







"You're right," Bill agreed, nodding slowly. "We'll make a trip to the Chu residence to propose an alliance. This is a debt that must be paid with blood."

Without further ado, the men made their way to Mount Chumen to meet Chu Zhengliang.

They were adamant on obtaining the support of Chu Sect to attack Ye Fan.

"He killed my daughter," Bill growled in the vehicle, over and over again. "In doing so, he has made a mortal enemy out of the Jones family."

Their limousine soon rolled to a halt at the foot of the hill as it could travel no further upward.

As soon as the men opened the doors to prepare to ascend the mountain on foot, the chilly ambience in the air quickly discouraged the notion.

"Don't you find it oddly cold today, Dad?" Michael asked he cast a wary eye about.

Bill fervently agreed with his son as his teeth chattered. He could not help but notice that even breathing soon became a labored activity.

It feels like the weight of a mountain crushing down on my chest.

As the Jones' stood uncertainly as they debated whether or not they should proceed, a silhouette









appeared not too far away.

Though appearing no bigger than a speck initially, Michael and Bill failed to repress their shudders from the figure's demonic aura as it approached.

They had also discovered that it was from that figure that the chill that permeated their bones emitted as it bristled with murderous intent.

Leaving a trail of dense, suffocating air in its wake, the grass where it trod turned to sharp icicles.

"Is that..." Bill's voice trailed off fearfully at the sight of such an evil presence.

When the figure was close enough to be recognized, the Jones froze in shock.

"Chu... Chu Tianfan?"

"How could it be him?"

"What's he doing here?"

"Is he going to storm up Mount Chumen again?"

Bill and Michael stared in disbelief, not expecting to find their mortal enemy at the very location they were heading to conspire against him.

"What are you doing here?" Bill demanded with as brave of a voice he could muster.

Ye Fan did not seem to have heard them. In fact,









his stride did not even falter.

Under the terrified gaze of the Jones', the younger man continued upward with his sword rattling in its scabbard.

With a placid sense of cruel purpose, he trudged up the mountain.

"What is Chu Tianfan doing here, Michael?" Bill turned to his son in terror. "Could he be here to admit his transgressions?"

"I don't know, Dad." Michael shook his head. "He might be."

More than anything else, they concocted that assumption as a means to reassure themselves. One look at his impassive face was all that was needed to convince them that Ye Fan was not in an apologetic mood.

Anybody could tell that that man only has murder on his mind.

Under the stupefied gaze of the Jones', Ye Fan arrived at the entrance before a pair of guards of Chu Sect. They stood guarding a new set of doors that replaced the ones that he had knocked down a month ago.

Ye Fan's approach interrupted their conversation regarding the matter of members of the Chu family heading to China to apologize to Ye Fan.















Before long, they caught sight of the subject of their conversation appearing once again at Mount Chumen.

"You again!" The guards gave a violent shudder. "We have already apologized to you. What more do you want?"

Ye Fan responded by slowly raising his head and allowing the guards to catch a glimpse of the fury in his eyes.

"Blood for blood!" he declared before reaching for his sword.

In a flash, the decapitated heads of the guards fell to the ground with two sickening thuds.

The Jones recoiled in horror.

A second later, the newly repaired doors turned into dust from another swipe of the Sword of Yunyang.

Bill was visibly shaken by the manner in which Ye Fan had proclaimed war.

The Jones stared at each other, faces pale with fright. An indescribable sense of fear enveloped them.

By that point, it had become abundantly clear to them that Ye Fan had returned to Mount Chumen to commit another bout of genocide.









"What do we do, Dad? Are we still going to propose an alliance with them?"

Bill had lost all sense of self-control at the sight of the bloodstained grounds of Mount Chumen's entrance and of the malevolent figure slowly ascending the stairs.

"Change of plans! Hurry up and contact our banners! Gather our strongest warriors and have them meet us here at Mount Chumen. War has already begun!"

Unlike his son, Bill was well-versed in the ways of the world. Very quickly, the elder Jones had grasped the gravity of the situation.

Ye Fan's act of slaughtering his way up Mount Chumen is no less than an open declaration of war! The only thing left to do is await Tang Yun's order to arm ourselves!

As the Jones scrambled to contact their kin, Ye Fan was making his way steadily up the mountain along a perilous path of loose gravel and narrow crevices.

Striding through the pulverized door behind him, he had trod onward with the warm blood of the guards beneath his feet. In his hand was the once dormant Sword of Yunyang, ready to serve the will of a new master after centuries of slumber.

Ye Fan dragged the sword as he walked, sending up sparks and carving the path half a foot deep in









his wake.

"Stay where you are!"

"Who goes there?"

"Trespasser! How dare you defile our hallowed grounds!"

Warriors of the Chu Sect quickly gathered at the sound of the disturbance below the mountain before freezing in shock.

"You again, Chu Tianfan!"

"Haven't you caused enough damage during your last visit?"

"Stay where you are!"

"Ms. Tang has decreed that any uninvited guests will be slain, no exceptions!"

"Here is one last chance for you to return from whence you came, or we will cut you to pieces!"

The defenders of the mountain did not engage in battle immediately. Instead, they issued a warning beforehand.

After all, the events that had occurred a month ago were still fresh on their minds.









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The members of Chu Sect vividly recalled how the intruder who stood before them had nearly stomped Chu Qitian to death.

It was rumored that the injury was so grievous that he was still recuperating despite it being already a month. Even his survival was not yet certain.

The defenders who had gathered were hoping that they would have been able to force Ye Fan to retreat at the threat of Tang Yun's involvement alone.

If they could help it, they would not wish to have to engage in combat against Ye Fan.

Ye Fan did not seem fazed by the resistance he was met with.

With an almighty stomp, a shockwave sent the dozen who stood closest to him flying backward.

"Stand in my way again and you shall die a painful death!" Ye Fan bellowed.

The fury in his voice was so immense that the surrounding rocks rumbled ominously from the resonance of the force.

From that mere demonstration of power, the terrified defenders concurred that Ye Fan's position atop the Sky Ranking alongside Tang Yun was well deserved.

Even his voice commanded such presence.









In an instant, the defenders that were dispatched to halt his ascension felt a stab of intense fear.

Despite being a couple of dozen out of thousands of followers of the most powerful house in the world surrounding a single measly-armed man, the defenders found themselves hesitant to step forth.

Every single one of them took an uncertain step backward, their faces wary and frightened.

Any observer who stood beneath Mount Chumen at that moment would have had their eyes clasped upon a strange scene.

An intimidating group of armed warriors being forced backward by the advance of a solitary young man.

It looks more like Ye Fan single-handedly surrounding Chu Sect instead of it being the other way around!

"What are you all standing around for?" a voice yelled. "Imbeciles! Look around, you have him heavily outnumbered! If that's not enough, Tang Yun and Chu Yuan have your back! The leader of the Sky Ranking and a warrior of the god realm to boot. What the hell are you afraid of? Go!"

Chu Shen had encountered the confrontation upon his descent down the mountain. After regaining his composure after his initial surprise at Ye Fan's reappearance atop Mount Chumen, he yelled in













consternation at the cowardice of his men.

"Go, you fools!" he roared, incensed by the men's hesitation. "I will inform Ms. Tang at once and backup will be along shortly!"

Without another word, Chu Shen turned around and ran back up the steps.

As Chu Yuan had shut himself away in solitary training, the other person who came to Chu Shen's mind was Tang Yun, the leader of Chu Sect.

"He's right, you know."

"Why should we be afraid of him?"

"We are fighting for Chu Sect! Ms. Tang and Chu Yuan have our backs."

"Let's charge at him together!"

"Block his path!"

Earlier, fear had worked its way into the crowd. Naturally, courage had the potential to do the same.

After Chu Shen's rallying cry, the braver ones who were most affected stood out and instigated the rest.

With their shouts of encouragement at each other, the rest once again fell into the rhythm of battle.









Soon, the hundreds of fighters that had gathered to defend Mount Chumen against the invader found the fear that had inhibited their movements a moment ago replaced by an insatiable thirst for the intruder's blood.

With a battle cry, they dashed toward Ye Fan with their weapons raised who in an instant found himself surrounded.

Despite being faced with a dense wall of welltrained warriors who were shouting for his blood, he felt no fear.

Throughout the entire time, he did not utter a word.

Only the glint of his sword and his brimming malice displayed any signs of his emotions.

With another swipe of the sword, the earth, scarcely dried from Ye Fan's last visit, was once again stained by a splatter of crimson.

The trickle of blood that flowed down Mount Chumen soon turned into a river.

The wails of pain and clanging of weaponry echoed horribly in the mountains.

Michael and Bill, who stood at the foot of Mount Chumen as they awaited reinforcements, felt their terror rise again at the sight and sounds that greeted them.















"It... it looks like the gates of hell, Dad," Michael stammered as he stood transfixed with horror.

Mount Chumen? More like gates of hell! The path is littered with bodies!

Meanwhile, the horrors atop Mount Chumen were not yet known an ocean away in Jiangdong.

Within the Ye residence in Jingzhou, Gaius and the rest had not been able to come to an agreement upon a plan to take on Chu Sect after many days of discussion.

"Without the assistance of Moon God, we might not be able to survive the attempt," Gaius concluded gloomily. "We've seen what Chu Yuan can do. He's more than capable of taking all of us on his own. Furthermore, he will have the assistance of Tang Yun, the current head of Chu Sect, and all of the Chu elders. If you factor in his disciples, he's got an entire army. It's too vast of a gap between our forces and his."

Before, many were under the impression that Chu Sect's fame was mostly exaggerated.

It was only after their altercation with Chu Sect that Gaius and the rest learned that the reputation of Chu Sect as the most powerful force in the world of martial arts was well earned.

Even a global alliance would not be able to withstand the full force of an assault from Chu Sect. What hope do the Dragon Slayers from Dragon









God Hall have?

"What do we do? Shall we advise Dragon Master against it?" Gaius continued, looking thoroughly dejected. "He could bide time to recuperate or perhaps undergo training! How about attempting another siege of Chu Sect once Dragon Master attains god realm? Wouldn't that be safer?"

We're lucky to have survived the previous attempt. There's no need to throw our lives away haphazardly!

Owen disagreed. "Knowing Dragon Master, he would probably be on his way there as we speak. Given his impatience, I don't think you would be able to convince him to wait more than a week before he decides to launch another attack. Are you suggesting that he goes into hiding for another ten years? The young lady had her eyes gouged out by the Chu family, for God's sake! Any man whose beloved friend had gone through such an ordeal would do the same to avenge her! Would you be able to keep calm in their shoes, Gaius?"

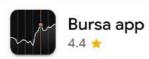
Even I, who am more level-headed than Dragon Master, would not stand idly by and allow an innocent girl to be mutilated in such a brutal manner!

Gaius appeared incensed by Owen's anger. "I would," he answered stubbornly.

The others were dumbstruck by their comrade's answer.









"How dare you call yourself a man, Gaius?"

Sparing one last disgusted glance at Gaius, Owen stood up and walked out.

"Let's go and have a word with Dragon Master. If a war is inevitable, we could go to Japan and seek for Moon God's help. With our combined forces, there is a better hope than before in making a dent on Mount Chumen."

"Chu Sect has reigned long enough," Owen continued grimly. "It's time for a change."

As if reaching an unspoken agreement, all four Dragon Slayers stood up and nodded at each other to reaffirm their mutual decision.

Gaius, on the other hand, remained seated on the couch.

"Dragon Master may be young and reckless," he said quietly when the others stared at him, aghast. "Are you? Enough to follow him blindly down the same dangerous path? War, you say? People will die! How many times do you think Chu Sect's supremacy had been challenged over the eons? Care to venture a guess as to what happened to their rebellion? I'll give you a hint. Chu Sect remains standing to this day, and you don't even know the names of the rebels, do you? I know you don't like hearing it, but Chu Sect's dominance has stood the test of time. I've lived a long life, boys. I do not mind dying for a good cause. But you are still young! Dragon Master is still young! He







doesn't even have a son yet! Could you bear for his legacy to be extinguished at so young an age? For his name to be forgotten?"



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"If it were me, I would try not to fight. Even if I want to fight, I will wait until we have a perfect plan. It is equal to committing suicide if we fight now."

Gaius sat on the couch and kept shaking his head.

Upon hearing that, Owen stomped his feet in exasperation. "That's enough. Stop using Dragon Master as the excuse. We all know you are the one who is afraid of death. Dragon Master is not a coward like you, and we understand that he is doing all this for her. Plus, even if we don't start a fight, do you think the Chu family will let us go? They have said that they would attack China in a few days. They even said that they would kill the entire family of Dragon Master. It is beyond our control now. There is no way Dragon Master can escape from this."

Owen's tone was extremely stern.

They were aware that Ye Fan was forced into making such a dangerous situation.

Ye Fan wanted to wait for himself to enter the god realm before facing Chu Yuan. Nonetheless, the Chu family and the Chu Sect would not allow that.

It seemed like a harsh move from Ye Fan to challenge the Chu family.

However, it might actually be his smartest move.

It was better than waiting and becoming a sitting duck.









If Ye Fan waited until the Chu family was well prepared, he would lose all the chances to win.

The sudden attack would leave the enemies floundering in panic.

Hence, after discussing for days, Dragon Slayers from Dragon God Hall agreed to launch another attack at Mount Chumen.

Only Gaius had a different stand.

"Please don't look at me like that. You sound like I am a traitor. I was merely expressing my opinion. I will obey whatever decision made by Dragon Master."

Facing those contemptuous gazes around him, Gaius immediately spread his hands and defended himself.

"All right. Cut the crap. Let's find Dragon Master now. Let's see what his final decision is."

Even though Owen and the others had discussed the topic for days, Ye Fan would be the one making the final call.

Will he choose to wait for the opportune moment or to attack initiatively?

Will he call for aid for other parties or only use the elites of Dragon God Hall to fight?

Soon, Dragon Slayers arrived at Ye Fan's practice









room.

"Dragon Master, do you have a minute? We've come up with some plans after discussing them for days. We've come here to report to you."

Owen and the rest stood humbly outside the room as Owen spoke through the door.

However, there was no response after a long while.

"Maybe he is in solitary training. Why don't we report to him after he comes out?"

Gaius uttered from afar.

"No way! I bet you want to wait this out. If he is in solitary training, why are we not feeling any turbulence from the elemental forces? Get over here and shout his name now!" Owen scolded with displeasure.

Usually, there would be intensive energy fluctuations when one was in solitary training.

Yet, there was no elemental force at all in the room. It seemed like Ye Fan was meditating.

"All right, all right. What am I going to do with you guys?"

Eventually, they left it to Gaius to wake Ye Fan up.

"Master, could you please come out for a while?















We have something to report to you. Master? Ms. Tang is here. And she wants to meet you..."

Gaius kept shouting outside the room.

Still, there was no response at all.

"That's strange. Is Dragon Master in there?"

They could not wrap their heads around it.

Based on Ye Fan's sensitive hearing, there was no way he could not hear them.

Eventually, Gaius pushed the door open.

As expected, the room was empty.

"Let's go look for Ms. Qiu."

Seeing Ye Fan was not in the room, they went over to Qiu Mucheng's room.

"Huh? Isn't Ye Fan in solitary training? Is he not in the training room?"

Qiu Mucheng had not seen Ye Fan for days.

"Is there a chance he's with Angie?"

After that, they went to where Angie was healing from her injury.

However, only Junie was there taking care of Angie.









At that moment, a sense of dread rose within them.

"Junie, did Dragon Master come here this few days?" Gaius asked in a low voice.

Junie shook her head. "No. I thought you said he was in solitary training."

"Yes, that was what he said after the Chu family left. But we just went to the training room, and he wasn't there."

Owen and the others started to worry.

Junie's expression changed upon hearing that, and she let out a weak smile.

"Come on. Let's look for him again. Maybe he went to Jingzhou." Gaius and the rest intended to search elsewhere.

Junie uttered slowly, "There's no need to look for him. If I am not mistaken, he probably went to Mount Chumen."

What?

"Did he go there already?"

"How is this possible?"

"Did he go alone? Is he out of his mind?"

"What is he thinking exactly? It will be dangerous









even if we go together. How could he go there alone?"

"He might as well have bought a ticket to hell."

Gaius and the others panicked upon hearing Junie's words.

They thought Ye Fan was being too reckless.

"You guys don't know him at all. Of course, he knew it was equal to suicide. He didn't tell us because he didn't want us to throw away our lives. He is always like this. He always shoulders all the burdens by himself."

Junie spoke as she gazed outside the window.

Tears started rolling down her cheeks.

Each drop fell to the ground and splashed into a thousand sparkling droplets.

Gaius and the rest were rendered speechless.

Only now did they realize why Ye Fan had said that he was going into solitary training.

It looked like he had already decided to go to the Chu Sect alone that time.

He probably knew it was a one-way trip this time.

Boom...









The Dragon Slayers dashed out of the room as if they had gone mad.

"Master, wait for us!"

They roared as they headed toward Mount Chumen.

Gaius was the one who took the lead.

Meanwhile, at Mount Chumen, the battle still continued

All that could be seen and heard were the flashes of light and the blood on the ground.

Ye Fan was like a killing machine.

He killed every single enemy in his path.

Bodies after bodies collapsed wherever he went.

He did not hold back the second time he barged into Mount Chumen.

The last time when he was here, he was still on alert. He tried hard not to kill anyone but merely hurt them.

However, there was no reason for him to hold back anymore this time.

"You bunch of insects. How dare you let Angie lose her sight! I will bring darkness upon Mount Chumen today!"









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Swoosh!

Ye Fan swung his sword mercilessly along his way.

Every strike was followed by traces of blood behind.

Agonized wails reverberated around the entire place.

Right at this moment, Ye Fan looked like he was obsessed by demons as he helmed the sword effortlessly, as if he was putting up a performance.

The world was his stage and the bloodshed scene was the prettiest background.

Those desperate cries were the best music for this performance.

A month ago when Ye Fan reached Mount Chumen, all the paths were still clean and white.

He had never expected that he would be stepping on blood and corpses the second time he came to this place.

Just then, the reinforcements from the Jones family had arrived at the mountain feet.

Jones let the elites of their family and rushed up the mountain.









However, the nearer they got, the more intimidated they became.

As they arrived at the scene, they paled in fright.

The color drained from their faces after they saw the scene before them.

"Mr. Jones, is this really Mount Chumen?"

The Jones family was terrified to the extent some of them even peed in their pants.

It did not look like Mount Chumen but rather a mass grave.

All the paths were covered in fresh blood.

Dead bodies littered all over the ground.

Most of the bodies were incomplete, and there were broken heads and limbs everywhere.

Jones broke out in cold sweat, and he was shook to his core.

"Dad, are we still heading up?"

Michael was terrified as well.

They had never seen such a brutal scene.

It happened at Mount Chumen, the most sacred place of martial arts in the world.









All the dead bodies belonged not to ordinary people.

Many of them were Guardians of the Chu Sect.

It took at least a Grandmaster to beat the Guardians of the Chu Sect.

Yet, those Guardians were lying on the ground like many useless animals.

The Jones family was worried they might end up in the same way if they confronted the enemy.

"Let's slow down."

Bill recoiled in fear.

Regardless how much hatred and resentment he possessed, they could not be compared with the fear facing real death.

Indeed, Jones knew their standings well enough.

Based on the Jones family's current battle power, there was no way they could match with Ye Fan.

The only chance they had was to defeat him while he was badly injured.

Hence, slowing down their pace was undoubtedly their best choice at the moment.

As the Jones family was hesitating of approaching, Chu Shen had rushed back to the















Chu residence.

"Where is Zhengliang? Find him now. We are in deep trouble. Chu Tianfan is here again!" Chu Shen shouted in fear.

Upon hearing that, the Chu family tensed up.

"Mr. Chu went to Chu Sect Castle for a meeting," the Chu family responded anxiously.

Upon hearing that, Chu Shen rushed toward Chu Sect Castle right away.

Before leaving, he instructed the Chu family to be on high alert and get ready for the enemy.

"And, please inform Demonic Duo. They are the only one who stand a chance against Chu Tianfan now."

Right after that, Chu Shen turned and headed toward the mountain top.

He was too anxious that he accidentally tripped and fell. His head knocked against a rock and started bleeding.

He ran toward the mountain like a mad man with no time to be bothered about his wound.

In the meantime, numerous figures were heading from Jiangdong toward the mountain.

Not only them, but many were coming from all









over the world, dashing toward Mount Chumen.

When Han found out Ye Fan was entering the lion's den alone a few minutes ago, he was startled. He immediately issued Dragon God Token, the highest level summons, globally.

This time, The Five Dragon Gods were not the only ones summoned.

The Four Dragon Slayers also received the summons. Regardless of whether they were from the Dragon God Hall, or elites from the martial arts or the real world, they were summoned nonetheless.

To ensure all of them received the summons, Han used Gaius's forum account and used the Hall Master's name to publish a post in the martial artist's forum.

"For those who belong to Dragon God Hall. The Five Dragon Gods, The Four Dragon Slayers, The Eighteen Guardians, and all elites. No matter where you are now, after you see this post, please head for Mount Chumen as soon as possible to assist Dragon Master. The war between Dragon God Hall and the Chu Sect officially starts now!"

"Dragon Master went there alone in order not to burden the entire Dragon God Hall. This might be a war that is meant to be lost, and this might be a one-way trip. But if Dragon Master is not afraid, we should not be too! We must let Dragon Master know that he is not alone, but he has the entire









Dragon God Hall at his back. Everyone, it is time for us to make a stand, even though this might be our final battle. What we do today will become history for our future generations! Let us leave no regret today! Let's fight! Fight! Fight!"

Han's summons created an uproar in the entire martial arts world.

The shocking news left the whole world in befuddlement.

The martial arts world had fallen into a state of unrest.

Martial artists from different countries were overwhelmed by what was going on.

It felt like the end of the world was approaching. Indeed, it was the endgame for the martial arts world.

It was a final battle between Dragon God Hall and the Chu Sect.

Ye Fan and Tang Yun were both the strongest elites in Sky Ranking.

The two strongest men in the world were about to engage in a final confrontation on Mount Chumen.

In the eyes of the martial arts world, it was equivalent to a nuclear war.

With that, many started to head toward Mount









Chumen to give their support.

Meanwhile, at Yanjing army base in China.

Long Baichuan was standing in the hall accepting the canonization of the highest commanding general.

However, halfway through the consecration ceremony, a unique communicator he had been carrying with him suddenly rang sharply.

Long Baichuan lowered his head. All colors drained from his face.

Without delay, he dashed out of the hall recklessly.

"General Long, the ceremony is not done yet. Your rank..."

Numerous people shouted for him to return.

"I don't have time for this. Everyone, we'll meet one day again!"

Long Baichuan left a brief sentence before vanishing from the crowd's sight.

The hall was left in utter bewilderment. Where is he going off to, and what's the matter so serious?









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Meanwhile in Tokyo, Japan.

The riches and the nobles were gathering at the palace.

It was a national celebration as their emperor was having his seventieth birthday.

The emperor was the highest leader of Japan, and his birthday was being celebrated majestically.

On this day, not only elites from all industries and fields came to congratulate, but even martial arts elite like Mochizuki Kawa, the Sword God, came to express their congratulations.

"Has Moon God not showed up yet?"

The celebration had not yet started. Mochizuki Kawa furrowed his brows and was inquiring about this matter to his subordinate.

Tsukuyomi Tenshin, the Moon God, was the highest representative in Japan's martial arts world.

As it was the emperor's birthday, even if he did not come personally, he should at least have sent some gifts.

It was beneficial for the unity of the country.

With that, Mochizuki Kawa had sent his men to Sanshin Organization to remind Moon God to prepare something for the emperor.









To his disappointment, his men failed to meet with Moon God even after paying a visit several times.

"Forget it. If Moon God doesn't want to give a gift, let it be. After all, I can be a representative too as the Sword Shrine Head Priest."

In the end, Mochizuki Kawa let out a sigh and gave up on waiting.

Boom...

Just then, several salutes roared.

The emperor's birthday banquet officially kicked off.

The first event was congratulatory messages and gift offerings from all representatives.

"Director Chiike, it will be your turn soon. Please get ready."

Chiike Shizuka had donned a red gown full of grace and luxury among the guests.

The once youthful and tender face now reflected maturity and authority.

"Okay, Granddad. Please call me when it is my turn. Grandpa Iwai, please continue your story about Ye Fan."

After responding to Miyamoto Nakanosuke, Chiike Shizuka shifted her attention back to Iwai Zen,









listening to the latter talking about the first battle of Chu Sect.

It had been a long time since she heard about Ye Fan.

To Chiike Shizuka, Ye Fan was like a meteor born out of nowhere and suddenly appeared in her shadowy world, instantly illuminating her whole life.

Before he appeared, Chiike Shizuka was nothing more than an irrelevant member of her family.

Ye Fan showed up and pushed her to the pinnacle of her life. He handed the largest consortium in Japan into her hands.

Chiike Shizuka had been wanting to go to China to find Ye Fan.

However, she did not have the courage to do so.

They only met by chance, and she doubted if Ye Fan would still remember her.

Hence, she hid her sense of longing for him deeply in her heart all these years.

Until a month ago, she heard that Ye Fan sent his men and took Iwai Zen away.

Thus, after Iwai Zen returned, Chiike Shizuka kept asking the former to tell her about Ye Fan.









This was the only thing she cared about, even though it was the emperor's birthday.

Yet, a while later, Iwai Zen suddenly stopped talking. His expression changed after taking out something from his pocket and glancing at it.

"Grandpa Iwai, what's wrong?"

Chiike Shizuka's face turned pale as she noticed Iwai Zen's expression.

"Director Chiike, something major has happened. Dragon Master seems to be in trouble. Dragon God Hall has just issued the highest level Dragon God Token!"

The color drained from Iwai Zen's face.

He had joined Dragon God Hall for many years and had gone through thick and thin.

What made the Dragon God Hall issue the highest level summon? It must be something unimaginable!

Iwai Zen's heart fell with a thud.

"That's right! The martial artist's forum!"

Iwai Zen had a lot of questions as he only received the summon.

At that instant, the martial artist's forum came across his mind.















The Hall Master of Dragon God Hall had registered an official account there. Iwai Zen supposed he could find something from the forum.

As expected, after he logged into the forum, he discovered the online furor ongoing.

Iwai Zen was utterly stunned as he read the post by Han.

HIs gaze grew stern instantly.

"Grandpa Iwai, what is going on? Please don't scare me."

Chiike Shizuka could not wrap her head around it.

Iwai Zen did not say anything as he handed her his phone.

Chiike Shizuka lowered her head and saw the summon.

"For those who belong to Dragon God Hall... No matter where you are now, after you see this post, please head for Mount Chumen as soon as possible to assist Dragon Master... We must let Dragon Master know that he is not alone, but he has the entire Dragon God Hall at his back... Let's fight! Fight! Fight!"

Chiike Shizuka froze on the spot, especially after she read the last three words of the summon.

"So has the war started?" Chilke Shizuka









murmured.

Yet, no one answered her question.

Iwai Zen had already left his seat.

"Ms. Chiike, Dragon Master is fighting alone, and Dragon God Hall calls for help from worldwide. I know my ability is nothing compared to a supreme grandmaster. But I have to do my part to help Dragon God Hall. Director Chiike, I am sorry! I had promised to assist you my whole life. But it looks like I might have to break that promise. Please accept my sincerest apologies. Take care!"

Iwai Zen stood up with a determined smile. He regarded her with a martial salute and turned to leave.

The last time Dragon God Token was summoned, Iwai Zen chose to disobey it.

He did not want to deliver himself right into death.

However, this time, he decided to throw himself into battle, and face the dangers straight up. He would no longer be the coward he used to be.

It was all because of Ye Fan, who was willing to sacrifice himself to protect his comrades. He challenged the entire Chu Sect all by himself.

Iwai Zen's mind was blown off totally by Ye Fan's courage and fighting spirit.









What a true leader he is! Talk about his strength, his heart, and his attitude! Without a doubt, he is born to be a leader with all those qualities.

If Mount Chumen was like a fire, Iwai Zen, Long Baichuan, and the other Dragon God Hall's subordinates were all like moths flying toward the fire.

"Dragon Master, wait for us!"

With that, Iwai Zen departed from Japan.

The banquet still carried on after he left.

"Director Chiike, it is your turn to offer gifts!" Miyamoto Nakanosuke urged Chiike Shizuka.

Ye Fan got outraged and fired Iwai Zen from the Sango Corporation's executive director's position back then. He then gave Chiike Shizuka the position.

Since then, Iwai Zen and Miyamoto Nakanosuke had been assisting her.

As such, Miyamoto Nakanosuke was one of the pillars of Sango Corporation.

He was in charge of many daily errands.

However, despite Miyamoto Nakanosuke's urging, Chiike Shizuka stood up abruptly and stared at the East.









Her gaze was filled with crazed determination and persistence.

"Granddad, Sango Corporation won't be joining the banquet for today. Hurry, let's go now!" Chiike Shizuka declared firmly.

"Shizuka, stop fooling around. This is the emperor's birthday!" he exclaimed.

Miyamoto Nakanosuke thought his granddaughter had lost her mind.

"I said leave now! This is an order!"

Chiike Shizuka's tone turned extremely ruthless.

Even Miyamoto Nakanosuke was startled by it.

It was the first time he had ever seen this young executive director behaving like this.

Eventually, Miyamoto Nakanosuke had no choice but to obey her order. He led all the superiors of Sango Corporation out of the venue.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Over at Tokyo, Japan, high-level executives including Chiike Shizuka and Miyamoto Nakanosuke were already congregated at Sango Corporation when someone ran in with an announcement.

"Director, the ambassadorthe emperor sent is waiting outside for permission to enter. It seems like they are here for an explanation regarding Sango Corporation's early departure from the birthday party."

"Send them away," Chiike Shizuka said, waving her dismissively.

She had no intention of meeting those people.

After sending someone to chase away the envoy, she stood up and swept her gaze across the room.

"Fellow colleagues, we have worked together to lead Sango Corporation for years.

I have served as the executive director of the company for a while now, but I believe you are all aware that I am just a proxy managing the company on behalf of Ye Fan. Now that he's in danger, we should do our part as a team to do everything within our capacity to help. Of course, I'm fully informed of the risk we are undertaking this time, so I won't oblige any of you to do as I suggest, but still, I appeal to y'all to do something," she said convincingly at the crowd of directors.

"As the executive director of Sango Corporation, I









will be calling for support from everyone under the consortium to convene at Mount Chumen after this meeting ends. That's all I have to say. I sincerely hope all of you make the right decision."

With that said, the woman left the room.

She immediately saw to it that her intention was made clear to Miyamoto Nakanosuke.

When the old man found out about her plan, he was deeply disturbed.

"Are you sure about this, Shizuka? You're as good as dead if you go to Mr. Chu now. Despite how powerful he is, things still ended up like this. We're just normal human beings without any ability. Gathering so many of us to go over will not make any difference! You're just sending them to die."

The head of the Miyamoto clan was disquieted, but regardless of how worried he was, Chiike Shizuka refused to relent.

"I don't care if I die. It doesn't matter if what I do amounts to nothing as long as I can do something for Ye Fan."

"But-"

"I've already made up my mind, Granddad. I know you think my efforts are futile and inconsequential, but it only takes a spark to get the fire going. What I'm doing might not be anything needle-moving, but I'll still give it my best.









I believe as long as there are enough sparks, I will be able to set off a fire. What I do might seem trivial, but as long as I have enough people with me, we will make a difference. No one will be able to stop us. I know I'm just someone insignificant from a family that does not even command any power, but Ye Fan is the one who gave me everything. This might well be the last battle he fights, so I can't just sit and watch without doing anything. I will regret this for the rest of my life if I sit idle, so please, Granddad, could you notify everyone?" she beseeched earnestly.

"I won't force them to join me. This is purely voluntary. They don't have to meet up with me. They can just head to Mount Chumen in Norwal City on their own."

It was apparent from her tone and demeanor that she was hell-bent on pursuing her plan to the very end, so Miyamoto Nakanosuke conceded.

In the next few minutes, details of the call to gather cascaded down the whole Sango Corporation, and every member was informed.

Despite how fast words were spread around, Chiike Shizuka herself had no idea how many people would answer her call.

Meanwhile, the four fighters from Dragon Slayers made their way through China at lightning speed across the land in the direction of the Pacific Ocean.









Trails of lights flashed in the night at the country's northern border while people continued on with their everyday life without thinking much about the phenomenon they witnessed.

They simply thought those were meteorites, yet those who were steeped in martial arts knew it was elemental forces reverberating through the ominous night sky.

They knew bloodshed would ensue.

Over at Yanjing, the night was already nigh, but Xu Lei was still going through documents and reports from all regions.

Although she was temporarily overlooking matters pertaining to Yanjing on behalf of Ye Fan, her responsibility was still extensive, covering other areas.

In fact, Ye Fan had assigned almost all operations under Dragon God Hall to her.

Although Dragon God Hall's physical war with the Chu family had just begun, the two powers had long been business competitors.

Xu Lei was in charge of the economic side of their contest.

Through her cleverness, she managed to cut off the family's financial sources, yet she had yet to completely uproot this family.















After all, the Chu family was the most prominent and ancient family.

If they had not been blindsided by Xu Lei's unexpected strike, the Chu family would not have actually suffered such a great loss, however, they quickly recovered from the shock and took preemptive defense and decisive retaliation collectively to secure their share of the economy.

Their contest had just escalated to an impasse, so Xu Lei dared not slack off. She was constantly on the lookout and was always keeping abreast of the latest developments.

She buried her head in all the documents that night. Halfway through her work, a violent wind rushed through the window from the outside.

Xu Lei looked up and saw streaks of lightning piercing through the sky.

She sat up, alarmed. "What is happening in Jiangdong?" She darted her gaze around warily as she thought hard.

Ye Fan!

Although Xu Lei was not at Mount Chumen herself, she had heard about what happened there.

She knew that Ye Fan was at Jiangdong, waiting for an apology from the Chu family.









He had just settled an old score. I bet he's least expecting any attack at this point in time.

He must be thinking about spending time with his wife and mother.

It had actually occurred to Xu Lei that this could be a moment of complacency and vulnerability for Ye Fan, but she did not remind him to not let down his guard because she figured he would want to spend time with his family, but when she saw the lights, she had a premonition.

She grabbed her phone and called people in Jiangdong.

While she was still calling, the door was flung open. It was Sun Dragon.

"Ms. Xu! Dragon Master-"

"What happened to Ye Fan?" Xu Lei knew the man came with grave news from his pale face.

She looked at him panting heavily, anticipating the worst.

"Dragon Master went up Mount Chumen on his own!"

What?

Xu Lei was aghast.

"Alone? To Mount Chumen?"









The abode of the most powerful and oldest family and sect of all times.

Not only was the head of the Chu Sect—the strongest fighter on Sky Ranking—Tang Yun there; Chu Yuan was also present as well.

Going there alone would only mean death.

"What about Gaius and the Dragon Slayers? What are the people at the Dragon God Hall doing? Why did they even let him go alone? Ye Fan took care of them for so long. Why can't they even keep an eye on him?"

Xu Lei showered the man with a litany of questions. Her worry brought her to tears.

Xu Lei knew what this situation meant because she was with the Chu family before. She knew just what they were capable of.

A month ago, Ye Fan used all his might at the war on Mount Chumen. Even then, it was a borderline victory.

Going back alone would mean something far worse.

"Ms. Xu, Dragon Master went without us knowing. He didn't want to get any of us involved. Gaius and the Dragon Slayers had gone after him once we found out about it. Besides, Dragon God Hall had just called for an emergency gathering of all the best men. They issued a declaration of a final







battle. They are now calling back anyone who is still loyal to the Dragon God Hall to help the Dragon Master at Mount Chumen, and that's the reason why I'm here. I came to tell you I'm leaving. I will be bringing the best one hundred fighters in the Xue family for backup. We're leaving right after this."



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"Take care, Ms. Xu. I'll get going first."

The Sun Dragon, Xue Renyang, turned and walked out of the room into the dark night.

"Wait," Xu Lei called out.

"Is there anything else you need, Ms. Xu?" Xue Renyang turned sideway.

"I'm going too!" she cried out in conviction.

She was not the only one who made such a decision at that moment.

Over at Jiangbei, Chen Ao was standing at the gate with a mass of local fighters.

Although Ye Fan drove him out of Jiangdong last time, Ye Fan did not corner him to a dead end because of Chen Nan. Instead, Ye Fan showed him mercy and allowed him to go to Jiangbei. That was how he eventually inherited the Lu Clan's business and established his own influence in the region.

He was indebted to Ye Fan. Now that Ye Fan was in danger, Chen Ao readily stood up to go to his aid.

"Nan," he said, looking at his daughter, "take good care of your mother. I'll be right back."

Chen Ao bid his daughter and wife farewell before he set off.









Chen Nan had tears in her eyes as she sent her father off. "Dad, Ye Fan will be okay, right?"

"He will be. Don't worry." Chen Ao had mobilized all his men for this operation.

"Mr. Chu has helped us a lot the last time. Our family will do everything we can to protect him. I will see to it that this is the case."

Chen Ao hugged his daughter one last time and got ready to start the journey.

"Chen Ao!"

A voice halted the man's steps.

Chen Ao turned around and saw a bald old man in an immaculate suit coming down from a car.

"Li Er? What brings you here?"

Chen Ao was totally not expecting him.

It was true that they were old friends, but still, Chen Ao was surprised to see him.

"I'm coming along. I'm going to see Mr. Chu," Li Er said slowly, but surely.

Chen Ao fell into silence. They exchanged looks and let out a hearty laugh.

"Let's go!" Chen Ao cried out energetically.









With that said, the two old men who had once fought with Ye Fan on the battleground began their journey eastward.

On the same day, skilled fighters from all directions gathered at the mountain.

Their movements could even be seen and felt from afar. They glided through the air in speedy projectiles toward the Chu Sect's turf.

It was a magnificent spectacle to have so many of them congregating at the same place.

Meanwhile, over in War God Castle on Mount Yan, Mo Gucheng, the King of Fighters, was shocked when he found out about what had happened at Dragon God Hall.

"He must be crazy!" he blurted out, shaking his head. "Chu Tianfan must be crazy. How did he not even tell me about waging war against the Chu Sect? What is he even thinking? Who does he take me for?"

Mo Gucheng slammed the table in disgruntlement.

He could not believe that so much happened while he was still recovering from his injury—and that he was totally unaware of it.

What exasperated him further was the fact that he had been blindsided by what a certain someone from Jiangdong all this while.















He was completely dumbfounded when he found out that the person from Jiangdong who beat him to a pulp that day was the same person who paralyzed his son in Japan.

He is our family's archenemy!

"King of Fighters, you need to calm down." Tang Hao placated him when he saw the man getting agitated.

"How am I supposed to be calm, huh? Did you not hear about what happened? Chu Tianfan literally just wreaked havoc in the whole martial arts realm. Everyone is now heading toward Mount Chumen. If you add up Long Baichuan from the army, Xue Renyang from Yanjing, and Sango Corporation from Japan, the figure can easily go up to thousands, if not tens of thousands of people!"

Mo Gucheng was still trying to get his head around the gravity of the issue.

"They are just mere humans who don't know a thing about martial arts. They are a taint to the prestige of martial arts. There's nothing they can do there. They will only add to the number of casualties. Besides, it's obvious that Chu Tianfan is challenging everyone here at the War God Castle. What do you think we should do? Should we act?"

Mo Gucheng felt he was locked in a conundrum, not knowing how to make a decision.









Sword Saint was equally torn.

They did not know if they should join the Dragon God Hall.

Over at the sofa, Mo Wuya was drinking from his cup leisurely.

"It's too late for us to do anything now. Chu Tianfan had already left China for Mount Chumen a few days ago. I bet blood was already spilled on Mount Chumen. It'll be useless even if those people arrive right this moment. I think it's more like they will only get to collect his corpse rather than help him in any fight," the Prince of Fighters commented.

"They should be realistic. Even if he's still alive, they don't even have the ability to stop any disaster from happening. Time-wise, I don't think they will make it in time, so there's nothing we can do even if we want to. We should just stay here on Mount Yan and see how things turn out since the Dragon God Hall did not ask for our assistance. We don't want to appear like we're trying to cozy up with them. Have you forgotten how smug people at the Dragon God Hall were at the party that day? Since they showed no regard for us, we should not act in an ingratiating manner."

Mo Gucheng nodded slowly and solemnly. He agreed with his son's analysis of the situation.

"I see where you're coming from. As you said, we should just watch how things turn out. Since he









went to Mount Chumen alone, I bet he was prepared to lose his life. There's no point trying to save someone who has made up his mind to die."

After much deliberation, everyone from the War God Castle decided to refrain from getting involved.

Truth was, they did not have what it took to help. After all, declaring war on the Chu Sect was a formidable feat.

Only someone like Ye Fan would have the audacity and capability to do that.

While warriors and fighters were making their way to Mount Chumen from across the world, the mountain was already covered with corpses.

Ye Fan killed his way up the mountain expeditiously. Every second went by with dozens of men falling around him to their death.

He waded through the multitude of people with a sword in his merciless hand, drenching every inch of soil with the blood of his enemies.

It was just a matter of time before Ye Fan arrived at the gate of the Chu residence.

A triannual sect assembly was taking place in the castle on the peak of the mountain when Ye Fan reached.

The meeting was supposed to be held earlier, but









because Tang Yun was nowhere to be found, the assembly was postponed.

This was already the third day since the meeting was inaugurated. Over in the grand hall, the head of the elders was about to make his speech on behalf of the other members.

"Ms. Tang, we can't hold the plan to rejuvenate our sect off any longer. Now that Patriarch Chu is back, and that you've made marked progress as well, this will be the best time for us to proceed with our plan. We, as the elders of the sect, along with the heads of the three families, propose that we push through with our plan. We want to bring the sect to greater heights. It's our wish that the Chu Sect be known and revered around the world. We will dominate the whole martial art world and make everyone bow before us. It's time we carry on the legacy our forefathers left for us."

While the man spoke, Chu Zhengliang just sat on his chair as he listened. Although he was the head of the family, he still waited for the head of the sect to have the final say.

Tang Yun was deep in thought considering their proposal. As the principal figure of the day, she was dressed in a purple gown and a gold crown embellished with sprinkles of purple and the image of a phoenix. Her face did not betray the slightest emotion. An aura of nobility and elegance radiated from her presence as she sat on the throne in utter silence.









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The next minute elapsed in silence until Tang Yun finally spoke her mind.

"I don't think now is a good time to talk about a revival. It's true that our sect holds considerable clout here, but from a global perspective, there are other people who are equally good like Tsukuyomi Tenshin from Japan. No one—not even I—dare claim to be a shoo-in when facing him in combat. Locally, we are also seeing a surge in the number of competent martial artists, so talks about dominating the realm should wait. We can't act too rashly."

"But Ms. Tang-"

"This is not up for discussion." Tang Yun cut off the elders, who begged to differ.

"Further discussion will have to wait until my master returns."

Now that Tang Yun spelled the final verdict, no one said another word.

"Where is the Jones family, by the way? I'm expecting to see representatives from their family."

Tang Yun was perplexed when she realized one of the Three Families of the Chu Sect was absent.

"Maybe they are on the way?" Chu Zhengliang suggested. "I heard that something happened in the family a few days ago. Maybe the head of the



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family is still seeing to it."

Chu Zhengliang smiled, still drinking his tea.

His question reminded Tang Yun of the agreement between the Chu family and Ye Fan.

"Did anyone from the Chu family go to China?" she asked.

It's almost been a month already.

"Well, I've sent someone over already. I guess it's about time the messenger returns," Chu Zhengliang said casually.

Tang Yun was alarmed. A frown stitched above her beautiful eyes. "You didn't go yourself?"

"Why should I?" Chu Zhengliang asked in return with a slight laugh.

"Sending a few men over is already good enough."

"For real?" Tang Yun was piqued. "Have you forgotten about the promise you made to Chu Tianfan a month ago? How dare you go back on your word by sending just a few messengers to relay your apology? Has the Chu family forgotten that Chu Tianfan is the first on Sky Ranking? Now that you've failed to deliver onyour promise, do you think your family will be able to bear the consequences?

"



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Tang Yun did not expect the Chu family to take their promise so lightly.

Are they not afraid of retribution? What if Ye Fan comes for the family?

Despite Tang Yun being incensed, Chu Zhengliang was still enjoying his drink calmly. He waved his hand dismissively, assuring Tang Yun that everything would be just fine. "Nah, you don't have to worry about that, Ms. Tang. He might have topped Sky Ranking, but he's still a deserted child at the end of the day. There's nothing he can do to the family. There are also good fighters in our family. My dad is a good case in point. Getting an apology from a prestigious family like us is already kindness shown to him. Someone like him should be satisfied with seeing our messengers. Besides, I doubt he has the guts to come all the way up Mount Chumen."

Chu Zhengliang smiled confidently as he spoke, feeling that his judgment could never be errant.

To him, after Patriarch Chu returned, Ye Fan would not have the courage to act recklessly toward them anymore, but little did he know, Ye Fan was already at the entrance.

Bang! The gate of the Chu Sect Castle was thrown open immediately after.

A head covered with blood stuck out from the door crack.



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"Uncle? W-what happened?"

Chu Zhengliang was disconcerted when he saw Chu Shen injured.

"C-Chu Tianfan..." the wounded man replied weakly. "He's here..."

His words echoed like a death sentence in everyone's ears.

Everyone in the castle shot up from their seats in horror.

Chu Zhengliang's wrinkled face paled. He stared at his uncle in disbelief.

"U-uncle! What do you mean by 'he's here'? This is impossible!"

He looked at the assembly of shocked men, still trying to make sense of what he saw.

"How dare he? He's nothing but an abandoned child!"

He was stupefied -- the impossible was now unravelling right in front of his eyes.

Just a second earlier, he was still optimistic and confident, but what happened the next moment completely crushed his interpretation of the matter.

Ye Fan was right there where he was.





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"How many people came with him? Is Moon God here too?"

Memories of being roughed up by Ye Fan were still fresh in Chu Zhengliang's mind. This explained his fidgety response when he found out Ye Fan was here in person.

Chu Zhengliang knew that there was no escaping his fate if Ye Fan knew what he did.

He knew he was culpable deep in his heart, and this compounded his fear.

"He came alone," Chu Shen answered.

This stoked further terror among the crowd.

"What? He came alone to Mount Chumen?"

No one could believe what they heard.

Even Tang Yun was disturbed, but she had no time to go to the bottom of it.

After receiving such a report, she led everyone in the Chu Sect outside.

When they went out to face him, Ye Fan was already on the second peak of Mount Chumen, which was also where the Chu Residence was.

The residence was earlier on refurbished and recovered from the mess a month earlier, but with Ye Fan's little visit, the ground was again covered



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with fresh blood.

"S-stop! Don't come any closer!"

The Chu Family Protectors were out trying to deter Ye Fan. The family had lost many protectors a month ago and had just recruited new people, so they were not as adequately trained as the earlier batch.

The protectors, along with members of the Chu Sect, drew their swords and arrows, standing up against Ye Fan.

They tried to ward him off by hurling threats at Ye Fan, but that did not work on him.

His brutal killing was his sole answer to their empty words.

Zap!

A blade of wind severed the tense air, giving off a flash of green light.

Ye Fan's Qi engulfed the whole space, pulverizing his enemies.

"Argh!"

Shrieks and screams of agony echoed on the tip of the mountain as blood splashed liberally all over, tainting every part of the family residence.

The Chu Sect and the Chu family should all die!



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Ye Fan did not care how powerful those people were. Neither did he care about offending those people with strong family backgrounds. To him, they were just animals who were standing in his way.

Thousands of men were vanquished by his sword as if he was reaping a load full of harvest.

His moves were rhythmic as he hunted the people down one after another. Their petrified screams followed every slash of his sword and every step of his feet as if he was dancing to a murderous tempo.

"He's Satan himself!"

Ye Fan did not even spare his old friends.

Fighters from the Chu Sect were stricken with panic when they beheld the scene.

They were so appalled they lost the valor to fight. Some of them dropped their arms and fled down the mountain in a craze.

As fighters deserted their posts and more blood was shed, people hiding in the residence became increasingly scared.

Just as everyone was lost in fear, the Demonic Duo, whom Ye Fan once defeated, emerged from the ancient residence.

"Are you going to continue sacrificing innocent



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lives? You're demonic!"

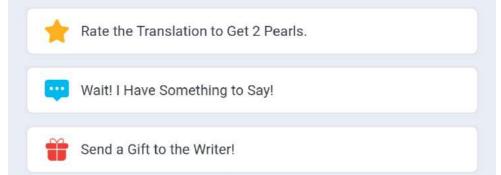
The two old men were aghast by the atrocious sight, but Ye Fan completely disregarded their condemnation.

The Demonic Duo had no choice but to charge forward.

This sparked a brutal fight.

The two darted over at full speed in Ye Fan's direction.

It seemed like they were fixated on stalling the man until Tang Yun and the others arrived.





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The Demonic Duo overestimated themselves.

Ye Fan did not even flinch when they dashed toward him.

Instead, he retaliated in full force, giving off a golden light this time.

The reverberation generated from his body hit the two old fighters, throwing them off far away.

Bang!

An ear-shattering noise followed the impact, accompanied by a wave of turbulent wind.

The duo was propelled outward like two stray leaves carried away by a tornado.

"Not even the Demonic Duo was able to stop Ye Fan?"

The Chu family was losing it.

The Demonic Duo were top five on Sky Ranking.

No one would have expected them to be defeated even before they attacked.

They finally realized the stark difference in terms of ability between the champion and the other on the ranking.

"How is this even possible?"



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The Demonic Duo stumbled and rolled off to the ground.

They looked at each other, surprised by how strong Ye Fan was.

They had also suffered a similar loss a month ago, but it was when Ye Fan was using a technique called Invoke the Celestial Sky, which happened to be a technique passed down within the Chu family.

Back then, the Demonic Duo admitted defeat, since the technique Ye Fan used was not a common one, and the Demonic Duo knew they stood no chance when Ye Fan harnessed that trick, but it was different this time around.

He did not employ the same technique this time, but still, he was able to vanquish them.

This was not something they were willing to accept.

They could not believe someone so much younger than them could outdo them. Yet, reality proved them wrong.

The Demonic Duo had lost their credibility as the guardians of the family to continue in a contest with Ye Fan.

When Ye Fan saw that he had conquered the two, he cast his gaze toward the family residence.



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The hundreds and thousands of family members were frightened to the core when they met Ye Fan's ferocious glare.

They stared at him in horror, their steps retreating uncontrollably.

"Chu Zhengliang! Where are you?" Ye Fan shouted.

His violent voice echoed in the air, but no one answered.

Ye Fan extended his hand, getting ready to strike just anyone from the family.

When they saw him raise his hand, they were overcome by dread.

"Please, don't..."

"We don't want to die."

"Please have mercy!"

Fear, despair, and anguish gripped the whole Chu family when death was close.

Some of them even started sobbing as they begged Ye Fan to let them go. Others scrambled to the closest exit they could find, but Ye Fan was unmoved by their entreats.

He stared at them with his face cold like ice as if he was just looking at some ants crawling on the ground.



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Just as he struck a blow at the people before him, a voice pierced through the air.

"Stop!"

A flare of purple light came from a sword and a clash followed.

Before anyone could do anything, the purple sword cut Ye Fan's palm.

The moment of the direct collision caused waves of strong winds in the Chu residence, breaking trees and toppling walls. Members of the Chu family were thrown off by the momentum, albeit the impact not being fatal.

The purple sword, on the other hand, did not stop right there. It traveled down Ye Fan's body, ripping his clothes as it left a red trail of blood on his arm.

When the people came back to their senses again, they thought help was already here. They gasped fiercely for air, looking in the direction of Mount Chumen.

Ye Fan turned around and looked over toward a distant place.

He could feel a strong presence approaching.

True enough, someone in a purple robe led an army of men toward him.

She walked with light steps and was wearing a



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crown on her head.

She took everyone's breath away. She was still as fetching as usual, and her beauty was captivating.

Some said God was always fair, and that when he closed a door for you, he would always open another one. However, one look at this woman was enough to doubt if this statement was true because she seemed to embody perfection.

She came under the spotlight as a legendary figure ever since she joined the martial arts world.

Not only was she attractive, she was also powerful.

She was the epitome of God's flawless creation.

She was none other than the head of the Chu Sect, Tang Yun.

Her appearance had everyone falling to their knees.

The whole assembly, including the Chu family, fell at her feet in marvel. "Ms. Tang!" they greeted in unison.

Tang Yun stood forth amidst the people like a queen among her courtiers.

However, someone stood erected when everyone else went on their knees.



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His was like a scorching fire, igniting the whole mountain.

Ye Fan was determined to not succumb to the pressure, yet he looked particularly lonely and small among the host of people.

He shared a look with Tang Yun, still refusing to bow.

They finally met again, but there were neither traces of fondness nor gentleness in his eyes.

An unbearable silence persisted as none of them spoke.

It was as if time stopped.

The wind died down, and the grass stood still. Everything seemed to have lost its color that instant, leaving the man and woman in their own world.

Three years had passed since they first met at the Chu residence.

When they saw each other again at the same old place again after these years, both of them were at a loss for words. It was as if ages had passed since their first encounter, and things were so different now.

"Why?" Tang Yun broke the silence. "Why did you come here?"



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Her tone was harsh and cold, yet despite her forbidding demeanor, memories of what happened a month ago flashed back in her mind.

They were at this exact place when Ye Fan left.

At his departure, he told her they should never meet each other again.

Back then, they both thought that would be their last goodbye, but cruel fate brought them together again.

A month later, they ran into each other again on Mount Chu.

"Why?" Ye Fan roared in return. "I should be the one asking this question, Tang Yun. You gave me your word a month ago, saying that the Chu family would stand by their promise. You vouched nothing would befall Angie, but look at what happened!"

Ye Fan was livid when he saw Tang Yun in person. He was here for answers.





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Ye Fan's voice resounded from the peak of the mountain.

He was incensed, but Tang Yun could not understand his fury. "What do you mean? What happened to her?"

It was true that she was informed of what the Chu family did, but with regards to Angie, she was completely not in the know.

She was confused when Ye Fan suddenly brought up Angie.

"For real, Ms. Tang? Are you really asking me this question? You're the head of the sect, and yet you can't even protect a girl?" Ye Fan scoffed deridingly.

He found her reply preposterous.

Seeing his response, Tang Yun turned and looked at the elders of the family.

"I think someone owes me an explanation. What exactly happened to the Jones family? Where's Angie? Bring here her," she said commandingly.

Although she was not angered by Ye Fan's attitude, it was still apparent that she took the matter seriously.

The group of elders shied away from her glare when they were interrogated. Chu Zhengliang was especially nervous. He tried hiding so Tang Yun



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could not see him.

"Did y'all not hear me?" Tang Yun shouted forcefully.

Everyone was startled at her voice. They were so afraid they faltered backward.

When they saw that there was no way they could evade giving an answer, the head of the elders came forward slowly. "Ms. Tang, Ms. Jones met with a plane crash a few days ago. She did not survive," he reported remorsefully. "We just found out about it as well."

"What did you say?"

Tang Yun was shook. The dreadful news unnerved her.

"Was it really just an accident? Did any of you look into it?"

She showered them with questions.

"Yes, we did. We sent someone over to look into the matter with the Jones family. I think they will report back to us soon."

Tang Yun finally understood why Ye Fan stormed his way up the mountain. She looked back at him in guilt and grief.

"I'm sorry for what happened. I understand your loss. None of us saw this coming. This is just an





accident, and I'm sure it has nothing to do with us. You can't just hold us accountable for an accident. As for the apology that we promised, I will see to it that they do it the proper way. We will go to Jiangdong ourselves this time. I hope you can put an end to all this killing. If you're willing to retreat now, you will not be held liable for the lives you took today."

It seemed like Tang Yun was willing to let him walk away with impunity after all he did. This was partly because she knew she was in the wrong for not ensuring that the Chu family live up to their promise.

She was aware that the family should have taken their promise seriously and deep in her heart, she felt guilty for what happened to Angie as well.

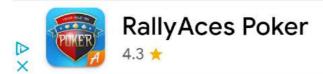
Tang Yun was not an unreasonable person. She was willing to bear the responsibility for her negligence, yet the others did not agree with her.

"Ms. Tang! We can't just let him go! He killed so many of us. How can we just let him go away?"

The elders were the first to voice their dissatisfaction.

They were hell-bent on having Ye Fan pay for the damage inflicted on the family, but when they saw Tang Yun's face, they stopped talking immediately.

They were able to tell that Tang Yun was piqued.









"I don't want to hear another word. I will explain my decision to the Old Master."

Tang Yun disregarded their opinions and insisted on her stance. She made it clear that she would let Ye Fan go free.

Just when she thought the issue came to a resolution, Ye Fan burst out laughing.

"Tang Yun, do you think you can fool me with your act? Do you actually think I'll buy it?"

Ye Fan did not believe a word she said. To him, everything was nothing but a joke.

"Do I look like I'm lying?" Tang Yun questioned with a frown.

She was starting to feel annoyed.

She could not understand how Ye Fan could take the casualties he caused so lightly.

Given what he did, the Chu Sect had all the right to kill him.

She took his side and gave him a way out despite how the elders were against it.

She did not expect Ye Fan to behave so impertinently. Not only was he not grateful to her, but he also mocked her.

"Should I take you seriously?" Ye Fan continued.





"You said Angie's death was nothing but an accident. Do you think I believe you? I commissioned you to protect her a month ago, and now this happened. I don't think this is just pure coincidence. Who knows if you're condoning what they did to her? They might well be the reason why Angie died. Your inability to stop them from taking her life means you're responsible as well."

"Ye Fan, I already told you I will give you an explanation for what happened," Tang Yun said calmly, trying to placate him again.

"Everything is still under investigation. If there's really a culprit behind, I will see to it that that person pays for—"

"Enough," Ye Fan interrupted. "Your promises mean nothing to me. I will avenge Angie's death myself."

Now that Ye Fan made up his mind to take things into his own hands, he directed his gaze toward the crowd and started looking for Chu Zhengliang.

"W-what do you want with me?"

When Chu Zhengliang sensed Ye Fan's wrath, he stuttered in fear with his face paled. He could feel Ye Fan's glare drilling through him.

"Ha. Do you really not know what I'm here for? I'm here to kill you. I should've ended your life a lot earlier. Your time is up, Chu Zhengliang. I will





make sure you pay for what you did to Angie. You are a shame to the family."

Ye Fan pronounced judgment on the man. Chu Zhengliang was overwhelmed by Ye Fan's wrath and froze right where he was, unable to move an inch.

"What did he just say?" Tang Yun mumbled to herself. She realized something was not adding up. "Chu Zhengliang!" she shouted. "What is going on? Are you hiding something from me? Don't tell me you have something to do with Angie's death!"

She knew what kind of a person Ye Fan was. He would never kill for no good reason.

The fact that he butchered so many people just to make his way here to face Chu Zhengliang meant the latter must have done something unforgivable.

"Ms. Tang!" Chu Zhengliang shouted. "Don't listen to him. I didn't do anything. He's the one who's responsible for what happened. He must have wanted Angie's powers. That's why he dug out her eyes! The accident has nothing to do with me!"

Chu Zhengliang could not imagine what would happen to him if he fell under Ye Fan's hands, so he quickly defended himself and put all the blame on Ye Fan.

"What? What did you say happened to her?"

Tang Yun was confounded.





She was so young! She still had a good life ahead of her. Who did that to her?

Even Tang Yun struggled to keep her calm when she found out about the truth. So this is why Ye Fan is so worked up.

"Ye Fan, you must trust me. I will get to the bottom of this. I care for Angie as well. I saw her grow up and she is like my own sibling to me. I will not spare whoever did this to her."

"Tang Yun, are you still taking the Chu family's side now? You don't even need to go looking for the culprit! He's right here! I didn't say what exactly happened to Angie, but Chu Zhengliang said she was blinded. How does he even know about it?"



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