

The Beauty 921

Chapter 921 A Woman's Secret (Part 2)

Nanrong Zhengqing joined in, "Since you want to save her, we'd better act immediately. If we're late, I'm afraid the God Organization will have already taken her away."

"There's no time to lose, let's go right now." With that, Ling Chen started towards the door.

"Wait!"

Hearing Nanrong Zhengqing's voice, Ling Chen stopped and turned to ask, "Uncle, is there something else?"

"You were just shot, your body hasn't recovered yet, how are you going to fight those people? Moreover, according to the intelligence I've gathered, the God Organization has dispatched quite a few people. There are two combat squads, both fully armed with heavy weapons. Even with us two helping you, the three of us alone will struggle to take them on."

Nanrong Zhengqing's words furrowed Ling Chen's brow into a line. Indeed, given his current physical state, strenuous activity was unsuitable. Furthermore, the God Organization was armed with guns. If he were at his peak, perhaps he could take on an entire squad alone, but now his combat ability was about the same as Nanrong Zhengqing's.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen's gaze swept around and landed on the Caucasian man in the room, his eyes lighting up immediately.

"What's your name?"

"Beison."

"Mr. Beison, if I remember correctly, you told me earlier that you're a mercenary?"

"Yes."

Ling Chen's lips curved upward, his smile growing more radiant, "Are you interested in making a deal?"

...

Midnight!

Outside an exhibition hall on the outskirts of the city, several business vehicles and a few Land Rover SUVs drove over and stopped outside the exhibition hall.

The car doors opened, and over thirty fully armed combat squad members jumped out one after another, dispersing around the exhibition hall with their guns ready. Meanwhile, under the surround of several middle-aged men, a young man appeared at the forefront of the team.

"Are you sure she's here?" the young man asked, looking at the modern art-infused exhibition hall before him.

"Mr. Lin, according to the intel we've gathered, that woman is staying inside this exhibition hall. It's newly built and hasn't opened yet, so there's no one inside, making it perfect for our operation."

"Very good." The young man nodded and said, "Send the word down, have them get ready, I want this matter resolved within half an hour."

"Rest assured, Mr. Lin, we won't let you down."

Hearing this, the young man snorted coldly, "Disappointed? It's because you people up there were so disappointing that they sent me here. Let me remind you, if tonight's operation fails again, you might as well pack your bags. The God Organization doesn't need useless people like you. Understood?"

"Yes." The middle-aged man wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and quickly responded.

Once the two combat squads were in position, the youth in charge gave a wave, signaling the commencement of the operation. Immediately, the two squads rushed in through the front and rear doors of the exhibition hall one after the other.

Bam! Bam!

Upon hearing two loud bangs from outside, a woman in a showroom inside the exhibition hall quickly lifted her head, set down her fast food container, scooped up her laptop, and dashed toward the hall's emergency exit.

Passing through the emergency exit door, the woman hurriedly ran downstairs, heading to the underground parking lot.

However, just as she opened the door to the underground parking lot, she heard a rapid succession of footsteps approaching quickly from afar.

Looking up, she saw several gun-wielding men rushing toward the exit of the emergency passage.

"Stop, don't run!"

Upon seeing the woman at the passage exit, one of the men immediately shouted.

Bam!

Without hesitation, the woman pulled out a pistol and swung it into action, firing a shot instantly. The man at the front fell to the ground, blood gushing from his body, staining the floor.

Seeing their companion shot, the other men were undeterred, immediately raising their assault rifles to spray bullets toward the door of the passage.

Rat-tat-tat!

As golden bullet casings hit the ground, the door of the emergency passage was riddled with bullet holes.

Facing the suppressive fire, even with precise marksmanship, the woman dared not show herself for fear of being hit by a stray bullet.

With the gunfire approaching, the woman didn't hesitate any longer, quickly turned and rushed back into the emergency passage, locking the door from the inside to block the enemies in the parking lot, preventing them from rushing in.

After locking the door, the woman didn't stop for a moment, immediately retracing her steps. No choice, she had spent too much time here. If the enemies from above arrived and she was caught in a pincer attack, she would have no chance to escape.

Sprinting all the way back, the woman just returned to the first-floor emergency exit of the exhibition hall, only to see an armed man pushing the door open. As their eyes met, the woman fired without hesitation, shooting the bullet straight into the man's forehead, killing him instantly.

However, these people were working in teams; even if one was killed, more than ten remained behind.

In the face of such a situation, the woman remained calm. She fired a couple of shots to force the enemy at the passage door back a few steps. Then, she bent down, removing a grenade from the body of the deceased man.

Pulling the pin, she flicked her wrist, rolling the grenade through the crack in the passage door.

"Bomb!"

Hearing the alarm from the other side of the door, the woman immediately sped up, rushing to the second floor of the exhibition hall.

The exhibition hall had only two floors, plus a rooftop. Once on the second floor, the woman blocked the door from the inside, trying to buy herself some time.

Looking at the empty second floor and the stairs leading to the rooftop, the woman paused in thought, uncertain how to shake off her pursuers.

While she was pondering her escape, there was a loud banging on the door outside the exhibition hall's second floor.

Though the door was locked, the woman knew it wouldn't hold for long, only buying her a dozen seconds at most.

Bam!

Suddenly, a massive explosion was heard, followed by a plume of thick smoke billowing in from outside the door.

Staring at the door destroyed by the blast, the woman's expression turned grim.

"Don't move!"

"Don't move!"

At that moment, more than ten fully armed men stormed in through the two doors on the second floor of the exhibition hall, all twenty-odd dark muzzles targeted at the woman.

"Drop the gun."

Upon hearing their command, the woman frowned slightly, her pretty eyes flickering. Suddenly, she lunged forward, crashing through a glass window and jumping out of the exhibition hall.

Seeing her move, the group hurried to the shattered window, peering outside.

But in the pitch-black darkness, they couldn't see anything, not even a trace of the woman.

Chapter 922 - 927: A Woman's Secret (Part 3)

"Report, that woman jumped down from the second floor, we can't see her."

"Useless, all of you are useless, so many people can't even catch one woman." The young man said coldly.

"Mr. Lin, please don't get angry. I have already made arrangements. No matter how skilled that woman is, she won't be able to escape." No sooner had the middle-aged man finished speaking than several gunshots were heard from the east side of the exhibition hall.

"Over there, quickly, pursue!"

The middle-aged man didn't waste a word and hurriedly led his men over.

At this moment, at one end of the exhibition hall, the woman who had jumped from the building was limping, struggling to escape toward the road. As long as she got into the car, she could shake off the pursuers behind her.

However, the footsteps behind her gradually approached, soon about to catch up.

"Stop!"

Hearing the shout from behind, the woman didn't even think, directly pulling out her gun and firing a few shots backward, forcing the pursuers back.

Ratatat! Ratatat!

Soon, the woman's actions were immediately met with counterattacks; dense bullets crazily fired, pierced through the woman's calf. Instantly, her legs gave way, and she fell to the ground.

Looking at the continuously bleeding wound, the woman bit her lip gently, struggled to stand back up, then continued to move forward while supporting herself against the wall.

But after walking a short distance, the pain in the wound was too intense, and her right leg felt as if it lost all sensation, completely powerless.

Finally, the woman with a numb right leg collapsed to the ground, leaning against the wall, gasping for breath.

Hearing the footsteps closing in again, the woman reloaded the magazine of her pistol and fired a few shots in the direction of the approaching flashlights.

All at once, flames flickered, the air filled with the thick scent of gunpowder.

Although she temporarily curbed the enemy's offensive, the woman's ammunition depleted rapidly. Before long, only one bullet remained in her pistol.

"Cease fire, everyone."

Hearing the gunfire in front cease, the young man immediately stopped his men. He certainly didn't want to actually kill her; orders from above were to capture the woman alive if possible, because she was still useful to the organization.

"Miss Yang, surrender now. I know you're out of bullets. Rest assured, I can guarantee I won't harm you. I'm here just to invite you back to the country for a bit, there are some things I'd like your help with."

Listening to the young man's shout, the woman had no intention of responding. Her hand lightly caressed the pistol, her beautiful eyes showing a hint of determination.

"Miss Yang, don't resist needlessly, you're already surrounded."

Seeing no reply from the other side, the young man persuaded again. At the same time, he signaled a few men beside him to advance slowly and capture the woman.

Hearing the footsteps getting closer, the woman gave a bitter smile, raised the gun in her hand, pointed the dark muzzle at her own forehead.

To her, being caught was worse than death.

Bang!

The crisp sound of a gunshot rang out.

But the bullet did not enter the woman's head. Instead, the bullet came from a distance, accurately hitting the gun in the woman's hand, knocking it to the ground.

Before she could react, several more gunshots rang out, and the enemies trying to approach her were all shot dead.

"Who?" The woman was slightly stunned, looking in the direction the bullet came from, eyes filled with surprise.

In the dim light, a slender figure gradually became clear. As the figure approached, the woman's pupils enlarged in shock, watching the newcomer. She never expected the one who saved her to be this young man.

He... he wasn't dead?

Looking at the woman leaning against the wall, Ling Chen faintly smiled and asked, "Are you okay?"

In response to Ling Chen's question, the woman seemed not to hear, still in shock. She distinctly remembered, in the parking lot during the day, she shot him dead. Why? Why was he still alive?

While thinking, a cold voice came from across: "Who are you? State your name."

Before the woman could reply, Ling Chen smiled and said, "Lin Tong, long time no see, do you remember me?"

"Ling Chen! Is it you?"

Lin Tong was suddenly shocked.

Ling Chen?

Hearing Lin Tong's call to Ling Chen, the woman's gaze brightened instantly, looking at the young man in disbelief.

He is... Ling Chen!

He is Ling Chen!

The woman stared unblinkingly at Ling Chen, her breathing growing rapid.

Sensing the woman's strange gaze, Ling Chen turned his head, glancing at her. Seeing her dazed expression, Ling Chen was a bit puzzled. But what surprised him even more was that tears welled up in the corners of her eyes.

Crying?

Ling Chen was stunned, he clearly saved her, why would she cry? Could it be because she was too grateful?

While thinking wildly, Lin Tong's voice came from across: "Ling Chen, this has nothing to do with you, you'd better not interfere. Otherwise, don't blame me for being impolite."

Hearing this, Ling Chen chuckled, saying: "Lin Tong, don't you find it ridiculous saying this now? Don't forget, Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi are both in my hands, what gives you the right to contend with me now? I'm telling you, I want this woman, if you dare interfere, then stay here forever, never return to the country."

"Ling Chen, don't be too arrogant. This isn't your turf, I have dozens of guns on you. No matter how skilled you are, you won't fly."

"Is that so?" Ling Chen replied nonchalantly with a smile: "If so, then let's try, and see whose abilities are greater."

After speaking, Ling Chen didn't bother with Lin Tong anymore and went straight to the woman's side, helping her up by the arm.

At this moment, the woman's gaze was still on Ling Chen, constantly staring at him, which made Ling Chen uncomfortable.

If it were a young girl looking at him, Ling Chen might be pleased. But the woman in front of him was over twenty years older than him and had even shot him. Her staring made him a little nervous, unsure of her intentions.

"Let's go, I'll take you away first." With those words, Ling Chen supported the woman and made his way toward the road.

However, after taking just a few steps, the woman let out a painful groan, her face pale as paper, the weight of her body hanging on Ling Chen's arm.

"I... I can't, can't go on, maybe... maybe you should carry me."

"Carry you?" Ling Chen was taken aback. This woman had the nerve to ask him to carry her.

Honestly, Ling Chen didn't quite have the guts to carry her. Who knew if she would do something behind his back? If she attacked him secretly, he'd suffer a great loss.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen directly refused: "No way!"

Chapter 923 - 928: Mother and Son Reunited (Part 1)

Upon hearing Ling Chen's refusal, the woman seemed a bit disappointed, but still forced a smile and said, "Are you afraid I'll ambush you?"

Seeing the woman's smile, Ling Chen's gaze suddenly became dazed. This woman was naturally beautiful, and when she smiled, it seemed as if the whole world brightened up.

Seeing Ling Chen staring at her blankly, the woman softly said, "Don't worry, I won't hurt you. Even if I have to exchange my life for yours, I would do it willingly."

Ling Chen didn't believe the woman's words at all. Obviously, she had shot at him in the parking lot during the day, and now she was saying she wouldn't hurt him. Who would believe such nonsense?

Ling Chen didn't believe. However, seeing the woman's genuine smile and sincere eyes, he unknowingly chose to believe.

As the footsteps behind them gradually approached, Ling Chen didn't dare to hesitate. He quickly carried the woman on his back and hurried towards the roadside.

"Chase them, don't let them escape."

At this moment, Lin Tong arrived swiftly with his team. Seeing Ling Chen's distant figure, he anxiously shouted.

Bam!

Suddenly, a gunshot rang out abruptly, and the man running at the front fell to the ground.

Before everyone could react, something seemed to be thrown from the air, landing on the ground and quickly rolling.

"Grenade!"

Seeing what was on the ground, the crowd instantly changed colors, faces filled with shock and fear, urgently fleeing backwards. Unfortunately, they were still a step too slow.

Before they had time to escape, the grenade exploded among them. In an instant, flames burst forth, thick smoke billowed, and within the blast's range, nearly half of the people were injured by the grenade, lying on the ground wailing nonstop, blood flowing freely, the scene was a complete mess.

"Ling Chen!" Lin Tong, lying on the ground, looked at his dead and injured subordinates around him, his face turning extremely ugly.

By this time, Ling Chen had already brought the woman back to the car parked by the road.

Closing the car door, Ling Chen greeted Ji Beizhao, who was in the driver's seat, and the latter immediately understood, quickly driving the car onto the road. Soon, the gunfire gradually weakened until it was inaudible.

Not long after, the three of them drove back into the alley.

"We're here!"

Ling Chen glanced at the woman beside him, ready to call her to get out of the car. However, when his eyes fell on the woman, Ling Chen was taken aback.

Earlier on the way back, Ling Chen had occasionally noticed. The woman's head was resting against the car window, sitting weakly. Seeing her like that, Ling Chen thought she was taking a rest because she was shot. But only when the car stopped did he realize she had already fainted. Moreover, her pant leg was stained red with blood.

Looking at the woman's pale face, Ling Chen didn't dare to delay and hurriedly carried her out of the car.

Passing through the rusty iron door, Ji Beizhao quickly cleared a table. Then, Ling Chen gently placed the woman's body on the table, tore open the blood-stained pant leg, and instantly a bloody wound appeared before his eyes. Seeing the blood continuously gushing from the wound, Ling Chen immediately pulled out his belt and tightly bound the woman's leg to prevent excessive blood loss from causing death.

"Beizhao, go get me a first aid kit."

Before long, Ling Chen, holding a pair of tweezers, helped the woman remove the bullet from her wound. Then he used a hemostat to stop the bleeding vessel and bandaged it up.

After treating the wound, the woman had already fallen into a coma. Ling Chen checked her pulse, made sure her body was not in danger, then breathed a sigh of relief.

This woman before him still had many secrets that needed to be unraveled, and he didn't want her to die so quickly.

After resting in the room for a while, there was a sudden 'knock knock' at the iron door outside. Ling Chen opened the door and saw Nanrong Zhengqing and Beison standing outside.

"Uncle, Mr. Beison." Ling Chen smiled slightly and hurriedly welcomed the two inside.

"Mr. Ling," Beison said politely, "I've completed your requests; I wonder..."

Before Beison could finish speaking, Ling Chen patted his shoulder, interrupting him, and said with a smile, "Mr. Beison, rest assured, I'll have the remaining payment transferred to your account shortly."

Hearing this, Beison immediately smiled, nodding, "Thank you very much, Mr. Ling."

"You're welcome. This is business; I pay, you work, very fair." Pausing, Ling Chen continued, "Mr. Beison, your team is excellent. I wonder if you have any interest in accepting long-term employment?"

"Mr. Ling, we are mercenaries. As long as we get paid, not just long-term or short-term, even a lifetime is no problem."

"Good!" Ling Chen said, "Later, I have a big deal I want to discuss with you; you should rest first."

"Mr. Ling." Beison called out to Ling Chen, who was about to leave, and said, "When we dealt with those people earlier, I captured a few individuals, who seem to be their leaders. I was wondering if you're interested in meeting them?"

"Is that so?" Ling Chen felt a moment of delight, not expecting this unexpected surprise. His purpose in hiring Beison was simply to counter the God Organization. As for capturing all the members sent by the God Organization, Ling Chen hadn't dared to hope too much, knowing the strength of the God Organization. Moreover, leading the team this time was Lin Tong, a master on the Earthly List.

So, as long as Beison could hold off the God Organization's members, Ling Chen was already satisfied. Who would have thought that not only did Beison take care of all the God Organization members, but he also captured Lin Tong and his associates, something completely unexpected.

"Mr. Beison, where are these people you mentioned?"

"In the car, I'll have them brought over right away."

Before long, a few armed men escorted Lin Tong and two middle-aged men into the room.

Seeing the distressed Lin Tong, Ling Chen couldn't help but laugh.

Lin Tong gritted his teeth and said, "Ling, what are you laughing at? Mark my words, I'll return this debt a hundredfold sooner or later on you."

"Lin Tong, let me advise you to save your breath. A master of the Earthly List getting taken down by a bunch of mercenaries; imagine how people will ridicule you if this gets out."

"Shut up!"

Ling Chen said with an amused smile, "Lin Tong, you'd better realize whose territory you're on now. If you dare to speak out of turn again, don't blame me for being impolite."

"You..."

"If you don't believe me, feel free to try." Ling Chen stared directly into Lin Tong's eyes. Feeling the cold intention in Ling Chen's gaze, Lin Tong immediately swallowed back his words. This wasn't his first encounter with Ling Chen, so he knew clearly that Ling Chen was a person who meant what he said.

Chapter 924 - 929: Mother and Son Reunited (Part 2)

When under the eaves, one has to bow their head. Lin Tong has become Ling Chen's prisoner now, so it's better to be honest to avoid trouble.

Seeing Lin Tong obediently shut his mouth, Ling Chen smiled and turned to Beison, asking, "Mr. Beison, I'm very curious, how did you manage to capture him?"

"I owe it mostly to Mr. Ling's help."

"Me?" Ling Chen pointed to his own nose, puzzled, and asked, "When did I help you?"

Beison said sheepishly, "In the parking lot, when I witnessed Mr. Ling's skills, I realized the Huaxia saying is true: there is always someone better, another sky beyond the sky. So, when Ling Chen asked me to lead a team to deal with those people, I found out there were Huaxia people among them, wondering if they might be like Mr. Ling. Therefore, before taking action, I specifically asked someone to prepare some fishing nets, and then installed some small gadgets in the nets, turning them into electric nets. I figured, no matter how skilled someone is, they couldn't be completely unscathed after being electrocuted."

"Not bad!" Ling Chen gave a thumbs up and commended, "Seems I found the right person."

After speaking, Ling Chen turned to look at Lin Tong beside him and asked, "I'm curious, why did you send so many people to capture that woman? Is she so important to you?"

Hearing this, Lin Tong asked back in surprise, "You don't know who she is?"

"No idea."

"And yet you rescued her?"

"Although I don't know her identity, my intuition tells me that this woman has some connection to me. Moreover, she can help me find my family." Pausing for a moment, Ling Chen stared into Lin Tong's eyes and said, "From what you just said, it seems you know who she is, so why not tell me. Save me the effort of asking her myself."

Lin Tong hesitated for a moment before slowly speaking, "Her surname is Yang, saying that should give you a clue about her identity."

"Surname Yang?" Ling Chen was slightly stunned. This woman shared the same surname with his mother, Yang. Coupling it with her search for Ling Kun and her relationship with the Yang Yan couple, her identity quickly became apparent.

Yang Qingling!

With that thought, Ling Chen's eyes widened, filled with shock.

Could it be... could it be his mother!

Watching Ling Chen's stunned expression, Lin Tong said coldly, "Ling Chen, congratulations on your reunion with your mother. But don't celebrate too soon, we won't let your family off easily."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen immediately regained his composure and replied calmly, "Until the end, no one knows the outcome, so there's no need to intimidate me." After speaking, Ling Chen waved his hand, signaling Beison to take Lin Tong and his companions out.

Back in the inner room, Ling Chen looked at Yang Qingling, still unconscious on the table, and his eyes revealed a trace of complicated emotion.

The woman before him was his mother. Knowing this news, Ling Chen felt as if fate played a prank on him. Fortunately, his abilities were considerable; otherwise, he could have died under his mother's gun back in the parking lot.

No wonder when he rescued her from Lin Tong, the other party looked at him with that peculiar expression; she probably knew his identity from then on.

For over twenty years, Ling Chen had never felt maternal love. To him, "mother" was a very unfamiliar term. But now, right in front of him, this unfamiliar woman was his mother. It's unclear why, but apart from shock, Ling Chen felt no happiness.

He couldn't understand why Yang Qingling lived abroad all this time and didn't return to look for him. As a mother, did she not want to meet her son face to face?

While pondering, Ji Beizhao entered from outside, patting Ling Chen's shoulder and said, "It's late, we should go back now." After speaking, Ji Beizhao turned his gaze to the unconscious Yang Qingling and said, "Let this woman stay here for now, I'll have Beison send people to watch her, and we'll come back to question her tomorrow, what do you think?"

"No!" Ling Chen said, "She can't stay here, take her back with us."

"Take her back?" Ji Beizhao paused, puzzled, and asked, "Why?"

"She..." Ling Chen opened his mouth but couldn't bring himself to say the words ready on his lips. After hesitating for a while, Ling Chen took a deep breath and calmly said, "She's my mom."

Uh...

Ji Beizhao stared at Ling Chen, doubting if his ears deceived him. This woman was indeed Ling Chen's mother! If Ling Chen hadn't said it himself, he wouldn't believe it at all.

"Um... Ling Chen, don't blame me for being nosy, but is she really your mom? You're not mistaken?"

"Rest assured, I wouldn't joke about something like this. Alright, don't ask anymore, I'm as confused as you are right now, let's wait until she wakes up."

"Okay! Then wait a bit, I'll arrange a car for your mother to go back."

Returning to Ji Beizhao's house, Ling Chen carried the unconscious Yang Qingling and placed her in Ji Beizhao's room. Because Nanrong Wanqing was still sleeping, Ling Chen did not want to disturb her, so he didn't wake her.

It was already past two in the morning.

"Beizhao, it's late, you've been busy all day, go rest, I'll stay here."

"Alright, I'll sleep in the living room tonight, call me if you need anything." After speaking, Ji Beizhao left the room, closing the door on his way out.

Sitting by the bedside, Ling Chen propped up his chin with one hand, quietly watching Yang Qingling, his gaze flickering uncertainly. From knowing Yang Qingling's identity until now, he couldn't calm down, continually thinking about how to communicate with her once she woke up.

As a son who had never experienced maternal love, at this moment, his heart was filled with anticipation, yet tinged with fear, unsure how to face it.

Lost in thought, due to his still unrecovered gunshot wound, Ling Chen soon fell into a deep sleep on the chair.

It's unclear how long had passed when Ling Chen suddenly felt someone moving in front of him. Almost instinctively, he raised his hand and reached forward, immediately grasping a wrist.

Seeing the owner of the wrist, Ling Chen was slightly startled, released his hand quickly, and apologized, "Sorry, I..."

Before Ling Chen could finish speaking, Yang Qingling already interrupted him with her gaze.

"No need to apologize; the one who should say sorry is me." With that, Yang Qingling nervously looked at Ling Chen and asked, "Do you... know who I am?"

Ling Chen didn't speak, only nodded gently. At that moment, he couldn't think of anything to say except a physical response.

Chapter 925 - 930: Mother and Son Reunited (Part 3)

Looking at Ling Chen, who remained silent, a hint of bitterness flickered in Yang Qingling's beautiful eyes.

"Do you... do you hate me very much?"

"No." Ling Chen responded calmly, "I never knew you, so why would I hate you?" After saying this, not waiting for Yang Qingling to respond, Ling Chen continued, "You don't need to feel like you owe me anything or feel guilty towards me. Honestly, I'm already very happy to see you."

Yang Qingling chuckled bitterly and said, "If you really were happy, you wouldn't be speaking to me in this tone. I know I owe you and your father so much, but I hope you can understand me. I was forced to leave you all. As a mother, if I could, I would give up everything to be by your side."

"Why?" Ling Chen asked, "I've heard about you and my dad from Lin Guodong. Lin Guodong told me that back then, the Ling Family Patriarch secretly imprisoned you, and even my dad didn't know your whereabouts. Later, my dad mistakenly thought you died, so he lashed out in anger and killed several cousins of the Ling Family. Because of this, the Patriarch expelled both me and my dad from the Ling Family. I don't understand, since you didn't die back then and even escaped abroad, why didn't you contact me and my dad to let us know you were still alive."

"It wasn't that I didn't want to; I couldn't." Yang Qingling sighed and said helplessly, "Back then, when I was secretly imprisoned, the Ling Family Patriarch forced me to hand over the Yang family's property, transferring all assets to the Ling Family's name. The Yang Family had worked for many years, and the efforts of several generations were all there. Anyone would be reluctant to give away everything they worked hard for. Initially, I hoped your father would find me and rescue me from the Ling Family. Unfortunately, after several months, there was no sign from your dad."

"Later, the Ling Family Patriarch told me that you and your dad were expelled from the Ling Family. If I didn't want you to be in danger, I had to hand over the Yang family's industry; otherwise, he would send people to hunt you and your father. Being forced, I could only choose to compromise. To stay alive, I reached an agreement with the Ling Family. After transferring the assets, I would settle abroad and never return to find you. If the Ling Family discovered I was in contact with you, it would be harmful to you."

"Not only that, the Ling Family also sent people to secretly monitor me, listening to my phone, and my life was almost transparent to them, with no secrets. This kind of life lasted for over ten years. Later, I met Qi Houzhao, and with his help and my own planning, I finally found a chance to escape the Ling Family's surveillance. However, the Ling Family did not give up and continued searching for my whereabouts. To avoid being found by them, I took great pains, constantly changing my name and changing addresses. During this time, I contacted several friends in the country, asking them to help me find out your and your father's whereabouts. Unfortunately, all these years, there was never any news of you."

"Why don't you return to the country?"

"I don't dare." Yang Qingling said, "The Ling family's power is too vast. If I go to the airport, it's very likely they would find out. It's too dangerous to do so; I don't dare to take risks lightly. Besides, I have to consider not only myself but also my parents."

"You mean grandfather and grandmother?" Ling Chen asked concernedly, "Where are they? Are they safe?"

Hearing Ling Chen calling her parents 'grandfather and grandmother,' a smile appeared in Yang Qingling's eyes.

"Don't worry; they're doing well now, the Ling Family can't find them. Your grandfather and grandmother are old and can't endure disturbances anymore, so I must consider their safety. If I leave, leaving the two of them in this city, I won't feel assured. Thus, I continue to ask my friends to look for you while utilizing my relationship with Qi Houzhao to make some quick-money investments. In a few years, I've accumulated quite a few assets. Using these assets, I hired Beison to help me deal with people from the Ling Family and gather information."

At this point, Yang Qingling looked at Ling Chen with deep apology and said, "I'm sorry. That day at the Chinese restaurant, when I saw your posted notice and the contact details you left. Since you signed as 'Mr. Ling,' I mistakenly thought you were sent by the Ling Family. That's why I asked Qi Houzhao for help, intending to secretly get rid of you. Fortunately, your skills are not small, and nothing happened; otherwise, I would not be peaceful for the rest of my life."

Ling Chen touched his nose and said, "It's also my fault; I didn't specify my identity at that time. If I had revealed my name earlier, it wouldn't have caused so many misunderstandings. But thankfully, although we've experienced so many things, we're all safe."

"Your... how is your injury?" Yang Qingling asked concernedly, "Yesterday at the parking lot, I clearly shot you, why do you..."

"Why am I still alive?" Ling Chen smiled and said, "I have practiced martial arts, so my body is much stronger than ordinary people, and the bullet only injured the muscle, not threatening my life."

"That's good." Yang Qingling breathed a sigh of relief. Thinking about the scene that happened in the parking lot, she still felt a bit uneasy.

"Ling Chen, did you come abroad this time specifically to find us?"

Ling Chen nodded and said, "Yes. I found some information about grandfather and grandmother, so I wanted to come over and see them, and bring them back home, but unexpectedly, I encountered so many things."

"Then... where's your dad, why didn't he come with you?"

"My dad, he..." Ling Chen hesitated for a moment, uncertain whether to reveal his dad's situation.

However, the more he acted this way, the more Yang Qingling worried, urging, "How is your dad?"

"He's fine, just... had a minor issue." With that, Ling Chen explained Ling Kun's current situation.

Yang Qingling worriedly asked, "Will he be in danger?"

"Don't worry, Elder Su is with him; there shouldn't be any problems. As long as dad's body recovers naturally, he will wake up. Mom, don't worry too much; in a while, I'll take you to see my dad."

Hearing Ling Chen call out "Mom," Yang Qingling's beautiful eyes couldn't help but well up with tears. Nobody would know that, as a mother, she had been waiting to hear this word for over twenty years.

Seeing the tears glisten in Yang Qingling's eyes, Ling Chen was slightly stunned. He hadn't expected calling out "Mom" would feel so smooth.

Perhaps, deep down inside, he also longed for an opportunity to utter this word.

"Ling Chen, she... is she your mom?"

At this moment, a surprised voice came from the doorway.

Chapter 926 - 931: Ling Chen's Dilemma

Ling Chen turned his head to look at the doorway, only to see Nanrong Wanqing standing there in shock, leaning against the doorframe, staring blankly at Yang Qingling with eyes full of disbelief.

"Wanqing!" Ling Chen quickly stood up from his chair, walked briskly to the door, took Nanrong Wanqing's small hand, and brought her into the room.

"I thought you would sleep a little longer."

"I just woke up and saw you weren't by my side, so I felt a bit worried and came out to look. I didn't expect..." At this point, Nanrong Wanqing cast her gaze back towards Yang Qingling, her beautiful eyes flickering with a hint of confusion.

"Ling Chen..." Nanrong Wanqing gently tugged at Ling Chen's sleeve and softly asked, "Is she really your mom?"

Ling Chen smiled slightly, "Come, let me introduce you. This is my mom, Yang Qingling. Mom, this is Wanqing, you've met before."

"Wanqing, right?" Yang Qingling warmly waved to Nanrong Wanqing, "Come on, let me have a look."

Nanrong Wanqing sneaked a glance at Ling Chen, then shyly walked to the bedside, and softly greeted, "Hello, Auntie."

"Good, good." Yang Qingling smiled as she looked at Nanrong Wanqing with a very satisfied expression.

As the saying goes, the more a mother-in-law looks at her son-in-law, the more she likes him. The same goes for a mother-in-law looking at her daughter-in-law. Although Ling Chen hadn't clarified Nanrong Wanqing's identity, Yang Qingling was a very smart woman who could deduce the unusual relationship between the two from Nanrong Wanqing's words.

Sleeping in the same bed, what else could they be but a couple? Moreover, Nanrong Wanqing was outstanding in appearance and had an excellent temperament, not losing out to Yang Qingling at all. Seeing her son find such a good girlfriend, as a mother, Yang Qingling couldn't help but be happy.

Facing Yang Qingling's satisfied gaze, Nanrong Wanqing smiled faintly, feeling sweet inside. For her, gaining the recognition of her future mother-in-law was undoubtedly a reason to be happy.

"Mom, Wanqing, you guys chat first. I'll come back later." Seeing them chat so engrossedly, completely forgetting about him, Ling Chen couldn't help but feel a bit helpless and went to the kitchen to prepare breakfast for Yang Qingling and Nanrong Wanqing.

When they were having breakfast, Ji Beizhao and Nanrong Zhengqing were already up. Upon learning about the reunion of Ling Chen and his mother, both expressed their congratulations.

After breakfast, Ji Beizhao asked, "Ling Chen, everything is mostly settled here. When are you planning to return to the country?"

"In the next couple of days," Ling Chen replied. He had found Yang Qingling and planned to find some time to visit his grandparents today. Once everything was arranged, he could take his family back to the country.

"Uncle, Beizhao, thank you for your help these days," Ling Chen said gratefully. Without the assistance from Nanrong Zhengqing and his son, it wouldn't have been so smooth.

Nanrong Zhengqing smiled slightly and said, "We're family, no need to be so polite."

"Uncle, are you guys planning to stay abroad and not go back?" Nanrong Wanqing asked casually.

"I and Beizhao have settled down here with some difficulty, so we don't want to return for the time being. However, our hometown is in Huaxia, and we will definitely visit once we have the time. Besides, I am your uncle. I'll certainly attend your wedding someday."

Hearing Nanrong Zhengqing mention the word 'wedding', a faint blush appeared on Nanrong Wanqing's exquisite face, and she shyly glanced at Ling Chen.

Seeing her shy look, Ji Beizhao chuckled and asked, "When are you two planning to get married? Ling Chen, cousin, you both are not young anymore; it's time to consider it."

"Um...we haven't thought about it yet," Nanrong Wanqing said softly, "Nanrong Hao has just taken over the Hongyu Group and can't manage it independently yet. I'll consider marriage when he no longer worries me. Besides..." She paused, hesitant to continue.

"Besides what?" Ji Beizhao prompted.

Nanrong Wanqing hesitated for a moment before slowly saying, "Once Nanrong Hao takes over the Hongyu Group, I want to look for my parents. So many years have passed, and I still don't know where they are or how they're doing. As a daughter, my greatest hope is to reunite as a family."

Hearing this, Ling Chen, who was drinking milk, slightly paused, a fleeting light flickering in his eyes.

Regarding Nanrong Wanqing's father, Ling Chen knew better than anyone. Nanrong Yuan had been brutally murdered, and this matter was currently only known to Nanrong Hao. However, Hu Fei had advised Nanrong Hao to hide this bad news to prevent Nanrong Wanqing from suffering a blow.

During this time, Ling Chen had been pondering how to explain this matter to Nanrong Wanqing. However, no matter how much he thought about it, he couldn't find a suitable opportunity to speak. Perhaps he was also afraid because Nanrong Yuan's death had a great deal to do with him. It was initially due to his insistence that Nanrong Yuan was transferred from Beijing to East Sea City. This reason had given Zhu Hong an opportunity to act, allowing him to capture Nanrong Yuan.

If Nanrong Yuan had stayed at the Lonewolf Base in Beijing, Zhu Hong and the people from the God Organization certainly wouldn't have harmed him.

Therefore, regarding this matter, Ling Chen felt a bit guilty. Once Nanrong Wanqing learned the truth, he didn't know how she would treat him.

While mulling these thoughts, Nanrong Zhengqing suddenly asked, "Your parents have been missing for so many years without any word. How do you plan to find them?"

"I don't know," Nanrong Wanqing said helplessly. "No matter what, I must try to search. Maybe there's still a glimmer of hope."

"How about this?" Nanrong Zhengqing thought for a moment before suggesting, "Anyway, I'm free; why don't I help you look? I'm better at finding people than you." Then he looked at Ling Chen and said, "You have quite a few resources at hand. Why not help Wanqing keep an eye out to see if there's any news about her parents."

Ling Chen nodded and said, "I know. I've already had people searching, but there's been no progress yet."

"Uncle, in that case, I'll rely on you for this matter." Nanrong Wanqing said.

"No need to be so formal. He's your father—my brother—this is my duty."

After chatting for a while, Ling Chen then took Yang Qingling and Nanrong Wanqing to visit Yang Yan and his wife's residence.

For the safety of the Yang Yan couple, Yang Qingling had changed their residence many times over the years. However, from Yang Qingling's words, it was evident that Yang Yan and his wife missed their homeland and wished to return to Huaxia someday. Unfortunately, due to the Ling family's influence, this wish had never been fulfilled.

On the way there, Ling Chen had already decided that this time he wouldn't just bring Yang Qingling back; his grandparents must come too. In any case, East Sea City was his territory, and with him assigning people for protection, his family shouldn't be in danger.

Chapter 927 932: Betrayal (1)

Just as he was thinking, Ling Chen suddenly heard his phone ringing.

He pulled out his phone and looked at the caller ID. Ling Chen immediately answered the call, asking, "Fatty, what's up? Why are you calling me?"

"How long will it take for you to wrap things up there?" Hu Fei's voice sounded anxious over the phone.

"Soon!"

"If possible, you better hurry back. Something's gone wrong in East Sea City. Jiang Hao has already been arrested by the police and is now held at the station. Although I've made arrangements with Officer Xia, so there's no issue with his safety, without Jiang Hao leading, things are chaotic here. We're relying on Haozi to keep things under control, but I'm worried this won't last long."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen frowned. He had been keeping an eye on the struggle between Zhao Zhengxiong and Jiang Hao, and before heading abroad, he specifically instructed Hu Fei. If anything happened, he should ask Qiu Yong and the others for help. With the Eight Monsters stepping in, Zhao Zhengxiong wouldn't stand a chance, no matter how many people he had.

Thinking of this, Ling Chen asked, "Didn't you ask my big brother and the others for help?"

"I did, of course. But even with their help, they couldn't handle Zhao Zhengxiong and instead suffered some losses."

"What?" Ling Chen was shocked. Even Qiu Yong and the others suffered losses. How could this be? Each of the Eight Monsters is a master. Could they not even handle a bunch of small-time thugs?

"Ling Chen, don't ask too many questions now. Hurry back. If you don't return soon to oversee things, I'm afraid East Sea City might fall into Zhao Zhengxiong's hands."

"Alright, I got it." Ling Chen replied, "I'll arrange for a flight back tonight."

After hanging up the phone, Nanrong Wanqing looked at the visibly tense Ling Chen and asked with concern, "What happened? Did something go wrong in East Sea City?"

"Hu Fei and the others have run into some trouble and might need my help. Contact them later and book a few flights. We'll head back tonight."

...

Night falls.

In a cafe located outside the East Sea City research base, a middle-aged man dressed in a suit walked in, surrounded by several young men.

Seeing customers, a waiter quickly approached with a smile, asking, "How many people, sir?"

The middle-aged man glanced at the not-so-busy hall and said coldly, "Tell your boss, I've booked this cafe. No other guests are allowed in tonight."

The waiter was stunned upon hearing this request. He had heard of bookings before, but no one had ever spent money to book an entire cafe.

Seeing the waiter standing there dumbfounded, the middle-aged man's brows furrowed as he shouted coldly, "Why are you still standing there? Wasn't I clear enough? I'll give you five minutes. Hurry and get everyone out of here. Five minutes from now, if I see anyone else in the store except my people, don't blame me for being ruthless."

After speaking, the middle-aged man made a gesture. A follower immediately pulled out several bundles of hundred-yuan bills from his shoulder bag and tossed them onto the waiter.

Looking at the tens of thousands of yuan on the ground, the waiter focused his gaze and immediately looked up at the middle-aged man. However, the latter had already settled down at a window seat with his subordinates.

Having no choice, the waiter picked up the money and quickly ran to the office to find his manager.

"Manager, I don't think those people are good. Should we... should we call the police?" the waiter said worriedly.

"Are you stupid!" The manager irritably slapped the back of the waiter's head, scolding, "Call the police? Is your brain damaged for not making money? This money is enough for a month's earnings. Alright, stop talking so much, quickly get the other guests out, don't delay their time. Oh! Tell the other guests they're all free tonight."

"Yes, I understand."

With the efforts of several waiters, within five minutes, the cafe was cleared of all guests, leaving only the middle-aged man and his followers.

"Sir, please have some tea."

At this moment, the cafe's manager came over with a cup of tea and placed it in front of the middle-aged man courteously. The latter glanced at the manager indifferently, saying coldly, "Leave with your people later. I don't need anyone waiting on me."

"Us?" The manager was a bit stunned, not yet reacting.

Bang!

Several bundles of hundred-yuan bills hit the table, snapping the manager back to reality.

"Take your people and get out. All this money is yours. I've booked this place for tonight. Come back and clean up tomorrow morning. Any problems?"

"This..." The manager hesitated. Without his own personnel supervising, who knows what these people might do? If they damage the store's goods, what should I do?

Before the manager could decide, a young man threw out tens of thousands more, and coldly said to the manager, "Is this enough? If not, I have this!" With that, the young man took a sharp dagger from his waist, tossed it onto the pile of money, and coldly said, "You choose. Do you want money or your life."

Seeing the suddenly thrown dagger, the manager jumped in fright, his legs going weak. He swallowed, squeezed out a smile, and said, "I'll take my people out right away." As he spoke, he didn't hesitate to gather the money from the table and then ran towards the office.

"Stop!"

Upon hearing the young man's command, the manager quickly stopped, turned around, and looked at the other party, "Sir, anything else?"

"You're a smart person. Say what should be said, and don't say what shouldn't. Understand?"

The manager fully understood the other party's implications, and for the sake of money, he immediately nodded, "Please rest assured, I'm someone who knows the ropes."

Soon, the manager left the cafe with several waiters, leaving the middle-aged man and a few subordinates seated inside.

"Alright, tell them to bring the car over." As everyone left, the middle-aged man stood up from his chair and casually took off his suit. A few minutes later, a truck parked outside the cafe.

The car door opened, and several young men jumped out, pulling open the tailgate. Immediately after, the group pushed several large machines into the cafe.

At this moment, in the cafe hall, all the tables and chairs had been thrown into the corner, leaving the center clear. As the machines arrived, several young men changed into work clothes, put on masks, and drilled into the ground with electric drills.

After more than two hours of busy work, a one-meter-wide hole was drilled into the center of the hall's floor.

"How much deeper?" The middle-aged man stood by, occasionally asking a question.

"Just dug half a meter deep, probably another meter or so to go." The busy young man replied.

The middle-aged man glanced at the time on his wristwatch and said in a deep voice, "Hurry up; it must be done before midnight."

"Understood."

Chapter 928 933: Betrayal (2)

In the blink of an eye, it was already midnight.

At this moment, on the floor of the café, a huge pit had been dug, nearly two meters deep. Several shirtless young men were holding electric drills, continuing to drill down. Around the pit, large piles of rubble and dirt were accumulating.

At this time, a busy young man suddenly raised his head, looking at the middle-aged man who was about to fall asleep, and shouted excitedly, "Boss, we found it!"

Upon hearing the young man's words, the middle-aged man hurriedly stood up from his chair and quickly rushed to the pit. At the bottom of the pit, several bundles of electrical wires were exposed, each as thick as an adult's arm.

"Hurry, we don't have much time."

"Boss, don't worry, it'll be sorted out soon." As he spoke, several young men put down their electric drills and picked up a small cutting machine, cutting open the protective skin outside the wires to expose the copper wire inside.

"Done! Boss, we can start working now."

The middle-aged man nodded, picked up his phone, and dialed a number. Within a few minutes, two bespectacled men walked in from outside the café. The two were dressed plainly, with ordinary looks, carrying several heavy boxes in their hands.

At the edge of the pit, one of the bespectacled men looked at the wires in the pit and nodded, "Well done. Boss Zhao is indeed efficient."

The middle-aged man known as Boss Zhao was none other than Zhao Zhengxiong.

Receiving the compliment, Zhao Zhengxiong smiled and said, "Since it's a collaboration, of course, I have to be diligent. I'm afraid of any mishaps, so I personally oversee the work. All right, I've finished my tasks; it's time for you to show your skills."

"No problem." After a pause, the bespectacled man said, "Boss Zhao, we will handle things here. You can have your men leave. Also, Mr. Ling asked me to inform you to hurry and meet him, so you don't miss the show."

Zhao Zhengxiong made an 'OK' gesture, nodded slightly, and said, "I'll head over now, thanks for your effort."

Soon after, watching the backs of Zhao Zhengxiong and others disappear at the café entrance, the two bespectacled men immediately opened their boxes, taking out several computers and other devices, placing them around the pit. Then, they connected several wires to those in the pit.

Once everything was set, the two men moved to the computers, looking at the word 'searching' on the screen, their eyes showing a hint of tension and concern.

A few minutes passed, and the red progress bar of 'searching' suddenly turned green. Seeing the change on the screen, the two bespectacled men relaxed their brows and began to smile.

"Mr. Ling, things are fine on our end now."

"Good, wait for my signal."

At this moment, on the other side of the research base, a Mercedes-Benz car was quietly parked by the roadside.

The suited man in the back seat had just put down his phone when he saw a Land Rover SUV drive up from behind and park behind the Mercedes.

The car door opened, and as the middle-aged man got in, the suited man inside the Mercedes smiled and said, "Mr. Zhao, pleased to work with you. Please, have a seat!"

"Mr. Ling is too kind." Zhao Zhengxiong smiled and sat beside him.

As the car door closed, Zhao Zhengxiong glanced at the suited man beside him and asked, "Mr. Ling, will tonight really be a success?"

"Mr. Zhao, rest assured, I have made all the necessary preparations. Tonight, we will certainly destroy Ling Chen's research base. Once his men are wiped out, East Sea City will be yours." After a pause, the middle-aged man continued, "When that time comes, please do not forget our agreement."

"No need to worry about that; I won't go back on my word. Once I control East Sea City's underworld, I will surely help your God Organization establish a foothold."

"That would be ideal." Saying this, the suited man checked the time and said, "It's almost time, we should begin our operation."

...

Research Base.

Hu Fei was holding a bowl of instant noodles, sitting in front of a computer in the control center, eating noodles in large mouthfuls while looking at the data displayed on the screen.

"Fatty."

Hearing Tang Guolun's voice, Hu Fei replied unhappily, "I've told you many times, don't call me Fatty."

Tang Guolun smiled and said, "Well, there's no helping it, since you're the fattest one." After a pause, Tang Guolun changed the subject, "Hey! On a serious note, I just talked to the lawyer. There might be some trouble with Jiang Hao's situation. If it goes through the proper legal channels, he might be sentenced to a few years, unless we can work something out and smooth things over with the higher-ups, maybe then we can get him out on bail."

Hu Fei retorted ill-temperedly, "You're telling me this just to get money out of me, right? Alright, how much do you need this time?"

"Not much, just need a couple of million to start with."

"Alright, I'll transfer it to you later, you..."

"Mr. Hu, Boss Tang!"

Before Hu Fei could finish, a technician in the control center suddenly shouted in panic. Hu Fei turned to look at him and asked, "What's up, why are you so jumpy?"

"It seems like our network has been cut off, and the computer system is malfunctioning."

Hearing this, Hu Fei's face slightly changed. Before he could speak, he saw his computer screen turn blue, and all the data was gone.

Seeing this situation, Hu Fei quickly dropped his instant noodles and started typing rapidly on the keyboard. However, after more than ten seconds, Hu Fei's brow gradually furrowed into a line.

"How's it going?" asked Tang Guolun, who was standing behind.

Hu Fei replied with a grim expression, "Not good, the system has a problem, it's being attacked by hackers, all the servers have crashed. Moreover, they are taking over the control of this base."

"Can't we stop them?"

Hu Fei didn't answer, he stood up and went to another computer. At this moment, only that computer in the entire control center was functioning normally.

"This computer is the mainframe of the base, what I can do now is try to delay, use reverse tracking to find their location, and then attempt to cut off their signal."

However, after a few minutes, Hu Fei's face suddenly changed, and he exclaimed in surprise, "How can this be?"

"What is it?"

"I activated the reverse tracking program, but from the tracking results, they are attacking us using the base's internal network." At this point, Hu Fei laughed at himself.

"Indeed, I've set up so many firewalls that even the most skilled hacker could not easily break through. The fact that they can easily attack our systems and servers means they must be using the base's internal network."

Tang Guolun said in a deep voice, "Are you saying... there's an insider in the base?"

Chapter 929 - 934: Total Annihilation (1)

"I'm not sure yet," Hu Fei said, typing on the keyboard. "When we initially installed the security system at the base, I added a self-protection program into the system. Once the system is attacked or breached, it will automatically generate a firewall to resist the attack. However, if faced with a skilled hacker, this firewall can only hold out for a few minutes at most."

While speaking, a green sphere appeared on the computer screen. However, half of the sphere was infected with red, and the virus-like red was rapidly spreading along the sphere's perimeter.

"Look," Hu Fei pointed at the sphere on the screen and said, "The opponent's efficiency is very high. If the entire sphere is engulfed by the red, the whole base's system will be paralyzed and be under their control."

"Pull the plug," Tang Guolun suggested. "Without power supply, the whole system will shut down."

"It's useless," Hu Fei said helplessly. "Once the main power is cut, the backup power will activate immediately. Unless we manually turn off the power through the system, or sever the power cables, the power supply to the base will remain active." Hu Fei paused and continued, "Bases like this are designed to maintain uninterrupted power supply. Now that the system has crashed, we can't log back in to turn off the backup power through the system. The only way is to find the output lines and destroy them forcefully."

Upon hearing this, Tang Guolun immediately smashed the fire safety glass on the wall and took out the fire axe from inside.

"Fatty, I'm going to cut the power, you find a way to maintain the base's defense," said Tang Guolun, quickly striding out.

Two minutes passed, and Hu Fei stared at the computer screen. He watched as the last speck of green was swallowed by red. As soon as the entire sphere was covered in red, the computer screen started flashing with red light, and a red warning sign appeared in the center.

Seeing the warning sign, Hu Fei's face became very grim. He quickly picked up the walkie-talkie and asked, "Boss Tang, have you managed it yet?"

"Not yet, the wires are buried too deep and hard to find. It might take another minute or two."

It's over!

Hu Fei thought to himself, realizing the danger. If Tang Guolun took two more minutes, it would be too late.

"Boss Tang, come back, don't waste any more time. The system has been taken over by the enemy. They now have full control of the control center, and the entire base's control is in their hands."

"What should we do?"

"We have no choice but to fight hard." After saying this, Hu Fei connected the walkie-talkie to the base's PA system and broadcasted the attack situation to everyone.

Suddenly, everyone throughout the base, who was resting, hurried out and prepared to gather at the base's main gate.

However, when people pushed the doors, they were shocked to find that the bedroom doors were locked and couldn't be opened. Furthermore, even the keypad locks in the bedrooms lost their function; they were all locked and unusable.

Listening to the messages from the walkie-talkie, Hu Fei's chubby face fell as sweat trickled down his forehead.

"What's wrong?" Noticing Hu Fei's tense appearance, Tang Guolun couldn't help but ask.

Hu Fei said in a deep voice, "More than half of the people are trapped in their bedrooms and can't get out."

"Tell them to stay calm, we will think of a way to get them out."

"Alright." Hu Fei nodded, ready to broadcast with the walkie-talkie. But after several attempts, Hu Fei's expression suddenly changed, and he frowned, saying, "No, those bastards have shut down our PA system."

"Mr. Hu, Boss Tang!"

At this time, a technician in the control center urgently called out, "All the exits of the base have been opened."

Hearing this, Hu Fei and Tang Guolun exchanged glances, and both appeared somewhat solemn.

"I'll go find Elder Qiu and the others for help, you gather everyone you can, and promptly set up the defense line. If we can't withstand the enemy's attack, then we'll have to retreat," Hu Fei quickly arranged.

"Alright, stay safe."

After a few words, Hu Fei and Tang Guolun each took action, rushing out of the control center.

At this moment, outside the research base, a team of more than forty people filtered inside, heading straight towards the base's main gate. They passed through the gate without any hindrance, smoothly reaching the center of the base, and began to clear out the base's staff and security personnel.

Since the base's system was under the enemy's control, all explosion-proof doors and defense systems were rendered ineffective, allowing members of the God Organization to move unhindered.

At this moment, led by Hu Fei, Qiu Yong and others quickly followed him to the base's temporary prison, releasing both Lin Qiqi and Lin Guodong who were held there.

Seeing the tense expressions of those around them, Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi appeared very calm. They glanced at Hu Fei and casually said, "What's the matter, scared?"

"Scared of what!" Hu Fei snorted in displeasure and replied, "I tell you, even if they come in, don't think they can rescue you from my grasp." After speaking, Hu Fei turned to Qiu Yong and said, "Elder Qiu, these two people are your responsibility. No matter what happens, make sure you keep them secure and prevent their escape."

Qiu Yong nodded and said, "Rest assured, leave it to us."

Outside the research base, in a Mercedes parked by the roadside, a middle-aged man in a suit held a glass of wine, clinked glasses with Zhao Zhengxiong, and said with a smile, "Mr. Zhao, in less than half an hour, we'll be sitting in their control center celebrating. Come, let's drink this first, to our success."

Zhao Zhengxiong drank the wine in one gulp, wiped the wine residue from his mouth with his hand, and said, "Mr. Ling, as far as I know, Ling Chen has arranged many experts within the base. Although you brought many people this time, can they really handle those experts?"

The man in the suit laughed heartily, "Mr. Zhao, you're underestimating our God Organization. Rest assured, Ling Chen's backbone is just a group of eight odd people. Ha! There's not even a Heaven List expert to oversee things; what is there to fear? You'll see, I will soon show you what a real expert looks like."

"Elder Qiu, this way." Within the research base, Hu Fei led Qiu Yong and others along the corridor at a brisk pace. Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi were closely watched by Yuan Yun and Xia Yue within the team, with their mouths blocked to prevent them from making any noise that might attract the enemy.

"How far is it?" Qiu Yong looked around and asked.

Chapter 930 - 935: Total Annihilation (2)

"Almost there!" Hu Fei pointed ahead down the corridor and said, "The escape passage of the base is over there." With that, Hu Fei took out his walkie-talkie and asked, "Boss Tang, where are you now?"

"Your friends are with me. If you don't want them to die, bring the people over immediately."

Upon hearing the voice from the walkie-talkie, Hu Fei froze in place. Simultaneously, Qiu Yong and the others stopped in their tracks, focusing their attention on Hu Fei.

"They've been captured?"

"Elder Qiu, what should we do now?" Hu Fei looked at Qiu Yong for help.

Before Qiu Yong could speak, Xu Ming glanced at Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi and said gravely, "Big brother, the voice just now... did you recognize it?"

"Ji Gang!"

"That's right." Xu Ming nodded, "Ji Gang's here, and I'm afraid we're no match for him if we try to fight."

"What do we do then?" Hu Fei asked anxiously, "Boss Tang and the others have been captured. Are we just going to ignore their lives?"

Qiu Yong sighed helplessly and said, "It's not that we're ignoring them, but we can't do anything about it. You've probably heard of Ji Gang; he's a genuine expert on the Heavenly List, unlike Chen Guanghe from last time. With just us, we won't be able to rescue them and might end up getting ourselves caught. There's probably only one way right now."

"What way?" Hu Fei asked hastily.

Qiu Yong pointed to Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi beside him and said, "The only way is to use them to exchange hostages."

"This..." Hu Fei hesitated immediately. Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi are high-level members of the God Organization, and their identities are very valuable. Letting them go will release the tiger back to the mountain, causing even more trouble in the future.

Seeing Hu Fei unable to make a decision, Xu Ming suggested, "Why don't you give Ling Chen a call and ask for his opinion?"

Upon hearing this, Hu Fei thought for a moment and then smiled wryly, "Forget it! Telling him won't change anything anyway, since he can't come back right away. No need to make him worry. Let's take the people and get Boss Tang and the others out. No matter what, Boss Tang and the others cannot be harmed."

"Alright." Seeing Hu Fei make a decision, Qiu Yong pointed to Yang Chen and Wei Jiahao and said, "You two go with Hu Fei through the escape passage, while we go rescue the others. If all goes well, we'll meet outside."

Wei Jiahao nodded and said, "Big brother, be careful, Seven Brother and I will wait for you outside."

After watching Hu Fei and the others leave, Qiu Yong immediately led Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi towards the center of the base. Before long, the group reached the entrance of the research base.

At this moment, Ji Gang stood calmly in front of the crowd, arms crossed, casting a sideways glance at Qiu Yong and the others. Behind Ji Gang, there were more than forty members of the God Organization. In addition, thirty people squatting in the center of the crowd included Tang Guolun and other technical staff.

Under the watch of the God Organization, Tang Guolun and the others squatted quietly on the ground, silently watching Qiu Yong.

As Qiu Yong and the others approached, Ji Gang glanced at Lin Guodong and Lin Qiqi behind them and slowly spoke, "Old Qiu, hand over the people, and perhaps I can spare your life."

"Ji Gang, cut the crap." Qiu Yong replied coldly, pushing Lin Guodong forward and said, "Release my people, and then I'll hand over yours."

Hearing this, Ji Gang sneered, "Old Qiu, do you think it works that way? You haven't considered how many hostages I have here versus how few you have. Trying to exchange my dozens with your two people? I don't do unprofitable business."

Yuan Yun frowned and asked, "Then what do you propose?"

"Simple, two for two, so neither side loses. How about that?"

"No way!" Qiu Yong promptly refused, "Ji Gang, you know the identities of these two. Exchanging them for these people isn't a loss to you."

Ji Gang waved dismissively, "Don't talk rubbish to me; I only recognize two for two. Now, I'll give you two options: either exchange two for two, or use all of you to swap for the hostages. Old Qiu, see? I'm quite fair. Seven of you for my thirty-odd people — such an unprofitable trade, I'll only do once, so cherish this chance."

"Big brother!" Yuan Yun glanced at Qiu Yong beside him and asked softly, "What do we do now?"

Qiu Yong squinted, staring at Ji Gang opposite him, his eyes uncertain, not knowing what decision to make.

Two minutes passed. Seeing Qiu Yong still unresponsive, Ji Gang urged, "Old Qiu, time is limited, I don't have the leisure to waste it here with you. If you don't make a decision soon, I'll make one for you."

"Big brother, don't waste time with him. Instead of being caught, better to fight them." Xia Yue suggested.

Qiu Yong hesitated for a moment, then suddenly raised his eyebrows, speaking in a deep voice, "Fourth Brother!"

Upon Qiu Yong's call, Zhang Zhongfeng immediately understood, drawing several arrows from his quiver, setting them on the bowstring. He shot towards Ji Gang's head.

If examined closely, the arrowheads of those arrows were different from others, seemingly tied to something underneath. As the arrows passed over Ji Gang's head and flew into the air, with several 'bangs', the arrows exploded, transforming into billowing smoke that enveloped everyone present.

"Go, rescue them!"

With Qiu Yong's command, Xu Ming and the others charged ahead, their bodies disappearing into the smoke.

Amidst the changing situation, Ji Gang stood calmly within the smoke, motionless, as if deaf to the screams around him. Not only did he remain unmoved, but he even closed his eyes, treating the chaos around him as unrelated to him.

Ah!

Suddenly, a scream rang out, accompanied by Qiu Yong's shout, "Third Brother!"

Just after, a muffled groan followed.

Several minutes passed, and the surrounding smoke gradually dissipated. Meanwhile, several individuals lay on the ground, their faces contorted in pain, unable to get up.

"Big brother, second brother!"

Seeing the few people lying on the ground, Xia Yue called out in a panic, struggling to rush over. But, at this moment, she was already controlled, unable to move at all.

"Humph!" Ji Gang sneered, opening his eyes to see Qiu Yong, "A bunch of fools, did you really think you could rescue them from me?"

Ignoring Ji Gang's mockery, Qiu Yong turned his gaze to an elder stepping out from the crowd, gritting his teeth and asked, "Who are you?"