

Genius 1811

Chapter 1811 - The Master Manipulator!

...

This building is situated at a relatively high position deep within the Musashi School, and those living here are certainly prominent figures.

Otherwise, this father and son wouldn't be openly discussing whether to make a move against Miyamoto Musashi, the ruler of the Musashi School.

But the sudden emergence of this sentence caused both of them to sharply tremble, their faces changing dramatically, a trace of panic flashing in their eyes!

"Who's there?"

However, this father and son are indeed no ordinary people; otherwise, they wouldn't have managed to endure in such great hatred all this time.

After a brief panic, they calmed down, and the elder gazed outside the window with a dark look... the voice came from that direction.

Whoosh~~

Just as the elder's voice fell, a figure swiftly passed through the window, entering the room.

The father and son did not move, but their tense bodies clearly showed their vigilance towards this unexpected "guest," only refraining from taking immediate action.

Although they didn't know who this man was, judging from what he said earlier, it seemed he was not on the same side as Miyamoto Musashi and might even be an enemy...

Miyamoto Musashi, with his power reaching such heights, had been ruling the Musashi School for years and was also quite aggressive and domineering externally, having numerous enemies, which was not surprising... even this father and son had once eliminated enemies for Miyamoto Musashi!

"Who are you?"

The elder looked somewhat puzzled at the man in front of him, who seemed just slightly younger than him, with a slightly weaker aura, but at Master Level Peak, the same level as his son.

Perhaps because of age, the elder did not recognize this man before him...

"Father, he seems to be... Watanabe from the Black Dragon Society!"

However, his son showed considerable surprise and whispered a reminder.

This suddenly appeared man was naturally Watanabe... or rather, Qin Fang using Watanabe's face. He happened to discover the conversation between this father and son, which is why he showed up.

"Black Dragon Society?"

When the elder heard his son's introduction, his previously cautious demeanor relaxed a bit, but his attitude towards Qin Fang showed obvious neglect and contempt.

This was within Qin Fang's expectations; while the Black Dragon Society might be powerful to regular people, to these Ninja Sects, it was merely a slightly stronger force, far from being able to contend with the Musashi School.

The Black Dragon Society also had some experts, but even a Master Level Peak like Watanabe was only at the high elder level, while Musashi School had about eight such experts, if not more.

Moreover, the experts of Musashi School were all skilled assassins; just these seven or eight experts would be enough to easily wipe out most of the Black Dragon Society's upper echelon.

The elder before him, though suppressed miserably by Miyamoto Musashi, even losing his woman to him, still had to work for him without daring to seek revenge...

This was not because he was timid or cowardly, but because his strength was insufficient... although insufficient is relative, Qin Fang could tell this old man's strength surpassed that of Hattori Sanzo in his prime, as he had reached Grandmaster Mid-Stage!

Grandmaster Mid-Stage, if Qin Fang guessed correctly, this person should be...

"Kawada Musashi, Grandmaster Mid-Stage Expert, Elder of the Musashi School, ranked just below Miyamoto Musashi, once hailed as Miyamoto Musashi's top lackey!"

Qin Fang didn't mind the elder's disdain and calmly spoke out the identity of the other party, along with what the outside world had to say about him all these years!

"Kanda Masao, Master-level Peak Expert, Elder of the Musashi School, Kawada Musashi's second son, once fought against Iga School's young master Hattori Ryota for a hundred moves undefeated, hailed as the Musashi School's top talent..."

Qin Fang didn't ignore this elder or the middle-aged man either; the identity of both father and son was quite distinguished, at least within the Musashi School.

"What a shame, what a shame..."

After saying all this, Qin Fang disdainfully sneered as a taunt.

The identities, status, and strength of these two were extremely formidable, but Qin Fang hadn't expected such a secret behind them.

It's often said that the Japanese are perverted, especially regarding women, reaching the extreme; it seems even these Ninja Sects could not escape this cliché.

Miyamoto Musashi sure has a heavy taste, to actually play with his top lackey's wife and even play her to death... And yet, this lackey has continued to work for him tirelessly for over a decade...

"Young man, sometimes talking too much can bring disaster upon yourself..."

Qin Fang was quite pleased with what he had said, but the faces of the father and son across from him had turned extremely ugly. After all, such family scandals were not something to be publicized, and yet Qin Fang was blatantly slapping them in the face. How could they possibly be happy about that?

At least Kawada Musashi couldn't hold back anymore. He sneered with a sinister tone, while his aura gradually ascended. When a Grandmaster Mid-Stage Expert gets angry, it's undoubtedly a terrifying thing.

"A Black-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect?"

However, Qin Fang completely ignored them and casually waved a token-like object in his hand. The expressions on the father and son instantly froze.

Kawada Musashi was slightly better off, his gaze merely turning extremely sinister, but Kanda Masao couldn't help but cry out in surprise.

The Dao Shen Sect is the most powerful force in Japan, virtually ruling the entire country, including all major Ninja Sects under its control.

Therefore, a priest of the Dao Shen Sect holds great authority in Japan... Even a lowly Black-robed Priest isn't someone an average expert dares to offend!

The father and son duo are truly unfortunate; they are quite formidable, but Qin Fang was surprised to find out that neither of them held any position within the Dao Shen Sect.

Even someone like Kawada Musashi, who is a Grandmaster-level Expert, could qualify as a White-robed Priest, yet he isn't even a Black-robed Priest...

If Kawada Musashi doesn't qualify, then there's no need to mention Kanda Masao.

"Young man, although you're a Black-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, you must know that Lord Miyamoto Musashi, the leader of the Musashi School, is a Red-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect. Your previous words were an act of rebellion and warrant severe punishment..."

Kawada Musashi's face looked grim, but his emotions didn't seem to fluctuate much. Having harbored such great hatred for many years, how could he possibly lose his temper over something so trivial from Qin Fang?

Not losing his temper doesn't mean Kawada Musashi doesn't make a move. At least this statement of his hits Qin Fang's weak spot...

Japan is a nation that heavily values personal rank, especially within the Dao Shen Sect, where each layer of hierarchy is highly rigid.

Qin Fang is now leveraging the identity of Watanabe, a Black-robed Priest, yet dares to challenge Miyamoto Musashi, a Red-robed Priest second only to the Great Priest in the Dao Shen Sect. This indeed breaks too many taboos.

If Kawada Musashi tells Miyamoto Musashi about this, then "Watanabe" is bound to face severe punishment... and such execution methods are certainly not as simple as seppuku.

"You can go and tell Miyamoto Musashi, I don't mind at all..."

Qin Fang shrugged with a calm smile, completely unafraid or intimidated, and appeared rather carefree, as if he was eager for the father and son to snitch on him.

"Miyamoto Musashi's identity as a Red-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, yet you two can't even reach the lowest level of Black-robed Priest, what does this illustrate... Haha, you two really do know how to kiss Miyamoto Musashi's ass!"

However, Qin Fang immediately changed his tone, mocking the father and son with a smile. This time, his words hit even harder!

"Baka!"

Indeed, upon hearing this, Kawada Musashi didn't seem too affected; this old guy has been a fiend for many years, how could he get easily angered?

But his son, Kanda Masao, clearly lacked such calmness. He exploded in anger, immediately taking on a stance as if he was about to attack Qin Fang.

But with his father sitting right there, he didn't dare to act without permission, which was why he didn't make a move directly... Even so, he was glaring at Qin Fang with rage, his eyes almost popping out!

Qin Fang completely disregarded such low-level eye intimidation, not taking it seriously at all. If even this minor squabble could make him lose composure, then his mental fortitude would be too weak.

"Who exactly are you?"

Ultimately, Kanda Masao didn't make a move, being stopped by his father Kawada Musashi, and Kawada Musashi deeply stared at Qin Fang for a long while, before asking in a slightly chilly tone.

"Who am I? Is it really that important?"

Qin Fang seemed unconcerned. Kawada Musashi had already disregarded his identity as a Black-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, which wasn't an issue, but at least Qin Fang had now made Kawada Musashi take notice of him, otherwise, the old geezer would have acted against Qin Fang long ago.

So, Qin Fang decided to make himself even more mysterious, this kind of smoke and mirrors, not only hides his secrets but also leads Kawada Musashi into confusion!

"Are you from the Yagyu family, or the Ando family..."

Qin Fang's tactic seemed to have some effect, the more he concealed, the more Kawada Musashi would likely overthink, and after a simple ponder, he frowned and inquired.

Regrettably, Qin Fang said nothing in response, merely smiling faintly and looking at the father and son without any intention of revealing his identity...

Chapter 1812 - Persuasion!

...

Even though Qin Fang didn't show any reaction, he paid close attention to Kawada Musashi's words... Especially the two families he mentioned, which caught Qin Fang's attention.

The Yagyu family, Qin Fang was quite familiar with it; it's an exceptionally powerful family in Japan's martial world, with a highly renowned reputation, no less than the two major ninja sects of Iga and Koga.

However, it has a significant difference from these two ninja sects; the Yagyu family is a sword clan, not practicing ninjutsu.

The Yagyu family has produced many formidable swordsmanship experts, such as the father-son duo of Yagyu Tajima-no-kami and Yagyu Jubei; they not only gained fame throughout Japan's martial world but also claimed invincibility in the Dragon Country Martial World...

Of course, although these two made some noise for a while, they ultimately ended up like many other rowdy Japanese experts either before or after them, either slinking back to Japan and never stepping into the Dragon Country again, or simply being buried in the Dragon Country, never returning...

The Yagyu family has produced numerous experts, showing no signs of decline even now, remaining among the leaders in Japan's martial world.

However, Qin Fang didn't expect such a significant conflict between Miyamoto Musashi and the Yagyu family, reaching a point where they want to kill each other...

And if Qin Fang guessed correctly, the sect master or top expert of the Yagyu family should hold at least the status of a Red-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, on par with Miyamoto Musashi.

But Qin Fang had never heard of the Ando family, yet Kawada Musashi, a grandmaster mid-stage expert, paired it alongside the Yagyu family. It must be quite formidable, if not stronger than the Yagyu family, at least comparable...

After all, Kawada Musashi sees these two families as the ones most hoping for Miyamoto Musashi to suffer, and for someone as domineering as Miyamoto Musashi, he would never allow a small family to challenge his authority.

If such a small family existed, he would have found a reason to exterminate them long ago... The title of Red-robed Priest is not just a name; its power is quite substantial.

For an enemy that Miyamoto Musashi keeps in mind, without similar status, they wouldn't have survived until now... The Ando family definitely isn't weak.

The key point is that Qin Fang suddenly remembered something; the entity backing the Black Dragon Society seemed to have some connections with the Ando family.

This was a secret learned from Watanabe back then; only a brief mention in haste, Qin Fang didn't pay much attention at the time. Just a vague mention of Ando family-like words, which Kawada Musashi's sudden mention now brought back to Qin Fang's mind.

Otherwise, in a few days, Qin Fang might really have overlooked all of this!

"Could it be such a coincidence..."

Even Qin Fang felt as though he had unintentionally hit the mark, accidentally leading Kawada Musashi into the trap, which would certainly stir up a big mess.

"What do you want to achieve?"

The more Qin Fang dodged the question, the more Kawada Musashi felt he might have guessed something, and he chose not to speak further, silent for a moment before lowly asking.

"I only want Miyamoto Musashi dead..."

Since this was an act, Qin Fang knew he couldn't fake it; he confidently and firmly stated.

Miyamoto Musashi is the spiritual pillar of the Musashi School, and its top expert; if he was eliminated, it would be a major twist for Qin Fang.

A master-level peak expert at his weakest, even injured or disabled, could bring Qin Fang immense benefits.

However, Kawada Musashi naturally wouldn't be easily convinced, casting a dubious glance at Qin Fang, making his heart uneasy.

Helplessly, Qin Fang added, "Of course, if Elder Kawada is willing, you could also allow me to pick one or two treasures from the Musashi School's treasure vault as a return gift..."

"Miyamoto Musashi has reached master-level peak strength; although rumors say he is disabled by going mad, the truth might not be so... How do you intend to help us?"

Kawada Musashi clearly didn't trust Qin Fang, yet he didn't reject him, either; after all, both father and son's secrets were already overheard by Qin Fang, so this was his way of testing Qin Fang.

"Naturally, I have a way, but it requires your assistance..."

Qin Fang frowned slightly, Kawada Musashi was clearly attempting to exploit him - asking Qin Fang to be the front line despite seeming to offer help.

However, since Qin Fang stood out deliberately, he naturally had a strategy already, otherwise, he could have pretended not to overhear anything and continued his assassination plans!

"You say..."

Kawada Musashi spoke softly.

"This time it's not just me infiltrating the heart of the Musashi School; there are several experts coming along... including a Grandmaster-level expert!"

Qin Fang was not polite and didn't even bother to hide how many people there were in their group. He directly revealed their intentions... something that couldn't be concealed since Hattori Sanzo and Song Qingshan were in the open, and Kawada Musashi could easily find out.

"If I remember correctly, the entire Musashi School, besides Miyamoto Musashi, only includes you, another Grandmaster elder Domoto Musashi, and that Grandmaster expert who hasn't made a move in thirty years..."

When he said this, Kawada Musashi couldn't help but frown but still nodded, acknowledging Qin Fang's statement.

Especially that latter one, whose existence even outsiders were almost unaware of except for the high-level elders within the Musashi School. At least, even "familiar faces" like Hattori Sanzo who had visited the Musashi School several times were unaware.

However, Qin Fang stated it directly, which was enough to indicate that Qin Fang and his group had come well-prepared this time... and this hit Kawada Musashi quite strongly.

But if Kawada Musashi knew that such secrets were discovered by Qin Fang using the Mind Reading Technique while Kawada Masami was emotionally tense, the old guy would probably feel like spitting blood!

"We've got Miyamoto Musashi covered; I just hope you can lure away those two Grandmaster-level experts... Of course, if you can clear out the other members of the Musashi School, we can minimize the slaughter, leaving you and your son some foundation!"

Qin Fang wasn't courteous at all, and even the conditions he laid out were aggressively straightforward, directly asking Kawada Musashi to draw away the two other Grandmaster-level experts... This was almost equivalent to clearing most of the obstacles on the path to Miyamoto Musashi for Qin Fang and his group.

As for the remaining small fry, they were just a bunch of sub-Grandmaster-level underlings. While many ninjas may pose a considerable threat to ordinary Grandmaster-level experts, Qin Fang was just their nemesis... The ninjas might not even have the chance to get close before being killed by Qin Fang!

With no opportunities for assassination, they could only resort to direct confrontation, but their prowess was no match for Qin Fang. Aside from having numbers as an advantage, they couldn't gain anything against Qin Fang.

But would Qin Fang be afraid of a crowd?

Obviously not!

The more people there are, the stronger Qin Fang's group-slaying skill becomes, only causing more to fall at Qin Fang's feet and creating more slaughter!

"Do you really have confidence in dealing with Miyamoto Musashi?"

Kawada Musashi was still filled with doubt. If Miyamoto Musashi were so easy to deal with, he wouldn't have been forced to remain dormant for over a decade without daring to make a move.

"You leave that to me, I naturally have my ways..."

Qin Fang certainly wasn't going to reveal his plans. Whether the cooperation was genuine or not, as long as he managed to deceive Kawada Musashi, this operation would be considered quite successful.

Even if in the end, Qin Fang played Kawada Musashi for a fool, Kawada Musashi could only swallow the insult and wouldn't be able to do anything to Qin Fang!

Of course, unless it was absolutely necessary, Qin Fang didn't want it to come to that... Though Kawada Musashi was also quite formidable, he was far inferior compared to Miyamoto Musashi.

The most crucial thing is, Qin Fang's primary goal wasn't to destroy the Musashi School but to obtain the second piece of the Secret Realm Map... He already knew that this piece wasn't with Kawada Musashi, so it likely ended up with Miyamoto Musashi, or it had always been stored in the Musashi School's sect treasure vault!

At least Qin Fang knew that the famously legendary Divine Sword Ishikawa Left-Written was kept in the Musashi School's vault and had always been regarded as the sect's treasure passed down through generations.

Qin Fang wasn't interested in this sword, which was at most of Flowing Shadow Divine Sword level, and perhaps even inferior to it. So why would Qin Fang be interested?

It's worth noting that Qin Fang was currently on the lookout for Tianxin Sand, in order to upgrade the Flowing Shadow Divine Sword in his possession to the level of Dragon Country's Top Ten Divine Weapons. Since he wasn't very satisfied with the current Flowing Shadow Sword, these inferior items were even less desirable...

"Alright! I can draw them away... but, only for one hour at most! If you can't kill Miyamoto Musashi within an hour, then... don't blame me for being impolite!"

To be fair, the condition Qin Fang proposed was indeed attractive. After contemplating in silence for a long time, Kawada Musashi finally nodded in agreement.

Miyamoto Musashi was his nemesis and his only superior. Once Miyamoto Musashi fell, the Musashi School would fall into Kawada Musashi's hands.

Although the other two Grandmaster-level experts had significant positions, one had been isolated for thirty years without returning to the world, and the other had far less seniority than Kawada Musashi, making him the obvious choice for the new sect master...

He could seek revenge and gain great benefits... Although this operation was fraught with significant risk, Kawada Musashi was ultimately persuaded by Qin Fang.

Chapter 1813 - Miyamoto Musashi!

...

Miyamoto Musashi resided near the mountain top. Usually, unless something particularly important happened, even significant figures of the Musashi School were not allowed to enter and exit freely.

Basically, those who lived here were people very close to Miyamoto Musashi, such as his disciples...

Despite how domineering that old rascal Miyamoto Musashi was, even involving himself with Kawada Musashi's wife, he remained solitary, without any children under his name.

Perhaps this was why Kawada Musashi endured silently for so many years without finding an opportunity; apart from Miyamoto Musashi, there were nearly no obvious flaws to exploit.

And Miyamoto Musashi himself was the greatest hazard. If Kawada Musashi could eliminate him, he wouldn't have waited in vain for over a decade...

However, the appearance of Qin Fang and others indeed offered Kawada Musashi a glimmer of hope. To be precise, Kawada placed his hope not in Qin Fang himself but in the potential colossal influence behind Qin Fang.

Whether it was the Yagyu family or the Ando family, they were powers that Kawada Musashi couldn't contend against, and they were sufficient to challenge Miyamoto Musashi.

Even if Qin Fang and the others failed this time and were trapped by the Musashi School, such many experts wouldn't be lost in vain by any family, which would only attract more experts...

If not once, then twice or thrice, Kawada Musashi didn't believe he couldn't take down Miyamoto Musashi, even if only to seriously injure him, Kawada could deal with him!

Kawada Musashi acted decisively, immediately finding an excuse to draw away two other grandmaster-level experts.

Simultaneously, he made proper arrangements for his loyal disciples, sending those loyal to Miyamoto Musashi to the knives of Qin Fang and others.

Since he had decided to kill with a borrowed knife, he naturally had to strike hard. Apart from the few grandmaster-level experts, no one else in the Musashi School could withstand the slaughter by Qin Fang's group, so it was better to eradicate Miyamoto Musashi's disciples, cutting off most of his wings, which was undoubtedly a favorable outcome for Kawada Musashi...

Of course, to prevent the failure of this action, Kawada didn't make it too obvious, at least leaving a good number of disciples from the other two grandmaster-level experts!

With this favor, after eliminating Miyamoto Musashi, Kawada Musashi would find it easier to ascend as Sect Master, encountering less resistance.

And after Kawada attracted the two grandmaster-level experts away, Qin Fang and the others quickly gathered and moved towards the mountain's peak. Their target, of course, was Miyamoto Musashi!

"Young Master Qin, are we really going to make a move against Miyamoto Musashi?"

When Hattori Sanzo heard this news, his face became quite peculiar, mixed with deep surprise and fear.

Miyamoto Musashi, as a notable expert in the Japan martial world, had been dominating for decades, with many wishing him dead—not a thousand, surely eight hundred.

Yet, through all these years, Miyamoto Musashi had lived well, while few of his enemies ended up in a good state, and he even eradicated at least two small ninja sects...

As for those who died at the hands of this old ghost, they were innumerable!

Although there were rumors that Miyamoto Musashi had suffered a Qigong deviation and was paralyzed, the truth was unclear, especially after they entered the Musashi School; even Hattori Sanzo felt somewhat deceived.

But at this moment, Qin Fang proposed to directly attack Miyamoto Musashi... Even with Kawada Musashi pulling away the other two grandmaster-level experts, their group's strength was still not enough to contend against Miyamoto Musashi!

The Master Level Peak expert was overwhelmingly powerful; even someone like Hattori, also a grandmaster-level martial artist, wasn't Musashi's match, let alone with his current state having lost a wrist, reducing his strength significantly!

If Miyamoto Musashi was indeed paralyzed, they might still have a great chance, but if not, then they would probably face a road to death!

"Don't worry, I have my way..."

Qin Fang smiled slightly, speaking nonchalantly, seeming not at all worried.

Seeing Qin Fang's response, initially Ji Xiang and the others were a bit anxious, but now they felt notably relieved.

The bond between them and Qin Fang wasn't one of sacrificing for each other, but it was close enough to live and die together.

Knowing Qin Fang wasn't the type to take reckless risks, his decision indicated a level of certainty...

It was just like when they forcibly broke into the Japan Wanderers' lair; without Qin Fang having determined that there was only one grandmaster-level expert, they wouldn't have risked it.

If there had been two grandmaster-level experts, they would have surely been doomed in that place...

Now it was the same, Miyamoto Musashi was indeed extremely terrifying, and even the five of them together might not match him.

Yet Qin Fang still chose to take action, which means he definitely had a way or method to close the gap between them.

This action undoubtedly carried significant risk, but similarly, the rewards would be immensely great... Not just for Qin Fang alone, but every one of them would gain substantially!

Take Ji Xiang and Monk Wukong, these two fellows were slightly excited, both pondering whether they could leverage this life-and-death battle to elevate themselves to Grandmaster Level...

Unlike Qin Fang, they have been stuck at Master Level Peak for a long time, particularly Monk Wukong, who has been a Semi-Grandmaster for ages, just one step away from reaching the final pinnacle!

Just like when the Bloody Demon Tu San forced Qin Fang to break through, now Miyamoto Musashi might turn this crisis into an advantage...

Miyamoto Musashi stayed in the most luxurious building of the Musashi School, although not the largest in area, the conditions were undoubtedly the best.

This place was perched atop a high mountain, surrounded by foggy clouds, resembling an ethereal paradise, with undeniably beautiful scenery making one want to linger.

Though this wasn't at the peak, there was only a vertical drop of twenty to thirty meters, which was rather close.

It was this simple drop that crafted a remarkably beautiful scene, with a silver stream cascading from the sky, pleasing the eye tremendously.

This waterfall plummeted into the shimmering waters below... This pond had a rather grand name—Fulong Pond!

Legend has it that a giant dragon lay hidden beneath the pond; though no one had truly seen it, the Musashi School perpetuated such tales.

Even the Musashi School's revered totem is a fierce dragon... Yes, a fierce dragon, a black one, supposedly the one beneath the pond!

Regarding these tales, Qin Fang certainly did not believe them, and neither did the few people by his side.

Of course, it wasn't that Qin Fang didn't believe in the existence of dragons; he just didn't believe a dragon would reside in such a small pond.

However, Qin Fang's reliance on dealing with Miyamoto Musashi was pinned on a seemingly ordinary pond...

...

In this luxurious building, there's a room quite close to Fulong Pond, so close that opening the window reveals the waterfall cascading down, with the moist mist easily permeating the room.

At this moment, there's a person quietly lying on a simple bed inside the room, covered in a brocade quilt, yet still looking in remarkably good health.

By the window stands a man in his thirties, slightly hunched, silently listening to the person on the bed speak.

"Have the two from the Kawada Family made any moves?"

However, the man lying on the bed started off asking this question.

Within the Musashi School, only one family bears the Kawada name, making it clear who he referred to, undoubtedly shocking Kawada Musashi and his son.

"There's no movement at present; they seem to be worried about Master's injury being real..."

The slightly younger man responded calmly, but immediately thought of something else and couldn't help but mention it.

"But just now, that old Kawada Musashi invited Elders Domoto and Akagi over; I don't know what it's about..."

Clearly, everything within the Musashi School was under control, wielding such strong control that Kawada Musashi dared not act rashly.

"Just petty clowns, not worth worrying about..."

The one lying on the bed frowned, seemingly puzzled, but soon relaxed, speaking dismissively.

"Keep an eye; recently, people from the Yagyu and Ando families might come over..."

Disregarding Kawada Musashi, a Grandmaster Mid-Stage Expert, there were others he needed to guard against, and coincidentally, the names Kawada Musashi mentioned aligned with his expectations.

The man lying on the bed was none other than Qin Fang's target on this trip, the ruler of the Musashi School, Miyamoto Musashi.

Miyamoto Musashi was already over sixty years old, slightly younger than Kawada Musashi, but still looked in his forties, likely appearing similar to Kawada Masami.

Yet, this seemingly young man was indeed the renowned master of the Japan Martial World, Miyamoto Musashi, a fierce fighter with countless blood on his hands...

Chapter 1814 - Mist Concealment

...

"Yes, Master..."

Upon hearing Miyamoto Musashi's instructions, the young man immediately and respectfully responded, while also slowly retreating from the room.

Judging by his address, it seems he should be a disciple under Miyamoto Musashi. Now that Miyamoto Musashi is lying in bed, it appears that all matters have been entrusted to this disciple's hands. He is undoubtedly the most trusted confidant of Miyamoto Musashi...

However, when the young man left the room and moved far away, Miyamoto Musashi, who was lying on the bed, slowly lifted the quilt, climbed out of bed, and walked to the window, casting his gaze upon the waterfall.

From his actions, it seems his legs are still functioning well, although there might be a slight stiffness indicating some minor impact, it's definitely not to the point of paralysis.

Moreover, judging from his inquiries to the young man, it seems he has set a trap, waiting for Kawada Musashi and his son, and the grandmasters of the Yagyu and Ando families to fall into it.

But daring to design such a scheme certainly indicates a lot of confidence in his own abilities. After all, within the entire martial world of Japan, there are only a handful of experts capable of killing Miyamoto Musashi.

Among his enemies, Kawada Musashi can be ignored. Unless it's the Yagyu family's Yagyu Killing God or the Ando family's Ando Kiyomi, no one else can threaten him.

Even though his body currently has some minor issues, he does not take the impending assassination to heart!

...

Miyamoto Musashi is confident in his abilities and unconcerned about his safety, but this does not mean his disciples can be as powerful as he is.

For instance, the young man who just walked out of Miyamoto Musashi's room was soon blocked by a group of strangers after moving away from Musashi's residence.

"Ichiro Ishikawa... a master-level peak expert, the second top expert under Miyamoto Musashi, and currently the most hopeful candidate of the Musashi School to reach the Grandmaster level!"

The people stopping him were naturally Qin Fang and his group. Looking at the skilled young expert in front of them, Qin Fang uttered his profile very familiarly.

This information was obtained from Kawada Musashi, but part of it was also derived from Qin Fang's scouting skill, all about this Ichiro Ishikawa in front of them.

For a young expert with the most hope of reaching the level, yet still just the second top expert under Miyamoto Musashi, it indicates that Miyamoto Musashi also has a grandmaster-level expert under him.

However, Kawada Musashi was clearly unaware of this, or perhaps that old man concealed this fact, but regardless, Miyamoto Musashi hasn't exposed his strongest disciple.

At the very least, as Qin Fang strolled through, within this expansive building, only this Ichiro Ishikawa stood as the top expert under Miyamoto Musashi.

A quasi-grandmaster-level expert is definitely a top-notch master. Even Monk Wukong couldn't help but frown seeing this expert.

Even among the master-level peak, there are differences, such as the noticeable gap between Ji Xiang, Monk Wukong, and Qin Fang.

Qin Fang and Monk Wukong are both at the master-level peak yet are already half-step grandmasters, while Ji Xiang is slightly less advanced. However, this Ichiro Ishikawa is comparable, perhaps even more profound in his skills than Qin Fang and the others...

Given his age, he's older than Monk Wukong by five or six years, and more than ten years older than Qin Fang!

Qin Fang was not bothered by this. Although Ichiro Ishikawa's abilities are strong, he has now become a trapped bird in front of Qin Fang and the others.

Five people, one grandmaster-level expert, two half-step grandmasters, and two at master-level peak... such a lineup would make even grandmaster-level experts retreat, let alone a half-step grandmaster!

"Who are you?"

Seeing Qin Fang and the others, Ichiro Ishikawa's expression was quite unpleasant, cautiously remaining vigilant while gradually stepping back.

"Mister Ishikawa, if I were you, I would comply obediently. This way, you might have a chance to live... if we take action, don't expect to survive, and you might not even keep your whole body!"

Ichiro Ishikawa's subtle actions were also noticed by Qin Fang, but he didn't care, as Ichiro Ishikawa was just a minor character.

Whether he escapes or not, at most, he would report back to Miyamoto Musashi... Qin Fang was here to deal with Miyamoto Musashi anyway, so whether the news was reported didn't matter.

Of course, since this Ichiro Ishikawa is the most promising disciple under Miyamoto Musashi to reach the grandmaster-level tier, from the moment he encountered Qin Fang and the others, Ichiro Ishikawa's life was as good as lost...

"Baka..."

That's what Qin Fang thought, and the others, including Hattori Sanzo, felt the same. If they couldn't capture Ichiro Ishikawa, they might as well just die ashamed.

However, Ichiro Ishikawa didn't see it that way. This young man roared angrily, then his body moved slightly and disappeared mid-air, vanishing...

This is a ninja!

And Ichiro Ishikawa is a half-step grandmaster-level ninja, invisible in a unique place like the Musashi School, making it impossible to find any trace.

"Mist Stealth..."

The unique environment of the Musashi School, shrouded in clouds and mist, created a special ninjutsu skill of the Musashi School, especially the invisibility skill, known as "Mist Stealth."

Mist Stealth wasn't originally very powerful and had significant flaws, but now it's incredibly renowned, greatly due to Miyamoto Musashi, who perfected it to an unbelievable level...

"Idiots~~"

Unfortunately, Qin Fang is the nemesis of ninja!

Ichiro Ishikawa had almost fully inherited Miyamoto Musashi's Mist Stealth, making him almost flawless in his invisible state, yet to Qin Fang, it was no different from not being invisible!

Without wasting words, Qin Fang swiftly took several steps forward, covering a distance of several meters in an instant, then reached into the void grabbing...

Then he harshly swung behind him and saw the previously empty void suddenly producing a living person thrown out by Qin Fang...

Poor unlucky guy didn't have a chance to prepare, his entire body was thrown straight towards Song Qingshan!

At this moment, Song Qingshan rarely showed a wicked smile, while waving his extremely sharp Xuanyin Divine Claw, waiting for this unlucky guy to land...

Chapter 1815 - Tang Sect Hidden Weapons Storm Pear Blossom vs Miyamoto Musashi!

...

Bam~~

Without any suspense, when the unfortunate kid flew to the front of Song Qingshan, before he could react, a fist appeared before his eyes, and then... it was smashed down hard!

Fortunately, it was a smash. Although the strength of this punch was considerable, at least it wasn't enough to take the kid's life.

The unlucky kid, Ichiro Ishikawa, was smashed hard to the ground. Although the ground was very flat, it was still a hard stone surface, causing him to be completely disoriented.

This is because Ichiro Ishikawa is a master-level peak expert. Although he's not particularly skilled in physical training, his overall cultivation is still very formidable. Being smashed like this cost him quite a bit, but it wasn't life-threatening!

He couldn't die, but the suffering was inevitable. Just from this severe blow, Ichiro Ishikawa lost two or three front teeth, and now his mouth was full of blood, looking very miserable.

But this was only the beginning...

Hattori Sanzo knocked down Ichiro Ishikawa before Song Qingshan not to save Ishikawa's life but to avoid too much commotion caused by Song Qingshan.

If caught by Song Qingshan's Xuanyin Divine Claw, even an iron man like Ichiro Ishikawa couldn't help but scream, which would indeed draw Miyamoto Musashi's attention.

They came to kill Miyamoto Musashi, and if they could succeed through a sneak attack, there was no need to confront him openly.

However, after that strike, Ichiro Ishikawa wanted to scream, but with teeth knocked out, he couldn't even utter a word properly...

"Take him away!"

Qin Fang didn't have time to waste here; with a direct order, Hattori Sanzo acted, quickly carrying away the unfortunate Ichiro Ishikawa.

About the time it takes to drink a cup of tea later, Qin Fang and his companions returned to the front of the building, and as for the unlucky Ichiro Ishikawa... naturally, he had completed his mission in this world and went to see his Amaterasu.

This disciple under Miyamoto Musashi was the most hopeful to advance to grandmaster level. Unfortunately, such a person was destined to be Qin Fang's enemy, so it was impossible to let him remain.

Of course, it wasn't Qin Fang and his people who acted; it was Kawada Masami... since the father and son couldn't kill Miyamoto Musashi, they had to vent a bit on his disciples.

In contrast to Kawada Musashi's patience, Kawada Masami was much more impatient. After obtaining Ichiro Ishikawa, he almost didn't give Ishikawa a chance to beg for mercy, and tormented him to death in the most brutal way.

Qin Fang and others didn't mind this, having handed Ichiro Ishikawa to Kawada Masami with no intention of letting him live.

Even before passing him to Kawada Masami, Qin Fang had already acted on Ichiro Ishikawa, so most of the experience points from Ishikawa's death went to Qin Fang, though this was done secretly, unnoticed by others.

The process of being killed in such a brutal manner by Kawada Masami was quite horrific, and no iron man could withstand it, yet Qin Fang learned many secrets in the process.

Ichiro Ishikawa was Miyamoto Musashi's most trusted disciple and knew far more than the average Musashi School disciple, even more than Kawada Musashi, ranked second among the elders.

After all, some secret matters were entrusted to his sect disciples by Miyamoto Musashi, who didn't trust Kawada Musashi or the other elders.

At the same time, Qin Fang realized that Miyamoto Musashi's power wasn't as simple as it seemed; Ichiro Ishikawa was regarded as the second strongest under Miyamoto Musashi because Musashi had another disciple even stronger than Ishikawa...

Not just a little stronger, but significantly stronger... It is said that this disciple named Miyamoto Douichi is Miyamoto Musashi's true heir.

This person not only received Miyamoto Musashi's true teachings but even changed his name to Miyamoto; Ichiro Ishikawa even believed Miyamoto Douichi was Musashi's son...

"Late Grandmaster Level Expert..."

From what he learned from Ichiro Ishikawa, Qin Fang's brow furrowed deeply, not expecting Miyamoto Musashi to have such a hidden ace.

However, since Miyamoto Douichi left the school, he had not returned to the Musashi School, living as a wanderer and seldom returning even to Japan.

At least, it had been many years since Ichiro Ishikawa last saw Miyamoto Douichi, and only occasionally when he saw Musashi smile did he realize Douichi was still alive and had accomplished something remarkable...

But the specific details were unknown to Ishikawa. Once when he dared to ask Miyamoto Musashi about it, Musashi almost killed him...

Since then, Ichiro Ishikawa never raised the topic of Miyamoto Douichi again, just pretending that the person had completely perished!

This news was quite secretive and known by very few; Qin Fang had no plans to reveal it. Since Miyamoto Douichi wasn't in Musashi School, it made little difference whether it was known or not.

And so, when Ichiro Ishikawa was completely dead, the group immediately made their way to Miyamoto Musashi's residence...

Chapter 1816 - Tang Sect Hidden Weapons Storm Pear Blossom vs Miyamoto Musashi!

Miyamoto Musashi was a very domineering person, and he was also very suspicious. Besides himself, very few people knew his residence, and even fewer came and went.

Ichiro Ishikawa was one, but now he's dead... The remaining servants, although somewhat capable, were futile against the tide and quickly cleared out. Qin Fang and his group charged into Miyamoto Musashi's room...

Miyamoto Musashi was still the same, lying quietly on the bed, seemingly really paralyzed and unable to get up... Qin Fang found no substantial evidence from Ichiro Ishikawa to prove that Miyamoto Musashi was pretending!

At least, every time Ichiro Ishikawa saw Miyamoto Musashi, Musashi was lying on his bed...

"You finally appeared..."

Lying on the bed, Miyamoto Musashi quietly observed Qin Fang and his companions enter the room without any worry or fear, and maintained the dignity of a Grandmaster Peak strongman.

Miyamoto Musashi seemed unsurprised that someone would come after him, yet when he saw Qin Fang and the others, his brow involuntarily furrowed.

"Huh, who are you?"

But quickly, Miyamoto Musashi sensed something was wrong and sternly asked.

With his strength, he could naturally perceive the cultivation of Qin Fang and the others. Besides Hattori Sanzo, who barely reached the Grandmaster level, the rest only had Master-level strength, which was insignificant to him...

Coming to assassinate him with such strength was simply a joke... Whether or not his paralysis was real, as a Grandmaster Peak strongman, any assassination attempt required several Grandmaster-level experts to have a chance of success!

Yet now they sent one Grandmaster-level... and a one-armed one at that, plus a few young Master-level fighters... it seemed more like a vacation trip rather than an assassination attempt!

Because of this, Miyamoto Musashi's face turned considerably grim, his tone grew colder, and his eyes brimmed with killing intent—a sheer insult to him!

"The ones here to kill you..."

Qin Fang's tone remained calm, looking at the lying Miyamoto Musashi, appearing utterly unafraid, even somewhat disdainful.

"To think that the mighty leader of the Musashi School is such a deceitful character... even resorting to pretending to be paralyzed! This has truly opened my eyes..."

Fortunately, Qin Fang had anticipated this result long ago, so after confirming it, he wasn't very surprised.

However, being unsurprised didn't mean Qin Fang was indifferent. From Kawada Musashi, he understood that Miyamoto Musashi's feigned paralysis wasn't meant for them—it was for even stronger opponents.

Such as the Yagyu family and the Ando family...

It's just that the experts from these two families hadn't arrived yet, and Qin Fang's party was only slightly ahead!

Monk Wukong and the others didn't understand the Japanese language, so they naturally didn't know what Qin Fang was talking about, but Hattori Sanzo, being Japanese, understood.

Originally, he was slightly stunned but immediately panicked, truly shocked by Qin Fang's words.

Miyamoto Musashi feigning paralysis meant that he wasn't really paralyzed and remained a Grandmaster Peak strongman...

But even combined, they could barely handle a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert. Against a Grandmaster Peak, it was a certain death!

Fear, dread, yet Hattori Sanzo didn't dare act rashly. Now part of Qin Fang's group, although he cherished his own life, he knew self-preservation would lead to a tragic end...

"I underestimated you..."

Exposed by Qin Fang, there was no regret on Miyamoto Musashi's face, only a peculiar look at Qin Fang, then he lifted the blanket, preparing to get out of bed.

Once discovered, continuing the pretense was futile...

Miyamoto Musashi assumed Qin Fang and company came from an enemy, and given the weak strength of these young fighters, he guessed they'd seen through his trap and didn't send stronger men to die...

However...

Was Qin Fang really on a suicide mission?

Clearly not!

They were here to kill Miyamoto Musashi!

So, when Miyamoto Musashi lifted the blanket, attempting to rise, Qin Fang's hand mysteriously produced a small cylinder, pressing the button on it immediately!

"Retreat!"

Almost simultaneously with Qin Fang's action, he shouted... Monk Wukong, Ji Xiang, Song Qingshan, and others ducked and swiftly sprinted out of Miyamoto Musashi's room.

Hattori Sanzo, though a bit slow to respond, used his superior strength to make up for the small delay.

Swish swish swish swish~~~

Almost as Qin Fang pressed the button, the small cylinder aimed at Miyamoto Musashi emitted a soft buzzing sound.

Next...

Countless Cowhair Fine Needles exploded from the cylinder, fiercely surging towards Miyamoto Musashi in the close range, overwhelmingly powerful.

Storm Pear Blossom!

One of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect!

To deal with a Grandmaster Peak strongman like Miyamoto Musashi, Qin Fang unhesitatingly used this mighty weapon, striking precisely when Miyamoto Musashi was most relaxed.

"Baka!!!!"

The Storm Pear Blossom launched too quickly. Though a master like Miyamoto Musashi had a strong danger sense, reacting when Qin Fang took out the cylinder, his relaxed body made his response slightly delayed...

Even though Miyamoto Musashi snatched the blanket to shield himself as fast as possible, the close-range destructive force of the Storm Pear Blossom was utterly terrifying, and Musashi was unable to entirely escape its deadly grasp!

Of course, despite the blanket's obstruction and Musashi's own terrifying Grandmaster Peak strength, the Storm Pear Blossom inflicted significant damage, yet failed to end his life...

At this moment, Miyamoto Musashi erupted in an extremely furious roar, the terrifying aura of a Grandmaster Peak fully unleashed, yet unable to change his wounded condition!

The Storm Pear Blossom, one of the Tang Sect's Ten Great Hidden Weapons, possessed an incredibly fearsome power, and even with some obstruction, the remaining destructive force remained horrifyingly devastating. The sheer number of Cowhair Fine Needles, specialized in piercing protective True Qi, caused even a Grandmaster Peak like Miyamoto Musashi to suffer greatly...

Qin Fang had been observing Musashi's physical state all along, and just now, at least over fifty Cowhair Fine Needles pierced Musashi's body.

These Cowhair Fine Needles were exceedingly vicious, penetrating Musashi's body, meridians, and even organs, severely diminishing his prowess!

If previously Miyamoto Musashi was at peak condition, now he'd lost at least more than half of his power...

Moreover, the Cowhair Fine Needles remained lodged in Musashi's body—any slight movement would cause him immense pain!

Fortunately, Miyamoto Musashi wasn't Qin Fang; otherwise, with such drastic depletion of Life Points, even Qin Fang's massive stock of Blood Replenishing Pills wouldn't withstand the consumption!

"Miyamoto Musashi, how does it feel? Enjoying it now, huh..."

Now the situation was reversed. Qin Fang was unharmed, instead teasing the once-unstoppable Miyamoto Musashi with playful sarcasm...

Chapter 1817 - Poison Dragon Juice!

...

The Tang Sect's top ten hidden weapons are each incredibly powerful, which is the foundation of the Tang Sect's ability to stand above the rest...

Although Grandmaster-level experts are exceptionally formidable and possess immense strength, they hold no real advantage when facing the Tang Sect's hidden weapons.

Especially hidden weapons like the Storm Pear Blossom and the Peacock Feather, those cowhair fine needles are specifically designed to penetrate protective true qi, and even a Grandmaster-level expert can't withstand them.

The reason these top ten hidden weapons of the Tang Sect are so renowned is that they are proven by the deaths of powerful individuals... and not just ordinary powerful individuals, but many of them were even stronger than Miyamoto Musashi!

The Storm Pear Blossom in Qin Fang's hand, though slightly different from the one that became famous in the past, lacking the poison coating, still has those cowhair fine needles that are incredibly powerful, as Miyamoto Musashi now exemplifies.

These needles are very small, extremely sharp, and insidious, with tiny barbs on the tips, making them hard to extract once they penetrate the body...

Adding to their considerable number, the outcome is quite apparent, and Miyamoto Musashi is in very poor condition now.

"Baka! I want you dead..."

Miyamoto Musashi suffered significant injuries, and being teased by Qin Fang made him furious, roaring out almost like a beast.

The cowhair fine needles lodged in his body are hard to expel quickly, and he vaguely guessed what that small cylinder in Qin Fang's hand was.

But regretting it now is too late, as the fine needles have already pierced his organs. Although suppressed by his powerful true qi, delaying any longer would cause immense harm even to a Grandmaster-level peak expert like him...

As a Grandmaster-level peak expert, almost stepping into the Great Grandmaster level, he finds himself in such a plight that even he feels quite frustrated.

But frustrations aside, Qin Fang had humiliated him so much that if he did not show some temper, it truly would be a loss of face.

Especially since Qin Fang and his group came to kill him, although he was slightly disappointed that Qin Fang wasn't the group he was expecting, the threat posed by Qin Fang and his people was evidently more dangerous...

After all, even one of the Tang Sect's top ten hidden weapons was deployed; although Miyamoto Musashi is conceited, he wouldn't dare claim he could challenge the Tang Sect alone.

As one of Japan's notable experts, Miyamoto Musashi could run rampant within Japan but wouldn't dare to boast against those ancient sects of Dragon Country.

Miyamoto Musashi is the Red-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, with a significant status, and is privy to many of Dao Shen Sect's secrets.

Decades ago, during that war, the Dao Shen Sect accompanied the military into Dragon Country, and initially, they rampaged freely, committing great slaughter.

However, they first targeted ordinary experts from the Outer Martial Arts Circle, encountering some resistance but failing to halt the steps of the Dao Shen Sect's experts.

Yet the twist occurred when one of the Dao Shen Sect's experts unintentionally killed a disciple from an ancient sect during his travels... which was akin to stirring a hornet's nest.

The disciples of this ancient sect were few but fiercely protective, not only did all the experts of the sect come forth, but they also specially invited several other ancient sects to take action together.

Thus, hundreds of Grandmaster-level experts gathered to forcefully intercept the Dao Shen Sect experts entering Dragon Country... a battle that truly shook heaven and earth.

Eventually, even the highest-ranking Great Priest of the Dao Shen Sect died in Dragon Country, with hundreds of Red-robed, White-robed, and Black-robed Priests perishing here, leaving less than twenty who barely escaped back to Japan.

The current Great Priest of the Dao Shen Sect was among those survivors, and since then, he has strictly forbidden Dao Shen Sect's experts from entering Dragon Country!

As the current Red-robed Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, Miyamoto Musashi is very aware of this, even knowing that the Great Priest back then died under the Tang Sect's hidden weapons...

Of course, Dragon Country also paid a considerable price, but compared to the Dao Shen Sect's losses, it was much lighter...

Perhaps because of this ban, while Miyamoto Musashi rampages across Japan, he rarely deals with Dragon Nation's warriors, and even tries to avoid conflicts with Dragon Nation's warriors whenever possible!

Yet he never imagined why Qin Fang and these Dragon Nation's warriors would proactively come to kill him...

But regardless of his lack of understanding, Qin Fang and his party have already come to kill him, and he cannot just sit back and be slaughtered. Moreover, he also realized someone within the Musashi School had betrayed him, so he didn't mind leading Dragon Country's experts to the Musashi School!

"You want to kill me, but I'm afraid you lack the skill..."

Naturally, Qin Fang could not sit and wait for death, coldly shouting as he exhibited the Snow Traversing Step movement technique, retreating smoothly out of the room.

Almost simultaneously, Miyamoto Musashi transformed into a mist and vanished entirely in the air.

"Mist Concealment Ninja!"

For this scene, Qin Fang was somewhat expecting it. The Musashi School was originally the old haunt of the Mist Concealment Ninja, and Miyamoto Musashi, being the strongest and most terrifying entity among them—if he couldn't even do the basics of mist concealment, he wouldn't be the sect master of the Musashi School!

"Just a petty trick..."

But as for the Invisibility Technique, regardless of its type, it made no difference to Qin Fang because it was utterly ineffective against him.

When Qin Fang used the Storm Pear Blossom, Hattori Sanzo and others disappeared at the fastest speed. They dared not appear before the grandmaster-level Mist Concealment Ninja, Miyamoto Musashi—that would be sending themselves to death.

So, after showing their faces, they immediately withdrew, and they might be hiding in some unknown corner by now, and even Kawada Musashi and his son probably wouldn't hope to easily find them.

The only one who didn't evade was Qin Fang alone, as he had already planned this beforehand. Facing Miyamoto Musashi was his task alone, with no need for others to intervene!

The Snow Traversing Step, worthy of being the Snow Mountain Sect's signature skill, when Qin Fang, at a semi-grandmaster level, executed it, not even a grandmaster peak strongman like Miyamoto Musashi could catch up.

Nevertheless, Qin Fang did not dare to be careless; the Mist Concealment Ninja wasn't only formidable with the Invisibility Technique, but the Mist Concealment Ninjutsu was equally excellent.

The small map monitored Miyamoto Musashi's movements, and at this moment, he was rapidly approaching Qin Fang. If it weren't for Qin Fang's rather unusual route, he would probably have already been caught by Miyamoto Musashi...

But it was precisely this nimble movement technique that left Miyamoto Musashi temporarily at a loss, forcing him to maintain his invisible state as he silently pursued Qin Fang without loosening his grip!

"Come on, old guy..."

Qin Fang fully unleashed his movement technique, not daring to slack off even a little, while constantly observing his surroundings. He was now getting closer and closer to the waterfall, only a few meters away.

Plunge~~

Then, just as Miyamoto Musashi was almost upon him, Qin Fang reached his destination and leaped into the Dragon Pool.

Miyamoto Musashi was just a hair's breadth away from catching Qin Fang, only to be confounded by Qin Fang's sudden maneuver, as he remained in his invisible state, standing foolishly at the edge of the Dragon Pool.

Mist is essentially a form of water, only presented in a gaseous state.

And when mist encounters water, it gradually becomes liquid...

Qin Fang suddenly jumped into the water, escaping Miyamoto Musashi's pursuit, catching him completely off guard.

"Miyamoto Musashi, if you want to kill me, then come into the water..."

Qin Fang floated in the water, leisurely swimming, looking at the empty edge of the pond, he said slowly, "Don't pretend to be dead. I know you're definitely nearby..."

Even though Qin Fang knew where Miyamoto Musashi was standing, he still looked around aimlessly, seemingly unsure of where Miyamoto Musashi was hiding.

This was also a method to confuse the enemy, perhaps it could have some miraculous effect!

The advantage of the Mist Concealment Ninja almost vanished completely upon encountering water, losing about seventy to eighty percent of its effectiveness, and at least now Miyamoto Musashi's face was quite ugly.

After a moment of relative silence, Miyamoto Musashi revealed his figure since doing nothing and wasting his own True Qi unnecessarily was pointless.

But once he enters the water, there's little difference between being invisible or not; he has to reveal himself...

After all, he is a Mist Concealment Ninja, not a Water Shadow Ninja...

"Young man, do you really think by hiding in the water, I can't kill you?"

Miyamoto Musashi's face had slightly recovered, looking at Qin Fang, who was half-submerged in the water, he sarcastically chided, at the same time taking out a small jade vial from his body.

"Before coming to kill me, I wonder if you've inquired about who Miyamoto Musashi's enemies are... if you had, perhaps you wouldn't want to hide in the water!"

Miyamoto Musashi spoke while opening the small jade vial and poured a light blue liquid from it into the Dragon Pool before him.

"Poison Dragon Juice... How could you possibly have such a thing?"

Upon seeing the light blue liquid, Qin Fang's expression changed dramatically, almost unbelievably exclaimed.

With his Scouting Skill, he could naturally detect what the light blue liquid was, and precisely because he knew its name, Qin Fang had such a strong reaction.

Although Qin Fang had never underestimated Miyamoto Musashi, the grandmaster peak strongman, he still had quite a lot of confidence to deal with him overall.

Only when he pulled out that light blue liquid before his eyes did Qin Fang realize he had underestimated the situation a bit...

Chapter 1818 - Sly and Cunning!

...

"You actually recognize it?"

Hearing Qin Fang's exclamation, Miyamoto Musashi was slightly taken aback, but quickly recovered and said with a faint smile, "Of course...you are a Tang Sect Disciple, it's not strange for you to recognize it!"

Miyamoto Musashi appeared extremely at ease, seemingly having forgotten the dozens of Cowhair Fine Needles in his body, perhaps because he believed he was about to witness Qin Fang's tragic death.

Qin Fang used one of the Ten Great Hidden Weapons of Tang Sect, the Storm Pear Blossom, and Miyamoto Musashi recognized it. Although he didn't know exactly which one Qin Fang used, he was certain Qin Fang was from the Shu Middle Tang Sect of Dragon Country.

After all, the hidden weapons of the Tang Sect, aside from Tang Sect Disciples, never find their way outside, given how domineering the Tang Sect is, strictly prohibiting the spread of their secret hidden weapons.

The Tang Sect is renowned worldwide for its mastery of poison and hidden weapons, and even in Japan, it's known. Recognizing Qin Fang's Tang Sect hidden weapons, it was unsurprising for Qin Fang to recognize the pale blue liquid in Miyamoto Musashi's hand.

However, Qin Fang's expression was somewhat grim. He recognized this pale blue liquid, but not because he was a Tang Sect Disciple; even few Tang Sect Disciples could identify its origin. Probably only a few Elders proficient in poison would know it...

This pale blue liquid is a highly toxic fluid known as Poison Dragon Juice... supposedly extracted from the bile of a Poison Dragon.

Of course, this Poison Dragon is not a dragon but rather a highly venomous species of serpent, incredibly rare, and seldom seen even once in centuries.

In Qin Fang's understanding, this Poison Dragon should be some mutated serpent species, which explains its rarity...

The poison of this so-called Poison Dragon is exceedingly potent, with its sprayed venom being terrifyingly dangerous, and its refined bile being outright extreme.

Thus, the refined bile is called Poison Dragon Juice, once hailed as the world's deadliest venom...

But later, people discovered a fatal flaw with this world's deadliest venom... it must be released underwater to achieve its maximum potency!

On land, its power would be greatly reduced...

However, Qin Fang is currently in the water, and as soon as the Poison Dragon Juice entered the water, he noticed the clear pond water rapidly turning pale blue, the poison of the Poison Dragon Juice spreading!

Almost at the moment Qin Fang spoke, the water around him had already turned pale blue, at a pace faster than his reaction.

"Young man, there's no one to blame but yourself for being overconfident..."

Miyamoto Musashi also saw this scene, putting away the small Jade Vial and resealing it with a stopper. The Poison Dragon Juice had only been slightly consumed to achieve such an effect, highlighting its daunting potency.

"Miyamoto Musashi, do you really think that just a vial of Poison Dragon Juice could kill me? I didn't expect someone of your age to be so naive..."

But as Miyamoto Musashi finished speaking, Qin Fang, who should have been screaming in pain underwater, calmly retorted, even leisurely swimming, showing no signs of poisoning.

"Since you know I'm from the Shu Middle Tang Sect, you should know that our Tang Sect is renowned for both hidden weapons and poisons. If I were to be poisoned to death, what kind of reputation would that be... what an idiot!"

Given such a great opportunity, Qin Fang wouldn't miss it and immediately hurled a string of insults at the overconfident Miyamoto Musashi.

"Uh..."

Miyamoto Musashi was slightly stunned, looking at Qin Fang in utter amazement, seemingly unable to understand why Qin Fang was saying such things.

"Could it be you have a way to neutralize the poison?"

Evidently, Miyamoto Musashi was skeptical. Poison Dragon Juice is an exceedingly rare venom, particularly in water, considered insoluble.

At least in the Martial World, no one has been able to neutralize the virulent Poison Dragon Juice; anyone poisoned is instantly doomed.

Yet now, the waters of Fulong Pond indeed turned pale blue, seemingly showing the poison spreading, but Qin Fang appeared completely unaffected, showing no signs of poisoning.

Initially, Miyamoto Musashi thought Qin Fang, being a Tang Sect Disciple, might have higher resistance to poison, but now it seemed Qin Fang wasn't poisoned at all.

Or rather, the Poison Dragon Juice had no effect on Qin Fang...

Even...

"How is this possible?"

Soon, Miyamoto Musashi was dumbfounded because the pale blue on the water surface of Fulong Pond was visibly fading, almost disappearing now.

Poison Dragon Juice is an extremely rare venom, exhibiting its highest potency in water, covering a range about thirty centimeters above and below the water surface.

The water surface of Fulong Pond isn't large, so the covered area wasn't vast. Earlier, he poured quite a bit of Poison Dragon Juice, its poison enough to kill everything within that range.

But now, Qin Fang was still alive, and instead, it seemed like the Poison Dragon Juice was being absorbed by something, disappearing rapidly... how could he not be astonished?

"Heh, heh, well... you can just keep guessing!"

Chapter 1819 - Sly and Cunning!

Qin Fang didn't care at all, leisurely swimming in the water, showing no signs of poisoning, nor any intention of coming ashore, just sarcastically sneering at Miyamoto Musashi, making the old fellow so furious it was as if smoke would come out of his ears.

Miyamoto Musashi's Poison Dragon Juice was not specifically prepared for Qin Fang; it was likely intended for his enemies. From Miyamoto Musashi's words earlier, it wasn't hard to infer that among his enemies were a group of Water Shadow Ninjas.

The Yagyu family are all expert swordsmen, so they can basically be ruled out. Thus, the Water Shadow Ninjas should be from the Ando family.

"Ando family, Water Shadow Ninja..."

Qin Fang silently noted this in his heart.

Although most of Japan's ninjas are concentrated in various great ninja sects, some families are essentially ninja families. Originally splintered from major sects, they have grown stronger, even surpassing their original sects...

If Qin Fang's estimation is correct, the Ando family should belong to this type of families...

Japan's Water Shadow Ninjas are not very powerful; at least among the major ninja sects, there seems to be no sect that specializes in Mizukage Ninjutsu...

However, from Miyamoto Musashi's words, the Ando family seems to have such a group of Water Shadow Ninjas, at least one at the grandmaster-level tier.

Otherwise, Miyamoto Musashi wouldn't be so apprehensive, even obtaining such a rare poison as Poison Dragon Juice.

It's not surprising; Miyamoto Musashi is a Mist Concealment Ninja, and despite his formidable strength, he is quite wary of Water Shadow Ninjas.

Mist Concealment Ninjutsu faces an inherent disadvantage against Mizukage Ninjutsu. Although Miyamoto Musashi can suppress his opponents with overpowering strength, if there are more experts like this, Miyamoto Musashi could suffer.

But if he uses Poison Dragon Juice, then not to mention a grandmaster-level Water Shadow Ninja, even a Great Grandmaster Rank Water Shadow Ninja couldn't withstand it.

However, Miyamoto Musashi had a good plan, but unexpectedly, he didn't meet any Water Shadow Ninjas from the Ando family; instead, he attracted Qin Fang and his group!

Qin Fang's plan was quite similar to what Miyamoto Musashi had anticipated, but Qin Fang was not a Water Shadow Ninja, and even the Poison Dragon Juice prepared by Miyamoto Musashi was useless against him, putting the cunning Miyamoto Musashi in a passive position...

Miyamoto Musashi's face turned quite unsightly as he stood by Fulong Pond, quietly watching Qin Fang in the water, with an inexplicable expression, pondering something.

However, from his reaction, it seemed he was contemplating or waiting for something...

Yet, the fact that the Poison Dragon Juice failed to affect Qin Fang left him quite frustrated, and Qin Fang's mockery only made him more enraged.

But to eliminate Qin Fang, it seems the only option is to jump into the water and fight Qin Fang, otherwise, he really can't deal with someone like Qin Fang...

"Miyamoto Musashi, if you just want to drag this out with me, I don't mind a bit; I'm just afraid you won't hold up... Don't forget, you've been struck by my Rainstorm Pear Blossom Needles, and your strength has been greatly compromised. If your enemies arrive, you might not make it even if I don't take action!"

At this time, Qin Fang added fuel to the fire.

Miyamoto Musashi decided to use Poison Dragon Juice, such a precious poison, to quickly eliminate Qin Fang.

After all, he was hit by the Rainstorm Pear Blossom Needles, and if he didn't quickly retreat to meditate and force those Cowhair Fine Needles out, it would soon cause severe internal injuries.

His previous paralysis was feigned, but if those Cowhair Fine Needles caused internal injuries, the damage wouldn't be much less than actual paralysis.

If that time came, and his enemies came for him, Miyamoto Musashi doubted he had the ability to resist; his enemies' strength was considerable, after all.

Thinking of this, Miyamoto Musashi's first reaction was to immediately dive in and kill Qin Fang, then go into retreat for recovery.

But as he was about to step into the water, he suddenly withdrew, remembering he had poured Poison Dragon Juice into the pond.

Poison Dragon Juice might not harm Qin Fang, but its toxicity was undeniable, and it would be detrimental if it affected him.

However...

"Could it be that the poison was really neutralized by him?"

Miyamoto Musashi's toe had touched the water, but he didn't feel anything unusual. Given the toxicity of Poison Dragon Juice in water, this was impossible unless... the Poison Dragon Juice's toxicity had been neutralized by Qin Fang!

Thinking of this, Miyamoto Musashi's face turned grim, as if he'd seen a ghost...

"Hmph... Since you're so eager to die, I will fulfill your wish!"

Repeatedly provoked by Qin Fang, Miyamoto Musashi's anger was unbearable, and he finally got really angry.

In a blur, Miyamoto Musashi vanished again, activating his Mist Concealment Ninjutsu.

Qin Fang, however, remained unphased. Miyamoto Musashi thought himself well-hidden, but his presence had never disappeared from Qin Fang's sight.

Rustle, rustle, rustle~~

Almost immediately, from a corner of the pond bank, came such a sound, and shadows swiftly rushed towards Qin Fang.

"Playing with hidden weapons against a Tang Sect disciple? Are you out of your mind..."

Seeing these hidden weapons, Qin Fang's face showed an incredibly mischievous expression, chuckling as he mocked, while quickly snatching all incoming projectiles with lightning speed...

Indeed, he took them!

Miyamoto Musashi launched about a dozen hidden weapons, yet none hit Qin Fang; instead, all ended up in Qin Fang's hands.

Despite some hidden weapons glinting with a blue shimmer, indicating their potent toxicity, Qin Fang still lightly held them, showing no hint of fear.

Yet Miyamoto Musashi seemed unconcerned, even with Qin Fang's mockery, he showed no reaction.

"Feint?"

Qin Fang paused slightly. After Miyamoto Musashi fired his hidden weapons, he shifted position, now resting stably on a near rock wall behind Qin Fang, causing barely a ripple...

As Qin Fang realized this, Miyamoto Musashi transformed into a faint white mist, swiftly swooping towards Qin Fang, skimming over the surface of Fulong Pond, incredibly fast and eerie...

"Miyamoto Musashi, if I were you... I definitely wouldn't sneak attack at this moment!"

Qin Fang naturally noticed this, but remained unhurried, turning instead to face the direction of Miyamoto Musashi's hidden presence.

"What do you mean?"

Miyamoto Musashi paused, instinctively questioning how Qin Fang saw through his movements, but it was clear Qin Fang had already discovered him.

Moreover, he was now very close to Qin Fang, almost within reach. Even if exposed, it didn't matter much, so he disregarded this.

"No particular meaning... Just that you... are about to die!"

Qin Fang said calmly, his tone slow, until the last word turned cold and fierce...

Almost before Qin Fang finished speaking, the water's surface of Fulong Pond suddenly rippled strangely, then a massive creature burst forth, swallowing Miyamoto Musashi whole...

Chapter 1820 - Miyamoto's Final Gift of Death

...

Just as Miyamoto Musashi emerged, this gigantic creature appeared abruptly. It didn't even give Miyamoto Musashi a moment to react, as the enormous bloody maw had already clamped onto Miyamoto Musashi's body, forcibly dragging him into the Fulong Pond...

Seeing this scene, Qin Fang merely shrugged lightly, as if not surprised at all, leisurely stepped ashore, and then leisurely watched Fulong Pond, which had calmed down.

"Why do you think I chose to act here? Was it just to deal with your Mist Concealment Ninjutsu? What an idiot..."

Gazing at the calm pond, Qin Fang expressed considerable disdain towards Miyamoto Musashi, blaming the old guy for oversimplifying things.

The surface of Fulong Pond isn't large, but the water is quite deep. Even such a huge creature dives in and quickly disappears without a trace, yet the water level doesn't rise noticeably...

Miyamoto Musashi never expected that Qin Fang would have such a backup plan, which is why he fell so miserably.

However, not just Miyamoto Musashi, anyone else wouldn't have anticipated such a change in advance.

"Little Dragon, hurry up and finish the job..."

After waiting at the shore for a while, Qin Fang muttered softly.

Fortunately, there was no one around, or else they might have thought Qin Fang was talking to himself.

Almost as soon as Qin Fang finished speaking, the surface of Fulong Pond rippled gently, and then a body slowly floated up from the bottom of the water.

The clothes on the body were still relatively intact, looking very similar to the previous Miyamoto Musashi; however, this person appeared to be like an African, looking very dark and extremely bloated...

A small silver serpent slowly crawled out from the body, swam across the water, swam to Qin Fang's feet, and then burrowed into Qin Fang's clothes, vanishing completely.

"Miyamoto Musashi, alas..."

Looking at the bloated corpse, Qin Fang couldn't help but sigh. Such a prestigious Grandmaster Peak Strongman, with one foot into the Great Grandmaster-level, ending up like this, Qin Fang indeed didn't know what to say.

That little serpent just now was, of course, the pet Little Dragon lurking within Qin Fang!

It is a dragon but also possesses incredibly terrifying toxicity, and even Poison Dragon Juice is just a small appetizer for it.

Little Dragon is Qin Fang's hidden trump card and one of his biggest secrets. If not for its help, Qin Fang wouldn't dare provoke a Grandmaster Peak Strongman like Miyamoto Musashi even if he had ten times the courage.

Poison Dragon Juice is indeed extremely vicious, but Little Dragon is the bane of all poisons; the more toxic something is, the more it can awaken the slumbering Little Dragon.

When the Poison Dragon Juice permeated the pond, Qin Fang immediately sensed the awakening of Little Dragon.

And before the toxicity of the Poison Dragon Juice began to erode Qin Fang's body, Little Dragon had already started to absorb the poison from the pond.

Thus, Miyamoto Musashi witnessed the light blue color of the pond's water gradually disappear, reverting to its original clarity—this was because the poison was all absorbed by Little Dragon.

With the poison all absorbed by Little Dragon, Qin Fang was naturally unperturbed by the toxicity of the Poison Dragon Juice, closing his eyes and misleading Miyamoto Musashi.

Insult after insult thoroughly enraged Miyamoto Musashi, who employed every means possible to attack Qin Fang. However, Qin Fang was not just unafraid; he was long waiting for it.

After Little Dragon awoke, it hid in Fulong Pond. Only at this moment did the name Fulong Pond truly live up to its name.

Miyamoto Musashi was indeed very strong, but he never expected a dragon to actually be lurking beneath Fulong Pond, and this dragon was in league with Qin Fang.

When he leaped into the air, attempting to kill Qin Fang, Little Dragon finally received Qin Fang's command and suddenly struck...

With its huge and powerful body, and being a water-type divine beast, it could exert its strongest power in water.

Miyamoto Musashi, trying to kill Qin Fang in its territory, was essentially dreaming...

The outcome was clear: Miyamoto Musashi was directly bitten by Little Dragon and dragged into Fulong Pond. The deadly poison of Little Dragon directly killed Miyamoto Musashi, and his Grandmaster Peak Cultivation couldn't save him.

Moreover, with not a trace of air at the bottom of Fulong Pond, an expert like Miyamoto Musashi couldn't endure long, leading to his complete defeat.

"Experience points wasted..."

Miyamoto Musashi died, but this time he perished under Little Dragon's poison. He dropped items for Qin Fang, but the experience points were greatly diminished.

The experience points from a Grandmaster Peak Strongman would have been astronomical, but with such a discount, it left Qin Fang quite frustrated.

Fortunately, the number was still quite significant, otherwise, Qin Fang might really have felt like killing someone.

Nonetheless, having dealt with Miyamoto Musashi, the goal of this trip was achieved. Although the experience gained was lesser, it was still enough to make Qin Fang feel quite satisfied.

After all, Qin Fang was still just a bit away from breaking through to Grandmaster Level, and he wasn't in a hurry, so a little less was no big deal.