

Doctor 351

Chapter 351: Officer Tang, We Meet Again!

Although Tang Wenrou was the smallest in stature and weight among the eight officers, when they appeared in the hotel, the impression was that the slim and graceful Tang Wenrou was more commanding in presence, overshadowing the other seven male officers.

The seven robust and sturdy male officers obediently followed behind Tang Wenrou, occasionally glancing up at her with eyes filled with awe and admiration.

There was no helping it—the newly transferred beautiful leader of the major crimes unit was just too strong. When she first arrived, some under her command who saw her as a delicate woman didn't follow her lead. She ended up disciplining one of them publicly, quite harshly, and from that point on, everyone fell in line.

The officer who was disciplined was said to be a martial artist who, before Tang Wenrou's arrival, was considered unbeatable within the Yanjing police community. Yet, against Tang Wenrou, a few punches and kicks had him crying for his parents and unable to get up.

How could an ordinary martial artist, facing Tang Wenrou—who had an Innate Earth Spirit Root and was already a mid-level Yellow Level Master—possibly be her match?

From then on, the nickname "Police Queen of Brawn" began to circulate within the Yanjing Police Station, and all male officers changed color when talking about their beautiful colleague Tang Wenrou.

Each subordinate in Tang Wenrou's major crimes unit respected and feared their new boss as well.

They respected Tang Wenrou for her diligence and conscientiousness in work. Not long after her transfer to the Yanjing Police Station, she led the team to crack several major cases and was commended by superiors multiple times.

They feared Tang Wenrou for her coldness and violence; anyone skimping on work would face her merciless punishment, and no amount of intervention from others would help.

Just earlier, members of the major crimes unit were in a meeting chaired by Tang Wenrou to summarize recent work. The meeting hadn't ended when someone called Tang Wenrou, who, without a second word, announced the suspension of the meeting. She dropped all ongoing work and, with her seven subordinates, drove through the rain in haste to the scene.

The rain was heavy, and the few male officers entering Yuwei Hotel were almost drenched, feeling somewhat aggrieved within, wondering who had called in at such a time, making them endure the rain as well as hunger, a real torment.

"Officer Tang, we meet again!"

Seeing Tang Wenrou come into view, Fang Bai greeted her with a smile as he stood up.

Su Linglong had known Tang Wenrou back in Zhongzhou and followed behind Fang Bai to meet her.

"Fang Bai, Linglong, we meet again!"

Seeing Fang Bai and Su Linglong standing in front of her, Tang Wenrou's face, which seemed as if it were carved from ice and snow, rarely showed a faint smile.

Although this smile was fleeting, like a glimpse of a startled swan, it was dazzling enough to leave a lasting impression.

The seven male officers following Tang Wenrou, despite having cooperated with her for some time, had never seen her smile before. Now witnessing her slight grin, they were stunned and deduced that this handsome young man and beautiful young woman must have an extraordinary relationship with their female leader.

After briefly exchanging pleasantries with Fang Bai and Su Linglong, Tang Wenrou resumed her cool demeanor and got down to business, carefully inquiring about the situation related to the son of Yuwei Hotel owner Li Fuzhi, and then she chatted with Li Fuzhi's wife Liu Qing and four hotel staff for a while.

"What do you think of this situation?"

Having learned more about the incident from Li Fuzhi and his wife and the four hotel staff, Tang Wenrou asked Fang Bai with a solemn expression.

In others' eyes, Fang Bai was merely a sunny and handsome youth, but Tang Wenrou knew he was a "Master" far removed from the ordinary, often coming up with unexpected ideas leading to pleasant surprises. Therefore, it was essential to ask for his opinion.

Moreover, this incident was clearly targeted at Fang Bai and Su Linglong. Li Fuzhi's son was kidnapped, and ultimately, it was connected to Fang Bai's and Su Linglong's involvement.

So, to Tang Wenrou, Fang Bai couldn't just stand by idly; he had a responsibility, a duty to assist her in solving the case.

And with Fang Bai's abilities, if he were willing to help her, solving the case should become much easier.

"I have offended some people and powers; this time I don't even know who is targeting me. Hah, if the other party were to seek revenge openly, I'd actually appreciate it, but using such despicable and shameless tactics, they deserve to die!"

Although Fang Bai spoke in a calm tone, a cold murderous intent seeped from his eyes.

Tang Wenrou had collaborated with Fang Bai on several occasions and knew that, with that expression and tone of voice, he was determined to get involved in this matter, which made her heart leap with joy.

However, what Tang Wenrou didn't know was that whenever Fang Bai said the words "deserve to die," it meant he was ready to kill someone.

In the world of Fang Bai's past life, personal grudges were often settled through open and fair challenges, and dragging innocent lives into the fray would result in being universally condemned; this was what Fang Bai hated most.

He had just learned that in order to drug him and Su Linglong, the other party had actually kidnapped the son of Li Fuzhi to threaten them, and at that moment, a killing intent rose and spread within Fang Bai's chest.

Those who knew Fang Bai were aware that he wouldn't easily get angry, but once he did, it was terrifying.

No matter who the other party was, or how powerful their connections, Fang Bai had already decided he wouldn't let them go.

If they could kidnap innocent people today to get at him, they might harm his loved ones tomorrow; Fang Bai would never allow such a thing to happen.

And the best way to prevent such events was to make the perpetrator permanently disappear from this world.

"The top priority now is to rescue the boss Li's son from the kidnappers' hands."

Tang Wenrou looked at the distraught Li Fuzhi and his wife, sighed softly in her heart, and said quietly to Fang Bai.

What Tang Wenrou was most worried about now was that upon realizing their plot had been foiled, the kidnappers, in a fit of rage, might harm Li's son.

Fang Bai and Su Linglong exchanged glances, sharing the same concern.

"How about... Fang Bai and I pretend to have eaten the drugged dish now and see what the other party will do next?"

Su Linglong suddenly suggested.

"It's too late."

Tang Wenrou shook her head, glanced out the window, and said, "I'm sure that someone from their side is watching us in the shadows, every move in this hotel must be under their surveillance..."

No sooner had her voice fallen when the sound of the wind abruptly surged; Fang Bai's figure had already become a streak of lightning, darting into the dense curtain of rain outside.

"So fast..."

Although Tang Wenrou and Su Linglong knew Fang Bai was powerful, the speed he displayed at this moment still left them utterly astonished.

As for the seven male officers who had followed Officer Tang, they had no idea what had just happened. Shortly afterward, they realized that Fang Bai, who had just been standing there, was already gone, as if he had vanished into thin air.

Chapter 352: Group Leader Tang Also Has a Gentle Side?

Seven male officers had no idea where Fang Bai had gone, but Su Linglong and Tang Wenrou were both incredibly astute women. In a flash of thought, they knew Fang Bai must have discovered clues related to the kidnappers and had gone out to apprehend them.

With Fang Bai's ability, once he detected their traces, unless the prey was stronger than him, there was no escape.

So neither Su Linglong nor Tang Wenrou were anxious. The two women turned and stood shoulder to shoulder, gazing out at the heavy curtain of rain beyond the door, calmly waiting for Fang Bai to return.

After ten minutes, a figure flashed at the door. Fang Bai's form emerged from the rain, holding a man by the hand, and returned to the hotel restaurant.

Upon entering the restaurant, Fang Bai nonchalantly threw the two men onto the floor.

The two men landed face down, bruised and swollen from the fall, screaming in pain.

"These two were holed up in the fast-food restaurant across the street, keeping watch on us. Through them, we might be able to find out the identity and location of the kidnappers," Fang Bai said to Tang Wenrou.

Tang Wenrou glanced at the fast-food restaurant across the street, which was separated from Yuwei Hotel by a street not very wide, approximately just over twenty meters away.

The street-facing sides of both the fast-food restaurant and Yuwei Hotel were glass walls. On clear days without rain, one could see through these glass walls to view the patrons inside the opposite establishment.

If one had high-end surveillance equipment, every move of the guests inside the other store would be visible, offering no privacy whatsoever.

Tang Wenrou walked over to the two men Fang Bai had captured, kicked them a little with the tip of her shoe and said with a look of disgust, "Stop playing dead; sit up and talk! Answer whatever I ask, and if anyone doesn't cooperate, watch out, I won't be polite!"

Upon hearing her utter the words "won't be polite", the eight male officers who had come with her shivered cleverly and looked at the two men on the ground with a gaze full of pity and compassion.

Others might not know how terrifying Tang Wenrou could be when she was "not polite," but the eight of them had firsthand experience.

When Tang Wenrou had just been transferred, they were also reluctant to be ordered around by a delicate female officer. However, after suffering greatly at Tang Wenrou's hands, they now acted as tame and docile as seven little kittens in front of her.

The seven male officers still couldn't understand how such a delicate woman like Tang Wenrou had learned such formidable martial arts, especially her "Tendon Displacement Hand Technique," which, with just a light grab on the shoulder blade, could make one feel as though tendons were torn and bones were broken, an unbearable pain.

"Why are you capturing us? Do you know this is illegal? We want to call the police!"

"Let us go now, or we'll see you at the police station!"

The two men Fang Bai had captured had never experienced Tang Wenrou's prowess and decided they would rather die than admit to surveilling Fang Bai and Su Linglong.

"Heh heh..."

Seeing the two men avoiding her questions and sidestepping the issue, Tang Wenrou let out a cold laugh, squatted down, extended her delicate hand, and grabbed at the shoulder blades of both men.

In less than ten seconds, Yuwei Hotel was filled with the shrill and relentless screams of the two men, which were chilling to hear.

Fortunately, it was pouring rain outside. Otherwise, there was no telling how many rubberneckers would have been drawn by the screams, coming over to watch the commotion.

The seven male officers watched the two men twist and roll in agony, tears and snot streaming down their faces. While they took pleasure in the misfortune of others, they were also secretly terrified.

When Group Leader Tang had used this technique on them, they hadn't suffered this much. It seemed that Tang had shown mercy back then. The pain these two men were going through now appeared to be several times worse than what they had endured.

Su Linglong was rather tender-hearted. Seeing the two men in agony and hearing their piercing screams, her delicate brows furrowed slightly, and she turned her head, unable to bear watching.

However, Su Linglong also understood that when dealing with evil men, one must never be merciful. Without resorting to severe measures, it would be very difficult to extract useful information from their lips.

The hotel owner, Li Fuzhi, and his wife, Liu Qing, stood aside, both looking angrily at the two men writhing and screaming on the ground, wishing they could pounce on them and kick them viciously.

Clearly, they also knew that these two men were associated with the kidnappers of their son.

As for the four waiters in the hotel, they had long since hidden themselves far away because of fear.

At this moment, the few people inside the hotel had different emotions, and the most relaxed and carefree of them was probably Fang Bai.

Fang Bai walked back to the restaurant where he had dined with Su Linglong and sat down, helping himself to a drink, as if none of this had anything to do with him.

"You're really laid-back! The one they're targeting is you, aren't you worried at all?"

Tang Wenrou walked up to Fang Bai and sat down opposite him. Her face was still cold, but her tone of voice carried a hint of reproach.

The "Queen of Yanjing Police Station," Group Leader Tang, also had a tender side?

Could it be that the young man sitting opposite Group Leader Tang was her Little Lover?

The seven male officers who had come with Tang Wenrou stared at her dumbfounded, reminiscing the reproachful tone of her words, and their gazes toward Fang Bai were full of admiration.

To have tamed the "Queen" of Yanjing Police Station, the kid was no simple character!

"An army will be blocked by a general, and water will be covered with earth, what do I have to worry about?"

Fang Bai answered, grinning broadly.

Tang Wenrou said, "Open attacks are easy to dodge, but secret arrows are hard to defend against. Now you're in the light, and others are in the dark. You can defend for a moment but not forever. What if you're careless one time and get hurt..."

"Thank you for your concern, Officer Tang!"

Fang Bai saw anxiety and concern in Tang Wenrou's eyes and knew she cared about him. He felt warmth in his heart, but nonchalantly waved his hand and confidently patted his chest, saying proudly, "As long as my strength is strong enough, who cares about light or dark, plots or strategies? Just smash it all with one punch!"

His words were full of swaggering arrogance and overwhelming dominance. To Su Linglong, this was a demonstration of extreme self-confidence.

Thus, in Su Linglong's beautiful eyes, admiration began to sparkle like little stars.

But Tang Wenrou found this both annoying and amusing. Although she knew Fang Bai was powerful, underestimating the enemy often leads to grievous consequences.

Tang Wenrou realized she had fallen for Fang Bai, so she didn't want to see anything happen to him. She had only just emerged from the shadow of her former boyfriend, Lu Jianfei's, death in the line of duty, and she couldn't bear the thought of another beloved man coming to harm.

The two men who had been subjected to Tang Wenrou's "Tendon Displacement Hand Technique" did not have the tolerance for pain that one might imagine. In just two or three short minutes, they confessed everything.

Tang Wenrou walked over, patted their shoulders lightly, relieving their pain, and then stood towering above them, waiting for them to speak.

Chapter 353: Lightning Mink Makes a Move

Unexpectedly, these two men were not directly involved in the kidnapping case; instead, they were hired at a high salary by a stranger wearing sunglasses to monitor Fang Bai, Su Linglong, and the coerced innkeeper Liu Qing, watching their every move.

Moreover, when contacting the two men, the other party used public phones to call them, leaving no way to track their whereabouts.

After confirming that the two men were telling the truth, Tang Wenrou handed them over to the four police officers who had come with her, instructing them to escort the men back to the police station for detention.

The two men were willing accomplices in evil and not good people; Tang Wenrou planned to have them spend some time in jail to repent for their past misdeeds.

"It seems the trail has broken again..."

Unable to elicit anything useful towards solving the case from the two men, Tang Wenrou felt somewhat helpless.

"Take me back to the courtyard house, and I'll bring Little Mink over!"

Fang Bai suddenly said.

Tang Wenrou was startled, then a vision of a cute little mink covered in snow-white fur appeared in her mind.

What Fang Bai referred to as "Little Mink" was the Lightning Mink he had brought from the bottom of a Mysterious Pit in the Yanjing mountain area.

Previously, when Ye Wumei disappeared and was abducted to the vast sea thousands of miles away, Fang Bai surprisingly found her by following her scent with the help of Lightning Mink, whose nose was even more sensitive than a dog's by hundreds, if not thousands, of times. He then rescued her.

These events were shared by Fang Bai with Tang Wenrou after the fact in private. Tang Wenrou also saw the Lightning Mink once, and from the creature's very human-like little eyes, she knew it was an exceedingly spiritual little animal.

Hearing Fang Bai's plan to bring "Little Mink" over, Tang Wenrou's spirits lifted. She instructed several officers to stay at the hotel, and then, together with the driver and Su Linglong, she rushed through the curtain of rain to get into one of the police cars with Fang Bai.

The police car broke through layers of rain and arrived at the crossroad outside the courtyard house where Fang Bai lived twenty minutes later.

Fang Bai did not even get out of the car, simply rolling down the window and informing Ghost Hand, who was guarding the courtyard house, that he needed to take Lightning Mink out on a task using the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission method.

Lightning Mink was lying lazily in a pile of Essence Stones that Fang Bai had provided for it. Sensing Fang Bai's presence, the mink let out an excited chirp and then dashed out like a white bolt of lightning.

Lightning Mink was an innately agile animal whose reaction and running speed were so fast that they were astonishing, even to Fang Bai.

Whoosh—

The sound of the wind was light; a white shadow darted through the open car window and into the vehicle, startling everyone except Fang Bai.

Upon closer inspection, Tang Wenrou, Su Linglong, and the driver realized that there was now an incredibly adorable fluffy white mink in Fang Bai's arms.

"Little Mink, 'A soldier is kept for a thousand days, to be used for one moment.' There's something I need you to help with! If you do it well, I'll give you some nice things!"

Fang Bai gently stroked Lightning Mink's silky white fur and said with a smile.

Fang Bai communicated with Lightning Mink using a strange beast language, and additionally, he used the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission technique. The other three in the car saw Fang Bai's lips move, but they had no idea what he was saying.

Squeak—

Contented with Fang Bai's petting, Lightning Mink chirped excitedly in response to Fang Bai's words, then nuzzled affectionately into his embrace, behaving lovingly and endearingly.

Lightning Mink knew that the "nice things" Fang Bai mentioned were its favorite Cultivation Resources.

Ever since Fang Bai and Dongfang Ruhua had encountered a mudslide and stumbled upon a Secret Realm left by a cultivator, Fang Bai had acquired many Cultivation Resources. The realm was filled with Spiritual Medicine plants that were hundreds of years old, each containing a strand of Essence Energy, and they were one of the mink's favorite foods.

If Fang Bai could recover his ability to concoct elixirs in the future, he would be able to refine those spiritual medicines into elixirs. By then, Little Mink need only swallow the elixirs, which would greatly aid its cultivation.

Stroking the Lightning Mink in his embrace, Fang Bai felt somewhat envious of the little creature.

Although it was a beast, by a stroke of serendipity, it had gained spiritual awareness, and its sensitivity and absorption capacity for Heaven and Earth Origin Energy were stronger than those of most martial artists.

Even while eating and sleeping, Little Mink's Essence Energy and strength continued to grow.

Fang Bai surmised that Little Mink's bloodline must be extremely powerful, certainly far surpassing that of ordinary spirit beasts. Perhaps one day in the future, when its strength grew enough, its bloodline would be completely awakened.

Previously, Lightning Mink's strength had been on par with Fang Bai, but recently, after encountering several adventures, Fang Bai's strength had soared, equating to the Earth Level middle rank of this world's Ancient Martial World, leaving the Lightning Mink far behind.

However, the Lightning Mink's pace of gaining strength hadn't stopped at all.

With the aid of the cultivation resources such as Essence Stones and spiritual medicines provided by Fang Bai, Lightning Mink's current strength was already on par with a Profound Level Perfection martial artist of this world.

That is to say, in the Secular World, aside from Fang Bai, Lightning Mink's strength was already considered top-notch.

When Lightning Mink was first brought back to Yanjing by Fang Bai, it even felt a sense of superiority in front of Fang Bai. However, as Fang Bai's strength overtook its own, it gradually developed a sense of reverence for Fang Bai.

Especially after Fang Bai's "Dragon-Tiger-Lion-Elephant Technique" advanced to the third layer, "Xingyuan Realm," Lightning Mink completely submitted to Fang Bai.

At this moment, Lightning Mink was curled up in Fang Bai's arms, squinting its eyes and behaving as tame as a kitten.

Tang Wenrou and Su Linglong were both aware of Lightning Mink's existence. Having seen it this time, they thought it even more docile and adorable than before and wanted to stroke it, yet they were afraid of angering it, so they turned their gazes to Fang Bai.

Fang Bai, meeting the eager eyes of the two girls, smiled and said, "Xiao Bai is smarter than many people. You are my friends, so it will consider you as friends as well. Hence, you can hold and pet it any way you like, it won't get angry!"

"That's great! I'll just hold it and pet it for a bit!"

Su Linglong said as she reached out and snatched the Lightning Mink from Fang Bai's arms.

As Su Linglong held the Lightning Mink in her arms, with its little head nestled against her soft, ample chest, it appeared utterly content and pleased, prompting Linglong's giggles.

After Linglong played with the Lightning Mink for two minutes, she handed it over to Tang Wenrou, whose slender jade fingers gently combed through its soft white fur, wearing a rare expression of joy on her face.

"Fang Bai, could I borrow Xiao Bai for a few days?" Tang Wenrou suddenly asked.

"I want to as well!" Su Linglong promptly interjected.

Fang Bai nodded with a smile, "Okay, as long as Xiao Bai is willing to go with you, I have no objections! But don't go claiming it as your own, I still need this little guy to watch the house and guard the yard!"

"How about this, there are four weeks in a month, I'll take one week, Linglong takes one, and the remaining two weeks, Xiao Bai goes back to you! Any objections?" Tang Wenrou suggested after some thought.

"I wholeheartedly agree!" Su Linglong immediately raised both her hands in the air.

Chapter 354: Dragon Soaring to the Heavens

Fang Bai shrugged his shoulders and said to Tang Wenrou, "I have no objections. Let's do as you suggest... Xiao Bai, do you have any objections?"

The Lightning Mink made a thoughtful face and then nodded, indicating it had objections.

"You slick little thing, I know what you're up to! Don't worry, even if you're not by my side, I'll still send you Cultivation Resources regularly!"

Fang Bai reached out a finger and poked the Lightning Mink, scolding it with a laugh.

The Lightning Mink didn't want to leave Fang Bai, as it was really quite attached to him, but the main reason was that it didn't want to part with the Cultivation Resources Fang Bai provided.

However, upon hearing that Fang Bai would not cut off its supply of Cultivation Resources, the Lightning Mink became happy, shook its head, and indicated that it had no objections this time.

"Xiao Bai, if you handle today's matter well, you'll have more benefits in the future when it comes to Cultivation Resources!"

After the police car started, it hurried back to the Yuwei Hotel, and along the way, Fang Bai communicated with the Lightning Mink.

The Lightning Mink's eyes sparkled as it nodded vigorously, indicating its determination to do its utmost.

At the Yuwei Hotel, Fang Bai had the hotel's proprietress, Liu Qing, find the paper that had wrapped the "Soft Bone Powder" and then held the paper to the Lightning Mink's nose for it to take a careful sniff.

The paper wrapped with the powder had been given to Liu Qing by a man wearing sunglasses from the kidnappers' side, and it was bound to carry the scent of that man.

If the Lightning Mink could follow the scent to find the man with the sunglasses, and by following the clues, there was hope to locate the kidnapper who had abducted Li Fuzhi's son, and then find out from the kidnappers who was behind the scenes directing this incident, clearly aimed at Fang Bai.

Squeak—

After sniffing the scent on the paper, the Lightning Mink sniffed in the air and let out a gleeful cry, waved its front paw at Fang Bai, and dashed out towards the exterior.

"The Lightning Mink might have discovered something. I'll go after it now. I'll contact you all with good news as soon as I have some!"

After leaving these words, Fang Bai's figure flickered, and he followed the Lightning Mink, vanishing into the rain curtain.

In the restaurant, besides Su Linglong and Tang Wenrou, the others stared as Fang Bai disappeared like a ghost before their eyes, and it took them a long while to come to their senses before they could be heard swallowing hard with "gulp gulp" noises.

They were all shocked by Fang Bai's astonishing speed, completely unable to fathom how a person could run so fast.

After leaving the Yuwei Hotel, Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink maintained a distance of two to three hundred meters between them, darting through the heavy rain curtain like arrows, racing forward at high speed.

The rain was still pouring heavily, and it was difficult to see any vehicles or figures on the streets. A man and a mink reveled in the empty streets, freely displaying their movement techniques as they flew.

The movement technique Fang Bai was using was the "Dragon-Tiger-Lion-Elephant Technique" within which was the "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens."

Back when he was in the Immortal Realm, as the Immortal Emperor, Fang Bai once fought a sky-covering, sun-blocking fierce battle with a powerhouse from the Divine Dragon Clan for a supreme celestial treasure. During that battle, Fang Bai, with his extraordinary strength and amazing talent, derived from the Divine Dragon Clan powerhouse's movement technique a set of "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens" movement techniques all his own.

The so-called "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens" means that by using this technique, one can travel through all nine domains of the Immortal Realm within a single day.

Each of the nine Heavenly Domains of the Immortal Realm is vast and boundless, extending billions of miles. What kind of speed would one need to be able to traverse all nine Heavenly Domains in a single day?

From this, one can imagine just how astonishingly fast the "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens" movement technique, which Fang Bai had grasped, must be.

Of course, no matter how fast a movement technique is, it cannot be mentioned in the same breath as those secret techniques that directly tear through the void and travel instantaneously through spatial channels, covering millions of miles in the blink of an eye.

However, the current Fang Bai has been reborn after seizing a new body, starting everything from scratch again.

Restricted by his cultivation level, Fang Bai could not achieve the free and rapid movement of traversing the sky and covering thousands of miles in a flash when he executed "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens"; at most, he could leap forward tens of meters with a single tap of his toes on the ground.

To ordinary people, leaping over tens of meters was already something only gods and immortals were capable of.

However, Fang Bai himself felt a stifling frustration, like a dragon trapped in shallow waters, unable to stretch out. After dashing hundreds of meters, he could not help but let out a long howl to the sky, venting the depressed energy in his chest.

The howl reverberated for several miles around, and those taking shelter from the rain in the shops along the street turned their heads upon hearing it, looking toward the source of the sound.

However, the view was obstructed by heavy layers of rain, and coupled with the lightning-fast speed of Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink, nobody was able to catch a glimpse of a man and a mink rapidly moving forward through the torrential rain on the street.

When the Lightning Mink dashed by, it was like a faint white trail of dust, silent and traceless.

And when Fang Bai deployed the "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens" technique, his figure broke through the air with a sound like tearing silk, faintly accompanied by a dragon's roar, as if a Divine Dragon was patrolling the sky, stirring the wind and clouds from all directions with a majestic and relentless force.

The rain aimed at Fang Bai was pushed away by an invisible force three feet from his body, forming a vacuum around him through which no water could penetrate.

In the midst of this vacuum, Fang Bai kept his eyes forward, continuing to soar ahead.

Within Yanjing City, there are hidden dragons and crouching tigers, with no shortage of ancient martial masters; the commotion Fang Bai caused soon alerted some Ancient Martial Cultivators nearby.

Feeling a powerful Martial Artist Aura, these cultivators were shocked and rushed through the rain to the street where Yuwei Hotel was located, eager to discover what had happened.

Unfortunately, by the time they reached the street, Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink had already gone far away, and they couldn't even catch a glimpse of their shadows.

"The one who released that aura just now is a master, at the very least one of the top powerhouses amongst the Profound Rank Martial Artists!"

"That aura made me tremble with fear; it might have been an Earth Rank Martial Artist!"

"To my knowledge, the highest Cultivation Level among contemporary secular martial artists is only at Profound Level Perfection. If it's an Earth Rank Martial Artist, then it must be a master from the Hidden Sect!"

"The Hidden Sect is isolated from the world, and its disciples rarely walk in the secular world. Even if they occasionally appear, they keep a very low profile. Unlike the master just now, who released a domineering and aggressive aura all the way; that's not the style of the Hidden Sect at all!"

"Ah, what a pity to have missed the chance to meet a senior from the Hidden Sect. Even a few words of guidance could be more beneficial than ten years of hard cultivation!"

Some high-level secular Ancient Martial Artists hid in the shadows, murmuring among themselves, all feeling regret for not having seen the master who had briefly appeared.

Just then, at an intersection a few hundred meters east of Yuwei Hotel, a strikingly handsome young man in his late twenties, dressed in a black antique long robe, stood silently under a lush banyan tree. Frowning with surprise, he watched the direction where Fang Bai had disappeared, his eyes flashing with keen interest.

Chapter 355: The Person Behind The Scenes

"In the mundane world, there actually exists an Earth Rank master? Judging from the Martial Artist Aura that person released, their Cultivation Level seems to be at the initial stage of Earth Rank, yet it appears to be slightly stronger... Could it be that this person, like me, is also from a Hidden Sect?"

The handsome young man muttered to himself, standing in place and pondering for a moment before slowly stepping out from under the tree and entering the curtain of rain.

He carried no umbrella, casually walking into the rain.

If he had been an ordinary person, his clothes would have been soaked in an instant, yet, like Fang Bai, as the rain approached the handsome youth, it was parted by an invisible force, sliding past either side of his body.

...

Leaving the main urban area of Yanjing City and heading five miles east, there was an abandoned sports stadium. Owing to years of disrepair and infrequent visitors, the stadium was overgrown with weeds and in a state of disarray.

When Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink arrived at the entrance of the stadium, the sight of the decrepit and dirty scene made them reluctant to step any further.

However, the Lightning Mink had followed the scent here, indicating that the person who had delivered medicine to the proprietress of Yuwei Hotel, Liu Qing, was in this place.

Fang Bai truly hoped that Li Fuzhi's son had also been kidnapped to this location, so he could conveniently rescue him and not have to run around with the Lightning Mink any longer.

Upon arriving here, Fang Bai no longer needed the Lightning Mink to lead the way. His Divine Sense could easily cover a radius of several hundred meters.

Fang Bai released his Divine Sense, and in no time, he sensed three Martial Artist Auras in a dilapidated shed in the northeast corner of the stadium, along with the faint sound of a young boy sobbing softly.

The boy was just an ordinary person, while among the three Martial Artists, the strongest was only at the high stage of Yellow Level.

"It's here!"

Fang Bai felt a surge of joy in his heart, confirming that the boy was Li Fuzhi's kidnapped son, and without a doubt, those three Martial Artists were the kidnappers, including the one who had delivered medicine to Liu Qing.

The Martial Artist who had delivered medicine, the weakest among the three, was merely a Yellow Level beginner. Therefore, when he had appeared at Yuwei Hotel, Fang Bai had sensed his Martial Artist Aura but hadn't paid much attention to him.

Fang Bai knew that as long as he captured the three individuals in the stadium, it shouldn't be difficult to interrogate them and find out who was secretly targeting him.

In fact, Fang Bai had long harbored suspicions but lacked concrete evidence. Without it, he had refrained from taking direct action for revenge.

Fang Bai's current power, though capable of moving unhindered in the Secular Ancient Martial World, also made him aware that many formidable Martial Artists remained hidden in the world. Without absolute certainty, he had no intention of acting above the secular rules, living as he pleased and acting recklessly.

"Xiao Bai, let's go! Let's see which sacred figure wants to deal with me!"

As Fang Bai spoke, he strode towards the simple shed inside the abandoned stadium, making no attempt to conceal his aura.

With a "squeak," the Lightning Mink leapt onto Fang Bai's left shoulder, rubbed his cheek affectionately, and then looked at the shed with an air of superiority.

To the Lightning Mink, the three Martial Artists in the shed were far too weak; it couldn't be bothered to lift a paw as it would only dirty its claws. It was better to leave them to Fang Bai.

When still a few dozen meters away from the shed, the three Martial Artists inside finally sensed Fang Bai's aura and, realizing someone was approaching, quickly rushed out.

The three Martial Artists — two lean and one stout, all roughly the same height, were dressed in Tang suits, one of the favorite garments among those from the Secular Ancient Martial World.

All three martial artists had been involved in the event targeting Fang Bai and had some understanding of him. Therefore, they recognized him at a glance. However, they never expected Fang Bai to suddenly appear here.

According to their original plan, Fang Bai should have consumed the "Soft Bone Powder" drug administered by Liu Qing, the owner of the Yuwei Hotel, which would leave him weak and powerless. Then, the two thugs responsible for monitoring him would make a phone call, and the three of them would abduct Fang Bai to this location and torment him severely.

As instructed by the mastermind behind the scenes, they were to break Fang Bai's limbs and then throw him into the wilderness, leaving his fate to heaven.

None of the three martial artists were fools. The sudden appearance of Fang Bai made them realize that their previously devised plan had failed.

As for how Fang Bai found this place, they were utterly puzzled and bewildered.

They kidnapped Li Fuzhi's son and brought him here without informing anyone else, and even the two thugs hired to monitor Fang Bai had no idea.

But now, with Fang Bai right in front of them, they could not afford to think more about it.

"Who are you?"

"This is a private place, get away from here!"

"If you take one more step forward, we won't be polite anymore!"

Watching Fang Bai stride closer, the three martial artists' expressions changed slightly. Pretending not to recognize Fang Bai, they started to shout with a fierce exterior but inward apprehension.

From the information they gathered, Fang Bai was supposedly a Profound Level Martial Artist. Under the influence of the "Soft Bone Powder," any one of them could easily handle him. But now, Fang Bai seemed unharmed, and all three together were no match for him.

"You must know who I am... Yes, I am Fang Bai, the target you want to deal with. Unfortunately, you were not successful, and I have found you!"

Fang Bai stopped three yards away from the three martial artists, his gaze coldly fixed on them as he continued, "Now, you have two choices: first, tell me who is instructing you, and I'll let you go! Second, if you remain stubborn and refuse to say anything, I'll break your limbs and leave you here to fend for yourselves... Alright, I'll give you thirty seconds to think about it..."

As he spoke, Fang Bai glanced down at the time, his eyes growing even colder and more ruthless.

The rain suddenly lessened, and the fine droplets felt cool as they fell on his body. Fang Bai contained his aura and ceased to circulate his True Yuan, allowing the rain to wet him, feeling indescribably comfortable.

After he reined in his aura, the three martial artists felt the pressure on them suddenly lift, and each of them breathed a sigh of relief.

"Mmm... Mmm..."

From the makeshift shed behind the three martial artists, muffled human sounds emerged. Fang Bai frowned slightly, knowing that Li Fuzhi's son had realized someone was coming and had started calling for help.

The three martial artists, hearing the noise coming from the shed and noting the concern on Fang Bai's face, exchanged glances. Two of them blocked Fang Bai's path while the third darted towards the shed.

All three were experienced in the ways of the world. From Fang Bai's expression, they surmised that he cared about the young man in the shed, so they planned to use him as a hostage to threaten Fang Bai, hoping to escape the situation.

As they moved, Fang Bai moved as well.

Fang Bai was quicker to react, his figure passing through the two men in front like a specter, blocking the path of the martial artist aiming for the shed, then standing with folded arms and looking at him with a cold laugh.

Chapter 356: Just Smash The Fist!

The Martial Artist charging toward the makeshift shed was the fattest among the three and also the one with relatively the strongest abilities.

Seeing Fang Bai blocking the way ahead, the fat Martial Artist's eyes revealed a fierce gleam. He gritted his teeth and suddenly sped up.

"Get lost!"

Using the momentum from his high-speed movement, the fat Martial Artist, when he was about two Zhang away from Fang Bai, let out a bellow and leaped high into the air, his legs whipping out like the wind in a series of chained kicks aimed at Fang Bai's chest.

The fat Martial Artist knew Fang Bai was powerful, far surpassing himself, so when he unleashed this series of kicks, he had already given it his all, with True Yuan filling his legs. The fierceness of his momentum and the strength of his attack were such that even a thick stone slab could be shattered.

A High Rank Yellow Level Martial Artist going all out in an attack is also not to be underestimated.

However, in Fang Bai's eyes now, any Yellow Level Martial Artist was just like an ant—a mere clap of his palm could kill them.

As the fat Martial Artist's legs kicked towards him like lightning, powerful in their force, Fang Bai's mouth twitched, revealing a scornful smile. Then, he raised his right palm and gently patted down, striking the top of the fat Martial Artist's left foot.

The fat Martial Artist was skillful with his series of kicks, feeling that he was performing beyond his best. His mind was filled with the fantasy of his foot hitting Fang Bai's chest, imagining Fang Bai spewing blood and flying backward when suddenly, his left foot felt heavy, and he lost control of his body, plummeting headfirst down.

"Bang!"

His head was the first to hit the ground, smacking onto the hard surface of the sports field, and everything went dark as he passed out.

Hiss—

Seeing their strongest companion taken down by Fang Bai in just one exchange, life or death uncertain, the other two sucked in a breath of cold air. Without a word, they turned and fled toward the sports field exit.

The three Martial Artists were sworn brothers. When they had taken their oath, they had cut their fingers and sworn a blood oath over wine, promising not to seek the same day of birth but to die on the same day in the same month of the same year. However, the two now fleeing only thought that only fools would stay behind to accompany the dead, and that their own lives were of utmost importance.

"I'll let you run!"

Fang Bai lifted his right foot and kicked at some weeds in front of him.

In an instant, dozens of weeds, broken off by his kick, turned into hidden weapons that flew through the air, striking the backs of the two fleeing Martial Artists.

Uh—

The two Martial Artists, speeding in their escape, felt as if they had been electrocuted, their bodies shuddering violently before they collapsed on the ground together.

Although they did not pass out like the fat Martial Artist, the pain in their backs was like being stabbed by a thousand needles, and the boundless agony ravaged their bodies. The feeling was truly worse than death.

"How does it feel, is it unbearable? Whoever tells me the mastermind behind this first will have their pain relieved! Of course, you can also choose to keep silent and just let the pain torment you to death!"

Fang Bai walked leisurely to the two men, looking down at them from above, and spoke with a smile.

His smiling face, in the eyes of the Martial Artists, was like a demon from hell.

"I'll speak!"

As soon as Fang Bai's voice faded, the two Martial Artists almost shouted in unison.

"You speak!"

Fang Bai pointed at the first to speak, the Martial Artist who had already lost control of his bladder from the pain, and said.

"It was Wang Dong... Wang Dong told us to do this!"

Although that Martial Artist knew that revealing the mastermind would make the Wang Family his enemy, he was also aware that if he didn't speak, the demon before him might take his life immediately.

He had already decided that as long as he could escape with his life now, he would find a way to leave the country as soon as possible. While the Wang Family had considerable influence in Huaxia, they couldn't reach him abroad, so his chances of survival would be greatly increased.

"Wang Dong of the Yanjing Wang Family?"

The mastermind revealed by the other party matched Fang Bai's suspicions, so he was not at all surprised.

"Yes! It's Wang Dong of the Yanjing Wang Family!"

"Very well!"

Fang Bai smiled as he turned to another martial artist and asked, "Do you have anything to add?"

"I know it was a disciple from the Ghost Doctor Sect who concocted the 'Soft Bone Powder' for Wang Dong. Moreover, after capturing you, Wang Dong instructed us to break your limbs and throw you into the wilderness, leaving you to fend for yourself."

"Heh, so he even left me a chance to stay alive... Alright, when the time comes, I'll do the same to him, not taking his life directly..."

Having obtained the answers he wanted from the two martial artists, Fang Bai smiled.

"Senior, we only did this because we had no choice, we beg you to spare our lives!"

"We will definitely reform and become better people, we beg for your mercy, Senior!"

The two martial artists, seeing Fang Bai's strange smile, couldn't help feeling a chill in their hearts and hastily pleaded loudly for mercy.

"Rest assured, I am a merciful person and I don't kill carelessly... You two should take a nap first!"

As he said this, Fang Bai kicked each of the martial artists, causing them to see darkness before losing consciousness.

"Wang Family... Wang Dong... Heh heh..."

Fang Bai looked up towards Yanjing City, a smile on his face filled with an endless murderous intent.

"Xiao Bai, you did well this time, there are rewards waiting for you! You can go home now!"

Fang Bai gently patted the little head of the Lightning Mink perched on his shoulder, smiling as he spoke.

The Lightning Mink chirped twice affectionately and nuzzled Fang Bai's cheek before dashing off like lightning towards a courtyard house in Yanjing City.

Twenty minutes later, after receiving a call from Fang Bai, Tang Wenrou and Su Linglong drove a police car to the abandoned stadium.

"That bastard Wang Dong! Fang Bai, I'll go to the Wang Family and seek justice for you!"

Upon hearing that the mastermind was Wang Dong of the Wang Family, Tang Wenrou couldn't help but glower with round almond eyes and frown furiously, immediately wanting to take the three unconscious martial artists to the Wang Family.

"With hostages in hand, let's see what Wang Dong has to say! Humph, if Wang Dong doesn't give an explanation, he'll be sorry!"

Su Linglong also clenched her fists eagerly, itching to get started.

"Since Wang Dong has targeted me, I'll take care of this matter myself! Officer Tang, these three martial artists are no good, take them back to the police station for now, and see what else you can learn from them!"

Fang Bai smiled and calmed the two agitated women.

Tang Wenrou quickly regained her composure and, with a meaningful glance at Fang Bai, said, "The Wang Family has considerable influence in Huaxia, if you move against Wang Dong, the Wang Family will certainly not let things rest!"

"The Wang Family?"

Fang Bai snorted with disdain, "No matter where I am, I have always believed that strength is supreme! If the Wang Family wants to retaliate against me, let's see if their fists are hard enough!"

Tang Wenrou hesitated for a moment, then said in a low voice, "I've heard that the previous family head of the Wang Family, Wang Huashan, is an important member of the Dragon Guard's Xuan Group! If this matter escalates, I'm worried the Dragon Guard might get involved, and that would be really troublesome!"

"The Dragon Guard?"

Fang Bai was slightly taken aback.

"Yes, the Dragon Guard is a very secretive organization established by the former Prime Minister of Huaxia."

Seeing that Fang Bai didn't know what the Dragon Guard was, Tang Wenrou patiently explained, "The members of the Dragon Guard mostly come from the Ancient Martial World and are martial artists with a sense of justice. The organization was initially formed with the purpose of keeping in check those in the Ancient Martial World who would misuse their strength to do evil, promoting justice and goodness..."

"The Wang Family crossed me first, so it's only right that I strike back! If the Dragon Guard is truly composed of martial artists with a just heart, they should hold a fair stance! If they side with the Wang Family, there's nothing more to say—I'll just let my fists do the talking!"

Fang Bai's eyes gleamed sharply, his fighting spirit rising and spreading in all directions.

Chapter 357: Tang Wenrou's Worries

Influenced by Fang Bai's aura, Su Linglong felt a surge of hot blood coursing through her veins, and with a clenched fist, she said in a soft voice, "Fang Bai, no matter when, I will always stand by your side!"

Tang Wenrou gave Su Linglong a glance, her eyes filled with complex emotions. She took a deep breath to calm her slightly sour mood and said to Fang Bai with a bitter smile, "I know I can't dissuade you. But from my standpoint, I don't wish for you two to escalate the situation... Fang Bai, I hope you can understand me."

Fang Bai smiled and said, "I know you're a police officer and have the responsibility to maintain social stability. If things get too big, it will be difficult for you! Don't worry, as long as the Wang Family gives me a satisfactory explanation in this matter, I'll give them a way out! It's up to the Wang Family to decide whether they want to act decently or not!"

Tang Wenrou sighed, stood silently, and didn't say any more, but in her heart, she decided to return to her family as soon as possible to discuss with her parents how she should behave in this situation.

After knowing the details of the conflict between Fang Bai and the Wang Family, Tang Wenrou's heart was privately and publicly on Fang Bai's side.

Tang Wenrou believed that the cause of this matter lay with the Wang Family, and as long as the Wang Family was willing to soften their stance and admit their wrongdoing to Fang Bai, the situation wouldn't escalate.

However, Tang Wenrou also understood that a wealthy family like the Wang Family had its pride, and getting the Wang Family to admit their mistakes to Fang Bai would be almost impossible unless significant pressure was exerted on them.

And Tang Wenrou knew Fang Bai well enough to know that he was gentle as a spring breeze but as firm as steel. If you were good to him, he would be good to you; if you provoked him, then you wouldn't have peace.

No matter how powerful the Wang Family was, Fang Bai would certainly not be afraid.

Fang Bai wasn't contending with the Wang Family out of a "barefooted person isn't afraid of someone with shoes" mindset; his current strength was enough to support his mighty confidence.

What Tang Wenrou was most worried about now was that both sides would be intransigent, and once a conflict arose, it would likely stir up trouble in Yanjing City.

Grudges between martial artists of the Ancient Martial World were usually settled privately, and regardless of life or death, victory or defeat, they wouldn't go to the police.

The police were somewhat aware of the customs of the Ancient Martial World, so when martial artists settled their grudges, the police typically turned a blind eye, intervening only if social order and the life and property of civilians were endangered.

Tang Wenrou wanted to return to her family quickly for another reason, which was to have some elders intervene and join with other prominent clans of Yanjing to put pressure on the Wang Family to stop any potential conflict with Fang Bai.

In the end, Tang Wenrou was still worried that Fang Bai might suffer in the conflict with the Wang Family. Although Fang Bai was powerful, he was just one person, facing a wealthy and influential family in Huaxia—how could he possibly be their match?

Fang Bai had saved Tang Wenrou's life, and her father, Tang Chongshan, also had a very good impression of Fang Bai. Now that the Wang Family was bullying Fang Bai, it was only natural for the Tang Family to step in and defend him.

Tang Wenrou knew that her father's temperament was like her own; they couldn't stand injustice in this world. If he knew that Fang Bai was being bullied by the Wang Family, he wouldn't stand by and would certainly help Fang Bai.

If the Tang Family was willing to intervene, and with the Lu Family of Yanjing who had good relations with Fang Bai on his side, it would make the Wang Family hesitate to harm Fang Bai carelessly.

They rescued the son of the owner of Yuwei Hotel, Li Fuzhi, from that temporary shelter in the stadium, then brought him back to the Yuwei Hotel and handed him over to his parents.

Li Fuzhi and his wife were naturally extremely grateful, and Madam Liu Qing once again expressed her repentance for her previous actions of drugging someone.

Fang Bai and his company knew that Liu Qing was driven by the desperation of a parent and decided not to hold it against her. Otherwise, given her actions, she would definitely have to spend some time behind bars.

Tang Wenrou drove Fang Bai and Su Linglong to the entrance of Yanjing Hospital. Watching the two of them walk side by side toward the hospital, a faint sense of sadness and worry could be seen in her eyes.

Fang Bai seemed to sense something and turned around to smile and wave at her.

Tang Wenrou forced a slight smile, and as soon as Fang Bai turned around, she bit her lower lip with her upper teeth, pressed down hard on the accelerator, and the roar of the engine filled the air as the police car shot forward at high speed, quickly disappearing around the distant street corner.

.....

Around two in the afternoon, the rain began to ease, and the clouds dispersed to reveal the sunlight once more.

The weather was quite clear, but Wang Dong's mood at this moment was gloomy and dark.

Ever since the incidents when his mother was publicly humiliated and the woman he liked had been snatched away, Wang Dong hated Fang Bai to his bones, and so he plotted a conspiracy against him.

He had thought his plan was foolproof and that this time he could finally get rid of the thorn in his side, Fang Bai. However, the outcome greatly exceeded Wang Dong's expectations.

The person he had sent out to gather information just reported back that Fang Bai had already returned to the hospital unharmed, while the three martial artists involved in planning the conspiracy were missing without a trace and whether they were dead or alive was unknown.

Receiving this news, Wang Dong broke into a cold sweat, aware that things had taken a turn for the worse.

Wang Dong knew in his heart that if Fang Bai found out he was behind the conspiracy, he could very well face his retaliation.

Wang Dong had witnessed Fang Bai's strength firsthand; his own family's two martial artists at the initial stage of the Profound Level were no match for Fang Bai at all. The thought of being targeted by such a powerful adversary made Wang Dong's back chill and his legs feel weak.

It was at this time that Wang Dong began to feel some regret, wishing he had not provoked Fang Bai. Such a formidable enemy, once provoked, could become a lifelong nightmare.

"Mom, you must help me!"

The terrified Wang Dong hurriedly found his mother, Jiang Fenglian, and as soon as he saw her, he began to cry and plead.

"Son, why such a look? Has someone bullied you?"

Jiang Fenglian was sitting in the living room of the villa watching television when she saw her son's dispirited expression, and she asked with a frown.

"Mom, do you remember Fang Bai? The one who hit you that day and took Ye Wumei away—I couldn't stand it, so I thought about teaching him a lesson, but then..."

"Hmph, that arrogant and despicable brat, he deserves a good lesson! What happened then?"

Jiang Fenglian's face soured as she recalled the face she found extremely loathsome at the mention of Fang Bai.

After being "humiliated" by Fang Bai that day, Jiang Fenglian and her son returned from the Yuwei Hotel and told Wang Jingzhong an exaggerated and twisted version of the events.

Wang Jingzhong, the current Family Head of the Wang Family, was furious to hear that his wife had been humiliated, yet he wasn't impulsive. Instead, he decided to send someone to investigate Fang Bai's background before deciding how to react.

However, before Wang Jingzhong received any information about Fang Bai's identity, Wang Dong had already lost patience and started acting against Fang Bai.

Wang Dong didn't dare tell his father about dealing with Fang Bai himself. Otherwise, if Wang Jingzhong had known his son had drawn such a powerful enemy to the Wang Family, he would have severely punished Wang Dong.

Chapter 358: The Wang Family's Sea-Calming Divine Needle

Wang Dong's plan to deal with Fang Bai was to have someone drug him with a substance he'd obtained from a friend called "Soft Bone Powder," which was said to render even the most formidable individuals completely weak and powerless.

Wang Dong had anticipated that once Fang Bai consumed the "Soft Bone Powder," he would lose his ability to fight, and the men Wang Dong had sent would then be able to beat him into a state of helplessness.

But what Wang Dong never expected was that his scheme would end in failure.

"Turns out the people I found were all useless; not only did they fail to teach Fang Bai a lesson, but they also vanished collectively!"

With a worried look on his face, Wang Dong said, "Mom, I suspect that the people I sent out have been caught by Fang Bai, and perhaps he has already learned from them that I'm targeting him. Fang Bai is an Ancient Martial master; what should I do if he comes seeking revenge?"

"What are you afraid of? Our illustrious Wang Family is not intimidated by a poor kid."

Although Jiang Fenglian also knew of Fang Bai's capabilities, she genuinely did not believe he'd dare to confront the Wang Family alone, contemptuously saying, "One can hardly fight against the many hands. I refuse to believe that, no matter how skilled he is at martial arts, one person can overcome the dozens or hundreds of masters in our Wang Family when it comes down to a fight."

Wang Dong sighed and said, "Mom, if he is set on revenge, it will be impossible to guard against! You've seen how formidable he is; not many of our family's fighters can match him! If I fall into his hands, I'm sure to die!"

"So, what do you suggest?"

Jiang Fenglian thought her son made some valid points. If Fang Bai, with his great strength, were to focus solely on her son, bent on revenge, then even assigning a bodyguard would not guarantee safety.

"There are two methods that could solve this problem for good."

"And what are those methods?"

"First, we can use firearms!"

A fierce gleam crossed Wang Dong's eyes as he declared, "No matter how talented, one is still vulnerable to the kitchen knife. Fang Bai may be strong, but he's made of flesh and blood. I refuse to believe he can withstand bullets!"

"Doing that... If it leads to a fatality, won't it be difficult to handle afterward?"

Jiang Fenglian felt that if guns were used against Fang Bai and it resulted in a death, it would be hard to settle the matter, especially if it were traced back, potentially causing significant damage to the Wang Family's reputation.

"I can anonymously hire someone from a killer organization to take care of it! It's not necessarily about taking his life—we can cripple his arms and legs, ensuring he'll never be able to threaten me again. Even if it fails, no one will know it was my doing, so there won't be any impact on the Wang Family's reputation!"

As Wang Dong spoke, he grew increasingly confident that this method was viable to handle Fang Bai, declaring, "Mom, Dad once said that dealing with an enemy requires ruthlessness and a willingness to do anything necessary, otherwise you will ultimately suffer at their hands! The conflict between Fang Bai and me is irreconcilable. If I don't cripple him, there's a chance he might cripple me!"

Jiang Fenglian, who only wanted to discipline Fang Bai and never considered taking his life, saw the murderous light in her son's eyes and truly worried he might commit murder, asked with a frown, "What's the second method?"

"The second method is to have Grandfather deal with Fang Bai."

When Wang Dong mentioned "Grandfather," a sense of awe flashed in his expression. He said, "Fang Bai's strength far exceeds that of a beginning-stage Profound Level Martial Artist. Perhaps only with Grandfather's personal intervention can he be subdued!"

Wang Dong's grandfather, Wang Huashan, was a member of the "Dragon Guard" of the Xuan Group and possessed mid-stage Profound Level Martial Artist strength. Within the Secular Ancient Martial World, he was considered a top-notch expert, the so-called "Sea-Calming Divine Needle" of the Wang Family.

However, Wang Huashan was already in his eighties, leading a life of seclusion and devoted to cultivation, having not engaged others in combat for many years. It was uncertain if they could persuade him to act.

"As long as Grandfather is willing to step in, Fang Bai will definitely be no match. Then, all Grandfather needs to do is cripple Fang Bai's meridians, and I'll never have to worry about him again."

Wang Dong concluded.

"This..."

Jiang Fenglian spoke with a troubled face, "Given your grandfather's temper, I'm afraid he might not take the lead for you... How about this, I'll talk to your father first, and then have him persuade your grandfather. This way, there might be a better chance of success!"

"That could work."

"Remember this, stay at home and behave yourself these next few days to avoid any accidents!"

"I know. I won't step out until this issue is resolved, even if it kills me! My life is too precious!"

Around six in the evening, Wang Jingzhong, the Family Head of the Wang Family, returned home from work. Just as he entered the villa's living room, he saw his wife sitting rigidly on the sofa.

"Feng Lian, is something the matter?"

Having been married for many years, Wang Jingzhong understood his wife very well. He knew that her sitting there rigidly meant she had something to discuss with him.

"Jingzhong, you must be tired after a busy half-day, right? Come, sit down and rest a bit, I'll pour you a cup of tea..."

Jiang Fenglian, with a smile plastered on her face, urged her husband to sit on the sofa, personally brewed him a cup of tea, and handed it to him. Then she stood behind him and gently started massaging his shoulders and neck.

Despite being fiery and belligerent like a shrew in front of others, Jiang Fenglian was always elegant and reserved in front of her husband, very much the gentle and virtuous wife.

Noticing the extra care from his wife today, Wang Jingzhong sensed that something unusual must be afoot. Catching her hand, he said irritably, "We've been married for so long. If you have something to say, just speak plainly. There's no need to beat around the bush with me."

Jiang Fenglian took the opportunity to sit next to her husband, sighed deeply, and said, "Jingzhong, do you remember Fang Bai, whom I mentioned to you before?"

"You mean the Fang Bai who hit you and was involved with the Ye Family girl in an unclear manner?"

Wang Jingzhong raised an eyebrow and asked in a stern voice.

"Yes, that's him."

"I have already ordered an investigation into him. Once I have the results, I will give you and our daughter an explanation..."

Wang Jingzhong stopped mid-sentence upon seeing the odd expression on his wife's face and felt a sudden uneasiness. Frowning, he asked, "You didn't provoke him again, did you?"

"It wasn't me, it was our beloved son..."

Jiang Fenglian, seeing her husband's displeasure, said cautiously, "Dong'er, in his eagerness to seek justice for me, had people go after Fang Bai, but they failed. Dong'er is worried Fang Bai might retaliate against him, so he asked me to discuss it with you..."

"That damned kid is getting more and more out of control! And you, why didn't you stop him?"

Wang Jingzhong's palm came down with a "slap" on the coffee table in front of him, causing the cup to jump and a good amount of tea to splash out.

Jiang Fenglian was startled by her husband's anger and said with a touch of grievance, "I only just heard about this from Dong'er... Jingzhong, what's done is done. This isn't the time to be angry, we need to think of a solution!"

"Sigh..."

Wang Jingzhong closed his eyes, leaned back on the sofa, and sighed, "If it were an ordinary person, it would be manageable, but is Fang Bai an ordinary person? He's the one who defeated two of our family's Profound Level initial stage Martial Artists with a single move..."

After pondering for a while with his eyes closed, Wang Jingzhong continued, "Father is a member of the Dragon Guard, he loathes evil as if it were his personal enemy, irreproachably upright, and the Dragon Guard itself is an organization upholding fairness and justice. If he learns of this, you and our daughter would certainly be sternly reprimanded..."

Jiang Fenglian, who feared no one in the skies above or the earth below except for her father-in-law, Wang Huashan, panicked at his words. She grabbed her husband's hand and pleaded, "We absolutely cannot let Father know about this, or else Dong'er and I will be doomed."

Chapter 359: Wang Huashan

"Had I known this would happen, why did I ever start?" the old man always cautioned us to stay low-key, not to show off and cause trouble, nor smudge the Wang family's name; but what did you and your daughter do?"

Wang Jingzhong held a reverent fear for his father, Wang Huashan, knowing that he could not hide this matter from his father's Fiery Eyes. Therefore, he had no intention of concealing it.

That Fang Bai was a martial artist whose strength was not less than that of his father; martial artists are proud by nature. His son's attack on Fang Bai would surely provoke Fang Bai's retaliation, and how to deal with the consequences would require his father's insight.

Regarding his son, Wang Dong, Wang Jingzhong felt both angry and helpless. He thought that once this matter was settled, he must discipline him properly; otherwise, the vast assets of the Wang family might be beyond his capability to inherit in the future.

After sending his wife away, Wang Jingzhong rubbed his Taiyang Acupoint with some distress and then dialed a secret phone number only he knew.

"Old Li, how's the investigation into Fang Bai's background coming along?"

As soon as the call connected, Wang Jingzhong got straight to the point.

"Mr. Wang, the investigation is pretty much complete. I was planning to report to you in the next few days."

"Tell me now."

"Alright. Fang Bai, male, twenty years old this year, graduated from Zhongzhou Medical College, currently interning at Yanjing Hospital..."

Old Li, on the other end of the call, endlessly recounted his findings, digging up virtually all of Fang Bai's ancestral history, indicating that he had conducted a thorough and detailed investigation of Fang Bai.

"...Strangely enough, according to one of Fang Bai's classmates from Zhongzhou Medical College, Fang Bai had a weak constitution and timid personality half a year ago, and even girls in his class could bully him... Of course, it's not out of the question that Fang Bai was feigning weakness at that time, pretending to be a pig to eat a tiger..."

Old Li continued.

"Is Fang Bai a disciple of a senior from the Ancient Martial World or from an Ancient Martial Sect? Have you checked this out?"

Wang Jingzhong was most concerned about this issue. If Fang Bai was a disciple of a senior or a sect from the Ancient Martial World, the situation would be more troublesome.

The Ancient Martial World held a special status, and none of the prominent clans in the secular world wanted to provoke them.

"I checked, but didn't find any useful information. However, according to Fang Bai himself, he had studied ancient martial arts for several years with a Master as elusive as a divine dragon, but whether that's true or not is uncertain."

Wang Jingzhong said, "In Huaxia, where hidden dragons and crouching tigers abound, there are many such masters. It's not beyond the realm of possibility."

"Mr. Wang, although Fang Bai comes from an ordinary family, he maintains good relationships with many prominent clans, including the Su Family and Hua Family in Zhongzhou, the Lu Family, Jiang Family, and Dongfang Family in Yanjing, the Tang Family in Anxi, and the Ye Family in Lingnan... If you really want to deal with him, you must plan carefully before acting."

"How... How could this be possible?"

Hearing this, Wang Jingzhong inhaled sharply, finding it hard to believe.

The Jiang, Tang, and Ye families, each of them, had overall strength no weaker than the Wang family. The foundations of the Lu Family were even richer than that of the Wang Family. If these families were to interfere, the Wang Family would indeed have to think twice before taking action against Fang Bai.

Still, Wang Jingzhong firmly believed that as long as the Wang Family declared they would spare no expense in dealing with Fang Bai, those families would not necessarily turn against the Wang Family completely for Fang Bai's sake.

"Mr. Wang, there's nothing impossible about it. A martial artist with overpowering strength and superb medical skills—who among the prominent clans wouldn't want to make his acquaintance? That's all the information I have about Fang Bai. Is there anything else you need me to investigate, Mr. Wang?"

Old Li's voice came through again.

"That's all."

Wang Jingzhong hung up the phone with a grave expression, leaning back on the sofa, deep in thought for a moment, then stood up decisively, as if he had made a certain decision, and walked out of the villa.

At the northwestern corner of Wang Family Manor, there was a large bamboo grove. Walking through the bamboo grove for a while, one could see a small bamboo building standing secluded among the bamboo.

This bamboo building was where Wang Huashan, the old patriarch of the Wang Family and father of Wang Jingzhong, resided and cultivated.

All members of the Wang Family had been warned not to approach within thirty meters of the bamboo building without special circumstances, or they would be punished according to family law.

Even Wang Jingzhong, the family head, could not easily enter the bamboo building without permission.

After leaving the villa, Wang Jingzhong walked into the tranquil bamboo forest and stopped ten meters away from the bamboo building.

He knew that with his father's strength, he would sense his arrival.

"Jingzhong, you seem to have something heavy on your mind!"

A few minutes later, an elderly but strong voice came from inside the bamboo building.

The speaker was none other than Wang Jingzhong's father, the old patriarch of the Wang Family, Wang Huashan.

"Dad, Dong'er has caused trouble outside, and I don't know how to deal with it, so I have come to seek your advice," Wang Jingzhong said respectfully.

Wang Jingzhong's grandson was a mischievous child, and as an adult, he didn't bring peace of mind either! This problem must be serious if even you, the family head, are unable to decide... Come in, tell me what happened."

The tone of Wang Huashan also grew grave.

Wang Jingzhong tiptoed into the bamboo building, sat down in front of his father on a bamboo chair, and recounted the conflict between his son and Fang Bai, as well as Fang Bai's background and identity.

Wang Huashan listened silently, his brow furrowed, and he remained speechless for a long time.

A somewhat chaotic aura gradually filled the entire space of the bamboo building, making the atmosphere heavy and oppressive.

Wang Jingzhong knew that this was a sign of his father's great anger, and he was forcibly suppressing the fury in his chest.

Wang Jingzhong also understood that his father was angry with his son, Wang Dong.

Wang Huashan had repeatedly advised the family's younger generation to be low-key, to avoid causing, inviting, or stirring up trouble outside. However, Wang Dong, relying on his family background and the status of a martial artist, repeatedly caused problems that eventually required Wang Jingzhong, his father, to clean up the mess like a firefighter.

Other troubles could still be settled fairly easily with the Wang Family's connections and some money, but the issue with Fang Bai was not so simple to resolve.

Fang Bai was not only a powerful martial artist but also a skilled physician and a respected guest of prominent clans like the Lu Family. The Wang Family had to consider the reactions of these families before taking any action against him.

The trouble Wang Dong had caused was no small matter, affecting the Wang Family's face and reputation. If handled poorly, it could have a significant impact on the Wang Family.

No wonder Wang Huashan was angry with Wang Dong. Anyone else in his position would likely be utterly disappointed in Wang Dong.

Thinking about this, Wang Jingzhong felt as if he was sitting on pins and needles. Sweat began to seep from his forehead, and he dared not take a deep breath as he waited for the old patriarch's thunderous wrath.

The bamboo building was silent, so quiet that one could hear a pin drop.

Wang Jingzhong sat stiffly in the bamboo chair, clearly hearing his somewhat heavy breathing and the "thumping" of his own heartbeat.

The sweat from his forehead kept flowing down, and he didn't dare to raise his hand to wipe it away.

After a frightening period of silence, Wang Huashan finally broke it.

Chapter 360: Duel in the Ten-Mile Willow Forest

"I'm already aware of the matter; if there's nothing else, you may leave now. And send me Fang Bai's information to look at later..."

Wang Huashan said with a sigh, then waved his hand.

His voice wasn't loud, but it carried an undeniable power.

"Yes, I understand."

Wang Jingzhong felt as if he had been granted amnesty and slowly rose to leave the bamboo house.

"Inside the bamboo house, the aura released by the old master was so oppressive that I could barely breathe. It seems that the old master's strength has improved considerably lately!"

Only when Wang Jingzhong reached a spot fifty meters away from the bamboo house did he finally take a long, relieving breath, a hint of joy on his face.

Wang Huashan, a mid-level Profound Rank martial artist and an important member of 'Dragon Guard' from Huaxia's Xuan Group, could deter the petty, and as long as he lived, no one would dare to easily provoke the Wang Family.

In other words, the stronger Wang Huashan was, the more stable the Wang Family's status in Huaxia.

Before long, detailed information about Fang Bai was placed in front of Wang Huashan inside the bamboo house.

Wang Huashan picked up the information and read through it word by word, frowning deeper the more he read.

"To injure two initial Profound Rank martial artists with a single move... Fang Bai's strength cannot be underestimated! Hmph, that fool Wang Dong has brought big trouble to the Wang Family!"

After a while, Wang Huashan put down the information, his gaze shifting towards the bamboo forest outside the window, his expression changing uncertainly.

"Although Feng Lian and Dong'er were wrong first, Fang Bai's actions were excessive; he clearly doesn't regard the Wang Family in his eyes! Well then, it's been years since I've fought with anyone, it might be good to exercise these old bones! I hope this matter can be resolved to everyone's satisfaction!"

Wang Huashan murmured to himself, his presence surging, his eyes gleaming sharply - he looked nothing like an octogenarian.

.....

"Tonight at 6:30, meet me at the Willow Forest ten miles to the West Suburb to settle our grievances. Wang Huashan from Yanjing's Wang Family awaits your honored presence!"

That very afternoon, when Fang Bai arrived at his office in Yanjing Hospital, he found a note under the tea cup on his desk, which bore these words.

"Wang Huashan from the Wang Family?"

Fang Bai picked up the note and glanced at it, then a scornful smile played on his lips.

This "invitation" from Wang Huashan must have been delivered while he was out of the hospital, otherwise it wouldn't have escaped his notice.

Knowing the enemy and knowing yourself, you will not be imperiled in a hundred battles.

After becoming an enemy of the Wang Family, Fang Bai also gathered some information about them through various channels, focusing particularly on the martial artists of the Wang Family.

Compared with other powerful clans, the Wang Family may not have significant influence in the political and business arenas, but they do have numerous, rather strong Ancient Martial Cultivators, which is why they are regarded as a top-tier noble family.

It seems that the Wang Family is connected with some Ancient Martial Sects in the secular world. Many young family members are sent to these sects from childhood to cultivate, and upon mastering their skills, they return to serve and safeguard the family's interests.

Over the years, the Wang Family has produced a number of martial artists with good qualifications and talent, especially Wang Huashan, who stands out the most.

At forty, Wang Huashan had already become an initial-level Profound Rank martial artist, and at sixty, he broke through to the mid-level Profound Rank, causing a sensation in the secular Ancient Martial World and bringing the Wang Family's influence and prestige to a peak.

Now, although Wang Huashan is well over eighty, he's still vigorous and full of life. Even though he hasn't managed to advance to a higher level, it's said that he has reached the pinnacle of the mid-level Profound Rank.

Perhaps just a small epiphany is all it would take for Wang Huashan to become a high-rank Profound Level martial artist.

However, given that Wang Huashan is already advanced in age, with diminished vitality and not as quick-witted as he once was, achieving that epiphany to advance in rank is immensely difficult.

"Wang Huashan is the Wang Family's top expert. If I can handle him, the Wang Family should become more compliant, right? It's a pity, though, that a mid-level Profound Rank martial artist is still far beneath me, so I can't enjoy a satisfyingly fierce battle!"

Fang Bai sighed inwardly with regret, as he truly wished he could have a battle with a formidable opponent of equal strength, for it was through such a fierce battle that he could comprehend the arcane mysteries of the Martial Dao and boost his own power.

With a slight vibration of his finger, the "invitation" sent by Wang Huashan instantly turned to dust, floating down into the wastebasket.

After being busy all afternoon, at around half-past five, Fang Bai changed his clothes and was about to leave when a fragrant breeze wafted by, and Su Linglong appeared in front of him again.

"Fang Bai, one of our female colleagues in the nursing department is celebrating her birthday tonight, and she has invited us to have dinner at the 'Mirror Lake Hotel'. Could you come with me? Everyone... everyone is bringing their boyfriends..."

Su Linglong said with a blush, her large eyes filled with anticipation.

Since Su Linglong came to Yanjing Hospital for her internship, she instantly became the most beautiful scenery in the hospital, and the unmarried male doctors, as if injected with chicken blood, pursued her tirelessly.

Su Linglong was so tired of being harassed by those male doctors that she simply implied she already had a boyfriend, and that person was Fang Bai.

Once the news spread, the number of male doctors harassing her immediately dropped by more than half.

What could they do? Fang Bai was not only skilled in medicine but also had good relations with the Lu Family.

Provoking Fang Bai might not be a big deal, but provoking the Lu Family would lead to big trouble, so many of the more self-aware male doctors chose to back off.

However, there was still a small group of male doctors who, like moths to a flame, kept chasing after Su Linglong with the mindset of both being unmarried.

Every morning Su Linglong went to work, she would receive many flowers and love letters, but these, without exception, all ended up in the trash can outside.

"Once you've tasted the vastness of the sea, it's hard to return to the streams."

Having met a divine man like Fang Bai, ordinary men in the secular world couldn't catch Su Linglong's eye anymore.

"When does your dinner start?"

Fang Bai glanced at the time and asked.

"Seven o'clock. Why? Do you have plans tonight?"

Su Linglong looked at Fang Bai's expression and asked cautiously.

"Hmm, I have a personal matter to attend to..."

Seeing the evident disappointment on Su Linglong's face, Fang Bai smiled and added, "But don't worry, I will try to finish my business as quickly as possible and aim to arrive at the hotel you've booked by seven o'clock... 'Mirror Lake Hotel', right? Okay, I've got it!"

Fang Bai's scheduled meeting time with Wang Huashan was six-thirty. If Wang Huashan was planning to resolve the conflict between them through force, Fang Bai believed he could easily defeat his opponent.

As a middle-ranking Profound Level and one roughly equivalent to a middle-ranking Earth Level, there was a massive difference in their realms, and they were not even on the same level.

Even if Wang Huashan had set an ambush in the willow forest of the West Suburb, Fang Bai wasn't the least bit afraid. He planned to bring the Lightning Mink with him, and once on-site, let the little creature patrol around the willows. If they encountered an ambush, it would take care of it.

With man and marten working together, as long as they didn't come across a Heaven Level Martial Artist, Fang Bai was confident he could deal with the situation with ease.

Hearing this, Su Linglong's spirits lifted, and she cheerfully said, "Great, then I'll wait for you at the hotel entrance. Remember, no backing out!"

"No backing out!"

"Then I'm going now! You'd better hurry up with your errand!"

After saying goodbye to Fang Bai, Su Linglong turned around and left with graceful steps.

As for what private matter Fang Bai had to attend to, he didn't say and Linglong didn't ask.

Su Linglong was a wise woman; she knew that women who clung to their boyfriends every moment were not as popular as those who gave men enough personal space.