

The Beauty 1481

Chapter 1481 New-Type Weapon (1)

"Dean Yi, is everything ready?"

In the laboratory on the thirty-fourth floor of the Yingtai Group headquarters, Zhu Hong approached Yi Haisheng, looked at the data displayed on the computer, and asked.

Yi Haisheng nodded and said, "Don't worry, everything is ready. I've arranged for two Enhanced People as demonstration subjects for the day. Their abilities are outstanding and will undoubtedly impress the high-ranking military officials who come to watch."

"That's good. I've boasted in front of Yingtai Group's CEO, and success hinges on this. If we succeed this time, better days are ahead."

"Don't worry, I know what's best."

Zhu Hong smiled, walked alone to the glass window, and looked at this bustling city. Thinking of the big plans he had in this city, Zhu Hong felt a surge of passion.

"Dean Yi, what are they doing over there?" At that moment, Zhu Hong seemed to notice something and pointed to the road beside the Yingtai Group.

Yi Haisheng came to Zhu Hong's side, looked down for a moment, and said, "It should be road construction. Make a call to the front desk downstairs and ask them to inquire. If it's indeed roadwork, tell them to pause and not affect the military seminar the day after tomorrow."

"Okay."

However, just as the call was made, the sound of 'da-da-da' was heard from the nearby road. Zhu Hong returned to the glass window again, seeing the road had begun construction; in an instant, the smooth road was made ragged.

Shortly, the front desk downstairs called back, "Mr. Zhu, it's the government city planners. They're going to repair the road and resurface it with a layer of asphalt."

"Call the government officials directly and tell them to stop immediately, so as not to affect our military seminar."

"Mr. Zhu, I just asked, the section they're repairing isn't very long, only about thirty meters, and it can be completed in a day and a half without affecting us. Besides, the road has already been damaged, and pausing might disrupt traffic on that day, so..."

"Alright! I've heard enough, let them finish as soon as possible." With that, Zhu Hong hung up the phone directly.

"What's wrong?" Yi Haisheng asked beside him.

"It's nothing, just city planning, they need to redo the road surface. No worries, it's only a day and a half, it won't hinder our main event."

At that moment, under the road being repaired, an excavator slowly entered the abandoned subway tunnel. "Here we are." Beison jumped down from the vehicle, pointed to a nearby wall, and said, "Mr. Ling, right across is the Yingtai Group."

Ling Chen looked up, listened to the noise from above, and nodded, "Our time is limited, start the work immediately and try to finish within a day."

"You don't have to worry, we have professional machinery, a day's time is sufficient." With that, Beison immediately summoned the staff to start the excavation work.

In just an hour, a one-meter deep passage had appeared on the wall. At this rate, they could break through the tunnel in less than ten hours.

"Beison, leave this to you, report to me if any issues arise."

"Understood."

Coming out of the subway tunnel, Ling Chen looked up at the blue sky and exhaled slowly. Fortunately, Jack has some connections with government officials, otherwise, they wouldn't dare to openly dig a passage.

Now, the equipment is ready, the method to enter the Yingtai Group is set, everything is in place, just waiting for the military seminar to begin the day after tomorrow.

Zhu Hong... it's time we put an end to this!

In the blink of an eye, two days have passed. In the presidential suite of the hotel, Ling Chen straightened his suit and took out his phone to check the time. There were only two hours left until the military seminar, and they must enter an hour early.

So, they only had one hour left to prepare.

At that moment, the door opened, and Liu Dongsheng walked in from outside. "Uncle Liu, is everything ready on your end?"

"The personnel are in place, ready to take action at any time." With that, Liu Dongsheng extended a wireless earpiece towards Ling Chen, "Remember to keep in touch once you're inside."

Ling Chen shook his head, "Forget about this thing. Yingtai Group's security is so tight, if I wear this inside, do you think they won't find it? No matter what, safety comes first, let's get inside the Yingtai Group first." At this point, Ling Chen seemed to think of something, and with a serious face said, "Right! There's one more thing, to avoid losing contact with you once we're inside, we must come up with a plan."

"Go ahead."

"The military seminar starts at seven-thirty in the evening. If we can't reach you, then we'll set the action time at eight o'clock. At eight, both of us act simultaneously."

"Wait! Ling Chen, isn't that too risky?" Hu Fei was somewhat worried.

Tang Guolun agreed, "I also think it's very risky. If the situation on-site doesn't suit a surprise attack, are we supposed to force it? Wouldn't that be too dangerous?"

"For everyone's safety, it'd be best to establish a signal." Liu Dongsheng said.

Ling Chen thought for a moment and said, "Alright, I'll find a way to give you a signal then."

"Mr. Ling, the car is ready."

Seeing Beison entering from outside, Ling Chen nodded and looked at everyone present, "I'll head out now, everyone take care."

"Ling Chen." Tang Guolun caught up with Ling Chen and said earnestly, "Would you like to reconsider?"

"Reconsider what?"

"You know your own situation well, why not let someone else go, like those brothers of yours, they can protect themselves even if they're in danger, but you can't."

"No." Ling Chen shook his head and said, "I'm aware of the risks of this mission. However, the situation on site will be very complex, and a seasoned person must enter the venue to make the correct decisions." With that, Ling Chen smiled and patted Tang Guolun's shoulder, "Boss Tang, I know you're worried about me, rest assured, I won't take unnecessary risks. Besides, with Lady Zhu by my side for protection, my safety isn't a concern. Alright, time is short, I'll head out now."

In the car, Zhu Qing was already waiting in the passenger seat. For tonight's operation, she wore a professional short skirt, her hair tied up, and wore glasses, giving her the charm of a career woman.

"Mr. Ling, these are the IDs Mr. Jack helped us prepare, everyone wear them. Also, here's a list, everyone take note, in case we're questioned by the other side."

Chapter 1482 - 1790: New Weapon (2)

Seeing the ID card handed over by Beison, Ling Chen reached out to take it and clipped it to his collar, then glanced at the list in his hand. Jack had arranged for them to pose as journalists from a media outlet, and the list contained names of employees from that outlet.

After memorizing the names and positions on the list, Beison had already driven them to the Yingtai Group.

After getting out of the car, Beison opened the trunk and took out the camcorder, camera, and some shooting equipment. Ling Chen carried a camcorder, following Beison and Zhu Qing directly to the main entrance.

At this time, it was already six o'clock in the evening, and the entrance of the Yingtai Group was lined with long queues, all of them guests attending the military seminar. It's worth noting that Yingtai Group was very serious about security; regardless of what country's military top brass you were, everyone received the same treatment, and had to pass security checks at the entrance to get in.

To expedite the security checks, the Yingtai Group had arranged a total of three security teams.

After waiting outside for more than twenty minutes, it was finally Ling Chen's group's turn.

A security officer, carefully scrutinizing Ling Chen, asked, "What's your name?"

"Carey." Ling Chen reported the name on his ID card.

The security officer glanced at the invitation list, then pointed at the camcorder in Ling Chen's hand and said, "Take off all the electronic devices you're carrying."

Ling Chen complied without saying a word. Soon, two security officers used professional scanning equipment to scan Ling Chen and his electronic devices. After repeated checks, confirming that there were no issues, Ling Chen was finally allowed to pass.

Soon after, Zhu Qing and Beison also passed the security checks and reunited with Ling Chen inside the Yingtai Group building.

At this moment, a middle-aged man in a suit approached with a smile and warmly extended his hand, "Mr. Carey, hello, I'm Steven, responsible for your reception here. I heard you're journalists from WTC. I once met your chairman Frank. Is he doing well?"

Ling Chen's eyes flickered, and he smiled, saying, "Mr. Steven, I think you might be mistaken. Our chairman isn't Frank, but Aoki."

"Aoki?" Steven patted his forehead, making an apologetic gesture, "I'm really sorry, I must have mixed it up. Please, this way, I've arranged seats for you."

Following Steven, Ling Chen's group exchanged a glance and let out a breath of relief simultaneously. Fortunately, Jack was thorough in his preparation; otherwise, Steven's questioning earlier might have exposed them.

Entering the venue, Ling Chen glanced around and noticed that by this time, at seven o'clock, nearly a hundred seats were more than half occupied. To his surprise, he found many familiar faces, leaders from some organizations, and international arms dealers. Back in the "Ghost" days, these people had been his homework.

"Mr. Carey, your seats are over here." Steven led Ling Chen's group to the last row of the venue.

"Alright, thank you, Mr. Steven."

"You're welcome! Please carry on, I have other guests to attend to." With that, Steven turned and left the venue.

To avoid suspicion, Ling Chen's group set up the camcorder earnestly, while observing the venue's situation. In front of the seating area was a stage, equipped with a large LCD screen. Besides the lectern on the stage, there was no other decoration.

"Mr. Ling, my phone has no signal."

Hearing Beison, Ling Chen took out his phone from his pocket and saw that the signal bars were all empty. There's no need to wonder; Yingtai Group likely had installed signal jamming devices around. Once the cellphone signals are blocked, if anyone uses other equipment to communicate externally, the technical team from Yingtai Group would be able to accurately pinpoint the transmission signal and the location.

Tsk tsk!

Got to admit, Yingtai Group's security measures are watertight.

"How do we relay signals to the outside later?" Zhu Qing asked softly.

"Don't rush, let's assess the situation first."

Around seven-twenty, everyone had arrived at the venue, and all the over one hundred seats were filled, showing how much importance various countries placed on this new weapon.

Seven-thirty!

As the seminar officially kicked off, a fifty-something white man stepped onto the stage, immediately sparking hearty applause.

"Mr. Ling, he's the president of Yingtai Group, Seland. It's said that he was the mastermind behind the operation against the Senyu Group, and he's also Jack's most hated enemy," Beison introduced.

"What I'm most concerned about now is where Zhu Hong is," Ling Chen stood in the back row, overlooking the venue, carefully searching for Zhu Hong's whereabouts. Unfortunately, despite the seminar's commencement, there was still no sign of Zhu Hong.

"Today, I want to introduce a new type of weapon that is neither firearms, missiles, nor mobile equipment. Those present might be very curious about what kind of weapon I'm going to introduce. Before announcing this weapon, I'd like to pose a question to everyone: what do you consider to be the most powerful weapon in the world?"

A middle-aged man in military uniform chuckled, "Mr. Seland, don't you think this question is a bit redundant? Even a three-year-old knows that the most formidable weapon is the nuclear bomb."

"Indeed," Seland replied with a smile. "The nuclear bomb is terrifying, but I don't believe it is the most powerful weapon in the world. Personally, I think the most powerful weapon is us. Without us, how could these weapons be created? Humans possess infinite potential, and even with current technology, the mysteries of the human body remain incompletely understood."

"Mr. Seland, quit beating around the bush. Tell us, what is the new type of weapon you're going to introduce today? I think none of us have the patience for a lecture," some impatient attendees urged.

"Alright, since everyone is eager, let me introduce Yingtai Group's latest weapon." As Seland's words fell, two young men with strong physiques emerged from the stage's left and right ends, one clad in specially designed steel armor, appearing quite formidable.

As the two youths appeared, the audience's attention was immediately drawn.

"Mr. Seland, could the new weapon you're referring to be the armor he's wearing?"

"No, no, no," Seland said with a smile. "These two are the main focus of my introduction." With that, Seland gestured to the audience, and several staff members promptly carried prepared props onto the stage.

Chapter 1483 - 1791: New-Type Weapon (3)

The first item brought onto the stage was a twenty-centimeter-thick stone slab. A young man stepped forward and swung his fist, smashing the slab instantly. Next, he took an arm-thick steel pipe and effortlessly twisted it into a spiral.

Seeing the strength displayed by the young man, a trace of interest finally appeared in the eyes of the spectators.

"Mr. Seland, how did he do that? Even the strongest mercenaries in the world couldn't easily achieve that," someone asked.

"Don't be impatient, everyone. Let's continue watching."

At that moment, the large LCD screen on the stage slowly rose, revealing an armored vehicle parked behind it. At the same time, Seland and the staff moved to the side of the stage, and a ten-meter-long bulletproof glass slowly descended, separating the audience from the stage.

Under everyone's gaze, a man emerged from the top of the armored vehicle, controlling the heavy machine gun mounted on top, and unleashed a torrent of fire at the armored young man.

Bang-bang-bang! Bang-bang-bang!

Accompanied by the flames spewing from the gun, the youth's armor emitted a series of 'clank-clank-clank' sounds. However, the defensive power of the armor was astounding, withstanding the continuous heavy machine gun fire without being damaged. The young man charged towards the armored vehicle through the hail of gunfire.

Upon reaching the armored vehicle, the young man extended his arms, grabbed a side wheel of the vehicle, and lifted it up high, flipping the vehicle over. Witnessing this scene, many people in the audience couldn't help but stand up, their faces filled with shock.

Seeing the audience's reaction, Seland's lips curved into a slight, proud smile, and he asked, "What do you all think?"

"Mr. Seland, I wonder, is this performance specially prepared by your group for us?" A woman asked.

The mention of 'performance' undeniably implied that she believed it was all fake.

Seland laughed and said, "Rest assured, everything that happened just now is real. Yingtai Group would never deceive you in such matters. As you can see, these two individuals are the new weapons I mentioned. I wonder how you all feel about them?"

"Mr. Seland, I admit they're amazing. I'm sure you spent a lot of time and effort training them. However, I must clarify that our primary purpose in purchasing military equipment from you is to strengthen ourselves, not to hire other teams to protect us. Do you understand what I mean?"

"Mr. Seland, their performance is impressive, but as far as I know, in the mysterious Eastern countries, there are many martial artists who, upon reaching a certain level, gain extraordinary powers. So, personally, I find this demonstration unconvincing."

After listening to the crowd, Seland smiled and said, "I understand what everyone means, but I haven't yet explained the main point. These two individuals were ordinary people just ten days ago. Now, I wonder if you all understand what I'm saying?"

Upon hearing this, the spectators' expressions changed, and they eagerly asked, "Mr. Seland, could you tell us how you achieved that?"

"Please remain silent, everyone. Next, we invite Yingtai Group's partners to give a brief introduction."

As he finished speaking, a young man in a suit and a middle-aged man slowly ascended the stage.

Seeing their appearance, Ling Chen's eyes narrowed slightly. Zhu Hong, Yi Haisheng, you've finally shown yourselves!

"Let me introduce everyone. This is Zhu Hong, and this is Yi Haisheng. The new weapon was completed by their team. Mr. Zhu, could you please explain to everyone?"

Zhu Hong nodded and glanced at the audience. Faced with their attention, his face was filled with a confident smile.

"My research team and I have developed a special drug that can alter human genes, transforming an ordinary person into a super soldier with incredible abilities in a short time."

"Mr. Zhu, is this transformation permanent or time-limited?"

"The drug's effects are permanent. To use an advertising tagline, use it once and benefit for a lifetime."

"Does the drug have any side effects or cause harm to the body?"

"Side effects and harm certainly exist, but I believe these are not major issues. Compared to the benefits of the drug, its drawbacks can be neglected. However, since you're all interested, I'll explain briefly. Because every individual's body is unique, the efficacy isn't guaranteed to be absolute. Nevertheless, after repeated experiments, the success rate is over eighty percent. Super soldiers with successful enhancement will have one hundred percent loyalty and will never betray their masters. If there's a drawback, it's their lifespan. Experiments show their average lifespan is around forty years."

After Zhu Hong's explanation, the audience started to discuss eagerly. Although he had mentioned the drawbacks, it was clear from their expressions that they were very interested in the drug.

Seeing the audience murmuring to each other, Zhu Hong smiled slightly and continued, "There's another matter. Our special drug has three tiers, and the super soldiers you just saw only took the lowest tier drug. The highest tier drug will be even more powerful."

As soon as he finished speaking, someone in the audience stood up and asked, "Mr. Zhu, what price are you planning to set for the drug?"

"Due to the drug's unique nature, production will be slow. Currently, the first batch consists of a hundred bottles: fifty low-tier, thirty mid-tier, and twenty high-tier bottles."

"How long until they're available?"

"Around a month."

"A month? That's too long. Can it be faster?"

"Apologies, I mentioned earlier that producing this drug is complex and must be completed by professionals, so increasing output is difficult. Producing one batch per month is already quite challenging."

As Zhu Hong finished speaking, Seland added, "Everyone, as you heard, there's only one batch available. Given the drug's rarity, we've decided to use competitive bidding. If you're interested in the drug, you're welcome to bid."

"Mr. Seland, what's the starting price?"

"It's not high, fifty million US Dollars."

"I bid one hundred million," someone in the audience immediately shouted a bid. Everyone understood that if the drug indeed had such miraculous effects, it was worth far more than one hundred million US Dollars.

The audience consisted of representatives from various forces and countries, and whoever obtained the first batch would gain an advantage. With this mindset, they all made their bids, determined to secure the batch.

In no time, the fifty-million US Dollar starting price was quickly raised to one billion US Dollars.

Chapter 1484 - 1791: Showdown (1)

Listening to the continually escalating prices, Zhu Hong, Yi Haisheng, and Seland all wore smiles on their faces. Especially Zhu Hong and Seland, their eyes met, revealing a trace of excitement.

Since Zhu Hong collaborated with Yingtai Group, their output definitely wouldn't be just this hundred bottles of potion. However, only with a limited quantity can they achieve higher prices. Not only that, it can indirectly boost Yingtai Group's influence.

No matter who the final winner is later, Seland believes that as long as he walks out of this venue, his phone will surely be blown up with calls. Thinking about the future of Yingtai Group, Seland was

instantly filled with confidence. With these enhancement potions, perhaps Yingtai Group truly has a chance to monopolize the entire industry.

Unlike Seland's aspirations for the future, Zhu Hong was excited because he could finally make a big move. The success of the enhancement potion allowed him to establish a firm foothold at Yingtai Group. From now on, Yingtai Group would certainly value his presence. With the chips he holds, they are enough to exchange for more benefits. Maybe... Zhu Hong glanced at Seland with the corner of his eye, and secretly smirked, maybe he even has a chance to take Seland's place and become the Sect Leader of Yingtai Group.

Quickly, the price of that batch of potion had already raised to two billion US Dollars. At this price, the bidders became fewer and fewer. Although no one present lacked money, their confidence in this type of potion wasn't very strong yet. They just wanted to buy it back to try it out and see how effective it was. If the price was too high and the effect was average, then it would be somewhat not worth it.

"Mr. Ling, aren't we going to make a move?" Beison stared at the stage and asked in a low voice.

"Don't rush." Ling Chen looking at the camera, still pondering a strategy in his mind. He needed to send a signal to Liu Dongsheng, but the phone signal was already blocked, and there were guards at the venue's doors, no one could leave until the seminar ended. Observing the surroundings, Ling Chen said, "You two stay here, I'll go to the restroom."

The restroom was right next to the venue and could only be accessed via a dedicated passage from the venue, and it was impossible to go to other parts of the group building. Upon arrival, Ling Chen looked around, estimating that everyone's attention was captivated by the enhancement potion, the restroom was surprisingly empty.

Finding a stall, Ling Chen shut the door, looked at the ceiling, and saw a vent opening approximately thirty centimeters wide.

Seizing the moment while no one came in, Ling Chen opened the vent cover and then slowly climbed up. Crawling along the ventilation duct for more than ten meters, Ling Chen suddenly stopped. In front of him in the ventilation duct, Ling Chen discovered a motion sensor.

Whether dismantling the motion sensor or passing through it would trigger an alarm. Ling Chen shook his head helplessly. He hadn't expected Yingtai Group's security to be this meticulous, placing security systems even inside the ventilation ducts. If there were professional tools, there would be a chance to dismantle it.

Having no choice, Ling Chen returned the way he came.

Leaving the restroom, Ling Chen returned to Beison and Zhu Qing's side. Facing their questioning looks, Ling Chen shook his head and continued to look at the stage of the venue.

By now, the price of that batch of potion had been raised to 2.3 billion US Dollars. At this price, every bidder began hesitating.

"Isn't anyone bidding?" Seland looked at the audience with a smile, saying, "Please consider carefully, this is the first batch."

A few minutes passed, but still, no one placed a bid. Seeing this, Seland went to the center of the stage and said, "Since no one has bid, let's congratulate the winner of the first batch of potion."

Selling the first batch of potion successfully also signified the end of this seminar. Some members of the audience stood up and began to leave the venue. As each person walked out, the security personnel at the door would verify their identity and then allow them to leave.

Seeing Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng following Seland into the backstage, Ling Chen suddenly had an impulse to rush over and take down Zhu Hong. Taking a deep breath, Ling Chen suppressed his impulse, signaled to Beison with a look, and the three of them packed up their equipment and headed straight for the exit.

Exiting through the venue's main doors, Ling Chen looked at the corridors on both sides. Every ten meters, there was a security guard escorting guests out. Under these circumstances, it was utterly impossible to sneak away unnoticed.

As the main entrance drew nearer, Ling Chen felt a bit anxious. It was barely possible to get inside, so are we just going out like this? Wouldn't all the time and effort they've put in be wasted?

No! They must find a way to get back in.

"Beison, you two go out first, and contact Uncle Liu immediately once you're outside and have him take action."

After speaking, without waiting for Beison and Zhu Qing to respond, Ling Chen suddenly bent over, clutching his stomach, saying, "I can't take it anymore, I need to find a restroom quickly." Saying this, Ling Chen swiftly moved towards the nearest security personnel and urgently said, "Excuse me, where's your restroom?"

"Sir, there is a restroom outside, you can go out there."

"I can't hold it anymore, there's no time to go outside. Quick, lead me to the nearest restroom."

The security personnel had no choice, promptly called for a colleague, and had him lead Ling Chen to the restroom. Before long, the two arrived outside the restroom, and the security personnel said politely, "Sir, please be quick, I'll be waiting for you outside."

"Alright, thank you!" With that, Ling Chen hurriedly pushed open the door and quickly walked in.

Sitting on the toilet, Ling Chen took out his phone, finding the surrounding signal still hadn't recovered. Looking at the ceiling vent, Ling Chen dared not act rashly, as this was a shared restroom within the group, and someone could come in at any moment. So, to be safe, it was best not to act impetuously for now.

In the blink of an eye, ten minutes passed, and 'knock, knock, knock,' the sound of knocking came from outside the restroom door: "Sir, are you not done yet?"

"Sorry, please wait a little longer, it will be done soon." Ling Chen said with a smile. It had been ten minutes already, hadn't Beison and Zhu Qing gotten the message out yet?

Another five minutes passed, and the security personnel waiting outside seemed to be growing impatient, as he directly walked in from outside.

"Sir! Sir!"

"Coming," Ling Chen opened the stall door, pulling up his pants with an apologetic smile, "Sorry for taking your time."

"It's alright, the passage outside is about to close, please come with me."

"Okay." Ling Chen nodded, sighed silently, and followed the person walking straight outside.

Chapter 1485 - 1792: Firefight (2)

However, just as Ling Chen and the security personnel prepared to push the door open, there was a sudden 'boom' from outside, shaking the entire building.

Beep beep beep! Beep beep beep!

With that huge explosion, a piercing alarm sounded immediately, echoing throughout the building.

The security personnel leading the way turned back at once, looked at Ling Chen, and said, "Quick, I'll send you..."

Bam!

Before the other could finish speaking, Ling Chen punched the person directly in the face, knocking out the security officer.

Phew! Ling Chen slowly exhaled a breath; Liu Dongsheng and the others had finally arrived. Having dealt with the security, Ling Chen searched him, finding a walkie-talkie and a wireless earpiece. Besides that, there was an ID card.

Ling Chen opened the restroom door, peeked outside, and saw several security personnel running along the spacious corridors, each wearing a panicked expression.

Come to think of it, no one has dared to cause trouble at the headquarters of Yingtai Group since its establishment.

After surveying the situation, Ling Chen closed the door again and dragged the security officer into the bathroom to hide him, taking his suit off and putting it on himself.

Boom!

As Ling Chen exited the restroom, another explosion rocked the headquarters building, shattering several floors of glass, injuring many who were cut by the shards, leaving them bleeding profusely, and some even fainting.

Ling Chen found an unconscious, wounded security officer on the ground, and smeared the blood on his own face. He had no choice; the security personnel of this company were all Caucasians, and as an Asian, he stood out too much. Therefore, only by disguising his appearance with blood could he avoid being identified.

Zhu Hong... Ling Chen glanced around, then quickly headed toward the venue. At this moment, the venue was empty, and Ling Chen jumped onto the stage, heading straight for the backstage. However, everyone backstage had already left; Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng were nowhere in sight.

"Attention Group B, the President is heading to the top floor, and all members of Group B must rally there immediately."

Top floor? Ling Chen's heart skipped a beat; there are helicopters on the roof of Yingtai Group's building. Seland is definitely planning to escape by helicopter. Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng are important figures, surely Seland will take them. As long as he finds Seland, he can find Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng.

With this thought, Ling Chen immediately headed for the elevator. The building is sixty floors high, and climbing the stairs would both waste energy and time.

Fortunately, Ling Chen was carrying the security officer's ID card. After verifying with the card, the elevator doors slowly opened.

Entering the elevator, Ling Chen's phone rang immediately.

"Hello! It's me, where are you guys?"

"We're all in the parking lot and stairway of the building. The enemy's firepower is strong, we are temporarily pinned down and can't go up." Liu Dongsheng's voice came through the phone.

"What about Fatty?"

"Your brother and the others have escorted Mr. Hu to Yingtai Group's security room. They've lifted the signal jamming in the building. Mr. Hu is trying to take over the building's security system."

"Tell him to quickly take control of the elevator system and stop all the elevators. Seland and his people must not reach the rooftop helipad."

"Okay." After a pause, Liu Dongsheng asked, "Mr. Ling, where are you? I'll have Sir Chen and the others head over to support you immediately."

"I'm in the elevator. Have Fatty lock my position through the surveillance and search for Zhu Hong's whereabouts. Once Zhu Hong's location is confirmed, directly have Sir Chen head over."

"Understood."

Hanging up the phone, Ling Chen watched the elevator's ascent. When it reached the forty-eighth floor, it slowly stopped. As the elevator doors opened, Ling Chen's phone rang again.

"Fatty."

"I've found Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng. They just exited the elevator on the forty-eighth floor and are heading toward the safety passage; they must be planning to use the stairs to reach the top."

"Got it."

"Wait! You better hold on; Chen Quan is with Zhu Hong, and there are over a dozen Enhanced People as well. How will you fight them? Stay put, Sir Chen and the others are heading over to support you."

"Alright, tell them to hurry." Ling Chen didn't pause and sprinted toward the safety passage. At the corner, two security personnel abruptly appeared, both armed. Noticing Ling Chen, they didn't hesitate to raise their guns, aiming at Ling Chen's head.

At such a critical moment, years of combat experience finally proved useful. Without a second thought, Ling Chen lunged forward, rolling swiftly, not only dodging the headshot but also closing in on the two security personnel.

Before they could fire again, Ling Chen swiftly extended his leg, clamped down on one security officer's calf, and twisted forcefully, causing the officer to lose balance and fall to the ground. Taking advantage of the situation, Ling Chen seized the officer's gun and fired twice, knocking the other officer to the ground.

After dealing with the enemies, Ling Chen hurriedly got up and emptied the magazines from the enemy before pursuing Zhu Hong's escape path.

Although he had lost his combat prowess, climbing ten floors was no problem for Ling Chen. In no time, he had ascended to the fifty-fifth floor.

Perhaps aware of being pursued, Seland and Zhu Hong smartly left security personnel on each floor to intercept the chasing force.

Rat-a-tat-tat! Rat-a-tat-tat!

With bursts of gunfire, Ling Chen gasped for air, hiding next to the stairwell wall, completely suppressed by the firepower above, not daring to peek.

What to do?

Ling Chen, his face full of anxiety, knew if this continued, Zhu Hong and the others would reach the rooftop first. If they managed to escape by helicopter, the mission would fail.

While pondering, screams suddenly echoed from above the stairwell. Simultaneously, the intense gunfire ceased entirely.

What's going on? Ling Chen was slightly stunned; it was chaotic just moments ago, why had the sound suddenly disappeared? Hesitating briefly, Ling Chen cautiously peeked upward, blood flowing down the stairs.

Seeing the scene, Ling Chen was shocked—could it be that everyone above had been killed?

Who did this? Chen Junfeng? But if Sir Chen had made a move, he would definitely have alerted him of the support's arrival.

With this doubt lingering, Ling Chen held his gun and carefully advanced upward. Reaching the fifty-sixth floor stairwell, he found four security personnel all lying on the ground, their heads and bodies separated, blood everywhere, and died gruesomely.

Chapter 1486 - 1793: Fierce Battle (3)

Damn!

Who did this... Ling Chen slightly frowned. The perpetrator was ruthless, even going as far as decapitating the head. As his mind raced, Ling Chen squatted in front of the corpse, carefully examining the traces around the wound.

A very clean wound, definitely inflicted by a sharp blade. Thinking back, among the people he brought, only Yuan Yun and Xia Yue used swords or knives; it seemed no one else wielded such sharp weapons.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen couldn't help but direct his gaze to the stairs above. Just now, there were clear sounds of chaotic footsteps, but now it had become eerily silent, not even a breath to be heard. Instantly, Ling Chen picked up a submachine gun from the ground, along with a few grenades. Loading the bullets, Ling Chen steeled himself and ran upstairs.

As expected, every floor above the fifty-sixth had dead bodies, all killed with a single blow. Soon, Ling Chen reached the sixtieth floor. Coming out from the doorway, Ling Chen looked up and saw two groups of people standing on the distant rooftop.

One group was Seland and Zhu Hong, while the other group wore black clothes with masks obscuring their faces. From the looks of it, both sides seemed to be in a standoff.

Ling Chen was certain that those in black were not his people.

Apparently, apart from him, there were others searching for Zhu Hong.

"Oh!" At this moment, Zhu Hong noticed Ling Chen's arrival, and with a cold smile said, "I didn't expect you all to be here. Perfect, let's settle this today."

As soon as he finished speaking, the group of people in black immediately focused their gaze on Ling Chen.

Ling Chen glanced around, feeling the gaze of those in black. For some reason, there was a sense of familiarity.

"Zhu Hong, Yi Haisheng, you'd better come with me; you might have a chance to live," one of the black-clad figures said coldly.

"Come with you?" Zhu Hong laughed loudly, "Are you joking? Why should I go with you? Besides, do you even have the ability?"

"Tired of living, are you?" scoffed the black-clad figure, pointing at Ling Chen, shouting, "Kill him! The rest of you, come with me to capture Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng."

A black-clad figure took the order and rushed towards Ling Chen. Seeing the opponent approaching, Ling Chen immediately lifted the submachine gun in his hand and fired a burst of bullets.

Though he had lost his powers, Ling Chen's marksmanship remained. During his time with the organization Ghost, he was the top marksman.

The opponent was only about ten meters away from Ling Chen, with no cover in between. In such a case, unless the opponent was a Heavenly List master, even an Earthly List master might not dodge Ling Chen's bullets.

After a burst of bullets, the black-clad figure fell to the ground with a 'bang.' Because he wore black clothing, the bullet holes were not visible. However, he had been shot at least a dozen times, and the ground was covered in blood.

This guy must be insane, thought Ling Chen, considering that a mere Dragon List master dared to confront his submachine gun.

At this moment, on the other side of the rooftop, eight black-clad figures were already engaged with over ten Enhanced People. The black-clad figures were all strong, each being Earthly List or Dragon List masters. However, the Enhanced People they faced wore steel armor with astonishing defensive power; even Chen Junfeng couldn't harm them. How could these black-clad figures possibly defeat so many Enhanced People?

Most importantly, beside Zhu Hong was Chen Quan, the most formidable person who had yet to act. Otherwise, those black-clad figures might have been dead by now.

"Ling Chen!"

At this time, a familiar voice came from behind. Ling Chen turned to see Chen Junfeng arriving with reinforcements.

Seeing the situation on the rooftop, Chen Junfeng, with a face full of surprise, asked, "What is going on here?"

"Others have the same objective as us."

"Who are they?"

Ling Chen squinted his eyes and slowly uttered the words, "Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion." Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion had reached an agreement with the military to help capture Zhu Hong and Yi Haisheng. Besides, these black-clad figures were all highly skilled, a resource only the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion could possess.

"Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion people? That's interesting, why don't we let them fight for a while and then we can clean up the aftermath?"

Ling Chen nodded, sharing the same thoughts.

As expected, the black-clad figures, given their abilities, couldn't possibly break through the Enhanced People's defenses. Furthermore, several black-clad figures accidentally got injured by the Enhanced People.

Realizing the dire situation, one of the black-clad figures shouted, "Retreat!"

"Trying to escape?" Zhu Hong sneered, "Master, kill them all, leave no one alive."

Chen Quan's eyes flashed coldly, immediately charging towards the black-clad figures. In the blink of an eye, he had killed two black-clad figures. Seeing this, the remaining black-clad figures dared not linger and fled in all directions.

However fast they were, they couldn't outrun Chen Quan, someone capable of easily defeating even Heavenly List masters.

Within just ten seconds, only two black-clad figures remained. One of them, seeing his comrade being pursued by Chen Quan, immediately changed direction, rushing towards Ling Chen.

"Watch out!" Xu Ming pushed Ling Chen aside, while Zhang Zhongfeng raised his longbow.

Seeing their actions, the black-clad figure quickly tore off his mask, saying in a deep voice, "Ling Chen, save me!"

"You..." Ling Chen was slightly taken aback, surprised, "Song?"

He never expected that the surviving black-clad figure was Song Ge. He and Song Ge had built rapport during the Heavenly Mechanism Great Ceremony. When he used to visit the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion, he often interacted with Song Ge. They had quite a good relationship; he never imagined the Pavilion would dispatch Song Ge this time.

"Sir Chen, help quickly." Saying this, Ling Chen immediately leveled his submachine gun, firing towards Chen Quan.

Faced with the barrage of bullets, combined with Zhang Zhongfeng's arrows and Chen Junfeng's assault, Chen Quan finally halted, ceasing his pursuit of Song Ge.

"Ling Chen, was the last lesson not enough for you?" Zhu Hong arrogantly approached Chen Quan, stating, "You dare come knocking again; you must have a death wish."

"Who says I'm here courting death?" Ling Chen calmly replied, "Until the last moment, no one knows the outcome."

Zhu Hong smirked confidently, "With my master here, you're courting death. If you don't believe it, you can try."

It was then that Xu Ming leaned close to Ling Chen's ear, whispering, "Hu Fei just sent word that our forces below are under heavy pressure, nearly overwhelmed. Plus, the police are on their way. If we're delayed too long, getting out of this building will be difficult."

Chapter 1487 - 1794: All-Out Battle (Part 4)

Hearing Xu Ming's reminder, Ling Chen nodded and said, "If that's the case, let's end this quickly." Saying that, Ling Chen turned his gaze towards Chen Junfeng and said, "Sir Chen, I'm going to trouble you next."

Chen Junfeng responded, and without a word, shook his wrist and immediately extended a retractable silver spear. With the spear in hand, Chen Junfeng tapped his toe lightly, his body instantly transforming into lightning, rushing straight towards Chen Quan.

Xu Ming and Zhang Zhongfeng did not move. Xu Ming's duty was to protect Ling Chen's safety, and Zhang Zhongfeng's task was simple, he just needed to interfere with Chen Quan's movements to ease Chen Junfeng's pressure.

"Mr. Seland, please take Dean Yi on the helicopter and leave first, I'll handle things here."

"Alright. Mr. Zhu, take care of yourself." Seland had just tasted the benefits from this cooperation, naturally not wanting Zhu Hong to have any mishaps.

As the helicopter started, Seland and Yi Haisheng quickly left the rooftop. Watching the helicopter gradually disappear, Zhu Hong retracted his gaze and turned to look at Ling Chen nearby.

"Go! Leave no one alive, kill them all." At the command, more than ten enhanced people in steel armor rushed towards Ling Chen and the others.

Seeing those enhanced people quickly approaching, Ling Chen calmly asked, "Second Brother, did you bring the things I asked you to prepare?"

Xu Ming nodded and handed a backpack to Ling Chen. Pulling the zipper open, Ling Chen glanced inside and couldn't help but smile slightly, wearing a cold smile.

Boom!

With a light sound, the enhanced person rushing at the forefront instantly turned into a fireball, his entire body enveloped in fierce flames.

Witnessing this scene, Zhu Hong's pupils slightly contracted. At this moment, Ling Chen held a fire bomb in his hand. Whenever an enhanced person got close, he would immediately throw the fire bomb, with deadly accuracy within a range of over ten meters.

In no time, nearly half the enhanced people were hit by the fire bombs, turning entirely into fireballs. Although those enhanced people wore thick steel armor, the fierce flames found their way through every gap, burning their bodies. Moreover, surrounded by flames, the temperature of the steel armor quickly rose.

Regardless of their strength, enhanced people are still flesh and blood, and cannot be immune to fire.

Watching those engulfed in flames, enhanced people spinning aimlessly and helplessly, Ling Chen couldn't help but grin. Nothing is invincible; find the right method, and it can be solved easily.

At this moment, Zhu Hong's expression turned somewhat grim; he hadn't expected Ling Chen to wipe out his enhanced troop with such a simple method. Had he known, he truly should've left with Seland and Yi Haisheng. Without the enhanced people, he felt quite insecure.

Contemplating, Zhu Hong shifted his focus to Chen Quan. In the current situation, Chen Quan was his only reliance. As long as Chen Quan was around, Ling Chen's group wouldn't be an issue.

Clang!

With a crisp sound, the silver spear in Chen Junfeng's hand was flicked away by Chen Quan with two fingers. Seeing his attack obstructed again, Chen Junfeng didn't force it and immediately withdrew to the side. Back in the ancient tomb, Chen Junfeng had clashed with Chen Quan, aware of Chen Quan's terrifying strength. Hence, during the battle earlier, he didn't initiate a strong attack but tried his best to avoid direct confrontation with Chen Quan. Only then could he continue to stall.

It's time! Watching Chen Junfeng and Chen Quan's battle, Ling Chen's mouth curled up, his gaze sweeping towards the rooftop's edge.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

Suddenly, the sound of piercing through the air was heard. In the midst of fighting Chen Junfeng, Chen Quan raised his eyebrows and quickly withdrew from the battle without thinking. Simultaneously, three sharp flying knives appeared at the spot where he had just stood.

"More people?" Zhu Hong's expression slightly changed, following the trajectory of the flying knives, he saw two elders at the rooftop's edge, appearing from nowhere.

"Who are you?" Looking at the two unfamiliar elders, Zhu Hong asked with furrowed brows. Unfortunately, they had no intention of responding to him.

"Gentlemen, please." Ling Chen cupped his fist towards them.

"Mr. Ling, don't worry, we'll handle this one." As the words fell, the two elders rushed towards Chen Quan, one in front, the other behind. Halfway through, their speed abruptly increased, like a fierce wind. Not only that, their silhouettes seemed to overlap, indistinguishable from each other, appearing as if there was only one person to the naked eye.

Soon, the figure had already advanced close to Chen Quan. Chen Quan snorted coldly and directly launched a palm attack towards the figure. However, as Chen Quan made his move, the figure suddenly flickered, turning into two afterimages, deftly avoiding Chen Quan's tackle and attacking from both sides.

A great opportunity!

Calmly standing by, Chen Junfeng's eyes lit up, seizing the chance and thrusting his spear forward, aiming directly at Chen Quan's front.

Swish! Swish!

Constantly monitoring the battle, Zhang Zhongfeng lifted his longbow, shooting two arrows consecutively, coordinating with Chen Junfeng and the two elders' attacks, sealing off Chen Quan's only escape route.

Surrounded on all sides, Ling Chen didn't think Chen Quan would evade everyone's attacks.

Facing the imminent danger, Chen Quan remained extremely calm, showing no sign of panic. As Chen Junfeng's silver spear came at him, Chen Quan lightly tapped his feet, his body leaping into the air. Not only did he successfully sidestep Chen Junfeng and the two elders' attacks, but Zhang Zhongfeng's two arrows also hit air.

Witnessing this, Ling Chen widened his eyes. Damn! Is this even human? This speed is simply beyond human capability.

Seeing Chen Quan escaping the encirclement, the three of Chen Junfeng couldn't help but be stunned. However, the trio were battle-hardened elites. After a brief daze, they quickly regained composure and swiftly rushed towards the spot where Chen Quan was about to land.

As Chen Quan landed, Chen Junfeng and the two elders had already closed in, surrounding him again.

"Sixth Brother, did you invite those two elders from the Zhu Family?" Xu Ming asked.

"That's right!" Ling Chen nodded. Initially, he reached an agreement with the Zhu Family that if needed, they could send two Heavenly List-level assassins to assist him. These Heavenly List-level assassins were the Zhu Family's strongest trump card. To avenge Qin Genglong, Ling Chen didn't hesitate to use this precious opportunity.

"Ling Chen, time is limited, we better handle the real business quickly."

Hearing Song Ge's voice, Ling Chen immediately understood and cast his gaze towards Zhu Hong nearby. At this point, those enhanced people had already lost their combat capability, barely hanging on. With not a single protector by Zhu Hong's side, this was undoubtedly the best time to capture him.

Chapter 1488 - 1795: All-Out Battle (5)

"Leave it to me." Xu Ming stepped forward and volunteered.

"Second Brother, be careful." Ling Chen reminded him. He was very clear about Xu Ming's strength—he was only one step away from the Heavenly List realm. Letting him deal with Zhu Hong would definitely be no problem. However, Ling Chen knew well how cunning Zhu Hong was, and who knew if this guy still had other trump cards. To be safe, Ling Chen still had Song Ge move together with him.

Seeing Xu Ming and Song Ge walking toward him, a trace of panic finally flashed in Zhu Hong's eyes and he involuntarily retreated backward.

"Master." Zhu Hong shouted loudly, trying to get Chen Quan to come and support him.

However, Chen Quan had already been pinned down by three Heavenly List experts plus Zhang Zhongfeng, and had no energy to care about anyone else.

Seeing that Chen Quan couldn't free himself, Zhu Hong couldn't help but knit his brows. Looking at Xu Ming and Song Ge slowly approaching, he said in a deep voice, "What do you want?"

"Zhu Hong, you'd better surrender without a fight, so you don't have to suffer later." Song Ge spoke.

"Hmph!" Zhu Hong let out a cold laugh. "You people really don't give up. I've already escaped out of Huaxia, and you're still chasing me relentlessly."

"When it comes to a traitor to the country, even if you flee to the ends of the earth, we still won't let you go."

"Then you'd better have that ability first." As his words fell, Zhu Hong suddenly turned around. Before Song Ge and Xu Ming could react, he was already rushing toward the edge of the rooftop. By the time the two tried to chase after him, Zhu Hong was already standing by the edge.

"Don't come any closer."

"Zhu Hong, what are you doing? Trying to play the suicide card?" Song Ge couldn't help mocking, "If you really jump, that actually saves us the trouble."

"Is that so? In that case, I'm afraid you'll be disappointed." As soon as he finished, Zhu Hong leapt, directly jumping off the rooftop.

Everyone was shocked by Zhu Hong's move.

"Has this guy gone crazy?" Ling Chen's eyes widened as he stared at the rooftop edge in disbelief. It was hard to imagine that Zhu Hong had actually jumped.

After a brief daze, Ling Chen quickly ran to the edge of the roof and looked down.

Huh? Where is he!

This building was a full sixty stories high. Even if Zhu Hong jumped, he couldn't possibly hit the ground in such a short time. But Ling Chen checked carefully and still didn't see any sign of Zhu Hong. Where did he go?

"He's there." At this moment, Song Ge seemed to have spotted Zhu Hong and shouted out.

Following the direction of Song Ge's finger, Ling Chen looked over and saw a rope hanging on the outer wall of the building. Zhu Hong was clinging to that rope, slowly moving downward. Right now, he was beside an external air-conditioning unit. Because that AC unit blocked Ling Chen's line of sight, he hadn't spotted Zhu Hong immediately.

At this moment, Zhu Hong had already descended along the rope to the fifty-fifth floor. Seemingly aware of Ling Chen's gaze, Zhu Hong raised his head and waved a little bye-bye at him, then kicked through the fifty-fifth-floor window with one leg and slipped inside.

"I'll go grab him."

Hearing Song Ge's words, Ling Chen immediately stopped him.

"Ling, why won't you let me chase him? Don't you want to catch him?"

Ling Chen frowned slightly and shook his head. "Something's off. Don't you think the existence of that rope is way too coincidental? Song, look for yourself—is that rope something that's always been there, or was it just installed?"

Song Ge walked to the edge of the rooftop, looked at the rope fixed to the top, and said, "Judging from the marks, it should've been added recently."

As expected! Ling Chen's heart sank. Seland and Yi Haisheng had already left by helicopter, yet Zhu Hong stayed behind alone. Just now he hadn't thought anything of it, but thinking it over carefully, Ling Chen realized there was a big problem.

What kind of person was Zhu Hong? He knew all too well. Selfish, cowardly, clinging to life and fearing death—if there was even the slightest chance, Zhu Hong would never leave himself in danger. Yet he had just chosen to stay on his own initiative; that didn't fit his personality at all.

Unless... Zhu Hong did it on purpose. He knew something would happen today, so he prepared in advance; everything that had just happened was actually a well-rehearsed play.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen couldn't help casting his gaze toward Chen Quan, who was still locked in combat.

Zhu Hong had slipped away but left Chen Quan behind. What exactly was he planning? Just as he was thinking, the sound of rotor blades suddenly grew from distant to near. Ling Chen looked up and saw a helicopter flying toward the rooftop.

When that helicopter was about to get close, Ling Chen's expression suddenly changed. He shouted loudly, "Find cover, now!"

As soon as Ling Chen's words fell, a burst of "da-da-da" gunfire rang out, and bullets poured crazily from the helicopter. Seeing this, everyone's face changed drastically. Even with Heavenly List experts present, they were powerless in this situation.

The key thing was, the weapon mounted on that helicopter was a Gatling heavy machine gun. If those bullets hit, the body would be directly torn apart—even a Heavenly List expert couldn't avoid that fate.

"Get inside the building!" Ling Chen shouted, charging toward the rooftop door. But the gunner on the helicopter seemed to have guessed Ling Chen's intention, and kept the barrel aimed at the doorway. As soon as anyone approached that door, the bullets would mercilessly tear them to shreds.

With no choice, Ling Chen could only change direction, first finding cover to avoid the hail of bullets.

After a few minutes of stalemate, Ling Chen heard rotor noise again from above. Looking closely, he saw another helicopter coming in from the right side of the building. Not only that—sitting on that helicopter was actually Zhu Hong.

The two helicopters flanked the rooftop from left and right, pinning everyone in. Even with cover, there was no way to avoid the crossfire of two heavy machine guns.

"Ling Chen, your plan was meticulous—actually posing as a reporter to infiltrate Yingtai Group's building. Unfortunately, you still underestimated me... or rather, you underestimated the capabilities of the Yingtai Group. Did you really think your disguise could fool them?"

Zhu Hong's voice came from the helicopter's loudspeaker.

Ling Chen pressed himself against the wall, as if not hearing a word of what Zhu Hong said. He had no mood to bother with him now. A situation that had been in his favor had actually been reversed by Zhu Hong. At the moment, the most important thing was figuring out how to get out.

They had to get off the rooftop, otherwise there was only one road left—death.

Thoughts racing, Ling Chen glanced at the nearer helicopter. It was about thirty meters away from him. He drew his handgun and checked the ammo—he still had two full magazines, thirty rounds in total, enough to take a gamble.

But at most, he could limit one helicopter; the other one would still be a big problem.

Just as he was thinking, not far away, Zhang Zhongfeng suddenly stood up from behind cover, drew his bow and nocked an arrow, and loosed it in one smooth motion.

Chapter 1489 - 1796: Close-Quarters Battle (6)

Whoosh!

Accompanied by a whistling sound, the arrow struck the glass of the helicopter's cockpit directly. However, the cockpit glass was very sturdy, and Zhang Zhongfeng's single arrow couldn't shatter it.

Even though Zhang Zhongfeng's arrow did not damage the helicopter, it startled the pilot, who quickly turned the helicopter around, avoiding Zhang Zhongfeng's range.

This is a good opportunity!

Seizing the moment, Ling Chen swiftly stood up, spraying a volley of bullets toward the helicopter Zhu Hong was in. Within thirty meters, handgun bullets could still inflict some damage on a helicopter. Moreover, all of Ling Chen's bullets were aimed at the cockpit.

As expected, the helicopter pilot immediately chose to dodge.

"Quick!"

Ling Chen shouted, and the others immediately understood, rushing towards the door. Within the blink of an eye, several Heavenly List experts sprinted at full speed and successfully reached the entrance.

"Ling Cheng, hurry!" Zhang Zhongfeng, who was running at the front, turned his head and shouted loudly.

"Stop him, don't let him escape." Inside the helicopter cabin, Zhu Hong yelled at the pilot.

The pilot didn't dare to delay, quickly maneuvering the helicopter's body, aiming the Gatling heavy machine gun at the fleeing Ling Chen.

Rat-tat-tat! Rat-tat-tat!

As the heavy machine gun spewed fiery snakes, countless holes were punched into the rooftop floor; several bullets even grazed Ling Chen's body. Seeing this, Ling Chen's face changed drastically, and he dived to the left, using a ventilation duct as cover.

Though he blocked the bullet assault, he was now trapped on the rooftop. Meanwhile, another helicopter had flanked from the side, facing crossfire from two heavy machine guns, Ling Chen couldn't break through their defense.

"Ling Cheng." At this moment, Zhang Zhongfeng, Xu Ming, and Song Ge had all escaped the rooftop, standing at the entrance, watching Ling Chen's precarious position anxiously.

"Second Brother, you guys go first, forget about me."

Xu Ming gritted his teeth and said in a deep voice, "I'll go rescue him." Finished speaking, Xu Ming disregarded Zhang Zhongfeng's dissuasion and dashed outside. However, just as he stepped out, a burst of gunfire erupted, arresting his advance.

"Second Brother, it's too dangerous." Zhang Zhongfeng grabbed Xu Ming's arm, shook his head, and said, "Don't go, it'll be sending yourself to death."

"Then what do we do?" Xu Ming looked grim and said, "Are we supposed to abandon Ling Cheng?"

As they spoke, hurried footsteps sounded from the stairway below. Everyone turned to see Hu Fei panting heavily, quickly running over, shouting, "What are you all doing? Hurry and go, the police are already at the door, if we don't leave now it's too late."

"But Ling Cheng is still outside."

"What?" Hu Fei's expression changed and he urgently asked, "Then what should we do?"

"Unless you can take down those two helicopters, no one can rescue him."

Upon hearing this, Hu Fei gritted his teeth, decisively saying, "Forget it, if we delay further, we'll all be stuck here. It's not worthwhile to risk everyone for Ling Chen. Let's retreat first, we can find a way to rescue him later."

Chen Junfeng spoke up, "What if he's killed outright?"

"Then he can only blame his own bad luck, we can't blame anyone else. Hurry up and go!" Hu Fei urged relentlessly.

Xu Ming and the others exchanged glances, all showing traces of helplessness. At this point, they had no other options. As Hu Fei said, sacrificing everyone for Ling Chen was too costly. Staying meant certain death, while escaping offered a slim hope of rescuing Ling Chen.

Nobody was indecisive; analyzing the pros and cons, they quickly followed Hu Fei to flee.

Fortunately, the security system of the entire building was still under Hu Fei's control, and everyone entered the elevator, saving considerable time.

At the moment, Ling Chen was still on the rooftop, hiding behind the ventilation duct, not daring to expose himself. However, the two helicopters circling in the air were changing positions; it wouldn't take long before they reached a sniping point, leaving Ling Chen nowhere to hide.

This won't work... Ling Chen frowned, his gaze grave. Staying here meant becoming a sitting duck, with no chance to resist.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen looked around, his eyes suddenly brightening. The ventilation duct he was using for cover was perfect for escaping. Although it was blocked by a mesh of iron wires, this posed no problem for Ling Chen.

Seeing the two helicopters drawing closer, Ling Chen gritted his teeth and without hesitation, stood up abruptly and rushed towards the mouth of the ventilation duct.

"Kill him!"

Seeing Ling Chen actively appearing in range, Zhu Hong immediately shouted.

Upon hearing the gunfire, Ling Chen exerted all his strength, leaping and crashing into the mesh. Instantly, there was a 'bang', the mesh was smashed. Meanwhile, Ling Chen's body spun endlessly in the duct, plummeting straight down.

No time for thought, Ling Chen hurriedly used his hands and feet to brace against the sides of the duct, dispelling the force of the fall. Fortunately, the vertical height of the duct was not high, only a little over ten meters; through the deceleration with his hands and feet, Ling Chen suffered only minor injuries, nothing serious.

Phew!

Taking a breath, Ling Chen wiped the sweat from his forehead, secretly relieved. Thankfully he reacted quickly, otherwise he would have lost his life on the rooftop.

Currently, on the helicopter, seeing Ling Chen disappear into the ventilation duct, Zhu Hong couldn't help but curse loudly. Such a golden opportunity wasted by a bunch of incompetents.

"The target entered the ventilation duct, I don't care what method you use, find him." Zhu Hong roared into the intercom.

"Mr. Zhu, the police have arrived."

"What difference does it make, tell them not to meddle." Zhu Hong said coldly.

Damn!

What to do now? Through the duct's top cover, Ling Chen looked at the corridor situation below, seeing security personnel everywhere, seemingly searching for him.

Though inside the duct, he was still on the fifty-ninth floor. Facing so many security staff, sneaking out was impossible.

Sitting idly wasn't an option; even if he stayed still, the security personnel would find him sooner or later.

Quickly thinking, Ling Chen pulled out his phone; luckily, the signal was full. However, with too many people below, calling would definitely draw attention, he could only send a text.

Sending Hu Fei a SOS text, Ling Chen pocketed his phone, continuing forward slowly within the duct. This place was too dangerous; he had to find a relatively safe spot to hide and wait for rescue.

Chapter 1490 - 1797: Escape

Ling Chen crawled forward more than ten meters along the ventilation duct, opened the top cover, and then jumped down, entering the bathroom on the fifty-ninth floor. Luckily, there wasn't a single person in the bathroom. Ling Chen gasped for breath and squatted in a stall for now, praying that the security personnel wouldn't find him here.

He took out his phone and called Hu Fei, asking, "Fatty, are you guys safe?"

"We've already withdrawn from the Yingtai Group building, how about you? Where are you?"

"I'm in the bathroom on the fifty-ninth floor. No one's found me yet, but I don't know how long I can hide. They're looking for me."

"What should we do then?" Hu Fei sounded worried, "The Yingtai Group is surrounded by police, and a few more trucks just arrived, all security personnel. The entire building is tightly guarded; we can't get in."

"Alright." Ling Chen sighed helplessly and said, "Since that's the case, you guys should protect yourselves first and don't expose yourselves for now."

"What about you?"

"I'll find a way to escape myself." As he said this, Ling Chen seemed to recall something and said, "Right! Fatty, there's another very important matter."

"What is it?"

"We all fell into Zhu Hong's ambush today, and I think something's fishy."

"Fishy?" Hu Fei asked puzzled, "What's fishy about it? Isn't it normal? You posed as reporters to infiltrate the Yingtai Group building, and got found out when your identity was exposed. What's strange about that?"

"No." Ling Chen said, "There's something suspicious; the ambush we encountered inside the building didn't seem hastily set up, but rather prepared in advance."

"Is that so?" Hu Fei was surprised and asked, "Could it be that Zhu Hong knew beforehand we would come?"

"It's very possible. Fatty, look into it carefully and see if anyone internally leaked information. If that person truly exists, then you all could be in danger."

"Got it, take care of yourself. We can't help you right now; you have to rely on yourself."

Ling Chen exhaled slowly after hanging up the phone. He pushed the bathroom door open a crack and peeked outside. The fifty-ninth floor was too unsafe; he had to find a way to leave. As he pondered, sudden hurried footsteps came from outside the bathroom.

Ling Chen's heart sank; he quickly closed the bathroom door. Listening as the footsteps outside gradually receded, only then did his heart that was in his throat slowly settle down.

This place can't be stayed in for long; the security personnel outside will search here sooner or later. Thinking of this, Ling Chen looked up at the ventilation duct above. That place was a no-go; Zhu Hong definitely had people searching for him in there.

After some thought, Ling Chen came out from the bathroom and went straight to the window. Looking out through the window bars, the vehicles and pedestrians on the ground looked like ants. Taking a deep breath, Ling Chen grimaced and, without hesitation, climbed out the window.

Standing outside the fifty-ninth-floor window, the cold wind hit Ling Chen in waves. He didn't dare be careless, grasping the protruding parts of the wall firmly with both hands, slowly moving his body downward. Even though Ling Chen was at such a height, he felt a bit panicky; a careless fall would definitely turn him into a puddle of flesh.

Luckily, the height was high enough; the security personnel and police spread around the building didn't notice Ling Chen's presence. A few minutes later, Ling Chen had slowly climbed down to the fifty-seventh floor.

At this moment, every floor of the Yingtai Group building had security personnel searching; Ling Chen didn't dare enter rashly and could only continue climbing down along the wall.

"Useless, a bunch of useless people." In the building's security room, Zhu Hong yelled at his subordinates, "Over a hundred people can't find one guy; what are you all doing?" After venting his anger, Zhu Hong turned to a man and said, "Get in touch with Mr. Seland, ask him to send more people over. Ling Chen definitely is hiding in this building; I don't care what method you use, even if you have to look through every inch, find him."

"Yes, Mr. Zhu."

Zhu Hong was truly furious; despite cornering Ling Chen, he had still escaped. Now, Ling Chen's helpers had all fled, leaving him alone in the building. Such a good opportunity must be seized; it'd be troublesome to try killing Ling Chen later.

In an instant, half an hour passed, and CEO Seland of Yingtai Group had deployed more than sixty additional security personnel from the security company to search. Besides that, all exits of the building were sealed. Unless Ling Chen grew wings, he couldn't possibly escape this building.

At this moment, Ling Chen had already climbed down the façade to over thirty floors. Having climbed more than twenty floors, Ling Chen's strength was nearly exhausted, fearing that he might not grip tightly enough and be blown down by the wind.

What?

Just then, Ling Chen, who was climbing down, suddenly halted and peered through the window inside. It seemed to be a laboratory floor filled with equipment and instruments. Moreover, Ling Chen saw several square vessels through the window, inside which seemingly lay people.

Seeing no one in the lab, Ling Chen hesitated a moment, then decided to open the window and attempt entry. However, this floor was entirely laboratories, with very thorough protection measures; inside the window was a protective barrier formed of thick metal bars. Ling Chen grabbed one of the bars, pushing inward with force.

Nevertheless, after climbing the wall, his strength was almost depleted. Even with his last ounce of energy, he couldn't force open the barrier.

What to do! Ling Chen scratched his head, his mind racing for a solution.

However, at this moment, the sound of helicopter rotors reached from above. Ling Chen turned to look, only to see a helicopter circling the building, flying towards his direction.

Oh no!

Ling Chen turned pale, realizing his position was too exposed, the helicopter crew would surely spot him. Just as this thought hit him, the helicopter's cabin opened fire, a machine gun spewing bullets, shattering the windows around Ling Chen in an instant.

Damn!

Ling Chen cursed; it seemed this time he was dead for sure, with nowhere to hide.

As he was thinking, a loud bang suddenly came from beside him. Ling Chen glanced over to see the bullet had torn the protective barrier inside the window. A golden opportunity! Ling Chen's heart leaped for joy, feeling there was indeed a way out. Without further thought, Ling Chen climbed through the damaged window.

"What? Found Ling Chen? Where is he?"

In the security room, hearing the pilot's report, Zhu Hong immediately jumped up from his chair.