

Genius 901

Chapter 901 - Take Advantage in a Righteous Way

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Although Su Xiaoxiao also witnessed the bloody scene just now, she wasn't too frightened. Instead, she was preparing to infiltrate the villa.

Perhaps it was because she had confidence in her own strength, or maybe she was the kind of woman with simple thoughts... Simply put, as Qin Fang had said—"an idiot".

No matter the reason, the Three-Star Assassin Ghost Bear had already gone in to scout, and Sinan must have received the news. Therefore, Ghost Bear died, and his death was very tragic...

Breaking in rashly might not even result in encountering Sinan; dealing with Explosive Bear Locke alone would already be quite troublesome...

Qin Fang himself didn't have much confidence in his ability to silently eliminate Explosive Bear Locke. Boxers like him emerged from real-life battles to the death, and their perception of danger was much stronger than that of ordinary people...

Using fists, Qin Fang wasn't completely sure he could kill his opponent, and using firearms without being detected was equally difficult.

And that was just dealing with Explosive Bear Locke. His target was the arms dealer, Sinan. To take action without even seeing his face was clearly not a wise move.

Known assassins at the scene numbered three: Qin Fang, Su Xiaoxiao, and the killed Ghost Bear. Now, only Qin Fang and Su Xiaoxiao remained. If any mishap befell Su Xiaoxiao, Qin Fang would be all alone, and without much useful information, it would be difficult to even locate Sinan, let alone kill him.

Considering this, Qin Fang thought it might be necessary to save Su Xiaoxiao... even though she herself didn't think Qin Fang was saving her, but rather causing her trouble.

"You... let me go!"

Qin Fang, holding Su Xiaoxiao, quickly disappeared into the dark night and directly left the villa area. Once outside in a secluded spot, Su Xiaoxiao angrily cursed.

Su Xiaoxiao didn't seem to be a completely mindless woman. After Qin Fang restrained her, she could have shouted, but she kept quiet until Qin Fang took her out to an area deserted and far away before she finally spoke up.

"Just don't move, and I'll let you go..."

Qin Fang had his own judgement of the woman in front of him. She had almost castrated his Second Brother, making him a eunuch—a terrifying thought. Qin Fang dared not relax in the slightest; who knew if this woman might attack his vulnerable spots with her knife again.

"Don't worry, I won't do anything to you..."

Su Xiaoxiao scoffed, her words appearing rather decisive as she immediately promised earnestly.

"Alright, I'm going to release you now!"

Qin Fang nodded and immediately released the acupoint that he had immobilized on Su Xiaoxiao. She finally recovered from the numb and powerless state.

Hiss hiss~~

However, Su Xiaoxiao turned out to be not as trustworthy as she had claimed. The moment her restraints were lifted, a flash of silver appeared in her hand. The dagger previously used to attack Brother Fang reappeared and swiftly targeted Qin Fang's heart...

Indeed, she lived up to the assassin's reputation, her attack was ruthlessly precise!

Facing a woman who could change her attitude so suddenly, Qin Fang's reaction seemed a tad slow. As the dagger approached, he just stood there, as if he hadn't even begun to respond.

But...

Was what Su Xiaoxiao saw really the case?

Clearly, it wasn't!

"Fall!"

As the dagger was but a step away from Qin Fang, he, having shown no particular reaction up until then, suddenly spoke that word.

"Ow..."

When Su Xiaoxiao first heard this word, she was slightly stunned, but then suddenly felt the strength in her body completely drained in an instant. She didn't even have the strength to stand, turning into a limp mess...

Without strength, she couldn't stand firmly, so this attack was no concern for Qin Fang. With only two fingers, he lightly pinched the dagger, which then slipped from Su Xiaoxiao's hand into his own.

Of course, it wasn't just that—Su Xiaoxiao, disarmed so quickly, let out a startled cry as her entire body heavily flung into Qin Fang's embrace. Hitting against his sturdy chest, she was overwhelmed with a masculine scent...

But she didn't have any strength in her body and just slid down Qin Fang's frame slowly... her delicate face gently grazing against his body... The close contact was quite intimate since a good deal of Su Xiaoxiao's weight was pressing on Qin Fang.

Yet, given the speed of her descent, if things proceeded as they were, in a mere few seconds, Su Xiaoxiao's face would encounter the very part of Qin Fang she had almost castrated...

For an assassin who threatens to castrate lechers, such intimate contact could well make her wish for death... but with no strength in her body, she could only watch helplessly as the scene was about to unfold.

But...

Just as her small face was about to lean into that area, Qin Fang finally made a move. His hands lightly clasped Su Xiaoxiao's fragrant shoulders and, with a slight effort, he lifted her entire body, then brought her close against him, with his hands supporting her slender waist.

Huh~~

It wasn't until then that Su Xiaoxiao finally let out a long sigh of relief.

The warm hands placed on her waist gave her a considerable sense of security, her body pressed against the man's chest, feeling that strong and powerful heartbeat...

Of course, she was also acutely aware of her own heartbeat, which couldn't help but turn her fair little face a shade of crimson, clearly feeling quite shy inside.

This change in demeanor was not lost on Qin Fang, who felt a slight sense of pride; being able to take advantage of a beauty so openly and without causing any distaste was a testament to Qin Fang's aptitude in wooing women having increased quite a bit.

However, had Qin Fang held Su Xiaoxiao like this from the beginning, he would likely have earned her resentment instead. Now, after a little trick, not only did Su Xiaoxiao accept such close contact but also seemed somewhat reluctant to change it...

"What exactly did you do to me?"

After a brief period of calm, Su Xiaoxiao still leaned against Qin Fang, her face flushed with anger as she questioned him.

"I did nothing..."

Qin Fang shrugged his shoulders, looking innocent, "If you bear no ill will towards me, then you should recover in about a minute. But if you make a move within this minute, the restraint will automatically reactivate..."

What he used was the Silver Needle acupuncture technique. Although the acupuncture points were indeed unblocked, the blood flow and energy circulation were still not completely smooth.

If given some time for the blood to flow properly, then naturally everything would be worry-free. However, if one were to forcibly move, the blood supply would not keep up, and the acupuncture point would protect itself by automatically closing...

If the acupuncture point automatically closed, it was as though Qin Fang had never lifted the restraint on Su Xiaoxiao, and such an outcome would not be surprising.

Su Xiaoxiao's face turned a bit red, and if what Qin Fang said was true, it seemed that the fault really did lie with her...

"I don't believe it!"

Getting a woman to admit she's wrong is invariably a difficult task. Sometimes, even if they know they're at fault, their so-called pride will make them stubbornly resist till the end.

Of course, there are such men as well...

Qin Fang merely shrugged, still removing Su Xiaoxiao's restraints in the same way he had before, with the exact pressure and location, making it difficult for her to maintain disbelief.

Almost the moment the restraints were removed, her body regained its previous strength, and Su Xiaoxiao even felt unusually strong, confident that she could take on Explosive Bear Locke...

Only this time, she didn't make a move. Instead, she rested quietly for a while, and after about a minute, she no longer felt any discomfort. She swung her fists a little and there was nothing unusual...

He was telling the truth!

Although Su Xiaoxiao still found it all incredibly miraculous, there was no denying that what Qin Fang said was indeed true, and her previous mistake was entirely self-inflicted.

Just thinking about how her small face was almost intimately touching that "brother" of the man, her cheeks flared up in a blush.

Remembering the warmth of the man who had rescued her from deep trouble just now, it made her feel very odd inside!

Women have always been the most emotional creatures. Perhaps something that men find trivial can move them to tears...

And such moments of emotion can even cause very unexpected feelings to arise in their hearts.

Therefore, women have always been the most believing in love at first sight.

But men tend to be much more rational...

Of course, that wouldn't mean Su Xiaoxiao would fall head over heels in love with Qin Fang after just a simple embrace. However, at least her previous aversion to this trouble-causing man had dissipated. Conversely, she now found him quite pleasant to look at...

It was clear to Qin Fang that he didn't have any inkling of Su Xiaoxiao's little thought. He felt a small sense of accomplishment about taking his fair share of advantage of the girl in such an upright and open manner. If he knew Su Xiaoxiao's thoughts, he would probably be cheering for himself right away...

Naturally, this was clearly not the time for romantic pursuits. He still had to consider what to do next!

Chapter 902 - Don't Think I Can't Recognize You Just Because You've Changed Your Vest!

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"Why did you drag me out here..."

Qin Fang would consider the upcoming plans, and Su Xiaoxiao clearly wouldn't forget either.

After that moment of awkwardness and warmth, Su Xiaoxiao remembered the purpose of the trip. Although she didn't hate Qin Fang, she was very dissatisfied with him forcibly dragging her out.

"Do you think you could kill Sinan by yourself?"

Seeing the indignant look on Su Xiaoxiao's face, Qin Fang was quite helpless, and he mockingly said, "Little buddy, being an assassin isn't as simple as you think!"

Su Xiaoxiao's eyes immediately widened in surprise, and her expression quickly turned even colder and more cautious.

"Who are you, really?"

Su Xiaoxiao asked sternly and calmly, deliberately maintaining a relatively safe distance, although she already knew she was no match for Qin Fang in terms of fighting skills...

"Your colleague..."

Qin Fang responded unenthusiastically.

"Our goals are the same, and our opponent is too strong. If you think there's a possibility of cooperation between us, then let's sit down and have a proper discussion... Otherwise, if you want to go to your death alone, I definitely won't stop you this time!"

Su Xiaoxiao's cautiousness was normal. She didn't mention her identity but Qin Fang had called it out directly, making it impossible for her not to be on guard.

She even began to suspect if Qin Fang was sent by Sinan to deal with her... Of course, this was unlikely; if he had been sent by Sinan, she would have been dead long ago.

"You're an assassin too?"

Su Xiaoxiao obviously found it hard to believe.

The rules within the Assassin's Alliance were very strict, and encounters between assassins were very rare. Missions were always one-on-one, except for cleaning missions, and hardly any open for all tasks were available.

Hence, since she started, Su Xiaoxiao had never met another assassin except for the master who had introduced her into this world... And now, here was one standing in front of her, which was somewhat hard for her to accept for the time being.

"Genuine as it gets!"

Qin Fang nodded and acknowledged, "Allow me to introduce myself, One-Star Assassin Supreme in the Assassin's Alliance..."

The introduction was rather formal; Supreme was his code name in the Assassin's Alliance. He couldn't possibly use his real name.

"Supreme? You're Supreme?"

Hearing this name, Su Xiaoxiao was slightly taken aback because such a code name was quite arrogant. It was like slapping every other assassin in the face, especially since this assassin happened to be the lowest, a One-Star Assassin, even lower than her...

Though an assassin's name was just a code name, it was akin to an honor and wasn't something to be insulted at will...

Just like the current number one assassin of the Assassin's Alliance—Seven-Star Assassin Dragon King. When he was a Five-star Assassin, he had stated that only he was entitled to the title of Dragon King. Anyone attempting to desecrate such a title would face his pursuit.

The Dragon King wasn't considered the most terrifying or most powerful assassin back then, and many disregarded him. However, after the Assassin's Alliance, Mercenary Alliance, and Black Fist Alliance all lost several powerful fighters, the title of Dragon King was never again dared to be used by anyone.

It may have been such a precedent that thereafter, under the underworld, the strong's code names became unique. To own such a name... fine, go kill the strong who bears that name!

Su Xiaoxiao thought for a moment. To her recollection, the title Supreme was also unique and seemed to belong to an undefeated legend from the Black Fist Alliance...

"Do you know me?"

Qin Fang was slightly surprised. He had chosen the title Supreme simply because his goal was to become the King of Assassins.

If he aspired to be the sovereign of the assassin world, then calling himself Supreme wasn't an issue.

However, up to now, he had only completed one mission, and as a One-Star Assassin, it was unlikely anyone would have heard of his name... Hence his surprised reaction.

"I don't know you..."

Su Xiaoxiao shook her head. This man was someone she had just met today; they didn't know each other before... Of course, she had also never met the Fist King Supreme of the Black Fist Alliance, only hearing legends about him.

As for explaining these reasons, Su Xiaoxiao didn't feel it was necessary. After all, she wasn't that familiar with Qin Fang... and she still hadn't figured out exactly why Qin Fang had appeared in front of her.

"Let's not talk about this anymore. Let's focus on the matter at hand... What do you think of my proposal?"

Qin Fang didn't think too much of it. He knew too little about the underground world as his points were very low, preventing him from purchasing or viewing much information. Naturally, he couldn't be aware of these things and might have reconsidered adopting such a domineering name for himself now.

Dragon King was willing to kill so many top fighters from several organizations to force them to give up the names they had used for a long time, and even Fist King Supreme agreed that this could be done...

"Not so fast! This job is mine; don't even think about stealing it from me..."

Once the conversation turned to serious matters, Su Xiaoxiao's expression also became solemn, as she cautiously spoke, clearly guessing Qin Fang's intent.

"Yeah right, whoever takes down Sinan gets the job... But at least we've got to find Sinan first!" Qin Fang wasn't surprised by Su Xiaoxiao's reaction. After all, he was there to poach the job, and there was no need to deny it.

But Sinan still hadn't shown up, and whether he was in that villa remained an unknown, so squabbling over the job's ownership now was idiotic.

Inside the villa, there was a violent brute like Explosive Bear Locke, and even individuals more brutal than Locke providing security for Sinan. With just the two of them, vying for the job before even getting a lead on it was just plain stupid... Who knows, one of them might end up dead during this job.

Of course, neither of them thought they would die on this job.

However, Su Xiaoxiao was no fool; naturally, she could guess Qin Fang's purpose in finding her. The two of them would first cooperate to find Sinan, then use their own abilities to complete the job. Whoever succeeded would claim the job...

"Fine, I agree to cooperate with you first..."

Su Xiaoxiao's eyes swiveled, and her delicate face immediately displayed an extremely charming expression as she agreed quite straightforwardly.

"Save the seduction act. From what I know, Explosive Bear Locke is gay. If you fall into his hands, you will definitely be torn apart alive; he has a taste for that..."

Seeing Su Xiaoxiao's seductive expression, Qin Fang couldn't help but curl his lips, speaking in a rather indifferent tone as he sarcastically commented on her small act.

"Explosive Bear Locke... Are you saying that the guy just now is... Explosive Bear Locke?"

But Su Xiaoxiao wasn't concerned with Locke's sexual orientation; it was his identity that caught her attention. Her pretty face instantly turned pale upon hearing his name.

"What about Explosive Bear Locke?"

Seeing Su Xiaoxiao's reaction, Qin Fang was a bit puzzled, but seeing that Su Xiaoxiao wasn't faking it, he realized she simply had no idea who the blond hunk was...

"You... you're not lying to me? That person really is... Explosive Bear Locke? That ruthless madman who tore apart thirteen people?"

Not only that, Su Xiaoxiao nearly grabbed Qin Fang's clothes, repeatedly seeking confirmation of this piece of news with great nervousness. She must have heard of Locke and the things he had done, but she hadn't recognized the man in person...

Of course, not everyone has Qin Fang's Scouting Skill. Without it, Qin Fang wouldn't have known the name and identity of the blond hunk either...

"Damn it, is this a trap, sis?"

Su Xiaoxiao couldn't help but curse as she saw Qin Fang affirm the news. What surprised him even more was, "Alright, the job's yours; I'm outta here..."

Without any hesitation, Su Xiaoxiao was ready to bolt. She had lost interest in competing for the job, as if staying a moment longer would put her life at risk.

"Hey, wait a second..."

Qin Fang, of course, couldn't let her go just like that. Even if she didn't want the job anymore, she should at least leave some useful information for him.

In the blink of an eye, Qin Fang moved swiftly and blocked Su Xiaoxiao's escape route, intercepting her right in her tracks...

"Look here, Miss Su..."

Just as Qin Fang was about to speak and dissuade her, Su Xiaoxiao crashed straight into his arms, with no awareness to dodge.

"My nose..."

Qin Fang was fine; his body was tough, after all. But Su Xiaoxiao's delicate, upturned nose was struck and she immediately cried out in pain.

"Er... this... sorry!"

Qin Fang hadn't expected that with Su Xiaoxiao's skills, she could have easily avoided the collision. Was she so scared at the moment that she wasn't thinking straight?

"Oh, now I remember, it's you, the hooligan..."

Just as Qin Fang was about to say something, Su Xiaoxiao suddenly cried out in alarm and once again, the dagger appeared, ready to stab at Qin Fang as she spoke.

But just as she extended her hand, she paused immediately, realizing that even though she and Qin Fang weren't exactly temporary allies, he did pull her out of the villa, away from the terrifying presence of Explosive Bear Locke. That was a bit of a favor toward her.

"What hooligan?"

Qin Fang was also slightly taken aback and asked in surprise.

"You have the nerve to ask. Don't think I can't recognize you just because you've changed your face and switched up your look..."

Chapter 903 - Infiltration, Crisis

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When Su Xiaoxiao spoke, the disdain in her eyes really frustrated Qin Fang.

Hearing this sentence, he also understood what Su Xiaoxiao meant: even though he had changed his face and attire, he was still recognized by Su Xiaoxiao.

And the reason she did not recognize him at first was probably because she had not focused her attention on this matter, and, given the unknowns about Qin Fang's identity and purpose, she had always been preoccupied with her own safety, which is why she did not think more about why Qin Fang's scent felt familiar.

"How did you recognize me..."

Qin Fang was frustrated, but also a bit curious.

Metamorphosis allowed him to freely change his appearance, and it was a natural change, absolutely incomparable to those that relied on drugs, without a single flaw.

But even so, he was still recognized by Su Xiaoxiao. How could Qin Fang not be curious?

So, he eagerly wanted to know the reason, knowing that he could make reasonable improvements, and at least not make such a mistake with other assassins in the future.

"My nose is very sensitive! If you let me smell a scent, no matter how many disguises you change, you can't escape my grasp..."

Su Xiaoxiao said proudly.

Her nose was indeed very special, not only beautifully shaped but also extremely sensitive to smells, able to easily distinguish various odors.

Every person's scent is completely different, whether it's a man or woman, and it's very difficult for ordinary people to identify someone by their smell unless the scents are very strong.

Only some trained military and police dogs, and of course some domestic dogs too, can differentiate... but it's indeed very rare for a human nose to reach that level.

And coincidentally, Su Xiaoxiao was born with such a special nose...

It could be said that her path into becoming an assassin was largely related to this unique feature of her nose. After special training by her master, her nose became even more powerful, providing her great assistance in executing assassin missions.

"Nose..."

Hearing this answer, Qin Fang was also taken aback.

Initially, he thought he had missed changing something, but it turned out that Su Xiaoxiao's nose was special and could distinguish each person's different scent.

Qin Fang could rely on Metamorphosis to freely change his face, and even his body shape, but the one thing he couldn't change was his scent...

As for using perfume or the like, since Su Xiaoxiao had such a special ability, she could certainly distinguish between perfume and body odor; she only needed to peel off one scent to smell the original smell, still leaving him nowhere to hide.

"Then you wanted to sneak into the villa because..."

With this thought, Qin Fang's mind stirred, his eyes suddenly lit up, and he asked in surprise.

"Of course, it was to find a bit of Sinan's belongings, remember his scent, and then it will be much easier to find him later... you really thought I went in there to kill? What an idiot..."

Su Xiaoxiao rolled her eyes and looked down on Qin Fang.

But Qin Fang could not refute; he had also secretly called Su Xiaoxiao an idiot earlier, and now it was payback, even now...

"Since that's the case, then why the hell did you run..."

Now that he understood Su Xiaoxiao's real purpose, Qin Fang was puzzled. If she wasn't attempting suicide, then why did she run? Just earlier, they had almost fought over this mission.

"I don't want to die. That Explosive Bear Locke is basically my nemesis..."

Su Xiaoxiao gave Qin Fang another disdainful look but explained the reason she gave up on the mission, "It's said that Explosive Bear Locke was raised by Black Bear, is extremely brutal, and also very sensitive to various scents. The one we saw killed earlier was probably the Three-Star Assassin Ghost Bear. Despite his slightly plump figure, his skill in stealth is quite formidable, but unexpectedly..."

Hearing this, Qin Fang also remembered. He had done reconnaissance on Ghost Bear and, as Su Xiaoxiao said, his stealth ability reached LV4, even stronger than his own—yet he was still discovered by Explosive Bear Locke. It wasn't because he was careless but because he had encountered this madman with a keen nose, so his death was not strange.

Of course, this might also be one of the reasons Sinan hired Explosive Bear Locke to protect him; once an assassin showed up, he would be detected, making the possibility of assassinating Sinan very low.

Likewise, although Su Xiaoxiao's nose was also sensitive, she was far less capable than Explosive Bear Locke. Once discovered, the likelihood of survival was slim, so the moment she heard that the blonde hunk was Explosive Bear Locke, she immediately turned and ran...

"Don't go just yet, how about this... you wait for me outside, and I'll sneak into that villa and grab a bit of Sinan's stuff?"

After considering it, Qin Fang suggested this to Su Xiaoxiao.

"Are you serious?"

Su Xiaoxiao was somewhat incredulous and thought: Is there really such a good thing to benefit me?

"Of course, it's true!"

Qin Fang nodded earnestly.

Chapter 904 - Infiltration, Crisis_2

Although the villa was protected by Explosive Bear Locke, which should have been very safe, Qin Fang speculated that Sinan was definitely not inside the villa; this building was just a ruse to mislead, and the real Sinan was definitely hidden somewhere else.

Searching for a single person in Yangcheng, which was not very large, was like finding a needle in a haystack.

If Su Xiaoxiao could help, perhaps there would be a greater hope...

Moreover, he vaguely felt that Sinan, knowing that the Assassin's Alliance was out to purge him, still dared to stay in Yangcheng, must also have some kind of agenda.

As for what Qin Fang had learned from the data about the so-called sacrificial grave sweeping, that was absolutely nonsense.

"This..."

Seeing that Qin Fang did not appear to be lying, Su Xiaoxiao also hesitated.

Originally, she should have agreed immediately to such a beneficial arrangement, as she only needed to watch from the outside. If Qin Fang succeeded, she naturally had a chance to complete such a task with a very high reward of points, and make a leap into the ranks of Three-Star Assassins.

But if Qin Fang unfortunately failed, then he would naturally be killed by Explosive Bear Locke, while she would just run away...

However, Su Xiaoxiao did not immediately agree, to put it bluntly, she still did not trust Qin Fang, as after all, it was their first meeting and they were mere strangers, making it hard to fully trust each other.

"I know you don't trust me, but you can just stay far away... I'll be back soon!"

Qin Fang also understood Su Xiaoxiao's thoughts and did not insist, but only expressed his intentions with a sincere tone, then immediately infiltrated the villa area again, preparing to venture alone into that dragon pool tiger den.

This villa was Sinan's property, and it was even possible that Sinan was hiding inside... Although the likelihood of that was really small, infiltrating it wasn't too difficult for Qin Fang.

The only difficulty was how to get rid of someone like Explosive Bear Locke, who had a nose even keener than a dog's...

After Explosive Bear Locke had killed the Three-Star Assassin Ghost Bear, the villa had become much quieter, although the lights in each room were still on, whether someone was actually in those lit rooms was unknown.

But Qin Fang did not mind these things; activating his Stealth Skill, he hid in the shadows and quietly moved towards the inside of the villa.

He had already scoped out the tall walls of the courtyard, the electric grid on top, and the infrared detection devices. After wandering around for a while, he found a blind spot and easily leapt into the courtyard of the villa.

Entering the villa was not difficult; Qin Fang jumped directly onto the balcony. Though the large sliding glass doors were locked, they could not hinder him, for he possessed the Lockpicking Skill.

Qin Fang had always practiced his Lockpicking Skill, and although progress was slow, he eventually reached Intermediate Lockpicking.

With the Lockpicking Skill reaching Intermediate level, he no longer needed to kick doors open, just use the Lockpicking Skill on the lock. Although there was a certain failure rate, it made much less noise, and now he didn't even need a decoder to unlock electronic locks, just use the Lockpicking Skill directly...

It was only the high-precision electronic locks where Qin Fang's Lockpicking Skill had a higher failure rate, but there was still a chance of success, even the world's most complex locks could potentially be opened.

Such sliding glass doors naturally could not stop Qin Fang's Lockpicking Skill. As the progress bar finished loading, a sound as faint as a whisper was heard, and the handle of the sliding door automatically opened, allowing Qin Fang to slip into the villa.

"She really went in..."

From a distance, Su Xiaoxiao, driven by curiosity, stayed to see if Qin Fang could succeed, and naturally witnessed him slipping into the villa, her face showing a slight surprise.

Having infiltrated the room, Qin Fang dared not let his guard down even a little; he first carefully surveyed the room, a standard bedroom that seemed to be the master. Considering Sinan supposedly lived in this villa, he most likely resided in this bedroom.

However, for safety reasons, Sinan wouldn't be so foolish as to stay here, as it was too easy for a sniper to target...

After a brief overview of the room's furnishings, Qin Fang didn't find anything unusual. It was clear the bedroom hadn't been lived in for a long time, so naturally, there wasn't anything valuable.

The scent of a human body dissipates quickly after the person has left. Only in certain parts can the scent linger on clothes, in bedding...

But with not a single piece of clothing present and the bedding obviously changed, Qin Fang had to abandon this room and continue towards the others.

The hallway outside was calm, with no signs of anyone coming or going; it seemed no one frequented this second floor, which made Qin Fang's search easier.

Qin Fang's actions were purposeful—heading straight for the bathroom. Many items could be replaced, but some are not often changed—such as towels, bath towels, bathrobes...

If Sinan had lived here, these items likely hadn't been changed... Although such villas had cleaning staff, during the tenures of people like Sinan and Explosive Bear Locke, it was forbidden for hourly workers to enter, as that could easily leak secrets.

Qin Fang darted into the bathroom, and as he had guessed, the towels and bath towels bore signs of use. Although he wasn't sure if they had been used by Sinan, they could still be considered useful.

With a grand gesture, Qin Fang hesitated not and collected all these items into the Props Box, ensuring they wouldn't hinder his movements.

But these items clearly were not enough to satisfy Qin Fang fully. He slipped out of the bathroom and quickly dashed into an adjacent bedroom.

Since Sinan might have used that bathroom, he definitely had lived here. Thus, excluding the master bedroom he had just left, the bedroom Qin Fang now entered was very likely Sinan's.

Although the furnishings in this room also looked similar to those in the master bedroom and seemed uninhabited, Qin Fang, upon closer inspection, still noticed some differences, like a pair of slippers...

For such items that might be of use, Qin Fang unapologetically took them, leaving absolutely no trace behind.

As Qin Fang continued searching the room for other potentially valuable items, suddenly, he felt a chilling sensation on his back, and his pores stood on end, sensing a strong, overwhelming murderous intent.

"Explosive Bear Locke..."

When Qin Fang felt such a strong sense of danger, he had already guessed his presence had been detected. Explosive Bear Locke indeed had a very keen nose, quickly identifying him as an intruder.

"It looks like the Assassin's Alliance really has its share of fools, just killed one, and now another shows up..."

Explosive Bear Locke, looking at the plain-looking middle-aged man before him—Qin Fang, wore a light, mocking smile, clearly not taking Qin Fang seriously.

"I didn't expect you to arrive so quickly, real dog's nose..."

Now that he had been discovered, even if Qin Fang wanted to escape, it was unnecessary; with Explosive Bear Locke's strength, he would definitely pursue relentlessly, especially since Qin Fang had already accomplished his mission.

"Hmph, courting death..."

Explosive Bear Locke was clearly not a man of good temper. He has always been a cruel, bloodthirsty figure; otherwise, he wouldn't have achieved the terrifying feat of savagely ripping apart thirteen competitors.

It was ripping, not merely defeating or killing... It was entirely by the strength of his hands that he tore a grown man into a heap of bloody shreds!

Chapter 905 - Facing the Explosive Bear

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Although Explosive Bear Locke was a foreigner, he spoke Chinese quite fluently and naturally understood what Qin Fang had just said.

Almost instantly, he became completely enraged, and a murderous aura of bloodshed spread from him, swiftly locking onto Qin Fang's body.

"Eh, you do have some skill..."

Having been targeted by such an aura before, Qin Fang was no stranger to this, especially during his previous encounter with Shangguan Tianling.

However, to his surprise, although Explosive Bear Locke was just a Level 5 master, he possessed an aura near that of a grandmaster, which showed he was not a master to be underestimated, having survived life-and-death combats.

He might have spoken lightly, but Qin Fang was far from careless in his heart. In fact, he regarded Explosive Bear Locke with even more caution than he had Shangguan Tianling in the past.

It wasn't that Explosive Bear Locke's abilities surpassed those of Shangguan Tianling, a grandmaster level fighter, but rather that this man's techniques were simply aimed at killing his opponents...

And to achieve this goal, he wouldn't care about his own injuries!

Such a person was the most dangerous, far more so than even a master level fighter like Shangguan Tianling... At least Qin Fang had ultimately defeated Shangguan Tianling, but facing Explosive Bear Locke, he had no full confidence!

"Hmph..."

With a cold snort, Explosive Bear Locke didn't continue to escalate his aura, but suddenly sprung into action, transforming into a fierce and raging bear charging towards Qin Fang, who was comparatively smaller in stature.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh~~~

His thick arms swinging, his fists as large as sand pots, furiously shot out, bringing with them a whistling gust of wind.

Qin Fang's eyes slightly narrowed, his expression growing incredibly solemn.

He had already taken Explosive Bear Locke seriously, considering him the most formidable opponent among those of Level 5 he had faced; however, just seeing this momentum, Locke seemed almost on par with Shangguan Tianling.

Although momentum wasn't the same as strength, it sometimes played an extremely important role... akin to Qin Fang's level suppression.

Despite both being Level 5, there shouldn't have been any disparity in levels between Qin Fang and Explosive Bear Locke. Yet, such intense killing intent made Qin feel as if he were facing not Locke but Shangguan Tianling—and a ruthlessly goal-driven Tianling at that!

"Well played!"

But Qin Fang wasn't one to shy away, watching as Locke's surging body and fists came at him, he also shouted coldly, stabilizing his stance and suddenly exerting force from his waist, swinging a fist towards Locke's immense punch.

Seeing this comparatively slim man from Dragon Country daring to contend with him in strength, a slight surprise appeared in Locke's eyes, but it quickly turned into deep mockery and sarcasm...

He had survived the Black Fist Arena, walking out alive after stepping over a hundred dead bodies; true deaths at his hands might even be several times that.

He was born with incredible strength, further enhanced by drugs he had taken, giving him an exceptionally strong physique and immense power.

Among his past opponents were many strength-type masters, yet without exception, they all eventually died by his hands... "Competing in strength, you're still not qualified!"

Locke's gaze fully met Qin Fang's, but he wasn't too worried. Power surged through his fist, as he was rather keen to gauge just how strong Explosive Bear Locke's strength really was.

Bang~~

Neither side chose to dodge; their punches collided heavily, emitting a rather dull sound of impact. The instantaneous blast of powerful energy forced both men back, almost simultaneously retreating several steps.

Both men stepped back about seven or eight paces, Qin Fang stopping by the edge of the bed, and Explosive Bear Locke by the door, where they barely stabilized their forms.

However, the expressions on their faces differed...

A touch of surprise added to Locke's expression; since his debut, rarely had anyone matched his strength to such a draw. If he had been facing a renowned fighter from one of the major underground alliances, he wouldn't have been too surprised. But this person, unknown and unremarked upon, possessing such strength, also quite astonished him.

Compared to Locke, Qin was much calmer, almost as if he had merely warmed up a bit, completely unconcerned about the situation.

Undeniably, Explosive Bear Locke's strength was formidable. Qin Fang had used his full strength in that punch, conserving his energy and laying a solid foundation, which gave him a slight advantage. Yet, unexpectedly, he had only managed a draw with Locke.

So, if both fighters were to unleash their full power, Explosive Bear Locke was slightly stronger in terms of strength...

In such a situation, Qin Fang seemed like he should be worried, but in fact, it was quite the opposite; Qin Fang felt much more relieved because although Explosive Bear Locke was indeed very strong, in terms of skills...

Well, he was far inferior to even the average warrior from the Dragon Nation.

Although many foreigners consider the martial arts of the Dragon Nation to be merely for show, and those routines seem quite useless, in the hands of a master, these routines are also capable of lethal power. It all depends on whether the person using them knows how to do so...

Without a doubt, Qin Fang had reached today because his control over his skills was extremely proficient. Such techniques, in his hands, became pure mastery after just two or three iterations, and when combined for use, their power increased significantly...

On the contrary, Explosive Bear Locke did not have fixed techniques; all his fighting skills were honed from life and death battles, designed solely for killing. Each move and each technique existed for the purpose of killing.

It is often said that simplicity leads to greatness; sometimes, simple techniques are the most terrifying in power... But sometimes, what seems like complicated techniques are actually more profound and evolved into more powerful moves.

"Come again..."

Having spotted the flaw in Explosive Bear Locke, Qin Fang naturally wasn't afraid anymore, and after such a brief pause, he actively let out a shout, made a slight move, and charged directly towards Explosive Bear Locke.

Explosive Bear Locke was never the type to shy away from confrontations. Attack was the best defense, and with a mindset like his, there was only offense and he knew nothing of defense because the only way to survive was to kill the opponent. No true black fist master ever won by defense.

"Come on!"

Explosive Bear Locke also roared and charged immediately towards Qin Fang.

Bang~~~

Bang bang~~~

Bang bang~~bang bang~~

In a room that wasn't very large, the two of them instantly engaged in close combat, using fists, thighs, knees, fingers...almost any part of the body that could be used as a weapon was fully utilized.

The flesh-to-flesh combat provided an incredibly thrilling visual experience, yet there were no spectators here, only the two of them.

The winds from the fists and kicks, along with the surging air currents, swept through the room and easily shattered some objects.

However, it seemed like they didn't notice at all, still furiously fighting...using every means possible, almost ruthlessly forcing their opponent into a corner.

Qin Fang responded to moves and counterattacked with even stronger hits; in short, they both truly went all out... Explosive Bear Locke's eyes had turned blood red, his entire demeanor more fierce, bloodthirsty, and terrifying!

"This isn't enough..."

After dozens of continuous exchanges, neither could overpower the other. Explosive Bear Locke was incredibly strong and had astonishing stamina, even Qin Fang, who also had a prolonged endurance, couldn't help but admire that.

But he had baozi to replenish his energy, not caring about a prolonged battle... But he couldn't keep dragging this on, as the people Sinan arranged in this villa might come up for support at any moment.

Moreover, he had already figured out some of Explosive Bear Locke's punching patterns, so naturally, there was no need to keep tangling with him.

"Go to hell..."

As both were pushed away by the force of their punches again, Qin Fang's retreating form suddenly surged forward cryptically, charging towards Explosive Bear Locke at an even faster speed.

Explosive Bear Locke's eyes also suddenly shrank, filled with surprise. In his haste, he couldn't fully defend, and Qin Fang had already reached him.

"fuck!"

At this moment, Explosive Bear Locke was full of anger and reluctance, but it was impossible for him to back down. Cursing, he prepared to endure Qin Fang's fierce attack even though his body hadn't yet regained balance.

"Idiot..."

But just because Qin Fang had been moving his fists a lot didn't mean he didn't have a weapon; that was merely to numb Explosive Bear Locke. Now the real killing move was revealed.

Just as Qin Fang's fist was about to hit Explosive Bear Locke, who was frantically defending, at that moment, his eyes suddenly gleamed with a sharp light, because a dark, sharp military spike had suddenly appeared in Qin Fang's hand. Almost at the same moment Explosive Bear Locke threw a punch, Qin Fang's wrist twisted slightly, quickly misaligning with his punch, then with a swing of his arm, the military spike conveniently pierced through Explosive Bear Locke's wrist...

"Ah!!!~~"

Having his wrist pierced like that, even Explosive Bear Locke couldn't help but let out a scream.

Chapter 906 - Slaughter the Bear

...

Despite Explosive Bear Locke also being known for his thick hide and tough flesh, all of that had come from countless strikes he had accumulated. He had fought with Qin Fang for such a long time without sustaining much damage, clearly demonstrating his resilience.

But when compared to the sharpness of a military spike, his body was still just a body, totally unable to resist, and Qin Fang easily disabled one of his wrists, eliciting a roar of fury from him...

"Stupid bear! How does it feel? Enjoying it, huh..."

Qin Fang, having landed a successful blow, didn't give Explosive Bear Locke any time to react. He immediately and quickly pulled out the military spike and retreated rapidly.

At the same time, he didn't forget to hurl another insult at Explosive Bear Locke...

Explosive Bear Locke's ferocity came mostly from his hands; his bear-like palms and claws were extraordinarily fierce. Aside from that, his body was just more robust.

Qin Fang temporarily didn't want to target his body—Explosive Bear Locke wouldn't give him that chance, so he decided to focus on his hands.

After a bitter struggle, he finally succeeded in catching Explosive Bear Locke off guard, striking him successfully in a single blow.

Having lost a hand, Explosive Bear Locke was essentially rendered over half as ineffective in martial arts as before, and even in a complete fury, he was unlikely to pose any significant threat to Qin Fang.

"I'm going to kill you..."

Explosive Bear Locke obtained the name not just because of his violent and brutal nature, but also because of his resemblance to a bear.

A wounded bear is also incredibly dangerous. When enraged, even lions and tigers would choose to steer clear of it.

Right then, Explosive Bear Locke was like a wounded bear, his eyes already bloodshot, now looking even more terrifying—as if completely drenched in blood—emanating an intensely wild ferocity...

Injured...

This was not unfamiliar to Explosive Bear Locke. He used to get hurt almost every day on the Black Fist Arena, and there were times when he narrowly escaped death.

But in the end, he gritted his teeth and survived, killing his opponents and achieving victory, which allowed him to live on...

After retiring from the boxing world, his life became much more comfortable, and he hadn't encountered such life-threatening situations and rarely got hurt anymore.

But today... he was injured once again, and by an unknown nobody at that, a fact he found utterly unacceptable.

Every time he was injured, his fury would ignite instantaneously, unleashing even greater fighting power...

"I'm afraid you won't have that chance!"

Qin Fang sneered coldly.

There was no denying that the injured Explosive Bear Locke had indeed become even more ferocious and dangerous, and a slight misstep could result in Qin falling into his grasp.

However, Qin Fang's face remained very calm and composed, as to him, the berserk Explosive Bear Locke was pretty much a "dead bear."

"Die..."

Explosive Bear Locke became utterly frenzied, his body releasing a terrifyingly powerful aura that was even stronger than before by threefold.

Despite having disabled one of his hands, Explosive Bear Locke didn't care at all. His feet erupted with tremendous force, charging at Qin Fang with incredible swiftness and agility. The cauldron-sized fist seemed to possess the strength of a thousand jun, the force of the punch seemingly creating a sonic boom.

"Bring it on..."

Such a wild punch would have made even a Master Level Fighter temporarily avoid it, yet Qin Fang didn't show the slightest sign of retreat, instead meeting it with a punch of his own.

Explosive Bear Locke, unlike Qin Fang, didn't resort to any cunning moves, just straightforwardly met force with force...

Qin Fang, on the other hand, did not use the tactic he had previously employed. Used once, it was unlikely to succeed a second time... Besides, if Qin Fang had dodged the punch, then Explosive Bear Locke's frenzied strike would likely have hit his chest. With his Life Points and defensive value, he could still have been seriously injured.

Bang~~~

Their wild punches collided once more, both men's strength erupting instantly, the terrifying power of the recoil equally horrifying.

Whizzing back, Qin Fang's feet immediately retreated more than ten steps, barely managing to stabilize his form, whereas Explosive Bear Locke fared much better, retreating only three or four steps, seemingly holding an absolute advantage.

However, their battle was far from over.

No sooner had Qin Fang steadied himself than he twisted his body violently and surged forward again. A flurry of ferocious punches, frighteningly powerful kicks, along with elbow strikes and knee thrusts—like a sudden, violent storm—all aimed at Explosive Bear Locke, came crashing down on him.

Confronted with such an assault, even a brute like Explosive Bear Locke had no choice but to adopt a conservative strategy. Although he could engage in a suicidal offensive tactic and fight Qin Fang to the death, with one hand disabled, he was clearly at a disadvantage. This defensive counter seemed to offer some chance of success...

But soon, Explosive Bear Locke would regret it immensely...

A typical master making such a ferocious attack would just be a one-pattern move, equivalent to Cheng Yaojin's "three-axe technique." Once executed, there was nothing left to play.

Such an intense offense could not possibly last long because the physical and stamina consumption of such an attack was several times, even ten times that of ordinary moves...

Even if Explosive Bear Locke himself went completely wild, at most he could persist for a minute or two, which was already quite impressive...

However, Qin Fang in front of him seemed to have no intention of stopping at all. Instead, his momentum was rising entirely, getting stronger and stronger as he fought, and the strength in his hands, legs, and body kept increasing, which made Explosive Bear Locke feel an unprecedented pressure.

On the contrary, under the onslaught of Qin Fang's crazy attack, his own wild momentum had been completely suppressed. The terrifying strength that burst forth was all used to counter Qin Fang's assault, completely failing to pose a threat to Qin Fang.

And what made him even more uncomfortable and remorseful was that when Qin Fang's momentum gradually climbed to the peak, he immediately launched a long-prepared and most ferocious attack!

"Tiger's Rush..."

This time, the timing of the attack was exceedingly good, and the angle was particularly tricky. Explosive Bear Locke didn't even have the chance to react and was hit squarely by Qin Fang's explosive Tiger's Rush.

As the strongest move of Wu's Xingyi Boxing, comparable to the Eight Extremes Fist Mountain Lean's deadly skill, one can imagine how powerful it was.

Worse yet, due to the loss of a hand, Explosive Bear Locke was directly hit in the chest by Qin Fang's Tiger's Rush explosion.

An extremely terrifying force burst from his chest in an instant, attacking all the areas in front of his chest, even spreading the terrifying internal force right into Explosive Bear Locke's organs.

Bang~~~

Under the gaze of Explosive Bear Locke's disbelieving eyes, he felt excruciating pain in his chest and heard the clear sound of his ribs breaking. His body flew up like a kite with a broken string and heavily crashed against the door behind him.

Crack~~

The solid wood door was very sturdy, yet it could not withstand the violent impact of Explosive Bear Locke, who crashed through it and flew out of the resulting hole.

"fuck, how is this possible..."

Before this, Explosive Bear Locke had envisioned many possible scenarios and thought of countless tragic ways for Qin Fang to die, but he never expected this... He actually got brutally defeated by Qin Fang in his frenzied state.

At this moment, Explosive Bear Locke looked like a young girl who had just been violated, pale and terribly weak, his entire being so frail. The golden hair hung listlessly, clearly having completely lost any resistance...

"How about it? You dumb bear, can't stand up this time, can you..."

Finally having overwhelmed Explosive Bear Locke with one strike, Qin Fang was also panting heavily but felt a slight sense of satisfaction in his heart. His calculations had paid off...

"Hmph!"

But from the day Explosive Bear Locke entered the Black Fist Arena, he had already put his life aside. To have come this far meant he had already lived much longer than expected.

Although he hated Qin to the core, he wasn't one to bow his head so easily, that wasn't his style.

As a boxer who had walked out of the Black Fist Arena alive, he had his own honor and steadfast beliefs, which he intended to uphold with his life.

Ratatat~~~

And just then, those men in black finally arrived late. However, seeing Explosive Bear Locke lying on the ground, and then looking at Qin Fang who appeared relaxed, they instantly felt threatened and swiftly pulled out their guns.

"Anyone who doesn't want to die, get out of the way..."

Qin Fang's icy gaze swept over them, filled with a bloodthirsty intent that left them stunned.

"Kill him!"

However, Explosive Bear Locke next to them didn't want such a thing to happen. Enduring severe pain and anger, he roared furiously. Even if he had to die, he wanted to take his arch-enemy Qin Fang down with him.

Bang~~~

But before the men in black could respond, a very faint gunshot sound reached their ears. Then they saw one of their companions' eyebrows bloom with blood, and that person collapsed immediately.

Only then did they notice that Qin Fang's hand had suddenly produced a silenced gun at some point...

As for their unlucky comrade who got killed, it was simply because he was a little quicker on the draw, which Qin Fang perceived as a threat and mercilessly took him down with a single shot.

"Forgot to tell you guys, actually, my gunmanship is much more lethal than my fists..."

Chapter 907 - Clues to Sinan's Whereabouts

...

Qin Fang's words weren't just boastful—they carried a posture that gave the illusion of "this is really how it is."

At least, the subordinates of Explosive Bear Locke, and possibly those of Sinan, were entirely subdued by this show of force from Qin Fang.

Not a single one of them dared to make another move. If Qin Fang were merely a martial arts expert, they would not be afraid, but they hadn't expected his gunmanship to be so formidable too.

Now that Qin Fang had seized the initiative and already killed one of their own, no one wanted to be the next unfortunate soul to fall.

They were just ordinary bodyguards hired for protection, not black-fisted fighters like Explosive Bear Locke, who would defend their dignity with their lives. When choosing between money and life, they naturally made the most sensible choice...

Otherwise, that corpse lying on the ground would be the perfect example for them!

"Put away the guns..."

Seeing that these people were intimidated, Qin Fang did not trouble them further, simply commanding them calmly.

They looked at each other, uncertain who would be the first to act, then one by one, they began to put their guns back, emulating the first.

Nobody dared to play any tricks. That would make things far too obvious, and they were not fools.

"That's what good, obedient children do..."

Seeing the last person holster their gun, Qin Fang gave a soft commendation, though his words carried a slapping irony that made their faces look rather unsightly. Yet, no one retorted or made any rash actions.

"Foolish bear, it seems you won't shed tears until you see your coffin. Well then, I'll have to give you a proper welcome..."

Having dealt with those men, Qin Fang naturally turned his attention to Explosive Bear Locke, who was a formidable opponent and most likely to know Sinan's whereabouts. Qin Fang intended to extract that information from him.

Although he and Su Xiaoxiao were still in collaboration, if he could find out Sinan's location by himself, he could bypass Su Xiaoxiao and carry out the cleaning mission alone.

"Hmph..."

Although Explosive Bear Locke had been defeated and captured, the likelihood of him betraying his employer was still very low. His response to Qin Fang was a cold snort, filled with sarcasm and disdain.

In the Underground World, some rules are strictly upheld: whether for an assassin or a mercenary, an employer's identity and privacy must be kept confidential. Breaking this rule is a violation of the code, and the offender will also be cleaned up.

Explosive Bear Locke might have left the Black Fist Alliance, but he joined the Mercenary Alliance and became a mercenary. Hired to be Sinan's bodyguard, his tasks included ensuring Sinan's safety, concealing his whereabouts, and eliminating any assassin that could threaten Sinan—all within the scope of his duties.

Even though he had been captured by Qin Fang and was unable to perform the latter, he could still keep Sinan's location secret...

"It looks like you've got quite a backbone... I always enjoy dealing with tough guys like you!"

Qin Fang frowned slightly. Explosive Bear Locke's reaction was within his expectations, but what irritated him was that his Mind Reading Technique was completely useless against Locke.

When it comes to torture, Qin Fang had his own lethal skill—Yama's Eighteen Needles were specially designed for tough men like this, though whether Explosive Bear Locke, who was much stronger than the former Ling Feng, could withstand even a few of those needles was uncertain...

"Foolish bear, brace yourself. I'm going to introduce you to a taste of Hell..."

With the Silver Needle in hand, the smile on Qin Fang's face seemed unusually sinister. Explosive Bear Locke couldn't help but frown, and the black-robed bodyguards felt a slight shiver coursing through their bodies.

"Now, we begin..."

As Qin Fang's words fell, his silver needle pierced into Explosive Bear Locke's body, completely restraining him...

Of course, even without being restrained, Explosive Bear Locke was practically out of strength to struggle.

Qin Fang did this mainly because he feared that the imminent pain might cause Locke to lash out violently. When subjected to extreme pain, that's when one's hidden potential bursts forth.

For a brutal person like Explosive Bear Locke, unleashing his fullest potential might leave even Qin Fang unable to control him, possibly even getting himself hurt...

"You think a mere little needle can do anything to me?"

Even though Explosive Bear Locke sensed that Qin Fang was up to no good, seeing nothing more than thin, slender Silver Needles, his face showed deep scorn and disdain.

Not to mention such fine needles, even if it were a knife stabbing into his body, he wouldn't flinch. He naturally did not take such needles seriously.

"You'll regret it soon enough..."

Qin Fang, however, seemed unconcerned. He spoke with a cheery laugh, yet his hand was decisive, plunging another Silver Needle in.

"Hiss~"

With this needle, Explosive Bear Locke finally felt something. Although not very painful, it caused him a slight panic and he had the vague feeling that this thin Silver Needle might have some peculiar power.

Acupuncture is a millennia-old exquisite skill of Dragon Country. To foreigners, it's tantamount to witchcraft or magic, something utterly incomprehensible.

Chapter 908 - Clues to Sinan's Whereabouts_2

Explosive Bear Locke had been in Dragon Country for some time now, speaking quite fluently in Chinese and having learned much of Dragon Country's culture, but he was entirely ignorant of acupuncture.

That's why he was so dismissive, for he was a man who had survived brutal slaughter. The injuries he had endured almost brought him to the brink of death, and the pain he had suffered was beyond the imagination of ordinary people. How could he possibly be frightened by a slender silver needle?

"Ah..."

However, just as Qin Fang had said, very soon, he felt the difference with the slender Silver Needle. When Qin Fang inserted a Silver Needle into his body, his heart suddenly experienced an excruciating pain, and even his iron-willed resolve was struck by an incredibly intense Heavy Strike.

"How's that? Feeling good... It's not too late to speak up now! I'm not afraid to tell you, this is just the beginning, what's coming next will be ten times, a hundred times more intense..."

Qin Fang wasn't bluffing Explosive Bear Locke; indeed, he spoke the absolute truth, without any deception.

To this day, no one had been able to withstand more than ten of Yama's Eighteen Needles, no matter how tough they were.

"Hmph!"

If Explosive Bear Locke could be defeated so easily, he wouldn't have gained such a reputation. Despite the intense pain causing his face to distort completely, faced with Qin Fang's pressing, he still responded with a cold snort.

"A real man..."

Qin Fang praised, yet he took out another Silver Needle and inserted it again.

"Ah..."

This time it was clearly even more painful than before. Explosive Bear Locke's body visibly shook violently. Had Qin Fang not previously restricted him with prohibitive magic, Locke probably would have lashed out violently in retaliation.

As it was, his reaction was extremely intense, and there were hints of him possibly breaking through the magical restrictions...

Qin Fang paid no attention to such a scene. If prohibitive magic could be so easily broken, he would not have used it to deal with someone like Explosive Bear Locke.

Moreover, even if Locke broke the restriction, there would be a minute or so of weakness afterwards, which Qin Fang could exploit to take down Explosive Bear Locke, so he wasn't too worried.

Explosive Bear Locke still showed no signs of talking, biting down hard and enduring without a word, his eyes filled with endless resentment towards Qin Fang, which Qin Fang simply ignored.

"Here I go again..."

Not only that, Qin Fang kept a smile on his face as he struck with the needle once more.

"Augh~~~"

This time was even more terrifying. Explosive Bear Locke's body trembled violently, and despite the deep winter, beads of sweat the size of beans dripped down profusely...

And his pores were fully opened, oozing out a significant amount of blood-red sweat, looking as though they were about to bleed...

"Silly bear, I'm asking you one last time, if you don't talk now, then there will be no more chances..."

Qin Fang withdrew the Silver Needle again, judging from Explosive Bear Locke's current state, he was clearly on his last legs. Essentially, with this next needle, he would undoubtedly be unable to withstand it.

This was no surprise. If he had been in a healthy state, even if Qin Fang had restrained him, he could have lasted seven or eight needles at least. But since he was already severely injured and had been

subjected to several devastating needles from Qin Fang consecutively, he was basically at the end of his tether. Even if Qin Fang released him, he would essentially be a non-threatening, ruined man.

"Don't delude yourself..."

Explosive Bear Locke almost squeezed these words out of his mouth, having expended all his energy. After speaking, he closed his eyes as if waiting for death.

Qin Fang was silent as he inserted the final needle...

Explosive Bear Locke's body started to tremble violently, as if set into motion by machinery; a strong tremor shook him and then finally subsided. At the same time, Qin Fang clearly noticed that Explosive Bear Locke's life force was gradually dissipating until it vanished completely...

"Sigh, the willpower of such a person is truly unyielding..."

Qin Fang looked at the now-dead Explosive Bear Locke with pity and couldn't help but sigh helplessly in his heart.

People like him who had survived life-and-death struggles may not have endured suffering of this level before, but their endurance was unmatched; they chose to die in agony rather than reveal the slightest secret to Qin Fang...

Similarly, this steadfast resolve gave Qin Fang's Mind Reading Technique no room to work, and in the end, he was unable to pinpoint Sinan's hiding place.

Explosive Bear Locke was dead, which granted Qin Fang a respectable amount of Experience Points, but no items dropped. It might be because the chap was too poor, having nothing worthwhile to drop.

"As you've just seen, if any of you divulge Sinan's whereabouts, I'll let him leave; otherwise... you will all be subjected to this torment one by one!"

However, Qin Fang obviously couldn't stop chasing Sinan's whereabouts just because Explosive Bear Locke was dead; there was at least a chance that these people before him knew something.

Yet he was disappointed. Although fear was deeply etched on their faces, fear of such torture to the utmost extreme, they still shook their heads with bitter smiles. They truly knew nothing about it.

The willpower of these men was nowhere near that of Explosive Bear Locke, and at this moment, filled with such fear, Qin Fang's Mind Reading Technique easily took effect. He quickly scanned through several minds and eventually, it was confirmed—they indeed did not know Sinan's whereabouts...

"Really, not a single one knows..."

Although this was somewhat expected by Qin Fang, having the outcome actually unfold in such a way was slightly displeasing to him.

He had been busy for quite a while, even risking a fight with Explosive Bear Locke, and yet had gleaned no useful information, which left him somewhat disappointed.

"Do I really have to collaborate with that beautiful woman?"

In fact, partnering with Su Xiaoxiao was just a backup plan for Qin Fang. If he could directly find out where Sinan was, he would have certainly slipped away at the first opportunity. But now, like this, without any leads, his only option was to cooperate with Su Xiaoxiao...

However, even if they partnered up and found Sinan, the ownership of the mission still remained an issue... Expecting the young woman to just hand over the mission to him was out of the question.

Of course, it was equally impossible for Qin Fang to just hand the mission over to the young woman.

This had nothing to do with courtesy toward ladies—Qin Fang placed great importance on the mission. The high Points it offered could not only allow Qin Fang to smoothly ascend to the ranks of a Two-Star Assassin but could also resolve his current worries for the future.

He had no choice; his Points were too low, and the time limit was now at its end. He needed to complete a mission quickly so as not to be purged by the Assassin's Alliance.

"Hmm?"

But just then, when Qin Fang thought there were absolutely no clues to be had, he came across a message of great potential value in the mind of a black-robed bodyguard.

The only person in this villa with direct contact to Sinan was—Explosive Bear Locke, who Qin Fang had killed. This bodyguard had accidentally overheard a phone call Explosive Bear Locke received, where Locke seemed to have mentioned the word "bridge" as if arranging a meeting with someone there...

Whether this information was useful or not, Qin Fang was not yet sure, but at the very least it was a lead, far better than no gain at all.

Sinan was well aware that the Assassin's Alliance was after him and knew he was in Yangcheng, but he hadn't left and remained here, which meant he must have had some unspeakable motive...

As for what the actual motive was, Qin Fang obviously had no idea. The only person who might have known a thing or two, Explosive Bear Locke, was dead, so Qin Fang could only follow these sparse clues to track down Sinan's location...

Chapter 909 - Locking the Target

...

Explosive Bear Locke had already perished, leaving the rest of the people in the villa hesitant to make any dangerous moves. Qin Fang briefly wandered around the villa and then calmly left the building.

Su Xiaoxiao had been secretly watching over the villa the entire time. She had prepared to run as far as possible the moment she saw Explosive Bear Locke appear, even if it meant abandoning the mission, to avoid putting herself in danger.

An assassin is still an assassin, always knowing to seek fortune and avoid disaster...

As for Qin Fang, her potential collaborator, since he didn't manage to escape, she certainly wasn't going to worry about his safety, as they weren't that familiar with each other.

"How... how is this possible?"

However, when she saw Qin Fang swaggering out of the villa's front door, she almost thought her eyes were deceiving her.

In the villa was Explosive Bear Locke, a brutal butcher; falling into his hands meant there was no chance of getting out alive, as the fate of the Three-Star Assassin Ghost Bear best demonstrated.

"Could he be one of Sinan's people?"

For Qin Fang to stroll out in such a manner, without interference from anyone, either Qin Fang had alone eliminated everyone inside, or he knew the people inside the villa...

The former seemed nearly impossible to Su Xiaoxiao at the first thought—after all, there was Explosive Bear Locke inside, along with many gunmen and bodyguards. Even an average Four-Star Assassin might not come out unscathed, let alone Qin Fang, a newbie One-Star Assassin.

But if Qin Fang were one of Sinan's people, it wouldn't make sense for him to get close to Su Xiaoxiao, nor to jointly target Sinan with her...

"Right, his face..."

Fortunately, Su Xiaoxiao soon found a reasoning she considered reliable—Qin Fang could change his face. At least, the face she saw wasn't his real one. It was very likely another face from Sinan's ranks, allowing him to blend in and safely walk out...

"That's not right either, Explosive Bear Locke's nose..."

But quickly, Su Xiaoxiao shook her head. Even she could detect Qin Fang's scent, and Explosive Bear Locke's ability in this area could only be stronger, not weaker. It made no sense for him not to have noticed.

Thinking hard, Su Xiaoxiao couldn't come up with a rational explanation for the bizarre scene she'd just witnessed...

Meanwhile, lost in her thoughts, Qin Fang had already safely left the range of that villa and quickly met up with her outside the villa area.

"Are you alright?"

Seeing Qin Fang again, Su Xiaoxiao scrutinized him carefully and asked with great uncertainty.

"I'm fine, what could be wrong with me?"

Qin Fang also looked at Su Xiaoxiao a bit strangely, as there seemed to be no injuries on him anywhere. Why would this beauty ask such a thing?

"You didn't run into that lunatic Explosive Bear Locke?"

Su Xiaoxiao still asked incredulously. Explosive Bear Locke had just killed the Three-Star Assassin Ghost Bear and she had seen him return to the villa herself. With his sense of smell, there was no reason he wouldn't have detected Qin Fang's presence.

"I did run into him! We even clashed..."

Qin Fang nodded, speaking nonchalantly... Even though his fight with Explosive Bear Locke had been tough and he had taken some slight advantage, his wounds healed rather quickly as if nothing had happened.

"You fought... then you..."

Su Xiaoxiao's eyes widened, filled with disbelief, she scrutinized Qin Fang from top to bottom, left to right, front and back, finding it impossible to believe that Qin Fang had managed to escape from Explosive Bear Locke's grasp.

"I'm fine, he's dead..."

Qin Fang shrugged his shoulders and said calmly.

"Dead... dead?"

Su Xiaoxiao couldn't help but be astonished, her initial reaction to his words was—he must be boasting. But soon she felt differently because Qin Fang indeed had come out alive, whereas Explosive Bear Locke and those gunmen had not shown up.

"You killed Explosive Bear Locke?"

Su Xiaoxiao's disbelief intensified, increasingly feeling that Qin Fang was boasting, his words completely ludicrous, none of them true.

"Pretty much!"

Qin Fang hesitated a bit, then still provided a quite definite answer, to be precise, Explosive Bear Locke had suffered severe injuries and couldn't endure Qin Fang's onslaught, dying in agony... Essentially, he'd been tormented to death by Qin Fang, so it counted as his kill.

"I have a photo..."

Suddenly, Qin Fang remembered and quickly took out his phone, pulling up a photo that was indeed a grizzly sight of Explosive Bear Locke's dead body...

Explosive Bear Locke had such fame that naturally, he had made quite a few enemies. In the Underground World, there was also a bounty list, and every person with such a reputation had a price on their head. Whoever killed someone on the list could claim the corresponding bounty.

This was just an incidental sum of money, and Qin Fang certainly did not hold back...

"By the way, how much is the bounty for Explosive Bear Locke on the bounty list?"

Of course, Qin Fang had just thought of this as he seemed not to know how much Explosive Bear Locke was worth, so he casually asked Su Xiaoxiao.

"Er... eight hundred thousand US Dollars!"

Su Xiaoxiao mechanically replied, although her thoughts were clearly not entirely on this matter.

This photograph had already proven that everything Qin Fang said was true. With her professional assassin's keen eye, she could tell whether Explosive Bear Locke was truly dead or faking it. However, this proof made her feel as though her entire worldview had been completely overturned.

Explosive Bear Locke was a ferocious figure who had walked alive out of the Black Fist Arena after slaughtering a hundred people. Such a person had incredibly terrifying strength and a far superior sense of danger than others; even using a gun might not easily kill him, let alone... she hadn't heard any gunshots outside.

The most critical part was, Qin Fang gave off an impression that was not very strong; she could easily subdue him herself, so how could he be a match for Explosive Bear Locke...

Wait, it seems like he was bluffing me before!

Su Xiaoxiao suddenly remembered that she almost castrated Qin Fang, who seemed to have been pretending to be unconscious, and maybe that disturbing sound was made by Qin Fang.

"Eight hundred thousand US Dollars... not bad at all!"

Qin Fang curled his lip; this amount, converted into RMB, was also five million, making the killing of Explosive Bear Locke quite worthwhile.

Of course, Qin Fang felt a bit regretful too.

If he could have peered into Explosive Bear Locke's mind, he might have learned the account numbers and passwords of his bank accounts, which would undoubtedly have been a significant sum.

"By the way, I brought the stuff out for you, see if there's anything useful..."

Qin Fang immediately took out all the items he had brought with him that might have retained traces of Sinan's scent. Luckily, he had prepared a backpack before leaving the house; otherwise, just conjuring items out of nowhere would have probably made Su Xiaoxiao think she had seen a ghost!

"Okay..."

Though still shocked that Qin Fang's strength allowed him to slay a butcher like Explosive Bear Locke, she thought about how they were currently in a collaborative state; the stronger her partner, the more secure her safety naturally became.

Su Xiaoxiao then started to carefully distinguish each odor preserved on the items Qin Fang had brought out, using the process of elimination to directly discard those scents that were completely impossible.

After over half an hour of discerning, Su Xiaoxiao ultimately identified three different scents, one of which might have been Sinan's scent...

Of course, there was also the possibility that Sinan had never appeared in this villa at all.

"What should we do next then?"

Even with a target in mind, Sinan was not in this villa. In a vast city like this, finding Sinan was still like looking for a needle in a haystack.

Su Xiaoxiao knew much more information than Qin Fang, as the Assassin's Alliance must have provided some very useful information when they issued this mission. Thus, Su Xiaoxiao should know where to go next to look for him.

"Canal Bridge..."

Su Xiaoxiao gave Qin Fang an odd glance, hesitated a bit, and finally revealed such a location, causing Qin Fang's eyebrows to twitch slightly.

He had just learned from that gunman bodyguard about a clue involving "the bridge," and now that Su Xiaoxiao had directly mentioned Canal Bridge, his reaction was understandable.

"But it's already very late today; I'll go back to rest first. Sinan should show up tomorrow night..."

However, Qin Fang had too little information, and Su Xiaoxiao didn't reveal much, just yawned and decided to call it a day.

As for those items Qin Fang had brought out, she would directly burn them all to a clean state...

"Then I'll also go back to rest..."

Qin Fang nodded, appearing to have no intention of continuing to follow Su Xiaoxiao.

Both of them left the villa area and hailed taxis on the roadside, heading back towards the downtown area separately.

Su Xiaoxiao did not trust Qin Fang, and Qin Fang naturally did not trust Su Xiaoxiao either. Thus, both of them kept their own methods. Although it seemed like their cars were headed in two different directions, almost immediately after losing sight of each other, they switched to another vehicle...

However, after changing vehicles, Su Xiaoxiao indeed went back to the Yangcheng Hotel, while Qin Fang went to the Canal Bridge. Honestly, he felt that Su Xiaoxiao was definitely hiding something, especially when her eyes flickered as she spoke.

Qin Fang vaguely felt there was something amiss about this Canal Bridge, so he had come to check it out first...

By killing Explosive Bear Locke and removing such a strong assistant from around Sinan, this was as much about reducing problems for Qin Fang as it was for Su Xiaoxiao.

However, exactly because of this, there was no guarantee that Su Xiaoxiao wouldn't leave him to finish the mission on her own...

Chapter 910 - Millennium Ancient Corpse

...

Yangcheng is a millennia-old ancient city and a famous historical city from ancient times, especially the canal next to it, which is filled with countless legends.

However, the course of the Great Canal had long been altered, and the so-called Canal Bridge was not actually very large. Qin Fang got out of the car by the bridge and began to look around.

The canal's current was slow, and its surface width was not very broad, at most around a hundred meters. Given that it was the dry season of winter, the water level was even lower, preventing larger boats from navigating it.

What exactly was Sinan planning to do here?

This question surfaced in Qin Fang's mind. Only by understanding Sinan's purpose could he figure out why he chose to appear here.

Selling military arms?

Sinan was an arms dealer, and arms trading was his normal operation, but given the surroundings, if he planned to go by land, he might as well find a more secluded location. If by water, large boats couldn't sail, and small boats lacked the concealment...

"The bridge..."

Looking at the bridge before him, Qin Fang's expression darkened, feeling that he might have been tricked... duped by Su Xiaoxiao.

Indeed, he had learned from that gunman bodyguard that Sinan had mentioned something about a "bridge" to Explosive Bear Locke. So, when Su Xiaoxiao mentioned the Canal Bridge, he immediately thought it was the correct answer. Now it seemed that might not be the case...

"Perhaps it's another bridge..."

Qin Fang hesitated, not feeling that this bridge would be a place Sinan would appear. He left immediately, hailed another cab halfway, and after a chat with the driver, he learned that the real Canal Bridge was actually further away. That was where the Great Canal was, directly connecting to the Yangtze River.

If Sinan really intended to transact arms here, taking that part of the Great Canal would be the wisest choice.

So, Qin Fang immediately drove towards it and quickly began searching nearby... More accurately, Qin Fang planned to use the "wait-and-see" approach and stake out there.

It was certain that Sinan was lurking in the Yangcheng District, and since Qin Fang had already scouted the bridge area, there was only one road to get under the bridge. Whether it was Sinan or Su Xiaoxiao, if they came, they would have to take that road. Qin Fang just needed to keep watch here, and he would surely catch one of them.

Time flew swiftly, with the clock hands creeping closer to midnight. Qin Fang's mood shifted from tranquility to growing impatience...

Finally, a car stopped by the bridge side, immediately catching Qin Fang's attention.

The person who got out was clad in black, but slender—a woman for sure. She was carrying a similarly black case and walking towards Qin Fang's location, extremely vigilant the whole way.

She was certainly no ordinary woman!

Who would dare come to such a desolate place in the dead of night alone, not afraid of encountering vagrants or being dragged into the woods and finished off...

As the woman gradually came closer, Qin Fang could finally use his scouting skill to check her information...

Su Xiaoxiao!

The woman who had come in the dead of night was actually Su Xiaoxiao!

"Heh heh... It looks like I guessed right!"

Qin Fang had feared that he might be wrong and have to endure the cold northwest wind all night for nothing, but Su Xiaoxiao had indeed come.

And judging by her demeanor, it was clear that she was carrying weapons in the case, meaning Sinan would not show up tomorrow night, but tonight.

Su Xiaoxiao gradually neared the spot where Qin Fang was hidden and soon found a suitable place to conceal herself. However, she was not watching the road she came from but the vast expanse of the river.

Witnessing this scene, Qin Fang couldn't help but sneer inwardly. It seemed Su Xiaoxiao had held back quite a bit from him.

Perhaps Sinan was not in the Yangcheng District at all, but he was definitely going to appear tonight!

But, if it was so, even if Su Xiaoxiao knew Sinan's scent, with several dozens of meters' distance from the river, no matter how strong the scent, it would be dispersed by the wind over the water...

"Damn, this girl is ruthless, fooling someone to death without any compensation..."

This revelation made Qin Fang realize that Su Xiaoxiao probably didn't care about the items he had stolen from the villa that may have carried Sinan's scent—she already had her own way of identifying Sinan.

With this in mind, Qin Fang saw no need to keep waiting there and started moving towards Su Xiaoxiao's hiding place.

"Who's there?"

Su Xiaoxiao was attentively watching the surface of the river when she suddenly heard a noise from behind. Almost instantaneously, she uttered a wary shout and pointed the gun in her hand towards the direction of the sound.

Thunk~~

Her reflexes were quick, but not as fast as the newcomer's. She only felt a slight pain in her wrist, and her gun was knocked from her grasp.

"Miss Su, I didn't expect to see you again, doing this is hardly honorable..."

Qin Fang's face was adorned with a sardonic smile, thankfully he had been on guard beforehand, otherwise, he might really have been fooled by Su Xiaoxiao.

"Pot calling the kettle black..."

Su Xiaoxiao showed not a trace of shame, instead, she retorted with quite an air of righteousness.

While it's true that she had left Qin Fang behind to come here alone, Qin Fang had also arrived ahead of time, and this wasn't the location she had mentioned before, which only indicated that Qin Fang had come even earlier than she did.

"Damn..."

Qin Fang was momentarily at a loss for words, facing Su Xiaoxiao's attitude, he had no choice but to hold back what he had intended to say.

"Miss Su, we're somewhat like allies in cooperation. I can let the matter of you deceiving me slide, but moving forward, I still hope we can collaborate sincerely..."

Regarding Su Xiaoxiao's lack of integrity, Qin Fang really didn't have much to say; women are irrational creatures by nature, and no amount of talking would be useful. What mattered most was for him to gain some useful information.

"You want to share the task points with me?"

Su Xiaoxiao's cold gaze met Qin Fang's, and at this moment, she differed completely from before, now more resembling an assassin.

If it weren't for Qin Fang's Scouting Skill indicating that she was the same person, he might have thought he was dealing with twin sisters.

"That can be arranged..."

Qin Fang frowned slightly, his rational side agreeing with Su Xiaoxiao's reluctance to share such a high-value task with someone else.

But without cooperation, both of them would inevitably sabotage each other, resulting in neither completing the task, and even risking being hunted down by Sinan...

Those in the arms trade are equipped with formidable armed forces; they are just two people. In a hail of bullets, neither could ensure they would definitely survive.

And most importantly, they planned to eliminate their target, Sinan...

"Fine, I agree... For this mission, we'll collaborate with true sincerity. Anyone who plays tricks shouldn't blame me for turning against them!" Su Xiaoxiao considered for a moment and finally nodded in agreement.

However, to Qin Fang's ears, her words didn't sit right, but cooperation was crucial, and other matters could be set aside for now.

"Then tell me everything you know..."

What Qin Fang urgently wanted to know was the current situation. Su Xiaoxiao clearly was privy to a lot, and she had even obtained some classified information through Sun Shu before, which was evidently closely related to Sinan's current operation. Perhaps this information wasn't even available to the Assassin's Alliance.

"From what I understand, Sinan is not dealing with arms this time but smuggling artifacts..."

Su Xiaoxiao then briefly explained everything she knew.

"Smuggling artifacts?"

Qin Fang was slightly stunned, not quite understanding why Sinan, who was doing well as an arms dealer, had switched to being an artifact trafficker. After all, arms and drugs are the most profitable trades in the world...

Although artifacts can also be quite lucrative, they don't compare to the other two, and Sinan's switch also meant he had defected from the Assassin's Alliance, which was quite suspicious.

"You think they're ordinary artifacts?"

Su Xiaoxiao cynically scoffed at Qin Fang but didn't stop there, continuing her tale.

"Yangcheng is a millennium-old city, and it was once a royal city. Many Han tombs have been unearthed here... and this time, Sinan got his hands on a Millennium Ancient Corpse from a Tomb Robber..."

"This Millennium Ancient Corpse is extraordinarily powerful. When the tomb robbers broke into the ancient tomb and entered, they were attacked by this ancient corpse. They lost nearly ten men and, even after using a lot of firearms, weren't able to harm it. It wasn't until they accidentally discovered that the ancient corpse was highly sensitive to light that they were finally able to subdue it and put it back into a specially made Jade Coffin, before they were able to transport it..."

Qin Fang listened intently to Su Xiaoxiao's narrative, finding the content so fantastical it seemed like a story.

A Millennium Ancient Corpse, surviving a thousand years without perishing, and immune to knives and guns - if not a monster, then what?

"Sinan wants to sell this Millennium Ancient Corpse?"

Qin Fang's brows furrowed tightly. If what Su Xiaoxiao said was true, the value of this ancient corpse was indeed incredibly high, but it was also very dangerous. It didn't seem sufficient to make Sinan betray the Assassin's Alliance.

"I've heard that some Corpse Oil weeps from the corpse's exterior, and if someone consumes it, it can immediately enhance their physical Strength more than ten times..."

Su Xiaoxiao glanced at Qin Fang and then revealed the crux of the matter.

"Fuck, so that's it..."

Hearing the real reason, Qin Fang finally understood why Sinan was taking such risks and even defecting from the Assassin's Alliance; the value of this Millennium Ancient Corpse was just too great, even far exceeding the profits from trading arms...