

The Beauty 881

Chapter 881 Lin Qiqi

Seeing the other party speaking calmly, Ling Chen smiled slightly and said, "Can we have a good chat now? I thought you wouldn't call me again. Okay, since you want to talk properly, I'll accompany you, but..."

"But what?"

"Nothing, we've been talking for so long, and I still don't know your name."

"Ling Chen, I know what you mean. However, even if I tell you my name, it couldn't be true, so why bother asking."

"True enough." Ling Chen smiled faintly, "At least tell me how I should address you. Are we going to keep using 'you' and 'I' to communicate?"

"You can call me Lin Qiqi."

"Lin Qiqi?" Ling Chen's eyes brightened, and he asked, "Could it be that you're also from the Ling Family?" As soon as he spoke, without waiting for Lin Qiqi to reply, Ling Chen continued to smile, "I think I've asked too many questions. The God Organization is funded by the Ling Family, so the leader is naturally a member of the Ling Family. However, I really didn't expect that the Ling Family would have a woman running the show. May I ask, how old are you this year?"

"Twenty-two," Lin Qiqi replied. "I know why you're asking my age, but I want to tell you, although you have the Ling Family's blood, the Ling Family has long expelled you and your father. So you don't need to try to establish a connection with me. I will never call you 'brother'."

Ling Chen laughed heartily, "Rest assured, I never thought of calling you 'Little Sister Lin' because you're not that kind of timid woman."

"Alright!" Lin Qiqi interrupted Ling Chen, saying, "Let's get back to business. Let's discuss Lin Guodong's situation. Tell me, what will it take for you to release him?"

"Me? To be honest, I didn't expect this. Miss Lin, you should be aware of Lin Guodong's status within your God Organization. He is the organization's number two, second only to you. I went to great lengths to catch such a big fish. If you were in my position, would you let him go so easily?"

"Since it's a transaction, it's nothing more than an exchange of chips. As long as you can name your conditions, I will figure out a way to meet them. But, as I said before, don't go too far. Otherwise, I'd rather abandon Lin Guodong than let you succeed."

"Alright," Ling Chen replied with a smile. "If you put it that way, then I won't waste words. As long as Lin Guodong cooperates, once I get what I want, I'll naturally release him. Of course, not a cent less than ten billion US dollars. Miss Lin, these are my terms; can you meet them?"

After hearing this, there was silence on the other end of the phone for a long time, as if considering whether to accept. A few minutes later, Lin Qiqi's voice came through the phone again, "Okay, no problem, I can meet your demands. The secrets of the God Organization will eventually become public knowledge, so if you're so curious, you might as well satisfy your curiosity first."

"So straightforward." Ling Chen laughed. However, despite his laughter, Ling Chen secretly admired Lin Qiqi. This woman is not simple! She actually agreed to such terms.

To achieve this, one must have great confidence in oneself or in the God Organization.

"Ling Chen, I'll call again in five minutes. Let Lin Guodong listen in."

"Alright, no problem."

After hanging up the phone, Ling Chen turned to Hu Fei and said, "Lin Qiqi, go check on this woman and see if there are any records of her." After a pause, Ling Chen continued, "Check the members of the Ling Family to see if there's a woman in her early twenties."

Hu Fei nodded and said, "I'll get right on it. By the way, don't forget about the ten billion US dollars."

"Alright!" Ling Chen said helplessly. This guy, whenever money is involved, he immediately gets fixated on it.

Five minutes passed, and Ling Chen stood in the cell where Lin Guodong was held, holding a phone, waiting for Lin Qiqi's call. After a while, the phone rang punctually.

When the call connected, Ling Chen put it on speaker and said, "Miss Lin, we're all here, you can speak now."

"Uncle Lin?"

Hearing Lin Qiqi's voice, Lin Guodong's previously unmoved expression finally showed a trace of change.

"Miss..." Before he could finish, Lin Guodong glanced at Ling Chen beside him and swallowed the rest of his words.

"Uncle Lin, don't worry, we will rescue you. You just need to cooperate with Mr. Ling, tell him what he wants to know, and he will send you back." With that, Lin Qiqi continued, "Mr. Ling, are you satisfied with what I've done?"

"Satisfied, very satisfied." Ling Chen said with a smile, "I didn't expect Miss Lin to be so straightforward. If all negotiation partners were like Miss Lin, that would be wonderful."

Lin Qiqi snorted lightly on the other end of the phone and said, "Ling Chen, I've done what I should. Don't forget your promise to me. If you dare harm a hair on Uncle Lin's head, don't blame me for being ruthless."

"Rest assured, he will live very well here. By the time I send him back, he might have gained a few pounds. Miss Lin, prepare the ten billion US dollars; I'll be visiting you soon." With that, Ling Chen directly hung up the call.

Putting away the phone, Ling Chen looked at Lin Guodong and said, "Mr. Lin, you're quite lucky; the God Organization is going to such lengths to protect you. They must value you greatly. Don't worry, I

remember all the requests you made before, and I'll immediately have someone prepare a comfortable room for you, plus your three meals a day will be delivered promptly."

"I've told you before, but you just didn't take my words to heart." Lin Guodong replied lightly.

"Alright, Mr. Lin, I've met all your requests, so shouldn't you reciprocate now? Please remind me so I can decrypt those encrypted documents."

...

A few minutes later, Ling Chen rushed to the control center excitedly, shouting loudly, "Got it!"

"What?" Tang Guolun and Hu Fei turned their heads in unison.

"The password... I got the password." As he spoke, Ling Chen squeezed to the computer and typed the keywords Lin Guodong had given him into the designated fields.

As he pressed the Enter key, the previously chaotic gibberish immediately organized into neat lines. Soon, the gibberish disappeared and transformed into a document file.

Looking at the folder marked 'Top Secret,' Ling Chen double-clicked to open it, browsing quickly.

Tsk tsk!

No wonder it's classified as top secret, the information and secrets it contains are unprecedented to Ling Chen, with some materials even beyond his understanding.

Chapter 882 - 887: Top Secret Files

"Fatty!"

Upon hearing Ling Chen's shout, Hu Fei immediately understood. He quickly drove away the technicians sitting in front of the computer and sat down with Tang Guolun.

"Fatty, search and list all the most important secret documents of the God Organization," Ling Chen said.

Without hesitation, Hu Fei's fingers flew across the keyboard. Before long, a hidden document appeared before the three of them.

"This is the one," Hu Fei said. "This document is set to hidden mode; it should contain the most crucial information."

Ling Chen took a deep breath and, with a nervous yet excited heart, said, "Open it and take a look."

Hu Fei hit the enter key, and as the document opened, its contents were immediately displayed. The three leaned in closer to the computer screen, carefully reading the information within. The more they read, the stranger their expressions became. Especially Ling Chen, whose eyes showed a hint of shock, his mouth slightly open, unable to utter a word for a while.

"This... how is this possible?"

Tang Guolun was the first to react. He collapsed onto a chair, staring at the computer screen, murmuring to himself, eyes filled with disbelief.

"Unbelievable," Hu Fei muttered to himself. "Could such a supernatural person really exist in this world? Ling Chen... that's right!" Hu Fei suddenly turned his head to look at Ling Chen and asked, "If I'm not wrong, isn't this person your ancestor?"

Ling Chen nodded, "That's right."

The ancestor Hu Fei mentioned was none other than Ling Gengqiu, the traitor of the Ling Family from centuries ago. Although Ling Gengqiu was a martial arts prodigy, his character left much to be desired, attracting the enmity of many. Eventually, the Ling Family expelled him. However, after his disappearance, the Ling Family, reminiscing about old times, took in Ling Gengqiu's descendants.

Ling Chen belongs to this lineage of Ling Gengqiu.

Unexpected... truly unexpected, that his ancestor harbored such secrets.

"No, such a thing cannot be true." Tang Guolun snapped out of his daze and said, "Ling Chen, such things are impossible. I've seen a lot in my time, but I've never heard of anything like this. Even if it existed, it would only be in ancient legends."

Hu Fei concurred, "I think the same way. Ling Chen, to be frank, this is too bizarre for anyone to believe. Moreover, I personally think that the Ling Family probably fabricated this illusion to create an unattainable goal to attract more people to join them. Think about it, whether in ancient or modern times, haven't we seen plenty of similar occurrences? Those cults concoct stories to deceive outsiders, then brainwash them to make them believe."

"Exactly, Hu Fei makes a valid point," Tang Guolun agreed. "It must be so. Otherwise, such things do not exist in this world."

Listening to their exchange, Ling Chen quickly waved his hand, "Alright, alright! Enough from you two. I never said I believed the contents above. Like you, I was just startled by those documents; it doesn't mean I actually believe those things."

After a pause, Ling Chen added, "However, there's something about this situation that strikes me as odd: the Ling Family took over the God Organization mainly to use its power to achieve their own goals. So, they wouldn't need to fake something in such a top-secret document."

"Not necessarily," Hu Fei said, "When you were on the call with Lin Qiqi just now, she agreed to all your demands straightforwardly. This indicates that Lin Qiqi isn't afraid of you uncovering these secrets. Think about it: if it were fake, would you be scared if it were you?"

"Well..." Ling Chen pondered, finding some truth in it. Indeed, Lin Qiqi's straightforwardness puzzled him. When he made those demands earlier, he didn't expect her to agree so easily, assuming there would be negotiations. But her indifferent attitude was truly suspicious.

"Enough!" Ling Chen declared. "Let's stop discussing this matter. Fatty, archive this document and, both of you, sift through its contents to see if there's any usable intelligence. Help me organize a report once you're done, and I'll submit it to Lonely Wolf."

"No problem, looks like we'll be burning the midnight oil tonight."

"No worries," Tang Guolun said enthusiastically. "These are secret documents from the God Organization. Others can't read them even if they want to. Don't worry, I'll read everything before going to sleep."

"Alright, it's up to you two. I have other matters to attend to, so I'm heading out first."

After exiting the control center, Ling Chen didn't return to his room but instead visited the room where Lin Guodong was held.

Fulfilling his promise, Lin Guodong had been moved from his previous cell to a comfortable bedroom. Upon entering, Ling Chen saw Lin Guodong sitting at the dining table, savoring a delicious breakfast.

Since Lin Guodong was a master on the Earthly List, Ling Chen was cautious of any sudden attack, so he had Hu Fei bind Lin Guodong with two chains, restricting his movement. Aside from this bedroom, Lin Guodong couldn't go anywhere.

When Ling Chen arrived, Lin Guodong had just finished his breakfast. Seeing him put down his knife and fork, Ling Chen walked forward and took a seat opposite him.

Leisurely, Lin Guodong took a cigar and prepared to light it.

"Let me,"

Ling Chen smiled slightly, picked up the lighter from the table, and helped light Lin Guodong's cigar.

Exhaling a puff of smoke, Lin Guodong looked at Ling Chen meaningfully and asked, "You come here showing goodwill. Is there something you need from me?"

"I do have something to discuss, but it's not asking for a favor," Ling Chen replied, leaning back against his chair and crossing his legs. "Didn't Miss Lin instruct you? Whatever I want to know, you have to tell me. Mr. Lin, you haven't forgotten, have you?"

"Of course not. Go ahead, ask what you want to know. I guarantee to tell you everything I know."

"Even if I didn't say, I'm sure you could guess."

Lin Guodong smiled and said, "You want to ask about your parents, right?"

"Yes," Ling Chen nodded.

He knew a bit about his father, but nothing about his mother. Over the years, his father never mentioned anything about her, not even showing him a photo of her.

So, in Ling Chen's heart, his mother always remained a mysterious figure.

Chapter 883 - 888: Parents' Hidden Past

"How much do you know about your parents?" Lin Guodong asked.

"Absolutely nothing," replied Ling Chen sincerely. Though his father single-handedly raised him when he was young, he didn't understand much about many things during his teenage years. After all, a child's world is rather simple. When he grew up and developed the ability to think independently, his father sent him to the army, saying it was to train him.

Who would have thought that this training would last several years? During this time, his father seemed to vanish, leaving no trace, not a single word. It wasn't until recently that Ling Chen managed to save his father from Ji Gang. Unfortunately, Ling Kun was severely injured and fell into a hibernation-like state. Unless his wounds healed, he wouldn't wake up anytime soon.

To ensure Ling Kun's safety, Ling Chen sent him to Su He's secluded residence. With Su He, a master from the Heavenly List, keeping an eye on him, Ling Kun's safety would be guaranteed.

"Alright! Since you don't know anything, I'll start from the very beginning. However, this story is long, so you'll need patience to hear it through."

After pausing for a moment, Lin Guodong began leisurely, "This matter has to be traced back over twenty years. At that time, your father was considered a branch of the Ling Family. By generational rank, your father should belong to the direct line. However, due to your ancestor Ling Gengqiu's circumstances, your line was ostracized, pushed out from the direct line, and became a branch of the Ling Family. For long, your branch's status in the Ling Family was low, akin to those designated to do odd jobs for the family. However, this situation slowly changed after your father was born."

"Your father, Ling Kun, was a martial prodigy. In our generation, no one could surpass him. Within just over a decade, Ling Kun's power had reached the Earthly List level. Even you cannot compare with your father. Due to your father's extraordinary talent, the Ling Family members of his age were very unconvinced and schemed against your father, attempting to ruin him. Unfortunately for them, your father wasn't the type to be bullied. Those who troubled him were all taught a lesson by him."

"Initially, the Ling Family Patriarch protected those people. However, as your father's talent was gradually discovered, the Patriarch finally realized that an exceptional figure had emerged from the Ling Family. From that time on, Ling Kun received treatment like the direct lineage of the family. He was no longer required to perform tasks that ordinary people could manage. The Ling Family provided him with a dedicated training area and invested a huge amount of resources in him. Because of this, Ling Kun's power soared, leaving his peers far behind. Even those slightly older than Ling Kun couldn't match him."

At this point, Lin Guodong paused slightly before continuing, "The pity is that your branch suffered too many years of ostracism; even if he was exceptionally talented, the Patriarch's attention to him had limits. Otherwise, someone like your father would surely have been the Patriarch's best successor. Initially, your father worked for the Ling Family, solving numerous competitors and enemies for them. As you know, by then, the Ling Family had shifted from martial pursuits to commerce, facing many rivals. For many years, the Ling Family thrived in business, primarily because they had scavengers to resolve their troubles. Your father played the role of secretly eliminating problems. At just over twenty, he had already tainted his hands with much blood."

"However, later, during one mission, your father slipped up."

"Why is that?" Ling Chen asked, "Was it because his enemy was very strong?"

"No, it wasn't," Lin Guodong said, "The reason your father slipped up is because he encountered your mother."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen perked up, listening intently to Lin Guodong. After all this time, his mother finally made an appearance.

"At that moment, your father was ordered to eliminate an opponent. But when he arrived, he found that his target was a young, beautiful woman. From this point, I don't need to say more; you can already guess—yet another clichéd love story."

Ling Chen was somewhat dissatisfied with Lin Guodong's portrayal. After all, these were his parents, described dismissively as a cliché.

"I won't detail the events. Simply put, your father fell for your mother and abandoned his mission for her. Later, he even sought out the Patriarch to accept punishment, pleading for leniency, hoping he would spare your mother. However, this act angered the Patriarch. He needed a loyal dog to bite for him, not someone with independent thoughts. Consequently, the Patriarch harshly punished your father and gave a death order: your mother had to be killed. If he couldn't do it, someone else would be assigned."

"You can imagine how painful it was for your father then. But ultimately, your father was a person, not a dog, so he made his choice—betrayed the Ling Family for your mother. To evade the Patriarch, your father took your mother and fled far away, seeking a place the Ling Family could not reach, intending to live a peaceful life."

"About a year or two later, you had been born. Your parents lived an ordinary life in a remote town, mundane yet happy. However, a couple of years later, the Ling Family still found your father. But they didn't come to settle accounts with your parents; they came seeking your father's help. The Ling Family, in pursuit of their commercial empire, had made too many enemies. When these enemies united, they became a formidable force."

"At that time, the Ling Family faced an unprecedented crisis. To avert it and return the Ling Family to its rightful path, the Patriarch finally thought of your father. He knew only your father could help the Ling Family out of this predicament. Thus, he sent people to find your father and asked for his return to aid the Ling Family. The Patriarch even promised that your father's past actions would be written off, the Ling Family wouldn't pursue it, and they'd even accept your mother. After much hesitation, your father

decided to return to the Ling Family. After all, he was very grateful. Without the Ling Family's nurturing, he wouldn't have grown so quickly."

"Things went smoothly; once your father returned to the Ling Family, their crisis was quickly resolved. At that time, the Patriarch realized your father was a crucial asset to the Ling Family that must be retained. So, the Patriarch offered numerous benefits to persuade your father to bring your mother and you back to the Ling Family."

"Nevertheless, the Ling Family remained the same; it wouldn't change for just one person, and the Patriarch's manner toward your father was no different."

Chapter 884 - 889: Parental Secrets (2)

"Your father is sometimes too naive. He thought that after the Family Patriarch invited him back to the Ling Family, his attitude would change and he wouldn't be forced to do things he didn't want to do. However, things turned out contrary to his wishes. Not only did the Family Head continue to exploit your father's talents, but he also intensified his actions and set his sights on your mother. I mentioned before that your mother was once the helm of a business empire, distinguished by her family background, and, at a young age, had become the leader of the family business. Like your father, she was immensely talented. If the Ling Family's commercial ventures were to expand, they must resolve or absorb your mother's family industry. After careful consideration, the Family Head opted for the latter."

"Initially, the Family Head discussed with your father, hoping to collaborate with your mother so that the two family businesses could work together for mutual benefit. However, the Ling Family Patriarch made an unreasonable demand. He wanted your mother to relinquish her family business management rights for the Ling Family to control it. From then on, your mother's family would no longer be involved in the operation and management of the business, only receiving annual dividends. Such an approach, in any family, would be unacceptable; it equates to handing over one's industry to another."

"Due to this matter, your parents deeply realized the Family Head's wicked ambitions. Hence, they discussed leaving the Ling Family and returning to your mother's family. After all, your mother's family was also influential, and with your father's protection, the Ling Family wouldn't dare act rashly. However, their plan was inadvertently discovered by the Family Head. Your mother was like a piece of delicious meat, and the Family Head would not easily let her escape. So, using an excuse to send your father away temporarily, the Family Head waited until only you and your mother were at home before sending people to find your mother, applying both pressure and coercion, attempting to force her to accept the Ling Family's proposal and abandon the management rights of her family's industry."

"However, the Family Head underestimated your mother's firmness. No matter what conditions the Ling Family offered, how they threatened her, your mother was unmoved, insisting on waiting for your

father's return. But your father was delayed by matters and couldn't come back for a while. After several attempts to persuade and seeing no compromise from your mother, the Family Head finally lost patience and directly made her disappear."

"Disappear?" Ling Chen suddenly stood up, looking sternly at Lin Guodong, and said in a deep voice, "Are you trying to tell me that the Ling Family Patriarch killed my mother back then?"

Lin Guodong gestured for Ling Chen to calm down. After Ling Chen sat back down, Lin Guodong continued, "I didn't say your mother was killed, only that she 'disappeared.' There are many ways to make someone disappear, and it doesn't necessarily mean killing them. In short, from that day forward, your mother never appeared in the Ling Family, and besides the Family Patriarch, no one knows her whereabouts."

"So what happened in the end?" Ling Chen asked eagerly, "Didn't my father go back to the Ling Family and look for my mother? Would he give up?"

"Of course, he wouldn't. Your father was a person of deep affection and righteousness, and the person involved was your mother. Upon returning home and not seeing your mother, he immediately flew into a rage and confronted the Family Head. However, the Family Head had anticipated your father's dissatisfaction and had already devised a plan. He falsely claimed that your mother was harassed by several young men of the Ling Family and, in anger, left the Ling Family, not returning for days without known whereabouts. Your father, at that time, did not doubt and believed the Family Head's words. Your mother was young and beautiful, a rare beauty of her time; there was indeed no descendant in the Ling Family who could match her beauty. So, ever since your mother moved into the Ling Family, there were people who ogled at her beauty. Therefore, when the Family Head said so, your father believed it."

"Your father, in anger, found those cousins who usually spoke improperly to your mother and questioned them about her whereabouts. But they didn't do the thing, and naturally, they refused to admit it, leading to conflict between the two sides. Later, in anger, your father lashed out and directly slaughtered those cousins. This incident shocked everyone in the Ling Family, and the Family Head never expected your father to act so impulsively. Having committed such a mistake, the Ling Family wouldn't tolerate you father and son any longer. Although the Family Head wanted to keep your father and let him continue to serve, due to the pressure from others in the Ling Family, he had to expel you father and son from the Ling Family."

"As far as I know, after you two left the Ling Family, your father did not give up looking for your mother. However, after several years passed, there was no news of your mother. Not only that, even your mother's family regarded your father coldly. In their view, it was entirely because of your father that

their daughter suffered grievances and became missing. Because of this, they directly kicked you and your father out of the family and severed ties with you. To be honest, your father is quite a pitiable person; he did so much and ended up this way, dragging you down with him."

"Then what about my mother? Where is she?" Ling Chen pursued the question.

"I just told you I don't know. Besides the Ling Family Patriarch, no one knows her whereabouts. However, if you wish to find your mother, I advise you to give up, as it's been so many years, and she's surely not in the Ling Family anymore. Although I don't want to admit it in front of you, reality is often harsh; your mother should be..." At this point, Lin Guodong stopped, choosing not to continue. His meaning was clear, given Ling Chen's identity, he didn't want to be explicit, as it would be hurtful.

Ling Chen looked down, his gaze complex on the floor, silent for a long time.

After a moment, Ling Chen raised his head and looked directly at Lin Guodong, saying, "So, my mother was killed by the Ling Family?"

"Perhaps, but I can't be certain of that. In any case, I'm only telling you what happened back then; how you interpret it is your choice."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen asked, "Why do you know so much about this matter?"

"Because I was involved back then. As I mentioned earlier, your parents initially lived in seclusion in a small town, and later it was the Ling Family who sent people to invite him back, and I was the one they sent. That's why I'm more aware of your parents' matters." Pausing briefly, Lin Guodong continued, "In a way, within the whole Ling Family, my relationship with your father could be considered close; otherwise, the Family Head wouldn't have appointed me to invite your father."

"Understood. But don't expect this relationship to make me let you go; business is business."

"I know, and I won't ask you to let me go."

Chapter 885 - 890: Parental Secrets (3)

"I've said everything that needs to be said. Is there anything else you want to know?" Mr. Lin lifted the steaming coffee and asked.

"There's one more thing." Ling Chen said, "Since you know so much about my mother, you should know who she is, her name, and... are my grandparents still alive?"

"Your mother's surname is Yang, her name is Yang Qingling. The Yang Family is also a prominent family in the south, running a large enterprise with businesses across the country. However, twenty years ago, shortly after you and your father were expelled from the Ling Family, the Yang Family sold all their assets at a low price to the Ling Family. As for your grandfather and grandmother, after selling their family estate, they chose to emigrate and have since settled abroad. I'm not sure exactly where. If you want to find them, I suggest you check with the immigration office; you might find some clues related to them."

"I will." With that, Ling Chen shifted the topic, asking, "Is the head of the Ling Family from back then still alive?"

Mr. Lin looked at Ling Chen, half smiling, and asked back, "Why? Are you thinking of seeking revenge? If that's what you have in mind, I advise you to forget about it. Over a decade ago, he died due to a serious illness and unsuccessful rescue attempts. Now, even his bones would have turned to dust."

"Dead?" Ling Chen frowned slightly and said, "The Ling Family took over the God Organization, with so many medical resources at their disposal, and yet you couldn't even save someone with a severe illness?"

"Things aren't as simple as you think. The God Organization does indeed have many medical resources, but when the Ling Family initially took over the God Organization, it was a mess, with too many issues to handle. The Ling Family spent a lot of effort and resources to gradually get the God Organization on the right track. Only in the last decade or so has the Ling Family focused on research and development. The enhancement drugs you see and other products are results of these years of research. If the family head had held on for a few more years, he might have survived with the God Organization's special medicine."

"Alright, I won't ask about these things for now, but there is one thing you must seriously tell me." Ling Chen looked directly into Mr. Lin's eyes, speaking deliberately.

Feeling Ling Chen's seriousness, Mr. Lin suddenly laughed and asked, "Have you looked at that top-secret document?"

"Correct!" Ling Chen nodded and said, "What I want to know is, are the contents of that top-secret document true or false?"

"I guessed as much." Mr. Lin smiled and said, "Anyone who reads its contents would probably have doubts like you. However, I have no say in this matter."

"Why?"

"Although that document is top secret, among the core members within the Ling Family, this is no secret. Ling Chen, do you think that because I'm a high-ranking official in the God Organization, I must know all the secrets?" Without waiting for Ling Chen to reply, Mr. Lin continued, "If that's what you think, then you're gravely mistaken. I'm a high-ranking official in the God Organization, but that doesn't mean I'm a high-ranking member within the Ling Family. I can tell you that within the Ling Family, I'm merely a peripheral figure, never reaching the core. So, the real secrets can only be accessed by core members of the Ling Family. Take the very topic you're asking about, for instance; I'm qualified to know about this document, but not about whether it's true or false — that is the inner core secret of the Ling Family."

"You've been with the Ling Family for so many years and served the God Organization for so long, even if no one told you, you should have heard some rumors."

"If you're asking like that, then I can only say... there's a mix of truth and exaggeration. The content recorded in that top-secret document has both real and exaggerated parts. However, you should know from reading the document that even if part of it is true, it would be enough to shock the world. Ling Chen, take my advice, you've seen the top-secret document, but please don't spread it freely. Otherwise, be careful not to burn yourself."

"Are you giving me a reminder or a warning?"

"Both." Mr. Lin said, "You should understand now why Miss Lin let you know the contents of that top-secret document. It's not that she doesn't care, but that she's not afraid, because she knows. Even if you disseminate the contents of that document, no one would believe it; instead, they'd treat you as a

madman, because the contents are too astounding, and modern scientific views would never believe such things could happen."

Pausing slightly, Mr. Lin continued in a guiding tone, "Ling Chen, to speak frankly, you are very much like your father. Only, you act with more principles than your father. Of course, this isn't your father's fault. If not for the family head's training back then, your father wouldn't have turned out that way. Nevertheless, both of you are exceptionally talented, being top experts at such a young age, which is very rare. The Ling Family lacks vision; they foolishly kept a genius out. If they hadn't expelled you and your father back then, in three or four decades, the Ling Family would have had two more experts on the Heavenly List. Compete against your mother's family industry; two experts on the Heavenly List are much more valuable. So unfortunate, really!"

"There's nothing unfortunate about it, as long as the Ling Family continues to be obstinate and oppressive, eventually they'll end up deserted by everyone. Just wait and see, the good days for the Ling Family are about to end."

"You underestimate the Ling Family. I told you before, the Ling Family is not merely a commercial family. Over the years, the Ling Family has developed rapidly, with hidden power that is incredibly terrifying. Once you start a war against the Ling Family, you'll be the one at a disadvantage."

"There's nothing certain in this world. Mr. Lin, I know you have great confidence in the Ling Family, otherwise, you wouldn't have said so much to me. But I want to tell you, where there's a will, there's a way. The Ling Family has done too many wrong things, and if people learn that the Ling Family is secretly controlling the God Organization, how many enemies do you think will seek revenge?"

"You can try. Anyway, I've said all that needs to be said."

"Alright." Ling Chen stood up and said, "Then take your rest, and I won't disturb you anymore. In a couple of days, I'll contact Miss Lin to have someone pick you up."

After saying this, Ling Chen didn't linger any longer and turned to leave the room.

Returning to the control center, looking at the busy Hu Fei and Tang Guolun, Ling Chen asked, "Fatty, did you find out who that Lin Qiqi really is?"

Without turning his head, Hu Fei stared at the document on the computer screen and said, "I've checked, there's no such name. Additionally, I've carefully checked all the members of the Ling Family and didn't find a woman of a similar age. I suspect she has hidden her identity."

Chapter 886 - 891: Brotherly Conflict

"Then forget it," said Ling Chen. He didn't have much hope for this matter.

"Fatty, there are two more people, help me check them out. They settled abroad twenty years ago, and I don't know which country they live in now. You have a wide network of contacts in this area, so find them for me as soon as possible."

"Sure, no problem."

After listening to Ling Chen's description of the two, Hu Fei asked curiously, "Who are they?"

"They are my grandparents." As he spoke, Ling Chen appeared somewhat downcast. Besides his father, he had other relatives. However, for so many years, he never had the chance to contact them, let alone acknowledge them; it's undoubtedly a painful thing. And whenever his grandparents were mentioned, Ling Chen immediately thought of his mother whom he had never met.

He had lived for more than twenty years and never had the chance to call someone 'Mom.'

"Grandparents?" Hu Fei and Tang Guolun were taken aback, not expecting those two to be Ling Chen's relatives.

"Ling Chen, since when did you have grandparents, and why have I never heard you mention them before?" Hu Fei asked.

"I just found out from Lin Guodong. Alright, don't ask anymore, I don't know much myself. Once I find my grandparents, I have a lot to ask them." Finishing his words, Ling Chen greeted Hu Fei and Tang Guolun, then started walking out of the control center.

After a sleepless night, Ling Chen, who was initially a bit sleepy, wanted to rest. But after learning about his parents from Lin Guodong, all thoughts of sleep vanished, and he kept thinking about his mother.

Leaving the research base, Ling Chen drove a Mercedes directly towards Hongyu Group.

Today is Tuesday, a normal working day, so at this time, Nanrong Wanqing should be at the company.

After more than thirty minutes on the road, Ling Chen arrived at the destination. Parking the car in the underground lot, he walked alone into the elevator, reaching the top floor of Hongyu Group.

"Chen!"

Just as he stepped out of the elevator, Ling Chen heard Nanrong Hao's voice coming from the side. Turning his head, he saw Nanrong Hao quickly walking over, adjusting the tie around his neck as he approached.

"Haozi, where are you going?"

"I..." Nanrong Hao started to reply but then seemed to think better of it and changed his words: "Nothing much, just hungry, heading out to grab something to eat. Chen, you're here to see Sister, right? She's in her office; you can go straight there." With that, Nanrong Hao quickly stepped into the elevator, waved goodbye to Ling Chen with a smile.

As the elevator doors slowly closed, Ling Chen scrutinized Nanrong Hao inside the elevator. Suddenly, he reached out and placed his hand in the center of the doors. Instantly, sensing something, the elevator doors opened.

Seeing Ling Chen's action, Nanrong Hao paused in surprise and asked, "Chen, what are you doing?"

Ling Chen replied lightly, "I should be the one asking you. What are you up to, trying to deceive me, thinking I'm so easy to fool?" Without waiting for Nanrong Hao to respond, Ling Chen stepped into the elevator and asked, "Spill it, what's really going on?"

"Well..." Nanrong Hao appeared hesitant, as if on the verge of speaking but holding back.

"Are you going to tell me or not?" Ling Chen asked impatiently, "If you don't, don't blame me for being rude." As he spoke, Ling Chen raised his hand, posing as if ready to hit.

"No, no!" Nanrong Hao quickly raised his hands, stopping Ling Chen's action.

"So, will you tell me?"

"Alright, I'll tell you. Hao called me, asking me to handle some matters." Nanrong Hao said with a wry smile.

"Jiang Hao?" Ling Chen's eyes moved, and he asked, "What did he ask you to do? From the way you looked, it seemed like you were going to fight someone. I warn you, be honest, and don't try to fool me."

"Well..." Nanrong Hao said with difficulty, "Chen, this actually involves Xiong, and I... I'm not sure how to say it."

Xiong?

Zhao Zhengxiong!

Ling Chen's heart skipped a beat, immediately recalling what Jiang Hao had mentioned a few days ago. Jiang Hao had said that Zhao Zhengxiong had been acting restlessly lately. Since Nanrong Hao was taking over Hongyu Group and had no time to manage his own territory, he handed it over to Zhao Zhengxiong and Jiang Hao for assistance in management.

Jiang Hao and Zhao Zhengxiong had agreed that each would manage half of the territory. Yet for some reason, Zhao Zhengxiong's men repeatedly went to Jiang Hao's territory to cause trouble, even taking over the places Jiang Hao managed.

Jiang Hao, out of brotherhood, suppressed his anger and frustration, not wanting to cause trouble for Zhao Zhengxiong, hoping they could sit down and resolve the issue. After all, with so many subordinates,

Zhao Zhengxiong couldn't personally oversee everything. Jiang Hao was concerned that Zhao Zhengxiong's men were acting without orders. However, despite arranging several meetings and making countless calls, he couldn't reach Zhao Zhengxiong.

At this point, Jiang Hao realized the obvious: Zhao Zhengxiong was behind this, aiming to seize all the territories.

When Jiang Hao mentioned this issue to Ling Chen the other day, Ling Chen said he would talk to Zhao Zhengxiong. But, preoccupied with more pressing matters, Ling Chen didn't pay much attention. Seeing Nanrong Hao so agitated today, Ling Chen realized the conflicts between them had deepened. If not resolved quickly, it might lead to serious trouble.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen patted Nanrong Hao's shoulder and said, "Okay, don't get too worked up; I'll go with you and handle this matter."

"Really?" Nanrong Hao's eyes lit up as he grinned, "Chen, it's best if you step in, but..."

"But what?"

"Chen, Hao, Xiong, and I are brothers who fought together. I hope this matter doesn't cause distress for everyone. If we meet, you had better..."

Before Nanrong Hao could finish, Ling Chen understood what he meant and nodded, "Don't worry, I know what I'm doing. Besides, this isn't my first encounter with Xiong. I know what kind of person I am. Let's not linger, let's go, don't keep Jiang Hao waiting."

Taking the elevator to the underground parking lot, Ling Chen got into Nanrong Hao's Audi and headed straight to the agreed location.

After half an hour, Nanrong Hao drove the Audi to a bustling commercial street.

Getting out of the car, Ling Chen surveyed his surroundings, taking in the immediate environment.

If he remembered correctly, this used to be Nanrong Hao's territory.

As he pondered, Ling Chen's attention was drawn to a commotion not far away.

Chapter 887 - 892: Brotherly Conflict (Part 1)

Ling Chen focused his gaze and saw two groups of people gathered outside a luxurious restaurant, loudly cursing at each other and attracting attention from many bystanders. Judging by their attire and demeanor, it was clear they were gang members.

"Haozi." Ling Chen glanced at Nanrong Hao beside him and asked, "Who are those people?"

Nanrong Hao took a look and said, "I know them. They're subordinates of Xiong and Hao, kind of small leaders. Xiong's recent actions have upset a lot of people, which is why the two sides are in conflict."

"Haozi!"

As they spoke, several vans pulled up by the roadside. The doors opened, and over twenty young, robust men jumped out, calling Nanrong Hao's name as they hurried over.

"Chen!"

When they got closer and saw Ling Chen was there too, they all lowered their heads respectfully to greet him. These were subordinates trained by Nanrong Hao, who managed his territory in the past. Everyone knew well that, officially, Nanrong Hao, Jiang Hao, and Zhao Zhengxiong were the bosses of different districts. But in reality, Ling Chen was the true power behind the throne.

It could be said that the status the three had today was all due to Ling Chen's support.

Nanrong Hao looked at his subordinates and asked, "Did everyone bring their gear?"

"Haozi, don't worry. We wouldn't dare forget what you told us to do. Everything is in the cars, ready to use at any time," a bald subordinate replied.

"Gear?" Ling Chen frowned slightly and looked at Nanrong Hao disapprovingly, "Why did you have them bring gear? Are you seriously considering a big showdown with Zhao Zhengxiong's men here? If you do that, how are we supposed to resolve this conflict?"

Nanrong Hao scratched his head, "Chen, I'm just pressed. Zhao Zhengxiong is being an asshole, clearly trying to bully Hao and swallow my territory. I've warned him several times, but he's ignored me. Isn't he forcing my hand? I've thought it through. If we can't settle things today, Zhao Zhengxiong can't blame his brother for not going easy on him."

"Enough!" Ling Chen waved his hand and said, "I'm here to prevent conflict, acting as a mediator. I'll say this upfront: without my command, no one is allowed to act on their own today. Got it?"

Ling Chen glanced at everyone present, his gaze carrying a warning.

Feeling Ling Chen's sharp eyes, everyone lowered their heads, not daring to meet his gaze.

"Let's go." With that, Ling Chen started walking towards the restaurant.

Outside the restaurant, the two groups were getting more aggressive. Words were no longer enough to vent their anger, and they were on the verge of physical confrontation.

"Stop it, all of you!"

At this moment, a loud shout came, quickly silencing the two groups who turned to look.

"It's Haozi... No, Chen too, Chen is here!"

Seeing Ling Chen behind Nanrong Hao, they all stopped their shouting and became quiet instantly. However, not everyone was so well-behaved. In the crowd, a few young men looked at Ling Chen with disdain.

As Ling Chen passed in front of them, these young men snorted, openly showing their contempt.

Hearing their snorts, Ling Chen stopped and scanned each of them with a playful smile. "You guys seem pretty unhappy with me?"

"So what if I'm unhappy?" One young man raised his head arrogantly, "Why should I give a damn about you? You're not my boss. Everyone talks about how great you are, Ling Chen, but I think you're nothing special. Compared to our boss, who are you anyway? I advise you to turn back early, don't stick your nose into this mess."

"Shut up!" Nanrong Hao coldly scolded, "Who do you think you are? Even your boss wouldn't dare disrespect Chen like that. Who gave a small fry like you the guts to talk like that?"

The young man sneered, "No need to tell you, our boss gave us this courage. Our boss said he used to cut him some slack out of old ties. But now, it's different. Our boss shows him respect, and he doesn't return the favor. What's the point of brotherhood then?"

"You..."

Nanrong Hao was about to speak but was stopped by Ling Chen.

Looking at the young man in front of him, Ling Chen asked slowly, "Did your boss really say that?"

"That's right!"

"Did your boss also tell you who once knelt before me, begging for my help and a chance? Did he tell you who gave him everything he has now? Let me tell you, without me, Ling Chen, your boss is nothing. If it weren't for my soft heart and willingness to help him because he was sincere, Zhao Zhengxiong wouldn't even know which trash heap he's living in now. If you don't believe it, feel free to ask your boss and see if I'm wrong."

Pausing for a moment, Ling Chen surveyed the crowd around him, speaking in a deep voice, "I've always been loyal and caring to my friends and brothers. I keep them in my heart, sharing hardships and joys together. However, for those who betray us, I won't show mercy. Remember this: I'm saying it here today, anyone who dares to betray our family, I'll make them lose everything in no time."

"Now, everyone disperse. Don't stand around and make a spectacle. Ignore my words, and don't blame me for being rude." Finishing his statement, Ling Chen couldn't be bothered with these small gangsters any longer and walked into the restaurant.

"Chen, you heard them." Nanrong Hao followed closely, grumbling, "Listen to what they're saying. It's clear Zhao Zhengxiong wants to oppose us, doesn't even respect you, and talks like this to his men. I think Zhao Zhengxiong is already preparing to war with us."

"Enough!" Ling Chen gave Nanrong Hao a look, "Without confirmation, don't jump to conclusions. We'll confront Zhao Zhengxiong later to see what he's planning."

Talking, the two reached the third floor of the restaurant.

For today's banquet, Jiang Hao and the others rented out the entire restaurant, allowing only their people inside, no outsiders.

"Chen! Haozi!"

Outside the private room on the third floor, seeing Ling Chen and Nanrong Hao arriving, Jiang Hao quickly stepped forward, "Chen, you finally made it."

"Jiang Hao, where's Zhao Zhengxiong? Is he here yet?" Ling Chen asked.

Chapter 888 - 893: Brothers at Odds (2)

"What do you mean, 'arrive'? He never planned to come." Jiang Hao said irritably, "That bastard never intended to meet us and sent his trusted aide to honor the appointment instead. I see now that Zhao Zhengxiong is afraid to see you because he's worried you'll cause trouble for him."

"Hmph!" Nanrong Hao said with irritation, "Look, I knew it, Zhao Zhengxiong has already turned traitor and doesn't even regard Chen anymore. That bastard thinks his wings have grown, so he wants to break away and establish his own faction. Chen, there's nothing more to say about such betrayal and disregard for brotherhood. Let's just go head-to-head with him and see whose fist is stronger."

Ling Chen thought for a moment and said, "Don't get upset yet. Since Zhao Zhengxiong sent a representative, let's talk with him and see what Zhao Zhengxiong means." With that, Ling Chen pushed open the private room door and strode inside.

The spacious and bright private room had a round table with six grand chairs around it, very courteous and luxurious.

Sitting in one of the grand chairs was a middle-aged man in a suit, with a leather bag beside him, impeccably dressed, showing no trace of a thug's demeanor.

"Chen, he's called Yan Tao, a confidant of Zhao Zhengxiong, and essentially the second in command," Jiang Hao whispered.

Ling Chen nodded, sizing up Yan Tao, and walked over.

Seeing Ling Chen approach, Yan Tao quickly stood up from the grand chair, eagerly extending his hand, "You must be Chen. I've long admired Chen's reputation but never had the chance to meet; today I finally see Chen in person, truly impressive."

Ling Chen said with a playful smile, "You are Zhao Zhengxiong's second in command; I'm not sure if your skills match your eloquence."

Yan Tao was slightly taken aback but quickly understood Ling Chen's meaning, smiling as he said, "Chen, you're joking. Speaking of skills, how dare I compare myself with you? In simple terms, I'm just a working man trying to earn a living, but Chen, you're an entrepreneur; the difference between the two is vast."

"Alright!" Ling Chen replied, "You don't need to say those flattering words; I'm not interested in them. Guests are guests, have a seat."

"Alright." Yan Tao responded, waiting until Ling Chen and Jiang Hao were seated before slowly sitting down, very polite.

"There are no outsiders here; Zhao Zhengxiong sent you as his representative to meet me, so I assume a decision has been made. Tell me, what does he want?" Ling Chen wasted no time and got straight to the point.

Yan Tao smiled faintly, "Chen, Xiong didn't refuse to come see you; he's just caught up with some urgent matters and couldn't make it, so he asked me to come for him. Hope you can understand."

"Is that so?" Ling Chen chuckled, "Xiong is quite a busy person; he used to hang out at nightclubs, very free, but now he's so busy he can't even spare time for a meal. Apparently, he's handling quite a lot."

Then, not waiting for Yan Tao to speak further, Ling Chen leaned forward slightly, placing his hands on the table, "As I said, I don't like beating around the bush. Do I have to forcefully teach you a lesson before you'll speak honestly?"

Hearing this, Yan Tao's face looked somewhat uncomfortable, but he still forced a smile, "Chen, I..."

Ling Chen interrupted Yan Tao, raising a finger, "Think carefully before you speak; I will only give you one chance."

"Well..." Yan Tao hesitated a bit before slowly speaking, "Chen, since you put it that way, I won't beat around the bush. Xiong's intention is clear; he wants to go solo in the future."

"Go solo?" Ling Chen tapped his fingers on the table, asking, "Then he should give me a reason."

"He feels that you don't trust him. Regarding this matter, I don't know much, but Xiong told me to say that you would understand what he means."

"I see."

Ling Chen certainly understood Zhao Zhengxiong's intention. When the research base was established, Ling Chen only told Nanrong Hao and Jiang Hao about the base, deliberately excluding Zhao Zhengxiong. Later, when Zhao Zhengxiong found out about this, he was surely uncomfortable.

When Ling Chen made this decision, he had his reasons. Nanrong Hao is his future brother-in-law, Jiang Hao is someone he personally trained; there's no doubt that they are the people he trusts the most. In comparison, although Zhao Zhengxiong calls them brothers, Ling Chen felt he needed to be tested further to truly know if he was worth full trust.

Maybe he was being overly cautious, but as the old saying goes, it's necessary to guard against others, and the importance of the research base is self-evident; a bit of caution does no harm.

Unfortunately, Ling Chen considered too much but overlooked Zhao Zhengxiong's feelings. To be honest, he did bear some responsibility in this matter.

However, even if he was wrong, Zhao Zhengxiong should not have done such a thing.

Zhao Zhengxiong should think about who helped him originally and who took him in. Without Ling Chen's help and support, Zhao Zhengxiong could not have reached where he is today.

As thoughts quickly shifted through his mind, Ling Chen spoke, "Yan Tao, go back and tell Zhao Zhengxiong that maybe I've done something wrong, but I've never harmed him, nor thought of taking away his territory and power. If he still considers us brothers, then let's sit down and talk to clear up the misunderstanding. If he's determined to go solo, I'll say it upfront: East Sea City is my territory, and I won't allow any rebellious forces to exist here. So, if he dares to do this, don't blame me for not remembering old friendships."

"Chen..."

"Enough!"

Ling Chen waved his hand, interrupting Yan Tao.

"I've said all I need to say; you don't need to waste your breath. One day, I give Zhao Zhengxiong one day to respond; if I don't get his reply, then he doesn't need to respond at all. At that point, he has two choices: leave East Sea City or go to war."

After finishing, Ling Chen stood up from the grand chair and walked straight out of the private room.

Upon exiting the room, Jiang Hao and Nanrong Hao followed closely behind Ling Chen, asking, "Chen, do you think Zhao Zhengxiong will compromise?"

Ling Chen shrugged and said, "I'm not him, how would I know what he'd choose." After a pause, Ling Chen continued, "Jiang Hao, better be prepared these couple of days, regardless of Zhao Zhengxiong's choice, we must plan for the worst, and never let our guard down. Zhao Zhengxiong has been with us for years; he knows you all very well. Moreover, he clearly understands what tactics we have."

Jiang Hao nodded, "Chen, don't worry, I know what to do."

"Chen, what about me?"

Ling Chen glanced at Nanrong Hao and said, "You don't need to do anything, just go back to work at Hongyu Group honestly. Jiang Hao has our support; there shouldn't be any problem."

Chapter 889 - 894: Lin Qiqi

"Oh." Nanrong Hao was somewhat reluctant. Such a big deal, and Ling Chen kept himself out of it; he must feel dissatisfied. After all, he's been a brother fighting alongside everyone. Zhao Zhengxiong doing such a thing, his anger is imaginable. Given his current temperament, he'd love nothing more than to drag Zhao Zhengxiong out and give him a good beating.

Ling Chen saw Nanrong Hao's sullen expression and naturally understood what he was thinking.

"Alright!" Ling Chen patted Nanrong Hao's shoulder and said, "You don't have to feel uncomfortable. How about this, don't you have a bunch of subordinates? Have them ready to support Jiang Hao. If Jiang Hao can't handle it, then you step in to help."

Hearing this, Nanrong Hao's eyes lit up, and he said with a smile, "Sure, no problem."

Returning to Hongyu Group, Nanrong Hao went to his office alone, while Ling Chen went to the chairman's office and gently knocked on the door. After receiving permission, Ling Chen pushed the

door open and looked around, only to see Nanrong Wanqing sitting at the desk, twirling a pen in her hand, her eyes fixed on the computer screen, focused on something.

Hearing footsteps at the door, Nanrong Wanqing turned her head and looked at Ling Chen approaching her, a faint smile immediately appeared on her delicate face, and she quickly stood up to greet him.

"When did you come back?"

"I've been busy in East Sea City these past few days, and since nothing's going on today, I thought I'd come by to see you. So, what are you busy with?"

"Not much, just received an invitation from a company out of town, asking me to attend a banquet tomorrow night."

"An out-of-town company?" Ling Chen jokingly asked, "Which company has enough sway to invite you?"

Nanrong Wanqing rolled her eyes at Ling Chen and said coquettishly, "They're willing to invite me, which means they're giving me face. You have no idea, the company that invited me this time is one of the most famous domestic enterprises. Compared to them, our Hongyu Group is just child's play."

"Is that so?" Ling Chen asked with interest, "Which company?"

"Wanheng Group, its industry spans the entire South, and it's one of the top enterprises in the country. Our Hongyu Group is at best a leader in East Sea City, but they are a leading representative of the entire southern part of Huaxia."

"Wanheng?" Ling Chen was startled, a cold and intense light flashed in his eyes.

He had never had contact with this company before, but the name left a deep impression on him.

Wanheng Group is precisely the family business of the Ling Family.

The Ling Family's reach is really far; they've even extended it to East Sea City.

Seeing Ling Chen standing there dazed and silent, Nanrong Wanqing curiously asked, "What's wrong with you?"

Upon hearing Nanrong Wanqing's question, Ling Chen snapped back to reality and forced a smile, saying, "Nothing. By the way, I've heard of Wanheng Group, it's a very prestigious domestic company. Since they're hosting a banquet in East Sea City, could it be that they're planning to seek development here?"

"That should be the case," Nanrong Wanqing said, "I heard that Wanheng Group has been surveying the East Sea City market for some time, hence the banquet; the timing seems about right. If you're interested, you could come with me. Anyway, everyone has to bring a male or female companion."

"Do you know who the host is this time?"

"The person has the last name Ling and is called Ling Shen. He's the manager of the market expansion department at Wanheng Group."

"Ling Shen?" Ling Chen murmured to himself, silently repeating the name. After pondering a while, Ling Chen replied with a smile, "Alright, I'll come to pick you up at home tomorrow night."

The Ling Family's grand banquet in East Sea City surely was not for a simple purpose.

Humph!

The Ling Family has so many weak points in my hands; it's time to take action now.

Leaving Hongyu Group, Ling Chen drove straight to the research base.

As soon as he reached the control center, Ling Chen found Hu Fei and asked, "Fatty, how's the evidence collection against the Ling Family going?"

Hu Fei pulled out a thick document from the drawer and said, "These are the evidence I've compiled, enough to directly link the God Organization with the Ling Family. There's still a portion of data we haven't finished examining in the hard drive we retrieved last time; I'm sure we can find more evidence."

Ling Chen took the document, glanced over it carefully, then put it down and said, "Make me an electronic copy of the documents, right away. I need it urgently later."

"Got it."

In less than five minutes, Ling Chen left the control center with a USB drive.

Back in his room, Ling Chen turned on his laptop, plugged in the USB drive, and sent all the files to Tang Yuan's email.

With this evidence, Lonely Wolf could make a move against the Ling Family.

Having done all this, Ling Chen leaned back in his chair, eyes slightly closed. Before long, a faint snoring sound filled the room.

Knock, knock, knock!

Hearing the knocking outside the door, Ling Chen rubbed his bleary eyes and quickly got up from his chair.

Looking at the clock on the wall, Ling Chen was amazed. It's ten o'clock at night; he'd slept for that long. Then again, having worked all through the night and not rested all day, his accumulated fatigue made sleep irresistible.

Opening the door, and seeing Hu Fei standing outside, Ling Chen asked, "What's up?"

"You ask me what's up, I should be asking you what's up. I called several times and no one answered, so I had to come over myself."

Ling Chen yawned and said, "Too tired, accidentally overslept. Just tell me, what's the matter?"

"There's a guest outside."

"Guest?" Ling Chen was taken aback; this research base had never had guests. Since Hu Fei used the term 'guest,' it meant the person wasn't one of their own.

"It's someone from the God Organization," Hu Fei said.

Hearing this, Ling Chen raised an eyebrow and said solemnly, "What are they here for?"

"Not sure yet, but from their looks, it seems they aren't here to cause trouble. Anyway, don't ask me, they're specifically asking to see you."

"Come, let's go and take a look together."

Soon, Ling Chen and Hu Fei arrived at the research base's reception room.

As they entered, Ling Chen immediately saw a young woman sitting on the sofa. Her face was wrapped in a scarf, covering everything below her eyes, revealing only a pair of starry and beautiful eyes, and her white and smooth neck.

The woman seemed to be in her twenties, with a bob cut dyed in a slight yellow, dressed simply in casual wear paired with light blue jeans, looking every inch a young beauty in her prime.

Behind the woman stood an elderly man.

Ling Chen observed for a couple of seconds, feeling that the elderly man's face was entirely unfamiliar, having never seen him before. However, although the elderly man appeared ordinary, Ling Chen felt an intense sense of danger from him.

Turning back his gaze, Ling Chen looked at the woman and asked, "Who are you?"

The woman blinked her eyes and softly replied, "I'm Lin Qiqi."

Chapter 890 - 895: Butcher Chen (Part 1)

"Lin Qiqi?" Ling Chen's face showed surprise as he looked at the woman before him. To be honest, he never expected that the mysterious leader of the God Organization would be so young. Moreover, she dared to come here in person.

"Surprised?" Lin Qiqi looked at Ling Chen's stunned expression and said calmly, "I originally wanted Lin Jiawei to come over, but after thinking about it, I decided that it's more sincere if I come in person. Besides, haven't you always wanted to meet me?"

After a brief moment of stupor, Ling Chen finally regained his composure, and his gaze gradually returned to calm. He smiled faintly and took a step to sit beside Lin Qiqi.

"Miss Lin, I'm quite surprised. I didn't expect you to come in person."

"It's been two days already," Lin Qiqi said. "You should know everything you want to know by now. I'm here to take Uncle Lin back."

"Take him back?" Ling Chen glanced at the old man behind Lin Qiqi and said, "Miss Lin, it's only been two days. Isn't it too quick? You don't need to worry about Mr. Lin's safety. He has good food and accommodation here. Besides, I have a lot I want to discuss with him. How about letting him stay for another ten days or so?"

"No way." Lin Qiqi's tone was firm, leaving no room for negotiation.

"I must take him with me today." As she spoke, Lin Qiqi took out a bank card from her bag and placed it on the coffee table in front of Ling Chen, saying, "According to our deal, this card contains one billion US

Dollars. You take the money, hand over the person, and we'll be even. As for the grudges between you and the God Organization, we'll settle them later."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen couldn't help but laugh, "Miss Lin, are you always this domineering? Or is it that you've been in control of the God Organization for too long, accustomed to having everyone comply with your words, thinking everyone should obey you?"

Lin Qiqi frowned slightly, her bright eyes flashing with a cold look.

"Ling Chen, don't refuse a toast only to be forced to drink a forfeit. I've already given you face. If it weren't for your blood relationship with the Ling Family, I would have taken action long ago."

"Tsk ts! Should I then thank you for sparing me?" Ling Chen said with a mocking smile, "Miss Lin, you'd better not forget that I hold the advantage now, not you. You want me to release Lin Guodong; you should be the one asking for a favor. Is this how you ask for something? Throwing this money at me like charity. Miss Lin, if it were you, would you feel comfortable in your heart?"

Suppressing her anger, Lin Qiqi impatiently asked, "What exactly do you want?"

"It's not about what I want; it's that I don't see your sincerity. Miss Lin, this is not a marketplace, so I don't adhere to the 'customer is king' principle. If you want to take him away, you better treat me with some respect, at least say something nice. You've been dealing with me long enough to understand my character. I'm Ling Chen; I'm susceptible to good words. As long as you say a few pleasant things, maybe I'll be in a good mood and release him right away."

"Are you threatening me?" Lin Qiqi said through gritted teeth.

Ling Chen shrugged, "You're the leader of the God Organization; how dare I threaten you."

Hearing Ling Chen's mocking tone, Lin Qiqi stared into his eyes, saying nothing for a long while. Ling Chen, unafraid, met her gaze, with a faint smile constantly on his lips.

After a moment, Lin Qiqi extended her hand into her bag again, took out another bank card, and placed it on the coffee table in front of Ling Chen.

"There are another five billion US Dollars here, totaling fifteen billion US Dollars. I think you should be satisfied now. Ling Chen, this is my final offer. Don't push your luck."

Looking at the two bank cards laid in front of him, the smile on Ling Chen's lips became even brighter.

"Miss Lin is quite generous."

"Can you let him go now?" Lin Qiqi asked.

Ling Chen grinned, "Since Miss Lin is so generous, it would be unreasonable for me to make things difficult any longer. Wait here, and I'll bring Mr. Lin over right away." Saying this, Ling Chen put the two bank cards into his pocket and left the meeting room.

Arriving at the control center, Ling Chen handed the two bank cards to Hu Fei, asking him to verify whether the amount in the cards was correct.

A few minutes passed, and Hu Fei excitedly said, "No problem, a total of fifteen billion US Dollars, not a penny missing." After speaking, Hu Fei looked at Ling Chen and urged, "I say, why don't we squeeze them for more money since the God Organization is loaded."

"Enough already!" Tang Guolun, standing nearby, said, "Accept the good fortune while it lasts, don't push them too hard. We've gained an extra five billion US Dollars; isn't that enough for you?"

Ling Chen teased, "This guy is never satisfied; he never thinks there's too much money."

"That's right, money is something the more, the better."

"Alright, stop chatting idly, let me take Lin Guodong over first."

At this moment, in the meeting room, Lin Qiqi picked up the teacup on the coffee table and sipped her tea leisurely. After a while, she took a cell phone out of her bag and opened an app. Instantly, two red dots appeared on the app, blinking.

"Sir Chen, thank you for your effort," Lin Qiqi handed the phone to the old man behind her and said.

"Yes," the old man responded, saying little, as he immediately took the phone and briskly walked out of the meeting room.

As the meeting room door opened, two security guards stationed outside immediately came up to block the old man's path, saying, "Sorry! Mr. Ling has ordered that you must stay inside and not leave at will."

The old man's eyes turned cold, and without a word, he lunged forward suddenly, striking like lightning. In the blink of an eye, the two security guards lay in a pool of blood, their life and death unknown.

After dealing with the two security guards, the old man looked at the red dots displayed on the phone and quickly walked toward the front of the passage.

Beep Beep!

At this moment, Ling Chen was already outside the room where Lin Guodong was held, preparing to take him out. Upon hearing the alarm suddenly ring across the base, Ling Chen's expression shifted slightly, and he quickly took out his phone.

Before Ling Chen could dial, Hu Fei's call had already come through.

"Hey! Fatty, what's going on?"

"Damn, that old guy is heading for the control center, and no one can stop him."

Old guy?

A thought struck Ling Chen's mind, immediately linking it to the old man behind Lin Qiqi.

Not good!

With Hu Fei and Tang Guolun in the control center, if that old man broke through, Hu Fei and the others would definitely be in danger.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen hurried to the control center.

In the long corridor, the old man walked forward with large strides, leaving several corpses of the base's security personnel behind him. No one could stop him along the way.

"Stop!"

At this moment, a cold shout came from behind the old man.