

Overlord 171

Chapter 171: Preemptive Strike

Inside the Combat Club, the noise from the crowd was deafening.

In the spectator seats, Zhu Wenjie sat in an inconspicuous place, his face still covered with a mask. He sat quietly in his seat, yet inside, he was already experiencing a storm of emotions.

As a member of the Zhu Family, he knew about the Martial Alliance forum and often followed it.

However, there had been no special events in the Martial World recently, and he hadn't checked the forum yesterday, so he was unaware of this Life and Death Platform duel. But this morning, he had received a call from his cousin Tong Yunshu, who spoke with urgency, asking him to come to the Combat Club to watch this duel to the death.

When he heard that Yang Fei was to duel Yan Zhongshan, a master of the Energy Transformation Fifth Grade, Zhu Wenjie was so shocked he couldn't speak.

Tong Yunshu had also told him about the recent events, and when Zhu Wenjie learned that Yang Fei had even killed Tong Jianzhou, his heart raced, and he could hardly believe it.

Zhu Wenjie thought he understood Yang Fei, having speculated that Yang Fei was a Martial Artist from the incident at Xintian Di and his subsequent lifesaving actions during a camping trip.

But he only knew that Yang Fei's medical skills were excellent, never expecting Yang Fei's combat power to be so terrifying.

To find out the truth, Zhu Wenjie arrived here at around ten in the morning.

When Yang Fei arrived at the entrance of the venue right on schedule, Zhu Wenjie spotted him immediately, and his heart churned, unable to calm down.

It really was him.

Although he learned everything through the Martial Alliance forum and Yun Shu had also told him the truth, he still couldn't believe it, thinking it must be someone else with the same name as Yang Fei.

Now, seeing Yang Fei appear with his own eyes, and watching him walk over to the chairman's stand to sign the contract of life and death, openly accepting a gauntlet match with a demeanor that completely disregarded the long-reputed senior, Yan Zhongshan, Zhu Wenjie was completely numb.

Was he really this audacious?

Did he truly have the abilities, or was he simply accustomed to bragging?

As stunned as he was inside, Zhu Wenjie felt his blood boil with Yang Fei's acceptance of the gauntlet match.

This is the passion and spirit that we young Martial Artists should have.

In the arena, after Yang Fei made sure all the people he wanted to eliminate today had signed, he turned and walked up the steps to the platform.

"Fuck, this kid really dares to go up?"

"So young, even if he's been practicing martial arts since he was born, at most he'd be at the Early Stage of Inner Strength, yet he dares to challenge Yan Zhongshan, a Fifth Grade master of Energy Transformation?"

"Who gave him the courage?"

"This is simply seeking death."

Standing on the platform, amidst the various discussions from the spectators around him, Yang Fei remained as if he had heard nothing.

His name had only become known to the people in the Martial World since yesterday afternoon through that challenge letter, while Yan Zhongshan was a genuinely famous Energy Transformation master for many years and a senior in the Martial World.

Thus, almost no one was optimistic about today's life and death battle.

But Yang Fei didn't care about what others thought.

All he wanted was to solve the issues potentially threatening his family through this method, and incidentally leave a profound impression on people in the Martial World.

In the arena, even Jiang Ziman, who trusted Qin Yanyang greatly and knew Yang Fei should be strong, was silently shaking his head, not optimistic about Yang Fei's battle with Yan Zhongshan.

After all, he had just observed Yang Fei closely and hadn't detected any fluctuations of internal energy.

Now seeing Yang Fei stepping up to the Life and Death Platform and Yan Zhongshan also going up, as the fight was about to start, Jiang Ziman couldn't help but grow increasingly anxious.

Miss Qin, if you have other arrangements, take action soon, otherwise once they start fighting, that boy will definitely be killed in one move.

I'm no match for Yan Zhongshan either, even if I wanted to save your husband, it wouldn't be possible.

"Mr. Yang... can you really do it?" Qi Tai said worriedly in a low voice.

Zhang Long, startled, quickly said, "Master, don't worry, Mr. Yang is sure to win."

Xu Mao and Xu Xingzhou were even more confident, the latter saying, "We were already regretful that we didn't see the battle at Yun Mountain, we must watch how Mr. Yang takes down a Fifth Grade of Energy Transformation today."

Xu Mao nodded, not doubting Yang Fei's victory.

Considering Nan Liren and Xu Yingluo both died at the hands of Mr. Yang, this Yan Zhongshan is simply here to deliver his head."

The three of them listened to the skeptical voices around them and secretly sneered, shaking their heads.

Xu Xingzhou was even more secretly looking forward to the shocked expressions of these people after Yan Zhongshan was killed.

On the platform, Yang Fei saw that Yan Zhongshan was hesitating and not stepping up yet, his gaze fell on him, and he said coldly, "Come and die quickly, I am in a hurry!"

The families of Yan, Wang, and Tong, as well as their people, saw Yang Fei's arrogance, their faces turned livid with anger as they glared at him furiously.

Even many onlookers, in order to flatter and please Yan Zhongshan, also started shouting, "Kid, you are too arrogant."

"Exactly, Elder Yan is a senior in the Martial World, how can you be so presumptuous?"

Yang Fei frowned but still ignored those who were shouting. Instead, he looked at Yan Zhongshan and said, "Do you want me to come down and kill you?"

Boom!

As soon as these words were out, the whole place erupted into noise.

So arrogant!

This kid is simply boundlessly arrogant.

Many people despised Yang Fei's overbearing and arrogant demeanor, wishing they could jump up and teach him a lesson themselves. However, since this place was under the supervision of the Martial Alliance, no one dared to act rashly, so they could only focus their attention on Yan Zhongshan.

Someone urged, "Elder Yan, please go and teach that kid a lesson; he's too haughty, and we can't stand it anymore."

"Yes, smash that kid's haughtiness."

"Let him know that not just any Tom, Dick, or Harry can challenge a master of Energy Transformation."

Under the expectant gaze of the crowd, Yan Zhongshan looked up at the platform.

About seven or eight meters away from the platform, he soared into the air, gliding effortlessly and gracefully right into the ring.

As his feet touched the ground, Yan Zhongshan looked at Yang Fei and said, "Kid, don't say I'm bullying the younger. You make the first move."

Yang Fei responded indifferently, "It doesn't matter who moves first, killing you, one move is enough."

Many young people below could no longer bear it.

"My god, let me at him, I can't stand it anymore."

"I can't stand it either, this guy is too arrogant, I want to jump up and beat him to death."

Atop the platform, Yan Zhongshan was quite stable mentally. Hearing Yang Fei's words, he was provoked into laughter, "Hahaha, what a bold statement. Looking at the current Martial World, even a Seventh Grade Grandmaster dare not claim they could kill me in one move. Young man, how arrogant you are!"

Yang Fei raised his hand and, following the rules of the Martial Arts World, made a gesture to start the fight, signaling that the duel was about to begin.

Yan Zhongshan glanced at him and said proudly, "Kid, you make the first move."

Yang Fei didn't bother with niceties and took a step towards him.

As Yang Fei took that step, his aura completely changed.

In Yan Zhongshan's eyes, Yang Fei became a knife.

A sharp, unparalleled knife, capable of splitting mountains and severing seas, a peerless treasure!

A fearsome threat like never before arose.

Yan Zhongshan, a former battlefield veteran, honed from countless life-and-death fights and a master of Martial Arts, was very sensitive to murderous intent and danger. His heart chilled, his expression became extremely solemn, his inner energy surged, and he instantly entered the highest state of battle readiness, his entire being as sharp and cold as a spear.

Yang Fei felt the fierce aura emanating from this man and nodded silently to himself but still did not take him seriously, taking a second step forward.

This step covered three meters.

The distance between the two instantly narrowed.

Yan Zhongshan felt as if Mount Tai was toppling over him, the terrifying pressure made him unhesitatingly make the most correct decision.

He struck first, seizing the initiative!

He had indeed previously said he would let the young man move first, wanting to demonstrate the bearing of a senior.

However, faced with a life-or-death situation, he made the first move.

Chapter 172: All Rise

The crowd below only saw Yang Fei stride toward Yan Zhongshan, but no one felt the terrifying murderous intent and oppression like Yan Zhongshan did.

However, when Yan Zhongshan suddenly made the first move, attacking Yang Fei, many people showed strange expressions on their faces.

Damn, wasn't it said that to avoid making it seem like bullying the weaker, the other party should strike first?

Since when did respected seniors become so shameless, actually resorting to trickery?

At that moment, many young people secretly despised him, but everyone's eyes were wide open, not wanting to miss the spectacle.

Yan Zhongshan was like a javelin, darting out like a dragon whenever he moved.

He turned into a blur, instantly appearing in front of Yang Fei, and violently slapped toward Yang Fei's forehead.

A flash of cold light appeared in Yang Fei's eyes, he held nothing back, unleashing a powerful move right from the start.

Sky Splitting Divine Fist, first form, Po Gang!

That day when he fought Xu Yingluo, he had used this move and Xu Yingluo had been directly crippled.

Now, Yang Fei's strength had grown significantly stronger than it had been on Yun Mountain, already at fifty percent of his peak strength. Facing the public of the Martial World, he intended to establish his dominance, to let everyone know that Yang Fei was not to be trifled with, thus he unleashed his full power right at the start, aiming to kill Yan Zhongshan with one strike!

"Bang!"

The fist and palm collided.

The fierce energy explosion scattered, transforming into invisible waves of Qi that radiated in all directions. The soft, thick mats on the ground were cut open by several sharp slashes.

"Splurt!"

A mouthful of old blood spurted out of Yan Zhongshan's mouth.

His body flew out of the platform like a kite with its string cut, landing heavily on the ground seven or eight meters away, struggling symbolically a few times before becoming still.

One move, just one move.

A one-strike kill meant instantly ending his opponent, not even allowing him a chance to utter another word.

Silence!

The vast fighting arena, previously somewhat noisy, became utterly quiet following Yan Zhongshan's death from that single punch.

The majority of the people were dazed, somewhat unsure of what had just happened.

Some martial artists in the middle late stage of Inner Strength, who had decent vision, had seen the entire process clearly, but the shock in their hearts was even greater than those who couldn't make sense of the situation.

One punch to kill a fifth-grade of Energy Transformation?

Some senior martial artists couldn't help but rub their eyes, then opened them again to look at Yan Zhongshan's body.

Still a body, not a trick of the eye.

Could it be an illusion?

Someone pinched the thigh of the person next to him.

"Ah!"

A cry of pain rang out, and that person jumped up, his face full of grievance, "Master, you... why did you pinch me?"

The master, shaken inside, murmured to himself, "It's not an illusion, it's... it's actually real!"

Many people stood up in shock, including Jiang Ziman, Du Minghui, and Li Zhengyi on the chairman's platform, who also stood up and walked toward Yan Zhongshan's body.

"Dad... Dad, what... what's wrong with you, say something!" Yan Cheng was the first to rush to his father's side and picked him up.

However, Yan Zhongshan's organs had been shattered, his meridians utterly destroyed; he had already stopped breathing long before, making a response impossible.

Yan Cheng felt no signs of life in his father's body, and he was shocked, angry, and afraid.

How could this have happened?

His father had long been a notable martial artist in the Jiangnan Martial World, a high-ranked master in the Middle Third Grade of Energy Transformation Realm, not low in rank and rich in real combat experience. He had once defeated a fifth-grade of Energy Transformation when he was only in third-grade, known for being able to challenge those beyond his level.

And now, faced with a young man in his twenties who had no reputation in the Martial World, how could he have been killed with one punch?

Indeed, if it had been a back-and-forth battle where Yan Zhongshan was eventually defeated, people might have accepted it reluctantly.

After all, there was a process of comparing strengths.

But now, Yang Fei had killed Yan Zhongshan with just one move, this was too brutal and straightforward, not giving the audience any time to prepare psychologically, making it truly difficult to accept.

Wang Xiongying, Tong Fujun, Xu Chou, and others were also surrounding Yan Zhongshan's body, checking his status. After confirming that Yan Zhongshan was indeed lifeless, their faces turned incredibly pale, with Wang Xiongying's legs trembling so badly that he almost couldn't stand.

How could this be?

Wasn't it said that killing this kid would be a breeze?

Didn't they say that Yan Zhongshan was confident in defeating anyone below the Seventh Rank of Energy Transformation?

Now, how come he's the one lying flat first?

Or was he killed by an enemy with a single move?

Wang Xiongying's heart raced wildly, almost cursing Yan Zhongshan's ancestors for eighteen generations in his shock as he thought of something else.

He had signed his name.

At this moment, Wang Xiongying felt no anger or hatred for avenging his son, but only a tremendous fear for his life.

He looked up at the platform.

He met the indifferent gaze of Yang Fei.

Wang Xiongying's legs trembled, and he almost soiled himself.

As the current ruler of the Wang Family, he had been a person of great presence and stable mentality, but he wasn't a martial artist, and seeing the brutal scenes of combat in the martial world now completely shattered his composure.

In the crowd, Zhu Wenjie had already stood up, trembling all over, utterly shocked deep inside, internally screaming, "How is this possible? He... he's not even much older than me, how can he be so strong?"

Looking at Yang Fei, Zhu Wenjie's eyes were filled with shock.

Below the platform, Tong Fujun stared at the corpse of Yan Zhongshan, stunned.

It took a long time before he regained his senses, and when he looked at Yang Fei on the platform again, his eyes were filled only with fear.

He was filled with hatred towards Yang Fei, coming today with the sole intention to take Yang Fei's head back to pacify the spirit of his son in heaven.

He thought it would be an easy task, just waiting for Yan Zhongshan to kill the kid and then take his head and leave.

But he never expected that the kid would have such formidable strength, killing Yan Zhongshan in one move.

This... this revenge, he could not avenge by himself.

Tong Fujun felt a deep sense of powerlessness, eyes filled with reluctance and despair.

But soon, he calmed down, his eyes ablaze with raging fury.

So what if he could kill Yan Zhongshan? The Tong Family has a supremely terrifying powerhouse. As long as he takes action, no matter how strong you are, you will surely die!

Tong Fujun secretly clenched his fists, determined to visit Xuanzhen Temple no matter what, begging on his knees if he had to, to ask his uncle to avenge his son.

Jiang Ziman came next to the corpse of Yan Zhongshan, confirmed after checking, and took a deep cold breath, looking up to Yang Fei on the platform.

At this moment, he finally understood why Qin Yanyang was so calm when she called him this morning.

She had already known the strength of Yang Fei, already aware that Yan Zhongshan was bound to die.

And he had been secretly worried.

But this kid is only twenty-three years old.

How could someone so young be so powerful?

To kill a Fifth Grade of Energy Transformation instantly, he must be at least a Seventh Rank of Energy Transformation, if not higher.

Are the young people of today all so outstanding? How could someone like him, who only stepped into the realm of Energy Transformation in his fifties and sixties, survive in this martial world?

He took a deep look at Yang Fei, attempting to suppress the shock in his heart, and declared loudly, "Yan Zhongshan is dead. In this duel on the Life and Death Platform, Yang Fei wins! After this, both parties must not provoke each other privately, settling their grievances."

Upon hearing this, Yan Cheng, Xu Chou, Wang Xiongying, and others, for some reason, felt a sense of relief.

However, before they could fully exhale, the cold voice of Yang Fei reached their ears, "Yan Zhongshan is dead, yet my grievances with them are not settled. The three who just signed their names, Wang Xiongying, Yan Cheng, and Xu Chou, come forth and meet your deaths!"

Jiang Ziman's expression shifted slightly, complicating his gaze at Yang Fei.

He had just made that announcement with the intention of putting an end to this feud.

Although Yang Fei was powerful, and had that kind of relationship with Qin Yanyang, he also knew that their marriage was not recognized by the Qin Family, and this matter further involved a certain second young master of the Zhang Family.

So he thought of ending this to keep Yang Fei's hands cleaner of blood, which wouldn't have been too extreme, but he hadn't expected Yang Fei to be so rigid, insisting that the others who had signed must die.

Yet he could not object.

Because Yang Fei was not wrong; he was acting according to the rules of the Martial Arts World.

In the Life and Death Platform, once your name is signed, you must bear the risk of being killed, and even if you don't step up to the platform, your opponent can kill you at any time without being restricted by the rules of the Martial Alliance.

Chapter 173: Shameless Countenance

It wasn't until Jiang Ziman announced the death of Yan Zhongshan that the audience, who were shocked by the news, truly snapped back to reality, especially when Yang Fei subsequently called on those who had signed up to step onto the stage for their deaths.

"Fuck, is he... is he really that fierce?"

"Yeah, wasn't Yan Zhongshan said to be very powerful? Could it have been all talk?"

"Energy Transformation Fifth Grade, eh? Just got blasted to death with one punch, is this for real?"

"I don't find it fun to watch at all. They just touched and it's all over?"

"Yeah, it happened too fast, even faster than me."

"Piss off, you're a joke, he's genuinely strong."

Many young martial artists who had come with their elders to watch the spectacle couldn't keep their composure, their blood boiling with excitement as they discussed energetically among themselves.

When they looked at the young figure on the stage again, most of them showed a look of admiration in their eyes.

So cool!

If only I could be as awesome as him.

Who says martial arts have to progress gradually with age correlating with higher cultivation?

Did Yan Zhongshan live his seventy to eighty years of age in vain?

At that moment, many young martial artists straightened their backs, feeling like they could do it too.

Humans always admire the strong.

Martial artists are no exception.

In the Martial Arts World, whoever has the strength is badass, that's an iron rule.

As long as you don't incite public anger and aren't besieged, you can strut around the Martial Arts World as long as you're strong enough.

On the stage, Yang Fei waited for a moment, and seeing no one stepping up, he frowned, his gaze locking onto the three men as he said coldly, "What's the matter? You signed your names but dare not come up to fight? If you don't even dare to take turns fighting me, then I'll give you one more chance. Come up together, it'll save time. I'll send you all off in one go, so at least you'll have company."

Yan Cheng, clutching his father's corpse, glared and gritted his teeth, "You... do you really intend to be so ruthless?"

Yang Fei snorted, "Don't make it sound so pitiful. I never had any feud with the Yan Family. It was you who insisted on standing out. Now how is it my fault for being aggressive?"

As he spoke, Yang Fei's gaze turned towards Situ Yunzhong and the other members of the Situ family as he said coldly, "I had already spared the Situ family and decided not to pursue the matter further. I didn't expect you all to harbor ill intentions and find someone to deal with me. Since that's the case, I'll come back to settle things with you later."

Situ Yunzhong, already pale with fear, blurted out in an attempt to disclaim any responsibility upon meeting Yang Fei's gaze, "Mr. Yang, please calm your anger. This matter really wasn't within our Situ family's power to instigate. We... we were just here to watch the excitement."

All the members of the Situ family nodded in agreement, not daring to utter a word in defiance.

In fact, they had come today hoping to see Yang Fei killed with their own eyes, their hearts filled with nothing but resentment towards him.

But now that Yan Zhongshan had been instantly killed by Yang Fei, how could they have the courage to admit their intentions?

Yang Fei let out a sneer, no longer paying attention to the members of the Situ family, and instead looked at Xu Chou, Yan Cheng, and Wang Xiongying, saying, "Answer me. Will you come up and fight me together, or should I come down and send you off one by one? Now that you've signed and sealed the agreement, don't think about escaping."

Xu Chou was at the Energy Transformation Realm Fourth Grade and with the cultivation of the Xu Family Poison Skill, his combat strength was even stronger than the typical practitioner at that level. He could even face fifth and sixth rank Energy Transformation Realm masters with some confidence of coming out unscathed.

But at that moment, facing Yang Fei, he was afraid.

He knew the strength of Yan Zhongshan. If the man could be killed in a single move, he would certainly be no match for that kid.

Yet with Yang Fei pressing him in front of more than two hundred people, he felt he couldn't step down and glared at Yang Fei as he angrily said, "You think just because you killed Yan Zhongshan, you are invincible and don't put any martial artist in the world in your eyes?"

Yang Fei sneered, "What does the martial world have to do with this? I just don't consider you few losers worth my attention, that's all."

"You... are too bullying!" Yan Cheng glared with fury.

Yang Fei said indifferently, "Isn't he a piece of trash? It was your family who started this, and now that I've killed your father, a son should avenge his father in a feud that cannot coexist under the same sky. As a martial artist, you don't even have the guts or courage to avenge your father, if not trash, then what are you?"

"And you two as well, haven't both of you lost sons? Want to avenge your sons, huh? How is it that I'm giving you a chance to come at me together, yet you hesitate to make a move? Are you not trash then?"

As he spoke, Yang Fei's gaze turned even colder towards Tong Fujun, saying coldly, "Tong Fujun, didn't you previously say you wanted to take my head to mourn your son? Even though you didn't sign the life-death contract, don't say I didn't give you a chance. You can join them as well. Today, all who wish for my death, Yang Fei, come at me, and we'll settle all scores in one go."

Already scared witless by Yang Fei's ferocious combat power, Tong Fujun grew pale and flushed with anger when singled out. He spat, "Kid, don't get too arrogant. Do you really think no one can deal with you? My Tong family still has an elder ancestor who can kill you as easily as flipping his hand."

"That's right, Yang Fei, you might have killed Yan Zhongshan today, but you're well aware of who you've offended. He will never let you off," said Wang Xiongying, buoyed by the thought of having backing.

Upon hearing this, Yang Fei's expression darkened, a flash of sharpness appeared in his eyes, and he declared loudly, "I, Yang Fei, am not easily frightened. Today you could move Heaven and Earth and still would not be able to save yourselves. As for that person, hahaha, you can call him right now, if he's a man, he'll come out and fight me. I, Yang Fei, am ready to accept his challenge at any time. If he dares not come out, then stop sneaking around behind my back with those petty actions, it's truly embarrassing."

Zhang Yunqing was someone whom Yang Fei had long detested and had become his target for killing.

But since his strength had not fully recovered and the Zhang Family in the Imperial City had powerful experts in residence, he did not want to engage in a direct conflict with them yet, unless absolutely necessary.

However, he was determined to one day personally extinguish Zhang Yunqing's life.

His bold declaration now was also intended to force Zhang Yunqing to show himself.

Facing the Zhang Family's top fighters, Yang Fei did not yet have the confidence, but when it came to Zhang Yunqing alone, he was confident he could suppress him.

Wang Xiongying, Yan Cheng, and Xu Chou were shaken to see Yang Fei speak like this, effectively challenging Zhang Yunqing directly.

This youngster actually knew everything already, so why did he still dare to be so bold knowing that the adversary was the Second Young Master of the Zhang Family?

Yang Fei stared at the three men and said for the last time, "Come up and meet your deaths, or else I'll come down and take you one by one."

"You're too bullying. Yan Cheng, let's join forces to kill him!" Xu Chou's fighting spirit was ignited as he spoke loudly.

Yan Cheng's heart chilled; he hadn't even stepped into the Energy Transformation Realm threshold and was afraid to face him.

But since Xu Chou had invited him, and Yang Fei appeared unwilling to spare him either, he steeled his heart and yelled, "Yan Family experts heed my command, today our family's rise and fall, life and death are at stake. Let us kill him together!"

With these words, fear and panic filled the Yan Family, yet many eyes revealed a resolute intent to kill, ready to die with honor.

After all, as people of the Martial Arts World, they did have some courage.

Wang Xiongying's eyes lit up upon hearing this and shouted at Tong Fujun, "Come on, Tong Fujun, your Tong family should join in too!"

Xu Chou added, "Exactly, all of us together, I don't believe this kid can kill us all."

"Dammit, do you really think I, Jiang Ziman, am just here for show, that the Martial Alliance doesn't exist?" A furious roar spread across, Jiang Ziman clenching his eyes, wishing he could kill Yan Cheng and Wang Xiongying, these shameless wretches himself.

Wang Xiongying's heart sank, but at this critical juncture of life and death, he could no longer care, staring at Jiang Ziman and saying, "Jiang Ziman, don't forget how much my Wang family has supported you over the years, and don't forget that this matter involves the Zhang Family of Imperial City. Would the Martial Alliance dare to go against the Zhang Family's wishes?"

Jiang Ziman's expression changed upon hearing this, but rage was raging inside him, wanting nothing more than to slap Wang Xiongying to death.

At this moment, Jiang Ziman felt a shock in his heart and saw only a blur before a figure appeared before Wang Xiongying.

"Crack!"

In the next instant, the crisp sound of bones breaking echoed.

Wang Xiongying's neck twisted, his eyes wide with despair and fear, suffused with a reluctant spirit as he breathed his last.

The one who had made the move was Yang Fei.

Tossing aside Wang Xiongying's corpse carelessly and without a second glance, he strode towards Xu Chou and Yan Cheng, "What's the point in dawdling to live a few more minutes?"

Chapter 174: Yang Fei's Bottom Line

Seeing Yang Fei strike and kill Wang Xiongying, Yan Cheng and Xu Chou were greatly alarmed.

This person's speed is incredibly fast. He was just on the platform, and now he has already killed Wang Xiongying and is charging toward them.

Without any hesitation, Xu Chou, having been on guard, raised his hand and waved it toward Yang Fei.

A pungent white smoke filled the air and lunged directly at Yang Fei.

Xu Mao and Xu Xingzhou's expressions drastically changed as they both cried out in alarm, "Be careful, that's deadly poison!"

However, before their words fell, they saw Yang Fei strike out with a palm from a distance.

The white smoke rushing towards him was enveloped by a strange force and flew directly back toward Xu Chou, Yan Cheng, and the others.

Xu Chou's expression drastically changed, and he let out a cold snort, countering with a punch through the air.

"Pop!"

The palm Force from Yang Fei fiercely collided with Xu Chou's punch. Xu Chou's clothes and hair were blown back as if ravaged by a hurricane. He staggered and retreated repeatedly.

The next moment, the white poisonous cloud had enveloped Yan Cheng's body.

Yan Cheng, being a late-stage martial artist, quickly held his breath and tried to escape.

But as fast as Xu Chou and Yan Cheng's reactions were, Yang Fei's attack was faster.

Yang Fei charged forward like a lion attacking a rabbit, his momentum unstoppable, and slapped at Yan Cheng.

In his explosive retreat, Yan Cheng threw out both fists, trying to block.

"Bang!"

The fist that made contact with Yang Fei's palm exploded, and an incredibly strong force traveled up his arm, shattering his internal organs.

Yan Cheng's face filled with horror and despair, staring incredulously at Yang Fei, mouth agape in anticipation.

"Pu."

As soon as he opened his mouth, a large mouthful of blood sprayed out.

"Thump!"

Yan Cheng's corpse fell a few meters away, convulsed once, and then died, following his father down Huangquan Road.

In the midst of his advance, Yang Fei killed Yan Cheng as effortlessly as slaughtering a chicken or a dog.

His pace unimpeded, he directly rushed toward Xu Chou.

Xu Chou was already scared out of his wits.

He was an Energy Transformation martial artist. In Divine Continent, where martial arts were practiced widely, the number registered in the Martial Alliance as Energy Transformation martial artists did not exceed three hundred. He was considered a second-tier expert in the Martial World.

Yet now, he found himself like a three-year-old child incapable of martial arts in front of Yang Fei. The gap was simply too great; he had no chance to resist.

He felt a deep sense of powerlessness and despair.

"Bang!"

Yang Fei struck a palm at Xu Chou's chest.

Killing him, Yang Fei had used more force than when he executed Yan Cheng because this person was not originally on his list of people to kill. Yet, he emerged to provoke a fight.

Although Xu Xinghai's death was somewhat related to him, it was Xu Xingzhou and Xu Mao who had killed Xu Xinghai. Nonetheless, Xu Chou came looking for him first, which was simply seeking death!

Today, Yang Fei aimed to establish a fearsome reputation in the Martial World, to make others fear and dread him, thus he struck brutally and decisively. Where one move would kill, he absolutely would not give a second.

As Yang Fei's palm imprint sank into the chest, Xu Chou's entire body was shattered. He could even hear his internal organs, even his blood vessels, bursting.

His entire body flew backward in a V shape, his back clothes split apart, showcasing the terrifyingly tyrannical force contained in Yang Fei's palm.

It's a long story to tell, but in actuality, from the moment Yang Fei jumped down from the platform, up to now when Wang Xiongying, Yan Cheng, and Xu Chou had been successively killed by him, only a few seconds had passed.

The arena was dead silent.

Many rubbed their eyes, feeling they hadn't clearly seen Yang Fei's actions just now.

The vast majority only saw a blur, feeling as if Yang Fei had simply sprinted through and those three were killed.

This was real supremacy!

Like a wind sweeping up leaves, effortlessly crushing all opposition!

So powerful!

They were simply not on the same level.

Countless pairs of eyes stared at Yang Fei, many filled with deep shock and admiration, yet also a hint of curiosity arose.

This person, what Realm is he really at?

Could it be that he is already at the level of a grandmaster?

Such a young grandmaster, even going back two hundred years in the Divine Continent Martial World, they are very few in number.

Seeing Yang Fei instantly kill Wang Xiongying, Yan Cheng, and Xu Chou, Jiang Ziman's heart also trembled and screamed.

Though he was an Energy Transformation Martial Artist, he felt that he might not even have a chance to strike in front of this young man.

Both were Energy Transformation Martial Artists, but the disparity was too great!

No wonder he had caught the eye of the Qin Family's young miss, truly a dragon among men.

After killing Xu Chou, Yang Fei's gaze swept around the area.

The Yan Family, the Situ family, the Wang Family, and those who had followed Xu Chou, all hastily bowed their heads, not daring to meet his gaze.

Yang Fei's gaze then fell on Tong Fujun's face, and he walked over.

Tong Fujun's legs trembled, nearly bringing him to his knees.

He indeed harbored resentment toward Yang Fei in his heart and had resolved to have his uncle personally kill Yang Fei.

But now, facing Yang Fei, what filled his heart was more fear than anything else.

"Did you come here today to take my head to commemorate your son?" Yang Fei stepped in front of Tong Fujun and asked.

Tong Fujun felt some ringing in his ears, his mind buzzed, and he could only hear his own rapid, fearful heartbeat.

Meeting Yang Fei's indifferent gaze, his heart trembled, and he opened his mouth but couldn't utter a sound.

"A father's fault for not teaching his son!"

Yang Fei looked at Tong Fujun and slowly spoke, "You spoiled and overly protected him, blindly wanting to take my head without distinguishing right from wrong. You really are a good father, aren't you? Don't say I didn't give you a chance; my head is right here. Are you going to take it or not?"

Tong Fujun felt a burning shame on his face, a dryness in his throat. His fists clenched tight, his body trembled, his heart filled with anger and fear.

In front of so many people, he wanted to be a bit tougher and not lose face for the Tong Family, but thinking of the four people who had just died, he didn't even have the courage to speak.

Jiang Ziman, seeing Yang Fei troubling Tong Fujun, felt a chill in his heart and quickly reminded, "Yang... Mister, the matter of the duel at the Life and Death Platform has been settled, you shouldn't kill indiscriminately now."

Yang Fei smiled faintly and asked, "I have heard of an unwritten rule in the Martial World, 'A grandmaster must not be insulted,' right?"

Jiang Ziman was struck by the thought, nodding, "There is such a saying, and people in the Martial World generally observe this rule, but there are no formal documents establishing it."

"Although it's not a law of the Martial World, it's still recognized, right?" Yang Fei asked.

Jiang Ziman thought for a moment and did not deny it.

Yang Fei gave a faint smile, his eyes again fell on Tong Fujun: "Your son insulted me, and I killed him because he deserved to die. By coming here immediately wanting my head, does that count as an insult to me?"

Tong Fujun's face crumpled, his whole body soaked in cold sweat.

The Tong Family Martial Artists he had brought also felt indignant yet dared not speak, feeling a burning flush on their faces.

Today had been a terrible defeat, the honor of the Tong Family trampled on the ground and ruthlessly stomped upon by this young man.

But seeing those four corpses on the ground, their hearts filled with sorrow and reluctance dissipated a little.

Compared to life, honor counts for nothing.

With life and death, there comes great fear.

In this world, those who can calmly face life and death are few and far between.

"Answer me!" Yang Fei suddenly raised his voice, coldly questioning.

Tong Fujun's body jolted, nearly urinating himself.

His chest heaved violently, sweat poured down his forehead like sap, and he felt utterly suffocated and repressed.

Seeing him look like this, a hint of disdain flashed in Yang Fei's eyes as he raised his hand and slapped him across the face.

Tong Fujun was horrified, directly wetting his pants.

"Smack!"

The crisp sound of the slap rang out as Tong Fujun flew sideways, hitting the ground with a cry of pain.

He covered his face with one hand and felt his neck with the other, his heart racing up to his throat. Only when he realized he was still breathing did he breathe a sigh of relief, but he didn't dare get up and lay on the ground looking at Yang Fei in terror.

Yang Fei spoke indifferently, "Since you haven't signed a death warrant, I'll let you go this time for her sake, but this is the last time. I hope you won't provoke me again."

After saying this, Yang Fei nodded at Jiang Ziman and turned to leave.

Towards the direction of the club's main entrance, the crowd parted hastily with a whoosh, opening up a wide path.

Ultimately, he had spared the Tong Family people for Tong Yunshu's sake.

And he had promised Qin Yanyang to be more tolerant and not too harsh.

So he had spared Tong Fujun just now.

But had Tong Fujun dared to threaten his family, even if he hadn't signed a death contract, he would have killed him without hesitation.

You can provoke him as long as it's not excessive. If he can let it slide, he will, but don't mess with his family. That's his bottom line!

Chapter 175: Misjudged

After Yang Fei left, the entire Combat Club venue burst into uproar, noise erupting from all corners.

"Oh my god, how can this kid be so strong?"

"Exactly, I hadn't seen clearly how Yan Zhongshan was defeated in a second, and now he's killed several people in a row and even slapped the second young master of the Tong Family. I saw it clearly this time, and it's just so domineering."

"Damn impressive, if only I were half... no, one-tenth as badass as him, I'd wake up laughing from my sleep."

These were the voices of young Martial Artists.

"Who would have thought that the Martial World would produce such an exceptional prodigy? From which sect does he hail, and who nurtured such an outstanding talent?"

"Indeed, I've never heard of him before. How could such a generation-defining talent have remained unknown until now?"

"Truly a dragon among men, it's a pity he's so young and prone to breaking. The boy has too much ferocity, too ruthless."

"That's true, he's too overbearing in his actions, offending so many powerful forces, which is unwise."

These were the discussions among many of the older generation Martial Artists.

Regardless, Yang Fei achieved his goal with today's battle.

He made a name for himself in the Divine Continent Martial World with a rather fearsome reputation. From now on, as long as his name Yang Fei was mentioned, it's believed no one would dare to provoke him easily. As a result, he would face much less trouble.

As for those who wanted to threaten him with his relatives, after the news of today's events spread, they would have to weigh carefully whether they could endure Yang Fei's frenzied retribution.

On the chairman's platform, Du Minghui's face still showed a color of fright.

It wasn't until Yang Fei had left that she slowly came back to her senses, her expression complex as she said to Jiang Ziman, "Sect Leader Jiang, did you... did you know the outcome of today beforehand?"

Previously, she was inwardly leaning towards the Yan and Wang Families and even felt annoyed with Yang Fei, but now she felt a wave of relief. Fortunately, Jiang Ziman's attitude had given her a hint, and when she faced Yang Fei, she didn't speak any excessive words, not offending the young man.

Jiang Ziman's heart wasn't calm either, experiencing turmoil, but upon hearing his subordinate's voice, he quickly regained his composure, gave a profound smile, and said, "I had warned Yan Zhongshan before, intending to be a peacemaker and dissolve the grudge between both parties, but Yan Zhongshan wouldn't listen. Now he's dead, his only somewhat capable son is also dead, and although the Yan Family still has quite a few Martial Artists, they no longer have a figure to lead the banner. From now on, the Yan Family is truly in decline. As for the Wang Family..."

At the end, Jiang Ziman paused for a moment, a hint of unusual light flashing in his eyes, "If the Wang Family still seeks revenge for today's affairs, it would be breaking the rules of the Life and Death Platform."

Du Minghui's complexion changed, she exclaimed in surprise, "Squad Leader, do you mean we should use the rules to pressure the Wang Family?"

Jiang Ziman snorted, "It's not me using the rules to pressure the Wang Family, but as members of the Martial Alliance, it is our duty to uphold the dignity of the Martial Alliance. The Provincial City Wang Family might not be an Ancient Martial Family, but it is an extension of that Wang Family, with a special status in Jiangnan. Now that Wang Xiongying is dead, I fear the family will find it hard to let things rest.

Let's go, back to the Provincial City. I need to visit Old Master Wang Zhonglin."

At the same time, this incident has also served as a reminder to us and even a warning to all families and sects in the Martial World. After we return, our branch should reflect on how to get these families and sects to strengthen the discipline of their disciples and successors.

Mr. Yang was right, the Martial World is full of those who protect their own. A small matter escalates because parents don't discipline their children properly, causing more and more killings in the Martial World, a loss of many talents for the Divine Continent Martial World every year. This matter should be taken seriously and acted upon."

Du Minghui looked at Jiang Ziman deeply and nodded, "Yes, I will follow Squad Leader's orders in all matters."

As the two stood up to leave, Jiang Ziman called for Li Zhengyi.

"Zhengyi, an extraordinary genius has emerged in Binhai, a blessing for the Divine Continent Martial World," Sect Leader Jiang said to Li Zhengyi. "As the Steward of the Martial Alliance in this area, you failed to discover such talent in time. This led to misunderstandings and conflicts with various forces in the Binhai Martial World, resulting in casualties and losses. You bear the fault of oversight."

Beads of sweat the size of soybeans instantly appeared on Li Zhengyi's forehead, but he didn't dare to wipe them off. Instead, with a bitter smile and a nod, he said, "Squad Leader, your reprimand is justified. Indeed, it was an oversight on my part."

Sect Leader Jiang looked at him. After a moment, he continued, "Make sure you understand the whole story of this incident, then write a report and submit it to me. Also, in the future, make an effort to maintain a good relationship with Mr. Yang Fei and avoid causing any unnecessary trouble."

"Yes, I will definitely strive to maintain a relationship with Mr. Yang," Li Zhengyi replied, inwardly relieved, as he hurriedly nodded in agreement.

Sect Leader Jiang nodded and left with Du Minghui.

Outside the Combat Club, in the parking lot, Zhu Wenjie, invigorated, hurried into his car and took out his mobile phone.

His phone screen displayed several missed call notifications.

Seven calls from his cousin Tong Yunshu, and unbelievably, there were calls from his eldest uncle and fourth uncle as well.

Zhu Wenjie first returned Tong Yunshu's call.

"Wenjie, how did it go?" Tong Yunshu picked up instantly, the anxious and worried tone in her voice coming through immediately.

Zhu Wenjie noticed something was off with his cousin, but he had no intention of addressing it at the moment. Instead, he excitedly said, "Cousin, Yang Fei is awesome. He defeated Yan Zhongshan in just one move. After that, he powerfully killed Yan Cheng, Wang Xiongying, and another unknown formidable expert. It's such a pity you weren't there to see it with your own eyes."

There was an audible sigh of relief on the other end of the phone, followed by an exclamation, "What did you say? Is he really that powerful?"

"Yeah, he's truly incredible. I think among his peers across the entire Divine Continent Martial World, Yang Fei is now at the peak level. Only the legendary Miss Qin from the Qin Family might overshadow him," Zhu Wenjie said excitedly.

Tong Yunshu knew that Yang Fei was a martial artist and a formidable one at that; she had even considered recruiting him for her own use. Yet, she had not expected Yang Fei to be so formidable.

Defeating Yan Zhongshan of Energy Transformation Fifth Grade in an instant, such strength must belong to someone above the Grandmaster Level.

No wonder Third Grandpa valued him so highly in the past.

What a pity that he is now at odds with the Tong Family, otherwise...

With this thought, determination flitted through Tong Yunshu's eyes as she said to Zhu Wenjie, "Let's leave it at that for now, I'm hanging up."

Afterward, she walked out of her room.

Outside the room, two Taoist boys stood guard. Seeing her open the door, they watched her cautiously.

Tong Yunshu angrily said, "I want to see my Third Grandpa."

The two Taoist boys were only responsible for guarding Tong Yunshu; as long as she didn't attempt to escape, they did not dare restrict her freedom within the Taoist temple. They quickly nodded and escorted her to the place where Tong Yan was in quiet seclusion.

In Tong Yan's room, Tong Hai was already informed of everything that had happened at the Life and Death Platform in Binhai. He was completely shocked.

It wasn't just him; even Tong Yan himself had his eyes shining with astonishment, the surprise evident on his face as he repeatedly muttered, "Twenty-three years old, defeating Yan Zhongshan of Energy Transformation Fifth Grade in one move. Such a Realm and combat power, he's truly a heaven-sent genius, a heaven-sent genius indeed. I have misjudged him before; his potential is far greater than I had imagined."

Tong Hai nodded absently, his expression a complex mix of emotions. Yet, when he thought of his grandson's death and his second son being publicly slapped, a deep resentment flashed in his eyes.

Chapter 176: The Attitude of the Qin Family

Zhu Wenjie returned phone calls to both his great-uncle and fourth uncle separately.

When he relayed the news to the two family elders, they had already learned the outcome of today's Life and Death Platform from the Martial Alliance forum.

Although filming at the scene was not allowed, the Martial Alliance still published the results immediately.

Therefore, when Zhu Wenjie excitedly shared the outcome with his great-uncle and fourth uncle, the two elders did not show much surprise.

But what he did not know was that inside the hearts of the brothers Zhu Chengyou and Zhu Chengpeng, there was no peace.

Especially Zhu Chengyou.

The day Yang Fei accompanied Tong Yunshu to the Zhu Family to treat the old master, he had asked Yang Fei what Realm he was. Although Yang Fei had not said at the time, he claimed he could take on an Energy Transformation Seventh Rank.

Zhu Chengyou regarded Yang Fei's statement that day as arrogant and disdainful.

Even more so because he himself was precisely at the Energy Transformation Seventh Rank, and he had felt particularly annoyed by Yang Fei's words.

But now, Zhu Chengyou was left with only shock.

The brat was actually telling the truth!

This, damn it... was simply incredible.

To step into a level above Energy Transformation Seventh Rank at such a young age, had his sixty years of diligent cultivation really been in vain?

It started with that genius from the Zhang Family who shocked the world by stepping into the National Guardian Level at just over thirty years old.

Subsequently, the Second Young Master Zhang, who was also uniquely talented and specially gifted, entered the Grandmaster Realm in his early twenties.

At the same time, the Qin Family also had a Heavenly Pride Girl who was even more incredible than the second young master of the Zhang Family, reportedly having one foot already stepping into that Daoist threshold.

Why were the young people of today so formidable?

Could it be that the great Martial Arts fortune of a millennium cycle was about to descend again, and that he was living in an era where geniuses would soon flourish?

After the shock, Zhu Chengyou quickly calmed down and thought back to what Yang Fei had said while treating his father.

He had said he could not heal him for now but would be able to in the future.

Did this mean that as long as his own strength increased somewhat more, he could cure his father?

Zhu Chengyou's heart pounded at the thought.

If his father could stand up again, he had a premonition that he could rise straight to the heavens and become a super existence at the National Guardian Level.

By then, the Zhu Family would take a big step into truly being first-rate.

"Slap!"

Suddenly, Zhu Chengyou slapped himself on the face and cursed, "Stupid, what a miscalculation!"

Today, at this Life and Death Platform, his Zhu Family had not stood by Yang Fei's side to make a good impression, missing the chance to forge a good relationship with him.

Then he muttered to himself, "There's still a remedy, still a chance to mend this."

He paced back and forth in his room and, after a moment of thought, grabbed the phone and called Zhu Wenjie. When the other side answered, he immediately said, "You must build a good relationship with Yang Fei, do you hear me?"

"Uh, great-uncle, although I know Yang Fei, we don't really interact much," Zhu Wenjie said.

"Didn't you say his cousin is in your school? You don't need to try too hard at other things, but get on good terms with his cousin, and taking good care of her is definitely right," Zhu Chengyou said.

"Yes, I understand, great-uncle. Don't worry, both Yang Fei and Yang Wen have a good impression of me," Zhu Wenjie quickly comprehended and said, his excitement surging again.

His father was ranked lowest in the family hierarchy. Now that his great-uncle entrusted him with such an important task, perhaps he could achieve something in the family in the future.

He decided then, he must firmly grasp onto Yang Fei's coattails.

And even without that call from his great-uncle, his admiration for Yang Fei flowed like a ceaseless, turbulent river.

The reaction of the Zhu Family reflected the situation among all major aristocratic families and sects in the Divine Continent Martial World.

With the official release of the Life and Death duel result by the Martial Alliance forum, the entire Martial World was shocked.

The young people in the Martial World all received warning calls from their elders, which could be summed up in four words: "Don't provoke Yang Fei."

The great name of Yang Fei instantly became famous in the Martial World.

Many young people, who prided themselves as geniuses, naturally found it hard to accept and were very eager to witness Yang Fei's prowess.

But the vast majority were aware of their own limitations.

If even Yan Zhongshan had been defeated in one move, if one was no better than Yan Zhongshan, it was best not to court death.

It was said that this young man was ruthless and lethal, and his attacks were deadly.

If he wanted to kill someone, the enemy would hardly withstand a single move.

...

In Imperial City, the top families of Divine Continent were all alarmed.

Qin Huai'an, his face beaming with joy and great satisfaction, said six words: "This grandson-in-law is not bad!"

In another villa of the Qin Family, Qin Huai'an's eldest son, Qin Zhengfang, and his wife were sitting on the living room sofa. Across from them, their son Qin Zhen had already drunk two pots of tea, his face carrying the look of constipation.

"How could this be? Dad, Mom, what's the background of that boy? Go and ask Grandpa," Qin Zhen said, unable to bear his parents' silence.

Qin Zhengfang glanced at him indifferently, a hint of disappointment flashing in his eyes.

Compared to that treasured daughter, this son seemed too mediocre.

Although he was considered excellent among his peers, in a family like the Qin Family, he appeared somewhat weak.

Especially in recent years, too many young prodigies had emerged in the Martial Arts World.

But thinking of his daughter, Qin Zhengfang felt a surge of pride.

Duanmu Ling looked towards her husband and nodded, "Qin Zhen is right, Zhengfang, should we go to see the old master and inquire about his background?"

Qin Zhengfang frowned slightly, thought for a moment, then shook his head, "Let's not. If Dad wanted to tell us, he would have done so already. He's still angry about us wanting to marry Yanyang into the Zhang Family and is deliberately keeping us in the dark."

Duanmu Ling thought for a moment, then said, "I've met that boy before; at that time, I didn't know he was so capable, but I could see that he was very confident. When facing me and Qin Zhen, he showed no timidity or inferiority. Now thinking about it, he must have been relying on his Martial Arts Cultivation."

Qin Zhen thought about the day he met Yang Fei and was irritated, snorting, "He was more than confident, he was insufferably arrogant. He treated me and Mom like outsiders, though it was clearly Yanyang's home, yet he acted as if he owned the place."

Qin Zhengfang frowned, increasingly displeased with his son's performance.

However, he didn't voice it out, instead steering the conversation back, "Although he now demonstrated considerable strength, compared to Zhang Yunqing, he is still not enough."

Qin Zhen nodded and said, "Exactly, Zhang Yunqing has already reached the Energy Transformation Eighth Rank, with the support from his grandfather and elder brother; in his life, entering that threshold is expected. Once he succeeds in crossing that threshold, the Zhang Family will have three National Guardians; such a glory, when looking across Divine Continent, China, which family or sect can compete? The alliance through marriage between the Qin Family and the Zhang Family is a true union of strength."

Duanmu Ling also nodded slightly.

Deep in her heart, she also wished to align through marriage with the Zhang Family.

In fact, many people in the Qin Family felt the same.

After all, if the Qin Family did not form an alliance with the Zhang Family, the Zhang Family would definitely choose one of the other top families.

If they missed this opportunity, once the old master of the Qin Family passed away, if Qin Yanyang had not yet crossed that threshold, the Qin Family's days would be tough, and they might even face oppression from failed alliances.

Unfortunately, the old master of the house seemed to have a different idea.

After a while, Duanmu Ling looked at her husband and said, "How about we let Yanyang bring him back, and we ask about his master's background?"

Qin Zhengfang slowly nodded, indeed interested in who Yang Fei's master was.

If Yang Fei's sect was one of those he imagined, he would not mind letting Qin Yanyang be with him.

But after a moment's thought, he said, "There's no rush, Yanyang will still take some time to return. That boy blatantly challenged Zhang Yunqing in front of so many people, let's see how Zhang Yunqing responds first."

He was interested in the enormous benefits an alliance with the Zhang Family would bring. As for Zhang Yunqing himself, Qin Zhengfang was merely satisfied and not particularly fond.

After all, compared to his treasured daughter, Zhang Yunqing was not good enough.

If Zhang Yunqing could overwhelmingly surpass that boy called Yang Fei in personal strength, perhaps his father might change his mind then.

Chapter 177: Let the Phoenix Wing Be Broken

"Hehehe, who would have thought, who would have thought, you've given me such a tremendous surprise!"

Zhang Yunqing sat alone in the villa's living room, talking to himself.

Compared to before, when such explosive news reached his ears today, Zhang Yunqing was not angered, but rather very calm.

"Yang Fei..."

Zhang Yunqing silently repeated this name, his eyes suddenly deepening.

"To kill Yan Zhongshan in one move, such combat power truly exceeds my expectations. But that Yan Zhongshan was merely at the Energy Transformation Fifth Grade; killing him would also only take me one move. Since you know who I am but still dare to provoke me, just how strong are you?"

In contrast to the anger he had shown before, Zhang Yunqing was especially calm today.

When facing a lowly henchman, he was very angry to see them escape again and again, thinking that the people below him were too inefficient.

But when facing a true expert with real strength, he was very calm and cautious.

At that moment, the phone rang.

Zhang Yunqing's gaze fell on the phone. Seeing the number displayed, his pupils constricted, and he quickly answered, "Brother."

"How are you feeling, are you very angry?" the voice of his older brother, Zhang Yunlong, came through.

Zhang Yunqing laughed loudly, "Hahaha, brother, aren't you underestimating me?"

Zhang Yunlong seemed pleased with his brother's laughter and said, "Good. To achieve great things, one must have a stable state of mind. No matter the situation, the first thing you must remember is just one, the future of the Zhang Family. For the Zhang Family to achieve great things, it takes not only Grandpa's efforts but also the united efforts of you and me, brothers."

"Don't worry, brother, I know." Zhang Yunqing nodded.

"Hmm, do not act impetuously before we have completely understood his sect," Zhang Yunlong said.

A trace of coldness flickered in Zhang Yunqing's eyes as he nodded, "I understand, but he must die."

"Of course, no one can challenge the authority of the Zhang Family and live to tell the tale. Even members of the Qin Family are no exception," said Zhang Yunlong, his voice resonating with indisputable dominance.

Zhang Yunqing was startled and asked, "Brother, what are you planning, are you... are you going to deal with Yanyang?"

"Do you really like her?" Zhang Yunlong's voice turned colder.

Zhang Yunqing's heart chilled, "Yes, brother, I truly like her. Compared to her, no other woman in the world catches my eye."

Zhang Yunlong snorted, "Superficial. Power and status are what a man should pursue. With overwhelming power and strength, what do women amount to? Moreover, if you truly marry her, it will be a case of the woman being stronger than the man, you will feel inferior. Being with such a woman, if your state of mind is not strong enough, your future Martial Arts limit will also be constrained."

A complicated expression flashed through Zhang Yunqing's eyes.

He truly liked Qin Yanyang, so even when Qin Yanyang slapped him publicly at the Hall of Fame, he did not fight back and chose to tolerate.

Of course, he also knew he was no match for Qin Yanyang, something that had been proven a year ago.

Yet if it had been anyone else, even if he couldn't defeat them, he wouldn't have allowed them to slap him without at least trying to dodge it.

For Qin Yanyang, his heart had truly been moved for many years.

Similarly, he would not give up on his pursuit of Martial Arts.

As a Martial Artist, he knew very well what kind of glory and status would come with reaching a certain level of personal strength.

Strength is the foundation for securing one's status and enjoying privileges.

"Have you thought it through?" Zhang Yunlong's voice came coldly.

Zhang Yunqing took a deep breath and said, "I won't give up. A man may only truly love one woman in his lifetime, and I am Zhang Yunqing; how could I not handle even one woman, how could I allow myself to have regrets in life? Moreover, marrying her would bring great benefits to me personally and to the entire Zhang Family."

"Good, that's the spirit. However, if her heart cannot be with you, if it is not with the Zhang Family, then marrying her would be pointless," Zhang Yunlong said.

Zhang Yunqing fell silent.

He loved Qin Yanyang, but it was quite clear that Qin Yanyang did not love him.

But he was confident that a woman like Qin Yanyang would not easily fall in love with any man, including Yang Fei, whom she had registered to marry.

Thinking about the fact that the two of them had registered their marriage, a fierce rage burst forth in Zhang Yunqing's eyes again.

He couldn't get over this hurdle.

Even if Qin Yanyang were to marry him in the future, he would feel discontented in his heart.

A second marriage! It would be the biggest stain in his life.

"Brother, I really like her. I... I don't want to lose her," Zhang Yunqing suppressed the rage in his heart towards Yang Fei and spoke to his elder brother.

There was silence on Zhang Yunlong's side.

After a long while, he spoke slowly, "Bro, I will give you a Qin Yanyang you can tame."

Zhang Yunqing's expression changed, and he urgently asked, "Brother, what are you going to do?"

Zhang Yunlong chuckled, "Just wait for my good news. Since you have set your heart on this woman, I will help you no matter what and make her willingly marry you."

Zhang Yunqing was somewhat moved. Since childhood, his elder brother had always been extremely affectionate towards him and even his smooth progress in martial arts had been helped by his brother in secret, besides the resources of the family.

But now, he felt a sense of foreboding, as if his brother was about to do something excessive.

On the other end of the phone, a young man in his mid-thirties hung up and a fierce glint flashed through his bright eyes, "I had decided that if you were not useful to the Zhang Family, I would have you completely disappear. Since my brother is so infatuated with you, I will spare your life. Heh, Heavenly Pride Girl, Phoenix of the Divine Continent? If you oppose the Zhang Family, you will just be a phoenix with broken wings."

In the end, a touch of madness flashed in his eyes.

Zhang Yunlong was determined to stir up the winds and clouds, who in the world was not a piece in his game?

...

Xuanzhen Temple.

After knocking on the door, Tong Yunshu pushed it open upon receiving Third Grandpa's permission.

Seeing that her grandfather was also there, Tong Yunshu hastily greeted, "Yun Shu has seen Grandpa and Third Grandpa."

Tong Hai looked at his granddaughter, his expression becoming complex for a moment.

His grandson was dead, and now the only one who could carry the Tong Family banner was this granddaughter.

But after all, she was a woman.

Tong Hai felt somewhat unwilling.

At the same time, he was also angry because this granddaughter had a close relationship with the boy who had killed his grandson.

Tong Yan, however, felt quite differently. Upon seeing Tong Yunshu walk in, he felt a stir in his heart and said, "Yun Shu, what business do you have with me?"

Tong Yunshu looked at her grandfather, hesitated, and then stopped herself.

Seeing this, Tong Hai grew furious and, guessing his granddaughter's thoughts, scolded, "Are you here to plead for that boy?"

Tong Yunshu bit her lip, her eyes reddening as she nodded. She looked up at her grandfather and said, "Grandpa, I've already said that Yang Fei was not at fault for that incident. Today, when my second uncle provoked him, he still remembered old ties and didn't kill uncle in a fit of rage. I think our Tong Family can reconcile our differences with him and resolve this grudge."

"Shut up!" Tong Hai rebuked her furiously.

Biting her teeth, Tong Yunshu argued, "Yang Fei is so powerful; does Grandpa really want the Tong Family to provoke such a formidable enemy?"

Tong Hai was furious, "Presumptuous, will our Tong Family fear just any young whelp?"

Tong Yunshu was resolute and retorted, "You may not fear him, but apart from Third Grandpa, who else in the Tong Family can contend with him? What if he avoids Third Grandpa and targets other members of our family, how will the Tong Family respond then?"

Tong Hai was taken aback, and a cold sweat broke out on his back.

But he hated Yang Fei to the bone and would not easily give up. He couldn't help but look up at Tong Yan, "Third Brother, you must intervene in this matter, otherwise where will our Tong Family's dignity and honor stand?"

Tong Yunshu immediately became nervous, looking towards Third Grandpa.

Although she had not practiced martial arts, she knew of Third Grandpa's transcendent status in the Divine Continent Martial World.

While he was not a National Guardian Level powerhouse, he was of that category whose combat power was at the ceiling, just below the National Guardians.

Chapter 178: You Hurry and Leave Binhai, My Third Grandpa Is Coming

Tong Yan stood up, smiled, and looking at Tong Yunshu said, "Yunshu girl, accompany me on a trip to Binhai."

Hearing this, Tong Yunshu's complexion changed drastically, "Third Grandpa, you... what are you going to Binhai for?"

Tong Yan said, "To meet this remarkable young man."

Tong Yunshu's entire body turned ice-cold.

It was over, now Yang Fei was in trouble.

She was anxious and wanted to persuade him, but saw Third Grandpa say with a determined tone, "It's decided then, no need for further discussion."

Tong Hai on the side stood up in great joy and said, "Third brother, I want to go too, I want to watch that kid die by your hand with my own eyes."

Tong Yan glanced at his older brother, smiled slightly, and said, "Big brother, you stay here."

Tong Hai was taken aback, looking at his third brother.

Tong Yan didn't explain further and said to Tong Yunshu, "Have your airplane come pick us up, we should be able to meet this young man tonight."

Seeing Tong Yan's resolute attitude, Tong Yunshu knew her refusal would be useless.

In front of the two grandpas, she made a call to have the helicopter pick them up.

...

After leaving the Combat Club, Yang Fei and his party got into the car, and Zhang Long asked, "Mr. Yang, I've already arranged lunch, shall we celebrate a bit?"

Yang Fei smiled and said, "It's indeed time for lunch, but there's no need for celebration, there's nothing worth celebrating."

Zhang Long laughed and said, "After today, Mr. Yang's name will surely shake the Divine Continent Martial World, it's worth celebrating."

Qi Tai said with emotion, "I initially thought Mr. Yang was only at the Late Stage Internal Strength, yet later you killed Situ Xian, I thought you were at the Energy Transformation Realm Lower Three Grades, but I didn't expect that today Yan Zhongshan would die by your hand, and be instantly killed by you in one move, Mr. Yang, your strength is really too formidable, it's an honor for me, Qi Tai, to have made your acquaintance; I would die without regrets."

Yang Fei laughed heartily, "Old Qi, you're exaggerating too much, I am still myself, just a person who knows a bit of martial arts, not a god, nothing special."

Qi Tai sighed, "If you are just someone who knows a bit of martial arts, then we are nothing but novices."

"Yeah, Mr. Yang, no need to be humble, killing a fifth-grade Energy Transformation like smashing ants, that's awesome," Zhang Long said with admiration.

Xu Mao and Xu Xingzhou also nodded in agreement.

Although the three of them had known about Yang Fei's strength that night on Yun Mountain, seeing it with their own eyes today was still shocking.

However, compared to Qi Tai and other spectators, the three of them already knew the outcome, so the shock wasn't as strong as the others.

The group went to Tiancheng Villa to eat together.

At the dinner table, Xu Mao brought up Xu Chou's matter.

Concerned, Xu Xingzhou said, "Mr. Yang, since you killed Xu Chou, the Xu Family indeed will not let things rest. Just now my father sent a message asking me and Mao to go back to explain everything that has happened recently. I... may I invite you to come back with us?"

Xu Mao frowned, shaking his head, "Mr. Yang, don't listen to him. Although there will be trouble for the two of us going back, after all, we are from the Xu Family; it won't be a life-threatening situation. But if Mr. Yang goes with us, conflicts might erupt, and it could be dangerous."

Yang Fei's eyes flashed with a sharp light as he looked at the two and asked, "What is the Xu Family's strongest realm?"

Xu Xingzhou and Xu Mao exchanged glances, and finally, Xu Xingzhou, with gritted teeth, lowered his voice and said, "Fifty years ago, the old ancestor who was the reason our family was driven out of the Mainland is still alive."

"What?" Qi Tai and Zhang Long were shocked and their complexions changed dramatically.

Qi Tai exclaimed in shock, "He's still alive? He was so powerful back then, isn't he now..."

Xu Mao and Xu Xingzhou both nodded, their faces showing a hint of proud charm.

"Besides the old ancestor, my Xu Family also has three invincible peak combat powers below that of a National Guardian. One of them is my grandfather, and the other two, one is Xu Chou's father, and the other is the person supporting his grandson to compete for the next Family Head," Xu Xingzhou said.

Qi Tai and Zhang Long both inhaled a cold breath, exclaiming in unison, "Truly worthy of once being the most prestigious Martial Arts Family, with profound foundations, their strength undiminished from the past."

Yang Fei was secretly surprised and nodded, "Such a line-up of strength, I would also have to give way now, indeed it's not easy to provoke conflict. But since you also have a supporter, I suppose it's unlikely there will be problems in the short term."

Xu Xingzhou nodded and said, "Yeah, going back and facing questioning, or even some punishment is possible, but within the family, nobody dares to really lay a hand on anyone, after all, the old ancestor established the rule that martial artists must compete, indeed, but the family prioritizes unity. The so-called competition among martial artists is meant outward, for external conflicts, and inward for protection."

"You guys go back first, and if there really is something, just give me a call, and I'll handle it accordingly," Yang Fei said.

Xu Xingzhou nodded, then looked at Yang Fei with anticipation and said, "Could you help me enhance my strength once more? If I could step into the Energy Transformation Realm, the situation would be entirely different."

Yang Fei shook his head: "I just enhanced your strength not long ago; another acupuncture session wouldn't be effective."

Xu Xingzhou's face showed regret.

Xu Mao's heart stirred, and he asked, "Mr. Yang, can we mention to the family the fact that you have enhanced our strengths?"

Xu Xingzhou's eyes lit up with anticipation as he looked at Yang Fei.

This was the biggest magic treasure indeed.

Having a powerful person's help was certainly a plus, but the significance of having a medical sage who could help others increase their strength was something completely different.

Yang Fei nodded and said, "Yes, you can. I've mentioned before that there might be a possibility of cooperating with the Xu Family in the future; you can try to gauge the attitude of the Xu Family's decision-makers when you go back this time."

Xu Mao and Xu Xingzhou were overjoyed.

With Yang Fei's words, they felt at ease, knowing they would not face too severe a punishment upon their return, and might even become heroes of the family.

After the meal, Yang Fei returned to the clinic.

It was only one-thirty in the afternoon, but the clinic didn't have official lunch hours; oftentimes, when there were too many patients and they were busy, there wasn't even time for lunch.

Just as he sat down on the comfortable sofa in the consultation room, Yang Fei's phone rang.

It was a WeChat message from Tong Yunshu.

He opened it, and his pupils shrank slightly.

"Leave Binhai immediately, my Third Grandpa is looking for you."

Yang Fei narrowed his eyes.

Xu Mao had specifically mentioned Tong Yan earlier during the meal.

This person, like the three from the Xu Family, was an unbeatable force just below the National Guardian Level.

If the National Guardian level represented a super first-class master, then Tong Yan, with his Half-step Innate Realm, belonged to the category of first-class masters.

Yang Fei's strength had now recovered to fifty percent of his peak condition, and if he fully committed himself, he was confident he could battle against a master of the Energy Transformation Realm Ninth Grade.

But Tong Yan's kind was quite different from an ordinary master of the Energy Transformation Realm Ninth Grade; they belonged to a unique category.

Honestly, Yang Fei did not have the confidence to battle with masters like Tong Yan at the moment, because he was worried he would lose control.

In a clash with such a master, losing control was inevitable.

Once he lost control, life and death would be uncertain.

What to do?

Really avoid him?

Yang Fei frowned deeply, then a fierce and resolute look flashed in his eyes.

It wasn't reckless behavior; it was more due to the arrogant, stubborn, and tenacious character ingrained in his bones.

Even more so, he felt his blood burning within him, filled with a faint sense of excitement.

Even if he couldn't win, if his heart was set on leaving, they couldn't keep him, right?

Then, let's meet him!

Chapter 179: Girl, You've Got Spring Fever

Aboard the helicopter, Tong Yan caught a glimpse of Tong Yunshu messaging someone secretly out of the corner of his eye and the corner of his mouth lifted slightly in a smile. "Girl, are you telling him to escape first?"

Tong Yunshu's body trembled, and sweat seeped from her nervous palms as she looked toward Third Grandpa.

Tong Yan smiled lightly, "He probably won't run away."

Tong Yunshu was stunned and asked with confusion, "Why not?"

Tong Yan said, "A young person like him, so proud and lofty, would he fear a powerful opponent? He was able to kill Yan Zhongshan with a single move, and his combat strength realm has long surpassed what many can imagine. Although Yan Zhongshan was only at the Energy Transformation Fifth Rank, his combat power was extraordinary. Even an expert undergoing a qualitative change at the Energy Transformation Seventh Rank would not be able to kill him in one strike. Given his strength, do you think he would fear a challenge?"

At this point, Tong Yan chuckled, "I too was young once, peerless in my youth, full of vigor believing I was invincible, unafraid of any challenge. In fact, the stronger the opponent, the more I looked forward to and was excited by the challenge."

Tong Yunshu could not comprehend and asked, "But if the opponent is clearly very formidable and strong, why not avoid their sharp edge first?"

Tong Yan nodded, "Indeed, some people will try to hide themselves and grow discreetly, but such people lack a certain state of mind."

Tong Yunshu, not being a martial artist, could not understand and looked at Tong Yan.

A complex look flashed through Tong Yan's eyes as he said, "An invincible heart that charges forward without fear. That is the true heart of Martial Arts. A martial artist must compete, and only those who hold an invincible and undefeated belief in their hearts can grow into true colossuses who support the heavens."

"Only martial artists with an invincible heart, once they grow, will have a bright future," Tong Yan added.

Though not a martial artist, Tong Yunshu could understand Third Grandpa's words and nodded silently to herself.

Martial artists belong to the type that engages in battle and strife. To stand out, one needs not only powerful realm and strength but also the momentum and courage to fight and emerge victorious against others.

Suddenly, Tong Yunshu's phone rang.

When she saw the number, her expression changed slightly, and she looked at Third Grandpa with complexity.

Tong Yan saw the displayed name and smiled lightly, "Answer it, he must be looking for me."

Tong Yunshu dared not go against Third Grandpa's wishes and answered the call.

"Is your Third Grandpa with you?" Yang Fei's voice came.

Just as she had guessed!

Tong Yunshu grew even more admiring of Third Grandpa. Though the old man hadn't bothered with the affairs of the Tong Family for many years, he was the family's true stabilizer. And often when there were important decisions to be made, Grandpa would come to see Third Grandpa.

It can be said that although Tong Yan did not manage the family's affairs, in truth, he was the real decider for the Tong Family.

"He is here, are you looking for him?" Tong Yunshu asked.

"Mhm, give him the phone," came Yang Fei's voice.

Tong Yan said, "Put it on speaker."

Tong Yunshu turned on the speakerphone.

She too wanted to hear what Yang Fei had to say to Third Grandpa.

"Senior, hello, I am Yang Fei," said Yang Fei directly.

Tong Yan smiled, "I've known about you for quite some time, young man. You are very impressive."

"Thank you for the compliment, senior."

After a brief polite response, Yang Fei hesitated slightly before continuing, "I have no major grudge against the Tong Family, but some from the Tong Family relentlessly forced me into a corner, wanting me to be their pawn against their enemies. Originally, out of respect for the help you provided last time, I was very forbearing, but he went too far, and I had no choice."

Tong Yan's face lost some of its smile and his tone grew much colder, "Do you have to kill him?"

Yang Fei was silent.

Indeed, it was possible to cripple without killing.

After what happened at Yun Mountain that day, Qin Yanyang had also advised him to try to avoid wanton killing within the country. But the words of Tong Jianzhou on that day had provoked him, making it impossible for him to break his old habits.

For the hidden dangers that truly disgusted him, those that could threaten the people he cared about, he always had the habit of nipping them in the bud.

If it wasn't for Zhang Yunqing's special identity and the fact that he had not yet returned to his peak combat power, he would have gone to Imperial City and wrung Zhang Yunqing's head off the moment he made a move against him in the shadows.

At this moment, faced with Tong Yan's questioning, Yang Fei felt a twinge of guilt in his heart.

In his mind, the Tong Family had shown him a degree of kindness.

But he did not regret killing Tong Jianzhou.

"This man could so cruelly strike at a cousin with blood ties, if I let him live, I'd always have to guard against him hurting my relatives, and he even threatened me with my relatives, so he deserved to die!" Yang Fei spoke up after a period of silence.

"If it weren't for the sake of the elder's face, that Tong Fujun would have already been a corpse at the Combat Club," Yang Fei added.

Tong Yan's heart chilled.

This young man harbored such intense resentment!

Yet even though his resentment was strong and his murderous intent heavy, ever since he appeared, he did no harm to others but was instead forced into situations by them.

Moreover, he possessed exquisite medical skill and was deeply recognized by the famous physician from Jiangnan, Li Xuanton, saving lives and helping the injured in Li Xuanton Medical Hall—truly a doctor.

Such a person, as long as he wasn't provoked, was definitely a pillar of the nation.

"But I know that for a Martial Arts Family like the elder's, face and dignity are often considered more important than anything else, even if the fault lies with their own family, they would still cover for them and seek revenge. That's why I'm waiting for you at Yun Mountain, it's quieter there," Yang Fei said.

Tong Yan was taken aback by these words and then burst out laughing, "Hahaha, boy, since you know my name, do you still dare to fight me?"

"The elder is getting on in years, if I, in my prime, duel with you, it's you who should be worried," Yang Fei said, lacking confidence in this battle but still filled with pride, refusing to accept defeat.

"Hahaha, good, wait for me at Yun Mountain. By around six-thirty at the latest, I will be there," Tong Yan laughed and said.

At that time, Yun Mountain would have hardly any visitors, making it an excellent place for masters to clash.

After hanging up the phone, Tong Yan was still smiling, "Good lad, daring to provoke me with your words, treating me like one who would unreasonably side with family, hahaha, in that case, I'll just be the person you expect to see."

Tong Yunshu listened to her Third Grandpa's words with an unusual calm in her heart.

She sensed that Third Grandpa seemed not angry at all, but rather happy.

A term came to her mind.

Affection for talent.

Ever since she showed Third Grandpa the teacup that Yang Fei had effortlessly split in two, he had taken a liking to this young man, admiring him greatly.

Afterwards, when Yang Fei caused trouble at the Situ family's place, Third Grandpa also went out of his way to protect him.

Now, even though Tong Jianzhou had been killed by Yang Fei and Tong Fujun had been publicly humiliated by Yang Fei at the club, leaving the Tong Family without face, deep in his heart, Third Grandpa still did not harbor too much anger.

He was a true martial artist of high virtue and esteem, a person worthy of admiration.

Thinking this, Tong Yunshu's worries vanished, and she even felt some anticipation for Third Grandpa's meeting with Yang Fei.

As she was pondering, Tong Yunshu suddenly noticed that Third Grandpa's eyes had been fixed on her.

Looking up in confusion, she asked, "What's wrong, Third Grandpa?"

"Girl, your heart is beginning to flutter," said Tong Yan.

Tong Yunshu was startled, then her face flushed with embarrassment and she protested, "Third Grandpa, you're talking nonsense, I'm not."

Though her mouth denied it, the image of that young man surfaced in her mind, her heartbeat quickening slightly.

She couldn't help but question herself: Could it be that I've really taken a liking to him?

Chapter 180: The Cooperation Deal is Falling Through

The incident at the Life and Death Platform at noon continued to ferment throughout the Divine Continent Martial World, and the name Yang Fei was becoming known to more and more people in the Martial World.

Concerning Yang Fei's background and his master's lineage, various forces were secretly investigating.

Many of the real heavyweights had also come to know of Yang Fei's name, and some even took an interest, instructing their family members to inquire and investigate.

In any case, the name Yang Fei would definitely be one of the hottest topics on the Martial Alliance forum for some time to come.

As for all this, Yang Fei did not care; in fact, since issuing the challenge yesterday, he had not logged into the Martial Alliance forum again.

After arranging to meet with Tong Yantong at Yun Mountain at six-thirty in the evening, Yang Fei devoted himself to his work.

There were no special patients in the afternoon, and Yang Fei's speed in seeing patients remained very fast, and he later discussed some difficult and miscellaneous disease treatment plans with Li Xuantong.

Around three-o'clock, Li Yaqing called to say that after her efforts, her parents had agreed to cooperate with Yang Fei. She asked Li Xuanton and Yang Fei to have dinner with her parents after work to finalize the details of their cooperation over the dinner table.

Initially, Li Xuanton managed to have a pleasant chat with Li Yaqing, but as soon as it came to meeting his son and daughter-in-law, his mood soured, and he retorted, "I won't be going to dinner. I will send Yang Fei instead."

Upon hearing this, Yang Fei quickly waved his hands, "Old Li, it just so happens that I have an appointment today, let's reschedule the meeting with Yaqing's parents."

After hearing this, Li Xuanton relayed Yang Fei's words.

Li Yaqing became anxious, "Brother Yang, I've finally managed to persuade my parents, and they've especially returned from abroad."

Yang Fei frowned, thought for a moment, and then said, "I really don't have time today, tell them we will discuss the cooperation some other day."

Li Xuanton, noticing Yang Fei's expression, scolded his granddaughter, "Brother Yang said he doesn't have time, that's final. Stop talking, we are ending the call."

After hanging up the phone, Li Xuanton said to Yang Fei, "Little Brother Yang, you've changed your mind, haven't you? You no longer wish to cooperate with Yaqing and her family, right?"

Yang Fei was taken aback, looked at Li Xuanton with confusion, and then chuckled, "Old Li, you worry too much. That's not what I meant; it's just that it really happens that I have important matters to attend to today and can't make time."

Li Xuanton, who understood Yang Fei's character, knew he wouldn't lie to him, and inwardly he breathed a sigh of relief.

He talked tough about not caring about the life or death of his son and daughter-in-law's company, but in his heart, he still cared a great deal.

He believed that if Yang Fei were to cooperate, Yang Fei would certainly be able to provide excellent beauty products. As long as the products were good and a reputation was established, his son and daughter-in-law's company could be brought back to life.

Furthermore, the company would eventually be passed on to his granddaughter, and since the Li Family had only this one granddaughter, if Yang Fei and his granddaughter could become closer, her life would surely be worry-free.

On the other side, after receiving a definitive response from her grandfather and Yang Fei, Li Yaqing was a bit flabbergasted.

She had managed to persuade her parents to agree to the cooperation, they hurried back from abroad to meet with Yang Fei to discuss the specifics today, and now Yang Fei was giving her the slip?

No, it wasn't about giving her the slip; it was a sudden incident, and she had failed to communicate with Yang Fei in advance, resulting in a conflict of timing.

What should she do?

"Why am I so unlucky," Li Yaqing lamented weakly, then dialed her mother's phone number.

"Is the dinner arranged yet? When are we eating?" Li Yaqing's mother's voice came through.

Li Yaqing giggled, "Mom, Brother Yang is busy today and can't make it. Let's arrange another time to meet."

"How do you manage time? Don't you know your father and I were in Korea discussing a partnership? You pressured us to come back, and now the partner has no time for a meeting?" the woman's angry voice sounded.

Li Yaqing grimaced and said, "Mom, you are right to scold me. My mistake, I didn't make arrangements in advance. But since you're already back, there's no urgent rush. Tomorrow, I'll arrange to meet him tomorrow."

She had been trying hard in the past few days to persuade her parents to collaborate with Yang Fei, but she hadn't received a definite answer. Today, when her parents suddenly said they would come back to meet Yang Fei, she thought he would have plenty of time, but it turned out he had no time at all.

Unexpectedly, Li Yaqing's mother said, "Forget it, Korea hopes for our response today. Your father and I have done our due diligence, and the terms they are offering are quite good. Let's go ahead with the partnership with the Korean company."

Li Yaqing became anxious, "Mom, don't be confused. That company wants our market channels. Once we collaborate and flood the market with their products, our own brand will be completely squeezed out, leaving no space in the market. In a few years, no, as soon as they take over our market, it won't be long before they can breach the contract. By then, the company will be completely ruined."

The woman spoke firmly, "The contract is very clear; they can't just break it so easily. And even if they do, the huge compensation we would get is much better than the company going bankrupt now."

Li Yaqing jumped up in urgency, "Mom, what we need is our own national brand. How can we let Korea completely take over our country's market?"

"In the field of cosmetic medicine, the United States and Korea are indeed at the world's forefront. They hold over ninety percent of the global market share. What can our small company do to compete with them? That's not an issue we should worry about. That's settled then. To show our sincerity in partnership, your father and I will go to Han City tonight. What a waste of our time."

Listening to her mother's complaints over the phone, Li Yaqing's face was filled with despair.

She knew her parents well; it seemed the collaboration with Yang Fei was genuinely off.

Perhaps from the very beginning, it was just her own wishful thinking; her parents were not optimistic about this cooperation.

After all, Mr. Yang only talked about being able to complete the secret formula and bring forth better products, but he hadn't even produced any samples yet. Without seeing an actual product and its effects, even if they met today, her parents would probably not go through with the partnership.

And the terms offered by the Korean company had already won over her parents, who were expected to give a response today.

When comparing the two, she knew her parents' choice.

But she just couldn't accept it!

Li Yaqing, who had recently graduated, still possessed the indignation of youth and a steadfast belief in a national brand. Watching her family's company becoming a stepping stone for a foreign corporation, she felt unsettled.

Around four o'clock, Yang Fei excused himself from Li Xuanton and went home to pick up the Phaeton and then hurried towards Yun Mountain.

At six ten p.m., Yang Fei drove to the top of Yun Mountain.

It was already autumn, and at this time in the afternoon, there were not many tourists on Yun Mountain, most of whom were already heading downhill.

Getting out of the car, Yang Fei walked to the summit.

Night was approaching, and the bustling lights of the city in the distance had already come alive, casting a dark red glow over the skyline with their bright lights.

Sitting in the area where Qin Yanyang had been abducted to and where he had exchanged blows with Meng Qian and Daoist Pei, Yang Fei pondered the events of that day.

At the time, Xu Yingluo and Nan Liren had evidently targeted Qin Yanyang. If you think about it carefully, it feels quite reasonable, but at the same time, it makes no sense at all.

His wife, was she really a weak woman with no knowledge of martial arts?

If they were just after killing a defenseless woman, why send two Seventh Grade Energy Transformation experts akin to grandmasters?

Deploying such high-level experts meant they were probably expecting Qin Yanyang to have some formidable protectors around her.

Yet Qin Yanyang worked in Binhai, far from the protection of relatives in Imperial City; it seemed she had no strong experts secretly guarding her.

Although his own combat abilities had greatly diminished, his perception and sense of smell were still intact. Yang Fei couldn't believe that if Qin Yanyang had a strong protector, they could escape his detection.

"But if you are a martial arts expert, why can't I detect your cultivation at all? We are together day in and day out, how could you hide it without fail?"

As he was contemplating, his ears perked up suddenly, and he looked up at the western sky.

The whirring sound of a helicopter came through.