

Apocalypse 251

Chapter 251: Kill Wei Tian First, Then Destroy Feng Wuji

Wei Tian seemed full of confidence in the Ghost Leader.

He believed that even the current Yang Jing would definitely not be a match for the Ghost Leader.

Facing the Ghost Leader, Yang Jing actually had no confidence in his heart.

Because he had never seen the Ghost Leader in action.

The unknown is the most terrifying.

Yang Jing looked up at the distance and slowly said, "Even if I can't kill the Ghost Leader, there will be others who will."

"You and I will wait down here; he'll soon come down to join us!"

The war between the authorities and the Deceitful King Faction had already begun, and Yang Jing was the vanguard in this battle.

Yang Jing believed that the Deceitful King Faction was like autumn grasshoppers and wouldn't last long.

In the next moment, Yang Jing stopped wasting words with Wei Tian, he wielded the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife and once again charged at Wei Tian.

Yang Jing's actions were ruthless, each move a killing blow, not giving him a chance to survive.

The members of the Deceitful King Faction all deserved to die.

These core members of the Deceitful King Faction were so wicked that none of them would be wronged if they were lined up and shot with a Gatling gun for five minutes.

"Boom!"

Another loud crash, and Wei Tian was directly smashed away, heavily hitting the iron-making stove Yang Jing had just used.

He rolled onto the burning charcoal, his hair was singed into a mess, and he was covered in ashes, looking filthy.

"Pfft!"

Yang Jing's attack was heavy, causing Wei Tian to suffer serious internal injuries, spitting out a mouthful of blood.

"Yang Jing!"

"Since you're going for the kill, then let's die together!" Wei Tian wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth and glared angrily.

Obviously, he was ready to fight to the death!

"World Honored, aid me!" Wei Tian roared in fury, his whole person instantly rising several meters.

In the blink of an eye, he turned into a giant nearly ten meters tall, his veins and blood vessels bulging like ferocious coiled dragons.

On Wei Tian's forehead, there was a blood-red "卍" symbol.

The principal once said that the Ghost Leader was the World Honored's representative in this world.

And the Deceitful King Faction was founded by the Ghost Leader.

As a confidant of the Ghost Leader, Wei Tian was also a follower of the World Honored, thus, in critical moments, he could receive the World Honored's power.

Of course, the heavens offer no freebies, and there's no such thing as a free lunch.

The World Honored's power was not given to him for free.

At this moment, Wei Tian was using the World Honored's power at the cost of his own vitality and soul.

Yang Jing obviously would not give him a way out. Since either way led to death, he might as well make Yang Jing pay a price before dying.

After receiving the World Honored's power, Wei Tian's combat strength soared.

"Buddha's Descent."

Wei Tian heavily swung the Demon-Subduing Pestle, which descended like Mount Tai, faintly showing a Buddha's shadow within.

Yang Jing did not dodge, but continued to wield the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife to meet it.

"Clang!"

"Clang! Clang!"

In an instant, they exchanged several more blows. With the World Honored's blessing, Wei Tian was evenly matched with Yang Jing.

Yang Jing did not want to continue entangling with Wei Tian, and at that moment, he unleashed his full strength.

Yang Jing, along with the Demon Flood Dragon and Demon Tiger, combined all their strength into the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife.

Yang Jing leaped up, swinging the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife fiercely, containing immense power within.

This strike was as violent as a volcanic eruption.

Seeing this strike, Wei Tian's eyes widened in terror, and he shouted, "World Honored, protect me!"

Immediately, all the energy within his body poured out, condensing into a statue of the World Honored in front of him.

However, even with his most powerful defense, he was still not a match for Yang Jing's attack.

"Clang!"

A violent metallic clash sounded, and Wei Tian was sent flying, collapsing a wall of the warehouse and then falling to the ground heavily.

The Demon-Subduing Pestle in his hand had been bent by Yang Jing's blow, and blood continuously seeped from the corners of his mouth.

A mouthful of metallic blood rose to his mouth, and Wei Tian tried hard to swallow it, but more blood surged up.

"Gulp!"

"Gulp, gulp!"

"Pfft!"

Wei Tian could no longer hold back, spitting a mouthful of blood directly.

What he spat out was not just blood, but also shattered internal organs.

At this moment, the blood pouring out from Wei Tian was enough to fill a small basin.

"Quick..."

"Go get... the Ghost... Ghost Leader..." Wei Tian said with difficulty.

Seeing Wei Tian beaten to such a state, his subordinates had long been panic-stricken.

Wei Tian had been so badly beaten; if they went up, it would be suicide.

Upon hearing Wei Tian tell them to fetch the Ghost Leader, they found a reasonable excuse to escape, fleeing in all directions.

Yang Jing did not chase these small fries; after all, when the reckoning came, once the authorities attacked the Deceitful King Faction's headquarters, it would be a dead end for them too.

Seeing Yang Jing walking towards him step by step, Wei Tian struggled to stand up, but alas, his bones were shattered, making it impossible to stand.

Yang Jing said nothing, stepped in front of him, and with a flick of the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife, cut off Wei Tian's head.

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Meanwhile, Feng Wuji led his men into the Huang Family villa.

A broken ship still has its three-inch nails; as one of the nine major families of the Deceitful King Faction, the Huang Family

was not as powerful as the Ghost Leader, but still held some capabilities.

Just as Feng Wuji led his team to slaughter, the Huang Family already received the news in advance.

Upon knowing their contact with the authorities was exposed, Patriarch Huang was instantly horrified.

The situation was urgent, so the direct family members of the Huang Family could only evacuate through the secret passage in the villa, hiding inside the pre-constructed safe house.

When Feng Wuji stormed in, there wasn't a single important figure from the Huang Family in sight. The ones left in the villa were merely gatekeepers and servants like maids and cooks.

After venting his anger by killing a few people, Feng Wuji immediately ordered: "Seal off the city and hunt down all members of the Huang Family."

"They can hide for a moment but not forever. They won't escape Lin'an City, and we'll find them sooner or later!"

Feng Wuji was indeed correct. Lin'an City was under complete lockdown. Even if they hid, they couldn't escape.

They were like trapped turtles.

Not just the Huang Family, even the Liu Family couldn't send everyone away.

Although the Liu Family had a Teleportation Gate, the number was very limited.

Even the Liu Family could only send out a few key figures.

While Feng Wuji was leading his team to find traces of the Huang Family, he saw someone rushing over from afar.

The person's face was panic-stricken, and Feng Wuji recognized him as someone from the Ghost Leader's side.

"Huff! Huff!" The person gasped for breath before saying, "Ghost Leader, Ghost Leader ordered you to return immediately."

"Yang Chan has fled! Yang Jing has revolted, and he... he killed Wei Tian."

Upon hearing this, Feng Wuji couldn't help but shudder.

Being a confidant of the Ghost Leader, Feng Wuji naturally knew Wei Tian's strength.

If Yang Jing could kill Wei Tian, then he could most likely kill Feng Wuji as well!

The Ghost Leader's order for Feng Wuji to return wasn't out of concern for Feng Wuji's safety.

It was out of concern for his own safety!

If Feng Wuji was left alone, he could be killed by Yang Jing.

"You all go find the traces of the Huang Family. Once you find them, do not make any noise, just keep a close eye on them!" Feng Wuji instructed his subordinates.

After instructing his men to find the Huang Family, he was about to leave when his pupils suddenly shrank.

Not good!

Can't escape!

In the distance, Yang Jing was walking towards him step by step.

Along the way, the Life Pattern Masters of the Deceitful King Faction dodged him one after another. Not to mention intercepting Yang Jing, they didn't even have the courage to look him in the eye.

Because Yang Jing was holding a huge head, and that head was Wei Tian's.

Yang Jing held a Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife in his right hand and a huge head in his left, wearing a tiger-headed armor. Underneath the armor, there was no inner shirt, just simple coverage of the vital parts of his body. His skin was exposed.

What was most terrifying were the ferocious wounds on Yang Jing's body and the dreadful stitches like centipedes.

Feng Wuji squinted his eyes, pretending to be calm as he said, "Yang Jing, are you planning to rebel?"

"How can one rebel without ever submitting?" Yang Jing calmly replied.

Although Yang Jing had done many bad things for the Deceitful King Faction, he never admitted he was one of them.

He worked for the Deceitful King Faction because the Ghost Leader threatened his sister's life.

"Yang Jing, don't mistake yourself!"

"The road to repentance is clear. If you turn back now, I will plead for mercy on your behalf with the Ghost Leader," Feng Wuji tried to persuade.

"Heh!" Yang Jing sneered, saying, "No need to say it again, you've already said it once!"

As he spoke, Yang Jing gestured with Wei Tian's head.

The implication was simple.

Wei Tian couldn't persuade me, and neither can you, Feng Wuji.

Yang Jing's mind was made up, and no amount of sweet talk could change that.

Feng Wuji also understood, there was nothing left to say.

To continue would be self-humiliation.

Now, the only option was battle.

Feng Wuji and Yang Jing stood facing each other, approximately ten meters apart.

Feng Wuji focused his mind, utilizing his Tattoo Ability and the rules he mastered.

Unlike Yang Jing and Wei Tian, who employed an internal and direct combat style.

Feng Wuji's ability was rather impressive in scale.

With a thought, the sky within a few hundred meters was covered with dark clouds.

In the midst of the dark clouds, Thunderbolt continuously struck.

"Crackle!"

"Rumble!"

As Feng Wuji extended his hand, dozens of Thunderbolts fell from the dark clouds, swimming into his hand like fish, converging to form a Thunderbolt Whip.

"Boom!"

Feng Wuji first made a move, swinging the Thunderbolt Whip.

The long whip of Thunderbolts resembled a conductor's baton.

With a gentle swing, countless Thunderbolts surged towards Yang Jing.

The thunderous roll echoed "Rumble!"

Yang Jing flipped his hand, tossing Wei Tian's head towards the Thunderbolts, and within an instant, it was blasted into ashes.

Yang Jing advanced instead of retreating, with a sharp "clang," he swung the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife to slice through.

He actually intended to use the knife to cut through the Thunderbolts.

Chapter 252: Surrounded by Enemies, I Go Forth Nonetheless

Can a sword cleave through lightning?

The answer is, of course, it can.

If it can't.

Then, your sword isn't fast enough.

If still it can't.

Then, your sword isn't sharp enough.

If still it can't.

Then, your heart is not fearless enough.

When your sword is fast enough, sharp enough, and your heart knows no fear.

Then, it's not just mere lightning, even the heavens can be cleaved apart.

Your sword should be unstoppable!

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Yang Jing's right leg fiercely stomped as he leaped into the air like a cannonball.

"Zing zing" the sound of the sword echoed, Yang Jing's sword pierced through the lightning, slicing it in two with an incredibly neat cut.

The lightning, sliced through, seemed to lose its energy and fell from the sky.

"Boom!"

"Boom! Boom!"

After Yang Jing single-handedly sliced the lightning, about two to three seconds later, the falling lightning burst into pieces, as brilliant as fireworks.

Lightning bloomed like fireworks, as Yang Jing landed with his back to the dazzling, firework-like lightning.

In short, this slash.

It was...

It was very cool!

Feng Wuji's face turned a bit grim, realizing that the unknown is always the most terrifying.

Yang Jing was using physical means to counter magical means, something Feng Wuji couldn't comprehend.

In terms of strength, Feng Wuji was indeed stronger than Wei Tian.

But still only by a narrow margin.

When Yang Jing appeared in front of Feng Wuji, holding Wei Tian's head, Feng Wuji admitted he was a bit panicked.

Just now, after showing off his skill to slash lightning, Feng Wuji had already realized one thing.

That is, he was not a match for Yang Jing.

Today, prospects were grim!

Feng Wuji was very keen in sensing danger, and at this moment, he had a foreboding.

With the pride of a strong one, Feng Wuji didn't flee.

Or rather, he had nowhere to run.

This was the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction, and Yang Jing clearly intended to cause a commotion like Sun Wukong wreaking havoc in the Celestial Palace.

No matter what, Feng Wuji had to block him.

With this thought, as Feng Wuji triggered the lightning again.

The dark clouds above trembled violently, nurturing even more intense flashes of lightning within them.

At this moment, the energy fluctuations from Feng Wuji's body were almost terrifying.

"Going to unleash a big move?" Yang Jing muttered as he stared at Feng Wuji.

Besides the probing in the secret chamber last time, Yang Jing had never seen Feng Wuji truly make a move.

But, even if one hasn't eaten pork, surely they've seen pigs run!

Yang Jing could see that Feng Wuji was about to unleash a big move.

Since it's a big move, it needs time to brew.

In gaming terms, this is called pre-skill delay.

While you're ill, take your life!

Things could change over time, so Yang Jing wouldn't give Feng Wuji time to prepare.

The next moment, Yang Jing vanished from where he stood.

The sword in his hand radiated a blinding glare.

While Feng Wuji's lightning was still brewing, unfortunately, Yang Jing had already closed in.

Helplessly, Feng Wuji could only release prematurely.

With a wave of his hand, a Thunder Giant stepped out from the dark clouds, taking a huge stride to stand in front of Feng Wuji.

Yang Jing's Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife plunged about half a meter into the Thunder Giant's body, but it couldn't penetrate any further.

This Thunder Giant seemed almost corporeal, reaching to grab Yang Jing, clenching him in its hand.

The Thunder Giant was so vast that with Yang Jing in its grip, only his head was visible.

"Crackle crackle!"

"Crackle crackle!"

Countless electrical snakes surged in the Thunder Giant's hand, as if giving Yang Jing an electric shock treatment.

Yang Jing was a tough guy, having endured skin and bone without a sound, not to mention this trivial electric shock.

Covered in lightning, Yang Jing initially made no move, then suddenly, his Heavenly Eye opened on his forehead.

The single vertical eye emitted a blinding white light.

The white light seemed to possess the power to destroy everything, shooting onto the Thunder Giant's head.

The head of the Thunder Giant, as huge as a house, was instantly shot through with a massive hole.

Subsequently, the lightning surrounding the hole began to vanish, disappearing into thin air, until finally, the Thunder Giant's entire head, along with its entire body, evaporated into nothingness.

Eradication!

Yang Jing used the power of the Heavenly Eye to obliterate the Thunder Giant.

At this moment, Feng Wuji was somewhat flustered.

The Thunder Giant just now was nearly his strongest technique.

It's not that he didn't have other means, but since the Thunder Giant was so easily dispatched, other tactics wouldn't likely faze Yang Jing either.

As a Life Pattern Master of the same tier, Yang Jing was now unexpectedly strong.

The energy waves emanating from them were clearly similar.

Yet, the power Yang Jing exerted was vastly superior.

This strength was inexplicable.

"It shouldn't be!"

"It shouldn't be!"

"You are clearly still Tier Five, how can you be so strong!"

"No, why are you much stronger than me?" Feng Wuji looked incredulous.

However, Yang Jing looked at him with disdain and said, "How can sparrows compare with swans?"

"You, a mere dog? Are even worthy of comparing with me?"

"The strongest power comes from the heart. I, Yang Jing, have an invincible heart!"

Yang Jing stood there alone, above him the sky was shrouded in dark clouds, flickering with thunder.

Around him were many Life Pattern Masters!

But all of them were his enemies, not a single one was his ally.

At this moment, Yang Jing stood towering in this city full of opponents.

There was a kind of tragic determination to proceed despite knowing the odds.

"Rumble."

"Rumble, rumble."

The thunder around kept roaring, and from the dark clouds in the sky, thousands of lightning bolts fell, seemingly intending to form a thunder prison, trapping Yang Jing within.

Feng Wuji already knew he was not Yang Jing's match.

Thus, he no longer wanted to confront Yang Jing head-on but wished to delay for reinforcements.

What Feng Wuji could think of, Yang Jing naturally could think of as well.

If Feng Wuji wanted to delay, Yang Jing certainly did not.

This battle was the one where he burnt his heart and blood.

Carve flesh and strip bones, divide the soul.

Although Yang Jing now appeared formidable, in truth, from body to soul, he was riddled with wounds.

Such a level of battle, he couldn't last long.

Time was running out for him!

After killing Feng Wuji, he still had to settle accounts with the Ghost Leader.

Yang Jing wielded the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife and struck out, those thunderbolts as thick as arms in front of him were obliterated under his blade aura.

In the thunder prison Feng Wuji created, Yang Jing came and went freely.

All the way, he slashed towards Feng Wuji.

"Any last words?" Unconsciously, Yang Jing's Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife was already at Feng Wuji's neck.

At this moment, just a slight flick would send Feng Wuji's head rolling.

"Yang Jing, the Ghost Leader will not...!" Feng Wuji began to threaten.

"Clang" Yang Jing's Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife carved heavily, immediately, blood spurted out, Feng Wuji's head fell.

At that moment, Feng Wuji's corpse began to melt visibly, gradually dissolving into thunder.

This thunder slowly rose into the sky, as if it were a catalyst, beginning to stir the dense thunderclouds.

Then, all the thunder in the clouds began to converge.

The next moment, a beast made of lightning, flickering with electric light, appeared.

It was a bull with a single leg.

With an entirely blue-black body, every move seemed accompanied by thunder.

It seemed to be the Kui Niu once recorded in the Classic of Mountains and Seas.

But the Kui Niu's face was Feng Wuji's face.

"Moo!"

"Moo! Moo!"

The beast with a human face and beast body opened its mouth, uttering not human speech, but beastly roars.

With the sound of its roars, thunderstorms appeared around Yang Jing, enveloping him within.

The sudden thunderstorms left Yang Jing defenseless.

Moreover, these thunderstorms were much stronger than before.

"He's not Feng Wuji anymore?"

"His soul and flesh were sacrificed to some unknown entity, and then this Kui Niu was summoned?"
Yang Jing thought to himself.

Clearly, the Ghost Leader had left a backup plan on Feng Wuji.

When Feng Wuji died, it would bring forth this beast that originally only existed in the Classic of Mountains and Seas.

This beast showed no distinction between friend and foe, the thunder it summoned only slowed Yang Jing down a bit, but many Life Pattern Masters from the Deceitful King Faction were killed by the thunder due to being too close.

The Kui Niu, seeing that the thunder hadn't killed Yang Jing, raised its single foot to stomp down on Yang Jing again.

This foot did not land on Yang Jing, but instead crushed a large area of buildings, raising clouds of dust.

Many of the Deceitful King Faction's Life Pattern Masters were crushed into a bloody mist by the Kui Niu's foot.

Clearly, the Kui Niu had locked onto Yang Jing, wherever he went, it would attack.

Yang Jing's time was running out, and he still had to deal with the Ghost Leader.

He knew he couldn't just keep avoiding.

He must quickly deal with the Kui Niu.

The Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife hovered in front of Yang Jing, and he frantically infused it with energy.

In a moment, Yang Jing entered into a profound state.

Man and Sword as One.

The Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife was forged from a Demon Flood Dragon.

Having once merged with the Demon Flood Dragon, they were quite in sync.

Yang Jing easily entered the state of Man and Sword as One.

The next moment, thousands of sharp blade lights tore through the thunder.

The Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife and Yang Jing seemed to fuse into one, shooting towards the Kui Niu.

"Pfft!"

The Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife, along with Yang Jing, pierced through the Kui Niu's body, racing through.

The Kui Niu's massive body was completely pierced, leaving a large human-shaped hole.

The next instant, with a "boom," the Kui Niu's entire body exploded.

Yang Jing landed, separating from the state of Man and Sword as One.

At this moment, Yang Jing's face was pale, and his body trembled slightly.

Clearly, he couldn't hold on for much longer.

Yang Jing looked towards the direction of the Deceitful King Faction's headquarters, whispering to himself, "Ghost Leader, it's time to meet!"

"This time, I, Yang Jing, am finally no longer under your control."

"The misery you inflicted on me, it's time to settle the score!"

Chapter 253: To Save or Not to Save

Feng Wuji is dead!

Yang Jing stood there alone.

Around him, hundreds and thousands of people gathered.

These were all Life Pattern Masters serving the Deceitful King Faction.

Looking at Yang Jing, who looked like a god of war, their hands holding weapons trembled slightly.

Fear, this was unparalleled fear.

These people were very conflicted.

Feng Wuji is dead; should they stop him or not?

Going up to stop Yang Jing was basically seeking death.

But if they didn't stop him, they couldn't explain it to the higher-ups!

"If you don't want to die, get out of the way!" Yang Jing's voice rang out as he strode toward the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction.

Yang Jing's words seemed to carry supreme power.

The Life Pattern Masters originally blocking his path scattered and fled like rats seeing a cat.

Along the way, no one dared to try and stop Yang Jing, the god of slaughter.

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By the lakeside.

The secret base at the bottom of the lake was the core of the Deceitful King Faction.

However, when Yang Jing arrived at the lakeside, he saw the Ghost Leader, not tall, slightly frail, wearing old cloth shoes, like an old farmer.

"I didn't expect the one who made it here to be you, Yang Jing!"

"Indeed, I've created an unparalleled god of war!" The Ghost Leader was not flustered; instead, his tone carried a bit of pride.

At this moment, the Ghost Leader looked like a craftsman who had forged an unparalleled weapon.

Faced with someone coming to assassinate him using the very weapon he crafted.

Nonetheless, the Ghost Leader wasn't wrong.

The fact that Yang Jing could become what he was today, for better or worse, was thanks to the Ghost Leader.

Without him, Yang Jing might at best be a slightly exceptional Life Pattern Master.

He absolutely could not have become a top-tier powerhouse, a figure akin to a god of war.

"I'm here to kill you!" Yang Jing said slowly.

The Ghost Leader silently stared at Yang Jing, eyes slightly narrowed, carefully examining his finest masterpiece, and sighed, "Carving flesh to separate soul."

"Demon Flood Dragon is the weapon, Demon Tiger is the armor."

"Yang Jing, I am really increasingly admiring you!"

Despite being praise, the Ghost Leader's words were unbearably grating to Yang Jing.

It's like, if you dislike someone, no matter how sweetly spoken the words, they only sound disgusting.

"I'm here to kill you!" Yang Jing repeated.

"Heh heh!" The Ghost Leader chuckled, said to himself: "Yang Jing, you don't have much time left!"

"Come back! Return to my side, and take Feng Wuji's place!"

"I can help you, let you continue to live!"

"Live on, just as you are now."

One must admit, the Ghost Leader's words were very tempting!

Live on.

Moreover, to live on as a human.

Not as before, in that form neither human nor ghost.

Unfortunately, Yang Jing rejected the Ghost Leader.

If living meant being the Ghost Leader's lapdog, Yang Jing would rather die.

"I'm here to kill you!" Yang Jing's eyes widened, his tone unwaveringly firm.

"Heh heh!"

"You can't do it!" The Ghost Leader sneered, still wearing a calm expression, as if he didn't take the Ghost Leader seriously at all.

At this moment, there was no fluctuation of aura on the Ghost Leader.

It was as if he was the most ordinary old farmer.

Yet, Yang Jing felt a deep sense of crisis within.

Mysteriously, he had a premonition.

If he strikes at the Ghost Leader, he will die.

"Then I'll splash you with blood!" Yang Jing gave a low roar and swung the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife at the Ghost Leader.

Suddenly, the accumulated resentment turned into murderous intent, erupting from Yang Jing.

Even if not your match!

Even if unable to kill you!

Still, I will splash you with blood!

This is Yang Jing.

"Zing!"

The cold sound of the blade rang out, Yang Jing's eyes red, his whole body seemed engulfed in fierce flames of resentment.

The grudge Yang Jing held against the Ghost Leader was overwhelming.

He wanted nothing more than to devour the Ghost Leader's flesh and drink his blood.

Yang Jing's Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife came whistling down from above, seemingly about to split Yang Jing in half with one slash.

Yet at that moment, the Ghost Leader's figure twisted, transforming into a cloud of red mist.

Yang Jing's blade passed through the red cloud, scattering it in the wind, then it reconvened over ten meters away.

As the red cloud reassembled, the Ghost Leader appeared once more.

Yang Jing's powerful strike left the Ghost Leader unscathed.

How strong!

Bear in mind, Yang Jing's blade had cut down the Tier Five Wei Tian and the Tier Five Feng Wuji.

Yet now, it could not harm the Ghost Leader in the slightest.

The Ghost Leader was the strongest in the entire Deceitful King Faction.

Unyielding, Yang Jing swung his blade at the Ghost Leader once more.

Another slash.

The Ghost Leader dodged again, becoming red cloud and reassembling not far away.

Once again, unscathed.

Mockery.

The Ghost Leader was merely toying with Yang Jing.

Even if he stood there motionless and let Yang Jing hack at him, he remained unscathed.

Yang Jing was gradually becoming insane, furiously swinging his blade at the Ghost Leader with one strike after another.

Yet, the Ghost Leader was always unharmed.

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Outside Peng City.

In the secret safe house.

Day Traveler had temporarily arranged for Yang Chan to stay here.

However, just as Day Traveler was about to leave, Yang Chan suddenly knelt down before her.

"Sister!"

"I'm begging you, please save my brother!"

"I'm begging you!" Yang Chan knelt on the ground, tears flowing uncontrollably.

Day Traveler: "????"

At this moment, Day Traveler's expression probably looked like the confusion of a mighty warrior tasked with capturing Tang Monk.

Impossible, truly impossible!

Yang Jing is currently facing the entire Deceitful King Faction; whether he's dead or alive is unknown. Even if he's still alive, he's already surrounded.

Day Traveler knew her own limits; she didn't have the ability to save Yang Jing!

However, seeing Yang Chan, she thought of herself.

Yang Chan knew she couldn't save Yang Jing, yet still knelt to plead.

It was akin to a drowning person desperately grabbing at even a straw.

If Night Traveler were in her place, she might do the same!

Day Traveler felt a sense of empathy for Yang Chan.

Biting her lip, Day Traveler made a decision.

"I can't save your brother!"

"Begging me is pointless!"

"However, I know someone, if they step in, there's a slight possibility."

"He promised your brother to safeguard your life!"

"That person rarely agrees to help others, but once he does, he ensures it happens!"

"I'll take you to meet him; you should know what to do!"

"Whether your brother can be saved depends on you!" Day Traveler advised.

Though Day Traveler didn't explicitly say some things, it was as clear as if she had.

If Yang Chan didn't understand, then it would be Yang Jing's demise.

"I understand, I understand!" Yang Chan nodded repeatedly.

Yang Chan was clever and immediately grasped the meaning behind Day Traveler's words.

Day Traveler gave Yang Chan a glance, hurriedly took her into the city to see Lin Yuan.

The sooner they arrived, the better Yang Jing's chances.

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"I'm begging you!"

"Please save my brother!"

"I'll trade my life for his!"

"If you don't save him today, I'll die before you!"

In the Wushan Shelter, inside Lin Yuan's villa, Yang Chan held a dagger against her shoulder, pleading earnestly.

Her dagger was already deeply embedded in her neck, blood trickling down with a "drip, drip."

Lin Yuan could discern the bond between the siblings; if he didn't save Yang Jing, Yang Chan might truly die by her own hands.

Lin Yuan was conflicted about whether to save Yang Jing.

Undoubtedly, it wasn't due to Yang Chan's threat.

Yang Jing, despite his wrongdoings, was not evil by nature.

Those acts were driven by the Ghost Leader's coercion.

Such a person deserves a chance to reform.

Moreover, his potential is limitless; saving him might ensure he becomes a vital pillar for the Human Race.

However, Yang Jing hasn't yet gauged the depth of the Ghost Leader's power; rash actions might ensnare Lin Yuan.

After all, the official fight against the Deceitful King Faction has just begun.

It's not the right time for Lin Yuan to act.

To save or not to save?

Just then, a silhouette appeared behind Lin Yuan—it was the Little Sister-in-law.

Having heard of the battle between the official forces and the Deceitful King Faction, she suspected Lin Yuan might need her help, hence she hurried to Peng City.

Arriving in time.

"Do what you wish; I'll support you with all I have!" The Little Sister-in-law's gentle voice rang out.

Beside them, Bai Ling'Er glanced at the Little Sister-in-law and also spoke: "Same for me!"

Bai Ling'Er's current strength was at Tier Five Peak.

Furthermore, being a direct descendant of the Qingqiu Fox Race, she had numerous hidden powers, surpassing ordinary Tier Five Peak Life Pattern Masters.

With a brief contemplation, Lin Yuan decided to save Yang Jing.

No matter if Yang Jing has gauged the Ghost Leader's limits.

By now, he's reached his limit, done all he can.

If he hasn't gauged the Ghost Leader's limits, then even if he dies, it remains pointless.

Not everything should be left for others to do.

With this thought, Lin Yuan said to Bai Ling'Er and Little Sister-in-law: "I'll go rescue him; I'll be in the open, you two stay hidden."

"Rescue and retreat, don't fully engage them yet!"

The official forces surrounding Lin'an City haven't arrived; it's premature to start the battle.

Even if the Ghost Leader is killed, without a formed containment, many from the Deceitful King Faction might escape Lin'an City.

At that point, it would disrupt the plan.

Chapter 254: You Can Call the Ghost Leader Evil, But Never Call Him Stupid

After much thought, Lin Yuan decided to take the risk and head to the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction to rescue someone.

This wasn't originally part of the plan,

and Lin Yuan hadn't discussed it with Yang Dingguo or any official figures like the dean, Ye Qing.

First, there was simply no time left.

By the time they had everything sorted out, Yang Jing's grave would be covered in grass several meters high.

Second, if he did consult with them, they probably wouldn't agree.

The waters of the Deceitful King Faction were too murky to discern any details.

If Lin Yuan recklessly went to rescue someone, not only would he be in danger, he might also disrupt the official plan.

Officials always like to play it safe, ensuring everything is foolproof.

Lin Yuan understood their mindset.

Understanding is one thing, but Lin Yuan had his own way of doing things.

So, he decided not to consult them.

But before rescuing Yang Jing, Lin Yuan had one more thing to do.

That is, to give Day Traveler a proper lesson.

Of course, this lesson wasn't the kind people might think.

It was a very serious lesson.

Lin Yuan grabbed Day Traveler by the neck, like grabbing a rag doll, and dragged her outside.

"If this happens again."

"You're dead!" Lin Yuan glared at Day Traveler, threateningly.

Lin Yuan understood perfectly that Yang Chan found him thanks to Day Traveler's idea.

Even though Lin Yuan didn't oppose rescuing Yang Jing,

being burdened with trouble coming his way felt really uncomfortable.

Day Traveler: "???"

Day Traveler fluttered her big Karzilan eyes, feigning innocence, "What do you mean?"

"I don't understand what you're saying?"

Lin Yuan's grip on Day Traveler's hand tightened, his fingers were like iron clamps, making her unable to breathe.

"Are you insulting my intelligence?"

"If it weren't for you, she wouldn't know I exist." Lin Yuan said coldly.

It seemed that he could snap Day Traveler's neck at any moment.

Yang Chan had no idea he existed, apart from Day Traveler, the only other possibility was Yang Jing telling her.

But Lin Yuan had long seen through it, Yang Jing was bent on dying, and wouldn't possibly ask someone to save him.

After all, besides Day Traveler, who else could it be?

If it were someone else, exposed by Lin Yuan and faced with the threat of death.

They would probably be begging for mercy by now.

But Day Traveler isn't a normal person!

She's mentally ill, a mad woman!

"That's right, it was me, so what!"

"Lin Yuan, if you have guts, kill me. Do it! Don't make me look down on you!" Day Traveler, instead of begging for mercy, taunted Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan: "????"

At this moment, Lin Yuan was cornered.

This mad woman wasn't afraid of death, she even, like Yang Jing, no longer wanted to live.

Killing her would be fulfilling her wish.

Furthermore, since the Deceitful King Faction hasn't been eradicated, Day Traveler was still useful, so Lin Yuan couldn't kill her.

Everyone has a weakness.

And for most people, death is a weakness.

Unfortunately, this wasn't Day Traveler's weakness.

Therefore, threatening her with death was ineffective.

When a person isn't afraid to die, does that make them truly invincible?

No!

Of course not.

Not fearing death doesn't mean they don't have other weaknesses.

Even someone like Day Traveler, the mad woman, has weaknesses.

Her weakness is Night Traveler.

After a brief thought, Lin Yuan threatened, "If this happens again, I'll take you to Night Traveler's grave, strip you naked, and X you before X."

Sure enough, hearing Lin Yuan's words, Day Traveler's face changed instantly.

"You..."

"You dare!" She pointed at Lin Yuan, unable to utter any threatening words for a moment.

"Try me if you doubt I dare!" Now it was Lin Yuan who threatened her.

If Lin Yuan really did that, it would be as if Night Traveler was dead and had a green hat put on his head!

"I..."

"I was wrong!" Day Traveler had to concede, reluctantly explaining, "I saw their sibling bond and couldn't bear it, so I brought her to see you!"

"I don't want to hear explanations, I just want to tell you, there won't be a next time!" Lin Yuan warned.

After giving Day Traveler a warning, Lin Yuan set off with Bai Ling'Er and Sister-In-Law to the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction to prepare for the rescue.

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At this moment, at the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction, Yang Jing was engaged in a fierce battle with the Ghost Leader.

Rather than saying Yang Jing was battling the Ghost Leader, it was more like the Ghost Leader was toying with him.

Yang Jing's Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife was capable of killing Wei Tian, capable of killing Feng Wuji.

However, it could not harm the Ghost Leader in the slightest.

Every time Yang Jing attacked, the Ghost Leader would evade using the Red Cloud Transformation move.

He repeated it countless times; the move was old, but incredibly effective.

Unfortunately, Yang Jing couldn't break this move.

However, this relentless, tedious attack allowed Yang Jing to uncover some secrets.

It seemed that the Ghost Leader would not stray from the lakeside.

No matter how Yang Jing maneuvered or from which angle he attacked, the Ghost Leader always stayed within several dozen meters of the lake.

It was as if he was guarding something.

The Ghost Leader showed no signs of exhaustion, which was not the usual fighting style of a Life Pattern Master.

At this moment, Yang Jing had an intuition.

Could it be that the Ghost Leader was not a Life Pattern Master, or perhaps he wasn't human?

The lake bottom!

Something beneath the lake had to be problematic.

Thinking of this, Yang Jing leaped up, quickly creating distance.

After flying several hundred meters, he glanced back, confirming that the Ghost Leader hadn't pursued him.

The fact that the Ghost Leader didn't follow further confirmed his suspicions.

The Ghost Leader must be guarding something.

He'd rather let Yang Jing leave than abandon the lakeside.

No wonder he had never seen the Ghost Leader leave the Deceitful King Faction headquarters before!

Thinking of this, the Heavenly Eye on Yang Jing's forehead slowly opened, emitting a white light towards the lake's surface.

The Heavenly Eye gave off a feeling that it could survey the heavens above and the Yellow Springs below.

The Ghost Leader, who had never taken Yang Jing seriously,

was astonished upon seeing him open the Heavenly Eye to probe the lake's depths.

It was as if his secret was about to be discovered.

The Ghost Leader, who had always been defensive, took the initiative this time.

"Yang Jing, you are courting death!" the Ghost Leader's voice resounded, filled with endless fury.

At that moment, the space around Yang Jing cracked open, and a palm formed by a red cloud suddenly slapped him heavily, sending him tumbling.

Yang Jing saw nothing. His exploration was interrupted.

Although he didn't see anything, the Ghost Leader's furious reaction further confirmed Yang Jing's suspicions.

There indeed was a secret beneath the lake, and besides the Ghost Leader, no one in the Deceitful King Faction knew about it.

Not even his confidants like Wei Tian and Feng Wuji.

It was the Ghost Leader's most important secret, one only he knew.

Knowing this secret meant a dead end.

The Ghost Leader admired Yang Jing; initially, he intended to spare his life.

But Yang Jing dared to probe his greatest secret and even guessed that the secret lay at the lake bottom.

Since that was the case, Yang Jing could no longer be spared.

"You're courting death; I cannot let you live!" the Ghost Leader's fiery voice echoed.

Then, Yang Jing felt the surrounding space twist, and in the next moment, he was back at the lakeside.

Throughout this process, Yang Jing was like a toy to the Ghost Leader.

Yet, it's important to know that Yang Jing was considered the strongest below Tier Four.

So there was only one possibility: the Ghost Leader was Tier Four.

Tier Four?

How could it be? How could the Ghost Leader have silently advanced to Tier Four!

To know, the constraints of heaven and earth still existed, making a breakthrough in this world impossible.

And since the Ghost Leader never left the Deceitful King Faction headquarters, he couldn't have gone to another world like Lin Yuan to break through.

Then how did he reach Tier Four?

Yang Jing took a deep breath and tentatively asked, "Are you Tier Four?"

"To a dying man, it does no harm to tell you!" The Ghost Leader gave Yang Jing a glance and answered, "I recently broke through, indeed reaching Tier Four!"

Receiving a definitive answer from the Ghost Leader, Yang Jing continued to ask, "The heavenly restrictions still exist, making a breakthrough supposedly impossible?"

"How did you manage it?"

How did he break through?

This question involved the Ghost Leader's greatest secret.

He naturally wouldn't tell Yang Jing.

"Foolish people are bound by the constraints of heaven and earth!"

"With superb wisdom, how can mere heaven and earth constrain me?" the Ghost Leader replied proudly.

The Ghost Leader's words left Yang Jing speechless.

With the Ghost Leader's wisdom, even Yang Jing had to admire it.

When the strange invasion began, he single-handedly orchestrated the formation of the Deceitful King Faction.

Facing the strange invasion, his response speed could even rival that of state machinery.

And now, by unknown means, he successfully broke through, becoming a Tier Four master.

He possibly even broke through earlier than Lin Yuan.

Remember, Lin Yuan was a transmigrator!

He returned fully prepared in advance.

But the Ghost Leader relied purely on his wisdom.

You can call the Ghost Leader evil, but you cannot call him stupid.

The Ghost Leader's gaze shifted to Yang Jing, and he slowly spoke, "Any other questions?"

"If not, you may die!"

Today, the Ghost Leader must kill Yang Jing.

Anyone who tries to uncover his secret must die.

Chapter 255: I, Yang Jing, Fear Neither Life Nor Death

The Ghost Leader was filled with a murderous intent.

All around, the dense killing aura nearly took on a tangible form.

Like Mount Tai pressing down, the overwhelming pressure made it hard for him to breathe.

The gap between Tier Four and Tier Five was like the chasm between clouds and mud.

It was clear that the Ghost Leader had advanced to Tier Four.

Yang Jing knew that his ordinary attacks couldn't harm the Ghost Leader in the slightest.

Now, the only thing that might wound the Ghost Leader.

Was the Man and Sword as One technique.

Thinking of this, Yang Jing tightly gripped the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife, his eyes filled with an indomitable fighting spirit.

The gap in strength might be vast, but the fighting spirit was unyielding.

"Clang!"

Boundless blade energy erupted from the Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife.

The blade energy swirled around Yang Jing, making him the core of this force.

Looking at Yang Jing at this moment, he no longer seemed human, but a formidable blade.

Yang Jing was gathering power, prepared to wield his entire strength for this one strike.

His body was already riddled with wounds.

All his strength was channeled into this final blow.

One strike to determine everything.

Whatever happened, it would settle his grievances with the Ghost Leader.

Because after this strike, his death was certain.

In death, all grievances and grudges dissolve into the Void.

"Boom!"

"Rumble!"

Yang Jing's blade intent seemed to communicate with the heavens, and thunder resounded across the sky.

"Bang!"

"Bang! Bang!"

Blood mist burst continuously from Yang Jing's body, the wires stitching his body together snapping, flesh splitting open.

He looked wretched beyond words.

At this moment, Yang Jing had finished gathering power for the final blow.

The blade struck.

Heaven and earth were shook.

"Boom!"

The domineering blade intent erupted like a volcano, this strike seemingly capable of splitting even heaven and earth.

Even the Ghost Leader, who had never regarded Yang Jing, now looked grave.

He sensed that this strike was locked onto him, impossible to evade.

The blade intent cleaved through the Void, reaching the Ghost Leader in a flash.

It was still a simple but extremely effective technique.

He transformed into a Red Cloud.

It seemed that as long as he became Red Cloud, the Ghost Leader could be immune to all attacks.

The Three-Pointed Double-Blade Knife, wrapped in overwhelming blade intent, slashed into the Red Cloud.

The Red Cloud was split apart and couldn't recombine for a long time.

The two halved Red Clouds twisted for a full two or three minutes before finally coming back together.

The next moment, the Ghost Leader reappeared by the lake.

However, a red line appeared from the center of his brows, marking where Yang Jing had cleaved him in two.

Clearly, although he had reformed, he had been injured.

Even the corner of the Ghost Leader's mouth was still bleeding.

The Ghost Leader was injured, but Yang Jing was in even worse condition.

Once his state of Man and Sword as One ended, Yang Jing collapsed to the ground.

His flesh was torn open, blood soaked all over, making him look like a person made of blood.

Lying powerlessly on the ground, his life was quickly slipping away.

In that last strike, he had burned his soul and blood, sacrificing everything.

A Tier Five had injured a Tier Four; Yang Jing had achieved this.

Though dying, he was still honorable.

At most, he could live for three minutes, judging by his current rate of life slipping away.

However, the Ghost Leader was already enraged!

In these final three minutes, he did not want to let Yang Jing live.

He decided to personally end Yang Jing's life.

The next moment, the Ghost Leader appeared before Yang Jing.

In his hand was a large, dark heart, and on Yang Jing's chest, a bloody cavity had appeared.

"This heart was something I had given you!"

"You, not knowing gratitude, constantly opposed me!"

"In that case, I'll just take back what's mine!" the Ghost Leader murmured, clutching the heart.

It was then that a blood-red long sword struck from the side.

Lin Yuan appeared!

The Ghost Leader sensed danger and instinctively dodged.

Lin Yuan took the opportunity to snatch the heart from the Ghost Leader's hand.

Then, he tossed the heart to the little sister, hurriedly instructing, "Quick, save him!"

In terms of saving people, the little sister was highly skilled.

The little sister swiftly performed a secret technique, putting the heart back into Yang Jing.

By this time, the Ghost Leader and Lin Yuan had already begun fighting!

"Lin Yuan, you have a lot of nerve coming to my Deceitful King Faction!"

"Good that you're here; today, I will kill you!" The Ghost Leader launched a proactive attack on Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan showed no weakness, wielding Zhong Kui to cut down the Deceitful Sword, clashing with the Ghost Leader.

"Are you Tier Four?"

"You're also Tier Four!"

"How could you possibly break through?"

"How could you possibly break through?"

After sensing each other's power, they almost asked the exact same questions simultaneously.

Lin Yuan and the Ghost Leader were both Tier Four, their abilities were pretty much evenly matched, with no clear winner.

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At this moment, the young sister-in-law used a secret technique to reattach Yang Jing's heart.

When Yang Jing slowly woke up, his first words were, "Lend me some power, hurry, there's no time!"

Even with his heart reattached, Yang Jing still felt his life force slipping away.

He knew he didn't have much time left.

The young sister-in-law looked at the stubborn Yang Jing and said deeply, "You can't use any power, once you use power, you will surely die."

"At that time, no one can save you!"

The young sister-in-law was very skilled at saving people!

In fact, she was better at saving people than killing them.

However, Yang Jing's situation was still very tricky for her.

Even now, her chances of saving Yang Jing were less than twenty percent.

If Yang Jing were to use power again, she wouldn't have the slightest intention to try saving him with all her might.

"Lend me some power, hurry, this matter is more important than my life!"

"One Yang Jing dying today is not important, but if I don't do this, in the future, countless people might die at the hands of the Ghost Leader."

"I beg you, help me this once!" Yang Jing's voice was weak, but his tone was incredibly firm, and his eyes were moving.

The Ghost Leader was also Tier Four, so this meant Lin Yuan could only draw with him. To completely defeat him was impossible.

Without killing the Ghost Leader, the plan to destroy the Deceitful King Faction would certainly fail.

At the lake's bottom lies the Ghost Leader's secret.

Somehow, Yang Jing felt the secret at the lake's bottom was the key to defeating the Ghost Leader.

Just now, when he was about to uncover this secret, he was interrupted by the Ghost Leader.

Now, with the Ghost Leader being restrained by Lin Yuan, it was his only chance to peer into the secret.

"Alright!" The young sister-in-law agreed to his request.

The young sister-in-law channeled her energy into Yang Jing's body.

As the massive power poured in, the Heavenly Eye on Yang Jing's forehead slowly opened, a beam of white light shot towards the bottom of the lake.

"Yang Jing, how dare you!" the Ghost Leader raged.

However, he was held back by Lin Yuan, and neither of them could overcome the other, so he couldn't interrupt Yang Jing's probing.

"Gulp!"

"Gulp, gulp!"

Blood continuously flowed out of Yang Jing's mouth, but he persisted, continuing to uncover the Ghost Leader's secret.

Three minutes, a full three minutes.

It seemed as if all the blood inside Yang Jing had flowed out.

Now, he could no longer cough up blood, only some bloody froth.

"Seen it!"

"I've seen it!"

The white light gradually faded, and Yang Jing's life was at its end.

He mumbled to himself with a smile on his face.

Because he had seen the Ghost Leader's secret, which would be the key to defeating him.

Yang Jing's trembling hand reached towards the Heavenly Eye on his forehead, and then, with force, he gouged it out.

Yang Jing used his last ounce of strength to place the Heavenly Eye into the young sister-in-law's hand.

"The Ghost Leader's..."

"The Secret... is here!"

"Give... give it to him!" Finishing his words, Yang Jing tilted his head and was utterly silent.

Yang Jing was dead!

Originally, he had a chance to live.

To uncover the Ghost Leader's secret, for the hope of defeating him, he personally gave up his last chance at survival.

"Lin Yuan, he's dead!" the young sister-in-law shouted, her voice choked with sobs.

Upon hearing of Yang Jing's death, Lin Yuan's anger was instantly ignited.

"I promised someone to save him!"

"He's dead, you're making me lose face!" Lin Yuan looked at the Ghost Leader, his rage overwhelming.

Compared to Lin Yuan's anger, the Ghost Leader was extremely smug.

The intense battle just now had distracted him, so he didn't notice what Yang Jing said to the young sister-in-law before dying.

"Hahaha!"

"So what if he uncovered my secret? Didn't he still die?"

"With his soul scattered and lifeless, could you possibly make him speak?" The Ghost Leader was utterly smug.

"Die, you bastard!"

Lin Yuan raised his sword, his rage-filled swing.

This sword strike was without flair, it was the full power of Lin Yuan's swing.

Remember, Lin Yuan was Tier Four.

This strike was stronger than Yang Jing's earlier blow.

The Ghost Leader was injured by Yang Jing's strike and wasn't ready to take Lin Yuan's blow.

He flickered away, creating distance, and unexpectedly, he escaped to the lake bottom.

"Lin Yuan, I won't fight you!"

"If you've got the guts, chase me down!" The Ghost Leader's voice echoed from the bottom of the lake.

It seemed infected by Yang Jing, at this moment, Lin Yuan had a sense of recklessness, a notion of fighting to the death with the Ghost Leader.

Just as he was about to make his way towards the lake bottom, the young sister-in-law communicated, "Don't chase, Yang Jing left something for you."

Chapter 256: The Secret Yang Jing Risked His Life to Uncover

The Ghost Leader is injured; continuing to engage is extremely disadvantageous for him.

Therefore, he chose to flee to the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction under the lake.

Lin Yuan initially planned to chase after him, but a shout from Little Sister-in-law stopped his pursuit.

After a brief consideration, Lin Yuan temporarily suppressed the anger in his heart.

Chasing him down wouldn't be a rational choice.

The Ghost Leader clearly wanted to deliberately lure Lin Yuan down.

No one knows what kind of traps lie below.

Lin Yuan returned to Little Sister-in-law's side, and when he saw Yang Jing, there was no breath left in Yang Jing.

In the end, still dead!

Lin Yuan's mood was somewhat heavy.

"He..." Little Sister-in-law seemed to want to say something.

Lin Yuan shook his head and said solemnly, "We'll talk after we get back!"

The Ghost Leader had shaken off Lin Yuan, and this was his territory; Lin Yuan didn't want to stay here any longer.

In the next moment, Lin Yuan activated the Yellow Springs Road Tattoo's ability, and the "No Distance" rule appeared, taking Little Sister-in-law and Bai Ling'Er away from the scene.

A moment later, when they reappeared, they were already back at the Wushan Shelter.

Since Lin Yuan left, Yang Chan had been very anxious, like a frightened little rabbit.

Uneasy, she paced back and forth.

"Don't worry, Lin Yuan will definitely bring your brother back!" Wen Yingying held Yang Chan's hand, letting her sit on the sofa, and comforted her.

With the pace of strange invasions accelerating, Wen Yingying's Princess Iron Fan Tattoo could no longer keep up with Lin Yuan.

Fortunately, Wen Yingying didn't care much about power.

Now, Lin Yuan can protect her well, so she has simply embraced her role as Lin Yuan's woman.

Wen Yingying was very kind; she tried to comfort Yang Chan.

The Day Traveler, who had almost been strangled to death by Lin Yuan earlier, looked at Wen Yingying and thought to himself, what virtues and abilities does Lin Yuan have to possess so many beautiful women?

The most crucial thing is that these women are all devoted to him, not to mention harmonious among themselves?

Could it be, Lin Yuan has some special talents?

Just then, the surrounding space distorted.

Lin Yuan, Little Sister-in-law, and Bai Ling'Er stepped out from the distortion, with Lin Yuan holding Yang Jing's corpse in his arms.

"I'm sorry, I broke my promise, and couldn't bring him back alive!"

"But don't worry, I'll kill the Ghost Leader and avenge him!" Lin Yuan put down Yang Jing's body and vowed resolutely.

Upon seeing Yang Jing's corpse, Yang Chan was first stunned.

After about ten seconds of stupor, she let out a heart-wrenching, shrill wail: "Brother!"

Yang Chan hugged Yang Jing's body, tears flowing like rain, uncontrollably crying and howling.

Everyone watched quietly, but no one knew how to offer comfort.

Such a grief of losing a close relative is impossible to sympathetically feel.

After more than ten minutes, Yang Chan's emotions gradually eased somewhat.

At this moment, Little Sister-in-law stepped forward and comforted her: "Actually, he had a glimmer of hope to survive. It was he himself who chose death."

"Your brother was a hero."

Saying this, Little Sister-in-law transmitted a memory scene into Yang Chan's mind.

This memory was precisely from the time when they arrived to rescue Yang Jing, when Lin Yuan and the Ghost Leader were fighting.

Yang Jing had a flicker of hope to live, but to uncover the Ghost Leader's secret, he chose to forgo the hope of survival.

After seeing this memory, Yang Chan was deeply shaken.

So, the Ghost Leader is this terrifying?

Since Yang Chan woke up, she had been kept within the villa, never leaving.

Though lacking freedom, she was very safe.

It can be said that the reason Yang Chan could live peacefully to this day was entirely because Yang Jing was carrying the burden for her.

"Your brother surely wishes for you to live well!"

"You are his all hope; everything he did was for you!"

"From today on, your path is yours to walk, you must be strong, don't let him be disappointed!" The Day Traveler patted Yang Chan's shoulder and said.

Yang Chan bit her lip, struggling to hold back her tears, and nodded heavily: "I understand!"

"Thank you for bringing back my brother's body!"

Witnessing this scene, Lin Yuan felt a bit bitter, a bit guilty.

Even felt a bit shameful!

When leaving, he confidently promised to bring him back.

In the end, he only brought back a corpse.

"Ah!" With a heavy sigh, Lin Yuan turned and went upstairs.

Keep watching, and the eyes would shed tears.

Upstairs, Lin Yuan took out the things Little Sister-in-law had just handed him.

Yang Jing's Heavenly Eye.

"Sacrificing life too, just to spy on the Ghost Leader's secret?"

"Yang Jing! Yang Jing, people like you can never be protagonists, why not live a bit selfishly?"

"Tell me, what are you after?"

"Even if you finally kill the Ghost Leader, who would remember your good deeds?" Lin Yuan gazed at the single eye in his palm and couldn't help but mutter.

In all honesty, Lin Yuan did not possess the same awareness as Yang Jing.

If someone told him that he needed to perish together with the Ghost Leader in order to kill him,

Lin Yuan would absolutely abandon the plan to kill the Ghost Leader, turn around, and say, "Next time, for sure."

Although Lin Yuan had defeated Yang Jing multiple times, he deeply admired this defeated subordinate.

He won in strength, but lost miserably in character.

"What kind of secret does the Ghost Leader have?"

"To make Yang Jing willing to sacrifice his life just for a glimpse!" With this thought, Lin Yuan was filled with curiosity.

Without hesitation, he injected energy into the Heavenly Eye, and after a moment, the Heavenly Eye projected an image in front of Lin Yuan.

This image was from Yang Jing's perspective.

At the bottom of the lake, there was a Buddha hall.

Inside the hall, there was a Buddha statue.

No...

Lin Yuan's pupils contracted; it was not a single Buddha statue, but two.

The one in front was the World Honored Buddha Statue he had seen before.

The slightly smaller statue behind it was in an extremely bizarre posture, closely adhering to the one in front.

And that slightly smaller Buddha statue was astonishingly modeled after the Ghost Leader.

The image froze here, with nothing else beyond this.

Honest to say, Lin Yuan couldn't understand it.

"Could the hope of defeating the Ghost Leader lie in these two Buddha statues?" Lin Yuan murmured to himself.

At this moment, the voice of his little sister-in-law sounded in his ears; without him noticing, she had come up.

"That's not a Buddha statue; it's the remains of the World Honored."

Lin Yuan: "?????"

Lin Yuan was even more confused. What are the remains of the World Honored?

Seeing Lin Yuan's confusion, his sister-in-law proactively explained, "Just as humans have a lifespan that eventually ends, so do evil spirits."

"Even entities like the World Honored and the Rebirth Saint Mother, revered as deities in the mysterious world, face this reality."

"It's just that, compared to ordinary humans, their lifespans are much longer."

"But long does not mean limitless."

"Every Rebirth Saint Mother, after dying, seals their power in the coffin, to be inherited by the next Rebirth Saint Mother. After inheriting the relics of the previous generation, the next Rebirth Saint Mother can rapidly grow."

"Compared to the Rebirth Saint Mother, the World Honored is stronger, and in this regard, far more absolute."

"The Rebirth Saint Mother uses her power to empower the next generation, whereas the World Honored redeems himself."

"Whenever his lifespan nears its end, the World Honored seals all his power into his physical body, which is then kept by his most loyal followers."

"This physical body is called by the followers as the remains, and after being worshipped by them, it absorbs their beliefs, acquiring even greater power."

"It's rumored that if the World Honored successfully merges nine such remains into one through nine lifetimes of cultivation, he will possess the power to rule all worlds."

The World Honored is a top master in the mysterious world, and if placed in their world, he would undoubtedly be invincible.

Lin Yuan wasn't sure whether nine World Honored as one could rule all universes, but to rule their world, certainly no problem.

Realizing this, Lin Yuan hurriedly asked his sister-in-law, "How many lifetimes is the World Honored in now?"

His sister-in-law shook her head and said, "I don't know!"

"The secret of the World Honored's cultivation across lifetimes can't possibly be known by outsiders. Even every past Rebirth Saint Mother only knows a few insignificant details."

"The worship of the remains is not much of a secret, so I could recognize it."

"Though I don't know how many lifetimes the World Honored has been through, in the mysterious world, there are currently four remains worshipped."

"Including the one of the Ghost Leader, that makes five." She paused before adding, "Of course, there might be some that haven't appeared yet."

Lin Yuan nodded; if it were only five, it wouldn't threaten their world.

Even seven or eight, no big deal.

Because the World Honored's lifespan is extraordinarily long.

Accumulating a lifetime's power takes an incredibly long time, possibly hundreds or even thousands of years.

Therefore, there's no immediate threat to them.

Given the current situation, it's uncertain if humanity can even continue, let alone consider such a distant future.

Next, Lin Yuan pointed at the slightly smaller Buddha statue closely attached to the remains of the World Honored and asked, "What is this?"

"Why does it seem to resemble the Ghost Leader?"

His sister-in-law nodded, saying solemnly, "It doesn't just resemble; this is indeed the Ghost Leader."

"I had mentioned that the Ghost Leader by the lake just now seemed peculiar."

"Turns out it was merely his soul; his physical body is here."

Lin Yuan: "???????"

Lin Yuan felt increasingly bewildered; now he had the sensation of not being well-read enough.

The matter of the World Honored's remains had just been understood with difficulty.

Now the Ghost Leader's physical body seemed even more mystical.

"No way?"

"This is the Ghost Leader's physical body? And what I fought with was his soul?"

"Are you sure? How can a soul exist apart from the body, let alone possess such formidable fighting prowess?" Lin Yuan was utterly perplexed.

"Humans naturally cannot!"

"But evil spirits can!" his sister-in-law declared solemnly.

Chapter 257: Ghost Leader Stealing the Power of the World Honored

Upon hearing this, a bold idea emerged in Lin Yuan's mind.

"You mean, he also abandoned his flesh, turning himself into an evil spirit."

"An evil spirit that retained its own consciousness and looks identical to a human?" Lin Yuan asked tentatively.

Turning a human into a deceitful being while also possessing the abilities of an evil spirit, even its long life.

It seems like there's nothing wrong with it.

But, if this method were to spread.

Would those humans struggling to survive not eagerly follow suit?

By then, everyone transforming into deceitful beings would lead to humanity's extinction.

If this speculation is true.

Then, it's simply anti-human.

Little Sister nodded, acknowledging Lin Yuan's words: "Yes, that's what it means."

Even though Little Sister confirmed the answer.

Lin Yuan was still somewhat puzzled.

It shouldn't be like this!

If ordinary people facing survival crises turned themselves into deceitful beings as a last resort, it could be understandable.

Logically, the Ghost Leader faced no survival crisis!

Moreover, he had other means of acquiring power.

For instance, by transplanting a particularly powerful tattoo on himself?

Why abandon being a human to become an aberrant?

This doesn't make sense!

"What is he after?" Lin Yuan frowned and asked, puzzled.

Little Sister pointed to the image of the World Honored's remains and said, "He's after this!"

"Connecting his flesh and the World Honored's remains are one hundred and eight wooden nails. The upper body with thirty-six nails is crafted from willow wood. The lower body with seventy-two nails is made of locust wood."

"Willow and locust trees are woods capable of connecting with the yin; he used one hundred and eight wooden nails to link his flesh and the World Honored's remains."

"If I'm not mistaken, he is stealing the World Honored's power."

After hearing Little Sister's assessment, Lin Yuan asked in shock, "Is there such power-stealing magic in the Mysterious World?"

Little Sister shook her head and said, "There shouldn't be, at least not that I know of."

"He couldn't possibly let others have this, so eighty percent chance, he invented this method himself."

Stealing the World Honored's power?

Then, the reason for the Ghost Leader breaking through to Tier Four is found.

On the surface, he appeared as the World Honored's spokesperson in this world.

In reality, the Ghost Leader hadn't truly submitted to the World Honored, nor was he sincerely working for him.

Everything he did was solely to steal the power of the World Honored's remains.

The Ghost Leader played the World Honored.

He even harbored thoughts of replacing him.

The Ghost Leader is a genius!

He even created a method to steal the World Honored's power himself.

This is the Ghost Leader's secret!

He is stealing the World Honored's power; this matter absolutely must not be known by anyone.

"Destroy the Ghost Leader's flesh and the World Honored's remains; the flesh is the boat, and the soul is the one riding the boat."

"The reason the Ghost Leader is strong is that the flesh continuously feeds power back to the soul."

"Destroy his flesh, and he will become a rootless duckweed, surely defeated!" Little Sister shared her thoughts.

As the encyclopedia of the Mysterious World, Little Sister's judgment should be correct.

However, there is a hurdle now.

How to destroy it?

They only knew the Ghost Leader's flesh and the World Honored's remains were at the lake's bottom but had no idea of the exact location.

In this case, they could only split into two paths.

Lin Yuan would restrain the Ghost Leader, then send a team to destroy the Ghost Leader's flesh.

After thinking it through, Lin Yuan decided to discuss with Ye Qing first.

After all, the operation plan to eliminate the Deceitful King Faction was to be coordinated with the authorities.

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Peng City.

Official shelter.

In Yang Dingguo's office at the underground base.

Lin Yuan and Yang Dingguo were in a video conference with Ye Qing.

Initially, when Lin Yuan mentioned that the Ghost Leader was at Tier Four, both were startled.

Because, if they weren't confident in eliminating the Ghost Leader, the plan to eradicate the Deceitful King Faction would have to be put on hold.

After all, the Ghost Leader in the open presents less threat than the one hidden.

If they destroyed Lin'an City, eliminated the Deceitful King Faction but didn't solve the Ghost Leader.

Then, a Tier Four retaliation would be unbearable for them.

Immediately, Lin Yuan shared the secrets Yang Jing had glimpsed with his life with the two of them.

This, for them, was indeed good news.

"Before the deceitful invasion, this Ghost Leader was unbeatable in the business arena. His vision exceeds ordinary people."

"Regrettably, such intelligence was not applied in a proper way!" Yang Dingguo expressed appreciation for the Ghost Leader's intellect.

Ye Qing paused for a moment and suggested, "Let Lin Yuan restrain the Ghost Leader, then have Jian Bing, Meng Zhang, Ling Guang, and Zhi Ming responsible for destroying the Ghost Leader's flesh, how about that?"

Lin Yuan shook his head and said, "Perhaps, the Ghost Leader may have other Tier Five under him!"

"Moreover, the target of a Tier Five Life Pattern Master is too large. Even if I hold back the Ghost Leader, they will find it difficult to infiltrate the Deceitful King Faction headquarters."

"Now Lin'an City must be in chaos. I think it might actually be easier for those with slightly weaker strength to sneak in."

Ye Qing, too, is an old hand in intelligence, and he agreed with Lin Yuan's assessment.

The stronger one is, the bigger the target, and the more likely they are to be noticed.

Conversely, those with weaker strength, due to their sheer number, are usually ignored.

Moreover, the Deceitful King Faction headquarters might be filled with a large number of mid to lower-tier Life Pattern Masters.

However, Ye Qing also brought up another issue.

"It's true that those with weaker strength have smaller targets and can mix in more easily!"

"But do they have the ability to destroy the Ghost Leader's physical body?"

"If they can't destroy the Ghost Leader's body, even if they get in, it's useless!" Ye Qing said grimly.

This...

This is indeed a very important issue!

The Ghost Leader is now Tier Four.

So theoretically, his physical body is also Tier Four.

The strength of a Tier Four body can slightly be damaged by a Tier Five.

Below Tier Five, no matter how hard they try, they can't inflict any harm.

"Nuke!"

"Calculate the yield and create a small nuclear bomb."

"Send a Death Warrior to deliver the nuke to the Deceitful King Faction headquarters and detonate it from the inside. It will definitely destroy the Ghost Leader's physical body!" Yang Dingguo said firmly.

Lin Yuan looked at Yang Dingguo, thinking, Old Yang, you're a ruthless person!

Lin Yuan himself is a Tier Four, and his strength is formidable.

But if you ask him whether he can withstand a nuclear bomb.

The answer is definitely no.

In fact, Lin Yuan believes that not only Tier Four, but even Tier Three can't withstand a nuclear bomb.

Given how powerful a nuclear bomb is, why doesn't the government use it to deal with Evil Spirits?

The answer is also clear: the cons outweigh the pros.

First, most places with Evil Spirits typically have human settlements nearby.

Because Evil Spirits use humans as blood food, they definitely aren't too far apart.

There are Evil Spirits far from humans, but they pose little threat to people, so why nuke them?

Nuking Evil Spirits, their death isn't guaranteed, but human death is certain.

The most crucial point is that Evil Spirits come in waves.

Even if you nuke one wave, another will arrive.

The area hit by a nuke won't affect the survival of Evil Spirits. Conversely, humans can't continue living there.

The idea of using nukes on Evil Spirits has been proposed before.

Some countries have even experimented with it.

After trying, everyone abandoned the idea.

However, currently, using it to destroy the Ghost Leader's physical body seems like a good method.

Finally, after the three of them discussed it, they agreed to Yang Dingguo's proposal.

Together, they drafted a detailed plan.

Now, all that remains is for the official Life Pattern Masters from all over to assemble and form a siege around Lin'an City.

The final assault on the Deceitful King Faction can commence.

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At the same time.

Inside Lin'an City, chaos reigned.

Yang Jing first killed Wei Tian and Feng Wuji, then battled the Ghost Leader by the lake.

Reportedly, the Ghost Leader was forced back to headquarters by a mysterious person.

Now, within the Deceitful King Faction, panic is widespread.

Within the Liu Family's safe house.

Patriarch Liu sat there, his face full of worry.

Yang Chan fled using the Liu Family's Teleportation Gate, while Yang Jing revolted.

With this incident, the Liu Family is essentially at odds with the Ghost Leader.

Thus, the Liu Family's direct lineage has all been moved to the safe house.

Right now, the entire Deceitful King Faction is in turmoil and likely couldn't bother to find them.

"Big brother!" Liu Family's second brother pushed the door open and entered.

Seeing his brother, Patriarch Liu asked, "Are all the family brats gathered?"

"They're all outside!" Liu Family's second brother replied.

Upon hearing this, Patriarch Liu asked, "What's the situation outside?"

"Wei Tian and Feng Wuji were killed by Yang Jing, and Yang Jing was killed by the Ghost Leader!"

"Lin Yuan also came, but seemed to be late, only taking away Yang Jing's body."

"The Ghost Leader doesn't seem to be a match for Lin Yuan; they fought by the lake for a while, and he was forced back to headquarters," Liu Family's second brother summarized briefly.

Hearing that the Ghost Leader was forced to retreat, Patriarch Liu ordered, "Don't wait any longer, send all the family brats to Peng City."

"Big brother, shouldn't we wait and see?" Liu Family's second brother tentatively asked.

Sending all their children to Peng City means completely betting on it.

Betting that Peng City will completely dismantle the Deceitful King Faction this time.

After all, with their children at someone else's, they must obediently comply.

Even to the point of not having their own ideas.

Chapter 258: The Liu Family Willingly Becomes an Inside Agent

Old Liu of the Liu Family wondered if they could wait a bit longer.

Currently, the turmoil within Lin'an City is quite significant. But in the end, it is considered an internal conflict.

The official forces have yet to break into Lin'an City.

It's like a gambling game at the table; going all in now would be premature!

However, Patriarch Liu did not agree.

"Adding flowers to brocade can never compare to sending charcoal in the snow!" Patriarch Liu said solemnly: "Everything we are doing is for these little kids of the Liu Family!"

"The more we do now, the less likely the official forces will neglect them in the future."

"Lin Yuan daring to risk coming to save Yang Jing shows he's not someone who breaks promises!"

At this point, Patriarch Liu seemed unwilling to waste any more time explaining.

The longer the delay, the more unfavorable it becomes for them.

"Proceed, send them away as soon as possible!" Patriarch Liu waved his hand and said.

Patriarch Liu, in the whole Liu Family, is beyond reproach, possessing absolute authority.

Because, twenty to thirty years ago, the Liu Family was still a destitute household in a mountain village.

The Liu Family's current glory was all brought by him.

The honor that illuminates everyone in the Liu Family is merely the reflection of Patriarch Liu's brilliance.

It's akin to the founding emperor being able to easily control the court, while successors find it difficult to replicate.

When Patriarch Liu made a decision exceeding expectations, everyone else could only comply.

Old Liu of the Liu Family dared not say more, went to execute his elder brother's orders.

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About twenty minutes later.

Old Liu of the Liu Family returned, telling Patriarch Liu: "Brother, they're all sent away!"

After saying this, Old Liu placed a small bronze model door on Patriarch Liu's desk.

It was evidently the Liu Family's Teleportation Gate.

"Brother, there's only one left."

"You keep it; if absolutely necessary, it can be used for escape."

"In the future, live as a common person with a concealed identity!" Old Liu said in a heavy tone.

Having sent away the Liu Family's children, the Teleportation Gate was consumed entirely.

Now, there was only this last one left.

This is not just the last Teleportation Gate, but also the last hope for survival.

Patriarch Liu merely glanced at the Teleportation Gate, then asked: "Found the whereabouts of the Huang Family yet?"

Not only Ghost Leader is sending people to look for the Huang Family, but Patriarch Liu is also trying to find them.

However, Ghost Leader seeks out the Huang Family to destroy them.

Patriarch Liu, on the other hand, wants to form an alliance with them.

Now, both the Liu Family and the Huang Family have completely broken away from Ghost Leader and simultaneously offended other members of the Deceitful King Faction.

Everyone in the Deceitful King Faction is seeking them out, and once found, it will be to peel their skin, pull their tendons, eat their flesh, drink their blood.

At this point, only an alliance between the Liu Family and the Huang Family can withstand longer.

Indeed, Patriarch Liu merely wishes to withstand longer.

Ideally, he could witness the official forces eliminate the Deceitful King Faction, capturing Lin'an City.

As for survival, preserving the Liu Family, he has never harbored any hope.

"Brother, we made contact!"

"But they dare not leave their safe house. They said if negotiations are required, you need to go to them," Old Liu's tone was somewhat heavy.

Now, throughout Lin'an City, troops from the Deceitful King Faction are patrolling everywhere.

They are seeking none other than people from the Liu Family and the Huang Family.

To go out now, one is at risk of encountering danger at any time.

The people of the Huang Family, cowardly and timid, dare not venture outside, wanting the Liu Family to undertake the risk.

Upon hearing this, Patriarch Liu frowned deeply.

Frankly, Patriarch Liu somewhat underestimated Patriarch Huang.

But at this moment, such concerns were no longer a priority.

After all, aside from the Huang Family, it's impossible to find other allies!

"Alright!" Patriarch Liu agreed, instructing: "Prepare, I will go meet him."

Upon hearing that his elder brother was going to meet the Huang Family, Old Liu suddenly became anxious, saying gravely: "Brother, it's not safe outside now!"

"How about you stay here; I'll go instead...."

Patriarch Liu waved his hand, interrupting Old Liu: "This time's operation, the Liu Family needs to occupy the leading position."

"You're not up to it; if you go, you won't achieve the objective."

Patriarch Liu's words were blunt but logical.

With Patriarch Liu negotiating personally, he could dominate Patriarch Huang.

But what importance is Old Liu of the Liu Family?

Even if Patriarch Huang is inadequate, he's still a Family Head. How could Old Liu of the Liu Family compare!

If Old Liu went to negotiate, he definitely wouldn't be able to secure the leading position.

"This..."

"This...this...." All remaining words from Old Liu were stifled in his throat.

After all, he himself was quite clear that he wasn't qualified for such matters.

In the end, the second brother of the Liu Family couldn't argue with his elder brother and had no choice but to arrange manpower to escort the elder brother to the Huang Family's safe house.

Fortunately, the Liu Family members weren't reckless and they handled everything very meticulously.

The journey was relatively smooth, without alerting the patrolling members of the Deceitful King Faction, and they safely arrived at the Huang Family's safe house.

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Outskirts of the city.

Inside the Huang Family's safe house.

"Old Liu, you finally made it!"

"I missed you to death!" Upon seeing the Patriarch Liu, Patriarch Huang warmly came forward to greet him.

Patriarch Liu chuckled lightly and said, "We just met a few days ago at the meeting."

Such are the uncertainties of the world.

Just a few days ago, they were having a secret meeting at the Deceitful King Faction's headquarters under the lake, discussing how to deal with the authorities.

Unexpectedly, in just a few days, they found themselves standing on the opposite side of the Deceitful King Faction.

When Patriarch Liu said this, the atmosphere around them suddenly became a little awkward.

Although Patriarch Huang was not as farsighted as Patriarch Liu or the Ghost Leader, he was also a shrewd person.

"Old Liu!"

"You don't know, but every day feels like a year to me now!"

"I really don't know what to do!" continued Patriarch Huang.

Ignoring him, Patriarch Liu sat down on his own and spoke bluntly, "The Ghost Leader is clearly planning to take the lives of both our families!"

"Hiding indefinitely isn't a solution, it won't be long before they find us."

"When that time comes, it's also a certain death."

"Since it's only a matter of time before we're dead, we might as well do something big before we die."

Patriarch Liu had already resolved to fight to the death with the Ghost Leader.

However, clearly, Patriarch Huang still hadn't made up his mind.

With a face full of grievance, Patriarch Huang said reluctantly, "Old Liu, I've been wronged so terribly, I'm more unjustly treated than Dou E!"

"I merely sent someone to communicate privately with the authorities, and couldn't even reach an agreement. Who would have thought that the news would leak!"

"Now, I can't clear my name even if I jump into the Yellow River!"

The Liu Family contributed the research results of the Teleportation Gate, sent the Teleportation Gate to help Lin Yuan break through, rescued Yang Chan, and led Yang Jing to kill the two Tier Five experts, Feng Wuji and Wei Tian.

They even uncovered the Ghost Leader's secret.

Despite all this, the authorities only pardoned the underage members of the Liu Family, while the adults still had to face legal judgment.

So, the negotiations between the Huang Family and the authorities were destined to fail.

The value of their bargaining chip was far less than what they wanted to exchange for.

On matters of principle, the authorities would never give in.

The negotiations were not only fruitless for the Huang Family, but they were also sold out by the authorities.

This was truly a case of trying to steal a chicken only to end up losing the rice used to lure it.

"I don't want to hear you say all this, I just want to know what the Huang Family plans to do next?"

"Will you continue hiding like mice, or will you make a desperate gamble?" asked Patriarch Liu.

Patriarch Huang looked at Patriarch Liu and asked, "You helped them rescue Yang Chan, right?"

"What terms did the authorities offer you?"

"Could they possibly pardon us?"

Patriarch Liu shook his head and replied solemnly, "On matters of principle, the authorities won't make concessions."

"There are certain things you must do before you can be entitled to ask for results."

"Instead of asking for outcomes without having done anything."

Patriarch Liu's words left Patriarch Huang speechless.

Seemingly undecided, Patriarch Huang gathered the core members of the Huang Family for a discussion.

After an intense debate, Patriarch Liu finally managed to convince them to fight alongside him and gained the lead in this cooperation.

However, this leadership was not obtained for free.

Patriarch Liu exchanged the last Teleportation Gate to gain the leadership position.

"Brother, that's the only Teleportation Gate left!"

"How could you give it to the Huang Family!" exclaimed the second brother of the Liu Family angrily after leaving.

To him, that wasn't just a Teleportation Gate, it was his brother's lifeline!

Patriarch Liu was unfazed and simply said, "I'm not planning to escape."

After reaching an agreement with the Huang Family and returning to the Liu Family's safe house.

Patriarch Liu used a special communicator to send a brief message to Lin Yuan.

The message was simple, just six words.

And those six words were....

The Liu Family volunteers to be an insider.

At this time, Ye Qing's forces were deployed to encircle the outskirts of Lin'an City, with the Liu Family acting as insiders on the inside.

It could be said that the Deceitful King's doom had come!

Chapter 259: The Final Assault Begins

Seven days later.

The forces dispatched by Ye Qing have already arrived near Lin'an City.

A massive net targeting the Deceitful King Faction has been thoroughly woven into shape.

The time for the final reckoning has come.

At this moment, the Deceitful King Faction has already received the news internally.

The Ghost Leader has forcibly gathered forces from the other seven families, preparing to defend Lin'an City to the death and resist the official forces to the end.

For the Ghost Leader, Lin'an City must not be lost.

Or rather, the headquarters of the Deceitful King Faction cannot afford any loss.

His flesh is unable to move during the process of stealing power from the World Honored's remains.

Once moved, it would all be for naught.

Give him three more months, and he would be able to fully absorb the power of this World Honored's remains.

By then, he has a great chance to step into Tier Three.

Keep in mind, even in the Mysterious World, Tier Three is capable of achieving sainthood and establishing a sect.

If he breaks through to Tier Three in the Real World, then all the official forces, Lin Yuan, would have to bow to him.

He decides who lives and who dies.

A few days ago, the Ghost Leader was still searching for the whereabouts of the Liu Family and Huang Family.

Many strongholds of the Liu Family and Huang Family have been eradicated by the Ghost Leader, and many members died at his hands.

Moreover, the Ghost Leader directly hung their bodies on streetlights in Lin'an City, seemingly warning others that this is the fate of traitors.

Recently, life has not been easy for the Liu Family and Huang Family.

Under the Ghost Leader's command, various factions of the Deceitful King Faction have united to conduct a thorough search in the city.

Even, if they continue searching, the safe houses of Patriarch Liu and Patriarch Huang are at certain risk.

Fortunately, the official forces arrived just in time!

At the critical moment, the arrival of the official forces made the Ghost Leader redirect his search power to face the official forces.

Suddenly, the pressure on the Liu Family and Huang Family was greatly alleviated.

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"Patriarch Liu, we meet again?" Lin Yuan's voice appeared in Patriarch Liu's office.

Seeing Lin Yuan suddenly appear in his office, Patriarch Liu was startled.

Just now, Lin Yuan merely asked him his location through the communicator.

He just sent over his location, and in the next moment, Lin Yuan was right in front of him.

To know, he only gave Lin Yuan two Teleportation Gates in total.

Those two Teleportation Gates should have been used up, right?

Having experienced great events, after a brief shock, Patriarch Liu's expression quickly returned to normal.

"Mr. Lin, apologies for not welcoming you!" Patriarch Liu smiled.

What kind of apology for not welcoming!

Lin Yuan didn't need him to welcome, he just came right in.

After sitting down, Lin Yuan said with a smile to Patriarch Liu: "Patriarch Liu seems to have great enlightenment?"

Hearing Lin Yuan's tease, Patriarch Liu smiled bitterly: "Unfortunately, this enlightenment came a bit late!"

The two chatted briefly, and Lin Yuan informed Patriarch Liu that the Liu Family's children had been arranged properly.

Hearing this, Patriarch Liu couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

The fate of these old guys is sealed, those children are the hope of the Liu Family.

"If you need something from our Liu Family, just say it!" Patriarch Liu said straightforwardly.

Since Patriarch Liu was so forthright, Lin Yuan didn't beat around the bush.

He said directly: "We need the Liu Family to cooperate internally and externally and create some commotion in the city."

Coordination inside and outside, blooming from the center.

The Liu Family is like a bomb buried in Lin'an City; once exploded, it would make the city completely chaotic.

By then, the final assault will officially commence.

"Certainly, not a problem."

"Not just us, the Huang Family can join in too!"

"I've already reached an agreement with the Huang Family, successfully gaining control of their power," Patriarch Liu said slowly.

Hearing this, Lin Yuan looked at Patriarch Liu with an odd expression.

Goodness, he has a couple of tricks up his sleeve!

In such an almost desperate situation, being able to persuade Patriarch Huang to hand over their power to him for deployment.

Then, Lin Yuan continued to ask: "Are your Liu Family members familiar with the Deceitful King Faction headquarters at the lake bottom?"

Hearing Lin Yuan ask this, Patriarch Liu was taken aback.

He then responded: "I know the general layout, there's also a rough map of the terrain inside."

"However, only the general public areas are known."

"The Deceitful King Faction base at the lake bottom was the Ghost Leader's data center before the mysterious invasion. It's his domain, areas involving confidential information, even I have no access."

Lin Yuan thought for a moment, the Liu Family knowing some rough details is better than them being completely in the dark.

The task of destroying the Ghost Leader's flesh needed some guides.

"We have a team that needs to infiltrate the Deceitful King Faction headquarters to carry out a secret mission."

"We need someone familiar with the terrain to guide us!" Lin Yuan paused here, emphasizing, "This is a mission with certain death, those who undertake it have a ninety percent chance of not returning."

"You should carefully consider the choice of guide."

Lin Yuan did not tell Patriarch Liu the specifics of the mission, just spoke in general terms.

Patriarch Liu was smart; he didn't ask much, just nodded and replied, "Alright, I will make appropriate arrangements."

"Wait for my message. As soon as it arrives, act immediately!" With that, Lin Yuan vanished from the spot.

This time Lin Yuan came only to touch base with Patriarch Liu and confirm the situation on the Liu Family side.

The Liu Family's preparations were far more thorough than he had imagined, and they even pulled in the Huang Family.

With this, Lin Yuan felt reassured.

Everything is ready; we can launch the full attack at any time.

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"Bang!"

"Bang! Bang!"

As several violent explosions sounded, it marked the beginning of the end for the Deceitful King Faction.

At this moment, the Liu Family and Huang Family had detonated several resource warehouses of the Deceitful King Faction.

The successive explosions threw the entire Lin'an City into chaos.

Simultaneously, Lin Yuan once again arrived at the lakeside.

He was about to engage in a life-and-death battle with the Ghost Leader; their battle was truly the key to winning this fight.

"Ghost Leader, come out!"

"You should know better than I what's at the lake bottom!"

"I reckon you don't want to battle at the lake bottom either!" Lin Yuan stood by the lake, his voice echoing across the surface.

Below was the Deceitful King Faction headquarters; Lin Yuan couldn't say whether there were any traps inside against him.

Thus, it's best to fight above if possible.

At the lake bottom, the Ghost Leader's expression was sour; he naturally understood Lin Yuan was talking about him stealing power from the World Honored.

"How does he know?"

"On that day, Yang Jing was clearly dead, his soul scattered!"

"Could it be that Lin Yuan has the ability to make a corpse speak?" The Ghost Leader's face was full of incredulity.

Having said thus much, the Ghost Leader had no choice but to come out and confront him.

At this moment, he also didn't want Lin Yuan to come down.

The energy fluctuations in a battle between Tier Four are too great; the Ghost Leader feared damaging his own flesh vessel.

The reason he escaped to the lake bottom last time was out of necessity.

Then, he'd been injured, and continuing to fight Lin Yuan was disadvantageous to him.

Escaping to the lake bottom was the only option left.

Now, after days of healing, his injuries were mostly healed.

Since both he and Lin Yuan are Tier Four, he does not fear Lin Yuan.

As Lin Yuan's voice echoed on the lake surface, the Ghost Leader soon appeared before him.

The two were about ten meters apart, the Ghost Leader still radiated the aura of an old farmer, with not a trace of energy on him.

"You've finally come out!"

"I thought you'd stay turtled at the lake bottom, continuing to be a cowardly turtle!" Lin Yuan teased.

At these words, the Ghost Leader's face sank, he coldly remarked, "Last time, I was injured, so I let you have your way."

"Now, my wounds have healed. Lin Yuan, you still dare to come, how insolent!"

"When the tiger doesn't show its power, you really think I'm just a sick cat?"

Lin Yuan sized up the Ghost Leader, with mockery said, "You really don't say, I do think of you as a sick cat."

"Don't forget, you were beaten by Yang Jing!"

"A Tier Four injured by a Tier Five, how could you not be a sick cat?"

At Lin Yuan's words, the Ghost Leader's face turned instantly grim.

A Tier Four being injured by a Tier Five is an utter disgrace!

This level of insult only falls short of the Jade Emperor being beaten by a monkey.

"Lin Yuan, stop with the cheap talk!"

"Officially, there is only one Tier Four expert like you."

"Between you and me, it's hard to decide a winner. As long as I don't die, even if the Deceitful King Faction is eradicated, what can you do?"

"Rebuilding a Deceitful King Faction, for me, is a breeze."

"If the officials withdraw troops, I will offer Lin'an City, nominally submit to the authorities. I can let the officials manage ordinary people while I manage the Life Pattern Master."

"How is this deal?" The Ghost Leader said slowly.

The reason the Ghost Leader said this was to tell Lin Yuan, continuing to fight is meaningless.

Even the authorities eradicating the Deceitful King Faction is a meaningless act.

Moreover, he had already offered a price he deemed very suitable.

Lin Yuan looked at the Ghost Leader, solemnly said, "Once you draw the bow, there's no turning back!"

"Enough of this nonsense, let's fight!"

Chapter 260: The Ghost Leader's Ant Body

Lin Yuan stood there, holding Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword.

In Lin Yuan's hand, Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword emitted a visible blood-red aura.

The Ghost Leader stared at Lin Yuan, his brow furrowed, cold, but he said no more.

At this moment, speaking further was useless.

The Ghost Leader had already offered the highest price he could, being a smart man, seeing no more to discuss.

Then, he simply chose not to speak.

The Ghost Leader waved his hand gently, and endless red clouds spread around, instantly covering the surrounding space.

The bright red clouds were filled with a bloody smell, carrying a power capable of corroding everything.

In an instant, red clouds filled the air.

Lin Yuan held Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword in front of him, and the sword emitted a crimson sword aura and sword light.

Endless sword aura and sword light enveloped Lin Yuan, and although the Ghost Leader's red cloud covered a vast range, it struggled to breach Lin Yuan's vicinity.

At this moment, the two had not yet truly engaged in battle; this was merely a collision of their realms.

Nonetheless, the energy spilling out was enough to make a normal Tier Five quake with fear.

After the realms collided, the Ghost Leader was the first to make a move.

With a flick of fingers, countless scarlet clouds gathered behind him.

In moments, a giant blood-red ant, formed from the red mist, appeared behind him.

This blood-red ant stood at least ten meters tall, with a length of twenty or thirty meters, its mandibles as grim as scythes.

Its abdomen moved with several sturdy gigantic legs, making this giant red ant look more like a prehistoric Tyrannosaurus than an ant.

The giant ant swiftly lunged at Lin Yuan, its eyes blood red.

The giant ant possessed no intelligence; its every move was controlled by the Ghost Leader.

Including its lunge at Lin Yuan.

Seeing the giant ant charging at himself.

Lin Yuan's expression changed, feeling a strange sense of irony.

Could it be that this ant was here to collect a debt from him?

The Ghost Leader seemed to have an unusual attachment to ants, as if destined by fate with them.

This blood-red giant ant was terrifyingly huge, and next to it, Lin Yuan seemed more like an ant himself.

After a brief consideration, Lin Yuan used the power of Zhong Kui's avatar.

The next moment, he transformed into a giant over ten meters tall.

At Tier Five, when Lin Yuan used Zhong Kui's avatar, he resembled Zhong Kui more than himself.

Now, after breaking through Tier Four, using Zhong Kui's avatar, the figure that appeared no longer bore Zhong Kui's features, but was a magnified version of himself.

Most crucially, using Zhong Kui's avatar now was effortless, no longer bringing about the uncontrollable, even demonic image of before.

After all, the Ghost Leader was also Tier Four. Being of the same tier, he could still earn Lin Yuan's attention.

Merely using Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword's power, Lin Yuan worried he might not match the Ghost Leader.

Hence, he also summoned the Soul-Luring Lamp and Qiankun Umbrella.

"Crack!"

"Crack! Crack!"

As the red light surged, Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword, Qiankun Umbrella, and Soul-Luring Lamp merged into the Iron Blood Demon Bone Fan.

After breaking through Tier Four, using this Iron Blood Demon Bone Fan made him truly realize its power as a divine weapon.

Lin Yuan swung the Iron Blood Demon Bone Fan, a mass of scarlet flames burst forth, swiftly covering the giant ant.

The flames burned mercilessly, the gigantic blood-red ant gradually turned into ashes under the scarlet fire.

"Ant resurrection."

The Ghost Leader's voice sounded, with an incredibly strange tone.

The next moment, the pile of ashes formed from the giant blood-red ant kept surging.

Then, dozens of red ants crawled out from it, numbering in hundreds.

These red ants grew with the wind, in moments, becoming as large as the ant that was burned to death before.

"I really stepped into a damn ant's nest!" Lin Yuan cursed, moving swiftly, and entered the swarm of ants.

Lin Yuan instantly moved behind one ant and shook the Iron Blood Demon Bone Fan in his hand, slicing its body in two.

Simultaneously, he infused a Power of Annihilation into its remains, preventing it from resurrecting again.

Afterward, Lin Yuan moved constantly, and as he moved, one blood-red ant after another was sliced in half.

The lakeside was a mess, with ant corpses scattered everywhere, horizontally and vertically.

In just a few dozen seconds, all the blood-red ants summoned by the Ghost Leader were dealt with by Lin Yuan.

"Such childish tricks, stop using them, alright?"

"Ghost Leader, show your true skills!" Lin Yuan said in a deep voice.

The Ghost Leader sized Lin Yuan up and down, smiled slightly, and said, "You're stronger than I imagined!"

"I'm a bit curious, how exactly did you break through?"

Lin Yuan said mockingly, "In any case, not by some thief-like method."

Thief?

There's no doubt that Lin Yuan was referring to the matter of him stealing the World Honored's power.

Lin Yuan wasn't just subtly criticizing; he was blatantly slapping the Ghost Leader in the face!

"Ant Empire!"

"Ant Throne!"

The Ghost Leader seemed a bit angry, letting out a low growl, causing the surrounding red mist to churn continuously.

Soon, above Lin Yuan's head, a beast-like palace in the shape of an ant rapidly formed.

Then, it moved to envelop Lin Yuan.

There's no doubt, this ant-shaped palace should be the so-called Ant Empire.

And the purpose of this Ant Empire is to imprison Lin Yuan.

The next moment, a red hue overwhelmed Lin Yuan's vision, and he found himself in a majestic palace.

On both sides of the palace were ant soldiers holding weapons, and on the stone pillars of the hall were carved images of ants devouring dragons.

It was clear that he greatly admired ants.

Though the power of individual ants was insignificant, if united, they possessed the ability to devour everything.

Looking forward, at the highest point of the palace.

He could see the Ghost Leader sitting on a throne made up of countless densely packed ants.

The throne beneath him would absolutely terrify anyone with trypophobia.

At this moment, the Ghost Leader on the throne looked down with contempt at Lin Yuan and said, "Lin Yuan, today, you will surely die."

"From the moment we met, you fell into my trap."

"Did you really think those enveloping things outside were actually mist?"

Upon hearing this, Lin Yuan seemingly realized a serious issue.

And that was, the red mist covering the surroundings wasn't actually mist.

But a mass of tiny red ants.

The ants forming the red mist were exceedingly tiny, making them hard to detect.

"Ants?"

"Those red mists are made up of ants as small as mustard seeds?" Lin Yuan feigned panic.

It is said, "Sumeru Mustard Seed Containment."

Mustard seed in the cultivation world is used as a metaphor for the smallest unit.

"I was momentarily careless, missed this observation!"

"Ghost Leader, what exactly do you intend to do?" Lin Yuan's tone seemed to carry a hint of fear.

At this time, the Ghost Leader seated on the throne said disdainfully, "Those ants have already entered your body with your breath."

"With just one command from me, these tiny ants will begin to devour your organs, heart, liver, spleen, lungs, intestines, flesh, and even your soul."

"Lin Yuan, submit to me, and I will spare your life."

Upon hearing this, Lin Yuan's anger instantly exploded, shouting furiously, "Submit to you? Absolutely not!"

"If you dare, kill me!"

Sure enough, as soon as Lin Yuan said this, the Ghost Leader seemed angered as well.

His hands formed seals, mouth murmuring, chanting spells.

Beginning to manipulate these miniature ants to devour Lin Yuan's organs.

The next moment, Lin Yuan fell to the ground, convulsing, and began to spew blood foam from his mouth.

It seemed he was truly caught by the Ghost Leader's treachery, lying lifeless on the ground.

After convulsing for a good ten minutes, Lin Yuan stopped moving entirely, and his aura gradually faded.

Could he truly be dead?

The Ghost Leader, seated on the ant throne, manipulated his throne to gently land beside Lin Yuan.

He seemed to want to check whether Lin Yuan was truly dead or faking it.

As if by magic, at the moment when Lin Yuan seemed breathless, he suddenly sprang into the air.

With lightning speed, he swung the Iron Blood Demon Bone Fan, striking at the Ghost Leader.

"Clang!"

A crisp sound rang out as the scarlet Energy Wave slashed the Ghost Leader's body in half.

The scarlet Energy Wave pierced through the Ghost Leader's body, with no blood flowing from his wound.

Instead, the wound clearly revealed densely packed red ants.

No wonder Yang Jing had exhausted his might to leave and strike a final blow, yet the Ghost Leader instantly recovered.

His flesh was now a product of stealing the World Honored's power; his current body was controlled by a soul composed of countless tiny ants like mustard seeds.

Such a body, though not might not be absolutely immortal.

Nonetheless, it's close enough to being immortal.

This ant body is truly, exceedingly peculiar!