

Ancient 531

Chapter 531: The People Who Rise Up in Resistance, and Their Miracle

"I see."

Zhang Xuzhi said flatly, "What a pity for such a godlike sword skill."

He waved his hand as a signal.

Li Hanting and Zhou Hanye immediately realized what was about to happen and retreated behind him.

For a brief moment, Gu Jianlin took a deep breath. His body had already reached its maximum limit. Besides the surprised and amazed gazes from all directions, there was also an overwhelming killing intent bearing down on him.

The most crucial strike was coming!

Tang Ling took a half step forward, gripping the Extreme Thunder Great Sword tightly with both hands and whispered, "Is your Spiritual Body holding up? Once it collapses, the people behind us will be done for."

The shadow remained motionless, continuing to channel spirituality.

The golden Skeleton Giant let out a fierce roar, standing firmly to shield its teammates!

Zhang Xuzhi retracted the tumultuous Qi Force within him, raised a single finger, and lightly touched the countless crisscrossing silver strings. Then, his fingertip suddenly exerted force, plucking them with a flick!

Clang!

Countless indestructible silver strings resonated in unison!

A torrent of Qi Force instantly surged out from his fingertip.

Growth-type Mythical Weapon·Annihilation String!

In the Ancient Times, there once was an Ancestor who created 36,000 silver strings in the Ancient God Realm. By channeling their Qi Force into a destructive tide, they unleashed a surge that overwhelmed like a tsunami, obliterating an entire army in one strike.

Now, Zhang Xuzhi had created 360 silver strings. The raging Qi Force surged forth like a storm of wind and rain, carrying swirling snow powder, howling like an apocalyptic tempest!

Boom!

The ground collapsed with a deafening roar. Countless trees were torn apart and exploded, and the blizzard swept in. Google search novel~fire~net

Everything in its path was destroyed!

Gu Jianlin stood alone in the front. At that moment, it was as if the soul of the Candle Dragon Venerable had descended upon his vessel. The blood-red Tang Blade erupted with a roar resembling a dragon's cry, its blade light pouring forth in torrents!

Countless chilling blade marks crisscrossed; the light of the blade was so dense it seemed like a tide!

With a deafening boom, the void collapsed and shattered.

The blizzard driving toward them was cleaved open, forming a massive rift!

Gu Jianlin slashed wildly, completely indifferent to the cracking sounds coming from within his body.

At the end, his blade's light seemed to transcend time, with countless reflections overlapping into one!

This was the first line of defense!

Tang Ling leapt high into the air, reversed her grip, and plunged the Extreme Thunder Great Sword into the snow. The terrifying sword momentum surged with relentless intensity, unleashing a burst of thousands of bolts of lightning intertwining into a barrier, forming the second line of defense!

Boom!

The Skeleton Giant roared into the sky, quietly enduring the overwhelming barrage of Qi Force. Yet cracks began to appear across its body, shattering bit by bit.

The shadow's form was nearly transparent, teetering on the edge of destruction.

"I'll do it!"

Lu Qingqing raised her hand, chanting under her breath as blood trickled from her lips.

She recited a forbidden spell from Ancient Times, conjuring the Sandstone Shield to stand in front of her.

She expanded the Rectangular Domain to its maximum extent and used her body to brace against the Sandstone Shield.

Ji Xiaoyu grit her teeth, took a small, ancient-looking shield from her pocket, and infused it with the last bit of her Spiritual Power!

Boom!

A primitively majestic golden Light Shield materialized out of thin air, firmly guarding everyone!

Golden blood flowed from Chen Qing's pure white eyes. This was the painful effect of the Spirit Medium Path's Third Rank. She used herself as a medium to help her teammates bear the recoil, her body on the brink of collapse.

"No! He still can't hold on. His corruption is too severe. The mental pollution combined with the Penglai Ascension Array's backlash— not even the Ancient God's Blood can save him. What do I do? What can I do?" Lin Wanqiu dropped to her knees, her trembling hands emanating Holy Light, her once unshakable will now crumbling.

The two Alchemists exchanged glances, gritting their teeth fiercely: "If we're doomed either way, let's treat a dead horse like a living one!"

They pulled out a sealed bottle from their pouches, its contents a viscous black liquid.

As soon as the lid was opened, a foul stench rushed out.

"This is a defective formula the Little Princess discovered in Buzhou Mountain. The result was so disgustingly foul that none of us dared to try it, afraid it might poison us to death!"

The Alchemists' faces twisted in madness: "Down it goes!"

Lin Wanqiu screamed and tried to stop them, but it was already too late.

Lin Lan was force-fed the secret medicine, his body convulsing violently.

Yet Lin Wanqiu suddenly noticed that amidst the convulsions, his mind seemed to regain some clarity.

The secret medicine was destroying him, yet at the same time, reconstructing him.

The severe mental pollution was diminishing, bit by bit!

No!

It wasn't enough. Due to the instability of the medicine, the mental pollution began to counterattack again!

Lin Wanqiu bit down hard on her lip, broke the skin of her fingertip, and smeared her blood across her brother's chest. This was her meticulously developed Holy Light Matrix, the most potent version she had ever devised.

She hadn't dared to use it before, fearing its overwhelming intensity.

But now she had no choice but to stake everything on this!

At last, she pulled out a small, precise device from her backpack and connected it to her brother's heart.

Mental wave patterns and cardiac rhythms blinked on the device's display, beeping incessantly!

Boom!

Gu Jianlin stubbornly swung his blade, the cracking sounds within his body signaling its impending collapse.

Tang Ling's lightning barrier flickered erratically, nearing its breaking point.

The shadow's spirituality was completely drained; the golden Skeleton Giant was riddled with holes.

The Sandstone Shield shattered.

Ji Xiaoyu's Light Shield wavered precariously!

Chen Qing had collapsed to her knees, no longer conscious.

And yet, the Qi Force carried by the blizzard hadn't harmed them in the slightest!

"All units, prepare to fire the Super Electromagnetic Cannon!"

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Zhang Xuzhi stared indifferently at the roaring storm of Qi Force, issuing the final death order.

However, at that moment, a voice rang through the headset.

"Abort launch!"

Zhang Xuzhi froze, because it was Nightmare's voice!

"Nightmare, are you insane?"

Li Hanting turned his head and shouted furiously.

Zhou Hanye's face was filled with disbelief.

In the military helicopter cabin, Nightmare, expressionless, used thought-control to manipulate a group of Demon Hunters.

He removed his helmet and said coldly, "I'm sorry, but I've had enough of your orders. There's the Little Princess here, she's just a child. If Thunder falls here, the consequences will be unimaginable. Gu Jianlin is the student of the King of Qing—I don't want to face their vengeance. And there's also the daughter of the Lu Family here, are you planning to execute her without trial?"

"Furthermore, their resolute fighting spirit has earned my respect. I don't believe they've betrayed the order."

He paused slightly. "Ten minutes ago, I already sent the coordinates of this place to Director Chen!"

Zhang Xuzhi's expression changed drastically, growing furious: "You bastard!"

Li Hanting pulled out his walkie-talkie and whispered, "Nie, the Deacon, request backup."

From the walkie-talkie came a timid girl's voice: "I-I'm sorry! My uncle suddenly had a stroke; he's unable to command the Demon Hunters anymore. May I help with anything?"

Li Hanting was stunned, listening to the voice.

This seemed to be the Deacon Nie's niece.

The walkie-talkie transmitted sounds of muffled struggle and a Fatty's sinister laughter.

Suddenly, Zhou Hanye looked towards the opposite side.

In that fleeting moment.

Beep!

The sound was so prolonged and sharp, piercing the air.

Two Alchemists abruptly crouched down, looking at each other in despair, their hearts utterly crushed.

Lin Wanqiu hung her head low, her long hair obscuring her face, her shoulders trembling slightly.

Finally, she covered her face and burst into sobs.

It was over.

Everything was over.

Her lifelong dream was to become a doctor who heals people.

But in the end, she couldn't even save her own brother.

The wind and snow were bitter cold.

It felt as if she was being buried in an icy abyss.

However, perhaps it was just an illusion.

The beeping sound from the instruments suddenly came alive in rapid succession.

Someone gently lifted their hand and touched her face: "Sis, you're amazing."

The two Alchemists abruptly raised their heads, their faces showing expressions as if they'd just seen a ghost.

Lin Wanqiu looked up in disbelief, wondering if she was dreaming.

"I feel like the spiritual pollution has eased significantly."

Lin Lan leaned into her embrace, his face full of bewilderment as he murmured: "You all are... truly incredible."

With that, his hand fell weakly, and he fainted.

Chen Qing, summoning the last shred of her consciousness, assessed his mental state and muttered, "Spiritual pollution level: forty-five percent! Compared to before, it's reduced by fifty percent! He survived! He survived!"

Lu Qingqing froze; it was utterly incredible.

For so many years, spiritual pollution had only worsened, only curable through suppressing it with Heavenly Born Grass.

But there'd never been a method to remove it.

The truth wasn't that it couldn't be eradicated—it was that humanity hadn't yet discovered the way.

Though it wasn't complete elimination, this was already a miracle!

A miracle in human history!

Ji Xiaoyu was dumbfounded, her large eyes blinking in shock as tears spilled uncontrollably.

"Yu."

Tang Ling suddenly turned to her. The pale, fierce beauty of her face finally revealed a rare smile, and she said softly, "That stinking secret medicine of yours... actually worked?"

Gu Jianlin, gritting his teeth, swung his blade to tear through the surging Qi Force. Sensing the commotion behind him, his emotions were a chaotic whirlpool, so complex that words escaped him, even as his pain seemed to dissipate from his body.

He realized there truly existed such people in the world.

They were foolish yet persistent.

And in the end, they actually created a miracle.

Those plagued by spiritual pollution.

Those surviving precariously between order and chaos.

Those who drifted in despair after falling, searching for solace.

All of them—were redeemed.

In the depths of the snowstorm, Lu Zijin took it all in, tears shimmering in her beautiful eyes.

"Aunt Zijin, it's your turn now."

The Moon Princess stepped into the mist, the scent of the sea rushing forth!

Boom!

A military helicopter swooped in, accompanied by the thundering sound of dense footsteps emerging from the icy fog.

Lu Zicheng led a massive group of nano warriors charging forth.

He gripped his blade with both hands, his expression cold and resolute.

Zhang Xuzhi turned abruptly, sensing an imminent crisis descending from the heavens!

Boom!

Someone hurtled to the ground, kicking him square in the chest!

Bam!

Countless crisscrossing silver strands collapsed instantly, and the raging Qi Force storm came to an abrupt halt, like a blizzard silenced.

Zhang Xuzhi was slammed into the earth with a heavy blow, his Qi Realm shattered; his chest caved in, and the blood he spat out gushed like a waterfall, scattering wildly in the ferocious wind.

"Zhang Xuzhi, just who gave you the courage?"

It was a woman dressed in military attire, her boot pressing firmly on his chest as she said coldly: "You're merely a department head; how dare you overstep your authority? Even if you have evidence, before submitting it to the Investigation Bureau for review, you dare to strike such a lethal blow? Whose orders are these? Rhein's orders?"

Vice-captain of the Night Watchers, Han Jing.

Li Hanting was about to move when a golden flying sword hovered above his head.

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"Yo."

Ying Changsheng walked out of the dense forest leisurely and said calmly, "How unsightly, Cold Pavilion."

Zhou Hanye also had a blade pressed against his neck.

"I really wonder, our Little Princess is here too, and you dare strike so viciously?"

Ji Ye raised his hand to pat her blank face. "What were you thinking? Has your Judgement Court gone mad?"

Lu Zicheng, however, paid no attention to them and led Dawn and the Poison Master past them.

Saving people now was the most important thing.

Yet above the sky.

The furious roar of the Profound Yin Saint rang out: "Chen Bojun, have you lost your mind? What are you trying to do?"

It was a small helicopter, carrying a Saint of the Judgement Court.

Boom!

The response was a burning arrow grazing past the helicopter's rotor blades.

It plummeted into the snow-covered mountain forest and erupted into flames.

"I'm in a terrible mood right now. Don't push me to kill you."

A helicopter roared as it descended, with Chen Bojun seated in the cabin, holding an iron bow.

High above, a massive golden face suddenly appeared.

It was a cold and stern young man, possessing awe-inspiring dual pupils, his gaze icy.

Terrifying pressure engulfed the sky.

One of the three giants of the Ether Association, Vice President, Rhein.

For a fleeting moment, the snowstorm converged into a weathered and enormous human face, forcefully scattering his pressure. It spoke indifferently: "Rhein, your people have taken things too far."

One of the three giants of the Ether Association, Vice President, Lin Dong.

The two Ninth Rank demigods stood silently against each other, neither saying a single word.

Gu Jianlin used Space Jump, exchanging places with his clone.

Almost simultaneously, he switched to a different path within his body.

Boom!

The Shadow suddenly disintegrated.

His true body returned to the Divine Path, and the golden Skeleton Giant crumbled, collapsing with a skyward roar.

Thud.

He fell into a warm embrace.

Tang Ling held him tightly, whispering, "See? You still need me, don't you?"

Gu Jianlin smiled faintly without speaking. "It seems so."

A massive group of nano warriors had arrived carrying stretchers to their location.

Ji Xiaoyu was lifted high by two Alchemists, her whole demeanor dazed.

The Poison Master looked at her in shock, exclaiming her expertise.

Dawn released Holy Light for the wounded, healing their physical injuries.

Lin Wanqiu clutched her unconscious younger brother in her arms, wanting to cry yet somehow to laugh.

Lu Qingqing supported the unconscious Chen Qing, her face full of emotion.

Lu Zicheng walked to the front, gazing at the tightly embraced boy and girl, as if wanting to speak but hesitating.

Tang Ling softly said, "He's fine, just gravely injured."

Gu Jianlin, using the last sliver of his consciousness, whispered, "Captain."

Lu Zicheng gripped his twin blades tightly, his voice hoarse: "Is there anything you need me to do?"

"Tell Uncle Mu he'll soon be out of prison. Wanwan might have a chance to rid herself of the Unclean identity. As for those in the shelter, they all have hope of survival."

Gu Jianlin lightly spoke, "Aunt Zijin is safe; the Moon Princess has already taken her into the Sea of Eternal Life. I've also found Lin Lan. He's a crucial witness; he must remain in our grasp."

Tang Ling lowered her gaze, brushing his hair. Her seemingly calm words carried an undercurrent of surging emotions.

No one knew how much grievance and sorrow were buried beneath them.

"Mm."

Lu Zichen nodded firmly.

"The Blood Moon Slaughter Incident isn't over."

Gu Jianlin vaguely saw a familiar figure emerge from the storm, seemingly smiling silently at him: "Light incense for Old Gu for me. What he left unfinished, I have safeguarded."

He closed his eyes, falling unconscious.

Chapter 534: Gu Jianlin: I Will Trample the Rules

The Ether Association had made the greatest progress in their campaign against the Ancient God Realm. Therefore, after the incident at the Sea of Eternal Life was reported, the nano warriors of the Dawn Combat Sequence swept away all obstacles along the route and arrived at the scene.

The two major factions, the Night Watchers and the Judgement Court, erupted in the most intense conflict in the past eight years.

Dawn City had already received the news and was convening an emergency meeting.

Lin Dong was furious, even prepared to take action immediately.

Rhein, however, refused to back down, and the two sides remained locked in confrontation.

Due to Lu Zijin's private actions, which had been verified by headquarters, it was indeed a violation of order.

However, with new evidence emerging, the specific nature of the incident was still up for debate.

All parties were currently engaged in intense negotiations.

Zhang Xuzhi had clearly committed a grave crime, and both Li Hanting and Zhou Hanye were detained and sent to Dawn City.

Given the chaotic situation, the leadership decided to temporarily camp on the Ice Field.

Fortunately, no one had been injured so far. Even though the circumstances of this incident were appalling, no violent internal strife had broken out yet. Everyone maintained a tacit restraint, waiting for instructions from the higher-ups.

In a military tent guarded by heavy soldiers, Gu Jianlin opened his eyes from slumber, discreetly crushed the secret medicine capsule in his throat, and felt an overwhelming surge of spirituality flood his body. He flexed his stiffened frame.

Although his whole body felt as if it were about to shatter, with every movement pulling at sore and aching muscles, he was at least able to move.

Expressionless, he sat up and realized he was lying on a stretcher, with an IV drip attached to the back of his hand.

He was wearing hospital clothes, and his other garments were piled up nearby.

The tent was equipped with an alchemy matrix for heating, making it warm and cozy.

He found himself alone.

Jiuyin still lay quietly beside him.

"You're awake?"

Jiuyin sneered, "Tch, I thought you were faking it, but it turns out you really passed out."

Before Gu Jianlin lost consciousness, he had made quite thorough preparations. First, he had swallowed several blood plasma blocks to eliminate Jiuyin's aftereffects, and second, he had a special Blue Blood secret medicine hidden in his mouth.

Once he woke up, he could move immediately.

"Using you places quite a burden on me, after all. Borrowing the power of the Candle Dragon is no trivial matter. I'm still too weak. I originally expected to stay unconscious for much longer, but reinforcements arrived sooner than I anticipated."

He glanced at the clock in the tent and said calmly, "Woke up two hours earlier than I planned."

"In these two hours, I vaguely overheard those Night Watcher and Judgement Court people quarrelling a few times, almost coming to blows. Your people seem to be fine; they've been protected."

Jiuyin snorted coldly, scoffing, "If you ask me, why delay any longer? Why not follow the strategy we had discussed earlier and annihilate them all at once? After all, this is the Ancient God Realm!"

Gu Jianlin flexed his wrist and replied indifferently, "First of all, under our original plan, aside from a very few exceptions, there would be almost no survivors. Most of my companions wouldn't endure; they'd be doomed. As much as I want to kill Zhang Xuzhi and the others, I am not cruel enough to disregard my comrades."

"Secondly, killing them at that moment wouldn't mean much; it wasn't what I wanted."

He paused for a moment, then continued, "I don't want to be someone who outright disobeys the rules."

Jiuyin sneered, "And you want to be someone who follows the rules?"

Gu Jianlin shook his head and softly said, "No. I want to be someone who tramples the rules."

Jiuyin froze. "Is there a difference?"

Gu Jianlin smiled silently and said, "Of course there is."

Jiuyin did not understand but sensed something from his smile.

Gu Jianlin took a deep breath, and the spirituality that had just filled him immediately began to evaporate again.

His Shadow recondensed, taking on the stance of the Ghost Slayer Path, and he strode out of the tent.

This was the superiority of the Qilin Forbidden Curse.

No matter how badly the main body was injured, the avatar could remain active anytime and anywhere.

At that moment, the tent flap was lifted.

"What are you planning to do?"

A cold and commanding voice spoke.

Gu Jianlin looked toward the intruder and saw someone he had never expected.

Ji Zhou.

"So, you've mastered the Qilin Forbidden Curse, huh? You're so severely injured, yet you still want to stir up trouble."

Ji Zhou shoved a freshly peeled apple into his mouth without asking and then felt his forehead, casually pressing two fingers against his neck. "Hmm, no serious aftereffects, though your body is riddled with wounds. This must be Jiuyin's aftereffect, right?"

Jiuyin instantly fell silent, feigning death.

Gu Jianlin was dumbfounded.

Ji Zhou's gaze fell on the blood-red Tang Blade, and she softly marveled, "A Mythical Weapon that has never been awakened throughout history. And yet, you somehow managed to tame it. I'm impressed."

She thought to herself that Qing had chosen wisely before the apocalypse.

This kind of talent was truly rare throughout history.

Gu Jianlin grew slightly tense and hesitantly said, "I must thank you, senior, for making it possible."

"Make it possible? Ha."

Ji Zhou's voice turned icy. "I feel like I may have personally created a disaster."

Gu Jianlin didn't know what to say; somehow, it felt as though his intentions had already been seen through.

So he lowered his head and ate the apple.

Ji Zhou sat by the bed, studying the young man's face. Suddenly, she said, "Thank you."

Gu Jianlin frowned. "Thank me? For what?"

"Over the years, no one has believed in that child, Yu, which caused her to suffer a lot of injustice and made her personality increasingly erratic. But you trusted her. This time, you've helped her resolve her inner conflict."

Chapter 535: Gu Jianlin: I Want to Trample the Rules_2

Ji Zhou said calmly, "You have made great contributions to humanity. From now on, the system of the Ether Association will also change because of you. The system you criticized before was a helpless measure due to insufficient technological capabilities. But moving forward, such things should no longer happen."

Gu Jianlin nodded slightly.

Because they had found a way to eliminate mental pollution.

Although it couldn't completely eradicate it yet, they had taken a crucial step forward.

It was of immense significance.

"From now on, no one should be able to use the name of the Fallen as an excuse to eliminate dissent anymore."

Ji Zhou sighed and said, "How should the Ether Association thank you?"

"That credit all goes to Ji Xiaoyu and Lin Wanqiu. How the Ether Association rewards them, I don't care."

Gu Jianlin said earnestly, "Lin Lan must be protected."

Ji Zhou nodded slightly. "She is a critically important witness. You don't even have to mention it."

With the Divine General's promise, Gu Jianlin felt reassured.

"What about Thunder?"

He asked.

Ji Zhou said blandly, "I just went to see her. She's unconscious."

Gu Jianlin was stunned.

"Thunder was severely injured, with severe frostbite on her back, corroded by the cold mist. Neither secret medicine nor ordinary Holy Light Skill can heal her. I've already arranged for someone to treat her injuries. You don't need to worry."

Ji Zhou explained.

Gu Jianlin fell silent. While he was unconscious earlier, he had a nightmare of falling into a freezing hell.

But in the dream, he constantly felt himself being held, the only warmth shielding him.

He thought it was a dream, but now it seemed very likely it was real.

At that time, Thunder must have used her body to shield him...

"You really do have charm."

Ji Zhou glanced at him, chuckling sarcastically. "The number one prodigy groomed by headquarters could go to such lengths for you, as if willing to throw away both her future and her life."

Gu Jianlin's heart stirred slightly.

Memories flooded his mind: the warmth of being held in her arms, her hand supporting him as he staggered forward, her determined gaze during their life-and-death struggle, and finally, her leaning beside him for a selfie.

Though it might not have all been just for him, the trust and protection were undeniably heartfelt.

As they say.

The kindness of a beauty runs deep.

"But you don't need to feel too guilty. You don't owe her anything. The value of your discovery this time is immense. In theory, if mental pollution can be eradicated, it's very likely the Divine Servants could also be freed."

Ji Zhou suddenly mentioned.

Gu Jianlin was shocked, recalling the words Old Gu had once said.

The Primordial's Divine Servants weren't beyond redemption!

"That's wonderful. In that case, Tang Zijing might have a chance."

Gu Jianlin murmured.

The name caused a glint to flicker in Ji Zhou's eyes, but she said nothing.

Gu Jianlin asked again, "Senior, how will Zhang Xuzhi and the others be dealt with?"

Ji Zhou fell silent for a second.

"Zhang Xuzhi, Li Hanting, and Zhou Hanye are about to be escorted to Dawn City for trial. Whether they live or die depends on the final judgment, the power plays of various factions, and the President's decision."

She paused for a moment. "Lu Zijin has also been labeled a traitor. The evidence submitted by the Judgement Court has been verified. She will be stripped of her Divine General title, dismissed from her ministerial position, and most likely imprisoned."

Gu Jianlin's pupils constricted sharply. "Is this the President's will?"

Ji Zhou said indifferently, "Yes."

Gu Jianlin silently gripped the bedsheets on the stretcher, veins bulging on the back of his hand.

"What do you intend to do?"

Ji Zhou stared at him.

Gu Jianlin said softly, "Senior, if it weren't for our strength, if it weren't for our unwavering will, I'm afraid all of us would be corpses right now. Minister Lu would die, Ji Xiaoyu would die, the Lin siblings would die—every one of us would be dead."

Ji Zhou said coldly, "But you aren't dead."

"The dead cannot seek justice for themselves."

Gu Jianlin lifted his eyes, their depths unreadable, and said quietly, "I want to do one thing openly, in my own name, for everyone to see."

Ji Zhou squinted, her eyes mocking. "You? Can you manage that? Don't think I don't know what you're planning. But with your current strength, you're far from capable—you're as insignificant as an amoeba."

Gu Jianlin enunciated each word: "Senior, I have my own way."

Then, he picked up a blood-red longsword.

The Shadow bent down to carry him on its back, preparing to leave.

For a brief moment, Ji Zhou raised her hand, blocking his path.

"I am a Divine General of the Ether Association."

She emphasized, "A Guardian of Order."

Gu Jianlin turned his head, asking calmly, "Does order stand above morality and justice? Seeking vengeance for grievances is an unchanging principle. You must know who deserves to die."

Ji Zhou was silent for a few seconds before sighing. "I don't like the President, so I have no obligation to stop you. But you're a hero. I can't just watch you walk to your death."

Gu Jianlin said softly, "Rest assured, Senior. I won't die."

Ji Zhou raised her eyebrow. "Are you serious?"

"When I was in Black Cloud City, I already did something similar. But whether it was against the Judgement Court or the people controlled by The Order of the Hidden, it didn't really hurt them."

Gu Jianlin smiled quietly. "But this time, I think it's time to make them feel some pain."

Ji Zhou gave him a deep look. "Do you intend to trample on the rules? You're nowhere near as strong as Qing and Chi."

"I said I have my own way."

Gu Jianlin murmured, "They create miracles. I can't do that, so I'll take care of the killing."

The next moment, the Shadow flashed away with him, disappearing on the spot.

The tent was left with nothing but the sound of the wind.

Ji Zhou's hair was lifted by the breeze, her cold and exquisite face devoid of expression.

"How did Gu Ci'an end up raising such a lawless son?"

She muttered softly, "Never experienced that era, yet so similar to Qing and Chi."

No one answered her question.

"And also so similar to how I was in my youth."

She sighed faintly. "It's a pity. By doing this, you're probably severing any chance of inheriting the legacy of the Heavenly Person."

Who knows how much time had passed before Ji Zhou spoke again, "Come in."

The tent's flap lifted, and Han Jing walked in with an expressionless face. "President."

"Keep an eye on that boy."

Ji Zhou hesitated for a moment. "Don't let anything happen to him."

She gazed into the distance, thinking, with your current self, how do you plan to accomplish that?

In the snowstorm raging outside, the Shadow galloped across the icy ground using Space Jump.

Gu Jianlin's hair was lifted by the wind, and a spark of wild fire seemed to ignite deep within his eyes.

Chapter 536: Kui Dragon Ancestor, My Enforcer

Dawn City, First Combat Command Center.

Slam.

The chessboard was struck with such force that countless chess pieces trembled and scattered everywhere.

"Oh my, why are you so angry? I've already told you, you need to learn to cultivate yourself and remain calm. Do you plan to lose your temper like this on the battlefield when facing the Ancient God Clan's schemes? You're hailed as the modern Bai Qi, commanding over a hundred thousand nano warriors—your joys and sorrows must remain unseen!" Huai Yin said with a cheerful smile.

"Do you even deserve to calm me down?"

Commander Lu's face was cold as he asked icily, "I suppose you've fooled me again, haven't you?"

Huai Yin sighed, "How many times have you been tricked by our fellow disciples since childhood? Just accept your fate."

They were all from humanity's Golden Age, causing mischief together since they were young—stealing chickens, climbing onto rooftops to cause trouble.

The President often lamented back then that between Qing and Chi, they had over eight hundred Heart Eyes combined.

As for young Lu, he was too naïve, and would likely remain that way when grown up.

It turned out they were right.

"Are you joking about my daughter?"

Commander Lu's icy eyes glinted sharply.

"Not exactly. While I've seen through Chi's plan, I wouldn't just stand by and let your daughter die. After all, I quite like that little girl. If the plan proceeds smoothly, I'll have her fake her death in the Sea of Eternal Life, then place her in some mysterious place. After that, I'll watch as you completely lose your temper and turn against your master."

Huai Yin fiddled with the chess pieces. "Once the Ether Association falls into complete chaos, your master will have no choice but to make a move."

Commander Lu's expression softened slightly as he spoke coldly. "The President has a student like you—what sins did she commit in her past life? Do you really want to see her dead that badly?"

"After all, there's a saying: 'No destruction, no creation.'

Huai Yin said indifferently, "As long as she doesn't die, the order won't collapse. Do you believe it? The Transcendent order of the human world, established over two thousand years ago, has already become a shackle hindering humanity's progress."

"Unfortunately, when I watched Zhang Xuzhi hold those documents, who would've thought he'd be so useless? Despite being a Sixth Rank Domain King, he couldn't even handle a group of youngsters. I have to admit, my student is exceptionally clever—he spotted the signs so quickly and has made remarkable progress in his skills."

He chuckled. "And he even gained a stunning wife."

Commander Lu frowned. "What wife?"

"It's best that you don't know, or you might be scared to death,"

Huai Yin looked up at the sky. "Throughout history, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone braver than him."

Knock, knock.

There was a knock at the door.

Commander Lu, realizing who it was, showed no sign of warmth. "Come in."

Huai Yin turned his head to look, and the door opened. Under the lights stood a tall, upright figure.

"Commander Lu, Mr. Huai."

Rhein, dressed in a crisp white suit, had his hair slicked back and tied in a neat ponytail. His sharp-featured face was devoid of any expression, and his twin golden pupils exuded authority.

He made no move to enter, merely sitting at the doorway.

Commander Lu said nothing; after all, he was not on good terms with the Judgement Court.

Huai Yin, however, smiled and said, "Impatient? I know you're anxious, but the worst part is yet to come."

Rhein stared at the old man with a blank expression and said, "I heard my father once say that the worst people in the world are Qing and Chi, but having never lived in that era, I didn't understand. Now that I've met you, I finally see it. The entire world views the Judgement Court as extreme, willing to do anything for personal gain."

"I admit, in order to acquire the power of the Heavenly Person and ascend to the President's position, I did exploit the rules to their utmost, committing many ruthless acts for power."

He paused. "But I feel that I still fall short compared to you."

Commander Lu commented, "That much is true."

Huai Yin smiled faintly. "The issue lies in the fact that the intelligence wasn't leaked by me—it was clearly Chi's people who sent it out. What does it have to do with me? You realized the questionable origins of that information back then, but after verification, you still chose to proceed with the mission. You made the choice."

Rhein remained silent.

"Even though Chi is already dead, I'm the only one in the world who can deal with him."

Huai Yin sighed. "In truth, I bear no ill will toward your lineage. Seeking ultimate power and distorting right and wrong is the most common political maneuver. Especially you, as a young child—you have great talent. The problem is you're too much like your foolish father. Don't become the second generation 'King of Fools.'"

Fury flashed like a storm in Rhein's golden eyes. "Is that so?"

"Look at you, I'm saying you and your father are both foolish, yet you obviously want to challenge me but must suppress yourself for the greater good. This is precisely why Thunder doesn't like you,"

Huai Yin sighed. "Your plan is good. After the Blood Moon Slaughter Incident, the Night Watchers suffered a devastating blow and could never regain the President's trust. The Judgement Court has monopolized power, consolidating factions while purging internal dissidents. It's barely passable."

"As for Thunder, you've known from the start that she's the chosen one. If your master's research into Heavenly Personification succeeds, it will undoubtedly fall upon her, as she is the most suitable host for the Heavenly Person's Wedge. Especially since she has another side—a path created by Bai Ze Venerable—not entirely a success, but it forges an unconventional path."

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He paused for a moment. "You're ready to marry her, but she doesn't like you at all."

Rhein remained silent. Newest update provided by Novel-Fire.net

"Why is the President hesitating? Is it because you truly can't outplay Chi?"

Huai Yin chuckled. "Your plan is very clever—using those pieces of evidence, allowing Zhang Xuzhi to carry the plan forward. Your goal is to brand Lu Zijin as a traitor and, along with her, cleanse everyone associated with her. If you could really pull that off, I wouldn't say anything. I'd simply admit defeat along with my apprentice."

He sighed. "Unfortunately, you can't."

Rhein had to admit that today's events were beyond his expectations.

"Zhang Xuzhi indeed made contact with Dusk."

Huai Yin suddenly remarked, "And perhaps might even be saved by Dusk's people. If I'm right, the ones coming should be Xing Yun and Ghost Eye. Those two lunatics haven't appeared in a long time."

Without hesitation, Rhein turned on his heel and left.

"I will stop Dusk's people and bring Zhang Xuzhi back alive,"

he said coldly.

"No need to bother; you're already too late."

Huai Yin lowered his head, fiddling with a chessboard, and chuckled. "My student is already angry."

Rhein felt a vague sense of foreboding.

"Someone is tired of your power plays."

Huai Yin said lightly:

"You want to target Lu Zijin, you want to target the Lin siblings, but now, someone is going to make you feel some pain."

Because all twelve outposts on the Ice Field were taken down, the Ether Association's alchemy experts rewrote the matrix.

The barrier's lockdown had disappeared, allowing free passage in and out.

Through the howling winds of the Ice Field, heavy armored vehicles roared as they advanced.

Fu Qingxuan sat in the vehicle's cabin, sighing, "After this incident, the conflict will be thoroughly out in the open. Luckily, Old Mu and the others were rescued. This major discovery is of immense significance to all of humanity."

As a Night Watcher, he had regained his strength and was once again participating in missions.

"Who would've thought Lin Lan is still alive? That's truly wonderful."

Someone said, "If the boss hears about this, he'll probably be over the moon, right? Next up is the critical trial, but we already have ample evidence and won't lose. The Blood Moon Slaughter Incident can finally be reopened. We'll figure out what really happened; we can't let the Judgement Court always have the final say."

Another remarked, "Old Gu's son is truly remarkable."

Indeed, remarkable.

Lu Zjin had successfully been sent into the Sea of Eternal Life.

Though branded as a traitor, the specifics remained up for discussion.

Most crucially, Zhang Xuzhi had reached the end of his road.

"Zhang Xuzhi is insane. Why not just finish him off already?"

"Shh, don't say such things—this isn't something we can take lightly."

"Stay sharp. Watch out for the moves the Judgement Court might pull."

Of course, vigilance was necessary.

Nearly all of the Night Watchers here were Sixth Rank. The chances of an incident occurring were low.

The Judgement Court also had to participate in the escort operation. Leading the team was the Profound Yin Saint, a Holy Land Level Great Priest, accompanied by eight councilmen—not much of a threat in terms of combat power.

After this incident, it would deal a severe blow to the Judgement Court.

Every time something happened, all they thought about was their own gain.

How laughable.

Chen Bojun, riding a snowmobile at the front of the team, looked grim. Wrapped in a thick military coat, his pair of sharp, cold Eagle Eyes scanned ahead without uttering a single word.

"I'm overseeing the prison transport; there won't be any issues."

Instructor Zhu accompanied him on another snowmobile, riding side by side.

Ying Changsheng rode his flying sword, slicing through the wind and snow.

Mu Qingyou also traveled by flying sword, scouring for enemies.

Omega's primary and secondary teams were providing escort.

Countless steel prison transports rumbled in succession.

Most of the Demon Hunters involved in this incident had to be apprehended and awaited trial.

Zhang Xuzhi wore shackles that suppressed his spirituality, his entire body bound tightly in iron chains, completely immobilized.

"Minister Zhang,"

Li Hanting, equally restrained and slumped in a prison transport, asked in a low voice, "Didn't you say this was all approved by Lord Rhein? How did it come to this? You clearly said back then that the Lord would protect us—why are we being arrested? This doesn't make sense."

Zhou Hanye sat silently in a corner, his face dark and grim.

Zhang Xuzhi's lips curled into an eerie smile.

"I told you the Lord would protect us."

He mouthed silently, "But I never said it was Rhein."

Through the distant wind and snow, a puzzled voice called out.

It came from a serene woman with jet-black hair. She wore a snow-white wool coat, lined with wine-red fleece, and a white belt cinched her petite waist. Below it was a black miniskirt. Her long, shapely legs were wrapped in fleece-lined tights, and she wore glossy black knee-high boots.

She tiptoed, glancing around with a half-dazed expression, mumbling, "Ghost Eye, didn't the Think Tank say it would be nine tonight? So why don't I see a single shadow of a ghost anywhere?"

A gaunt man huddled within a black cloak murmured in response, "I'm blind; how should I know? Wasn't it your job to guide us? Wait... wait a minute. Don't tell me you're lost again."

Xing Yun covered her red lips in shock. "What? I'm lost?"

Ghost Eye exclaimed in dismay, "Good heavens, you didn't even realize you were lost? This is the Ice Field near the Sea of Eternal Life! Are we going to die here? Just where on earth did you lead us? Don't tell me it's the Kui Dragon Ancestor's lair? You foolish woman, I swear I'll kill you!"

Chapter 538: Kui Dragon Ancestor, My Enforcer_3

Xing Yun quickly bowed and apologized: "Ah, sorry! But I think we're probably not in the Kui Dragon Ancestor's lair. After all, there's nothing around us. If we really did encounter the Ancestor, we could still run away, right?"

Ghost Eye let out a sigh of relief: "You've got a point."

Xing Yun waited for what felt like ages before finally hearing the roar of an engine: "It's here! It's here!"

She took a deep breath. Her ample chest rose and fell slightly as her expression suddenly turned icy cold.

"Hurry up and take action. Save the person, then get out of here quickly. Watch out for the Kui Dragon Ancestor killing us."

Ghost Eye urged anxiously.

For a brief moment, they suddenly realized something and blankly looked up.

On the frosty, snow-covered peak, someone was looking down at the howling snowstorm over the ice field, their gaze calm and steady.

Gu Jianlin was dressed in nothing but a loose hospital gown. Even though his body was nearly frozen stiff, he didn't tremble at all.

In his hand, he held a blood-red Tang Blade, its blade reflecting a pair of eerie vertical pupils.

A mighty convoy roared its way toward them.

The dense rhythm of life was sensed by him.

"So many people."

Gu Jianlin murmured softly.

Jiuyin sneered: "I've told you before, that was the best timing. Now, even if you use Ancient God Transformation, you still can't kill them. After all, you've only just reached the so-called Superdimensional Level. You can't unleash your true power."

Gu Jianlin smiled faintly: "I've told you, this is my world. I have my own ways."

Jiuyin was silent for a second.

"Are you certain the Kui Dragon Ancestor truly betrayed the Lord?"

It couldn't resist asking.

Gu Jianlin said calmly: "Yes. Back then, wasn't it because you mistook me for the Lord that you awakened?"

Jiuyin had originally thought the Lord had a change of heart and decided to reclaim it.

But upon awakening, it had found itself staring at the Lord's son.

No, wait.

It was the Lord's... lover.

This world was just too absurd.

It had slept through so many ages, utterly ignorant of what had come to pass.

Only that this boy truly possessed the power of the Lord.

If someone claimed that the Lord had found a lover in the Human World...

The notion was utterly preposterous, yet the undeniable truth lay in front of it.

This foolish blade was so easy to delude.

Gu Jianlin shook his head: "Then let me show you."

At that moment, his shadow suddenly transformed into its Ancient God form and casually caught Jiuyin.

Between heaven and earth, a terrifying dragon roar erupted!

Boom!

The mighty convoy came to an abrupt stop. The vehicle alarms blared frantically, their red lights flashing.

"Something's wrong!"

The Profound Yin Saint, a Holy Land Level expert, bellowed: "Retreat!"

Chen Bojun's face hardened with vigilance. He was one of the few who had ventured to Buzhou Mountain and could recognize what this was.

A dragon's roar!

An earth-shaking, heaven-piercing dragon's roar!

The Night Watchers and Judgement Court members were all on high alert.

"Retreat! Retreat now!"

In the distant blizzard, Xing Yun and Ghost Eye also heard the deafening dragon's roar.

For a fleeting instant, the skies above Qilin Immortal Palace were blocked out by a terrifying blizzard. Rage-fueled forces surged madly from the Sea of Eternal Life, almost swallowing the entire ice field. The extreme cold descended in an instant!

In the storm, only enormous, menacing shadows writhed wildly. A pair of seething, blood-red eyes glared down at the earth!

On the steep snowy peak, Gu Jianlin looked up at the heavens and said faintly:

"See that?"

He chuckled: "The moment I undergo Ancient God Transformation, it comes to kill me."

Jiuyin trembled slightly, letting out a faint hum: "Traitor! Traitor!"

Gu Jianlin said nonchalantly: "It doesn't matter. It's conveniently a free attack dog for me."

Boom!

The ice field quaked violently.

In the instant that terrifying power was poised to lock onto him...

The Ancient God Transformation abruptly dissipated.

The ferocious killing intent lost its target, releasing a faintly enraged roar as fierce blizzards poured from the sky.

Whether it was the Judgement Court or the Night Watchers...

Or the members of Omega...

They all immediately retreated in the face of such relentless snowstorms or used their Extraordinary Abilities to resist.

Only the prison car at the forefront was left unattended, swallowed by the blizzard!

Chapter 539: Code Name, Qilin!

The cold mist descended upon the ice field once again, unleashing an intense chill. Even a direct hit would instantly kill a Holy Land Level individual—this was the wrath of a Primordial, the power of the Sea of Eternal Life's ruler.

Chen Bojun lay prone on the snow, his right hand raised high in the air. In his palm, a luminous Buddha Seal shaped like the character 𠙴 glimmered, ancient and solemn. Its radiance spread into the air, forming an indestructible domain.

Ancient Forbidden Curse!

Almost simultaneously, the Profound Yin Saint enveloped everyone in gentle Holy Light, murmuring, "What on earth is happening? Why has the Kui Dragon Ancestor suddenly attacked this place? I have a sense that the initial power was extremely concentrated—if it had struck directly, neither you nor I would have survived."

The Demon Hunters from the Judgement Court looked at each other, stunned by the peril they had narrowly escaped!

Led by Fu Qingxuan, the Night Watchers were equally shocked. Most of them were Sixth Rank and were naturally able to sense the terror of that extreme ice power descending from thin air.

It was akin to a small nuclear warhead locking onto a target but detonating mid-air.

Even so, the descending frost was terrifying enough.

"So strong!"

Ying Changsheng stood atop his flying sword, narrowing his long eyes.

Mu Qingyou brushed off the snow that had settled on her head, speaking softly: "That was close."

"Wait!"

Someone suddenly exclaimed, "Look over there!"

The crowd followed the chilling mist with their gazes, and an overwhelming dread surged through them.

Beside a frozen prison cart lay two figures, encased in solid ice.

One was a young woman, adorned with a white hairpin in her black updo. Her serene and delicate face framed by a snow-white wool coat paired with a black skirt, her long legs clad in black stockings and knee-high boots.

Before being frozen, she appeared to be rushing towards the prison cart, attempting a rescue.

The other figure was an odd character cloaked entirely in black robes, stuck in a comical diving posture.

No one knew when the two had appeared.

The group was about to approach them when a furious roar echoed!

"Stay back!"

Chen Bojun stood up, his muscles taut like a fully drawn bowstring. Without hesitation, he retrieved a sniper rifle from the snow vehicle, his voice deep and commanding: "These two are extremely dangerous! Don't get close!"

However, faint footsteps sounded within the mist.

A cold radiance swept in like tidal waves, purging all Extraordinary Abilities.

The moment everyone saw him, they were utterly shocked!

A black-haired young man dressed in loose hospital robes, a flickering Ghost Fire hovering above his forehead, his gaze unwavering.

"The power of the Kui Dragon Ancestor is truly terrifying."

He tilted his head skyward and smiled silently.

The Primordial from the Candle Dragon Clan seemed to be in a state of extreme tension. Every time it detected his Ancient God Transformation aura, it would become mortified to the point of panic, mercilessly invoking authority, repeatedly trying to kill him.

That concentrated power, if directly striking his body, would spell certain death.

Even in the state of Ancient God Transformation, he had no means of resisting it.

After all, he wasn't an Ancient Supreme.

He was a hybrid of humanity and an Ancient Supreme, destined to start from nothing.

But he had discovered something quite interesting.

This force resembled a tracking missile—it needed a target.

Once he dispelled his Ancient God Transformation, reverting to an ordinary person and masking his aura with the Lock of Nonexistence...

The enemy would lose its target, reverting to indiscriminate wide-area attacks.

"Xiao Gu, stay back!"

Chen Bojun shouted with urgency: "It's too dangerous!"

The Profound Yin Saint's expression changed dramatically as she seemed to recognize the two figures, yelling in fury, "They are members of Dusk! What are you doing here? Leave immediately!"

Dusk!

A chill swept over the group as they were stunned by the revelation that these two unremarkable-looking individuals were from Dusk.

"It's fine."

Gu Jianlin approached the frozen prison cart as golden bones materialized behind him, enveloping his body like the Immortal of Colossal Spirit. Four blazing Ghost Hands raised upwards in power, clenching into fists!

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

The icy layer covering the prison cart shattered, its steel casing torn apart as though it were no sturdier than paper.

Inside the carriage were three blocks of ice.

Li Hanting and Zhou Hanye, both Fifth Rank, were on the brink of death—sealed in frost, their spirituality suppressed, making their lifesaving skills inaccessible. Within mere seconds, they would perish.

Bang!

Gu Jianlin smashed the ice encasing them, casually tossing them aside.

"Cough!"

Zhou Hanye coughed miserably. She had likely inhaled a massive amount of frigid mist, and her lungs were necrotizing.

Li Hanting's condition was slightly better; he gasped for breath as he lay sprawled on the ground.

He looked at the boy before him, his eyes filled with disbelief!

Bang!

"Watch closely."

Gu Jianlin shot them a deep glance before turning back and throwing another punch!

Bang!

The ice encasing Zhang Xuzhi burst apart, shards scattering through the air.

As a Sixth Rank Domain King, even with his spirituality sealed, Zhang Xuzhi's physical resilience was formidable. Aside from severe frostbite, his Life Rhythm remained steady, and his earlier injuries had fully healed.

Gu Jianlin pulled him out and threw him into the snow.

Thud—on his knees, Zhang Xuzhi collapsed into the snow, his vision obstructed by the blindfold over his eyes. Yet, he seemed to sense something, muttering softly, "So it's you. Have you come here to kill me?"

His tone was calm, devoid of panic.

Chapter 540: Code Name, Qilin!_2

Gu Jianlin stood behind him and said indifferently, "If you can defy the rules by abusing your authority, then I certainly won't kill you within the boundaries of the rules either. Since everyone's decided to break the rules, no one can blame anyone."

He raised his right hand high into the air!

"Xiao Gu, don't be impulsive!"

Chen Bojun knew this child's temperament all too well.

The moment the young man appeared, he knew something was bound to happen today, and no one could stop it.

But he had to try and make it seem like he was intervening.

"Gu Jianlin! Are you insane? You actually want to enforce a death sentence?"

The Profound Yin Saint stepped forward in large strides, now fully prepared to intervene. He absolutely could not let Minister Zhang die here because the members of Dusk, for some unknown reason, had shown up here. It was obviously a prison break.

Minister Zhang must return alive to prove he wasn't colluding with the members of Dusk.

If he died, his innocence could never be proven.

"Xiao Gu, calm down—stay rational!"

Fu Qingxuan was visibly stunned, his face pale with fear—what he worried about was the safety of this child.

BOOM!

The golden Skeleton Giant roared furiously.

"No one should approach."

Gu Jianlin said coldly, "Or you'll bear the consequences."

Everyone instinctively stopped in their tracks. After all, he was the King of Qing's protégé, and this sort of respect was non-negotiable.

Especially when someone muttered, "Everyone be careful—Gu Jianlin seems to have an exceptionally beautiful wife, and her mastery of sword skill is unparalleled. No one knows when she might appear and slash you down!"

The crowd shuddered in fear. Those who had been through the battle on the snowy tundra knew firsthand how awe-inspiring and terrifying that girl had been.

Gu Jianlin smiled faintly, glancing down at the man beneath him. He said indifferently, "Minister Zhang, before you decided to carry out this mission, did you ever consider that this day would come?"

Zhang Xuzhi replied calmly, "Of course I did—I just didn't expect to fail."

Gu Jianlin silently gazed at the snowflakes falling from the sky.

"Do you know what kind of person your brother is?"

He suddenly asked.

Zhang Xuzhi sneered, "A member of The Order of the Hidden?"

Gu Jianlin regarded him coldly, "Is that really beyond your belief?"

The answer was unexpected.

"Actually, I do believe it."

Zhang Xuzhi clenched his hands tightly, his voice lowered. "I know I'm not intelligent, and I understand where my talents lie. I've never been a particularly gifted individual, and naturally, I can't comprehend the world of geniuses. The King of Qing is a genius, and as his student, you're obviously a genius too. No one has ever dared to doubt your talent."

"As someone who can profile both the Kui Dragon Ancestor and Ghost Car Ancestor, you are undeniably an authority."

He paused briefly. "Your talent and character are no inferior to your father's. I've investigated your actions since joining the Ether Association and have witnessed your exploits in West Port. Without irrefutable evidence, you wouldn't kill innocents indiscriminately. And the King of Qing would never waste his energy on my insignificant brother—because it wouldn't serve any purpose."

After all, during the Bren Hill incident, Li Qingsong survived.

Why didn't the King of Qing kill Li Qingsong?

Because he acted forthrightly and was upright in character.

Even Saints, as powerful as they are, would have fared no better against the greatest historical Catastrophes—they'd be crushed with a mere slap.

Killing him held no significance.

The King of Qing didn't even bother to consider him, nor did he have any interest in Ether Association's factional struggles.

This was the only proof Councilman Zhang genuinely had issues.

Gu Jianlin said calmly, "Your brother is a member of The Order of the Hidden. His next step is controlling you—taking advantage of your advancement at this critical juncture to seize control over you. He was controlled long ago."

Zhang Xuzhi remained silent.

"I believe you."

He suddenly chuckled, his laughter full of mockery. "But the problem is—I don't care."

Gu Jianlin stared at him coldly.

"I don't know what The Order of the Hidden is or what they're planning to do, and I couldn't care less. All I know is I've had only one brother since childhood, and we've grown up depending on each other. I don't care if he's under someone's control or what he might do in the future. As long as he doesn't bare his fangs at me, he will always be my brother." Discover more novels at Novel-Fire.NET

Zhang Xuzhi kept his gaze lowered. "You so-called geniuses, high and mighty, naturally wouldn't care about things like this."

Gu Jianlin remained silent for a moment. "You're right. But I'm going after The Order of the Hidden because they targeted my father—and they want to harm the people around me. Your brother works for The Order of the Hidden, so he must die."

It's not about positions or right and wrong.

It's about hatred.

"Heh."

Zhang Xuzhi sneered mockingly, "If I had another chance, perhaps I'd have acted earlier. But regrettably, even with Dusk present, I don't think they'll save me today. If you all don't die, I'll never rest in peace."

Gu Jianlin slowly lowered his right hand. "Then prepare for eternal rest."

For just one brief moment, the wind and snow seemed to coalesce into a golden, frigidly stoic visage.

An overwhelming pressure filled the heavens and earth.

Cold, sharp, merciless.

Rhein's consciousness projection manifested once again.

Yet before he could make a move—

CRACK!

Chen Bojun watched the scene unfold, feeling a subtle ache in his chest.

The Profound Yin Saint's vision darkened, as if the very world had collapsed.

Fu Qingxuan sucked in a sharp breath. "Truly ruthless."

Ying Changsheng had been merely observing initially, but seeing that massive face descend from the sky, he couldn't help but raise an eyebrow. "Is this really going to blow up? If I'm not mistaken, Vice President Lin Dong should also be lurking nearby."

Mu Qingyou whispered softly, "I'm not sure—where do you stand on this?"