

The Beauty 591

Chapter 591 Unfilial Disciple

Damn!

Ling Chen cursed under his breath, as those two actually started treating him as their prey.

Without time to think further, Ling Chen swiftly kicked out at both Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun, hoping to push them back and buy himself some time to escape.

However, to his surprise, Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun didn't dodge at all; they lunged straight at him, completely disregarding his attack.

Instantly, Ling Chen's kicks landed solidly on the two men.

Huh!

With the impact, Ling Chen's expression changed drastically. He was astonished to find that his strength hadn't managed to push Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun back. Moreover, their bodies felt as hard as steel plates.

He knew too well the capabilities of these two men; this was utterly impossible. Yet, they had just proven it possible.

Fuck!

What is going on here?

Ling Chen's eyes widened in disbelief as he watched Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun lunge at him again. Without time for further thought, he hurriedly ran back the way he came.

However, Jiang Yunkai and his companion closely followed, relentlessly pressuring him. Feeling the rapid breathing behind him, Ling Chen didn't dare to look back, using all his might to sprint desperately.

Just then, Zhu Jin and Yi Shuiyan appeared in his line of sight.

Seeing Ling Chen rushing over, Zhu Jin's eyes brightened, a cold smile playing on his lips.

He had been looking for him and hadn't expected Ling Chen to come to him instead.

"Disciple, act now, don't let him escape again!"

Hearing the Master's command, Yi Shuiyan immediately drew his steel knife and was ready to strike. However, he quickly realized that Ling Chen didn't care about them at all; instead of slowing down, his speed was increasing even more.

Those two people... Suddenly, Yi Shuiyan and Zhu Jin's expressions shifted slightly as they focused their gaze on Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun.

They knew very well about these two test subjects.

However, what puzzled them was why Ling Chen looked so panicked.

Just as they were pondering, Zhu Jin suddenly felt like he was being targeted by a wild beast. He glanced over and saw Jiang Yunkai's bloodthirsty eyes, sinister and terrifying, which unconsciously sent chills from the soles of his feet.

"Master..."

Yi Shuiyan had barely spoken when they heard a low roar, followed by a shadow pouncing at them, knocking him to the ground.

"Get off!"

In a panic, Yi Shuiyan hastily waved his arms, positioning his steel knife across his chest to fend off Bai Huanjun. Then, bending his legs, he kicked fiercely upwards, sending Bai Huanjun flying away.

Seizing the opportunity, Yi Shuiyan quickly stood up, turning his attention towards Zhu Jin. At that moment, Zhu Jin was entangled with Jiang Yunkai, busily countering his attacks.

However, after a few exchanges, Zhu Jin felt as if all his moves were being stifled. Jiang Yunkai's body seemed as tough as a steel plate, impervious to blades and spears, and his own thrown needles had no effect whatsoever.

More than that, Jiang Yunkai seemed to be devoid of pain receptors, unaffected by the severity of the attacks. Moreover, his strength could almost be described as terrifying. Even for someone of his level, it was disconcerting.

At this moment, Zhu Jin and Yi Shuiyan finally understood why Ling Chen was running away. Faced with such mutated beings, they were completely helpless, without a single solution at hand.

Bastards!

Zhu Jin and his disciple couldn't help but curse.

Just now, when they were entangled by Jiang Yunkai and his partner, Ling Chen had already seized the opportunity to slip away. At this point, they had no idea where he had fled to, and it was impossible for them to catch up. Moreover, Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun were constantly keeping them locked on, leaving no chance for them to attend to anything else.

"Master, what should we do?"

Yi Shuiyan stood behind Zhu Jin with a steel saber in one hand, looking at the menacing Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun with a particularly ugly expression.

Zhu Jin's gaze shifted, and he said in a deep voice, "You stay here to hold them off, I'll go after Ling Chen. Hang tight, I'll call for someone to support you immediately."

Yi Shuiyan nodded and said, "Okay."

As Yi Shuiyan's voice fell, Zhu Jin's expression suddenly changed, looking at his own body in disbelief. Unknown to him, Yi Shuiyan's steel saber had already pierced through his abdomen, covered in fresh blood.

"Shuiyan, you..."

Yi Shuiyan said with a cold smirk, "Master, you wanted to leave me here to die while you make your escape, huh! Did you really think I would be so easily deceived? You are the Master, you are my elder, you should be taking care of your disciple. Don't worry, after you die, I will make sure the Dangyang Sect flourishes and will not fail your expectations."

"You..." Zhu Jin trembled, pointing at him with a deathly pale face, "You unfilial disciple, you dare to..."

"Enough, save your breath; might as well conserve your energy, you might still have a chance to escape." After saying that, Yi Shuiyan turned around and chased in the direction that Ling Chen had left.

Watching Yi Shuiyan's retreating figure, Zhu Jin tried to move his feet to follow, but the moment he moved, he aggravated the wound in his abdomen, causing unbearable pain.

Roar!

At this point, whether it was the smell of blood that provoked them or not, the eyes of Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun became more ferocious, and they stepped closer towards Zhu Jin.

"No... don't... don't kill me!"

Zhu Jin staggered backward, with blood dripping through his fingertips, drop by drop, onto the ground.

Roar!

Amid the roar, Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun simultaneously pounced, pinning Zhu Jin to the ground.

For a moment, the entire corridor was filled with Zhu Jin's screams.

...

Following the way back from the base, Ling Chen could only hear Liu Dongsheng's voice, "Mr. Ling, this way."

Ling Chen quickly hastened his pace, making his way over in a few quick steps. After meeting with everyone, Hu Fei glanced behind Ling Chen and asked, "Where are Kai and the others?"

Ling Chen shook his head, helplessly saying, "I found them, but I couldn't bring them out."

"Why?"

"They... I'm not sure what's happened to them, they're acting like wild beasts now, completely lost to their own nature. I was lucky to have escaped in time; otherwise, I would have lost my life to them."

"Forget it!" Hu Fei sighed and said, "Since it's like this, let's not worry about them for now. Oh, and I just received a message from Zhou Jun; he told us to evacuate as soon as possible."

"What about them?"

"The people from Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion and Secret Society will stay behind to cover our retreat. We don't need to worry about them."

"Then let's go."

Saying that, Ling Chen took Nanrong Wanqing from Kaelina's hands and quickly headed towards the outskirts of Yinan Village.

Reaching the parking spot, the group immediately got into the car, driving straight for Changling City.

However, just as they were about to leave the vicinity of Yinan Village, Ling Chen suddenly noticed several SUVs heading their way. Moreover, these vehicles were advancing in a fan-shaped formation, seemingly intending to block their path.

Chapter 592 Rescuing Wanqing

"That looks like... Tang Guoxiong's men." Hu Fei's complexion changed, and he hurriedly called out, "Elder Liu, don't let them surround us, run now."

Liu Dongsheng nodded and immediately shifted into reverse, pulling the car out from the encirclement of several off-road vehicles.

However, Tang Guoxiong had no intention of letting them go and kept driving the off-road vehicles in pursuit, relentlessly chasing after them.

Hu Fei could not help but curse, "Is that guy sick or something? Instead of going after the real bad guys, he's stubbornly targeting us."

Ling Chen glanced at the car window behind him and said, "I can't understand why those above would appoint such a person to watch over Lonely Wolf. He's ruined what was once a good organization."

Hu Fei looked around and his eyes suddenly lit up, he said with a mischievous grin, "Ling Chen, I say... why don't we take this opportunity to get rid of him for good? No one will know. What do you think?"

Upon hearing Hu Fei's suggestion, and you know what, Ling Chen was truly tempted for a moment.

But that was it, just tempted. He quickly dismissed the idea in his mind.

With so many members by Tang Guoxiong's side, eliminating the possibility of information leaking would require dealing with all of those men, something he definitely could not do.

"Boss Liu, find a way to shake them off."

"Okay." Liu Dongsheng responded with a nod, immediately flooring the accelerator.

Ling Chen was clear in his mind, if Tang Guoxiong knew he was in this car, he certainly wouldn't let the matter rest.

Liu Dongsheng was an excellent driver, and with the winding narrow roads surrounding Yinan Village that were in poor condition, it wasn't long before they had left those off-road vehicles far behind.

A little over two hours later, the group drove back to a hotel in Changling City.

Back in the hotel room, Ling Chen put Nanrong Wanqing on the bed and asked with concern, "How are you feeling, are you tired?"

Nanrong Wanqing spoke softly, "I'm fine, you've been tired for so long, you should rest early."

Ling Chen shook his head and said, "The people from Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion and Secret Society haven't returned yet, I need to wait for them." After speaking, Ling Chen looked at Nanrong Wanqing and asked, "During your time at the base, you really don't remember anything they did to you?"

"I have no recollection."

"Then forget it, you rest first, I'll go check the room next door."

"Mm."

Arriving at the room where Hu Fei and the others were staying, Ling Chen saw Liu Dongsheng and Kaelina, and everyone's expressions were rather grim. After all, although they had safely escaped back, Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun were left behind at the base, their fate uncertain, and it was unclear what they would face.

"Fatty."

Ling Chen went up to Hu Fei, pointed at Liu Dongsheng resting on the sofa, and asked softly, "Who is he, really?"

"Why do you ask that?"

"Just curious."

Hu Fei waved his hand and said, "You better not ask. I promised him I would never reveal his former identity."

Seeing him say this, Ling Chen no longer pressed on.

After waiting around in the room for about half an hour, Sang Ji, Zhou Qi, and Zhou Jun finally returned.

Fortunately, although everyone looked tired, no one was injured, and it was an escape with their whole bodies.

"Mr. Sang Ji, Elder Zhou, are all your people alright?" Ling Chen came forward and asked.

The operation had relied heavily on the help of Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion and Secret Society. Without their involvement, diverting a large number of enemies above, he would not have been able to infiltrate the base so easily and rescue Nanrong Wanqing.

"We're fine, just some minor injuries. Mr. Ling, has everyone been rescued?"

"There are two friends who couldn't be brought out." With that, Ling Chen recounted the situations they had encountered inside the base.

"Is that so?" Zhou Qi exclaimed in surprise.

Zhou Jun curiously asked, "What kind of experiment could turn a person into that? If it's really like what you said, isn't that too twisted? Who would be able to stand against the God Organization in the future?"

"That's what I'm thinking too. However, I believe that even though the experiment is twisted, the God Organization hasn't fully mastered it yet. Otherwise, Jiang Yunkai and the others wouldn't have ended up in that condition."

As they talked, Ling Chen thought of Nanrong Wanqing's father, Nanrong Yuan, who previously went by the alias Mr. Yun.

Undoubtedly, Nanrong Yuan had used some method to hide all the secret information he had grasped within Nanrong Wanqing. The God Organization must have found related information from her this time, which is why they were able to carry out such experiments.

However, since Nanrong Yuan was shot and has been in a coma since then, if he were to regain consciousness, he might be able to tell Ling Chen about the contents of those secrets.

"Regardless, at least Miss Nanrong has been rescued," Zhou Qi said. "Mr. Ling, if there's nothing else, we should leave now. I still have to report the situation here to the Pavilion Master."

"I will leave as well," said Sang Ji.

"Okay." Ling Chen nodded, said with cupped hands, "I deeply appreciate everyone's efforts this time. My thanks can't be expressed in words. If there's anything you need help with in the future, just ask, and I won't refuse."

"Don't mention it."

After some pleasantries, Ling Chen escorted Sang Ji and the others out of the room.

As soon as the door closed, Hu Fei immediately asked, "Why did you let them go? Kai and the others haven't been rescued yet. Are you really going to disregard their well-being?"

Ling Chen replied helplessly, "You think I want to let them leave? They've already done me a huge favor; I can't brazenly make more demands. Besides, to help rescue Wanqing, they even deployed a master from the Heavenly List. That they would do this much is already showing me great face. How could I have the nerve to ask them to stay?"

Liu Dongsheng chimed in, "Mr. Ling is right."

"What about Kai and the others?"

"We can only rely on ourselves now. Furthermore, the situation with Jiang Yunkai and the others is complex. Even if they are rescued, it's pointless if they can't return to normal. In my view, we must take things slowly and not rush. Fatty, start by finding a way to gather some information."

"Got it. I'll get on it right away."

"Miss Kaelina, Elder Liu, after dawn tomorrow, come with me for another visit to Yinan Village. With such a major incident tonight, the God Organization will certainly take some action. Perhaps we can find some clues at the scene."

"Okay." Kaelina and Liu Dongsheng both agreed.

After arranging everything, Ling Chen returned to his room alone.

Inside the room, Nanrong Wanqing sat quietly on the bed, not resting and lost in thought.

Hearing the door, Nanrong Wanqing lifted her head and saw Ling Chen walking towards her. She asked, "Did you already know who my father was?"

Ling Chen was slightly taken aback, not expecting Nanrong Wanqing to ask such a question.

Could it be... that she already knew Mr. Yun's true identity?

Chapter 593 Returning to Yinan Village

"Wanqing, I..." Ling Chen looked at Nanrong Wanqing, unsure of what to say for a moment.

"Why are you hiding it from me?"

Faced with Nanrong Wanqing's questioning, Ling Chen pondered for a moment before saying, "Wanqing, it's not that I intended to keep it from you, it's just...some things I fear you can't accept right away. After all, these matters are too complicated, you..."

"What about me? He's my father; shouldn't I know about his affairs?"

Seeing Nanrong Wanqing's growing agitation, Ling Chen took her small hand into his larger one and said, "I know you'll be angry with me, and I don't want to say that I did this for your own good. From my perspective, doing this seemed like the best approach, but I never considered your feelings, which is my mistake."

"My father...where is he? Can you take me to see him?"

"This..." Ling Chen hesitated for a moment and then, shaking his head, said, "It's better not to see him for now. He was injured last time and is still recovering. I'll take you to see him once he's all better."

"Injured?" Nanrong Wanqing asked anxiously, "Is it serious?"

"Don't worry, it's nothing major."

Ling Chen did not dare tell Nanrong Wanqing the truth, for fear she would worry. Nanrong Yuan's condition was highly unstable at present, and there was a very real possibility he would become vegetative. Furthermore, Nanrong Yuan was being watched and supervised by Lonely Wolf. Previously, he could visit Nanrong Yuan at Lonely Wolf's convenience, but not anymore.

Now that the old General had violated military rules, even Han Bing and Tang Yuan had been captured, and Lonely Wolf had become a force controlled solely by Tang Guoxiong. He could no longer enter as easily as before.

"Ling Chen, tell me... why won't my dad acknowledge me?" Nanrong Wanqing lowered her head, playing with the hem of her clothes, her delicate face tinged with worry.

Seeing her like this, Ling Chen fully understood her thoughts and reassured her, "Don't overthink it; I can tell you that your father has always cared about you. In his heart, he's always seen you as his cherished daughter; he told me this himself. It's just that for some personal reasons, he's afraid of implicating you, so he dares not acknowledge you."

Hearing this, Nanrong Wanqing's frown relaxed considerably.

"Ling Chen, since you're so close to my dad, tell me, is he a good person or a bad person?"

"This...I believe that whether he is good or bad, to you, he remains your father; that's an unchangeable fact. You don't need to think too much, just remember that he is your father." Before Nanrong Wanqing could say anything more, Ling Chen continued, "Alright, stop worrying so much. Get some rest now, we have a lot to do tomorrow."

After getting Nanrong Wanqing to sleep, Ling Chen leaned back against the headboard, looking down at the sleeping Nanrong Wanqing cradled in his arms, his clear eyes filled with affection.

Nanrong Yuan...such a headache!

Ling Chen sighed internally. With what Nanrong Yuan had done, even if he didn't die, he would have to spend the rest of his life in jail.

There was no way around it, consequences must follow mistakes.

The next day.

Early in the morning, Ling Chen drove Nanrong Wanqing to the airport in Changling City.

At that moment, Nanrong Hao and Jiang Hao were both waiting at the airport. Last night, Ling Chen called Nanrong Hao last-minute to have them come to Changling City early to take Nanrong Wanqing back home.

There were still unresolved matters in Changling City, so Ling Chen had to stay. Currently, Nanrong Wanqing's legs were not mobile, and with no spare manpower to look after her, sending her back to East Sea City was the best choice.

After meeting with Nanrong Hao and Jiang Hao at the airport, Ling Chen gave them a few words of caution. Only after watching them enter the departure gate did Ling Chen turn to leave, heading back to the hotel.

Before eight o'clock in the morning, Hu Fei and his group had already made preparations to depart.

Hu Fei, adept at computer use, remained in the hotel to provide information support for Ling Chen and his companions.

Once again arriving outside Yinan Village, Ling Chen parked the car and, along with Liu Dongsheng and Kaelina, walked towards a nearby hillside. Surveying the landscape, he took in the entire village at a glance.

Looking around, the traces of last night's battle could still be seen throughout the village, visible everywhere. However, there were no bodies to be seen, leaving one to wonder who had taken care of them. Furthermore, outside Yinan Village, Ling Chen also spotted over ten patrolling men in suits, all members of the Lonely Wolf.

Since Lonely Wolf's men were here, it meant that God Organization had already evacuated.

After observing for a while, Ling Chen pointed to the burnt bamboo grove next to Yinan Village and said, "Let's go in and take a look."

"I'll stay outside," Kaelina suggested. "This way, I can notify you if there's any special situation."

Ling Chen nodded and slid down the hillside. In no time, the two of them managed to avoid the patrolling men in suits and reached the entrance to the base.

After last night's fire, the bamboo grove surrounding the entrance had been turned to ashes, with burned debris everywhere, concealing the entrance. Ling Chen took a quick look and mentally noted "good." Tang Guoxiong and his men probably hadn't discovered this base's location yet, as there were no signs of anyone entering or exiting.

Lifting the steel plate, Ling Chen took the lead and entered the base through the entrance.

Walking through the quiet corridors, Ling Chen looked around carefully, not daring to be careless, not knowing if any danger remained.

Along the way, Ling Chen encountered quite a few bodies, lying in all positions in the corridors, some still breathing faintly. However, as soon as Ling Chen lifted them up to ask questions, those people breathed their last.

"Mr. Ling, look over there."

Suddenly, Liu Dongsheng noticed something and called out.

Ling Chen turned his head and his expression changed immediately. To his surprise, he found a severely mutilated corpse lying ahead. However, from the clothes and facial features, Ling Chen could still recognize the person's identity.

Zhu Jin!

Sect Leader of the Dangyang Sect.

He was actually dead... Ling Chen was astonished.

Looking at the ferocious wounds left on his body, they likely resulted from the attacks of Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun.

Eh!

What's this?

Suddenly, the sharp-eyed Ling Chen noticed a neat wound on Zhu Jin's abdomen, one that didn't seem to be caused by brute force, but by a sharp weapon.

Judging by the size of the wound and the surrounding marks, Ling Chen unconsciously thought of the steel knife used by Yi Shuiyan, as the size of the wound matched the blade perfectly.

Moreover, with Ling Chen's medical experience, this wound was the fatal one. The other injuries were mostly inflicted after Zhu Jin died.

Tsk tsk!

Who would have thought that Zhu Jin was betrayed by his own disciple?

Immediately, Ling Chen took out his cell phone and photographed Zhu Jin's body. Seeing his actions, Liu Dongsheng asked in confusion, "Mr. Ling, what are you doing?"

"Collecting evidence," Ling Chen replied offhandedly.

Chapter 594 Trapped in the Base

After taking photos of the corpse, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng continued to move forward, first visiting the main control room and finding, as expected, that it was deserted with all hard drives destroyed and devices shut down.

Having spent over half an hour, the two searched the entire base but found no clues, including the whereabouts of Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun. However, this gave Ling Chen some relief.

No bodies of Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun were found in the base, which suggested they were still alive and had likely been taken away by the God Organization.

Although Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun had mutated, the God Organization also had a master from the Heavenly List, Ji Gang. Capturing Jiang Yunkai and the rest was not difficult with him involved.

Watching Ling Chen searching everywhere, Liu Dongsheng asked, "Mr. Ling, what are you looking for?"

"A secret passage," Ling Chen explained. "Last night when we left, Tang Guoxiong's people had just arrived, if the God Organization's people evacuated at that time, they would definitely run into Tang Guoxiong's men. However, as we've seen, Tang Guoxiong's subordinates are all unharmed, untouched by any attacks, yet everyone from this base has vanished. It's clear, there must be a secret passage in this base leading somewhere else. If we can find the location of this passage, perhaps we can trace where Jiang Yunkai and the others have gone."

Hearing this, Liu Dongsheng looked at the time and said, "It's still early, how about we split up and search, to save some time."

Ling Chen nodded: "Sounds good, just be careful on your own."

After separating from Liu Dongsheng, Ling Chen returned to the main control room. Looking at all the unused equipment, Ling Chen suddenly remembered the key he had snatched from the main control room the day before.

Immediately, he searched his pocket, found the key, walked over to a device, inserted it, and gently turned it. Instantly, all the computers in the control room turned on and data went back online.

Heh!

Ling Chen smiled secretly to himself, surprised that this key had such a function to control all the equipment in the main control room.

Little did he know, this key not only controlled the base's defense system but also activated the entire base's backup power supply, serving as a contingency measure.

As the machinery all started up, Ling Chen took out his cellphone and dialed Hu Fei's number—this kind of thing still relied on Hu Fei.

Following Hu Fei's instructions, Ling Chen set up the network, allowing Hu Fei to remotely control these devices. Once the connection was successful, Ling Chen lifted his hands from the keyboard. Now, everything was under Hu Fei's control to see if he could find any useful clues.

Minutes passed, and Hu Fei's voice came from the loudspeaker in the main control room: "Ling Chen, those guys erased all the data before they left, no useful information was found."

"There should be an escape route in this base, can you help me find it?"

"Hold on."

A moment later, Hu Fei's voice came again: "I'm afraid I'll have to disappoint you, I've searched the entire facility of the base and there are no escape routes." He paused, then added, "I can be hundred percent certain."

Impossible!

Ling Chen internally frowned. With so many staff at this base, they couldn't have vanished into thin air; there must be another way out.

"Fatty, please check again carefully, maybe you missed something," Ling Chen said unwillingly.

"I've checked it three times already."

While talking, Ling Chen's cell phone suddenly rang.

Taking out his phone, Ling Chen saw it was Kaelina calling—he quickly answered, asking, "What's wrong?"

"Tang Guoxiong has arrived, he brought a large force and is now searching that bamboo forest."

"Can we still get out?"

"I'm afraid there's no chance now, they've already found the entrance to the base. You better find a place to hide, they have more people and firepower, don't confront them directly."

"Understood."

After hanging up, Ling Chen immediately contacted Liu Dongsheng to have him get to the main control room quickly. When Liu Dongsheng arrived, Ling Chen watched through the surveillance footage as Tang Guoxiong brought his people, and couldn't help but frown.

It seemed Tang Guoxiong had requested local support, bringing several members of the Flying Tiger Team, all fully armed, together with the unregistered personnel of Lonely Wolf, totaling around forty to fifty people.

"They are about to reach the main control room," Liu Dongsheng said in a solemn voice.

Ling Chen nodded, hesitating for a moment, then put his hand on a red button and pressed it lightly downwards. In a flash, the entire base's defense system was reactivated, with thick explosion-proof doors descending and sealing all core areas of the base.

"All set."

Watching Tang Guoxiong and the others being blocked outside, Ling Chen breathed a sigh of relief. Regardless, at least they were temporarily safe.

"Hey! Ling Chen, have you gone mad? The base's defense setup has been triggered, they can't get in, and you can't think of getting out either. Do you really want to be trapped in there forever?"

Hearing Hu Fei's voice coming through, Ling Chen replied, "What else can we do? They're so many and well equipped, we can't just confront them head-on. This base should have plenty of food and water archived, don't worry about us. Oh! Fatty, contact Kaelina and see if she can come up with a plan to lure Tang Guoxiong and his men away."

"Okay."

More than ten minutes later, Hu Fei's voice came through the loudspeaker of the main control room again: "Ling Chen, things might have gotten complicated."

"What happened?"

"I've just received a message from Miss Kaelina, the military has stationed in Yinan Village."

"The military?" Ling Chen's heart sank.

"Fatty, how many people have come?"

"I'm not exactly sure, but Miss Kaelina said it's not less than two hundred people, even armored vehicles were brought in. Look, Ling Chen, you probably can't leave from there anymore."

Ling Chen pondered for a moment and asked, "Is there any surveillance connected to the outside here?"

"Yes."

As soon as Hu Fei finished speaking, a screen displayed a scene with more than ten military trucks slowly arriving and stopping around Yinan Village. Then, soldiers in uniforms carrying weapons began jumping down from the trucks.

As these soldiers arrived, everyone immediately got busy, setting up tents and establishing a temporary command post. In just over ten minutes, Yinan Village had turned into a temporary military zone, with strict guards and sentinels around.

This is bad!

Ling Chen frowned. With the military stationing in Yinan Village, the base would definitely be tightly controlled, and by then, they wouldn't have any chance of leaving.

"Ling Chen, what do we do now?"

"Let Kaelina go back and meet up with you, make sure Tang Guoxiong doesn't find her. We'll stay here for now and see if there's any chance to escape."

Chapter 595 Small Harvest

Ling Chen was indeed a bit frustrated. He originally came to search for the whereabouts of Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun, but who knew he would encounter such an incident, resulting in being trapped inside the base.

"Ling Chen."

Hearing Hu Fei's voice, Ling Chen asked, "What is it?"

"The signal corps outside is searching for the base's channel. They probably want to talk to you. Should I patch the signal through?"

"Go ahead, I want to hear what they have to say."

It wasn't long before Tang Guoxiong's voice came through the loudspeaker of the control room:
"Everyone inside, come out and surrender immediately, and I can ensure your safety."

Ling Chen shook his head and smiled wryly, signaling Liu Dongsheng to respond. He had had dealings with Tang Guoxiong before, and the other party would definitely recognize his voice, so it was safer to let Liu Dongsheng do the talking.

Taking the cue from Ling Chen, Liu Dongsheng said, "What if we refuse to surrender?"

"Then you'll never get out."

"No problem, if we can't get out, you can't get in either."

"Fine, I will let you know what it's like to oppose me." After speaking, Tang Guoxiong angrily cut off the communication.

"Boss Liu, let's rest for a while. It looks like we can't leave for the time being," Ling Chen said.

Exiting the control room, Ling Chen walked around. As expected, in a spacious room, he found a large supply of water and food, enough to last them two or three months.

After the activation of the base's defense system, the core areas were sealed off, including the control room, the laboratory, and an equipment management room. Inside there were not only weapons but also a variety of equipment.

As Ling Chen was browsing, his eyes suddenly lit up. Among the pile of equipment, he actually found the Tianling Blade. The God Organization had confiscated it back at the backup base, and he hadn't been able to retrieve it. He never expected them to transport the Tianling Blade here, a pleasant surprise indeed.

Besides the Tianling Blade, he also found He Ziyun's steel sword.

Finally, there was a suitable weapon at hand.

After securing the Tianling Blade, Ling Chen, holding He Ziyun's steel sword, headed straight back to the control room.

Just after taking a seat, Hu Fei's voice came through the speaker: "Ling Chen, we have a problem."

"What's the problem?"

"Someone has entered the system just now."

Hearing this, Ling Chen sat up straight and asked, "Are you sure?"

"There's no mistake," Hu Fei stated. "I've taken over the entire base system and set up three layers of firewalls. If someone was to break in, I would definitely notice. However, I just checked, and there is no trace of firewall intrusion."

"Then how did the other party get into the system?"

"If it was via remote network, they couldn't bypass the firewalls I set up unless they connected through the internal network."

"Internal network?" A thought occurred to Ling Chen, and he said, "You mean... there are other people inside this base aside from the two of us?"

"Exactly."

"Impossible." Liu Dongsheng chimed in, "We've already searched and found no one. The base is only so big; we couldn't have missed anyone."

"Nothing is absolute. It's best that you check again," Hu Fei reminded them.

"Okay, I got it."

Ending the call, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng searched again, leaving no corner unchecked. But after more than half an hour, they still found nothing. Not a person, not even a ghost shadow.

"Mr. Ling, could Mr. Hu be mistaken?" Said Liu Dongsheng.

Ling Chen thought for a moment and responded, "The fatty is always meticulous; he shouldn't make a mistake." As he spoke, a glint flashed in Ling Chen's eyes, and he quickly returned to the control room.

Seeing Ling Chen take down a fire ax from the wall, Liu Dongsheng asked puzzledly, "Mr. Ling, what are you doing?"

Without a word, Ling Chen went straight to the side of the wire box in the control room, then raised the ax in his hand and chopped down fiercely.

Bang!

The cover of the wire box was immediately smashed by the ax, revealing all the wires inside.

Ling Chen dropped the ax and crouched in front of the wire box, pulling out the wires one by one to differentiate them. Seizing the opportunity, he explained to Liu Dongsheng, "Hu Fei just mentioned that the intruder used the internal network to enter the base's system. If it's an internal network, it must be through a wired connection. All the lines in the control room converge here; if we can find the right cable, we can trace it back to the person who infiltrated the system."

Liu Dongsheng pointed to the wires in the box and said, "These cables are buried in the walls, how are we supposed to find them?"

"We have plenty of time, let's search slowly; there's no rush."

For the next half-day, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng busied themselves sorting out the cables, looking for the ends of each one. Although those cables were buried in the walls, with the help of an ax, Ling Chen saved himself a lot of trouble.

In one afternoon, Ling Chen cleared five cables, all of which were ruled out as suspects.

"Mr. Ling, look at this."

Hearing Liu Dongsheng's voice, Ling Chen approached the screen and raised his eyebrows slightly at the image on the monitor.

In the surveillance footage, Tang Guoxiong was seen leading more than a dozen soldiers, transporting a machine into the base. The machine was equipped with a huge drill bit, and by their demeanor, they were obviously planning to bore through the explosion-proof steel plates of the base.

"Fatty, do you hear me?"

"I'm here, what's up?"

"The machine they are using, is it possible for it to drill through the steel plates?"

Hu Fei calculated for a moment on the other end and replied, "Sure, it can definitely drill through. But the protection devices in the base are made of special materials, very sturdy. By my estimate, they will need at least two to three days to get through."

Ling Chen frowned; he was originally planning to hold out in a war of attrition against Tang Guoxiong. It seemed now that their time was very limited.

...

For the next two days, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng were busy trying to find that person who had infiltrated the system.

After several consecutive ax chops, a crack immediately opened in the wall. Liu Dongsheng grabbed the cable and pulled with force, dragging it out from inside the wall.

"Mr. Ling, there seems to be something wrong with the arrangement of this cable."

Ling Chen nodded; he also noticed the issue. This cable stretched towards the end of the corridor, where there was no room, just a wall. Installing a cable here seemed quite superfluous.

After two days of hard work, there was finally some yield.

The two of them dug along the cable all the way forward. At the end of the corridor, the cable suddenly changed direction, heading straight down underground.

Seeing this, Ling Chen's gaze brightened, and he said with a smile, "Boss Liu, it seems my guess was not wrong. There is a secret passage hidden inside this base; those people must have escaped through here."

Chapter 596 The True Base

Having located the spot, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng searched the vicinity but found no mechanisms; even when they chopped at the walls with an axe, no hidden devices appeared.

Seeing this, Ling Chen spat on his hands and rubbed them together, then said to Liu Dongsheng: "Boss Liu, let's not waste our energy searching anymore; let's just go in forcefully."

Liu Dongsheng nodded, ran to a nearby spot, grabbed a fire axe, and joined Ling Chen in action. In no time, the floor was riddled with countless cracks.

As the cracks grew, the floor began to cave in.

Clang!

Suddenly, a crisp sound reached Ling Chen's ears. Hearing it, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng immediately stopped chopping and crouched down on the floor, peering inside. Instantly, they saw a thick steel plate under the floor. With such a thick steel plate equipped at the bottom of the floor, it was hard for anyone to believe there wasn't something amiss.

"Ling Chen!"

At this moment, Hu Fei's voice came through the speakers in the passage: "How are things on your side?"

Ling Chen smiled and said, "We should have found the secret passage of the God Organization."

"You better hurry up; Tang Guoxiong and his group will be able to drill through the blast-proof steel plate in at most an hour."

Hearing Hu Fei's reminder, Ling Chen dropped the axe in his hand and said to Liu Dongsheng, "Boss Liu, you wait here, I'll be right back." After saying this, Ling Chen quickly ran to the equipment storage room at the base.

Fortunately, the base had a lot of stored equipment of various kinds. In no time, Ling Chen found some suitable weapons and hurried back to Liu Dongsheng.

"Detonating caps, fuses, bullets..." Liu Dongsheng took them one by one and said, "Mr. Ling, let me handle this."

Ling Chen looked at Liu Dongsheng with some surprise; he had initially wanted to do it himself, but Liu Dongsheng was eager to take over. Ling Chen had searched the entire equipment storage room earlier and hadn't found any plastic explosives, so they had to make a temporary one.

Now, Liu Dongsheng pulled the bullets out of their casings and slowly poured out the gunpowder, a little adding up. Then, he found some suitable steel pipes, poured the gunpowder into them, and then connected the fuses and detonating caps properly. His calm and composed demeanor clearly showed his extensive experience.

In less than half an hour, four bombs were made.

Liu Dongsheng placed each of the bombs in the four corners of the steel plate, and once everything was set up, the two immediately retreated to more than twenty meters away.

Boom!

A loud explosion followed, and the ground was immediately engulfed in flames. Even at twenty meters away, Ling Chen could still feel the blast of the explosion.

As the flames dissipated and the passage filled with thick smoke, the air was tainted with the acrid smell of gunpowder.

Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng quickly approached the sunken floor, only to see that the steel plate at the bottom had blown open a hole. Though the hole wasn't large, it was just big enough to fit an adult.

"I'll go down first." After speaking, Ling Chen carefully squeezed through the gap and jumped down.

Ten seconds later, having received Ling Chen's signal, Liu Dongsheng immediately followed.

After passing through the gap, Liu Dongsheng walked up to Ling Chen, glanced around at the surroundings, and asked, "Mr. Ling, is this place..."

Before Liu Dongsheng could finish, Ling Chen shot him a deep look, corners of his mouth carrying a faint smile, and said with an underlying meaning, "Boss Liu, we might have hit the jackpot."

"Hit the jackpot?" Liu Dongsheng was stunned for a moment, not immediately grasping Ling Chen's implication.

Ling Chen pointed to the passages ahead and behind, as well as the walls on both sides, and said, "I originally thought this place was an escape tunnel for the base, but now it seems, this place is probably more than just that. Look at these walls, all built with steel plates, whether the ground or other places,

all meticulously laid out. If this were merely an escape route, would there be a need to make it this elaborate?"

"You mean..." Liu Dongsheng suddenly seemed to realize something, his eyes flashing with surprise.

"Below here is the true base of the God Organization; the surface is just a disguise," said Ling Chen.

Truthfully, Ling Chen admired the people of the God Organization for being able to construct such a massive building beneath this. It must have taken an enormous amount of manpower and resources. If they hadn't stumbled upon this place by mistake, no one would have suspected that the real base was actually hidden below. No wonder they had not discovered where those people had gone before; it turned out they had all run down here.

"Boss Liu, let's be careful."

Liu Dongsheng nodded, and followed Ling Chen as they walked forward into the passageway.

After about several tens of meters, a large door appeared at the end of the passage. Liu Dongsheng glanced at it several times, then suddenly stopped, saying, "I remember this place."

Hearing this, Ling Chen expressed surprise: "You remember?"

"If I'm not mistaken, our current location should be underneath that mountain."

Mountain?

Upon Liu Dongsheng's reminder, Ling Chen immediately recalled. Yinan Village was built against a mountain, and that mountain peak was right underneath them.

To think they'd built the base inside a mountain.

Ling Chen inwardly clicked his tongue, gaining a deeper understanding of the vast power of the God Organization.

Arriving at the door, Liu Dongsheng knocked here and there, then pulled out several pieces of wire, inserting them through the door's gap. It wasn't long before a soft sound came from inside the door. Immediately after, Liu Dongsheng stuck his hands into the door gap and forcefully pushed both sides, causing the door to open immediately.

Passing through the door, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng stood in a spacious, brightly-lit corridor, their eyes showing a trace of astonishment as they looked at the transparent glass on both sides.

Behind that transparent glass stood numerous containers, each about two meters tall, filled with a light yellow liquid. Within the liquid, soaked various oddly shaped people, mostly deformed, giving off a rather disgusting feel.

"What is this?" Liu Dongsheng asked.

"These are probably failed experiments," Ling Chen frowned, puzzled why the people of the God Organization would place these things at the entrance. Could the head of this base be a pervert?

In the midst of his rapid thoughts, Ling Chen suddenly heard footsteps not far away.

Without a moment's hesitation, Ling Chen and Liu Dongsheng quickly ran to a corner, concealing their tracks. Before long, several men and women in white coats passed by. Each was holding a document, walking and chatting, discussing something with excited expressions.

Watching these people walk away, Ling Chen stood up, looking at the backs of those in white coats, his face displaying a serious expression.

When those people had passed by moments ago, Ling Chen had faintly heard the content of their conversation, which seemed to be related to Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun. It was evident that both Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun had been brought here.

Chapter 597 False Identity

Looking at Ling Chen, who was deep in thought and silent, Liu Dongsheng asked, "Mr. Ling, what should we do next?"

"Jiang Yunkai and his group are all here; we've found the right place, but..." At this point, a trace of worry appeared in Ling Chen's clear pupils.

"But what?"

"Boss Liu, you don't need to come in with me later. Tang Guoxiong and his people will soon destroy the protection devices above the base. It won't be long before they discover this place. Find a safe place to hide, and once Tang Guoxiong enters here, look for an opportunity to escape."

"What about you?"

"I'll stay behind to see if there's any chance to rescue Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun."

Liu Dongsheng shook his head and said, "How can that be acceptable?"

Ling Chen patted Liu Dongsheng's shoulder and seriously said, "Boss Liu, you've already been a great help to me. There's no need for you to take risks with me. Follow my arrangement; if things become impossible, I'll find a way to escape."

It wasn't that Ling Chen looked down on Liu Dongsheng's abilities, but rather he was considering Liu Dongsheng's safety. Since this was God Organization's main base, Ji Gang and the members of the Danyang Sect surely were here. The Danyang Sect was one thing, but the main concern was Ji Gang. With a master from the Heavenly List present, Ling Chen wasn't very confident. Hence, he didn't want to drag Liu Dongsheng into a risky situation.

"Alright then."

Seeing that Ling Chen was adamant, Liu Dongsheng didn't insist, but he cautioned, "Be careful yourself."

After Liu Dongsheng left the way they came, Ling Chen immediately walked towards the direction of the several people in white lab coats. Passing through a door, he stealthily slipped into an unoccupied office. Seeing several white lab coats hanging on the wall, he casually pulled one on, then put on a face mask and picked up a file folder to carry in his hand.

After disguising himself, Ling Chen opened the door and continued walking further inside.

Before long, Ling Chen saw an elevator not far away. Since the main base was built inside the mountain, it definitely had more than one floor.

However, there were two security guards by the elevator; to enter, one must pass their identity check.

As the distance between him and the two security guards closed, Ling Chen looked around, constantly thinking of a plan in his mind. Suddenly, his sharp eyes noticed a surveillance camera beside the elevator. If he were to use force, it would definitely expose his movements.

Having come this far, turning back now would only arouse suspicion from the two guards.

Sure enough, when Ling Chen arrived at the elevator entrance, the two security guards immediately reached out to stop him, signaling for him to take off his mask for inspection.

Ling Chen glanced at the surveillance camera in the corner, feeling hesitant for the moment. If he took action by force, once his movements were exposed, he would definitely be pursued by Ji Gang.

Just as Ling Chen was at a loss, a piercing alarm suddenly rang out in the base.

What's going on?

Before Ling Chen could react, a voice sounded through the base's broadcast, "All scientific personnel, please immediately proceed to the third-floor laboratory, I repeat, all scientific personnel, please immediately proceed to the third-floor laboratory."

Accompanied by the urgent voice, a burst of footsteps came from afar, quickly approaching from behind.

Ling Chen turned to look and saw three or four scientific personnel in white lab coats hastily arriving at the elevator entrance, pressing the elevator button directly.

"Zhang He, what are you standing there for? Hurry up and get in."

One of the scientists in a white lab coat saw Ling Chen standing there dumbfounded and couldn't help but urge him.

Zhang He?

Hearing this unfamiliar name, Ling Chen was slightly startled. However, in just a second, he recovered from his stupor. The white lab coat he was wearing had an ID badge attached to it, which had the name 'Zhang He' written on it prominently.

Immediately, Ling Chen swiftly responded and squeezed past the two security guards into the elevator. Perhaps due to the emergency situation, the two security guards only gave Ling Chen a glance without hindering him.

As the elevator doors closed, Ling Chen secretly breathed a sigh of relief, happy that his luck held and his identity wasn't exposed.

Inside the elevator, several researchers were discussing the possible emergency situation, but Ling Chen remained silent, afraid that speaking up would give his identity away.

"Zhang He, why aren't you saying anything?"

Despite that, Ling Chen's odd behavior still drew the attention of the others.

Seeing everyone's gaze on him, Ling Chen deliberately lowered his voice, disguising his tone: "I've caught a cold, my throat is a bit sore."

"Take care of yourself," one of the researchers kindly advised. "After we finish up here, make sure to get some rest. Don't wear yourself down."

Ling Chen nodded and fell silent again.

Ding!

As the elevator reached its destination, Ling Chen followed behind the group, moving toward the laboratory with careful steps.

However, when the group arrived at the entrance to the laboratory, they were stopped by several security guards.

"Wait outside for now. The situation inside is very dangerous. We'll let you in after we've handled it."

During this exchange, more than ten fully armed security guards arrived at the laboratory entrance and filed in. Ling Chen noticed that instead of lethal weapons, the guards were all carrying stun batons.

After the guards entered the laboratory, before long there were intermittent 'thump, thump' sounds as if something was smashing against the walls.

The chaos lasted for about ten minutes before the laboratory gradually quieted down.

At that moment, a few guards reached out through their wireless earpieces for updates and immediately opened the laboratory door, rushing in. Soon after, they were seen carrying several horrifically mutilated bodies out of the laboratory.

Ling Chen glanced at them, frowning slightly—the bodies were those of the same security personnel who had entered the lab with stun batons. Their deaths were extremely gruesome, covered in blood, some with their heads blown apart, indicating just how terrible the situation inside must have been.

"Alright, you can go in now."

Given permission by the security personnel, Ling Chen immediately followed the group in white coats into the laboratory.

Upon entering, his gaze was immediately drawn to Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun.

Just as he expected, they were indeed trapped here.

At this moment, both Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun had their hands and feet tied up with ropes, secured to the ground. However, due to their immense strength, they were continuously struggling, compelling the security guards to occasionally shock them with stun batons, attempting to keep them subdued.

"Zhang He, quickly administer the sedatives to them, and don't be stingy with the dosage."

Hearing the voice of one of the researchers, Ling Chen didn't say another word, and swiftly went to the medicine cabinet, taking out two bottles of sedative and syringes.

Fortunately, he had learned some medical skills before, so he was familiar with these simple procedures, and thus, no one suspected his identity.

After administering the sedatives, Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun finally calmed down and fell into a deep sleep.

Chapter 598 Return to the Long Province

With the help of several security personnel, everyone moved Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun back onto the bed. They were originally secured with belts, but considering their abnormal strength, chains were used instead to tightly bind their hands and feet to prevent them from breaking free again.

"Alright, there's nothing for you here now."

A person in a white lab coat waved their hand, signaling for all the security personnel in the laboratory to withdraw.

When only a few researchers remained in the laboratory, Ling Chen visibly relaxed. He glanced at the others and asked, "What exactly is going on with these two?"

"They are the first batch of test subjects. The experiment was still in its preliminary exploration phase and wasn't fully successful, but the higher-ups insisted on trying it out, which resulted in creating two monsters. However, although their minds are greatly affected, their bodies hold significant research value. As long as we identify the cause of their mutations and make improvements, we can perfect our experimental procedures and produce successful test subjects."

After listening to one of the researchers, Ling Chen nodded slightly, then inquired, "Is there a chance they can revert to their original state?"

That was the real concern for him; he didn't want his friends to remain monsters forever.

"This will require further research; we can't come to a conclusion just yet. However, as long as we find the cause, any mutant can be restored to their original state." The researcher then said, "Zhang He, don't ask too many questions for now, draw some blood samples from them and run some tests, and show me the results later."

"Alright." Ling Chen complied, drawing several milliliters of fresh blood from Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun as instructed.

After pretending to be busy for a while, Ling Chen walked straight to the laboratory door and stepped out.

"What are you doing?" asked a security officer outside.

Ling Chen pointed towards the nearby restroom without saying a word. Seeing this, the security let him pass and Ling Chen proceeded to the restroom.

Once inside the empty restroom, Ling Chen took off his mask and washed his face with cold water.

Although he had used Zhang He's identity to deceive many, that identity wouldn't last long. As soon as the real Zhang He showed up, he would be immediately exposed, which is why he hurried out of the laboratory to avoid being surrounded.

Having located Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun, he now just needed to find an escape route to rescue them.

While pondering, Ling Chen took out his cellphone and checked the time; half an hour had passed. With the efficiency of Tang Guoxiong and his team, they should soon discover this main base.

Once they arrived and diverted the attention of Ji Gang and the base's security personnel, he would be able to take action.

Thinking this, Ling Chen found Hu Fei's phone number and dialed it. However, it seemed that the main base had blocked the signal, and his cellphone could not connect.

Nevermind!

He put away his phone and found a stall in the restroom where he could calmly wait for the right moment.

...

Ten minutes passed in the blink of an eye.

People came and went in the restroom, but no one noticed Ling Chen hiding in the stall.

Bang!

Suddenly, a loud noise came from below.

Following that, the main base's alarms flared brightly, and a piercing sound filled the air.

They're finally here!

Sitting on the toilet seat, Ling Chen's eyes brightened, and he got up and walked to the restroom entrance, sneakily peering outside.

At that moment, outside the laboratory, several anxious security personnel were urging the researchers to evacuate quickly. Soon, the researchers in white lab coats were seen pushing the beds carrying Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun out of the laboratory. Under the escort of several security officers, the group hurried towards the freight elevator.

Trying to leave?

Ling Chen's lips curled up into a faint smile. Immediately, he put his mask back on, quickly followed them, and rushed into the freight elevator.

"Is it you again?"

At this moment, one of the researchers pointed at Ling Chen and started shouting, "It's him impersonating Zhang He."

"You're pretending to be me? Quick, arrest him."

Hearing the shouts, Ling Chen finally noticed the presence of a strange man. So that was Zhang He!

Seeing several security officers rushing towards him, Ling Chen didn't hesitate and swung his fists forcefully. It took less than ten seconds to take down all the security inside the freight elevator.

In an instant, the researchers looked at Ling Chen fearfully, huddling in a corner, their faces pale, and not daring to move an inch.

"Everyone stay put, and you might just spare your lives."

As he finished speaking, the freight elevator reached the bottom floor. As the doors opened, Ling Chen gestured for the researchers to move Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun out of the elevator, saying, "You should know the evacuation route, lead the way. And remember, don't try any tricks."

The researchers meekly complied, not daring to say a word, and hurriedly moved ahead through the hallway.

With the researchers leading the way, Ling Chen saved a lot of time and hassle. After a few minutes in the corridor, the group arrived at a garage.

Ling Chen scanned the area and walked directly to a Jeep Grand Cherokee. He opened the door, found the keys were still in the ignition, and the fuel tank was full.

"Put them in the back seat."

Under Ling Chen's direction, the researchers promptly moved Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun into the car.

"You!" Ling Chen pointed at the man called Zhang He and said, "You sit in the passenger seat."

"Me?"

"That's right, you. Less talking, hurry up and get in."

Hearing Ling Chen's impatient urging, Zhang He dared not hesitate and reluctantly sat in the passenger seat.

"You guys find your own way to escape."

After speaking, Ling Chen got into the car, started the engine, and drove straight ahead. With Zhang He directing the way, Ling Chen didn't take long to successfully escape the main base and arrived a kilometer north of Yinan Village.

There was a wild forest here, and the main base's escape tunnel was built inside it.

Upon leaving the tunnel, Ling Chen took out his phone and called Liu Dongsheng to check on the situation on his side. Fortunately, just as he had arranged, Liu Dongsheng had slipped away when Tang Guoxiong led a raid on the main base.

After hanging up, Ling Chen parked the car behind a hillside. After waiting for a few minutes, Liu Dongsheng quickly ran over from behind the hillside, opened the passenger door, and dragged Zhang He out.

Once in the car, Liu Dongsheng glanced at the back seat where Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun were lying, his eyes brightened, and his previously furrowed brows finally relaxed.

"Let's go."

Ling Chen nodded and immediately drove the SUV towards Changling City.

Although the mission encountered some delays, overall, it was smooth, and fortunately, no one was lost. However, the situation with Tang Guoxiong was uncertain.

Chapter 599 Pang Jiuling's Phone Call

Returning to Changling City, Ling Chen brought Liu Dongsheng, Hu Fei, and Kaelina to meet up, and the four of them switched to a single vehicle, taking Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun with them as they headed along the highway towards East Sea City.

Before departing, Ling Chen specifically instructed Hu Fei to prepare a large quantity of sedatives to prevent Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun from regaining consciousness during the trip. With their current clouded minds, if they were to wake up, it was unknown how much trouble they could cause.

After more than ten hours of driving, Ling Chen and his companions finally reached East Sea City.

Without regard for their fatigue, Ling Chen drove straight to the Old City area. When they arrived at the courier company, Jiang Hao had already been waiting with his men at the entrance.

After getting out of the car, everyone helped to carry Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun down, passing through the courier company, all the way to the backyard.

"Jiang Hao, have you prepared everything I asked you to?" Ling Chen inquired.

"Chen, rest assured. After receiving your call yesterday, I arranged for people to dig a big pit overnight. It's been lined with soundproof panels and should suffice for temporary use," Jiang Hao assured.

Ling Chen nodded; he had confidence in Jiang Hao's ability to get things done.

In the center of the courtyard was a two-meter wide hole, with a ladder placed inside. Around the hole, there were piles of freshly dug earth.

With the help of Liu Dongsheng and Kaelina, Ling Chen gradually moved Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun into the hole. At the bottom of the hole was a roughly thirty-square-meter space, the floor covered with wooden boards, and soundproof panels erected all around, creating a closed-off room.

In one corner of the room, there were two makeshift beds put together.

Ling Chen placed Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun on the beds, then used thick chains to bind their hands and feet, securing them to the beds.

"Fatso, you're going to have to work hard for a bit, keep a close watch on them and don't let them cause any trouble," Ling Chen instructed.

His greatest concern at the moment was Jiang Yunkai and Bai Huanjun; he'd already witnessed their destructive capabilities. Precisely for this reason, he had Jiang Hao dig out a dungeon underground, specifically to confine them.

"Don't worry, leave it to me, nothing will go wrong," Hu Fei patted his chest, giving his word.

After a pause, Hu Fei changed the subject, asking, "Ling Chen, it's not a long-term solution to just keep them locked up. We should think of a way to handle this."

"I'm aware of that. We'll keep them locked up for a few days, then I'll contact some people to come and help," Ling Chen replied.

Coming out from the dungeon, Ling Chen wiped the sweat from his forehead and said, "These past few days have been tough on everyone, get some rest. Jiang Hao, seal up the hole, and you personally watch over it for me. This is no joking matter, no slacking off."

"Chen, I understand," Jiang Hao responded.

Leaving the courier company, Ling Chen did not go anywhere else, but instead, directly drove back to Wealthy Manor.

Entering the villa, Ling Chen saw that there was no one in the living room, so he went upstairs to the bedroom. As expected, both Su Lin and Nanrong Hao were in Nanrong Wanqing's bedroom.

"Wanqing."

Looking at Nanrong Wanqing, who was half-reclining on the bed, Ling Chen felt an immense sense of heartache. He had thought that Nanrong Wanqing's legs had completely recovered, but unexpectedly the old injury had relapsed. It was all his fault for not being able to protect her, letting her suffer so much for no reason.

Feeling the guilt in Ling Chen's eyes, Nanrong Wanqing extended her hand and gently placed it on the back of his, softly saying, "It's okay, I've long been accustomed to this kind of life."

"No, as long as I am here, I will not allow anything to happen to you. You should use that exoskeleton armor first..." As the words left his mouth, Ling Chen immediately realized that the exoskeleton armor specially made for Nanrong Wanqing had already been discarded at the base of the God Organization.

"Su Lin, stay at home with Wanqing these next few days, don't go to the company for now," Ling Chen instructed. "I'll figure out a way to get another set of exoskeleton armor."

Nanrong Wanqing asked worriedly, "Will they give it to us?"

Ling Chen replied with a smile, "Of course, they will. Don't forget, we've signed a contract with them."

In reality, he only said this to comfort Nanrong Wanqing. If Lonely Wolf or the old General were still in charge, everything would be negotiable, but now it was Tang Guoxiong's world. Moreover, he was a wanted criminal at the moment—should he show himself, Tang Guoxiong would definitely arrest him without mercy.

After coming out of the room, Ling Chen sat on the sofa in the living room, pondering over the next steps in his plan.

A trip to Beijing was definitely on the cards, not only for the old General, Han Bing, and Tang Yuan, but also for that exoskeleton armor. He had once discussed with Jiang Yunkai about setting up a special force, equipping everyone with exoskeleton armor.

However, while he possessed the technology to make the exoskeleton armor, he lacked the materials and could only 'borrow' some from Lonely Wolf.

"Chen."

At that moment, Nanrong Hao ran down from upstairs, holding his phone and said, "Someone is looking for you."

"Looking for me?"

Ling Chen took the phone, greeted with a "hello," and asked, "Who's this?"

"It's me."

Hearing the familiar voice, Ling Chen immediately recognized the person on the other end.

Pang Jiulin, his former instructor at Phantom Special Forces, who later joined Lonely Wolf. When he went to Cyprus for a mission a while back, it was in cooperation with Pang Jiulin.

"Instructor Pang, how did you know Nanrong Hao's number?"

"Your phone was unreachable, so I had to try other means to contact you. Anyway, that's not important right now—you better leave Nanrong Family as soon as possible. Tang Guoxiong has sent members of Lonely Wolf to look for you."

"Where are you now?"

"I've just arrived in Yinan Village. The situation here is quite serious. Tang Guoxiong has led people into a conflict with the God Organization, and the casualties are heavy. All members of Lonely Wolf have been called back. However, based on the latest information I got, key members of the God Organization have already evacuated, only some small fish were caught. Tang Guoxiong is ordering a search of the base."

"I've just got home, how did he know I'm back in East Sea City?"

"Tang Guoxiong is cunning and deceitful, he has long planted spies in East Sea City. Anyway, be careful. Times have changed; Lonely Wolf has now become his sole domain, with no one to restrain him. And

I've heard Tang Guoxiong has a strong backer; probably no one can touch him. The only way to bring him down is to find solid evidence."

Evidence...

Hearing Pang Jiulin's words, Ling Chen started to scheme.

"Ling Chen, there's one more thing. Nanrong Yuan has woken up."

"Woken up?" Ling Chen asked eagerly, "When did this happen?"

"Yesterday. If it weren't for the situation in Yinan Village, Tang Guoxiong would have already rushed back."

"Right! Instructor Pang, how are the old General and the others?" This was the question Ling Chen cared most about.

"The old General, Mr. Han, as well as Tang Yuan are all detained. Considering the old General's merits, they don't plan to punish him; at most, they'll discharge him from military service and let him retire at home. But Mr. Han and Tang Yuan aren't so lucky, especially Tang Yuan. He secretly transported government property, which is a severe crime, and Tang Guoxiong probably won't let him off easily."

Chapter 600 A Bad Idea

Ling Chen said in a low voice, "With so many old members of Lonewolf, isn't there anyone pleading for Old Tang?"

"Alas!" Pang Jiulin let out a sigh and said, "Everyone who could have spoken has done so, but Tang Guoxiong doesn't buy it. Not only can no one plead for him, but if anyone speaks too much, it might arouse Tang Guoxiong's suspicion, making him think we're in cahoots with Tang Yuan."

"Where are they being held now?"

"Lonewolf Base."

"Instructor Pang, I know your rules that no one is allowed to reveal any information about the Lonewolf Base to outsiders, but given our past relationship, could you do me a favor?"

"This..." Pang Jiulin said helplessly, "Ling Chen, it's not that I don't want to help you, but... I hope you can understand my difficulty."

"I understand. Instructor Pang, anyway, thank you for the reminder."

"Be careful yourself. Tang Guoxiong is looking for us, I'm going to hang up."

After hanging up the phone, Ling Chen threw the mobile phone to Nanrong Hao and then returned to the bedroom alone.

It's not that he blames Pang Jiulin for not willing to help. As Pang Jiulin said, he was in danger himself within Lonewolf and nobody dared to make a mistake, for fear of giving Tang Guoxiong a handle.

Thinking of Pang Jiulin's reminder, Ling Chen dared not take it lightly. His own status as a fugitive had not yet been cleared, and if he continued to stay at the Nanrong Family, he might implicate Nanrong Wanqing. He quickly packed a few clothes, greeted Nanrong Hao, and left Wealthy Manor with a backpack on his shoulders.

For Ling Chen, as long as he was in East Sea City, he was not worried about not having a place to stay.

Just one phone call, and Jiang Hao and Zhao Zhengxiong would arrange everything properly.

Leaving the Nanrong Family as expected, just like Pang Jiulin had said, Tang Guoxiong had arranged many spies. Along the way, there were at least two groups of people secretly tailing him, monitoring his whereabouts.

After spending about an hour continuously switching buses and subways, walking through crowded places, he finally managed to shake off the tails behind him.

It wasn't long before Ling Chen returned to the courier company in the Old City.

Entering Hu Fei's office, he saw Hu Fei concentrating on the computer screen, carefully going through some files. What was rare was that there were no beauties accompanying him today; the spacious office was silent, with only him in it.

"Chubster."

Hu Fei looked up at Ling Chen who came in and said, "You've come at the right time, come over here, and I'll show you something."

Ling Chen walked over and asked, "What have you found?"

Hu Fei, pointing at the content on the screen, said, "The hard drive you found from the backup base, I've cracked it. This is all the confidential information stored inside. I just went through it, and most of it is related to the Lucifer experiment. With this data, we could replicate the Lucifer experiment's method and create Enhanced People."

"Forget about that," Ling Chen said with little interest. He didn't want to do unthinkable things like the God Organization.

"I know you're not interested, so I'm just mentioning it, don't take it to heart. However, that's not the main point I want to say."

"What is it then?" Ling Chen looked curious.

"I found a document among these secret files. It seems that, although the Lucifer experiment is deemed successful in our eyes, to the God Organization, it's considered a failure."

"A failure?"

Hearing this, Ling Chen was a bit confused and asked, "Why would it be a failure?"

"This is what I don't understand either. The Lucifer experiment can enhance a person's potential by several times, creating countless experts. From anyone's point of view, this is a successful and significant experiment. Yet, the God Organization deemed it a failure, indicating only one thing."

A light seemed to dawn upon Ling Chen as he captured a glimmer of insight and said, "The result of that experiment is not what the God Organization wanted."

"Exactly, that's also how I understand it," nodded Hu Fei.

"What do they want then?"

"For a long time, few people have known the God Organization's true purpose. Apart from that mysterious leader, few are clear. However, the God Organization has suffered a significant setback this time. Their main base, which took years to build, was destroyed. Although the key members escaped, years of effort was ruined, which I believe would not please that mysterious leader. Given the God Organization's modus operandi, I doubt they will concede easily."

"You're saying... they'll seek retaliation?"

"Very likely. You're well aware of the power of the God Organization. If they decide to retaliate against the government or society, the resulting damage would not be small."

Ling Chen pondered for a moment and said, "That's just right, as long as they dare to make a move, the more strength they reveal, the more we can take this opportunity to clip their wings."

"Hah!" Hu Fei scoffed mercilessly, "Clip their wings? With just you? Don't expect us to help you. You had the support of an old General previously, but now even Lonewolf is your enemy. What do you have to fight the God Organization with?"

"Well, there's also the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion and the Secret Society. I get along well with them. As long as I make them see reason, I believe they won't stand by idly."

"That's not certain, they were willing to help out this time, mostly as a return for your favors. Besides, you must remember, the conflict between the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion and the God Organization is a matter between two great powers, it has nothing to do with you. In other words, the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion is the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion, you are you; don't expect the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion to fully support you. In their eyes, at best, you might become a friend, but it's very difficult to become a partner, as you don't have the standing to be on equal footing with them."

Hearing this, Ling Chen couldn't help but nod. Undeniably, what Hu Fei said made a lot of sense.

"Hey! Ling Chen, I do have a good suggestion. As long as you seize the opportunity, the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion will definitely stand firmly behind you," Hu Fei chuckled slyly.

Seeing his cunning look, Ling Chen asked warily, "What suggestion?"

"The Pavilion Master of the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion is a woman, and a great beauty at that, and she seems quite concerned about you. As long as you two... you know what I mean, I don't have to spell it out. By then, when two families become one, and you're the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion Master's son-in-law, how could the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion not stand up for you. Right?"

"Get lost!" cursed Ling Chen angrily, "Always coming up with such rotten ideas."

Hu Fei shook his head helplessly and said, "How is this a rotten idea? It's killing two birds with one stone: getting the girl and gaining support from the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion. It's a pity I'm not Miss Su's type, otherwise, I would have devoted myself already."

"Forget it, I'm not going to argue with you. I'm staying here tonight, go find a hotel for yourself."

While they were talking, the office door was pushed open by Jiang Hao.

"Chen, there is a visitor outside looking for you."