

The Beauty 1021

Chapter 1021 Fleeing in Disarray

Bang!

When Zhou Jun drove the armored robot to the center of the parking lot, he suddenly heard a loud explosion from above. Then, large chunks of stone fell from the top, smashing onto the armored robot.

Those stones blasted out weighed hundreds or even thousands of pounds, while the armored robot itself weighed only a few tons. After being hit by the stones, the robot immediately toppled to the ground. Before Zhou Jun could control the robot to stand up, stone after stone fell, and in the blink of an eye, the robot was buried under a pile of giant rocks.

Sitting in the cockpit, Zhou Jun tried hard to adjust the position of the armored robot, wanting to use its two mechanical arms to remove the stones. However, the number of stones was too great, and the accumulated weight was terrifying, so the mechanical arms couldn't move the stones outside.

"Boss Tang, I'm trapped!"

Hearing Zhou Jun's anxious voice coming from the intercom, Tang Guolun's face darkened, and he asked, "What's your current situation?"

"The armor is buried by stones, and I can't move right now. However, the oxygen in the armor is still sufficient, and it should be fine for two hours. Don't worry about me for now; find a way to stop them first."

"Okay, take care of yourself. Once we resolve things here, I'll send someone to rescue you."

"Fatty!" Tang Guolun turned to Hu Fei and said in a deep voice, "We can't rely on Zhou Jun."

"Then what do we do? Without that armored robot, they'll eventually breach the base's defenses. How about... how about we send people out?"

"No." Tang Guolun immediately rejected, "Ji Gang and the others are outside. Even if we send people out, it would just be sending them to their deaths and serve no purpose." With that, Tang Guolun asked, "Where's Ling Chen? How much longer until he arrives?"

"I just called him. It will probably take another ten minutes or so."

"Too late!"

As they spoke, a technician in the control center pointed at the big screen and said, "They're preparing to drill."

Everyone looked closely. At this moment, members of the God Organization were driving heavy machinery to the base's top. The two excavators had already dug through the surface soil, revealing a thick layer of concrete wall.

As the drill slowly descended, a buzzing vibration sound immediately came from the top of the base.

This time, in pursuit of efficiency, the God Organization used a large drilling rig, which was several times bigger than previous drilling equipment.

As time passed second by second, watching the drill slowly move down, everyone in the control center felt a heavy heart.

If a way to stop it couldn't be found, soon the God Organization would drill through the base's outer defenses. Once Ji Gang and the others break into the base, standing against them would be impossible for just these people.

"Fatty, inform Elder Zhou to speed up; we have no time to waste."

"Got it."

Outside the base, Ji Gang stood beside Zhu Hong, looking at his subordinates nearby and asked, "How much longer until the outer wall is breached?"

"Soon, at the current speed, it will take at most another ten minutes."

"Very well, pass down my order for everyone to stand by and prepare to charge in with me."

"Yes!"

"Zhu Hong, where's your Master? How much longer until he arrives?"

Zhu Hong smiled slightly and pointed above, saying, "My Master has arrived. Elder Ji, rest assured, when we breach the base, we disciples won't be missing."

Ji Gang looked up at the night sky, seeing a hawk soaring above, circling unceasingly. The presence of the hawk indicated that Song Mingzhe and others were nearby.

Five minutes later, the ceiling at the top of the control center had started to show cracks, with dust occasionally falling from above.

"Boss Tang, we can't hold on any longer, we have to go now, or it will be too late," Hu Fei urged.

Tang Guolun frowned deeply, sighed, and nodded, "Sound the alarm, let everyone in the base evacuate. Also, destroy all data in the control center; it must not fall into the hands of the God Organization."

Hu Fei responded, "Rest assured, I've already activated the self-destruct system; in one minute, all computer data will be erased."

A few minutes later, with a 'boom', the ceiling of the control center collapsed, creating a hole more than half a meter wide.

When the drill was retracted, several flashbangs and smoke grenades fell from the round hole above.

Bang! Bang!

Blinding lights flashed by, and thick smoke instantly filled the control center. At this time, a rope was faintly visible being thrown down from the round hole. Immediately after, several armed men slid down the rope from above.

"Safe!"

"Safe!"

After receiving the report from the advance team, Ji Gang promptly, without a word, led his subordinates through the round hole into the control center of the base.

Looking at the empty control center, Ji Gang coldly said, "Search, find out where they went."

"Yes!"

"Elder Ji, congratulations on successfully regaining control of this base," Zhu Hong walked over from behind, smiling.

"Hmph! I thought Ling Chen and his people were capable, but they're just cowards, not daring to show their faces. Zhu Hong, it was thanks to your suggestion that we were able to retake the base easily."

"Elder Ji, you're too kind, we're partners, and it's only right to help each other." After speaking, Zhu Hong changed the topic and said, "Elder Ji, since the base has been retaken, it seems our task here is done. I'll take my leave; if there's anything, call me."

"Alright, I will."

Watching Zhu Hong leave, Ji Gang walked to the computer in the control center, looking at the red warning signs displayed on the screen, he turned and instructed, "Call the technicians over to see if they can restore the base's system."

Over ten minutes later, the personnel who went to search the base gradually returned to the control center.

"Mr. Ji, we've checked everywhere and didn't find their whereabouts."

"No one?" Ji Gang furrowed his brows and murmured, "They must have built an escape tunnel in the base. Notify everyone, look carefully for the location of that escape tunnel."

"Yes, I'll get right on it."

After his men left, Ji Gang took out his phone and dialed Lin Guodong's number. Now that the base was successfully retaken, it was time to report the good news to Lin Guodong.

"Mr. Lin, rest assured, the base is intact, not heavily damaged, and can still be used normally. It's just a pity that Ling Chen's people escaped. If we could capture them all, that would have been the greatest victory."

"That's not urgent," Lin Guodong said with a smile, "As long as we've retaken the base, we have the upper hand. As for Ling Chen's people, we'll capture them sooner or later. Alright, go check the laboratory and make sure the equipment is fine."

"Okay."

Chapter 1022 A Scheme Within a Scheme (Part 1)

"You few, come with me." Ji Gang hung up the phone, pointed at a few subordinates, and headed straight to the laboratory on the second floor of the base.

Since the entire base's system had been shut down, the password input system was also ineffective. Ji Gang spent a considerable amount of time trying to open the laboratory's door.

Entering the lab, Ji Gang glanced at the equipment arranged around, preparing to conduct an inspection. But at this moment, he suddenly heard a slight noise reach his ears.

"Who's there?" Ji Gang called out coldly, "Get out here!"

As soon as he finished speaking, he saw someone slowly crawling out from behind a piece of equipment. The person wore a white coat, glasses, and looked a bit pale, seemingly scared.

Seeing Ji Gang at the door, the man quickly raised his hands and shouted loudly, "Don't, don't kill me, Mr. Ji, you know me, I'm not the enemy."

Ji Gang scrutinized the middle-aged man, gradually relaxing the vigilance in his eyes.

"I know you; you're a researcher for the God Organization." Saying this, Ji Gang looked around and asked, "Why are you the only one here, where are the others?"

"They were all taken away."

"Then why did you stay here?"

The middle-aged man hurriedly explained, "I was in the bathroom at the time, and I heard commotion outside. When I came out, I only saw those people taking my colleagues away. They left in a hurry, so they didn't bother with me. After that, I kept hiding in the lab."

"You got lucky." Ji Gang nodded and said, "Help check to see if there's any problem with the lab equipment. I have other matters to attend to, report to me directly later."

"Yes, Mr. Ji."

After giving instructions, Ji Gang turned around to walk out of the lab. As he reached the door, before he could exit, he suddenly heard a loud 'bang' behind him. Looking back, he saw a machine in the lab

bursting into flames, emitting thick smoke, and the researcher lying on the ground, his life or death unknown.

Seeing this situation, Ji Gang frowned slightly, quickly walked up to the researcher, and turned him over from the ground.

However, at this time, a blast door suddenly dropped from the top of the lab's entrance, sealing off the only way in and out.

Witnessing this sudden change, Ji Gang's expression shifted slightly, immediately dropping the researcher and getting up to check the situation. But as he stood, the fallen researcher suddenly opened his eyes and stuck a syringe into Ji Gang's calf.

Before Ji Gang could react, the syringe's contents had already been completely injected into his body.

Feeling the sting in his leg, Ji Gang looked down and was instantly furious, lifting his right foot to stomp on the researcher. With Ji Gang's strength, the researcher would be severely injured or worse if hit.

However, before the foot could land, Ji Gang's body suddenly swayed, two sides to side, as if he couldn't control his center of gravity. Seizing the opportunity, the researcher quickly got up from the ground, dashed to the corner of the lab, and looked at Ji Gang with fear.

At this moment, Ji Gang was trying hard to adjust his balance, but for some reason, a strong sense of weakness quickly spread throughout his body, leaving him utterly powerless, his head feeling dizzy, and even his eyelids heavy.

Instantly, Ji Gang appeared as if he were drunk, spinning around and stumbling, finally unable to hold on, collapsing to the ground, unconscious.

Seeing Ji Gang fall, the other subordinates in the lab immediately rushed over, calling out Ji Gang's name loudly, hoping to wake him. However, Ji Gang was already in a deep coma, unresponsive to their calls.

"Go, catch that bastard," a man said, pointing at the hiding researcher.

Seeing the two men coming towards him, the researcher was so frightened that he covered his head with his hands, shouting desperately, "Help... help me!"

A scream!

Just after the researcher's words fell, a cry of pain was heard in the lab. At this time, from a cabinet placed against the wall, two people suddenly charged out; it was Kaelina and Qin Genglong.

As soon as the duo made their move, Ji Gang's subordinates around him were instantly taken down.

After dealing with the remaining people, Kaelina looked at the researcher and said, "You can come out now, don't be afraid."

Simultaneously, next to the wall in a corner of the lab, the grate of a ventilation duct was being pushed open from the inside. Subsequently, Tang Guolun, Hu Fei, and a few doctors in white coats crawled out from the duct.

Seeing the unconscious Ji Gang on the ground, Hu Fei couldn't help but smile smugly.

"Humph! And he claims to be a Heavenly List expert, but is nothing more."

Tang Guolun patted the researcher on the shoulder and nodded approvingly, saying, "Well done. I'll give you a big credit when this is over."

"Th-thank you!" The researcher wiped the sweat from his forehead, forcing a smile. If it weren't for Tang Guolun and others coercing him, he wouldn't have dared to perform such a suicidal act.

"Hey! He shouldn't be waking up, right?" Hu Fei asked the researcher.

"No, I injected him with a potent anesthetic, enough to knock out an elephant, let alone a human."

Hearing this, Hu Fei was finally relieved, pointing at the doctors, "He's yours now. Remember, don't kill him."

"Rest assured, Mr. Hu, nothing will go wrong." Saying this, the doctors lifted Ji Gang onto the iron bed in the center of the lab, then connected the instruments to Ji Gang and began their work.

"Hey! Ling Chen, it's me." At this point, Hu Fei was holding a phone, calling Ling Chen to report the situation on his end.

"Your plan really worked; we've already got Ji Gang. How about you, have you reached the base?"

"Yes, I'm outside."

"Alright, you can proceed over there now. I'm in the lab, waiting for your good news."

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After hanging up the phone, Ling Chen stood by the roadside, looking at the construction site not far away, striding over.

Tonight's operation was actually within Ling Chen's expectations. He had arrested the God Organization's researchers, clearly posing a significant threat to the organization. At this point, the only option for Lin Guodong was to retake the base. If he didn't, the God Organization's position in East Sea City would be extremely precarious, making it hard to maintain a foothold. Thus, Lin Guodong would definitely not sit back and wait, and would surely take action.

Since the base is located within the city, the God Organization dares not make a big scene. Therefore, tonight, during Tang Shiyun's concert, would be the best time for the organization to make its move.

Chapter 1023 A Scheme Within a Scheme (Part 2)

Zhu Hong thought he was very clever, but how could Ling Chen not be aware of what he realized? Moreover, Ling Chen had much more experience than Zhu Hong, a half-baked amateur.

Since Ji Gang had already been successfully controlled, it was time for a major sweep of the base.

Picking up his phone, Ling Chen made a call and walked straight towards the main gate of the base. At this moment, there were more than a dozen members of the God Organization guarding outside the main gate.

Seeing Ling Chen approaching from a distance, the crowd's expressions slightly changed, and they quickly picked up their walkie-talkies to call their companions in the base.

Ling Chen's lips curled slightly, and with a light tip of his toe, the Nine Yang Qiankun Step was instantly deployed, charging straight into the crowd ahead.

In just a blink of an eye, the dozen men guarding the main gate were all easily taken care of by Ling Chen. After taking out the blockers, Ling Chen walked to the main gate, gave it a slight push, and the heavy door immediately opened.

Since Hu Fei had already shut down the base's systems during the retreat, all facilities were in a dysfunctional state. Therefore, the doors of the base were all automatically unlocked, allowing free entry and exit. This was also done to facilitate their counter-attack.

At this time, a large group of people approached the base, led by Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun, and apart from them, all others were combat personnel from the Secret Society.

Although there were many enemies inside the base, numbering in the hundreds, due to Ji Gang's disappearance, everyone was leaderless. Faced with the sudden attack, the people of the God Organization were dumbfounded and completely clueless about what to do.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Ling Chen led everyone to launch an offensive. Before long, the people of the God Organization were either dead or injured, and the rest were forced to the second level of the base.

"Kai, I'll leave the rest to you."

Jiang Yunkai nodded, saying, "Don't worry, they're just small fry that can be taken care of in no time."

Upon arriving outside the laboratory, after Ling Chen and Hu Fei spoke on the phone, the sealed explosion-proof door of the laboratory instantly opened.

Entering the laboratory, Ling Chen immediately saw Ji Gang lying on a bed, connected to various IV tubes and instrument wires. Beside Ji Gang's head, several doctors in white coats and masks were performing surgery.

"Fatty, how's it going?" Ling Chen stepped forward and asked.

"Everything is going smoothly so far, no surprises," Hu Fei said with a smile. "Old Ji Gang must never have imagined that as a dignified expert on the Heavenly List, he'd be taken down by an ordinary person."

"That's because he was unguarded. Still, he has no one to blame but himself for being so careless. Fatty, tell them to finish the surgery quickly, I have more important things to do."

"I know, I've already spoken to those neurosurgeons, and the surgery should be done in about ten more minutes."

"Good."

More than ten minutes passed, and news came from Jiang Yunkai's side that the people sent by the God Organization had been completely dealt with.

"Kai, cut off their communication, make sure they don't contact Lin Guodong."

"Don't worry, I know what to do."

"Fatty, are you done?"

"Almost," Hu Fei stood by a computer, typing quickly. Meanwhile, lying on the bed, Ji Gang slightly twitched his eyelids, showing a look of pain, his body trembling slightly.

Moments ago, the surgery had been completed. According to the doctors' instructions, Ji Gang was to rest until he woke up naturally. But Ling Chen was racing against the clock and didn't have time to waste.

As Hu Fei finished inputting the code, Ji Gang lying on the bed suddenly opened his eyes, staring at the ceiling. At this moment, his gaze exuded a sharpness, not at all like that of a controlled person. However, after over ten seconds, a hint of struggle flashed in Ji Gang's eyes, and gradually, that slightest sliver of consciousness was overtaken by dullness.

Watching Ji Gang sit up, Ling Chen walked over, scrutinized him carefully, and asked, "Do you recognize who I am?"

Hearing Ling Chen's question, Ji Gang looked at him dumbfounded, slowly opened his mouth, and said, "Ling Chen."

On the side, Hu Fei said, "Don't worry, although his brain has been implanted with a microchip, it won't damage his memory. However, his brain has become a simple memory storage without any thinking or judgment ability."

Ling Chen nodded and asked Ji Gang, "Where is Lin Guodong, tell me."

Tonight, the God Organization's personnel had been completely wiped out, including Ji Gang now under Ling Chen's control. At this point, as long as Lin Guodong was caught, the God Organization's forces in East Sea City could be uprooted.

All these days, Ling Chen had painstakingly planned to wipe out the God Organization and completely put an end to them.

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Time ticked by, Lin Guodong held a glass of red wine, sitting on a sofa, watching the clock on the wall ticking, frowning slightly, with a hint of unease in his eyes.

"Mr. Lin."

At this moment, a young man walked in quickly from outside.

Seeing the newcomer, Lin Guodong stood up from the sofa and asked, "What happened, have you contacted them?"

"I've called Mr. Ji and the others, but no one is answering."

Lin Guodong said in a deep voice, "It's been so long, could something have happened?"

"I don't think so. Previously, Mr. Ji called in, saying the base had already been taken over, right? So what could possibly go wrong?"

"The base is taken, but the people weren't caught. Ling Chen and his people know full well that the ownership of that base means control, so they shouldn't give up easily. Ji Gang not answering means the situation hasn't stabilized yet." Speaking of this, Lin Guodong changed his tone, instructing, "Immediately send someone to the base to find out the situation."

"We still have people in the city, I'll arrange it immediately." Saying this, the young man took out his phone and began contacting his subordinates.

After making the call, the young man turned to Lin Guodong and said, "Our people are on their way to the base, but it may take some time."

"Why?"

"Tang Shiyun's concert just ended, and the roads are jammed with traffic, moving very slowly."

Lin Guodong said coldly, "If driving doesn't work, have them run over there. I don't care how they do it, I must have news within fifteen minutes."

"Yes." The young man replied hastily.

"By the way!" Lin Guodong asked, "How many usable people do we have left?"

"Only the twenty-something security staff in the villa, and besides those sent to the base, a small portion are active in the city, roughly around forty people. Mr. Lin, do you want me to summon them back?"

"Over forty people? That's too few!"

The young man said helplessly, "That's the way it is, although we have quite a few people, many are overseas handling the aftermath, and they can't come to East Sea City on short notice."

Chapter 1024 Driven into a Corner

"Mr. Lin, if I may ask, what do you need people for right now?"

Lin Guodong glanced at the young man and said coldly, "I'm planning for the worst. Ji Gang and the others have been out of touch for so long. Who knows if something's happened to them?"

"But... Mr. Ji is a top expert on the Heavenly List. Can Ling Chen and his group really handle him?"

"Nothing in this world is absolute. Besides, it's better to be safe than sorry. If Ji Gang and the others have fallen, I'll be in a very dangerous situation. If I don't prepare now, should I wait for Ling Chen to come knocking and then figure things out? I don't want to end up in his hands again."

Hearing this, the young man thought for a moment and said, "The security personnel at the villa are all top-notch. They should be enough to ensure your safety. How about we contact Zhu Hong and ask for their help? Zhu Hong's master is also a top expert on the Heavenly List. If he's here, we'll definitely be safe."

"No way." Lin Guodong refused outright, without even thinking. "Do you think that boy Zhu Hong is a good person? Even though we're partners, I don't trust him at all. If he finds out about my current situation, he might take advantage of it." Lin Guodong paused and continued, "Go arrange a car. We'll move to another place first."

"Yes, I'll do it right away."

Soon, three Mercedes-Benz vans were ready, parked just outside the villa gate.

Once in the car, Lin Guodong took out his phone and dialed Ji Gang's number again. But, as before, no one answered. Listening to the system prompt from the other end, Lin Guodong frowned even more deeply.

"Drive."

"Mr. Lin, where are we going?"

"Into the city."

"Into the city?" The young man hesitated and quickly said, "Mr. Lin, the city roads are all congested. If something happens, it'll be hard for us to escape. I think it's safer to stay in the outskirts. Besides, it's closer to the highway entrance from here. Even if something happens, we can exit East Sea City quickly."

Lin Guodong snapped coldly, "What do you know? Don't talk nonsense with me. Head to the city immediately."

The young man, not daring to disobey Lin Guodong, hurriedly instructed the driver to set off.

Shortly after Lin Guodong's car hit the road, several sedans sped down the street and stopped outside the villa. Ling Chen jumped out from the driver's seat, his face changing as he looked at the bleak, dark villa, and he quickly rushed inside.

Just as he feared, the villa was completely empty.

"Ling Chen, we've searched the area, but there's no sign of Lin Guodong," Tang Guolun reported as he walked in from outside.

"That old fox must have sensed something." With that, Ling Chen turned and walked out of the villa. Looking at the road ahead, he said, "Lin Guodong shouldn't have been gone for long. We need to catch up. We can't let him escape."

Tang Guolun pointed to both ends of the road and asked, "Which way will you pursue? This way leads to the city, and that way leads to the highway. If I were Lin Guodong, I'd definitely choose the highway to escape."

Ling Chen pondered for a moment and said, "We can't gamble on a fifty percent chance. Let's do this, Boss Tang, you take a team and head towards the city. I'll take a team towards the highway. Remember, if you discover Lin Guodong's whereabouts, don't act rashly. Given Lin Guodong's status, there will definitely be experts protecting him."

"Don't worry, I know what to do. Take care of yourself too!"

With that, Tang Guolun gathered a few people and drove straight towards the city.

Sitting in the car, Lin Guodong hesitated for a long time before finally dialing a number he could only remember by heart.

When the call connected, a deep voice immediately asked, "What is it?"

Facing the person on the phone, Lin Guodong abandoned his usual calm demeanor and respectfully said, "There's been a major problem with the operation in East Sea City. I want to seek temporary protection."

"What about Ji Gang? With him protecting you, would you be in any danger?"

"I can't reach Mr. Ji, and I don't know his current situation. I'm worried something might have happened to him."

"Is that so?" After a moment of thought, the other party said, "Then come over. I'm at the old house—you know the location."

"Yes, thank you!"

Granted permission, Lin Guodong breathed a sigh of relief. As long as he reached that person's residence, no danger could touch him.

Just after hanging up, Lin Guodong hadn't yet put away his phone when the screen lit up again. Seeing the incoming call display, Lin Guodong immediately answered, "Zhao Zhengxiong, what do you want?"

"Mr. Lin, I'd like to ask for your help."

"Why come to me for help?"

"Jiang Hao is leading people to encroach on my territory. They have many people and several experts helping. I can't hold them off much longer. Mr. Lin, when we agreed to cooperate, you promised that you'd help whenever I needed it."

"Zhao Zhengxiong, I have a lot on my plate. I can't spare the manpower to help you. You'll have to figure it out on your own."

"Hey! Mr. Lin, you can't break your promise. I helped you significantly back then. You can't just burn bridges once you've crossed them." Zhao Zhengxiong's voice turned anxious over the phone.

Lin Guodong patiently replied, "I'm not refusing, but I simply can't spare the resources right now. We'll discuss everything once tonight is over."

"Mr. Lin," Zhao Zhengxiong responded coldly over the phone, "I trusted you. If you don't help me, don't blame me for doing something you'll regret."

"Suit yourself," Lin Guodong replied indifferently with just two words and hung up the call before Zhao Zhengxiong could say more, choosing to turn off his phone.

"Mr. Lin, are you really not going to help Zhao Zhengxiong?" the young man in the passenger seat asked.

"If it were before, I would have helped him. But now, I genuinely can't. I can't even guarantee my own safety, let alone his. Besides, Zhao Zhengxiong is, at best, an expendable pawn. Though he controls a decent amount of power, he's ultimately just a thug, unable to achieve much. Alright, don't talk about it anymore. Tell the driver to hurry up."

After traveling for about half an hour, the three Mercedes-Benz vans were stuck at the city entrance due to the heavy traffic, unable to reach their destination.

"Why is it so slow?" Lin Guodong asked with a frown.

"Mr. Lin, there's been an accident ahead, temporarily blocking the way. It'll take some time before things clear up."

Lin Guodong urged, "Hurry up. I can't afford delays. Ji Gang and the rest have been out of contact for so long, something must have happened."

After more than ten minutes passed, the congested section of the road finally cleared up. After the three Mercedes-Benz vans turned left at the junction ahead, the leading van suddenly came to a stop.

"What's going on?" Lin Guodong asked urgently.

Chapter 1025 Lin Guodong Captured (1)

"Mr. Lin, the road ahead is blocked," the young man replied.

Blocked? Lin Guodong's heart sank. He quickly leaned forward from the back seat to look ahead. Instantly, he saw several SUVs sealing off the road ahead. Not only that, there were people behind the SUVs putting up a police line, blocking the road completely and preventing other vehicles from passing through.

Seeing this situation, Lin Guodong slightly frowned and said to the young man, "Go over there and see what's happening."

"Me?" The young man pointed to his nose, his face changing slightly. He quickly said, "Mr. Lin, I... I don't know anything. What if there's danger? Better let the security guys go. Even if there's real danger, they can handle it."

"Quit the nonsense!" Lin Guodong snapped coldly, "Get over there. Dare to speak one more word, and believe it or not, I'll kill you right now?"

Feeling the murderous intent in Lin Guodong's words, the young man's heart trembled. He dared not say another word and hastily pushed open the car door to get out.

Reaching the SUVs, the young man mustered up courage and shouted loudly, "Who are you people?"

As soon as his voice dropped, the door of one of the SUVs opened, and a middle-aged man in a suit stepped out, looking at the young man with a smile, "You should know who I am."

Seeing the man, the young man was slightly startled, immediately wearing a smile as he said, "I was wondering who it was, turns out it's Mr. Zhao. Mr. Zhao, didn't you just call Mr. Lin saying you're in a very dangerous situation? How come you're here now?"

"Without calling Mr. Lin, how could we track his location?" The person speaking was not Zhao Zhengxiong, but another man. Seeing the young man stepping out of the car, the young man was taken aback, his face changing drastically as he hurriedly stepped back, exclaiming, "Jiang Hao?"

Jiang Hao smiled and said, "Looks like I have some fame, that you recognize me." With that, Jiang Hao looked at the business car and said, "Lin Guodong, come out, stop hiding in the car."

The car door opened, and accompanied by several security personnel, Lin Guodong stepped out of the Mercedes business car, staring straight at Jiang Hao and Zhao Zhengxiong opposite him. In a deep voice, he said, "Mr. Zhao, it seems I was wrong. I thought you were on my side."

Zhao Zhengxiong laughed and said, "Mr. Lin, I'm very sorry to disappoint you. Actually, I have always been Chen's man. It's just that Chen ordered me to put on a good show of betraying my brother, aiming to infiltrate your organization and become your partner."

"I see." Lin Guodong nodded, "So, your conflict with Jiang Hao and them was all a performance."

"No!" Zhao Zhengxiong said, "You from the God Organization are old foxes. How could acting a fake play deceive you? So, we decided to turn fiction into reality. Everything you saw and heard was true. Honestly, to gain your trust and make you believe I had cut ties with Chen, we paid a considerable price."

"Right, you're correct, you did deceive me. But so what? Do you think you few can block my way? If you think so, then you are too naive."

Jiang Hao grinned, "Mr. Lin, I'm of course aware of your skills, but do you dare to openly confront the police?" Saying this, Jiang Hao smiled slightly.

Soon, hundreds of fully armed police officers charged out from both ends of the road and the rooftop, blocking all the entrances.

Seeing the police appearing both front and back, Lin Guodong's face turned ugly. His security personnel were all experts, including experts from the Tiger List, Dragon List, and Earthly List. But, even with over twenty people under him, there before him were over a hundred armed police officers. Not to mention the impossibility of openly defying the police, even in terms of strength, how many could be faster than a bullet?

"Mr. Lin, I advise you to surrender peacefully and not resist in vain, otherwise the consequences will be severe," said Xia Mutong.

Lin Guodong sighed, raised his hands, and said, "Fine, I give up. Lin Chen, you truly are a fox."

"Arrest them all," Xia Mutong hadn't expected things to go this smoothly, and only when she saw everyone getting handcuffed did she truly relax.

Chapter 1026 Lin Guodong Captured (2)

Half an hour later, Jiang Hao and Zhao Zhengxiong drove to the base. At this moment, Ling Chen, Tang Guolun, and Hu Fei were standing outside the base, waiting for the two of them to arrive.

"Chen, Brother Hu, Boss Tang." After getting out of the car, Jiang Hao smiled and greeted them.

"Chen!" Zhao Zhengxiong called out to Ling Chen and nodded to Tang Guolun and Hu Fei as a greeting.

"Xiong, it's all thanks to you this time." Ling Chen patted Zhao Zhengxiong's shoulder and said with a smile.

Initially, when Zhao Zhengxiong, Nanrong Hao, and Jiang Hao seized control of East Sea City's underground scene, Ling Chen anticipated that once East Sea City became his stronghold, God Organization would certainly try to break through somehow and find an opportunity to deal with him. Therefore, rather than letting God Organization break the gap, it was better to actively create one for them.

Thus, Ling Chen secretly talked with Zhao Zhengxiong, asking him to find the right time to turn against Jiang Hao and Nanrong Hao, creating an illusion of opposition. This matter was known only to Ling Chen and Zhao Zhengxiong, nobody else was aware. Ling Chen did not inform Nanrong Hao and Jiang Hao, fearing they might slip and let God Organization catch on.

Therefore, the conflict between Zhao Zhengxiong and Jiang Hao was genuine, only this way could they deceive Lin Guodong and others.

However, their efforts finally paid off, as Zhao Zhengxiong successfully connected with God Organization. In some matters, to further gain Lin Guodong's trust in Zhao Zhengxiong, Ling Chen let Zhao Zhengxiong participate willingly in some actions against them, including destroying the research base.

Recently, because of Zhao Zhengxiong's betrayal, Nanrong Hao and Jiang Hao were furious and wanted revenge. When they went to capture Zhao Zhengxiong, it was Ling Chen who secretly informed him, allowing Zhao Zhengxiong to escape unharmed. Otherwise, given Ling Chen's abilities, it would have been impossible for Zhao Zhengxiong to escape easily.

Leaving Zhao Zhengxiong in God Organization, Ling Chen wanted him to be an important piece that could play a role at a critical moment. And tonight was the moment for Zhao Zhengxiong to play his part. The call he made to Lin Guodong was crucial, providing the phone signal that allowed Hu Fei to successfully locate Lin Guodong and intercept him.

"Xiong, where is Lin Guodong?"

"In Officer Xia's car." With that, Zhao Zhengxiong turned and whistled. Soon, Xia Mutong led the way, followed by two officers escorting the tightly bound Lin Guodong out of the car.

"Thank you, Officer Xia." Ling Chen glanced at Xia Mutong, showing a hint of gratitude in his eyes. The latter rolled her eyes at him and pulled him aside, saying, "Ling Chen, our police exerted great effort to capture Mr. Lin, mobilizing almost all available forces in the area. Are you really going to hand him over to me just like that?"

Ling Chen smiled wryly and said, "Miss Xia, the police helping to capture him was an order from above. Moreover, handing him over to me is also an order from above. I know you're reluctant, but the work I'm doing also helps alleviate the pressure from above. After all, resolving the major threat of God Organization can ease their worries, can't it?"

Glaring at Ling Chen, Xia Mutong looked helpless and said, "Fine, since it's an order from above, I won't interfere. But what do you plan to do with him?"

"I have my own plans."

"Get lost!" Xia Mutong said angrily, turning around with several officers to get into the police car and leave.

Seeing Lin Guodong's indignant eyes, Ling Chen smiled slightly: "Mr. Lin, we meet again."

Lin Guodong said in a deep voice, "Ling Chen, you've proven remarkable this time. I admit defeat, no matter how you plan to deal with me, I won't oppose."

"Mr. Lin, rest assured, I won't take your life. Your life isn't of much value to me. Fatty, lock him up for now, I have more questions for him later."

"Alright, you two." Hu Fei pointed at the two young men and said, "Follow me."

Once Hu Fei took Lin Guodong away, Tang Guolun looked at Ling Chen and asked, "How do you plan to deal with him? He's God Organization's number two; aren't you planning to kill him?"

Laughing, Ling Chen said, "I haven't planned to kill him. Also, I need to correct you; Lin Guodong isn't God Organization's number two; he is actually the true leader of God Organization. That Lin Qiqi is merely a facade, designed to draw attention for Lin Guodong."

"Really?" Tang Guolun was a bit skeptical.

"Of course it's true; there's no faking this. We were deceived by Lin Guodong before. Later, when I thought about it, something didn't seem right. That Lin Qiqi didn't seem like a ruthless person. How could a young girl control a global force? Moreover, if Lin Qiqi were truly the leader of God Organization, why was there only a Fake Heaven List expert protecting her? Lin Guodong has experts like Ji Gang protecting him; as God Organization's leader, she wouldn't possibly receive poorer treatment than Lin Guodong. Also, ever since Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi were rescued, Lin Qiqi disappeared, and all matters were handled directly by Lin Guodong, including moving God Organization's base to East Sea City. If Lin Qiqi were truly God Organization's leader, would she ignore such significant matters?"

After hearing Ling Chen's analysis, Tang Guolun nodded and said, "You make a good point. It seems we were indeed deceived." Then, Tang Guolun changing tack, asked in confusion, "Since Lin Guodong is God Organization's true leader, why not kill him, and what are you doing keeping him around?"

"Although Lin Guodong is God Organization's leader, he's just a minor character; the ones I'm targeting are not Lin Guodong but those behind him. Alright, don't ask about this for now; I'm not entirely sure either. Once I figure it out, I'll let you know. Let's head back to the base. No matter what, clearing Lin Guodong out is worth celebrating."

Back at the base, Ling Chen had already had someone prepare beer and snacks. With Lin Guodong captured, God Organization's forces in East Sea City were mostly dealt with, and soon they would be able to entirely drive God Organization out of East Sea City. When that happens, East Sea City will still be theirs.

After a few beers, Ling Chen patted Hu Fei's shoulder and said, "Tell everyone not to party too long; there's still plenty to be done tonight."

"Don't worry; I'll manage. Hey! Aren't you staying to drink with us?"

"No, I'm going to see Lin Guodong."

Alone, Ling Chen approached the room where Lin Guodong was held, unlocking the door, and looking at Lin Guodong chained up, he walked directly up to him and unlocked the chains on his hands.

"Here, have a beer." Ling Chen handed the beer he brought to Lin Guodong.

Looking at the beer in his hand, Lin Guodong said indifferently: "What does this mean? Don't tell me you want me to celebrate with you."

Chapter 1027 Honest Words After Drinking

"I'm not here to celebrate, and I'm not in the mood for it either," said Ling Chen as he sat in a chair and took a sip of beer.

"Since it's not for celebration, why did you come to drink with me? Your brothers are all outside; why not go to them?"

"I just wanted to have a chat with you. It's that simple." Ling Chen looked into Lin Guodong's eyes and said, "Actually, I know that even if I kill you, it won't end this fight. The God Organization is just the beginning; there are many more I need to deal with. You should understand what I mean."

Lin Guodong replied with a faint smile, "It seems you know quite a bit. Since you've laid it all out, I won't hide anything either. You're right, killing me won't solve anything. As long as the southern Ling Family

remains, this war will never end. But I want to ask you, Ling Chen, are you really ready to face another battle?"

"What do you mean?"

"I once asked you to attack someone and seize a metal briefcase, but you didn't complete the mission. I wonder if you failed or Ling Tao said something to you."

Hearing this, Ling Chen's heart stirred. He asked, "Do you know Ling Tao?"

"We're all part of the Ling Family, of course I know him," Lin Guodong replied. "Judging by your reaction, I guess I was right. You've not only met Ling Tao, but he must have told you a lot."

"He only told me that this war has been an internal struggle within the Ling Family from the start. Besides that, he didn't say anything else."

Lin Guodong nodded and said, "He did the right thing. Actually, he's not telling you for your own good. Ling Chen, there are too many things you don't know, and each of them is a secret. The deeper you go, the harder it is to extricate yourself. If I were you, I'd step back, continue to live freely, and not worry about these secrets."

"What secrets?" Ling Chen pressed on.

"I knew you would ask that," Lin Guodong said with a smile. "Everyone has a strong curiosity. But sometimes, curiosity can destroy you. Ling Chen, I won't hide it; there are indeed some things I know, but I'm good at restraining myself. The more I learned, the more I wanted to know what happens next. But it's like a quagmire, dragging one deeper. So I rationally restrained myself and stopped my curiosity. If you really want to know, I can tell you one thing. The source of the Ling Family's internal conflict all comes down to one person."

"Who?"

"Ling Gengqiu!" Lin Guodong slowly uttered the name.

Ling Gengqiu?

Ling Chen was shocked. He certainly knew who Ling Gengqiu was, his ancestor from several centuries ago. Ling Chen had read about Ling Gengqiu's deeds in the records of the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion and had a clear understanding.

"Ling Chen, do you want to know why the southern Ling Family secretly funds the God Organization, why they took over its power?" Before Ling Chen could ask, Lin Guodong spoke. "It's related to Ling Gengqiu."

"Do you want to know why Ling Family members fight among themselves? That's also related to Ling Gengqiu. Everything you've experienced is inextricably linked to Ling Gengqiu, only you don't know it. So, if you want to unravel all the mysteries, Ling Gengqiu is the key."

"But... Ling Gengqiu has been dead for centuries, how is he related to any of this?" Ling Chen was perplexed.

It was incomprehensible that someone who died centuries ago could spark conflict centuries later.

"So what if he's dead?" Lin Guodong said meaningfully, "How do you know he doesn't exist?" Seeing Ling Chen's mouth agape, Lin Guodong smiled slightly. "Like I said, this is a quagmire. If you keep asking questions, trying to understand one 'why' after another, you'll only end up driving yourself crazy. To put it harshly, the Ling Family members are all mad now, driven crazy by Ling Gengqiu. Anyone with a bit of sanity would withdraw in time and stop letting these matters trouble them."

"Ling Chen, apart from everything else, you and I are both part of the Ling Family, and we share the same blood. So, as a family member, I'd advise you to stop! You've already done enough by destroying the God Organization. There's no need to continue. Dying for Ling Gengqiu from centuries ago is far from worth it."

Ling Chen directly faced Lin Guodong and asked, "If you're still rational, why continue serving the Ling Family and committing wrongdoings?"

"By the time I realized, it was too late. My hands are stained with too much blood and lives; there's no turning back for me. Besides, even if I wanted to, they wouldn't give me the chance to leave. Ling Chen, if you plan to continue intervening, you'd better build up your forces in East Sea City and strengthen yourself as much as possible. In the future, East Sea City will surely become a battlefield."

Ling Chen frowned slightly and said, "Is that a warning or a reminder?"

"I'm reminding you. Of course, you can also take it as a warning."

"Would you really be that kind?" Ling Chen looked at Lin Guodong with skepticism. "Given your current situation, shouldn't you be threatening me?"

"If it were before, I would certainly threaten you, set conditions, and find ways to escape, but it's all useless now."

"Why?"

"This is the second time you've caught me. Last time I escaped, they warned me that if it happened again, they would abandon me. They're looking for elites, not useless people. So even if I escape this time, I won't have any more opportunities. My fate would likely be confinement, or they'd kill me because I know too much. Ling Chen, no matter how you intend to deal with me this time, it doesn't matter to me. My fate is already sealed."

"I won't kill you, nor will I keep you locked up here."

"Then what do you intend to do with me?"

"Since you've told me so much just now, I'll send you to a good place. If it goes well, you might just enjoy your twilight years peacefully."

Lin Guodong smiled, "If such a good thing is possible, let me tell you one more secret."

"Alright, it's a deal. I'll do my best to help you." Saying this, Ling Chen finished his beer and left the room.

Walking down the spacious corridors of the base, Ling Chen lowered his head, still pondering Lin Guodong's words.

Ling Gengqiu!

Why was everything so connected to him? It was truly baffling.

Chapter 1028 Lingering Rage

Back at the control center, looking at Ling Chen who appeared deep in thought, Tang Guolun asked, "What are you thinking about?"

"Nothing much." Ling Chen forced a smile and then changed the topic, saying, "I have some things to handle, so I'll head back first. I'll leave the aftermath here to you guys."

"Don't worry, we'll handle the cleanup work well."

Leaving the base, Ling Chen drove straight towards Wealthy Manor. The matters with the God Organization were resolved, now it was time to deal with his personal issues. Thinking about the situation with Leng Feifei gave Ling Chen a headache; he didn't know how to explain it to Nanrong Wanqing. No matter what, he and Leng Feifei had indeed shared an intimate moment, which was an unchangeable fact.

Although Nanrong Wanqing usually acted with great generosity, when it comes to matters like this, it's difficult for any woman to remain generous.

At this moment, Ling Chen had prepared for the worst. If Nanrong Wanqing refused to forgive him, then he would have no choice but to leave.

Arriving at Wealthy Manor, Ling Chen didn't go directly to the Nanrong Family but instead called Nanrong Hao from his car.

Shortly after, Nanrong Hao walked over from a distance and got into the passenger seat.

"Chen."

"Haozi, how is your sister?" Ling Chen asked.

"Chen, what exactly did you do to offend my sister? She hasn't spoken all day and has been acting cold and distant, which is making me scared."

"So, where is she now?"

"She's probably already asleep," Nanrong Hao said. "Chen, you'd better ask our cousin, she lives with my sister and knows best how she's doing. Maybe you could ask our cousin to mediate on your behalf. My sister gets along best with her, so maybe she would forgive you."

Ling Chen gave a bitter smile and said, "It's not that easy." However, he still attempted to call Su Lin with a hopeful mindset.

When the call connected, Su Lin's voice immediately came from the other side: "Hello! You finally decided to call." Su Lin's tone was sharp and carried a trace of anger, "You missed such a good opportunity at the concert and left Wanqing alone, no wonder she's mad at you."

"Yes, yes." Ling Chen asked, "Um... Miss Su, is Wanqing asleep?"

"How could she sleep? She's been crying since the concert ended, her eyes are swollen. Where are you?"

"I'm outside the Nanrong Family, Haozi is with me. Miss Su, if it's convenient, could you come out for a moment? I have something to discuss with you."

"Alright, wait there, I want to hear how you're going to explain this."

After hanging up, within two minutes, Su Lin appeared at the Nanrong Family's entrance.

Getting into the car, Su Lin glanced at Ling Chen, then looked at Nanrong Hao in the passenger seat, and said coldly, "What do you want to say?"

"How is Wanqing?" Ling Chen asked with concern. His biggest worry now was Nanrong Wanqing's wellbeing, as she had taken a significant emotional blow because of him.

"How do you think she is?" Su Lin said angrily, "I can't understand what you did to upset Wanqing this much, she wouldn't even listen to me trying to reason with her, and she drove me out of the room."

"Exactly!" Nanrong Hao chimed in, "Chen, what happened between you and my sister? Maybe if you tell us, we can help somehow."

"Well..." Ling Chen hesitated, unsure whether to disclose the events.

Seeing Ling Chen's delay in speaking, Su Lin reached for the door handle, saying as she opened the car door, "If you're not willing to talk, then I'll go back. Don't expect us to help you."

"Wait!" Ling Chen hastily called her back, afraid Su Lin would leave, "It's not that I don't want to talk, just that..." Ling Chen gave a bitter smile and said, "I don't know how to start." After a pause, Ling Chen exhaled, looked at Su Lin, and said, "Alright, I'll tell you, but you mustn't misunderstand."

Ling Chen then recounted the events of that day.

"That's the whole story; Han Mingchao must have privately approached Wanqing and badmouthed me, which caused Wanqing to misunderstand my relationship with Feifei. In reality, I had no choice; time was running out, and Leng Feifei is my friend. I couldn't just stand by and watch her get into trouble, so I... I know that no matter what, this is my fault, and I'm willing to apologize. As long as she forgives me, I'll do anything. But the problem is, Wanqing doesn't want to hear my explanation right now. And no matter how much I explain, it doesn't change the outcome."

With that, Ling Chen sighed softly and looked at Su Lin and Nanrong Hao, "You are all Wanqing's family; only you can speak to her on my behalf at a time like this."

"That might be difficult," Su Lin said, "I'm inclined to believe what you just told us, but, as you said, despite the circumstances, you committed a fundamental mistake, and Wanqing is someone who cares deeply. If she didn't know, it'd be one thing, but now not only does she know, Han Mingchao has certainly embellished stories about you to her. That's why Wanqing is so angry. I suggest you don't contact Wanqing for a few days; the more you explain, the angrier she'll get. It's better if I put in a good word for you and wait until Wanqing calms down, then you can meet her. It will be better that way."

"Chen, my cousin is right. I know my sister's temper best. She's angry right now, so saying anything to her won't help. It's better to let her cool off for a few days. Besides, my sister isn't unreasonable. Once she figures things out, she'll forgive you." After finishing, Nanrong Hao patted Ling Chen's shoulder with a knowing tone and said, "Chen, it's okay. Women are like this; throw a little tantrum, and they'll be fine after a few days."

Hearing this, Su Lin glared at Nanrong Hao and said, "Speaking like you know women well, huh?"

"I uh—" Nanrong Hao chuckled and quickly changed the subject, "Chen, are you hungry? Want me to join you for a late-night snack?"

"No, I'm not in the mood." Upon finishing his sentence, Ling Chen turned to look at Su Lin and said, "Miss Su, please help me with this."

Su Lin nodded, "I'll do my best, Wanqing is my sister, and I don't want her to be sad or upset." Then Su Lin seemed to think of something, her eyes sparkled, "I heard that you have a good relationship with Miss Tang?"

"You mean Shiyun? Why, do you need something from her?"

"Nothing, but if I help you this time, how do you plan to repay me?" Seeing Ling Chen didn't immediately understand, Su Lin continued, "Could you arrange for Miss Tang to have a meal with me?"

Chapter 1029 Unexpected Gains (Part 1)

So that's what it is!

Ling Chen almost forgot, Su Lin is a hardcore fan of Tang Shiyun. After some thought, he nodded slightly and said, "Sure, if I have time, I'll arrange for you to meet her."

"Great, you said it, so it's a deal." After speaking, Su Lin got off the car happily.

After Su Lin left, Nanrong Hao nudged Ling Chen's arm and gave him an ambiguous smile, "Chen, you're impressive."

"What?" Ling Chen looked at Nanrong Hao in confusion and asked, "What did I do?"

"Chen, my cousin isn't here, so why pretend with me?" Nanrong Hao chuckled quietly, "You really got lucky this time."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen finally understood Nanrong Hao's implication and retorted irritably, "I'm in this state already, and you're still gloating. Do you believe I won't tell your sister about this? Alright, if there's nothing else, scoot. I need to head back."

After Nanrong Hao got out of the car, Ling Chen suddenly thought of something and quickly called out to him, "By the way! If you have time, get together with Xiong. He has it tough, don't hold any grudges against him."

Nanrong Hao grinned, "Come on, Chen, do I look like someone who's unreasonable and narrow-minded? Don't worry, I'm well aware of what Xiong has done. He's practically our hero; I'm grateful to him, so how could I bear grudges? You really underestimate me."

"Alright, as long as you understand. I have to head back now. Keep an eye on your sister these days, and call me directly if anything comes up." After saying this, Ling Chen started the car and drove straight home.

By the time he got home, it was already past eleven at night.

Seeing the lights were still on in the living room, Ling Chen knew that Yang Qingling was definitely still awake, presumably waiting for him to return. Walking into the house, he saw Yang Qingling sitting on the sofa in the living room, watching a TV show.

Hearing the door open, Yang Qingling turned to look at Ling Chen as he approached and asked, "Why did you come back so late?"

"Got held up by some things. Mom, it's almost twelve o'clock, why aren't you asleep yet?"

"I couldn't sleep until you came home. Alright then, since you're back, I'll go to bed now. You should get some rest too," Yang Qingling said as she stood up. In truth, she understood what Ling Chen was up to, but chose not to say it outright. In her eyes, her son was already an adult, with his own thinking and independence, as well as responsibilities to shoulder. So, rather than adding to his stress, she chose not to question him.

"Oh, right!" As she was walking to the stairs, Yang Qingling suddenly remembered something and turned back, "There's a letter for you from a friend on the dining table."

"A friend of mine?" Ling Chen paused, a bit perplexed. In this day and age, who still sends letters? What's even stranger is that he just moved here, and very few people knew his address. Who could have sent it?

Thinking of this, Ling Chen quickly went to the dining room and saw a white envelope on the table.

Picking up the envelope, there was no name on the outside, not even a stamp. Ling Chen immediately opened the envelope and drew out the letter paper inside.

As soon as he saw the neat handwriting on the paper, Ling Chen immediately knew who had sent the letter.

Leng Feifei!

The content of the letter was simple, merely informing Ling Chen that she had gone abroad for studies. She explained that instead of calling, she chose to write because she didn't know how to phrase what she wanted to say. At the end of the letter, Leng Feifei left a sentence, hoping that Ling Chen could give her some time and a chance.

Folding the letter back, Ling Chen gave a wry smile. He only had friendship with Leng Feifei, nothing more, but now they had become intimately involved, leaving him quite troubled.

For the time being, Ling Chen set aside the issue of Leng Feifei's pursuit. What worried him most now was Nanrong Wanqing; he wondered if Su Lin could soothe her emotions and have her forgive him.

...

The next morning.

Ling Chen woke up, yawning and got up to walk to the window, looking at the beautiful scenery outside. Although the price of this villa was a bit high, the environment of the community was undeniable, with lush greenery everywhere.

Breathing in the fresh air outside the window, Ling Chen walked out of the bedroom and down to the dining room.

At this time, Yang Yan and Gong Meiling were already up. Older folks often enjoy morning exercises to stretch their muscles, and Yang Yan was no different. Fortunately, there was a large garden outside the villa where Yang Yan could move freely.

"Grandma." Ling Chen peeked into the kitchen and saw Gong Meiling preparing breakfast. Smelling the fragrance coming from the pot, Ling Chen smiled and asked, "What's for breakfast today?"

"I'm making corn porridge and ham sandwiches. You go sit for a while; breakfast will be ready soon." Gong Meiling had a heart full of affection for this grandson of hers. After years of wandering abroad, it's rare to return and enjoy a peaceful old age, all thanks to her grandson.

Coming out from indoors, Ling Chen immediately saw Yang Yan in the middle of the lawn posing, practicing Tai Chi Boxing.

Being a master on the Earthly List, Ling Chen had some understanding of Tai Chi Boxing. Tai Chi is a kind of Inner Boxing, focused on overcoming hardness with softness and using minimal force to exert maximum power. However, as Tai Chi Boxing has evolved over time, most forms are now aimed at health and fitness, rather than competitive fighting. Therefore, there are very few masters of Tai Chi Boxing.

Ling Chen stood by and watched for a while, and Yang Yan slowly finished his routine, exhaling a long breath.

Seeing his grandson enjoying the performance, Yang Yan smiled and waved to Ling Chen, signaling him to come over.

"Grandpa, for someone your age, you've got the vitality of a young man."

Yang Yan laughed heartily, "You cheeky boy, quit flattery. I'm half in the grave already; how could I compare with you young folks? Hey! Is your grandma's breakfast ready yet?"

"Not yet, Grandma said it'll be a little longer."

"Come on, let's go for a walk outside, and then we'll come back for breakfast."

"Okay."

With Grandpa making the call, Ling Chen naturally wouldn't refuse. The two stepped outside the courtyard, walking side by side on the stone-paved path, chatting occasionally.

"Ling Chen, your mom said your skills are quite good?"

"They're just okay, not that impressive," Ling Chen replied modestly.

"I always wanted to practice martial arts, but unfortunately, by the time I considered it, I was too old. Plus, I focused all my energy on running the company and didn't have time. By the time I made it in my career, I was already in my forties and fifties. At that time, I invited many Martial Arts masters, hoping to learn some boxing to stay healthy. But those so-called Martial Arts masters cared only for fame and fortune, they weren't real experts."

"Later, while traveling with friends, I passed by a dilapidated Taoist temple and met an old Taoist priest who had been watching over that temple for over sixty years. With the intent of doing good, I donated some money and had the temple restored. Little did I know I'd find an unexpected reward."

Chapter 1030 Unexpected Gains (Part 2)

"Grandfather, what unexpected gain?" Ling Chen asked curiously.

"An old Taoist monk taught me a set of boxing techniques. He didn't say much, only told me to practice it often as it would be good for my health. You know, he had the look of a celestial being, and back then we were a bit superstitious, so we naturally believed him. After returning from the Taoist temple, I practiced the technique every morning as he taught me and did so consistently for about half a year. My health improved significantly. At that time, due to running the company day and night, my health had deteriorated with numerous ailments. Yet, because of that boxing technique, all my illnesses disappeared, and I became healthier than those young people."

"It was only then that I realized the old Taoist monk who taught me must have been an extraordinary master. Later, I found an opportunity, took a load of gifts, and headed to the temple to thank him in person. However, when I got there, I discovered that the temple had changed hands, and the old Taoist monk had long left, reportedly wandering the world. Since then, I've never seen him again. But all these years, I've persisted in practicing that boxing technique. Look at me now, over eighty years old, yet nothing's wrong with my body. In terms of health, the young generation immersed in food and pleasure can't even compare to me."

Upon hearing Yang Yan's words, Ling Chen was taken aback. This was too miraculous, wasn't it?

"Grandfather, is the boxing technique you mentioned the one I just saw?"

"No," Yang Yan said. "That Tai Chi Boxing is something I taught myself to relax the body. Why, are you interested in seeing it?"

Ling Chen nodded; of course, after hearing Yang Yan's experience, he became very interested in that boxing technique.

"Alright!" Yang Yan replied with a smile, "Since you're interested, I'll demonstrate it for you."

Saying that, the two returned directly to the courtyard of the villa.

In the middle of the yard, Yang Yan took a deep breath, slightly spread his legs, sank his waist, and slowly raised his two arms, posing a striking action. Immediately, Yang Yan executed a horse step with a forward punch, his fist following closely. After the punch, his body did not pause but swiftly transitioned to the next move.

In about a minute, he completed the entire set of boxing techniques, as smooth as flowing water. When Yang Yan finished, his forehead was covered in sweat, looking quite strained.

Yang Yan wiped the sweat from his palms, turned to Ling Chen and asked, "Kid, did you see clearly?"

Hearing Yang Yan's voice, Ling Chen snapped back and blurted out, "What? Grandfather, what did you just say? I didn't hear you clearly."

"What were you thinking? Didn't you see the boxing technique I just performed?"

"No, no, I saw it. It was good, very good," Ling Chen replied with a forced smile.

Even though he said so, Ling Chen was utterly shocked in his heart. Being a martial artist on the Earthly List, he could see things more clearly than Yang Yan. The set of boxing techniques Yang Yan demonstrated looked plain with nothing special. However, Yang Yan was just an ordinary person, not a master, so he couldn't grasp the true essence of it.

If a master were to perform this boxing technique, it would definitely be at a completely different level.

"Grandfather, when the old Taoist monk taught you this boxing technique, did he ever tell you about the breathing method?"

Yang Yan nodded, "He did, but I couldn't quite grasp it. I tried many times but never succeeded. Moreover, whenever I use that breathing method, my whole body feels strained, as if all my strength is drained."

As he thought!

Ling Chen's eyes lit up. The so-called breathing method he referred to was actually the mental method of the boxing technique. This kind of boxing is Inner Boxing; only those who have cultivated Inner Strength can unleash its power. Yang Yan, being an ordinary person, naturally found it strenuous.

"Grandfather, can you teach me the boxing technique and the breathing method?"

"You want to learn?" Yang Yan smiled and readily agreed, "Of course, no problem. Come, I'll teach you the boxing technique first."

Yang Yan's boxing technique was very simple, just a few moves along with the mental method mantra. Although the mantra was somewhat complex, Yang Yan's memory was excellent, and he taught Ling Chen every word by heart.

Just as Ling Chen memorized everything, Yang Qingling came out from the house and said, "What are you two up to? Come inside, breakfast is ready."

"Alright, we're coming," Yang Yan replied with a smile.

After breakfast, Ling Chen sat alone in the bedroom, recalling the mental method mantra Yang Yan taught him. Following the mantra's circulation path, Ling Chen circulated Inner Strength through his body. Before long, he felt warm and comfortable all over.

Click, click!

This mental method is really something. Ling Chen secretly rejoiced, never expecting such an unexpected delight from Yang Yan.

The entire day, Ling Chen stayed in his room, studying the boxing technique. If it weren't for Yang Qingling calling him several times, Ling Chen might have even forgotten to eat.

After dinner, Ling Chen was about to head back to his room when he suddenly received a call from Nanrong Hao.

"Hey! Chen, where are you?"

"At home. Why, do you need something from me?"

"Did you forget what you asked me to do last night? Chen, I've taken care of it. If you're free now, come over quickly. We're waiting for you here."

"Alright, send me the address, and I'll be right there."

After the call ended, Ling Chen informed Yang Qingling and drove out of the community.

After about forty minutes of travel, Ling Chen arrived at an old warehouse in the Old City. Several young men stood outside, smoking. Seeing Ling Chen park and approach, they quickly threw away their cigarettes and respectfully addressed him, "Chen!"

Ling Chen nodded and asked, "Is Haozi inside?"

"Haozi, Jiang Hao, they're all inside." With that, the young men opened the warehouse doors and welcomed Ling Chen in.

Entering the warehouse, Ling Chen glanced around and saw Nanrong Hao and Jiang Hao sitting at a makeshift table. A few bottles of beer and some marinated snacks and peanuts were on the table. The two were happily eating and drinking.

"You two really know how to enjoy yourselves." Ling Chen stepped forward, jokingly scolding them, and casually picked up a bottle of beer, taking a few swigs.

Jiang Hao chuckled and said, "Chen, come, take a seat, let's have a few drinks first."

Ling Chen waved his hand and said, "No, I don't have time to fool around with you. Hey, didn't you say you took care of it? Where are they?"