

Genius 1021

Chapter 1021: Kill_2

Wild boars charge very fast, but that's their downfall—they can't stop on a dime...

And just as the wild boar's massive body passes through the spot where Qin Fang had been standing, Qin Fang's figure suddenly reappears behind it.

With a single hand raised, the Military Spike in his grip flashes with a dark gleam, and then he thrusts it viciously into the boar's hindquarters, which were still quivering with an embedded arrow.

Pfft~~

The sharp Military Spike pierces mercilessly straight into the boar's behind, sinking deeply in an instant, and crimson blood spurts out from the wound as swiftly as Sharp Arrow had done.

With the lethal sharpness of the Military Spike and Qin Fang's full-force thrust, the strike was unstoppable, a force that would annihilate gods and Buddhas alike. The boar's underside was its weakest spot, and with it now defenselessly exposed before Qin Fang, why would he show any mercy?

"Aoo aoo aoo~~"

The stab was too vicious; almost the entire length of the Military Spike sank in, and the boar's agonized screams instantly resounded throughout the entire forest...

And as for Qin Fang himself, he quickly retreated the moment he landed his blow.

A wounded beast is most dangerous, let alone this ferocious wild boar; if it were to land even a single blow on him, even his defenses would likely suffer serious damage.

The Military Spike remained lodged in the boar's hindquarters, deeply embedded, blood gushing, exacerbating its injuries severely.

Undoubtedly, the boar couldn't think like a human, but its instincts made it crystal clear that Qin Fang was its greatest enemy, wishing fervently to rend him to pieces and swallow him whole.

But that single strike had almost completely deprived the boar of any will to continue fighting Qin Fang, the intense pain nearly knocking it unconscious.

Wild boars are known for their thick skin and flesh, not exactly impenetrable, but close enough; who could have anticipated that today it would be first shot in the hindquarters, causing severe pain, and then receive another even more ruthless blow...

The Military Spike plunged almost completely in, and the boar could feel its bowels getting thoroughly punctured, blood spewing uncontrollably.

"Aoo aoo aoo~~"

Since it dared not fight any longer, the next priority was to flee. The boar let out a pitiful howl and its hefty body immediately bolted into the depths of the forest.

Its speed was incredibly fast, even faster than when it was previously pursuing Qin Fang...

"Thinking of escaping? Not so easy..."

But if Qin Fang had already made his move, how could he possibly leave things unfinished? Seeing the boar turn tail in such an undignified flight, Qin Fang couldn't help but sneer, immediately unleashing his top speed to chase after it.

Merely minutes ago, the boar had been pursuing Qin Fang like a victor, but within a few brief moments, the situation had completely reversed—it was now Qin Fang, the victor, hunting down the injured wild boar.

As he ran, Qin Fang flicked his hand, and that bow reappeared once again. He immediately nocked an arrow and aimed for the boar's wound!

Swoosh~~

The long arrow flew forth, transforming into a black lightning bolt, heading straight for the injured boar.

Initially, when the boar was chasing Qin Fang, its hindquarters were to the back, making it impossible for Qin Fang to act, but now the situation was different. He didn't need to adjust his aim at all, and simply loosed an arrow straight at the boar's hindquarters.

Ding~~

First, a crisp clashing sound, resembling the clang of metal striking metal.

Pfft~~

But immediately after, a dull sound followed—the sound of a sharp object penetrating flesh...

"Ao ao ao~~"

The wild boar was frantically fleeing, almost too panicked to choose its path, but with the great enemy still tightly on its heels, it dared not even pause to rest.

But although the distance was still great, Qin Fang had now transitioned from a close-combat warrior to a long-range archer, and his arrow struck precisely onto the Military Spike he had left inside the body of the wild boar.

The powerful force on the arrow was completely transferred to the Military Spike, and with such a burst of energy, the Military Spike that had been fully embedded in the wild boar's posterior wreaked havoc once again within its body, this time directly piercing through many internal organs...

Like the posture of the wild boar's dash, the vigorously thrusting Military Spike made a clean pass through, almost drilling out from the boar's mouth!

This time it was truly ruthless!

And it was a particularly brutal kind of ruthlessness!

Such a strong wild boar had almost no damage to its exterior skin, yet its internal organs were nearly utterly destroyed.

The Military Spike performed a high-speed stabbing, and since the soft organs had no bony structure, and given the angle was just right, the outcome was complete tragedy for the wild boar.

"Ao~ao~ao~~"

The sharp Military Spike was now stuck in the wild boar's throat, and the blood was gushing out incessantly, and even the pained groans of the wild boar became incredibly strained, as it felt as if its body was being pierced through with every movement.

The wild boar still struggled to run forwards, but its speed was significantly reduced. After about a few dozen meters, it finally succumbed to its grave injuries, collapsed with a thud against a tree nearby, and laid there—completely motionless.

Qin Fang only then slowly walked over, but he didn't rush to approach, as the wild boar was not completely dead yet and still had a faint breath left.

Approaching now was surely not wise; who knew if the wild boar would suddenly muster its last bit of strength in a last blaze of vitality and deliver a fierce blow to Qin Fang?

The wild boar's eyes were still as blood-red as ever, only now completely devoid of ferocity and filled with intense sorrow, perhaps knowing it was close to death.

Qin Fang stood there, quietly waiting—he was not one of those inexplicably sympathetic animal enthusiasts. Since this wild boar had targeted him, it should be prepared for slaughter.

Humans are the Spirit of All Things; millions of years of evolution have placed us at the very top of the food chain. In that distant era, humans could be said to be the favorite food of wild beasts...

Qin Fang's actions were merely a natural selection of survival of the fittest.

Eventually, the wild boar, bloodied and with ruptured internal organs, died completely, devoid of any traces of life.

Knowing this, Qin Fang leisurely walked over, prepared to clean up the aftermath. Such a large wild boar should not just be left here; it would be too wasteful.

After all, if left in the mountain, it would be eaten by other wild beasts; it was much better to take it out of the mountains to supplement someone's meal...

"Hm? Who..."

But as Qin Fang was about to collect the dead wild boar, he suddenly felt a disturbance in the air around him, as if some mysterious threat was present.

This was definitely not an illusion for Qin Fang, who had always been extremely vigilant of his surroundings; the only lapse might have been in the moment of the wild boar's death.

But soon he noticed something out of the ordinary; a threat was seemingly looming close around him...

"Come out!"

Qin Fang was highly alert to his surroundings, continuously shouting in alarm. Unfortunately, it was as if there was no one there, exceptionally calm, and no one appeared.

"Hiss~~"

Just as Qin Fang was about to investigate the situation, he suddenly felt a sharp pain in his calf, as if some object had burrowed into his leg muscle and seemed to still be wriggling inside...

Chapter 1022: The Frenzied Black Witch Doctor

This feeling is very strange, it is the first time Qin Fang has ever experienced this, he has never encountered anything similar before, which really left him stunned.

Without any hesitation, Qin Fang immediately tore off the skin at the painful spot on his leg, and found that his calf had almost completely turned a dark greenish-black and began to swell gradually, looking extremely eerie...

"What in the world is going on?"

Qin Fang was also bewildered by this situation, having not felt anything beforehand, it just suddenly turned out this way.

"Poisoned?"

But Qin Fang did not panic too much, he immediately checked his character status, and found an additional status with a green skull icon—indicating poison.

Seeing this situation, although the poisoned area was still spreading towards his upper body, looking particularly terrifying, Qin Fang instead relaxed a bit and immediately took out a Detoxification Pill from the Props Box and swallowed it.

This Detoxification Pill is something Qin Fang always carries a few of, as he has leveled up now, there is enough space in the Props Box, and carrying more items just in case is quite reasonable.

The ingredients for the Detoxification Pills are relatively simple, much easier to produce than Heart Nourishing Pills, Qin Fang didn't make them in large quantities, but still has a stock of over twenty.

Knowing that he was going to enter the mountains, considering that there are many poisonous insects and fierce beasts in these mountains, Qin Fang specifically brought all the Detoxification Pills with him, not expecting them to be used so soon.

However, this poison seemed quite domineering, and the toxicity very severe. After taking the Detoxification Pill, Qin Fang felt waves of coolness, the toxicity was temporarily suppressed, but it did not decrease rapidly.

To ensure complete safety, Qin Fang immediately swallowed two more Detoxification Pills, after all, they are harmless to his body and can suppress and neutralize the toxicity, so consuming a few more is not a problem.

"Don't waste your effort, you are poisoned with my Gu poison; in this world, no one but me can save you..."

Just then, a man in tattered robes emerged from behind a tree, looking quite destitute, but his eyes gave off a very frightening and sinister feeling.

This person is definitely not benevolent!

Even without the current situation, if Qin Fang encountered this person, even without using the Scouting Skill, he could make the same judgment.

"Gu poison?"

Although Qin Fang noticed that this poison was extremely domineering, he only thought it was from being bitten by some poisonous insects or vipers, and didn't realize that it was actually Gu insects that had bitten him.

Gu insects are also considered a type of poisonous insect, but they themselves are the strongest survivors from the killings among many poisonous insects, hence their toxicity is the most severe, unimaginably so.

Qin Fang's brows furrowed tightly, he had previously felt as if there was something small wriggling inside his leg, it seems that it might be the Gu insect.

Qin Fang had once helped Old Master Wu expel a Gu insect, resolving the Gu poison incident, and understood the domineering nature of this poison, even with Detoxification Pills at hand, he couldn't guarantee a complete retreat.

At least, the little guy inside his leg is troublesome...

Just as he was a bit worried, a very subtle throb suddenly emerged deep in his heart, as if something was about to awaken, instantly brightening Qin Fang's somewhat dim eyes.

"Who are you? Why do you want to hurt me?"

The matter of Gu poison, Qin Fang could temporarily set aside; he was not worried that this little insect could threaten his safety, despite it currently causing quite a stir inside him, but it would soon meet its tragic fate because Qin Fang already felt signs of awakening from the little dragon that had been dormant inside it for a long time.

This little dragon seems particularly interested in various venomous substances; it does not repel but directly devours these toxic materials completely, leaving no residue whatsoever.

In the past when the little dragon was dormant, Qin Fang was somewhat worried that his Detoxification Pills could detoxify but might not be able to kill the poisonous insects lurking inside him, but now that the little dragon has awakened, the poisonous insects are doomed.

Gu insects are not enough to frighten, so next Qin Fang wanted to figure out the identity of this suddenly appeared person... Moreover, attacking as soon as he appeared was really too vicious.

"Let me tell you, I am Black Witch Doctor Mulun... As for why I want to attack you, you can only blame yourself for appearing in front of me. I just happen to need a person with vigorous vital energy as my precious one's blood food, and you delivered yourself to my doorstep..."

This man seemed quite arrogant, seeing that Qin Fang had been hit by his Gu, he appeared confident and fearless. He wasn't in a hurry to attack Qin Fang, instead, he started talking to him.

"Black Witch Doctor..."

Regarding witch doctors, Qin Fang had already learned a bit from Master Geda. There were two types, black and white. While white witch doctors heal and save people, like Master Geda who is respected by many tribes, Black Witch Doctors are exactly the opposite; they are born to harm people.

For example, this Mulun in front of him is a Black Witch Doctor, and as soon as he appeared, he used Gu on Qin Fang, intending to kill him directly. Moreover, from his words, it seems that quite a number of people had fallen into his hands.

Recalling what Zhuo Da, Sang Duo, and others had said, many excellent hunters and warriors went into the mountains but never came out... It was generally assumed they encountered large wild animals like leopards, tigers, wild boars, etc., but now it seems that might not be the case.

Those excellent hunters and warriors are undoubtedly people with extremely vigorous vital energy, and this precious one mentioned by the Black Witch Doctor is clearly the Gu insects he breeds...

Gu insects are the most common means used by Black Witch Doctors to harm people, but they are quite difficult to breed, requiring ample blood food.

Looking at Mulun's appearance, tattered and likely having spent a long time in the mountains, surely a significant number of people must have perished by his hands.

Perhaps in his view, with the toxicity of Gu poison taking effect, Qin Fang now is merely holding on and will soon die of poisoning.

At the same time, he shook his arm slightly, revealing a tiny golden bug that crawled out from his worn sleeve.

This little bug looked small and cute, but if observed under a magnifying glass, one would find it has very sharp teeth and horns, looking extremely fierce and terrifying!

"See this? This is a Four-winged Golden Gu... the most powerful among all my treasures. Once it feeds on the blood of a martial artist like you, it can evolve to the level of a Six-winged Golden Gu. Then, it can come and go without a trace, killing invisibly. I'd like to see who in this world can stand against me... All those who dared to mock or underestimate me, I want you all dead..."

Noticing that Qin Fang was paying attention to this little creature in his hand, Mulun seemed even more proud, happily showing off his treasure to Qin Fang.

However, during his monologue, he seemed mentally as if he had suffered a severe shock, a bit hysterical.

But the more such people exist, the more paranoid and terrifying they become, because there's nothing they care about except achieving their goals, capable of doing anything.

Just like this Mulun, it seems for the sake of nurturing this Six-winged Golden Gu, he simply doesn't care how many people die by his hands.

When hearing the previous words, Qin Fang just frowned, not too worried, as this kind of Gu itself is already a very terrifying existence. Whether it's an ordinary Gu or a Six-winged Golden Gu, for ordinary people, they're fatally dangerous...

Given Mulun's character, he definitely wouldn't take the initiative to cure anyone, as he still relies on killing more people to sustain his treasure Gu insects.

The effect of the Detoxification Pill has started to work, and the severe poison is gradually receding. The poisoned area is also being continuously compressed. Although due to the Gu still inside, it's temporarily impossible to completely force it out of the body, it also temporarily won't threaten Qin Fang's safety.

Moreover, Little Dragon's movements are growing stronger, seemingly attracted by the aura of the Gu insect. It is believed that it won't be long before it completely awakens.

"Mulun, if I remember correctly, all these Gu insects are nurtured by you. Although they are all very powerful and terrifying, as long as I kill you, these Gu insects will also die, right..."

Having confirmed he was not in danger, Qin Fang began contemplating how to deal with this neurotic yet exceedingly malicious Mulun.

Directly killing him is naturally a good choice, but Qin Fang didn't know what would become of these Gu insects after Mulun's death, so he couldn't help but start probing.

"Hmph... Do you think I would be so foolish?"

Hearing Qin Fang's words, Mulun immediately showed a very contemptuous sneer, "You are not one of our Miaojiang people, naturally you don't know that we Black Witch Doctors all raise a Heart Gu. If the Heart Gu is not dead, then these Gu insects will not die... And the Heart Gu is our Black Witch Doctor's Primordial Spirit. Even if you kill me, the Heart Gu can still continue to execute my commands... Hahaha!"

It must be said, Miaojiang Gu Art is really a very eerie thing, hearing it makes Qin Fang feel creeped out, it doesn't sound plausible at all.

"Moreover, the Heart Gu can also seize and reanimate recently deceased bodies... Tsk, your body is not bad, I'm a bit tempted!"

What frightened Qin Fang even more was this next part, the existence of spirit possession and reanimation...

Chapter 1023: Exterminating Gu

Although Qin Fang had already seen some things in rather fantastical terms, it still wasn't to the extent of being so absurd. If even resurrection by corpse possession could succeed, wouldn't there be many old monsters who have lived for hundreds or thousands of years?

But apparently, such beings don't exist...

Even those martial artists, whose Inner Strength had reached the terrifying levels of 7 and 8, could only live for at most one hundred years.

Qin Fang had never seen a Level 9 Grandmaster, but he presumed they were not much different; a person's lifespan has its limits and cannot just extend indefinitely to immortality.

"Resurrection by corpse possession... I really don't believe that!"

The Black Witch Doctor Mulun seemed to have gone mad, showing significant mental issues, thus the credibility of his words was relatively limited.

However, Qin Fang was not in a hurry, as the Gu poison in his body had not been fully neutralized. At this moment, he actually had some leisure time to indulge in small talk with Black Witch Doctor Mulun.

"You don't believe it?"

Upon hearing this, Mulun was momentarily stunned, his face and eyes revealing considerable dissatisfaction. However, he did not immediately turn hostile; instead, his expression changed as if contemplating something.

"It's true, I believe. You said every Black Witch Doctor has a Heart Gu, but I've been poisoned by your Gu, and you still have a Four-winged Golden Gu in your hand. Isn't it said that each Black Witch Doctor can only domesticate one or two Gu Insects? How could there be something even more powerful..."

Qin Fang wore a serene smile on his face. Although Mulun was vicious, his mind wasn't particularly sharp. Qin Fang surmised that these so-called theories of his were mostly instilled by someone else or were just his own imaginations, having no connection to reality.

"Who said Black Witch Doctors can only domesticate one or two Gu Insects? I have raised many..."

Mulun, who originally seemed to be immersed in thought, suddenly burst into a rage upon Qin Fang's words, showing great agitation, as if he wished he could tear Qin Fang limb from limb.

"Could it be because of this that I always fail?"

While Qin Fang was still puzzled about what had touched Mulun's sore spot, Mulun hung his head and began to mutter softly, his face showing traces of confusion and hesitation.

His voice was low, but Qin Fang's hearing was extremely sharp, capturing every word clearly. His own face couldn't help but reveal a touch of bemusement.

The Miaojiang Gu Art is an extremely bizarre secret technique with a long heritage, rumored to have originated from Chiyou of the Jiuli Tribe, who was defeated in ancient times.

Yet Qin Fang had very little understanding of such secret techniques. Had it not been for aiding Old Master Wu to detoxify last time, he wouldn't believe that Gu Techniques had been transmitted among people.

Now that he himself had been poisoned with Gu, and having clearly seen the ferocious Four-winged Golden Gu active on Mulun's fingertips, he truly could not believe it any more.

The previous statement was merely a random fabrication by Qin Fang, who, noticing Mulun's mental instability, attempted to deceive the Heart Gu out of him.

"Impossible, this is absolutely impossible..."

As Qin Fang was surprised, Mulun once again snapped, glaring at Qin Fang with a sinister gaze. His eyes turned a creepy green and seemed quite terrifying.

At the same time, Qin Fang clearly noticed an intense red light emanating from Mulun, nearly engulfing him entirely.

Without a doubt, Mulun's killing intent towards Qin Fang intensified at that moment, resolutely decided on murdering him...

"Unexpectedly, you are even stronger than I estimated, managing to hold on for so long and not dying..." After a fit of rage, Mulun's mental state seemed to calm down significantly, his mind cleared up more, and he spoke very smoothly at this time.

"With only this insignificant Gu poison, you can't do anything to me..."

Qin Fang's facial expression remained unchanged, speaking indifferently and even contemptuously.

This Gu poison would be extremely lethal to ordinary people, the one Qin Fang was infected with being even more poisonous than the Bamboo Splinter Gu that Old Master Wu had suffered from.

But Qin Fang had just been poisoned and had immediately taken a Detoxification Pill, thus the toxicity had been greatly reduced and he was close to completely eliminating it.

"Then I really want to see how you can be dealt with? My little darling, make your move..."

Mulun's face sinister, and his eyes gleaming with a strange green light, he affectionately called out, speaking to the Four-winged Golden Gu with a tone that made people involuntarily get goosebumps.

Swoosh~~

Then, the Four-winged Golden Gu instantly flew from his fingertips, turning into an almost imperceptible faint shadow and disappearing from Qin Fang's sight.

Naturally, it didn't truly disappear; it's just that the speed at which the Four-winged Golden Gu flew had already exceeded the limit of what Qin Fang's eyes could capture.

Qin Fang could distinctly sense the presence of the Four-winged Golden Gu lurking nearby, ready to strike a lethal blow at any moment.

The Four-winged Golden Gu was a Gu insect meticulously cultivated by Mulun. It had devoured the vital energy of numerous brave warriors and slaughtered many of its own kind to emerge victorious, becoming the most formidable one...

Should it absorb the vital energy of a martial artist as powerful and filled with True Qi as Qin Fang, it might actually have the potential to break through its current limit and evolve into the elusive and formless Six-winged Golden Gu.

And that was precisely Mulun's intention, to lie in wait and strike when Qin Fang was engaged in fierce battle with the wild boar, when his vital energy was at its peak.

Qin Fang was fully alert, his entire body tensed, with every cell mobilized... constantly on guard for the imminent threat of the Four-winged Golden Gu.

He had yet to fully neutralize the Gu poison in his body, and now he had to face an even more formidable attack from the Four-winged Golden Gu.

His internal True Qi was gathered to its limit, with his profound Inner Qi throbbing inside him, and several shimmering Silver Needles had appeared between his palms.

The Four-winged Golden Gu was extremely elusive, and it was difficult to target with swords or Military Spikes, making the Silver Needles, used for acupuncture, much more effective.

Buzz~~

At that moment, Qin Fang suddenly heard an extremely faint buzzing sound by his ear, like that of an insect flying past, a sound difficult for most to catch, but not for Qin Fang's ears.

There should be a lot of mosquitoes in the mountains, but given the season, despite the tolerable temperature, they were relatively scarce. At least, Qin Fang hadn't encountered many during his time in the mountains.

Everything had been very calm before, but at this very moment, that slight sound arose, and it was hard for Qin Fang not to be alert... Without a doubt, the hidden Four-winged Golden Gu had appeared.

However, Qin Fang didn't immediately take action. Instead, he sensed a little one inside him stirring, issuing him a command.

Immediately, he felt a warm current swiftly flow from his heart, heading straight towards the infected left calf with the speed of lightning, an unstoppable force.

"Yi..."

Across from him, Mulun was also slightly startled. He had just experienced a sudden heart palpitation, which seemed abnormal, but before he could discern what was happening, his heart felt as if it had been pricked by a needle, and a sudden sharp pain exploded in his chest.

Spurt~~

At that moment, Mulun spat out a mouthful of blood, with an odd mix of red and green, which looked particularly eerie.

Almost at the same time, seemingly ignoring Mulun's reaction, Qin Fang's wrist trembled slightly, and several Silver Needles immediately turned into streaks of silver light, shooting out at incredible speed, surprisingly aimed at the temple on his own head.

This was akin to suicide!

The Silver Needles shot out by Qin Fang contained his True Qi, making their destructive power extraordinarily formidable, capable of breaking through bricks and stones.

The temple is one of the body's vital points and also a fatal one. If one were struck there, it would be extremely deadly, let alone with Silver Needles filled with powerful True Qi. Once penetrated, death was almost certain.

If someone else had made such an attack on Qin Fang, it could be understood, but the puzzling fact was that Qin Fang was now targeting himself.

But was Qin Fang the kind of person whose brains were scrambled?

If anyone thought so, they would be the actual fool!

Ding~~

Just as the Silver Needles were about to pierce Qin Fang's temple, a very faint collision sound could be heard, similar to metal clashing.

Spurt~~

Mulun, who had just spat out blood and was still disoriented, suffered a severe blow once again, and his breath surged out violently, making him look significantly weaker.

"You... you actually..."

And Mulun's eyes were filled with disbelief, his hand pointing at Qin Fang while his mouth trembled, as if he had seen a ghost.

"I said, a little Gu poison can't harm me..."

Qin Fang's face remained calm, paying no mind to Mulun's anger and resentment. He glanced down and saw the Four-winged Golden Gu, pierced by his Silver Needle, and despite falling to the ground still fluttering its wings...

"I thought this little thing was quite powerful, but it seems that it is nothing special after all!"

Qin Fang toyed with the Four-winged Golden Gu. This little thing, now a prisoner, was still viciously trying to bite him, making multiple attempts to fly at Qin Fang, but its feeble efforts were no match for a human...

Besides, Qin Fang was not so foolish as to let the Four-winged Golden Gu have its way, especially when the chance to eradicate it was not always available.

Chapter 1024: Killing Mulun

"You..."

Hearing Qin Fang's words, Mulun was really extremely angry, yet at the same time, quite helpless. Undeniably, he had already missed the best opportunity to act.

If it weren't for his mind being muddled just now, wasting a lot of breath on useless talk with Qin Fang and giving Qin Fang enough time to rid his body of the Gu insect's intense poison.

Then, turning the tables and annihilating the Gu insect hidden within Qin Fang's body, causing Mulun, whose soul was connected with the Gu insect, to suffer a sudden trauma that made him burst out vomiting blood.

Vomiting blood wasn't much, but it allowed Mulun, who was originally ordering the Four-winged Golden Gu to attack Qin Fang, to experience a momentary dullness in mind. Qin Fang seized this opportunity and immediately took action.

What the Four-winged Golden Gu truly wanted to suck was not Ye Chen's blood, but his brain marrow, entering through the temple was the best and fastest choice...

However, it was precisely because of this that Qin Fang captured its trajectory, and resolutely attacked, successfully stabbing the Four-winged Golden Gu.

Regarding those True Qi-filled Silver Needles posing a threat to Qin Fang himself, that's all nonsense. Any item taken out from Qin Fang's Props Box would absolutely not harm Qin Fang himself unless he wished it, as they would automatically enter inside the Props Box when close to the skin...

This was the reason Qin Fang could act so boldly, but the Four-winged Golden Gu obviously didn't have such good luck. Qin Fang launched several needles at once, and as it was in a directionless dull state, it was successfully hit by Qin Fang.

The True Qi-filled Silver Needle could ease through brick and stone; don't think the Four-winged Golden Gu's body had an outer shell, it still couldn't block such Silver Needles, immediately breaking the shell and easily piercing through its body.

Gu insects and Black Witch Doctor are one, linked mentally; Black Witch Doctor can issue commands in this manner, and similarly, if a Gu insect is injured, the Black Witch Doctor itself will also sustain injuries.

The extent of the injuries also equates roughly to the injuries sustained by the Gu insect; if the Gu reported severe damage, the Black Witch Doctor would be heavily injured too. If the Gu suffered light injuries, the Black Witch Doctor would simply spit a bit of blood and then be alright.

It also relates to how closely the Gu insect and Black Witch Doctor are connected; ordinary tamed Gu insects are simple in controlling and not very tightly connected, like the one that burrowed inside Qin Fang.

There are also some connections that are very intimate, like this Four-winged Golden Cicada carefully nurtured by Mulun, or perhaps even that unknown Heart Gu.

Gu poison can be removed, and in fact, Qin Fang's Gu poison was completely neutralized just as Mulun went mad and took action, and that Little Dragon also successfully revived, then with the speed of lightning, directly annihilated the Gu insect inside Qin Fang's body which completely hadn't sensed the incoming threat.

Although this Gu insect was moderately connected with Mulun, its sudden annihilation still caused a certain amount of trauma to him, and later Qin Fang seized the opportunity, and also shot down the Four-winged Golden Gu.

Injured by the shot, Mulun also suffered heavy injuries as if he was the one whose body was pierced, appearing much weaker overall.

"You... just kill me!"

Mulun was also a person of resolute decision, his eyes filled with endless anger and resentment, wishing if he could, to let Qin Fang endure the pain of ten thousand insects gnawing at the heart.

Unfortunately, his injuries were very severe now, and facing a master like Qin Fang, he had absolutely no strength to resist, so he simply closed his eyes and waited for death.

When his consciousness was clear, he was quite aware of the things he had done; Black Witch Doctor was originally a taboo in the mountains, and Gu Technique was also equally a forbidden secret technique to cultivate, because a successful Black Witch Doctor always grew up stepping on many people's corpses.

In that distant era, continuous wars between tribes were the fertile soil for Black Witch Doctors to thrive; but in this peaceful era, Black Witch Doctors have become a taboo within the tribes.

Mulun secretly achieved the Black Witch Doctor status, and continually caused the deaths of many brave warriors from various tribes, thus nurturing such a level of Four-winged Golden Gu.

It could be said that his hands were covered in unprecedentedly deep bloodshed, as Qin Fang used the Scouting Skill to check, finding him a super villain with over ten thousand Sin Points.

Being a good person is not easy, every Justice Point is earned extremely painfully, but being a villain is very easy—killing one person equates to one hundred Sin Points.

More than ten thousand Sin Points, equivalent to over a hundred lives, definitely a tremendously ruthless figure, even the Bomb Madman Cao Chun that Qin Fang dealt with before only had just over three thousand Sin Points.

The bomb set off by a Bomb Madman could instantly take hundreds of lives, yet Cao Chun only had just over three thousand points, implying that he still controlled the explosion range very strictly.

But this Mulun was different. In this mountain, the law was blind-sided. Although murder was prohibited, how it was ultimately punished still had some say.

Under normal circumstances, tribal feuds that result in death were overlooked, but internal tribal killings were severely punished, almost akin to a death sentence.

Yet Mulun kills upon encounter, engaging in mindless slaughter without need for any reason, which was truly terrifying as he knew no bounds, only acting for himself...

"Since you are well aware, I won't show you any courtesy then! Rest assured, I will grant you a swift..."
Such a person should not continue to exist in this world.

Gu Technique is profoundly mysterious, beyond what Qin Fang currently understands, but Mulun's injuries are merely due to his involvement with the Four-winged Golden Gu and have not caused substantial harm. If he rests for a while, he could recover completely soon.

If such a person continues to live, more people would suffer. Although Qin Fang wasn't from the mountains, he couldn't stand by and watch this person harm others.

Moreover, this Black Witch Doctor Mulun, with a high Sin Points of over ten thousand, if he was the one to eliminate him, the Justice Points gained would be a terrifying figure.

While calmly speaking, he slowly approached Black Witch Doctor Mulun and drew a Military Spike in his hand, which would be used to end Mulun's life.

Mulun's face seemed calm, seemingly not fearful of death, but his eyes harbored deeper resentment, even showing hints of madness.

Qin Fang kept his attention on Mulun and couldn't understand his reaction; immediately, he employed the Mind Reading Technique. Mulun's mind was clearly disturbed, and the technique might bring unexpected revelations.

"Still thinking about resurrection through corpse possession..."

When Qin Fang discerned Mulun's thoughts, he couldn't help but shake his head. Mulun still believed in resurrection through corpse possession quite devoutly.

Regarding this, Qin Fang had nothing to say. Mulun was fully convinced, not giving up even facing death, continuously harboring thoughts of the Heart Gu seeking revenge and killing Qin Fang.

"Ah? Tang Sect..."

Regarding the resurrection, Qin Fang didn't care much but he stumbled upon some unexpected information from the depths of Mulun's memory, including snippets about the hidden Tang Sect deep in the mountains.

Mulun had once visited the Tang Sect. Although he didn't enter, he knew the location... a valley where two large mountains intersected.

That place was rumored to be an entrance of Tang Sect. Mulun had seen Tang Sect disciples leaving the mountains there, but unfortunately, he never knew the method to enter the mountains.

This memory fragment was fragmented and contained little information. Eventually, Qin Fang could not determine the exact location of that valley, as there were no specific place names deep in the mountains. Mulun only had a rough description of the nearby area.

Perhaps when he was lucky enough to witness the location, Qin Fang could confirm the site. For now, he certainly knew nothing.

Qin Fang accessed other memories, mostly related to various Gu Insects, which he was not interested in and thus skipped over them.

It, however, enlightened Qin Fang about why Mulun was mentally disturbed, his biggest obsession, and ultimately, it was all for a woman.

Such melodramatic romances were of no interest to Qin Fang, and he chose to skip them, leaving no other valuable information.

No treasures of any kind within the mountains either.

Pff~~

Qin Fang really didn't show any courtesy to Mulun; the black Military Spike in his hand struck out like lightning, piercing through Mulun's heart with the force of a thunderbolt.

In just a moment, the blood that was slightly red turned completely green – quite eerie – possibly due to Mulun's prolonged exposure to deadly poisons, nearly transforming him into a poison man...

He was not Mulun, nor did he like to watch his opponents die slowly from poison right in front of him; he simply thrust through Mulun's heart in one strike.

Mulun's face remained calm, even revealing a peculiarly creepy smile before he died, and then with those dreadful green eyes, he thoroughly descended to Hell.

When this child first appeared, he was incredibly powerful, his Gu Insects flying all around, an almost invincible existence. All his killings happened in a very short time, no one could last more than ten minutes before dying from poisoning.

Yet he never expected that upon encountering a real opponent, he met someone like Qin Fang, not only did he avoid being poisoned to death, but he also destroyed his cherished Four-winged Golden Gu, cultivated through numerous murders, and incidentally killed him too...

Chapter 1025: Transfer of the Heart Gu

For a monstrous executioner like Mulun, whose hands were stained with much blood, Qin Fang showed no courtesy and directly obliterated him with ease.

The combat power of a Black Witch Doctor lies in the Gu Insects. Mulun's own combat abilities were negligible, probably any random warrior from a mountain tribe could easily knock him down.

But relying on the power of the Gu Insects, his level had artificially reached Level 5, almost approaching Level 6...

Qin Fang estimated that if this Four-winged Golden Gu evolved into a Six-winged Golden Gu, Black Witch Doctor Mulun could advance to Level 6 Grandmaster.

Undoubtedly, Gu Insects are very powerful and terrifying. Had Qin Fang not had some tricks up his sleeve, he would have fallen victim to Mulun's schemes by now, and the situation could have been reversed.

Watching Mulun slowly dying, yet finally exploding none at all, not even a half copper, was extremely stingy.

"Uh..."

But just as Qin Fang was about to leave, he suddenly noticed something unusual, and finally focused his gaze back on Mulun's corpse.

Mulun was dead, but Qin Fang clearly sensed that there was still a life form present, slowly crawling out of Mulun's body.

The Scouting Skill is not omnipotent; it could sense the presence of this life form but couldn't identify what it actually was.

Qin Fang wasn't in a hurry, and continued to stand there waiting for this life form to emerge...

A few minutes later, a milky white little chubby worm crawled out of Mulun's nostrils, its black eyes, sharp as drills, looked around at the world with confusion and curiosity.

"Is this the Heart Gu?"

Looking at the plump little insect in front of him, it seemed quite adorable, not fierce and terrifying like the Four-winged Golden Gu, but rather like an ordinary pet, quaint and cute.

But Qin Fang knew that this little insect was definitely not as simple as it appeared. Being able to become a Heart Gu, a place where a Black Witch Doctor's Primordial Spirit is entrusted, this little insect must be quite extraordinary.

However, Qin Fang had too little understanding of Gu Technique and did not quite understand how this Heart Gu could be manipulated or counteracted...

Buzz~~

Not only this, the Four-winged Golden Gu, still threaded onto the Silver Needle, after Mulun's death, seemed to follow its master to the afterlife, yet now suddenly started to flutter its wings as if resurrected once again.

Qin Fang reacted swiftly, pinching the Silver Needle with his fingers, trapping the Four-winged Golden Gu which couldn't escape at all.

At the same time, Qin Fang noticed that the white chubby little worm was looking at him with very adorable eyes full of confusion, just like a normal human being, seeming to possess its own thoughts, quite bizarre...

"Is this little thing really so sinister?"

Qin Fang also felt it was quite strange. Regarding Mulun's so-called resurrection spells, he was disdainful; those were absolutely impossible.

But this Heart Gu indeed existed in reality, and it seemed to be just like Mulun himself. This Four-winged Golden Gu, which was supposed to die with Mulun, had somehow kept alive, seemingly taken over by this Heart Gu.

When the Heart Gu appeared, Little Dragon inside Qin Fang had just swallowed a Gu Insect and was seemingly not yet satisfied. It took the initiative to make contact with Qin Fang, still wanting to continue devouring the Four-winged Golden Gu in Qin Fang's hand...

Of course, that white chubby Heart Gu seemed quite interested as well, and it looked quite meaty...

Qin Fang temporarily suppressed Little Dragon's thoughts. Without understanding the Heart Gu completely, Qin Fang didn't want to take any action against it yet.

"Can you understand what I'm saying?"

The Heart Gu was rumored to be where the Black Witch Doctor's Primordial Spirit resided. Qin Fang never really believed it, but seeing it actually display human-like emotions through its small eyes, Qin Fang was moved and couldn't help but start speaking to the Heart Gu.

The little chubby one looked a bit puzzled, then gently nodded its head, seemingly getting the hang of it.

"Really can understand..."

Seeing such a scene, although it could also be a fluke, it seemed not likely. The Heart Gu appeared to indeed understand Qin Fang's words.

"Are you his Heart Gu?"

Qin Fang pointed at Mulun who was thoroughly dead on the ground, and asked the Heart Gu, speaking very calmly, but with great vigilance in his mind.

The little chubby one looked at the dead person below, eyes filled with confusion, as if pondering something. After a good while, it finally nodded, seemingly having found the answer.

"So, what are you going to do next?"

Qin Fang continued to ask. Mulun mentioned that the Heart Gu harbors the Black Witch Doctor's Primordial Spirit, and even after the Witch Doctor's death, the Heart Gu would still follow through with the Witch Doctor's final obsessions.

Mulun's obsession was undoubtedly to kill Qin Fang, a fact Qin Fang had discerned using the Mind Reading Technique, so he was exceptionally cautious and vigilant towards this Heart Gu.

Chapter 1026: Heart Gu Changes Ownership_2

But the little white fatty looked innocent and quite bewildered, eventually looking around left and right, seemingly at a loss for what to do next.

"It seems that's not the case after all..."

When Qin Fang saw this, he couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief. It appeared that what Mulun had heard from others was not actually true.

However, just as Qin Fang relaxed, the eyes of the little white fatty suddenly sharpened. Its big eyes swiftly contracted, and its entire head seemed to undergo a complete transformation. It then sprang from Mulun's face and transformed into a phantom, rushing straight for Qin Fang's neck.

It moved incredibly fast, drawing closer and closer, until Qin Fang could even make out its now horribly fierce face... a ghastly visage that totally contrasted with its previous cuteness.

The Heart Gu had suddenly become violent, its previously docile and cute appearance instantly turning into something extremely ferocious. Those little white teeth seemed to have grown much larger, appearing bone-chillingly white, even more terrifying than the Four-winged Golden Gu.

The Heart Gu's body unfolded a layer of thin wings, looking as if it sprouted wings, and it actually began to fly.

Its speed was quite fast, almost instantly becoming a phantom that rapidly attacked towards Qin Fang's neck...

"There really is a problem!"

Qin Fang's back was now drenched in cold sweat. He had been on guard against this Heart Gu all along and had never let down his vigilance.

But unexpectedly, just as he eased up a little, the Heart Gu immediately seized the opportunity and burst forth violently, launching a fierce attack on him.

The Heart Gu relied on deadly poison, or perhaps something else, Qin Fang was not entirely sure, but he faintly felt that this Gu was likely to be even more difficult to deal with than the extremely poisonous Four-winged Golden Gu.

It is well known that the strength and rank of Gu Insects are very rigid; a powerful Gu was needed to control or deal with other Gu Insects, and even the Heart Gu would not suffice.

Among the generations of Black Witch Doctors, many had succeeded in taming some incredible Gu Insects, but most of these tamers died unexpectedly, usually due to their Gu Insects backfiring and consuming the Heart Gu—naturally leading to the death of their master as well.

Buzz~~

It seemed to sense the threat from this seemingly cute yet very malicious Heart Gu, and the Little Dragon, which had been suppressed inside Qin Fang's body, finally received his command. It immediately transformed into a silver dragon shadow, which burst forth directly from within Qin Fang...

The Little Dragon had grown even larger over these past few days; it looked longer, and the little horns on its head had become even more prominent.

Roar~~

As the Little Dragon emerged, a fierce gust of wind stirred, accompanied by a resonating and deep dragon's roar echoing far into the great mountains.

As if to respond to the Little Dragon's roar, the depths of the mountains immediately resounded with several tiger roars, wolf howls, and leopard cries... as if not willing to be outdone by the Little Dragon.

But this was not the point. As soon as Little Dragon appeared, it directly positioned itself in front of Qin Fang's neck, opening its jaws as if waiting for the Heart Gu to deliver itself into its mouth.

The moment Little Dragon appeared, the little white fatty Heart Gu that had been about to bite Qin Fang's neck also slightly paused. However, it was moving too fast and was too close; the Heart Gu couldn't react in time and was already at the edge of Little Dragon's mouth...

But the cunning Heart Gu evidently did not wish to comply. Just after stabilizing its form, it began fluttering its wings, attempting to fly in another direction.

Upon Little Dragon's appearance, it had already felt an inexplicable threat, as if it had encountered a natural enemy, and almost instinctively wanted to flee and retreat...

Yet, even though the Heart Gu was exceedingly cunning, almost human-like, it could not anticipate that Little Dragon had long coveted it. If it weren't for Qin Fang's interference, it would have already rushed out and eliminated the Heart Gu.

Now that the Heart Gu's plan has been ruined, revealing its true form, Qin Fang naturally no longer needed to restrain Little Dragon, and he immediately released it to deal with the cunning Heart Gu.

Seeing the Heart Gu attempting to flee, Little Dragon remained unruffled. With a mere inhale from its maw, a powerful current of air surged forth, resembling a whirlpool, drawing all the surrounding air straight into Little Dragon's slender body...

Even Qin Fang could distinctly feel the cool breeze in front of his neck. He had seen Little Dragon's transformation before—a truly colossal being it becomes. Now, although it was still small, it was definitely not its true form...

Sensing the abnormal flow of the air around it, Heart Gu became anxious. Its wings flapped even more fiercely and frantically, but still, it could not escape Little Dragon's inhalation and was directly sucked into Little Dragon's mouth, vanishing from sight...

This scene was witnessed by Qin Fang himself. Though the Heart Gu was small, it was quite hefty when enraged, seeming even larger than an ordinary caterpillar.

And Little Dragon was significantly longer than a regular snake. Having watched this battle unfold right before his eyes, how could he possibly not take notice?

But the process was actually quite straightforward. Little Dragon seemed to be the natural predator of the Heart Gu, gaining absolute advantage as soon as it appeared. The Heart Gu no longer wished to confront Qin Fang, desperately wanting to escape, yet ultimately it failed to do so.

"Phew~~ It's finally over! That was truly perilous just now..."

At this point, everything had settled. Mulun was dead, the Heart Gu was eradicated—effectively wiped out—thus Qin Fang's troubles were thoroughly resolved.

Little Dragon, having consumed the Heart Gu, did not return inside Qin Fang's body as it usually did, but half-floated there as if digesting the food it had just swallowed, appearing strangely eerie.

Qin Fang wasn't too concerned; Little Dragon's condition was somewhat normal and showed no anomalies. Although the Heart Gu was unpredictable and eerie, it probably posed no threat to it.

Buzz buzz buzz~~

The Four-winged Golden Gu, as if it had sustained severe damage, remained impaled on Qin Fang's Silver Needle. Yet, it continued to beat its wings tirelessly, struggling fiercely and tumbling around...

Qin Fang was slightly taken aback but did not pay much attention. After all, the Four-winged Golden Gu was now under the Heart Gu's control. And as Little Dragon was digesting the Heart Gu, it was understandable that the interconnected Four-winged Golden Gu was also suffering.

However—

A plump, white shadow suddenly shot out from Little Dragon's mouth, rushing directly towards the still-fluttering Four-winged Golden Gu. In mid-air, it had already opened its wide mouth, baring its white, gleaming teeth, and then swallowed the entire Four-winged Golden Gu in one gulp.

"Heart Gu..."

Qin Fang was slightly stunned, staring in disbelief at the little white chubby figure that had re-emerged—none other than the Heart Gu that Little Dragon had just swallowed.

This was bizarre. Could it be that even Little Dragon couldn't handle this Heart Gu?

As Qin Fang hesitated, he saw Little Dragon's body suddenly turn into a beam of silver light and then directly burrow into Qin Fang's body, disappearing completely.

A warm current flowed through his body, and he could distinctly sense Little Dragon returning to the position near his heart to recuperate—it couldn't stay outside for too long...

At the same time, before officially entering a dormant state, Little Dragon also transmitted a small segment of information into Qin Fang's mind—concerning this particular Heart Gu.

"This—turned into a Little Dragon's Heart Gu?"

After Qin Fang briefly reviewed this piece of information, he was naturally left utterly dumbfounded...

Chapter 1027: Assassination in the Darkness

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...

Although it sounded too unbelievable, Qin Fang indeed received such a hint from Little Dragon, and he could even feel the goodwill the Heart Gu was transmitting to him.

Qin Fang slightly extended his hand, and the plump Heart Gu fluttered its wings and settled stably in the palm of his hand.

There was not a hint of malice, and to express its goodwill, it even rubbed Qin Fang's palm gently with its plump head, its pair of eyes emitting considerable affection.

It was indeed not a fantastical dream, but a reality. Little Dragon swallowed the Heart Gu, seemingly erasing Mulun's lingering resentment and control power, turning the Heart Gu into a kind of avatar of Little Dragon.

Little Dragon lay dormant inside Qin Fang's body; in this era starved of Spiritual Energy, it couldn't last long outside, and it needed to rest well within Qin Fang's body after every major commotion before it could fully recover to its original state...

After its last transformation into a giant dragon, which allowed Qin Fang to indulge in the thrill of being a Knight, it had not appeared for a long time, until it was awakened from its slumber when Qin Fang's body was invaded by the deadly poison... helping Qin Fang through this significant crisis.

Of course, it was precisely because Qin Fang understood its existence and strength that he procrastinated for so long with Mulun; otherwise, he would have simply drawn his gun, and Mulun, with his body full of Gu Insects, wouldn't be able to withstand Qin Fang's bullets...

However, this Heart Gu was different; it was akin to an avatar of Little Dragon. Usually, Little Dragon would be asleep, but the Heart Gu could move freely.

Don't think this Heart Gu looked unimpressive, but its terror was even greater than that of the Four-winged Golden Gu... The Heart Gu, nurtured by the Black Witch Doctor with his own heart's blood, was not only extremely poisonous but also had a set of fierce little white teeth.

"Perhaps this little fellow can follow Feifei and the others in the future, serving as a close bodyguard... Plus, it's so adorable!"

The Heart Gu looked harmless but was quite formidable. Qin Fang immediately thought of its future uses and silently decided that since Little Dragon was his pet, the Heart Gu would have no impact on Little Dragon itself, naturally having no objections.

Girls all like extremely cute little animals, and aside from its true identity, this Heart Gu was an adorably explosive little fuzzy worm, with a chubby and tender body, and a pair of eyes that seemed to speak.

Tang Feifei and the others would surely love it...

"Since the Heart Gu can be used by me, there's no rush to head back!"

With the Heart Gu becoming an avatar of Little Dragon, it naturally became Qin Fang's own as well, and he could easily command it, as this little fellow could understand human speech.

Recalling the memories he delved into from the depths of Mulun's mind, he naturally learned of Mulun's hiding place in the mountains, and Qin Fang decided to make a trip there.

It wasn't that Mulun had left behind any treasures; Mulun was penniless, without any good things. However, he left behind a lot of poisonous substances...

These poisons were used to cultivate Gu Insects. While Mulun was alive, he could control these poisonous substances, but now that Mulun was dead, these poisons had lost their restraints and could escape at any moment.

In these mountains, even if the poisons did escape, it wouldn't be a big deal, but its location was very close to human settlements. If they invaded a settlement, they could easily kill all the people there.

"For the sake of Justice Points, let's take a trip..."

Although this matter had little to do with Qin Fang, and even if the creatures really escaped, they wouldn't affect him, if Qin Fang could prevent such a tragedy, he could still gain a considerable amount of Justice Points.

Thus, without hesitation, Qin Fang headed towards Mulun's hideout, a rather secluded valley on the other side of the mountain, quite close to human living areas.

This was a natural cave located deep in the valley. Although it was just over a mountain from human settlements, it seemed that few people came here...

The reason was that there were quite a few poisonous insects here. Although the mountain people were accustomed to the existence of these insects, too many of them could be fatal, so they generally tried to avoid such areas.

Upon entering the small valley, Qin Fang could smell a strange stench and the thick scent of decay, which was rather off-putting.

The valley was deep and shrouded in a misty miasma that contained certain toxins. Ordinary people who ventured in would soon feel breathless, and if they stayed longer, there was a high likelihood of them being poisoned unconscious... and then quickly succumbing to death.

Had Qin Fang not known that this valley was Mulun's hiding place, he wouldn't have dared to come here, let alone enter. It was a place even too risky to approach.

He took out a Detoxification Pill and put it in his mouth, while the Heart Gu leisurely circled around him. When it grew tired, it would rest on Qin Fang's shoulder, looking quite endearing and adorable.

True to being cultivated in a land of lethal poison, this Heart Gu was incredibly toxic, with a formidable resistance to the miasma and rotting poison. Such miasma barely posed a difficulty for it to approach.

Qin Fang took slow steps into the valley. The ground was covered in a kind of gray-black moss that looked extremely eerie. With every step, there was a series of crackling sounds, though it was unclear whether it was due to snapping twigs or the demise of some tiny creatures.

However, Qin Fang soon saw numerous black-shelled insects scuttling out from the moss in a panic, quickly scattering in all directions.

Those insects were once ordinary, but had now become venomous. They were only average in terms of toxicity, living off the miasma and decay of the valley, with neither strong aggression nor potent venom. They posed no real threat to Qin Fang.

Qin Fang was not afraid of these venomous insects. With a Detoxification Pill in his mouth, the toxic miasma couldn't hurt him at all – at least, he didn't notice any significant decrease in his Life Points.

The valley was serene. Qin Fang walked towards the depths, experiencing a calm journey without the appearance of any large venomous insects or beasts from the corners of the valley.

This was Mulun's territory; Mulun himself had almost completely turned into a being of poison, immune to these toxins. Moreover, to cultivate his Gu Insects, he had taken most of the poisonous insects and beasts of any significance into his storage, leaving nothing too threatening outside.

The journey was tranquil, as Qin Fang faced no dangers and smoothly arrived at Mulun's lair...

It was a dark cavern, and according to Mulun's memories, his nest should be roughly ten meters into the depth of this cavern.

Despite the passage being very dark, Qin Fang didn't hesitate at all and rushed straight into the nest.

This was just a common cave, with none of the wonders such as Luminous Pearls embellishing the space, as often mentioned regarding Treasure Lands; it even lacked a trace of light...

Fortunately, deeper into the nest, the condition improved. It connected with the outside, allowing some light to penetrate, making the inside of the nest somewhat visible.

The furnishings within were extremely simple – just a rough stone slab with a few thin, tattered clothes scattered on it, and no other furniture items.

Clearly, Mulun had not the slightest interest in such amenities, for he had devoted all his time to cultivating Gu Insects. At the other end of this cave was Qin Fang's true objective—

It was a training ground for poisonous insects, modeled after an animal pen, surrounded by smooth stone walls in a circle, with a variety of venomous insects scattered within...

These venomous insects, through biting and devouring, would eventually produce the strongest among them to become a Gu Insect...

Before encountering Qin Fang, Mulun had planned to use the Gu Insect from this batch of venomous insects as raw material for advancing his Four-winged Golden Gu.

To achieve this level, Mulun had painstakingly gathered this batch, his last – all of which were extremely toxic and ferociously vicious insects. The resulting Gu Insect would be terrifying; though it might not be on par with the Four-winged Golden Gu, it wouldn't be too far off either.

It was precisely because these venomous insects were so powerful that Qin Fang decided to eliminate them. The Heart Gu had quite an appetite – currently in its growth phase, it needed to ingest more venomous insects to develop swiftly... And these insects were clearly the best food for it.

The Heart Gu is also a type of Gu Insect, albeit a special one, that only requires nurturing with heart's blood and ordinarily doesn't need to consume such toxins. But since Mulun was dead and it had changed masters.

Entering the insect chamber, the light within dimmed significantly. After all, venomous insects thrive in dark corners. Direct sunlight would surely inhibit their proper growth; hence, the dim lighting made sense...

Just as Qin Fang stepped into the insect chamber, suddenly—

Hiss~~

At that moment, Qin Fang felt a chill at his ribs, as a cold intent of murder almost instantly assailed him. The attack was lightning-fast and displayed terrifying strength; it was a killer move aimed at his life...

With the faint glow, Qin Fang saw a flash of silver lightning streak towards him, its speed was incredibly fast, and the angle was extremely tricky – clearly a move of a master...

Chapter 1028: The Ancient Costume Female Assassin

This person struck as fast as the wind, wielding bladed weapons like swords, the silver flash of the blade as swift as lightning, almost instantly putting Qin Fang in extreme peril.

Although Qin Fang was shocked, the more critical the moment, the less he could afford to panic. His body shifted slightly, not in an attempt to dodge—for he was already too slow to avoid the attack.

He merely adjusted the angle of his body subtly, causing the blade aimed at his heart to deviate slightly.

Rip~~

As expected, the blade was sharp enough that a light touch instantly cut a large gash in Qin Fang's clothes, thrusting straight at his chest.

But—

"Eh..."

A voice of surprise came from the darkness, somewhat high-pitched, indicating that the attacker might be a woman. Her sword was now jabbed at Qin Fang's chest.

Though not at the vital area of the heart, and slightly off-angle, even if it had truly hit, it wouldn't be fatal for Qin Fang, let alone that she now found her sword unable to penetrate further.

"Body-Protecting Inner Armor?"

The woman wasn't entirely without wit, and upon detecting this anomaly, she quickly deduced what it was and immediately chose to retreat.

Against an opponent wearing Body-Protecting Inner Armor, unless she wielded a divine weapon, it would be hard to breach the armor's defense; targeting unprotected areas would be the better choice.

"Thinking of leaving? Not so easy..."

Although Qin Fang still hadn't figured out the identity of the woman making this deadly assault on him, if he hadn't been wearing Celestial Silkworm Golden Armor, that strike could have gravely injured or even killed him.

As the woman's strike missed, she intended to quickly withdraw, but Qin Fang was not about to let her get away. With a flick of his wrist, a military spike appeared in his hand, and he thrust it at the retreating assassin's body in one fluid motion.

In this flash of lightning, neither of them uttered useless words; it was a display of raw power and impeccable timing. Qin Fang didn't even have the luxury of using his Scouting Skill.

Using a skill would result in a brief moment of stiffness, and in such a fierce battle, even a minor error could lead to a vastly different outcome—he wouldn't make that mistake.

The female assassin hadn't expected Qin Fang to react so quickly, blocking her assassination attempt and counterattacking immediately.

Her speed was incredibly fast, the angles tricky, and most importantly, she was shocked to find that Qin Fang's Qi was not weaker than hers, maybe even stronger.

However, strength was not the reason she feared. As she watched the military spike hurtling towards her, she shook her short sword, following an extremely peculiar trajectory to meet Qin Fang's spike head-on.

"Eh~~"

Her angling was strange and cunning, not one of conventional strategy. Qin Fang, upon seeing this, couldn't help being surprised as he was unable to fully track her movements.

It looked as though she was countering his strike, but instead, it was as if she aimed for his wrist, apparently seeking to sever his tendons.

But Qin Fang was not one to sit and wait for death. As she showed her strategy, he found his counter, instantly changing his striking angle, faster and stronger, aiming right at the female assassin.

As for himself, he completely abandoned defense, as if resolved to a fight where he would take damage to ensure his opponent did as well...

The female assassin's arm trembled, not accustomed to Qin Fang's reckless tactics, her eyes showing a hint of surprise.

Clang~~

Eventually, their weapons collided, both feeling the immense force transmitted through the clash, and they each retreated.

Neither of them made another move but maintained a distance, weapon in hand, vigilantly watching the other for a potential strike.

"Who are you?"

"Who are you?"

The female assassin's voice was crisp and cold, as isolated as a lotus in snow, nearly demanding in her inquiry.

Simultaneously, Qin Fang also spoke, his tone stern, as this woman had attacked him with lethal intent without him even knowing her identity.

But one thing was certain: this woman was not the Black Witch Doctor—because this woman's strength was much greater than Mulun's, and her Inner Qi was also considerably profound, nearly as powerful as his own, Qin Fang's.

Qin Fang by now had seen many experts, including not a few at the Grandmaster Level. However, among the younger generation, this was indeed the first time he had encountered someone with such potent True Qi without even being at the Grandmaster Level.

Even someone as strong as Song Qingshan, who was known as the number one expert among the younger generation and had trained both the Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Shield and the Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique to Grandmaster Level, was only about the same as Qin Fang.

Had Qin Fang not given him a drop of Golden Dragon Saliva, Song Qingshan's True Qi would not have congealed so quickly, giving it a rather supple quality of Inner Breath.

Nevertheless, Qin Fang clearly sensed that the True Qi operating within this woman's body, although not as intense or condensed as his, was not much less so.

This could only mean one thing: this woman had also consumed Spiritual Medicine that contained Spiritual Energy...

Otherwise, it would be impossible for this woman to possess strength comparable to the early stage of the Master Level without having entered the Master Level, capable of matching Qin Fang without showing any signs of weakness.

"Are you not from Qing Mountain?"

Hearing Qin Fang's words, the woman also slightly started and asked curiously, evidently unaware of this fact beforehand.

"No..."

Qin Fang was taken aback as well, it seemed that the woman did not come specifically to kill him; it was probably just a chance encounter that led to her sudden attack.

"Exactly who are you? Why did you want to kill me?"

Yet what exactly the identity of the woman was, Qin Fang still had no notion, and he immediately asked again, though he himself dared not relax even slightly.

Not long ago, he had just encountered the Heart Gu, which was cunning in its own right. Now he faced a human whose strength was by no means inferior to his own.

"Then why are you here? Are you associated with the Black Witch Doctor?"

The woman remained unresponsive, continuing her guarded vigilance towards Qin Fang and keeping on with her questions, which seemed to imply she was after the Black Witch Doctor Mulun. And from what she said, it appeared Mulun was her intended target.

"He placed a Heart Gu on me, and I have already killed him..."

Since she didn't come specifically to kill him but instead was after Mulun, Qin Fang realized they had truly misunderstood each other, although this misunderstanding seemed a bit too grave. If it hadn't been for his sufficient strength, anyone else stumbling into this would undoubtedly have been killed, ultimately becoming an accomplice of the Black Witch Doctor Mulun...

"I came here only knowing this place harbored many of his poisonous insects, not wishing these insects to continue harming others. I wanted to kill them all..."

Since there was a misunderstanding on both sides, Qin Fang then revealed his own intentions. Whether the other party believed him or not was no longer his concern.

"Are you telling the truth?"

Quite evidently, it was hard for the woman to accept this reality based solely on Qin Fang's words.

"His corpse is outside, you can see for yourself if you don't believe me... If I'm not mistaken, we have misunderstood each other!"

Qin Fang couldn't be bothered to explain too much. As half a poison person, the Black Witch Doctor Mulun's body was extremely toxic; leaving it in the mountains would only pollute the environment, so Qin Fang had brought it back and dumped it outside in the valley. After all, with decaying leaves and wild beast carcasses scattered around, one more body didn't make much difference.

"Okay..."

To Qin Fang's surprise, the woman actually nodded in agreement and responded, then quickly threaded her way out of the cave, apparently to check on Mulun's corpse outside.

Qin Fang was indifferent and continued to examine the poisonous insects, swarming and buzzing, making sounds that alone could send shivers down one's spine.

Glancing at the furnishings inside the cave, Qin Fang didn't hesitate to grab the remnants of Mulun's old clothes, bundle them up, and set them on fire with a lighter, throwing them into the insect nest...

"Ah, too bad I didn't bring any gasoline..."

The fire gradually grew, and the tiny poisonous insects fled in droves. However, the insect nest was only so large, purposefully confined to facilitate biting. Now it conveniently aided Qin Fang.

Still, Qin Fang felt some regret; the fire clearly was not achieving his desired effect, and he could only regret not bringing along some essentials like gasoline.

He decided that once he was done here, he would definitely bring some gasoline with him next time, keeping it on hand for emergencies—such as outdoor camping, covering up a murder, or disposing of the evidence—these could all come in handy.

Fortunately, the fire had burned most of the poisonous insects to death, and the few that remained were near death or crippled, their numbers greatly reduced and thus not posing much of a threat. Qin Fang had achieved his goal and thus left the cave.

Outside the cave, a woman dressed in light purple ancient court attire stood by, a sheathed sword in her hand, and amidst the miasma-formed haze, she appeared as if a fairy descending from a heavenly palace to Qin Fang...

He had seen such attire in historical dramas, and in reality, it was only worn for photography sessions in studios.

But this woman, clad in such a courtly gown, seemed so perfect and natural—as if it were tailor-made for her...

Chapter 1029 Tang Sect Heroine

This is definitely not Qin Fang exaggerating, as modern people, due to their temperament and living environment, or rather being accustomed to modern clothing, often find it difficult to showcase the beauty of ancient attire.

Even professional models struggle with this...

Yet, the woman before him perfectly exemplified this, as if she had traveled through time from ancient times to the modern world, to appear before Qin Fang.

Of course, this is impossible...

Seemingly sensing Qin Fang's presence, the woman in ancient attire finally turned around to face him, her posture utterly perfect, yet her face was partially obscured by a white veil, leaving only her beautiful eyes visible.

Such a scene could always only be seen on TV, yet now it somehow became reality, surprising Qin Fang, yet it was fairly easy for him to accept.

The woman in her ancient clothing, holding a sword, her lithe and perfect figure would indeed seem discordant without that veil.

In the Martial World, it's rumored that only devastatingly beautiful women dress in such a manner, and although Qin Fang couldn't see through the veil, from the outline of her face he could discern she must be a knockout beauty...

Of course, Qin Fang might also be mistaken, and she could be a plain Jane!

"Miss, hello..."

Perhaps due to the woman's ancient attire, Qin Fang lost his initial fierceness and started speaking with polished courtesy.

"Good day to you, Sir..."

The woman nodded slightly, dressed in ancient garb, yet her speech carried a distinctly modern tone, as if she wasn't completely out of touch with the world.

"I am Qin Fang. May I know your esteemed name..."

The woman's voice was very pleasant, magnetically beautiful, like a songbird's, making Qin Fang involuntarily get a bit verbose again as he asked.

"Pfft~~"

Indeed, after she had spoken in plain language, Qin Fang unnecessarily switched to an elaborate and elegant classical style, as if wanting to converse in profound, ornate ancient text, which immediately made the woman burst into laughter.

"The humble woman's surname is Tang, with the given name Xin..."

Perhaps also to match Qin Fang's words, the lady elegantly announced her own name.

"Tang... Xin! What a beautiful name..."

Qin Fang, having heard the name, naturally gave a complimentary comment. But soon he was slightly stunned, almost reflexively asking, "Surname Tang... Are you from the Tang Sect?"

"Indeed! I am indeed a person from Tang Sect. Seeing that your cultivation is extraordinary, Sir, you must also be from a reputable sect. May I ask which sect or school do you belong to?"

Tang Xin did not deny it and nodded slightly in acknowledgment, also showing interest, as they had just exchanged blows and had some understanding of each other's strength.

"I am but a nameless novice..."

Qin Fang ruefully smiled, wishing he could claim to be from Ninghai Cai-style Xingyi Quan, yet in front of an ancient sect like Tang Sect that had thousands of years of heritage, Cai-style Xingyi Fist was just not noteworthy... or rather Xingyi Fist itself was not noteworthy.

The Xingyi Fist, since its establishment, has only been around for a few centuries, not even comparable to the history of Tang Sect, which previously was unremarkable and only gradually developed after the major sects went into hiding.

But its lineage simply couldn't match these ancient sects...

Given this, Qin Fang simply didn't bother mentioning it, thereby also sparing his master any embarrassment!

Besides, Qin Fang's reputation in the Martial World truly was insignificant, although his prowess was comparable to those at the Grandmaster Level, very few actually knew of his strength.

His master, Cai Pingyuan, along with Iron Claw Divine Eagle Song Qingshan who was by his side, and those from the Lei Family...

The rest, well, some like Old Master Wu, Elder Niu, etc., knew of Qin Fang's extraordinary talent, but they didn't realize how rapidly his strength was advancing.

Others needed decades to reach the level Qin Fang had achieved, yet for Qin Fang, it had only been a little over half a year...

In such a short time, others wouldn't even have built a solid foundation...

This destined Qin Fang to remain a nameless novice despite his formidable cultivation, and perhaps even those young experts at Level 5 were more famous than him, even though they couldn't withstand a single slap from him.

"You, such a young expert, are a nameless novice?"

In an attempt not to embarrass his master, Qin Fang simplistically made this statement, which took Tang Xin aback as she was broadly aware of Qin Fang's capability. Though not yet at the Grandmaster Level, his true combat strength was decidedly not weak.

Such a young expert, even within Tang Sect, would be considered a top-tier genius, like herself, although a mere woman, she too could rank among the top ten young masters of Tang Sect.

But with Qin Fang's strength being so unacknowledged outside, doesn't that mean the outside world has countless more such formidable experts?

Chapter 1030 Tang Sect Heroine_2

"Senior Brother Qin, are there really so many masters in the outside world?"

Miss Tang's face showed hesitation. Even though Qin Fang couldn't see clearly, he could tell that she was furrowing her brows and her eyes revealed deep confusion and worry.

The Tang Sect had been isolated from the world for a very long time. Apart from occasional contact with other ancient martial sects that chose to remain hidden, they were almost completely ignorant of everything in the external world.

Such seclusion preserved the inheritance of the Tang Sect, but at the same time, it lost a lot—such as the drive that competition brings, as well as the arrogance and pride that came with thinking oneself above all others.

Living within the Tang Sect, one would occasionally think about the outside world. But at such times, fellow sect members would often arrogantly mock how insignificant and vulnerable the outsiders were, even belittling many so-called sects as worthless.

Miss Tang grew up in this environment, influenced by such attitudes, and thus she too believed that what her fellow disciples said must be the truth...

Deep in the mountains, people's hearts were relatively simple. Apart from practicing martial arts and studying the unique skills passed down by the Tang Sect, they didn't have as many complicated thoughts as those in the outside world.

Perhaps because they thought the outside world could not compare to the Tang Sect, these people almost never considered leaving the mountains. Thus, as time passed, the Tang Sect became more closed off and gradually faded from public view.

"That's not the case. The spiritual energy of heaven and earth has almost completely dissipated outside. Although the living conditions and technology have improved countless times over what we have in the mountains, the path of martial arts cultivation is fraught with difficulty..." Qin Fang did not intend to deceive Miss Tang. Thinking of Master Cai Pingyuan, who had wasted his life and ultimately failed to take that next step, and many other naturally talented masters who were firmly stuck at the grandmaster level, unable to advance further, he knew how difficult cultivation was in the outside world.

"It's just that I rarely resort to violence, and even many of my friends do not know martial arts..."

As for being virtually unknown, Qin Fang simply explained it away lightly.

"Oh, I see..." Hearing this explanation, Miss Tang felt somewhat reassured.

If people in the outside world could cultivate faster than those in the Tang Sect, then the Sect's seclusion and hidden lifestyle might not be correct. In that case, she would have to suggest that the Tang Sect re-integrate into the world to keep up with the pace of the Martial World.

Now that Qin Fang had put it that way, she felt somewhat more at ease, at least believing that the outside world was indeed as her fellow disciples described—not suitable for cultivation. Perhaps the Tang Sect's heritage being passed on this way wasn't a mistake after all.

"Miss Tang, I heard that the Tang Sect has hidden itself for hundreds of years and has almost vanished from the Martial World. Why are you..."

Qin Fang too was surprised. Recalling what Master Geda once said, his grandson had entered the Tang Sect and not returned for over a decade. People from the Tang Sect rarely appeared, seemingly completely vanishing from the public eye.

Qin Fang had simply taken a trip up the mountain, yet he had run into her by chance, and they had even exchanged blows. How could he not feel that his luck was extraordinarily good?

"I happened to be out on some business, and after it's finished, I must return. We, the disciples of the Tang Sect, are not allowed to stay outside for too long without the Sect's permission!"

Miss Tang did not hide anything and immediately gave a brief explanation, "When I was out, I incidentally found some traces of this Black Witch Doctor. Such evil demons must be eradicated by us, the people of Tang Sect. That's how I ended up following the trail to this cave, and I didn't expect..."

At this point, Miss Tang felt somewhat embarrassed. The lighting was poor at the time, and she did not take a closer look, thus hitting Qin Fang without distinction.

It was only because Qin Fang was strong enough that he was able to save his own life. If it had been an ordinary villager from the mountains, they might have already fallen under her sword.

Miss Tang wouldn't hesitate in eliminating demons and devils, but if she mistakenly killed innocent people, she would likely suffer torment from her conscience.

Fortunately, it hadn't come to that, and it seemed her luck had been very good indeed.

"So it is... Looks like we wouldn't have met had we not fought!"

Now Qin Fang understood what had happened—it seemed like he had walked straight into the line of fire.

The Tang Sect had been hidden in the mountains for hundreds of years, while the people of Miao Jiang had lived here for even longer. To say there was no contact at all was not possible.

The Black Witch Doctor is a taboo in Miao Jiang, forbidden many years ago. It was probably because the disciples of the Tang Sect had suffered a lot at their hands during the era when the Black Witch Doctors were rampant, which led to such hatred and revulsion from the Tang Sect, treating them as if they were demons.

However, the Tang Sect wasn't wrong in their judgment. Qin Fang wasn't sure about other Black Witch Doctors, but Mulun was definitely an unforgivable executioner. The number of lives lost under his hand was simply too many, harboring sin points to the degree of ten thousand... Merely thinking about it sent shivers down his spine.

"Miss Tang, now that the matter here is resolved and it's getting late, I am preparing to descend the mountain. What about you?"

Having been busy for so long, it was indeed getting late. Qin Fang planned to hurry and descend while the sun was still high in the sky; otherwise, he would have to spend the night in the depths of the mountains.

During the day, he could discern the directions, but if night fell, not to mention that fierce beasts might come out to roam, he might not even be able to find the path down the mountain.

"I was also planning to go down the mountain. How about we go together?"

Tang Xin looked at Qin Fang, gave it a slight thought, and then extended the very gracious invitation.

"Uh... You're going down the mountain too?"

Qin Fang was stunned; he had thought that Tang Xin would return to the Tang Sect but didn't expect she would also be descending the mountain. He couldn't help but be slightly taken aback.

"I still have things to handle down the mountain and won't return to the Tang Sect just yet..."

Tang Xin smiled in her eyes, then coyly replied. Clearly, the business she had was down the mountain, not in the mountains... At least, killing Mulun wasn't her original intention, it was just a chance encounter.

"Then I would follow your lead, please..."

Qin Fang naturally had no reason to refuse and immediately gestured with his hand, very gentlemanly.

Unfortunately, Tang Xin had always been within the Tang Sect and did not understand the meaning of Qin Fang's gesture. She was just standing there, seemingly unsure of what to do.

But ultimately, it seemed like she bit the bullet and actually extended her delicate, pale hand to grasp Qin Fang's offered palm...

"Ga!!"

Qin Fang was instantly dumbfounded. What was happening? Why did this young lady take the initiative to hold my hand?

He was very puzzled in his heart, but when he thought about Tang Xin's background, Qin Fang began to understand a bit – the gesture meant "ladies first," originating from the Western Regions and not a native custom of the Dragon Country.

Tang Xin had hesitated for a long time, apparently pondering over the meaning of this gesture, but she had misunderstood it, and it turned into this.

Although Qin Fang was surprised, feeling that slippery, soft touch of skin, he actually felt the urge not to let go.

It wasn't that Qin Fang had suddenly become lascivious, but mainly because the True Qi of the two people – one firm and one soft – naturally mingled without intentional cultivation, which turned out to be the most effective.

When their hands clasped together, their True Qi automatically fused, nourishing even more True Qi within their bodies...

"This..."

Not only was Qin Fang stunned, but Tang Xin also wore a face of surprise, looking at Qin Fang incredulously. She clearly had not expected things to turn out this way.

The automatic fusion of True Qi was unheard of for both Qin Fang and Tang Xin and had never occurred before...

"Could this be fate?"

Tang Xin, not worldly-wise and never having interacted with the people outside, still harbored a young girl's daydreams. When such a miraculous event happened, her little head suddenly became filled with various thoughts.

Qin Fang, however, didn't think like her. He was more surprised by Tang Xin's cultivation of Inner Strength, which seemed to be the same as the mental method he practiced, originally from Fang Dacheng but perfected by the System...