Daily Life 321

Chapter 321: Brother, Give Me a Light

When Father Wang arrived at the gate of No. 60 High School, it was the first time that he was alarmed by such a scene. To be honest, it gave him a sense of deja vu. Back when Wang Ling had just entered kindergarten, there had also been a large crowd of parents standing at the kindergarten's front gate when school was over.

But since then, Father Wang had no longer dropped Wang Ling off at kindergarten. During that time, Wang Ling had been targeted by quite a number of child traffickers because of his cute looks; in the end, the day he had been kidnapped was the day that the entire human trafficking ring had been exterminated. In the time since Wang Ling started kindergarten to when he graduated primary school, he set a record for exterminating thousands of human trafficking rings.

And with regard to this matter, both the Wang family's father and son kept their lips sealed and told no one about it — hiding the accomplishments and fame.

Thus, personally coming to pick Wang Ling up this time gave Father Wang a faint sense of nostalgia. He hadn't planned to come, but on one hand, Teacher Pan had personally called him this time, and on the other hand, this marvelous scene was indeed happening at No. 60 High School's front gate, with a lot of parents even dragging the rest of the family with them to come and pick up their kids. Other parents had all come; if he was the only one who didn't show up, it would definitely look a little strange.

Pushing his black-rimmed glasses up, Father Wang walked into the crowd with his hands in his pockets, then realized that while the scene looked chaotic, the parents were actually in a queue.

The reason why it looked chaotic was that there were some parents who had also brought their sect followers or disciples for the sake of keeping up appearances. While the parents queued up, the disciples surrounded the perimeter, so everything looked disorderly.

Looking at the long line that snaked out in front of him, Father Wang sighed deeply. He had never been subjected to a grievance like this except for when he calmly waited in the long lines at the annual comic convention.

The process was obviously rather slow since the teachers at the school gate had to check the parents' identities one by one before calling out the numbers. Some of the parents waited impatiently with deep frowns on their faces.

Many of the parents in line were distinguished figures who definitely had their own personal affairs to see to, but no one cursed irritably or urged the teachers to be quicker.

It was moments like this that often reflected a person's nature.

For the sake of making sure that the students returned home safely, the school teachers themselves had delayed getting off work on time, and instead remained at school to do overtime... they had done this much, what could anyone say? Who could complain?

Father Wang stood quietly at the very end of the line, but he didn't feel bored. Writing came from life, and sometimes it was good to come out and collect source material for characters; this could probably be considered an occupational disease.

He didn't have a high realm and was only at the early Qi Condensation stage. But even if his level wasn't high, he could still differentiate between strong and weak auras based on careful observation. For example, he thought that the middle-aged man standing in front of him at the moment wasn't simple.

The man looked very rough; he had a beautiful beard and was dressed in traditional attire. He walked with his head high and his back straight, and there were several kitchen knives tucked around his waist. A person could tell with one look that he was a sect leader.

Father Wang took the initiative to come forward and pat the man on the shoulder. "Brother, are you here to pick up your kid, too?"

As he spoke, Father Wang noticed many of the young men around them, who were attired in a similar way to the man in front of him, shift their gazes one by one to look at him. In his heart, he confirmed the man's identity once again.

Father Wang knew very well that they were probably this person's disciples.

"Ah?"

The middle-aged man hadn't expected anyone to speak to him of their own accord. He was taken aback at first, then turned his head to look at Father Wang before he replied offhandedly, "Mm..."

Father Wang wasn't tall, and didn't even reach the man's shoulder. He even had to tilt his head up a little to speak to him. The contrast in their physiques was striking.

Father Wang: "Is your son in the regular class or the elite class?"

The middle-aged man's face darkened instantly. "..." This was just rubbing it in!

His greatest fear was that someone would ask this question.

He was Head of Kitchen Knife Sect, but his son had only been able to enter a regular class. This really wasn't funny.

Hence, this head of Kitchen Knife Sect chose to keep quiet in that moment. He thought that as long as he didn't reply, this person should probably stop asking more questions.

Unfortunately, the person he was facing was Father Wang.

It could only be said that Father Wang was in the end Father Wang. As a veteran web novelist, whenever he encountered a problem while he was collecting material for inspiration, he would fully display his indomitable spirit.

Father Wang: "Brother? Why aren't you speaking?"

Head of Kitchen Knife Sect: "..."

Father Wang patted the man on the shoulder. "It's okay, we're all parents. We're in line right now, why don't we talk about our how kids are doing in their studies? My kid just entered school this year and his performance in the entrance exam was an aberration."

An aberration?

The head of Kitchen Knife Sect was instantly delighted. "Did your son also enter the regular class because of an aberration?"

Father Wang shook his head. "No... he's in the elite class."

The head of Kitchen Knife Sect just wanted to roar. "..." Then why are you complaining?!

Father Wang: "My son is quite introverted. I thought that if he was in the elite class, he might eventually develop a sense of inferiority from being around a group of remarkable children. Hence, I initially wanted him to enter a regular class or a remedial class."

When he said this, Father Wang sighed. "Who knew, this guy ended up performing out of the ordinary! I just wanted him to be a bad student!"

Head of Kitchen Knife Sect: ???

How was this just a f**king aberration? This was already an abnormality by far! What parent nowadays longed for their children to be bad students rather than dragons and phoenixes? At that moment, the head of Kitchen Knife Sect deeply felt that he had encountered a very strange parent, and he instantly didn't want to talk any longer.

Continuing to talk with this person would just make him unhappy.

But when the middle-aged man was turning his head away, he saw out of the corner of his eye that Father Wang had taken out a small notebook and a pen, and seemed to recording something down...

It was impossible that this grand head of Kitchen Knife Sect wouldn't have sharp eyes. Narrowing them, he could clearly see the words Father Wang had written in his notebook. It said — Source Material One: Head of Kitchen Knife Sect, a burly man with a tough and stocky build; wears several kitchen knives around his waist; frequently distressed about the fact that his son is in a regular class. From a preliminary personality assessment, this person is probably a true tsundere...

Seeing this, the corners of the middle-aged man's mouth twitched violently and he got a little angry. "You... who are you..."

Father Wang pushed up his black-rimmed glasses with poise. "My apologies, brother, I'm collecting material for inspiration; this is my job as a web novelist."

Head of Kitchen Knife Sect: "..."

Just then, Father Wang took out a black cigar from his pocket and stuck it in his mouth.

Then, he looked at the middle-aged man with a calm expression and said, "Brother, do you have a light? Lend me a light!"

The middle-aged man had been trembling with anger, but the moment he saw the cigar, he calmed down immediately... This cigar was at the level of a national treasure! Only people at that level would have it! He looked at Father Wang in shock, his face pale. Who the hell was this man?

Chapter 322: Do You See That Pretty Boy Up Ahead with the Dead Fish Eyes?

Father Wang's black cigar had a unique origin, and people with little life experience wouldn't recognize it. But the head of Kitchen Knife Sect was different. Jiang Haifu might only be at the late Golden Core stage and hadn't graduated from any renowned university due to how poor his family had been when he was a kid, but he was the founder of a sect, after all. All these years, he had traveled all over the world to collect all kinds of food ingredients — he could sniff out the celestial treasures which had been added to this cigar.

When Father Wang had been exercising his poisonous tongue to its fullest, Jiang Haifu's subordinates around them had already been unable to take it. If it wasn't because there were other parents and teachers here as well as for the sake of Kitchen Knife Sect's face, they would already have long rushed Father Wang and bore him away.

But when these people saw Jiang Haifu's face suddenly turn pale, they were stunned; they had rarely seen such an expression on the sect leader's face.

Just a moment ago, he had still looked like he was choking down his anger. But when he saw that black cigar, he had instantly turned to stone.

After being lost in thought for a full minute, Jiang Haifu came back to his senses and took out a lighter to give Father Wang a light. He said a little faintly, "Brother, your cigar... it's not bad! Where did you buy it?"

He didn't use the same impatient tone as earlier; after seeing the black cigar which Father Wang had pulled out, Jiang Haifu felt like he had been cut down to size in front of the other man.

"Oh, a fan gave this to me." Father Wang took one puff on the cigar and blew out a light smoke ring, downplaying his words.

The corners of Jiang Haifu's mouth twitched violently. "..."

A... fan gave it to him?

What kind of fan could gift this kind of national treasure level cigar?!

His eyes were glued to the cigar in Father Wang's hand, a look of envy on his face. It was difficult to experience the effects of this cigar unless you were above the Golden Core stage. The cigar smoke wouldn't make people choke at all, and instead had a delicate and undefinable fragrance of fine perfume.

If you were in the middle of seclusion in particular, and could smoke this type of cigar every day, you would simply gain twice as much in your cultivation for half the effort. Furthermore, it also had the effect of preventing inner deviation... There was a good saying: A smoke after, and you will surpass the immortals 1 .

This kind of national treasure level cigar was something you could only obtain fortuitously.

Father Wang gazed at Jiang Haifu with a knowing expression. Then he smiled. "I only brought one out with me today. If you want, I'll send some to you later on. That fan of mine sends me some every six months."

Jiang Haifu was stunned for a moment, and then laughed like a peach blossom flowering. "How can I accept that..."

"We're both parents, don't be so polite! Our sons are in the same grade; from now on, they can look after each other at school." Father Wang smiled, squinting. "My son's name is Wang Ling, Ling in 'command' 2 . He's very introverted and probably doesn't have any friends in the other classes."

Jiang Haifu nodded. "That'll be good! We actually run a restaurant. Brother Wang should come by whenever you're free..."

On the side, several Kitchen Knife Sect disciples were already dumbstruck at this scene. It hadn't been long, but they were already calling each other brother.

If ladies could build a friendship over a handbag, then there were times when men could build a friendship over a cigar or a glass of wine.

By then it was already their turn, and the teacher at the school gate very seriously verified their identities. Father Wang stood by the gate and waited for Wang Ling to come out of the gym.

He stood next to Jiang Haifu and pointed at Wang Ling from a distance. "Do you see that pretty boy up ahead with the dead fish eyes? That's our Wang Ling."

The corners of Jiang Haifu's mouth twitched again. "..."

He finally understood that Father Wang's poisonous tongue was a natural and genuine part of him; even his own son wasn't spared. Pretty boy with dead fish eyes? Who would slander their own son like that?

Jiang Bai and Jiang Yan came out first, just in front of Wang Ling.

Seeing that Father Wang had introduced Wang Ling, Jiang Haifu began to introduce his own son. "The one wearing a white shirt inside the school uniform is my son, Jiang Bai. The girl next to him is my second brother's daughter, Jiang Yan."

Father Wang tsked. "So thin?"

Jiang Haifu sighed. "Mm... my son is a bit more of a homebody and usually doesn't eat much. Look at how big I am, Brother Wang, yet he's so thin and completely unlike me that I can't believe he's my son. He doesn't have even the smallest bit of my majestic genes..."

Father Wang couldn't help laughing. "There are times when genes really can't be explained scientifically."

Father Wang felt he had the most say in this matter.

Both he and Mother Wang weren't very gifted, but they had given birth to Wang Ling...

After collecting Jiang Bai, Jiang Haifu handed a name card to Father Wang before he left. Looking at it carefully, Father Wang was surprised to find that Kikkaro Restaurant was also one of Kitchen Knife Sect's businesses. Grandfather Wang had worked there for a period of time when he had been younger. He had started out as a cook, then later rose to head chef and became a food consultant for some time.

"So this Kikkaro Restaurant is your business?" Father Wang raised his eyebrows.

"Mm, this can be considered our Kitchen Knife Sect's brand, and is the foundation of my Kitchen Knife Sect. All our supply chains revolve around the profits of Kikkaro Restaurant." Jiang Haifu couldn't help laughing. "In fact, I was lucky. When I was young, I was once instructed by an expert who gave me a recipe. Otherwise, this Kikkaro Restaurant business wouldn't have been able to get off the ground."

And so, Father Wang and Jiang Haifu, Head of Kitchen Knife Sect, got to know each other just like that.

When Wang Ling and Jiang Bai came out of the gym, both of them were bewildered.

As reality showed, sometimes men's friendships weren't that complicated. Put simply, it was just a matter of finding common ground.

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After saying goodbye to Jiang Haifu and the others, Father Wang led Wang Ling toward a park. There were a lot of people on the streets now, so brazenly teleporting home would be too eyecatching.

Besides, given the thing with Shuigou Sect now, security had been significantly increased in in every area, and there was a police car parked on almost every street.

Father Wang sighed deeply at the sight.

"Ling, don't you think this is a little peculiar? The police are out in force, but even in this tight net, there hasn't been the slightest trace of this Shuigou Sect... it's too strange!" Father Wang frowned and looked at Wang Ling as he spoke.

In that moment, Wang Ling also felt deeply helpless.

To be honest, Shuigou Sect's appearance had actually surprised him. After all, the furor over the Immortal Mansion incident had yet to completely die down, and just when the government was using Immortal Mansion as a launching pad in a bid to crack down on the dark forces, this type of sect which revelled in crime had popped up.

Father Wang had been about to continue analyzing the situation, but in the end, when the both of them approached the park, they could hear the faint sounds of a girl shouting up ahead: "You're not my dad! I'm not going with you! You... who are you?! Let me go!"

Wang Ling's gaze narrowed to a point in the distance.

He saw a man in a woollen hat gripping a girl's wrist and dragging her along as he cursed non-stop. "You damn kid! Hurry up and come home!"

Chapter 323: The Most Important Thing for a Family Is to Be Neat and Tidy

What was he trying to do?

Kidnapping a girl and forcing her to say he was her father in broad daylight?

Since it was a little past four o'clock after school, there were basically very few people around. Although a few passers-by saw this scene, no one dared to step in.

To many people, this just looked like a helpless father dragging a disobedient daughter off. Furthermore, the man was scolding the girl loudly for being unreasonable and wanting to run away from home, making him so worried... hearing this, many people didn't want to get involved.

After all, it was someone else's business; why be a busybody?

At one glance, however, Father Wang felt that there was something fishy about the identity of the man in the woollen hat.

Father Wang couldn't quite describe this feeling; perhaps it was a sixth sense. He didn't have Wang Ling's Great Blood Origin Spell which could directly analyze and compare the blood connection between two people, but Father Wang thought that his sixth sense was spot on... and what he was feeling was that this man in the woollen hat wasn't the girl's father.

There was a good saying: The most important thing for a family was to be neat and tidy 1!

The girl was wearing brand labels from head to toe; how could her father be an uncouth man in a dusty gray woollen hat?

When a person was doing something suspicious, they would definitely feel guilty when they were stared at.

Under the Wang family's two hereditary dead fish eye stares, this man in the gray woollen hat almost immediately felt like his head was going to explode.

Before Father Wang had stepped forward to say something, the man already couldn't help roaring, "What are you looking at?! Never seen a man disciplining his own daughter?!"

The girl was frightened by the man's roar. Her eyes were already wet and she had a terrified expression on her face. She shook her head as hard as she could, and found that she couldn't speak!

This was the man's doing — when he had been pulling her earlier, Wang Ling had clearly seen him release his aura to seal the girl's tongue acupuncture point.

The girl could only desperately shake her head in Father Wang's direction in a plea for rescue. None of the people passing by had dared to step in, and she was clutching onto her latest and last straw for help.

Thus, in the next moment, Father Wang stepped forward decisively and said a classic movie line: "Let go of that girl!"

The face of the man in the woollen hat darkened. "Mind your own business, or you'll regret it!"

The man's expression and tone were fierce; it was clear that Father Wang's boldness didn't scare him. Father Wang was just at the Qi Condensation level, so the man didn't take him seriously at all. He thought he had their precise measure as he sized Father Wang and Wang Ling up and down: a Qi Condensation father with his Foundation Establishment son from a nearby high school; they completely weren't any threat to him.

And most importantly, he was surprised to realize that the boy with dead fish eyes was actually pretty good-looking. He had been told especially to bring back some good-looking students. The girl he had was one, and this boy was another. If he could bring the both of them back, he would definitely score a lot of points with the organization!

With a sly look on his face, he stared at Father Wang and laughed. "Is this your son?"

Father Wang: "That's right."

The man: "Great! But from now on, he's my son!"

Father Wang: "???"

Saying that, the man quickly sealed the girl's acupuncture points so that she couldn't move. Then he pointed directly at Wang Ling, and a burst of strong qi shot out from his finger.

This was strong qi for sealing acupuncture points, and the man had taken a very long time to refine this skill. Everyone in the organization had been specially trained in this skill until they made next to no mistakes when using it. Once someone was hit by it, their eight extraordinary meridians would be instantly sealed. This trick was particularly effective on cultivators below the Golden Core stage.

However, the situation was somewhat out of the man's expectations.

When this strong qi hit that youngster, it unexpectedly turned around, bouncing back with twice the force! It was clearly just strong qi for sealing the acupuncture points, but in that moment, it was like a spirit bomb hurtling rapidly at him!

Before he could let out a curse, the backlash of the aura had pierced him through his shoulder.

His face instantly twisted with pain, and the man stared stupefied at Wang Ling. "You..."

The backlash had caught him off guard; he couldn't figure out at all how a Foundation Establishment high school student had managed to strike back.

He was well aware that he had already failed in his mission this time. He could only give up on both the girl and the boy in front of him; right now, escape was his top priority.

But very quickly, he realized that once again, he had been thinking too much.

Strong spiritual pressure froze him in place, and all his muscles instantly locked up!

It was impossible for a high school student at the Foundation Establishment stage to have such spiritual pressure!

The man's eyes were bloodshot and his face was full of resentment. The organization had sent out so many people, and he had never thought that he would actually be the first one to get caught.

"Surprised?"

Father Wang stared at him and smiled. "Just get used to it."

The man: "..."

Wang Ling had never thought that he would stumble so quickly upon the breakthrough which the police had been working so hard for. Whether the man knew anything or not, from his current behavior, he definitely had something to do with Shuigou Sect.

After that, Wang Ling manipulated his spiritual pressure to directly unseal the girl's acupuncture points from afar, before deliberately hiding behind Father Wang so that she wouldn't be able to see his face from this angle.

"Thank you... Really, thank you so much!"

The girl's voice was still a little shaky once she could move again, but it was clear from her tone that she had already calmed down a fair bit. She tried to sneak a look at Wang Ling, but was blocked by Father Wang. "Which high school are you from? Why aren't you wearing your school uniform? Where're your parents? Why didn't they come to pick you up?"

The girl lowered her head. "I'm from Prime Elevation High School... My father actually wanted to come get me, but I didn't think it was a big deal, so I told him not to come and that I could go home by myself."

"These two days are different; don't you know how many students have been taken? Young people... even if you're being rebellious, there has to be a limit to your willfulness." Father Wang sighed and said nothing more beyond this casual admonishment since it wasn't worth it. After all, she wasn't his daughter; it was still better for her own parents to discipline her.

"Uncle is right. I won't do it again..." It was obvious that this rebellious girl had been truly frightened by what had just happened, and she lowered her head in front of Father Wang, not even daring to breathe loudly.

The feeling of being grabbed by a stranger and forced to admit that she was his daughter, helpless and unable to defend herself... it had been too unbearable.

"Wait for a minute, I'll have my son call his friend to come by. That person is from the General Administration of 100 Schools. It'll put my mind at ease if he can send you home." Father Wang stared at the girl and sighed. Now that he had lent a hand, of course he was going to do his best.

The girl clutched the hem of her shirt with both hands. "Thank you, uncle..."

While they were talking, Father Wang suddenly noticed that although the girl's head was lowered, she kept glancing at Wang Ling, intentionally or otherwise. But her line of sight was mostly blocked by Father Wang, and she was too shy to look at Wang Ling head-on... At last, she couldn't help frowning.

Seeing this, Father Wang couldn't help laughing. "What are you looking at?"

The girl lowered her head shyly. "..."

Father Wang: "Stop looking... it's impossible for the two of you!"

The girl: "..."

Chapter 324: My Cellmates and Me...

It was June 30th on Friday in the tenth week of the semester.

During the morning self-study period, Dopey Guo said suddenly, "Did you hear? Yesterday, a girl from Prime Elevation High School had been dragged off by someone suspected of being a member of Shuigou Sect."

"Mm, of course. It went viral on WeChat Moments." Little Peanut nodded. "The girl said that she had been on her way home from school when a man had tried to take her away. That person lied that he was her father. The scariest thing was that no one passing by had stopped him..."

"Even upright officials can't resolve family disputes! To a lot of people, it looked like a family matter, so naturally they didn't want to get involved. That girl would have been in danger if Odd Zhuo hadn't come in time," Dopey Guo said. "The man they caught is now the biggest breakthrough they've had in the whole Shuigou Sect affair!"

"Senior Zhuo is really awesome!"

A lot of people couldn't help exclaiming in admiration. There was a saying among high school students now: When Odd Zhuo makes a move, you'll know if something's up! After a series of major incidents, more and more people were becoming very familiar with this name.

After listening to the discussion, Wang Ling lowered his head silently.

He had specifically requested that Odd Zhuo take credit for the incident yesterday. However, the girl wouldn't forget that Wang Ling had saved her, and in the beginning had refused to accept this arrangement. It had taken a very long time for Odd Zhuo to persuade her and convince her that this was for the sake of protecting Wang Ling's privacy.

Wang Ling guessed that at this time, the girl was probably still cooperating with Odd Zhuo's investigation.

A lead on Shuigou Sect had been discovered at long last; no one wanted to waste it.

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Meanwhile, elsewhere in Songhai First Prison.

The interrogation of the man in the woollen hat who had been caught yesterday and who was suspected of being a member of Shuigou Sect had begun.

But Odd Zhuo and the prison's Warden Liang had now run into a rather tricky problem — the suspect was refusing to confess to his crimes.

The man sat shackled in the middle of the interrogation room, his spirit energy completely sealed away. He shook his leg out of boredom and his speech was filthy as he jeered non-stop.

"Even if you beat me to death, I won't tell you anything!

"Lock me away forever, see if you dare!

"Aren't you quite capable? Come on, torture me! Fry me! Remember to turn me over! Otherwise, I this old father will become a potsticker!"

Outside the interrogation room, Warden Liang sighed deeply and felt very helpless.

At the moment, the man completely refused to admit to having any direct connection to Shuigou Sect; at the most, he could only be charged with attempted kidnapping. But then they would have caught him for nothing. An organization like Shuigou Sect, which had brazenly captured a dozen students without leaving any clues behind, definitely had to have quite the solid plan behind it.

It could be said that Warden Liang had completely expected this man to be tight-lipped.

But what the man said had hit Warden Liang's sore spot. With the onset of the Spirit Energy Information era and continual advancements in the legal system, the ancient cultivation prison's punishment model had already long been abolished. Who would have cared a thousand or two thousand years ago? The jailer could have directly used a set of "up, up, down, down, left, right, left, right, B A B A 1," and even the most stubborn mouth would have been forced to open.

"What should we do? What's your opinion, Director Zhuo?" Warden Liang held his head and felt his trigeminal nerve throb faintly with pain.

After nearly two hours of interrogation, the man had refused to give so much as his name, and the ID he had been carrying was fake. The most disturbing thing was that when the DNA sample they had collected from him had been run through the cultivation police's system, they actually couldn't find a match — this guy was a true unregistered citizen!

And to put it bluntly, that was the reason why the man wasn't fearful at all; he was aware that as long as he didn't say anything, they wouldn't be able to find any information on him at all.

"I remember that there's a spell for forcibly extracting memories from the brain..." said Odd Zhuo.

"Absolutely not!" Warden Liang shook his head. "We only use this tactic on prisoners who are on death row. While this type of forceful intrusion can directly extract evidence from a suspect's memories, if the suspect resists and refuses to cooperate, the memories will become jumbled during the extraction process, so the spell carries a very large risk."

Speaking up to this point, Warden Liang pursed his lips. "Besides, if we want to employ this forceful intrusion, according to standard protocol, we'll have to first wait on instructions from the higher-ups... It wasn't easy to obtain this lead on Shuigou Sect. If something happens to the suspect, neither I nor Director Zhuo will be able to bear the responsibility."

"I see."

Odd Zhuo nodded, and then frowned. "Then we only have one last resort..."

Warden Liang: "What's that?"

Odd Zhuo moved closer and whispered in Warden Liang's ear. The latter's eyes suddenly lit up as he slapped the table. "Wonderful! Let's do it!"

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Songhai First Prison's special holding cell.

The man in the woollen hat was sent to the cell in the custody of two prison officers.

"Don't f**king push me! I can walk myself!" His words were still stubborn, and he didn't show any fear in front of the two prison officers, displaying instead a resistant character.

The two prison officers looked at each other and smiled. Hehe! Go on and laugh! You'll be crying later!

Then, without saying anything, they simply lifted one foot each to kick the man's butt into the cell. It was obvious that they had had it with his behavior! This kick felt very satisfying!

One of the prison officers stared at him. "You'll be staying here until the second interrogation."

"Where am I? It seems quite spacious!" The man didn't care as he got up and looked at the prison officers. After looking around, he laughed shamelessly. "Tch! There's even an exclusive guard here? Aren't you treating me a little too well?"

The two prison officers sneered and closed the cell door with a bang.

The man laughed coldly as the two prison officers turned around and left. "What a shitty prison! Songhai First Prison? Its prison officers are nothing!"

However, just after he was done taunting, there was suddenly a hair-raising sensation behind him.

He turned his head to take a look, and just so happened to see his two cellmates in this special cell looking askance at him.

Instantly, the man broke out in a cold sweat...

Because his two cellmates weren't just anybody.

One of them had appeared on the news recently, and was the leader of the biggest dark force sect in Huaxiu's history, the Master of Immortal Mansion. The other was inside a woman's body, the Master of Shadow Stream Jiang Liuyue, and had once plunged the whole of Huaxiu nation into a dark age of terror, the Devil Emperor...

Chapter 325: There Is Only One Truth!

At that moment, both these men were sitting in meditative poses, each of them wearing Spirit Shackles. This was a great magic treasure that could even restrain True Immortals. Once they were put on, the body's spirit energy would instantly be sealed away and the prisoner would become no different to an ordinary person, unable to cast any spells at all.

Of course, if it was just some random person, the man definitely wouldn't feel scared in this situation.

But now, one of these two individuals was the widely renowned Master of Immortal Mansion, and the other was Devil Emperor Gua Pi who had once rocked the world. Though their spirit energy had been sealed, they still had their innate body attributes! They could thrash him instantly with just a physical attack.

Now the man finally understood the look of ridicule in the two prison officers' eyes... so it turned out that they had been mocking him.

Faced with these two Buddha-like existences, the man felt alarm well up from the depths of his heart. He didn't even dare look at them, and could only keep his head down very low... At this time, he wondered incessantly whether he should exercise that move from the TV series Yu Zui 1: jump quickly behind one of them, press his elbow down in the middle of their head and yell, "I told you not to motherf**king bother me!"

But the issue was... he didn't dare!

The old devil and Master of Immortal Mansion Cheng Yu had already heard the noise earlier on, and they both just sat in silence.

After about ten minutes of deep silence, the man felt like the air around him had frozen. He didn't dare sit down, already feeling miserable.

A while later, the old devil slowly opened his eyes and looked at the man. "Newcomer, what crime did you commit?"

"..." The man struggled in his heart, unsure whether to say it or not.

The old devil looked at him out of the corner of his eye, instantly causing the man to sweat profusely. "Here you only have two choices. Be honest... or die."

It could only be said that the old devil was truly worthy of his name. The evil in the depths of his heart couldn't be locked away by the Spirit Shackles. With just one look from him, the man was already so scared that he trembled all over and straightaway huddled in a corner with his arms over his head.

He looked completely scared out of his wits. "I... stole someone 2 ..."

Master of Immortal Mansion Cheng Yu: "???"

The old devil: "???"

The old devil was surprised, because before the man had been sent here, Odd Zhuo had informed them of the situation and had asked them to cooperate. But wasn't the man guilty of abducting a girl? What the hell was with this infidelity?

The man realized that what he had said sounded a little ambiguous, so he rephrased his words. "I abducted a girl..."

Mm...

Now that was the right answer!

The old devil nodded with satisfaction, then gave the man an air slap.

He hated this type of vague talk the most! Abducting a girl was abducting a girl, why did the other party need to say 'infidelity'? Did he want to carry his next door neighbour Old Wang on his back 3?

Odd Zhuo and Warden Liang were watching in the monitor room outside the cell, and they saw how the man was immediately lifted off his feet by the old devil's slap, spinning three and a half times in the air before falling to the floor.

Warden Liang was sweating hard. "..." The old devil was, in the end, their most dangerous prisoner; even though he had the Spirit Shackles on, he was still so lethal.

Whatever the case, it had to be said that this trick of Odd Zhuo's was really smart.

"What a clever plan, Director Zhuo!" Warden Liang was full of admiration. "I believe it shouldn't be long before this person confesses."

But was it really going to be that easy?

Odd Zhuo stared at the monitor, lost in thought.

For some reason, he felt that this entire incident wasn't that simple. This Shuigou Sect had managed to capture twelve students one after another through underhanded means; anyone could tell that there had to be an expert who had plotted the entire thing.

And it was when Odd Zhuo and Warden Liang were thinking up various ways to interrogate this man suspected of being a member of Shuigou Sect that the local cultivation police department called to deliver the latest news on the incident.

The twelve missing students had all returned unharmed...

•••

The return of the twelve missing students once again stirred up the news media and became that Friday night's hot topic.

They had been discovered close to the end of school that day, left at the school gate in a light coma.

A surveillance camera at a street crossing had caught the minibus that had been used to transport these missing students. The police had checked the license plate and found that it was fake.

After a follow-up search, they finally discovered that the minibus had been driven to the seaside and then completely destroyed. Its entire frame had been burnt to ash and could fall apart at the slightest touch.

Everyone thought that the return of the students would lead to critical progress made in the Shuigou Sect case, but most unfortunately, none of the twelve students remembered much of what had happened after they had been captured.

In the evening, Wang Ling sat on the sofa with Father Wang and watched the news; this incident was all that the TV news talked about.

The return of the twelve students that had been taken was of course a good thing. But any criminal gang, especially a dark force as rigidly structured and watertight as Shuigou Sect, had to have a reason for whatever they did.

Everyone's main focus now was on what Shuigou Sect might have done to the twelve students.

When Wang Ling opened the group chat, the group was in the middle of a lively discussion.

Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal said, "It looks like the police have no idea what to make of this incident, but I have some theories."

Cailian Zhenren: "Tell us, Senior Immortal!"

Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal speculated, "After Shuigou Sect took the twelve students, it sent all of them back without the police knowing at all. This proves that the person behind the scenes has an incredibly extensive intelligence network, and is very familiar with the overall map of Songhai city. To possess such a huge intelligence network, plus genuinely strong people... I can make two rough inferences about this person's identity. First, they previously worked in the city government's intelligence department for a very long time, and would be some retired senior director of the department. But the probability that this is the case is very low..."

Lightning Dharmaraja: "Why's that?"

Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal: "Given the government's current anti-corruption campaign, many city leaders don't dare to even show their faces at banquets anymore; at the most, they'll just eat abalone-flavored fasting pills at home — how would they have the energy and money to build a new dark force? It would be pretty good for them already if they could afford a down payment on a house in a city school district!"

Everyone: "..."

Wang Ling: "..."

Cailian Zhenren: "Then what about the second possibility?"

Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal said, "The second possibility is that the person behind the scenes is likely a killer, and a top veteran at that. Only veteran killers can operate such a huge intelligence network so precisely, and have enough savings to build a new dark force. Combined with this group's skill at coming and going without leaving a trace, I think this Shuigou Sect is very likely to be a killer organization... there is only one truth 4!"

Chapter 326: Taoist Taotie

It was July 1st on Saturday in the tenth week of the semester.

It was another peaceful morning...

Wang Ling found the class group chat especially lively that morning. Usually, no one would talk in the chat at all. For most of them, it was just for sharing documents. After all, Dopey Guo covered all the various topics of conversation during the morning self-study period.

And most importantly, when they had created the group, some idiot had added Teacher Pan, which made it very awkward.

Perhaps because there had been a lot more gossip than usual lately, the group chat had exploded that morning.

When Wang Ling opened the chat, he found that his number of unread messages had become 99+. Anyone could tell that this was probably because of new developments in the Shuigou Sect matter.

He scrolled through the messages and saw a string of them from Dopey Guo.

"Did you know? The person suspected of being a member of Shuigou Sect who was arrested yesterday has pleaded guilty... The news hasn't been made public yet, I heard it from an uncle of mine."

"What's the use of pleading guilty? Aren't all the missing students back?"

"But those students don't remember what happened, right? According to that person, each one of them were fed a type of fruit."

"Fed fruit? Why?"

"No one knows yet; furthermore, the man appears to be a peripheral member of the group and was given the specific task of capturing people. Once he caught someone, he would hand them over to senior officers inside. He doesn't even know where Shuigou Sect's headquarters is. And do you know, this person even said Shuigou Sect actually wasn't called Shuigou Sect."

"What do you mean?"

"The standard pronunciation should actually be Shuiguo 1 . Who knows which non-standard Mandarin speaker got it wrong for everyone..."

Everyone: "..."

Wang Ling: "..."

Wang Ling scrolled through the rest of Dopey Guo's news.

To summarize all the information, Shuigou Sect's real name was actually Shuiguo Sect. The organization took advantage of students going home after school to seize good-looking ones in particular. They were shut inside a small dark room and given fruit to eat. After that, they were sent back unharmed... was there something wrong with this damn organization?

Piecing the whole thing together, Wang Ling just wanted to flip a table.

Although the students had returned safely, neither the police nor the school authorities would relax until Shuigou Sect's true purpose was revealed. Parents would still continue to pick up their kids after school for a while yet. The worry was whether Shuigou Sect would try something funny under these circumstances.

Eyes fixed on the screen, Wang Ling was lost in deep thought. Although none of the students from No. 60 High School had been harmed in the Shuigou Sect incident this time, he had a strong feeling that the school wouldn't be able to stay out of it.

He smiled bitterly in his heart at this thought.

His high school life was really "colorful"... It had only been a while since the start of school, and already so many disasters had happened!!

...

Meanwhile, the Lady was sitting in an easy chair on the top floor of the Jiashi office building in the heart of the city and watching the morning news. At the same time, she was silently admiring Taoist Taotie's tactic; no one, including the Lady herself, had expected him to return the students safely.

Since the start of this affair, it was Taoist Taotie who had plotted all of Shuigou Sect's moves. As his partner in this, Mo Immortal Castle had merely provided him with information that had already been investigated and compiled together. A lot of this intelligence had come from Song Qingshu when he had still been with Mo Immortal Castle back then. The Lady had been holding on to it all this time, and hadn't expected that it would prove to be so useful.

She was only halfway through watching the morning news when an intimidating aura suddenly passed over her, making her shudder all over.

She was acutely aware that someone was here... furthermore, this person was an expert!

The aura was coming from the bottom of the building, and she had sensed the man as soon as he had stepped inside.

She had a petrified expression on her face and cold sweat rolled incessantly down her forehead. This aura was too frightening, as if this man had crossed over mountains of corpses and an ocean of blood, the killing intent rolling off his body. Furthermore, the aura wasn't aimed in any specific direction; it was clear that this person had intentionally released it, brazenly sending out a warning to all the people in this building that he had come...

"Who are you, senior?"

The Lady got up quickly as she projected her voice, and it echoed in the air.

A few seconds later, the office's main door was flung open with a bang by that aura full of killing intent.

Then, with sweat running copiously down her face, the Lady saw a man wearing a face mask, dark glasses and a black windcheater slowly walk in...

The Lady panicked when she saw the man, and hurriedly bowed. "Nice to meet you, Senior Taoist Taotie!"

The Lord had already long told her about Taoist Taotie's appearance, and coupled with that terrifying aura just now, she had almost instantly guessed his identity.

The man in the black windcheater didn't say anything, and only went over to where she had been sitting earlier and sat down himself.

After roughly ten seconds of silence, he started to speak...

"Heh, juniors nowadays are becoming more and more ignorant..."

The Lady broke out in a sweat. "Senior Taoist Taotie, please don't be angry. Junior didn't know senior would be paying a visit, otherwise I would definitely have received you personally."

"That's not what I meant."

The man in the black windcheater waved his hand and pushed his dark glasses up to stare at her. "I just suddenly wanted to come and take a look this time, and didn't tell you beforehand, so it's not your fault. But as juniors in the cultivation circle, that bunch of yours downstairs is really undisciplined!"

The Lady was stunned. "Why does senior say that?"

The man squinted. "I wasn't looking to stir up trouble, but when I got to the main entrance, that receptionist insisted on asking if I had an appointment, and for me to take off my sunglasses and face mask!"

The Lady: "..."

The man sighed. "And that isn't the worst part!"

The Lady: "Please speak, senior. Junior will definitely correct their behavior..."

The man in the black jacket: "I only removed my mask halfway before your subordinates started puking!"

The Lady: "..."

Speaking up to this point, the man's black jacket had already puffed up slightly. It was very obvious that he wasn't happy. Looks had always been a taboo subject for Taoist Taotie. When the Lady heard what her underlings downstairs had done, she broke out in a cold sweat. "Senior is right to reprimand them, death was too good a fate for them..."

"I never said I killed them; I just knocked them out with my aura."

The man said, "Heh, I was worried that if they continued puking, they might throw up their golden cores."

The Lady: "..."

Speaking up to this point, the man in the black windcheater paused, and then raised his head to look at the Lady and laugh. "Did you think I would wilfully slaughter innocents, like my senior brother Gorgeous Itinerant?"

Chapter 327: There Are Three People With Such Precise Aim!

The Lady was slightly disheartened by Taoist Taotie's words. These two brothers who had once shared a strong bond and established the ranking list of killers together had now gone their separate ways; they had completely broken off ties with each other, but it wasn't clear why. Of course, there were rumors that the break had had to do with a mistake which Gorgeous Itinerant had made on some mission, but no one actually knew the truth.

This had happened a very long time ago, and the Lady still remembered clearly what the Lord had told her — if Taoist Taotie paid them a visit, there were two things that could not be mentioned: the first had to do with Taoist Taotie's appearance, and the second was the reason for Taoist Taotie and Gorgeous Itinerant breaking off relations.

These issues were taboo, unless Taoist Taotie mentioned them himself, otherwise she would just be asking for trouble...

Generally, in situations like these, the best thing to do was shut up.

It was a long while before the man said, "This already happened a very long time ago... but when I think about it now, I still can't help but get angry."

The Lady didn't dare speak at all; she could clearly feel the fury of the man in the black windcheater at the thought of the incident.

"The world only knows how extraordinarily beautiful my senior brother Gorgeous Itinerant was, as a man of peerless looks... No one ever paid me any attention. There are times when looks aren't everything..."

Taoist Taotie got up and stared at the Lady. "Did you know? Gorgeous Itinerant killed my adopted son Black Gauze — that was why we parted ways!

"The rumors outside all say that it was a mistake. But from what I saw, he did it on purpose."

"..."

The Lady was greatly shaken, and felt like she had been let in on some terrible secret.

Taoist Taotie continued, "After he broke off his ties with me, he officially retired from the cultivation world, and even disappeared from the assassination circle. He changed his appearance after that, and I couldn't find him for a long time. If it hadn't been for your Lord, there was no way I could believe that he had actually become a history teacher in an ordinary high school. Heh, how fate plays with us!"

It was obvious that Taoist Taotie hadn't been able to let go of what had happened back then. "I've been planning this for a long time, and I want him to experience that kind of pain himself. But I don't just want him to suffer, I also want everyone to pay for his sins!"

However, just as the man said this, the Lady suddenly saw a ray of light shooting toward them from outside the building's French windows.

"Watch out!"

Taoist Taotie pushed the Lady aside and at the same time, stretched out his fingers to catch this light.

Only then did the Lady see... this ray of light was actually a piece of chalk!

Then, a voice was projected faintly in the air. "Who would have thought that the grand Taoist Taotie is unexpectedly fond of gossiping about people behind their backs. What an eye-opener."

The Lady turned pale with fright. "Who's that?"

"No need to panic, he's just a junior."

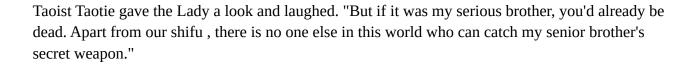
Taoist Taotie waved his hand. He stared at the chalk and smiled. "Your precision is good, but the force in your fingers is still not up to your shizun's... The more ordinary the object you use as a secret weapon, the more difficult it is to handle. There are only three people in the world who have the power to use chalk as a secret weapon..."

The Lady: "Who are they?"

At this point, Taoist Taotie turned his eyes to the air and sneered. "The first one is the famous killer with the codename Reed. Back then, he almost climbed to the top of the ranking list of killers with his precision in using a secret weapon. He wasn't just an accurate marksman, he was also proficient in the art of firearms. He could use his spiritual perception to precisely control trajectory and kill a person from ten thousand li away. Furthermore, he didn't need to worry about recoil when he shot a gun! He also didn't need to put force in his wrist when he threw a secret weapon; by firing in minute controlled bursts from two fingers, he could cause a lot of damage. However, the junior outside isn't likely to be him since he already died after a joint attack by a number of killers back then."

The Lady: "..."

"The second is my senior brother Gorgeous Itinerant."



The Lady was speechless. "..."

She didn't get why there was a touch of pride in his words...

"As for the third person..."

He smiled slightly under the face mask, and with a press of his two fingers, the chalk immediately turned to ash. "...That is my senior brother's eldest disciple, Killer Taoist..."

Killer Taoist's voice rang out in the air. "As expected, senior has good eyes."

"I was in the same sect as your shifu . If I didn't have even this petty skill, I wouldn't be able to live anymore."

Taoist Taotie smiled. "Are you here to speak for your shifu? Go back and tell him, for the sake of our old friendship in the same sect, I'll give him enough time to prepare his last words."

There was a clear pause on the other end, before the voice continued, "I... came on a whim, and this has nothing to do with shifu . He is very settled in his life now, and he has long withdrawn from the world. He has always felt sorry for what happened back then. If Senior Taoist Taotie would be magnanimous enough to drop this matter, there would be nothing better."

Drop this matter?

Under the face mask, the corners of Taoist Taotie's mouth twitched. "If apologies were enough, why would we need the police?"

"..."

Killer Taoist: "With respect, senior, is there no room for discussion?"

"Black Gauze's death must be avenged!"

Taoist Taotie narrowed his eyes, his reply echoing in the air.

"If you want to discuss it, fine, but have your shifu come in person, and have him bring that supreme weapon which he hid away! You're not good enough!"

After that, Taoist Taotie sent out a burst of aggressive aura. This killing intent was something that only he possessed. When he released his aura, even the Lady was directly knocked down. This startling aura hurtled straight back in the direction that the chalk had come from, followed by a powerful wave of spirit intensity that resembled a roaring tide.

This was the killing technique he was most adept in! After using it for so many years, Taoist Taotie had long become proficient in it many times over; it could even be said that he had reached the pinnacle of perfection with it!

At that moment, on the roof of an office building tens of thousands of meters away, Killer Taoist's complexion changed dramatically when he sensed this attack of aura.

He quickly put up a barrier at full strength. Seeing this discouraging turn in events, a white-haired youngster in a peaked cap hurried to help withstand the attack.

Bandit Evil took action. "Senior brother! I'll help you!"

However, the impact of this aura was too fierce. That killing intent discharged in a straight line from ten thousand meters away directly smashed through the barrier they had put up like it was nothing.

The violent impact tore Killer Taoist's clothes to shreds, and along with his junior brother, they hit the wall behind them hard.

Both of them spit out fresh blood...

After a few minutes or so, that killing intent dissipated.

Bandit Evil endured the rolling of his qi and blood inside his body before he looked at Killer Taoist and asked, "Senior brother, will shifu be able to avoid this..."

After restraining the flux of his qi and blood, Killer Taoist couldn't help sighing. "I don't know if shifu will be able to avoid this... In any case, my last pair of floral underpants has been destroyed; I'll have to ask shifu to reimburse me later."

Bandit Evil: "..."

Chapter 328: Loopy Toad's Boring Dog Life

Although it was just a simple clash of auras, it was already obvious to Killer Taoist that Taoist Taotie's cultivation was far more advanced than before, even several times over. Just now, Taoist Taotie had held back some of his strength; if he hadn't, both Killer Taoist and Bandit Evil would have been finished here.

Then, the questions now were:

One, who on earth was Black Gauze?

Second, what was Gorgeous Itinerant's great weapon?

Killer Taoist and Bandit Evil were puzzled by these two things.

"The only thing that I'm sure of is that this Black Gauze definitely wasn't in the murder industry... back then, after shifu and Senior Taoist Taotie parted ways and withdrew from the assassination circle one after another, I obtained a registry of names. From the moment that the international ranking list of killers was set up, the record clearly shows that there has never been anyone named Black Gauze."

Killer Taoist took a deep breath. "As for that supreme weapon which Taoist Taotie said shifu hid away... we've followed him for so long, have we ever heard him mention it?"

Bandit Evil shook his head. "No But isn't shifu' s great weapon his collection of chalks?"
Killer Taoist: ""

It was an unusually idle Saturday.

After spending the morning in the chat group and browsing online posts discussing the Shuigou Sect incident, Wang Ling only felt that his eyes were a little tired. These two days had almost entirely revolved around the Shuigou Sect incident, and even the furor around Immortal Mansion had been pushed aside.

Now that Wang Ling thought about it carefully, he suddenly felt that the Master of Immortal Mansion was also unfortunate. He had built such a large dark force and had collected spirit swords from all over the world. His ultimate ambition had been to create a supreme spirit sword of his own, but before the sword was even half done, Immortal Mansion had collapsed... it wouldn't have been so bad if things had stopped there, since at the very least, Immortal Mansion had already been recognized in and outside the country as the largest dark force in Huaxiu's history.

However, this largest dark force had only grabbed the headlines for a few days before it had been replaced by Shuigou Sect which had come out of nowhere... this was a bigger tragedy for Immortal Mansion than it had been for Wang Feng 1 .

Wang Ling was already tired of reading the conjecture and comments online about Shuigou Sect. Some people speculated on the origins of this dark force, some seized the opportunity to campaign for a boycott of dark forces, while others @'ed official Weibo sites of various light forces and strongly requested that they declare their positions.

This was similar to when a natural disaster had occurred in a particular place, and a group of netizens had zealously requested that a particular celebrity donate to help relief efforts...

At this point, no one wanted to be associated with Shuigou Sect, and the light forces had their own considerations. The interplay of interests between forces was far more complicated than netizens could imagine.

Moreover, at this time, there would always be people saying that the greater the power one had, the greater the responsibility. Wang Ling himself was reserving judgment on this statement.

Because from such a verdict, it felt like that meant he had to help wipe all of mankind's asses for them...

•••

Even Loopy Toad was feeling a little depressed because of the Shuigou Sect incident these two days. This was because Father Wang now had to pick Wang Ling up after school every day, which directly resulted in two hours less of Loopy Toad's afternoon walk. Originally, it was Father Wang who would take it for a walk after dinner. Once in a while, when he had a deadline, Mother Wang would do it.

In the Wang family's small villa, Father and Mother Wang had the same rules for Loopy Toad as for Wang Ling; from beginning to end, it was the policy of learning to be low-key.

The couple knew that Loopy Toad's previous identity hadn't been simple; it was a great demon king, which was all the more reason to not be remiss... hence, Father and Mother Wang actually regarded Loopy Toad as an ordinary akita, and when they went on walks, they normally put it on a leash.

Not allowed to go out, Loopy Toad could only lie down in the Wang family's garden and look up at the sky.

In fact, its dog days were really quite idle, unlike when it had been a demon king before, and had had to handle annoying clan matters daily... Life might seem boring now, but for Loopy Toad, it was pretty comfortable.

It remembered watching the news with the old man a while ago as they followed an interview with today's university students.

In front of the camera, these Golden Core students had bitterly criticized university teachers for being too strict. Whoever said that things would ease up once they got into a Golden Core university had been spouting empty nonsense; the training every day was worse than the college entrance exam, and they were dog tired...

But to be honest, Loopy Toad didn't think it was that tiring to be a dog...

As evening approached, it was feeling bored as it lay in the garden.

Grandfather Wang had gone out on Sheep, Mother Wang was out buying groceries, Father Wang was still writing in his room, Little Master Ling was still doing his homework... There was no one to take Loopy Toad for a walk.

So it could only lay about in the garden... couldn't it just carry its own leash and walk itself?

Yawning, Loopy Toad was just about to switch positions, but as it lifted its head, it abruptly noticed a figure that had suddenly appeared on the road outside the Wang family's small villa. Immediately, all its dog fur stood on end.

Loopy Toad thought it had pretty sharp senses and that they were by no means dull. The opposite side of the road had clearly been empty a few seconds ago; how could someone just suddenly appear?

It got up, claws digging into the ground and its gaze alert as it stared ahead, already going into combat mode.

But it didn't make a move, because the man wasn't giving off any killing intent.

The man approached the Wang family's small villa slowly. As he drew closer, Loopy Toad realized that it was a balding middle-aged man with a receding hairline. He was wearing a rather casual white coat, floral underpants, and flip-flops, and this understated style caused Loopy Toad to go on high alert... This person's movements were truly frightening — he didn't make the slightest sound as he moved; it was as if he was walking on air.

The man stood at the the villa gate and stared at Loopy Toad. He paused, then smiled slightly. "Relax, I'm not here to look for trouble. A friend pointed me in this direction; I have something I want to consult Ling Zhenren on."

Who was he...?

Loopy Toad's eyes were fixed on the man. Although the person wasn't emitting any killing intent, it could sense how dangerous he was. From the man's remarkable movements, it wasn't difficult for

Loopy Toad to determine that this person was likely a killer or a wandering gentleman thief by trade.

The middle-aged baldie stared at Loopy Toad with a harmless smile on his face. "Crackers Balls 2!"

"..."

Loopy Toad suddenly felt a little tired. Why was everyone who visited the villa all idiots?

Chapter 329: Dog Lovers Voice Strong Condemnation

Wang Ling was surprised by Killer Taoist's visit.

It could be said that of all the people who had ever visited the Wang family's small villa, this person was the best at containing his aura.

Generally, as long as there were cultivators on East Huang Road outside the villa, Wang Ling would immediately sense them. There were not more than twenty people in the entire world who were capable of this kind of aura concealment skill. This was a required course in a killer's education; for a legendary killer in particular, his proficiency in this technique would have already reached the pinnacle of perfection.

"Is Ling Zhenren busy now?" the middle-aged baldie asked, looking at Loopy Toad after glancing at the bright lights on the second floor.

Like Wang Ling, Loopy Toad had also guessed the person's identity. With this type of body movement and superb aura concealment skill, coupled with the rumored penchant for floral underpants, it knew that this person had to be Killer Taoist... but Loopy Toad still couldn't quite accept this appearance.

He was at the very least a legendary killer among human cultivators, but he had shown up in floral underpants and flip-flops... He was like the old man who sold youtiao at the entrance to the food market; his style, so to speak, was very unique.

Loopy Toad looked at the man in front of it and lay back down disinterestedly. It then pointed to the lights on the second floor and mimed writing on the ground with its claw. Finally, it stared at the

man and drew a small claw across its throat.

What he meant was: Ling Zhenren is doing homework. Anyone who disturbs him, die!

To Loopy Toad's surprise, the man actually understood the meaning conveyed through its claws.

The other party just smiled and looked very amiable. "That's fine; since Ling Zhenren is busy, I'll

wait here."

Then he came up to Loopy Toad and nudged its butt with one flip-flop.

Killer Taoist: "Make room for me."

Loopy Toad: "???"

Loopy Toad startled; the Wang family's garden might not be especially big, but it wasn't to the point that there wasn't anywhere else to sit... Go sit somewhere else, why do I have to f**king make room for you?!

Killer Taoist smiled. "It looks like you've been lying in that spot for a long time, so it must be very

warm."

Loopy Toad: "..." Psycho!

Taking a deep breath, Loopy Toad got up in the end and moved to the side, shaking out its dog tail with a face full of resentment. God knew what strange fetish this legendary killer might have. As a loyal and well-behaved dog, it was really too lazy to argue with other people. It would just treat this

as respecting the old.

The middle-aged baldie got what he wanted, and sat down in Loopy Toad's original spot. Then, completely ignoring Loopy Toad's resistance, he directly reached out to grab it by the waist and pull

it into his lap.

Loopy Toad would have struggled, but it didn't dare move at the faint killing intent hidden in the baldie's smile. It wanted to cry, but had no tears to shed. If it had known earlier, it wouldn't have lolled about in the garden. Why did it have to encounter this freak? Loopy Toad was spoiled by everyone in the Wang family's small villa; it had never been so aggrieved before.

Now, however, it could only stifle its anger, and it didn't even dare take deep breaths... because it couldn't guess what Killer Taoist's next move would be at all.

It could only be said that Killer Taoist was truly a legendary killer... his way of thinking was like a winding mountain road that completely befuddled people.

After that, Killer Taoist started to stroke Loopy Toad's dog fur. He was surprised to find that it actually had pretty solid muscles. He had thought that it was just a green akita with spiritual intelligence. Through this contact, however, he realized that this dog wasn't as simple as it seemed.

"You're a dog with potential." He patted Loopy Toad on its springy butt.

Loopy Toad: "..."

The baldie lavished praise on it. "You're great! As expected of Ling Zhenren's pet. If you continue cultivating, it won't take you more than a hundred years to become a superb first-class spirit beast."

Loopy Toad didn't say anything, but it wagged its tail proudly.

If an outsider heard this, they would definitely think the person saying it was an idiot. A top-class spirit beast would already be able to take on human form, but it wasn't easy to advance to this level; it required at least a thousand years' worth of cultivation, and the beast would need to experience the heavenly tribulation once.

But Loopy Toad was different.

It had the original soul of a demon king and had the necessary cultivation experience. In addition, Little Master Ling had specially modified its cultivation technique and customized it exclusively for Loopy Toad; hence, it could reap twice the results for half the effort.

It was like many characters who were reincarnated in novels; most of them just cultivated the same technique again as in their previous lives. Generally, as long as they weren't dumbasses, their cultivation speed would definitely increase.

Originally, it would have taken Loopy Toad several thousand years to reach the level of a first-class spirit beast, but it wasn't an exaggeration to say that it would take only a hundred years or even less now.

This was also a testament to Killer Taoist's keen insight as a legendary assassin.

• • •

In actual fact, Wang Ling had already finished his homework earlier on. Pen and Eraser, these two hardworking paragons in the world of homework, had come together the instant Wang Ling had finished reviewing his lessons, and had finishing writing up his homework in less than five minutes.

He stood on the second floor and looked out the window at the harmonious scene of a person and a dog in the yard.

Holding Loopy Toad, the baldie continued to stroke its dog fur. "Do you know, I used to have a dog. I picked it up off the street, and back then it had been sick, so I'd actually always felt a special attachment to it. The first time I saw it, I thought that it wasn't a simple dog."

Loopy Toad wagged its tail; it had never expected this legendary killer to be a dog lover.

"Then I took the dog home to treat it. I fed it elixirs and all kinds of heavenly treasures, and it ate better than I did. But half a month later, before it was fully recovered..." At this point, Killer Taoist's eyes were already sparkling a little with tears as he recalled the past, and he said very emotionally, "I especially bought a barrel to bathe it in everyday in heated water."

Loopy Toad was very moved when he heard this, but the baldie paused before he continued, "Until one day, I forgot to turn off the fire..."

Loopy Toad: "..."

Killer Taoist: "After that, I discovered that that guy was pretty delicious."

Loopy Toad: "..."

Killer Taoist: "I should say that when I saw it for the first time, I did think it would taste very good!"

Loopy Toad: "..."

As he spoke, Killer Taoist pointed to a glistening tear in the corner of his eye. "See this tear? Every time I recall how good that dog meat tasted, it makes me want to cry!"

Wang Ling: "..."

Loopy Toad: "..." Freak!

Chapter 330: Ling Zhenren's Strength Is Called Into Question!

Just like that, this initially harmonious scene was shattered by this middle-aged baldie's heartwarming story about dog meat. Loopy Toad's face was sweating as it lay in the baldie's arms, afraid to move an inch. Sure enough, this was a clear threat, right?

But when it came down to it, Killer Taoist's reputation as a great killer was evident both in the murder industry and the cultivation world. All of his assignments had to do with punishing the wicked and eradicating evil, and until now, he had never failed in any task. Thus, however horrifying the situation was, Loopy Toad didn't believe that this baldie would really raise a hand against it.

Most importantly, Little Master Ling was still upstairs. There was a saying: When you beat a dog, you must answer to its master 1 ... Wang Ling's existence was Loopy Toad's greatest security net.

The baldie took in this scene; his story earlier was actually half true and half false. He had told this story with the aim of deliberately intimidating the dog. But in the end, this green dog's reaction was much calmer than he had expected. From this, he could actually tell that Ling Zhenren was really as strong as rumors said he was.

If he had the opportunity to trade blows with him, it would definitely be very interesting.

The baldie stroked Loopy Toad's dog fur again as he lost himself in daydreams.

At this point, the door of the Wang family's small villa suddenly opened, and the light that poured out of the gap shone on the baldie's back in a long strip. The baldie turned his head to take a look, and saw a teenager in white bunny pajamas standing in front of him.

"With respect, is your distinguished self... Ling Zhenren?"

Before coming here, the baldie had fantasized a lot about what the legendary Ling Zhenren looked like. As the rumors said, he was very young. But when the baldie saw him with his own eyes, he was somehow still very alarmed — this was clearly just a child, right...

Wang Ling didn't say anything, and merely stared at the baldie and nodded.

"Ey? Are you really Ling Zhenren?"

The baldie revealed a flabbergasted expression at the youngster's admission.

After a short silence, the baldie continued, "Can you fight me?"

"..." Wang Ling couldn't believe it — was his prowess being questioned?

The baldie cupped his fists in salute. "Junior has come looking for Ling Zhenren this time in relation to the Shuigou Sect which has been causing havoc recently. This is quite an important matter. If it's possible, I hope that the real Ling Zhenren can come out and meet me."

Wang Ling: "..."

The baldie stared at him. "Generally, before seeing a great senior, there's always someone to stop and challenge you first, right? I know the routine!"

Wang Ling: "..."

The baldie then directly struck a pose in front of Wang Ling. "Then, little brother, please make your move!"

Speechless, Wang Ling sighed in his heart. The baldie had misunderstood to this extent; if Wang Ling didn't accept his challenge, he might not be able to prove his identity to the other party. This was actually a major drawback of the Great Shielding Spell. After all, many people had only heard rumors about him; before they officially saw his face, his image in their minds would actually just be a bunch of mosaic tiles...

Generally, in theory, close combat wasn't a killer's strong suit. But his opponent this time was Killer Taoist, after all, so Wang Ling's expression turned a little more serious.

Loopy Toad was greatly surprised. From those dead fish eyes which had become fifteen percent larger than normal, it could tell that Wang Ling was serious! This was Wang Ling's normal serious mode — this was the first time Loopy Toad was seeing its little master display such an attitude.

The two individuals went to the abandoned construction site on the other side of East Huang Road. The atmosphere seemed very tranquil as they faced each other, when in actual fact it was very tense.

After learning to use the Internet, Loopy Toad had learned a fair bit online about the rumored Killer Taoist.

Killer Taoist was famous for two supreme skills. The first was his Enemy-Killing Blink. When he went on missions, he would often behead the vicious people who were his targets with his blinking. The second skill was his finger gun. This supreme skill had made waves in the murder industry after Killer Taoist had used it many times on assignment. There was no one on the international ranking list of killers at the moment who was more powerful than Killer Taoist in using this skill. And until now, he had never missed his target!

"Is this little brother ready? Since you're not making a move, I'll do it..."

The baldie smiled. Seeing that Wang Ling was slow to take action, he couldn't resist the impulse to attack.

The baldie raised his right hand, forming the shape of a pistol with his thumb and forefinger.

Then, Wang Ling felt a huge amount of spirit energy molecules gather in a steady flow at the tip of the baldie's forefinger, forming a small, deep blue dot the size of a soybean which contained extremely dense spirit potential!

The principle behind the finger gun was in fact similar to that of the old devil's famous Chaos Ball, but using it wasn't difficult. It was easy to learn and very easy to copy. However, it also had one large drawback, and that was that the spirit energy ball reached its saturation point very easily because of its small size.

In other words, there was a limit to the power in the finger gun, and it depended entirely on the user's realm.

Loopy Toad looked at the spirit energy ball on the tip of Killer Taoist's finger, and its small, round face was very calm.

If it was only to this extent, its little master didn't even need to use the protective golden light; he would be able to completely defend against this attack by depending purely on his physical strength.

But at that moment, Loopy Toad saw the baldie suddenly smile slightly, and he unfolded the rest of his fingers! Apart from his thumb, spirit energy balls started gathering around the tips of his four fingers at the same time!

Four-Fingered Gun?!

Loopy Toad's expression finally changed slightly at this scene. In a normal situation, it was already quite difficult to maintain the cohesion of a spirit energy ball on one fingertip. Controlling the gathering of spirit balls on the tips of four fingers at the same time was a high-end operation that an ordinary person would never be able to do!

Loopy Toad was thus shaken by this scene. When all was said and done, this was a legendary killer...

"Be careful, little brother!" The baldie stared at Wang Ling with a harmless smile on his face. "I haven't used this Four-Fingered Gatling Gun on anyone else before..."

In the next moment, his four fingers sparked blue, and those infinitely powerful spirit energy balls shot out at Wang Ling in a fierce, earth-shattering attack!

This was a highly focused machine gun attack, and those soybean-sized spirit energy balls wheeled like fireworks as they hurtled intensely at Wang Ling.

Wang Ling raised his eyebrows. The greatest benefit of this dense gunfire was that it made up for the lack of power in a single spirit energy ball. At the same time, however, it also had a large drawback, and that was that its speed was significantly slower than a single finger gun.

Wang Ling's dynamic vision was extremely powerful. When these spirit energy balls flew at him, it was as if their speed had slowed down several hundred times, so he could dodge them completely.

Thus, there wasn't the slightest flinch on Wang Ling's face.

But just then, the baldie smiled at him again. "You can't hide, little brother!"

At that moment, Wang Ling heard what seemed to be a tiny electronic sound in the air: Supertargeting has been deployed 2 .