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Magical Exchange Original novel in Chinese by: 御我 (Yu Wo) Translated by <u>Prince Revolution</u>

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About Prince Rev!

Prince Revolution! (or PR! for short) was started in late April in 2009 by Erialis for the purpose of translating and sharing the ½ Prince and The Magical Exchange novels (and now many others) with other fans (who unfortunately couldn't read Chinese). PR!'s crew has since exploded to include several translators who double as Chinese to English editors and several Proofreaders. They also have sister sites translating the novels into many other different languages.



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The Magical Exchange Original novel in Chinese by: 御我(Yu Wo)

- Short Story #1: Prologue
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Short Story #1: Prologue

§Magical Exchange§

The God, can help you do good
The Devil, can help you do evil
The price can be
As small as losing one strand of hair
As great as suffering pain worse than death
Are you—willing to take the risk?
Between the God and the Devil
Will you—make a decision?

The two of them were similar yet at the same time very different handsome men. Both had tall and slim figures, refined facial features, eyes which others lost themselves in, and the same power of attraction.

Golden hair and blue eyes, gaze filled with only warmth and agreeableness. A small smile that made others' hearts and minds feel at ease. His entire person gave people a joyous feeling. His voice sounded as if it could soothe every pain. All in all, a warm benevolence, the embodiment of all good things.

Black hair and red eyes, gaze filled with only danger and playfulness. A dangerous smile that made others squirm in their seats. His entire person gave off a deadly feeling. His voice sounded as if it could lure away your soul. All in all, a dangerous fatality, the embodiment of cold cruelness.

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"Seems like business is at the door again, God Charity." The blackhaired man wore a playful smile as he took a sip of the red liquid from the goblet in his hand.

The golden-haired male, who was reading a book at this moment, raised his head slowly. "Yes, Devil Chaos."

Now, tell us, what is your wish?

If it is for good, God Charity will be at your service.

If it is for evil, Devil Chaos will be your best choice.

Let *us* decide the price.

Short Story #2: The Melancholy of Jealousy

On the high school's track field was a group of lively teenage girls.

"Lü Zi, don't run so quickly!" Ma Sheng tried hard to keep up with the girl in front of her.

"You're just too slow," Lü Zi shouted back toward the girl who had fallen far behind her.

"Ma Sheng just can't run that fast," Ma Sheng whined, her originally high-class, beautiful air immediately changing to a pretty and cute one.

But no matter what, she is still very beautiful and attractive. This line of thought flashed through Lü Zi's mind. Compared to the beautiful and tall Ma Sheng, Lü Zi, with a face full of pimples and her naturally dark skin, couldn't seem to compare at all.

"Who told you to slack off from practicing?" As Lü Zi spoke, she couldn't help but feel happy on the inside because track and field was the only thing she could beat Ma Sheng at. She and Ma Sheng had been friends since elementary school, had gone to the same middle school later on, and were even attending the same high school, so naturally they were very close. Since elementary school, Ma Sheng had already been a beauty. Now that they were in high school, she had grown even more beautiful. Her admirers could surely fill the whole track field. Lü Zi had always been Ma Sheng's best friend, and Ma Sheng was also... Lü Zi's good friend. Alright! Saying that she wasn't jealous would be a lie, but it was okay. At least she still had track and field, the only place she could excel over Ma Sheng. Out on

the field, Lü Zi was always the most confident.

After school ended, Lü Zi and Ma Sheng walked home together like they always did.

"Lü Zi, are you confident about what we had for math today? I thought it was quite easy. There were many questions on it I helped review with you. The teacher only changed them up a little bit," Ma Sheng said happily.

"Ehm.. Yeah sure!" Lü Zi replied with a guilty conscience. She basically hadn't understood practically half the questions. She was going to get a failing mark again.

"Lü Zi, I have to tell you something!" Ma Sheng suddenly reddened.
"But please, don't tell anyone else."

Curious, Lü Zi stopped. "What is it? You can tell me!" She waited impatiently to hear the new gossip.

"Today, Xia confessed to me, and I... said yes." She stopped for a moment, and asked urgently, "You don't mind, do you? Because you also like him very much."

It was as if a loud "bang" rang inside her head—Lü Zi felt her world collapse. Xia, whom she had secretly liked since elementary school, had confessed to Ma Sheng, her best friend. She almost didn't know how to react. But Ma Sheng kept pulling on her arm, saying that she hadn't done it on purpose, that she also liked Xia, and that Xia had confessed to her, which was the reason why she... Lü Zi didn't want to

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hear any more of her words; she only wanted to cry. She nodded her head without thinking.

"You don't mind anymore?" Ma Sheng asked, doubtful.

Lü Zi nodded her head again numbly.

"I'm so relieved."

The moment she returned to her room, she finally started to cry loudly. Why? Why was everything she ever wanted always snatched away by Ma Sheng? She really hated Ma Sheng right then, hated her so much that she wished for her death. If Ma Sheng were dead, everything would be great. Then, she wouldn't have to be the small wallflower at Ma Sheng's side anymore. *That's right! If Ma Sheng were dead...*

"Lü Zi, can you go buy some salt? I want to cook, but there isn't any salt left." Her mom's voice suddenly sounded from downstairs.

Lü Zi hurriedly wiped her tears away. "O.K.!"

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After she bought the salt, Lü Zi walked back in a daze. She was lost in her thoughts. On one hand, she scolded herself for having the terrible thought of killing Ma Sheng, but on the other hand, it was truly tempting...

Suddenly, without conscious thought, she lifted her head, and what flooded her view was a peculiar shop. "God 'n Devil"—the antique shop sign only had those three words. The whole shop was some sort of

little wooden cottage, a rare, black one.

"What an extraordinary shop. When did it open? Is it an antique shop?" The shop had an unusual attractive quality, as if it were calling out to her to come in. Lü Zi eyed the bag of salt in her hand, and thought, A short glimpse shouldn't be a problem, right?

Lü Zi lightly pushed the door open. "Is anyone here? Can I have a look around?"

"Of course you can. Please come in, my dear young lady." A deep, alluring voice replied to Lü Zi.

As she stepped into the store, a nefariously handsome man entered her vision. His hair was a deep black, his eyes as red as wine, and he wore a smile on his lips as though he were mocking the world. He was leisurely sitting by the table.

"Please sit down, young lady." He waved his hands, motioning for Lü Zi to sit down. "Do you like coffee?" He didn't wait for Lü Zi to reply, and poured her a cup of coffee.

"Excuse me..." As it was her first time seeing such a handsome man, Lü Zi's voice was as small as a mosquito's.

"My name is Devil Chaos, and I am one of the owners of the God 'n Devil Magical Exchange," Devil Chaos answered Lü Zi before she could ask, wearing his enchanting smile throughout.

"Magical Exchange?" She had only ever heard of the stock exchange

and had always thought that exchanges were supposed to be in skyscrapers. Are there exchange markets located in small wooden houses?

"That's right. We're very different from the stock exchange! The focus of our business is to grant the innermost desires of our customers." He stopped for a moment, wearing a very mysterious smile. "It doesn't matter what you wish for. We will grant it."

She didn't know why, but Lü Zi remembered her thoughts of wanting to kill Ma Sheng. Furthermore, the desire seized her more and more. Right then, she practically wished to see Ma Sheng lying before her, dripping with blood.

"Do you have anything you would like to entrust me?" The enticing voice swayed Lü Zi's heart even more. "You only have to sign this contract, and Devil Chaos will help you accomplish it." A piece of parchment and a quill pen had appeared on the table at some unknown point.

"I..." Lü Zi took the quill without thinking. She was about to recklessly sign her name...

"Devil Chaos! Oh, we have a customer." A warm and soothing voice made Lü Zi freeze.

Lü Zi lifted her head and looked right into a pair of soothing, blue eyes. She suddenly felt calm. He was a fair, blue-eyed man, as good-looking as Devil Chaos, but the difference was that he put people at ease. Looking at him was almost enough to heal her wounded heart.

However, Devil Chaos raised his eyebrows unhappily. The person who had made him unhappy appeared not to notice and seemingly didn't have any intentions to leave, either.

"Hello, my name is God Charity. I am the other owner of Magical Exchange. Would you like to tell me your name?"

"Lü Zi."

"Ms. Lü Zi, then. Did Devil Chaos tell you about the details of the contract?" He stopped for a moment. His eyes flicked over to Devil Chaos, who had turned his head away from him. "If you wish to do evil, Devil Chaos will help you, but there will be a price. The price will be decided upon how large or small your wish is."

As soon as she heard the words "do evil," Lü Zi shrank inwards. She couldn't believe that she had almost hired a killer to murder Ma Sheng. How could she have such evil thoughts? She hurriedly said, "No, I don't want to ask Devil Chaos for anything, I... only came inside for a look. I'm sorry, I'll leave immediately."

After she finished speaking, she didn't wait for God Charity's or Devil Chaos's reaction, and left through the door in a rush.

"God Charity, you drove away my customer. We agreed not to interfere with each other's business," Devil Chaos said in a displeased voice. His red eyes glinted dangerously.

God Charity only smiled. "I only came out to see if someone was

breaking the rules by secretly using a bit of hypnotism."

"I only said one sentence." Devil Chaos's eyes flickered to the side.

"One sentence of yours is much stronger than the world's best hypnotism!"

"Hmph! Well, I don't need that business deal anyway." Devil Chaos knew that he was in the wrong, and to dispute over who was in the right wasn't beneficial for him. He most certainly wouldn't do anything that didn't benefit him.

God Charity didn't mind him. He only watched the door, hoping in his heart that the girl wouldn't come back anymore...

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"Good morning, Lü Zi." Ma Sheng approached Lü Zi, giggling.

"Good morning." Lü Zi almost couldn't look Ma Sheng in the eye because she had actually thought of causing Ma Sheng's death yesterday. The always kindhearted and amiable Lü Zi had wallowed in shame the whole night, and in the end, had made up her mind that she would congratulate Ma Sheng and Xia properly even though her heartache was still gnawing at her.

Not having looked at Ma Sheng directly, Lü Zi missed Ma Sheng's expression. It showed surprising spite, and her smile gave off an equally surprising feeling of delight at another's torment. "Lü Zi, let's go swimming at the pool after school today, alright? Let's meet up at the gym and go there together, after we get changed."

"Sure."

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Lü Zi excitedly walked to the gym. Swimming had always been her favorite. She just never expected that the sight she was about to see would be so painful. Lü Zi, who was just about to enter the gym, was greeted with the scene of a couple making out—it was Ma Sheng and Xia. She covered her mouth tightly to prevent her cry from bursting out. Why? Why did God make her see this scene? Even though she had decided to congratulate them, it didn't mean that she would be strong enough to see them being lovey-dovey together.

She almost sank into despair, watching Ma Sheng and Xia in front of her. In her heart she tried hard to repeatedly tell herself, Lü Zi, you have to congratulate them. You aren't allowed to have any other thoughts. Congratulate both of your good friends...

But Ma Sheng had noticed Lü Zi a while ago because she had purposely planned this scene. Her heart was full of delight from tormenting Lü Zi. *Good friends? Foolish Lü Zi, really too foolish.*

"Ms. Ma Sheng," a voice filled with enticement suddenly echoed jarringly from a shadowy corner. A cool, demonic looking man with black hair and red eyes emerged shortly after.

Devil Chaos? How could he be here? Lü Zi's mind was filled with surprise. Could it be that he had come to make her sign a contract again? But he called out Ma Sheng's name just now...?

"Where did you come from?" Ma Sheng had gotten a fright. When she had looked just now, there definitely hadn't been anyone standing there, right?

"That isn't important! The important thing is my payment!" Devil Chaos's smile dripped with evil intentions.

Payment? Ma Sheng made a contract with Devil Chaos? Lü Zi was even more puzzled than before.

"Tell me how much money you want already." Ma Sheng impatiently waved her hand. She didn't want Lü Zi to find out the truth.

"What I want isn't something worthless like money." Devil Chaos smiled dangerously. He didn't mind Ma Sheng's rudeness in the slightest.

"Then what—" Before Ma Sheng could finish her sentence, Lü Zi interrupted her.

"Wait! Devil Chaos, why are you here? Ma Sheng, how come you know him?" Lü Zi didn't know why, but she thought it had to do with how Xia, who was standing silently to the side, had suddenly lifeless eyes.

"Oh, it's you, young lady Lü Zi." Devil Chaos laughed with evil intent and thought of a way to make things even more chaotic. "It's nothing, I'm only here to collect my payment, and it's to be collected from this girl because she made a contract with me. Her wish was to be able to control that boy."

Lü Zi couldn't believe it as she stared at Ma Sheng, whose face turned ugly. She opened her mouth with much difficulty and asked, "Why?"

Ma Sheng hatefully glared at Lü Zi, who hadn't ever seen her wear that kind of expression before. Lü Zi was rooted to her spot, stupefied. "This is all your fault. Lü Zi, you're so dumb. Except for stupid gym class, I'm better than you in every aspect, no matter if it's looks or homework, yet everyone likes you better. You're always able to happily chat with our classmates, but what about me! I can only pretend to be a gentle and refined girl beside you because no girl is willing to talk to me. Do you know how much I envy you because everyone likes you? I couldn't accept it. I at least wanted to steal away the person you liked the most, Xia, but when I confessed to him, he said that the one he likes is you."

Lü Zi stood there, shocked, for a long time. Xia liked her?

Ma Sheng's smile was full of wickedness. "It was then that Magical Exchange appeared. Devil Chaos told me he could grant me any wish. Haha, at first, I didn't carry any hope, but from that day onward, Xia started to obey my every word. He's mine forever. Hahaha."

So, the cause for Xia's lifelessness was this. Lü Zi looked at Xia, who was in the dark about everything, her heart full of pain. "You, how can you do this! Xia isn't your doll. He's a living, human being. How can you control him like that?" Lü Zi almost begged, "Let Xia go! Ma Sheng, the one you hate is me, so control me then."

"Wait a moment, the two of you. If you want to fight, can you wait until after I collect my payment and then fight?" Devil Chaos, who was

already fed up with watching, grudgingly said this with a menacing tone.

"Tell me what you want quickly then!" Ma Sheng said, ten times as impatient.

"Well, controlling a person for a lifetime is actually very hard work! But seeing as it is your first time visiting, I'll give you a twenty percent discount." Devil Chaos laughed evilly. "Originally, I wanted fifty years of your youth, but now only taking forty is enough for me."

"What nonsense are you talking about? How can you take something like youth?" Ma Sheng disdainfully thought that the guy in front of her was a lunatic.

"Contract, come here!" Suddenly, a gush of wind rose around Devil Chaos, and a piece of parchment appeared in front of him. "According to this contract, I, Devil Chaos, have fulfilled your heart's wish. I will now collect my payment—forty years of youth." When he finished saying that, the whirl of wind suddenly wrapped around Ma Sheng.

"Ah... What's this? Hurry and let me out," Ma Sheng shouted from the inside, terrified.

Lü Zi didn't know what to do, either. She was only able to blankly watch the unbelievable scene before her eyes.

After a while, the whirlwind returned to Devil Chaos's side once again and slowly vanished into the parchment. At last, Devil Chaos raised his hand, and the parchment simply disappeared in his grasp. "Exchange

successful! This was a pleasant collaboration. Feel free to visit the God 'n Devil Magical Exchange again," Devil Chaos finished saying with a mysterious and slow voice. His silhouette followed his voice and slowly faded away before Lü Zi and Ma Sheng.

"What the heck happened?" Lü Zi, whose head was in a mess, was rooted to the spot, dumbfounded.

"He actually disappeared." Ma Sheng stared incredulously at the spot where Devil Chaos had disappeared. But the second she spoke, she and Lü Zi both thought that something was strange—her voice was off. It didn't sound like a girl's voice, but more like a fifty- or sixty-year-old middle aged woman's.

Lü Zi slowly turned to look at Ma Sheng. She remembered what Devil Chaos had said before leaving. *The payment was forty years of youth. Could it be possible? Is it possible to take away youth?* But in the next moment, she knew, because the person in front of her wasn't a youthful sixteen-year-old Ma Sheng anymore, but a fifty-year-old middle aged woman. *Is it? Is it Ma Sheng?* She simply didn't dare believe it.

And seeing the disbelief in Lü Zi's eyes, Ma Sheng's confused, surprised, and incredulous feelings all mixed together. She stumbled to the nearest mirror... "Ahhhhhhhhh!" The shrieking person reflected in the mirror was a fifty-to-sixty-year-old woman.

"Why? Why did it turn out this way? I don't want this. I don't want this. Give me back my youth! Give it back to me," Ma Sheng shouted, on the verge of insanity.

"Ma Sheng..." Lü Zi, who was just as disturbed in heart and mind, didn't know what to do either.

"I don't want this. If it's like this, I'd rather die!" The hysterical Ma Sheng abruptly ran outside.

"Ma Sheng, wait!" Lü Zi followed her immediately.

Crap, I lost her. Where the heck did Ma Sheng go? Lü Zi searched in a frenzy. Even though Ma Sheng had done something like that to spite her, she was still softhearted. In Lü Zi's heart, they were still friends, after all. She couldn't just not care about the present Ma Sheng.

All around, a crowd had gathered and was making a racket. What caught Lü Zi's attention was how they were all pointing to the school building's roof. Some people were even screaming. As she raised her head, Lü Zi also started screaming. *That's Ma Sheng. The person standing on the roof is Ma Sheng.* "Don't do this, Ma Sheng!"

"Ah!" Everyone started yelling because the woman on the roof had jumped. Sprays of blood splashed everywhere. Lü Zi, who was standing right in front of the school building, was coated all over with Ma Sheng's blood. She didn't even have time to cry out or feel horror when she heard the crowd's second outcry. She numbly raised her head to look.

"Xia!"

Xia appeared on the rooftop, standing at roughly the same spot as Ma

Sheng had. Lü Zi already knew what would happen next, and how much heartache it would cause her. Everything would turn into a tragedy...

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Lü Zi numbly walked home, her heart aching so much that she couldn't speak. Even the tears she'd shed after Xia jumped had run out. She had lost her best friend and the boy she loved the most. How did things turn out this way? Is there really no way to change it?

A white, wooden cottage appeared next to her on the street. Lü Zi, who hadn't taken notice of anything since the suicides, still saw it. Three words appeared in front of Lü Zi—God 'n Devil. She should have been resentful. After all, it was this exchange's contract that had caused things to turn out this way, but the present white, wooden cottage emitted an air of comfort and warmth. Lü Zi's numb heart tightened and tears began to fall again. Without hesitating, she entered.

God Charity was standing right behind the door, using his soothing eyes to look into the depths of Lü Zi's heart. He didn't say anything, but calmly opened his arms, and Lü Zi threw herself at God Charity's embrace without hesitation. She cried to her heart's content and let out a heart shattering wail.

After venting her anguish, Lü Zi calmly drank the tea God Charity passed her. She was making up her mind about things. She couldn't let things end like this, not if she could help it.

"God Charity..."

God Charity interrupted her speech, as if he already knew Lü Zi's newfound resolution, "I am in fact able to make a contract with you, to help you fulfill your heart's wish, but the price for resurrecting a person is your life."

Lü Zi shrank for a moment, but immediately stated, "Xia was innocent. At least save him, at least..." She paused, What about Ma Sheng then? Even though Ma Sheng did bad things, nevertheless in being Ma Sheng's good friend and never noticing Ma Sheng's odd behavior all these years, she had practically caused Ma Sheng's death indirectly. Could she give up on Ma Sheng just like that and only save Xia? Lü Zi grew silent.

God Charity was also silent. A kindhearted youth indeed.

"Are you really able to do anything?" Lü Zi asked in an unguarded manner because she had thought of a way to kill two birds with one stone, but it was an extremely wild thing to imagine. Although she had seen Devil Chaos's power, she couldn't help but question if God Charity would be able to do it.

God Charity smiled, unwilling to let go of his pity for the kindhearted girl. "Yes, anything."

"Then, I want to sign a contract with you. Please fulfill my wish." Lü Zi took a deep breath. In her heart, she thought, *Yes, this is the best way. It won't hurt anyone, including my parents*. "I wish I never existed." This way, Ma Sheng wouldn't make a contract with Devil Chaos to hurt Xia because of her. Her mom and dad wouldn't be sad

about losing her. This, truthfully, was the best way.

God Charity only sighed. "Are you sure? Lü Zi, are you sure about sacrificing yourself?"

"Yes," Lü Zi firmly nodded her head. "As for the price, even if you take away my soul, I would have no regrets."

God Charity's heart twinged. He already had a plan. "Alright! Contract, appear. You only have to sign your name on it, and you will be able to accomplish your wish to never have been born."

Lü Zi took the quill, and after writing down her name firmly, looked at God Charity. Her silhouette slowly faded away. "Thank you."

God Charity just nodded his head, watching Lü Zi finally fade away before him. The white light, Lü Zi's soul, slowly floated to his hand.

"What an unprofitable exchange." Devil Chaos's mocking voice echoed from behind God Charity. "The power spent to make her never be born into this world can't be a small matter! You only received a tiny soul. You took an enormous loss, God Charity."

"I feel it is worth it," said God Charity lightly. Then, he added on, "I obtained a kindhearted little servant as a result."

"Servant?" doubted Devil Chaos. He suddenly had an ominous feeling. God Charity slowly raised his hand and from within, Lü Zi's soul unexpectedly gave off a dazzling light. The light gradually molded into a form—a child's form. At last, a cute, small girl appeared, fair-haired

and blue-eyed, resembling a doll.

God Charity looked at her, and then said with a smile, "Let's call you Angel Doll! You're going to be my little servant." After he spoke, he kindly patted Angel Doll's head.

Angel Doll also smiled happily. "Little servant! Starting now, I'll be big brother's little servant."

"Oh my god!" Devil Chaos looked at Angel Doll, who was obviously a mischievous little girl. "Couldn't you have made a beautiful woman instead? What's the use of making a kid?"

God Charity simply smiled while Angel Doll hid behind him. She looked at Devil Chaos with contempt and even stuck out her tongue.

"You brat! Watch me punish you thoroughly, and see if you still dare to stick your tongue out at me." Devil Chaos reached out his hand to catch Angel Doll. Unfortunately, Angel Doll suddenly unfolded a pair of angel wings, flitting about in every direction, stubbornly keeping out of Devil Chaos's reach.

God Charity looked at the two gems in front of him, his heart brimming with amusement. "It seems that I won't be lonely anymore."

Short Story #3: Tomato Beef Soup Saves the World

[Yu Wo's author notes]

This is actually a work from a long time ago.

At first, I thought I had lost it when I switched computers.

But surprisingly, I found that I have a draft saved with my friend Ash.

So, this child came back to my side. I'm most thankful to Ash~

Now, looking at this writing from such a long time ago,

I truly have a 囧 kind of feeling...

(When I wrote this, I'm sure Xü Chun Mei¹ was still very popular! Look at how old this work is!)

Enough with the talking. Bon appétit:

Magical Exchange—side story, a parody: Tomato Beef Soup Saves the World

Cares

On a normal street, there was a little wooden house with no set color. Sometimes it was black, sometimes it was white, and above the entrance there hung a board with the words "God 'n Devil" inscribed on it. Inside the little house at this time...

"Don't kid with me. Why do I have to take this brat with me to go grocery shopping?" A black-haired man dangerously narrowed his blood red eyes, glaring at a girl who only reached his knees. The fair-haired and blue-eyed cute little girl pursed her lips and glared back.

The golden-haired man on the other side watched the show of big eyes glaring at small eyes. He showed a warm, helpless smile. "Devil Chaos, I'm only asking you to buy a bag of salt with Angel Doll. Do you have to have such a strong reaction?"

"Why don't you go and buy it yourself?" Devil Chaos didn't care at all.

After snorting disdainfully, he immersed himself in watching the television again.

"Big brother Devil Chaos is a big lazy person. He is a big lazy person who only knows how to watch TV!" Angel Doll stood in front of the TV and kept making faces at the "big lazy person" on the couch.

Devil Chaos was so angry he ground his teeth. "Annoying brat, distance yourself from my TV or I'll devour you as my midnight snack!"

"Nonono!" Angel Doll shook her little head with all her might.

"Stinking brat, I'll eat you!" Devil Chaos was already reaching out with his long fingernails.

"But... Devil Chaos, I have to stew the soup and can't leave." God Charity looked at the tantrum-throwing duo, one big, one small, and couldn't help interrupting them while smiling, "Today's soup is your favorite, tomato stewed with beef."

Devil Chaos, who was reaching out with his long nails, moved around restlessly. Immediately he thought of a pot full of tomato soup as red as blood together with hearty beef. Devil Chaos finally raised his head reluctantly, and sent God Charity a death glare. "I can go buy it by myself."

God Charity revealed an awkward smile. "Uhh but last time, instead of sugar, you bought salt. Instead of salt, you bought MSG. Instead of soy sauce, you bought..."

Devil Chaos revealed a rare embarrassed state, turned around, and shouted, "All right, all right, I'll take the brat with me. You better stay at home and properly stew my tomato beef soup!"

God Charity smiled and crouched down to instruct little Angel Doll, "Remember to buy salt. Also don't let Devil Chaos run around the place recklessly. It'll become a big disaster."

Little Angel Doll's face was full of resolution. She nodded her head earnestly and then hurriedly rushed to the front door, while firmly grabbing Devil Chaos's hand, not letting go. Before the door closed, he could still hear Devil Chaos moodily shout, "Let me go, you annoying brat. Can't you walk by yourself?"

After God Charity sent off the two quarreling people with his eyes, he smiled in a relaxed fashion. "This way, there shouldn't be any more problems. I can finally stew my soup in peace."



Walking on the street at sundown, all the people in the surroundings were just getting off work. Devil Chaos, who stood out because of his evil and leisurely appearance, could make females ranging from five to fifty infatuated with him incessantly, but... this time it was a little bit different. Even if he were as handsome as can be, having a cute little girl climb on his head would make the surrounding females immediately change tunes from "So handsome," to "Ah! He has a kid already," and then retreat ten steps in disappointment.

"You rotten little brat!" As Devil Chaos sensed one disappointed expression after another, he quickened his pace while feeling very displeased, and arrived at the supermarket close to home a few minutes after.

The danger level in the supermarket during sundown wouldn't be less than that of a battlefield, even more so to Devil Chaos. Truth be told, a battlefield would be a better place for Devil Chaos than a supermarket by a hundredfold. Watching apron-wearing, basket-holding people with an average age of forty to fifty years who belonged to that crowded battlefield and did everything to force themselves in and out, Devil Chaos's expression contorted, and he shouted to the little girl on his head, "Hey, brat, go in and buy the sugar. I'll wait for you outside."

"It's salt, stupid!" Angel Doll jumped off of Devil Chaos's head, pressed her hands to her hips and asked in a voice dripping with doubt, "Idiot, are you actually able to wait here obediently and not run around?"

Devil Chaos impatiently nodded his head.

But Angel Doll showed a very, very doubtful expression. She then

extended her pinky and seriously said, "Pinky promise."

"Rotten little brat, who would want to make a pinky promise with you?"

Devil Chaos revealed his white teeth, as if he wanted to chomp on

Angel Doll.

"No pinky promise, then Angel Doll won't buy." Angel Doll pouted and then made another threat. "If there is no salt, big brother God Charity won't be able to make a tasty tomato beef soup."

"You!" Devil Chaos gritted his teeth, while thinking of that pot of red soup... Finally, he extended his pinky unwillingly, hooked his finger with Angel Doll's pinky at light speed, and then withdrew it immediately after.

"I'll go buy salt now." After receiving Devil Chaos's promise, Angel Doll was satisfied and rushed into the evening battlefield. With her small stature, she managed to squeeze herself into the crowd without any trouble.

Bored senseless, Devil Chaos stood by the side of the supermarket's entrance, letting the female warriors, who were coming and going, feast their eyes on him and leave satisfied with shopping baskets in hand afterwards, as if he were being eye raped by hundreds of people. Devil Chaos's face contorted with every passing minute.

Fortunately... or unfortunately, a chaotic scene promptly attracted his attention. His mouth curved into a satisfied grin as his blood red eyes turned even redder upon his detection of ire, discontentment, and resentment.

A man and woman were having a fierce fight. The long haired girl, whose tears were smeared all over her face, shrieked, "You want to leave me? To go to another woman's place? Who is it? Is it Lili or Chun Mei?"

"They have nothing to do with this. We just don't seem to fit together," the man replied impatiently.

"Liar! I'm sure it's Chun Mei. That vixen, I'm gonna kill her," the long haired girl cried tearfully. At the same time, she grabbed the boy's arm with her claw-like hands, which were painted with red nail polish.

"Stop throwing a fit." The man pulled away from the girl's hand, shoved her forcefully, and caused her to fall on the ground with a piercing shriek.

After eyeing her with disgust, the man turned and left, and the girl who was kneeling on the floor cried out, "Don't go, Xiao Qiang². If you leave, I will have nothing left, nothing left..."

Xiao Qiang naturally didn't turn around. Only the devil, who harbored malicious intentions, wagged his devil's tail and approached the girl. He whispered, "Don't you want to ruin that man? I can fulfill your every wish."

The girl jumped and turned her head to look at Devil Chaos. Seeing his evil and handsome face, she actually inhaled sharply and revealed a shy blush. "Really... Then, are you willing to become my new boyfriend?"

"What?" Devil Chaos's expression changed drastically. How did things end up being about him? After receiving countless glances from the girl, Devil Chaos finally realized that this was ridiculous and hurriedly said, "Nonono, not that wish, change it. How about something like destroying the world?"

"Anything you say." She shyly fiddled with the hem of her shirt. Devil Chaos was dumbfounded. What? She agreed so easily? He exploded with manic laughter. The originally clear sky started to be covered by dense black clouds through the eruption of a gale. A huge cloak draped itself on Devil Chaos's shoulders and then danced in the wind. Along with the wind, his feet slowly took off from the ground. At last, his entire person floated in mid-air, and he saw everything from a bird's-eye view, looking down on the ignorant common people.

Devil Chaos's face was full with vicious shadows. A voice like the devil's echoed, "I have long waited for this wish. Now, I, by the name of Devil Chaos, will accomplish your wish. The apocalypse is about to arrive..."

The crowd of women escaped one after another. The whole world's sky was covered by black, ominous clouds spreading out from the supermarket. Under the unyielding lightning, the government's center in charge of disaster control just began to light their lamps, but everything was too late already.

Amidst all that black, Devil Chaos's pale hand was lightly raised, as if to declare that everything was to lead to nothingness... "Hey, what are you doing?" Angel Doll unexpectedly spread her pair of wings and flew to Devil Chaos, who was floating in mid-air.

"Destroying the world!" Devil Chaos laughed evilly and revealed his row of white teeth.

"Oh~" Angel Doll tilted her head and thought out loud, "You want to destroy the world? But if the word is destroyed, there won't be any tomato beef soup to eat anymore!"

The sound of thunder coming down boomed, and you could see the struggle and pain on Devil Chaos's face. Finally, he slowly retracted that pale hand of his, changed to holding Angel Doll's hand with it, and then the cloak disappeared. Devil Chaos and Angel Doll also dropped to the ground. Every black cloud, the escaped crowd, all of it was taken back like a rewinding tape.

That one girl returned from the distance and was rewound to the scene of kneeling on the ground in front of Devil Chaos. She just happened to say, "Really... Then, are you willing to become my new boyfriend?" Devil Chaos replied coldly, "Keep dreaming!"

Afterward, the crowd of women was still fighting on the evening battlefield, and the center for disaster control's lamps was still off. Devil Chaos held hands with Angel Doll, and they slowly returned to the small cottage. From a distance, one could still hear Devil Chaos say, "When we get back, we have to tell God Charity to leave all of the tomato beef soup for me."

"In your dreams," Angel Doll answered back.

"Rotten little brat..."

On this fine day, everything was as usual, but no one knew that Angel Doll and a pot of tomato beef soup had saved the world.

Footnotes

- ¹ "Xü Chun Mei (許純美)": a very extreme person, who was invited by TV stations to raise their viewer rates. She was the person to gossip about in the period from 2003-2007 in Taiwan.
- ² "Xiao Qiang": means Little Strong, a common name used to refer to a cockroach, as cockroaches don't die very easily at all.