

Genius 1051

Chapter 1051: Tang Sect Secret Technique: Sky-covering Blossom Rain

This time, Tang Wei truly emitted a murderous aura, his short sword striking with incredibly fast speed and extremely cunning moves, clearly a secret killer move, carrying a terrifying aura with each swing.

Qin Fang was stronger than Tang Wei by a notable margin, and even he could not avoid showing a cautious expression on his face in the face of such techniques, daring not to underestimate them.

Although the Tang Sect was known in the Martial World for dominating with hidden weapons and poisons, their martial arts were also exceptionally formidable, having collected many lost inheritance techniques from ancient sects.

It is said that the extinction of certain sects, even to the extent of their complete annihilation, was somehow inexplicably linked to the Tang Sect; but these matters have long since vanished into the river of history, and what was right or wrong can no longer be clearly discerned.

However, undeniably, the armory of the Tang Sect is much more prosperous than many other sects, perhaps not as famously powerful as the Seventy-two Ultimate Skills of the Shaolin Temple, but it was not far off.

Just like Tang Wei's killer move which Qin Fang observed, it was not inferior to the Heavenly Pool Sect's Tianchi Secret Technique...

Moreover, Tang Wei's strength was much greater than that of Lei Peng in the beginning, this move in his hands truly displayed an astonishing power, somewhat possessing a momentum of thunder and lightning.

Qin Fang slightly shifted his feet, his body then gracefully floated backward, while his hands rapidly waved the military spike, continuously striking it against Tang Wei's short sword.

Ding ding dong dong~~

A series of clashing sounds came, Tang Wei's short sword collided several times with Qin Fang's military spike, creating a series of crisp sounds, but ultimately his killer move was like a choked chicken, all its offensive momentum abruptly strangled midway...

And Tang Wei seemed to also have realized this, almost as soon as the move missed, he immediately flipped in the air, his whole body leaped backward, rolling away rapidly, immediately exposing a large gap in Qin Fang's front.

Swoosh swoosh swoosh~~

Almost at the same time Tang Wei flipped backward, Qin Fang's gaze instantly narrowed again, those specks of silver light had almost silently appeared in front of him.

As Tang Wei ascended, those specks of cold light immediately passed through the position previously blocked by Tang Wei, shooting towards several vital points on Qin Fang's body...

Only at this point could Qin Fang clearly hear the sound of the hidden weapons slicing through the air, a very faint sound, yet seemingly carrying a certain rhythm, emitting a buzzing noise, making one involuntarily furrow their brows, instinctively feeling disgusted, like being haunted by demon sounds.

Undoubtedly, this must also be a special method of the Tang Sect's hidden weapons.

The technique was very peculiar, catching people off guard, and the hidden weapons created a peculiar sound while flying, involuntarily causing a sense of headache and disgust, a small distraction which could be extremely fatal in such life-and-death combat.

Qin Fang's expression was slightly surprised, yet he didn't react too much. Although the sound was as irritating as a demon sound, causing an instinctual disgust, Qin Fang, being a stranger to these places and often going to bars, what kind of harsh music had he not heard? How could he be disturbed by these demon sounds?

Concentrating his mind a bit, the demon sound in his ears suddenly became very ordinary, quickly being ignored by him, as if it didn't exist at all.

But facing the extremely fast-coming hidden weapons with very tricky angles, Qin Fang's face also showed unprecedented caution.

Ding ding ding~~

The hidden weapons of the Tang Sect were indeed formidable, at least this move had almost left Qin Fang with no way to counter, but thinking that this method alone would kill Qin Fang was still far from sufficient.

Tang Nan and Tang Wei almost thought Qin Fang had no way to evade, when they saw Qin Fang take a slight step backward, his body suddenly twisted, drawing a bizarre phantom, then immediately followed by a series of ding ding dong dong sounds, the three or four hidden weapons shot by Tang Nan almost bizarrely fell to the ground as they touched Qin Fang's body...

This process looked very thrilling, but was actually completed in that instant, plus the light inside the cave wasn't particularly bright, Tang Nan, Tang Wei, Tang Xin all failed to completely see what happened, all those hidden weapons had fallen to the ground.

And each of Qin Fang's hands held a military spike, all three naturally assumed Qin Fang knocked down those hidden weapons with both hands.

"Good skills... but still, not enough!"

Tang Nan softly praised, feeling very confident in his hidden weapon techniques. Although he wouldn't dare claim they were unbeatable, catching them the way Qin Fang did was extremely rare.

However, from what had just happened, it's clear Qin Fang wasn't as relaxed as he appeared. Vaguely, Tang Nan felt that Qin Fang might have cultivated some defensive Cultivation Technique...

When he had noticed Song Qingshan earlier, he also observed some distinctive color radiating from Song Qingshan's body, which is a sign of reaching a high level in the Body Refinement Divine Skill.

Qin Fang, dressed in simple mountain folk attire and slightly tanned from the sun these past few days, was harder to see clearly. But from what was happening to Song Qingshan, Tang Nan felt it quite possible that Qin Fang possessed such skills.

However, Tang Nan's expression remained very calm, and his tone did not carry much worry, as the Tang Sect naturally possessed numerous secret techniques capable of breaking such Body Refinement Cultivation Techniques.

Suddenly, a murderous intent burst forth from Tang Nan's eyes, and a terrifying aura overflowed. With one hand, he touched the pouch, and a faint sound of a mechanism snapping open was heard, soon after he was seen holding several strangely shaped hidden weapons.

"Behold the unique secret technique of Tang Sect's hidden weapons—the Sky-covering Blossom Rain!"

With a soft shout, Tang Nan raised his wrist, then shook his arm, and instantly the hidden weapons in his hand transformed into several black illusions, tracing very peculiar and unpredictable arcs heading straight for Qin Fang.

It seemed very similar to his previous attack, but once these hidden weapons left Tang Nan's hand, they blossomed in mid-air like flowers, rapidly multiplying from a few to dozens, and then instantly to hundreds...

Almost the entire sky was covered by such hidden weapons, overwhelmingly dominant and powerful, almost instantly sealing off nearly all of Qin Fang's routes of retreat...

The Sky-covering Blossom Rain was an extremely renowned secret technique among the Tang Sect's hidden weapons techniques, difficult to master and immensely powerful...

Such a technique, once executed, was hard for many to dodge...

As the myriad of blossoms slowly descended, alternating between solid and illusory, in such brief moments, it was almost impossible to determine which were real hidden weapons and which were mere illusions...

These hidden weapons looked identical, leaving no way to distinguish the real from the fake, and their speed was extremely fast, pushing the limits of human eyesight, leaving only a very short time to differentiate the reality of these hidden weapons...

Once that time passed, even if the real weapons were identified, it was already too late.

Selecting just a few real hidden weapons out of hundreds, if not thousands of illusions, was an immensely difficult task...

Each of these hidden weapons contained a highly potent and deadly poison, a secret toxic concoction of the Tang Sect that assured death upon entering the bloodstream... Qin Fang had noticed this the moment these hidden weapons appeared, realizing instantly that their toxicity was countless times more potent than before.

Ideally, Tang Nan shouldn't have such toxic substances to lace his hidden weapons with, but the problem was he had a father, Tang Yuantao, with a very high status, who likely provided these for Tang Nan's self-protection.

Deadly poisoned weapons combined with the technique of Sky-covering Blossom Rain, any expert below Grandmaster Level could hardly withstand it, and those who had reached the Grandmaster Level, esteemed elders in the Martial World, would not typically resort to such deadly measures against a junior. Thus, this poison and these hidden weapons wouldn't usually have a chance to be used.

Conversely, to employ these against a Grandmaster-level Expert would inevitably lead to a fight to the death... Provoking a Grandmaster-level Expert was not something even the foundations-rich Tang Sect would allow.

"Truly formidable..."

Seeing the encompassing Blossom Rain, Qin Fang's face also slightly changed. The trajectory of these hidden weapons was very peculiar and each moved in eerie manners, repeatedly morphing into more weapons...

This Tang Sect secret technique was indeed as formidable as rumored, truly powerful!

Bang bang bang~

A series of gunfire echoed in this somewhat empty cave, immediately followed by a deafening roar that seemed to make the entire cave tremble.

Clang clang clang~~

Followed then by a series of striking sounds, and sudden bursts of sparks flared up, adding a firework-like brilliant light...

Similarly, this eerie scene left Tang Nan, Tang Wei, and Tang Xin completely stunned. The expressions on Tang Nan and Tang Wei's faces almost froze in smugness, their mouths slightly agape, their eyes filled with endless surprise and tinged with a bit of fear...

Because they had never seen such strange objects, capable of releasing such tremendous power... just like an explosion of gunpowder...

Chapter 1052: Gun Breaks Hidden Weapons

Firearms are one of Dragon Country's four great inventions, and they spread among the common people long ago, making an immortal contribution to the progress of human history.

Within the Tang Sect's hidden weaponry, there aren't just ordinary weapons and poisons. Included among them are some firearms, with the Thunder Fire Hall specially established within Tang Sect for the development of gunpowder weapons. This hall holds an extremely high position within Tang Sect and is under the direct control of the Sect Leader.

This hall is also a guarantee for the authority of the Sect Leader. Such firearms are rarely leaked outside, with at most some small devices being taken out for use occasionally, such as for splitting rocks or mountain breaking.

Everyone in Tang Sect is not unfamiliar with gunpowder, and the members of Tang Sect have always prided themselves on having the best firearms in the world...

But look at the small, black tube in Qin Fang's hands; it appears very ordinary and doesn't seem to have any special characteristics, yet the power it unleashed just now was terrifying.

Looking at the hidden weapons from just a moment ago, they are now all lodged in the stone wall, the Hundred Refined Fine Steel weapons have all been completely deformed, as though they were crushed by a thousand-pound weight.

Tang Nan's first reaction was to think—Qin Fang must be from Tang Sect's Thunder Fire Hall, but then he immediately denied this possibility.

The disciples of Thunder Fire Hall are never allowed to leave Tang Sect. They live and die within the sect, and if they leave, they are marked as traitors to Tang Sect and are immediately hunted down by Tang Sect's martial arts experts... All to prevent the spread of Tang Sect's firearms.

For many years, no Thunder Fire Hall disciple has ever been known to successfully leave Tang Sect. All have been executed on the spot, including some wrongful deaths. Nevertheless, Tang Sect abides by the principle of rather killing by mistake than letting go, strictly controlling the outflow of firearms...

"Not from Thunder Fire Hall, then how does he possess such a formidable firearm?"

This question suddenly arose in Tang Nan's mind.

Regarding the outside world, Tang Nan and Tang Wei, having lived in the isolated Tang Sect, they did not know what the outside world was like. Even if they occasionally looked up at the sky, where they could vaguely see airplanes passing by, they would consider them as common birds...

Although gunpowder was invented by the people of Dragon Country, in terms of its use, the Dragon Country People are now behind the Western Regions. Even until now, they've not managed to catch up.

Before retiring from the world, Tang Sect's research in gunpowder was considered leading on a global scale. Unfortunately, Tang Sect cherished its own mediocrity and stayed closed off, ultimately being phased out by the outer world early on.

As far as the power of the firearms developed by Tang Sect up to now, although Qin Fang is not very clear, it is impossible for them to catch up with modern weapons, equipment, and bombs...

The object in Qin Fang's hand is just an ordinary handgun. His gunmanship is much more reliable, and with his Scouting Skill that defies the heavens, Tang Sect's Secret Technique Sky-covering Blossom Rain is nothing but a piece of cake to him.

In just a split second, Qin Fang fired six shots consecutively, effortlessly downing the six hidden weapons...

The main feature of Sky-covering Blossom Rain is that it's extremely mysterious and unpredictable, with the core being these six hidden weapons, creating hundreds or even thousands of illusions, similar to the Qianmen Illusion Technique. It seems that the Tang Sect's martial arts experts created this secret technique by borrowing from the features of Qianmen Illusion Technique...

Downing one or two hidden weapons can indeed disrupt some of the illusions, but ultimately it's still not possible to dodge the attack of the remaining weapons.

Only by downing all six hidden weapons do the illusions, losing their foundation, immediately dissipate, thus posing no threat anymore... After all, these illusions have no killing power, the greatest threat still comes from these few actual hidden weapons.

"Who exactly are you? Why do you have our Tang Sect's firearms?"

Tang Nan's face turned quite ugly; at the same time, he became very cautious. He now didn't dare to act rashly, as a disciple of Tang Sect, they have infinite reverence for Tang Sect's most intimidating poisons and firearms.

Of course, they couldn't help but feel a bit arrogant in their hearts, thinking the gun Qin Fang held was a firearm that had leaked from Tang Sect.

With the situation having developed to this point, if they took this news back to Tang Sect, even if they had made many mistakes, they would easily be wiped away. Instead, it would be a great achievement.

"Tang Sect's firearms? You mean this?"

Qin Fang looked slightly startled and shook the gun in his hand, asking with an astonished face.

"Of course, who exactly are you? Only our Tang Sect's firearms could possess such great power. How did you get your hands on this? As long as you tell the truth, I can let today's incident slide..."

Tang Nan looked at Qin Fang, speaking with a gravely serious expression, as if the matter was of utmost importance, he was even willing to temporarily put aside the fact that Qin Fang had ruined his plans.

"I think your Tang Sect has been hidden from the world for too long, to the point where your brains have all rotted away. This is called a gun... It's easy to come by outside given enough money, and my gun is so weak it couldn't get any weaker. If you were hit by a bomb, the whole mountain would be leveled to the ground..."

"You people from Tang Sect are truly foolish to the extreme, yet you are still so shamelessly proud. Utter idiots..."

Qin Fang was not very clear about the fact that the Tang Sect possessed firearms, but from what Tang Nan indicated, it seemed that the Tang Sect had developed these powerful firearms a long time ago.

The Tang Sect hid from the world for hundreds of years, possibly ceasing to emerge since the Ming dynasty, which suggests they had reached such a level back then.

If the Tang Sect had chosen to share their knowledge instead of selfishly secluding themselves, perhaps the history of Dragon Country could have been rewritten much earlier, avoiding a century of humiliation.

But all that was already set in the past and unchangeable...

What truly enraged Qin Fang was the fact that even now, the Tang Sect seemed to strictly control these firearms, forbidding their dissemination. Anyone attempting to leak them would be hunted and killed by the Tang Sect—this was even more savage and cruel than the backward mountain folk here.

"You... are seeking death!"

Hearing Qin Fang belittling the Tang Sect, Tang Nan and Tang Wei, as Tang Sect disciples, immediately flew into a rage and, without a second thought, struck at Qin Fang again.

In this regard, the sense of honor of the Tang Sect disciples was indeed very strong. Even Tang Xin, who was restrained, could not help but reveal a trace of depression in her eyes and unconsciously frowned upon hearing Qin Fang's words.

Bang~~

Tang Wei was a swordsmanship expert, and his furious retaliation now came with all his killer moves at full speed, which was slightly faster than Tang Nan with his hidden weapons. He quickly advanced on Qin Fang.

The fool had no brains at all. Knowing that Qin Fang had a "gun," he still dared to get so close, purely asking for trouble.

Qin Fang, with no courtesy, aimed at his arm and fired a shot...

Ah~~~

Although Tang Wei was a powerful martial arts expert, the sudden feeling as if his arm had exploded, that intense pain, instantly spread throughout his whole body. Injured in the sword-holding arm, the short sword immediately and helplessly dropped to the ground.

Tang Nan had hidden weapons ready in his hands, poised to strike. But upon witnessing this scene unfold before him, he found himself unable to lift his hand.

Tang Wei's arm was almost completely dyed red with blood, hanging limply and the blood continued to flow profusely, presenting a ghastly sight.

While Tang Sect experts were all highly skilled, and some had hunted ferocious wild beasts in the mountains, they rarely had the chance to kill people. Even the number of times they had seen blood was extremely few, as sparring among fellow sect members wasn't meant to be lethal and usually stopped at minor contacts.

However, Qin Fang was not a member of the Tang Sect. The two sides were truly fighting with deadly intent. Tang Wei and Tang Nan wanted Qin Fang's life, so Qin Fang did not hesitate to retaliate harshly.

The shot Tang Wei took was just a small interest payment. Qin Fang had been poisoned and attacked with hidden weapons for nothing and used Tang Wei's arm to settle the score.

"Tang Wei, how are you?"

Tang Nan's face was extremely grim, but he still called out to Tang Wei. At this point, with both of them against one and still ending up in such a situation, it would become even more difficult for him alone if Tang Wei were to fall.

"My... my hand... it's ruined!"

Tang Wei turned pale, almost completely drained of color. Upon hearing Tang Nan's words, he clenched his teeth and forced these words out. Qin Fang's strike was extremely accurate; the shot had pierced through Tang Wei's arm, and if nothing unexpected happened, the bullet would be lodged in Tang Wei's arm bone, rendering the arm almost completely useless.

"What?"

Tang Nan was taken aback upon hearing this. Although he knew something was wrong when he saw the blood on Tang Wei, he hadn't expected Qin Fang to be far more ruthless than he imagined, essentially devastating Tang Wei's entire arm.

It was as if his right-hand man had been chopped off...

No, with Tang Zhan drawn away by Song Qingshan, Tang Wei was his only remaining assistance, and now this ally had nearly lost his combat effectiveness. How could Tang Nan not look pale with shock?

However, Tang Nan was not one to easily admit defeat, a complete hypocrite and a petty man. Unless there was no other choice but to reveal his weakness, he would not easily show fear.

The current situation was extremely unfavorable for him. The power of the gun in Qin Fang's hand exceeded his expectations; it seemed that this weapon was actually even more powerful than the Tang Sect's firearms as Qin Fang had mentioned.

Facing such adversity, Tang Nan's expression was solemn, while his brain was rapidly working, apparently seeking an appropriate strategy to respond.

"So what about Tang Sect's hidden weapons? I can still shoot through them with my gun..."

Watching the sullen-faced Tang Nan and the pale-faced Tang Wei, whose eyes showed a hint of fear, Qin Fang understood that he had intimidated both men and couldn't help feeling somewhat smug.

Chapter 1053: One of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect: Storm Pear Blossom

The Tang Sect Twin Marvels—masters of Hidden Weapons and poison—have reigned supreme in the Martial World for a thousand years. But today, they've met their match in Qin Fang and have really hit rock bottom.

First, the poison had no effect on Qin Fang, which instantly halved the killing power of their Hidden Weapons. Now, even their secret technique Sky-covering Blossom Rain has become useless...

Now that Qin Fang has crippled one of Tang Wei's arms with his gun, if they want to continue the fight, Tang Nan would have to take him on single-handedly.

But can he withstand Qin Fang's bullets?

That's a question Tang Nan himself is uncertain about. In terms of swordsmanship, Tang Nan and Tang Wei were not vastly different in ability; at most, his True Qi was several times stronger than Tang Wei's.

But to Qin Fang, who wields a gun, that's utterly meaningless. Strong True Qi is indeed powerful, but it's still not enough to stop bullets.

Qin Fang had only shot Tang Wei's arm. If he had aimed for the heart, Tang Wei would probably be lying down, completely silent by now.

"Tang Nan, since things have come to this, my demand is simple: hand over Tang Xin, and I'll let you go... Otherwise, my gun might not be so merciful next time."

While Qin Fang did injure Tang Wei, he didn't intend to offend the Tang Sect too harshly. He just wanted to save someone. As long as Tang Xin can get past this calamity, his goal will have been achieved.

As for what troubles Tang Xin and Tang Nan might stir up when they return to the Tang Sect, Qin Fang is just an outsider and does not need to worry about such matters.

"Are you serious?"

Upon hearing Qin Fang's words, Tang Nan's face changed, and a strange light flickered in his eyes, as if he was seriously considering something.

Tang Wei, standing to the side, didn't dare to utter a word. The decision was in Tang Nan's hands. Even though he was injured, he was simply a follower, and he didn't dare to act rashly.

However, feeling the intense pain in his arm, even though he clenched his teeth and endured, it had added a sense of respect and fear for Qin Fang.

Everyone has an inherent respect for the unknown, and Tang Wei, the Martial Artist, was no exception. In fact, even Tang Nan himself was very afraid of the gun in Qin Fang's hand.

The gun had disabled Tang Wei's arm, and it could certainly take their lives too. No one takes their life lightly. Facing death, he naturally had to think things through carefully.

"Of course it's true, from the start, I had no intentions of making things difficult for you..."

Qin Fang shrugged.

Apparently, he wasn't the first to act. It was actually the people from the Tang Sect who attacked first. Qin Fang was merely acting in self-defense... although it seemed to be somewhat excessive self-defense.

However, opinions on this can vary. Tang Wei and Tang Nan had tried to kill Qin Fang outright, while Qin Fang had only disabled Tang Wei's arm, which was already quite magnanimous.

"Wanna save her? Hmph, I just won't let you have your way..."

But it seemed Qin Fang had still underestimated Tang Nan; this guy was a particularly sly character. After carefully facing off with Qin Fang for a moment, Tang Nan's face suddenly darkened.

He was indeed very wary of Qin Fang, but he could also see that Qin Fang was extremely cautious of his identity. Now, gritting his teeth, he decided to go all out in a do-or-die approach.

Tang Nan held a very small, dagger-like throwing knife in his hand. The blade, gleaming with a blueish hue, was unmistakably coated with a potent poison, sending shivers down one's spine just from looking at it.

However, this time Tang Nan wasn't aiming for Qin Fang but quickly retreated to where Tang Xin, who could not move, was. The throwing knife landed directly on Tang Xin's snow-white and smooth neck, and with a slight press of the blade, a cut appeared on her neck, with crimson blood flowing out immediately...

But soon, the deadly poison on the blade began to invade Tang Xin's body along with the blood, and the wound instantly turned black. This shade of necrotic black was spreading rapidly...

"Tang Nan, you're courting death..."

Qin Fang's face changed dramatically. He hadn't expected Tang Nan to be so heartless. Qin Fang had already agreed not to hold this matter against him; as long as he released Tang Xin, Qin Fang would pursue no further action, but unexpectedly...

"Courting death? Do you have the guts?"

Tang Nan seemed very confident, "You think I'd believe you wouldn't dare to touch me? If you do, don't expect to walk out of these mountains alive..."

Undoubtedly, what Tang Nan said was very true. The power of the Tang Sect was far from something Qin Fang could contend with alone.

Facing only a few members like Tang Nan, Qin Fang had to go all out. If the Tang Sect sent more disciples, Qin Fang might really not have a chance to get out of these mountains alive.

"Do you really think I won't lay a hand on you?"

The expression on Qin Fang's face also became extremely grim. Tang Xin had already been poisoned, and if she was not treated quickly, she might soon die from the toxin.

But to rescue Tang Xin from Tang Nan wasn't an easy task. Tang Nan was extremely cautious, hiding behind Tang Xin, exposing only a small part of his body, making it impossible even for Qin Fang with a gun in hand to shoot Tang Nan dead...

Chapter 1054: One of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect: Storm Pear Blossom_2

Not to mention, Qin Fang indeed held such wariness in his heart...

But every person has their breaking point, and Qin Fang was now infuriated to the extreme. It would have been acceptable if Tang Nan, mad and monstrous as he was, had targeted him, Qin Fang, regardless of the severity of his attack. However, his cruel assault on an innocent woman was simply too vicious.

"Hmph..."

Faced with Qin Fang's words, Tang Nan responded with a cold snort, unapologetically arrogant and fearless. He interpreted Qin Fang's expression as helpless rage born out of embarrassment, which was exactly what he had expected.

"Senior Brother..."

Tang Wei, standing to the side and seeing Qin Fang and Tang Nan at an impasse, with Tang Xin poisoned and her life in imminent danger, couldn't help but want to speak up.

Tang Xin could be considered their amulet for escaping to the heavens from this place; once Tang Xin succumbed to the poison and died, Qin Fang would lose his concern, and there was a real possibility he would turn deadly against both of them.

The difference between losing an arm and losing a life was very clear to Tang Wei. At this point, he had no choice but to speak, even though his words might carry little weight to Tang Nan.

But if he said nothing and just closed his eyes awaiting death, that would be too idiotic...

"Shut up!"

Unfortunately, Tang Nan had no interest in listening to Tang Wei's nonsense and angrily cursed, "Can't even handle such a trivial matter, you're useless... What's the point in keeping you!"

As he spoke, things moved quickly. Tang Nan flicked his flying knife, transforming it into a bizarre illusion. In the blink of an eye, it had stabbed into Tang Wei's throat.

"You..."

Tang Wei had never anticipated that it would be his most trusted Senior Brother, Tang Nan, not Qin Fang the enemy, who would deal him a lethal blow, and in such a venomous manner.

The poison was exceedingly domineering. A knife to the vital part of the throat, a double blow, directly claimed Tang Wei's life. Until he completely lost his breath, Tang Wei couldn't even manage to close his eyes.

Tang Nan didn't even bother to give it another glance, as if it was a matter of no concern to him... Even Qin Fang was profoundly shocked by Tang Nan's cruelty.

But at this moment, Tang Nan took advantage of the situation, producing another poisoned flying knife and placing it at Tang Xin's neck...

Tang Wei being hit by a bullet and wounded had indeed put considerable pressure on Tang Nan, but the life or death of Tang Wei was not something Tang Nan cared about. To him, Tang Wei was merely a servant, a dog in front of him.

Tang Nan's life was by far the most precious. If it weren't for Tang Wei's wound, Tang Nan wouldn't have wanted to personally take action. But at this critical juncture, giving up was also out of the question.

"I must say, you're the most formidable young man I've ever seen. I really didn't want to be your enemy, but it's a pity..."

At this point, Tang Nan seemed to have gone a bit mad, ruthlessly killing even his companion Tang Wei, looking at Qin Fang with eyes full of endless rage and deep... jealousy!

Yes, jealousy! The kind that rivals in love feel...

"Since you care so much about her, I'm going to make you watch as she slowly dies right before your eyes..."

Tang Nan had indeed lost his mind, his gaze revealing a very strange frenzy and cruelty, as if he was eagerly anticipating such a scene.

"You're truly a madman..."

Faced with such a person, Qin Fang felt he was now completely beyond reasoning. He didn't comprehend how Tang Nan had become so deranged from such a severe provocation or if it was his nature to be somewhat mentally unstable. Now, Tang Nan had become exceptionally mad and vicious.

"Madman? Haha, perhaps..."

Tang Nan spoke with such calmness, as if there wasn't a problem at all, which made Qin Fang somewhat baffled.

"Mind Reading Technique..."

As he witnessed the scene, a thought struck Qin Fang's mind, and he immediately used the Mind Reading Technique on Tang Nan, but... the outcome of the technique indicated failure; Tang Nan's psyche was completely undisturbed.

"Go to hell..."

This result startled Qin Fang for a moment, and he sensed that something wasn't quite right. Almost as this hesitation flickered through his mind, a dark, hollow tube suddenly appeared in Tang Nan's hands. Aimed at Qin Fang, a crazed roar erupted from it.

Immediately~~~

Qin Fang saw the dark tube burst open, and in the next moment, countless needles shot out from within.

"Feel the power of one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect – the Storm Pear Blossom..."

Almost simultaneously, Qin Fang faintly heard these words from Tang Nan, intensifying the sense of alarm in his heart...

The Tang Sect reigned supreme in the Martial World with their hidden weapons and poisons, their reputation enduring for a thousand years due to their sheer might.

There's no need to mention the poisons – countless people lost their lives to the poisons secretly concocted by Tang Sect, including many renowned Martial Arts Experts who were no exceptions.

As for hidden weapons, their notoriety was equally formidable – especially the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, which resonated throughout the entire Martial World.

Each of these Ten Great Hidden Weapons was enough to send chills down the spines of the inhabitants of the Martial World, with numerous well-known experts having fallen to them.

However, since the Tang Sect went into seclusion, tales of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect had not surfaced in the Martial World for a long time. Yet today, Qin Fang not only had the privilege of encountering the Tang Sect Twin Marvels but also one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons.

Storm Pear Blossom, one of the top-ranked weapons amongst the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, boasted tremendous power, and its creation was equally difficult. Over the years, the Tang Sect amassed only about a dozen or so of them...

Owing to its immense power and scarcity, the Storm Pear Blossom was always in the hands of the high-ranking and influential Elders.

A young disciple like Tang Nan typically wouldn't possess such one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons, but he had a father of esteemed status. During this outing, his father, Tang Yuantao, also prepared many contingencies for him.

Apart from the lethal poisons, there were poisoned hidden weapons he carried, and this Storm Pear Blossom was the only one Tang Yuantao owned, which he handed to his son Tang Nan.

Naturally, Tang Nan preferred not to use such a treasured weapon, but the threat posed by Qin Fang's appearance, coupled with Qin Fang's possession of "Tang Sect Firearms," meant that if he could capture Qin Fang and bring him back to the Tang Sect, it would be a great achievement for Tang Nan...

So, from the moment Tang Nan saw Qin Fang brandish the gun, he had already secretly made up his mind, and to accomplish his task, Tang Nan was willing to sacrifice Tang Wei's life. After all, losing a hand would be a fatal blow to a swordsman.

Rather than returning to the Sect to be bullied and ridiculed by fellow disciples, it would be better to die now and provide Tang Nan with an opportunity for a Sneak Attack...

The Storm Pear Blossom's real lethality lies in the three thousand hair-like needles hidden inside the tube...

Once the tubes were opened, three thousand needles burst out almost instantly, at high velocity, and with their hair-like fineness, they enveloped the area like a storm in a split second...

While Qin Fang could counter Tang Nan's Sky-covering Blossom Rain with his gun and discern the true location of the hidden weapon among the false, these three thousand real needles, once layered upon each other, were utterly indefensible...

"There's no use struggling, you're bound to die today..."

Tang Nan was filled with immense confidence in his Sneak Attack; the Storm Pear Blossom was among the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, and a close-range ambush left no chance for survival. He almost visualized the moment Qin Fang became a porcupine peppered with three thousand needles...

Chapter 1055: Shattering Storm Pear Blossom

Storm Pear Blossom, being one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, its power is undoubtedly formidable. Now, with its close-range explosion, hardly anyone could dodge it.

The massive lethality of the three thousand needle spikes, even a Grandmaster-level expert would inevitably fail to defend against them. The only difference might just be the severity of the injuries.

When Tang Nan executed Storm Pear Blossom, a triumphant smile already appeared on his face, as if at this moment, there was no chance of salvaging the situation.

The power of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of the Tang Sect was established with absolute strength and facts, throughout history till now, those who have escaped from under the might of these weapons are few and far between, and most of them survived just by luck due to the distance.

With such a close-range attack targeting Qin Fang, there has not been a single case of survival, showing that at this moment, Qin Fang truly had no possibility of escape...

Thus, it wasn't strange that Tang Nan harbored such thoughts; he was confident of his victory.

The Ten Great Hidden Weapons, these were controlled by some very high-status Elders of Tang Sect. If not for his father Tang Yuantao's illustrious status, Tang Nan wouldn't even have the chance to touch the Ten Great Hidden Weapons, let alone bring out Storm Pear Blossom, one of the ten.

Perhaps it was Tang Yuantao's foresight, or maybe it was his particular doting on his son that led him to entrust such a valuable treasure to Tang Nan for self-defense.

Generally speaking, had Qin Fang not coincidentally been involved, Tang Nan would have already succeeded, and would not have needed to use such a valuable treasure as Storm Pear Blossom.

But coincidences do happen, and Qin Fang, someone who was originally uninvolved, disrupted everything. Not only did he nearly push Tang Nan to a dead end, but he also forced the latter to use his last resort—Storm Pear Blossom.

This is the ultimate killer move!

Once executed, it indeed possesses an overwhelmingly mighty effect of slaughtering gods and Buddhas they encounter.

Indeed, when Qin Fang saw the thousands of spikes burst forth in an instant, each finer than the Silver Needles he carried, they were truly like cow hair.

However, Qin Fang did not dare to underestimate the power of these spikes. On the contrary, his gaze instantly narrowed, his pupils contracted, his body tensely clenched, not daring to relax the slightest bit... not even a little.

Tang Xin's body couldn't move, but her eyes were filled with boundless worry and horror. The change in front of her was too rapid, so fast that she couldn't fully adapt to it.

The fact that Qin Fang could dodge Tang Nan's Sky-covering Blossom Rain was already incredibly miraculous, and it nearly gave Tang Xin a glimpse of victory.

But to her surprise, Tang Nan went mad enough to attack her with poison. The excruciating poison seeped into her body along her meridians and she felt an immense pain that nearly made her pass out.

Yet she was worried about Qin Fang's safety and persisted, only to then see the insane Tang Nan kill their fellow Sect Disciple Tang Wei, and in the moment of Qin Fang's shock, used the forbidden weapon of Storm Pear Blossom from the arsenal of the Tang Sect.

As a disciple of Tang Sect, she understood the ferocity of Storm Pear Blossom far better than Qin Fang. Although she never had the chance to own it, and didn't even know how powerful it could be when erupted, a deep trust in its invincibility was already etched deep in her mind.

This could be regarded as trust in the Sect's hidden weapons, but when she truly witnessed the scene of Storm Pear Blossom exploding, her belief became unshakable.

Over three thousand needle spikes burst out instantly, from Qin Fang's perspective, he saw a vast shadow rapidly approaching, while from Tang Xin's viewpoint, she saw a dense mass of needle spikes instantaneously piercing through the air, rushing towards Qin Fang's body one after another.

The speed was incredibly fast, and the coverage area was also tremendously vast, almost completely enveloping Qin Fang.

It was like a sky filled with bees that could entirely devour a person in an instant... Extremely terrifying, with an incomparably shocking momentum.

She wanted to scream, to shout, but she couldn't help in any way. Her eyes went from shock to a thick sorrow and despair...

At this moment, she truly wished her body could move, to stand in front of Qin Fang and block this onslaught of Storm Pear Blossom for him...

Sadly, this was impossible!

Her body simply couldn't move, and the power of Storm Pear Blossom was far greater than she had estimated. The erupting force was able to penetrate through two or three bodies in succession without immediately exhausting its energy...

Wait,

What's going on?

Neither Tang Xin nor Tang Nan believed that anyone could save Qin Fang at this time, although their true thoughts were vastly different, the outcome seemed to be the same.

But——

At this very moment, their eyes suddenly froze, as if they had seen something incredibly unbelievable.

Indeed, it was extremely unbelievable, even miraculous, the scene that unfolded before them at this moment.

Because, just as the Storm Pear Blossom's three thousand needles were about to turn Qin Fang into a porcupine, a black figure eerily appeared in front of him, completely shielding Qin Fang's body...

Ding Ding~~~ Dang Dang~~

The speed at which Storm Pear Blossom erupted was very fast; from release to impact, the whole process took merely a second, perhaps even less.

In such a brief time, even a Martial Arts Expert would not have much time to react, let alone being targeted by Storm Pear Blossom, one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect—there was absolutely no chance of escape.

However, it seemed Tang Nan was exceptionally unlucky today, every time he thought he held the winning hand, the situation would take a sudden and drastic turn.

For instance, the poison didn't kill Qin Fang, the Hidden Weapons didn't slay Qin Fang, and even the Sky-covering Blossom Rain failed to pierce Qin Fang... and now, when he resorted to using the ultimate killer move, Storm Pear Blossom, such a strange figure would appear to block three thousand needles for Qin Fang. Damn it, does this still give a person a chance to live?

Naturally, the most frustrated person at the moment was Tang Nan; he had exerted all his efforts, and if even the sure-kill technique of Storm Pear Blossom proved ineffective, he truly would be at a loss for words.

"Impossible! The power of Storm Pear Blossom is astonishing, even if someone blocked a portion for you, it would still be enough to kill you..."

However, Tang Nan obviously hadn't completely lost hope; the power of Storm Pear Blossom was immense, enough to pierce the body of the person in front and still retain enough force to penetrate the person behind.

The three thousand needles were extremely fine, perhaps not all could pass through completely, but even if only half, or even one-third, passed through, it would be enough to kill the person behind.

After all, the distance between Qin Fang and the person shielding him was merely a hairbreadth, practically negligible; they were entirely close together.

However...

The sounds that reached the ears of Tang Nan and Tang Xin were not the pfpt pfpt of needles piercing flesh, but rather the ding ding dang dang as if striking against hard metal.

Then, they could clearly see that, just like rain, countless tiny needles like cow hairs fell to the ground, forming a layer on the surface in an instant.

Not only that, as these needles hit the ground, their originally sharp tips were bend forcibly, going from perfectly straight to curved.

Clearly, there was a problem; facing such a powerful impact, the sharp needles bending entirely indicated an issue.

One must understand that not even someone like Song Qingshan, who had cultivated the Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover to Grandmaster Level and even Grandmaster-level, was able to do such a thing, as the fine needles used in Storm Pear Blossom were specifically designed to break through body-protecting True Qi.

Therefore, the only explanation for such a phenomenon was that it encountered something extraordinarily hard, such as a shield made of refined steel...

The area covered by Storm Pear Blossom was too extensive; there was no way Qin Fang could hide a shield that could completely protect him—precisely speaking, both Tang Nan and Tang Xin were full of doubts about how this person managed to achieve this.

Hence, both of their faces showed extreme astonishment and disbelief, focusing their gaze on this suddenly appeared "mysterious person"...

The light inside the cave was not particularly bright, but it was not dark either; Tang Nan and Tang Xin were powerful enough to see clearly inside.

This person who suddenly appeared, standing in front of Qin Fang— or rather, it can't be called a person at all, it looked more like a statue, an ancient bronze statue.

Indeed, it was a bronze statue, appearing incredibly ancient, yet its surface was completely free of rust, as if it had just been freshly made.

If this were placed outside the mountain, many people would probably think it's a Transformer, a Terminator, and so on; it's just that the people of Tang Sect were like living in ancient times, with only so much knowledge, not knowing what Transformers or Terminators are...

This statue stood as tall as Qin Fang, with a slightly more robust body; Qin Fang was now clinging to its back, completely shielded.

Thus, one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, Storm Pear Blossom, was indeed extremely powerful, yet it didn't harm even a hair on Qin Fang because those refined steel needles simply could not break the surface of the statue, let alone pass through and kill Qin Fang as well...

Undoubtedly, Qin Fang had thwarted one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, Storm Pear Blossom, with this miraculous tactic!

Chapter 1056 Thoroughly Crushed

Qin Fang was not sure if any of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of the Tang Sect had been deciphered, but at least the Storm Pear Blossom was formidable, yet it posed only a negligible threat to him.

Not to mention that Tang Nan had only this one Storm Pear Blossom, even if he had another, Qin Fang could still disregard its existence...

If Qin Fang could break it once, then he could break it a second time, unless Tang Nan had a way to break the current situation and allow the sharp needle of the Storm Pear Blossom to penetrate the body of this extraordinary-looking statue...

Clearly, this was impossible!

No matter how formidable the sharp needle was, this statue was no ordinary object, but a Puppet person Qin Fang had obtained through great hardship. Even Cao Chun using many bombs had not been able to destroy it, which demonstrated its hardness. The close-range lethality of the mere Storm Pear Blossom was almost more dangerous than a gun, but still no match for bombs.

This was Qin Fang's true trump card, always kept nurtured in the Props Box, not even intended to be revealed unless the Storm Pear Blossom was truly formidable.

Now, upon its debut, it instantly killed Tang Nan's trump weapon, directly annihilating all his efforts and completely depriving him of all means.

Gulp~~

Seeing such a scene, Tang Nan's eyes were filled with infinite horror and disbelief, creating an atmosphere so eerie and oppressive that he couldn't help but swallow his saliva.

The cave was deathly silent, the sound of a needle dropping could be heard very clearly, making the sound of swallowing even more distinct.

At this point, Tang Nan had completely lost all his momentum, the Storm Pear Blossom was his final trump card, his last lifesaver.

For this last struggle, he directly attacked his fellow sect brother, Tang Wei, just to slightly distract Qin Fang, and then used the Storm Pear Blossom.

It can be said that he had made all preparations for this final struggle, but unfortunately, even this did not let him taste the fruit of victory, ending in a crushing defeat.

Victory was almost within grasp, but he couldn't figure out how Qin Fang managed to bring out such a huge thing, as if by magic, suddenly introducing such a huge object.

Qin Fang was dressed very simply, obviously not hiding anything, let alone such a big thing. Nothing Qin Fang could hide, not to mention someone several times bigger wouldn't be able to conceal such a big thing either.

Yet, it was precisely the appearance of this object that declared all of Tang Nan's efforts void, rendering him no longer a threat to Qin Fang.

A series of blows greatly threatened Tang Nan's confidence, even making him forget his high achievements in martial arts, reaching the level of Mid-Master Level.

Usually, he mostly relied on his hidden weapons for victory during a fight, and although his achievements in martial arts were not low, they clearly were not as dominant as his hidden weapons.

Now that his strongest and most reliable methods were useless, his confidence was naturally greatly damaged, where would he think of other methods?

If he had fought Qin Fang, he might not have suffered such a severe blow. Qin Fang's strength was only comparable to someone at Mid-Master Level, and in a fight, they would be evenly matched, with Qin Fang slightly at a disadvantage.

But now, it was all too late.

Qin Fang simply didn't bother to look at Tang Nan. His original intent was to rescue someone, and the situation with Tang Xin was already very dire. If she didn't receive treatment soon, even if he killed Tang Nan, it would not save Tang Xin's life, which was obviously too great a loss.

He darted out from behind the Puppet person, Tang Nan's heart chilled, his hand raising his short sword, seemingly ready to continue a great battle with Qin Fang.

But Qin Fang completely ignored him, his body swayed, quickly retreating away from him, directly heading towards Tang Xin behind Tang Nan...

While making his move, Qin Fang also immediately retrieved two Detoxification Pills from his hand, and as he approached Tang Xin, he produced a silver light in one hand, instantly using the Silver Needle to seal several of her critical acupoints, blocking the heart meridian to prevent the poison from attacking the heart.

Then he directly lifted the face covering from Tang Xin's face, pinched open her slightly blackened mouth due to poisoning, and swiftly stuffed the two Detoxification Pills into her mouth, then exerting his inner force to help her ingest them...

These two Detoxification Pills were the best quality that Qin Fang had at the moment. As soon as they were administered, Tang Xin's complexion eased quite a lot. Qin Fang observed Tang Xin using his Scouting Skill and noticed that the severe poison in her body had been curbed and was slowly receding, evidently the Detoxification Pills were very effective.

Or perhaps, Qin Fang should be thankful that the severe poisons smeared on the hidden weapons brought by Tang Nan were not the most powerful in the Tang Sect, only considered relatively ordinary, and the Detoxification Pills could easily counter them.

With the toxicity curbed, Tang Xin's crisis could be said to be half resolved. Next, as long as the acupoints holding Tang Xin were released, the task would be complete.

Tang Xin's acupoints were sealed by Tang Zhan, whose strength surpassed both Qin Fang and Song Qingshan by a level, making it extremely difficult to unseal the acupoints.

The art of acupoint sealing has been passed down in many ancient schools, such as the Tang Sect and the Shaolin Temple, which is not surprising at all.

However, when a martial arts expert seals an acupoint, they leave their Inner Breath within that acupoint. Unless one's strength surpasses the sealer, it is impossible to forcefully unseal the acupoint.

Alternatively, knowing the technique to unseal, one can release the Inner Breath trapped in the acupoint, naturally unsealing it.

Qin Fang's strength was definitely inferior to Tang Zhan's. The first method was clearly not viable, and since Qin Fang did not know the unique unsealing techniques of the Tang Sect, the second method was also not viable.

Yet Qin Fang was not entirely out of options, for he had his unique method—unsealing via Silver Needle.

Qin Fang himself did not know acupoint sealing; his master, Cai Pingyuan, had not learned this secret technique either. However, his 'The Nine Revival Needles' contained such a secret technique that allowed the use of a Silver Needle for sealing acupoints... essentially equivalent to a Martial Arts Expert sealing acupoints.

If acupoints can be sealed, naturally they can also be unsealed.

Suddenly, Qin Fang's hand flickered with Silver Needles, transforming into streaks of silver light, as he swiftly pricked several acupoints on Tang Xin's body multiple times...

Hiss~~

After a nearly inaudible sound, the Inner Breath Tang Zhan left in Tang Xin's acupoints was instantly released, allowing her body to recover from the restriction.

Though the acupoints were unsealed, there was still a minute of weakness. Qin Fang had exploited this weakness before, making Tang Xin extremely vulnerable at the moment, not to mention her poisoned wounds were still healing.

Tang Xin's body instantly softened, and she began to collapse towards the ground...

"Tang Xin..."

Qin Fang's expression changed. Tang Xin was extremely vulnerable at the moment and could not suffer further external damage. With a shout, Qin Fang swiftly moved, his long arms embracing, immediately securing Tang Xin's soft waist and steadied her, preventing the tragedy of her falling and getting injured.

This scene was clearly witnessed by Tang Nan.

After the failure of 'Storm Pear Blossom', his confidence was severely shaken. Honestly, he truly did not wish to confront Qin Fang again, so upon realizing Qin Fang was not targeting him, he couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

However, when he saw Qin Fang and Tang Xin in such an ambiguously intimate "embrace," an unnamed rage surged immediately, and those resentful eyes wished they could shoot countless Sharp Arrows, turning Qin Fang into a porcupine.

Yet, he knew that was an impossibility.

In his heart, Qin Fang had almost become an invincible demon lord, and he could no longer muster the courage to fight again.

Resentment, jealousy, hatred...

But more than that, there was fear, terror, and dread.

Seeing Qin Fang momentarily distracted by Tang Xin, how could Tang Nan let go of such an opportunity? He stopped caring about anyone else and suddenly, his steps burst forth, turning into a fleeting shadow, he rapidly sprinted toward the cave entrance.

Since it was already impossible to defeat Qin Fang, and Tang Xin, the only hostage, was now in Qin Fang's hands, using her to threaten Qin Fang was also impossible.

What followed was an escape. Tang Nan, not one to cling desperately to lost causes, decisively chose to flee.

They were three people when they left the mountain. Now, Tang Wei was dead, and his trump cards were exhausted, but there was still a much stronger Tang Zhan outside, who was his father Tang Yuantao's bodyguard, and finding Tang Zhan meant he might survive.

After all, the mountain was deep with dense foliage; with his and Tang Zhan's strength, they could easily escape back to the Tang Sect. Once he reported this matter to his father, he could seek revenge for all the hatred he harbored...

"Tang Xin, you will still end up in my hands..."

Even as he left, he couldn't let go of Tang Xin, still intent on possessing her.

"Thinking of leaving? It's not that easy..."

Tang Nan was indeed very fast, but he still couldn't escape Qin Fang's perception. Although Qin Fang was worried about Tang Xin's condition and slightly distracted, the slightest movement from Tang Nan was immediately sensed by him.

Sensing Tang Nan's movement, Qin Fang's complexion changed slightly. With a silent cry in his heart, he was also immediately giving instructions to the "statue" in front of him.

Chapter 1057: Kill Grandmaster Level Tang Nan!

Tang Nan's speed was exceptionally fast; after all, he was frantically fleeing for his life. To escape from certain death, he was pulling out all the stops.

His start, dodge, and power exertion were almost done in one breath, incredibly fluid and swift. By the time Qin Fang's command was issued, Tang Nan had already covered a considerable distance.

Had it been even slightly later, Qin Fang might not have had any chance at all, and Tang Nan could have directly fled this cave.

But—

Before Tang Nan had the chance to feel relieved, he suddenly felt an immense threat at his waist. Though he couldn't detect any True Qi fluctuations, the sheer magnitude of the threat made his whole body uncontrollably shiver with cold.

Whoosh~~

A fierce punch came at him with significant speed, its sound deep and dull, bringing with it an overwhelming oppression, clearly showing that this punch was enormously powerful.

If such a punch were to hit, even a grandmaster-level expert as strong as Tang Nan might end up with his guts shattered on the spot.

Grandmaster-level experts are not gods, nor has every one of them cultivated body-strengthening techniques; their bodily defenses are just a bit stronger than ordinary people's, and very limited at that.

Not to mention, such a heavy and powerful punch might be too much for even a defensive expert like Song Qingshan who has cultivated the Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Shield to grandmaster level to withstand.

This punch was fast and powerful, and struck unexpectedly. There was no struggle in advance, just like the statue that had suddenly appeared before, catching Tang Nan completely off guard.

However, at this point, it was a bit late for Tang Nan to defend himself—the punch was coming too fast, so fast that Tang Nan barely had time to react. He instinctively crossed his sword and channeled all his True Qi to his arms, preparing to forcibly block the strike.

There was no avoiding this punch; Tang Nan could only choose to stand firm against it. At the same time, he was calculating in his heart that he could use the rebounding force of this punch to propel himself out of the cave. Ironically, this would help him, enabling a faster and more convenient escape...

Clang~~~

Indeed, as soon as Tang Nan was prepared, the punch struck his shortsword with a crisp, euphonious sound.

A burst of immense strength immediately traveled along the shortsword towards Tang Nan's arm and body, nearly giving him the sensation that he couldn't hold on...

"Such strength indeed!" Tang Nan thought.

But Tang Sect martial arts were also quite formidable. Having cultivated some techniques for dissipating force, Tang Nan believed he could still fully withstand the punch...

Almost instinctively, Tang Nan tried to employ some tricks and skills to diffuse the punch's force... However, he seemed to have once again miscalculated his strength and underestimated the power of the punch.

Crack~~

Just when it seemed the punch's force was about to diminish, the shortsword made of Hundred Refined Fine Steel in Tang Nan's hand very disappointingly broke at the most critical moment—

It did indeed break, and very cleanly at that. The point of breakage was precisely where the punch had landed...

This was no coincidence!

This thought immediately flashed through Tang Nan's mind, while he instinctively sensed that something was amiss.

Only—

His thought was precise, but his reaction seemed a bit too slow, or rather, much too slow.

After the shortsword broke, the only thing blocking the punch also vanished, and the punch continued like a powerful charge, targeting Tang Nan's chest.

Thump~~

A punch hit Tang Nan square in the chest.

Crack~~

The sound of bones fracturing crisply, Tang Nan's chest appeared as if it was pierced through by the mighty Iron Fist, creating a visible indentation, with his ribs completely shattered...

Thump~~

Tang Nan himself hadn't anticipated ending up like this, but the intense pain from his chest was undeniably real, telling him that this was no dream, but a fact that had already occurred.

Agony in his chest, bones feeling like they were all smashed, a mouthful of blood surged up, and Tang Nan couldn't help but spew it out.

Blood mist churned in the air, enshrouding Tang Nan in a particularly eerie and miserable spectacle...

The punch was heavy and strong, its force terrifying, and although Tang Nan used the shortsword made of Hundred Refined Fine Steel to block most of the strength, the remaining force was still horrible.

Most of Tang Nan's strength had gone into the shortsword and his arms. His body's defenses were limited, and now, having taken such a heavy blow, he was left in an utter state of misery.

Thump~~

With his chest injured, ribs shattered or even pulverized, and spewing blood, he fell limply onto the ground a few meters away, having collided fiercely with the hard rock wall in the process...

With this fall, Tang Nan's life was halved at once, his breathing in and out both greatly reduced, appearing on his last breath, pitifully...

Yet, at this moment obviously, no one was there to pity him.

Chapter 1058: Kill Grandmaster Level Tang Nan!_2

In the cave, there were only Qin Fang and Tang Xin, neither of whom belonged to Tang Nan's group. The only one considered part of his group, Tang Wei, had been long ago turned into a lifeless corpse by Tang Nan's treachery.

Now, Tang Nan was almost in the same boat, severely wounded. Without prompt medical treatment, even if he was lucky enough not to die, he would practically become a useless cripple.

Qin Fang's face remained calm, as if everything happening before him was very natural, a matter of course. Even when he looked at Tang Nan, who lay still on the ground as if dead, there was not the slightest change in his expression.

At this moment, Tang Xin, who had gradually regained some strength, had her eyes completely blank with shock. Hidden behind her mask, her little mouth was slightly open, betraying utter astonishment, almost beyond description.

Because the one who punched mid-master level martial artist Tang Nan into such severe injury was not Qin Fang, who had saved her in peril, but the statue that had destroyed one of the Tang Sect's Ten Great Hidden Weapons, the Storm Pear Blossom!

Yes, that statue!

Just now, the statue moved like a living person. From its initial stillness as if a lifeless object, it suddenly launched an attack with incredibly fast reflexes. Along with that seemingly indestructible fist, it easily broke Tang Nan's short sword forged from Hundred Refined Fine Steel and then with another punch inflicted grave injuries on Tang Nan, leaving him with barely half a life...

These short swords were uniformly forged by the Tang Sect, and every disciple had one, including her. The Tang Sect dominated the martial world with their hidden weapons, and the forging of such weapons required extremely skilled blacksmiths; hence, the level of Swordsmiths in the Tang Sect was quite high.

With materials being Hundred Refined Fine Steel and the high level of blacksmithing skill, these short swords should, in theory, be of excellent quality, likely facing defeat only from divine weapons.

However, the problematic statue hadn't used any weapon from beginning to end. It settled everything with just its fist, breaking the short sword and nearly piercing through Tang Nan's body, causing blood to spray and severe injuries... The power of this punch speaks for itself.

Such might was probably comparable to that of a divine weapon.

"Thinking of escaping from my hands in this lifetime... you can give up on that hope..."

Qin Fang stepped slowly towards Tang Nan, holding a military spike in his hand, looking at Tang Nan with ill intent, as if choosing where to strike for a fatal blow.

Seeing Qin Fang's motion, Tang Xin grew tense too. By now, her body had almost fully recovered, and she was able to move freely.

"Qin Fang, could you possibly..."

In her heart, Tang Xin couldn't bear it. Although Tang Nan had been hostile to her, even driving her to the brink of suicide, at the end of the day, he was still from the Tang Sect, her fellow disciple.

Considering the fact of being fellow disciples for over a decade, Tang Xin couldn't bear to watch Tang Nan die just like that.

Only, Tang Xin also understood something—that her relationship with Qin Fang wasn't particularly close. Qin Fang's rescue was a great kindness to her, but now, she had to plead for her enemy, which truly put her in a difficult position. Thus, the words she wanted to say halted at her lips, and her expression was filled with difficulty.

"Don't... don't kill me..."

Tang Nan heard Tang Xin's words and noticed her expression, immediately realizing that she was about to speak on his behalf, to plea for his life. Even though his heart was filled with deep hatred for Qin Fang and he secretly vowed to have his father Tang Yuantao come out of seclusion to seek revenge...

But on the surface, in order to survive, Tang Nan could only force himself to swallow his humiliation and beg Qin Fang for mercy...

"Do you really want to let the tiger return to its mountain?"

Qin Fang's expression remained unchanged as he stared at Tang Xin, asking as if the decision lay solely in Tang Xin's hands, "You must not forget, if it weren't for my timely arrival, what would have happened to you? Also, take a look at how he treats his own sect members..."

As he spoke, Qin Fang pointed to the already cold body of Tang Wei nearby, the bloody dagger still lodged within it. Tang Wei had been utterly loyal to Tang Nan, but what had his end become...

"This..."

Hearing Qin Fang's words and seeing Tang Wei's corpse, Tang Xin began to hesitate even more. It was undeniable that Tang Nan was indeed a maniac capable of unspeakable evil.

If Tang Nan were not from the Tang Sect but rather some villain committing atrocities, Tang Xin would definitely have executed him without a moment's hesitation, not caught in indecision like now.

Tang Nan naturally heard the conversation between Qin Fang and Tang Xin. The sliver of hope in his heart was immediately shrouded in darkness. He harbored a deep-seated hatred for his enemy Qin Fang, and the venomous loathing in his eyes seemed ready to erupt.

Inside, he cursed Qin Fang up and down, his immense hatred radiating an endless aura of grudges... even though he was bowing his head at the time, not showing his face to either Qin Fang or Tang Xin.

However, he could have never imagined that Qin Fang's capabilities were far greater than he presumed, using the Mind Reading Technique all this while to probe the thoughts in Tang Nan's innermost depths.

Qin Fang was well aware of this boundless hatred, the profound jealousy towards Qin Fang, and the deep resentment toward Tang Xin.

What made Qin Fang's expression change was that Tang Nan had actually planned to report to the Tang Sect about Qin Fang possessing the Puppet person and intended for his father, Tang Yuantao, to come out and attempt to seize it.

After all, a Puppet person impervious to blades and guns with incredible power, if controlled by him and his father, would mean seizing the position of Sect Leader of the Tang Sect was not impossible.

With this news, Qin Fang's expression darkened slightly. He himself had been hesitating about whether he must eliminate Tang Nan, but now Qin Fang had no more doubts.

The secret of the Puppet person could not be leaked at any cost; it was Qin Fang's most vital trump card for survival, even now seeming more significant than the groups of Baozi in his Props Box.

Should the Tang Sect learn of this news, Qin Fang couldn't rest easy, seemingly destined to spend his days dealing with those from the Tang Sect who coveted his treasure.

The Tang Sect held a unique position in the Martial World, existing somewhere between righteousness and evil with hidden weapons and poison, not counted among the orthodox and always catching others off-guard.

Having offended such a sect, peaceful days ahead were impossible... Precisely because if the secret of the Puppet person were to spread, many would covet it, and the Tang Sect's people would certainly not let it go.

"No need to think so much, there's no need for you to act, I will do it myself..."

This secret could not be disclosed, and Tang Nan had always been brimming with murderous intent towards Qin Fang. Since it was unavoidable that one of them wouldn't survive the confrontation, even if Qin Fang truly didn't want to cross the Tang Sect, he could no longer back down now.

Seeing Tang Xin still tangled in indecision, Qin Fang couldn't be bothered to talk anymore, his hand flicked the Military Spike, which immediately plunged into Tang Nan's heart under his bewildered gaze...

Blood spurted out generously, nearly splashing Qin Fang's face and body, but Qin Fang seemed to feel nothing, gripping the Military Spike embedded in Tang Nan's heart, feeling the throbbing heart gradually come to a halt, until it was completely silent...

Just like that, Tang Nan was thoroughly dead, and Qin Fang finally exhaled a sigh of relief, at least the secret of the Puppet person wouldn't be disclosed...

Chapter 1059: Kidnapping Tang Xin

Tang Nan died, gradually losing his life force right before Tang Xin's eyes until he fell into eternal silence. Shock filled Tang Xin's gaze, but deep worry also emerged.

"Qin Fang, leave this place quickly, leave this mountain immediately, the farther the better..."

Tang Xin could now move normally and immediately urged Qin Fang in a hurry, almost using all her strength to hasten him to leave as soon as possible.

As a disciple of the Tang Sect, she was very clear about the Sect's practice of protecting its own.

Once a disciple of the Tang Sect is killed outside, the Sect will definitely investigate the truth and hunt down the murderer, even to the extent of annihilating entire families. The extermination of several tribes in the mountains was a prime example.

And now, Tang Nan and Tang Wei had both died. These two were considered young experts within the Tang Sect's younger generation, and this incident was destined to be no small matter.

Once this news reaches the Tang Sect, it will definitely cause a stir. It's feared that people will be sent out to investigate the truth very soon.

Moreover, Tang Nan's identity was far from simple. He was the only son of Tang Sect Elder Tang Yuantao, and also the nephew of the Sect Leader's wife, a member of the Tang Clan Descendants. One of the top ten young experts of the Tang Sect's younger generation, his untimely death would absolutely cause a major earthquake within the Sect. Tang Xin could even imagine Tang Yuantao's fury; he might personally come out of isolation to pursue the real murderer.

Qin Fang had just displayed unmatched terrifying power to save her, but Tang Xin had sparred with Qin Fang and knew that his true strength was not much greater than hers. He might have a chance to defeat Tang Nan solely in terms of martial prowess, but facing a Grandmaster-level Expert like Tang Yuantao, the result would only be one—inevitable death!

Furthermore, it was certain that Tang Yuantao would not come alone; other Martial Arts Experts from the Tang Sect would accompany him. The Tang Sect's poisons and Hidden Weapons were unparalleled and they might even use the Sect's firearms that were famous throughout the Martial World. Qin Fang, on his own, would definitely be unable to fight against so many.

"What about you? Will you leave with me, or will you return to the Tang Sect..."

Qin Fang's expression was calm, seemingly not too worried about his own future. Instead, he inquired about Tang Xin's plans since, even though the deaths of Tang Nan and the others were not her doing, they happened because of her. If the Tang Sect delved into the matter, she might not be able to avoid implication.

"I..."

Tang Xin was stumped by Qin Fang's question.

She also asked herself, "Where should I go from here?"

Given Tang Nan's prominent status and that he was the sole child of Tang Yuantao, with Tang Yuantao's position, even with her master's support, she wouldn't be able to walk away unscathed from this situation.

Moreover, Tang Xin did not want to implicate her master who, like her, was a disciple of the Tang Sect but was not from Tang Clan. Though her master held the title of Elder, his status was far beneath that of Tang Yuantao.

Not wanting to implicate her master meant she couldn't return to the Tang Sect. She had lived in the Sect since she was little, for twenty years now, never having taken a step outside, the furthest being just a visit to Zhuoma's Gelan Tribe.

Although the Gelan Tribe was slightly closer to the outside than the mountains, it was still a very underdeveloped tribal settlement within the mountains.

The Tang Sect's power over this mountainous area was immense. Once Tang Nan's incident occurred and the Sect mobilized in large numbers, there would be no corner deep enough in the mountains for Tang Xin to hide from their pursuit.

It seemed her only way out was one—to leave this mountain and head into the outside world.

However, she had never ventured from the mountains, and she had no idea what the outside world was like. Even the basic aspects of living on her own would be incredibly difficult...

"Come with me!"

Seeing Tang Xin's hesitation, Qin Fang sincerely offered.

From the moment he saw Tang Xin, Qin Fang had been contemplating coaxing her out of the mountains. Although the process was more convoluted and strange than expected, even resulting in such incidents, Qin Fang still felt it was better to take her with him...

Furthermore, Qin Fang had his own ulterior motives. The information about the Puppet person he possessed was not something to be spread around. Although Qin Fang was confident that a strong-willed woman like Tang Xin was unlikely to betray him, he couldn't guarantee that the Tang Sect didn't have some sort of bewitching drug that might make Tang Xin unwittingly divulge the information.

Of course, the best solution would naturally be to kill Tang Xin as well...

But Qin Fang couldn't bring himself to do it. Firstly, he harbored no enmity nor conflicts of interest with her, and secondly, because she was a woman, Qin Fang had never killed a woman before!

"But..."

Hearing Qin Fang's sincere plea, Tang Xin's heart trembled slightly. Deep inside, she was excited and willing. Qin Fang gave her a very good impression, and he had risked such great danger to save her. Even offering herself to him seemed justified, let alone leaving the mountains with him.

However, just thinking about the unknown world outside filled her heart with intense fear and trepidation... afraid that she would be unable to adapt to that foreign world.

"Rest assured, the world outside is not as complicated as you imagine; I will help you adapt to it slowly..."

Qin Fang understood Tang Xin's concerns very well, and immediately expressed his willingness to help in the most courteous way.

In fact, the outside world was indeed very complex, far more than the depths of the mountains, but that was all relative. Sometimes it was surprisingly simple and one could adapt quite easily.

Especially for a martial arts expert like Tang Xin, if she really wanted to survive in the outside world, it would be much easier for her than for ordinary people. As long as she didn't kill or set fires, it seemed that other challenges could be resolved relatively easily.

Besides, with Qin Fang helping by her side, it would be even easier to accept that complex and yet simple world outside...

Looking at Qin Fang's sincere face and thinking back to everything that had just happened, Tang Xin's gaze was exceedingly complex. But then, as if she had thought of something, a touch of shyness tinged her cheeks, and suddenly her eyes were brimming with the warmth of spring, as though she had become a completely different person.

"Mhm!"

Perhaps it was just that thought that made Tang Xin somewhat coy, and then she gently nodded her head, breathing out a barely audible sound through her nose, giving Qin Fang an affirmative response.

"That's good!"

Hearing Tang Xin's answer, Qin Fang also felt much relieved inside. At least Tang Xin wouldn't have to return to the Tang Sect, and his secret would remain safe.

"You go out and wait for me for a moment, I need to deal with the bodies of these two men..."

Qin Fang said gently, and Tang Xin did not refuse. She took one more look at the corpses of her fellow sect brothers, a trace of regret visible in her eyes, but it was mostly resolute. After all, these two had meant her harm, and she had nearly lost her innocence.

After making sure Tang Xin had left the cave, Qin Fang immediately began to handle the bodies of Tang Wei and Tang Nan... Although calling it "handling" was putting it simply, the process was very straightforward, just throwing their bodies into the Props Box, and thus no one would be any the wiser.

The people of the Tang Sect might suspect their life or death, but without finding the bodies, they wouldn't suspect Qin Fang for a while, and he could leave the mountains with relative ease.

The process was simple, taking just a few seconds, but Qin Fang still waited a moment before walking out of the cave.

"Uh..."

However, as he came out, seeing Tang Xin in front of him, Qin Fang couldn't help but be shocked.

"Why did you take off your face covering..."

Looking at the flawlessly exquisite face in front of him, pleasing and yet petulant, even Qin Fang was momentarily lost in his thoughts, but his composure was quite good, and he immediately asked with some confusion.

The reputation of Tang Xin as one of the two great beauties of the Tang Sect was indeed not unfounded. Her beauty was truly captivating, and it was no wonder that Tang Nan would resort to such despicable means to have her; she was just too enchanting.

Compared to her, those celebrities out there were simply subpar, not to mention most of those celebrities were already past their prime...

The environment in the mountains may be primitive, but it is nurturing, especially for beauties, and with Tang Xin's own strength being so strong and her True Qi so solid, it added even more to her stunning allure.

When she was wearing her face covering, Qin Fang had already sensed Tang Xin must be a beauty, but now that she had taken it off and confirmed this suspicion, it also made Qin Fang quite surprised.

"I've already left the Tang Sect, so there's no need to follow the Tang Sect's rules anymore..."

Tang Xin's face was flushed, her fair cheeks blushing, making her look appealing and charming, her melodious voice providing a relatively reasonable explanation.

However, she would never reveal the real reason...

This time she left with Qin Fang, which in a sense meant she had betrayed the Tang Sect, becoming a defector from the sect, so naturally there was no need to adhere to its rules anymore.

And more importantly, the rule of the Tang Sect that female disciples must wear face coverings when going out has more detailed requirements, that is, for unmarried female disciples.

Once a female disciple is married or has married off, there is no need to wear a face covering anymore — those who are engaged are considered married, as per the ancient rules of the Tang Sect.

Not long ago, Tang Xin still wore a face covering, indicating she was an unmarried female disciple, but now she suddenly took it off. Definitely not married off, it meant that she was engaged...

The only mystery was, to whom was she engaged, and obviously, only she herself would know the answer.

And obviously, Qin Fang was unaware of this change. Hearing Tang Xin's response, Qin Fang didn't take it to heart and merely nodded lightly. Then the two of them left the cave and went to search for Song Qingshan.

Chapter 1060 Tang Zhan Escaped

Unaware of the true situation, Qin Fang took Tang Xin to search for Song Qingshan.

In these vast mountains, finding the trail of two people is actually not easy, but fortunately, Qin Fang and Song Qingshan had previously agreed on some markers.

Qin Fang followed the markers left by Song Qingshan and tracked him down.

But they hadn't gone far when they heard a slight rustling of leaves in the forest. Both Qin Fang and Tang Xin's faces changed, and then they quickly concealed themselves behind the trees, cautiously on guard for the person about to appear.

"Brother Qin Shou..."

However, they originally thought the person who would appear was Tang Zhan, as his strength was a notch above Song Qingshan's. If Song Qingshan were to lose a fight, he would surely retreat rather than force a bitter struggle.

But unexpectedly, it was Brother Qin Shou Song Qingshan who appeared, not the anticipated Tang Zhan, even though Song Qingshan's complexion looked quite bad, seemingly suffering from no minor injuries.

"Eh, it's you guys..."

Song Qingshan, being injured, would have otherwise noticed some signs of them earlier. Hearing Qin Fang speak, he almost instinctively prepared to defend himself, but quickly realizing that it was Qin Fang, he then relaxed his vigilance, and his tone lightened.

Nevertheless, when he saw Tang Xin with her mask removed, he was instinctively stunned for a moment, obviously surprised by her beauty. However, his interest in women wasn't that strong, and he quickly returned to normal. Recognizing her identity by her clothes, he could tell who Tang Xin was.

This also proved that Qin Fang had managed to rescue Tang Xin from Tang Nan and Tang Wei, indicating that their mission had already been successful.

"Where's Tang Zhan?"

Looking at Song Qingshan, whose face was somewhat pale, Qin Fang was also slightly taken aback, not seeing any trace of Tang Zhan, which was truly odd.

"He fled..."

Song Qingshan's face was pale, apparently seriously injured, but there was still a slight look of satisfaction on his face, clearly content with this outcome.

In terms of strength, Tang Zhan at Master Level Late Stage was stronger than Song Qingshan, but the result was Tang Zhan fleeing, and while Song Qingshan was injured, he still seemed to be in relatively decent condition.

"What! He fled..."

But Qin Fang's face changed, and he couldn't help but frown, clearly not having anticipated this outcome.

"Don't worry, his injuries are a bit more serious than mine; he won't be able to ambush us again..."

Song Qingshan, not knowing the full story, assumed Qin Fang was worried Tang Zhan might use his superior strength to ambush them in the dense woods and offered this reassurance with a smile.

"I'm not afraid of Tang Zhan ambushing us..."

Qin Fang wore a bitter smile. Although Tang Zhan's strength was stronger than any of them, the current Qin Fang was completely different from the one who arrived before.

When he arrived, Qin Fang had come with the intent of not killing if it was avoidable, not wanting to offend Tang Sect too grievously, but now that he had killed Tang Nan and Tang Wei was dead, there was no possibility of settling things amicably anymore. Thus, there were no longer the same concerns as before, and the best solution was to finish off Tang Zhan as well, making it harder for the Tang Sect to track them down.

It could be said, his reason to come find Song Qingshan was indeed to help him, but more so to kill Tang Zhan to temporarily eliminate the trouble.

Only he could never have guessed that Song Qingshan would unexpectedly outperform and defeat the stronger Tang Zhan, even inflicting heavy injuries on him...

Tang Zhan, although not a man of many words, was clearly a very astute individual. Suffering such heavy injuries, he would definitely not continue fighting and would either sneak back to look for Tang Nan and Tang Wei, or directly return to the Tang Sect to seek help...

"I killed Tang Nan..."

Qin Fang said with a bitter smile, but there was no need to hide anything from Song Qingshan; the two were in the same boat, and he would definitely share what Song needed to know.

"What?"

Song Qingshan's face also changed. Although he knew Qin Fang could definitely rescue the person from Tang Nan, he had not expected Qin Fang to have killed Tang Nan.

During his fight with Tang Zhan, he had already learned a bit about Tang Nan's identity. Now hearing that Qin Fang killed Tang Nan, he understood the magnitude of the trouble.

"Alas, I really shouldn't have let Tang Zhan escape..."

At the same time, Song Qingshan couldn't help but slap his thigh and said somewhat dejectedly,

Qin Fang came to the mountain to rescue people, whereas Song Qingshan was there to spar with stronger experts. Tang Zhan was undoubtedly a formidable opponent, surpassing Song Qingshan in strength and exactly the kind of expert Song Qingshan hoped to fight against. He had fulfilled Song Qingshan's desire.

However, this was no simple sparring match. Tang Zhan's attacks were extremely ferocious, brimming with killing intent. Naturally, Song Qingshan refused to show weakness, returning with equally vicious strikes, exchanging killer moves with killer moves...

This battle was truly chaotic, almost driving Song Qingshan to a desperate state, forcing him to summon all his strength in a life-or-death struggle against Tang Zhan, ultimately repelling his opponent with a decisive move.

Although Tang Zhan was much stronger than Song Qingshan, he was raised in the Tang Sect, where sparring with his brothers usually centered around learning from each other. Despite his heavy killing intent, when it came to a life-or-death fight, he was somewhat timid and unaccustomed, allowing Song Qingshan to seize the opportunity and counter with an extremely fierce move that inflicted great damage on both sides...

Song Qingshan's injuries were not light, but his tough skin and strong training in the Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover gave him a much stronger defense than Tang Zhan.

However, Tang Zhan suffered a major hit from Song Qingshan's Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique that was devastating—the blood on Song Qingshan's hands even now marks where he gouged a substantial chunk of flesh from Tang Zhan's body.

Unable to withstand this kind of life-threatening confrontation, and with his injuries severe, Tang Zhan had no choice but to retreat...

But his retreat caused an unintended clash with Qin Fang's plans, making it impossible to pursue Tang Zhan further, as he had already fled.

"Sigh, let it be..."

At this point, blaming anyone is pointless, and besides, Song Qingshan wasn't at fault. If it weren't for him holding Tang Zhan back, Qin Fang wouldn't have been able to rescue Tang Xin so easily.

"Qin Fang, this incident has become quite serious. I suggest we leave the mountain as soon as possible. We will only truly be safe once we are outside the mountain..."

Being from the Tianying Sect, Song Qingshan knew of the Tang Sect's formidable reputation, especially how protective they were of their own. Considering Tang Nan's status, this incident had indeed escalated significantly. If the Tang Sect pursued the matter, it was bound to lead to serious consequences.

Continuing to stay in Qing Mountain was not a wise decision for Qin Fang. Only by leaving the mountain and entering the outside world would they be safer; despite the Tang Sect's many experts, they would not be able to withstand the onslaught of numerous firearms.

Song Qingshan had been with Qin Fang for some days now, getting quite familiar with Chen Da and the others, and knew they were armed. If the Tang Sect came looking for trouble, Chen Da and his weapons would surely send them packing defeated.

"Let's talk about it later, first let's descend from the mountain..."

Qin Fang nodded, already contemplating this issue. The Tang Sect was a greater and more terrifying force than the Tianchi Sect, and Qin Fang wasn't yet strong enough to confront them directly. Biding his time was the more prudent choice.

So, the group of three began their descent from the mountain. With the matter resolved, there was no need to remain on the mountain.

"Master..."

Approaching the mountain's exit, they could see the young girl Zhuoma anxiously waiting. Upon seeing Tang Xin come out safe and sound, she excitedly called out and rushed over.

Tang Xin and Zhuoma embraced, tears streaming down their faces. The previous danger had been alarmingly close to separating them forever.

The Tang Sect was very conservative, and Tang Xin's mindset was naturally constrained by this environment. Her honor was destroyed, and with it, she faced two paths—marry Tang Nan or commit suicide.

Naturally, Tang Xin wouldn't marry Tang Nan. She did not like this man and despised him for ruining her integrity; how could she possibly marry him?

That left only one path—suicide.

"Master, why did you take off your veil?"

After crying for a while and stabilizing her emotions, Zhuoma remembered the veil and quietly asked.

It was more of a confirmation than a question, and she quickly looked from Qin Fang to Song Qingshan, her gaze finally settling on Qin Fang.

"Is it him?"

Zhuoma whispered, though without stating a name, she knew Tang Xin understood who she meant.

Tang Xin cautiously glanced at Qin Fang, then nodded ever so slightly without making a sound, but her meaning was clear.

"Are you going to leave the mountain with him?"

The young girl didn't say much, her eyes revealing a complexity before softly asking.

With the day's events, it was clear that handling the situation hadn't been easy, and imminent conflict must have ensued.

Now that Tang Xin was returning with Qin Fang, it was evident she didn't wish to go back to the Tang Sect. Zhuoma's dream of joining the Tang Sect had shattered.

Even if her master had abandoned the Tang Sect, how could she, as a disciple, still hope to join?

But this was clearly not the point. The age difference between Zhuoma and Tang Xin was not great; they had a very close relationship as sisters and even once vowed to marry the same man.

Yet now Tang Xin was leaving with Qin Fang, departing from the mountain they had lived on for decades and leaving her behind. It was clear Zhuoma felt somewhat heartbroken...