

Genius 701

Chapter 701 - Fatal Assault_1

...

Whoosh~~

Staring at the towering wall, Qin Fang took a run-up at the base, then rapidly scrambled up the wall as if he truly were a martial arts expert from the novels, ascending to the top of the wall with the agility of someone running across rooftops.

He crouched slightly, then suddenly sprang up, Qin Fang's body catapulted into the air, skimming over the high voltage electric fence and leaping through the air, before darting into the dense forest beyond.

The Capital's forest wasn't plentiful, but the natural environment surrounding high-end clubs like Chang'an Club was excellent—at least the lush greenery made it more pleasing to the eye.

Yet on this quiet night, within the tranquil forest, peace was destined to be elusive, for bloodshed and slaughter were to unfold under the glow of the full moon.

Qin Fang did not land directly on the ground, but clung to the trunk of a tree.

Wary of ninjas' Ninjutsu, Qin Fang was especially cautious of the favored ninja darts, hidden weapons, and traps of the Japanese ninjas—they were notoriously unpredictable.

Nakamura Shun had deliberately lured him here, and for all Qin Fang knew, traps could have been set up below waiting for him; Qin Fang certainly wasn't going to fall for such a ploy.

Hence, before vaulting over the wall, he had already made a careful choice: the position of this tree, allowing him to climb directly onto it after getting over the fence.

First, to avoid any traps that might be on the ground, and second, to take the opportunity to observe the situation in the forest—knowing both himself and the enemy was the key to victory. Facing such a skillful ninja who could appear and vanish without a trace, Qin Fang had to be extremely careful.

The forest was quiet, without any noise, and felt so empty.

The Capital was quite far north, and the temperature at this time of year was very low. Although it hadn't started to snow, the birds had mostly migrated south for the winter. Even in such woods, the sound of birdsong was a rarity.

Qin Fang cautiously observed for quite some time. He knew Nakamura Shun was hiding in this forest, but the ninjas' superior stealth techniques prevented Qin Fang from using the red light of hostile vision to confirm his position.

However, deep in his heart, it was as if a voice kept reminding him—to be careful, more careful, and even more careful...

Slip~~

With a slight loosening of his wrist, Qin Fang's body rapidly dropped toward the ground, while his eyes remained vigilant to all the movements around him, attentive to every likely hiding spot of Nakamura Shun.

The expected traps did not materialize, perhaps because Qin Fang had changed where he climbed the wall, and this wasn't within the covered area... But this did not lower Qin Fang's guard.

The forests in the north were mostly coniferous, with not very large leaves. They formed a soft mat on the ground, walking on which produced almost negligible sound.

But the woods were too quiet; even such faint sounds seemed somewhat conspicuous...

Slash~~

A flash of knife light sped past at the edge of the forest, attacking Qin Fang with a velocity so fast it was beyond the limits of human sight.

Looking at Qin Fang now, he seemed to have no protection whatsoever, appearing like a live target, seemingly posing no threat at all.

But Qin Fang dared to come here almost entirely exposed because he had something to rely on. With a flick of his wrist, the bath towel strapped around his waist suddenly appeared in his hand.

The towel, blown by the wind, immediately transformed into a soft stick. In Qin Fang's hands, it became as lively as a white serpent, extremely agile.

Clang clang clang~~~

A series of collision sounds emanated from Qin Fang's hands; those gleaming blade lights turned out to be ninja darts, but none could penetrate his blockade under his deft handling, all swept away in a flash.

One-Handed Weapon Mastery was a skill Qin Fang had always been using to increase his proficiency. Although it hadn't reached the advanced level like his Cooking Skill, it was already at the intermediate level.

The bath towel in his hands immediately went from a simple bathing implement to a potential deadly weapon.

Having dispensed with the ninja darts, Qin Fang's danger was cleared, and the forest returned to its prior calm, as if no one had ever been there.

Qin Fang hid behind a tree, holding the bath towel, with only a short pair of shorts on, wrapping his vital lower body, leaving all other parts of him exposed.

"Nakamura Shun, show some real skill, such petty tricks... are not worth mentioning!"

Nakamura Shun remained concealed in the forest; the little devils' ninjas are essentially assassins—a missed attack would lead them to swiftly escape and hide, continuing to seek a better opportunity to strike.

Being on the defensive was not Qin Fang's style, especially when facing a ninja like Nakamura Shun who can't attack proactively, it would be impossible to win.

Ninjutsu originated from the Five Elements Escape Technique of the Toukotsu Sect. Although it can't compare to the genuine intricacies inherited by a proper lineage like Toukotsu's, the little devils have combined some superficial knowledge with their own characteristics to evolve into the current Ninjutsu, which naturally has its proud merits.

For example, Qin Fang, now facing the dark woods and without the guidance of red light, found the effect of his Scouting Skill greatly diminished.

Unable to pinpoint the target, Qin Fang's Scouting Skill naturally couldn't locate Nakamura Shun's hiding spot, and unless he was extremely lucky, stumbling upon Nakamura Shun's location would be incredibly difficult.

"Young Master Qin really has sharp eyes to recognize me..."

Since Qin Fang was unable to track down Nakamura Shun, and Nakamura Shun had failed to find a better chance to strike after his failed attack, both were biding their time.

Tangling through language is a good breakthrough; using the voice as a cover could achieve an element of surprise...

Ninjutsu also has some very unique methods in this regard, for example, Nakamura Shun's voice clearly came from in front of Qin Fang to the left, but when Qin Fang threw his Scouting Skill in that direction, he found nothing...

Just at that moment, Qin Fang's heart suddenly twisted as he felt an icy chill brush diagonally across his body...

A gleaming katana suddenly appeared, looking so vivid and bright under the moonlight, its blade glowing like the moon—and it was a crescent, swiftly slicing through the air, bearing down on Qin Fang's head and body!

Qin Fang's pupils shrank instantly, he shifted his footsteps slightly, and the towel in his hand immediately transformed into a white soft whip that lashed towards the gleaming blade.

This time, it was clearly not a Ninja Dart, but a little devil's katana...

The samurai sword from Japan emerged from the Tang Sword of Dragon Country; though Tang Swords are rarely seen nowadays, samurai swords have been passed down for a thousand years and have become almost synonymous with Japanese warriors.

The tachi soared through the air, making a swift assault on Qin Fang.

Qin Fang's towel turned into a soft whip that clashed against it, trying to entangle with the tachi in this manner...

One-Handed Weapon Mastery was a formidable skill; even though Qin Fang rarely used weapons, the towel in his hand was as formidable and flexible as if it were a weapon he used regularly.

Quickly, the soft whip wrapped around Nakamura Shun's tachi... Contrary to the expected scenario where the tachi would slice through the towel, with a slight exertion of strength by Qin Fang, the tachi was immediately pulled aside by the towel, as if it had no force at all.

"Hm?"

This scene left Qin Fang immensely surprised and even caused a momentary daze.

The damp towel had become very tough and difficult to cut, and Qin Fang had dared to engage with Nakamura Shun in open combat...

However, Qin Fang had clearly underestimated how troublesome Nakamura Shun could be; as Qin Fang flicked his wrist, the tachi flew into the air without any resistance felt, and was dragged away by the towel in his grasp!

Because of inertia, Qin Fang couldn't swing his arm back in time, effectively leaving himself without any weapons to rely on at that moment.

Clang~~

Almost at the same moment as Qin Fang's lapse, Nakamura Shun drew another katana, emitting a clear resonating sound, while a blade light even brighter than before stood upright in the air, and then, right in front of Qin Fang, it became a bright arc, descending in a gorgeous, dazzling curve toward Qin Fang's head.

At that moment, Qin Fang, whose towel-turned-weapon clearly could not return in time, saw the blade light about to cleave him in two before his very eyes.

The blade light was like a mirror, allowing Qin Fang even to see the proud gaze of Nakamura Shun beneath the black ninja outfit, as if Qin Fang now had absolutely no way to dodge, awaiting him was a certain doom to be bisected by a single stroke...

At that point, Qin Fang, clad only in a pair of shorts, certainly had no way to conceal any other weapons, and the towel had been his only reliance...

At least that was what Nakamura Shun believed, or what anyone observing Qin Fang would think... But actually?

Obviously, the answer was not so simple. Qin Fang had dared to chase down his attacker, naturally with his own reliance...

Chapter 702 - That Saucy Shot_1

...

"Hehehehe~~~ Die!"

Nakamura Shun was a ninja, a very outstanding ninja, and at the same time an excellent assassin.

Although the era when martial might was invincible was no longer the same, such a young and outstanding ninja, whether in his sect or family, was a highly valued genius ninja.

Grandmaster level was a barrier, both for martial artists of Dragon Country and for him, the genius ninja. In order to seek a breakthrough, he went from being the greenhouse darling of his family to becoming a blood-chilling assassin, seeking the chance for a breakthrough amidst slaughter.

Ninjas are naturally born assassins; any ninja can become an outstanding assassin. Nakamura Shun also believed this, and thus he embarked on such a path.

Moreover, he came to Dragon Country, which is the foundation of martial arts, constantly seeking to assassinate those powerful experts.

Ling Feng was also considered an expert, a national mercenary who constantly hovered on the edge of life and death, undoubtedly a rare adversary. Yet, Nakamura Shun still looked down upon him.

Such national mercenaries might be quite powerful, but for ninjas with such miraculous Ninjutsu skills, assassinating Nakamura Shun was almost not a difficult task.

Only a martial arts expert like Qin Fang was truly the adversary he wished to find...

When he first encountered Qin Fang, he already had such an intense thought in his heart—that was—to kill him!

After the first probing, Qin Fang's strength had won his recognition, so he carefully planned his steps, striving for a kill with one strike.

The first tachi just now was merely a feint, successfully deceiving away the only "weapon" next to Qin Fang—the bath towel.

This katana was where the real killing intent lay. Having lost the object that could block his strikes, Nakamura Shun knew that this time he could be successful.

Of course, if Qin Fang couldn't even withstand the first tachi, then the katana could just as easily turn from feint to fatal strike and casually sever Qin Fang's head.

The moonlight tonight was still quite lovely, and the stars were also relatively brilliant, turning into a silver veil falling on the ground, bringing streaks of silver light.

It was such moonlight that allowed one to vaguely see the other's facial expression when the two were near each other, like now...

As the light of the blade drew closer, Nakamura Shun imagined the horror and fear on Qin Fang's face, a feeling that gave him great pleasure. He relished seeing the terror of his adversaries just before being cut down by his blade...

This strike was bound to be a lethal hit!

Nakamura Shun had felt this way from the moment he drew the weapon.

As he and Qin Fang drew ever closer, thanks to the silver moonlight, Nakamura Shun set his gaze on Qin Fang beneath the katana...

Hiss~~

But upon seeing it, Nakamura Shun's eyes suddenly constricted, his whole body shook as if struck by lightning. The katana, which had almost reached Qin Fang's forehead and was nearing within a hand's breadth, could have easily killed Qin Fang with a swing...

However, at that moment, he found himself unable to swing his hand. Almost without thinking, he instantly crushed a black spherical object held in his other hand.

Bang~~

Bang!!!

The two sounds nearly coincided, accompanied by a trail of fiery light,

Yet the two sounds were distinctly different; one was very muffled, followed by sparks and thick smoke.

The other sound was exceptionally loud, resonating through the entire forest in an instant, accompanied by a faint tongue of flame...

"Idiot!"

For Nakamura Shun, who had just been extraordinarily smug, Qin Fang felt these two words were the most fitting description. Nakamura Shun thought that with only a pair of briefs left on Qin Fang, he had no way to counter him.

However, when his blade was already overhead, what appeared before him was not the terrified face of Qin Fang, but rather expressions of scorn, disdain, and mockery.

In contrast to his beautiful and brilliant sword flash was a black gaping gun muzzle...

As a ninja, a young genius ninja, and at the same time a quite outstanding three-star assassin, Nakamura Shun's abilities were beyond doubt, and his survival instincts were exceptionally keen.

When that black gaping muzzle appeared, Nakamura Shun almost immediately confirmed that what Qin Fang was holding was not a toy gun, but a real gun that could put him to death.

Ninjas had many tools, with ninja darts among them, used for sneak attacks and assassinations.

Smoke bombs were also one of them, employed for escaping and hiding...

Upon discovering that Qin Fang had actually brought a gun, Nakamura Shun had no time to ponder where Qin Fang had hidden it; his only thought was to flee!

He was an assassin; analyzing the pros and cons of a situation was a crucial factor for his survival.

He did not use firearms. He only had two katanas, both cold weapons. One of the tachi, meant to deceive Qin Fang, had been flung away by Qin Fang's bath towel and was discarded far to the side.

And the other katana was about to kill Qin Fang, but the appearance of this gun, obviously, had greatly exceeded his expectations.

Chapter 703 - That Saucy Shot_2

Certainly, Nakamura Shun could have had a go with Qin Fang to see who was quicker, to see whether his katana would kill Qin Fang with a single blow, or if Qin Fang's bullet would instantly blow his head off...

However, Nakamura Shun clearly did not want to take that risk because no matter which of them fell first, the survivor would not get off easily...

Of course, compared to Qin Fang, his risk was much higher; the person likely to die was himself!

The young Ninja had a long life ahead of him, he was here to kill, not to lose his promising future over someone like Qin Fang...

Therefore, as soon as Nakamura Shun sensed danger, he immediately crushed the smoke bomb he had in his hand, and under its cover, chose to escape...

But his quick response was matched by Qin Fang's speed; almost at the moment the smoke bomb exploded, Qin Fang had already aimed and shot at Nakamura Shun.

At such close range, Nakamura Shun might dodge the fatal blow, but he certainly couldn't avoid being hit entirely; he was definitely shot.

The distance between them was just too short; at such proximity, one could easily hit the target even with closed eyes, and although Nakamura Shun was quick to react, the movement of his large body could not possibly match the bullet's burst of speed.

It was inevitable that Nakamura Shun would be hit!

Qin Fang crouched down calmly, but his eyes were always watching his surroundings, and he gently felt the ground with his hand, immediately detecting a sticky liquid.

Without a doubt, that was Nakamura Shun's blood — the faint scent of blood still lingered in the woods, indicating that part of Nakamura Shun's body had been hit.

And really, the Ninja of the little devils do live up to their name, capable of enduring pain much more than ordinary people; their training is just that brutal, with some being even more intense than the pain of being shot...

Nakamura Shun, being an exceptional Ninja, naturally had a tolerance for pain that was not comparable to that of ordinary people. Hit by a bullet, he did not even let out a grunt and vanished without a sound.

Only after confirming that Nakamura Shun had indeed been shot, did an extremely strange smile emerge on Qin Fang's face.

"Nakamura Shun, how does it feel? Did you enjoy that bullet?"

At this moment, Qin Fang seemed a bit smug, walking slowly through the woods, all the while taunting Nakamura Shun.

Nakamura Shun had not left; Qin Fang had shot him, injured him, and made him feel mocked and humiliated, feelings Nakamura Shun had never experienced in all his years.

Qin Fang's unexpected shot really caught him off guard... Even though he evaded the fatal strike, he was still hit and injured...

Moreover, the injury was not a minor one... it was serious, very serious, enough to shatter a man's entire conviction!

"I know you haven't left... Do you think you're so skilled that you can even dodge bullets... haha, do you really think so?"

Qin Fang said, chuckling as he walked.

"If you really think that, then I can only say two words to you — idiot!"

Qin Fang's demeanor was incredibly arrogant, almost entirely different from his usual behavior... of course, the unknown little devil before him did not know what Qin Fang was usually like.

"As a man, having lost your most valuable asset, if I were you, I would have committed seppuku by now..."

Not only was he arrogant, but Qin Fang also bluntly indicated the part of Nakamura Shun's body that had been hit...

Qin Fang was a Sharpshooter, and his Shooting was not affected by any external factors, at least not by the sudden smoke from the smoke bomb.

Therefore, Qin Fang's shot was certainly very precise, and at such close range, the probability of hitting his target was almost one hundred percent...

In such a perilous environment, the katana had already appeared at Qin Fang's forehead. A forceful swing, and Qin Fang's head would likely be severed.

Qin Fang needed to save himself. Although he had a gun, if his shot didn't hit Nakamura Shun's vulnerable spot, Qin Fang would still be in danger.

And where is the place where a man is most vulnerable to pain?

Many women probably know the answer to this question: the most basic self-defense move is a groin kick...

Clearly, the most critical part of a man is here!

So, Qin Fang aimed very dirty at that spot, especially since Nakamura Shun, in order to exert more force, leapt high into the air, adopting a Mount Hua cleaving pose to strike at Qin Fang. With a raise of his hand, Qin Fang could target that spot, and then... bang! A gunshot!

One shot!

Just that one shot!

Just such a flamboyant shot!

It not only completely resolved all of Qin Fang's crises but also repelled Nakamura Shun's long-prepared attack, inflicting severe injury on him.

The gun Qin Fang used this time was the one he had made at the Sawmill Factory, and the bullets were also homemade. The gun's power was formidable, and the bullets were equally special.

People say the Desert Eagle is the king at close range, but the power unleashed by Qin Fang's gun combined with the bullets was even stronger than a Desert Eagle's...

These bullets were specifically prepared by Qin Fang for Song Gang and Cao Chun. What a pity they weren't put to use; Song Gang had already been killed by Qin Fang, and Cao Chun had gone into hiding, his whereabouts currently unknown.

But unexpectedly, Nakamura Shun got a taste of them first...

However, Qin Fang guessed that Nakamura Shun must really be reluctant to have jumped the queue, as his precious part was almost instantly blasted by the bullet, with one of his testicles blown away to who knows where, leaving barely half of the other remaining...

"I will definitely kill you!"

Nakamura Shun was lurking in the shadows, his heart bleeding. The excruciating pain in his groin almost completely sapped his ability to move.

Qin Fang's words were like pouring oil on a fire, searing his insides as if setting him ablaze.

No normal man would take lightly to his treasure being damaged, especially someone as young as Nakamura Shun. Losing such a thing meant he would live the rest of his life effectively as a eunuch.

Thinking of the beauties who once enjoyed his potent favors, each attaining utmost satisfaction, and how after becoming a eunuch, those women would surely leave him, one after another, becoming playthings for other men...

Some might even do his former women right in front of him!

This was something he had done himself... He pursued a target and before killing him, he brutally took the man's woman, then... in his shameful fury, he cut the man's throat!

This turn of events had indeed caught Nakamura Shun off guard, and there was his despised enemy, Qin Fang, not far away, insolently taunting his pain.

"Nakamura Shun, if you're still a man, come out and fight me... Haha, sorry, I forgot, you've lost your thing and aren't a man anymore. You're just a woman, a Lord Rabbit destined to have his chrysanthemum taken by a gang of Black Ghosts... Hahaha!!"

Qin Fang's mocking laughter echoed through the mountains, entering Nakamura Shun's ears with crystal clarity. Blood dripped from his wound as his heart bled even more furiously...

Qin Fang was not just rubbing salt into his wounds, he was practically submerging his entire being into a pile of salt, then urinating on it viciously...

Chapter 704 - Reeling You In_1

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Qin Fang kept taunting Nakamura Shun with his words, his demeanor incredibly arrogant, much like a spoiled young master, yet inside he always remained highly vigilant.

It's said that wolf packs are very dangerous, and the Wolf King is the danger among dangers, but a wounded, mad, and hungry wolf is far more dangerous than the Wolf King.

At this moment, Nakamura Shun was undoubtedly such an injured, hungry wolf, lurking in a dark corner of the forest. Qin Fang knew he couldn't be far away, always waiting for the opportunity to strike when the time was right.

Qin Fang wasn't afraid of him attacking, what he feared most was if Nakamura Shun didn't make a move...

The Hiding Art of Ninjutsu was what Qin Fang dreaded the most; even in such an environment, he couldn't accurately find Nakamura Shun's hiding place.

The only way was to provoke him with words, to lure Nakamura Shun into taking action, to come and attack him... it was only then that he had a chance to kill Nakamura Shun in a single strike.

He had failed to kill him last time due to the suddenness of the attack, and because Qin Fang had other uses for keeping Nakamura Shun alive. But now it seemed that this plan was inappropriate, the man was simply too dangerous.

To be able to continue enduring the pain of his wounds, remaining to seek an opportunity to assassinate Qin Fang after losing his most precious-possession, such a person's level of danger even exceeded that of Cao Chun, the bomb-throwing madman.

Cao Chun was akin to a terrorist, often blowing up many people at once with a bomb, creating terrifying tragedies, but to deal with such a person was relatively simple in comparison. As long as you deprived him of the chance to set off the bomb, or made it explode in a sparsely populated area, the danger would be much less... unless of course, Cao Chun could make his own nuclear bomb, which obviously wasn't possible!

But Nakamura Shun was different, his Ninjutsu combined with Assassination Art made him a potential walking bomb, possibly lurking around you at any time, waiting for a chance to suddenly attack you or your loved ones, or friends...

Don't doubt this possibility, for someone with such a character, he is absolutely capable of it, even more terrifying than you can imagine.

Having lost the symbol of his manhood, one loses a pleasure of living, and is likely to become perverted in madness, potentially doing anything.

Qin Fang's gunfire had taken away Nakamura Shun's "brother", turning him into a living eunuch. Now, driven to fury, Nakamura Shun hid, seeking a chance to strike at Qin Fang. This was undoubtedly dangerous for Qin Fang, but compared to the crisis that could arise at any moment in the future, Qin Fang was more willing to face the current danger.

As long as he could eliminate Nakamura Shun this time, Qin Fang and the women around him would be safe...

"Sigh, looks like he's gone..."

Since that taunt no longer worked, Qin Fang changed his strategy and resorted to another way of luring him.

"Sigh, better hurry back, it would be troublesome if I attracted someone here..."

Qin Fang tucked the gun into his shorts and found the towel that had fallen onto the thick, withered leaves, together with the small tachi that was still entangled in it.

Swish, swish, swish~~

Qin Fang casually played with the small tachi, and in his hands, the blade danced and created many flower patterns, the brilliant light conspicuously visible under the moonlight.

"Nice blade, what a pity..."

Qin Fang said softly in appreciation, then casually threw it, seeing the small tachi fly straight into the trunk of a nearby tree, where it penetrated deeply with a thud...

After doing all that, Qin Fang ostentatiously turned back to look into the woods. The forest was still so tranquil, without any human figures or sound, as if it were truly deserted.

"Looks like there really is no one, I should head back..."

This time, Qin Fang let out a light sigh, picked up the towel, wrapped the gun properly, then tied it around his waist, proceeding to walk towards the wall of the Chang'an Club, clearly planning to sneak back inside the club unnoticed...

Wrapping the gun in the towel was understandable, even Nakamura Shun knew that this was Dragon Country, where firearms were strictly controlled.

This was Capital City, the capital of Dragon Country, where control measures were much stricter than in the provinces and cities outside. Even a spoilt young master like Qin Fang wouldn't dare to casually carry and flaunt a gun publicly.

If he did such a thing, that wouldn't be being cool, but rather being a fool...

Just now Qin Fang had fired his gun. Even though the sound was in the forest, there was no guarantee that no one at the Chang'an Club heard it. If someone came to check and saw Qin Fang with a gun in hand, it would likely be very troubling for him.

Seeing Qin Fang store away the gun, Nakamura Shun knew his opportunity had arrived. He had been enduring Qin Fang's mockery for so long without acting, all for the chance to strike...

With a gun in hand, Qin Fang was naturally very dangerous, even more so than his own martial strength to Nakamura Shun, but without his gun, Qin Fang was just a bit stronger than ordinary people. Nakamura Shun was confident he could easily kill Qin Fang...

As Qin Fang slowly made his way toward the wall encircling Chang'an Club, Nakamura Shun no longer had any hesitation, cautiously following behind Qin Fang and groping his way forward.

A skilled ninja, his stealth and hiding abilities were quite formidable, especially in such forest terrain and under the cover of night, which provided him with a considerable advantage...

Although he was very careful, his speed was not slow at all, and he was even a bit faster than Qin Fang, stealthily closing in just behind him without notice.

The previous failure had left Nakamura Shun particularly wary of Qin Fang, so he didn't dare to strike immediately, fearing that Qin Fang might deceive him as he had before.

The wound in his lower body was extremely painful and still bleeding; the injury was quite severe, and despite having applied some quick treatment, he couldn't completely stem the bleeding.

But it was precisely this acute pain that spurred him to persevere, to personally send the enemy who had crippled his lower half on the road to the underworld...

Five meters, four meters...

Qin Fang had reached the corner of the wall where there was a blind spot, devoid of any surveillance cameras. If he could just get past this point, Qin Fang would be able to easily return to Chang'an Club.

Meanwhile, Nakamura Shun was lying in wait less than four meters behind Qin Fang, not making a move just yet. He needed an opportunity, one where he could deliver a fatal blow.

Without absolute certainty, he would rather not take any action...

"Just behind me..."

Although Qin Fang hadn't turned his head, his keen senses told him that Nakamura Shun was not far behind him. Even though he couldn't pinpoint the exact location, Qin Fang knew this much.

"He is looking for an opportunity..."

Qin Fang also knew that Nakamura Shun was looking for an opportunity, one for a fatal strike against him.

"I must create such an opportunity for him..."

Qin Fang's mind was as clear as a mirror; he understood what Nakamura Shun was waiting for, and what he needed to do was to take a very inappropriate action at the most suitable moment, exposing a deadly flaw that would lure Nakamura Shun into the trap...

As long as Nakamura Shun showed himself, Qin Fang believed that this time, there would be no chance for him to escape... because Nakamura Shun had already used that opportunity once, but he hadn't fled, opting for revenge instead. Therefore, Qin Fang saw no need for courtesy!

Compared to the rest, this section of the wall was slightly lower, only a little over two meters tall, and Qin Fang could easily scale it if not for the electric fence.

Even now, it posed no difficulty for Qin Fang, who climbed up a nearby tree with the agility of a monkey.

The tree wasn't very close to the wall, but not too far either, and the height of that part of the trunk was just right; Qin Fang could definitely use it to his advantage.

Qin Fang tore off the towel wrapped around his waist, revealing, of course, the gun he had concealed within. After re-wrapping the towel, he tossed it over the wall and was left alone, leaning against the tree trunk, preparing to leap through the air and over the wall...

Hissss~~

Just then, that curved new moon appeared once again, faster than before, more fierce, and the angle of attack was incredibly treacherous.

There Qin Fang stood in the tree, his gun already flung over the wall. Now truly devoid of any defensive or counterattacking weapon, Nakamura Shun had meticulously scanned Qin Fang from head to toe, reconfirming before choosing to make his move.

"Fuck... you haven't left?"

Seeing the streak of the blade attacking, Qin Fang appeared genuinely "surprised," reflexively cursing, signaling his utter astonishment.

"Meet your death..."

For Nakamura Shun, watching Qin Fang's reaction was very satisfying; he had been looking for his chance, and it wasn't until Qin Fang climbed the tree that he found it.

He hadn't expected Qin Fang to cooperate so well, even throwing his gun over the wall, leaving him now truly defenseless. And so... Nakamura Shun boldly attacked!

Bang~~

Unfortunately for him, he celebrated too early, just like the previous time. Just when he thought he was about to cut down Qin Fang, he saw the barrel of a black gun.

Only this time, he had no chance to dodge, because as soon as he saw it, the gun's barrel spit out a dazzling flash of fire...

Chapter 705 - Skill: Stealth_1

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Just like last time, it was another close-range shot...

Nakamura Shun's luck had clearly run out since the last time; he could avoid the first shot because Qin Fang had not chosen to risk life for life on that occasion. This shot, however, was completely different.

Qin Fang's defenses appeared wide open, but in truth, those "flaws" were intentionally created by him, waiting for Nakamura Shun to take the bait.

And once Nakamura Shun made his move, all those "flaws" vanished without a trace, even what Nakamura Shun thought was Qin Fang's biggest vulnerability—the absence of his gun—suddenly reappeared in Qin Fang's hand as a dark gun muzzle!

With a crisp bang,

Nakamura Shun only felt an intense pain in his head before completely losing consciousness, plunging into darkness!

He never knew what dying felt like because he always believed he would live a long life, but this time... it was quite different from the script he had anticipated.

Qin Fang watched as Nakamura Shun fell from mid-air; if he had still been alive, Nakamura Shun would have landed safely, even from such a height.

Unfortunately...

Qin Fang was confident in his gunmanship; a shot to the center of the forehead ensured Nakamura Shun's instant death, not even giving him the chance to take a breath.

Almost the instant Nakamura Shun was killed, Qin Fang received a considerable amount of experience points, boosting his total by a small margin...

Indeed, if Qin Fang had killed Nakamura Shun unarmed, the experience points would have been more substantial, but using a gun meant there was some deduction.

However, this kill was linked to the "King of Assassins" task, which included a task reward, somewhat supplementing the experience points for Qin Fang, so it wasn't really a loss.

Nakamura Shun was dead for good, his body falling from the air. This time, however, the gunshot was near the Chang'an Club, and Qin Fang noticed that the security guards of the club had been alerted.

This was not surprising. The Chang'an Club, being one of the top three clubs in the Capital City, housed guests who were all rich and powerful—respected everywhere.

Any incident concerning any guest would greatly affect the reputation of the club, and now that gunshots were heard so nearby, it was difficult for them not to make a scene.

"I must return as quickly as possible..."

Qin Fang was aware that with Nakamura Shun dead, his objective was accomplished, and he had to leave before the security guards found the place.

The walls of Chang'an Club were not a barrier for Qin Fang, but he did not leave immediately because just as he was about to scale the wall, he unexpectedly noticed a mysterious light emanating from Nakamura Shun's body.

For such a light, Qin Fang was no longer unfamiliar; it indicated that the killed person or creature had dropped some items, equipment, materials, and their body would then emit such a mysterious light...

Of course, this light could only be seen by Qin Fang, and if the items were not picked up within three minutes, they would automatically disappear...

Such mysterious light was exactly what Qin Fang hoped to see, although it didn't appear every time. Often, nothing would be dropped at all. For instance, when Qin Fang killed the Vice Sect Leader of Iron Hand Sect Yan Kuan, or Sharpshooter Song Gang, nothing was dropped...

This non-drop rate made it clear to Qin Fang that it wasn't one hundred percent guaranteed; many times, nothing would drop...

This was understandable; if killing someone would always result in dropping an item, Qin Fang reckoned it wouldn't take long before he was fully equipped with divine gear... He wouldn't be having such a hard time.

But every major loot drop excited Qin Fang immensely. For example, now that Nakamura Shun had dropped something, Qin Fang immediately halted his escape and leapt back down to the ground.

By now, Nakamura Shun had already become a corpse, as dead as one could be, with a deep bullet hole in his forehead, and his lower body a bloody mess, still oozing blood even in death...

"Alas! One who commits too many injustices is sure to bring about his own destruction..."

Qin Fang murmured to himself. As someone from Ninghai, he had never had a good impression of the Japanese, but there had been no issue between him and Nakamura Shun at first—only considering action when thinking of eliminating harm for the people, considering the latter's high Evil Points of over 1,600.

But the young man insisted on sneaking into Qin Fang's room and attempting assassination, so Qin Fang had no need to be courteous... Ninjas really were formidable, but also, they had their significant weaknesses.

Nakamura Shun probably would never understand how Qin Fang, seemingly disarmed, managed to conceal the gun. He had checked carefully and confirmed multiple times before taking action.

Unfortunately, it was destined to be an unsolvable mystery, and Nakamura Shun descended to Hell with such an enigma.

As for the other, the victor Qin Fang... naturally, he was now looting Nakamura Shun's body.

This body was of no concern to Qin Fang; what he truly wanted to see was what Nakamura Shun's corpse had dropped...

Chapter 706 - Skill: Stealth_2

"You have picked up the Stealth Skill Book."

"You have picked up a Jounin Token."

"You have picked up a Trial Proof."

Nakamura Shun had dropped a total of three items for Qin Fang: a skill book and two props, which could be considered a great haul.

Qin Fang didn't hesitate at all to collect these three items. As for Nakamura Shun's corpse, Qin Fang initially planned to just leave it there, but after a moment's hesitation thinking it might still be useful, he waved his hand and immediately stowed it into the Props Box.

Now at Level 4, Qin Fang's Props Box had been upgraded to hold 24 items, allowing for more items to be stored within. It was usually kept relatively empty to ensure there was space for when it was needed.

As for the blood of Nakamura Shun in the woods, it was not something Qin Fang needed to be concerned about. He quickly climbed up a nearby tree, leaped over the high voltage fence with ease, and landed on the grass inside the enclosure. He picked up a bath towel, draped it over his shoulder, changed his face, and strolled along the road with leisure...

The security guard making rounds at such a late hour couldn't help but take a second look at the guest sprinting naked, not daring to ask much. After all, the guests mingling here were not ones they could afford to offend, with some having peculiar habits. Plus, the face seemed somewhat familiar, so they didn't think much of it and continued their patrol.

After dodging the watchful eyes of the security guard and avoiding the range of the surveillance cameras, Qin Fang scaled the wall from the balcony window where he had burst out, and quietly returned to the room, as if he had never left...

Miao Yue was too exhausted, still asleep until now. Qin Fang gave her a bit of help, using the Acupuncture Techniques to help her sleep more soundly. He then rushed into the bathroom for another shower to wash away the bloodstains and sat alone in the living room to inspect the three items dropped by Nakamura Shun.

"Skill book..."

It had been a long time since Qin Fang had comprehended a skill or obtained a skill book. To his surprise, defeating Nakamura Shun yielded such a reward.

This Stealth Skill Book made Qin think of Nakamura Shun's speciality, which included Level 4 Stealth. Clearly, the skill book was sourced from that.

As for other skills like swordsmanship and assassination techniques, Qin was not interested at all, but the Stealth Skill Book was something he was very much looking forward to—it was a powerful skill that could even mask the System's Red Light Alert.

To cultivate Stealth to the same level as Nakamura Shun, even Qin's Advanced Scouting Skill wouldn't be able to detect him, which showed how strong the skill was.

Of course, this Stealth was no doubt a Ninjutsu from Japan's ninja technique of the escape school, in fact, a modified version of the Five Elements Escape Technique from the legendary Senmen Dunjia Sect. In a modern era where the Toukotsu Sect remained hidden, such an escape technique was certainly very impressive.

It can be said that ninjas could become natural-born assassins because of such formidable stealth skills. As Qin stepped onto his path to become the "King of Assassins" and aimed to be the King among killers, possessing such a skill was like receiving timely assistance akin to sending charcoal in snowy weather.

Without any hesitation, Qin patted the skill book and chose to learn it. He saw the skill book instantly turn into a stream of light and disappear into his Props Box, while he felt a warm sensation in his body. He immediately opened the skill panel and saw an additional Stealth Skill in the skill column, as Qin had anticipated.

The Stealth Skill belonged to the "Thousand Skills" category and was a branch of a branch of the Thousand Skills...

"I wonder if upgrading the Thousand Skills might uncover the real Five Elements Escape Technique..."

Qin had initially considered the Thousand Skills as an ordinary skill, but gradually understood that it was akin to his Cooking Skill: a term for many smaller skills, and evidently much more complex than cooking...

No matter what, Qin was very pleased with acquiring the Stealth Skill, and he even tested it on the spot... Since it was categorized under the Thousand Skills, its Proficiency was the same as that of the Thousand Skills, and not at the 0% Proficiency typical of a new skill.

With Qin's Thousand Skills nearing the Intermediate level, his Stealth Skill was also approaching intermediate-level stealth. With just a subtle effort, he saw himself turn into a chameleon-like figure, instantly becoming as elusive as air, as if he had completely blended into the environment...

This feeling was very strange, and Qin Fang was quite astonished... He deliberately looked in the mirror, and facing the mirror, he actually couldn't see himself... Truly magical!

Of course, the only flaw was—the invisibility did not last too long, lasting about a minute or so, Qin Fang's figure appeared once again.

Recalling Nakamura Shun's stealth duration, it was obviously much longer than Qin Fang's, clearly this was a result of the difference in Skill Level and Proficiency...

"It seems that I really need to practice Cheating Skills more..."

Qin Fang quietly planned in his heart, compared to Cheating Skills, the speed of intensely training Stealth Skills was clearly too slow.

Nakamura Shun also dropped two other items—a Middle Level Ninja Token and a Trial Proof.

The Middle Level Ninja Token was an old-fashioned iron token with the character "Middle" on it, which seemed to indicate the ninja rank, and Nakamura Shun must have been a Middle Level Ninja.

Nakamura Shun was already a Level 5 Expert, just one step away from stepping into Level 6 Grandmaster. So it seems that the difference between a Middle Level Ninja and an Upper Ninja should be this gap between Level 5 and Level 6,

Legend has it that there are Special Ninjas in the ninja ranks who are even more formidable, presumably equivalent to Grandmaster-level Experts among martial artists, belonging to the strongest standing at the peak!

Qin Fang didn't care about this token at all, it was basically of no use to him, so he threw it aside and immediately took a look at the other item, the Trial Proof.

The Trial Proof was even more puzzling for Qin Fang, just a simple sheet of paper with no discernible material, seeming like none of the known materials found in the world.

Qin Fang immediately threw his Scouting Skill at it, and only then did he roughly understand the reason for its appearance—Ninja Trials.

Or rather, it was proof of an introductory trial for ninjas.

And this Trial Proof was actually meant to be used in conjunction with Qin Fang's Middle Level Ninja Token, just choose a suitable target, and then use both the Trial Proof and the Middle Level Ninja Token

on them, this person could become a ninja, and even become a Middle Level Ninja in an extremely short amount of time...

Of course, before becoming a Middle Level Ninja the training speed was very fast, but once reaching Middle Level Ninja, the pace of cultivation mainly depended on the person's own comprehension.

Perhaps with average aptitude, one might spend a lifetime and still only remain at the Middle Level Ninja stage...

Or possibly with excellent aptitude, even after rushing up to Middle Level Ninja, one could still have a strong drive, overcoming the hurdle from Level 5 to Level 6 and becoming a Grandmaster-level Expert, that is, an Upper Ninja... or even stronger!

It could be said that these two items are a set of props that can create a very capable fighter, or even a very formidable assassin, in a short amount of time...

Looking at these two items, Qin Fang's brows were tightly knitted as he pondered who to use them on... Undoubtedly, these two items could only create a "pseudo-master," and could give his women the power to protect themselves...

But who should he give it to?

That seemed to be a problem, favoring anyone seemed inappropriate!

"Right, how could I forget about her... This item seems tailor-made for her!"

As Qin Fang was worrying, he suddenly thought of someone, a person he had almost completely forgotten, and these two items in front of him seemed to be truly prepared specifically for this person...

Chapter 707 - Visit for Birthday Celebration_1

...

The acquisition of tasks was as random as the drop rate of death, very sporadic, and Qin Fang had not completed many tasks up to now.

However, Qin Fang was undertaking two supremely difficult ultimate missions, one of which was the King of Assassins mission that exerted tremendous pressure and motivation on him.

This mission forced Qin Fang to constantly grow stronger so that he could protect himself and those around him more effectively.

The other mission, comparatively speaking, wasn't as stringent and had a lot of flexibility, but undeniably, it was an ultimate mission that was no less challenging than the King of Assassins mission. This was the "Domination of the Wealthy Clans" mission.

And this mission was related to a woman who Qin Fang had nearly forgotten entirely—Song Dao Cainaizi, who was nominally his female slave...

Since the day Song Dao Cainaizi fell into Qin Fang's hands, he handed her over to Tang Feifei and the others. It was said they got along quite well, but Qin Fang rarely saw her and gradually forgot about her.

It wasn't until he saw these two items that Qin Fang remembered this little Japanese slave. She was the illegitimate daughter of Yamamoto Jiro, the president of the Shiling Group, and Qin Fang's mission was to support her in seizing control of the Shiling Group...

Yet, the difficulty Qin Fang imagined in completing this mission was considerable. Song Dao Cainaizi didn't even have clarity about her own identity, ending up as someone sold to Dragon Country as a slave. Her siblings would stop at nothing for the Shiling Group's inheritance rights, and even more despicable tactics were within the realm of possibilities...

Qin Fang could have just pretended this mission did not exist, but if he really went to execute it, he would likely be putting himself in great danger, and the one most likely to perish would still be the main subject of this mission, Song Dao Cainaizi...

However, using a Middle Level Ninja Token and the trial certificate on Song Dao Cainaizi, one could easily and quickly create a Middle Level Ninja.

With such strength, Song Dao Cainaizi's life would be more secure, and when necessary, she could entirely transform into an assassin hidden in the shadows, conclusively ending the lives of her siblings with ruthless methods... After all, if these Japanese started killing each other, Qin Fang couldn't care less.

"Let's do it this way..."

Having made up his mind, Qin Fang also felt much more at ease. He had quite a number of women, but through dual cultivation, Qin Fang could slowly change these women's physiques, allowing them to gradually practice martial arts. If necessary, taking them as disciples wasn't out of the question... A lack of talent was no problem; proficiency could be accumulated over time!

If Song Dao Cainaizi could grow, Qin Fang would be able to start this mission. This mission was divided into three phases, each completion of which would reward Qin Fang with a large amount of experience points, proficiency, and even powerful rare items and skill books...

Clearly, these things were very attractive to Qin Fang, tempting him greatly.

But since Song Dao Cainaizi was currently in Ninghai, Qin Fang was in no rush. It wouldn't be too late to give them to her after returning, so he tossed these items back into the Props Box and continued to return to his room to spend a tender night with Miao Yue...

A silent night.

Last night's gunfire did cause a bit of a stir, and security staff at the Chang'an Club searched all night, but nothing related to the gunfire was found within the premises—no bodies, no blood, no bullet marks, nothing at all...

The high-voltage electric fence surrounding the club's walls showed no signs of damage. As for whether the gunfire had come from outside... that wasn't something they concerned themselves with. As long as it didn't happen within the club, it wouldn't affect the reputation of the Chang'an Club...

Just like that, the incident passed without conclusion. Nakamura Shun was working for Xu Ling, and it wasn't a big deal if he didn't come back all night. Little Japanese like Nakamura Shun were out looking for women every night, and even though what he had down there wasn't much to speak of, he had a lot of money...

Therefore, even Xu Ling didn't find it strange that Nakamura Shun hadn't shown up, and everything settled down smoothly. Today was the birthday celebration of Old Master Tang.

Old Master Tang, as one of the former national leaders, still held considerable prestige despite his long retirement. Accordingly, this birthday banquet was quite grand, with even the current leaders rumored to attend to offer their congratulations... The banquet was indeed of very high standard.

Miao Yue left the Chang'an Club early in the morning. Such a high-class banquet was not something she was eligible to attend. Even for Qin Fang, it was only as Tang Feifei's prospective fiancé that he had the privilege to participate.

Tang Feifei and Qin Fang arrived in the Capital City together. She had been accompanying Old Master Tang at Qingzhu Mountain until today, the birthday celebration of Elder Tang, when she finally got the chance to slip away for a while to be with Qin Fang. They only needed to head to the banquet hall at Diaoyutai before the banquet started...

The young couple hadn't seen each other for several days, so naturally, they indulged in some sweet nothings and even shared a bit of clandestine intimacy. Qin Fang successfully made it to second base with Tang Feifei, leaving her blushing for a good half a day without it subsiding...

They then strolled around Wangfujing, purchasing more gifts to take back to Ninghai, which filled up half of the day's schedule. Afterwards, Qin Fang and Tang Feifei sent their purchases back to Chang'an Club and drove together towards Diaoyutai State Guesthouse...

The grand birthday banquet for the old master had actually been a request from the Tang Family Brothers. The old master himself didn't mind either way; at his age, he had long since grown indifferent to such affairs.

However, he couldn't resist the strong insistence of his sons and daughters and had agreed... Of course, it was rare for all the Tang Family Members to gather together like this, a feat not even achieved during annual festivals.

Old Master Tang had three sons and two daughters, five children in total. Now, each son had accomplishments to his name. It seemed like the eldest of the Tang Family was the boss of National Security, wielding significant power not everyone could hold steadily; Tang Feifei's father and Qin Fang's father-in-law-to-be, Tang Yongping, was about to become the governor of Jiangnan Province; and the third son, Tang Yongming, held the rank of Major General in the Ninghai Military District...

It could be said that the Tang Family was quite illustrious, at least to someone of humble origins like Qin Fang, it was truly impressive.

The Tang Family's two sons-in-law also held positions in the government, both seeming to be of a high rank, above the bureau level. Qin Fang was familiar with one of them, Chen Huaian, Chen Shijie's father, who worked in the State Council...

As for the other relatives of the Tang Family, Qin Fang didn't know much, and Tang Feifei seemed to be in the dark too, so she naturally couldn't explain everything to Qin Fang.

"If my aunt says some unpleasant things later, please be more forgiving..."

On the way to the birthday banquet, Tang Feifei made a point of beseeching Qin Fang, since the incident that day, through the uproar caused by Chen Shijie's mother, also Tang Feifei's aunt, Tang Yonghong, almost everyone in the Tang Family knew about it, Tang Feifei included...

Tang Feifei knew Qin Fang the best. He would never give such a heavy hand unless absolutely necessary, and she didn't think highly of her cousin Chen Shijie to begin with.

She had never liked Xu Ling, and Chen Shijie would often instigate meetings between them, even deceiving Tang Feifei a few times... She had been patient with him for the sake of family, but she had certainly never shown Chen Shijie any friendliness!

With the matter out in the open, Tang Feifei was firmly supportive of Qin Fang's actions...

Although Chen Shijie was unreliable, his mother, Tang Yonghong, was extremely kind to Tang Feifei. When she was young, and her father, Secretary Tang, was still struggling at the grassroots, she didn't get much attention from her parents. It was her aunt who took care of her, so even though she knew her aunt was making a pointless fuss for Chen Shijie, Tang Feifei still hoped Qin Fang would understand.

"Don't worry, Feifei, I understand..."

Qin Fang smiled. He had no problem with Tang Yonghong's protective behavior, even though she was standing on the wrong side.

Qin Fang grew up in a single-parent household, with only his mother as his family. He had an extraordinary understanding of her. It didn't matter to him if they were sometimes so unreasonable.

You see, his mother, Qin Qing, had once caused a fair amount of trouble just to keep Qin Fang from being bullied. Despite criticisms and insults from many people, Qin Qing endured it all, just so her son wouldn't be wronged...

For this reason, Qin Fang did not mind Tang Yonghong's fussing... Of course, if Chen Shijie dared to make trouble again, Qin Fang wouldn't mind teaching him another lesson.

"Besides, Chen Shijie is perfectly fine now. He'll be jumping around at the old master's birthday banquet today. If your aunt wants to trouble me, it's probably going to be difficult..."

Qin Fang said cheerfully, knowing all too well the quality of his handiwork. Chen Shijie was perfectly clear-headed about his ailments. A day in the hospital would mean he'd be pretty much fine, and Qin Fang even took care of some other minor hidden ailments...

If Chen Shijie intended to cause trouble, his only tactic would be to fabricate a false medical record, which Qin Fang could easily debunk. Then it would become quite clear who would be the embarrassed one...

However, Qin Fang pondered that Chen Shijie had already suffered enough at his hands and would likely straighten up. No one would willingly undergo the agony of Yama's Eighteen Needles again...

Chapter 708 - Confident and Fearless_1

...

This time's birthday banquet was of a very high standard, and the security was naturally top-notch as well. The guests who came to celebrate were all of extraordinary identity, and ordinary people certainly wouldn't have the privilege to enter here.

There were already guards far away from the banquet hall, all stern and iron-blooded soldiers, standing with guns in hand. Their eyes, seemingly immovable, watched ahead, emitting sharp glances that pierced the soul.

Dressed in a resplendent gown, Tang Feifei looked particularly charming and lovely. The fitted dress made her appear like an unopened rose about to bloom, capturing a great deal of attention almost as soon as she appeared.

Standing by her side, Qin Fang, with his strong figure and carefully chosen suit, also radiated the air of a graceful young master. Together with Tang Feifei, they really did look like a golden boy and a jade girl... so complementary!

"Uncle Tang, good..."

Seeing Secretary Tang again, Qin Fang couldn't help being nervous, but fortunately, he hadn't forgotten his manners and promptly greeted him with respect.

As Elder Tang's son, Secretary Tang and his two brothers were naturally the hosts greeting guests outside. Initially, Tang Feifei was supposed to stay there as well, but the old master cherished his granddaughter too much to bear her being overworked, so he let her off to accompany Qin Fang. That's how she ended up arriving with Qin Fang.

"Xiao Qin, you've arrived, good, good..."

Secretary Tang and his brothers were busy greeting each arriving guest. When he heard Qin Fang's voice, a bright smile immediately appeared on his face. He sized up both Qin Fang and Tang Feifei, visibly satisfied as he praised them.

"I'm quite busy here, so I can't keep you company. Let Feifei take you inside; your Aunt Shen has been wanting to see you..."

However, with many guests arriving, Secretary Tang and his brothers were quite occupied. Exchanging a few pleasantries with each person took quite some time, yet they couldn't neglect their guests either, so he immediately had Tang Feifei lead Qin Fang inside first.

Tang Feifei's mother's surname was Shen, hence Aunt Shen as referred to by Secretary Tang, naturally, Qin Fang's future mother-in-law. She was one of the first to know about Qin Fang and Tang Feifei's romance. From the start, she maintained a relatively positive attitude. The mother-daughter bond was very strong, almost like sisters, and Tang Feifei never concealed any secrets from her. This was a crucial reason why Qin Fang and Tang Feifei were able to come together!

Although Qin Fang had always been in Ninghai and had a confirmed relationship with Tang Feifei, he had never had the chance to meet her mother... Tang Feifei did mention a few times the idea of going home for dinner, but Qin Fang had always been indecisive...

This time, it was inevitable even for an "ugly son-in-law" to meet the mother-in-law!

So, as Qin Fang neared the entrance, he also couldn't help feeling a bit apprehensive!

"My mom is really nice..."

Perhaps sensing Qin Fang's nerves, Tang Feifei tightly grasped Qin Fang's hand and whispered softly, seemingly trying to encourage him in this way.

"I'm fine..."

Qin Fang smiled. With such a wife, what more could a husband ask for?

It seemed that Tang Feifei's little encouragement instantly dispelled all of Qin Fang's prior worries. Holding Tang Feifei's hand, the two entered the banquet hall together.

At this point, there was a little bit of time before the banquet officially started, but many guests had already arrived, most of whom Qin Fang didn't recognize at all.

In the center of the banquet hall was a huge 'longevity' character, which was said to be personally written by a famous calligrapher who was on good terms with Elder Tang, also a birthday gift for him.

Below that character was a stage, already set up with all kinds of equipment, and the tables and chairs for the upcoming banquet had also been arranged.

The table closest to the stage was evidently the birthday star's seat, and it was currently empty. Although there were many guests, that table was clearly not somewhere just anyone could sit.

However, the tables nearby were relatively full. One table, primarily occupied by women, was where Tang Feifei immediately pulled Qin Fang towards as soon as she spotted it.

Without a doubt, this group of women must be the Tang family members, among them Tang Feifei's mother, Qin Fang's future mother-in-law...

There were quite a few women at this table, ranging from younger ones around their teens or twenties to older ones in their forties or fifties. They were chatting and laughing when they saw Tang Feifei holding hands with Qin Fang, and they promptly fell silent, turning to size up Qin Fang.

"Mom, let me introduce him, this is Qin Fang..."

It was something to be expected. Tang Feifei led Qin Fang straight to a middle-aged beauty, hugging her affectionately before happily introducing him.

This middle-aged beauty seemed quite young, older than Qin Fang's mother, Qin Qing, by several years, yet she appeared to be around the same age. Faintly, Qin Fang could see that she must have been similar to Tang Feifei when she was younger, both top-tier beauties.

"Aunt Shen, hello..."

Clearly, this was Tang Feifei's mother, and Qin Fang immediately greeted her very properly.

"Ah, Xiao Qin, you're here. I've been looking forward to this for a long time..."

A radiant smile appeared on Tang Feifei's mother, Aunt Shen's face. Although it was the first time she saw Qin Fang in person, she had already known what he looked like.

Especially the changes in the past six months had made Aunt Shen nod in approval, feeling quite satisfied in her heart.

"Are you Qin Fang?"

Just as Aunt Shen was about to exchange a few words with Qin Fang, someone next to her suddenly spoke up, their voice sharp and seemingly filled with displeasure toward Qin Fang.

"Qin Fang, this is my little aunt..."

Tang Feifei's face changed slightly, but she still introduced her to Qin Fang.

"Nice to meet you, little aunt..."

The speaker was a woman in her forties, and without guessing, Qin Fang knew who she was—it had to be Chen Shijie's mother, Tang Yonghong.

"Please... I can't accept that. Feifei here isn't married yet, we aren't that closely related..."

Just as Tang Feifei had warned beforehand, Tang Yonghong's remarks were indeed unpleasant. From the start, she was taking up Chen Shijie's grievances.

One could say that Chen Shijie became the Tang Family's only privileged young master partly due to her indulgence. Being the youngest sibling in the Tang family and naturally the most favored, her character had grown quite sharp over the decades.

"Heh heh..."

Though Qin Fang was mentally prepared, faced with this situation, he could only force a few dry laughs, unable to say much.

"Little aunt..."

Tang Feifei, not willing to let her loved one be at a disadvantage, immediately resorted to her invincible coquettish charm, grabbing Tang Yonghong's hand and shaking it vigorously.

"Yonghong, it's just some minor spats between the kids. Why are you making a fuss?"

Qin Fang's future mother-in-law obviously stood on his side, speaking up in his defense. She and her sister-in-law usually got along very well, so Aunt Shen was rather blunt.

"Exactly, Yonghong, we're going to be family in the future. Such fuss looks so unseemly. Elder Tang won't be happy with this..."

One could see that the Tang Family members were quite reasonable, even eager to accept Qin Fang; someone else immediately spoke up for him.

"Second sister-in-law, you can't talk like that. Would I be this upset over some minor issues between the kids? My Shijie even ended up in the hospital. The doctor said the trauma was too severe, and if he had been brought in any later, it could have been life-threatening..."

However, these words clearly weren't potent enough, as Tang Feifei's little aunt justified herself righteously.

"Eh... Is it that serious?"

"It can't be..."

"How did it get to this? How is Shijie doing now?"

But with a single statement from Tang Yonghong, many people immediately shifted their perspective, turning their accusatory gaze back onto Qin Fang.

While they originally wanted to keep the peace, if their own family member was involved in something so serious, they inevitably felt uncomfortable. Being women of the Tang Family, their access to information wasn't particularly instant.

"Little aunt, you are really wronging me here... Cousin Shijie and I were just messing around. He knew I practice acupuncture and asked me to help treat some minor issues on his body. The process might have been a little painful, and after someone with an agenda said a few words, it turned into this situation... In reality, he's very healthy now, and even his previous hidden health issues have all been cured..."

Qin Fang didn't know where Tang Yonghong had gotten her conclusions, perhaps Chen Shijie was not giving up his crooked ways and still wanted to use the situation against Qin Fang, but Qin Fang thought it more likely that some others were meddling...

As for who this "some others" might be, Qin Fang had a pretty good idea, though it wasn't appropriate to say it out loud.

"Nonsense! The doctor told me himself, and it's all clearly written on the medical record..."

Hearing Qin Fang dare to "argue," Tang Yonghong immediately erupted in anger, her bellow attracting the sidelong glances of many guests.

"Little aunt, if I dare to say so, it's because I am completely confident. If you don't believe me, I can go to the hospital with you right now, and we can check Cousin Shijie one by one... I'm sure that will prove my innocence!"

Qin Fang immediately said with solemn assurance.

Chen Shijie or some people could, of course, fabricate a story, even bribing the hospital's doctor. With them being young masters and privileged sons, how could a mere doctor dare to go against their wishes?

Even if they wanted to fabricate evidence, it would be difficult to make it convincing. After all, Qin Fang had only given a few acupuncture treatments from start to end; you can't just fake a fracture...

With these reasonable grounds, Qin Fang was naturally fearless. Attempting to use this situation to hold something over him was likely to be an unsuccessful endeavor...

Chapter 709 - Scare You to Death!_1

...

As Qin Fang spoke, everyone was briefly stunned. Although they were unaware of the truth, Qin Fang's righteous demeanor hardly seemed like he was lying.

A hint of a smile also emerged in Tang Feifei's eyes, as at least Qin Fang's words convinced many that this must be the real truth.

As for whom Qin Fang referred to as "certain people," many had their suspicions.

The matter of Tang Feifei's marriage was taken very seriously by the Tang Family members; previously, many thought that Tang Feifei and Xu Ling were made for each other, childhood sweethearts who were to join two families into an even closer political alliance.

However, the patriarch was not willing to proceed in that manner. Tang Feifei's marriage was to be freely decided by herself without interference from others.

Like Tang Feifei's aunts and even her own mother, they had the right to introduce and recommend but could by no means insist upon it; the decision rested solely with Tang Feifei.

It was by this method that Tang Feifei chose Qin Fang instead of Xu Ling, whom many saw as the best candidate... and the relationship between Chen Shijie and Xu Ling didn't even need mentioning.

Among those who protested the most against Qin Fang's arrival in the capital was Chen Shijie himself...

Chen Shijie, Tang Feifei's cousin, was also a member of the Tang Family. He didn't dare go against Elder Tang's wishes, but his vociferous protest was undoubtedly a cheer for someone.

These matters were well known amongst the Tang Family Members. Some had good relations with the Xu Family and had also considered such a plan, but before they could act or speak, Chen Shijie had already run into trouble.

With what Qin Fang had just said, many felt there was a ring of truth to it.

"Are you serious?"

Even Tang Yonghong, looking at Qin Fang's earnest expression, couldn't help but ask reflexively... but by the time she realized what she'd asked, it was already too late, and she felt rather embarrassed.

"Aunt, you could call them again for inquiry. I think if you speak a little more sternly, those doctors should tell the truth..."

This turn of events was an unexpected boon for Qin Fang, who vaguely felt that Tang Yonghong might really have been deceived by someone. Given her protective nature, she was also the most easily provoked target, and Qin Fang gave her this advice. As for the specifics, Qin Fang believed Tang Yonghong knew far more than he did.

"Sister-in-law, second sister-in-law, elder sister, I'll be back in a moment..."

Tang Yonghong was clearly persuaded by Qin Fang's words, and with a quick notice, she hurried out with her small bag. Whether she was off to make a call or go directly to the hospital wasn't Qin Fang's concern.

"Alright, alright, everything has been explained... Xiao Qin, come here, this is all family. Let me introduce you to some..."

With matters having reached this point, Qin Fang's crisis seemed to be temporarily averted. Aunt Shen immediately stepped in to smooth things over and began introducing the Tang Family ladies to Qin Fang.

There weren't many people in the Tang Family. Basically, all the female relatives were present, including Feifei's two aunts and her eldest aunt, as well as a few sisters-in-law and cousins...

In no time, everyone had been introduced, and Qin Fang politely greeted them all, officially becoming acquainted with them.

The hustle had barely settled before the guests had almost all arrived. Tang Yongping and the second-generation Tang men returned from the entrance, and the third generation, like Tang Cheng, also entered the banquet hall, followed by an elderly man with white hair, yet still looking vigorous, who slowly walked up from the backstage.

Whoosh~~

Almost immediately upon the elderly man's appearance, everyone stood up, their eyes filled with unmistakable reverence as they watched the man who had weathered many storms and stood at the pinnacle of power...

"That's my grandfather..."

Tang Feifei murmured softly into Qin Fang's ear.

Qin Fang nodded gently. Even if Tang Feifei hadn't mentioned it, he knew that this old man must be Elder Tang, the guest of honor at today's banquet.

Elder Tang was nearly ninety years old, with white hair and a still vibrant spirit, walking with a steady gait. Although he was followed by several personal medical and security staff, they were merely accompanying, not supporting him.

"The effects of the Heart Nourishing Pill really are miraculous, grandpa's heart disease has completely recovered..."

Tang Feifei made sure to share this great news with Qin Fang, after all, it was his birthday gift, and the results now appeared to be outstanding...

"I'm delighted that everyone could come to give this old man their well-wishes, thank you very much! Please be seated..."

Having arrived at his seat, Elder Tang looked around at the faces, familiar and unfamiliar alike, expressing his gratitude uniformly, which made many people feel somewhat flustered.

With just a few words, Elder Tang declared the birthday banquet officially underway, and everyone sat down in turn...

Clearly, Qin Fang was not meant to sit with the Tang Family's women but was whisked away by Tang Cheng to join the table with the men of the third generation of the Tang Family.

The number of the Tang Family's own members was not very large, but when including in-laws and other relatives by marriage, the number was not small either.

Chapter 710 - Scare You to Death!_2

Elder Tang and his sons and sons-in-law were seated on a mountain, accompanied by high-ranking officials, either provincial or ministerial-level magistrates, or representatives of top leaders...

The women of the family were seated at a table below.

The men of three generations of the Tang family, including Elder Tang's grandsons, granddaughters' husbands, and grandsons-in-law... also made up a table. Qin Fang had received the recognition of the Tang family, and although he had not formally married Tang Feifei, it was only natural for him to be seated there.

Chen Shijie was originally seated at this table as well. However, the young man was currently in the hospital feigning illness and had not arrived...

"Qin Fang is here, so I won't introduce him to you all... Qin Fang, let me introduce the others to you!"

Adding up all three generations of the Tang family, there were only about eight or nine people. Except for Chen Shijie, everyone was present. Tang Cheng introduced them to Qin Fang one by one, and Qin Fang had already met them before.

The men of the Tang family, perhaps because many of them came from military backgrounds, were all very forthright. They did not treat Qin Fang as an outsider and he quickly blended in with them.

Of course, they couldn't avoid asking about Chen Shijie. Qin Fang also explained according to the agreed story, and everyone did not seem to care much... It was evident how unpopular Chen Shijie was within the Tang family.

But who could blame them? He was a member of the Tang family, yet he was so close to the Xu family. He had squandered so much of the Tang family's brilliance on his own, causing everyone else to lose face by association. It would have been strange if they held him in any regard.

As the birthday banquet began, Qin Fang started drinking with the men of the Tang family. Out of the ten men at the table, six were serving military personnel, and among the remaining four, including Qin Fang, three were either businessmen or politicians, all of whom had spent several years in military service...

It was said to be a rule set by the Old Master himself: every man in the Tang family had to spend time in the military!

This was also one of the reasons why Tang Cheng took Qin Fang to the military district for special training. It was just that Qin Fang was too exceptional; techniques that took others a long time to master, he could handle within minutes... Even Uncle Tang could not resist the urge to recruit Qin Fang as a sniper in the military!

Once the drinking started, the atmosphere quickly warmed up, but from time to time, people would still come over to offer birthday respects to Elder Tang or toast with him. For example, some of Elder Tang's former subordinates, and Qin Fang actually recognized a few familiar figures.

Such as Ning Yumo and her brother Ning Weiqiang. Of course, they came along with a middle-aged man in his fifties. Qin Fang didn't need to guess to know that this man was Secretary Ning of the Jiangnan Provincial Political and Legal Committee...

As far as Qin Fang was aware, Secretary Ning and Tang Feifei's mother, Aunt Shen, were distant cousins. Of course, Secretary Ning was once Elder Tang's bodyguard. Later, as he stepped onto his political path, he also received a lot of support from Elder Tang, which was why the relationship between the Tang and Ning families was so good.

Qin Fang did want to greet Ning's family, but they had their own place, and it wasn't appropriate to mix together.

However, Qin Fang unexpectedly discovered that Xu Ling was seated just at the next table, and others like Miao San, who had a good relationship with him, were also seated together.

Although the older generation might not belong to the same camp and had different political views, they often would not attend such birthday banquets. However, it was common for them to send younger members to show support. Seeing members of the Miao family wasn't surprising.

"Young Master Xu, you've become even more handsome since I last saw you!"

When Qin Fang came to this table, he had initially only paid attention to the people at the table and had not taken much notice of the one behind him. Now that he discovered Xu Ling, he immediately picked up a glass of wine and said with a smile.

"Young Master Qin, you're not being fair with your words. Everyone thinks I don't look too good today, but why do you insist that I look handsome?"

Xu Ling had actually noticed Qin Fang quite early on. He came for Tang Feifei, but since she had gone to the capital and stayed with Old Master Tang at Qingzhu Mountain all these days, he hadn't had the chance to meet her. The reason he arrived early was that Tang Feifei was a member of the Tang Family, and it was a given that she would be here as a host to receive the guests coming to congratulate at Elder Tang's birthday banquet.

But he ended up coming up empty-handed, and later even saw Qin Fang walking in hand-in-hand with Tang Feifei to meet Tang Feifei's mother... Seeing Mother Tang's enthusiastic face, Xu Ling couldn't express how jealous he was.

Of course, he had met Mother Tang before, but ever since he was young, Aunt Shen seemed not to take much notice of him. Even though he and those around him were becoming more and more outstanding and he believed himself to be perfectly suited for Tang Feifei, there didn't seem to be much improvement in their relations...

And the bright smile Aunt Shen showed when she saw Qin Fang was quite a sting to Xu Ling, from his perspective, Qin Fang was nowhere near his level in any aspect.

When Tang Yonghong came storming in, intending to accuse Qin Fang, Xu Ling was rather pleased. He couldn't deny that he was the one leading the charge behind this incident.

Chen Shijie had been scared witless by Qin Fang and didn't dare to play any more tricks on him. In fact, he didn't even dare to attend Elder Tang's birthday banquet this time, simply because he knew he would have to sit at the same table as Qin Fang, he was scared, he had chickened out... With just a little manipulation from Xu Ling's side, the situation had evolved into this.

Chen Shijie hadn't truly intended to frame Qin Fang; his proclamation of sickness was nothing more than an excuse not to attend the birthday celebration. But when this matter reached Tang Yonghong, it completely changed in flavor, making it seem as if Qin Fang had been ruthless with Chen Shijie...

Unfortunately, this misunderstanding didn't lead to Qin Fang losing face or being expelled from the banquet hall. Instead, it was Tang Yonghong who left in a rush, while Qin Fang got to know other members of the Tang Family over cheerful conversations. Xu Ling knew then that his plan had failed again...

To make matters worse, Qin Fang came and sat right next to him, and now they were directly confronting each other.

Xu Ling wasn't normally the type to be sarcastically spiteful, but in the battle for Tang Feifei, this scion of a noble family had lost to the grassroots-born Qin Fang, which was something he simply couldn't swallow, making his words take on a bitterly ironic tone. Of course, he was implying that Qin Fang had snatched away Tang Feifei, who rightly belonged to him...

"Oh, I see... I must have mistaken just now, Young Master Xu, you don't look too well today. Could it be because your dear Japanese friend didn't show up last night?"

Qin Fang could be quite sly at times. Nakamura Shun's attempt on his life naturally had a great deal to do with Xu Ling. Unfortunately, Nakamura Shun was too dangerous to be captured alive, he had to be killed. Otherwise, Qin Fang would have known the relationship between him and Xu Ling...

A promising scion entangled with a notorious assassin was not good news. Should this connection become public, the scandal would indeed be enormous!

Especially since Xu Ling had even attempted to hire a hitman, targeting Qin Fang, the future son-in-law of the Tang Family... This was nothing short of a challenge to the Tang Family's authority.

Xu Ling had not thought much of Nakamura Shun's absence all night, but when Qin Fang mentioned it, the implications were entirely different.

Xu Ling's expression changed suddenly...

What Nakamura Shun was up to last night, Xu Ling could guess - even if he hadn't planned to take action straight away, at least he would have scoped out the situation in preparation for the next move.

But Nakamura Shun had also expressed that Qin Fang possessed a strength that even he couldn't help but fear, meaning Qin Fang himself was a formidable master...

Now, Qin Fang had appeared safe and sound at Elder Tang's birthday banquet, while his trusted expert Nakamura Shun hadn't shown up. Qin Fang's words undeniably suggested he had encountered Nakamura Shun last night...

So now Nakamura Shun might already be...

Xu Ling suddenly thought of a terrifying possibility, or rather an outcome he had never considered before - Nakamura Shun might have fallen into Qin Fang's hands or even... be dead!