

## Genius 1911

Chapter 1911 - Martial Way Prodigy of Japan! (2)

"Not from the Iga Clan!"

Qin Fang shook his head and denied, "They're from Mantian Shrine..."

"Hiss~~"

As soon as he said that, the others couldn't help but gasp, even more shocked than when they thought these people were from the Iga School.

"Old Qin, you..."

Ji Xiang couldn't help but want to complain to Qin Fang, but once he started, he didn't know how to continue.

Even Sakura, upon hearing this, couldn't help but slightly open her small mouth, seemingly filled with deep surprise. But she quickly felt relieved and instead looked at Qin Fang with a comfortable expression.

Among the Japan Six Great Holy Lands, the Asama Shrine on Mount Fuji is the foremost, followed by Sakata Shrine, Mantian Shrine, Anping Shrine, Dazhu Shrine, and Hokkaido Shrine.

Among these, Mantian Shrine and Anping Shrine have comparable strength, both at the mid-level of the Six Great Holy Lands, much stronger than Hokkaido Shrine.

Although the Iga School is one of the two major powers in the Ninja Sect, its overall level is only as high as Hokkaido Shrine, a level below Mantian Shrine.

In this way, they would rather have eliminated people from the Iga School last night than those from Mantian Shrine...

That's also why Qin Fang had discovered it yesterday but didn't inform the others, not wanting to add any more pressure on them.

But now, since they've already confronted the Iga School, adding Mantian Shrine doesn't make much difference. Anyway, the more lice the less itch, the more debts the less worry...

"Enough about that, what comes next..."

It's a bit late to think about these things now; it's better to focus on the present situation. Qin Fang cleared his throat and spoke slowly.

The others also looked at Qin Fang, awaiting his decision. After all, they were a unit, and it was impossible for some to choose to fight on while others back down and leave.

"This guy is useless, just throw him away..."

Looking at Domoto Yoshio, Qin Fang decided straightforwardly.

Qin Fang and the others had already killed so many, and Kawada Musashi over there had already made preparations. If Qin Fang wasn't wrong, in order to gain Iga School's support, Kawada Musashi probably had already sold himself, and there might not be any good stuff left in Musashi School's treasury.

In this case, Domoto Yoshio's value greatly diminished, let alone... Qin Fang actually already knew the little bit of dirt this guy had.

"No... don't leave me!"

Upon hearing Qin Fang's words, Domoto Yoshio turned pale green, immediately pleading pitifully.

Originally, he saw Qin Fang and the others had strong abilities, enough to rival and even suppress Musashi School, so he humbled himself to beg for mercy.

Now he realized that during his absence, his master Kawada Musashi had already mingled with the Iga School, and now he followed Qin Fang and the others. If he was abandoned, the outcome was predictable: he would surely be executed as a traitor.

As Kawada Musashi's disciple, Domoto Yoshio knew his master's character all too well...

Crack~~

Unfortunately, Hattori Sanzo didn't give him a chance to speak, slapped him unconscious, and threw him into the pile of bodies.

If not for Qin Fang's promise not to kill him, Hattori Sanzo would have already executed him. Even so, the chance for this guy to survive was quite small.

"What next?"

Domoto Yoshio was just a minor trouble, not the main focus.

"Retreat..."

Qin Fang said bluntly.

"Retreat?"

But the others were stunned, having thought Qin Fang would choose to fight his way in, not expecting him to turn and leave.

"Don't rush, you first retreat outside Musashi School's mountain gate, then seal off this passageway. I'll arrange for a Snow Fox Ferret to hide in there, one to gather information and two to conduct sneak attacks on some experts..."

Seemingly aware of the concerns in the hearts of the others, Qin Fang gave a simple explanation.

"And you?"

However, everyone noticed the hidden meaning in his words and couldn't help but ask.

"I will infiltrate inside, investigate the specific situation, and wait for my signal... If a frontal attack is viable, I will inform you at the first moment!"

At this time, Qin Fang took out his phone, smiling as he explained.

It's no longer the martial world of dozens or hundreds of years ago, but a modern communication society, where connections between people are much closer.

Qin Fang inquires inside Musashi School and relays the latest information promptly to Ji Xiang and the others outside. If it's too strong in there, they naturally retreat and preserve their strength.

But if the strength inside isn't too formidable, then this team can totally take them down, and they wouldn't hesitate to do so...

Although the Iga School is quite powerful, Qin Fang and their group came to Japan this time to deal with the Dao Shen Sect, not fearing a mere Iga School.

"Young master, I'll go with you..."

Qin Zi proactively offered.

She was now also a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert and had trained invisibility technique quite skillfully. Unless the opponent was much stronger than her, nobody could detect her movements. Self-preservation wasn't a problem.

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"You can't..."

However, Qin Fang shook his head decisively, "Not to mention whether there are any Grandmaster Peak strongmen inside, even if there are, they need to be taken care of... Besides, I'll have more freedom acting alone!"

The more people who enter, the greater the chance of exposure, which would make Qin Fang feel restrained and restricted in action...

His Stealth Skill is a special Invisibility Technique, far more effective than ordinary ones. Coupled with his ability to use Metamorphosis to change his appearance and physique, he may not even be detected if he infiltrates close to his targets.

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

Seeing Qin Fang's determination, Qin Zi didn't persist further and obediently agreed.

Although the others wanted to say something, they knew they weren't suited for such infiltration and reconnaissance actions, so they didn't insist further.

The group quickly withdrew and sealed the passage leading out of the mountain. With five Grandmaster-level experts guarding, plus the assistance of the Snow Fox Ferret, a Quasi-Spirit Beast whose strength rivaled that of a Grandmaster, breaking through would be nearly impossible unless a Great Grandmaster Level expert from the Iga School intervened. Even a Grandmaster Peak Strongman would have difficulty breaking through...

No matter how strong an expert is, it's difficult to unleash their full power in such a narrow passageway. Just a slight disadvantage would put them at risk of falling.

After settling the others, Qin Fang went alone into the depths of the Musashi School... However, this was done discreetly, and perhaps the people inside Musashi School thought Qin Fang and the others had already retreated.

At this moment, deep within the Musashi School.

At the main hall of the Musashi School, where Miyamoto Musashi once resided, now belonged to Kawada Musashi, had gathered quite a few people.

However, although there were many people, only a few truly belonged to the Musashi School, essentially just Kawada Musashi and his son, along with two Grandmaster-level elders from the original Musashi school...

The rest were not from the Musashi School but from the Iga School, one of Japan's two major Ninja Sects.

At the head sat an elder in his fifties, looking vigorous despite his semi-closed, cloudy eyes, making him seem like he was asleep.

Sitting beside him was a young man in his twenties or thirties, with sword-like brows and bright eyes, handsome and confident, someone who could easily charm many young women.

The others wore traditional Iga School ninja outfits, with a few wearing emblems of the Hattori Clan... These people's faces bore proud expressions, not even taking the likes of Kawada Musashi and other landlords seriously.

At this moment, a young Iga School disciple was kneeling on the ground, reporting the recently gathered intelligence to the group.

Upon hearing the news, the elder remained unchanged, seemingly asleep, while the one in charge was not the Iga School ninja masters but the young man...

"Left?"

The young man's eyebrows furrowed involuntarily, surprised at how decisively Qin Fang and the others acted.

"Continue the investigation..."

However, he didn't have a better plan, just giving a simple instruction.

"Kawada, your actions cost us many excellent ninjas... We will not let this go unnoticed!"

Turning his head, the young man glared as he spoke harshly to Kawada Musashi, showing a strong intent to kill.

"Young Master Hattori... I had reasons for my actions. But before I explain, there's something important I must report to you!"

Kawada Musashi remained composed despite the young man's warning and spoke calmly.

"Speak..."

The young man nodded slightly, despite looking tense.

"According to the information I received, I suspect... these people are connected to the disappearance of Miss Sakura, the Saintess of Hokkaido Shrine!"

Kawada Musashi revealed a shocking piece of information calmly.

Smash~~

The young man crushed the teacup in his hand, revealing his disturbed state of mind.

Even the elder, who seemed asleep, opened his eyes slightly, looking calmly at Kawada Musashi, with eyes that seemed to penetrate deep into one's heart, intimidating even Kawada Musashi, a cunning old fox, from making eye contact.

"Baka!"

After a moment of shock, the young man's handsome face turned furious, almost gnashing his teeth.

"Black Guard..."

He barked with a sinister expression.

"Present!"

A group of inconspicuous black-robed ninjas quickly parted from the crowd, stepping before the young man.

These seemingly ordinary ninjas suddenly appeared as sharp swords, ready to strike at any moment.

The thick, bloody aura surrounding them made it clear they emerged from piles of corpses...

Even Kawada Musashi, a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert, couldn't help but gasp at these black-robed ninjas' presence.

And Kawada Masami, not even at Grandmaster level, paled and trembled slightly in fear.

"So this is the power of Iga School and Asama Shrine's prodigy Hattori Hisanari and his Iron Blood Guard Squad, the Black Guard..."

Chapter 1913 - Black Guard

...

This handsome and powerful young man is naturally the genius disciple of the Iga School and also the top-ranked genius disciple of Asama Shrine among the Six Great Holy Lands of Japan, Hattori Hisanari.

And these black-robed ninjas are also quite extraordinary, known as the Black Guard, and reportedly the personal guards the Hattori Clan of the Iga School specially prepared for Hattori Hisanari.

These Black Guard members were originally elite disciples of the Iga School, each a remarkably talented expert.

However, they ultimately became vassals of Hattori Hisanari, serving as his trump card in the fierce challenge for the Great Priest position...

To ensure these Black Guards were formidable enough to intimidate Hattori Hisanari's opponents, their training was extremely harsh, with each emerging from mountains of corpses and seas of bones...

It is precisely because of such harsh training that, despite their young age, these Black Guards have already possessed terrifying strength and murderous intent.

Moreover, they have been brainwashed by the Hattori Clan, showing absolute loyalty and obedience to Hattori Hisanari, so much so that even the head of the Hattori Clan finds it difficult to command them.

Such was the rigor that these Black Guards became renowned throughout the Japanese Martial World almost as soon as they emerged...

In one particular battle, they made their name, managing to kill a Grandmaster-level Initial Stage expert with just the strength of Master Level Early Stage yet perfect coordination...

Grandmaster-level experts, wherever they are placed, are like treasures; any one of them can take charge and become a great figure.

Outside the Grandmasters from the major holy lands, schools, and hereditary families, there are indeed few Grandmaster-level experts truly wandering outside; virtually every one of them is prestigious.

To become such a figure requires an unimaginable price for others, as not only is their own strength not weak, but the power they wield is also quite astonishing.

Despite this, when these Black Guards were only at the Master Level Early Stage, they could use their numbers and skilled coordination to kill such a Grandmaster-level expert, which is almost an impossible task... yet they accomplished it.

It was this battle that made the Black Guard under Hattori Hisanari instantly famous.

Now, all of these Black Guards have advanced to the Master Level Late Stage; though they haven't reached the peak yet, they're not far from it. Such an assembled small group of experts has terrifying strength, so much so that even a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert might fall to them...

Even a Late Grandmaster Level expert might not dare to underestimate these Black Guards, let alone with Hattori Hisanari, a martial genius in the Japanese Martial World and the highest-profile candidate for the Great Divine Priest of the Dao Shen Sect, standing behind them...

In front of them are only six Black Guards; it is said that a full team consists of twelve, so we only have half here.

However, the terrifying aura emanating from these Black Guards not only drastically changed Kawada Masami's face, affecting his leg movements, but even Kawada Musashi, a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert, couldn't help but deeply frown...

"Leave no one alive!"

However, despite the Black Guards' heavy murderous intent, they were not coming for Kawada Musashi and his son. Hattori Hisanari just glanced coldly at the father and son before giving his icy command.

"Hai!"

A unified response followed, and the six Black Guards vanished before their eyes at the fastest speed, likely going to carry out Hattori Hisanari's orders.

As for Hattori Hisanari himself, his face also looked quite unsightly, evidently pondering over the earlier events...

The sudden killing intent earlier had been incited by a single sentence from Kawada Musashi... Yet he did not hold Kawada Musashi accountable now, only furrowing his brows...

Meanwhile, the elderly man beside him, whose muddy eyes became gradually brighter, seemed to have shaken off all sleepiness, though he remained silent, apparently contemplating alongside Hattori Hisanari!

Kawada Musashi didn't dare to interrupt. He and his son, Kawada Masami, stood there silently, like old monks in meditation.

He was, after all, the one most privy to the inner details. He initially wasn't aware of Qin Fang kidnapping Sakura, but coincidentally, Kawada Masami inadvertently mentioned it on his return.

The speaker is unintentional, but the listener is attentive.

Coincidentally, when a strange woman appeared beside Qin Fang and the others, Sakura was kidnapped. Upon hearing that this additional woman was a mute, it deepened his suspicion.

Naturally, he didn't have any solid evidence when he mentioned it earlier, merely speaking from conjecture.

Faced with such circumstances, Hattori Hisanari would obviously not let things be, as not only had the person who kidnapped Sakura taken away the woman he fancied, but also inexplicably left him carrying the blame...

If it weren't for the fact that his backing was too powerful, even the Hokkaido Shrine wouldn't dare to offend him too deeply; otherwise, he would probably have already been turned into mincemeat by the experts of the Hokkaido Shrine...

Even so, the people he brought with him were embarrassingly expelled by the Hokkaido Shrine, forbidden from residing in Sapporo Castle on a large scale.

If it weren't for the fact that the priest trial was an activity of the Dao Shen Sect, the people of the Hokkaido Shrine would even want to prevent Hattori Hisanari from participating in this trial!

Of course, that's just a simple thought, as the Hokkaido Shrine would never actually do that, since it would be equivalent to simultaneously declaring war against the Asama Shrine and Iga School.

The Hokkaido Shrine ranks last among the Six Great Holy Lands, only slightly stronger than the Iga School, but much weaker than the Asama Shrine.

Facing these two opponents at the same time, even the nearly thousand-year legacy of the Hokkaido Shrine might be wiped out by the joint forces of these two powers.

Therefore, in resignation, they could only take such measures to vent their dissatisfaction...

However, Hattori Hisanari has always considered himself to be a very proud man, always claiming to be a favored child of heaven, of unsurpassed stature, and even believes that the future seat of the Great Priest is within his reach.

Otherwise, he wouldn't boldly declare that he wants to marry Saintess Sakura of the Hokkaido Shrine... without such great ability, who would dare to do such a thing?

But saying it is one thing, doing it is another...

Especially behavior such as secretly abducting someone, which is not the style of the proud Hattori Hisanari. He would not do something so foolish, especially at such a critical moment!

Unfortunately, even though he didn't want to do it, someone managed to pin this crime on him, and he didn't even have the chance to prove his innocence...

After being expelled by the Hokkaido Shrine, his group settled at the Musashi School's base, which at least solved the issue of temporary accommodation. However, the pent-up anger in their hearts was not easy to dissipate.

Now, the main culprit who caused him to be blamed is at the Musashi School, so how could Hattori Hisanari continue to be courteous?

Hearing that Qin Fang and his companions are quite powerful, he directly sent his trusted Black Guard... after all, once Sakura became the Holy Woman of the Hokkaido Shrine, one of the candidates for Great Priest, she was very formidable in her own right. Although somewhat weaker than Hattori Hisanari, she was definitely not someone who could be easily abducted!

Therefore, Hattori Hisanari sent Black Guard to hunt down Qin Fang and his companions...

In comparison, Hattori Hisanari is quite distrustful of Kawada Masami and others. Although they are not weak either, they had already been frightened by Qin Fang and his companions.

Since they are not people of Hattori Hisanari, they are also not easy to command, especially since their reliability is too low. Hattori Hisanari dislikes the feeling of being constrained, so he is more comfortable with Black Guard!

...

At this moment, Qin Fang had already infiltrated deep into the Musashi School and was stealthily moving toward the highest point of the mountain summit, with few people able to detect his presence. The profoundness of Qin Fang's Traceless Snow Stepping Technique allowed him to advance without any pressure.

"Huh, what a strong aura of killing intent..."

However, just as Qin Fang was approaching the summit, he suddenly sensed a strong killing intent moving forward and seemingly getting closer to him.

"Black Guard?"

Qin Fang wasn't in a hurry, calmly hiding to the side, using the mini-map's monitoring function to preemptively investigate the identities of this group of people.

But this glance left Qin Fang a bit surprised, because even as an outsider, he had heard of Black Guard's reputation...

"As expected, they're Hattori Hisanari's men!"

Black Guard is Hattori Hisanari's private army, something almost every martial artist in Japan knows. It's no surprise Qin Fang knew, especially since they have Hattori Sanzo, the "fat translator" of the Japanese martial world, with them.

"Six..."

Seeing these few Black Guards, a peculiar smile appeared on Qin Fang's face as he roughly counted their numbers, and then probed their strength, "Five at the Master Level Late Stage, one close to Master Level Peak..."

"Heh heh, these people's lives... I'll take them!"

Regarding Hattori Hisanari, the most dazzling genius martial artist in Japan, Qin Fang didn't have many opinions, but from the start, they've stood on opposing sides.

Moreover, now Qin Fang and his team aim to bathe Musashi in blood, but are coincidentally blocked by a group of Iga ninja led by Hattori Hisanari, an obstacle that must be cleared out first.

Besides, seeing the direction these murderous Black Guards were heading, it was clear they intended to hunt down Qin Fang and his companions, giving him no reason to spare them.

Chapter 1914 - Instant Kill of the Six Guards!

...

Qin Fang is always action-oriented; since he has made up his mind, he naturally engages in practical action immediately.

Creeping out from the corner, he quickly assessed the direction, mobilized the Traceless Snow Stepping Technique swiftly, and charged straight at these Black Guards.

It was rather coincidental that the location where Qin Fang encountered these Black Guards happened to be at the intersection of two levels.

Here, the low and high tiers of the Musashi School are clearly separated, hence the area is quite deserted and void of many people.

A bit lower down, there were mostly lower-tier personnel from the Musashi School, but after the bloody massacre by Qin Fang and his team, the majority were either dead or severely injured, leaving only the weak, elderly, women, and children who were of no use.

Further up were the high-ranking members of the Musashi School... However, at this moment, these people were likely all being watched by the Iga School.

Given such circumstances, Qin Fang had no concerns, and he directly targeted these six Black Guards... Of course, he didn't forget to change his appearance beforehand.

It's not that Qin Fang feared being recognized by certain people; he merely intended to deceive them... In case any Black Guards managed to escape!

"Who's there?"

When Qin Fang remains still, no one can detect his presence, at least not those several Master Level Late-stage Black Guards.

Perhaps a Master Level Late-Stage pinnacle expert might discover a flaw in Qin Fang's approach, but these people in front of him weren't at that level.

But once Qin Fang moved, everything changed.

Though the Traceless Snow Stepping Technique is exceedingly swift, it still requires True Qi for activation. Such a flow of True Qi is readily perceived by these martial artists seasoned in killing, who instantly realized something was amiss. The strongest among the Black Guards exclaimed in horror.

Simultaneously, he swiftly drew a Tachi from his side, while the other five were equally impressive, almost immediately sensing danger. They all drew their weapons with one hand; some even unleashed a shower of Ninja Darts like a storm... Another slipped stealthily into a state of infiltration!

"They're quite quick to react..."

Witnessing the remarkable synergy among the six Black Guards, Qin Fang couldn't help but nod and praise them. These men earned their fame not by pompous talk but by genuine battles.

The six, upon discovering Qin Fang, took action within mere seconds.

The strongest among them led, with everyone undertaking their roles, rapidly executing the first counterattack!

To be more accurate, this appears to be an offensive move, as Qin Fang hadn't yet closed in, yet their attack arrived first.

"Too bad... you've crossed paths with me!"

Though Qin Fang admired the Black Guards' reactions and teamwork, he wouldn't show them any mercy for this reason.

Facing the incoming assault from the Black Guards, Qin Fang could no longer maintain stealth. Such indiscriminate hidden weapon attacks were the ultimate method to break his invisibility.

This was characteristic of Japan, where the abundance of ninjas rendered the Black Guards instinctively reactive... Qin Fang found this situation quite frustrating.

Elsewhere, few people would prefer using hidden weapons, opting instead for guns and blades in direct combat.

Nonetheless, Qin Fang remained unfazed.

The stealth didn't matter once he decided to engage, as ultimately, he couldn't stay invisible; he had to reveal himself.

Swish, swish, swish~~

Although the Ninja Darts showered down, initially they hadn't pinpointed Qin Fang's position, but merely scattered them broadly. Most darts couldn't truly threaten Qin Fang.

Qin Fang gently waved his sleeve, swiftly sweeping all Ninja Darts away, then decisively retaliated!

Swish, swish, swish~~~

Compared to the Black Guards' hidden weapon techniques, Qin Fang's method seemed crude, lacking finesse...

Yet, the effect was clear; the speed of those weapons was faster than before, and the noise sharper and piercing.

"Damn it!"

Witnessing this scene, the few Black Guards couldn't help but shout, and the ninjas who had gone stealth were forced to reveal themselves, quickly dodging to the sides.

Swish, swish, swish~~~

Nonetheless, Qin Fang had rapidly closed the distance; now merely three to five meters away from those Black Guards. These swift hidden weapons proved hard to evade.

In a blink of an eye, even with the Black Guards' strong confrontation and defense, most of Qin Fang's Ninja Darts were struck down. Still, a few slipped through, hitting targets... the unfortunate ones were struck.

This is the downside of having a large gap in strength—Qin Fang can forcibly take on the hidden weapons of these Black Guards, but they can't take on Qin Fang's hidden weapons.

"Poisoned..."

However, what made these Black Guards feel even more tragic was that the one Black Guard who got hit suddenly exclaimed and then dropped dead immediately.

At the place where he was hit, the originally scarlet blood had turned jet black, looking exceptionally sinister.

"Damn it!"

The leading Black Guard was also stunned for a moment, clearly surprised by such an unexpected outcome.

They had shot out the hidden weapons and knew they weren't coated in poison. Yet, once Qin Fang took action, those ninja darts became highly toxic... even directly poisoning one of their comrades to death, which was truly bizarre.

Ninjas are like this, using all sorts of means to kill their opponents, often coating weapons with poison.

But the problem is... this time the attack was too hasty. These Black Guards were caught off guard and hadn't had time to apply poison.

That's precisely why they couldn't comprehend how Qin Fang had managed to coat the hidden weapons with poison in such a short time...

What a pity, Qin Fang would never tell them that the ninja darts he just used weren't the ones these Black Guards had shot at him, but rather some unused poisonous ninja darts Qin Fang picked up from the ground while tidying up the battlefield...

In that fleeting moment, Qin Fang deftly swapped these ninja darts, then sneakily tricked these Black Guards.

Due to habitual thinking, these Black Guards didn't realize these ninja darts had been replaced, which led to someone getting hit amidst their inadequate defense!

"Damn it~~"

Seeing one of their own poisoned and fallen, these Black Guards cursed with rage but quickly shrank their battle circle, forming a circular defensive formation.

It was clear that the coordination among the Black Guards was very smooth, and their psychological fortitude was quite strong. Even with the loss of one member, they still reacted swiftly.

"Yelling is useless; you're all going to die today..."

Yet Qin Fang didn't care in the least, a faint smile hung on his face, and he softly uttered before launching his attack immediately.

Boom~~

Simply, Qin Fang used the Snow Traversing Step technique to swiftly reach the Black Guards, then unleashed his area attack skill.

Witnessing Qin Fang fiercely stomp, a ferocious shockwave instantly spread forward, at an astonishing speed...

The Black Guards couldn't envision such a bizarre style of attack; the shockwave instantly crashed into them.

Unlike ordinary experts, these Black Guards were undoubtedly rigorously trained ninjas, so even if Qin Fang's area attack skill couldn't knock them down, they remained standing in place.

Of course, these Black Guards weren't unscathed. The shockwave swept through their bodies, instantly rendering them completely stiff... unable to move even slightly!

Such a scene directly frightened these Black Guards as their souls flew off—cold eyes filled with deep shock and terror.

But by now, it's too late to regret because Qin Fang's killer move followed closely...

A streak of silver light flashed before everyone, and the chilling cold made these numerous slaughtering Black Guards feel a bit eerie cold and shiver.

However, it was too late to say anything now as the silver light became increasingly dazzling in their eyes, coming closer...

Swish, swish, swish~~

A series of slight sounds rang out as a few balls suddenly rose into the sky, with splendid red flowers blooming below... It was the strange spectacle produced by gushing blood.

In a brief moment, the silver light swiftly sliced through the throats of three Black Guards, snatching away three lives... including the most powerful one among them.

Then, with a slight movement, Qin Fang appeared before the remaining two Black Guards as if using the Shift Position Technique.

"Kill..."

At this moment, these two Black Guards had barely regained mobility, ready to attack Qin Fang.

Sadly, just as they began to move slightly, they found their necks suddenly gripped by an exceptionally strong hand, followed by an intense suffocating sensation.

Crack~~~

No matter how elite a Grandmaster-level expert, in Qin Fang's hands, they're no different from ordinary people, easily having their necks broken, easily slain!

Thus, around a minute later, the six Black Guards dispatched by Hattori Hisanari, without even managing a decent counter-attack, had become the souls under Qin Fang's blade...

Chapter 1915 Hattori Hisanari's Extreme Confidence!

...

"Sigh, the gains are getting smaller and smaller..."

Six Black Guards were slain by Qin Fang just like that, but after collecting the bodies, besides a decent amount of experience points, there weren't any noteworthy items that dropped.

Qin Fang had expected this, as his strength was considerably higher than these six Black Guards, so it was understandable that nothing dropped.

The disappointment mainly stemmed from his recent streak of bad luck; even after killing several Grandmaster-level experts, he didn't get any remarkable items...

Although Qin Fang didn't care much about most items anymore, as he could use experience points to exchange for them, experience points were very precious and important to him. He was unwilling to waste them unnecessarily.

Especially now that Qin Fang's strength had improved, he needed to kill experts stronger than himself, at the very least of the same level, to gain significant experience points.

If they were all as weak, or even much weaker than those before him, Qin Fang would find it quite disappointing...

"Fortunately, these are all Ninjas..."

However, there was still something Qin Fang was satisfied with: the Black Guards were the elite soldiers of Hattori Hisanari, carefully trained by the Hattori Clan, each one a formidable Upper Ninja on their own...

Only the Ninja Tokens dropped by such elite Upper Ninjas would have excellent effects, especially when Qin Fang held all six Ninja Tokens together and discovered that they formed a set, similar to a series...

"A total of twelve, six more to go!"

Looking at the numbers behind this series, it now showed 6/12, indicating that the total number should be twelve, but Qin Fang had only half of them in his possession.

"Looks like I can't let these go..."

Especially after noticing the additional effect attached to this series set, Qin Fang couldn't help but be tempted, and he couldn't help but express such admiration.

The amplification effect was simple, divided into four levels, with each level activated by three people, and so on, until all twelve people, activating all four levels completely...

The specific amplification effects were that the first level increased Attack Power and Defense by fifty percent... the second level to one hundred percent... the third level two hundred percent... and the fourth level four hundred percent!

Basically, with each level up, the effect simply doubled, especially the joint attack effect of a full team of twelve being equivalent to fourfold, which basically equated to directly improving by more than two levels.

This means, if the twelve Black Guards were considered Master Level Late Stage experts on average, their joint attack could absolutely annihilate two levels... that is, Grandmaster-level Initial Stage experts!

Plus, since all these Black Guards were skilled in assassination and Sneak Attacks, coupled with some particularly vile tactics, even Grandmaster Mid-Stage experts might end up meeting their end at their hands!

"No wonder Hattori Hisanari is so confident! This foundation is really not ordinary..."

Upon realizing this, Qin Fang couldn't help but make a small complaint.

Although Hattori Hisanari was a prodigy himself, his impressive status also relied on the support of two major forces behind him.

At the very least, this squad of Black Guards was a very powerful support force, something other candidates probably lacked as a foundation.

Not to mention others, but Saintess Sakura of Hokkaido Shrine clearly didn't have this, otherwise Qin Fang wouldn't have captured her so easily.

These six Black Guards were merely a brief interlude for Qin Fang, not even counting as a battle, as they had already gone to meet their Amaterasu.

Qin Fang wasn't in a hurry, casually tossed the six bodies into the Props Box, then put on one of their clothes, changed into their appearance, and headed back up the mountain.

Compared with the foot of the mountain, the environment up here was much more serene, as if the slaughter down below had nothing to do with this place.

However, this area that originally belonged to the Musashi School had now been occupied by people from the Iga School.

Even Kawada Musashi, who had just taken the position of Sect Master of Musashi School, was now servile to this group of people from the Iga School.

Initially, he could still stand tall, but after planning against Hattori Hisanari, he no longer had the guts...

Previously, the Musashi School at least had the Grandmaster-level Peak expert Miyamoto Musashi to uphold face, and although the Iga School wasn't afraid of Musashi, they wouldn't dare be too excessive either.

But now... without Miyamoto Musashi, the Musashi School, with only a handful of members, could hardly compete against the mighty Iga School.

Not to mention, simply the number of Grandmaster-level and above experts from the Iga School gathered here was already six strong, which was almost like mobilizing nearly half of the Iga School's experts!

With such a powerful lineup, it's not just a matter of temporarily occupying the territory of the Musashi School; eradicating this school entirely from the Japanese martial world is merely a matter of lifting a finger.

The three grandmaster-level experts, including Kawada Musashi, and even the old man sitting there who seems to have fallen asleep, could easily kill them all in an instant.

Not to mention the four or five grandmaster-level Iga School masters nearby, eyeing them with hostility... Kawada Musashi naturally stayed honest, not daring to move his little schemes.

Mountaintop.

After Hattori Hisanari instructed Black Guard to chase after Qin Fang and the others, he ordered everyone to disperse, leaving only him and the old man there.

"Hisanari, you're too impatient..."

Only at this moment did the old man slowly open his eyes and speak in a somewhat weathered voice.

"I know..."

Hattori Hisanari was a very proud man, even in front of this old man, he remained so. Even when criticized by this old man, he responded calmly.

"However, I can't tolerate such things happening to me... not even a bit!"

But then he expressed his attitude even more radically, his irrefutable and extraordinarily domineering stance was more than evident.

He was a proud man, a man pursuing perfection, which is why he chose Sakura as his future wife.

Not because of her beauty...

As one of the three great beauties of the Japanese martial world, at least two others could rival Sakura... Yet, Hattori Hisanari had no interest in the other two, only being most passionate about Sakura.

The reason is none other than this: Sakura was not only exceptionally beautiful, but also her power and talent were among the best in the martial world. He believed only such a woman was worthy of being with him, a powerful man poised to become the pinnacle...

"You..."

The old man sighed helplessly, not surprised at all that his persuasion was futile, as if he had expected it all along.

"Who's there?"

But just as he spoke, his expression changed slightly, and he exclaimed in shock before transforming into a black phantom and rushing out of the room.

Hattori Hisanari's expression changed too. He hadn't detected anything unusual, which made him uneasy... He quickly rushed out, directly chasing after the old man.

"What's going on?"

However, when he rushed out of the room, he unexpectedly found the old man quietly standing in the yard outside the door, his eyes searching in confusion, seemingly bewildered.

"Just now, I clearly felt someone approaching, but why did they disappear when I chased after them?"

The old man's face didn't look good, muttering to himself as his eyes darted around, failing to find any unusual figure.

"Could it be too much suspicion?"

Hattori Hisanari also observed suspiciously, finding nothing, and couldn't help but complain.

He even muttered inwardly, "Old man like you, living too long, having too many thoughts, no wonder you're so easily suspicious..."

Perhaps others might not know the old man's age, thinking he was in his fifties. In fact, he was simply well-preserved, his real age long surpassing eighty... practically half-buried like an old demon!

The older they get, the stronger their power, yet their courage diminishes, and they increasingly fear death, always hoping to live a few more years.

This way, these old fellows become more timid, prone to paranoia, thinking at every turn a powerful assassin might pop out and slit their throat...

"It's getting late, I'm heading back to rest..."

Hattori Hisanari didn't seem to have the appropriate respect for this old man, even showing obvious contempt in his eyes, unwilling to stay and play this boring game, so he nonchalantly greeted before heading back to his room.

As for Black Guard, he seemed more assured than anyone, not considering the possibility of Black Guard being entirely wiped out...

At least, in his view, without master-level late-stage cultivation, one shouldn't expect to annihilate Black Guard entirely; even if one manages to escape, they'll still report the news.

Unfortunately... Hattori Hisanari trusted Black Guard far too much, and he was overly confident in his own judgment, which led to his error!

Chapter 1916 The Stratagem of Sowing Discord

...

"How can there be no one?"

Hattori Hisanari went to rest, but the elder did not leave. Instead, he continued searching with curiosity, as if determined to find some clues.

Unfortunately, the elder meticulously searched the courtyard and the surrounding area but still found nothing.

Not even the slightest trace, as if no one else had ever been there, making him wonder if he was imagining things himself!

"Damn it, there's actually such a formidable old guy, almost couldn't escape..."

Far away from there, Qin Fang complained, looking somewhat disheveled, drenched in sweat and gasping for breath.

The elder hadn't been wrong. At that time, someone indeed approached their residence, and that person was none other than Qin Fang...

Unfortunately, before Qin Fang could get close enough to listen to their conversation, the extraordinarily keen-sensed Japan elder already noticed his presence.

If it weren't for Qin Fang's Snow Traversing Step movement technique being too exquisite, and his better familiarity with the terrain, he might have found it challenging to escape unscathed from the hands of the Japan elder.

Fortunately, Qin Fang reacted swiftly enough to escape to a safe distance as quickly as possible, coupled with his superior stealth skill, narrowly avoiding this disaster.

This elder is no simple character. Even though Qin Fang hasn't had the chance to use his scouting skill, he knows that this elder is undoubtedly a Grandmaster Peak strongman, possibly not far behind Miyamoto Musashi...

A strongman of this caliber is certainly among the top elite in Japan's martial world. Although Qin Fang is now quite formidable himself, he knows he's not yet capable of taking on such a powerful adversary... so he can only stay as far away as possible!

"It seems directly killing Hattori Hisanari is impossible now..."

Unable to approach that building, Qin Fang's original plan was unfeasible.

He initially planned to stealthily get close to Hattori Hisanari, then launch a sudden sneak attack to kill him, making everything much simpler.

But now, with a Grandmaster Peak strongman guarding the place, Qin Fang dared not act rashly. Although he managed to kill Miyamoto Musashi before, luck played too big a part. Attempting the same now, without any preparation, wouldn't be so easy.

Moreover, if the alliance between Iga School and Musashi School were to disclose all of Qin Fang's details, and if there was any defense in place, then Qin Fang would be in a tight spot...

Qin Fang also estimated Hattori Hisanari's strength; at most, he had Grandmaster-level initial stage cultivation, not excessively powerful.

Qin Fang's combat power is roughly at that level too. Direct confrontation might be unlikely to kill Hattori Hisanari, but a sneak attack might still be possible...

"What's next?"

Unable to kill Hattori Hisanari directly, Qin Fang was disappointed, but it was a necessary concession. At such a critical moment, every top candidate for the Great Priest role likely has experts protecting them, especially after the scandal of Sakura being kidnapped broke out...

"That's right, Kawada Musashi... that old fellow!"

But Qin Fang didn't remain disheartened for long. He soon devised his next move.

Currently, Hattori Hisanari has occupied the most important and best position of the Musashi School. Kawada Musashi had barely settled in before being sent back to his previous place.

This setback likely hit Kawada Musashi hard, especially with the surroundings filled with Iga School ninjas instead of his own disciples...

The reason is clear; Hattori Hisanari doesn't trust him, fearing he might cause trouble!

Of course, his son, Kawada Masami, hasn't been thrown back there; he's at another location, also guarded, seemingly split apart on purpose...

"Heh, maybe this is what they call poetic justice!"

This was Qin Fang's conclusion after a simple reconnaissance, involuntarily making him snicker, disregarding Kawada Masami, and heading straight towards Kawada Musashi.

"Who's there?"

Unlike his previous stealthy approach, Qin Fang walked openly towards Kawada Musashi this time. As soon as he approached, someone sprang out from the shadows.

"Yokota..."

But Qin Fang didn't even move an inch. Before he acted, the other person recognized him and obediently greeted him, no longer exuding any hostility from before.

"Keep your guard outside. No matter what happens, you're not allowed to come in..."

This was the advantage of Qin Fang using the face of the Black Guard; the other person saw him and immediately lost their imposing demeanor.

Without hesitation, Qin Fang gave his order and then stepped into Kawada Musashi's room...

"Who goes there?"

Kawada Musashi, after all, is still a Grandmaster Mid-Stage expert, with quite impressive cultivation. Although inferior to the elder from the Iga School, he is undoubtedly still a master.

Almost as soon as Qin Fang stepped into his study, he heard Kawada Musashi's shout.

"Mr. Kawada, you are in good spirits..."

When Qin Fang walked in, he saw Kawada Musashi standing behind a desk, with a piece of snow-white rice paper spread out, holding a brush and painting with ink on the paper... with a bit of a scholarly, haughty air!

Yet, this young devil, who can barely speak Chinese, wielding a brush like a Dragon Country person and writing Chinese characters... it's truly bizarre!

Perhaps it was Kawada Musashi's odd pretense that made Qin Fang chuckle, unable to resist teasing him a little...

But after considering it, he decided not to say it out loud.

"And you are?"

Kawada Musashi looked somewhat surprised at the visitor who walked into his study and asked curiously. He vaguely felt a slight sense of familiarity, but couldn't recall when they had met.

"Who am I... hahahaha... Has Mr. Kawada so soon forgotten me?"

Qin Fang couldn't help but laugh out loud, then mockingly taunted, "Have you forgotten who avenged your wife's death, and who gave you the opportunity to sit in this position?"

"Are you Qin..."

Kawada Musashi was initially not too concerned about the visitor and continued to practice his calligraphy in his pretentious manner. But suddenly hearing this sentence, his face changed dramatically, and he quickly looked up.

Only a few know how he came to be in this position, just him and his son. Not even others in the Musashi School are very clear about it.

Besides the two of them, only those involved in the event could possibly know...

Among these people...

It's evident who the visitor is!

The reason Kawada Musashi couldn't immediately recognize him was that Qin Fang had changed his appearance; naturally, Kawada wouldn't associate him with Qin Fang.

"Kawada Musashi, just tell me... how do you want to die?"

As he spoke, Qin Fang unceremoniously pulled out a gleaming sword, and his tone turned chillingly cold.

"You want to kill me?"

Kawada Musashi, worthy of being a type of hero, calmed himself quickly after the initial surprise and shock, asking in a very composed tone.

"Don't you want to take treasures from my Musashi School's vault? If you want, I can give you two... no, three or four even is no problem!"

"Do you really think I'm so eager for your little treasures?"

Hearing these words from Kawada Musashi, Qin Fang couldn't help but laugh, staring strangely at Kawada Musashi, wondering if his mind was okay.

"Originally, I just wanted to take something and be done with it... but your petty tricks seriously crossed my line, so... I think it's only fitting for backstabbing, fickle scoundrels like you to meet your Amaterasu!"

This time, Qin Fang truly did not intend to spare Kawada Musashi. This old guy had repeatedly resorted to underhanded moves, even nearly burying all of them in one pit. Such a menace must not be left to continue, or there will be endless troubles.

"Kill me? Haha, you might find it difficult to succeed!"

Kawada Musashi, however, remained composed, smiling as he said, "I think you should know that there are Iga School masters outside. If I shout, they will rush in immediately..."

But at this moment, Qin Fang laughed, very joyously and brilliantly!

"Kawada Musashi, I'm afraid you've made a wrong move... Didn't you notice that I confidently walked in through the main door just now?"

Qin Fang said with a peculiar smile, "Do you think I could have entered your study so freely without the Iga School's consent?"

"Hmm?"

Kawada Musashi was suddenly taken aback, his face involuntarily changed slightly, his expression becoming sinister, his brows lightly furrowed, seemingly contemplating the possibility.

"Let me just tell you, you tried to drag the Iga School down with your tricks to set me up, but you didn't expect that I had already agreed with Hattori Hisanari to turn the plan against you. Now, of your Musashi School people... I'm afraid none are still alive!"

As they say, when framing someone, it's better to do it more ruthlessly, so Qin Fang turned the tables, dragging the Iga School in to counter Kawada Musashi.

Chapter 1917 Cutting Off the Source

...

"Do you think I'll believe you?"

But Kawada Musashi was obviously not that easy to fool, especially at this moment, the look in his eyes towards Qin Fang was full of suspicion and disbelief.

This kind of person is like that, too suspicious by nature. The words he speaks are not always truthful, and he doesn't easily believe what others say either.

"Believe it or not..."

Qin Fang also smiled calmly, for the person in control now was not Kawada Musashi, but him, Qin Fang, so he naturally wasn't in a hurry.

"If I'm not mistaken, it won't be long before your Musashi School disciples are all killed by the Iga School ninjas..."

Looking at Kawada Musashi's uncertain expression, Qin Fang became even more composed, speaking slowly with a hint of laughter, as if it had nothing to do with him.

"Tsk tsk, who would've thought that you'd painstakingly toil and endure for so long, only to secure this position, and before even warming the seat, you end up as a bare commander..."

Of course, some cold remarks were inevitable. In order to maximize the stimulation of the hidden ambition and unwillingness in Kawada Musashi's heart, Qin Fang didn't mind using some small tricks.

At this point, Kawada Musashi's face turned terrifyingly grim, but he gritted his teeth, suppressing the anger deep in his heart, glaring fiercely at Qin Fang, yet not directly erupting.

"Now that I've said this much, I won't say more... Hattori Hisanari has been waiting for a long time, I should take the treasury key to him!"

But Qin Fang had no interest in continuing to tangle with Kawada Musashi, immediately walking leisurely towards him, smiling, then heading directly to a certain spot on the bookshelf behind Kawada Musashi, triggering a mechanism and retrieving an ancient key from a concealed compartment.

This scene almost stunned Kawada Musashi completely...

When Qin Fang said these words, he didn't expect Qin Fang to actually know where the key was hidden, but now Qin Fang retrieved the key effortlessly, without even asking him a word... How could this not leave him deeply astonished?

Meanwhile, a huge question mark popped up in Kawada Musashi's mind, which was... how did Qin Fang know where the treasury key was hidden?

"Could someone have betrayed me?"

This treasury key, Kawada Musashi took control of immediately after Miyamoto Musashi was killed, and only he knew about its location, even his son Kawada Masami wasn't very clear...

But now Qin Fang directly found the key, which means that Kawada Musashi certainly leaked the key's location at some point.

And whoever discovered this must be a person relatively close to Kawada Musashi, which would be few people, either his sect disciples or his son.

Kawada Masami is impossible, that is his biological son, definitely on his side, with no reason to betray him.

If that were the case, he could have rejected this plan of turning on him, but Kawada Masami actually agreed with this plan.

That leaves only some sect disciples relatively close to Kawada Musashi as suspicious targets.

"Domoto Yoshio..."

Without a doubt, the biggest suspect is naturally his disciple Domoto Yoshio, who had come into contact with Qin Fang and even fallen into Qin Fang's hands.

But at this moment, dwelling on this holds no meaning anymore, because Qin Fang already possesses the Musashi School's treasury key...

However, would Kawada Musashi be willing to let Qin Fang take this key away so openly?

Obviously not!

Almost having thought this through, Kawada Musashi's expression also changed, his gaze suddenly becoming sharp, and the aura around him became restless.

Grandmaster Mid-Stage cultivation isn't to be trifled with, if fully unleashed, it would be terrifying indeed...

Especially for someone like Kawada Musashi, who had endured for over a decade, painstakingly operating and accumulating strength, his foundation wasn't to be underestimated.

"What? Still want to snatch it?"

Feeling the aura that Kawada Musashi was emitting, Qin Fang took a light step and instantly moved seven or eight meters away.

By now he had already reached the door, and just one step would take him out of the house.

But Qin Fang wasn't in a hurry, calmly smiling, "If you're not afraid of dying, go ahead and attack me... I'm just afraid that before I die, you'd end up offing yourself!"

Kawada Musashi's face turned extremely grim, his mood sinking, especially realizing he couldn't stop Qin Fang.

He even recalled how Qin Fang killed Miyamoto Musashi, who was much stronger than him. The dreadful state Miyamoto Musashi was left in still sends chills down his spine.

Thinking of this, Kawada Musashi dared not act recklessly. He remained highly wary of Qin Fang, who was adept at using poison.

"It's about time, I'll be going now... If you, Mr. Kawada, are interested, you might as well join in to fetch the treasure. Perhaps Hattori Hisanari would be willing to share a bit with you!"

After another scathing remark, Qin Fang immediately stepped out, giving Kawada Musashi no chance to retort.

"Oh, by the way, it's quite possible that your son, Kawada Masami's life might also be at stake right now..."

Just as Qin Fang stepped out, he seemed to remember something, and turned back to add this remark to Kawada Musashi.

Before Kawada Musashi could fully erupt, he swiftly exited the building and left the scene as quickly as possible...

Naturally, once outside, he reverted back to his Black Guard disguise, swaggering away... It seemed he deliberately lingered to ensure those Iga Ninjas got a clear look at him, fearing they might not recognize him otherwise.

After finishing all this, Qin Fang decisively made this persona "vanish without a trace", switching to another appearance.

This disguise was still the face of Black Guard, just on a different person.

However, this time he wasn't heading to Kawada Musashi's dwelling, but to find Kawada Masami...

After a few minutes...

"For a traitor like you, there's only one end... death!"

Under the terrified gaze of Kawada Masami, Qin Fang mercilessly killed this martial artist who had reached the Master Level Peak.

Using classic Fusang Ninja techniques, specifically those often used by Iga Ninja... naturally intended to frame them.

Though the method seemed rather fake and could likely be discovered, Qin Fang didn't care at all... the goal was important, but as long as the result was as planned, it would suffice.

Kawada Masami was naturally just the first unfortunate soul, with more deaths to follow... focusing solely on people within certain groups, all of whom belonged to the Musashi School! Not a single Iga Ninja among them...

Furthermore, these individuals were spread out and guarded by experts from the Iga School, they weren't directly attacked, but their movements were restricted.

Then, Qin Fang appeared, openly stepping in, leisurely slaughtering all these Musashi ninjas who were confined.

In the short span of half an hour, out of the seventy to eighty Musashi School members still alive, at least forty met their gruesome end at Qin Fang's hands.

Moreover, these people barely offered any resistance before they were ruthlessly wiped out, and the scene... looked as if they had been besieged and attacked by a group of master-level experts!

Certainly, Qin Fang's targets were selectively chosen, nearly all being the mid-to-low-level experts of the Musashi School, essentially the foundation and future of Musashi School.

As for the mid-to-high-level disciples of the Musashi School, Qin Fang didn't even bother to glance at them, leaving them all alive...

Regarding the elder-level experts of the Musashi School, Qin Fang wouldn't provoke them either, even though he feared none of the mere two Grandmaster-level experts, killing them effortlessly wasn't possible.

At least, to eliminate them without causing a major commotion was utterly impossible to achieve.

For the sake of not alerting the enemy, Qin Fang avoided deliberately provoking them, essentially detouring whenever they were encountered.

"Hattori Hisanari, you've gone too far..."

Even as Qin Fang's slaughter continued, a thunderous roar almost shook the entire Musashi School mountain.

Upon careful listening, it was clear that this was the enraged roar of Kawada Musashi, his words rife with furious anger.

"Looks like it's working..."

Hearing this roar, Qin Fang knew for certain that Kawada Musashi had discovered something, most likely the death of his son Kawada Masami, sparking such intense rage.

Otherwise, with Kawada Musashi's calculating patience, no matter how oppressive his situation, he would never erupt like this, only biding his time in the shadows until the right moment to strike and annihilate his opponent when the opportunity arose...

However, everyone has a limit, even someone as stoic as Kawada Musashi...

Once his bottom line was crossed, Kawada Musashi wouldn't remain a turtle hiding in its shell, instead choosing to erupt explosively...

For instance, Kawada Musashi, after enduring the forceful occupation of the mountain gate, his residence, and the treasure trove—when faced with the tragic loss of his only son, how could he possibly endure any longer?

By this point, Qin Fang's plan had been a total success. His strategy, like covering the world with one hand and catching the entire group unawares, truly sinister... but also exceptionally effective against someone like Kawada Musashi!

Chapter 1918 Sowing Discord Succeeds! Kill!

...

"Kawada Musashi, what do you intend to do?"

Hattori Hisanari stared sombrely at Kawada Musashi, the new sect master of Musashi School, who had always been very obedient, with a tone that turned exceedingly cold.

At the same time, he held a weapon of rather peculiar shape, it looked like a katana, but it seemed somehow not quite like it.

The blade shimmered with a cold gleam, just a glance would immediately make one feel an overwhelming chill, as if prompting an instinctive shiver.

"Demon Blade..."

Kawada Musashi was also quite knowledgeable, and upon seeing this blade, his expression turned quite unsightly, his gaze exceedingly grave.

Demon Blade Muramasa, an almost taboo in Japan's martial world, although it's merely a term, for every martial artist, it holds a mythical status.

Muramasa, no one knows when it began, has been hailed as a Demon Blade... but this does not mean there's only one Demon Blade Muramasa, in fact, each Muramasa is referred to as a Demon Blade.

But... where the true Demon Blade is, no one knows.

If the Sword of Heavenly Attainment is regarded as the supreme Divine Artifact in Japan's martial world, then Demon Blade Muramasa is an undeniable evil weapon.

Its sinister nature is difficult to describe in words, nearly every owner who wielded it once flourished but never had a peaceful end.

Perhaps because of this, the true Demon Blade Muramasa gradually vanished into the river of history, many hoped to find it but never succeeded.

"Could this be the legendary Demon Blade Muramasa?"

Although Kawada Musashi was immensely angry, upon seeing this exceedingly eerie katana, his expression turned exceedingly grave, his thoughts constantly churning.

As a Grandmaster-level Expert of high status in Japan's martial world, he cannot possibly have never heard of the formidable reputation of Demon Blade Muramasa...

Although Demon Blade Muramasa is quite sinister, almost every owner rarely has a peaceful end, yet many masters still hope to possess it, due to its sheer power...

"Hattori Hisanari, the Iga School has gone too far in bullying..."

Kawada Musashi cursed angrily, likely realizing the threat of the Demon Blade in Hattori Hisanari's hand, he dared not act recklessly.

"What?"

Hattori Hisanari was puzzled, looking at Kawada Musashi with confusion, seemingly not understanding the meaning behind his words.

"Bring them up..."

Kawada Musashi's face was somber, especially upon discovering Hattori Hisanari's attitude suggesting he intended to deny accountability, he grew almost incensed.

Yet he still suppressed his fury, called to those behind him, and soon some disciples of Musashi School brought up several stretchers.

Then...

With a swift motion, Kawada Musashi uncovered the white cloth covering these stretchers, revealing bodies that were long dead beneath...

"What is going on here?"

Hattori Hisanari grew more bewildered, although he recognized that these deceased were mostly from Musashi School, he still did not understand what had transpired.

"Baka!"

Kawada Musashi was instantly enraged, cursing furiously, his aura surged instantly, seemingly ready for battle with Ji Xiang.

"Hattori Hisanari, are your Iga School bold enough to act but too cowardly to admit it? After killing so many disciples of Musashi School, do you think a simple denial is enough for nothing to have happened?"

"Wait a moment, let me clarify the situation first..."

Hattori Hisanari's expression was not much better, but he genuinely knew nothing about the matter, and while Kawada Musashi was indeed formidable, he did not consider him beneath notice.

But the issue was, Hattori Hisanari was a very proud person, though he looked down upon Musashi School, he had not intended to annihilate an entire sect.

Yet now, Kawada Musashi brought all these corpses, and Hattori Hisanari could recognize at a glance that these were the handiwork of Iga School ninjas, even with some exclusive techniques.

From this alone, it was evident that the perpetrator was undoubtedly from Iga School... possibly someone close to Hattori Hisanari.

"Black Guard..."

Soon, Hattori Hisanari became aware of the situation, as an Iga School ninja responsible for overseeing Musashi School disciples reported the issue to him, making Hattori Hisanari's expression grim.

"Immediately send someone to investigate... Black Guard should be pursuing those intruders, why would he slaughter people from Musashi School?"

Upon hearing this information, Hattori Hisanari's expression grew darker, feeling a massive flaw in the situation arise.

Black Guard is Hattori Hisanari's personal guard, holding a very high status within the Iga School. Plus, Black Guard is under Hattori Hisanari's control, so no one else... not even the Sect Master of Iga School can command him.

Therefore, what Black Guard does essentially represents Hattori Hisanari's intentions...

And now, Black Guard under Hattori Hisanari has killed thirty to forty disciples of the Musashi School, not even sparing Kawada Masami, the son of Sect Master Kawada Musashi. This matter has indeed escalated!

Now, the Musashi School is up in arms, everyone is becoming extremely agitated, and they've all picked up their weapons, seemingly ready to wage war with the Iga School.

Those who died were from the middle and lower ranks of the Musashi School. Although it saddens the members of the Musashi School, at least those remaining are the true elite disciples of the Musashi School!

"Hattori Hisanari, are you refusing to admit it?"

Hearing Hattori Hisanari's statement, Kawada Musashi's face turned incredibly dark, his tone deepening as he growled.

"I didn't kill the people, nor could it have been my subordinates..."

Kawada Musashi's attitude displeased Hattori Hisanari, and he frowned. Although he hadn't figured out the truth yet, he was absolutely certain of this point.

Black Guard has always followed only Hattori Hisanari's orders. Right now, they should be ambushing Qin Fang and others; there's no way they would be slaughtering Musashi School's disciples.

Hattori Hisanari is a very proud person. Even if he's in the wrong, he won't admit it easily, let alone this time, he's sure this incident has nothing to do with him, so of course he won't admit it.

However, these disciples of the Musashi School clearly couldn't accept such a reality. Since Hattori Hisanari refused to admit it, it seemed the Iga School intended to shirk responsibility.

With just a few words, the lives of thirty or forty Musashi School members were wiped away. How could they not feel anger?

"Baka! Bastard..."

Thus, a hot-tempered Musashi School disciple roared from within the crowd, clearly infuriated by Hattori Hisanari.

"Insolent!"

Born a favored child of heaven, Hattori Hisanari couldn't possibly tolerate such insults, and his tone became much harsher.

"How dare you insult the young master... you deserve death!"

Just when tensions between both sides were about to explode, one of the Iga School disciples, unable to hold back his temper, struck first, casually tossing a handful of ninja darts...

The way those ninja darts were thrown was both flamboyant and sharp, adding to the already tense atmosphere, which made everyone eager to fight...

Now, it was just a prelude to action. Naturally, someone seized the opportunity and launched a powerful attack!

Thud~~

Although the ninja darts scattered, both groups were closely gathered, concentrating the damage. The effect was remarkable.

Almost instantly, a hapless member of the Musashi School was struck in the throat by a ninja dart... piercing right through him.

That Musashi School ninja clutched his bleeding throat, eyes wide open, but eventually, the light in them faded, and he soon died.

"Baka! Kill..."

It can be said that the Iga School striking first, leading to the Musashi School disciple's death, directly ended the argument, and the real battle began.

"Hattori Hisanari, prepare to die..."

Kawada Musashi, now burning with rage, didn't care about anything else and immediately charged at Hattori Hisanari.

Hattori Hisanari is the core figure among these Iga School experts. Capturing him would make things much easier. Even against that Master Level Peak expert, Kawada Musashi felt he had a solid stance...

Hattori Hisanari wouldn't back down either. Seeing Kawada Musashi charging so fiercely, he naturally wouldn't just sit and wait to die. The Demon Blade Muramasa in his hand flashed coldly, carrying a sinister sword qi, charging straight at Kawada Musashi.

Disciples from the Iga School and Musashi School immediately paired off to fight, and the scene quickly spiraled out of control...

Just a few meters away from the battleground, a hidden figure watched the scene with a smile. That figure was, of course, the infiltrating Qin Fang.

"Tsk tsk, finally it erupts into a fight! At least it wasn't all in vain..."

Watching the bloody scene unfold, Qin Fang had no intention of intervening; instead, he sat cheerfully by the side, watching the drama.

This wasn't brought about by Hattori Hisanari; it was entirely Qin Fang who guided it step by step.

Even the earlier preemptive strike was orchestrated by someone concealed among the Iga School ninja, leading to the full-blown collision and slaughter...

"As expected of Grandmaster-level strength... However, that Demon Blade Muramasa is indeed very sinister. Could it really be the legendary one?"

Qin Fang mainly focused on Hattori Hisanari and Kawada Musashi, who were in a fierce duel.

But Qin Fang noticed that the reason Hattori Hisanari at the Grandmaster-level Initial Stage could contend on equal footing with the Grandmaster Mid-Stage nearing late stage Kawada Musashi was due to that Demon Blade Muramasa in his hand... This made Qin Fang recall the legend from Japan!

Chapter 1919 The Musashi School's Treasure Repository!

...

While Qin Fang was interested in the demonic sword in Hattori Hisanari's hand, he didn't plan to seize it for a closer look.

Just from a distance glance, Hattori Hisanari, who was only at the Grandmaster-level Initial Stage, seemed to have become much more sinister after wielding this sword, and his power seemed to have instantly increased significantly.

Kawada Musashi's strength is absolutely top-notch among Grandmaster Mid-Stage experts, not much different from the Master Level Late-Stage.

However, at this moment, facing Hattori Hisanari who wields the demonic sword, not only is he not fighting easily, but he's being suppressed by Hattori Hisanari instead...

If it weren't for his profound skills, he might have long since met his end under this demonic sword...

Even so, Kawada Musashi is only struggling bitterly.

"Perhaps this really is the legendary demonic sword..."

Just by relying on this demonic sword, Hattori Hisanari's strength was improved by nearly two levels, so claiming this sword is just an ordinary divine weapon is clearly not convincing.

Maybe, this sword is indeed the legendary demonic sword, such an explanation might be more reasonable...

As for Hattori Hisanari knowing the legend of the demonic sword, knowing that the owner of a demonic sword never ends well, yet still insists on using this demonic sword, he must have something to rely on...

The scene had already turned into a chaotic battlefield. There were more Iga School experts, but Musashi School people had also fully erupted, which narrowed the gap in such a battle, and the number of casualties kept increasing...

However, generally speaking, Musashi School suffered more casualties. After all, their average strength level is relatively lower, so it's not surprising they have more casualties.

Kawada Musashi saw this, but he's helpless. He thought he could easily capture Hattori Hisanari, but didn't expect this would be a much tougher bone to chew than he had imagined.

Now, he's already like a clay bodhisattva fording a river, unable to protect even himself, much less care about the life and death of other Musashi School disciples...

"Should I lend a hand?"

Seeing that the Musashi School folks were almost obliterated by the Iga School, Qin Fang pondered whether he should go help. As long as he covertly took out some Iga School experts, the two sides could balance out in level.

With his strength, basically, apart from the occasional Grandmaster-level Iga School expert, other disciples find it hard to stand against him...

"Forget it, better to be cautious..."

However, after some consideration, Qin Fang still didn't dare to make a move. After all, now that Musashi School had suffered heavy casualties, he hadn't encountered any troublesome figures before. If he suddenly showed up, it might cause trouble.

It's not that he fears a siege by Iga School experts, but mainly worried that Kawada Musashi might recognize him... after all, as the Sect Master of Musashi School, he might not know every top expert, but he does have a general idea, and a figure like Qin Fang wouldn't appear in his estimations.

Such a simple connection would actually easily make him realize he's been tricked.

Moreover, Qin Fang's refusal to act has another, more significant worry, and this is the real reason for him not to act.

"Hmm, as expected, it came..."

At this moment, Qin Fang already felt some anomalies, murmured a bit in his heart, and quickly evacuated from here.

No way, the Grandmaster Level Peak elder of the Iga School was coming over, and Qin Fang didn't want to be tracked by such a strong figure...

Though he has the ability to kill Miyamoto Musashi who was stronger than this elder, it was because he planned carefully, and Miyamoto Musashi was too arrogant, thus allowing the sneak attack to succeed.

Now, Qin Fang is utterly unprepared, and the opponent is so vigilant, it's not easy to succeed... Qin Fang wouldn't dare to take such a risk lightly.

It was because this Grandmaster Level Peak elder didn't show up from the start of the event until it reached this stage, Qin Fang didn't dare to act rashly.

If by any chance Qin Fang jumped out and stirred trouble, and this elder suddenly popped out to chase him, then the situation would be quite dire...

Now, seeing that this elder finally came, Qin Fang chose to escape immediately, the further away the better, who would want to be noticed by such a perceptive elder, having already scared him away once before.

Moreover...

"The experts have come out, that treasure trove... is mine!"

Qin Fang caused all this not just for revenge or to incite disputes, but also for the treasure repository of the Musashi School.

The treasure repository of the Musashi School, of course, couldn't be under the mountain; it's in the most important place of Musashi School... the Sect Master's residence.

Originally, Miyamoto Musashi's residence, with Miyamoto Musashi's persona domineering, others wouldn't dare to infringe upon it.

However, after Miyamoto Musashi's death and Kawada Musashi's successful seize of power, naturally, the treasure repository fell into his hands...

But with the arrival of Hattori Hisanari and his group, they directly occupied Kawada Musashi's territory. They might not know where the repository is exactly, but even with the key, Kawada Musashi couldn't open the treasure repository.

Chapter 1920 - The Musashi School's Treasure Repository! (Part 2)

This is also why Qin Fang said that the key was what Hattori Hisanari wanted because the treasury was on Hattori Hisanari's side. As long as you had the key, you could open the treasure repository...

This made Kawada Musashi feel deeply angry. This treasure repository was the accumulation of the Musashi School for hundreds of years. It had finally fallen into his hands, and before it could even warm up, it could be wiped out by the Iga School. How could he easily accept this?

Moreover, many disciples of the Musashi School were killed, and even his only son, Kawada Masami, did not escape the murder, which made him furious and led to the current situation.

Of course, all of this was directed by Qin Fang. Although the development of things deviated slightly from Qin Fang's initial plan, there was not much change in the overall direction.

Now, the grandmaster-level elder staying at the Shangfang Sect Master's Residence has also come out, so there aren't any extraordinary masters left there.

Qin Fang quickly disappeared from here, rushing towards the treasure repository...

Once this elder joins the battle, this side of the fight will soon be over. Whether he eliminates everyone in the Musashi School or subdues Kawada Musashi for negotiation, it won't leave Qin Fang much time... So Qin Fang must complete his action plan quickly.

"Indeed, there's no one here..."

When Qin Fang arrived here, the entire building complex was empty, without a single ghostly shadow, which made Qin Fang a lot more relaxed.

Hattori Hisanari and that grandmaster-level peak elder held quite high positions in the Iga School, so they naturally demanded a high standard of living.

Moreover, with their strong abilities, they weren't afraid of any enemies sneaking in, so few people guarded this place...

Initially, the Black Guard might have stayed here, but they were sent by Hattori Hisanari to chase down Qin Fang and others and were then completely destroyed by Qin Fang, so they couldn't appear here anymore.

The other disciples of the Iga School or the grandmaster-level elders lived a bit further down, making this place exceptionally quiet.

Now that Hattori Hisanari and that elder have left, Qin Fang became much freer.

"Time is short, fight quickly!"

Although Qin Fang wanted to play some tricks on Hattori Hisanari, like poisoning his room, considering the scarce time, he couldn't waste it, so he had to give up this idea and head straight for the treasure repository.

Of course, people like Hattori Hisanari, who reached their current standing, are not simple characters.

Even if Qin Fang poisoned Hattori Hisanari, the latter might not necessarily fall for it... Qin Fang instinctively felt that the chances of Hattori Hisanari falling for it were very low!

The entire building was empty, and naturally, so was the treasure repository. Moreover, Qin Fang thought that Hattori Hisanari and others might not even know the location of the treasure repository.

This was an area full of rock gardens, jagged stones, some naturally formed, and others artificially crafted. The rock garden had streams flowing, and below was a small pond...

This was not the bottomless pond where Qin Fang killed Miyamoto Musashi, but one made artificially...

The Musashi School's treasure repository was hidden in this rock garden, and the entrance... was beneath this inconspicuous pond.

Qin Fang acted decisively, directly jumping into the water. Then, in a corner of the pond, Qin Fang quietly submerged into it. In no time, he passed through a very concealed waterway into the interior of the rock garden.

"Tsk, generally, people wouldn't find this waterway..."

Although it was Qin Fang's first time here, he had to admire the Musashi School's ancestor who built this treasure repository.

The waterway was naturally formed. Those who didn't know might think it was an underground dark river. But after being worked on by some Musashi School masters, this natural waterway became a very good concealed route.

"Where's the door? The keyhole..."

Having found the specific location of the treasure repository, Qin Fang immediately focused on finding the keyhole. While others might worry about hidden traps, Qin Fang wasn't worried at all.

Not to mention his powerful scouting skill, with his grandmaster-level standard in formations, he could find flaws even in the Island-guarding Great Array, let alone a bit of small traps.

If he suffered here, he might as well just kill himself...

The keyhole was quite hidden, seemingly unrelated to the big door. However, under Qin Fang's scouting skill detection, nothing could escape.

Once he found the keyhole, Qin Fang inserted the key and quickly turned it. The sound of clinking echoed in his ears, and the huge stone door opened a crack.

At the same time, inside the treasure repository, flames were automatically lit, thoroughly illuminating the inside.

This was a passageway, yet it was also filled with danger and deadly traps.

But Qin Fang merely glanced, then rushed through it at the fastest speed, not even causing the slightest ripple, passing through just like that...