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Chapter 108.1

Bandits (Part 1)

The beginning of spring has passed, but there was no feeling of spring at all. The cold wind and falling snow both added a bit of loneliness to this bleak world from time to time.

A magnificent carriage with several tall, black and bright horses was parked on the side of the official road. As the snow enveloped a small tea hut, inside a beautiful couple sat right in the middle. The young woman was beautiful and dignified, while the man next to her was even more handsome, elegant and refined. At the sides of these two people were tables with several tall men all sitting around. Among them, the two men sitting at the very edge were equally eye-catching. The white-clothed man had a slightly pale and sickly face, but his handsomeness was not compromised in the slightest. He was muttering quietly with the black-clothed man who was as handsome as the white-clothed man, except his slightly cold and arrogant temperament made him look better than the white-clothed man's pale appearance.

The owner of the small tea hut was an old man with a face full of hardships who was in his early sixties. He had opened a small shop and been on this official road for decades, so he had seen many people coming and going. Since he had seen a lot of people, he had the ability to make discerning judgments about them, and so he knew that these people were wealthy and respectable! Bringing freshly steamed buns and hot tea to them one by one, the old man walked to the table of the man and woman in the middle and said politely, "This shop is just a roadside tea house. There are only steamed buns and coarse tea. Please drink and eat as you wish."

Qin Xiu Zhi smiled and nodded gently as he lightly replied, "Uncle is too polite. It's very good to have a teahouse where you can rest on such a cold day."

He had seen a lot of gentlemen from wealthy families, but there were not many people who were so well-educated. Seeing the direction they were headed in, the old man asked a little hesitantly, "Is the gentleman going to Yan Cheng City?"

"Yes." After Qin Xiu Zhi finished speaking, the old man's face that was originally already full of wrinkles was now even more wrinkled! Qin Xiu Zhi saw that he seemed hesitant to speak, so he asked with a chuckle, "Is there anything that uncle wants to say?"

"I don't dare to say anything." The old man shook his head repeatedly, looked at the low mountain peak not very far up ahead, sighed and replied, "It's just that there is a dense, rocky jungle within the small mountain road in front of me. The heavy taxation made life difficult over these past two years, so there are many bandits in this area; the gentleman should be very careful."

There were bandits?! After the old man finished speaking, everyone in the tea hut looked a little different, so Qin Xiu Zhi cupped his hands slightly and said with a smile, "Thank you, uncle."

The old man waved his hand and retreated to the stove. While he was roasting the fire, his muffled voice sounded as if he was smoking tobacco, kept muttering and mumbling repeatedly, "Life during these days are difficult ah..."

Shang Jun's heart tightened and the old man's sigh was not loud, but it was enough to fall into everyone's heart. Shang Jun turned his head and secretly observed Zi Han who sat at the neighboring table. His fake face was expressionless while he was drinking tea, but his hand that was holding the teacup was a little pale.

A cup of hot tea was handed over into Shang Jun's palm, and when Shang Jun turned his head, San Er was staring at him and motioned for him to drink quickly.

Holding the warmth in his hands, Shang Jun chuckled and replied, "Thank you." With a light sip of the hot tea, Shang Jun felt another gaze on him, so he raised his eyes only to unexpectedly meet a pair of quiet eyes.

It had been two days since they travelled, and they would occasionally show their emotions like this for a while, but neither took the initiative to say anything to the other person nor did they each know what to say, just like at this moment. Shang Jun gently looked away, and from Xiu Zhi's side, one could hear a familiar female voice that held concern which said, "Xiu Zhi, you should drink some hot tea, it's windy along the way."

Long Liu Li handed the hot tea to Xiu Zhi to attract his attention. In the past few days, Xiu Zhi was mostly riding a horse and did not ride in the carriage with her. She always felt that there was a faint relationship and some feeling between Xiu Zhi and Shang Jun. Xiu Zhi is always gentle and polite to her, but when he looks at Shang Jun, there was a peculiar expression in his eyes. However, the two of them... are men ah!

No, it should not be like this; they just have a deeper friendship and she will make Xiu Zhi understand that women are good!

Thinking about it, Long Liu Li simply passed the hot tea in her hand to Xiu Zhi's lips. Qin Xiu Zhi was surprised and quickly took it, before saying embarrassedly, "Thank you, Jun... Liu Li, I will drink it by myself."

After a quick sip, Qin Xiu Zhi got up, looked at the sky outside that was getting darker and darker and said, "It's getting late, let's go."

After speaking, Qin Xiu Zhi took the lead to walk out of the small tea hut and the group immediately followed.

Long Liu Li was a little aggrieved. When did she ever show her kindness to anybody like this?! But he did not appreciate her at all!

Stepping on the carriage, Long Liu Li looked at the elegant dark green figure in front of her with some enthusiasm and slowly fisted her hands. She would surely make Xiu Zhi see her goodness and make his gentle eyes stare at her affectionately! Only looking at her!