

War God 671

Chapter 671: Say what you just said again!

「Suzhou.」

A desolate and uninhabited suburb.

A tattered figure walked slowly, her steps frail and her form staggering as if from utter exhaustion. Her hair was unkempt, her face smeared with dirt, and a foul odor emanated from her. She was even barefoot. All in all, she looked like a savage who had just run out of the deep mountains. Many passersby who saw her quickly ran away.

She seemed oblivious to their gazes as she lifted her head slightly, revealing a face etched with fatigue and hardship.

It was Alice!

But now, Alice had lost the haughty demeanor of a noblewoman. Instead, her expression was resolute, her eyes filled with determination. For three months, she had walked from Jiangling to Suzhou. She had traveled a thousand li on foot, without any means of transportation and not a single penny to her name. No one knew how she had arrived here, nor what she had encountered along the way.

But with sheer willpower, Alice had made it to Suzhou. Looking at the city walls in the distance, she managed a difficult smile. The simple act split her lips, and blood began to trickle out. Unseen wounds on her hands and body started bleeding in tandem. Yet Alice didn't utter a single moan of pain, as if she had grown numb to it.

Indeed she had. Along the way, her feet had been covered in countless blisters that burst only to reform, making every step on the ground agony. But that wasn't all. She had been deceived, bullied, and chased by dogs. She had spent nights sleeping under bridges and struggled through treacherous mountain paths.

Alice had cried countless times and had thought about giving up more than once. But when she remembered that person's contempt and Uncle Jack's tragic death, she gritted her teeth and endured. The blisters on her feet turned into thick calluses. She swallowed her tears, which turned into tenacity.

The wild dogs that had chased her became her food, and the people who deceived her and tried to sell her became corpses buried in the earth.

The Alice of today, though devoid of any cultivation level, possessed a heart for cultivation that was more resolute than ever. A once-soft heart had been forged like steel, tempered a thousand times until it was exceptionally hard. Her gaze, too, had grown much deeper and more tranquil.

Licking her somewhat dry lips, Alice quickened her pace toward Suzhou. If she could just enter the city and shake off the two people behind her, she could be reborn. Though she wore no shoes, Alice had grown accustomed to the feeling of her bare feet on the ground.

This feeling... it was called being grounded.

"You've done quite well."

Suddenly, a magnetic voice reached her ears. She turned her head slightly to see an old man holding a horsetail whisk. He had the air of a transcendent immortal and was looking at her with admiration.

Looking into his eyes, however, Alice felt a deep sense of unease.

It was the same kind of look she had once given a wild dog. The gaze of a predator upon its prey!

"I am Master Qinlong," the Daoist said, his expression kind and benevolent, though his eyes burned with eagerness as he gazed at Alice. "It would be no dishonor for you to become my disciple."

A person with such a resolute heart for cultivation was a rare sight. If he took her back to the mountains and guided her properly, she was bound to bring him many pleasant surprises.

However, Alice subconsciously took a step back and shook her head. "I'm sorry, I cannot accept you as my master."

"Hmm?" Master Qinlong frowned slightly, then sneered. "It seems you are unaware of my capabilities. In that case, allow me to give you a demonstration. Then you can reconsider."

Master Qinlong abruptly opened his hand and snatched at the air. Two cries of alarm sounded as two men with sharp, monkey-like faces tumbled to the ground in front of Alice, staring at Master Qinlong in disbelief. Alice's expression changed as well. These two had been following her for a long time. They were members of a human trafficking ring.

"Actually, I have been watching you for a long time," Master Qinlong said, ignoring the two men and gazing at Alice as if she were a precious treasure. "You walked a thousand li barefoot. The bitterness and peril of your journey... even I am deeply moved by it."

"But there is one thing," he continued, pointing at the men on the ground. "They followed you all this way, yet you did not kill them. That shows you have a kind heart."

"However, for a cultivator, kindness is the most useless of traits."

With a casual wave of his palm, just as the two men were about to beg for mercy, they exploded into a mist of blood and vanished completely.

"Now that I have helped you kill them, it is only right that you follow me into the mountains to cultivate," Master Qinlong said with a smile. "This is a fateful encounter ordained by the heavens!"

Alice was startled by Master Qinlong's methods, but she still replied, "Thank you for your kindness, Master, but I still cannot agree."

"And why is that?" Master Qinlong's gaze turned slightly sinister. "Am I not worthy to be your master?"

Knowing the Daoist was not to be trifled with, Alice said quickly, "It's just that I already have a master. I cannot take another."

"You already have a master?" Master Qinlong frowned. "Did you perform the rite of apprenticeship? The three kneelings and nine prostrations?"

Alice shook her head. "I did not."

"Haha, then it's of no concern!" Master Qinlong was delighted. "Without the proper rite, there is no official master-disciple bond. Besides, for a fine seedling such as yourself, who in this world besides this old Daoist would dare to be your master!"

Master Qinlong looked proud, his gaze on Alice growing more satisfied by the moment. Of course, the greed in his eyes could not be concealed.

"Master, my teacher has already agreed to accept me as his disciple. It is impossible for me to take you as my master," Alice said, her tone resolute.

She was no longer the Alice of the past. This trial of a thousand li had broadened her horizons and deepened her understanding of the world. She felt a profound sense of unease from this Master Qinlong.

"He agreed to take you as his disciple?" Master Qinlong sneered. "It seems that person you speak of is nothing but a worthless fool, blind to your potential. He has yet to even formally accept you, which shows his strength must be mediocre at best.

"Instead of following such a worthless fool, come with this old Daoist to the mountains for cultivation. I guarantee that, in time, your cultivation level will surpass my own," Master Qinlong said. "You saw my capturing technique just now. That is merely one-thousandth of my knowledge. If you become my disciple, I will teach you everything I know!"

Alice shook her head. "I absolutely refuse."

"Heh, that is no longer up to you," Master Qinlong laughed, his expression turning somewhat savage.

"If you force me, my master will not let you go!" Alice cried in alarm, turning to run.

"Hahaha!" A powerful force surged from Master Qinlong's hand. "If that fool dares to show his face, this Daoist will obliterate him in an instant!"

He clenched his hand, and a binding force instantly constricted around Alice, ready to yank her back.

"Is that so?"

Just then, an indifferent voice rang out.

The next moment, Master Qinlong felt his power abruptly shatter, and he staggered backward.

"Who's there?!" Master Qinlong's expression changed drastically as he looked up sharply.

Just then, a figure appeared, stepping between Alice and Master Qinlong to face the old Daoist.

"Say that again."

Chapter 672: Luo Li, Wait for Me!

"Master!"

The newcomer was none other than Lin Mu.

Alice was immediately overjoyed, and a wave of relief washed over her.

However, upon seeing Lin Mu, Master Qinlong's pupils shrank. He sneered, "So you're this girl's master?"

"Indeed," Lin Mu nodded slightly. "Do you have an objection?"

Master Qinlong felt somewhat suffocated by this question.

Just a moment ago, his opponent's movements had been strangely instantaneous. He had even shattered his Dragon Capturing Power with ease, leaving Master Qinlong uncertain.

Thinking of this, Master Qinlong took a deep breath to suppress his anger. "But you two have no official master-disciple bond. Your words mean nothing!"

Lin Mu raised an eyebrow. "Are you trying to compete with me for a Disciple?"

"Heh, young man, you think too highly of yourself," Master Qinlong said arrogantly. "Why would I need to fight someone for the disciples I select from my mountain?"

"Oh?" Lin Mu raised his eyebrow again. "From the sound of it, you want to fight me?"

"Haha, what a conceited brat," Master Qinlong said. "If you know what's good for you, bring the girl out. I'll make sure to reward you handsomely."

"Otherwise, death and the destruction of your Dao will be your only fate!"

A powerful aura exuded from Master Qinlong's body, vaguely coalescing into a giant python that pressed down on Lin Mu.

This was the origin of his title, Master Qinlong.

It came from a time he captured and slew an ancient snake in the mountains, refining its spiritual essence.

For an ordinary person, the mere phantom of this giant python would be enough to suppress them.

In battle, he could manifest this giant python to increase his combat prowess.

"You really think too much of yourself." Lin Mu shook his head. "I'll give you two choices: get lost, or die!"

"What did you say?" Master Qinlong glared at Lin Mu, his gaze cold and sharp.

This boy, whose hair hadn't even fully grown in, dared to speak to him like that?

Get lost, or die?

Ever since he began his path of cultivation, no one had ever dared to speak to him like this!

"It seems you're determined to seek death!" Master Qinlong said coldly. "In that case, don't blame me for being ruthless!"

The giant python's phantom suddenly reared up, its forked tongue flicking as it prepared to pounce.

Alice let out a startled gasp, but the thought of Lin Mu's formidable strength quickly calmed her down.

"Hmph. A mere beast dares to act so presumptuously before me?" Lin Mu said with contempt. "You're courting death!"

"What a boastful brat!" Master Qinlong said coldly. "Since you wish to die, then I shall grant your wish!"

"Go!"

With a point of Master Qinlong's finger, the giant python's phantom shot toward Lin Mu with a roar.

"Be careful, Master!" Alice cried out in alarm.

"It's nothing," Lin Mu said proudly. "As if this beast could ever harm me."

The giant python drew closer, appearing before Lin Mu in the blink of an eye. Its mouth opened wide as if to swallow him whole.

"Scram!"

Yet, just as the giant python lunged to bite, Lin Mu's voice boomed, and an invisible force swept out from his body.

"ROAR!"

Following a shrill cry, Master Qinlong watched in horror as his giant python turned into a wisp of green smoke and vanished.

"This..." For a moment, Master Qinlong was completely stunned.

"Who in the world are you? How could you possibly destroy my Dragon Soul?!"

He had relied on this Dragon Soul to solve countless problems, and he had paid an immense price for it. The reason he wanted to take Alice as his Disciple was to offer her lifeblood and essence to the Dragon Soul.

The stronger the Dragon Soul, the stronger he would become!

But now, his Dragon Soul had been destroyed by a single word! This shock quickly turned into surging killing intent.

"You destroyed my Dragon Soul! I will never forgive you!"

His hair and beard bristling with rage, Master Qinlong thrust out a large hand, pressing down toward Lin Mu. A vast power materialized, threatening to crush Lin Mu in its grip.

"With such feeble power, I'm surprised you've survived this long." Lin Mu shook his head and took a step forward.

BAM!

Master Qinlong's attack instantly shattered.

His eyes narrowed. However, before he could react, a figure appeared before him and lashed out with a kick.

PFFT!

Master Qinlong was sent flying, spraying a mouthful of blood in mid-air.

"You brat, you're courting death!" Master Qinlong's expression turned grim as he landed. He raised his horsetail whisk, preparing to strike again.

"You dare show off with such pitiful strength in front of me?"

At that very moment, a figure appeared behind Master Qinlong.

It was Lin Mu!

"This...!" Master Qinlong was completely aghast.

When did this person get behind me?

Before he could react, Lin Mu struck again with a brutal kick.

SMACK!

Master Qinlong was slammed directly into the ground, sending dust billowing into the air. He coughed up several more mouthfuls of blood, his face turning deathly pale.

"Excellent! Excellent!" Master Qinlong struggled to his feet, glaring at Lin Mu. "Boy, I will remember this! For the humiliation you've dealt me today, I will repay you a hundredfold in the future!"

Lin Mu remained unmoved, fearlessly retorting, "And you think you have a chance to leave?"

"If I wish to leave, no one can stop me!" Master Qinlong roared, his body instantly multiplying into countless afterimages that shot off in every direction.

"Shadow Clones?" Lin Mu murmured, slightly surprised.

However, he simply shook his head and pointed a finger into the void.

SWISH!

A ray of Sword Qi shot out, flying toward one of the afterimages.

"AHH!" A pained scream echoed as an arm, still clutching a horsetail whisk, fell from the sky. It was Master Qinlong's.

"Brat, I, Qinlong, will forever remember the enmity for this severed arm!" Master Qinlong's voice trailed off, disappearing in the blink of an eye.

"You're lucky you run fast." Lin Mu didn't pursue him. A mere cultivator who had just begun to touch the Dao wasn't worth his time.

「Turning around」

Lin Mu looked at Alice with a hint of appreciation in his eyes.

Alice suddenly knelt on the ground and kowtowed three times to Lin Mu without speaking. But her trembling body revealed her current excitement.

Lin Mu nodded. "Since you've completed your trial, I will naturally keep my word."

"From this day forward, you are my Disciple in Name," Lin Mu said. "Although you are only a Disciple in Name, I will still impart a Cultivation Technique to you and teach you how to cultivate."

Of course, Lin Mu couldn't directly accept Alice as his true disciple. Although he was quite pleased with her, she was one of the Other Races, and Lin Mu still felt some reservations.

"Thank you, Master!" Alice didn't care if she was a Disciple in Name or a true disciple. Just being able to call Lin Mu her master was an immense blessing.

Lin Mu nodded slightly and turned toward Suzhou. "Let's go. Rest well tonight. Tomorrow, I'm taking you somewhere."

Lin Mu gazed in a specific direction.

Tomorrow, he would head to Demon City to retrieve Qin Luoli.

Luo Li, wait for me.

He had waited a very long time for this day.

Chapter 673: You Have to Agree Even If You Don't!

Demon City.

Inside a luxurious manor.

Two handsome young men sat opposite each other, each with a graceful and charming lady nestled in his arms, playing coy with a shy blush.

One of them was a scion of the Demon City Qin Family, Qin Wei!

The other man, though dressed casually, exuded an overbearing aura that made it difficult for others to look him in the eye.

The man opposite Qin Wei gave him an inexplicable look, gently patting the thigh of the woman in his arms, and said with an elegant air, "Alright, you may leave us."

After everyone had left, the man took a sip of red wine, swirling the glass as he asked, "How are things being handled in River City?"

"How else could they be!" Qin Wei's expression turned grim as he snorted coldly. "Qin Youwei and Qin Li, those two incompetents, couldn't even handle such a simple matter!"

"Hmph, if it weren't for my uncle's orders, I would've strangled that Qin Youwei myself!" Qin Wei's face was a mask of displeasure.

The young man frowned. "What? River City refused?"

Qin Wei nodded, humiliated and enraged. "Not only did they refuse, that brat even killed Qin Li!"

"If I had known, I would have gone to River City myself! He's just some trash from a backwater town. What waves could he possibly make against my Qin Family!"

"Handle it as soon as possible!" the young man commanded. "The elder in my family has already announced that the grand wedding ceremony will take place in three days!"

Qin Wei's expression changed. "So soon?"

"It's been this long. How could we not be in a hurry?" the young man said coldly. "If you hadn't failed to handle things properly, the Qin Family would have already sent that woman over."

"Please, be sure to go back and tell him that we will definitely handle this matter with haste!" Qin Wei guaranteed. "The marriage alliance between our two families will absolutely not be affected in any way."

The young man nodded in satisfaction. "It's good that you understand. Remember, this marriage alliance is an opportunity for both of our families! Whether or not your Qin Family's candidate gets chosen depends on this."

Qin Wei's expression grew incredibly solemn. "I understand!"

The young man nodded and stood up to leave.

"Oh, and one more thing," he said, suddenly stopping. "If you can't resolve it, my Han Family will intervene personally."

"But by then..."

The young man left his sentence unfinished, but Qin Wei's complexion had already drained of color.

If the Han Family really has to intervene, wouldn't our plans be ruined? If my uncle isn't chosen, the impact on the Qin Family will be catastrophic.

Thinking of this, Qin Wei dared not delay any longer and shouted, "Prepare the car! I must return at once!"

「The Demon City Qin Family!」

The Qin Family held a pivotal position in Demon City and had been listed among the prestigious families for many years. If it were merely a matter of wealth, one could find hundreds of such families, but the Qin Family ranked in the top five. This was for no other reason than the fact that they had a Heavenly Ranking Grandmaster in their midst: Qin Chuan.

Qin Chuan was the youngest scion of the Qin Family's third generation, so he was referred to as 'Youngest Uncle' by the family members, even though many in the younger generations were, in fact, much older than him. In terms of status, however, they were leagues below him. The reason, of course, was that Qin Chuan was a Martial Arts Grandmaster, ranked twelfth on the list! Throughout all of Demon City, such an achievement was one in ten thousand.

With Qin Chuan present, the Qin Family's status had always been secure, and no one dared to provoke them.

But at this moment, the atmosphere within the Qin Family's main hall was tense.

"You're saying Qin Li was really killed by that man?" The Qin Clan Chief, Qin Jianlin, frowned at Qin Youwei, his expression turning icy.

"Yes." Qin Youwei lowered his head and said, "That Lin Mu is unbelievably brazen. He not only killed Qin Li but also boasted that he would come to Demon City to fetch that bitch!"

"Hmph!" Before Qin Jianlin could speak, a Clan Elder slammed his hand on the table. "The audacity! He dares to kill a disciple of our Qin Family? Is the River City Qin Family not afraid of being annihilated?!"

The Qin Family controlled nearly half of Demon City and had countless experts in its ranks. With their formidable backers, who would dare to disrespect them? Forget some good-for-nothing cast out years ago; not even the most prominent of Demon City's prestigious families would dare to slight the Qin Family.

"Third Grandpa, that is what happened," Qin Youwei said, his face flush with indignant fury. "That Lin Mu is outrageously arrogant. He not only slapped my face but also killed Qin Li. He's truly courting death!"

"Hmph, a mere live-in son-in-law dares to kill a disciple of our Qin Family? Does he really think we're afraid to kill?" Qin Jianlin's cold gaze swept over the crowd. "What are your thoughts on this matter?"

"My thoughts? We'll execute him, of course, to restore the honor of our Qin Family!"

"Didn't he say he's coming to Demon City to get his woman? We'll just wait for him to arrive and kill him then!"

"That's right!"

Everyone in the hall was seething with rage.

"By the way, besides that good-for-nothing, what did that Lin Wudi say?" Qin Jianlin asked. "Is he willing to become a slave to our Qin Family?"

"Well..." Qin Youwei trembled slightly, as if recalling an unpleasant memory.

"Speak!" Qin Jianlin was extremely displeased.

Qin Youwei said hurriedly, "Father, that Lin Wudi... he also killed two of our Qin Family's Elders!"

"What?"

The crowd was stunned, their eyes blazing with fury. The two Elders of the Qin Family were first-rate masters. And they were killed by this Lin Wudi? Where did he get such courage?

"Are you telling the truth?"

Qin Youwei nodded. "Although I didn't get a clear look at his face, countless international assassins swarmed River City that day to kill Lin Wudi. Besides him, no one else could have killed members of our Qin Family."

Recalling that night, Qin Youwei's body trembled. "He also said... that the Qin Family should give up any hope, for he would soon come to Demon City and annihilate our entire clan!"

"What nerve!" Qin Jianlin laughed in fury. "A mere live-in son-in-law and a self-important minor Grandmaster. Where do they get the guts to oppose my Qin Family!"

He slammed his hand on the table. "If he dares to come, he will be annihilated without a trace!"

"The Clan Leader is right!"

"To be noticed by our Qin Family is a blessing he's accumulated over lifetimes. Since he doesn't know how to cherish it, then he shall be killed!"

Qin Jianlin nodded. "We will set this matter aside for now. The Han Family has sent word that in three days, they will welcome Qin Luoli into their family."

"So soon?" someone asked. "But that bitch is resolute. She refuses to agree!"

"It's not up to her! She has to agree, whether she wants to or not!" Glancing at the crowd, Qin Jianlin said in a stern voice, "The old master has spoken. If this succeeds, our Qin Family will prosper for another hundred years!"

Upon hearing this, everyone in the hall grew excited. They all knew what success in this matter truly meant.

「Meanwhile, a piece of news spread throughout Demon City.」

Lin Wudi would soon arrive in Demon City... to slay Qin Chuan!

As the news broke, the world was shaken

Chapter 674: Arrival in Demon City!

An attic room in the Qin residence.

Guards stood at the door and sentries were posted all around. Not even a fly could hope to get in.

Qin Wei walked to the entrance and spoke to the two security guards. "Has that bitch given in yet?"

"Reporting to the young master, she has not!"

Qin Wei's face darkened. "Ungrateful wretch!"

The door opened to a dim room where a woman with an elegant silhouette was reading a book. She was so focused that she seemed not to notice Qin Wei's entrance at all. The rustling of pages filled the air, but Qin Wei was growing impatient.

"Do you think you can hold out for long?" Qin Wei sneered. "Or do you think someone will actually come to save you?"

However, the woman didn't even glance at him, acting as if she hadn't heard a word.

"Hmph, you'd better behave!" Qin Wei said. "Remember, your parents are still in our hands!"

The sound of a page turning came to an abrupt halt.

The woman turned around, revealing a face of otherworldly beauty.

"Is this all the Demon City Qin Family is capable of?" Qin Luoli looked at Qin Wei calmly, a mocking smile on her lips. "Locking me up here while sending people to River City to force my man to agree to your shameless demands. Is this really the best the Demon City Qin Family can do?"

"You bitch! Don't you know what's good for you?" Qin Wei laughed in anger. "Instead of following a loser, you should just do as you're told and marry into the Han Family. Then you'll enjoy endless wealth and luxury!"

"It's your Qin Family that wants to grovel, using me, a defenseless woman, as a bargaining chip, isn't it?" Qin Luoli said with disdain. "I finally understand why my great-grandmother left the Qin Family. A family so utterly without principles truly has nothing worth staying for."

Qin Wei's expression changed. "You..."

"Hmph. No matter what you say, it won't change the fact that you're going to marry into the Han Family," Qin Wei sneered. "And let me tell you, once you're married, your loser of a man is next! Did he really think he could survive after killing people from my Qin Family? He's completely delusional!"

"You will all regret this." Qin Luoli gave Qin Wei a look of pity.

"Hahaha, regret?" Qin Wei laughed aloud. "Bitch, you have no idea how powerful the Qin Family is. In Demon City, everyone respects us. Marrying you into the Han Family is just icing on the cake. If you refuse again, I don't know how much longer your parents can last!"

Rage appeared on Qin Luoli's face. "Shameless!"

"I'm giving you one day to think it over." Qin Wei turned and walked away. "Remember, you only get one chance!"

After Qin Wei left, Qin Luoli seemed a bit dazed.

You can handle this, can't you? she whispered to herself. Yes, I'm sure you can!

「Meanwhile.」

The news that Lin Wudi was about to arrive in Demon City had already spread throughout the entire Martial Arts World.

Lin Wudi wants to destroy the Qin Family? When did the Demon City Qin Family provoke him?

This Lin Wudi really knew how to stir up trouble. He had just slaughtered countless international assassins, and now he was immediately moving to annihilate the Qin Family? This was truly... Everyone was at a loss for words.

But while they were shocked and puzzled, it didn't stop them from heading to Demon City to watch the show. The Demon City Qin Family! They were backed by a Martial Arts Grandmaster!

In the current Martial Arts World, besides the top ten experts, only Qin Chuan could possibly contend with Lin Wudi. No one knew who would prove stronger in a fight between the two.

As the situation developed, everyone finally understood why Lin Wudi was so enraged. It turned out the Qin Family had once sent a messenger demanding that he become their servant. To ask a Grandmaster to become a servant? Only the Demon City Qin Family would dare say such a thing. No wonder Lin Wudi was furious enough to vow to annihilate them!

「The Qin Family's Back Mountain.」

An elder and a youth sat facing each other. Between them was not a chessboard, but a simple pot of clear tea.

"What are your thoughts on this matter?" the Elder Patriarch of the Qin Family asked, looking at Qin Chuan.

"My thoughts?" Qin Chuan held his teacup, slowly rotating it. "If he really dares to come, I'll just kill him."

"Hahaha, excellent!" The old man's complexion was rosy. "Spoken like the true Dragon of the Qin Family! That's the kind of domineering spirit you should have!"

After pondering for a moment, the elder asked, "Is that girl truly so captivating that the Han Family would recommend you for the Celestial Northern Dipper Pavilion just to marry her?"

Qin Chuan nodded. "You haven't seen her. If you had, you would also agree that the Han Family is getting a bargain."

The old man said, "If you can truly enter the Celestial Northern Dipper Pavilion, our Qin Family's prosperity will be secured for more than a hundred years! Most importantly, with your current Cultivation Level, it's not impossible for you to earn the title of a Worldly Walker once you're inside!"

Qin Chuan, however, shook his head. "It will be difficult. All Worldly Walkers have been the unparalleled prodigies of these Ancient Sects. Even the current Shangguan Shiming is merely a candidate for the title."

The old man's expression turned solemn as he sighed. "True. It's already as difficult as ascending to heaven just to enter one of these Ancient Sects, let alone becoming one of their Worldly Walkers."

Qin Chuan clenched his fists. "But as long as I can get in, there's a chance! The whole reason I'm cooperating with the Han Family is that the Celestial Northern Dipper Pavilion backs them. They hold the power of recommendation."

"Correct." The elder nodded. "The one from the Han Family is an Inner Sect Disciple of the Celestial Northern Dipper Pavilion. He has emerged this time to protect that Worldly Walker candidate, and it's said that his cultivation has reached a bottleneck and he is seeking an opportunity to break through."

"Yes," Qin Chuan said, his eyes filled with lament. "Disciples of these Ancient Sects must be at least Martial Arts Grandmasters to even be considered. That Han Feng was already a top-ten figure on the Heaven's List years ago. Now that he's on the verge of a breakthrough, there's no telling how powerful he'll become."

"Don't sell yourself short!" the old man said gravely. "On the path of a Martial Artist, one must possess the heart of a king. As long as you seize this opportunity, your future achievements will be immense!"

Qin Chuan said, "Don't worry. I have it under control."

"Therefore, over the next few days, you must ensure that girl marries Han Feng!" the elder's face turned cold and hard. "If she dares to refuse, kill her parents first!"

"You don't need to worry about these matters," the old man said, rising to his feet and heading down the mountain. "Focus on your cultivation. If that Lin Wudi truly dares to show up, it won't be too late for you to act."

After the elder left, Qin Chuan gazed at the floating clouds in the distance, lost in thought. The teacup in his hand, enveloped by a surge of Internal Energy, bobbed up and down in the air.

Perhaps this is an opportunity for me as well.

A faint smile touched Qin Chuan's lips. "Lin Wudi, I hope you don't disappoint me."

「At the same time.」

Two figures slowly walked out of Demon City Airport.

The man in the lead had a tall, straight posture and a sharp, intense aura that caused many people to turn and stare. The woman beside him was equally striking—tall and willowy with golden hair and blue eyes, exuding a mature allure.

These two were none other than Lin Mu and Alice.

"Master, where are we going now?" Alice asked, a hint of confusion on her face.

Without turning his head, Lin Mu replied, "To kill."

Gazing out at the bustling metropolis, a chilling curve formed on Lin Mu's lips. "The Demon City Qin Family... This time, I'll make you disappear from this world forever."

Chapter 675: Everyone in the Qin Family Deserves to Die!

"How is the investigation going?"

In a suite of a luxury hotel in Demon City, Lin Mu stood by the window, gazing out at the sprawling metropolis. The magnificent, brocade-like vista of the modern city was breathtaking.

"Reporting to the Venerable Master, the investigation is complete," Cheng Bugui said respectfully, standing with his hands clasped. "News came from the Qin Family this morning. They intend to form a marriage alliance with the Han Family of Demon City."

He stole a glance at Lin Mu before quickly lowering his head. "The one the Qin Family is marrying off... is the Lady."

BOOM!

The next moment, Cheng Bugui felt a monstrous killing intent erupt from the young man before him. It was so powerful that the very sky over Demon City seemed to shift in response, as grim winds howled and thunder rumbled.

"What else?" Lin Mu's voice was laced with an earth-shattering killing intent.

"We also found that after the Lady arrived in Demon City, she was imprisoned by the Qin Family in a pavilion. Aside from the servants who deliver her meals, no one else is allowed near. The pavilion is also surrounded by powerful experts, so our men can't get close." Cheng Bugui's voice grew quieter as he spoke.

He feared Lin Mu's anger. Whenever the Lady was involved, his master would transform into a god of slaughter, one who wouldn't hesitate to massacre an entire city.

"This Han Family, do they have a powerful background?" Lin Mu asked without turning around.

"I've only managed to confirm that the Han Family is one of Demon City's great clans. Their influence is immense, easily placing them in the top three. It also seems they have some connection to the Martial Alliance. As for anything else..." Cheng Bugui was drenched in a cold sweat. "This subordinate... was unable to find out more."

"Hmph." Lin Mu turned, his gaze filled with displeasure.

Cheng Bugui was so terrified he immediately dropped to his knees. "Please calm your anger, Venerable Master!" he pleaded, his face pale. "The Qin Family's compound is heavily guarded, and our men can't get inside. The Han Family is also incredibly mysterious. I sent three separate teams to investigate, and all of them vanished without a trace."

"However, Venerable Master, while searching for the Lady, we did discover something else," Cheng Bugui added. "We believe we've found where your parents-in-law are being held."

"My parents-in-law?" Lin Mu was taken aback.

"They're being held in a factory, guarded twenty-four hours a day," Cheng Bugui confirmed with a nod. "I have an associate who does business with the Qin Family. He's the one who leaked the information to me."

"Is this information reliable?"

"Absolutely," Cheng Bugui said. "I went to scout the location myself, and people are definitely being held in that factory. I even have photos!"

He quickly pulled out his phone and showed Lin Mu several pictures. They depicted a middle-aged couple, tied up. The man, in his early forties, looked exhausted, but it was still easy to tell that he had once been a dashing, handsome man. When Lin Mu saw the middle-aged woman, however, he shuddered. She bore a seventy-percent resemblance to Luo Li!

Lin Mu was instantly certain. These were his parents-in-law.

A cold light flashed in his eyes. "When are the Han Family's people arriving at the Qin estate to take her?"

"The day after tomorrow!"

"Then we'll let the Qin Family live for two more days," Lin Mu said, nodding. "First, we're getting Luo Li's parents out of there. You make the arrangements."

"Yes!" Cheng Bugui nodded emphatically and left to carry out his orders.

Lin Mu, however, stared off in a certain direction, the coldness in his eyes intensifying. Qin Family... you captured my parents-in-law and imprisoned my wife. This time, I swear I won't rest until I have annihilated your entire clan!

Thunder rolled across the heavens, drawing the attention of powerful experts from every direction.

The night wind was chilling beneath a sky heavy with dark clouds. Perched atop a tall building, Lin Mu looked down at a factory below. "They're in there?"

"Yes, Venerable Master," Cheng Bugui confirmed. "It seems the Qin Family gave the order to move them tonight."

"How many guards?"

If it were just a simple rescue, Lin Mu could handle it alone. But he worried they might harm Luo Li's parents before he could save them.

"There are several dozen in plain sight," Cheng Bugui reported. "But we don't know how many are hidden."

"Understood." Lin Mu nodded, a cold smirk touching his lips.

"Rest assured, Venerable Master. Once my men arrive, we will definitely get them out!" Cheng Bugui declared.

"That won't be necessary," Lin Mu stated. "I alone am enough."

As his words faded, he vanished from the rooftop.

At the factory gate, a lone figure slowly walked in.

"Who goes there? Stop!" a guard called out, his voice sharp with vigilance. "State your business!"

"Scram."

Lin Mu didn't waste his breath. With a single movement, he sent the guard flying. The man's chest caved in as if it had been crushed by an immense weight.

"What the—?" The other guard's face changed. As he reached for his walkie-talkie to call for backup, a hand clamped around his neck.

"Where are they holding the prisoners?" Lin Mu's eyes were like chips of ice. The guard's face turned beet red as he struggled to breathe.

"Who... who the hell are you?" the guard choked out.

"I gave you a chance. You should have cherished it."

Lin Mu tightened his grip, snapping the man's neck. Tossing the corpse aside, he walked calmly into the factory.

On the rooftop, Cheng Bugui was horrified by what he'd witnessed.

The Venerable Master... his killing intent is so strong! But can he really do this alone?

The thought spurred him to action. He frantically dialed a number and roared into the phone, "Where are you? Get here now!"

Hanging up, Cheng Bugui's face was etched with worry. This is Demon City, after all. If the Qin Family is holding people here, they must have it heavily guarded. The Venerable Master is powerful, and killing is second nature to him, but this is a rescue mission!

However, just a few minutes later, Cheng Bugui was left speechless. He saw a figure emerge from the factory, carrying two other people.

It's the Venerable Master!

Overjoyed, Cheng Bugui scrambled down from the building. He breathed a huge sigh of relief when he reached Lin Mu.

The Venerable Master is safe! And the two people he's carrying... they're the Lady's parents!

"Venerable Master!" Cheng Bugui rushed forward to support Qin Hongshu. As for his master's mother-in-law, he didn't dare touch her.

"They..." Qin Hongshu and his wife were unconscious.

"It's nothing. They're just in shock," Lin Mu said nonchalantly.

Cheng Bugui then glanced past him into the factory. Even for a man like him, who had seen his share of chaos, the sight made him gasp. Inside, more than a hundred corpses lay scattered about. Each had died

a horrific death, their bodies torn apart as if they had been dismembered. Corpses carpeted the ground, and the stench of blood filled the air. It was a vision of Hell itself.

"Let's go."

Just as they were about to leave, several luxury cars screeched to a halt in front of them. A man stepped out of one and froze for a second when he saw Lin Mu.

"Who are you people? What are you doing on Qin Family territory?"

It was Qin Wei.

A member of the Qin Family?

Lin Mu handed the couple to Cheng Bugui and slowly advanced on the man. "Since you're from the Qin Family," he said, "then you can die."

Chapter 676: A Dragon Has Its Ni Lin, Touch It and Die!

"Young Master, they're here to rescue them!" a Qin Family guard exclaimed, his expression changing the moment he spotted Qin Hongshu and his wife.

"Stop them!" Qin Wei barked.

The Han Family was supposed to pick up the couple, and he had planned to take them away tonight to ensure there were no complications. He never expected to run into this scene.

In an instant, over a dozen bodyguards surged forward, surrounding Lin Mu and his companions.

"Protect them," Lin Mu said, entrusting Qin Luoli's parents to Cheng Bugui before walking toward the opposition.

"Waste him!"

Without wasting any words, Qin Wei's bodyguards charged straight at Lin Mu.

But Lin Mu didn't retreat; he advanced. With a single rush, he left all dozen bodyguards wailing in agony on the ground. They were just ordinary bodyguards, hardly a challenge. Dealing with them took almost no effort at all.

Watching his men fall, Qin Wei's expression soured. "So you have some skill. No wonder you dared to come here!"

He sneered coldly, then bowed deeply toward the car. "Third Grand-uncle, I must trouble you."

"Certainly."

An aged voice replied, and a figure emerged from the vehicle. The old man appeared to be in his sixties, with white hair and piercing, brilliant eyes that radiated an extraordinary aura. The moment he stepped out, his gaze swept over the factory. The sight of the Shura Field instinctively made him narrow his eyes as he sized up Lin Mu.

"What a cruel young man, to have killed so many of our Qin Family!" The old man stood with his hands clasped behind his back, looking at Lin Mu with cold indifference. "If you know what's good for you, leave the people behind. Then, kneel before me and kowtow three times, and you may leave."

"Otherwise, you will leave your life behind!"

He had seen Lin Mu's actions from the car and knew he was a Martial Artist. But judging by Lin Mu's youth, how powerful could he possibly be?

"Does your Qin Family always speak with such arrogance?" Lin Mu retorted, his hands also behind his back, his expression unreadable. "Always demanding people kneel. It seems you're the ones who are used to kneeling."

"Insolence!" the old man roared in a sudden rage. "How dare a brat like you insult the prestigious Demon City Qin Family! Take this!"

As his voice fell, his fist flew like the wind, aiming straight for Lin Mu's face!

Such speed! Such a fast punch! Cheng Bugui was inwardly alarmed, but he wasn't worried.

Qin Wei, however, just smirked cruelly. "It's over!"

Faced with the old man's attack, Lin Mu merely shook his head slightly and reached out to grab the incoming fist. A flicker of disdain crossed the old man's face as he pressed his attack, but in the next instant, his expression changed dramatically.

His fist had been caught.

That large hand felt like the ocean itself, swallowing his fist and effortlessly neutralizing all his strength. It stopped him from advancing a single inch, and he couldn't even retract his arm.

"This..." The old man was stunned, a hint of horror dawning in his eyes.

Qin Wei instinctively rubbed his eyes, utterly shocked by what he was seeing.

Third Grand-uncle's fist was actually caught?!

Lin Mu looked at the old man, whose face was flushing red, and said, word by word, "Your Demon City Qin Family only produces trash like you? It seems the Qin Family is nothing but a pack of losers!"

The entire Qin Family is trash? The old man was overcome with shame and fury. He raised his other hand to strike Lin Mu's face.

"Scram!"

Lin Mu's leg shot out, kicking the old man squarely in the stomach.

"Ah!"

With a pained cry, the old man flew backward like a kite with a severed string, crashing into and smashing several shipping containers. By the time he landed, he was on his last breaths.

An utterly indifferent voice followed. "To make a spectacle of yourself with such pathetic skills? You were truly courting death."

"You killed Third Grand-uncle?" Qin Wei suddenly shrieked, pointing a trembling finger at Lin Mu. "Are you tired of living? Do you have any idea what kind of trouble you've just caused?!"

His mouth hung open in shock, his eyes filled with terror. My powerful Third Grand-uncle... was killed with a single kick? This...

SLAP!

In response to his roar, Lin Mu stepped forward and slapped him across the face. Qin Wei saw stars as he was sent flying, crashing hard onto the ground with a force that felt like it shattered every bone in his body.

Lin Mu stepped forward again, planting his foot on Qin Wei's chest. "What did you just say?" he asked, looking down at him. "Trouble? Your paltry Qin Family? I can annihilate it whenever I please!"

With a foot on his chest, Qin Wei's face turned the color of pig's liver. He glared at Lin Mu venomously. "You bastard! You killed my family, you killed my Third Grand-uncle! The Qin Family will never let you go!"

CRACK!

Lin Mu pressed his foot down, and Qin Wei let out a scream like a stuck pig. One of his arms had been crushed.

"If you make another sound, I'll kill you too!"

Feeling the chilling killing intent radiating from Lin Mu, Qin Wei finally felt true fear. He stared in terror and stammered, "Who... Who are you? Do you know who you're dealing with?"

Lin Mu grinned. "Listen up. My name is Lin Mu, and Qin Luoli is my woman!"

What? This man is Qin Luoli's husband?! Wasn't he supposed to be some useless matrilocal son-in-law? When did he get so strong? But so what if he's strong? Does he really dare to fight the entire Qin Family?

"You're actually that bitch's man!" Thinking this, Qin Wei's face twisted into a menacing sneer. "If you know what's good for you, let me go right now and annul your marriage to Qin Luoli! Otherwise, my Qin Family will crush you in minutes!"

SLAP!

Lin Mu struck him again. Looking at Qin Wei's distorted face, he scoffed, "Did you really think I didn't know what your family did to my woman? Let me tell you, I came to Demon City this time to bring my woman home and, while I'm at it, to wipe out your Qin Family!"

Qin Wei's pupils shrank. "Wipe out my family? Do you have what it takes? My Qin Family has Grandmasters watching over it, and my uncle is about to join an Ancient Sect! You're just a useless son-in-law, staring at death without even knowing it!"

Lin Mu laughed, a sound laced with murder.

"Grandmasters?" A cold smirk played on his lips. "I've killed more Grandmasters than you've ever seen."

Qin Wei was speechless.

"Who exactly are you?" A deep sense of unease began to gnaw at his heart.

"Since you're about to die, I'll let you in on a secret," Lin Mu grinned. "I have another name: Lin Wudi."

Lin Wudi! He is Lin Wudi?!

"You dare kill me?" Sensing Lin Mu's resolve, Qin Wei began to scream frantically.

"You're just the first. Everyone from your Demon City Qin Family will be joining you soon enough!"

Before Qin Wei could say another word, a large foot descended, instantly crushing his head. When it came to the Qin Family, Lin Mu showed no mercy.

"Clean this up," Lin Mu instructed Cheng Bugui, then left nonchalantly with his unconscious parents-in-law.

Gazing at the bloody scene, Cheng Bugui slowly shook his head.

The Demon City Qin Family? Perhaps you have no idea who you've provoked. A dragon has reverse scales—touch them, and you die!

Chapter 677: Wash Your Neck and Wait for Death!

"Venerable Master, they are..." Alice was taken aback when she saw Lin Mu return with two people.

"Guard the door. No one is allowed in without my permission!" Lin Mu instructed simply before leading Qin Hongshu and his wife into the room.

Alice obediently stood by the door. Meanwhile, Cheng Bugui used his connections to book the entire hotel floor, arranging for guards at every access point to prevent any unauthorized individuals from coming up.

「Inside the hotel room.」

After placing his in-laws on the bed, Lin Mu's expression turned icy cold.

On the way here, he had already examined them. If he hadn't, he never would have known. To his shock, the examination revealed that they had both been poisoned!

"The Qin Family... Excellent. Truly excellent!" A monstrous killing intent surged in Lin Mu's eyes.

He didn't need to think hard to guess the source of the poison in his in-laws' bodies. It must have been a despicable tactic used by the Qin Family to force Luo Li's hand, which completely ignited the murderous intent in Lin Mu's heart!

If Lin Mu had been an ordinary man, the worst-case scenario would have been Luo Li being forced into the marriage, while her parents would have died from the poison. Killing two birds with one stone! Truly a vicious scheme!

Just then, Qin Hongshu slowly woke up. Upon seeing Lin Mu, he was startled for a moment, then quickly sat up.

"Where are we?" He looked around. This didn't seem to be the factory where they had been confined. This young man... he seems vaguely familiar, as if I've seen him somewhere before.

"Are you... Lin Mu?" Qin Hongshu asked tentatively.

"Uh..." This is my first time meeting my father-in-law. It'd be a lie to say I'm not nervous.

Lin Mu nodded.

"Did you rescue us?"

Qin Hongshu smiled faintly. Seeing his wife lying safely beside him, he let out a quiet sigh of relief.

"Yes."

Even Lin Mu, who could face the Heavenly Gods without batting an eye, sounded somewhat tense.

"Haha, don't be nervous, young man," Qin Hongshu comforted him. "Although we've never met, I've heard Luo Li mention you."

"You've seen Luo Li?" Lin Mu was startled.

Qin Hongshu nodded and sighed. "We met a few months ago, right when Luo Li first arrived in Demon City."

"But it's better not to speak of the circumstances of that meeting!" He thought back to their first encounter. He'd barely had a chance to speak a few words to his daughter before the Qin Family's men forcibly separated them and locked them up in different locations. A flash of anger appeared in Qin Hongshu's eyes.

As a man, being imprisoned for years by others was an absolute humiliation. As a father, watching my daughter being forced into a marriage while I could do nothing filled me with a profound sense of powerlessness. And the Qin Family was the cause of it all!

"Did you come to Demon City this time to rescue Luo Li?" Qin Hongshu stared into Lin Mu's eyes, as if trying to confirm something.

Lin Mu nodded. "That's right. This time, I'm not only going to rescue Luo Li, I'm going to destroy the Qin Family!"

"Child, don't!" Qin Hongshu exclaimed urgently. "You have no idea how powerful the Qin Family is. In Demon City, they're known as 'Qin Half-the-Sky'. It means their influence is so vast it covers half the sky!"

Qin Hongshu and his wife had moved to Demon City not long after Luo Li was born, so they understood the Qin Family better than anyone. For Lin Mu to try to rescue Luo Li on his own and also destroy the Qin Family was more difficult than ascending to the heavens.

"Don't worry," Lin Mu said. "Since I dared to come, I'm naturally confident. This time, if the Qin Family isn't destroyed, I will not rest!"

Qin Hongshu seemed to sense Lin Mu's determination. A hint of approval appeared in his eyes, but he still said, "But the Qin Family is not easy to deal with."

"I know what I'm doing," Lin Mu said. "You two rest well. If you need anything, just tell Alice."

Finding little else to talk about with Qin Hongshu, Lin Mu prepared to leave.

"Wait," Qin Hongshu stopped Lin Mu. He said earnestly, "If it proves too difficult, don't force it. We can make a long-term plan."

Without turning his head, Lin Mu replied, "Luo Li is my woman. No one is allowed to harm her in the slightest!"

Watching Lin Mu's retreating back, Qin Hongshu gave a wry smile. Well, I'll be. Getting lectured by my own son-in-law. But why does it feel so... satisfying?

After leaving the room, Lin Mu instructed Alice, "Take good care of them." He then called for Cheng Bugui and said, "Go. Send a message to the Qin Family. Tell them I will pay them a personal visit tomorrow!"

Though he called it a visit, his tone was brimming with boundless killing intent!

"Yes!"

「Meanwhile, at the Qin Family Manor.」

Even though it was deep in the night, the manor was brightly lit.

The Family Head, Qin Jianlin, asked, "How are the preparations?"

The Qin Family Steward replied, "Reporting to the Family Head, everything is nearly ready. We're just waiting for the Han Family to pick her up tomorrow."

"That wretched woman still hasn't given in?" Qin Jianlin frowned.

"No."

Qin Jianlin snorted coldly. "She has no say in this matter! What about Qin Hongshu? Have you sent someone to pick them up?"

The Butler replied respectfully, "Young Master Qin Wei has already gone. He should be back soon."

"There won't be any problems, will there?" Qin Jianlin asked.

The Butler chuckled. "With the Third Master accompanying him, what could possibly go wrong?"

The Qin Family had already imprisoned Qin Hongshu and his wife for many years, moving them to a new location periodically. They even changed the guards every few days. It had been this way for years without a single incident. Now, with the marital alliance with the Han Family imminent, they had assigned even more manpower. There was no room for error!

Qin Jianlin nodded heavily. "Until this matter is finalized," he said in a low, stern voice, "there can be no mistakes. You know how severe the consequences will be."

"This old servant understands!" the Butler said. "All arrangements are in place. As for Qin Luoli, the young miss has personally gone to persuade her. Using her parents as leverage, she has no choice but to agree!"

"Good." Qin Jianlin nodded in satisfaction. "You've been very thorough."

"It is merely this old servant's duty..."

Just as the Qin Family Steward was professing his loyalty, a servant hurried in, clutching something.

"Family Head, someone delivered something!" The servant was trembling.

The Butler was instantly furious. "A joyous occasion for the Qin Family is at hand! It's natural for people to send gifts. What's the meaning of this panic? How improper!"

"Bring it here!"

Just as the Butler reached out to take it, the item in the servant's hands fell to the ground.

It was a bloody, severed head!

"Third Master!" the Butler shrieked, collapsing to the ground, his face deathly pale.

The other members of the Qin Family were equally terrified.

The Qin Family's Third Master... He was a Martial Way expert. How could someone decapitate him and deliver his head to their doorstep? Who would be so brazen?!

"Outrageous!" Qin Jianlin erupted in fury, bellowing, "Who sent this?! You didn't detain them?"

"N-no..." The terrified servant was still reeling from shock, stammering, "After the person dropped this... he said... he said..."

"Said what!" Qin Jianlin's rage boiled over.

"He said that their Venerable Master will visit tomorrow, and he told all of us in the Qin Family... to wash our necks and wait for death!"

Chapter 678: Who is Qin Jianlin, Get Out and Speak!!

"You bitch, do you have any idea the Han Family is coming for you tomorrow?" Qin Youwei stared at Qin Luoli, who was reading a book, her eyes burning with jealousy.

Marrying into the Han Family!

That was the dream of every woman in Demon City. Although the Qin Family was considered a top-tier powerhouse in Demon City, even the greatest noble families were said to fall within three hundred years. In recent decades, the Qin Family had been in decline. If not for the support of a Grandmaster, they would have been devoured piece by piece until nothing was left.

After all, Demon City had more than one Grandmaster. What great family didn't have one presiding over it?

As the daughter of such a family, Qin Youwei had been indoctrinated from a young age with the idea that she must sacrifice everything for the family. Having grown accustomed to a life of luxury, the prospect of the family's decline was her greatest fear. Only by remaining powerful could they enjoy eternal prosperity. And marrying into another great family was a clear path to forging a powerful alliance.

Originally, Qin Youwei had a chance, but then Qin Luoli appeared out of nowhere.

How could this bitch from a branch family, one cast out eight hundred years ago, possibly be favored by the Han Family? And that worthless husband of hers dared to slap her? Outrageous!

As she dwelled on these thoughts, a vicious resentment flashed in Qin Youwei's eyes.

However, faced with her fury, Qin Luoli remained perfectly calm, paying her no mind at all. To Qin Luoli, even exchanging a single word with such a tedious person felt like a waste of time.

"You bitch, are you still putting on an act in front of me?"

Seeing Qin Luoli's indifference, Qin Youwei's rage intensified. She sneered, "You don't even know, do you? Your parents, imprisoned by our Qin Family long ago, are on the verge of death! And you, you're about to be married off, a stepping stone for the rise of our Qin Family!"

Qin Luoli's eyes flickered for a fraction of a second.

"Perhaps you haven't heard. Your parents were poisoned a long time ago!" Qin Youwei roared with laughter. "The day you marry into the Han Family is the day your parents die a miserable death!"

At last, Qin Luoli reacted. She turned and looked quietly at Qin Youwei.

"What? Angry?" Seeing a response, Qin Youwei grew even more smug. "Feeling the urge to hit me? Go on. I dare you." She laughed arrogantly. "Or do you think that useless husband you found will actually dare to come and save you? If he dares to show up, he's a dead man!"

"Then... shall we wait and see?" Qin Luoli said, her voice deceptively calm.

But anyone who knew her would understand that she was furious.

"Wait and see?" Qin Youwei, clearly enraged by Qin Luoli's defiance, shrieked, "What right do you have to speak to me like that? You slut!"

Cursing, Qin Youwei raised her hand to strike.

With a sharp SLAP, a pristine white hand struck Qin Youwei hard across the face, her cheek swelling instantly.

"You... you dared to hit me?" Qin Youwei clutched her face, staring at Qin Luoli in disbelief, her expression twisting into a savage snarl. "You slut, you actually dared to hit me? You have a death wish!"

"Get out," Qin Luoli said, her voice ice-cold. "Say one more word, and I'll make you regret the day you were born."

"I'll kill you!"

Clearly provoked, Qin Youwei lunged forward.

"Miss, you mustn't!" The guard at the door rushed in and pulled Qin Youwei back. "The Family Head said that nothing can happen to her before the Han Family arrives!"

"So I'm supposed to just take that beating for nothing?" Qin Youwei's glare was terrifying.

"Miss, don't worry," the guard said with a placating smile. "Once she's married into the Han Family, there will be endless ways to make her suffer. Why bother with her now?"

"You're right." Qin Youwei shot a cold smirk at Qin Luoli. "Slut, let's see how long you can stay so smug!" Turning to the guard, she commanded, "Watch her closely!"

After Qin Youwei left, Qin Luoli let out a quiet sigh. She had deliberately provoked Qin Youwei, hoping she would attack.

If she dares to attack, the item in my hand will activate. He should be able to sense it then. Husband, where are you? Luo Li misses you so much...

Early the next morning, the gates of the Qin Family Manor were bustling with a constant stream of vehicles and visitors. Guests from the great families of Demon City came and went, and among them were even a number of high-ranking government officials. Not to mention the countless celebrities from the business world.

However weakened the Qin Family had become, they were still one of Demon City's elites. And today was the day of their marital alliance with the Han Family, so it was only natural for all the major powers to send representatives with their congratulations.

Some within the Qin Family had argued against such a grand display, pointing out that the bride wasn't from the main lineage. But the counter-argument won out. The Han Family was at the height of its power in Demon City; if the Qins couldn't put on a grand enough affair, wouldn't they lose face? Besides, it was an excellent opportunity to expand the family's influence. The reasoning was solid, and even the objectors eventually nodded in agreement.

The Qin Family Manor was draped in festive decorations, filled with a joyous atmosphere. As the current Family Head of the Qin Family, Qin Jianlin was swamped with the duty of welcoming guests from every direction.

But many guests noticed that the Family Head seemed rather unhappy today.

"Did Family Head Qin not rest well last night?" asked Master Quan, the concerned leader of a small vassal family.

Another patriarch chuckled. "That's an understatement, Master Quan. As the Family Head, Master Qin has countless things to worry about. Still, Family Head Qin, even on a joyous day like this, you must take care of yourself."

Everyone chimed in with their concerns, their words dripping with undisguised flattery.

Qin Jianlin managed a faint smile and thanked them for their kindness, but he couldn't bring himself to feel happy.

The reason was simple.

Last night, the Qin Family's Third Master had his head chopped off and delivered to their doorstep. The killer even sent a message: the Qin Family should wash their necks and wait for death.

Outrageous! Presumptuous! Brazen!

These days, there are too many reckless fools, frogs in a well who don't know their place! Even though my Qin Family has declined, we're not a family that just anyone can trample on!

"Brother, there's trouble!"

The Qin Family's Second Master had just returned. Without even taking a sip of water, he went straight to Qin Jianlin, his expression grim.

"What is it?" Qin Jianlin's brow furrowed. After the previous night's incident, his Second Master had led an investigation, and his immediate return with such a statement was ominous.

The Second Master lowered his voice. "Everyone at the factory is dead. Even Xiao Wei is gone. It's more than likely he's dead."

"What?" Qin Jianlin was stunned. "Did you find out who did it?"

The Second Master's voice was grave. "No. The killer was meticulous. Not a single clue was left behind."

"What about Qin Hongshu and his wife?"

"They're gone, too."

Qin Jianlin took a deep breath, a chilling light entering his eyes. "Do you think it was one of *those* families?"

"Unlikely," the Second Master said, shaking his head. "First, they don't have the guts. Second, even if they did, they wouldn't make a move now. Attacking today isn't just an act against our Qin Family; it would also be an offense against the Han Family."

A cold glint flickered in Qin Jianlin's eyes. "It seems some suicidal mutt has set its sights on my Qin Family."

"Who is Qin Jianlin? Get out here!"

Chapter 679: That's my woman!

Just then, outside the manor.

A business van charged through the crowd, coming to a halt directly in front of the Qin Family Manor. The numerous security guards had no time to block it and could only watch helplessly as the van stopped right at the manor's entrance.

A man got out of the vehicle, glanced at the crowd, and declared, "Who is Qin Jianlin? Get out here!"

The entire scene fell silent. You could hear a pin drop.

Who is this guy? So arrogant! How dare he call out the Family Head of the Qin Family by name? And telling him to get out here? Does he have a death wish?

"Stop them!"

As expected, someone from the Qin Family furiously commanded the security guards to rush forward.

"A bunch of trash!" Cheng Bugui sneered. His body moved like a bolt of lightning, a fierce tiger pouncing on a flock of sheep. In the blink of an eye, he had beaten the Qin Family security guards into a terrified, scrambling heap, leaving them unable to get up!

The onlookers were all greatly shocked. Even those who had considered stepping in to stop the commotion involuntarily took a step back.

This person is incredibly strong. To dare make a move on Qin Family territory, he must have powerful backing. This is none of my business; I'd better stay out of it!

Cheng Bugui stood with his hands behind his back, looking down on the crowd, and said in a cold voice, "If you don't want to die, get out of the way. My Venerable Master is only here today to kill the people of the Qin Family!"

With Lin Mu's help, Cheng Bugui's Cultivation Level had already reached Mid-Stage Internal Strength. This was a level of power that could no longer be taken lightly. Keep in mind, just two years ago, Cheng Bugui was an ordinary person—not even a Martial Artist!

"Who are you to dare run wild on Qin Family grounds? Are you tired of living?" an angry voice boomed from within the Qin Family Manor. A moment later, a figure slowly walked out.

"That's... Qin's Second Master!"

"It is him! I heard he trained with a boxing master in his youth. I wonder how strong he is now!"

"He can't be weak. He was even coached by the Dragon of the Qin Family! That man might be much younger than Qin's Second Master, but his power is undeniable!"

After recognizing the man, the crowd exclaimed in surprise.

Qin's Second Master looked at Cheng Bugui, his eyes like ice. "Sir, today is a joyous occasion for my Qin Family. If you have come for a cup of wedding wine, we welcome you with open arms. But if you are here to cause trouble, then you can get as far away from here as you can!"

"Haha, the Qin Family is certainly impressive," Cheng Bugui sneered. "You imprison the mistress, marry her off to another man in secret, and call it a joyous occasion for your family? It seems the Qin Family has stood for a hundred years not on real ability, but on sheer, unadulterated shamelessness!"

At these words, the expressions of everyone in the crowd changed.

What? The woman marrying into the Han Family today... belongs to someone else?

"Presumptuous!" A murderous glint shone in the eyes of Qin's Second Master. "How dare you humiliate the Qin Family?"

"That's right! Who the hell do you think you are to insult the Qin Family? I, for one, won't stand for it!" A Qin Family lackey immediately jumped out, pointing at Cheng Bugui and cursing. If it was confirmed that the Qin Family's bride was another man's woman, the family would lose all face in Demon City.

"You won't stand for it?" Cheng Bugui sneered. "Then die!"

As soon as the words fell, his figure blurred, leaving a series of afterimages. An instant later, he was back in his original spot, a severed head already in his hand.

THUD!

A headless body fell heavily to the ground, blood spraying everywhere.

The crowd cried out in shock, hastily backing away with horror in their eyes.

He tore his head off with his bare hands? What kind of technique is that?

"No wonder you dare to run wild on Qin Family grounds. So you do have some skill." Qin's Second Master's eyes narrowed. He took a step forward, and a powerful surge of energy erupted from his body, cracking the ground beneath him. He shot forward like a bolt of lightning, smashing a fist toward Cheng Bugui.

"Nice timing!" Cheng Bugui sneered, stepping back with his right foot and throwing a punch of his own.

CRACK!

With the sound of breaking bone, the two figures flew apart. One of them, Cheng Bugui, was slightly pale, with a trace of blood at the corner of his mouth. The other, Qin's Second Master, clutched an arm that now hung uselessly at his side, his face a mask of shock.

"You..." Qin's Second Master trembled, his words cut short as he sprayed a mouthful of blood.

That single punch crippled my arm! Who is this person? How can he be this powerful?

"Who are you? I'm certain the Qin Family has never provoked a man of your caliber!" Qin's Second Master stared coldly at Cheng Bugui, his eyes filled with wariness.

"I've already told you. I'm here to take the mistress home," Cheng Bugui said, wiping the blood from the corner of his mouth. "The Qin Family can refuse, but you will bear the consequences."

"What an arrogant bastard! How dare he run wild in Qin Family territory!"

At that moment, a figure soared from within the manor like a white crane spreading its wings. He stepped effortlessly onto a wall and then launched himself through the air, diving toward Cheng Bugui.

"Die!"

With that single word, the man extended a finger, aiming it directly at Cheng Bugui's brow.

"Hmph! As if I'm afraid of you!" A defiant glint flashed in Cheng Bugui's eyes as he stomped his foot and threw a punch to meet the attack.

PFFT!

The fingertip pierced straight through Cheng Bugui's fist, sending him flying backward.

Just as Cheng Bugui was about to crash into the van, a large hand caught his back, stopping him firmly. With a gentle circulation of Spiritual Energy, all of Cheng Bugui's injuries healed instantly.

"Thank you, Venerable Master!" Cheng Bugui dropped to one knee, his expression fervent.

The crowd's attention shifted to the van. The elder who had attacked also took two steps back, his brow furrowed as he stared at the vehicle's interior.

First, a foot landed on the ground, followed by a tall, upright young man who emerged from within. His aura was magnificent, and he carried himself with an imposing grandeur.

Seeing this man, the crowd frowned.

They didn't recognize him. There was no such prominent figure in Demon City. Could he be a rising star from some other family, here to make a scene at the Qin estate?

As soon as Lin Mu stepped out of the van, he spoke, his voice utterly cold. "You have one minute. Hand her over. If even a single hair on her head is harmed, I will annihilate your entire Qin Family."

The boundless killing intent in his voice was palpable to everyone present.

"Insolent pup!" the elder who had injured Cheng Bugui said coldly. "What do you take the Qin Family for? You dare threaten us? You must have the heart of a bear and the gall of a leopard!"

"Oh, is that so?" Lin Mu raised an eyebrow, his expression impassive. He simply extended a finger and pointed at the elder from across the distance.

SWISH!

A glint of cold light shot out, aimed straight at the elder's brow.

"Hm?" The elder was startled for a moment, then he scoffed.

Killing from a distance? Does he really think he's a Martial Arts Grandmaster?

But in the next instant, the elder's expression changed dramatically, and he tried to react.

SQUELCH!

The flash of cold light arrived first, instantly piercing the elder's forehead.

"Urk..." The elder's eyes bulged. He slowly collapsed to the ground, dead but with his eyes wide open in disbelief.

WHOA!

The crowd gasped in unison, and many scrambled backward, their faces filled with horror as they stared at Lin Mu.

Killing a man with a single finger! Could he be a Martial Arts Grandmaster?

Lin Mu stood with his hands clasped behind his back. "If you don't bring her out now," he said, his voice lethally calm, "I will kill one person every second. Let's see how many people the Qin Family has for me to kill."

"Young friend, who are you?" Qin's Second Master stared intently at Lin Mu. "The Qin Family holds no grudge against you, does it?"

"No grudge?" Lin Mu cracked a grin. "The woman your Qin Family is marrying off to the Han Family today... is my woman."

PS: You think there's another update coming? I'll tell you now: impossible.

Chapter 680: Bringing the Instructor's Wife Home!

"You're Lin Mu?!"

Qin's Second Master cried out, his face a mask of horror.

He had never dreamed that the young man at the gates of the Qin Family Manor, the one who had just killed a Qin Family elder with a single finger, was the husband of the very woman set to marry into the Han Family today!

He had actually come knocking on their door!

Today was a joyous day for the Qin Family, and many had come to offer their congratulations. It was safe to say that nearly half of Demon City was present. They had all heard Lin Mu's declaration, which left them stunned.

The woman the Qin Family was marrying off to the Han Family was already another man's wife! Did the Han Family know? If not, then the Qin Family was deceiving not only the Han Family but all of Demon City. But if they did know, then today's drama was about to get even better! Now, her husband had arrived at their doorstep! It looked like he was going to confront the Qin Family directly—a fight to the death. The grudge from having one's wife stolen is irreconcilable! No man could possibly endure such a thing!

But some were not optimistic about Lin Mu. After all, this was the Demon City Qin Family. Furthermore, Lin Mu's appearance was a slap in the face to both the Qin and Han Families. If these two titans joined forces, all of Demon City would tremble!

"It's him! It's really him!" a shrill scream shattered the silence.

Qin Youwei emerged from the Qin Family Manor, her face twisted with venomous resentment. "Second Uncle, this man is that bitch's dog of a husband! Not only did he kill Qin Li, but he also slapped me!"

Pointing at Lin Mu, Qin Youwei's eyes turned icy. "I can't believe you actually dared to come to Demon City to die. Let me be clear: you are not leaving here alive today!"

Her words indirectly confirmed the truth of Lin Mu's claim. The Qin Family really had stolen another man's wife!

"Second Uncle, hurry and kill him! Avenge Qin Li!"

Only Qin Youwei's voice echoed through the grounds. Qin's Second Master remained silent. After all, the Qin Family had indeed acted dishonorably. They had stolen a man's wife to marry her off to someone else. Anyone could see they were in the wrong.

But what of it? This was Demon City! This was the Qin Family! As long as they killed this punk and finalized the marriage with the Han Family, the matter would be settled. Who would dare to utter a single complaint? Besides, Lin Mu was just some nobody relying on a bit of brute strength. If he had to be killed, so be it!

Qin Youwei laughed coldly. "Lin Mu, do you really think you're someone important? Let me tell you, you can't even begin to imagine the Qin Family's standing in Demon City! A single word from us is enough to make you vanish without a trace!"

A cold, murderous glint flashed in the eyes of Qin's Second Master. "Lin Mu, if you turn around and leave now, the Qin Family can offer you some compensation. But if you don't know what's good for you, then you won't be leaving at all today!"

Lin Mu shook his head slightly. "I already gave the Qin Family its chance. You were the ones who failed to cherish it. After I destroy your Qin Family, I'll annihilate the Han Family!"

"What an arrogant brat!" Qin Jianlin appeared, fixing Lin Mu with an ice-cold stare. "Who the hell do you think you are, acting so brazenly? Do you really think the Qin Family is a pushover?"

It was the Qin Family Head! He was a truly important figure!

The moment Qin Jianlin appeared, Qin's Second Master breathed a sigh of relief. "Big Brother, what's the word from the Han Family?"

Qin Jianlin nodded slightly. "Don't worry. The esteemed elder of the Han Family is about to come out of seclusion. He will come to escort her personally."

"Really?" A flash of ecstasy lit up the Second Master's eyes.

With him out of seclusion, the Qin Family would be invincible!

"But before that," Qin Jianlin said coldly, "we need to take care of this kid. Otherwise, forget the Han Family's elder—even our own grand elder will be displeased with us."

"I understand," Qin's Second Master said gravely. "Our grand elder is waiting for Lin Wudi to show up, so he can't be bothered with such trivial matters. If we don't handle this properly, the repercussions for the Qin Family will be immense."

"Good, as long as you understand." Qin Jianlin glanced at Lin Mu. "He must die today."

"Don't worry, Big Brother. I've already made the arrangements." The Second Master nodded and then shouted, "Everyone, out!"

As his words fell, a troop of over a hundred men poured out of the Qin Family Manor. Each man possessed a powerful aura and exuded a potent Evil Qi. All one hundred of them were Martial Artists, and powerful ones at that! The weakest among them was at the Late-Stage of External Strength!

"They're the Qin Family's secret guard!" an onlooker gasped, his eyes wide with disbelief.

"I'd heard the Qin Family had a powerful private force, but this is the first time I've actually seen them!"

"They're so strong! That kid is doomed!"

Against such numbers, there was no question how this would end for Lin Mu and his companion.

Qin's Second Master announced arrogantly, "Brat, I'll give you two choices. One: scam immediately. Two: leave your life here!" Qin Jianlin's presence had given him an enormous boost of confidence.

"It seems the Qin Family is determined to court death," Lin Mu grinned. "They want to compete with us in numbers. What do you think?"

"Crush them," Cheng Bugui said with a savage laugh, pulling out a walkie-talkie. "You can come in now!"

THUD! THUD! THUD! The ground began to tremble as a cloud of dust billowed in the distance.

In the next moment, everyone's jaws dropped as they stared in disbelief at the end of the road. There, a dense horde of people swarmed toward them.

Every single one of them was dressed in a black suit and sunglasses, and they all exuded a chilling presence. At a glance, there had to be at least two hundred men!

More people? Lin Mu had brought two hundred of his own!

"We greet the Venerable Master!" As one, the men dropped to a single knee, their gazes fixed on Lin Mu with fiery devotion.

Before the onlookers could even process this, a thunderous roar echoed from above. They instinctively looked up, their mouths gaping in horror. Hovering in the sky above the Qin Family Manor were dozens of helicopters that had appeared from nowhere.

"Those... Those are fighter jets!" someone shrieked, their face a mask of terror.

Fighter jets! This man, Lin Mu, could actually mobilize fighter jets? Dozens of them?! Who in the hell *is* this guy?! At that moment, the same question burned in everyone's mind.

The shock was far from over. THUMP! THUMP! THUMP! The ground began to shake with a deafening rhythm. In the distance, columns of human-shaped tyrannosaurs charged forward, instantly forming neat ranks before Lin Mu.

"Reporting to the Chief Instructor! All one hundred and eight members of the Divine Machine Camp are assembled! Awaiting orders!"

"Reporting to the Chief Instructor! Three hundred thousand troops of the Jinan Military Region are stationed on the outskirts of Demon City! Awaiting orders!"

When these two reports rang out, many of the onlookers were so terrified they collapsed to the ground.

The Divine Machine Camp? The Jinan Military Region? Isn't that the division that just won the grand military competition a few days ago? Why are they here? And they called him Chief Instructor? The answer was becoming terrifyingly clear. This man's identity was simply earth-shattering!

Qin's Second Master was stunned. Qin Youwei was dumbstruck. Qin Jianlin's pupils constricted as horror flooded his features. The rest of the crowd was utterly astounded. They had dismissed him as a nobody from some backwater town, but who could have imagined his background was this terrifying!

Lin Mu simply nodded. "Today," he announced in a flat tone, "we bring your Instructor's wife home."

On that day, a peerless beauty had brought a thousand soldiers to stand with him.

Today, he, Lin Mu, had mobilized the entire Jinan Military Region—hundreds of thousands strong—to annihilate the Qin Family