

Young Master 171

Chapter 171: [Give Me a Reason Not to Kill You]

No response came.

Lu Wen stood frozen, his eyes widened in disbelief as he stared at Ye Fan, as if he couldn't believe everything before him was real.

As a Postnatal Perfect Martial Artist, he knew very well that it was increasingly difficult to advance one's realm the further one progressed.

The reason he had reached such a realm at a young age was entirely because of his father.

From a young age, he learned martial arts from Lv Canghai and had his constitution improved through medication by Lv Canghai.

Especially after Lv Canghai joined the Yanhuang Organization, leveraging his power, he obtained a great number of Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures and Spiritual Medicines from other martial artists, which he poured into Lu Wen. This not only greatly enhanced Lu Wen's constitution but also his strength advanced by leaps and bounds.

Later on, Lv Canghai even risked the potential regression of his own skills to empower Lu Wen, enabling Lu Wen to break through to the Postnatal Perfection Realm in one fell swoop!

It could be said that Lu Wen's ascent to the Postnatal Perfection Realm was accomplished with immense effort equivalent to the combined strength of nine bulls and two tigers.

Now, Ye Fan, who seemed like a country bumpkin in Lu Wen's eyes, displayed an aura stronger than that of the Postnatal Perfection, which could only leave him in unimaginable shock.

"Clap! Clap!"

In the same moment Lu Wen was shaken, Ye Fan steadily walked towards him. His footsteps were heavy and deliberate, echoing like drumming.

The rhythmic sound dispersed the air in front of Lu Wen, pressing down on his chest with an invisible pressure as oppressive as the weight of Taishan Mountain.

Instantly, Lu Wen found it hard to breathe, and his consciousness began to waver slightly.

"Swoosh!"

"Huh!"

This realization instantly brought Lu Wen back to his senses. He opened his mouth wide, like a python swallowing its prey, took a deep breath, and then forcefully exhaled.

Between this inhalation and exhalation, Lu Wen's shaken consciousness steadied, and the shock that had appeared on his face vanished without a trace.

"I really didn't expect to encounter someone like you, such a master, at Dong hai University!"

With his emotions stabilized, Lu Wen quickly raised his War Intent and sneered coldly, "I admit I misjudged you. But if you think I will be scared of you, you are greatly mistaken!"

As his words fell, Lu Wen's War Intent boiled. A more powerful aura emerged from him, the air around him surged, swirling around his body like a solid wall, protecting him within.

Hmm?

Perceiving this change in Lu Wen's aura, Ye Fan was struck by a thought and instinctively paused his steps.

"Hey, kid, I know all the young Innate Masters from the Huaxia Martial Arts World, and I've seen their profiles. You are not among them! At best, you're merely at the Half-step Innate!"

Seeing Ye Fan stop, Lu Wen's confidence skyrocketed, and a belief in his certain victory surged in his heart. His tone once again turned arrogant. "It doesn't matter whether you were just bluffing or if there indeed have been many Postnatal Perfect Martial Artists who've died at your hands. Today, I'll show you that there are many levels within the Postnatal Perfection Realm. Some can't catch even one move from a Half-step Innate Martial Artist, while others can kill a Half-step Innate Martial Artist—and I am the latter!"

With those words, Lu Wen sneered, took a step forward, his body moving sinuously—twisting and turning, coiling and uncoiling. His movements imitated a dragon: swallowing and spitting, rising and sinking, enlarging and shrinking, elongating and shortening, unpredictable in their variations.

——Dragon Form Step!

Seeing Lu Wen's ethereal footwork, Ye Fan's pupils slightly dilated.

Just now, his reason for stopping was because he sensed that Lu Wen, while boosting his War Intent, was utilizing "Yanhuang Fist"—only those who practiced "Yanhuang Fist" could elevate their War Intent to the peak in an extremely short period of time!

At that moment, seeing Lu Wen employ the movement technique "Dragon Form Step" from "Yanhuang Fist," Ye Fan was completely certain that Lu Wen planned to use "Yanhuang Fist" against him!

"Die!"

As if to confirm Ye Fan's suspicion, just when Ye Fan understood Lu Wen's intentions, Lu Wen roared and twisted like a spiral. Then, he slightly crouched, his body shooting forward like an Azure Dragon, his hands striking forward like dragon claws as he violently swiped at Ye Fan.

——Azure Dragon Claw!

The moment he struck, Lu Wen put forth all his strength, employing the deadly "Azure Dragon Claw" from "Yanhuang Fist," aiming to smash Ye Fan's head like a melon.

Facing Lu Wen's ferocious strike, Ye Fan neither dodged nor evaded. At first glance, it seemed he was frozen, but if one met his gaze, they would realize it wasn't fear that held him—it was disdain!

Disdain?

Yes!

Although Lu Wen used "Yanhuang Fist," which was created by a Supreme Strongman of the Yanhuang Organization, Lu Wen had not grasped the essence of this martial art. He had only learned the basics. Compared to Zhu Gang from the Yanhuang Organization, who had fought Ye Fan previously, he fell far short!

At that time, Zhu Gang, because of a misunderstanding, attacked Ye Fan using the "Yanhuang Fist," which he had practiced his whole life. He not only understood the martial intentions within the art, embodying its forms and harboring its spirit, but had also simplified complexity, infusing it with the fearless, advance-without-retreat spirit of a warrior, forcing Ye Fan to use eighty percent of his strength to resist, ultimately resulting in a draw.

Now, Ye Fan had stepped into the Half-step Innate Realm, his strength not just slightly, but significantly improved!

Given this situation, how could Lu Wen's half-hearted, superficial understanding of "Yanhuang Fist" pose any threat to him? The wind howled toward him, but Ye Fan didn't strike. Instead, his feet slid backward like a ghost, instantly shifting several meters away.

Huh?

In a flash like sparks flying up from flint, Lu Wen's hands swiped through the air, his pupils suddenly dilated, and the sneer on his face went stiff!

Where is he??

After his blow missed, Lu Wen immediately retracted his hands; within the scope of his vision, there was no trace of Ye Fan.

Not only that, but his consciousness also couldn't detect Ye Fan's aura, as if he had never appeared!

"What is your relationship with the Yanhuang Organization?"

The next moment, as unease began to settle in Lu Wen's heart, a voice sounded behind him.

Clank!

Startled by Ye Fan's voice, Lu Wen's heart trembled. He did not turn around but instead leaped up, quickly sprinting out over a dozen meters.

"Huff~"

Once he stopped, Lu Wen noted that Ye Fan hadn't chased after him. He couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief, then turned around, his gaze sweeping back toward Ye Fan.

At this moment, there was no longer any trace of arrogance on Lu Wen's face, only a rare expression of solemnity.

As the saying goes, the expert shows his skill with a mere move.

From the exchange just now, he realized that even if he used "Yanhuang Fist," he was no match for Ye Fan. On the contrary, had Ye Fan decided to attack him just then, he wouldn't have been able to defend himself!

Thus, he could guess even with his toes that Ye Fan's previous claim of having killed many Postnatal Perfect martial artists wasn't bragging but a fact—Ye Fan hadn't struck, simply discerning that he used "Yanhuang Fist" and mistaking him for a member of the Yanhuang Organization, opting for caution rather than action!

"Hey, good eye, to actually recognize my boxing technique!"

While grasping all this, Lu Wen's mind was flooded with astonishment. Yet, he feigned calmness and pretended to be a member of the Yanhuang Organization, "Since you know who I am, why not surrender quickly?"

"Surrender?"

Ye Fan laughed, looking at him as if watching a poorly acting clown perform, "The real members of the Yanhuang Organization are all tempered through battles of blood and fire. Not to mention other things, the overwhelming fighting spirit common among martial artists is something they all possess!

You might use 'Yanhuang Fist,' but you've grasped neither the essence of war and slaughter in this boxing technique nor do you carry the warrior's spirit of advancing courageously and treating death as homecoming. You don't even have the basic murderous aura—all of this proves that you are not a member of the Yanhuang Organization!"

"Swoosh!"

As Ye Fan's words echoed in his ears, Lu Wen's face drastically changed again. He hadn't expected Ye Fan to see through his fake identity, nor that Ye Fan would understand so much about the Yanhuang Organization and Yanhuang Fist.

"I didn't strike just now because I wanted to know why you, a Postnatal Perfection martial artist who knows 'Yanhuang Fist,' would become a student," Ye Fan asked nonchalantly, his curiosity seemingly nothing more than mere whimsical interest.

"Who are you?"

Lu Wen did not answer but instead questioned Ye Fan in shock.

"Since you don't want to talk, then I'm not interested in knowing either."

Seeing that Lu Wen had no intention to answer, Ye Fan's curiosity vanished. He approached Lu Wen again, "Now, it's my turn."

"You... you dare!"

Ye Fan's words snapped Lu Wen out of his shock. Realizing Ye Fan was about to make a move, he roared in anger.

Not dare?

Ye Fan answered with his actions!

Under the cover of night.

He suddenly exerted force in his legs, his body flashed forward, reaching in front of Lu Wen in an instant, his right hand sweeping out as if reaching into a sack, and fiercely grabbed for Lu Wen's neck!

In his strike, Ye Fan pushed his speed to the limit, making it too fast for the surrounding students to see and giving Lu Wen no chance to dodge!

"Swoosh!"

Lu Wen only felt a dangerous aura envelop him. Just as he thought to dodge, he heard the sound of the air tearing, and a large hand with an irresistible momentum reaching out for him!

"Give me one reason why I shouldn't?"

Before Lu Wen could resist or evade, Ye Fan grabbed his neck, lifted him into the air, and asked coldly.

Feeling the killing intent emanating from Ye Fan's words, a never-before-felt fear silently emerged in Lu Wen's heart. He did not irresponsibly resist but remained motionless, as if fixed in mid-air.

"Hiss~"

Shortly after, realizing that Ye Fan had increased the strength in his grip, Lu Wen inhaled sharply in fear and hastily responded, "Not only are you striking at ordinary people, but you are also killing me without a life and death contract, violating the rules set by the Yanhuang Organization—Yanhuang Organization will not let you go..."

"That reason is not enough!"

Ye Fan coldly interrupted Lu Wen, his face showing no mercy.

Chapter 172: Walking on a Dark Road at Night, You Might Bump into Ghosts

"You..."

Under the night sky, Lu Wen's mouth hung open as he stared at Ye Fan, immobile, trying to say something but unable to utter a word, his heart completely overtaken by shock.

As the son of Lv Canghai, he knew very well that the Yanhuang Organization was like a tight spell cast over the heads of all martial artists, making them wary.

In his memory, those martial artists who had broken the rules would act like mice seeing a cat when they saw his father, not daring to breathe loudly, much less act rashly!

Some, to avoid his father's punishment, would have licked his father's boots if they could!

Under such circumstances, Lu Wen deliberately brought up the Yanhuang Organization to intimidate Ye Fan, but he had not expected that Ye Fan would not be fazed at all, and appeared to not take the Yanhuang Organization seriously!

This utterly dumbfounded Lu Wen!

Meanwhile, the surrounding students gaped at Ye Fan and Lu Wen like statues, unmoving.

Being ordinary people, they did not understand what terms like martial artist and Yanhuang Organization meant, nor could they see clearly the process of the confrontation between Ye Fan and Lu Wen.

To them, everything that had just happened seemed like an illusion, making them feel extremely unreal.

Even if it wasn't because they knew Lu Wen and knew the cause of this matter, they might even think that Ye Fan and Lu Wen were shooting a movie!

This was most apparent with Zhang Jianren and another one of Lu Wen's lackeys!

In their memories, there had been someone who, due to Lu Wen's intervention, had failed in pursuing Situ Ruoshui and angrily insulted Lu Wen, only to end up crippled by Lu Wen.

And each time, Lu Wen only used one move.

Just one move!

Yet today, Lu Wen showed a strength they had never seen before, so fast that they couldn't see clearly, but he ended up being beaten up without the ability to fight back by Ye Fan, who seemed like a country bumpkin to them, and even got lifted off the ground as if picking up a chick...

This stark contrast made them feel as if the world had collapsed!

They even doubted, was this place they had grown up still the Earth?

Unlike Zhang Jianren and the others, Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli had witnessed Ye Fan fighting with other martial artists.

Especially Situ Ruoshui.

She had witnessed it twice!

In such a situation, the events that just occurred didn't scare them at all, and both knew what the terms martial artist and Yanhuang Organization Ye Fan and Lu Wen mentioned meant—after Ye Fan's life-and-death fight with the genius Yang Qing of the Hongwu Sect, Situ Chen had explained some things about the Martial Arts World to everyone.

At that time, after hearing Situ Chen's explanation, Situ Ruoshui thought the Martial Arts World was like a game, where martial artists were players, and the members of the Yanhuang Organization were NPCs in the game, and players had to follow the rules set by the NPCs.

"Big brother, Lu Wen's dad is the Yanhuang Organization's head in Dong Hai."

Noticing that Ye Fan was about to act against Lu Wen, Situ Ruoshui couldn't help speaking up, thinking that if Ye Fan killed Lu Wen, he would not only break the rules but would also offend Lv Canghai, who was akin to an NPC.

"Yes... Yes, my dad is Lv Canghai, the head of the Yanhuang Organization in Dong Hai!"

Hearing Situ Ruoshui's words in his ear, Lu Wen felt like a drowning man grasping at the last straw, his face gradually lost its panic, and a hint of confidence emerged in his heart.

"I see."

Ye Fan, hearing this, suddenly understood.

Seeing that Ye Fan did not dare to make a move after hearing his words, Lu Wen immediately assumed that Ye Fan was afraid, his confidence soaring, and his tone inadvertently revealed a bit of arrogance, "As a martial artist, you have already broken the rules of the Yanhuang Organization by attacking ordinary people. The Yanhuang Organization will hold you accountable! If you put me down now and apologize, I might consider asking my dad to spare you!"

Without responding, Ye Fan, as if hearing something funny, couldn't help laughing.

"Do you really want to make an enemy of the entire Yanhuang Organization?"

For some reason, seeing the smile on Ye Fan's face made Lu Wen's heart sink, feeling a bit ominous, yet still unable to believe that Ye Fan would dare to contend against the entire Yanhuang Organization.

"First, I did not attack ordinary people; I merely shouted for them to kneel, and they knelt on their own. Secondly, it was you who struck at me first, and you even tried to kill me."

After a brief moment of contemplation, Ye Fan made up his mind, and said coolly, "Lastly, I've heard that you usually act tyrannically at school and have bullied ordinary students quite a bit. If anyone has broken the rules, it seems to be you, not me."

"You..."

Hearing Ye Fan's words, Lu Wen suddenly realized his impulse and tried to argue something.

But—

Before he could finish his words, Ye Fan spoke again, his tone turning colder, "Step back ten thousand steps, even if it offends the Yanhuang Organization, so what? Is it only allowed for officials to set fires, and not for the common people to light lamps?"

"Are you really sure you want to do this?"

Fear resurfaced in Lu Wen's heart as he looked at Ye Fan with a face full of terror, his voice trembling, "My dad is not only the head of the Yanhuang Organization in Dong Hai, but he is also an Innate Grandmaster! If you dare touch me, my dad won't let you go! Even if you flee to the ends of the earth, he will have you executed..."

"You really don't learn."

Confronted with Lu Wen's threat, Ye Fan was not intimidated; on the contrary, he swung his left hand, transforming his hand into a palm, and struck fiercely at Lu Wen's Dantian!

"Smack——"

An explosive sound rang out as the power hidden in Ye Fan's palm burst forth, forcibly infiltrating Lu Wen's Dantian, not only scattering it instantly but also destroying the prostate beneath the Dantian, turning Lu Wen into an eunuch indirectly!

"Ow——"

Excruciating pain followed, and Lu Wen's body instantly curled like a shrimp, his face turned deathly white, and sweat beads as big as beans emerged like bamboo shoots after a rain from his forehead.

"Swoosh——"

Ye Fan casually tossed him aside, like throwing out trash, dumping Lu Wen next to Zhang Jianren and the others.

"Ah——"

Zhang Jianren and another lackey of Lu Wen screamed in terror, feeling as if the once sought-after Lu Wen had transformed into a devil from Hell, causing them immense fear.

"You..."

Realizing not only was his Dantian destroyed, but he had also become a eunuch, Lu Wen, like a frenzied beast, twisted his face and roared at Ye Fan.

"Are you trying to tell me that because I ruined your Kung Fu and turned you into a eunuch, your father will tear me to pieces?" Ye Fan interrupted Lu Wen with a smile.

Under the night, Ye Fan's seemingly mild smile appeared demonic in Lu Wen's eyes, causing him to shudder subconsciously and clamp his mouth shut.

The only bit of reason left told him that Ye Fan was not at all afraid of retaliation!

"Go back and tell your father that as a core member of the Yanhuang Organization, not only did he privately teach you the 'Yanhuang Fist,' but he also allowed you to bully ordinary people at school, which constitutes a serious dereliction of duty!"

As if to confirm Lu Wen's judgment, Ye Fan spoke again, his arrogance surpassing that of Lu Wen's earlier display by far, "If he wants to break the rules and commit crimes to seek revenge on me, I am always ready to oblige!"

"Uh..."

Listening to Ye Fan's outrageously self-confident words, Lu Wen almost fainted from anger. He stared wide-eyed and looked at Ye Fan dumbfoundedly, "You... who exactly are you?"

"Bang——"

"Bang——"

No answer, just the crisp sound of kowtowing suddenly resounded.

By Lu Wen's side, Zhang Jianren and another lackey, upon hearing Ye Fan disregard even Lu Wen's father, were so scared that they wet themselves, and without a second thought, started kowtowing vigorously to Ye Fan.

"What... what are you doing?"

Seeing this, Lu Wen trembled with fury, feeling as if Zhang Jianren's actions were stabbing directly into his heart already trampled by Ye Fan!

What are you doing??

"Bang!"

"Bang!"

The response to Lu Wen was even louder kowtowing sounds.

In front of everyone's eyes, Zhang Jianren and another lackey of Lu Wen competed, seeing who could kowtow harder and louder!

Because.

They remembered a phrase: "I can give you two choices. First, kneel and kowtow until Brother Wen is satisfied, then strip and run naked around the school for ten laps, and finally leave Dong University with your belongings. Second, be carried out of Dong University, unable to care for yourself for the rest of your life."

This phrase, Zhang Jianren had said to Ye Fan.

Similarly, Ye Fan had also said it to Lu Wen.

In their view, only by kowtowing until Ye Fan was satisfied, then stripping to run naked, and finally leaving Dong hai University with belongings, could they avoid ending up like Lu Wen!

"Pfft——"

Seeing this, Lu Wen, choked by rage, spat out a mouthful of fresh blood, and like a dead dog, collapsed onto the pavement.

At the same time, the onlooking students who had returned from their shock didn't feel sympathy for the tragic fate of Lu Wen and his lackeys; instead, they thought they got what they deserved.

Especially those students who had been bullied by them couldn't wait to rush up and taunt: "See, you have your day too!"

Perhaps fearing Lu Wen's retaliation later, they did not dare to do so, but instead took out their mobile phones and frantically snapped photos of the miserable trio.

Seeing this, Zhang Jianren, neither angry nor daring to speak up to stop it, simply let the blood seep from his forehead. He lay on the ground like a spineless dog, tremblingly said: "Please... please let us go, we'll strip and run right now!"

"Let's go!"

Seeing that someone had started recording, Ye Fan didn't linger any longer but shouted to Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli and took the lead towards the crowd's edge.

"Whew... whew..."

Watching Ye Fan's departing figure, Zhang Jianren and the other lackey felt as if they had just swirled around the gates of Hell, completely filled with a feeling called survival after a catastrophe.

"Situ... Situ Ruoshui, who is he exactly??"

Seeing this, Lu Wen, disregarding his injuries, forcefully sat up, his eyes bloodshot and face twisted, he howled at Situ Ruoshui nonstop, "Tell me! You tell me!!"

Ignoring Lu Wen's howling, Situ Ruoshui closely followed Ye Fan's steps.

Su Liuli, however, turned back, silently looked at Lu Wen and said: "Lu Wen, wander in the dark long enough, and you're bound to meet a ghost."

Chapter 173: [Chain Reaction]

"Ugh..."

Under the veil of night, Su Liuli's words, like the demonic sounds from hell, attacked Lu Wen's consciousness, making him subconsciously stop his angry roars, his face turning deathly pale.

Because he possessed extraordinary martial arts skills at such a young age, and because his father was the person in charge of the Yanhuang Organization in the Dong hai Region, Lu Wen strutted around Dong hai University, and indeed the entire Dong hai, with impunity.

Those without money or power didn't dare provoke him, and even those with influence and status, albeit dissatisfied with his arrogant demeanor, generally avoided direct confrontations with him.

On one hand, the Yanhuang Organization was indeed too special; not only were martial artists wary of it, but other domain leaders were also unwilling to offend someone from the Yanhuang Organization.

And as the person in charge of the Yanhuang Organization's Dong hai Region, Lv Canghai was considered a significant figure within the entire Yanhuang Organization!

On the other hand, just as Ye Fan had guessed, Lu Wen had reached the Postnatal Perfection realm at a young age, so those spoiled scions and children of high-ranking officials were somewhat wary of him, fearing suffering a major loss in a head-on clash.

"Xiao Wen, although you are a Postnatal Perfect Martial Artist and considered one of the best among the younger generation, you must always remember that in this world, there is always someone better than you and higher skies above; one should not be too ostentatious and must learn to be low-key."

Suddenly, such words echoed in Lu Wen's ears.

These words were spoken to him not long ago by Lv Canghai.

That time, a child of an official family in Dong hai, who had been obstructed by Lu Wen in pursuing Situ Ruoshui, challenged Lu Wen and ended up with a broken leg inflicted by Lu Wen.

Afterward, Lv Canghai personally visited to apologize and offered a spiritual elixir from the martial arts world, ensuring that the official's child's leg could be reattached without any lasting effects, thus avoiding a feud with that deeply entrenched official family in Dong hai.

Because of that incident, Lv Canghai furiously punished Lu Wen and then patiently advised him with heartfelt words, leading to that statement.

As his father Lv Canghai's teachings resounded in his ears, a hint of regret appeared on Lu Wen's face, but more than that was hatred—he regretted that he had been too rash in clashing with Ye Fan, but he was even more eager to tear Ye Fan to shreds!

"Brother Wen... Brother Wen!"

Just as Lu Wen was torn between regret and hatred, Zhang Jianren, seeing Ye Fan leave with Su Liuli and Situ Ruoshui, and in order to avoid attracting Lu Wen's wrath onto himself, quickly got up from the ground, took a few steps forward, and tried to help Lu Wen up.

"Get lost!"

Hearing Zhang Jianren's call, Lu Wen, recalling Zhang Jianren's recent actions, trembled with fury and lashed out with a slap.

Although Lu Wen's dantian had been destroyed by Ye Fan, rendering his martial arts useless, his physical strength alone was still enough to contend with a martial artist of the Postnatal Great Success realm.

Now, Lu Wen struck out in anger, using all his might, which Zhang Jianren was nowhere near able to withstand.

"Slap—"

"Crack—"

With a crisp sound, Lu Wen's slap hit Zhang Jianren's face, and the sheer physical force broke Zhang Jianren's jawbone.

Zhang Jianren's face collapsed instantly on one side, becoming a blur of blood and flesh; he went flying like a batted baseball, soaring into the crowd ahead. Those students screamed and dodged, letting Zhang Jianren's body slam heavily onto the ground.

"Ah—"

Another lackey, intending to come forward to apologize and flatter Lu Wen like Zhang Jianren, saw Zhang Jianren being sent flying with a slap from Lu Wen and was so terrified that his heart skipped a beat, let out a wail, and turned tail and ran.

At the same time, Zhang Jianren curled up on the ground like a dead dog, his body convulsing non-stop.

"The wicked will eventually bring about their own destruction; Zhang Jianren, you too have met this fate?"

Seeing Zhang Jianren's miserable state, the surrounding students showed no sympathy; a few who had been bullied by Zhang Jianren even hurled insults and deliberately recorded his pitiful condition with their mobile phones.

"You... you..."

Seeing this scene, Zhang Jianren trembled violently and subconsciously pointed at those students recording him, trying to warn them of something, but before he could finish, he passed out from rage.

Originally, he had thrived in Dong hai University by capitalizing on his status as Lu Wen's top lackey, but today, he not only hit a snag with his master Lu Wen, kowtowing like a grandson before a grandfather, but he was also slapped flying by his master after and humiliated by those students who wouldn't have dared to fart in his presence in the past...

All of this made him feel as if he had plummeted from heaven into hell!

"Get lost!"

As Zhang Jianren fainted from anger, Lu Wen, enduring his pain, slowly stood up, like an enraged beast, and roared at the students all around.

"Whoosh—"

With Lu Wen's roar, the crowd stirred; students quickly left, eager to beat down Lu Wen, now seen as a wounded dog, but after witnessing how Lu Wen had sent Zhang Jianren flying with a slap, they knew well that Lu Wen was not someone they could provoke, even injured.

Seeing the students scatter like frightened deer, Lu Wen's inner rage subsided somewhat, and his mind also cleared a bit.

Once clear-headed, Lu Wen realized that seeking revenge on Ye Fan wasn't the top priority, but rather dealing with his own injuries.

Understanding this, Lu Wen didn't head to the school infirmary but pulled out his phone and dialed Situ Haotian's number.

He did so because he knew the hospital couldn't handle his injuries; he could only hope for the spiritual elixir from Lv Canghai.

And before informing Lv Canghai of his injuries, he had to figure out Ye Fan's identity!

"Xiao Wen."

The call was quickly answered, and Situ Haotian's voice came through the receiver, warm and affectionate. His relationship with Lu Wen was always good; not only did he provide material support for Lu Wen, but he also staunchly supported Lu Wen in pursuing Situ Ruoshui and even helped him devise strategies more than once.

"Who is that Half-step Innate Martial Artist by Situ Ruoshui's side?" Lu Wen asked directly, barely concealing the rage in his tone.

"Xiao Wen, there's no Half-step Innate Martial Artist around Ruoshui," said Situ Haotian, his face a picture of confusion.

"Yes! I've just run into him!" Lu Wen said furiously.

"Xiao Wen, are you sure you haven't made a mistake?"

Upon hearing this, Situ Haotian was startled for no apparent reason, "Our Dong hai Gang doesn't have any Half-step Innate Masters. Could it be... could it be that my foster father has found a master to be Ruoshui's bodyguard?"

"It shouldn't be a bodyguard."

As he recalled everything that had just happened, Lu Wen said through gritted teeth, "Ruoshui called that bastard 'big brother,' and Su Liuli also knows that bastard!"

"Whoosh!"

Upon hearing Lu Wen's words again, Situ Haotian's face changed, and the image of Ye Fan flashed through his mind.

With the image flashing, Situ Haotian was almost certain that Lu Wen was talking about Ye Fan!

Because, in his memory, Situ Ruoshui would call Ye Fan 'big brother', and Ye Fan had stayed with the Su Family and was close with Su Liuli.

What's more, he had heard about Ye Fan crippling Yang Qing and killing Lin Ao Feng, and knew that Ye Fan had become a Half-step Innate Master!

Could it be... could it be that Lu Wen had a conflict with that guy Ye Fan?

Once Situ Haotian confirmed that the person Lu Wen was talking about was Ye Fan, an idea emerged in his mind upon recalling how Lu Wen referred to Ye Fan as a bastard.

As the idea emerged, Situ Haotian felt it was very likely, but he did not tell Lu Wen the information about Ye Fan. Instead, he asked, "Xiao Wen, what happened?"

"That bastard destroyed my Dantian!"

Perhaps because the matter of confessing unrequited feelings and being rejected was too embarrassing, Lu Wen did not divulge the sequence of events to Situ Haotian, but stated it outright.

"What... What?"

While Situ Haotian could guess that Ye Fan and Lu Wen probably had a conflict based on Lu Wen's words, he was still shocked and dumbfounded when he heard what Lu Wen said.

If it weren't for Lu Wen's angry panting in his ear, he would even doubt his own hearing!

"Hmm... Xiao Wen, you're not joking, right? In Dong hai, who would dare to touch you?" Situ Haotian asked tentatively after the shock, and at the same time, his eyes flickered, as if calculating something.

"Do I look like I'm joking?"

Lu Wen was getting annoyed, and if it weren't for Situ Haotian's consistent kindness towards him, he would've wanted to curse Situ Haotian's female ancestors.

"I'm sorry, Xiao Wen, it's just that this news is too unbelievable, making it hard for me to believe," Situ Haotian said. But there was no hint of apology on his face; instead, a cunning smile spread across his lips as he deliberately said, "Xiao Wen, I know the person you're talking about. I really want to help you get revenge, but I can't. He's a Half-step Innate Martial Artist, and I am simply not his match..."

"I'm not asking you to come forward!" Lu Wen interrupted Situ Haotian impatiently, "I'm just asking you to tell me his identity."

"I don't know the specifics of that guy's identity, my foster father should be very clear about it."

Playing dumb, Situ Haotian said, "Back in September, that guy rescued Ruoshui from Nanqinghong, and my foster father owes him a favor."

"So that's how it is!"

Hearing Situ Haotian's explanation, Lu Wen suddenly understood and immediately realized the meaning behind Situ Ruoshui's reference to 'War God'.

"Xiao Wen, this matter is no small issue. I suggest you immediately tell your father so that he can treat your injuries in time, and also to have your father ask my foster father for the specific details about that guy," Situ Haotian advised.

"Mm."

Lu Wen said and then hung up the phone.

"Beep beep..."

Listening to the busy tone from the handset, Situ Haotian had a beaming smile on his face, as if the conflict between Ye Fan and Lu Wen was a huge joy for him!

A joy, indeed!

That day, faced with Qu Feng and his two companions in Lingyin Temple, Situ Haotian knew he was no match, so he abandoned Situ Ruoshui and fled alone with Xiao Jiu.

Afterwards, he subconsciously thought that Situ Ruoshui was doomed and to avoid enduring Situ Chen's wrath, he chose to injure himself.

What he never dreamed of was that Situ Ruoshui didn't die and was even saved by Ye Fan...

This had him on tenterhooks for the past while.

He feared the truth would come out!

In his view, given Situ Chen's indulgence towards Situ Ruoshui, if the truth came out, Situ Chen would definitely punish him, perhaps even sever their ties and kick him out of Dong hai Gang!

Currently, although Situ Ruoshui never mentioned the events of that day, making Situ Haotian believe Situ Ruoshui was scared silly at the time and lost her memory, his worry had not dissipated!

Because he knew that Ye Fan must have seen the scene of him stopping Xiao Jiu from rescuing Situ Ruoshui, letting Xiao Jiu protect him as they escaped—he was afraid that Ye Fan would tell Situ Chen the real story!

"Considering the private friendship and interests between my foster father and Lv Canghai, in this matter, my foster father would mostly side with Lv Canghai. This way, even if that guy could avoid retaliation with the help of Demon Queen Chu Ji, he would never have a chance to tell my foster father about that day!"

"Besides, in the current situation, even if that guy told, would my foster father believe him?"

After putting down the phone, Situ Haotian muttered to himself, and by the end, he couldn't help but laugh aloud, "Ha ha, fortune really favors me!"

Chapter 174: A Promise is Priceless

At eleven o'clock at night, the entrance of Dong hai University was brightly lit and bustling with noise.

There were groups of bachelors heading out for an all-night gaming session, couples snuggling up to check into hotels, bosses driving to pick up their mistresses, and vendors selling kebabs and stinky tofu for survival, all mingling together in a lively scene.

"Isn't that the Double Beauties of Dong University?"

"Who is that guy? How come he's so close to them?"

Although Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli were freshmen at Dong University and hadn't been in school for long, the reputation of Dong University's Double Beauties had already resounded throughout the school. When they stepped out of the university gate with Ye Fan, they instantly attracted several gazes, and Ye Fan, walking closely with them, also drew attention.

Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli seemed to have already adapted to being the center of attention, and despite the staring and discussion from the crowd, they continued chatting and laughing, while Ye Fan maintained an unperturbed expression.

Hmm?

Suddenly, Ye Fan keenly noticed a big man in black clothing getting out of a BMW mini, a model beloved by young women, and quickly approaching him and Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli.

This discovery caused Ye Fan to slightly squint his eyes, subtly moving half a step closer to Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli, ready to take action at any moment.

"Miss, Miss Liuli!"

Soon, under Ye Fan's covert watchful eye, the big man crossed through the crowd swiftly and first greeted Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli, while curiously looking at Ye Fan.

"Situ Ruo and I plan to join Big Brother at City God Temple for snacks, you leave the car with us and take a taxi back," Situ Ruoshui said with a smile.

"Miss, this..."

"Don't worry, if my dad knows I'm with Big Brother, he definitely won't be worried." Seeing the big man's reluctance, Situ Ruoshui explained, knowing that the big man couldn't easily explain this to Situ Chen.

Big Brother?

Hearing this term again, the big man knew that Situ Ruoshui was referring to Ye Fan, and looked at Ye Fan with a puzzled expression, seemingly uneasy.

Seeing this, Ye Fan smiled and extended his hand, "Hello, my name is Ye Fan."

"Hello."

Upon hearing this, the big man secretly admired the savvy young man before him; he promptly shook hands with Ye Fan and handed over the car keys to Situ Ruoshui, saying, "Miss, then I'll be leaving."

Situ Ruoshui took the keys, saying, "Big Brother, you drive us and Sister Liuli."

"Okay."

Ye Fan smiled, took the car key, and led Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli towards the cream-colored BMW mini. Meanwhile, the big man quickly took out his phone to call Situ Chen's personal bodyguard, Fei Si.

"Fei Si, the miss said she's going to the City God Temple to have snacks with a young man named Ye Fan, and told me to take a taxi back." As soon as the call connected, the big man immediately reported.

"Understood, come back."

Fei Si, initially startled, then gave his instructions, though he was curious: how did Ye Fan come to Dong hai?

Curious, Fei Si thought about Situ Chen's longstanding debt of gratitude toward Ye Fan and immediately went into the villa, heading straight for the study.

"Brother Chen, Xiao Hu just called saying Ruoshui and Ye Fan went to the City God Temple for snacks, and he had to take a taxi back." A minute later, Fei Si entered the study and reported to Situ Chen.

"Xiao Fan is in Dong hai?"

Hearing Fei Si's words, Situ Chen put down the financial report he was reviewing, a bit surprised, then picked up the phone on the desk to call Ye Fan.

"Uncle Situ."

On the other end of the line, Ye Fan had just started the car when Situ Chen called, and he immediately answered.

"Xiao Fan, you come to Dong hai and didn't even let me know?" Situ Chen asked, "When did you arrive?"

"Uncle Situ, I just arrived this afternoon." Feeling Situ Chen's warmth, Ye Fan responded honestly, "I was busy attending Ruoshui's performance and didn't get a chance to visit you yet."

"What visit or not, just think of my place as your home," Situ Chen laughed and said, "It's too late today, keep Ruoshui company, and come over for dinner tomorrow."

"Uncle Situ, there was something I was planning to discuss in person when I saw you, but thought it best to mention it ahead," Ye Fan said, his heart warmed by Situ Chen's enthusiastic invitation, and with a thought, he hesitated slightly before speaking.

"What is it?" Situ Chen asked, curiously.

"You should know the Yanhuang Organization's Dong hai director, Lv Canghai, right?" Ye Fan countered.

"Yes, what about him?"

Situ Chen was slightly startled; he not only had business ties with Lv Canghai but also a good personal relationship.

"I just had a conflict with Lv Canghai's son; I destroyed his Dantian and incapacitated his Kung Fu," Ye Fan chose his words carefully but decided to be straightforward.

"What... what?"

In the study, upon hearing Ye Fan's words, Situ Chen jumped up from his mahogany chair, visibly shocked.

"Uncle Situ, if I'm not mistaken, you and Lv Canghai must be quite close,"

As if he had anticipated Situ Chen's reaction, Ye Fan was not surprised but seriously said, "I'm really sorry to cause you trouble."

"Xiao Fan, tell me all about it." Hearing Ye Fan again, Situ Chen regained his composure, his brows furrowing tightly as he spoke gravely.

"It went like this..."

Upon hearing this, Ye Fan, without any reservations, told Situ Chen everything about the incident, including the provocation by Lu Wen, Zhang Jianren, and others at the university gate.

"Xiao Fan, this matter is not your fault; it's all Lu Wen's own doing for messing with you."

Situ Chen sighed silently. In his view, Lu Wen had brought this upon himself. Given Ye Fan's usual way of doing things, it was already extraordinary that he hadn't sent Lu Wen to report to Yama Palace.

"Uncle Situ, please don't get involved in this matter to avoid being caught in the middle."

Ye Fan spoke again. He was well aware that Situ Chen's ability to reign over Dong hai and the Yangtze River Delta Underground World depended heavily on the support and deterrence of Lu Canghai from the background. Without Lu Canghai's backing, Nanqinghong would have executed a decapitation strike against Situ Chen long ago.

"Xiao Fan, at this point, it's hard for me not to get involved."

Situ Chen gave a bitter smile and said, "Lu Canghai has only this one son, and now that you've crippled his martial arts skills, he will definitely be furious. Here's what we'll do: if Lu Canghai begins to ask questions, I will tell him the whole story as it happened, trying to play down the major issues and lighten the minor ones."

"Uncle Situ, don't bother, I can handle it myself."

Hearing this, Ye Fan, clear as a mirror in his heart, knew that if Situ Chen took his side in this matter, it would inevitably worsen relations with Lu Canghai, which would be fatal for both Situ Chen and the Dong hai Gang!

"Xiao Fan, I have told you before: in the future, whenever you need my help, just ask. Anything within my power, I will give my utmost effort to accomplish; what's beyond my power, I will still give my all to achieve!"

Situ Chen exhaled deeply, his expression becoming exceptionally resolute. "Although I know speaking for you in this matter will displease Lu Canghai and might even affect our relationship, I, Situ Chen, have always stood by my word!"

Feeling the sincerity and determination of Situ Chen, Ye Fan couldn't help but think of the actions of the Su Family members, feeling a surge of emotions.

Amidst his mixed feelings, Ye Fan decided to stop with the formalities and accepted Situ Chen's generosity: "Uncle Situ, since you put it that way, I won't hypocritically refuse. If you can't calm this situation and Lu Canghai stubbornly decides to act against the law, please let me know."

"Alright."

Situ Chen responded instinctively, yet he understood that, given Ye Fan's temperament, if Lu Canghai insisted on reprisal, the two sides would definitely clash fiercely!

"Buzz... Buzz..."

Just as Situ Chen came to this realization, his phone started to vibrate, indicating an incoming call.

"Xiao Fan, it's Lu Canghai on the line; I'll hang up now and see what he has to say."

Situ Chen glanced at the caller ID, said this to Ye Fan, and then ended the call to answer the phone.

"Xiao Chen, did you hear about what happened to Xiao Wen, someone destroyed his Dantian?" As soon as the call connected, Lu Canghai's voice came through the receiver, sounding so somber it was spine-chilling.

Upon hearing this, Situ Chen could almost be certain that Lu Canghai would not let the matter rest and sighed, "I just heard about it."

"From what Xiao Wen said, that person is now with your daughter Ruoshui, and you know the details of this person." Lu Canghai asked coldly, "Who is this person exactly? Where is he now?"

"Brother Lu, I have understood the full story, and the fault lies with Xiao Wen; he was the first to make a move..."

"What do you mean, Situ Chen?"

Lu Canghai coldly interrupted Situ Chen's words, no longer polite, "I heard from Xiao Wen that the kid once saved your daughter Ruoshui; are you going to defend him?"

"Brother Lu, you can't touch this person!" Situ Chen answered obtusely.

"Ha ha... Ha ha ha... Ha ha ha ha..."

On the other end of the line, upon hearing Situ Chen's words, Lu Canghai, enraged, laughed bitterly, "Situ Chen, that wretch destroyed my son's Dantian and crippled his martial arts, essentially severing my family line! And you tell me I can't touch him??"

"Er..."

Situ Chen was not aware of the ordeal turning Lu Wen into an eunuch; hearing Lu Canghai mention this, he was initially shocked, then thought for a moment and said, "Brother Lu, according to the Yanhuang Organization's rules, if one martial artist attacks another, the latter can defend themselves, and whether they injure or kill the assailant, they are not held responsible!"

"Situ Chen, I'm more familiar with the Yanhuang Organization's rules than you!"

Lu Canghai's tone turned utterly cold, chilling to the bone, "You just need to tell me where that wretch is now!"

Without answering, Situ Chen chose to remain silent; he could see that Lu Canghai was ready to go to any lengths to deal with Ye Fan.

"Of course, you can choose not to tell me, even help that wretch escape from Dong hai!"

Seeing Situ Chen's silence, Lu Canghai guessed something, furiously saying, "I need to remind you, if you do that, from now on, we will be strangers!"

"Brother Lu, he is the Demon Queen Chu Ji's nephew."

Situ Chen said, revealing Ye Fan's identity, "If you move against him, even if Chu Ji does not retaliate against you personally, she will bring this matter up to the higher levels of the Yanhuang Organization. Then you will be knowingly breaking the law and held accountable!"

"So that's why he dared to attack my son, because he's Chu Ji's nephew."

At these words, Lu Canghai's pupils suddenly constricted, and a fierce glint flashed through his eyes. He said, "Xiao Chen, since you are considering this, let's pretend the earlier matter didn't happen. Do this: immediately have your daughter's bodyguard fabricate a false statement claiming that the kid attacked my son first and crippled him. I will personally kill him and then report to the top brass that not only did that wretch resist arrest, he also attacked me, resulting in his death! That way, even if Chu Ji makes a fuss, I have nothing to fear!"

"Brother Lu, as I know it, there were many people present at the time..."

"Those people are just ordinary students who couldn't clearly see the fight between that wretch and my son, but your daughter's bodyguard is a martial artist; he could see!" Lu Canghai, somewhat irritated, interrupted Situ Chen.

"Sorry, Brother Lu, I can't do it."

Seeing that Lu Canghai was determined to treacherously kill Ye Fan, Situ Chen took a deep breath and said word by word, "Because I cannot break the promise I made to him, nor can I repay his kindness with enmity!"

Chapter 175: [Retribution Will Come, Just Not Yet]

As the person in charge of the Yanhuang Organization in Dong hai, Lv Canghai's residence was situated in the Dong hai Municipal Committee Courtyard, equaling that of major political figures—a standalone villa, complete with a garage and garden, of very high standard.

This also indirectly confirmed that since the Martial Arts World flourished, the role and status of the Yanhuang Organization had been growing by the day.

From another perspective, Lv Canghai living in the City Committee Mansion was also to prevent assassinations against other big shots within the courtyard.

After eleven o'clock at night, a Maybach worth tens of millions was stopped at the gate of the City Committee Mansion by the armed police on duty.

Because Lv Canghai had told Lu Wen to keep a low profile, Lu Wen never dared to drive the Maybach "borrowed" from Situ Haotian to the City Committee Mansion, usually opting for a modest sedan worth a couple of hundred thousand.

Tonight, after becoming the laughing stock of Dong University due to a failed confession, followed by Ye Fan destroying his Dantian, crippling his Martial Arts, and turning him into a eunuch, Lu Wen had completely forgotten Lv Canghai's admonishment.

He only wanted to see Lv Canghai as soon as possible to see if Lv Canghai could restore his Dantian and prostate, and then plot his revenge.

At this moment, seeing the armed police close the gate, refusing to let him through, Lu Wen uncontrollably lowered the car window and cursed, "Damn it, what are you blocking for?"

"Ssss~"

Hearing Lu Wen's curse, the armed police who stepped forward to check sucked in a breath of cold air in anger. He had intended to handle it by the book, but reflecting on Lu Wen's identity, he suppressed his impulse and saluted to let him pass without delay.

"Boom~"

The gates opened, and Lu Wen floored the accelerator, the excellently performing Maybach roaring like a steel beast as it charged into the City Committee Mansion.

"Sooner or later, you're courting death!"

Watching as Lu Wen treated the roads of the City Committee Mansion like an F1 racetrack, racing at high speed with constant rumbling noises, the armed police who had been cursed by Lu Wen couldn't help but mutter under his breath.

Lu Wen could not hear the armed police's muttering and drove the car at top speed directly to Lv Canghai's villa.

The car stopped, and Lu Wen got out as quickly as he could, entering the villa courtyard and running towards the main building.

"Dad!"

Seeing Lv Canghai standing with his hands behind his back at the entrance of the main building, Lu Wen, feeling greatly wronged, cried out involuntarily.

Originally, Lv Canghai felt displeased seeing Lu Wen return in a Maybach and creating such a racket, but hearing Lu Wen's anguished cry, and reflecting on his experiences that evening, his anger dissipated, and he unusually spoke softly, "Come inside, let me check your injury."

"Okay."

Lu Wen nodded vigorously and hurried after Lv Canghai, his heart in his throat and his face etched with anxiety.

Anxiety, because he was worried his injuries could not be healed!

"Lift up your clothes." Once inside, Lv Canghai ordered in a deep voice.

Upon hearing this, Lu Wen wasted no time in lifting his clothes to find a black palm print on his Dantian area.

Seeing this, Lv Canghai's pupils constricted and his face slightly changed. He quickly stepped forward and placed his hand on Lu Wen's wound.

"Dad, not only does it hurt unbearably around my Dantian, but it also feels like it's burning terribly," Lu Wen said with a bitter expression.

Click!

As Lu Wen's words fell, Lv Canghai's heart jolted, and his right hand, placed on Lu Wen's Dantian, trembled involuntarily!

"Dad, what's wrong?" Lu Wen asked nervously.

Crack!

In response to Lu Wen's question was a sharp sound; Lv Canghai withdrew his hand, fists clenched tightly, veins bulging on his arms, a terrifying aura of killing intent emanating from him!

"Dad... Dad, does this mean the injury is incurable?"

Noticing Lv Canghai's change, Lu Wen realized something and called out again, his voice shaking noticeably.

Without replying, Lv Canghai's expression turned dark and fearsome.

Seeing this, Lu Wen grew more anxious and couldn't help but shout, "Dad, at least say something?"

"Slap—"

This time, Lv Canghai, in his rage, directly slapped Lu Wen, sending him tumbling to the ground.

"Dad... Dad, what are you doing??"

Lu Wen was struck dumb!

Under the lights, he widened his eyes, gazing at Lv Canghai in disbelief!

Had it not been for the fiery pain on his face, he might have thought he was dreaming!

He couldn't believe, and wasn't ready to accept, that Lv Canghai would hit him now that his Martial Arts were ruined, and he had become a eunuch!

"How many times have I told you there's always someone better out there, but you never fucking listen!" Lv Canghai, fists clenched, looked at Lu Wen with a face full of disappointment and bellowed hoarsely.

Lu Wen was so scared by these words that he almost collapsed right there: "Could it be... Could it be that I won't just have my Martial Arts ruined but also remain a eunuch?"

"That bastard forcibly blasted his Power into your Dantian, shattering all the surrounding meridians and acupoints. Even the Divine Doctor Chu Xuanji might not be able to save you!" Lv Canghai closed his eyes unwillingly, his expression pained as he spoke.

"No... No, this can't be true!"

Hearing Lv Canghai's words, Lu Wen's eyes bulged, his head shaking frantically as though he couldn't believe it was all real. Then, he scrambled and clutched at Lv Canghai's legs, pleading, "Dad, I believe you can definitely cure me, you can!"

With closed eyes, Lv Canghai remained silent, seemingly unwilling to repeat what he'd just said.

Whoosh—

Seeing Lu Wen's silence, Lu Canghai stopped struggling, his hands subconsciously releasing Lu Canghai's right leg, and collapsed powerlessly to the ground as if he had lost his soul.

"Dad, help me get revenge."

A few seconds later, Lu Wen looked blankly at Lu Canghai, the indifference in his eyes so alarming that even Lu Canghai felt a chill in his heart—it was the look of despair towards life and existence, and it was also a gaze ready to go down taking everyone with him.

Seeing this, the rage in Lu Canghai's heart vanished completely. He spoke with a complicated expression, "That little bastard is Chu Ji's nephew."

"I don't care who he is, I want him to live a life worse than death!"

Lu Wen's emotions suddenly became agitated, his eyes frighteningly red, "If you don't want to make a move, I'll go to Situ Haotian and let him spend money to hire foreign experts!"

"Heh, Situ Chen has already broken ties with me to help that kid!"

Hearing his son's words ringing in his ears, Lu Canghai laughed out of extreme fury, a laugh so chilling it made one's skin crawl, "Don't worry, I'll personally avenge you!"

"He's with that little bitch Situ Ruoshui. As long as we find Situ Ruoshui, we can definitely locate him!"

Upon hearing this, Lu Wen was initially startled but didn't question why Situ Chen would help Ye Fan; instead, filled with hatred, he spoke, as if he couldn't wait to grind Ye Fan into dust and scatter his remains to the wind.

"Not now!"

Although Lu Canghai also wanted to kill Ye Fan to vent his anger, he knew better than to act recklessly, for that could cost him his future and even his life.

That was a price he was not willing to pay—Lu Wen couldn't continue his lineage, but he could have another son; however, if he lost his own life, everything would be over!

"Why?"

"Tonight, you struck first, and that little bastard fought back on the grounds of self-defense. I have no reason to lay hands on him."

As he said this, Lu Canghai felt his anger rising again, but instead of lecturing Lu Wen further, he spoke with an icy killing intent, "When the time is right, I will flay that kid alive, chop him into pieces, and feed him to the dogs!"

Crack—

As his words fell, the wooden floor beneath Lu Canghai's feet cracked inch by inch, and a terrifying aura of murder emanated from him, spreading throughout the hall and causing the temperature to plummet.

"Buzz... Buzz..."

At the same time, the previously quiet hall was suddenly filled with the sound of a vibrating phone, coming from the pocket of Lu Wen.

Lu Wen instinctively reached into his pocket and pulled out his phone, only to see that it was a call from Situ Haotian.

The discovery reignited a frenzy of rage in his dull eyes, and amidst his anger, he fiercely pressed the answer button and roared, "You son of a bitch still dare to call me?"

"Uh..."

On the other end of the phone, Situ Haotian had intended to ask about the progress of the situation and was taken aback by Lu Wen's curse. He paused for a moment in confusion before asking, "Xiao Wen, what's wrong?"

"You have the audacity to ask me what's wrong?"

Angered, Lu Wen thought Situ Haotian was playing dumb and couldn't contain his rage, "Situ Haotian, you'd better give me an explanation, or it's not just that little bastard who will suffer, the Situ family won't have it easy either!"

Could it be... could my foster father be siding with that Ye surname kid on this matter?

Lu Wen's words caused Situ Haotian's face to change drastically, as the thought instinctively surfaced in his mind.

As the thought emerged, Situ Haotian found it absurd, but reason told him that if it wasn't the case, Lu Wen wouldn't have said that the Situ family was also in trouble.

"There's nothing to talk about with people from the Situ family."

Shortly after, before Situ Haotian could recover from his shock, Lu Canghai's voice came through the phone, crystal clear.

"Xiao Wen..."

Hearing Lu Canghai's voice, Situ Haotian tried to say something, but before he could finish, Lu Wen hung up the call, leaving a dial tone echoing from the handset.

How... how is this possible?

Situ Haotian numbly put down his phone, his face filled with disbelief.

Even though things were becoming clear, he still found it hard to believe that Situ Chen would stand with Ye Fan on this matter.

After all, Lu Canghai was the most important protection for the Dong hai Gang—breaking ties with Lu Canghai could threaten the very survival of the Dong hai Gang!

"Buzz... Buzz..."

While Situ Haotian struggled with disbelief and acceptance, the sound of a vibrating phone snapped him back to reality, and he saw Situ Chen's incoming call displayed on the screen.

"Foster father."

This discovery caused Situ Chen's expression to shift slightly, then he took a deep breath, adjusted his emotions, and answered the call, not daring to ask about tonight's events, but instead took the initiative to say hello.

"Haotian, Xiao Fan has come to Dong hai, and tomorrow I plan to invite him to dinner at the villa, why don't you join us?"

"Okay."

Situ Haotian blurted out a response, his heart tossing like fifteen buckets fetching water, up and down with agitation.

Chapter 176: [Guilty Conscience]

"Lu Wen got beaten up by Situ Ruoshui's official boyfriend!"

Early the next morning, this news spread through Dong hai University at an unimaginable speed.

Even on the university's forum, there was a special thread discussing the incident, and it was posted by one of Lu Wen's followers who had recently offended a child of an official's family.

To increase credibility, the poster uploaded the video and pictures of Lu Wen being rejected, as well as photos of Lu Wen and Zhang Jianren lying on the ground like dead dogs afterward.

Instantly, the incident blew up at Dong hai University and spread rapidly across the internet, even reaching two well-known portal websites that published the news with the headline—"League of Legends spokesperson Situ Ruoshui's suitor out of jealousy, gets into a brawl."

As the main character of the incident, Ye Fan was completely unaware of all this.

Last night, after he accompanied Situ Ruoshui and Su Liuli for snacks at the City God Temple, he first dropped Situ Ruoshui back at Purple Garden Villa, and then drove a Mercedes S450 from Situ Ruoshui's villa to take Su Liuli back to Tan Palace—the Tan Palace Villa was specifically prepared by Chu Ji as a residence for Ye Fan and Su Liuli.

Once back at Tan Palace Villa, Su Liuli and Su Yuxin chatted away with the excitement of a couple newly reunited, leaving Ye Fan, who had just experienced the joys of a romantic encounter for the first time, with no choice but to sulkily practice meditation cultivation in the guest room.

In the morning, just as usual, Ye Fan got up early for his morning exercises. When he came back, he found that Su Liuli and Su Yuxin had both left; the former went to school for classes, while Su Yuxin had gone to report to Tianshan Group's Dong hai branch.

Seeing that he was left alone, Ye Fan took a cold shower and decided to drive around Dong hai by himself.

In fact, Ye Fan was not unfamiliar with Dong hai, known as the "Dongfang Pearl." Over the past two years, he had flown from Dong hai several times on missions to other major alliances, but each visit was rushed and he had not truly experienced the beauty of Dong hai.

The Bund, Dongfang Zhu Tower, Yu Garden...

From morning to afternoon, Ye Fan spent the entire day wandering the city aimlessly.

When the sun began to set, Ye Fan happened to drive to the street where Dong hai University was located and suddenly remembered that he had to go to Situ Chen's residence at Ao Xiang Villa for dinner that night.

Last night, after Ye Fan dropped Situ Ruoshui back at Purple Garden Villa, Situ Chen called him. On one hand, he warned Ye Fan that Lv Canghai, wary of violating the Yanhuang Organization's rules, dared not take open revenge and would probably resort to treachery, so Ye Fan should be careful. On the other hand, he invited Ye Fan to arrive at Dong hai Gang's main base Ao Xiang Villa on She Mountain by seven o'clock in the evening for dinner.

Thinking of Situ Chen's invitation, Ye Fan thought for a moment, took out his phone, and sent a message to Situ Ruoshui: Ruoshui, I'm near Dong hai University right now. What time do you finish classes? I'll join you and go to Ao Xiang Villa together.

"Big brother, I'll be out of class in twenty minutes. Can you wait for me at the school gate for a while?"
Situ Ruoshui quickly replied.

Okay.

Ye Fan succinctly replied with a single "Okay" and drove to Dong hai University.

A few minutes later, Ye Fan parked his car at the gate of Dong hai University and was surprised to see Situ Ruoshui's BMW mini still parked in the same spot as yesterday.

Meanwhile, Xiao Hu, who acted as Situ Ruoshui's personal bodyguard, was the first to step out of the BMW mini and quickly walked towards Ye Fan's Mercedes S450.

Seeing this, Ye Fan rolled down the window.

"Mr. Ye!"

Xiao Hu greeted Ye Fan with a salute, his eyes filled with reverence and admiration.

Last night, after returning to Ao Xiang Villa, he specifically asked his master, Fei Si, for more information about Ye Fan and was utterly astonished at what he heard!

"Do you wait here for Ruoshui every day?" Ye Fan asked with a smile.

"Mm."

Xiao Hu nodded.

"Aren't you afraid that Nanqinghong's people might sneak into the school and abduct Ruoshui?"

Ye Fan was curious. In his view, setting aside Xiao Hu's lack of strength, even an Innate Master couldn't guarantee Situ Ruoshui's safety by just guarding the school gate.

"Mr. Ye may not know, but according to Yanhuang Organization regulations, Jianghu People are not allowed to commit acts of violence in various institutions, schools, and hospitals. Otherwise, not only would the perpetrator be put to death without mercy, but their organization, sect, or clan would also be completely eradicated!"

Xiao Hu honestly replied, "Because of this rule, hardly any organization or individual dares to provoke the Yanhuang Organization's bottom line—the Yanhuang Organization's deterrent power is simply too strong!"

"I see," Ye Fan said as he suddenly understood.

"Mr. Ye, I heard that last night you disabled the Kung Fu of Lv Canghai's son, Lu Wen, a leader of the Yanhuang Organization in Dong hai?"

Xiao Hu hesitated before asking, his eyes full of curiosity as he looked at Ye Fan, wondering why Ye Fan dared to provoke even the people of the Yanhuang Organization, "Aren't you afraid of Lv Canghai's retaliation?"

"The other party wanted to kill me, so it was an act of self-defense. I didn't violate any of the Yanhuang Organization's regulations," Ye Fan explained casually.

"I see..."

Xiao Hu appeared thoughtful and was about to say something but saw Ye Fan's gaze turn towards the school gate, so he swallowed his words, silently returned to the BMW mini, and stood by.

Under Ye Fan's gaze, students walked out of the campus in groups of threes and fives, talking and laughing, their faces brimming with joy.

Seeing the carefree smiles on those students' faces, Ye Fan couldn't help but sigh inwardly; he knew that even if he became one of those students, he could not blend into college life and would instead become an outcast.

"What do you think, who is Situ Ruoshui's official boyfriend really?"

"If you ask me, he must have a very impressive background, right?"

"Isn't that obvious? If his background wasn't strong, would he have been able to make Lu Wen and his group drop out of school?"

...

As Ye Fan was silently reflecting, three male students walked past the Mercedes S450, talking loudly.

What?

Overhearing the three saying that Lu Wen and others had dropped out, Ye Fan was at first startled, but then he realized—given Lu Wen and his group's arrogant nature, having suffered such a humiliating defeat last night and becoming the laughingstock of Dong University, it was natural they couldn't stay.

Five minutes later, wearing a white sweater paired with blue jeans and sneakers, Situ Ruoshui walked out of the campus alone. Seeing the Mercedes S450 where Ye Fan was, she ran over with the joy of a cheerful sprite, hopping and skipping along.

Whoosh!

Originally, Situ Ruoshui was already popular at Dong hai University, but after last night's incident, she became even more so—the most popular girl in the school, attracting attention with every move she made.

Because of this, she became the absolute focus of attention the moment she appeared, with the gazes of the students at the school gate following her like trackers, shifting with her every step.

A bit later, as Situ Ruoshui approached the Mercedes S450, hopping and skipping, Ye Fan rolled down the window, inadvertently drawing the gazes of those students at the gate to him.

Who is that young man?

Could it be... Could it be that he is Situ Ruoshui's official boyfriend??

In shock at seeing Ye Fan's face—not particularly handsome, but sufficiently good-looking and giving off a feeling of steadfastness—those students widened their eyes as if they had discovered a new world and started to wonder internally.

"Big brother, you're now a hot topic in our school!" Seeing this scene, Situ Ruoshui said with a smile, "Today, so many people went to ask me about you!"

As she spoke, Situ Ruoshui thought about the campus rumor that Ye Fan was her official boyfriend, and she became quite shy, with her doll-like face turning red as though it would drip water.

Ye Fan had always yearned to experience student life. Now, he hadn't gotten to experience it, yet he had become a person of interest on campus, which made him smile wryly to himself.

"Get in the car."

With a wry smile, seeing someone pull out a phone and attempt to take photos and recalling the discussion of those three students, Ye Fan rolled up the window while speaking—he didn't mind being photographed but didn't want his presence to affect Situ Ruoshui's normal life!

Situ Ruoshui obediently nodded her head, walked around to the other side, opened the passenger door, and got into the car.

"Ruoshui, do you know the way to Ao Xiang Villa?" Ye Fan asked as he started the car.

"I do," Situ Ruoshui replied. "Although Dad doesn't let me live there, I sometimes go there to play."

"Then you direct, I'll drive."

Ye Fan smiled, understanding in his heart that Situ Chen didn't want Situ Ruoshui living in Ao Xiang Villa because he didn't want her purity and kindness to be tainted by the dark aspects of the Underworld—otherwise, Situ Ruoshui wouldn't still have such an innocent nature despite already attending university.

...

The Ao Xiang Villa, located on She Mountain, was much larger than Ye Fan had imagined. It sat halfway up the mountainside, and from a distance, one could see the European style villas and a several-kilometer-long wall, like an earthly paradise.

Due to traffic, it took Ye Fan an hour, under Situ Ruoshui's guidance, to finally reach Ao Xiang Villa.

"Miss, Mr. Ye, the boss is waiting for you in Villa No. 1." As the Mercedes S450 arrived at the entrance of the villa, the security guard saw Ye Fan and Situ Ruoshui and immediately granted them entry.

With a thankful smile, Ye Fan pressed the accelerator and drove into the villa complex, following the asphalt road toward the mountain-facing villas.

Along the way, Ye Fan clearly observed trees shading the road, flowers blooming profusely, and a huge lawn in the distance, which Situ Ruoshui told him was a golf course. Beyond that, the estate also boasted a horse-racing track.

Seeing all this, Ye Fan couldn't help but inwardly exclaim—owning such a large estate in the expensive city of Dong hai was a testament to Situ Chen's identity and status.

While Ye Fan was quietly reflecting, a Maybach came from behind, attempting to overtake the Mercedes S450.

As the cars passed each other, Ye Fan turned his head to look, and he was surprised to see Situ Haotian.

In that instant.

He saw something akin to nervousness on Situ Haotian's face, as well as a deeply hidden hostility.

What?

Sensing the concealed hostility in Situ Haotian's eyes, Ye Fan's brow furrowed thoughtfully.

"Hum~"

At the same moment, feeling guilty as if he were a thief, Situ Haotian suddenly stepped on the accelerator. Accompanied by a roar, the Maybach abruptly sped up, instantly overtaking the Mercedes S450.

Would he tell his foster father the truth?

Inside the Maybach, Situ Haotian questioned himself, with his heart in his throat.

Chapter 177: "The Plot is Revealed" During the Third Watch

A few minutes later, Situ Haotian took the lead, driving a Maybach as he arrived at the villa complex. To his surprise, he found Situ Chen waiting at the entrance of villa number one, accompanied by a woman.

This discovery instantly dispelled the worries in Situ Haotian's heart, replaced by an ominous gloom on his face!

However—

That gloomy expression flashed by in an instant.

Soon, his expression returned to normal, and he even managed a smile on his face as he parked the car, changing faces faster than flipping through a book!

"Uncle, Aunt Feng."

As soon as he got out of the car, Situ Haotian immediately went forward to greet Situ Chen and the woman surnamed Feng with a bow. His gaze fell appropriately on the woman's bare, snow-white feet, and he couldn't help but be reminded of a certain image, feeling a rush of heat in his lower abdomen.

Seemingly aware of Situ Haotian's gaze, the woman surnamed Feng's heart trembled slightly, though her facial expression did not change at all.

"Haotian, Xiao Fan and Ruoshui have also arrived. Didn't you run into them?" Situ Chen asked, apparently unaware of any abnormality between the two.

"I ran into them in the estate just now, but we didn't greet each other," replied Situ Haotian.

Upon hearing this, Situ Chen was about to say something when he saw the Mercedes-Benz S450, assigned as Ruoshui's security detail, approaching villa number one, and he swallowed back what he was about to say.

Seeing this, Situ Haotian tactfully stepped back behind Situ Chen, deliberately distancing himself from the woman surnamed Feng. However, their gazes briefly met in midair, sparking an invisible flame.

Before long, while Situ Chen, Situ Haotian, and the woman surnamed Feng waited, Ye Fan arrived in front of villa number one, driving the Mercedes-Benz S450, casting inadvertent glances at the woman surnamed Feng.

"That's my Aunt Feng."

Seeing Ye Fan looking at the woman surnamed Feng with a hint of curiosity, Situ Ruoshui spoke up, her expression a bit sullen.

Realizing the change in Situ Ruoshui's expression, Ye Fan instantly understood that Situ Ruoshui's Aunt Feng was Situ Chen's woman, and she was not of the same nature as a "canary."

Understanding this, Ye Fan shifted his gaze away and was the first to push open the car door and get out.

Situ Chen saw this and came forward with Situ Haotian and Feng Jing in tow.

"Uncle Situ."

A few seconds later, as they met, Ye Fan was the first to greet.

"Xiao Fan, you've already met Haotian, so I won't introduce him," Situ Chen said with a smile, then introduced, "This is your Aunt Feng."

"Aunt Feng."

Although Feng Jing appeared to be just in her early thirties, to show respect for Situ Chen, Ye Fan still addressed her as an aunt.

"Just call me sister."

Feng Jing smiled faintly, her demeanor very reserved. Combined with the dignified charm she radiated, it gave off the impression of an extremely virtuous woman.

"Haha, I used to ask Xiao Fan to call me 'big brother.' Xiao Fan said that since Ruoshui calls her brother, it would be confusing to follow that custom," Situ Chen said with a hearty laugh, then continued, "Xiao Jing, when Ruoshui went to Hanghu last time, it was all thanks to Xiao Fan's timely intervention, or else the consequences would have been unthinkable."

"Xiao Fan, I heard from your uncle about the incident that day. Haotian and Xiao Jiu were injured by Nanqinghong's people, and you stepped in just in time to save Ruoshui. To express my gratitude, you'll have to drink a few extra glasses today," Feng Jing said with an undiminished smile, assuming the role of the lady of the house.

This woman is not simple.

For some reason, seeing Feng Jing acting as the hostess in front of him and Situ Ruoshui, telling such a flawless story, Ye Fan had a vague feeling that she was not as virtuous as she appeared.

Click!

While Ye Fan was reassessing his opinion of Feng Jing, Situ Haotian felt a shock in his heart and internally cursed that Feng Jing had brought up precisely what shouldn't have been mentioned!

"By the way, Brother Haotian, I've been wanting to ask you," Situ Ruoshui suddenly recalled something and blurted out, "I remember that day at Lingyin Temple, when I was taken away, you and Brother Xiao Jiu didn't get hurt. Did you run into them again later?"

Whoosh!

Without answering, Situ Haotian's complexion turned ashen in an instant!

Because Situ Ruoshui had never mentioned that day's events before, Situ Haotian thought she had been too frightened to notice him and Xiao Jiu, but he hadn't expected that she had seen everything!

So that's how it is.

Previously, Ye Fan had been pondering why Situ Haotian harbored hostility toward him. He subconsciously thought it was because Situ Haotian feared he would take his place as the heir by being with Situ Ruoshui, in addition to Ye Fan's actions the previous day involving Situ Chen in offending Lv Canghai and losing the protection of the Dong Hai Gang.

Now, seeing Situ Haotian's complexion change drastically due to Situ Ruoshui's words, Ye Fan understood the trickery involved.

"Haotian, didn't you tell me that you and Xiao Jiu were injured by Qu Feng and his two associates, preventing you from stopping them from taking Ruoshui?" Just as Ye Fan guessed the trickery, the smile on Situ Chen's face vanished, and he asked Situ Haotian in a grave tone.

"Father, Qu Feng and his associates were too strong. Xiao Jiu and I were injured right from the start and couldn't stop them from taking Ruoshui. Perhaps she was too scared that day to see," Situ Haotian immediately bowed and answered, his heart racing, hardly holding his breath.

"Is that so?"

Situ Chen's face slowly turned cold, his tone filled with distrust.

"Haotian dares not deceive father!"

Feeling the undercurrent of Situ Chen's anger in his voice, Situ Haotian had no choice but to continue lying while pinning all his hopes on Ye Fan—so long as Ye Fan had not witnessed their confrontation, he could carry on with his deception.

Chapter 178: [The Plot is Revealed] Part 2 of 3

"Brother Chen, Haotian had always treated Ruoshui as a sister since they were young. If it wasn't for his injury, he definitely wouldn't have abandoned Ruoshui and run away," Feng Jing seemed to realize her mistake and hurriedly spoke in defense of Situ Haotian.

"Dinner should be ready, Xiao Fan, let's go in,"

Situ Chen closed his mouth and no longer discussed the matter, a smile returning to his face, though it was much more forced than before.

"Alright."

Ye Fan nodded with a smile, glancing at Feng Jing intentionally or unintentionally. His gaze seemed to penetrate all her pretenses, scaring Feng Jing to the point her heart almost stopped beating.

Meanwhile, Situ Haotian's face subtly turned pale, feeling his legs weaken.

Situ Chen had gone to great lengths to welcome Ye Fan, instructing the chef to prepare sixteen dishes, each dish complete with color, aroma, and flavor that made anyone's appetite surge.

However—

Due to what had just happened, except for Situ Ruoshui, everyone including Ye Fan had lost their appetite. The dinner wrapped up hastily in just one hour.

"Haotian, you stay downstairs with Aunt Feng and Ruoshui. Xiao Fan and I will discuss some matters in the study. After we finish, come find me in the study," after the meal, Situ Chen took the hot towel handed by a servant, wiped his mouth, and stood up to say.

"Yes, foster father!"

Situ Haotian responded immediately, his voice trembling slightly.

This detail made Situ Chen more convinced that Situ Haotian was lying. He didn't say much more but gestured for Ye Fan to follow him to the study.

"Xiao Fan, did you see Haotian fighting with the people from Nanqinghong that day?" Once in the study, Situ Chen asked straightforwardly.

"No."

Ye Fan shook his head. Although he disdained clearing the menace Situ Haotian posed in this manner and didn't care about Situ Haotian's hostility toward him, he still felt it necessary to be honest with Situ Chen—Situ Chen had proven his sincerity by standing by his side the previous night, even to the extent of breaking off with Lv Canghai; he must also be sincere to Situ Chen!

"What exactly happened?"

Although Situ Chen was somewhat prepared, his expression still turned extremely ugly after seeing Ye Fan shake his head.

Ye Fan pondered for a moment, then spoke truthfully: "At that moment, the people from Nanqinghong suddenly appeared, catching Situ Haotian and his men off guard, instantly killing your subordinates. Seeing the formidable strength of the opponents, Situ Haotian not only did not try to rescue Ruoshui, but also shouted to stop a young man named Xiao Jiu from saving Ruoshui, asking Xiao Jiu to escape with him instead."

"Smack—"

Hearing Ye Fan's words, Situ Chen shook violently with rage, slamming his palm on the solid redwood desk and breaking it into pieces.

"Situ Haotian, get up here!"

Being unable to cool his anger with just one desk-breaking slap, Situ Chen yelled furiously, his voice thundering through the entire villa.

Whoosh!

In the living room downstairs, Situ Haotian jumped up from the sofa upon hearing Situ Chen's roar, his complexion drastically changing!

He knew that what he had been most worried about had finally happened.

"Huff—"

Surprisingly, after his secret was exposed, Situ Haotian was not as nervous as before. He took a deep breath and, with heavy steps, walked toward the staircase.

Feng Jing, seeing this scene, felt a rush of worry wash over her. She tried to say something but seeing Situ Ruoshui nearby, she swallowed her words and simply looked anxiously at Situ Haotian, silently urging him to admit his mistake.

Ignoring Feng Jing's gaze, Situ Haotian grimaced as he went upstairs and directly approached the study door, knocking on it.

"Get in here!" Situ Chen's angry shout came once again from inside the study.

"Creak—"

With a light sound, the study door opened, Situ Chen gritted his teeth and walked in.

"I told you to ensure Ruoshui's safety, but instead, you ran into danger and not only refrained from taking action to save your own life but also stopped Xiao Jiu from rescuing Ruoshui!" Situ Chen became more enraged by the minute, grabbing a teacup from the desk, hurling it at Situ Haotian.

"Bang—"

A dull sound emanated; the water cup shattered into pieces, and Situ Haotian's forehead was struck, leaving a bloody gash.

"Thump—"

Ignoring the pain in his forehead, Situ Haotian instantly knelt to the ground, admitting his fault, "Foster father, I'm sorry, I shouldn't have abandoned Ruoshui and even more shouldn't have stopped Xiao Jiu from rescuing Ruoshui!"

"If you were just avoiding the sharp edges of those Nanqinghong people, that would have been one thing!"

Upon saying this, Situ Chen, unable to contain his rage, leaped from his chair and walked up to Situ Haotian, "But... you didn't! You didn't even think about saving Ruoshui. Instead, to avoid my blame, you actually deceived me by self-harm! Your thoughts are indeed meticulous!"

"I..."

"Slap—"

This time, before Situ Haotian could explain, Situ Chen promptly delivered a slap, knocking Situ Haotian to the ground.

"I had originally hoped to entrust Dong Hai Gang to you in the future, to ensure Ruoshui's safety. Now, it seems, that was a huge joke!"

Situ Chen furiously continued, "I fear that once I die, you wouldn't care about Ruoshui's life or death, and you might even try to seize Ruoshui's assets!"

"Haotian wouldn't dare!"

Situ Haotian trembled as he lay on the ground, hastily shaking his head, trying to calm Situ Chen's anger with this gesture.

"Enough, even if I, Situ Chen, am blind and have raised a thankless wretch like you!"

Upon hearing this, Situ Chen wanted to kick Situ Haotian away, but ultimately didn't have the heart to do so. Instead, he coldly said, "Let this matter rest. From now on, our ties of kindness and righteousness are severed. You get out of Dong Hai!"

"Foster... foster father!"

Seeing Situ Chen about to sever their relationship, Situ Haotian was scared out of his wits. He knew very well that losing the identity of the Crown Prince of Dong Hai Gang meant not only would he lose his current luxurious life, but surviving at all would be questionable—Nanqinghong would definitely not let him go!

Realizing all this, Situ Haotian, like a groveling dog, scuffled forward and clung to Situ Chen's legs, pleading desperately, "Foster... foster father, Haotian knows his wrongs, please give Haotian another chance..."

"Get out!!"

Situ Chen bellowed angrily and kicked out, striking Situ Haotian squarely in the chest. However, due to his lingering affection, he didn't use his full strength.

Even so, Situ Haotian was sent flying by the kick, his body crashing into the door of the study with a loud clang.

Under the lamplight, Situ Haotian's face was covered in blood, but he did not wipe it away. Instead, he pleaded again, "Foster... foster father..."

"If you don't get out now, don't blame me for being ruthless!"

Situ Chen was resolute. Since the death of Situ Ruoshui's mother, Ruoshui had become the apple of his eye, his most precious treasure. He could tolerate Situ Haotian fleeing to save his own life, but he could not bear Situ Haotian preventing Xiao Jiu from rescuing Situ Ruoshui!

"Uh..."

Realizing Situ Chen's determination, Situ Haotian clamped his mouth shut.

He did not continue pleading with Situ Chen, but instead, like a soulless being, mechanically got up from the ground and under the furious glare of Situ Chen, he turned and walked out of the study.

However—

As he stepped out of the study, Situ Haotian's facial muscles twisted contortively, his eyes emitting a bloodthirsty gleam, his entire demeanor resembling an evil ghost come to claim lives, chilling to the core!

Chapter 179: [Affair Exposed, Survival from Desperation]

Before the real estate myth of Purple Garden and Tan Palace took Dong hai and even Huaxia by storm, the fancy western-style houses in Jing'an District, at the heart of Dong hai City, were always the favorites of the wealthy.

It was once the western part of the Dong hai Public Concession, named after the ancient Jing'an Temple within its district. It was the only central urban area in Dong hai with all its territories inside the inner ring. The essence of urban life permeated it, with a highly developed modern commerce, convergence of Chinese and Western cultures, long historical context, beautiful city environment, and rapid information and transportation.

Now, with the development of the times, the wealthy began to seek pastoral life, no longer keen on the bustling city center, and moved into affluent neighborhoods like Purple Garden and Tan Palace that paid more attention to the environment. As a result, the fame of Jing'an District's western-style houses was not as great as before, but they were still beloved by some wealthy women.

As the woman of Situ Chen, Feng Jing was among the top of wealthy women. Like many other wealthy women, she was very fond of the western-style houses in Jing'an District, but regretfully, since Situ Chen disliked the noisy environment, she could only live with him in Ao Xiang Villa, known throughout Dong hai, and most of the time she was alone.

Two years ago, after discovering Feng Jing's wish, Situ Haotian secretly used his private funds, under someone else's name, to buy a western-style house in Jing'an District as a birthday present for Feng Jing without telling Situ Chen.

That day, Feng Jing was originally downcast because Situ Chen had gone to Nangang to discuss business and had no time to celebrate her birthday. After receiving the gift from Situ Chen, she was as happy as a child and went to see the house immediately.

It was also on that day, after drinking heavily with Situ Haotian in that western-style house, the two of them took advantage of their drunkenness to have an affair, and it continued to this day — whenever Situ Chen was not in Dong hai, the two of them would make love in the western-style house.

Three days after Situ Haotian broke off relations with Situ Chen, in the evening, upon learning that Situ Chen had gone to Nansu, Feng Jing drove alone to the western-style house in Jing'an District.

In the night, Feng Jing parked her car at the entrance of the western-style house just like usual, looked around for a while to make sure that no one was following her, then opened the car door and got out, walked briskly to the entrance of the western-style house, opened the electronic iron gate, and entered the courtyard.

Upstairs in the bedroom of the western-style house, Situ Haotian saw this scene and his expression changed unpredictably. He then drew a dagger from his waist and quickly walked towards the living room on the first floor.

A minute later, Feng Jing arrived at the entrance of the living room, opened the door, entered quickly like a thief, and closed the living room door behind her.

"Ah——"

As she entered the living room and was about to turn on the light, Feng Jing suddenly realized that a gleaming dagger was pressed against her snowy neck, sending a chilling coldness that made her scream.

"Haotian, is that you?"

After the outburst, Feng Jing suddenly smelled that once-addictive masculine scent, and the fear on her face vanished, replaced by excitement and exhilaration as she tried to turn around to see for herself.

"You'd better not move!"

Situ Haotian spoke with an indifferent tone, without withdrawing the dagger, as if the person in front of him was not the woman he was infatuated with, but an enemy.

"You..."

"What are you doing here? Are you here to help that old bastard Situ Chen catch me?"

Feng Jing attempted to say something but was coldly interrupted by Situ Haotian, his voice filled with endless hatred, to the extent that he referred to Situ Chen, who had raised him for over a decade, as an old bastard.

"No... It's not like that!"

Feng Jing quickly denied it, saying, "Haotian, you know how much I love you, how could I possibly do that?"

"Love?" Situ Haotian said with a bitter laughter, "You have the nerve to say you love me? Your love for me is to secretly assist outsiders and make me flee Dong hai Gang like a stray dog?"

"Haotian, it wasn't on purpose, I just went along with what Situ Chen said at that time, I didn't expect..." Feng Jing choked up as she spoke, tears slowly rolling down, "I'm sorry, it was me who caused your downfall!"

Hearing Feng Jing's emotional words and feeling her love and regret, Situ Haotian determined that she was not there to help Situ Chen catch him, so he let go of Feng Jing and turned to walk toward the sofa.

"Haotian... Haotian!"

Feng Jing cried out and followed him, hugging Situ Haotian from behind as if she feared he would disappear.

"I have already severed ties with Situ Chen and left the Dong hai Gang like a stray dog. What are you doing here? Aren't you afraid that Situ Chen will find out and get rid of you too?"

Feeling Feng Jing's familiar and soft body, Situ Haotian laughed at himself. To his knowledge, on the night he was ousted from Dong hai Gang, Xiao Jiu was executed by Situ Chen, and the others who had once followed him outright denied knowing him, bluntly stating that if he didn't leave Dong hai, he would be on a path to death.

All this deepened his understanding of the cruelty of the world and fueled his hatred for Situ Chen and Ye Fan to an extreme!

"I miss you, and I worry about you, so I wanted to come and see if you were here," Feng Jing held tight to Situ Haotian, whispering, "Situ Chen has gone to Nansu."

"What's he doing in Nansu?" Situ Haotian asked subconsciously.

"He's planning to hold a shareholders' meeting in the third quarter. He went there especially to notify shareholders from Nansu, Jiangnan, and other places, and to inspect the business there," Feng Jing replied truthfully.

"Hehe... Hehehe... Hehehehe..."

Upon hearing Feng Jing's words, Situ Haotian couldn't help but laugh out loud, a laugh mixed with desolation and a hint of sinister, "I can't believe I forgot something so important. Oh, that's right, I'm no longer a member of Dong hai Gang."

"Haotian... Haotian, let's leave Dong hai!" Feng Jing pressed her cheek against Situ Haotian's back, speaking softly.

"Where are you going?"

Not only was Situ Haotian not moved by Feng Jing's love, but he also felt a deep hatred, "No matter where I go, I'm on a dead-end road!"

"I'm sorry..."

Feng Jing felt a pain in her chest and then, uncontrollably, moved in front of Situ Haotian, gazing at his gloomy face she said, "It's all my fault that I've harmed you."

"What's the use of 'sorry' after everything has happened?" Situ Haotian sat on the sofa irritably, picked up a cigarette, lit it, and took a deep drag.

"Haotian, I know you're feeling really upset and angry, let me help you relax," said Feng Jing, her heart stirred, and she obediently squatted down in front of Situ Haotian, her skilled hand reaching for his belt.

Seeing Feng Jing's tearful face and glimpses of her pale cleavage, Situ Haotian felt a burning desire in his lower abdomen. He remained silent as if acquiescing to Feng Jing's suggestion.

Seeing that Situ Haotian did not object, Feng Jing was overjoyed. She adeptly removed his belt, gently pulled down his trousers and her delicate hand grasped the large bird beneath Situ Haotian, caressing it gently while she leaned forward, opening her pink lips...

Feeling the moist, soft sensation below, Situ Haotian closed his eyes in comfort, thoroughly enjoying himself.

After about ten minutes, Situ Haotian suddenly opened his eyes, stood up, grabbed Feng Jing's hair, and pressed her head down, attacking like an enraged beast gone wild.

It seemed that he wanted to vent all his inner rage and hatred in this way!

"Slap slap—"

Suddenly, before Situ Haotian was able to vent his feelings, applause filled with the stench of decay echoed in the large hall.

Whoosh!

The unexpected applause, like demonic sounds from hell, assaulted Situ Haotian's consciousness, causing his face to pale and his actions to halt. He instinctively turned his gaze toward the source of the sound and saw a blurred figure standing at the top of the stairs.

"Ah—"

At the same time, Feng Jing also saw the blurred figure, and the desire on her face instantly turned to fear, and she fainted in terror.

Thud!

The large bird underneath Situ Haotian quickly shrank, his Adam's apple bobbed as he tried to say something but found his mind utterly blank.

"Being kicked out of the Dong hai Gang by Situ Chen, you then turn around and screw Situ Chen's woman. Situ Haotian, you surely play the role of an adopted son in an extraordinary way," said the voice's owner as he slowly walked towards Situ Haotian, the once-blurred figure now becoming clear in Situ Haotian's eyes.

"Who... who are you?" Situ Haotian asked nervously.

"I think, even if Situ Chen was incredibly righteous, upon learning of this matter, he would still put you two adulterous lovers to death," the newcomer replied, sidestepping the question with a tone that seemed casual but was filled with menace.

"Heh, go tell Situ Chen if you want to!"

Perhaps knowing he was on a dead-end road, hearing the newcomer's threat, Situ Haotian was not scared but rather his hatred was ignited. With a disdainful smile, he said, "After all, I'm already on a dead-end road. If I could infuriate that old coot Situ Chen to death before I die, it would not be a wrongful death at all!"

"Hm?"

Hearing Situ Haotian's hateful words, the newcomer flinched, then pondered while looking at Situ Haotian, and asked, "Situ Chen raised you for over a decade, even planned to hand over his empire to you, yet now you hate him so much after being outsmarted and kicked out of the Dong hai Gang. Isn't that a bit too cold-blooded?"

"Cold-blooded?"

Situ Haotian laughed coldly, "In the eyes of outsiders, I am his adopted son, the successor to the Dong hai Gang. But in truth, I am not even comparable to a single hair on his daughter Situ Ruoshui's head—what am I, after all?"

This time, the newcomer did not respond, seeming to judge the truthfulness of Situ Haotian's words.

"I know, you're just an old bastard sent by Situ Chen to kill me. There's no need to scare me; just get on with it!" Seeing that the newcomer was silent, Situ Haotian said mockingly, as if he was not afraid of dying.

"What if I told you that not only will I not kill you, but I will also make you replace Situ Chen as the godfather of the underworld in both Dong hai City and the entire Yangtze River Delta? Would you believe that?" The newcomer suddenly grinned, not wasting any more words with Situ Haotian, and got straight to the point.

"Uh..."

Situ Haotian was taken aback upon hearing this, then stared at the newcomer as if he saw a freak, "You... you're saying you'll let me replace Situ Chen as the godfather of the underworld in the Yangtze River Delta region??"

"Not only that, but I can also make you a Half-step Innate Warrior!" the newcomer said proudly.

"You... who exactly are you??"

Situ Haotian was shocked, although he found the newcomer's words to be absurd, the last bit of his rationality told him that the other party wouldn't sneak in here in the middle of the night just to joke with him.

Chapter 180: [The Conspiracy Begins] Vote for Monthly Ticket!!!

"Huang Qi."

The newcomer spoke slowly, with a proud demeanor.

Huang Qi?

Upon hearing the name, Situ Haotian was momentarily stunned, and then his brain rapidly churned, searching through his memory for any information related to this name.

"You... you're Huang Qi, the elder of the Hongwu Sect?"

A dozen seconds later, Situ Haotian found the memories about Huang Qi, and he asked with slight shock.

Having once been the Crown Prince of the Dong Hai Gang, Situ Haotian was not only intimately familiar with the key figures of Nanqinghong but also had some understanding of the closely associated Hongwu Sect. He knew that the Hongwu Sect had an elder named Huang Qi, who was responsible for the sect's mundane affairs.

"I didn't expect you to know about me."

This time, it was Huang Qi's turn to be surprised. Although he was in charge of the sect's external affairs, he rarely made appearances in the secular world and primarily maintained contact only with Lin Tianyi from Nanqinghong.

"Hmm, I happened to see your profile by chance."

Knowing the identity of the other party, Situ Haotian thoughtfully looked at Huang Qi and said, "If I'm not mistaken, you came looking for me as part of Lin Tianyi's arrangement. You plan to use me to take control of the Dong Hai Gang and submit to Nanqinghong."

"That's just one of the objectives."

Huang Qi shook his head with slight dissatisfaction, reminding, "Young man, being too conceited is not a good thing. In a while, I'll naturally tell you what to do."

"How can you guarantee everything you have just said?" Situ Haotian ignored Huang Qi's dissatisfaction and instead asked about what he was most concerned about.

Huang Qi smiled faintly, "Young man, do you think you still have the right to negotiate terms?"

"Then why are you looking for me?"

Situ Haotian's face turned somewhat ugly. Now that he had lost the halo of being the Crown Prince of the Dong Hai Gang, he was nothing more than a defeated dog.

"I'm not looking for you. It's merely by chance that Lin Tianyi chose you to be a pawn," said Huang Qi. "Enough chitchat, let's get to empowering you and enhancing your strength."

"Really... Can you really perform empowerment?"

Upon hearing this, Situ Haotian immediately brightened up, though he was somewhat skeptical. Ever since he had become the adopted son of Situ Chen, he had been practicing martial arts with him, and he faintly remembered Situ Chen's personal bodyguard, Fei Si, mentioning that 'empowerment' was a miraculous secret technique in the Martial Arts World—martial experts could transfer their own power to another person through empowerment, greatly enhancing the recipient's strength in a short period.

Moreover, he heard from Fei Si that although empowerment could enhance a martial artist's strength in a short term, the empowered martial artist would bear the mark of the one who gave the empowerment. Except for those with great willpower and wisdom, most empowered martial artists would reach a plateau. Additionally, the empowering martial expert would also suffer a setback in his own strength.

"The wonders of martial arts are not something that you, a commoner, can comprehend," Huang Qi said with a disdainful look at Situ Haotian. He then took out a medicinal pill and said, "Swallow this pill and then use your power to catalyze it. Once it starts taking effect, sit cross-legged on the floor and focus your consciousness."

"What is this pill?" Situ Haotian was puzzled.

"Protective Body Pill."

Huang Qi replied impatiently, "Once you consume the Protective Body Pill, its medicinal power will protect your meridians, Dantian, and internal organs, ensuring that they are not damaged by the power I will infuse into your body."

"I see..."

Upon hearing Huang Qi's explanation, Situ Haotian's eyes lit up, and he quickly took the pill, swallowing it without hesitation, then sat cross-legged on the ground as Huang Qi had instructed, channeling his power to catalyze the medicinal properties.

Watching this scene, Huang Qi thought for a moment and then walked straight to Feng Jing, who was fainted behind him, and gently tapped the back of her head.

"You... you killed her?" Situ Haotian was startled.

"I merely let her stay unconscious a little longer," Huang Qi frowned and replied. "Kid, you better be quick, my patience is limited."

Seeing that Huang Qi was getting annoyed, Situ Haotian no longer wasted time talking. He quickly shut his mouth and continued to catalyze the medicinal power.

Gradually, Situ Haotian felt a warm stream flowing along his meridians, enveloping his meridians, Dantian, and internal organs like a protective layer.

"Master Huang, the medicinal power has taken effect," noting the changes within his body, Situ Haotian no longer doubted what Huang Qi had said, and his address for Huang Qi became respectful.

"You sure know how to play it by ear, no wonder Lin Tianyi chose you," Huang Qi snorted and took two steps forward. He swept his hands outward and a surge of Qi suddenly formed around him, enveloping both him and Situ Haotian.

"Focus your consciousness!"

Huang Qi gave a low shout and then, with a move of his mind, a torrential surge of power instantly flowed from the palms of his hands, entering Situ Haotian's body through the 'Tong Tian Point' on top of his head.

Feeling the strong power entering his body, Situ Haotian was delighted and hurriedly did as Huang Qi said, fixing his eyes on his nose, his nose on his heart, focusing his consciousness, and wholeheartedly embracing the empowerment.

"Hoo~"

About an hour later, Huang Qi let out a deep breath and then withdrew his hands.

Whoosh—

As his hands were retracted, the surrounding Qi flow instantly dispersed, his pores opened up, and sweat poured out, soaking his clothes in an instant.

At the same time, Situ Haotian continued to sit cross-legged, assimilating the power that had been infused into him.

Swish!

After an indeterminate amount of time, Situ Haotian suddenly opened his eyes, which had been dull and lifeless, now shining brightly, and his gaze was as sharp as a dagger.

"Such powerful strength!"

Feeling the surging power within, Situ Haotian was initially startled, then like a common man who had suddenly won five million, he began to laugh wildly, "Haha, I never thought that I, Situ Haotian, would become so strong one day!"

"Bang—"

As his voice fell, Situ Haotian clenched his right hand into a fist and violently pounded the ground!

"Crack——"

With one punch, his power surged forth, not only shattering the floor tile but also cracking the concrete beneath it, creating a fist-sized black hole.

"Situ Chen, if you knew how strong I've become now, wouldn't you be green with regret?"

Seeing the power of his own punch, Situ Haotian was again shocked, but then he sneered, "Not only will I make you regret to the core, but I will also personally send you to Yama Palace!"

"Lin Tianyi said you are a Bai Yan wolf, and it seems he was not at all wrong."

Hearing the intense hatred in Situ Haotian's words, Huang Qi couldn't help but sigh, and then reminded, "To enhance your strength, I lost a 'Protective Pill', and even regressed from the Innate Great Success Realm back to the Early Innate Realm—the cost is not just for the head of Situ Chen. If it was only for Situ Chen's head, why would I go to such lengths?"

"Master Huang, I understand."

Situ Haotian immediately dropped his smug demeanor, and respectfully said, "You just mentioned that replacing Situ Chen and taking control of Dong hai Gang to subjugate Nanqinghong is only one of the goals. What else do you want me to do?"

"According to the information we've got, that little bastard Ye Fan is close to Situ Chen, he even offended Lv Canghai, the person in charge of the Yanhuang Organization in dong hai, for Situ Chen's sake, right?" Huang Qi asked in return.

"Yes!"

Hearing the name Ye Fan, Situ Haotian was so filled with hatred that the killing intent flashed in his eyes, "If it weren't for that little bastard, I wouldn't have been chased out of Dong hai Gang like a stray dog!"

"Of course, I also wouldn't have stumbled into fortune!"

Having said that, Situ Haotian immediately realized his slip of the tongue and quickly corrected himself.

"You're quite aware of the situation. I won't hide it from you, even if you hadn't been driven out of Dong hai Gang, you were still chosen by Lin Tianyi as a pawn." Huang Qi said, "It's just that the current situation is more favorable for you to do some things!"

Uh?

Situ Haotian looked puzzled, and then, glancing at Feng Jing who was unconscious on the floor, he suddenly realized: Lin Tianyi had long discovered his affair with Feng Jing and could use that to blackmail him into betraying Situ Chen!

"Master Huang, do you intend for me to deal with that little bastard Ye Fan?"

Once he understood this, Situ Haotian thought of the genius Yang Qing of Hongwu Sect and Lin Ao Feng, the son of Lin Tianyi, who had both fallen at Ye Fan's hands, immediately guessing something.

"Correct! If it weren't to deal with that little bastard and to avenge Yang Qing, the disciple of my Sect Leader, even if Lin Tianyi chose you as a pawn, I wouldn't have empowered you!" Huang Qi nodded in confirmation, thought for a moment, and didn't reveal the ultimate goal to Situ Haotian; he was afraid it would scare Situ Haotian!

"Master Huang, what should I do?" Situ Haotian respectfully asked, as if he were willing to climb a mountain of knives or descend into a sea of flames at Huang Qi's command!

"The entire plan is in here, take a look for yourself." Huang Qi reached into his chest and handed an envelope to Situ Haotian.

Situ Haotian hurriedly took it, opened the envelope, took out two pieces of paper from inside, and under the moonlight streaming through the window, carefully began to read.

"Uh..."

After a moment, Situ Haotian had read through the entire plan, and his expression turned extremely bizarre. His mouth agape, he tried to ask something.

"Don't ask what you shouldn't, just follow the plan." Huang Qi said and then warned, "Also, I need to remind you, don't even think about betraying us. It would lead to a very miserable end for you!"

As the words fell, a terrifying killing intent emerged from Huang Qi and enveloped Situ Haotian.

"I wouldn't dare!"

Situ Haotian frightfully knelt on the ground, displaying loyalty like a groveling dog.

Seeing this, Huang Qi quietly withdrew his killing aura.

"Phew~"

As Huang Qi retracted his aura, Situ Haotian felt a weight lift from his heart, but he didn't dare to rise.

Scowling at Feng Jing, Huang Qi asked, "What do you plan to do with this woman?"

"Master Huang, rest assured, to the outside world she may be Situ Chen's woman, but her heart has already been captured by me. Not to mention keeping secrets for me, she would likely be willing to die alongside me if I asked!" Situ Haotian confidently proclaimed.

"That's good."

Hearing this, and recalling how Situ Haotian had previously conversed and been intimate with Feng Jing, Huang Qi stopped worrying. He turned and walked toward the door, "There are only five days left until October 1st. Execute the plan immediately, and remember, you must not let Situ Chen sense any hint of activity, otherwise I will personally twist off your head!"

"Please be assured, Master Huang, I will definitely complete the task you've assigned to perfection!"

While still on his knees, Situ Haotian promised fervently, and only after Huang Qi's figure disappeared did he allow himself to sneer, thinking of the plan he had just read, "Old Bastard Situ, October 1st will become your day of death, and the same goes for that bastard Ye Fan's nightmare!!"