

The Unknown God of War Chapter 176

Chapter 176 Beef Noodles, Extra Meat, Less Noodles

“Miss, two bowls of beef noodles, extra beef and less noodles. Thank you,” said Chu Feng as he gave a warm smile to the lady at the counter. After that, he went to find a seat and leisurely sat down.

Yun Muyu just rolled her eyes annoyedly. “You asked for more meat, are you an idiot? Consider yourself lucky already if they give you two tiny slabs of minced meat for a bowl of beef noodles like this that cost less than ten.”

As soon as she finished talking, a steaming bowl of beef noodles was served to her. It had a few chopped green onions and just two small pieces of beef.

Yun Muyu pouted; she thought to herself that it was just as she had expected. Then, she stared with her eyes widened with disbelief.

“Mister, this is your bowl of noodles.”

Was it perhaps Chu Feng’s charming aura that had mesmerized the lady at the counter, or was he born with some halo over his head? His bowl of beef noodles was filled with chunks of beef that were piled up high above the brim of the bowl, while there were only a few strands of noodles in the bowl.

The lady at the counter was blushing as she took a quick glance at Chu Feng before leaving bashfully.

All the other customers around him were also dumbfounded when they saw his bowl of beef noodles.

“I-I... Y-You..” Yun Muyu’s words were stuck in her throat. “Wow, why does yours have so much meat while mine only has two pieces?”

“Maybe it’s because I’m good-looking?”

Chu Feng stroked his chin and started wolfing down the meat, feeling extremely satisfied.

Yun Muyu pouted as she looked at the clump of noodles inside her bowl, and turned her gaze toward Chu Feng’s bowl again that was filled with beef. The more she looked at it, the more discontented she was.

In the end, she just gave a snort and snatched Chu Feng’s bowl of beef noodles over and started indulging in it.

“Hey, you—”

“What? Don’t you know ladies first?” Yun Muyu was full of herself as she smiled from ear to ear and could not stop complimenting the dish. “This beef is aromatic. Chu Feng, what are you staring at? Eat up, the noodles are delicious. It’s more aromatic than the beef, that’s why I left them for you.”

Chu Feng just felt helpless and could only raise Yun Muyu’s bowl of noodles furiously as he gobbled them down; he did not have the heart to be mad at this mischievous little girl.

Yun Muyu felt extremely satisfied after filling her stomach. Suddenly, her eyes lit up and something crossed her mind—she had shared a bowl of noodles with Chu Feng, did this count as them kissing indirectly?

Pfft, what was she thinking about!

Yun Muyu quickly got rid of that strange and illicit thought of hers. Her face blushed in an instant as her eyes began wandering wildly.

Chu Feng did not have the time to bother with what nonsense the girl was thinking in her head. He was reminiscing the days when he was in the army.

Xi Ye was a secluded place and there were a lot of yaks in the deserted land. The people there were tough and down-to-earth.

The happiest moment during that time was the time when he was on a mission. The ladies in Xi Ye were holding out against the strong wind to give them soldiers bowls of steaming beef noodles. There was plenty of meat and little noodles. Those bowls of beef noodles bore the admiration the ladies had for them. It was a sincere yet unforgettable memory.

That was the reason Chu Feng had chosen to enter this noodle shop.

The meat was tender yet it did not lose its firmness; the soup was fresh and the noodles were scrumptious. It was clear that it was authentic yak meat from Xi Ye .

The lady who was at the counter was clearly from the Xi Ye region, judging from her demeanor and looks. Perhaps, she had also sensed the unique aura of a Xi Ye soldier on Chu Feng.

That must be why she observed the Xi Ye’s customs and served him a big bowl of steaming beef noodles, with plenty of meat and little noodles.

Chu Feng wondered if she had ever thought of the soldier whom she had given a bowl of beef noodles to, or if she reminisced those memories of the admiration they had for the soldiers.

“I’ve finished eating, we can leave now.”

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Chapter 177 Zhou Ying and the Sun Family

Chu Feng collected himself and patted on Yun Muyu’s head before leaving the noodle shop. Before he left, he took out a stack of cash and placed it on the table, as payment for the meal. That amount was enough to buy one whole yak.

She was an acquaintance that was also from Xiye after all, and he would surely not mistreat the hospitality and sincerity of this lady. Yun Muyu followed Chu Feng closely from behind like a shadow and kept pounding him with questions.

Chu Feng was getting irritated; they were both sisters but why was this little bugger’s personality the complete opposite of Yun Muqing’s?

As he pondered that question, the silhouette of a beautiful girl suddenly appeared at the front of a nearby mall. Chu Feng stopped in his tracks and his gaze turned to her, the look in his eyes was one that showed mixed feelings.

“What is it, Chu Feng? Do you know this pretty lady? Judging by her looks, she surely has a boyfriend already,” commented Yun Muyu as she blinked her eyes.

“She was my sister,” said Chu Feng calmly.

It was Zhou Ying and Sun Mingxuan’s whole family.

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It was going to be an unforgettable day for Zhou Ying and even for the Zhou family three days from now. It was going to be a day they would remember for the rest of their lives.

Sun Mingxuan and her were finally going to walk down the aisle.

However, Zhou Ying did not seem as happy as he had imagined. Instead, she looked a little frustrated and disappointed.

She had thought that Sun Mingxuan was her knight in shining armor, and that she was going to become the happiest woman in the world.

However, Sun Mingxuan had shown his true colors the night when he was embarrassed by Ma Sanyuan at the Golden Sands Night Club, allowing her to see his crude nature for herself.

He had now filled her with disgust.

Nonetheless, Zhou Ying was a girl with conventional values, so how could she go back on her engagement just like that?

Furthermore, Sun Mingxuan had been sweet-talking her these few days, causing the kind and gentle person like her to waver. She did not have the heart to break up with him anymore.

According to tradition, Sun Mingxuan's family was going to bring their soon-to-be daughter-in-law, Zhou Ying to purchase the three golden accessories [1] for the wedding. This could at least lift Zhou Ying's mood a little.

Women were naturally fond of jewelries and trinkets after all, and they could not resist them.

"Yingying, it'll be our wedding day in three days' time. I will make you the happiest woman in the world." Sun Mingxuan had a look of sincerity and he continued to sweet-talk her as he said boastfully, "Just pick out whichever jewelries you are fond of today."

Zhou Ying gazed at all the luxury items in the mall and they were all shimmering. Her mood was lifted in an instant as she said smilingly, "Thank you, Mingxuan."

"Why are you being so modest? You're going to be my wife."

"Why are the two of you still dawdling? Stop dallying around, we're just shopping for some items. Just decide on it quickly, I still have an appointment at the beauty salon to do some treatments." There was a middle-aged lady who was draped in jewels and she was dressed very elegantly. She knitted her brows and uttered under her breath, "A bumpkin will always be a bumpkin, she will never be treated with respect. I don't even know which part of her has attracted Mingxuan."

This lady was Sun Mingxuan's mother, Tang'e.

One's wife and mother were often natural-born enemies; the same applied to the Sun family.

Two of Sun Mingxuan's aunts were also dressed elegantly as they held their hands over their mouths and started giggling. They kept snickering and commenting at Zhou Ying as they looked down on her.

Being 'noble ladies', they despised people like Zhou Ying who came from a dirt poor family. If she did not have the good looks, and if the Zhou family had not been that lucky to have acquired a piece of commercial land that was close to 160 acres, they would not have agreed to this marriage.

They were whispering in a soft voice but Zhou Ying could still hear every single word clearly. The very next second, the smile on her face had turned into a look of disappointment and sorrow. She pursed her lips and just stood at the side disheartenedly. She was at a loss.

Tang'e lifted her gaze and glanced at Zhou Ying who was in a corner, looking pitiful and as if she had been wronged. Tang'e just scoffed at her, "Hey, what happened? I just said a few words to you and you're already feeling distressed, wanting to cry already?"

She put on an arrogant look that was supposed to show that she had the authority as an elderly. Then, she shook her head and mocked, "Do you think I have crossed the line and that I'm bullying you? Or do you think that being the daughter-in-law of our Sun family has done you wrong?"

[1] Chinese wedding tradition requires the groom to buy three golden accessories for the bride, which are the ring, necklace and a pair of earrings.

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Chapter 178 The Necklace

Zhou Ying kept waving her hand. "No, aunty, this is not what I meant." The other two aunties fanned the flames. "You've not even gone through the door to our family and you're throwing a tantrum already. What? Do you think the Sun family is mistreating you? It's not too late to regret."

"Mingxuan, were you the one who taught your wife to talk like this? Tsk tsk. She would bring glory to the Sun family indeed."

Sun Mingxuan was caught in the middle and he felt very awkward. He could only tug on Zhou Ying's clothes and say in a low voice, "Yingying, quick, apologize to mum."

Although Zhou Ying felt wronged, she was outnumbered and thus could only lower her head and said, "Aunty, sorry. It was my fault."

"Alright alright, I can't afford to accept your apology."

Tang'e was very happy and satisfied. Twisting her waist, she happily went shopping with her two sisters. She was in a very good mood.

This kind of woman had to be put in place. Otherwise, once she joined the family, she would cause trouble and not respect the Sun family's matriarchs.

Zhou Ying bit her red lips and took a deep breath. She tried to comfort herself, saying to herself, "It's your big day. Don't get angry."

While they were shopping, very soon, Zhou Ying got attracted by a diamond necklace.

The necklace had a unique design. It was stylish and a good match to Zhou Ying's personality. She already had fantasies in her mind of wearing this necklace to attend the wedding ceremony as her relatives and friends wished her happiness.

"This one, Mingxuan," said Zhou Ying as she tugged on Sun Mingxuan's arms.

Sun Mingxuan stopped walking and took a glance at the price. It was five hundred and eighty thousand. The edge of his mouth started twitching.

How could a mere necklace be so expensive? If he bought the whole set, it would cost at least three to five million; he started to hesitate.

"Why did you stop? Why are you two dawdling over there?" Tang'e frowned as she said, unsatisfied.

Sun Mingxuan smiled, looking embarrassed. He ran toward Tang'e and whispered in her ear.

"What? five hundred and eighty thousand? She's robbing you!" exclaimed Tang'e, who immediately frowned heavily.

Next, she walked over slowly. With a poker-face, she picked up the necklace and raised her eyebrows. After looking at it for a while, she threw it down and commented lightly, "This style is outdated, and the material used is not of high quality. Besides, it's so expensive. Clearly, they are trying to rip people off. Whoever buys it is a fool. Come, let's walk around more."

The two aunties also laughed and chimed in, "Exactly. Diamonds are the classic case of Ponzi schemes. It would be the same as giving the so-called investors your money for free if you buy these diamonds. It's not worth the price at all."

"Furthermore, not anybody can pull this necklace off. Only those who were born with a silver spoon can pull it off. Yingying, give it up."

The three women laughed non-stop. They basically felt that someone like Zhou Ying who came from an ordinary family had no right to wear this necklace that was worth hundreds of thousands.

Sun Mingxuan seemed to take the situation to his advantage by saying, "Yingying, look, even mum and aunty said that it's not nice. Let's continue shopping."

Zhou Ying felt grieved. She was disappointed and her heart ached.

She really liked that necklace; a person gets married only once in a lifetime, so she wanted to look as beautiful as possible so that she would not have any regrets.

Furthermore, Zhou Lie spent three million in dowry for their daughter, which was nearly the old couple's lifetime of savings. On top of that, half of the thousand acres of commercial land that they got back from the Chamber of the Four Seas had been given to the Sun family to manage. That was practically a cash cow; purely rental alone would come up to more than a million a year.

And now, they wouldn't even buy her a necklace that cost a few hundred thousand.

The more Zhou Ying thought of it, the more frustrated she got. She couldn't take it, so she picked up her courage and said, "Aunty, I remember that my father gave the Sun family three million worth of cash as dowry. I..."

Before she could finish speaking, Tang'e, who was standing there, got angry. It was as if somebody had rubbed her the wrong way. "What do you mean? Are you saying that the Sun family covets your money? That's so funny. Please know your place. Your family is so insanely poor, so what is there to covet?"

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Chapter 179 Sun Mingxuan is a Mama's Boy

"When we accepted the three million in dowry and took that one thousand acres of commercial land, who was it for? Well, it was for your sake!" Tang'e crossed her arms and put on a matter-of-fact look on her face as she continued, "In this world, a poor man gets into trouble over his wealth, so poor people are not meant to keep such wealth for their own sake.

So, we were doing you a favor, since your family is so poor. After learning a lesson from the Chamber of Commerce of the Four Seas because your family was holding that large asset, do you still want to risk suffering the wrath of some other organizations? I don't know, maybe some group called the 'Chamber of Three Rivers' or 'Chamber of Eight Horses'? What would you do then?"

"The Sun family took the initiative and helped you take the risk so that your riches can multiply. It's a service to society. It's one thing if you don't thank us, but instead, you are accusing us. Where is your conscience?"

“Y-You!” Zhou Ying was completely angered by the logic of these shameless women. Her face was red and she didn’t know how to refute her.

The two aunties looked pleased with themselves. With a haughty expression, one of the aunties said, “You should consider yourself blessed to be marrying into the Sun family. But why are you being so ungrateful instead?”

The other aunty then chimed in, “Huh! You’re not even in the family yet and already you’re making all these demands. Even your grandmother, the matriarch of the Sun family, is nothing to you. If you really become the daughter-in-law of the Sun family, wouldn’t you try to control all the Sun family’s businesses?”

“Mingxuan, is this how you teach your wife to behave? Please be sure with your choices. Don’t marry an ingrate into the family.”

“I-I didn’t.”

Zhou Ying was still a young girl who was inexperienced with society, thus she was no match for these few vixens. As a result, when they pissed her off, she could only stare at Sun Mingxuan with her eyes wide open while hoping that her fiance would defend her.

But, at that moment, Sun Mingxuan’s face was as ashen as it could be. He felt like his dignity as a man had been challenged. He frowned and said, “Yingying, that was too much. Look, you’ve angered mom. Quickly apologize to her!”

Tang’e was very happy; she put on a haughty expression directed at Zhou Ying. The other two aunties were also ecstatic.

“I should apologize? Why do I have to apologize everytime. Sun Mingxuan, today, I’ve seen through you. You are a loser!” At that moment, Zhou Ying could not stand the grief and disappointment. So, she spoke angrily, wiped her tears, and left crying.

When Sun Mingxuan saw her reaction, he panicked. Hurriedly, he tried to chase after her. “Yingying!”

“Let her go. You pamper her too much,” Tang’e said angrily with an ashen face. “Who did she think she was to throw a temper like this? She had better watch her behavior.”

The two aunties also said mockingly, “Exactly. She is nothing but a poor girl. It’s her good fortune to marry into the Sun family. Despite that, she doesn’t know her place and is demanding so much from us. She doesn’t deserve to be part of our family!”

“Mingxuan, from now on, you must be a man. Otherwise, this girl would bully you for the rest of your life. Do you understand?”

“Anyway, you’re already engaged. Sooner or later, she would be part of the Sun family. She can run this time, but she has to come back eventually.”

The three women laughed. They couldn’t be bothered with Zhou Ying’s departure and they happily continued with their shopping.

Sun Mingxuan’s expression was dark. He looked in the direction that Zhou Ying had gone, then he merely snorted and turned around, following behind Tang’e.

On this day, Zhou Ying had disappointed him; she had crossed a line. He had to let the woman know that he would not be pushed around, and that she should know her place as the daughter-in-law of the Sun family!

Zhou Ying wiped her tears. Feeling wronged, she ran as the autumn breeze beat against her face, which stung.

She hid in a deserted place, curled herself up, and cried. She couldn’t stand the injustice and discomfort anymore.

After crying for a while, she felt tired.

What really disappointed her was that she had left for more than half an hour already and cried her eyes swollen, yet, Sun Mingxuan was nowhere to be seen.

Was this the man she had chosen? Was this her future husband?

“Zhou Ying, Zhou Ying, you are really reaping what you have sown.”

Zhou Ying laughed at herself, wiped off the tear stains, and looked in the distance at the beautiful sunset as she enjoyed the cool autumn wind.

Suddenly, she thought of a memory from her childhood.

Everytime she got bullied, she would behave like she was at that moment. She would find a deserted corner and secretly cry her heart out.

At that time, a skinny boy would always wave a stick that was longer than his height as he fiercely scared the bullies away.

Next, Chu Feng would heroically dust off the mud from his body, then mysteriously produce a walnut cookie from his pocket. He would pat her head as he said haughtily, “As long as I’m here, nobody can bully you.”

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During those times, she would keep her head down as she ate the walnut cookies and wiped her tears. She would listen as he blew his own trumpet over how he made the group of naughty kids cry. He had a flair for showmanship as he made Zhou Ying happy.

She would cry and cry, but then suddenly, she would laugh. However, after they grew up, they grew apart. They were once close, but now, they were on separate paths.

She could no longer feel that boy's gentle care anymore. "Chu Feng..." Zhou Ying whispered and felt aching remorse. She quietly bit her red lips.

If only he was next to her, and if only she was more understanding toward him, she would not have acted so cruelly toward him. Then, nobody would dare to so unscrupulously bully her.

Zhou Ying lowered her head; she wanted to bury her head in the ground like an ostrich, desperate to escape the scary reality of the world.

However, at this moment, she heard footsteps. A familiar and gentle voice rang by her ear, saying, "You still behave like you used to when you were young. Whenever you're unhappy, you'd run to a corner and secretly cry."

W-Was that...

Zhou Ying didn't dare to believe it. As if she was dreaming, her head jerked upward and the sight she saw made her lose control of her tear glands; streams of tears started rolling down her cheeks.

Before her stood Chu Feng. She did not know how long he had been standing there. That skinny big kid from the old days had become a formidable and manly man. He stood up straight and was full of grandeur.

Despite that, the sense of security and warmth that he exuded did not change at all.

Zhou Ying sobbed. She opened her lips, as if she wanted to say something, but no words came out as the tears steadily rolled down her cheeks.

"On my way here, I happened to pass by a dessert shop that sells freshly-baked walnut cookies. Have some?" Chu Feng sat next to her and unwrapped some kraft paper; in it was Zhou Ying's favourite dessert.

Zhou Ying's completely let loose of her emotions. She grabbed the whole bag of walnut cookies and started to eat with big bites. With her mouth full, she ate and cried.

She felt touched, wronged, and guilty at the same time.

“Eat slower. I’m here as your brother. I’ll always be here,” Chu Feng said with a gentle voice. He affectionately rubbed the girl’s head.

At this moment, Zhou Ying could not hold it in any longer. She lunged into Chu Feng’s arms and cried to her heart’s content.

All that injustice and dissatisfaction that she felt all came pouring out at this moment.

Chu Feng only stayed quietly by her side. Those broad and burly shoulders were like big mountains, supporting Zhou Ying’s last sliver of hope.

There was a chill in Chu Feng’s eyes. “I’ll defend you. I’ll look for Sun Mingxuan and avenge you for all the grief that you’ve experienced today.”

He had witnessed everything that happened at the shopping mall. He was seething with rage and wanted to help Zhou Ying, his sister.

“D-Don’t do that,” Zhou Ying said as she shook her head and looked at Chu Feng with a grieved expression. “They are my elders. From today onward, I would still have to live in the Sun family home.”

What she was trying to convey was that at the end of the day, she was the daughter-in-law of the Sun family; she had to think of the future, so she didn’t want things to be done in a way that was too harsh.

When Chu Feng heard this, his heart ached. In a low voice, he said, “Then don’t let them bully you. My sister is not to be bullied.”

“Yes.”

Zhou Ying was finally smiling. She leaned against Chu Feng’s shoulders feeling happy and safe.

It was as if they were kids again.

Back then, they would always do as they were doing now, quietly sitting on the top of a hill or in front of the house, watching the clouds float by and the birds chirp on a sunny day when the breeze was comfortable.

Just like that, time flew by and they didn’t feel bored at all.

Chu Feng quietly stayed with Zhou Ying as time trickled away.

Ten minutes, an hour, two hours...

Only when the sun set did Chu Feng stand up and said, "I should leave now. Take care."

Zhou Ying opened her mouth. She did not want to see him leave, but in the end, she nodded sadly.

"Alright, good bye."