#### Genius 721

#### Chapter 721: An Extra Person!

"What? 48 people!"

"That means there's an extra person?!"

"..."

At that moment, everyone felt their scalps go numb. They felt the temperature in the cold room drop by a few dozen degrees, and chills started to run down their spines.

At first, everyone counted, and the total number was 48.

After Bai Pengfei's death, logically speaking, there should only be 47 people!

However, why were there still 48 people?!

"Impossible!"

Bai Shaoyu subconsciously objected, but he still kept sizing up the people behind him. It was obvious that he was feeling scared.

For a moment, a few flashlights shone on everyone's faces, and everyone counted the number of the people on their side.

After a while, Bai Shaoyu's trembling voice was heard, "W-We still have 23 people on this side..."

They had lost Bai Pengfei. Logically speaking, there should only be 22 of them, but the total number was still the same...

"What?"

"Who is the extra person?"

"..."

Everyone was shocked, and they subconsciously gathered around to look at Xiao Yuanjing and the rest. In the end, they realized that there was a figure standing beside a dragon patterned golden pillar at their side.

Bai Shaoyu gulped and asked, "Who are you?"

The man did not move or say a word.

Bai Shaoyu shouted again, "Are you a human or a ghost?"

"What nonsense is this!"

Xiao Yuanjing snorted. He took a step forward and extended his hand towards the figure. Logically speaking, as the person who ranked No.2 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard, only Luo Tianya could suppress him!

However, just as his hand was about to touch the shadow...

The figure was even faster than him. It turned into an afterimage and dodged the attack. Then, it rushed to the second floor of the ghost ship.

Bai Shaoyu exclaimed, "That thing ran up there!"

The series of actions was done within a blink of an eye. By the time everyone realized what was happening and wanted to stop it, it was too late.

Xiao Yuanjing's expression turned terrible!

He had personally made a move, but he had failed to stop the other party!

At that moment, everyone's attention was no longer on Bai Pengfei's death. Instead, they frowned as they tried to figure out what that shadow was.

Yuan Qitai stuttered, "Was that thing a human or a ghost?"

"It doesn't look like a ghost!"

Master Yizhen slowly shook his head and said, "This old monk is a Buddhist and has always been extremely sensitive to evil things. However, I didn't sense any evil aura from that figure."

"That's right!"

Even the old Celestial Master of Mount Longhu, Zhang Wuming, nodded and said, "It's very simple for ghosts to kill humans. There's no need to drink one's blood and eat one's flesh."

Everyone looked down at the human skin on the ground.

It was unknown if someone was overly nervous, but the breath that was released hit the human skin, causing it to bulge.

"A dead person still wants to stir up trouble!"

Zhang Wuming raised his hand and tossed a talisman. The talisman spontaneously combusted and burned the human skin, filling the room with a foul smell.

"Could it have something to the black fog outside the window?"

Ye Chen said nothing. He only took a deep look at the stairs leading to the second floor of the ghost ship. He seemed to be thinking about something.

"I've had enough!"

At that moment, an old man holding a sword next to Ye Chen took a step forward and said coldly, "It seems like it's not safe to stay in the room all the time. We all have our own objectives when we set foot on the ghost ship. What else can we do if we stay here?"

With that, he held his sword in one hand and stepped onto the stairs that led to the second floor directly, "I don't believe in ghosts. Who cares if it's evil? I'll destroy it with one strike!"

Zhang Wuming wanted to stop him, "Fellow Li, please don't!"

However, the old man did not even turn his head and soon disappeared from the first floor of the ship. Everyone heard footsteps coming from the wooden boards above their heads.

"Let's follow too. I want to see what kind of thing dares to play tricks to us!"

With that, Xiao Yuanjing followed the old man up the stairs leading to the second floor. Bai Shaoyu hesitated for a moment before leading his men and following closely behind.

"Since they're not afraid, what are we afraid of?"

Not to be outdone, Luo Tianya led his men forward as well.

Zhang Wuming could not help but look at Ye Chen upon seeing that, "Mr. Ye, do you think we should go up?"

"Let's go!"

Ye Chen smiled lightly and took a step forward.

...

On the ghost ship's second floor, they realized that there were many tables and chairs when they arrived at the second floor. The doors and windows were closed. Just as Shi Qianhan had said, this floor was a dining room!

The group studied the second floor of the ship and realized that it was empty. Someone could not help but ask, "Where is the person who just came up?"

With his reminder, everyone finally reacted.

That was right!

The old man with the sword had clearly come up!

However, where was he?

Zhang Wuming frowned, "Could he have gone to the third floor?"

Someone exclaimed, "There are no stairs on the second floor!"

Everyone had their guards up, and they immediately checked their surroundings again. They really did not find any stairs that led to the third floor. The entire second floor seemed to be sealed.

Ye Chen frowned and tried his best to cover the place with his Divine Consciousness. He realized that it was really like the first floor. The doors and windows around him blocked his Divine Consciousness completely.

"Wait, where's Shi Qianhan? Why isn't he following us?"

Luo Shuiyao suddenly spoke.

Everyone looked and realized that Shi Qianhan was not among the crowd.

Master Yizhen shook his head and said, "It looks like he stayed down there?"

"That man is afraid of death!"

Bai Shaoyu sneered, "Looks like I overestimated him!"

Ye Chen had a thought. He turned around and was about to return to the first floor of the ghost ship. However, he stopped at that moment and looked at a wall before him.

There was a lantern hanging there. Different from the other lanterns, this lantern was white. Its cover was not made of paper, but more like skin. As the light flickered, it looked like a human head grinning wickedly.

There was also a faint smell of blood.

"Is there something wrong with this lantern?"

A young man from the Xiao Clan's camp walked over subconsciously. He reached out to take the lantern and examined it.

At the next moment, the entire second floor shook violently.

A coffin slowly appeared before everyone!

It was an ancient coffin, but there was no lid!

The strangest thing was that there was a faint light inside the coffin.

This sudden scene caused everyone to subconsciously take a step back. Their faces were filled with fear as they stared at the ancient coffin.

Tang Yiming's expression was a little terrible, "This ancient coffin appeared out of thin air, and it even blocked the stairs that lead back to the first floor!"

"Xiao Shun, go take a look!"

Xiao Yuanjing glanced at the young man from the Xiao Clan who had removed the lantern earlier.

The man was obviously a little scared, "Young master!"

Xiao Yuanjing's gaze turned cold, "Go!"

Xiao Shun hesitated for a moment, but in the end, he did not dare to disobey the order. He carried the lantern and walked towards the ancient coffin with trepidation...

However, no one knew that on the fourth floor of the ghost ship, an ice coffin stood silently on the ground. Inside the coffin lay a woman of peerless beauty.

Shi Qianhan was currently standing in the ice coffin. He slapped the lid of the coffin and bent down to gently caress the woman's face. His eyes were filled with tenderness, "Yu'er, Qianhan is here..."

#### Chapter 722: For You, I'm Don't Mind Falling into the Demonic Dao!

The woman in the ancient coffin was dressed in a red wedding dress, her hands placed on her chest. She was extremely beautiful. Even though she was long dead, her skin was still as rosy as a living person's.

The perfect red wedding dress accentuated her exquisite figure. As the cold air from the ice coffin filled the air, it added to her elegance.

If one took a closer look, they would discover a fist-sized hole where the woman's heart was. The blood had already solidified.

"Yu'er, it's been 20 years. For 20 years, for countless days and nights, there was never a time Qianhan doesn't miss you!"

At that moment, Shi Qianhan was no longer as cold as before. His expression was exceedingly softened. He just bowed and reached out to gently caress the face of the woman in the coffin.

Tears poured down from the corner of his eye.

Pitter-patter...

Tears fell on the woman's forehead.

Shi Qianhan hurriedly reached out to wipe them away, appearing flustered, "Yu'er, I'm sorry. I didn't do it on purpose!"

He slowly carried the woman out of the ice coffin and gently pulled her into his embrace. His expression seemed to be filled with pain, "Yu'er, I knew that you had a motive for hiding by my side back then, but do you know why I didn't reject you?

Because the moment I laid eyes on you, my heart was moved. I've always been born for the sake of the sword, and my heart is only for the sake of bringing glory to the 10,000 Swords Pavilion, to meet master's expectations!"

He kissed the woman's forehead and seemed to be talking to himself, "From the first time I saw you, I knew what love was. Hence, even though I knew that your motive wasn't pure, I still didn't reject you.

Later on, you snuck into my 10,000 Swords Pavilion's secret chamber and stole the cultivation technique. When master found out, he lifted his sword and chased after you. I didn't want you to die under his sword, so I fought him!"

Shi Qianhan's face was filled with bitterness, "Master was extremely disappointed in me. He saw me as a traitor and wanted to kill me. But at the critical moment, you returned to block master's fatal sword for me...

Why were you so foolish?"

At this point, a trace of extreme sorrow emanated from his body, "If you aren't in my world, then what's the point of me living in this world?

Your death means that my heart has also died!"

He reached out to gently smoothen the crumpled clothes of the woman in his arms, "For you, I would rather give up my identity as the young pavilion master of the 10,000 Swords Pavilion. For you, I didn't hesitate to betray my sect, went into the Demonic Dao, and become the Demonic Dao Shi Qianhan that everyone hates..."

...

On the second floor, under everyone's nervous gaze, Xiao Shun carried the lantern and finally approached the coffin blocking the staircase.

He gritted his teeth and lowered his head to look down. He seemed to have discovered something. He crawled into the coffin and disappeared.

There was no movement inside.

Everyone's heart was in their throats again. Bai Shaoyu asked worriedly, "Did something happen to Xiao Shun?"

"Wait!"

Xiao Yuanjing frowned slightly and said, "If there's an accident, it's impossible for us not to notice. Furthermore, Xiao Shun didn't even cry for help."

Not long after, a head slowly poked out from the coffin!

It was Xiao Shun.

However, everyone did not look relieved at all. Instead, they looked at Xiao Shun who walked out of the coffin in fear.

Bai Shaoyu's face twitched, "Yuanjing, how could this be..."

His voice was shaking.

Xiao Yuanjing's expression was terrifyingly grim!

"Brother!"

Luo Shuiyao subconsciously leaned behind Luo Tianya.

Even Ye Chen's eyes could not help but focus. He saw that Xiao Shun's image had changed drastically. The lantern in his hand had turned into a bloody head!

The head belonged to the old man holding the sword who had first arrived on the second floor. His eyes were wide open, and a strange grin appeared on his lips.

Xiao Shun's head had also changed!

It turned into a lantern!

That was right, it was a lantern!

It was as if Xiao Shun's head had been swapped with the previous lantern.

Xiao Shun did not realize this as he walked over with a smile, "Young master, I've gone to take a look. This coffin is actually a passageway..."

His voice was clearly Xiao Shun's, but when he spoke, it was the mouth on the old man's head that was moving.

Xiao Yuanjing shouted, "Don't come over!"

"Young master, what's wrong?"

Xiao Shun stopped in his tracks obediently and asked in confusion, "Why are you all looking at me like that?"

"Kill him!"

Bai Shaoyu's eyes twitched. He condensed a palm print and shattered Xiao Shun, as well as the head in his hand.

An even stranger scene appeared.

After the old man's head was shattered, his broken facial features actually reformed. He widened his eyes and grinned at the crowd, "All of you will die. I guarantee that all of you will die. There will be no exceptions!"

Bang!

Bai Shaoyu sent another punch forward, smashing him into a pulp.

Another person died!

No, more accurately, it was two people!

Everyone's expression gradually turned grim, and a trace of uneasiness lingered in their hearts like an inner demon.

What exactly happened to the elderly man and Xiao Shun?

Someone stammered, "W-What should we do now?"

At that moment, another person appeared in the coffin from before. His appearance made everyone's scalps go numb.

It was because the other party was the old man holding the sword.

Unaware of what had just happened, the old man walked over with a smile, "You guys have finally caught up. I've been waiting for you guys!"

"Don't move!"

Xiao Yuanjing, Luo Tianya, and the rest shouted in unison.

The elderly man was confused, "What's wrong?"

Zhang Wuming from Mount Longhu said, "Brother Li, a-aren't you dead?"

"You're the one who's dead!"

The elderly man's expression turned furious as he berated, "Old Zhang, don't curse me like that! I'm clearly alive and well!"

Zhang Wuming's mind was in a mess, but he still asked with doubt, "Then why did you suddenly disappear? Also, why did you come out of the coffin?"

"Oh, this is why you asked that?"

The elderly man's heart sank when he saw the unfriendly looks on everyone's faces. He seemed to have realized something and immediately said, "I ran into a trap the moment I came up and fell into a secret chamber."

At this point, a hint of fear flashed through his eyes, "I saw many coffins in the secret chamber, and all of them were people who had died on this ship. There are even writings that were left behind by Xiao Buyi!"

"What?"

"Xiao Buyi?!"

"…"

Everyone was startled upon hearing that, and Zhang Wuming hurriedly asked, "Brother Li, tell us, what did Xiao Buyi write?"

#### Chapter 723: Xiao Buyi's Statue!

Xiao Buyi!

He was a legend in the Feng Shui world of Hong Kong and could even be said to be a legend in the Feng Shui world of China. The two Feng Shui sects in Hong Kong, the Southern Sect and Northern Sect, originated from him.

Unfortunately, this man's whereabouts had always been mysterious, so the world did not know much about him. The only thing they knew was that this person's attainments in Feng Shui and mysterious technique were extremely high, and it was said that he was able to defy the heavens and change fate.

As such, everyone was quite surprised to hear Xiao Buyi's name. They did not think that Xiao Buyi had really been on the ghost ship.

He even left a message on the ship!

In the face of the old Celestial Master of Mount Longhu, Zhang Wuming's words, the old man's lips moved slightly. He looked like he wanted to say something but hesitated, as if he was afraid of something.

Seeing the strange expression on his face, Celestial Master Zhang Wuming stomped his foot in anxiety, "Brother Li, tell me what Xiao Buyi left behind!"

"Come down with me and you'll find out!"

The elderly man appraised everyone with a mysterious look as he heaved a faint sigh before entering the ancient coffin again.

Everyone was completely stunned by his actions. Coupled with the strange scene of Xiao Shun holding his head, no one dared to take a step forward.

Bai Shaoyu snorted, "This old thing is a little strange. It's best not to fall for it!"

Zhang Wuming gritted his teeth with a conflicted expression before following suit into the coffin. He had come here to find his senior brother, so how could he give up on the information that Xiao Buyi had left behind?

"Forget it, whether it's a blessing or a curse, I can't avoid it!"

Master Yizhen pressed his palms together and his eyes were clear. After saying a few words, he also entered the ancient coffin.

"Let's go!"

Seeing that the two people on his side had left, Ye Chen lifted his head to look at Yuan Qitai and the rest next to him. In the end, he entered the ancient coffin.

...

Just as Xiao Shun had said earlier, the bottom of the coffin was a passageway leading to another secret chamber. Ye Chen felt a terrifying suction the moment he entered the coffin. He felt like he was falling from the sky.

Fortunately, this feeling did not last long. In just an instant, when he landed on the ground, he realized that he was in a narrow, sealed space. Night pearls decorated the surroundings, illuminating the room.

Three figures stood in the distance. They were Zhang Wuming and the other two. At the same time, more than ten figures landed one after another.

When everyone walked over, Zhang Wuming and the other two surrounded a stone sculpture and sized it up. The stone sculpture looked like a person. It was wearing a Daoist robe and held a horsetail whisk in his hand. He leaned against the wall in an extremely strange posture. He pointed at the sky with one hand and stared into the distance at a 45-degree angle.

"What's this?"

Xiao Yuanjing, who was following them, asked in a low voice, "Why does it look like someone?"

Luo Tianya frowned, "Could it be Xiao Buyi?"

"That's right!"

The elderly man with the sword and Zhang Wuming nodded in unison. In the end, it was Zhang Wuming who spoke in a slow voice, "The statue in front of us is none other than Xiao Buyi. I was fortunate enough to meet him a few decades ago, so this is definitely him."

"Why is there a statue of Xiao Buyi here?"

"Where is he? Is he dead or alive?"

Many people started asking themselves.

Ye Chen said, "Where's Xiao Buyi's writing then?"

"Everyone, look over there!"

The old man pointed at the wall behind them. It was a mural with many carvings on it.

Someone walked over to take a look and realized that the picture on the mural depicted a ship. However, it was badly worn and very difficult to understand. There seemed to be someone inside.

"Why is it a picture and not writing?"

"It's a worn-out picture. Who can understand it?"

"Li, are you sure you're not teasing us?"

"…"

At that moment, everyone's expressions turned terrible. They looked at the old man with a stern gaze, as if they were about to attack.

At this critical moment, Luo Shuiyao's beautiful brows furrowed slightly as she asked, "Mr. Li, how can you be so sure that this is Xiao Buyi's handwriting?"

"It's simple!"

A wry smile appeared on the elderly man's face as he pointed a finger at Xiao Buyi's statue, "Look, where's Xiao Buyi looking at?"

Everyone could not help but take another look, and they discovered Xiao Buyi's eyes were completely glued to the mural before them.

Xiao Yuanjing's brows furrowed as he asked, "Are you saying that Xiao Buyi is hinting at something on the mural?"

"That's right!"

The elderly man nodded as he said, "I suspect that Xiao Buyi is trying to hint at something by leaving behind a statue, and that the content of the message is on the mural before us!"

At this point, he sighed softly, "Unfortunately, the patterns on the mural are a bit worn-out. No matter how I try to figure it out, I can't see anything."

"Shine your flashlight!"

Master Yizhen said. Immediately, someone shone the torchlight on the mural while he stared at it.

"What if it's just a coincidence? Furthermore, Xiao Buyi's finger is pointing upward. Could it be that there's some kind of hint on it?"

Luo Shuiyao secretly curled her lips and began to walk around the entire chamber. It was unknown what she had stepped on.

Creak...

A crisp sound echoed in the secret chamber.

Everyone was shocked by the sudden noise. They turned to look at Luo Shuiyao, "What happened?"

"I-I don't know..."

Luo Shuiyao seemed somewhat flustered, her face blank.

Creak...

The cracking sound continued, and before everyone's astonished eyes, the statue of Xiao Buyi suddenly rose into the air.

Under the statue was a hidden compartment.

"There's something over there!"

Zhang Wuming cried out in surprise and quickly walked over. After putting on a pair of gloves, he reached into the secret compartment.

When he did that, everyone subconsciously held their breaths and stared at him, afraid that something would happen.

Not long after, Zhang Wuming took out a jar. The jar was only the size of a vinegar jar, and it could be held with one hand. A black cloth-like object slowly fell out from the jar.

Zhang Wuming slowly opened it. After taking a look, he exclaimed, "It's a painting, a painting!"

The group then sighed in relief. They walked around him and started to observe the painting. It was a nautical chart.

The nautical chart was split into three parts, and it was filled with all kinds of people. Most of them were wearing ancient clothes.

In the first part, there were dozens of people surrounding a couple and worshipping them. In the second painting, there were suddenly many people rushing over from the sea. These people seemed to be pirates and had a huge battle with the people on the ship.

On the third part, the appearance of the ship changed drastically. Not only was it emitting black energy, there were also many ferocious-looking evil spirits floating on the ship. These evil spirits turned into black energy and surrounded the entire ship. Many people were trapped inside the ancient ship.

# Chapter 724: Qianqian's Identity!

At that moment, someone said weakly, "Did you guys notice that this painting looks exactly the same as the mural on the wall?"

Everyone immediately reacted and compared the two. They realized that other than the worn-out part, the rest were identical.

"Looks like Xiao Buyi really did leave us some guidance!"

Tang Yiming said slowly, "But why did he leave behind two identical guides? And what does the contents of this mural mean?"

Tang Yiming's words completely stunned everyone!

That was right!

What was Xiao Buyi trying to tell everyone by leaving behind this painting?

Luo Shuiyao snapped, "If you ask me, Xiao Buyi is just trying to trick us. If he really had any guidance, why didn't he just write it down? Why did he have to create a pattern for us to guess?"

"How can we understand the thoughts of such a powerhouse!"

Old Celestial Master Zhang Wuming shook his head slightly. He then laid the painting on the ground and said with a frown, "It seems that we can only rely on this painting to understand the information about the ghost ship."

Master Yizhen said, "That's right. Fortunately, the pattern on this sheepskin scroll is clear enough. Everyone, take a closer look and see if you can see anything!"

"Did you guys notice that there are three parts on this parchment scroll?"

Ye Chen said in a deep voice, "The first one looks like a voyage. There are many soldiers on it, but these people don't look like soldiers at all."

"That's right!"

Zhang Wuming nodded and said, "From the looks of these people, they seem to be Chinese. However, I don't even recognize the style of their clothing."

At this point, he pointed at the middle-aged couple that was worshiped by many soldiers in the first part of the painting. He frowned and said, "Especially this middle-aged couple. They're like ancient emperors, surrounded by these people."

"Could this middle-aged couple be the emperor and concubine of some dynasty?" Luo Shuiyao's interest was piqued, and she started to size them up.

"No!"

Yuan Qitai shook his head and said, "Banshan knows quite a bit about ancient history, but I've never seen such a warship or attire. Moreover, this middle-aged woman doesn't have the aura of an emperor judging by her face. She seems like an ancient general leading an expedition!"

"Let's not worry about that for now. Let's look at the second part!"

Ye Chen interrupted everyone's confusion. He fixed his gaze on the second part of the painting, "This part is easier to understand than the first one. Clearly, when the ship was sailing somewhere, many people suddenly charged over from the sea. There was an intense battle between the two parties."

He paused.

It was because he realized that the people on the surface of the sea were all walking on the waves, and they were all Chinese martial artists. The thing that shook him the most was...

When the middle-aged couple was surrounded by these people, there was a four or five-year-old girl behind them. The girl was dressed in a luxurious outfit, and she looked as cute as a porcelain doll.

'Why is it her?!'

Ye Chen was stirred at that moment!

It was because he realized that the girl in the painting looked a little similar to Qianqian, especially her eyes. They were exactly the same!

Zhang Wuming could not help but ask, "Mr. Ye, what's wrong?"

"Ye Chen, are you alright?" Luo Shuiyao asked in concern.

"I'm fine!"

Ye Chen shook his head without batting an eyelid. However, a storm was brewing in his heart along with all sorts of guesses.

'Why does the girl in the painting look so similar to Qianqian?

And what was the relationship between that middle-aged couple and Qianqian?'

"Just as Mr. Ye said!"

Zhang Wuming continued, "The contents of the second part of the painting should've been an attack by an outsider. The people on the ship were either dead or injured, and the little girl behind this middle-aged couple must be their daughter..."

"Brother..."

Right at this moment, Luo Shuiyao suddenly whispered to Luo Tianya beside her, "I realized that the little girl in the painting looks a little like the one we're looking for..."

"Don't spout nonsense!"

In fact, Luo Tianya had already guessed it. Now that he heard that his younger sister felt the same way, he could not help but feel shocked and hurriedly stopped her.

At the same time, Tang Yiming, Liu Yunfeng, Xiang Nan, Tong Shuhui, Xiao Yuanjing, Bai Shaoyu, and the rest all had strange expressions on their faces, but no one said anything.

Although Luo Shuiyao's voice was neither loud nor soft, Ye Chen still heard her. He was even more certain of his guess now!

Based on what he knew, when the ghost ship appeared 20 years ago, other than Shi Qianhan, the rest of the people who boarded the ship were either dead or injured. However, there was an elderly man and a young person who came out alive from the ghost ship.

The appearance of this young and elderly shocked the entire Shang Santian because no one could find out the identities of these two people. At that time, many powerhouses attacked them, but in the end, more than half of them were killed by that madman.

The old and the young were Qianqian and Grandpa Sun. They had appeared on the ghost ship. Connecting the girl in the painting, Ye Chen suspected that Qianqian was the girl in the painting.

The middle-aged couple must be her biological parents. However, what confused him was who was that Grandpa Sun? Why did he abandon Qianqian, and why did Qianqian lose her memory and end up on the streets?

At that moment, Yuan Qitai took a deep breath in and suddenly said, "Mr. Ye, the people fighting on the ship are all powerhouses. Each of them are walking on water. At the very least, they're Martial Dao masters."

Master Yizhen's expression changed as well, "That's not all. Did you guys notice? The place where they fought seemed to be Wu River!"

As the two of them spoke, the faces of Bai Shaoyu, Xiao Yuanjing, and the others twitched slightly. They looked very unnatural, and killing intent flashed in their eyes as they looked at Yuan Qitai and the other man.

Ye Chen took a good look at them and changed the topic, "Let's look at the third part of the painting."

Needless to say, he had already guessed that the group of powerhouses in the second part of the painting who had charged onto the ship like bandits were definitely from Shang Santian. Moreover, they were related to the Xiao Clan and the Bai family.

Dozens of them were nothing weaker than Martial Dao masters!

Only Shang Santian could produce such power!

Zhang Wuming and Master Yizhen looked at each other and shook their heads slightly, obviously having guessed something.

To ease the atmosphere, Zhang Wuming pretended to be ignorant and asked, "Mr. Ye, the first two paintings were acceptable, but why did the ship in the third part turn into something so creepy?"

Ye Chen smiled lightly and said profoundly, "Obviously, the ship on the third part is the ghost ship we're on!"

"What?"

Everyone was shocked.

Yuan Qitai cried out in surprise, "Mr. Ye, are you saying that after the ship in the first and second parts of the painting underwent great changes, it became the ghost ship we're currently on?"

**Chapter 725: Two Extra People!** 

"That's right!"

Meeting everyone's gaze, Ye Chen nodded lightly and said, "After the intense battle in the second part of the painting, the warship was destroyed. Corpses were piled and blood flowed everywhere. I think it must've experienced something to turn into a ghost ship."

"Look!"

Master Yizhen pointed at the third part of the painting and said, "Is this black energy the same as the one we encountered before?"

The black energy that he was pointing at had countless malicious ghosts.

"Yes, it's exactly the same!"

This time, even the marquis of the Blood Clan, Bruce, and the other western powerhouses were stunned. Thunder God Thor, took a deep breath in and said, "So the situation is very clear now. This map must be describing the origin of the ghost ship."

After his reminder, everyone nodded.

Luo Shuiyao said with lingering fear, "It looks like there were indeed evil spirits in the black fog we experienced. No wonder the black fog can devour humans!"

Xiao Yuanjing nodded slightly and said, "The content of the third part should be that the ghost ship is surrounded by black fog. Many living people were trapped inside the ghost ship, and they were all trapped in the secret chamber."

At this point, his face twitched, and he gulped, "Hmm, why is there a statue in the third picture?"

Someone looked at everyone's positions and then at the people in the painting. When he realized that it was the same as the painting, he cried out in shock, "I-It seems to be talking about us..."

This time, no one spoke. They all felt that the temperature in the secret chamber seemed to have suddenly dropped by tens of degrees, and a chill gradually entered their hearts.

Even though everyone present was invincible, all of them felt a chill run down their spines.

Could it be that Xiao Buyi really had comprehended the secret of heavens 20 years ago and predicted that they would arrive today?

"No!"

Bai Shaoyu suddenly cried out in alarm, "There's something wrong with the number of people on the ghost ship. If you count, it seems to be about the same number as us!"

Everyone hurriedly looked at the third part of the painting and counted the people inside the room. Luo Shuiyao started to count them one by one, "One, two...

Forty-six...

Forty-seven...

"Forty-eight..."

Buzz!

The entire room fell into a dead silence. Everyone felt their scalps go numb. Someone murmured, "Why are there 48 people?"

Everyone's faces turned pale.

Initially, there were 48 of them. Bai Pengfei had died, and so did Xiao Shun, while Shi Qianhan was not there. Logically speaking, there should be 45 of them left. How could there be three more people?

Even with the shadow that had initially escaped, there should only be 46 of them!

There were two extra people!

After a long while, someone said weakly, "Could it be that we're overthinking? Maybe it's another group of people on this map instead of us?"

"Impossible!"

Xiao Yuanjing shook his head firmly and said, "Look carefully at the position of the people in the painting. It's exactly the same as ours, and there are only t-two women!"

Following his words, everyone turned to look at Luo Shuiyao and Tong Shuhui!

That was right!

Of the forty people present, there were only two women!

It could no longer be described as a coincidence!

Luo Shuiyao's voice gradually began to tremble, "Could it be that the old woman who died earlier and the guy who was dragged out of the window were also included?"

After saying that, she regretted it.

It was because the old woman had died before the ghost ship left. At that time, there was no black fog on the ghost ship, and when the man who was dragged out of the window died, everyone was still on the first floor of the ghost ship.

The 48 people on the third part of the painting were all inside the secret chamber.

At this moment, Xiao Yuanjing said again, "We've made another discovery. Look!"

Everyone hurriedly looked over and saw Xiao Yuanjing pointing at the two people in the third part of the painting. He said word by word, "Have you guys noticed that these two people are different?"

Even though the two people he was pointing at were wearing clothes, their faces were covered by a thin layer of black fog. The facial features in the fog were distorted, and their eyes were like ghost fire.

Xiao Yuanjing took a deep breath in and reminded them again, "Don't you think that these two people are similar to the evil spirits in the black fog outside the ghost ship in the painting?"

"That's right!"

Bai Shaoyu also realized the issue at this moment. Subsequently, he raised his eyes and stared at the crowd warily, "Among all of us here, two are ghosts. There are two evil spirits!"

"What?"

Everyone froze when they heard that. They sized each other up, their eyes filled with vigilance.

"Which two of us are ghosts?"

"Impossible!"

"Could it be that after the ghost ship returned, we did not close the door in time, so there were ghosts crawled in through the fog?"

"..."

At that moment, everyone started discussing in panic.

Xiao Yuanjing lifted his head slowly and looked at Ye Chen and the old man holding the sword. He said coldly, "They're ghosts!"

Luo Shuiyao immediately said coldly, "Xiao Yuanjing, don't you dare slander anyone here!"

"That's right!"

Yuan Qitai, Zhang Wuming, and the rest spoke as well, "Young Master Xiao, even if you had grudges with Mr. Ye in the past, you shouldn't have slandered him for nothing!"

The elderly man's expression gradually turned cold, "Young Master Xiao, I don't think I've offended you, have I?"

"I'm slandering you?"

Xiao Yuanjing scoffed and threw the sheepskin map on the ground. He said, "Take a closer look. Aren't these two ghosts standing exactly in the same positions as Ye Chen and old man?"

Everyone fell silent.

One of the ghosts in the painting just so happened to be standing next to the wall on the east, while the other ghost was standing directly in front of Xiao Buyi's statue.

Coincidentally, the person leaning against the wall was Ye Chen, and the person facing Xiao Buyi's sculpture was the old man with the sword.

At the next moment, everyone took a few steps back to be separated from Ye Chen and the old man with the sword. Even Zhang Wuming, the Luo family, the Tang family, and the rest were no exception.

"How is this possible?!"

The elderly man was instantly dumbfounded as he stuttered, "How can I be a ghost? That's impossible!"

"How could Ye Chen be a ghost?!"

Luo Shuiyao still could not accept it. She tried to stand up for Ye Chen, "We boarded the ship with Ye Chen. He's clearly human. How could he be a ghost?"

"The truth is right before our eyes, and Xiao Buyi's prediction wasn't wrong at all. Don't tell me that Xiao Buyi had the intention to harm Ye 20 years ago?"

Xiao Yuanjing smiled as if he was mocking Ye Chen. In the end, he fixed his gaze on Ye Chen, "So, you two ghosts have been hiding around us all along. If it weren't for Xiao Buyi's extraordinary skills, we would've been kept in the dark by your lie!"

Bai Shaoyu's killing intent was cold, "Ye, what else do you have to say now?"

Under everyone's gaze, Ye Chen suddenly smiled.

Xiao Yuanjing's eyes narrowed, "What are you smiling about?"

Ye Chen's smile turned cold. He locked eyes with them and said in disdain, "Have you finally revealed your true intentions? You guys have really put in a lot of effort to confront me!"

# Chapter 726: A Tense Situation, Targeted by All!

On the second floor of the ghost ship's secret chamber, following Xiao Buyi's instructions, the peaceful situation was completely disrupted.

After all, Xiao Buyi's prediction was far too terrifying. Apart from Shi Qianhan, there were two other ghosts among them!

They did not believe in these things. Even if there were ghosts, they were not afraid!

However, ever since they stepped onto the ghost ship, many people had died in succession. It was not an exaggeration to call what had happened strange. Therefore, at this moment, a chill slowly crept into everyone's hearts.

At that moment, many people looked at Ye Chen with hostility. Even Luo Tianya, Tang Yiming, and the rest were doubtful.

Not only was Ye Chen fearless in the face of everyone's gaze, he looked straight at Xiao Yuanjing and said while sneering, "Have you finally revealed your true intentions? You guys have really put in a lot of effort to confront me!"

"Confront you?"

Xiao Yuanjing's gaze froze, and he snorted, "Ye, don't think too highly of yourself. If we wanted to confront you, we would've done so long ago when we boarded the ship. Why would we wait until now?"

Ye Chen's expression did not change at all, "Then, what right do you have to call me a ghost? Just because of the painting of Xiao Buyi that you guys found?"

Bai Shaoyu smirked coldly, "Then how do you explain that you're standing in the same position as the ghost in the painting? The ghost in the painting is exactly the same as the ghost in the black fog outside the ghost ship."

"That's right!"

Bruce, the marquis of the Blood Clan, also chimed in, "Xiao Buyi predicted our arrival 20 years ago. The number of people in the painting is exactly the same as ours, so there's no mistake in it, right?"

Everyone nodded.

Even though they did not want to believe it, they had no choice but to admit that the third part of the painting that Xiao Buyi had left behind was referring to them. All of them were surrounded by black energy, and they were also trapped in a secret chamber.

"And you!"

Xiao Yuanjing suddenly looked at the old man holding the sword and said, "Of all of us, you were the first to step onto the second floor of the ghost ship. When we followed you, we could not see you anymore. Then, the ancient coffin that led to the secret chamber appeared, and my clan's Xiao Shun went in to investigate and died."

At this point, his gaze turned cold, "We all saw clearly that when Xiao Shun came out, he was holding your head in his hand. However, after he died, you appeared. Tell us, if you are not a ghost, then what are you?"

As he said that, many people nodded to themselves. Xiao Yuanjing's analysis was not wrong at all. Actually, when the old man walked out of the coffin, everyone suspected whether he was a human or a ghost.

Even the old Celestial Master of Mount Longhu, Zhang Wuming, was shaken. He could not help but look at the old man with the sword and ask, "Brother Li, this concerns your identity. Can you explain it to us?"

"[..."

The elderly man faltered slightly before a wry smile appeared on his face, "When I first arrived here, I felt a chill run down my neck, and then I lost consciousness. When I woke up, I discovered that I was in this secret chamber, and as I discovered Xiao Buyi's statue, I completely forgot about everything that had happened, so I went back to inform all of you..."

He paused for a moment and said with an unnatural expression, "I suspect that I've been ambushed by something..."

Even when he said that, he did not have the confidence because it was difficult to convince others.

Ye Chen frowned and stared at him, "Are you saying that someone ambushed you from behind when you came up and knocked you out before throwing you into the secret chamber?"

He could feel that the man was not lying.

Without waiting for the old man to speak, Xiao Yuanjing sneered, "What a joke. You are a beginner-stage martial venerable. Who would be able to sneak an attack on you without anyone noticing? Furthermore, we were all on the first floor. Who would be able to sneak an attack on you?"

"Yuanjing's analysis is accurate!"

Bai Shaoyu snickered and said, "Furthermore, the other party ambushed you but didn't kill you. Instead, he threw you into the secret chamber. What's the meaning of this? Do you think that he has nothing better to do?"

Zhang Wuming's face turned grimmer and grimmer, "Brother Li, I think you should speak the truth!"

"I'm telling the truth. I didn't tell you at the beginning because I knew that you wouldn't believe me even if I told you!"

The old man shook his head with a bitter smile. His expression was terrible, "Furthermore, I suspect that the one who ambushed me was the one who killed Bai Pengfei in the dark and escaped to the second floor."

"This means there's something wrong with you!"

A cold look appeared on Xiao Yuanjing's face, "He killed Bai Pengfei, but he only ambushed you instead of killing you. He even threw you into a secret chamber. How are you going to explain that?"

The elderly man was rendered speechless, "I..."

This time, the way everyone looked at the old man with the sword changed once again. What he said was really not worth pondering over.

"Don't waste your breath on him!"

Bai Shaoyu interrupted him and sneered, "The situation is very clear now. When we boarded the ghost ship, the black fog attacked us. There must be evil spirits in the black fog that seized the opportunity to sneak in before we could close the door and windows."

He looked directly at Ye Chen and the old man with the sword, "I'm sure that there are three evil spirits that sneaked in. The first one is the one who killed Bai Pengfei in the dark. The two of you must be the remaining two evil spirits!"

Xiao Yuanjing took a step forward. His killing intent locked onto Ye Chen and the old man holding the sword, "Everyone, kill them. Even if they're evil spirits, we can kill them since they're outnumbered!"

At the next moment, apart from the Luo family and the Tang family, everyone else on the scene unleashed cold killing intent at Ye Chen and the old man.

"We're stepping away from this!"

Zhang Wuming exchanged glances with Master Yizhen and the rest. They then stood aside at the same time. Clearly, they suspected that Ye Chen was a ghost, but they could not attack him.

Luo Shuiyao's pretty face changed, she was just about to step forward when she was restrained by Luo Tianya. She could not help but speak with a trembling voice, "Brother..."

"This isn't something that we should interfere with!" Luo Tianya said grimly.

Xiang Heng chuckled coldly as he said, "Yaoyao, Xiao Buyi's prediction is very clear. Brat Ye is a ghost, so why don't we strike first instead of letting him kill us?"

"Fine!"

Ye Chen spoke slowly. Although his tone seemed calm, it revealed extreme coldness, "Since I can't reason with you guys, I can only use my fists. If you call me a ghost, I'll turn you guys into ghosts today!"

"Kill him!"

Bai Shaoyu shouted and charged at Ye Chen first.

At that moment, the entire ghost ship shook violently. It was as if a meteorite had fallen from the sky. Everyone almost lost their balance.

Someone exclaimed, "What happened?!"

### **Chapter 727: The Unkillable Existence!**

Stomp, stomp, stomp...

At that moment, hurried footsteps came from the deck outside the ghost ship. The footsteps were very dense, and they were getting closer and closer, causing everyone's scalp to turn numb.

"There's someone outside!"

Someone let out a cry of surprise.

Ahhhh...

Before anyone could react, shrill shrieks rang in their ears. The shrieks were deafening like the wails of ghosts.

At the same time, the entire secret chamber began to tremor violently, and Xiao Buyi's stone statue collapsed to the ground with a loud crash. The entire chamber seemed to be on the verge of collapse.

"Go, quick, get out!"

Luo Tianya's expression changed, and he pulled Luo Shuiyao along as he took the lead to storm out while the others hurriedly followed behind him. This sudden and unexpected event caused everyone to no longer care about who was human and who was a ghost.

When the group returned to the second floor of the ghost ship, the whole ship was still shaking violently. The lanterns hanging on the walls were flickering, switching between dark and bright.

However, everyone's eyes were glued to the windows.

Under the pale light, there were countless shadows on the white paper windows. The shadows were dragged long like evil spirits.

The shrieks continued.

"Pitter-patter..."

Blood splattered on the window paper, dyeing it red. Some blood even dripped down the windows to the ground. It was a horrifying sight!

Someone shivered and said, "W-What is that?"

No one spoke!

The scene before them was just too terrifying. Everyone subconsciously inhaled coldly. They felt their scalps tingle and chills run down their spines.

Obviously, there was a change on the deck outside the ghost ship!

However, no one dared to open the windows to look outside, because everyone knew that there was an endless black fog outside the windows. The fog could devour people.

Therefore, it was causing a commotion outside!

It was obviously not human!

The commotion did not last long, but to everyone, it was no different as if a year went by!

When the commotion finally died down, everyone let out a sigh of relief. Someone mumbled, "Did those things... leave?"

At the next moment, countless black figures suddenly appeared in front of everyone. All of these figures held ancient metal spears and wore black armor. The black armor was bathed in blood stains, and their faces were pale. Their eyes were extremely eerie.

A cold killing intent and chilling air followed.

"G-Ghost soldiers, these are ghost soldiers!"

The old Celestial Master of Mount Longhu, Zhang Wuming, shuddered violently and let out a sharp scream as if someone had choked him.

Everyone nearly fainted!

Ghost soldiers!

Who would have thought that apart from ghosts, there were ghost soldiers on the ghost ship!

"Kill!"

A series of cold and hoarse voices rang out. The dozens of ghost soldiers in front of them charged towards the group with spears in their hands, creating a foul wind.

"Attack!"

Zhang Wuming, the old Celestial Master of Mount Longhu, let out a furious roar. He bit his middle finger and quickly inscribed a talisman on his palm. Then, he slapped one of the incoming ghost soldiers.

Five Thunder Palm!

Boom...

A bolt of lightning erupted from his palm. The lightning immediately scattered the ghost soldier. The technique he used was the Five Thunder Technique of Mount Longhu.

"Om mani padme hum!"

Master Yizhen chanted a mantra. At that moment, he was bathed in Budda light.

Bang, bang, bang...

The rest of them made their moves as well. Even though they were not good at dealing with spirits, they knew that the power of qi blood that erupted from their bodies would scatter these ghost soldiers.

A ghost soldier charged at Ye Chen with a metal spear in its hand. His expression turned cold. Just when he was about to attack, the ghost soldier suddenly stopped.

The depths of its hollowed eyes lit up. It looked at Ye Chen blankly and said in a voice that only Ye Chen could hear, "W-Why do you have the aura of the little princess on you..."

'Little princess?'

Ye Chen frowned when he heard that. Just when he was about to ask, he saw that the ghost soldier had abandoned him and charged at the rest.

"This general Qin Yan is willing to turn into an evil spirit to protect the little princess for generations...

Kill, kill, kill..."

A murmur followed.

"Oh, no. They can't be killed!"

Zhang Wuming of Mount Longhu dispersed another ghost soldier with a lightning from his palm. Before he could rejoice, he realized that the ghost soldier he had dispersed had reappeared.

"Me too!"

After Master Yizhen used the six-syllable mantra to suppress several ghost soldiers, he realized that they would mysteriously disappear before emerging from the entrance.

The qi blood around Luo Tianya exploded and after shattering a ghost soldier, he cried out in shock, "What the hell is this?!"

This group of ghost soldiers did not have high combat power and were at most Martial Dao masters. However, they would revive after being destroyed. If this went on, everyone's True Energy would decrease and they would not have time to recover.

"Ah!"

A shriek rang out. A young man from the Xiao Clan's camp was pierced through by a ghost soldier's metal spear on the spot. Even his soul was completely shattered.

"Die!"

After Bai Shaoyu dispersed a ghost soldier with one palm, he looked at Ye Chen suddenly with fury in his eyes, "Ye, why aren't these ghost soldiers attacking you? Are you behind this?!"

When everyone saw that, their expressions changed.

None of the ghost soldiers attacked Ye Chen. It was as if they treated him as air. Their target was the ten ancient families of Shang Santian, especially the Xiao Clan and the Bai family.

Even Luo Shuiyao, who had always trusted Ye Chen, was stunned. She could not help but ask, "Ye Chen, what's going on?"

"What else?"

Xiang Heng smiled coldly, "Looks like Xiao Yuanjing was right. This kid is a ghost and is in cahoots with these ghost soldiers. Otherwise, why would he be alright?"

"Attack together, kill him!"

Xiao Yuanjing shouted and charged at Ye Chen while controlling his body. At the same time, Bai Shaoyu charged over after forcing back a ghost soldier!

"Attack!"

At that moment, Luo Tianya and Tang Yiming attacked one after another. The truth was right before their eyes, even they no longer believe in Ye Chen.

Luo Shuiyao cried when she saw that, "Brother..."

Bang...

At that moment, terrifying energy ripples swept towards Ye Chen like a raging ocean. The entire ghost ship was trembling slightly under the might.

"Ye, die!

The Berserk Heaven-shattering Punch!"

Bai Shaoyu charged at the front, his cultivation base erupted as a fist imprint condensed. The space before the fist imprint formed a vortex on the spot, and the might it exuded made many people's hearts palpitate.

Just when his fist was about to touch Ye Chen, a lightning-like glow shot out of Ye Chen's eyes. He opened his mouth and shouted, "Get lost!"

Bang...

His shout was like the roar of a dragon from the nine heavens. An extremely overbearing energy erupted from his body and surged violently toward Bai Shaoyu.

### Chapter 728: Fierce Battle, Domineering Killing!

"Pfft!"

A trail of blood shot through the air, and the faint sound of bones and joints cracking could be heard.

Bang...

Under everyone's shocked gazes, a figure was thrown out like a kite with its string cut, and finally fell heavily onto the ground, causing the ground to tremble.

Everyone was stunned when they saw that the person vomiting blood was Bai Shaoyu! Even Xiao Yuanjing and the rest who were attacking Ye Chen stopped their movements. Extreme shock emerged on their faces!

Their eyes were flickering, and their faces were twitching!

Defeated!

Bai Shaoyu had been defeated so quickly!

He was ranked No. 3 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!

Bai Shaoyu looked at Ye Chen as if he had seen a ghost, "You..."

The surrounding ghost soldiers stopped surprisingly. The ghost soldier who was talking to Ye Chen earlier looked at him with a gentle gaze.

"Die!"

Ye Chen dashed toward him like a ferocious tiger. At the same time, a golden fist shadow exploded from his mouth and charged at Bai Shaoyu.

"How dare you!"

At the crucial moment, Xiao Yuanjing unleashed a terrifying palm and collided with Ye Chen's fist. The energy that erupted caused the entire ghost ship to shake violently.

Stomp, stomp, stomp...

Xiao Yuanjing could not help but retreat more than ten steps back!

The place fell into dead silence again!

Many people secretly gasped!

They did not expect Xiao Yuanjing to be no match for Ye Chen!

Xiang Heng shuddered, "How can this brat be so strong?!"

He initially thought that after Ye Chen killed Duan Tianlang and the rest, he would not be a match for Xiao Yuanjing and the rest even if he held back his strength earlier!

However, Ye Chen sent Bai Shaoyu flying with a single scream. Even Xiao Yuanjing was forced to take more than ten steps back from the punch despite using all his strength!

Tang Yiming was dumbfounded, "What a genius! After all this time, you're the one pretending to be a pig to eat the tiger!"

Luo Tianya, who was next to him, could not stop his face from twitching, as Ye Chen's combat ability was no weaker than his. He might even be more powerful than him, the one who ranked No. 1 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard.

At that moment, a black shadow suddenly appeared behind Ye Chen. The black shadow was like a giant bat as it charged at his back.

Luo Shuiyao reminded him immediately, "Watch out, Ye Chen!"

A cold voice rang out, "Hehe, I must taste your blood. I believe the taste must be very unique!"

It was Bruce, the marguis of the Blood Clan from the west.

"You're courting death!"

Ye Chen did not even lift his eyelids. After a cold snort, a golden sword gleam appeared behind him like a bolt from the blue.

Everyone felt their vision blur. When they looked over again, they saw the Blood Clan marquis Bruce being killed by Ye Chen with a single slash. He did not even have the opportunity to scream.

"All of you, go to hell too!"

Ye Chen's gaze was sharp. Killing intent spread as he extended his hand. As the faint golden glow surged, he charged at Xiao Yuanjing and the rest again.

"Stop him!"

Xiao Yuanjing spoke immediately. Many powerhouses from the Xiao Clan and the Bai family attacked Ye Chen at the same time. Meanwhile, he grabbed Bai Shaoyu with one hand and dashed toward the first floor of the ghost ship.

"Those who block me will die!"

Ye Chen charged into the Xiao Clan and the Bai family's members like a demonic beast in human form. Every move he made was terrifying.

Bang, bang...

With a series of screams and loud bangs, blood mist shot out, and the pungent smell of blood filled the entire second floor of the ghost ship.

The woman Yu Luosha from ancient Egypt was terrified by the scene before her. She said in an extremely sharp voice, "Mad Southern Ye, you can't kill me. I'm a member of the ancient Egyptian royal family..."

"Die!"

Before she could finish, Ye Chen slapped her head and crushed it into countless pieces.

"Let's die together!"

Thunder God Thor's entire body suddenly released several blinding bolts of lightning, and an extremely terrifying aura swept out from his body.

Clearly, he realized that they were no match for Ye Chen, so he planned to self-destruct and kill Ye Chen with them!

"You're the one who's going to die!"

Ye Chen threw a punch over and shattered his heart on the spot. Meanwhile, the terrifying energy in his body had yet to erupt.

In just a few breaths of time, the ground was covered in blood.

Luo Tianya, who was standing aside, watched the scene with his eyes wide open. Shock was written all over his face, his soul was trembling. No one expected Ye Chen to be so brutal.

Tang Yiming felt a chill run down his spine, "I can't afford to offend him. I really can't afford to offend this guy..."

Before he met Ye Chen, he already thought that Luo Tianya, that lunatic, was ruthless enough. He did not expect Ye Chen to be even more ruthless. He killed almost everyone in the Xiao Clan and the Bai family.

When Ye Chen's icy gaze landed on Luo Tianya and the rest, their hearts skipped a beat. They felt like they had been targeted by some ferocious beast.

Tang Yiming gulped a mouthful of saliva and smiled bitterly, "Brother Ye, err, there's no resentment between us, right?"

At this moment, he hated Xiao Yuanjing to death.

'Damn it!

This guy isn't a ghost!

He was clearly the devil, the devil who killed without batting an eyelid. I would rather deal with ghosts than him!'

On the other hand, Luo Tianya looked at him quietly as a trace of battle intent silently swept out from his body, faintly showing signs of growing stronger.

At the critical moment, Luo Shuiyao blocked Luo Tianya by instinct. She said while biting her lips, "Ye Chen, you can't touch my brother. My brother and the rest aren't hostile to you."

"What happened?"

Right at that moment, a confused voice came from the side. Everyone looked up and saw that it was Shi Qianhan in white.

Ye Chen said in a deep voice, "Where did you go?"

Shi Qianhan spoke slowly, "I've been staying on the first floor all this time. I only rushed up after hearing the commotion above!"

It was only at the end of his sentence that he noticed the blood on the ground. He looked at the ghost soldiers around him and asked, "Where are Xiao Yuanjing and the rest?"

Luo Shuiyao frowned and said, "They ran away!"

"Ran away?"

Shi Qianhan's eyes narrowed. He seemed to have thought of something as he turned around and chased after them, "Everyone, follow me. Quickly!"

"What happened? Why is Shi Qianhan so flustered?" Master Yizhen asked.

"Come on, let's follow!"

With that, Luo Tianya led the rest to follow him. The rest were unwilling to stay behind as well, and they could vaguely sense that something bad was about to happen.

Ye Chen wanted to follow them, but he turned his head to look at the dozens of ghost soldiers behind him. His gaze was focused on the ghost soldier, Qin Yan, who was leading.

His intuition told him that the ghost soldier had something to say to him.

A smile appeared on the ghost soldier's pale face, "You have the aura of the little princess on you. Looks like that guy with the family name Xiao didn't lie to us 20 years ago. The little princess is still alive."

#### Chapter 729: Faces On The Wall!

"You have the aura of the little princess on you. Looks like that guy with the family name Xiao didn't lie to us 20 years ago. The little princess is still alive."

"Xiao?"

Along with the voice of Qin Yan from the ghost soldiers, Ye Chen squinted, "Is his name Xiao Buyi?"

"That's right!"

Qin Yan said, "After master and mistress died, adding to the little princess's disappearance, we transformed into evil spirits and fell into desolation for over a hundred years."

His body started to fade.

"Wait!"

Ye Chen asked immediately, "Is the little princess you're talking about a little girl about four or five years old named Qianqian?"

"You even know the little princess's nickname. Looks like our guess was right. The little princess is still safe!"

Qin Yan's body became more and more illusory, including the dozens of ghost soldiers behind him, reaching the point of vanishing, "Our wish has been fulfilled. It's time to go after master and mistress.

Please help me pass a message to the little princess. Live well on the Celestial Burial Planet and never return to the Ancient Desolate Realm. Also, you must protect the Forbidden Ancient Desolate Realm Tablet well. Remember that..."

When the last word was said, Qin Yan and the dozens of ghost soldiers vanished from Ye Chen's sight completely.

A stone tablet appeared on the ground.

The stone tablet was about 600 centimeters along and was only a palm wide. It emitted a trace of ancient aura and there was a faint divine light surging around it. There seemed to be mysterious carvings on it.

Ye Chen walked over and wanted to pick it up, but he realized that it was extremely heavy. He could not help but use his physical strength to pick it up, "Celestial Burial Planet, Ancient Desolate Realm, Forbidden Ancient Desolate Realm Tablet?"

From Qin Yan's last words, he learned many things roughly. Firstly, they must have followed this ghost ship's owner when they were alive. Later on, the ghost ship was attacked by people, and a great change happened, turning it into a ghost ship.

The middle-aged couple died, and their only daughter's whereabouts were unknown. Qin Yan and the rest transformed into evil spirits to guard the ghost ship just to wait for news of the little princess.

Looking at it now, Qianqian was the little princess Qin Yan was talking about, and she was even the daughter of this ghost ship's owner.

The Grandpa Sun that Qianqian was talking about must have some connection with the ghost ship's owner. After the huge change on the ship, that man with the surname Sun brought Qianqian to China. However, for some reason, the two of them separated again.

He had thought that Qianqian's background was extraordinary, but he did not expect her to be connected to the ghost ship, and there were so many complicated past events involved.

Ye Chen studied the stone tablet quietly and secretly frowned, "Where exactly is the Ancient Desolate Realm? Is it the end of the ghost ship? And what's this Forbidden Ancient Desolate Realm Tablet?"

From the Celestial Burial Planet Qin Yan spoke of, he could roughly guess that it was Earth.

However, why was Earth called the Celestial Burial Planet?

Earth had been existing for nearly five billion years. It had experienced the Archean, the Proterozoic, and the Phanerozoic. During these periods, many civilizations had appeared. Even now, with such advanced technology, it was still impossible to crack all of them.

Humans, on the other hand, had only been existing a few million years ago. They were only a drop in the ocean in the five billion years of time. Even the Patriarch of Hell, who was an old monster at the Tribulation Stage in his previous life, could only live for 10,000 years.

'Celestial Burial, could it be that Earth once buried immortals?'

Thinking to this point, he was shocked by his own thoughts. He immediately put the stone tablet away into his storage ring and turned around to go after Luo Tianya and the rest.

...

The second floor of the ghost ship led to the ancient coffin in the previous secret chamber.

The group returned once again. Everyone looked at Shi Qianhan in confusion, "Why are we back here?"

"You might not know this, but this coffin contains hidden secrets. It's the only entrance to the third floor of the ghost ship.

After saying that, Shi Qianhan took a step forward and slapped the side of the ancient coffin with one hand, shouting, "Rise!"

Bang...

The entire ancient coffin shook violently and flipped over in an instant. He immediately leaped into the ancient coffin, "Follow me!"

The group did not hesitate and jumped into the ancient coffin one after another. However, they were shocked to discover that the location that the ancient coffin led to had changed. It was no longer the secret chamber from before, but a hall similar to a martial arts arena.

The walls around the hall were filled with relief sculptures. They looked like human faces, they were very vivid.

"This is the third floor of the ghost ship?"

Luo Shuiyao examined the reliefs on the wall as she asked suspiciously, "But Xiao Yuanjing and the rest aren't here!"

Xiang Heng said, "Could they be on the fourth floor?"

"That's impossible!"

Shi Qianhan's eyes narrowed, and he abruptly turned around to look straight at Xiang Heng, who had just spoken. His gaze was filled with cold killing intent.

The man did not expect his reaction to be so big. He was so shocked that he did not dare reply.

The others looked at each other and felt that Shi Qianhan's reaction was a little odd. Luo Tianya said calmly, "There are a total of four floors on the ghost ship. Now that there's no one on the fourth floor, where did Xiao Yuanjing and the rest go?"

"Ah!"

It was at this moment that someone cried out in alarm. He retreated several steps and looked at the reliefs on the wall in fear, "These reliefs... can move!"

Just as he said that, another scream was heard. Suddenly, a bloody hand grabbed a young man from the Xiang family and pierced through the wall.

Pitter-patter...

Blood immediately seeped out from the walls, it was a ghastly sight.

Everyone could not help but take a step back. When they looked again, they saw the motionless faces on the wall begin to move.

These human faces seemed to be glued to the wall. They squirmed maniacally, and at the same time, they reached out their hands. Countless screams echoed, "Save me, save me..."

Everyone's faces turned pale.

One of the old faces suddenly looked at Yuan Qitai and said, "Qitai, I'm Huo Bei. I'm the previous leader of Banshan. Save me, save me..."

Yuan Qitai was shocked. He widened his eyes and looked closely at the old man's face. He realized that the man was the previous Banshan leader, Huo Bei, whom he was looking for.

At this moment, another human face tried to struggle out and said in an extremely mournful voice, "Xiao Nan, don't you remember me? I'm Xiang Jian, the seventh elder of the Xiang family. I'm your Seventh Uncle!"

Xiang Nan, who was in the crowd, sized him up in shock. His expression suddenly changed, "It's really the seventh elder of the Xiang family. How did you become like this?"

When the ghost ship appeared 20 years ago, the entire Shang Santian had sent countless powerhouses. Even a group of powerhouses from China's secular world had boarded the ghost ship. However, all of them had been left on the ship, and no one knew whether they were dead or alive.

As a result, many people had come to investigate whether these people were dead or alive. They did not expect to see them here.

Xiang Heng who was beside Xiang Nan was extremely excited, "It's really Seventh Uncle!"

The human face reached out a hand and begged, "Dear child, save me, save me. Seventh Uncle will not forget you. Seventh Uncle will impart to you his life's cultivation experience."

# Chapter 730: The Origin of the Ancient Ship!

Xiang Heng was overjoyed when he heard that. He immediately walked over and grabbed the human face's hand as if he wanted to pull it out of the wall.

However, in the next moment, he was pulled into the wall by the hand, and the wall vibrated violently.

A trail of blood oozed from the wall.

The whole thing was completed within a blink of an eye, so fast that no one could stop it.

Xiang Heng's face was added to the wall.

When everyone finally reacted, they took another step back. Xiang Nan looked at the face in disbelief, "Seventh Uncle, y-you..."

Xiang Heng's death shocked and enraged him at the same time. He had not expected that as a member of the Xiang family, the man would actually have the intention to harm him.

"I've suffered here for 20 years, and I'm almost at the end of my rope. Only a certain amount of blood can help me recover."

The human face reached out its hand again and said sincerely, "Good child, Seventh Uncle can tell that your talent is more powerful than the previous trash. Now that I've recovered, save me, save me!"

At that moment, another human face spoke from the side, "Tianya, I'm your Third Uncle. I even carried you when you were young. Save me..."

Without waiting for Luo Tianya to speak, Luo Shuiyao, who was at the side, slashed a sword gleam and immediately chopped off the hand that the human face had extended. She said with extreme resentment, "Go to hell, you old thing!"

"Unfilial child, unfilial child!"

The face suddenly twisted, and it cursed, "You will all die. You will all turn into human faces to accompany us, hahaha..."

"None of you can escape the ghost ship's curse. All of you will die..."

"Everyone must die..."

"..."

The faces on the wall squirmed violently, and their expressions were filled with resentment. They cursed the crowd nonstop like ghosts crying and wolves howling.

With the previous case, Yuan Qitai no longer dared to save Huo Bei, the previous leader of Banshan. Instead, he asked with a pale face, "What exactly did they experience? How did they become like this?"

Hearing this, everyone could not help but look at Shi Qianhan, because he was the only person who had left Shang Santian alive 20 years ago.

"Don't look at me, I don't know either!"

Shi Qianhan's expression was cold as he said coldly, "20 years ago, I was ambushed by the Xiao Clan as soon as I arrived and was thrown out of the ghost ship. Therefore, I don't know what happened after that."

Ye Chen frowned and said, "Clearly, these people are cursed. Their souls and bodies are sealed in the wall. They'll be in pain and suffering for eternity."

At this point, he looked at the crowd deeply, "Everyone, I know that some of these faces are related to you, but I advise you not to be soft-hearted. After 20 years of torture, their mentality has already been twisted. You can longer describe them as 'human'."

Everyone was speechless, especially Yuan Qitai and the rest. They had gone through untold hardships just to look for the previous leader of the sect, so that they could rise again.

To his surprise, the person he was looking for had turned into an inhuman existence. He even wanted to harm them.

"Oh, this is too sad!"

Master Yizhen placed his palms together and looked very compassionate.

Luo Tianya, who had been silently sizing up the faces on the wall, suddenly said, "Wait, why isn't there anyone from the Xiao Clan here?"

Ye Chen was confused, "How do you know there's no Xiao Clan's members here?"

Luo Tianya said in a deep voice, "Because my family once investigated the group of people who stepped onto the ghost ship 20 years ago, I know all the faces on the wall, but there's no one from the Xiao Clan!"

Tang Yiming frowned, "That's strange. All the missing powerhouses have turned into human faces. Why isn't there anyone from the Xiao Clan?"

At the same time, the entire ancient ship suddenly shook violently. It was as if countless spirits were struggling and squirming, trying to charge into the ghost ship.

A cold voice followed, "It's very simple, because these faces on my wall are the work of my Xiao Clan!"

Everyone turned around and saw Xiao Yuanjing walking out from the wall behind them.

Compared to his previous sorry state, his brows were currently filled with grim. He seemed to be furious, and he seemed to be filled with resentment.

Luo Tianya narrowed his eyes, "Xiao, what did you just say?"

Xiao Yuanjing looked at them fearlessly with a sinister expression on his face, "Since you guys are about to die, I might as well tell you that the faces on the wall are the work of our Xiao Clan's powerhouses."

"What did you say?" Luo Tianya's expression turned cold.

"More than a hundred years ago, a warship appeared out of nowhere on the Wu River in China. Purple qi filled the sky. The powerhouses of Shang Santian joined forces to investigate the Wu River. Guess what happened?"

Xiao Yuanjing licked his lips and grinned sinisterly, "So this warship doesn't belong to our world. Every piece of construction material on this warship is a priceless treasure to Shang Santian. There are dozens of martial artists on this warship who are nothing weaker than martial venerables."

'Dozens of martial venerables?'

Everyone gasped.

Ye Chen's eyes flickered a few times. He roughly guessed that the dozens of martial venerables Xiao Yuanjing mentioned were probably Qin Yan and the ghost soldiers that they had encountered earlier.

"Isn't that shocking?"

Xiao Yuanjing caught everyone's gaze and smiled coldly, "At that time, the powerhouses of Shang Santian realized that if this group of terrifying forces were to successfully appear, they would definitely become a great threat to Shang Santian!

Therefore, the powerhouses of Shang Santian secretly investigated and discovered that the owner of that warship was actually a middle-aged couple, and those dozens of martial venerables were their subordinates!"

Everyone was shocked again when they heard this. They had dozens of martial venerables under him. Were they Emperor Stage powerhouses?

"The masters of dozens of martial venerables were at least at the Emperor Stage. Therefore, Shang Santian hesitated whether we should attack them. In the end, we discovered that the couple was injured!"

At this point, Xiao Yuanjing's gaze turned extremely cold, "I found someone in Shang Santian who went ashore to buy medicine for this couple. At that time, a mighty figure of Shang Santian pretended to befriend the person who bought the medicine. After probing, we found out that this couple was seriously injured and was not far from death!

Therefore, the compelling powerhouse of Shang Santian pretended to follow the person who bought the medicine back to the ship. He tossed poison at the middle-aged couple, aggravating their injuries!"

When Luo Shuiyao heard this, her pretty face was livid with rage, "Despicable!"

"So what?"

Xiao Yuanjing grinned coldly, "At the crucial moment, Shang Santian sent out five Emperor Stage powerhouses. Over a hundred martial venerables charged into the warship and killed everyone on it!"

He glanced disdainfully at the Luo siblings, "Back then, your patriarch was also one of the participants. If you're calling us despicable, how clean can your family be?"

Luo Shuiyao had a look of disbelief, "That's impossible!"

Luo Tianya fell silent. He was deeply shocked.