

Genius 961

Chapter 961: The Startling Truth!

It takes a truly ruthless person to loan out money at high interest and then collect it with even higher rates!

Liu Kun felt like he wanted to die at that moment!

He had thought that paying back thirty thousand by force, making himself grit his teeth and stop there, was already tough, but Qin Fang was much more ruthless than he had imagined.

Eight thousand yuan was quite a sum of money more than a decade ago, worth even more than eighty thousand now. According to the bank's interest rates, thirteen years wouldn't have reached thirty thousand yuan.

But if calculated with the interest rates of a loan shark... that would truly be an astronomical figure.

Li Deliang borrowed three hundred thousand, and after one month, it turned into five hundred thousand. Although this was their trick to scam money, the method was extremely exploitative.

Even using the most conservative loan shark calculation method, after thirteen years, the total was horrifyingly high, conservatively estimated to have turned the eight thousand into millions.

It was precisely because he understood this that when Liu Kun heard Qin Fang say this, his face turned completely green... he might have a few hundred yuan, but millions... even killing him wouldn't make up the small change.

He had seen ruthless, but never someone this ruthless!

Everyone present was stunned by such an astonishing proposal from Qin Fang, including Su Xiaoxiao and Mother Su... although they were surprised, they were slightly pleased because Qin Fang was standing up for them.

Liu Kun was dumbfounded; his mother, Liu Ying, almost passed out, and his underlings' faces turned green, even forgetting their own injuries.

In the corner, Li Deliang was also dumbfounded, his eyes filled with endless terror as he looked at Qin Fang.

"Have you calculated it yet?"

Qin Fang ignored everything else and just smiled as he looked at Liu Kun and asked, "Tell me, how do you plan to pay back the money?"

"I... I have no money!"

Liu Kun opened his mouth but in the end could only helplessly hang his head. Even if he added up his entire fortune, sold his house, and scraped together whatever he could, he would be lucky to pay off just the tip of the debt.

He definitely couldn't pay off this debt, not to mention if the money were calculated as a loan shark debt, which was growing every day. With such a large base, he could never hope to pay it off in his lifetime, unless he turned to his boss, Martial World, for a bailout...

But he was very aware, his boss wouldn't possibly pay off the debt for him—he was just a lowly underling, hardly worth so much money!

"No money... tsk tsk, that won't do!"

As they say, it takes a crook to catch a crook. For someone like Liu Kun, you can't be too polite. Qin Fang simply took on the role of the villain himself, his face adorned with an evil smile as his eyes roamed over Liu Kun.

"If you can't produce the money, then I'll have to take you to repay the debt... it's a pity you're not a woman, you couldn't even redeem yourself through prostitution... As for becoming a gigolo, with that puny frame and face of yours, probably not very popular..."

Qin Fang was indeed very evil, looking like a pig trader sizing up swine, picking at faults here and there...

Liu Kun was described in such a demeaning way by Qin Fang, his face turning exceedingly unsightly, but he dared not protest, just nodded along to whatever Qin Fang said.

"By the way, I hear the organ trade is doing well recently; I even heard someone sold a kidney to buy an iPhone..."

However, he clearly underestimated the depth of Qin Fang's malevolence, which suddenly shifted in that direction.

"Gah... sell a kidney!"

Liu Kun's face turned even greener.

The selling a kidney for an iPhone story was something he had heard of, and at the time he had called them fools, but he hadn't expected it to suddenly fall on his own head.

"A person has two kidneys, and the latest iPhone seems to cost six or seven thousand yuan—a pair of kidneys could go for fourteen thousand..."

Liu Kun listened as Qin Fang continued to mutter on, his face getting even greener.

"Damn... selling my kidneys, I might accept that since a normal person can live with one kidney. But selling both at once... am I still supposed to live?"

Liu Kun's heart was filled with infinite grudge, but before he had a chance to voice a complaint, he heard what Qin Fang said next.

"Corneas can also be donated, and the heart, liver, bone marrow... all these can be transplanted! This way we could gather quite a sum... The body could be donated to a medical school for specimens, should still fetch some money!"

But now, Qin Fang wasn't just interested in selling his kidneys; it seemed he intended not to let any transplantable organs go uncollected... even planning to have his corpse dissected for specimens!

"By the way, this woman could be sold once as well... tsk tsk, though it's still not enough to pay off the debt, it should barely suffice!"

Even his own mother was not spared, included in Qin Fang's plan for harvesting organs... For a moment, Liu Kun felt the young man in front of him wasn't just a demon, but truly Satan incarnate.

Not only he thought so, but his mother Liu Ying thought the same, and so did his underlings—they all looked at Qin Fang with even greater fear, keeping quiet, afraid they too might be casually added to Qin Fang's blacklist and nabbed for their organs.

Mother Su was completely stunned at this point; she knew Qin Fang definitely wouldn't let Liu Kun and his people off easily, but she hadn't expected that not even severing an arm would suffice, and now he was pulling such a ruthless move.

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Although she knew Qin Fang was merely trying to scare Liu Kun and the others, if they failed to realize it, Qin Fang might actually do it!

These people really needed to see the coffin before they would shed tears!

Su Xiaoxiao was quite calm, merely watching Qin Fang perform quietly, a faint smile appearing at the corner of her mouth. If the situation had been appropriate, she would have wanted to applaud Qin Fang and cheer him on much earlier.

"How about that? What do you think of my plan... Do you have anything to add?"

At this moment, Liu Kun truly had nothing to say, yet Qin Fang seemed to have no intention of being the bad guy. He approached Liu Kun with a cheery smile and asked very amiably, as if he was genuinely discussing something with Liu Kun.

"Damn it, does anyone discuss how to sell all their organs and not even spare their corpse?"

Liu Kun really wanted to pray for heavenly thunder to strike down this young man in front of him... or, at worst, to strike himself dead—no, better to strike the other man. If he died, he would no doubt be unable to escape having his organs sold!

"No... no..."

Liu Kun now deeply regretted his ill-conceived scheme. He hadn't managed to get the money he had tricked them out of, and now he had got himself in trouble instead.

Having broken an arm was actually getting off lightly. Seeing Qin Fang's demeanor, he feared that even losing a layer of skin might not be enough to escape...

"Ah, it's boring... After playing with you for so long, I'll give you one more chance to tell the truth. Perhaps I might spare your life! Otherwise... it won't be long before your corpse appears on a dissection table at Yangcheng Medical College..."

Liu Kun was thoroughly worn out by Qin Fang, although not frightened out of his wits, he was close. Others might think Qin Fang was merely scaring Liu Kun, but as one of the parties involved, Liu Kun believed that every word Qin Fang said could become reality...

"The truth? What truth?"

Liu Kun blinked in confusion, gazing at Qin Fang, seeming puzzled about what he meant.

"Who designed this scam? What exactly does he want? Tell me everything you know, no omissions or alterations, otherwise... you know what will happen!"

Qin Fang was still very polite. Faced with Liu Kun's confusion, he patiently explained, though the latter part immediately made Liu Kun feel a chill, as if a cold wind blew through him.

He distinctly felt the murderous intent emanating from Qin Fang as if daring to tell even half a lie would lead Qin Fang to turn him into a corpse without hesitation.

For this, Liu Kun had no doubts; Qin Fang's strength was unquestionable. Just a simple stamp of his foot had knocked down more than ten of his men, handling him would be child's play.

"I..."

Liu Kun was surprised, marveling at how Qin Fang knew the behind-the-scenes details of this matter as if he had already seen through the scam.

Opening his mouth, Liu Kun really wanted to say something, but thinking about the real truth behind this matter, his heart was terribly afraid...

"This is your last chance!"

Qin Fang muttered indifferently, which immediately turned Liu Kun pale and made his body tremble violently. Ultimately, he succumbed to the harsh reality before him and gritted his teeth as he revealed the details of the scam—or at least the details he was aware of.

The mastermind behind the scam was not Liu Kun, nor was it Li Deliang, who was also a participant, but rather Liu Kun's boss. The true objective was not the half-million yuan but a treasure in Mother Su's possession.

This treasure was said to be a family heirloom of the Li Family. Originally, this treasure had been passed to Li Wensheng, Li Deliang's father. As the Li family had several daughters but only one son, Li Wensheng, according to the Dragon Country's traditional rule of passing on heirlooms to sons and not daughters, the heirloom had naturally gone to Li Wensheng.

At that time, Li Wensheng's family was not well-off, and Li Wensheng loved to gamble. He accidentally lost a large sum of money and really had no money to pay back, so he had to take out this treasure as a pawn and borrowed money from his younger sister Li Wenxiu to pay off his debts.

At that time, Su Xiaoxiao's parents had not yet divorced, and afterwards, it was difficult for Li Wenxiu to return the treasure to her own brother... Until Li Wensheng passed away due to illness, the matter gradually faded from the families' memories.

Somehow, Liu Kun's boss found out about this and, after understanding Li Wenxiu's financial situation, he set up this scam.

Mother Su Li Wenxiu definitely could not produce the money, but out of compassion for her only nephew, she would surely take out the treasure to pawn for cash to pay off the debts... Thus, they would be able to get their hands on the item without anyone noticing!

As for Li Deliang, he only knew that this action could net him a considerable amount of money, but he had absolutely no idea about the hidden details...

If he had known that his aunt Li Wenxiu still possessed such a treasure that belonged to the Li Family, he would definitely have wanted it back...

Likewise, the natural course of action would be to take it to the auction house. This would absolutely fetch much more than the fifty thousand... Perhaps this is also why Liu Kun's boss did not want Li Deliang to know the truth.

However, Qin Fang stirred things up so much that Liu Kun ended up spilling the truth, and everyone present suddenly understood what was going on...

Yet, the one who reacted the most was not the deceived Mother Su Li Wenxiu, but rather Li Deliang, who was cowering in the corner in utmost fear... Suddenly, this young guy, not knowing where the courage came from, shot straight up to Liu Kun's face.

Smack~~

He swung his fist and slammed it hard onto Liu Kun's face.

"You bastard! How dare you deceive me... I'll kill you, I'll kill you..."

Li Deliang was obviously enraged. This treasure was originally the Li Family's, and given the love Li Wenxiu had for him, she would definitely return the treasure unconditionally if he asked.

Since Liu Kun's boss instantly claimed five hundred thousand, it shows the value of the treasure was definitely far beyond this number. Yet, he had been tricked, conspiring for a mere fifty thousand, cheating his loving aunt and losing what was rightfully his... How could he not be furious?

"Hey, kid... is it your turn to throw a tantrum here? Go sit over there; I'll deal with you later..."

Li Deliang had quite some strength when angered, but he was not on the same level as Qin Fang at all. Qin Fang lightly grabbed Li Deliang's collar and hoisted a man over a hundred pounds straight up, tossing him aside while jokingly speaking.

But, Li Deliang immediately cowered on the spot. Who was he most afraid of here?

If it were before, it would definitely have been Liu Kun, but now, the one he feared the most was Qin Fang, who nearly beat Liu Kun to a pulp — his cousin Su Xiaoxiao's man!

Upon hearing that he'd settle the account with him, Li Deliang's face, which was red with anger, instantly turned pale without a trace of color... He was indeed worried that Qin Fang might sell his organs too!

"What's your boss's name? Where is he..."

This Li Deliang was indeed despicable, but deciding what to do with him wasn't something Qin Fang could overstep. The final decision still lay in Mother Su Li Wenxiu's hands; after all, Li Deliang was her only nephew.

And clearly, this matter wouldn't be resolved so quickly. Liu Kun was just a lowly underling, and the real person hiding behind the scenes hadn't shown their face yet.

Qin Fang was not one to abandon matters halfway through. Since he had stumbled upon this issue, leaving it unresolved was not his style.

Moreover, he faintly felt that there was still more behind this incident... Liu Kun's rank was too low, and what he knew didn't seem to encompass the whole truth.

To uncover the full truth, Qin Fang still needed to find Liu Kun's backer — someone who probably knew much more than Liu Kun...

Chapter 963 Shaolin Temple Secular Disciple

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Liu Kun had already been terrified by Qin Fang, and since he had already spoken the truth, he naturally didn't dare to keep anything hidden any longer.

His boss was a ruthless person, absolutely cruel and merciless. Before, Liu Kun thought that having such a boss made him more daring. In Yangcheng, even when facing those famous and influential figures, Liu Kun was fearless, all because his boss was powerful.

But today, he had betrayed his boss...

Admittedly, it was to protect himself, but if his boss found out, he would definitely meet a terrible fate, probably no better off than being made into a specimen.

But better a bad life than a good death... As long as his boss hadn't yet heard about this, if he immediately fled Yangcheng and made a quick escape, he could still save his own life.

Of course, if Qin Fang could take down his behind-the-scenes boss, that would naturally be the best... In that case, he wouldn't have anything more to fear!

He even started to contemplate taking over his boss's men and territory, becoming a big shot in Yangcheng himself!

"My boss is named Zhao Si, and people in the underworld call him Fourth Master... He usually lives in Lake Heart Villa District Building 19, and he's keeping a female college student there..."

With those different ideas in mind, Liu Kun became a lot more honest and immediately spilled everything he knew.

Although he wasn't valued highly by his boss, being rather astute, he did know quite a lot, including clear details about where and how his boss kept his mistress.

"Right, my boss isn't much, but I heard he has a senior brother who's extremely formidable. He seems to be a secular disciple of the Shaolin Temple... It is said that he once crippled a boxing champion with a single palm strike!"

While this information was fairly common, it was the additional detail he suddenly remembered that put Qin Fang on slight alert.

Nowadays, the Shaolin Temple, despite its heavy commercialization and the fact that it had become a vulgar place that had lost its sacred aura, turning monks into a profession many people envy, covet, and resent.

But these were changes in the external Shaolin, which is to say, just adaptations to the changing times, especially some of the actions of the current abbot of the external temple, which were frankly ridiculous.

However, the Shaolin Temple still has an Inner Temple... and only the Inner Temple can be considered the true lineage of Shaolin Temple, just like the inheritance of the Heavenly Pool Sect. The Buddhist teachings, martial arts, and medical arts from Shaolin can only be passed down by the monks of the Inner Temple.

Of course, apart from these ordained monks, there are also some secular disciples in the Inner Temple. Mostly, they are exceptional disciples found by the Inner Sect's masters in the secular world with extraordinary talent, or descendants from martial arts clans who were taken in, similar to the Heavenly Pool Sect.

Monks from the external temple nominally operate under the authentic banner of Shaolin Temple, but in reality, they have hardly any skills whatsoever, simply engaging in false advertising. Therefore, the so-called secular disciples of the external temple are even less worth mentioning, and it's considered good luck if they manage to learn even a little bit of the superficial aspects of external martial arts.

But the secular disciples of the Inner Temple are different; although they can't learn the Inner Temple's true top-notch secrets, they are all definitely real inner sect experts, likely to be no less inferior in strength than the descendants of martial arts clans.

The Inner Temple of Shaolin, like the Heavenly Pool Sect, is a longstanding and ancient sect with many outstanding disciples under its name.

Following the incident with Shangguan Tianling, Qin Fang specially sought out his master, Cai Pingyuan, to understand these matters and thus knew a bit about these ancient sects.

If the martial arts clans are considered guerilla fighters, then these ancient sects are the real elite soldiers...

Grandmaster-level experts are exceedingly rare in the secular world, with almost each hailed as a hero of their own region, but within these ancient sects, Grandmaster-level experts are merely elite disciples. The sect's elders are at least Level 7 Grandmasters, and there are quite a few stronger Level 8 Grandmasters, and even legendary Level 9 Experts are said to exist.

Take Shangguan Tianling, for example; his strength is only at the early stages of Master Level which basically amounts to nothing in the Heavenly Pool Sect. If it hadn't been for the Shangguan Family's special status within the sect, he wouldn't even qualify to speak, because the Heavenly Pool Sect has at least thirty to fifty disciples with strength comparable to his...

As for the Shaolin Temple, Inner Temple's monks are forbidden to leave the Inner Temple for their entire lives, unless they can pass through the globally renowned Eighteen Copper Figures Array of Shaolin Temple...

Secular disciples, however, have much lower requirements for completing their training; they only need to reach Master Level... A Master Level expert is qualified to take disciples and wouldn't disgrace the Shaolin Temple.

Therefore, when Liu Kun suddenly mentioned this secular disciple from the Shaolin Temple who had killed a boxing champion with a palm strike, Liu Kun might not understand the significance of his words, but Qin Fang was very clear that this secular disciple was most likely from the Shaolin Inner Temple, meaning his strength was definitely at the Master Level...

And since this Shaolin secular disciple happens to be the senior brother of Liu Kun's boss, Zhao Si, it is very likely that Zhao Si is also from Shaolin Temple...

Of course, whether he is from the Inner or Outer Temple, it's difficult to say, since they are both nominally Shaolin Temple. With Zhao Si's status, he could very well use such a position to attract this senior brother from the Inner Temple...

Although Qin Fang is still Level 5, his strength cannot be simply gauged by rank. Originally touted as unbeatable below the Master Level, his body has now been enhanced by the Superb Spiritual Medicine Golden Dragon Saliva, and his True Qi has become even more condensed. His power has advanced by leaps and bounds, so much so that he can definitely hold his ground against Grandmaster-level experts.

Although Qin Fang wasn't entirely sure how strong this secular disciple from Shaolin Temple was, he certainly wasn't afraid...

At Level 4, Qin Fang had successfully killed Shangguan Tianling, who was at the early stage of Grandmaster Level. Now having entered Level 5, both his body and True Qi had strengthened considerably, so naturally, he was unafraid of this Grandmaster-level expert.

Moreover, should he be really pushed into a corner, Qin Fang wouldn't mind letting this secular disciple from Shaolin Temple taste the close-range burst of an MP5...

Of course, if not necessary, Qin Fang didn't wish to clash with this secular disciple from the Shaolin Temple...

The Shaolin Temple, much like the Heavenly Pool Sect or other ancient sects, all held the same virtue: they were extremely protective of their own. Usually, if you provoked one, it was akin to provoking the whole group.

Perhaps due to the modern era, there were fewer and fewer people practicing martial arts, and even fewer who truly excelled at them. Therefore, they valued their members even more.

Because of the incident with Shangguan Tianling, Qin Fang had pretty much fallen out with the Heavenly Pool Sect. As days had passed, the sect had likely noticed Shangguan Tianling's disappearance by now and probably started a search. It wouldn't be long before they tracked it back to him, Qin Fang suspected...

Even though it was unlikely that the Heavenly Pool Sect would find any clues that Qin Fang killed Shangguan Tianling, who could guarantee they would give Qin Fang a chance to explain himself?

At such a critical juncture, it was better for Qin Fang to keep a low profile; under non-essential circumstances, he had no desire to confront another ancient sect like the Shaolin Temple...

However, he couldn't just act as if nothing had happened when faced with the current situation. Giving up halfway would not lead to Zhao Si's compromise; there had to be a plan to deal with this issue, so Qin Fang had to meet Zhao Si, the mastermind behind this scam...

"So... I've confessed everything... Can I go now?"

Liu Kun had spilled almost all he knew. Seeing Qin Fang remain silent as though pondering something, he tentatively asked, also gesturing to his broken arm.

Since Qin Fang hadn't spoken, he didn't dare to make any rash moves, but he truly didn't want to stay any longer. Who knew if this demon would continue to torment him?

Not to mention, he had betrayed his boss in front of so many underlings, which was a serious matter. He needed to flee Yangcheng as soon as possible and lie low in another city before word got out; that was the smartest course of action...

"Hm?"

Qin Fang was considering how to approach Zhao Si when he heard Liu Kun ask. He frowned, seemingly displeased, which thoroughly frightened Liu Kun, causing his body to cringe in fear of Qin Fang getting rough with him again.

"You can leave, but you'll need to pay back the money first..."

However, Qin Fang evidently had no intention of striking him, his tone remaining very calm as he spoke.

"Ah..."

Liu Kun was instantly dumbfounded. Where would he get the money from? If he actually had that sum, would he have risked his life to betray his boss?

"Didn't you say it was thirty thousand? What, is that too much for you?"

Qin Fang's following remark immediately made Liu Kun feel like he'd received a pardon, hurriedly nodding in agreement, "Not too much, not too much at all..."

Even a fool would understand the difference between thirty thousand and several million; if he couldn't grasp that, he'd indeed be an idiot...

"I... I don't have that much on me... Could you let me go... to withdraw the money?"

As he reached into his pocket, he suddenly remembered, thirty thousand wasn't a small sum—they don't walk around with that much cash. Now he couldn't produce the money even if asked to...

With no other option, he pleaded with a bitter expression. He could come up with the money, but he'd need to go to the bank to withdraw it!

"Go withdraw money?"

Qin Fang chuckled derisively, looking down on the pitiful Liu Kun before him, "Who knows whether you're going to get the money or just take off running..."

"I'm getting the money! Definitely going to withdraw it..."

Liu Kun was immediately alarmed, hastily assuring him.

Although in his heart, he planned to escape; with thirty thousand, he could hide out for some time. He wasn't about to just hand it over...

Chapter 964: The Outcome of Being Too Clever for One's Own Good!

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"Is that so?"

Qin Fang's face was adorned with a smile as he playfully observed Liu Kun. Anyone could see the state of Liu Kun's mind; it was clear that he harbored other thoughts, and only a fool would believe otherwise.

"In that case, you go withdraw the money... I'll be right here waiting for you to bring it back!"

However, Qin Fang seemed completely oblivious to Liu Kun's guilty demeanor. He casually patted Liu Kun on the shoulder and really just let him leave.

"Yes, yes, yes... I'll go get the money right now!"

Liu Kun was suddenly as relieved as if he'd been granted amnesty, practically scuttling away in his eagerness to escape the place.

"Wait a moment..."

Just as he was about to reach the courtyard gate, only a few steps away from fleeing outside, Qin Fang's voice rang out from behind.

"Um... Boss, what are your orders?"

Despite truly not wanting to heed Qin Fang, and desperately wanting to flee, the thought of Qin Fang's terror made Liu Kun's calves quiver, and he didn't dare run anymore. With a morose expression, he turned around and cautiously asked.

"I don't have any orders per se, just a reminder for you..." Qin Fang said with a smile, his tone remarkably calm, as if he was just making casual conversation. "You'd better not have any other ideas. I won't wait here for too long. If you don't bring the money back, any misfortune that befalls you will have absolutely nothing to do with me..."

His words were delivered in an even tone, almost as if he were joking. If it had been a conversation between friends, it probably wouldn't have been taken very seriously.

But in this context, Liu Kun's body involuntarily shuddered with fear, distinctly sensing the threat in Qin Fang's statement.

"Yes, yes... Understood! Understood!"

Nevertheless, what Liu Kun wanted most was to leave the place as quickly as possible. He figured he'd deal with anything else once he got out of this courtyard and secured his safety.

This time, Qin Fang didn't stop Liu Kun anymore. He remained silent until Liu Kun's figure disappeared behind the gate, seemingly giving his tacit consent for his departure.

There were still many people in the courtyard who were quite surprised by Qin Fang's actions. Although they recognized Qin Fang's formidable strength, they felt his judgment seemed rather poor.

The saying goes, spare the tiger to return to the mountain and trouble will follow!

Though Liu Kun wasn't quite a fierce tiger, he was at least a hungry wolf!

Dealing with someone like that and still trusting their word was, frankly, quite foolish.

With this thought, some people's minds became active, pondering if they could perhaps trick Qin Fang as well. Maybe they could leave this place too.

"You all want to leave too?"

But before anyone could come up with a good excuse, Qin Fang asked everyone present with a beaming smile.

The people glanced at each other, lightly nodding their heads while keeping an eye on Qin Fang's expressions, afraid of inadvertently angering Qin Fang, this harbinger of death.

"Don't be in a hurry... Let's wait until Liu Kun comes back!"

However, Qin Fang didn't grant their wish. Nor did he show any anger. Instead, he calmly spoke, then immediately went to chat with Su Xiaoxiao and Mother Su, leaving the many people hanging.

The group was taken aback, their expressions bitter. They truly wanted to say that their Boss, Brother Kun, would definitely not return.

As Liu Kun's subordinates and mother, these people understood Liu Kun's character all too well. For his own sake, he was absolutely capable of abandoning anything else, even his own mother.

Moreover, Liu Kun was very stingy. Normally, even though he wasn't completely tightfisted with his subordinates, he was definitely as parsimonious as they come.

Thirty thousand yuan wasn't an enormous sum, but neither was it insignificant. Given Liu Kun's nature, it was unlikely he would part with it under any circumstances, let alone now when he might have already turned tail to flee.

But as they looked at one another, and glanced at Liu Kun's mother Liu Ying—who was the epitome of shame—they all chose silence in the end.

Besides being stingy, Liu Kun was also narrow-minded. Whoever betrayed him would definitely be remembered, and he might seek retribution when he returned.

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"Phew~~~ I finally escaped!"

After stepping out of the Su Family's courtyard, Liu Kun felt a great sense of relief, heaved a long sigh, and his heart, which had been hanging by a thread, finally settled down.

"Hmph... I'm already out, why would I send money to you? Do you really take me for a fool?"

However, as soon as Liu Kun left, his true intentions multiplied, especially regarding the idea of bringing money to Qin Fang—it was absolutely impossible.

Having betrayed his own Boss, fleeing was naturally his top priority, and being in a strange place without money was definitely not going to work. His entire fortune was only a few tens of thousands of yuan, giving up almost half of it to Qin Fang would be even worse than killing him.

"Damn it, better get going fast. If those bastards sell me out, I'm screwed..."

Liu Kun didn't dare to delay, fearful that Qin Fang might suddenly have second thoughts and chase after him to drag him back, subjecting him to another round of fear and dread.

Without any hesitation, Liu Kun quickly made his escape, jumped into his car that was parked outside, and headed straight for the highway leading out of town.

Having betrayed the mastermind Zhao Si, Liu Kun knew this matter would soon reach Zhao Si. Once Zhao Si made a move, it would be too late for him to run. Escaping before the news broke was the smartest choice...

As for the final piece of advice that Qin Fang gave him—which he took as a threat—he simply dismissed it as useless nonsense.

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Liu Kun would definitely not come back once he left the door, and even his subordinates knew that, so how could Qin Fang not be aware?

Not only did Liu Kun's expressions and eyes betray his thoughts, but Qin Fang's Mind Reading Technique was not just for show; he had already known Liu Kun's intentions.

Even so, Qin Fang pretended to know nothing, allowing Liu Kun to leave this place, and even leave the city of Yangcheng...

Thirty thousand yuan was certainly not a big deal for Qin Fang, but to let Liu Kun off so easily was out of the question.

The guy had done too many despicable things; chopping off an arm as a small punishment for a major admonition was unlikely to have much effect... Besides, Liu Kun already had a bellyful of malice towards him, only giving lip service to compliance while inwardly wishing to tear Qin Fang limb from limb.

Moreover, the Sin Points on this guy were way too high; putting him down wouldn't be a miscarriage of justice at all...

But Qin Fang still decided to give him a chance. If Liu Kun honestly went to the bank to withdraw the money and brought it back, then Qin Fang would let bygones be bygones...

However, if he decided to flee without caring for the safety of his subordinates and his mother, then he was truly heartless, and Qin Fang would have no reason to be polite to him.

On the surface, Qin Fang seemed to have done nothing, but Liu Kun didn't know that earlier, Qin Fang had patted his shoulder gently and in that instant, used the Acupuncture Secret Technique to inject several drops of highly toxic essence into Liu Kun's body...

This toxic essence was extracted from extremely poisonous substances, with a toxicity even stronger than that of viper venom. Qin Fang injected only a very small amount, which wouldn't act immediately, but the poison would slowly rot the internal organs... Once the toxicity reached a certain level, there would be no saving him!

Qin Fang estimated that the toxicity would take eight to ten hours to manifest...

Going to the bank to withdraw money, even with a long queue, would surely allow one to return in one or two hours, but if Liu Kun chose to flee, such a long time would be enough for him to escape hundreds of kilometers away, and taking a flight could get him thousands of kilometers distant.

If he got that far away, even if Liu Kun realized something was wrong with his body and wanted to return for Qin Fang's help, it would be too late for Qin Fang to save him.

Although Qin Fang had Detoxification Pills which could neutralize most poisons, if they were separated by a thousand miles, Qin Fang naturally couldn't assist... Moreover, from the moment Liu Kun chose to flee, his fate was already sealed.

As for seeking treatment at a hospital...

It's not that Qin Fang underestimated those doctors, but once this poison became active, it took effect in a very short period of time, quickly ending a person's life.

If Liu Kun managed to find a traditional Chinese medicine doctor with considerable Inner Breath, who could pair it with the rare Acupuncture Secret Technique, he might be able to temporarily suppress the onset of the poison. However, such individuals were few and the Inner Breath required for treatment was so substantial that most would not be willing to make such a sacrifice.

Turning to Western medicine in the face of such toxins would likely involve several hours of various tests. By the time the results were out, the patient would have been dead for a while.

Even with expedited procedures and immediate results, the best they could offer would be limited measures like stomach pumping...

But since Qin Fang administered the poison, it was not easy to neutralize. The toxin didn't enter orally, so stomach pumping would be worthless.

All these scenarios were within Qin Fang's calculations, but only he knew the details. The others saw Qin Fang as a fool with no brains, and Liu Kun as the one involved, thought the same...

Yet he never imagined that while he was gleefully thinking he had escaped danger, the Reaper was already standing behind him, waiting for the time to harvest his life.

And Qin Fang? He would not feel any guilt. By eliminating such a person who long ago lost his conscience and who had caused the ruin and death of countless families, he was doing a public service and would also earn a decent amount of Justice Points!

Chapter 965: Buddha Bone Relic

...

"Just let him go like that?"

Actually, seeing Qin Fang let Liu Kun go, Su Xiaoxiao also had some doubts, although she vaguely felt that Qin Fang must have had a backup plan, she just couldn't figure it out.

"Just let it be, it's no big deal!"

Qin Fang smiled, if it were just him and Su Xiaoxiao together, he would naturally not mind explaining why he did it, but having Mother Su there, it was better not to mention it involved killing.

Su Xiaoxiao, being a clever girl, also stopped asking about it and instead turned to ask Mother Su, "What kind of treasure actually made these people design such a scam to deceive you?"

Money was not a problem for Su Xiaoxiao, but since Zhao Si went to the trouble of designing such a scam for it, the item must not have been simple.

"Actually, I don't even know what it is..."

Mother Su said with an embarrassed face, "It was passed down from the ancestors of the Li Family and has always been treated like a family heirloom. It was originally given to your uncle, but your uncle needed money back then and pawned it to me... I've been keeping it ever since, almost forgot about it myself!"

This item had been with Li Wenxiu for quite some time by then, Su Xiaoxiao had still been very young, but then her parents had a fallout, separated, and Mother Su felt down for a while and gradually forgot about these matters.

If it hadn't been so, with her character, she would have returned the treasure to her brother Li Wensheng long ago. Of course, after Li Wensheng passed away, the item naturally ended up in Li Deliang's hands.

Although this could have avoided such a painful scam, the item probably would have changed names long ago, and the money that was exchanged for it would likely have been squandered by Li Deliang quickly.

Who knows, Li Deliang might not even have the chance to spend that money; the item was always kept so secretly, yet Zhao Si knew about it, and given Zhao Si's character, Li Deliang's ending might not be too good...

As the saying goes, "As birds reap what they sow," it feels like a coincidence, yet it seems inevitable!

"I'll go look for it..."

Since Qin Fang and the others could think of this, Mother Su naturally could have too. Today, this scam was exposed, but it still saddened her.

Initially, she knew Li Deliang, her nephew, was not of good character, but she still thought that he had changed this time and settled down with his business.

But she didn't expect there to be such secrets involved just for a mere few tens of thousands of dollars, even collaborating with outsiders to deceive her, his own aunt!

What had happened had happened, and pursuing it further was meaningless, and since Li Deliang was her own nephew, she couldn't personally send him to jail.

Taking a deep look at the extremely terrified Li Deliang cowering over there, Mother Su shook her head and went back inside to look for the heirloom.

"Hey you... come here!"

Qin Fang and Su Xiaoxiao naturally followed her inside. However, before entering, Qin Fang paused, turned back and gestured for Li Deliang to come over.

"I..."

Though Li Deliang really didn't want to obey, he was too scared to face Qin Fang, and even more so to face his own aunt, but seeing the stern look in Qin Fang's eyes, his legs went weak, and he could only follow timidly.

"Everyone else, disperse..."

Li Deliang naturally had to stay, as for the others, Qin Fang had no intention of causing them more trouble; having one arm broken was punishment enough.

"Before you go, slap her once for me..."

However, the only one left untouched was that shrewish Liu Ying. As soon as she heard Qin Fang say they could leave, her mood immediately brightened considerably, and she quickly thought to leave and call her son Liu Kun, telling him not to send any money over...

But Qin Fang clearly wasn't intending to be polite to her, and in the end, he even gave her a special treatment!

"No... ah!!"

Smack smack smack~

Liu Ying tried to beg for mercy, but those with broken arms, all eager to get medical treatment, didn't spare her any civility, immediately slapping her.

Fearing that hitting her lightly might displease Qin Fang and bring more "special treatment" upon themselves, they were ruthless, one after another.

At first, Liu Ying could still speak to beg for mercy, but in no time, her chubby face was totally wrecked, swelling to more than double its size, turning her whole face into a pig's head. Her mouth swelled up, and all one could hear were muffled "mmm mmm" sounds; it was completely unclear what she was saying.

Qin Fang certainly wasn't going to stick around to enjoy the show. He was more interested in the Li family's heirloom, looking to see why someone like Zhao Si needed to specially design a scam to acquire this item; it must be no ordinary treasure...

Since her parents' divorce, Su Family's small building had been standing for over a decade, and all this time, only Mother Su had been living there. While the rooms in regular use were kept very clean, the rooms used for storage might not be...

The heirloom was originally very cherished and displayed by Mother Su, but after it had been forgotten it was put in the storage room along with some other unused items.

Chapter 966: Buddha Bone Relic_2

However, it took considerable effort for Li Deliang to find the iron box storing the treasure under Mother Su's guidance.

Such dirty, physical labor was of course his to do!

The task given to him was insignificant, and Qin Fang was already being polite by not scolding him. How could Li Deliang dare not comply?

Moreover, he wanted to know what exactly the Li Family heirloom was...

Now he deeply regretted it, but as things had progressed to this point, he could only hope that his aunt would consider his position as her only nephew and perhaps return the heirloom to him... Although, with Qin Fang present, he knew it was unlikely.

"This is the box. The treasure is inside it..."

The box was just an ordinary iron box, certainly not specifically made for storing treasures, most likely just something Mother Su or Li Wensheng found randomly.

Perhaps it was because the box was unremarkable that Mother Su gradually forgot about the existence of such a treasure until it was mentioned today and she recalled it.

The box was plain, with only a simple brass lock on it, the key to which had long been lost. However, this could not stop Qin Fang.

All that was seen was Qin Fang reaching out, twisting lightly, and not even needing to use lockpicking skills. He directly pulled off the whole lock, and the box's last shred of modesty was gone.

Gently lifting the lid, they saw an object wrapped in red cloth inside. Mother Su took it out, unwrapping the red cloth layer by layer, until the true appearance of the object inside gradually revealed itself.

"This is..."

Even someone as composed as Qin Fang couldn't help but be momentarily stunned by the gem-like, radiant translucence of the object before him.

It was not that the object had some special magic power; it was entirely because of its identity—that even Qin himself felt his mind wasn't quite sufficient.

Su Xiaoxiao and the others looked at the object, their faces showing significant confusion, especially when they noticed Qin Fang's unusual expression, they were also slightly startled.

"What exactly is this?"

Su Xiaoxiao instantly asked. The object was small, about the size of a quail's egg, completely translucent, and emitted a faint yellowish glow, looking like a flawless yellow gemstone.

Mother Su and the others naturally didn't know what it was, only knew that it was a treasure, and even someone like Zhao Si desired it.

But Qin Fang, possessing the scouting skill, could quickly tell what this gem-like substance was.

"Buddha Bone Relic!"

Qin Fang said it slowly and clearly, revealing that it was the legendary Buddha Bone Relic!

The Buddha Bone Relic, an object of legend within the Buddhist sect, was said to be left behind by highly enlightened monks after their cremation.

The deeper a monk's understanding of Dharma, the higher the likelihood of leaving behind Shariputras, such as the relics of the holy ancestor Sakyamuni, which are considered sacred within the Buddhist Sect.

Relics of Sakyamuni are extremely rare, especially the most precious ones from the top of the head. Qin Fang's hometown, Ninghai City, had even planned to rebuild the ancient architectural marvel, Ninghai Da Bao'en Temple, to house one of these top relics.

Of course, the value of the Buddha Bone Relic was priceless, not only because of its historical significance but also other unknown qualities.

And these qualities represented the true value of the Buddha Bone Relic, essentially embodying the lifelong cultivation of the monk within it.

Here, cultivation could refer to martial arts or Buddhist teachings...

In short, the Buddha Bone Relic, especially an unearthed one, was an untapped treasure for the Buddhist Sect...

"Zhao Si... a secular disciple of Shaolin Temple!"

When Qin Fang saw the Buddha Bone Relic, he felt that the fog in his mind cleared up significantly in an instant.

Originally, Qin Fang thought Zhao Si had brought this secular disciple over merely to bluff someone skilled into staying by his side, as it would make protecting himself or handling affairs much more convenient.

Now it seems...

The real person who wanted to obtain this Buddha Bone Relic was probably not the influential Zhao Si of Yangcheng, but rather this secular disciple from Shaolin Temple.

The Li Family had possessed this Buddha Bone Relic for a very long time, over a century according to Mother Su.

Over such a long period, many secrets had already been buried deep in the river of history, to the extent that even the members of the Li Family themselves didn't know what this family heirloom really was.

However, the history of Shaolin Temple far predates that of the Li Family's heritage, and such a treasure as the Buddha Bone Relic would surely be recorded in many historical texts.

The ancestors of the Li Family treated this Buddha Bone Relic as a family heirloom, clearly knowing its value, which likely indicated some connection with Shaolin Temple.

This Buddha Bone Relic had gathered dust in Mother Su's hands for over a decade; even she had forgotten about it, but Zhao Si somehow knew it was in her possession. It must have been Shaolin Temple that tracked down the relic's whereabouts, gradually tracing it to Mother Su.

Moreover, while ordinary people might not recognize the relic, if taken to an auction house, the appraisers there could definitely identify it, and the people from Shaolin Temple might also be worried that such exposure could lead to many unnecessary complications, which is why they designed such a deception.

The plan had been meticulously crafted, but they hadn't accounted for Qin Fang's appearance, which not only thoroughly sabotaged the scheme but also exposed the secrets hidden within.

"Buddha Bone Relic?"

Upon hearing these four words, even though Mother Su and the others didn't know the value of the Buddha Bone Relic, they knew it was indeed a rare treasure.

Mother Su and Su Xiaoxiao just brightened up a bit, but Li Deliang's reaction was markedly different, considering the relic should have been passed down to him. If it were sold...

"Eh, who is looking at me?"

While he was considering the benefits, he suddenly felt a very sharp gaze and subconsciously looked over, meeting Qin Fang's eyes instantly. He shivered all over, almost losing control of his bladder.

"Xiao Qin, is this thing very valuable?"

Mother Su hadn't noticed her nephew's behavior but frowned and asked, noting that a person like Zhao Si wouldn't design such a scheme for just any trivial thing.

However, Qin Fang shook his head, "If we're only talking about its historical value, it's not worth much. Selling it for a few hundred thousand would be remarkable, and besides, ordinary people wouldn't dare to buy it..."

Upon hearing this, Mother Su and the others couldn't help but feel somewhat disappointed, having thought it might fetch millions.

"But for some people, this is a priceless treasure! To obtain it, they wouldn't hesitate to commit murder or take grave risks!"

Qin Fang quickly added this, brightening Li Deliang's eyes even more, while Mother Su's frown deepened.

"Xiao Qin, are you saying..."

Mother Su, much older and vastly more experienced, was nothing like the ignorant Li Deliang, immediately grasping the real significance of Qin's latter statement.

Considering today's events, she truly believed Qin's words were not just a deception.

If Qin Fang hadn't been present today, not only would this treasure likely have been lost, but she also might have faced substantial losses... As for her nephew Li Deliang, he was just a fool who would help count the money after being sold out!

Chapter 967: Obtaining the Relic

"This... I'm not very sure either!"

While the facts were almost certain, Qin Fang couldn't guarantee anything without complete clarity.

Furthermore, speaking too much could easily give some people certain undesirable ideas, and at least, Li Deliang next to him was clearly starting to have some wayward thoughts.

Of course, these thoughts remained in his head; he didn't dare show any dissatisfaction. Given what he had just done, Qin Fang hadn't settled the score with him yet. If he caused trouble now, Qin Fang would likely settle both new and old grievances together...

Regardless of whether Li Deliang harbored petty thoughts, Qin Fang didn't care much for this guy. Mother Su and Li Wenxiu naturally had their own judgments, unlike the unreliable Li Deliang.

Although Qin Fang didn't speak fully to his satisfaction, considering how far things had progressed, how could she not be aware of the hidden implications?

"Xiao Qin, this Buddha Bone Relic, can you..."

Mother Su looked at the glittering Buddha Bone Relic in her hand, then glanced at her disappointing nephew, Li Deliang, gently shook her head with unmistakable helplessness, and turned to speak to Qin Fang.

Yet, when she was about to speak, she hesitated, clearly struggling to make up her mind...

"Auntie Li, I have an impertinent request. I wonder if I should speak?"

But Qin Fang took the initiative and voiced it out.

"Please speak..."

Mother Su wasn't difficult; she immediately nodded in approval.

"It might seem like I'm taking advantage of the situation, but still, I want to say, this Buddha Bone Relic in your hand, or rather, in his hand, is just an ordinary cultural artifact. But to certain individuals, it's invaluable. It's just that those people are very dangerous and not something ordinary folks can deal with. So..."

"How about this? Sell the Buddha Bone Relic directly to me. You can name your price, or I can have a professional appraiser authenticate it. There won't be any issues..."

In fact, Qin Fang already had an idea of what Mother Su wanted to say, but it wasn't appropriate for her to say it. After all, the Buddha Bone Relic was officially the Li family's heirloom, and she was just safeguarding it. With the only male descendant of the Li family, Li Deliang, right beside her, if she sold the artifact just like that, Li Deliang might say nothing to her face but could backstab her later.

This scenario was entirely possible given Li Deliang's character, capable even of conniving with outsiders to swindle his aunt's money, what else couldn't he do?

Therefore, Qin Fang, the prospective son-in-law, understood perfectly and took the initiative to indicate his sincere intention to purchase the Buddha Bone Relic.

"You really want to buy it?"

Mother Su was a bit surprised that what Qin Fang wanted to say coincided with her thoughts.

She might be somewhat materialistic, but frankly, she just hoped to provide a good life for her daughter. Her nephew, Li Deliang, was not of good character – a grown man who had always been idle and incapable of doing any legitimate work. She had no capital for businesses, so it would be better to sell the Buddha Bone Relic for a sum of money, securing a worry-free life for Li Deliang in his later years...

Furthermore, if the Buddha Bone Relic remained with Li Deliang, he probably wouldn't be able to keep it for long and would soon sell it. Not to mention whether Zhao Si would let Li Deliang off, Li Deliang had no connections for selling it at a good price!

It would be better to sell the Buddha Bone Relic directly to Qin Fang...

For one thing, Qin Fang had money, and considering his relationship with Su Xiaoxiao and his generous spending, he definitely wouldn't offer an unreasonable price.

And secondly, it was a way to strengthen the relationship with Qin Fang. If her unreliable nephew, Li Deliang, ran into any troubles in the future, she could ask Qin Fang for help. With this favor, negotiations would go more smoothly.

However, Mother Su still had some hesitations in her heart. After all, this artifact belonged to the Li family, and being a married daughter of the Li family, she strictly had no say in the matter. But leaving it to Li Deliang was even more unreliable, which caused her considerable dilemma.

Unexpectedly, while she was struggling with the decision, her prospective son-in-law, Qin Fang, empathetically expressed his intention, easing her burden considerably...

"Deliang, this belongs to the Li family in the end, and you're now the only male of the Li family. You decide, to sell or not to sell?" Mother Su didn't answer Qin Fang directly but turned to her nephew, Li Deliang, for his opinion.

"Ah... You're asking me?"

Li Deliang was filled with regret and worry at the time – regretting his narrow escape from a big mistake, worried about Qin Fang eyeing the treasure, and also worried about not getting a penny himself if his aunt sold the relic.

However, when Aunt Li Wenxiu suddenly turned and asked him, he was taken aback and completely unexpected, utterly unprepared for the question.

"Sell! Of course, sell it..."

But his mind worked extremely fast, and since he had already been thinking this way, the answer came out of his mouth without the need for further consideration.

Mother Su looked at her nephew with a trace of disappointment on her face, gently shook her head, but didn't say anything more to Li Deliang.

"Xiao Qin, how much do you think the Buddha Bone Relic could sell for?"

The relic belonged to Li Deliang, and even though her own brother, Li Wensheng, had mortgaged it to her, she hadn't planned to keep it for herself and was still going to give it back to her nephew, Li Deliang.

Now that Li Deliang himself wished to exchange the treasure for cash, completely devoid of the intention to preserve it as a family heirloom, she couldn't say much else and simply asked Qin Fang for his offer.

"The price can be negotiated..."

With Li Deliang's reply, Qin Fang already knew the outcome was inevitable. Li couldn't be relied upon, and for Qin, it was merely a matter of spending some money.

"How about this, the historical value of this Buddha Bone Relic is quite substantial, although it's unclear from which era it originates, or to which venerable monk the shariputra belonged... Two million! I offer two million to purchase this Buddha Bone Relic. Auntie Li, what do you think?"

A shariputra, frankly speaking, is something left from cremation, similar to ashes; it's not something most people would buy – it's considered inauspicious...

Although the Buddha Bone Relic has value, it's mainly historical value, and its price really can't compare with that of antiques...

Thus, Qin Fang's offer of two million was actually a very generous friendly price. If Li Deliang tried to sell the Buddha Bone Relic through other channels, he definitely wouldn't get this price!

"Two... two million!"

Hearing this price, Li Deliang's eyes bulged, and his mouth quivered; he almost dropped his jaw.

He had always been frightened of Qin Fang because just a moment ago in front of him, Qin Fang had incapacitated more than a dozen men by himself, breaking each person's arm with a single blow. That scene had really scared him.

But he had no clue that his cousin Su Xiaoxiao's boyfriend seemed to be a wealthy man, throwing around offers in the millions for the shariputra.

He was just an ordinary person at best, his savings had never exceeded five digits. Otherwise, he wouldn't have conspired to scam his own aunt for the sake of a fifty-thousand-dollar share.

Yet now, for this Buddha Bone Relic, which appeared to have no particular use, someone was offering two million... an outright seven-figure amount.

That meant, just by Auntie Li Wenxiu nodding her head, he, Li Deliang, could instantly become a millionaire—though two million would merely allow him to live out his life without working too hard...

"Two million? Xiao Qin, isn't that too much?"

Mother Su was also startled by the offer, although she knew Qin Fang was rich, as he had given her a card with a million, but buying something and providing for one's mother-in-law were two different matters.

The one million on the card wouldn't be spent much by herself; in the end, it was all meant to be left for her daughter, Su Xiaoxiao. If Qin Fang and Su Xiaoxiao were to stay together, it would eventually return to Qin Fang's hands.

But she hadn't intended to keep the Buddha Bone Relic from the beginning. The money from the sale was planned to be given to her nephew, Li Deliang. Despite her affection for her only nephew, today's matter had saddened her...

This sadness had inevitably brought a change in her mindset. Between a son-in-law and a nephew, she clearly knew where her closer ties lay, naturally feeling that Qin Fang was offering too grand a gesture.

"Auntie, as I said earlier, for some, this shariputra is priceless. Although two million is not a small amount, rest assured, I won't be at too much of a loss... Besides, if it doesn't work out, I can always resell it!"

Qin Fang smiled. To him, two million was truly insignificant. He knew the real value of the Buddha Bone Relic; even if it cost him twenty million to purchase, it would still be worth it.

This shariputra was clearly not just an item for museum or temple display; it was a shariputra whose special use had not yet been activated.

Although Qin Fang didn't know how to activate the special function of this shariputra, judging by the fact that Shaolin disciples had come looking for this Buddha Bone Relic, it must be quite extraordinary.

"Really?"

Mother Su looked at Qin Fang hesitantly, seeing that he was not joking with her and didn't seem too concerned, she then nodded her head,

"Well then, okay..."

Li Deliang, on the side, was even less needing to be said; he was almost anxious enough to cry out, worried that Auntie Li Wenxiu might not agree to the terms.

Chapter 968 Persuasion, Retreat

Upon hearing Aunt Li Wenxiu's agreement to Qin Fang's condition, Li Deliang's excitement was so intense he almost jumped up, but in the end, he had to forcefully suppress such an impulse.

However, it wasn't as if he showed no reaction at all, at least from the expression on his face one could discern something; the barely visible smile at the corner of his mouth, and his slightly trembling frame, all revealed his feelings at the moment.

Qin Fang, naturally, was quite efficient, and immediately took out his checkbook, quickly signing a two-million check and handing it to Mother Su.

"Wait a moment..."

Just as Mother Su was about to accept the check and then pass it to her nephew Li Deliang, Qin Fang suddenly spoke up.

"Auntie, it's not my place to gossip... but it would be better for you to manage this money. Just give him some pocket money each month!"

Actually, Qin Fang should have given Li Deliang a good dressing down for his behavior, but considering Mother Su's feelings, it wasn't appropriate for him to take action.

But to let such a shameless scoundrel off lightly was something Qin Fang couldn't stand by and watch, hence the unsolicited advice. Of course, the final decision still rested with Mother Su.

"Gah..."

Just as Li Deliang was about to receive two million, and was already pondering where to enjoy a good time and celebrate, even considering calling a couple of beauties for a threesome, Qin Fang's sudden interjection hit him like a cudgel, rendering his face completely stiff.

This really frustrated Li Deliang, and inside he cursed Qin Fang to high heaven, but he dared not show any displeasure on his face. Otherwise, it wouldn't be Qin Fang receiving a verbal lashing, but Li Deliang himself covered in blood.

"This method... is not bad!"

Mother Su hesitated for a moment, then immediately felt it made sense.

Her nephew's character was indeed too poor, especially what he did today—putting it bluntly, it was heartless. If all the money were given to him, he would surely squander it quickly.

She had intended the money for Li Deliang to get married, have children, or start a business, not for him to waste away. Reminded by Qin Fang's words, she stopped her motion to pass the check.

"Deliang, did you hear that? This money will stay with me for now. I'll give you living expenses every month. If you live an honest life, work with peace of mind, and start a family, I'll give you the money soon enough. But if you continue your old ways... don't blame your aunt for not being considerate, and forget about even getting living expenses!"

Li Deliang's character definitely needed changing, and she as his aunt was extremely concerned...

"Auntie, how about this... In addition to visiting you this time, I also hope that you would consider moving to Ninghai. Why don't you bring him along, too? I'll arrange for someone to take good care of him!"

Qin Fang timely made this suggestion, finally revealing their purpose for visiting—to invite her to move to Ninghai, as only there could Qin Fang ensure her safety.

As for Li Deliang, he was merely incidental. The guy liked to mess around outside, right? Qin Fang would hand him over to Mouse Qiang, who would definitely know how to turn Li Deliang into a man of good character...

Of course, this was contingent upon Mother Su's willingness to move to Ninghai!

"Ah? Move to Ninghai..."

Sure enough, Mother Su expressed considerable surprise at Qin Fang's words, "This... I've lived in Yangcheng for decades, I'm very familiar with it here. Suddenly moving to Ninghai, unfamiliar with everything..."

Most elderly people are like this, having lived in a place for a long time, they develop strong attachments. Although this small building was a sad place for Mother Su, she had lived there for so many years and didn't wish to leave.

"Auntie, you should think of it this way: Xiao Xiao will live in Ninghai in the future. If you're in Ninghai, it will be easier to see her, won't it?"

Qin Fang wasn't surprised and immediately replied with a cheerful smile, also giving Su Xiaoxiao a knowing wink.

"Come with me..."

Su Xiaoxiao understood, and although the estrangement between mother and daughter still existed, Su Xiaoxiao was no longer as cold and terse as before. Although her tone was still somewhat stiff and she wasn't willing to address the elder directly...

"Alright! Alright..."

But for Mother Su, this was already enough. As long as her daughter was willing to speak with her properly, her heart was a hundred, a thousand times satisfied.

After all, her daughter had expressed her wishes, whether it was Tang Feifei's own intention or Qin Fang's suggestion, as soon as her daughter spoke up, she would definitely agree—she had neglected her daughter too much over the years.

Once Mother Su agreed, Qin Fang also let out a small sigh of relief, originally afraid that Mother Su was too attached to the past and unwilling to leave with them. With so many incidents having occurred in the meantime, he did not expect what he thought would be a difficult task to have become much simpler.

"Umm... can I not go?"

Li Deliang genuinely did not want to go, not because he had a deep attachment to Yangcheng, but because Ninghai was clearly Qin Fang's territory, and Qin Fang had just made it clear that he would take good care of him. Knowing his misfortune was imminent, why would he actively seek more trouble?

"No!"

However, the answer was predictable, Mother Su almost instantly rejected Li Deliang's request. She hoped her nephew would improve, and entrusting him to Qin Fang for discipline was undoubtedly the best method.

If Li Deliang was allowed to continue his misdeeds in Yangcheng, he would only become worse and more of a scoundrel... especially with money, he would indulge in extravagant pleasures and squander countless fortunes.

Although Qin Fang and Su Xiaoxiao did not voice their opinions, their gaze clearly showed their stance—they unconditionally supported Mother Su's decision.

"Xiao Xiao, help your aunt pack her things. I expect my people will come over in a while, and then we can move directly from Yangcheng to Ninghai..."

As the saying goes, the longer the night, the more dreams that may surface—the longer they delayed, the more complicated the situation could become. Hyena had a keen nose, and at this point, might already be tracking them.

Qin Fang was not afraid on his own, but with several vulnerable individuals dependent on him, he had no control; any mishap would make it difficult for him to explain to Su Xiaoxiao.

"Okay!"

Su Xiaoxiao did not waste words and quickly nodded in agreement.

"You don't need to bring many things, just some necessities... and you, go and help too!"

Time was of the essence, and Qin Fang worried that Mother Su might have trouble parting with her familiar old belongings, so he had to rely on Su Xiaoxiao to handle it. As for Li Deliang, Qin Fang naturally wouldn't let him idle away; since they were moving, someone had to do the heavy lifting, and that was indubitably the most suitable role for him.

"Alright, alright... I'm going..."

Left to face Qin Fang alone, Li Deliang did not have the courage. Although dismayed by the thought of falling under Qin Fang's clutches, the idea of having two million yuan to his name still thrilled him, diluting his worries substantially.

As Qin Fang mentioned, it wasn't much longer before Shen Liang drove over. When the decision was made to move Mother Su to Ninghai, Qin Fang had been mulling over the matter and had immediately notified Shen Liang to come over.

He and Su Xiaoxiao both had the ability to protect themselves, but Mother Su did not, and now with the addition of Li Deliang, there was a need for someone to offer protection, and Shen Liang was undoubtedly the best candidate.

Most importantly, Shen Liang was absolutely loyal to Qin Fang, tight-lipped, never leaking secrets that should not be disclosed.

While Su Xiaoxiao was his woman, and that secret was not necessarily something he couldn't share with Tang Feifei, the matter also involved other highly sensitive secrets.

Such as them collaborating to annihilate Sinan, stealing the Millennium Ancient Corpse that Hyena had put so much effort into obtaining, interfering with Zhao Si's scheme, and taking away the Buddha Bone Relic that the Secular Disciple from Shaolin Temple was so eager to possess...

All these were secrets that could not be publicly disclosed, as they would surely trouble Qin Fang with many unnecessary complications. The situation with Hyena was somewhat better since his background was already quite shady; with Sinan gone, that fellow's days ahead were not likely to be easy...

What troubled Qin Fang was the Secular Disciple from Shaolin Temple. For a high-ranking figure from the Buddhist Sect, the Buddha Bone Relic was an incredibly precious item, and it was unlikely that the Secular Disciple would let this go easily.

Of course, Qin Fang was not afraid of the Secular Disciple. What he truly feared lay behind him—the ancient and highly protective sect Shaolin—a sect brimming with genuine experts and endowed with profound heritage, a depth that Qin Fang, a man on his own, could not compare with...

By the time Shen Liang arrived, Mother Su and her daughter had almost finished packing, mostly bringing essential items for daily living and some valuable things from the house. They then loaded everything into the car and headed straight for the highway out of town.

Indeed, less than an hour after Qin Fang and his group left the Su Family home, a somewhat scattered convoy arrived there. The people, seemingly unrelated, spread out but kept in close contact with one another.

As they quietly entered the Su family courtyard and swiftly searched the entire building, they ended up empty-handed, without even a trace of a person left behind...

Afterward, they inquired among the neighbors. While the neighbors looked on with both caution and confusion, the intruders finally learned that they were a bit too late—the targets had been whisked away earlier.

As for where they were taken... that remained unknown.

The only possible lead was a car with Ninghai license plates that had driven away—but in the vast Ninghai City, trying to find a single person was indeed very difficult.

Chapter 969: The Persistent Evil Spirit

Not to mention, in a place like Ninghai where various forces, dragon and serpent alike, are intermixed, even his boss doesn't have the capacity to search the entire city...

Moreover, due to the exposure of a certain incident, some powers had already set their eyes on their boss; preoccupied with their own problems, they hadn't the time to search for a needle in the haystack.

The one hiding behind the scenes and issuing commands was none other than Hyena, who had been frantically searching for the Millennium Ancient Corpse over the past few days, yet without any leads...

And to add to his troubles, nothing was going smoothly... The initial plan was for Sinan to take the fall, but Sinan ended up killed; he got his hands on the Millennium Ancient Corpse only to have it vanish into thin air; now there were rumors that the Millennium Ancient Corpse was in his possession, and some Mercenary Groups had their sights set on him, if he didn't find a hiding place soon, he feared he would be dismembered.

Now look where he was, the only small clue they found—the one from the Assassin—was completely cut off with the departure of that family!

He could continue the investigation, but the truth was he lacked the energy to carry on; survival was the most pressing matter at hand.

...

Hyena wasn't the only one in a sour mood; there was another person who was shocked, scared, and extremely angry—Zhao Si.

Zhao Si was now over fifty but had studied martial arts at Shaolin Temple in his youth and had cultivated a decent proficiency in external martial arts. His body remained strong, and despite years of comfortable

living and his lack of restraint with women, which had weakened him somewhat, he still retained his former prowess.

However, Zhao Si had lost the air of the underground magnate in Yangcheng today; he was now looking at a man in his thirties with a fearful and pitiful expression, as if afraid the man would fly into a rage any moment.

"Brother Wuben, the situation is generally as I described..."

The failure of Liu Kun's plan and the missed opportunity to indict him as the mastermind had already reached the ears of Fourth Master Zhao Si. After making detailed inquiries and learning the whole story, he flew into a rage and immediately ordered the capture of Liu Kun.

Capturing Liu Kun was more about venting his own anger, but he still had to face the fury of the young man before him... because he had failed to deliver on the promise he had made with confidence.

This man, although a secular disciple of Shaolin Temple, usually had a dharma name within the Inner Temple, and this generation's disciples had "Wu" in their names; his dharma name was Wuben...

Of course, to distinguish them from the ordained disciples in the Inner Temple, these secular disciples were allowed to retain their surnames. For instance, this man's surname was Shen, so he was called Shen Wuben.

"Are you saying the person uncovered your plan and the object might end up in their hands?"

This Brother Wuben was quite a bit younger than Master Zhao Si but was in no way modest about the address of 'Brother.'

Despite his calm tone, which didn't seem urgent, it caused Zhao Si to feel incredibly uneasy.

Zhao Si's achievements, though partly due to his own daring and exceptional tactics, also depended on the support from Shaolin Temple. Without it, he would have been done in long ago...

While not a disciple of the Inner Temple, from the moment he made a name for himself in the underworld, he had repeatedly received the Inner Temple's support.

He wasn't a fool; he knew full well that if the Inner Temple could support him in rising to power, they could just as easily cast him down.

His position might seem illustrious, but he was acutely aware of the many who coveted his seat; given the chance, they wouldn't hesitate to dethrone him.

Thus, to continue his glory, he had to maintain the Inner Temple's support. Although typically, he wasn't needed for anything, now that this matter had come to the fore, he had every reason to handle it meticulously.

For this reason, he had arranged for many people to investigate carefully and even infiltrated Mother Su's household to search. But all was in vain—the tin box dumped in a corner of the junk room had sat undisturbed for over a decade. It would have been a miracle to find it.

He then devised a ruse in the hope of obtaining the precious item!

But unexpectedly...

In the midst of it all, a hiccup occurred; the treasure remained elusive, and his scheme was exposed.

"That's about the size of it!"

Facing a man almost two decades his junior, Zhao Si couldn't dare show any negligence and spoke very cautiously.

From the information he'd received, Mother Su's family had left their home. As for where they had gone, no one knew. Like Hyena, the only intel he had was that their vehicle had a Ninghai license plate, and they were very likely headed towards Ninghai.

"Good! I understand..."

After listening to Zhao Si, Shen Wuben didn't show any displeasure on his face, merely nodding slightly with a seemingly indifferent manner.

Zhao Si, upon hearing this, felt a bit more at ease, thinking he had finally gotten past this hurdle.

Slap~~

However, his relief was premature.

Just as he was letting out a breath of relief, a large and slightly rough hand appeared above his head and quickly struck down, slapping Zhao Si solidly on the head.

Chapter 970: The Persistent Evil Spirit_2

"Ugh..."

Zhao Si's eyes suddenly bulged as if they were about to pop out, uttering such a low, strange noise from his mouth, and then blood started seeping from his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose.

He was bleeding from all seven orifices!

As the light of shock in Zhao Si's eyes gradually faded and disappeared, his life came to an end.

Shen Wuben, on the other hand, acted as if he hadn't killed a person but merely crushed an ant, completely indifferent, merely pulling out a white handkerchief from his body and gently wiping his palms, as if Zhao Si's head and hair had sullied them.

"If you can't even handle such a trivial matter, then what's the use of keeping you around..."

While wiping his palms, he spoke with an extremely calm tone, without any obvious sarcasm or mockery, but rather a sense of cold indifference.

If Qin Fang could have witnessed this scene, he would have been terrified by Shen Wuben's strength. Although Shen Wuben was much younger than Shangguan Tianling, his cultivation was definitely not weaker...

Particularly, his palm energy, which was a very rare and formidable technique, combined with a powerful inner breath, allowed him to kill Zhao Si with a single blow—something Qin Fang admitted he could not do yet.

Zhao Si died just like that, having been a mighty figure for half his life, yet in the end, he embarked on a road of no return, not at the hands of his enemies but by the hand of his own backer.

"Ninghai..."

Although Zhao Si, the inefficient fellow, had been dealt with, the search for the Buddha Bone Relic must continue. Shen Wuben absolutely needed to obtain it this time; it was of immense significance to him, and he had to find it by any means necessary.

With Zhao Si dead, the leads were almost broken, but at least there was one small clue left—that the person who took the Buddha Bone Relic might have gone to Ninghai...

Shen Wuben wasn't worried about not finding the Buddha Bone Relic. After all, it had been hidden in the Li Family for many years and with Li Wenxiu for over a decade, yet Shen Wuben could still trace its whereabouts, couldn't he?

Despite Ninghai being a vast city with a large population, the difficulty was much less compared to narrowing down the search to Su Xiaoxiao and Li Wenxiu across the whole country.

Shaolin Temple, as one of the most renowned and powerful ancient schools, also had considerable influence in the secular world. Even if the temple's monks weren't directly involved, their spokespersons were deeply connected to the Shaolin Temple.

The task at hand was crucial for Shen Wuben. From the day he stepped out of the Inner Temple, he was granted the authority to wield such power, even to the point of directly executing those who were incompetent at their tasks. This was no significant matter to him.

Shaolin Temple may preach about all sentient beings being equal and the avoidance of killing, but that's all nonsense. Many of Shaolin's martial arts are extremely fierce, and unintentional fatalities can occur, making it hard not to take lives.

Not to mention secular disciples like Shen Wuben, who aren't bound by as many precepts and, now being in the secular world, have even fewer scruples.

Killing Zhao Si was but a trivial matter to him.

"You... from today on, this gang will honor you as its leader!"

Not only that, but Shen Wuben also nonchalantly pointed at a particularly beautiful woman and said, directly elevating her to the position that Zhao Si had previously occupied.

The reason?

The reason was that the woman had been very pleasing to Shen Wuben these past days, and as he was about to leave Yangcheng, he considered it a good trade for the many days he had been with her.

As for opposing voices?

Shen Wuben simply glanced around, and Zhao Si's subordinates immediately lost their nerve, for they vaguely understood what kind of person he was—someone even their boss, Zhao Si, had to treat with utmost respect and caution.

Especially after they discovered that their boss, Zhao Si, had died, and moreover been killed by a single palm strike causing him to bleed from seven orifices, they were utterly terrified, accepting the fact that this beautiful woman had become their new boss.

Despite their disdain for a female boss who had ascended through her physical appeal, the reality was unchangeable, unless someone wished to go to sleep and never wake up again...

...

The changes in Yangcheng, Qin Fang was definitely unaware of at the moment since he had returned to Ninghai and arranged accommodations for Mother Su and Su Xiaoxiao, then leaving Li Deliang in the hands of Mouse Qiang to handle.

When he finally had some free time, he began to ponder the Buddha Bone Relic, claimed to be the Buddhist Sect's most treasured possession, yet he didn't know how to activate the relic with its infinite miraculous uses.

"Sigh, no wonder only those of the Buddhist Sect place so much importance on Shariputra..."

Qin Fang tried all sorts of methods, but the outcome was frustrating—the Buddha Bone Relic remained unchanged, just as before.

And just as Qin Fang said, even within the Buddhist Sect, the method to use it was kept secret with only a handful of top masters understanding it, while the average monk didn't know how to utilize it.

Because of this, Shariputra was essentially meaningless to martial artists outside of the Buddhist Sect, so those martial artists who did obtain one would typically offer it to the Buddhist Sect in exchange for some treasures they needed.

Monks have been one of the wealthiest groups since ancient times, with temples being among the most prosperous institutions. Even when some temples appear ancient and dilapidated, their collections can be incredibly powerful.

As the most orthodox lineage within the Buddhist Sect, Shaolin Temple has stood the test of a thousand years, its incense burning continuously without interruption. Over this millennium, it has amassed a vast collection of treasures, to the point where, exaggerated though it may sound, even the collection of the Forbidden City in Capital City may not compare to that of Shaolin Temple...

Especially when it comes to some extremely rare items, such as ancient texts and documents of great importance to the Martial Way, as well as various pill recipes and Spiritual Medicines... those are not found outside, yet it is very possible they exist within Shaolin Temple.

Even so, the monks never ceased to collect from the outside world, especially seeking items like Shariputra... this indicates that Shariputra must contain some kind of secret unknown to others.

Regrettably, it is difficult for martial artists outside of the Buddhist Sect to unravel these secrets, or else the mystery wouldn't have persisted for a thousand years.

"Forget it, let it be for now..."

Qin Fang did not know if he could quickly decipher the secret of the Shariputra. Since he couldn't find anything amiss, he temporarily set the relic aside and immediately took out the puppet person.

This Puppet person was arguably Qin Fang's greatest harvest from his trip to Yangcheng, an entity impervious to blades and obedient to his commands, with many formidable uses.

In particular, the Superb Spiritual Medicine, Golden Dragon Saliva, that flowed from its joints, was something Qin Fang coveted deeply. Unfortunately, having absorbed the Golden Dragon Saliva once had left Qin Fang in a difficult state; for the time being, he dared not try it again.

However, this did not affect Qin Fang's regard for this Superb Spiritual Medicine. In the current era, Spiritual Medicines were nearly extinct, and finding one was difficult. With the Golden Dragon Saliva in his possession, Qin Fang believed that once his strength increased, he could use it without experiencing the previous mishaps.

Most crucially, in the past few days, Qin Fang was amazed to discover that the Golden Dragon Saliva had other wondrous uses, especially for women—thousands of times more effective than the finest cosmetics.

Su Xiaoxiao, already stunningly beautiful and beyond compare, had become even more gorgeous over these days, her skin even smoother and more delicate, making Qin Fang reluctant to leave her side.