

The Beauty 371

Chapter 371 Reylov (Part 2)

After taking out two guards, Ling Chen quickly rushed forward, catching the bodies as they fell to prevent any noise from disturbing Reylov inside the barracks.

Dragging the bodies into the bushes nearby, Ling Chen flicked his wrist, his fingertips tightly clutching Wolf Kiss, and walked straight to the entrance of the barracks, took hold of the doorknob, and gently pushed the door inward.

Inside the room, it was pitch-black, except for a bleak moonlight shining through a window at the top of the room. Ling Chen squinted his eyes, treaded lightly, and quietly entered the room, looking around. He saw a bed against the north wall, under whose covers lay a person.

The corners of Ling Chen's mouth lifted slightly, and he silently approached the bed. Without waiting for any reaction from the individual, he suddenly flipped the covers and swung his hand-blade toward Reylov.

However, the moment the covers were lifted, Ling Chen froze. To his surprise, there was no person under the covers, merely a human-shaped doll.

Darn it! It's a trap!

The thought had just arisen when an intense unease surged in Ling Chen's heart, prompting him to look down immediately. Just then, an arm holding a military dagger emerged from under the bed, stabbing toward his legs.

Amidst the shock, although Ling Chen was panicked, his body reacted swiftly, retracting backward to dodge the dagger's stab.

Unable to hit his target, the arm clutching the dagger quickly withdrew. Following that, a dark figure rolled out from underneath the bed, leaped from the ground, waving the sharp military dagger, and lunged at Ling Chen.

As the cold light approached, Ling Chen didn't hesitate and countered with a powerful kick.

Reylov was skilled, but only moderately so. Compared to a Tiger List expert like Ling Chen, he was still far lacking.

After missing his strike, Ling Chen's foot accurately kicked Reylov's abdomen, sending him flying. Not allowing Reylov's body to hit the ground, Ling Chen swiftly closed in, grasped his wrist, pulled him inward, and pressed the sharp Wolf Kiss against Reylov's neck.

"If you don't want to die, better stay still," Ling Chen rebuked in English.

With his life held in another's hands, Reylov promptly dropped his dagger and cooperatively said, "Let's talk. Who sent you to kill me? The Central Intelligence Agency, or the Russian security service?"

"You're overthinking it; I have no connections with them," Ling Chen said, glancing at the doll on the bed and slightly smiling, "Your preparation was indeed thorough."

"It's just a habit," Reylov replied indifferently. "I've experienced too many assassination attempts over the years, so I dare not sleep on the bed, always under it. So, what do you want?"

"Rest assured, I'm not interested in your life; I just want to inquire about someone."

"Who?"

"Nanrong Wanqing."

"Sorry, I've never heard that name."

Hearing this, Ling Chen frowned slightly, applied a bit more pressure with Wolf Kiss, and created a thin cut on Reylov's neck, his voice cold, "I don't have the patience to dally with you. You're the leader of the Broken Teeth Training Camp; wouldn't you know if someone came to your island?"

Reylov, seemingly unfazed by the pain in his neck, calmly stated, "Killing me won't help; I truly don't know. But I think the person you're looking for might not be me, but a member of the God Organization; the Nanrong Wanqing you mentioned is likely brought to the island by them."

"Then you still claim you don't know?"

"I never interfere with the affairs of the God Organization; I merely cooperate with their operations."

"Explain clearly."

"A few years ago, the people from the God Organization approached me to build a secret base on this island. For the base's security, they paid me to ensure, should the base face any external threats, Broken Teeth Training Camp would help resolve their issues. Initially, I wanted to refuse, but the payment they offered was too tempting, so I agreed to their terms. Aside from maintaining the base's security, I also helped them train a group of soldiers; those people you see on the training field outside are all members of the God Organization."

Hearing Reylov's explanation, Ling Chen thought of the man locked in the prison, resembling Blood Wolf.

"The man you're keeping in prison, who is he?" Since Kaelina wouldn't speak, he could only seek the truth from Reylov.

"That lunatic? That's someone the God Organization handed over to me, asking me to give him special training," Reylov said, unable to resist grinning.

"What are you laughing at?" Ling Chen inquired, perplexed.

"You specifically asking about that lunatic implies you're thinking the same as I did. When you first saw that man, did you think he was Blood Wolf? I'll be honest, I was stunned too. Blood Wolf is a top assassin I personally trained; he has no siblings, and in this world, it's impossible for two people to look exactly identical unless someone's had plastic surgery."

"Plastic surgery?" A thought flashed through Ling Chen's mind, providing a plausible explanation. Thinking for a moment, he continued, "Why would the God Organization do this?"

"How would I know? I just carry out what they assign me to do, nothing else. Asking me is futile."

"Then where should I look for them?"

"This is the eastern side of the island, and the God Organization's secret base is on the western side. If you want to find them, you'll have to go to the other end of the island."

"How can I be sure you won't alert them if I let you go?" Ling Chen asked.

Reylov chuckled, "Don't worry, I'm not the kind of person who betrays for money; no amount can compare to my life. However, I do have an agreement with the God Organization; if they're in trouble, I must send troops to protect them. But, I can give you three hours. During these three hours, whatever happens at the base, I won't take any action. If you can't accomplish what you want within these three hours, don't blame me."

Hearing this, Ling Chen hesitated, unsure whether to trust Reylov or not.

"Let him go."

At this moment, Kaelina walked in from outside, adding, "I can vouch for him; he won't deceive us."

Seeing Kaelina, Reylov's smile grew even brighter.

"Kaelina, my most outstanding student, you haven't come to see me for a long time."

"I did want to see you, just afraid you wouldn't dare to meet me," Kaelina coldly replied.

"Ha ha!" Reylov laughed loudly: "You understand me best. What can I do? Being the third ranked assassin on the assassin list, I'm afraid someone might hire you to kill me."

"I'm not interested in that. We're here just to find someone; we don't want to make an enemy out of Broken Teeth Training Camp. If we offended you in any way, I hope you can understand."

Reylov, magnanimously responded, "Considering you were once my most outstanding student, I won't mind what you did just now."

Chapter 372 Infiltrating Successfully

Kaelina gave Ling Chen a signal with her eyes, and the latter understood, immediately moving the Wolf Kiss away from his hand.

Reylov touched the fresh blood on his neck, glanced at Ling Chen, and gave a thumbs-up, saying, "You've got some good moves. The organization behind you must be quite something to have trained someone like you."

"Enough talk, what kind of information do you have on the base? Give it all to me," Ling Chen urged impatiently.

Reylov pointed to the island map posted on the wall and said, "I can't help you much, only tell you the exact location of the base and a shortcut to get there, which can save you a lot of time."

"That's enough."

After gathering intelligence from Reylov, Ling Chen and Kaelina got ready to leave.

"Be careful after you leave, don't expose your tracks. Those students outside are all from the God Organization," Reylov reminded them from behind.

As they walked out of the barracks, Ling Chen contacted Hu Fei, Qiu Yong, and the others through his headset, asking them to hurry over for a rendezvous.

While waiting for the others to arrive, Ling Chen asked curiously, "The international rumors say that Reylov is a ruthless executioner, brutal to the extreme, but he didn't seem so just now."

"That's because you don't know him well enough," Kaelina said, her sapphire-like eyes flashing with fear and trepidation at some memory. "Reylov's brutality only shows towards his students and enemies. If you had experienced his training methods, you would understand how terrifying he is. Often times, he's not a man but a beast. We were lucky that you didn't kill him just now, or we would never be able to escape this island."

"Why is that?" Ling Chen asked curiously.

"Reylov is not just ruthless to others but to himself as well. He once had surgery to implant a micro-device in his heart, which controls explosives all over the island. As soon as his heart stops beating, it will immediately trigger the device. The explosives he's buried around the island are enough to destroy the whole place, leaving no one alive."

"That severe?" Ling Chen was taken aback. With that kind of trick up his sleeve, who would dare to kill him on this island?

While they were talking, Hu Fei, Qiu Yong, and the others arrived at the meeting point.

Ling Chen pulled out the map he had acquired from Reylov, pointing to a route marked with a red line, and said, "This is the shortcut Reylov pointed out to us. Going this way, it should take about ten minutes to reach the God Organization's base."

"Reylov only gave us three hours, we'd better hurry."

"Let's get moving then."

The group hadn't gone far when Hu Fei started to fall behind. He couldn't bear to part with his heavy equipment. Seeing him drenched in sweat and gasping for breath, Ling Chen couldn't help but sigh and took the equipment off his back to help lighten his load.

"I really don't know why you brought so much stuff." He complained.

"This is all life-saving gear, how could I not bring it?" Hu Fei retorted. "If I had your skills, I wouldn't need all this stuff."

"Fine, forget I said anything."

The group rushed forward and, after more than ten minutes, they were stopped by a wall over three meters high.

"This is it," Ling Chen said, dropping the heavy gear he was carrying. "I'll go up and take a look first."

With that, Ling Chen's legs powered up, and like a nimble monkey, with the help of Wolf Kiss, he quickly climbed to the top of the wall.

However, as soon as he reached the top, Ling Chen froze. A surveillance camera was directly facing him.

Done for!

After a brief moment of shock, Ling Chen quickly moved aside, lying on top of the wall, his heart pounding and his breathing becoming rapid.

Dear God, let me not be discovered. He prayed silently.

Minutes passed, and no unusual activity occurred inside the base, which made Ling Chen breathe a sigh of relief.

Luckily, I must have had good fortune, as it seemed that the surveillance operator had dozed off and didn't notice my face.

Regaining my composure, I stealthily surveyed the situation inside the perimeter wall. There were over a dozen security personnel on duty outside, all armed with firearms, and there were also a few hunting dogs.

Not far off, two European-style villas stood erect, lights shining within, with security patrols around the balconies and entrances.

The God Organization's bases always preferred underground construction, offering both concealment and effective defense.

After observing the situation, Ling Chen signaled to the people at the base of the wall.

Soon, a line of individuals climbed over the wall one after another, infiltrating the inside of the enclosure.

"Pudgy."

"Roger that! Watch me."

Hu Fei lay prone on the ground, set up his sniper rifle, aimed at an isolated security guard, and gently squeezed the trigger.

At the same time, Zhang Zhongfeng launched arrows from his bow, four in quick succession, each shot hitting its mark. Hu Fei had only taken out one guard when over here, four security personnel were easily neutralized.

With the cooperation of everyone, in less than a minute, all the security personnel and hunting dogs outside the base entrance were dealt with.

"Let's go, inside."

Ling Chen called to everyone and quickened his pace to the entrance of the base. But at that moment, Hu Fei called out from the side: "Ling Chen."

"What's up?"

Hu Fei pointed to a villa not far away and shook the binoculars in his hand. Catching on, Ling Chen immediately understood, took the binoculars from Hu Fei, and looked towards that villa.

At that moment, in front of the transparent floor-to-ceiling window of the villa, stood a young man in a sharp suit, holding a wine glass, leisurely gazing at the coast.

Zhu Hong!

Ling Chen's expression turned cold, a surge of nameless rage bubbling up from within. He put down the binoculars and said in a low voice, "Pudgy, Kaelina, Big Brother, you go ahead into the base to find Wanqing. I'll take care of Zhu Hong."

Kaelina frowned and said, "Now's not the time for revenge. Let's rescue the others first. As long as Zhu Hong is on this island, you can take his life at any moment."

Qiu Yong chimed in, "Ling Cheng, let's focus on the task at hand."

Persuaded by everyone, Ling Chen finally gave up on the idea of going after Zhu Hong.

Forget it. I'll find Nanrong Wanqing first, letting Zhu Hong live a few more hours.

The group entered the base, surprisingly without much hindrance. It made sense, though, as the God Organization had sent most of their manpower to the Broken Teeth Training Camp for training, leaving not so many security personnel at the base.

Following the spacious and bright underground passage, Ling Chen led everyone swiftly towards the depths of the base.

After passing several electronically locked doors, Ling Chen suddenly stopped in his tracks, looking towards a large door on his left. This door was different from the others; it was specifically marked with red English letters indicating a scientific research area, strictly off-limits to unauthorized persons.

However, this only piqued Ling Chen's interest.

He approached that door, spent a few minutes, and cracked the electronic password lock.

Click!

With a soft sound, the hefty steel door gradually opened. Ling Chen stepped forward as the first to enter.

Suddenly, Ling Chen's pupils shrank, and his face was filled with shock – he was utterly astonished.

Chapter 373 Locating the Target

Behind the large door, it was like a meat processing plant, except those hanging from the hooks were not pork but people, dead people. Even more shocking, all of these bodies were deformed, missing limbs or having shrunken brains – not one was normal.

Furthermore, these corpses had been disemboweled, their innards completely hollowed out. At a cursory glance, there were about forty to fifty bodies in this storage room, presenting a grotesquely horrifying scene that was truly disturbing. Even seasoned individuals like Qiu Yong and others were stunned by this sight.

Xia Yue covered her mouth, fighting back nausea, and turned away as she said, "What the hell is this place?"

Ling Chen furrowed his brows; he too wanted to figure out what experiments were being conducted in this place. Turning around, he strode out of the storeroom and said in a deep voice, "Sooner or later, we will uncover the secrets of this base."

Following the underground passage, the group cautiously advanced toward the deeper parts of the base.

After walking approximately several dozen meters, blind Yang Chen suddenly stopped and looked up, saying, "Someone is coming."

Ling Chen, fully aware of Yang Chen's keen hearing, knew he was not mistaken, and asked, "How many people?"

"Five, based on the footsteps. They're in the passage to the left."

Ling Chen glanced at the left corner; although the people were not yet in sight, their shadows were already cast on the wall by the light. Immediately, Ling Chen signaled everyone, and they quickly scattered, each finding a hidden corner to conceal themselves.

Before long, five researchers in white lab coats walked shoulder to shoulder into Ling Chen's view. Watching the researchers who were about to pass by, Ling Chen's expression subtly changed. Among them was someone he recognized.

Stephen!

The doctor who Zhu Hong had introduced to Nanrong Wanqing for treatment was here as well. Watching as Stephen and the others slowly moved further away, Ling Chen gestured to his team with a nod and then silently followed behind Stephen.

"Kaelina, you and the fat man go to the surveillance room."

"Got it!"

After Kaelina and Hu Fei left, Ling Chen and the others like Qiu Yong followed and soon arrived outside a clean room. Through the glass, they saw Stephen and his group putting on clean protective suits and entering through a side door.

Ling Chen took a look at the surveillance camera on top of the outside door, then stopped in his tracks, waiting for Kaelina's response.

Three minutes passed, and Hu Fei's voice finally came through the earpiece: "Done!"

With surveillance under control, their next moves would be much easier. Ling Chen pushed open the door to the clean room and quickly walked up to the side door, grabbing the handle and trying to push it open. However, he quickly realized that the side door was locked and couldn't be opened.

Seeing this, Ling Chen looked up at the surveillance camera, pointed at the side door, and said, "Fat man, can you control this door?"

"No, that door doesn't have an electronic lock. I can't remotely control it; it can only be opened from the inside," Hu Fei barely finished talking when Kaelina's voice chimed in, "Ling Chen, you better come here and see this."

"I'll be right there."

After instructing Qiu Yong and the others to stay put, Ling Chen promptly made his way alone to the base's surveillance room.

Upon entering, Kaelina pointed at the surveillance screen and said, "See for yourself."

Ling Chen glanced over and his expression changed abruptly. He saw, within the monitor screen, Nanrong Wanqing lying quietly on a bed with her arms and legs bound, eyes slightly closed as if in a deep slumber. Beside her, several precise instruments were placed with wires connected to Nanrong Wanqing's body, seemingly monitoring her vital signs.

At the same time, Stephen, leading a group of scientists, was conducting examinations on Nanrong Wanqing. After a moment, a scientist in a white coat approached Stephen holding a metallic case. Once the case was opened after entering the password, Ling Chen's pupils contracted and his fists clenched involuntarily at the sight of its contents.

"What's wrong?" Kaelina, noticing the change in Ling Chen's expression, asked.

"They are planning to inject Wanqing with strengthening serums. No, we cannot let them succeed," Ling Chen declared in a deep voice. He then quickly left the surveillance room and returned to the cleanroom.

Facing the tightly closed side door, Ling Chen gritted his teeth and ferociously kicked it.

Bang!

A dull sound followed, but the side door did not budge or even indent.

However, the sound of the door alerted everyone in the laboratory. Stephen, confused, glanced at the door and then went to his computer, pressing a few keys with fingers clad in rubber gloves.

Instantly, an image appeared on the computer screen; Ling Chen and Qiu Yong, among others, were all displayed on the screen.

Having met Ling Chen a few times before, Stephen recognized him immediately, his face turning pale, he quickly took off his gloves and grabbed the laboratory phone, dialing a number swiftly.

But the phone signal was busy, emitting 'beep beep' sounds and not connecting. After several attempts, the phone still couldn't reach the other side.

"Ling Chen, they've discovered you. I've cut off the lab's connection with the outside; they will be temporarily trapped in there. You'd better find a way to open that door quickly."

Hearing Hu Fei's voice from the earphone, Ling Chen glanced at Qiu Yong and others and said, "Big brother, help me out!"

"Let me do it."

Qiu Yong walked over to the side door, sank his waist, crouched in a horse stance, hands moving from upward to downward coordinated with his breathing, Qi sinking to the Dantian. Suddenly, he roared and threw a punch like the wind heavily against the door.

Bang!

A loud noise occurred, and a fist-shaped dent immediately appeared on the surface of the sturdy iron door. Yet, that was all; the door remained intact.

Seeing Qiu Yong's unsuccessful attempt, the people who had been eager to try instantly gave up. Ling Chen may not be aware of Qiu Yong's capabilities, but the other members of the 'Eight Eccentrics' knew very well. Qiu Yong practiced the Iron Cloth Shirt of Cross Training, had incredibly strong muscles and bones, and possessed extraordinary strength; if even he couldn't break the door, it was futile for others to even try.

"Mr. Ling, don't waste your efforts anymore; this door is made from a special metal. Merely relying on human strength to destroy it is simply wishful thinking," Stephen's deep voice came from an external speaker.

Frowning slightly, Ling Chen replied, "Stephen, open the door. Just let me take Wanqing away, and I promise not to kill you."

"Forget it. As long as I stay in the lab, you'll never be able to harm me," Stephen retorted with a cold laugh, then added, "It's perfect that I'm in need of a few spectators; you might as well serve as witnesses."

As his voice fell, the outer wall's screen started broadcasting the laboratory's scene live.

Chapter 374 Injection Successful

Seeing Stephen put on the rubber gloves again and walk over to Nanrong Wanqing to begin the experiment, Ling Chen suddenly panicked, kicking frantically at the iron door, but unfortunately it was futile.

Xia Yue couldn't stand watching, she placed her hand on Ling Chen's shoulder, and said, "Don't worry just yet, we'll definitely find a way to rescue her."

Ling Chen stared at the screen, his mind racing. Suddenly, he gritted his teeth and shouted into the headset, "Hu Fei, hurry over here."

In less than a minute, Hu Fei ran to the cleanroom with his short legs, asking, "What's up?"

Without saying another word, Ling Chen grabbed the backpack from behind Hu Fei and threw it next to the iron door. Unzipping it, he took out a few plastic explosive charges, molded them into discs, and stuck them in each corner of the door. After the explosives were placed, Ling Chen retrieved a detonator cap, preparing to connect the explosives.

Seeing what Ling Chen was doing, Hu Fei exclaimed in surprise, "Are you crazy? If you blow this up, everyone will know we are here."

"There's no time to worry about that."

At that moment, inside the sealed laboratory, Stephen took a syringe and drew several milliliters of purple liquid from a transparent bottle. He then extracted several milliliters of red liquid from another transparent bottle. As the two different liquids mixed, they immediately turned into a bizarre color.

"Ready to start the injection," stated Stephen as he put on a mask and gently flicked the syringe with his fingers.

At his indication, a staff member in a white lab coat lifted Nanrong Wanqing's sleeve, revealing her smooth and fair arm. After wiping it with alcohol, Stephen leaned closer and positioned the needle near Nanrong Wanqing's arm.

Just as he was about to administer the injection, a thunderous boom suddenly echoed from outside the laboratory, severely shaking the entire room. The glassware clattering on the table was nearly knocked to the floor.

Startled by the explosion, Stephen's wrist shook, causing the needle to veer off course.

He cursed under his breath, hastily looking up at the surveillance monitor, only to see the dust-filled cleanroom where no figure could be clearly distinguished.

At that very moment.

In a villa hundreds of meters from the base, upon hearing the sound of the explosion, Zhu Hong suddenly stood up from the sofa and rushed to the balcony. He looked in the direction of the base and frowned, saying, "Contact the base immediately, see what happened."

A suit-clad bodyguard immediately pulled out a walkie-talkie and called the base's duty personnel. However, after several minutes, there was still no response from the base.

"Something's wrong!" Zhu Hong's expression darkened, he turned and said, "Notify Reylov to send reinforcements immediately. Also, have the villa's security head to the base to ascertain the situation."

"Yes."

At the base.

Ling Chen waved his hands to clear the surrounding dust and strode towards the iron door. However, despite the power of the plastic explosives, the iron door was only deformed, not blown open.

"Ling Chen, Zhu Hong's men are heading this way, you better hurry and rescue Nanrong Wanqing from the lab."

"How many people are coming?"

"More than thirty," Kaelina replied.

Qiu Yong spoke, "Ling Cheng, focus on handling things here, we'll take care of the people outside." Saying this, he led Xia Yue and others quickly towards the base's exit.

After they left, Ling Chen touched the scorching iron door, hesitating in his gaze. The explosives Hu Fei brought were plentiful, and blowing open this door was not difficult. However, the issue was that if the amount of explosives was not controlled well, it was very possible that Nanrong Wanqing in the laboratory would be accidentally injured.

During his contemplation, Stephen's voice suddenly came from the loudspeaker outside the door: "Mr. Ling, there's no time left, Miss Nanrong has already completed the injection."

Hearing this, Ling Chen's face changed, filled with shock and anger.

"Stephen, you're dead!"

With that said, Ling Chen stopped hesitating and immediately took out half a block of plastic explosives from his backpack, stuffing it into the cracks made by previous explosions in the iron door.

Once everything was prepared, Ling Chen quickly backed out to the clean room and pressed the control button on the blast device. For a moment, there was a loud 'bang', and under the impact of two explosions, the solid iron door was finally blown away.

Ling Chen charged ahead with great speed, rushing straight into the laboratory. His sharp gaze swept around; Stephen and a few others were clinging to the wall, trembling in fear as they watched him.

"Fatty, keep an eye on them, don't let them escape." After saying this, Ling Chen quickly walked to the bed and saw Nanrong Wanqing asleep, his brows immediately furrowing.

At this moment, Nanrong Wanqing's body was flushing red after the injection, breathing rapidly. The monitoring equipment showed her heartbeat and rhythm both rapidly increasing, exhibiting extremely unstable vital signs.

"Wanqing." Ling Chen grasped Nanrong Wanqing's hand, feeling her skin burning hot as if soaked in boiling water.

He called out several times, and seeing that Nanrong Wanqing did not respond, Ling Chen, with a stern face, glared coldly at Stephen beside him, striding forward, grasped his collar, and dragged him to the bed.

"Wake her up."

"She's currently merging with the medication. Only after the drug's effects unfold completely and get absorbed, she might wake up."

Ling Chen glanced at the two empty bottles on the table and coldly asked, "What did you inject her with?"

"One is a regular enhancement drug, the other is a newly developed drug, the specific effects are only clear to Mr. Yun and Zhu Hong; I was just following orders, I don't know anything else."

"You like conducting experiments on people, don't you? Since that's the case, let you taste it too." After saying that, Ling Chen forcefully pressed Stephen's head down, randomly picked up a syringe, drawing more than ten milliliters of the enhancement drug.

Seeing Ling Chen's actions, Stephen immediately turned pale with fright, struggling desperately: "Don't, Mr. Ling, I..."

Before he could finish his words, Ling Chen had already stabbed the needle into his neck, injecting all the purple liquid in the syringe into his body.

The reaction speed of the drug was very fast; just after the injection, less than ten seconds later, Stephen's body began to show signs of reddening, looking as if he lost all strength, collapsing to the ground, convulsing, foaming at the mouth, and his hands frantically scratching at his chest, even tearing his clothes.

Turning his gaze away, Ling Chen looked at the four men in white coats standing against the wall and coldly said: "Fatty, kill them all, leave none behind."

Hu Fei didn't hesitate, immediately pulling the trigger, unleashing a volley of bullets, turning the bodies of the four in white coats into a hive.

"Let's go!"

Ling Chen picked up the delicate body of Nanrong Wanqing, not hesitating for a moment, quickly heading towards the base exit. Now that they had rescued the person, it was time to evacuate.

However, as they reached the base's exit, they saw Qiu Yong and others blocked at the gate, pinned down by external gunfire, unable to break out.

Chapter 375 Monster

"Big brother."

Seeing Ling Chen carrying Nanrong Wanqing and catching up from behind, Qiu Yong grimaced and said: "We're surrounded outside, the enemy's fire is too strong, we can't get out."

Hearing this, Ling Chen called Xia Yue over, handed Nanrong Wanqing to her, and instructed her to take good care of Nanrong Wanqing's safety.

Glancing at the time, Reylov had said they would have three hours to act, and there was still about two hours left, which was more than enough.

Listening to sporadic gunshots from outside, Ling Chen pondered for a moment, then turned his gaze to Hu Fei beside him.

Hu Fei trembled with fear under his stare and swallowed before saying: "What are you planning to do?"

"What are you afraid of? I'm not preparing to send you to your death." Ling Chen laughed, took his backpack, pulled out a few smoke grenades, and said: "Big brother, I'll distract them. You all head to the evacuation point according to our earlier plan, I will find you as soon as possible."

"Alright, take care of yourself."

"Ling Chen." At this moment, Kaelina rushed over from the monitoring room and reminded him: "Zhu Hong is also outside."

"I know!" Ling Chen nodded, a sharp cold light flashing through his pupils.

After throwing a few smoke grenades, thick white smoke immediately enveloped the outside of the base. Seizing the opportunity, Ling Chen, like a darting rabbit, quickly dashed out. However, just as he rushed out of the base, gunshots immediately rang out, bullets falling at his feet.

That was close!

A shock went through Ling Chen, and he suddenly had an ominous premonition.

Bang! Bang!

Two successive shots, both hitting where he was. Luckily, he kept moving at high speed, and each bullet missed his body by a whisker.

Trouble! Ling Chen frowned secretly. Under the cover of smoke, the enemy was still able to accurately pinpoint his location, indicating that they were equipped with thermal imaging. As long as he had body heat, he couldn't escape their eyes.

Without thinking further, Ling Chen leaped, his body soaring high and landing behind a small mound. Just as he landed, a bullet shot toward him, but it was blocked by the mound.

Taking a deep breath, Ling Chen lay on the ground, reached for a grenade from his waist, unscrewed the detonator, and threw it into the air.

Bang!

An explosion rang out, followed by several screams.

Ling Chen's mouth curled slightly, the gunshots from the enemy had likewise exposed their positions. Having taken out several gunmen, Ling Chen hesitated no longer, rushing forward like a swift wind. His plan was clear—to circle to the enemy's rear, draw their attention, and create a chance for Qiu Yong and the others to escape.

Tens of seconds passed, and the thick smoke outside the base gradually dispersed. By then, Ling Chen had successfully navigated to the rear.

Hearing the gradually distant gunshots outside the base, the group knew Ling Chen's plan had succeeded. Immediately, under Kaelina's lead, everyone followed, quickly evacuating with Nanrong Wanqing.

Yet, just then, Qiu Yong, who was covering the rear, suddenly flew into the air, crossing over everyone's heads and heavily falling to the ground.

This sudden change shocked everyone present, causing them to hurriedly turn back. In the darkness of the night, a figure was rapidly approaching from behind. As the figure entered their line of sight, Kaelina and Hu Fei, among others, widened their eyes in disbelief at the approaching silhouette.

Is this... still a human?

Hu Fei gaped, his face full of horror.

At this moment, the person appearing before them could no longer be called human, but a monster. Its entire body swollen, its limbs seemingly inflated, and pus-blood flowing all over. Its head unevenly sized, extremely disproportionate. Its face also twisted beyond recognition.

After a brief moment of shock, Hu Fei was the first to react, pointing at the monster in alarm, "That's Stephen."

Previously, Ling Chen had injected Stephen with an overdose of enhancement drugs, expecting him not to withstand the pain and die. However, Stephen not only survived but also transformed into this neither human nor ghost-like monster.

"Everybody be careful, his strength is terrifying." Qiu Yong stood up from the ground, watching Stephen approach step by step and cautioned.

Without a second word, Zhang Zhongfeng immediately drew his bow and arrow aiming at Stephen's head.

Whoosh!

Following the sound of air tearing, the sharp arrow pierced straight through Stephen's head.

However, to everyone's astonishment, the fatally wounded Stephen appeared completely unaffected. As if unable to feel the pain, he continued charging towards them.

Seeing this, Hu Fei's eyes rotated, his gaze suddenly brightened, and he shouted loudly, "I have a plan, hold him off first."

Without hesitation, Qiu Yong lightly tapped his foot off the ground, leaping up and throwing a punch towards Stephen's head. Simultaneously, Xia Yue and the one-armed Yuan Yun rushed forward, wielding their swords, pinning Stephen in place.

With agile movements, Yuan Yun and Xia Yue coordinated swiftly, and in a blink of an eye, Stephen had more than a dozen wounds on him. For a normal person, these injuries would have been fatal, but Stephen was completely unfazed, no matter how severe the wounds, they were completely ignored.

Just then, Xia Yue seized the opportunity, lifting the Mother-Child Sword, her wrist flicked, thrusting straight for Stephen's eyes.

However, just as the sharp tip of the sword was about to penetrate his eyeball, Stephen suddenly raised his hands, completely disregarding the blade's sharpness, fiercely grasping onto the sword, and then violently throwing it.

Xia Yue felt a powerful force transmitted from the sword, her body immediately losing control, soaring straight up.

"Be careful!"

Yuan Yun, seeing this, and fearing that Xia Yue might get hurt, hurriedly sheathed his sword and rushed over, stretching out his hands to catch Xia Yue's delicate body. However, just as Xia Yue landed in his arms, her complexion abruptly changed, she exclaimed in shock, "Brother, watch out behind you!"

Yuan Yun turned back only to see Stephen had somehow appeared behind him, his arm fiercely swinging, heavily slapping his back.

Struck by Stephen's powerful blow, Yuan Yun's face turned pale, he stumbled, and together with Xia Yue, they both fell to the ground.

Seeing the dire situation, Qiu Yong and Xu Ming, fearing for their safety, quickly rushed over, collaboratively blocking Stephen's assault. Seizing this opportunity, Wei Jiahao swiftly moved to help Yuan Yun and Xia Yue to their feet.

Once they had retreated, Qiu Yong glanced at Hu Fei nearby and asked in a grave tone, "How much longer?"

"Almost ready." Hu Fei, neglecting the sweat on his forehead, hurriedly handed the modified arrow to Zhang Zhongfeng who immediately placed it on his bow, drew the bowstring full circle, aiming right at Stephen's forehead.

"Big brother, second brother, move aside!"

Hearing Zhang Zhongfeng's voice, Qiu Yong and Xu Ming didn't hesitate and quickly retreated. Without waiting for Stephen to catch up, Zhang Zhongfeng seized the moment, his finger slightly loosened, and the arrow immediately tore through the air, flying towards Stephen's forehead.

Chapter 376 Ling Zhu Solo Challenge

Zhang Zhongfeng's archery skills were incredibly accurate, never missing their mark, his arrow pierced directly through Stephen's brow. However, just like before, Stephen was completely unaffected by this fatal wound, if anything, it only made him more ferocious.

Seeing Stephen quickly approaching with his swollen legs, Hu Fei sneered, raising the detonator in his right hand and murmuring, "Let's see if you die now!" As soon as these words fell, he pressed his thumb down, and Stephen's head instantly exploded into a bloody mist, filling the air with a pungent stench.

After stumbling forward a few steps, the top half of his body blown open, Stephen finally lost his balance and collapsed on the ground, lifeless.

Watching Stephen motionless, Hu Fei secretly breathed a sigh of relief. It was fortunate that he had been clever enough to attach a plastic bomb to Zhang Zhongfeng's arrow. As the arrow pierced Stephen's head, the plastic bomb also entered Stephen's body. Otherwise, it would not have been easy to deal with Stephen.

"Let's go now," urged Kaelina. The explosion just now was bound to attract the attention of the base personnel, and they couldn't afford to delay.

Meanwhile, in the opposite direction from where Qiu Yong and the others were, Ling Chen was sprinting alone through the dense vegetation, with the frequent sounds of footsteps and gunfire behind him. More than twenty security personnel were following closely behind him, pressing onward.

"Ling Chen, we've already reached the safe zone. How long until you can join us?"

Kaelina's voice came through the headset, causing Ling Chen to relax and immediately respond, "Give me ten minutes."

His mission was to distract the enemies, allowing Qiu Yong and others to escape the base. Now that the mission was completed, there was no need to waste time with these guys. Seizing the opportunity, Ling Chen set his eyes on a large tree ahead. Reaching it, he swiftly climbed to the top like a nimble gorilla, crouching on a thick branch and using the dense leaves to conceal himself.

Soon, the twenty or so security personnel who were following him passed by beneath him, continuing further ahead.

Ling Chen watched the enemies below, preparing to join Kaelina once they had moved on.

However, at that moment, his pupils narrowed, fixing on a young man at the back of the group, causing his brows to furrow slightly.

Zhu Hong!

Checking the time, Ling Chen felt a bit more settled. There was still plenty of time for him to do what he wanted. With this thought, Ling Chen reached behind his waist, pulled out a sharp dagger, and held it between his fingers, his intense gaze now locked on Zhu Hong's nape.

When Zhu Hong passed by the tree, Ling Chen seized the opportunity without hesitation and flicked his wrist slightly. The sharp dagger was thrown straight at Zhu Hong's vital spot.

But just as the dagger was about to pierce Zhu Hong's nape, Zhu Hong, who was running swiftly, suddenly turned around, raising his arm quickly.

Clang!

Accompanied by a crisp sound, the flying dagger was struck by the pistol in Zhu Hong's hand and fell to the ground.

Seeing this, Ling Chen was taken aback, surprised by Zhu Hong's quick reflexes. He had never known him to have such agility before; had he been hiding his skills all this time?

Bang!

In the blink of an eye, a gunshot rang out, and a bullet whizzed past Ling Chen, flying through the dense branches and leaves.

Without time to think further, Ling Chen immediately jumped down from the branch, exerting force with his legs and diving towards the grass ahead. Under the cover of the night, Ling Chen bent over, avoiding Zhu Hong's searching gaze, and quickly headed towards Kaelina and the others' location.

However, after sprinting a hundred meters, Ling Chen realized that Zhu Hong was still following close behind, maintaining a distance of about thirty meters. No matter how Ling Chen changed his route, he couldn't shake Zhu Hong off. The latter seemed to be clinging to him like a persistent parasite.

Ling Chen frowned slightly, Zhu Hong's sudden display of abilities was beyond his expectations. Had he known that guy had such impressive skills, he wouldn't have stirred up trouble, leaving himself without a chance to escape.

Bang!

Another shot.

The bullet landed exactly where Ling Chen had just stepped. Ling Chen secretly felt shocked; even he admitted the gunmanship was precise.

Bang! Bang!

Two consecutive shots, both skillfully dodged by Ling Chen. At the same time, during his sprint, Ling Chen abruptly stopped, turned around, and faced Zhu Hong, who was chasing him.

All this while, Ling Chen had been carefully counting the number of shots Zhu Hong had fired. With his experience and knowledge of firearms, Ling Chen knew Zhu Hong's ammunition was depleted. If it weren't for witnessing Zhu Hong's accurate shooting, he would have confronted Zhu Hong directly much earlier.

Seeing the still figure ahead, Zhu Hong immediately slowed down, and walked step by step towards it.

As the distance between them gradually closed, Zhu Hong finally saw clearly the face of that figure, and his expression darkened instantly.

"Ling Chen!" Zhu Hong gritted out the words through clenched teeth.

"Didn't expect it to be me, did you?"

"Indeed, I thought you were dead."

Ling Chen smiled slightly: "You aren't dead, how could I possibly be?"

As he spoke, he glanced at the gun in Zhu Hong's hands, his lips curling slightly: "Honestly, I'm surprised; turns out you've been hiding your skills in front of me all this time."

"You're wrong, I never hid myself."

Hearing this, Ling Chen was slightly startled, as if realizing something, and his doubts were immediately resolved.

"Did you inject an enhancement drug?"

"You guessed half right," Zhu Hong sneered. "I owe my success today to you."

Ling Chen, puzzled, asked, "What do you mean?"

"When you're close to death, I'll tell you," Zhu Hong said, and without waiting for Ling Chen to respond, he threw away his gun, took off his jacket, revealing his muscular upper body.

"You think you're so strong? Let me see for myself. Let's find out whether you are stronger or I am superior."

Faced with Zhu Hong's challenge, Ling Chen didn't say a word and stepped towards Zhu Hong. Approaching him, Zhu Hong's eyes turned fierce, and with a powerful leap from the ground, he aimed a punch from above down towards Ling Chen's head.

As the punch came, Ling Chen crossed his arms in front of his forehead, resisting Zhu Hong's punch forcefully. Suddenly, Ling Chen felt his body slightly waver, nearly losing his balance.

Such incredible strength!

Ling Chen looked up at Zhu Hong, a flash of amazement in his eyes. He had purposely taken Zhu Hong's hit head-on to test his strength, but he hadn't expected his opponent's power to be so immense.

Unsuccessful with the first strike, Zhu Hong did not back down. His fists, fast and furious, flew one after another in quick succession, continuously striking out and completely taking the initiative.

Ling Chen held his breath and focused, dodging the punches coming from Zhu Hong, moving left and right. After more than ten punches, Zhu Hong hadn't even touched the edge of Ling Chen's clothes, all his punches missing the mark.

Chapter 377 The Powerful Zhu Hong

"Die!"

Seeing his attack miss entirely, Zhu Hong immediately grew furious. He shouted loudly and threw his fist straight at Ling Chen's face.

However, before his fist could get close to Ling Chen, he felt a pain in his abdomen. Unbeknownst to him, Ling Chen had already lifted his right leg and fiercely kicked him, forcing him back several steps.

Looking at Zhu Hong's face filled with shock and rage, Ling Chen said indifferently, "Your strength is not bad, but unfortunately, you are lacking in other areas. No matter how powerful the enhancement drug is, it can't cover everything."

Zhu Hong coldly responded, "That's because you haven't seen the true power of enhancement drugs." As he spoke, Zhu Hong reached deep into his pocket and pulled out a portable syringe filled with about twenty milliliters of purple liquid.

Seeing Zhu Hong inject all twenty milliliters of the liquid into his body without hesitation, Ling Chen's pupils contracted and his expression abruptly changed.

This guy is crazy!

He had personally experienced the terror of enhancement drugs. Injecting so much at once, isn't Zhu Hong afraid his body can't handle it?

At this moment, having successfully completed the injection, Zhu Hong stood still. His skin color changed from red to white, gradually returning to normal, but his breathing became more and more rapid. Faintly, one could see his muscles slightly bulging, seemingly catalyzed by the enhancement drug.

Taking a deep breath, Zhu Hong spread his hands, clenched his fists, and stared at Ling Chen, whose expression was somewhat solemn. He sneered, "Now... I will show you just how terrifying the power of science can be."

With those words, before Ling Chen could respond, Zhu Hong dashed towards him with increased speed.

Compared to before, Zhu Hong's speed had increased by at least two to three times. Ling Chen only saw a blur before Zhu Hong was already up close, swinging his fist at him.

Without time to think further, Ling Chen shifted his body slightly to the side, trying to dodge Zhu Hong's fist. However, his reaction speed, which he took pride in, was still a step too slow. Before he could completely move out of the way, Zhu Hong's powerful fist had already slammed into his left shoulder.

Ling Chen furrowed his brows but ignored the pain in his shoulder, swiftly retreating backwards. However, Zhu Hong, having landed his blow, did not back down an inch and pressed forward step by step, quickly advancing and throwing another punch.

With no room to retreat, Ling Chen's eyes widened in anger as he met Zhu Hong's punch with a punch of his own, unleashing his Inner Strength.

Bang!

The two fists collided, immediately producing a muffled sound. The powerful force surged through his fist, and Ling Chen felt a numbness in his arm. If not for his Inner Strength offsetting some of the force, this arm might have been completely disabled.

Suffering setbacks twice made Ling Chen's expression gradually turn solemn.

He had always been very confident in his skills. Being on the Tiger List was proof of his abilities. However, facing the abnormal enhancement drug, he felt somewhat powerless. This was not his first time fighting someone who had taken an enhancement drug, but no one had been as abnormal as Zhu Hong.

Moreover, Zhu Hong had injected an excessive amount of the enhancement drug without any apparent side effects, which puzzled him greatly.

Feeling Ling Chen's flickering gaze, Zhu Hong seemed to guess his thoughts and said proudly with a smile, "Are you curious? Then let me tell you, so that you can die with understanding. The effects of the enhancement drug are astonishing, but due to individual differences in physical constitution, there is more or less rejection, which prevents a hundred percent integration and reduces the potency of the enhancement drug. However, we accidentally discovered that after you were injected with the enhancement drug, not only did you not experience any side effects, but you could also perfectly integrate with the enhancement drug. Therefore, during our last operation at the secret base in East Sea City, we drew your blood for experiments. Although we couldn't achieve a hundred percent effect, we reached ninety-nine percent, which is already an incredible result. Therefore, we used your blood as a sample, replicated your genes and blood, and then converted all the blood in my body into your blood. This way, the enhancement drug can exert its effects in my body and also avoid side effects. So, I should really thank you, because you made me."

After hearing Zhu Hong's explanation, Ling Chen finally understood the truth, realizing that all this was because of himself.

"Ling Chen, if the God Organization is to succeed greatly, you will be our greatest contributor, because you have helped us solve the biggest problem. Once the enhancement drug is widely distributed, which country in the future would dare to oppose us."

Ling Chen, rubbing his painful left shoulder, said mockingly, "You aren't going to tell me that the ultimate goal of the God Organization is to rule the world, are you? That's just a childish plot from television shows."

Zhu Hong sneered, "The goals of the God Organization are beyond your imagination." He paused for a moment, then waved his hand impatiently, "Alright, now you know what you need to know, you can go on your way peacefully." At this point, as if he remembered something, a sinister smile crept across his lips, "Don't worry, after you die, I will take good care of Wanqing and accompany her for a lifetime."

Ling Chen pouted, annoyed, "Cut the nonsense, if you can, kill me and then talk."

"Alright, then I will send you on your way."

With those words, Zhu Hong raised his fists and charged straight towards Ling Chen.

As the fist wind approached, Ling Chen did not retreat or dodge, and met it head-on. He knew clearly, there was no escaping now, it was time to fight for his life. Although the enhancement drug was powerful, it was not without weaknesses. He had once taken the enhancement drug and was very familiar with this fact.

Any enhancement drug always has a time limit. If he could last until the effects of the drug waned, he might have a chance to turn defeat into victory.

At this moment, on the other end of the island, Kaelina, Hu Fei, Qiu Yong, and others had already arrived at the rendezvous point, waiting for Ling Chen to show up.

Under the dense night sky, a light sea breeze brushed past, carrying a faint fishy scent.

"She seems to be waking up."

At this time, Xia Yue, who had been in charge of caring for Nanrong Wanqing, spoke up.

Upon hearing this, everyone's gazes converged on Nanrong Wanqing. Under everyone's watchful eyes, her eyelashes trembled slightly, her eyes opened a slit, and her delicate body gently twisted.

"Miss Nanrong?" Hu Fei leaned in and called.

Nanrong Wanqing opened her eyes, saw the grinning round face in front of her, and as if startled, let out a startled 'ah', swinging her hand in a slap.

Fortunately, Xia Yue reacted quickly, grabbing Nanrong Wanqing's arm just in time to spare Hu Fei's chubby face from suffering.

"Miss Nanrong, don't be afraid, we are not bad people," Xia Yue comforted.

Nanrong Wanqing shrank back, watching everyone warily, and asked, "Who are you?"

Chapter 378 Use the Enemy's Own Tactics Against Them

"Miss Nanrong, we are all Ling Chen's friends," Hu Fei explained. "Don't you remember what happened before? You were captured and brought to this island, and we came with Ling Chen to rescue you."

"Ling Chen... Ling Chen..." Nanrong Wanqing murmured to herself, quickly realizing and urgently asked, "How is he... Is he alright?"

Hu Fei smiled and said, "Don't worry, he is doing very well."

Nanrong Wanqing looked slightly relieved; she had been worried that something had happened to Ling Chen. Hearing Hu Fei's words, the weight in her heart finally dropped. Thinking about her own overreaction just now, Nanrong Wanqing looked at Hu Fei with embarrassment and sincerely apologized, "I'm sorry, I thought... I thought you were the ones who captured me, so..."

Hu Fei generously waved his hand and said, "No worries."

Glancing at the people around her, Nanrong Wanqing asked, "Where is Ling Chen? Why isn't he here?"

Kaelina looked at her wristwatch, slightly frowned, and said, "It's been so long; he should have been back by now." Thinking for a moment, she pressed a button on her headset and called out, "Ling Chen, do you copy?"

After calling several times, there was still no response from Ling Chen in the headset, causing everyone's expression to turn somewhat ugly.

"He couldn't have..." Hu Fei started, initially wanting to suggest that something might have happened to Ling Chen, but seeing Nanrong Wanqing nearby, he immediately shut his mouth and swallowed what he was about to say. Others might not know the relationship between Ling Chen and Nanrong Wanqing, but he was well aware.

At that moment, inside the island's dense foliage, Ling Chen was panting heavily, staring at Zhu Hong, his forehead sweaty and his complexion a bit pale. In contrast, Zhu Hong looked much better, still calm and composed, without a drop of sweat.

This guy... is too monstrous!

Ling Chen thought to himself. He was nearly out of energy, whereas Zhu Hong seemed unaffected and full of vigor.

"Already giving up so soon?" Zhu Hong looked at the breathless Ling Chen, sneered with disdain, and mocked, "Weren't you very formidable before?"

Ling Chen pretended not to hear Zhu Hong's sarcasm, mind racing as he silently pondered his strategy.

Unable to fight, unable to flee, unable to endure. After thinking it through, there seemed to be no way to deal with Zhu Hong, unless...

He didn't know what came to mind, but his eyes suddenly brightened, the corners of his mouth slightly lifted, and a sharp glint appeared in his eyes.

At this point, risking it all wasn't the worst idea.

With that thought, Ling Chen gritted his teeth, concentrated all his strength in his body into his legs. Then, he bent his knees, forcefully propelled himself forward, and like a cannonball shot towards Zhu Hong.

Watching Ling Chen charging towards him, Zhu Hong let out a cold laugh, showing no intention of dodging. In his eyes, Ling Chen was just a dying animal, not worthy of concern.

Seeing Zhu Hong lower his guard, Ling Chen secretly smirked, instantly sped up, pulled back his raised fist, and instead threw his arms around Zhu Hong, tightly hugging his body.

Caught off guard, Zhu Hong was slightly stunned; he expected Ling Chen to fight fiercely, but he didn't anticipate Ling Chen to resort to such a childish, rogue tactic.

Seeing Ling Chen's arms wrap around his waist, Zhu Hong coldly snorted, lifted his left leg abruptly, and slammed his knee harshly against Ling Chen's abdomen. Seeing him still not letting go, Zhu Hong clenched his fists and from above his head forcefully swung down, hitting Ling Chen's neck.

After taking two heavy blows, Ling Chen suddenly lost his strength, a stream of fresh blood spewed out, and his hands were finally freed by Zhu Hong. Seizing the moment, Zhu Hong delivered a flying kick, heavily striking Ling Chen's chest, sending him flying to the ground.

Looking at Ling Chen spitting out blood and continuously coughing while clutching his chest, Zhu Hong looked down from above, his gaze slanting with disdain, "To resort to such inferior moves, you truly disgrace those who practice martial arts."

Ling Chen took a few deep breaths, barely stood up, half-crouched on the ground, and gasped with a chuckle: "Being inferior doesn't mean it's ineffective."

Hearing this, Zhu Hong's pupils shrank, suddenly feeling a strong unease. Looking down, he saw that Ling Chen's hand now held a portable syringe somehow.

"You..." Zhu Hong was shocked, hurriedly reaching for his own trouser pocket, only to find the syringe that was supposed to be there missing.

He had carried two syringes, having used one just now. At this moment, the other syringe was held in Ling Chen's hand.

"Didn't expect this, huh?" Ling Chen grinned broadly, "Didn't you say you replicated my blood to enhance the effect of the enhancer? If I use it myself, the effect should be even better than yours, right?"

After saying this, under Zhu Hong's shocked gaze, Ling Chen plunged the needle into his body, injecting all of the purple liquid inside the syringe into himself.

Seeing Ling Chen's action, Zhu Hong's face drastically changed, his composure and confidence gone. Not waiting for Ling Chen to get up, he hurriedly ran in the opposite direction. If the drug in Ling Chen's body took effect, he would be the one getting thrashed soon; he dared not stay any longer.

However, Zhu Hong hadn't gotten far when he heard a burst of footsteps coming from behind. Suddenly, a large hand reached from behind, resting on his shoulder. Turning his head, he saw Ling Chen standing behind him, smiling broadly and grinning, "Why run away? Weren't you enjoying yourself just now?"

Zhu Hong's pupils constricted, exclaiming, "Ling Chen, you..."

Before Zhu Hong could finish his words, Ling Chen quickly lifted his leg, kicking fiercely, knocking Zhu Hong down to the ground. Immediately, Ling Chen didn't give Zhu Hong a chance to resist, pouncing over and straddling him, his fists swinging left and right, smashing fiercely on his handsome face.

After more than ten punches, Zhu Hong's face turned into a swollen mess, his cheeks extremely swollen, blood streaming from the corners of his cracked mouth, utterly disheveled.

"Stop... stop..."

Zhu Hong raised his swollen arms, protecting his face, struggling to speak.

Ling Chen paused his punches, asking, "Do you have anything left to say? If you have any last words, spit them out."

"Let... let me go... I'll let you all leave the island safely."

"Wow! How generous. But, we can leave without your help. Zhu Hong, you've opposed me time and again, you should've expected today's outcome. Thinking you can piss me off and still live, you must be delusional." With that, Ling Chen ruthlessly delivered another punch, hitting Zhu Hong straight on the nose.

Immediately, blood gushed out like a fountain, streaming from Zhu Hong's nostrils and instantly staining his face red.

Under the intense pain, Zhu Hong let out a scream like a slaughtered pig.

"Don't, let... let me go, please... don't kill me... I'll do whatever you want..."

Listening to Zhu Hong's pleas, Ling Chen scoffed disdainfully, "You still dare to compete with me for a woman with your cowardice, not slaughtering you today would be an insult to my name!"

Chapter 379 Exposed Tracks

"Stop!"

Bang!

A furious shout rang out, followed by a series of piercing gunshots.

Ling Chen's fist, hovering over Zhu Hong's head, paused for a moment. He looked up to see over a dozen men in suits rapidly approaching, all of whom had been pursuing him earlier. They had likely heard the commotion here and doubled back.

Facing more than ten dark gun muzzles, Ling Chen felt a chill in his heart. Without time to think, he hurriedly grabbed Zhu Hong's collar, preparing to drag his body up to use him as a human shield. After all, even after taking the strength-enhancing drug, he was still flesh and blood, incapable of withstanding the lethality of bullets.

However, before Ling Chen could pull Zhu Hong up, several bullets whizzed past his ear, just a hair's breadth away from blowing his head off.

At this moment, Zhu Hong seemed to realize what Ling Chen intended to do and immediately raised his hands, pushing forcefully against Ling Chen's chest. In a bid for his life, he exerted all his strength as if he was fighting for survival.

Pushed hard by Zhu Hong, Ling Chen, who had been straddling him, suddenly lost his balance and fell backward. Seizing this opportunity, Ling Chen let go of Zhu Hong's collar and rolled toward a nearby pile of grass.

Bang! Bang!

As soon as he moved away from Zhu Hong, a barrage of gunfire followed. The bullets pierced the ground, not hitting Ling Chen's body.

Hearing the security guards' footsteps closing in fast, Ling Chen didn't dare delay and leapt up from the ground, dashing forward at high speed.

"Mr. Zhu, are you alright?"

A few men in suits clumsily helped Zhu Hong up from the ground, their faces filled with concern.

Zhu Hong wiped the fresh blood from his nose and mouth, his gaze harsh, fierce, and extremely angry.

Slap!

A crisp slap rang out, and Zhu Hong, pointing in the direction Ling Chen had fled, shouted angrily, "Why aren't you chasing him? If you don't catch him, none of you will live."

Fearing for their lives and fortunes, over a dozen security guards hurriedly gave chase.

"Wait!" Just then, Zhu Hong seemed to think of something and quickly called a security guard to a halt, frowning, "Where's Reylov? Have you contacted him? Why hasn't he arrived yet?"

"Mr. Zhu, I've tried, but I can't reach him. There seems to be signal interference from the Broken Teeth Training Camp."

"Send someone directly. Tell Reylov to send reinforcements immediately." After speaking, Zhu Hong began to walk away. But after a few steps, he noticed something in the grass pile beside his foot.

"What's this?" he muttered to himself, bending over to pick it up. Looking at the object in his hand, his eyes instantly lit up.

...

At this very moment, Ling Chen was sprinting rapidly alone through the tall and lush forest.

Minutes passed and Ling Chen finally shook off the pursuers. He gasped for air, his tense muscles slowly relaxing as the effects of the drug wore off.

He had delayed for so long; Kaelina and the others should have reached the evacuation point by now. With this thought, Ling Chen touched his earpiece, intending to contact them. But as his hand reached his ear, he was shocked to find not only the earpiece but also the signal receiver was gone.

Crap!

He cursed inwardly, sure that it must have been lost during the scuffle with Zhu Hong.

Thinking of the rendezvous point previously agreed upon with Kaelina, Ling Chen immediately rushed towards it. Kaelina and the others would surely wait there if they couldn't contact him.

After a moment.

Hu Fei, leaning against a tree trunk, glanced at the time on his watch and spoke with some concern, "It's been over ten minutes, should we go look for him?"

Kaelina hesitated as she glanced at Qiu Yong and the others.

"Ling Chen's capability is clear to all of you. If he hasn't arrived yet, there must be some delay. I suggest we wait a little longer; he'll likely be back soon."

As he finished speaking, the inherently blind Yang Chen suddenly stood up from the ground and said, "Someone's coming!"

Hearing this, Kaelina slightly smiled, "I've said before, he'll come sooner or later."

"No, it's not Brother Six," Yang Chen said gravely, "There are more than twenty people, and they're about fifty meters away."

Hu Fei, surprised, asked, "How do they know we're here?"

"Let's not worry about that now." Qiu Yong spoke in a deep voice, "If one comes, we kill one; if two come, we kill both. I want to see just how many are not afraid to die."

As they spoke, a deep voice came from the dark forest, "Everyone inside, listen up, you have one minute to surrender, or else—Ah!"

Before the voice could finish, a scream pierced the air, followed by silence.

Everyone turned to Zhang Zhongfeng, who had put down the longbow in his hands, and simply stated, "Too noisy."

Qiu Yong glanced at Hu Fei and Kaelina, "You two stay and protect Miss Nanrong. We'll take care of those outside." Without waiting for Kaelina to respond, Qiu Yong and the others had already leaped into the forest and disappeared without a trace.

Dada dada!

Dada dada!

Kaelina's expression changed, and she quickly pressed Nanrong Wanqing down to the ground, shielding her from the bullets flying overhead. Meanwhile, roaring engine sounds drew closer from afar.

Hu Fei lay on the ground, binoculars with night vision in hand, looking towards the dense forest not far away. His round, pudgy face was suddenly filled with shock as he cursed loudly.

Damn it!

"Where are they?" Kaelina asked.

"They're back!"

The words had barely left her mouth when Qiu Yong and the others emerged from the forest in disarray.

Yuan Yun, slapping leaves from his hair and panting, said, "The enemy's firepower is too strong; we can't get close enough."

Kaelina pointed to the left of where the group was stationed, suggesting, "The motorboat is docked on that shore, about five kilometers away. We should head over there first and then figure out how to contact Ling Chen."

"No!" Yang Chen immediately rejected Kaelina's suggestion, saying, "We're surrounded by heavy fire on three sides; there's no way to break out. There's only one path we can take behind us."

"No way!" Kaelina frowned slightly, "Unless we have no other choice, it's better not to enter the forest behind us. The dangers there are no less than our current situation."

Hearing their argument, Hu Fei, with a troubled face, said, "Miss Kaelina, do you think we have any other choice?"

"Go!" Decisively, Qiu Yong commanded, "Head for the retreat! You guys go first; Brother Two and I will cover the rear."

With the situation leaving no room for argument, Kaelina, despite her reluctance, had to follow Qiu Yong's instructions and led everyone towards the forest behind them.

Chapter 380 The Blurred Corpse

"Where are they?"

Zhu Hong, with a bruised and swollen face, dressed in a floral shirt, stepped off a jeep and asked the man in a suit beside him.

"They fled to the woods back there."

"Hmph!" Zhu Hong sneered coldly, "They really have some nerve, actually running in that direction. Can we lock on their position?"

"No problem." The man in the suit replied, "They all have signal receivers on them. I've hacked into their signal devices and can monitor their locations at all times."

"Good." Zhu Hong nodded in satisfaction and instructed, "Remember, the lives of the others don't matter, but Nanrong Wanqing must be alive. If anyone dares to hurt her, it's not just that I'll be merciless—Mr. Yun won't let them off either. Do you understand?"

"Yes, Mr. Zhu."

...

At this moment, the group who had entered the woods realized that their pursuers were not following and breathed a sigh of relief. However, unlike the others who were at ease, Kaelina alone was frowning deeply, her expression grave and vigilant as she swept her gaze around.

Seeing this, Hu Fei couldn't help but tease, "Miss Kaelina, why so tense?"

Kaelina glanced at the fatty and coldly said, "If you knew what kind of place this is, I doubt you'd be laughing."

Hearing this, everyone became curious and couldn't help asking, "Is there something special about this place?"

Kaelina explained, "This forest is the outdoor training base of the Broken Teeth Training Camp, filled with all sorts of dangers: landmines, traps, poisonous insects—you name it, this place has it. Every year, hundreds of people die here."

With her description of the danger, Hu Fei was immediately startled, and his smile disappeared as he asked with a face full of fat, "Miss Kaelina, you've trained here before, so you should be quite familiar with the environment of this area."

"That was in the past. The setup here changes every month, and except for Reylov and his instructors, no one knows how many dangers are buried in this forest. If it wasn't absolutely necessary, I wouldn't have led you here."

Qiu Yong said indifferently, "We're already here; there's no use talking about that now. Everyone just be more careful. Jiahao, you're the best with traps and hidden weapons, keep an eye out for everyone, and try to avoid any traps."

"No problem," Wei Jiahao responded.

"Right!" Hu Fei had an idea and said, "Everyone, turn off your signal receivers. The reason we can't contact Ling Chen might be because his receiver has fallen into enemy hands. As long as they have a computer expert among them, they could use the signal frequency to pinpoint our location, which must be why our hideout was exposed just now."

Kaelina nodded and said, "Makes sense, everyone do as he says."

After turning off the signal receivers, the group of ten followed Kaelina's lead and headed deep into the forest. Only by crossing this forest could they circle around to where the motorboat was docked and leave the island.

As everyone prepared to cross the woods, Ling Chen had already reached the rendezvous point. Seeing the dry branches and broken wood scattered all over the ground, Ling Chen's expression turned ugly. On his way here, he'd heard gunshots, so he rushed over immediately but was still a step behind. By the time he arrived, everyone was gone, with only chaos left behind.

Looking at the tire tracks left on the ground, Ling Chen looked off in the direction they headed and felt slightly relieved.

If Kaelina and the others were captured, these guys would surely return to base and not continue forward. Judging from the current situation, Qiu Yong and the rest must have successfully escaped.

Thinking this, Ling Chen immediately started moving his legs, striding vigorously and quickly catching up.

After covering a few hundred meters, Ling Chen gradually slowed down, using the trees in the forest to conceal his body. At this moment, within his field of vision, there were thirty men in suits, each holding a gun, lined up in a row, swiftly advancing behind the cover of several jeeps.

Seeing the heavy machine guns mounted on the jeeps, Ling Chen slightly furrowed his brow, not expecting these guys to be equipped with such heavy firepower.

Taking advantage of the enemy's unawareness, Ling Chen took a deep breath, drew a dagger from his waist, and stealthily approached the men in suits.

Ambushing in the dark night was his forte.

To avoid startling the enemy, Ling Chen didn't attack from the middle but instead circled to the side, looking for isolated targets.

After tailing them for several tens of meters, a man in a suit who was walking on the far left gradually slowed down. Seizing this opportunity, Ling Chen crouched down and sneaked up. Without waiting for the others to notice, Ling Chen moved as fast as lightning, pouncing like a wild beast, covering the man's mouth with one hand and, without hesitation, drove the sharp dagger directly into his throat.

This string of actions was smooth as flowing water, both fast and accurate, silent as a whisper, and the people nearby didn't notice one of their companions had disappeared.

After the man in his arms ceased moving, Ling Chen gently placed the body onto a pile of grass and continued to search for the next target.

Boom!

Just then, a sudden explosion erupted from the forest ahead, accompanied by dazzling flames.

What's happening?

Ling Chen's heart skipped a beat. Before he could think further, he saw the three jeeps instantly accelerate towards the location of the explosion, with the thirty-plus men in suits holding their guns and running full speed behind them.

Seeing this, Ling Chen hurriedly followed. He silently prayed, hoping it wasn't Wanqing and the others who were in trouble.

After rushing for several hundred meters, everyone finally arrived at the explosion site. Scanning the surroundings, Ling Chen quickly climbed up a large tree, looking down at the epicenter of the explosion. He saw that the ground had been blown into a huge crater, over a meter deep. Not only that, around the explosion, scattered limbs and severed hands and feet lay around, bodies blasted beyond recognition, charred and bloodied, impossible to identify.

"Ha ha!" Zhu Hong, sitting on the jeep, looking at the limbs on the ground, sneered, "Truly, heaven helps me. Keep pursuing, they must be injured and can't have gone far."

Hearing Zhu Hong's words, Ling Chen, hiding in the tree branches, had a sudden change in expression, a cold harshness showing on his sharp, angular face.

Kaelina, Wanqing, the fatty, and the other seven, including Qiu Yong, he didn't know who accidentally stepped on the landmine buried in the soil. However, judging from the mangled corpses, it was unlikely to be Wanqing, Kaelina, or Xia Yue, but rather a male.

What kind of cursed place is this?

Ling Chen frowned, unable to contemplate further. Seeing Zhu Hong and his group rushing forward, he immediately jumped down from the tree branch, circling around from the side. Not knowing the current state of Wanqing and the others, he had to overtake Zhu Hong, to find everyone first, lest they face more danger.

While he was deliberating, a series of sharp gusts suddenly struck from the side, flying straight toward Ling Chen's body.