

Powerful 671

Chapter 671: Men Die for Wealth, Birds Die for Food

Regarding Situ Wen's kind intentions, Yang Yan actually found it a bit troublesome.

According to his thinking, these guys had seen the treasure and started plotting against him, so naturally, they deserved a good lesson.

Now, because of Situ Wen's appearance, he didn't have the opportunity to act and felt quite uncomfortable.

"Sorry to keep you waiting. Something urgent came up that I need to handle immediately. Today's matter will have to be postponed for now."

Wei Ying returned to the living room, saying with a smile.

"Oh? What kind of thing?"

Situ Wen asked, puzzled.

"It's some internal Hongmen matters, so it's not convenient to tell the old gentleman."

"However, rest assured, it's not very complicated, and I'll quickly take care of it."

"As for your affair, I'm afraid it will have to wait until tomorrow. I'll definitely give Mr. Situ a satisfactory explanation."

Wei Ying promised, patting his chest.

"Then... what about my Emperor's Blood Jade?"

The jade shop owner was still thinking about that piece of jade, asking instinctively.

Although he knew he wouldn't be able to get that jade, Wang Hao had said that if he could get Yang Yan to bring out the jade, he would be given a considerable reward.

Upon hearing the shop owner's words, Yang Yan couldn't help but frown.

He wasn't unaware that these guys were targeting his Emperor's Blood Jade.

But their audacity was too much!

Daring to be so blatant?

People will risk their lives for riches, and birds for food indeed.

"That's actually simple."

Wei Ying kept a smile on his face and said to Yang Yan:

"Since this matter isn't concluded yet, it's inappropriate for the jade to remain in your possession."

"Of course, I won't take the jade either. Let's do it this way, you let Mr. Situ keep it for now, and when I return tomorrow, we'll resolve this matter."

"By then, the jade's rightful owner will be determined. Mr. Situ, do you have any objections?"

"Well..."

Situ Wen hesitated for a moment and then said with a smile:

"The old man has no objections, just as well I can admire it for a while."

"Young man, is it okay for the jade to stay with the old man for a day? Don't worry, the old man will find a witness for you, and tomorrow I'll definitely prove your innocence."

To be honest, Yang Yan was quite unwilling hearing their conversation.

However, seeing Situ Wen's wholehearted support, he couldn't say much.

After all, since they were helping him so much, he didn't want to refuse outright.

Of course, he had the feeling that this guy named Wei Ying was a smiling tiger, planning something with this arrangement.

Might as well go along and see what he really wants to do.

"If that's the case, then let's do it. Everything will wait until tomorrow!"

Yang Yan made up his mind and nodded, agreeing.

"Great! Since you have no objections, I'll go and handle my matters first."

Wei Ying turned and walked outside.

He appeared in a hurry, as if his business was really urgent.

"Rest assured, young man, I will make sure the Emperor's Blood Jade is kept safe."

After taking the jade from Yang Yan, Situ Wen cherished it in his hand and said solemnly.

"Mr. Situ, you speak too highly."

Yang Yan said sincerely:

"After all, today's situation is mainly thanks to the old gentleman."

Situ Wen dismissively waved his hand:

"There's nothing to thank! Honestly, I should be the one thanking you. After all, you let me be the one to discover this magnificent Emperor's Blood Jade."

"And let me have the fortune to keep it for a day, indulging my eyes. It's truly a blessing from a past life."

Yang Yan smiled noncommittally:

"All right, let's leave it at that. I'll come back tomorrow, and maybe find some more good jade."

Situ Wen also laughed and said:

"Well then, I'll take my leave too. See you tomorrow."

As he was leaving, Situ Wen, who quite despised evil, didn't forget to give a hard stare at the anxious jade shop owner nearby.

He had already decided that once tomorrow's business was over, he would have him removed.

The jade world doesn't need such black sheep!

"That old gentleman is really enthusiastic, defending us like this."

Outside the Hongmen hall, Han Ruyu said with a smile.

"Ah! That old gentleman is just too enthusiastic, otherwise I would have resolved this myself. Now, we have to wait until tomorrow. It's really troublesome!"

Yang Yan said with some distress.

Finally encountering the Emperor's Blood Jade, he hadn't even warmed it in his hands!

At least tomorrow it would be back in his possession.

Thinking about it, Yang Yan couldn't help but start planning:

Such a wonderful jade, should it be made into a jade talisman or a portable array?

Oh, it's such a dilemma!

"You guys stay here. I have something to deal with. Unless I come out, don't disturb me for anything, no matter how big. We'll talk after I come out."

At the Hongmen hall entrance, Wei Ying stood outside a secret room and spoke seriously to the guards.

...

When Yang Yan and his friends returned to Queens, it was already evening.

Because he obtained something valuable today, Yang Yan was excited and couldn't sleep.

As for someone minor like Wei Ying, he didn't concern himself at all.

They say, respond to soldiers with generals, water with earth.

He was really curious to see what grand setup this Hongmen Hall Master, situated overseas, could orchestrate.

"Okay, go to sleep! Look at you; it's just a nice piece of jade. Is it worth getting so excited?"

Zhou Hanyun looked at Yang Yan, teasing.

"You don't understand; the thing is like a treasured toy for a child to me. I'm so excited I can't sleep."

Yang Yan said frankly, not hiding his affection for the Emperor's Blood Jade.

"You, such a guy. No matter how good the thing is, it's not in your hands now, is it?"

"Go rest! Tomorrow we need to settle this matter!"

"Plus, I also have many questions for Mr. Situ."

Zhou Hanyun said with a smile.

"Got it, you go to sleep first! I'll sit a bit more and then sleep."

Yang Yan said smilingly.

Listening to him, Zhou Hanyun nodded unconsciously.

However, she then seemed to remember something, turning to glance deeply at Han Ruyu, who also hadn't spoken.

Then, blushing, she quickly headed back to her room.

"Zhou Hanyun, what are you thinking?"

Chapter 672: The Old Master Is in Trouble

"Hey, Ruyu! It's getting late, why don't we go to sleep?"

Yang Yan emphasized the word "sleep," fearing that Han Ruyu wouldn't understand.

It was unclear whether Yang Yan's words during the day had worked, or if it was due to some other reason. In any case, this evening Yang Yan finally enjoyed a thorough service from Han Ruyu, without a single neglected spot.

"Ha!"

The next morning, after a long stretch, Yang Yan's gaze fell on the beautiful woman beside him.

Seeing Han Ruyu's snowy white skin, the guy who had been rampant all night began to get restless again.

"Don't fuss! You already had your fun last night, let me rest properly. I'm not going out with you today."

Han Ruyu lazily said, twisting her delicate body into a comfortable position and drifting back to sleep.

Looking at Han Ruyu, powerless and weary, Yang Yan smiled awkwardly.

Last night, he had indeed gone a bit wild.

His body was quite special, something an ordinary woman like Han Ruyu couldn't handle.

"Sigh!"

After a moment's hesitation, Yang Yan let out a heavy sigh.

He suppressed his desires, got up, and moved his body, finally calming his restless emotions.

"Yang Yan, are you up?"

Just as Yang Yan had finished moving around, Zhou Hanyun's anxious voice came from outside the door.

"What's wrong?"

Yang Yan hurriedly threw on a pair of pants and a shirt, opened the door, and looked at Zhou Hanyun.

Opening the door, he noticed something was off about her expression.

She seemed very anxious.

"Something happened, Mr. Situ had an accident. He's being rescued right now."

Zhou Hanyun looked at Yang Yan and said.

Hearing this, Yang Yan's eyebrows immediately furrowed.

Were the others really bold enough to act against the old man?

It seemed some people were taking others for fools!

"Let's go!"

Yang Yan said calmly.

Though today's events were somewhat unexpected for him, they seemed inevitable.

What surprised him was that those people actually dared to make a move against Situ Wen.

"Where to?"

Zhou Hanyun asked, puzzled.

"First, let's check if the old man has any major issues. Also, I want to see if my stone is still with him."

Yang Yan spoke casually.

Situ Wen's home was also in Chinatown.

However, he didn't have any relatives at home.

His only son taught at the university.

Usually, his daily life was taken care of by a housemaid.

Just yesterday, when the old man returned home, he suddenly fell and completely lost consciousness.

By this morning, he still hadn't woken up.

When Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun arrived at the hospital, the corridor was already crowded with people.

These people seemed unusual, most of them exuded a bit of an underworld aura.

As Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun were about to approach Mr. Situ's ward, they were immediately stopped.

"Who are you two?"

Someone looked at Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun and asked.

"We're Mr. Situ's juniors. We heard he had an accident, so we came to check on him."

Before Yang Yan could speak, Zhou Hanyun quickly explained.

"The old man's juniors? Never heard that he had juniors like you?"

The person blocking Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun said suspiciously.

"We only met the old man yesterday."

Zhou Hanyun said awkwardly.

"Heh! You two causing trouble? Do you even know where you are?"

"Claiming to be the old man's juniors after knowing him just a day, there are many of his juniors."

"If you know what's good for you, better leave now. Otherwise, don't blame us for being impolite."

With a glare, the man said sternly.

"And who are you to the old man? What right do you have to boss us around here?"

Hearing this, Yang Yan coldly retorted.

No matter what this guy's purpose was, just his attitude made Yang Yan feel he was nothing decent.

Hearing Yang Yan's words, the man's face immediately turned dark.

"Long, let them in."

As the man was about to teach Yang Yan a lesson, an old voice came from inside.

"Yes, Mr. Yan."

Upon hearing this voice, the man paused noticeably and quickly responded.

Then, he stepped aside, coldly looking at Yang Yan, and said:

"Mr. Yan says you can go in. But you'd better be careful, the people inside aren't those you can afford to offend."

Yang Yan sneered and replied indifferently:

"You better take care of yourself! A clueless person like you, don't act so mighty, be careful not to suffer a big loss sooner or later."

When Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun entered the ward, they saw it was already packed with people.

Most of these people were older, many around the same age as Situ Wen.

Situ Wen was lying on the hospital bed, wearing a respirator, eyes closed, with no response.

The atmosphere in the ward was very oppressive.

"Wen mentioned you to me yesterday. He said he met a very talented young girl and wanted to take her as a student to pass on his knowledge. You must be the ones Wen talked about?"

Beside the bed, an elderly man in a white Tang suit said in a deep voice.

"Mr. Yan is talking to you! Why are you dawdling? Answer quickly!"

As soon as the elder finished speaking, someone beside him urged at once.

"Heh!"

Hearing the urging, Yang Yan sneered and then tried to walk to the bedside.

Right now, he wanted to know if Situ Wen had really had an accident or if someone had done something to him.

"Stop! Didn't you hear Mr. Yan asking you? What are you trying to do?"

A burly man blocked Yang Yan, looking unfriendly.

"Ah... is it that you are too arrogant, or I've been too amicable lately, that I can't hold a knife anymore?"

Yang Yan sighed and said slowly, squinting.

Hearing Yang Yan's words, the elder referred to as Mr. Yan was taken aback for a moment, then smiled and waved at the person blocking Yang Yan:

"Hu, step aside! This young man means no harm."

"But Mr. Yan, this guy is of unknown origin, and Mr. Situ is like this now, I'm really worried..."

The young man didn't say what he was worried about, but anyone can tell what he meant.

"Hu! Aren't you listening to me anymore?"

Seeing Hu standing still, Mr. Yan was quite angry too.

Chapter 673: Definitely Not an Accident

"Mr. Yan's words, Hu naturally listens to."

Seeing Mr. Yan truly angry, Hu had no choice but to step aside unwillingly.

However, even after stepping aside, he still stayed very close to Yang Yan.

So close that no matter what Yang Yan did next, he believed he could take Yang Yan down immediately.

Yang Yan glanced at Hu, smiled lightly, and walked directly to Situ Wen's bedside.

When he reached out to touch Situ Wen's hand, Hu suddenly reacted and was about to act against Yang Yan.

"Hu, go outside. You are not needed here anymore."

Mr. Yan sternly reprimanded.

"Understood, Mr. Yan."

Upon hearing the old man's words, the young man called Hu hesitated a bit.

However, after thinking it over, he obediently went outside.

"Young man, are you the legendary Huaxia doctor people have been talking about lately?"

Mr. Yan asked with a smile.

"Yes, that's me."

Yang Yan nodded slightly, acknowledging his identity.

"We originally wanted to invite you, but before we could make any move, you came over."

Mr. Yan said with a smile.

As he was kindly talking to Yang Yan, others looked at Yang Yan with some astonishment.

As members of one of the largest gangs in the world, the Hongmen, they naturally had their own special intelligence channels.

Even more sensitive than some intelligence agencies.

Therefore, they often got wind of the extraordinary happenings around them at the earliest moment.

And recently, they received news:

In Queens, there was a Huaxia man who opened a clinic, and as long as you went to that clinic, there was no disease that couldn't be cured.

However, the price was quite high, something ordinary people could not afford.

"You can't afford me."

Upon hearing Mr. Yan's words, Yang Yan said flatly.

He had his own principles for seeing patients.

What disease to treat, whom to treat, whether to see patients in the clinic or to make house calls, all depended on his mood.

If he was in a good mood, he wouldn't mind treating you for free.

If he was in a bad mood, then even offering more money would be pointless.

"You arrogant kid, there's no one in this world that our Hongmen can't afford."

Someone couldn't help but express dissatisfaction upon hearing Yang Yan's words.

"Ha! You know about arrogance? Then tell me how high the sky is, and how thick the earth is!"

Yang Yan said disdainfully.

"Kid, do you know who you're talking to? Don't think your relationship with Wen allows you to be reckless in front of us!"

"Remember, there are many people in this world whom you cannot afford to offend. If you don't want to disappear by tomorrow, you'd better watch your mouth."

These gang bosses were never soft.

They were also angered by Yang Yan's arrogant words.

"People I can't afford to offend?"

Hearing those words, Yang Yan was a bit taken aback.

It seemed there really wasn't anyone in this world that Moonlight Yang Yan couldn't afford to offend.

"Sorry, there's truly no one in this world I can't afford to offend."

Yang Yan said honestly.

"Enough! Watch your attitude! This young friend is here to see Situ, not to argue with you."

"If you continue arguing, then get out."

Seeing the situation, Mr. Yan was also a bit angry and roared furiously.

With this shout, everyone immediately fell silent.

He cast a severe glare at everyone, then turned back to Yang Yan, amicably saying:

"Alright, young friend, don't mind these rough folks. You shouldn't care too much about their attitude, let's take a look at Wen first!"

"I don't even know if Wen can pull through this time. At such a big age, how is it that he doesn't know to walk carefully."

Mr. Yan sighed as he spoke.

Yang Yan just smiled faintly:

"It's not necessarily a fall, let's wait until I take a look and then decide!"

Shush!

Upon hearing this, everyone else immediately turned their gaze towards Yang Yan, staring intensely at him.

"You mean, Wen's situation wasn't accidental? Someone wanted to kill Wen?"

Mr. Yan said in a deep voice.

"Nonsense!"

Someone immediately retorted:

"We've already investigated, Wen fell at his own doorstep."

"There's surveillance there, and we've brought back the footage to watch. It shows that Wen tripped accidentally and hit his head."

Yang Yan scoffed, expressing disdain:

"I don't want to waste words with you."

Then, he placed his hand on Situ Wen's hand.

Almost immediately, his brows furrowed.

"What's wrong?"

Mr. Yan asked, frowning.

He obviously cared very much about what Yang Yan had just said.

He even directly believed a few points.

Yang Yan, however, did not answer Mr. Yan's question.

He reached out to help Situ Wen up, feeling around his back continuously.

"What on earth are you doing?"

Seeing Yang Yan's actions, the people around immediately exploded.

They didn't know what Yang Yan was doing, but they wouldn't let him mess with Situ Wen like this.

At this moment, Long and Hu, guarding outside, also heard the uproar inside.

They, along with others, stormed in angrily, glaring at Yang Yan.

"Shut up! It's no accident that Mr. Situ is like this."

Yang Yan said as he pulled a long, thin silver needle from the old man's back.

"What is this thing?"

Mr. Yan asked, furrowing his brows, when he saw the long needle in Yang Yan's hand.

"A regular silver needle. However, it was this very thing that pierced into Mr. Situ's body, causing him to remain unconscious."

Yang Yan said coldly while fiddling with the silver needle.

"Alright, you impatient lot better all leave! I have something to discuss with this young friend."

Mr. Yan carefully inspected the silver needle in Yang Yan's hand and then addressed the others.

"Understood, Mr. Yan."

After exchanging glances, everyone obediently left.

Once everyone was out, Mr. Yan turned to Yang Yan and said:

"I believe you already know, I am the Dragon Head of this Hongmen generation. Wen has been my friend since childhood and a brother through life and death."

"I still remember, over sixty years ago, due to the United States government's policies, the status of Chinese people was low, and we were often oppressed by local gangs."

"Those guys always looked down on us as outsiders, we naturally wouldn't let them bully us as they pleased."

"However, the opponents were numerous and strong, so we could only band together to resist, which led to Hongmen's eventual expansion."

Chapter 674: It Doesn't Matter If He Did It—As Long As I Think He Did

Yang Yan didn't speak, silently listening to Mr. Yan's narration.

The old man had sunk deep into his memories, sighed slightly, and continued:

"I still remember, it was around that time I joined Hongmen too. You have to understand, during that era, Huaxia had just experienced chaos, and all industries were waiting to be rejuvenated."

"And during that catastrophe, our Hongmen contributed significantly to Huaxia. Especially Wen, he truly dedicated a lot."

"For years, he had been learning the skill of identifying jade with Mr. Yushan. Who was Mr. Yushan? He was a remnant of the Man Qing, a real Prince."

"Originally, if Wen had only followed Mr. Yushan, he could live a comfortable life. But because we needed money, he went alone to places like Myanmar to help us procure jade to exchange for money."

"Even after all these years, I still can't forget how Wen went to the deep mountains to find good jade and would immediately bring it to me once he found it."

"Now the hard days are over, times are better, yet someone dared to harm Wen."

"This is absolutely unacceptable to me! No matter who that person is or what motives he has, I will definitely find him."

"I want him to know how serious the consequences of such actions are."

Mr. Yan grew more and more angry as he spoke, the aura around him surging.

"What does this have to do with me? Did you keep me here just to tell me this?"

Yang Yan squinted at Mr. Yan, asking confusedly.

Mr. Yan wiped at the corners of his eyes, laughing softly:

"I know you're not an ordinary person. Yesterday Wen called me, aside from the girl he wants to recruit, Wen told me you're definitely from the Hidden World."

"So what if I am from the Hidden World? What if I'm not?"

Yang Yan replied indifferently.

He didn't deliberately hide his identity from the Hidden World, nor did he have any intention to publicize it.

"If you're from the Hidden World, after Wen's matter is resolved, we want to entrust you with a task. If you're not, forget it."

The old man looked seriously at Yang Yan.

He wanted a definite answer from Yang Yan.

At the same time, he wanted a satisfactory answer.

"No."

Without thinking, Yang Yan directly replied.

Only if his brain were damaged would he agree to help Mr. Yan with anything.

No matter what the task entails, he had no interest.

"Alas! We'll talk about it after Wen's matter is resolved! Now, let's discuss Wen's issue."

The old man felt somewhat helpless seeing Yang Yan's straightforward refusal.

"You say Wen's matter isn't an accident, so who exactly would act against him?"

Mr. Yan asked Yang Yan with suspicion, murder flashing in his eyes.

"I think I know who did it. However, I doubt they would admit it."

"But it doesn't matter. Whether they admit it or not, as long as I believe it, that's enough."

Yang Yan thought for a moment, smiling as he spoke.

"Are you suggesting that Wei Ying is the one responsible?"

Mr. Yan frowned and said:

"I've already investigated the incident that happened yesterday. Although Wei Ying and his people were at fault, after you left yesterday afternoon, Wei Ying stayed in the secret room and hasn't come out since."

Yang Yan sneered:

"Ha! I don't care if he did it or not, nor do I know if he did it, but reclaiming what's mine shouldn't be a problem, right?"

Mr. Yan's eyes flashed with surprise, suspiciously asking:

"Are you talking about the Emperor's Blood Jade? Do you have a way to find it?"

Yang Yan nodded without hesitation and replied:

"When I left yesterday, I tampered with that piece of jade."

"No matter where they hide it, it won't escape my pursuit."

"However, I've already warned you, if my jade is indeed with Wei Ying, don't blame me for killing him."

"Anyway, I find him quite displeasing. Since he gave me a reason to kill him, I certainly won't be courteous."

After speaking, Yang Yan stood up and walked straight out.

"What about Wen? Can you wake him up?"

Seeing Yang Yan about to leave, Mr. Yan quickly followed two steps, asking expectantly.

Yang Yan stopped but did not turn back:

"I've removed the needle from Mr. Situ; what's left depends on his own will to live."

"After all, he isn't as young as us. I've done my best!"

After finishing, Yang Yan did not give Mr. Yan a chance to speak, and left directly.

"Do you really believe that guy is from the Hidden World?"

Hu came over, frowned, and asked.

"Yes! Isn't it said that the Hidden World's upper class doesn't allow Hidden World people to appear in reality? How can that guy still swagger around here?"

Brother Long immediately voiced his doubts.

The brothers certainly didn't believe Yang Yan was from the Hidden World.

In their view, people from the Hidden World often appear as extraordinary figures.

At least those he had encountered were like that.

As for Yang Yan, he seemed almost indistinguishable from an ordinary young person, might know some medical skills, but there was no sign of any connection to the Hidden World.

"Don't underestimate that young man, Wen wouldn't deceive me about such matters."

"Moreover, you brothers know, although Wen isn't one of our Hongmen people, he has always played the role of the White Fan."

"And starting from earlier, I let you continuously probe him, you should have sensed he genuinely didn't regard you."

"One could even say he doesn't regard us at all."

"To manage this in front of us, how could he be a simple person!"

Mr. Yan stated calmly, his eyes glimmering with intelligence.

"But... he seems too young!"

Hu hesitated and said:

"The Hidden World experts we've met, who among them isn't aged?"

"And the young ones, many don't even compare in strength to my brother and me."

Saying it, Hu appeared displeased.

Mr. Yan laughed helplessly:

"Ah, if you could be as calm as Long someday, your strength would certainly not grow this slowly."

...

"Where are we going now?"

Outside the hospital, Zhou Hanyun couldn't help but ask Yang Yan.

"To take back what's mine! That fool really thinks my stuff is so easy to take?"

Yang Yan mocked.

"Ah! You did something to the jade yesterday? Does that mean you anticipated this?"

Zhou Hanyun frowned.

Her words carried some hostility.

Chapter 675: Wei Ying Is Dead

Faced with Zhou Hanyun's inquiry, for a moment, Yang Yan really didn't know what to say.

Indeed, he had sensed something yesterday, but he didn't expect the other party to directly target Situ Wen.

This led to the unfortunate incident for the enthusiastic Mr. Situ.

Seeing Yang Yan fall into silence, Zhou Hanyun smiled helplessly:

"You, yesterday you acted so convincingly, I thought you really trusted Mr. Situ!"

"But what happened? You still tampered with the jade."

Hearing that Zhou Hanyun did not intend to pursue the matter, Yang Yan breathed a sigh of relief and explained with a smile:

"Don't think I tampered with the jade to guard against Mr. Situ."

"Moreover, if Mr. Situ hadn't spoken yesterday, did those guys really think they could make me take out the jade?"

Zhou Hanyun exaggeratedly rolled her eyes and said irritably:

"Alright, alright, we know you're incredible. But if we go look for that guy now, won't it cause a conflict with the Hongmen people?"

"After all, that guy is a Hall Master of Hongmen!"

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow and sneered:

"What conflict could there be? I'm just going to retrieve my own belongings, which is only right and proper."

"Besides, I spoke with the Dragon Head of Hongmen just now. It's true I'd rather not be entangled with Hongmen, but that doesn't mean I fear them."

Hearing this, Zhou Hanyun nodded thoughtfully and didn't say more.

Meanwhile, Yang Yan was pondering Mr. Yan's request.

Because the world is still recovering, temporarily, no Hidden World persons are allowed to enter the current world.

That old guy wanted to find someone from the Hidden World to handle matters in the current world?

There must be something fishy here!

"Aren't you planning to help those Hongmen guys? I can tell you don't seem to dislike them."

"But..."

Suddenly, Zhou Hanyun mischievously smiled again:

"I'm also really curious why you're so distant from them."

"Well..." Yang Yan shook his head with a bitter smile, "that's another story from a long time ago. It even involves someone I really dislike."

"But what's most infuriating is not that; what's most infuriating is that I really hate that guy, yet I can't take him down."

"And that idiot is part of Hongmen's Heaven and Earth Society. So before that detestable guy finds out I'm here, it's best I don't get involved with Hongmen or the Heaven and Earth Society!"

"Otherwise, that idiot will come looking for trouble sooner or later. It will be a real headache then."

As Yang Yan said this, he seemed to recall something disgusting and grimaced in disgust.

Beside him, Zhou Hanyun watched him with great interest.

It was the first time she had seen the usually fearless Yang Yan in such a state.

"Alright, let's not mention that detestable guy. Every time I think of him, I just can't help wanting to get rid of him."

Yang Yan said discontentedly.

"Haha! You're making me really curious about what kind of freak could make you this angry. I really want to meet that person."

Zhou Hanyun said with a laugh.

"You must believe me; you definitely don't want to meet that guy. That guy is an idiot, a bastard naturally detestable."

Yang Yan couldn't help but vent again.

The two of them once again arrived at the Hongmen Hall.

This time, it was completely different from when they came yesterday.

Yesterday, there were no guards outside.

But now, the outside was packed with people.

Each looked as if faced with a formidable enemy, very serious in expression.

"What's going on here? Does that guy know I'm coming?"

Seeing the unusual atmosphere here, Yang Yan couldn't help but frown and say.

"Who are you?"

Just as Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun were about to walk in, two guards came over, blocking them and asking cautiously.

"We had an incident over at the exhibition yesterday, and it was Master Wei Ying who asked us to come today."

Yang Yan looked at the two guards and said calmly.

"Master Wei Ying asked you to come?"

The guards looked at Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun in confusion and hesitantly said.

"Yes! That's right, it was your Master Wei Ying who asked us to come. If you don't believe us, you can ask Master Wei."

Yang Yan added.

"Ask Master Wei? I'm afraid no one will ever be able to ask him again. Because just last night, Master Wei Ying was killed."

One of the guards frowned and said.

"What! Killed?"

Hearing the guard's words, Yang Yan's eyebrows furrowed immediately.

Of course, he believed these two guards weren't lying to him.

But how did Master Wei Ying end up killed?

Yang Yan vaguely felt a great conspiracy looming over him.

"Can you tell me how he was killed? Or do you know who the murderer is?"

Yang Yan stared intently at the guard and asked.

"Get out! Do you dare to inquire about such matters?"

"If you're tired of living, go die somewhere else, don't come here and drag us two brothers into it."

The guard, somewhat terrified, said upon hearing Yang Yan's uninhibited inquiry about Mr. Wei Ying's death.

"Can I go inside and take a look?"

Yang Yan probed and asked:

"Master Wei Ying still has a few of my possessions! Can I retrieve my things?"

"Don't think about it!"

The guard said solemnly:

"Not just Master Wei was killed, everything inside has been torn apart by someone, no matter what your belongings are, I'm afraid you'll never see them in this lifetime."

Although his words were simple, Yang Yan gleaned a lot of information from them.

According to him, people and things inside had all been torn apart.

Yet, Yang Yan could still feel the presence of the aura left on the jade inside.

Unfortunately, if he wanted to get inside now, he had to go through these guards.

"Ah! Such a troublesome thing!"

Yang Yan sighed and said.

And just as Yang Yan was perplexed about how he could get inside, a man walked up to him and said:

"Mr. Yang! Mr. Yan has already learned about what happened here; he sent me to help deal with it."

"Moreover, he also mentioned that if you're here, he would like you to accompany me in investigating Master Wei's death."

Yang Yan certainly recognized this man.

It was none other than Hu's brother, Long.

However, what surprised Yang Yan was that the impression Long gave him now was entirely different from how he was earlier at the hospital.

"Haha! Then let's go! Did your Mr. Yan mention if I could get my belongings back?"

Chapter 676: Switched

Yang Yan turned his head and said to Zhou Hanyun:

"You better not go in. I'm afraid you can't handle the situation inside; it might be quite gruesome. So to prevent you from having nightmares, just wait for me here!"

Although Yang Yan's words were vague, combined with what the guard said earlier, Zhou Hanyun immediately thought of something and quickly nodded in agreement.

"Long..."

"Long..."

"Long..."

As the two walked inside, the people around, seeing the man called Long, rushed to call him "Long," showing immense respect.

Apparently, the man named Long must have an unusual status in Hongmen.

Estimably, he's likely playing a Double Flower Red Stick type of role.

"Mr. Yan said you can take anything you want, as long as you like it."

Long said coldly.

"Haha! That's quite generous!"

Yang Yan chuckled softly, then his face grew serious:

"I definitely want to take my stuff with me. As for other things, I'm not interested."

"Also, when you go back, remember to relay a message for me. No matter what he wants me to do, I won't help him."

"There's not much friendship between Hongmen and me, so he shouldn't think he can win me over and get my help."

Long clearly had better composure than his brother Hu, still with that cold expression:

"Got it. I'll relay the message when I get back."

Upon entering the room, this appeared to be the chamber that Mr. Yan mentioned earlier.

Seeing the bloodied surroundings, Yang Yan's brow furrowed.

The situation here seems more serious than previously imagined.

"Have you called the police?"

Yang Yan asked solemnly after scanning the area.

"We'd rather avoid such disgrace."

Long said calmly:

"A Hongmen Hall Master has died; if we call the police, we might as well stop operating in the United States."

Yang Yan smiled faintly, saying:

"I don't know what you're thinking, but considering we're all Chinese, I suggest you do report it and send someone to follow the procedure."

"Because, in the coming days, this kind of thing might happen again. Don't take it lightly."

Long's expression finally changed as he frowned and asked:

"Are you suggesting that the person who killed Master Wei might target others among us?"

"Not might target; it's likely two have already been killed. Better check around more carefully!"

Yang Yan advised.

After hearing Yang Yan's words, Long could no longer resist and began surveying the surroundings carefully.

As he looked longer, he could no longer maintain his cold demeanor.

"This is... the character four? What does that guy mean?"

Long said, surprised.

"The literal meaning!"

Yang Yan exaggeratedly rolled his eyes, looking at Long as if at a fool, jestingly saying:

"Either it means he's the fourth dead, or he's planning to kill four more people!"

"Either way, the person doesn't seem intent on stopping."

Yang Yan spoke while heading towards a location resonating with his presence.

His Emperor's Blood Jade should be there.

"Mr. Yang, who do you say did this here? How could someone do this to a person?"

Long walked to Yang Yan's side, sincerely asking.

"I don't know!"

Yang Yan shook his head lightly:

"There are plenty of psychos in the world capable of such things. But this guy is somewhat unique."

"Tearing someone into pieces, then arranging the flesh on the ground into a character! This guy has quite the patience!"

"Please keep this matter confidential. Hongmen will handle it ourselves."

Long thought for a moment before saying.

"I've said before, I have no interest in Hongmen's affairs. Whether now or in the future, I don't want any entanglement with Hongmen."

Upon hearing Long's remark, Yang Yan waved his hand dismissively, like shooing flies, impatiently.

He had made his position clear earlier, yet Long seemed not to understand?

Yang Yan shook his head, approaching a wall.

The aura he left behind seemed to emanate from here.

Bang!

With a dull thud, Yang Yan punched open the wall.

Then, Long heard Yang Yan's angry roar:

"Damn it! Who's the bastard that did this? Transplanting Flowers and Wood? Daring to touch my jade? Tired of living!"

At that moment, what laid before Yang Yan wasn't the Emperor's Blood Jade but a piece of black brick.

Upon hearing his roar, Long approached Yang Yan with confusion.

Only to see Yang Yan had broken the wall, revealing a secret compartment.

Lying quietly in that compartment was a very ordinary brick.

"Interesting, really interesting! Having detected my aura, yet daring to touch my stuff, this guy has some guts!"

After a brief outburst, Yang Yan quickly regained his calm.

"Mr. Yang, this is..."

Long asked, frowning in puzzlement.

"Forget what I said before. Don't call the police regarding this issue! Additionally..."

Yang Yan hesitated before continuing:

"Tell your Mr. Yan that I'll help him deal with this psycho. In exchange, Hongmen helps me track the jade."

Hearing this, Long was also taken aback.

This change is a bit too rapid, isn't it?

"Alright, there's nothing more to investigate here, you should go back and relay my words to your Dragon Head!"

Yang Yan said, turning away without a second glance.

Long was left in the dust, still unprocessed about what actually happened as Yang Yan's silhouette disappeared.

"How's it? Did you retrieve the jade?"

Seeing Yang Yan walk out with a sulky face, Zhou Hanyun had a bad premonition.

She had never seen Yang Yan with this expression before.

Now he looked like a child whose beloved toy had been snatched, sulking there.

"Don't mention it! Somehow, some bastard took my stone. And it was after sensing my presence."

"Hope I don't catch that guy; otherwise, I'd definitely break his third leg."

Yang Yan said, frustrated.

"You, still behaving like a child! Yes, the jade is important, but now it's been taken; what can you do?"

"It's done now, no point sulking here. You'll only hurt your health unnecessarily."

Zhou Hanyun patiently attempted to console Yang Yan, hoping he would feel better.

Chapter 677: Another Stroll?

How could Yang Yan not understand Zhou Hanyun's meaning? He let out a heavy sigh:

"Hanyun, you don't know, the first time I saw such a jade was at Qi Wutong's place."

"However, that thing was brought there by someone to trade treasures with Qi Wutong. So, no matter how much I liked it, I couldn't just take it."

"Moreover, that thing had passed through many hands, so in my heart, its value wasn't that high anymore."

"Our piece of jade is purely natural and has just been brought out from a sealed environment, it's something completely new."

"But such a thing was taken from me before I even had a chance to warm it in my hands. It really pisses me off!"

At this point, Yang Yan gritted his teeth hard.

If only he could find the culprit right now, he would surely make that damn guy understand the serious consequences of such actions.

"Alright, alright, don't be angry, since it's already lost, just let it go."

Zhou Hanyun consoled.

"Damn guy, just don't let me catch you."

Yang Yan said angrily once more.

Seeing Yang Yan in this state, Zhou Hanyun waited until he finally calmed down and then quickly changed the subject:

"So where are we going now? Are we still going to the exhibition?"

Yang Yan immediately said:

"Of course, why not! Maybe I'll find another piece of similar stone!"

Hearing his childish words, Zhou Hanyun couldn't help but smile slightly.

A jade of that level, how easily could it be found again?

According to Yang Yan, such jade had only ever appeared twice in history.

Upon arriving at the exhibition, Yang Yan's attitude was different from when he came yesterday.

As they say, birds of a feather flock together.

Since an Emperor's Blood Jade had already been cut yesterday, there should still be other decent jades appearing.

Even if they aren't as good as the Emperor's Blood Jade, they shouldn't be too bad.

"Did you notice? The crowd today seems bigger than yesterday."

Zhou Hanyun looked at the crowded scene ahead and furrowed her brows.

"Hmm! There are indeed a lot more people."

Yang Yan smiled lightly and said nonchalantly:

"But this has nothing to do with us. Let's continue searching and see if we can find another piece of good jade."

"Oh, you!"

Zhou Hanyun sighed, not saying much more, and began to carefully examine the surrounding stones.

"Wow!"

While Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun were searching, a burst of exclamations suddenly erupted from a distance.

"What the... Did a big find just come out? Why so excited? Could it be another Emperor's Blood Jade?"

Someone murmured to themselves, looking at the distance.

The surrounding people immediately cast looks of disdain at him.

How could something as legendary as the Emperor's Blood Jade appear repeatedly?

Tracing back to the famous Nephrite, such a piece only appeared once in thousands of years.

The second piece Yang Yan cut yesterday was already a miracle. Although everyone wanted to bask in its glory, deep down, no one believed they could be so lucky again.

"Should we go over and take a look?"

Yang Yan asked Zhou Hanyun.

"Yes!"

Zhou Hanyun nodded immediately.

She was also very curious about what remarkable thing had happened over there.

Why did everyone make such exclamations?

Actually, in the gambling stone business, no matter what kind of stone you cut, it will undoubtedly evoke exclamations from the crowd.

Even many times, when you don't cut out anything, these onlookers will still make various noises.

Because the stones that can be cut on the spot are often those with better appearances, which the buyer thinks might yield good jade.

Moreover, there's a saying when it comes to stone cutting.

If you cut the stone and it's a bust, there's nothing more to say.

If it's a rise, the stone's owner can choose whether to sell it or not.

After all, even if the first cut is a rise, no one knows if the next cut will rise or bust!

As for those watching the excitement, it goes without saying.

If you cut out high-quality jade, they will naturally scream.

However, if you bust, they will also gloat on the side, jeering.

The current situation was the latter.

The person cutting the stone had a bust, losing everything.

Needless to say, those watching the excitement were adding to the chaos, screaming wildly.

"Haha! This poor guy probably wishes he could die now! Spending millions on such a worthless rock."

Someone couldn't help but say with a laugh.

"Yeah!"

Someone on the side immediately echoed with disdain:

"He probably thinks he can be as lucky as the guy yesterday! Just buy any rock and cut out legendary jade."

"But don't say, that guy's luck yesterday was really out of this world! Actually cutting out the legendary Emperor's Blood Jade."

Another person said loudly.

"Haha! Maybe he used up all his luck for this life yesterday? If someone stole that piece of jade, wouldn't he be depressed to death!"

...

While everyone couldn't help but discuss, Yang Yan's brow kept twitching.

This guy was really spot on!

"It's best for that guy not to let me catch him, otherwise I'll make him understand why the flowers are so red."

He clenched his fist tightly, gritting his teeth as he spoke.

"Haha! You guy!"

Hearing Yang Yan's words, Zhou Hanyun couldn't help but chuckle, then turned her gaze to the person on the stage, saying softly:

"The stone that person has is wasted. I heard he spent a lot of money to buy that raw stone."

Yang Yan nodded, with a mild smile:

"Hmm! There's jade in that stone, but neither its quality nor quantity is good."

"However, it's better than nothing! Better than finding nothing at all."

Knowing what had happened, Zhou Hanyun and Yang Yan no longer had the desire to watch.

For Yang Yan, the time spent watching this person cut stone might as well be spent finding a good jade himself.

"Let's go! We'll check over there. We haven't been there yet. Also, there don't seem to be many people over there, so we can take a stroll peacefully."

Yang Yan suggested.

Appearing in public with a beauty like Zhou Hanyun inevitably attracted all sorts of attention from those around.

This led to their every move being followed by curious onlookers.

Sure enough, as soon as Yang Yan spoke, someone looked as if kindly reminding:

"Haha! You two, the stones over there aren't any good! Don't waste your time and money!"

"Those are stones that have been left unattended for ages, not worth checking out."

The man said this and then subconsciously glanced at Zhou Hanyun.

Clearly, he too was drawn in by Zhou Hanyun's beauty.

Chapter 678: I Took the Jade, But I Didn't Kill the Man

"Are those stones over there unwanted?"

As the person directly involved, Zhou Hanyun obviously hadn't realized this point, frowning as she asked.

The man became interested as soon as he saw Zhou Hanyun speaking to him.

After pondering briefly, he continued:

"You could say that, the stones over there have basically been picked over, almost showing nothing, eventually abandoned by everyone."

"However, transporting those stones over here cost quite a bit of money, and the owner of the stones is reluctant to just throw them away. Yet, they can't be sold at all."

"So, they're placed there as a gimmick to sell. Sold to those who decorate luxury homes for some adornment. After all, they are jadeite rough stones! They're still somewhat different from ordinary stones."

Yang Yan couldn't help but interject:

"Is there really such a thing? Hasn't anyone ever thought of trying their luck over there?"

The man chuckled dismissively at Yang Yan's words:

"There aren't that many opportunities for good finds! I wouldn't dare say those stones over there have no jade at all, but at least ninety-nine percent of them don't. The remaining ones, unless one gets as lucky as someone did yesterday, are no different than searching for a needle in a haystack."

The man actually cared for Yang Yan's face a bit more and left some words unspoken.

Also, think about who is mingling here!

Not to say the entire stone betting community is present, but there are certainly not a few experts who came.

So, if there were any chance at all, how could those greedy jade merchants possibly dump those raw stones over there?

According to their usual conduct, they would definitely find ways to mix them into other raw materials, trying to sell off even just one chunk.

Simply put, stones dumped over there are completely worthless, incapable of deceiving anyone.

Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun exchanged a knowing glance, and then, under the "helpful" man's wide-eyed stare, headed in that direction.

They weren't completely aiming to try their luck but wanted to see what it was like over there.

"There's really not a chance of finding anything good here!"

Yang Yan, gauging the stones around, shaking his head said.

"Of course!"

Zhou Hanyun smiled wryly, shaking her head:

"After all, those who blend in here are quite the experienced lot."

"They wouldn't miss any opportunity. At least, those jade merchants would find ways to persuade others to buy."

"After all, there's never a shortage of gullible people in this world. Con people over one at a time."

"For something to be discarded here, the chance of it containing jade is very low."

The raw stones here are different from those outside.

You can see that from the way they are laid out.

Jadeite raw stones outside are at least categorized to some extent.

But here, raw stones are simply thrown together, forming little mounds.

However, for safety or to prevent different jade merchants' raw materials from getting mixed, they made some simple partitions.

"Let's go, nothing much to see here, let's head outside for a stroll!"

After looking around, Zhou Hanyun said with a bit of disappointment.

Just at that moment, Yang Yan noticed an old man not far away and smiled:

"That might not be the case! It's like searching high and low only to find it effortlessly!"

Zhou Hanyun looked skeptically at Yang Yan, then followed his gaze to search in the pile of raw materials:

"What's up? Did you discover something?"

She had great confidence in Yang Yan's abilities.

Hearing Yang Yan speak, she naturally assumed he found some good jade there.

"Not that, but I think I found my item."

Yang Yan said excitedly.

The joy of recovering a lost treasure is surprising and exciting.

Zhou Hanyun froze for a moment, then reacted with delight, saying:

"You found that jade?"

"Yes! I can sense the aura of that jade. If nothing unexpected happens, that old man has my jade!"

Yang Yan stared intently at the old man across, coldly saying:

"Let's go! I want to see what kind of holy figure this old guy is for daring to mess with my stuff!"

"Oh! You were able to find it. I wonder if it's fate or something else."

The old man, seeing Yang Yan, suddenly stopped and sighed somewhat helplessly.

"Oh? Not even a denial? I thought you'd flatly refuse to admit it!"

Standing before the old man, Yang Yan eyed him up, speaking somewhat unexpectedly.

"What's the use of denying?"

The old man chuckled gently, remaining calm:

"What does denying do in such matters? Just because I deny it, does it mean you won't take action?"

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow, casually saying:

"I'm curious. What grudge do you have with the people of Hongmen to kill Wei Ying so cruelly?"

Yesterday, he didn't expect someone from the Hidden World would target his jade, so he just left a trace on it and left.

Because of that, this guy had the opportunity to steal the jade.

Otherwise, he would have added a restriction on the Emperor's Blood Jade, making it difficult for the old guy to get his hands on it.

The most infuriating part is, this guy didn't just steal it, he transferred his aura onto a brick!

Was this guy trying to treat him like a fool?

"You can't talk nonsense! Yes, I took the jade, but I didn't kill anyone."

The old man replied with a smile.

"You didn't kill him? How is that possible?"

Yang Yan questioned skeptically:

"I obviously felt Wei Ying's death aura from you. It means you must have been at the scene when he died."

The old man earnestly replied:

"I'm too old for this, why would I lie to you? I really didn't kill him. But I did watch him die from start to finish."

"Haha! If so, this is getting more interesting."

Hearing the old man's words, Yang Yan believed most of it.

The old man looked at Yang Yan intently, softly asking:

"Why? Did those Hongmen guys hire you? Are you interested in the monster that killed?"

Yang Yan raised his brow in disdain, saying:

"Don't bother me with that nonsense. I'm not interested in the monster! And those Hongmen folks can't command me either."

"Now, will you obediently return my jade, or should I take it by force?"

Chapter 679: Are You Ready to Get Beaten Up?

"You act like a dog, changing your stance faster than flipping a page!"

The old man couldn't help but curse when he saw Yang Yan's menacing look.

"Cut the crap!"

Yang Yan sneered and retorted:

"Do you really think I should be nice to an old geezer like you?"

"But I advise you to hand over the item obediently."

"Otherwise, when I make a move, things might not go so smoothly for you."

"Ah! It's too late to talk about this now. I can only tell you that the jade is very important to me right now. I can't, and won't, give it up."

The old man sighed gently, and a heavy aura began to emanate from him.

It seemed he was ready to fight Yang Yan.

"Oh? That's quite unexpected. So you're planning to fight me?"

Yang Yan didn't waste words either, as his aura started to slowly exude.

"There's no other option."

The old man said helplessly:

"The jade is really important to me right now. If you could wait a while, I promise I'll return it intact."

"If you're forcing my hand now, then we can only face off."

"Of course, you should consider this: the nerves of those old timers in the Hidden World Arbitration Council are stretched very tight right now."

"They are very concerned about the integration of the Hidden World and the present world. If changes occur due to our fight, they won't stand idly by."

The old man's eyes turned very serious as he finished speaking.

"Don't give me that nonsense. You're the one who took my stuff, and I'm just taking it back."

"If those old fossils from the Arbitration Committee have the guts to come find me, I'll have a nice chat with them."

Yang Yan raised an eyebrow and spoke without any scruples.

"So you really intend to fight me? No room for negotiation?"

The old man looked at Yang Yan and earnestly asked again.

"Return my stuff, and I'll pretend this never happened. Otherwise, be prepared for a good beating!"

Yang Yan truly intended to make a move.

After discovering the jade had been swapped this morning, he was fuming.

Now, with his luck soaring, he finally found the guy who took his jade. How could he possibly let it go?

"I don't know who you are, but I can sense how powerful you are from your aura left on the Emperor's Blood Jade."

"That's why I transferred it onto a brick rather than erasing it completely."

At this point, the old man smiled wryly.

It wasn't that he didn't want to erase Yang Yan's aura; it was just too strong.

Strong enough to exceed his capabilities.

In desperation, he had to transfer it to a brick.

"Finished talking? Are you ready to get beaten up?"

Yang Yan looked at the old man and spoke coldly.

"Heh! As long as I can keep that piece, getting beaten or even killed would be worth it."

There was a hint of bitterness in the old man's smile, but his words were full of boldness.

"Sir, is that jade really so important to you? I heard from Yang Yan that it doesn't have many uses."

"I think you're not simply fond of the jade and want to keep it, right?"

At this point, Zhou Hanyun couldn't help but speak up.

She could see that the jade was genuinely important to the old man.

But she clearly heard Yang Yan say it wasn't that useful.

Moreover, it required quite a lot from the user.

Even Yang Yan had to consider carefully before he could really use it.

As for this old man, in any aspect, he probably couldn't compare to Yang Yan!

"I can only tell you, that thing is currently keeping my grandson alive. I can't disclose anything else."

"Of course, I'll say it again, if you can lend it to me for a while, I'll definitely return it."

The old man knew very well that he was no match for the man before him, so he kept promising Yang Yan again and again.

"How do I know if what you're saying is true or false? What if you run off as soon as I leave, with your ability to graft other people's aura, where would I find you?"

Yang Yan said as he walked up to the old man.

The Emperor's Blood Jade had significant use for him as well, so he couldn't possibly just give it to the old man.

Hearing Yang Yan's words, the old man frowned.

He knew Yang Yan was speaking the truth.

But what's the point?

The jade...he simply couldn't give it up.

If worse came to worst, he was prepared to die!

"Sir, could you take us to see your grandson? If he is ill, Yang Yan is a very good doctor. Maybe he can help."

Zhou Hanyun suggested a compromise as she looked at the old man.

"A doctor? No matter how good a doctor is, what can he do? Can his medical skills surpass those of the Medical Saint who was titled with Hua Tuo and Bian Que?"

Hearing Zhou Hanyun's words, the old man shook his head and refused outright.

Yang Yan laughed coldly:

"Heh, do you really think I can't find it without you telling me?"

"Since you are also someone from the Hidden World, you must have heard of Soul Searching, right?"

Yang Yan was also running out of patience, he looked at the old man malevolently, and his aura suddenly erupted.

Upon hearing Yang Yan's words, the old man's eyes shot with a sharp gleam.

"You dare! Soul Searching is the most forbidden method in the Huaxia Hidden World, anyone who uses it will be pursued relentlessly by the Huaxia Hidden World!"

"Besides, there is a Heaven and Earth Society here. If you dare to act, they won't let you go."

Yang Yan said icily:

"Just try me, see if I dare or not."

"Alright, stop scaring him. The elder is already very old, if something happens, what will you do?"

Standing beside Yang Yan, Zhou Hanyun gave him a hard pinch and said.

It seemed Zhou Hanyun's words eased the tension, as the old man suddenly spoke:

"I can take you to see my grandson. But after you've seen him, you have to lend me the jade for a while."

"Rest assured, I will return it to you. If you're worried I'll run, you can plant a seed in my soul."

"Heh! How much is an old life worth? Can it be worth more than my Emperor's Blood Jade?"

Hearing the elder's conditions, Yang Yan said disdainfully.

Having just recovered it, only to have it taken so quickly, Yang Yan held a grudge over this matter!

Had it not been for the elder's age and apparent lack of malice, Yang Yan would have acted long ago.

Chapter 680: The Five Calamities and Three Lacks That Defy Heaven

Speaking of which, the old man's conditions are actually very high.

The soul is the most elusive thing in this world.

Even in the Hidden World, no one can fully understand the soul.

This includes even those powerful figures who walk the path of the soul.

And planting a seed in the soul is akin to handing over one's life to the other person completely.

Others can make you live or die at their whim.

Although Zhou Hanyun is not someone from the Hidden World, she has been with Yang Yan for such a long time, she has learned quite a bit about the Hidden World through observation.

Hearing the old man propose such conditions, she glared at Yang Yan, who still wanted to say something, and directly said:

"Old man, I agree to it on his behalf."

The old man could obviously see that Zhou Hanyun was just an ordinary person.

However, he could also see that this man truly cared deeply for her.

So he turned his eyes to Yang Yan, waiting for his answer.

Yang Yan smiled bitterly and nodded gently:

"In that case, lead the way!"

After following the old man to a small alley, the old man opened the door to one of the houses.

"What? Even though you're a person of the Hidden World, you live in such poverty?"

After the old man opened the door, Yang Yan and Zhou Hanyun saw the environment there.

Calling it an environment was elevating it; it was essentially a junkyard.

And yet, in a place like this, lived someone from the Hidden World.

If they hadn't seen it with their own eyes, no one would believe it.

"Come in, the environment is a bit poor, but there's nothing I can do, as an old man, with limited abilities, having a place to live is already quite good."

Hearing Yang Yan speak frankly, the old man said somewhat sheepishly.

"You can't be serious? From the aura you emitted just now, you're at least an A-class powerhouse in the Hidden World!"

"According to the classification after the integration of the Hidden World and the present world, you're also considered a level three powerhouse."

Yang Yan asked somewhat puzzled.

It's true that not everyone in the Hidden World is wealthy, but they don't usually stress about money.

Like those depicted in movies who have superpowers but are very poor; such people basically don't exist.

After all, regardless of what superpower you have, unless it's one that's utterly impractical, you can earn some money with it and not be troubled by money.

"There's nothing I can do, this is the sin the old man created, causing both him and I to suffer!"

The old man sighed, then turned his head to Yang Yan and said:

"You should know there's a fundamental difference between a practitioner like me and a superpower user, right?"

Yang Yan suddenly chuckled, somewhat teasingly said:

"Heh, I couldn't tell at first, you're actually a practitioner. If you hadn't said anything, I would've thought you were a superpower user!"

"After all, I haven't really seen practitioners resort to theft."

Hearing Yang Yan's sarcastic words, the old man also felt a bit embarrassed.

"Alright, if you are a practitioner, then I understand everything."

"Otherwise, I would have thought you were a superpower user with a tendency for self-abuse."

Yang Yan said sarcastically.

"Why is it considered normal for a practitioner to be poor?"

Zhou Hanyun looked at Yang Yan, suspiciously asked.

"Heh! The answer is simple, there's a natural difference between practitioners and superpower users. Because one receives their abilities from the heavens, while the other defies the heavens."

"Simply put, a superpower user's ability is a gift from heaven."

"No matter how you use it, as long as you do not provoke wrath and resentment, there won't be any issue."

"Practitioners, since they cultivate against the Heavenly Dao, face many restrictions from the Heavenly Dao."

"How could an ordinary person acquire extraordinary powers without paying a price!"

"Therefore, any practitioner inevitably has the Five Impediments and Three Lacks. To avoid implicating others, they can only live in solitude."

"What are the Five Impediments and Three Lacks?"

Zhou Hanyun pursued further.

She had never heard of this saying, so she naturally didn't know what the five impediments and three lacks were.

Yang Yan explained:

"Hmm! I'll keep it simple for you! The Five Impediments and Three Lacks basically refer to one's destiny."

"The so-called Five Impediments are nothing more than being widowed, orphaned, alone, solitary, and disabled. As for the Three Lacks, they essentially refer to a lack of money, life, and power."

"He isn't disabled and has grandchildren, so it can't be one of the Five Impediments."

"And given the poverty surrounding this place, it must be one of the Three Lacks: a lack of money."

The old man also laughed, though somewhat bitterly:

"Heh! The young fellow is correct. However, you didn't get it completely right, I originally wasn't short of money, but committed to widowhood and solitude. As for the Three Lacks, I indeed lack none."

Hearing the old man's words, Yang Yan's eyes widened.

"No way, you forcibly altered your own Five Impediments and Three Lacks?"

The old man laughed heartily:

"So, I said, this is fate. In my youthful arrogance, I didn't heed my teacher's warning, and left the mountain alone, which led me to meet Ergou's grandmother."

At this point, the old man's eyes started to well up with tears.

"Back then, I didn't know what the Five Impediments and Three Lacks were, nor did my master tell me."

"Now that I think about it, when my teacher warned me not to leave the mountain, he must have already foreseen the destiny!"

At this point, the old man gently wiped away his tears.

"Forget it, let's not talk about this anymore, come on in!"

The old man said as he pushed open a nearby shed.

"This is my poor grandson, hasn't yet a big name, I just call him Ergou, hoping to deceive the heavens with this."

"In fact, I even went to the United States for him, yet still couldn't escape heaven's punishment."

The old man looked at the child on the bed with affection, his voice somewhat choked.

"Did you think staying out of Huaxia could help you escape the punishment of the Heavenly Dao? That's too naïve!"

Yang Yan said, somewhat speechless.

"Heh! You haven't experienced despair. When one is desperate, they will try anything."

The old man shook his head and said.

Yang Yan ignored the old man's words and went directly to the bedside, looking at the little boy on the bed.

The boy's cheeks had already deeply sunken in, his body was emaciated, looking malnourished and seemingly on the brink of death.

"Is it really that bad? Can something like the Five Impediments and Three Lacks really impoverish you to this extent?"

Zhou Hanyun looked at the long-term malnourished appearance of the boy on the bed, somewhat speechlessly said.

"It's not due to malnutrition, it's the punishment of the Heavenly Dao."

Yang Yan shook his head bitterly, then continued:

"Now I understand what this guy wants my jade for, to continue life by channeling Earth Qi?"

"I really didn't expect it! You really have mastered the technique of Transplanting Flowers and Wood well."

The old man nodded, calmly said:

"Hmm! In this life, my only notable skill is Stealing Heaven and Changing the Day."