

Chapter 1801

It was the same as before with the two martial artists; just a simple slap. Without any flashy moves, Fade just slapped at him lightly.

However, Mr. Han couldn't dodge such a move and it hit him right in the chest. Following this, he vomited blood as he flew through the air before dropping to the ground, pale.

The Hsiang family members let out a cry, then hurried over to help him up.

"How are you, Mr. Han?" Kadmiel asked.

"I won't die yet!" Mr. Han replied. He then looked at Kadmiel apologetically, "Old Master, I'm useless. I couldn't finish my mission. Please punish..."

Kadmiel waved his hand, "It's not your fault."

At this time, Fade stood with his hands behind him and snorted coldly, "Is this the ability of the so-called two aristocratic families of East Coast City? To think you were still boasting about getting revenge. To me, it seems like a waste of my time."

His words were haughty and patronizing.

The members of the Qin and Hsiang family blew their tops when they heard this. Almost all of them turned red in the face, and they nearly couldn't stop themselves from charging at him. Yet, in the end, no one stepped out. Each of their expressions was

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terrifyingly dark.

As for the spectators, they were all deadly silent.

The people who were still boasting about how the Qin and Hsiang families could beat Fade with martial arts had all glued their mouths shut.

The rest of them exchanged looks and gossiped in low voices.

"I didn't expect Fade to be this powerful. Not only did he overwhelm the Qin and Hsiang family in business, but also in terms of martial arts."

"If this goes on, no one in East Coast City can stop Fade from rising up!"

"East Coast City's structure is changing, I feel that the big three aristocratic families will turn into a big four very soon."

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The expressions of the Qin and Hsiang family members turned even more unsightly when they heard the gossip.

Fade's eyes swept over them, glancing at both of the angry family members who didn't dare come forward and he hmphed coldly, "Why are you not scrambling? Are you waiting for me to beat you up?"

When they heard this, they went green in the face, looking like they were about to erupt into flames.

Yaakov clenched his teeth and his eyes reddened. He glared at him, "Fade Chen, you..."

"If you're dissatisfied, come at me then. I don't mind killing another person." Fade's voice was icy and he stared frigidly at him.

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Yaakov almost couldn't hold himself back, but he didn't step out in the end.

"Trash!" Fade snorted with a look of disdain.

At this moment, Kadmiel looked at Fade sullenly, "Young man, do you really think that you're so invincible and we can't do anything about you?"

"Then do it!" Fade scoffed.

As if waiting for him to say so, Kadmiel turned around and spoke in a loud voice, "Master Tuan, please befall."

Gasps and shouts were heard from the crowd when they heard this. Everyone snaps their heads towards the sky.

Then, the sound of the wind howling came from afar and closed in fast on the scene.

The sound of the howling wind was so sharp that it was like a sword cutting through the sky. It was so deafening that many people couldn't help but cover their ears.

Through the howling wind, a shadow passed in a flash and landed beside the Hsiang family members. When the crowd refocused their eyes, they saw a graceful man in a long white robe. He was the famous young martial artist of East Coast City, Eckhart Zuo.

"Brother Zuo, you're here. Master Tuan..." When Yaakov saw Eckhart, he couldn't help but inquire anxiously.

Eckhart said, "Relax, Young Master Hsiang, my teacher will be here soon."

After that, Eckhart asked again, "What's the situation?"

Yaakov's face was ashen as he briefed him on the situation. When he finished, Eckhart's expression sank and he glared at Fade,

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"How dare this b"stard be so arrogant. In that case, I'll take care of him myself before my teacher arrives."

With that, he strode towards Fade.


When Yaakov saw this, he spoke up. Nobody knew whether his motive was to remind him kindly or to further provoke Eckhart, "Eckhart, Fade's a little mysterious and he's really powerful. He defeated the martial artists from our Hsiang family and the Qin family. If you fight him, I'm afraid..."

Eckhart had always had the utmost confidence in himself, self-proclaiming as the leading authority of the younger generation of martial artists of East Coast City. When he heard Yaakov's words, he sneered with pride, then snorted, "Thanks for the reminder, Mr. Hsiang! However, for martial artists of the same age group, no one has won against my sword."

As he spoke, there was the sound of metal scraping and Eckhart brought out a long sword. The sword's edge was so sharp that it gleamed, showing his and even Fade's reflection.

Eckhart then stood there proudly with a cold look on his face, pointing his sword at Fade.

As the wind blew, the young man stood there with a sword in hand, the wind blowing behind him. It was such a classic scene. In addition to his handsome face, many young girls were mesmerized and they started cheering for him.

"Eckhart, the white swordsman. He's so handsome." 

"Eckhart for the win.."

"Eckhart, Eckhart!"

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The cheers from the ladies made Eckhart smile faintly, his expression growing even more confident.

He pointed his sword at Fade, his tone haughty and frigid, "Fade Chen, I want you to be accountable for hurting my cousin, Gellert."

"Are you going to kneel and repent or do you want me to attack?" Eckhart was overflowing with pride. "My sword won't return to its scabbard without drinking blood."

Fade nearly snorted when he saw Eckhart putting on airs. This kid was all bluff.

This guy's strength was only at the early stage of the Earth Level, and his ability in a fight was at most a little stronger than the two martial artists from the Qin family. However, he was definitely not on the same ability level as Mr. Han.

Despite this, the Hsiang family members didn't tell Eckhart that Fade had defeated Mr. Han. Maybe they did it on purpose so that he would fight him. If Eckhart won, that would be the best scenario.

If Eckhart was defeated, the Hsiang family would also be happy to see this. After all, he was Master Tuan's last disciple and was viewed highly by him. If Fade injured him, Sanford wouldn't let him off easily.

The Hsiang family's calculations were really on point.

Eckhart was only a pawn but he had zero self-realization. Fade found all of this rather amusing.

Eckhart frowned when he saw Fade's smirk, and asked coldly, "What are you laughing at?"

Fade replied calmly, "I'm laughing at how you are foolish and lack self-awareness. I'm laughing about how you're weak but you don't see it."

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"You're... looking for death!" Eckhart yelled, furious, and he stabbed with his sword. His sword wove through the wind like a dragon, slicing through space and stabbing towards Fade.

Such a blow was full of momentum.

However, at this moment, Fade barely reached out with his right hand. His index and middle finger then gently clamped down on Eckhart's sword.

The sword was stuck in a flash, caught between Fade's fingers. Eckhart was stunned, his expression blanching. He gritted his teeth before trying to continue the attack.

However, no matter how hard he tried, the sword wouldn't move a single inch.

"How could it be, you..." Not only the spectators, but Eckhart himself was also shocked, his jaw dropping to the ground.

Fade sneered at the struggling Eckhart and gently shook his head. He then gently pried with his fingers, and with a crisp sound, Eckhart's precious sword snapped in half.

Due to the fact that Eckhart had overexerted his strength, his body tumbled forward.

Fade seized the opportunity and struck his chest with his palm, slamming him to the ground. Eckhart's face went pale as a sheet, and he spat out blood.

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In an instant, the crowd fell silent. Eckhart's female fans who cheered him on before also turned speechless.

Eckhart himself was full of disbelief too. He propped his body up and looked at Fade, incredulous, "This is impossible, how could this be? How could I lose? I can't lose! I am ranked eighth on the Dragon List. How could I lose to a nobody like you?"

Such a Waterloo was unacceptable for him and he started to whine and shout.

The spectators looked on with both confusion and curiosity. Eckhart placed eighth on the Dragon List, and he was definitely considered a strong martial artist in the same age group. Fade wasn't old. In fact, he was younger than Eckhart, but he could defeat him. It showed that he was indeed very powerful and should be ranked on the Dragon List.

However, when the crowd checked the Dragon List, they found out that none of the top seven places were Fade.

Just as Eckhart was shouting hysterically, Martin snorted coldly with disdain, "You're just the eighth place in the Dragon List. What's so unacceptable?"

"Let me tell you, Mr. Fade Chen is ranked first in the Dragon List. It's normal that you lost."

"Him? Number one on the Dragon List?" Eckhart was startled before he shook his head, "That's impossible. The number one on the Dragon List is Romeo Hsing, not him. You're lying."

Martin sneered, "Lying? Let me tell you something. One year ago at the Martial Arts Convention in Capital City, Mr. Fade defeated

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Romeo and achieved first place on the Dragon List."

"After that, Mr. Chen defeated several martial artists of the Heaven Level in Capital City and was officially listed in the Divine Dragon List."

"The number one on the Dragon List from a year ago and listed on the Divine Dragon List?" When they heard this, everyone buzzed, including Eckhart, who was shocked beyond comprehension.

Many people started looking it up on the Internet. In an instant, there were exclams of surprise everywhere.

"It's true, it's actually true. Last year, Fade won first place in the Dragon List. There's news about it."

"Also, look at the current Divine Dragon List, Fade's in the top hundred."

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While the spectators debated heatedly, the Qin and Hsiang family members thought of many other matters, and their expressions became more unsightly.

"The first ranking person on the Capital City Dragon List is Fade Chen. Could he be that famous young master?"

"What's more, he was the chief instructor for the Stealth Team and just stepped down not long ago."

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Fade's identity and titles were revealed one by one. The people on the scene were all knocked off their socks, dazed. Everyone's faces changed.

"This Fade is actually this indestructible! Could we, the Qin family, be wrong?" Houston couldn't help but say.

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Yaakov's face turned pale too, "The chief instructor of the Stealth Team, a young master; that's a Heaven Level martial artist!"

As for the Geng family members, they let out sighs of relief, feeling lucky. It was a good thing they stopped going against Fade. Otherwise, it would mean doom for them if they offended a strong young master.

Just as everyone was in shock, Eckhart's expression changed. All of a sudden, he felt a familiar presence and his nervous expression became at ease. He looked up into the sky, "My teacher's here."

As he spoke, a middle-aged man floated over to Eckhart's side. The man was clad in a long green robe, his long hair and a long beard flying behind him.

When they saw him, the Qin and Hsiang family members became excited, and they hurried to greet him.

"Everyone from the Qin family pays their respects to Master Tuan."

"Everyone from the Hsiang family pays their respects to Master Tuan."

The newcomer was the famous martial art master of East Coast City, Eckhart's teacher and master, Sanford Tuan.

Sanford nodded slightly, "Master Qin, Master Hsiang, you don't have to be polite."

Then, he saw Eckhart sprawled on the ground, causing his expression to sink. He spat coldly, "What is going on?"

Eckhart quickly pointed at Fade, "Master, he was the one who hurt me."

On the sidelines, the Qin and Hsiang family members also spiced up the details, painting Fade as the villain.

When he finished listening, Sanford's face went dark and he glowered at Fade, "Were you the one who hurt my disciple?"

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"It's me," Fade replied faintly.

"Kneel down!" Sanford bellowed. His voice was like thunder rumbling and he tried to shock Fade into kneeling.

However, Fade was still expressionless. He merely snorted, blocking Sanford's roar.

Sanford was a little taken aback when he saw this. He didn't expect Fade to be able to block the roar of a master.

Beside him, Master Hsiang quickly explained, "Master Tuan, this kid's name is Fade Chen. He's the young master from Capital City and also the chief instructor of the Stealth Team. He's not to be taken lightly."

"Fade Chen!" Sanford pondered over the name for some time before something popped up in his head. He sneered, "So it's the same Fade who was dismissed from the military and chased out by the chiefs of Capital City!"

"What young master; in the face of a real master such as me, he's not worth mentioning!" Sanford scoffed in contempt. Then, without warning, his positive energy surged and erupted.

"Fade, kneel down and admit that you're wrong. Maybe I'll spare your life." Sanford yelled at him.

When Fade heard this, he shook his head scornfully at Sanford, "Ignorant and prideful twat. It's a joke that you're qualified to be called a master."

With that, he reached out with his right arm and launched a palm strike at Sanford.

Sanford didn't expect Fade to dare to attack him and he was absolutely furious. The power of the Heaven Level exploded and the wild positive energy enveloped the sky, all rushing towards Fade like a huge bullet rocket.

"Die!"

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Amidst the violent aura, a virtual sword materialized in Sanford's hand and it cut through the air heavily, giving a fatal blow.

A virtual sword, whirlwind, positive energy, and a master level pressure all enveloped Fade, swallowing him whole. It was truly terrifying.

The surrounding crowd couldn't stand the pressure and they backed up, seized with fear and terror.

On the other hand, the Qin and Hsiang family members were all smiles. Master Tuan will get Fade this time won't he? They gritted their teeth in anticipation that they would get their revenge.

"Master Tuan's death strike is amazing. Even if that fellow's a young master, he's doomed."

"You offended the Hsiang family in East Coast City! So what if you're a master?"

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Just as Sanford's fatal blow struck out, Fade narrowed his eyes. In the middle of his palm, positive energy surged. He lifted his right hand and made a palm strike from above. Instantly, the aura materialized into a palm constructed out of positive energy and it dropped down heavily, shaking the grounds like an earthquake.

"Slap!"

Under Fade's palm strike, Sanford's energy, whirlwind, virtual sword, and everything else was crushed, exploding into pieces of energy in all directions.

Then, the tremendous pressure hit Sanford at once.

He, whose expression was initially still snobbish and shrouded with killing intent a few moments ago, changed instantly. He

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wanted to dodge the gigantic palm attack but it was too late. He was hit with Fade's palm strike, which felt like an elephant had just rammed into him. Sanford's clothes were torn to shreds, his skin crackling, and blood gushed out through open flesh wounds.

Additionally, the lower half of his body was hammered into the ground like a nail.

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"How dare you..." Sanford shouted angrily at Fade as blood poured from his mouth.

However, Fade didn't give him a chance to finish and just struck out with his palm again, hitting him further into the ground. Sanford's whole body was submerged in the soil completely, with only his head above the surface, immobilized.

Such an ending stunned everyone, and their expressions showed utter shock. They couldn't believe what was happening.

The complacent members of the Hsiang and Qin families were also dumbfounded. They couldn't believe what they were watching, some rubbing their eyes.

"Is this really happening?"

"Master Tuan lost? Defeated by a single palm strike. How... How is this possible?"

"Who on earth is he!"

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Just when everybody was still in a state of shock, horror, and doubt, Fade walked towards the Qin and Hsiang family members with his hands behind his back.

When both families saw Fade approaching, their expressions changed drastically.

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"What do you want to do?" Kadmiel could still stand the pressure and stood right in front of the rest, his expression wary.

"What do I want to do?" Fade sneered at both families before speaking, "The Qin and Hsiang families deliberately oppressed my people, and now, you're asking me what I want to do?"

The expressions of both families turned even more unsightly when they heard this.

The corners of Kadmiel's mouth twitched, and he lowered his head, "We did all those things for a reason. Now, we'll let bygones be bygones. Both our parties are now even."

When Dacre heard this, he quickly nodded and agreed, "That's right, we're even. The Qin family won't trouble the Ernest Company again!"

"We're even?" Fade laughed out loud like he heard the funniest thing in the world. Then, his eyes turned cold and he glared at the two families, "Good one. It looks like I have underestimated how shameless you all are."

"Fade, we've made a concession. Don't push it," Kadmiel spat through gritted teeth.

"Pushing it!" Fade hmphed coldly before slamming his fist into Yaakov's abdomen. He directly shattered his dantian abdomen from the inside, sending him screaming through the air.

"How dare you..." Kadmiel shrieked in anger. He was furious and was about to make a move when he saw Fade's cold stare. Instantly, his feet were glued to the ground, and he couldn't move.

"I made a move. What can you do about it!" Fade glared coldly at him, radiating an icy pressure around him.

Kadmiel felt as if he had fallen into an ice cave. He felt as if his whole body was submerged in ice and he couldn't move. In that

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moment, he suddenly remembered that the person in front of him wasn't an amiable young man, but a powerful master who had just defeated Sanford with a single palm strike.

Immediately, he bowed his head and shut up, not daring to say another word.

However, Fade snorted and declared, "Isn't the Hsiang family's so-called reason for Daemyn's death? Everyone saw how Daemyn deserved to die for his own actions of jeopardizing his entire troop of soldiers and his own life. Even without that, how was I wrong in not saving him?"

"Could it be that just because he's a member of the Hsiang family so bystanders have to risk their lives to save him? If that's the case, there are so many dangers and accidents in East Coast City everyday. Did the Hsiang family do anything to save them?"

In the face of Fade's questions, Kadmiel just bowed his head silently.

"Answer me!" Fade bellowed.

Kadmiel chattered through his teeth, "No, the Hsiang family didn't do anything to save them."

"You didn't? Then why does the Hsiang family have the audacity to ask me to save Daemyn, treating me as an enemy just because I didn't save him!" Fade shouted at him icily.

Kadmiel's body trembled under the enormous pressure, "Th-The Hsiang family's in the wrong."

"Is it enough just to say you're wrong? Fade's tone was chilly and unforgiving.

Kadmiel shook his head and replied immediately, "The Hsiang family is willing to make compensation. Please forgive us, Master Chen!"

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On the other side, Dacre didn't wait for Fade to speak and quickly spoke up too, "The Qin family is also willing to make compensation. Please forgive us, Master Chen!"

Fade narrowed his eyes at them, pausing for a moment before speaking, "The Qin and Hsiang family must transfer half of their assets to the Ernest Company."

"Half of our assets, it's..." Macbeth cried out in surprise, obviously unwilling. However, before he could finish speaking, Kadmiel shot him a warning glare and he swallowed back his words.

Kadmiel bowed, "Master Chen, you can rest assured. The Hsiang family will prepare all this immediately when we get back, and we will transfer the assets within three days."

On the other side, although Dacre's heart was aching, he didn't dare have any objections and could only say, "It's the same for the Qin family."

"Scram!" Fade waved his hand, dismissing the two families.

Immediately, the Hsiang and Qin family members stumbled away from the scene like dogs with their tails between their legs.

On the other side, the Geng family had different expressions when they saw this, and they sighed with relief.

"I never thought that Mr. Chen was a Martial Arts Master!" Tamar sighed.

Derex also spoke, "With half of each of the Qin and Hsiang families' assets, the Ernest Company has become the most powerful party in East Coast City."

"Fortunately, the Geng family didn't offend Mr. Chen, or else..." Jensi sighed too.

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When Derex and Hiro heard this, their expressions darkened. After all, the two of them were the ones who had offended Fade. Tamar noticed his son and grandson acting abnormally and spoke, "No matter what, the Geng family made the right choice. From now on, we will follow Master Chen's orders."

The Hsiang and Qin families finally left the scene, defeated and crestfallen. Next, Fade looked at Sanford and Eckhart. The two of them had wounds all over; one buried in the ground and the other one, sprawled. Both of them didn't dare to move at all.

When they saw Fade walking towards them, they became nervous, trembling.

He looked down at them and asked coldly, "Tell me, how should I punish the two of you?"

Upon hearing this, Eckhart and Sanford were incredibly uneasy. Then, Sanford spoke up, "Our ability is inferior. We admit defeat."

"It's not enough to admit defeat!" Fade spat. Then, a ball of positive energy appeared in his palm, "We're all martial artists and you have quite some prowess. I feel uneasy about letting you go like that. Why not I just destroy your dantian abdomen..."

When they heard this, Eckhart and Sanford were shocked. As martial artists, it wasn't easy to cultivate until their current levels; that was all in the dantian abdomen. It was worse than death if their cultivation was destroyed in seconds.

"Master Chen, don't! I admit defeat and submit myself to your mercy. As long as you don't destroy my dantian abdomen, I'll do anything you want me to!" Sanford begged out loud. He didn't even care to act as a master in the situation.

Eckhart was even more terrified, nodding his head frantically, "It's the same for me!"

"Really?" Fade squinted his eyes at them.

"Absolutely, we swear! If we go against our oath, we will be struck by lightning," Sanford quickly replied.

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Fade rolled his eyes and after some consideration, agreed, "If that's all, I'll give both of you a chance."

"Thank you, Master Chen. Thank you so much!" The two of them hurriedly showed their gratitude.

"Don't rush your thanks. Listen to what I want you to do!" He ordered.

"Although I'm here in East Coast City now, I won't be staying here for long. When I'm not around, the Ernest Company and Mr. Soo need protection. Do you understand?"

Sanford and Eckhart immediately got the gist. They nodded right after a moment of thinking. "We understand. We will definitely protect the Ernest Company and Director Soo. We won't let them come to any harm."

Compared to having their dantian abdomens destroyed, it was a better alternative to protect a man. Thus, Sanford didn't hesitate and immediately agreed to Fade's demands.

When Fade heard this, he stamped his right foot lightly and Sanford was shaken out of the ground instantly.

This act made him and Eckhart even more shocked, and they quickly bowed to Fade.

He just waved his hands, "Go treat your injuries! Report to me after three days."

"Yes!" Sanford paid his respects before fleeing from the scene with his disciple.

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Now that the opponents had left, the delayed opening ceremony could finally continue.

After a simple few words, Fade cut the ribbon along with Susie and Ernest. He then announced that the Ernest Company had officially opened amidst waves of booming applause.

All the onlookers then swarmed in like bees, giving their congratulations with excitement, trying to acquaint themselves with Ernest.

After all, the Ernest Company could stand firm in East Coast City after this battle and it even became the new overlord. Naturally, they wanted to grab the opportunity to curry favor with him.

Leaving Ernest to deal with the guests, Fade and Susie retired backstage.

Three days later, Kadmiel and Dacre personally brought over the proof of assets and transfer agreements to transfer them over to the Ernest Company.

Sanford and Eckhart had arrived in advance and were standing respectfully beside Fade like two sidekicks.

After completing the agreements, Fade let them leave. Ernest also handed an agreement over to him, "Fade, sign this!"

"Sign it! What is this?" Fade was stunned.

Ernest spoke, "Fade, the Hsiang and Qin families have transferred their assets over to the Ernest Company and it's all thanks to you, I can't..."

At this moment, Fade saw the words "transfer of shares" on the agreement and understood his objective. He continued to read further and found out that Ernest wanted to transfer 80% of the Ernest Company's shares over to him.

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As long as Fade signed the agreement, the Ernest Company could be considered his.

When he saw this, he set down the agreement, "Uncle Soo, I can't sign this. If I do, it would mean that I will possess your company. This isn't the reason I came to East Coast City."

Ernest explained, "Fade, don't stand on ceremony. The Ernest Company has grown with the additional assets from the Hsiang and Qin families. You deserve all these. Moreover, even if it's just 20% of the current shares, it's more than the capital I initially invested. If we think about it, I've taken advantage of you."

"But Uncle Soo, I..." Fade still wanted to decline.

Ernest insisted, "Fade if you keep declining, I will have to separate the assets from the Qin and Hsiang families, and open another company under your name."

When Fade saw his firm attitude, he could only nod and sign the agreement, "Uncle Soo, although I'm the major shareholder, you know that I'm ignorant about how to manage a company. Hence, I still have to trouble you with the management."

Ernest smiled, "That's the way it should be."

In the next few days, the situation stabilized, and the matters of East Coast City ended. Fade also prepared to go back to Dragonville.

However, at this time, Moore gave him a call from Capital City.

It turned out that he had some news regarding the Nine-star Root. However due to his daughter, Joey's, condition that wasn't optimistic, he needed to look after her in Capital City. Hence, he wanted to ask Fade if he had spare time, and whether he could help look for the Nine-star Root.

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When Moore finished speaking, Fade agreed without hesitation.

After all, it had always been Fade's wish to find the Nine-star Root and heal his junior, Joey. He wouldn't give up now that they had a lead on it.

After getting the details about the Nine-star Root, Fade set out immediately.

He took a plane at East Coast International Airport and after four hours, he reached Northern Jusberg's Wugrey City Airport.

As a highland in the Inland Northwest of the country, Fade could feel the difference between the environment here and a big city such as East Coast City the moment he stepped off the plane.

Although Wugrey City was the largest city in Northern Jusberg, the population was smaller compared to other big cities along the coastline, and there were also fewer skyscrapers and large buildings in the city.

However, from another aspect, the vast sky, clear air, and view of the distant snowy mountains provided a different type of enjoyment and peace.

Despite this, Fade wasn't here on vacation and he didn't have the leisure to stay. He rented a car at the airport and headed straight over to Namuchia.

Namuchia was the holy lake of Northern Jusberg. The locals believed in the lake and legends spoke of deities living there.

Moore's lead on the Nine-star Root was at Namuchia.

Fade drove out of the city and before long, he entered a deserted highland. The open land was grand, showing nature in all its true glory. The sky and ground were the same color and the road spread out as far as the eye could see. Even after a few

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kilometers, there wasn't anyone to be seen. It gave one a different feeling of loneliness and distance.


He kept driving and he would occasionally see hitchhikers carrying large backpacks and also some people on self-driving tours.

Some of them had set up tents for rest and some of them were taking pictures, enjoying the rare highland view. Some of them even invited Fade to join them, but he politely declined.

After driving for another hour, he reached a desert. The road conditions were far poorer in comparison. He had no choice but to slow down.

After a difficult journey of half an hour, Fade's car coughed and sputtered, dying in black smoke after shaking violently.

He checked the car, but to his dismay, he had zero knowledge on repairing or how they work. He could only curse the person who rented him the car under his breath and get out with his luggage.

Then, he checked the distance with his phone. He was about a hundred kilometers away from Namuchia. It wasn't very far for him and it wouldn't be a problem even if he continued on foot. 

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Before Fade walked far, he heard the roar of a car engine behind him.

He turned around and saw an army green Hummer driving over. The sound of the engine booming steadily was obviously better than his broken car.

Just as he turned around to look, the Hummer screeched to a halt beside him.

A woman with short hair, wearing sunglasses popped her head out the window and shouted, "What's the matter, do you need help?"

Fade was stunned for a moment before pointing at his broken car behind him, which was still smoking, "My car broke down."

"I knew it!" The short-haired girl grinned and then asked, "Where are you going? Let's see if we can take you along?"

Fade replied, "I'm heading for Namuchia Lake."

"Namuchia, that's great, we have the same destination. Hop on!" The girl beckoned to him warmly and opened the car door.

"Thank you!" He smiled and walked over to the Hummer.

However, at this time, a young man's head popped out from the passenger seat. He took a look at Fade and spoke unhappily, "Heidey, I don't think it's good to let some stranger on."

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"Gorvyn, his car broke down and we're heading there anyway. It's not a big deal," the girl named Heidey replied.

The man named Gorvyn still frowned and voiced out his dissatisfaction, "Who knows if his car really broke down? He could be waiting here for us on purpose. After all, we're here for the spiritual herb."

Heidey frowned slightly, "Gorvyn, don't think the worst of everyone. Anyway, don't we have Schultz even if there's any accident? There won't be any danger."

As she spoke, she patted the shoulder of the driver. He was a man in his thirties, named Schultz.

He smiled, "Since he's here, let's just give him a ride. It's not that far anyway."

At this time, Fade had reached the car. Heidey reached her hand out and pulled him up.

"Thank you very much," he expressed again.

The woman closed the door, patted the back of the driver's seat, and smiled, "Schultz, let's go."

As the car started, she smiled as she introduced herself, "My name is Heidey, the one in front of you is Gorvyn and the one driving is Schultz. What's yours?"

"My name is Fade. Thanks for your help." He nodded to the three of them.

She grinned, "You're too polite. How many thanks have you said in this short period of time?"

Gorvyn, who was in the passenger seat, turned his head. His tone wasn't so friendly, "Your name's Fade. What are you doing in a place like this?"

Hearing the interrogating tone, Fade frowned and his voice went cold, replying calmly, "Nothing, I'm just taking a walk by myself."

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"Taking a walk? You've come to a place like here just to take a walk? Do you think I'm a fool?" Gorvyn sneered and his expression darkened, "Tell me, what are you doing here?"

Fade frowned even more when he saw this and he answered unhappily, "I don't have to tell you what I'm doing here."

"You..." Gorvyn hissed, enraged and he looked like he was going to start a fight.

When Heidey saw this, she quickly glared at him before explaining to Fade, "Fade, don't mind him. Gorvyn's like that; he isn't easy to get along with. The three of us have come to Namuchia to..."

Before she could finish her sentence, Schultz coughed.

Instantly, her eyes flickered and she changed her sentence, "We're here on vacation. What about you?"


"Of course, we're just asking. If it's inconvenient, it's okay to ignore the question," she quickly added.

Fade shook his head, "There's nothing inconvenient. I've come to Namuchia in search of something."

"Search for something? What is it?" She asked instinctively.

He didn't hide anything but replied faintly, "A herb."

As soon as he said this, Heidey's eyes flickered and a look of surprise appeared on her face. As for Gorvyn and Schultz in the front, they fell silent, and their expressions fell. Then, they started to look at Fade with their guards up.

Fade saw the changes in their expressions and silently thought that it seemed that Heidey didn't tell the truth. Maybe, the three of them had also come for the herb. Otherwise, their reactions wouldn't switch so drastically and they wouldn't be on guard towards him. 

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However, he didn't say anything although he saw through it.

After a moment of silence, Heidey smiled and brought up another topic, "Fade, where are you from? What line of work are you in? How old are you?"

He replied just as casually.

As they spoke leisurely on some small talk, it wasn't long before the sky went dark.

Schultz slowed down, asking, "Gorvyn, Heidey, check if there are any accommodations nearby.

"Schultz, why not continue the journey? We're seventy kilometers away from Namuchia and we can reach it in one or two hours! There will be places to stay there," Gorvyn asked.

Schultz explained, "This is the adjacent highlands. The road infrastructure is quite poor and it's dangerous to drive at night. On the other hand, it is the sacrifice ritual season for the Sacred Lake Namuchia around this time. It's the custom over here to avoid night activities for fear of offending the gods."

Heidey said, "Gorvyn, let's just find a place to stay since Schultz said so. We aren't in a rush anyway. It's the same if we reach tomorrow."

Gorvyn pursed his lips but didn't say anything. He then took his phone out to look for accommodations.

Namuchia was a sacred lake, and lately, had been marketed for tourism. In recent years, there had been many tourist programs, so there were many hotels built along the way.

However, after looking it up, the two of them found out that there were no hotels in the vicinity and could only give up.

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Schultz said, "If there are no places to stay, then we can only test our luck and try to find someone staying nearby. If there really isn't a place, we would have to set up a tent."

"I hope we can find someone!" Gorvyn said. He had suffered in cramped tents for the past few days and he didn't really want to stay in a tent anymore.

They drove forward slowly in the dark and they were quite lucky. About fifteen minutes later, they discovered a huge yurt.

They drove over and got out of the car before walking over to the yurt, shouting, "Is anyone there?"

After a while, a middle-aged man in his forties came out. The man wore a fur cap and was draped in a sheepskin jacket. His skin was dark and tanned, but his cheeks were rosy, the typical Zambustan look.

"Uncle, we are passing travelers. Do you have rooms to let us rest for the night? Heidey asked politely.

The Zambustan man sized them up. He didn't reply but asked instead, "Where are you going?"

Although she found it odd, Heidey still replied, "Uncle, we're going to Namuchia. We'll rest for the night before going there tomorrow."

Chapter 1806

The Zambustan man turned his back to them when he heard this, growling, "I don't host people going to Namuchia."

The few of them were stunned, staring at each other. They didn't expect the man to have such a huge reaction, and they found it a little weird. Why wouldn't he receive people going to Namuchia?

While they were puzzled, Gorvyn chased the man into the yurt, shouting, "Why won't you let us stay the night? Is it about money? Name a price; we can afford it!"

The man turned around with a frown, "I've already made myself clear that I'm not going to receive anyone going to Namuchia. It's not about the money. Also, I'd advise you not to go there. It's best for you to return to where you came from."

"Ten thousand yuan. Let us stay the night and we'll give you ten thousand yuan." Gorvyn whipped out a stack of bills and shook them in the man's face.

However, the man wasn't tempted in the least. Instead, he took up a pitch fork and spat fiercely, "I said no. Get lost, all of you!"

"Old man, you..." Gorvyn was furious. He rolled up his sleeves and was about to make a move.

Beside him, Schultz's expression also darkened.

Heidey quickly stopped them and spoke to the man, "Uncle, I'm sorry. We'll go. We'll leave right away."

With that, they left the yurt and walked over to the Hummer.

10:33

After getting in the car, Gorvyn was still feeling indignant, mumbling, "What in the world? He wouldn't let us stay even if we paid him. Is he a fool?"

"I really don't know what's going on in that guy's head. He also said not to go to Namuchia. What a joke."

Heidey frowned, "Gorvyn, that's enough. Maybe he has his reasons!"

"What reasons could he have? From my point of view, he's a fool," Gorvyn muttered to himself.

At this time, Schultz started the car, "Let's see if we can find nomads up front. If there's no one, we will have to sleep in tents."

Gorvyn was unhappy when he mentioned sleeping in tents, cursing the old man under his breath.

Before long, they saw a motel by the roadside.

Although it was just a small building and it looked rather old, they were still excited to find a motel this late.

Gorvyn quickly pointed at the motel and spoke, "Schultz, look, it's a motel. Let's go over quickly. We'll rest there tonight."

Schultz quickly turned the car in the direction of the motel.

However, Heidey couldn't help but say, "A motel suddenly appearing in such a place, it's weird no matter how you look at it!"

Heidey took out her phone and checked, "This motel isn't listed on the internet either!"

Gorvyn waved his hand indifferently, "Maybe the owner doesn't do online businesses. Don't think too much. We're lucky that we have a place to sleep tonight."

While they conversed, Schultz drove to the entrance of the motel.

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After stopping the car, Gorvyn got out impatiently and shouted, "Is anyone there? Boss, we want rooms."

Schultz also followed him out of the car.

As for Heidey, she was still on her phone when suddenly, she exclaimed in surprise, "Ahh!"

When he heard this, Fade couldn't help but ask, "What's wrong?"

She shouted to Gorvyn and Schultz as she held her phone, "Schultz, Gorvyn, come back quickly."

"What's wrong? Heidey?" The two of them turned around and asked.

Heidey stared at the motel in front of them; her face was pale. "The motel is very creepy. It's best if we don't stay here."

"What's creepy about it? Isn't it just a little old? I think it's rather okay," Gorvyn spoke.

Heidey shook her head, "It's not about its conditions. I just posted in the traveler forums to ask about this motel and many netizens had never seen this here. It only appeared in the last two months."

"What's more, many people who stayed here said that the environment and the atmosphere are creepy. There were even ghosts at night, scaring many of them, and they left hurriedly the next day."

"Ghosts?" Schultz couldn't help frowning when he heard this.

Gorvyn also clucked, "Heidey, when did you start believing in things like that?"

"Gorvyn, many netizens who stayed here before said that there were creepy happenings at night. Many of them even saw shadows in their rooms. There are even photos of it. You can take a look if you don't believe me."

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As she spoke, Heidey showed them her phone. On it were photos shared by the netizens.

The photos were basically black, which looked like they were taken secretly but floating shadows could be seen faintly.

"It's all just black; what is there to see!" Gorvyn thought otherwise as he looked at the photos. Then, he saw the last video and his face started to twitch, giving him goosebumps.

That was because this ten-second video was taken by a guest who stayed on the second floor of this motel. At that time, he heard noises outside the door, so he came to the door, opened it a crack, and videotaped the outside.

However, there seemed to be nothing outside the door but darkness. Just as the guest thought he might be hearing noises and turned to close the door, he noticed a creepy shadow floating outside the window behind him. The shadow was floating in mid-air with a pale face. It looked terrifying.

The guest was so frightened that he fell to the ground, weak in his legs. His phone also fell to the ground, interrupting the video.

Just two seconds of the video with the creepy shadow made Gorvyn nervous. He felt a chill creep up his spine, and he had goosebumps all over.

When Heidey saw this, she said, "There's definitely something wrong with this motel. Let's not stay here. Let's return to the car."

When he heard this, Gorvyn's expression was somewhat hesitant.

Schultz just shook his head and laughed, "Heidey, this video is scary at first look but actually, it's nothing. It can be done using various photoshop skills or rag dolls. From my point of view, I think this is just a video made to scare others. We need not pay any mind to it."

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Gorvyn grew bolder when he heard Schultz's words and said, "Heidey, Schultz's right; this is just a trick. On the other hand, the car is so small. How are the four of us going to squeeze inside?"

When he finished, he gave Fade an unpleasant glare.

Schultz also smiled, "Heidey, don't think too much. Even if there's something, you won't be harmed with me around."

"That's right, Heidey. Schultz is a martial artist at the middle stage of the Black Level. Nothing will happen to us with him around," Gorvyn urged.

Heidey hesitated when she heard this, "Then, we, we..."

Chapter 1807

Fade, who had been staring at the motel for some time, spoke up, "There's something not right about this motel, I think it's best if we don't stay here too."

He didn't believe in the motel's so-called ghost stories, but he did feel weird positive energy emitting from the motel; it was a sort of uncomfortable feeling.

All these wouldn't exist in a normal motel. From these clues, he deduced that there was something wrong with it. Thus, he advised them not to stay here.

However, Gorvyn was already on guard with Fade. When heard him, he sneered and immediately refuted, "What's not right? I think it's alright. Don't find excuses to hide the fact that you're a coward. If you're unwilling to stay, you can stay outside by yourself. Nobody is begging you to come stay with us."

Schultz smiled at him, "Brother, don't worry. Nothing will happen to you with me around."

Fade shook his head and said faintly, "I'm afraid you can't guarantee anything with your strength."

Just now, the positive energy he felt from the motel was stronger than Schultz's positive energy. If something really happened, they couldn't count on him.

Fade was just stating a fact but Schultz thought he was looking down on him. Instantly, his expression darkened and he spoke

10:33

unpleasantly, "Since you're so smart, Mr. Chen, why are you afraid to stay at the motel?"

"Brat, who do you think you are? How dare you doubt Schultz? Gorvyn reprimanded him scornfully.

Heidey stepped up when she saw this and tried to ease up the tension, "Gorvyn, Schultz, Fade didn't mean that. Let's stop it here. It's getting late. Let's just stay for the night. We'll just go to sleep earlier."

With that, Heidey tugged at Fade's sleeve and shook her head. She thought that he spoke up on her behalf.

He didn't explain anything but sighed and nodded.

Since these fellows didn't take his advice, he needn't say anymore. Even if there was something mysterious about the motel, it wasn't a threat to him.

Schultz and Gorvyn led the way inside.

"Boss, are you there? Gorvyn called out as he pushed the door open.

A few seconds later, a hunched old man walked out of a room shakily, "What do you want?"

Gorvyn looked at the old man and laughed, "What are you talking about? Of course, we're here to get rooms!"

"It's five hundred per night." The boss lifted five fingers and waved them at Gorvyn.

"Five hundred, alright, it's two thousand for four people." Gorvyn didn't care about small change like this and took out a stack of notes, about to pay.

However, suddenly, as if he thought of something, he took out five hundred yuan and looked at Fade, "Someone said that this place isn't clean and is unwilling to stay, so I think he can forget it."

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Fade narrowed his eyes at this. He didn't speak but reached into his pocket. After all, small change like this didn't mean anything to him.

Heidey glared at Gorvyn when she saw this and said unhappily, "Gorvyn, stop this. Fade was speaking up for me. We're already inside and you're still..."

At this, Gorvyn put back the five hundred yuan into the stack of money, "Heidey, I was just joking. It's just five hundred yuan." He handed the money to the boss, declaring, "Boss, we want four rooms."

The old man turned back into his room and brought out four keys. He passed them to Gorvyn and said, "Go to the second floor."

"Why not the first floor? Aren't there many empty rooms?" Although Heidey was puzzled, she didn't speak her thoughts.

Gorvyn didn't think that much. He took the keys and carried his luggage upstairs and the rest followed him.

Just as they were going upstairs, the hunchbacked old man called out to them, "That's right, a gentle reminder. Stay in your rooms at night and don't walk around."

"Also, if you hear anything, don't come out. It has nothing to do with you."

Heidey's body stiffened at his words, feeling a chill run down her spine. She couldn't help but remember the creepy happenings that she read on the forum regarding the motel.

Even Gorvyn's body trembled and his expression was weird. However, Schultz didn't think much of it and continued walking upstairs.

As for Fade, he didn't speak but turned around and narrowed his eyes at the hunchbacked old man.

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He felt a weird positive energy coming from the old man.

Without saying anything, Fade went upstairs.

The four rooms were on opposite sides of the corridor. Fade's room was beside Heidey's and opposite Heidey's was Gorvyn's room. Schultz's room was opposite Fade's.

They opened the doors and went inside. Although the motel was quite shabby, it was clean and there was hot water from the taps, exceeding their expectations.

It was getting late and they were exhausted. After exchanging some small talk, they went to their own rooms to freshen up and get some rest.

Fade washed his face but he didn't sleep. He sat on his bed and closed his eyes to meditate.

Gradually, it was late at night and the surroundings turned silent.

The strong night winds blew through the highlands, sounding like beasts howling.

The wind blew at Fade's window, making banging noises. Occasionally, wood shavings flew by the window, making weird shadows. It could have frightened any ordinary person.

However, it didn't bother him in the slightest.

He continued his meditation and before long, it was midnight. The wind died down, becoming quiet outside, and the moon hid behind the clouds. Soon, the whole world was submerged in dark silence.

He got up to stretch his stiff legs. All was quiet. Suddenly, he heard a woman's blood curdling scream pierce through the night. It

10:33 

was especially ear-piercing through the silence.

"It's Heidey!" Fade's heart skipped a beat. He immediately rushed out and came to her room.

Heidey's door was shut tight and thumping noises could be heard from inside, mixed with her occasional screams. She sounded terrified.

"Heidey, are you okay!" Fade banged on her door.

However, the screams and banging continued and nobody answered him.

Fade immediately frowned and readied to force the door open.

At this moment, Schultz and Gorvyn also heard the commotion and rushed out anxiously, "What's going on?"

"I don't know. Heidey seems to have encountered something!" Fade pointed at her room before barging the door open.

Chapter 1808

At that moment, the door fell with a bang as Fade rushed in at once.

Heidey was curled up in the corner of her room. Her hair was disheveled and she was hugging her quilt. There was terror in her eyes as she continued screaming. "Don't! Don't come over! Don't..."

The three of them were stunned as soon as they saw this.

Fade wanted to carry Heidey but Gorvyn rushed towards her first. He helped her up and asked her with concern, "Heidey, are you alright?"

"No, don't come over! Don't come near me," she warned. She looked like a maniac. She hysterically waved her arms and prevented Gorvyn from coming near her.

"Heidey, it's me, Gorvyn! Look at me," he shouted.

However, she was still in a frenzy and refused to let him get close.

As soon as Fade saw this, he immediately stepped up and said, "Let me!"

"What do you know, don't simply..." Gorvyn said with dissatisfaction.

At that moment, Fade grabbed Heidey's arm with his left hand and prevented her from moving. He then put his right hand on hers back and infused a wave of positive energy into her body.

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With the infusion of Fade's positive energy, she instantaneously calmed down.

As she got better, Fade helped her to the bed. "Heidey, what happened?" He asked.

Gorvyn and Schultz curiously looked at her as well.

She trembled as she glanced at the window. "There was someone knocking on the window as he stood outside. I couldn't see his face but it was terrifying," she explained.

The rest of them felt a chill and their expressions changed when they heard about her encounter.

Fade walked towards the bedside and threw open the window. He carefully scanned the surroundings but couldn't find anything.

Gorvyn and Schultz came over to look as well but all seemed normal. There wasn't anything weird.

"Heidey, were you dreaming? There's nothing outside!" Gorvyn couldn't help but say.

She quickly shook her head. "No, it's not a dream. I really saw a person. He was lying on the window sill and was constantly knocking on the window," she added.

"Heidey, you..." Gorvyn frowned as he spoke. He obviously didn't believe her.

On the other hand, Fade had thought of something. "Heidey, other than the knocking of the window, did you see or hear anything else?" He asked.

She thought for a moment and added, "I think there was a whooshing sound as well."

"A whooshing sound? It could be the wind!" Gorvyn said.

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Heidey firmly shook her head in denial. "No, I'm sure it wasn't the wind," she reassured them.

"Then what was it..." Gorvyn curled his lips and thought to himself.

At that moment, Fade spoke out once more, "Was it the sound of a human breathing?"

Heidey was stunned as she heard his question. She nodded and said, "It was the sound of someone breathing. It was really identical. It sounded like amplified sounds of breathing. It was as if someone was breathing beside my ear."

As they heard her explanation, all of them realized that the situation had become much weirder.

However, Gorvyn frowned and looked unhappy. He turned to Fade and said, "Are you done? Heidey's condition isn't stable and you continue to spout rubbish. You must have bad intentions!"

Fade stared coldly at him and said, "I'm not spouting nonsense. There really is something wrong with the hotel."

"There you go again! You shouldn't stay here if there's something wrong! Now..." Gorvyn rudely replied.

Just before he could finish, Fade's expression instantly changed. He looked behind Gorvyn and said, "A shadow just floated past us."

His words began to frighten Gorvyn. "That's enough. What do you want? Are you trying to scare me with your lies?" He shouted.

"I'm not lying. There's a shadow knocking on the window in your room," Fade said.

Gorvyn still didn't believe him. However, Schultz turned around to look and was shocked as well. "There really is a shadow," he exclaimed.

As soon as he heard this, Gorvyn turned around and he noticed a figure crawling on his window pane.

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The figure was dressed in white, with disheveled hair. A long red tongue hung out from its mouth. It leaned its hands on the window sill and started knocking on the window.

Clear banging sounds could be heard. They were like hammers, banging on Gorvyn's heart. He was so terrified by the sight that he turned around and screamed as he ran downstairs.

Fade began to shout as soon as he saw his reaction. "Don't run around!"

However, Gorvyn didn't listen. Instead, he sprinted downstairs as fast as he could.

At that moment, Schultz's expression darkened. He gritted his teeth and walked towards Gorvyn's room. Then, he threw a punch towards the window.

The glass broke and a loud crash was heard. The white figure instantly disappeared into thin air.

However, Schultz had used too much strength and missed his target. He completely lost his balance and fell out the window.

"Oh no!" Fade shouted as he rushed to rescue him.

As soon as he came to the window and looked around, he noticed that there were only pieces of broken glass outside. Schultz's body was nowhere to be found.

"How could this be? Why did Schultz disappear?" Fade was filled with doubt. "Schultz's a martial artist at the middle stage of the Black Level and wouldn't be injured falling from a height like this. Even if he really died from the fall, his body should've been down there," Fade thought to himself.

Just as he was puzzled, the screams of a woman came from behind him.

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He turned his head and saw Heidey running out from the room, heading downstairs with a terrified look.

Fade saw a white figure banging on the window again by Heidey's room. As he was about to walk over, the figure disappeared in a flash.

He was surprised at such a scene.

However, he didn't have the time to investigate. Gorvyn and Heidey had just run out. Both of them were weak and an accident could happen at any moment.

He chased after them downstairs at the thought of such a possibility.

As he ran down the stairs, he reached the first floor and saw Gorvyn and Heidey standing by the corridor. Their faces were pale and full of terror.

"Are you alright?" Fade asked with concern. Instead, both of them were frightened and turned even more pale.

"Don't be afraid, it's me. It's me!" Fade hugged Heidey and infused her with positive energy to calm her down.

At the same time, he sent a wave of positive energy into Gorvyn to calm him down as well.

"What's the matter? What did you see?" He asked.

Gorvyn pointed towards the floor. His face was pale and he uttered, "We... We're trapped."

"Trapped? What do you mean?" Fade was puzzled upon hearing his explanation.

Gorvyn's mouth twitched as he spoke with difficulty. "Heidey and I continued to run downstairs. I remembered that we ran at least a couple of floors down but we never reached the end," he explained.

Chapter 1809

"Then this is..." Fade was confused as he thought to himself.

Gorvyn pointed towards the stairs. "Look, there are still steps going down. We were on the second floor and should be on the first floor by now. There shouldn't be any more steps," he said.

"Then..." At that moment, even Fade was speechless. He looked towards the stairs and saw a flight of steps leading towards the darkness and the unknown.

He clearly remembered that as they checked into the motel and went upstairs, there weren't any stairs going down from the first floor.

"This isn't the first floor; we're trapped. We won't be able to leave forever." Gorvyn's eyes were full of fear and despair as he spoke.

Heidey was as pale as a ghost. "This really is a haunted building. It's a haunted motel! We're trapped between the first and second floors. We'll never be able to leave," she cried.

These words of despair were like buckets of cold water being splashed over them as chills ran up to their spines.

Fade gave a long frown. He pulled Heidey and Gorvyn over to the stairs and said, "Follow me. We'll go take a look."

Gorvyn was terrified and quickly shook his head. "No, not down there. This place is haunted. What if those stairs lead to hell?" He

10:34 

argued.

Fade was too lazy to care about him and led Heidey towards the stairs. "If you don't feel like going, then you can stay here as you wish," he said.

With that, he took Heidey down the stairs with him.

As soon as Gorvyn saw this, he looked at the creepy corridor behind him and the shadows that floated past the windows. He was instantly frightened and ran after them.

Fade wasn't walking very fast as he was leading Heidey. Therefore, Gorvyn managed to quickly catch up with them.

The three of them walked down the stairs one step at a time. Their surroundings were pin-drop silent.

As they turned around the corner of the stairs and were about to continue, a cloud of white mist appeared and the wind started to howl.

"What's going on? I feel so cold. We aren't really going to hell, are we?" Gorvyn spoke, terrified.

Heidey was pale and hugged her arms. "I feel cold. I can't stand properly," she complained.

Fade supported her and took a deep breath, inhaling the white mist around them.

As soon as the mist entered his body, he felt as if he had been drugged. His entire body became stiff and his senses started to dull. He also started to feel dizzy and his eyes blurred. He felt as if he were about to faint.

"There's something wrong with this mist!" He thought to himself as he stamped his foot. His positive energy erupted and purged the mist from his body. His mind instantly cleared up.

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Soon after that, he infused Heidey and Gorvyn with his positive energy. Their bodies shuddered and they felt better too. At that moment, Fade waved his hand and blew away the mist with a gust of wind. Then, he quickly walked down the stairs. Heidey and Gorvyn hurried after him and very soon, they walked down the steps. They took a look around them and were excited.

"This is the first floor. It's exactly as when we entered," Gorvyn cried out excitedly.

Heidey also nodded and said, "We've escaped! We've escaped from the second floor!"

Fade frowned and thought, "There wasn't a mysterious space at all. Heidey and Gorvyn weren't trapped; they were deceived by the mist and constantly went up and down the stairs. They didn't walk at all. That's why they thought they were trapped."

Although they had successfully escaped, Schultz had fallen from the second floor and was still missing. Fade still had to look for him.

Therefore, he went to the boss's room and knocked on the door. "Boss, are you there?" He asked.

Since there was something wrong with this motel, there was obviously something wrong with the boss too.

However, there wasn't any response even after knocking on the door for quite some time.

Fade couldn't care less and walked in after forcing the door open.

The room was empty and the bed was clean and tidy, without traces of anyone sleeping on it.

"The boss isn't here!" Gorvyn said.

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"It's already midnight. Where is he?" Heidey added.

The duo felt chills once more as soon as they saw the room.

At that moment, a voice leisurely sounded from behind. "Why aren't you sleeping at this time of day? Why are you here?" The voice echoed.

Gorvyn and Heidey were immediately shocked by the voice. They instantly turned around and saw a face hidden in the darkness. The face was wrinkled and old. They got such a fright that they started screaming.

Without answering the boss' question, Face narrowed his eyes and looked at him. "Boss, did you hear anything just now?" He asked.

"No, what's wrong?" The boss asked.

"Our companion fell from the window of the second floor and is missing. Would you allow us to search the other rooms?" Fade explained.

The boss was speechless when he heard Fade's request. He shook his head and said, "I don't know what you're talking about. I didn't see your companion."

"Really?" Fade squinted his eyes. "Everything will be clear as soon as we search the place."

Fade began to sense that the boss was acting very strange.

The boss was angry and spoke in an unhappy tone, "You don't have the right to search my place. You can always leave if you don't wish to stay here. You're not welcome here."

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"Really? What if I insist on searching?" Fade had a tone of viciousness in his voice as he spoke.

The boss' voice grew even deeper. "I won't hold back if you'd want to pick a fight," he warned.

As they conversed, the boss picked up a wooden stick with a stubborn look on his face.

"Cut the crap, old man. I'm sure you have a guilty conscience," Gorvyn said. He rushed at the boss and wanted to attack.

Although the boss looked thin and weak, he was very strong. Not only did he block Gorvyn's attack, he even pushed him towards the back. He even made Gorvyn fall to the ground.

"You..." Gorvyn was furious. His positive energy erupted and he displayed his strength as a Yellow Level martial artist. He was prepared to attack the elder. "You've angered me, old man. Now, I'm going to teach you a lesson," he snorted.

At that moment, the hunchbacked old man released his aura with a force that was stronger than Gorvyn's, pressuring him and pushing him towards the side.

The boss then stood up straight with a serious look on his face. His gaze deepened as he asked, "Are you sure you want to fight me?"

At that moment, Gorvyn was dumbfounded. He never thought that the boss of a hotel in the outskirts of Northern Jusberg would have the strength of a Black Level martial artist. The boss could literally squash him like an ant.

His face immediately stiffened and as he recoiled his neck. He dared not make a single move.

Chapter 1810

Heidey's face turned pale as she looked terrified. "Boss, we mean no harm, we're just looking for our companion. It's okay if you're not willing," she tried to explain with all her might.

As she spoke, she pulled Fade and Govyn towards the side, hoping to leave in peace.

As for the hunchback boss, he didn't try to stop them and allowed them to leave.

A trace of doubt appeared in Fade's eyes at the sight of his reaction. He immediately stopped in his tracks and walked towards the boss. He spoke with a cold voice and said, "What if I demand to search the place?"

As soon as the boss heard this, his expression turned cold and his aura exploded towards Fade. He gave a cold reply and said, "Are you sure you want to fight me?"


Without saying another word, Fade's body shuddered vigorously. A wave of positive energy burst forth and overwhelmed the boss' aura.

The boss' face instantly changed and said, "You're also a martial artist that is above the middle stage of the Black Level?"

"Now, I believe I'll be able to conduct my search right!" Fade asked coldly.

The boss' face was uncertain and he remained speechless.

Fade didn't wait for his answer but walked towards the locked rooms on the first floor. He kicked open the doors with a loud

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bang. He went in and realized that the rooms were empty, with no one in sight.

With another loud "bang", he kicked open the door of the second room and continued to search.

As soon as he kicked the third room open, the boss couldn't bear it anymore. "He's in the cellar," he blurted.

With that, he walked towards the counter. He leaned down and pulled a lever where an entrance appeared in front of them.

When Fade and the others entered the cellar, they saw Schultz lying unconscious on a pile of hay.

"Schultz!" Gorvyn and Heidey yelled as they rushed towards him.

Fade immediately went over to check on Schultz. He realized that he was just unconscious without any injuries. Therefore, he infused him with some positive energy to wake him up.

As soon as Schultz had been awakened, Fade realized that there were many other items in the cellar.

There were long white robes, long-haired wigs, red paint, and many other items as well.

As soon as they saw these items, Fade and the others instantly remembered the white figures they saw outside the window.

"Did you pretend to be the ghosts outside the window?" Fade asked.

The boss was silent for a moment. He then nodded and admitted, "It's me."

"Why?" Fade frowned and asked.

Gorvyn and Heidey were curious as well.

However, the boss wouldn't speak, nor did he have the intention to answer the question.

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As Fade saw his reaction, he frowned, and his aura erupted as if he was going to attack.

The boss felt his terrifying pressure and knew that he was no match for him. He quickly waved his hands and explained, "I mean no harm. I did all of this to prevent you from going to Namuchia."

"You don't want us to go to Namuchia Lake?" Heidey asked.

Fade and the others couldn't understand his intentions. They continued to ask, "Why?"

At that moment, the boss had sealed his mouth and was determined not to say anything.

Fade stared into the boss' eyes for more than ten seconds before giving a long sigh. "Go back to rest!" He said.

He had many ways to make the boss speak. However, he saw the determination in his eyes. More importantly, he didn't feel any malice from the boss.

Additionally, he hadn't harmed them in the process. Even Schultz was unscathed although he was unconscious.

Similar happenings that Heidey brought up in the forums only spoke of guests being frightened while none of them were harmed.

However, Fade felt even more confused.

The boss didn't have malice for the guests nor did he want to rob them. However, he wasted so much energy to make up a story about a haunted motel just to prevent them from going to Namuchia. All of this was incomprehensible to him.

He couldn't imagine the answer so he had to put these matters aside and return to his room to rest. As for the real reason, he believed that everything would come to light when they reached Namuchia Lake.

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After solving the case, it was quiet throughout the rest of the night. They immediately slept as soon as they returned to their rooms.

The group got up and headed downstairs at approximately ten in the morning. The motel's boss was nowhere to be seen. The group couldn't care less and drove away as soon as they were done packing.

They finally arrived at Namuchia Lake at noon.

From a distance, one could see clear blue water. It sat on the highlands with its waters being as clear as a mirror with the snow mountains in the distance. It gave one a distant and sacred feeling at first glance.

However, the feeling greatly diminished when they arrived as Namuchia Lake was crowded with groups of people.

Moreover, they didn't seem like tourists. In fact, they were all young people like Heidey and Gorvyn. It could be seen from their clothing that they were all quite well to do.

"What's this? Have the rich kids agreed to come here on vacation together?" Fade felt uncertain within his heart.

At that moment, Schultz returned and spoke to Gorvyn and Heidey. "I've contacted the person. We can go over now," he said.

As soon as Gorvyn heard this, he became excited and hurried after him.

However, Heidey was slightly hesitant and looked towards Fade. Her lips moved as if she wanted to say something.

In the end, she seemed to have made up her mind. "Fade, come with us!" She said.

When Gorvyn heard this, he was surprised and grabbed her without waiting for Fade's reply. "Heidey, why did you ask him to come with us? Do you know, we're here for the herb..." He whispered.

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As soon as he said this, Schultz coughed beside him and Gorvyn immediately silenced himself. He looked suspiciously at Fade and didn't continue.

Heidey frowned and spoke unhappily, "Fade saved us last night and we don't need to hide anything from him. Moreover, he even said that he came looking for herbs. Maybe we're going to the same location."

"But..." Gorvyn insisted on speaking.

Schultz even tried to persuade her. "Heidey, think about it carefully. It's not so easy to get in with the quota at this rate. If anything goes wrong, then..."

She paused for a moment and spoke in a firm voice, "I believe in Fade."

She immediately looked at him and said, "Fade, I see that you're young and you're quite good at martial arts. I think we have the same goal and we are both here at Namuchia to seek a spiritual herb!"

"Spiritual herb?" As soon as Fade heard about it, a puzzled expression appeared on his face.

"You didn't come for the herb?" Heidey looked at him with surprise as soon as she saw his reaction.