

Spirit Realm #Chapter 111 —120

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Chapter 111: First Hall Master

Late at night, Li's Shop.

Qin Lie's expression was haggard. He had locked himself inside the small house and was concentrating on inscribing the Terminator Profound Bomb's spirit diagram.

"Poof!"

An odd sound resounded, and a wisp of thin smoke escaped from the dark green ball. The smell of something burning filled the room.

As if disheartened, Qin Lie laid flat on the ground and stared blankly at the ceiling. His face was filled with dejection.

"What's wrong? Did you fail again?" Li Mu's voice broke out at the right time from the outside, "How many times does that make it?"

"The third time." Qin Lie sat up again. "I've made six end products, and now I've broken three. Inscribing a spirit diagram inside a real artifact as opposed to just a spirit tablet really is different." He walked out of the small house and saw Li Mu drinking himself drunk under the night sky.

"It's pretty normal." Li Mu gave him a smile before motioning him over to sit. Then he said, "This counts as your first real spirit diagram inscription. It's always easy to fail the first time. The last time you mended the other party's diagram, you were inscribing while using their foundation, so it was easier in comparison."

"I understand." Qin Lie forced a smile. "It's just that things have been busy lately, and I'm in a hurry to succeed. It frustrates me to keep failing like this."

Li Mu frowned and first poured him a cup of wine. Then he suddenly noted, "You want to kill someone, don't you?"

Qin Lie's expression changed slightly, and he bowed his head and took a sip of wine. He did not rush to answer but instead quietly felt the burning sensation inside his throat.

Glancing at him deeply, Li Mu indifferently said, "I can see the murderous intent in your eyes. I've also heard a bit about the... situation outside as of late."

“Uncle Li, if you have to pay a terrible price to kill a person, should you do it?” asked Qin Lie as he lifted his head and looked into Li Mu’s eyes.

“That depends on how much you want to kill him.” Li Mu put down his wine cup and pondered for a few seconds. “If the murder in your heart cannot be quelled, if you have a reason to kill them no matter what, if not killing them is something you will regret for the rest of your life, and if you cannot face yourself if you don’t kill them, then no matter how terrible a price you must pay, as long as you can guarantee your own life, you should try.”

Qin Lie’s expression shuddered. As if he had finally made up his mind, he said, “Thank you, Uncle Li.”

Li Mu nodded his head and casually mentioned, “If Nebula Pavilion will not receive you, there is always Li’s Shop.”

Qin Lie felt warm on the inside, and he drank yet another cup of wine. He then looked at the change in the sky and said, “I’ll be going back to Nebula Pavilion. Two of my friends... may be leaving in a short while.” Once he finished, he got up and walked towards outside.

When he was about to walk out of the backyard, Li Mu suddenly said with narrowed eyes, “Commerce Street strictly forbids fighting, so as long as you hide in here, Nebula Pavilion or Shattered Ice Manor will not be able to do anything to you. Remember, if you really cannot find a way out, then you must come to my shop.”

“Thanks Uncle Li,” Qin Lie answered softly before finally leaving.

Li Mu’s expression was the same as ever as he continued to leisurely drink his wine.

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Nebula Pavilion.

When Qin Lie arrived on the second day, he realized that Yao Tai had already left. The Artifact Forging Hall was also closed, and the only thing left was the furnace.

“When are you leaving?”

Inside the pavilion, Zhuo Qian, Qin Lie, Kang Zhi, and Han Feng had gathered together. Both Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian had dispirited looks in their eyes, their faces filled with helplessness.

“When Liu Yuntao returns and my big brother finishes passing over the position, then I will leave together with Zhuo Qian,” Tu Ze replied with a dark expression.

“How is Chu Peng?” Qin Lie asked.

“He has shut himself inside his room and hasn’t left for several days. He won’t see us even when we visit him.” Tu Ze sighed. “I know he feels resentment towards me, but even I can’t do anything. The higher ups have already acquiesced Liu Yuntao’s promotion, and in the future, Tu Family will not be able to interfere with Nebula Pavilion matters anymore. What can I do?”

“I hope he can recover soon,” Zhuo Qian said faintly.

“How about you, Kang Zhi?” Qin Lie asked again.

“God knows.” Even little fatty Kang Zhi no longer had a smile on his face. “Depends on what my dad says I guess. At any rate, it’ll be impossible to stay in Nebula Pavilion, so I can only follow wherever he goes.”

“Same here. I’ll see what my dad says,” Han Feng expressed his answer.

“How about you Qin Lie?” Zhuo Qian asked.

“Me?” Qin Lie shook his head. “I’m not sure myself.”

“Xie Jingxuan and Liang Zhong of Dark Asura Hall’s Department of Internal Affairs were also around the Arctic Mountain Range’s outskirts back then. They should be arriving in the next two days.” Tu Ze thought for a while before suggesting, “That Liang Zhong admired you quite a bit, so you can check with him if there are any open avenues. If you can enter Dark Asura Hall as well, even if you’re not an official general... it can be considered a new outlet.”

“Mn, although I don’t think you should have any ties with that woman, I still feel that this path will be better than staying inside Nebula Pavilion.” Zhuo Qian also thought that it was a good idea. “Du Haitian has a huge grudge against you, so it’ll be incredibly difficult for you if you stay inside Nebula Pavilion. He might even threaten your life. You should leave soon.”

“We’ll talk about it later.” Qin Lie frowned.

The entire group’s mood was heavy as they gathered around to drink, and the more they drank, the more depressing it became.

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“Vice Pavilion Master Liu is back!”

“We’ll have to call him Pavilion Master Liu now!”

“Eh? There are also the people from Crimson Flame Association and Water Moon Sect.”

“Welcome back to the pavilion, Pavilion Master Liu!”

During the evening, there was a loud clamor at the front gate to Nebula Pavilion. As the martial practitioners inside the pavilion exclaimed softly, Liu Yuntao, Du Haitian, and Wei Xing accompanied the First Hall Master of Dark Asura Hall, Yuan Tianya, into Nebula Pavilion. The Elders of Crimson Flame Association and Water Moon Sect followed closely behind. They all wore respectful demeanor.

Yuan Tianya looked about forty years old. His stature was tall and his face oddly ancient. He had a pair of deep and evil-looking eyes that appeared as if he could see through one's heart.

The moment he entered, he smiled towards the people in Nebula Pavilion. Everyone who was seen by him felt rather uncomfortable, as if their inner secrets had been spied upon.

“We are honored to welcome the First Hall Master!”

Every martial practitioners in Nebula Pavilion saluted in reverence when they saw that Yuan Tianya had arrived in person.

Even Tu Mo had hurriedly rushed over to bow and welcome him with Han Qingrui when he heard of it. He had personally led Yuan Tianya to Nebula Pavilion's Procedural Hall.

“Much obliged, Pavilion Master Tu.” Yuan Tianya's expression was cool as he smiled and nodded. “As I thought, like father, like son. Your father, Tu Shixiong's, military exploits in Dark Asura Hall are impressive, and he was always able to get out alive despite entering the Nether Battlefield many times.”

He looked towards Tu Mo and said, “You will be leaving for Dark Asura Hall soon. As a new general, you will also be sent to to the Nether Battlefield. I hope that you can make a name for yourself and become a commander soon just like your father.”

At this point, Yuan Tianya gave a carefree smile. “I happen to have an empty commander spot. I wonder if you have the ability or were interested?”

“You flatter me, First Hall Master.” Tu Mo bowed slightly and did not answer Yuan Tianya's question but simply led the way.

Yuan Tianya smiled slightly and looked meaningfully at him. He as well said nothing more.

Qin Lie and Tu Ze's group had gathered over and were watching Liu Yuntao, Du Haitian, Wei Xing, and the First Hall Master of Dark Asura Hall, Yuan Tianya.

When Yuan Tianya, Liu Yuntao, and Tu Mo's group had disappeared, the martial practitioners that had gathered over were all discussing Yuan Tianya's motives for coming here while they dispersed.

"Yuan Tianya is the First Hall Master of Dark Asura Hall. It is said that he's at the late stage of the Netherpassage Realm and his strength is unfathomable. He is an expert who has the qualifications to be promoted to Grand Hall Master," Zhuo Qian said in a low tone while looking in the direction in which Yuan Tianya vanished. "It's quite surprising that he would grant Liu Yuntao such an honor and come to Icestone City himself. If he is here, then Liu Yuntao will smoothly take over the position of Pavilion Master without any obstacles."

"With him here, Shattered Ice Manor's Manor Lord, Yan Wenyan, will turn obedient and placid." Tu Ze nodded his head. "Yan Wenyan's backbone in Dark Asura Hall is also Yuan Tianya. I heard that he has long reserved a position for Yan Wenyan as commander, and when Yan Wenyan breaks through to the Manifestation Realm, he will immediately become his subordinate commander the moment he enters Dark Asura Hall."

"The infighting between Shattered Ice Manor and Nebula Pavilion inside Icestone City will be truly stopped because of him." Zhuo Qian let out a sigh. "It looks like the higher ups sent Liu Yuntao over to force the Tu Family to let go of Nebula Pavilion completely for the greater good."

Tu Ze did not say anything.

"AHHH!"

Suddenly, a terrible scream pierced through the sky from the southeast corner of Nebula Pavilion.

"It's Chu Peng's voice!" Zhuo Qian's expression turned cold.

Without another word, Qin Lie and Tu Ze's group rushed in unison in the direction of the sound to check out the situation.

Many Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners had also made their way after hearing the terrible cry as they rushed towards the spot.

Inside the Procedural Hall.

The expression of Dark Asura Hall's Yuan Tianya was indifferent as he spoke with Tu Mo and Liu Yuntao. It was as if he hadn't heard the terrible scream.

At the southeast corner of Nebula Pavilion's Artifact Tower.

With a dark face, Du Heng and Wei Li gathered their spirit energy, pressed Chu Peng on the ground and beat down on him.

Liu Ting watched from the sides, eyes filled with a murderous look. "You reckless piece of sheet, are you actually trying to kill us while we are this many? You are just courting death!"

"You want to kill me, eh?" Du Heng swore as he blasted Chu Peng's body again and again while the Golden Spirit Bird in his hands shone.

Chu Peng's entire body was bleeding, and he looked both hideous and savage. His eyes were filled with madness as he wildly unleashed spirit energy and swung sword beams everywhere without any fear of death, hoping to land a fatal wound on Du Heng and Wei Li's group.

Unfortunately, under their combined blasts, Chu Peng had long since crumbled and quickly fell into a pool of blood.

"Chu Peng didn't want to live anymore." There was a witness who saw everything. "It seems that the reason he had purposely chosen the day Pavilion Master Liu and Elder Du returned to act was because he wants them to experience the loss of a loved one. He knew that even if he succeeded, he would still end up dead, but he did it anyway. Sigh."

"His father was sacrificed as a pawn, and not only were Pavilion Master Liu and Elder Du not punished, they become the new Pavilion Master and Vice Pavilion Master. They were even praised by Dark Asura Hall's First Hall Master..." Another person interrupted, "It's only natural he cannot handle it any longer, but I didn't expect him to feel suicidal and choose this moment to take the risk."

When Qin Lie and Tu Ze arrived they immediately heard the crowd's discussions. Without a second thought Qin Lie and Tu Ze had rushed out to the open.

"Stop it right now!" Tu Ze roared angrily, pulled out his Nebula longblade and rushed into battle.

Qin Lie's eyes, on the other hand, were brutal as he stepped with murderous intent towards Du Heng without a word.

Chapter 112: I Will Kill You!

"Boom!"

A thunderous boom suddenly exploded out.

Qin Lie abruptly rushed out to the center and forcefully rammed into Du Heng and Wei Li's group with lightning and thunder wildly discharging from his entire body.

Du Heng and Wei Li were knocked away in an instant. Electricity flowed throughout their bodies, and their hairs were burnt black. Even their clean, white faces were now completely black.

Chu Peng laid feebly on the ground in a pool of blood, but his eyes were filled with unforgettable hatred.

"Out of the way!"

Tu Ze, Zhuo Qian, and Kang Zhi roared as they attacked Liu Ting and her people with brutal expressions.

Qin Lie lowered his head and glanced once at Chu Peng. Then, he stared at Du Heng and Wei Li before rushing out into the open. From his lap he took out the wooden sculpture with his right hand and channeled his energy at Du Heng and his group.

"Zzt Zzzt Zzzt!"

Blazing, chaotic thunder and lightning gathered to form many thumb-sized electrical snakes, all rushing in unison at Du Heng and Wei Li's chests.

They writhed and couldn't help but screech in pain the moment they were struck by the electrical snakes.

"You dare?!" Liu Ting screeched, "Qin Lie, you still dare to defy us even at this moment, do you really want to die?!"

"Qin Lie!"

"Qin Lie!"

Both Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian's expression changed, and they cried out in a hurry the moment they saw his crazed expression.

Kang Zhi and Han Feng glanced at each other once before they rushed to Qin Lie's sides and stopped him with everything they had. They were afraid that Qin Lie really would kill both Du Heng and Wei Li at this point in time.

Du Heng and Wei Li had not broken through to the Natal Opening Realm. If Qin Lie were to unleash everything he had, there was no way they could endure it. They would be beaten to death alive.

Right now, Dark Asura Hall's First Hall Master, Yuan Tianya, was just inside the pavilion, and Liu Yuntao, Du Haitian, and Wei Xing were now in power.

If Qin Lie had killed Du Heng and Wei Li, there was no way he could survive. He would be condemned with felony and killed by the pavilion; there was no way he would be spared.

Tu Ze and the rest knew that the Ling Family's death had caused a terrible hatred to be barely repressed inside Qin Lie heart. They were afraid that Qin Lie would also lose control and become as hysterical as Chu Peng was. That was why they were all anxious.

Zhuo Qian could no longer be bothered with Liu Ting as she quickly went to stop Qin Lie and held him back in a death grip. She said in a low tone, "You must not be rash. Right now, the heads of each side is right inside the pavilion. It will not benefit us to cause trouble."

"Kang Zhi, Hang Feng. Quickly, take Chu Peng away and give him medical treatment!" Tu Ze yelled.

Kang Zhi and Han Feng hurriedly carried the bloodied Chu Peng with them and left the area first.

"Zzzt Zzzt Zzzt."

Lightning jumped erratically on both Du Heng and Wei Li's body, and as if under a chill, their bodies shivered from time to time. Their eyes were filled with shock and horror.

"What's going on?" Du Haitian walked out of the Procedural Hall as he stared at the people coldly. "What the hell are you people doing? We have an important guest today. Why are you arguing at such a time?"

Inside the Procedural Hall, both Tu Mo and Han Qingrui had also received the news, but because Yuan Tianya was around, they could not move away. They had no choice but to accompany him.

It was still a day or two before Discipline Hall Elder, Ye Yangqiu, could return. Therefore, the Discipline Hall members remaining inside the Pavilion did not dare to interfere with Tu Ze and Liu Ting's conflict. They could only pretend not to see them despite hearing about the fight. They had even all temporarily hid themselves.

That was why Du Haitian had become the one to step forth.

"Chu Peng had suddenly tried to kill us from inside the crowd while there were many people." Liu Ting's bright eyes were ice cold as she explained, "Du Heng had been

stabbed from behind. If it weren't for the heart protection armor Du Heng was wearing, his heart might have been pierced."

"Thank you uncle for the heart protection armor you gifted me. Otherwise, I would already be dead."

Du Heng faced the crowd with his back. His shirt was torn where his heart was, and there was silver armor about the size of a bronze mirror on his back. It had defended him against Chu Peng's attacks.

Du Haitian's expression darkened. "Where is Chu Peng?"

"Elder Du, it's like this..." Someone explained from beside him, "Tu Ze rushed over and ended the fight between the two sides. The severely injured Chu Peng had been carried away."

"Qin Lie had rushed over and fought against Du Heng and Wei Li, but Tu Ze and the others had stopped him."

"Du Heng and Wei Li had only taken some small losses. It was nothing serious. This is just an argument among juniors, surely there is no need to make a big fuss about it?"

"....."

There were also people discussing at the sides and explaining the matter from beginning to the end. They all hoped that the matter would be settled peacefully.

Du Haitian's expression was unpleasant as he looked towards Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian before reprimanding them with a frown, "Hall Master Yuan from Dark Asura Hall had personally arrived today. I can't believe the few of you are so insensible as to act as recklessly as Chu Peng."

Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian simply frowned without a word.

He looked towards Qin Lie and humphed coldly. "Wherever you are there will always be trouble. Qin Lie, you better know your place in Nebula Pavilion, or else..."

"Or else what?" Qin Lie lifted his head with just as cold an expression.

"You know on the inside what will happen." A killing intent flashed before Du Haitian's eyes as he said in a dark tone, "This is it for the day. Disperse. You all had better not cause anymore trouble."

The few martial practitioners under his command began yelling and broke up the crowd. Soon, there were no third party remained in this area.

At this moment Du Haitian had walked up right in front of Qin Lie. Standing face to face with Qin Lie he said in a low tone, "I will always have a way to kill whoever I want. Even if Ling Yushi and Ling Xuanxuan have joined Jiu Liuyu's sect, I will still kill the entire Ling Family. What can the sisters possibly do to me?"

Although he had lowered his voice, both Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian at the side could still hear what he said. Both of them turned frigid the moment they heard his words.

On the other hand, Liu Ting, Du Heng, and Wei Li turned spirited as chilly smiles broke out on their faces.

"I will kill you," uttered Qin Lie as he grit his teeth.

"You?" Du Haitian laughed devilishly. "I can guarantee you that you won't live over a month if you continue to stay inside Icestone City! One after another, you will die just like the remaining Ling Family clansmen."

Once finished, he walked passed Qin Lie and said, "Disperse. We shall wait for Discipline Hall's Ye Yangqiu to settle Chu Peng's error today."

Liu Ting, Du Heng, and Wei Li followed behind him with cold laughter as they left.

Qin Lie continued to stand in the same spot with a dark face. The killing intent in his eyes looked like it was about to gush out at any moment.

"Qin Lie, once Liu Yuntao has taken over Nebula Pavilion, you must leave immediately." Zhuo Qian exclaimed and walked over while saying, "You absolutely must not stay here any longer!"

"You have to go! If Du Haitian dares to threaten you so brazenly, then he will definitely attempt to kill you. You cannot stay still and do nothing!" seriously exclaimed Tu Ze. "You should go to Li's Shop as soon as possible and do your best not to leave Commerce Street. You musn't give Du Haitian the opportunity to act against you!"

Even the two of them had not expected Du Haitian to be so brazen as to claim that he would kill Qin Lie and the entire Ling Family right in front of their faces.

It was also at this moment that they suddenly realized that the power balance in Nebula Pavilion had already shifted towards Liu Yuntao's side, following the fact that Du Haitian and Liu Yuntao had grown closer to the First Hall Master, Yuan Tianya.

"I'm going to turn in the rest of my contribution points for spirit stones," said Qin Lie after a moment of silence.

"Good, that's what you should do. It's good that you can figure it out." Tu Ze consoled him, "While there's life, there's hope. When your cultivation realm is powerful and you've

entered a high level force, it will not be difficult to deal with a character such as Du Haitian. The power balance is on his side now, so there is no reason to fight him to the death. This will not benefit you in anyway.”

“You should leave soon. You can’t stay in Nevula Pavilion any longer,” added on Zhuo Qian.

Qin Lie did not answer. He merely went to the stockroom and traded in the rest of his contribution points for spirit stones.

Then, he went back to his own house and took out the remaining three Terminator Profound Bombs. Forcing himself to calm down, he began inscribing the first spirit diagram for the Terminator Profound Bomb.

Amazingly, his inscription this time had gone extremely smoothly, and he was not hindered in the least.

Inside the Terminator Profound Bomb, the jumping light spots glittered and agilely wriggled forward, drawing a complex and wonderful diagram network.

“Whoosh!”

Circles of blue light were abruptly discharged from the round, walnut-sized balls. A crackle of thunder resounded faintly from inside the ball-shaped Terminator Profound Bomb.

Qin Lie abruptly withdrew himself as an odd light flashed across his eyes, and in a low tone, he exclaimed, “I actually I did it!”

With the core spirit diagram on the inside, the Terminator Profound Bomb emitted blue light. It was cool to touch and felt just a tad heavier than before...

“Let’s continue!” After playing with it for a while, he took out a new Terminator Profound Bomb and continued inscribing.

Two days later.

“Whoosh Whoosh!”

Three Terminator Profound Bombs let out an faint blue flash from atop the wooden table. When he touched them, he could feel the thunderous waves suppressed inside the ball-shaped objects.

It was already late at night, and the surroundings were quiet, so Qin Lie leaned against the window while pondering for a moment.

He quietly got up, stealthily made his way to the sealed Artifact Forging Hall and snuck inside the empty hall.

All of the cupboards inside the hall had been sealed, and there were no longer any usable spirit materials to be seen. The only thing left was the central furnace that was too big to get rid of.

With excited light shining out of Qin Lie's eyes, he injected the power of thunder and lightning into a Terminator Profound Bomb in his hand. The power slipped into the thunder ball and was conducted inside the Amplification spirit diagram through the Spirit Gathering spirit diagram. It was then cycled inside the Amplification spirit diagram again and again...

Gradually, the thunder energy within the Terminator Profound Bomb become more and more frantic!

Holding the Terminator Profound Bomb, he could feel the thunder energy inside growing more and more violent as it was amplified!

A stroke of thunder and lightning energy had activated the spirit diagram inside the Terminator Profound Bomb. It activated the Ice Soul Python's beast core and gathered the thunder energy into one, then cycled it continuously inside the Amplification spirit diagram.

With every cycle, the thunder energy inside would double in power and become just a tad more violent.

After a few cycles, the transformed thunder energy inside the Terminator Profound Bomb gushed like the flood towards the Spirit Storage diagram's entrance.

Just as the raging thunder energy was about to enter the Spirit Storage diagram, Qin Lie quickly threw the Terminator Profound Bomb into the large furnace before hastily closing the furnace with its cover.

Then, he immediately retreated backwards.

He moved all the way until he was outside the Artifact Forging Hall, and only after he put a few meters of distance between them, did he begin to count.

"One, two, three..."

"BOOM!"

When he counted to five, a deafening explosion roared into existence, and that furnace which Yao Tai had thought of like a treasure but could not take away suddenly exploded into a million pieces.

The shrapnel from the furnace that had shot out after the explosion blasted dozens of fist-sized holes around the Artifact Forging Hall, and it had jolted every martial practitioner awake.

Qin Lie stood outside the Artifact Forging Hall and watched the shattered furnace inside through these holes. Finally, after a few seconds, he left with a slightly pale expression.

Chapter 113: Some Laughed and Some Cried

Two days later.

Ye Yangqiu and Gao Yu had returned to Nebula Pavilion. There were also Xiong Ba from Crimson Flame Association and Na Nuo from Water Moon Sect who had returned from the Arctic Mountain Range.

Tu Mo and Liu Yuntao's handover ceremony could only proceed after Ye Yangqiu had returned, and then be completed all of the Elders present.

Once the ceremony had completed, Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian would leave the next morning with Tu Mo and begin cultivating at Dark Asura Hall.

Morning.

Tu Ze came to Qin Lie's home and told him, "Qin Lie, today my brother will handover the position to Liu Yuntao and we'll be departing tomorrow. Tonight, we'll gather once more as brothers and go to the hottest place in Icestone City, Drunken Fragrance Garden. We may not be able to see each other often in the future, so let's drink until we're all drunk."

"You should be careful. It will be best if you can depart to Commerce Street tomorrow, and you should try avoid returning to Nebula Pavilion as much as possible in the future," Zhuo Qian said.

Qin Lie nodded and said, "I'll see you at night."

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Inside the Ling Family courtyard.

A cool figure walked inside and frowned slightly at the lifeless Ling Family clansmen inside the courtyard. "Who is the one managing the affairs of the Ling Family?"

"I am." Ling Chengzhi walked in with a dispirited look. The moment he saw the newcomer, his expression abruptly changed into shock as he exclaimed, "Miss Lu Li?"

The one who came was exactly Liu Jiuyu's top student in Dark Fiend Valley, Lu Li. She once visited Ling Town which was why Ling Chengzhi remembered her clearly.

"Miss Lu!" The Ling Family clansmen closed in from all sides as they cried out in terrible sadness, "May Miss Lu take charge of the Ling Family!"

"Miss Lu, my big brother and many Ling Family clansmen have been killed by the scheme of Nebula Pavilion's Liu Yuntao and Du Haitian. Please seek justice for the Ling Family, Miss Lu!" Ling Chengzhi knelt one knee on the ground straight away while full of tears as he yelled, "May Miss Lu take charge of the Ling Family!"

Ling Feng had also knelt down on one knee and looked earnestly at Lu Li. He hoped that she could help take revenge for Ling Ying, Ling Xin, and Ling Xiao.

"I can't help you." Lu Li's expression was indifferent and she was completely untouched by their pleas. "Dark Fiend Valley has no bearing over the matters of Nebula Pavilion. Also, I am not my master and thus cannot put pressure onto Liu Yuntao or Du Haitian. Moreover, even if my master was here, I am afraid she cannot take revenge for you."

"Why?!" Ling Chengzhi's eyes was completely red.

"Dark Asura Hall's First Hall Master, Yuan Tianya, is in Nebula Pavilion right now. Even my master can't do anything with him protecting Liu Yuntao and the others." Lu Li stared at the crowd of kneeling Ling Family clansmen and pondered for a moment before coolly saying, "For the sake of my junior sisters, I am here to inform you to leave Icestone City with me tomorrow morning. In addition, it is best if we leave quietly without causing too much of a commotion."

"Ling Family is Nebula Pavilion's vassal force. If we leave silently, wouldn't there be trouble?" someone asked.

"If the Ling Family continues to stay in Icestone City, they will be exterminated very quickly." Lu Li frowned. "As for negotiating with Nebula Pavilion. We of Dark Fiend Valley will come forward and reconcile with them. You do not need to worry."

She could not be bothered any longer and said, "I will wait for you at the gates tomorrow. If you come, then we'll go. If you don't, then whatever. I will not wait for long."

Once finished, she turned around, ignored Ling Chengzhi's questions, and coolly left.

After that, she headed to Nebula Pavilion.

Two hours later, she had arrived at Qin Lie's small house. This was the second time she had seen Qin Lie.

“Before I came, Junior Sister Ling had told me to look for you and see how you’re doing.” Within Qin Lie’s simple little house, Lu Li saw him holding a spirit tablet as if inscribing something. Her face was cold and there was not a trace of emotion in her eyes. “It has only been a bit over a year, and you’ve actually ascended straight into the Natal Opening Realm from the eighth level of the Refinement Realm.”

After a pause, she said with look of disdain, “Looks like you’ve benefited quite a bit from Junior Sister Ling.”

—Naturally, she had thought that Qin Lie’s current accomplishment was thanks to the pills and prescriptions Ling Yushi had snuck him.

Qin Lie scowled and withdrew the spirit tablet in his hands. He then said impatiently, “If you have no business, then please leave. I am busy and have no time to spare you.”

“Back at Ling Town you had even rejected my Natal Ordering Pill. At the time I had thought you were quite the tough man.” Lu Li laughed coldly while shaking her head. “As it turns out it was all fake after all. In the end, haven’t you ascended by relying on Junior Sister Ling’s stashed pills, and the prescriptions and spirit materials of Dark Fiend Valley?”

Qin Lie was too lazy to explain. He coldly asked, “You came here to spout nonsense?”

“Liu Yuntao and Du Haitian are about to kill the Ling Family’s Patriarch and clansmen. But it looks like you feel nothing at all?” Lu Li looked at him deeply. “Should I praise you for your rationale, or should I say that you’re a coward? I heard that you’ve fought together with Ling Xin and the others before. Are you telling me that their deaths did not affect you at all?”

“Enough!” Qin Lie abrupt stood up with a terribly dark expression. He looked like he was about to murder someone.

With the same cold face Lu Li scoffed. “I was invited by Nebula Pavilion to witness Liu Yuntao’s take over the position of Pavilion Master of Nebula Pavilion. It’s just that I happened along the way to take a look at you for Junior Sister Ling.”

Once she finished, she shook her head and left behind some final words, “You disappoint me greatly.” With that, she left.

Qin Lie sucked in a deep breath and forced himself to calm down. He would not be affected by Lu Li’s words, and he did not want to think about Liu Yuntao and Du Haitian’s complacency today.

He took out the Spirit Storage Board, focused his mind, and injected spirit energy inside it.

For the past two days, he had stopped cultivating temporarily after testing the might of the Terminator Profound Bomb. Instead, the moment his spirit energy was fully recharged, he would pour it into his Spirit Storage Board.

Today, he had stored quite a large amount of spirit energy inside the amplified Spirit Storage Board.

—One that he could absorb and use anytime he wanted to.

“Qin Lie.” The black robed, dark and cold Gao Yu suddenly appeared outside the door.

“When did you come back?” Qin Lie had no choice but to stop once again. He lifted his head to look at Gao Yu and said, “You look pretty well. You must have accumulated quite a lot of contribution points at the Arctic Mountain Range, right?”

“I now have four thousand contribution points.” Gao Yu nodded and said, “In fact, I’ve broken through to the Natal Opening Realm.”

“Congratulations.” Qin Lie congratulated sincerely.

“Compared to you I’m still a step behind.” Gao Yu sat down on his accord after he came in. After some pondering, he said darkly, “During that year at Celestial Wolf Mountain, both you and the Ling Family clansmen had stared at me with disgust. Was it because you’ve heard some bad rumors about me?”

Qin Lie was surprised. He didn’t understand why Gao Yu had suddenly brought up this matter. “Yeah, I heard people said that your behavior is twisted and perverted, and that you’ve tortured and killed several girls?”

“Just one.” Incredibly, Gao Yu actually nodded and admitted his crime. Just as Qin Lie grew more and more confused, Gao Yu said with a dark expression, “That b*tch deserved it!”

Qin Lie frowned and waited for Gao Yu’s explanation.

“That b*tch was originally my elder sister’s servant. After my elder sister had entered Nebula Pavilion, she was left inside Gao Family. She was the love of my life. I’ve given all my elder sister’s and second elder sister’s spirit pills to her, and I dedicated myself wholeheartedly to her, hoping that one day we can enter Nebula Pavilion together.”

“But the truth was she had actually hooked up with my father to ask for cultivation spirit materials when I went out to hone myself. What an amazing method! For two whole years she had me and my father dancing in the palm of her hand, making us willingly contribute our spirit stones and spirit pills to her.”

“Just before she was about to break through to the Natal Opening Realm, I accidentally found out about the thing between her and my father.”

“She is the woman I loved the most, and she is the only woman I’ll ever have. But still, I murdered her with my own hands. Again and again, I stabbed her until I watched her slowly gasp her last breath.”

Gao Yu narrated calmly. A trace of tenderness actually appeared in his eyes as if he was reliving the past.

“Why did you suddenly talk to me about this?” Qin Lie frowned. “I’ve interacted with you for a long time; naturally I would know what kind of person you are. You do not have to go out of your way to explain anything.”

“You are the only... friend I have. I do not wish for you to die while still bearing a misunderstanding about me.” Gao Yu stood up and said with a heavy voice, “You better not do anything stupid. Otherwise, as the newly appointed Discipline Hall’s hall master, I will not sit by idly.”

“Congratulations on becoming the new hall master under Elder Ye’s command.” Qin Lie nodded his head and asked, “What kind of stupid thing would I possibly do?”

“You know it inside your heart.” Gao Yu said coldly, “You and I have fought no less than thirty times in the combat room. In battle, no matter how miniscule, I observe your every move, and I know what every one of your abnormal moves mean. I know you better than those Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian people, and I know what kind of person you truly are...”

When Qin Lie’s expression changed slightly, Gao Yu exclaimed in a soft tone, “I don’t know what your plan is, but I do know that you want to kill someone. And I probably know who that someone is too. But you had better give up on the idea, or you will die and no one will be able to help you. As your... friend, I am here simply to remind you of this.”

Once finished, Gao Yu turned around and left.

Qin Lie frowned and did not say anything. A few seconds later, he resumed his efforts to inject spirit energy into the Spirit Storage Board.

.....

On that day, witnessed by Dark Asura Hall’s First Hall Master, Yuan Tianya, Crimson Flame Association, Water Moon Sect, and many other organizations, Tu Mo officially handed over his position as Nebula Pavilion’s Pavilion Master in front of every elder and hall master.

Liu Yuntao, Du Haitian, and Wei Xing were filled with complete satisfaction. They smiled from ear to ear and all appeared to be incredibly spirited.

The hall masters and members under their command were also in high spirits, and everywhere in the pavilion, people were cheerfully chatting with much laughter.

On the other hand, Kang Hui and Han Qingrui's subordinates all appeared desolate and gloomy.

Those under Chu Yan had even his themselves inside their houses, cried for Elder Chu Yan, and licked their own wounds.

On the same night, Liu Yuntao accompanied Yuan Tianya at Nebula Pavilion to wait for Shattered Ice Manor's Yan Wenyan. They were going to meet and speak a few private words.

For many years, Shattered Ice Manor's Manor Lord, Yan Wenya, had not come to Nebula Pavilion. Now, thanks to Liu Yuntao replacing the Tu Family as Pavilion Master and Yuan Tianya's arrival, he had personally rushed down from North City to accompany Yuan Tianya with Liu Yuntao.

Liu Yuntao could not walk away, so he let Du Haitian and Wei Xing book the entire Drunken Fragrance Garden to set up a feast to welcome the people from Crimson Flame Association and Water Moon Sect.

Today was the day Liu Yuntao's forces had officially risen. It was the great day they had taken over Nebula Pavilion. Everyone was celebrating.

Drunken Fragrance Garden was already overcrowded around evening. Crimson Flame Association's Elder, Ge Hong, and Xiong Ba; Water Moon Sect's Elder, Luo Wei, and Na Nuo; and Seven Fiends Valley's Lu Li and Li Zhongzheng had all arrived at this lively affair in Icestone City. They toasted each other and enjoyed a great time inside.

Tonight, Du Haitian was without a doubt the true lead of the show.

"Come come come! Let's have another cup!" In front of the drinking table, his face was red as he laughed while lifting a cup.

"Congratulations Vice Pavilion Master Du."

"Congratulations Vice Pavilion Master Du!"

Chapter 114: Street Challenge!

Inside Bright Moon Tower, opposite Drunken Fragrance Garden, sat Qin Lie, Tu Ze, Zhuo Qian, and Kang Zhi beside the window.

Bright Moon Tower was also a famous brothel in Icestone City, and it was situated just at the opposite end of Drunken Fragrance Garden. But its fame and level of luxury was a tad inferior to Drunken Fragrance Garden.

Originally, Tu Ze had also booked a spot in Drunken Fragrance Garden, but because Liu Yuntao had risen in power and booked the entire place, Drunken Fragrance Garden's boss had one-sidedly cancelled Tu Ze's reservation.

"Dammit, that old dog is another one of those snobby bastards!" Kang Zhi cursed, "When we went to Drunken Fragrance Garden in the past, that old dog would always fawn up to us and was terrified of slighting us in any way. Now that you and the Pavilion Master are leaving and my father did not succeed the Pavilion Master's position, that old dog immediately changed his attitude and actually cancelled our reservation!"

"A businessman has to be realistic. Actually, never mind, let's all take it easy." Tu Ze drank quietly as he stared at the brightly lit Drunken Fragrance Garden.

Across the street, they could see faint outline of Du Haitian in high spirits through the window. They were boisterously talking with each other and clinking cups over and over again with the Elders of Crimson Flame Association and Water Moon Sect.

"Qin Lie, you must be more careful tomorrow," Zhuo Qian told him again and again.

Qin Lie kept his head bowed and sipped at his wine with a terribly preoccupied look. He only nodded slightly in response when he heard her words.

"Kang Zhi, are you sure the information you acquired is correct?" he suddenly asked as he remembered something and lifted his head.

"Qin Lie, why do you want to know where the Du family members live?" Kang Zhi appeared doubtful. "Naturally my information is correct. Du Jiaolan and Du Fei cannot enter Nebula Pavilion, and they are at the locations I've told you. But what does it have to do with you? Can it be you want to take revenge against these two? Do you really think Du Haitian can't kill you?"

"Qin Lie, you must not be rash! If you dare to act against Du Jiaolan and Du Fei, Du Haitian will definitely leads his hall masters and subordinates to exterminate you!" Tu Ze's expression was heavy. "Right now Du Haitian is at his most powerful. You must not provoke him or all that will remain for you is death."

"Yeah, you must not be impulsive at this time. You must hold it down!" Zhuo Qian exclaimed.

"Even I'm holding back when my father's about to be unseated. You have to hold yourself back too!" Kang Zhi said.

Han Feng and the others also threw their own arguments into the mix so he wouldn't act impulsive to avoid giving Du Haitian the opportunity to kill him straight away.

"Senior Sister Lu, why haven't you eaten anything? Do you not like the dishes? Should I switch out a table for you?" At Drunken Fragrance Garden in another VIP room beside the window, Li Zhongzheng and a few youths from Seven Fiends Valley were also drinking around a table. Li Zhongzheng looked towards Lu Li sitting by the window and had asked that flatteringly.

Lu Li's expression was cool. She did not open her eyes to look at Li Zhongzheng. Instead, she just coolly said, "Remember to wait by the city gates the first thing tomorrow. The Ling Family clansmen should have rushed there quite early. This is also the only thing you can do for Junior Sister Ling."

"Don't worry, Senior Sister Lu. I will make sure to properly carry everything out and safely deliver the Ling Family clansmen to Seven Fiends Valley's domain," Li Zhongzheng promised with a smile. "By the way, thank you for your reminder, Senior Sister Lu. I could not have figured out a way to please Junior Sister Ling otherwise. Hehe, after this matter is done, Junior Sister Ling should treat me seriously from now on."

With a cold face Lu Li nodded, "At least you're slightly more useful than that Qin Lie."

"Qin Lie?" Li Zhongzheng snorted once. "What is he? How can he possibly compare to me? Such a pitiful character would never be able enter a Black Iron rank power in his lifetime. What can he give to Junior Sister Ling?"

"He certainly is nothing," Lu Li muttered.

.....

"Haha, I guess this is it for the day. I have something else to do later, so I'll have to take my leave." At the front entrance of Drunken Fragrance Garden, Du Haitian said apologetically to Ge Hong and Luo Wei, "Tomorrow, if you all are still here tomorrow, then I will definitely lay down everything and drink with you all until we pass out."

Liu Ting, Du Heng, and Wei Li were accompanying the other juniors, Xiong Ba and Na Nu, inside another Drunken Fragrance Garden VIP room.

Seeing that Du Haitian was about to leave, Liu Ting and the other had also gathered around the window and looked down at the streets.

"Vice Pavilion Master Du is planning to receive new instructions from the First Hall Master while Shattered Ice Manor's Yan Wenyan is at Nebula Pavilion, am I right?" Crimson Flame Association's Ge Hong said with a look of envy and understanding, "We will surely not delay Vice Pavilion Master Du's matters any longer. Today has been a

very enjoyable day. Crimson Flame Association would like to communicate with Nebula Pavilion more frequently in the future.”

“That is true.” Water Moon Sect’s Luo Wei also smiled and nodded. “Pavilion Master Liu and Vice Pavilion Master Du’s future will be bright under the First Hall Master’s guidance.”

“You flatter me.” Du Haitian joined his hands in a thanks. Then, he stepped onto the street with his tens of subordinates and was about to leave for Nebula Pavilion.

“Will you look at his complacent look?” Kang Zhi scowled, “Despicable scumbag! To think he used Elder Chu Yan’s sacrifice and the Ling Family’s tragic deaths to acquire his achievements. One day he will be met with retribution.”

“That will be in the future. At the very least, no one can touch him at the moment,” Zhuo Qian said helplessly.

“I would like to try!”

It was at this moment, Qin Lie, who had been drinking quietly and only seldomly interrupted, had abruptly stood up.

A sharp aura abruptly burst forth from Qin Lie’s body, causing surprised expressions to appear on Tu Ze, Zhuo Qian, and Kang Zhi’s faces.

While they were stunned, Qin Lie flew over the table, went through the window, and abruptly landed on the street.

“Bang!”

His figure stabbed the center of the street like a straight spear, directly blocking Du Haitian and the others’ path. He vehemently yelled out, “Du Haitian, I, Qin Lie, challenge you to a fight!”

The windows of both Drunken Fragrance Garden and Bright Moon Tower abruptly opened all at once. Heads popped into the open from the second and third floors’ windowsills.

Lu Li, Li Zhongzheng, Liu Ting, Xiong Ba, Na Nuo, Ge Hong, Luo Wei, Tu Ze, Zhuo Qian...

Everyone had gathered at the windows on both sides, looking absolutely shocked under the bright red lanterns and moonlight as they saw Qin Lie standing at the center of the street.

“Qin Lie!”

“What are you doing Qin Lie?”

“What the hell are you doing?”

“This kid has gone insane, hasn’t he? Why is he challenging Vice Pavilion Master Du?”

“It seems that the clansmen from Ling Town and his friends are among the people Vice Pavilion Master Du had sacrificed... Who knows? I also heard it from someone else.”

“What realm is he to dare challenge the middle stage Natal Opening Realm’s Du Haitian? Does he know how the word death is written?”

“.....”

Loud noises abruptly exploded from the restaurants on each side of the street.

Those who knew the inner details looked even more shocked by Qin Lie’s challenge on the street. They all leaned over to look.

Qin Lie’s street challenge had ignited the fiery passion from every martial practitioner who had drunk themselves into a high, causing them to scream out like a blasted cooker.

Holding the windowsill, Lu Li looked coldly at Qin Lie on the streets. An odd light appeared in her cold eyes.

Xiong Ba, Na Nuo and the looked looked amazed. They were all focused upon Qin Lie, eyes shining with an odd light.

Elders such as Crimson Flames Association’s Ge Hong and Water Moon Sect’s Luo Wei were frowning, suddenly caught by surprise by his actions.

“Qin Lie! Get back here!” Tu Ze shouted from the windows.

“Don’t be stupid!” Zhuo Qian was also shouting.

“By Nebula Pavilion’s rules, I, Qin Lie, challenge Vice Pavilion Master Du Haitian to a fight. May Vice Pavilion Du grant me this opportunity,” said Qin Lie with a cold expression and dark voice. “Unless you’re scared of me that is?”

Everyone’s gazes shot to Du Haitian in unison. They could all see the murderous light beaming from his eyes.

“Sure. I will grant you this opportunity right now.” Under the crowd’s gazes, Du Haitian nodded before suddenly instructing his hall masters in a low tone, “Go block the front of Bright Moon Tower. Do not allow Tu Ze and Zhuo Qian to interfere with this fight.”

The hall masters under his command broke into nasty grins as they immediately led their men away and arrived at the entrance to Bright Moon Tower. They lifted their heads and looked at Tu Ze and the others' position. They waited and guarded below so the others could not rush out to stop this fight.

"Qin Lie's going to kill himself!" Tu Ze suddenly jumped down from the window.

Zhuo Qian, Kang Zhi, and Han Feng's expressions had also turned to shock as they fell straight down from the windows in succession to drag Qin Lie away.

"My apologies, but you will not be getting over!" A few of Du Haitian's hall masters and even high ranking martial practitioners blocked Tu Ze's path, not allowing them to interfere.

"Qin Lie is soon a goner." Na Nuo sighed softly.

"What is he doing? Sending a message with his death?" Li Zhongzheng sneered, "I know a little about Nebula Pavilion's rules. As long as no one dies, every martial practitioner inside the pavilion can challenge each other. But since Du Haitian is the newly appointed Vice Pavilion Master, even if he 'accidentally' kills Qin Lie, there should not be a huge problem. Even if Qin Lie by some miraculous luck killed Du Haitian, he would absolutely not escape death due to his low status!"

His gaze was one with ridicule. "He's going to die either way, but he just had to jump out and make some noise. What a complete idiot."

"Maybe he's looking to die in the first place?" someone interrupted.

"Hehe, you're right. He's here to commit suicide." Li Zhongzheng smiled cheerfully.

While the people in the restaurants were deep in discussion, Du Haitian bent over and spat out the alcohol inside his stomach a few times. Then, he pulled out a deep blue shortsword about the length of a forearm from his sleeves. "If you think you can surpass my realm and beat me just because I drank more than usual, then you are sorely mistaken."

The deep blue shortsword was about two fingers wide and half a meter long, and it faintly glittered with a deep blue light.

As Du Haitian poured spirit energy into it, the two sides of the incredibly narrow blade suddenly formed into many blue leaves.

As if they were born from the very blade itself, the blue leaves appeared wondrously exquisite and immeasurably sharp. It was as if they could soar into the air at any moment, and they also appeared to be sharp beyond ordinary.

“The Blue Leaf Sword, a Profound Grade One spirit artifact. Du Haitian had spent a large amount of capital to buy it from Armament Pavilion.” Someone exclaimed softly from the windows, “Rumors say that the Blue Leaf Sword was crafted by Armament Pavilion’s Artificer Mo Hai when he was still young, and everyone knows that Mo Hai... is now a Profound Sixth Rank Artificer and one of the most well-known artificers in Armament Pavilion.”

“Isn’t he overreacting a little to bring out the Blue Leaf Sword already?”

“He has always been careful and alert regardless of who he faces. Even if his opponent is a Refinement Realm martial practitioner, he would not be overconfident at all and would still use everything he had.”

“What a scary person!”

The crowd talked.

Qin Lie took out the wooden sculpture and sucked in a deep breath as his gaze abruptly cooled.

“Zzzt Zzzt Zzzt!”

Strands of thumb-sized blue lightning abruptly shot out of the wooden sculpture’s head. He looked at Du Haitian, his figure suddenly darting forward as if dragging a long rainbow of electricity. Qin Lie had actually been the one to make the first move.

“Reckless.” Du Haitian’s expression was indifferent as he waved his Blue Leaf Sword.

Many deep blue leaves suddenly danced out into the air from the Blue Leaf Sword like spirit cicadas. Carrying a deadly and sharp aura, they fell down from the sky like scattered and fallen leaves.

Scattered like rain, murderous intent filled the streets.

All the noise was abruptly silenced.

Chapter 115: Center of Attention

Blue leaves drifted down under the cool and bright moonlight. Each leaf was glittering blue like many murderous edges.

“Zzzt Zzzt Zzzt!”

Strands of light blue electricity wove inside the wooden sculpture to form a blue barrier above Qin Lie’s head.

“Clap clap clap!”

An explosive sound like that of firecrackers came from the deep blue electricity. Every time a blue leaf landed on it, its light would dim a little.

Like gushing waves, they seeped through the electricity and caused Qin Lie’s body to lower as his steps suddenly faltered.

Gripping the Blue Leaf Sword, Du Haitian’s expression was as calm as a millpond as he stared indifferently at Qin Lie and softly exclaimed, “Overconfidence.”

The Blue Leaf Sword shuddered thrice rhythmically, and three layers of blue ripples spread out. Each layer of spirit energy was stronger than the last, and they stacked, layer by layer, like sea water gushing towards Qin Lie.

“Bang!”

When the first wave had struck Qin Lie, he abruptly shuddered and his complexion instantly paled.

He had used all of his energy to defend against the blue leaf that had fallen on his head, but he did not expect Du Haitian to attack yet again with another wave of spirit energy.

“Bang!”

Yet another ripple charged over, and Qin Lie’s figure suddenly burst backwards in retreat. His entire face was bright red, and he very nearly spat out a mouth of fresh blood clogged in his throat.

This rippling wave was twice as strong as the first!

“Wave Force! Third Layer!” Du Haitian suddenly let out a cold smile.

“Bang!”

The nearly invisible third layer of the wave exploded like an avalanche towards Qin Lie before he could stand still.

Finally, Qin Lie could not take it anymore as he was thrown backwards like an arrow while blood spraying out of his mouth.

“Boom!”

After he landed on his feet, his face turned from healthy red to pale white. It was as if his spirit had turned sluggish in one go.

At the brightly lit windows on both sides of the street, the observers were all silent.

Everyone could see that Qin Lie was far weaker than Du Haitian, both in terms of combat experience and the refinement and wealth of spirit energy.

Du Haitian's "Wave Force" struck the dead center of Qin Lie's chest; his wild rush was stopped dead in its tracks as he flew back while spitting blood.

It was as if he had lost the ability to fight in an instant.

"You've only just entered the Natal Opening Realm and opened your first Natal Palace, yet you dare challenge me? You really are overestimating yourself." Du Haitian's tone was unusually calm as he held the Blue Leaf Sword. "Have you not heard that I've already opened six Natal Palaces? I have six times your power. There no doubt what the outcome of this battle will be because you cannot threaten me in anyway whatsoever."

When he was almost in front of Qin Lie, he suddenly lowered his voice. "Do you really think I'm afraid to kill you? You must remember that I am the Vice Pavilion Master of Nebula Pavilion. Even if I did kill you, Ye Yangqiu would not dare to take any action against me, especially when he can hardly protect himself right now!"

The killing intent in his eyes were thick, and the Blue Leaf Sword in his hands shone with bright light, and many more blue leaves flew out yet again.

"Run Qin Lie!" Tu Ze screamed from the other side, "He's going to kill you! He's really going to kill you!"

"Run!" Zhuo Qian also cried out.

Unfortunately, the hall masters and several high rank martial practitioners under Du Haitian's command had completely surrounded them, preventing them from lending Qin Lie a helping hand.

They could only cry out loudly in warning.

The two sides' of Martial practitioners on the streets from all kinds of forces were all leaning against the window and looking down, staring as Du Haitian closed in on Qin Lie, step by step.

They could see that he intended to murder Qin Lie from his eyes, and almost all of them, with absolute confidence, believed that Du Haitian would kill him.

—This was because he was the Vice Pavilion Master of Nebula Pavilion.

“I know you would dare to kill me.” Qin Lie wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth and suddenly stood up. With a pale face, he watched Du Haitian close in, one step at a time, and his eyes shone with the color of madness. “I’ll be waiting right here for you to kill me! Come on! Du Haitian, I’ll be standing right here, so are you going to show me how you’re going to kill me!?”

He waved the wooden sculpture in his right hand and reconstructed blazing electricity; blocking the falling blue leaves one after another.

His left hand was hidden inside his sleeves as he quietly grabbed a Terminator Profound Bomb and prepared himself.

As if noticing something, Du Haitian suddenly stopped his footsteps and coldly said, “Oh? Trying to bring me down with you?”

He no longer walked forward. Du Haitian shook his head and waved his sword about in the air.

A thick wave of spirit energy suddenly formed into yet another “Wave Force.” He intended to kill Qin Lie from a distance.

Qin Lie cursed at Du Haitian for being careful, and as he saw that the “Wave Force” was about to be formed yet again, he had no choice but to turn to the side and quickly dodge, afraid that the three waves of “Wave Force” would strike him yet again.

He did not dare to activate the Terminator Profound Bomb he held in his left hand with thunder energy right now, so he had to put it aside for the moment.

Qin Lie had thought that after withstanding a “Wave Force” with Heavenly Thunder Sacred Body and displaying the signs of weakness, he would be able to attract Du Haitian over and attack.

Then, he would activate the Terminator Profound Bomb and, with its terrific explosion, instantly murder Du Haitian...

He had this perfect plan in his heart long ago, yet he didn’t expect Du Haitian to be this careful despite obviously holding the upper hand in this situation.

After suffering a direct blow from the “Wave Force,” he was also fearful on the inside when he saw that it was about to come at him again. Without any other choice, he could only avoid it for the moment.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!”

Three dull blasts came from the stone wall Qin Lie moved away from, and after the waves of the “Wave Force” made contact with it, the thick stone wall abruptly collapsed.

On both sides, the expressions of all the watching martial practitioners from Drunken Fragrance Garden and Bright Moon Tower changed slightly.

“Looks like this person is about to break through to the late stage of the Natal Opening Realm,” Seven Fiends Valley’s Li Zhongzheng exclaimed in surprise.

Lu Li too nodded a little. “From the looks of it, all six of his Natal Palaces should be completely filled. As expected, this person did not become the Vice Pavilion Master of Nebula Pavilion through plotting and scheming alone. He does have corresponding power to function as his base.”

“I’m a bit impressed by Qin Lie’s courage now.” Li Zhongzheng sneered, “A brat who just entered the Natal Opening Realm and had only formed a single Natal Palace actually challenged an enemy with all six Natal Palaces filled...”

He paused for a second before shaking his head. “It is as Du Haitian had said; what an overconfident and reckless fool!”

“Na Nuo, do you think that fellow Qin Lie... can summon heavenly lightning to fall from the skies just like when we were at the stone forest?” Over at Water Moon Sect, Little Sparrow lowered her voice and quietly asked as she watched Qin Lie escaping from Du Haitian’s “Wave Force”, “If he could summon a lightning strike like last time, then he may have a real chance at victory.”

“The last time he only managed to cause a natural anomaly because he happened to break through to the Natal Opening Realm and because he was cultivating the power of thunder.” Na Nuo too suppressed her voice while standing at the window. “Now that he has broken through already, it shouldn’t be possible for a miracle to happen again. Otherwise, he would have summoned the thunder and lightning long ago. Why would he need to make himself look this bad?”

“That true.” Little Sparrow sighed softly. “Qin Lie destroyed the Soul Devouring Beast back at the stone forest. You can say that he saved all of us. I kinda don’t want to see him in trouble...”

Na Nuo nodded. “It’s a bit unrealistic, but I also wish for him to live.”

“Qin Lie, you think to challenge me with just this?” Du Haitian swung the Blue Leaf Sword as deep blue leaves scattered across the air and fell on top of Qin Lie’s head.

Continuously channeling Heavenly Thunder Eradication, Qin Lie unleashed the electricity inside the wooden sculpture to destroy the deep blue leaves while dodging in an incredibly awkward manner.

—While he was dodging Du Haitian’s “Wave Force” sneak attack.

He was also looking for an opportunity to close in on Du Haitian.

However, as if reading his thoughts, Du Haitian kept distance between them and stopped him from closing in throughout the fight. "You're trying to severely injure me before you die, aren't you? I've fought for so many years, and I have seen all kinds of opponents. How can I be hurt by the likes of you?"

Sucking in a deep breath, Du Haitian's face displayed impatience. "Let me see how much longer you can dodge!"

A terrific wave of spirit energy emanated from Du Haitian's body. Suddenly, the Blue Leaf Sword's light abruptly brightened, and tens of deep blue leaves suddenly flew out and drifted over to Qin Lie from every direction.

"Each leaf will deplete a portion of your energy. Show me how your single Natal Palace of energy can compete with my six Natal Palaces!" Du Haitian yelled coldly.

"Clap clap clap!"

Blue leaves that covered the sky fell down and exploded upon contact with the electricity formed by the wooden sculpture. Every time a leaf fluttered against it, Qin Lie's energy would decrease by a small amount.

As Du Haitian had said, since he had used thunder and lightning energy to form the electricity, every time he destroyed a leaf, he would deplete a portion of his own energy.

As of now, he had already expended three fifths of the thunder and lightning energy inside in the Natal Palace within his dantian's spirit sea.

Seeing that the sky filled with blue leaves came at him yet again, Qin Lie's heart darkened as he finally understood that Du Haitian, with his own wealth of energy, was using his weakness against him and was depleting his energy. After that, Du Haitian would be able to easily finish him off.

"Miss, it appears that someone is fighting on the streets." At the southwest corner of the street, a group of two was heading towards Commerce Street under the moonlight. One of them heard the vibrations of spirit energy and had suddenly pointed it out.

He was Liang Zhong.

Naturally, the person he called Miss was Xie Jingxuan of Dark Asura Hall's Department of Foreign Affairs.

Both of them had just entered Icestone City before night had fallen. They were just about to depart for Li's Shop to see if there were any new Spirit Gathering Boards to purchase.

The matter in the Arctic Mountain Range was done; the martial practitioners and spirit beast king had formed a new contract, and the Soul Devouring Beast was also dead. Their quest this time had ended smoothly.

They were also planning to return to Dark Asura Hall the next morning.

“Today, Yuan Tianya, is at Nebula Pavilion, and Liu Yuntao has taken over the position of Pavilion Master of Nebula Pavilion. Who is stupid enough to fight inside the city at this time?” Xie Jingxuan whispered as her slick eyebrows locked up with curiosity blooming inside her heart. She said, “Let’s go and have a look.”

Under the night sky, the two people were like two bolts of cold lightning. After a few flashes, they suddenly arrived and stood at the corner of the street.

“It’s Qin Lie!” Liang Zhong exclaimed softly as his expression turned complicated all of a sudden. He nodded and said, “Du Haitian and Liu Yuntao had sacrificed the Ling Family clansmen as fodder, so it is natural that Qin Lie would become enraged. But to think that he dares to challenge Du Haitian on the streets. Has he truly gone insane?”

After a pause, Liang Zhong frowned deeply and continued, “He lost. He’s going to be killed by Du Haitian, and even if he won, he would not be able to kill Du Haitian without being labeled as a traitor. The whole city will hunt him down. No matter how you look at it, he doesn’t benefit from this whatsoever. Why is he acting so irrational?”

Garbed in white, Xie Jingxuan stood like a ghost at the corner of the streets while staring indifferently at the Qin Lie as he unceremoniously dodged.

After a while, she shook her head and commented, “The difference between the two of them is too large. Unless he can summon the heavenly lightning to fall once more, he will surely die.”

Chapter 116: Behead!

Nebula Pavilion, inside Liu Yuntao’s study.

Yuan Tianya sat at the tallest seat with a smile while talking with Liu Yuntao, Yan Wenyan, and Wei Xing.

“Wenyan, I am sending my men to investigate your son’s death. We’ll know soon enough if he was really bitten to death by the Soul Devouring Beast.” Yuan Tianya said coolly, “As long as he wasn’t killed by Xie Jingxuan, I will be able to call the shots and obtain justice for you.”

“Hall Master, that Xie Jingxuan... just what is her background?” Liu Yuntao asked solemnly.

Yuan Tianya gave him a smile. "It's best if you don't ask about this. All you need to know is that you should not provoke her. Hmm, let's put it this way. Even if I am seated at the position of Grand Hall Master, I will still have to show her an adequate amount of comity."

The moment the words were said, everyone's faces changed. They became wary of Xie Jingxuan inside their hearts.

"Zhuo Qian was placed in Nebula Pavilion as part of her training. So is she the same and was placed at Dark Asura Hall from... up there?" Liu Yuntao exclaimed.

Yuan Tianya looked surprised and then nodded. "Very smart. Indeed, I have not misjudged you."

"If your son really died by her hands, then... you may as well just think of it as bad luck," said Liu Yuntao as he stared at Shattered Ice Manor's Manor Lord, Yan Wenyan, with a frown.

Yan Wenyan scowled and did not say anything.

At this moment, someone called out softly from outside, "Pavilion Master, I have something to report."

Liu Yuntao's expression fell as he asked, "What is it?"

"Qin Lie has challenged Vice Pavilion Master Du right on the streets. They are now fighting at the street between Drunken Fragrance Garden and Bright Moon Tower." The person on the outside did not dare to enter as he asked with the utmost politeness, "Vice Pavilion Master seems to be planning to kill him. Do I need to inform him to hold back a little?"

"What an impertinent bastard; how dare he cause trouble on the day I become Pavilion Master. Make sure to tell Haitian to eliminate this person!"

"I understand." The person quietly withdrew.

And so, Liu Yuntao continued to accompany Yuan Tianya and talk with him. The little episode had no weight inside their hearts. To them, Qin Lie was already a dead man.

.....

On the street, under the night sky.

With the falling blue leaves above Qin Lie's head, he madly channeled Heavenly Thunder Eradication and defended against them with great difficulty while using woven electricity.

From time to time, he even had to dodge in abject fear to avoid the soundless “Wave Force” attacks.

His spirit energy was rapidly consumed, and the thunder and lightning energy inside his Natal Palace was also depleting at an incredible rate. His expression grew more and more tired.

The windows of every building on both sides of the street were opened. Countless pairs of eyes were pointed at the street and Qin Lie and Du Haitian’s figures.

At the corner, Xie Jingxuan, garbed in white, and Liang Zhong stood by themselves as they also watched the street fight.

Tu Ze, Zhuo Qian, and Kang Zhi were surrounded by Du Haitian’s subordinates at the center. There was nothing they could do; they could only stare red-eyed with great worry.

“Bang bang!”

Electricity flashed above his head. Two more deep blue leaves exploded, and the bits of shattered blue light fell through the web and suddenly made contact with Qin Lie’s shoulders.

“RIIP!”

As if cut by a blade, two wounds immediately appeared on Qin Lie’s shoulders with scarlet blood flowing out.

“Bang bang bang!”

As more deep blue leaves exploded, more motes of icy-blue light seeped through the lightning and descended onto Qin Lie’s body.

Wound after wound appeared on Qin Lie’s body. Fresh blood gushed out and drenched him completely in red.

Everyone who saw this understood that Qin Lie had expended too much energy and was no longer able to maintain a tight electrical web. That was why the blue lights were able to fall through and inflict terrible wounds on his body.

Du Haitian’s expression was calm as he wordlessly waved the Blue Leaf Sword and formed even more icy-blue leaves.

Seeing that Qin Lie was drenched in blood and how the light in his eyes slowly fading, Du Haitian frowned and said, “I’m surprised that you were able to hold out for so long,

but in the end, you are still going to die. Besides, I really like this way of torturing you... to death."

Finally, he dared to approach Qin Lie once more.

While walking closer, he said, "I heard that you have quite the great relationship with the juniors, Ling Ying, Ling Xin, and Ling Xiao at Ling Town. I wonder if you know that your fate will be the same as theirs: to die without even leaving behind a corpse..."

Du Haitian's voice gradually grew quieter, and with a tone that only Qin Lie could hear, he slowly said, "Do you know that when they died I was watching right above the valley? I watched them being torn apart and eaten alive one after another by the spirit beasts just like Ling Chengye. Do you know how happy I was at the time?"

His expression was dark and horrifying. "That little b*tch Ling Xuanxuan made my Fei'er impotent! I will use the corpses of every Ling clansmen to take revenge for Fei'er! Ling Chengye is already dead, and the next one will be his younger brother Ling Chengzhi, and after him, Ling Feng and every other clansmen in the Ling Family! They will all die with their bodies torn to shreds just like you!"

Once he had walked closer Du Haitian once again used "Wave Force." With these three-layered ripples, he would corner Qin Lie and murder him in a most horrifying manner!

Listening to his depictions, the terrible scene of Ling Ying and Ling Xin before they faced their deaths appeared in Qin Lie's mind...

When he watched "Wave Force" rushing towards him once more, Qin Lie grit his teeth and suddenly chose not to dodge any longer. Savagely, he said, "If I live today, then I swear that I will tear Du Jianlan, Du Fei and Du Heng to pieces!"

His face filled with madness and anger, he suddenly rushed at Du Haitian in full force as all the energy surrounding his entire body instantly turned solid.

"Boom boom boom!"

Bolts of lightning accompanied by the rumbling sounds of thunder poured out every one of his meridians. Even his two eyes had thunder and lightning shooting out of them.

"You will die!" Du Haitian's eyes turned chilly, as the layers of "Wave Force" rushed at Qin Lie in order to exterminate Qin Lie on the spot.

He did not believe that the burned out Qin Lie would still be able to hurt him at close range any longer, even with suicidal methods.

He also did not believe that Qin Lie could break through the layered "Wave Force"!

“Whoosh!”

The wooden sculpture that Qin had been holding onto this entire time was suddenly put away, and a spirit tablet suddenly appeared at his right hand—the Spirit Storage Board!

With a single thought, the spirit energy that had been stored for many days inside the Spirit Storage Board gushed into his dantian’s spirit sea in an instant, causing his eyes to shine with a powerful light and his mind to eerily be filled with power again!

Lightning flashed from his left arm as streaks of thunder energy slipped into the Terminator Profound Bomb. The dark blue thunder ball abruptly shook with thunder.

“Clap clap clap!”

Both thunder and lightning energy gushed out of his Natal Palace, meridians, veins, and blood in boiling fashion, causing his entire body to roar with thunder and be surrounded by lightning!

At this very moment, Qin Lie’s early stage Heavenly Thunder Sacred Body showed its true power!

“Eh?”

Many surprised cries came from the windows on both sides of the street. Everyone’s expressions were slightly moved as they stared at Qin Lie with a strange look.

Xie Jingxuan’s eyes brightened a little as she said, “His aura has suddenly increased massively...”

“This is?” Liang Zhong was stunned.

As of now, the person rushing towards Du Haitian, Qin Lie, did not look burned out in the slightest! His sudden aura was incredible, and it caused shockwaves among the bystanders!

Du Haitian’s expression changed for the first time in the fight!

He was currently way too close with Qin Lie, and because "Wave Force" had just been unleashed, he was in a state of exhaustion. There was no way he could dodge out of the way at all.

Du Haitian decided that he would take the blow head on!

“Bang!”

When the Wave Force's first layer blasted at him, Qin Lie was as steady as a rock and was not moved in the slightest. The lightning surrounding his body was not weakened at all.

"Bang!"

Wave Force's second layer followed closely behind. Its power was more than twice the first's, but even that only caused Qin Lie's figure to pause abruptly and become bloodied all over.

Qin Lie's aura was still as imposing as ever, and the thunder and lightning surrounding him did not stop crackling. In fact, his eyes shone brighter and brighter with a morbid light!

"Bang!"

Wave Force's third wave rushed over like a rolling mountain. A terrific sound suddenly exploded from every bone in Qin Lie's body. Fresh blood sprayed madly from his mouth.

His charging figure was stopped dead in its tracks. He could no longer take even a single step forward.

He was just five steps away from Du Haitian!

Gritting his teeth, he attempted to withstand the Wave Force and take just a step further. But he found that his legs were shaking and that they did not have the strength to make it. He could not move even an inch closer towards Du Haitian!

Wave Force's third layer was the true essence of the entire attack. It contained continuous and repeating aftershocks!

Qin Lie was assaulted by Wave Force's aftershocks, and as if pushed backwards by sea waves, he couldn't get a single step closer to Du Haitian.

"What a shame." Xie Jingxuan shook her head. "I do not know why he had to get closer to Du Haitian, but in the end, he failed to do it and thus cannot execute his final move."

Liang Zhong's eyebrows were deeply locked when he suddenly said, "Miss, I like this kid!"

"This is the challenge he brought upon himself." Xie Jingxuan's expression was cool. "Therefore we are not to interfere no matter what the outcome may be, whether it be life or death. This is a challenge, and as a challenger, he must have the courage and awareness to face death."

The moment she said those words, dejection appeared in Liang Zhong's eyes. He understood that Xie Jingxuan would not interfere with this battle.

Since Xie Jingxuan was not ready to interfere, then as a servant, he must not act out on his own.

The only thing he could do was to quietly watch.

"QIN LIE!" Tu Ze roared with red eyes. It was as if he could see the ending already.

Zhuo Qian and Kang Zhi's eyes too become misty with tears.

"He is a real man!" Xiong Ba nodded his eyes while completely ignoring Liu Ting and Du Heng's hateful gazes. "If I knew he was such a tough guy back at the stone forest, I would've made every effort to connect with im. Sigh, how unfortunate..."

"Not too bad," Lu Li frowned and muttered from another window, "I suppose Junior Sister Ling was not mistaken after all..."

"This is it." Du Haitian recovered and lifted his hand once more.

It was yet another round of Wave Force!

—No one thought that Qin Lie could hold on any longer.

Amidst the countless pair of eyes, Qin Lie suddenly withdrew and jumped backwards!

It was hard to go forward, but quite easy to retreat. With a single leap, he had put out ten meters of distance in an instant. Then, he jumped again and moved yet another ten meters...

"A round ball fell out of his sleeves..." subconsciously whispered someone with a sharp eye.

After that, many people also saw that there was a walnut-sized, dark blue ball where Qin Lie was standing earlier. The ball was flashing with electricity, and on the inside, there was the faint rumblings of thunder.

"One, two, three..." Qin Lie counted in his heart.

"Boom!"

A thunderous and violent explosion that shook the entire Icestone City abruptly detonated right before Du Haitian. The most terrifying shockwave, mixed with bits of iron shot outwards, and in an instant, the entire street was covered in a sky full of thick dust and stone powder.

Once the dust had settled, a thirty meter wide deep hole, out of nowhere, had appeared on the street, and it reached as far as two meters down into the stone ground!

The inhuman form of Du Haitian laid at the center of the hole. Every inch of his body was twitching and blood flowed out everywhere. His chest had tens of bloody, bone-deep holes, and even his intestines had fallen out of his stomach.

—It was obvious that he wasn't going to survive.

While everyone was still in shock, Qin Lie suddenly rushed forward once more and swiftly picked up Du Haitian's Blue Leaf Sword that had fallen to the ground.

Then, amidst Du Heng's earth shattering roar of anger, Qin Lie beheaded Du Haitian in a single stroke and made a mad dash to exit Icestone City without ever looking back.

With the crying and howling Du Heng as the only exception, every other bystander was completely stunned at the moment as they stood there stupidly at a complete loss.

Chapter 117: Entire City Shaken!

Du Haitian's decapitated corpse lay within the deep hole in the street. The bloody holes at his chest were still bubbling.

Qin Lie had seized the opportunity to retreat long ago, and now, there was no longer even a trace of his shadow to be seen. The crowd could only hear Du Heng running down from the room upstairs all the way to Du Haitian's corpse at the center of the street while crying like a madman.

"Milord!"

Du Haitian's subordinates finally reacted and cried out involuntarily in pain.

The faces of the martial practitioners watching the show from the restaurants on both sides of the street were absolutely awkward. Many people looked stunned, as if they still could not believe what just happened right before their eyes.

Du Haitian, the middle stage Natal Opening Realm martial practitioner with six completely filled Natal Palaces was actually killed and beheaded by Qin Lie...

The reality of it made a huge impact on their minds!

Li Zhongzheng, who had made sarcastic remarks the entire time was now quietly scowling as a trace of surprise appeared in his eyes.

Lu Li's expression was as cold as ever. Leaning against the window and looking in the direction Qin Lie had run to, her eyes glowed with an odd trace of color.

“This Qin Lie is even crazier than I thought.” Crimson Flame Association’s Xiong Ba exclaimed in a low tone as great passion surged inside him. “I can’t believe he actually dared to behead Du Haitian! He will be hunted as the traitor of the entire city. Icestone City will no longer have a place for him!”

“A madman with his mad methods!” Na Nuo eyes were bright with amazement as she nodded and said, “Today is the day Liu Yuntao was officially taking over Nebula Pavilion and Du Haitian was becoming the Vice Pavilion Master. It is the greatest moment of his life. But who could have predicted that he would be beheaded on the spot by Qin Lie during the proudest day of his life!”

“Th-this is almost too hard to believe.” Little Sparrow’s voice was shaking slightly, and it appeared that her feelings hadn’t completely calmed down yet.

On the other side.

Tu Ze, Zhuo Qian, and Kan Zhi were shaking as if they could not control the excitement inside their hearts.

“How can this be? How can this be?” Zhuo Qian whispered with happiness written all over her face as her smile grew wider and wider. “He actually killed Du Haitian! Heavens!”

“He won’t be able to get out of the city!” Tu Ze was the steadier person among the two, and after the excitement passed, he immediately grew worried. “Liu Yuntao would never allow Qin Lie to live past tonight!”

The moment he said those words, the group who was still deep in excitement and wild happiness immediately felt their faces fall.

“Miss.” At the corner of the street, Liang Zhong said with a face full of smiles, “That kid is pretty okay, right?”

Xie Jingxuan frowned but nodded her head slightly. “Not bad.”

“But I’m afraid he may not be able to escape Icestone City alive...” Liang Zhong said quietly with begging eyes, “Should we lend him a hand?”

“We can’t.” Xie Jingxuan sighed. “If he didn’t behead Du Haitian and I went out to negotiate on his behalf, then perhaps Yuan Tianya may choose to pay me respect and leave him alive. But now...” She shook her head as if feeling a bit of regret herself.

“That damned brat!” Liang Zhong cursed loudly. “He just had to be impulsive! If he hadn’t dealt that last blow, it would have counted as a proper challenge victory. He would have been able to get out safely.”

“If he hadn’t dealt that last blow, Du Haitian may have survived.” Xie Jingxuan’s tone was calm. “I have guessed that he would commit murder. I knew from the very beginning that there was some kind of madness hidden inside his very bones. On a normal day, it may not show up, but the moment he is driven into life-or-death combat, his violence and madness will fully surface.”

“Just what is this kid’s background?” Liang Zhong looked stunned.

“He shouldn’t live beyond tonight.” Xie Jingxuan turned around and walked towards Commerce Street. “If he survives today and manages to escape from Icestone City, I might consider accepting him into the Department of Foreign Affairs. Judging from today’s performance, he does meet the qualifications. Mn, he isn’t too bad.”

“I hope he can escape.” Liang Zhong sighed.

.....

Nebula Pavilion.

Inside Liu Yuntao’s study, Yuan Tianya’s group was still discussing about the future arrangements of Shattered Ice Manor and Nebula Pavilion.

“Pa-Pavilion Master!” came a yell from the outside again. This time, it was obviously tinged with a hint of panic and urgency. “There is trouble.”

Liu Yuntao’s face turned cold. “What is it again?”

“Pa-Pavilion Master Du was severely hurt by Qin Lie’s blast, then got beheaded on the spot...” stuttered the person outside,.

Liu Yuntao, Wei Xing, and Yan Wenyan immediately stood up from their seats and exclaimed in unison, “How is that possible?”

Dark Asura Hall’s First Hall Master, Yuan Tianya, remained seated. He simply frowned slightly with a trace of curiosity appearing in his eyes, just as surprised that Du Haitian would be killed by a small fry a level below him.

“It’s true! There are many people from Crimson Flame Association and Water Moon Sect who witnessed it first hand!” The person on the outside quickly explained how Du Haitian had died horribly.

With a dark face, Liu Yuntao yelled out the moment he finished speaking, “Shut every gate in the city immediately, and send out every martial practitioner inside the pavilion. I will see Qin Lie’s head before dawn breaks!”

“Send a notice to Yan Dewu to lockdown the north gate as well. No one is to go in or out tonight,” also instructed Shattered Ice Manor’s Yan Wenyan.

“Notify Discipline Hall’s Ye Yangqiu to send out everyone in the Discipline Hall as well!” Liu Yuntao yelled again.

“Understood!” solemnly answered the person outside .

As the instructions were passed on, every martial practitioner in Nebula Pavilion had received the notice to scour every corner of the city for Qin Lie and to execute him on the spot.

For a time, the south part of Icestone City was bustling with martial practitioners, and every path leading towards the city gates were completely blocked.

For many people, tonight would be a sleepless night.

“Come quickly Gao Yu! Qin Lie has executed Du Haitian at the street in front of Drunken Fragrance Garden. As of now, the entire city is shaken, and Pavilion Master Liu has given the absolute order to see Qin Lie’s head before daybreak!” Liu Yan rushed into Gao Yu’s house with eyes filled with shock. “Elder Ye has ordered us on an operation to scour entire city and take down Qin Lie.”

Inside the windowless cottage, Gao Yu’s eyes glowed with eerie, evil light amidst complete darkness. Seeing them, Liu Yan felt a little chilled on the inside, but still quickly said, “Y-you’re not asleep yet?”

“I am cultivating,” Gao Yu answered simply with a cold voice. It appeared that he hadn’t completely awakened from his cultivation.

It took a while before his tone finally returned to normal. With a clouded expression, he walked outside with Liu Yan while muttering, “He actually succeeded...”

“Gao Yu, I know that you’re quite close with Qin Lie, but we are a part of the Discipline Hall. That is why we should get out a little.” Liu Yan paused for a moment before saying, “Even if it is just for show, we should still walk around the city a little so the others would know that we are busy as well.”

“Oh.” Gao Yu nodded. Once he was out he quickened his footsteps and said, “Let’s split up.”

Before Liu Yan could react, Gao Yu flashed several times under the night sky and soon disappeared.

Very soon, Gao Yu appeared outside of Nebula Pavilion. He could see with a glance that many martial practitioners inside the pavilion were gathering at the direction of each city gates, thinking to take him down there.

“You all underestimated his madness,” Gao Yu whispered in his heart before leaving alone.

—He seemed to know where Qin Lie would be headed to.

“All Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners are to track and hunt down Qin Lie within the city immediately! This is an order from the Pavilion Master himself! This is his first order after he has taken the office!”

Wei Xing’s Elder, Pei An, and Fang Tong, appeared together at Drunken Fragrance Garden and Bright Moon Tower before calling that out loudly.

Du Haitian, Wei Xing, and Liu Yuntao’s subordinates immediately departed with a murderous atmosphere in the direction Qin Lie escaped to unanimously.

“I’m feeling a bit unwell because I drank too much, and tomorrow, I have to depart for Dark Asura Hall too. I don’t think I will be of use,” Tu Ze said solemnly.

“Me too. I’m drunk and I can’t move,” Zhuo Qian also cried out.

Kang Zhi and Han Feng were either pretending to be sick or drunk. It was as if their feet had grown roots as they stood where they were and completely ignored Pei An and Fang Tong’s orders.

The people from Seven Fiends Valley, Crimson Flame Association, and Water Moon Sect appeared unruffled as they continued to stand at the windows.

They did not plan to sleep tonight, instead drinking while paying attention to the commotion inside the city. They were waiting to see when Qin Lie would be discovered, surrounded, and killed.

They knew very well that this was a special day for Liu Yuntao, who had recently taken over the position of Pavilion Master.

If Qin Lie could survive tonight after beheading Du Haitian and after he sent out an absolute order... then, he as the new Pavilion Master could be said to be in complete disgrace.

“All the routes are covered, why haven’t we seen him yet?”

“The gates are also locked. If he cannot get out tonight, then he will have an even lower chance later!”

“Search! Keep searching! Cover every house, we will find him even if we have to dig three feet under South City!”

“The pavilion master has given the absolute order to see his head before daylight!”

“.....”

Cold-faced martial practitioners could be seen mobilizing at every main street of South City. They had begun barging into every manor to search from house to house.

For a moment, all hell broke loose in the entire city, and every Nebula Pavilion martial practitioner were shouting with cold faces.

They were all looking for Qin Lie to capture and kill him, but unfortunately, they could not find any trace of him.

At the northernmost region of South City, there was a rather elegant manor located quite far away from the city center. The groundbreaking commotion taking place inside the city hadn't reached there yet.

The people there also did not know that the South City had been utterly riled up by Qin Lie's atrocities.

This place was the Du Family's house inside Icestone City.

Both mother and son, Du Jiaolan and Du Fei, the Elders of Du Family, and other forces had just celebrated here tonight.

They were celebrating Du Haitian's promotion and that a capable man was finally born in the Du Family, a leader that could lead the Du Family towards the pinnacle of glory.

At this moment, every member of the Du Family had drunk quite a bit and had happily retreated back to their respective rooms to rest.

Inside a luxurious room, there was an expensive carpet that covered the ground, and above a huge bed carved with white jade, there were three young and naked girls bowing, prostrating, and doing all kinds of sexy moves and poses.

At the edge of the bed, Du Fei stared dead-eyed at the three girls with a hideous expression while looking from time to time at his crotch.

There was no reaction at all...

“Mother, I can't, I just can't anymore!” Du Fei bellowed in a low tone like an animal, his expression painful. “I was ruined by the little b*tch, Ling Xuanxuan, and I can't get a hard on anymore! I'm a ruined man!”

At the table in front of the bed, Du Jiaolan glared at him and exclaimed, "Take a better look at them and use your imagination. You can do it, Mother knows that you can do it!"

"Young Master Du, why don't you let this servant service you." A girl smiled seductively before slithering over like a water snake. She stuck out a fragrant tongue and licked Du Fei's neck.

Following her signal, the other two girls also voluntarily slithered over and continuously rubbed Du Fei's body with their soft, erect breasts.

"It's hard! I think it's becoming harder!" Du Fei suddenly screamed in mad joy as his face blushed with a healthy red and his expression absolutely excited. "Mother, I'm responding! I'm actually responding!"

"I knew you can do it, I just knew you can do it!" Du Jiaolan herself had grown excited. "Worry not Fei'er, as long as you can do it, mother promises to capture those two little b*tches, Ling Xuanxuan and Ling Yushi, so you can vent on them all you want and have them bleed and cry everyday under your crotch!"

"Sooner or later I will kill those two b*tches!" Du Fei laughed madly.

"Boom!"

A sword beam burst through the window as a blood covered man suddenly rushed out. While both mother and son, Du Jiaolan and Du Fei, were laughing happily, streaks of electrical snakes were formed inside the house before they fled toward Du Jiaolan's body.

"Who are you?!" Du Jiaolan did not expect that someone would dare to assault them in the middle of the night and suddenly screeched out. She grabbed a teacup and flung it at the person.

"Zzzt Zzzt Zzzt!" Strands of electrical snakes entangled her and climbed up her arms like vines, causing her body to suddenly become paralyzed.

"Blue Leaf Sword! It's Haitian's Blue Leaf Sword!" Du Jiaolan cried out uncontrollably as she hurriedly dodged sideways.

"Spurt!"

The short sword failed to pierce through her heart when she fled upwards. It only managed to pierce through her lower abdomen.

"Qin Lie! It's Qin Lie!" Du Fei screamed in abject terror, "Someone! Anyone, come quickly!"

(nsfw)

Chapter 118: I Will Kill Your Entire Family!

“Qin Lie! How dare you barge into the Du Family to commit murder. You will not come out of this alive!”

Du Fei exclaimed harshly, but he did not dare to actually go close to Qin Lie. Instead, he escaped outside to call other Du Family members over to kill Qin Lie together.

“That’s Haitian’s Blue Leaf Sword!”

Inside the house, Du Jiaolan barely escaped the deadly blow in a most embarrassing manner while bleeding profusely from her stomach. Upon suddenly finding out the sword Qin Lie was wielding was actually the Blue Leaf Sword, she immediately screeched.

Covered in Beastskin Armor and bloodied all over, Qin Lie wore a crazed look on his face. He reflexively frowned a little when he saw Du Jiaolan dodging to the side and Du Fei rushing out of the yard.

“Swoosh!”

The Blue Leaf Sword in his hands abruptly flew out, and like a bolt of cold light piercing through the night, it shot towards like lightning at the back of Du Fei’s heart.

“You dare!” Du Jiaolan rushed over with a disheveled look.

Unfortunately, the Blue Leaf Sword’s momentum wasn’t something she could stop anymore. With a “pfft” sound, the Blue Leaf Sword pierced Du Fei’s back, into his heart, and nailed him to a tree.

“Fei’er!”

Du Jiaolan hysterically screamed out, and ignoring her profusely bleeding stomach, she rushed towards Qin Lie with everything she had.

The reason Qin Lie had killed Du Fei first was to incite Du Jiaolan to turn insane and lose control!

The moment she charged him, Qin Lie took out the wooden sculpture and matched Du Jiaolan’s movements with a swing.

“Zzt Zzzt Zzt!”

The tightly woven electricity came out; raging thunder energy mixed within the thin body of electricity. It surrounded Du Jiaolan's body instantly.

While she was screaming in pain Qin Lie closed in with a chilly face as his thunder-like fists fell down like a raging storm.

"Boom boom boom!"

Du Jiaolan's body was struck repeatedly as the thunder energy around her exploded. Her bones were shattered, and blood flowed from every hole on her head.

"Qin Lie! Haitian will kill you! He definitely will!" Even when her mouth was filled with blood and the light in her eyes was gradually fading out, Du Jiaolan did not forget to threaten him.

"He is already dead," coldly answered Qin Lie.

Du Jiaolan's suddenly shuddered. "Impossible!"

"I first killed him and took his Blue Leaf Sword. Then, I came to kill the both of you." Clenching his fist while Du Jiaolan was wrapped up by the electricity, Qin Lie directly struck her heart while continuing. "Your entire family deserves to die. The next one will be Du Heng. I will kill your entire family."

"Bang!"

An ugly sound emerged from Du Jiaolan's chest, and her life was ended by Qin Lie's final strike.

"Don't kill us! Don't kill me!"

Inside the house, the naked young girls were wrapped in thin clothing as they shrunk at the corner of the bed while shivering in fear.

In their eyes, Qin Lie who had barged in while covered in blood was like a cruel and bloodthirsty demon arriving at their doorsteps. They were afraid that Qin Lie, who had already killed both mother and son, Du Jiaolan and Du Fei, would also kill them offhandedly.

Qin Lie turned around and glanced around. He frowned slightly amidst the cries of the Du Family clansmen. Then, his figure vanished into the shadows around the corner.

"Little Lan! Little Lan! What are you shouting about?"

A dozen-odd seconds later, the Du Family's house master and a few elders loudly cried out while rushing over.

The moment they arrived, they discovered Du Jiaolan and Du Fei's bodies right then and there. These Du Family members cried out in shock and screamed to look for the murderer that very instant.

"Someone has killed Jiaolan and Du Fei! The murderer should not be too far away, chase him down already!" The Du family house master snapped loudly, "Send someone to Nebula Pavilion without delay. Inform Haitian about this news as soon as possible and have him lead Nebula Pavilion's elites throughout the entire city to hunt down the murderer!"

"Patriarch Du!" At this moment, Fang Tong's voice came from outside Du Family's doorsteps as he led several Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners in while yelling loudly, "What happened, Patriarch Du!"

"Hall Master Fang, you have come at just the right time!" Du family's house master exclaimed urgently, "Someone has barged into the Du Family and murdered Haitian's cousin and nephew. We were just about to send someone to notify Haitian!"

"Qin Lie! He actually committed murder again in the Du Family!" Fang Tong's face subsequently fell. "How long has it been since it happened?"

"Du Fei was just screaming just now," replied the Du Family Patriarch.

"He must still be close then!" Fang Tong's expression lit up as he loudly yelled, "Brothers, we will search the area with this spot as the center! He is severely injured, and there should be blood dripping from his body! Make sure you pay attention to blood spots!"

"Yes sir!"

"What happened, Hall Master Fang?" exclaimed Du Family's Patriarch.

"Vice Pavilion Master Du was challenged and beheaded on the streets in front of Drunken Fragrance Garden by Qin Lie." Fang Tong's expression was rife with urgency as he hastily explained before yelling, "All of you, get moving! The Pavilion Master has given the absolute order to see Qin Lie's head before daybreak!"

Once he finished, Fang Tong led the brothers under his command and spread out in all directions, searching for traces of blood at every path to lead them to Qin Lie's location.

On the other hand, the Du Family Patriarch was so shocked he had fallen on his butt with a terrified expression. "Haitian is dead? Haitian was actually killed? He was just seated as Vice Pavilion Master today, how could he have possibly been killed?"

Each and every member of the Du Family also looked frightened, finding it hard to believe what they just heard.

Two hours ago, they were still celebrating the fact that Du Haitian had gloriously ascended to become Nebula Pavilion's Vice Pavilion Master. They all thought that the Du Family had finally raised a capable person, and the entire family was brimming with happiness and excitement.

But two hours later, they suddenly received news that Du Haitian had died, in addition to finding out Du Jiaolan and Du Fei were killed...

"How can this be? How can this be?" Du Family's house master whispered, unable to accept this terrible news. It wasn't until he heard Fang Tong's cries that he suddenly woke up and yelled, "Join Nebula Pavilion in the hunt. We must kill this person. Wake up every clansmen above the seventh level of Refinement!"

For a moment, the entire Du Family was also riled up as they joined Fang Tong's people to chase after Qin Lie.

"Hall Master Fang! There are traces of blood here!" Under the night sky, a Nebula Pavilion martial practitioner cried out, "Heavens, he isn't heading for the city gates... this blood trail is headed into the city!"

"Chase after him quickly!" Fang Tong yelled out in anger.

Dozens of figures speedily swept over and chased after the trail of blood. They were in a hurry to kill Qin Lie before daybreak so they could carry his head to Liu Yuntao.

It was already midnight.

Following a small path along the river, Qin Lie's face was pale as he reigned in the pain, grit his teeth, and swiftly proceeded onward.

Blood leaked from the numerous tiny wounds on his body. They dripped through his Beastskin Armor and scattered in every direction as he ran.

After his battle against Du Haitian, many sections of the skin all over his body was stripped away by the Blue Leaf Sword. There were even a few wounds that were nearly bone deep.

It was only after putting on the Beastskin Armor Liang Zhong had gifted him and absorbing all of the spirit energy inside the Spirit Storage Board that he recovered somewhat.

After sneaking all the way to the Du Family complex and killing both mother and son, Du Jiaolan and Du Fei, he had nearly expended all of his energy. His combat capabilities were getting weaker and weaker...

“Du Heng, there is still Du Heng left!” he muttered in his heart. He was ready to return to Drunken Fragrance Garden and seek an opportunity to kill his final target.

“Give chase! He should be right in front of us!” Out of nowhere, there was a shout behind him.

Qin Lie’s expression changed. He did not expect the people from Nebula Pavilion to search the inner city instead of blocking the front of the city gates.

—He didn’t know that Fang Tong had just brought his men over to inform the Du Family of Du Haitian’s death and just happened to discovered his tracks. Neither did he know that they had immediately followed his trail of blood and were hot on his trail.

Channeling his spirit energy, he quietly probed and discovered that his dantian’s spirit sea had less than thirty percent of his spirit energy remaining, and the thunder energy inside his Natal Palace would only be sufficient for three or four more attacks.

Glancing about in every direction, he suddenly walked up to the little river beside him and slowly dipped himself into the river.

Two minutes later, Fang Tong led five Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners chasing after the trail of blood all the way to where he was currently standing.

“The trail of blood has disappeared!” cried out Nebula Pavilion martial practitioner from the front.

“He must be around here then!” Fang Tong coldly said with a dark face, “Today is the day our Pavilion Master rose to his position, and yet it was ruined by an insignificant worm using extremely despicable methods. If we do not promptly kill him, then the Pavilion Master will definitely lose his honor! Brothers, if we carry his head to the Pavilion Master, we will definitely be handsomely rewarded by the Pavilion Master!”

While encouraging his brothers, Fang Tong glanced at his surroundings before immediately saying, “Above and behind the trees, along the two sides of the stone path, and both the riverside and river bed. Search them all!”

The few Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners moved right away.

Two of the men gradually closed in on Qin Lie’s position beside the river. One of the men glanced at the river under the night sky before crying out, “There is blood inside the river!”

“Plop!”

In a flash, Qin Lie leaped out of the river. As soon as the man cried out in shock, Qin Lie swam to his side like a river monster before dragging him right into the water.

While they were inside the river, Qin Lie repeatedly smashed the back side of the person's head with his fist and murdered him with brute force.

"Inside the river! Kill that bastard!" angrily yelled Fang Tong from the shore.

Several people instantaneously began channeling their power and activated the powers inside the spirit artifacts they were wielding. For a moment, a multi-colored assortment of lights, blades of ice and strings of fire all shot towards Qin Lie's position.

"Bang bang bang!"

Sparks flew off Qin Lie's Beastskin Armor to block all of the long-ranged attacks, protecting his body from actual harm.

"That's Beastskin Armor. It's the standard uniform worn by Dark Asura Hall generals, and they can block many Refinement level attacks!" Fang Tong's expression changed as he yelled, "Aim at his head!"

Due to water resistance, Qin Lie's movements were significantly restricted inside the river.

The moment he heard Fang Tong's new order, his heart chilled, and he had no choice but to jump out of the water. While blocking the enemy's attacks with the Beastskin armor, he continued to climb to the street on the other side of the river.

"Bang!"

The longblade in Fang Tong's hand glowed with rainbow-colored light, and it slammed into Qin Lie's back, causing him to unceremoniously fall forward.

He used the force to aid him on his way to climb up to the street on the other side. However, the moment he lifted his head, he abruptly froze as his expression became clouded with incredibly mixed feelings, "Gao Yu..."

Gao Yu stood cold and tall on the side of the street he was climbing onto while looking down on him. He said, "I knew you would go to the Du Family and kill them."

"Gao Yu! Stop him! We'll be coming right over!" Fang Tong was overjoyed as he quickly led a few brothers down the river and rushed towards Qin Lie.

"Alright!" Gao Yu nodded coolly. Vengeful spirits floated from the Ogre-faced Rings on his fingers, and the numerous ghosts quickly formed into a green-faced, large-fanged vile ghost.

The moment the vile ghost was formed, it immediately rushed towards Qin Lie with fangs bared and claws ready to tear Qin Lie's neck apart.

“Good job!” Fang Tong shouted.

But Qin Lie did not move.

He just stood there staring at Gao Yu’s eyes, doing nothing at all to defend against the incoming ghost.

With a cold and gloomy expression, Gao Yu curled his lips before unexpectedly muttering in a chilly tone, “You shouldn’t trust me so much...”

Once finished, the vile ghost rushing towards Qin Lie all of a sudden floated by and passed the top of his head. Then, with a vicious howl, it ruthlessly charged into Fang Tong’s men and began its rampage.

Chapter 119: Weeds... Must Be Cut at the Roots!

Carrying an aura of chilly darkness, the vile ghost unleashed a rationale-destroying mind wave and charged right into the center of Fang Tong and the others. In an instant, their consciousness became blurred, and illusions bloomed one after another in their heads. They could not make heads or tails of anything.

“Go!” Gao Yu exclaimed in a low tone.

Three vengeful spirits formed from the Rank Two Ice Soul Python’s soul also flew out from his Ogre-faced Rings in the shape of three white ghosts and surrounded Fang Tong from three different directions.

“Gao Yu, how dare you help Qin Lie and attack us, are you planning to commit suicide?!” Fang Tong’s expression was severe. “Your elder sister is still in Nebula Pavilion! Your Gao Family is also part of Nebula Pavilion’s vassal forces. Are you going to let the entire Gao Family be exterminated because of your impulsive actions?!”

Qin Lie’s expression also changed.

He had guessed that Gao Yu would not actually kill him, so he didn’t really move out of the way when he saw that vile soul rushing at him.

This was because he did not feel murderous, bone-chilling, killing intent from the vile soul, so he thought that Gao Yu was just putting on a show.

—He had not expected Gao Yu to actually attack Fang Tong!

Just as Fang Tong had said, Nebula Pavilion had Gao Yu’s weakness in their grips. His sister and all of the Gao Family members’ lives were held by Nebula Pavilion’s Liu Yuntao, so Qin Lie himself did not expect that Gao Yu would act so boldly.

“If all of you are dead, then who will know that I helped Qin Lie?”

Gao Yu’s expression was cold, and the Ogre-faced Rings on his hands glittered with a green light. A few more vengeful spirits and evil ghosts formed from spirit beasts souls actually materialized and locked down Fang Tong and his men like persistent evil spirits, preventing them from escaping the vengeful spirits’ encirclement.

“Did you think that I’ve only this many men?” Fang Tong’s gaze hardened. “My subordinates are just around the corner. The moment they hear the sounds of fighting, they will immediately rush over!”

“No one is coming.” Like a phantom, Gao Yu rushed Fang Tong without warning even as he spoke indifferently along the way, “I scouted the area for a while before I attacked you. Those brothers of yours have long since gone to hell.”

While he was speaking, the mark of the Demon God’s shadow vaguely appeared within Gao Yu’s eyes.

An evil and destructive aura swiftly flowed out of Gao Yu’s body. Qin Lie could clearly see that every pore of Gao Yu’s body was seeping with countless wisps of cold, dark demonic energy that were as black as ink.

While Fang Tong and the others looked ashen, Gao Yu dropped inside their group like a transformed demon.

The moment he went inside, the aura of those vile ghosts and vengeful spirits abruptly strengthened multiple times and turned extremely brutal. They continuously charged, tore, and bit Fang Tong’s men even as they attacked their souls with mind waves.

Qin Lie watched from the sides and realized that Fang Tong and his men’s lives were swiftly depleted in just a short amount of time.

—It was as if their lives were being sucked out of their bodies and souls.

Soon enough, Fang Tong and his men were no longer breathing, and just like that, they were mysteriously killed by Gao Yu.

“Put a bolt of lightning on them so that Nebula Pavilion will not trace their deaths back to me.”

While Qin Lie was still caught by surprise, Gao Yu had withdrawn the vengeful spirits and evil souls back into the Ogre-faced Rings. The mark of the Demon God’s shadow also slowly faded from his eyes and disappeared.

“Oh,” Qin Lie answered once before adding a bolt of electricity onto Fang Tong’s body. Then, he said, “You’ve become stronger.”

Gao Yu gave a cold and proud smile. "I may not be confident fighting against you, my natural enemy, but I have absolute confidence that I can beat every other martial practitioner of the same level! Fang Tong was just at the early stage of the Natal Opening Realm. When I was at the ninth level of Refinement I could already beat him down to the ground, so naturally, killing him now is not a problem at all!"

After a pause he continued, "Ever since I was at the Arctic Mountain Range, I've gradually absorbed some of the soul fragments of Demon God's shadow and learned a few things..."

Qin Lie nodded and said, "Thank you."

"Shhk!"

Gao Yu did not answer right away but instead picked up a random sword and slashed a wound across his chest. Then he said, "You stabbed me with this sword."

Qin Lie glanced at the wound once and nodded again.

"This pill is for you. It can help you quickly recover some strength. I found it on a Dark Shadow Tower martial practitioner's body back at the Arctic Mountain Range." Gao Yu threw a green pill about the size of a longan at him, paused for a moment, and then started, "All of Icestone City has been locked down, and every main city gate have elites standing by. It would be best if you hide inside the city and not show yourself as much as possible."

"I still need to kill Du Heng." Qin Lie grit his teeth and said, "When you're cutting a weed, you must take out its roots!"

"You must kill him?" Gao Yu frowned.

Qin Lie nodded. "I must! I swore before Du Haitian that if I didn't die, then I will kill his entire family!"

"I knew you were a madman!" Gao Yu snorted coldly before putting down the bow on his back. "I've prepared everything for you. That useless dog is still at Drunken Fragrance Garden. After his father died, it's as if he had lost his soul and only knows how to cry hysterically. He didn't even hunt for you at the city gates."

Receiving the bow, Qin Lie asked with a face filled with surprise, "How did you know I would come to the Du Family? How did you also know I still want to kill Du Heng?"

"A feeling." Gao Yu thought for a while before shaking his head. "...an indescribable feeling. I've fought you many times in the combat room, and we've fought together in the stone forest as well. I've always thought that there was something crazy hidden

deep within your bones and that once you got impulsive you would go crazy until the very end.”

“Keep searching! Look everywhere!” It was at this moment the shouts of the Du Family’s Patriarch came from not too far away.

Gao Yu’s expression changed as he yelled, “Go. This is as far as I can help you. I hope you can leave Icestone City in one piece.”

Qin Lie also understood that the current situation was urgent and that it wasn’t the best idea to stay in one spot for too long. After Gao Yu finished speaking, Qin Lie simply gave him a deep look before turning around and running towards inside of the city.

A few minutes after he left, Gao Yu held his chest and cried out on the same spot, “Someone, come quickly!”

“Over there! There’s someone screaming over there!”

Not too long after, Du Family’s Patriarch and three Elders came together, and their expressions grotesquely twisted when they saw Fang Tong and his men’s bodies.

“I am the hall master of Nebula Pavilion’s Discipline Hall, Gao Yu. Qin Lie has just killed Fang Tong’s men and injured me. He’s currently heading outside the city!” Gao Yu threw down coldly with a ghastly expression before unkindly ordering the Du Family’s clansmen with a yell, “Follow me! We’ll hunt down this man at the city gates!”

“Yes!” Du Family’s clansmen answered his call and swiftly followed Gao Yu’s footsteps in the opposite direction Qin Lie was heading to.

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Midnight, at the street in front of Drunken Fragrance Garden.

The deep pit on the streets was still there, and so was Du Haitian’s beheaded corpse. His subordinates had all left to hunt down Qin Lie with the Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners near the city gates.

Du Heng was the only one kneeling beside the corpse and weeping, traumatized. He let out many annoying low roars.

“Du Haitian can be considered formidable already, so how did he have such a useless son?” Beside the street in the VIP room of the second floor, Crimson Flame Association’s Ge Hong looked at Du Heng below the window and frowned while drinking.

To his side was Xiong Ba’s group, Water Moon Sect’s Luo Wei, Na Nuo, and so on.

At this moment Liu Ting, Wei Li, and the other juniors had all returned to the pavilion, and the rest of the experts of Nebula Pavilion had spread out to hunt for Qin Lie. Therefore, the only ones left inside Drunken Fragrance Garden and Bright Moon Tower were those from outside forces such as Crimson Flame Association, Water Moon Sect, and Seven Fiends Valleys, drinking. The only Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners left would be Kang Zhi and Zhuo Qian.

“He definitely is garbage. He should be hunting for Qin Lie right now, not crying at his father’s corpse.” Xiong Ba’s face was filled with disdain and he scoffed. “Such a character would probably never get a chance at revenge in his entire life. If Qin Lie doesn’t die this time, it will only be too easy for him to kill such a person.”

“Unfortunately, that kid is dead for sure,” interrupted Water Moon Sect’s Elder Luo Wei. “I just received news that not only has Shattered Ice Manor’s Yan Wenyan sent the order to lock down the city, even Dark Asura Hall’s commanders outside the city have reached the city gates to assist Nebula Pavilion in eliminating Qin Lie.”

“Dark Asura Hall’s commanders?” Ge Hong’s expression changed. “Aren’t they leaving for Dark Asura Hall with the First Hall Master tomorrow morning?”

“That was the original plan.” Luo Wei explained, “There were a lot of them, so they didn’t enter the city and temporarily stayed in the few towns outside the city instead. If it wasn’t for tonight’s business, they would be meeting with the First Hall Master and returning to Dark Asura Hall tomorrow morning, but now... in order to protect Liu Yuntao’s image, the few commanders near the city gates have already slipped inside.”

“Then Qin Lie truly is dead for sure.” Ge Hong gave a soft sigh. “Anyone of the commanders can easily kill either of us. Naturally, Qin Lie will not survive as well.”

Xiong Ba and Na Nuo’s group inside the house all felt their faces fall when they heard his words. They were almost certain that Qin Lie was a goner.

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“Let’s go. There’s no need to wait for further news any longer. He’s definitely not going to survive the night.” In the other room, Li Zhongzheng received the letter from the messenger bird’s neck that had just arrived and glanced at it before standing up drunkenly. “I just received news from a friend at Dark Asura Hall that a few of their commanders have gone to the city gates. They should be going after Qin Lie.”

“Then he is already a dead man!” A person stood up with one hundred percent certainty.

Lu Li also nodded and stood up. With a cool expression, she said, “How unfortunate...”

“How can a kid with no background like him survive after killing the Vice Pavilion Master of Nebula Pavilion?” Li Zhongzheng laughed coldly. “What can he do even if he gets out of Icestone City? Will Crimson Flame Association or Water Moon Sect dare to accept him? Who will dare to cover for him? The person behind Liu Yuntao is Dark Asura Hall’s First Hall Master, Yuan Tianya!”

While speaking, the group got up and prepared to leave.

At this moment, Du Heng’s cries came again from below, and Li Zhongzheng cursed underneath his breath, “Dammit, if it weren’t for that retard screaming like a banshee, this daddy here was gonna drink for a little while longer...”

“Swoosh!”

The sound of a flying arrow suddenly rang out and caught everyone’s attention.

Following the sound, they looked to the streets.

A silent arrow broke through the sky like lightning, dragging a bolt of deep blue electricity behind it and heading straight for Du Heng’s neck.

“Spurt!”

The silent arrow pierced through Du Heng’s neck, and the annoying cries finally ended with a start.

Everyone looked in the direction the arrow came from, and then, they saw the bloodied and cruel-looking Qin Lie standing in the shadow at the far corner of the street.

While they were crying out in surprise, Qin Lie turned around and subsequently disappeared once again into the darkness.

Chapter 120: Rampage

Nebula Pavilion.

Liu Yuntao sat on top of a hard wooden chair while lightly knocking the table with one hand, seemingly waiting for something with a sullen look.

Dark Asura Hall’s Yuan Tianya had long been arranged to rest at the VIP tower, so the only one left to accompany him inside the house was Wei Xing. As time passed, Liu Yuntao’s expression grew colder and colder.

“How much longer until daybreak?” he said out of nowhere.

“Four hours,” immediately responded Wei Xing.

“Today is the first day after rising to the position of Pavilion Master in Nebula Pavilion.” Liu Yuntao cocked his head to aside and looked at Wei Xing. “There are many people who are watching both of us. If Qin Lie doesn’t die tonight, both you and I will be disgraced.”

“I know.” Wei Xing nodded.

Both of them turned silent immediately after.

Ten minutes later, a hall master under Liu Yuntao rushed in and quietly but respectfully exclaimed, “Both mother and son, Du Jiaolan and Du Fei, were found, murdered inside the Du Family’s house, and Du Heng... was killed by an arrow beside Vice Pavilion Master Du’s body! Qin Lie... is still alive, and he is heading deeper into the city in hiding.”

“Crack!”

The armrest on Liu Yuntao’s chair was crushed as he abruptly stood up and exclaimed with an extremely terrible expression, “Brother Wei! Please go and personally have a look!”

Wei Xing nodded and, without another word, exited Nebula Pavilion straight away.

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At a corner of Icestone City.

Ling Chengzhi, Ling Feng, and the members of the Ling Family were woken up by the commotion inside the city. Bleary-eyed, they arrived at the courtyard entrance and listened to the cries and sounds of martial practitioners running about. They all grew cautious on the inside.

“Did something happen inside the city tonight?” Ling Feng frowned.

“Both Liu Yuntao and Du Haitian has taken the position of Pavilion Masters, and tonight was to be the greatest day of their lives. Are they using the opportunity to do something to establish their power?” Ling Family’s elder, Ling Kangan, said with the utmost worry, “All of you, be careful. It will be best if you close the doors tight and ignore everything that happens outside.”

“What goes up must come down. If Du Haitian dares to kill my big brother, naturally, he won’t think twice to kill us as well.” Ling Chengzhi’s face was ashen as he weakly said, “Let’s hope that the Ling Family can survive tonight. Then, we will be able to leave the first thing in the morning and meet up with the people from Seven Fiends Valley.”

While they were talking, the sound of clothes flapping came from not far away, causing the members of the Ling Family to turn pale.

“Not good!” They all thought that misfortune was about to befall them.

“Can this be the brothers of Ling Family?” Liu Yan’s voice came from far away, and not too long after, he could be seen running over with his brothers from the Discipline Hall.

“Big Brother Liu!” Ling Feng exclaimed. “Why have you come over at midnight?”

“Something big has happened.” Liu Yan truthfully answered, “Qin Lie challenged Du Haitian on the streets and beheaded him on the spot. After that, he murdered Du Jiaolan and Du Fei. Even Du Heng was killed with an arrow. Du Haitian’s entire family has been eliminated by him in just four hours. Now, the entire city has been riled up to hunt him down. I was afraid that the Ling Family may be affected, so I quickly came over to notify you.”

“H-he killed Du Haitian’s entire family?” Ling Chengzhi stuttered.

“Yes. Du Haitian’s entire family is dead. Qin Lie has gone completely crazy; now, all of Icestone City has been turned upside down because of him.” Liu Yan’s expression was severe. “I heard that the people from Seven Fiends Valley have come looking for you. If you truly have a way out, I hope that you can leave Icestone City as soon as possible so that the Ling Family will not be affected by the aftermath.”

“They’re dead, the Ling Family’s enemies are all dead!” Ling Chengzhi was no longer listening to Liu Yan; instead, he was dancing wildly with hot tears flowing out of his eyes. He actually cried out in sheer happiness.

“The heaven pities us! The heaven pities our Ling Family!” Ling Kangan was also shedding tears.

“Qin Lie!” Ling Feng’s entire body shuddered somewhat as he tightly clenched his fists. His expression was filled with excitement.

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“Kill! Kill! Kill!”

An inhuman voice resounded inside Qin Lie’s head as his eyes gradually became filled with violence and bloodthirsty thoughts.

“Boom boom boom!”

Thunder resounded again and again from inside his chest bones, and when he headed to Commerce Street, thunder and lightning also repeatedly struck his surroundings.

“Over there! He’s right over there!”

Three Nebula Pavilion martial practitioners at the ninth level of Refinement were patrolling nearby, and after they heard the sound of thunder, they quickly rushed over.

All three of them were martial practitioners under Du Haitian. In addition, they had all gone to Ling Town before and saw Qin Lie with their own eyes.

The moment they saw Qin Lie, bleeding all over while running along the road with a crazed expression, they did not think twice to block his way. One of them yelled, “Qin Lie! You will die today!”

“Scram!”

A wild and rampaging wave abruptly appeared from Qin Lie’s body, and as the killing intent in his eyes solidified, he madly rushed towards the three like a bloodthirsty beast unleashed from its cage.

“Crack Crack Crack!”

Three light blue Thunder Lightning Balls swiftly formed in front of his chest before shooting outwards like three shooting stars.

The Thunder Lightning Balls struck their targets dead center!

There were three bone shattering sounds, and the three martial practitioners at the ninth level of Refinement were thrown up into the air like cannonballs before they landed on the ground while bloodied all over.

Qin Lie did not even look at the three dead men as he swiftly passed over their corpses and continued onwards.

This was the seventh wave of pursuers he had killed along the way. There were twenty or so bodies that were left behind the path he had taken.

“Something’s wrong! Something’s wrong with my body!”

Qin Lie roared madly in his heart with a hideous expression, his eyes filled with violence and madness.

He felt that his entire body was in pain, but instead of burning out and feeling exhausted, he was getting excited!

A surge of new energy seemed to be flowing out of the Soul Suppressing Orb little by little, and this energy caused the blood in his entire body to gush as if burning, so hot

that his head was spinning and the only thing that he could think of was a mad thirst for blood. He felt an impulse to destroy everything before him!

It was as if that energy had ignited him and made him impossibly excited, urging him to murder in his madness until the very end!

“I am Pei An. We have met before at Li’s Shop, but today, I have been ordered to kill you.” On the streets in front of him, a burly man garbed in a big red cape stood proudly and coldly yelled at Qin Lie while holding a broadsword.

The seven martial practitioners under Wei Xing stood still at both the left and right corners of the street. They all held their respective spirit artifacts and frostily stared at Qin Lie.

“You must be careful, Hall Master Pei. He has taken more than twenty lives along the way,” someone warned him. “Look at his eyes. You can see that this guy has obviously gone completely crazy, and madmen are the scariest because they have no regard for their own life.”

“More than twenty men, eh?” Pei An grinned. “Interesting. I haven’t met such an interesting person in a long time. Come!”

Laughing loudly, Pei An walked towards Qin Lie while dragging his broadsword along the ground. Sparks flew from the stone ground like a fire dragon being dragged along by him, lending him a magnificent aura.

“Whoosh!”

The broadsword swung upwards, and the thick flames turned into a river that was like the undying flames from the Fire River of Purgatory, pouring right down onto Qin Lie’s head.

“SCRAM!”

Qin Lie exploded into a terrific roar and quickly stuck his left arm out.

“Boom boom boom!”

Thunder rumbled from the bones inside his arms, as if there were a thunder dragon roaring inside his veins. A terrific wave of thunder abruptly exploded from his palm.

That was the muscular strength of the Heavenly Thunder Sacred Body!

As if the mountains had crumbled and the earth had split in half, the thunder energy made contact with the fiery river above him!

“Bang!”

The fiery river instantly dispersed into countless sparks. The thunder continue to rumble and rampage, slamming into Pei An's chest like an undercurrent.

“Dooong!”

Pei An's chest resounded with a terrific dull sound as if a gong had been struck. Then, his face turned red as his burly figure flew backwards, rolling on the ground for ten meters.

A pair of deep markings a few inches deep could be clearly seen beneath his feet. It was as if they were ran over by a metal car!

“Crack Crack Crack!”

A crisp sound akin to the sound of beans being fried could be heard from every one of Qin Lie's joints. Qin Lie was originally thin and smart-looking, but right now, it was as if he had grown a few inches taller and was overflowing with a violent and maddening aura.

The wisps of wondrous energy seeped out yet again from inside the Soul Suppressing Orb, and a new energy filled Qin Lie once more!

“Lock!”

His hands crisscrossed in the air and, with strange hand movements, conjured ten chain-like bolts of bright lightning that flew out of his ten fingertips.

The ten bolts of crystalline lightning were as thick as fingers and two arms long. They clipped onto Pei An's large body, and as the lightning began to jump, Pei An couldn't help but scream out in pain.

Qin Lie arrogantly closed in and repeatedly punched Pei An with his fists filled with thunder energy; every hit landed on Pei An's chest.

As if struck by a huge hammer, Pei An's chest immediately sank a few centimeters inward, and his entire complexion abruptly turned dark gray as the light in his eyes slowly began to vanish.

“H-hall Master Pei!”

All of his subordinates were so shocked they could faint. When they saw Qin Lie rushing towards them, they actually lost their courage to stop him and quickly retreated.

At this very moment, Qin Lie was like a violent beast or a god of brutality that had walked out of the ancient depths!

“SCRAM!”

Qin Lie yelled and continued rushing forwards. He did not glance at them.

A trace of icy-cold energy flew out yet again from the Soul Suppressing Orb. The energy spread out from inside his body and kept him in fighting condition.

“Why is there a trace of the Soul Devouring Beast’s aura inside this energy?” A trace of doubt appeared inside Qin Lie’s eyes.

From the moment he owned the Soul Suppressing Orb, the orb had never provided him with any energy. The only thing he knew was that there were countless unknown seals sealing many mysterious doors, preventing him from exploring deeper within for his memories.

However, ever since he had absorbed the Soul Devouring Beast’s main soul with the Soul Suppressing Orb inside the stone forest, he began to faintly feel the changes inside the orb.

He couldn’t say exactly what the change was, and he was also unable to detect where the Soul Devouring Beast’s main soul was. He only knew that a strange energy had slowly appeared inside the orb which he could detect but not capture... To be frank, he didn’t pay it too much attention.

But to his surprise, at a critical moment where he was about to become completely exhausted, he could feel the energy inside the Soul Suppressing Orb spreading outwards. It excited him and also caused him to regain his combat capabilities!

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“Miss, what’s wrong?” Inside a quiet patio, Liang Zhong suddenly walked out and looked at Xie Jingxuan who was just standing there.

—she should be cultivating or resting at this time.

“My heart is a little troubled, and I feel like taking a walk alone. Do not follow me,” Xie Jingxuan answered indifferently before silently vanishing like a ghost; her trail and aura had disappeared almost too quickly.

Liang Zhong was left stunned and confused inside the courtyard.

Half an hour later.

The white garbed Xie Jingxuan appeared in front of Qin Lie. Staring at Qin Lie, brimming with murder and eyes filled with brutality and madness, she frowned slightly before saying in a cold and hard tone, “I said very clearly back then at the stone forest.

If I sensed anything that even resembled the Soul Devouring Beast's aura, I would not question you for a reason. Instead, I would kill you right then and there!"