

Overlord 311

Chapter 311: Can't Let My Sister Become a Widow

"Why does Second Young Master Zhang want to challenge Yang Fei? And on the Life and Death Platform, no less. What deep grievances must they have?"

On the Martial Alliance forum, someone raised this question.

More and more people began to voice the same doubt.

The majority of the Martial World were unaware of the feud between Yang Fei and Zhang Yunqing.

For the Divine Continent Martial World, Yang Fei had suddenly emerged as a new talent, and many were ignorant of him, let alone the grudge between him and Zhang Yunqing.

However, as the topic heated up, some knowledgeable people slowly leaked information.

Everyone finally understood that the Heavenly Pride Girl from the Qin family was originally to be matched with Zhang Yunqing, but Qin Yanyang had chosen Yang Fei as her husband.

Zhang Yunqing saw this as a disgrace, and the Zhang Family's reputation was damaged; thus, they targeted Yang Fei numerous times.

This included the Life and Death Platform fight between Yan Zhongshan and Yang Fei, which seemed to also involve Second Young Master Zhang arranging for someone to deal with Yang Fei.

Having clarified the truth, interest among the members of the Divine Continent Martial World in this life-and-death fight only grew.

Publicly, no one said much, but privately, there was significant discontent with the Zhang Family's arrogant and overbearing behavior.

They aren't even married, and just because the lady didn't fancy you, Second Young Master Zhang, you want someone to become a widow?

That's far too domineering.

However, officially, various forces within the Martial World had clan disciples speaking out, saying positive things about Zhang Yunqing.

They said that with Second Young Master Zhang personally taking action, even if Yang Fei were a prodigy of the Divine Continent Martial World, his death was certain.

Soon, whether Yang Fei would accept the invitation to the Life and Death Platform and the discussion of who was stronger became the main topic on the Martial Alliance forum.

However, as a day passed, Yang Fei, the other party involved, did not respond publicly.

Even Qin Yanyang did not respond, seemingly fearful of this challenge and unwilling to accept the fight.

The forum erupted with all sorts of mocking and ridiculing comments, and there were even those leading discussions saying the Qin family was becoming senile, overlooking such an excellent future son-in-law as Second Young Master Zhang for a coward. They said the Qin family was doomed to decline and so on.

Others said that Qin Yanyang, initially a Heavenly Pride Girl, would have created a beautiful, legendary tale in the Divine Continent Martial World if she had married Zhang Yunqing. After that, the Divine Continent Martial World would have developed peacefully and grown stronger. Now, by stubbornly marrying a man like Yang Fei, she had broken Second Young Master Zhang's heart and disrupted the peace of the Martial World.

Various discussions filled the air.

Overall, although the vast majority privately despised the Zhang Family's domineering style, publicly, everyone sided with the Zhang Family.

This showed just how formidable the Zhang Family's influence in the Martial World was.

Qin Family.

Upon receiving the news, Qin Zhengfang's face turned ashen, and he huffed heavily.

He favored Zhang Yunqing, even though Yang Fei had been brought home by Qin Yanyang before. He still believed that the best choice for his daughter was to marry into the Zhang Family.

Now that Zhang Yunqing had challenged Yang Fei to a Life and Death Platform duel, and it had been more than half a day with the forum abuzz with various discussions and yet Yang Fei had not responded, leading to people targeting the Qin family with unpleasant words, Qin Zhengfang was very upset.

All because of Yang Fei.

"Contact that young man immediately. Let him clarify the matter publicly. Our Qin family's reputation, built over hundreds of years, must not be destroyed because of him," Qin Zhengfang said angrily.

Duanmu Ling slightly furrowed her brow and comforted him, "Don't be angry just yet. It's upsetting that the Qin family is being talked about because of this, when those people are blindly talking nonsense. Who we choose as our son-in-law is our own business and none of their concern. I think it's infuriating that the Martial World seems to be wholly controlled by the Zhangs. If this continues, things will get out of hand, and the old master's concerns were indeed valid."

Qin Zhengfang furrowed his brows and glanced at his wife.

Duanmu Ling said, "Am I wrong? The Zhang Family's approach is simply too overbearing. Now that our daughter hasn't married into their family, they immediately turn their backs and stir up trouble. Their family style and character are truly poor."

"Hmph, what's the use of saying all this? Now that they've publicly issued a challenge, if you don't accept, you're just a coward, and you'll be ridiculed. If that young man weren't my Qin Zhengfang's son-

in-law, I wouldn't care about his life or death. But since Yanyang has brought him into our home, he is now linked to the Qin family. This concerns the face of the Qin family. He must respond, whether in life or death, he cannot be a coward," Qin Zhengfang hummed.

Duanmu Ling's lips curled up with a smile as she said, "So, you admit he's your son-in-law now?"

Qin Zhengfang's face reddened, and then he sighed, "It's just you and me at home, I won't hide it from you. The boy is not too bad, not as incapable as one might think. Most importantly, aren't you aware of your daughter's temperament? She has dared to give me a cold face; if I still opposed, she might never come to see me again. Besides, the Qin family is already tied to him, I can't deny it."

Duanmu Ling cracked a smile.

Qin Zhengfang sighed, "But have you noticed? This is the precursor to great chaos."

Duanmu Ling silently nodded. Her husband's long-standing concerns and persistence were not without reason.

If the Qin and Zhang families could have married, it might have maintained balance in the Martial Alliance.

Now that the marriage has failed, the Zhang Family's strong and overbearing nature has become very obvious. They would not allow any opposition to exist in the Divine Continent Martial World.

"Now in this Divine Continent Martial World, there is no one with the influence to lead everyone against the Zhang Family. They have been secretly operating for many years, and their power is now deep-rooted and unshakable," she said.

Duanmu Ling's face also showed a hint of deep concern.

After thinking, she shook her head with a smile, "Why worry about so much for something that hasn't happened yet? It's not wise to worry about things before they occur. Nothing is absolute. Since the old

man dares to oppose the Zhang Family, he must have his reasons. Let's keep our hearts at ease for now."

Qin Zhengfang sighed internally, not wanting his wife to worry too much, he silently nodded and said, "You're right. Right now, the most important thing is whether the boy will accept the challenge and whether he has a chance to survive. Otherwise, knowing our daughter's temperament, if that boy is killed by Zhang Yunqing, she might go insane and could very well rush to the Life and Death Platform to kill Zhang Yunqing, which would indeed cause real trouble."

Duanmu Ling nodded and suggested, "Should Qin Zhen call his grandfather and ask about the situation?"

Qin Zhengfang hummed in agreement.

Duanmu Ling was about to pull out her cellphone when Qin Zhen's call came in.

"Mom, has that boy gone mad? He actually agreed to fight Zhang Yunqing on the Life and Death Platform," Qin Zhen's voice came urgently.

Duanmu Ling was startled, quickly asking, "What did you say? Yang Fei accepted the challenge?"

"Yes, I've just refreshed the news. Yang Fei replied under the post of Zhang Yunqing's challenge, saying he would fight to the death with him in a week, and even declared it'll be a death match!" Qin Zhen said excitedly. "Does he think he's invincible just because he managed to defeat Yan Zhongshan in seconds? How could he dare accept Zhang Yunqing's challenge?"

Although Duanmu Ling was surprised, everything was as expected, and she calmly said, "Why are you so agitated? If Yang Fei dares to accept the challenge, it means he is confident. Just because you are useless, do you think everyone else is like you?"

She, like her husband, was somewhat disappointed in her son.

Neither successful nor settled.

To say he has martial arts talent, yet at thirty years old he's still just in the Energy Transformation Realm Lower Three Grades.

To say he lacks martial arts talent, yet he is a thirty-year-old Energy Transformation Martial Artist...

Ultimately, it was about being born into the wrong family in the wrong era.

If not born into the Qin family, Qin Zhen might have been fine.

If it weren't for Qin Yanyang being a freak of nature, he might have been barely acceptable.

On the other end of the phone, sensing his mother's disappointment, Qin Zhen looked innocent, feeling as if he was dealt a massive blow.

It was supposed to be about Yang Fei; how did it become about him?

But soon, Qin Zhen adjusted his mentality. He had endured this kind of blow for over twenty years and was used to it.

He said, "Mom, there might really be trouble this time. I heard that Zhang Yunqing has reached a Unique Tier in combat strength, confident enough to claim he can kill Yang Fei. We can't let our sister become a widow."

Chapter 312: Qin Huai'an's Expectation

Duanmu Ling's expression was startled, "What did you say, Zhang Yunqing has reached the Unique Tier in martial prowess?"

"Yes, I just heard people in the circle talking about it. After Yang Fei killed Yan Zhongshan, Zhang Yunqing was stimulated, and according to the Zhang Family, he went to seek help from his grandfather and elder brother, then went into seclusion for a long time. After coming out of seclusion, he challenged Yang Fei

to a duel on the Life and Death Platform right away, because he had entered the Unique Tier in martial prowess," Qin Zhen said with a heavy voice.

Duanmu Ling was equally astonished, "He entered the Unique Tier in martial prowess so quickly, has he caught up with your sister?"

"Yes, what kind of special methods does the Zhang Family have to enable Zhang Yunqing to improve his strength so quickly?" Qin Zhen asked.

Duanmu Ling struggled to calm down and asked, "Are you sure he is now of Unique Tier martial prowess?"

Qin Zhen replied, "I can't be certain, but this news came from inside the Zhang Family, and it's said that Zhang Yunqing himself has admitted it, so it should be correct."

Duanmu Ling said gravely, "If that's the case, we need to properly warn your sister. It's better to retire and save one's resources than to push on regardless. Let Yang Fei avoid the limelight for a while, and not let a moment of righteous conflict ruin his prospects."

Qin Zhen said, "That's exactly what I think too. Mom, I heard that my sister took the guy to the old man's courtyard and hasn't left since. Should I go take a look?"

"Good, go take a look, tell them the news you've acquired, and let the old man weigh the pros and cons. Only he can keep your sister in check," said Duanmu Ling.

After hanging up the phone, Duanmu Ling still had a very solemn expression, "I didn't expect Zhang Yunqing to have also entered the Unique Tier. With this, the overall strength of the Zhang Family in the Martial World has risen significantly."

Qin Zhengfang said with a grave voice, "It's not just the improvement of his personal strength that matters. What has the greatest impact is how the various powers in the Martial World will see the Zhang Family having three such formidable fighters, and will support the Zhang Family even more. That is what is most frightening."

Duanmu Ling said, "Let's see how the old man reacts first."

...

Qin Zhen arrived at the courtyard, where the old man was drinking tea in the yard, and neither Yang Fei nor his sister were in sight.

He first observed the old man's facial expression, saw nothing unusual, and then carefully sat opposite the elder, helping him to pour tea.

The old man said nothing, but kept drinking tea.

Qin Zhen eventually couldn't help himself and said, "Grandfather, such a big thing has happened, aren't you worried at all?"

Qin Huai'an didn't even glance at his grandson and said indifferently, "How big is it?"

"Zhang Yunqing challenged Yang Fei to the Life and Death Platform, and Yang Fei accepted. Isn't this a big deal for our Qin Family?" Qin Zhen said anxiously.

Qin Huai'an finally looked at his grandson, chuckling, "What are you worried about?"

Qin Zhen was speechless, "Of course, I'm worried about Yang Fei. Although I don't want to admit it, he is indeed the person Yanyang likes, and that makes him our Qin Family's son-in-law. It's about Yanyang's happiness for the rest of her life, how could I not care?"

Qin Huai'an nodded approvingly and smiled, "Not bad, knowing to care about family."

Qin Zhen said, "I have always been caring and righteous; it's just that my talent isn't that good, and I haven't been valued by you all."

Qin Huai'an laughed heartily, "Well, even though you don't have great talents, you also don't have major flaws. That's good enough. The Qin Family has your sister, and now your brother-in-law, so it won't decline. You can just be a person who holds the fort."

Qin Zhen was speechless again.

In his grandfather's eyes, just how little esteem did he have for himself?

But he wasn't angry.

He was used to it.

After all, he had a genius sister.

Remembering the real reason he was there, he reminded, "Grandfather, aren't you worried at all? Yang Fei accepted Zhang Yunqing's challenge, and that is the Life and Death Platform. The opponent hates him deeply and won't hold back. Even if you personally attended, Zhang Yunqing might not show any mercy at that time."

Qin Huai'an laughed heartily, "You are overestimating that Zhang Family lad and underrating your brother-in-law way too much."

Qin Zhen said anxiously, "Grandfather, you don't know, Zhang Yunqing recently went into seclusion for a while, and after coming out, he has entered the Unique Tier; he's a real powerhouse now."

Upon hearing this, a spark of interest flashed in Qin Huai'an's eyes, "Oh, the Unique Tier?"

"Yes, otherwise would I be this anxious? Judging by Yang Fei's strength in taking down Yan Zhongshan in seconds, he must be at least above the Energy Transformation Eighth Rank. If it had been the previous Zhang Yunqing, there really wouldn't have been any assurance of victory, but now he has challenged Yang Fei to the Life and Death Platform upon exiting seclusion, which means he is very confident."

Qin Huai'an's expression became slightly grave.

A sense of heaviness settled in Qin Zhen's heart, see, the old man is getting worried now.

He said, "Grandfather, please advise Yang Fei to stop being so bullish, to avoid the limelight for the time being."

Qin Huai'an looked up at him, knowing his grandson had misunderstood, but chose not to explain.

What he had just been considering was why Zhang Yunqing could so quickly step into the Unique Tier.

Could it really be as the Fatty Taoist said, that the Hidden Sect is no longer content with a life of ascetic cultivation and wants to enter the world?

Without the Hidden Sect's assistance, how could the Zhang family rise so quickly with so many people?

Furthermore, the speed of Zhang Yunqing's strength increase is definitely abnormal.

"Grandfather, won't you say something? My sister is determined to like this lad; we cannot just watch him die and let my sister be heartbroken, can we?" Qin Zhen urged upon seeing his grandfather's silent demeanor.

Qin Huai'an glanced at him, a flicker of satisfaction in his eyes.

The boy might have average talent, but he still has a kind heart.

"That kid has already accepted the challenge; what can I do? Let's talk again after a week," Qin Huai'an said indifferently.

Indeed, Zhang Yunqing's entry into the Unique Tier surprised him.

However, based on his observations, Yang Fei also possesses Unique Tier combat power, and moreover, his realm and strength should be even more solid and stable. Zhang Yunqing's strength, which has been boosted by special means, seems somewhat hollow and should not pose a threat to Yang Fei's life.

Furthermore, during this period, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang have been cultivating day and night, making rapid progress. After another week, Qin Yanyang might successfully make a breakthrough to the Innate Realm. By then, spreading the news would change the situation again.

And under such a cultivation regime, Yang Fei's strength would also steadily increase.

Qin Zhen, unaware of the details, said urgently, "How can this be acceptable? Grandfather, you must do something; make peace before it comes to the Life and Death Platform. Once it reaches that point, it will be too late."

Qin Huai'an replied indifferently, "The lad has already decided, what's the use of your haste? The rules of the Life and Death Platform have long been established by the Martial Alliance; can I simply change them as I please?"

Qin Zhen anxiously said, "What should we do then? Just watch the lad march to his death?"

Qin Huai'an was at a loss for words.

"Be calm, things aren't as bad as you think. Go back for now, don't worry about anything. Just go to the Martial Alliance Headquarters' Life and Death Platform to cheer for your brother-in-law in a week."

Qin Zhen wanted to say more, but a look from Qin Huai'an sent him scurrying away.

Qin Huai'an turned his head to gaze at Qin Yanyang's boudoir.

The surging of Heaven and Earth Power produced by the two of them during their cultivation was significant; a passing master would surely notice, which was why he had been guarding them all this time.

"Girl, whether the Divine Continent Martial World is in chaos or not, your potential breakthrough to the Innate Realm this time is crucial!" Qin Huai'an muttered to himself with a gaze full of expectation.

As long as Qin Yanyang steps into the Innate Realm, the various powers in the Martial World would have to reevaluate the situation, and the Zhang Family would no longer be able to act so recklessly.

Chapter 313: Succeeded

"Bang!"

Imperial City, Martial Alliance Headquarters.

Zhang Yunlong fiercely smashed a red sandalwood coffee table with his palm.

"Bastards, why did you conceal such important information from me?" Zhang Yunlong angrily looked at Wu Lie and the others, loudly questioning.

Sweat appeared on Wu Lie's forehead; he desperately wished he could slap himself.

Why hadn't he managed to hold back just now? Truly cursed with a loose tongue.

Previously in Binhai, they had intended to capture Qin Yanyang and bring him back to the capital, but the two high-level masters who lay in ambush were seriously injured in a surprise attack by Yang Fei. They had always withheld this incident from the Zhang Family, feeling it unnecessary to report.

But now, knowing that Yunqing was to fight Yang Fei on the Life and Death Platform, Wu Lie realized the gravity of the issue and mentioned it, meaning to have Yunlong caution Yunqing to not be careless on the Life and Death Platform.

However, he hadn't expected this to enrage Yunlong.

Wu Lie cleared his throat and said, "This matter injured two of our elders and was somewhat embarrassing, so it didn't spread. Moreover, we didn't know before that the second young master wanted to fight that boy on the Life and Death Platform."

"Yes, we didn't know about these things before. But knowing now is not too late, after all, the boy only injured our two men through a surprise ambush. If faced in direct combat, he's no match for us."

"Exactly, if that boy had Qin Yanyang's combat strength, then after the ambush where he seriously injured our two high-level masters, he could have joined forces with Qin Yanyang to confront us rather than fleeing."

The others who had participated in the operation to capture Qin Yanyang also followed with explanations.

Zhang Yunlong's face was steely, and he huffed coldly.

Though it was a surprise attack, the fact that he could seriously injure two Martial Alliance Elders at the same time showed that Yang Fei's strength was close to Unique Tier, if not entirely so.

And Yunqing's combat strength was also limited to this.

He even needed to use powerful combat skills to enhance his strength to achieve this effect.

That is to say, once on the Life and Death Platform, whether Yunqing or Yang Fei was stronger remained an open question.

Yunqing's chances against that boy might only be fifty-fifty.

Seeing Wu Lie and the others anxiously explaining, Zhang Yunlong huffed heavily again and decided not to pursue the matter further.

After all, they were all martial arts predecessors who had joined Zhang Family, and he needed to give them face.

As for the matters concerning the Life and Death Platform in a week, there were ways to resolve it.

At worst, he could personally step in, exert his influence, and completely change the Martial Alliance rules, letting the Martial World of the Divine Continent know that Zhang Family's word was law and not to be shaken.

Moreover, a week later, it would be even closer to the time his grandfather would exit seclusion.

Thinking of this, two intense beams of light burst from Zhang Yunlong's eyes as he said, "These days, please prepare the Life and Death Platform properly. The event is bound to be very lively, perhaps the grandest event in the Martial World of the Divine Continent in decades."

Wu Lie and the others were subtly moved, sensing something and excitedly said, "Rest assured, Young Master, there will be no mistakes."

After leaving the Martial Alliance Headquarters, Zhang Yunlong returned home and immediately sought to see his grandfather.

But Zhang Wenfeng was in a deep seclusion this time, and despite calling out for a long time, he received no response.

After much deliberation, determination flashed in Yunlong's eyes.

He had originally wanted to seek his grandfather's opinion and take the opportunity of the Life and Death Platform to fully reveal Zhang Family's ambition, making all factions of the Martial World of the Divine Continent submit to the Zhang Family.

Now that his grandfather was not leaving seclusion, he had to make a decision on his own.

If no mishap occurred and Yunqing managed to kill that boy during the duel, everything would naturally fall into place, and from then on, no one would dare to challenge the authority of the Zhang Family.

If something went wrong, he would personally exterminate Yang Fei and see if anyone dared to accuse him of breaking the rules of the Martial Alliance.

...

Time passed quickly, and six days flashed by in an instant.

Today was the day before the Life and Death Platform duel between Yang Fei and Zhang Yunqing.

In Jiangbei, Zhu Tianshou walked out of the practice room.

Zhu Chengyou and Zhu Chengpeng, the brothers, waited outside. Upon seeing their father emerge from seclusion, they hurriedly greeted him, respectfully calling him father.

Zhu Tianshou said, "Guard the home and watch for changes."

Zhu Chengyou's expression turned solemn, he nodded and said, "Father, rest assured, as long as I live, the Zhu Family will be safe."

Zhu Tianshou looked approvingly at his son, nodded, and said, "With you at home, I truly am at ease."

"Father, as you head to the Imperial City, please be extremely cautious!" Zhu Chengyou said in a deep voice.

Zhu Chengpeng also spoke, "Yes, heading to the Imperial City, those National Guardian Level powerhouses registered in the Martial World might also make an appearance. It's best for father to be cautious."

Zhu Tianshou laughed heartily, "This trip to the Imperial City is bound to be extremely perilous. This matter affects the future course of the Divine Continent Martial World, so naturally, I will be careful. You don't need to worry about me."

...

Binhai, Tong Family.

Tong Yunshu's eyes reddened as she looked at the text message on her phone:

"Do not come to the Imperial City. I am fully confident in killing Zhang Yunqing, but after killing him, how the situation will develop is hard to predict. Stay in Binhai. If I die, the general trend cannot be defied, take my family and flee overseas, forget me! ——Yang Fei."

Tong Yunshu silently put away her phone and looked in the direction of the Imperial City.

"I believe you will definitely come back."

...

Southern Ocean, Xu Family Island.

Xu Yunshan led Xu Liangyou and Xu Xiao to the hermitage of the old ancestor in the back mountain.

An hour later, these three unique-tier members of the Xu Family left the island together.

At the same time, powerhouses from various forces in the Divine Continent Martial World began to move.

Some elder Energy Transformation Realm experts, who hadn't been active in the Martial Arts World for many years, once again emerged and headed for the Imperial City.

A duel on the Life and Death Platform stirred the lifeline of the entire Divine Continent Martial World.

Many perceptive individuals sensed that this duel on the Life and Death Platform might determine the future direction of the Divine Continent Martial World.

...

The eve before the Life and Death Platform duel, inside the quadrangle where Qin Huai'an had been practicing in quietude in the Imperial City:

Qin Huai'an sat in the courtyard drinking tea, his face occasionally flashing with an anxious expression.

The day Zhang Yunqing issued the challenge for the Life and Death Platform, Yang Fei had accepted it, setting the date a week from then.

Qin Huai'an had believed that Yang Fei was confident that he could help Qin Yanyang enter the Innate Realm within a week, which is why he agreed to that date. However, now, with only one night left, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang had still not finished their seclusion, which inevitably worried him.

If Qin Yanyang could demonstrate the power of the Innate Realm in this Life and Death Platform, it would act as a deterrent to the Zhang Family and boost the morale of their own camp.

"There's still one night. Perhaps, a miracle will happen." Qin Huai'an thought silently.

Suddenly, his expression changed, and he stood up.

A sense of crisis spontaneously emerged.

But that feeling was lost in a moment.

There was only one possibility: someone of an equivalent Realm had just appeared nearby.

Yet, Qin Huai'an could confirm that there were no Innate Realm experts spying around.

He was extremely excited and walked towards the room where Qin Yanyang was located, opening his mouth several times, wanting to inquire about the situation inside.

"Creak!"

The wooden door was pushed open, and Yang Fei walked out from inside.

Qin Huai'an's sharp gaze swept over Yang Fei, noticing his slightly pale face and the traces of fatigue and weakness in his expression, he couldn't help but tense up and asked with concern, "How did it go?"

Yang Fei smiled brightly and said, "It worked."

Qin Huai'an laughed silently, patting Yang Fei's shoulder several times, and said, "Well done, lad, very good, very good!"

Then he looked at Yang Fei seriously, "There's not much time left until tomorrow's Life and Death Platform duel. You need to recover to your best condition soon."

Yang Fei smiled at the words, unconcerned, "Grandfather need not worry, I've yet to take Zhang Yunqing seriously; tomorrow, I will surely kill him in front of everyone."

Seeing his confident demeanor, Qin Huai'an couldn't help but scold, "I know your combat strength is no less than his, but matters of life and death should not be taken lightly. First, recuperate and restore your state. With me here, no one will be able to disturb you."

Yang Fei, feeling helpless, could only practice and restore his True Yuan in front of Qin Huai'an.

In fact, with his current combat strength, even in a fatigued state, he was confident he could kill Zhang Yunqing, but since Qin Huai'an was so worried, he decided not to act tough and restore himself to peak condition first.

After all, there might be other variables in tomorrow's Life and Death Platform duel, and he had to give it his all.

Chapter 314: Letting You Off For Today

In front of Qin Huai'an, Yang Fei directly applied the Six Harmonies Energy-Introducing Needle Technique to himself.

With this formation being implemented, Yang Fei's speed of recovering True Yuan doubled. In less than an hour, he had returned to his peak condition, exuding a dragon-like vitality and a sharp, fierce aura.

Qin Huai'an was secretly astonished.

He could feel that the True Yuan mobilized by Yang Fei while operating the cultivation technique was extremely robust, but the true strength and realm of Yang Fei remained elusive to him.

Especially when Yang Fei ceased operating the cultivation technique, with his strong and keen perception as an Innate Realm powerhouse, he could sense that Yang Fei was a very dangerous person but could not detect any fluctuations of True Yuan in him.

"Your cultivation technique is truly miraculous, similar to Yanyang's; the True Yuan cultivated is utterly waveless, calm and natural, making it imperceptible to me," Qin Huai'an exclaimed. "I wonder from where your master found these two sets of techniques; they are indeed profound."

Yang Fei smiled and said, "Hmm, they are indeed quite special. When Yanyang and I first met, unaware that the other was a martial artist, neither of us could detect the other's cultivation."

Qin Huai'an smiled faintly, imagining that some misunderstandings must have occurred between these two young people, but it also led to mutual curiosity and slowly developed into fondness and affection.

As someone with experience, Qin Huai'an was not very concerned about their emotional affairs. He looked at Yang Fei and asked, "Boy, when you were recovering just now, I felt that the True Yuan within you was vast and mighty, and your strength indeed formidable. I wonder, what realm have you reached?"

"I do not quite understand realms because ever since I began cultivating this technique, I have never felt any breakthrough in realm, just a continuous enhancement. As for my current realm, if I had to compare it to a martial artist's realm, I think it should be the Innate Realm."

A glint of surprise flashed in Qin Huai'an's eyes as he stared into Yang Fei's eyes.

Yang Fei faced him openly.

"Really?" Qin Huai'an pressed on.

Yang Fei nodded.

"Then why can I not sense that you have a close connection with the power elements between heaven and earth?" Qin Huai'an asked.

Yang Fei said, "From the beginning of my cultivation, I have been perceiving the power of heaven and earth. It didn't take long for me to sense the existence of the power elements between heaven and earth through operating the cultivation technique, without needing to step into the Innate Realm to perceive the power of heaven and earth."

Qin Huai'an's pupils contracted, astonished, he said, "Really?"

"Why would I lie to you?" Yang Fei said earnestly.

Seeing his sincere expression, Qin Huai'an could not help but be even more shocked.

He thought of a possibility.

The cultivation technique this youth practiced might not be a common inner strength mental method, but rather resembled the legendary cultivation methods.

Even Yanyang's cultivation technique was likely a cultivation method.

At this thought, he was startled again.

If everything Yang Fei said was true, wouldn't his combat power have indeed surpassed the Innate Realm?

This...

This was too hard to believe.

It wasn't that Qin Huai'an had never seen people whose strength surpassed the Innate Realm; the Fatty Taoist was one of them.

The key issue was that Yang Fei was too young.

This lad was only twenty-three years old, yet his strength was so formidable; surely his cultivation talent was against the heavens?

Just then, several message notification sounds came from Yang Fei's phone.

He took out his phone and looked, then smiled faintly.

Zhu Tianshou and the three Xu brothers had all arrived in Imperial City.

They were asking where he was, wanting to meet him.

Yang Fei separately called them back, saying they would meet at the Life and Death Platform tomorrow, and told them to not expose their whereabouts in order to avoid being targeted.

The three Xu brothers held great respect for Yang Fei, and after hearing his words, they hung up the phone.

Zhu Tianshou, however, differed. He said with concern, "Yang Fei, how about I visit the Zhang Family tonight to test Zhang Yunqing's strength a bit?"

Yang Fei laughed heartily, "Thank you for your concern, senior, but please refrain from acting rashly. I haven't yet taken that mere Zhang Yunqing seriously."

"But there have been rumors these past few days that he has reached the Unique Tier of combat strength," Zhu Tianshou reminded him.

"If I can exchange a few moves even with Wang Chengcuo, why should I fear his mere Unique Tier strength?" Yang Fei said with a loud laugh, his spirit unmatched.

There was one detail he did not mention.

He had recently secluded himself for half a month, and his strength had long since surpassed what it was when he first confronted Wang Chengcuo.

Now, he was not the slightest bit afraid of the average innate realm martial artist.

Even with Qin Yanyang by his side, he was not reluctant to use the move called Tide.

With the moves Po Gang and Tide from the Sky Splitting Divine Fist, he was confident that any martial artist of the innate realm would have to fear him by three parts.

Special innate realm warriors like his master, Fatty Taoist, were few in the Divine Continent Martial World—only three in total.

The old ancestor of the Zhang Family was one of them.

If Zhang Wenfeng truly showed up tomorrow, Yang Fei would not be afraid.

As long as he was with Qin Yanyang, he dared to confront Zhang Wenfeng in battle, even though he had only recovered just over eighty percent of his combat strength.

Thinking of the benefits of his recent seclusion for cultivation, Yang Fei couldn't help but be increasingly pleased with Qin Yanyang.

At this rate, he could return to his peak condition in no more than another month.

By then, even without Qin Yanyang, who in the world would be a match for him, Yang Fei?

"Since you are so confident, I'll be looking forward to it, and we shall meet again on the Life and Death Platform tomorrow," Zhu Tianshou said.

"Good, thank you for making the long journey here, I'll thank you in person tomorrow," Yang Fei said gratefully.

Zhu Tianshou said, "Boy, there's no need to be so polite with me. There's no need for such formalities between us. The favor you have done for me and for the entire Zhu Family, I can't repay it in this lifetime."

Yang Fei quickly replied, "Senior, you overstate it. Just like you said, let's just speak of loyalty and not stand on ceremony, shall we?"

"Good, hahahaha..."

Amidst laughter, Zhu Tianshou ended the call.

Yang Fei made these two phone calls without avoiding Qin Huai'an, whose hearing naturally allowed him to hear everything clearly.

He couldn't help but look deeply at Yang Fei and praised him, "For such a young age, your strength is so great, and not long after returning to the country, you've made the Xu Family and Zhu Family so grateful to you. Worthy of being his disciple, remarkable indeed."

Yang Fei felt somewhat embarrassed being praised and said, "I'm also your grandson-in-law."

Qin Huai'an burst into laughter at his words, "Right, you are indeed my grandson-in-law, hahaha..."

With tomorrow's duel on the Life and Death Platform in mind, Qin Huai'an felt even more confident.

Zhu Tianshou's presence was calculated, but the arrival of the three Xu brothers also showed the attitude of the Xu Family. With the support of the old ancestor from the Xu Family, there should be no chaos tomorrow.

Furthermore, that girl had also succeeded.

Thinking of this, Qin Huai'an felt a great satisfaction and emitted a fierce, dominant aura as his grand ambitions were reignited.

Unless there was outside interference, given the current strength of his own forces, the opposing side definitely wouldn't dare to make a rash move, and the balance of the Divine Continent Martial World would not be easily disrupted.

The next morning.

Qin Yanyang had been in her room stabilizing her realm since her breakthrough last night.

A night had passed, and she had not yet left her room. Yang Fei couldn't resist going back to his room to check on her condition.

He saw her complexion was like a tide, her entire body was enveloped in an invisible layer of power elements, and her demeanor was outstanding, as she seemed to have been endowed with the sacred and mysterious aura of a cultivator.

Yang Fei nodded secretly.

The cultivation technique she practiced was indeed like his own. After passing the threshold of the innate realm, her cultivation speed would be even faster than before.

This was stepping into a whole new world of cultivation.

Qin Yanyang seemed to sense something and suddenly opened her eyes, looking at Yang Fei with a smile, her first words were, "Husband, do you still dare say you are stronger than me now?"

Yang Fei didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

His wife's desire to win was indeed strong!

He didn't argue with her, instead saying, "Uh, I dare not, my wife is the strongest in the world."

Qin Yanyang knew he was insincere and snorted, saying, "Today is your duel with Zhang Yunqing, I'll temporarily refrain from challenging you, letting you off easy. After this matter, I must test whether you bragged in the past."

"All right... then!" Yang Fei, at a loss for words, could only agree.

Chapter 315: Yang Fei's Calculations

The duel at the Life and Death Platform was set for noon.

This was a tradition of the Life and Death Platform.

The Martial World's Life and Death Platform was a true place for deciding life and death issues, and to disperse the aura of killing, it was chosen to start at the time when the yang energy was strongest during the day.

Of course, this wasn't absolute.

There had been many instances where people challenged each other and immediately went onstage to duel, and the Martial Alliance did not stop them.

By eight in the morning, Yang Fei had already received many calls and messages of concern.

He could only reply patiently one by one.

But deep inside, he wasn't too concerned about it.

Qin Yanyang was in a good mood and personally made breakfast. The three of them ate in the dining room just like usual.

After breakfast, Yang Fei took the initiative to tidy up the kitchen. After finishing, the three family members sat in the courtyard to chat.

Yang Fei said to Qin Yanyang, "After today, accompany me to your grandfather's place."

Qin Yanyang smiled slightly and said, "Okay."

The purpose of Yang Fei's visit to Imperial City with her half a month ago was to find out whether Duanmu Qing was indeed his biological mother.

Although he had Qin Huai'an's confirmation, Yang Fei knew too little about Duanmu Qing and wanted to know more about his mother.

Thus, Qin Yanyang had long known that Yang Fei would make such a request and readily agreed.

Qin Huai'an frowned slightly and reminded, "Regarding Duanmu Qing, the Duanmu Family considers her a taboo. It's better not to ask if possible."

Qin Yanyang looked at him and said, "Grandfather, you must also know some things about Duanmu Qing. If you don't want us to ask the Duanmu Family, why not tell us yourself?"

Qin Huai'an looked at the two of them, then he sighed and shook his head, "Although I have met Duanmu Qing and have heard a bit about her affairs, I don't know enough to speak in detail."

Qin Yanyang said, "If that's the case, then you shouldn't stop Yang Fei from learning more about his mother, right?"

Qin Huai'an sighed, "What's the use of knowing anyway? She's no longer in the Imperial City."

Both Qin Yanyang and Yang Fei were struck by his words. She stared into her grandfather's eyes and asked, "She's no longer in Imperial City? What do you mean? Could it be she is still in the world?"

Realizing his slip of the tongue, Qin Huai'an was silent for a while before nodding, "Perhaps. After that incident, she never appeared again. By all accounts, she should be dead, but nothing is absolute."

Qin Yanyang pressed on, "Grandfather, you are so close to my grandfather. Have you never asked him about this?"

With a serious face, Qin Huai'an shook his head, "This matter is a taboo within the Duanmu Family. Anyone within the family who mentions this name will be severely dealt with by the family law. We outsiders should respect the decisions of the Duanmu Family even more."

Qin Yanyang silently nodded.

Ever since she could remember, her grandfather's house had strict rules, which was why she didn't like to visit and her relationship with those cousins wasn't very good.

Even in her view, the entire Duanmu Family seemed mystical and shrouded in mystery.

"I must find out the information regarding my mother," Yang Fei stated resolutely.

Qin Huai'an looked at him, nodded silently, and said, "As a son, your insistence is a common sentiment and not without reason."

He did not stop him further.

Although the old men of the Duanmu Family certainly wouldn't like people inquiring into this matter, now that Qin Yanyang had entered the Innate Realm and Yang Fei's strength was at least Unique Tier, the presence of these two exceptional young people at the Duanmu Family ought to earn some respect.

With this in mind, Qin Huai'an cautioned, "Young man, you should still focus on today's matter first. If today's issue is resolved smoothly, you and Yanyang visiting the Duanmu Family together might receive a higher level of reception. If not... well, let's not talk about the other outcome. If you lose, you might not even be able to save your own life."

Yang Fei simply smiled and said, "Grandfather, don't worry. To kill Zhang Yunqing, I only need one move."

Qin Huai'an's mouth twitched, "Heh, you really are full of hot air, aren't you? Even if someone from the Innate Realm were to go all out, defeating a Unique Tier wouldn't be something achievable within just three or five moves."

Qin Yanyang also felt that Yang Fei was being overly confident. She worried that Yang Fei was underestimating Zhang Yunqing and being careless, and quickly reminded him, "Yang Fei, you must not

underestimate the combat power of the Unique Tier. The Life and Death Platform is a place where life and death are decided, and outsiders are not allowed to intervene. You mustn't be careless."

Qin Yanyang wasn't particularly worried about today's life-and-death fight, because she had long known that Yang Fei's combat power was more than enough to deal with the Unique Tier. Moreover, both had been cultivating for so long, and Yang Fei's strength had clearly increased. Although Zhang Yunqing had recently entered the Unique Tier, in her view, Yang Fei wouldn't lose to Zhang Yunqing.

But if Yang Fei was careless, he might capsize in the gutter.

She reminded him again, "Moreover, the Zhang Family has been a Martial Arts Family for hundreds of years, possessing some combat techniques that can unleash tremendous power. During the fight, you must give your all and be cautious."

Yang Fei sensed Qin Yanyang's concern and felt warmed by it. He smiled and said, "Don't worry, I am aware. I won't be careless."

Qin Yanyang was reassured by his promise.

She knew Yang Fei well. Although he might boast a little, his strength was real, and he would listen to her words. As long as he wasn't careless, he wouldn't lose today's life-and-death fight.

"If you win, don't strike ruthlessly," Qin Huai'an suddenly said.

Yang Fei was taken aback and looked at Qin Huai'an in confusion.

Qin Huai'an sighed, "Although Yanyang has already stepped into the Innate Realm, making the difference in strength between both sides not so drastic, Zhang Wenfeng's strength is too strong, and the Zhang Family still holds the advantage. So, it's best for the Divine Continent Martial World to avoid chaos unless there's a sure victory."

Yang Fei slightly frowned upon hearing this and said, "Grandfather, forgive my bluntness, but if the Divine Continent Martial World is inevitably headed for internal strife, it might be better for it to come sooner."

As someone who had recently returned to the country, Yang Fei felt no particular allegiance to the Divine Continent Martial World. Thus, whether it descended into chaos or not truly didn't matter to him.

Moreover, in his view, if a great battle was destined to happen, it might as well erupt sooner.

"Yes, Grandfather, I think Yang Fei is right. We are not without the strength to fight now. The most important thing is, while we're waiting for the right moment when our strength is sufficiently strong to make a move, isn't the Zhang Family doing the same? Zhang Wenfeng has been in seclusion for a long time and is said to be close to breaking through a higher threshold. Once he steps into that Realm, who on our side could match him? Therefore, it might be better to settle this in advance," Qin Yanyang couldn't help saying.

Qin Huai'an said gravely, "Things aren't as simple as you think."

Qin Yanyang shook her head, "Grandfather, you're overthinking things now. The more you worry, the more opportunities you miss, and the worse things get.

The Zhang Family has held an advantage for a long time, yet they too are hesitant to spark a fight, because they also lack certainty of victory, and even if they win, external forces could take advantage of their weakened state.

Or perhaps, they are also waiting for the right moment.

This moment might be when Zhang Wenfeng steps into a higher realm, or it might be when they are awaiting reinforcements.

By striking first, we might still create a miraculous effect."

Qin Huai'an's brows furrowed tightly, yet he remained silent.

This matter was of great importance, and concerned the future of the Divine Continent Martial World, so he dared not make a rash decision.

"Let's see how things unfold after today's life-and-death fight," Qin Huai'an finally said slowly.

Qin Yanyang knew her grandfather had his considerations, so she no longer tried to persuade him.

Yang Fei did not insist either.

He had his own way of doing things and wouldn't overthink because of Qin Huai'an's concerns.

If what Wang Hui said was true, then Zhang Yunlong was one of the high-ranking members of Sky Net, which means Sky Net's influence had penetrated the Divine Continent Martial World.

Sky Net was his greatest enemy, and he couldn't allow Sky Net to continue growing stronger.

Now that he was not far from regaining his peak combat power, there was no need to continue hiding his potential. It was time to start setting the stage for what's to come.

Zhang Yunlong, you should appear today, shouldn't you?

Yang Fei thought to himself, a cold smile curling the corners of his mouth.

Chapter 316:

At 10 a.m., Imperial Capital International Airport.

A voluptuous, but relatively ordinary-looking woman with long hair, wearing a duckbill cap, walked out from the airport terminal with a simple luggage bag on her back.

She toyed with her phone as she walked.

The phone displayed a message: "Second Sister, I've arrived at Imperial City. When will you get here?"

With one hand holding the phone, she quickly typed in reply: "Head to the destination and prepare to stand by."

"Beside us, has everyone else arrived?" a quick response came.

The woman replied, "You don't need to know that much; it's not good for you."

"All right, how about Boss Tang? Will he show up?"

Looking at the message, the corners of the woman's mouth curved into a charming arc as she replied, "He will."

"OK, that's enough!"

After cutting off contact with this person, the woman continued manipulating her phone, sending messages to several other people.

They were using a special frequency, not text messages from the three major communications systems of the Divine Continent, but chatting through an encrypted special chat tool.

Five minutes later, the woman, sitting in the back seat of a taxi with a brilliant smile, had finished all her tasks, discussing all plans one by one with each member.

Flawless.

In her heart, she couldn't help but think, "After today, the global underworld will be shaken once again! Hmph, they say we are but a fleeting wonder; today, let them witness the stunning reblooming of a fleeting wonder."

...

In the old courtyard under the big tree,

Yang Fei fiddled with his phone for a while, then put it in his pocket and casually took out a cigarette to offer to Qin Huai'an.

Qin Huai'an glanced at Qin Yanyang and decisively shook his head: "Kid, I gave up smoking a long time ago."

Yang Fei was taken aback.

What the hell were you smoking last night?

Qin Yanyang watched Yang Fei with a grin and asked, "Has my grandpa ever smoked?"

Yang Fei withdrew his hand, put the cigarette in his own mouth, and said, "I don't know, but offering a smoke is the least of manners when smoking; I didn't know Grandpa doesn't smoke."

Qin Yanyang looked over the two men with an amused look, gave a light snort, but didn't say anything.

Qin Huai'an gave Yang Fei an approving look.

Yang Fei couldn't help but think about his future life, looking at Qin Yanyang, he said, "You won't make me quit smoking in the future, will you?"

Qin Yanyang's eyes darted around as she snorted, "If I ask you to quit, will you listen to me?"

"That..."

Yang Fei hesitated a bit.

For a man with a somewhat heavy addiction to smoking, quitting is a painful affair.

Life would be less enjoyable after quitting smoking.

He couldn't help but say, "Not to mention how quitting smoking would kill one of my hobbies, the key thing is, if I quit smoking, my yearly contributions to the country would diminish. Without us smokers, who would support national defense and military expenses? I am a brick in the nation's development, to be moved wherever needed. I am..."

"Just shut up," Qin Yanyang said, speechless, cutting him off immediately: "By that logic, am I dragging the country down by not letting Grandpa smoke?"

Qin Huai'an couldn't help but say, "Yeah, it's a pity."

"I can't stand you guys." Qin Yanyang stood up and said to Yang Fei, "It's almost time, let's go."

She couldn't help but look towards Qin Huai'an again, "Grandpa, are you coming?"

Qin Huai'an shook his head and said, "I won't attend such a small event; it's enough for you to go."

Actually, he had planned to go, but now that Qin Yanyang had reached the Innate Realm, he decided not to attend in person.

His status is too high, and if he appeared at the Life and Death Platform, the event would take on a special significance, prompting wild speculation from some people.

"Grandpa, we'll be leaving first, and will come back to see you later," Yang Fei said as he stood up and spoke to Qin Huai'an.

Qin Huai'an waved his hand and said, "Go ahead. Remember, don't be careless, and don't bring shame to our Qin family and your master, the Fatty Taoist."

Yang Fei laughed heartily, "Grandpa, rest assured, I'm not taking this little event seriously at all."

Qin Huai'an spoke without amusement, "You're good in every other aspect, but you really need to curb that damn bragging of yours."

Yang Fei burst into laughter, holding Qin Yanyang's hand as they walked outside.

It was almost eleven o'clock, and it would take dozens of minutes to get from here to the Martial Alliance Headquarters' Life and Death Platform. Concerned about traffic congestion in Imperial City, they needed to leave early.

...

The Zhang Family reception hall.

Zhang Yunlong sat at the head, with Wu Lie and several other Martial Alliance elders and devotees sitting below.

These people had all participated in the attempt to capture Qin Yanyang in Binhai half a month ago.

Zhang Yunlong's gaze swept over everyone, and he said in a firm tone, "No matter who it is, whoever violates the rules of the Martial Alliance must accept its punishment, and she Qin Yanyang is no exception. After Yunqing kills that boy, you all will step forward and capture Qin Yanyang in public."

Having already taken action against Qin Yanyang, these people had no way out and had fully offended the Qin family. They were eager for the Zhang Family to bring down the Qin family sooner so that they could feel at ease.

Wu Lie nodded and said, "Young master, rest assured, with just a look from you, we will act. Today, we will not let that girl get away again."

By Wu Lie's side, Chai Song couldn't help but say, "Young master, she is after all a member of the Qin family. If we move against her, what if Qin Huai'an intervenes? We stand no chance against Qin Huai'an."

"Yes, I've heard Zhu Tianshou is also here. With his indebtedness to Yang Fei, he will certainly help Yang Fei. Moreover, he has had a good relationship with Qin Huai'an for many years, and with his presence at the scene, if we move against that girl, Zhu Tianshou won't stand by idly either," Guman Zhao also expressed his concern.

Jiang Yuanshuo chuckled and said, "Gentlemen, there's no need to worry. Since Young Master Yunlong has made such arrangements, he must have other plans in place. Just be at ease."

The three of them had been tasked with dealing with Tong Yan last time, and each had their own agenda to shirk their duties and fish in troubled waters, almost allowing Tong Yan to escape unscathed.

Fortunately, Tong Yan was severely injured by Wang Chengcuo and eventually died, otherwise they would have been in trouble to explain themselves to their superiors.

Now, with the Zhang Family clearly ready to sever ties with the Qin Family over Qin Yanyang's refusal of marriage, a civil war within the Divine Continent Martial World was on the brink of breaking out. They had long taken sides and could only see it through to the end, getting involved in this matter.

Everyone looked at Zhang Yunlong.

Zhang Yunlong smiled faintly, his tone contemptuous, "Rest assured, gentlemen, I will also be personally present at the scene and have other arrangements in place. Once Yunqing kills that boy, I don't believe the Qin family will dare to act rashly, and even if they dare, we are not afraid."

Seeing his full confidence, everyone felt reassured.

This was particularly true for Chai Song, Jiang Yuanshuo, and Guman Zhao.

Last time, against Tong Yan, not only did the three of them take action, but they also involved Wang Chengcuo, an Innate Realm expert. This showed just how powerful the Zhang Family was.

With even an Innate Realm expert like Wang Chengcuo at their beck and call, who in the Divine Continent Martial World would dare to oppose the Zhang Family?

At that moment, Zhang Yunqing walked in from outside.

He courteously saluted these seniors with a fist and palm, saying, "Thank you for the trouble you've gone to in coming such a long way for today's matter."

The crowd stood up in turn, showing ample respect for the Zhang Family.

After exchanging greetings, Zhang Yunqing said to Zhang Yunlong, "Brother, it's almost time. Let's get going."

Zhang Yunlong glanced at the time and stood up, saying, "Let's go."

Zhang Yunqing was thrilled.

Today, he was certain to kill Yang Fei right in front of Qin Yanyang, and show Qin Yanyang that choosing Yang Fei was the most erroneous decision of her life.

Moreover, after today, as long as Qin Yanyang is captured by the Martial Alliance, he plans to pay her a visit and make her his woman.

Thinking of Qin Yanyang's delicate face and figure, Zhang Yunqing's excitement surged.

This woman was the eternal soft spot in his heart. Even though he now possessed Unique Tier combat power, he still held a respectful fear towards Qin Yanyang. So, the thought of dominating her sent a rush of unbridled excitement and eagerness through him.

Chapter 317: Arrive Together

The large indoor stadium in Imperial City was already teeming with people, attracting thousands.

Outside the venue, guards were stationed at each of the various entrances for practitioners.

These individuals had prominent temples, exuding an imposing and fierce aura, like rainbows in their momentum. Ordinary people who saw them would feel fear and choose to walk around them.

Only those who had the qualifications to enter the venue today were internal Martial Artists from various sects and schools.

Some external strength Martial Artists, who came in admiration and wished to watch this duel on the Life and Death Platform, simply had no access.

There were too many people; strict control was necessary. Only Martial Artists who had cultivated their inner strength were eligible to enter.

When Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang arrived hand in hand, members of the Martial Alliance standing outside immediately saluted Qin Yanyang, saying, "Elder Qin."

With a slight smile, Qin Yanyang said, "The Martial Alliance has revoked my elder status, so you can't call me that anymore."

The embarrassed Alliance member was at a loss for what to say.

Qin Yanyang chuckled, "May we enter?"

"Of course, you may," one person replied.

They did not recognize Yang Fei, but seeing that he arrived hand in hand with Qin Yanyang, they guessed his identity.

He must be the guy who snatched Qin Yanyang away from Zhang Yunqing.

He really looks young and indeed quite handsome; no wonder Qin Yanyang chose him over the Second Young Master Zhang.

But can this young man truly possess the strength to defeat Yan Zhongshan in one move?

The members couldn't help but take surreptitious glances at Yang Fei, their eyes filled with skepticism.

Feeling their gazes, Yang Fei remained unconcerned, smiling as he walked hand in hand with Qin Yanyang into the stadium.

The moment the two appeared, they attracted a great deal of attention.

Such divine beauty would draw stares anywhere they went.

What's more, wasn't today the day of Yang Fei's duel to the death with Zhang Yunqing?

The stories of Yang Fei's and Zhang Yunqing's enmity over Qin Yanyang had been circulating wildly in the Martial World. Everyone knew of Zhang Yunqing, the Second Young Master of the Zhang Family, a prominent figure among the young generation of the Divine Continent Martial World, and had already formed a deep impression of him.

However, Yang Fei was a new talent in the Martial Arts World that had suddenly emerged in the past few months.

Rumors had it that at a tender age, he defeated Yan Zhongshan, of the Energy Transformation Fifth Grade, with a single move, making a name for himself in one battle.

He also cured Zhu Tianshou, who then advanced to the Innate Realm, making everyone curious about Yang Fei.

Everyone at the event from the Martial World wanted to get to know Yang Fei, to see for themselves his charm that made the Heavenly Pride Girl Qin Yanyang choose him over Zhang Yunqing.

So as Qin Yanyang and Yang Fei stepped into the stadium, those nearby immediately recognized Qin Yanyang. Seeing her holding hands with an unfamiliar man, her face wearing a tender smile, the venue suddenly became noisy.

"Truly worthy of Qin Yanyang, she does justice to her title as the number one beauty in the Martial Arts World. No matter when one looks at her, she is always so stunning that it's unforgettable."

"Indeed, wherever she appears, she becomes the focus of everyone's attention. A true unparalleled beauty."

"The key is her high cultivation talent; she truly is blessed by the heavens."

"Is that man she's holding hands with Yang Fei?"

"It must be. If it weren't him, Qin Yanyang wouldn't hold hands with him."

"I heard she deliberately found a shield, but looking at her now, with her content and happy expression, it doesn't seem like she's acting."

"Pshaw, that's just sour grapes from those who can't have what they want. Putting aside her identity as the daughter of the Qin Family and her Martial Arts talent, she is also a woman. A woman in her twenties is at the perfect age for love and romance; it's only normal for her to be in a relationship."

Noisy chatter rose up, and more and more people joined the discussion.

Initially, praises were showered upon Qin Yanyang, but slowly, the conversation shifted to speculations about Yang Fei's identity and background, as well as debates over the outcome of today's duel on the Life and Death Platform.

"He won't be happy for long, Second Young Master Zhang will soon beat the stuffing out of him."

"Exactly. He rudely interrupted everything, causing Second Young Master Zhang to lose face; he definitely won't let this slide."

"Cough cough, although Second Young Master Zhang is formidable, don't forget that just over a month ago, Yang Fei instantly killed Yan Zhongshan on the Life and Death Platform, so the outcome of today's Life and Death Platform is still an unknown."

"Pah, killing the Energy Transformation Fifth Grade Yan Zhongshan counts for what? Second Young Master Zhang could have done that long ago. Besides, with the strength of Second Young Master Zhang now stronger than ever, being in a Unique Tier of combat power, what does Yang Fei have to compare with Second Young Master Zhang?"

"You better get it straight—it was an instant kill, understand instant kill?" the people supporting Yang Fei argued until their faces turned red and their ears got hot.

The person siding with Zhang Yunqing scorned, "Instant kill is an instant kill, so what? That just goes to show that Yan Zhongshan was careless, otherwise, he couldn't have been instantly killed."

"That's illogical. A high-level practitioner of Energy Transformation Fifth Grade, even if careless, has his strength to rely on; how could he be easily instantly killed by someone? If you're so capable, go instantly kill one and show me. In the end, it all comes down to Yang Fei's formidable strength."

"That's right, I also think that Yang Fei truly is strong, otherwise how could Qin Yanyang appreciate him?"

For a time, debates about the matter were everywhere in the venue.

People were even placing bets on the Martial Alliance forum.

With their sharp hearing, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang picked up all sorts of discussions and even rumors around them, but they both smiled and paid no attention.

Under the gaze of thousands, Qin Yanyang remained easy-going, not letting go of Yang Fei's hand.

The two headed to the center of the venue and sat down in the seats that the guild hall had arranged for them well in advance.

Not long after they had taken their seats, Zhu Tianshou arrived.

By his side was a young man, Zhu Wenjie.

Upon seeing Yang Fei, Zhu Wenjie rushed to say, "Brother Yang, we meet again."

Yang Fei gave him a smile and said, "Yeah, we meet again."

Zhu Wenjie looked at Qin Yanyang with a complex expression, opened his mouth, and greeted, "Hello, Teacher Qin."

Qin Yanyang smiled charmingly, "Hmm, I didn't expect you to be a descendant of Senior Zhu."

Zhu Wenjie felt secretly proud.

He hadn't expected his grandfather to call him to follow along; this was his way of giving him support.

Although his father was one of the less accomplished of the grandfather's sons, the fact that his grandfather took such good care of him was mostly due to his previous acquaintance with Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang during school days.

Knowing that he was basking in the reflected glory of Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang, he felt a silent gratitude and resolved that he must never let Yang Wen be bullied at school in the future; otherwise, he wouldn't know how to explain it to Yang Fei.

Yang Fei smiled and clasped his fist towards Zhu Tianshou, "Thank you, senior, for coming to support."

Zhu Tianshou laughed heartily, "You, young man, are powerful enough, no need for outsiders to support you. I've just been lying around at home for seventeen years, now that I've stood up again, I like to move around and thought I'd join in the fun."

Yang Fei laughed aloud and invited him to sit down beside him.

Zhu Tianshou took a seat next to Yang Fei confidently and openly.

Such a move led to another round of discussions in the entire venue.

Sitting beside Yang Fei manifested Zhu Tianshou's attitude and stance, evidently showing his firm support for Yang Fei.

"Young Master Yang, we three brothers have thick-skinnedly come to ask for a spot by your side, may we?"

SShortly after Zhu Tianshou had sat down, several people walked towards Yang Fei, with Xu Yunshan leading them.

By his side, Xu Xiao and Xu Liangyou also followed with smiles.

Behind the three brothers were Xu Xingzhou, Xu Mao, Qi Tai, and Zhang Long amongst others.

Seeing all familiar faces, Yang Fei smiled and said, "I, Yang Fei, am immensely grateful that you seniors could come. But these seats beside me are a bit too hot to handle today."

Xu Yunshan laughed heartily, "We Martial Artists have thick skins, unaffected by heat or cold, it's fine!"

With that, he walked over confidently and sat down beside Zhu Tianshou.

Xu Xiao and Xu Liangyou followed suit, taking the adjacent seats.

Xu Mao, Xu Xingzhou, Zhang Long, and Qi Tai took the row behind them.

Chapter 318: Reason is with Me

"Mr. Yang, how confident are you today?" Xu Mao and Xu Xingzhou, who happened to be sitting right behind Yang Fei, couldn't help but ask.

He was immensely grateful to Yang Fei, so he was particularly concerned about the life-and-death duel today between Yang Fei and Zhang Yunqing.

Yang Fei turned around, smiled at them, and said, "Thank you all for your concern. Don't worry about me; I won't be in trouble."

Having gotten to know Yang Fei, and seeing him speak so confidently, they felt relieved.

Inside the venue, discussions flared up once again.

Many people had guessed the attitude of the Zhu Family, but the Xu family trio were unfamiliar to many and went unrecognized.

Some older generation experts who recognized the three Xu Yunshan brothers changed their expressions drastically, utterly shocked.

Weren't these people from the Xu Family, who were expelled from the Mainland fifty years ago?

It was said that in recent years, the Xu Family had become active again in the Mainland, intending to return, and they were closely connected with the Zhang Family, having intricate cooperative relations.

Why then were the Xu Family seated over there now?

Were they openly supporting Yang Fei?

How could this be?

Soon, it was less than five minutes to twelve o'clock.

As a commotion arose outside the main gate, a group of people filed in, led by the Zhang brothers, Zhang Yunlong and Zhang Yunqing.

Following the two brothers were two elders, one was Wang Chengcuo, and the other had a goatee and eyes like those of a wolf, giving a sharp and wild impression.

This man was Luo Yong.

Two National Guardian Level powerhouses registered in the Divine Continent Country.

Behind them followed some elders and devotees from the Martial Alliance.

Wu Lie, Jiang Yuanshuo, Guman Zhao, and Chai Song were among them.

In comparison, such an entourage was much more formidable than that on Yang Fei's side.

Moreover, as the Zhang Family had been thriving in recent years, forces in various sectors of the Martial World had been vying for their favor. Thus, when the two Zhang brothers appeared, accompanied by two other National Guardian Level powerhouses, everyone in the venue who had been sitting and waiting for the show began to stand up, either to salute with clenched fists or to exchange warm greetings.

Zhang Yunqing walked beside his elder brother, and as he walked, all the martial artists he passed respectfully stood up and greeted him. His face beamed with a radiant smile, filled with immense pride.

This is the influence of my Zhang Family.

Who would dare to disrespect us?

Quickly, the group reached their prearranged seats.

On the opposite side of the spacious platform, the challengers had not yet sat down when they exchanged glances, and the atmosphere in the void grew tense and oppressive.

Zhang Yunqing's gaze landed on Qin Yanyang, filled mostly with complex emotions of affection and anger. Then, his expression turned exceedingly sharp as he stared intensely at the young man beside Qin Yanyang.

Qin Yanyang had not even glanced at him but was all smiles while talking and laughing with the young man, which was infuriating.

Thinking that he and she were almost engaged, this woman could have been his, yet now she was chatting and laughing with another man. Zhang Yunqing's face grew fiercely sinister, his murderous intent soaring.

Having assumed Qin Yanyang would be his, Zhang Yunqing always felt like he was being cuckolded, a feeling that tore at his heart excruciatingly, nearly driving him insane.

Zhang Yunlong sensed the fierce murderous intent emanating from his brother, smiled slightly, and patted his shoulder, saying, "Don't let others sway your emotions. Keep calm and kill him slowly later. Being angry with a man who is about to die is unwise."

The fierceness in Zhang Yunqing's demeanor gradually subsided.

He turned to Zhang Yunlong and said, "Thank you for the advice, big brother. I will remember it."

Zhang Yunlong looked at Luo Yong and smiled, "The time is almost up, shall we start?"

Luo Yong heard this and stood up, walking to the chairman's position.

As he moved towards the chairman's position, the huge venue instantly quieted down.

Without any preamble, Luo Yong directly said, "The hour has come, may the duelists come forward to sign the life and death agreement."

As a National Guardian Level powerhouse, Luo Yong was naturally a high-ranking figure in the Martial Alliance; his officiating the Life and Death Platform duel was a significant endorsement.

Yang Fei rose to his feet.

Qin Yanyang was still holding his hand.

Yang Fei looked down at her and Qin Yanyang smiled at him, winking.

Yang Fei chuckled, "Don't worry, I'll be back in a few minutes."

Qin Yanyang looked at him and said, "I mean to say, no matter what you do, I will support you, just go for it."

Yang Fei was startled and couldn't help but feel suspicious.

Could she know about the things he had secretly arranged?

After thinking it over, he felt it was unlikely. She must be speaking from the standpoint of a wife. Yang Fei was somewhat touched and said, "Yeah, rest assured."

By this time, Zhang Yunqing was already eager and had walked onto the podium. Seeing Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang hand in hand, chatting intimately, his mood was disrupted again, and he couldn't help but snort coldly, "The hour has come, boy, aren't you coming over to meet your death quickly?"

Qin Yanyang let go of Yang Fei's hand, "Give him a profound lesson."

Yang Fei flashed her a smile, "Understood, mission will be accomplished."

"Ahem, hurry over." Zhu Tianshou, sitting on the side, somewhat unable to bear listening, urged.

He had witnessed Yang Fei's capabilities, so he wasn't worried at all about this duel to the death. Rather, it was Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang's display of affection that irritated him.

Zhang Long and Xu Xingzhou exchanged glances, all somewhat curious.

Wasn't Yang Fei known to be quite wooden in matters of the heart? When had he become so smooth-talking, like a seasoned lover?

Upon reaching the podium, Yang Fei looked at Luo Yong and asked with a smile, "Have we met before?"

Luo Yong felt a chill in his heart but maintained his expression and said coldly, "I have never known you, nor have we ever met."

"Then I must have remembered wrong, haha." Yang Fei said with a bizarre smile, "If the person who bullied my wife that day really was you, you should have experienced my skills. And now you pretend not to know me and don't even remind this Mr. Zhang here; it's quite intriguing."

A gleam flashed in Luo Yong's eyes as he stared coldly at Yang Fei, "Young man, I don't know what you're talking about. Now is the time for you and Zhang Yunqing to battle on the Life and Death Platform, and the hour has come. I ask you just one thing, are you still going to fight or not?"

"Fight, of course we must fight," Yang Fei said with a laugh.

Luo Yong said coldly, "Since the fight is on, then sign your name on the Life and Death Document first."

Yang Fei's gaze swept over the Life and Death Document. Seeing that Zhang Yunqing had already signed his name and pressed his fingerprint, he couldn't help but chuckle, "You're quite fast."

Zhang Yunqing was already impatient and yelled, "Young man, less nonsense, sign and press your fingerprint quickly. The grievances between us, let's settle them on the Life and Death Platform today."

Yang Fei sneered sharply, fixing his gaze on Zhang Yunqing, "What grievances do we have between us?"

Zhang Yunqing furiously responded, "You stole the woman I love, this hatred, this grudge is insufferable!"

"Hahahaha..."

Yang Fei laughed uproariously, taunting, "As far as I know, the alliance through marriage between the Qin Family and Zhang Family was only a wish of the elders. My wife, Qin Yanyang, never agreed to it; hence, you two have no relation whatsoever. Where then is this talk of me stealing your beloved?"

The venue was very quiet, and Yang Fei deliberately raised his voice to make this statement clear.

Seeing Zhang Yunqing's fierce expression, he continued, "You issued a challenge letter wanting to decide life and death with me, and I accepted your challenge. This is a martial artist's inherent will to compete.

However, now that the duel is about to begin, in the presence of all martial artists of the world, it is necessary to clarify the matters between us.

Qin Yanyang married me, you were angered by this, and relying on your status as Second Young Master Zhang, you repeatedly instigated others to attempt on my life, did you not?"

Zhang Yunqing was unabashed, directly stating, "What of it if I did?"

Yang Fei was momentarily stunned.

He hadn't expected that in front of all the martial artists in the world, Zhang Yunqing would answer so straightforwardly, without even a hint of sophistry.

This, however, left him at a loss for words.

But he quickly recovered, laughed heartily, and said, "Good, a good audacious Second Young Master Zhang. Since you admit that the grudge between us is due to your bullying and my prior suffering, that's enough."

Having said that, Yang Fei wasted no further words and directly signed his name and pressed his fingerprint on the Life and Death Document.

The reason he had made that statement was to let the world know that he, Yang Fei, was the one being wronged, standing on the side of justice.

Thus, whatever he, Yang Fei, was about to do, would be entirely justified, beyond reproach.

Chapter 319: Crushing Dry Weeds and Smashing Rotten Wood

Seeing Yang Fei also sign his name and leave his handprint, Luo Yong looked at both and said, "Both of you are outstanding among the young generation of our Divine Continent Martial World, precious talents of our Martial World. Though there is bad blood, as the saying goes, 'It is better to make friends out of enemies.' I hope you two can be generous and let go of your grudges, fight with restraint, and try your best not to take lives."

Yang Fei, with a grand wave of his hand, sneered, "Old man, save those sanctimonious platitudes. After I've dealt with him, I'll come settle the score with you."

Everyone was stunned.

No one expected Yang Fei to dare to speak such words in front of Luo Yong.

Old man?

Damn, why don't you go to heaven if you're so brave, daring to curse a National Guardian Level powerhouse to his face?

Zhang Yunqing was also stunned, not expecting Yang Fei to be so fierce.

Luo Yong was taken aback, then his eyes sharpened like knives, and a fierce aura released from him as he fixed his gaze on Yang Fei, "Boy, are you seeking death? How dare you speak rudely to me?"

Yang Fei did not flinch under the pressure of his aura and coldly said, "Stop faking it, old man. It was you who attacked my wife at the border of Yun Province a little over a month ago. I have not forgotten that grudge."

Having said this, he ignored Luo Yong, who was so infuriated his face turned red, and turned towards Zhang Yunqing, "The life-and-death agreement has been signed. Let's decide our fate first. After I've taken care of you, I will fight this old man."

Outside the platform, the venue had already erupted into uproar.

No one thought Yang Fei would be so audacious as to directly challenge the authority of a National Guardian Level powerhouse.

Amid their shock, many of the younger generation felt their blood boiling.

What a brave kid—a man of true spirit.

Some of the elders surmised the implications behind the scenes.

Especially Zhang Yunlong, whose eyes suddenly flashed with brilliance as he stared at Luo Yong.

Luo Yong going to intercept Qin Yanyang was naturally on his command.

After that failure, Luo Yong merely explained that Qin Yanyang was very powerful, a standout even among those in the Unique Tier, and a mysterious figure had appeared to block him, preventing him from crippling Qin Yanyang completely.

Zhang Yunlong naturally accepted this explanation.

After all, if a warrior of the Innate Realm had made a move, Qin Yanyang couldn't possibly have escaped unscathed without powerful protection.

But now, was the mysterious warrior Luo Yong spoke of Yang Fei?

But how could that be?

How old was Yang Fei? Surely his strength wasn't enough to stop Luo Yong, an Innate Realm powerhouse, right?

Next to Zhang Yunlong, Wang Chengcuo's eyes also flashed as he stared at both Luo Yong and Yang Fei.

In Huangyang County, he had faced Yang Fei head-on and knew that Yang Fei's combat strength was akin to that of the Innate Realm.

The exchange between Yang Fei and Luo Yong now left Wang Chengcuo somewhat surprised.

Had this kid previously clashed with Luo Yong?

Luo Yong once attempted to kill Qin Yanyang?

Thinking of this made Wang Chengcuo's heart shudder, and he glanced at Zhang Yunlong.

This eldest son of the Zhang Family was truly reckless and foolhardy.

However, Wang Chengcuo soon calmed down, his heart filling with anticipation instead.

Kid, you better not disappoint me.

Once you kill Zhang Yunqing, Zhang Yunlong will inevitably break the rules of the Martial Alliance's Life and Death Platform and intervene; you'll undoubtedly die then.

His most beloved disciple murdered and the future of the entire Wang Family threatened by Yang Fei, Wang Chengcuo had felt extremely suffocated recently, as if someone was strangling him.

He believed that today, whether Yang Fei won or lost, he wouldn't leave this venue alive.

...

On the platform, Zhang Yunqing was taken aback by Yang Fei's brazenness.

He thought he had misheard.

What did this kid just say?

He dared to defy Luo Yong?

And even said that after defeating himself, he would challenge Luo Yong?

Was he insane?

Zhang Yunqing considered himself arrogant, but he hadn't expected someone to be even bolder than him.

Moreover, this kid's arrogance seemed to be based on his own strong confidence, unlike his own, which, to the greatest extent, came from the backing of his big brother and grandfather, from the entire Zhang Family.

With this thought, jealousy surged within Zhang Yunqing as he stared coldly at Yang Fei, "Arrogant! I know you have some skills, but it's pure folly to think you can defeat me today!"

Luo Yong, standing to one side, was so angered by Yang Fei's words that his chest heaved violently, and he almost took action.

Seeing that the two were about to duel, he forcefully suppressed the rage in his heart and pointed at Yang Fei, saying, "Such arrogance and presumptuousness in a youth. If you remain alive, you will become a scourge to our Divine Continent Martial World."

Yang Fei didn't even spare him a glance and said to Zhang Yunqing, "Don't you want to kill me? Go ahead, make your move."

Luo Yong laughed in frustration and flipped backward, jumping out of the ring.

No matter what injuries he bore today, he must kill this brat and eliminate future troubles forever.

"Seeking death!"

Zhang Yunqing, seeing Yang Fei's audaciousness, couldn't help but become furious.

Usually, it was he, the Second Young Master Zhang, who was arrogantly domineering over others. Today, however, this youngster had stolen his thunder, and he could not stand it.

With a low growl, Zhang Yunqing released a fierce aura, his combat power at the peak of the Energy Transformation Realm Ninth Grade displayed without any reservation, as he struck at Yang Fei with a move.

"What a strong aura, what good speed!"

"Truly at the peak of the Energy Transformation Realm Ninth Grade!"

"The Zhang Family truly produces talents in abundance."

As Zhang Yunqing released his powerful aura, many in the audience couldn't help but exclaim in surprise.

Yet upon seeing that Zhang Yunqing had only revealed such a level of Realm, Wang Chengcuo, Luo Yong, Zhu Tianshou, Qin Yanyang, and the three brothers of the Xu Family, Xu Yunshan, all shook their heads secretly, knowing Yang Fei's strength.

"Second brother, do not be careless, go all out!" Zhang Yunlong suddenly yelled a reminder.

Right at the moment Zhang Yunqing made his move, he suddenly had an ominous feeling, particularly because he was keenly aware of the disappointed emotions silently expressed by Luo Yong and Wang Chengcuo.

In the arena, as Zhang Yunqing, who had already made his move, heard his elder brother's shout, he instantly braced himself, and without any hesitation, yelled out, "Heavenly Gang Divine Fist."

Boom boom boom!!!

In the space above the platform, there was a faint echo of thunder.

Zhang Yunqing's punch seemed as if it could tear the heavens apart, bringing with it a faint golden glow that enveloped his fist.

The glow intensified, forming a round shield visible to the naked eye, encasing Zhang Yunqing's entire body within.

"Innate Gang Qi!"

Someone exclaimed.

"Worthy of being the Zhang Family's unique technique, this Heavenly Gang Divine Fist is indeed powerful, able to evoke Innate Gang Qi even at the Energy Transformation Realm level."

"With this Gang Qi bodyguard, one can be invincible in the same Realm!"

"Yang Fei is in trouble now!"

Amidst exclamations, Zhang Yunqing had already rushed up to Yang Fei.

He moved so fast that it seemed like Yang Fei hadn't even reacted yet, standing frozen in place without any movement.

Zhang Yunqing's mouth curled upwards, revealing a mocking sneer.

Is this it?

He couldn't help thinking that perhaps he shouldn't have used a mighty Combat Skill like the Heavenly Gang Divine Fist. If he killed this guy with a single punch, it would really lack the pleasure of a torturous kill.

However, the next instant, Zhang Yunqing's pupils shrank, and his heart was filled with shock.

Yang Fei made his move.

He stood still and suddenly punched out.

This punch appeared so swift in Zhang Yunqing's view, like a bolt of lightning.

"Thump!"

A dull sound.

The golden Innate Gang Qi shield was shattered by a punch.

The next instant, the two fists collided.

"Crack!"

The sound of a shattering fist resounded.

Zhang Yunqing's pupils suddenly dilated, his face showing an expression of immense fright.

He saw with his own eyes his fist being blown apart.

But before he could cry out in pain, he felt an overpowering and rampant force sweeping up his arm, reversing its course and surging towards his Martial Meridian, destroying his veins and acupoints relentlessly, as if pulling down dry weeds.

"Splurt splurt splurt!!!"

As the force from Yang Fei's punch invaded Zhang Yunqing's body, blood erupted from his arm to his shoulder and then to his chest and abdomen, his body making continuous splurting noises.

Chapter 320: Handling Matters According to Martial Alliance Rules

"Puff!"

A mouthful of old blood spurted from Zhang Yunqing's mouth.

His body flew backward like a kite with its string cut, and he flew straight out of the ring.

From the opposite stands, a figure shot out like an arrow, and in midair, he caught Zhang Yunqing's body.

It was Zhang Yunlong.

Zhang Yunlong's face was as dark as ink, his fingers moved rapidly, quickly sealing several major points on Zhang Yunqing's body while he took out a porcelain bottle from his robe, poured out a pill, and stuffed it into Zhang Yunqing's mouth.

Luo Yong and Wang Chengcuo also reacted quickly. The two of them came to the Zhang brothers' side and assisted Zhang Yunlong in saving Zhang Yunqing, forcibly pushing out the overbearing True Qi that Yang Fei's punch had left in Zhang Yunqing's body.

The rescue was timely. Although Zhang Yunqing's Martial Meridian was damaged and almost ruined, he managed to hold onto a breath of life and survived.

The arena fell dead silent.

Earlier, when Zhang Yunqing had made his move, there was a bustle of noise, continuous exclamations, and everyone praised how impressive Zhang Yunqing was and what a heaven-sent genius he was.

However, before many could finish their lavish praises, Zhang Yunqing was knocked out of the ring by a punch from Yang Fei, with his life and death unknown.

This left many people speechless.

Just... just like this?

Is that it?

God damn it, did I really just make this long trip for nothing?

Recently, your Zhang family has been promoting and bragging every day, saying that Zhang Yunqing already has a unique tier of power, and he is just one step away from stepping into the Innate Realm, so incredible, as if it would take no effort to kill Yang Fei on the Life and Death Platform.

How did he get instantly knocked out now?

Amid the shock, a hissing sound spread throughout the venue.

It was the sound of everyone gasping.

All eyes then turned to Yang Fei.

In those eyes was mostly shock, followed by many young people developing a raging torrent of admiration.

He's so strong!

The highly praised Zhang Yunqing was instantly defeated by him?

Do you see? This is a real born genius!

At that moment, everyone in the venue, except for the participant Yang Fei himself, was stunned.

Even those who knew his strength, like Zhu Tianshou, Luo Yong, Wang Chengcuo, Qin Yanyang, and the three Xu brothers, were surprised.

They all expected Zhang Yunqing to lose to Yang Fei, but no one envisioned it would be a quick defeat.

Even more so, if Zhang Yunlong hadn't intervened immediately to save him, Zhang Yunqing might have already died, which is essentially an instant kill!

Wang Chengcuo and Luo Yong's expressions were grim; they were secretly horrified: this young man seemed to have grown stronger than before.

Zhu Tianshou was silently astonished: This boy progresses so fast, his strength might now be comparable to mine, a twenty-four-year-old in the Innate Realm, unprecedented in the Divine Continent Martial World in a thousand years!

Xu Yunshan, Xu Xiao, and Xu Liangyou were internally extremely shocked: Mr. Yang's combat power must have stepped into the Innate Realm. The elder's choice was indeed correct.

When they had come, they had visited the elder, who had told them to stand with Yang Fei. They hesitated at first, feeling it wasn't necessary to clearly show their stance so early, but now, the three of them were thoroughly impressed by the elder's foresight.

They hadn't chosen the wrong side.

Qin Yanyang was also internally troubled: He's so strong, he probably has the combat power of the Innate Realm. I might not be able to defeat him.

Could it be that what he has always said about his strength was true, and it's far greater than I imagined?

But... but how could that be possible? He's a year younger than me, and he only started cultivating at thirteen, whereas I started when I was very young.

Compared to him, isn't my Martial Arts Talent just rubbish?

In her astonishment, Qin Yanyang watched the young man standing proudly on the platform with soft eyes.

Beauty loves heroes; this is an eternal truth.

Although Qin Yanyang had gradually fallen for Yang Fei through their daily interactions, as Yang Fei displayed ever greater strength, her feelings of admiration grew deeper.

As the Heavenly Pride Girl, although she claimed to be strong enough to protect her man,

it was only when Luo Yong chased her to kill her, and Yang Fei stood by her side, advancing and retreating, living and dying together, that she realized she, too, wanted a strong man to rely on.

Now, seeing her man defeat Zhang Yunqing in one move, shocking the Divine Continent Martial World, her heart was filled with more pride and honor.

"Look, this is the man of Qin Yanyang."

At the same time, many young martial artists in the arena who had regained their senses also thought of one thing: such a man is indeed worthy of Qin Yanyang.

"For a man about to die, you all expend so much effort to save him—it's simply a waste of elixirs, True Yuan, and energy."

Just as Zhang Yunlong and a few others were desperately trying to save Zhang Yunqing's life, Yang Fei spoke up indifferently from the platform.

Those words shocked everyone present.

What did he mean by that?

Zhang Yunqing was already in such a state, but did Yang Fei not intend to stop?

Zhang Yunlong suddenly looked up, his eyes sharp as knives, staring at Yang Fei as he said gravely, "My younger brother has lost."

Yang Fei smiled faintly, shook his head, and said, "Are you joking with me? Or are you saying that the life-and-death contract we just signed is fake? The rules of the Martial World have been in place for thousands of years. Are they to be changed so easily? The life-and-death platform decides life and death. Since he is not dead yet, it's not over."

Surrender?

What a joke.

If I were to lose and bow my head in submission, would you let me off?

Yang Fei was never one to be tender-hearted. Regarding Zhang Yunqing who had tried multiple times to take his life, he was not so magnanimous.

Today, Zhang Yunqing must die!

Zhang Yunlong did not argue with Yang Fei's words. Slowly standing up, he faced Yang Fei and said word by word, "I said it, Zhang Yunqing has been defeated; he has surrendered."

Yang Fei scoffed, "The rule of the life-and-death platform is a fight to the death. Since a life-and-death contract has been signed, his fate is not his own anymore. I've decided on his life today."

"As long as I am here, it's not your place to be arrogant and presumptuous," Zhang Yunlong said coldly.

A gleam flashed in Yang Fei's eyes as he suddenly raised his voice and declared, "Fine, you and I shall settle our life and death here on this platform. Either you kill me, and with the power of the Zhang family, treat the rules of the Martial Alliance as nothing, saving Zhang Yunqing's life, or today I will send both you and your brother to meet the king of hell."

The crowd was in an uproar.

This kid is truly arrogant.

He had openly challenged Luo Yong earlier, and now he was issuing a challenge for a life-and-death duel to Zhang Yunlong.

Too arrogant, isn't it?

However, with the fact of Zhang Yunqing being defeated in seconds before their eyes, everyone felt that this kid might indeed have the strength.

Qin Yanyang was slightly nervous; she stood up, looking at Yang Fei with a complex expression.

She had not expected Yang Fei to openly challenge Zhang Yunlong.

Zhang Yunlong was a strong practitioner who had entered the Innate Realm more than ten years ago, and with extraordinary talents, was one of the stronger fighters in the Innate Realm.

She was worried that Yang Fei would not be a match.

Confronted with Yang Fei's challenge, Zhang Yunlong was also taken aback for a moment, thinking he had heard wrong.

"What did you just say? You want a life-and-death fight with me?"

"Are you deaf?"

Yang Fei said coldly, "Today, I've decided on your brother's head. You, relying on the power of the Zhang family, even dare to disregard the rules of the Martial Alliance, while these so-called elders of the Martial Alliance look the other way in front of all these people.

Ha-ha-ha, I see that the Martial Alliance is not the martial alliance of all martial artists on Divine Continent, but that of the Zhang family.

Others may fear the Zhang family, but I, Yang Fei, do not; today I simply will not show face to your Zhang family, and must act according to the rules of the Martial Alliance. What can you do about it?"

Upon these words, a dead silence fell over the entire arena.

Frustration showed on the faces of countless martial artists.

Many had long been dissatisfied with the arrogant behavior of the Zhang family over the years, yet no one had taken the lead, all too scared to speak out.

Now that someone like Yang Fei had stepped forward to openly point out the injustice of the Martial Alliance, many martial artists secretly cheered him.

Zhang Yunlong sensed the thoughts of the martial artists around, and his heart chilled.

The Zhang family had always dominated others with its power, which ultimately led many to hold grievances. Today, the reputation of the Zhang family could not be suppressed by this young man; otherwise, it would lead to endless troubles.

"Fine, since you're seeking death, I'll fulfill your wish!" Zhang Yunlong's killing intent surged as he spoke coldly.

"Wait a moment!"

Just then, a cold voice sounded.