

Y Master 401

Chapter 401 Terrified by the Mere Mention

Jinsuo Island got its name because it is shaped like a weaving shuttle and lies horizontally on Erhai Lake. It is the largest island on Erhai Lake and also one of the main attractions of the Erhai Scenic Spot. Almost all tourists who visit Jinsuo Island will climb onto it to take in the island's scenery.

More than 100 Bai ethnic fishermen live on the north side of Jinsuo Island. Almost every family has built houses with Bai architectural characteristics. A small portion live in these houses themselves, while the majority are used as rural guesthouses, providing accommodations for tourists who choose to stay overnight on the island. The prices are not too high, and they are very popular with visitors.

Generally speaking, after 9 PM, when the tourists who chose to dine on Jinsuo Island take a boat back, the dock would cease operations.

But tonight was an exception.

At 10 PM, a Land Rover Range Rover and two Mercedes-Benz vans were driving along the road circling Erhai Lake, arriving at the dock designated for Jinsuo Island in the Erhai Scenic Spot.

The dock was brightly lit, and two employees responsible for driving the yachts stood on the deck, nervously waiting for the legendary Nanli underworld boss Li Kui to arrive.

Standing with them were two of Li Wei's lackeys. Since they were less injured, they followed Su Liuli according to Li Wei's instructions, witnessed her boarding a boat to Jinsuo Island, and then, as ordered by Li Wei, kept watch at the dock, waiting for Li Kui to come with his men.

"Xiao Wei, are you sure that bitch is on Jinsuo Island?" Li Kui asked in a deep voice, looking towards the dock that was soon to be reached, to the pale-faced Li Wei in the back seat.

"After the incident, I had people follow that bitch continuously. They saw with their own eyes that she took a boat to Jinsuo Island. Afterwards, they kept watch on the dock and did not see that bitch return."

Li Wei gave a positive reply, and due to his emotional agitation, he moved the wound between his legs, which caused him to grimace in pain.

"Although Golden Healing Pills are miraculous, they are only low-level healing pills and cannot completely cure your injuries. They can only lessen the pain and prevent the injuries from getting worse."

Seeing this, Li Kui explained, "After dealing with that woman, I'll take you back to Nanming to see if Mr. Hu has any more high-level healing pills."

"Hmm!"

Hearing Li Kui's words, Li Wei couldn't help but feel elated, and then with a resentful face, he said, "Brother, that woman was too ruthless. We mustn't let her off easily later. It would be best to have someone gang up on her and sell her to the Golden Triangle Nightclub, where she can be ridden by thousands!"

"If she has no significant background, her fate will be far worse than what you've said!" Li Kui's face showed a fierce expression.

"She came to Dali alone, and her clothes and appearance are very ordinary. She probably doesn't have any significant background," Li Wei recalled.

"That's just secular. Don't forget, she is also a martial artist. Although her strength is weak, if she's a member of a big sect or a powerful martial arts clan, things will get tricky."

Although Li Kui couldn't wait to tear the perpetrator who injured his brother into pieces, having followed Mr. Hu for a long time, he knew there were some people in this world that couldn't be easily touched, "In any case, I'll take full responsibility for tonight's affairs. You just watch."

"Hmm."

Li Wei nodded, not daring to object.

Half a minute later, the three vehicles stopped one after another in front of the dock. Li Kui got out of the car with his men and had two subordinates support Li Wei.

"Brother Li Kui, Brother Wei!"

Li Wei's two lackeys quickly came up to greet them, bowing.

"Which fisherman's house is that bitch staying in?" Li Kui asked coldly.

"In... in the furthest fisherman's house to the west."

The two lackeys of Li Wei shivered as they answered, not daring to look at Li Kui.

Upon hearing this, Li Kui gave the two men a cold stare and then boarded the yacht with his group.

The two employees who drove the yacht at the scenic spot did not dare to slack off and started the yacht immediately.

"Hum~Hum~"

The roaring sound of the yacht's motor broke the peace of the night, accompanied by a puff of black smoke as it raced toward Jinsuo Island.

Although it was late, most of the tourists who had chosen to stay on Jinsuo Island had not yet gone to sleep.

Mostly couples, the tourists either strolled hand in hand along the beach or nestled by the seaside, whispering, kissing, and embracing to foster an atmosphere and mood for the rolling beds.

"Shouldn't the dock have stopped operating after nine o'clock?"

Hearing the increasingly clear roar of the motors and watching the two yachts quickly approach, the tourists who had not yet gone to sleep were all somewhat curious.

Not just them, even the fisherfolk on the island found it a bit strange.

A moment later, under the watchful eyes of the still-awake tourists and fisherfolk, the two yachts docked, and Li Kui, with his men and Li Wei, aggressively charged towards the westernmost fisherman's house.

In the fisherfolk's house, Su Liuli sat cross-legged on the bed, absorbing the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi flowing in through the window via meditation cultivation, as she recovered the Power she had expended that day.

Swish!

Suddenly, Su Liuli opened her eyes and stopped cultivating.

As a Martial Artist, her hearing, vision, smell, and other senses had become much sharper than before.

Through her excellent hearing, she clearly caught the sound of messy footsteps from a distance rapidly approaching the fisherman's house where she was staying.

"Could it be those scumbags from this afternoon have found someone to come and take revenge?" Su Liuli thought to herself.

"Bang——"

The next moment.

Before Su Liuli could come up with an answer in her mind, the chaotic footsteps came to an abrupt halt, replaced by a dull thud.

Li Kui kicked the fisherman's yard's iron gate off its hinges, sending it flying into a tree in the courtyard, its powerful impact causing the tree to shake violently.

"Who's there?"

The sudden noise startled the fisherman as he walked out of his room, only to see Li Kui and over a dozen others, which made his face turn pale, "You... you..."

"Which room does the bitch in the tracksuit carrying the oversized backpack live in?" demanded a large man as he stepped forward and grabbed the collar of the fisherman's shirt in a threatening manner.

"That... that one," the fisherman, scared out of his wits, instinctively pointed toward the room at the southwest corner.

"Are you coming out on your own, or do I have someone drag you out?"

Upon hearing this, Li Kui took two steps forward, standing at the doorway like a small mountain, and bellowed.

This shout, powered by Li Kui's Qi Yun Dantian, was as loud as a bull, shaking the fisherman's legs until he collapsed to the ground.

Not just him; inside the room, Su Liuli also felt her eardrums vibrate and her blood and Qi become unsettled.

This startled Su Liuli!

Reason told her that the person outside her door had strength far surpassing hers!

At the same time, she knew that since the other party had come knocking, there was simply no possibility for her to escape.

With this understanding, Su Liuli took a deep breath and quickly pulled out those four talismans from her wallet, which she had treasured like precious gems.

Those four talismans were a birthday gift from Ye Fan. Two of them contained Evil Yin Qi, and the other two contained Ye Fan's Power, all of them offensive talismans.

With the talismans in hand, the tension in Su Liuli's heart dissipated a lot. She tucked the talismans into her pocket, clenched her teeth, stepped forward, and flung open the door.

Creak!

A soft noise sounded as the door opened, and what entered Su Liuli's eyes was Li Kui's towering figure and his menacing face.

Beyond that, she saw Li Wei and more than a dozen men in black standing behind Li Kui.

Using her Spiritual Sense, she detected that apart from Li Kui, who had just shouted angrily, there were five Martial Artists in the crowd. Two of them had strength comparable to hers, while the other two were clearly stronger than her.

This discovery made her furrow her brows.

At the same time, Li Kui stared at Su Liuli, the fierce and menacing expression on his face giving way to confusion—he thought Su Liuli looked somewhat familiar but couldn't remember where he had seen her before.

"Bitch, you're dead for sure!"

Even though Li Kui had told Li Wei to just watch on the way here, upon seeing Su Liuli, who had shattered his testicles, the rage in Li Wei's heart flared up violently like oil poured on a fire.

"According to the Yanhuang Organization's regulations, if an ordinary person initiates an attack on a Martial Artist, the Martial Artist may retaliate."

Ignoring Li Wei's rant, Su Liuli coldly looked at the leader, Li Kui, and reminded him, "Your man attacked me first, and I injured him in self-defense—my actions did not violate the Yanhuang Organization's rules. But if you and your men lay a hand on me, it will be against the Yanhuang Organization's regulations, and you know very well what the consequences would be."

"Who are you?"

Hearing the words 'Yanhuang Organization,' Li Kui's brows furrowed even more. Reason told him that this girl, who seemed so frail, was probably no ordinary person.

"Su Liuli of the Jiangnan Su Family."

For Su Liuli, she did not know the power of the four talismans nor could she guarantee they would be effective against Li Kui and his men. Furthermore, she had treasured the four talismans greatly and did not want to rely on them.

Therefore, upon hearing Li Kui's question, a thought struck her, she revealed her family name in an attempt to intimidate the opposition.

Jiangnan Su Family?

Su Liuli?!

"You... you are that Su Liuli who's close to Ye Fan??"

Li Kui originally found Su Liuli familiar and struggled to recall where he had seen her. At that moment, hearing Su Liuli's words, he remembered seeing her photo in Ye Fan's file.

Wu Hu, being the second-in-command of Nanqinghong, knew everything about Ye Fan, and Li Kui, as Wu Hu's top lieutenant, had also gone through Ye Fan's information.

Ye Fan?!

For Li Kui's subordinates, they didn't have the privilege to view Ye Fan's information and didn't know who Su Liuli was, but they were well acquainted with Ye Fan's name.

To be precise, Ye Fan's name resounded like thunder in their ears!

Now, hearing Li Kui say Su Liuli was someone close to Ye Fan, their faces changed just like Li Kui's!

"Yes."

Upon hearing the name Ye Fan, a flicker of emotion crossed Su Liuli's otherwise impassive face. Seeing the reaction of Li Kui and his men, who seemed quite fearful of Ye Fan, she thought for a moment and decided not to deny it.

"Uh..."

Getting a positive confirmation from Su Liuli, both Li Kui and his men were dumbfounded.

With Li Kui's status, he could strut around Nanli and even the whole Southwest, but to provoke Ye Fan, who nearly forced Nanqinghong out of Huaxia and caused the entire organization to live in fear—Li Kui did not have the guts to do it!

Moreover, he had heard that a couple of days ago, Ye Fan had caused a commotion in Yanjing. Not only did he get away with it, but he also rejoined the Ye Family, highly regarded by the Ye elders.

In light of this, the helmsman of Nanqinghong had specifically instructed not to provoke Ye Fan and the Dong Hai Gang!

Under these circumstances, having inadvertently provoked a woman close to Ye Fan, one could only imagine the alarm in his heart.

"Brother, who is Ye Fan?"

Initially, Li Wei had thought that Su Liuli, with her ordinary attire and appearance, couldn't possibly have any strong background. Seeing Li Kui and the others frozen in place after a few words from Su Liuli, he suddenly felt uneasy.

"Gulp!"

"Gulp!"

...

The only answer Li Wei got was the sound of Li Kui's men gulping.

It seemed they wanted to answer Li Wei but didn't know how to explain it to him.

And Li Kui chose to remain silent, his eyebrows knitted tightly together.

A person's reputation casts a long shadow!

At this moment,

Li Kui only felt that the Su Liuli before him was like a grenade with the pin pulled out, and if mishandled, would explode, leaving him with broken bones!

Chapter 402 Killing Three Birds with One Arrow

Who exactly is Ye Fan?

The silence of Li Kui and the others made Li Wei feel even more curious.

I don't know.

Because of his lowly status, he couldn't access the upper circles and was equally clueless about Ye Fan's affairs, but reason told him that if someone could scare his brother, who was prepared to risk his life for his own, into such a state with just a name, then that person's identity must be incredibly powerful!

Exactly how powerful he could not imagine, only feeling at the very least it had to be on the level of his brother following Mr. Hu.

After realizing this, Li Wei's complexion turned ugly—he had already planned how to take revenge on Su Liuli, only to find that Su Liuli suddenly became the friend of some important figure, causing his brother and his friends to hesitate to make any rash moves.

This feeling was more frustrating than a man getting undressed, spreading the legs of the girl under the bed, only to find out that she was on her period.

After all, even if the girl was on her period, if one disregards hygiene and health, one could still roll in the sheets, but now, Li Wei felt that taking revenge on Su Liuli would become extremely difficult, if not nearly impossible.

Shua!

As Li Wei was stewing in frustration and depression, Li Kui's subordinates were all eagerly looking at him, as if asking: Brother Li Kui, what do we do?

What do we do?

Li Kui was also in the dark, feeling completely flustered.

From an emotional point of view, he couldn't wait to make Su Liuli pay a painful price, but reason told him that if he did, it would be a disaster for him and his brother, and possibly for the entire Nanqinghong!

Seeing Li Kui and the others not daring to act rashly, Su Liuli couldn't help but heave a sigh of relief, and then sighed softly in her heart.

She had intended to completely say goodbye to Ye Fan and her past life after this outing, but she didn't expect that just a few days after leaving, she was once again involved with Ye Fan, and even had to solve troubles by leveraging Ye Fan's deterrence.

"Keep an eye on her."

Later, just when Su Liuli thought the current troubles were going to be smoothly resolved, Li Kui suddenly remembered the reminder given to him by Wu Hu before leaving Nanming and promptly issued an instruction.

As soon as the words fell, Li Kui took out his phone without waiting for his subordinates to respond and quickly stepped out of the courtyard to call Wu Hu.

"Mr. Hu," Li Kui greeted as soon as the call went through.

"Did you find the person? What's their background?"

On the other end of the call, Wu Hu, who had received the call, had a bad premonition, but he asked without a change in his tone.

"Found her," Li Kui said, feeling his throat dry up before he gritted his teeth and continued, "She's... she's one of Ye Fan's people."

"What... what?"

At the mention of Ye Fan, Wu Hu stood up abruptly as if pricked by a needle, completely stupefied.

Li Kui, as if having anticipated Wu Hu's reaction, wasn't surprised and just patiently waited for further instructions.

"You didn't lay a hand on her, did you?" A few seconds later, Wu Hu recovered from the shock and asked with a hint of nervousness.

"No."

"Phew~"

Upon hearing this, Wu Hu heaved a sigh of relief.

"Mr. Hu, do you mean we should just let it go?" Li Kui was curious.

"Boss Lin and the headquarters have instructed us to be on our best behavior recently and strictly forbidden us from provoking Ye Fan and Dong hai Gang."

Wu Hu responded not directly answering the question but indirectly giving the reply— to him, he didn't mind offending some people to avenge Li Kui, but he absolutely wouldn't risk offending Ye Fan!

"Mr. Hu, I'm aware of that. But I worry— even if we don't mind, Ye Fan might not let it go."

By now, Li Kui had lost all thoughts of taking revenge on Su Liuli, just worried about Ye Fan seeking retaliation, looking very anxious, "And according to the information we have and what we've heard about Ye Fan, he's someone who can't tolerate even the slightest flaw or disrespect— he's very likely to use this incident as an excuse to move against us!"

"Uh..."

Wu Hu, who was initially relieved to learn Li Kui hadn't made a move, was taken aback by Li Kui's words, and then his frown deepened even more.

It was a stark awakening.

His unwillingness to offend Ye Fan was not only out of fear but also due to some of his own schemes—the development of the conflict between Nanqinhong and Ye Fan to this stage was entirely due to Boss Lin's decision-making mistakes.

In his opinion, if Nanqinhong suffered heavy losses again due to Boss Lin's mistakes, headquarters might very well decide to let him replace Boss Lin in controlling Nanqinhong!

For this reason, even though he was the second-in-command of Nanqinhong, he didn't want to be the cannon fodder for Boss Lin and rush to confront Ye Fan first.

Now, Li Kui's words served as a direct reminder—he was willing to let the matter end here, but what about Ye Fan? Was Ye Fan willing?

Unwilling!

Almost subconsciously, the same answer as Li Kui's arose in his heart.

"Like this, don't act rashly for now, I'll call Boss Lin to see what to do," after a moment of pondering, Wu Hu hung up the call and dialed Boss Lin's number.

Taiwan, Nanqinhong Headquarters.

Lin Tianyi, whose Martial Arts Cultivation had reached its peak and was not practicing Meditation Cultivation as usual, was sitting in his study room, puffing on a cigar, thinking about how to deal with Ye Fan next.

As the Helmsman of Nanqinhong, he had access to much more information than Wu Hu. He knew that Chen Daozang, the Supreme Strongman controlling Qinghong from behind the scenes, had not entered Huaxia with the intent of expanding Qinghong's power there but merely to prevent Wenhao from taking the top position and bringing down the Ye Family.

Over the past six months, Nanqinhong had inexplicably come into conflict with Ye Fan, and the situation had escalated to a point of no return.

Following Chen Feilian's instructions, Nanqinhong was to prepare for the worst— use its own demise to carry out an assassination on Ye Fan and create chaos within Huaxia.

Such a price, Qinghong could bear, Chen Feilian could bear, but Lin Tianyi, the helmsman of Nanqinhong, could not bear!

"Ring, ring——"

Just as Lin Tianyi was at a loss, the ringing of the phone shattered the silence in the study.

Hmm?

Hearing the sound, Lin Tianyi snapped out of his contemplation, glanced at the caller ID, and was surprised to find it was a call from Wu Hu.

This discovery made him feel very strange.

As the saying goes, two tigers cannot share one mountain.

For a long time, his relationship with Wu Hu had been far from harmonious. Wu Hu outwardly respected him but secretly defied him, while he outwardly trusted Wu Hu but secretly had him under surveillance.

Although both were well aware of the true nature of their relationship, neither had exposed it, and they rarely made contact.

In such a situation, Lin Tianyi always felt that if he had to choose the person who most wanted him dead from this world, it wouldn't be Ye Fan, but Wu Hu!

Now, with Wu Hu suddenly calling, he couldn't help but wonder: Why is Wu Hu calling me?

Confusion rose, and after contemplating for a few seconds, Lin Tianyi then answered the call and said with a smile, "Tiger, it's been a long time since you called Big Brother."

"I heard Big Brother was recently in meditation cultivation, and I didn't dare to disturb you," Wu Hu said insincerely.

Lin Tianyi didn't pierce through his pretense and asked with a smile, "So, what made you think of calling Big Brother today?"

"To tell you the truth, Big Brother, I'm facing a tricky problem here," Wu Hu said bluntly, and simultaneously raised his voice deliberately, "And if this problem isn't properly resolved, it will become a nightmare for our Nanqinghong!"

"What happened?"

Though Wu Hu's words sounded frightening, Lin Tianyi believed that in this world, even witnessing something with one's own eyes didn't guarantee it was the truth, let alone words coming from the mouth of Wu Hu, who seemed a friend but was in fact an enemy.

"Big Brother, it's like this..."

Perhaps as Wu Hu himself said, the situation was indeed too thorny, so instead of playing scheming tricks in front of Lin Tianyi, he reported the truth.

Listening to Wu Hu's report, as time passed, Lin Tianyi's brows furrowed tighter and tighter.

On one hand, if what had been reported was true, then it really was quite a problem. On the other hand, the worried tone in Wu Hu's voice told him that it was very likely true!

"Big Brother, what do you think we should do now?"

After finishing his report, Wu Hu asked for instructions with a tone of sincere respect, rare for him, cleverly including an "us" to align Lin Tianyi with his plight.

Lin Tianyi could hear the cunning in Wu Hu's words, but he also knew that now was not the time to bicker over such things; it was time to figure out how to deal with the situation!

Hmm?

Suddenly, a crazy thought surfaced in Lin Tianyi's mind, but he didn't voice it immediately and instead counter-asked, "Tiger, what do you think is the appropriate way to handle this?"

"Big Brother, you said before that Headquarters wanted us to stay out of trouble recently, so my initial plan was to keep things quiet. But then I thought about it and realized that even if we were willing, Ye Fan might not be!" Wu Hu said, full of worry.

"That's right! Ye Fan is a man who must avenge even the smallest slights. We have already made enemies with him, and a confrontation is inevitable sooner or later. Now, with new grudges piling on top of old ones, with his modus operandi, it's very likely he will act immediately," Lin Tianyi's tightly

furrowed brows slowly relaxed. "That is to say, at this point, we must shoot because the arrow is already notched on the bow."

"Big Brother, what do you mean?" Wu Hu asked, puzzled.

"That girl named Su Liuli, she's one of his people, and her sister is Ye Fan's woman. Do you think if Su Liuli were in danger, he would come to her rescue?" Lin Tianyi asked.

"Of course he would, otherwise I wouldn't be worried."

Wu Hu replied subconsciously, thinking that Lin Tianyi's question was superfluous, then he sensed an underlying message and asked, "Big Brother, do you mean we can use Su Liuli as a hostage, dig a pit, and bury Ye Fan in it?"

"Exactly!"

Lin Tianyi first provided a firm answer, then added, "But not us doing the deed, instead, we'll have outsiders do it!"

"Is Big Brother thinking of luring Ye Fan to the Golden Triangle and using someone else's hand to eliminate him?" Wu Hu suddenly realized and silently marveled at Lin Tianyi's cunning.

"Yes. In Huaxia territory, because of the Yanhuang Organization and the Ye Family, we don't dare risk sending someone to assassinate that bastard. But if he runs off to the Golden Triangle, he's practically seeking his own death. By then, whether it's the Ye Family or the Yanhuang Organization, rescuing him will be beyond their reach!"

As he spoke, Lin Tianyi's voice betrayed a hint of excitement, and he let out a sinister laugh, "This way, we accomplish three things with one arrow. First, we perfectly deal with this issue. Second, we eliminate the huge trouble that is Ye Fan. Third, we avoid retaliation from the Yanhuang Organization and the Ye Family."

"Big Brother, you're brilliant!"

Even though Wu Hu had a strained relationship with Lin Tianyi, he couldn't help but acknowledge that Lin Tianyi's handling of the situation was an eye-opener for him.

"Tiger, before that bastard Ye Fan realizes what's happening, immediately have your men take that girl to the Golden Triangle, and covertly contact others to set a trap, waiting for that bastard to jump in!"

Lin Tianyi instructed, suddenly adopting a more serious tone, "Remember, everything must be done without the knowledge of gods or ghosts, or even if we manage to eliminate him, the Yanhuang Organization and the Ye Family won't let us off the hook!"

"Understood!"

"There's no time to lose, go and do it right away!"

As the words fell, Lin Tianyi hung up the phone, grinning even more sinisterly.

He felt as if he had already seen the scene of Ye Fan dying in a foreign land, unaware that Ye Fan had already found out Su Liuli's whereabouts!

Chapter 403 A Miss in a Hundred Secrets

At the doorstep of a fisherman's home on the westernmost side of Jinsuo Island, Li Kui paced back and forth with a mobile phone in hand, like an ant on a hot pan.

"Buzz~"

Suddenly, the vibration of the phone broke the silence.

Li Kui shuddered, picked up the phone, and immediately answered the call upon seeing it was from Wu Hu, "Mr. Hu."

"Li Kui, where did you find that girl? Have your actions been noticed by anyone?" Surprisingly, instead of giving instructions, Wu Hu asked a question that puzzled Li Kui.

"On Jinsuo Island. There was quite a commotion when we arrived, and several people saw us. Moreover, that girl is inside the fisherman's house."

Though unclear about Wu Hu's line of questioning, Li Kui still answered truthfully, only to finally ask with impatience, "Mr. Hu, why do you ask these questions?"

"I just spoke with Lin Tianyi on the phone, and after some discussion, we plan to take that girl to the Golden Triangle and use her as a hostage. This will force Ye Fan to come to the Golden Triangle for a rescue and allow us to take his head in one fell swoop!"

Wu Hu did not hide his intentions from Li Kui, but frowned throughout the conversation, "But there's a condition — to avoid retaliation from the Yanhuang Organization and the Ye Family after Ye Fan's death, you must bring the girl to the Golden Triangle without revealing any trace of your whereabouts. It must be done without anyone noticing!"

"Mr. Hu, what should we do?"

Perhaps not expecting Wu Hu to make such a decision, Li Kui took a few seconds to digest the information before asking.

"You should do this..." Wu Hu pondered for a moment and then gave his instructions.

"Phew~"

Having ended the call with Wu Hu, Li Kui let out a deep breath and recollected himself before stepping back into the courtyard.

Inside, the elderly fisherman couple cowered in a corner, huddled together in fear.

Li Wei and the subordinates of Li Kui stood like wooden stakes at the door to the room, exchanging blank stares with Su Liuli.

Whoosh!

Upon hearing Li Kui's footsteps, everyone's gaze turned to him as they secretly guessed how Li Kui would deal with the situation.

"I apologize, Lady Su. My brother Li Wei was in the wrong. He was injured by you and fully deserved it. I hope you can be magnanimous and not stoop to his level."

A moment later.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Li Kui quickly approached Su Liuli, bowed slightly, and sincerely apologized.

"Uh..."

As they heard Li Kui's words and saw his bent back, both Li Wei and Li Kui's men were stunned!

While they could gauge from Li Kui's earlier behavior that it was unlikely for him to raise his hand against Su Liuli—

They never dreamed that not only would Li Kui not make a move, but he would also actually apologize to Su Liuli.

Not just them, even Su Liuli was somewhat taken aback.

"Sorry to have bothered you, Lady Su. We'll be leaving now!"

Seeing Su Liuli not responding, Li Kui didn't continue to act, and signaled to the people to leave.

Whoosh—

Upon hearing the order, Li Wei and the others snapped out of their trance and dispersed instinctively, following Li Kui out.

Among them, even though Li Wei had a thousand reluctances, he could only swallow his grievances until they left the courtyard and then couldn't help but ask, "Brother, are we really going to let it go just like this?"

"I have my own plan."

Li Kui spoke firmly and without paying further attention to Li Wei, he led the others quickly towards the place they landed.

"Stone, take Xiao Wei and the rest back to the dock, have Xiao Wei and them leave, and then find a way to get a small boat to row over here, landing at that spot."

As they were about to reach the yacht, Li Kui suddenly stopped, called over one of his subordinates who was a Peak-stage Postnatal Martial Artist, to the side, and quietly gave his instructions.

"Brother Li Kui, what do you mean?" The warrior nicknamed Stone, sensing something, looked shocked.

"This is Mr. Hu's arrangement, remember, don't reveal any clues and keep your mouths shut," Li Kui said seriously.

"Got it, Brother Li Kui!" Stone, grasping Li Kui's intention, realized the gravity of the situation and nodded solemnly.

Seeing this, Li Kui wasted no more words, disappeared like a ghost into the night, and vanished from view.

Moments later, Stone walked briskly towards Li Wei and the others to convey Li Kui's orders.

"Buzz~ Buzz~"

A few minutes later, the roar of the yacht engines started up again, and two yachts howled as they headed towards the opposite dock.

Meanwhile, Li Kui made a return to the island and settled once again into the brush on the west side of the fisherman's house, where he completely concealed his presence.

After about fifteen minutes, when he saw the two yachts reach the opposite shore, Li Kui still lay motionless in the undergrowth, calculating in his mind how long it would take Stone, with his Peak-stage Postnatal ability, to row over here, all the while waiting for the fisherman couple to fall asleep.

Time passed, and when the conversation between the fisherman couple ceased and only the sound of their steady breathing could be heard, Li Kui slowly emerged from the undergrowth, tip-toed silently into the yard, and entered the house without a sound.

Inside the room, Su Liuli had once again entered a state of meditation, absorbing the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi flowing in through the window.

Creak!

Suddenly, the soft sound of the door opening broke the silence.

Whoosh!

Su Liuli's eyes snapped open, her body tensed, and she swept her gaze like a knife towards the door.

"Swoosh—"

Li Kui's feet propelled him forward, and in a flash, he became a blur as he darted towards Su Liuli.

Clack!

Sensing Li Kui's approach, Su Liuli felt a jolt in her heart!

Almost instantly, before Su Liuli could reach for her talisman, Li Kui had already closed in on Su Liuli, transformed his hand into a blade, and struck her on the back of the neck.

This strike from Li Kui was carefully controlled, but nevertheless, it gave Su Liuli no chance to react.

As the hand blade struck, Su Liuli's head tilted, and she collapsed onto the bed.

Upon seeing this, Li Kui did not linger, grabbed Su Liuli in one swoop, dashed out of the room, leaped out of the courtyard, and disappeared into the night.

Moments later, Li Kui, holding onto Su Liuli, reached the rendezvous spot with Stone and peered out to see a small boat approaching like a solitary leaf floating on the water.

The boat, provided by the scenic area for tourists to enjoy rowing, could only accommodate six people and required them to pedal and row themselves.

As soon as the boat reached the shore, Li Kui grabbed Su Liuli. With two quick steps, he rushed onto the boat and threw Su Liuli into the cabin, where he joined Stone in pedaling.

The oars stirred, propelling the boat towards the opposite bank. Although it wasn't as fast as a yacht, it moved quicker than the scenic area's sightseeing boats. It would take about half an hour to reach the other side.

Half an hour later.

Just as Li Kui and Stone were pedaling to make the boat approach the shore, a Buick van drove up from the distance, its headlights dazzling.

Five young men sat in the car, and a crew-cut middle-aged man occupied the passenger seat.

The middle-aged man was a core member of Wu Qianshou's men and also the head of the Dao Sect in Nanli.

"Boss, do you think the person Master Wu told us to find might have already been taken by Nanqinghong?"

"I think it's possible. Shouldn't we report to Master Wu first?"

As the car was about to turn a corner, two members of the Dao Sect could not help but speak up.

Before heading to the dock, they had already investigated the incident where Su Liuli injured Li Wei and others. They were aware that Su Liuli had gone to Jinsuo Island and even knew that more than an hour ago, Li Kui had returned from Nanming with his men and taken Li Wei and the others to Jinsuo Island.

"Although I don't know who that girl is, the fact that Master Wu has us drop all matters and mobilize brothers from the entire province to find her proves that her identity is significant," the middle-aged man said with furrowed brows. "Given this, we must handle this matter carefully and wait until we have found her before reporting, lest we botch things up."

"Zi~"

As the middle-aged man finished speaking, the car turned the corner. The driver played a slight drift, causing everyone inside, including the middle-aged man, to become unsteady. Under inertia's effect, they leaned towards Erhai Lake.

"Xiao Liu, you motherf—"

The middle-aged man was about to curse but stopped halfway, suddenly turning his gaze toward the shore, dozens of meters away.

Though not even a martial artist, the middle-aged man had excellent natural eyesight. He had poisonous eyes and was known within the Dao Sect as 'Poison Eye.'

This was why he could become the head of the Dao Sect in Nanli.

Using the dim moonlight, he clearly saw a small boat docked at the shore and two figures leaping from the boat, one of them holding a person in white clothes.

Even though it was just a fleeting glimpse, Poison Eye, with his superior vision, made out the faces of the two men and even Su Liuli's appearance!

Shua!

This discovery caused his complexion to change drastically!

He instinctively opened his mouth to tell the driver, Xiao Liu, to stop, but the last bit of reason told him that, judging by Li Kui's and Stone's actions, Su Liuli appeared to be kidnapped.

With this thought, Poison Eye did not have his men stop the car but instead quickly took out his phone and dialed Wu Qianshou, the Dao Sect's southwest region supervisor.

Nanming.

In the Noble District of Dianchi Road, Wu Qianshou's villa hall.

Having found a lead on Su Liuli, Ye Fan didn't rush to leave but sat on the couch in the hall, waiting for news.

Wu Qianshou sat opposite Ye Fan, fidgeting as if sitting on pins and needles—It had been over two hours since he had received news about Su Liuli from his men in Nanli, and he was terrified that Ye Fan would get angry.

"Buzz~"

As Wu Qianshou considered whether to call and urge his men to hurry, the vibrating sound of his phone went off.

Wu Qianshou sprang up from the couch in shock, and Ye Fan sharply turned his gaze toward him.

"Poison Eye, did you find anything?" Wu Qianshou answered the phone, his voice a bit excited.

Ye Fan couldn't help but hold his breath.

"We've found her, Master Wu!"

On the other end, Poison Eye immediately reported, "The girl named Su Liuli is in Nanqinhong's hands—I just saw Li Kui and Stone, with Li Kui carrying the girl. Unless something goes wrong, the girl must have been knocked out and kidnapped by Li Kui!"

"Uh..."

Wu Qianshou's eyes bulged and his mouth opened wide in shock, frozen in place.

"What's wrong?"

Ye Fan abruptly stood up, frowning as he asked.

"Gulp..."

Wu Qianshou snapped out of his shock, swallowed hard, and said, "Mr. Ye, your friend has been kidnapped by Nanqinghong's Li Kui!"

"Shua!"

Upon hearing this, Ye Fan felt as if he had plummeted from Heaven into Hell, his expression changing wildly.

"Have your men follow them, and make sure they don't get lost!"

Quickly, Ye Fan, with great composure, calmed himself and issued a swift instruction.

"Yes... yes!"

Wu Qianshou was far more flustered, managing a panicked response before regaining some composure, "Poison Eye, listen, follow Li Kui immediately, and make sure not to lose them!"

"Yes, Master Wu!"

On the other end, Poison Eye quickly replied, ignoring the stunned subordinates around him as he yelled at Xiao Liu, the driver, "Turn around! Turn the damn car around!"

Meanwhile, Wu Qianshou put down the phone, his face still showing signs of panic, "Mr. Ye, from what I know, that Li Kui is a Postnatal Perfect Martial Artist. If he discovers my men following him, he can easily shake them off, even killing them to silence them..."

"Take me to Whistling Manor!"

Ye Fan interrupted Wu Qianshou coldly, the terrifying intent to kill suddenly surfacing, like a Killing God descending to the human world!

Chapter 404 A Burst of Anger for the Beauty

The night was deep, and there were noticeably fewer vehicles on the streets. A Mercedes S600 sped like lightning through the streets, continuously overtaking the vehicles ahead. It was like a black whirlwind heading straight for Tiger Roar Manor.

As the head of Dao Sect Southwest, Wu Qianshou's psychological quality was far superior to that of ordinary people. However, at this moment, sitting in the passenger seat, he was tightly gripping the handle above him, his face faintly pale, his eyes filled with terror.

All because the car was going too fast.

Way too fast!

At this point, Ye Fan had floored the accelerator of the Mercedes S600, pushing the car to its theoretical limit, as if it was about to take flight.

And... this wasn't on a closed-off underground racing highway, but on Nanming's main road—though there weren't many cars on the main road at this time, there were still quite a few, and there was an intersection every so often!

Amidst his fear, Wu Qianshou couldn't help but sneak a glance at Ye Fan, noticing that Ye Fan was fully focused on the road ahead, seemingly merging with the car into one.

What he did not know was that Ye Fan had divided his consciousness, with one part controlling the car, while his Mind Power was set aside for emergency handling.

For instance, if the car was about to reach a traffic light too fast to brake in time, Ye Fan would exert Mind Power on the car to slow it down, achieving the effect of a double brake.

And if the car's speed exceeded Ye Fan's judgment and danger was imminent, Ye Fan would use his Mind Power to manipulate the obstructing vehicles, ensuring that cars ahead wouldn't be hit by the Mercedes S600 he was driving.

Originally, Ye Fan had made dual preparations: on one hand, he had the Dao Sect's men track and kidnap Li Kui, who had seized Su Liuli; on the other hand, he headed to Tiger Roar Manor.

But he and Wu Qianshou hadn't even left the gates of the Noble District on Dianchi Road when Wu Qianshou's men reported that they had lost track of Li Kui.

Thus, Ye Fan could no longer count on the people from the Dao Sect.

At the same time, since Li Kui, the kidnapper of Su Liuli, was a Postnatal Perfect Martial Artist, Ye Fan couldn't put his hopes on the local police either. He had to resort to cutting off the source and control Wu Hu, the number two figure of Nanqinghong at Ao Xiang Villa.

He also knew very well, the sooner he controlled Wu Hu, the safer Su Liuli would be.

Every second counted.

This was the true portrayal of Ye Fan at this very moment!

"He's insane!"

"This guy is absolutely insane!!"

When the high-speeding Mercedes S600 turned into a streak of black light and passed between two cars, Wu Qianshou's heart almost stopped beating in fear. He then gasped for air, clutching his wildly beating heart, wanting to say something but didn't dare to speak out loud, only muttering to himself in his heart.

"Turn right at the intersection up ahead, then keep going down that road, and it will lead to Tiger Roar Manor."

Several minutes later, when Ye Fan drove into the suburbs, Wu Qianshou's tension lessened a bit. He once again acted as a guide, directing Ye Fan on the way.

"Zzz~"

No sooner had Wu Qianshou finished speaking than the severe friction between the car tires and the ground sounded, and the Mercedes S600 executed a flawless drift before turning onto the road mentioned by Wu Qianshou.

"Ugh..."

Upon witnessing this, whether it was the sparse pedestrians on the road or the nearby taxi drivers and private car owners, they all wore expressions of astonishment, seemingly unable to believe what they had just seen.

"Vroom~!"

Answering them was a loud roar of the engine.

Ye Fan once again floored the accelerator, and the Mercedes S600, like a roaring steel beast, thundered off into the distance.

"Mr. Ye, another two kilometers ahead is Tiger Roar Manor."

Another ten minutes passed, and as Wu Qianshou looked at the brightly-lit Tiger Roar Manor in the distance, he warned, "As far as I know, Wu Hu has set up checkpoints on the road to Tiger Roar Manor, approximately one kilometer from the manor. To avoid alarm, it's best for you to get out of the car a kilometer before reaching it."

"After I get out, you drive back and wait for my message."

Ye Fan replied expressionlessly and then, in order not to make too much noise, pressed the brakes slowly and rhythmically, causing the speeding Mercedes S600 to gradually slow down and eventually come to a smooth stop by the roadside.

Once the car stopped, Ye Fan wasted no time, opened the car door at once, got out, and with a flicker, he vanished into the night like a ghostly figure.

Ye Fan's series of actions were so swift they left no time for a reaction; by the time Wu Qianshou came to his senses, Ye Fan was already out of sight.

Tiger Roar Manor.

Wu Hu, the number two figure in Nanqinghong, knew that what he did that night was the biggest gamble of his life. If he won, his future was bright. If he lost, his head might well be separated from his body.

This made Wu Hu extremely nervous, so much so that after he reached an agreement with Lin Tianyi and ended the call, he no longer had the mind to engage in meditation cultivation but paced back and forth in the villa's hall, constantly smoking without a break.

Watching Wu Hu's unsettled state were two Postnatal Perfect Martial Artist subordinates sent by Lin Tianyi, sitting on the couch, not daring to make a sound.

And the bodyguard Wu Hu had hired at a considerable cost, an Innate Great Success Realm guard, stood like a grim reaper at the villa's entrance, carefully sensing everything around him.

Moreover, the villa was surrounded with both obvious and hidden guards, the number of bodyguards adding up to more than a dozen.

It can be said without exaggeration that the villa's defense was extremely strict, certainly no less than the residences of the top leaders of the Southwest and the Southwest Military Region.

In such a heavily fortified defense, let alone a living person, not even a mosquito could fly in!

"Buzz~"

Suddenly, amidst the stillness of the hall, a phone vibrated.

The sound made Wu Hu halt his stride. His body tensed up, then, in a swift motion, he rushed to the coffee table and grabbed the vibrating phone to answer the call.

"Mr. Hu, I've now driven away from Nanli and am heading towards the border," Li Kui's voice came through the receiver. "Just to be safe, I didn't take the highway but the national road instead."

"You weren't spotted, were you?" Wu Hu asked worriedly.

"No one noticed me throughout the entire process," Li Kui promised confidently.

"Then that's good."

Wu Hu breathed a sigh of relief and thought about it for a moment. "Li Kui, I know you definitely want to teach that girl a lesson first. But to avoid any trouble on the road, hold back for now, don't act—once we're out of the border, when we reach the Golden Triangle region, as long as you don't kill her and she can still speak, you can do whatever you want!"

"Understood, Mr. Hu."

As Wu Hu had guessed, Li Kui indeed wanted to collect some 'interest' for his younger brother by teaching Su Liuli a lesson. But hearing what Wu Hu said, he knew that to ensure nothing went wrong, it was better to wait until they reached the Golden Triangle before making a move.

"Bitch, I'll let you sleep well first; we'll settle accounts once we're there!"

Having made up his mind, Li Kui glanced at Su Liuli, who was lying across the back seat, through the rearview mirror, and vowed vengeance in his heart.

Wu Hu then added, "Also, there will be someone at the border to meet you. Keep your phone on at all times, and I'll tell you the rendezvous point later."

"Yes, Mr. Hu!" Li Kui responded gravely.

Wu Hu thought for a moment and, feeling that everything was covered, hung up the phone. He immediately dialed Lin Tianyi's number.

"Big brother, my men have successfully kidnapped that girl named Su Liuli without anyone noticing, and they're now on the national highway heading towards the border."

Wu Hu reported the situation first, then asked, "Should your side contact people overseas, or should I do it?"

"I'll do it."

Lin Tianyi pondered for a moment before making a decision.

It was clear... he realized the gravity of tonight's events. To say it was an all-or-nothing gamble would be an understatement; thereby, he was betting his life and future, and naturally did not want to leave it in Wu Hu's hands but decided to handle it personally.

"Good, I'll wait for big brother's instructions."

Wu Hu had no objections to Lin Tianyi's arrangements, knowing well that although Lin Tianyi rarely showed his face in the Golden Triangle region, with his distinguished identity and status, and strong support from Qinghong Headquarters, his connections in the underworld were just as strong, if not stronger.

Shortly afterwards.

At the same time Wu Hu finished his conversation with Lin Tianyi, Ye Fan snuck into Tiger Roar Manor undetected, released his spiritual sense, and instantly sensed several martial artist auras in the villa at the center of the estate, four of which were quite strong.

This discovery made Ye Fan realize that Wu Hu was inside that villa. Without hesitation, his figure flashed as he dashed towards it.

With time running out, Ye Fan pushed his speed to the utmost, becoming almost invisible.

Because he had activated the Ghostly Gourd early enough to cloak his presence, neither Wu Hu nor his personal bodyguard sensed him.

Quickly, Ye Fan arrived in the bushes in front of the villa, releasing his spiritual sense once more to confirm the positions of Wu Hu and the others.

Having done all this, Ye Fan no longer concealed his aura, leapt out, and while moving towards the villa entrance, he activated the Ghostly Gourd and set up the "Enchanting Soul Array."

"Intruder!"

As soon as Ye Fan released his aura, Wu Hu's Innate Great Success Martial Artist bodyguard, Cui Shan, sensed it immediately. His face changed dramatically as he shouted sharply, leaping to stand protectively in front of Wu Hu.

Wu Hu's two subordinates, seated on the sofa, also stood up sharply.

Clang!

Wu Hu, already agitated, trembled in his consciousness, quickly using his spiritual sense to sense the sudden presence outside the villa.

"Who is it?"

Meanwhile, the bodyguards spread around the villa like cats smelling blood, swiftly drew their daggers and converged towards the entrance.

"Scram!"

Ye Fan's roar was the answer he gave them!

With this roar filled with anger and laden with spiritual attack, its terror was palpable.

Upon his roar, the crowd scattered!

Below the veil of night, a dozen bodyguards gathering together felt as if thunder had exploded by their ears, causing them dizziness and making them unable to stand.

"Clank clank clank clank..."

The sound of daggers falling to the ground followed swiftly, as the bodyguards, one after another, like drunkards, fell to the ground.

Whoosh—

At that moment, Ye Fan completed his hand seal, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi violently fluctuated like an invisible pillar descending from the sky, causing the scenery around the villa to suddenly change dramatically.

"Mr. Hu, the intruder is a Magician..."

Inside the villa hall, the faces of Wu Hu and the three others changed simultaneously, and his bodyguard Cui Shan, with a grave expression, was about to warn about something.

However—

Before he could finish his words, he was interrupted by a deafening voice!

"Wu Hu, if Liu Li loses even a single hair, I'll turn your Tiger Roar Manor into a living hell!!!"

Voice dropping, figure moving.

Ye Fan stepped into the villa's courtyard!

Chapter 405 Decisive Killing

Whoosh!

In the villa's grand hall, the expressions on Wu Hu and his three companions changed drastically!

Ye Fan's furious roar, mixed with a spiritual attack, directly bombarded their souls, causing them to shiver with trepidation.

Then, they clearly felt the towering intent to kill emanating from Ye Fan, so piercingly cold that it gave them the illusion as if the Killing God had descended.

"Who is it?"

Almost at the same time, the same question arose in the minds of Wu Hu and his three companions, and they couldn't help but look at each other.

"Crack—"

The response was a crisp sound.

Ye Fan stepped into the villa's grand hall, the floorboards under his feet shattered, debris scattering in all directions, as if the villa itself trembled.

Whoosh!

Wu Hu and the others immediately turned their gaze towards Ye Fan, laying eyes on a face they did not know well, but was by no means unfamiliar.

Ye... Ye Fan?!

In an instant.

Wu Hu and his companions were dumbstruck, completely astonished.

Because... they had never dreamt that the person would be Ye Fan!

In their view, the kidnapping of Su Liuli had just happened, and Li Kui had managed it unnoticed by gods and ghosts; there was no reason for Ye Fan to know.

And even if Ye Fan did know, there was no way he could have arrived so quickly, right?

"Wu Hu, call your men immediately and have them bring Liu Li here safe and sound!"

Ye Fan looked at Wu Hu and the others with cold eyes, his voice was low and hoarse, his whole being radiated danger.

Clank!

Hearing an unquestionable statement from Ye Fan, Wu Hu's heart shook without warning, unsure of how to respond.

Though he didn't know how Ye Fan had found out about his order to abduct Su Liuli, he was certain that Ye Fan was now aware of it.

If he didn't follow Ye Fan's demand and stop the plan, letting Li Kui bring Su Liuli here right away, Ye Fan would definitely not let him off the hook.

But at the same time, he felt that if Li Kui brought Su Liuli back unharmed, given Ye Fan's past actions, he wouldn't necessarily be let off the hook!

"Ye Fan, this matter was orchestrated by Lin Tianyi, it has nothing to do with me..."

With these thoughts flashing through his mind, Wu Hu pondered for a moment before speaking out with a measure of fear.

"Swoosh!"

"Swoosh!"

However—

Before Wu Hu could finish his sentence, two sounds of something speeding through the air suddenly emerged!

Two Xuanye Flying Blades shot out from Ye Fan's sleeves, transforming into two streaks of white light, hurtling at breakneck speed towards the two Postnatal Perfect Martial Artists arranged by Lin Tianyi next to Wu Hu.

"Pfft!"

"Pfft!"

The white light flashed and blood spurted.

The sharp Xuanye Flying Blades instantly penetrated the throats of the two men beside Wu Hu!

"Thump—"

"Thump—"

Before Wu Hu's companions could react, they collapsed to the ground. Instinctively trying to cover their throat wounds, they never got their hands up before their bodies shook violently, coughing up several mouthfuls of blood, and after convulsing fiercely, they breathed their last!

Under the light, their faces overflowed with horror, their eyes bulging out as they looked towards where Ye Fan stood, as if asking: Why did Ye Fan choose to kill them first?

Why??

"Gulp!"

Watching his two men lying in a pool of blood, devoid of life, and thinking how they didn't even have the chance to react, Wu Hu felt as if someone had kicked him into an ice cellar, an icy chill spreading from head to toe, his hair standing on end and his throat feeling dry, he involuntarily swallowed.

Whoosh!

At the same time, Wu Hu's personal bodyguard Cui Shan turned pale as a sheet!

As an Innate Great Success Martial Artist, he sensed Ye Fan's strike, but his rational mind told him that with his capabilities, he had no chance of dodging Ye Fan's Flying Knife Assassination from such a short distance!

If even Cui Shan felt this way, what about Wu Hu, who was merely at the Early Innate Realm?

"Huff... Huff..."

Wu Hu began to breathe heavily without control, shifting his gaze from his fallen men and placing it on Ye Fan, filled with dread.

That dread made his body stiff, as if he were a mummy, not daring to move in the slightest.

"Make the call, now!"

Because he was worried about Su Liuli's safety, Ye Fan had dispatched Wu Hu's two men quickly to strike fear, without continuing his attack, he once again spoke, his tone chillingly cold.

"I can make the call, but you must promise to let me go."

Although extremely frightened, Wu Hu didn't immediately make the call, instead he began to negotiate terms with Ye Fan—judging from Ye Fan's recent actions, he was sure that if Su Liuli was unharmed, Ye Fan would definitely not let him go!

Thus, even if he stopped the plan, he needed to ensure his own safety.

In his view, Su Liuli was Ye Fan's weakness, and also his bargaining chip in negotiating with Ye Fan!

"Swoosh!"

The sound of something slicing through the air echoed again, and a bloodstained Xuanye Flying Blade shot from behind, piercing through Cui Shan's neck from the back, instantly severing his head.

"Pfft—"

Steaming blood burst forth like a high-pressure water gun, and before Cui Shan could even scream, he fell to the ground, lifelessly joining the fate of Wu Hu's other two men.

Simultaneously, the blood-soaked Xuanye Flying Blade miraculously stopped in front of Ye Fan, exuding a deathly aura under the light.

Wu Hu's heart skipped a beat at the sudden turn of events, his legs weakened and his body trembled uncontrollably.

"Remember, you have no right to negotiate terms with me," Ye Fan said expressionlessly, looking at Wu Hu with a cold voice, "I'll ask you one more time, are you going to make the call or not?"

"Bang bang bang..."

As Ye Fan's words echoed in his ears, Wu Hu began to waver. He opened his mouth, his Adam's apple moving as he tried to say something, but his upper and lower teeth clashed incessantly due to overwhelming fear, the banging sound incessant in his ears.

Seeing this, Ye Fan stopped talking nonsense. With a thought, the blood-stained Xuanye Flying Blade slowly moved towards Wu Hu.

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

Witnessing the Xuanye Flying Blade moving towards him, Wu Hu was as terrified as if he'd seen the Death God throw his scythe, reaping life, and he desperately retreated.

One step, two steps, three steps...

After three steps, Wu Hu retreated to the sofa and collapsed onto it.

And the Xuanye Flying Blade floated precisely above Wu Hu's head, like the curse of death hanging over him, intimidating Wu Hu.

"Make the call, or die!"

Ye Fan stepped toward Wu Hu, issuing the final ultimatum.

"Huff... huff..."

Extreme fear caused Wu Hu's heart to beat wildly, as if it was about to burst from his throat, while his breaths were short and rapid, cold sweat soaking his clothes completely.

He was shaking all over, desperately trying to shift his body backward, only to find there was nowhere to retreat to!

This realization shattered Wu Hu's last line of psychological defense!

"Ah!!"

The next moment.

Like a madman, Wu Hu screamed at the ceiling.

Ye Fan stood in front of him, watching him coldly, saying word by word, "I'll give you one last chance."

"Ye... Ye Fan, if you have the guts, kill me!"

After the scream, Wu Hu fell into extreme madness. Not only was he undeterred by Ye Fan's words, but he also roared back in anger.

"Since you wish, I'll grant it!" A cold light flashed in Ye Fan's eyes.

"Come on, if you have the courage, do it??"

After the mad roar, most of the fear in Wu Hu's heart dissipated, and he fully regained his composure. He was no longer concerned about Ye Fan's threats, instead laughing sinisterly, as if to say: If you dare to kill me, that girl named Su Liuli is bound to die!

Don't you dare??

"Huh!"

Ye Fan's right foot swung fiercely downward, stomping with full force onto Wu Hu's dantian!

Wu Hu's smile froze on his face. He tried to dodge but found his body immobile.

"Thump—"

A muffled sound echoed, power erupted, and Wu Hu's dantian and power seed were instantaneously shattered.

"Aow!!"

Wu Hu's body shook violently, then contorted like a shrimp, wailing in pain like a pig that was stabbed.

Seeing this, not a hint of mercy crossed Ye Fan's face. Instead, he concentrated his consciousness and placed his hands in front of him, waving them rapidly.

"Bastard, if you have the guts, kill me! Come on, kill me!"

After the acute pain, Wu Hu regained some consciousness. Sensing his dantian and power seed had been shattered, knowing his life was forfeited, he started screaming crazily at Ye Fan.

Ignored.

Ye Fan continued to wave his hands as if Wu Hu's screams were merely farts.

"Bastard, I'm telling you, that girl named Su Liuli is done for! She will be gang~raped to death by thousands of men, ha ha... ha ha ha!"

Because his power seed and dantian were shattered, Wu Hu completely gave up, screaming madly at Ye Fan as if he were insane.

Ye Fan's eyes were filled with a dense murderous intent, but still he said nothing, instead continuing to seal.

"What... what are you doing?"

Seeing that Ye Fan completely ignored him, Wu Hu watched Ye Fan's continuously moving hands and sudden fear surged within him again.

He tried to stand up, but because his dantian and power seed were shattered and his internal organs injured, the pain made him grit his teeth and he collapsed back onto the sofa.

"What... what magic are you going to use on me?"

The intense pain made Wu Hu gasp for air, his eyes wide as he once again asked Ye Fan, his voice heavy with trembling.

As the second in command of Nanqinghong and an Early Innate Martial Artist, he had seen magicians and knew that magicians had various means, some of which could make life worse than death.

Sensing Wu Hu's fear, Ye Fan remained silent, continuing with the sealing.

"What... what are you actually doing?"

Compared to death, the unknown often brought greater fear. Though he could tell Ye Fan was about to use magic on him, he did not know what kind and could not help thinking about some of the terrifying magics he had heard of. This scared him so much that his heart twitched, his body shaking uncontrollably as if electrified!

"Ye... Ye Fan, don't use magic on me, I'll make the call! I'll make the call right now!!"

Scared.

Wu Hu was truly scared.

He had collapsed in terror.

Completely giving up resistance, he looked at Ye Fan with a pleading face, like a begging dog.

"Too late!"

Ye Fan slowly spoke, delivering the sentence.

As his voice fell, his hands stopped.

The sealing was complete!

Chapter 406 Mutation!

"Quick!"

With the handprint complete, a crimson Gold bead emerged at Ye Fan's Yintang point; Ye Fan bellowed, and an invisible burst of Mind Power shot out, embedding itself in Wu Hu's Yintang point.

—Puppetry Technique!

Overly worried about Su Liuli's safety and seeing Wu Hu stubbornly attempting to negotiate terms, Ye Fan lost his patience and directly employed the miraculous Puppetry Technique.

This was the second time Ye Fan had used this earth-shattering, god-crying technique.

Previously, when the Shi Feng and Shi Ling brothers had attempted to assassinate him, Ye Fan had shattered their Consciousness; later, to deal with Young Master Bai from the Bai Family, Bai Luo, he risked being swallowed by the soul marks of the two brothers and controlled them through Puppetry Technique, thereby fabricating evidence of Bai Luo's collusion with the Qinghong Gang in his assassination attempt, and had kicked Bai Luo into prison.

Having experienced the usage of 'Puppetry Technique' once before, this time it was much easier for Ye Fan to employ this domineering and terrifying technique.

As the Mind Power entered Wu Hu's body, Ye Fan controlled it as it surged towards Wu Hu's Consciousness, planning to forcefully take control of Wu Hu's body.

"This... this is Puppetry Technique?!"

Realizing that a powerful Mind Power was trying to control his body, Wu Hu, initially terrified, paused and nearly fainted!

Just now, when he saw Ye Fan shaping the handprint, he was wondering what magic Ye Fan would use against him.

He thought of many infamous techniques, but he had never dreamed that Ye Fan would use this Jianghu-renowned terrifying technique!

"As far as I know, magicians can only use Puppetry Technique after their Magic Cultivation has reached the Gang Qi Realm, how could you possibly use it?" Wu Hu looked at Ye Fan incredulously, panicking.

Without responding, Ye Fan manipulated his Mind Power and violently bombarded Wu Hu's Consciousness!

He intended to first shatter Wu Hu's Consciousness with the powerful Mind Power, and then take control of Wu Hu's body!

"Hmph!"

Sensing Ye Fan's Mind Power attack, Wu Hu suddenly snapped out of his shock, his blood-red eyes glaring intensely at Ye Fan as he sneered, "Scum, although I don't know how you can use Puppetry Technique at the Innate Realm, you won't be able to crush my Consciousness with Mind Power!"

As he finished speaking, Wu Hu, in a do-or-die struggle, began resisting Ye Fan's Mind Power attack using his own willpower.

Pure Mind Power attack is the most mysterious and difficult type of magic attack—only when one's spiritual power is far stronger than the opponent's can one use Mind Power to injure the opponent's Consciousness!

Ye Fan's Magic Cultivation had already stepped into the Innate Great Success Realm, and because of the miraculous crimson Gold crown inside him, the quality, strength, and power of his Mind Power were equivalent to a magician at the Peak stage of Innate Realm.

Meanwhile, Wu Hu was only an Early Innate Martial Artist. When it comes to the strength of Consciousness, he is even inferior to a magician in the Postnatal Perfection Realm.

In such a scenario, could Wu Hu possibly withstand Ye Fan's Mind Power attack?

"Break!"

Sensing Wu Hu's resistance, Ye Fan uttered a low shout, his Consciousness moved, causing all his Mind Power to converge and surge like a torrent, with overwhelming force, pounding towards Wu Hu's Consciousness.

At the same time, Wu Hu, using his own willpower, gathered all his Mind Power into an invisible defense, like a dam, to resist Ye Fan's Mind Power attack.

in an instant.

The torrent slammed into the dam, soundlessly.

Crack!

Wu Hu's Consciousness trembled, and his unyielding will seemed to have been hammered by an iron mallet, creating cracks.

As his will wavered, the defensive line formed by Wu Hu's willpower and gathered Mind Power faced collapse.

Just then!

Ye Fan did not pause; he manipulated his Mind Power to launch a second strike!

Bang!

With this charge, Wu Hu's defensive line completely collapsed, and Ye Fan's Mind Power, like a raging flood, rushed down and entered Wu Hu's Consciousness.

Defenseless, Wu Hu's Consciousness was instantly shattered by Ye Fan's terrifying Mind Power.

"Ah!"

With his Consciousness shattered, Wu Hu felt as if his soul was being torn apart, and he howled in agony, his facial muscles completely contorted!

"No!"

"I can't be controlled by you!"

"Absolutely not!"

Suddenly, like a wild beast driven into a corner, Wu Hu let out a desperate roar and made his final resistance.

At the roar, the fragments of Wu Hu's shattered Consciousness, gathered by a terrifying grudge, suddenly launched an onslaught at Ye Fan's Mind Power!

Soul Mark Counterattack!

Just as Ye Fan had controlled the Shi Feng and Shi Ling brothers before, Wu Hu, with his Consciousness shattered, gathered the frustration, hatred, memories, thoughts, Martial Arts Insight, Martial Dao intentions, and shattered will from the depths of his heart to form a Soul Mark, launching a counterattack against Ye Fan!

Facing Wu Hu's Soul Mark counterattack, Ye Fan's Mind Power almost had no power to parry, and was instantly devoured and annihilated.

Subsequently, Wu Hu's Soul Mark did not pause and, following the trajectory of Ye Fan's Mind Power that had entered, suddenly burst out of the body and shot rapidly into Ye Fan's Yintang point, attacking Ye Fan's Consciousness!

"Hmph!"

Facing all this, Ye Fan was not panicked in the slightest, but instead immediately gathered his consciousness.

Whoosh——

The next moment.

Just as Wu Hu's soul mark surged towards Ye Fan's consciousness, the crimson golden crown appeared as Ye Fan had anticipated, sparkling with golden light.

"Swoosh——"

As soon as the crimson golden crown appeared, it transformed into a golden vortex, a terrifying pulling force suddenly sucked in Wu Hu's soul mark into the vortex.

Wu Hu's body shook violently, his expression became blank, and the resentment in his eyes vanished without a trace, replaced by emptiness.

There was no longer any sign of life in him, as if he were a vegetative being who had lost his soul, dead and lifeless.

Seeing this, Ye Fan knew well that Wu Hu had become a living dead and was about to manipulate Wu Hu's body again with his mind power, when he suddenly noticed that the crimson golden crown, after destroying Wu Hu's soul mark, did not absorb it as it had with the soul marks of the Shi Ling and Shi Feng brothers. Instead, it transformed it into streams of pure mind power essence, which flowed into his consciousness.

This discovery initially startled him, then filled him with joy!

His magic cultivation had stepped into the Innate Great Success Realm not long ago, although his mind power seed had undergone a qualitative leap, the mind power essence had not increased. It required him to continually cultivate and replenish it until the mind power essence was saturated, causing another qualitative leap in his mind power seed, thus breaking through to the Peak of Innate Realm!

At this moment, the crimson golden crown converting Wu Hu's soul mark into mind power essence to feed back to Ye Fan was undoubtedly as welcome as sending charcoal in snowy weather!

Hmm?

A few seconds later, when the crimson golden crown stopped feeding the mind power essence and vanished, Ye Fan clearly noticed that his mind power essence had increased by about one-tenth.

This meant that the mind power essence fed back by the crimson golden crown had shortened the time for his magic cultivation to reach the Peak of Innate Realm by one-tenth!

Moreover, Ye Fan felt a huge flood of memories, like a tide, pouring into his mind.

"Not only can this crimson golden crown transform Wu Hu's soul mark into mind power essence, but it also retains the memories of Wu Hu's entire life, this is truly miraculous!"

Even though Ye Fan had already witnessed the wonder of the crimson golden crown, faced with this sudden event, he was still astonished beyond belief.

In his view, all this could only be described as inconceivable!

If he had not experienced all this personally, he would never believe that such a miraculous thing could exist in this world.

Even, in his view, even if he spread this news, not a single person would believe it!

After the shock, Ye Fan was aware that Wu Hu's memories and martial arts insights might affect him, so he quickly steadied his consciousness, relying on his strong willpower to prevent himself from being influenced while absorbing Wu Hu's memories.

As an Innate Great Success Magician and Martial Artist, Ye Fan's willpower was considered the strongest among his peers in the same realm. Even so, after absorbing all of Wu Hu's memories, he still felt somewhat influenced.

"Using Puppetry Technique to make the crimson golden crown devour an opponent's soul mark can indeed gain mind power essence and the opponent's memories, but it also influences one's own mental state. If used too often, it will inevitably have a significant impact on one's own mental state, thereby affecting the future path of cultivation."

Realizing this, Ye Fan raised an eyebrow and mentally muttered to himself, then made a decision: "Until reaching the Gang Qi Realm, unless absolutely necessary, he wouldn't rashly use 'Puppetry Technique'."

Because... as far as he knew, Puppetry Technique in the Gang Qi Realm involved a combination of powerful consciousness and mind power attacks in a formation, overwhelmingly crushing the opponent's resistance to control their body, unlike now, where the use of the miraculous function of the crimson golden crown had drawbacks.

"Phew~"

After making the decision, Ye Fan exhaled a heavy breath, composed himself, and quickly searched through Wu Hu's memories for the events of tonight.

"They are planning to send Liu Li to the Golden Triangle to lure me out?"

Having learned all this through Wu Hu's memories, Ye Fan clenched his fists tightly, a murderous intent flashing in his eyes.

Somewhat later, he controlled his emotions, moved his mind, and a stream of mind power shot out, entering Wu Hu's Yintang point.

Compared to the previous time he had controlled Wu Hu's body, this time, because there was no will resistance and no counterattack from the soul mark, Ye Fan easily controlled Wu Hu's body.

On the couch, Wu Hu sat up, like a robot installed with commands, completely disregarding his injuries, he stood up, took two steps forward, picked up the mobile phone on the table, quickly dialed Li Kui's number, and turned on the speakerphone.

"Sorry, the number you have dialed is currently unavailable!" Soon, a pleasant voice from the receiver announced.

Swipe!

The originally pleasant voice, upon reaching Ye Fan's ears, sounded like the howling of a devil, causing his face to change.

Immediately, Ye Fan did not linger, he again commanded Wu Hu to dial Li Kui's phone, only to find that the call still could not go through.

Wu Hu had told Li Kui to wait for his call at any time, hadn't he?

Why couldn't he get through???

After failing to reach Li Kui twice in a row, Ye Fan's brows furrowed tightly, filled with doubt.

Amid his doubts, he was extremely worried about Su Liuli's safety!

"Clap, clap——"

Just then, suddenly around the quiet villa, applause rang out, and Xu Longxiang, dressed in a Taoist robe, appeared out of nowhere at the entrance of the villa's hall, clapping while staring at Ye Fan with a cold smirk, "Kid, no wonder you've been unstoppable along the way. Turns out, a real person doesn't show their face and hides very deep!"

Chapter 407 Fury Burns

Whoosh!

The sudden turn of events caused Ye Fan's face to abruptly change!

Not only had he failed to detect Xu Longxiang's arrival, but he also had no idea when Xu Longxiang had entered the Enchanting Soul Array!

At the same time, from Xu Longxiang's words, Ye Fan could infer that Xu Longxiang might have been present for some time, simply hiding in the shadows, watching him deal with Wu Hu and the others.

All this set off a tumultuous storm in his heart!

Under the light.

He turned his head, staring intently at Xu Longxiang's unfamiliar face, his shock impossible to conceal.

"It looks like I've scared you pretty bad, haven't I?"

Seemingly having anticipated Ye Fan's reaction, Xu Longxiang couldn't help but laugh. His gaze, full of mockery, was as if he were watching a monkey play.

No response.

Ye Fan squinted at Xu Longxiang, attempting with all his might to sense Xu Longxiang's energy using his Spiritual Sense, only to find that he could not determine Xu Longxiang's strength at all.

This discovery made Ye Fan's expression turn exceedingly grave!

Because he couldn't determine Xu Longxiang's strength, there were only two possibilities.

The first, Xu Longxiang's power was far greater than his, to the point that if Xu Longxiang did not release his energy deliberately, he would not be able to detect it.

The second, Xu Longxiang possessed a Magic Artifact that could conceal his energy, just like the Ghostly Gourd he had.

Whichever the possibility, it was not a good sign for Ye Fan—the fact that the other party dared to appear so confidently after having observed him dealing with Wu Hu and others meant that he was completely undervalued in the eyes of the opponent.

As if to confirm Ye Fan's speculation, Xu Longxiang said mockingly with a smile, "Don't waste your effort. If you were capable of sensing my energy, you would have already found me."

"Are you from the Wudang Sect?"

Hearing this, Ye Fan no longer tried to sense Xu Longxiang's power. Instead, he secretly improved his Power, his entire body tensed, ready to strike like a tiger at any moment.

"You seem very tense?"

Xu Longxiang, ignoring the question, had an even thicker mocking smile, "Are you afraid that I'll spread the news of how you killed Wu Hu and the others to the world? Or are you afraid that I will make a move on you?"

"Hmm, you've returned to the Ye Family and are valued highly by the Ye Family elders. I'm sure even if I reveal this issue, you wouldn't be afraid—you trust that the Ye Family will cover it up for you or smooth things over."

Seeing that Ye Fan remained silent, Xu Longxiang answered for him, his eyes narrowing into slits as he laughed, "So, you're scared I'll make a move on you?"

"The deaths of Murong Gu and Father Murong were entirely of their own doing..."

Ye Fan furrowed his eyebrows tightly, worried for Su Liuli's safety and unable to judge the strength of Xu Longxiang, he chose not to rashly attack and instead tried to resolve the conflict with Xu Longxiang.

"Hehe... of their own doing?"

Xu Longxiang sneered as he interrupted Ye Fan, "Fine, even if their fate was deserved, and they died with guilt to spare. But after you and your father killed them, why did you take the Wudang Sect's magical weapon, the Taiyi Xuan Sword, for yourselves?"

"On that day, Murong Sheng dueled with me to the death holding the Taiyi Xuan Sword, with the person in charge of the Yanhuang Organization East Sea Branch as the witness. According to the rules, since he was defeated by my hand, the Taiyi Xuan Sword naturally belongs to me."

Ye Fan said word by word: "Moreover, this was the judgment made by the Yanhuang Organization. If the Wudang Sect feels that the Yanhuang Organization's judgment was unfair, you can go reason with them!"

"Reason with the Yanhuang Organization? As an organization within Huaxia, the Yanhuang Organization naturally favors the Ye Family, not to mention that Yan once had the intention to take Ye Wenhao as an apprentice and has deep connections with Ye Wenhao. Wouldn't it be degrading for our Wudang Sect to go seeking justice from them?" Xu Longxiang responded with a sneer, as anger gradually surged in his eyes, and a murderous intent suddenly appeared.

"It seems that unless I hand over the Taiyi Xuan Sword today, you are determined to make a move against me." As he spoke, Ye Fan pushed his war intent to the limit, ready to face the battle at any moment.

"If it had been a few days earlier, you could have returned the Taiyi Xuan Sword to our Wudang and we would have let bygones be bygones, but now, it's too late!"

Xu Longxiang looked at Ye Fan with a gaze that regarded him as a dead man, seemingly not the least bit worried that Ye Fan would escape, but instead coldly said, "Our Wudang gave you a chance, but you did not know when to appreciate it—from the moment you arrogantly rejected me at your door, our

Wudang Sect no longer has any intention but to see you dead! And my coming down the mountain is to send you to Yama Palace!"

"So, you are the chief disciple of the Wudang Sect, Xu Longxiang!"

Before, even though Ye Fan was unable to determine Xu Longxiang's strength, he had constantly been speculating about which member of the Wudang Sect Xu Longxiang was. Now, hearing Xu Longxiang's words, he immediately recalled the time Xu Longxiang had gone to Ao Xiang Villa to visit him.

"Remember my name, so that when you get to Yama Palace, and King Yan asks, you won't be clueless about whose hand you died by." Seeing that Ye Fan had learned his name, Xu Longxiang no longer concealed his aura and slowly drew his treasure sword from behind.

"If I remember correctly, as the chief disciple of the Wudang Sect, you are only at the realm of Innate Great Perfection and haven't yet broken through the Half-step Gang Qi realm, right?"

Seeing this, Ye Fan had a thought and provocatively said, "And the reason you were able to hide around me undetected is entirely because you carry a magic artifact that conceals your aura."

"So what if it is? Do you think you can survive against me with your strength?"

Clutching the treasure sword, Xu Longxiang looked at Ye Fan with a playfully mocking face, "Heh, if I hadn't known the card up your sleeve with your flying knives, maybe I would've capsized in the gutter. Now that I know what you're hiding, killing you is no different than slaughtering a chicken!"

"Many people have arrogantly thought they could easily kill me before, but they are all dead."

Ye Fan had deliberately provoked Xu Longxiang just now to confirm his true strength. Seeing Xu Longxiang indirectly acknowledge that he was merely an Innate Great Perfection martial artist, Ye Fan had no more caution in his heart. But considering that Su Liuli's life and death were uncertain and killing Xu Longxiang would take time, he pondered, "I am in a hurry to save my friend now, I don't want to fight with you..."

"Hahaha..."

Amidst the ringing of Ye Fan's words, Xu Longxiang laughed wildly as if he had heard the coldest joke in the world, "If you're afraid to die, just say so. Why all the nonsense?"

"Whoosh!"

The response to Xu Longxiang was a piercing sound of cutting air.

Enraged in his heart, Ye Fan moved his consciousness, and the blood-stained Xuanye Flying Blade suddenly shot out from his sleeve, turning into a white light and streaking toward Xu Longxiang at high speed.

Swish!

At the same time, Xu Longxiang flicked his wrist, the sword sheath flew up, and he slashed at the incoming Xuanye Flying Blade!

"Clang!"

As the blade and sword collided, sparks flew in all directions, and the Xuanye Flying Blade was struck aside by a sword blow from Xu Longxiang.

"Die!"

Having sent the Xuanye Flying Blade flying with one sword, Xu Longxiang shouted coldly and bounced off the ground, sword in hand, as he lunged at Ye Fan.

"Whoosh!"

Ye Fan remained unmoved, his consciousness stirred once again, and another Xuanye Flying Blade whistled out.

"It's useless!"

Xu Longxiang snorted coldly, swung the treasure sword in his hand, and chopped it down toward the second incoming Xuanye Flying Blade.

Hmm?

The next moment.

Just as Xu Longxiang thought he could easily cleave through the Xuanye Flying Blade, the swiftly assassinating blade suddenly halted.

"Swoosh~"

Xu Longxiang's sword cut through the air, the fierce sword wind slashing a gap in the air, with a formidable momentum.

"Whoosh!"

At that moment, the previously halted Xuanye Flying Blade reignited and shot toward Xu Longxiang at an even faster speed than before!

Swoosh!

Xu Longxiang's heart tightened, his face changed, and his body stiffened quickly, leaning backward and tilting skyward.

Feet like cast iron, body straight as a board, slanting like a bridge!

—Iron Plate Bridge!

After being caught off guard, Xu Longxiang used "Iron Plate Bridge" to dodge Ye Fan's Flying Knife Assassination.

"Phew!"

The sharp Xuanye Flying Blade whistled past Xu Longxiang's face, the fierce knife wind brushing against his face, causing the hairs on his face to stand on end, and even the capillaries on his nose were cut by the knife wind, bleeding fresh blood.

"This little beast didn't use all his strength just now, that was close!"

Seeing he dodged Ye Fan's treacherous strike, Xu Longxiang secretly let out a sigh of relief, his body flipped over, like a Serpent Dragon turning over, with his toes repeatedly tapping the ground, charging again at Ye Fan.

"Whoosh!"

"Whoosh!"

At this moment, two more sounds of breaking through the air arose.

The Xuanye Flying Blade that had missed its target suddenly turned sharply, shooting toward Xu Longxiang from behind, while the third Xuanye Flying Blade whistled out from Ye Fan's sleeve.

Two blades?!

Xu Longxiang, startled, his heart tightened, and while running he stomped fiercely on the ground.

"Smash—"

With his stamp, the floor tiles beneath Xu Longxiang turned to powder, swept up by the airflow.

And the two Xuanye Flying Blades, like two fast-moving trains, passed by narrowly, all missing their target.

"Whoosh—"

Upon seeing this scene, Ye Fan moved his feet, his figure flashed to the window, then with a leap, he kicked the window.

"Clang—"

With a crisp sound, Ye Fan kicked the glass window and jumped out.

"Where do you think you're going?"

Sensing Ye Fan's movement through Spiritual Sense, an infuriated Xu Longxiang bellowed, transformed into a Phantom, and pursued Ye Fan, pushing his speed to the utmost limit, as if fearful that Ye Fan would escape.

Indeed, it was so.

Following the Wudang Sect Leader Heavenly Master Zhang's order, Xu Longxiang was to ensure a one-hit kill when acting against Ye Fan.

Originally, Xu Longxiang planned just that, but having witnessed the fight between Ye Fan and Wu Hu and others, he thought he had gauged Ye Fan's true strength. Therefore, in order to preserve his own

and the Wudang Sect's dignity, he gave up the idea of ambush assassination, intending instead to send Ye Fan off in a fair and open battle.

Just—

What he didn't expect was that Ye Fan had not used all his strength when dealing with Wu Hu and the others. This not only caught him off guard but also nearly injured him.

How could he possibly let Ye Fan escape?

Furthermore, he was well aware that if Ye Fan were to escape, Heavenly Master Zhang would definitely not let this slide easily, and even... the entire Wudang Sect would have to pay a heavy price!

This... was something he absolutely didn't want to see!

"Xu Longxiang, you're courting death!!"

Heard Xu Longxiang's words by his ear and sensing that Xu Longxiang was in hot pursuit, Ye Fan, who was eager to save Su Liuli, was enraged!

Never had there been a moment when he was as angry as he was now!!

Chapter 408 A Knife to the Throat

"Whoosh—"

As the roar subsided, Ye Fan, filled with anger, did not lose his head. Instead, he quickly devised a plan in his mind. With a flick of his consciousness, the Ghostly Gourd suddenly flew out, turning into a black shadow aiming for Xu Longxiang behind him.

"Again?"

As the sound of tearing through the air rang out, Xu Longxiang naturally assumed Ye Fan was going to use the Flying Knife Assassination again, and he stopped in his tracks with a sneer, ready to strike with his sword.

The next moment.

Just as Xu Longxiang was about to swing his treasure sword, the Ghostly Gourd stopped five meters away from him, its mouth aimed at Xu Longxiang.

Huh?

Xu Longxiang was taken aback, puzzled.

At that moment, Ye Fan activated the formation inside the Ghostly Gourd, and a terrifying surge of Evil Yin Qi suddenly burst forth, transforming into a cold wind sweeping towards Xu Longxiang.

Woo woo woo! Woo woo woo!

The mournful cold wind howled as the Evil Yin Qi turned into thousands of wailing evil ghosts, rushing towards Xu Longxiang with a chilling aura.

"An illusion? Break it for me!"

Faced with the shocking scene and sensing the Evil Yin Qi coming his way, Xu Longxiang knew it was an illusion attack from magic, and he snorted coldly.

As his voice fell, an invisible Blood Qi surged from the top of his head, turning into a torrent that charged at the cold wind.

With one clash, the cold wind was scattered, turning into wisps of Evil Yin Qi, many of which were directly burned to nothingness by the Blood Qi emitted by Xu Longxiang.

"Gather!"

Seeing this, Ye Fan remained composed, and with a shout, he performed a hand-sealing gesture.

"Woo woo woo~"

In an instant, the previously scattered Evil Yin Qi, under Ye Fan's control, gathered once again, forming the Evil Yin Demon.

The ferocious-looking Evil Yin Demon appeared and immediately grasped a knife in both hands, leapt forward, and chopped down forcefully towards Xu Longxiang below!

"Hmph!"

Facing the attack of the Evil Yin Demon, Xu Longxiang remained calm and snorted coldly, swinging his treasure sword at the Evil Yin Demon.

This sword seemed plain but actually contained Xu Longxiang's Blood Qi, a perfect move against evil yin objects.

"Whoosh!"

As the sword was swung, the raging sword wind mixed with Xu Longxiang's Blood Qi swept towards the Evil Yin Demon.

The big knife in the Evil Yin Demon's hand, formed from Evil Yin Qi, was the first to be swept away by the sword wind, turning into nothingness.

Then, with the power of the sword wind unabated, it swept across the Evil Yin Demon's body, cutting it in half in a manner reminiscent of ancient executions.

The Evil Yin Demon instantly vanished, turning back into Evil Yin Qi and scattering.

"Daring to show off such a petty trick?"

Having shattered Ye Fan's 'Evil Yin Demon' with a single sword strike, Xu Longxiang's aura surged as he sneered, then chopped his sword towards the Ghostly Gourd, trying to destroy it.

"All things bear yin and embrace yang, harmonizing qi to foster life, where yang governs birth and yin governs death!"

Just then, a secretive and mysterious spell resounded as Ye Fan, utilizing the time Xu Longxiang handled the Evil Yin Demon, finally completed the complex and cumbersome hand-sealing.

—The Evil Yin Formation!

As he finished the sealing, the Ghostly Gourd suddenly stood upright, its mouth aimed at the sky.

Whoosh—

As the formation was activated, the Primordial Qi of heaven and earth above the mansion stirred, and a massive surge of yin energy, under the influence of the Ghostly Gourd, descended from the sky, transforming into an invisible column of light, and blasted towards Xu Longxiang!

"The Evil Yin Formation?!"

Xu Longxiang's face drastically changed, his heart filled with shock.

As the leading disciple of the Wudang Sect, he was aware of this incredibly powerful magic technique, and he even knew that it was created by Evil Emperor Chu Xuanji, who, like his master, had reached the Gang Qi Realm through dual cultivation of magic and martial arts.

"One Sword Breaks All Spells!"

Shaken but not dwelling on why Ye Fan knew a killing move from Chu Xuanji's magic techniques, Xu Longxiang's figure suddenly flickered into motion.

Under the night sky, gripping his treasure sword and integrating Ba Gua, he stepped through the Nine Palaces, his power and Blood Qi continuously flowing into the sword, which moved in a bizarre trajectory as Blood Qi and power gathered within.

Wudang Swordsmanship, with the 'Taiyin Xuanmen Sword Technique' as its king, claims to be the nemesis of magic, and Xu Longxiang's move 'One Sword Breaks All Spells' is the ultimate technique of the Taiyin Xuanmen Sword Technique, also the Absolute Technique of Sect Leader Heavenly Master Zhang.

And Heavenly Master Zhang created this Absolute Technique after being inspired by the Taiyin Xuan Sword—he had repeatedly attempted, according to the methods of ancestral masters in Wudang Sect history, to infuse Blood Qi into the sword, and after succeeding, he had tried multiple times to use internal power to drive the Blood Qi in the sword, ultimately producing a slash blended with internal power through the sword technique.

This technique, 'One Sword Breaks All Spells,' once mastered, led Heavenly Master Zhang to declare there was no magic he couldn't break—this is why the 'Taiyin Xuanmen Sword Technique' is known as the bane of magic.

"Break it for me!!"

Moments later.

Just as the falling Evil Yin Qi from the sky was about to strike Xu Longxiang,

Xu Longxiang roared, swinging his treasure sword towards the heavens!

As the sword struck, the Blood Qi Xu Longxiang had infused into the sword, bolstered by his power, surged from the blade, forming an invisible Sword Radiance that rushed towards the descending Evil Yin Qi.

In an instant.

The invisible column formed by the Evil Yin Qi was pierced by the Sword Radiance, turning into yin energy and dispersing.

One move!

With just one move, Xu Longxiang broke the magic technique killing move 'The Evil Yin Formation' that Ye Fan had learned from Chu Xuanji, resembling a descending Heavenly God, unrivaled.

However—

Just as Xu Longxiang was feeling proud of this achievement, he suddenly felt a terrifying Mind Power silently enter his Yintang point at his forehead, targeting his consciousness!

Mind Power Attack!

Ye Fan took advantage of Xu Longxiang's full effort to break the "Evil Yin Formation" to launch a mind power attack!

On that day, when Ye Fan was forced into a desperate situation by Ye Long, he used a mind power attack to distract Ye Long, preventing him from focusing on killing him, thus buying time to heal. Subsequently, his magic cultivation fortuitously broke through to the Innate Great Success Realm!

Ye Long, who practiced Yanhuang Fist, was only at the Peak of the Innate Realm at that time, but in terms of consciousness and willpower, he was not inferior to an average Innate Great Perfection cultivator—Yanhuang Fist is known as the most demanding martial arts in the world in terms of willpower and war intent!

This meant that Ye Long's consciousness and willpower were no weaker than Xu Longxiang's!

On that day, with only Early Innate realm magic cultivation, Ye Fan was able to use a mind power attack to block Ye Long.

Now, his magic cultivation had stepped into the Innate Great Success Realm, and the power of his mind power attacks had increased tenfold. Moreover, he seized the opportunity when Xu Longxiang was fully engaged in resisting the 'Evil Yin Formation'. How terrifying would that be?

Facing Ye Fan's sudden attack, Xu Longxiang was completely unprepared and could only resist with his Martial Arts Will.

In an instant, Ye Fan's terrifying mind power surged like a deluge, striking Xu Longxiang's consciousness.

"Puchi—"

Xu Longxiang felt as if his mind had been violently struck by an invisible hammer, causing him to tremble and spurt out a mouthful of blood mist, his complexion turning pale as paper instantly.

Although his Martial Arts Will was strong, his consciousness was injured by Ye Fan's sneaky mind power attack!

This incident greatly shocked Xu Longxiang!

Immediately, he somewhat frantically mobilized his inner strength to protect his consciousness, to prevent Ye Fan from launching another mind power attack.

"Swish!!"

Just at this moment.

The whooshing sound of a flying knife echoed again.

The Xuanye Flying Blade that had missed before suddenly flew out from behind Xu Longxiang through a broken window.

Flying Knife Assassination!

Ye Fan once again employed his trump card.

To be precise, he had used the Ghostly Gourd's illusion technique, 'Evil Yin Formation', and mind power attack as a setup for the final flying knife assassination.

First, he initiated an illusion attack with the Ghostly Gourd to allow Xu Longxiang to easily break it, thereby boosting Xu Longxiang's confidence and lessening his vigilance.

Then, knowing that the Taiyin Xuanmen Sword Technique was a nemesis to magic, he used the time during the illusion attack to prepare Chu Xuanji's original magic killing move 'Evil Yin Formation'. It wasn't intended to injure Xu Longxiang with the 'Evil Yin Formation', but to make Xu Longxiang's confidence swell to the limit, while also causing his alertness to drop to its lowest.

Finally, he seized the opportunity to launch a mind power attack, catching Xu Longxiang off-guard. Not only did he injure Xu Longxiang's consciousness, but he also caused Xu Longxiang to focus all his strength on protecting his consciousness, completely disorienting him.

Consequently, Xu Longxiang's spiritual sense was greatly weakened, making it nearly impossible for him to sense Ye Fan's flying knife assassination as easily as before.

It must be said, an infuriated Ye Fan wasn't blinded by rage; rather, he kept a clear head and formulated the best strategy, step by step, ultimately achieving a one-strike kill!

Swipe!

Just as Ye Fan had predicted, Xu Longxiang did not sense the flying knife assassination but only heard the sound of it breaking through the air, realizing too late that Ye Fan had used it again.

Danger!

In an instant, an overwhelming sense of death enveloped Xu Longxiang, prompting an unprecedented sense of danger!

In a critical moment, he had to abandon his plan to defend his consciousness with his strength and instead used his consciousness to make his legs boost his body, trying to dodge to the side.

Only—

It was too late!

Before he could dodge, the Xuanye Flying Blade with its deadly aura whooshed in and pierced through the back of his neck.

A knife to the throat!

"Puchi—"

Blood spurted out, and the sharp Xuanye Flying Blade penetrated Xu Longxiang's throat in one fell swoop.

"Uh..."

Xu Longxiang's body shook violently; he instinctively reached to cover the wound. However, as air entered the wound and into his lungs, he uncontrollably opened his mouth trying to breathe, but instead spat out two mouthfuls of blood froth before his legs buckled, and he collapsed to the ground.

"Huff... huff..."

Once on the ground, Xu Longxiang convulsed violently, his breathing becoming very rapid.

This time.

He seemed to know that his death was inevitable; he didn't vainly reach to cover the wound but stared wide-eyed at Ye Fan, his eyes filled with resentment.

"Hey, if I didn't know your trump card in controlling the flying knife, maybe I could have capsized in a gutter. Now that I already know your trump card, killing you is no different from slaughtering a chicken!"

Watching, his ears echoed with his previous arrogant words, and that resentment turned into regret.

He knew it was his carelessness that cost him his life!

If time could be reversed, he wouldn't treat Ye Fan like a chicken that could be easily slaughtered; instead, he would regard Ye Fan as an equal opponent.

However—

In this world, there are no ifs.

Xu Longxiang's head tilted, and he died on the spot.

He became the first Innate Great Perfection cultivator to die by Ye Fan's hands!

Chapter 409: Reserve Head

"Huff~"

Upon seeing Xu Longxiang meet his end, Ye Fan couldn't help but let out a long sigh of relief.

Just now, he had seemed to effortlessly slay Xu Longxiang, but in fact, he had been cautiously luring Xu into a trap he had designed, eventually delivering a fatal strike to the throat.

He was all too aware that if Xu Longxiang hadn't let his guard down after breaking through the Illusion Technique and the Evil Yin Formation, thus allowing his consciousness to be disrupted by a sneak attack of Mind Power, Xu could have completely dodged the final Flying Knife Assassination.

This meant that his consecutive attacks were the only opportunity to kill Xu Longxiang!

If he had failed, even if he could contend with Xu Longxiang, he would have been mired in a bitter fight, leaving him no time to attend to Su Liuli's matter.

According to Wu Hu's memory, Su Liuli was now being taken by Wu Hu's subordinate, Li Kui, to the Golden Triangle.

The current Golden Triangle Region had become the new center of the global Underworld, harboring numerous powers, a mixture of dragons and snakes, and once Su Liuli was kidnapped to the Golden Triangle, Ye Fan's rescue mission would become as tough as ascending to heaven!

If it wasn't for this reason, Ye Fan wouldn't have chosen to seek a truce and avoid battle before.

Because Ye Fan had set up the Enchanting Soul Array in advance, his confrontation with Wu Hu and others earlier, as well as his recent killing of Xu Longxiang, were not noticed by the others in the villa.

Even so, given the lesson of Xu Longxiang, to ensure that nothing would go wrong, Ye Fan still released his consciousness, carefully sensing his surroundings to confirm that no one was around, before leaping up and dashing into the villa's main hall at high speed.

In the villa's main hall, Wu Hu, who had lost Ye Fan's control, lay on the sofa like a living dead man, motionless, with empty eyes and a blank expression.

Upon seeing this, Ye Fan moved his mind, once again employing Mind Power to control Wu Hu, directing him to pick up the mobile phone on the sofa.

"Buzz~"

Shortly after, just as Ye Fan was about to make Wu Hu call Li Kui again, the phone suddenly vibrated.

The unexpected event prompted a reaction from Ye Fan, and through Wu Hu, he surprisingly discovered that it was an incoming call from Li Kui!

This discovery immediately made Ye Fan's heart rise to his throat; he held his breath, without hesitation, made Wu Hu answer the call, and activated the speakerphone.

"Mr. Hu, things have gone south—the bitch got snatched away!"

No sooner had the call connected than Li Kui's panicked voice came through, tinged with fear as though he had encountered something terrifying.

Gulp!

Hearing Li Kui's report, Ye Fan's heart thumped.

Immediately furrowing his brows, he continued controlling Wu Hu, and asked in a deep voice, "What happened?"

"That... that bitch was taken by a woman in a white robe!" Li Kui said, still terrified by the memory of the white figure, which had firmly imprinted itself in his mind like an evil ghost.

A woman in a white robe?

Ye Fan's mind stirred upon hearing this, immediately thinking of the white-robed, otherworldly Buddhist expert Su Liuli had mentioned encountering in Southern Tibet.

The one Ye Fan speculated to be Bodhi Wu Yin, a Supreme Strongman from the top ten of the Dragon Ranking!

"What exactly happened?"

While making these associations, Ye Fan continued to manipulate Wu Hu, asking the question as he intentionally made Wu Hu's tone sound very irritated.

"Just now, a woman in a white robe stopped our car. Fearing that hitting the woman in white might complicate things further, I stopped the car. But as soon as I stopped, I found myself unable to move!"

On the other side of the phone, Li Kui stood on the highway, recounting everything that had happened as if he had seen a ghost in broad daylight, shuddering uncontrollably, his face etched with fright: "Mr. Hu, I felt like my body wasn't my own, completely out of control! And that woman in the white robe, like a ghost, floated to the front of the car, opened the door, and carried off that bitch called Su Liuli."

"Once that bitch was taken out of the car, she woke up. She seemed to recognize the woman in white, calling her a high master. And that woman in white asked the bitch if she was willing to convert to the Buddhist sect. The bitch agreed. Then, the woman in white took that bitch away!"

In the end, Li Kui held his breath, asking fearfully, "Mr. Hu... could that woman in white be a Buddhist master?"

"Why couldn't I reach you on the phone earlier?" To ensure the truthfulness of Li Kui's words, Ye Fan pondered briefly before controlling Wu Hu to question him.

"Reporting to Mr. Hu, at that moment, I was in a valley without any signal. After they left, I drove forward a bit and then immediately called you," Li Kui explained.

"Huff~"

Upon hearing Li Kui's explanation once more, Ye Fan couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief again.

According to Li Kui, Ye Fan could confirm that Su Liuli had escaped danger.

At the same time, he could ascertain that Li Kui's loss of control over his body was most likely due to a spiritual attack from the woman in white.

And the reason the woman in white did not kill Li Kui was probably that adherents of the Buddhist sect emphasize compassion toward all beings, favoring saving and converting others, and are not proponents of unnecessary killing.

As for whether the woman in white who took Su Liuli was indeed the Supreme Bodhi Wu Yin of the Buddhist sect, Ye Fan thought it was very likely but couldn't be completely certain.

After all, Li Kui was only a Postnatal Perfection Martial Artist, and more than one Buddhist master capable of influencing someone like him with a spiritual attack existed, not just Bodhi Wu Yin.

"Mr. Hu, what should we do next?" Seeing that Wu Hu was silent, Li Kui asked somewhat anxiously.

He understood the significance of tonight's events for Wu Hu and the entire Nanqinghong, and now that he had messed up, even if Wu Hu regarded him highly, he couldn't be sure Wu Hu wouldn't punish him!

"You are to return to Dali immediately and stand by. Don't go anywhere else!" Ye Fan instructed through Wu Hu.

"Dudu... Dudu..."

Perhaps not expecting Wu Hu to forgive him so easily, Li Kui was initially stunned, but by the time he regained his senses and wanted to say something, Wu Hu had already hung up the phone, leaving only the "dudu" tone in the earpiece.

"Sigh~"

Li Kui took a deep breath, put away his phone, turned the car around, and headed back to Dali.

Meanwhile.

Ye Fan thought for a bit before carefully searching for information on Nanqinhong's core members in the Southwest Region, only to find that aside from Li Kui, the only surviving core member was a person named Ma San.

According to Wu Hu's memories, Ma San was not a Martial Artist but a Vietnamese from the era of the state, who had served in the Vietnamese special forces. He was wanted by the Vietnamese military for shooting a superior officer and, having no choice, fled to Huaxia to seek refuge with Wu Hu.

Although Ma San was not a Martial Artist, his physical abilities were extraordinary and his Spear Technique was terrifying. Wu Hu valued him greatly and had him specifically in charge of leading Nanqinhong's elite members in firearms combat.

After learning all this, Ye Fan pondered briefly before once again taking control of Wu Hu and calling Ma San.

"Mr. Hu."

The phone was quickly answered, and a hoarse voice came through.

"Ma San, I just got ambushed by a disciple of the Wudang Sect, I nearly lost my life in the Netherworld," said Wu Hu, controlled by Ye Fan, his words full of gritted anger.

"Um..."

Ma San was left stunned by the sudden news.

"Right now, take your men and carry out a bloody purge on the Wudang Sect's martial arts gym in Nanming, and remember, not one should be left!" Wu Hu instructed with a murderous intent.

"Yes, Mr. Hu!"

Ma San quickly recovered from the shock and responded immediately.

Although he didn't understand why the Wudang Sect would attempt to assassinate Wu Hu, as a former soldier, he had always adhered to the principle that 'a soldier's duty is to carry out orders', and had always been obedient to Wu Hu.

Otherwise, he would not have been trusted by Wu Hu.

"Wudang Sect, consider this a little interest I'm collecting in advance. One day, I will personally ascend Wudang to extinguish you all!"

After the call ended, Ye Fan released his control over Wu Hu and internally swore vengeance, then glanced at Wu Hu, contemplating how to handle the current scene.

"Buzz... Buzz..."

At that moment, the previously silent hall was once again filled with the buzz of a vibrating phone.

The unexpected buzzing pulled Ye Fan back to reality from his thoughts.

Ye Fan's mind stirred, and he quickly walked over to the sofa to pick up the phone, only to see that the caller displayed on the screen was Nanqinghong's helmsman, Lin Tianyi.

At the sight of this, Ye Fan couldn't help but remember Lin Tianyi's previous conversation with Wu Hu, where they discussed finding someone in the Golden Triangle Region to deal with him.

Thinking of this, Ye Fan didn't control Wu Hu again, but instead pressed the answer button directly.

"Tiger, I've already made arrangements with someone in the Golden Triangle. They are currently on their way to the border. How long will it take for your people to bring someone to the border?"

The phone connected and Lin Tianyi, who was in Taiwan, asked first, his voice tinged with excitement, as if he couldn't wait to use Su Liuli as bait to lure Ye Fan into the Golden Triangle.

"Wu Hu is dead," said Ye Fan coldly.

Wu Hu is dead?

How is that possible?!

Lin Tianyi, already a Peak stage Innate strongman with strong consciousness and firm willpower, was shocked into a stupor by Ye Fan's words again.

"Who... who are you?"

Two seconds later, Lin Tianyi fought off the shock and asked in a heavy voice.

Although he could not accept the news of Wu Hu's death, he knew that Wu Hu's phone wouldn't be in someone else's hands if Wu Hu were alive.

"What do you think?" Ye Fan retorted with a cold laugh.

"Ye... Ye Fan?"

Lin Tianyi's heart conjured an absurd thought that he found hard to believe, and he asked out of reflex.

"Lin Tianyi, protect your head well."

Ye Fan replied not answering the question directly, effectively pronouncing a death sentence on Lin Tianyi, "Because it's already reserved by me!"

Chapter 410 Acting on the News

Is it really him?!

As Ye Fan's words echoed in his ears, sensing Ye Fan's unyielding determination, Lin Tianyi found his answer.

"From the time Wu Hu and I planned this to now, it hasn't even been three hours. How could he possibly appear in Nanming and also kill Wu Hu?"

As the answer emerged, Lin Tianyi couldn't help but secretly question himself in his heart, yet he could not figure out a reason.

"Beep... Beep..."

At the same time, the call ended, and a busy tone came from the receiver.

"Whew~"

Lin Tianyi took a deep breath, steadying his chaotic thoughts. After a moment's thought, he directly called Young Master Qinghong, Chen Feilian.

"I am discussing matters with a congressman. If it's nothing important, let's talk later." Ten seconds later, Chen Feilian's voice came through the receiver, his tone slightly displeased.

Noticing the dissatisfaction in Chen Feilian's tone, Lin Tianyi understood that seeking Chen Feilian's help whenever he encountered trouble probably led Chen Feilian to question his abilities and feel dissatisfied with him.

However—

Understanding aside, Lin Tianyi still felt it was necessary to inform Chen Feilian about the situation, so he said, "Young Master Chen, I have a very important matter to report to you."

"Speak."

"It's like this..."

With Chen Feilian's permission, Lin Tianyi dared not delay. He immediately reported the evening's events to Chen Feilian.

"What a bunch of good-for-nothings capable only of making a mess!"

Initially, as he listened to Lin Tianyi's report, Chen Feilian's face showed a bit of surprise and excitement, but by the time he heard the final outcome, he became so angry that he cursed aloud.

Lin Tianyi was so frightened he dared not even take a heavy breath.

He was very aware that for Chen Feilian, the process did not matter; the result was what was important.

"Are you all pig-brained?"

Being thwarted by Ye Fan time after time had put Chen Feilian in a very bad mood, and his discontent with Lin Tianyi was soaring. "You only think about why he would appear in Nanming so quickly. Why didn't you consider that he might have already been in Nanming in advance?"

"Uh..."

Lin Tianyi was so stunned that his mouth fell open, and then he began to feel that this possibility was quite significant.

"Where is that girl named Su Liuli now?"

Chen Feilian asked the critical question piercingly. In his view, if one Wu Hu died, there were a thousand more to take his place. As long as Su Liuli was in Qinghong's hands, the plan to use her as bait to lure the snake out of its hole could still be implemented.

"I don't know."

Upon hearing this, Lin Tianyi cursed himself for his carelessness, and without waiting for Chen Feilian to start lecturing, he immediately admitted his error, "I'm sorry, Young Master Chen, it was my oversight!"

"Is sorry useful? Get on with it and follow up!" Chen Feilian lectured irritably.

"Yes, Young Master Chen!"

Lin Tianyi responded with an ugly expression and, after seeing Chen Feilian hang up, put away his phone and contacted Li Kui.

Three minutes later, Lin Tianyi called Chen Feilian again.

"Where is the person?"

As soon as the call connected, Chen Feilian straightforwardly asked before Lin Tianyi could report.

"Young Master Chen, the person previously in charge of escorting the girl named Su Liuli to the Golden Triangle was one of Wu Hu's men, Li Kui. According to Li Kui, on the way to the border, he was stopped by a white-robed woman from a Buddhist sect, who then took the girl away," Lin Tianyi reported nervously.

"Ssh~"

Hearing Lin Tianyi's report, Chen Feilian was so infuriated that the corners of his mouth twitched, then he felt something was off and asked, "Are you sure it was someone from the Buddhist sect?"

"Li Kui said he heard it with his own ears; the white-robed woman asked the girl named Su Liuli if she was willing to convert to Buddhism, and the girl said yes, only then did the white-robed woman take her away," Lin Tianyi replied.

"How could that bastard's woman have any dealings with the Buddhist sect?" Chen Feilian wore a puzzled face; he seemed to be questioning Lin Tianyi, but it sounded more like he was questioning himself.

Lin Tianyi wisely chose to remain silent.

For one thing, he did not know the details, and recklessly replying would be foolish. Moreover, as the helmsman of Nanqinghong, he was very clear that the Buddhist sect's status in the Huaxia Martial Arts

World was extraordinary, and among the top ten experts of the Dragon Ranking, two were from the Buddhist sect: the Shaolin Abbot and Bodhi Wu Yin. This association of Ye Fan's woman with the Buddhist sect was not good news for Qinghong!

"Why didn't you consult me about this matter in advance?"

Sure enough, due to the involvement of the Buddhist sect, Chen Feilian became angrier and coldly questioned.

"I intended to give you the good news after the matter succeeded."

Lin Tianyi weakly responded, then took the opportunity to ask, "Young Master Chen, what do you think should be done next with this?"

"What to do? What else can you do besides asking me what to do after something goes wrong?" Chen Feilian scolded angrily.

"Chen... Young Master Chen, I have a suggestion."

Sensing Chen Feilian's fury, Lin Tianyi thought for a moment and then voiced his own idea, "No matter how you put it, the fact that Ye Fan bastard killed Wu Hu and his men has become a fact. And, their profiles are immaculately clean; they're legitimate businessmen. His actions are a violation of the Yanhuang Organization's rules! Can't we use the Yanhuang Organization to deal with him?"

"Stand by on your side, and keep an eye on how the situation develops. Report to me immediately if there is any update," Chen Feilian decided quickly upon hearing Lin Tianyi's suggestion.

"Yes, Young Master Chen."

Lin Tianyi responded immediately and, after realizing that Chen Feilian had already hung up, he silently breathed a sigh of relief, as if he had narrowly escaped another calamity.

Chen Feilian, on the other hand, quickly flipped through his phone for a number. However, he didn't call immediately, but instead pondered his words before dialing.

"Hello, who is this?"

The phone took a full ten seconds to connect; a magnetic voice answered, carrying a hint of authority in its tone.

"Hello, Secretary Wang, this is Chen Feilian," Chen Feilian introduced himself.

"Chen Feilian?"

On the other end of the phone, serving as Bai Guotao's secretary and reputedly the second-in-command of Nanling, Wang Chonghua heard the name Chen Feilian and felt it slightly familiar but couldn't remember where he had heard it.

"Secretary Wang, my father is Chen Daozang, the leader of the Qinghong Organization," Chen Feilian explained.

"You've called the wrong number!"

Hearing Chen Feilian's words again, Wang Chonghua's expression changed, and he coldly uttered a sentence before directly hanging up the phone.

As the chief secretary to Bai Guotao, he was well aware that Bai Luo's imprisonment was due to collusion with the Qinghong Organization, a leverage that Ye Fan had used to bring him down by exploiting the rules.

Since then, the Bai Family had completely distanced itself from the Qinghong Organization.

Thus, although he was very curious why Chen Feilian would call him, he also knew that meeting with Chen Feilian was akin to playing with fire.

"To avoid the sharp edge and profit as the fisherman benefits, those Old Foxes of the Bai Family have it all figured out so nicely," Chen Feilian felt a bit annoyed by Wang Chonghua's feigned ignorance and deliberate hanging up, but he also guessed the Bai Family's current strategy and couldn't help sneering, "Where in the world is there such a good deal?"

After the sneer, Chen Feilian quickly composed a text message and sent it to Wang Chonghua.

"Buzz~"

On the other side, Wang Chonghua, sitting in his study, was sitting on the chair, smoking and contemplating the purpose of Chen Feilian's call, when suddenly he heard his phone vibrating. He immediately picked it up and opened the message.

"Secretary Wang, please convey a message to Secretary Bai, an hour ago, Ye Fan killed Wu Hu, Vice President of the Huaxia Branch of Qinghong Group and head of the Southwest Region, along with his bodyguards in Nanming City, Southern Xian Province."

Startled by the content of the message, Wang Chonghua's hands trembled, and he secretly rejoiced that his phone was a specially made satellite phone outside of the Yanhuang Organization and special service departments' surveillance, otherwise, he would have left behind incriminating evidence.

After the scare, Wang Chonghua looked at the text message again, made sure he remembered the content, and quickly deleted the message.

Having done all this, Wang Chonghua immediately dialed Bai Guotao's number.

"Secretary, are you asleep yet?" Once the call connected, Wang Chonghua didn't report straightaway but respectfully asked instead.

"What's the matter?" Bai Guotao asked.

"There's something that, after thinking it over, I feel it's better to report to you."

"What is it?"

"I just received a piece of information. An hour ago, Ye Fan killed Wu Hu, Vice President of the Huaxia Branch of Qinghong Group and head of the Southwest Region, along with his bodyguards in Nanming City, Southern Xian Province," Wang Chonghua hastily reported.

"Oh?"

On the other end of the call, Bai Guotao's pupils dilated slightly, he immediately dropped the red-topped file in his hand, and asked, "Where did you get this news? Is it reliable?"

"Chen Feilian told me," Wang Chonghua did not dare to conceal it.

"I see."

Bai Guotao, after a moment of contemplation, calmly uttered a sentence and then hung up the phone.

Clearly... he knew that Chen Feilian intended to make use of Wang Chonghua's mouth to relay this matter to him—this was a common scheme used by many businessmen and officials to seek his help. It was also the origin of Wang Chonghua's designation as the second-in-command of Nanling.

After hanging up, Bai Guotao lit a cigarette, inhaling the smoke while deep in thought.

Once the cigarette had burned to the end, he picked up his phone and dialed Zhou Wu, the Yanhuang Organization's head of the Southwest Region.

"Hello, Secretary Bai,"

The phone quickly connected, and Zhou Wu, as the head of the Yanhuang Organization in the Southwest Region, greeted him proactively, curious about the purpose of Bai Guotao's call.

"Director Zhou, I hope I didn't disturb your rest," Bai Guotao asked with a laugh.

"Secretary Bai knows that we Martial Artists generally use cultivation in place of sleep," Zhou Wu replied with a laugh, his curiosity growing, though he did not query directly.

"When I went back last time, Xiao Tang said he hasn't seen you for a long time, and he even asked me about your wellbeing. When you are free, let's get together in Yanjing," Bai Guotao continued with the pleasantries.

"Sure."

Zhou Wu agreed readily; the Xiao Tang mentioned by Bai Guotao was his fellow disciple, one of the core Martial Artists cultivated by the Bai Family.

"Director Zhou, the main reason for my call so late is that I heard about something, and I wanted to verify it with you," Bai Guotao switched to the main topic swiftly, in typical official style.

"Please go ahead, Secretary Bai," Zhou Wu responded.

"This is the situation: I just heard that Ye Fan, the illegitimate son of Ye Wenhao, killed Wu Hu, Vice President of the Huaxia Branch of Qinghong Group and head of the Southwest Region, as well as his bodyguards in Nanming City, Southern Xian Province an hour ago," Bai Guotao recounted, then asked, "Director Zhou, do you know about this?"

Whoosh!

Shocked by Bai Guotao's words, Zhou Wu's expression changed dramatically, "I wasn't aware of this matter."

"Control over Martial Artists is extremely strict now. Martial Artists causing social disorder is a taboo; mishandling it could cause panic. Director Zhou, this is something you might need to take seriously," Bai Guotao hinted subtly.

"Thank you for the reminder, Secretary Bai," Zhou Wu's understanding was clear, and he continued the coded conversation, "It's getting late. Secretary Bai, you should rest early; I need to hurry and address this matter."

"Then I won't disturb Director Zhou any further."

Seeing that he had achieved his goal, Bai Guotao didn't waste more words and ended the call directly, then stood up and walked to the window.

"You used the rules of the game to send Xiao Luo to prison, so I will return the favor in kind—if I manage to confirm evidence of your mass killing, I want to see who dares to disrupt the rules of the game!"

Gazing out at the resplendent night view beyond the window, thinking of Bai Luo's look of despair after being jailed, Bai Guotao's eyes flashed with cold light, like a hungry wolf ready to devour its prey.