

The Good 61

Chapter 61: Signing the Contract (1)

“Lord Vermilion Bird, she doesn’t count as a member of the Vermilion Bird Family! Take a look at her appearance, how does that resemble any one of us? She’s simply a bastard child and not from our family’s bloodline!”

Shen Jiayi’s words got more vulgar, and even the sage who stood at the side frowned in displeasure.

Shen Jiayi was a young girl who had only just reached her adulthood. How could she say such hurtful words toward Shen Yanxiao, a relative from the same family?

“Slut, hurry up and get lost! You don’t have the right to stand here! A little bastard like you might as well drop dead.” Shen Jiayi’s jealousy caused her to scream her inner thoughts aloud. She would rather die than see that trash with the Vermilion Bird.

Endless vulgarities flooded the cave, and that little girl at the corner seemed so fragile and helpless, and she did not even react to Shen Jiayi’s insults.

Unbeknownst to them, the Vermilion Bird surged with anger.

That was someone he had chosen, so how could he allow others to bully her in front of him? If that continued, how could he uphold his reputation as a mythical beast?

“You’re so revolting! I can’t believe that the Vermilion Bird Family had fallen so low to have brought up such a repulsive woman like you.” The Vermilion Bird slowly turned and looked at Shen Jiayi, who was still half-seated on the ground. He raised his right hand, and an invisible force immediately lifted Shen Jiayi.

“Ahhh!!!” Shen Jiayi screamed in horror. Shen Yifeng and Shen Jiawei, who stood at one side, were also shocked when that happened.

“As the mythical guardian beast of the Vermilion Bird Family, I shall cleanse the family right now.” An arrogant smile surfaced on the Vermilion Bird’s delicate face. He hated hypocritical and shameless humans, and Shen Jiayi had insulted the person that he had personally chosen right in front of him. He would never allow such a repugnant woman to continue her existence in this world.

No one had the right to bully his people!

Shen Jiayi struggled incessantly in mid-air, but how powerful was the Vermilion Bird? A mere human like her could not possibly contend with someone like him.

Shen Jiayi’s breathing became labored because she could not breathe. It was as if her neck was strangled by an iron hand. Her delicate but scarred face paled almost instantly.

Shen Yifeng and Shen Jiawei looked at the furious Vermilion Bird in horror. Their feet could not even move a single inch as they experienced the Vermilion Bird’s powerful might, let alone to plead mercy for Shen Jiayi.

At that moment, they were dumbstruck by the Vermilion Bird's savageness.

Shen Jiayi's limbs continued to twitch as her eyes rolled back, and suddenly, a white silhouette that was similar to lightning flashed toward her.

In the blink of an eye, Shen Jiayi was no longer in mid-air.

The Vermilion Bird was furious at the sage for his decision to step in, and his scarlet eyes glared at Shen Jiayi, who was in the sage's arms.

"Do you intend to fight me?" The Vermilion Bird laughed grimly.

The sage was surprised at the Vermilion Bird's strength. As a magical beast transformed into a human form, they would have less power than their original form. However, the power that the Vermilion Bird had unleashed even caused difficulty in breathing for a few of the god envoys.

Exactly how powerful was the Vermilion Bird? The sage might not be his opponent if he were to appear in his beast form then.

Chapter 62: Signing the Contract (2)

However...

"Since you are the Vermilion Bird Family's guardian beast, it would not look right for you to take action against a member of their younger generation, especially since you have just awakened." The sage kept the smile on his face. He had personally led the group to the valley, and it would be rather difficult to explain things to Shen Feng had the Vermilion Bird killed Shen Jiayi.

He still had to consider the reputation of the Vermilion Bird Family even if he was not fond of Shen Jiayi and her irresponsible mouth.

It would not be good for the family if the news about how the Vermilion Bird killed a Vermilion Bird Family's disciple were to spread around the empire.

The Vermilion Bird sneered and with an air of arrogance, his childish voice said, "Why should I care about how it would look to the humans? This woman was extremely disrespectful toward the person that I had personally chosen, so there's no need for her to continue living." It was merely an insignificant human, and he could kill her instantly with one movement from his finger.

The sage smiled and said, "I know that you don't care about the human's opinions. In any case, this child is from the Vermilion Bird Family's bloodline, and I believe that even with your temperament, you won't be so ruthless with your previous master's descendants."

As expected, only those from the God Realm would be able to come up with such reasons. The Vermilion Bird snorted, but he knew that the sage had made it apparent that he would protect Shen Jiayi. Even though he was not afraid of the sage, he did not wish to offend the God Realm for the time being.

Even though they were irritating, they still held a powerful hidden strength.

“This child is young and ignorant, and you shouldn’t take her seriously. You’ve been asleep for hundreds of years and had only managed to awaken with great difficulty. It wouldn’t be appropriate to see blood right away. I will inform the current Vermilion Bird Family Head of this child’s rude behavior, and he shall deal with this matter.” The sage knew that he could not be too hard on a mythical beast like the Vermilion Bird and that he should try to appease him.

The Vermilion Bird went silent. It could be considered as giving face to the God Realm and not insist on taking Shen Jiayi’s life. However, he decided to warn them instead so that they would not continue to bully his future master.

“If I were to hear anything untoward next time, I will not be as lenient as today. If they can’t control their mouth, then I wouldn’t mind making them and their mouths disappear from this world.”

The Vermilion Bird’s earlier actions had frightened everyone out of their minds. How would they dare to badmouth about Shen Yanxiao after that?

It was not as if they had had enough of life and wanted to seek death!

Shen Yifeng and the rest obediently covered their mouths to prevent any trouble that would further infuriate the egotistic mythical beast.

They were not fools, and they did not doubt the Vermilion Bird’s words.

However, they were still unresigned!

It was quite impossible to look at the two that were on the ground. The confidence that they had were shattered by the idiot that they had despised the most. If their father were to know what had happened, he would be so angry that he’d choke on his blood.

Even so, no matter how unresigned they were, it would not influence the Vermilion Bird’s decision.

The Vermilion Bird crossed his arms and looked at Shen Yanxiao, who revealed a ‘passionate’ expression on her face, as he pulled closer to her with an air of arrogance.

“Take your blood and press it in between my brows, and I will become your mythical beast for as long as you are alive.” He hated the fact that he had to be contracted with humans, but he could not go back on his oath. Fortunately, a human did not live for very long. After a hundred years, at the very most, he could go back to his cave to sleep.

He would definitely find a more secluded place next time as he did not wish to be awakened by those bastards from the God Realm again.

Chapter 63: Signing the Contract (3)

Shen Yanxiao looked at the arrogant little bird. How could she not have any reaction when Shen Jiayi insulted her? She was simply not an impatient idiot. She had the time and her own method to teach that mean child a lesson in the future, but she also did not expect that the Vermillion Bird would protect her.

Even though the stinky bird still looked at her with disdain, however, he was one that would protect his own, just like Shen Siyu.

Shen Yanxiao's dislike for the stinky bird had lessened after what she had witnessed just then.

The bird's temper might have been horrible, but he was not hopeless.

Everyone waited for Shen Yanxiao to sign the contract with the Vermilion Bird. At the same time, the Vermilion Bird Family members doubted that idiot understood what he had said.

They thought that Shen Yanxiao's mind was still only like a four-year-old child and that she would not understand complicated matters. God knows if she understood what the Vermilion Bird had said?

Shen Yifeng and the rest had only malicious thoughts. The Vermilion Bird would probably be dissatisfied with Shen Yanxiao's idiocy. She would not be able to sign the contract on her own, and that would likely infuriate the Vermilion Bird. Once that happened, perhaps they still had a chance to win him over to their side!

None of them wanted the idiotic Shen Yanxiao to climb over their heads, to obtain the Vermilion Bird bird, and eventually become the Family Head. Shen Feng might not even let the disgrace of the family to become the next Family Head, even with the presence of the Vermilion Bird.

If that idiot were to inherit the Vermilion Bird Family, then the three of them could just drown themselves in the river.

They could practically imagine the scenes where they became the butt of everyone's jokes in Longxuan Empire if Shen Yanxiao inherited the Family Head position. If they had an idiot as the Family Head to lead the family...

They did not dare to continue that train of thought!

The people from the God Realm quietly stood on one side after the Vermilion Bird woke up and collectively reduced their sense of presence. They had taken note of the Vermilion Bird Family's three young and talented disciples' failure. When they saw that the Vermilion Bird chose an idiot to become his master, they were shocked, but they were not dissatisfied like Shen Yifeng and the rest.

They thought that the rumored mythical beast's tastes were...

Unique, and very weird!

Just as everyone doubted Shen Yanxiao's capability to complete the contract with the Vermilion Bird, the little girl who everyone conveniently forgot that she was there, raised her hand to her lips and bit on her forefinger.

Bright red blood coagulated into a bead on Shen Yanxiao's fingertips.

Everyone's expression turned into dismay. That idiot actually understood the Vermilion Bird!

The three other disciples' jaws were opened so wide that an egg could be stuffed inside.

Under everyone's astonished gaze, Shen Yanxiao held a blank expression on her face as she stretched out her hand and pressed a blood mark between the Vermilion Bird's eyebrow.

Suddenly, scarlet rays of light surged from the ground, and the fog then shrouded the Vermilion Bird and Shen Yanxiao.

“With my name as the Vermilion Bird, I am willing to be contracted to her. From today on, I will follow you, in life or death.”

The solemn voice slowly echoed in the hot cave as Shen Yifeng, and the other two children’s mood fell to the bottom of the pit.

They had never expected the result of the Vermilion Bird’s awakening to be that. The Shen Yanxiao that they had belittled and laughed at all their lives had unexpectedly obtained the Vermilion Bird!

Chapter 64: Recovered All Of a Sudden (1)

The thick fog slowly dissipated, and the scarlet flame revealed its true self.

When the fog completely disappeared, a huge blazing bird appeared. Scarlet flames burned on the bird’s outstretched wings that nearly occupied the entire cave.

That was the rumored Vermilion Bird’s true form, the mythical beast that controlled fire and all beasts!

A petite figure quietly stood beneath the Vermilion Bird.

Shen Yanxiao’s dull appearance seemed to have changed as well. There was a flame-like mark between her eyebrows, and it was vivid and lifelike, similar to a real flame.

The sage quietly looked at the scene before him and smiled.

Shen Yifeng gave up all hope the instant Shen Yanxiao completed the contract with the Vermilion Bird. He was vexed before, but after he witnessed the Vermilion Bird’s beast form in front of him, the reluctance in his heart could practically burn everything.

What a powerful existence was the Vermilion Bird!

The Vermilion Bird’s strength made the other magical beasts looked far inferior, and when he witnessed the Vermilion Bird’s display of power, Shen Yifeng could not imagine how he was to seek for his magical beast in the future.

He knew that he would never find another magical beast that was even remotely comparable to the Vermilion Bird, not even one of ten thousand of its full strength.

Unresigned! He felt extremely unresigned!

However, no matter how unresigned he felt, Shen Yifeng could not change what had happened that day. He remembered Shen Jiayi’s punishment, and as the Vermilion Bird’s warning echoed in his mind, how could he dare to show hostility toward Shen Yanxiao then?

He was the most powerful prodigy in the Vermilion Bird Family, so he did not understand why the heavens would tease him so.

If that was what Shen Yifeng felt, then Shen Jiawei's emotion was even worse as he cowered at one corner. Instead of dissatisfaction, he felt only fear.

Due to the temptation of the Vermilion Bird and Shen Jiayi's help, he had forgotten about his fear toward Shen Yanxiao from the incident in her room. However, the instant he saw the petite figure beneath the huge Vermilion Bird, the fear that was buried deep in his mind had surfaced once again.

He was afraid. Afraid that the Shen Yanxiao who had obtained the Vermilion Bird would become a different person from her previous self.

He and his sister had always bullied Shen Yanxiao, and no one knew that better than he did. He feared Shen Yanxiao's retaliation and with the Vermilion Bird's previous warning still fresh in his mind, he worried about what would happen if Shen Yanxiao ordered the Vermilion Bird to dispose of him.

Shen Jiawei wanted to cry. If he knew that Shen Yanxiao would have such a lucky day, he would have never provoked her, even if he had the courage to do so. He recalled how his sister ridiculed Shen Yanxiao, and he felt even more afraid. What if the Vermilion Bird took his anger out on him?

At that very moment, all Shen Jiawei wanted to do was to keep himself hidden so that Shen Yanxiao would not notice his presence.

He was still young, and he did not wish to die!

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It was apparent that Shen Jiawei's worries were completely unnecessary.

After she made the contract with the Vermilion Bird, she felt a subtle change in her. She could feel the Vermilion Bird's emotions, and she was certain that even if the stinky bird did not speak, she would still know its thoughts.

As she raised her head and looked at the massive creature above her head, a big smile quirked up on Shen Yanxiao's lips.

Chapter 65: Recovered All Of a Sudden (2)

With the Vermilion Bird, she could attempt to do many things that she could not have done in the past.

"Human, tell me your name." The Vermilion Bird's voice echoed in Shen Yanxiao's mind. It differed from the young voice that he had when he was in his human form as the voice that entered her mind was an adult's. However, she could still detect the same air of arrogance.

"Shen Yanxiao."

"From today onward, with my protection, no one would dare to bully you again." The Vermilion Bird was quite annoyed with his new master. A mean brat had ridiculed her to that extent, but she did not react to it, and only stood there like an idiot. He did not want a nice master who was always bullied by someone else. It did not matter to him how she behaved in the past, and he would educate her to be a dignified master so that she would not sully his dignity as a mythical beast.

Shen Yanxiao quirked her eyebrows. Before she had a chance to speak, another voice surfaced in her mind.

“You’re just a little bird, how are you to protect another person?” Xiu’s voice asked.

“Who are you?!” The Vermilion Bird was quite astonished to hear a familiar voice. He was also stunned as he had never heard a third voice in any of his master’s mind before. The voice seemed to be similar to the one that he remembered from the ancient past, but he could not pinpoint the origin at that moment.

“It’s not important who I am. You only have to know that you were right to choose her as your master.” Xiu’s voice was still as cold as ice.

The Vermilion Bird was annoyed. What was with that sudden voice? Who else resided in his little master’s body?

“Why do you hide your identity? Are you ashamed because of who you are?” She was his new master, and he did not want any mishap to happen to her as they had only just completed the contract.

“Haha, it seems that you want to die.” Xiu’s voice was so cold it was as if it had reached the freezing point.

“That is enough, both of you!” Two voices that were not her own started to fight in her mind. Did they even consider the owner’s feelings?

Shen Yanxiao felt helpless. An indifferent, arrogant, and hard-to-serve Xiu was already an annoyance for her. Then came another Vermilion Bird that acted like he owned the world. Both of them had even started to fight in her mind. Were they trying to torment her to her death?!

“You had better listen to what I’m saying now! Both of you are currently in my possession. If you’re a dragon, you better lay low, and if you’re a tiger, then you had better stay crouched. Or else, I’ll knock myself to death just to see how you two glare at each other!” Shen Yanxiao exploded. If she continued to allow those two to fight, she was the one who would go crazy. Who could tolerate a fourth world war in their mind?

“A measly human like you dared to threaten me?!” The Vermilion Bird was upset. Even if she was the master that he had chosen, he only did that because of his previous oath and he had no choice but to choose one from the four of them. He would not have been willing to serve Shen Yanxiao based on her qualifications alone.

“Haha, you can try me if you dare to. If I were to die so soon after completing a contract with the Vermilion Bird, I’d like to see how you’d still be able to hang around with the other mythical beasts.” A threat? If she could beat him, Shen Yanxiao would have hit him already.

She could roughly gauge the Vermilion Bird’s personality. He thought highly of himself and regarded the dignity of a mythical beast as something that was even more important than his life. Otherwise, he would never have agreed to protect a human family for hundreds of years just because of an oath.

Even so, she was very curious about the oath that the Vermilion Bird had sworn to the Vermilion Bird Family.

Chapter 66: Recovered All Of a Sudden (3)

“You!” The Vermilion Bird choked. As a first-rate mythical beast, he had confidence. Each of his masters had died of old age, and none of them was killed by someone else. The dignity of a mythical beast was tied to the safety of their master. If they could not even keep a human safe, then they would lose their reputation if the news were to spread to the other mythical beasts.

Shen Yanxiao had accumulated an abundance of experience from her past life. She knew how to deal with a ‘creature’ who did not know how to mask itself well, just like the Vermilion Bird.

Surprisingly, Xiu did not say anything.

The moment Shen Yanxiao spoke, Xiu had already guessed her intentions. After the time that they had spent together, Xiu knew that his ally was a crafty fox. She was cunning and shrewd, and she cherished her life more than anything else. If someone dared to offend her, then she would repay it a hundredfold.

For her to commit suicide?

She was more likely to murder someone else.

It was apparent that she had lied to threaten the proud and arrogant Vermilion Bird. Unfortunately, the little bird had yet to understand his new master. Therefore...

It was a tragedy caused by ignorance.

Shen Yanxiao’s ‘threat’ had managed to temporarily suppress those two and after her mind became more peaceful, she looked toward the others within the cave.

While she resolved the internal problems within her mind, she presented a quiet appearance. After Shen Yifeng and the others had digested the shock they felt after the contract was completed, they looked at her with an odd expression.

They did not know if they had to treat Shen Yanxiao as their future Family Head or as the idiot that she was before.

No one dared to do anything rash in front of the Vermilion Bird. However, they were still under the impression that Shen Yanxiao was an idiot and so, how could someone like her lead the family?

Everyone had complicated emotions about everything that had happened, but none of them dared to take reckless actions before the Vermilion Bird.

“Congratulations.” The sage handed Shen Jiayi to the attendant from the Vermilion Bird family and walked toward Shen Yanxiao. When the Vermilion Bird chose Shen Yanxiao, the sage was the calmest audience in the cave. The elegant smile on his face did not falter, and his friendly attitude made it hard to reject.

“Thank you, sage.” Shen Yanxiao’s smile blossomed like a flower as she respectfully expressed her thanks to the sage.

No matter what had happened, the sage had made a huge contribution in her quest to obtain the Vermilion Bird.

However, that simple ‘thank you’ had caused everyone from the Vermilion Bird Family to gasp!

They uniformly looked toward Shen Yanxiao’s clear and bright eyes, and they rubbed their eyes in disbelief.

A polite smile was plastered on the little girl’s face, and her bright eyes were no longer looked confused as they did before. Her clear pronunciation as she gave her thanks was from a voice that had yet to grow into adulthood.

The little girl that stood before them was the same as an average child, and there were no traces of her previous idiotic self.

Everyone started to wonder if it was a hallucination. Shen Yanxiao had been an idiot in the Vermilion Bird Family for thirteen years, so how did she turn into a normal person in the blink of an eye?

Even the sage did not manage to conceal the surprise on his face. He looked at the little girl, who seemed to be completely different from before, in astonishment. If Shen Yanxiao had not remained in his line of sight since the beginning of the quest, he would have thought that the little girl had somehow been substituted.

Otherwise, how could an idiot who had been ridiculed by everyone suddenly turn into a bright and normal person?

Chapter 67: Recovered All Of a Sudden (4)

Shen Yanxiao smiled and bit her lip as she acted as if she felt lost. “Did I scare you? I’m sorry, but I’m also confused as to what had happened. When I signed the contract with the Vermilion Bird, my mind suddenly became clearer. I remember that I was once an idiot, but somehow, I’ve become a normal person.”

Her slender and small fingers grabbed the corner of her clothes, and she looked like an innocent and confused little girl.

The sage hastily readjusted his expression but still pondered about the situation in his mind.

He was aware of Shen Yanxiao’s condition. She had a congenital mental deficiency, and someone had asked him about her situation more than once for the past few years. He already determined that Shen Yanxiao’s mental deficiency would not recover, so how did she suddenly improve?

Was it because of the Vermilion Bird?

Mythical beasts had not appeared in the world for hundreds of years, and information about them was kept hidden by the relevant families. Even though the God Realm had some information about the mythical beasts, it was not comprehensive. The sage could only credit Shen Yanxiao’s recovery to the Vermilion Bird.

“Good, very good. I believe your family will certainly be happy for you.” The sage raised his hand gently as if he wanted to caress Shen Yanxiao’s head.

However, a flame had rudely smacked his hand away.

As the flame shot toward the skies, the Vermilion Bird transformed into a three to four-year-old child from its large beast form.

“Don’t touch her.” The Vermilion Bird pouted and then snorted.

He disliked humans, and it was already as if he had given in and bitten the bullet when he accepted human masters. Even so, he did not wish to detect another human’s scent on his little master.

The sage broke into a burst of laughter and retracted his hand.

The Vermillion Bird Family’s member had overheard everything that was said between the sage and Shen Yanxiao.

Shen Yifeng felt as if five flashes of lightning had struck him and fried his brain.

The Vermilion Bird Family’s disgrace had become smart!

As he looked at the Vermilion Bird that stood by Shen Yanxiao’s side, Shen Yifeng felt tremendous fear.

He had never regarded Shen Yanxiao as his opponent for the position as the Family Head’s successor. She was merely an idiot and trash who was incapable of training in magic or battle aura. Furthermore, she did not have the support of her parents and was not well-liked by Shen Feng. He had never put his focus on Shen Yanxiao, and even the twins only bullied her for their own amusement. Therefore, none of them had ever considered her worthy as their opponent.

Who would expect that an idiot who was ignored and ridiculed by everyone would undergo such a heaven-shocking change in just one day?

First, she had obtain the Vermilion Bird’s favor, and after which, she managed to restore her wisdom with the Vermilion Bird’s strength.

Shen Yanxiao went from an insignificant disciple of the family to become the candidate most likely to inherit the position as the Vermilion Bird Family Head.

Shen Yifeng quivered with despair as he thought about how Shen Feng had always stressed about the importance of the Vermilion Bird, and the rumor of ‘to obtain the Vermillion Bird meant to obtain the position of Family Head.’

Even if Shen Feng did not think highly of Shen Yanxiao before, her recovered wisdom and her possession of the Vermilion Bird would turn things around for her and he would certainly attach great importance to her from now on. Not only so, there was also Shen Siyu that Shen Feng had always loved and favored.

Everyone knew that Shen Jiayi hated Shen Yanxiao because of how well Shen Siyu had treated her.

Did that mean that a massive change would soon happen in the Vermilion Bird Family?

Chapter 68: Slapping One’s Own Face (1)

All the members of the Vermilion Bird Family had gathered in the main house of their estate. Shen Feng sat in the main chair, and his usually imposing face revealed slight nervousness.

“What did those at the gates say? Have they spotted the carriages yet?” Shen Feng frowned as he questioned Shen Ling.

Two days ago, he received news from the God Realm that the group that headed toward the Lava Valley were on their way back. Apart from that brief information, the God Realm’s envoys did not reveal anything else. That was why the entire Vermilion Bird Family were in a state of nervousness for the past two days.

Everyone knew that if the sage managed to awaken the Vermilion Bird, then it was certain that one of the four disciples who went with him would sign a contract with it.

They were very nervous because no one knew if the sage was successful in his bid to awaken the Vermilion Bird.

After all, the Vermilion Bird had been asleep for a hundred years, and none of them knew for sure if the sage could truly do it.

After they received news from the God Realm, Shen Feng immediately dispatched men to keep watch at the city gates every day. He wanted to ensure that any news about the group would reach them at the first instance.

A hundred years. It had been more than a hundred years since the Vermilion Bird Family lost the Vermilion Bird. A hundred years later, they had the chance to get the Vermilion Bird back in their family once again, and that was extremely important for them.

Every minute and second of the wait seemed exceptionally long.

Shen Ling said, “There’s no news yet, but according to estimations, they should be back soon. Father, don’t be too anxious. The gods will bless our Vermilion Bird Family, and this trip will definitely be successful.”

Shen Feng sighed. He was someone who had one foot in his grave, and if they could not awaken the Vermilion Bird, he knew that he would not have a chance to meet the mythical beast in his lifetime.

The main house was completely silent, and everyone was as anxious as Shen Feng.

Suddenly, an attendant with a hurried expression ran toward the main house.

Shen Ling identified him as the attendant that he had dispatched to keep watch at the city gates.

“Reporting to the Family Head! They’ve returned! Our family’s carriages have returned!” That attendant exclaimed excitedly.

Shen Feng’s expression jolted, and his hands trembled as he grabbed the arms on his chair.

“Quick, follow me to welcome the sage!” Shen Feng’s tone had slightly changed due to his excitement as he quickly stood up and ordered the rest of the Family to rush toward the gates.

Seven to eight carriages uniformly stopped in front of the gates, and the sage took the lead to get down. A gentle smile was seen on his face as he looked toward Shen Feng who had led everyone to welcome them.

“We’ve troubled you, sage. Please, come in and rest!” Shen Feng managed to keep his calm as he knew that he had to maintain his respect for the sage.

“I’m glad that I hadn’t failed your task. Congratulations.” The sage smiled and announced the good news that everyone had waited for.

The Vermilion Bird was truly awakened!

All the Vermilion Bird Family’s members gasped when the sage delivered the news. It was not easy for other people to understand just how vital the Vermilion Bird was to them, and the pleasant surprise filled their hearts with joy. They tried to reign in their excitement out of respect for the sage, but their labored breathing betrayed their thoughts.

They were thrilled that they could meet the Vermilion Bird in their lifetime!

It was something that all the family members had yearned for day and night!

Shen Feng nearly wept with joy. He nodded as he was choked with emotions while he stared intently at the few carriages behind the sage.

Chapter 69: Slapping One’s Own Face (2)

His grandsons and granddaughters were seated in those carriages, and one of them had become the Vermilion Bird’s master. With the mythical beast’s help, they would be able to bring the Vermilion Bird Family back to its peak!

Shen Duan stared intently at the first carriage behind the sage as he knew that his son was in it. When the sage revealed the news about the Vermilion Bird’s awakening, Shen Duan nearly fainted from joy. Everyone knew that his son, Shen Yifeng, was the most highly regarded third generation disciple in the family. He was also the most powerful among the four candidates.

He was sure that it was his son who had successfully signed the contract with the Vermilion Bird!

His son was about to become the future Family Head! That would make him the most respected elder in the Vermilion Bird Family!

Shen Duan was filled with excitement and joy. He wanted to urge his son to get down from the carriage so he could witness the Vermilion Bird’s true form.

When compared to Shen Duan’s look of joy, Shen Yue’s expression was as dark as the pot. Shen Yue had not expected that either of his children would be successful in the quest. He also knew that he did not have a good relationship with Shen Duan. If Shen Yifeng had managed to obtain the Vermillion Bird, then he knew that Shen Duan would certainly make things difficult for him.

At that moment, even the joyous news about the return of the Vermillion Bird was not enough to make Shen Yue happy.

It was not even his children who had managed to obtain the Vermillion Bird, so why should he be happy?

A few moments later, Shen Yifeng walked out from the carriage and dozens of excitable eyes met his appearance.

However, he quickly lowered his head as he did not dare to meet their eyes that were filled with expectations.

Shen Feng and the rest of the family were curious with Shen Yifeng's behavior. Even though Shen Yifeng was usually quite calm and collected, he would not have behaved the way he did if he had obtained the Vermillion Bird. His evasive behavior raised doubts in everyone's hearts.

"Yifeng, you're finally back. Where's the Vermillion Bird? Why isn't he by your side? I guess you have recalled him inside of you. Haha, you little brat, hurry up and summon the Vermillion Bird so that your grandfather can have a look." Shen Duan had been overwhelmed with joy, and he had never thought that his son would fail to obtain the Vermillion Bird's favor. Therefore, he did not notice Shen Yifeng's abnormal behavior. Instead, he walked toward him with a smile and urged him to summon the Vermillion Bird.

His father's enthusiasm made Shen Yifeng even more embarrassed by the situation. There was even bitterness on his handsome and charming face.

"I..." Shen Yifeng did not know how to answer his father. Everyone had placed their hopes on him, but he...

Shen Duan finally noticed Shen Yifeng's hesitation, and as he looked at Shen Yifeng's evasive gaze, he knew that something was wrong.

"Yifeng, don't tell me you didn't obtain the..." Shen Duan was shocked by his own thoughts, but before he could finish his sentence, Shen Yifeng hastily nodded and turned away.

It was as if a pot of cold water had been poured down on him, and it extinguished Shen Duan's ecstatic emotions.

How was that possible? His son was the most outstanding disciple among the Vermillion Bird's third-generation disciples, so how could he not obtain the Vermillion Bird's favor? How could he possibly lose to Shen Yue's children?! He knew all about Shen Jiayi and Shen Jiawei's bad conduct and with their mediocre talents, how could they have won against his son?!

Chapter 70: Slapping One's Own Face (3)

Shen Duan did not want to believe it, but Shen Yifeng's evasive behavior and embarrassed look confirmed his speculation.

Shen Duan's complexion turned deathly white in an instant.

While some were happy, others were sad. When Shen Duan was in high spirits, Shen Yue could only secretly restrain his woe. However, when Shen Duan was depressed, Shen Yue could not conceal the smile that crept onto his lips.

What would one call that?

When the time came, the fortune would turn!

Shen Yue wanted to laugh wildly. Shen Duan had managed to embarrass himself badly! Everyone believed that Shen Yifeng would be the winner, but he ended up as a big joke! Shen Yifeng's defeat meant that there was hope for his children!

Only four of them went for the quest, and two of them were his children. Shen Yifeng had suffered defeat, and Shen Yanxiao was not even in the equation. If that was the case, then the Vermilion Bird could only choose one of his children!

No matter who the Vermilion Bird had chosen, it was a piece of unexpected good news for Shen Yue!

Every dog had its day. Shen Duan had suppressed him for so many years, and that was finally the day when he could hold his head up high!

Shen Yue forcefully curbed the joy in his heart. He walked toward Shen Duan and patted his shoulder with fake sympathy. "Second brother, don't be too upset. Perhaps it's just wasn't Yifeng's good fortune this time. Since we are all family, it is the same no matter who obtains the Vermilion Bird's favor. We shall all benefit from it."

Shen Duan glared at Shen Yue.

'What a hypocritical pretense of condolence. Don't assume that I am ignorant of what you're thinking deep down in your heart. I'm honestly confused as to what had happened. For some reason, the Vermilion Bird did not choose my distinguished son, and that had benefited your two unruly kids.'

"You're right, they are all members of the Vermilion Bird Family, and it is the same no matter who obtains the mythical beast," Shen Feng said. Shen Yifeng's failure was indeed out of his expectations, but since the sage had given his congratulations, he was not worried about that matter. He did not wish for his two sons to disgrace themselves in front of the sage.

"Yes." Shen Duan gritted his teeth and swallowed his dissatisfaction.

Shen Yue did not continue to taunt Shen Duan but smiled as he looked toward the carriages that his children were in.

However, his expression darkened as he realized that Shen Jiayi had to be supported by an attendant as she got down from her carriage.

'What's going on? Why did my daughter come back with injuries all over her body?' As he looked at Shen Jiayi's pitiful appearance, he knew that she did not manage to get the Vermilion Bird's favor.

In that case, it was Shen Jiawei then?

If he had a choice, Shen Yue would prefer to have his son to obtain the Vermilion Bird's favor. After all, Shen Jiayi was a woman, and she would have to marry someone in the future.

Shen Yue decided to deal with his daughter first and ordered someone to take Shen Jiayi home to rest. Then he waited impatiently for his son to make his appearance.

In his mind, he thought about how Shen Duan and Shen Yifeng should get lost to somewhere as far as they could. His son would become the Vermilion Bird Family's successor, and he would like to see what kind of trouble the hypocritical father and son duo could cause.

It was time for him to give Shen Duan some payback for everything that he had done to him over the years.

Shen Yue wanted to continue with his fantasies, but Shen Jiawei's appearance had shattered his dreams.

Similarly, he was helped out of the carriage by an attendant. Shen Jiawei was covered with scars and did not seem to have fared much better than Shen Jiayi!

None of the previous masters of the Vermilion Bird had come back riddled with scars after they had completed the contract with the mythical beast!