Overlord 341

Chapter 341: About the Hidden Sect

"In the history of the Hidden Sect, Duanmu Qing was a legend, the darling of all. She received recognition from various powers within the Hidden Sect, and everyone tried their utmost to foster her into a great achiever who mastered the Martial Arts of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism," Wang Hui said with a sigh.

Yang Fei found this somewhat unbelievable.

Martial Arts Families and Sects were extremely protective of their knowledge, each guarding its own Sect Martial Arts as top-level secrets, which were absolutely not to be shared. But in the end, they taught them all to the same person, which is preposterous.

"Unfortunately, Duanmu Qing didn't grow according to the path laid out by the forces of the Hidden Sect. She went against the wishes of the Hidden Sect, committing a betrayal," Wang Hui said, his tone complex.

At this, Yang Fei's eyes sparked with interest. He pressed, "How did she betray the factions within the Hidden Sect?"

Wang Hui answered, "I don't know the details of what happened back then, but according to rumors within the Hidden Sect, it's said that Duanmu Qing left the Hidden Sect World to wander and train in the Mortal World, then suddenly vanished.

When she reappeared, she was accompanied by a young man from the secular world, and she was also pregnant. This was seen as a disgrace by the Hidden Sect factions. After all, the Hidden Sect's world is above the secular; marrying into the secular world is not permitted, especially for a woman of genius like Duanmu Qing. So, Duanmu Qing's actions shamed the Hidden Sect, and several senior experts were dispatched to suppress her."

"That's all?" Yang Fei was a bit dazed.

Wang Hui nodded, "That's all I know, and I can guarantee that, aside from a very few Hidden Sect elders, no more than ten people know the details of this affair, because after it happened, the various powers

of the Hidden Sect sealed off any news about Duanmu Qing. Even many of the younger generation are unaware that such a genius ever existed in the Hidden Sect."

Yang Fei furrowed his brows, pondering the information Wang Hui had provided. A thought struck him, and he looked at Wang Hui and said, "So you mean to say, Duanmu Qing was born into the Duanmu Family of the Hidden Sect, not the aristocratic Duanmu Family of the secular world?"

Wang Hui nodded, "Of course. Although the secular Duanmu Family is also strong, they cannot compare with the Duanmu Family of the Hidden Sect. Moreover, if she did not come from the Duanmu Family of the Hidden Sect, why would those factions provide her with Cultivation Techniques for her training? You must understand, the Cultivation Techniques of the Hidden Sect are not permissible to be taught to the Martial World's Cultivators."

Yang Fei frowned deeper.

According to Wang Hui, Duanmu Qing had no relation to the Duanmu Family of Imperial City. In that case, why did the people of the Imperial City's Duanmu Family treat him with that attitude?

Moreover, why did Tang Shuwan, Duanmu Ling, and Qin Huai'an all say that Duanmu Qing came from the Imperial City Duanmu Family?

Their expressions at the time didn't look like they were deceiving him. Could it be that they also did not know which Duanmu Family Duanmu Qing really came from?

As for why the Imperial City's Duanmu Family treated the name Duanmu Qing as taboo, it was probably for fear of reprisal from the Hidden Sect – a strict command from the Hidden Sect to keep the secret.

Seeing that Wang Hui knew only so much about Duanmu Qing, Yang Fei didn't press any further.

The matters of his heritage could be investigated slowly in the future.

After all, now that he knew of the Hidden Sect's existence, he was definitely going to have dealings with them in the future.

"Tell me about your Hidden Sect," Yang Fei looked at Wang Hui and asked, "You seem very worried about the Hidden Sect finding out your whereabouts, why is that?"

Wang Hui's expression changed, and he said, "I... I escaped, and if I am caught and brought back, even a lenient punishment would mean losing all my Cultivation and imprisonment for life."

Yang Fei became interested, "Why did you have to escape? You just mentioned that Duanmu Qing went into the world to train. You could have done the same."

Wang Hui laughed bitterly, "That's what I get for Duanmu Qing's incident. Because of the trouble she caused when she went into the world to train, the Hidden Sect imposed stricter requirements on trainees. And for the past twenty-odd years, the number of Hidden Sect Practitioners coming out to the secular world to train has greatly dwindled, almost to none. So, to leave the Hidden Sect World, one has to sneak out."

"Why did you want to escape? Isn't the world of the Hidden Sect good?" Yang Fei asked.

With a complex expression, Wang Hui said, "I did something wrong, and indeed, the Hidden Sect World is quite boring and dull compared to the bustling and lively secular world."

"Go ahead, tell me," Yang Fei said.

Looking somewhat embarrassed, Wang Hui said, "Are you asking about the incident I caused?"

Yang Fei said without words, "I'm not very interested in your personal story, tell me about the Hidden Sect World."

Wang Hui sighed with relief and said, "There's not much to say, you're a Martial Artist, so you must have read wuxia books or seen movies and TV dramas. The Hidden Sect is similar to these worlds, with minor differences, akin to our feudal dynasty era."

Next, Wang Hui briefly explained to Yang Fei the prominent figures, power distribution, and world rules of the Hidden Sect.

Yang Fei had gained a certain understanding of the Hidden Sect World and suddenly remembered something, asking, "Can Martial Artists from the Mortal World go to the Hidden Sect?"

Wang Hui said, "Theoretically no, but there has always been contact between the two, like I mentioned last time, the first time I saw Zhang Yunlong was at the Zhuge family of the Hidden Sect. For exceptional talents like him, the Hidden Sect pays a lot of attention and may even focus on cultivating them, providing certain Cultivation resources."

Yang Fei's eyes lit up, "So you're saying my wife is also regarded highly by the Hidden Sect?"

"Hmm, a person like Qin Yanyang would indeed get a lot of attention from the higher-ups of the Hidden Sect. She must have gone to the Hidden Sect too," said Wang Hui.

Yang Fei's pupils shrank slightly.

Qin Yanyang had almost never told him about the Hidden Sect; it seemed his wife was quite familiar with it, even having been there.

But why wouldn't she tell him?

Yang Fei trusted that Qin Yanyang had feelings for him now; their relationship was very true and pure, so he felt that if she was hiding some things from him, she must have her reasons.

After all, he also had things he was hiding from her.

"Mr. Yang, I know you're very powerful, but you must take what I've said seriously. Zhuge Hong is not simple; she is love-struck and since she's convinced that you're involved in the abduction of Zhang Yunlong, she will definitely come to find you," Wang Hui reminded again.

Yang Fei said, "Didn't you mention that people from the Hidden Sect aren't allowed to come out?"

Wang Hui gave a wry smile and said, "In theory, yes, but that's just because things became stricter after Duanmu Qing's incident back then. Now, more than twenty years later, it's not a problem for disciples from the major aristocratic families and Sects to come out."

Yang Fei nodded and said, "Okay, I've got it. I'll be careful."

Wang Hui's primary purpose for visiting Yang Fei was to eliminate the hidden danger of the Devil Seed Energy in his body; now that it is under control, his goal has been achieved, and he was ready to leave. He said to Yang Fei, "If Mr. Yang has no other arrangements, I'll take my leave."

Yang Fei looked at him and thought for a moment, then shook his head, "Hmm, you go back. Keep staying in Sky Net, and inform me if there's anything. Oh, and when the time is ripe, take me to the Hidden Sect."

Wang Hui's expression changed, and he said in surprise, "What are you going to do at the Hidden Sect?"

Yang Fei smiled and said, "Just curious; I want to see what kind of world it is."

Wang Hui naturally didn't believe him. Through their conversation, he had already guessed many things. He knew that if this information spread in the Hidden Sect, it would cause a huge sensation, but he understood that he must not speak of it; otherwise, if Yang Fei were to die, and no one could resolve the Devil Planting Technique within him, he would be doomed too.

He now only prayed that Yang Fei would be invincible and eternal.

After Wang Hui left, Yang Fei pondered the matter of the Hidden Sect. Around noon, he received a text message from Tong Yunshu.

"Heard you're back. Missed you."

She then sent a location.

Yang Fei's heart immediately ignited, not bothering to wait for the end of the workday, he rushed to the location sent by Tong Yunshu.

Chapter 342: Overseas Sun Family

The spacious and comfortable hotel room featured a large bed with disheveled bedding, a mix of sweat and unidentified liquids mingling together, and white sheets adorned with various stains.

A brief separation was as good as a honeymoon; Yang Fei and Tong Yunshu had been apart for over twenty days, and their reunion naturally set off a storm of passion, thoroughly exhilarating.

Tong Yunshu's face was flushed; her entire body seemed to melt as she leaned on Yang Fei's chest, seemingly still savoring the prior bliss.

Yang Fei leaned against the headboard, smoking a cigarette.

In those days, he had caused quite a stir in the Imperial City, and his name had become famous in the Divine Continent Martial World but he didn't care about the fame.

The information Wang Hui brought him today had made him somewhat alert and cautious.

Apart from Sky Net, he now had to guard against Zhang Wenfeng and the Zhuge family from the Hidden Sect.

Even more so, if Duanmu Qing truly was his mother, then in his quest to uncover the truth about her death, he might eventually have to confront the entire Hidden Sect World.

"What are you thinking about? You seem troubled," Tong Yunshu, noticing Yang Fei's silence after smoking, asked softly, unlike his usual cheerful self.

Yang Fei snapped back to reality, dismissing all distractions, and with one arm wrapped around Tong Yunshu's soft, smooth body, he smiled and said, "Just overthinking, nothing's wrong."

Tong Yunshu knew about Zhang Wenfeng's escape and thought he might be worried about Zhang Wenfeng seeking revenge. Thus, she said, "As long as you're careful, even if Zhang Wenfeng comes back for revenge, you should be able to handle him, right?"

Yang Fei laughed heartily, "Of course, don't worry. I've yet to consider him a threat. Let's continue our cultivation, and see if you've been slacking off during this time."

Saying this, he rolled over and pinned her down.

Tong Yunshu felt both shy and eager, hesitating yet inviting...

Yang Fei spent the entire afternoon with Tong Yunshu in the hotel. He had called Li Xuantong to take the afternoon off and did not return to the medical hall, opting instead to accompany Tong Yunshu in her cultivation.

Initially, their "cultivation" began under the guise of impropriety, but it later turned into genuine assistance in Tong Yunshu's cultivation practice.

Although the dual cultivation technique used with Yanyang produced lesser effects on him, it significantly amplified Tong Yunshu's cultivation results.

Thus, whether physically or in terms of cultivation, Tong Yunshu developed a deep attachment to Yang Fei.

She even considered seeking out Yanyang to confess and forcefully take Yang Fei from her—an insane notion had crossed her mind.

She wasn't afraid of Yanyang, yet she worried it might anger Yang Fei.

This matter needed to be handled gradually.

If Yanyang could not accept her in the future, then she really must compete with her.

Although Yanyang and Yang Fei had feelings for each other first, Yang Fei's first time was with her; in this relationship, she had some advantages too.

At four-thirty in the afternoon, Yang Fei received a call from Yanyang.

She said she was bringing Yang Wen home for dinner and asked Yang Fei to buy groceries after work.

After hanging up, Yang Fei looked apologetically at Tong Yunshu, "I need to get going."

Tong Yunshu's expression remained unchanged, but deep inside, she felt a profound sense of loss and reluctance.

He couldn't even spare the time to finish a meal with her.

With just one call from Yanyang, he would leave her without hesitation.

Along with the loss and reluctance, she felt a bit wronged.

"Hmm, having you to myself for an afternoon is already very satisfying," Tong Yunshu said.

Yang Fei felt somewhat remorseful; he didn't yet have the courage to openly juggle two relationships. He hastily showered, dressed, and as he left, he said to Tong Yunshu, "I will take responsibility for you."

Tong Yunshu was momentarily stunned, then her eyes welled up.

She understood Yang Fei quite well; he seldom made promises lightly. Once he did, he would strive to fulfill them.
His words showed that he held her in his heart. Her deep feelings for him had been acknowledged; it was worth it!
"Your words are enough for me," Tong Yunshu said deeply, gazing at Yang Fei.
Seeing her profound affection, Yang Fei found it hard to move his legs.
Compared to others, Tong Yunshu gave him a greater experience.
Her charm, so deeply ingrained in her very bones, captivated him beyond escape.
Overseas, in a region of Europe and America, Chinese Street.
Sun Xingyu's brows were deeply furrowed as he paced restlessly on the second floor of the antique shop.
Being of Chinese descent, his family had been striving overseas since his great-grandfather's generation boasting an extremely high status among the Chinese community in Europe and America.

As a Chinese family, the Sun Family's greatest reliance on securing a place overseas was their identity as a Martial Arts Family.

During the Mongolian Yuan era, the Sun Family had risen in the Divine Continent Martial World and held a certain status. In the late Qing Dynasty, due to offending someone powerful, the then head of the Sun Family decided to flee overseas with his family to avoid disaster, eventually taking root in Europe and America.

As one of the most distinguished youths of his generation within the Sun Family, Sun Xingyu possessed extraordinary talent and had a very high reputation in the Overseas Martial World.

Five years ago, at the age of twenty-two, he was pursued by enemies and driven to despair. Just then, a young man appeared who not only drove away his enemies but also healed his severe injuries. From then on, he became close brothers with that young man.

Lately, that young man had gathered a group of like-minded individuals to form the 'International Madman' organization and invited him to join. He found it interesting and did not refuse.

The years spent with the International Madman were the most carefree and content moments of Sun Xingyu's life.

"Sigh!"

Sun Xingyu suddenly sighed, his face showing deep helplessness.

Even though what happened a year ago was very covert, he had ultimately betrayed those brothers who had faced life and death together.

Will had died, and it might be his turn next.

"Tang, it must have been you. In the organization, other than you, no one else could have taken down Will alone. Moreover, if it weren't for your return, those brothers wouldn't have gathered together, let alone kidnapped Zhang Yunlong." Sun Xingyu muttered to himself, his gaze filled with complexity.

This time, the International Madman Organization deployed six members to act on the mission, excluding the three brothers who died in battle a year ago and the recently killed Will. Only two members did not participate.

He was one of them.



It was for this very reason that, despite Sun Xingyu being extraordinarily talented and outstanding in his generation, he had no chance of inheriting the leadership of the Sun Family.

"Have you heard about the International Madman making a comeback to the Martial Arts World?" Sun Xingwen got straight to the point.

Sun Xingyu nodded and replied, "The matter has caused such a stir, I've heard about it."

Sun Xingwen continued, "Then think carefully about where they might be hiding. Tonight, a very important dignitary will appear, seeking the whereabouts of Zhang Yunlong. This matter is of great importance. If you can help her locate the hideout of the International Madman and rescue Zhang Yunlong, it would be a great achievement for you and also very meaningful for our Sun Family, understand?"

Sun Xingyu's expression shifted slightly and he asked, "Who is she, to be so valued by our Sun Family?"

Chapter 343: Zhuge Hong Enters the World

"You don't need to know who she is, you only need to remember one thing: she is a person our Sun Family cannot afford to offend, and moreover, she is a key figure on whether our Sun Family can rise to the next level," Sun Xingwen said in a grave voice.

Sun Xingyu felt a bitterness in his heart, but he did not argue.

Although he was the favored son of the younger generation within the Sun Family, as long as his older brother was around, he would never have a chance to rise to power.

If he did not follow his older brother's arrangement, life would become very difficult for his mother and his younger sister.

For the sake of his family, he had already betrayed brotherly love and sold out his companions a year ago; now, it was impossible to turn back.

"Yes, I will do my best," Sun Xingyu said.

Sun Xingwen looked at him, walked over, patted his shoulder, and whispered, "Although you and I are brothers from the same father but different mothers, the blood that flows through our veins is still half the same, and both of us carry the surname Sun, so we have the responsibility to strive for the development of our family."

Sun Xingyu let out a chuckle, looked at Sun Xingwen, and said, "Don't worry, Big Brother, I know what to do."

Sun Xingwen smiled with satisfaction and said, "Good, you prepare yourself. I'll call you after that esteemed guest arrives tonight."

"Okay," Sun Xingyu responded.

Sun Xingwen did not say more and turned to leave.

After a moment of silence, Sun Xingyu's eyes flashed with a sharp light as he muttered to himself, "Tang, I have no way out, I'm sorry."

At eleven o'clock at night, Sun Xingyu followed his older brother, Sun Xingwen, to the airport to pick up their guest.

The guests were a man and a woman; the woman appeared to be in her early thirties, distinguished and extremely beautiful, tall and full-figured. Despite dressing like a city woman, she exuded the unique aura of an Eastern classical beauty.

A middle-aged man followed behind her.

This man seemed to be in his fifties, but his deep eyes and world-weary demeanor suggested that his actual age was probably much older.

"Miss Zhuge, welcome, you must be tired from your journey," Sun Xingwen hurried forward and reached out to the woman as he spoke.

The woman glanced at the hand Sun Xingwen extended but did not shake it; she just said indifferently, "You are Sun Xingwen?"

Sun Xingwen quickly nodded, "Sorry, I forgot to introduce myself just now, I am Sun Xingwen, who has been in contact with you. This is my blood brother, Sun Xingyu. We will do our utmost to help resolve Miss Zhuge's troubles."

The woman was indeed Zhuge Hong, born into the Zhuge aristocratic family and held an extraordinary status there.

More than a decade ago, when Zhang Yunlong went to the Hidden Sect World, she fell in love with him at first sight and has since been deeply in love.

This time around, when the news of Zhang Yunlong being abducted reached her, she became frantic and, after appealing to her family elders, she arrived in the mundane world accompanied by an uncle from her family, searching for Zhang Yunlong's whereabouts.

Zhuge Hong, anxious for Yunlong's safety, said directly after hearing Sun Xingwen's introduction, "I heard you might know the whereabouts of the 'International Madman' group. Please tell me where they are, and the Zhuge family will surely reward you handsomely in the future."

Sun Xingwen, overjoyed inside, hurriedly said to Zhuge Hong, "Miss Zhuge, please don't be anxious. We will do our best to help find their location. It's very late now, and after your long journey, I've already arranged accommodations. Why not rest for the night and proceed tomorrow?"

Zhuge Hong frowned and said, "How can the rescue be delayed? So many days have passed, and I don't know if Yunlong is still alive. I must determine his location as quickly as possible."

Seeing her urgency, Sun Xingwen felt a sinking feeling.

He had previously asked Sun Xingyu if he could think of any possible hideouts for the International Madman group. Sun Xingyu suggested a few places, but no matter where he sent people, they found nothing.

Zhuge Hong was so eager for an answer that he didn't know how to respond.

Sun Xingyu, aware of his elder brother's predicament, stepped forward and said to Zhuge Hong, "Miss Zhuge, my name is Sun Xingyu, and I was once a member of the International Madman too. I will do my utmost to help you track down the whereabouts of the International Madman. As for Mr. Zhang Yunlong's safety, forgive my frankness, but since the International Madman abducted him instead of killing him on the spot, it indicates that Mr. Zhang Yunlong still holds great value to them. Therefore, his safety should be somewhat guaranteed."

Zhuge Hong's gaze, sharp as a knife, shifted onto Sun Xingyu's face, causing a shiver in his heart as he inwardly gasped.

She was only a few years older than himself, yet her presence was so commanding, truly extraordinary.

Zhuge Hong sized up Sun Xingyu for a while and asked, "So, you are a member of the International Madman Organization?"

"To be precise, I was a member of the International Madman two years ago, but I haven't been since that upheaval two years back," said Sun Xingyu.

A look of disdain and contempt flashed through the depths of Zhuge Hong's eyes.

It seemed she held little regard for someone who betrayed his organization and sold out his companions.

Sun Xingyu, detecting that flicker of contempt in her gaze, felt a mix of shame and anger.

Betraying the organization was never his intention; he always felt guilty toward Tang, toward the brothers with whom he had shared life and death.

And now to be disdained and looked down upon, the complexity of his feelings was imaginable.

"Good, since you were once part of the International Madman, you should be quite familiar with their habits, even knowing their preferred places to lay low. Tell me, as long as we find Yunlong and successfully rescue him, I guarantee a generous reward for you," Zhuge Hong said. Despite her contempt for Sun Xingyu's betrayal of his companions, she was quite generous now that she needed his help.

Sun Xingwen, standing aside and hearing Zhuge Hong's promise to Sun Xingyu, felt a pang of jealousy quickly suppressed.

Sun Xingyu said to Zhuge Hong, "After learning that you were searching for Zhang Yunlong's whereabouts, I've already sent people to investigate the usual haunts of the International Madman, to no avail. Miss Zhuge, this matter may not be rushed. After all, I am no longer a member of the International Madman Organization, and they would probably anticipate my betrayal. Thus, those places I knew of before are unlikely to be where the International Madman would go."

Zhuge Hong's beautiful eyebrows furrowed, and she said without any politeness, "So you're saying that you're actually useless?"

Sun Xingyu's mouth twitched.

This woman's words were too direct, too hurtful.

Worried that Zhuge Hong might get angry, Sun Xingwen quickly interjected, "Miss Zhuge, please be patient. My younger brother will definitely help you find those bastards, but it's going to take time."

With that, he hurriedly signaled Sun Xingyu with his eyes.

Sighing inwardly, Sun Xingyu knew his elder brother placed great importance on being able to help, and after some thought, he said, "To my knowledge, Tang owns two private islands overseas, but their exact locations are unknown to us, the members of the International Madman. If I'm not mistaken, the International Madman's recent reemergence and their hiding place after abducting Zhang Yunlong are likely one of these two private islands."

Zhuge Hong's eyes lit up, then dimmed again, "You don't know the locations, so what you're saying is useless."

Sun Xingyu snorted, "At least I know approximately when Tang acquired these two private islands. By investigating the records left in the private island auction market, we can pinpoint the locations of these islands."

Zhuge Hong and Sun Xingwen both showed signs of delight. Sun Xingwen patted Sun Xingyu on the shoulder and laughed, "There you go. Miss Zhuge, we will lock down the target's location as quickly as possible. It's not advisable to discuss this here; shall we find somewhere else to continue?"

Zhuge Hong shook her head, "Let's start the investigation immediately; I want the locations of these two islands locked down by tonight."

Seeing her urgency, Sun Xingwen couldn't help but internally remark.

This woman is crazy for a man.

At the same time, he envied Zhang Yunlong — that guy was truly fortunate to have a woman like this worrying about him!

Chapter 344: Disaster Strikes from the Sky While on a Plane

On a privately-owned island, Li Xuanyu had been staying there with five other members of the Madman Organization for a week.

The island was vast, home to an expansive villa with numerous supplies and even some leisure and entertainment facilities, ensuring that living here would not be boring.

In the early hours of the morning, around four o'clock, Jones and his comrade Jamie were playing games in the monitoring room when suddenly an alarm sounded.

Their pupils shrank, and after exchanging a glance, they immediately pulled up the surveillance feed on the computer.
A red dot appeared within the radar's detectable range above the island, steadily moving closer.
"Notify Second Sister immediately, there's a situation," Jones said right away.
Jamie dashed out, and moments later Li Xuanyu and the others gathered together with grave expressions.
"At this speed, it should be a helicopter. It will arrive in no more than five minutes," Jones reported.
Jie Er asked, "Second Sister, could it be Boss Tang?"
Li Xuanyu shook her head and said, "No, if Boss Tang was coming, he would've informed us beforehand. He wouldn't just appear out of nowhere like this."
"Right, it's likely we've been discovered."
"Do we move our position?"
"Check to see if there are any other cruise ships or similar approaching on the sea, to confirm if it's just this helicopter appearing."
The group thought clearly and analyzed decisively.
Two of them even geared up for battle.
Jones activated the island's radar system, and after scanning in all directions, he said, "There's nothing

unusual on the sea, only this helicopter approaching in the sky, Second Sister, what should we do?"

A fierce light flashed in Li Xuanyu's eyes as she said without hesitation, "Take it down."

"GO! GO! GO!"

Jamie and Jie Er yelled excitedly, rushing out of the monitoring room at great speed towards an underground base.

Upon opening the base's door and entering, they activated the base's defense system.

If outsiders were here, they would be shocked, for this small privately-owned island was actually equipped with an anti-air missile system.

"It must be that kid from the Sun Family who sold us out," Jie Er said with a grim face.

Jamie nodded and said, "That's right. Will has already been taken care of by Tang. Only the one from the Sun Family knows that Boss Tang owns two private islands, and he must've found out about this place."

"Let's kill him. If it weren't for his and Will's betrayal of our organization a year ago, we wouldn't have lost those three brothers."

As they talked, their actions didn't slow down, and soon they had the anti-air missile system up and running. After obtaining launch authority and entering the password, the missiles locked onto a specific area in the sky, waiting for the target to appear.

Meanwhile, Li Xuanyu, Jones, Wang Lei, and Umekawa Taro were also fully armed with modern weapons and melee arms, entering combat-ready status.

"Messing with me was your biggest mistake. Do you know my status in Sky Net? Or how powerful the backing I have is? Wouldn't it have been better for you dissolve after being encircled a year ago, rather than regathering to seek your own deaths?"

Barely clinging to life and his body controlled by toxins, Zhang Yunlong, who couldn't use any of his cultivation, sneered as he watched Li Xuanyu and the others get ready for battle. Umekawa Taro showed no mercy, smashing Zhang Yunlong's face with the butt of his gun, immediately causing a bloody gash to form. Zhang Yunlong's eyes held a venomous glare as he said to Umekawa, "I'll remember you!" Umekawa Taro cracked a smile and slapped him twice, "I have to admire your toughness. After all this time you can still talk tough. Impressive." "Second Sister, the target has entered range, please give your instruction!" Jie Er's voice came through the walkie-talkie. Li Xuanyu said, "Lock the target, let's see how close it gets first." "It's already locked, we can take it down anytime," Jie Er said confidently. Li Xuanyu grunted, but said nothing. After a tense wait of about a minute, the whirring sound of a helicopter grew louder as it approached, the bright lights visible in the sky. "Fire!" Following Li Xuanyu's command, the silent island erupted with a thunderous boom.

The next instant, a streak of flame shot up from somewhere on the island, locking onto the helicopter in the sky with astonishing speed and streaking towards it.

The island trembled slightly.

In the sky, aboard the helicopter.
Beside the pilot flying the helicopter, there were a dozen other people in the cabin.
Zhuge Hong sat together with an uncle from her clan.
Opposite them was Sun Xingyu with twelve special team members cultivated by the Sun Family.
This team was not only skilled in using various modern weapons and equipment, but each member was also a Martial Artist with strong individual combat capabilities. They were the elite of the elite among mercenaries and constituted the backbone of the Sun Family's strength.
As the helicopter discovered the island and continued to approach, Sun Xingyu thought of Boss Tang's way of doing things and couldn't help but look grave as he suggested, "Miss Zhuge, should we land on the sea and quietly board the island before carrying out a surprise search and rescue operation?"
Zhuge Hong shook her head, "That's too much trouble, just land directly on the island, and don't worry about anything else."
After speaking, her face beamed with strong confidence.
As long as she found Zhang Yunlong's whereabouts, no matter who the enemy was, she was confident she could rescue him.
"Buzz!"
Suddenly, a sharp whizzing sound reached the ears of everyone in the plane.
Zhuge Hong and the uncle beside her were the first to hear this sound.

Sun Xingyu was the third.

His face changed dramatically, his pupils shrank sharply, and he yelled loudly, "Be careful!"

At the same time, the pilot controlling the helicopter shouted a warning, "Damn it, there is an anti-air missile system on the path!"

Amidst his words, the pilot, unflinched by the crisis, quickly launched countermeasures with the aircraft's weapons.

However, although the helicopter was a military model purchased by the Sun Family, the weapons it carried were not particularly advanced and failed to intercept the incoming anti-air missile.

The only consolation was that the pilot's superb flying skills allowed the aircraft to dodge the first missile attack.

But as more whizzing sounds came continually, Sun Xingyu felt his scalp tingle.

Zhuge Hong and her clan uncle were also on high alert, their bodies emanating a field of Protective Gang Qi invisible to the naked eye, ready for any unforeseen incidents.

"Open the cabin door!" Sun Xingyu roared.

The pilot obeyed the command.

Sun Xingyu said to Zhuge Hong, "Miss Zhuge, we should jump into the sea and board the island. It's no longer safe here."

Without waiting for Zhuge Hong's agreement, he grabbed his gear and rushed out of the cabin, disappearing into the vast night.

The uncle from the Zhuge family had a flash of sharpness in his eyes but showed a hint of panic on his face.

Belonging to the Hidden Sect World, although he was a lofty Cultivator, he had heard that the technology wielded by the Mortal World was incredibly powerful, and high-energy weapons were sufficient to kill even strong Martial Artists like them.

But he couldn't swim, and the thought of jumping from such a height terrified him.

Zhuge Hong, however, was very decisive. She pulled on her uncle's arm and said, "Listen to him!"

With that, she rushed forward.

At the same time, the members of the Sun Family's elite team on the helicopter who reacted quickly also jumped out of the cabin.

Just after leaping out, Zhuge Hong saw a light flash before her eyes.

In the dark void, a dazzling burst of light suddenly exploded.

"Boom!!!"

The next moment, a huge explosion resounded above.

Her expression drastically changed as she hurriedly looked up only to see the helicopter engulfed in a massive fireball. The terrifying explosion's shockwave, carrying a multitude of fragments, surged in all directions.

Chapter 345: Heavy Losses

"Ah!"

The piercing scream wafted through the air only after the massive explosion.

The helicopter, as well as the Sun Family elites inside who had no chance to escape, were obliterated on the spot.

Others who jumped from the plane but were still relatively close to it were either swallowed by the flames of the explosion or killed by the shockwave. High in the sky, one could see a person engulfed in flames, screaming and struggling in midair.

Zhuge Hong and her clan uncle were not far from the exploding plane, but they had been cautious beforehand. Under the protection of their powerful Protective Gang Qi, the violent shockwave acted like an invisible gust, pushing them further down faster without causing any actual damage besides ringing in their ears.

Upon seeing the Sun Family guard above her, engulfed in flames and emitting a piercing scream, a hint of lingering fear crossed Zhuge Hong's beautiful face. But in the next instant, her expression turned to one of immense anger.

If it weren't for Sun Xingyu's early prediction, instructing her to jump from the plane, she and her clan uncle would likely have perished in the explosion.

International Madman, you really deserve to die!

With old grievances and new, Zhuge Hong now thoroughly hated the International Madman.

"Hong'er, open the parachute," her Clan Uncle Zhuge Wei said with a grim face. His voice, powered by deep True Qi, reminded Zhuge Hong.

The helicopter was a good two hundred meters above the sea. Falling from such a height, even into the sea, would subject them to a huge reactive force from the surface tension. Despite being Martial Arts experts, there was a risk involved.

Although Zhuge Hong was from the Hidden Sect World, fortunately she was acquainted with Zhang Yunlong, who helped her understand many modern things, including a briefing on parachute usage by the pilot before boarding the plane.

Although it was their first time using parachutes, both Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong, with their strong mental states, managed to successfully open the parachutes amid the crisis.

In the pitch-black night sky, the parachutes were white, but hard to spot without any light.

With murderous intent in her eyes, Zhuge Hong said, "Clan Uncle, as soon as we confirm Yunlong's safety, we'll go on a killing spree."

Zhuge Wei's face remained somber as he nodded and said, "Mm, to think we almost capsized in the gutter, to die at the hands of a bunch of nobodies; it would be embarrassing if word got out. No one on this island will live to see another day."

As they spoke, suddenly a dazzling light appeared in the sky, so intense that they could barely keep their eyes open.

"Da-da-da..."

Right after the sudden appearance of the bright light, dense gunfire erupted crazily.

High in the sky, Sun Xingyu's heart sank the moment the bright light appeared. He exclaimed, "It's a flashbang—bad news, they're about to attack, everybody be..."

He hadn't finished speaking when bullets whizzed through the air.

Sun Xingyu's eyes flashed with determination and ruthlessness, without any hesitation, he decisively cut off his parachute and immediately began to plummet, falling towards the sea.

Having some understanding of the members of the International Madman Organization, Sun Xingyu knew that with anti-aircraft missiles and heavy machine guns on the island, they were sitting ducks in the sky.
This was going to be a tough battle.
Even if Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong's combat power was formidable, they could still perish by modern weapons.
If these two were to die, his mission would be utterly ruined.
The Sun Family might even face the wrath of the Zhuge family.
At this moment, a million frustrations ran through Sun Xingyu's mind.
How did he end up in such a mess?
He could only pray that Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong would not become living targets and die here.
Elsewhere, Zhuge Hong and Zhuge Wei, high in the sky, felt the constant barrage of stray bullets and sensed a huge crisis.
While the Protective Gang Qi enveloped their bodies, both brandished bladed weapons, catching the incoming bullets with their keen senses, then swinging their swords to intercept.
"Ding ding dang dang"
A series of sharp, irritating noises spread, and the two deflected a sweep of bullets, but their expressions were grave.

Because the power of the bullets was extraordinary, certainly not comparable to the power of a handgun.

As powerful fighters, they would not be afraid of ordinary bullets if they were prepared, but the sheer number of bullets, combined with the assault of heavy caliber ammunition, still posed a huge threat to them; merely cleaving through one wave of bullets had caused their arms to go numb.

"We can't stay, we must jump into the sea, or we'll become living targets!" Zhuge Hong said decisively.

She swung her treasure sword, severing the ropes of the parachute behind her, and plummeted toward the sea.

Zhuge Wei did the same.

Indeed, as they freed themselves from the constraints of the parachutes and sped up, the targets in the enemy's line of sight on the ground shrank and became difficult to lock on to, drastically reducing the threat to them.

However, the other elites from the Sun family were not so fortunate.

Two were riddled with bullets on the spot, and two others were injured.

Twelve elites had been killed by an explosion on the plane, and now two more were lost, with another two severely injured; the losses were devastating.

Soon, Zhuge Hong and Zhuge Wei fell into the ocean.

Although the parachutes had slowed them down and they had descended to just over a hundred meters above sea level, such a high jump still resulted in a massive impact from the sea's tension, causing even these highly cultivated individuals to suffer chest tightness and slight internal injuries.

Sun Xingyu, by comparison, was more experienced and used his True Yuan to throw his backpack into the sea to break the surface just before crashing into it, thus reducing the force of impact and avoiding injury.

But the other elite fighters from the Sun family weren't as quick to react, and because their Cultivation Realms were too low, they all sustained serious injuries after hitting the water, and were fortunate to survive at all; but they were no longer capable of attacking the island.

That is to say, of the team on this mission, besides Zhuge Wei, Zhuge Hong, and Sun Xingyu, the others were either dead or injured and all had lost their ability to fight.

And facing the island, equipped with countless modern Hot Weapons of the International Madman Organization, and still having to rescue Zhang Yunlong, was akin to an impossible task only found in Hell.

Fortunately, after crashing into the sea, perhaps due to the lack of sight and angle, the weapons on the island did not continue to attack those in the water.

Soon, Zhuge Wei spotted Sun Xingyu's position, and he and Zhuge Hong quickly swam over. After regrouping, Sun Xingyu said solemnly, "You both see the situation, we've suffered great losses before even landing on the island. They possess devastating weapons, now we might not even be able to land, let alone rescue anyone. We need to call for backup."

Zhuge Hong's eyes flashed with cold determination, shaking her head decisively, "It's too late. They will definitely retreat with Yunlong. It will be even harder to find them later, we must attack now."

Sun Xingyu silently cursed, but he had no choice but to grit his teeth and turn to Zhuge Wei, "Senior, what do you think?

Women in love are terribly frightening. He could only turn to someone stable and calm for discussion.

However, to Sun Xingyu's surprise, Zhuge Wei, too, wore a face full of murderous intent and said furiously, "They've lost our target. If we sneak onto the land, we can annihilate them all in close combat."

Sun Xingyu's heart raced furiously, cursing the ancestors of these two countless times internally.

But seeing their determined gazes, as if they would not rest until Zhang Yunlong was rescued, he realized persuasion was futile and steeled his heart, saying, "Alright, I will follow your lead."

"Let's go, swim over first. Once on the island, it will be our domain." Zhuge Wei said, leading the way as he quickly swam towards the island.

Chapter 346: Close Quarters Combat

On the island, Jie Er and Jamie watched through the underground control room's radar scanning equipment as the helicopter was destroyed, and both revealed satisfied smiles simultaneously.

Then the two of them put on their gear and went outside to meet up with Li Xuanyu and the others.

On the ground, the heavy machine guns, aided by the light of flares, locked onto the figures hanging by parachutes in the sky and opened fire ruthlessly.

The enemy hadn't even landed on the island yet, and more than half were taken out, with every member of the Madman Organization exuding great confidence, but no one let their guard down.

Li Xuanyu instructed, "Among those who just landed, there should still be a few alive, find them and eliminate them as quickly as possible, then we need to retreat from this place."

Umekawa Taro said to Li Xuanyu, "Sister, Jamie, Wang Lei, and I will take care of those people; you lead Jie Er and Jones to retreat first."

Li Xuanyu shook her head, "If we leave, we leave together, I can't abandon any comrades, we share life and death!"

Everyone was moved, feeling a surge of passion.

This is the real Madman Organization.

In the past, no matter how difficult the task or what adversity faced, Boss Tang never abandoned any members, even often staying behind to take the most dangerous position for himself.

Now, although Boss Tang was not here, Sister was making an effort to implement Boss Tang's style, maintaining the original intentions of the International Madman Organization.

"OK! If we leave, we leave together; if we die, we die together. Let's clean up these intruders first and see who actually found this place," Jones said.

The six were of one mind, with Wang Lei and Umekawa Taro leading Zhang Yunlong, while the other four took the lead, searching in the direction where the few surviving parachute figures had landed from the sky.

Near the coast, Jie Er fired a flare into the sky.

With the dazzling light, everyone's eyes were sharp as they scanned the sea surface, but found nothing.

"Could they all be dead?" Jamie wondered.

"It's possible, after all, falling from such a height, the water's surface tension is enormous, under normal circumstances, no one could survive."

"But, these people who dared to come here must all be elite experts, they wouldn't die so easily on the sea surface."

"Hmm, everyone be careful, they might have already landed on the island."

There was a flurry of discussion amongst them.

Li Xuanyu felt her eyelids twitch, an ominous feeling arose.

She turned vigilant and said solemnly, "It doesn't matter, we need to evacuate from here first."
No one objected to her command.
Not knowing who the invaders were, they also didn't harbor too many feelings of hatred.
With Boss Tang absent, Sister was the highest in command, and her word was law.
According to Li Xuanyu's plan, everyone headed together towards the port of retreat.
There, a yacht loaded with abundant life resources and fuel was prepared, as they had made arrangements for immediate withdrawal upon landing on the island.
"The game has just begun. Up next, you'll profoundly experience what Divine Continent Country's old saying means: 'There is no place on earth to stand.' " Zhang Yunlong, being held captive, suddenly burst out laughing loudly.
He believed that it was Sky Net's forces in motion to rescue him.
Moreover, he trusted that his grandfather would not give up on him.
"Smack!" Jie Er slapped the back of Zhang Yunlong's head, angrily saying, "Shut up. Even if Sky Net doesn't have the capacity to catch us, what does it matter if they discover our whereabouts? To battle with us, the International Madman, Sky Net is not qualified."
Jamie laughed, "Moreover, if we truly have no place to stand, you, Zhang Yunlong, will definitely die before we do."
Zhang Yunlong's heart sank.

Now that he could not summon his True Qi, he was essentially a useless person, and these members of the International Madman Organization were all top-notch experts. Among them, even at his prime, he might not be able to defeat two in single combat.

Moreover, not only was their Combat Power strong, but they also excelled at using various modern Hot Weapons, and knew how to coordinate in combat teamwork.

Though there were only six of them, when they came together, they were like an invincible force, difficult to handle.

Suddenly, while walking at the rear, Wang Lei and Umekawa Taro felt a surge of alertness and simultaneously looked back.

Two figures, like ghosts, flashed from behind and rushed forward at lightning speed.

"Be careful!"

Wang Lei let out a low roar of warning and at the same time, he and Umekawa Taro both rushed forward to meet those two shadowy figures.

"Thump thump!"

Two muffled sounds rang out, as both Umekawa Taro and Wang Lei were sent flying back, thankfully caught and supported by Jamie and Jie Er.

At the same time, the movement of the two shadowy figures that had rushed over was also halted, pausing for a moment.

"Ratatat!!"

Jamie lifted his muzzle and unleashed a barrage of gunfire.

The muzzle spewed out flames over half a meter long in the night, and bullets whizzed through the air; the two shadowy figures wielded their blades, creating a non-stop clinking sound, unexpectedly forced back by Jamie's gun.

Li Xuanyu and Jones approached Umekawa Taro and Wang Lei with solemn expressions. Both men looked pale and serious, especially Umekawa Taro, from whose mouth spilled a trickle of fresh blood, clearly having suffered internal injuries.

Everyone was shocked.

Wang Lei and Umekawa Taro were among those with top combat power within the International Madman Organization.

In terms of individual combat strength, these two were the strongest among the current six.

Li Xuanyu even remembered that Yang Fei once told her that Wang Lei's strength was unfathomable and that he was the most powerful in the team after Yang Fei himself.

But now, even Wang Lei's complexion was pale, his breath slightly disturbed.

It was clear how formidable the two attackers were.

"Kill them!" shouted Li Xuanyu, shocked and enraged.

Since that previous catastrophe, every member of the International Madman Organization was incredibly precious, and just a moment ago they had almost lost two companions; Li Xuanyu was furious.

"Ratatat!!"

In fact, without the need for Li Xuanyu's order, the rest had already lifted their muzzles and fired at the two assailants.

The attackers were none other than Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong.

The two of them swung their blades, fending off all the bullets, but as the rest of the International Madman Organization unscrupulously opened fire at the same time, the two couldn't block the dense flurry of bullets and some hit them.

Even though they were wearing bulletproof vests and were protected by Protective Gang Qi, they could barely withstand the impact of the bullets and had to dodge and distance themselves to escape.

Seeing the two escape and flee far away, Li Xuanyu and the others were also struck with shock.

These two were formidable.

To be able to slice through so many bullets with just blades, and after taking countless hits, to still be unharmed and successfully retreat, was truly awesome.

As the two disappeared within shooting range, the gunfire fell silent.

Li Xuanyu suddenly walked over to Zhang Yunlong, kicked him to the ground, pulled out a delicate handgun, and pressing it against the back of Zhang Yunlong's head, she shouted in the direction the two had disappeared, "Are you here to rescue him?"

"Yunlong!"

In the darkness, seeing Zhang Yunlong humiliated and with a gun to his head, where his life was in danger at any moment, Zhuge Hong was scared out of her wits and let out a loud cry.

Hearing their language of Divine Continent Country, Li Xuanyu and the others were all taken aback.

At the same time, a glint of light flashed in Zhang Yunlong's eyes and with an expression of great joy, he said, "Sister Hong, is that you? You... you came to rescue me personally?"

"Yes, Brother Long, don't worry, I'll definitely get you out, you'll be fine," Zhuge Hong shouted back. Zhang Yunlong laughed loudly, "Yes, I'm fine, they wouldn't dare touch me." "Bang!" A gunshot abruptly cut off Zhang Yunlong's words. Zhang Yunlong then let out a cry of agony. Li Xuanyu had shifted her gun, and with one shot, she had pierced through Zhang Yunlong's right thigh. "They wouldn't dare touch you?" Li Xuanyu's mouth curved into a sneer, jabbing the gun's muzzle hard against the back of Zhang Yunlong's head twice as she said with a laugh, "Try being arrogant again, I dare you." Chapter 347: Retreat and Destruction "Bastard, stop right there, if you dare to hurt my Brother Long, I, Zhuge Hong, swear that I will tear you into a thousand pieces," Zhuge Hong charged out from the darkness, yet still maintained a safe distance, glaring at Li Xuanyu with venom in her eyes. Zhuge Wei also stepped out. At the same time, Sun Xingyu, who had never shown himself before, was also compelled to step out of the shadows to show his firm support for Zhuge Hong. He stood behind Zhuge Hong and Zhuge Wei, eyeing Li Xuanyu and her companions, and upon seeing they were still in the same disguises as when they had last met, a sense of familiarity welled up within him.

However, he did not expose their identities, choosing instead to silently follow behind the two members

of the Zhuge family.

Unless absolutely necessary, Sun Xingyu did not want to reveal his true identity to the members of International Madman.

Given these people's current way of doing things, once they knew his real identity, he would never have a day of peace.

At Li Xuanyu's side, Wang Lei and Umekawa Taro were slightly injured, standing by her side as guards.

Jones, Jie Er, and Jamie were positioned in the front, all holding weapons, ready for battle.

However, due to their previous encounters, they knew that although their weapons could threaten the other party, they were unlikely to kill them, so they did not shoot.

Li Xuanyu's eyes narrowed slightly; the night was too dim for her to make out the faces of the others, but judging by their silhouettes and the voices that had just spoken, she could tell they were two men and one woman, and the woman who had spoken clearly had an extraordinary relationship with Zhang Yunlong and was apparently the leader.

"I really hate it when people threaten me," Li Xuanyu said as she moved the gun barrel and fired another shot at Zhang Yunlong's leg, which had just been shot through.

Bang!

Blood splattered.

Zhang Yunlong's leg had now been pierced twice by gunshots, causing him so much pain that he grimaced and broke out into a cold sweat.

Right now, his True Yuan was suppressed, and he was poisoned, making him less capable than an ordinary person; he was unable to use True Yuan to control the acupoints around the wound and could not achieve any pain-relieving effects.

Zhuge Hong, furious and frustrated, leapt up and shouted, "Ah... you, you bastard, you're asking for death!"

Li Xuanyu's mouth curled up in a smile, "Does it hurt to see this?"

Zhuge Hong took a deep breath, struggling to remain calm, and said to Li Xuanyu, "Tell me, what do you want? As long as you let Brother Long go, I can forgive and forget, and moreover, I can give you anything you desire."

Li Xuanyu chuckled, "Wow, quite the boast there. Are you a god, able to grant us anything we desire? Hahaha, you sure talk big."

Zhuge Hong hurriedly said, "I mean it; as long as you don't harm Brother Long, I can agree to any terms."

Li Xuanyu shook her head, "Sorry, but I can't make that decision. Zhang Yunlong is an important member of Sky Net, and we need to get some information from him. But he's a tough nut to crack, so we'll have to take our time. Until we get the information we want, he's going to have to stay with us."

Zhuge Hong became agitated, turning to Zhang Yunlong, "Brother Long, just agree to them. As long as you tell them what they want to know, they will let you go."

Zhang Yunlong was at a loss for words.

F*cking hell, are you brain-dead?

Do you actually believe what these people say?

But he knew that this woman, having grown up in the Hidden Sect World since childhood, was relatively naive and was now relying on the fact that she posed a certain threat to International Madman, believing that as long as she complied with Li Xuanyu's demands, they would let him go to avoid further trouble.

"It's no use, Sister Hong. In this situation, even if I told them everything, they wouldn't let me go," Zhang Yunlong patiently explained.

Zhuge Hong became increasingly anxious, staring at Li Xuanyu, "Do you keep your word?"

Li Xuanyu burst out laughing, finding the woman's naivete somewhat adorable.

She shook her head with a smile, "Silly girl, your man is right; how could we possibly let him go now?"

Zhuge Hong fumed, "You dare deceive me?"

Li Xuanyu pressed the gun against Zhang Yunlong's head.

Zhuge Hong, although extremely angry, didn't want to risk hitting the hostage and immediately deflated.

At this time, Zhuge Wei stepped forward, his gaze somber as he swept over Li Xuanyu and the others, and said in a deep voice, "Ladies and gentlemen, it is better to resolve enmities than to perpetuate them. I can assure you that as long as you do not harm him, our Zhuge family will let bygones be bygones. However, if you harm his life, no matter how powerful your backing is, I can guarantee that our Zhuge family, no matter the risks or dangers, will track every single one of you down, and even make your family members pay a heavy price."

A strange look flashed in Wang Lei's eyes, and he couldn't help but snort coldly, "What a bold statement."

Umekawa Taro also couldn't help saying, "Right, the hostage is in our hands, yet they're still so assertive, quite impressive indeed."

"Sister, why don't we just kill Zhang Yunlong? I want to see how they could make us pay," Jamie grumbled discontentedly.

Although Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong had just displayed formidable combat capabilities, they were still somewhat wary of submachine guns. Faced with six guns, they couldn't get close and could only watch helplessly.

The current situation was such that neither side could do anything to the other.

Moreover, Zhuge Hong's side was concerned about injuring Zhang Yunlong.

Though Li Xuanyu and her people intended to kill Zhuge Hong and the other two, those three were too strong to be easily assassinated, and with their private island already exposed, they could only move their base.

"Now, you have two options. Either I kill him and then retreat, or you back off and watch us leave," Li Xuanyu, worried about potential reinforcements from the other side and unwilling to waste time, said to Zhuge Hong with a firm tone.

After saying this, a terrifying intent to kill emanated from her.

Zhuge Hong's heart trembled, her expression greatly changed, and she said in a hurry, "Don't, don't kill him, I'll listen to you."

Having said that, she was the first to retreat.

Zhuge Wei sighed helplessly and followed with a dark expression, while Sun Xingyu naturally preferred to avoid any further conflict and hurriedly followed suit.

Li Xuanyu smiled, "That's more like it. It was a pleasure meeting you, I think we're bound to see each other again in the future."

After saying this, she turned and walked away.

Wang Lei and Umekawa Taro flanked Zhang Yunlong in the middle and followed behind her.

Jie Er, Jamie, and Jones stayed behind to cover the rear, wary of a potential ambush from Zhuge Hong and her companions.

As International Madman's people retreated, Zhuge Hong and her two companions followed suit slowly and cautiously.

Zhuge Hong continuously sent messages to Zhuge Wei, urging him to come up with a plan, but Zhuge Wei's face was clouded with no solution at hand.

He was an elder of Zhuge Hong, but part of a collateral branch in the Zhuge family, and although his strength was slightly better than Zhuge Hong's, it wasn't by much, so he had no choice but to follow orders.

But in the current situation, it was difficult for even a more powerful member of their family to handle, let alone the three of them, since the six on the other side were not easy to deal with and they also had to ensure that Zhang Yunlong was rescued alive.

Eventually, Li Xuanyu and her party successfully boarded the yacht.

Watching the yacht start up and gradually disappear into the vast ocean, Zhuge Hong felt extremely anxious inside, but there was nothing she could do.

"Brother Long, rest assured, I will definitely rescue you," Zhuge Hong called out loud with her deep True Yuan.

On the yacht, Li Xuanyu heard Zhuge Hong's voice and smiled slightly, saying, "You better focus on staying alive first."

Her words had just finished when Jones revealed a sinister smile and pulled out a remote control, pressing the red button.

Zhang Yunlong's pupils suddenly contracted as he quickly looked back.

A dazzling flame shot up into the sky.
Boom!
An enormous explosion followed.
In Zhang Yunlong's view, the terrifying flames engulfed and enveloped the entire island. The unknown quantity of explosives buried underneath was detonated, and the entire private island was instantly destroyed
Chapter 348: Vigilance
Over the vast sea, the dazzling explosion seemed to tear apart the last darkness before dawn.
When the light from the explosion dissipated, the sky revealed a pale white, with the morning light just starting to appear.
The private island had been bombed into rubble, with all buildings and equipment destroyed. Trees on the island were swept up by the fiery blast, burning fiercely and crackling loudly. Amidst the rolling thick smoke, a pungent, unpleasant burnt smell spread everywhere.
Not far from the island, three heads suddenly popped up in the sea.
"Bastards!"
"Don't let me catch you guys!"
Zhuge Hong's face was pale, and she was severely injured. After surfacing, she clenched her teeth in anger, cursing incessantly.

Zhuge Wei's clothes were tattered, and a significant portion of his hair had been burned away, revealing a conspicuous scar on the back of his head.

His expression was gloomy, his eyes filled with deep resentment, and he grunted without speaking.

Sun Xingyu was in the best condition.

He was somewhat familiar with the modus operandi of the International Madman Organization, so when Li Xuanyu and others left on a yacht, he did not take it lightly and made necessary preparations.

As expected, there was an explosion.

The sheer magnitude of the explosion was beyond his expectations, but since he was prepared, he immediately jumped into the sea and dived frantically away from the island.

Although Sun Xingyu had been mentally prepared for this operation, the initial massive losses and subsequently being led around by the enemy, leaving both Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong in such a sorry state, was beyond his expectations.

Fortunately, both were alive. As for the other losses, the Sun Family could still afford them.

By contrast, Zhuge Wei and Zhuge Hong were much more distressed.

Both felt it was a lifelong humiliation.

As experts of the Zhuge family, when had they ever suffered such humiliation?

This time, not only did their rescue mission fail, but they were also constantly threatened and constrained by the enemy. Except for a brief confrontation at the beginning, they hardly had a chance to use their martial arts skills and were directly intimidated by modern weapons.

It was extremely frustrating.

"Cough, cough, the two of you, let's think of a way to leave here first. This is international waters, and it would be too hard to swim back," Sun Xingyu knew they felt frustrated, but he had to brace himself to speak about the current difficulty.

Zhuge Wei grunted, "Let's go back to the island first. There are trees on the island, which can be used to make a raft."

Zhuge Hong also suppressed the anger and frustration in her heart and said sternly, "Yes, let's leave this place first before settling scores."

...

Due to the time difference, when Yang Fei received the message from Li Xuanyu, he had just finished being intimate with Tong Yunshu.

Looking at the content of the messages, Yang Fei twitched his lips, feeling a pang of agony.

Seeing his expression, Tong Yunshu couldn't help but worry and asked, "What's wrong?"

Yang Fei took a deep breath and said with a bitter smile, "A bunch of wastrels, causing me heavy losses."

That private island had initially cost him a great deal of effort to buy, not to mention its value of 740 million USD. He had also invested over a hundred million more in the island and managed to acquire anti-aircraft missile equipment that couldn't be bought on the market.

That island was supposed to be Yang Fei's retirement spot, but now it had been leveled to the ground.

Although the island still existed and belonged to him, the items on it were too valuable. To rebuild and replace that defense system would require more than just money; he would also need to shamelessly ask others for help.

As much as it pained his heart, as long as his brothers got out safely, Yang Fei was still very happy.

"We'll proceed with Plan B. That place should no longer be easily discovered. Among those three people, the one who didn't speak must be Old Sun," Yang Fei sent a message back to Li Xuanyu.

"It really is him! Hmph, if I find out his identity, I definitely won't let him go," Li Xuanyu replied.

Yang Fei's expression also darkened.

Old Sun was Sun Xingyu's codename within the International Madman Organization, and although others didn't know the details about Sun Xingyu, Yang Fei had a better understanding.

Initially, he had saved him, and the two, sharing a similar distaste, became close friends. Later, when forming the International Madman, Sun Xingyu gladly joined, and everyone had a great time.

He hadn't expected him to become one of those who had betrayed him.

"I will go find him personally," Yang Fei composed a message and sent it, saying, "You guys be careful on your own and keep a close watch on Zhang Yunlong, he is still of great use to me."

"Alright, then we'll hide for a bit longer. Tang, you need to speed up your recovery, we are all waiting for your return to continue our glory."

"Soon!" Yang Fei replied.

Putting down his phone, Yang Fei lit a cigarette for after the event, puffing smoke into the air.

Tong Yunshu was smart enough not to meddle, simply lying quietly in his arms.

"We won't see each other for a while now," Yang Fei said to Tong Yunshu after a moment. Tong Yunshu's body stiffened noticeably, and after a moment, she looked up at Yang Fei and asked, "Did your wife find out something?" She was thinking about the expression on Yang Fei's face when he was sending the message, suspecting that Qin Yanyang had learned about her affair with Yang Fei. Yang Fei was startled, then laughed and said, "No, what are you thinking? I have other matters to attend to and need to be cautious—for your sake." Tong Yunshu also breathed a sigh of relief. She didn't know why she felt this way. She had always been brave, considering herself no less than Qin Yanyang, even constantly thinking about confronting Qin Yanyang to move their relationship from the shadows to the light. But just now, the thought of Qin Yanyang discovering her affair with Yang Fei made her visibly worried. Is this the mindset of "the other woman"? An innate fear of the legitimate partner. Tong Yunshu felt a wave of bitterness and laughed at herself internally. "Alright, I'll listen to you on everything. As for me, don't worry, I have my own means of protection now," Tong Yunshu said with a radiant smile. Yang Fei also smiled.

Tong Yunshu had been working hard on her cultivation. Perhaps it was the miraculous effect of the Great Yellow Court, or maybe she had some natural talent in this area, but either way, the True Yuan in her body had been increasing rapidly. Also, through their conversations, Yang Fei realized that her understanding of the laws of Martial Arts power far exceeded many experts in the Late Stage of the Energy Transformation Realm.

He believed it wouldn't be long before Tong Yunshu could inherit the Great Yellow Court from Tong Yan. Moreover, given her young age, she was bound to surpass Tong Yan's limits, securing the Tong Family's future. Tong Yan would rest in peace knowing this.

Perhaps because Yang Fei said they should not see each other for some time recently, Tong Yunshu turned over, climbing on top of him

An hour later, Tong Yunshu was exhausted from their activities.

Yang Fei rested for a while, took a shower to wash off the scent, and smoked two more cigarettes. Seeing that Tong Yunshu was sound asleep, he grinned, humming a tune as he left alone.

After resting during this period, in another month, he should be able to return to his peak combat power.

By then, even if Zhang Wenfeng reappeared, he alone could resist him. If together with Qin Yanyang, he was even more confident of keeping him around.

Zhuge Hong managed to find that private island this time, showing the considerable influence of the Zhuge family. This woman, whom Wang Hui called "love-brained," having lost track of Zhang Yunlong, will definitely come looking for him.

So in the coming time, he needed to be cautious in handling situations, staying as much as possible with Qin Yanyang to avoid being targeted by Zhuge Hong when alone.

Chapter 349: People Who Love to Read, Understand More

Qin Yanyang came home from work in the evening. At dinner, Yang Fei mentioned something about Zhuge Hong.

Qin Yanyang frowned slightly and said, "Are you suggesting that Zhuge Hong might come looking for you to cause trouble?"

Yang Fei nodded and said, "Wang Hui said that Zhuge Hong is passionately romantic. She and Zhang Yunlong have been married for a long time, and their relationship is very deep. Since Zhang Yunlong was abducted, if Zhuge Hong cannot find Zhang Yunlong's whereabouts, she will definitely come looking for me."

A strange color flashed in Qin Yanyang's eyes as she looked at Yang Fei and said, "Why would she come looking for you? Could it be that you really had someone abduct Zhang Yunlong?"

Seeing her piercing gaze filled with suspicion, Yang Fei couldn't help but smile secretly to himself.

With a nonchalant demeanor, he said, "This is what Wang Hui speculated. The True Qi I left in his body acted up, he couldn't control it, and came to me for help. Perhaps to please me, he told me about the relationship between Zhuge Hong and Zhang Yunlong. He analyzed that Zhang Yunlong was abducted on the day I dueled with Zhang Yunqing, which is too much of a coincidence. If Zhuge Hong can't find Zhang Yunlong's whereabouts, she'll suspect my involvement in the abduction and will definitely come to trouble me."

Qin Yanyang kept looking into Yang Fei's eyes, and seeing his expression remained unchanged and calm, she couldn't help being puzzled.

She always felt that Yang Fei was somewhat mysterious, perhaps possessing another identity.

She even thought that it was too coincidental that Zhang Yunlong was abducted that day. Why did the people of International Madman happen to abduct him on that very day?

Moreover, before Zhang Yunlong was abducted, he had a confrontation with Yang Fei and seemed to have been poisoned.

Yang Fei's medical skill is extraordinary, and he should also be well-versed in poison technique, so Qin Yanyang suspected the incident was related to Yang Fei, but she had no evidence.

Now that Yang Fei had brought up the matter himself and mentioned that Zhuge Hong might suspect him and come causing trouble, she tried to probe further, but discovered nothing.
Had she been overthinking it?
Qin Yanyang shook her head secretly, choosing not to dwell on it any longer, and said, "According to Wang Hui's analysis, there is a high possibility that Zhuge Hong will come looking for you."
Yang Fei suddenly smiled, looked at Qin Yanyang, and said, "Wife, Wang Hui mentioned that Hidden Sect also values and cares for the cultivators of genius in the secular world. You are so talented and aware of the existence of Hidden Sect, have you ever been to the Hidden Sect World before and received some benefits from them?"
Qin Yanyang's expression changed slightly, and she quickly said, "I have never been to Hidden Sect."
Yang Fei smiled faintly.
Although Qin Yanyang concealed it well and her change in expression was brief, he still spotted the flaw.
She was hiding something from him.
But what was there to hide?
It was just a visit to the Hidden Sect. Could visiting the Hidden Sect be a state secret, not to be disclosed carelessly?
Qin Yanyang also noticed Yang Fei's smile.
There was a hint of scorn in that smile.

Qin Yanyang sighed helplessly.
This husband wasn't easy to deceive.
She looked at Yang Fei and thought for a moment before saying, "Husband, our relationship is quite good, isn't it?"
Seeing her suddenly ask this, Yang Fei nodded and said, "It should be. Ever since we met, we have gotten along very well, and over time, feelings of fondness and admiration developed between us, rapidly warming up our relationship, and we are certain to come together in the future."
Qin Yanyang also thought about the wonderful times she had spent with Yang Fei and smiled sweetly, saying, "Yes, I also feel that we will come together in the future. Since that is the case, shouldn't we be honest with each other, without too many secrets or hiding things from each other?"
Yang Fei was taken aback and looked at Qin Yanyang with confusion.
"Have you always been hiding something from me?" Qin Yanyang stared into Yang Fei's eyes and asked.
Yang Fei's eyes flickered.
Qin Yanyang said, "Look at me, don't dodge."
Yang Fei had no choice but to look at her.
Qin Yanyang asked again, "Tell me, have you been hiding something from me?"
Yang Fei's throat moved, and he remained silent.
Among the things he hadn't disclosed to Qin Yanyang, his relationship with Tong Yunshu was the most nerve-wracking.

As for the identity of Madman King, he didn't care about it anymore. This wife was very smart and seemed to have already suspected it, so it didn't matter if she found out. But the affair with Tong Yunshu, that definitely could not be disclosed now. It would be a death sentence. It was beyond saving. Even if she found out, it would only be after he had already slept with her. Yang Fei's thoughts darkened. Qin Yanyang was a relatively conservative woman. If she developed real feelings for him and he slept with her, she might still forgive him after finding out about him and Tong Yunshu, if he tried hard enough. If she found out now, the chances of salvaging it would be too slim. Yang Fei realized he was being greedy. He didn't want to give up Tong Yunshu, nor did he want to lose Qin Yanyang. He had never thought he would be this promiscuous. But the fact was right before his eyes, and he had to admit it. Qin Yanyang stared at Yang Fei, who seemed to be at a loss, and couldn't help getting a bit angry as she continued, "I'm asking you a question. Are you willing to be honest with me?"

Yang Fei snapped back to reality, swallowed, and countered, "Do you also have many things you're hiding from me?"
Qin Yanyang was taken aback, her gaze slightly evasive.
Yang Fei retorted, "Look at me, don't avoid my gaze."
Recognizing her own words, Qin Yanyang couldn't help but burst into laughter.
She put down her chopsticks and said, "I can't eat this meal anymore."
Yang Fei immediately breathed a sigh of relief and also put down his utensils, saying, "Just as well, I'm full."
Pressing his advantage, he said, "You still haven't answered my question."
Qin Yanyang snorted, "It was me who asked you first, and you haven't answered yet."
Yang Fei chuckled, "You're not easy to fool, huh?"
Pouting, Qin Yanyang said, "If you were sincere about me, why would you always think to hide things from me?"
With a wry smile, Yang Fei explained, "We've only known each other for two or three months, though we've developed a fondness and some emotional groundwork has been laid. But to truly be open with each other, our emotions need to deepen further."
"I think our feelings for each other are deep enough," Qin Yanyang said.
She was falling for a man for the first time, feeling she had given her all, without holding back.

Yang Fei's lips curled upward, his gaze lingering on her voluptuous body. He shook his head, "Not deep enough. Zhang Ailing once said that to truly reach the depths of a woman's soul, you must"
Qin Yanyang's ears turned red, and she quickly interjected, "Stop, you pervert."
Yang Fei was taken aback, "You know?"
Qin Yanyang snorted.
Yang Fei then remembered that her biggest hobby was reading.
She must have read Zhang Ailing's books too.
Women who loved to read knew a lot.
"Ahem, well, honey, since you have read widely, including books about cultivation, and even the Inner Canon of Huangdi mentions it, the practice of Dual Cultivation can truly harmonize the forces of Yin and Yang and Earth. Our cultivating together could have such an effect, and if we truly performed Dual Cultivation, the results would definitely be even better. Don't you want to try?" Seeing the conversation steered here, Yang Fei stopped hiding his private desires and looked earnestly at Qin Yanyang.
Qin Yanyang's face flushed, her heart raced, and she found breathing difficult.
She was well aware of what Yang Fei was thinking.
Yet she felt it was all moving too fast.
Though in modern society such pace of development was not unusual, it was her first relationship. She always felt that act was very precious and important to women, and should be done on the wedding day to be perfect.

But Yang Fei's recent actions planted a seed of doubt in her mind, making her fear she wouldn't make it to the wedding day.

This guy was too hasty, pestering her every night, and she didn't know if one day she would just clumsily give in.

Now as he mentioned real Dual Cultivation, she couldn't help feeling a bit eager.

According to many ancient texts on Dual Cultivation, it was truly beneficial to cultivation.

As she thought about it, Qin Yanyang felt her legs weaken, and abruptly snapped back to reality, immensely embarrassed.

Qin Yanyang, oh Qin Yanyang, how could you let this guy set the pace, you can't continue like this, otherwise you'll eventually be under his control.

Chapter 350: The Koreans Breached the Contract

When morning light penetrated the room through the gaps in the curtains, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang opened their eyes and simultaneously ceased their cultivation.

Qin Yanyang looked at Yang Fei with curiosity and said, "Your state has been improving over these past few days of cultivation. Are you about to break through?"

Yang Fei shook his head, smiling, "It's not a breakthrough. I am close to recovering to my peak."

Qin Yanyang had always been skeptical about Yang Fei's claims of being in a wounded state, but upon careful reflection, it seemed Yang Fei indeed showed no signs of a breakthrough. His strength was advancing progressively at a rapid pace.

She thought for a moment and then asked, "So, how much have you recovered now?"

"Ninety percent, maybe even a little more. I'm not far from a full recovery," Yang Fei said joyfully.

He didn't hide this matter from Qin Yanyang, happy to share it with her.

It was precisely because of their daily dual cultivation that the problems within his body received the best comfort and treatment.

Especially during the previous period in Imperial City, when the two of them were in closed-door cultivation for half a month at Qin Huai'an's quadrangle dwelling, Qin Yanyang had made a breakthrough to the Innate Realm, and he had also received tremendous benefits, with his combat power recovering from just over sixty percent to over eighty percent.

After returning to Binhai in the past few days, although they hadn't been glued to each other during the day, they had made full use of their nights. As a result, Yang Fei's injuries healed even faster, with his current combat power recovering to ninety percent of its peak condition, perhaps even a bit more.

Of course, Qin Yanyang's Innate Realm had also become absolutely stable, and the True Yuan inside her body continued to increase, making her strength grow stronger.

The benefits brought by their joint cultivation ensured that both of them relished the experience, making them even more diligent in their cultivation than before.

"If we were to truly engage in dual cultivation, perhaps I would have already returned to my peak combat power, and your strength would have increased even faster," Yang Fei said, eyeing Qin Yanyang's curvaceous figure. Days without seeing Tong Yunshu made it harder for him to contain his burgeoning desires.

Qin Yanyang's face turned red, and she immediately straightened her clothes, avoiding Yang Fei's heated gaze. She stood up and said, "Get up and wash, we need to go to work."

Yang Fei sighed with resignation.

In the past few days, he kept talking to Qin Yanyang about the benefits of true dual cultivation, but she always refused, which left him speechless.

True dual cultivation could bring endless joy to both of them and offer tremendous benefits in their cultivation. He wondered why she kept refusing.

"You've never experienced it before. Once you try, you'll realize how much of a mistake it was to refuse me. You're going to regret it," Yang Fei said to Qin Yanyang's retreating figure.

Qin Yanyang blushed and ignored him.

His gaze had been too intense these past few days, as if he wanted to devour her.

She didn't know if there would come a time when she couldn't hold out anymore and would be overwhelmed by him. But as long as she persisted, he would respect her wishes and not force anything.

"Come on, get up. Don't just think about those things all the time, I won't regret it," Qin Yanyang hummed, heading into the bathroom.

Yang Fei sighed again, resigned.

It had been three days since Li Xuanyu called to remind him.

He had expected the woman named Zhuge Hong to cause trouble within these few days, but there was no sign of her whatsoever.

Qin Yanyang said it's not wise to be constantly on guard like this. Normally, there's no need to keep warding off thieves every day. So she suggested that they go to work today and resume their regular lives. She also mentioned that if the other side really did come after them, seeing the two together every day might deter them. They should want to take them down one by one, so it would be better to go to work normally and give the enemy a chance.

After some thought, Yang Fei agreed with Qin Yanyang's point of view.

After all, both of them were in Binhai, not far apart.

With their current combat power and vigilance, as long as the enemy appeared, they could notify each other at the first sign of danger and quickly come to each other's aid. There shouldn't be much of a problem.

While they were having breakfast, Yang Fei's phone suddenly rang.

He pulled out his mobile and saw that it was a call from Li Xuantong.

"Hello, Old Li, I was just about to go to work. Is there something you need?" Yang Fei asked.

"Oh, I see, okay, let's talk more when you come to the medical hall," Li Xuantong's voice came over, seeming a bit angry.

Yang Fei was slightly startled. Li Xuantong's emotions were definitely not directed at him. Had he encountered some vexing trouble?

"See, you haven't been to the medical hall for such a long time, it must be a bit overwhelmed now. You are now a famous doctor in Binhai, and because of you, the medical hall's reputation is growing, the business too good, but you often don't show up for consultations. Old Li will sooner or later wear himself out," Qin Yanyang said with a smile.

Yang Fei smiled faintly after hearing this.

Qin Yanyang was telling the truth. During the time Yang Fei was absent from the medical hall, Li Xuantong was as busy as a dog, and just a few days after he returned, he discovered that quite a few patients had come specifically looking for him and had been waiting. This truly touched Yang Fei.

After breakfast, Qin Yanyang drove to school for work, and Yang Fei headed straight for Li Xuantong Medical Hall.

Before eight o'clock, it wasn't officially business hours at the medical hall yet, and Li Xuantong, with an angry and solemn expression, was pacing back and forth at the entrance. Upon seeing Yang Fei approaching, he quickly came over and said, "Yang Fei, at last you've arrived."

Seeing him like this, Yang Fei couldn't help but feel puzzled.

What could have made the old man lose his composure, having seen big storms in his lifetime?

"Old Li, what happened? You seem very anxious and angry," Yang Fei said.

Li Xuantong gave a bitter smile and said, "It's all because of the troubles caused by my unfilial son and his wife. Alas, this time, even you've been dragged into it."

Yang Fei was taken aback and said in confusion, "Even I've been dragged in? What do you mean?"

Li Xuantong said, "Have you forgotten the last time you helped to complete that traditional beauty recipe?"

Yang Fei suddenly remembered.

Had it not been for Li Xuantong's reminder, he would have nearly forgotten it.

Indeed, he had too much on his plate recently, and since completing that prescription was not a matter of concern for him, he had not been paying attention to it.

Now, seeing Li Xuantong's expression, Yang Fei couldn't help but feel a pang in his heart and asked, "I've already completed that recipe, and the products made by the company have been tested internally and proven to be fine."

"Of course, the recipe itself is not the problem. The problem lies with that bunch of scoundrels from the Li Family's Financial Group," Li Xuantong said angrily.

"Oh, what happened? Don't get angry, tell me about it," Yang Fei said, slightly frowning in comfort.

Li Xuantong sighed and said, "Li Zhongni from the Li Family's Financial Group here went too far. He made very slight changes to the recipe and then claimed that it was a product they developed themselves, having nothing to do with the recipe we provided. They have already terminated the partnership with my son and daughter-in-law's company, and even refuse to pay you for the labor you provided while you worked for their company."

Yang Fei's frown deepened upon hearing this, a cold light flashing in his eyes.

What a bold move, not to even pay my money!

It brought back a memory from five years ago.

Back then, a big shot from the European Union, relying on his solid strength, attempted to refuse payment of that 'labor fee.' Consequently, Yang Fei paid a personal visit and not only retrieved the fee threefold but also made sure that big shot disappeared from this world.

Ever since then, no one had dared to default on a debt owed to him.

It was unexpected that after five years, he would encounter another one.

"It's not anything serious, just this little matter. Don't worry, Old Li. They will definitely come to apologize," Yang Fei said to Li Xuantong with a smile.

Li Xuantong shook his head with a bitter smile, "You don't know the situation. The Li Family's Financial Group has deep pockets, and they can keep dragging a lawsuit on forever. This problem is hard to solve.

"I don't care at all about the financial loss. What I'm upset about is that they have brazenly taken our country's ancient medical recipes as their own. Now they're even claiming to the outside world that this is a royal Korean beauty recipe.

"The product is a complete hit in the market, and consumers around the globe believe it's a royal Korean beauty recipe, which only fuels the argument claiming Korean traditional medicine as their own cultural heritage, gaining them a bunch of delusional fans. Such behavior is despicable and shameless."

Upon hearing this, Yang Fei also glared angrily and nodded, saying, "Yes, this matter is too vile; I'll take care of it."

Li Xuanyu is too busy now, and those from the Li Family's Financial Group are acting lawlessly. It seemed necessary for him to help her clean up the riffraff from the Li Family's Financial Group.