

Genius 451

Chapter 451: Heavenly Bead Bracelet_1

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Qin Fang was chatting with two beautiful ladies, while Qiao Zhenfei was engrossed in admiring a piece of calligraphy as if he had become a bit obsessed, his eyes never leaving the piece of work.

As for the two simply dressed beauties, in his eyes, they seemed not even to compare to a single character on the calligraphy.

"Is there really such a magical piece of calligraphy?"

When Qin Fang gave a simple explanation, the two ladies couldn't contain their curiosity any longer.

They were both educated under materialism and seeing such mystifying skills right before their eyes, it was hard for them not to be tempted.

"Go and see for yourselves, but be careful!"

Qin Fang did not stop them; although the calligraphy was worth a fortune, both ladies weren't the kind to do anything outrageous. If they did accidentally damage it, they probably couldn't cover the loss even if they gave themselves to Qin Fang as compensation.

With Qin Fang's approval, the two ladies cautiously gathered around, peering over Qiao Zhenfei's shoulder, until they accidentally blocked the light, pulling Qiao Zhenfei back to reality. He then carefully handed the piece of calligraphy over to the ladies to admire and returned to Qin Fang's side.

"Brother, you must sell me this piece of calligraphy!!"

Qiao Zhenfei's eyes were bright and full of desire, almost as if Qin Fang would be devoured if he refused.

He was most fond of porcelain, but he was also absolutely passionate about calligraphy and paintings, especially those of exquisite quality.

Without a doubt, not only was the skill that created this piece of calligraphy ingenious, but the fact that it was a work of Cai Xiang, one of the Four Great Families of the Song Dynasty, already made it invaluable.

If Qin Fang bought this calligraphy for 150,000, and now that it was confirmed to be an authentic work of Cai Xiang, its value had skyrocketed tens or even hundreds of times.

Add to that its mind-boggling craftsmanship, its worth was incomparable. It was likely not even less valuable than the Preface to the Orchid Pavilion Dragon Scroll Replica that Qin Fang had stumbled upon in a previous bargain hunt. In Qin Fang's eyes, the ingenuity of the craftsmanship was even more magical.

Such a treasure was bound to captivate anyone who saw it, particularly antique collectors who adored such collections – they would be ecstatic. And Qiao Zhenfei, one of the top young masters of the Capital City, was one such enthusiast, and on top of that, he was very willing to spend.

Qiao Zhenfei had both wealth and power, and his relationship with Qin Fang was quite good. Even the money Qin Fang used to buy this piece of calligraphy was lent to him by Qiao Zhenfei, so Qin Fang actually owed him a favor.

So when Qiao Zhenfei broached the subject, Qin Fang felt somewhat conflicted, even though he knew Qiao Zhenfei wasn't the type to leverage favors for his own gain, but the situation was still tough for him.

"Brother Fei, as you know, I'm not short of money..." Qin Fang said, touching his nose and appearing rather helpless.

Undoubtedly, the ingenuity of the craftsmanship was also greatly attractive to Qin Fang himself, not to mention that it was a lucky find he had unearthed.

The previous encounter with the Preface to the Orchid Pavilion Dragon Scroll Replica had frustrated him for a while, and now another authentic work by Cai Xiang of equal worth had emerged. In his heart, he really wanted to keep it for his collection, even to pass it down as a family heirloom.

"Brother, I know you're not short of money! And the value of such a treasure can't be measured by something as vulgar as money. It's a national treasure, a rare masterpiece. There are only a few similar works in existence, scarce enough to count on one hand..." Qiao Zhenfei said, obviously understanding that Qin Fang had misunderstood him.

"Are there similar works?"

Qin Fang was taken aback, having thought the piece he had was unique.

"Yes, indeed there are a few others. As far as I know, apart from yours, there are three more that survive today, but only the Forbidden City has one in the country. The other two are overseas..." he said, his expression turning darker.

It was a matter that pained many collectors deeply, that their ancestors' treasures had largely ended up abroad, especially in world-famous museums like the British Museum and the Louvre, all stolen by brigands a century ago.

Like the piece of calligraphy in Qin Fang's hands, there are records showing that only three pieces survived, but in reality, many treasures ended up with old families abroad. They weren't short of money and rarely auctioned these treasures off, making it impossible for nationals to repurchase them.

"Forget it, let's not talk about this..."

Qiao Zhenfei's mood dipped slightly, but he was powerless. Even though his family's patriarch was one of the most influential figures in the country, it didn't have much effect here; those foreigners simply didn't care.

"Such a treasure is extremely rare, and it's quite troublesome to preserve. I'm not looking down on you, brother, it's just that you're not from this line of work, and inevitably, you might not be as committed. So..."

Getting back to the point, Qiao Zhenfei's purpose was naturally still to persuade Qin Fang to let go. Direct robbery was definitely out of the question. Although Qiao Zhenfei was also a bit of a profligate son, he was not so despicable. Thus, while other top-notch young masters were playing with luxury cars, airplanes, horse racing, and movie stars, he was into collecting...

Qin Fang just listened quietly and didn't express any opinion.

He didn't deny that what Qiao Zhenfei said was true, but the thought of letting go of such a precious item so readily was something he couldn't bear. The exquisite craftsmanship, even just looking at it once a day, felt incredibly soothing.

At this time, Qiao Zhenfei continued to speak...

"In my view, there are really not many things in this world that can match this treasure. You say it's worth a hundred million, then I feel it far surpasses that. You say it's worth ten billion, and I would support that wholeheartedly... But measuring its value with money is simply too disrespectful to it!"

"Little brother, you can rest assured that although I, Qiao Zhenfei, don't dare to promise that you won't lose out at all, I definitely won't let you suffer too much! Check this out..."

As he spoke, Qiao Zhenfei rolled up his sleeve, revealing the bracelet on his wrist, which immediately caught Qin Fang's attention.

Without any hesitation, Qiao Zhenfei took off the bracelet and held it in his hand.

"This is..."

Qin Fang didn't deploy his Scouting Skill; just seeing it with his eyes, he felt that the bracelet was extraordinary, and even more so, he could feel the restlessness inside him from the little pet within his body.

"Have you heard of Tibetan Dzi Beads, little brother?"

Qiao Zhenfei pointed at the bracelet in his palm and said to Qin Fang.

Qin Fang nodded. He had heard of the reputation of the Dzi Beads, even though he had never actually encountered them.

Known as Sky Pearls, their main origins are Tibet, Eastern Tibet, Bhutan, Sikkim, Ladakh, and other regions of the Himalayas, and they are a kind of rare gemstone.

Dzi beads are made of nine-eyed stone shale, containing jade and agate components. They are one of the seven treasures of Zangmi, historically recorded as "nine-eyed stone sky pearls." To this day, Tibetans still believe that Dzi Beads are divine stones, or "Si Yi" (DZI) in Tibetan, which signifies beauty, authority, and wealth.

The Dzi Beads possess a very strong magnetic field, three times that of crystal, which is very beneficial to the human body.

The locals in Tibet do not sell their Dzi beads, as they view them as a symbol of status. Only holy people are permitted to wear them, thus gifting Dzi beads is a sign of immense respect.

Among all Dzi beads, there is an extremely rare and scarce category—those that have been blessed with mana by lamas, what is known as "consecration" in folklore.

The notion of lamas endowing mana seems too fantastical and whether it truly works is unknown. Yet, there's no doubt that it does have certain benefits.

In Tibet, lamas hold very high positions within the clergy. Not every cleric can become a lama; most are novices or monks and are not qualified to be lamas.

Above the lamas, there are even more special and higher-status beings, such as Dharma Kings and living Buddhas...

Therefore, among Dzi beads, the most valuable isn't necessarily the ones of the highest quality but those that are personally blessed with mana by high-status beings such as Dharma Kings and living Buddhas, making them the true cream of the crop.

"These Dzi beads are all Double Longevity Dzi Beads of exceptional quality. The largest bead was personally blessed by the Gongba Living Buddha from Jokhang Temple, and the others have also been blessed by other high-ranking monks. My father personally gave them to me when I was twenty years old, and I've worn them on my wrist for a full ten years..."

As he spoke, Qiao Zhenfei took a brief pause, clearly very proud and cherishing the bracelet of Dzi beads.

"Over these ten years, although I haven't accomplished anything particularly remarkable, everything has always gone very smoothly. Occasionally, some troubles that seemed difficult to resolve just sorted themselves out quite miraculously... Of course, it might just be a psychological effect for me, but there's no denying that this bracelet of Dzi beads is the most valuable treasure I have!"

After another deep breath, Qiao Zhenfei then said, "So... I would like to exchange this bracelet of Dzi beads for your piece of calligraphy!"

Although Qin Fang had already sensed something when Qiao Zhenfei talked about the origin and effects of the Dzi bead bracelet, he was still visibly shocked when Qiao Zhenfei actually made the proposal...

Chapter 452 Sky Pearl Secret Technique_1

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"Brother Fei, you... you're not joking, right?"

Qin Fang was indeed a bit confused, somewhat unsure about what Qiao Zhenfei really meant.

To many, the value of such a Heavenly Bead Bracelet might not compare to Qin Fang's rare calligraphy, but from Qiao Zhenfei's perspective, it truly was his most precious possession.

Moreover, his request fit the statement he had made earlier, "The value of that piece of calligraphy cannot be measured in money," and such a Heavenly Bead Bracelet was undoubtedly also a very precious treasure.

Even in Qin Fang's eyes, a bracelet strung with Supreme Double Longevity Pearls was absolutely priceless, consecrated with mana by high monks of Zangmi, including one pearl blessed by the Dharma King of Jokhang Temple, its value inestimable.

To trade such a Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet for Qin Fang's painting, at least in Qin Fang's eyes, he wasn't getting the short end of the stick.

Supreme Double Longevity Pearls are hard to find and highly valued.

It's not easy to have lamas consecrate them with mana. While some lamas might do so for money, many would not engage in such practices, especially those deeply versed in Buddhism, who couldn't be moved by money. All the Heavenly Pearls in this bracelet were blessed by such eminent lamas.

As for being empowered by a Dharma King, that's even less accessible to ordinary people—the only possibility being—having fate, a connection with Buddha, a connection with the Dharma King.

Where Old Master Qiao obtained these Heavenly Pearls was not Qin Fang's concern. Such a significant figure naturally had his means, but he had given this Heavenly Bead Bracelet to his grandson Qiao Zhenfei, who wore it for ten full years to nurture it.

Jade nurtures man, man nurtures jade.

Heavenly Pearls are also of a jade nature, nurturing the wearer as the wearer nurtures the pearls.

Ten years is not a short time at all; constant nurturing could have endowed some spirituality to the Heavenly Pearls, making their price even more incalculable.

In short, this Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet is truly of immense value; even Qin Fang doesn't feel like it's a loss.

"Do you think I'm really joking?"

Qiao Zhenfei asked with a tilted head, not angry but quite serious.

"Alright, it's not a joke!"

Qin Fang nodded, understanding that Qiao Zhenfei was indeed not joking.

"Forget it, I'll just give you this piece of calligraphy. As for the Heavenly Bead Bracelet, let's not; it's been nurtured for ten years, it can't be wasted just like that..."

After a brief silence, Qin Fang finally said this softly.

Although the Heavenly Bead Bracelet is desirable, to Qiao Zhenfei, it was almost as treasured as precious jewels. A gentleman does not covet the love of others, and though Qin Fang wouldn't dare call himself perfectly honorable, he certainly wasn't the utterly despicable type.

This rare piece of calligraphy, while extremely scarce and priceless, was just like Qiao Zhenfei said, in Qin Fang who was an amateur, it seemed wasteful; if he carelessly damaged it, it would be a truly great sin.

Conversely, Qiao Zhenfei was a madman and an antiques aficionado—he understood these things intimately, treating them as precious as life itself, not tolerating the slightest damage.

Just like with this calligraphy, Qin Fang handled it casually, flipping it around as he wished, Luo Xi and Cai Qing did the same, curiously playing with it as if it were an interesting toy.

In contrast, Qiao Zhenfei observed it from a distance very cautiously, not daring to touch it easily, and after getting Qin Fang's permission, he first put on rubber gloves, to prevent possibly damaging the paper with sweat from his hands. Even now, when seeing the two beauties playing with the calligraphy without a care, his face twitched, displaying considerable heartache.

When he himself touched the calligraphy, his movements were extra gentle, extremely cautious as if appreciating not a calligraphic piece, but fragile, delicate porcelain, treasuring it greatly.

And that's the broad disparity between an ordinary person and a madman collector and antiques enthusiast.

So, Qin Fang decided to be generous, giving the piece of calligraphy to Qiao Zhenfei, ensuring its well-preserved state, and also doing Qiao Zhenfei a big favor—naturally, the small favor he owed Qiao Zhenfei could now be forgotten.

"Are you looking down on me?"

However, who was Qiao Zhenfei? An elder in his family stood at the peak of power, capable of changing national affairs with just a few words.

As a favored grandson of such a person, he was far from being short-sighted.

If Qiao Zhenfei were that kind of person, he could have simply used his connections to put Qin Fang behind bars, and then the calligraphy would have directly fallen into his hands. Why bother with this kind of fair exchange?

The reason is not numerous, one of them is that he highly values Qin Fang.

At least so far, his interactions with Qin Fang have been conducted in a very equal fashion, never flaunting his extraordinary family background or formidable power.

On this point, it is precisely what Qin Fang appreciates most about Qiao Zhenfei, so when Qin Fang calls him "Brother Fei," it is extremely sincere. It is likely that only Tang Cheng and Ning Weiqiang could receive the same level of respect from Qin Fang. Even Ye Xiang, Zhang Yuliang, and others who currently have a relatively friendly relationship with Qin Fang are far from reaching such a level.

As for Li Rui and Chen Weilian, their relationship with Qin Fang is very unreliable, to put it bluntly, they are enemies who have not yet completely fallen out with each other. Perhaps in the near future, this would become a life-and-death situation.

"Brother Fei, you really misunderstood..."

Qiao Zhenfei's reaction was also within Qin Fang's expectations. If Qiao Zhenfei had simply taken the Heavenly Bead Bracelet back and taken away the letter without any courtesy, then he wouldn't be Qiao Zhenfei.

The two had a good relationship, and Qin Fang respected Qiao Zhenfei very much, but in reality, it was just a relationship between equals, far from the closeness he shared with Tang Cheng and Ning Weiqiang.

"I really mean it! You've had this Heavenly Bead Bracelet for ten years, nurtured it with your essence blood for ten years, it might have already developed a spirit. If it's simply given away to me, a perfectly good treasure might be destroyed..."

Qin Fang politely declined with a chuckle, speaking the truth.

But...

Suddenly, Qin Fang's expression changed; he felt that the little fella at his chest became extremely restless as if it wanted to break out of his body.

This was not good. If a creature resembling neither serpent nor dragon suddenly burst out of a human body, it would likely scare Qiao Zhenfei, Cai Qing, and Luo Xi to death. They might even regard Qin Fang as a monster, or worse, send him to a secret government laboratory for dissection and study.

"Stay put!"

It was precisely because of such concerns that Qin Fang immediately transmitted this command with his intentions.

The little fella immediately became much tamer, but it still didn't settle down, seemingly eager to express something to Qin Fang. The problem was it couldn't convey its true intentions to Qin Fang; the rapport between the man and the beast was not strong enough, relying solely on Qin Fang's own guesses.

"Could it be... because of this Heavenly Bead Bracelet?"

Qin Fang fell silent; the little fella was usually very well-behaved, hardly ever causing trouble for Qin Fang, very quiet, sometimes making Qin Fang forget the existence of such a creature inside him.

But now it was quite restless, and it all started when Qiao Zhenfei took the Heavenly Bead Bracelet off!

"Could there be something wrong with this Heavenly Bead Bracelet?"

A suspicion immediately rose in Qin Fang's mind, and then he remembered that he had never used his Scouting Skill on the Heavenly Bead Bracelet.

Then, a Scouting Skill was instantly deployed...

And when the scouting result came back, Qin Fang almost wished he could slap himself hard on the face and then curse "loose lips"!

"Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet!"

The scouting result matched what Qiao Zhenfei had said; the Heavenly Beads were absolutely flawless and of immense value. What truly caught Qin Fang's attention was the note below.

"Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet, a Heavenly Bead Bracelet endowed by Tibetan Esoteric high monks, composed of a set of eight supreme Double Longevity Dzi Beads, inscribed with the Esoteric Sect's secret technique Great Bliss Zen. Great Bliss Zen is an esoteric dual cultivation canon, practicing

the secret technique can speed up the increase of National Arts Skill Proficiency. It is said that reaching the highest level can transcend the physical body and wander beyond the heavens."

Seeing this note, Qin Fang was truly frustrated.

He could disregard the last phrase about "transcending the physical body and wandering beyond the heavens," and ignore that Great Bliss Zen was an "esoteric dual cultivation canon," but the fact that practicing this secret technique could speed up the growth of National Arts Skill Proficiency was something Qin Fang absolutely couldn't overlook.

Qin Fang wanted to be powerful, and there really weren't many ways to achieve it, just about two.

One was to raise his own level.

The other was to increase his strength, to advance to Grandmaster Level, or even Grandmaster...

The first goes without saying, mainly leveling up and hunting monsters, but with the level increase, the required Experience Points grow significantly, well beyond the capacity of a few, a dozen, or even a hundred minor creatures, making the difficulty of leveling up almost unimaginable, and not likely to happen quickly.

So that leaves the second option—increasing one's own cultivation, namely, improving the Proficiency of the National Arts Skill, which is equally daunting. If it weren't for the Psychic Jade Qin Fang carried that could speed up proficiency gains, he wouldn't have reached the level he is at now...

And a treasure that could speed up the improvement of his abilities was just let go... Thinking of this, Qin Fang somewhat hoped, hoped that Qiao Zhenfei would push the Heavenly Bead Bracelet his way again. Though such a thought really seemed a bit improper, he badly coveted that item, as it was exactly what Qin Fang most desperately needed...

Chapter 453 Sky Pearl Obtained!!_1

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Qin Fang quietly watched Qiao Zhenfei, his facial expression seemed calm, but his heart was actually in a state of desperate urgency, full of regret.

But now that he had already spoken, he simply couldn't find it in him to take his words back. He could only keep his emotions bottled up inside, too anxious to show too much eagerness.

Otherwise, Qiao Zhenfei might not have said much, but it would have given off an extremely hypocritical impression. Perhaps he would have gained an advantage for himself but lost such a friend, which seemed a bit unworthy.

Qiao Zhenfei did not notice the change on Qin Fang's face, but was lost in thought by himself, seemingly pondering the meaning behind Qin Fang's words, as if undecided for a moment.

The strand of Heavenly Bead Bracelets had been with him for a full ten years. Setting aside their actual value, the sentiment alone was quite substantial, and Qiao Zhenfei was well aware of his own reluctance to part with it.

That, too, was only human. Even the regretful Qin Fang could understand such emotions.

"Little brother, what kind of person do you take me for?"

In the end, Qiao Zhenfei made his decision, immediately took Qin Fang's hand, and with a slap, placed the strand of Heavenly Bead Bracelets into Qin Fang's palm.

"Friends are friends, and we clear accounts even between close brothers. How can I just take something of yours for nothing?"

Qiao Zhenfei pressed the Heavenly Bead Bracelet into Qin Fang's palm, a look of reluctance on his face, but still made his resolute decision, his tone gradually changing from reluctance to determination.

"Brother Fei, you... please reconsider!"

Qin Fang's heart raced wildly at that moment, thumping so frantically that it seemed about to burst forth from his throat.

The little creature inside him was also restless, seeming quite dissatisfied and angry with Qin Fang's words, but after a moment's hesitation, Qin Fang couldn't help but urge caution.

"No need, it's yours now..."

Qiao Zhenfei shook his head, twisted Qin Fang's fingers, and locked them in place, clearly indicating that he had made his final decision.

Qin Fang fell silent for a moment and then gently nodded, "Since that's the case, then I humbly accept! This calligraphy... is now yours, Brother Fei!"

With the outcome decided, there was no need for Qin Fang to keep up any pretense. He took the Heavenly Bead Bracelet, carefully placed it on his own wrist, and treasured it greatly.

Qiao Zhenfei watched this, couldn't help but nod slightly. The Heavenly Bead Bracelet had followed him for ten years, undoubtedly his most prized possession. His greatest concern was entrusting it to the unworthy, but now it seemed Qin Fang was satisfying indeed, and the exchange seemed a fitting conclusion.

"I'll be taking it, then... It's quite late; I won't disturb you any further!"

It seemed Qiao Zhenfei was reluctant to stay any longer, perhaps reminded of the Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet he had worn for so many years every time he saw Qin Fang.

Rather than feel incessant heartache, it was better to leave early. Out of sight, out of mind. After a few days, he would gradually become accustomed to this change, and that would be much better.

"Alright, then I won't keep you..."

Qin Fang nodded, understanding Qiao Zhenfei's feelings and empathizing deeply.

However, Qiao Zhenfei had stayed a good while, and with all the commotion, it had gotten past midnight. The sky outside was unusually dark; it was really late.

If Qin Fang were alone, he wouldn't mind Qiao Zhenfei's disturbance. With Superior Soup Dumplings in hand, no matter how tired he was, as long as he nibbled on a couple of Baozi, his Physical Strength Points would rapidly recover, returning him to his Peak condition. Staying up late wouldn't really affect him that much.

"Well, then I'm off!"

Without further ado, Qiao Zhenfei took the calligraphy from the two ladies' hands, packaged it up again, and then left Qin Fang's room.

The bodyguard standing outside immediately greeted Qiao Zhenfei upon his exit.

He was quite eager to take the wooden box with the injury from Qiao Zhenfei, but Qiao Zhenfei ignored him, hugging it tightly as if afraid of any mishap.

The box was the same one, the wooden box provided by the seller to the buyer. However, Qiao Zhenfei had arrived empty-handed and was leaving with such a national treasure in his arms.

Of course, the inconspicuous and poorly made wooden box on the outside really didn't do justice to such a treasured item. Nevertheless, considering the need to keep wealth secret and to prevent accidents, this box indeed needed to be carefully preserved. Losing the box was not a big deal; if something were to happen to the calligraphy, that would truly drive Qiao Zhenfei mad.

"He's just going to take that calligraphy away?"

Watching Qiao Zhenfei's retreating figure, Luo Xi couldn't quite believe it. She had just witnessed the extraordinary craftsmanship of the calligraphy, a rare, invaluable treasure. Not even the Wu Family's heirlooms, passed down for hundreds of years, could compare to it.

But such a treasure, Qin Fang actually didn't say a word and let Qiao Zhenfei take it away, which made Luo Xi feel that her brain wasn't quite enough.

If it were her, having collected such a rare treasure, she wouldn't think of selling it, let alone giving it away. Moreover, she would have kept it very carefully, only occasionally taking it out for her own appreciation.

"The things have already been taken away, what do you think?"

Qin Fang rolled her eyes. She had already seen it and yet asked such a redundant question.

Of course, Qin Fang understood that Luo Xi's meaning wasn't simply that, but rather she felt that what Qin Fang had done was somewhat unworthy. The calligraphy piece obviously was the work of a famous artist and was so magical. Its value was exceedingly high, yet they hadn't noticed the content of Qin Fang and Qiao Zhenfei's conversation and didn't know what agreement Qin Fang and Qiao Zhenfei had come to.

Cai Qing was still the same, although the expression on her face had softened a lot. However, she still did not show much goodwill towards Qin Fang, as if Qin Fang owed her millions. She had the appearance of someone harboring deep resentment.

Compared to that, although Luo Xi was a cold and violent policewoman as well, she gradually opened up after getting to know Qin Fang better, and her whole person became bolder. This change was quite pleasing.

This question weighed on the hearts of both beauties. It was impossible to say they weren't curious, hence the inquiry.

"And it's not like I gave it to him for free, our deal was an equivalent exchange!"

Finally, Qin Fang spoke at a leisurely pace.

"Equivalent exchange?"

This time, not only Luo Xi was extremely surprised, but even Cai Qing, who had been pretending to be calm, couldn't help but widen her eyes in disbelief.

The price of the calligraphy could almost be described as priceless, even astronomical, given the magical and mysterious techniques it contained. It was enough to be classified among the most top-notch treasures and cultural relics.

Yet for such an item, Qiao Zhenfei actually managed to offer something for an equivalent exchange, and both beauties immediately showed great interest in what Qiao Zhenfei had provided.

"Qin Fang, tell me, how much money did you sell it for?"

The first thing that came to mind was naturally money. Although such a treasure was extremely rare, there still had to be a price if it were to be sold.

Perhaps ten million, twenty million, fifty million, or even... a billion. There needed to be a price that matched its value. After all, it certainly wasn't cheap.

"Who told you I sold it for money? How vulgar, unbearably vulgar..."

Qin Fang looked at Luo Xi with disdain, and naturally, she didn't forget to tease her a little, immediately provoking a barrage of eye rolls from the beauty Luo Xi.

"Here, let me show you something..."

Seeing the surprised expressions on the two beauties' faces, Qin Fang finally took off the Heavenly Bead Bracelet that hadn't been worn for long to give them a glimpse.

"This is... a Heavenly Bead Bracelet?"

Luo Xi and Cai Qing were not ignorant women; they both came from wealthy families and had used many luxury items before.

Sky Pearls weren't exactly luxury items, but they were definitely very rare gems.

"They are all Ancient Sky Pearls..."

Luo Xi also had a Tianzhu, and it was a relatively rare Nine-eyed Tianzhu. She muttered that the price of a single pearl might be no less than any pearl on Qin Fang's bracelet, except for the largest one, even if those few pearls were very superior in quality.

It was for this reason that Luo Xi knew a little more about Tianzhu, certainly much more than Qin Fang did. She immediately identified that these pearls were all Ancient Sky Pearls and not the counterfeit products meant to deceive people.

"And... they all seem to have been blessed!"

Cai Qing also spoke, her reaction similar to Luo Xi's.

She had seen many Sky Pearls, some of which were fine specimens, but mostly single pearls, unlike the seven on Qin Fang's Heavenly Bead Bracelet, all of which were of superior quality in color, pattern, and material.

What truly surprised her was that all these Ancient Sky Pearls had very obvious signs of having been blessed, meaning they had been consecrated with a lama's mana.

Cai Qing had just studied information on this subject, and her understanding was even more thorough than Luo Xi's. She could recognize the traces of mana on Qin Fang's pearls, something Qin Fang herself couldn't distinguish between ordinary Sky Pearls.

"All of them have been blessed?"

Luo Xi felt it was somewhat incredible upon hearing this. She knew how difficult this was and also realized that Qin Fang's mention of "equivalent exchange" was not a brush-off, but the truth.

Chapter 454 Joyous Zen_1

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Bestowing mana upon the Heavenly Pearls is not a simple matter, or rather, it is a very mentally and physically demanding task. On this point, the lamas of the Esoteric Sect are evidently much more reliable than the monks in the monasteries.

The consecration performed by most monks is just for show, with no actual work done—it's made clear that the item has been consecrated, followed by the collection of a hefty fee.

Even certain so-called enlightened monks "consecrate" items up to the point of being caught red-handed by the police during a raid on a brothel... They are essentially pulling the wool over people's eyes.

However, being a lama is quite a different story. Simply achieving the title of lama is no easy feat; it represents possessing profound Buddhist knowledge and the cultivation of a "consciousness" realm.

For lamas, bestowing mana upon the Heavenly Pearls is a very solemn matter and they would never engage in the deceitful practices akin to those of the monks.

They begin with fasting and bathing, followed by a clearing of mind, calming of heart, concentration of spirit; their consciousness is highly focused, reaching the peak moment. Only then do they start to bestow mana on the Heavenly Pearls.

This process is exceedingly meticulous, and the duration depends on the lama's power—ordinary lamas might take a day, while deeply enlightened monks may take longer; three days, or five days. Living Buddhas, who are even higher in status, may need as many as ten days, and as for the highest Living Buddhas... they are not ones who can be easily summoned except by true serendipity.

Each consecration consumes a significant amount of energy and mana, and it could take several months of cultivation for the monks to recover. Even a slight mishap could leave them with lingering ailments.

These several Heavenly Pearls bear clear signs of being endowed with mana. The seven smaller pearls are about the same, consecrated by different monks of comparable power. The largest one is different, definitely consecrated by a monk of considerable Buddhist prowess.

"These eight Heavenly Pearls were consecrated by the high monks of Jokhang Temple and Potala Palace, especially this largest one, which was personally consecrated by Gongba Living Buddha of Jokhang Temple..."

At this point, Qin Fang couldn't help but feel a touch of pride, knowing that ordinary Heavenly Pearls, even those of excellent quality, could not compare with his calligraphy.

But these eight Heavenly Pearls, consecrated by high monks, had substantial value. It was unlikely there were many Heavenly Bead Bracelets of this caliber, as Dharma Kings rarely acted.

"I've heard that Heavenly Pearls have significant benefits for the human body, especially those with mana consecrated by high monks. They can heal, strengthen, extend life, and also protect from petty people and boost romance..."

Luo Xi seemed to always have this kind of personality; she started off well, but then ended up with claims about "protecting from petty people and boosting romance," which made Qin Fang quite speechless.

"How about I let you wear this bracelet for a few days, Luo Xi, to see if your romance luck might flourish?" Qin Fang couldn't help but tease.

"Yes, yes..."

Her eyes lighting up at his words, Luo Xi gazed intensely at the Heavenly Bead Bracelet in Qin Fang's hand, as if she wanted to snatch it right then and there.

But she quickly sensed that the atmosphere was off. First, Cai Qing gave her a strange look, and then she noticed Qin Fang trying to suppress his laughter at the side.

"Hmph, who cares..."

Luo Xi pouted, reluctantly took another few glances, and then left in a huff, returning to her room with Cai Qing.

With a loud bang, the fragile, unlucky door was slammed shut with force, seemingly as a demonstration against Qin Fang and to convey the discontent of a certain beauty.

But Qin Fang appeared rather indifferent, acting as though he hadn't noticed Luo Xi's reaction at all.

Finally having the two women out of the way, Qin Fang returned to his room, closed the door, and without any thought of sleep, took out the Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet and quietly held it in his hand, stroking and fidgeting with it.

Within the iconography of the Esoteric Sect, the Double Longevity Dzi Beads signify the union of King Kong and Buddha Mother, which refers to the practice of husband and wife cultivating together, which also subtly embodies the essence of Great Bliss Zen.

Perhaps it was due to this association that someone engraved the Joyous Zen Secret Method onto such a string of Heavenly Bead Bracelets.

It was evident, however, that Qiao Zhenfei did not understand its significance. The bracelet had been in his possession for a full ten years, bringing quite a few benefits, yet the true marvel of it remained dormant throughout that time.

"Great Bliss Zen!"

Qin Fang silently recited in his heart.

At this moment, his emotions were somewhat stirred. Soon, this secret technique would become his possession. With diligent practice, Qin Fang's National Arts Skill proficiency could rapidly increase. The higher the levels of Joyous Zen Secret Method cultivation, the faster the proficiency would improve.

And yet this Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet could greatly aid his cultivation of Great Bliss Zen, equivalently transforming the bracelet into an accelerating treasure like the Psychic Jade.

However, while the Psychic Jade accelerates all skills, this Heavenly Bead Bracelet is only effective for Great Bliss Zen... at most, it could extend to include the efficacy for National Arts Skill, but its coverage is relatively smaller.

This Joyous Zen Technique was engraved on each Sky Pearl, extremely covert, nearly invisible to the naked eye, concealed through a very special method, indicating that the creator of this bracelet was an extremely skilled top-notch sculptor.

Joyous Zen is a practice unique to the Esoteric Sect, originating from Indian esoteric Buddhism, which holds a legend: The king "Vinayaka," who adored the Brahman religion, was cruel by nature, and became demon-like in temperament, slaughtering Buddhists. Sakyamuni sent Guan Yin Bodhisattva to enlighten him, but after trying various methods to no avail, Guan Yin Bodhisattva, as a last resort, transformed into a beautiful woman and engaged in physical relations with "Vinayaka." In Guan Yin's embrace, "Vinayaka" instantly dissolved all evil, his heart filled with love, and he finally converted to Buddhism, becoming the venerated head of the Vajras... This became known as the legend of the Happy Buddha.

Happy Buddha is unique to the Esoteric Sect and is only worshipped in Tibetan Buddhist temples.

The symbol depicts a twin Buddha, face to face, embraced in unison, representing the king and queen, the female Buddha with flowing hair, holding the scriptures in her right hand and supporting the wish-fulfilling jewel with her left, her right leg draped over the male Buddha's, her left leg extended and raised behind; the male Buddha wearing a dharma crown, his face ferocious, arms naturally open, legs in a relaxed seated posture, clearly being slowly melted.

In Vajrayana Buddhism, the transcendent wisdom of the "other shore," Prajna, represents the creative vitality of the feminine, and another cultivation method, "Upaya," represents the creative vitality of the masculine, symbolized by the transformation of the female genital lotus and the male phallic vajra. Through imagined and real unions of male and female yogic practices, witnesses personally testify to the blending of "Prajna" and "Upaya" into the ultimate blissful state of Nirvana.

Simply put, Joyous Zen is a secret dual cultivation method for couples, a very unique cultivation technique performed through deep physical contact between spouses, an alternative approach to cultivation through desire.

At this moment, Qin Fang was free of distractions, and all his vital energy and spirit were focused on the Heavenly Bead Bracelet in his hand, sensing the mood of each pattern engraved upon it, feeling the subtle magnetism emanating from the pearls.

"Congratulations on acquiring the Special Skill: Joyous Zen!"

After a while, Qin Fang received such a notification in his mind, finally feeling that his efforts were not in vain.

Although the secret of the Joyous Zen was inscribed on the Sky Pearls, not everyone could become aware of its existence, nor could everyone grasp its essence.

At least what Qin Fang had gained was merely a glimpse of Joyous Zen, as for the essence... there was none at all.

"Joyous Zen: Special Skill, Level: First Stage!"

To Qin Fang's surprise, Joyous Zen was different from any of his existing skills. It was a Special Skill, distinct from his commonly used and rare skills.

Moreover, it seems not to be differentiated by proficiency levels, but by stages such as the first, second, and third stage, and it did not provide any conditions for upgrading, proving to be a quite special skill.

"The advancement of Joyous Zen is inseparable from the cultivator's own cultivation, determined by the effects of dual cultivation of both men and women, and the depth of skill cultivation!"

Seeing such a prompt, Qin Fang understood what it meant.

So the only way to advance this skill was through deep physical contact with a woman, judging by that deep communion of soul and flesh.

Basically, the emergence of this skill made it clear that Qin Fang should have more relations with women...

Qin Fang's face was a wry smile; this skill was indeed too good for a man. However, the problem was that he was alone at the moment. There were two beauties in the room next door, but if he dared to make any untoward move, he would be killed for sure... and in a particularly tragic way.

Without a woman, there was no way to test how effective Joyous Zen really was, how much benefit it could bring to skill proficiency...

"It seems I need to wrap up things here quickly and return to Ninghai as soon as possible!"

In the end, Qin Fang could only shake his head in resignation. Going to pleasure quarters was not something he would do, but going back to Ninghai might be better. At least he had Xiao Muxue who

could be considered, or Wen Yan might also be on the menu, as for Tang Feifei... they might as well keep things as they are for now! Their level of intimacy was not yet sufficient to reach that stage.

Chapter 455 Sorry, You're Under Arrest!_1

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Having successfully acquired the Joyous Zen, Qin Fang's heart gradually calmed down, and naturally, he continued to wear the Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet on his wrist.

Qin Fang was surprised to find that after storing the bracelet in the Props Box and taking it out again, the bracelet's properties changed slightly, transforming from a simple item into a special prop.

"Supreme Double Longevity Pearl Bracelet, special prop, with the characteristic of enhancing the effects of Joyous Zen!"

There was no doubt that such an item had changed for Qin Fang from being a function of dubious legend to one of genuine, concrete utility.

Moreover, after becoming a special prop, it acquired another change: although Qin Fang wore it on his wrist, as soon as he thought "Hide" in his mind, it would automatically disappear from his wrist and become invisible, while he could still feel it physically; it was just that ordinary people could not see it.

This characteristic was similar to those of other special props, such as the Ring of Justice that Qin Fang wore on his finger and the Psychic Jade around his neck, which were also invisible to everyone except for him.

Of course, if needed, Qin Fang could make them visible to others at any time, and it wouldn't have too much of an impact.

Nothing noteworthy happened overnight and maybe because it was indeed late, Qin Fang quickly fell asleep and did not wake until long after dawn. By the time Qin Fang left his room, he found Luo Xi and Cai Qing had already been up for a long time, dressed neatly and watching TV in the living room.

"Yo, look who it is, the young master Qin. You must have slept pretty well..."

Perhaps to get back at him for last night's incident, Luo Xi immediately made a sarcastic remark as she saw Qin Fang coming out of his room.

"Fairly well..."

Not wanting to provoke the young lady, Qin Fang went to wash and get dressed on his own. By the time he finished, he found that it was indeed late, and he had even missed the opening ceremony of the Martial World conference.

"Ladies, shall we head out..."

Qin Fang couldn't afford the time for breakfast. He had arranged to enter the event with Qiao Zhenfei and reckoned they were still waiting for him. It was best to hurry over there.

Without much comment, the two ladies grabbed small bags and followed Qin Fang out, their outfits revealing their elegant figures and stunning beauty.

Although they were going to the Martial World conference, not to some banquet, they were merely there to watch the excitement, and it was unlikely they would have to engage in combat.

Five years ago, Cai Qing was determined to win some honor for the Cai Family's Xingyi Fist. However, being unable to cultivate Inner Breath, she ended up disappointed and defeated. Five years on, she had refined all her moves to maturity, and her strength had indeed improved significantly. But facing the same opponents from five years ago, she felt even more powerless.

In such circumstances, the hitherto grudgingly regarded Qin Fang had suddenly risen to prominence. His rapid progression, although brief, was as stunning as it was swift – astonishingly fast.

Among the Tian Nan Four Shows, the strongest quartet of the younger generation in the Southern Martial Arts World, Su Yang's strength was considered the least, yet Qin Fang had forced him to a standstill. Such strength was already quite formidable.

Even Cai Qing had to admit that if she were to fight Qin Fang, a draw would be the best outcome, and in all likelihood, she would lose...

Women's physical strength is always much less than men's, especially in such high-intensity combative encounters. The advantage of men is quite obvious.

Since Qin Fang now possessed strength comparable to her own, it meant her grandfather had found a very good successor. The responsibility for inheriting and reviving the Cai Family's Xingyi Fist fell on Qin Fang's shoulders, and she could relax somewhat, hence she dressed up like Luo Xi.

As Qin Fang guessed, Qiao Zhenfei was indeed waiting for them, along with a few others whom Qin Fang didn't recognize.

"Brother Fei, I'm really sorry to have kept you waiting... Hmm? Didn't sleep well last night?"

Qin Fang apologized to Qiao Zhenfei somewhat sheepishly and only noticed the bloodshot eyes and dark circles around Qiao Zhenfei's eyes upon getting closer, indicating he hadn't slept well the night before.

"Sleep well with such a treasure suddenly in my hands? No way..."

Qiao Zhenfei laughed it off, not minding in the slightest, as he had spent the whole night without the mood to sleep, occasionally taking out the calligraphy to admire.

"Oh, right, little brother, these two are officers from the city bureau. They came for the case last night... might be useful later!"

Although Qiao Zhenfei was speaking casually, he hadn't forgotten the matter at hand and immediately indicated the two plainclothes individuals beside him, but for Qin Fang, it was unexpected that they would be police officers, and yet he didn't pay it much attention, given Qiao Zhenfei's status, such a small matter really wasn't a problem for him.

"Let's go inside... The opening ceremony is already over, and it's probably time to start the fights!"

Chapter 456: Sorry, You're Under Arrest! 2

A group of people entered the venue directly through a special entrance, heading straight for the VIP area, a section specifically approved by the organizers for individuals with special status.

"Ah... talk about a small world!"

What surprised them was that upon entering the VIP area, they encountered a familiar face—none other than Ding Song and a few of his friends.

The Tian Nan Four Shows not only had exceptional strength among the younger generation but also came from powerful martial arts sects with Grandmaster-level Experts at the helm.

For instance, Su Yang's master was the Eight Extremes Fist Grandmaster Elder Niu, while Ding Song hailed from the local Ding Family of Xishu.

The Ding Family were inheritors of the Dragon-Shaped Fist, one of the Xingyi Twelve Branches, renowned not just for their formidable Attack Power but also for their training of the body, making it a versatile Fist Technique capable of both offense and defense.

"This is perfect, we can just sit back and enjoy the show..."

Qiao Zhenfei was initially taken aback by Qin Fang's remark but then followed Qin's gaze, noticing Ding Song and his group. He glanced at the two nearby police officers, who nodded in recognition of Ding Song as well.

Speaking of bad luck for Ding Song, although the Ding Family was not based in Jian Ge, they were from the same city. Last night, after roughing up that kid, they reported directly to Ding Song, which was why the officers sent today were from the city bureau, not Jian Ge's local force.

"Senior Brother Ding, look..."

Since the Ding Family had a Grandmaster-level Expert and was quite influential locally, securing VIP seats was not too difficult. So, Ding Song and his fellow disciples were also here to watch the fights. One of them turned his head and immediately noticed Qin Fang's group.

It was no surprise, given the stunning beauty of Cai Qing and Luo Xi, whose flawless faces and graceful figures were beyond reproach; in a place overrun by rough men, they were destined to be the center of attention wherever they went, making it hard not to notice them. A mere glance in that direction would reveal their presence.

Qin Fang stood right beside the two beauties, flanked by them on each side, making him equally conspicuous.

"Damn it, that kid is fine... and Eighth Elder and Ninth Elder haven't shown up all night!"

Ding Song's expression shifted when he saw Qin Fang, cursing under his breath while his eyebrows furrowed. His main concern was the lack of any news from the two junior brothers he had sent out last night.

"Big Bro Ding, we should demand people from him. I'm sure that it's this kid's doing..."

Someone immediately called out, eager to take action. The bond between martial brothers was generally strong, and unity in the face of trouble was paramount, leading to a sense of shared enmity.

"Let's go..."

Ding Song thought it made sense. He knew the capabilities of his Eighth and Ninth Junior Brothers—though not as strong as him, they certainly weren't far behind. Together, they could even pose a challenge for him.

In his opinion, Qin Fang was just an ordinary person. For men of their caliber, dealing with an ordinary man was incredibly easy, and they could accidentally maim someone without much effort, so they tended not to act so ruthlessly.

"Yo, isn't this the famous Ding Song, one of the Tian Nan Four Shows? It's an honor to meet you..."

Seeing Ding Song approaching aggressively with five or six people, Qin Fang was far from anxious; instead, he took the initiative to greet Ding Song with apparent enthusiasm, as if they were old friends meeting after years.

If they weren't both men, and had it been a woman instead, Qin Fang might have gone straight for a hug.

"Cut the crap! Qin, where have you taken my Junior Brother?"

But Ding Song clearly wasn't in such a good mood, his face as cold as a glacier that hadn't thawed in ten thousand years, so cold it was almost turning blue.

"Your Junior Brother? You probably know better than I do... Brother, I'm dealing with tens of millions every minute, making money and hardly having the time to care about somebody's whereabouts!"

Qin Fang's response was quite sharp, and since he had no intention of getting along peacefully with Ding Song, there was no need for courtesy. "Sigh, there are really too many people with a screw loose these days. Let's go!"

Of course, Qin Fang didn't bother with him. Ding Song was indeed stronger than him; in a fight between them, Qin Fang's likelihood of winning was slim to none.

The fact that he was able to tie with Su Yang was mainly because Su Yang had underestimated him and was emotionally unstable, affecting his judgment. Combined with Qin Fang's desperate fighting style—which startled Su Yang right from the start—and a powerful finishing move, it narrowly led to a draw.

But Ding Song was somewhat stronger than Su Yang, and the all-round nature of the Dragon-Shaped Fist made it a tougher challenge than the offense-heavy Eight Extremes Fist. Qin Fang's aggressive tactics weren't as effective against it.

"Asking for it..."

As another one of the Tian Nan Four Shows, Ding Song's temper seemed even more volatile than Su Yang's. Qin Fang hadn't finished speaking when Ding Song already showed signs of flipping out.

No, he wasn't about to flip out; he had already done so. He threw a punch with lightning speed, almost reaching Qin Fang in an instant.

Qin Fang stood still, not moving an inch, with a warm smile on his face, as if he hadn't noticed the incoming fist at all.

Chapter 457: Sorry, You're Under Arrest!_3

Buzz~~~

The fist stopped abruptly in front of Qin Fang's nose, the forceful wind of the punch blowing his hair and scraping against his cheeks. One could even faintly hear the sound of a sonic boom.

Ding Song's punch was fierce, but he refrained from striking for real. As a martial artist, attacking a frail civilian would yield no benefits but would instead attract waves of condemnation, so he dared not land the blow.

"Go on, why aren't you hitting me?"

As Ding Song's fist was right in front of him, Qin Fang remained unfazed in the face of danger. Moreover, when Ding Song hesitated, Qin Fang's amiable smile instantly morphed into mockery, disdain, and contempt, while his voice dripped with utter contempt to match his scornful gaze.

"You..."

Ding Song found himself at a loss for words, his fist tensed as if he truly wished to let it fly.

Innumerable eyes surrounded them, watching the unfolding events. If Ding Song were to bully a civilian, it would take only minutes before his reputation would be tarnished throughout the entire northern and southern Martial World; the whole country would learn of this disgraceful character.

"If you won't hit, then I will..."

But Qin Fang's ability to change his expression was just as swift. Almost as soon as Ding Song heard those words, Qin Fang had already lashed out with a kick.

Ding Song, a young top martial arts expert, reacted just as swiftly, dodging in sync with Qin Fang's kick.

The difference between a martial arts expert and a commoner was significant. For an ordinary person to land such a sneak attack on a martial arts expert was difficult, but not impossible.

However, to send a formidable martial arts expert flying with a kick not only required immense brute strength but also significant combat skills and power delivery techniques.

Bang~~~

Ding Song never anticipated, even after taking evasive action and being confident in his speed, that a commoner could hit him. Yet the reality was... a powerful kick struck him hard in the abdomen, much like a heavy mallet pounding a large bell, the force tremendous. The 'bell'... no, Ding Song, was sent flying by that kick from Qin Fang, landing on the ground in a Ping Sha Luo Yan Style posture, butt first.

It had to be said that Ding Song, having cultivated the Dragon-Shaped Fist, was notably better at defense than Su Yang. Faced with a similarly heavy and forceful kick, Su Yang had been in noticeable discomfort, but Ding Song managed to quickly get up, albeit with a face that had turned an ashen blue.

"You... bastard, I'm going to kill you!"

This time, Ding Song was thoroughly enraged. In full public view, he had been humiliated by a younger man, losing all face. It was likely that this embarrassment would become a laughingstock at the Martial Arts Convention and follow him for many years...

An enraged Ding Song was extremely terrifying, his eyes completely red and his handsome face twisted into something monstrous, almost entirely unrecognizable from one of the Tian Nan Four Shows.

"Excuse me, are you Mr. Ding Song?"

Just as Ding Song's rage was about to explode, two people emerged from the crowd behind Qin Fang. One showed his identification while the other, upon presenting his own badge, also casually inquired.

"Police?"

Ding Song was taken aback, not expecting that among Qin Fang's companions were two police officers.
"Yes, indeed, I am Ding Song..."

Those from the Martial World generally dislike dealing with law enforcement, which in modern terms meant the police. Due to the maxim "a hero uses martial arts at the risk of breaking the law," martial artists easily injured others and could inadvertently get into legal trouble. Hence, their innate aversion to police.

But with the badge presented, Ding Song, despite his annoyance, acknowledged his identity.

"Mr. Ding, we have a case of aggravated robbery and assault that we're investigating. Two suspects have confessed to being instigated by you, so we would like to ask you to accompany us to the city bureau. This is an arrest warrant..."

One of the officers spoke while pulling out a signed arrest warrant—a document prepared in advance as part of orders from higher-ups, and something they were merely executing.

The Ding Family had a not-insignificant presence in the city, but it was far weaker than the Wu Family's in Xishu Province. When considering the numerous martial arts clans and schools in Xishu, dominating a region was exceedingly difficult.

Lacking sufficient strength and facing an overwhelmingly dominant opponent meant an inevitably lamentable outcome. This was now the case for Ding Song.

"Wait, what aggravated robbery and assault case? I don't know anything about it..."

Ding Song was suddenly dumbfounded, not understanding how such a case had suddenly surfaced when he had done nothing of the sort.

"It was a joint confession from two suspects... Oh, right, those two suspects are your junior brothers!" The police officer was quite effective, seemingly knowing exactly how to upset Ding Song.

Click,

The shiny handcuffs flickered with light, but they had already been clasped around Ding Song's wrists, shackling him in front of dozens of onlookers—a terrible loss of face.

Ding Song truly felt like a fool on the spot. He had indeed sent two junior brothers to deal with Qin Fang, yet while Qin Fang was untroubled, his juniors had been caught and pinned with a charge of aggravated robbery and assault, and he himself had been implicated as a result.

"It's you! It must be you! You've set me up..."

Although Ding Song was known to be quick-tempered and irritable, it didn't mean he lacked brains. With the situation having escalated to this point, if he couldn't figure out that the two police officers were orchestrated by Qin Fang to target him, then he might as well buy a block of tofu and smash his head against it, for living any further would be a waste of oxygen.

Chapter 458: Four Handsome Assassins_1

...

Qin Fang, however, just smiled and, looking at Ding Song being taken away in handcuffs by the two police officers, spat out two words—"Idiot!"

At this point, it didn't matter who was conspiring against whom anymore.

Even if Ding Song knew the truth, it was all his own doing; if he hadn't intended to deal with Qin Fang, how could he have ended up being taken away by Qin Fang for no reason?

"Despicable!"

"Shameless!"

"Bastard..."

Such contempt from Qin Fang toward Ding Song immediately sparked a strong backlash from the brothers behind Ding Song, some of whom seemed eager to try, itching to pin Qin Fang to the ground and give him a severe beating.

But the problem was that with two police officers backing up Qin Fang, even Ding Song, who came from the Ding Family, was arrested on the spot; they, with their inferior status, knew the police officers would care even less about them.

Assault the police?

Qin Fang almost wished they would really do it, given that any one of these people could easily take out the small-time cops, but the problem was that the consequences weren't something they could bear.

"We'll see about that..."

Ding Song's handsome face had turned extremely fierce. From the moment the handcuffs were placed on him, he knew he had been calculated by Qin Fang, or rather, Qin Fang had already planned it all out, just waiting for him to fall into the trap.

Now that Qin Fang had even brought the police without any concern for the Ding Family behind Ding Song, taking direct measures, it was clear that Qin Fang's backing was far stronger than he had imagined.

In the face of this situation, Ding Song could only show a considerable amount of helplessness, but inside, he was filled with hatred for Qin Fang, already secretly plotting revenge.

"I'll be waiting..."

Qin Fang, on the other hand, appeared very calm. In fact, from the moment Ding Song had definitely made a move against him, they had been on opposite sides, so since that was the case, he might as well hit back harder and teach him a lesson.

"Hmph..."

Ding Song just snorted coldly, then left with the two police officers. As for Ding Song's brothers, although they were all extremely angry, not one of them dared to act rashly. Mainly it was because they couldn't grasp Qin Fang's connections, which left them in an uncomfortable and helpless predicament, like being wary about hurting the mouse while breaking the vase.

However, Qin Fang acted as if he didn't see their indignation at all, as if their clamor was nothing more than the sound of firecrackers, entirely negligible.

"You really are an assassin from Tian Nan Four Shows..."

Watching Ding Song being escorted away by the police, Luo Xi's expression was quite odd, and only after quite some time did she speak softly.

"Err... are you complimenting me or insulting me?"

Qin Fang was immediately taken aback, touching his nose and muttering with a weird expression.

Of the Tian Nan Four Shows, Qin had now encountered two. Su Yang had a big fight with Qin, which ended in a draw despite his far superior strength, and he lost a lot of face. He didn't even participate in the Martial World Conference afterwards, returning to his sect for cultivation.

Ding Song was even more extreme, the two of them couldn't even be considered very acquainted, merely having met once. Yet Ding Song had tried to deal with Qin in secret, even resorting to a robbery scheme.

But quite carelessly, not only did the robbery not succeed, but the robbers ended up being caught. Then, using some tactics and in order to save themselves, the robbers sold out Ding Song. Thus, Qin along with his plots, just gave a push from behind. He wanted to see how Ding Song, faced with such accusations, would manage to shirk the blame—though the likelihood of that was extremely low.

Without a doubt, Ding Song being taken away this time, although he might not be charged with attempted robbery, there was no hope for him to participate in this Martial World Conference anymore.

Not to mention that the police were on Qin's side, which meant they might act somewhat biasedly, so Ding Song would end up in a sad state.

But the Ding Family was after all a local Serpent—they wouldn't let Qin get away with such a setback so easily. Obviously, they would find a way to exonerate Ding Song; such an exceptionally talented individual couldn't be ruined by such a trivial matter.

Of course, by the time Ding Song came out of the police station, the Martial World Tournament had already concluded successfully, and it was destined to have little to do with him.

Besides, under the watchful eyes of all, Qin Fang's exquisitely timed kick had caused Ding Song to lose face significantly. Even if his skin were as thick as could be, making an appearance at such a crucial moment would likely result in being ridiculed behind his back. So, he might as well not show up at all; at least this way he would save some face.

"It's just a coincidence..."

Although Su Yang's departure had a lot to do with Qin Fang, Ding Song... well, that was entirely his own fault. To say that Qin Fang was picking a fight for no reason would truly be too unjust to Qin Fang.

"I suddenly have a premonition that the remaining two will also not escape from your grasp..."

Luo Xi fell silent for a moment, then spoke with certainty, despite it being just a guess; yet, she seemed very confident about it.

Qin Fang rolled his eyes and didn't bother to continue entertaining her speculation; he headed straight to their reserved area. The competition on the stage had already begun, and he had no intention of wasting a lot of time on meaningless arguments.

He had taken down two of the Tian Nan Four Shows, a fact indeed. But as for the remaining two, he didn't even know their names yet.

To say that these two would also not escape his grasp, where did that come from?

The others, upon hearing Luo Xi's words, couldn't help but laugh. With two of the Tian Nan Four Shows gone, the impact was truly formidable. If the remaining two also suffered the same fate, Qin Fang would indeed become the assassin of the Four Shows.

By the time Qin Fang and his companions arrived in the VIP area, it was considered quite late. Basically, everyone who could enter had already done so. Those who couldn't come in might as well give up trying.

Apart from Ding Song and others who had used a backdoor to get in, the rest were people with significant backgrounds or special status who were not acquainted with Qin Fang and his group, so there was no need for interaction.

Meanwhile, Ding Song's fellow sect members were quietly standing near Qin Fang, silently staring at him as if they were eager to catch him alone and give him a severe beating in the restroom.

The remaining two members of the Tian Nan Four Shows clearly weren't in the VIP section, or else Luo Xi would have recognized them. Moreover, when Ding Song got into trouble, they probably wouldn't have just stood by and watched.

It was the first day of the Martial World Tournament, and the excitement of the platform battles wasn't very high. The tournament was still at the knockout stage. Both the Northern and Southern Martial Arts

Worlds had selected one hundred young experts to participate in the battles. The format was a random draw free-for-all. Fifty people formed a group, competing in one-on-one battles until sixteen finalists emerged, i.e., the top four of each group.

A total of two hundred young experts, nominated by various sects and clans, were known to each other in this circle. The strengths and weaknesses were very clear, and it was evident who qualified and who didn't. A shameless grab for face would only lead to one's own embarrassment, so the selection for qualification was decided quite easily.

Initially, Cai Pingyuan had an eligibility spot, but he chose to give it up.

Cai Qing's strength was quite good, but only relatively speaking. Any of the top one hundred experts in the Southern Martial Arts World could be considered an expert, so in comparison, Cai Qing was still a bit weaker.

Since she couldn't compete with the top hundred experts, clinging to a spot would be somewhat unappreciative. Who knows what people might say behind Cai Pingyuan's back.

And thus, Cai Pingyuan decided to gracefully give up the qualification, earning him significant goodwill. Also, the qualifications for the next Martial World Tournament were now firmly his, with no one having the right to question this decision.

You couldn't expect Cai Pingyuan to voluntarily give up the spot twice in a row. If there were truly no promising successors, that would be one thing, but clearly, this wasn't the case. Qin Fang's sudden emergence ensured his participation in the next Martial World Tournament.

As for this edition of the Martial World Tournament, Qin Fang was merely a spectator; officially taking part was certainly not his turn.

His battle with Su Yang had indeed slightly showcased Qin Fang's exceptional talent, but his strength was still relatively weaker. If he used Tiger's Rush, he would only be on par with Cai Qing and still quite far behind those Level 5 experts.

Last night, he used Tiger's Rush in a Sneak Attack to take down a Level 5 expert, but that was just due to surprise; the other party never expected Qin Fang to be so formidable, and thus caught off guard.

As for the second Level 5 expert, Qin Fang did not resort to a Sneak Attack again. Such a tactic might succeed once, but a second time was not guaranteed, which was why Qin Fang decided to use a gun...

The battles on the platform were incredibly lively. Qin Fang was quite engaged as a spectator.

Just as he anticipated, those who could participate were all experts. Qin Fang kept throwing his Scouting Skill onto the platform, checking the strength level of every contestant. They were almost uniformly Level 5 experts, with not a single one below that level.

This left Qin Fang feeling frustrated—how could young experts be so undervalued?

Two hundred competitors took part in the martial arts battles, ranging in age from the youngest at twenty-two to the oldest at thirty-two, all falling within a prime age group for cultivation and in their peak physical condition. To have attained Level 5 strength at such an age meant all had a promising chance of reaching Level 6 Grandmaster Level...

Undoubtedly, these individuals would become Qin Fang's rivals. If he wished to make a name for himself in the Martial World, they were destined to be the stepping stones on his path.

However, Qin Fang himself had yet to realize that he was already gaining some fame. Luo Xi's phrase "assassin of the Four Shows" was already spreading quietly...

Chapter 459: The Tian Nan Four Shows - Fairy of Flowers_1

...

The Martial Arts Tournament was still ongoing, in full swing, with experts from all quarters climbing on stage to showcase their skills.

With the crowd growing, the liveliness naturally became quite a spectacle. Some contestants easily defeated their opponents on the platform, with some audience members even timing how long it took for the fallen to hit the ground.

Others, however, were engaged in fierce battles, dismantling hundreds of moves in succession until both combatants were exhausted and collapsed on the stage. Victory was determined by whose body hit the ground last.

There were also some quirky contenders who would exclaim "shit" upon facing each other, then proceed to determine the winner through rock-paper-scissors. But if a real fight ensued, it's likely they'd end up in the same state; unable to take control, they'd tire themselves half to death.

This time, Qin Fang really opened his eyes because such performances, on a stage as serious and passionate as the Martial Arts Tournament, managed to attract much attention, effectively gaining the performers a form of indirect fame.

Of course, there was no shortage of contestants with actual strength—at least Qin Fang noticed several young people with considerable power. When facing opponents of similar age, they dispatched them with ease, as if slicing vegetables, securing their advancement to the next round in quick succession.

"How come none of the Tian Nan Four Shows showed up?"

However, Qin Fang quickly realized that after the first round was concluded, not a single member of the Tian Nan Four Shows had taken the stage.

Su Yang had withdrawn from the tournament on short notice before the competition, something Qin Fang had learned of earlier; Ding Song, having been tricked by Qin Fang, was locked up in jail, so he was obviously out of the running.

But strangely, the remaining two members of the Tian Nan Four Shows were also absent, leaving Qin Fang puzzled. These four individuals were almost representative of the strongest among the younger generation in the Southern Martial Arts World, yet none took part. Facing the experts from the opposing Martial World without them greatly increased the difficulty.

Yet such a question from Qin Fang immediately drew disdain from those around.

It turned out that the contestants were not just these two hundred people; in fact, there should have been two hundred and ten. The remaining ten were divided equally between the northern and southern

Martial Arts Worlds, listed as the top ten seed players in the Martial Arts Tournament. They did not need to participate in the preliminary elimination round and were directly promoted to the finals.

With five seed players on one side, the Tian Nan Four Shows, as the strongest quartet in the Southern Martial Arts World, were undoubtedly listed as seed players, so naturally, they wouldn't appear in the preliminary rounds.

"So that's how it is..."

Once Qin Fang understood the rules, he suddenly realized what was happening, completely unconcerned by Luo Xi's disdainful gaze, and continued to watch the ongoing matches.

"Tsk..."

Luo Xi made a "I despise you" gesture at Qin Fang, then her eyes began to twirl, as if she had suddenly thought of something. Leaning close to Qin Fang, she asked with a smile, "Four Shows' Assassin classmate, I'm just asking out of curiosity, do you know who the remaining two members of the Tian Nan Four Shows are?"

Qin Fang was slightly taken aback, then remembered that he really hadn't paid attention to this matter. Su Yang was one thing since Tian Youzhi had told him about it, and Ding Song was introduced by Luo Xi, but as for the other two—who they were, what their names were—Qin Fang did not have a clue.

"I don't know..."

Qin Fang remained rather honest, acknowledging ignorance when he was truly ignorant, shaking his head straight out, not pretending to know things that were unrelated to him.

"Hehe, I'm starting to understand why the Tian Nan Four Shows would have an issue with you; it's probably your nasty temperament at work. Perhaps things might have been peaceful, but with your disposition stirring it up, matters quickly escalated, and thus, grudges were born."

Luo Xi tilted her head as she looked at Qin Fang, and then offered her simple analysis; although not entirely accurate, it was more or less the gist of it.

"What does it have to do with me, I'm innocent, alright?"

Qin Fang rolled his eyes. He had always been the most innocent one, whether it involved Su Yang or Ding Song—it was almost always them looking for trouble with him. In the midst of their discord, that's what led to the consecutive tragedies.

By the way, it also had a considerable impact. The Southern Martial Arts World lost two of its five seed players; even with substitute players stepping in, the already slim advantage all but vanished.

"Forget it, I'm not going to argue with you. You've already met and fought with Eight Extremes Swift Fist Su Yang, so he's not unfamiliar to you. The same goes for Ding Song, who you managed to have locked up... I might as well tell you about the remaining two of the Tian Nan Four Shows. They are Iron Claw Divine Eagle Song Qingshan and Flower Fairy Ye Huan!"

Seeing Qin Fang's indifferent attitude, Luo Xi couldn't help feeling a bit irritated, but she still decided to give him some pointers, hoping to prevent another incident like the one with Ding Song. After all, not every time could they afford to be so lucky.

"Flower Fairy?"

Upon hearing such a nickname, Qin Fang immediately felt a wave of awkwardness, thinking to himself, couldn't you choose a more badass nickname? Using such a shemale-heavy nickname is seriously detrimental to one's reputation.

"Why use such a girly title..."

It wasn't just Qin Fang who felt this way; even Qiao Zhenfei beside him thought the same. Qin Fang, having already lost face, kept silent; yet Qiao Zhenfei couldn't help but mutter.

"She is a woman, after all..."

But the truth of the matter left Qin Fang and Qiao Zhenfei in disarray. They looked at each other and saw deep surprise in each other's eyes.

"A woman? You mean to say that this Ye Huan is a woman? And she's also one of the Four Tian Nan Showmen?"

Qin Fang was even more astonished and felt it was unbelievable. He couldn't help but raise his voice a bit.

"Women! What's wrong with women? Can't women become experts? Are women definitely inferior to you stinking men?"

Qin Fang's words immediately provoked a very united condemnation from two beauties; Luo Xi and Cai Qing both stepped up, carrying ...oops, got that wrong, that's Zhang Sanhei... essentially, they were quite miffed at Qin Fang's tone.

The Flower Fairy Ye Huan was the only female expert among the Four Tiansouthern Showmen, and her strength was second only to Iron Claw Divine Eagle Song Qingshan, ranking higher than Su Yang and Ding Song.

"Alright, I'm wrong, okay?"

Qin Fang could only offer a wry smile. His tone had indeed been inappropriate, but the women's reaction seemed a bit overboard. There was no need to use such a tone.

"Hmph! You dare to look down on my idol, just wait until I and Sister Qing cleanup you..."

Luo Xi was quite upset. As the only female expert among the Tian Nan Four Shows, Ye Huan was undoubtedly the hottest and most supported young expert among female martial artists like Luo Xi. Each one of them even dreamed of becoming an expert like Ye Huan. Unfortunately, Ye Huan was the only one who actually reached that level.

If Cai Qing could cultivate Inner Breath, maybe she really could have compared with Ye Huan. Sadly... she couldn't cultivate, wasting her remarkable talent.

The Flower Fairy Ye Huan hailed from the Hundred Flowers Sect in the southwest, a sect with a long history stretching back five to six hundred years, dating back to the Yuan and Ming dynasties.

The Hundred Flowers Sect was located in a secluded area deep within the Yungui Mountain Area, a relatively underdeveloped region. However, it was known for its picturesque mountains and clear waters, an ideal place for nurturing people. It was said that most of the sect's disciples were handsome men and beautiful women. Ye Huan, known as the Flower Fairy, was evidently outstanding in her beauty, on par with beauties like Luo Xi and Cai Qing.

What was truly astonishing was that not only was Ye Huan beautiful, but her cultivation was equally formidable. At least Su Yang and Ding Song had suffered major defeats at her hands, placing the Flower Fairy Ye Huan above them in the rankings of the Four Tiansouthern Showmen.

Of course, this was just one version of the story. Some believed Ye Huan ranked above Su Yang and Ding Song because both of them were romantically interested in her and wanted to give her face.

What the truth of the matter was, perhaps even the individuals involved were unclear, as the ranking was imposed on them by other meddlers and was not their own wish.

Regardless of the truth, Qin Fang had come to realize that as a woman, Ye Huan might be somewhat petty, and she might already have her eye on him, the "Showman Slayer."

Comparatively speaking, Iron Claw Divine Eagle Song Qingshan, though the strongest and oldest among the Four Tiansouthern Showmen and the most likely to reach the Grandmaster Level in a few years, had relatively less fame.

His grandfather hailed from the Great Strength Eagle Claw Sect and cultivated a superb Eagle Claw Skill. Later, he continuously combined the essence of various eagle strike fist techniques, becoming even more powerful.

Song Qingshan, an extraordinary person, was sent to the Songshan Shaolin Temple at a young age. There, he practiced the Iron Sand Palm for half a year, tempering his hands to exceptional strength. Combined with his family's Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique, his iron claws made many people tremble with fear.

However, Song Qingshan's character was as idiosyncratic as Wu Hai's from the Wu Family, both being extreme martial fanatics. Disregarding the rumors about him, he relied solely on his iron claws to defeat numerous experts his age or older, thus continually progressing...

Indeed, one area where he surpassed Wu Hai was that Wu Hai didn't have great talent and had to rely entirely on his own diligence to reach the Grandmaster Level. As for Grandmaster Level... that was practically out of the question.

But Song Qingshan was different. If he could reach the Grandmaster Level around thirty years old, he stood a very good chance of entering the Grandmaster Level before fifty. In the days to come, he might even advance further.

Chapter 460: The First Assassin Mission_1

...

No matter what the Tian Nan Four Shows did, Qin Fang remained as he was; he couldn't possibly flee just because he was afraid of bringing trouble upon himself. Moreover, from today on, Qin Fang had another task to attend to.

Assassination!

Yes, assassination, and it was the assassination of a completely unknown expert.

The origin of this task naturally came from the laptop Qin Fang had acquired, the assassin trading platform tied to that ultimate mission Qin Fang was burdened with.

And now, he finally had to embark on the path to complete this mission.

Since receiving the assassin trading platform, Qin Fang almost refreshed it daily, searching for suitable assassination tasks.

He had just registered as the lowest-level member in the Assassin's Alliance and currently had zero points. If he couldn't undertake a mission within a month, a Scavenger dispatched by the Alliance would sweep him away.

Similarly, to purchase special intelligence or weapons and equipment, member points were also needed for the exchange. Theoretically, as long as you have enough points, any weapon can be provided here,

even atomic bombs are not entirely impossible, except that this is beyond the imagination of a low-star assassin.

Indeed, just imagination, because looking at the points needed to purchase, the points owned by a Nine Stars assassin might not be enough to exchange for them; perhaps this was specifically designed for the King of Assassins.

This is Dragon Country, a country with strict control over the use of force, and assassination here is quite difficult; likewise, the missions seeking assassins to kill targets are also relatively rare.

At least Qin Fang had refreshed the platform for several days and found only six assassination tasks within the territory of Dragon Country, but they were all too far from where Qin Fang was located. They were either in the north or the far south, and just crossing such long distances would waste a lot of time.

Qin Fang had just left, and possibly people were already searching for his whereabouts; indeed, many were concerned for Qin Fang's safety.

Today, Qin Fang finally found a task suitable for him, and this task seemed to be tailor-made for Qin Fang, specifically to allow Qin Fang to earn his first membership points.

"One-Star Mission: Assassinate Iron Hand Sect Yan Kuan."

This was a relatively simple task, classified as a One-Star mission by the system, indicating that the difficulty wasn't particularly high and suitable for a One-Star assassin to complete.

It was only when Qin Fang truly accepted the mission that he realized he had acted too rashly, having accepted his first assassin task without fully understanding the situation.

The information provided by the Assassin's Alliance about Iron Hand Sect was not very comprehensive, just vaguely knowing it has a certain status within the West Shu Martial Arts Circle. It wasn't particularly high, but there were some experts in the sect.

Yan Kuan was the Vice Sect Leader of the Iron Hand Sect, quite a formidable expert, and the target Qin Fang had to assassinate. Although he hadn't entered the Grandmaster Level, he was undoubtedly a prominent expert among Level 5 Experts.

In single combat, considering Qin Fang's current strength, it was almost certain that he would not be Yan Kuan's match. Even if he used a powerful secret technique like Tiger's Rush for a Sneak Attack, the chances of success were slim and would likely expose Qin Fang, which was definitely not an option.

Therefore, Qin Fang had no choice but to make some other decisions.

The information released for the mission was not much; just a photo and some basic info and some case studies on Yan Kuan's personality. As for other details like lifestyle habits and daily routines, there was nothing. If you wanted to know... you'd have to investigate yourself.

The Iron Hand Sect where Yan Kuan belonged was also a part of the Southern Martial Arts World. It wasn't very powerful, but couldn't be considered weak either. At least the Sect Leader of the Iron Hand Sect was a Level 6 Grandmaster, only slightly weaker than Cai Pingyuan.

The Iron Hand Sect, as the name implies, specializes in hand combat techniques. It's expected that they practice not only Iron Sand Palm and other fierce hand techniques, but also have incredibly hard and powerful hands. If hit by such a palm, one would definitely be severely injured.

Yan Kuan was already in his forties, at a point in life where significant improvement was unlikely, yet he was quite stubborn and overprotective.

However, what he protected was not his disciples or sect members, but his only relative – his nephew Yan Fu Ming.

Yan Fu Ming lost both his parents in a car accident more than ten years ago, and since then, Uncle Yan Kuan has been his only family and greatest pillar of support.

The Iron Hand Sect was located in Gongzhou of West Shu, a city whose area isn't very large and whose economic level isn't even second-tier – it's more of a third-tier city standard.

Yet, in such a city, the Iron Hand Sect was prospering, holding sway over both the underworld and legitimate businesses. As the Vice Sect Leader, Yan Kuan's status was naturally quite high. In the words of Yan Kuan's nephew, Yan Fu Ming— "In Gongzhou, those who dare not give face to my uncle, I'll make them wish they could crawl back into the womb for a do-over!"

The arrogance of Yan Fu Ming and the protective nature of Yan Kuan were apparent; even officials would not daunt them.

Why so?

Because they were ethnic minorities.

In Dragon Country, there's a saying: first come the foreigners, second the officials, third the ethnic minorities, and fourth, the Han people. Although this saying has been popular for over a hundred years, it hasn't changed much.

Despite being the majority, the Han people's status was obviously inferior to that of the ethnic minorities. Yan Kuan's family was from an ethnic minority, and a populous one at that, with a prestigious status within their group. With over a hundred thousand kinsmen, Yan Kuan's words carried significant weight.

This was why even the Gongzhou officials could not touch Yan Kuan; they feared sparking ethnic conflicts that would hamper their own political careers. Hence, officials typically turned a blind eye, covering up for them, as long as the issues were not too scandalous.

It's not that the people from ethnic minorities were inherently bad; it was just that Yan Kuan and his nephew took advantage of their status and minority background to exploit others for personal gain, bullying the common folk and even causing fatalities, which ultimately were hushed up.

How could they do this?

In terms of fighting, within Gongzhou, the only one who could match Yan Kuan was the Sect Leader of the Iron Hand Sect. However, he usually kept to himself, rarely getting involved with sect affairs, leaving Yan Kuan effectively unopposed and in control.

In terms of power, if the top official in the political sphere didn't care, the lesser ones—who were often bribed by the uncle-nephew duo—had no reason to intervene.

Thus, the two of them went on committing atrocities, with Yan Fu Ming behaving atrociously, tyrannizing men and women as if it were nothing out of the ordinary.

And invariably, it was Yan Kuan who cleaned up after him, no matter how grave the incidents were.

Qin Fang guessed that those who put a bounty of a million to assassinate Yan Kuan must be their enemies, likely holding a grudge of life or death proportions...

However, it had nothing to do with Qin Fang.

What Qin Fang needed to do was to find Yan Kuan then—assassinate him, complete the task, collect the points, and receive the System's mission rewards.

Before, Qin Fang had worried about getting a task that would make him feel very uncomfortable, such as having to kill an ordinary person without significant evil deeds...

Now it seemed he could rest easy; that troublesome situation had not occurred, and it had spared Qin Fang from a dilemma.

After all, Qin Fang was still a normal person. He had come to accept killing, but those he killed were all utterly deserving of death. This was the case with Pi San, followed by Chen Liang, and perhaps Gu Tong was a bit unlucky, but that guy had clearly harbored murderous intent towards Qin Fang, even attempting to carry it out. It's just unfortunate that he never anticipated that the assassin he hired would turn on him instead...

As for Yan Kuan, from the information currently available, he was definitely not a good person. At the very least, covering up for his nephew Yan Fu Ming's involvement in several murder cases and violently seeking revenge for it meant that Qin Fang could kill him without any psychological burden.

The task had been accepted, but there was no rush to act immediately; Qin Fang first wanted to get a clear understanding of Yan Kuan's habits and routines. "Know your enemy and know yourself, and you can fight a hundred battles with no danger of defeat."

On the path of an assassin, there were no unnecessary choices.

Either kill the opponent or kill oneself!

Qin Fang obviously didn't want to die, so he had to eliminate the target, his objective for this mission—Yan Kuan.

The Assassin's Alliance trading platform had a photo of Yan Kuan; Qin Fang memorized the man's features carefully, ensuring that he would recognize him at a glance upon meeting.

As the Iron Hand Sect was a local martial arts group of Xishu, the area where they lived differed from where Qin Fang and the other visitors stayed, being instead in a villa complex not far from the tourist

area. It was said that the sector temporarily occupied a magnificent villa belonging to a disciple of the sect in Jian Ge.

Although the villa complex had a tight security system, it was more suitable for Qin Fang's actions by keeping others at bay, providing him with the opportunity to strike at Yan Kuan.

As for the scumbag, Yan Fu Ming, depending on the situation, Qin Fang wouldn't mind eliminating such a malignancy—if manageable. After all, killing such scum wouldn't decrease his Justice Points, but rather, it seemed, could even increase them.

After preparing the necessary tools, Qin Fang quietly left the room and the resort, heading towards the villa complex where Yan Kuan resided. He needed to understand the man's patterns before deciding when to make his move.