

Genius 871

Chapter 871 - The Beauty Kills!

...

His father died...

For Shangguan Hao, such news was simply too much to bear!

The only thought in his heart was, "Impossible..." Yet the reality before him seemed to suggest that this "impossible event" had, improbably, already occurred.

Otherwise, Qin Fang wouldn't be able to stand before him so casually...

With a faint smile on his face, Qin Fang thought that with Shangguan Tianling and Lei Peng dead, this Shangguan Hao was nothing to be concerned about... If this had taken place outside, Qin Fang might have worried about him escaping, but here in the park, where few people tread and a towering wall stood nearby, Shangguan Hao wouldn't be able to escape even if he grew wings, let alone with four legs.

Qin Fang took off his coat and tossed it to Li Yuerong!

The poor girl was still half-undressed, having been on the run with sweat on her body, she hadn't been bothered by the lesser clothing. But now that she had stopped and wasn't wearing much, combined with the dried sweat, she could easily fall ill in the cold winter night.

Li Yuerong's face turned red as she caught the coat Qin Fang threw over, immediately turning around to put it on, yet Qin Fang still caught a fleeting glimpse of her fair and smooth back... which caused the fire within Qin Fang, who had just advanced to Level 5 and felt his strength surge, to stir a bit.

However, he had to deal with Shangguan Hao now and didn't have the time to entertain these thoughts, especially since he could return to Ninghai tomorrow, where naturally someone would be available to address these physiological issues.

"To kill or not to kill?"

Qin Fang was somewhat troubled by this thought.

Reason told Qin Fang that Shangguan Hao before him absolutely could not be spared, but killing someone in front of Li Yuerong seemed quite inappropriate.

Shangguan Hao was the son of Shangguan Tianling and also a member of the Heavenly Pool Sect, and one of those who knew about Qin Fang's killing of Shangguan Tianling.

Qin Fang indeed had the means to turn Shangguan Hao into an idiot who knew nothing using Acupuncture Techniques, burying the matter once and for all...

But as the Heavenly Pool Sect had been a major sect for hundreds or even thousands of years with the ability to refine elixirs such as the Blood Replenishing Pill, they naturally had a number of medical and pharmaceutical experts. If they were to cure Shangguan Hao, then Qin Fang's troubles would follow...

Furthermore, when Qin Fang probed Shangguan Hao's mind just now, he discovered that the young man had already begun to believe his father was most likely dead, and was planning to inform the Heavenly Pool Sect of this news while seeking powerful individuals to avenge his father... He even intended to enlist the help of a Level 7 Grandmaster-level Expert.

The strength of the Heavenly Pool Sect was formidable, and as part of the main ruling powers of the sect, the Shangguan Family naturally had very strong experts.

For instance, Shangguan Tenglong, whom Shangguan Hao wished to enlist, was the blood uncle of Shangguan Tianling and Shangguan Hao's great-uncle, a Level 7 Grandmaster...

If taking down Shangguan Tianling had been a close call for Qin Fang, even resorting to using deadly poison to ensure success, then facing Shangguan Tenglong, Qin Fang had no chance of poisoning him, let alone withstanding a single slap from such a Grandmaster-level Expert using the Thousand Skills technique "Move Flowers and Join the Trees"...

Even if the poisoning was successful, it would be futile, as a Master Level Fighter like Shangguan Tianling, under Qin Fang's poison, could only have his strength slowly weakened, with the poison being suppressed by powerful Inner Breath, and a Grandmaster-level Expert's Inner Breath was even more terrifying, capable of unleashing all of their strength shortly after being poisoned...

This was akin to how Old Master Wu, having been poisoned by a Gu, was still able to easily repel Chen Liang... of course, that was partly because Wu suspected Chen Liang had something to do with his disciple, Chen Qingsong, and held back; otherwise, Chen Liang would have died long ago.

Having advanced to Level 5, Qin Fang's strength truly skyrocketed substantially, having become unbeatable below the Grandmaster Level... In previous sparring with Qin Shouxiong, Qin Fang could only win with the support of Baozi after a protracted battle, but now he could win much more easily.

Yet, this did not change the fact that Qin Fang had yet to enter the Grandmaster Level and was still no match for Master Level Fighters, not to mention Grandmaster-level Experts, who were tens or even hundreds of times more fearsome than the former.

"This person cannot be left alive!"

Due to such reasons, Qin Fang finally decided he could not take this risk; Shangguan Hao absolutely had to be eliminated, or else Qin Fang would be faced with endless troubles.

Having made up his mind, Qin Fang's gaze toward Shangguan Hao grew increasingly unfriendly.

"Don't... don't kill me!"

By this time, Shangguan Hao's emotions had stabilized somewhat. Though he still harbored considerable doubt about the news of his father's death, the look in Qin Fang's eyes did not escape him.

Facing death, Shangguan Hao was never one to be tough... To survive, he was willing to do anything.

It was just like the previous time; in order to live, he was willing to do something as perverse as enduring such heavy tastes... His endurance was perhaps even more incredible than that of Ninja Turtle!

"Miss Li, how do you think we should deal with him?"

Qin Fang ignored him and instead turned to inquire of Li Yuerong, who was now wrapped in his coat.

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"Kill him!"

Li Yuerong, although somewhat surprised that Qin Fang actually asked for her opinion, did not refuse. Looking at Shangguan Hao in front of her, groveling and desperate, her heart lacked even the slightest sympathy, and she almost said through clenched teeth.

Women are often thought to overflow with sympathy, but sometimes a woman's heart can harden, becoming even more terrifying than a man's... otherwise there wouldn't be that poem.

The mouth of the green bamboo viper, the tail of the yellow wasp, neither are as venomous as a woman's heart!

This isn't to say that a woman's heart is always the most malicious, but it does show that when a woman's heart turns malicious, it is far more venomous than a green bamboo viper or a wasp's sting.

"Er..."

Li Yuerong's response was indeed beyond Qin Fang's expectation.

Although he had guessed that Li Yuerong loathed Shangguan Hao to the bone, it was still a harmonious society after all, where murder was illegal, yet Li Yuerong still gave such an answer, indeed surprising.

"Mr. Qin, you might not know... this Shangguan Hao has committed countless heinous acts and has harmed many women, even causing the death of several, including a good sister of mine..."

As she spoke, Li Yuerong's face showed both extreme anger and deep sadness, clearly these were things that had happened long ago.

Qin Fang was slightly taken aback, he indeed knew that Shangguan Hao was no good, his evil points had also exceeded a hundred, and he could be considered among the line of villains, but what exactly he had done, Qin Fang was never able to fully ascertain...

But now, it seemed this guy really had caused significant harm and disaster.

Since that was the case...

Qin Fang certainly did not hold back!

Killing such a person would actually increase his justice points, although not by much, but Qin Fang had a very useful skill waiting for his justice points!

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

Indeed, as Qin Fang turned around, Shangguan Hao's face suddenly changed drastically, filled with immense fear and panic. He knew he was no match for Qin Fang, and although he had originally thought that Li Yuerong, being a woman, might not go as far as ending his life, even if hating him deeply, at worst she might castrate him...

As long as he could survive, he could seek revenge later...

But Li Yuerong's words immediately dashed the slight hope that had just risen in him, disappearing without a trace...

And Qin Fang's mere look was enough to make him feel as if he had fallen into an ice cellar, his whole body ice-cold...

"Sorry, I don't have the habit of letting the tiger return to the mountain..."

With a flick of his wrist, a black military spike appeared in his hand. He shifted his step slightly and was instantly in front of Shangguan Hao, reaching out to grab him.

"Don't..."

Seeing Qin Fang charging at him, and the military spike in his hand, Shangguan Hao was filled with utter terror, almost instinctively trying to flee.

But how could his speed compare to Qin Fang? He hadn't even taken a step when Qin Fang had already grabbed his collar, gave a slight tug, and pulled Shangguan Hao back.

At the same time, a silver needle pierced into the back of Shangguan Hao's neck at the spinal column, instantly stiffening his body, rendering him immobile.

With Shangguan Hao's body immobilized, he looked like a statue, stiff, the only movement being a slight twitching of his eyelids, nothing else could move.

By the way, Qin Fang also dislocated Shangguan Hao's jaw, he could only make whimpering noises, incapable of speaking.

"Miss Li, would you like to take revenge with your own hands? Here you go..."

But Qin Fang had an even more ruthless move, pulling Li Yuerong over and placing the military spike in her hands, smiling wickedly as he did so.

Li Yuerong was stunned, as was Shangguan Hao who also froze, neither of them expecting Qin Fang to do such a thing...

"Mr. Qin, this..."

Li Yuerong was dumbfounded, she talked tough and indeed hated Shangguan Hao to the extreme, but to kill someone... she clearly lacked the courage.

After all, she was still a weak woman!

"Miss Li, just imagine, if I hadn't appeared, what would have happened to you..."

Qin Fang merely smiled faintly, asking very calmly.

Li Yuerong was stunned, silenced by Qin Fang's question.

"Yes, if he hadn't appeared, what would have been the outcome? Wanting to die... not succeeding; wanting to flee... but unable to escape, eventually falling into his hands, would definitely lead to disgrace... and knowing Shangguan Hao's character, even if she lost her innocence, if she knew something she shouldn't, then her own life..."

Li Yuerong wasn't foolish, she could quickly deduce the rough details of a situation, if Qin Fang hadn't appeared, she wouldn't have just lost her innocence, her life would certainly have been in danger as well...

Understanding all this, Li Yuerong's heart suddenly hardened, she gripped the military spike in her hand and slowly walked towards Shangguan Hao.

Whimper~~~

Unable to move or speak, Shangguan Hao could only make such sounds, his eyes filled with fear...

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Li Yuerong walked step by step, the tip of the Military Spike inching closer to Shangguan Hao's chest, her wrist trembling non-stop, and her body shaking continuously.

She was just an ordinary girl who hadn't even killed a chicken, and now she was being forced to kill a person... This wasn't just putting someone on the spot; it was outright coercion.

But deep down she felt not even a hint of resentment towards Qin Fang, only boundless gratitude... If Qin Fang hadn't saved her several times, she feared she would have long since perished.

"I... I can't do it!"

However, when the tip of the Military Spike had already reached Shangguan Hao's chest, even piercing a little, Li Yuerong suddenly exclaimed in a highly agitated and dispirited manner.

She truly couldn't do it... She was just an ordinary and gentle woman.

"Then let me help you!"

Just then, Qin Fang's voice came through, and immediately Li Yuerong felt her hand being grasped by a warm, large hand, the heat from which brought her a sense of boundless security.

However, that hand also brought something else—slaughter!

Li Yuerong hadn't even had the chance to react when the hand holding the Military Spike was seized by Qin Fang, and then forcefully pushed forward...

Splat~~

The tip of the Military Spike instantly penetrated Shangguan Hao's heart.

Shangguan Hao's gaze froze and stiffened in an instant, his face contorting violently... The light in his eyes fading gradually.

A slight resistance came from the arm, and at the same time, blood sprayed from the Military Spike's groove far into the distance.

If Qin Fang hadn't been quick to act and had pulled Li Yuerong to one side in the first moment, likely her face would have been splattered extensively.

Nevertheless, a few warm droplets of blood still landed on her face.

"I... I... I killed someone!"

Li Yuerong was completely startled, and it was the droplets of blood on her face that brought her somewhat to her senses, but her gaze remained vacant as she murmured reflexively.

Clearly, this fragile woman was truly terrified.

Qin Fang felt a trace of regret for doing this... He had already killed several people, and his mindset had become fairly calm, but Li Yuerong was just an ordinary girl. Helping her kill someone like this was indeed going too far.

But Qin Fang felt quite helpless...

Lei Peng was killed by him, Shangguan Tianling was killed by him, and Shangguan Hao certainly couldn't be spared either. So, concerning tonight's events, aside from Qin Fang, the only other person who knew was Li Yuerong.

And since Shangguan Tianling was from the Heavenly Pool Sect, even considered a core disciple, his mysterious disappearance surely wouldn't be overlooked, and once the Heavenly Pool Sect started investigating, they would inevitably trace it back to Qin Fang and Li Yuerong.

Qin Fang himself wasn't worried; with the Sect behind him and his special identity, even if the Heavenly Pool Sect had suspicions, they wouldn't dare to do anything to him without solid evidence.

But Li Yuerong was different; she was just a vulnerable woman, and it wouldn't be too difficult to find out the truth of this matter from her...

So, it was exactly for this reason that Qin Fang absolutely could not let Li Yuerong just leave like this.

Kill her?

Qin Fang definitely couldn't do that.

Although he had several lives on his hands, almost each one had a justifiable reason to be killed, not just wanton slaughter of innocents.

It could be said that Li Yuerong had been innocent from beginning to end.

But since she had been implicated, she couldn't stay out of it any longer, so Qin Fang had to keep her by his side, first, to protect her conveniently, and second, for fear she would fall into the hands of the Heavenly Pool Sect, which would be very disadvantageous for him.

There weren't many feasible ways to keep her by his side, and none that were particularly reliable. When Qin Fang last saw the look in Li Yuerong's eyes, the expression that she couldn't wait to kill Shangguan Hao and be done with it, he suddenly thought of this rather insidious tactic.

Of course, it was also an act of sheer helplessness...

Li Yuerong was struck dumb, completely unsure of what to do next.

Qin Fang stepped forward, gently embraced her in his arms, and softly patted her back, offering her a little consolation.

"I... I killed someone!"

Feeling the warmth in Qin Fang's embrace, Li Yuerong's consciousness cleared a bit more, and she kept muttering.

"Yes! What do you plan to do next..."

Qin Fang's voice was very soft, as he knew what Li Yuerong needed at this time was comfort, not more agitation.

"I... I don't know, will I go to prison?"

Li Yuerong shook her head, her mind completely unable to think, just looking helplessly at Qin Fang.

"You won't!"

Qin Fang spoke very affirmatively, "Come back to Ninghai with me! I will protect you..."

"Back to Ninghai..."

Li Yuerong paused slightly, then looked at Qin Fang's face, into his deep eyes, and felt the warmth of his chest. Seemingly calming down a lot, she instinctively nodded, "I'll go back to Ninghai with you..."

Although Qin Fang knew that Li Yuerong's response was under unclear consciousness, he couldn't help but nod slightly and held her tightly in his embrace.

From the moment she nodded, Qin Fang considered her one of his own, and he would do his utmost to ensure her safety, for her sake and for his own...

Li Yuerong didn't know how she got back with Qin Fang; she only felt as if she had been in a dream. In that dream, she had been kidnapped and then rescued, pursued and humiliated by that detestable brute Shangguan Hao, even almost... But in the end, she had personally killed that brute Shangguan Hao, witnessing his blood gushing out from his heart...

Yet when she woke from the dream, she also sighed a little, knowing it was only a dream, and that she couldn't have killed Shangguan Hao, nor did she have the courage to... because that Shangguan Hao was still alive. She had seen him just awhile ago!

Chapter 874 - Return to Ninghai

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Whether she really killed Shangguan Hao or just had a nightmare, Li Yuerong quickly put the matter aside.

For upon waking up from her sleep, it wasn't long before she returned to Ninghai with Qin Fang—back to her hometown.

"I'll have someone handle your transfer procedures, for now, you'll stay here..."

Qin Fang certainly couldn't let Li Yuerong continue to stay in Capital City, outside his control, as it was quite dangerous. It would be more convenient for him to take care of her from Ninghai.

Ninghai was Qin Fang's territory as well, and though he wasn't as widely known as Tang Cheng and Li Rui, some figures with status would still flinch at the mention of his name.

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

Li Yuerong was rather obedient, despite not fully understanding why she was so compliant with Qin Fang's words, but she seemed to feel, from the bottom of her heart, that Qin Fang was her reliance.

"Yunxuan, I'm entrusting her to you..."

Although Li Yuerong had returned with Qin Fang, her identity clearly wasn't suitable for meeting Tang Feifei yet, so Qin Fang had no choice but to leave her temporarily with Chu Yunxuan.

"Don't worry, I'll take good care of her..."

Chu Yunxuan was the woman who understood Qin Fang the best. Even though she wasn't clear about what had happened between Qin Fang and Li Yuerong, just by looking at Li Yuerong's beautiful appearance, she already seemed to understand.

"Sister Rong, don't be so reserved. We're sisters from now on... if anyone dares to bully you, I'll help you beat them up!" And she immediately hit it off with Li Yuerong, glancing at Qin Fang now and then as she spoke.

For his part, Qin Fang could only scratch his nose. He was actually wronged, as he and Li Yuerong really hadn't done anything... even though he had already regarded Li Yuerong as his woman and wouldn't allow her to be with other men.

Whether it was being assertive or domineering, after so much had happened, Qin Fang still had some concerns... As for Li Yuerong, he had understood her intentions for a long time.

"You better hurry back to your main wife, or she might start raging..."

Chu Yunxuan wasn't really picking a fight with Qin Fang, she was just casually joking. She was a very considerate woman and immediately said something like this to Qin Fang.

Not only Chu Yunxuan knew of Qin Fang's return to Ninghai today, but Tang Feifei and the others were also aware. Since he had been delayed by bringing Li Yuerong over, Tang Feifei must have been waiting for a while. Chu Yunxuan did not want to make things difficult for Qin Fang, which is why she made such arrangements.

"You've worked hard!"

Having such a caring beauty as his woman, Qin Fang felt immensely proud and satisfied. Extra words would be meaningless, so he simply expressed his feelings with a heartfelt thanks and left a tender kiss before heading back to Tang Feifei's place.

As for the current research and development center, it had been completely taken over by Chu Yunxuan. From the technical research department to the pharmaceutical research department, everything was progressing in an orderly fashion...

Chu Yunxuan had conducted in-depth research on the Heart Nourishing Pill, analyzed all the components of the medication, and had already found some very cheap alternative drugs. It was estimated that the work would be completed in another month or so...

Regarding the technical research center, Qin Fang had heard last time that Lin Hai and his team had an unexpected discovery while researching the third set of lithium battery technology and recently they were working on perfecting this unexpected technological breakthrough... As for what the specific technology was, Qin Fang hadn't asked more. With Chu Yunxuan paying attention, that was enough for him.

After leaving Chu Yunxuan's place, Qin Fang didn't return to the university town in the south of the city but went to his restaurant, Fang Feixue. He hadn't been there to check in for quite some time.

"President Qin, you're back?"

Just as he arrived at the entrance of Fang Feixue, he encountered Xiao Qing, the manager and a young widow, who was quite startled to see Qin Fang, showing an expression of surprise.

"Yes, I just got back today. How's the restaurant been recently? No one's caused trouble, right..."

Qin Fang nodded. He wasn't a frequent visitor to this establishment, and since his recent trip to Capital City had lasted a bit longer, Xiao Qing's reaction was reasonable.

"No, no... Brother Qiang and the others have been looking out for it, and those guys don't dare to come near our shop! And... thank you!"

Xiao Qing immediately shook her head, indicating that things seemed quite good, but then she abruptly added a thank you which baffled Qin Fang.

"Thank me for what?"

Qin Fang didn't pay much mind and casually asked as he walked.

"Nothing, nothing!"

Xiao Qing paused for a moment, her expression stiffening before quickly shifting back to a smile, dismissing the matter nonchalantly.

"By the way, do you need me to notify President Tang and President Xiao? Or would you rather go find President Su?"

With the boss back, Xiao Qing, although she was the manager, didn't dare to neglect her duties and immediately accompanied Qin Fang inside, politely inquiring.

"No need, they'll be coming over soon... wait, President Su? Which President Su?"

Qin Fang was slightly taken aback. Xiao Qing had been referring to Qin Fang, Tang Feifei, and Xiao Muxue in such a manner since she started working at the shop, and many in the restaurant knew the three were the real bosses, so Qin Fang saw no problem with her address. However, the sudden mention of a President Su was still a bit unsettling for him.

"Huh, Qin Fang! You're back?"

And just at that moment, a woman's voice suddenly reached Qin Fang's ears, sounding very surprised, as if she hadn't expected this at all, and Qin Fang found the voice quite familiar.

"Su Yuan?"

Qin Fang was slightly taken aback and looked toward the direction of the sound. A beauty in a light pink, sexy cheongsam was standing about seven or eight meters in front of him—wasn't that Su Yuan?

"Su Yuan, President Su? Don't tell me you're the 'President Su' she mentioned?"

Seeing Su Yuan in front of him, Qin Fang was indeed quite surprised. He had helped Su Yuan a big favor, but the two of them weren't very well acquainted. Even though he knew she had come to Ninghai, Qin Fang had thought the chances of meeting her again in Ninghai, after their farewell in the Capital City, would not be that great.

He didn't expect not only to see her, but to encounter her in his own restaurant... And then, Qin Fang remembered the title Xiao Qing had used just a moment ago and immediately asked with some confusion.

"What? Is there a problem?"

Su Yuan's eyebrows rose, and a flicker of dissatisfaction and resentment flashed in her eyes.

"Although I know you're the owner of Fang Fei Xue, Feifei and Muxue are as well, right? They're the ones who asked me to come here as the manager! Two against one, the minority must follow the majority..."

Qin Fang knew from the past that this silly woman could make him speechless with her silliness, and now he saw that not much had changed.

"What are you even talking about! I never said you couldn't be the manager..."

Qin Fang chuckled wryly, waved his hand, and opted for surrender. Since she liked staying here, of course, he wouldn't refuse her. After all, they were friends, especially with Su Yuan's close relationship with Tang Feifei, like sisters—he certainly wouldn't want to disappoint them.

"That's more like it..."

Su Yuan then lifted her eyebrows in satisfaction, looking quite happy, but quickly dropped her pretense and moved closer to Qin Fang, saying, "If you want to go somewhere, let me accompany you personally..."

"I think it's better not to, with the outfit you're wearing, it's not suitable for the kitchen..."

Qin Fang shook his head. He had come to check on the business operations of Fang Fei Xue and to see how diligent his apprentices were.

Su Yuan's light pink, sexy cheongsam wouldn't be quite appropriate in the kitchen, with its possibility of picking up cooking odors...

"No problem, I can just change it later!"

But it seemed Qin Fang had underestimated Su Yuan's determination. She took his arm directly, seeming not to care and took the initiative to lead him in the direction of the kitchen.

"Xiao Liu, the dishes for private room four are ready, hurry up and serve them..."

"Zhou Rui, the dishes for private room twelve can be cooked now, be quick..."

"Chef Wen, the order for table nine in the main hall..."

When Qin Fang and Su Yuan reached the kitchen area, before they even entered, they could hear the sounds of cooking and people talking inside. Everything seemed quite busy yet orderly and not at all chaotic, which pleased Qin Fang.

"Ah... President Qin, you're here!"

As Qin Fang arrived, the kitchen staff was busy serving dishes. The server, busy at work, immediately saw Qin Fang and exclaimed in surprise.

"It's okay, carry on with your work..."

Qin Fang waved his hand, not wanting to interrupt their work, and went straight into the kitchen.

"Master!"

"Master!"

"Master... you came!"

"President Qin... it's been a long time since we've seen you!"

Most of the people in the kitchen were old-timers, with nothing much having changed, except for a few new chefs, possibly recruited due to Fang Fei Xue's good business and the need for more hands.

"Yes, it's been a while. I was in the Capital City for business these past few days and just got back today..."

Qin Fang smiled, greeting the familiar chefs one by one.

"So this is our boss, he looks so young..."

"I heard he's only twenty years old... quite capable, starting from scratch to grow such a big business..."

"I wonder if he's got someone, my girl at home..."

"Forget it, don't even think about it... Our little Miss Tang is President Qin's fiancée, so beautiful. Your girl doesn't even come close..."

Those familiar with Qin Fang warmly greeted him, while those who hadn't met him murmured quietly to each other. But overall, everyone was busy and dared not delay their tasks at hand.

Chapter 875 - Various Movements

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"Master..."

Seeing Qin Fang's approach, Wen Yi's delicate face lit up with a brilliant smile as she called out sweetly.

Despite the slight dissatisfaction in her eyes upon seeing Su Yuan warmly and unabashedly clinging to Qin Fang's arm, it didn't affect her enthusiasm towards him.

Wen Yi had already completed her apprenticeship, but she still looked up to and admired Qin Fang just as before...

It is said that a girl changes eighteen times between childhood and womanhood. Although Qin Fang had not seen Wen Yi for just a month or two, he immediately sensed that she had changed, blossoming into someone more graceful and elegant.

If she was a skinny tomboy before, she was now beginning to show a curvaceous figure. Given that few chefs are skinny, several months of nourishment had resulted in Wen Yi putting on weight and becoming fuller, as well as more confident, regaining the vibrant spirit of a young girl.

"Hmm!"

Qin Fang nodded his head. As his first disciple, Wen Yi remained very obedient, which is why he entrusted the training of his other three disciples to her, "How have these three rascals been lately, any slacking?"

"Master, how dare we slack off, we have been busy to death every day..."

"We've been really diligent..."

"Exactly exactly..."

Qin Fang's three disciples immediately voiced their "dissatisfaction," defending themselves vehemently.

"Master, the three junior brothers are very hardworking, and their skills have been getting better and better, I believe it won't take long for them to be ready to graduate..."

Although Wen Yi was actually younger than Sun Liang, Wu Ping, and Zhou Rui, she now held the aura of a senior sister, commanding respect and imposing strictness on her junior brothers.

Even without her having to say it, Qin Fang was already aware of this. As their master, he could check on their skill progression at any time.

"That's good..."

Qin Fang nodded, "You three have been rather disciplined, so work even harder. Once your master confirms that your skills are sufficient to graduate, I will naturally arrange for you to manage a branch."

"Branch?"

Everyone was slightly startled; everyone in Ninghai City knew that Fang Feixue was unique, with no other branches. Suddenly the possibility of a branch store emerged.

Could it be...

"I've just had a look, and Fang Feixue is doing very well. Even this large space is no longer sufficient; it's time to open a branch... However, who gets to manage the branch will depend on your skills, brothers. I must say upfront that I'm not only looking at your cooking skills but also your moral character. Fair competition is fine, but if anyone dares to sabotage others, they will not be let off easily!"

This was also one of the reasons for Qin Fang's visit. Fang Feixue was Qin Fang's only physical business. Although it might not make a lot of money, it still needed to be gradually expanded—it was, after all, a testament to his and Tang Feifei's love.

"Yes, Master!"

"Understood, Master!"

"Disciple will bear it in mind!"

The three disciples immediately responded with due seriousness.

...

At a villa in Ninghai.

"What? Qin Fang is back..."

Li Feng, who was in the midst of his escapade with a woman, suddenly spilled forth, but not out of fright—rather, out of fury.

"Damn it, that bastard... I'm going to kill him!"

Just thinking about the suffering he had endured in the past six months made Li Feng wish he could shoot Qin Fang on the spot... because he was well aware that Qin Fang was the mastermind behind his imprisonment.

Originally, someone like Li Feng, who had been convicted of intentional homicide, would have faced a sentence of life imprisonment, if not the death penalty. However, within just a few months, he had been extricated from prison...

Perhaps this was one of the privileges of the Dragon Country's power elite. The Li Family could wield such influence in the political sphere of Jiangnan Province, and although they had been caught off guard by the Tang Family and failed to protect Li Feng initially, now that some time had passed, they had managed to get him out using the common tactic of medical parole.

Upon release, Li Feng's first thought was to seek revenge on Qin Fang. However, he didn't get a chance to act; first, because his older brother Li Rui wouldn't allow it, and second, because Qin Fang had gone to Capital City.

But who was Li Feng? As the brother of the King of Ninghai Underground, he obviously couldn't mobilize a large force, but it was no problem to find some underlings to gather intelligence. Knowing that Fang Feixue belonged to Qin Fang, he had people keep watch around the restaurant so that he'd be notified immediately upon Qin Fang's appearance.

And now, just as Qin Fang showed up at Fang Feixue, Li Feng had been informed!

"Call Black Panther over..."

Li Feng harboured a deep-seated hatred for Qin Fang. Not only had Qin framed him and sent him to prison, causing him great embarrassment, but even Tang Feifei, whom he had always been in pursuit of, had become Qin Fang's fiancée, further fueling Li Feng's resentment.

However, after a stint in prison, which was a punishing experience, Li Feng had matured a bit. He was no longer the brainless student he once was, having developed a certain level of cunning in his heart.

Black Panther was a prisoner Li Feng had met in prison, also a murderer, but not the 'single homicide' kind of ordinary murderer that Li Feng was. He was a serious offender, with his victims almost exclusively suffering brutal deaths.

Such a person would have definitely faced immediate execution upon sentencing, but it just so happened that Li Feng crossed paths with him. Li Rui had already taken care of the prison on his behalf, and seeing that Li Feng could use him, he figured out a way to keep Black Panther alive... From that day on, Black Panther followed Li Feng.

Even when Li Feng was released on medical parole, he conveniently took Black Panther with him.

"Young Master Feng, you were looking for me?"

Before long, Black Panther arrived. He was an ordinary-looking man who exuded an aura of danger, the kind that made one's heart skip a beat with just one glance.

If the knife-throwing Pi San that Li Feng had found was barely considered a minor expert, then Black Panther could definitely take out several Pi Sans in a single breath.

"Indeed! There's something I need your help with..."

Li Feng nodded. His status in the Li Family couldn't compare to his older brother Li Rui, and he had limited access to skilled fighters. Knowing that Qin Fang had some skills, at least enough to take down Pi San, he wouldn't miss out on this chance for revenge now that he had a master like Black Panther at his disposal, right?

After all, Black Panther was the kind of ferocious character who killed as if life were mere grass. Killing one more person was no big deal...

"Young Master Feng, please give your orders..."

Black Panther bowed his head, eyes gleaming with intensity. Despite not thinking highly of a privileged young master like Li Feng, Black Panther dared not offend him due to Li Feng's significant connections and the fact that, without Li Feng's help, he would have been executed by now instead of being out drinking and womanizing.

Aware of this dynamic, he maintained a very submissive posture.

"He's back... I don't want to see him again!"

Li Feng cut straight to the point... Although he did not name "him," he knew Black Panther would understand.

Back in prison, Li Feng had often expressed his jealousy of Qin Fang. Having followed him closely, Black Panther was well aware.

"Understood, Young Master Feng. You just wait for my good news..."

Black Panther nodded, accepted the task, and left immediately to make his preparations.

...

"Young Master Rui, he's returned..."

The news of Qin Fang's return was not only known to Li Feng. It quickly spread to many people, and as the overlord of Ninghai's underground world, Li Rui found out very soon as well.

"Does Young Master Feng know about it?"

Li Rui was relatively calm, merely inquiring about Li Feng's situation.

"He should know. He called for Black Panther right away, and then Black Panther immediately left the villa... Young Master Rui, should we stop them?"

The one reporting was a stooped, aged old man beside Li Rui. He spoke slowly, as if with great effort, yet no one dared to underestimate his presence.

"No need... This Black Panther has some capability. Let him go test the depths of that man! Uncle Chang, just keep a slight watch on him and, if necessary, cover up for Xiaofeng..."

Li Rui shook his head, not overly concerned, but he always liked to handle things cleanly, rarely leaving loose ends, and naturally did not want Black Panther to be linked back to Li Feng or himself.

"Understood..."

Uncle Chang nodded then slipped back into the shadows.

...

"He really didn't die... It seems I really underestimated him!"

It wasn't just the Li Feng and Li Rui brothers who were paying close attention to Qin Fang's whereabouts in Ninghai; Chen Weilian, the young master of the Hanhai Group, also took it very seriously.

His expression turned distinctly unnatural when he heard that Qin Fang had returned.

He thought he had acted discreetly, but little did he know that Qin Fang was already aware that the Remnant Wolf Mercenary Corps had been sent after him. However, the outcome had been disappointing for Chen Weilian.

None of the Remnant Wolf Mercenary Corps members survived the ordeal, all disappearing... It was said there was a severe landslide that night, leading to many deaths...

But Chen Weilian was no fool. Capital City was nothing like Yungui or Xishu provinces, and there had been no rain or snow – how could a landslide occur? Moreover, many had heard the sounds of explosions from the mountain. Given the orders he had issued, the Remnant Wolf Mercenary Corps must have encountered fierce resistance... and since none came back, the result was self-evident.

Chapter 876 - Midnight Murderous Intent

...

In fact, besides those enemies with grudges against Qin Fang, there were quite a few people who knew of Qin Fang's return... such as Qin Fang's women, Xiao Nan, and several roommates. Of course, Qin Fang's brother-in-law, Tang Cheng, couldn't be missed.

However, unlike Qin Fang's enemies who closely monitored the news, they didn't pay such tight attention. Qin Fang would naturally get in touch with them; it was only a matter of time.

Qin Fang sat at Fang Feixue for a while, reviewing its recent development and also discussing the matter of branch stores with Su Yuan.

Although Su Yuan had only arrived a few days before Qin Fang, her personal ability was quite strong. She now had a very clear understanding of the operation of Fang Feixue, even earning Xiao Qing's high praise.

This did take Qin Fang by surprise. After asking, he found out that Su Yuan had been an assistant manager at a company before coming to the capital to ask for funds. Although it was a small company, it had trained her quite well.

Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue quickly came over from the university town. Wen Yan was taking an exam and didn't come, but Qin Fang was still very happy and had a cheerful meal with them...

Originally, Qin Fang wanted to spend more time with Tang Feifei, but Secretary Tang had called her back to the provincial committee compound. In the end, they had to reluctantly part ways. However, Xiao Muxue was very happy; she gave Qin Fang a "you know what I mean" look and directly booked a room at a nearby hotel.

Qin Fang was well aware of what was likely to happen that night, and he himself had been holding back for quite some days, longing to extinguish some fire...

"It looks like I should buy an apartment. Otherwise, always staying in hotels is such a hassle..."

Qin Fang mumbled to himself in his heart. His net worth wasn't low now, with an idle hundred million recently in his hands. Buying an apartment would be much more convenient for certain matters, and more secretive...

However, he still needed to discuss this with Tang Feifei and let the girls make the decision. Qin Fang would be responsible for the money.

After temporarily settling Xiao Muxue at the hotel, Qin Fang drove alone to his secret base... Back in Ninghai, he could finally make good use of his Audi.

But other than driving, the rather large trunk of the car now stored quite a lot of things... Some things were always inappropriate to keep in the Props Box, occupying too much space.

Speaking of the secret base, it was actually the security company that Qin Fang had acquired. The place had been completely renewed, from the premises to the staff, and even all kinds of facilities had been newly purchased. It had gone from bird guns to cannons...

"Damn, Young Master Qin, did you rob an armory?"

When Chen Da and the others saw the weapons Qin Fang brought back, their eyes nearly popped out, all filled with disbelief. These weren't the ordinary Type 64 pistols that small gangs could get their hands on but rather modified MP5 submachine guns used by special forces... They even saw a heavy sniper rifle, which was no small matter!

"Not exactly, they were just lucky captures, battle spoils, that's all..."

Qin Fang smiled. He knew that suddenly coming into possession of so many weapons was indeed astonishing, but he didn't hide it, and said with a chuckle.

"What a pity, I was in a hurry back then, otherwise I could have got even more..."

Qin Fang's words were no bluff. If it hadn't been for encountering that ferocious deputy regimental leader, he wouldn't have been forced to use heavy weapons like grenades.

Moreover, with Chu Qianqian getting shot by accident, Qin Fang had to save her life and had no time to thoroughly loot each corpse for spoils, so, in the end, he only brought back so much.

"Awesome..."

Chen Da and the others were also amazed. They were ex-military, mostly from special forces, and after leaving the army, they seldom touched guns.

Even if they did touch one occasionally, it was just a regular pistol. How could they possibly get their hands on something like the MP5 submachine gun, let alone this heavy sniper...?

"Brother Da, take care of these weapons and be aware of the impact. After all, weapons control is enforced in Dragon Country, and these guns are not just for playing with..."

These guns naturally belonged at the secret base, which also served to increase Chen Da and his team's firepower. However, the impact had to be considered. If it leaked out, it would be quite troublesome.

"Don't worry, Young Master Qin, we understand..."

Chen Da nodded. Everyone was very clear that if these weapons were to leak out, it wouldn't just trouble Qin Fang, they would be in serious trouble as well.

These weapons were enough to arm a seven or eight-man special forces squad. Given their combat abilities, such a squad would be sufficient to rob a bank or a bank cash transport...

"Hmm..."

Qin Fang knew Chen Da's personality. Since he said so, he definitely wouldn't mess around. "By the way, what's the status of Cao Chun? Any news?"

However, Qin Fang's visit to deliver this batch of weapons was one aspect, and he was also looking for the person who had escaped... When Cao Chun and Song Gang came to deal with him, Song Gang died under his, Qin Fang's, gunfire, but the bomb madman Cao Chun had been missing ever since.

Chapter 877 - Midnight Murderous Intent_2

Qin Fang had been away from Ninghai and gone to Capital City, so even though Cao Chun had wanted to harm him, there'd been no opportunity. But now that he returned, Li Rui must have already known, and it's possible that Cao Chun might suddenly emerge...

Face to face, Qin Fang could easily annihilate Cao Chun hundreds of times over, but the problem was the guy was a bomb madman. If one day he suddenly appeared near Qin Fang and threw a bomb, with the power of the bombs he crafted, even Qin Fang's Life Points, defense, and the added defense of the Celestial Silkworm Golden Armor wouldn't be enough to withstand the blast...

It was because of this that Qin Fang could not help but be wary of Cao Chun...

"Li Rui's men protect Cao Chun very well. We found some clues a few times, but before we could locate him, the kid had already been moved..."

Chen Da said helplessly as he shook his head.

Although they were all special forces soldiers, skilled in reconnaissance and tracking, their numbers were too small. They couldn't compare to Li Rui's forces. The slightest slip could be detected by Li Rui's men, who would then immediately move Cao Chun away...

Given Cao Chun's dangerousness, Chen Da and the others did not dare to use too aggressive methods. If pushed into a corner, that madman Cao Chun could really do anything...

Upon hearing this, Qin Fang also frowned. Cao Chun posed a significant risk to him and had to be eliminated as soon as possible.

"Brother Da, you guys might have to put in a bit more effort recently. I believe Cao Chun will come looking for me soon..."

However, Qin Fang was not without a plan. Luring the serpent out of its hole was also a clever move. Given the years of relationship between Cao Chun and Song Gang, Cao Chun would certainly be determined to kill Qin Fang. Previously, in Qin Fang's absence, Cao Chun would naturally follow Li Rui's arrangements, but now that Qin Fang was back, it was not so certain...

As long as Qin Fang remained on guard, the moment Cao Chun showed up, he would be able to detect his presence and deal with him accordingly.

Qin Fang's guess was not unfounded; he was nearly certain of it. However, it was still difficult to predict when Cao Chun would appear.

Perhaps he would appear immediately, maybe he would act after three to five days, or possibly there would be no movement even after ten days to half a month...

No matter which possibility, Qin Fang dared not let his guard down.

After chatting with Chen Da for a while longer, Qin Fang then left the secret base by car, ready to go to the hotel and have a good time with Xiao Muxue, finally releasing the pent-up frustration he had been harboring for many days.

When he arrived at the hotel, Xiao Muxue had already bathed and was waiting for him. Qin Fang had been holding back for a long time, and so had Xiao Muxue. A passionate man and a resentful woman, like tinder meeting a blaze, they ignited immediately and uncontrollably...

The battle lasted from nine or ten at night until three in the morning, bringing Xiao Muxue to joyful peaks countless times before Qin Fang finally and contentedly released his most vital essence inside her...

After being nurtured by the Joyous Zen Technique, Qin Fang's essence was like elixirs and miraculous medicines, possessing a very powerful replenishing effect on a woman's body...

If used as a facial mask, it would be even more nourishing than the best skin care products!

However, this was quite wasteful as the essence and energy contained within would evaporate. When applied to the face, only a small part could be absorbed, with most of it evaporating wastefully...

The best way to absorb it was to consume it with that enticing mouth. Only through digestion and absorption could it have the greatest nourishing effect...

This is exactly how Chu Yunxuan usually absorbed it directly!

Xiao Muxue was still somewhat shy, only willing to let Qin Fang release in the depths of her peach garden to nourish her Yin Qi, which also had a good effect, making her even more of a woman... But the effect was slightly lacking as Xiao Muxue did not practice the Joyous Zen Technique.

"Qin Fang, please spare me. Go find Yunxuan," Xiao Muxue pleaded.

After several hours of exertion, Qin Fang had released some of his fire, but he was no longer at Level 4. He had finally stepped into Level 5, with substantial improvement in his strength and overwhelming Inner Breath. Thus his vigor was much stronger than that of a typical Martial Artist.

Although Xiao Muxue was also long-parched, even fighting with all her might, she could only manage to make Qin Fang release once.

And when Qin Fang turned over to enter the cave again, Xiao Muxue immediately cried out for mercy, her entire body limp and powerless, completely unable to withstand any more tossing around.

"Huh? How do you know about Sister Yunxuan?"

However, when Qin Fang heard Xiao Muxue mention Sister Yunxuan, his whole body stiffened slightly, and his face was filled with surprise.

"Actually, we've known for a long time, it was Feifei who told me..."

It was only then that Xiao Muxue realized she had misspoken, but she still wouldn't lie to Qin Fang and immediately told him the truth.

Qin Fang's head buzzed at her words, and a bitter smile spread across his lips. He clearly hadn't expected that Tang Feifei already knew so much and had kept quiet all this time, obviously hoping that Qin Fang would come clean to her on his own...

"Sigh, am I not a jerk?"

Qin Fang sighed softly and felt that he was indeed an unforgivable jerk. He already had a girlfriend like Tang Feifei, who was understanding, gentle, and kind, yet he continued to provoke one girl after another...

"Actually, Feifei has never blamed you; she's a very good person. She's not as narrow-minded as you think. You really should have told her sooner..."

Despite being weak all over, as a loyal supporter of his main wife, Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue naturally stood on Tang Feifei's side.

"Mhm!"

Qin Fang nodded, his mood a bit heavy.

"You rest for a while, I'm going to go out for a walk..."

He knew Xiao Muxue was right, but he couldn't immediately let go of his feelings. After coaxing Xiao Muxue to sleep, Qin Fang took a shower, dressed, and went out for a walk alone.

It was already three or four in the morning, when most people were deep in sleep. Even the bustling metropolis of Ninghai had quieted down a lot by this time.

Qin Fang walked alone on the deserted streets, the occasional car passing by him without paying much attention.

The chill of the early morning in winter was very biting, and the whistling cold wind would make anyone shiver, even if they were wearing a down jacket. But Qin Fang was only wearing a thin coat over a sweater, not particularly thick, yet he seemed to feel no cold at all.

He walked on and on, not knowing how long or far he had gone until he realized that there was a tunnel not far ahead of him.

"Er... I've come this far?"

Seeing the tunnel cut through the mountain, Qin Fang knew where he was. He had indeed walked quite a distance; this area was more remote, and going back to the hotel would likely require a long wait even for a taxi.

"Huh..."

Just then, he noticed a car slowly approaching from a distance. It wasn't moving very fast, and Qin Fang's first thought was to negotiate with the driver about catching a lift.

Even though he was well aware that in such a remote place and at this late hour, most people wouldn't let a stranger get in their car, Qin Fang didn't fancy another hour's walk back.

However, as the car got closer, Qin Fang noticed something unusual, which instantly put him on alert...

Because before he could see the driver's face clearly in the car, he first noticed a sudden blinding red light...

And almost the moment Qin Fang saw this burst of red light flare up, the headlights of the car also flashed intensely, blinding his vision. Qin Fang clearly heard the sound of the tires screeching from acceleration... and the car charged towards him at a remarkably swift speed!

Chapter 878 - Only Tough Men Can Withstand My Torture~~

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This sudden turn of events was extremely abrupt, and even though Qin Fang had already sensed the other party's malicious intent, he hadn't expected them to be so decisive.

The other party's car wasn't far from Qin Fang, and Qin Fang hadn't been very cautious, not until he saw the red light on the other person and suddenly became alert.

At that moment, the car's speed suddenly burst forth, and Qin Fang only had time to make a leaping gesture into the air, as it was already too late to jump to the side...

Hu hu hu~~~

The car rushed towards Qin Fang at an extremely high speed, absolutely comparable to the "seventy miles per hour" of the past, even faster...

But Qin Fang wasn't very panicked, and even though there was no possibility of dodging, he still burst forth with his strongest strength and leaped up, flying into mid-air.

Squeak~~

The car sped past where Qin Fang had been standing, but there were no signs of it hitting anyone, causing a slight stun to the person inside the car.

Thud!!!

However, just as the person in the car was briefly stunned, he suddenly heard a very intense crashing sound from the roof, and a very severe dent appeared on it.

If he hadn't been sitting in the driver's seat, the position of the dent could have narrowly missed his head...

"My God!"

Although he had seen Qin Fang leap up just as he was about to hit him, and he was an experienced driver, he had never seen anyone dodge an impact at such a close distance with such high speed...

But the deep dent on the roof had already explained everything...

"Damn it, if I can't kill you by hitting you, I'll kill you by making you fall..."

However, this driver was not of simple stock, having missed hitting Qin Fang, he was certain that Qin Fang must now be on the roof of the car. He immediately grew ruthless, and under such high-speed conditions, he suddenly braked hard...

As almost everyone knows, sudden braking is a very dangerous thing, even those sitting inside the car, if they aren't buckled in, could be thrown out by the strong inertia, let alone standing on a roof with absolutely nothing to hold onto...

Whoosh~~

Sure enough, his sudden braking not only caused him considerable pain due to the inertia, but Qin Fang atop the roof couldn't keep his balance at all and was thrown out like a cannonball, flying ten to twenty meters away and crashing heavily on the mountainside at the edge of the tunnel.

The stones on the mountainside were violently shaken by Qin Fang's impact, rustling as they fell down, just the sound made one imagine the heaviness of the fall!

"I don't believe you're not dead yet..."

The driver shook his neck, he himself was not feeling too well, but seeing the outcome of Qin Fang, his face showed a somewhat smug expression.

Looking around, silent and empty, this place didn't attract many people to begin with, let alone at this deep hour of the night, and only the faint light of his car's headlights flickered in the distance.

To confirm that Qin Fang had indeed died, or at least was fatally wounded, the driver stepped out from the car, holding a cold dagger, and cautiously walked towards where Qin Fang had fallen.

Although he felt that Qin Fang almost certainly had no chance of fighting back, dead or critically injured, he was still extremely cautious, not daring to be careless...

At the foot of the mountain, that shadow was still lying there, motionless, seemingly having no life left in it at all.

"Really dead?"

Because of the darkness and the considerable distance, the car light's effect was already very weak, and he couldn't clearly see whether Qin Fang was bleeding or dead; just as Qin Fang remained motionless, he couldn't help but be somewhat puzzled.

But the always cautious man, holding the dagger, slowly approached, still not seeing any movement from Qin Fang lying on the ground, he slightly relaxed internally.

"Whether you are really dead or just pretending, I won't easily believe it without verifying myself..."

But as someone who dared to kill and was so viciously aggressive, it's impossible he lacked a basic sense of alertness. Almost as soon as he approached "Qin Fang's body", he suddenly halted his footsteps, a chill flashed in his eyes, and his hand quickly thrust the dagger towards Qin Fang's back with ferocity.

Regardless of whether Qin Fang was truly dead or just pretending, he needed to confirm that the target was dead before he ceased his action...

And this was also his method of testing; if Qin Fang was really dead, adding another stab wouldn't make much difference, but if he wasn't, it would indeed send him on his way!

"How ruthless..."

Just as the dagger was about to pierce into Qin Fang's back, an icy voice suddenly reached his ears, and immediately he felt as if his wrist was clamped by something as hard as steel, making him unable to move at all...

Hearing this voice, feeling the restraint and pain in his wrist, the man's expression drastically changed, and his eyes also burst out with an intimidating brilliance.

But he didn't panic; instead, his wrist vibrated sharply, and the hand Qin Fang was holding seemed to become as flexible as a snake, becoming bonelessly soft, while his dagger quickly sliced towards Qin Fang's wrist...

"Hmm..."

Qin Fang was slightly startled, having not expected this person to have such a technique.

His wrist seemed completely boneless and extraordinarily flexible. The dagger in his hand was equally agile. This sudden attack made Qin Fang's face change slightly; if he didn't make any adjustments, that dagger would certainly sever the meridians in his wrist...

"Indeed, he has some skills!"

Feeling the icy chill of the swiftly approaching dagger, a fierce light flashed through Qin Fang's eyes as he quietly praised.

However, though the assassin indeed was somewhat skilled, he wasn't enough to garner much of Qin Fang's attention. With merely Level 3 strength, Qin Fang could kill him dozens of times over with a single slap.

But Qin Fang didn't rush to act. Having just returned to Ninghai, the assassins sent by his enemies had already come knocking, and if he didn't figure out their background, even thinking about striking back with a slap would be strenuous.

Smack~~

The opponent's wrist was incredibly flexible and very fast.

However, compared to Qin Fang, he was much weaker. With just a slight tremor of his wrist, Qin Fang made the man feel as though his wrist had suddenly broken, and an extremely intense, unbearable pain nearly made him unable to grip the dagger in his hand.

Qin Fang's strength was immense, definitely beyond what the man in front of him could resist. With just a little more force, the man's hand involuntarily loosened, and the dagger helplessly fell.

Yet, Qin Fang subtly moved his foot, and the dagger rebounded into the air, then began to fall with the tip pointing downward...

The man's face changed drastically in an instant, almost desperately trying to struggle, because the tip was falling directly towards his splayed open palm...

If he didn't dodge, the dagger would definitely pierce through his palm... at the very least, it would make a significant wound!

"You... let go of me!"

Faced with this situation, the man was indeed anxious. Who would willingly watch as a knife pierced through their palm? Only an idiot would like to watch that happen.

Qin Fang merely smiled and remained silent as the dagger continued to fall!

Thud~~

Despite the dagger seeming featherlight, as if it possessed no force at all, almost like it could only break the skin, the reality as it plunged in told another drastically wrong guess...

The dagger felt as if it were wielded by a mighty warrior, fiercely stabbing down towards his palm, piercing through as if it were piercing through soft tofu...

"Ah..."

The damage was just too severe; even though this person had been heavily tormented, when such agony struck, he couldn't help but scream out.

In this quiet night, at such a secluded location, he had picked an excellent place for murder, only to find out that he was the first to be unfortunate.

Blood spurted from his palm, with the dagger still stuck in the center, and Qin Fang had no intention of removing it...

"Who sent you..."

Looking at the man's pale face, Qin Fang asked calmly, as if the matter didn't relate to him at all.

"You... just kill me!"

Despite the severe pain, the man was rather stubborn, biting his teeth and refusing to cooperate, opting instead to close his eyes and seek death.

"Are you sure you want to die?"

Qin Fang didn't bother with him, and merely asked indifferently.

"Hmm..."

The man was resilient, still grasped by Qin Fang, his palm pain was eased somewhat by this grip.

But at the same time, he was a wise man, knowing what could be said and what couldn't... That's why he was so tough against Qin Fang.

"I like tough guys..."

Qin Fang smiled and spoke as if he admired him, causing the man to be slightly surprised, not quite understanding the meaning behind Qin Fang's words.

"Only a tough guy can endure my torment..."

But the following phrase spoken by Qin Fang calmly yet filled with chilling murderous intent, seemed to throw him into an eternally unmelting ice cave, making his body almost instantly rigid.

If, before this moment, he wouldn't have believed what Qin Fang just said, now... he had a vague feeling that what Qin Fang was about to do to him was far beyond his imagination.

Chapter 879 - Entering the Tiger's Den

...

"Before I make a move, I'll give you one more chance, speak..."

The tone remained as calm as ever, but such calm was overflowing with a murderous intent, and no one could guarantee that Qin Fang would not kill him on the spot.

Towards his enemies, especially those who went out of their way to kill him, he had never shown mercy, not even to grandmaster-level experts like Shangguan Tianling.

"I..."

This time, the assassin was no longer so tough, or perhaps he was at least intimidated by Qin Fang, especially since Qin Fang, right in front of him, slowly and methodically pulled the dagger that was stuck in his palm...

Oh, wrong...

This was not really pulling out, because after pulling out about one-third, he thrust it back in!

"Ah..."

Another agonizing scream ensued.

The same wound, hurting once was already painful, but pulling out a bit and then reinserting it, although it wouldn't cause a second, more severe wound, meant that the slightly closing wound in that arm would be cut again...

"You... devil!"

The assassin was genuinely scared, his whole body trembling. Although only his hand was wounded, he felt as if his heart was in excruciating pain.

Every finger is connected to the heart!

This is mainly because certain nerves and meridians in the ten fingers are connected to the heart meridian, so injuring a finger sometimes truly pains the heart.

Qin Fang was an expert in acupuncture and knew much about meridians and acupoints, and even now, as he was messing with a palm instead of ten fingers, he could freely control it.

"Who I am doesn't matter; I just need to know who you are and who sent you..."

Qin Fang seemed very indifferent, not caring how the other party cursed or hated him internally, his facial expression barely changed, as if what he was currently playing with wasn't a wounded hand but an ordinary model.

Meanwhile, Qin Fang's hands were not idle, as he began fiddling with the dagger again... This time, he didn't pull it out and reinsert it, but started digging inside the palm, seemingly wanting to gouge out all the flesh on his hand!

There isn't much flesh on the palm to begin with, and with most of the finger bones closely knit together, a slight movement could touch the bones... The dagger scraping against the bones was an extremely uncomfortable sensation, ticklish, itchy, numbing, but what followed was immeasurable pain...

"I... I... I'll talk!"

This time, the assassin was utterly broken, unable to muster any defiance, his tears almost squeezed out by pain, he pleaded weakly with Qin Fang.

"Sorry, you're too late..."

Just as he was about to divulge everything he knew, Qin Fang simply pulled out the dagger and said indifferently.

"Too late?"

The assassin was slightly stunned, his eyes filled with confusion, thinking he hadn't said anything yet, how could it be too late?

Unfortunately, what greeted him wasn't Qin Fang's answer but a hand-chop to the back of his neck, and he only felt darkness before him, immediately passing out...

"Black Panther..."

After knocking this man out, Qin Fang single-handedly lifted him, immediately walking towards a car parked not far away, muttering something oddly.

Qin Fang already knew all about this assassin's background, but this person was under the command of a black boss named Black Panther, a name Qin Fang didn't recognize, let alone have any feud with...

"Could it be Li Rui's man?"

A doubt arose in Qin Fang's mind, but he quickly dismissed it.

Li Rui was no fool; if he wanted to use such tactics, he would have acted much earlier rather than choose this moment.

Undeniably, Li Rui was indeed the overlord of the Ninghai Underground, with almost all the big and small gangs under his covert control, except for the south of the city, which was dominated by Tiger.

However, not all these gangs controlled by Li Rui completely followed his orders; at least, there were still some black bosses who fancied becoming the next underground overlord like Li Rui.

There isn't much information about this Black Panther; this assassin sent to kill Qin only knew that Black Panther had recently been released from prison and had gathered a bunch of desperate men to form the current small gang...

"Could it be that killing me was just for fame and fortune?"

Qin Fang frowned, somewhat puzzled by such a possibility.

He had climbed to his position leveraging Li Rui's reputation, and basically, anyone in Ninghai City who was doing well had likely heard of Qin Fang, thus no one dared to provoke him.

But for someone like Black Panther, being embedded in the underworld, it was certainly a great feat to use Qin Fang's death to gain fame, and at the same time to earn merit with Li Rui, killing two birds with one stone. Of course, he would take this risk...

"Looks like I really need to meet this Black Panther..."

Some people get involved in the underworld wanting to make a name for themselves quickly, which Qin Fang could understand. But using his life for their rise to fame, Qin Fang had to weigh Black Panther's capabilities.

Being assassinated out of nowhere was definitely not something Qin Fang enjoyed... Considering he had an identity—that of the future King of Assassins—if he were assassinated, it would bring great shame to his title of King of Assassins.

Of course, if he were really killed, there would no longer be any need to worry about losing face.

Having thrown the assassin into the trunk, Qin Fang immediately transformed into the appearance of the assassin and drove the car to the address of Black Panther he had gotten from the assassin.

Black Panther's living conditions were indeed not bad, having just gotten out of prison and so quickly moving into a villa, something even Qin Fang, a millionaire, had not yet enjoyed.

The villa looked pricey, situated in a prime location in Ninghai, reportedly each priced no less than thirty million, clearly not affordable for ordinary people.

"Tsk, tsk, it seems the underworld has its perks..."

Seeing such a villa, Qin Fang couldn't help but smirk... Of course, he was just griping casually and didn't take it too seriously.

"Hello, Brother Niu..."

The car stopped in front of the villa, and two lackeys at the gate, immediately rushing to greet Qin Fang seated in the car, swiftly opened the gate to let Qin Fang's car in.

"Is Brother Bao around? I have important matters to discuss with him..."

After parking the car, Qin Fang immediately asked a lackey nearby.

The lackey appeared slightly perplexed but nodded nonetheless, "Brother Bao is upstairs, Brother Niu, you can go up yourself..."

Qin Fang didn't linger on the conversation, and promptly strode into the villa.

It was nearly five in the morning, already dawn. Yet, in such a winter night, most were still deep in sleep.

However, Qin Fang knew from the assassin that Black Panther had been waiting for his news all night and therefore hadn't slept...

There weren't many people inside the villa, at least as Qin Fang passed through the first floor, he saw no one and directly headed upstairs.

Just as he had reached the second floor, he heard from a nearby room the enthralling sounds of a woman, evidently, a man and woman were engaged in an intense battle...

Qin Fang also grimaced slightly, no wonder the lackey downstairs had that expression earlier, he had evidently come at an inconvenient time.

There wasn't anyone else on the second floor, only the sounds of the couple in the room. Qin Fang couldn't very well barge in, so he stood at the door for a moment.

Fortunately, just as he stopped, sounds of a man's heavy breathing and a woman's screams emerged from inside—apparently, the battle had timely ended.

Knock, knock, knock, knock~~

Only then did Qin Fang knock on the door and said, "Brother Bao, it's me..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang's voice, sounds of rustling clothes came from inside, and within about a minute, a tough-looking man wearing a bathrobe came out from the room.

This man was naturally Black Panther. Qin Fang took a good look at him; ultimately he seemed unfamiliar, as he had no strong impression of this man and didn't recognize him at all.

"Da Niu, didn't I tell you to keep an eye on that kid? Why are you back?"

However, as Qin Fang pondered why Black Panther wanted to kill Qin Fang, Black Panther frowned and chided, clearly displeased with Da Niu for not following orders.

"Brother Bao, I've accomplished the task, that kid was hit to death by me..."

Qin Fang instantly responded, his eyes shifting.

This was indeed the case, except the kid failed to kill Qin Fang.

"Hm? Are you serious?"

Upon hearing this, Black Panther was momentarily stunned, his eyes blazing intensely as he stared at Qin Fang and questioned sharply.

"Of course, it's true! I was afraid he wasn't completely dead, so I stabbed his heart again. You know the place, Fu Gui Mountain, nobody goes there at midnight, even if someone discovered him, it's impossible to save him..."

Qin Fang spoke with an air of confidence, nearly guaranteeing it by patting his chest!

"But honestly, that kid was really tough, he actually jumped onto the roof of my car creating a huge dent, I had to slam the brakes to throw him off, knocking him into the cliffside, that's how I killed him..."

In order to win Black Panther's trust, Qin Fang had to show a bit of truth, which could be verified just by looking at the car parked downstairs.

Black Panther listened to Qin Fang's words, not completely convinced, but Qin Fang detailed it convincingly, and it didn't seem like he was lying. Most importantly, Da Niu was Black Panther's most trusted subordinate, definitely not someone who would betray him.

Chapter 880 - The Stratagem of Sowing Discord

...

"Are you sure that kid is really dead?"

However, Black Panther still asked again as usual because the matter was of great importance. If anything went wrong, he wouldn't be able to bear the responsibility.

"If it hadn't been so dark there, I would have taken a photo to bring back..."

Qin Fang had already sensed that Black Panther believed him, and immediately added emphatically. Of course, Qin Fang also took the opportunity to ask, "Brother Bao, just how big is our grudge against this kid, that we must kill him?"

Da Niu, who had been knocked unconscious by Qin Fang, although also quite cautious and careful, Qin Fang knew very well that he had a very good relationship with Black Panther, almost like real brothers, and they usually wouldn't keep secrets from each other. Yet, concerning the matter of killing Qin Fang, Da Niu knew very little...

"Hmm?"

Upon hearing this, Black Panther's expression turned icy cold as he glared fiercely at Qin Fang, sternly reprimanded, "Don't ask what you shouldn't!"

But Qin Fang could tell, there wasn't much blame in Black Panther's words, it seemed he just didn't want to involve Da Niu.

Yet Da Niu had already been sent out to assassinate Qin Fang, not involving him was already difficult... Although it was Da Niu's own decision to take action, Black Panther was merely supposed to keep an eye on the situation, but he was quite pleased that Da Niu managed to possibly succeed.

"Yes, Brother Bao..."

Qin Fang still pretended to be Da Niu, very obediently shrinking his neck, he agreed.

However, Black Panther no longer paid attention to him and took out his phone to make a call. Qin Fang casually glanced and roughly memorized the number.

The call was quickly connected. Black Panther looked over at Qin Fang, who obediently turned his head aside, pretending he hadn't seen anything.

"Young Master Feng, the task is done..."

The call connected, Qin Fang couldn't hear what the person on the other end of the phone said, but this sudden sentence from Black Panther made Qin Fang's brows furrow.

Young Master Feng?

Hearing this title, Qin Fang's heart stirred, and almost instantly he thought of a person.

It was Qin Fang's enemy, who would not be quick to rest until he had killed Qin Fang, a person whose name included the character Feng — Li Feng, Li Rui's brother, Qin Fang's former classmate, and Tang Feifei's admirer.

"Could it really be this kid..."

"Wasn't he put in prison? How could he have gotten out so quickly..."

For a moment, many thoughts rapidly crossed Qin Fang's mind, especially since this sudden news was quite surprising to him.

Li Feng had initially been framed and thrown into prison by Qin Fang, of course, the Tang Family's influence had been involved too; otherwise, it would have been difficult to convict Li Feng based on that alone.

But Li Feng had gotten out just a few months after being incarcerated, which was somewhat unexpected to Qin Fang, although he could understand the means of the privileged class in pulling Li Feng out was not something difficult.

However, with Li Feng out of prison, Qin Fang had to be extra vigilant. The kid harbored deep hatred towards him; the first day Qin Fang returned to Ninghai, he had people try to kill Qin Fang, and who knew how many more assassination attempts there would be in the future?

Being targeted for assassination repeatedly wasn't something Qin Fang appreciated, especially since Li Feng's methods were rather despicable. Once he realized he couldn't handle him, he might very well target people close to him.

Tang Feifei had a special status, Li Feng definitely dared not touch her, and he had always been infatuated with Tang Feifei... she was relatively safe for the time being.

But Xiao Muxue and Wen Yan were a different story; they didn't have any particular status or background. If Li Feng really plotted against them, it would be difficult for Qin Fang to guard against.

Chu Yunxuan was a bit better off, not many people knew about her relationship with Qin Fang. Li Yuerong was with Chu Yunxuan, so she was also relatively safe.

As for Ning Yumo, Li Feng wouldn't dare lay a hand on him even if he had the guts; Ning Yumo's father was the secretary of the provincial political and legal committee, overseeing the entire province's political and legal system. Angering him could spell disaster not just for Li Feng, but even for Li Rui, not to mention a nobody like Li Feng...

Qin Fang actually did not take Li Feng very seriously, not back then, and even less so now. He was just a bit wary of the backing Li Feng had from Li Rui; otherwise, Qin Fang wouldn't hesitate to directly eliminate Li Feng. That would definitely prompt Li Rui to use the same methods against Qin Fang...

Not only was it difficult for Qin Fang to directly kill Li Feng, but if Li Feng were to be killed, Li Rui would most likely pin the blame on Qin Fang.

Those issues Qin Fang could temporarily set aside; he had long known from Tang Cheng that Li Feng held little position within the Li Family. Apart from having the support of his brother Li Rui, he was nothing.

And without any significant standing, Li Feng couldn't possibly utilize Li Rui's power; Qin Fang figured that Black Panther was likely the only force Li Feng could control at the moment.

Qin Fang knew from Da Niu that Black Panther had just been released from prison not long ago, and Black Panther had been sentenced to death but was released, while Li Feng was released around the same time. It wasn't hard to imagine the relationship between the two.

It must have been Li Feng who asked Li Rui for help, taking Black Panther along with him. Only then did Black Panther agree to work for Li Feng, even going as far as to secretly assassinate Qin Fang...

Since Black Panther was Li Feng's only strength, Qin Fang couldn't just yet kill Li Feng, but dealing with Black Panther wouldn't pose any problem.

"Da Niu, take a few men and bring back that kid's body..."

By then, Black Panther had finished his call with Li Feng. Although his face showed no change in expression, he still turned to Qin Fang and ordered.

"No need!"

Now that Qin Fang had learned the true facts, there was naturally no need to keep pretending with Black Panther, his face wearing a nonchalant smile, spoke rather disrespectfully.

"Huh? Da Niu, what do you mean?"

Black Panther's complexion changed, and he barked sharply, his entire demeanor suddenly becoming extremely vigilant.

"I said no need..."

Qin Fang was not actually Da Niu, and naturally, he wasn't afraid of Black Panther. Although Black Panther was, surprisingly, a Level 4 Expert, he still didn't impress Qin Fang.

"You..."

Black Panther's face turned extremely ugly, and his eyes flickered uncertainly. Suddenly, he made a slight movement and immediately charged towards Qin Fang.

His fist rushed forward like the wind, the whistling sound it created was intensely chilling, commanding one not to underestimate it...

Black Panther was also a seasoned fighter, having trained with his master in martial arts since childhood. Though he had not cultivated the Inner Sect Cultivation Techniques for breathing, his external skills were quite formidable. In terms of strength alone, Cai Qing, who also trained in external skills, wasn't even in the same league, even though his level was slightly lower than hers.

Slap~

Just as his fist was about to hit his opponent's head, a pale hand suddenly reached up, directly colliding with Black Panther's fist.

A crisp clang sounded, and Black Panther suddenly felt as if his fist had struck a steel plate, causing his bones to feel as though they were shattering due to the extreme pain.

But the object he had hit was clearly just a flesh-and-blood hand... What exactly was going on?

"You're not Da Niu... Who exactly are you?"

Black Panther was no fool. Da Niu was his close brother and also a fellow sect brother. He knew all too well about Da Niu's capabilities, which were much weaker than his own, not to mention compared to the person before him...

"It seems you're not so foolish..."

Qin Fang sneered slightly, his tone somewhat mocking, "Who I am isn't important. What matters is who you are helping Li Feng to target..."

Upon hearing this, Black Panther's face instantly turned pale, his look towards Qin Fang becoming filled with utter terror.

"You... You're a Qin?"

He wasn't a fool; he originally had no direct conflict with Qin Fang, but just as he had attempted to assassinate Qin Fang, Qin Fang's people caught up to him. Moreover, the man looked identical to Da Niu. He also knew about the Face-Changing Technique in the Martial World, though he had doubted such miraculous abilities, yet, the man before him looked exactly like Da Niu.

If not for that, he wouldn't have accidentally exposed Li Feng's presence...

He was only following Li Feng's orders, even going to the extent of assassinating Qin Fang. But Black Panther knew about the power behind Qin Fang, aware that not only was Qin Fang himself a martial expert, but he also had close ties with Tiger from the southern city, and his identity was quite special, not something an underworld boss like him could contend with.

That's why he had been extremely cautious, instructing Da Niu to keep a close watch on Qin Fang, without intending to let Da Niu take action personally...

However, seeing an opportunity right before his eyes, Da Niu naturally wouldn't let it pass, thus he chose to strike at Qin Fang immediately. Unfortunately, not only did he fail, he also blew Black Panther's cover, allowing Qin Fang to trace this matter back to the real mastermind...

Qin Fang merely smiled faintly, watching Black Panther silently.

"What... what do you really want?"

Although Black Panther was a wrongdoer, facing such a mysterious and unfathomable opponent, he felt significantly panicked inside.

He wanted to say a few tough words, but simply didn't dare to speak them out. He seemed to sense that the man in front of him did not appreciate such actions.

It could be said that his life was now in the hands of his opponent. Although Qin Fang had not made a move, if he were to do so, Black Panther would be nothing more than a minor character who could be easily crushed with a slap.

"From today onwards, you work for me. You must tell me everything about Li Feng's moves... Perhaps then I won't pursue today's incident further!"

Looking at Black Panther, who was now visibly intimidated, Qin Fang took a piece of paper and a pen, swiftly wrote down a phone number and threw it to Black Panther, "Of course, you can also continue to work for Li Feng, but next time, I won't let you off so easily..."