

# NH

Jiang Ning had already received a message from Fang Xia.

Fang Xia said that he had convinced Fang Wei to use that one page of the manual in exchange for Fang Ran, and said that the one page from Jiang Ning was enough.

That was Fang Xia's promise to Jiang Ning.

Jiang Ning wasn't too bothered by the note even though Fang Xia wanted to meet him on Mount Zhongnan and not in Donghai.

"This Fang Xia is definitely up to no good!" said Brother Gou. "I don't trust him."

When he escorted Fang Xia back, Fang Xia was deep in thought the entire way. There was no way Brother Gou would believe that this guy had no tricks up his sleeve.

"His face tells me he's a bad guy."

Jiang Ning laughed. When did Brother Gou learn face-reading?

Did the legend of Shengcheng teach him that?

"Don't worry, if he dares to harbor any filthy thoughts, I'll wash his insides out!"

Jiang Ning turned to look at Fang Qiu. "Do you want to go?"

Fang Qiu looked up.

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Did Jiang Ning want him to go and kill Fang Xia?

“You have to go,” Jiang Ning replied for him without waiting for Fang Qiu’s response. “Prepare yourselves, we’re going to go there now and get her back at noon!”

“Yes, Big Boss!” Brother Gou and the rest replied in unison.

Fang Qiu didn’t say anything. He wanted to ask why he had to go, because it just didn’t seem right of him to go.

But he didn’t say anything in the end.

Jiang Ning was now his Master, so whatever Jiang Ning said was final and he shouldn’t question him.

They took a plane to Xishan and took a car towards Mount Zhongnan.

This area was deserted and had hardly any trace of human activity.

The car was parked further out while Jiang Ning took Fei and the rest into Mount Zhongnan.

Fang Xia had told Jiang Ning inside Mount Zhongnan.

From afar, he could see Fang Xia, and Fang Ran was right next to him.

“Jiang Ning!” Fang Xia saw that Jiang Ning had arrived and shouted loudly. “You’re here!”

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Jiang Ning didn't say anything and just walked over. He looked at Fang Ran and saw that she was getting more and more excited and her gaze had landed on Fang Qiu.

She probably knew already.

"I'm here," said Jiang Ning calmly. "Alright now, let her go."

He glanced at Fang Xia while his ears twitched slightly. He knew there were many people hiding in the mountain.

"It's time you held up your end of the agreement."

"Agreement?" Fang Xia scoffed and suddenly said, "When did I agree on anything with you?"

He suddenly reached a hand out and grabbed Fang Ran's throat.

"Ahh!!" Fang Ran instantly screamed and went into a panic. She tried to hit Fang Xia's hand away but Fang Xia's expression became threatening.

"What are you doing?!" Fang Qiu immediately shouted out. "Fang Xia, how could you treat Aunt Ran like that?!"

His expression was furious as he shouted at Fang Xia.

"Aunt?" Fang Xia laughed coldly. "I have no aunt in the Fang family. She should have died twenty years ago!"

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He glared at Jiang Ning. “Don’t think I don’t know how important Fang Ran is to you. Jiang Ning, I’ll give you one chance. Hand over all the pages of the manual and I can give you this woman.”

He slowly exerted more strength in his fingers and Fang Ran’s face started to redden but she couldn’t break free at all.

Her eyes looked at Fang Qiu and heard him show concern for her and speak up for her. She couldn’t stop crying at all.

“My child...”

That feeling of being related by blood suddenly became very strong to her!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

Four people suddenly appeared from the surrounding forest and they gave off a powerful aura as they looked murderously at Jiang Ning.

“If you don’t hand over the manual today, you won’t be able to take her away, and even your life...”

“Fang Xia!” Fang Qiu suddenly roared loudly and his eyes were wide with anger. “Are you some bloody animal?!”

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Fang Qiu was furious. He took a step forward and murder emanated from his body.

He couldn't stand it anymore.

Did Fang Xia know what he was saying?

He wanted to kill Fang Ran?

She was their aunt!

"Fang Qiu, don't try to talk big here." Fang Xia glanced at Fang Qiu with a face filled with contempt. "You're just here to make up the numbers. Don't you know how little you're capable of? Besides, the Fang family doesn't welcome you anymore, so don't talk to me like you're a member of the family!"

He stared at Fang Qiu and didn't bother to speak nicely.

"Once I become the head of the family, you're the first one I'm throwing out!"

Fang Qiu was trembling all over.

He pointed a finger at Fang Xia and said angrily, "You even dare to kill your own aunt? You think you're fit to be the head of the Fang family? You are worse than that...that..."

He wanted to say Fang Wei, but he just couldn't get it out of his mouth.

"You want to say 'Father'?" Fang Xia laughed loudly. "A man should be vicious and not timid!"

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Fang Qiu, you don't understand any of this, and that's why you're destined to be a loser!"

"If you don't hand over the pages, nobody is going anywhere!"

Fang Xia gave the order and the four highly skilled fighters blocked Jiang Ning and the others' way, so they couldn't escape.

It didn't take a genius to figure out that Fang Xia must have more men hiding in the entire area so that Jiang Ning and his men would never make it out alive.

Even if Jiang Ning handed over the pages, they weren't going to let Jiang Ning and his men leave this place!

They were going to make Jiang Ning pay a thousand times over for the humiliation they suffered in Donghai!

"I can give you a page of the manual," Jiang Ning said as he pulled out one page and waved it about. "I'll hand it to you while you hand me Fang Ran."

"Jiang Ning, you're not qualified to negotiate with me," said Fang Xia calmly. "Don't you think these words sound familiar?"

"You told me these words before, and now I'm giving them back to you."

"Give me the manual!"

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He suddenly exerted more strength in his fingers and Fang Ran immediately screamed. If he exerted any more strength, she would be strangled on the spot!

A vicious glint appeared on Fang Xia's face, and he looked extremely cruel and heartless.

He knew that Fang Ran was very important to Jiang Ning, so as long as he had control over Fang Ran's life, Jiang Ning would give in.

"Fang Xia, she's your aunt!" Fang Qiu shouted angrily. "If you want to kill someone, come at me! I'll take her place!"

"Hahaha!" Fang Xia shook his head. "Fang Qiu, you overestimate yourself. You're not worth this much. Enough of this nonsense! Give me the manual! Otherwise I'll kill her right now!"

"Let go of her." Jiang Ning saw that Fang Qiu wanted to shout some more, so he took a step forward with no expression on his face. "If you don't let her go, I won't give you the manual. If you want to kill her, go ahead. But if you kill her, I'll destroy the manual immediately."

"She's very important to me, but I'm afraid she's not as important as how the manual is important to you."

Jiang Ning's calm and steady expression made Fang Xia feel rather uncomfortable.

He liked being in control and didn't like anybody or anything to be out of his control.

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But Jiang Ning didn't seem to be within his control even though Fang Ran was in his hands.

He could kill Fang Ran, but he was more afraid that Jiang Ning would destroy the manual.

Fang Ran wasn't worth anything compared to the manual.

Fang Xia turned to glance at the four highly skilled fighters. These men were four of the best bodyguards of the clan. They had worked together for many years and were very powerful when they combined forces.

Since they looked confident, Fang Xia started laughing as well.


"I can give her to you, but you have to be a man of your word and give me the manual."

He was someone who didn't keep his word but here he was demanding that others kept their word.

It sounded so ironic.

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Jiang Ning didn't care.

They looked at one another. Jiang Ning started walking over and Fang Xia immediately told him to stop. He had seen what Jiang Ning was capable of, so letting Jiang Ning come close to him was definitely a dangerous thing to do.

"You don't have to come here. Put the page down and move five steps back!" shouted Fang Xia.

Jiang Ning put the page down and moved five steps back.

Fang Xia then moved forward while still holding onto Fang Ran's neck. He looked down carefully at the page and confirmed that it was no different from the last page Jiang Ning gave him. Once he was sure it was a genuine page, he started laughing maniacally.

Two pages of the manual!

He wanted the manual and it came to him so easily.

"Let go of her," said Jiang Ning. "You must know that at this distance, if you kill her, I can still kill you. In fact, I might be even faster than you."

His voice was very light, but they felt like a huge hammer had come crashing down on Fang Xia's heart.

Fang Xia knew how terrifying Jiang Ning could be. He wasn't going to put his life on the line like that.

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“Cough cough!” He immediately let go, pushed Fang Ran towards Jiang Ning, then quickly bent down to pick up the page on the ground.

In that split second!

Jiang Ning made his move!

Fei made his move!

Brother Gou and the wolves attacked!

Even Fang Qiu instantly charged out.

“Kill them all!”

He didn't have to bother with them. Once he got the manual, he was going to run back home and leave the killing of Jiang Ning and the rest to the bodyguards.

SWOOSH!

Just when Fang Xia's hand was about to touch the page, a throwing knife came from nowhere.

There was a yelp as it stabbed into Fang Xia's hand.

“Who is that?!” Fang Xia shrieked as he took two steps back and looked around warily.

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

Another two throwing knives came towards him.

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The knives went right through his legs and pinned him down!

“AHHH!!” Fang Xia shrieked and wanted to pull himself out. But those two knives had gone right through his legs and it was too painful. He didn’t dare to pull the knives out himself.

“Who is it?! Who’s there?!”

Nobody answered him.

“Kill them! Kill them all!” he yelled. The four bodyguards couldn’t attend to him and charged at Jiang Ning.

Fang Wei had instructed them to take this chance to kill Jiang Ning no matter what it took.

A battle immediately ensued!

Fang Xia gave a mighty shout and more men came rushing out from the surrounding forest. Fei and the wolves started to look even more excited now.

A fight!

They were all longing for a fight!

“Aunt Ran!”

Fang Qiu pulled Fang Ran to his side and was relieved.

He never thought Fang Xia would be this heartless.

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Fang Ran looked at Fang Qiu and couldn't hold her tears back.

Her vision was blurry with tears as she reached a hand out to touch Fang Qiu's face. "My child...my child..."

She suddenly realized that Fang Qiu's eyes did look a lot like He Daoren's.

She had never seen Fang Qiu before and only knew of his existence. She never thought that this boy would be her child!

"Aunt Ran, don't worry, I won't let anyone hurt you."

Fang Qiu didn't understand why she called him her child.

He was her nephew, and it didn't seem wrong for her to call him that.

BAM!

BAM!

BAM!

Jiang Ning swung his fists wildly and his unstoppable punches were earth shattering!

"Do all the bodyguards of the Fang family want to fight to the bitter end?" He gave a punch and sent one of them flying. He looked at the people in front of him and said calmly, "Since all of you want to die, then I'll clear a path for my disciple!"

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KABOOM!

Jiang Ning made a move!

He moved so fast that he became a blur.

He was too fast.

He reached the man!

His fist reached the man too!

BOOM!

A fist smashed the bodyguard as if it was a hurricane and his fist was the gathering of its full force.

“AHHH!” The bodyguard who took the brunt of that force tried to use his own fists to block the attack. He kept moving backwards in hope to reduce the impact of Jiang Ning’s punch.

He could feel that Jiang Ning’s fist had landed very lightly on his arms.

Then suddenly...

It felt as though an entire mountain had landed on him!

That power that could destroy everything in the way made it even difficult for him to breathe.

The ferocious wave of energy that came with the fist went into his body through his arms and reached his internal organs!

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“UNGH!!”

He widened his eyes suddenly, took three steps backwards and his arms trembled, then slowly fell to the side...

Blood kept dribbling out from his mouth!

Before he could howl one more time, the light in his eyes slowly darkened.

THUD!

His corpse collapsed to the ground heavily.

He was dead.

The remaining three bodyguards started to look even paler now.

What tactic was this?

How could the force from a punch hit the body, go right through the skin, flesh and bones to destroy the internal organs so severely?

Wasn't that exactly how Heishan died?

That was an inner energy release!

Jiang Ning actually knew how to release inner energy and it was such a powerful surge of energy too!

That was simply too terrifying!

Jiang Ning didn't even take a second look at the

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body. He shifted his feet and his body moved along. He moved as quickly as lightning and seemed to be able to teleport himself.

His fists were able to defeat any enemies in this world!

BOOM!

BOOM!

BOOM!

They were like a heavy thunderstorm!

They were like surging ocean waves!

Jiang Ning went all out and those three bodyguards didn't stand a chance to even fight back.

In the blink of an eye, all four bodyguards were dead!

They all collapsed on the ground with their eyes wide and angry. None of them had died in peace.

Fang Xia was scared out of his wits.

“AHHH! AHHHH!!” He continued to yell and wanted to get away, but his legs were stuck to the ground and he couldn't move at all.

He saw Jiang Ning walk towards him and went into a greater panic. He kept looking around and shouting, “Men! MEN! MEN! Somebody, stop him! Stop him!!”

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But who had the time to bother about Fang Xia?

Fei and the wolves were like harvesting lives in a battlefield now.

They were like a group of grim reapers.

They didn't bother being merciful to their opponents.

Since Jiang Ning said they were supposed to exterminate the Fang family, they wouldn't let off anyone from that family.

Those throwing knives that kept appearing from nowhere from time to time caught them off guard as well.

"AHH!"

"PFFT!"

"Help! Spare me!"

The sounds of howls and shrieks filled the air.

Nobody had the time nor energy to care about Fang Xia.

Jiang Ning walked to where Fang Xia was, then bent down and retrieved the page of the manual.

He carefully dusted it off, then put it back into his own pocket.

"I gave you a chance but you didn't cherish it," said Jiang Ning calmly.



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“What...what do you want to do?” Fang Xia gulped.

He never thought that Jiang Ning would be this powerful. He had already told himself not to underestimate Jiang Ning and he had made sufficient preparations this time.

Besides those four bodyguards, he had also planted more than 30 highly skilled fighters in the forest!

This was Mount Zhongnan, the territory of the Fang family.

But Jiang Ning...

“If you dare to kill me, the Fang family will never let you off!”

PAK!

Jiang Ning lifted his hand and slapped Fang Xia across the face. Fang Xia’s lips immediately started bleeding.

“You should have died a long time ago. I kept you alive because you were still useful, but you went back on your word and you should know the consequences of doing that.”

“Jiang Ning!” Fang Xia shouted loudly and tried to explain himself. “I had to sacrifice myself to look the part! Otherwise, how else would I be able to save my aunt? Can’t you tell?”

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“Sure, I can tell.” Jiang Ning reached a hand out to pat Fang Xia on the face.

“But I feel that since we’ve gotten so far, we can go all the way.”

He didn’t look at Fang Xia anymore and walked away.

“Jiang Ning! Jiang Ning! Spare me...AHH!” Fang Xia shouted after Jiang Ning but before he could finish his sentence, a throwing knife came flying his way and stabbed itself right between his eyebrows.

Fang Xia collapsed backwards with a loud thud. His eyes were still wide open. Until the moment he died, he still had no idea where on earth these throwing knives were coming from...

In a few moments.

Everyone that Fang Xia brought along was dead.

Jiang Ning wasn’t going to be kind to them.

They were all accomplices in forcing He Daoren to his death!

Fang Xia was dead, the four bodyguards had been killed off by Jiang Ning, and the thirty odd fighters in the forest had also died at the hands of Fei and the wolves...

Fang Qiu started to tremble slightly.

He looked at Jiang Ning and hesitated before

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saying, “Do we...do we really have to go so far?”

He didn't have much feelings for Fang Xia, since Fang Xia only cared to bully him since they were children. He never behaved like an older brother, and never helped nor took care of him.

He didn't even have any respect for Fang Qiu.

“Yes, we do!”

This time, the answer didn't come from Jiang Ning. It came from Fang Ran.

Her voice trembled a little. “They deserved to die! They deserved to die!”

Fang Ran turned to look at Fang Qiu and her voice trembled even harder. She looked at Fang Qiu and saw the resemblance to He Daoren in his face and couldn't hold herself back anymore.

She grabbed Fang Qiu's hand and said, “My child, you are not a member of the Fang family, do you understand?”

“The Fang family is your enemy! They're the ones who killed your biological father!” cried Fang Ran loudly.

KABOOM...

Fang Qiu felt like his head just exploded.

What was Fang Ran talking about?

He wasn't a member of the Fang family?

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The Fang family had certainly never treated him like one of theirs, and all these years, Fang Qiu had wondered if he was really a member of the Fang family or not.

And now, the Fang family was the one who killed his real father?

His lips trembled as he looked at Jiang Ning and remember what Jiang Ning said about how he had to take revenge and eventually exterminate the Fang family.

“She’s your mother,” said Jiang Ning. “While your father is my Master, He Daoren. He had been pushed to his death some days ago by someone in the Fang family.”

He said all this very calmly, but Fang Qiu’s heart was already in turmoil.

What...what was going on?

“This is not a good place to talk. Let’s go back first.”

Jiang Ning looked at the forest and was sure that the Fang family still had others deeper in who would come out in no time.

He didn’t really care how many came for him, since they all deserved to die and he would just kill them all.

But he was going to leave the Fang family to Fang Qiu to settle.

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“Let’s go!” Jiang Ning brought all of them out from Mount Zhongnan and back to Donghai.

Not long after they left, several men came over only to find dead bodies strewn all over the place.

Fang Xia’s legs were pinned to the ground by two knives, and one more stuck out from his head.

He didn’t get any more pages of the manual and ended up losing his life over it.

“Fang Xia, didn’t you say you were very capable? Weren’t you very confident of getting more pages? And what happened in the end?”

Fang Dong looked at Fang Xia’s body and didn’t feel sad at all. Instead, he was feeling great and he couldn’t wait to get home and celebrate with good food and wine.

Fang Xia was dead, Fang Qiu had been abandoned. It looked like there was no other choice but for himself to take over the Fang family in the future.

The family had just fallen into his lap like that.



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## NH

“Congratulations, Fourth Young Master!” Nanshan was beside Fang Dong and he clasped his hands with a smile. “The Fang family will be yours in the future.”

Fang Xia had asked for this.

He was still so lofty and boastful a few days ago, and now he was dead. Fang Dong hadn't even done anything and he had benefitted the most from this entire situation.

“HAHAHA!” Fang Dong laughed loudly.

He walked over to Fang Xia's body and shook his head as he looked at Fang Xia. “You were too confident of yourself. Jiang Ning dared to come to Mount Zhongnan all by himself and you thought that four bodyguards could kill him?”

“Nah, this isn't self-confidence, it's just pride. You thought you were really amazing, but it's too bad.”

He narrowed his eyes and turned to look at Nanshan. “Have you confirmed that Jiang Ning has other pages of the manual?”

“I've confirmed it,” replied Nanshan. “But it's not going to be easy to take them. This Jiang Ning is very powerful.”

When he tried to assassinate Fang Xia the last time, if he hadn't run fast enough and Jiang Ning wasn't interested in killing him, he would have died there and then. He wouldn't be standing here right now.

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“It’s really rare to find a fighter of this level in the martial arts circles,” said Nanshan. “Fourth Young Master, if you want the pages in Jiang Ning’s hands, you have to use your intelligence and you must not try to fight him!”

Seven of the best bodyguards had already died at Jiang Ning’s hands. Even if the remaining five fight him together, it wouldn’t make a difference.

Fang Dong frowned slightly and didn’t say anything.

Jiang Ning was just a small fry in the martial arts circle but he turned out to be so difficult to deal with.

But he had pages of the manual. That was the most important thing.

“Then tell me, how should we go about getting the pages intelligently?”

Fang Dong looked at Nanshan. This man was his trusted right hand man.

Nanshan hummed for a while.

“Fourth Young Master, I’ve discovered that Elder Hongshan’s men have left the Fang house recently.”

“Oh?”

“I’ve left someone to watch the movements of the elders in the house, so I’m always keeping watch on them. Elder Hongshan’s trusted subordinate

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has been going places these few days,” said Nanshan with a sly smile. “You aren’t the only person in the family eyeing the position of becoming the head of the family. There are people who know they don’t have a chance but want to try anyway.”

Fang Dong’s expression darkened.

Anyone who tried to snatch this position from him would end up just like Fang Xia!

“What’s he trying to do?”

“He’s sent out information about the manual. He’s trying to stir trouble among the reclusive clans and use the chaotic situation to his advantage,” replied Nanshan. “This is a pretty good plan. I’m afraid a few reclusive clans have already started making their move.”

Jiang Ning was very powerful, but Donghai was even more terrifying!

Unless you were able to kill Jiang Ning with one blow, trying to get the pages by force was pretty pointless.

If you weren’t careful, you might even lose your life along the way.

So one had to do this in a more intelligent way.

“I suppose you already have a plan. Nanshan, I did not misjudge you after all.” Fang Dong nodded.

“Fourth Young Master, you are too kind,” said



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Nanshan. "I'm just trying to share the burden with you."

"The most important thing to do now is to watch and wait first."

Fang Dong nodded in agreement.

That was indeed the case.

The most important thing now wasn't to run to be the first in line to attack. He had to accumulate his strength and be prepared to dash out once it was time to harvest the fruit of victory!

Since Fang Hongshan had leaked information about the manual to others, then it mean that other people would make trouble for Jiang Ning sooner or later.

Once both sides were severely injured, Fang Dong could make his move.

Clever people should do clever things.

"Get someone to clear this place, make it look good."

Fang Dong glanced at Fang Xia's dead body and scoffed. There was no sadness nor pain in his eyes at all, as if the man lying on the ground had nothing to do with him.

"Don't worry, Fourth Young Master, I will make the necessary arrangements."

Fang Dong went back and Nanshan waved for his

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men to come out.



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PFFT!

PFFT!

He delivered several punches on these men, then slapped his own shoulder so hard that he vomited blood on the spot.

“We weren’t in time to help you, Second Young Master, we’re sorry.”

Nanshan walked over to Fang Xia’s body and scoffed. Then he waved his hand and they carried Fang Xia’s body back.

In the Fang house.

Fang Wei looked at the corpse on the ground and didn’t say anything.

Nanshan and the rest were kneeling by the side. Their wounds were still bleeding!

“We were on our usual patrol duty when we heard some shouts, so we quickly ran over to help, but we were still too late and we didn’t manage to save Second Young Master in time,” said Nanshan as he hung his head and looked terribly upset. “Master Fang, please go ahead and punish us!”

Fang Wei remained silent.

The atmosphere in the main hall was very heavy.

Fang Xia was dead.

Along with four bodyguards!

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“Where is he?” After a long period of silence, Fang Wei finally asked this question. He didn’t name anybody because he already knew it had to be Jiang Ning.

“After he injured us, he ran away,” replied Nanshan.

“All of you are dismissed.” Fang Wei didn’t ask any further and allowed Nanshan and his men to leave.

He walked to Fang Xia’s body and gently closed his widened eyes.

“Your father will avenge you,” he said quietly.

This was a voice that was gentler than it had ever been.

But Fang Xia couldn’t hear him at all.

“Master Fang...” Some of the elders standing by the side finally spoke up.

“This Jiang Ning is way too arrogant! Please ask the two forefathers to help us!”

“Please ask the two forefathers to kill Jiang Ning and restore the Fang clan’s dignity!”

“Kill that Jiang Ning! Please call the forefathers to come out!”

The elders were all shouting similar things.

Even their best bodyguards had died at Jiang

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Ning's hands, so it was clear that Jiang Ning was way more powerful than them. Sending anybody else was pointless.

Only the two forefathers in the clan's ancestral hall would definitely be able to kill Jiang Ning and make up for the humiliation the clan suffered!

Fang Wei didn't say anything. He just stood there and stared at Fang Xia's face.

"Master Fang!"

Fang Wei suddenly lifted his head and looked at all of them. His gaze was icy and murder filled the entire hall. "Jiang Ning! I'm going to kill him myself!"

Meanwhile.

In Donghai.

In the Extreme Martial Arts Academy.

The atmosphere was very somber.

Jiang Ning passed the report that the hospital just sent him to Fang Qiu and Fang Ran.

"Here's the DNA report. I think it's best that you two confirm this with this report."

Fang Qiu's hands were trembling and Fang Ran's hands were trembling even more violently.

She didn't need to see it to know that Fang Qiu was definitely her son.

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She could see the resemblance to He Daoren. How would she not recognize him?

Fang Qiu placed his hands on the report and didn't turn it over to look.

His breathing started to quicken.

"My child..." Fang Ran started to cry. "I've been thinking about you for twenty years!"

Fang Qiu looked up at Fang Ran. His lips moved to say something but he didn't say anything.

He turned to the conclusion of the DNA report and saw that it was a nearly 100% match and that they were definitely related. His entire body started trembling even more violently than before.

"Why..." Fang Qiu didn't know what to do. "Why did things turn out like this? Why?!"

"There's no why," said Jiang Ning. "You don't have the time to understand nor to accept it. This is the reality."

"The truth was hidden from you, you were lied to, and you were forcibly separated from your parents for twenty years. And you've never met your biological father before either. Don't you think this deserves to be avenged?"

He yelled coldly, "Don't you think you ought to be the one who takes this revenge?!"

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Jiang Ning emphasized every word as he stared at Fang Qiu.

This was revenge for the murder of his father!

This was not permissible!

Fang Qiu took a deep breath. All of this had come too suddenly.

His identity had changed so dramatically in such a short time.

He finally knew today that he had called a liar his father!

No wonder Fang Wei never had any regard for him.

No wonder Fang Wei would get angry and stop him every time he improved in his martial arts.

No wonder Fang Wei never cared about him no matter how hard he worked or how much he tried to prove himself and contribute to the Fang family.

It was because he wasn't a member of the Fang family in the first place!

In fact, he was the enemy of the Fang family!

The more Fang Qiu thought about it, the angrier he became.

Twenty years!

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He had treated his enemy as his father for twenty years!

He had been played around with by the Fang family like a monkey in a cage. To Fang Wei and the rest, he was just a monkey in a cage for them to tease and torture.

He suddenly remembered how Yan Tang told him not to be too attached to the Fang family because the Fang family was not worth it.

At that time, he was furious and thought that Yan Tang was a betrayer. But now, he realized that the Fang family was indeed not worthy!

They were animals!

Fang Qiu became even angrier and his tightly clenched fists started cracking loudly.

“My child...my child!” Fang Ran burst out in tears.

She pulled Fang Qiu into her embrace and didn't want to be separated from her son ever again.

“Twenty years...ever since you were born, Fang Wei took you away and I've never even seen you before. My child!” Fang Ran sobbed loudly.

Fang Qiu started to cry as well.

“Mother...”

This term of address was very strange to him.

All these years, Fang Wei had told him that his



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biological mother had died while giving birth to him. This damned asshole!

The two of them hugged each other and cried.

Jiang Ning didn't disrupt them. He walked out of the room with everyone else because he knew this mother and son definitely had a lot to say to each other.

They were finally able to meet each other after twenty years.

Sadly, his Master didn't get to.

Jiang Ning stood at the door and Fei pulled out a pack of cigarettes from his pocket. "Big Boss, want one?"

Jiang Ning glanced at them and shook his head.

"Yuzhen doesn't like the smell of cigarettes, so I quit."

Fei laughed and put the cigarette in his own mouth back as well, then kept the pack away.

"If your Master knew about this, he would be very happy. At least both mother and son found each other," said Fei. "This is a good thing."

"Uh huh." Jiang Ning nodded.

Jiang Ning could understand the feeling that Fang Qiu and Fang Ran had when they acknowledged one another.

## NH

He didn't know whether he should hate He Daoren or thank him.

He wanted to hate his Master because if not for him, none of this would have happened.

But if not for him, then Jiang Ning didn't know which way everything would go.

But the anger he felt when He Daoren died made Jiang Ning realize that no matter how much he blamed He Daoren, He Daoren would always have a special place in his heart.

"Fang Xia is dead, so I'm sure the Fang family won't sit still. The reclusive clans are hiding way too much," said Jiang Ning after a period of silence.

He looked up at the blue sky and said quietly, "These reclusive clans have been going after the secret behind the Extreme Fist Technique Manual, and I have no idea what they're trying to do."

Jiang Ning had the responsibility to protect the people on this side, so he wasn't going to let off any factions of power that might upset the order.

"I'm afraid we'll only know after we get all the pages."

Fei nodded in agreement.

Out of the nine pages, Jiang Ning had four, then with the addition of He Daoren's two pages, he had six in total. But in order to cause chaos among the reclusive clans, he gave the Fang

# NH

family one page. He wondered how big a mess this one page could cause.



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## NH

Jiang Ning had five pages on hand now, and it was going to take quite a bit of time to get the rest.

Butler Zhao's information network continued to expand and it was now searching for the pages all over the world.

Professor Lu Jing was also immersed in researching the words of the reclusive clans.

It seemed like he could try to make headway through these reclusive clans. They definitely knew something about the manual, about the martial arts circle, and perhaps even about ancient civilizations.

But Jiang Ning didn't know what else it entailed.

At least he didn't know at the moment.

"We'll just take whatever comes our way." Jiang Ning wasn't too worried about these things.

His focus was on Lin Yuzhen. He just wanted to protect her and her family. That was the most important to him.

The room door opened and Fang Qiu walked out.

The tear stains on his face were very apparent and his eyes were bloodshot. He had clearly cried very hard.

Men didn't cry easily, but even the most hard hearted of them wouldn't be able to control themselves in such a situation.

## NH

“Master.” Fang Qiu stood in front of Jiang Ning and suddenly fell to his knees with a thud. “I’ve thought through it and I want to take revenge!”

If he didn’t take revenge, was he still human?

His father had been murdered!

He had been separated from his mother for twenty years!

He had called a crook his father!

There were so many misgivings!

The murder in Fang Qiu’s eyes were as tumultuous as the sea.

“The Fang in my name will be the Fang in Fang Ran. I will have nothing to do with Fang Wei or that Fang family!” Fang Qiu practically roared these words out through clenched teeth.

His voice was still trembling as he tried to suppress his anger, but he simply couldn’t hold it down.

Jiang Ning nodded and patted his shoulder.

“I told you before that I’d leave the Fang family for you to exterminate. You need to increase your strength now, do you understand?”

“I understand!” Fang Qiu nodded in all seriousness.

Jiang Ning helped him up. “Spend more time with

## NH

your mother.”

Fang Qiu nodded and went back into the room.

Revenge.

Fang Qiu’s heart probably only had this word inside it right now. If he didn’t exterminate the Fang family, he might go mad.

“Big Boss, I’ll get ready.” Fei didn’t say too much. After following Jiang Ning for so many years, he knew Jiang Ning’s temperament well.

“Ok.” Jiang Ning didn’t say much either. He had just been waiting for Fang Qiu to come out and say that he wanted to take revenge.

The moment he said so, then they would embark on their revenge plan!

At the same time.

Back in the Fang house in Mount Zhongnan.

Fang Hongshan continued to lock himself in the room and kept an eye on what was happening outside from inside.

Fang Xia was dead.

That arrogant and complacent future head of the family was dead.

“He deserved it!” Fang Hongshan spat. “Did he think that Jiang Ning could be trifled with? This Fang Xia wasn’t looking down on Jiang Ning, he

NH

was looking down on me!”

He had suffered so badly in Donghai but Fang Xia didn't remember what happened to him. Fang Xia just decided that he was getting old and useless. Fang Xia had no idea that if Jiang Ning were just an ordinary person, Fang Hongshan would have been more than able to get those pages back from him.

“Mr Hongshan, I've already followed your instructions and leaked the information out. A few clans have started to make their move, but what I don't understand is, why aren't any of them coming after us?”

“Tsk, look for the Fang family? The Fang family only has one page, so what's there to fight over?” Fang Hongshan laughed coldly and put up five fingers. “Jiang Ning has five pages!”

“Is it easier to snatch one page or five pages?”

“Five pages?”

“You idiot!” Fang Hongshan cursed. “It's almost impossible to snatch even one sweet from Jiang Ning, what more one page of the manual?”



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## NH

Anybody who had fought with Jiang Ning before definitely knew what he was capable of.

Many people had no idea because Jiang Ning rarely left anyone alive after a fight!

Fang Hongshan had managed to survive only because Jiang Ning wanted someone to bring a message back to the Fang family.

Fang Hongshan was still fearful till today!

Jiang Ning was definitely more powerful than an advanced grandmaster. But probably nobody knew where his upper limit was.

These people wanted to snatch the manual from Jiang Ning?

Fang Hongshan felt that doing that was definitely as good as courting death.

“Trying to snatch it with brute force is the dumbest thing to do. Anyone who tries to fight Jiang Ning without knowing anything about him is probably going to end up dead.” Fang Hongshan didn’t mince his words.

“Mr Hongshan, is that Jiang Ning really that amazing?”

“Do you think I would judge him wrongly?” scoffed Fang Hongshan. “To most people, the most valuable part of the manual is the map at the back. But to Jiang Ning, the pages don’t mean the same thing.”



## NH

He thought about what Jiang Ning did – he actually allowed everyone to take a look at the pages.

Fang Hongshan finally realized why Jiang Ning had done that.

By doing that, Donghai had become even more powerful!

All the masters in the martial arts circle had gathered in Donghai. There was no fighting and no competition for more benefits. In Donghai, they could become even stronger and they all fought for the same thing – they wanted to revive the martial arts circle!

Their forces combined was simply too shocking.

When Fang Hongshan realized this, he even had some admiration for Jiang Ning.

He was such a young lad, but he was already so farsighted and broadminded. It was really incredible.

As such, being enemies with Jiang Ning was definitely a bad choice.

If Fang Hongshan thought that way, there would be others who would feel the same way too.

“Mr Hongshan, what should we do next? Master Fang is saying that he wants to kill Jiang Ning himself.”

Fang Hongshan had a strange smile on his face.

## NH

“Let him go ahead. He’s that sort of person who thinks that the Fang family is very great, but he has no idea how much the world has changed,” he scoffed. “The other clans won’t act rashly after seeing how much damage the Fang family has taken. If they can’t find Jiang Ning’s weakness, they won’t appear.”

Which one of these people wasn’t a wily old fox?

Which one wasn’t sly?

“Since Jiang Ning is so powerful, would he have a weakness?” The subordinate couldn’t understand.

Jiang Ning himself was powerful, and he made Donghai into an equally strong city.

Even if the other reclusive clans joined hands, they might not be able to take down Donghai either.

After all, the city was governed by the law, so no matter how powerful the reclusive clans were, they didn’t want to get into trouble with the law if possible. That would prove fatal to them!

“Of course he does.” Fang Hongshan narrowed his eyes. “As long as he has people he cares about, they are all his weakness.”

He suddenly realized that if Jiang Ning were single with no family, he would be utterly terrifying.

But now he knew that Jiang Ning had a wife, a family, a company he valued, a city he sought

# NH

shelter in and countless people following after him.

All these things were Jiang Ning's strength, but they were also his weakness.

"We just need to watch and wait quietly. Once both sides are severely injured, it's our chance to act."

Fang Hongshan had gotten all this figured out a long time ago.

Running out to fight now wasn't a good idea. The other reclusive clans were powerful, but one Jiang Ning was already enough to kill him.

If he had a choice, he wasn't going to clash head on with Jiang Ning for the time being.



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## NH

Fang Hongshan decided to just wait and see. Someone would try to kill Jiang Ning, and Jiang Ning would kill off some people too.

He never thought of getting everything, but he certainly wanted the Fang family!

There was great commotion in the Fang family now. Fang Wei was already preparing to kill his way into Donghai to kill Jiang Ning!

Fang Hongshan didn't care. He didn't care about whether Fang Wei lived or died. He only cared about what the two forefathers thought.

At the same time.

At the Extreme Martial Arts Academy of Donghai.

Fang Qiu seemed to have gone mad. He practiced martial arts nonstop without rest.

Besides that, he asked Tan Xing to teach him kicking techniques, asked Ye Shan to teach him boxing techniques, and also asked all the other masters to teach him palm techniques, saber techniques, sword techniques...

He wanted to learn everything so that he could become powerful as quickly as possible!

Revenge!

His entire head was filled with revenge and it seemed like his soul had been swallowed up by hatred.

## NH

Jiang Ning didn't bother about him and didn't disturb him. He allowed Fang Qiu to keep his hatred because this was his motivation and it was something he needed right now.

"This fellow is really gifted to a terrifying extent," exclaimed Tan Xing. He even looked a little enviously at Jiang Ning. "The Tan family has so many people, but why don't we have even one person with this level of gifting?"

He sounded a little jealous now!

He had taught Fang Qiu the Twelve Routines Springing Leg once and Fang Qiu had understood a lot of it.

He had spent so many years teaching Tan Long and the others, but what result did he get?

You really couldn't compare people after all.

"But he's still best at boxing," said Ye Shan as he nodded. "I don't think there's anyone more suitable to be his teacher besides Jiang Ning."

Jiang Ning was Fang Qiu's Master, but he hadn't guided him at all.

Ye Shan couldn't understand. Jiang Ning was definitely the best person to guide Fang Qiu along.

But Jiang Ning seemed to be just his Master in name, while Ye Shan and the rest helped to teach Fang Qiu. Fang Qiu didn't ask Jiang Ning anything either, but he had great respect for all the other

## NH

high level martial artists in the academy.

“What I want to teach him isn’t boxing,” said Jiang Ning. “He needs to walk this road by himself. If he can find his own path after trying out everything else, then that would be best.”

Learn everything! That was the path Jiang Ning wanted Fang Qiu to go down.

To him, the Fang family was just a stepping stone for Fang Qiu.

He would teach Fang Qiu everything that He Daoren taught him, but this was not the time. He was still so young, so it was only right for him to walk this road himself.

Jiang Ning had also walked by himself and found his own path before bravely stepping forward.

“During this time, I’ll have to trouble all of you to guide him along. This fellow’s gifting is really not bad, and he hasn’t reached his full potential yet.” He looked at Ye Shan and Tan Xing. “But exactly how far he gets will depend on him. We can only try our best to help him.”

“Sure. Since you’ve already said so, we won’t have any opinions either.” Tan Xing waved his hand and got up. “If such a genius appeared in my family, I’d train with him every day!”

They all knew that Fang Qiu was now a member of the martial arts circle. The Fang family and perhaps all the reclusive clans, were now his enemy.

# NH

The rest left and Jiang Ning remained seated as he made tea leisurely.

“How are things over there?” He looked up to see Fei leaning against the door.

“Nothing’s happening at Mount Zhongnan, but someone’s making trouble in the north! Tsk!”



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# NH

The north?

Someone dared to make trouble there?

Jiang Ning looked at Fei. Even though Fei had left the north, he still kept an eye on everything happening there.

“Someone has appeared from nowhere and is trying to control the powerful families, I don’t know what they’re up to,” said Fei. “Guess where these people came from?”

“Mount Zhongnan,” replied Jiang Ning.

He didn’t need to guess too hard. He had given a page away, so if it didn’t stir up enough commotion, then it would be such a waste of his effort.

Besides, he had allowed Fang Hongshan to return alive not because he was being merciful to Fang Hongshan.

Fang Hongshan was useful too.

“It looks like there are some clever people in the reclusive clans. They saw that the Fang family paid a high price for just one page, so they know that coming to fight Donghai isn’t worth it, and they’re coming for your weaknesses.”

Fei could see these things clearly, but Jiang Ning had already expected this.

He had found out from Fang Qiu that there were a total of eight reclusive clans and the Fang family



## NH

wasn't the most powerful one either.

If even the Fang family had to pay such a high price just to get one page, everyone else knew that Donghai was no ordinary place.

If they decided to use brute force, things wouldn't end well. Worse still, they would sacrifice themselves only for others to swoop in and reap all the benefits.

The smarter way to go around this was to find Jiang Ning's weaknesses and attack from there.

Lin Yuzhen and even Lin Group were all Jiang Ning's weaknesses.

But they didn't know that while Lin Yuzhen and Lin Group were his weaknesses, they were also people they should never touch!

"Big Boss, let me go back to the north," said Fei. "I'll go and clean up these clowns!"

Jiang Ning looked at him and shook his head.

"No need, Lin Group needs you now."

"Big Boss!" Fei's expression was very stern. "Why don't you let me go back? I miss the north and I'm sure those little bastards must miss me very much. I will not allow them to make any trouble in the north!"

Jiang Ning still shook his head.

"You can forget it. Be a good boy and continue

## NH

working as Xiaozhao's assistant, you hear me?"

Of course he knew that Fei was well under Xiaozhao's control and couldn't even protest.

He wanted to escape?

He could dream on.

This fellow used to laugh mercilessly at how he had been whipped into shape by Lin Yuzhen back then.

What goes around comes around. Jiang Ning was a principled man, so he wasn't going to hold back on this matter.

As for the north.

He was more afraid that these reclusive clans would remain in hiding and just be too scared to do anything.

These reclusive clans claimed to have broken away from the materialistic world and didn't care for wealth and fame but pursued something higher. But once something they wanted appeared, they didn't bother hiding their greed and domineering ways.

All that about pursuing a higher purpose was just bullshit.

The moment the Extreme Fist Technique Manual appeared, all the reclusive clans couldn't sit still at all.

## NH

Jiang Ning was going to see if he could pry the secrets of the manual out from these reclusive clans.

Meanwhile.

At the Zhao house in the north.

He was one of the third tier families that managed to survive after the last shakeup in the north. He had taken that chance to make himself rise by another level to become a second tier family instead.

But that was the furthest the Zhao family could go.

The north was a place where competition was fierce. Being able to get to where he was today was enough to the head of the Zhao family, Zhao Deyi.

He didn't have the courage nor ability to go any higher, so he told himself to be content.

But it seemed like things were not working out the way he originally meant them to.

The person seated on the chair reserved for the head of the family wasn't Zhao Deyi. Zhao Deyi could only stand at the side with a heart filled with fear!

## NH

“The position of being a supremely powerful family should belong to only the Zhao family.”

These words made Zhao Deyi tremble all over and he nearly collapsed in fright.

Even being able to be ranked as a top second tier family was already something he didn't dare to think about.

These days, staying alive was more important than anything else. After that last shakeup, so many powerful families had disappeared from the north, and even the supremely powerful Pang family had vanished overnight!

Making a family that barely made it to the second tier aim to become a supremely powerful family was clearly doing him in.

“Mr Sima, you must be kidding. I am well aware of what my family is capable of,” Zhao Deyi laughed very honestly. “I really don't dare to ask for so much.”

The person in front of him made him very wary. He alone managed to wipe out all the highly skilled fighters that the Zhao family had spent so much time and effort grooming.

He was way too domineering.

And now, this man said he was going to help him to control the Zhao family and to help the Zhao family to become even more powerful. Who on earth offered help like that?

## NH

But Zhao Deyi didn't dare to say these things out loud.

"You don't dare to?" The man seated on the chair looked up at Zhao Deyi. "If I tell you to aim for it, you must aim for it!"

"If the Sima family can't even support a small family, then we're an utter embarrassment."

Sima Gao narrowed his eyes. His sideburns were white, but he wasn't really that old. This trip out of Mount Zhongnan gave him a chance to see the developed world, and it was much more interesting compared to training and meditating in the mountain.

Moreover, the Extreme Fist Technique Manual had appeared. The thing they had been looking for all this time had finally appeared!

"Mr Sima..." Zhao Deyi was really on the verge of tears. "We don't get the final say in the north!"

"We have to follow the rules of the north, otherwise..."

"Otherwise what?"

Sima Gao stood up and stood in front of Zhao Deyi. An intense murderous air emanated from his face and Zhao Deyi didn't dare to speak anymore.

"You don't believe in the Sima family." He nodded. "Then again, it's been so many years. This world has probably already forgotten how powerful we

# NH

used to be.”

Sima Gao stared at Zhao Deyi and suddenly started laughing.

But his smile made Zhao Deyi's hair all stand on end.

“What enemies does the Zhao family have?”

“Mr Sima...”

“Speak!”

Zhao Deyi's body trembled. “The Zhao family has always been low profile and we don't fight with others, so we don't really have any enemies...”

“You have to find one. Otherwise, do you expect me to kill your family instead?”

Zhao Deyi's face instantly turned as white as a sheet.

He felt like he had one foot over the cliff of the mountain!

Where was he going to find an enemy?

“It's...it's the Song family!” He quickly spoke up after a short period of silence. “That Song family! Back when the new head of the Song family, Song Xiaoyu, rose to the top, he changed all the industry rules and the Zhao family nearly went bankrupt. He...he's my enemy!”

Zhao Deyi couldn't think of anybody else.

## NH

He knew that if he spouted nonsense and made this Sima Gao unhappy, then the Zhao family would be wiped out!

“The Song family?” Sima Gao narrowed his eyes. “Sure.”


He didn't say anything, but the smile on his face made Zhao Deyi even more terrified.

“Mr Sima, the rules of the north have already changed, and I'm afraid you might not know about this. This Song family in particular, is very close to Lin Group, and I hear he's very close to...that person.”

He hesitated for a moment and gulped. He felt like his voice was becoming hoarse.

He couldn't afford to offend either side!

“Lin Group? Then that's the right one.” Sima Gao laughed contemptuously when he heard the words ‘Lin Group’. “Those are the people I'm looking for!”

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## NH

Sima Gao's smile made Zhao Deyi's hair all stand on end.

He was smiling, but somehow it looked even more frightening than any other expression!

Zhao Deyi didn't to say anything. He had never heard of anyone daring to make trouble for the Song family.

The head of the Song family, Song Xiaoyu, had risen very powerfully after that huge shakeup. He was fairly formidable himself, and he was very closely tied to Lin Group.

And who was Lin Group?

That was the huge corporation that replaced Linglong Group and became even more powerful than Linglong Group!

Zhao Deyi opened his mouth to persuade Sima Gao otherwise, because he didn't want the Zhao family to be implicated.

But he didn't dare to.

He didn't know where this Sima Gao had appeared from and the Zhao family didn't have any right to speak.

If he said too much, Sima Gao would really kill his entire family!

"You," Sima Gao pointed a finger at Zhao Deyi. Zhao Deyi immediately bowed low and nodded respectfully. "You shall do as I say..."



## NH

After that big clean up in the north, the remaining powerful families started running more honest businesses.

Nobody dared to do anything that would cause harm to others or to bully those weaker than them, because no matter how strong you were in the north, you wouldn't be stronger than Lin Group.

You wouldn't be stronger than Jiang Ning.

Jiang Ning had set up a new order and required everyone to follow suit. It didn't matter whether you were from a powerful family or an ordinary person. Everyone was treated fairly.

If you dared to make trouble, kick up a fuss or do anything illegal or harmful to others, the consequences were very severe!

Jiang Ning wasn't in the north very often and Fei had left, but someone still had to stay and keep everyone in check. Song Xiaoyu's job was to watch over all these powerful families.

As the new head of the Song family, Song Xiaoyu's position rose tremendously in less than one year.

He was someone famous even in the north.

There were many cases where he mediated and gave fair judgment on.

Nobody dared to offend Song Xiaoyu even though he didn't have any airs around him, was polite to

## NH

everyone around him and made sure he set a good example.

But today, Song Xiaoyu was really furious. His expression was as dark as the night sky and he had never been this angry before.

“The Zhao family has gone too far!” He slammed a palm hard on the table. “Everyone is just trying to earn enough to make ends meet and to support the people who work for them. How dare the Zhao family do such a thing?”

Song Xiaoyu looked at the man in front of him. “Tell me now, what other terrible things have the Zhao family done?”

“Mr Song, we don’t know what’s wrong with the Zhao family either. They’ve gone completely wild and many of the female workers in the Zhao family business factories have been...have been violated by their management!”

The voice of the person speaking was trembling and his eyes reddened instantly. “We really can’t fight against the Zhao family!”

His wife was one of those who had been violated by a VP...besides making a cuckold of himself, the VP even told his wife to divorce him and promised to give her money and a house. The VP was forcing his family apart!

“The Zhao family...they want to lord it over us, and because we’re just ordinary folk, we can’t do anything about them. Mr Song, please help us!”

# NH

Song Xiaoyu was furious to hear about such a thing.

The Zhao family actually attacked their own people and made advances on their own female staff. Did they think their factories were brothels?

“Evidence! These are all evidence!”

There were photos, voice recordings and records of text messages on the table. All these female employees had been completely brainwashed by the Zhao family management.

Did these women really think these jerks would give them money and houses?

They were getting cheated so that these men could have fun with them!

“Where is the Zhao family?” Song Xiaoyu stood to his feet in fury.



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## NH

“Mr Song, I’ve already sent someone to contact the head of the Zhao family, Zhao Deyi, but he says this has nothing to do with us, and told us to stop harassing him.”

Song Xiaoyu started trembling in anger.

The Zhao family was at the bottom of the second tier families, but even if a first tier family dared to do something so immoral, Song Xiaoyu would not allow it!

“It looks like I have to pay the Zhao family a visit myself!”

Song Xiaoyu didn’t hesitate. As the one in charge of maintaining order in the north, this was his responsibility.

Jiang Ning had given him this responsibility and he had promised to do his best to protect the new order of the north.

“Mr Song, the car is ready.”

Song Xiaoyu walked out quickly, got into the car and headed for the Zhao house.

The main gate of the Zhao house was shut fast!

“Bang it down!” Song Xiaoyu didn’t care to be polite and got his men to smash the gate down.

BAM!

The gate was broken and Song Xiaoyu walked right in.

NH

“Zhao Deyi!” he yelled loudly.

The entire house was empty.

Song Xiaoyu walked into the living room and didn't see a single person in the house.

He frowned slightly and felt that something was amiss.

In his impression, after Jiang Ning cleaned up the north, both the legal and illegal circles behaved themselves and nobody dared to secretly engage in anything even borderline illegal.

The Zhao family had been fortunate enough to survive that clean up and should be very grateful. How could they dare to do such a thing?

He was really angry just now, but now, he suddenly calmed down.

“Something's wrong.” Song Xiaoyu frowned and he realized this after he had calmed down.

There was a problem!

There was something wrong with this family!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

Song Xiaoyu turned to leave and a few men suddenly appeared to block his way.

## NH

“Mr Song, since you’re here, then don’t leave.”

Song Xiaoyu glanced at them and remained calm. “Who are you people? I don’t think the Zhao family is worthy to have such highly skilled fighters.”

“Mr Song, you’re really arrogant. What do you mean by saying the Zhao family isn’t worthy to have such people? Does the north belong to you? What a joke!”

Sima Gao walked out from the side and smiled at Song Xiaoyu.

The air that Sima Gao emanated made Song Xiaoyu immediately feel great danger!

This man was very terrifying!

When did such a highly skilled person appear in the north?

And he was even hiding in the Zhao family.

“Where do you come from? You seem very interested in the north.”

Song Xiaoyu remained calm. He was someone who had seen a lot himself, so he wasn’t going to go into a panic so easily.

He could sense that Sima Gao wasn’t an ordinary person and was definitely not friendly, so he couldn’t look weak!

Otherwise, Sima Gao would just trample all over him!

## NH

“Mr Song, you’re really steady and way more mature than your peers,” laughed Sima Gao. “This Zhao family really isn’t worth much. They did so many disgusting things and I couldn’t stand it myself, so I punished them.”

Song Xiaoyu frowned. “Punished?”

“That’s right. I didn’t leave a single Zhao behind!” Sima Gao’s lips curled into a strange smile. “Have you seen anybody else in this house?”

“What do you mean?”

Song Xiaoyu’s expression changed slightly.

He didn’t leave a single Zhao behind?

“Mr Song is the one in charge of maintaining order in the north, so everyone in the illegal circle has to be nice to the Song family. So in the same way, I’m being kind by killing everyone in the Zhao family!”

Sima Gao calmly said, “This is my welcome gift to Mr Song. What do you think of it?”



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# NH

Song Xiaoyu's heart started pounding wildly.

They had all been killed?

This fellow here killed every single member of the Zhao family?

He suddenly realized that the Zhao family was being made use of all this while and everything was planned by this man here. The Zhao family wasn't able to retaliate and could only allow this man to control their every move.

"What do you want?" Song Xiaoyu kept his eye on Sima Gao while he secretly made a hand sign. The bodyguard next to him immediately got the message.

"I would like to work with Mr Song," said Sima Gao with a laugh. "Mr Song, there's no need to be so nervous. Even if you call all the men outside, it's no use. Nobody in the north is a match for me."

He had noticed Song Xiaoyu's hand sign but it didn't bother him.

The only ones who were a match for him were the other reclusive clans in Mount Zhongnan.

Their aim right now was definitely the same as his. But if he could control Song Xiaoyu first, then the Sima clan would be faster than the other clans.

"You want to work with me?" Song Xiaoyu was furious. "You've killed so many people and you want to work with me? You've disrupted the order



# NH

in the north, so I'm going to kill you!"

"HAHAHA! That's true, that's true! You should kill me, but you simply can't. In fact, the one who dies might be you instead." Sima Gao went straight to the point, "Make a choice. Either work with me, or else you can die like the rest of the Zhao family."

He pointed at the empty Zhao house as if there were a few dozen souls still floating around...

"Block them!" The bodyguard suddenly let out a shout and several men rushed towards Sima Gao. He pushed Song Xiaoyu behind him. "Mr Song, run!"

Song Xiaoyu started running, but after taking a few steps, he heard several slams and bangs behind him. All his bodyguards had been killed!

Sima Gao was way faster and stood in his way once more. He even still had a bodyguard in hand, which he flung to one side casually.

"Mr Song, you still haven't replied me," said Sima Gao with a bright smile. "Are you going to work with me? Or would you rather die here?"

Song Xiaoyu's expression didn't change, but his heart was fearful.

This Sima Gao was extremely powerful!

He was probably as strong or even stronger than the highly skilled fighters in those first tier families.

## NH

He probably needed someone from the supremely powerful families, like the two old men in the Jiang house, to subdue this man.

“What on earth do you want?” asked Song Xiaoyu. “I can tell you now that if you dare to make trouble in the north, you’re just waiting to die!”

“Is that so?” Sima Gao smiled wryly. “Are you referring to Lin Group? Don’t worry, my aim is Lin Group. I’m going to take Lin Group down and destroy them completely. That’s why I need you to work with me.”

Song Xiaoyu’s expression finally changed.

This man was going after Lin Group!

Was he after Jiang Ning?

Where did these people come from?

There was nobody in the entire country who dared to make trouble in the north. Those who were truly powerful knew very well that the north would not stand for such nonsense.

Even though Jiang Ning wasn’t around, he had used very hard tactics to clean up the entire illegal circle and the powerful families, so everybody knew about what happened in the north.

But this man...

Song Xiaoyu’s gaze changed as he watched Sima Gao approach him slowly. If he dared to say no, then this man would definitely kill him on the

NH

spot?

“How do you want to work together?”

His voice remained flat and calm.



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## NH

“Mr Song is a clever man after all.” Sima Gao stopped walking towards him. “The one who does the right thing at the right time is the one who will survive. Mr Song, I’m sure you won’t regret the decision you’ve made today. As for how to cooperate...I will let you know.”

“As long as you work with me, I can guarantee that you will get way more than what you have right now.”

“And why should I believe you?” asked Song Xiaoyu. “I don’t even know anything about you, but you’re threatening and forcing me to work with you.”

“Hahaha! Mr Song, you’re a really blunt one. It’s true that using force to threaten and dangling carrots at the same time is an old tactic, and it’s good that you can see it. But when it comes to collateral, it’s not always a matter of getting what you want, but about getting what other people can give you. You’re a clever person, so I’m sure you understand.”

“As for where I come from...”

Sima Gao walked over to stand in front of Song Xiaoyu, then patted his shoulder, making a loud CRACK!

He didn’t look like he had used a lot of strength, but Song Xiaoyu’s shoulder was instantly dislodged and his bone broke with a crisp sound!

“Ahh!” Song Xiaoyu couldn’t help but exclaim in pain. He grit his teeth so that he didn’t end up

# NH

bowing to him or worse, kneeling down to this man.

“You...”

“Don’t you dare try to pull any tricks on me, understand?”

Sima Gao still kept a smile on his face. If he was dangling carrots earlier, now he was outright threatening him by force!

Song Xiaoyu could be pretending to comply since he wasn’t a stupid man after all.

As long as Song Xiaoyu did everything he asked of him, then it was worth keeping Song Xiaoyu alive. Otherwise...he would just have to kill one more person.

Sima Gao laughed and didn’t say anymore. He waved a hand and one of his subordinates immediately walked over to stand next to Song Xiaoyu.

“From today onwards, you shall be Mr Song’s personal bodyguard. You must ensure Mr Song’s safety at all times.”

Song Xiaoyu’s face was covered in perspiration.

The terrible pain made his body tremble uncontrollably.

He kept quiet and looked at the man next to him. Sima Gao had arranged for this man to keep an eye on him.

## NH

If Song Xiaoyu did anything strange or suspicious, this man would kill him immediately.

“Alright now, I want you to carry out your first mission for me.” Once all this was arranged, Sima Gao looked at Song Xiaoyu with a smile. “It’s a very simple matter, I hope you don’t disappoint me...”

“I want you to make the north...go into complete chaos!”

Song Xiaoyu immediately shook his head.

“That’s impossible! You can dream on!”

It had been so difficult to impose a new order on the north and this man wanted the north to become chaotic again? That had to be a joke!

“You can go ahead and kill me!” Song Xiaoyu scoffed. “It’s just one human life, you can have it! Instead of being used by you to destroy the new order in the north, I’d rather die!”

BAM!

Immediately after he said these words, someone kicked him in the knees. The excruciating pain made Song Xiaoyu howl in pain.

He fell to his knees with a thud because he simply couldn’t stand anymore.

Sima Gao held his throat with one hand and kept a smile on his face, but this smile sent shivers down Song Xiaoyu’s spine.

# NH

“I’ve already told you that you have no right to refuse, and you don’t even have the right to choose to die. If I don’t want you to die, then you won’t. Do you finally understand now?”

“Besides, the Song family isn’t just made up of you alone. You have relatives too, oh and also that newborn child of yours...”

“What are you trying to do?!”

Song Xiaoyu immediately burst into a rage as if someone had ruffled his feathers. He roared fiercely, “If you dare to touch them, I’ll make sure you die terribly!”

His eyes immediately turned bloodshot as he stared straight at Sima Gao with great fury.

“That’s right, stay angry! Stay this angry! Hate me! HAHAHAHA!”



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## NH

Sima Gao laughed happily when he saw how hysterical Song Xiaoyu looked.

The feeling of being able to control another person's fate was always a great boost to his ego.

Sima Gao didn't say anymore. After leaving his subordinate to keep an eye on Song Xiaoyu, he left.

The Sima family had reached the north first, so they were going to take control of the north. He didn't care about the other areas.

Once the north was a mess and it upset Lin Group's base, then he would have achieved his aim.

Using this to threaten Jiang Ning and force him to hand the manual over was easier and better than trying to kill his way into that difficult and well-guarded city of Donghai.

Song Xiaoyu clenched his fists as he watched Sima Gao leave, and his knuckles cracked loudly.

His eyes were bloodshot and looked like they could shoot murderous beams of light now.

"Don't waste any more time, Mr Song. Complete the mission that our Master has given to you, otherwise...nobody in the Song family will live to see the next day!"

Song Xiaoyu didn't say anything and glanced at his dead bodyguards on the floor.



## NH

He scoffed, slowly stood to his feet and hobbled out of the Zhao house.

Meanwhile.

In Donghai.

Jiang Ning didn't go to the Extreme Martial Arts Academy during this time. There were plenty of other martial artists to teach and guide Fang Qiu, so he wasn't needed for the moment.

He lay on the sofa inside Lin Yuzhen's office as he watched a movie and drank a soft drink at the same time. He was enjoying himself.

"How did this happen?!"

Lin Yuzhen was reading through some documents at her desk and her brows were deeply furrowed.

It was clear that she was furious because her breathing had quickened and even her face was getting red.

"Hubby!" Lin Yuzhen shouted.

"Yup," Jiang Ning got up and walked over to her desk. "What is it?"

"Look at this!" She passed the documents to Jiang Ning. "I don't know what's wrong with the northern side and I can't get into contact with Li Dong either. Several orders have stopped abruptly too. Could something have happened to him?"

## NH

Lin Yuzhen looked a little worried. “This won’t do. I’ll call Song Xiaoyu!”

She picked up the phone to call Song Xiaoyu, but nobody answered even after a long time.

Lin Yuzhen became even more anxious now.

“Relax,” said Jiang Ning. “Li Dong is a smart boy, nothing will happen to him.”

“Why isn’t Song Xiaoyu picking up either?”

Lin Yuzhen wasn’t worried about the business itself, but not being able to get in touch with Li Dong and Song Xiaoyu really worried her.

Even though the environment in the north had become much better, the more Lin Group advanced, the more challenges and dangers it would face.

She didn’t want anybody related to Lin Group to be harmed because of this.

“Fei!” Jiang Ning pressed for the secretary and said, “Get Fei in.”

Fei came in shortly.

“Is something happening in the north?” Jiang Ning had already predicted this would happen.

“Uh huh,” Fei nodded.

“Where’s Li Dong and Song Xiaoyu?”

## NH

“As per your instructions, Li Dong is coming back earlier than scheduled and he should be on a plane right now. As for Song Xiaoyu...” The look in Fei’s eyes changed. He glanced at Lin Yuzhen and didn’t continue speaking.

“Fei, just say it. Did something happen to Song Xiaoyu?”

The sixth sense of a woman was often very accurate. Of course Lin Yuzhen was worried.

“He’s fine,” Fei shook his head. “Don’t worry about that, he’s physically fine, just that...”

“I’m not sure why he’s throwing a fit but he’s destroyed a bunch of powerful families that work with Lin Group for no reason at all.”

Lin Yuzhen was shocked.

Song Xiaoyu was a very level-headed man and wouldn’t do anything rashly like this.

She turned to look at Jiang Ning. “What’s going on?”



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## NH

Why was Song Xiaoyu suddenly turning on Lin Group?

Besides the fact that he was closely connected to Lin Group and Jiang Ning, the name Lin Group alone would make sure that nobody dared to make any trouble for them.

And someone like Song Xiaoyu would know better than anyone else that Jiang Ning was the person behind Lin Group.

“Don’t worry,” Jiang Ning’s face remained calm as he consoled Lin Yuzhen. “Trust him.”

“Of course I trust him. I’m just worried about why he’s doing this. He’s not someone who would harm Lin Group, so if he’s doing something like that, does that mean someone is threatening him?”

Lin Yuzhen became even more anxious.

After following Jiang Ning for so long, she knew very well that this world was not a peaceful one at all.

It wasn’t always filled with sunshine, and many things remained hidden in the shadows.

Jiang Ning never made sure she remained only in the sunlight, but he always showed her the dark side so that she could discern what was good and what was bad on her own.

This was better than treating her like a vase on display or keeping her protected like a flower in a

## NH

greenhouse. Lin Yuzhen was more able to feel how wonderful Jiang Ning was to her when he took care of her this way.

She didn't want to become a vase and didn't want to be a flower in a greenhouse. She wanted to become the woman who could stand on her own two feet and fight alongside Jiang Ning.

Something must have happened in the north, and even if Jiang Ning didn't say anything, Lin Yuzhen could sense it.

She was more worried about her people's safety than the business.

"As long as he's still alive, then it's not too bad," said Jiang Ning. "Don't worry, I'll settle this one."

Lin Yuzhen took a deep breath and looked seriously at Jiang Ning. She hesitated for a short moment before saying, "If there's anything I can do, let me know."

She seemed a little different now.

In the past, she would stand behind Jiang Ning and allow him to weather the storms and block the rain for her. But this time, she wanted to stand up and take a step forward. Perhaps she couldn't stand in front of Jiang Ning, but she definitely wanted to stand by his side.

They were going to face this crisis together.

"Ok." Jiang Ning's heart trembled as he took Lin Yuzhen's hands in his. "As long as you're with me,

## NH

there's nothing I can't do. If I need you to do anything, I won't be polite with you."

Jiang Ning used his eyes to tell Lin Yuzhen to trust him, then he left with Fei.

Of course Jiang Ning was the first to know about the commotion in the north.

Even though he wasn't in the north and Fei had moved to Donghai, the north could be considered the area that Jiang Ning took control of first!

"Which family is behind this?" asked Jiang Ning as they made their way downstairs.

"The Sima clan," replied Fei. "That's all the information that Song Xiaoyu sent. He can't find out much."

It didn't take a genius to know that Song Xiaoyu was in a very precarious situation. Sending out news about the Sima clan was already a huge risk to him.

If he was discovered, he would definitely be killed!

Out of the eight reclusive clans, the Sima clan had moved very quickly. They had also gone straight to the north to take control of the most important group of people. Were they trying to disrupt the order in the north and use that to threaten Jiang Ning?

These people were quite clever after all.

"I'm sure these reclusive clans aren't going to let

# NH

off Shenghai, the southeastern coast, and the northwest areas,” said Jiang Ning. “Their aim is to get the manual from me, and they’re hoping to force me to hand the pages over without having to actually fight.”

This was a clear and obvious move, and each step they were taking was directly aimed at him.

Jiang Ning was going to be equally direct with them. He was more afraid that they would remain a bunch of cowards and just remain hidden in the shadows. But since they had jumped out to attack him...

Then he was going take them down, one at a time!



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# NH

In the Song house in the north.

Song Xiaoyu sat on the seat meant for the head of the family to sit on, but he didn't feel like he was still the head of the family.

The man standing next to him was still watching his every move.

The moment he made any suspicious move, this man would break his neck immediately!

"I've already done as you've asked and terminated several important business partners of Lin Group. What else do you want me to do?" scoffed Song Xiaoyu. "I hope you will hold up your end of the agreement and let off the Song family!"

He clutched the armrests tightly and didn't hide any of the rage on his face.

"Is Lin Group in a panic?" Sima Gao sat by the side and spoke at a leisurely pace. "I don't see Lin Group panicking."

"That goes to show that you've not done enough. You've not made Lin Group anxious and you've not made them lose enough. So that's not enough. That's not enough at all."

Song Xiaoyu stared at Sima Gao and didn't mince his words as he laughed coldly, "I told you before that Lin Group is not easy to handle. They're self-sufficient, so even if you cut off all their business partners, it won't affect them very badly!"

Lin Group's business model was such that they



## NH

could operate on their own and didn't need anyone else.

They worked with other people in hope of allowing more people to have a share of the pie and to help more people to make ends meet. They didn't work with others because they needed anything from the other party.

Song Xiaoyu had stated this very clearly, but it was also clear that someone like Sima Gao's brain wasn't wired this way at all and he couldn't seem to understand.

If not for the fact that this man was physically strong and able, Song Xiaoyu would have his own way of doing someone with brawn and no brain in.

"I don't care about all these. I just want to see that Lin Group panics and is driven into a corner. If you can't achieve that, then I won't let the Song family off."

Sima Gao didn't care about any of these things. He didn't know much about how anything in the outside world worked nowadays and he didn't care to understand either.

That was why he threatened Song Xiaoyu into working for him. He just needed to tell Song Xiaoyu what his aim was, and Song Xiaoyu would have to worry about how to achieve the aim.

"I've told you that nobody will ever be able to achieve your aim!" Song Xiaoyu grit his teeth. "You should be a man of your word! I've already

## NH

done what you wanted me to do, so please let us off!”

Sima Gao laughed and shook his head gently.

Let them off? Not so easy.

He hadn't achieved his aim, so how could he let them off?

The Sima clan had allowed him to leave the mountain and they only had one request – that was to come back with at least one page of the manual. If he couldn't get this done, then how was he going to be accountable to the clan?

If he went back empty handed, he would be punished instead.

“Who else is important to Lin Group in the north?” Sima Gao didn't care about what Song Xiaoyu was saying and continued to ask question. All his thoughts were focused on Lin Group.

He saw the nasty look on Song Xiaoyu's face and said calmly, “Don't worry, of course I'm a man of my word. But before that, you must fulfil what I ask of you. As of now, you have clearly not met my aim yet.”

He looked straight at Song Xiaoyu and a tinge of malice flashed in his eyes. “I see that your child is very adorable. Don't you miss him?”

Every word he said was a threat.

Song Xiaoyu trembled and he clenched his fists

# NH

tightly.

“The Jiang family!” he said through gritted teeth.  
“The Jiang family is the closest to Lin Group. No other powerful family in the north is more important to Lin Group than the Jiang family.”



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## NH

“The Jiang family?” Sima Gao’s eyes lit up. “You should have told me earlier.”

He got up immediately and waved his hands for his men to follow behind him.

Song Xiaoyu wanted to say more, but Sima Gao didn’t give him the chance to.

“That’s quite enough,” said the man keeping watch over Song Xiaoyu as he glanced at Song Xiaoyu. “It is not up to someone like you to tell Master what to do, understand?”

Song Xiaoyu glared back at him and scoffed. “And what if I’m trying to tell him not to send himself to his death?”

The other man’s expression changed.

“Where is my family?” asked Song Xiaoyu. “You should know, right?”

“So what if I know? Did you think I would tell you?” The man scoffed. “Do what you’re supposed to, and don’t make more trouble for yourself!”

Song Xiaoyu relaxed slightly as he leaned against the chair. He poured himself a cup of tea, took a small sip and put the cup down as the corner of his lips slowly curled upwards into a smile.

“As long as you know.”

The man felt uneasy when he saw the look in Song Xiaoyu’s eyes. The words that Song Xiaoyu said made his heart start pounding as if he had a

## NH

bad feeling about this, but he couldn't put a finger on it.

Song Xiaoyu was someone they could manipulate easily, so what was there to be afraid of?

Even the most highly skilled fighters in the north were at advanced grandmaster level. That was nothing.

He wasn't sure what he was worried about, but he couldn't shake off this feeling either.

He could only keep watch over Song Xiaoyu to prevent him from doing anything funny. But Song Xiaoyu didn't seem worried anymore and just sat there quietly. He even made himself a new pot of tea.

He was so calm, it was as if nothing had happened.

At the same time.

The Jiang family!

They were one of the three supremely powerful families, and the Jiang Family was considered to be the family in the top spot.

It wasn't because the Jiang family was extremely strong and capable, but they had been greatly influenced by Jiang Ning and Lin Group, so Jiang Daoran had put in a lot of effort into supporting Lin Group's charitable causes.

Their reputation in the north was getting better

## NH

and better. They were a supremely powerful family that was superior in character and a sense of responsibility towards society!

In the courtyard, He Linbei and Jiang Daoran were engaged in a game of chess, while Yan Chinan watched them from the side.

BAM!

Someone kicked the main gate open.

It was pretty hard to find someone in this country who would dare to kick the door of the Jiang house these days.

Jiang Hai looked up and frowned. Whoever had come was definitely here to make trouble.

He looked at the three men concentrating on the chess game who didn't seem bothered at all, then walked to the gate and blocked the intruders.

"Who are you? Do you know where this place is?"

"This is the house of the Jiang family, right?" said Sima Gao with a smile. "Then that's correct. I'm here to look for the Jiang family."

He looked up to see the three men in the courtyard ignoring him and continuing their chess game, and was a little unhappy about that. But he didn't show any of it on his face and kept a smile on.

"Move aside," he glanced at Jiang Hai. "Servants are not fit to speak to me."

## NH

He glanced over and his gaze finally fell on Jiang Daoran. “You’re the head of the Jiang family, right? I heard that you’re very close to the boss of Lin Group, Lin Yuzhen.”

“So I’m here to ask – if I kill you, would it affect Lin Group greatly?” Sima Gao seemed to be asking in jest.

His expression looked arrogant and complacent, and carried a tinge of disdain. It was an expression that could really infuriate others.

Jiang Hai was about to fight him when Jiang Daoran called him to stop.

“I can answer your question.” Jiang Daoran looked up at Sima Gao. He knew about what Song Xiaoyu had done recently, and he had guessed that Song Xiaoyu must have been threatened by someone else.

It was probably this guy here.

From his aura, Jiang Daoran could guess that he had come out from Mount Zhongnan.

“If you kill me, it won’t affect Lin Group at all. But it would affect you more.”



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## NH

After Jiang Daoran said these words, he put the chess pawn in his hand down on the chessboard and smiled at He Linbei, "Checkmate!"

"How did you do that?" He Linbei's eyes widened. "That can't be right. I've been watching the game very carefully. How did you checkmate me?"

He said this as he continued to think of a counterattack. He never looked towards Sima Gao at all and it was as if Sima Gao and his men didn't exist.

"You have to concentrate when you play chess. Once you get distracted, you will lose easily! HAHA!" Jiang Daoran laughed loudly and his expression was smug.

This made Sima Gao rather unhappy.

He frowned and looked nastily at the men in front of him.

He was standing right in front of them but he didn't get any of the respect he expected from them at all.

"A supremely powerful family of the north is indeed different from the other powerful families. Mr Jiang is able to remain so calm and collected, and I do admire that."

Sima Gao took a step forward. "But I'm not sure if these two are able to hold up against my attacks."

A murderous air started to seep out from his body and he didn't bother masking it.



## NH

At this, He Linbei finally turned around and glanced at Sima Gao unhappily as he snapped, “You’re not supposed to talk when you watch others play chess. That’s basic manners! You have no manners!”

“Didn’t your parents teach you anything? What poor upbringing!”

He didn’t mince his words when he wanted to scold others!

“You’re looking for Jiang Ning, right?” scoffed Yan Chinan as he drank his tea. “There’s a creditor for every debtor. Since the one you’re actually looking for is Jiang Ning, then go and look for him. What’s the point of making trouble here?”

Sima Gao’s expression was even nastier now.

He had never been disdained like this before.

Who did these supremely powerful families think they were? If the Sima clan wanted to, they could smite these families in no time!

These two old fellows were at advanced grandmaster level, but they were nothing but ants to Sima Gao.

Look for Jiang Ning?

Of course he was looking for Jiang Ning. But Donghai was so terrifying, so if he just went directly to Donghai, it would be too dangerous. The Fang clan had lost so many people. The Sima clan knew all about that.

## NH

“Looks like I can’t hide it anymore,” scoffed Sima Gao. “That’s right, my target is Jiang Ning. He’s related to the Jiang family, so I think using all of you to threaten him is a good idea.”

He liked doing things this way. He liked to state his aim, then watch as the other party could only look on helplessly since they couldn’t do anything to stop him from doing what he set out to do. That feeling really made him happy.

But Jiang Daoran and the rest looked just as unconcerned as they did earlier.

It was as if this had nothing to do with them!

“You’re looking for Jiang Ning? Just nice, he’s here today.” He Linbei waved his hands about. “He’s eating at the back, so if you’re looking for him, go ahead. Don’t interrupt our chess game anymore!”

He was so annoyed and he almost wanted to throw all eight cups of tea at Sima Gao.

After that, they went back to playing chess. Sima Gao was furious and wanted to exterminate the entire family!

He had been going round the north for several days now, and he had never seen anyone dare to speak like this to him before.

Didn’t they know who he was? Did they think that they could be so arrogant and brazen just because they were a supremely powerful family?

NH

But he was pleasantly surprised to hear that Jiang Ning was here.

He wasn't in Donghai?

Jiang Ning actually dared to leave Donghai, that city with metal walls! He was asking to get killed!

"Let's go!" Sima Gao snorted coldly and took two men to the back with him.

He was going to kill Jiang Ning first!

Jiang Ning had better have those pages on him, then it wouldn't be a waste of Sima Gao's efforts!



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## NH

Sima Gao didn't expect things to go through so smoothly.

He thought that he would have to use the northern circles to pressurize Lin Group and force Jiang Ning out from Donghai so that he would hand the manual over. But this crazy fellow actually came to the north first.

Didn't Jiang Ning know that he had already become the target of several reclusive clans and they were all waiting to hunt this delicious prey down?

Meanwhile, in the backyard.

Xue Ning put food into Jiang Ning's bowl as she smiled at him. "How long has it been since you last came up north?"

"Yuzhen is busy, don't tell me you're busy too? Or you find that my cooking isn't as good as your mother-in-law's?"

There were more than ten dishes on the table and they were all for Jiang Ning.

When she heard that Jiang Ning was coming, Xue Ning had started preparing early and cooked a lot because she was afraid that Jiang Ning wouldn't have enough to eat.

"Auntie Xue, you're competing remotely with my mum now," Jiang Ning was so amused. "I can't eat this much all by myself, don't cook so much next time."

NH

“That won’t do,” Xue Ning glared at him. “You’ve come home, so I can’t let you go hungry.”

She continued to put food into his bowl. “Eat more, eat more.”

DA DA DA!

Footsteps were coming this way!

Jiang Ning glanced up for a moment, then went back to eating.

“Who are you looking for?” Xue Ning frowned slightly at Sima Gao and grumbled, “What is this Jiang Daoran doing? How could he let others disturb his son when he’s eating? How terrible!”

She was about to stand when Jiang Ning stopped her.

“They’re looking for me,” Jiang Ning stood up. “I’ll continue eating later.”

“Then...make it quick. The food doesn’t taste as nice once it’s gone cold.”

Jiang Ning nodded and walked over to look at Sima Gao. He was still chewing some pork.

“You’re Jiang Ning?” Sima Gao was surprised to find that Jiang Ning was so young. And even though Jiang Ning was about to die, he was still concerned with eating.

What kind of people made up this family?

## NH

Didn't they know that the Sima clan could take control of the north if they wanted to?

"I've been waiting for you for a long time." Jiang Ning swallowed the last of the pork and looked at Sima Gao. "Song Xiaoyu waited till now to let you come knocking on my doorstep. I suppose he's finally sick and tired of you."

Sima Gao frowned. What did that mean?

Song Xiaoyu was sick and tired of him?

"I'm sure he's already explained everything to you, so there's no point to your existence." Jiang Ning wagged a finger at him. "You want the manual, don't you?"

"Hand it over!" shouted Sima Gao. "Hand the manual over and I can considering sparing your life. Otherwise...since you've left Donghai, it'll be much easier to kill you."

"I'm not only going to kill you, but I'm also going to kill the Jiang family, everyone in Lin Group, and everyone who has any relation to you..."

Jiang Ning's expression darkened.

Nobody had ever dared to speak like this to him!

Kill off everyone who had any relation to him?

"The manual is here." Jiang Ning purposely waved the pages in front of Sima Gao. "If you can, come and get it."

NH

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

The two men behind Sima Gao suddenly made their move.

Every move they made was fatal!

Sima Gao felt that he had overestimated this Jiang Ning and that so called forbidden territory of Donghai. How did such stupid people make the Fang family suffer such severe damages?

He found it hard to understand.

He watched his two men dash out while he kept his eye on Jiang Ning's pages.

Getting those pages were so easy after all, and he had gone through all that trouble for nothing. He laughed contemptuously and shook his head.

PAK!

PAK!

Suddenly...

Two figures came flying back and crashed heavily at Sima Gao's feet. One side of their face had been slapped so hard that it was out of shape!

# NH

They didn't even get a chance to howl in pain and Sima Gao's men were both dead.

Sima Gao's expression changed and he immediately became wary. He hadn't even noticed how Jiang Ning did that. How was he so incredible?

Sima Gao didn't move and he looked like a leopard on the prowl as he stared straight at Jiang Ning.

The contempt on his face earlier had turned into solemnness.

"I've underestimated you," he murmured.

Jiang Ning couldn't be bothered to talk to him. He just waved the pages in his hands like he was dangling a bone in front of a dog to tease it. That provoking gaze in Jiang Ning's eyes made Sima Gao furious.

**SWOOSH!**

He took a step out and lunged forward as he sent a palm out and a huge surge of energy went out.

It was as if a strong gust of wind suddenly started blowing from nowhere to form a wall that was coming for Jiang Ning.

But Jiang Ning didn't seem to have moved at all.

No wait, he did move.



## NH

Jiang Ning rubbed his belly and turned to see that Xue Ning was still peeling prawns for him. But he really couldn't eat anymore.

Sima Gao was charging towards Jiang Ning!

A tremendous gush of air was coming for Jiang Ning.

Sima Gao never thought he would ever be this humiliated in his life.

He had come to attack him personally, but Jiang Ning didn't even care. Jiang Ning was clearly looking down on him!

Suddenly, Sima Gao increased his speed. His palm instantly became a sharp knife that was slashing down towards Jiang Ning's neck!

This palm was going to kill Jiang Ning!

BOOM!

But just when he came close to Jiang Ning, Jiang Ning threw a punch.

He just threw a punch!

It was just a simple punch!

This punch was aimed straight for Sima Gao's heart and it happened so quickly that Sima Gao didn't even realize what was happening.

His palm was still in the air and hadn't come down yet, but Jiang Ning's fist was already at his

# NH

heart.

That incredibly domineering energy seemed to have locked Sima Gao in!

Even if he wanted to retreat, it seemed as though an invisible hand was pulling him closer and didn't give him the chance to retreat at all!

“Go to hell!” Sima Gao yelled loudly and didn't hold back at all as he immediately put in all his energy and strength into that one palm!

But Jiang Ning was too fast!

One punch!

The force of the punch crackled loudly as it crashed heavily on Sima Gao's heart. The impact was so great that his back bent.

It was as if a stream of air had suddenly gone into his body.

“AHH!” Sima Gao couldn't help but howl.

He staggered more than ten steps back as he clutched his heart and his face instantly turned red.

Blood started coming out from within him and Sima Gao suppressed it.

“You...”

Sima Gao's expression was filled with shock as he looked at Jiang Ning in disbelief. He tried to

NH

speak, but the moment he opened his mouth, all the blood coming out from inside him immediately spewed right out.

PFFT!!

He vomited a huge mouthful of blood.

The shock on his face had turned into fear.

If he hadn't sensed the force of Jiang Ning's punch entering his body and defended himself against it, this punch would have definitely caused his heart to explode.

He couldn't believe that such a highly skilled fighter existed in the martial arts circle.

He was at advanced grandmaster level, but he couldn't fight Jiang Ning at all!

"Inner energy!" Sima Gao took a deep breath and forced the energy surging inside him to calm down as he looked in shock at Jiang Ning. "Is this the Extreme Fist Technique? Impossible!"

"The moves on the manual are the most basic moves in boxing. It can't possibly be this powerful."

"But what is it then? What is it?!"

Sima Gao seemed to have gone mad as he started asking and answering his own questions.

He stared straight at Jiang Ning and knew that he wouldn't get any pages today. He also knew that

# NH

Jiang Ning didn't have to be afraid of leaving Donghai and didn't have to fear that he was the target of the other reclusive clans.

That asshole from the Fang family didn't mention any of this!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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# NH

Sima Gao really wanted to kill Fang Hongshan now. That asshole only said that Donghai was a troublesome place and it was hard to fight their way in, but he never mentioned anything about Jiang Ning's capabilities.

Fang Hongshan had actually taken so much from him for such useless information?

What an asshole!

"Do you still want it?" Jiang Ning looked at Sima Gao and waved the page in his hand. "You don't like this page?"

He put a hand into his pocket and fished out another page.

"What about this page? If you like it, come and get it."

The energy that Sima Gao had suppressed earlier started surging again. He couldn't hold his fury down at all.

He sprayed blood towards the sky!

That was going too far!

Jiang Ning was humiliating him like this!

He was really throwing his weight about!

PFFT!

Sima Gao threw up several more mouthfuls of blood and his face was void of color. It was as if

## NH

he was about to lose all the blood in his body.

He panted heavily and looked at Jiang Ning warily. "I never thought...I never imagined..."

"The martial arts circle actually has someone as highly skilled as you!"

Sima Gao pointed at Jiang Ning. "But I tell you now, someone like you is not worthy to own the Extreme Fist Technique Manual!"

Jiang Ning stood there without moving.

He moved his fingers as though he was counting down.

"Three, two, one."

Just as he counted down, Sima Gao's eyes suddenly widened. He collapsed onto the ground as his body convulsed and he was in terrible pain.

"If you want the manual, look for the Fang family, it's easier that way. But you came looking for me instead. Either you're stupid, or you're dumb." Jiang Ning shook his head.

This one punch combined the moves on three pages of the manual. The impact of the punch came in layers and they finally exploded within Sima Gao's body now.

It instantly made his heart explode.

"Jiang Hai!" Jiang Ning yelled out and Jiang Hai immediately came running in.

# NH

“Clean up the mess.”

“Yes, Young Master!”

Jiang Hai felt his heart pound wildly when he looked at the dead bodies on the floor.

He had no idea how powerful this Young Master of his was at all. It seemed like nobody could tell where Jiang Ning's limits were.

It was as if there was no limit to his strength!

This Sima Gao was very powerful and was definitely an advanced grandmaster, so he wasn't too far off from He Linbei and Yan Chinan.

But Jiang Ning had only used one punch.

Jiang Hai gulped and didn't dare to say anything. He carefully got some others to carry the dead bodies away and didn't dare to disturb Jiang Ning at all.

“Auntie Xue, that's really enough, really.” Jiang Ning walked back to the dining table to see that Xue Ning was still peeling prawns for him. She looked up to see that Sima Gao and the other two men were gone.

“Where are your friends?”

“I've sent them home.”

Jiang Ning sat down and looked at the nicely peeled prawns in his bowl. He moved his lips as if to say something, but didn't in the end. He just

NH

picked up his chopsticks and continued eating.

At the same time!

In the Song house.

Song Xiaoyu was on the seat meant for the head of the family, and the aura he exuded was now the same as the aura he used to have. He was both steady and sharp!

A man was kneeling in front of him now. That was the man that Sima Gao had arranged to keep an eye on Song Xiaoyu.

PAK!

He slapped the man across the face.

“Spit it out!”

“What other highly skilled fighters and secrets does the Sima clan have? You’d better tell me everything you know, otherwise...”

“You...AHH!”

Before he could finish his sentence, Fei sent a kick towards him. The wolves came up to kick him too, and he couldn’t stop howling in pain.

After a long time, his howls grew softer and he was left with the weak sound of his breathing.

“You have one last chance. Speak!”



## NH

Song Xiaoyu wasn't holding back at all.

This fellow was so arrogant when he threatened him earlier, and looked as though he had Song Xiaoyu's fate in his hands. But now, he was kneeling in front of Song Xiaoyu and didn't even dare to look up.

"Your method isn't going to work," Fei shook his head. "You're too cultured."

He turned to look at Brother Gou.

"Brother Gou, Big Boss said before that if you don't know, then you must ask."

PAK!

Once Fei said that, Brother Gou slapped the man across the face and sent some of his teeth flying out.

Fei didn't have to say anymore and Brother Gou grabbed the man by his hair and dragged him to the backyard.

Song Xiaoyu exhaled deeply.

"Mr Jiang also said that we should convince others by our example."

"That's right," Fei nodded. "But Big Boss didn't say we couldn't set a good example as a good fighter."

Song Xiaoyu understood Fei's words.

## NH

He felt like he still didn't fully understand Jiang Ning's words. It was true that learning never stopped.

In just twenty minutes, Brother Gou came back with a piece of paper. There were scribbles all over it.

"I've asked everything I could," said Brother Gou. "He seriously only knows this much about the Sima clan."

Song Xiaoyu was stunned.

He never knew that Brother Gou had a pen and notebook on him at all times. He had never seen Brother Gou like that before.

Brother Gou seemed to sense Song Xiaoyu's strange gaze and he laughed. "The Legend of Shengcheng taught me to do this. Instead of taxing my memory, why not just write it down?"

His eagerness to learn and that obedient expression on his face confused Song Xiaoyu even more.

How were all these terrifying fellows from Donghai starting to go down such different paths?

"If you're talking about the north," Fei frowned. "There's no chance for the Sima clan to gain anything. Even if Big Boss didn't do anything, I'd finish them off."

This was Jiang Ning's base.

## NH

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## NH

Even if Jiang Ning didn't do anything, Fei had a million and one ways to make sure the Sima clan couldn't stick around.

Even if they were a reclusive clan, they had to follow the rules of this society too!

But Jiang Ning didn't want to have anything to do with his previous identity now, and just wanted to use his own method to resolve this issue.

"Song Xiaoyu, I'll give you a number. If you're in any trouble, call them and tell them my name, and they'll know what to do."

Fei couldn't be bothered.

Jiang Ning didn't have that much time and energy to oversee everything in the world.

People like him were here to help to share Jiang Ning's burden. Besides, all those brothers of theirs back then would be more than willing to go through any dangers and risks without hesitation to help Jiang Ning out.

Fei didn't say too much and just left a few numbers and instructions with Song Xiaoyu to keep an eye on the north. Then he left with Brother Gou and the rest.

Jiang Ning's focus was on Donghai.

That was because Lin Yuzhen was in Donghai, the Lin family was in Donghai and even the headquarters of Lin Group was in Donghai.

## NH

As a forbidden territory that Jiang Ning built from scratch, Donghai was certainly the most important place to him. The Extreme Martial Arts Academy was also going to bring up Donghai's prowess by a notch!

The eight reclusive clans were slowly beginning to surface because of the Extreme Fist Technique Manual, and they were all eyeing Donghai cautiously while coveting the pages in Jiang Ning's hands.

The Sima clan had attacked the north, so what about Shenghai?

What about the southeast region? Or their bases overseas?

These reclusive clans only knew that Donghai was a place they couldn't enter easily, but they didn't know that Jiang Ning, the man who created this place, was the one who was truly terrifying!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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## NH

Jiang Ning ate his fill in the Jiang house and lay down on the rattan chair that he used to lie on as a child.

He looked up at the starry sky. It had been a long time since he relaxed like this.

The eight reclusive clans had come out from the mountain because of the pages of the Extreme Fist Technique Manual in his hands. But getting the secrets behind this manual from the reclusive clans was equally important to Jiang Ning.

A faint set of footsteps came from behind and Jiang Ning knew who it was.

He didn't move and continued to lean against the rattan chair. He heard the person behind lie on the chair next to him.

"I'm really sorry about your Master," said Jiang Daoran. "We didn't know any of this back then, and now I realize how much suffering He Daoren had gone through inside all by himself."

Jiang Ning didn't say anything.

"If he had really gone mad back then, then the Jiang family would be no more."

At that time, the Jiang family had a page of the manual and He Daoren definitely knew about it. He didn't even have to do anything. Given their relationship, Jiang Daoran was willing to just give it to him.

But He Daoren never asked for it, because he

## NH

knew that once he got the page from the Jiang family, the Jiang family would have to be destroyed.

Heishan would not allow anybody else to know about what he was doing in secret.

“He wouldn’t do that,” said Jiang Ning. “He wasn’t that sort of person.”

“But there are many things he did that I still can’t understand.”

Jiang Ning had been thinking about this for a long time.

There were some things that He Daoren did that he couldn’t figure out and couldn’t understand his rationale for doing it. Jiang Ning had been thinking about it throughout this time, but he still felt like he must have overlooked something.

He must have overlooked something that was very important that he didn’t know about.

“Perhaps he discovered some things.” Jiang Daoran fell silent for a while, then looked at Jiang Ning. “But he couldn’t tell you in time, or he didn’t want to tell you at all.”

“Something about the manual?”

Jiang Ning’s eyes darted around.

Nobody knew where the Extreme Fist Technique Manual came from. Even the reclusive clans were still searching.

## NH

But the character for Fang that the Fang family used wasn't their language and it was a character that nobody had ever seen before. This already surprised Jiang Ning greatly.

Professor Lu Jing was very sure that these words were in use once upon a time, but they had fallen out of use over time.

This was no small matter!

He Daoren had made a discovery? But why didn't He Daoren tell him anything?

There was only one possibility – continuing an investigation in this direction was too dangerous!

“Back then, a lot of things looked like it was done on a whim, but if you think about it, your Master had been very deliberate.” Jiang Daoran sighed. “I'm telling you all these things because I just want to remind you that your Master wasn't a bad person, no matter what he did.”

“This world isn't just black and white, and I'm sure you know this better than I do after going through so much. And there must always be someone standing in between the black and the white to block everything.”

“In the past, it was your Master. Now, it's you.”

As a father, Jiang Daoran didn't want Jiang Ning to have such a heavy burden. But as a man, he hoped that Jiang Ning could bear the weight on his shoulders!



# NH

With great power comes great responsibility. The reason for Jiang Ning's existence wasn't something that most people could understand.

Jiang Ning remained silent.

He just wanted to get to the bottom of things and he wanted to know why He Daoren had done all these things.

It seemed like He Daoren hadn't done all these things just to save Fang Ran.

Many things he had done was for Jiang Ning's sake!

Everything He Daoren did seemed to be a choice to slowly lead Jiang Ning to something!

Including He Daoren's own death!



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# NH

He Daoren could even give up his own life?

Jiang Ning's heart pounded wildly. He really didn't know what He Daoren was thinking about. He Daoren had led Jiang Ning one step at a time to continue the search for the Extreme Fist Technique Manual and to understand the reclusive clans of martial arts. But what was all this for?

"In any case, if you want to do anything, just go ahead. If you need me to do anything, just say the word." Jiang Daoran saw that Jiang Ning was in deep thought and didn't want to disturb him, so he got up to leave.

"Thank you," Jiang Ning's voice came from behind.

Jiang Daoran's footsteps paused when he heard this as a faint smile covered his face. He didn't say anything and just nodded slightly before leaving.

Sima Gao's wish to control the north was nothing but a dream.

His hopes to cut off Lin Group's arms and legs to threaten Jiang Ning into surrendering and giving up the pages he had on hand were a complete delusion.

The north didn't just have Lin Group, but also the Jiang family, Long family and the Xue family!

There were also so many other powerful families, as well as everyone who used to be under Jiang

# NH

Ning and Fei...

As long as Jiang Ning said the word, the entire Sima clan could be exterminated immediately, never mind one tiny Sima Gao.

They had gotten all the information they wanted.

Jiang Ning could make out Brother Gou's crooked and ugly handwriting. Jiang Ning was surprised that these eight reclusive clans actually had feuds with one another as well.

"There's some commotion in Shenghai as well," said Fei. "Gao Yali called to say that they've got their eye on the troublemakers. Should they go ahead and get rid of them?"

"These people are no fun," said Jiang Ning.

"They only want the manual and they even want to snatch it away from me. But they have no guts to go straight to Donghai to get it from me."

He could see that very clearly.

These reclusive clans weren't as high and mighty as they thought they were.

They were also wary and afraid of others.

The Fang family had suffered a great loss, and even the death of their future head of the family, Fang Xia, had only helped them to gain one more page of the manual. This made the other clans very wary of Donghai.

## NH

But what they didn't know was that the one page the Fang clan supposedly gained was a page that Jiang Ning allowed them to have.

"Let them go ahead," said Jiang Ning in a sinister voice all of a sudden. "Clean out anybody who wants to make trouble and don't bother being polite with any of these people!"

"I don't care who he is, where he comes from, and what the surname of his clan is!" he shouted coldly. "I'm going to let them see that trying to snatch the manual from me is way harder than trying to snatch the page from the Fang family!"

"Yes, Big Boss!" replied Fei immediately.

He was already sitting on the edge of his chair and raring to go.

What were these reclusive clans anyway?

Since they wanted to be reclusive, then they should have just remained hidden in the mountains and lived their leisurely lives. Why bother coming out at all?

Fei brought the wolves from Donghai to embark on a fierce mission!

No matter whether they had to go to Shenghai, the southeast region or the northwest area, as long as someone created trouble and threatened to destroy the order that had already been set, they weren't going to be polite with these troublemakers.

# NH

Either they took care of the problem, or they took care of the ones who created this problem!

A group of crazy wolves was enough to send shockwaves everywhere.

In just a few days, all those who were about to make their move quietly disappeared and nobody dared to do anything anymore. The reclusive clans remained at the back and hoped to control some people, but it didn't work at all.

That was because nobody dared to at all.

Anyone who dared to make a move would disappear overnight.

That was how Jiang Ning was responding.

The reclusive clans planned to take control of certain key people in order to upset the current order of things in the region so as to pressurize Lin Group and force Jiang Ning to cooperate with them.

But now, they couldn't even find any people or factions of power to take control of.

To those people, the forbidden territory of Donghai was way more frightening than these supposedly reclusive clans of martial artists.

They didn't know much about these reclusive clans, but they knew all about Donghai!

They knew that place that made Lin Group into a corporation that was huge beyond belief, cleaned

# NH

out the illegal circles of various regions and changed many industry rules in less than a year!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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# NH

Given Lin Group's current reputation and standing, who in this country would dare to offend them?

All of this was something that these reclusive clans simply couldn't understand.

Back at Mount Zhongnan.

The Sima clan!

They were hidden even further in, so the dense mountainous forests completely surrounded the Sima clan's estate and the entire area looked very dark and sinister.

"Sima Gao is dead!" The man seated in the leader's seat in the main hall had a grim expression on his face as he slammed his palm down loudly. "Three days! It's only been three days and he's already dead! And he didn't get a single thing done!"

"That Donghai is really terrifying and the Fang family lost a lot of people. How did the north become equally frightening? I remember the north back then..."

"That was then. The north is no longer the same. This Lin Group is really impressive."

"So what should we do? Do you mean we really have to go to Donghai to get the manual?"

Everyone started discussing among themselves.

Nobody expected things to turn out like this.

## NH

The Sima family wasn't the only one that had suffered great losses and lost highly skilled fighters in the process. The other reclusive clans that shared the same sentiments as themselves had also lost highly skilled fighters. It was as if the world outside was now fully under the control of Donghai!

"We wanted to use this to threaten and push that man from Donghai, but it looks like this isn't going to work. We've underestimated what Donghai is capable of."

"Tsk, I really didn't expect this. A few decades have passed and there's actually such a frightening place out there!"

The head of the Sima family, Sima Ru, listened to their discussion and didn't say anything. But his expression was extremely grim now.

He knew that his family wasn't the only one facing this problem. The same problem had befallen the other families. Everyone had sent out advanced grandmaster level fighters from the mountain, and not a single one had come back alive!

"Master Sima, I feel that this could possibly be a scheme by the Fang family!" someone suddenly shouted out from among the crowd and the entire hall immediately fell silent.

Sima Ru looked down at the crowd and his gaze eventually fell on the face of Sima Heng seated right in the corner.

"What did you say?" Sima Ru narrowed his eyes.



## NH

“Sima Heng, you’re saying that this is a scheme by the Fang family? You mean the manual is fake?”

“Of course the manual is real, and the Fang family has already gotten one page. But they claim that Jiang Ning has more, and that part might be fake,” said Sima Heng after he stood up and clasped his hands politely. “This might be a trap in order to make all the other reclusive clans suffer great losses for nothing.”

“How do you know that?” someone scoffed. This person clearly didn’t like Sima Heng at all.

He looked at Sima Heng’s dandy looking face and didn’t trust this guy at all. His tone of voice was filled with contempt for Sima Heng.

The people that reclusive clans hated the most were those people who relied on their glib tongue to get by and not by their martial arts prowess. This Sima Heng was only allowed into the main hall to speak because he had gained the favor of the most senior elder of the clan.

Sima Heng didn’t care about how others looked at him. He just smiled and said, “It’s so obvious, so why is there a need to even think?”

“Since the Fang family already knows that Jiang Ning has other pages, why didn’t they continue taking more pages?”

“That’s because they already got one page!”

“And is one page enough? There are nine pages in

# NH

total. Any additional pages would increase one's power in this circle, isn't it?" retorted Sima Heng. "The Sima clan would never think that we are holding onto one page too many, so I'm sure the Fang clan would think the same way!"

"But they aren't doing anything because the Fang clan doesn't want to suffer anymore losses!"

Sima Heng laughed and nodded. "That's right. The Fang clan doesn't want to suffer anymore losses. Or rather, they can't afford to lose anymore! So since the Fang clan doesn't want to suffer anymore losses, why should the Sima clan suffer losses for nothing?"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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## NH

“What are you trying to say?” The man was a little embarrassed after Sima Heng shot all his points down easily. They didn’t want to bother about someone who only knew how to argue and not fight.

If it was something that could be resolved with a fight, there was no point in arguing and it wouldn’t do anything for them either.

“My point is very simple. The Sima family doesn’t need to lead the way and end up with unnecessary losses.”

“Tsk, what do you know? Once there are no more available pages, then what say will our clan have?”

Someone immediately argued back once Sima Heng finished his sentence.

But he wasn’t angry at all and kept a smile on his face.

“Master Sima, the Fang clan is the first one to know where the pages are, so why would they tell others about it?”

Sima Heng ignored all the doubts cast by the others in the hall and walked forward to speak respectfully to Sima Ru instead. “Master Sima, the manual pages represent the clan’s influence and power.”

Sima Ru didn’t say anything. He stared at Sima Heng and fell silent for a long time.

## NH

He didn't really like Sima Heng. If the most senior elder didn't favor this man, there was no way he would allow Sima Heng to join the discussion in the main hall.

Sima Heng was already past thirty and he was only at grandmaster level, so he wasn't worth much in terms of actual physical ability.

But when it came to making plans, Sima Heng had a steadiness that was very convincing.

"So what do you think I should do?" Unlike the head of the Fang family, Fang Wei, Sima Ru never insisted on doing everything the way he wanted.

"The eight reclusive clans should join hands!" said Sima Heng directly. It has been proven that it is impossible for any single clan to get the manual from Donghai."

"It's not just the Sima clan that has suffered losses. Every single clan in this mountain has suffered losses."

"It's just one Donghai and all eight reclusive clans have suffered losses. This isn't just a matter of being embarrassed anymore."

Sima Ru frowned slightly.

He got a little displeased when it came to talking about being embarrassed.

Losing one Sima Gao wasn't really a great loss per se to the clan, but it was very embarrassing indeed.

## NH

Similarly, all eight reclusive clans had gone through the same experience. One Donghai had pressed down hard on them and they were all deeply embarrassed by their loss.

“So I suggest that we should join hands with the other reclusive clans and make a move together. On top of that, the Fang clan must be the one leading the way,” said Sima Heng confidently. “Once we get all the pages, then all of us can sit down and study the secret behind the pages together.”

Everyone in the hall wanted to say something, but since Sima Ru seemed to be listening to Sima Heng so attentively and seriously, nobody dared to speak.

“The Extreme Fist Technique Manual is very mysterious and our ancestors have been hunting it down for generations to no avail. Even if we get all nine pages to ourselves, one clan alone won’t be able to fully extract the secret behind it.” Sima Heng straightened himself up. “Combining the forces of all eight clans is the most important thing. What we need to do is to fight for more say!”

The hall fell very silent.

There was no other voice except Sima Heng’s.

Since Sima Ru was listening intently, nobody dared to interrupt at all.

“It’s just one Donghai, but it will need all eight reclusive clans to join hands and attack.” Sima Ru

# NH

scoffed quietly and could hardly believe it. “The eight reclusive clans have been utterly embarrassed.”

They had already been embarrassed, so the more important thing to do now was to get those pages.

They had to get the pages first, then only sit down and think of a way to extract the secret behind the manual.

That was the biggest reason why all of them had hidden themselves deep in the forest and waited for an opportunity.

“Sima Heng!” Sima Ru suddenly called out in a loud voice.

“Yes, Master Sima!” responded Sima Heng loudly as he immediately fell to his knees.

“Since you’re the one who suggested it, then I will leave you to do this. I will get two elders to accompany you to visit the other clans. Whether we manage to convince them to join hands or not will depend on you!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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NH

“Yes, Master Sima!” replied Sima Heng in a loud voice.

He stood up and kept that smile on his face.

He looked like a simple man and resembled a harmless looking child. He didn't look scheming at all.

But everyone in the hall knew that Sima Heng's verbal skills could even make the dead talk.

This was a proposal for the eight reclusive clans to combine forces!

And all this effort was just to defeat one little Donghai. This was already extremely embarrassing to them.

Sima Heng didn't waste any more time. He rounded up the two elders and headed to the other clans immediately.

.....

Meanwhile.

The atmosphere in the Fang house was terrible.

It felt so repressive.

Fang Wei never thought that information on the manual would be leaked to the other clans.

It had been so difficult for the Fang clan to have an advantage over the rest, but now that all the other clans knew, the Fang clan didn't have an

# NH

advantage anymore.

“Don’t let me find out who did this!” roared Fang Wei furiously. “I’ll skin that fellow alive!”

Nobody else in the hall dared to make any noise.

“Master Fang, I’ve heard that all the other reclusive clans sent men out of the mountain, but not a single clan has been able to get their hands on a page.” Someone finally spoke up very cautiously after a long period of silence.

“Almost everyone has lost an advanced grandmaster level fighter...”

He was trying to say that compared to them, the Fang clan had suffered the least losses and even gained a page in the process.

Nobody expected Donghai to be this impressive.

And that Jiang Ning turned out to be so formidable!

“Back then, the eight reclusive clans agreed that nobody would leave Mount Zhongnan until the pages surfaced. Our clan had the best chance to get the pages first, but now we’ve missed the opportunity!” Fang Wei scoffed. “We’ve not just missed it, but Fang Xia has also died because of this!”

This was directly affecting the Fang clan’s future.

Fang Dong stood to one side and didn’t say a word.



## NH

Now that Fang Xia was dead, the Fang family could only count on him in the future. Even if he didn't say anything, the position of becoming the head of the family would still fall into his lap.

So he wasn't anxious at all now and chose to just stand back and slowly display his prowess later.

He knew that Fang Wei was going to take revenge for Fang Xia, so he was going to let his father do just that. In any case, Fang Dong was still going to become the next head of the family.

The atmosphere in the main hall became very heavy.

The fury on Fang Wei's face made everyone too scared to speak too loudly. Many of them didn't even dare to mention the name 'Jiang Ning'.

DOONG!

Suddenly, a melodious ringing sound filled the air.

Someone was here!

Fang Wei looked up, and so did everyone else in the main hall. Even Fang Hongshan looked up and peeked at the main entrance from the training room he had locked himself in.

Who was here?

Was it Jiang Ning again?

Fang Hongshan stood up immediately. If it was really Jiang Ning, then a second visit to this house

NH

was definitely bad news.

Meanwhile.

Fang Wei stood at the door of the main hall and watched as a large group of people sauntered in. His expression turned rather nasty.

People from the other seven reclusive clans were all here!

“Master Fang!” The one right in front was Sima Heng from the Sima clan. He kept his warm signature smile on and greeted Fang Wei respectfully as he clasped his hands together politely. “Your junior here sends his greetings!”

Fang Wei scanned the people before him.

The men behind Sima Heng included those from the Huangfu clan, the An clan, the Xin clan, the Geng clan, the Di clan and the Xu clan!

People from the other seven reclusive clans were actually here.

Fang Wei’s expression changed a little as he stood straight and stared at these elders of the other families. He scoffed arrogantly, “Tsk. What are all of you doing in the Fang house?”

He didn’t have any regard for Sima Heng. He was just a simple looking youngster and Fang Wei couldn’t be bothered with him.

But Sima Heng wasn’t angry at all.

# NH

“Master Fang, we have come here because of the Extreme Fist Technique Manual!”



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## NH

Sima Heng took a step forward, clasped his hands politely and had a bright smile on his face. He looked extremely respectful.

Since he had introduced himself as a junior, he was going to make sure he looked the part.

Fang Wei turned to glance at him, then glanced at the rest of the men with him. The others were actually all standing behind Sima Heng, and this surprised Fang Wei.

All eight reclusive clans held onto a pride of sorts, and nobody was willing to be subservient to anybody else.

But now, a younger person from the Sima clan seemed to have become their spokesperson.

“Master Fang, we have really come here to talk about the Extreme Fist Technique Manual. Sima Heng is representing the seven clans here, so we’ll let him say what needs to be said.”

The person who said that was an elder from the Xu clan. His eyes were half closed as he spoke and didn’t seem to like Fang Wei very much.

He treated Sima Heng the same way.

Age seniority and hierarchy was extremely important and strictly followed within the reclusive clans. Sima Heng was much younger than himself, so if the head of the Xu clan hadn’t given him orders, he wouldn’t have cared about this Sima Heng at all.

## NH

He had no idea how this young fellow hypnotized Master Xu either. He had actually believed Sima Heng and agreed to his request.

The elders from the An clan and Xin clan also spoke up and they clearly wanted Sima Heng to speak on their behalf.

The two elders from the Sima clan were so old that their hair and brows were all white and their eyes were droopy. When they saw how Sima Heng managed to clinch the position of spokesperson in front of all the reclusive clans, they couldn't help but start to change their opinion of this glib tongued youngster.

It was little wonder why the most senior elder in the clan valued him. This fellow wasn't gifted in martial arts, but he was a really smart man!

"Master Fang." Sima Heng just smiled. He knew that Fang Wei had no regard for him, but he was neither angry nor anxious. "I'm grateful that the other elders have such high hopes for me. I will be in charge of communicating with Master Fang then."

Fang Wei didn't say anything.

He didn't have to give in to Sima Heng and he didn't have to care about the Sima clan either. But since elders from the other clans had come to his house, he had to show them some basic courtesy.

"Come in then!" Fang Wei stepped aside. Sima Heng went ahead to walk into the hall after he smiled and nodded.

# NH

The rest followed behind him.

Everyone took their seats in the hall while Fang Wei took the main seat. He could sense that none of these people were here with kind intentions.

People from the other seven reclusive clans had appeared at the same time and they were all elders from the various clans. Were they going to join hands and snatch the page that the Fang family had?

Then Fang family only had one page anyway. Even if they took it away from him, how were these seven clans going to split it among themselves?

“An upright person is forthcoming with his words. The seven clans have sent representatives here for the manual, but the Fang family only has one page because we were lucky.” Fang Wei went straight to the point because he didn’t want to go beating around the bush anymore. “If you intend to join hands and take the page away from me, I’d advise all of you to give it up.”

“The Fang family might not be able to hold up against a coalition of the seven other clans, but I will not allow anyone to humiliate my clan like this!”

He put on a tough front because surrendering had never crossed his mind.

He wasn’t going to surrender even if the other seven clans ganged up against him.

“Master Fang, please relax,” Sima Heng quickly

NH

smiled and clasped his hands together politely.  
“We are here to talk about the manual, but it’s not because we want the page from the Fang clan.”

“The page that the Fang clan has belongs to the Fang clan. We’re all reclusive clans, so why would we want to kill each other? What we want are the pages in Donghai. I hear that there are at least three or four pages there, right?”

Fang Wei stared at Sima Heng and narrowed his eyes.

He didn’t expect that this fellow would have his eye on the pages that Jiang Ning was holding onto!

But Jiang Ning was no ordinary man and that Donghai was certainly no ordinary place.

“Master Fang, I’m sure you are more familiar with Donghai than us, right?” continued Sima Heng.  
“So all of us have come here to ask that the Fang clan joins hands with us to surround and attack Donghai together!”



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## NH

Surround and attack Donghai?

Fang Wei's gaze changed.

He never expected Sima Heng to raise such a suggestion.

Surround and attack Donghai?

Was one tiny Donghai formidable to this extent?

When Fang Wei thought about Jiang Ning, he thought of the deceased Heishan, Fang Xia, his highest ranking bodyguards and the dozens of men who had died. Fang Wei knew very well that it was too hard for one clan to get more pages from Jiang Ning or Donghai.

And even if they managed to get any pages, none of them could afford to bear the losses they would incur in the process.

“Surround and attack Donghai?”

Fang Wei's gaze became aggressive as he stared straight at Sima Heng. A murderous air started emanating from his body.

“Are you trying to fool me? I'm not so easily fooled, you know?!” Fang Wei scoffed coldly. He wasn't going to fall for this so easily.

Sima Heng wanted the eight reclusive clans to join hands and surround and attack Donghai together? This was something they had never done before. Besides, each clan would have their own agenda in mind, so how could they combine



NH

forces? Who would they listen to?

And who would be willing to listen to someone else's orders?

"I'm not lying to you. Everyone here is an elder from the other clans and they can represent their own clans here," said Sima Heng seriously. "If I dare to spout nonsense, not only will all these elders kill me, even my own clan's elders would immediately slaughter me for ruining their reputation."

"So Master Fang, you need not worry. I am only a small fry after all, so why would I dare to fool any of you?"

"I have come today because I have the agreement of all the heads of the seven other clans. So we would like to ask the Fang clan to join us in attacking Donghai and get those other pages. Since the Fang clan knows a lot more about Donghai than we do, I think it is suitable for the Fang clan to lead this coalition."

Fang Wei was stunned for a moment when he heard these words.

He thought he had heard Sima Heng wrongly.

Let the Fang clan be the leader?

They were going to let him be the leader of the combined forces of the eight reclusive clans? How could that be?

"You want to attack Donghai and you're going to

## NH

allow the Fang clan to be the leader?”

Fang Wei scanned everyone in the hall and looked carefully at each person's face. He found it too hard to believe and felt that this had to be a trap of sorts.

Allowing the Fang clan to be the leader was equivalent as giving up their say!

“That's right,” the elder from the Xu clan nodded his head.

“We have nothing to hide. All of us have sent people out from this mountain and we've all suffered losses because of Donghai, and clearly we didn't get a single page either.”

“Donghai is no simple place, so trying to use other methods to force them to hand the pages over is simply impossible. So we have no choice but to attack them directly!”

“Since the Fang clan managed to get one page, that means you have an understanding of Donghai. So it's only right of us to make you the leader of this combined team.”

The elder glanced at Fang Wei. “After all, there are nine pages to the manual. Even if you get all nine pages, you'd still need all eight reclusive clans to decipher the secret behind it together. Those were the instructions left behind by our ancestors, and I'm sure Master Fang is well aware of it.”

“Once we get all the pages, then we'll split the power each of us has again after that. That is the

NH

best method right now,” the elder from the An clan expressed his agreement.

The most important thing now was to get the pages first. As for deciphering the secret of the manual and how to split the spoils, that could be decided later.

“Master Fang, no matter what, none of those plebians out there have the right to hold onto something like the Extreme Fist Technique Manual. This belongs to the eight reclusive clans, and it is a secret that only the eight clans should own,” said Sima Heng. “The seven other reclusive clans are willing to join hands with the Fang clan and listen to Master Fang’s orders to surround and attack Donghai together!”



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## NH

Sima Heng's words sounded like an illusion to Fang Wei.

Which one among the eight reclusive clans would be willing to submit to someone else and listen to someone else's orders?

But now, a youngster like Sima Heng was actually representing the other seven clans to say that they were willing to let the Fang clan take the lead to join hands and attack Donghai together.

None of this sounded real.

But the elders from the other clans all nodded their heads and acknowledged what Sima Heng was saying.

Fang Wei narrowed his eyes and felt that something was not quite right somewhere.

But Sima Heng's words also made a lot of sense.

The eight reclusive clans had chosen to conceal themselves in Mount Zhongnan back then precisely because they were waiting for the manual to make an appearance.

They existed for the sake of the Extreme Fist Technique Manual. They were supposed to decipher the secrets of the manual and to pursue a higher calling.

Even if they had collected all nine pages, it would take the combined effort of all eight reclusive families to take out the items they had inherited over the years in order to crack the code behind

## NH

the manual. Working together before getting the pages seemed to be the best option at the moment.

“By allowing the Fang clan to take the lead, it means the other seven clans will listen to my instructions?” Fang Wei scoffed and still felt like this was difficult to believe. “Do you know what that implies?”

“The Fang clan has one page of the manual, so your clan naturally has more say,” said Sima Heng. “All seven clans have agreed on that.”

“Everyone’s aim is very clear. We are all here for the sake of the secret behind the manual, so Master Fang, you really don’t have to be so worried.”

He was telling the truth.

Of course Fang Wei knew that the one with more pages got more say. That was exactly what he was after in the first place.

All eight clans were working towards obtaining more pages. Even if all eight clans held onto one page, whoever had the additional ninth page would get more say. But when it came to deciphering the secret behind the manual, none of the clans could be left out.

Fang Wei didn’t say anything. He frowned and went into deep thought.

He still felt that this had come a little too suddenly, yet at the same time, that was what he

NH

wanted to achieve. In fact, this was the best method to get to what he wanted.

“Alright then!” Fang Wei looked up. “Since everyone is agreeable to let the Fang clan take the lead and all of you trust the Fang clan, then of course, I can’t let everyone down.”

He stood up and looked at everyone.

“So what if Donghai is a forbidden territory?” Fang Wei scoffed coldly. “Once the eight reclusive clans join hands, even if Donghai is surrounded by bronze and iron walls, we’ll still be able to trample all over their city walls!”

“There are a number of pages still left in Donghai, so we’re going to get them all back now!”

His gaze slowly became colder and colder.

He was going to kill that Jiang Ning as well!

Did Jiang Ning think he could get away with killing Fang Xia?

Did Jiang Ning think he could get away with taking Fang Ran away?

Jiang Ning could dream on!

Once the eight clans joined hands, then one tiny Donghai and one tiny Jiang Ning...were going to be trampled upon easily!

“Master Fang is truly an imposing man!” Sima Heng quickly said all the right things. “With

## NH

Master Fang as our leader, I'm sure that we'll be able to obtain all the pages in the shortest time possible. Once all eight clans join hands, who will be able to stop us?"

Everyone nodded.

The eight clans had never tried to join hands before.

But if they put their minds to it, there was nothing they couldn't do.

"Since we're all agreeable, then let's proceed to discuss what we actually have to do." Sima Heng looked around and smiled. "The Fang clan will lead the way and each clan shall contribute some highly skilled fighters. It's just one Donghai, so even though it's supposedly a forbidden territory, I'm sure we can raze it to the ground."

All of them remained in the hall and immediately started making plans.

Meanwhile.

Donghai!

This was a city famous for being a forbidden territory, a forbidden zone.

No matter who you were, you were forbidden from making trouble in this city.

The reputation of Donghai reached much further than Jiang Ning's. Most people only knew that Donghai was a forbidden territory, but very few

# NH

actually knew that the man who had created this forbidden zone was actually Jiang Ning!



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# NH

Inside the Extreme Martial Arts Academy.

BAM!

There was a loud blast as Fang Qiu went flying.

But he slammed a palm against the floor and bounced up again.

“Again!” shouted Fang Qiu loudly as he dashed towards Tan Xing again.

PAK!

Tan Xing’s long legs were like a whip as they gave a mighty kick. Fang Qiu immediately put up his hands to block the kick, but he was still forced to retreat from the strong impact the kicks had.

“Every additional inch I get is additional impact! You can use your boxing technique, but if you’re not as fast as my kicks, then you’re still going to die!” shouted Tan Xing. “Before your fists reach me, I’ve already kicked your head to smithereens, don’t you get it?”

“You must be faster! Even faster! Or at least, you’ve got to be faster than me!”

He pushed Fang Qiu’s potential to the limit by increasing his speed continuously in order to force Fang Qiu to increase his own speed.

BAM!

Fang Qiu put in his best efforts to increase his speed, but he still wasn’t fast enough, so Tan Xing

NH

sent him flying out again.

He lay on the ground with his arms and legs spread out as he panted heavily. His entire body was soaked in perspiration.

Faster? How could he get any faster?

He remembered the first time he came to Donghai, he issued a challenge to Extreme Martial Arts Academy and even announced that he wanted to fight Tan Xing. He thought that even though they were both advanced grandmasters, Tan Xing was much older with less energy, so Tan Xing wouldn't be a match for him.

But now he realized that if he had actually fought with Tan Xing that day, he would have died!

This Donghai and this Extreme Martial Arts Academy was filled with a bunch of freaks, and he wasn't even including Jiang Ning. They were all so powerful, it was as if they had no limits.

Tan Xing and the other old men just looked like a bunch of weak old geezers who couldn't hold up against the wind. But the moment they actually started fighting, you might literally vomit blood.

Fang Qiu just lay on the floor and didn't want to move anymore. He really didn't have any more energy.

After he was done fighting Tan Xing and took a short break, he was supposed to fight Ye Shan. After Ye Shan, there was still the bajiquan master, then the taijiquan master...

## NH

He felt like he was at his limit every single day and was being pushed to the max by all these people.

Every day, he felt like he was going to break down soon, and he was going over the edge...

But Fang Qiu could also feel that he was improving at an astounding speed. The feeling of having those cells burst then slowly rejuvenate was really amazing.

“You can’t take it already?” Ye Shan was sitting by the side and put down his empty teacup. “It’s my turn, right?”

He glanced at Fang Qiu and stood up.

Fang Qiu took a deep breath and felt like these arms and legs on his body didn’t belong to him anymore. He couldn’t even lift them.

Ye Shan didn’t bother being nice. He kicked Fang Qiu’s butt and said, “You! Get up!”

PAK!

Fang Qiu bounced right back up. Even though he was still panting, the look in his eyes was still resolute.

He raised his arms and stood steadily as he clenched his fists tightly. He started to think about what techniques Ye Shan used and how he ought to deal with them.

“Are you ready?”

## NH

Fang Qiu was still thinking when he heard Ye Shan suddenly ask him this question.

He got a shock and wanted to say that he wasn't ready, but Ye Shan's fist had already reached him!

BAM!

Fang Qiu fell back onto the floor and he panted heavily. This time, he really couldn't get up anymore. He just lay on the floor and looked up at the ceiling. He felt like his soul was going to leave him soon.

How long was it going to take for him to be on top of all these old fellows?

"No, no, I really can't take it anymore," Fang Qiu shook his head. "I really can't get up anymore."

Just as he said this, a flurry of footsteps came from outside the door.

"I never thought that someone from the Fang clan would become this useless!"

Fang Qiu's expression instantly changed when he heard this voice. He looked up and saw that it was Fang Wei indeed. He immediately bounced up from the floor and a murderous air flowed out from his body!



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## NH

In that instant, Fang Qiu didn't feel tired anymore. He felt as though he had been given an energy booster and he glared straight at Fang Wei. He wished he could kill Fang Wei right now!

Fang Wei looked at Fang Qiu's murderous glare and narrowed his eyes. "Fang Qiu, you're really bold for daring to stare at me like that."

"Who are you people?" shouted Tan Xing fiercely as he glanced at all the men who barged into the academy while Fang Qiu remained silent.

There were a number of men behind Fang Wei, and they all gave off a very aggressive presence, so they were clearly pretty highly skilled.

All of them were at least at advanced grandmaster level!

"Fang Wei!" Fang Qiu suddenly spoke up. His voice was trembling slightly.

He didn't call this man 'Father' and just used Fang Wei's name directly.

He had no more respect for this man.

The moment they heard this name, Tan Xing and the rest realized who they were faced with.

They didn't think that these men would be from the reclusive clans. These fellows...actually came directly to Donghai?

The men behind Fang Wei were all highly skilled and none of them were any weaker than Fang

## NH

Hongshan. It was impossible for all these people to be from the Fang family, which meant...

Tan Xing and Ye Shan exchanged glances. All the other grandmasters present realized what was going on as well.

In no time, the entire academy was surrounded by many others.

“Fang Qiu, you actually dared to call me by name. That’s very unfilial of you.” Fang Wei narrowed his eyes. “Who allowed you to be so rude?”

“Stop pretending!” roared Fang Qiu angrily. “Fang Wei, I’m not your son, so forget about trying to fool me again!”

Fang Wei’s expression changed slightly when he heard these words. Fang Ran knew everything after all. He thought that Fang Ran didn’t know.

He stared at Fang Qiu for a long while. The murderous look in his eyes seemed to waver a little.

He seemed to be wondering if he should kill Fang Qiu right now!

He wondered if he should just make this bastard just disappear from the face of this earth.

But suddenly, he started laughing.

“I’m not here to look for you today.”

Fang Qiu was nothing compared to the Extreme

## NH

Fist Technique Manual. If he wanted to kill someone, Jiang Ning was first on the list!

Fang Wei turned to look at Tan Xing, then at all the other grandmasters. He didn't bother hiding any of the contempt on his face.

"Where's Jiang Ning?" he asked calmly. "Extreme Martial Arts Academy is a good name, but can Jiang Ning keep this academy?"

"Why isn't he coming out to receive us since we're all here?"

"What do you want? You can look for me too," said Tan Xing.

He knew that all these people weren't here on friendly terms. But he was also surprised that they had actually come directly to the academy.

Tan Xing knew that Jiang Ning would get the news of their arrival in Donghai very quickly, but he wouldn't be able to reach the academy so quickly and Tan Xing would have to try to hold these people off for a while more.

"No problem. It doesn't matter whether he's around or not," said Fang Wei. "I'll just go straight to the point."

"We've come here for the Extreme Fist Technique Manual! We don't want to waste any time. Hand the manual over right now, otherwise you can forget about keeping this academy open!"

Tan Xing and the rest had grim expressions on

# NH

their faces now.

These people were really coming very aggressively at them.

There were so many highly skilled fighters among them, and none of them was simple. If they really had to fight, the Donghai side was going to suffer losses.

The martial arts circle had been on the decline for too many years, so these older grandmasters were the only really highly skilled fighters left, while the younger ones were still in training. How were they going to handle all these people?

These reclusive clans were really shameless!

“The reclusive clans were from the martial arts circle once upon a time after all, so we wouldn’t bully you. Tell you what, we’ll go according to the rules of the martial arts circle. You choose eight people and fight with us!”

Fang Wei’s eyes crinkled as he smiled, “We’ll take turns to duel, and whichever side is left standing will be the winner. The Extreme Martial Arts Academy has nearly a hundred students plus all the senior teachers here, so all in all, our side is on the losing end.”



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## NH

Tan Xing's expression was very grim.

The eight men who had barged in were all advanced grandmasters!

They were advanced grandmasters who had been trained in various aspects for many years, so they were very strong. Who was really on the losing end?

"If you lose, then hand over the Extreme Fist Technique Manual and close this academy! You shall not use the word 'Extreme' anymore!"

"And what if your side loses?" asked Fang Qiu angrily.

He really wanted to kill this bastard in front of him!

"If we lose?" Fang Wei burst out laughing. The elders from the other clans with him also burst out laughing.

Would they lose?

That had to be a joke, right?

If the reclusive clans didn't want to keep this matter low profile and use the most peaceful method to get the manual so as to avoid any unnecessary trouble, they would have just gone ahead to snatch the manual from these people.

But the reclusive clans were very concerned with reputation.

## NH

Publicly snatching things from others made them look uncultured and would ruin their reputation.

“That’s impossible.” Fang Wei just shook his head. “Fang Qiu, you’ve spent some years in the Fang clan yourself. Do you think your side would be able to win us?”

His gaze was filled with nothing but contempt. It was the same way he had always looked at Fang Qiu. Fang Wei had never treated Fang Qiu as a member of the Fang family, and always treated him as someone unimportant and even someone hated.

“You want to get what you want without doing anything?” said Fang Qiu. “Dream on!”

“Get out right now, otherwise...you can forget about leaving this place!”

He was furious.

The eight reclusive clans had actually joined hands to attack. It was clear that their earlier methods to force Jiang Ning to hand the manual over had failed.

They all knew that it was impossible for any one clan to take the manual away from Jiang Ning, so all eight of them ganged up.

So shameless!

How terribly shameless!

These were supposed to be the eight reclusive

## NH

clans of martial artists! Where was their pride?

Fang Qiu's gaze made Fang Wei feel very uncomfortable, and it also made the other seven elders feel uneasy.

They could see what Fang Qiu's gaze meant. Fang Qiu was laughing at them for saying that they were clans who supposedly removed themselves from the martial arts circle because they were too good for the martial arts circle, but now they had joined hands to come back and bully the people in the martial arts circle.

If not for the sake of getting the manual, nobody would want to work with the other clans.

But when faced with selfish gain, everything else was secondary!

"Haha, Fang Qiu, stop trying to fight us, you don't stand a chance," said Fang Wei confidently as he raised his head slightly. "Fine. If we lose, then we'll leave Donghai immediately and never come back, and we won't take your pages. How's that?"

"That's a fair deal. After all, the Extreme Fist Technique Manual will only land in the hands of those are capable of keeping it. If you dare to take up this challenge, then let's begin. But if you don't dare to..."

He laughed sinisterly and the elders behind him had dark expressions on their faces.

If these people didn't dare to take them on, it meant that they were wary of the eight reclusive

# NH

clans!

They knew that they were no match for the clans. If the soft method didn't work, then they were going to take the hard way. The eight reclusive clans had combined forces and wanted the manual, so they were getting those pages by hook or by crook.

It didn't really matter what decision Tan Xing and the rest made.

Tan Xing's expression was grave as he pulled the furious Fang Qiu back.

This was indeed the rules of the martial arts circle. Someone had come to challenge the academy!

According to the rules of the past, if the challenger successfully defeated the academy, the challenger would break the signboard of the academy and it was equivalent to permanently ruining the reputation of the academy. It was a very cruel thing to do.

"That's not enough." Tan Xing looked at Fang Wei and his voice remained calm. "According to the rules of the martial arts circle, if you win, you can take something away. But if you lose, you must leave something behind."

He knew that this coalition must have been well-prepared before coming here together. The few of them at the academy wouldn't be able to hold these men off.

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If they really had to fight, then regardless of whether they did a proper duel or they just fought head on, the academy was doomed to lose!

He stared straight at Fang Wei while thinking to himself, “Jiang Ning, hurry up!”



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## NH

Even if he gave it his best shot, Tan Xing wasn't confident of taking down so many highly skilled fighters.

He could only hope that Jiang Ning had received the news and was rushing back now!

The eight reclusive families had joined hands and purposely said that they wanted to challenge the academy according to the rules of the martial arts circle. Tan Xing knew what they were trying to do. These people weren't just going to get some people killed, but they were also going to kill off any motivation and confidence anybody had in the martial arts circle.

They were going to make sure that the reputation of all these highly skilled fighters of the martial arts circle would be left in tatters in front of all the students of Extreme Martial Arts Academy!

They were such vile people.

"If you want to challenge the academy, then you've got to play fair. If you win, you can take what you want. But if you lose, then you've got to leave behind what we want. How about that?" Tan Xing said all these words in a neutral and calm tone, even though he was faced with a combined team from the eight reclusive clans.

He remained unfazed as he looked at Fang Wei.

Fang Wei didn't say anything. He turned to look at Sima Heng who had come along, and after Sima Heng nodded, Fang Wei replied, "But of course. Since we said we're going to follow the rules of

## NH

the martial arts circle, then we should follow the rules in its entirety.”

“As I said, we want the Extreme Fist Technique Manual and we also want you to shut this academy down. If we lose, what do you want?”

“Of course we want something equivalent to that,” replied Tan Xing after thinking about it for a moment. “We want all the information the reclusive clans have regarding the manual!”

The men from the eight reclusive clans had a slight change in expression.

“How dare you say such boastful words!” The elder from the An clan shook his head and spat disdainfully, “All of you are really greedy beyond belief!”

These people wanted information on the Extreme Fist Technique Manual?

This was something that the eight reclusive clans kept a secret. They weren’t even willing to share it with the other clans, what more Donghai.

Besides, Donghai was going to lose all their pages soon, so why would they want this information?

They could dream on!

“Why, can’t afford to lose?” Fang Qiu glanced at the elder from the An clan. “If you can’t afford to lose, then get out!”

## NH

He didn't bother being polite to them. He no longer had that respect he used to have for the reclusive clans.

These people were not worthy of his respect.

"Fine!" Fang Wei agreed to the conditions.

Since they were definitely going to win, they didn't have to hesitate. The eight clans had joined hands to make this attack after all. If they actually still lost in the end, then they would rather kill themselves.

No matter how formidable Donghai was and no matter how many old hands in the martial arts circle were within this Extreme Martial Arts Academy, the difference in their skill level was very apparent.

In no time.

The practicing arena was cleared out.

The atmosphere in the air became unusually tense.

All the students surrounding the academy held their breaths and focused their attention on the people on both sides of the practicing arena.

One side were the best of Extreme Martial Arts Academy, while the other side were the eight reclusive clans!

Outside the academy, Huang Yuming had already sent men to surround the outside of the academy.



## NH

No matter what happened inside and what the result was, he was responsible for maintaining order within Donghai.

Jiang Ning had gotten the news almost immediately.

The men from the reclusive clans had been followed from the moment they set foot into Donghai all the way until they reached the academy.

Inside Lin Group.

Huang Yuming reported the situation to Jiang Ning over the phone, and Jiang Ning wasn't surprised at all.

It was as if he already knew that this was going to happen.

So what if the eight reclusive clans were here?

Before having an understanding of these people, Jiang Ning was a little more wary. But after he knew more about them and found out what these reclusive clans were capable of after his last visit to the Fang house, he wasn't interested in them anymore.

"They seem to have understood that they'll never get the pages from me if they fight on their own, so they've joined hands."

Jiang Ning hung up the phone and looked as calm as ever. He didn't look the slightest bit anxious.

# NH

He didn't feel any pressure even though Tan Xing was feeling pressured by this joint effort by the reclusive clans.

“Just nice,” Fei laughed cheekily. “Big Boss, weren't you waiting for them to come knocking on your door so that you could get more information on the manual?”



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# NH

Fei knew Jiang Ning well.

Everything that Jiang Ning did was planned way ahead of time.

Ever since he found out that the reclusive clans had sent people to the north, Shenghai and even to the northwest, Jiang Ning already had a plan ready to deal with them. He struck back fiercely and made sure they were all defeated soundly.

He did that to force them to join hands in order to get the manual.

Once they had all come together, that would save Jiang Ning the trouble of looking them up one by one.

Jiang Ning got up and Fei immediately stood up to follow him.

“You don’t have to go to the academy,” Jiang Ning glanced at Fei. “I’ll settle this personally.”

“Then what do I do?” asked Fei immediately.

“Seal off the city!” Jiang Ning left Fei with those words and walked out. Fei was already terribly excited.

They were going to lock their opponents in!

These reclusive clans could forget about getting out of Donghai!

Meanwhile.

## NH

At Extreme Martial Arts Academy.

The eight reclusive clans had come together as one. Just looking at the highly skilled fighters they had sent made everyone feel rather nervous.

They were elders from their own clans and all of them were at advanced grandmaster level.

On the academy's side, there was Tan Xing, Ye Shan, the bajiquan grandmaster, Master Yu, the taijiquan grandmaster, Master Chen, as well as Fang Qiu. That was just five people.

Fang Wei sat on one side and sat up straight as he looked at the men on the other side. The disdain on his face only became more apparent.

If only one family came to Donghai, it was difficult to send seven or eight advanced grandmasters who would be at a sufficiently high level. But since the eight clans joined hands, each clan only had to send one person out and it would be enough to suppress the academy.

“So, for the first round, who's going to do it?” Of course Fang Wei wasn't going up first.

Since he was the leader, he had to make arrangements.

He looked around and nobody said anything. Sima Heng immediately glanced at his own clan's elder.

“Of course the Sima clan will go first.” The elder stood up and stroked his long beard gently as he

## NH

glanced at the other side. “For the first match, I’ll start all of us off!”

He walked to the middle of the practicing arena and snorted.

“Who’s going first?” he shouted loudly on purpose so that everyone in the academy could hear him.

He was being extremely aggressive!

“I’m going first!” Fang Qiu jumped into the arena without waiting for Tan Xing to say anything. He couldn’t hold himself back anymore.

The murderous look in his eyes could fill the whole arena!

He glared across at Fang Wei and wished the man in the arena was Fang Wei. He was going to kill that asshole with his own hands!

Fang Wei narrowed his eyes when he saw Fang Qiu enter the arena and didn’t say anything.

Tan Xing thought about holding Fang Qiu back, but decided against it in the end.

He knew that Fang Qiu was furious now. The hatred and murder in his eyes was going to explode out of him soon.

“You were from a reclusive clan, but you’ve now joined the martial arts circle. Don’t you find yourself an embarrassment?” The elder from the Sima clan let out a sigh as he shook his head. His expression was filled with disappointment.

## NH

To him, the reclusive clans were a class above the martial arts circle. They had left the circle a long time ago and had exceeded the level that the martial arts circle was at.

Fang Qiu got into position and his gaze was vicious.

He raised one arm up high and kept the other in front of him to put himself in a taijiquan stance.

“The one thing that I’m most embarrassed of in my lifetime is how I used to think I was part of the Fang family!” shouted Fang Qiu all of a sudden before making his move.

His feet moved as if they were sweeping fallen leaves aside. He slid across the floor and flipped his palms. He exchanged his fists for palms and combined both the toughness and gentleness of the moves as he charged towards the Sima clan elder!

BAM!

BAM!

BAM!

In no time, the two of them exchanged more than ten moves!

Fang Qiu did not move quickly, but every palm and every punch he delivered carried a unique sort of rhythm. His feet looked like they were stepping on a large yin yang symbol and his moves flowed as beautifully and smoothly as water.

NH

“He’s got it now!” exclaimed Master Chen, the taijiquan grandmaster.



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# NH

During this time, all the grandmasters in the academy had taught Fang Qiu like he was their disciple.

They hadn't held anything back from him.

They had pushed Fang Qiu to his limits almost every single day. They made him change everything he knew before to start all over again.

He was to learn everything from boxing, to kicks, to palm techniques and more.

That was the idea that Jiang Ning had in mind.

Right now, Fang Qiu was furious and the murder on his face could fill the sky, but it was also clear that he was very steady.

As he delivered move after move, his body advanced forward, but his steps didn't carry great weight and power. Instead, they seemed rather light and he could slide forward with just one tiptoe.

BAM!

The Sima clan elder scoffed and had no regard for Fang Qiu.

Fang Qiu was just a youngster who wasn't even qualified to duel with him!

If the reclusive clans didn't need to get their hands on the manual in a dignified way, he wouldn't care to duel with Fang Qiu at all.



## NH

He sent a palm out, but Fang Qiu cushioned the impact and used a gentle move to weaken his strong attack.

No matter how fierce the attack from the elder was, Fang Qiu never tried to meet the attack head on. Instead, he just dispelled the energy from each move and continuously softened the impact as he waited for a good opportunity to counterattack.

The elder's expression started getting nasty. He took two steps back, then slammed another palm at Fang Qiu.

BAM!

Fang Qiu used the back of his palm to block the attack, then moved to the side immediately to stand behind the elder and knocked into the elder's shoulder!

The elder actually ended up staggering a few steps back.

He looked in shock at Fang Qiu and couldn't believe how the enraged Fang Qiu actually didn't lose his cool and managed to remain this calm.

He had made so many moves but he couldn't seem to get through to Fang Qiu. It made the elder feel like he was just punching a huge pile of cotton wool!

"I'm surprised that you've actually improved!" Fang Wei scoffed. "Elder, you don't have to be kind to this boy. He's not part of the Fang family

NH

anymore!”

“Even if you kill him, I won't say anything!”

“Alright!” The elder steadied himself and suddenly exploded with energy. “In that case, don't blame me for being vicious!”

SWOOSH!

He suddenly increased his speed and it only took one large stride for him to reach Fang Qiu!

His palm became like a knife as it sliced towards Fang Qiu's throat.

BAM!

Fang Qiu was neither nervous nor slow as he raised one hand to block the impact and held the other arm high to dispel the energy from the elder's attack while continuously moving back. It made the elder so angry, as if his attacks were still getting nowhere.

“Stop dodging my attacks if you dare!”

BOOM!

Just as he said that, the murderous air emanating from Fang Qiu's face instantly intensified. His feet stood still and he suddenly turned his body.

Just when the elder came charging towards him and he was less than half a meter away from Fang Qiu, Fang Qiu suddenly exerted a great force that seemed able to shake the floor. There was a

NH

terrible screech that came from the shoes rubbing against the floor.

SCREEEECH!

He slammed himself right into the elder!

Mountainous Impact!

There was a terrible blast!

It was as though mountains had crashed into one another. The elder gave a loud yelp as a number of his ribs broke. He went flying and crashed heavily onto the floor.

The entire academy instantly fell silent.

Tan Xing felt all the goosebumps on his skin rise, while Master Yu, the bajiquan grandmaster, was red faced with excitement.

Fang Qiu had used the Mountainous Impact move well!

It was excellently executed!

This must have been something Jiang Ning taught him and was actually a merger with taijiquan. The Sima clan elder thought he was sure of Fang Qiu's tactics and was about to strike Fang Qiu hard when Fang Qiu unexpectedly suddenly changed to a completely different school of techniques.

"You..."

NH

“You’ve lost!” shouted Fang Qiu. “Looks like that’s all the Sima clan is worth!”

PFFFT! The Sima clan elder was so angry that he opened his mouth and spewed a whole mouthful of blood out.

He had underestimated his opponent!



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