

## Genius 1881

Chapter 1881 - Slaying the Legendary Assassin!

...

Monk Wukong went to pursue those fleeing spoiled brats. Since they were all little devils from Japan, the monk had no compassion and was quite ruthless.

However, as these people scattered in all directions, even though they were destined not to escape, Monk Wukong had to split up to chase them, which ended up delaying him.

Kitatori Kojirou has already been killed, and Hattori Sanzo is now free, quickly moving towards Asakura Ken's side...

With this turn of events, it became four people besieging one Asakura Ken, making the situation even more unfavorable for him.

The four masters were brimming with killing intent. From the moment they made their move, they didn't intend for this to end peacefully, and naturally they intended to do their absolute best to leave no loose ends.

In a word, Asakura Ken absolutely must not live!

The True Qi on Qin Fang and the others was vibrating, and the terrifying aura of Grandmaster Level quickly spread, enclosing Asakura Ken within.

Qin Zi and Sakura stood aside outside the combat circle, quite at peace, quietly observing the situation unfold.

Originally, the opposing side seemed aggressive and intimidating, even with a Grandmaster-level figure like Hattori Sanzo on their side, yet they hadn't retreated a single step.

But now with Qin Fang's arrival, the situation underwent a dramatic reversal.

First, Kitatori Kojirou was killed in anger, then the other frivolous followers were being chased down. Even the biggest reliance, Red Devil Asakura Ken, was like a clay Buddha crossing the river, unable to protect himself.

For Qin Zi, the turn of events had her stunningly beautiful face adorned with a very excited smile, and the look in her eyes towards Qin Fang was exceptionally gentle, almost as if little stars were sparkling out.

Sakura, however, had a somewhat gloomy expression. Originally discontent with being imprisoned by Qin Fang, she had compromised out of helplessness.

Yet, she was constantly planning on escaping from Qin Fang, even considering attracting experts from Hokkaido Shrine to rescue her.

But when she discovered that apart from Qin Fang, whose strength was even greater and whose secret techniques were manifold, the others were all terrifying existences...

Each wasn't very old, yet were stronger than her, all Grandmaster-level masters... This was something she couldn't immediately accept.

Why could she become a candidate for the Great Divine Priest of the Dao Shen Sect?

Besides being from the Six Great Holy Lands, she had extraordinary talent, young in age yet an outstanding cultivator amongst her peers, having already reached the Master Level Peak, almost stepping into the Grandmaster-level.

What about the other five candidates? They weren't much different from her, perhaps slightly stronger, but at most one or two had entered the Grandmaster level.

And these one or two who were ahead weren't necessarily stronger; it could just be differences in resource allocation from the Holy Land.

Hokkaido Shrine is the weakest among the Six Great Holy Lands, with a relatively shallow foundation, and since Sakura is a woman, the resource allocation is relatively lesser...

At least this was Sakura's inner thought, believing that the slight superiority of a few was due to more resource allocation.

If she were given equivalent resources, she could outdo and surpass those people...

However, the scene before her left her speechless.

The Grandmaster level is a very crucial threshold, its difficulty far surpassing the Master level, many once lofted geniuses are ultimately stuck here, fading into obscurity.

Yet the few before her, contrary in age, have crossed it with their heads held high, formally entering the realm of masters while she had to pile up resources to bridge the gap.

"What is their background, really?"

Thinking of this, Sakura's gaze involuntarily shifted to Qin Fang, because she knew well that the real leader of this group wasn't old man Hattori Sanzo, it was Qin Fang.

Although her own powers were sealed by Qin Fang, making her unable to discern the exact cultivation levels of the people present, the name Red Devil Asakura Ken was certainly not unfamiliar to her.

He is one of the top three in New North Bird under Anping Shrine, one of the Six Great Holy Lands, a formidable figure within Anping Shrine, and with his assassination skills, he could certainly rank among the top ten masters of Anping Shrine... even if the last spot, it's quite remarkable.

However, such a well-known master now seemed rather doomed, surrounded by the four of them, even escaping was difficult, and the possibility of dying was immensely high.

The more she pondered, the more mysterious Qin Fang and his group's origins became to Sakura...

Through Qin Fang and their conversations, she already knew they hailed from Dragon Country, but Hattori Sanzo and Qin Zi were both of the Fusang people... It was indeed a very strange combination!

"Asakura Ken, why don't you surrender... this way, we can leave your corpse intact!"

Qin Fang and the others surrounded Asakura Ken, not in a hurry to make a move, but instead, chatting with him cheerfully... although, the words spoken weren't very pleasant.

Chapter 1882 - Slaying the Legendary Assassin! (Part 2)

"Baka!"

Asakura Ken's face flickered with uncertainty, his mouth full of resentment, but he had no choice; the current situation was extremely unfavorable to him.

Though Qin Fang and the others hadn't made a move yet, the more this was the case, the more anxious Asakura Ken became...

Qin Fang and the others were waiting for Monk Wukong, who was pursuing those spoiled brats, to return. With the five Grandmasters joining forces, Asakura Ken would have no way out.

Qin Fang and the others could wait, but he couldn't. He had no backup at all, he was alone, and the longer this dragged on, the worse it was for him!

"No, I can't wait any longer..."

Having thought this through, Asakura Ken made a decisive move, rushing straight towards Qin Fang with considerable speed and ruthless ferocity.

He knew that among these people, Qin Fang was the leader; if he could take down Qin Fang, all his problems would be solved.

"Go back!"

Qin Fang didn't care about Asakura Ken's intentions. Seeing him charge forward, he thought Asakura merely intended to go for an easy target to break through, so Qin Fang unceremoniously shouted a reprimand, his full strength surging, delivering a powerful palm strike.

Asakura Ken didn't dodge either and launched a palm strike of his own.

He thought that although these people were Grandmaster-level, they were all at the initial stage, slightly weaker in strength than him.

Hence, this collision of palm energy wasn't just about strength; it was primarily about the confrontation of inner strength... In this aspect, Asakura Ken was confident.

Boom~~

Their palms collided, terrifying true qi rippled, and the massive impact exploded from between their palms, directly forcing both of them to retreat.

"As expected of a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert... Even if he's not particularly focused on inner strength, he's much stronger than an ordinary Grandmaster-level Initial Stage!"

After one exchange, Qin Fang was pushed back, retreating four or five meters before stabilizing himself, internally sighing with resignation.

"Such profound strength..."

Asakura Ken was knocked back two or three meters, which already spoke volumes of his strength, but he was equally shocked inside.

Asakura Ken was an assassin; surprise attacks were his forte, not these straightforward confrontations, so his strength was comparatively weaker than other experts of the same level.

But even so, he couldn't make up for the gap a level difference could create! Moreover, Asakura Ken discovered something else...

"However, his realm seems somewhat weaker than the others..."

In a battle between experts, any slight difference was evident, especially when it came to realm discrepancies.

Qin Fang's strength was indeed profound, stronger than most Grandmaster-level Initial Stage experts, but his realm hadn't broken through, which was a weakness.

In ordinary battles, this weakness might not be much of a deal, not greatly affecting the outcome, but right now... it was a different story!

Nonetheless, one thing was certain: although Qin Fang hadn't reached the Grandmaster realm, his strength and cultivation were already at the Grandmaster-level Standard!

"Old Qin, don't waste time, finish this quickly... If you don't, we're going to jump in and help!"

Seeing Qin Fang's unyielding stand against Asakura Ken amounted to little gain, Ji Xiang called out, urging Qin Fang to make his move.

As someone with experience, he knew Qin Fang wasn't going all out?

They were to kill Asakura Ken, not a mere martial arts competition... They just needed to take Asakura Ken's life, nothing else mattered.

"Four men, all at Grandmaster-level Standard, although I'm stronger, getting a hit won't be easy once tied down..."

Years of being an assassin had instilled in Asakura Ken immense patience and willpower, remaining calm even in such disadvantageous situations, quickly thinking of countermeasures.

But hearing Ji Xiang's words and noticing the movements of Ji Xiang and the others, Asakura Ken couldn't maintain his composure; if Qin Fang and the others attacked together, his fate would indeed look grim.

"No, I absolutely can't wait here to die..."

The more he thought about it, the more anxious Asakura Ken felt, his body tense and his eyes shifting around, searching for a chance to break through.

Until his gaze landed somewhere with a slight gleam, as if finding an opening.

"Baka! In this case, I have no choice but to drag someone down with me..."

Realizing Qin Fang and the others were closing in, Asakura Ken's sense of crisis intensified, seeing his chances of escape dwindling, his face twisted monstrously with violent intent in his eyes. With a loud roar, he shot out like an off-string arrow towards Qin Fang.

"Here you come..."

Seeing Asakura Ken charge, Qin Fang wasn't in the least bit anxious; instead, he shouted defiantly, meeting Asakura Ken head-on, his palm energy surging, clearly ready for another fight.

Asakura Ken's speed was remarkable, and his burst speed was terrifying, at least no worse than Qin Fang's Snow Traversing Step, maybe even surpassing it.

But Qin Fang felt no fear, prepared to face the opponent head-on.

Chapter 1883 - Slaying the Legendary Assassin! (Part 3)

But... just as Asakura Ken was almost upon him, and Qin Fang's palm energy was shaking, ready to give Asakura Ken a strong blow, Asakura Ken suddenly changed direction, opting to circumvent Qin Fang from the side.

"Hmph, courting death!"

This unexpected move didn't bother Qin Fang, who assumed Asakura Ken intended to attack from the side. He simply twisted his body slightly and swung a palm through the air toward the oncoming Asakura Ken!

Poof~~

Though this was just a spontaneous strike without much added power, it was still terrifyingly strong. Even a grandmaster-level expert like Asakura Ken would try to dodge it, or else get injured.

But unexpectedly, Asakura Ken didn't dodge at all. He took the hit from Qin Fang's palm, grunted, and used the force of the impact to shift rapidly in another direction...

In fact, Asakura Ken even accelerated, charging forward!

"Huh~~"

Qin Fang was taken aback, his body slightly stiffened, surprised by Asakura Ken's intention.

"Idiot!"

Seeing Asakura Ken abandon him and sprint away, Qin Fang's face momentarily flickered with surprise, but quickly filled with sarcasm, letting out a soft snort.

Unfortunately, Asakura Ken didn't care to respond to him, swiftly bypassing Qin Fang and heading towards Qin Zi and Sakura, intending to attack them.

"This is bad..."

Witnessing this scene, Qin Fang and his companions immediately realized Asakura Ken's plan, and Ji Xiang's face drastically changed as he involuntarily exclaimed.

Not only Ji Xiang, but also Song Qingshan and Hattori Sanzo's expressions changed dramatically; they quickly adjusted their formation, charging directly at Asakura Ken in an attempt to stop his rampage.

However, Qin Zi and Sakura were the closest to Qin Fang, meaning that if Asakura Ken broke through Qin Fang's line of defense, the two women would be defenseless.

"Now you're reacting? Too late... ugh!!"

Seeing Ji Xiang and the others' reaction, Asakura Ken's pale face showed a bit of arrogance, but at the same time, he had to suppress his internal injuries.

The palm strike from Qin Fang had not been light, significantly affecting even a grandmaster-level expert like him, although he managed to temporarily suppress it.

"I must get out of here quickly, or else..."

Asakura Ken thought to himself, realizing this was not a place to linger. If he didn't leave soon, he might really be buried here...

"Don't come closer!"

Qin Zi and Sakura hadn't expected Asakura Ken to be so ruthless, willing to push through despite being injured just to capture them... However, at this moment, it was too late for them to escape.

With no choice, Qin Zi could only protect Sakura behind her, standing in front, looking like a valiant hero fiercely protecting her partner.

"Hmph... none of you are getting away?"

Seeing Qin Zi not fleeing but instead shielding Sakura, Asakura Ken was momentarily surprised but was unconcerned, not taking Qin Zi seriously at all.

Perhaps in his heart, he already considered the two women his captives...

After all, Qin Zi, although shielding Sakura, was trembling violently, clearly frightened, but trying to appear calm.

Qin Zi's obstruction was futile. Asakura Ken approached her directly, clasping Qin Zi's pale neck, while also seizing the defenseless Sakura.

"You better not act rashly, or... don't blame me for being ruthless!"

Asakura Ken, despite being badly injured, spoke with blood seeping from his mouth, clearly suffering from Qin Fang's palm strike.

But Asakura Ken seemed unbothered by this, thinking that compared to surviving, these injuries were insignificant and he could disregard them.

Ji Xiang and the others watched Qin Zi and Sakura being seized, their faces turning grim, halting their actions in hesitation.

After all, it was a significant embarrassment for them to have these two women captured under their protection...

"Old Qin, what do we do?"

Ji Xiang, his face unpleasant, turned to Qin Fang, seeking a plan.

"What do we do?"

Hearing Ji Xiang's question, Qin Fang's expression didn't change, he merely chuckled calmly and replied, "It's simple! Take action..."

"Uh..."

Ji Xiang and the others were puzzled, not understanding what Qin Fang meant, momentarily at a loss, even Asakura Ken was a bit confused.

But at that moment, Qin Zi, who was being held by Asakura Ken, suddenly displayed a peculiar expression, her previously lowered hand suddenly lifted, a silver flash passed by, quickly piercing Asakura Ken's chest!

"Sleeve Sword!"

It was Hattori Sanzo who suddenly exclaimed!

"Poof~~"

This sword thrust brutally hit Asakura Ken's heart, the blade tip piercing through, with blood gushing along the sword.

Bam~~

Simultaneously, Qin Zi delivered an unreserved palm strike to Asakura Ken, sending him flying away... His body hovered mid-air, appearing especially tragic.

Meanwhile, Ji Xiang, Song Qingshan, and Hattori Sanzo rushed over, seeing Asakura Ken flying through the air, they all unwaveringly attacked, using their strongest killer moves on him...

Bang bang clatter~~

In no time, Asakura Ken's badly wounded body couldn't respond, being ruthlessly pummeled like a sandbag by these three fierce men.

Bam~~

As Asakura Ken finally hit the ground, his life came to an end, leaving only his last words, "How... could this happen?"

Asakura Ken initially thought Qin Fang's biggest weakness was these two women, believing that by capturing them, he could successfully escape.

But to his death, he didn't realize that among Qin Fang's group, the strongest one wasn't any of the men who took action, but actually Qin Zi, the seemingly harmless little woman...

Chapter 1884 - Forceful Return to the City!

...

So, Asakura Ken just died like that... It really was an unjust death.

Even until the moment he closed his eyes, he still couldn't accept this reality... But his heart was already pierced, whether he accepted it or not wouldn't change the result.

"Old Qin..."

Asakura Ken was dead, but that scene just now shocked not only the unfortunate Ken, but even their own people were completely dumbfounded.

Ji Xiang couldn't help but swallow, called for Qin Fang, and then said with a grievance, "Do you... have something to say to us?"

Qin Zi came over with them from the Dragon Country, and although they knew Qin Zi's strength wasn't weak, with a Master Level skill, that was about it.

But they didn't expect that the power Qin Zi showed in that moment far exceeded Ji Xiang and the others' understanding.

Not only at the Grandmaster Level but also stronger by a level than them, at least at the Grandmaster Mid-Stage cultivation level...

Faced with this reality, they had just managed to break through to Grandmaster Level and were on a high, only to be surprised to find themselves not only weaker than Qin Fang but even inferior to Qin Fang's maid... this blow was a bit too severe!

To this, Qin Fang could only helplessly shrug his shoulders, not saying much.

Qin Zi's strength wasn't cultivated by herself but was forcibly enhanced using the Ninja Token... The benefit is clear; as long as there are tokens, one can directly level up.

However, the downside is even more evident; increasing within this level is very, very difficult... The path of self-cultivation cannot be traveled, relying on a martial artist who hasn't seriously cultivated to understand a master's skills is the most ridiculous thing ever.

There is only one way forward... by relying on a large number of Ninja Tokens to forcibly pile up.

But the problem is, when your strength is low, you can take this path, as there are quite a few low-level ninjas, and these tokens are relatively easy to find.

But once you've stepped into Master and Grandmaster Levels, it's different... Grandmasters are Earth Nin, each of these experts is nearly legendary.

Not only are they incredibly few in number, but their strength is terrifyingly formidable... Think of Miyamoto Musashi, a Grandmaster Peak Strongman, and if not for Qin Fang having the Divine Beast Xiaolong's help, he wouldn't dare provoke him even with the courage of ten men.

Grandmasters are extremely hard to handle, and Grandmaster-level ninjas are even harder... Trying to obtain an Earth Ninja Token requires taking down these grandmaster-level ninjas, the difficulty is beyond imagination.

Killing an Earth Ninja is already extreme, not to mention trying to churn out hundreds or thousands of Earth Ninja Tokens, that's even more... Leaving aside whether there are even that many Earth Nin in the entire ninjutsu world, even if there were, they're not something Qin Fang and the others could handle.

Qin Zi using one Earth Ninja Token to directly leap to Grandmaster Mid-Stage is just a special case, because Miyamoto Musashi was simply too powerful, just half a step away from crossing into the Great Grandmaster level... So the strong effect of his Earth Ninja Token is understandable!

"You brat..."

Seeing that Qin Fang seemed unwilling to explain, Ji Xiang and the others were quite helpless. Although they were brothers in life and death, everyone has their secrets.

Unless someone shares it themselves, it's best not to pry, to avoid hurting brotherly bonds.

"The monk's back..."

Just at this time, Monk Wukong also returned from afar, and it seemed those poor unfortunate souls had already gone to meet their Amaterasu.

"Huh, you guys were really quick!"

As he spoke, Monk Wukong arrived before them, immediately noticing Asakura Ken who had fallen breathless, and smilingly commented.

Evidently, he initially intended to join in, but Qin Fang and the others' speed was so fast that they had already dealt with the person, leaving him without a chance to intervene.

"Um... actually it wasn't us!"

Being called out by Monk Wukong like that, Ji Xiang and the others blushed slightly, saying with some embarrassment.

"Not you guys..."

Monk Wukong was stunned, curiously looking at Ji Xiang, seeing his sincerity, he believed it, then turned to Qin Fang, "It must have been Old Qin then... too fierce!"

"It wasn't me either..."

But Qin Fang shrugged, utterly denying it.

"..."

Monk Wukong was completely flabbergasted. Ji Xiang and the others said it wasn't them, Qin Fang said it wasn't him, so it could only be the two women left.

Sakura's power was suppressed by Qin Fang, making her just an ordinary woman. If she regained her strength, her first act would surely be to attack them, not kill Asakura Ken.

"Don't tell me it's..."

Thinking of this, there seemed to be only one person left, and Monk Wukong's gaze finally settled on Qin Zi, his eyes filled with surprise and disbelief.

Like Ji Xiang and the others, he found it hard to accept this reality!

However, seeing Ji Xiang and the others nodding with wry smiles, though unwilling to believe, Monk Wukong had no choice but to reluctantly accept it.

## Chapter 1885 - Forceful Return to the City! (Part 2)

Similarly, Qin Fang helplessly smiled and stepped over to Asakura Ken's corpse, starting to search through it.

As a grandmaster-level expert, with a strength considerably greater than Qin Fang's current level, and a realm higher by two tiers, if he had died at Qin Fang's hands, it certainly wouldn't be possible for Qin Fang to walk away empty-handed.

Unfortunately...

Asakura Ken, this unlucky kid, ended up dying at the hands of Qin Zi and Ji Xiang, among others. Although Qin Fang wanted to intervene, he hadn't had a chance to act before Asakura Ken was already dead.

In such a situation, Qin Fang naturally wouldn't gain anything...

Of course, nothing exploded out, but Qin Fang did receive a small amount of experience points, as he was part of the team. Even though he wasn't the one who killed Asakura Ken personally, he still got some team-based points.

"What a pity..."

Qin Fang also felt rather helpless and regretful.

Asakura Ken was a grandmaster mid-stage expert and a legendary assassin of the Assassin's Alliance, yet he himself wasn't Japan's most famous ninja.

Not being a ninja, naturally no ninja token would explode out. Qin Fang's regret stemmed from this... If Asakura Ken were a ninja, there might have been a chance to acquire an Earth Ninja Token.

Asakura Ken's strength was considerably weaker than Miyamoto Musashi's, but he was still a grandmaster mid-stage expert. If he could have exploded an Earth Ninja Token, it would mean Qin Fang might have been able to create another grandmaster-level expert... even if it was only at the grandmaster-level initial stage!

But the outcome was harsh, Asakura Ken wasn't a ninja, so naturally, no ninja token would explode out, let alone the fact that he wasn't killed personally by Qin Fang.

"This place is unsuitable for a prolonged stay, let's leave..."

With everyone already wiped out, there was naturally no need to remain here. Who knows if other experts might suddenly appear?

It's not that Qin Fang was afraid, but he simply didn't want to invite trouble, especially considering their precarious situation.

They had no choice; the experts of the Hokkaido Shrine were essentially swarming, all looking for Saintess Sakura's whereabouts...

Qin Fang and his group were currently all grandmaster-level tier experts; together, they might narrowly be able to face a master-level late-stage expert.

However, even though the Hokkaido Shrine is the weakest among the Six Great Holy Lands, it has quite a few experts, including not only master-level late-stage experts but even great grandmaster level experts!

The current sect masters of the Six Great Holy Lands also serve concurrently as the six deacons of the Dao Shen Sect, all are great grandmaster level experts, all are more challenging to deal with than Miyamoto Musashi.

With such experts, even if one appeared, Qin Fang and his group would only have the option of fleeing clumsily, and even that escape would be incredibly difficult!

With this in mind, Qin Fang's gaze floated past Sakura, just as Sakura was also looking at him, their eyes meeting in midair.

Then... they quickly parted!

This fleeting connection lasted almost only an instant before quickly breaking apart.

Sakura's gaze was indescribably complex, especially when directed towards Qin Fang... It seemed to carry considerable resentment, yet appeared significantly intricate.

Even Qin Fang, under conditions where the Mind Reading Technique was ineffective, found it difficult to understand such a complex gaze... So, he chose to turn a blind eye.

"Qin Zi, take her along..."

Qin Fang briefly instructed, then moved ahead with his brothers, while Sakura was taken care of by Qin Zi.

The two women were together, at least it wouldn't be quite as awkward, but now Sakura's gaze towards Qin Zi was even more complicated...

Since being captured by Qin Fang, Sakura already knew Qin Zi was Qin Fang's personal maid, even trying to worm into Qin Fang's bed.

But Sakura despised someone like Qin Zi, even from the bottom of her heart... However, the formidable strength Qin Zi displayed earlier against Asakura Ken deeply shocked her.

If Ji Xiang and others, who stepped into the grandmaster level, had already severely impacted her as a peer, then Qin Zi... directly trampled her fragile self-esteem into the ground.

That feeling was truly uncomfortable, Sakura's face alternated between green and white, seemingly deeply ashamed of her previous disdainful thoughts.

She had always been an extremely proud woman, always holding herself in high regard, seemingly thinking she was the only true prodigy.

But merciless reality gave her a harsh slap, leaving her with the urge to find a hole to crawl into.

Of course, given her current state of being unable to even bind a chicken, forget about burrowing into a hole; she might not even have the strength to dig one...

"Forget it, I must face reality!"

Such a harsh blow severely battered Sakura's pride, but it also unexpectedly brought a benefit: Sakura now resigned to her fate and no longer contemplated escaping unscathed from here.

Qin Fang's party of six consisted of Hattori Sanzo, Ji Xiang, Qing Mountain, Monk Wukong, all of whom had grandmaster level cultivation, while Qin Zi had reached grandmaster mid-stage. Even though Qin Fang hadn't broken through, remaining at the master level peak, his actual combat strength was grandmaster-level...

Chapter 1886 - Returning to the City in Force! (Part 3)

This combination has her firmly in their grasp. Even if she fully recovers her strength, she wouldn't dare say she could escape from their hands, let alone now that all her powers are sealed.

As for seeking help from the sect's experts, this is a good idea, but it also comes with great risk... If it turns out as Qin Fang said, that the sect can't break Qin Fang's restriction, then her life would be completely ruined!

In that case, it would be better to stay by Qin Fang's side. This might be more advantageous... at least her personal safety is not in question.

...

"Are you coming back?"

When Saburo Kohara heard this news, he was very surprised. After hesitating for a moment, he couldn't help but say, "Young Master Qin, the situation in Sapporo is still very unclear. I think... staying here might be better!"

Saburo Kohara is a well-known underground boss in Sapporo with very rich sources of information. Especially in the past two days, a weird and unpredictable atmosphere has shrouded the entire sky over Sapporo, making it even harder for him to act rashly.

As one of the insiders, Kohara naturally knew why Qin Fang and his group avoided the situation temporarily, but now they are planning to return at a critical moment, which truly shocked him.

"It's okay..."

Unfortunately, Kohara is just a minor figure Qin Fang can use, and once Qin Fang has made a decision, it's not something that can be easily changed by a few words.

Kidnapping the Holy Woman of the Hokkaido Shrine was definitely an enormous matter. For so many years, the Hokkaido Shrine had never been provoked like this.

So, after the incident, the Hokkaido Shrine was completely enraged, and the entire Sapporo seemed to have fallen into a state of white terror in the past two days. Even the annual Lilac Festival was reduced and quietly passed by without much fanfare.

But precisely because Kohara knew some things, he was even more reluctant to let Qin Fang and his group return so soon...

The current Sapporo city is bustling with people everywhere, all searching for Sakura's whereabouts. Once Sakura returns, these people definitely won't show mercy, and Qin Fang and his companions will be in real danger.

Of course, Qin Fang wouldn't tell Kohara that they had done something tremendous on the plains—taking out the most cherished little grandson of the sect master of Anping Shrine, Kitatori Shinichi, and even killing Red Devil Asakura Ken...

The impact of such a deed is certainly not beneath the kidnapping of the Holy Woman!

The Holy Woman is indeed very important, even expected to become the future Great Divine Priest of the Dao Shen Sect. But for now, she is just a relatively outstanding disciple.

However, the death of Kitatori Kojirou and Asakura Ken would spark a significant influence. At the very least, Kitatori Shinichi, the Great Grandmaster Level Expert, would absolutely not stand by.

"Just maintain as you usually do..."

Qin Fang would still comfort Kohara as needed. He didn't want a flaw to appear on his side...

Although Kohara is not Qin Fang's confidant, he is Kawada Masami's man, with no real problem in terms of loyalty.

If someone like him betrayed them, Qin Fang and his companions would be in real trouble.

Regarding this point, Qin Fang wasn't worried. After all, what Kohara knew was just his own guess, without any real evidence.

If he dared to expose Qin Fang and his group, even the people from Hokkaido Shrine might not believe him... After all, Qin Fang and his group had completely changed their appearances, making it impossible to find any trace!

Indeed, Qin Fang chose to return to the city at this time for his reasons, and they were very valid.

"The three days are up!"

Yes, three days are up, and a particular person should fulfill his promise.

Three days ago, Kawada Musashi promised Qin Fang a request, and now the time has come. Qin Fang should prepare to collect his debt.

While Musashi School is a bit small, its legacy has lasted for a considerable time. Coupled with the Japanese penchant for plundering, there must be many good things in their treasury.

Qin Fang didn't intend to be too greedy, aiming for just one or two items, but each of them is a masterpiece, so he needs to choose carefully.

Three days ago, Miyamoto Musashi was killed by Qin Fang, and Kawada Musashi formally took action. In the past two or three days, he has been eliminating dissidents and unifying the Musashi School.

Qin Fang had already given him such ample time, so now it was time for Qin Fang to reap his rewards.

"I hope this trip to the treasury won't disappoint me too much..."

When Qin Fang and Kawada Musashi talked initially, they agreed Qin Fang could freely take one item from the treasury. The Secret Realm Map is already in hand; now it's purely profit.

If he can obtain a rare treasure, then this time Qin Fang would truly have hit the jackpot...

As for whether Kawada Musashi wants to renege, he would need the courage for that. The fact that Miyamoto Musashi, who oppressed him for twenty years, died at Qin Fang's hand, what chance does he have?

No matter what Qin Fang had in mind, the brothers had no complaints. Even though they knew Sapporo had descended into chaos, they couldn't be stopped from returning.

A Grandmaster's fury is absolutely terrifying! Losing a life or two is not a big deal, basically happening every day!

"Who's afraid of what! Even Red Devil Asakura Ken died at our hands. I want to see... who else dares to block our path?"

In fact, Ji Xiang defiantly declared this affirmation, seemingly hoping the Hokkaido Shrine would send experts to hunt them down...

Chapter 1887 - Priest Trial!

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"Damn it, you're really a jinx..."

Although Ji Xiang's grand words sounded so bold, unfortunately, they turned out to be true. Not long after Qin Fang and his group entered Sapporo, they felt they were being watched.

Qin Fang quickly checked around. Although those following them were just some low-level gang members, it was hard to say whether there were any important figures from the Hokkaido Shrine behind them.

When Qin Fang shared this information with the others, it immediately provoked unanimous criticism of Ji Xiang. That guy's mouth was really unfortunate.

"..."

Ji Xiang could only smile wryly and draw circles on the side, not knowing whom he was cursing.

However, Qin Fang and his group didn't care too much. They were just some small-time thugs, nothing big. As long as they didn't deliberately provoke them, there wouldn't be any major issues.

"Forget it, it's no big deal! Soldiers come to block the water, let's see what they're afraid of..."

Qin Fang was quite relaxed. He had caught Sakura, and not long ago, he took out Kitatori Kojiro, which already stirred up the winds and clouds of the Japanese martial arts world.

If he had caused such a big stir and the entire Japanese martial world remained silent, wouldn't all his efforts have been in vain?

This clearly wasn't something Qin Fang wanted to see! He would rather the whole Sapporo become a very dangerous territory right now...

Only by maneuvering in such a treacherous environment could their journey to Japan bring great success and training!

Of course, one precondition was necessary: they must preserve their own lives!

"Why are you back?"

Two days later, when Qin Fang and the others met Kawada Masami again, the guy seemed not very welcoming. The first sentence almost made Ji Xiang want to beat him up.

Two days ago, defeating Kawada Masami would've been difficult for Ji Xiang. Killing him would be even tougher.

But now, beating Kawada Masami was very easy. Even taking him out would just require a bit of effort, with no real difficulty.

"No, I didn't mean it like that! It's just..."

Seeing Ji Xiang's face change dramatically and his fists clench in an eager-to-fight manner, Kawada Masami quickly explained, knowing he misspoke.

If he finished his sentence, he might end up with wounds all over his body... There was no doubting the possibility. The people in front of him could definitely do it.

Moreover, if it really happened, Kawada Masami wouldn't even have the courage to fight back...

"Then what do you mean to say?"

Though he quickly explained, Ji Xiang was still dissatisfied, snorting a curse as if he intended to start a fight.

"Sigh, here's the thing! In the past two days, many people have flooded into Sapporo, including top experts from the Six Great Holy Lands... If you don't have to, you better keep a low profile!"

Although Kawada Masami didn't know if Sakura's disappearance was directly related to Qin Fang and his group, there had been significant changes in Sapporo during the two days they were absent.

If Qin Fang and the others remained on the grasslands, it would be fine, but since they're back, he had to give them a heads-up.

This warning wasn't out of concern for Qin Fang and his group's personal safety but to prevent them from stirring up trouble his father couldn't handle during a critical time.

The influx of experts from the Six Great Holy Lands into Sapporo was an unusual event, reportedly coinciding with the disappearance of the Hokkaido Shrine's Holy Woman, causing complete chaos in Sapporo over the past two days.

Coincidentally, his father, Kawada Musashi, was seizing the moment of Miyamoto Musashi's death to unify the entire Musashi School.

If some trouble arises now, his father's plans to rise might have to be rewritten...

The Musashi School is only mid-tier among Ninja Sects, but some members have significant connections. If they betray the sect's interests for support from the Six Great Holy Lands, Kawada Musashi would find it hard to win...

"What? Your old man hasn't completed the unification?"

Hearing Kawada Masami's words, Qin Fang's expression turned unpleasant, and his tone became somewhat grim, clearly showing his anger.

To set the mood, the others immediately released a fraction of their aura, letting the grandmaster-level presence rise, making the surroundings much more oppressive.

"No, no..."

Seeing Qin Fang on the verge of losing his temper, Kawada Masami hurriedly denied it, especially noticing the pressure from the others, which terrified him.

"That's better! The latest by tomorrow, we'll go to the Musashi School to select treasures... If you and your father dare have any sinister thoughts, then... don't blame us for being ruthless!"

Qin Fang wasn't interested in listening to Kawada Masami's excuses, directly issuing a final ultimatum.

The situation in Sapporo had become very delicate and dangerous.

While this was Qin Fang's expectation, it didn't mean he had to stay in this troubled land... Not giving up on selecting treasure in the martial world, but regarding other matters or those experts, Qin Fang planned to avoid provoking them if he could!

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It's not that Qin Fang is afraid or intimidated by these experts, he just doesn't want to spend his time or energy on them...

"Alright! I'll come to pick you up tomorrow..."

Facing Qin Fang's assertiveness, Kawada Masami felt helpless, and after a moment of silence, could only nod and agree.

Afterward, Kawada Masami left Qin Fang and their base, as he reportedly had many things to attend to, not to mention informing his father Kawada Musashi of Qin Fang's ultimatum.

"Old Qin, do you really believe Kawada and his son will agree to our conditions?"

After Kawada Masami left, Monk Wukong couldn't help but ask, looking as if his question carried a deeper meaning.

"Of course not!"

Qin Fang shook his head, giving a straightforward answer.

"They're both alike, I saw through them long ago... Kawada Musashi might be a bit troublesome, but it shouldn't be too severe! However, to have him truly open the treasury for us to pick treasures, he certainly won't be willing to... especially at this moment!"

Kawada Masami may have agreed readily, but Qin Fang never truly believed him, having predicted long ago what kind of reaction this father and son would have.

"Are we just gonna let it slide?"

Listening to Qin Fang, Ji Xiang asked rather disconsolately.

"How could we?"

Qin Fang immediately scoffed, then replied sinisterly, "I'll make them understand that some things can't be owed to certain people..."

"Haha, that's the Old Qin style!"

Ji Xiang and the others laughed upon hearing this; they had put in a lot of effort, only for Kawada Musashi to benefit so greatly.

This old fox planned to burn his bridges, so Qin Fang and the others would have no qualms turning against him.

"Kawada Musashi is not a concern. With our current strength, wiping out the Musashi School is no problem... It's just that I'm worried Kawada Musashi might not give us the chance to initiate action!"

With Qin Fang's group's current strength, the Musashi School posed little threat anymore... Excluding the already deceased Miyamoto Musashi, the entire Musashi School had only three Grandmaster-level experts.

A few days ago, Qin Fang and the others wouldn't dare boast like this, but it's different now...

Among the seven of them now, aside from Sakura, everyone else is at the Grandmaster-level, and Qin Zi is even at Grandmaster Mid-Stage.

Six Grandmaster-level experts, if they couldn't handle three Grandmasters, they'd really have no face to mingle in the Martial World...

"What do you mean?"

Ji Xiang was a bit confused and asked puzzledly.

If Kawada Musashi is of no concern, why say he won't give them a chance to take action? Isn't that contradictory?

Qin Fang didn't answer but walked directly to Sakura, suddenly producing a Silver Needle in his hand and quickly piercing it into Sakura's face before she could react.

"Miss Sakura, shouldn't you say something?"

After inserting the needle, Qin Fang leisurely spoke, eyeing Sakura with an amused look.

"I... I can speak?"

Sakura was stunned, then tried to say something and immediately heard her own voice.

Unable to speak for two or three days, almost to the point of thinking she was permanently mute, now she could finally speak, bringing a rare sense of joy to her previously low spirits.

However, as she realized this, her smiling face quickly turned cold, staring at Qin Fang with a look that suggested she wouldn't open her mouth again.

Of course, secretly she was also silently trying to circulate her True Qi to see if her cultivation had returned.

"No need to try, I just let you speak; your power is still blocked..."

But her subtle actions did not escape Qin Fang's eyes, and he calmly stated.

By then, Sakura had tried as well, and as Qin Fang said, her power showed no sign of activity; she remained an ordinary woman unable to lift even a chicken, albeit now with the ability to speak.

"Miss Sakura, my patience is limited, I'd hope you'd cooperate... Otherwise, I wouldn't mind making you mute again! Oh, and maybe I'd make a slight change to your appearance..."

Qin Fang was not surprised by Sakura's reaction; if she obediently complied, it would be truly suspicious and make Qin Fang skeptical.

So Qin Fang wasn't in a hurry, just explaining matters slowly and methodically to the beautiful Miss Sakura, albeit with a slightly stern tone.

"Old Ji, what's the name of that most famous beauty in our Dragon Country? The one whose marriage criteria are unbeatable, confident enough to scorn everyone globally..."

Of course, Qin Fang's stern tone and not-so-fair methods, especially when dealing with a beautiful woman...

It's a pity, this woman is not only a thorny rose but also a foreign one... So Qin Fang won't be so polite!

"Old Qin, who you're referring to... should be her, right?"

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Ji Xiang was quite cooperative, took out his phone, quickly searched for something, and immediately displayed the photo he found.

"Yes, it's her!"

Qin Fang nodded with a chuckle, "If Miss Sakura doesn't cooperate, I think this beauty would be more than happy to have another twin sister..."

As if worried Sakura didn't see it clearly enough, Qin Fang deliberately brought the photo closer to Sakura, making sure she got a good look.

"Damn, this guy is too vicious!"

Even Monk Wukong, who rarely reacted this way, whispered quietly with Song Qingshan beside him. Hattori Sanzo couldn't help but lean in for a look, immediately recoiled in fear, his face changing color, clearly shaken as the photo's impact was overwhelmingly strong.

As for Qin Zi, she had also seen it clearly. Having stayed in Dragon Country for some time, she naturally knew who the woman in the photo was... Her expression turned indescribably strange.

Then, she couldn't help but glance at Sakura beside her, then at the person in the photo, her gaze instantly filled with sympathy.

No wonder, that person was truly astonishing in appearance, earth-shattering!

If Sakura were made to look like that, she might not have the courage to continue living... It was simply too bizarre!

"You..."

Everyone else had already seen it, and naturally, so had Sakura.

Staring at the photo, Sakura genuinely wanted to stand firm against Qin Fang, but in the end... she couldn't bear that appearance herself.

If she had to choose, she'd rather die than become like that!

Faced with such a situation, the proud Sakura had no choice but to lower her head, choosing silence, choosing to think... The impact of that face was too great for her to withstand!

"Tell me, how do you want me to cooperate?"

Sakura was silent for at least over ten minutes, then sighed gently, her expression appearing quite helpless as she looked at Qin Fang and said.

Without a doubt, the impact of that photo was simply too strong for Sakura to resist, ultimately choosing to submit to Qin Fang.

"What's been happening these past few days? Why are there so many experts in Sapporo?"

Qin Fang was not at all polite, immediately asking somewhat curiously.

Sakura's disappearance was indeed quite a significant event, but it was relative only to the Hokkaido Shrine. As the Holy Woman of their Holy Land, they naturally had to care for her, naturally had to put in effort to find her.

However, this had nothing to do with other Holy Lands... They might even be happy to see Sakura kidnapped or even killed!

With one less Sakura, there'd be one less competitor, providing more chances of winning in the Great Priest selection, so naturally, they'd be happy to see it happen.

But the issue was, Qin Fang also discovered it wasn't so simple.

In just two or three days, quite a few powerful experts had appeared in Sapporo, even people from the Six Great Holy Lands had come, which was truly puzzling.

The main point was, people from the Six Great Holy Lands appeared openly. If they intended to trouble the Hokkaido Shrine, there was no need to be so obvious.

Then there was only one possibility... something was about to happen here soon!

"The Priest Trial..."

Sakura lowered her head, remained silent for a moment, then gently uttered these few words.

"Priest Trial? What is this?"

Qin Fang was taken aback, quite puzzled, and asked.

However, judging by the literal meaning, it seemed to have quite a connection with the Dao Shen Sect, after all, priests were a crucial part of the Taoist God Sect.

"The Great Divine Priest of the Taoist God Sect is about to retire, all young elites aspiring to become the Great Priest can participate in the selection... And this selection process is called the Priest Trial!"

Since she had already started talking, Sakura didn't conceal anything further and simply explained the details of this Priest Trial.

Because the Great Priest is the highest authority of the Taoist God Sect and its spiritual backbone, the selection of the Great Priest is extremely complex and difficult.

To eventually become the Great Priest, one needs to go through numerous trials and eliminations before truly reaching the top and becoming the one standing at the peak!

"The first stop is within our Hokkaido Shrine..."

Then Sakura particularly emphasized this sentence, which effectively unraveled the mystery.

No wonder so many experts gathered in Sapporo, they all came to participate in this Priest Trial...

Apart from the trialists aspiring to become the Great Priest, these trialists were accompanied by their sect members, senior sect mates, or fellow disciples... As a result, quite a lot of people came, and their abilities were quite extraordinary, making the large number of experts easier to understand!

"Priest Trial..."

Qin Fang quietly pondered the meaning of this term, his expression was ever-changing, seemingly deep in thought.

"Can anyone participate in this Priest Trial?"

Then Qin Fang abruptly asked this unexpected question, astonishing everyone present, leaving them all dumbfounded.

"Gulp~~"

Ji Xiang couldn't help but swallow, then asked in surprise, "Old Qin, don't tell me you plan to... participate in this Priest Trial?"

Though he used a question, from Qin Fang's reaction, it seemed the question was somewhat redundant, as Qin Fang's demeanor explained everything.

"Why not?"

Qin Fang shrugged, clearly having such an intention; otherwise, he wouldn't have asked this question specifically...

Chapter 1890 - Secret Passage Chen Cang

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"You're courting death!"

When everyone heard Qin Fang's words, they were all shocked. After a long moment, Monk Wukong gritted his teeth and said.

He didn't have any grudge against Qin Fang, but he was unusually worried about Qin Fang making such a reckless decision.

They had been together for so long, and though they never verbally pledged loyalty for life, the sentiment was clear.

If it weren't for Qin Fang's plan, which Monk Wukong found extremely unacceptable, he would have never said such things.

"Old Qin, you can't be serious, can you?"

Not only Monk Wukong but even Ji Xiang asked with a heavy heart, clearly not optimistic about Qin Fang's decision.

"Young Master Qin..."

Even Hattori Sanzo couldn't help but open his mouth as if he wanted to say something, but held back, remembering his position.

"Hahaha..."

Seeing the expressions on everyone's faces, Qin Fang burst into laughter, "Look how scared you all are..."

With a bright smile, Qin Fang's eyes showed a hint of contempt, as if he'd played a successful trick, seemingly just joking with the others.

"I never said I was going to participate myself... Look how nervous you are!"

As everyone looked puzzled, Qin Fang slowly explained.

"Then what do you mean..."

They were momentarily relieved but soon realized something else, causing them to mutter in confusion.

"Isn't there a more suitable candidate among us?"

Qin Fang didn't answer directly, instead keeping them guessing with a playful smile.

"A more suitable candidate..."

They couldn't help but murmur, quickly scanning the group in search of this candidate.

The four of them were from Dragon Country, so they could be ignored, leaving only the three from Japan...

Hattori Sanzo was an old man, and although he could live a few more years, he'd achieved all he could in his lifetime. Reaching Master Level Peak was his greatest success, but he couldn't break through further.

His power might be enough to become the master of a sect, but far from qualifying him as the Great Divine Priest of the Dao Shen Sect.

Sakura...

She was already one of the hottest candidates for the Great Divine Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, representing Hokkaido Shrine, one of the Six Great Holy Lands, and had no connection with Qin Fang's group.

For now, she was just a prisoner of Qin Fang's group, likely thinking about how to take revenge once she escaped, so she couldn't possibly align with them!

It was clear that she could be excluded from the options...

Meaning... there was only one candidate left.

"You're talking about... Qin Zi?"

All of them almost simultaneously turned their eyes to Qin Zi, asking in unison.

In fact, this question no longer needed an answer from Qin Fang, as they could guess among themselves.

Qin Zi, although always by their side, seemed to be an outsider, seldom involving herself in their actions. Even during that treasure hunt in the secret land, she didn't participate.

Initially, they believed it to be due to her lack of power, but her single strike killing Asakura Ken already proved her strength surpassed everyone on the scene, reaching Grandmaster Mid-Stage...

Qin Zi was even a little younger than Qin Fang, only eighteen or nineteen, meeting the required age for the Priest trial, even exceeding the criteria brilliantly.

As for her strength, being at Grandmaster Mid-Stage made her far superior to the talents of the Six Great Holy Lands by more than just a notch or two.

Her age and strength being so robust indicated exceptional potential, showing she could achieve far greater heights in the future... This was a crucial factor required for a candidate for Great Divine Priest.

Combining these factors, Qin Zi's qualifications not only met but far exceeded ordinary talents, reaching a monstrous level.

Even Sakura, upon hearing Qin Fang's words, couldn't help but open her mouth in surprise, unable to close it for a long time.

Meanwhile, she sighed deeply, expressing deep helplessness...

As for various reasons, they are quite obvious!

Sakura is called the Holy Woman, holding a prominent position in the Hokkaido Shrine. Even if she fails in the future battle for the position of the Great Priest, she still has a chance to become the leader of the Hokkaido Shrine, with limitless potential.

However, putting aside that she is currently a prisoner, even the Qin Zi in front of her—whose beauty does not lose to her, who is immensely more powerful, yet younger—already stirs a deep sense of jealousy in Sakura...

Ironically, Qin Zi's identity is that of Qin Fang's maid, and she's the type who tries every means to climb into her master's bed...

Thinking of this, Sakura couldn't help but shift her gaze from Qin Zi to Qin Fang. She really couldn't imagine what kind of charm this man had to turn a powerful woman like Qin Zi into this...

At least in her opinion, she could never like a man far inferior to herself!

Of course, although Qin Fang is not as good as Qin Zi, he is a level above her... it was the case before, and even more so now!

"Young Master, do you really want me to..."

Qin Zi is not a foolish or ignorant woman. Seeing everyone looking at her, she naturally understood what Qin Fang meant and immediately said timidly.

It's not that she's afraid; she's just used to talking to Qin Fang this way.

"That's the plan!"

Qin Fang did not hide it, nodding lightly.

Although he had thoughts of causing a stir himself, he decided against taking that risk after some consideration. They only needed to coordinate on the periphery, supporting Qin Zi all the way to the top, which is a very good approach.

The most crucial point, which Qin Fang did not explicitly share with others, is that his trip to Japan was not just about killing enemies; he also had to complete an almost impossible ultimate task... helping Qin Zi take control of the Shiling Group!

The Shiling Group is a famous enterprise in Japan, controlled by the Dao Shen Sect. To seize its control, they must first deal with the Dao Shen Sect.

However, the Dao Shen Sect is the supreme authority in Japan, with an endless number of experts... Let alone the Great Priest, even each of the six Deacons is a Grandmaster-level expert, and any one of them could easily wipe out Qin Fang and his crew.

Completely unable to contend, how could they talk about completing this ultimate task?

So, Qin Fang had to take a different approach and not follow the usual path!

Slaughtering various major factions of the Japanese martial world was the method Qin Fang thought of before, intending to stir up trouble significantly so that they could fish in troubled waters.

However, plans can't keep up with changes. Now that there is a better way and the most suitable conditions, it's only natural to change their thinking and plans.

Supporting Qin Zi in participating in this Great Priest Trial, stepping on other trialists' "corpses" one by one, reaching that supreme summit step by step.

If she directly climbed to the position of the Great Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, this almost impossible ultimate task would be automatically completed, and even over-fulfilled...

Qin Zi is Qin Fang's maid, extremely dependent on Qin Fang, and because of the task, she could never betray Qin Fang no matter what.

If Qin Zi could become the Great Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, controlling the entire sect, it would indirectly mean Qin Fang controls the Dao Shen Sect... This is not a small thing, nor is it a small victory!

"Hmm, I'll listen to you..."

Seeing Qin Fang's clear expression, Qin Zi readily nodded and agreed to this matter.

Although this matter is destined to be full of countless difficulties and crises, Qin Zi didn't consider any of these issues and agreed with ease.

The only reason is that it was a request brought up by Qin Fang!

"Old Qin, you are still the slyest!"

Qin Fang clearly understood this meaning, and naturally, after a while, the others did too. Each face showed a peculiar smile, with Ji Xiang even teasingly chuckling.

"It's too early to talk about this. There's still a small problem with how to get Qin Zi into this Great Priest Trial..."

Qin Fang lightly shook his head while speaking, his eyes moving to the beautiful Sakura.

Without a doubt, this small problem still requires the cooperation of this beauty... More precisely, they need Sakura to handle it.

"What do you want?"

Sakura's expression was not good, but she had an instinctive fear of Qin Fang, perhaps also afraid that Qin Fang might turn her into the number one ugly woman.

"It's simple, find a way to get Qin Zi into this Great Priest Trial..."

Qin Fang shrugged and smiled indifferently.

The Great Priest Trial is a very important matter, and ordinary people don't even have the chance to know about it, even Hattori Sanzo doesn't know...

For such a confidential event, getting in is naturally not easy, especially for people with identities like Qin Fang and his group...

Although Qin Zi is also Japanese, her identity is very sensitive, and her background is somewhat too mysterious. Trying to get in is sure to create problems!

And among their group, seemingly only Sakura knows about this Great Priest Trial, perhaps even relatively familiar with it, as she is also one of the candidates to participate in this trial... Moreover, this time the event is being held on the grounds of the Hokkaido Shrine!