

Genius 471

Chapter 471 Gu Poison!_2

However, Qin Fang quickly thought of a solution and immediately asked for some paper and pen, and started writing and drawing. After about ten minutes, the little notebook already had sketches of more than a dozen herbs, as well as some simple introductions to their properties. In particular, a few highly toxic herbs were notably marked with skull and crossbones as a warning.

"Some of these herbs look familiar to me, let me handle this..."

Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang looked at the herbs, Qiao Zhenfei's brows deeply furrowed, but Li Yang's expression improved significantly, and he immediately took on the task.

After all, Li Yang was General Li's son, and Qiao Zhenfei could not really object, especially since Li Yang said he recognized some of the herbs, making him the most suitable person for the job.

Who would handle it did not matter to Qin Fang, what he needed was the location of the herbs, so he could go and pick them himself. With his Herb Harvesting Skill, not even the fiercest toxicity of the herbs could harm him.

"Prepare the herbs, and do it quickly, but ensure safety!"

Qin Fang spoke with utmost seriousness, "I'll start the acupuncture treatment now to stabilize the condition..."

As he spoke, Qin Fang took out a box of Silver Needles, quietly channeling the ceaseless Inner Breath within his body, then rapidly flicking his wrist, inserting one Silver Needle after another into General Li's leg.

He did not start treatment on both legs at once but began with one of them first.

Having detoxified Old Master Wu, Qin Fang's mastery over the Silver Needles had improved considerably, and although his needling speed was not fast this time, the effect was nevertheless quite evident.

It could be seen that the purplish-black color on General Li's leg gradually faded down towards the lower leg, then moved towards the foot, where the darkness was especially severe. What had been purplish-black now turned into an inky black, completely devoid of any other color.

Conversely, from the thigh downwards, that purplish-black color was becoming lighter and lighter; although it hadn't disappeared completely, it was obviously much better than before...

The needling process was extremely slow, but Qin Fang's expression remained very grave and serious throughout. There were quite a few people in the ward, but each one of them hardly dared to breathe too heavily, afraid to disturb Qin Fang.

Soon enough, Qin Fang entered into his rhythm, his hands continuously inserting needles, manipulating, trembling, flicking, lifting... In his hands, the special techniques of The Nine Revival Needles kept emerging.

Unfortunately, most of the doctors present were practitioners of Western medicine, with hardly any formally trained in Chinese medicine or understanding of acupuncture, so they could only stand there, staring blankly without comprehending the subtlety of Qin Fang's method.

The needles proceeded, from the thigh to the knee, down to the lower leg, to the ankle... not stopping until all the inky blackness was concentrated in the foot, at which point Qin Fang stopped needling and used seven or eight Silver Needles to completely seal the foot.

It looked like Qin Fang was just inserting a few needles, but the consumption of his Inner Breath was quite substantial, his forehead already covered in sweat, and he didn't even have the time to wipe it off.

However, the girl who hadn't spoken much since Qin Fang's arrival, took out a handkerchief to wipe his forehead, giving Qin Fang a moment of relief.

Qin Fang could only return a grateful look, as he had no spare time to utter a word, continuing his treatment until a good while later. Once most of the darkness had concentrated in the foot, Qin Fang collapsed into the chair, gasping for breath.

"Get the equipment, bleed the foot..."

Qin Fang's treatment was essentially at this stage, where he pierced the tips of General Li's five toes, letting the inky, foul-smelling black blood flow out from the toes, and the color of the foot began to improve somewhat.

By this point, no one had any doubts about the efficacy of Qin Fang's Acupuncture Secret Technique, as the previously inky-black and withered leg had recovered quite a bit. Except for the foot, the other parts

had regained their flesh color, and even though it hadn't fully returned to normal, it was already much better.

True to Qin Fang's word of "eighty percent assurance", the treatment seemed to have achieved eighty percent of its promise, and there was no sign of breaking his word.

Upon Qin Fang's command to bleed the foot, Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang came over to assist on each side. Qin Fang pierced General Li's toes with the Silver Needles, and the black, stench-ridden blood kept flowing out from the foot.

Such a change also caused the beautiful military doctor's complexion to drastically darken. They had once tested this black blood as well, only to find nothing abnormal, but this time, the black blood forced out by Qin Fang's silver needle carried such a distinct, strange smell that it was completely different. Just a light inhalation of the scent caused her to exhibit symptoms of dizziness and blurry vision, which certainly indicated some unknown anomalies within it.

"Could it really be my mistake?"

The beautiful military doctor's face fell, her eyes filled with shame and despair.

Once upon a time, she was a proud swan perched high above, but now she was trampled by a wretched toad from the horizon, and furthermore, she was relentlessly punished and humiliated, which made her utterly uncomfortable.

What truly drove her to the brink of despair was that she genuinely wanted to help General Li. They were very good friends, but she had not expected such a result, committing an extremely fatal error.

Qin Fang did not participate in the bloodletting; he no longer had the strength to do so. The long duration of performing acupuncture had nearly drained him of all energy, not leaving him the power to even move, forcing him to rest there.

"Qin Fang, what exactly is wrong with Uncle Li?"

Qiao Zhenfei had actually wanted to ask for a long time. The hospital had determined it to be a very rare neurological necrosis, but from Qin Fang's reaction, it was clearly something else, which prompted his question.

"Poisoned!"

Qin Fang ultimately did not conceal it and directly gave the answer.

"This is impossible!"

Before Qiao Zhenfei could react, the beautiful military doctor beside him had already cried out excitedly. Although she already felt she had made an unforgivable mistake, the suggestion that General Li was poisoned was something she could never acknowledge, no matter what.

There might indeed be something overlooked in the blood analysis, but if General Li were truly poisoned, it would be impossible to escape their analysis, especially since they performed many

different examinations and analyses besides blood tests. One person could make an error, but for a whole team to miss it, the likelihood was incredibly slim.

"Big sister, can you not be so assertive?"

Qin Fang glanced sideways at the beautiful woman with irritation.

Truthfully, he did not have a very favorable impression of this military doctor. Confidence was good, but overconfidence could easily lead to problems.

"General Li was indeed poisoned, and what's more, it was a very rare and extraordinary poison..."

Qin Fang knew this when he came into contact with that drop of black blood. Maybe it was due to that little creature inside his body, or perhaps because he had been poisoned by the venom of the Golden Crested Snake before, he had a strong sense of such deadly toxins.

Moreover, when Qin Fang began to examine General Li's leg, some unknown events transpired under the watchful eyes of those present, such as Qin Fang's internal pet swallowing some of the tiny objects inside General Li's leg...

"Extraordinary poison?"

Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang, among others, were stunned, all looking at Qin Fang with a sense that his statement was a bit too fantastical.

"Gu poison!"

Qin Fang was aware that what he said sounded fantastical, but in reality, it was indeed the case, General Li was infected with the extremely rare Gu poison, originating from the mysterious Miao Jiang, a poison that should have been extinguished long ago, but it had reemerged...

Chapter 472 Detoxification_1

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Gu, a very sinister and bizarre type of poisonous insect, or a generic name for this category of venomous creatures.

It is generally prevalent in the Miao Jiang region and rarely found in the Central Plains. In those relatively isolated mountains and primitive societies, creating Gu is almost an essential ability for the Miao people, with men, women, old, and young all participating in the making of Gu.

However, as society has progressed, the Miao people have gradually left the mountains and marshes, adapting to urbanized society. Consequently, such Gu have been slowly disappearing, and the methods to create them have increasingly become lost. Nowadays, most Miao people do not know how to make Gu, and even sightings of Gu insects have become scarce.

Therefore, Gu poison has slowly turned into mere legend.

Yet, what surprised Qin Fang was that General Li had actually been cursed with Gu, and the Gu insect had penetrated deep into his flesh. If it weren't for the chance encounter with Qin Fang, General Li wouldn't have survived more than a few days.

As for the idea of amputation, that was nothing but a joke, utterly ineffective against the condition, only serving to turn General Li from a whole person into a cripple with both legs amputated in the last stage of his life, eventually dying helplessly in intense agony.

Coming across Qin Fang was rather lucky for him; the little creature inside Qin Fang's body seemed to be the natural enemy of all poisonous creatures, immune to any poison and capable of swallowing it whole.

The intense poison that was once hidden in Qin Fang's body was devoured like this, the Five Poisons Powder, which Chen Liang had used on Qin Fang was the same, and now the Gu insect lurking in General Li's body was still no different. Encountering this little creature, it was all-encompassing destruction, everything was swallowed whole.

Of course, because the little one had devoured those Gu that had already split and reproduced, Qin Fang was able to stabilize General Li's condition relatively easily.

Otherwise, Qin Fang couldn't guarantee that he could treat such a complicated illness, after all, even the best doctors at the military hospital were helpless in the face of this "incurable disease."

"Swallow this pill, and the condition will be under control..."

After releasing most of the dark poisonous blood, Qin Fang sealed the blood flow. He then took out a black-as-ink pill from his person, handed it to Li Yang beside him, and said,

"This is..."

Li Yang, looking at the pill in his hand that was as dark as September, was full of confusion and puzzlement, and could only turn to Qin Fang with a questioning look.

"Just dissolve it in water and have General Li drink it, don't ask so many questions!"

At this time, Qin Fang was regaining his strength and didn't really want to say more — the pill was, of course, the Detoxification Pill he took out.

The Gu poison that General Li was afflicted with was incredibly domineering, and unless one knew how to counteract the Gu, it really was an unsolvable situation, leaving no choice but to close one's eyes and await death.

As for the idea of surgically removing the Gu, it was even more laughable, as these insects are tiny, reproduce very quickly, and are thus abundant in number. To remove them one by one is an almost impossible task, not even worth considering as an effective method.

Now that Qin Fang had eradicated the Gu insects in General Li's body, what remained was some residual toxicity. Qin Fang had just forced out most of the poisonous blood with the technique of The Nine Revival Needles. What little poison was left no longer posed a threat, but to ensure safety, Qin Fang still administered a Detoxification Pill, confident that before long, General Li's condition would completely improve and he would even be discharged from the hospital.

Although Li Yang still held a sliver of doubt in his mind, Qiao Zhenfei, who was beside him, urged him to get ready. Given how things had progressed to this point, Qin Fang was much more reliable than these doctors.

One only needed to look at the female military doctor nearby to understand. Her eyes were full of shock, and she was not yet recovered from her state of astonishment.

Before Qin Fang's arrival, the doctors had indeed considered the idea of releasing the poisonous blood, but the problem was that this strategy was utterly useless. With the presence of Gu insects, even the cleanest fresh blood would be instantly corrupted, turning into necrotic black blood.

Yet, what these highly skilled doctors had failed to do was accomplished single-handedly by Qin Fang, the dramatic contrast suddenly leaving the military doctors somewhat embarrassed, feeling a substantial loss of face.

The beautiful woman looked at Li Yang, but ultimately her gaze shifted to Qin Fang, her eyes flickering with an expression incomprehensible to Qin Fang. There was no interaction nor exchange of glances between the two, as they remained in a state of relative unfamiliarity,

Li Yang went to fetch water to dissolve the pill, and then he administered the solution to General Li, feeling quite nervous. However, by this time, he was noticeably more composed than before.

Just as Qin Fang had said, once General Li swallowed the pill, the receding blackness in his body began to fade gradually. Those colors accumulated toward his feet, and it was believed that it wouldn't be long before another bloodletting would clear out the Gu poison completely.

"Phew~~ At last, job well done!"

And it was only at this moment that Qin Fang finally breathed a long sigh of relief. He had managed to pull General Li back from The Gates of Hell. With some careful nurturing over a few days, full recovery was not far off.

As for the herbs Qin Fang had asked Li Yang to look for, they were not at all useless. On the contrary, they were extremely important.

But not for the recovering General Li, rather for Qin Fang himself because the herbs he left for Li Yang to find, aside from a few for treating General Li, were mostly required for the Heart Nourishing Pill, a formula very much needed by Qin Fang.

Qin Fang did indeed use Li Yang a bit, but it could be seen as a mutually beneficial arrangement. Qin Fang had given quite a lot in return, not least of which was the Detoxification Pill that no one else could refine except for him, not to mention that he had brought his father back from the brink of death.

"Arrange a physical examination for General Li immediately!"

The presence of the beautiful military doctor was felt only at this moment; otherwise, she was almost forgotten.

As soon as Qin Fang declared his successful treatment, she immediately arranged for a physical examination to compare the before and after data, helping her understand the nature of General Li's mysterious illness.

Without a doubt, she was still fuming inside about Qin Fang's previously rather impolite remarks. But now that Qin Fang had cured General Li's strange disease right before their eyes, their embarrassment was loud and clear, yet they were unable to respond and could only take it passively.

Upon hearing the command, the Li Family turned their gaze towards Qin Fang.

Though young, Qin Fang had already equated himself with the term "miracle doctor" in their hearts, his words carrying more weight than those of the beautiful military doctor.

Qin Fang himself was not in the mood to quarrel with the beautiful military doctor. His previous rudeness was driven by the urgency of the situation, and under normal circumstances, it wouldn't have been his turn to act personally.

Now things were different. With General Li's condition stable, Qin Fang was ready to step back and leave the follow-up care to the medical professionals. It would be more comfortable and less trouble for him. Why not, indeed?

Qin Fang could afford to be unconcerned about this, but there was one matter he had to clarify.

"Brother Li, on what day did General Li start showing these symptoms? What had he been in contact with those days, or where had he been?"

The existence of Gu poison, which should no longer exist in this world, was present, and the timing of its application was quite recent, indicating a calculated and targeted action.

"Little bro, don't worry about this matter; I have a clear understanding," Brother Li replied.

However, Li Yang seemed to prefer not to drag Qin Fang into this whirlpool. He seemed to have a suspicion, even a decision was taking shape in his mind.

Qin Fang nodded. He wasn't really interested in meddling in the affair. He was just curious about the people behind the Gu poison. Now it seemed there was no need for him to get involved, and he was happy to step back.

The doctors at the military hospital were indeed top-notch. Conducting physical examinations was routine for them, and some data quickly became very clear.

After some comparison between the before and after data, the beautiful military doctor suddenly fell silent. General Li's body was indeed recovering, and the terrifying "neural necrosis" had disappeared completely.

The blood analysis was still pending, but at that point, the beautiful military doctor had completely run out of words and could only look at Qin Fang with a strange expression that left him puzzled.

"Li Yang, take Xiao Fei and Xiao Qin out for a walk. Have a good time. I'll take care of your dad here," Aunt Shen said.

Once it was confirmed that General Li was out of danger, Aunt Shen's cheerful smile returned to her face, and her fondness for Qin Fang seemed to grow.

Knowing that this was Qin Fang's first visit to Jincheng, she immediately suggested Li Yang show them around. The three of them were of similar age and likely to get along well. After all, Qin Fang had done a great favor for the Li Family, and it was only right that they showed him some hospitality as the landlord.

"Mom, don't worry, I'll take care of them..." Li Yang said.

Now, Li Yang was much more relaxed than when Qin Fang had first met him. With his father's condition improving and the weight lifted from the family's shoulders, he too felt lighter. His step was firmer, and his face wore more smiles...

"Cousin, take me with you too..." the girl who had wiped Qin Fang's sweat before said with a smile to Li Yang. Only then did Qin Fang learn that she was actually Li Yang's cousin, named Jiang Li, a year younger than him, and the daughter of his aunt. Quite coincidentally, Jiang Li also happened to be from Ninghai; what a small world, an encounter with a fellow townsman!

Chapter 473 Chu Yunxuan_1

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Compared to General Li, a senior military officer and one of the big military region leaders, Jiang Li's parents seemed quite ordinary. Both were teachers at Ninghai No.1 Middle School.

"You are... Daughter of Teacher Jiang?"

When he found out about Jiang Li's identity, Qin Fang was also quite surprised. The reason being, Qin Fang himself was a student of Jiang Li's father, who had just finished teaching Qin Fang's graduating class.

"You're my dad's student? That's such a coincidence... Qin Fang, Qin Fang, I remember now, I think I've heard my dad mention you..."

Jiang Li was also somewhat surprised. The world really wasn't that big. In Jincheng, thousands of miles away, the two of them had met like this. Not only were they both from Ninghai, but Qin Fang was also her father's student, which made her technically Qin Fang's junior.

"Hehe, since you're my senior, help me persuade my cousin to take me out with him!"

Although Jiang Li hadn't fully blossomed yet, her current appearance could already be considered quite beautiful. She certainly didn't lose out to the pretty female military doctor beside her, and she also had an added youthful, lively charm, similar to Tang Feifei. Her beautiful eyes carried a sense of intelligence and slyness.

"Stop causing trouble. How can the three of us big guys bring such a little girl with us..."

Li Yang saw his mischievous little cousin still badgering Qin Fang for help, and his face also bore a wry smile. When three men went out together, they naturally had a lot of activities and could enjoy themselves more fully.

But bringing along a little girl meant many activities were out of the question, and it just wouldn't be as enjoyable. There was no way he would agree to this.

Jiang Li was a very clever and playful girl. Seeing her cousin speaking sternly, she put on a pitiful look, not glancing at Li Yang but instead staring at Qin Fang, twisting her clothes, making it hard for anyone not to feel sympathy for her.

"Forget it, let's take her with us. The three of us will just go out for some drinks and chats, and skip other activities! This kid isn't keen on that sort of thing anyway..."

It wasn't that Qin Fang's heart had softened. Qiao Zhenfei was the first to cave, agreeing outright and even poking fun at Qin Fang with a laugh, which made Qin Fang quite uneasy.

His first encounter with Qiao Zhenfei had been at a gambling session, and their second meeting had nearly ended in a beating at Zhang Yuliang's place, all over a woman.

And Qiao Zhenfei knew that Qin Fang's official girlfriend was Tang Feifei, the little princess of the Tang Family. It was rumored that some in the Tang Family had already given their nod of approval to their relationship, indicating that it was fairly solid.

Besides her, Qin Fang had other women, such as Xiao Muxue, as well as those girls like Miao Yue whom he had entrusted to Qiao Zhenfei's care...

Qiao Zhenfei could understand all this; he was the same way, with the home flag standing tall and colorful flags fluttering outside. He had no intention of making a big deal out of it and was merely teasing Qin Fang in passing.

"That's the case... then let's go to the Jin Cheng Salon!"

With Qiao Zhenfei's words, Li Yang naturally got the hint and immediately agreed, no longer refusing Jiang Li.

"Sister Chu, come with us!"

Jiang Li was truly delighted when Li Yang agreed, but then she turned to the pretty female military doctor beside her and invited her too.

"I have to be on duty tonight, so I won't go..."

However, the beautiful military doctor gave Qin Fang a deep look before she turned down Jiang Li's request, then left the ward without saying much else to check on other patients, seemingly quite busy.

Li Yang and Qiao Zhenfei did not stop her, as they both understood the character of this glamorous female military doctor. Once she had turned down such an invitation, no amount of persuading would change her mind.

So, Qin Fang went with Qiao Zhenfei, Li Yang, and Jiang Li, three men and one woman, driving towards their destination, the Jin Cheng Salon.

The Jin Cheng Salon was one of the most prestigious private clubs in Jincheng, occupying a status somewhat akin to Ninghai's Elite Salon. However, Jincheng, although a provincial capital, is inland and still doesn't quite measure up to the cities along the eastern and southeastern coast.

Of course, this is all relative, in reality, most activities and pleasures available outside can also be experienced here, so there isn't a substantial difference.

Jin Cheng Salon also operates on a membership basis; without a membership card, entry is not permitted. Of course, for someone like Li Yang, a military scion, it's not an issue. As a top-tier member, he can easily bring a few people in, besides, someone recognized Qiao Zhenfei as soon as they entered, so there was even less chance of being stopped.

Consequently, Qin Fang and Jiang Li also became esteemed guests of the salon, and soon they had their own silver membership cards, which allowed them to sign for expenses under one hundred thousand directly, a feature quite similar to the privilege card from Elite Salon that Qin Fang possessed.

Qin Fang and others opted for a private room, and the four of them ordered drinks and dishes, settling down to talk while drinking, but Jiang Li seemed quite bored, glancing out at the performance happening outside through the toughened glass of the private room.

When it came to drinking, Qiao Zhenfei indeed had his skills, and as a military man, Li Yang was also quite formidable. Unfortunately, they met their match in Qin Fang. After downing three bottles of

Feitian Moutai, Qiao Zhenfei's face was flushed, and Li Yang was a bit tipsy, but Qin Fang still had an unchanged complexion, at most with just a slight hint of red in his cheeks.

Oh, but that bit of red wasn't from drinking, it was completely due to the high temperature set by the air conditioning, combined with the warm feeling that alcohol naturally induces, which produced this hint of flushing.

As they chatted over drinks, Qin Fang learned about some situations previously unknown to him, such as some background details of the beautiful military doctor who had been confrontational with him before.

This beautiful military doctor, with the surname Chu, was named Chu Yunxuan. Her father was a military commander, and her mother was a very famous surgeon.

Considered to be a prodigious young woman, Chu Yunxuan was only twenty-four years old, yet she had already obtained a double doctorate in medicine and pharmacology from the United States, a formidable accomplishment.

Having just returned to the country this year, she began working at the military hospital. In mere months, she progressed from an intern to a deputy chief physician, an incredibly exceptional promotion!

Of course, this was also due to her exceedingly formidable abilities. If it weren't for her capabilities, even her father being a military commander wouldn't have allowed for such a substantial jump in her career.

Perhaps due to her long stay abroad and the Western education she received, primarily in Western medicine where she has substantial expertise, even her mother, the famous surgeon, has said that Yunxuan now possesses at least eighty percent of her medical skills...

As for this, although Qin Fang hadn't met the renowned surgeon, he did use his Scouting Skill on Chu Yunxuan and obtained the following results:

"Chu Yunxuan, LV2, military doctor, Righteous Guardian Faction, Abilities: Western Medicine Level 5, Pharmacology Level 6, Pharmaceuticals Level 5, Karate Level 2..."

Without a doubt, this was a female powerhouse with terrifying talents in both medicine and pharmaceuticals. With two abilities at Level 5, she was nearly at Grandmaster Level, and her pharmacology had already reached Level 6 Grandmaster Level, a truly formidable woman.

Only twenty-four years old, she was the youngest master Qin Fang had encountered so far, even though she might not be aware of it herself.

What surprised Qin Fang, though, was this beauty apparently had a cold disposition, even hostility, towards traditional Chinese medicine, which puzzled him greatly since he couldn't understand why.

This could also be inferred from how Chu Yunxuan previously targeted Qin Fang; perhaps she might justify it as considering the patient's well-being, yet Qin Fang surmised there was more to it, something he didn't know about.

Chu Yunxuan was a young master, with her other two skills also nearing Grandmaster Level. Perhaps one day she would truly achieve that status and become a celebrated doctor.

However, if she aimed to become a Medical Grandmaster like Elder Ma, she still had a long road ahead, as they were not even in the same league, incomparable at all.

In terms of experience, Chu Yunxuan was leagues behind. Even her mother could be considered a disciple of Elder Ma, as many famous doctors were his students, and it's likely her mother received guidance from him too.

Chu Yunxuan's talent was undoubtedly fearsome, and she was quite young. Currently, she's the youngest master, and maybe in the near future, she might become the youngest Grandmaster.

Qin Fang was quite optimistic about her prospects, although clearly, this beauty was not on the same wavelength as him, not even willing to exchange a few words, so the kind of communication he sought was an impossibility.

However, in Qin Fang's view, such a beautiful military doctor was merely a passerby in his life, perhaps someone he would never come across again after leaving Jincheng, which didn't weigh heavily on his mind.

The drinking continued. Two more bottles of Feitian Moutai were consumed, most of which went into Qin Fang's belly. Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang together didn't manage to drink half a jin, as they were quite drunk already and continuing to compete with Qin Fang like this might knock them out.

The long night was still young, and their nightlife had just begun. They didn't want to start the night and then spend it in slumber; that would truly be a great loss.

So, the drinking turned into Qin Fang alone pouring and drinking by himself. At this point, his alcohol tolerance was quite remarkable, even without cheating through the Props Box, able to handle at least three jin, and now after two and a half jin, he had also reached his limit. To continue, he either had to cheat or end up like Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang.

The night stretched on, and the life of the night had only just started, but for them, the beginning was being spent in dreams, which would truly be too much of a pity.

Thus, the drinking became Qin Fang serving and drinking by himself. Now, his capacity for alcohol, even without using the Props Box to cheat, was also quite formidable. He could normally handle at least three jin, and having consumed two and a half jin already, he was almost at his limit. If he continued, he would either have to cheat or end up like Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang.

Chapter 474 - Encounter at the Casino_1

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"No more drinking, no more drinking..."

Qiao Zhenfei was the first to cave in; he had already had more than a pound of alcohol and had long reached his limit. Continuing to drink would definitely lead to his downfall, so he immediately started to complain.

"I'm done too! I've been dominating the drinking scene for over a decade, and this is truly the first time I've become scared of drinking. You're a beast..."

Li Yang was slightly better off than Qiao Zhenfei but had also drunk a lot. He could still speak clearly, but he couldn't help but express his admiration for Qin Fang's drinking capacity with the word "respect."

"Hehe, this is all the skill I have, what a joke..."

Qin Fang said with a laugh. His alcohol tolerance was trained, and his Drinking Skill had already reached Intermediate levels. It's just that it seldom had an opportunity to be put to use, after all, he was still a student and couldn't go to class drunk every day.

"I really don't get you guys, what's good about alcohol? It smells so bad..."

Jiang Li, who had not been participating, wrinkled her delicate nose and sniffed the aroma of the alcohol. She immediately felt dizzy, and her fair cheeks blushed, making her look even more adorable.

"That's because you, you little girl, don't understand!"

Li Yang scowled and said, "Let's call it quits on drinking and find something else to do..."

"Don't you dare bring in those messy women!"

As soon as Li Yang started to speak, Jiang Li, the little girl, became unhappy, and she immediately voiced her objection. When they had arrived earlier, she had seen some of the Jin Cheng Salon's special services, which made the young girl's pretty face blush, so shy that she almost buried her head in her neck.

"Who said anything about calling for women?"

Li Yang rolled his eyes, "Have you watched 'God of Gamblers'? I'll take you to the casino to gain some experience..."

Li Yang and Qiao Zhenfei had been good brothers for over a decade. How could Li Yang not know about Qiao Zhenfei's amateur hobby? With a little girl present, other special services were definitely out of the question. Thus, heading to the casino for some entertainment seemed like a very good choice.

Just like Elite Salon and Bihai Pavilion, Jin Cheng Salon also had a small casino. Or rather, this place's scale was even larger than Elite Salon and could compete with Bihai Pavilion's casino.

Just from the gambling equipment available, it really had a taste of the big casinos in Macau and Las Vegas. Basically, anything you wanted to play could be played here.

You could gamble against other patrons of the salon, or you could gamble against the salon's croupiers, both were allowed.

However, most people didn't wish to gamble against the casino's croupiers as these croupiers were trained, and they all had some skills up their sleeves. Compared to the customers who relied purely on luck for gambling, they were much tougher to deal with.

The aim of gambling was to win, for the surge of excitement at the moment when the bottom card was revealed. As for the money, that was secondary. After all, those who could enter the salon were not ordinary individuals; they were people with status and background, generally wealthy ones at that.

What they sought was the thrill of gambling and the exhilaration of winning. Of course, winning money was most delightful, as no one would complain about having too much money.

The three of them left the private room and headed straight for the casino. Li Yang was a regular here, quite familiar with the place, so there was no need for a guide. They arrived at the Jin Cheng Salon's casino without any obstacles.

By this time, the casino was already bustling. The spacious hall offered all kinds of gambling equipment; there was nothing you could think of that couldn't be gambled on, an assurance that Jin Cheng Salon's owner was very confident about.

Li Yang and Qiao Zhenfei were veterans and naturally had their preferred gambling equipment. If it had been any other day, they would have gone straight to their games, but now they were accompanied by Qin Fang and Jiang Li, the tag-along, so they had no choice but to ask for Qin Fang's opinion.

"Little brother, you..."

Qiao Zhenfei knew well about Qin Fang's capabilities, and gambling was his greatest hobby apart from collecting. Since they were here, it was impossible not to play a few rounds. He wanted to team up with Qin Fang, with the hope that the two of them together would have a better chance of winning.

"Forget it, you guys go ahead and play. I'll stay with her!"

Qin Fang, however, shook his head. He was not very interested in gambling, despite having the Thousand Skills ability and Advanced Detective Skill. Gambling like this had become ridiculously easy for him.

Although he could not guarantee a win, he could almost ensure he wouldn't lose too badly, or rather, as long as the casino didn't ply too heavy a hand, Qin Fang had a greater chance of winning.

"So this is what a casino looks like..."

Jiang Li, the little girl, was experiencing a casino for the first time. She had watched the classic gambling movies like "God of Gamblers," "Knight of Gamblers," and "Saint of Gamblers," starring Brother Fa, Wah Zai, and Starry Grandpa. She had only watched these movies without much thought, feeling that they were too far removed from her own life.

Qin Fang originally thought the same, but after experiencing a casino for himself, he realized that movies were just a projection of real life, albeit artistically enhanced. In reality, casinos could sometimes be even more brutal and bizarre than the plotlines in the movies.

Chapter 475 - Encounter at the Casino_2

"What do you feel like playing?"

Qin Fang smiled. He had some chips exchanged in his hand, not many, totaling less than twenty thousand yuan. In this casino, where bets of tens, hundreds of thousands, or even more were commonplace, his small stack of chips wouldn't even make a splash.

But he hadn't come here to gamble in the first place. Otherwise, he would have gone straight to the Russian Roulette tables, where the payout was thirty-six times the bet. Just two or three rounds, and he guessed the casino security would be escorting him out.

This was Jincheng, not Ninghai, and no one could guarantee that the person in charge here would have the same broad-mindedness as Li Rui to tolerate the level of face-slapping Qin Fang could deliver...

Li Yang might take it in stride, but if things got too heated, it really wouldn't be good for anyone. Such self-destructive behavior was something Qin Fang intended to do as little as possible.

That's why Qin Fang appeared quite low-key, trying his best not to stir up trouble.

"I'll play that, the slot machine..."

Jiang Li had looked around the hall for a while before finally choosing a slot machine tucked away in a corner.

A slot machine is a gambling device that uses spare change. In reality, they are very common, and there are many different types, each with its mode of play. But the general principle remains largely the same.

Jiang Li wandered among several types of slot machines before finally choosing a comparatively small fruit machine.

Such slot machines are most common. You would find them in any regular game arcade. Qin Fang had seen plenty of them in Ninghai. They were considered borderline gambling devices that the police would confiscate during a crackdown. Normally, however, the authorities would turn a blind eye, pretending not to see them.

The gameplay of the fruit machine is quite simple: you insert a certain amount of chips, which are converted into points, and then you start betting. Once you make a choice, the corresponding points are deducted.

After making a selection, you press start, and the fruit machine begins to flash. After spinning for several rounds, it slowly comes to a stop, ultimately landing on a fruit symbol.

If the fruit on the screen doesn't match your choice, naturally, you end up empty-handed, and all those points are deducted; but if you chose correctly, your betting points are multiplied by the corresponding multiplier for that fruit... The process repeats, and you either lose all your points or have some left to exchange back into chips.

The fruit machine's straightforward gameplay meant that Jiang Li almost immediately understood how to play after one or two rounds. Qin Fang offered his chips, exchanged them for points, and Jiang Li began to play excitedly.

Jiang Li seemed to enjoy herself immensely although she kept losing. She appeared exceptionally happy, especially when she won. She looked so excited that it seemed she could almost rush over to hug Qin Fang, and plant a firm kiss on his face or lips with her tempting, petite lips.

Qin Fang just stood behind Jiang Li, watching without speaking, simply observing. He only responded casually whenever Jiang Li spoke to him.

"Miss, that's not the way to play it. You should learn from me..."

There weren't too many people playing the slot machines, but there was a small group of trendy, young people clearly spending their family's easy-come money—typical rich second-generation. They gathered together, passing judgment on Jiang Li and letting off some not-so-clean remarks, particularly the leading young men whose eyes glinted with fervent flames.

"Let big brother show you how to play..."

"My skills are top-notch, definitely will get you high..."

The group bantered with increasing rudeness, to the point that even Qin Fang almost couldn't stand it anymore.

Jiang Li paused when she heard them, then turned towards the voices. Seeing the jeering young men, her delicate brows involuntarily furrowed, obviously put off by the group.

"Just play your game, don't mind them!"

Qin Fang stood right behind Jiang Li and gently patted her shoulder, speaking calmly, as though the few men were no more important than stray cats or dogs by the roadside, completely unworthy of concern.

"They don't look like good people. Nothing will happen, right? Maybe... we should go to my cousin's place!"

Jiang Li, however, was clearly not as calm as Qin Fang. Their opponents outnumbered them, and with only Qin Fang on their side, they seemed vulnerable and outnumbered.

Going to Li Yang's place would naturally solve everything. In Jincheng, there really weren't many people who dared to act wild in front of Li Yang. Anyone who did so was simply asking for death.

"Don't mind them, just think of them as a bunch of mad dogs barking..."

Qin Fang, on the other hand, appeared quite composed, not taking these young people seriously at all. Aside from the leader, who was pretty strong with Level 3 capabilities, the others were just ordinary Level 1s—the kind of ordinary that couldn't get any more ordinary. Apart from the "my dad is ××"-type of dangerously powerful weapon, they really had nothing strong to offer, so why would Qin Fang care about them?

Pfft~~

Jiang Li was amused, Qin Fang's words had made her laugh. She really hadn't expected Qin Fang to be so audacious; facing so many of the opponent's men, he still dared to curse people so blatantly. That was too brutal.

"Fuck, this kid is cursing us..."

"Boss, beat him to death!"

"Motherfucker, kill him, then drag that chick out to take turns on..."

The rich second-generation kids over there were not old, but they had particularly vicious hearts. As soon as these words came out, Jiang Li's pretty face turned utterly pale as snow, and fear took hold of her.

"Qin... Qin Fang, let's... go to my cousin's place!"

Jiang Li was truly frightened. It was a normal reaction for girls to feel like this in such situations. Despite having an uncle who was a general, her family was just ordinary and couldn't afford to get involved in such trouble.

She felt panicked, as if she had no place to stand, and could only lean on Qin Fang's side, tightly gripping his clothes as she spoke.

"Don't worry, I've got this!"

Qin Fang was still quite calm, gently patting the back of Jiang Li's hand to signal she wouldn't be in any danger. Then he turned to face those rich and official second-generation kids with "my dad is ××" written on their foreheads.

"Anyone who doesn't want to spend half a year in the hospital had better shut up..."

Qin Fang really had no fondness for these arrogant rich kids, so naturally, he was quite rude. With such people, you have to be more assertive than they are, otherwise, they will just grow more arrogant.

"Fuck, this kid's got guts!"

"Big talker. I'm standing right here; if you've got the balls, come at me..."

"Boss, let's do this!"

The few rich kids were so infuriated by Qin Fang's words that they were fuming, but seeing Qin Fang's fearless demeanor, they didn't dare make their move. Eventually, all eyes were fixed on the young leader among them.

"You dare talk to us like this, clearly not taking us seriously..."

The young leader's face darkened as he began to speak. He didn't rush to act but looked at Qin Fang's face as if contemplating whether he'd seen it before.

Jincheng is the capital of Xishu Province, and there are many official second-generation kids at both the provincial and city levels. Among them, some weren't to be trifled with. But after much consideration, he couldn't pinpoint anyone matching Qin Fang or Jiang Li, which made him feel emboldened to act, contemplating initiating a move.

"I won't make things difficult for you. Come over here and apologize to this lady politely, and I'll let bygones be bygones. Otherwise..."

Qin Fang didn't want to waste words. Spotting an aluminum stool nearby, he took it in his hand, gave his wrist a twist, and the stool deformed instantly. This frightened the group of young lads across the way so much that their mouths hung open wide, unable to close for a long time...

Chapter 476 Bet_1

...

The stool provided by the casino was an adjustable round stool with a stainless steel tube in the center, made of two layers of steel tubes fitted together. Despite the stool's overall light weight, this section of the steel tube was very sturdy.

Ordinary people, even if pressing down on one end and kicking with their feet, might not be able to bend it much, but Qin Fang had managed to bend that steel tube with just his hands.

One could imagine how strong his grip must be; bending a steel tube like that, and if applied to human arms, it would certainly snap them clean off with a crisp crack.

These second-generation rich kids had never seen such a fierce man before and were instantly scared stiff, all of them gaping, gasping for air and revealing a look of panic in their eyes when they looked at Qin Fang.

Of course, the impact on Jiang Li, who was standing next to Qin Fang, was no less than that on those rich heirs. Moreover, she was closer and witnessed with her own eyes how Qin Fang's mere effort twisted the stool. Now it was so deformed that it couldn't even stand upright, with its center of gravity completely shifted to one side.

Gazing at the boy next to her, who, while not exceptionally handsome, had a certain appeal, Jiang Li's beautiful eyes sparkled with an unusual light.

It must be said that such a display of brute strength had a considerable impact on women; how many beauties could resist such a strong and vigorous man?

Especially when exerting force, the muscles hard as iron appeared like they were ferociously baring their fangs and claws, a terrifying sight yet at the same time, a representation of beauty.

"Any more questions? If not, come over and apologize..."

With a single move, Qin Fang had subdued the group of rich kids opposite him. Casually waving the deformed stool in his hand, he put on a relaxed demeanor, yet each swing of the stool invariably caught the attention of many on the other side, fearing that it might inadvertently fly towards their heads.

"Young Master Ming..."

Some were moved. Facing such a domineering man as Qin Fang, they certainly didn't dare take him lightly. Those who could enter the Jin Cheng Salon were no ordinary people; their status was definitely not inferior to theirs. They were simply children with some rotten family money; when meeting someone with a stronger presence, they too had to swallow their pride.

However, they didn't dare make any rash moves and could only focus their gaze on the leader among them. They would follow his decision while trying to save a bit of face for themselves.

The leader, a young man who looked to be about the same age as Qin Fang, around twenty or so, was dressed in rather expensive casual clothes. He wore a Patek Philippe watch on his wrist, which was quite valuable. He clearly had substantial family wealth, even without gambling at Baccarat or All-in, instead splurging tens of thousands at a time on slot machines, which didn't cost any less in comparison.

"We are civilized people, using our fists is beneath our status. I won't sink to your level..."

Qin Fang's dominance indeed frightened him, but he quickly recovered. He wasn't as nervous and frightened as the others, still relatively calm.

"How about this? If you win, I will immediately apologize to the lady and give you a hundred thousand in cash. But if I win... I won't ask for too much, just that the lady agrees to have dinner with me!"

This guy was slippery enough, switching from force to a softer approach and daring to make demands under such circumstances, still fixated on Jiang Li. He sure had guts.

"I don't agree to that! An apology is what the lady deserves and should not be used as a bargaining chip for a bet... If you want to gamble with me, that's fine! Either apologize first, or... raise the stakes!"

How could Qin Fang let himself be caught in his trap? He shook his head immediately in denial. There was no such free lunch. If you would only apologize after winning, and if you lost, you just wiped the slate clean and also tried to include a dinner date—what a loss that would be! Even if Qin Fang knew he was bound to win, he couldn't afford to be so obviously at a disadvantage.

After all, this was a fool begging to be fleeced. Jiang Li got a bit of a scare, so a bit of compensation for emotional distress was in order. As for how much that compensation would be, it depended on whether this fool took the bait.

"Then what do you want? How about this: if you win, I'll apologize immediately plus hand over a hundred thousand cash. If I win, the conditions stay the same!"

The young man seemed quite willing to invest. He simply threw down a hundred thousand, essentially pricing Jiang Li's dinner date at that sum, a figure that could rival the rates of top celebrities in the entertainment industry.

For those second or third-tier celebrities, that amount of money could cover an entire night of whatever play they wanted...

And at upscale entertainment venues outside, that kind could afford several high-class encounters for a whole night!

"A hundred thousand? Are you trying to brush off a beggar..."

But would such a sum be of any concern to Qin Fang?

Clearly not.

Such a fool naturally needed to be bled dry once to truly learn a lesson. Otherwise, he would never grasp how vast the sky was or how deep the sea...

Qin Fang glanced at the young man with a slight tilt of his mouth, returning with a contemptuous remark.

I thought this kid might come up with some impressive chips, but this is all the capital he's got? Really, it's too paltry to catch anyone's eye. At a high-end place like Jin Cheng Salon, a hundred thousand is just loose change, the kind of money nobody cares about. Just visiting the card games over there, you'll see each bet starting from well over a million...

Even when this young man played the slot machines himself, he had already poured in several hundred thousand. Clearly, he's loaded, but he's only willing to put forth this pittance—no way Qin Fang would agree to that.

In his own words, "This kind of money won't even cover my appearance fee..."

"Then how much do you want to add..."

The young man also couldn't help but frown. Qin Fang's bold statement left him feeling completely at sea, now looking at Qin Fang as one might look at a Gambling King who had dominated the gambling world for years.

"Impossible! He looks just the same as me..."

But he quickly dismissed the thought. Although there was no necessary correlation between one's age and gambling skill, most Gambling Kings reached their peak after years of honing their skills and only achieved fame after a defining, title-securing, century gambling event.

As far as he knew, the world's youngest Gambling King was already twenty-eight years old when he claimed the title, nearly a decade older than Qin Fang and with at least ten more years of gambling experience.

Therefore, at Qin Fang's age, one might have a modicum of success in gambling, but definitely not reach any great heights—just a bit better than the average person at most.

But this place, nominally a casino, was also part of Jin Cheng Salon; Cheating Experts couldn't possibly become members here, becoming a croupier or taking a seat at the venue was far more likely...

Thinking along these lines, the young man suddenly brimmed with confidence—it wasn't that his own Thousand Skills were exceptional, but he had another Killer Move up his sleeve.

"Not too much, just one million!"

Watching the young man opposite him, who seemed quite self-assured, Qin Fang slowly stated this figure.

Wow~~

As soon as Qin Fang spoke up, the place livened up. A few onlookers immediately let out a surprised hullabaloo, attracting the attention of many more.

This was Jin Cheng Salon, after all, where each person present was a notable character in Jincheng—a hundred thousand bet was no big deal, even scaling up to one million remained the same.

"Okay, I agree to it..."

Qin Fang quietly waited for the young man's reply, and he could see that when Qin Fang unabashedly called out such a large bet, even the young man couldn't help but show a change in his expression.

But, in the end, a bet of one million wasn't outrageous. He grit his teeth and agreed to such a stake, looking quite confident in his own gambling skills.

"I forgot to add one thing, it's in US Dollars, not RMB..."

Before the young man even had time to rejoice, Qin Fang had already made his follow-up shot.

One million RMB is indeed a substantial sum for the average Joe, and had it been before Qin Fang acquired this mysterious System, one million RMB would have been a fortune for him.

But now, neither party considered this one million to be of any importance; after all, the heritage that had been passed down for tens of thousands of years was not something the average person could match.

Pff~~

This time, when Qin Fang spoke up, many couldn't help but burst out laughing.

Though Qin Fang spoke easily, different currencies meant wholly different figures.

A bet of one million RMB was already quite impressive, and a gambling game of such scale was extremely rare; such a game typically involved a high-stakes battle of tens of millions.

But it just so happened that this gambling game was taking place between two noticeably young individuals, and the stakes had skyrocketed from an initial hundred thousand RMB to one million US Dollars—jumping up by dozens of times, it was indeed a massive amount, even for this young man.

He was not short on cash, but scrimping and saving over the years had barely allowed him to amass this amount. If he were to gamble away such a sum, winning would be one thing, but if he lost, he'd probably feel like dying.

But at this point, with Qin Fang laying his cards on the table, he obviously wasn't about to let the matter drop—these kids had to receive their just deserts.

If you balk at a simple apology, then I'll make sure you bleed profusely just this once, so you'll remember your lesson well; that in this world, there's always someone better, and it's not okay to just mess around with anyone you please...

Chapter 477 Qianmen Illusion Technique_1

...

If this young man had been willing to apologize to Jiang Li proactively, Qin Fang had really had no intention of wasting words with them, adhering to the notion that less is more and simply letting it be.

However, what surprised Qin Fang was that not only did the young man refuse to apologize, but his attitude was quite arrogant, even harboring ill intentions toward Jiang Li, actually desiring to have her accompany them for drinks, which was truly despicable.

It was thus that Qin Fang no longer felt the need to be polite with him!

So you think you're rich, huh?

Then I must make you bleed heavily, not only coming here with cash in hand but also apologizing obediently, or else this matter is far from over.

Although Jiang Li comes from a humble background, after all, she is still General Li's niece and Li Yang's cousin, which makes her a girl of status. For her to be harassed by a few hooligans like them, it was a disgrace to Qin Fang's own face too.

"One million US dollars! Quite a generous bet..."

The expression on the young man's face changed oddly upon hearing Qin Fang's words, primarily because such a large sum made him somewhat uneasy, instinctively wanting to refuse.

It wasn't that he couldn't afford such a bet, but rather that he felt the investment was not worth the potential return, so of course he wasn't about to foolishly nod in agreement.

One million US dollars, a truly substantial amount. With this kind of money, he could easily keep girls of Jiang Li's beauty, ten or even twenty of them.

To waste such a sum on one person, his brain wasn't quite that fried!

"What's the matter? Can't pay? Then come apologize..."

Qin Fang wasn't about to let him off the hook, seeing signs of the young man wanting to back out, Qin Fang couldn't resist poking at him.

"I'm not a fool, this lowly goading strategy won't work on me... I can pay the money, but I can't accept such a gamble!"

The young man was very straightforward, clearly telling you he wasn't going to fall for it.

"Oh, is that so! Then I'll raise the bet, keep the chips as before, and add another one million US dollars, how about that?"

Qin Fang was rather nonchalant, his mention of one million US dollars was as easy as if he were talking about one hundred dollars, not just casual but seemingly without any concern for the money.

Wow~~

"This is getting interesting! This young fellow is quite the tough character..."

"It's like forcing his opponent into a corner, truly impressive!"

"The show has started, now this is really entertaining!"

Qin Fang's new raise was indeed somewhat unexpected for the young man, but the more it was so, the more unfathomable it seemed.

The crowd around them was growing, and while one million US dollars wasn't much to many of them, to unhesitatingly throw money at a bet like this, they might not be willing to do so.

At least Qin Fang and the young man had been squabbling from the start, with neither side putting forth anything substantial.

However, this didn't affect their mood to watch the drama. At least from the time Qin Fang raised the bet, the play became even more interesting, and the conflict between the two sides became increasingly sharp with the raising of the bets.

"Qin... Qin Fang!"

Jiang Li was also a bit stunned. She had been worried at first, too flustered to speak, leaving everything for Qin Fang to handle, but she had not expected the situation to develop far beyond her imagination.

One million US dollars, that's over six million RMB, not a small sum. If Qin Fang lost, not only would she be forced to accompany drinks, but Qin Fang would also lose such a huge sum. She couldn't help but worry.

"Leave it to me!"

Qin Fang maintained his composure, gently patting the back of Jiang Li's hand that clung to his clothes, and calmly reassured her.

His voice was soft, his movements gentle, and his tone even-keeled, not betraying a hint of nervousness, as if he were making a very ordinary statement.

Yet for some reason, Jiang Li felt her fear and worry fade considerably after hearing his words, calming down along with her heart.

She even had the intuition—Qin Fang was certain to win!

Qin Fang's bet of one million US dollars instantly changed the flavor of the bet. At first glance, by subtracting the same part of the bet from both sides, the bet had essentially returned to the original one, which was very disadvantageous for Qin Fang's side.

Because of this, many people quickly did the math and their view of Qin Fang changed; he seemed like a fool, as if a person who had already refused a clearly disadvantageous bet once was now willingly walking into it again.

If that's not brain-dead, what is?

Not only the onlookers but also the young men opposite realized that things seemed to have come full circle again.

The only change was the additional one million US dollars in extra chips.

But Qin Fang and the young man were alike, each with one million, meaning that both were starting from the same line, but the bet was clearly very unfavorable for Qin Fang.

...

"Who is this kid? Pretty arrogant..."

In the crowd, Qiao Zhenfei and Li Yang stood with their arms crossed, showing no intention of coming over, while also roughly understanding what had happened. Based on Li Yang's usual temperament, he would have kicked him already, but seeing Qin Fang seemed to have the intention of teaching the youngster a lesson, he was held back by Qiao Zhenfei.

Chapter 478 Thousand Gate Illusion Technique_2

How good is Qin Fang's gambling?

This question puzzled Qiao Zhenfei himself as well.

Although he was reluctant to admit it, at the Elite Salon, he had indeed lost to Qin Fang, or rather, it was Qin Fang alone who won, while everyone else lost.

There might have been elements of luck involved, but if Qin Fang hadn't possessed real skill, how could he have won so easily?

Qiao Zhenfei also heard a bit about what happened at Bihai Pavilion later. Even though the incident was supposed to be kept under wraps, there were simply too many people present at the time. Qin Fang almost single-handedly took down the entire Bihai Pavilion, ultimately forcing Ninghai Underground Emperor, Li Rui, to bow his head and let the matter go.

It was after that incident that Qin Fang rose from obscurity to become an overnight sensation, elevating to a status comparable to that of Ninghai's top young masters like Tang Cheng, Li Rui, and Ning Weiqiang; even young masters of slightly lesser stature had to regard Qin Fang with considerable wariness.

"Seems like he's from Shu Nan, can't remember anything remarkable..."

Li Yang didn't have a good impression of this young man either. After learning the truth of the matter, fury simmered within him. Though he was from the military and not particularly close with the young masters in Jin Cheng City and Xishu Province, his aura as a domineering military young master was by no means weaker.

Due to the military's distinct nature, sometimes when Li Yang decided to cause trouble, even the top young masters of Xishu had to steer clear of him.

Yet, to his surprise, today there was someone fearless enough to hit on his cousin. This person truly had the nerve of a dragon and gall of a leopard.

What was even more outrageous was that this brat actually wanted to take his cousin to drink with him. Wasn't that just asking for trouble?

...

"Okay, I accept your challenge!"

What was going on in Li Yang's mind was unknown to anyone, and although the young man was a bit surprised at where Qin Fang's confidence came from, knowing that their side was not at any advantage yet still boldly proposing such a wager, it had to be a result of either complete madness or strong self-assurance, believing that he could definitely win.

But this young man also had his own trump cards; otherwise, he wouldn't have agreed so readily.

One million US dollars is not a small amount, except Qin Fang had rather abundant funds at hand that were almost going moldy in the bank, unable to be spent.

The young man was the same except that it wasn't that he couldn't spend his money, but because he typically saved up and had never expected to invest it in a round of high-stakes gambling.

Since it was a head-to-head bet, slot machines were definitely out of the question. These were for small change gambling, the type where people gamble away pocket change. If they really wanted to win big, relying on this machine would be the most unreliable method.

Moreover, since it was a bet between two individuals, they couldn't possibly play one round at a time and drag it out slowly, right? With one million US dollars at stake, just playing slot machines until tomorrow wouldn't yield a result.

In the end, the two agreed on Baccarat as the means of betting, a very popular poker game internationally and a favorite among cheating experts, because it also has the highest frequency of cheating.

There are a few ways to play Baccarat, but Qin Fang and the others chose the simplest one—purely comparing point totals.

They would use just one deck of cards, with each taking turns as the dealer and shuffling, followed by the casino's croupier cutting the deck. The two gamblers were divided into banker and player, and then the croupier began dealing, with both betting against each other.

Initially, each person received two cards, the sum of whose values they would compare; the maximum value being nine, with tens, jacks, queens, and kings all counted as zero.

If the total wasn't sufficient, one could request additional cards, with a maximum of three additional cards allowed, and if the sum exceeded ten, it was considered a bust, and there was no need to continue, as that hand would be lost.

Of course, if the initial two cards totaled more than ten, that did not count.

The banker had one advantage; with equal point totals, the banker's score is considered higher. That means if the banker hits nine, they win right away, but if the player hits nine, they must ensure the banker doesn't get nine to win.

One million US dollars was split into five rounds, with each bet being two hundred thousand US dollars. The winner of each round would take the corresponding two hundred thousand US dollars from the loser.

Thus, the gambling match actually didn't require much time to resolve—one round at five minutes, theoretically speaking, the fastest resolution could be less than half an hour.

Of course, that was theoretically speaking. If one round is won by you and the next by me, repeatedly creating a stalemate, the situation would get complicated.

So, eventually, an additional rule was added, limiting the time to two hours. If after two hours, neither side had won all the chips, the winner would be determined by who had the most chips in hand.

After agreeing on the rules of the bet and confirming there were no issues, the formal betting began.

The casino specially cleared a long table for the two and their gambling session involving tens of millions in stakes. Qin Fang and the young man, whose name was still unknown, sat at opposite ends with the casino's croupier standing in the middle.

The croupier sent by the casino was a very sexy and attractive woman dressed in a tight outfit without a bra underneath, her contours blatantly pronounced. It was a pity, then, that not many were paying attention to her at the moment.

Chapter 479 Thousand Gate Illusion Technique_3

The cards were all brand new, unwrapped on site, and shown to everyone present by the croupier to ensure there were no problems before determining who would play the first game by flipping a coin.

Going first in the first game was also a significant advantage.

There were only five rounds in total, an odd number, with the two players alternating as the dealer. This meant that whoever went first would be the dealer three times and the non-dealer twice, and the rules of the bet were clearly in favor of the dealer.

However, Qin Fang's luck did not seem to be very good. Flipping the coin was purely a matter of luck, a process of guessing before tossing. His "Thousand Skills" and "Scouting Skill" were of no use here, it was purely up to chance.

The young man opposite him guessed right, and his face was filled with joy, as if seizing the initiative meant he had already won the final bet.

The two of them took their seats, and the betting officially began.

"The first game, Mr. Ye will start please!"

The sexy female croupier parted her lips lightly, her voice was quite captivating. Paired with her sensual dress and tempting figure, she managed to stir the hearts of many.

However, neither of the young men betting were affected; they were both silently adjusting their mental states. This was a duel of luck and skill, and any small mistake could lead to a terrible loss.

Both men had their reasons for not being able to lose.

Qin Fang didn't care about the win or loss of one million US dollars, but he couldn't let Jiang Li go and accompany that Mr. Ye for drinks. Remembering this, he felt a bit regretful for dragging Jiang Li into this and couldn't help but feel a bit apologetic to her.

For the young Mr. Ye, apologizing was just a matter of saying a few words. Being ridiculed by the opponent wasn't a big deal, it was just a loss of face. However, if he lost that one million US dollars, he would have to live frugally for quite a while because the family allowances were distributed at the beginning of the year, and there were still more than two months left until the end of the year...

It was only then that Qin Fang learned that this young man was named Ye Ming and came from a city in the southern part of Xishu Province, adjacent to the Yungui region and close to Miao Jiang. He was the nephew of a high-ranking official from the Xishu Provincial Committee and had not been in Jincheng for long. However, he was quite high-profile, and most of the local young masters in Jincheng didn't like him much.

However, this didn't have much to do with Qin Fang. They were opponents now, and Qin Fang only needed to know a bit about his background. The rest depended on whether Ye Ming had a trick up his sleeve. If he was weak, Qin Fang planned to fight a quick battle, defeat him swiftly, and collect the money and be done with it.

Hearing the female croupier's words, Ye Ming stood up and walked steadily to the croupier's side, taking the deck of cards from the hands of the beautiful croupier. He couldn't help but flirt with the sexy female croupier; it seemed to be his nature, no wonder he harassed Jiang Li.

By then, Jiang Li had already returned to Li Yang and Qiao Zhenfei's side, completely secure. Some of Ye Ming's followers recognized Li Yang and, seeing the situation, knew they had hit a snag. Many were pondering whether to take the initiative to apologize to Qin Fang during the bet between him and Ye Ming.

Ye Ming could offend Li Yang, simply walk away, and return to Shu Nan, which was under the Ye Family's control. Even if Li Yang went there, he couldn't do much to him.

But those men mingled in Jincheng, and if Li Yang wanted to make their lives difficult, it was just a matter of speaking. There were plenty of people eager to take care of them; they weren't on the same level at all.

Those were the thoughts of the others, but most people were still focused on the betting at the table; the first game was about to begin.

Ye Ming took a deep breath, split the deck of cards into two piles, and began to shuffle. His technique was different from the ordinary, very flashy, as if he were performing acrobatics. It was not just visually appealing.

Card after card flashed quickly through his hands, like nimble sprites, very lively. Cards that were just in one hand were soon in the other, then continued shuffling back and forth, quickly making their existence untraceable.

Such a shuffling technique was not only aesthetically pleasing but practically an art form, completely mastering the deck and creating a dizzying effect.

"Damn, his shuffling skills are divine!"

"Damn, my eyes are blurred from watching..."

Many onlookers felt their eyes go blurry, the keener they watched, the more strained their eyes became, turning red, appearing quite strained.

"Qianmen Illusion Technique?"

Qin Fang couldn't help but become fixated the moment he saw the technique the young man demonstrated.

He had indeed anticipated that the young man might have some tricks, but when Ye Ming made his move, Qin Fang still couldn't help but feel surprised, as the young man's skill turned out to be the renowned Qianmen Illusion Technique.

It's said that laymen enjoy the excitement while experts appreciate the technique.

The majority of the onlookers here were wealthy and distinguished individuals with little to no betting skills. At most, the better ones were adept at calculation but knew little about the diverse "Thousand Skills."

But certainly, some professionals amongst the casino's crowd recognized quality. They made their living from this industry and naturally were somewhat more professional. At least the sexy and enchanting female croupier standing next to Ye Ming was one of them, her eyes bright and clearly recognizing the famous Qianmen Illusion Technique in the gambling world.

Chapter 480 Thousand Gate_1

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Qin Fang had learned Cheating Skills, and although his level and Proficiency were fairly ordinary, combined with his now Advanced Scouting Skill, he was definitively a formidable force to be reckoned with, perhaps even comparable to Advanced Cheating Techniques.

That was why Qin Fang wasn't too worried about this gambling game.

Jin Cheng Salon was similar to Ninghai's Bihai Pavilion. Qin Fang had once made a huge gamble at Bihai Pavilion, which almost caused Ninghai Underground emperor Li Rui to lose face. He had a rough understanding of the strength of such clubs.

For this reason, Qin Fang wasn't particularly worried about encountering characters like Cheating Kings or Gambling Kings at Jin Cheng Salon. He had been concerned that Ye Ming would find some toughs to help him, but when he found out Ye Ming would be playing personally, he let go of his worries.

What Qin Fang hadn't expected was that, although Ye Ming was about the same age as him, he possessed the Qianmen Illusion Technique, a highly formidable technique within the Cheating Skills.

Thousand Gate was an ancient sect with an extremely long history in the Ancient Dragon Nation, having existed for thousands of years.

Throughout the long history of the Dragon Country, there had been many mysterious figures who rose to power like shooting stars; they were all fostered and trained by the hermits of Thousand Gate.

For instance, Su Qin and Zhang Yi were disciples of Guiguzi, Zhang Liang was a student of Huang Shigong. It's said that when a person from Thousand Gate emerged, the world's great trends were bound to change.

The founder of Thousand Gate was none other than the legendary ancient saint—Xia Yu, who used Cheating Skills to win the world and earned eternal reverence as a sacred sovereign. The pinnacle of Cheating Skills could go no higher than his.

Everyone knew of Da Yu's unparalleled achievement in water control, but they were unaware of his cunning and scheming. He eliminated his enemies, eradicated the powers of various tribes to become the ruler of all, and abolished the ancient practice of abdication in favor of inheritance, establishing Qi as his heir. This marked the beginning of the first dynasty in Dragon Country's history—the Xia dynasty. From then on, the land and its fortunes became the private property of one family, the coveted prize for all.

The ancient Thousand Gate's inheritance gradually changed its flavor. Many of the sect's branches declined and disappeared, while some of the seemingly lesser branches slowly began to thrive, fundamentally altering the public's perception of Thousand Gate.

Nowadays, when people mention Thousand Gate, the first impression that comes to mind is one of deceit and fraud—a decidedly negative image. While Thousand Gate exists for personal reasons, this development is strangling its legacy and leading it down a path of error.

Qin Fang didn't know if the Orthodox Thousand Gate still had an inheritance, but like most people, he had found that nearly all the people from Thousand Gate he encountered were not on the Righteous Path.

Speaking of Cheating Skills, it's not actually just related to gambling. It encompasses a wide range of content, with gambling techniques just being one category that happened to flourish.

Because of this, the term "Thousand Gate" is now almost exclusively associated with gambling, to the point where cheaters at the gambling table are directly referred to as "Old Thousand."

Though these Old Thousands might not actually belong to Thousand Gate and might not even know what Thousand Gate is, they developed their gambling techniques and achieved some success, which is why they came into the world.

But this Ye Ming was young and had learned a hand of the Qianmen Illusion Technique. Although his performance seemed dazzling, giving the impression of a master, Qin Fang knew that Ye Ming's Qianmen Illusion Technique was merely at the beginner's level.

Qin Fang's Cheating Skills were also from the Orthodox Thousand Gate. Qianmen Illusion Technique was one of the many formidable Cheating Skills within Thousand Gate. Perhaps when Qin Fang's Cheating Skills reached a much higher level, he too could cultivate such Cheating Skills. But for now, Qin Fang could only recognize that Ye Ming was using the Qianmen Illusion Technique; he himself couldn't use it.

The rudimentary Qianmen Illusion Technique might be very useful against ordinary gamblers or even those with a bit of technical skill—ordinary "Old Thousands," so to speak.

After all, ordinary Old Thousands rely on their hands, eyes, and body, which they've trained for a long time to cheat. Their hand speed and vision alone are definitely far beyond ordinary people.

And the Qianmen Illusion Technique just happens to use similar techniques to illusions, disrupting visual reactions and blinding the best of vision. In such a betting situation, where touching the cards isn't possible, even a Gambling King would stand no chance of winning.

This is the strength of the Qianmen Illusion Technique, and it's exactly what Ye Ming is utilizing right now.

Qin Fang dared to bet against him, and with such a large stake, Ye Ming wasn't a fool with no brain—he knew Ye Chen must have something to rely on and might even be an Old Thousand.

He had established this rule precisely because of such a judgment, and with the Qianmen Illusion Technique causing interference, it wouldn't be easy for Qin Fang to win against him.

With a total of five rounds, he had three opportunities to make his move. Pretty much assured three victories, and for the remaining two rounds... even if he lost them all, it didn't matter. He could slowly forge ahead, leveraging his advantage to gradually take the upper hand. If he could manage to win a round while Qin Fang was the dealer by chance, then it would be like pushing Qin Fang directly into the abyss, making a comeback difficult for him.

At this thought, a slight smile appeared at the corners of Ye Ming's mouth.

The beauty, Jiang Li, was secondary. As a playboy, he liked beautiful women, but not to the extent of offending opponents who were too powerful because of one.

Now, Jiang Li was standing beside Li Yang, whose identity Ye Ming had already discovered. He couldn't contend with Li Yang, nor could he do anything to him.

The idea of asking Jiang Li to join him for a drink was already a joke. What truly caught Ye Ming's attention was Qin Fang's bet of one million US dollars... Such a huge sum was very tempting to him.

Despite coming from a wealthy background, with annual expenses that were astronomical for the average person, the Ye Family was a huge family. But there were also many members in the Ye Family, and he, being one of the younger generation, didn't even have any shareholding in the family. His annual allowance was just a few million dollars.

For someone like him, who needed to maintain a particular standard in clothing, food, and drink to uphold the Ye Family's image, his expenses were naturally quite high. Consequently, the money given to him every year was barely enough to cover his expenditure, and the occasional purchase of a new sports car would stretch his already tight budget even further.

It was only because he had a sister who didn't spend much money and left her share to Ye Ming, along with the small winnings from using Cheating Skills from time to time, that he managed to stabilize his financial situation and accumulate a slight surplus. It had taken him years to save up a few million dollars, which he had planned to spend on a limited edition sports car.

Now things were different. If he could win another one million US dollars from Qin Fang, his financial situation would improve significantly. The car he had his eye on clearly was not high-grade enough anymore. He could afford a much higher-end sports car...

With that thought, Ye Ming's eyes couldn't help but burn with excitement. He glanced over at Qin Fang, who seemed not just a person in his eyes but a fat sheep waiting to be slaughtered.

Qin Fang naturally saw the burning desire in Ye Ming's eyes, but he didn't care in the slightest.

"Qianmen Illusion Technique..."

Qin Fang murmured softly. Such a Thousand Doors secret technique would only be known to a master of the Thousand Gate Sect, yet Ye Ming had already mastered it. This indicated that a master of the Thousand Gate Sect must be behind him.

For Qin Fang, this was a cause for concern. A neophyte who had learned the Qianmen Illusion Technique wasn't frightening, but provoking a true master of the Thousand Gate Sect could indeed be very troubling.

Members of the Thousand Gate Sect weren't just gambling experts; they were proficient in many other areas, such as con tricks, and possessed some extremely mysterious secret techniques. Their abilities gave off an unfathomable aura, both mysterious and formidable.

In Qin Fang's eyes, Ye Ming was a joke. His application of the Qianmen Illusion Technique might deceive others, but trying to fool Qin Fang was nothing short of foolish.

Qin Fang didn't even bother to look at the cards, especially after confirming that Ye Ming had used the Qianmen Illusion Technique. The faster he played, the easier it became to confound him. Even seasoned cheaters stood no chance against a master of the Thousand Gate Sect; not losing an arm or a leg in the confrontation was already considered lucky.

Getting caught cheating in gambling was tragic, usually resulting in severed hands or feet, and at the very least, chopped fingers or crippled tendons. Hardly anyone ended up with a good fate.

But masters of the Thousand Gate Sect rarely made mistakes. Even if they cheated right in front of you, you wouldn't catch a single flaw because their Cheating Skills were too formidable, capable of covering everything.

Unless confronted by a more powerful master of the Thousand Gate Sect, which would be akin to a clash of titans, the discoverer would either gracefully avoid the battle for peace or engage in a fierce showdown to determine the victor... The winner would take all, while the loser would be utterly defeated, and in the worse cases, might even lose their life.

Thus, the Thousand Gate Sect was a unique sect. It wasn't a cohesive group; its members might not know each other and could even harbor significant enmity towards one another.

However, in a situation like the current one, where Qin Fang, as an ordinary person, had broken through a Thousand Doors secret technique, it was as if he had stirred up a hornet's nest. Scores of Thousand Gate masters would immediately come knocking at his door. Some might challenge him openly, while others might stab him in the back or ambush him, leading to endless trouble.

Qin Fang wasn't afraid of an upfront challenge, but what he worried about most were the sneak attacks. This type of undermining was all too common within the Thousand Gate Sect and was the true source of trouble.

Ye Ming wasn't frightening at all. Qin Fang was confident he could easily defeat him, but it was the master behind Ye Ming that warranted his attention. As of now, without having made contact, he didn't know what exactly he was dealing with.