

Genius 561

Chapter 561 Overwhelmingly Clingy_1

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The intimate contact between the two of them had removed all barriers, leaving no secrets between them.

Even the best of girlfriends could not reach the level of closeness they had, and moreover, Ye Huan had watched the entire battle between her and Qin Fang.

Chu Yunxuan, however, did not expose this matter and acted as if she had not seen anything, simply draping her arms around Qin Fang's neck, pressing gently against him, and talking.

"Qin Fang, what exactly happened tonight?"

Even though quite some time had passed, Chu Yunxuan had not asked Qin Fang for details since he brought Ye Huan back. But from the way Ye Huan looked when she arrived, it was clear that something had happened.

"Miao Junfeng did it!"

Qin Fang had nothing to hide from Chu Yunxuan, aside from the matters related to the "System" that he was not allowed to reveal. Basically, everything about Qin Fang was known by Chu Yunxuan.

"Miao Junfeng?"

Upon hearing this name, Chu Yunxuan's eyebrows furrowed.

Perhaps before tonight, Chu Yunxuan was not familiar with Miao Junfeng, as she mostly kept to the military district and seldom visited the city centre, even the Jin Cheng Salon was her first visit.

But from Miao Junfeng's arrogant demeanor, showing scant regard for even Li Yang and Ai Nan, the top military scions, one could see his domineering nature.

Chu Yunxuan was somewhat aware of what these spoiled scions were like, and Miao Junfeng, as the foremost scion of Xishu, was definitely the most spoiled of them all.

He had kidnapped Ye Huan, so this matter was certainly not going to end well. Qin Fang going to her rescue was bound to offend such a person, and now that Ye Huan had been saved and Qin Fang returned with bloodstains on him...

"Where is he now?"

Chu Yunxuan asked this question with a bit of worry in her heart, vaguely thinking of something.

"Dead..."

Qin Fang whispered with a sigh.

He did not pity Miao Junfeng and Zatai; both men were responsible for so many lives and truly deserved death. His concern was about the possible repercussions for Chu Yunxuan—after all, she was a woman.

"Good riddance! He got what he deserved!"

Chu Yunxuan was not frightened like other women might be, instead she cursed with a sense of relief.

Although she did not know the specifics of what had happened when Qin Fang went to rescue Ye Huan, as a doctor, she knew from Ye Huan's reaction that she had been drugged, and when she returned, she was naked and with a face that had been swollen from beatings.

Being a woman herself, Chu Yunxuan might not fully empathize, but such actions were already enough to cause immense hatred.

"However, Miao Junfeng's death is going to be a big problem! His father is the top leader in Xishu, and it's very likely that he will make things difficult for you! We should leave here as soon as possible..."

Despite her curses, Chu Yunxuan was not the type to lose sense of what's important, and her brow furrowed even deeper.

Killing the eldest son of Xishu was definitely a huge problem; moreover, this was Miao's territory, staying here would certainly be very dangerous.

"It was handled cleanly, temporarily they can't trace it back to me! I reckon I'll have to head into the mountains tomorrow, and after collecting the herbs, you'll return to Ninghai with me!"

Qin Fang shook his head. He wasn't too worried about his own safety. That place was quite hidden, and he had Shen Liang thoroughly conduct reconnaissance of the surrounding area, leaving no traces behind.

In addition, the bodies were destroyed, and any signs of the fight at the scene were erased. Even if Miao Junfeng's father was the top official in Xishu Province, he had no way to get to him for the time being, unless he used some private power.

But killing him, Qin Fang, would not be an easy task.

Qin Fang had also rested for a few days in Jincheng, and there had been news about the herbs. The meeting with Li Yang that Qin Fang had set up was in about a day or two, and it was certain that Qin Fang had to make a trip into the mountains.

Those herbs were something Qin Fang was determined to obtain. Missing this opportunity, it would not be easy to organize so many people to search the mountains again!

"Don't worry! I killed the man, and I will find a way to settle this matter without involving you..."

However, at this moment, Ye Huan's voice suddenly rose from behind Qin Fang, which slightly surprised him. Almost instinctively, Qin Fang wanted to find something to wrap himself and Chu Yunxuan in.

The night passed without words.

Chu Yunxuan and Qin Fang struggled until dawn, and then they fell asleep on the sofa in each other's arms, probably too exhausted to wake, they slept very soundly.

As for Ye Huan, who slept in the bedroom bed, she tossed and turned all night, unable to sleep.

The noise outside was one factor, but more so, Ye Huan was fantasizing about her future.

The murder of Miao Junfeng wasn't as easy as she had made it seem. The power of Thousand Gates was significant, but it wasn't to the extent of covering heaven with one hand. Moreover, she was at best an outer sect disciple, not a formal Thousand Gates Acolyte. She had to handle this matter properly; otherwise... she might truly have to flee far away.

A night's time wasn't really that long. As she mused, the day had already brightened. She didn't even notice what time the two outside had finished their battle.

But one thing she did know was that their battle was quite intense and lasted a long time. She was even surprised at Chu Yunxuan's stamina, wondering how she could have such good endurance since she had long noticed that Chu Yunxuan was not a martial practitioner, certainly not having the same kind of strength as herself.

Of course, she was also astounded by Qin Fang's formidable stamina and could only describe it in two words—beastly!

Qin Fang and Chu Yunxuan slept soundly, and the more they exhausted their strength, the better they rested, sleeping straight through until the sun was high in the sky. It was Li Yang's phone call that woke the two of them.

This time, Li Yang was smart enough to guess that they must have slept late, so he didn't call in the morning but waited until noon, around lunchtime, to call.

Neither Qin Fang nor Chu Yunxuan was pleased with this wake-up service, as they both had not had their fill of sleep. But since the call had come, they had to get up—Li Yang and the others were waiting for them to have lunch, after all.

Of course, there was something more important to discuss, and that was the big issue of going into the mountains to gather herbs.

This matter was very important to Li Yang because it was connected to his father's recovery. He had to treat it with utmost care, allowing no room for negligence.

Of course, it was equally important to Qin Fang. From the news that came from Li Yang's side, all the dozen or so varieties of herbs listed in the prescription he provided were found, which even surprised Qin Fang himself. Initially, he thought it would be quite satisfying if two-thirds could be found.

Unexpectedly, the warriors Li Yang dispatched were so efficient that they found all the materials required to refine the Heart Nourishing Pill in such deep mountains, which meant that Qin Fang's Heart Nourishing Pill was already halfway to success.

Of course, whether they were the herbs he needed would require his personal entry into the mountain to identify. Maybe those warriors had mistaken them.

However, Qin Fang still hoped that the warriors had not made an error. Then, he could prepare the second type of elixir, and moreover, one so powerful...

Chapter 562: Purple Dragon Grass_1

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Naturally, serious matters were more important, and both of them immediately got out of bed.

With Qin Fang's stamina, even going without sleep for a day or two wouldn't greatly affect him. Chu Yunxuan had a tough night and slept especially soundly, though it was for a shorter duration, the deep sleep was still quite effective.

After washing up, there was still no movement from the bedroom. Guessing that Ye Huan had not woken up, Qin Fang decided to leave with Chu Yunxuan right away.

"Aren't you going to say goodbye?"

Chu Yunxuan gestured towards the bedroom, referring to Ye Huan who was sleeping inside.

"No need..."

Qin Fang shook his head; he was a bit unclear about his relationship with Ye Huan, and it was better not to get entangled with her for the time being.

Chu Yunxuan was indifferent; she stood by Qin Fang's side. Since Qin Fang said so, she had the least objections.

The two of them left Chu Yunxuan's cabin, and before departing, they just left a note for Ye Huan. Qin Fang had arranged for Shen Liang to wait downstairs. If Ye Huan needed to leave the military region, Shen Liang would take her, which saved Qin Fang a lot of trouble.

Today, Qin Fang was about to head into the mountains and naturally couldn't make a special trip to the city to enjoy himself again. Qiao Zhenfei, Li Yang, Ai Nan, and a few others had their meal at the military region's guesthouse,

Though they didn't know what exactly happened last night, they could guess it wasn't trivial. Li Yang and the others tacitly refrained from asking questions, which Qin Fang found pleasing.

This was the code of conduct for the children of official families. If they couldn't even manage that, they would probably have already been trampled over by others.

"I won't say anything superfluous. Qin Fang, my brother has just one request—don't fall behind!"

During the meal, most of the conversation was about the upcoming trip into the mountains to gather herbs, because it was a primitive forest, rarely trodden by humans, and no one could guarantee the absence of vipers and fierce animals.

The military warriors were already accustomed to such environments, knowing how to deal with even the most adverse natural conditions, so it wasn't much of a problem for Li Yang himself.

But this time they had to ensure Qin Fang's safety, inadvertently making him a highly protected species, which made Qin Fang quite uncomfortable.

"That won't be a problem!"

Qin Fang opened his mouth to say that his survival skills in such an environment were definitely not inferior to those of special forces warriors, but unfortunately none of the people in front of him would believe that; only Chu Yunxuan smiled serenely. She was the least worried about Qin Fang.

Their destination was in the great mountains of Shu Nan. This stretch of mountains was quite expansive and continuous, connected to the large mountains in a few neighboring provinces, with vast swathes of primitive forest among them.

That included a very famous scenic area in Xishu, Jiuzhaigou...

Of course, scenic areas like these were mostly artificially modified. Many precious herbs had long been taken away, and the environment, crowded with tourists, had become polluted and no longer suitable for the growth of these medicinal plants.

Therefore, the destination for Qin Fang and the others was the rarely visited primitive forest, where the very primitive natural environment was preserved, and the air was exceptionally fresh. Only in such places was it possible to find the herbs Qin Fang needed.

However, such places, with few people, crisscrossing mountain ranges, and an abundance of birds, fish, insects, and animals, also carried their own risks.

Otherwise, Li Yang and his team wouldn't have to protect Qin Fang this way.

Chu Yunxuan did not accompany them. Even though she really wanted to follow, she understood that doing so would only slow Qin Fang down, so she wisely chose to stay behind and wait.

This was the choice of a wise woman, and Qin Fang appreciated this about Chu Yunxuan.

Departing from the Jincheng Military Region, Qin Fang and his team once again boarded an armed helicopter and headed towards the great mountains of Shu Nan. They would make a brief stop at a

frontier outpost to change into gear and equip various necessary items, before forming a small detachment and heading deep into the mountains.

Everyone's equipment was similar; military green camouflage uniforms, steel helmets on their heads, army boots on their feet, a submachine gun hanging from their chest, a pistol at their waist, and a backpack on their back containing packed food and water, with necessary items like maps, compasses, flashlights, and simple tents also inside.

Such equipment might not seem like much, but once on one's back, the weight was apparent. For those not regularly trained, just this gear alone could weigh them down.

"I didn't expect you to be so sturdy, kid. I was planning to find someone to carry for you!"

The small team was personally led by Li Yang, with members comprised of the best special forces in the military region, warriors capable of fighting ten at a time. Several had survived many days of combat in the jungles of Vietnam; at least, everything Qin Fang saw suggested they were all Level 4 experts.

Of course, the Level 4 designation didn't mean much.

Everyone's combat skills were not low; they all learned the military's killing techniques, but in a one-on-one situation, Qin Fang was confident he could dispatch his opponent without incurring any injuries.

If it came down to using a gun, Qin Fang was even more certain he could kill his opponent before they even had a chance to react.

However, this was not to say that their strength was too weak, but rather that they each had different areas of focus. If it came to small team tactical combat, Qin Fang would definitely be eliminated by them easily.

Soldiers were never about winning through single combat; they required unity and cooperation.

This is why in the Martial World, despite the multitude of martial arts experts who were unbeatable in single combat, once they encountered a sizeable armed force, even a Grandmaster-level Expert could only meet a bitter end.

"I told you earlier, there's really no need to make such a fuss over such a small matter. Just having two people follow me is enough..."

Qin Fang had indeed made this request, but Li Yang did not believe it, which led to the creation of this rather sizable team.

"Let's not talk about that anymore, I did it considering your safety!"

Li Yang waved his hand dismissively. Even if Qin Fang was really powerful, he couldn't afford any oversight, "According to the map, we should be able to reach our first destination before dark, which is a circular valley that grows Purple Dragon Grass..."

Purple Dragon Grass was the first herb in Qin Fang's Heart Nourishing Pill recipe, one of the four main ingredients, so when Qin Fang was choosing a route, he picked this one that led directly to the valley.

The group moved swiftly through the mountains, not daring to stop along the way due to their clear objective, which naturally meant they traveled very quickly.

After roughly two hours' journey, Qin Fang and his team finally arrived at their first destination—a valley whose name was unknown.

Several warriors quickly found advantageous positions to stay on guard. In such deep mountains, one must always be vigilant, otherwise, nobody could guarantee they wouldn't encounter any deadly threats.

These warriors were elites among elites, their actions quick and precise in positioning—a fact that made even Qin Fang nod his head in involuntary approval.

Qin Fang and Li Yang, accompanied by two warriors, then sneaked into the valley.

The valley was not particularly large, and its environment was quite beautiful, with a pool of water at its deepest part. It was beside this pool that Purple Dragon Grass grew on the sheer cliff.

The smooth and protruding cliff stretched upwards for several tens of meters, with thin streams of water flowing slowly down its face, draining into the pool.

The pale purple herbs, growing amidst the rocks, were not particularly tall—about three meters in height. Their roots burrowed into the crevices of the cliff while the stems and leaves stretched outward,

winding and twisting, resembling a dragon with bared fangs and claws, which probably explained the name Purple Dragon Grass.

"Qin Fang, take a look, is this Purple Dragon Grass...?"

Upon seeing such a plant, Qin Fang had not yet employed his Scouting Skill to identify its authenticity, but just by its appearance, it was clear that it must be Purple Dragon Grass. Li Yang, on the other hand, seemed somewhat excited as he spoke.

Although Qin Fang had already determined it was Purple Dragon Grass in his mind, he still used his Scouting Skill to verify it, to be certain of its true nature.

"Purple Dragon Grass, Spiritual Medicine second grade, appearance... growing on..., one of the main ingredients for Heart Nourishing Pill."

Indeed, the scouting result matched Qin Fang's expectations—it was the Purple Dragon Grass.

"It is Purple Dragon Grass... I'll go and gather it!"

With confirmation, Qin Fang naturally wouldn't keep Li Yang in the dark. He informed him right away and then Qin Fang proceeded to prepare the necessary equipment to pick the Purple Dragon Grass.

The Jincheng Military Region's surveillance area included the country to the south, which was densely forested and the locals rather unreasonable and wild. Therefore, the majority of the Jincheng Military Region's special forces soldiers were experts in jungle warfare, and even their equipment was primarily designed to adapt to a variety of jungle environments.

In such a mountain range, where sheer rock faces abound, many soldiers were experts at climbing cliffs, and they were always equipped with ropes, hooks, suction cups, etc.

A mere cliff of several dozen meters high posed no difficulty whatsoever for these soldiers.

Ideally, the soldiers would have been best for the task of gathering herbs, but unfortunately, they were not knowledgeable about the proper methods of herb gathering, and careless picking could easily damage the medicinal properties of the herbs.

Especially with the likes of Purple Dragon Grass, the most essential part was not the dragon-like stems and leaves exposed on the surface, but rather its roots—that was the best part.

The area of the cliff was not too large, but the quantity of Purple Dragon Grass was quite substantial. Qin Fang could see at least five plants with the naked eye—if extracted into those medicinal beads, it would amount to hundreds of doses.

With such a significant amount, how could Qin Fang not be pleased?

Chapter 563 Falling Off a Cliff_1

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Two warriors helped, arming Qin Fang thoroughly, ensuring his safety to the limit, and these two men also coordinated with him, climbing up the steep cliff to his left and right.

From this setup, it was clear that should even a slight accident befall Qin Fang, they would rescue him immediately to guarantee that not the slightest problem would occur.

Qin Fang could only respond with a helpless, wry smile; they were indeed treating him as if he were a national treasure, even though Xishu was itself the homeland of the actual national treasure, the panda...

The height of three to five meters posed no real danger, and even if he were to fall from such a height, Qin Fang's physical strength would prevent him from being fatally injured.

However, Li Yang insisted on this approach, and Qin Fang knew it was better to follow his lead.

Qin Fang set off first, climbing toward the nearest Purple Dragon Grass. His pace wasn't fast, mainly for the sake of caution.

The other two warriors simply followed closely, guarding below Qin Fang to prevent him from falling.

But such an incident didn't occur; Qin Fang quickly reached the Purple Dragon Grass. As his hand touched it, he silently recited the Herb Gathering Technique, and he felt a slight tremor in his hand; the Purple Dragon Grass was then fully intact in Qin Fang's grasp.

With the Purple Dragon Grass in hand, he could see its complete form; not only did the stems and leaves resemble a giant dragon, but the root part even had feet, making it look so magical.

Qin Fang couldn't help but click his tongue in wonder, marvelling at nature's miraculous power, which surely wasn't something humans could fully imagine.

However, that was just the first one; there were still four more bunches of Purple Dragon Grass to harvest above.

Qin Fang then carefully climbed further up the cliff, with the other two warriors closely following behind. Without any real danger, they managed to harvest all four bunches of Purple Dragon Grass.

Why was it a case of surprise without danger?

As Qin Fang was picking the fourth bunch of Purple Dragon Grass, there was a very concealed hole nearby. A dark-colored viper lunged rapidly towards Qin Fang's wrist with its triangular head.

Just by its appearance, one could tell it was a highly venomous snake. If any other warrior got bitten, there could be fatal consequences in these deep mountains.

Unfortunately for the little creature, it had encountered Qin Fang, and that was really its bad luck.

The wide-open snake mouth was about to bite Qin Fang's wrist when, suddenly, a dark, round object was stuffed into the little fellow's mouth just in time.

Pop~~

A crisp sound rang out, startling Li Yang and the others below.

Then, the body of a half-meter-long, ink-black viper fell from above. Li Yang and the others saw that its head had been blasted away, and even the dark body had been torn open by the bullet's impact, leaving a long, mangled wound, bloody and gruesome...

This little fellow might have been the tyrant of this section of the cliff, and its venom was probably incredibly potent, but unfortunately, it met with modern firearms and had no resistance; it was blown apart by a single bullet.

In the entire process, there was this single scare but no real danger. In a little over ten minutes, Qin Fang had harvested all the Purple Dragon Grass.

The actual herb gathering took very little time; climbing the rock face was what really used up the time.

"Finally, a safe return!"

Seeing Qin Fang return in one piece, Li Yang was quite happy. The acquisition of the herbs was one thing, but ensuring Qin Fang's safety was also a necessity.

"I told you it was nothing to worry about, but you made such a fuss!"

Qin Fang couldn't resist rolling his eyes, appearing completely unconcerned. Although there had been that little mishap, there really was no danger to speak of.

The viper was venomous, but even if it truly had bitten Qin Fang, it would only have benefited the little one inside Qin Fang's body. It was just that with others around, it wasn't suitable to let this little one emerge.

No accidents occurring was something everyone was very pleased to see; it was a happy outcome for all!

The situation in the following days was basically the same as on the first day. The map had all the locations of the herbs marked, and Qin Fang and his team had predetermined their route of action. They acted according to plan, which not only saved time but also avoided areas where fierce beasts roamed.

Qin Fang and his group were not in a particular rush, and since the mountains were indeed quite dangerous, they always moved as a team. They camped together at night with people standing guard in shifts, prioritizing safety above all.

The daytime was when they were active. Qin Fang and his companions spent the entire three days covering a distance of hundreds of kilometers, and it was only then that they managed to gather all the predetermined herbs.

The several hundred kilometers were not merely a straight distance over flat land; rather, it was amidst such precipitous mountains and forests, a journey perilous and even more perilous, not something easily handled.

Of course, gathering herbs wasn't going to go smoothly either. The message sent from ahead claimed that all the medicinal materials had been gathered, but in reality, after Qin Fang's identification, there had already been three kinds of medicinal materials mistaken, meaning these three still needed to be found...

Just that things often didn't go smoothly, on the fourth day Qin Fang and his group entered the mountain, trouble finally struck.

The person who met with trouble was none other than Qin Fang, whom Li Yang had always been trying hard to protect.

At that time, Qin Fang and the others were on top of a high cliff that reached into the clouds, beneath which was a bottomless precipice. About fifty meters from the top of the cliff grew a large patch of Dragon Tongue Moss, one of the main ingredients needed for the Heart Nourishing Pill.

But to get to the cause of the accident, one must look at it from another angle.

Not too far from Qin Fang and his companions, separated by just a few Shantou distances, lay another valley.

The environment in this valley was markedly better, not to mention serene and filled with the fragrance of flowers and chirping of birds, an eternal spring. In the valley, there was even a hot spring pool of no small size, emitting wafts of faint steam.

"Sigh, I have no idea what Brother Song is thinking, not willing to participate in such an important event as the Martial World Conference. I've heard that those from the Northern Martial Arts World are acting all high and mighty, each boasting that our Southern Martial Arts World lacks capable people... Especially that woman Yan Wushuang, I really want to blast her with a gun!"

A young man said with a heavy frown, holding a brand-new smartphone and posting on Weibo, with quite a few people discussing the Martial World Conference.

"Exactly, the Tian Nan Four Shows are the pride of our younger generation in the Southern Martial Arts World, but who would have thought... Brother Su Yang went into seclusion, Brother Ding Song got implicated in a case, Fairy Ye is just a woman, and in the end, even Brother Song, the only one who could save face for our Southern Martial Arts World, also..."

Another young man also showed a face of helplessness, looking to be quite well-informed and aware of many details.

"I heard all these people ended up like this because of one person... Dammit, if I find out who it is, I'll tear them apart!"

The Tian Nan Four Shows' absence from the Martial World Conference directly led to a huge embarrassment for the Southern Martial Arts World at this session of the conference, with many young masters getting brutally thrashed by masters of the Northern Martial Arts World.

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Qin Fang was carefully making his way down towards the location where the Dragon Tongue Moss grew. The moss's growth spot was so shady, Qin Fang hadn't expected these warriors to be able to find such a concealed place; if he had gone into the mountains alone, he certainly wouldn't have been able to find such a hidden spot.

Dragon Tongue Moss was actually a type of moss, but with very special medicinal properties and exceedingly rare, only growing on dimly lit cliffs.

Qin Fang couldn't imagine how an ancient physician, with no strength to truss a chicken, could have collected Dragon Tongue Moss from such a cliff.

Especially because harvesting it was quite troublesome. Qin Fang tried with his hands; the moss was closely attached to the stone wall, exceedingly tenacious. It was absolutely impossible to tear it off by hand; it could only be scraped off with the use of a special herbal spade, yet one still had to be extremely cautious. Any slightly larger movements would cause damage to the Dragon Tongue Moss.

It was only because Qin Fang possessed the Herb Gathering Technique as a special skill that he simply needed to make contact

Achoo!!

Just at that moment, Qin Fang suddenly felt a chilling sensation on his back, an itching in his nose that he couldn't resist, and he sneezed thunderously!

Anyone who has sneezed knows that when you do, you can't help but shudder, and under normal circumstances, you might forget something... like Qin Fang did just now, his grip on the rope suddenly weakened!

As Qin Fang's grip loosened, his body immediately lost its support, and he heard a whizzing sound of friction between the rope and the safety catch, with the wind howling past his ears...

"Fuck..."

Only at this moment did Qin Fang realize something was amiss, he was sliding down rapidly, his body falling quickly towards the depths below...

Crack~~

What pushed Qin Fang closer to despair was that the damn safety catch, under such intense friction, broke off directly...

This was indeed a case of misfortune raining down at the most critical moment, a breakdown at a time of crisis.

The descent was already incredibly fast, and the impact force was immensely strong. Li Yang and the others had already noticed something was wrong from above and sent people to grab Qin Fang's rope, pooling their strength to haul Qin Fang back up.

But...

They managed to catch the violent impact, but as they pulled closer, they were horrified to find that the force had suddenly lightened—as if a string had snapped!

"Fuck, something's gone wrong..."

Li Yang's face turned pale instantly as he tugged at the rope in his hands. It had some weight to it, but not much, clearly not enough to match Qin Fang's weight...

Chapter 564 "Dragon Knight"_1

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Qin Fang really didn't expect such a melodramatic event to happen to him, and at such a coincidental time. He truly didn't know whether to cry or to go buy a lottery ticket!

The cliff was very deep; Qin Fang fell at least three hundred meters and still couldn't make out the environment below, only knowing it was a lush green.

In this season, the greenery outside the mountains had already become patchy, and the leaves had turned yellow and fallen.

But inside the mountain, it was still brimming with greenery. The deeper into the mountain you went, the greener it appeared—a primitive forest that had grown undisturbed for countless years.

Without the rope's exploration and constraint, Qin Fang's falling speed increased even more, with dozens of meters passing in the blink of an eye.

Facing such a crisis, Qin Fang's heart was filled with depression for the first time.

His thoughts became chaotic, recalling one by one the very important people in his life—the mother who struggled to raise him, the women who adored him.

Although he had encountered such wonders and possessed an almost undying life, it was clear he had still overestimated himself. A fall of several hundred to a thousand meters—let alone his mere thirty-something Life Points, even three hundred points would mean certain death.

Probably, upon hitting the ground, there would be a 'smack' followed by a scene of blood and gore, and then the insects and beasts of the forest would finish him off, leaving nothing behind.

"So hot~~"

The faster Qin Fang fell, the cooler the winds felt against his body.

Suddenly, Qin Fang felt as if his chest was on fire, terribly searing, as though his heart was being roasted by flames.

But...

Just when Qin Fang didn't understand what was happening, that scorching hot flow suddenly burst from his heart, broke through his skin, pierced through his clothes, and quickly condensed in front of him.

It was...

A silver-white serpent hovered in mid-air, maintaining the same descending speed as Qin Fang but moving about merrily, seemingly indifferent to the fact that it was in the sky.

Without a doubt, this was the creature that had lurked within him, neither dragon nor serpent.

Only Qin Fang was puzzled; he wondered why it had suddenly emerged at this moment. Ever since Qin Fang obtained it, it had always hidden inside him, drawing a great deal of his blood every day, sleeping after eating, and occasionally helping Qin Fang eliminate toxins entering his body. Otherwise, it did little else.

"What's it doing coming out now?"

Qin Fang was baffled in his heart, "Could it be that it knows I'm about to die and is preparing to flee? Talk about ungrateful..."

Actually, Qin Fang bore no resentment toward this little creature. Humans themselves had a saying that when disaster strikes, 'the birds in the same forest fly their separate ways,' let alone animals that survive based on instinct.

This little fellow had indeed been quite considerate to Qin Fang, having helped him a great deal. Drinking a bit of Qin Fang's blood each day wasn't much; just a few Superior Soup Dumplings would replenish it.

But...

Qin Fang clearly thought wrong, for this little fellow wasn't trying to escape at all, but rather—

"What the heck! Am I seeing things..."

Qin Fang suddenly felt as though he was dreaming; this little creature, which was less than ten centimeters long, suddenly puffed up like an inflated balloon when facing the wind, swelling to well over several hundred meters in an instant.

The ten-centimeter creature instantly became a nearly ten-meter-long giant serpent. Its silver body rapidly inflated, the once smooth skin sprouted clear silver scales, and the dragon horns on its head grew a lot bigger, actually starting to resemble a dragon.

There were four protrusions on the lower part of its body, resembling dragon claws, except no claws appeared; just four fleshy lumps sat there...

Not only that, but between those silver scales, a nearly transparent membrane grew, not very wide compared to the serpent's large body, but still about twenty centimeters across.

Mmm mmm mmm~~

The big fellow let out such a noise, sounding very strange as if it was not a sound Qin Fang recognized from any familiar animal.

But with a twist of its body in midair, it quickly moved under Qin Fang's feet, and with its extraordinarily thick back, it firmly caught Qin Fang.

Qin Fang had already grown accustomed to the sensation of constantly falling, and now, his feet suddenly found solid ground. In that moment, he truly didn't know how to describe what he was feeling.

"Damn, I didn't know you could play like that..."

Qin Fang was astonished by the scene before him, quite at a loss for words.

He had seen many bizarre things, but this was beyond his current understanding...

This big guy was his pet, an undeniable fact, but exactly what purpose this pet served, Qin Fang had never quite figured out because the little thing was too lazy, doing nothing but eating and sleeping, hardly showing its face. Qin Fang couldn't study it even if he wanted to.

But what Qin Fang never expected was that this pet, slim and trim as it had seemed, could suddenly become so enormous.

His feet stood on the little guy—no, at this point, it hardly looked like the slim little serpent from before. It was probably not much smaller than a Golden Crested Snake.

"Damn, I swear, I must be the first to play this way!"

There was a peculiar look on Qin Fang's face, but as long as he could escape this brush with death, he couldn't care less if his pet was an extraterrestrial being or not!

Moreover, the slight expansion of its thin membranes, which looked like wings, allowed him to glide through the air under the powerful gusts of wind.

After the initial fear and terror subsided, his heart steadied because he was surprised to find—Riding Skill could actually come in handy at a time like this.

Standing atop the serpent's back, Qin Fang could easily sense its every movement, and his body swayed with its wriggling, maintaining his balance securely.

With such "flying," Qin Fang's heart gradually settled. Even though he had no idea if he could survive, at the very end of his life, being able to pull off such a stunt seemed uniquely his. As some might say, if he died now, he would die without regrets...

"Haha, does this make me a knight from the legends, a Dragon Knight?"

Standing in the fierce wind, Qin Fang couldn't help but sigh. Although he had no idea if the creature below his feet could be considered a dragon, at least his current status was very similar to the Dragon Knights described in many novels.

From its appearance, this big guy was very similar to the Divine Dragons of legend, save for some clear differences in details, such as having flesh membranes that weren't typical of Divine Dragons.

Of course, no one has ever seen what a dragon really looks like, maybe it actually resembles what he's seeing now.

"Damn, maybe I'm really lucky this time and won't die..."

Even though Qin Fang and the big guy were still falling, their speed was significantly slower than a straight drop. And such a glide was gradually moving them away from the threatening cliff, descending toward the dense Primitive Forest below.

"Sigh, I've always forgotten to give you a powerful name, 'Xiaobai', 'Xiaoyin' are too common. You look just like a True Dragon, so from now on, you'll be called... Dragon King!"

Only now did Qin Fang remember that he hadn't given his big guy a name since he got it. It seemed there was no name more fitting than Dragon King.

Mmmmm~~

Hearing the name Qin Fang picked, Dragon King seemed very pleased, responding with such a sound, even performing a mid-air stunt, almost tossing the unprepared Qin Fang out.

"Damn it, stop messing around..."

Qin Fang was scared out of his wits. With Dragon King's huge body and strength, a casual toss could have thrown Qin Fang dozens of meters away.

In mid-air, with nothing to grab onto, it was difficult for Qin Fang to stabilize himself.

Mmmmm~~

Dragon King seemed a bit embarrassed. While gliding, it looked at Qin Fang with its big, innocent eyes, instantly melting his heart.

The cliffs above gradually disappeared into the clouds, and the forest below was getting closer, suggesting they were about to land.

"Dude, there seems to be a body of water over there. Can we land there? Maybe we can still be saved..."

The closer they got to the ground, the clearer the environment below became. Qin Fang looked around and noticed a silver reflection below, probably a body of water, and immediately shouted to Dragon King.

Of course, Dragon King might be named thus, but whether it was male or female, only the creature itself would know—Qin Fang had no clue.

Being a Dragon Knight was indeed thrilling, but it couldn't last forever. The ground was approaching fast, and despite Dragon King's large body possibly cushioning some of the impact, it didn't mean Qin Fang would necessarily survive the fall.

Landing on the water, however, offered a much higher chance of survival...

Mmmmm~~~

Dragon King couldn't speak, but it had the most direct connection with Qin Fang, understanding every word he said. It responded with such sounds, twisting its huge body and gliding toward the nearby water surface. Although they were limited in height, it appeared to be making a great effort, suggesting the difficulty of landing on water wasn't so great..

Chapter 565 Overturning Rivers and Seas_1

...

The Dragon King glided through the air, gradually approaching the not-too-distant surface of the lake.

The speed was still quite fast, and Qin Fang estimated that the impact of hitting the water might be extremely strong given his current acceleration.

"No good, it looks like I must descend first..."

Qin Fang glanced at the lake surface, now very close at hand, thought it over, and decided safety came first. He immediately flicked his wrist, tossing his backpack, which was on his back, into the Props Box.

On this journey, due to the company of Li Yang and others, Qin Fang couldn't be too shocking or unconventional, so he had to carry the heavy backpack himself.

Though such a weight was nothing to Qin Fang, he was about to hit water soon, and it was hard to ensure the contents of the backpack wouldn't be damaged by the impact, making putting it into the Props Box a very safe choice.

Meanwhile, Qin Fang had already discovered a little bug with the Props Box: items like the backpack could be put into it whole, taking up just one slot. As long as the total weight and volume didn't exceed a certain level, it wouldn't calculate how many items were actually inside the backpack.

The lake wasn't small by any measure, with a radius of three to five hundred meters. Viewed from the top of a mountain, it might not seem very clear, but Qin Fang was now quite near and could see it much clearer.

After he used his Scouting Skill, Qin Fang detected that the small lake was close to ten meters deep, which was rather deep. With the impact force they'd have falling into it, they wouldn't directly hit the bottom and smash into rocks, potentially killing them on impact.

"Dragon King, take care of yourself, I'll go down first..."

Qin Fang's Swimming Skill was also intermediate. Although he wasn't a professional diver, he at least knew how to dive properly.

Estimating the approximate height and reducing the drop to about ten meters, Qin Fang patted the sturdy back of the Dragon King and, with a slight push from his feet, immediately drew a beautiful arc in the air, performing a 720-degree spin before plunging headfirst into the ice-cold, bone-chilling water.

Splash~~

A jet of water pierced up from the lake surface, soaring more than two meters high before its force diminished and it slowly receded, momentarily restoring calm to the lake. Only concentric ripples continued to undulate on the surface, drifting away and causing a slight swell of waves.

Splash!!

Compared to Qin Fang's mild disturbance, the immense body of the Dragon King created quite a stir.

Its colossal frame heavily striking the water, a thunderous noise erupted as the calm surface seemed to collapse inward. A deep underwater trench formed at the spot where the Dragon King entered, with water levels instantaneously sinking several meters.

Qin Fang, having dived in before the Dragon King, sank deep enough for his own estimate to be around five meters down.

Yet, when he felt a massive pressure release around him, he immediately realized the water around his body seemed to evaporate in an instant, suspending him mid-air.

"Damn..."

Qin Fang let out such an exclamation. This was much stronger than the Dragon King's transformation; all around him was the clear lake water, except for his position where a vertical underwater canyon formed, looking very bizarre.

This scene didn't stop there because, as Qin Fang was falling through empty space, the canyon kept extending downward until he reached the bottom of the lake, and only then did it stop.

A giant dragon coiled and swam in front of Qin Fang, its body surrounded by clear water, forming a natural water column... making Qin Fang look like a frog at the bottom of a well.

The colossal dragon was naturally Qin Fang's pet, the Dragon King.

Once in the water, it seemed to become extremely excited in an instant, its large body swimming and spiraling swiftly, seeming very joyous. And the environment surrounding Qin Fang appeared to be its own creation.

Dragons, with tiger whiskers, scaly serpent bodies, fish-like scales, deer-like antlers, talons like eagles, able to walk and fly, change size, hide and appear, overturn rivers and seas, consume clouds and exhale mists, summon rain by walking clouds...

Vaguely, Qin Fang still remembered reading such descriptions of dragons in a book.

Although people in Dragon Country claimed to be descendants of dragons, in the hearts of most, dragons were merely symbolic totems, and no one believed dragons existed in the world—Qin Fang himself hadn't believed it!

Yet the scene before him shook that belief a bit, because his pet, the Dragon King, possessed such powerful and magical abilities that it seemed very similar to the mythical dragons, despite some differences in appearance.

"Roar~~~"

Just when Qin Fang's mind was filled with countless thoughts, the Dragon King roaming in the water suddenly let out such a roar, markedly different from the "mmmm" sound that Qin Fang had heard before.

Right then, Qin Fang clearly felt a surge of water well up beneath his feet, gently lifting his body and slowly ascending towards the lake's surface.

The waters on either side, as if under great pressure, immediately parted to both sides, forming surging waves that tumbled away into the distance.

As Qin Fang's body ascended about three meters or so, his feet suddenly found solid footing. The massive body of the Dragon King was beneath Qin Fang's feet, guarding his body, and slowly rose to the surface of the lake, gliding just as it had moments before in mid-air... only this time it was through water.

With his feet firmly planted, all of Qin Fang's slight worries evaporated.

His sense of mystery towards his own mystical pet grew, because it was simply too powerful. It was one thing to glide through the sky, where at least the transparent membrane between its scales played a role.

But the spectacle now was even more astonishing than before, almost akin to the legendary turning of rivers and seas upside down. Although this was just a small lake, not huge like the mighty rivers or the boundless sea, there was no comparison.

Nevertheless, Qin Fang felt that his pet, the Dragon King, seemed truly like the Divine Dragon of legends, possessing the ability to turn rivers and seas upside down, at least for this small lake which posed no great challenge for it.

...

What Qin Fang and the others perhaps did not notice was that about seventy to eighty meters away from them, there was a rock face, atop which a waterfall cascaded down from above, striking against the stone mountain below before flowing into the lake.

And upon that rock, there was a robust human figure standing in a horse stance, bracing against the waterfall pouring down overhead.

Such a method of martial arts training is actually quite common in the Martial World, especially among those who practice external martial arts, and this serene environment here was indeed an excellent place for training.

Only, when Qin Fang and his company descended from the sky just moments ago, this person's back was to the direction of the lake, his sturdy back being washed by the water, yet he did not witness the scene.

It was not until the Dragon King hit the water and made such a terrifying sound that the person was startled, turning around to look at the lake, which had returned to calm as if nothing had happened, making him somewhat baffled.

But...

Just when he thought nothing had happened, a wave of intense, powerful surges suddenly arose on the calm lake, tumultuously churning and swelling instantly, starting at over a meter high and extending and spreading outward... The wave not only showed no sign of diminishing, but rather grew taller and taller, and in just seven or eight seconds, the wave surged to nearly ten meters in height.

"Fuck..."

This sight left the young man completely dumbfounded, too eerie for him, inducing a momentary lapse of awareness.

But by the time the roaring wave reached him, he finally snapped back to reality, realizing he needed to escape quickly, or else...

Unfortunately, no matter how fast he reacted, it was of no use. The position he stood on was a smooth, water-worn boulder, which he had approached with great caution on normal days. Now, a quick escape was simply impossible.

"Bring it on!"

The towering wave was almost upon him, and with no chance to dodge, he firmly grounded his feet into a horse stance, his bare feet gripping the slick rock surface, as he let out a thunderous roar attempting to face the oncoming giant wave with sheer brute strength...

Regrettably, his roar was indeed loud, but compared to the howling and crashing of the giant wave, it was simply dwarfed.

The wave struck, seething and roaring, generating gusts of wind that howled in fury.

The continuous, thunderous roars almost deafened one's hearing, as all other sounds from the world seemed to fade away except for this relentless tumult.

Smack~~~

Finally, the wave reached the rock face, pounding heavily against the cliff with crisp, resonating sounds.

This wasn't just a single simple wave; they came in layers, one after another, with the rock face being the most prominent barrier by the lake, receiving the violent impact with great ferocity.

The rock face, which had stood by the lake for countless years and withstood the waterfall's millennia of erosion, definitely possessed extraordinary resistance to the water's fury.

Yet, such a powerful assault by the giant wave might still have been a first for it, and when this wave struck, the whole rock face and the mountain behind it let out a buzzing rumble, as if the whole mountain itself was shaking.

The intensity of this impact can only be imagined; truly tumultuous and surging. The weaker parts of the rock face were directly blasted into clear, deep pits by the giant wave...

Chapter 566: The Amnesiac Martial Arts Expert_1

...

When the massive waves towered overhead, the Dragon King finally carried Qin Fang's body back up to the surface. The now water-filled canyon beneath them had calmed.

Still submerged, the Dragon King allowed Qin Fang to stand on its back; the lake's surface just barely lapping over the tops of his feet. The slightly chilly lake was washing over his feet, offering a rather comfortable pleasure.

"I'm alive!" Qin Fang exclaimed.

Gazing at the majestic mountain peak not far above his head, which disappeared into the clouds and out of sight, he knew he had fallen from that very summit.

He had made a rough calculation of the height—a vertical drop from the mountain peak to the lake of over a kilometer. Falling from such a height, even into water, would undoubtedly mean certain death. But he had survived, and quite comfortably at that, now aware of his pet's powerful and mysterious strength.

Riding on the Dragon King's back, quickly traversing the expanse of the lake, it would have taken just a simple twist of its body for the creature to reach the shore with its speed.

But Qin Fang had not yet tried such exhilarating riding, surfing the waves on the Dragon King. He wanted to enjoy himself in this small lake deep in the primitive forest, away from human paths. Here, he could play as he pleased without fear of being discovered.

If he were to leave this place and go out into the wider world, he would never have such a chance again. After all, a creature as powerful and unknown as the Dragon King was not suitable for public appearance. Otherwise, the whole world would chase after it, even capturing Qin Fang to experiment on him like a lab rat...

"Huh, is that... someone over there?"

In such a rarely visited place, even Li Yang and his team, armed with many weapons and guards, were cautious. It was even less likely for ordinary people to wander here.

However, as Qin Fang was enjoying himself, he suddenly noticed something floating on the water in the distance that looked like human clothing.

Without any hesitation, Qin Fang immediately sent a Scouting Skill in that direction. Whether it was a human or some other creature, the Scouting Skill would come in handy.

"It's really a person! And they're still alive..."

Due to the distance, Qin Fang's Advanced Detective Skill couldn't accurately identify the person. Still, he could see they were alive, although their health bar was tragically depleted by more than half. Without rescue, they would certainly die within two to three minutes.

"Dragon King, go and save them..."

Qin Fang hesitated, but in the end, couldn't bring himself to ignore someone in peril. He commanded the Dragon King to quickly head in that direction.

Even though doing so might reveal the Dragon King's existence, expecting Qin Fang to swim over and save the person himself was totally unrealistic. The person had at most two to three minutes of life left; they would have met Lord Yan by the time Qin Fang got them to shore.

The Dragon King was exceedingly fast. With a single shake of its colossal body, it transformed into an arrow shot from a bow and swiftly swam towards the person. Standing on the Dragon King's back, Qin Fang felt as though he were on the roof of a race car speeding at 200 miles per hour, almost worried the inertia might fling him hundreds of meters away...

Of course, this didn't happen. As they neared the person, the Dragon King started circling, gradually slowing down. It even used its tail to lift the person out of the water, ensuring they wouldn't drown...

"Let's get to shore..."

Being in the water was obviously not the right place to render aid. Even if standing on the Dragon King's back hardly differed from standing on land, the person was completely unconscious and didn't look like they would wake up anytime soon.

"Whhh..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang's order, the Dragon King seemed reluctant, rubbing its huge head gently against Qin Fang's body and making a whining sound, looking rather pitiful.

"Saving lives is a priority. We'll play more next time..."

Qin Fang could only laugh and cry at the creature's behavior, but he knew he needed to get the person to shore. This deep in the wilderness, the person must know how to leave and possibly find other humans.

Moreover, the person was near death, and Qin Fang couldn't administer aid in the water...

"Whhh..."

The Dragon King whined again, seemingly trying to convey something to Qin Fang, but he didn't understand. Eventually, out of sheer necessity, the Dragon King carried both Qin Fang and the nearly dead, unconscious person toward the shore.

Qin Fang brought the person to land, and almost the moment he reached the shore, the enormous Dragon King suddenly started to shrink, shrink, shrink... until it was back to its original size of less than ten centimeters long. Then, it turned into a streak of silver light and entered Qin Fang's body, returning to the area near his heart!

"Eh... how did this happen?"

Qin Fang was somewhat dumbfounded by the spectacle.

He knew his pet was no ordinary creature, but how to transform the little guy into the immense and terrifying Dragon King remained an unsolved mystery. He vaguely felt the whining sound the Dragon King had made was trying to explain something... Unfortunately, he didn't understand!

Chapter 567: The Amnesiac Martial Arts Expert_2

At this point, regret is useless!

The secrets of the Dragon King can be slowly unearthed later, but the most urgent matter is to save this dying person...

Qin Fang conducted a quick examination and found this person to be extremely robust, seeming to have cultivated some sort of very powerful external martial arts, and the Inner Breath within his body was even stronger than Qin Fang's.

The only anomaly was—his body and head had suffered an exceptionally strong impact, leading to his current dreadful state, and even... Qin Fang's Scouting Skill was unable to determine his true identity.

"Name unknown, LV5, a powerful martial artist from the Neutral Camp, Abilities: Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique LV5, Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover LV5, Iron Sand Palm..."

This person was not very old, at most in his early thirties, which in the Martial World was considered young for an expert, and he possessed the strength of a Level 5 Expert, appearing to come from an illustrious sect, though it was unclear which one specifically.

However, his external martial arts had indeed reached a rather high level, having cultivated the Thirteen Taobao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover to Level 5, estimating that with a little more effort, he could reach the Level 6 Grandmaster level. If that were the case, he might not have suffered such injuries.

Even so, this fellow's injuries were not fatal, thanks to his robust body, giving Qin Fang the confidence to revive him.

With a flick of his wrist, the Nine Silver Needles appeared in Qin Fang's hand, and then he pierced them into several vital acupoints on the person's body.

Qin Fang had intended to use his own powerful Inner Breath to force out the water the other had swallowed, but unfortunately, given that the other was a Level 5 Expert with an Inner Breath much stronger than his own, and had unprecedentedly strong resistance, Qin Fang's two attempts were unsuccessful. In the end, he had to resort to a rather nauseating method to force this unconscious fellow to vomit out the water in his lungs.

When the silver needles were released, piercing into a hidden acupoint in the person's head—one of the crucial death points that most people would not dare to approach with a needle—Qin Fang, with the secret technique of The Nine Revival Needles and his stable needling skills, ensured that he would not make a mistake.

Upon insertion of the needle, the poor unfortunate soul in a coma immediately showed a reaction, his body starting to convulse, with an expression of agony on his face and then...

Vomit!!

As if he had eaten something extremely disgusting, the revulsion was too much for him in his comatose state. He abruptly opened his mouth and began to vomit profusely, seemingly desperate to expel all of his internal organs to find relief.

Qin Fang, however, turned away, ignoring the stomach-turning sound of vomiting, as if he hadn't seen or heard it, and simply let the poor fellow continue vomiting.

What came out wasn't the food he had eaten the day before, but rather the water that had filled his stomach and lungs, and in the end, it seemed as if he had even vomited up bile...

It was only then that Qin Fang went to remove the silver needle from the acupoint that could induce intense nausea, and only then did the man seem to feel a little better, collapsing limply to one side, completely indifferent to the vomit beneath him...

His injuries were one aspect; although not fatal, what posed a threat was the water he had inhaled. If Qin Fang hadn't forced the water out in time, even if the man had otherworldly skills, he would only have one path to follow.

If this ill-fated drowning victim had been a fairy-like beauty, Qin Fang wouldn't have minded giving her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, or even pressing on her full breasts to forcefully compress her chest...

Unfortunately, it was a big, rough-looking man, far more robust than Qin Fang, though not quite on par with those burly foreigners. Qin Fang knew, however, that this man wouldn't have too much trouble dealing with those burly men.

With Level 5 Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover, he was practically impervious to blades and spears, feeling punches as if they were mere itches, and owning the Level 5 Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique meant his attacks were exceedingly brutal, dismantling flesh and bones as if it were a game...

Since he wasn't a beauty, the treatment was naturally completely different. So, this poor nameless Martial Arts Expert had no choice but to face Qin Fang's relatively violent life-saving methods...

After such a spell of vomiting, most of the inhaled water was expelled, and the man's life was momentarily saved. The next step was to wait for him to wake up on his own.

Qin Fang certainly had ways to stimulate him into consciousness, but after that fairly inhumane method of forcing out water, another round of intense stimulation might prove too much for the young man's body or have some adverse effects on his brain.

As a "divine doctor" dedicated to healing the sick and saving the world, Qin Fang was still fairly humane. He left the young man aside and went on to consider his own affairs.

Taking out his mobile phone from the Props Box, a completely isolated world where not even water could reach the items inside even if Qin Fang fell into the sea.

Despite claims from a certain monopolistic telecommunications group within the country that their signal covers every corner of the globe, with even the Arctic and Antarctic poles able to maintain normal communication...

Chapter 568: The Amnesiac Martial Arts Expert_3

However, when Qin Fang took out his phone, it displayed no signal in a most unfortunate manner. Not resigned to defeat, he tried again, but the call still couldn't go through.

Having fallen from the cliff, Li Yang and the others must be extremely anxious, even to the point that they might send a search party for his "corpse"...

But in these massive mountains stretching over a thousand meters high, it's easy to ascend but quite difficult to descend, not to mention the dense cover of the Primitive Forest. The difficulty of finding a body would be incredibly magnified. And with the presence of fierce beasts, it was even more hopeless to find anything.

Facing this situation, Qin Fang naturally hoped to notify them that he was fine, to at least spare Chu Yunxuan back in Jincheng, or even Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue in Ninghai, from worrying...

"Sigh, it looks like I must wake this man up, only he knows the way out of the mountains..."

He glanced at the fellow he had rescued not far away. The man's clothes were not those of a wild man or a mountain dweller, so Qin Fang was certain he had come from outside the mountains and naturally knew how to exit this great mountain.

Once out of the mountains, his phone would be able to receive a signal, and then he could contact Li Yang and the others. He wouldn't have to worry them anymore, and there would be no need to send bad news to Chu Yunxuan and the others...

"My head, it hurts so much..."

As if responding to Qin Fang's intense desire, the man's body quivered slightly, and although his eyes weren't fully open, he raised his hand to his forehead and let out a pained moan.

Qin Fang had already noticed that the man had suffered serious impacts on his body and head. His body wasn't feeling much pain, partially due to the Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover Qin Fang employed, or possibly it was completely numb.

But the head is one of the most critical parts of the body. A severe impact there is extremely sensitive and also the most likely to lead to complications.

"Are you awake?"

Seeing the man come to and his eyes slowly opening, a smile spread across Qin Fang's face. He greeted the man warmly.

"Eh... you, who are you?"

The man was momentarily taken aback. Upon hearing Qin Fang's voice, he almost instinctively tried to leap up from the ground, attempting a defensive posture.

However, the motion tugged at his injuries, causing him severe pain, which made him grimace. Still, he looked at Qin Fang with a face full of surprise and asked.

"My surname is Qin. I got lost in the mountains, and by chance found you in this lake, so I rescued you..."

Qin Fang's words were a mix of truth and falsehood. Falling from a thousand-meter-high cliff and not dying was already an astonishing feat. Additionally, Qin Fang was unsure whether the man had seen him and the Dragon King descend from the sky... Therefore, he spoke with some reservations.

"From the lake... you saved me... I... who am I?"

The man, listening to Qin Fang's words, showed a strange expression on his face. He was slowly processing Qin Fang's meaning, but... "My head, it hurts so much... Who... who am I exactly?"

Rubbing his head, he tried hard to recall his past, seemingly eager to discover his identity, but he couldn't remember anything, and his head was throbbing with pain.

"Amnesia?"

Qin Fang also froze, his expression one of great surprise.

Though it is indeed possible for a severe blow to the head to cause amnesia, such cases are rare in reality, despite being a frequent trope in novels and television... And now, this melodramatic event had happened right before Qin Fang, to a man Qin Fang urgently needed to lead him out of the mountains!

"You... don't remember who you are?"

Qin Fang couldn't believe it. Staring at the man, who was struggling with pain, he wondered if he might be feigning amnesia. Taking advantage of the man's unstable spirit, he immediately used the Mind Reading Technique to probe his inner thoughts.

But...

"Damn it, playing with me on purpose..."

Qin Fang eventually became resigned and helpless. The man's brain was a blank slate, and even though there were some fragmented memories, they were completely disconnected.

The man himself couldn't piece these memory fragments together, meaning he truly... had amnesia.

To a person with amnesia, the past is already forgotten, and there is nothing in the mind but broken thoughts. No matter how powerful Qin Fang's Mind Reading Technique was, it couldn't extract the necessary information from the mind of someone with amnesia...

Faced with such a situation, Qin Fang truly had no options left.

In such deep mountains, with no transportation, no communication signals, no sense of the route or direction, anyone would feel utterly helpless. The only way to self-rescue was to commit to a direction and keep moving.

Luckily, Qin Fang's backpack was still intact, and all the tools inside were still there, including a usable compass, though the map was now useless since he was off the pre-planned route.

And moreover...

"I have to carry this burden..."

Looking at the pitiable man who didn't even know himself, Qin Fang felt truly helpless. The man had already been woken, and it wouldn't be possible to just leave him alone in the mountains to fend for himself.

"Stop worrying about who you are! Let's go, it's not dark yet, we should hurry on our way..."

Watching the sky, the sun was still hanging up there, illuminating a direction for Qin Fang and his companions. Taking advantage of the daylight, it was crucial to keep moving. If night fell... even if they wanted to continue, they wouldn't know which way to go.

Not to mention that the deep mountains are most dangerous at night!

Chapter 569: Your Name... Qin Shou!_1

...

The amnesiac martial arts expert's injuries were not grave, and with his strong combat prowess and considerable vitality, he was gradually recovering after avoiding the peril of being drowned alive.

Of course, this was merely a physical recovery; his memory, on the other hand... was still a complete blank.

Qin Fang was leading such a person, moving through this stretch of mountainous woods toward the north...

The sun overhead could barely indicate a rough direction, but in reality, within these mountain forests, the sun wasn't very useful at all.

The only thing that turned out to be of use was the compass in Qin Fang's backpack,

And the reason he chose to head north rather than south, west, or east had its explanations.

Qin Fang and his companion had entered the mountains from the east and progressed toward the southwest. It was just that they had encountered this accident along the way, with Qin Fang falling off a cliff.

Heading east was out of the question, that towering, cloud-piercing range blocked his path, and these mountains were unwieldy long, making the chances of crossing over too slim.

Heading south was also not an option; it connected to a wider range of mountains and primitive forests in the Yunnan-Guizhou Region, and the further south one went, the less hope there was of exiting the mountains.

As for going west, Qin Fang didn't believe there was much hope of making it out either.

So, in the end, he chose the north; firstly, because the compass pointedly indicated the north-south direction most simply, requiring only to move in the opposite direction to that indicated by the compass.

Moreover, the great mountains lay in Shu Nan, so heading north meant moving toward the interior of Xishu, and the chances of walking out were the greatest.

"Do you really not remember who you are?"

Someone furrowed his brow in deep thought for a good while, his head almost ached from pondering, but still, he shook his head in agony, unable to recall who he was.

"Not even a slice of an impression?"

Someone looked around at the environment, brooded for quite some time again, then still shook his head in pain; he couldn't figure out if this path was one he had walked before.

"Don't remember which path will take you out of the mountains?"

Of course, someone still didn't know, his amnesia seemed very severe. Qin Fang had tried the Mind Reading Technique on him several times, but the results were always the same as before... completely blank!

"Damn, is there anything you do remember..."

Qin Fang, while walking, kept posing questions to the man beside him from time to time.

Of course, he knew that it was mostly unlikely to get any answers, but this was the simplest way to stimulate someone with memory loss. Perhaps they could remember bits and pieces that might help them leave these mountains.

Luckily, both individuals practiced martial arts. Although Qin Fang was a Level 4, his combat prowess was stronger than that of an average Level 5 expert. Moreover, he was equipped with a gun and sufficient bullets, ensuring their safety.

As for this nameless expert whose identity remained unknown, there was even less to worry about. His Level 5 strength was undoubtedly formidable, with Level 5 Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique combined with Level 5 Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover, along with various other martial abilities, which made his combat prowess seem even more exaggerated compared to Qin Fang's.

Although the two had not sparred directly, Qin judged that if they were to have a proper exchange, he would definitely not be able to beat this nameless expert.

Of course, if it came down to a fight to the death, Qin Fang could just shoot him dead in an instant!

This was also one of the reasons why Qin Fang dared to keep such an amnesiac expert by his side. Even if the expert's skills were to return and he attempted to harm Qin, he would indeed be killed by Qin without hesitation.

However, Qin was clearly a bit too cautious.

The mountains were really vast, and the direction Qin Fang and his companion were traveling was probably not the one the unnamed expert had taken to enter the mountains, for they had been walking for three full days and were still within the mountains, surrounded by towering peaks and ancient trees that had grown for countless years.

In the vast forest wilderness, there were only their two shadows hurrying along, not even a ghost's shadow to be seen.

Along the way, they did encounter several fierce wild beasts, such as a pack of over ten hungry wolves, an enormous python at least five or six meters long, a strong and mighty bear, and even a ferocious tiger...

Normal people coming across such wild beasts would have been doomed, but these two, skilled and daring, were not only spared from being killed by these creatures but gave them a ferocious beating...

The wolf pack ended up fleeing with their tails between their legs, leaving behind two dead wolves and several others injured or shot; whenever they detected the scent of Qin and his companion again, they would run far away, not daring to approach, showing how fierce the two had been.

The giant bear and the tiger were similarly injured but considering that these wild beasts were quite rare, Qin Fang did not kill them, merely scared them off.

Especially when facing the South China Tiger, an endangered and completely wild species, although Qin Fang and the expert both fancied being modern-day Wu Songs, killing such an endangered creature was deemed too cruel, and the encounter ended with the tiger only slightly injured, and the two men escaping far into the forest.

As for the giant python, Qin Fang showed no mercy and blasted it dead!

Chapter 570: Your Name... Qin Shou!_2

There was no other way; this creature's level wasn't as high as that of the Golden Crested Snake, but its toxicity was still extremely potent, Qin Fang had the protection of the Dragon King, so he wasn't afraid of its virulent poison. However, the expert beside him wasn't so lucky, and nearly fell prey to the serpent's venom. It was Qin Fang's Detoxification Pill that saved his life.

After killing the giant python, Qin Fang's experience points soared once again, though it was still quite a distance from reaching Level 5.

What Qin Fang needed was experience points, as well as various materials from the giant python's body. His Herb Gathering Technique would be quite useful here. While he began to collect various potion-crafting materials, the expert, perhaps stimulated by something, actually went straight to the side of the python's corpse, grabbed a piece of the wound, and went on a fierce drinking spree of the blood still gushing from the body!

"Damn, this guy is really wild, just started drinking like that..."

Watching this nameless expert's actions, Qin Fang realized something he couldn't even dare to imagine - drinking snake blood raw.

As a prospective doctor, he was very much aware that, although snake blood might seem like normal blood, in reality it was teeming with parasites beyond count. While Qin Fang's unique constitution wasn't afraid of these parasites, the thought alone was nauseating. He didn't have the courage to drink that stuff.

However, the expert seemed to be enjoying it quite a bit, gulping it down until his belly swelled round, and even let out a satisfied belch!

"Dude, since you can't remember who you are, why not just take my last name... My name is Qin Fang, and you... just be called Qin Shou... um, beast... heh heh!"

Qin Fang had to admire this expert; his ability to drink snake blood like that was something he couldn't help but respect.

Maybe it was a joke, or perhaps he just wanted a bit of mischief, but Qin Fang patted the expert's shoulder and seriously suggested the idea to him.

"Qin Shou... alright, I'll be called Qin Shou!"

The expert merely paused for a moment, his brow slightly furrowed as if trying to recall his own name. Unfortunately, despite a severe headache, he still couldn't think of anything and ultimately accepted the name Qin Fang had offered.

"Eh..."

Qin Fang was somewhat taken aback; he had only intended it as a joke, having seen the expert – no, now Qin Shou – drink snake blood so boldly, he hadn't expected him to agree to it.

Cautiously casting the Mind Reading Technique, Qin Shou's mind was clearly still scattered and not fully recovered, making Qin Fang's technique take effect quite easily. Only then did Qin Fang understand Qin Shou's thoughts.

Perhaps because he had never experienced amnesia, Qin Fang couldn't imagine how excruciating it must be to go through days not knowing who one was or one's own name.

It turned out that giving him a name, although possibly not a very nice one, made him feel somewhat better compared to having no name at all, which is why he readily accepted it.

"Let's go, beast bro! We'll keep on our journey..."

Having understood this, Qin Fang felt a bit sorry for the fellow, and his only thought was to leave the mountain as quickly as possible. After all, Qin Fang wasn't short on money, and once they got out, he could take beast bro to a hospital. Maybe there would still be a chance for his memory to recover.

...

Deep in the mountains, in a valley filled with the sounds of birds and the fragrance of flowers.

"Something has happened, something big has happened..."

A voice started to ring out in the valley, full of anxiety and urgency, immediately drawing the attention of many people. Residents of various parts of the valley began to gather together.

"Qi Rui, what's the big panic? If you disturb the masters, be careful of the sect rules!"

"Yeah, what's the day today that anything significant could possibly happen!"

"The Martial World tournament has ended, and to wait for another chance, we must wait five years. We should focus on practicing now, so perhaps at the next one, there might be an opportunity to make a name for oneself. Stop fussing over these trivial matters!"

"..."

The first to rush over were some young disciples, who quickly gathered together and began discussing, each voicing their own thoughts. No one asked about the significant event that had occurred, rather they criticized the junior brother for making a fuss over nothing.

Qin Fang and his company had been missing in the mountain for three days, and with the time delayed in Jincheng, the once-in-five-years Martial World tournament had already ended.

As a result, not a single one of the Tian Nan Four Shows, representing the strongest of the younger generation in the Southern Martial Arts World, made an appearance. The young masters of the Northern Martial Arts World swept through with an absolute advantage, leaving no face for the young masters from the south.

And this sect, hidden deep in the mountains, held a prominent place in the Southern Martial Arts World, especially known for producing many excellent young masters.

Among them, the most renowned was the leader of the Tian Nan Four Shows, Iron Claw Divine Eagle Song Qingshan...

Unfortunately, Song Qingshan was nothing but a martial fanatic.

A year ago, he went north alone and with his own power, he swept through many of the young masters of the Northern Martial Arts World, returning triumphant. This secured his position as the leader of the Tian Nan Four Shows and the number one young master of the Southern Martial Arts World.

Because of this, he showed no interest in this year's Martial World tournament. The young masters from the north, who had eagerly awaited this chance to seek revenge, were left unable to even catch a glimpse of Song Qingshan's shadow. The rest of the Tian Nan Four Shows, who were slightly inferior to Song Qingshan, were also absent. This truly frustrated the northern masters, who ended up taking out all their resentment on the other young masters of the Southern Martial Arts World, leading to the current embarrassing and pale situation.

"Qi Rui, what's happened that you're shouting so frantically?"

The chatter of the many brothers and sisters made Qi Rui's complexion very ugly. Only when an elder from the inner courtyard came out to ask did his complexion improve slightly.

"Uncle Chen, Brother Song... Brother Song is missing!"

Qi Rui, looking at Uncle Chen, who managed the affairs of the sect's outer court, immediately reported the shocking news with difficulty, even though Uncle Chen's status was not very high, but he was certainly much more powerful than Qi Rui.

"Hm?"

Uncle Chen was momentarily startled, "Are you mistaken? You know the capability of your Brother Song. He has been body refining by Tranquil Heart Lake these days. How could he go missing?"

Obviously, Uncle Chen was skeptical; he was in charge of the external affairs and every disciple would report their cultivation location or route to him before leaving the sect or heading into the mountains for cultivation.

Song Qingshan was the most outstanding disciple in the sect, not even thirty years old, yet his cultivation had already reached the Peak of Level 5, just one step away from entering the Level 6 Grandmaster level.

The reason Song Qingshan hadn't made this step was not because he couldn't break through, but because he wanted to raise his Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Cover to Grandmaster Level as well. In this way, both his attack technique, the Great Strength Eagle Claw Technique, and his defensive technique, the Thirteen Taibao Horizontal Training Golden Bell Shield, would be at the Grandmaster Level, making him an exceptionally formidable figure even among Grandmaster-level experts.

Thus, he gave up the chance to shine at the Martial World tournament and was body refining alone near Tranquil Heart Lake, using the impact of the waterfall to elevate his Golden Bell Shield to the Grandmaster level...

"I've been to Tranquil Heart Lake and saw that Brother Song's clothes and socks were still there, but the man himself was missing! And... and..."

Seeing Uncle Chen's disbelief, Qi Rui became even more agitated.

He was one of Song Qingshan's admirers, also responsible for delivering meals to Song Qingshan, so he was the person in the entire sect who knew the most about Song Qingshan's whereabouts.

But the problem was, Song Qingshan disappeared at Tranquil Heart Lake three days ago.

Normally this wouldn't have been considered an issue as occasionally Song Qingshan would do so, but this time was different. For three continuous days, there had been no news from Song Qingshan, who hadn't taken a single item with him. What surprised him the most was the cliff face where Song Qingshan had been body refining by the waterfall; it looked as though it had been bombed, with large chunks of rock fallen from above...