper.

The potion in Ye Qing’s hands was the Blood Banquet Potion that was meant to cure Yun Qi!

However...

Shen Yanxiao noticed that something amiss. Yun Qi had given her the Blood Banquet Potion’s formulation, and she had memorized it by heart. However, the formulation in Ye Qing’s hands was slightly different from hers.

Even though both formulas seemed almost identical, there were distinct missing parts in several crucial steps.

Chapter 455: Incomplete Formula (3)

It was as if someone had deliberately removed the critical parts of the formulation.

Shen Yanxiao maintained her composure and asked, “There’s a potion that you can’t produce?”

Ye Qing chuckled and shook his head.

“I am merely a Great Herbalist, and there are still many Grandmaster Herbalists above me. I can only make potions that are within the range of my skills. Unfortunately, I can’t do anything beyond that.”

Ye Qing was not a proud person. On the contrary, he was unusually humble. He frowned as he looked at the formula in his hands and muttered, “What bothered me the most is the missing parts. When the dean passed this incomplete formula to me, I had not paid much attention to it. It was only when I started working on it that I realized the importance of the missing parts. We have worked hard to research the missing contents, but we only managed to correct three parts. The remaining three parts are still unclear.”

Shen Yanxiao frowned discreetly. She knew that Yun Qi had given Ouyang Huanyu the complete formula, and yet Ye Qing only received an incomplete one. It was also evident that the missing parts had been deliberately erased.

There was no doubt that the culprit was Ouyang Huanyu!

Even though he appeared sincere about helping Yun Qi with the Blood Banquet Potion, he had tampered with the formula behind his back.

It was apparent that he had no intention to cure Yun Qi!

Shen Yanxiao gripped her fists in her sleeves. She had disliked Ouyang Huanyu from the start as that seemingly gentle and respected dean felt dangerous somehow.

Ouyang Huanyu did not give Ye Qing the original formulation because he did him to produce the potion for Yun Qi’s recovery. If Yun Qi were not cured of the Blood Banquet Potion, then he would have to stay in the Saint Laurent Academy...

Did Ouyang Huanyu intend to trap Yun Qi in the academy?

Shen Yanxiao pursed her lips. Yun Qi's strength had dropped considerably compared to before, so why would Ouyang Huanyu force him to stay?

The whole situation was probably not as simple as it seemed.

Shen Yanxiao decided to bide her time and acted as if she had noticed nothing. She diligently stood beside Ye Qing and looked at his continuous attempts with that incomplete formula.

Her mentor was extremely meticulous with every step he took, and she could guarantee that Ye Qing would have already produced the Blood Banquet Potion if he had the whole formula. Furthermore, he would have risen from a Great Herbalist to a Grandmaster Herbalist had he completed the potion.

Why would Ouyang Huanyu abandon the opportunity to nurture a Grandmaster Herbalist so that Yun Qi would continue to stay at the academy?

Shen Yanxiao had so many questions in her mind, and all of those pointed toward the dean.

She immediately decided to visit his room that night to see if she could learn his real motive.

She would never let anyone harm her mentor!

Shen Yanxiao decided not to give Ye Qing the whole formula. Even though he would not have betrayed her trust, Ouyang Huanyu would hear about it if he had completed the Blood Banquet Potion. She did not want any other complications before she could learn more about Ouyang Huanyu's real plans.

Chapter 456: Hypocrite (1)

Everything would have to wait until after her trip to the dean's room that night!

Moonlight shrouded the earth as night descended.

The hustle-bustle of the academy during the day had finally calmed as light crystals by the roadside radiated its surroundings.

A petite silhouette sped past a building, and her agile movements were similar to a nimble cat as she moved without any sound.

The dean's office at the Saint Laurent Academy was still ablaze with lights, and Ouyang Huanyu sat at his table as he browsed through a pile of documents.

Ouyang Huanyu was not only powerful, gentle, just, and strict; he was also very diligent.

The masses idolized the Saint Laurent Academy's dean, and he was also a respected figure in everyone's hearts. He had always attended to all aspects of a matter and had never conspired to do evil.

Furthermore, he was also always kind and friendly with the teachers and students in the academy.

Except for Shen Yanxiao, no one else disliked the dean.

Shen Yanxiao silently snuck into the dean's office with the Moonlight Necklace; she was not worried if anyone would discover her. Since she had removed all traces of magic on her, she was confident that she could hide from everyone.

Ouyang Huanyu looked indifferent as he flipped through the pages of a book, and one could only hear the almost-silent sound of paper as he turned the pages.

Please do not tell me that he intends to read through the night? Shen Yanxiao thought to herself as she stared at the conscientious Ouyang Huanyu. If that Buddha remained seated there throughout the night, then she would not be able to find anything.

She could still look for some random useful information around the office if he were to leave for a moment. However, unless she turned invisible, she would not be able to do anything else if he remained there.

Just as Shen Yanxiao silently prayed for Ouyang Huanyu to use the washroom or have a meal, the door of the office was suddenly pushed open.

She immediately shrunk herself back into the darkness as the person entered the room.

A black-coated man had silently gone into the room as the moonlight behind him elongated his silhouette. His whole body was wrapped in a large cloak, and the shadows had concealed his face.

Ouyang Huanyu did not seem surprised at that man's arrival. He merely raised his head and arranged the materials on his table before he crossed his fingers in front of his chest as he remained calm and composed while he looked at the new arrival.

"Even after so many years, you still pose as a man of high morals all day long." A youthful voice echoed from the black-cloaked man.

Ouyang Huanyu smiled faintly.

"I have worn this mask for so long that even I forgot that it's here. So, why have you come here?"

The black-cloaked man sat down and crossed his stretched out slender legs.

"I came to see your ridiculous face and to tell you that there's a lack of manpower over there. When do you intend to send more people?"

Ouyang Huanyu furrowed his eyebrows.

"I just sent a batch of people a few months ago, how did you do through them so quickly?"

The man answered, "We encountered some problems recently, and our men struggled with some mishaps. When will you send the herbalist that you have promised us?"

Shen Yanxiao was shocked. Who did Ouyang Huanyu send, and why did he have to send a herbalist? What was going on?

Chapter 457: Hypocrite (2)

"I had wanted to send Pu Lisi, but something bad happened to his disciple, and so he had set off to the Blue Moon Dynasty. You can get your people to contact him there as I have informed him about it."

The black-cloaked man pondered for a moment before he said, "Since he is already in the Blue Moon Dynasty, there shouldn't be any problem with another Pu Lisi. What about Ye Qing?"

Shen Yanxiao's heart suddenly leaped. They had aimed for Ye Qing!

Ouyang Huanyu looked helpless as he sighed and said, "Ye Qing has always been firm about his decision. He hasn't budged from his opinion even after so many years. I do not dare to tell him all the details just yet."

"Is Ye Qing that hard to handle? He must have been like a block of wood despite your efforts for so many years. In any case, you will need to send a Great Herbalist as soon as possible. If we can't get Ye Qing on board, then we will have to make do with other Great Herbalists," the man said reluctantly.

"I will make the arrangements within these few days." Ouyang Huanyu nodded.

"Oh yes, what is the situation with Yun Qi? That old man has been with you for quite some time now, have you been able to change his mind?" When the man suddenly mentioned Yun Qi, the alarm bells rang in Shen Yanxiao's mind.

Ouyang Huanyu immediately furrowed his eyebrows the moment Yun Qi's name was uttered.

"Let's not mention him; I think he's made of stone. Before I could say more than two words, he would have already chased me away."

The black-cloaked man chuckled.

"It looks like he's still the same. That person and I had tried to get him on our side, but he had managed to avoid us. Ultimately, he had hid in the mountains and forests. In any case, if you can't change his mind, then you must never allow him to leave or recover his strength. Otherwise, he would be a huge threat to us."

"Don't worry. I have changed the formula that I gave to Ye Qing. Even after a century, Yun Qi would never get the real Blood Banquet Potion. However, he did accept a new disciple recently."

"A disciple? That old man still has the courage to accept a student? Did he forget how all of his former disciples ended?" The man smiled unkindly.

"Since you can't influence Yun Qi, perhaps you can start with his disciple. Even though that old man's skills have regressed, his attainment as a Warlock is incomparable. If he has the mind to teach, then I trust that his disciple would not lack talent. If possible, perhaps you can get his pupil onto our side. Yu Qin had always valued his disciples, so if you could control his pupil, then he might just yield."

Ouyang Huanyu looked at the man with a sigh and then said, "I have not been able to identify his new disciple. I had waited at the Warlock Division, but even after a long while, I had to return empty-handed. I think the disciple had used some tricks to avoid my perception magic."

The black-cloaked man was surprised to hear that.

"He avoided your perception magic? Well, Yun Qi has an item that could accomplish that feat. However, it is also something he treasured so he would not have given that away freely. He had used it when he avoided pursuit during the Warlocks' end, so how could he give that away? You'd have to pay more attention to that."

"I understand," Ouyang Huanyu said with a nod.

Chapter 458: Hypocrite (3)

“Alright, since I have said my piece, I must not linger. Please send the herbalists as soon as possible, and I shall take my leave.” Then the black-cloaked man got up and left after he said that.

His black silhouette seemed to have disappeared in the night skies.

Ouyang Huanyu took a deep breath, and a teasing smile hung on his face as he sat on the chair. All previous expressions of helplessness had disappeared without a trace.

A short while later, Ouyang Huanyu got up and walked toward the bookcase.

Shen Yanxiao quietly stared at Ouyang Huanyu’s movements when he suddenly turned a glass vase before the large bookcase silently moved to reveal a pitch-black corridor.

Ouyang Huanyu took a lamp and walked into the corridor. As his silhouette disappeared, the bookcase then moved to close the hole in the wall.

Shen Yanxiao narrowed her eyes. Their conversations about both of her mentors and herself had shaken her.

It was just as she had expected. The dean was not a kind soul, but she did not know anything about the mysterious man. From their conversation, she concluded that he was acquainted with Yun Qi from a long time ago, but why would he need herbalists? Had they also stretched their influence to the Blue Moon Dynasty?

She had so many questions about what she had heard, but the conversation had been cut short. She did not know how she would be able to satisfy her curiosity.

Furthermore, where did that corridor lead to? Shen Yanxiao was even more curious about that. She could feel that Ouyang Huanyu had not been totally honest with the mysterious man. There was probably more to him than it seemed.

Shen Yanxiao thought that she should not search the dean’s office randomly that night. She had a feeling that he would not place anything of importance in plain sight anyway. If she wanted to know more, then she would have to enter that passageway.

Shen Yanxiao decided to be prudent and not continue with her search for that day. Then she leaped down from the beam silently.

With a flash, her silhouette darted away from the dean’s office.

Shen Yanxiao had been preoccupied with her thoughts as she made her way back to her dormitory. She knew that she had heard some vital information that night. Things were still fine for Ye Qing, but it seemed like Ouyang Huanyu and the man in black had every intention to keep Yun Qi at the academy.

It did not look like things were optimistic for her mentor. Even though she did not know why they had wanted to detain Yun Qi, she knew that their motives were not as pure as it seemed.

Shen Yanxiao could not sleep a wink as those thoughts continued to torment her throughout the night. The next morning, she made her way toward the library.

Ye Qing was still researching the copy of the incomplete Blood Banquet Potion's formula that he had. Based on his behavior, she could confirm that he was not in cahoots with Ouyang Huanyu.

Even so, Shen Yanxiao did not give him the complete formula so rashly. She could not tell Ye Qing about Ouyang Huanyu's apparent bad intention or that he had given him an incomplete formula. Even if she were to tell him, Ye Qing might not even believe her.

She would have to endure everything for the time being, and she would continue to make plans once she had visited that hidden corridor.

An entire morning had passed before she bid farewell to Ye Qing and made her way toward the dormitory to catch up on some sleep. She also wanted to make a trip to the Archer Division before her absence caused Xie Ling to explode.

Just as she was about to reach the dormitory, Shen Yanxiao saw Lin Xuan standing outside the door nervously. Two slender figures were also there with their backs against the door inside the room, and they seemed to be speaking to Lin Xuan.

Chapter 459: Enemies on a Narrow Road (1)

Lin Xuan was about to say something before he saw Shen Yanxiao's arrival. He immediately relaxed and said, "Shen Jue, you've returned!"

As if they followed his cue, the other two figures also turned their heads toward her. Shen Yanxiao was surprised to learn that she knew those two people; it was her brother, Shen Siyu, and her fifth uncle, Shen Ling.

Shen Siyu looked at Shen Yanxiao, who wore a disguise mask, and said with a warm smile, "You're back!"

Shen Yanxiao was surprised to see them there. She had not expected Shen Siyu and Shen Ling to look for her in the academy.

"Brother Siyu, Fifth Uncle." Even though she addressed them obediently, she still had a lot of questions in her mind. Why were they at the academy so suddenly? Did Shen Feng want to tell her something and so sent them there to convey his message?

She thought about the two Phoenixes that she had sent to the Lava Valley not too long ago, and that was when she understood the situation.

"Hmm." Shen Ling nodded, but he had a taut expression on his face. He did not have any particular feelings about Shen Yanxiao, and one could even say that he was a neutral party in the family.

"We're here to bring you something from the family head, and I'm also here you see how you're doing." Shen Siyu spoke to Shen Yanxiao with the same gentleness as he usually did.

Lin Xuan was a perceptive person, and when he noticed they had some things to discuss, he found an excuse to slip away so that they could use the room privately.

After Lin Xuan left, Shen Siyu stepped forward and raised his hand to pat her on her head gently.

“You’ve lost weight after leaving home for several months. You must be exhausted here.” Shen Siyu already had a gentle voice, and when he spoke in a caring tone, it sounded like the spring breeze.

Shen Yanxiao brushed her nose at his care and concern.

“It is manageable. Did Grandfather send me something? Why did he send Brother Siyu and Fifth Uncle? There’s no need for the trouble.” While she was in the Shen family, Shen Siyu was rarely at home as Shen Feng always dispatched him to attend to some tasks. As for Shen Ling, he was in charge of Vermilion Bird family’s bodyguards, and so he rarely had free time as well. If Shen Feng had sent them both, it meant that it was not a simple item.

“It’s nothing important, but Grandfather did ask me to give you this letter.” Shen Siyu smiled as he retrieved a sealed letter from his space ring for Shen Yanxiao.

Shen Ling remained silent, but he turned his back as if to give Shen Yanxiao some space to read it.

Shen Siyu had also followed suit as he busied himself with the furnishings in the dormitory.

Shen Yanxiao raised her eyebrow when she realized that their sole purpose was to deliver the letter. So she immediately opened it.

Shen Feng’s handwriting was lively and compelling as he began the letter with information about the Phoenixes.

Shen Feng felt honored with the arrival of the Phoenixes. As Shen Yanxiao had already personally penned a letter about their arrival, he had acted per her instructions and prevented the Vermilion Bird’s family members from entering the Lava Valley without his permission. As for the reason that the Phoenixes were at the Lava Valley, Shen Feng did not pry and merely instructed her to take care of herself and not to mistreat herself in the academy.

It was a short page, and yet it had conveyed the deep concern of an elder. Shen Yanxiao felt a twitch in her nose as she read through the letter. It was the first time in her life to receive a letter from a family member. It was not a bad feeling to have someone show concern and care for oneself.

After she read Shen Feng’s letter, Shen Yanxiao decisively started a small flame to burn the letter. Except for them both, no one in the Vermilion Bird family knew about the Phoenixes’ existence;

Except for them, no one in the entire Vermilion Bird family knew about the existence of the Phoenixes; even Shen Siyu and Shen Ling were left in the dark about it.

The Phoenixes were to be the Vermilion Bird Family’s hidden card.

Chapter 460: Enemies on a Narrow Road (2)

Unless they had to, otherwise they would not let a third person know about that.

“Brother Siyu, Fifth Uncle, you have traveled such a long distance; let me prepare some food and drink for you. You may rest here for the time being.” Shen Yanxiao said with a smile after she kept her emotions in check.

Except for Shen Feng, if anyone else deserved her concern, then it was the brother who had always showered her with care, even when she was only an idiot.

Even though she did not have much contact with Shen Siyu, she could sense his genuine care and concern for her.

“There’s no need to bother, we’ve already eaten on our way here. Your fourth uncle is also here, but he went ahead to the Magic Division and the Battle Aura Division.” Shen Siyu smiled as he shook his head. He did not wish to trouble his little sister the moment they met.

When he mentioned Shen Yue, Shen Yanxiao displayed an air of indifference. She knew that he would visit his unruly children, and if it were possible, she would not want to meet him too.

Then Shen Siyu pulled Shen Yanxiao aside to ask about her situation in the Herbalist Division. When she reassured him that everything was well, he looked relieved.

As for Shen Ling, he was as mute as a fish. He merely stood at the side while he listened to their conversation.

Shen Ling was somewhat surprised. He did not know much about his niece, and he only regarded her as his sixth brother’s child. Idiot or otherwise, she was still his younger brother’s descendant. However, he never paid any attention to any gossip in the family as he only cared for his responsibilities. That was why he did not pay much attention to her presence at home.

Shen Yanxiao might have been an idiot in the past, but her changes in those few months would shock anyone.

Unfortunately, before he could understand more about his young niece, she had already left for the Saint Laurent Academy. Since he had the chance to meet her that day, Shen Ling wanted to reexamine her based on her conversation with Shen Siyu. She was only 14 years old, but she conversed like an adult. Her words and speech were appropriate, and it could even alleviate one’s worry for her.

When he compared Shen Yanxiao with Shen Yue’s two unruly kids, he felt that those two had lived up to that description as they were proud and arrogant. They always required the adults to worry for them too.

After they had conversed for a short while, they heard a wave of footsteps outside the door.

Then, someone kicked the door to Shen Yanxiao’s dormitory room.

Shen Yue stood the entrance like he was high and mighty above everyone else. His two children, Shen Jiayi and Shen Jiawei, trailed behind him.

“Why are you still here? What’s there to talk about with this tras... brat.” Shen Yue furrowed his eyebrows as he stared at Shen Yanxiao. Even though Shen Feng had already made her the next family head, Shen Yue was still unconvinced. He always thought that she had obtained the Vermilion Bird by chance.

Furthermore, he did not have any respect for a brat like her.

In his mind, Shen Yanxiao was still that idiotic trash.

Shen Jiayi and Shen Jiawei stood behind their father like two prideful peacocks. It was evident that they had walked out of their defeat and continued to look down on Shen Yanxiao as usual.

“Fourth Brother, why are you in a rush?” Before Shen Siyu and Shen Yanxiao could say anything, Shen Ling threw a look of disapproval at his brother.

Shen Ling was old-fashioned. Regardless of Shen Yanxiao’s abilities, since she had been confirmed as the next family head, then he would treat her like one.