

Genius 1551

Chapter 1551 - Wipe Out the Roots!

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Nakano stared dumbfoundedly at the knife in front of him, which at this moment had already cut open his skull and was forcibly stuck on his forehead...

And he himself held a sword across his hand, clearly sealing off Qin Fang's chopping angle, yet he couldn't stop it... This was completely beyond his comprehension.

But no matter what, the fact was already like this.

Qin Fang was unharmed, but Nakano's head was cut open... Blood was flowing like it didn't cost a thing, and his consciousness was continuously dissipating.

The head is one of the most vulnerable parts of the human body. Such a serious knife wound leaves little chance of survival, let alone there's no one around to provide aid, it's a dead-end road.

The crimson blood slowly flowed down the knife in Qin Fang's hand, dripping onto the ground, Nakano's eyes gradually losing focus, and then...

Plop~~

Nakano's body slightly softened, crashing to the ground with a thud, his life potential quickly depleting, death getting closer and closer...

As for those gunmen, Qin Fang didn't even regard them. Having just succeeded, Qin Fang didn't even bother with Nakano's possible desperate counterattack, swiftly picking off those threatening gunmen...

After the battle with Tu San, Qin Fang's shooting skills had reached a considerably high level, even snipers among international mercenaries might not match him.

Firing several shots in an instant, and since the number of gunmen wasn't many—just six in total, Qin Fang managed to eliminate them all at once.

If there had been a few more, Qin Fang wouldn't have had it so easy... It would've taken more effort, and the risk would've been much greater.

However, that situation didn't arise. Though there were quite a few people who came this time, it wasn't more than eleven or twelve. Qin Fang first killed three, then six more, and aside from that old fox Tanaka, only two or three were left alive...

"How is that possible, how can this be..."

Qin Fang survived, while Arai, Sasaki, Nakano all perished, even the six gunmen didn't get any chance to perform before being shot dead.

Seeing this scene, Tanaka's old face turned completely green, muttering to himself, clearly unable to accept this reality.

Xu Ling's expression wasn't any better, Nakano and others were all dead, but Qin Fang was unscathed. Though they still had a few people left, it was clear they couldn't be Qin Fang's match.

If Qin Fang just left now, there wouldn't be anyone to stop him.

"What should I do? What should I do?"

Thinking that if Qin Fang just left, his secret might be exposed, even someone extraordinary like Xu Ling appeared extremely flustered at this moment.

"Everyone... The night is long, I should go back and rest, you continue chatting, I'll take my leave!"

At this moment, Qin Fang's voice came over.

With a faint smile on his face, appearing very gentle, yet this kind of smile was no different from a devil's smile, naturally, no one appreciated it.

Nakano, a peak Grandmaster-level expert, ultimately fell in such a manner. Though it was a headache for Qin Fang, he still slew him unscathed in the end.

The only thing that frustrated Qin Fang was that Nakano's Sin Points were less than a hundred, considered still a part of the Neutral Camp, bringing only a hundred Sin Points upon his death, which was a bit disappointing.

Fortunately, Nakano's corpse shimmered with a faint light, indicating he dropped something. Qin Fang immediately seized the item while Tanaka, Xu Ling and others weren't noticing, without even looking, prepared to leave.

Of course, Qin Fang didn't overlook the corpse of another Grandmaster-level expert, Arai. After all, it's Grandmaster-level. Though a bit weak, there might be a surprise awaiting him.

He still wanted to know what Xu Ling and Tanaka were secretly discussing, but he also knew, given the current mess, neither Tanaka nor Xu Ling would have the mood to continue their discussion, even if he stayed behind secretly, he couldn't expect to discover anything.

Given that, Qin Fang saw no need to stay, collected the items that dropped, and quickly left, heading into the shadows.

Watching Qin Fang gradually disappear into the darkness, Xu Ling's face turned increasingly grim, yet he couldn't prevent Qin Fang's departure, as he lacked the capacity to do so.

Now, Xu Ling found himself quite alone, except for one subordinate left, the rest were completely killed by Qin Fang.

Tanaka wasn't much better, bringing eleven people, nine were slain by Qin Fang, now including him, only three remained, slightly more than Xu Ling's two.

Just then...

Bam, bam~~~

The sudden sound of two gunshots made Tanaka's two henchmen look incredulously to the side before their bodies collapsed and instantly died.

"Xu Ling, what do you mean by this?"

There were originally only a few people left on this side, either Tanaka's or Xu Ling's, but now the ones dead were Tanaka's only two aides, which meant the shooter could only be Xu Ling's people.

Indeed, the shooter was Xu Ling's man, the only one left. His gun barrel was still hot, and it was Tanaka's two men that he had shot down.

"What do I mean?"

Faced with Tanaka's questioning, Xu Ling showed a sly smile.

"This is exactly what I mean..."

As he spoke, Xu Ling suddenly pulled out a gun and aimed it directly at Tanaka's heart. Then... with a bang, Tanaka's eyes widened suddenly in disbelief, but ultimately, he died.

Clearly, Xu Ling's henchman's shooting of Tanaka's men was not an independent action but was secretly ordered by Xu Ling.

As Tanaka remained shocked, Xu Ling mercilessly fired another shot, killing him.

Tanaka might not understand Qin Fang, but Xu Ling knew a lot about him. Earlier, Qin Fang's formidable display of killing six gunmen of Tanaka's in an instant had quite startled Xu Ling.

Originally, he also planned to participate in a sneak attack on Qin Fang, but with so many gunmen already involved, he restrained himself...

Unexpectedly, this restraint saved his life and the life of his last remaining aide.

Qin Fang left casually, his back toward them. But Xu Ling dared not order a sneak attack; those six gunmen ambushed from various angles were still killed by Qin Fang. With only two men, Xu Ling knew it wouldn't be enough.

He didn't dare to make a move on Qin Fang, but that didn't mean he couldn't target Tanaka. Taking advantage of Tanaka's distraction, he easily succeeded.

"Clean it up..."

Having dealt with Tanaka, Xu Ling showed no regret and simply instructed his subordinate before leaving.

The originally planned operation was thoroughly disrupted by Qin Fang, and even exposed some secrets. Killing Tanaka was a temporary measure; Xu Ling needed to consult the family on what to do next, so there was no reason to stay...

As for cleaning up the battlefield, he left that to his subordinate. Those gunmen weren't passengers on the ship, so even throwing them all into the sea wouldn't matter.

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"Xu Ling killed Tanaka?"

When Qin Fang heard this news, he was a bit startled.

Xu Ling might have thought his move was quick and secretive, with no witnesses. But unbeknownst to him, Shen Liang was watching from the shadows, someone Qin Fang had arranged to stay.

Though Qin Fang himself had left, Shen Liang remained and saw it all, reporting it truthfully to Qin Fang upon his return.

While the news surprised Qin Fang, he quickly regained his calm, realizing this was Xu Ling's best choice.

Initially, Xu Ling and Tanaka were discussing some secret cooperation, but hadn't gotten far before Qin Fang appeared. Amidst the carnage, Tanaka's men were almost wiped out, and Qin Fang left.

No matter how much Qin Fang overheard, the cooperation couldn't continue. It was better to cleanly sever ties with the gunmen organization than face trouble from them.

With the Xu Family exerting some effort, even if Qin Fang did overhear something, it wouldn't matter much. The Xu Family surely had ways to handle it for Xu Ling.

If necessary, they could even claim Xu Ling acted as an undercover agent... Killing Tanaka would then have more grounding.

Qin Fang simply couldn't be bothered to scrutinize it further. He hadn't heard much, merely one sentence, and even that was out of context.

Mainly from such a simple sentence to bring down the Xu Family was impossible, even undermining their foundation couldn't be achieved. Thus, Qin Fang didn't care to complicate things.

He was just a minor character, despite having some money and status. He might have some say in minor matters, but regarding significant affairs like this, he couldn't measure up.

Therefore, despite the major conflict with Xu Ling, faces already torn, he still didn't directly eliminate Xu Ling, allowing him to continue his actions.

"Later, get rid of Xu Ling's remaining aide too... Make it clean, and leave no evidence!"

But Qin Fang wasn't entirely inactive, promptly instructing Shen Liang to handle that matter.

Chapter 1552 - Galaxy Divine Iron

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Although Xu Ling cannot be moved for now, it doesn't mean the people around him are untouchable.

Qin Fang had killed once before, almost wiping out everyone around Xu Ling, leaving only one fish that slipped through the net.

Unexpectedly, this survivor actually helped Xu Ling quite a bit this time...

If it weren't for his help, Xu Ling could have killed Tanaka, but he himself might not have survived the siege from the two gunmen.

However, if Xu Ling does not kill Tanaka, his trouble will only grow larger, and the secrets Qin Fang knows about are extremely unfavorable to him.

If it weren't for this, perhaps things would have become very complicated, increasingly unfavorable to Xu Ling.

Although it did not make Qin Fang regret leaving this survivor, Xu Ling must be feeling frustrated, so Qin Fang adds some fuel to the fire, making him even more uncomfortable.

Shen Liang headed out with Qin Fang's orders. He was originally from a special forces background and had been with Qin Fang for some time, learning various fighting techniques. Although he hadn't reached the inner breath level of mastery, he was at the top Soldier King's level.

The person beside Xu Ling was also good, but compared to Shen Liang, he was lacking a bit, which made Qin Fang comfortable with sending Shen Liang to execute the task.

The man acted decisively, killing two people instantly, showing he was skilled and probably had handled similar matters for Xu Ling before, with a significant amount of Sin Points.

When Shen Liang killed such a person, he didn't even need to increase his Sin Points; perhaps his own Sin Points might decrease... a win-win situation.

Once this matter was handled, Qin Fang focused on researching the items and props dropped by killing the two Grandmaster-level experts...

"Sigh, it's a pity Sasaki's corpse fell into the sea and couldn't be found, plus he was killed by Puppet person, it's quite a loss... otherwise, three people would have dropped things together!"

Thinking of Sasaki's corpse drifting somewhere unknown, Qin Fang felt quite depressed.

If it weren't for the concerns about those gunmen back then, he would have directly shot Sasaki and the others; refraining from acting was just to achieve this effect at the crucial moment.

Sasaki aggressively forced them, teaming with Nakano, the peak Master-level expert, once pushed Qin Fang to the brink. If he hadn't decisively released the Puppet person at that time, Qin Fang could certainly fend off Sasaki's attack but would have struggled to avoid Nakano's sneak attack.

The result was Sasaki was crippled, his death was inevitable, but the problem was the corpse couldn't be found, hence no items would drop; although Qin Fang felt depressed, he was fairly accepting of this.

"Oh well, two is fine..."

Since Sasaki's items could not be found, Qin Fang didn't need to bother about it, focusing on checking the items dropped by Arai and Nakano.

This time the items dropped were quite decent, each dropping two items, not many but definitely not few.

Firstly, he took out the two items dropped by Arai, and as soon as he held them, Qin Fang's expression turned peculiar... a whip and a bottle of red potion.

"Whip of Desire, Rare Item, exclusive for SM, amazing efficacy... Only those who use it know!"

"Flames of Desire, Rare Potion, using this potion can induce the urge of desire between certain species... (Note: This potion is extremely evil, use with caution!)"

The attributes of the two items dropped by Arai were as such, just by looking at the system description, Qin Fang's expression turned utterly peculiar.

"Damn, this Arai is a complete pervert..."

After looking at these two items, Qin Fang couldn't help but utter this sigh; both were Rare Items, but their functions left Qin Fang at a loss for words.

Firstly, the whip, noted as exclusive for SM, the efficacy can be imagined, definitely making people feel like they're on a sensual high... but honestly, Qin Fang felt a bit overwhelmed by it.

The potion called Flames of Desire need not be mentioned, the system had already deemed it extremely evil, reminding Qin Fang to use it with caution.

Although Qin Fang hadn't used the potion yet, he could imagine how evil it was...

The system notes that it affects certain species... this includes humans, various animals, and even some plants... this was no ordinary evil, no wonder it's termed "extremely evil"!

Upon seeing this potion of Flames of Desire, the first thought in Qin Fang's mind was Xu Ling, who was at odds with him. He contemplated having Xu Ling drink the potion and then pairing him with an ugly woman like Sister Feng for a wild time, or even switch it with an animal or plant... If such an intense, explosive scene was filmed, Xu Ling probably couldn't live anymore!

Qin Fang suddenly felt his own thoughts turning awfully evil, truly this potion of Flames of Desire was extremely wicked.

"Luckily, there's only one bottle, otherwise... ugh, it's so disgusting!"

Even Qin Fang felt nauseated and couldn't take it anymore, so he quickly tossed the bottle of Flames of Desire potion into the Props Box, not daring to think about it further.

The whip was the same; Qin Fang had no need for it, so he naturally didn't use it and threw it into the Props Box as well. Maybe he could take it out later if he encountered someone who needed it.

"Let's still see what exploded from Nakano. Hopefully, it's not as perverse as what Arai had..."

The two things that exploded out from Arai, while not entirely useless, were also not clearly useful. Qin Fang couldn't quite figure out where to use them, so he just let fate decide.

Since these two items were temporarily useless, Qin Fang was naturally more interested in and even a bit eager about the two items that exploded out from Nakano.

"Hiss~~"

First, he took a deep breath to calm the odd feeling brought on by the previous two items, and then he retrieved the first item.

As soon as he got the item in his hand, he immediately felt its weight. Qin Fang wasn't quite prepared for it and almost got overwhelmed by it.

Thankfully, Qin Fang reacted quickly and grabbed the item tightly, barely managing to hold it steadily.

"Is this... ore?"

Only then did Qin Fang notice that he was holding a blackish rock. It wasn't very large, only about the size of an adult's fist, but its weight almost caught him off guard, probably around two to three hundred pounds.

A stone the size of a fist weighing two to three hundred pounds left Qin Fang dumbfounded. It seemed like there wasn't any ore on Earth with this high of a density.

However, Qin Fang wasn't worried and immediately used the Scouting Skill on the stone to directly investigate its more detailed attributes.

"Galaxy Divine Iron, one of the extremely rare Meteoric Irons, can be fused into weapons and become a Divine Weapon..."

This was the special attribute of the stone, making Qin Fang's eyes light up instantly.

Meteoric Iron naturally came from beyond the Earth, originating from the vast universe and starry sky, with only a small number of these, landing on Earth discovered by people.

Most of these Meteoric Irons are extremely tough, with many serving as the primary material for Divine Weapons, although some have rather strange effects.

The Puppet person is made from North Sea Purple Copper, which is also one of the rare Meteoric Irons. Although it's unclear how it compares to this Galaxy Divine Iron in rarity, it highlights the power and uniqueness of this Galaxy Divine Iron...

Even though it's called North Sea Purple Copper, it has nothing to do with the North Sea. It's just a name, as this North Sea Purple Copper is not indigenous to Earth, but comes from the vast universe and starry sky.

The Puppet person is one of Qin Fang's trump cards, impervious to blades and guns, thanks to the magical effects of this extremely rare North Sea Purple Copper...

Qin Fang still couldn't understand how Master Lu Ban in the past managed to forge this extremely hard North Sea Purple Copper into such a murder-machine-like Puppet person that can run, jump, observe, and kill.

As for the specific effects of North Sea Purple Copper, Qin Fang still wasn't very clear even now. All he knew was that it was impervious to blades and guns, extremely hard.

The Galaxy Divine Iron in his hand was also one of the Meteoric Irons. The scouting skill didn't give a particularly clear result, but it clarified some of its uses.

"Fuse with weapons to upgrade to a Divine Weapon..."

The effect seemed rather impressive, though its exact workings would only be known after actually applying it.

Almost all famous Divine Weapons were made using Meteoric Iron, for instance, the Ten Great Divine Swords of the Dragon Country, the Sword of Heavenly Attainment from Japan, and King Arthur's Sword in the Stone from the UK...

However, most of these Divine Weapons were crafted directly from Meteoric Iron. This inclusion-to-upgrade type of Meteoric Iron, like Galaxy Divine Iron, was something Qin Fang had never heard of before.

Qin Fang couldn't say why this piece of Galaxy Divine Iron exploded from Nakano, perhaps Nakano stumbled upon this piece of Meteoric Iron accidentally and, not knowing how to use it, left it untouched for Qin Fang's benefit, or maybe the system randomly produced it...

"Divine Weapon... I seem to lack a suitable weapon!"

Thinking of the Divine Weapon, Qin Fang naturally couldn't forget the scene where his katana got cut by Nakano's longsword, and Nakano's longsword was only slightly better, far from a Divine Weapon.

This time, the loss was attributed to this; with a Divine Weapon at hand, slicing down Nakano wouldn't have required such effort, almost causing him trouble...

Thanks to the convenience of the Props Box, Qin Fang had always used whatever he had without much consideration, but now he had to start paying attention.

Chapter 1553 - Secret Realm Map!

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Galaxy Divine Iron, such rare meteoric iron, is a treasure not to be underestimated by Qin Fang, who definitely wouldn't waste it.

As for how to integrate the Galaxy Divine Iron into a weapon, Qin Fang wasn't very sure. However, he wasn't in a rush because he still lacked a crucial element... that is, a suitable weapon.

Inside Qin Fang's Props Box, there were a few katanas, all looted from defeating those little devils, lying there like garbage to be taken out when needed. When one was damaged, he would immediately replace it with another without feeling any remorse...

But integrating such a treasure like the Galaxy Divine Iron into this kind of trash weapon was really unworthy, not to mention Qin Fang already had a strong aversion to Japanese katanas.

These katanas, although evolved from the Tang Sword of Dragon Country, had been claimed as their own by those devils after so many years of modification.

Qin Fang was too lazy to argue about this since it was utterly unnecessary...

"I'm not hoping to find some divine weapon, but getting a decent sword or knife would be great too..."

Qin Fang was mulling over this matter. Most divine weapons are crafted using meteoric iron. Whether the Galaxy Divine Iron can still be fused is a question, let alone the fact that these divine weapons have long disappeared.

The Ten Great Divine Weapons of Dragon Country have no trace at all. Perhaps they have been collected by someone, or perhaps they have left the country. In any case, Ding Chen hasn't encountered a single one until now.

Therefore, he only hoped for excellent swords or knives a tier below. When the Galaxy Divine Iron is integrated into a weapon, it may have the potential to become a divine weapon. Naturally, Ding Chen raised his requirements, hoping he might craft a divine weapon comparable to the Ten Great Divine Weapons.

However, today is not the thriving era of the martial world. The rise of firearms has caused cold weapons to gradually exit the historical stage.

Although the martial world, even the Underground World, still has many experts using cold weapons, they are clearly not the mainstream anymore.

In Dragon Country, these weapons are considered controlled knives. Ordinary people can only play with them at home and don't dare to bring them out casually.

So finding a decent weapon, apart from trying one's luck in antique stores selling weapons, lies in seeking or seizing from ancient sects...

The former relies on luck, as it's quite rare, but if luck explodes, one might directly encounter the Ten Great Divine Weapons.

The latter is more troublesome, as those ancient sects are powerful with countless experts. Seeking requires their favor, while seizing... requires enough strength to face these ancient sects' retribution and pursuit!

"Who knows if the Tang Sect brought some good stuff out this time..."

For Qin Fang, the former is a route. His Scouting Skill can play a significant role, but luck...

As for the latter, the first to come to Qin Fang's mind were the Tianchi Sect and Tang Sect. These two sects don't get along well with Qin Fang, and have even sent people to track him here.

The Tianchi Sect is somewhat easier to deal with, being only a relatively large sect. Qin Fang might be wary but not afraid because, in this sect, reaching the Grandmaster Level means becoming an Elder. Although the sect does have Grandmasters and Great Grandmasters, overall they are not overwhelmingly invincible.

In contrast, the Tang Sect is far more terrifying.

Even Tang Nan, Tang Xin, and Tang Zhan, those younger disciples in their twenties, have all reached the mid to late, even peak Grandmaster Level, much stronger than many of the senior Elders of the Tianchi Sect.

The Elders of the Tang Sect are even more terrifying, needing to be Grandmaster Level experts to qualify as Elders. And the Tang Clan Elders are even more formidable, having practiced the Tang Sect's secret techniques of poison and hidden weapons.

To find a decent weapon, the hope from the Tianchi Sect is slim. Qin Fang thinks it's possible someone from the Tang Sect might bring something out.

Not to mention, Tang Huaiyuan and Tang Huaiming, these brothers, are both from the Tang Clan. Tang Huaiyuan is even one of the clan's elders, with a very prestigious status and strong power. If he doesn't bring out some decent weapons, how can he call himself a Tang Sect Elder?

Tang Huaiming is not bad either. Although his strength might be slightly inferior to his brother Tang Huaiyuan, he is still definitely a Master Level Peak expert. As a member of the Tang Clan, it is quite understandable for him to obtain very good weapons.

Of course, Qin Fang wanting to seize Tang Huaiyuan's Grandmaster Level weapons is basically like eggs hitting a stone. The battle with Bloody-handed Demon Tu San made Qin Fang realize the horror of Grandmasters, far beyond the simplicity Elder Alai portrayed... so seizing Tang Huaiyuan's weapons is an infinitely difficult challenge.

"But it's not impossible after all..."

After thinking about it for a bit, Qin Fang felt it wasn't all impossible. Though Qin Fang was indeed much weaker than Tang Huaiyuan, with an insurmountable gap, he wasn't without a chance of taking Tang Huaiyuan down.

Not to mention, Tang Huaiyuan, often in the deep mountains, surely isn't well-versed in modern firearms, and certainly lacks defense against them.

If Qin Fang can find out the whereabouts of these Tang Sect people and then lay an ambush, directly sniping Tang Huaiyuan with a sniper gun, there is a pretty good chance of taking him down.

The stronger one is, the keener the sense of danger. Killing Tang Huaiyuan definitely won't be that simple, but Qin Fang still has some chance...

At worst, even if Qin Fang couldn't succeed, he could escape at the fastest speed, and it wouldn't be easy for Tang Huaiyuan to find him...

"But I think dealing with Tang Huaiming might be more manageable..."

After some thought, Qin Fang decided to target Tang Huaiming. This person was likely at a Master Level Peak, maybe just having stepped into the Grandmaster level. Compared to Tang Huaiyuan, he'd be easier to handle, with the difficulty reduced by more than half...

"Forget it, let's not think about it and check the second item..."

Plotting for a fine weapon was just an idea for now. There's plenty of time, and Qin Fang wasn't in a hurry. He had many opportunities ahead.

Therefore, Qin put this matter aside and immediately began to ponder over the second item that Nakano dropped.

The first item was a great find, which made Ding Chen very happy, much better than the two items dropped by the pervert Arai.

"The second item certainly won't disappoint me either..."

Taking a deep breath, Qin Fang silently wished himself good luck and took out the second item.

Having been prepared after the last surprise, Ding Chen was ready this time, his hands secretly exerting strength. As long as it wasn't something weighing over a thousand pounds, he wouldn't be at a disadvantage.

However, something as heavy as the Galaxy Divine Iron was a rare case; not everything dropped was very heavy.

At least this second item was light, so light that when it fell into Qin Fang's hands, he almost didn't notice it... Qin Fang suddenly felt like it was overkill, like using a cannon to shoot mosquitoes.

But Qin Fang wasn't too concerned, as he was just making some preparations beforehand. Although it was a bit unnecessary, it didn't cause any loss.

Then Qin Fang's attention was attracted by the second item that Nakano dropped.

"This is..."

Qin Fang looked over, and his gaze immediately froze, quickly turning into confusion.

The item in Qin Fang's hand wasn't big, in fact, it was very small. It wasn't a bottle or a test tube for storing potions, nor was it a Skill Book or potion formula, but... a map.

To be exact, it was a fragmentary map, a torn map.

The map seemed quite ancient, appearing to be hundreds or even thousands of years old...

"This leather... it's neither sheepskin nor cowhide, so what animal's hide is it?"

This map was drawn on some animal hide, but it wasn't sheepskin or cowhide, common animal hides, but rather seemed to be from some very rare creature.

Even the reconnaissance skill didn't provide an exact answer due to the age of the hide, or perhaps it didn't give an answer at all.

"Secret Realm Treasure Map (Part 3)..."

Qin Fang used the reconnaissance skill to find out the name of the map.

"Note: This is a fragmented map of the Immortal Mountain Secret Realm, with a total of four pieces. When pieced together, it can lead to the legendary Overseas Immortal Mountain... This map was drawn by Xu Fu, scattered among the various factions in Japan."

This was the detailed introduction Qin Fang received about this map.

And then...

"Congratulations on obtaining the quest: Seek the Lost Overseas Immortal Mountain..."

As Qin Fang was reading this detailed note, such a prompt suddenly appeared in his mind. At this moment, he had unexpectedly triggered this quest.

"There are rumors of three Immortal Mountains overseas, namely Penglai, Fangzhang, and Yingzhou..."

After a long historical introduction, the main content of the quest appeared, "Search for the other three secret realm map fragments. If within a kilometer of a map fragment, a system prompt will appear..."

Initially, Qin Fang was resigned to the task being quite challenging. But when he saw this sentence, a small smile finally appeared on his face.

Receiving a prompt within a kilometer significantly improved his chances by narrowing his search scope... These three map fragments should all be held by various factions in the Japanese martial world. As long as Qin Fang sought out these factions, he could find the maps; relatively, this task wasn't all that difficult...

Of course, taking these fragments from the hands of Japan's martial arts factions wasn't an easy feat... but at least it was much easier than not being able to find them at all!

Chapter 1554 - Upgraded System!

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Whether or not it can be snatched is another matter, but anyway, when Qin Fang goes to Japan, he never planned for it to be peaceful. That ultimate task destined Qin Fang to be almost standing in opposition to some powerful forces.

And this powerful force almost encompasses all factions of the Japanese martial world, which means Qin Fang has been hostile to these factions from the beginning. So, it is only natural for Qin Fang to casually seize the maps while dealing with them...

This task is not urgent. Right now, Qin Fang still can't spare time to stir up chaos in Japan and naturally can't go searching for the other three maps.

Not yet time to go to Japan doesn't mean Qin Fang won't study this mystical map.

"Do these three Overseas Immortal Mountains really exist?"

Looking at this map, it seems that the Overseas Immortal Mountains from the ancient legends of Dragon Country really exist. It just doesn't reveal which location, even if America's military satellites cover the globe, they have not discovered its existence...

Of course, this also shows how secretive this realm is. It seems likely that only by integrating these four maps can that realm possibly be found.

This is not strange, as many ancient techniques of Dragon Country are extremely mysterious. Among them, the formations of Thousand Gate are particularly remarkable.

For instance, Elder Song Qianqiu of Thousand Gates whom Qin Fang met on Hong Kong Island, his attainment in the Array Formation Path is at the grandmaster level, capable of arranging many incredibly amazing formations.

The three Overseas Immortal Mountains are apparently fairy realms. They have always been extremely mysterious, with countless people venturing out to search, yet they have never been found.

Until modern times, even satellites can't detect them, which can only mean these Overseas Immortal Mountains are hidden by mystical formations... The only way to find this secret realm might be to collect these four maps and follow them, and then there may be a chance to find that realm!

However, Qin Fang is quite fascinated by this realm that has existed for countless years, whether it is a fairyland paradise or an incredibly primitive wilderness. Only by truly entering it can one truly understand it.

Still, these three Immortal Mountains have always been isolated overseas, with almost no connections to the surrounding mainland. After hundreds of years of breaking off communication, it is probably hard for them to develop as rapidly as outside, perhaps remaining in a very primitive ancient state...

Qin Fang even somewhat doubts whether there are humans in this realm. It could well be deserted as no one remains inside!

"Never mind... It's likely not that easy to fully collect the four maps either, take it slowly!"

This task doesn't have a time limit, so Qin Fang isn't in a hurry. After going to Japan, he'll slowly collect and complete this task.

Qin Fang just put the map in the Props Box for now, and will take it out when needed. There's no place safer than here.

"How did Nakano get this map?"

However, Qin Fang was surprised at how this map exploded from Nakano. The four maps are hidden among various factions of the Japanese martial world, but Qin Fang is not clear about which faction precisely holds them.

But it can be basically certain that these factions regard this thing as a treasure, at least it was once a treasure. Yet Nakano seems to come from a comparatively ordinary background, a little-known master from a small school, only after scrambling into the special organization did he receive focused training.

But this map, if it came from this organization, seems inexplicable. How could something like this be allowed to be easily taken out?

"Could Nakano have obtained it by accident?"

Thinking about it, Qin Fang seems to find this possibility somewhat larger, given Nakano's strength and conduct style, accidental murder and treasure looting aren't impossible.

Moreover, this mystical realm may indeed be located in this nearby sea area, making Nakano's search with the map somewhat plausible.

Qin Fang knows the map is split into four parts, but Nakano may not be aware that the map has been divided for hundreds or thousands of years, always treasured by certain factions, and only a very few know about this map, let alone that there are quite a few parts of it...

After putting away the map, Qin Fang doesn't continue to dwell on it but rather focuses on his own matters because...

"I've advanced to Grandmaster Level, so why hasn't my level increased to Level 6?"

Previously, Qin Fang was busy and hadn't noticed this point. Now he realizes, upon checking his character panel, that the level still remains at Level 5, not yet risen to Level 6.

This is clearly abnormal. Based on experience points, Qin Fang already reached the requirement to rise to Level 6 long ago, and possibly not far from Level 7, especially considering the numerous experts he has defeated recently, including several grandmaster-level experts, causing his experience points to definitely increase rapidly.

But the problem is, despite sufficient experience points, the level hasn't increased, which is quite eerie...

Upon discovering this issue, Qin Fang carefully examines the details of his character panel because the system likely wouldn't make a mistake, meaning he must have overlooked something.

"This is..."

Upon thorough examination, the problem emerges.

A smaller option appears behind the level section, labeled with "Level Up" and "Exchange."

First noticing the "Level Up" option, Qin Fang understands what's going on. Level 6 is a watershed, not only in terms of strength but for the system as well.

Once experience points reach the upgrading critical point, and the realm achieves Grandmaster Level, the upgrading condition is met. At this point, manual upgrading is required.

Or else... the "Exchange" option at the back.

Qin Fang carefully researched the "Exchange," and although the system's annotation isn't particularly detailed, it is fairly clear.

After entering Grandmaster Level, experience points aren't as important for upgrading, and experience grinding options also relatively increase, making experience points often in surplus status; however, realm upgrades, skill mastery, etc., aren't achieved in one go.

This then adds an "Exchange" option.

The exchange items are plenty, mainly divided into two categories... Skill Proficiency and Rare Items.

Skill Proficiency doesn't need much elaboration, it's Qin Fang's strength as well as his greatest weakness. Skills upgrading speed from Beginner Level to Intermediate Level is barely acceptable, but reaching Advanced Skill Stage turns into a snail's pace.

Even now, among Qin Fang's numerous skills, only Cooking and Reconnaissance have crossed into the Master Level stage. Other skills mostly remain at Beginner Level or Intermediate, a few have reached Advanced, yet still remain far away from Grandmaster Level.

"This exchange function arrives quite timely..."

Precisely because skill proficiency upgrades are too slow, causing Qin Fang extreme frustration, the emergence of this exchange function becomes particularly important and timely.

"Although the exchange ratio is somewhat troublesome, it's still relatively acceptable..."

Looking at the exchange ratio, while the experience points correspond differently to each skill, overall it's inclined towards a troublesome ratio.

Skills requiring a lot of proficiency have relatively smaller exchange ratios, whereas those requiring little proficiency have exchange ratios that are astonishing.

Though this ratio is somewhat troublesome, Qin Fang isn't upset but rather secretly delighted...

Experience points comparatively are easier to acquire, skill proficiency needs usage to accumulate; among numerous skills, aiming to grind proficiency individually isn't practical, thus using experience points to exchange for skill proficiency proves a very good choice.

Experience points can be slowly accumulated, for example, the upcoming trip to Japan, the future journey to Devil's Island, and the King of Assassins task, all of which are excellent opportunities to grind experience points, so Qin Fang isn't worried he can't gather experience...

The experience points needed for upgrading aren't so urgent, Qin Fang currently is at the Master Level Peak cultivation, but to cross into Grandmaster Level might not be expected for a while.

Thus, even if experience points reach upgrading conditions, he still can't upgrade...

In this case, using them to exchange for skill proficiency becomes advantageous; Qin Fang has proficiency in certain skills urgently needing improvement, but Qin Fang has always lacked time to grind proficiency, or it's too exhausting. Now, direct exchange makes it quite worthwhile.

Besides skill proficiency, experience points can also exchange for some rare items.

Nonetheless, after checking, Qin Fang ultimately shakes his head. Undoubtedly, among those rare items, many are extremely practical.

But the exchange ratio is ten times, a hundred times more troublesome than exchanging skill proficiency. For instance, Qin Fang sees the "Brick II" placed foremost inside, essentially the evolved form of his "Thug's Brick," with a super dizziness effect; exchanged experience points could elevate Qin Fang from Level 6 to Level 7...

Of course, another type of "Brick Evolution Charm" requiring much fewer experience points, approximately one-seventh only.

Qin Fang already possesses a Brick, using this evolution charm can upgrade to "Brick II", but as Qin Fang's strength grows, the brick's dizziness chance becomes frustratingly low, so even if this evolution charm doesn't require much, Qin Fang won't exchange for it...

With such an ample amount of experience points, he would rather elevate a skill directly from Beginner Level to Advanced... That would be much more worthwhile!

Chapter 1555 - Ascend to Level 6! Fireball Technique!

...

Of course, there are many rare items that can be exchanged, all kinds and oddities, but when Qin Fang saw the exchange ratio, he had to temporarily give up.

Anyway, the experience points are there, and the exchange system is like a portable store. As long as you have enough experience points, you can exchange for any item you need at any time.

Moreover, the exchange ratio should be fixed and won't change over time, so Qin Fang doesn't need to exchange in advance to store them, and he's not in a hurry.

The upgrade of the system with this exchange function was quite decent, bringing a bright smile to Qin Fang's face, even happier than when he got items dropped by the grandmaster-level experts.

But now, the main priority is not to exchange immediately, but... upgrade!

This exchange function only formally appears after Qin Fang reached Level 6, and now it's gray and can't be selected at all.

Next to "Exchange" is "Upgrade," which is lit up, obviously needing to upgrade first before using the "Exchange" function...

"Upgrade..."

Without any hesitation, Qin Fang immediately chose to upgrade.

The experience bar had already filled up. When Qin Fang chose to upgrade, he felt a faint golden light flash by, and the experience bar instantly lost a segment.

However, on the character panel, in the level section, the "Level 5" changed to "Level 6," officially stepping into the ranks of experts...

"Character level upgraded to Level 6."

"Randomly obtained one skill book."

"Props Box automatically upgraded to 96 slots..."

As usual, when Qin Fang upgraded, a string of prompts immediately appeared in his mind, still the same old stuff with nothing fresh about it.

Level increased, skill book obtained, Props Box slots doubled again, none of these are major changes.

The first and third are obvious improvements, but what really interests Qin Fang is the randomly obtained skill book.

Qin Fang now has many skills, but ordinary skills take up most of them, and rare skills are relatively few.

Obtaining rare skills is a very difficult task, with very few being self-realized, some dropped from killing monsters or people, but the main source is the skill book given by the system with each level upgrade.

Only the skill books given by the system might contain extremely rare skills, such as the scouting skill Qin Fang often uses, and Metamorphosis which aids in hiding and dodging...

If Qin Fang were to slowly realize these skills, who knows when they'd appear, but with system upgrades, these skills are automatically given.

Basically, from 0 Level to Level 6 now, excluding this time which hasn't been checked yet, in the previous 5 upgrades, the system gave 5 skills, apart from one duplication of Riding, the other four were very practical and rare...

Of course, skills like Duplication are quite ridiculous, consuming a lot of luck, and since Qin Fang got this skill, he's hardly used it, and its proficiency hasn't increased much.

But with this system upgrade and the introduction of the exchange function, Qin Fang's spring has clearly arrived. Although the exchange rate is absurd, at least upgrading Duplication to Advanced isn't too hard, allowing this powerful skill to be effectively utilized.

Basically, these skills have their uses, and are all rare and desirable good skills, especially with the exchange function, skill levels can ascend rapidly, making Qin Fang even more keen on these rare skills.

Taking out this skill book, Qin Fang took a deep breath and then used the scouting skill on it.

Scouting skill is akin to appraisal, and without appraising the skill book, nothing can be discerned, only after appraisal will its true content be revealed.

Shua~~

A golden light flashed, and this skill book revealed its true form.

"This is..."

Only now did Qin Fang fix his gaze intensely on the book's cover, waiting for the result. But when the result appeared, his expression was of astonishment.

"Fireball Technique?"

Seeing such a skill book, Qin Fang truly didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Not sure if it's the system upgrade that caused even the rewards to become strange.

Although these rare skills count as very rare, bizarre, even quite peculiar, compared to the Fireball Technique, the others are completely normal.

"Am I really going to become a mage?"

Qin Fang couldn't help but imagine this.

As someone who worked part-time as an online game trainer for more than a month, Qin Fang was very familiar with many games. In these games, the mage class was certainly one of the most important ones, and among them, the Fireball Technique was the most basic skill.

However, most of the skills Qin Fang acquired in the past, although somewhat exaggerated in the real world, were not particularly outrageous.

But this Fireball Technique... No matter how you hear it, it sounds incredibly fantastical!

Qin Fang was pondering whether he would acquire skills like Lightning Technique, Freezing Technique, and so on in the future; it's not an impossible thing.

"Ah, why worry so much? Since the system dares to offer it, I dare to practice it. What is there to be afraid of..."

Nonetheless, Qin Fang had a very strong mental endurance now, and even though the Fireball Technique was quite fantastical, Qin Fang was not the least bit shy. He patted this skill book and immediately chose to learn it.

The skill book turned into a golden light and quickly disappeared into Qin Fang's body, and a new branch appeared on Qin Fang's skill panel.

"Could such skills really exist?"

This was a completely new branch skill, different from the others. For now, it only contained the Fireball Technique. Although it seemed this branch might include other skills, they were just faint shadows, and even the scouting skill could not fully detect them.

Faced with such a result, Qin Fang didn't know what to say, but he didn't care much either. Since the skill existed, there had to be a reason for its existence, so Qin Fang would just use the skills without worrying about where they came from.

"Fireball Technique..."

Having just learned this skill, Qin Fang naturally wanted to try it out. He glanced around and noticed a magazine on the table, then immediately used the Fireball Technique on it.

There was not a spark, much less a flame, released from Qin Fang's body, yet the magazine on the table began to burn with a sizzle, almost visibly turning into a pile of ashes...

The strangest part was that the table below, made of wood, was completely unaffected by the fire. Even after Qin Fang wiped away the ashes, he found no black marks on the table's surface.

"Wow, this is so powerful!"

Seeing such a scene, Qin Fang couldn't help but marvel in amazement.

"Try something else..."

After all, a magazine is paper, which catches fire easily. Although this Fireball Technique burns much faster, it's not to an excessively monstrous degree.

"Let's go with that..."

Qin Fang then noticed an oil painting used for decoration on the cabin wall and immediately cast another Fireball Technique toward it.

Boom~~

Sure enough, almost the instant Qin Fang's Fireball Technique was cast, that oil painting burst into flames, hanging on the wall and burning rapidly.

Within just three to five seconds, this oil painting was completely reduced to ashes, falling from the wall, while the wall remained spotless, without a hint of being scorched.

If anything, only a tiny bit of residue from the painting's ashes could be found in the wall's crevices...

"And this is just a beginner-level Fireball Technique... What will happen at the grandmaster level?"

Qin Fang scrutinized the traces thoroughly, shock overwhelming him. It was truly astounding.

"Isn't this the ultimate divine technique for eliminating evidence?"

Such temperature and destructive power were extraordinarily shocking. While it requires pre-targeting, and some experts might react in time, those with less strength than Qin Fang would almost be unaware of being targeted.

Unable to sense Qin Fang's targeting, Qin Fang could just throw a Fireball Technique, and it would instantly char and turn the person to ashes...

Of course, after close examination, Qin Fang realized the fireball wasn't created out of thin air. It was actually projected from Qin Fang's location, just at such speed that the naked eye couldn't catch it, creating an illusion...

Precisely because of this, Qin Fang's Fireball Technique could definitely reap lives in one shot against weaker opponents.

However, encountering powerful experts would be another story,

Qin Fang then tried it a few more times and basically got an initial understanding of this Fireball Technique, realizing it's a very formidable flame that carbonizes most objects quickly...

Yet the Fireball Technique isn't without limitations; it has a range restriction. The beginner-level Fireball Technique has a casting range of only three meters, and each level increase doubles the casting distance.

Meaning the Intermediate Fireball Technique reaches six meters, Advanced twelve meters, and the Grandmaster-level Technique reaches an astonishing twenty-four meters... This would definitely be a must-have divine technique for remote assassins!

Chapter 1556 - Preparing for Tang Sect

...

Obtaining the Fireball Technique, such an unusual skill, Qin Fang certainly found it incredibly strange, but after verifying the power of the Fireball Technique, he was still very satisfied.

Of course, the Fireball Technique isn't for unlimited use; it does require energy.

Qin Fang noticed that after he learned the Fireball Technique, his character status bar now, in addition to Life Points, True Qi Points, and Physical Strength Points, also displayed a Mana Point stat.

At this moment, this Mana Point stat was almost depleted, due to the Fireball Techniques Qin Fang had just cast...

"How can this mana be replenished? Drink Mana Potions? But the problem is... where can I find Mana Potions?"

Qin Fang only learned about the Mana Points today, and now that they're exhausted, he wants to replenish them but doesn't know what to use for it.

Qin Fang has several formulas at hand; aside from the Blood Replenishing Pill, which can be produced in batches and has become his main elixir for replenishing Life Points, he is also actively collecting materials for the Yuan Restoration Pill.

This was obtained together with the Blood Replenishing Pill from Shangguan Tianling back then, though it's used to replenish True Yuan consumption; its materials are relatively rarer than those for the Blood Replenishing Pill.

Based on these two elixirs, Qin Fang considered that to replenish mana, he might need to find a Mana Potion or at least get its crafting formula.

Since mana is somewhat related to Western magical civilizations, its form might be different from elixirs, likely existing mostly in a potion form.

"Could it be that high-level Western experts might drop it?"

After thinking it over, to obtain such a potion or formula, it definitely can't be found on Asians. Qin Fang has killed quite a few people by now, but they were mostly Asians, and very few were Europeans or Americans.

In Qin Fang's memory, the first European to be taken down was the Explosive Bear Locke while chasing after Sinan... but that guy wasn't strong enough and didn't drop a single hair, let alone a Mana Potion.

The second one was the assassin Bill, whom he took down not long ago. He had reached Level 6 and thus counted as someone who would drop something significant, but what he dropped wasn't a Mana Potion; it was a Berserk Potion.

"It looks like once things here are wrapped up, it might be time to visit those Western countries..."

Qin Fang will surely visit Europe and America when he has the time, but right now, there isn't time for that. He hasn't even finished dealing with matters here in Asia.

Moreover, Qin Fang noticed that if he doesn't use the Mana Points, they slowly regenerate during rest, so he doesn't need to worry as much.

Qin Fang didn't plan to rely on the Fireball Technique as his main attack method in the future; he still focuses mainly on his own strength. Other methods like the Fireball Technique or Shooting are just auxiliary means.

These two skills, while quite powerful, are mainly useful against ordinary experts; against peers or even higher-level experts, they're not very effective.

While Qin Fang has a very good Stealth Skill and can change identities with the Metamorphosis, if these can't incapacitate the enemy, they're not much help. It's more efficient to enhance his own strength.

Furthermore, for Qin Fang to upgrade, apart from Experience Points, his own strength is also an important criterion, and neither can be neglected.

Thinking so much doesn't have any substantive use, so Qin Fang didn't bother to think further. He packed everything up and threw them all into the Props Box.

Now that he's reached Level 6, the Props Box has expanded again, reaching 96 slots, allowing Qin Fang to store more items without worrying about not having enough space.

With these matters set aside for now, Qin Fang could relax and enjoy his vacation and rest on the ship...

Qin Fang didn't care about Xu Ling's current situation because Xu Ling must be in a mess, still racking his brain on how to patch up this huge blunder.

Shen Liang went out and returned shortly after; seeing that he was unharmed, Qin Fang knew that he managed things smoothly, and so... the last person by Xu Ling's side also met a grim ending, leaving Xu Ling as the last man standing.

Qin Fang didn't bother with Xu Ling's fate, just asked Shen Liang to keep an eye on him. After all, the sea journey had little time left, and he didn't want Xu Ling causing any trouble at the last minute.

There's nothing to be done about it; Xu Ling has something on Qin Fang, and if pushed too far, this kid might do anything out of desperation.

"Qin Fang, I heard Feifei and the others went to Korea?"

Qin Fang had some free time and was lounging with Chu Yunxuan on the deck, basking in the sun and enjoying the cool sea breeze; the days were indeed very enjoyable.

But somehow, Chu Yunxuan had gotten this news and couldn't help but ask Qin Fang.

"Yes, they did. It seems to be some exchange activity... once things here are settled, I'll head over too and take care of some matters along the way!"

Qin Fang didn't hide anything from Chu Yunxuan and simply shared his plan.

Chu Yunxuan knew a lot about Qin Fang's matters, like the life-and-death battle with Tu San, the conflict with Xu Ling, and even the fact that people from the Tang Sect were after Qin Fang... which showed how much Qin Fang trusted Chu Yunxuan.

"Hmm... be careful!"

Qin Fang went to meet Tang Feifei, which Chu Yunxuan didn't mind, but she vaguely guessed what the "other things" Qin Fang mentioned could be.

"Especially be wary of that Korean woman..."

Yet it seemed Chu Yunxuan was also preoccupied, as she immediately said in a low voice.

"You mean Li Enhui?"

As soon as he heard "Korean woman," Qin Fang immediately thought of a certain powerful woman he was slightly connected with, but he was a bit unsure of what Chu Yunxuan meant by her words.

"Could it be jealousy?"

Qin Fang couldn't help but think of this, but then he shook his head, denying it. Chu Yunxuan could certainly get jealous, but it depended on who it was. Li Enhui clearly wasn't someone she'd be jealous of.

"Actually, I have nothing to do with her..."

After thinking about it, Qin Fang couldn't help but offer a simple explanation, not wanting Chu Yunxuan to misunderstand him.

"That's not what I meant... I received earlier reports that some people in the Seven Star Group might be discontent with you, and it seems to be somewhat related to this woman! I'm naturally very reassured when you're in the country, but going over to Korea..."

Chu Yunxuan said with some concern, clearly indicating that there were indeed some secret matters involved.

"Someone's discontent with me?"

Upon hearing this news, Qin Fang frowned. His first thought was that the incident involving the Seven Star Group and the Shiling Group might have been exposed.

Otherwise, there'd be no reason for Seven Star Group's people to be dissatisfied with him.

The problem was, the lithium battery production enterprise he co-invested in with Qiao Zhenfei hadn't even completed its factory yet. The news shouldn't have spread so quickly, so why was someone targeting him already?

"Don't worry! Do you even know who I am? Those Koreans aren't even worth a slap..."

Despite his doubts, Qin Fang spoke confidently, aiming to ease Chu Yunxuan's worries.

However, Qin Fang clearly wasn't ignoring this matter. After all, something must be causing such a change.

"No way, I need to get to Korea as soon as possible!"

Thinking this way, Qin Fang considered that Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue, and Wen Yan were all in Korea. If certain people intended them harm, even Qin Fang didn't dare imagine the consequences.

...

Qin Fang didn't head to Okinawa, despite the fishermen incident there. After careful consideration, Qin Fang felt it was better to settle this blood debt with those Japan Wanderers when he officially sets foot in Japan.

After another three days at sea, Qin Fang and his companions finally returned to land, marking the end of their sea journey.

During these three days, Qin Fang didn't idle; he attempted to contact Tang Feifei and the others in Korea to confirm nothing had happened to them, which allowed him to temporarily relax.

However, Qin Fang clearly felt this wasn't sufficient, so he immediately had Brother Da select a couple of astute and elite warriors to secretly protect Tang Feifei and the others in Korea.

They didn't need to do anything, just ensure that before Qin Fang arrived in Korea, Tang Feifei and the other two women remained safe...

"Ah, finally back on land..."

The Princess cruise ship berthed at Blue Island, ending this sea voyage.

Qin Fang almost immediately pulled Chu Yunxuan off the ship and hurriedly found a hotel to stay in, or more precisely, settled Chu Yunxuan in.

A couple of days ago, he received messages saying that people from the Tang Sect somehow got wind of his disembarkation at Blue Island, so they immediately drove over to Blue Island.

Comparatively, the Tang Sect people were quite fast, arriving on the third day after Qin Fang.

Knowing full well why the Tang Sect people were coming, Qin Fang knew it was likely for revenge for Tang Nan, even bringing experts like Tang Huaiyuan and Tang Huaiming.

"Huff huff huff~~~ Hope you don't disappoint me!"

Feeling this intense pressure, Qin Fang not only felt no fear but was rather excited. After settling Chu Yunxuan, he waited for the Tang Sect people to come find him...

Chapter 1557 - Interrogation!

...

The Tang Sect arrived even faster than Qin Fang had anticipated. Qin Fang had just settled Chu Yunxuan in a hotel and went to the Blue Island black market to purchase some items.

Just as he walked out of the black market, Qin Fang felt that he had been targeted.

The other party seemed to know that this was a busy area, making it inconvenient to act immediately, so they were closely following Qin Fang...

Perhaps they thought they were hidden enough, but they couldn't escape the detection of Ding Chen's mini-map function, which clearly revealed their names, identities, and strengths.

Qin Fang walked calmly ahead; knowing that the Tang Sect had caught up, he obviously couldn't return to the hotel, as that would be inviting the wolf into the house.

Without alerting the Tang Sect, Qin Fang pretended not to notice and meandered unhurriedly around Blue Island's city area.

But he wasn't wandering aimlessly; his direction was heading towards the sparsely populated outskirts...

The Tang Sect had caught up, so it was clear that larger forces would soon arrive. To tackle this trouble, Qin Fang planned to deal with them all at once to avoid future threats from hidden masters.

Qin Fang deliberately headed towards the city outskirts. At first, the Tang Sect experts following him might not have noticed, but gradually they felt something was amiss.

There were three Tang Sect disciples trailing Qin Fang: two at the Master Level Early Stage, and one at Level 5. Such a lineup could only be used for fleeing, and only ancient sects like Tang Sect and Shaolin were qualified for this.

"Tang Shu, do you think this kid is deliberately leading us?"

Qin Fang's actions made the Tang Sect disciples suspicious, gathering together and whispering to each other.

"I think he's probably doing it on purpose..."

No one is foolish; such an obvious thing isn't hard to guess.

"Everyone be careful... This person's strength is significant. When necessary, we need to join forces! We just need to wait until the Elders arrive..."

Understanding Qin Fang's purpose, the Tang Sect disciples became cautious, continuing to follow but maintaining a reasonable distance for easy unification if needed.

These three Tang Sect disciples had targeted Qin Fang, and this information naturally spread to other disciples like Tang Huaiyuan and Tang Huaiming...

At the moment, these three disciples were responsible for surveillance, continuously reporting Qin Fang's movements while others rapidly headed towards them...

Tang Nan's strength reached the Mid-Master Level, having learned two major skills from the Tang Sect, making him formidable, even more than Tang Zhan.

But even so, Tang Nan was killed by Qin Fang. Their strength was clearly no match for Qin Fang's, so they had to be extremely cautious.

Such changes were clearly observed by Qin Fang, knowing it was unnecessary to continue pretending. These people had reacted.

"The Tang Sect will catch up soon... These individuals must be prevented from relaying information any further!"

Seeing that the three Tang Sect disciples had become aware, Qin Fang no longer needed to pretend. He paused slightly, formulating a plan.

Upon noticing Qin Fang's pace slowed, the trailing Tang Sect disciples did likewise, further evidencing Qin Fang's concerns.

Qin Fang simply smiled to himself, spotting a certain alley, hastened his steps, and quickly vanished around the corner.

Though it was a more suburban area, it was still within Blue Island's city limits, just slightly more remote, becoming isolated at night.

Even during the day, few people were seen as most were out working.

"Huh, quickly pursue..."

Suddenly seeing Qin Fang disappear, the three paused briefly before reacting, discarding their previous caution to pursue closely.

Should Qin Fang slip under their noses, they'd face difficulties reporting back... so despite reservations, they sped up in pursuit.

The three Tang Sect disciples quickly chased forward. The city's outskirts weren't a barren mountain but had many low buildings in disarray. If Qin Fang hid in some corner, they might never find him.

Just as they feared, upon reaching the alley entrance, Qin Fang was nowhere to be seen in the labyrinth-like alleys, likely having escaped via another route...

"Damn it, quick, pursue..."

A result they did not wish for, yet regret came too late. They quickly tracked Qin Fang's whereabouts, preparing to chase him to the alley's end and explore available routes.

"Are you looking for me?"

Just when these three Tang Sect disciples were anxiously unsure of what to do, a lazy voice suddenly spoke beside their ears...

The three of them felt a breeze blow by, their vision blurred for a moment, and then a part of their body seemed to have been pricked by a needle, standing there motionless.

It wasn't that they didn't want to move, but they couldn't move at all, as if someone had immobilized them...

At this moment, that face appeared in front of them, and it turned out to be Qin Fang, whom they were following... Although they knew Qin Fang's strength was significantly greater than theirs, they still believed that the three of them together could absolutely hold off Qin Fang for quite some time.

Unfortunately, the reality was far different from what they had imagined. Qin Fang didn't even give them the chance to join forces and easily subdued all three of them.

"Rise..."

After immobilizing the three, Qin Fang displayed a faint smile on his face, grabbed one person and threw him up, and that sturdy body flew over the adjacent wall about two meters high and entered the other side.

It didn't take Qin Fang much time, and soon they were inside the yard on the other side...

This was a relatively open yard, which seemed to be an abandoned factory. There wasn't anyone around. Qin Fang had briefly checked it when he entered earlier, and now it was the perfect setting to deal with these three Tang Sect disciples.

"What... what do you want?"

Being tossed into this eerie yard, away from the outside crowd, it could be assumed that if they were killed and their bodies discarded here by Qin Fang, it would be challenging for anyone to discover.

These three Tang Sect disciples were not only flustered but also, if not for the dignity of being a martial artist, a Tang Sect disciple supporting them, they might have already been screaming for help.

"Don't worry, as long as you answer my questions obediently, you can leave here safely..."

Qin Fang smiled and said indifferently.

"You... we won't say anything!"

However, when Qin Fang said this, the trio's expressions changed dramatically, and they looked at each other before expressing their determination.

"I see you're quite determined, but I'm not sure how long you can maintain that determination..."

This kind of reaction wasn't unexpected for Qin Fang. After all, these people were from the Tang Sect and wouldn't be easily intimidated like those who are afraid of death.

While speaking, Qin Fang took out a silver needle and approached the nearest Tang Sect disciple, promptly inserting it into his neck.

"Starting now... enjoy life a bit!"

Qin Fang chuckled and said, then proceeded to take out another needle, lifting the somewhat stiff hand of the Tang Sect disciple named Tang Shu, and pricked his fingertip...

"Hiss~~"

As soon as the needle went in, Tang Shu gasped involuntarily.

However, as he gasped, he touched the silver needle inserted in his neck, making the sensation of gasping extremely painful, almost instinctively wanting to wail, but he found his throat seemed blocked, unable to make any sound.

It is said that ten fingers are connected to the heart, and when pricked, it's as if a needle was stabbed in the heart, causing Tang Shu's body to twitch.

"This is just the beginning..."

Such a small pain might be unbearable for ordinary people, but for someone with a strong will like a martial artist, it wouldn't have much effect.

Although Tang Shu was in extreme pain, his body tense, veins bulging, he still showed no signs of submission...

"Next comes the main course..."

Qin Fang did not take out more silver needles but instead gently rotated the silver needle...

"My acupuncture technique is called the Yanluo Eighteen Needles, consisting of eighteen needles. However, few can endure beyond eight needles... Let's officially begin, the first needle!"

While speaking, Qin Fang lightly rotated the silver needle, his movements incredibly gentle, without any hint of bloodthirstiness or lethality.

Yet Tang Shu quickly began to react, as the gentle-looking silver needle immediately caused his body to tremble.

"The second needle..."

It seemed as though Qin Fang was completely unaware of Tang Shu's reaction, and proceeded with the second needle.

This time, Tang Shu's reaction was even more intense than before. His immobilized body trembled violently, his face turned pale without a trace of blood, indicating the tremendous fear he was enduring...

Chapter 1558 - Intelligence!

...

"The third needle..."

Qin Fang's face showed no change in expression, appearing incredibly focused, like a very dedicated doctor...

Unfortunately, he was not a doctor at all, but conducting an interrogation through torture!

It's just that these three unfortunate Tang Sect disciples became his prisoners, now suffering such torment.

With the third needle, Tang Shu's reaction became extremely intense, his body trembling violently. Tang Shu also tried hard to struggle, with the green veins in his arms seemingly about to burst at any moment.

Furthermore, Tang Shu's complexion was no longer pale but turned to a congested purplish-red, and was becoming more purple, appearing extremely painful.

"The fourth needle..."

Qin Fang was unconcerned, still focused on his task, playing with the Silver Needle as if it was an exquisite art, causing Tang Shu endless... pain!

Tang Shu had completely fallen into a coma, his consciousness was entirely blurred, and only his body's instincts were reacting.

His face was congested, veins protruded on his body, and blood slowly seeped out of his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose, looking particularly tragic.

"I'll tell, I'll tell..."

The weakest Tang Sect disciple really couldn't bear to watch any longer. Tang Shu's strength was much greater than his, yet he was tortured like this by Qin Fang. If it were him, the question of whether he would even survive was a big concern.

This kid was not only weak in strength but had a particularly poor mental fortitude. He immediately cried out excitedly... The sight was really heart-wrenching.

Tang Shu had been tormented to this state, half his life was nearly gone...

Unfortunately, he did not even have the chance to shout, speak, or beg for mercy. Every time he tried to make a sound, it didn't come out, and instead, his throat ached terribly.

Anyone could imagine how terrifying Qin Fang's Yanluo Eighteen Needles were. Growing up deep in the mountains, the Tang Sect disciple was frightened due to his naivety and lack of mental resilience.

Of course, it wasn't entirely out of thin air since Qin Fang's Yanluo Eighteen Needles were truly terrifying, and Tang Shu was tortured miserably.

According to Qin Fang's own estimation, around the sixth needle, Tang Shu's body would be unable to withstand such extreme pain, causing his heart to stop, and he would soon perish completely.

"That's a good boy..."

Qin Fang stopped his hand, looking playfully at the scared Tang Sect disciple, and said.

He glanced at the nearby grandmaster-level disciple, whose gaze was filled with venom and hatred. Qin Fang lightly slapped him, and the master-level early-stage Tang Sect disciple was knocked unconscious.

With his current strength, far exceeding this master-level early-stage Tang Sect disciple, who couldn't resist, knocking him out was not difficult at all.

"Speak, how many of you came this time? Did Tang Huaiyuan and Tang Huaiming both come? Where are they staying now?"

These two strongest Tang Sect disciples had already passed out in succession, leaving only the frightened Tang Sect disciple. Qin Fang was straightforward in his questioning.

Although Brother Da had information, he couldn't easily approach the Tang Sect people. Therefore, he wasn't particularly clear about how many came or what their strength was.

But this Tang Sect disciple was an insider and clearly knew more than what Brother Da could find out. Naturally, Qin Fang had no need to be polite.

"I'll tell, I'll tell, I'll say everything..."

The Tang Sect disciple was truly terrified and, being frightened by Qin Fang, he spilled everything he knew like beans pouring out of a bamboo tube, even revealing Tang Huaiyuan's plans for Qin Fang in great detail.

Qin Fang listened very carefully, as much of the information was extremely important to him, and he did not want to miss anything.

This time was undoubtedly to deal with Tang Huaiyuan, but if things got big again, the grievances with the Tang Sect would definitely worsen, and the Tang Sect would surely send people out in the future.

This was why Qin Fang needed to know more about the Tang Sect. However, despite the Tang Sect disciple's not low status as a member of the Tang Clan, his strength was too weak, and he hadn't received much family resources, so his knowledge of secrets wasn't extensive.

However, although this isn't a lot, it's still more than the outsider Tang Xin knows, which makes Qin Fang involuntarily speechless.

Of course, these Tang Sect secrets, now that Qin Fang knows them, it's hard to say how useful they'll be. What Qin Fang needs to focus on is the pursuit action against Tang Huaiyuan this time.

"Tang Huaiyuan didn't come?"

When Qin Fang learned this news, he was very surprised but also extremely pleased.

If this time the experts from the Tang Sect came to hunt him down, the one Qin Fang would fear the most would undoubtedly be the Grandmaster-level Tang Huaiyuan, who is the father of Tang Nan, whom Qin Fang eliminated.

But from this frightened Tang Sect disciple, Qin Fang learned that Tang Huaiyuan did not come to Blue Island this time, but instead sent his brother Tang Huaiming with a dozen people.

"Tang Huaiming..."

Knowing Tang Huaiyuan didn't come, Qin Fang's mood instantly relaxed a lot. The pressure from a Grandmaster-level expert was just too immense...

Especially being an elder-level Grandmaster in such a Thousand-Year Sect as the Tang Sect, he was much more powerful than the Grandmaster-level experts from Martial Arts Clans like Old Master Wu and Elder Lei, not even in the same league.

Now that Tang Huaiyuan didn't come and only sent the slightly less formidable Tang Huaiming, it indicates that Tang Huaiyuan clearly doesn't value Qin Fang enough yet.

It's not surprising though; firstly, when Tang Zhan escaped back to the Tang Sect, he knew of Qin Fang's strength. It has only been a few months; even if he is exceptionally talented, it's impossible to upgrade from below Master Level to rival a seasoned Master-level Peak expert like Tang Huaiming in just three months.

Tang Huaiming has been at the Master-level Peak realm for many years. Although he has never been successful in breaking through, his strength is even stronger than some experts who have luckily entered the Grandmaster level, especially since he also holds a Divine Weapon and secret weapons...

It's fair to say Tang Huaiming's strength is absolutely at the Grandmaster level, but due to the realm, he has never been able to break through that key barrier.

Qin Fang murmured this name to himself; this time in the Blue Island battle, his main opponent is clearly Tang Huaiming.

He is currently also at the Master-level Peak realm, though only having stepped into it not long ago, might not be much weaker than Tang Huaiming after all, considering Qin Fang possesses quite a few secret techniques.

The only thing that makes Qin Fang somewhat apprehensive is that Tang Huaiming also has a lot of treasures. It's said he carries an extremely sharp Divine Weapon sword, crafted by a famous swordsmith many years ago. Although it doesn't reach the caliber of the Ten Great Divine Weapons, it was once renowned in the Martial World.

Besides the Tang Sect, there was another very famous sect in the Shu region back then... Name Sword Manor, a swordsmith clan renowned in the Martial World.

Unfortunately, due to certain events leading to its decline, the Tang Sect took advantage of the situation, not only taking away nearly all the craftsmen from Name Sword Manor but also many Divine Weapons.

Thus, even though the Tang Sect's foundation is not as deep as the Thousand-Year Shaolin, possessing only Tang Sect Twin Marvels, far from matching the Seventy-two Ultimate Skills of Shaolin Temple.

Yet, their hidden weapons and poison expertise grants them formidable strength comparable to Shaolin. Moreover, the Tang Sect holds quite a few Divine Weapons, making their martial artists much stronger than average ones.

Of course, these Divine Weapons are not particularly numerous, especially throughout the years when Tang Sect disciples traveled outside and suffered casualties, leading to many weapons being lost.

Later, the Tang Sect regulated these Divine Weapons, allowing only certain individuals with special identities or significant contributions to possess them.

Tang Huaiming is a member of the Tang Clan, and his strength is quite formidable. Once he steps into the Grandmaster level, he can immediately become an elder, making him a person of great importance. Thus, having a Divine Weapon as his weapon is not surprising.

"Seems like this Divine Weapon is prepared for me..."

Upon hearing this news, Qin Fang's first reaction wasn't fear of Tang Huaiming's Divine Weapon, but rather pondering whether its rank could be integrated with the Galaxy Divine Iron to truly advance to Divine Artifact rank among the Ten Great Divine Weapons...

The process might entail some danger, but Qin Fang knew for sure the result would be him snatching this Divine Weapon from Tang Huaiming...

As for what kind of fate Tang Huaiming would ultimately face, Qin Fang couldn't predict, but it surely wouldn't end well. If things turn tragic, he might end up like his nephew Tang Nan, losing his life to Qin Fang.

"Besides Tang Huaiming, how many other experts did you bring..."

As long as Tang Huaiyuan didn't come, Qin Fang felt no fear at all. Tang Huaiming is the main opponent, but aside from him, whether there are other experts of comparable strength, Qin Fang needed to know.

If out of nowhere another Master-level Peak expert like Tang Huaiming appeared when the battle ensues, Qin Fang would be caught off guard.

Even though he can face off against Tang Huaiming directly, whether he could gain the upper hand is still uncertain. Should another one appear, he would have no choice but to defend passively, taking hits passively...

"There are also two Master-level late stage, three Master-level mid-stage, four... no, two Master-level early stage..."

Luckily, Qin Fang's luck wasn't too bad, and such a situation didn't occur.

Chapter 1559 - Kill to Settle It

...

I don't know what Tang Huaiyuan was thinking. Perhaps he thought that having Tang Huaiming lead the team here, and with such a powerful lineup, would be enough to deal with Qin Fang.

But hearing about this lineup, Qin Fang himself was somewhat amused, feeling that Tang Huaiyuan wasn't coming to deal with him but rather to deliver experience points.

"Just worried that I wouldn't have enough experience points after leveling up, and here they come sending them my way..."

Having learned the background of these experts from the Tang Sect, Qin Fang's mood improved greatly, and he was happily contemplating internally.

Qin Fang has now reached Level 6, and wants to break into Level 7 Grandmaster level. Even at the fastest speed, it might take at least half a year.

In half a year, if only farming experience points, Qin Fang could possibly reach Level 8, especially since Qin Fang will soon set foot in Japan to start completing that ultimate mission, not knowing how many people he will have to kill then.

So Qin Fang isn't in a hurry now; the experience points still need to be farmed, but not for leveling up, rather to redeem skill proficiency or some urgently needed rare items.

This Tang Sect lineup contains about ten grandmaster-level experts; eliminating them all would definitely yield significant experience points, enough for Qin Fang to upgrade several skills from beginner to advanced.

If applied towards one skill, it's possible it could be upgraded to a master level skill...

"I've already told you, can I leave now?"

This Tang Sect disciple obediently confessed everything he knew; whatever Qin Fang asked, he answered without holding back.

Only when Qin Fang truly had nothing to ask did this guy cautiously ask, having been terrified by Qin Fang, now just wanting to leave here quickly.

Qin Fang glanced at this Tang Sect disciple, then revealed a strange smile. The silver needles in his hand suddenly moved, immediately piercing into the Qihai acupoint of this Tang Sect disciple.

The Qihai is the vital acupoint for martial artists; once breached, all the True Qi cultivated over the years is gone, reverting from a powerful martial artist back to an ordinary person.

Some people have peculiar cultivation techniques, and sudden dispersal of True Qi can even be life-threatening...

The Tang Sect disciple was initially stunned, but his face quickly changed. He almost instinctively wanted to act, but Qin Fang gently pressed his shoulder, and he couldn't move at all.

After a moment, all the True Qi in the Qihai was depleted... this Tang Sect disciple weakened immediately, looking utterly deflated, like a wilting eggplant.

"You... you ruined my martial arts?"

The Tang Sect disciple's face turned pale, his eyes filled with astonishment. He might have imagined how Qin Fang would deal with him, but never expected this result.

"Actually, you had a choice: lose your martial arts or lose your life..."

Qin Fang was rather indifferent, as they say, the victor is king and the loser is a bandit. Since these Tang Sect disciples were in his hands, he didn't intend to let them leave unharmed.

Whether to kill or not, Qin Fang didn't initially think much about it.

But considering his justice points couldn't be wasted like this, and these Tang Sect disciples grew up in the deep mountains with no grudges, their sin points naturally wouldn't reach the level to enter the evil camp, so Qin Fang was lazy to kill them.

"Ugh..."

The Tang Sect disciple was originally extremely dejected, feeling utterly lost, almost equating the loss of martial arts with the loss of life.

But when Qin Fang spoke, he weighed it within himself and ultimately felt... that life was more important than martial arts.

The main reason for feeling that way is that he spent over twenty years practicing martial arts, struggling so hard for this strength, only to lose it all suddenly; he certainly couldn't bear it.

It's like someone spending half a lifetime earning money to buy a house, only to find a giant "demolition" sign on it without even getting compensation, and being forcefully demolished... This guy now feels as miserable as that!

"You can crawl away..."

Seeing the guy's expression, Qin Fang knew he wasn't as tough as he imagined.

Certainly, if this guy was tough enough, he wouldn't have spilled everything he knew like pouring beans from a bamboo tube due to fear, and Qin Fang wouldn't have obtained such intelligence.

"I'll crawl, I'll crawl..."

Though filled with inner resentment, he didn't dare show a trace of it on his face, immediately nodding incessantly as he scrambled away, running towards the outside.

The guy was extremely scared, just wanting to leave here and this troublesome place quickly.

He clearly didn't dare return to the Tang Sect; if Tang Huaiming and others knew he betrayed Tang Sect because of fear of death, his fate would undoubtedly be countless times worse than now, possibly not even preserving his life.

Rather than hoping to have the Sect exact revenge on Qin Fang while risking being punished by the Sect, it's better to simply leave here, distance himself from trouble, perhaps still finding a glimmer of hope.

Chapter 1560 - Kill to Settle It

This kind of thinking, naturally, was also detected by Qin Fang. He was quite satisfied with the guy's choice. Although the person was not killed, if he ran off to alert others, Qin Fang had to be somewhat cautious.

But now it's different. The three scouts from the Tang Sect suddenly disappeared, making it clear that those Tang Sect disciples couldn't find Qin Fang's whereabouts.

At most, they only know Qin Fang is somewhere nearby. But this place is a city, not the wilderness or mountains, still a sea of people, making it difficult to find Qin Fang among these dilapidated houses.

Unable to find Qin Fang, they can only return to their base, then continue sending scouts to search for Qin Fang's whereabouts until they find him again.

But...

Qin Fang already knows where their lair is, so how could he let them comfortably return there and wait?

"Humph, it seems my preparations weren't entirely unnecessary..."

Looking at some items placed inside the Props Box, a cold smile appeared on Qin Fang's face.

Before these scouts set their sights on him, Qin Fang specially made a trip to the Blue Island's black market, which is a black market on the assassin trading platform. This city has a very good location. Although not a provincial capital, its prosperity is not much different from that of Ninghai.

This black market is considered one of the largest in northern Dragon Country, with most kinds of goods available. Although I can't say it has everything, it's close enough.

Qin Fang has a lot more to deal with next, dealing with the Tang Sect is one aspect, then he has to travel overseas to Korea and Japan.

There, the opponents Qin Fang faces may not have the formidable strength of the Tang Sect, but the problem is the sheer number of them, like ants impossible to kill them all...

Furthermore, both Japan and Korea have many highly skilled experts, some even stronger than Qin Fang...

Because of this, Qin Fang needs to prepare many things, although his personal strength is quite good, facing so many experts, sometimes using more violent means might be more suitable.

Qin Fang naturally doesn't need guns or bullets, because he carries many firearms, and after killing Bill, he obtained an Infinite Magazine, which is enough to meet Qin Fang's needs.

But just having a gun clearly isn't enough, and sometimes guns might not necessarily work well, so Qin Fang specially prepared some other things.

For example, C4...

Although these items are regulated in Dragon Country, in such black market, they are considered regular commodities, sure to be bought as long as you are willing to pay.

Of course, these black markets are hidden under normal market appearances, without being in the Assassin's Alliance, there's no way to know these black markets exist, thus no way to buy these items.

The black market merchants are very cunning, they'd rather not do business than put themselves in danger, and the Assassin's Alliance has been around for so long, their confidentiality is naturally very strict.

Not only will the Assassin's Alliance not betray, but assassins can't betray either, and those merchants are even less likely to betray themselves. That's why these black market merchants can continue their existence, bringing batches of contraband goods to the market.

Qin Fang doesn't lack money now, though the prices of these goods on the black market are significantly higher, spending this money is very worthwhile, spending it like this, Qin Fang can soon earn it back, he certainly won't feel distressed about it.

Moreover, buying so many things can definitely take out quite a few Tang Sect disciples or Korean bumps and Japanese brats, thus earning back Experience Points.

Experience Points now aren't as useless as before, now they are considered good things, compensating a bit of financial loss is nothing.

"How should I deal with these two guys?"

The weakest of the Tang Sect disciples ran away, Qin Fang didn't chase him down, as that was unnecessary, if he really wanted to kill him, he would have done it long ago, no need to wait until now.

Even though one ran, there are still two left, that Tang Shu was tormented by Qin Fang terribly, still unconscious now, afraid it will take a while for him to wake up.

The remaining one has already woken up, although Qin Fang knocked him out earlier, the resistance ability of these martial artists is naturally stronger than ordinary folks, waking up so quickly is not surprising...

But how to deal with these two people, Qin Fang can't help but feel a headache.

"Kill them?"

These two are different from the Tang Sect disciple who ran away earlier, that kid was timid, confessed everything once scared.

The result is he can no longer stay in the Tang Sect, let alone his Qi Sea was pierced by Qin Fang, becoming just an ordinary person from now on.

However, these two Tang Sect disciples are different, their attitude is very tough, showing immense hostility towards Qin Fang. Look at that Tang Shu, obviously unable to endure Qin Fang's torture, yet even when he passed out, he didn't reveal a single word...

The one in front of me, although not tortured by Qin Fang, has an expression of fearlessness, as if wishing Qin Fang would torture him too, so he could pass out from the pain.