

Genius 1601

Chapter 1601 - A Clean Getaway!

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Qin Fang's speed was extremely fast. After escaping from the ice, he immediately rushed towards the direction of the Thousand-Year Cold Jade with unmatched swiftness.

However, the freezing speed in this Cold Abyss was even faster. Just as Qin Fang was about to reach the Thousand-Year Cold Jade, he suddenly felt a shiver run down his spine, and then a thick layer of ice quickly formed around him, completely encapsulating Qin Fang.

Bam~~

Yet, Ding Chen paid no heed. Once again, True Qi rapidly surged, quickly shattering the thick layer of ice around him, and he escaped from the firm ice once more.

This time, the distance to the Thousand-Year Cold Jade was much closer, and Qin Fang could almost grasp it with a stretch of his hand...

But the bone-chilling cold assaulted him, and the surrounding temperature was extremely low, quickly enveloping Ding Chen again...

After repeating this process several times, Qin Fang's hand finally landed on the piece of Thousand-Year Cold Jade!

Buzz~~

A low, dull sound emanated from the bottom of the Cold Abyss. It even felt as if the entire Cold Abyss, and even the entire cave was trembling.

"Rise..."

Qin Fang didn't care much; he shouted loudly in his heart, and saw the piece of Thousand-Year Cold Jade immediately transform into a beam of light, rapidly disappearing into Ding Chen's body.

In its original place, a very deep cave appeared. It seemed that the Thousand-Year Cold Jade had remained here mostly to suppress this cave.

The cave was very deep, and whether or not it contained something like the 108 heroes of Liangshan, Qin Fang wasn't very sure. But when the cave appeared, it quickly absorbed the water from the Cold Abyss... a violent whirlpool also formed, pulling Ding Chen's body towards it.

This was a very dangerous process; a slight misstep could result in Qin Fang perishing here.

"Luckily, I was prepared! Time to leave..."

Qin Fang tightly gripped the steel wire tied around his body and immediately pressed the lever on it, feeling a tightness in his waist. A powerful force pulled Qin Fang's body upward rapidly.

Perhaps because the Thousand-Year Cold Jade had been taken, the water in the Cold Abyss remained extremely cold, but it was noticeably better than before. Though Qin Fang's body was still freezing, it was far better than before. The thin ice layer did not affect Qin Fang at all, but became a slight protection for him!

The whirlpool was more evident at the bottom of the Cold Abyss but became weaker at the top, with the water flow becoming much calmer.

This was quite beneficial for Qin Fang. The pulling force on his waist was quite strong, not even affected much by the ice layer, pulling him upward towards the surface.

Wow~~~

Finally, Qin Fang burst out of the water, and his head surfaced.

"Phew~~ At least it didn't disappoint me!"

After bursting out of the Cold Abyss, emerging from the surface, Qin Fang ignored everything and simply gasped for air with large breaths, feeling quite pleased.

"Huh, why is it so quiet?"

But after steadyng his breath, Qin Fang realized that it was too quiet here, eerily so, making him sense that something was amiss.

Qin Fang's eyes quickly scanned the area and immediately noticed the old man standing by the Cold Abyss, standing beside a Seven Stars Grass.

"Uh... already back?"

The old man didn't appear to have any injuries, at most, his clothes were slightly torn. It seemed Liu Xianjun and others had given this Grandmaster-level expert a bit of trouble, but hadn't managed to harm him.

As for that expert brother whom Qin Fang had knocked unconscious, his position had shifted slightly, but he remained in a Turtle Breathing State. It wasn't clear whether the old Grandmaster didn't know how to counter it or understood that this state was more appropriate for that expert brother.

"Who are you?"

The old Grandmaster looked warily at Qin Fang as he emerged from the Cold Abyss, his tone slightly stiff.

As a Grandmaster-level expert living by this Cold Abyss for many years, he surely understood how terrifying the coldness of this abyss was.

Such a bone-chilling Cold Abyss, just a touch would lead to an invasion of cold, being covered by a layer of ice. The Cold Abyss was essentially inaccessible.

Yet Qin Fang not only went in but also seemed at ease inside. The old Grandmaster couldn't help but be astonished.

"If I said I was just here to buy soy sauce, would you believe it?"

Seeing this old Grandmaster, Qin Fang was a bit annoyed. He had already secured the Thousand-Year Cold Jade as quickly as possible, but he didn't expect Liu Xianjun and the others to be so ineffective, unable to hold on even for such a short time, forcing him into a direct confrontation with this Grandmaster-level expert.

Facing the old Grandmaster's questions, Qin Fang wore a faint smile of amusement on his face and said playfully, while his body slowly moved toward the shore.

The water temperature in the Cold Abyss had started to rise slightly, but this change in temperature was not going to be obvious in such a short time.

Although Qin Fang was in the Cold Abyss without any danger, it was still unfavorable for him, after all, his opponent was not someone like Liu Xianjun, a Grandmaster-level expert, but a Grandmaster-level expert whose power was nearly as terrifying as the Bloody-handed Demon Tu San...

"Just passing through..."

Hearing Qin Fang's teasing words, the old Grandmaster's face turned somewhat grim, perhaps it was the first time he had been taunted in such a manner.

Qin Fang climbed ashore from another side, slightly shook his True Qi, and immediately shook off the ice, thus gaining true freedom.

He didn't choose to approach this old Grandmaster for fear that he might suddenly attack, as the terror of a Grandmaster-level expert was far beyond that of a Grandmaster-level expert.

"Since you refuse to tell the truth, I'll capture you first and talk later..."

However, being mocked by Qin Fang, the old Grandmaster's face also turned a bit unpleasant, and almost without hesitation, he transformed into a Fei Ying swooping down from mid-air.

"Bring it on..."

A huge palm quickly attacked Qin Fang; its speed and angle were almost flawless, making it nearly impossible for Qin Fang to evade. Yet, Qin Fang showed no intention of escaping; instead, he shouted loudly while quickly gathering his True Qi, seemingly planning to take the opponent's strike head-on.

Bam~~

This palm strike was definitely powerful; as soon as it made contact, it erupted with a deafening noise, causing the not-too-large cave to shake as if it were on the brink of collapse.

Fortunately, the vibrations in the cave caused by the palm energy's shockwave did not last long, and it soon returned to its previous calm...

But Qin Fang clearly did not end here; at this moment, he became a meteor, quickly flying backward, seemingly suffering a heavy blow.

However, the direction he flew back into seemed to be an empty grotto in this cave, and Qin Fang's body almost fell into this position, immediately blending into the darkness.

Was Qin Fang really injured by the opponent?

Obviously not.

This was entirely intentional by Qin Fang; when the Grandmaster-level expert unleashed tremendous Strength, he himself flew backward in this grotto with the fastest speed,

This grotto is connected to many surrounding grottos, and without knowing the path, anything unexpected could happen in such a cave network.

But Qin Fang obviously didn't care about these things; besides the great threat posed by the Grandmaster-level expert, such a maze-like path might not necessarily affect him.

This Korean Grandmaster's Strength was very strong, making Qin Fang have no intention to engage in combat; it wasn't that Qin Fang lacked courage, but it was unnecessary.

Qin Fang was now only at the Master Level Peak, virtually invincible below Grandmaster level, but his defense was quite good.

The old Grandmaster frowned as he rushed over, glancing at the dark grotto. It was clearly a rarely traveled path, and once inside, one would have to rely on themselves to find a way out.

"If you want to catch me, you're still a bit short..."

Qin Fang thought to himself, then quickly disappeared into the winding black cave, leaving the old Grandmaster who reached the path looking stunned.

He knew very well how strong his palm energy was; with one palm, hardly anyone could remain standing, and the rest... Ding Chen just considered it as suffering a hidden loss,

"Got away..."

Qin Fang moved quickly through such a grotto, continuously correcting various routes, also hoping to quickly deal with Qin Fang and others.

Qin Fang was not in a hurry; after all, he had various foods in his Props Box, and his portable tools were quite plentiful. Even if he got lost in the grotto, Qin Fang wasn't worried, and slowly searched for the way out of this cave.

"What a remarkable young man..."

The old Grandmaster couldn't help but praise Qin Fang for his skilled escape.

As a Grandmaster-level expert, he hadn't originally intended to be so hard on Qin Fang. Now seeing Qin Fang's proficient escape, there was no big problem, and the old Grandmaster didn't bother to chase anymore because it was simply impossible to catch him.

It wasn't that he himself had no problems, but Qin Fang running away wasn't an issue. However, this cave network was extremely complex, and whether or not one could walk out alive was the true test of a master.

As for whether Qin Fang could walk out of it, the old Grandmaster wasn't very certain, after all, he wasn't very familiar with Qin Fang...

Chapter 1602 - Fu Family Visitors!

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"The road here is really complicated..."

After darting into the cave, although he temporarily escaped the pursuit of the old grandmaster behind him, he himself seemed to have fallen into a maze.

The passage was extremely deep and interconnected; after walking a short segment, he could no longer recognize the way he came, almost completely unaware of where he should exit.

However, Qin Fang was not in a hurry. He rummaged through the Props Box and pulled out a military detector, a trophy obtained when he destroyed the Hand of the Devil Mercenary Corps. Now it came in handy.

Although this detector could also do satellite positioning, Qin Fang was now inside the mountain, where even the strongest signals couldn't penetrate. However, aside from that, the detector had other functions.

For instance... ultrasonic automatic scanning, and so on.

This was the function Qin Fang was using now. He wasn't quite sure of its exact principles, but it could lead him out of this labyrinth-like cave.

There was only one path when Qin Fang entered, and although the cave didn't seem frightening initially, accidentally slipping into this confusing, branching labyrinth was quite frustrating.

Fortunately, Qin Fang had plenty of tools. He took out everything that could be useful, such as compasses, without leaving anything out.

This made it much easier for Qin Fang. In such caves, the worst thing was walking in circles. Now, he only needed to stick to one direction and go all the way; even if the path was wrong, after walking a few times, he would find the right way.

Qin Fang's Scouting Skill was also in constant use, ensuring there were no issues with his tools, like the compass being affected by magnetic interference, causing incorrect directions.

In this way, it was tantamount to using the Scouting Skill to find the way back indirectly...

Although this process was quite complicated and troublesome, fortunately, Qin Fang was lucky. After about two hours of walking, he began to feel a slight chill.

"Almost at the Cold Abyss..."

Although the Thousand-Year Cold Jade had been taken by Qin Fang, the Cold Abyss had been nurtured for so many years that the temperature was already extremely low.

It would likely take decades for the temperature to return to normal. The water in the Cold Abyss, the surrounding stone walls, and so on were all seemingly assimilated by the Thousand-Year Cold Jade. Although they couldn't become the Thousand-Year Cold Jade, they could still become a special cold-attributed stone.

Moreover, with countless Cold Jade Ice Crystals contained in the Cold Abyss water, it ensured that the Cold Abyss water would remain unchanged for many years to come.

This was why Qin Fang was determined to secretly take away the Thousand-Year Cold Jade. After all, even if the Thousand-Year Cold Jade was removed, the Ryu Family would find it hard to detect, and the Yunluo Tea Tree would continue to grow...

Even the Seven Stars Grass would continue to grow until it matured without any issues.

"I wonder if the old man is still around?"

As he approached the Cold Abyss again, Qin Fang couldn't help but feel a bit worried.

The old grandmaster's strength was too formidable, and Qin Fang was still no match. If that person insisted on being difficult, Qin Fang could only flee.

"The person is gone?"

After a few more minutes, Qin Fang could already see the position of the Cold Abyss on the small map. Meanwhile, he noted the surrounding environment, yet the old grandmaster and his mid-master-level expert were nowhere to be seen on the small map, not knowing where they had gone.

"That's good, let's hurry and leave..."

As long as the old grandmaster wasn't around, Qin Fang had nothing to fear and immediately set off quickly on the way back. There was only one road there, so getting lost wasn't a concern.

Along the way, he still saw no one, neither the old grandmaster nor the two, nor even Liu Xianjun and the others. The entire cave seemed eerily silent.

But this was good too, as it allowed Qin Fang to leave safely.

"Phew~~ Finally got out!"

When Qin Fang exited the cave, he couldn't help but sigh lightly and quickly melted into the dark, swiftly moving toward his room.

"He actually escaped?"

Just as Qin Fang was leaving, an old man with gray hair emerged from near the trap mechanism along the stone wall, looking at Qin Fang's departing figure, he shook his head and chuckled.

However, it was quite strange that he seemed to have no ill intentions towards Qin Fang, almost as if he admired him... Qin Fang himself didn't know this, otherwise, he would have found it very peculiar.

Aside from that old grandmaster, there wasn't a single person in the Ryu Family who could match Qin Fang, so naturally, they couldn't detect his comings and goings.

Even after Qin Fang returned, no one noticed any abnormalities, so the matter was settled, and Qin Fang reverted to his original appearance.

When he left earlier, Qin Fang obviously wouldn't use his own face, as that would make it too easy to be discovered, so he deliberately used someone else's face. This way, even if discovered, no one would suspect Qin Fang.

That old grandmaster was the same. Although he seemed to have seen Qin Fang's appearance, that was just an illusion. If the Ryu Family tried to investigate, they would never be able to find that person.

Moreover, very few people even knew about the Thousand-Year Cold Jade, and now that it's sitting in Qin Fang's props box, even a hundred thorough searches wouldn't find it.

"The Thousand-Year Cold Jade is finally in hand..."

At this moment, Qin Fang let out a long sigh of relief. With the Thousand-Year Cold Jade in hand, this trip to Korea was considered a success.

The Thousand-Year Cold Jade was too dominant; its piercing coldness was really not suitable for use in this room, as it could easily reveal secrets.

Qin Fang planned to build an ice cellar type of training room once he returned home, place the Thousand-Year Cold Jade inside, and cultivate there; it would surely yield twice the results with half the effort.

Of course, the benefits of the Thousand-Year Cold Jade were not just that. It's also a very rare and precious medicinal material that can be used in many prescriptions to concoct medicines. It not only increases the success rate of medicine refining but also effectively enhances the potency of the medicine...

The piece of Thousand-Year Cold Jade in Qin Fang's hand wasn't particularly large, but it definitely wasn't small either, more than twice the size of an average washbasin. Even if Qin Fang sat on it, there would still be a considerable portion left.

With such a large piece of Thousand-Year Cold Jade, who knows how many medicinal concoctions it could make...

But for now, Qin Fang could only temporarily store it in the props box, to be used when needed; right now was not suitable.

The night wasn't particularly quiet, but it certainly wasn't lively either. The Ryu Family even thought it was just a peaceful night, seamlessly transitioning through it.

The matter of Liu Xianjun's rebellion seemed not to have been exposed, but he directly disappeared from the Ryu Family. As for where he went or how he was dealt with, only a few people in the Ryu Family knew, and Qin Fang, as an outsider, certainly didn't know.

This was somewhat expected. After all, what Liu Xianjun did was truly unforgivable, and if left unchecked, it could be a catastrophe for the Ryu Family.

Liu Xianjun not only rebelled but also colluded with outsiders attempting to covet the Ryu Family's treasures. If he went unpunished, it would be far too unreasonable.

In any case, this matter had nothing to do with Qin Fang. Although he was a witness, no one knew he was a witness, so he naturally could pretend to know nothing.

Having acquired the Thousand-Year Cold Jade, Qin Fang had a rather comfortable sleep that night, waking up leisurely the next day when the sun was high in the sky.

Just as Qin Fang was planning to go out to practice punches and warm up like usual, Liu Xianhe came looking for him, bringing an odd piece of news.

Someone from the Fu Family had arrived!

This not only surprised the Ryu Family but even Qin Fang found it very strange.

"The Fu Family?"

Qin Fang was not hearing this family name for the first time; it was a renowned martial family in Korea, and it was quite prominent even in East Asia.

"What are they doing here?"

Qin Fang was perplexed, as the Fu Family held a significant position. Not only were they supreme in Korea, but they also had a bit of fame in East Asia.

Although the Fu Family couldn't compare to the ancient sects in the mainland of the Dragon Country, their lineage from the Master of Yijian, Fu Cailin, was formidable, and there might be some very outstanding talents in the Fu Family.

In recent years, the Fu Family had been rivaling with the Cui Family, essentially in constant conflict, and had always been dismissive of those smaller families behind them.

A family that couldn't even produce a grandmaster-level expert couldn't possibly catch the Fu Family's attention.

This is why the Fu Family and the Cui Family rarely teamed up with other second-tier families despite their clashes. Part of the reason was those second-tier families' reluctance to get involved, and another part was that the Fu and Cui families looked down on them...

But this time, it was quite strange. The Cui Family sent Cui Zheming, and the Fu Family surprisingly also sent people over. This was extremely unusual.

"Could it be they're here because of me?"

Seeing Liu Xianhe looking like he had something to say but hesitated, Qin Fang also had a pretty good idea and couldn't help muttering to himself, unsure of what the Fu Family was planning.

Chapter 1603 - Sword Tournament

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No matter what, the Fu Family is a dominant presence in Korea. Although the Liu family, with Qin Fang's help, has taken out their longtime enemy, the J Family, in front of a true elite like the Fu Family, they're really nothing.

The identity of that old grandmaster isn't clear to Qin Fang, but one thing is for sure, that person doesn't have the surname Liu, but rather the surname Li...

However, the exact relationship between this old grandmaster and the Liu family is something Qin Fang is unaware of.

Qin Fang did have the mind to ask Liu Xianhe, but doing so would expose him since that grandmaster always seemed to reside in that cave, and the Liu family members seemed unaware of his existence.

Given what happened last night, there's no way Liu Xianhe knows nothing. After all, Liu Xianjun vanished inexplicably, and not giving him an explanation would be inappropriate.

But this is precisely why Qin Fang cannot bring it up, leaving the old grandmaster's identity a mystery.

However, this doesn't matter much. Qin Fang wasn't planning to stay long in Korea, and now that he's obtained the Thousand-Year Cold Jade, he could leave anytime.

Yet, at this moment, the Fu Family has sent people over, which piqued Qin Fang's curiosity.

"Let's go and meet them together!"

Apparently, Liu Xianhe also felt that the people from the Fu Family came for Qin Fang.

Despite both the Fu and Liu Families being in Korea, there's no interaction between them. The Liu family doesn't have that kind of connection, so the only possibility left is that they came for Qin Fang.

Although the J Family is only a second-rate family, Jin Zhengming was already a late-stage master level expert, but was easily stomped by Qin Fang. So, one could only imagine what Qin Fang's cultivation might be.

However, if Qin Fang were in his forties or fifties, or an even older man, these families wouldn't feel anything was out of place, seeing it as reasonable.

But Qin Fang is merely a young man around twenty, which makes people take notice...

Be aware, although the Fu Family is reputed as the number one martial family in Korea... (though the Cui Family obviously doesn't acknowledge this)... the Fu Family doesn't have such a young expert. The strongest they have merely reached master level, but compared to Qin Fang, who can crush late-stage master level experts, the difference is like that between a billionaire and a beggar!

Since the people from the Fu Family have arrived, Qin Fang naturally has to meet them. Whether they came for him or not, Qin Fang would not shy away.

Then, under Liu Xianhe's guidance, Qin Fang went to the Liu family's reception hall and met the people who came from the Fu Family.

The number of people from the Fu Family wasn't large, just five, led by one elder and one youth, with the other three merely tagalongs.

"Are you the Dragon Country guy who defeated Jin Zhengming?"

From the moment he saw Qin Fang, the leading young man boldly scrutinized him and asked in a very peculiar tone.

And as soon as this guy spoke, the innate invincible superiority complex of the Korean emerged automatically, causing a look of helplessness in Qin Fang's eyes as he really dreaded encountering such fools.

Before this meeting, Qin Fang thought that since the Fu Family is considered a millennium-old prestigious family in Korea, they would carry themselves with elegance, but didn't expect this guy to be overly self-confident and arrogant.

Not only did Qin Fang find these words unpleasant, but Liu Xianhe also frowned slightly upon hearing them. It was apparent that this young man had no good feelings toward Qin Fang.

"Who do you think you are?"

If you show me an inch of respect, I'll give you a mile in return. Qin Fang always believed in this, "If you don't know what courtesy means, better let someone who can speak decently come to talk..."

As he spoke, Qin Fang's gaze shifted from the young man to the elder at his side.

It's no wonder the Fu Family is the most renowned martial family in Korea; their foundation is, indeed, stronger than second-rate families like the Liu Family.

This overly self-confident young man has already achieved master-level cultivation. Though he just recently stepped into it, he's genuinely gifted.

But what really caught Qin Fang's attention was the elder by his side, a master-level peak expert just one step away from reaching grandmaster level.

Unfortunately, like Qin Fang's mentor Cai Pingyuan, this elder's potential is fully exploited. Master-level peak is their limit; a breakthrough is impossible.

As long as they don't surpass that threshold, their cultivation remains at master level. Therefore, Qin Fang may hold apprehension but won't have any fear.

Qin Fang didn't have the heart to entangle with this young man anymore, so he directly gave him a disdainful look, and his attention turned to the old man.

Regardless of whether this young man was indeed the highest-ranking among the five, Qin Fang personally felt that someone so brainless absolutely couldn't hold real authority. Everything still depended on the old man's intentions...

However, the old man seemed rather strange. Hearing Qin Fang's disrespectful words, he only slightly narrowed his eyes, surprisingly not showing any anger, and the smile on his face didn't change much.

"You... courting death!"

On the other hand, the young man and his three followers were instantly enraged, their eyes towards Qin Fang filled with sinister intent, as if they were about to rush up and beat him to death.

"Stop..."

However, just as the young man was about to make a move, the old man reacted, grabbing the young man's hand and softly saying.

"Let go! Today I absolutely must teach this Dragon Country person who dared to anger me a lesson..."

The young man seemed accustomed to being arrogant and domineering. The old man's obstruction didn't calm him down but instead fueled his anger, prompting him to shout angrily.

"Fu Junhao, have you forgotten the purpose of our visit here this time?"

The old man did not let go; instead, his tone became severe, exerting slightly more force, causing the young man's expression to change slightly.

"Hmph..."

Ultimately, the young man reluctantly dropped his hand but still glared at Qin Fang angrily, his eyes filled with clear malice.

Qin Fang felt somewhat baffled by the young man's wrath. If it was all due to that one sentence he uttered earlier, contemplating assault seemed like this Korean was truly out of his mind.

"Mr. Qin, please excuse our family member's excitable nature... I am Fu Chunlin, the Fu Family Steward. I come at the behest of the Family Head, inviting Mr. Qin to join the Fu Family for the Yi Sword Conference!"

After calming Fu Junhao's fury, Steward Fu explained the purpose of their visit and took out an intricately embossed invitation card, indicating it was indeed an invitation letter, with even the writing in standard Chinese script, showing the considerable attention to detail from the other side.

"Yi Sword Conference?"

Hearing this, Qin Fang couldn't help but be slightly surprised, looking at Steward Fu with curiosity, not understanding what the catch was.

"The Yi Sword Conference is a traditional event hosted by the Fu and Cui Families, held every three years. It has been continued for over a century..."

"Each Yi Sword Conference, we invite notable martial arts experts from the Martial World to both observe and judge the competition... some of whom are distinguished guests from your country!"

"Although Mr. Qin is young, your cultivation is remarkable, making you more than capable of judging the competition... Mr. Qin, please do us the honor!"

"Rest assured, every judge is an honored guest of both the Fu and Cui Families, and each receives a Yi Sword Stone..."

Steward Fu provided Qin Fang with a simple explanation of the Yi Sword Conference, explaining that the Fu and Cui Families had suffered too many losses from decades of rivalry and thus adopted the tournament form of the Yi Sword Conference to determine a winner.

As for what the victor might gain, only the two families probably knew for certain. Outsiders might only receive some benefits, never understanding the true prize.

This supposed prize is the Yi Sword Stone mentioned by Steward Fu.

"Yi Sword Stone?"

But since this Yi Sword Stone could be given as a gift to some martial arts dignitaries, it couldn't be anything trivial; otherwise, it wouldn't be offered by the Fu or Cui Families.

"It is said that Master of Yijian Fu Cailin practiced his swordsmanship here in the past, with sword marks left on every stone, hence the name Yi Sword Stone... Due to the sword marks of the Yijian Swordsmanship, if one's comprehension is sufficient, they could even master advanced Yijian Swordsmanship... Therefore, this Yi Sword Stone is highly revered in Korea's Martial World!"

Beside him, Liu Xianhe knew some details and whispered an explanation to Qin Fang, while casting envious and jealous glances at him.

The Fu and Cui Families' Yi Sword Conference was something that the Ryu Family had only vaguely heard about; they had no right to participate, not even to observe.

Yi Sword Stone was indeed a rare and precious treasure in Korea, although very few could actually obtain it. Families like Liu Xianhe's second-rate clan had only heard of it, never truly seeing what it looked like.

In the Martial World, regardless of country, swordsmen are the most numerous, and Master of Yijian Fu Cailin was one of the pinnacle experts in the Sword Dao. To comprehend even a bit from the Yi Sword Stone could significantly enhance one's strength, even if it might not guarantee invincibility, demonstrating the Yi Sword Stone's value...

Chapter 1604 - The Fu Family of Incheon!

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"Qin Fang, are you... going?"

Looking at the invitation, Liu Xianhe couldn't help but ask. His eyes were fixed on it, unable to pull away.

"Well..."

Qin Fang frowned slightly, glancing at Steward Fu opposite him, and then at Liu Xianhe beside him, looking as if he was hesitant.

"If the head of the Ryu Family is interested, he can also accompany Mr. Qin to witness the event..."

This Steward Fu was able to hold the position of Fu Family Steward not only because of his age and strength but also because of his adept handling of matters.

Noticing Qin Fang's gaze, Steward Fu immediately smiled and extended the invitation to Liu Xianhe as well.

Of course, his invitation to Liu Xianhe was just to witness the event. As for being a judge in the competition, obviously, he was not qualified for that...

Liu Xianhe himself knew this too; his strength hadn't even reached Grandmaster Level. Looking at Fu Junhao's cultivation beside him, Liu Xianhe himself was a bit embarrassed.

If even he could become a judge in such an important competition, the participants from the Fu and Cui families could probably knock him down!

"Really?"

Upon hearing Steward Fu's words, Liu Xianhe was taken aback, then delighted, looking hopefully at Qin Fang.

He knew the opportunity came because of Qin Fang. But he also knew that if Qin Fang decided not to go, his invitation could become void at any time.

Even though Steward Fu said it himself, any excuse could dismiss Liu Xianhe, and he wouldn't dare oppose the formidable Fu Family.

So the decision was still in Qin Fang's hands...

"Since the head of the Fu Family has so graciously invited, I should humbly accept..."

With Steward Fu's invitation, Qin Fang couldn't let Liu Xianhe down, so he immediately said with a smile, also accepting the invitation.

Regarding the so-called Yi Sword Tournament, it was merely a martial arts competition. Moreover, between the Fu and Cui families, the quality of the competition was rather low. Initially, Qin Fang wasn't very interested.

But the two families had offered the Yi Sword Stone as a prize, which piqued Qin Fang's interest slightly. But he also knew that the two families had contested for hundreds of years, not just because of ordinary grudges, probably involving some hidden secrets.

Connecting the so-called inheritances of the Fu and Cui families and this Yi Sword Stone... Qin Fang vaguely guessed the fierce rivalry over the centuries might be related to some secret, possibly involving the once brilliant Master of Yijian, Fu Cailin.

Exactly what it was, Qin Fang couldn't know. Maybe only a few in the Fu and Cui families were aware, while others could only speculate.

"Since that's the case, we'll return now..."

Hearing Qin Fang agree and accept the invitation, Steward Fu and his party completed their task for the trip and had no reason to stay. They immediately bid farewell.

Steward Fu was always amiable throughout, treating Qin Fang with utmost respect and friendliness, at least showing no hostility on the surface.

Of course, Qin Fang was different from ordinary people, vaguely sensing some past hostility from Steward Fu... But that was because Qin Fang had severely reprimanded Fu Junhao, after which everything returned to normal, showing no further issues.

However, Fu Junhao was different; his hostility was evident, even revealing a cold murderous intent in his eyes.

But because of Steward Fu, he didn't show it and upon leaving, he revealed a sinister smile towards Qin Fang, likely already planning to attack Qin Fang when he visits the Fu Family...

As for Fu Junhao, Qin Fang couldn't be bothered with him. Such a fool at the Master Level Early Stage thinking he's invincible—if he really dared to make a move, Qin Fang wouldn't mind using his blood to draw a big turtle on the Fu Family's entrance door...

"Qin Fang, when do you think we should set off?"

Since Qin Fang agreed to return and participate, especially as a judge, Liu Xianhe seized the opportunity, already eager with anticipation.

The invitation mentioned the Yi Sword Tournament was in three days, and considering Korea is small, domestic travel can be done in a day, so three days is actually very adequate.

"You make the arrangements, I'm easy..."

Qin Fang didn't care much; this Yijian Tournament was just an ordinary martial arts competition, likely on par with the Martial World tournament he participated in before.

Although the Fu Family and Cui Family are two of the most prominent families in Korea, the number of people who actually practice martial arts can't be that many, and the number of outstanding disciples is even fewer.

If you want to participate in such a competition, don't expect to get anywhere without a cultivation level above 5 Level.

However, those who can break through to the Grandmaster Level at a young age are extremely rare, almost every one of them is a genius, and their numbers are very limited.

Judging by Fu Junhao's arrogance earlier, there might be just one or two people like him who have reached the Grandmaster Level at such a young age in the entire Fu Family.

The Cui Family is about the same; so many...

Looking at it this way, the prestige of this competition can be imagined.

Qin Fang, being alone, didn't have much to prepare. Liu Xianhe was already eager and had booked the tickets early, flying with Qin Fang to Incheon, where the Fu Family is located.

Incheon is located in the central-western part of the Korean Peninsula, only a few dozen kilometers away from Seoul, the capital of Korea. It's the second largest trading city in Korea and the central city of Northeast Asia, known as a port since the 19th century.

The Fu Family practically owns Incheon, and almost all the locals know that the real power here is not the government, but the head of the Fu Family, who is the tyrant of this land.

Typically, government-appointed officials must first visit the Fu Family head, Fu Qinglin, otherwise, they find it hard to operate here.

This situation illustrates the domineering and strong influence of the Fu Family; at least in Incheon, they are the indisputable local emperors.

Compared to the Fu Family, Liu Xianhe's Ryu Family, despite having significant power on Jeju Island, doesn't reach such an influential level.

For this Yijian Tournament, the Fu Family obviously went all out, booking the best hotel in Incheon to accommodate guests and spectators like Qin Fang.

Of course, not everyone is treated the same.

For instance, Qin Fang was invited with an invitation and not only to observe but also to judge the competition, making him the highest tier of guest, hence staying in the hotel's best suite.

Liu Xianhe, however, got an invitation only because of Qin Fang, and could only be considered a secondary guest, staying in a standard room.

This differential treatment might have made Qin Fang uncomfortable, but Liu Xianhe didn't mind; at his level, staying in a luxury suite or a standard one made little difference.

Martial artists aren't that picky, and naturally aren't particularly fussy... not to mention that this hotel is already the best in all of Incheon.

Qin Fang didn't care either, but seeing the bustling hotel, he felt that some parts seemed odd.

Qin Fang learned from Liu Xianhe that the Fu Family head, Fu Qinglin, apparently had issues while training and went into seclusion, and it's uncertain if he can come out, which is why the Cui Family continuously united with second-tier families to try to overthrow the Fu Family.

Unfortunately, before they could achieve anything, the Cui Family abandoned their first allied family... the J Family.

The J Family's tragedy became the best example, leaving the remaining small families too afraid to associate with the Cui Family, not wanting to be the next to face destruction.

Yet now the Fu Family is hosting the Yijian Tournament so grandiosely, making it seem like Fu Qinglin is perfectly fine, which is perplexing.

Qin Fang wasn't very familiar with the disputes among Korean families and had only heard about them through hearsay, making the situation even more puzzling and he couldn't see through it.

However, Qin Fang wasn't one to dwell on things. Since he was already here, there was no need to worry about irrelevant matters and he could just focus on being a spectator.

The Yijian Tournament date was still some time off, but people were already arriving gradually.

Some were there to participate, like young disciples from the Fu Family and Cui Family...

Others were there to observe or even judge, like Qin Fang and others.

Due to the different departure points and times, and because the tournament wasn't happening immediately, people arrived gradually, not in any rush.

Qin Fang was idle, so Liu Xianhe took the initiative to be a guide, showing Qin Fang around Incheon.

Although Liu Xianhe isn't from Incheon, Korea is such a small place, and having traveled it extensively, he knows quite a bit about each city, although not in great detail.

It was Liu Xianhe who insisted on coming early, and finding nothing to do, he naturally couldn't let Qin Fang stay in the hotel all the time. He eagerly invited Qin Fang to tour Incheon, showcasing some aspects of Korean culture...

Unfortunately, Qin Fang always looked down on Korean culture and had little regard for this extremely arrogant and shameless nation.

Chapter 1605 - Speechless Conflict!

...

Korea is located on the Korean Peninsula, with multiple mountain ranges, and Incheon is no exception, surrounded by more than a dozen mountains of varying sizes. Although none are particularly high, they form a natural barrier around Incheon, leaving only the seaside open...

Qin Fang and his group stayed at a seaside hotel, one of the closest to the shore, offering a pleasant scenic location.

Compared to metropolises like Seoul and Busan, Incheon is much quieter, and the lifestyle of its people is relatively simpler. Especially with the Fu Family having been rooted here for hundreds of years, their relations with various government entities are quite good.

Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe went out for a stroll and soon it was dusk, the sky was getting darker, and the number of tourists gradually decreased.

However, when the two of them walked to a bustling market where just three or five small-time hoodlums could dominate the place, the outcome was obvious. Perhaps they gained some special insights.

Being skillful and daring, Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe wasted no time in getting to work. They sat down in the lively market to enjoy some Northeastern-style barbecue...

Korea's geography is close to the Northeast, and although the climate isn't as extreme, it definitely feels chilly.

However, Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe didn't mind, leisurely drinking and chatting.

Bang~~

Unfortunately, they might have gone out without checking their horoscope, as their food had just been served and they hadn't even touched it, when a woman suddenly rushed out and crashed into it, ruining everything.

But the woman was not in good shape either, clutching her chest in pain, her face clouded, looking as if things were not well.

"Help... help me!"

The woman lay weakly there, having already fainted before she collapsed completely.

"How can something like this happen even when we're just having a meal..."

Liu Xianhe was frustrated, not expecting to encounter such a thing while eating out, and with a slight sigh, he started walking towards Qin Fang.

This kind of luck was truly bizarre, Liu Xianhe hadn't even had a chance to say anything when the woman collapsed in front of him, leaving him visibly displeased.

"There they are. Over there..."

Almost simultaneously, voices could be heard, seemingly headed right towards Qin Fang and the others, presumably coming for this girl.

Recalling the girl's plea right before falling, Qin Fang glanced at the people approaching.

"Fu Family people..."

Seeing them, Liu Xianhe whispered to Qin Fang, as a reminder, since this was the Fu Family's territory and these were Fu Family people. If Ding Chen wanted to forcibly take her away, there would definitely be troubles ahead.

Although Qin Fang had a deep-rooted background, being overseas for the moment, those connections couldn't be directly employed, but it didn't affect Qin Fang's other behaviors.

Watching the Fu Family people getting closer, Qin Fang remained nonchalant, leisurely sitting there, casually helping the fainted girl aside, waiting to see what the Koreans could do.

"Put her down..."

The girl had fainted and Ding Chen couldn't just leave her lying on the ground, so Qin Fang didn't bother with these matters.

This girl was quite pretty, the natural kind, which was rare in Korea, known for cosmetic surgery.

Looking at the police on the other side and their own reactions, Qin Fang felt it might be tricky to handle the situation cleanly.

The opponents were armed with guns, something Qin Fang had noticed, and after a slight hesitation, he moved the woman behind him, allowing himself more freedom of movement.

At least if things got physical, Qin Fang could maneuver easily, using his back as a rudder for quick turns and accelerations.

Qin Fang accidentally forgot his own shortcomings.

"Put her down..."

As soon as the Fu Family disciples approached, they arrogantly ordered Qin Fang.

These individuals seemed not much older, likely around Fu Junhao's age, but their cultivation was noticeably weaker. The strongest among them was only at Level 5, having just recently stepped into it.

"Get lost..."

Although Qin Fang's tone wasn't overly strong, it carried an inherent majesty, uncommon among ordinary people.

He was enjoying his meal and drink until this woman crashed in, and now a big man came over, leaving Qin Fang annoyed.

But naturally, Qin Fang had his own ways to deal with this Choi person...

"Courting death..."

Seeing Qin Fang's dominating response, the Fu Family members were not only surprised but visibly confused, rarely encountering such defiance on their turf.

"Get lost... Do you wish for death? We are guests invited by your Fu Family..."

Even Liu Xianhe, known for being good-natured, was provoked and angrily rebuked them, evidently disregarding these Koreans.

He inadvertently revealed their guest status as well, which although not explicitly stated, was enough to draw attention from those around.

The Fu Family held significant influence in Incheon; locals avoided them whenever possible.

"Guests? With you? Look at yourself in the mirror..."

Unexpectedly, the Fu Family members didn't believe it in the slightest, showing no intention to retreat. Instead, they began surrounding Qin Fang, appearing intent on blocking any escape.

"It seems the Fu Family isn't very welcoming towards us..."

Qin Fang observed the oppressive Fu Family members with a mocking smile; their Family Head personally had invited him via a letter, yet such an incident occurred, leaving him speechless.

"Get lost..."

Without further ado, Qin Fang retrieved a gilt-edged invitation from his body, tossing it in front while issuing a dismissive command.

Chapter 1606 - The Eerie Stone

...

"You..."

The members of the Fu Family were initially skeptical. Just as they were preparing to act, they saw the gold-embossed invitation Qin Fang had thrown on the table, and their expressions almost entirely froze.

These people were merely family servants of the Fu Family, who typically relied on the family's reputation to act arrogantly outside, and it was rare for anyone to stop them.

Unexpectedly, today they encountered Qin Fang, a fearless young man, and just when they were about to teach him a harsh lesson, they suddenly saw that invitation.

The invitation didn't have anything special, it was merely proof of invitation for guests...

However, Qin Fang's invitation was different because it was sent by the Fu Family, and only a select few could receive such a formal invitation.

The moment these Fu Family members saw the invitation, their faces turned completely green.

If they remembered correctly, only about ten of such invitations were sent out, all to prominent figures, inviting them to be judges for this Sword Martial Arts Tournament.

Qin Fang seemed too young for them to think he was there to judge, but he wasn't alone; an elderly Liu Xianhe was beside him, which made the situation entirely different.

After glancing at the invitation, and then at Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe, and finally taking another look at the unconscious woman behind Qin Fang, the Fu Family members wavered in their decision.

"Gentlemen, I sincerely apologize, we are merely following orders... The woman is wanted by the Family Head; please don't make things difficult for us servants!"

Among the group, a young man who seemed to hold some status stepped forward, greeted Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe respectfully, and then spoke with great reluctance.

It seemed this woman was significant to the Fu Family, warranting such a large group for her capture, yet Qin Fang's scouting skill showed the woman's strength was not even Level 3, just slightly above an average person.

Such a woman being personally ordered to be captured by Fu Qinglin was something nobody would believe.

"Oh, really?"

Qin Fang sneered indifferently, "It's hard to believe you people. I intend to protect this woman today. If the Family Head truly wants to capture her, he should come here himself..."

Initially, Qin Fang didn't want to get involved in this matter, and even Liu Xianhe kept giving him signals, seemingly hoping Qin Fang wouldn't clash with the Fu Family members.

Tangling with these servants felt rather boring to Qin Fang, who thought he would just send them away. But when the woman behind him suddenly moved slightly, Qin Fang sensed something and decided to act accordingly.

"You..."

The young man noticed Liu Xianhe's gaze. In their view, Liu Xianhe was the primary guest invited by the Fu Family. With his signal, they thought Qin Fang would hand the woman over obediently.

Unexpectedly, Qin Fang didn't comply, refusing not only to hand her over but also making such remarks, instantly infuriating the Fu Family members.

Had it not been for the concern that Qin Fang might be an invited guest of the Fu family, they would likely have resorted to forcibly taking the woman already...

"What? Still not leaving...?"

Qin Fang didn't bother with their expressions, speaking harshly.

In Korea, the Fu Family might be impressive, but outside, they were nothing...

Family Head Fu Qinglin was a grandmaster-level expert, and Qin Fang, lacking the current strength, was indeed somewhat wary of him. However, if Fu Qinglin were determined to oppose Qin Fang, Qin Fang wouldn't care if he was a grandmaster-level expert!

Regardless of how formidable Fu Qinglin might be, he was still just a martial artist. Qin Fang didn't believe every grandmaster-level expert was as skilled as the Bloody-handed Demon Tu San in both martial arts and gunmanship.

"Let's go..."

The Fu Family members glared fiercely at Qin Fang, resentment pulsed fiercely within their eyes, ready to erupt at any moment. Yet, after glancing at the gold-embossed invitation still lying on the table, they could only shake their heads, mutter lowly, and immediately turn away.

However, even as they left, many turned back to glare at Qin Fang, attempting to imprint Qin Fang's face into their minds, plotting to exact revenge when the time came.

"Qin Fang... sigh!"

Liu Xianhe watched the departing Fu Family members and glanced at the surrounding spectators, who were terrified, exuding a look of helplessness.

As a Korean and a head of a second-rate family, Liu Xianhe naturally understood what a vast family the Fu Family was. Other families, apart from the Cui Family, didn't even register in his eyes compared to the Fu Family.

Even the head of the fabulously wealthy and influential Li Family of Seven Stars, almost regarded as the uncrowned king in Korea, was respectfully cautious before Fu Qinglin.

As for the specific reasons, Qin Fang may not be very clear, but Liu Xianhe vaguely knows something. It's just that such matters are hard to discern unless you are involved yourself.

The Fu Family is extremely powerful, only the Cui Family can rival them, but after so many years, the Cui Family has never had any apparent advantage, and has always been slightly weaker than the Fu Family.

Otherwise, the Cui Family wouldn't have had to team up with second-rate families to fight against the Fu Family; it's because the Cui Family is slightly weaker...

This has made the Fu Family run rampant in Korea, and Incheon, as the Fu Family's base, shows their strong and domineering presence without reservation.

In Liu Xianhe's opinion, Qin Fang, a foreigner, openly confronting the Fu Family on their turf is really not a wise move.

"Miss, the crisis has been resolved, you can leave now..."

But Qin Fang seemed indifferent, ignoring Liu Xianhe's concern, and turned his back on the passed-out beauty, saying calmly.

"Uh..."

Liu Xianhe was momentarily puzzled, looking at the woman on Qin Fang's back with some surprise. The situation just now had indeed knocked her out, and she seemed miserable. Had she woken up so soon?

The woman on Qin Fang's back remained still, but after a moment, she seemed to realize she wasn't being considerate, and quietly climbed up, showing a slightly embarrassed look on her pale, delicate face.

"Thank you..."

After hesitating for a moment, the beauty still apologized softly to Qin Fang.

"No need to thank me. You can take away the thing in my pocket... I don't want to save someone and then get tricked..."

Qin Fang didn't even turn his head, nor did he look at the beauty, but said in an extremely calm tone, as if joking, which made the woman's face change instantly.

"How do you...how did you know?"

The woman was shocked, her face turning pale, and her gaze at Qin Fang showed some fear...

Earlier, when she acted, she was very subtle and gentle, even an average grandmaster-level expert might not notice.

Moreover, the item was placed into a small pocket of Qin Fang's, which he didn't usually use, so ordinary people wouldn't even detect it. But Qin Fang revealed it with a single sentence; how could it not terrify her?

"You don't need to ask how I know. This item is yours, so take it back..."

Qin Fang smiled gently, took out the item from the pocket, and returned it to the mysterious woman.

The woman had placed a stone in Qin Fang's pocket, which was actually a gemstone, a blood-red gemstone, looking incredibly translucent and seemingly valuable.

But this was not something Qin Fang cared about. A gemstone was merely expensive, but held no significance for Qin Fang, merely increasing his bank account balance.

But this stone couldn't stay with Qin Fang, he even had to keep a respectful distance from it...

"Miss, I advise you to throw this thing away; otherwise, you'll regret it one day..."

While tossing the blood-red stone back to the woman, Qin Fang kindly reminded her.

Whether the woman knew what this stone was, Qin Fang was not very clear, but Qin Fang himself had already found out.

This blood-red stone isn't actually a gemstone but a crystallization of blood, specifically formed after cultivating extremely sinister heretic dao divine skills.

It bears some resemblance to the legendary Demonic Emperor's Relic, but this crystallization has none of the aura of the relic, instead, it exudes wicked qi.

The woman placing this item into Qin Fang's pocket was done very discreetly. If Qin Fang were an ordinary person, he might not notice anything unusual about the stone.

But Qin Fang himself is a master-level peak expert, with extremely strong senses for various qi; he discovered it almost immediately when the stone fell into his pocket, which is why he changed plans and dispatched the men from the Fu Family...

"Who exactly are you?"

The woman became very vigilant. Although Qin Fang saved her, his presence now seemed even more dangerous than those from the Fu Family.

Especially regarding the stone; very few people know its secret. But from Qin Fang's expression, he seems to know quite a bit, which made her face change.

At the same time, the woman felt very strange inside...

Because Qin Fang, knowing the special nature of this stone, wasn't tempted at all; he immediately returned it to her, even acting as if he wanted the stone to be as far away from him as possible...

Chapter 1607 - Blood Demon Essence Stone!

...

"You better leave quickly... Otherwise, the people from the Fu Family might come back!"

Qin Fang had no intention of saying much about his identity; it was a matter of chance that he saved this woman, but now he realized that it might not have been a wise decision.

This stone is exceptionally sinister, even Qin Fang could feel its evil. Keeping it close for a long time would definitely not be a good thing.

For ordinary people, they might not sense its sinister nature and would merely see it as a treasure like a ruby, maybe even make it into a pendant to wear...

In fact, there were some faint traces around this stone, suggesting it had been handled in such a manner before.

However, even Qin Fang kept his distance from this sinister stone, so how could ordinary people resist such an evil object? Wearing this stone might turn someone into a crazy person in a few months... or even cause some extremely irrational behavior.

Although this woman was slightly stronger than ordinary people, her resistance to this strange stone wasn't much better.

Qin Fang had already said enough; whether to believe it or not was up to the woman to decide. Qin Fang was no Saint, and there was no need to force her to believe.

"You..."

The woman seemed to want to say something, but hearing Qin Fang's words made her hesitate, appearing somewhat worried.

After a moment of hesitation, the woman glanced at Qin Fang, then said thank you, and quickly left with the strange stone.

"Qin Fang, is there something wrong with that stone?"

After the woman left, Liu Xianhe asked somewhat curiously.

What Qin Fang had said earlier was too strange; it wasn't until Qin Fang returned the strange stone to that woman did Liu react.

But he couldn't see anything unusual about the stone; it seemed just like a regular ruby, how could it possibly be dangerous?

He asked because Qin Fang's words suggested there was a significant problem with the stone.

"If I'm not mistaken, that stone should be the legendary Blood Demon Essence Stone..."

Recalling the strange stone, Qin Fang responded simply, although his Scouting Skill had already given him the answer.

"Blood Demon Essence Stone? What is that..."

However, Qin Fang clearly overestimated Liu Xianhe's common knowledge in this area, or Korea was simply at a very low level in this regard, never having learned about it.

"That's a very special kind of stone produced by the Zhongtu Demon Sect. I won't go into specifics... It's an extremely evil thing, and whoever gets involved with it has nothing to gain!"

Qin Fang provided a brief explanation about the stone's origins without intending to delve deeper, as it was better for Liu Xianhe not to know at this level.

The Blood Demon Essence Stone is considered a sacred object in the Demon Sect, left by the death of an advanced master of the demonic path, condensing a lifetime's essence of the demonic arts, much like the relic in the Buddhist Sect.

However, while the Buddhist relic is left by a high monk with advanced prowess upon nirvana, representing an air of righteousness, the Blood Demon Essence Stone is its opposite.

The Blood Demon Essence Stone, a sacred object of the Demon Sect, is something sought after by many demonic path experts, just as monks in the Buddhist Sect hope to acquire the relics of high monks.

While a relic can be worshipped, the Blood Demon Essence Stone, when obtained by a demonic expert, has only one use... cultivation.

The Blood Demon Essence Stone is like a tonic for demonic path experts, an extremely potent one at that. Using it for cultivation can quickly break through bottlenecks and even inherit most of the predecessor's power, propelling one to the top tier of experts...

After all, the expert who can produce a Blood Demon Essence Stone is undoubtedly a top existence in the Demon Sect, requiring at least a Great Grandmaster level of skill.

However, for those practicing Righteous Path cultivation techniques, the Blood Demon Essence Stone is no good at all, even more terrifying than poison.

This kind of Blood Demon Essence Stone can release a powerful demonic influence, which unconsciously affects a person's mind, gradually turning them mad, bloodthirsty, and violent... ultimately falling into demonhood!

That's why when Qin Fang discovered this Blood Demon Essence Stone, he immediately discarded it. Despite his special physique, he didn't want to take that risk.

Moreover, the Blood Demon Essence Stone had no use for Qin Fang. Although absorbing its demonic influence might have allowed him to quickly advance to Grandmaster level or even Great Grandmaster level, it could easily lead to a drastic change in his nature, potentially causing him to fall into demonhood.

Particularly, the sudden increase in power is the easiest time for such things to happen. Under the sway of demonic influence, even many predecessors with incredibly strong wills have fallen into the demonic path. Qin Fang doesn't believe he can necessarily resist.

For the sake of safety, and for his own safety, Qin Fang was not willing to keep this strange Blood Demon Essence Stone.

Chapter 1608 - Blood Demon Essence Stone!

However, this Blood Demon Essence Stone falling into this woman's hands, I'm afraid she can't expect to keep it for long; the Fu Family is pursuing her, likely because of this stone.

But these matters don't have much to do with Qin Fang now; he has already sent the woman away and can peacefully wait here for the Yi Jian tournament to commence.

...

Somewhere in the Fu Family.

In a very empty and somewhat dim room, a shadow can be vaguely seen sitting cross-legged on the bed, seemingly practicing martial arts.

At the doorway, a young man was kneeling timidly, reporting some situations to the man on the bed. If Qin Fang were here, he would recognize this young man as the Fu Family servant who had clashed with him earlier.

"What? That woman was rescued?"

The person on the bed heard this news from his subordinate, and his tone became sinister.

A pair of fierce eyes, like a specter, opened in the darkness, immediately shooting out an eerie glint, scaring the subordinate into a trembling explanation.

"Young master, that person had an invitation from our Fu Family; I... I didn't dare to offend him!"

The subordinate truthfully explained about Qin Fang holding the invitation, knowing it was his only chance to survive.

"Holding an invitation?"

Indeed, upon hearing this, the young master's brows slightly furrowed, seemingly surprised, "Do you know who he is?"

Each Yi Jian tournament, the Fu and Cui Families jointly invite some veteran figures from the Martial World as judges, well-known individuals. Identifying them shouldn't be too difficult.

"His identity hasn't been found yet, but he looks young; we should be able to find out soon..."

The subordinate spoke carefully, as he was merely a servant with limited authority, naturally slowing the investigation down.

"Very young..."

The young master picked up on something unusual from the brief words of the subordinate, his brow furrowing slightly as if recalling someone.

"Could his surname be Qin?"

The young master immediately asked but then remembered that his subordinate knew nothing, so he fetched a photo from the side and swiftly tossed it before him, saying, "Look, is it him..."

"It's him! Young master, it's him..."

The confused subordinate saw the photo presented before him—it was Qin Fang, and he promptly pointed to Qin Fang's picture.

"It really is him..."

The young master seemed relatively calm, merely muttering softly.

After the Jin Zhengming incident, Qin Fang became well-known in Korea. In this small country, news travels fast between various factions, many aware of Qin Fang—a young man capable of flattening Master Level Late Stage Jin Zhengming.

The older generation of masters were both curious and wary of Qin Fang, while the younger ones were eager, especially those confident in their abilities, feeling the rumors exaggerated and pondering an opportunity to defeat Qin Fang to prove their own strength.

Jin Zhengming was decisively defeated, and no one cared for his demise, destined to become Qin Fang's stepping stone in Korea.

If Qin Fang could defeat Jin Zhengming, then defeating Qin Fang would prove superiority over Qin Fang.

So now, many young masters in Korea are eager to confront Qin Fang, hoping to establish supreme fame.

For instance, Fu Junhao of the Fu Family whom Qin Fang met before... There are quite a few!

"Did the item fall into this person's hands?"

The young master was silent for a while before asking softly, his tone carrying a hint of gloom and heaviness.

"Not really..."

The subordinate shook his head, saying, "I had people monitoring there; it seemed the woman intended to give the item to that person, but later we saw the person return the item to the woman... After being rescued by him, the woman soon left on her own..."

Clearly, Fu Family members were everywhere in Incheon, with Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe being watched while dining outside; such secrets were hard to keep.

Qin Fang indeed returned the Blood Demon Essence Stone to the woman...

Yet, Qin Fang had no idea the young master of the Fu Family was exceedingly interested in this stone, desperate to acquire it.

Though even if Qin Fang knew, he wouldn't find it surprising. Those in martial arts often desire to possess the Blood Demon Essence Stone, a prime tool for rapid advancement, despite severe side effects, believing they can control them...

"That woman left on her own?"

The Fu Family young master frowned upon hearing this, "Immediately take people to find her, even if it means overturning Incheon. You must find that woman... That item must be recovered!"

It's evident that the Fu Family young master held the Blood Demon Essence Stone in high regard, determined to obtain it, ordering his subordinate at once.

"Understood..."

Though frustrated, the subordinate still agreed obediently, because he was a servant and the young master was the master, thus he went ahead to arrange and prepare.

"The one named Qin has arrived in Incheon... Looks like I need to give him something to do!"

Once the subordinate left, the Fu Family young master murmured alone in the room, seemingly harboring ill intentions towards Qin Fang.

In Korea, many harbor ill intentions towards Qin Fang, especially the young masters viewing him as an ideal stepping stone for their rise, eager to step on Qin Fang.

...

While others are preoccupied with Qin Fang, Qin himself was quite leisurely, accompanied by Liu Xianhe, strolling around Incheon.

Though Korea is a tiny country, it's managed decently, especially cities dominated by large families, flourishing.

These families are indeed local tyrants, but do not want their domain full of hungry poor stirring trouble; otherwise, their reign would be extremely difficult.

Thus, these families, while being arrogant tyrants, are also forced to seek development paths for the people in their domain.

Incheon is a major port and a great tourist city, particularly during the Yi Jian tournament period, attracting masters from everywhere, making the city lively.

Qin Fang didn't care for this. He didn't mingle with those attending the tournament nor show up at the Fu Family—he remained outside, quite relaxed and comfortable.

Liu Xianhe, on the other hand, was eager to explore this, as those invited to the tournament weren't typical predecessors but renowned figures, rare to meet ordinarily.

Now, with opportunity presenting itself, he felt tempted.

Meeting these masters for advice or guidance, Liu Xianhe might gain a lot and perhaps find a breakthrough opportunity.

Qin Fang observed this quietly but said nothing, letting Liu Xianhe handle it himself, willing to help when needed...

Chapter 1609 - A Forceful Move!

...

Qin Fang thought he might encounter some troubles these two days, such as challenges from the Fu Family, the Cui Family, or other young masters from various families.

His reputation in Korea is still quite prominent, and there are countless young masters eager to step on him to gain prominence.

Although many people know that Jin Zhengming fell at the hands of Qin Fang, few actually believe that Qin Fang defeated Jin Zhengming through sheer strength.

Precisely because of this, many young masters wanted to step over Qin Fang, but after waiting and waiting, the Epee Sword Conference commenced, yet those masters didn't show up, which left him slightly disappointed.

With two days of peaceful rest, Qin Fang's little life was quite comfortable; apart from that one incident, he hadn't encountered much trouble.

Liu Xianhe was always by Qin Fang's side. Although not a beauty and rather an old geezer, this geezer could help Qin Fang fend off a lot of unnecessary trouble, so Qin Fang didn't find him annoying.

It wasn't until the Epee Sword Conference officially began that Qin Fang led Liu Xianhe over... Without Qin Fang's guidance, Liu Xianhe wasn't qualified to enter the venue of the Epee Sword Conference.

The conference was held on a large mountain in Incheon. Interestingly, the mountain was called Bagong Mountain, which Qin Fang vaguely heard of.

In Dragon Country, there's a mountain with the same name that's quite famous, because it's where King of Huainan, Liu An, invented tofu.

However, Korea's Bagong Mountain is clearly not the one in Dragon Country. It's said to be where Master of Yijian, Fu Cailin, spent his later years in seclusion, and the Epee Sword Conference is almost always held here.

This mountain is the only peak in Incheon that isn't open to the public. Starting from the foot of the mountain, walls are built to enclose the not-so-large mountain.

Moreover, this mountain is jointly closed off by the Fu Family and the Cui Family and managed together. Outsiders are prohibited unless granted permission.

There's a rumor that the mountain may hide the inheritance or treasures of Master of Yijian, Fu Cailin, but since the Fu Family and Cui Family are Korea's two strongest families, even a bunch of masters find it challenging to explore...

These matters have little to do with Qin Fang. He is an invited distinguished guest of the Fu Family and among the guests attending the Epee Sword Conference, he is considered a very prestigious figure.

Liu Xianhe, a somewhat renowned family head from Korea, was standing respectfully behind Qin Fang, looking very much like a follower or bodyguard.

However, the level of this follower seemed a bit high, and some people from small families who came to see the spectacle were very scared upon seeing Liu Xianhe's actions and looked at Qin Fang with apprehension.

Although they have never truly seen Qin Fang's face, merely observing Liu Xianhe's behavior allows them to guess Qin Fang's identity.

As they reached the foot of the mountain, they saw a very tall arch standing there, and below the arch was a closed gate, where disciples in two different color uniforms were inspecting and allowing passage.

The Fu Family members wore all blue uniforms, while the Cui Family donned all black uniforms. The two groups stood clearly separated on either side of the gate, blocking, welcoming, and letting in guests attending the ceremony.

When Qin Fang led Liu Xianhe, swaggering over here, looking at the people waiting orderly on both sides for passage, he walked straight towards the main gate.

As the judge of the Epee Sword Conference, he enjoys the highest privilege, meaning even to enter the mountain he could walk directly through the main gate, instead of the small side door, which requires checks for passage.

"Stop!"

The main gate was guarded by the highest-ranked disciples of the Fu Family and the Cui Family. Seeing Qin Fang swaggering over, they immediately shouted.

Two figures blocked Qin Fang's path from the left and right, faces bearing cold expressions, seemingly impartial and unflinching.

"Please, both of you, queue up for the side door..."

However, these two weren't intending to fight with Qin Fang; they each gestured toward their family's side door.

Very clearly, these two perceived Qin Fang's age as too young, hardly looking like an esteemed judge... Liu Xianhe might somewhat fit the part, but at this moment, Liu Xianhe looked more like a follower, vastly differing from the aura of a respected master in their minds, hence they stopped Qin Fang from entering.

Bang~~

Qin Fang couldn't even be bothered with them, directly pulling out an invitation from his body, and just tossed it over, watching that invitation fly towards them like an arrow released from a bowstring.

The speed was quite fast, and although the angle seemed straightforward, the two disciples suddenly turned pale, even showing a hint of horror, because they found that no matter how they dodged, the invitation seemed like a sharp blade flying towards their necks... seemingly unavoidable.

Yet right when they were worried they might lose their lives, the invitation suddenly changed trajectory, quickly dropping down, gently landing in the hand of a Fu Family disciple.

Chapter 1610 - A Forceful Move!

"This is..."

Such a scene immediately left the two disciples dumbfounded, while the surrounding spectators, who didn't face such dangerous helplessness, simply felt that Qin Fang's way of discarding the invitation was far too reckless and impolite.

The disciple from the Fu Family looked at the invitation in his hand. It was indeed the invitation sent out by the Fu Family this time. Up to now, he had only seen five or six of them, while the rest had yet to arrive.

Flipping open the invitation revealed its contents, and upon seeing it, he was shocked, his face turning a bit pale.

"Please come in..."

Without the slightest hesitation, he immediately opened the door to let Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe in, while others could only look on enviously, jealously, and resentfully at Qin and Liu Xianhe.

Qin Fang remained quite calm, walking slowly up the mountain. With such an invitation in hand, neither the Fu Family nor the Cui Family dared to underestimate him.

The Fu Family disciple personally opened the door for Qin Fang, letting him pass, and respectfully returned the invitation to Qin Fang, watching Qin Fang and Liu Xianhe ascend slowly.

"What's wrong with you?"

The Cui Family disciple couldn't help but inquire, seeing the dumbfounded expression of the Fu Family disciple. He was similarly shocked by Qin Fang, but not to the extent of being like this.

Qin Fang had already walked quite a distance, even though a slight offense was committed, the Cui Family disciple believed that his strong Cui Family shouldn't fear a mere Level 3 or 4 "ordinary person".

"He... He... He is..."

The Fu Family disciple stammered, seemingly yet to fully calm his emotions, still quite excited.

"Who is he? He sure scared you..."

The Cui Family disciple looked at his counterpart strangely, not quite understanding why they reacted this way.

"He's... that Qin from Dragon Country!"

After a good while, the Fu Family disciple slightly steadied his emotions and immediately informed his companion.

"Ah? So it's him..."

The Cui Family disciple froze, then his face turned completely green, feeling lucky he hadn't done anything too excessive, or he would be in big trouble now.

Though Qin Fang wasn't widely known in Korea, he was definitely very famous, even infamous might be a way to describe it.

As the saying goes, people fear fame like pigs fear being fattened. Qin Fang was now burdened by his fame, possessing great strength inland and a formidable armed force. If there's nothing important happening lately, I suggest you organize a regular training, it's easier than shouting and killing.

Many young disciples felt they could defeat Qin Fang, step on him to rise... even the two disciples earlier were no exceptions.

The main reason they were here to guard the gate was not only to oversee the other workers but also to defend against any sudden incidents.

Yet, when they truly met Qin Fang's gaze, a clear bashfulness and timidity were completely exposed, leaving them with no courage to confront him in battle.

"Oh well, let's just honestly watch the gate... Those battles up there are not for us to participate in!"

Watching Qin Fang fading into the distance, the two gatekeepers could only mutter a sentence to themselves, regretting their earlier unnecessary words.

"Do you think... Qin is here to cause trouble, or to simply observe the position?"

After a short break, the Cui Family disciple couldn't help but murmur, even losing the fear of Qin Fang.

"He's here as a judge..."

Fatty Li chuckled bitterly but still often got those parking slots blocked, causing others to have nowhere to park...

"As a judge?"

Upon hearing this announcement, the members from the Cui Family changed faces dramatically, and some couldn't help but sigh lightly.

Qin Fang was younger than many of them, and compared to him, their white appearance wasn't so bad, the interior hadn't been fully worked on, just a slight mess.

Ordering such an expensive dish, if it's based on usual needs for fun, as soon as he gets a bit unhappy, he pursed his lips and immediately got excited again.

"Let's not talk about it, such matters are not for you and me to meddle in, otherwise if something happens, we'll end up being the scapegoats..."

Watching Qin Fang heading up the mountain, the Fu Family disciple was equally anxious. Fortunately, Qin Fang seemed not to mind engaging them further, and busying himself, he couldn't resist going out looking for trouble.

Qin Fang ascended the mountain without anyone daring to block his path. After all, he was one of the judges present, his status quite prominent, even the Cui Family disciple couldn't help but shrink his neck.

Others might not notice anything unusual, but this person's wallet, phone, and whatnot, were deeply noticing the betrayal of Su Qiye.

If by chance, Qin Fang could not dare to be so fat. Especially when someone like Sister Feng, such a herbal figure, couldn't muster the deduction.

"Really impressive..."

"Without even needing documents, just an invitation and he's part of the company..."

Thinking of this, the communication between the Fu Family and the Li Family had already fully reached its cute stage, except this kind of cuteness also needed to hatch a price, such as...

"Damn, must be an offspring of some great personage, representing the elder of the family... This is... Truly disrespectful..."

Initially indicating a considerable disdain for their precedential actions, Qin Fang seemed intent on confronting these two fully, but upon study reconsidered abandoning.

These two hadn't made any mistakes, they genuinely helped Qin Fang save a lot, yet they also stirred quite a bit of trouble.

Now the little ghost seems to have guessed the organs of two words are unseen.

"He is here as a judge..."

Who exactly is Qin Fang? What kind of person?

This seems like a tough question, now someone at the academy appears very renowned, but now suddenly turning to mental instability, dropping into such a situation, it's quite frightening.

"Judge?"

Upon hearing the sudden revelation from the gatekeeping disciple, those present were all dumbfounded. Qin Fang had strong abilities, yet not much fear from the disciples.

But upon learning Qin Fang wasn't simply observing the event but personally reviewing every contestant's information, for better understanding those in the mountain, ambushed en route to Anlang, only these last two legs protected his life.

Ordinary observation versus true spectators, the ratio is pretty disparate, said to differ by hundreds of times, although most profits merely decreased a bit, but this status wasn't straightforward.

Spectators were categorized, some couldn't even enter the door, while others lined to enter, possessing observing qualifications but not allowed to dictate.

Lastly, those admitted as judges held significantly distinctive roles, determining who ultimately wins; the judges' decisions accounted for a substantial part.

It could even say, who could ultimately laugh last; while strength contributes, acceptance from various judges ensures continuation...

And precisely for this reason, these assessors' status soared, indifferent to others' opinions, living comfortably...