

At School 1141

Chapter 1141: A Great Thing

When Qiao Yuan heard this, he couldn't help but look at Wang Zichen and smile. The sharp aura in the interrogation room just now had disappeared, and it was replaced with a refined and indifferent smile.

"Zichen, I often hear your mother mention you. I initially wanted to meet you when the time was right. I didn't expect our first meeting to be so sudden, and in such a place."

Wang Zichen looked up and quickly glanced at Qiao Yuan. Then, he quickly lowered his head. After a while, he said in a low voice, "Uncle Qiao, I've caused you trouble."

Without the rejection and resistance he expected, this instantly relaxed Qiao Yuan's tensed heart. He couldn't help but raise his hand to gently stroke Wang Zichen's head and say softly, "As long as you're fine. Don't worry, Uncle Qiao is with you. I won't tell your mother about this. Let this become a secret between us, okay?"

When Wang Zichen heard this, he couldn't help but look up at Qiao Yuan. After a long time, he slowly smiled and nodded gently.

Seeing this, Wang Zimeng couldn't help but stick out her tongue. She initially thought that it would take some effort for her brother to accept Uncle Qiao. She didn't expect Uncle Qiao to be so powerful that he immediately won her brother's heart.

Jian Ai looked at the time. It was already late at night. Her injuries had not recovered, and she felt exhausted. She leaned back in her chair and fell asleep.

However, not long after, the door of the interrogation room opened. Li Zhong still sent Ji Haoyu out warmly.

Jian Ai woke up and quickly stood up.

"Let's go," Ji Haoyu said to Jian Ai with a smile.

Jian Ai heaved a sigh of relief when she heard this. She turned around and said to Qiao Yuan and the rest, "Let's go."

Ignoring the others, they followed Ji Haoyu out.

Wang Li stood in the corridor and looked at Jian Ai's back, but he said nothing.

"You can leave too!"

After Ji Haoyu and the rest walked away, the smile on Li Zhong's face instantly disappeared. Then, he looked at another group of people in the corridor with a fierce expression.

Although Jian Ai had beaten them up, they were fine. Without a word, they quickly left with their parents.

Only then did Wang Li go forward and say unwillingly, "Director Li, what's going on? They hit someone, and two of them are still lying in the hospital!"

When Li Zhong heard this, he looked at Wang Li helplessly and said, "Tell me, when can you change your habit of getting to the bottom of things? It's not a big deal. Aren't you afraid of getting yourself into trouble? Do you know who that young man was?"

In Li Zhong's opinion, the correct way to handle such an ordinary fight outside a bar was to make a statement and let them go. If there were injured people, the two sides would mediate the compensation privately. The police did not need to investigate too deeply.

Wang Li, on the other hand, called for their parents and wanted to detain them. He made things more complicated.

However, what Wang Li cared about was not the case itself, but the girl called Jian Ai.

"Director Li, look at the surveillance video at the scene. You'll know why I'm so determined to see the parents," Wang Li said.

When Li Zhong heard this, he waved his hand impatiently. "Why should I? Young Master Ji already took the video. That's the CEO of the Ji Group. Do you know about the Ji Group? The number one financial group in Asia, the glory of China! Who can afford to provoke that Young Master Ji? You even dare to detain his people?! Don't cause me trouble!"

As he spoke, Li Zhong couldn't help but yawn. "You're torturing me in the middle of the night. I'm about to retire, but I'm on tenterhooks with you every day. Sooner or later, you'll scare me to death! I'm going back to sleep. Go do what you have to do."

Without waiting for Wang Li to speak, Li Zhong stretched and walked away with his big stomach.

Wang Li stood in the middle of the corridor and looked at the end of the corridor with a solemn expression. He was still depressed. In the end, he could only take a deep breath and his expression gradually darkened.

Jian Ai and the rest walked out of the Xiangyang Road Police Station. A bone-chilling autumn wind blew at them. Jian Ai couldn't help but tremble, and the sleepiness in her body instantly dissipated.

In the next second, her body suddenly felt warm. Ji Haoyu had already taken off his sports coat and draped it over Jian Ai's shoulder. His gentle voice followed. "You're wearing too little. Don't catch a cold."

Jian Ai felt an itch behind her ear, and her heart fluctuated. A strange feeling flashed across her mind.

"Young Master Ji, thank you for today. Otherwise, I might have to spend more effort," Qiao Yuan said.

When Ji Haoyu heard this, he smiled. "Vice President Qiao, you're welcome. Xiao Ai's matter is my matter. You don't have to thank me."

As soon as he finished speaking, Ji Haoyu looked at Jian Ai affectionately.

"Cough..." Jian Ai coughed lightly to hide her embarrassment. She looked at Wang Zichen and Wang Zimeng and said, "What do you two think? Are you going home?"

Wang Zichen was about to say something when Wang Zimeng quickly shook her head. "No, Sister, my face..."

Wang Zimeng's face was still a little red and swollen. If it didn't disappear tomorrow morning, Jiang Chunfen would see it.

Wang Zichen immediately changed the topic. "I have money. Zimeng and I will stay in a hotel."

Jian Ai thought for a moment. Si Yue was at Xiao Zhen's place. She was the only one in the house in North City tonight. She could bring the two of them back to stay. She could just sleep in the same room as Zimeng and let Wang Zichen stay in Si Yue's room. Anyway, it was just this one night.

Unexpectedly, Qiao Yuan beat her to it. "I'll bring them to my place. I'm worried about them staying in a hotel."

Jian Ai nodded. "That's good."

As soon as she finished speaking, Jian Ai looked at the two of them and said, "Stay at Uncle Qiao's for a night. It's more convenient and safer than staying in a hotel."

Wang Zimeng was already much closer to Qiao Yuan, so there was no problem. However, Wang Zichen...

Wang Zimeng looked at Wang Zichen questioningly. "Brother?"

Wang Zichen lowered his head and nodded after a while. He slowly said, "Alright."

Qiao Yuan smiled and looked at Jian Ai. "Xiao Ai, what about you..."

"Don't worry about her. I'll send her back," Ji Haoyu said slowly with a domineering tone.

Jian Ai didn't argue. She looked at Qiao Yuan and nodded. "You guys can go back. It's late."

Seeing this, Qiao Yuan said nothing else. He brought Wang Zimeng and Wang Zichen to his car. Before leaving, Wang Zichen even looked at Jian Ai deeply. This time, his gaze was more emotional than before. However, it was too dark, so Jian Ai didn't see it clearly.

Only after Qiao Yuan's car left did Jian Ai turn to look at Ji Haoyu. An apologetic smile appeared on her beautiful face. She looked at Ji Haoyu and said, "I'm sorry. Every time I ask you for help, it's not a good thing!"

Ji Haoyu looked at Jian Ai. With one hand in his pocket, he waved his other hand and pulled Jian Ai into his arms. He looked down at her and said, "To me, being able to see you once is already a great thing!"

Chapter 1142: I Really Like You!

This sudden intimate action made Jian Ai's body involuntarily stiffen for a moment. In her two lifetimes, she had never been so close to anyone of the opposite sex except her brother.

Fortunately, Ji Haoyu did nothing else. He only hugged Jian Ai's shoulder and tightened his grip, as if afraid that Jian Ai would be cold. Then, he walked out of the police station's yard and said, "It's rare for me to be diligent these days. When I had time, I went to Erzhong to pick Haoxue up from school. In the end, I didn't see you even once. When Haoxue saw me, she said that I had an ulterior motive."

Jian Ai let Ji Haoyu drag her away, but when she heard this, she said helplessly, "You sound as if I'm deliberately hiding from you."

"I especially waited for a while. I often see that girl who's on good terms with you, but I didn't see you," Ji Haoyu said calmly. As soon as he finished speaking, he couldn't help but look down at Jian Ai. "You're not hiding from me?"

Jian Ai chuckled and looked up at Ji Haoyu. "If I had the intention to avoid you, would I have asked you for help today? Moreover, why should I avoid you? Although I owe you a few favors and a few meals, I don't have to hide from you, right? I don't owe you money!"

Ji Haoyu couldn't help but raise his eyebrows slightly when he heard this. He felt that Jian Ai made sense.

Jian Ai continued, "I haven't been to school recently. Besides, if you want to look for me, you can call me directly. Why did you have to do a chance encounter? Are you old-fashioned?"

When Ji Haoyu heard this, he couldn't help but bite his lower lip gently. Then, he said with a smile, "I think with our fate, we should meet under any circumstances. Isn't it much more romantic than calling?"

"Tsk..." Jian Ai couldn't help but sneer. "Romantic my ass. Childish!"

Sometimes, Jian Ai really wanted to pry open Ji Haoyu's head to see what the structure inside was like.

Ji Haoyu did not care about Jian Ai's evaluation because to him, perhaps only when facing Jian Ai would he reveal this unknown side.

After getting into the car, Jian Ai instantly warmed up and heaved a sigh of relief. Ji Haoyu started the car and turned his head. "Are we still going back to North City?"

Jian Ai nodded and said, "Yes, I have to pack my luggage tomorrow. I forgot to tell you I'm leaving Baiyun City for a while to handle something in Italy."

Ji Haoyu could not help but be stunned when he heard that. "Go to Italy? When will you be back?"

Jian Ai pursed her lips and shook her head. "I can't say for sure. Let's see how it goes. Call me if anything happens."

Ji Haoyu did not ask why Jian Ai would go to Italy. However, he did not know Jian Ai's return date, which made him feel a little stifled.

However, he did not show it and only nodded silently.

Jian Ai's body was exhausted. Not long after, she leaned against the comfortable seat and fell asleep. Her smooth face was calm, and her long and curled eyelashes were lively. Ji Haoyu looked at Jian Ai twice as he drove, and the expression in his eyes softened.

Outside the neighborhood, as soon as Ji Haoyu's car stopped, Jian Ai subconsciously woke up. She looked around sleepily and muttered, "We're here?"

"Yes." Ji Haoyu curled his lips slightly and looked at Jian Ai. "Go back and rest well. Do you need me to send you to the airport the day after tomorrow?"

Jian Ai took off her coat and returned it to Ji Haoyu. Hearing this, she quickly rejected, "No need to trouble yourself. I'm not going alone this time. You don't have to worry too much."

As soon as she said this, Jian Ai suddenly felt strange. She asked Ji Haoyu not to worry about her?

Yes... She couldn't say what was strange, but Jian Ai felt it was a little strange.

"Thank you for today. I owe you another favor," Jian Ai said.

Ji Haoyu turned his body and casually placed a hand on the back of the chair. When he heard this, he couldn't help but chuckle. "No hurry. Return it slowly."

Jian Ai raised her eyebrows slightly. The moment she opened the door, she turned around and said to Ji Haoyu, "You should go back and rest early too. Call me if anything happens."

Ji Haoyu nodded and waved his hand. "Got it!"

Jian Ai stood up and got out of the car. She ran towards the neighborhood under the streetlights.

Ji Haoyu watched Jian Ai's back gradually disappear into the night through the car window. He had the feeling that his heart was gradually leaving with her.

Ji Haoyu pursed his thin lips and stared at the darkness for a long time. In the end, he suddenly smiled meaningfully.

Girl, I really like you!

On the other hand, Qiao Yuan drove Wang Zichen and Wang Zimeng back to his home. It was a high-end villa district in Haicheng District.

Along the way, Wang Zichen sat in the backseat and said nothing. Wang Zimeng was still shocked, so she said nothing as well. Qiao Yuan knew he had to give Wang Zichen time to digest this person who had turned up, so he remained silent.

When the car stopped, Qiao Yuan said, "We're at Uncle Qiao's house. Get out!"

The two of them followed Qiao Yuan into the villa. The lights were switched on, and the house was decorated in a gray and white tone. It was a contrast to Qiao Yuan's jumpy personality. On the left side of the door was a three-meter-tall Transformers model.

Wang Zichen, who had a dispirited expression just now, couldn't help but widen his eyes when he saw this model. Surprise filled his eyes, and he couldn't help but shout, "Optimus!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Wang Zichen rushed forward excitedly and looked around the model, as if he couldn't bear to part with it.

Seeing this, Qiao Yuan couldn't help but smile and walk forward. "Zichen, you like Transformers too?"

Wang Zichen nodded agitatedly. Then, he looked at Qiao Yuan and said, "Uncle Qiao, I should be asking you this, right? You have Transformers around you!"

When Qiao Yuan heard Wang Zichen's words, he couldn't help but laugh. "Uncle Qiao also had a childhood. At that time, I was still reading comics."

"Uncle Qiao has a room upstairs. It's filled with anime. If you like these, why don't you stay in that room today?"

When Wang Zichen heard this, his eyes lit up. "Really? Uncle Qiao, you're also an anime fan?"

"Of course." Qiao Yuan smiled and patted Wang Zichen's shoulder. "The innermost room on the right on the second floor. You'll know when you go up and take a look!"

Wang Zichen nodded repeatedly. He changed his shoes and rushed upstairs impatiently. Seeing this, Qiao Yuan couldn't help but smile and heave a sigh of relief.

"Uncle Qiao, my father never let my brother read anime and comic books. He has been reading them secretly." Seeing this, Wang Zimeng said softly, "I didn't expect Uncle Qiao to be an anime fan as well. This will definitely add points to your status in my brother's heart."

When Qiao Yuan heard this, he couldn't help but raise his eyebrows smugly. "That's good. It's an unexpected blessing."

Chapter 1143: Life or Death Unknown, No News At All

At ten in the morning the next day, Jian Ai got up from the bed.

After washing up, she packed her luggage. Because she didn't know how long she would stay in Italy, Jian Ai brought a few more sets of clothes.

After packing, Jian Ai pulled her luggage and went out. If she rushed to her aunt's house at this time, she could have lunch.

Because it was the weekend, Wang Yunzhi was resting at home. When Jian Ai entered the house, the fragrance of food floated out of the kitchen.

Hearing the door open, Wang Yunzhi poked her head out of the kitchen with a handful of leeks in her hand. When she saw Jian Ai, she couldn't help but say in surprise, "Oh, Xiao Ai is back!"

As soon as she finished speaking, she saw Wang Yunmei walk out of the kitchen quickly in an apron. "Why didn't you tell me you were coming back?"

As she spoke, she saw the luggage beside Jian Ai. Wang Yunmei was stunned for a moment before asking, "Where are you going?"

Jian Ai placed her luggage at the door and changed into her slippers. When she heard this, she couldn't help but look at her mother and aunt and smile. "I have a business trip tomorrow. I told my uncle yesterday. Didn't he tell you?"

Wang Yunzhi quickly said, "It was the weekend yesterday. The bar was busy. He only came back in the morning and hasn't woken up yet."

Wang Yunmei asked in surprise, "Business trip? Where are you going?"

"I'm going abroad to Italy," Jian Ai said. "I have to go to settle some company matters personally."

This excuse was the same as what she had told Yao Feng. However, she had no choice but to lie. She could not tell her mother that she was going to look for the leader of the International Mercenary Group. That would scare her mother badly.

When Wang Yunmei heard it was about the company, she didn't think too much about it. She only asked, "Does that mean you have to apply for leave from school?"

Jian Ai nodded. "Yes, I applied for leave from the teacher. Mom, don't worry. I won't fall behind in my studies."

Wang Yunmei naturally believed in her daughter. Moreover, the company's matters were serious business, so she had no reason to object.

After having lunch with her family, Jian Ai brought her luggage to Xiao Zhen in the afternoon.

After a night, Si Yue could already get out of bed and move around.

"Don't be in a hurry to move. Didn't Xiao Zhen say that you have to lie down and recuperate?" Jian Ai said to Si Yue.

Si Yue's face was still a little pale. He had not replenished his qi and blood after these few days of recuperation. It was obvious how much damage Irene's attack had done to him.

Hearing this, Si Yue only looked at Jian Ai with a hesitant expression. His lips moved, but in the end, he said, "I'll go back and lie down."

Jian Ai: "..."

Jian Ai looked at the others inexplicably and blinked.

Chi Lian sat on the sofa and applied nail polish. She immediately said faintly, "Si Yue wanted to go to Italy with you, but Xiao Zhen rejected him."

"He feels that his duty is to protect you, so he feels guilty for not accompanying you this time." Yun Buyao said.

When Jian Ai heard this, she couldn't help but sigh softly. She knew Si Yue's personality. During this period, Si Yue had been eating and living with her, going to school together, and practicing martial arts together. In fact, she was already used to Si Yue being by her side.

If not for his serious injuries, she would have brought him along.

However, she had no choice. His body had to be his first priority.

"Chi Yang has already booked the plane tickets and hotel. The flight is tomorrow afternoon," Yun Buyao said.

Jian Ai nodded and looked at Yun Buyao. "Have you settled the information you should collect?"

Yun Buyao: "Don't worry, Sect Master. Last night, I used Spiritual Art on that person called Gale again and got some useful information."

At the mention of Gale, Jian Ai realized that there were a few people under house arrest in this villa.

Jian Ai had her own plans for keeping these people alive.

Many situations in this trip to Italy were unknown. If they encountered something unexpected, they might use the few ability users in their hands as bargaining chips to negotiate with the other party.

After all, ability users were rare in this world, and the person called Gale had said that there were only six of them in the entire mercenary group, so Jian Ai guessed that these six people must have a very important position in the leader's heart.

At this moment, at the headquarters of the International Mercenary Group in Italy.

Bang! The marble coffee table in the middle of the living room shattered, followed by Hans' angry voice. "What do you mean there's no news? We don't know if the six of them are alive or dead?"

The person in charge of the intelligence team in the mercenary group, Paul, stood at the side with his head lowered. He looked at the marble coffee table that Hans had shattered with a punch and was secretly shocked. However, he said truthfully, "Leader, we can't contact them."

Hans was furious. His beard, which hung to his chest, was trembling. His usually calm personality could not be suppressed.

That was his mercenary group's strongest trump card!

In this dark corner of the world, there were countless killer organizations. Only the existence of a trump card could make it last for a long time and stand tall.

However, all six ability users had disappeared during the mission.

It was unknown if they were dead or alive. There was no news at all!

"With Irene around, nothing will happen to them." Hans did not believe that the six of them would die, or he did not believe that anyone on the other side could deal with six ability users at once. Something unexpected must have happened.

Hans gradually calmed down and said to Paul, "Find out more. No matter what, find out news about them!"

"Yes, Leader." Paul nodded and retreated.

The next afternoon, Chi Yang drove Jian Ai, Yu Wuyuan, and Yun Buyao to the airport.

"Sect Master, Lords, be careful," Chi Yang said. He took out an envelope from his pocket and handed it to Jian Ai. "Sect Master, this is that Lord's contact details."

Jian Ai reached out to take it and carefully put it in her backpack. Then, she said to Chi Yang, "Tell Bai Zhou not to let his guard down even at this time. Be careful of your safety."

“Don’t worry, Sect Master. We’ll protect him well!” Chi Yang nodded.

After separating from Chi Yang, they entered the international departure hall for security checks. During the security check, someone recognized Yun Buyao again.

After a while, the three of them finally boarded a flight to Italy.

“Is it okay in the capital? If you stay by my side...”

On the plane, Jian Ai suddenly looked at Yu Wuyuan and asked.

Jian Ai only found out about Yu Wuyuan’s identity from Bai Zhou later on. At that time, Jian Ai was indeed shocked. The Yu family in the capital was enough to make everyone look up to them. Yu Wuyuan was the eldest son of the Yu family!

Chapter 1144: Arriving in Italy

Because it was a first-class cabin, they arranged all the seats in a row, so there was an aisle between Yu Wuyuan and Jian Ai.

Hearing this, Yu Wuyuan looked at Jian Ai and said calmly, “It’s fine. Sect Master, don’t worry.”

Yu Wuyuan had a calm and stable temperament. With him by her side, everyone would feel inexplicably at ease. Therefore, although this operation was dangerous, Jian Ai did not feel nervous when she thought of Yu Wuyuan accompanying her.

Hearing Yu Wuyuan’s words, Jian Ai pursed her lips and nodded.

The flight attendants recognized Yun Buyao in the front seat again. Yun Buyao forced a smile and took a photo with the flight attendants. Jian Ai was already used to it when she was in the Maldives. This was normal when going out with a big star. Jian Ai couldn’t help but lower the seat and lie down, pretending not to know her.

At half-past six the next morning, after fourteen hours of flight time, the plane landed safely at Leonardo da Vinci–Fiumicino Airport.

Italy is a major European country that had advanced technology and disordered public order. Its GDP is one of the top in the world, but has been criticized by the world because of the history of evil forces.

People, especially Asians with black hair and yellow skin, even needed courage to travel here.

This was the first time Jian Ai had come to the capital of this country, which was once famous all over the world because of the presence of the Mafia. The buildings in Rome city were filled with art, and even the airport buildings were unique.

After getting off the plane, Rome was even colder than Baiyun City in this season. The three of them received their luggage from the VIP passage. There was a pick-up service arranged by the hotel outside the airport.

“Have you been here before?”

After getting into the car, Jian Ai couldn't help but ask Yu Wuyuan and Yun Buyao.

The two of them nodded. Yun Buyao said, "I came to take part in a fashion event this spring."

Jian Ai couldn't help but say, "I heard that the security here isn't good, especially for Asian tourists. We can often see news about violence on television, and it seems that many organizations had their headquarters here?"

Yun Buyao chuckled and explained, "Most of the people targeting tourists are thieves. Occasionally, there will be robberies. However, these things happen in many countries in Europe. As for the organizations you mentioned, they won't threaten the tourists' safety at all. After all, these organizations 'do big things'!"

Yu Wuyuan also said, "It's true that the security in Europe is not too good. Negative news about Italy gets magnified because international terrorist organizations like the Mafia rose to power from here."

Jian Ai nodded in understanding. Just as Yun Buyao had said, thieves and robbers were common in various countries in Europe. There were indeed many terrifying organizations stationed in Italy, but these organizations were not in the mood to do anything terrifying to tourists.

Chi Yang booked the best hotel in Rome. The vintage-looking hotel building was luxurious. The waiter took the initiative to help the guests open the car door and take their luggage.

The hotel lobby was very spacious. It was decorated in a dazzling gold color, and a huge crystal chandelier shone.

The three of them did not stay separately. Chi Yang booked a luxurious suite.

The waiter brought them to the elevator and entered the room to settle their luggage. Yun Buyao skillfully took out a piece of money from her wallet and handed it to the waiter as a tip.

The waiter received it happily and bowed gratefully to them before leaving the room.

The suite was two floors high, like a small villa in a hotel. The guest rooms were on the second floor. Yun Buyao couldn't wait to take off her high heels and called out to the two of them, "I'll remove my makeup first!"

Yu Wuyuan carried their luggage up. Jian Ai said, "Let's go to the restaurant to eat something later."

Because they had slept for a night on the plane, they were not tired. Yu Wuyuan nodded. "Alright."

The restaurant's corridor was on the top floor. Jian Ai and the rest changed into comfortable clothes before leaving the room.

She initially thought that breakfast in Italy would be milk, coffee, toast, bacon, fried eggs, and so on. She did not expect that there would be Chinese breakfast here to serve customers.

There were noodles, dumplings, and so on. The waiter also introduced that the chef of Chinese food was a native of Country Z, so the food he prepared has an authentic taste.

"It seems that we don't have to worry about food during this period," Jian Ai said half-jokingly.

The three of them ordered a lot of things. There was both Chinese and Western food. Jian Ai was indeed a little hungry. She couldn't wait to pick up a crab soup dumpling and stuff it into her mouth. When she took a bite, the hot soup instantly scalded Jian Ai's tongue, but the fragrance of the crab was in her mouth.

Jian Ai couldn't help but narrow her eyes. She nodded and gave him a thumbs up. "Delicious!"

Seeing this, Yu Wuyuan and Yun Buyao also started to eat.

It was already past eight in the morning, and more guests were coming to the restaurant for breakfast. Fortunately, Jian Ai and the rest especially chose a seat near the corner so that no one could hear them.

They ate in silence to suppress their hunger before chatting.

"Where is the other party's headquarters?" Jian Ai took a sip of milk and asked Yun Buyao.

When Yun Buyao heard this, she slowly answered, "It's on a hidden mountain outside the suburbs. There's only one way up, and the security is abnormally tight. Surveillance cameras can be seen everywhere, and there are people patrolling twenty-four hours a day."

For an organization of this nature, the location of the headquarters had something in common. It was either remote or hidden. Most importantly, it was safe.

Yun Buyao's expression was slightly solemn. "It's not easy to enter because the villa the other party's leader lives in is the safest place in the entire headquarters. Moreover, he rarely goes out."

This was all the information Yun Buyao had obtained from Gale through her abilities.

Jian Ai nodded in understanding. She was already mentally prepared for these difficulties. If they could casually enter the enemy's headquarters, this mercenary group would have long been destroyed. There would not be their turn!

Moreover, Jian Ai was not here to destroy their nest. She was here to find the mastermind who wanted to assassinate Bai Zhou.

"Do you have any information on the other party's leader?" Yu Wuyuan asked.

Yun Buyao nodded. "The leader's name is Hans. He's in his fifties this year. He's almost two meters tall and is burly. The most obvious characteristic is that he has a long beard that reaches his chest. It's golden."

"This Hans is not a simple person. I can't see any more useful information about this person from Gale's memories, but according to Gale, Hans did not establish the mercenary group alone. He snatched it from his former leader!"

Chapter 1145: We Have Backup Too

Jian Ai raised her eyebrows in understanding and said with a dark expression, "To be able to make six ability users work for him, this leader Hans must have something outstanding that we don't know about. Perhaps he's also an ability user!"

Yun Buyao was stunned. She did not see any information about Hans being an ability user in Gale's memory.

Yu Wuyuan agreed with Jian Ai and said faintly, "We can't rule out this possibility. You also said that he rarely goes out. Perhaps because he hasn't used his ability in front of others all these years, so you didn't see this information."

Yun Buyao frowned and thought about it. She felt their words made sense. It was better to consider things in the most difficult direction than to underestimate the enemy.

Jian Ai sighed and looked at the two of them. "We have to plan this carefully. We can't be too rash. After all, there are over a thousand people in this mercenary group. If we alert the enemy, we won't be able to escape."

Yu Wuyuan and Yun Buyao looked at each other and nodded at the same time.

At this moment, Jian Ai reached out to take out the envelope Chi Yang had left for her. Her expression softened as she said, "Fortunately, we also have backup."

Seeing this, Yun Buyao couldn't help but say, "In my opinion, we should let Bai Zhou gather the remaining twelve guards and all the ancient sect members."

Jian Ai understood Yun Buyao's feelings. If everyone in the ancient sect gathered, there was probably nothing in the world that she could not do. According to Bai Zhou, although there were less than a hundred people in the ancient sect, everyone had a mental cultivation technique and was very powerful.

"When the time is right, everyone will gather," Jian Ai said with a smile.

Jian Ai knew that as long as she gave the order, these people would come to her side without hesitation. However, she was too weak now. She needed more space and time to grow.

Therefore, she would only allow Bai Zhou to increase the number of people around her when she had no choice.

Moreover, as more people gathered around her, Jian Ai's sense of responsibility as the Sect Master became stronger. As a result, a more ambitious and lingering ideal gradually developed in her heart.

In the future, when she could have the real strength of a sect master, she would want to rebuild the ancient sect in this civilized society in the twenty-first century!

Jian Ai handed the envelope to Yu Wuyuan and chuckled in embarrassment. "You can contact him. I feel uncomfortable."

Every time she thought of meeting a new member of the ancient sect, Jian Ai would have an indescribably strange feeling, let alone contact them over the phone.

Yu Wuyuan reached out to take it and opened the envelope. Seeing this, Yun Buyao leaned over.

"Bai Zhou said that he's in San Marino. San Marino and Italy are neighbors, so it's not too late to contact him when we arrive," Jian Ai said.

Yu Wuyuan nodded and picked up his phone to call.

The call went through, but there was no sound from the other end. It was as if they were waiting for Yu Wuyuan to speak first.

Yu Wuyuan paused for a moment and said calmly, "Hello, I'm one of the twelve guards, Yu Wuyuan!"

"I'm one of the twelve guards, Zhi Tong!" A clear voice came from the other end.

This voice did not sound like an adult's. Just like his name, he sounded like a young child.

Yu Wuyuan was a little surprised and said, "Sect Master has already arrived in Italy. We need your help."

Bai Zhou had already informed Zhi Tong, so he had been waiting for news from Jian Ai. When he heard this, he said, "Send me the hotel address. I'll go and see the Sect Master later."

"Alright!" Yu Wuyuan agreed and hung up.

"Male or female?" Yun Buyao asked anxiously.

Although the name was written on the letter, the words 'Zhi Tong' made it difficult to differentiate between men and women.

Yu Wuyuan typed a message and answered, "A male. His voice is extremely tender, like a child."

"Ah? A child?" Yun Buyao was shocked.

Jian Ai was also stunned. Younger than Si Yue?

"He just sounds young. I'm just guessing. I won't know until I see him." Yu Wuyuan looked up. "He said he would be here later."

Jian Ai didn't ask if the other party was a child. To be ranked among the twelve guards and Bai Zhou sending him, his strength must be extraordinary.

After drinking the milk in her glass, Jian Ai said, "Bai Zhou said that Zhi Tong knows Italy well. With him around, we can save a lot of energy. Therefore, let's rest well today and discuss everything further when Zhi Tong arrives."

"Understood!" Yu Wuyuan and Yun Buyao answered in unison.

...

Qiao Yuan woke up early and went out to buy breakfast. When he returned, Wang Zimeng was coming down from upstairs.

"Morning, Uncle Qiao!"

Qiao Yuan smiled. "You slept so late yesterday. Why didn't you sleep a little longer?"

"I'm used to getting up at this time. I can't lie down." Wang Zimeng touched her face and walked to Qiao Yuan's side. "Uncle Qiao, look at my face. Is it still swollen?"

Qiao Yuan looked at it. It was not red anymore, but it was still a little swollen.

"Eat first. Uncle Qiao will get you an ice pack later," Qiao Yuan said.

Wang Zimeng nodded. "As long as my mother doesn't see it."

As soon as she finished speaking, the door opened from upstairs. Then, he saw Wang Zichen coming downstairs with a head of hair.

"Morning, Uncle Qiao!"

Wang Zichen took the initiative to greet Qiao Yuan. From this, it could be seen that the change in his attitude towards him last night was not a whim.

Qiao Yuan smiled and called out to Wang Zichen, "I bought breakfast. Come and eat."

At the dining table, Qiao Yuan looked at Wang Zichen's dispirited expression and said worriedly, "Zichen didn't sleep well? I see that you have dark circles under your eyes."

Wang Zichen nodded truthfully. "I have insomnia and didn't sleep well."

"Then after breakfast, go up and take a nap. Zimeng's face hasn't completely recovered. If you look dispirited as well, your mother will be suspicious," Qiao Yuan said.

Wang Zimeng couldn't help but say, "Uncle Qiao, will we cause you trouble if we stay here?"

Qiao Yuan couldn't help but smile when he heard that. Then, he casually comforted them. "Why are you standing on ceremony with Uncle Qiao? Besides, it's the weekend today. Uncle Qiao doesn't need to work. You can stay here for a day. I'll send you back tonight."

As soon as he finished speaking, Qiao Yuan couldn't help but look at Wang Zichen and smile. "Zichen, did you see Uncle Qiao's original models?"

When he mentioned the models, Wang Zichen's eyes instantly lit up. He quickly nodded. "I saw them. There's so many, Uncle Qiao. You spent a lot of money, right?"

Qiao Yuan pursed his lips and nodded. "In total, it's almost a million yuan. Just the Transformers at the door is almost one hundred and fifty thousand yuan!"

Chapter 1146: Hand of the Evil Spirit—Zhi Tong!

"Ah?" When Wang Zimeng heard these models cost a million yuan, she immediately widened her eyes in shock. "So expensive? Uncle Qiao, why did you spend so much money to buy this? Isn't it just a pile of models?"

Wang Zimeng rarely watched anime, so she knew very little about these things. However, she had heard that the original versions were expensive, but she didn't expect them to be that expensive.

Uncle Qiao was already thirty-five years old. How much did he buy? He spent a million yuan!

On the other hand, Wang Zichen looked at his sister in disdain when he heard that. He looked like he knew very well. "You don't understand! Do you think they carved authentic models using machines in an assembly line? These are all handmade. The smaller ones cost a few hundred yuan, and the bigger ones

cost a few thousand yuan. Otherwise, why wouldn't Dad be willing to buy them for me? It's because they're too expensive!"

Qiao Yuan nodded with deep emotions. "Zichen is right. Only those who really like models will spend a lot of money to buy the original. Moreover, some of the out-of-print models have to be bought from others, and the price will increase by a few times. Look, I spent a million yuan to buy these models, but if I sell all of them now, I might earn three to five million yuan and that is because many of them are out-of-print!"

When Wang Zimeng heard this, her mouth was half-open in a daze. It was obvious that she had not recovered.

However, Wang Zichen felt a little closer to Qiao Yuan. He couldn't help but look at Qiao Yuan and ask, "Uncle Qiao, are you really my mother's boyfriend? How did you two meet?"

Qiao Yuan was slightly stunned, as if he didn't expect Wang Zichen to ask him this question himself.

He paused for a moment before smiling and answering truthfully, "I'm your mother's superior. We're colleagues."

"Ah? You work in Jian Ai's company too?" Wang Zichen was shocked. "So you two are in an office romance?"

The words 'office romance' made Qiao Yuan chuckle, but he nodded and admitted honestly, "Yes, office romance. I'm the vice president of the company. I was the one who wooed your mother back then."

Wang Zichen couldn't help but nod gently. Qiao Yuan telling him the truth made him feel better.

In Wang Zichen's heart, Qiao Yuan and Xu Qianqian had different starting points. Wang Zichen knew that Xu Qianqian was the third party who interfered in his parents' relationship back then and was the fuse that led to his parents' divorce. Therefore, from the moment Xu Qianqian appeared in front of him, Wang Zichen had been hostile to Xu Qianqian.

Qiao Yuan was different. He was his mother's boyfriend after the divorce. Although in a sense, Wang Zichen could not accept it immediately, at least he did not treat him as an enemy.

Especially after this night, Qiao Yuan's image in Wang Zichen's heart became even higher.

However...

Wang Zichen couldn't help but ask Qiao Yuan the question he minded. "Uncle Qiao, can I ask how old you are this year?"

"Me?" Qiao Yuan raised his eyebrows slightly and smiled at Wang Zichen. "How old do you think I look?"

When Wang Zichen heard this, he couldn't help but purse his lips. "I think at most thirty years old!"

When Qiao Yuan heard this, he couldn't help but chuckle smugly. No matter what, being praised for being young was something to be happy about.

Moreover, Qiao Yuan was indeed talented. Be it his skin or figure, coupled with his natural yuppie aura, he did not look like a middle-aged man.

Seeing Qiao Yuan smile, Wang Zichen thought he had said it wrong. He wondered if he was only in his twenties like Xu Qianqian.

On the other hand, Wang Zimeng couldn't help but say, "Brother, Uncle Qiao is thirty-five years old. He's four years younger than Mom!"

Thirty-five years old!

Wang Zichen widened his eyes in surprise. "Really? Uncle Qiao, you're thirty-five years old?"

Qiao Yuan nodded with a smile. "That's right. I'll be thirty-six next month. I'm a Capricorn!"

Wang Zichen was obviously a little surprised. A thirty-five-year-old middle-aged uncle who liked anime and spent a million yuan to buy the original?

Why did he sound a little... handsome?!

This was how people were. They had a psychological expectation for everything. As long as the answer they received was higher than their expectations, they would be very satisfied.

For example, when he heard that Qiao Yuan was thirty-five years old, Wang Zichen subconsciously felt much better.

At least his mother was not like his father and found a man who was over ten years older than her!

...

Jian Ai and the rest rested in their rooms in the morning. After lunch, they sat on the sofa and drank tea.

If nothing went wrong, Zhi Tong should arrive at the hotel in the afternoon to meet them, so no one went out.

"It's already winter in Italy. I looked at the weather forecast. It might snow in two days." Yun Buyao was wearing a bathrobe. She stood in front of the floor-to-ceiling window in the living room and looked at the scenery outside.

Jian Ai stopped drinking her tea. In her rebirth, she had never seen snow.

At this moment, Yu Wuyuan spun the notebook in his hand and pushed it to Jian Ai. "Sect Master, this is what you asked me to check."

"So soon?" Jian Ai was stunned. She put down the teacup in her hand and placed the notebook on her knee.

Seeing this, Yun Buyao quickly leaned over. "This is the information on the Qiusi royal family?"

Jian Ai nodded. "Bai Zhou never wanted to suspect that his brothers were the murderers behind the scenes, so I couldn't keep interrogating him. However, I privately learned from Chi Yang that before coming to China, Bai Zhou had always lived in Qiusi and had no assassination attempts."

"It's only been half a year since he left Qiusi and came to China, but he has already encountered three assassinations. I don't want to suspect that they're from the Qiusi royal family, but I have no choice. Other than the Qiusi royal family, I can't think of anyone else who is suspicious."

As soon as Jian Ai finished speaking, the doorbell of the guest room suddenly rang.

The three of them looked up at the same time. Yu Wuyuan stood up first. "I'll open the door!"

Jian Ai and Yun Buyao also stood up and followed.

The door opened, and a huge black cloak appeared.

The cloak completely covered the person, but the person was almost as tall as Yu Wuyuan. He was not a child like Yu Wuyuan had guessed.

The other party's face was hidden in the cloak, and one could only vaguely see his outline.

"You are... Zhi Tong?" Yu Wuyuan asked.

Hearing this, the person in the cloak slowly raised his hand and took off the hat on his head. A pale face was revealed in front of them. There was no trace of human blood from his face, and he looked weak.

"I'm ranked tenth among the twelve guards of the ancient sect. I'm the Hand of the Evil Spirit—Zhi Tong. Greetings, Sect Master!"

Chapter 1147: The Power of the Evil Spirit

Unlike the others who knelt on one knee the first time they saw Jian Ai, Zhi Tong only placed his hand on his chest and bowed respectfully.

However, his voice sounded ancient, and hoarse like an old man.

Coupled with his pale face, Zhi Tong gave off the feeling that he was a dying person with a severe illness.

His appearance was nothing special, but because of the dead-like aura around him, no one could ignore him.

Yu Wuyuan stood in front of the door. When he heard this, his eyes couldn't help but flicker. Then, he said in confusion, "Your voice..."

The voice on the phone in the morning was that of a child. His voice was clear and pleasant, filled with childishness, but now...

Zhi Tong looked at Yu Wuyuan and drawled, "My voice changes with the passage of time every day. It's related to my mental cultivation techniques. I'm sorry for scaring you."

When Yu Wuyuan heard this, he quickly said, "No, I'm just a little surprised. Come in!"

Zhi Tong walked into the room. From his actions, he looked normal and unlike an old man.

Yun Buyao took the initiative to greet him. "Hello, Zhi Tong. I'm Yun Buyao!"

"Jade-eyed fox. I've heard a lot about you!" The person nodded slightly, his expression unchanged.

Jian Ai's gaze followed Zhi Tong. It would be a lie to say that she was not shocked because Zhi Tong looked like something had tortured him. If he suddenly appeared with this image in front of people, it would easily scare others. No wonder he wanted to cover himself with a cloak.

Yun Buyao immediately turned around and said to Zhi Tong, "This is the Sect Master!"

The child quickly lowered his face, as if afraid that his appearance would scare Jian Ai. He said respectfully, "Greetings, Sect Master!"

Seeing this, Jian Ai hid the emotions in her eyes and smiled at Zhi Tong. "We've been waiting for you. Sit down and talk!"

They sat on the sofa, and Yun Buyao made another pot of hot tea. Jian Ai looked at Zhi Tong and asked, "I heard from Bai Zhou that you've always lived in San Marino?"

Zhi Tong's hair was dark brown, but his eyes were black. Because his skin was too pale, Jian Ai could not tell if he was white or yellow-skinned, so she was not sure if he was Asian.

When the child heard this, he said truthfully, "I'm from San Marino. I have European blood!"

Jian Ai nodded in understanding, but she was not too shocked.

Although the ancient sect was a sect in China, it had been passed down until now. Although Chinese bloodline still occupied the majority, many people in the sect had foreign bloodlines. Bai Zhou was a typical example. He was from Qiusi and did not have Chinese bloodline.

San Marino was an unknown small country in Europe. Although it was next to Italy, its economic development was far inferior. It was a place with green hills and blue waters. The folk culture was relatively feudal, and it was a little like Denmark.

Yun Buyao sat down beside Zhi Tong and looked at his face. She asked bluntly, "Zhi Tong, why is your face so pale? Also, you just said that your voice will change with time every day. What does that mean?"

Because it was the first time they had met, most of them did not know each other. Moreover, Zhi Tong had such a special system, so inevitably, people would be curious.

Jian Ai and Yu Wuyuan looked at Zhi Tong curiously, waiting for his answer.

Zhi Tong hid nothing. He paused for a moment before slowly saying, "The mental cultivation technique I'm practicing is the darkest among the twelve guards, which is the power of the evil spirit. The more I cultivate this ability, the more Yin energy will corrode my Yang energy. In the end, I will become half-human and half-spirit. Therefore, seeing that I don't look like a normal person, it's also an affirmation of my cultivation results."

"As for my voice, it's also because of my ability. It's as if it has its own life cycle. My voice will become that of a child every morning. At noon, I will become an adult. In the afternoon and evening, I will become an old man. Because of the top-notch mental cultivation technique from the power of the evil spirit called the Vengeful Spirit, which uses sonar as its attack power, my voice became like this after I learned it. It's like a side effect."

When they heard Zhi Tong's explanation, they couldn't help but look at each other in surprise. There was such an evil mental cultivation technique in the ancient sect. Jian Ai instinctively thought of the villains in television dramas who went berserk because they cultivated extremely evil martial arts.

Fortunately, Zhi Tong spoke clearly and his attitude was very gentle. He looked normal.

Seeing their expressions, the corners of Zhi Tong's mouth twitched, revealing a strange and pale smile. "Everyone, don't worry. Although the power of the evil spirit sounds evil, it's actually one of the five great abilities of the ancient sect. This is also what Bai Zhou told me."

Jian Ai called Bai Zhou the Ancient Sect Encyclopedia. This was also one of his abilities as a prophet. Only he knew a lot of knowledge about the ancient sect. Even Jian Ai, the Sect Master, did not know.

The five great abilities of the ancient sect that Zhi Tong mentioned were Chi Lian's holy power, Si Yue's power of darkness, Zhi Tong's power of the evil spirit, and the two powers that had yet to appear – the power of space and time, and the power of revival.

Zhi Tong continued, "Moreover, my body is fine. Although I look sickly, I'm actually very healthy. It's only because of the lack of Yang energy that I look so weak."

"Lack of Yang energy..." Yun Buyao couldn't help but look worried. She looked at Zhi Tong and asked, "If a person doesn't have enough Yang energy, isn't he about to die?"

Zhi Tong shook his head. "The source of life for the power of the evil spirit is Yin energy. The heavier the Yin energy, the stronger the ability, and the longer one lives. Therefore, when the Yin energy is the heaviest at midnight, my strength can double."

Yun Buyao's mouth was slightly agape. This was the first time she had heard of such a thing. Thinking about it, she found it novel and interesting.

Hearing Zhi Tong say that his body did not differ from a normal person, Jian Ai instantly heaved a sigh of relief. From the moment Zhi Tong appeared, Jian Ai had been worried that he would suddenly faint.

"Zhi Tong, how old are you now?" Jian Ai asked.

When Zhi Tong heard this, he said calmly, "Twenty-two years old!"

Jian Ai and the other two were speechless!

Other than Si Yue, he was the youngest.

The sky outside was gradually turning dark. Jian Ai looked at Zhi Tong. She didn't know if it was her imagination, but she felt that as the sky turned dark, Zhi Tong gradually became energetic.

Darkness could bring him richer Yin energy, so Zhi Tong said that he was at his strongest at midnight.

In that case, was he at his weakest every day at noon?

Chapter 1148: Let's Take Action Tonight!

This was just Jian Ai's guess. She naturally wouldn't ask others about their shortcomings.

Jian Ai immediately straightened her expression and said to Zhi Tong, "I believe Bai Zhou has already told you our goal for coming to Italy, right?"

Zhi Tong nodded. "If you want to enter the International Mercenary Group's headquarters, it won't be easy!"

"Do you have a deeper understanding of this organization?" Jian Ai subconsciously asked!

Most of the bases of these international organizations were in Europe. Zhi Tong was European, so there might be information they did not know.

Zhi Tong thought for a moment and said slowly, "As far as I know, these organizations of a certain scale have some rich people supporting them."

"Moreover, these people's identities are not simple. However, because this transaction is too dark, the rich people hiding behind the scenes will hide themselves very well. Even if they send information to the organization's leader, they will mostly pass it through others! They won't show themselves easily!"

"You mean that a rich person sponsored this mercenary group?" Yun Buyao frowned.

Zhi Tong shook his head. "I'm not completely sure, but it's likely that there's a mastermind behind an organization of their scale. The reason these people will spend a lot of money to support the killer organization is not only because they can be used when needed but also because they want to protect themselves. Who knows when they will become the target of assassination? With the support of the mercenary group, the other killer organizations won't dare to attack them!"

Jian Ai and the rest listened attentively. Because they did not think about this before, Yun Buyao did not ask Gale about this.

She did not expect that these crazy people in the dark corners of the world could receive the support of a rich person!

However, this was not what surprised them the most. Zhi Tong said, "I heard from Bai Zhou that he experienced three assassinations during this period? And they were all from the same organization?"

Jian Ai frowned and nodded. "Is there a problem?"

Yu Wuyuan and Yun Buyao also looked at Zhi Tong curiously.

Zhi Tong explained, "This is also very suspicious. Usually, when an assassin organization accepts a mission, if the mission fails once, the employer will not hire them a second time. However, this organization failed repeatedly in their attempts to assassinate Bai Zhou, but the employer did not look for other organizations..."

"You mean that the employer behind this might be the rich man behind the mercenary group?! That's why he didn't look for other organizations!" Jian Ai instantly reacted and said.

Zhi Tong nodded. "Moreover, the mercenary group lost seven people on two missions, but they still didn't hesitate to use their six trump cards. It's obvious that they have to complete the mission! You have to know what sending six ability users at the same time means to the mercenary group. It's obvious that they can't afford to offend the client!"

Hearing Zhi Tong's words, Jian Ai and the rest couldn't help but look at each other. This news was quite important to them!

As long as they found out who was supporting this mercenary group behind the scenes, the mastermind behind the assassination of Bai Zhou would be obvious!

However, even so, the mission was still difficult. This was because Zhi Tong's meaning was very clear. The person behind this hid very deeply. Even if he contacted the leader, he would do so via other people!

Therefore, no matter what, they had to infiltrate the mercenary group's headquarters.

"We still have to think of a way to sneak in. That way, we can contact Leader Hans of the mercenary group," Yun Buyao said.

As soon as she finished speaking, Yun Buyao couldn't help but look at Yu Wuyuan. "Can't you fly in?"

Without waiting for Yu Wuyuan to speak, Zhi Tong said, "No, it's too risky."

"I'll go in!" Zhi Tong looked at everyone and said firmly!

"You have a way?" Jian Ai was shocked.

Zhi Tong paused and nodded gently. "Although it's not a completely safe method, it's at least safer than all of you!"

Without waiting for them to ask, Zhi Tong explained, "The power of the evil spirit can spiritualize the body and reduce one's visibility!"

"Invisibility?" Yun Buyao was shocked. "I remember Xiao Zhen said that there's an ability user from the other party who knows how to be invisible!"

Zhi Tong denied Yun Buyao's words. "I can't turn completely invisible!"

Jian Ai frowned. "No, that's too dangerous!"

If he could not completely hide his body, what was the difference between that and being visible? Wouldn't people be able to tell at a glance?

"Sect Master, don't be anxious. If I'm not confident, I won't take the risk."

Zhi Tong said, "I just said that when the Yin energy is at its heaviest at midnight, my ability is the strongest! At that time, the other party's guard will be relatively relaxed. Although I can't completely etherealize my body, I won't be noticed in the dark!"

"Even if I'm exposed, I can ignore all physical attacks when I'm in my spiritual form. This is my elementalization. They won't catch me so easily!"

Elementalization was a manifestation of fusing one's body with one's abilities! Xiao Zhen's power of smoke could completely vaporize his body. At that time, Gale used a lethal machine gun to fire at his body but did not hurt Xiao Zhen at all.

She did not expect that Zhi Tong's power of the evil spirit could also allow him to elementalize!

Jian Ai and the rest looked at each other and couldn't help but worry.

"Sect Master, believe me!" Zhi Tong suddenly looked at Jian Ai with determination.

Jian Ai's heart stopped for a moment. Then, she looked at Zhi Tong and nodded. "Promise me that if the momentum is wrong, you'll get away immediately!"

Not that Jian Ai was worried for nothing, but everything was unknown.

"I know," Zhi Tong said.

Seeing that the Sect Master had made up her mind, Yun Buyao asked, "When are we taking action?"

Jian Ai initially wanted to plan, but Zhi Tong spoke first. "The dark clouds tonight are rare. To prevent any accidents, I'll sneak in tonight!"

Everyone: "..."

However, since she had chosen to believe in Zhi Tong, Jian Ai had no reason to object to his decision. Since he felt that tonight was the best time, it would be tonight!

"Alright, let's take action tonight!" Jian Ai said.

When Zhi Tong heard this, his eyes were filled with a touched smile, as if he was grateful for Jian Ai's trust in him!

Yu Wuyuan quickly said, "I'll be waiting for you outside. I'm here if you encounter danger. I won't let anything happen to you!"

Yun Buyao also smiled and said, "I'll use The Art of Peering to implant my vision into your brain. I'll also see the situation inside through your eyes from the outside. You don't have to say anything. You can talk to me with your brain!"

Zhi Tong pursed his lips and looked at the two of them. He said with certainty, "I'm very relieved to have companions like you!"

Chapter 1149: Sneak In (1)

Dark clouds covered the moon, and the cold wind shivered.

Because of its geographical location, the temperature difference in Rome was huge.

It was already very cold during the day, but at night, the temperature fell to -20°C. It was not even December yet.

Jian Ai contacted a local car rental company through the hotel and rented a black Jeep with good performance. Because the operation was too last-minute, no one made any preparations.

Without high-tech equipment, she could only rely on Yun Buyao's advanced Spiritual Art through Zhi Tong's eyes to observe the situation and communicate with him.

There were no weapons or emergency facilities, only the powerful Yu Wuyuan. If an irreversible crisis happened, even if Yu Wuyuan flattened the mercenary group's headquarters in a moment of desperation, he had to ensure Zhi Tong's safety.

They had dinner in the hotel and even drank some red wine calmly. Then, they changed into thick clothes and moved in the night.

Jian Ai and the rest were unfamiliar with Rome. Fortunately, Zhi Tong was very familiar with this city. According to the information Yun Buyao had received from Gale, the mercenary group's headquarters was built on a hidden mountain in the distant suburbs of Rome.

The car passed through the bustling streets of Rome at night. More than an hour later, the vision gradually became monotonous, leaving only the dim street lights and the lifeless night.

In the car, Jian Ai contacted Bai Zhou and told him they were going to take action tonight.

On the other end of the phone, Bai Zhou couldn't help but say in shock, "You're taking action tonight? Didn't you... only arrive today?"

"We're already on the way!" Jian Ai didn't have time to explain too much to Bai Zhou. She only informed him of this news, but she didn't forget to comfort him. "Don't worry, we'll be careful."

"Do you have a foolproof plan?" Bai Zhou couldn't help but ask worriedly.

Jian Ai paused for a moment. A foolproof plan? There was no foolproof plan. The only thing they could do was to be careful and retreat unscathed under the premise that they did not cause a huge commotion.

This was also the reason Jian Ai did not agree to Yu Wuyuan attacking directly. With Yu Wuyuan's ability, no matter how tough the other party's defense was, they could not stop him.

However, if Yu Wuyuan made a move, it would be an earth-shattering accident. At that time, the Italian government would probably pursue them. At that time, leaving Italy would be a problem.

"Zhi Tong will sneak in using the power of the evil spirit and explore the situation to see if we can find any useful clues," Jian Ai said.

They did not have a detailed and comprehensive plan because they did not know what was going on in the headquarters, so they could not plan at all.

To put it bluntly, they would take things one step at a time and try their best to gather useful information. If they could find the rich man who supported the mercenary group, all the problems would be resolved.

"Sect Master, we're almost there!" At this moment, Zhi Tong driving the car suddenly said.

They also realized that Zhi Tong's voice had become even older and hoarser. His voice was almost as weak as a spiritual body, and he was talking with his aura.

Jian Ai looked out through the glass window in the night. On both sides of the road were dark and oppressive mountains. Under the night sky, she could see nothing. At a vantage point about a kilometer away, she could clearly see the light from the flashlights.

Nearly ten lights crisscrossed in the night. Every move in the night could not escape the lights.

Without thinking, that must be the headquarters of the International Mercenary Group.

"Let's not talk anymore. We're almost there. Wait for my news!" Jian Ai said calmly.

Bai Zhou was nervous, but he could only say, "Be careful!"

After hanging up, Chi Lian and the rest sat around. Seeing Bai Zhou's solemn expression, Chi Lian couldn't help but ask, "What did the Sect Master say? Did they see Zhi Tong?"

Bai Zhou nodded. "Yes, and they've already taken action. They're already at the other party's headquarters!"

"Taking action tonight?" Chi Yang had the same reaction as Bai Zhou just now. He said in surprise, "So soon?"

Bai Zhou had a solemn expression on his face as he said in a low tone, "The Sect Master asked us to wait for news. We can only wait now."

The others couldn't help but look at each other with worry in their eyes.

Zhi Tong drove the car and suddenly turned right about three hundred meters from the road leading up the mountain. The black off-road vehicle plunged into the dark forest on the right side of the road.

Zhi Tong's voice followed. "We can't be too close. There's only one way up to the other party's headquarters. There might be people guarding the intersection at night. If they see us, it will arouse suspicion."

As soon as he finished speaking, the car had already stopped. At this moment, the car was hidden in the forest. It was dark all around, and they could see nothing.

Jian Ai looked at her watch. "It's only ten."

Yun Buyao looked at Zhi Tong and asked, "Shall we wait a while longer?"

Because Zhi Tong's power of the evil spirit was the strongest at midnight, it was still early now.

Zhi Tong nodded. "We'll move out at eleven."

At this moment, Jian Ai took out two thumb-sized glass bottles from her backpack and handed them to Zhi Tong. "Zhi Tong, this is the medicine Xiao Zhen developed. It can make people unconscious. If you encounter an emergency, it can help you escape."

Zhi Tong reached out to take it and casually put them in his pocket.

An hour later, the hour hand pointed to eleven in the evening. Zhi Tong put his black hairpiece on his head and said to them, "It's almost time!"

Yun Buyao nodded. "Look into my eyes."

When Zhi Tong heard this, he did as Yun Buyao said and looked into Yun Buyao's eyes.

A moment later, Yun Buyao's eyes gradually turned brown before turning dark brown. Looking at Zhi Tong again, he did not gradually become dull like the people Yun Buyao's Spiritual Art controlled in the past.

After a while, Yun Buyao's eyes gradually returned to normal, but Zhi Tong felt nothing strange. He could not help but blink. "It's over?"

Yun Buyao smiled. "That's enough. I can see what you see through your eyes now. If you have anything to tell us, you just have to think in your mind and I'll hear you!"

The power of the Spiritual Art was not as simple as hypnosis, especially for a powerful Spiritual Art Master like Yun Buyao. She could do much more than everyone imagined!

Zhi Tong nodded. "I understand. I'll go now!"

"Be careful!" Jian Ai and the rest said.

Without saying anything, Zhi Tong opened the car door and got out. A bone-chilling wind suddenly entered. After closing the car door, he walked into the darkness without looking back. Three seconds later, he completely disappeared into the night.

Chapter 1150: Sneak In (2)

Seeing this, Yun Buyao slowly closed her eyes. She needed to pay attention to Zhi Tong's movements at all times and know if he was safe.

The temperature in the wild was even colder, but Zhi Tong didn't seem to feel it. Other than thin clothes, he only had an even thinner cloak. In the dark night, his pale face was exceptionally clear. Coupled with his black clothes that blended into the night, one would think that someone's head was floating. It was terrifying and strange.

However, at this moment, an abnormality gradually appeared in Zhi Tong. His body became lighter, and his visibility gradually decreased. The power of the evil spirit was activated, and he slowly etherealized his body.

When he rushed out of the forest and returned to the road, Zhi Tong's feet were already gone. Only his loose black robe floated in the air, revealing a translucent state. At this moment, because of the street lamp's light, a trace of a shadow could be vaguely seen. Under such low visibility, Zhi Tong's spiritual state would almost not be discovered.

Although he could not be completely transparent, the visibility was almost the same as a transparent person.

The surroundings were silent. There was only the sound of the wind whistling past from time to time, and there were no passing cars. Zhi Tong didn't want to waste time. He floated across the road and quickly entered the forest opposite.

The location of the mercenary group's headquarters had a geographical advantage. Be it going up or coming down, there was only one road. Zhi Tong was sure that the other party would guard this road at night, so he used his advantage of spiritualizing to take a detour through the forest to see if he could avoid the guards at the entrance of the mountain.

In the forest, a spirit quickly drifted through the woods. If anyone saw this strange scene with their own eyes, they would think that they had seen a ghost.

About fifteen minutes later, by the road leading up to the mountain where the mercenary group's headquarters was, there was a thick hundred-year-old tree. Zhi Tong's head slowly poked out from behind the tree trunk. In his spiritual state, his eyes were almost transparent. He looked around with his dark eyes. After confirming that there was no one around, he floated out from behind the tree and continued to float up the road.

"Ahchoo!"

At this moment, a loud sneeze suddenly sounded in the night. Zhi Tong's floating body stopped, and he looked forward. He saw a faint light shining at the corner of the mountain road in front of him.

Then, someone spoke.

"This damn weather. I wonder where the strong wind comes from!" One of them complained in Italian. People in Zhi Tong's hometown also spoke Italian, so he could understand it.

Another guard's voice sounded. "It's cold early this year. It's going to snow in a few days."

"It's tough for us to patrol at night." The first voice sounded again. It was still complaining. "We were bitten by mosquitoes in summer and blown by the icy wind in winter. Before they could promote me to a mercenary, I feel like I'm about to be tortured to death!"

"Endure it a little longer. We'll handover soon at midnight. No matter how tough it is for us, it won't be as tough as the guards here for the rest of the night, right?" The second person sounded much more optimistic.

The two of them were holding guns and wearing camouflage uniforms with steel helmets. There was a searchlight hanging on their chests. They chatted as they walked down the road.

The two of them were guards in charge of patrolling the headquarters at night. However, their working attitude did not seem to be strict. Perhaps this was related to the fact that no incident had happened in the headquarters for a long time, making them slack off.

Zhi Tong didn't dodge and just floated by the road. Because it was too dark and his body was spiritualized, the two of them didn't notice him when they passed by.

After the two of them walked away, Zhi Tong expressionlessly retracted his gaze and continued to float upwards.

Yun Buyao, who was in the car, slowly exhaled. Just now, she was so nervous that her heart was in her throat. Through Zhi Tong's eyes, she could see two guards walking past him. She thought Zhi Tong would be discovered.

Fortunately, nothing happened. The other party did not notice a ghost floating beside them.

The road up the mountain was very long. Although it had been renovated to be spacious and flat, it was a winding mountain road. Under the state of spiritualization, Zhi Tong could not completely ignore obstacles, so he could only float up the road like ordinary people.

On the way, he also met other patrolling teams, searchlights projected from the surrounding lighthouses, and cameras installed on the branches by the road. For safety reasons, Zhi Tong still carefully avoided them, so it more or less delayed him.

When Zhi Tong arrived at the entrance of the mercenary headquarters, it was almost midnight.

The door was made of fully automatic bulletproof steel. Two observation towers were on opposite sides of the door. There were guards on duty twenty-four hours a day. There were also guards outside the door. It could be said to be quite strict.

With such a level of security, even a fly would find it difficult to fly in.

Zhi Tong floated in the darkness not far away. He was not anxious and was waiting for an opportunity to enter safely.

Not long after, a patrol team of over ten people returned. The thick automatic steel door slowly opened with a bang. Seeing this, Zhi Tong quickly floated forward and hung his light body on the last burly man.

When it was almost midnight, Zhi Tong's ability became stronger. In his spiritual state, he was almost like nothingness, and his visibility had almost reached its lowest.

The guard felt an icy wind blow behind him, and goosebumps covered his entire body. He turned around in surprise. Zhi Tong buried his head in his other shoulder, cleverly avoiding his gaze.

Otherwise, at such a close distance, Zhi Tong could not guarantee that the other party would not see him.

The guard saw nothing and could only look away and follow his companion.

Bang! The door closed, and Zhi Tong sneaked into the headquarters. He quietly got off the guard and floated into the darkness, quickly disappearing.

"He went in!"

Yun Buyao's expression relaxed as she closed her eyes.

Jian Ai and Yu Wuyuan looked at each other and relaxed.

"Find Leader Hans first!" Jian Ai said.

Yun Buyao nodded and communicated with Zhi Tong in the mercenary headquarters in her mind.

Zhi Tong was hiding behind a flower bed in the corner when Yun Buyao's voice suddenly sounded in his mind. "Zhi Tong, find the leader first."

Caught off guard, Zhi Tong was shocked by Yun Buyao's sudden voice and almost broke his spiritual form!