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"Tang Yin!" Zhao Yu yelled upon seeing the scene before her. The canthuses of her eyes were about to split as the Inner Energy in her body surged crazily.

The long sword fell, allowing the light of the blade to shine.

The Zhao Family's Great Ancestor's eyes widened as his body was swallowed by the light of the blade. At that moment, the Zhao Family could not believe that an ancestor, who had practiced his power for decades, would be killed!

"Haha!" Tang Yin laughed out loud as he held out the long knife in his hand again and directed it toward Zhao Yu. "The Zhao Family has done many bad things. Today, I'm going to make you pay for all



of it."

"I'm going to kill you!" she roared as if she went completely crazy.

The Zhao Family was part of the Great Families for many years. When have they ever suffered such a big loss? They were always on a pedestal as the darling between heaven and earth, so they should be the ones controlling the world instead of being hunted by others.

Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei both rushed up to Zhao Yu.

"Die!" Zhao Yu frantically ran the vitality in her body and slapped him.

Tang Yin's long knife fell while only a cracking sound could be heard. The



long stainless steel knife broke at every inch and its remains were scattered at his feet.

It was impossible for the long stainless steel knife to withstand both of their transformation power.

At that moment, Zhuge Pei arrived with her sword. Countless sword lights were produced and aimed at Zhao Yu.

Zhao Yu waved her hand to block them, but Tang Yin had already arrived by then. He then raised his palm to her face and slapped her with all of his power.

Snap... A crisp sound buzzed in her head. She was stunned for a while as if time had stopped at that moment.



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How can this happen? I have never been slapped by anyone in my entire life. She was the one who always slapped people and gave orders to them.

Tang Yin's slap had never harmed Zhao Yu in any way, but she could not endure the humiliation that his action caused.

Slap... As she was still stunned by what had happened, he laid a hand on her again with the impact of his action causing her to fly out.

"You have a death wish!" Zhao Yu howled in a fit of anger as her chest burned with fury and she thought, The person in front of me has to die!

"Die!" Tang Yin moved faster than her. In the next second, he gathered his Inner



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Energy on his palm and slammed into her body with force.

Zhao Yu had wanted to defend herself when Zhuge Pei's long sword fell and pierced her solar plexus region. She could only block Zhuge Pei's long sword with one hand when Tang Yin's palm was firmly planted on her face at the same time.

The continuous humiliation made Zhao Yu's body burn. Who would have imagined that the Great Ancestor of the Zhao Family would be whacked in such a humiliating way by Tang Yin?

"Tang Yin!" she shouted.

He stepped forward, raised his wrist, and aimed it at her. If he was able to



land it on her forehead, she would either be dead or severely injured.

At that moment, Zhuge Pei's long sword had also arrived.

Zhao Yu raised her hand to block Tang Yin as both her hands burst with endless vitality, knowing that Zhuge Pei's long sword was not as deadly. The most deadly attack was his slap instead —if it landed on Zhao Yu, she would be dead on the spot.

Whoosh... The long sword pierced Zhao Yu's shoulders and caused her to retreat backward by a few steps. She quickly flew toward the mountain at the back to escape.

Tang Yin immediately rushed over to



catch up. At the same time, Zhuge Pei turned and also gave chase after bringing Zhuge Zhan along.

If Zhuge Pei was being honest, her hatred toward the Zhao Family had already decreased a tad bit. After all, the death of the Great Ancestor of the Zhao Family could not have happened without her perfect cooperation with Tang Yin.

Not to mention, she was still a female. Even though she looked stoic on the outside, she still could not have the strength to cause someone harm. Otherwise, it would not have been Zhao Yu's shoulder that was stabbed by the sword—it would have been her throat instead.



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At that moment, he was able to catch up with Zhao Yu. He raised his arm and was ready to kill her, but suddenly felt his heart shudder.

It was an inexplicable feeling that left him suspecting something amiss.

"We need to leave," he yelled at that moment as he decided to quickly pull Zhuge Pei back.

"Haha." Zhao Yu looked up at the sky and laughed like a lunatic. "Tang Yin, I can't believe the Zhao Family has to do this because of you! Even if you have to die here today, you should be flattered!"

Upon hearing that, Tang Yin trembled. He was holding Zhuge Pei with one hand and holding Zhuge Zhan with the



other as they ran toward the bottom of the mountain.

Bang bang bang... At that time, the entire Mount Wang shuddered—the towering trees on the mountain fell one by one while rocks rolled down the mountain at a frightening speed.

The entire Mount Wang had suddenly turned into hell where numerous villagers roared, screamed, and begged for mercy, but it did not stop the awful disaster.

Tang Yin was shocked, as if he finally understood something in that second.

"This is the great gift that Mount Wang has prepared for you!" Zhao Yu yelled at the top of her voice as there was



madness on her face.

Rumble... The entire mountain trembled, causing him to suddenly stop in his tracks and pushing Zhuge Pei and Zhuge Zhan behind him while solemnly watching the scene unraveling in front of them.

In front of them, the ground began to squirm and collapse, as if there was something terrible hiding underneath.

Whoosh... In that instant, there were strange noises being heard continuously. Smooth tentacles suddenly rose from the ground and headed for the sky—they rolled out in the direction of Tang Yin.

Those tentacles looked like they were



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coming out in random directions, but if one looked closer, they seemed to weave a big net.

Once the net was completed, the three of them would have nowhere to escape to.

"The Zhao Family has reared this monster for hundreds of years. It is because of us that the whole world can be at peace. However, since you don't know how to appreciate our efforts, we'll just feed you to this monster." Zhao Yu laughed like a lunatic as her sinister laughter reverberated throughout Mount Wang.

Tang Yin gritted his teeth and took a deep breath before he pulled Zhuge Pei. With both of his arms, he pushed her



and Zhuge Zhan away.

"Go down the mountain!" Tang Yin insisted as he quickly grabbed Zhuge Pei's long sword and slashed at one of the tentacles.

"Tang Yin!" she yelled as her face paled.

He had pushed her and Zhuge Zhan away so that he could face the monster alone.

A sword came out and sounded as if the air was being torn since it slightly reverberated.

Tang Yin sliced a tentacle off with the sword, but at that time, more tentacles appeared to corner him. Those thick and rough tentacles looked like they



were able to strangle him to death in the next second.



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"Tang Yin!" Zhuge Pei turned and yelled as her eyes became faintly moist.

"Go down the mountain first!" Tang Yin shouted as he rushed toward those tentacles. After slicing three tentacles off with the sword, he turned and ran to the top of the mountain.

He knew that if he wanted to leave, he needed to fight with Zhao Yu. Those tentacles that belonged to the monster would never let him go and even Zhuge Pei would be unable to escape by then.

At the same time, Zhao Yu also rushed toward him.

Without Zhuge Pei's help, it was not impossible for Zhao Yu to kill Tang Yin.



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As soon as they landed in the same area, both of them immediately fought against each other. Tang Yin forced his long sword out as Zhao Yu moved and gave him a punch. Although she was of a small stature, her fists were full of energy, as if it was about to explode in the air when it came into contact with his power.

Boom... The impact caused them to retreat backward. Concurrently, the tentacles behind him came up to strangle him once more.

Tang Yin turned and sliced two tentacles with his sword, but Zhao Yu had also appeared and cruelly punched his back.

If it was only the both of them fighting,



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he would not have been frightened by her. However, those tentacles were giving him a headache. If the tentacles managed to grab hold of him, there was no doubt he would die on the spot.

"Today, I'll let you die!" she shouted in fury as her palm suddenly fell.

He turned his head and swallowed the pain of bubbling blood in his chest before sticking his sword out while releasing his sword energy.

In that instant, two tentacles had already wrapped his legs.

He had no time to release all of his sword energy, which gave Zhao Yu the opportunity to push the sword away as she raised her fists high up in the air.



"Die!" she yelled as she lowered her fist. Tang Yin tried to defend himself in a rush, but he did not succeed.

Boom... A wave of air exploded on his chest, causing his body to turn upside down as it flew outward while he threw up gushes of blood. At the same time, his chest had faintly collapsed inward as his body shook furiously.

"You're not dead yet?" Zhao Yu fell down and stepped on Tang Yin's chest.

Tang Yin pushed his palm out and flew backward, but the tentacles that wrapped his legs pulled him back instead.

He quickly sliced the tentacles with his sword, so that he could avoid Zhao Yu



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backward with a push of his sword before flying toward Mount Wang.

She watched him flee; her expression suddenly changed because she realized the direction in which he was escaping to—it was not toward the foot of Mount Wang, but toward the back of the mountain.

"Do you really want to die?" As she had lived for many years, there was no way that she did not know what he thought. Tang Yin must be heading to the cave behind Mount Wang.

As she thought about that, she immediately quickened her pace and ran toward the back mountain.

"Tang Yin!" Although Zhao Yu's speed



increased, Tang Yin was even faster.
After all, he had already learned how
fast she was after she had chased him
in those days.

"You should die!" As she approached him, she screamed violently at the sky.

Tang Yin punched her with a backhand, but she was also quick on her feet and blasted her power onto his body in a crazy manner.

Taking advantage of the strength, his body quickly fell onto the back of Mount Wang.

That was the place where the Great Ancestors of Mount Wang practised their power—and the mountain's most mysterious place.



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The last time he made a big uproar at the mountain, he had already noticed the stone door and now dashed toward it as soon as he landed on the ground.

"Tang Yin, stop!" Zhao Yu shouted hoarsely as she looked terrible. The moment she saw him rushing into the cave, she instantly knew that things would go awry.

She knew what was in that cave better than anyone else—the secret there absolutely could not be revealed to the world.

Boom... With countless air waves guiding Zhao Yu, she rushed to the entrance of the door and was able to reach Tang Yin in the blink of an eye.



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At that moment, he had no choice but to increase his speed as soon as she arrived.

In that long and narrow stone cave, he rushed into it with a strained force to the point where he resembled an afterimage of himself.

Next to the pool in the cave was a palelooking Great Ancestor of the Zhao Family and both of his hands were pressed on its edge.

In the pool, there were five or six greasy tentacles gently swaying like seaweed, looking as if they would rush out of the pool at any given moment. The old man sat cross-legged on the edge of the pool, but his body had shriveled up—possibly as a result of using countless



amounts of his vitality that rendered him unable to stand.

The moment Tang Yin rushed in, he saw that the old man was already at death's door.

However, the tentacles in the pond were becoming longer and stronger.

"Kill him!" At that moment, Zhao Yu's voice rang from outside.

That old man, who was on the verge of dying, stared at Tang Yin with hatred. Before Tang Yin could even take action, the old man released his grip and spurted out a mouth of blood before dying on the spot.

He is dead!



Tang Yin was traumatized by what he saw just as Zhao Yu arrived from behind. When she saw the collapsed old man on the ground, she was hysterical.

"Tang Yin, you killed two Great
Ancestors of the Zhao Family! Today,
it's either you or me who will leave this
place!" she shouted like a lunatic. The
entire time that Tang Yin was at Mount
Wang, he not only turned the mountain
into hell, but he also killed the two Great
Ancestors continuously.

Mount Wang's power would significantly decrease after the death of those two Great Ancestors.

Roar... In the same moment that she dashed toward him, the tentacles in the pool also grew at such speed. It filled up the ent



ire cave in seconds, as if they had digested enzymes.

Tang Yin used his sword to block Zhao Yu's attack before turning and fleeing for his life. When he entered the cave, his initial intention was to search for the person who controlled the monster, but he never expected that it was the old man who died in the cave in front of him.

Since no one was no longer controlling the monster, it seemed like the entire Mount Wang would come to an end by collapsing soon.

Rumble... The whole mountain began to tremble wildly while large chunks of rocks rolled down.



Tang Yin quickly rushed out of the cave as he could only hear a loud bang—a sign that the mountain was beginning to collapse.



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The sound of thunder could be heard everywhere at Mount Wang.

The mountain was collapsing and burying countless plants in the process. The villagers of Mount Wang shouted in panic while running as far as they could from the scene.

The cries of the people echoed at the mountain and traveled as far as hundreds of meters away.

Tang Yin looked back and glanced at the collapsed cave before dashing to safety. Zhao Yu is buried within the mountain. She should be dead by now, right?

It would be a miracle for anyone to be able to survive such a massive collapse



at the mountain.

Countless rocks and boulders rolled down the slope when he ran at the speed of lighting and he could not resist from taking a look behind. The village that had existed for hundreds of years was completely wiped out—in that moment itself!

The fall of the Zhao Family came as wonderful news to Tang Yin—and maybe for everyone else in the world as well.

Although the Zhao Family had never committed any monstrous crimes, their actions of secretly supporting certain families caused a great deal of turmoil.

Boom! As Tang Yin was fleeing, a deafen



ing sound abruptly rang in Mount Wang—the entire mountain collapsed.

When he turned, he saw the staggering sight.

After the collapse, countless tentacles rose from within. Those slithery tentacles swayed non-stop like seaweeds that were growing wildly.

Boom!After that, a humongous body crawled out from the collapsed mountain.

The body was milky white in color and resembled a jellyfish, looking like a gigantic round sphere.

Tang Yin could not find any eyes or nose on the body—only countless



tentacles dancing around the body.

However, what shocked him the most was that there was a person sitting inside the monster.

A miracle had happened!

Zhao Yu was covered in blood and she looked pale. She gasped as she stared unblinkingly at him with a dark expression.

Tang Yin felt numb by what he saw, which immediately caused him to flee for his safety. Zhao Yu actually is still alive!

He could not even imagine how she had escaped from under those rocks. However, after seeing the monster, he was able to make a rough guess.



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The monster was the same as the one in the Africa lake—with similar violence and waywardness. However, the creature had been held under the control of Mount Wang with special techniques for numerous years.

The Zhao Family's so-called maintenance of world peace was merely a lie—the truth was that they had been pacifying the creature with the aim to steal a special Yuan jade from it.

After the mountain collapsed, Tang Yin found an immeasurable amount of vitality in the air.

The lake in the cave could have contained numerous Yuan jade!

The reason why the Zhao Family



appeased the creature was obviously to gain benefits and Zhao Yu's current action had also reflected the family's motives.

There was definitely a bond between the creature and the Zhao Family!

Boom! Countless rocks and boulders rolled down the mountain and made deafening sounds. Then, large masses of earth and soil slid down the slope and piled up.

Just as Tang Yin fled to the entrance, he saw Zhuge Pei rushing toward him in fluster.

"Tang Yin!"

"We need to leave now!" He grabbed her



wrist and ran down the mountain.

At that moment, the creature on the mountain went berserk and made a sound that made people nauseous.

Although it was not loud, it seemed to have the ability to penetrate into their brains.

The sound was a little unbearable to both Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei too. Fortunately, they had already arrived at the foot of the mountain by then and started to run further away.

The monster on the mountain began to travel down the mountain, causing the sirens to ring everywhere in the small town at the base.

The battle between both parties had now become a disaster—if the matter was not properly settled, the entire small town would be left in ruins.

"Why don't you return first? Ask Pei Ruo to contact the Tang Family and explain the situation here to them..." Tang Yin pushed Zhuge Pei away.

She turned and asked, "How about you?"

"I will stay here to try and stop them.
You should inform Pei Ruo as soon as
possible and ask her to contact the
local person in charge as it is best to
evacuate the villagers..." he yelled as his
feet started to head in another direction.

"Tang Yin!" she shouted, but he had

already dashed off without responding to her. All she could do was stomp her feet on the spot and quickly race toward the hotel some distance away.

The relevant department in the area had already learned about the incident at Mount Wang.

Before they had even received any report, they had started to assemble their manpower to send support to the base of the mountain, which was located at a distance away.

Zhege Pei rushed into the hotel and found Pei Ruo before conveying Tang Yin's words to her.

As Pei Ruo stood by the window, she observed the situation at Mount Wang

with an extremely dark expression.

Beep! Beep! Beep!

A beeping sound was heard before a clear, crisp voice came from the other side of the phone.

"Something has happened at Mount Wang! Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei have killed two Great Ancestors of the Zhao Family, causing the monster in the mountain to appear and Zhao Yu is still alive. The situation now is very critical..." she quickly uttered.

"Alright, I understand!" Shan Xuezhu nodded and immediately hung up on the call.

Pei Ruo put the phone down and turned

to head downstairs. "You should take the child and leave first..."

"I cannot leave!" Zhuge Pei carried the child and followed Pei Ruo from behind with a cold expression. "If I leave, Tang Yin will be left alone here!"

Upon hearing that, Pei Ruo was stunned as her footsteps came to a pause and she turned to face Zhuge Pei.

Zhuge Pei cast a glance at the child in her arms before reluctantly handing him to Pei Ruo. "You should take the child and bring my father along to safety... I'll return with Tang Yin once the coast is clear!"

Pei Ruo opened her mouth, but she was momentarily speechless after being

overwhelmed by a complex feeling. She was the first person to meet Tang Yin, but she was now the most useless one.

However, now that they were faced with such a situation, it seemed that he could only rely on the person before her —Zhuge Pei.

"If I am able to return, please give me the child..." Zhuge Pei turned as she halted her steps. "But if I can't, please hand the child... to Tang Yin's wife!"

Her initial thought was to ask Pei Ruo to take the child to the Zhuge Family if she was unable to return alive. However, she suddenly recalled that the Patriarch of the Zhuge Family had perished in the earlier incident.

Therefore, if the child was returned to the Zhuge Family, it would not guarantee the child's survival. On the other hand, handing him to Ji Youyou would perhaps be the best choice.

"Okay!" Pei Ruo nodded as she bit on her lip.

Zhuge Pei headed downstairs without a backward glance and disappeared from Pei Ruo's sight in the blink of an eye.

Pei Ruo looked into the distance in a daze, as if the child in her arms weighed as heavy as a lead. "You must return alive!" she murmured.

She then turned to head downstairs with only one goal in her mind—she had to leave the place as fast as possible.



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The rumbles echoed around the small town at the foot of Mount Wang.

The monster of Mount Wang crawled down the mountain and produced loud sounds that could be heard from dozens of miles away.

All the surrounding vegetation were destroyed by the monster while almost every living thing, including the people of Zhao Family and the animals and birds residing at the mountain, died under the creature's tentacles.

Zhao Yu wore a dark expression as she rode on the monster; her eyes were burning with fury.

Not only was Mount Wang destroyed, the village was in ruins, and the Zhao

Family had collapsed.

At that moment, she had only one thought in mind—she needed to defeat Tang Yin to avenge the villagers of Mount Wang.

Not many people had discovered about the collapse of the Zhao Family at that point, but there were those who were able to access certain news in advance using their own methods.

For instance, Xu Wei, who was now in Beijing, was one of the first people to be informed of the news.

When Tian Qingqing was placing the document on his office table, she retreated to the side with a gloomy expression. While looking at her own

feet, it was inevitable for her to feel a shred of sorrow welling up inside her.

Ever since she had graduated from university, she came to work as Xu Wei's personal secretary.

Both of them did not share interactions on a personal level, but she could sense the weight he carried on his shoulders. After working with him for a few years, she seemed to have a little more sympathy and a little less fear for the superior in front of her.

"Is this real?" Sitting on the chair, Xu Wei did not seem to feel much sorrow, as if he had expected it to happen.

"Yes! According to the people that we sent to the foot of Mount Wang,

something happened there today. The earth was shaking at first followed by the collapse of the mountain. Someone saw Zhuge Pei and Tang Yin at the foot of the mountain, so all of these might be of their doings," she answered in a low voice.

"Okay!" he replied as he placed the documents on the table.

Tian Qingqing raised her head and glanced at him in surprise. She initially thought that he would be furious, uneasy, and frantic, but he was unexpectedly calm. One had to bear in mind that according to the news, the Zhao Family most probably had collapsed! Once the Zhao Family collapsed, the Xu Family would naturally fall as well!

The reason why the Xu Family was illustrious for the past few years was all because of their acquaintanceship with the Zhao Family. If the Zhao Family suddenly collapsed, how would the Xu Family continue to hold on to their power? How would they be able to fight the Tang Family?

"Sir..." Tian Qingqing cast a glance at Xu Wei in concern, but she had no idea how to console him at that moment.

He suddenly raised his head and stared at her. "Qingqing, you told me before that you wish to live a relaxing country life, right?"

She was stunned by his question as she did not know why he suddenly brought that topic up, so she gently nodded.

"Yes, I wish to have such a life, but I know that it is impossible for it to happen—"

"No!" He immediately interrupted and took a deep breath before he continued. "Qingqing, if you are willing, I am able to provide you with such a life now!"

His words left her puzzled.

"I have more than 10 million here.
Please take this." Xu Wei fished out a bank card from his wallet and put it in her hands. "Take the card and live the life you want! Although you have been working for me for many years, I have never rewarded you in such a manner. So, take this as a form of compensation..."

"Sir—" Tian Qingqing was moved by his action.

"Just go!" Xu Wei waved his hand before gently sighing.

"H-How about you, then?" she asked as she was on the verge of tears.

He was stunned for a second. "Me? I don't know..."

She did not know where her sudden courage came from, but she suddenly blurted, "Sir, if you are willing to live such a life, why don't you leave with me?"

Tian Qingqing's words shook Xu Wei to his core, causing him to abruptly turn and look at her. Her words had caused

his heart to race in that instant.

"Let's leave. We won't know what will happen to you if you stay!" She eagerly looked at him.

"Alright!" He agreed without hesitation and turned to grab his clothes before holding her hands to head outside.

After living for many years, Xu Wei had never feltthat relaxed before.

Ever since he was married to Zhao Rui, he had been working hard and pushing himself to diligently lead the Xu Family toward a better future. However, who was really able to understand the Patriarch of Xu Family? Who was really aware of his sadness?

There were countless days and nights in the past where he had reflected about his life. If he had not married Zhao Rui back then, would he still be as tired as he was? The answer was an obvious no; he himself knew that the life he now had was mainly because of the Zhao Family.

At that moment, he could finally release the burden on his shoulders—the Xu and Zhao Families as well as Zhao Rui. It was an unprecedentedly amazing feeling that made him extremely comfortable.

Both Xu Wei and Tian Qingqing left the office building and hurriedly boarded the car in the direction of the airport.

The noisy world seemed to have

become a mere background for them.

At the same time, Zhao Rui, who was a member of the Zhao Family, learned about the news that her family had collapsed.

She was rooted to her spot in that instant and stared at the message in her hands in disbelief while tears instantly flowed from her eyes. "How is this possible? How could the Zhao Family collapse? You are lying to me..."

The person who delivered the news to her sighed before turning to leave.

Zhao Rui abruptly rose to her full height, grabbed her designer bag, and walked toward the villa situated a distance away with the intention to look for Xu

Wei. After she learned that the Zhao Family had collapsed, the Xu Family would probably have to face a similar disaster as well.

As a member of the Zhao Family, she always had a sense of superiority. If the Zhao Family collapsed, it would be akin to her falling from the pedestal and landing on the ground. She wanted to obtain a sense of security from him and ask him to support the entire Xu Family so that she could continue living a luxurious life as his wife.

Even though he was incapable of fighting the Tang Family, at least he could ensure her current decency.

She entered the car and sped toward the Xu Family's office.

When the car arrived at the company, she gathered her thoughts and feelings before alighting from the vehicle and heading upstairs like an arrogant peacock.

When the office employees saw Zhao Rui entering, all of them lowered their heads, as if they lacked the courage to meet her eyes.

Everyone had seen Xu Wei holding Tian Qingqing's hand and leaving the company earlier and in less than 30 minutes, Zhao Rui unexpectedly arrived.

With a bang, Zhao Rui pushed the door to Xu Wei's office open, only to realize that it was empty inside and causing her to become momentarily stunned.

"Where's Xu Wei?" She turned and roared at the people in the office. "Where is he? Ask him to come here now!"



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Upon seeing that scene, everyone instantly kept their mouth shut and lowered their heads.

"I'm asking you guys—are you guys deaf?" Zhao Rui stood at the center of the lobby and yelled at everyone who was present.

Nobody answered her as everyone knew that she always had a bad temper. Therefore, at such a moment, nobody was willing to bear the brunt of her rage.

Unable to get any response, she looked around in fury but failed to spot Tian Qingqing. "Where is Tian Qingqing?"

"Madam, President Xu and Secretary Tian left earlier..." A general manager hurried over because he had no choice

but to bite the bullet at that moment.

"They have gone out?" With a raised eyebrow, Zhao Rui angrily took out her phone and immediately dialed Xu Wei's number.

Beep. Beep. Beep. After the sound was heard, no one answered the call.

"F*ck you, Xu Wei. You actually have the courage not to pick up a call!" As she was disgruntled, she gave him another call.

"Hello, the phone number that you are dialing has been switched off. Please try again later... Hello, the..."

Zhao Rui was stunned. The previous call went through, but it was not picked up.

Now that I am calling

him again, it went to voicemail and it has been switched off?

Then, she dialed Tian Qingqing's number with a long face.

"Hello, the phone number that you are dialing has been switched off. Please try again later... Hello, the..."

Both their phones were switched off!

Zhao Rui's expression instantly fell as she started to feel flustered. She continued to dial Xu Wei's number, but all she heard was the robotic female voice.

"Hello, the phone number that you are dialing has been switched off..."

At that moment, she seemed to realize something. She felt that her head buzzed and she could no longer endure it.

"Madam!" The general manager immediately stepped forward and wanted to support her, but realized that she could no longer support herself as she started to wobble.

"Xu Wei, you shameless traitor..." Zhao Rui was not an idiot; she certainly knew what happened as tears streamed down her cheeks at that moment. "The Zhao Family has sacrificed so much for you. We even helped you to build your career and shelter you from the risks and dangers for many years, but you actually ran off with someone else..."

Almost nobody felt the sorrow she was experiencing at that moment.

At the same time, Tang Lijiang had already heard about the situation.

He was in the car with Jiang Hui when he received the news from Shan Xuezhu, which shook him to the core.

"Inform everyone in the Tang Family to leave Tang Island and return to their respective posts!" He immediately phoned the old butler and gave him the order in a casual manner. Then, he suddenly raised his head and revealed a fierce expression. "Since the Zhao Family has fallen, now it is the time for the Tang Family to perform in this oneman show!"

"I want to head to Mount Wang!" Jiang Hui suddenly added as she felt a little worried for Tang Yin.

Ever since Tang Yin entered the desert, she had lost her appetite and suffered from many sleepless nights worrying about him. He was, after all, the child she gave birth to—she would feel distress for him even if nobody else in the world felt the same.

"Okay, you can head there... I'm going to Beijing!" Tang Lijiang clenched his fist tightly, feeling concerned about Tang Yin as well. However, he had more important things to resolve at that moment, so he could not head over to visit his son.

Over the years, Tang Lijiang and Jiang

Hui tirelessly tried to stop other parties from overpowering the Tang Family.

During the Business Federation of Beijing, he had clearly warned them, but many still refused to follow his suggestion. It was now the time to settle the scores with them.

The car sped toward the airport—the two of them boarded on different planes and flew off in divergent directions.

Meanwhile, at Tang Island, which was thousands of miles away, there was excitement visible on everyone's faces.

Upon receiving Tang Lijiang's order, they knew that it was finally time to counterattack!

Those people of the Tang Family held grudges for all the frustration they had endured and it was finally their turn for a payback!

One had to bear in mind that it was the first time in many years that the regional managers had to stay hidden in Tang Island. Those regional managers, who had always been powerful and influential, had to return to the island due to the situation in the mainland and watched as they received bad news on a daily basis with their hands tied. Tao Huaisheng, Li Xubo and Han Siyu were the ones especially affected.

For the past few days, days felt like years to the three of them. They were receiving news from home almost constantly and all of which were about

their assets being maliciously acquired.

All that news pissed them off and made them clench their fists in fury.

Many planes rose from the ground and soared into the sky.

Ji Youyou, who was standing in the Tang Family's villa, watched with relief as those people left.

Meng Wan, who was carrying a child, stood behind her and watched the soaring planes as well.

When the people of the Tang Family started to take actions, some daredevils with no fear of death were hastening toward their deaths.

Li Chengshuang was one of the representatives of those daredevils—in fact, she had her own unique qualities.

The moment she decided to leave for Wuhan, her ending had already been determined—in fact, it was that kind of unshakeable ending.

The Ji Family was totally incomparable to the Xu Family; in fact, they were of completely different levels. Although the Ji Family had some forces in a place like Beijing, it was so insignificant that they barely existed.

If the Ji Family were not the in-laws of the Tang Family, they would not even have the chance to be part of the Business Federation of Beijing.

The Ji Family themselves were well aware that they needed to improve their abilities if they wanted to change the opinion of others. There were many ways to become stronger, but buying over other people's assets was the fastest one.

In the Ji Family's plan, they had to take quick and harsh actions when they arrived at Wuhan. Only then would they be able to take control of the Venture Capital Finance in the shortest time possible.

Therefore, upon arriving at Wuhan, Li Chengshuang immediately brought her team and went to the Venture Capital Finance.

The earliest person in charge of Venture

Capital Finance was the renowned Tong Junyou, a famous person from Wuhan, who died there because of Tang Yin and His successor was Pei He.

After Pei He left for America, the position was handed over to his deputy —Li Xubo.

As Li Xubo had always been in Tang Island, there was no one physically in charge of the Venture Capital Finance.

The moment Li Chengshuang entered the place, she immediately notified everyone to prepare for a board meeting.

The Ji Family was the shareholder of Venture Capital Finance for a long time.

Therefore, they held all the rights to convene a board meeting even for that time.

Dozens of minutes later, the board members—one after another—arrived at the meeting of Venture Capital Finance.

A beaming Yuan Zhian came into the meeting room with her hips swaying before sitting on one of the chairs beside the main seat.

"Who asked you to come?" Li Chengshuang glanced at her and frowned before asking in disgust.



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"As a member of Venture Capital Finance, why can't I be here when the company is holding a board meeting?" Yuan Zhian sat on the chair with her legs crossed and a smug look on her face.

Li Chengshuang's expression was extremely dark; she knew that Yuan Zhian was not someone easy to deal with, especially in situations where her master was involved since she was incredibly loyal. Sitting at the main seat, Li Chengshuang snorted coldly before gently addressing the others. "Everyone, I'm not going to hide the reason why I am here today—I want Venture Capital Finance. Do you have any comments?"

Those at the scene exchanged glances with one another and lowered their

heads.

Seeing this, Li Chengshuang sneered and sarcastically added, "Hmph, looks like all of you know that the Tang Family is going to fall soon, so are you guys starting to look for a new master?"

The others remained silent as nobody wanted to reply to her.

"That's the right choice. Even a smart bird would choose a fine tree to make its nest on. This is just how the world works!" She slouched in the chair as the corner of her lips curved upward into an incredibly ironic smile. "Since nobody has any comments, let's take a look at the contract I have with me here. If you guys agree to it, transfer all the shares you have to me." With that, she directly

tossed the contract in her hand onto the table of the meeting room.

Everyone exchanged looks with one another. Finally, one of them failed to resist the urge to take the contract and read it. One would never know of its shocking content without perusing it—the offered stock price in the agreement was extremely low.

All of them cast a look at one another before placing the agreement back onto the table with a dark expression.

"What do you think?" Li Chengshuang scoffed and mocked the others. "If you guys are willing to part with your shares, I won't mistreat you guys. I won't forget everyone here after the Ji Family takes Venture Capital Finance to greater

heights!"

"This is good!" Yuan Zhian placed the agreement down with a snicker at the corner of her lips.

"Oh?" Although Li Chengshuang never expected Yuan Zhian to be the first to agree, a smile immediately appeared at the corner of her lips. "As expected from a wise person who is able to recognize the facts of the situation, your actions will save me a lot of trouble as well!"

Yuan Zhian gave a smile without saying anything.

"How about the rest? Are you guys willing to surrender your shares?" Li Chengshuang asked.

"Okay!"

"Alright!"

The others nodded as well but they felt slightly disappointed. However, it was not the time to go head-on with Li Chengshuang as the danger currently faced by the Tang Family was not something they could ever imagine.

She smiled. "That's great! If you guys have nothing else to say, please sign the agreements. I initially thought that there would be a few stubborn ones, but it turns out that there is none! This is making me feel sorry for the Tang Family!"

Everyone could understand the mockery in her words, but they ignored it. After

all, they had no choice but to surrender when they were at a disadvantage.

After they signed the contracts, the shareholders of Venture Capital Finance rose to their full heights and headed outside. Everyone could not continue to look at Li Chengshuang's arrogant face, so they naturally chose to leave after signing the contract.

When it was only Yuan Zhian and Li Chengshuang left in the spacious meeting room, the latter scoffed with her brows slightly raised, "What's wrong? Why are you still here? Are you going to say some harsh words before leaving?"

However, Yuan Zhian rose to her full height, shook her head, and smiled.

"Ignorant people will always have ignorant excuses!"

"What did you just say?" A trace of anger appeared on Li Chengshuang's face.

Yuan Zhian turned and headed out with a smile on her face, but internally, she sighed for Li Chengshuang. The amount of gain that one was able to attain was not the most important element in the battle—the most important element was the efficiency in gaining information. Without efficient sources of information, the benefits that one gained in that moment would be gone in the future.

Yuan Zhian was informed about the incident on Mount Wang by Shan

Xuezhu, knowing that the Zhao Family had fallen and the Xu Family would sooner or later collapse as their patriarch had disappeared.

Li Chengshuang had always gained benefits by following other people's lead, yet she wished to attain more by acquiring the Tang Family's assets. Nevertheless, she lacked reliable and efficient sources of information. Hence, there was a possibility of her wishes turning into calamity.

At the same time, news about the incident at the foot of Mount Wang was being broadcasted to other places through proper channels. Many people had made appropriate preparations based on the information. However, nobody was aware of what truly

happened at the foot of Mount Wang.

Pei Ruo chose to not leave in the end, but she made arrangements for Zhuge Zhan to take a plane to Snow Mountain of Nine Dragons with the child instead.

Before he departed, he had informed the Zhuge Family about the current situation. Therefore, when his flight arrived at the Snow Mountain of Nine Dragons, the remaining members of the Zhuge Family boarded the plane and they headed off to Tang Island together. Not only did Pei Ruo stay back, she even helped to coordinate the various organizations.

When the monster of Mount Wang arrived at the foot of the mountain, the military units delivered emergency

responses. Large groups of civilians began to be evacuated from the town.

The small town instantly became chaotic where the streets were filled with vehicles speeding wildly away from the place. Dozens of military vehicles that were dispatched earlier now charged toward the foot of Mount Wang at their greatest speed.

At the foot of the mountain, Tang Yin stood by the river with an ashen face. That river, which flowed around the small town, occasionally had people coming over to take a swim in it. The reason why Tang Yin stood by the river was to lure the monster into the river, but he was now unsure of the effectiveness of his plan. Regardless of whether it was at the back mountain of

Mount Wang or at the primitive tribes of Africa, those creatures seemed to thrive in water. If he was able to lure the creature into the water, he should be able to prevent it from harming too many lives.

When the colossal monster finally arrived at the foot of the mountain, he felt an immense amount of pressure on him—the dozens of swaying tentacles lunged at the speed of lightning. With a sword in his hand, Tang Yin faced the tentacles that were approaching him by swinging his sword and confronting them head-on at first instance.

The dozens of tentacles struck at him at lightning speed, but his movement was not slow either. He traveled in between strikes while swiftly slashing off two of

the tentacles with the sword, which then caused the weapon in his hand to slightly tremble. The moment the tentacles that were sliced off fell to the ground, new ones seemed to grow from the place where it was chopped, resulting in more tentacles that lunged at him.

Zhao Yu rode on the monster with a gloomy and terrible expression. "Tang Yin, I bet that you have never seen how petrifying a demonic beast is!"

For an inexplicable reason, Tang Yin raised his head. He felt that the weather and the surrounding vitality were suddenly surging, plunging the world into darkness.



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Tang Yin's expression fell, making him nervous while looking at that ferocious beast.

That unknown beast had been reared by the Zhao Family in Mount Wang for many years, so they certainly had a thorough understanding of the monster. On top of that, it took three masters of the transformation stage to suppress and calm the monster at that time. Now that he had to face it alone, it was understandable for him to feel anxious.

Boom!At that moment, there was a faint sound of thunder in the sky.

He raised his head in shock while a hint of horror flashed across his eyes.

Boom! The clouds in the air collided with e

ach other before a bolt of lightning struck from the sky with a deafening sound.

Tang Yin abruptly retreated and leapt into the air when the bolt of lightning directly pounded the spot under his feet.

Boom! The spot where he stood moments earlier was immediately scorched black with the electric current still flickering. If he had been a tad bit slow in his movement, the impact itself would have burned him alive.

Gritting her teeth, Zhao Yu growled in hatred, "Tang Yin, you will never understand that there is always someone better than you out there. Today, I shall let you have a glimpse of

that before you die here!"

Right after she said that, thunderous sounds appeared in the sky. Countless overcast clouds collided with one another while bolts of lightning resembling electric eels struck the ground from the sky.

"Tang Yin!" After finally arriving in hasty steps, Zhuge Pei was staggered to see that abnormal phenomenon.

"Go away!" Tang Yin roared, but it was tardy—by the time he saw where the lightning landed, it had enveloped her within the area.

At the moment where he lacked options, he leapt over and pounced on her, causing both of them to fall into the

river.

Splash! Boom!

Countless lightning struck at the surface of the river.

The strong electric current exploded on the surface of the river, causing his body to stiffen in that instant.

As water was electrically conductive, he was bound to be affected. Although it only lasted for a split second, the blow had inflicted serious damage on his body, causing parts of his body to immediately have exposed wounds.

Zhuge Pei's body trembled as she hugged Tang Yin with all her strength.

Standing on the ground, Zhao Yu burst into guffaw. "Hahaha, anybody who dares to become the enemy of the Zhao Family shall die!"

"Shoot!" At that moment, Pei Ruo finally lost her patience and let out a wailing cry.

The moment Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei fell into the water, she felt that her heart was being clenched before tears instantly streamed down her face.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

At that instant, countless shots were fired.

As a matter of fact, she did not have the authority to command—the real

commander took the opportunity to issue the same command when Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei fell into the river, leaving only Zhao Yu and the monster on the ground.

Shooting at that moment allowed them to eliminate the worry about accidentally shooting the wrong people.

Bang!

A huge sniper bullet was aimed at the monster's body. After the bullet passed through three tentacles, it went straight into the monster's body.

Roar!

Numerous bullets were shot at the monster's body in that instant, causing

the monster to roar in pain.

"How dare you!" Zhao Yu turned and yelled at the people behind.

Boom!

Gloomy clouds gathered in the sky once again, sending bolts of lightning from the sky.

Pei Ruo's pupils widened at the sight. She turned to jump before landing under the bridge. Using the bridge as a shield, she protected herself from the lightning strikes. However, the warriors, who were exposed to the lightning on the bridge, were instantly burned.

The gunshots stopped, but it was replaced by wails.

She turned and saw countless people crying in pain outside—it was a tragic and inhumane scene. How can anyone dodge the lightning strikes?

Zhao Yu burst into guffaw, looking rather insane. "Hahaha... I'm from the Zhao Family of Mount Wang! The Zhao Family can cause turmoil and turbulence in the world! Anyone who dares to harm the Zhao Family shall prepare themselves to face my family's wrath!"

The loud laughter spread far and wide to an unknown distance away.

Pei Ruo's expression changed. With gritted teeth, she rushed forward, picked up a sniper rifle from the ground, and aimed it at Zhao Yu.

Bang!

Many thoughts flashed across Peri Ruo's mind in that moment, but the movement of her hands were seamless.

The moment she pulled the trigger, she recalled the first time she met Tang Yin—it was at Lin Chuchu's family's restaurant.

Since then, it was as if Pei Ruo and him were linked together by the string of fate.

Miao Bai had tied the string, but Pei Ruo did not pull the string to be closer to Tang Yin. Although their relationship did not blossom, he always had a place in her heart.

Watching as Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei fell into the water and many people suffering such a painful death, Pei Ruo used the sniper file to fire a shot instead of choosing to remain indifferent.

Roar!

The moment the bullet was shot, Zhao Yu had already noticed what was happening. She glanced at Pei Ruo at the same time that the demonic beast under her raised dozens of tentacles to block the powerful rifle bullet.

Seven or eight tentacles were blown up by the shot and slithery liquid flowed out from the wound.

"Do you have a death wish?" Zhao Yu's expression was incredibly dark as she

raised her hand.

A bolt of lightning fell from the sky before a hint of horror flashed across Pei Ruo's eyes before her vision became dark followed by a painful sensation all over her body.

Her flesh and muscle exploded like firecrackers as blood instantly flowed out from her body.

With her teeth clenched, she pulled the bolt handle with a trembling hand and aimed at Zhao Yu once again. Her face was slightly black in color and her initially long, black hair was charred.

At that moment, she only had one goal, which was to take down Zhao Yu. Even though she was badly injured and close

to being drained of her energy, she still needed to try to achieve her goal.

Pei Ruo knew that Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei would not easily die after they fell into the river. However, they needed some time, so she had to create an opportunity for them to escape.

Click!

After she pulled the bolt, she aimed the rifle at Zhao Yu with a hazy mind. The bullet was shot from the rifle with abang.

"You are seeking death!" An infuriated Zhao Yu raised her hand. Gloomy clouds gathered in the sky and bolts of lightning started to flicker. Before lightning that was as thick as a snake

could be formed, the bullet was already in front of her.

Bang!

The powerful bullet shot through her shoulder, inflicting a large bloody wound there.

Roar!

Zhao Yu's body staggered to the back and she nearly fell from the demonic beast.

Upon looking at Zhao Yu's current state, a smile of relief appeared at the corner of Pei Ruo's lips. She soon collapsed and knocked her head hard on the ground before losing consciousness.



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Roar!

The entire small town at the foot of Mount Wang trembled vigorously along with the demonic beast's roar.

Zhao Yu stumbled to her feet. With anger visible on her face, she attempted to continue to control the lightning, but suddenly heard the police siren from a far distance away.

More vehicles were heading in their direction.

She turned in a fury and used her palm to calm the demonic beast before jumping into the river.

The whole small town seemed to have lost its threat all of a sudden.

A large number of police and combat personnels rushed toward them before aiming their weapons at the center of the river.

Lots of bubbles appeared at the center of the river; the bubbles traveled with the flow of the river and slowly disappeared from their sight.

Many combat personnels wiped off the cold sweat on their foreheads and heaved a sigh of relief. Although they did not arrive at the beginning of the battle, judging from the number of casualties, they definitely paid a tragically heavy price.

A young military officer in his thirties walked over to them and he stared at the river for a while before waving his

hand. "Stop this from being reported and immediately report this to the upper management. Have someone over to save the injured now!"

"Yes, sir!" The people around him immediately executed his orders—some of them left the scene to update their bosses while the others started to save the injured.

Pei Ruo was also carried away and sent to the hospital right away.

Despite the military's efforts to stop the news, it instantly spread to the entire country like birds with wings.

Elder Wang was among the first to receive the news; his expression revealed that he was shocked. "Did you

just say that the foot of Mount Wang has been destroyed?"

Huang Ting lowered his head and replied, "Yes, it has been destroyed indeed! The river was destroyed, the civilians living at both sides of the river were affected, and even the houses in the town collapsed! It was fortunate that someone reported this to the authorities in advance, bidding time for most of the civilians to evacuate from the area. Otherwise, the loss might have been much more severe!"

"Get someone to go over there to check the situation now! Besides, I want to know how Tang Yin is now!" Elder Wang waved his hand.

Huang Ting nodded before turning to

leave.

Elder Wang sat on his chair and pinched the spot between his brows, inwardly heaving a sigh of relief. The Zhao Family of Mount Wang seems to have finally fallen! Can this be considered as a tragic victory by Tang Yin? If that's the case, the forces of Mount Wang have now been completely eradicated and the Tang Family's influence on us will also be minimized.

Ideas flashed across his mind and it consolidated speedily before confirming what he thought.

For him to be able to hold such an important position, his ability was unquestionable. What he was able to confirm now was that the Zhao Family

had really collapsed and news from the Xu Family further ascertained that fact.

He sighed. Then, he turned to take a pen and a few documents before signing those papers.

Those documents were related to the influence of the Zhao Family. Since they had fallen, there was no need for Elder Wang to dread them. The Three Mountains had also fallen and so did the Zhuge Family of the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons with both situations greatly affecting the forces of the Hidden Families. On top of that, the Mount South End of the Hidden Families had stayed hidden from the world since a long time ago. All of those were actually great news to the entire country.

After Elder Wang signed the documents, he made a phone call and asked Huang Ting to come in.

"Distribute the documents. Ask them to be quick on their feet and don't cause any economic turmoil..."

"Alright!" Huang Ting took the documents and turned to leave.

Those documents were meant to completely eradicate the Zhao Family's forces. Once the documents were distributed, the forces in the country would face a major reshuffle.

Elder Wang sat on his chair and gently sighed while pinching the spot between his brows again.

After Huang Ting left, Elder Wang reached out his hand to take out another document before tearing it into pieces with both hands.

The document was no other than the one drafted by his subordinates to tackle the Tang Family. If the Zhao Family emerged as the winner in the fight between the Tang Family and Mount Wang, the document that he signed would not have been the one he did earlier, but the one he now had in his hands instead.

Those two documents represented differing decisions that would greatly affect the country, but it was both aimed at minimizing the influence.

The two documents would determine

the fate of the two families.

The Tang Family gained the victory this time, so they naturally would attain great benefits.

Tang Lijiang had just arrived in Beijing when the news about Mount Wang reached him.

Upon looking at the clear sky in Beijing, he fell silent for a long time before turning and taking the spiral staircase downstairs.

After boarding the car, viciousness appeared in his eyes. "This time, there certainly will be a huge storm..."

When Tang Lijiang entered the borders of Beijing, Jiang Hui arrived at the

airport at the foot of Mount Wang.

Gazing at the gloomy clouds in the sky when she exited the airport, her expression became especially dark.

Some members of the Tang Family had arrived. Upon learning of Tang Yin's disappearance, they immediately heeded her orders and began their search along the river of Mount Wang.

Their number one priority now would be to look for him as fast as possible.

Meanwhile, Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei drifted along the river to an area dozens of miles away from the scene.

Tang Yin, who lost his consciousness, could only drift along with the current,

but Zhuge Pei was in a much better state than him.

The moment she fell into the river together with him, he immediately channeled his inner energy over his body, attempting to block the water from coming into contact with his body. As the speed of the lightning was extremely fast, he was unable to do so although he managed to dispel all the water behind her.

Therefore, when the lightning struck, Tang Yin was heavily injured, but Zhuge Pei fared better.

At that moment, she was only able to hug him tightly with one hand while swimming toward the shore.

Upon reaching the shore, she panted in exhaustion, but she did not stop and rest. Instead, she carried a bloodied Tang Yin on her back and sped off into the forest by the river.

Zhuge Pei knew that Zhao Yu would definitely try to search for them after they fell into the water. If Zhao Yu managed to catch up with them, Zhuge Pei would not be able to guarantee that they would be able to leave the place alive.

After dashing for hundreds of meters, she finally lowered him and panted heavily.

The two of them seemed to be in rather bad shapes at that moment, especially Tang Yin as he had sustained serious

injuries from the explosion—there was not even a part of him that was free from injuries. The wounds were surrounded by black marks, which was evidence that he was electrocuted.

Zhuge Pei was in the same condition as well. Although she did not suffer from many wounds, she looked like a phoenix in trouble with her hair disheveled and her body drenched from head to toe.

At that moment, she suddenly sensed a movement of vitality from the river, which was located quite a distance away from her.

Her expression fell and she immediately held her breath while lying on top of Tang Yin while covering his mouth and nose with one hand.



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The vitality traveled downstream with the water current and happened to pass that area.

Zhao Yu rode on the demonic beast with a dark face while the beast hid its entire body underwater.

Zhuge Pei took a deep breath and held it until her face reddened. As she was certain that the other person in the river was Zhao Yu, she did not dare to take a breath.

After Zhao Yu, who was in the river, had traveled downstream to a location away from Zhuge Pei, the latter finally gasped for air while looking at the faraway river in horror.

Only after Zhuge Pei was sure that Zhao

Yu was far away from them did she abruptly turn to look at Tang Yin, who was below her.

His face was scorched black and it looked especially frightening—his condition was a result of his blood flow being constricted, which also caused him to radiate an aura of death.

She hesitated for a moment as her face seemed to flush before she held her breath and brought her lips to his mouth.

Zhuge Pei performed CPR on him while pressing on his chest. Tears of joy streamed down her face when he finally regained airflow in his mouth. Sitting beside him, she wiped her tears away with one hand.

Tang Yin opened his eyes—his eyelids felt as heavy as lead.

"Tang Yin..." She did not know what to do and merely used her right hand to support his neck before guiding his body to lean on her.

He spat out some water and fell into a deep sleep again.

With one hand holding his wrist, she channeled the secret technique—*The God Record*—into his body. As both of them cultivated the same technique, she was able to effortlessly activate the secret technique in his body.

Their techniques practically blended together in perfect harmony.

The circulation of *The God Record* in his body stabilized his breathing.

As she was resting against a big tree, she embraced him in her arms and wrapped her arm around his neck while gripping his wrist.

Their postures were undeniably a little suggestive—especially when they were in wet clothes that glued to their skin after falling into the river. It felt as if the two of them were nude and cuddling each other.

Zhuge Pei's face blushed for a long time, but she did not change her posture. After all, they had intercourse before and even had a child together—it was those thoughts that made her feel less awkward.

While they were in the process of healing themselves, the small town at the foot of Mount Wang completely turned into chaos.

It was as if Jiang Hui's arrival caused a huge blow for the small town. Countless people were sent by the Tang Family to search for Tang Yin along the river.

Members of the Tang Family were not the only ones there; they were joined by the people from the combat troops looking for Zhao Yu.

It would be impossible for them not to worry, especially after a timebomb like Zhao Yu made an escape right under their noses. Besides, everyone knew that since Mount Wang had collapsed, all the other forces would not give up on

the opportunity to completely take them down.

Zhao Yu was the only surviving member of the Zhao Family. Therefore, if they were able to find her, they would be able to annihilate the existence of the Zhao Family from the face of the Earth.

Not only were there countless people searching for them, there were others spreading news.

When Yuan Zhian, who was now in Wuhan, was informed of Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei's disappearance, she felt as if her heart was clenched. The Zhao Family had collapsed, but Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei had disappeared again.

Jealousy was written all over Yuan

Zhian's face. She believed that nothing would happen to him. It was a belief not only based on her sixth sense as a woman, but also from her blind confidence toward him.

Her jealousy was mainly due to Zhuge Pei. She had hoped that she would be the one who disappeared with him instead of another woman like Zhuge Pei.

At that moment, she heard a series of light footsteps behind her.

She turned and found that Li Xubo's secretary was making an entrance. "Miss Yuan, the Venture Capital Finance has fallen into Li Chengshuang's hands!"

"Oh?" The corner of Yuan Zhian's lips curved upward as she sighed and shook her head. Ten minutes ago, Li Chengshuang made the move to take over the shares from the last two shareholders and became the largest creditor in one go.

Therefore, Venture Capital Finance had now completely fallen into her hands.

"Foolish!" Yuan Zhian shook her head although she was inwardly unwilling to make such a comment. After all, Li Chengshuang was Ji Youyou's mother and Ji Youyou was a rather important figure to Yuan Zhian.

"What do you mean?"

With the corner of Yuan Zhian's lips

curled upward, she gently replied, "What I meant was that we should wait for Li Xubo to return first. Since Venture Capital Finance is gone, we can always register another investment company!"

"Should we announce that Venture Capital Finance is no longer the Tang Family's asset, but is now owned by the Ji Family?" the secretary asked.

"Sure, please do that!" Zhi Yuanan waved her hands

The secretary nodded before turning to leave.

Ten minutes later, the Tang Family's announcement spread throughout Wuhan—from today onward, Venture Capital Finance was no longer the asset

of the Tang Family and its matters had nothing to do with them.

The announcement caused some turmoil, but they were not as severe as most people thought.

Li Chengshuang sat boldly in the office of Venture Capital Finance. With her body almost sinking into the chair, a complacent expression appeared on her face.

She had yearned to own Venture Capital Finance to the point where she actually dreamt about it. Now that her dream had been fulfilled, it would only be natural for her to be overjoyed. A feeling of exultation filled her heart when she finally accomplished her long-cherished dream.

At that moment, Ji Ding suddenly came in from outside and frowned when he looked at Li Chengshuang lounging in the chair. "The Tang Family has just made an announcement that Venture Capital Finance no longer belongs to them!"

"Haha..." She let out a cold laugh and scoffed. "They actually know where they stand; they know that they are not my match, so they made the announcement. The people of the Tang Family are ridiculous. The reason why they made this statement is to make the share price plummet, right? Don't they know that the Tang Family is now in a desperate situation? The share price of Venture Capital Finance will only be stabilized in my hands. If they were to hold onto it, I bet that the share price

would make a nosedive!"

Ji Ding raised his head and glanced at her without saying anything.

She reluctantly rose from her seat and paced toward him. "What do you think about my performance? I've just helped the Ji Family to become a first-class family, haven't I? After getting hold of Venture Capital Finance, those people in Beijing, who used to belittle us, will have to seize all opportunities to ingratiate themselves with us!"

Just when he was about to say something, they heard hasty footsteps coming from outside the door. "It's bad! This is bad! The share price of Venture Capital Finance has plummeted!"

"What?" Li Chengshuang was stunned and her expression instantly changed.



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"Why has the share price dropped?" Ji Ding's expression also fell and he rose to his feet at once. "Are you sure?"

"Yeah, are you sure that there isn't any misunderstanding? The Ji Family had just taken over Venture Capital Finance, so why did the share price plummet? The Tang Family has fallen, but the Ji Family is now in its heyday, so why would it cause the share price to drop?" Li Chengshuang's face paled.

"I don't know! It is a fact that the share price has indeed fallen!"

Upon hearing that, she immediately turned to the table with a pale face. She switched on her computer and checked the share price, which then caused her to almost pass out—the share price of

Venture Capital Finance had plummeted by almost 10% of its original price.

"How did it happen?" She had a look of disbelief on her face.

"The Ji Family's other company's share price seems to be... dropping as well..." the secretary weakly added.

"What?" Li Chengshuang's vision turned black at that instant as she almost fainted.

"Let me see what is going on now!" Ji Ding rushed over to them to look at the computer.

Sure enough, the share price of Ji Family's other company had started to plummet. In fact, it resembled a deck of

cards falling.

"What's going on?" A pale Ji Ding was enraged.

At that moment, a series of footsteps could be heard from the door—Ji Mu entered the room with Wang Lang.

"Why are you here?" Li Chengshuang's expression instantly fell. It was because Ji Mu did not follow her instructions when they dealt with the Tang Family's matter. Instead, she hooked up with Wang Lang, which displeased Li Chengshuang.

Ji Ding and his wife did not bring Ji Mu along when they came to Wuhan that time to acquire Venture Capital Finance.

However, Ji Mu's current arrival made their expressions change.

"Why am I here?" Ji Mu scoffed and replied with mockery in her tone. "I'm here to inform you guys that the Ji Family's death is probably approaching!"

"What do you mean?" Li Chengshuang's expression was dark.

"What do I mean?" Ji Mu mocked again. She slowly walked up to the table, placed both hands on it, and leaned her body forward as she looked at Li Chengshuang. "Perhaps you are still unaware that the Zhao Family has lost in the battle with the Tang Family..."

"What did you just say?" Li

Chengshuang's expression changed tremendously. "This is impossible! Wasn't it reported that Tang Yin wouldn't be able to walk out from the desert and the Great Ancestor of the Zhao Family had returned? It is impossible that the Zhao Family has lost!"

"Ignorant!" Wang Lang stepped forward and sneered at Li Chengshuang. "Why isn't Mr. Tang unable to leave the desert?"

"That's right. Why is Tang Yin unable to walk out from the desert? He is your son-in-law, or perhaps you don't wish for him to do so?" Ji Mu was sarcastic. "Not only did he leave the desert, he even went to Mount Wang to look for the Zhao Family! Mount Wang is now in

chaos—the village has been destroyed and many people of the Zhao Family have been injured with some of them losing their lives! The Xu Family, subordinate to the Zhao Family, has been affected because they have fallen as well."

"That's impossible! How is this possible? How is it possible that the Zhao Family has fallen?" Ji Ding's expression dramatically changed.

"You can choose not to believe me.
Anyways, everyone else has received
the news, except the two of you." Ji Mu
stood straight, feeling pity as she
looked at the two of them. "Perhaps
everyone else is also waiting to make
fun of the both of you?"

"You—" Li Chengshuang slammed on the table and she abruptly rose to her full height.

"You don't need to be mad at me. I think that it's better for you to read the Tang Family's news!" Ji Mu pouted as she turned and went out of the room.

The reason why she came over was to give them a reminder. However, whenever she recalled how she had been excluded from the Ji Family by Ji Ding and his wife, she felt upset in her heart. Now that she saw Li Chengshuang and Ji Ding suffering and in trouble, it made her feel much better.

While looking at Ji Mu leaving, Li Chengshuang gritted her teeth in disgruntlement and immediately clicked

on the website link to read the news about the Tang Family.

'The Tang Group proposes to establish Wuhan Investment Company. The person in-charge, Li Xubo, is currently heading toward Wuhan..."

'The Tang Group adjusts its strategy by integrating all businesses in Beijing and Shanghai with Wuhan as the central hub..'

'Tang Group's president, Tang Lijiang, has arrived in Beijing. This is perhaps the sign that the Tang Family will be launching a counterattack in full force..."

The media was flooded with all kinds of news.

Upon reading those news, Li
Chengshuang's body involuntarily
shook. She almost could not breathe
and passed out on the spot.

All that news illustrated that the Tang Family seemed to have won and their counterattack had officially begun. The most staggering news to her was that many people from the Business Federation of Beijing had collaborated with the Tang Group.

Ji Ding was also shocked by the news as he nearly lost his balance while Li Chengshuang landed on her buttocks when she sank onto the couch.

Ring, ring, ring... Her phone suddenly rang at that moment.

She answered the call with a pale face and Shi Changxin's voice was heard from the phone.

"Madam Li, after conducting our study, we find that you are not suitable to be a member of the Business Federation of Beijing. Therefore, we specially made this call to inform you that the Ji Family has been expelled from the Business Federation of Beijing!"

"What did you just say? Chairman Shi, please listen to me—the Ji Family is still a family in Beijing; we are still—" Li Chengshuang anxiously replied.

"Madam Li, I think after this incident, even if the Ji Family is still a family in Beijing, I'm afraid that you won't be able to enter our federation with your

forces..." he calmly uttered.

"Chairman Shi!" she yelled before continuing in a trembling voice. "I-I am still the in-law of the Tang Family... We are the in-laws of the Tang Family. We won't be expelled when we still have this identity, right?"

"In-laws? Do you think that the Tang Family will still acknowledge this identity?" Shi Changxin chuckled before hanging up the call.

Li Chengshuang's eyes became lifeless, looking as if they had lost focus. If the Ji Family is really kicked out from the Business Federation of Beijing, our luxurious life will come to an end. All the happenings within the federation would not be revealed to the Ji Family and they would not be able to participate in any official functions.

That would definitely cause a huge blow for the Ji Family.

The husband and wife sat on the office chairs of Venture Capital Finance. The chairs that they had yet to sit long enough for it to be warm made them feel that spikes had grown and pierced their flesh and bones, causing them to bleed profusely.

"In-laws... We still have our in-laws!"

After some time, Li Chengshuang had a sudden realization and she quickly grabbed Ji Ding's wrist. "Regardless of everything, we are still the in-laws of the Tang Family, so they won't watch us fall into such a state, right? Give Tang

Lijiang a call right now and tell him... Tell him that Venture Capital Finance is doing well in our hands!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Upon hearing her words, Ji Ding's face reddened for some reason. Doing well? The Ji Family has taken over Venture Capital Finance, yet she still wants me to tell them that it is doing well? The Tang Family is planning to establish Wuhan Investment Company. In other words, they are going to give up on Venture Capital Finance and establish another new company, so how am I supposed to say that we are doing well?

"I am not thick-skinned to the point of begging them..." He felt embarrassed out of extreme fury and was ready to storm out of the room.

"Thick-skinned? Are you worried about your image at this point of time? If you are not going to beg them, I'll do it!" Li Chengshuang scolded. She then took

out her phone and dialed Tang Lijiang's number.

Beep, beep, beep.

The beeping sound was heard for quite some time, but Tang Lijiang did not pick up the call.

Her face paled, as if she felt that her world had collapsed and she immediately dialed Jiang Hui's number.

Beep, beep, beep.

It was the beeping sound again, but this time, the call was immediately disconnected.

Jiang Hui refused to answer Li Chengshuang's call and directly hung up

as she did not intend to speak with her.

A stunned Li Chengshuang's face abruptly paled. "Why is this happening? Why the hell is this happening?"

Ji Ding's face flushed red; he felt that his wife had embarrassed him to the point where he was speechless.

"Oh, yeah, Yuan Zhian is still here! Yuan Zhian!" She suddenly recalled that she had met Yuan Zhian at the shareholders' meeting, so looking for her would be their top priority.

Upon having such thought, Li
Chengshuang instantly rose to her full
height, carried her purse, and strode
outside with the intention to look for
Yuan Zhian to have a word with her.

After all, as Ji Youyou's mother, she should have plenty of common topics to talk about with Yuan Zhian.

What happened in Wuhan seemed rather dramatic because the husband and wife of the Ji Family had really mastered the art of shamelessness.

Meanwhile, in the town at the foot of Mount Wang, Jiang Hui looked at Pei Ruo, whose face was scorched black, with a long face and was speechless for a moment.

As a woman herself, Jiang Hui understood how critically important it was for a woman to have a beautiful face. Anyone would be distraught to suddenly become ugly, especially when she was someone who used to be gorgeous.

Pei Ruo was once a stunning woman. However, not only did she have black patches on her face, there were even two gashes on it. Although the doctor had shaved off her hair, scars had remained on her scalp.

Jiang Hui let out a sigh. After looking at Pei Ruo for some time, she turned and walked away to speak to the doctor behind her. "Make sure she stays alive and try your best to restore her looks."

"Keeping her alive is not much of a problem, but she might need to undergo skin transplant to restore her looks! As the patient's skin tissues on the face have necrotized, it would be difficult to restore them!" the doctor quietly replied.

"I don't care about the costs and how much we need to pay, but you have to restore her looks!" Jiang Hui adamantly declared. As a woman, she did not wish to see Pei Ruo in that state.

After hesitating for a moment, the doctor nodded, acknowledging that he would try his best.

Jiang Hui then went downstairs.
Looking at the people of the Tang
Family gathering in front of the hospital,
she slightly furrowed her brows. "Did
you guys manage to find them?"

[&]quot;Not yet..."

[&]quot;Increase our manpower!" She took a deep breath and turned to look at the faraway Zhao Family's Chamber of

Commerce. As she had visited there with Tang Lijiang once before, she naturally knew its location. "The rest of you should follow me to the Zhao Family's Chamber of Commerce!"

"Yes!" The group of people then entered their cars and headed straight toward the Zhao Family's Chamber of Commerce.

As a matter of fact, everyone understood that Jiang Hui wished to take down the Zhao Family's Chamber of Commerce in one swoop to prevent any other possible troubles. Since the Zhao Family had fallen, there was no reason for the Zhao Family's Chamber of Commerce to be maintained. Therefore, all the people and forces related to the Zhao Family would have

to experience a great restructure.

Meanwhile, Tang Yin, who was currently downstream of Mount Wang, slowly opened his eyes once again.

"Tang Yin, how are you feeling?" Zhuge Pei quietly asked.

He opened his mouth and felt that his lips were so parched that he could not speak for a moment.

"Don't move first. Let the technique circulate in your body!" While holding his wrist with one hand, she continuously channeled her Inner Energy into his body to help him to recover from his physical injuries.

The two of them maintained their

position until midnight when Tang Yin finally regained partial control of his body.

The lightning brought by the demonic beast had caught him off guard and he never experienced such a situation when he previously fought with other people.

The lightning strikes were indeed not a technique a man could attain. To his knowledge, that was actually an inhuman technique, but little did he know that he also did not resemble a human in the eyes of outsiders.

"Where are we?" After a while, he opened his mouth and weakly asked Zhuge Pei, as if he had drained all the remaining strength in his body.

"This is downstream of Mount Wang. We have been washed here by the water current," she briefly explained and informed him about Zhao Yu's whereabouts as well.

Upon hearing that, Tang Yin had a solemn look on his face. Since she had traveled downstream with the current, she must be searching for them. Now that Mount Wang was in such a state, a person like her would never let him off. I'm afraid that she will never let me go even if she has to oppose the entire world.

Gentle moonlight poured over the land, shrouding the surrounding woods and causing it to look like heaven.

Cuckoo birds were chirping from a

distance away and they occasionally flapped their wings to fly off to a faraway land. The cicadas whirred in the night; the continuous sound surrounded them both as if the animals were right next to them.

Tang Yin silently activated his technique and circulated it throughout his body. When he felt that the flow of his blood and energy had smoothened, he moved his body a little.

At that moment, the sound of water splashing suddenly appeared from the faraway river.

Zhuge Pei's expression changed as she immediately covered his mouth while her body instantly stiffened.

His expression fell as well. As he leaned against her chest, he could see white water splashes on the surface of the distant river and a slithery tentacle creeping out from the river. Zhao Yu! His heart raced as his eyes widened. I never thought that Zhao Yu would actually return!

Zhao Yu rode with an extremely dark and terrifying expression on the demonic beast while travelling upstream.

At that moment, both Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei could sense Zhao Yu's vicious murderous intention.

The two of them stared unblinkingly at the woods where Zhao Yu's figure slowly traveled upstream. However, his

face slightly reddened—after holding his breath for a long period earlier, his severely injured body had reached its limit.

With a reddened face, Zhuge Pei lowered her head and took a deep breath before pressing her lips on his.

It was not only air but her Inner Energy that was being channeled into his mouth.

Tang Yin felt a softness on his lips, which made his heart skip a beat.

Splash!At that moment, large splashes of water suddenly appeared on the surface of the river, causing the two of them to instantly freeze on the spot.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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A long tentacle reached out from the river. After stirring up some waves, the tentacle grabbed a live fish and delivered it to Zhao Yu's mouth.

Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei did not dare to move even a muscle and maintained the suggestive posture.

At that moment, her face blushed within moments as she looked a little overwhelmed by their current actions.

As a girl from a hidden family, she was a little more reserved compared to other girls who lived ordinary lives when it came to relationship matters. Growing up, she never had any physical contact with a boy. Therefore, her current act with Tang Yin made her heart flutter.

Tang Yin also felt her heart racing as well as the time when Zhao Yu left.

When they finally did not hear the sound of water splashing around, he gently extended his arm and wrapped it around Zhuge Pei's body before turning and pressing her underneath him.

"No—" She subconsciously tried to reject him, but he had already pressed his lips against hers.

Maybe actions worked better for a woman like Zhuge Pei; otherwise, Tang Yin had no idea on how to socialize with her as well. Since the situation had arrived to that point, he naturally would not allow the opportunity to go to waste.

The two of them became entangled with each other and it was more of a declaration of their emotions instead of him being impulsive when he lost his rationale back then.

As they removed their clothes, he continued to passionately respond to her and completely indulged himself in the lovemaking.

Zhao Yu probably had never expected that Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei hid in the area that she just left and they were now making love to each other while venting their emotions.

From the desert to Mount Wang and to that place, they realized their feelings for each other in their journey and that they already had each other in their

hearts.

Once their adventure ended, Zhuge Pei's stoic face reddened and she seemed to have a shred of gentleness in her eyes when she looked at Tang Yin.

The two of them lay in the dense forest, looking at the night sky that was brightened by the moon light before falling into deep sleep.

The next day, his body had made a significant recovery. He was able to walk with her support although he could not walk fast. So, she carried him on her back.

Her face had been blushing ever since she woke up in the morning and she even lacked the courage to look at him.

Tang Yin chuckled inwardly at Zhuge Pei's reaction and he practiced the secret technique while lying on her back

The two of them had cultivated the same secret technique and now that they were on the same level, his routine resonated with hers when he did his practice.

Practicing the secret technique with her had helped him to recover at a much faster rate.

Carrying Tang Yin on her back, Zhuge Pei stumbled all the way through the dense forest and she walked for a long distance before they finally saw the road.

After a while, a few cars that sped past them reversed to where they were.

It was the people from the Tang Family!

Upon seeing that it was members of the Tang Family, he felt that a weight was lifted from his shoulders.

The two of them boarded the car as it directly sped toward the small town at the foot of Mount Wang.

Jiang Hui, who had already received the news, stood at the entrance of the small town. Upon seeing that Tang Yin had finally returned, his strong and domineering mother's eyes reddened for the first time. "Pei Ruo is not in a good state..."

A stunned Tang Yin immediately asked, "What happened?"

"You should go and take a look for yourself!" Jiang Hui sighed.

He quickly took large strides toward the hospital behind her. Although his steps were wobbly, he moved at a quicker speed than ordinary people.

He dashed all the way upstairs and his expression tremendously changed the moment he saw Pei Ruo in the ICU.

Her current condition had greatly exceeded his imagination as he never expected that the girl would fall into such a miserable state.

"I'm going in to have a look." With a

solemn expression, he pushed open the door of the ICU.

The few doctors in the ward saw him and attempted to stop him, but Jiang Hui prevented them from doing so.

Tang Yin walked up to Pei Ruo and placed his hand on her wrist with an incredibly gloomy expression.

As she had been taking stalactite water all the while, her physical fitness was obviously better than most people.
Although she had yet to reach the Fundamental Level, she had already attained a physique that was unimaginable by others.

With a hand placed on her wrist, he immediately sensed that her pulse was

beating in a chaotic manner.

It was a sign that her body was repairing itself, but her injuries were too severe for it to do so. If she had a stronger ability, her pulse would have been in a better state. However, since she did not have great abilities, she was not able to recuperate from her injuries at a much faster rate.

"Who's at Tang Island now?" Tang Yin asked softly.

"Youyou and Cen Xia," Jiang Hui answered.

He ordered in a serious tone, "Ask Youyou to look for Meng Wan and bring to me the Tianshan snow lotus that I brought back the last time. She has to

be quick!" He did not know how much longer Pei Ruo could endure or what could happen to her if she continued to be in that condition.

During the previous negotiation with the Eight Great Families from the Snow Mountain of Nine Dragons, the other party had given the Tianshan snow lotus to Tang Yin. He then gave some of it to Old Man Hu Song, which obviously helped the latter to recover from his injuries.

The unfortunate part was that Hu Song had yet to regain consciousness, which was also Tang Yin's regret.

Jiang Hui then left to convey his orders while Tang Yin looked at Pei Ruo's face and sighed.

Pei Ruo was one of the earliest people to be by his side, but she had ended up in such a state. He was upset upon seeing her condition, so he would not just give the Tianshan snow lotus to her; no matter how precious the treasure was, if she wanted it, he would be more than willing to obtain it for her.

After exiting her ward, he glanced at Jiang Hui, who was standing at the end of the corridor, and slowly walked toward her.

She was looking outside the window with eyes that did not have any emotion. Feeling that he was behind her, she frowned and uttered, "I've killed everyone from the Zhao Family..."

Tang Yin remained silent, knowing that

it was her style.

"I've arranged for more people to be sent here to take over the assets that the Xu Family has left behind..." She hesitated for a moment and continued speaking in a quiet voice. "But there is something you need to contemplate— Zhao Yu will forever be a threat as long as she stays alive!"

He himself knew that Zhao Yu would definitely be a threat to them, especially when her current ability coupled with the demonic beast had completely exceeded what he could handle. If she were to use her powerful force to carry out deterrence against the Tang Family, there could be someone who would betray the Tang Family under her orders.

"Let's stabilize the situation first... I'll figure out a way to deal with Zhao Yu later!" he gently replied.

Jiang Hui nodded and turned to glance at Tang Yin, realizing that the child she could carry in her arms back then was now a mature adult.

As the two of them casually chatted, Zhuge Pei silently backed away. After standing at the ground floor of the hospital and staying quiet for a long time, she walked toward Mount Wang.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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News of the collapse of the Zhao Family spread throughout the country like wildfire.

When the regional managers of the Tang Family disembarked from the airplane, their heads were held high with a sense of dignity.

The media interviewed Tao Huaisheng the moment he landed. He replied to the media while smiling faintly, "I did not expect the company to face this issue while I was away on a business trip! I'm sure everybody is aware of my personality and I am not the kind of person to be taken advantage of. Hence, whoever took something of mine better return it before I return to the company. Things won't end well if I have to personally snatch what belongs

to me!"

The reporters, who were surrounding him, were shocked when they heard his announcement and started to draft headlines and articles in their minds.

Tao Huaisheng's stand represented the Tang Family's stance.

Furthermore, the business world was just like a war zone, so those businessmen implemented their ideas in a similar manner. The act of someone making a move on their enterprises was equivalent to the act of murdering their parents.

Tao Huaisheng's announcement was a clear statement that the time had arrived for the Tang Family to take

revenge after autumn. Among the crowd, most of the reporters partially understood what he meant—they only knew that after he left, there were some changes in Beijing, but they were unaware that the Tang and Zhao Families had an intense fight which resulted in today's situation.

His radar swept across Beijing whereas Han Siyu remained silent.

Upon landing in Beijing, she led the entire Han Family to enter the Han Family's car to rush to their company.

Everybody knew that she did not like to attract attention to herself, but her expression was more than enough to explain the issues at hand.

By the time Tao Huaisheng arrived at the company, many business parties competed to meet up with him. They wanted to be the first to collaborate with the Tang Family at the first instance. With the collapse of the Zhao Family, it was only natural for the Tang Family to rise again, leading to an eventual increase in influence and power that surpassed their current status.

A private jet landed at the foot of Mount Wang in the evening.

With the Tianshan snow lotus in her hands, Ji Youyou rushed over with Tao Qingfan and Cen Xia.

Tang Yin accepted the Tianshan snow lotus before gently hugging Ji Youyou in

his arms. Then, he turned to enter the hospital room.

Pei Ruo, who was in the room, did not seem to be doing well. Ever since she was injured, she had shown no signs of regaining consciousness at all, which immediately worried him.

Ji Youyou watched as Tang Yin left and she sighed softly. After that, she sat on one of the chairs along the hospital's corridor.

"She should be fine, right?" Tao Qingfan looked up while mumbling quietly. Then she glanced at Ji Youyou. "Did you see my child?"

"The child isn't yours to begin with!" Cen Xia pouted.

Tao Qingfan was slightly upset when she heard that. "Why isn't the child mine? I brought the child back, so naturally, the child is mine..."

Cen Xia did not want to entertain her and looked away instead. Her gaze was filled with resentment at that point. How could that child possibly be Tao Qingfan's? It's obviously Tang Yin and Zhuge Pei's child. Tao Qingfan merely held the child.

Ring, ring, ring... Ji Youyou's phone started ringing at that moment.

She frowned while glancing at her phone. Then, she sighed quietly while rejecting the call.

The phone call was from Li

Chengshuang. Ever since Ji Youyou boarded the plane in Tang Island, her phone never stopped ringing. Up until now, her mother had been calling her dozens of times.

Cen Xia saw that and knew that Ji Youyou was agitated by that stage. Therefore, Cen Xia kept quiet to stop arguing with Tao Qingfan.

Ring, ring, ring... Ji Youyou's phone rang again—and it was still her mother.

She scowled, but she looked adorable. Nevertheless, it was undeniable that she was becoming annoyed.

"Why don't you answer the phone call? Otherwise, she will continue to call you!" Cen Xia suggested.

Ji Youyou nodded and she stood up while answering the phone call.

Li Chengshuang's elated voice answered from the other end of the call.

"Youyou, have you had dinner?" She did not sound awkward at all. On the contrary, she asked in a friendly manner. "How have you been doing recently? Since you have been together with Tang Yin for such a long time, when are you planning to have your wedding? It will be a burden off my shoulder if you have your wedding. I will also give you a huge gift when the time comes!"

"Just cut to the chase if you need something!" Ji Youyou answered quietly. She knew that Li Chengshuang had wanted something from her since

she was calling out of the blue after not being in touch for such a long time.

"Well... What reasons do I need to contact you?" Li Chengshuang chuckled in embarrassment before she added hastily. "By the way, Youyou, I heard that you are heading to Mount Wang recently. It happens that I will be at Mount Wang in the next few days too. Why don't I treat you to a meal?"

Ji Youyou's eyes reddened with tears when she heard that.

How am I unaware of the issues that the Tang Family has been facing lately? It was especially true when Li Chengshuang backstabbed the Tang Family when they were in a dire situation. Ji Youyou knew about the incident much better than anyone else. Besides, she was a member of the Tang

Family since she was Tang Yin's official fiancée.

Most issues within the Tang Family would not be kept from her. On the contrary, more often than not, they would even consult her.

Ji Youyou was well informed about what the Ji Family did in Beijing and Wuhan. Now that the Tang Family had not collapsed and instead rose once again, Li Chengshuang was turning around to beg her daughter. If the Tang Family did not rise again or lost to the Zhao Family, Ji Youyou was sure that her mother would be the first to take advantage of them.

"Youyou, what is it? Why aren't you saying anything? I truly miss you..." Li

Chengshuang chuckled awkwardly. "Where are you? I'll pick you up right now..."

"Where are you? I'll meet you there!" Ji Youyou asked after inhaling deeply.

"Really? I am at the Ruyi Hotel. You just have to swing by here..." Li Chengshuang answered urgently. "You better be quick since I truly miss you a lot!"

Ji Youyou hung up on the phone call as tears started to swim in her eyes.

Having such a mother sent chills down her spine.

"You guys should wait here for me," she spoke to Cen Xia and Tao Jingfan. "I

need to head out for a bit!" After that, she turned to walk down the stairs. She felt that she needed to have a proper talk with her mother. Otherwise, she was sure that there would be conflicts in the future.

Once Ji Youyou arrived at the bottom of the building, she flagged a cab at the hospital entrance and entered the vehicle.

After about ten minutes, the cab arrived at the front of the Ruyi Hotel.

Ji Youyou glanced at the hotel after alighting from the vehicle and she immediately caught sight of Li Chengshuang standing inside. She was waving earnestly at Ji Youyou and seemed exceptionally delighted.

Ji Youyou pursed her lips while making her way into the hotel.

"Youyou, quickly have a seat..."

Ji Youyou sat across from Li Chengshuang. Before Li Chengshuang could utter another word, Ji Youyou cruelly asked, "What would it take to have a clean break with you?"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Li Chengshuang was stumped when she heard that, so she answered in embarrassment, "Youyou, what are you saying? I am still your mother after all. As mother and daughter, blood is thicker than water. How could we possibly have a clean break?"

Ji Youyou regarded Li Chengshuang while holding back her tears, but she could still feel the surges of heartache in her chest. Did she claim that we are mother and daughter? Blood is thicker than water, did she say? My mother is nothing but a bloodsucker. From the day that I've been reunited with her, I have never felt any maternal love from my mother. Instead, she has been going against me each time.

"Youyou, why don't you order something

to drink? This hotel's coffee is not bad at all..." Li Chengshuang noticed that Ji Youyou's complexion was not good, so she lifted her arm to wave at the server. "Please serve two cups of coffee—I want the best!" she ordered.

The server nodded and retreated in a hurry.

Ji Youyou still stared at Li Chengshuang as her eyes started to redden with tears. Without even being aware of it, Ji Youyou's tears started to fall from the corners of her eyes and dripped from her delicate chin onto the table.

"Youyou, what is it?" Li Chengshuang smiled awkwardly and handed some paper napkins to her daughter. "Wipe away your tears! I know that I haven't

been in contact much with you earlier, but that's because I've been busy! Now that I'm not busy, didn't I rush over to catch up with you?"

"You were busy going after Tang Yin's Venture Capital Finance, weren't you?" Ji Youyou questioned her coldly.

"Youyou, what are you saying?" Li
Chengshuang hastily denied. "Even if I
want to take down Venture Capital
Finance, isn't it for you and Tang Yin's
sake? Just a few days ago, there were
rumors claiming that the Tang Family
was in a crisis with many people trying
to snatch the Tang Family's enterprises!
If those businesses were to end up in
the hands of outsiders, it would mean
that those businesses would be gone
forever! I was trying to procure Venture

Capital Finance for you and Tang Yin. If I were to gain possession of it, wouldn't it end up with you two in the end?"

Upon hearing that, Ji Youyou was at the brink of breaking down. She never expected her own mother to do such a despicable thing while making it sound as if she was doing a huge favor.

If it was in the past, Ji Youyou would have believed her mother. However, at this stage, what hadn't I witnessed? Hadn't I seen more cunning affairs happening before her eyes? So, how can I possibly trust Li Chengshuang easily?

"You also know that you are my only daughter. Therefore, in the future, everything I own would be yours and Tang Yin's." Li Chengshuang continued

without shame.

It took Ji Youyou a lot of effort to stabilize her emotions. Then, she stared at Li Chengshuang steadily while speaking, "Shut up! You only wanted Venture Capital Finance and now it is already in your hands. What else do you want?"

Li Chengshuang looked awkward, but she smiled hastily while explaining herself, "Well... Youyou, I actually do not have an ulterior motive for meeting you this time. I just wanted to have a meal and chat with you. I wanted to meet Tang Yin and ask him to release a statement to the public that the Ji and Tang Families are still a loving family—"

"A loving family?" Ji Youyou was

overwhelmed with irony when she heard that as her tears kept rolling down. "Tang Yin doesn't have the time now and I advise you to stop daydreaming about that!"

Upon saying that, she stood up abruptly.

"Youyou!" Upon seeing that Ji Youyou was about to leave, Li Chengshuang stood up abruptly and pleaded. "Youyou, I am begging you; please help me this time! You should know that although I have procured Venture Capital Finance, its shares have been plummeting continuously. Within days, the Ji Family would be destroyed! Even if you do not want to do it for me, think about your family. Help the Ji Family to overcome this disaster and I will forever be indebted to you!"

"Have you ever treated me as your daughter?" Ji Youyou lifted her head up in stubbornness—it was her first time confronting her mother and stared into her eyes.

Li Chengshuang's expression changed and she asked, "What do you mean? Haven't I treated you as my daughter?"

Ji Youyou shook her head. "You only have eyes on Venture Capital Finance and its profits, but you've never taken me into consideration! If it weren't for Venture Capital Finance's plunging shares, would you be here to see me?"

"Youyou!" Li Chengshuang's expression soured. "How could you say such a thing to your own mother?"

Ji Youyou held her head high while turning to walk out of the door.

"Youyou, are you truly not going to agree to that?" Li Chengshuang suddenly shouted.

"I agree!" Somebody walked into the hotel at that moment and held onto Ji Youyou's wrist.

She burst into tears the moment she looked up and threw herself into Tang Yin's arms while sobbing inconsolably.

In their relationship as mother and daughter, Ji Youyou only saw her mother's demands as the latter took advantage of her. In the end, he had to make up for Ji Youyou's wounded heart.

"Tang Yin..." Li Chengshuang immediately flashed a welcoming smile when she saw him. "Quickly have a seat!"

Tang Yin patted Ji Youyou, who was in his arms, while quietly consoling her. Then, he held her hand before leading her to take a seat across from Li Chengshuang.

The moment he entered the hotel, he tightly held Ji Youyou's hand without letting go of her because he knew that it was the only way to provide her with a sense of security.

Both of them sat down while Li Chengshuang hurriedly summoned the server over to order another cup of coffee. Then, she smiled while asking

him, "Tang Yin, you must have been busy lately, haven't you?"

He burst out in laughter. "It's fine!"

She looked shamefaced as she could clearly tell that he did not intend to continue chatting with her.

"Tang Yin!" Li Chengshuang inhaled deeply before cutting to the chase. "I am sure you know about this—Ji Family has procured Venture Capital Finance. However, that's just how business works, so there's nothing strange going on there!"

"Yup!" Tang Yin continued to nod. He did not seem to mind her actions, even though he was well aware that her purchase price had clearly oppressed

and exploited him.

"I don't think there's a problem since it's a standard business deal! The shares of Venture Capital Finance have been plunging, and as the former owner of Venture Capital Finance, I'm sure you wouldn't want to see it bankrupt, am I right?" Li Chengshuang straightened her back while asking.

"That's right!" Tang Yin cocked his head to the side while staring at Li Chengshuang. "And your point is? What do you want me to do now?"

"You don't need to do anything—you just need to release a statement regarding the Tang Family. Then, announce to the public that I am still your mother-in-law! With that, I am sure that it will secure

Venture Capital Finance's shares!" She leaned against her chair while folding her arms in front of her chest. "After all, that's the truth and you can't change it!"

Ji Youyou suddenly tightened her grip on his hand because she felt extremely embarrassed. I can't believe that I have such a horrible person as my mother. It is obvious that Li Chengshuang took advantage of the Tang Family, but now, she's asking for them to help her. What kind of logic is that?

"What are your thoughts?" Li Chengshuang looked up to meet Tang Yin's gaze.



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"Sure!" Tang Yin smiled slightly with a clear understanding in his eyes.

Li Chengshuang froze. "Sure?"

"Why? You don't believe me?" Tang Yin stood up and held Ji Youyou's wrists. "I will make a public announcement and follow everything you asked me to do. In the future—"

"In the future, I will never disturb you guys anymore!" Li Chengshuang immediately said.

After a momentary silence, Tang Yin's face darkened. At his current position, he didn't care what tactics Li Chengshuang was using. However, after hearing her words, Tang Yin felt rather scornful.

Her words posed no threat to him, but they were very hurtful to Ji Youyou.

Sure enough, after hearing that, Ji Youyou jolted and turned around to sob.

Tang Yin merely eyed Li Chengshuang coldly before wrapping his arms around Ji Youyou's shoulders and walking away with her.

After the both of them left, Li
Chengshuang jolted subconsciously, as
if she had lost something. However,
after looking from another perspective,
she realized that she had gained more
from this.

At least, on the surface, Venture Capital Finance was stabilized, and the Ji Family had the capabilities to be one of

the powerful families. Everything seemed to have worked out well.

After they left the hotel, Tang Yin gently sighed as he tightened his hold on Ji Youyou's shoulders.

Tears flowed down silently from her cheeks as she leaned on Tang Yin's shoulders. The helplessness she felt at this moment almost broke her down.

Ji Youyou admitted that she hadn't been much of a help for the crisis in the Tang Family this time, and she was even held back by Li Chengshuang. Deep down in Ji Youyou's heart, she didn't feel too good about this.

After they were far from the hotel, Tang Yin finally stopped walking and wiped Ji

Youyou's tears off her face.

"You won't be pretty anymore if you continue crying!"

Even after hearing that, Ji Youyou had no signs of stopping; her tears still seemed to flow endlessly.

"Do you remember the time I saved you when you fell into the water?" Tang Yin smiled as he hugged Ji Youyou's shoulders again before he started walking once again.

She nodded silently.

"I remember you only stopped crying after I lashed out at you. Do you want me to lash out at you again?" Tang Yin deliberately looked at her angrily.

Seeing Tang Yin's face, Ji Youyou finally grabbed him and plunged into his embrace while hugging him tightly.

"Marry me!" Tang Yin suddenly said.

"Okay..." Ji Youyou kept nodding as tears streamed down her cheeks. However, this time around, it was tears of joy, not tears of sorrow caused by Li Chengshuang.

Patting her back, Tang Yin heaved a sigh internally. To be honest, he felt slightly guilty. Ji Youyou was his fiancée, yet he slept with Yuan Zhian and Zhuge Pei consecutively. Not only did he have Meng Nianyin, whom Meng Wan left behind, Zhuge Pei also gave birth to a child.

To Ji Youyou, this was probably another form of betrayal.

"Let's go! I'll take you home." After consoling her for a long time, Tang Yin held Ji Youyou's hands and turned around to the hospital.

Just as they returned to the hospital, Jiang Hui walked out from the building with a stack of documents in her hands. "We've found Zhao Yu! She's around 100 kilometers downstream with no one around her!"

Tang Yin tok the documents over and looked at the picture taken by satellites. Sure enough, he could see a dark figure in the river—it seemed to be Zhao Yu.

From a few other pictures, it was clear

that she was lingering around that area with no intentions to leave.

"Everyone else has already evacuated, and Elder Wang has already sent people over to negotiate. All we can do now is to just wait!" Jiang Hui explained.

Tang Yin nodded and took the documents in his hands as he led Ji Youyou into the hospital.

After eating the Tianshan snow lotus, Pei Ruo had some slight changes. However, the changes weren't happening quickly.

After Tang Yin fed her the Tianshan snow lotus, he followed Ji Youyou to the hotel and didn't really take care of Pei Ruo. After he returned this time, he

entered the ward directly and saw that Pei Ruo's face still looked greenishblack.

It was highly possible that this color would not disappear in a short while. It would probably take two to three years, perhaps even longer, for it to completely disappear.

Sitting on the bed, Tang Yin heaved another sigh. They didn't have any other options right now apart from waiting for Pei Ruo to wake up. Then, she would have to drink large amounts of stalactite water and train daily.

With that, perhaps her condition would eventually improve.

Around 100 kilometers down the stream

of Mount Wang's river, a fleet of cars slowly came to a halt.

Looking worried, Huang Ting got out of the car first before he opened the door for Elder Wang respectfully.

"It's fine!" Elder Wang waved nonchalantly and chuckled lightly. "I've met her before. Why are you so nervous?"

"It's too dangerous!" Huang Ting said gently.

Elder Wang smiled and shook his head. "Seems like you still don't know what is going on. Since everything has reached this point, the dangerous person has become less dangerous anymore. Look at this river! She's a drowning person in

this river, and I'm the lifejacket she wants! If she grabs onto me, she'd still have an opportunity to survive. If not, she also wouldn't have any intentions to destroy me!"

After a moment, Huang Ting thought, This might really be the case. Both Zhao Yu and the Zhao Family have already reached this stage, so they can't turn the tides around anymore. Zhao Yu is only thinking about how to survive this right now.

Taking Elder Wang's orders, the group of people stood still.

With Huang Ting next to him, Elder Wang walked away from the road and followed a trail to the river.

The gurgling of the river could be heard, with the waves crashing on each other. It was a relaxing sight to behold.

"What scenery!"

While enjoying the beautiful nature, Elder Wang smiled and looked at the center of the river.

Splash!

Waves crashed into each other in the center of the river as Zhao Yu slowly rose to the surface.

She had silver hair and a black robe on her. With icy looks, she had a murderous air around her.

"The Great Ancestor of the Zhao

Family!" Elder Wang took a step forward and saluted Zhao Yu in the traditional way before smiling. "Since everything has reached this stage, I'm sure you also understand that time waits for no one. Why don't we sit down and have a nice chat? There's no need to make a fuss out of this, as it brings no benefit to everyone."

"Go to hell!" Zhao Yu narrowed her eyes and gritted her teeth upon hearing that.

As the water gurgled loudly, slimy tentacles poked from underneath the water and made the water flow even faster.

After seeing this, Elder Wang smiled once more. "Great Ancestor of the Zhao Family, why don't we discuss this

calmly? No matter what, you are also part of the hidden family in China..."

Splash!

At this moment, the tentacles under the water suddenly enlarged and attacked Elder Wang.

"Be careful!"

Shocked, Huang Ting took a step forward.



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"It's fine!" Elder Wang raised his hands to stop Huang Ting while maintaining eye contact with Zhao Yu.

Dozens of tentacles were reaching to him, only millimeters away.

Nevertheless, Elder Wang continued to remain still on the ground with a slight smile on his face. "Madam Zhao, I understand how you feel now. But your era is over! Why do you keep holding onto it? What would you get even if you kill me now?"

Zhao Yu glared at Elder Wang morosely as she clenched her fists.

After a gentle sigh, Elder Wang continued speaking. "Even though the Zhao Family has fallen, the grandchildren of the Zhao Family are

still alive and kicking in this world. Shouldn't you think of their future, Madam Zhao?"

"What are you trying to say?" Zhao Yu asked through clenched teeth.

"If you are willing to live a reclusive life, I will find a scenic spot for you, and I will also arrange for the remaining descendants of the Zhao Family to stay there. Even if you can't take revenge, you can enjoy the prosperity and longevity of the Zhao Family—" Elder Wang offered.

Narrowing her eyes, Zhao Yu interrupted, "If you hurt a single person of the Zhao Family, I'll destroy one bridge a day and one city in three days!"

"Madam Zhao, do you think you can win against modern technology?" Elder Wang raised his eyebrows as he asked.

"Let's find out, then." Zhao Yu smiled coldly and raised one of her arms. With that, dark clouds started to gather in the sky.

"That's enough!" Shaking his hands, Elder Wang sighed again. "You don't want to retire, and you can only think of revenge? Even though no one's a winner or a loser between you and Tang Yin, the Zhao Family has already reached this stage—"

"The Zhao Family is different from me!" As Zhao Yu bent her fingers slightly, thunder and lightning rolled in the sky, looking as though they were about to

strike anytime soon.

Once the lightning had striked, forget Elder Wang—the entire fleet of cars would be completely destroyed.

"Can I ask—exactly how would you retire and become a recluse?" Elder Wang raised his head.

"If you want me to be a recluse, fine! Go back and tell Tang Yin to come to Mount Wang alone after a month to fight a battle of life or death with me!" Zhao Yu said through gritted teeth. "If he wins, I shall die on Mount Wang. If I win, I'll let bygones be bygones with the Tang Family and stay on Mount Wang forever!"

After Elder Wang heard that, he was

stunned for a while and became quiet.

"Why? You can't do that?" Seeing that Elder Wang didn't reply, Zhao Yu raised his pitch. "If you can't do that, I'll kill you right now and hunt Tang Yin down!"

"Very well! I'll do it for you!" Elder Wang raised his head and nodded. "I'll let you know after three days!"

"Fine! You only have three days!" With that, Zhao Yu put her arms down, and the dark clouds started to disperse.

The gurgling water became louder as the water in the river of Mount Wang slowly moved to opposite sides. Then, Zhao Yu slowly disappeared from the surface of the river. Looking at this scene unfold in front of him, Elder Wang

sighed in the end.

"Are we really going to ask Tang Yin to fight the battle of life or death with her?" Huang Ting couldn't help asking.

Elder Wang didn't know how to reply to that, so he merely turned around to walk back to the tar road. In fact, Tang Yin didn't have a close relationship with Elder Wang. The person who was close to him was Tang Lijiang, and it would be impossible to convince him to let Tang Yin have a battle to the death with Zhao Yu. Elder Wang understood clearly about this. However, if they couldn't satisfy Zhao Yu, no one would know what she would do next.

"Let's go back and discuss with Jiang Hui!" Elder Wang got into the car after

another sigh. The fleet of cars then rushed to a small town below Mount Wang. All the while, Elder Wang became increasingly uneasy.

Once they arrived at the town, the order of the entire town had been regained. The battle yesterday had finally come to an end, but the villagers were still talking about it with no fear on their faces anymore.

Tang Lijiang was not around, so Jiang Hui was the person who welcomed Elder Wang. After eyeing her, Elder Wang sighed and walked to the hotel.

"I won't agree to this!" On the way to the hotel, he told Jiang Hui the summary of his entire encounter with Zhao Yu. However, just as he began to speak, she

disagreed immediately.

Elder Wang stopped walking. Sure enough, he knew that it would be difficult for Jiang Hui to agree to this. After all, Tang Yin was her son. No parent would want their son to risk their lives.

"Take a seat first." After entering the hotel, he pointed to a few chairs. "I also haven't figured out how to solve this, so I'm just asking for your opinion now. Just tell me your requests."

"Requests?" Jiang Hui arched her eyebrows coldly. "Elder Wang, please don't use your so-called justice to oppress me, and you don't have to play this word game with me. I only want my son to be safe and sound. I don't have

any other requests!"

Elder Wang explained, "Have you ever thought what would happen if you don't agree to Zhao Yu's request? She might look for trouble again! Judging by the condition in this country right now, I'm sure you know that if the Tang Family wins this round, you will be more influential. Apart from that, Zhao Yu is still a hidden threat to the Tang Family. If you don't deal with her now, you will lose a lot more things—"

"Losing a lot more things and losing my son—which do you think I would choose?" Jiang Hui replied coldly. She knew that Elder Wang was not lying to her—if they didn't agree to this, Zhao Yu would never give up on picking on the Tang Family as long as she was alive.

For the Tang Family to avoid this, they would either have to retire from the markets in China or pay a huge price to remove Zhao Yu, who was a threat to them. To the Tang Family, both of the solutions were bad. However, compared to losing her son, Jiang Hui could still accept them.

Elder Wang remained silent for a long time before heaving a sigh. He knew that this would be a difficult matter, and that it would also be very challenging to ask the Tang Family to agree to this. The Tang Family had a huge business, so they might not care about the losses that much. However, they might place more emphasis on the bloodline of their family.

"Can I talk to Tang Yin?" Elder Wang

couldn't help himself from asking as he still hadn't given up.

"There's no need for that!" Jiang Hui replied. "Elder Wang, this is something that will only bring the Tang Family harm—"

"I agree to this!" At this moment, Tang Yin walked into the door with a firm look on his face.

"You agree?" Elder Wang's expression changed as he looked at Tang Yin. "Are you sure?"



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"Tang Yin!" Jiang Hui suddenly stood up and glared at Tang Yin, who gently smiled as he walked forward.

After giving her a calming smile, he turned around to look at Elder Wang. "I agree to this challenge!"

"Tang Yin, this is very dangerous." After hearing Tang Yin's approval, Elder Wang couldn't help reminding him about this. Truth be told, at Elder Wang's age, he really liked young people from the bottom of his heart.

Everything would be fine if he won. However, if he lost, Elder Wang would feel sorry for him.

"I know!" Tang Yin nodded gently and sat next to Elder Wang with a smile.

"This is indeed dangerous, but it can be solved! We truly can't defend ourselves or run away forever. If Zhao Yu is not defeated, it wouldn't be good for us either."

Elder Wang nodded slightly, knowing that Tang Yin was right after all.

Jiang Hui, however, didn't look too good. Deep in her heart, she would rather defend themselves for years than letting Tang Yin take this risk.

To be crude, this was as good as taking her son's life in exchange for their entire family's safety. The reason why Tang Yin decided to do this was also because he feared that Zhao Yu would suddenly appear in front of the Tang Family one day, resulting in an irreparable situation.

Tang Yin couldn't take the risk, so he wanted to settle this before that happened.

"Let me know if you have any requests!" Elder Wang said in a low voice.

"I don't have any requests. If I really have to fight with Zhao Yu to the death a month later, you have to evacuate the people in this town. After all, I'm not exactly sure what will happen..." Tang Yin spoke softly.

"No problem!" Elder Wang nodded and stood up to shake Tang Yin's hands. "Prepare yourself during this period. If you need anything else, just let me know!"

[&]quot;Alright!" Tang Yin smiled.

After another sigh, Elder Wang left with Huang Ting.

"Why did you agree to it?" Jiang Hui pulled Tang Yin over with anger on her face. "Do you have the confidence to defeat Zhao Yu?"

"Nope!" Tang Yin replied honestly. After all, it was true he didn't have the confidence to defeat her. It might have been better if it had happened in the past, when they were all masters of the transformation stage. However, it was different now. With the demonic monster in Mount Wang, Zhao Yu could make thunder roll in the sky with just a wave of her hand. Tang Yin had no way to defend against that at all.

"Yet you're still trying to act tough?"

Jiang Hui glared at Tang Yin angrily before turning around to go outside. "I'm going to talk to Elder Wang now to ask him to cancel this! If worst comes to worst, the Tang Family just have to return to the Tang Island to live and never exit that place again! I'm sure we can outlive someone who is about to die!"

Seeing Jiang Hui's behavior right now, Tang Yin grabbed her shoulders and gave her a hug.

Jiang Hui froze as she received the hug. Even though the anger on her face had not disappeared, she felt the warmth inside. There was still love between the mother and son. At such moments where he revealed his feelings, Jiang Hui found it hard to digest such raw

emotions.

"Don't worry. When have I ever embarrassed you? Even though I'm not confident, I can still try!" Tang Yin smiled and let her go. "If all of us go back to Tang Island, we probably can't even outlive her..."

Jiang Hui's face darkened again as she glared at Tang Yin.

"I'll just give it a try. If I really can't succeed, then we can escape. But if the opportunity arises, killing her is the best!" Tang Yin smiled as he explained. Then, he turned around to walk outside. "I'm grown up now, and I have my own thoughts. Of course, I also want to protect you guys... If she's still alive, I can't eat and sleep well, and I won't stop

worrying about you!"

After being stunned for a short while, Jiang Hui felt like a deflated balloon. Tears welled up in her eyes as she looked at Tang Yin's leaving figure.

The toddler who was just learning how to walk has finally grown up to be a responsible man!

After walking out of the hotel, Tang Yin took a deep breath and continued his strides steadily.

Since they were going to have the battle a month later, Tang Yin would have to try to settle all his matters within a month.

As the night fell, he boarded the plane

alone and flew to the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons.

The reason for him going there this time was to attend Zhuge Yi's funeral.

After Mount Wang had been flattened, Zhuge Pei went to the mountain alone and found Zhuge Yi's body after looking around arduously. In the afternoon, she had already brought Zhuge Yi's body back to the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons.

After hearing this news, the Zhuge Family canceled their trip to Tang Island and returned to the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons.

After all, the Zhao Family was already destroyed, and the problem with Zhao

Yu had been solved. At this moment, the Zhuge Family just had to plan a decent funeral for Zhuge Yi.

When Tang Yin landed on the mountain, the cold air of the early autumn had already blown from the mountain.

Without telling anyone, Tang Yin walked up the mountain steadily.

He was not unfamiliar with the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons at all. After interacting with the secret families here, he had been here more than once. On top of that, he had also unleashed his powers here once.

The journey up the mountain was a slow walk.

When Tang Yin passed by the old ruins of the Duanmu Residence, he merely shot a glance at it without stopping as he had to rush to the peak of the mountain.

At this moment, in the Zhuge Residence on the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons, two white lanterns were hung on the tall door. A long sheet of yellow paper reached the ground from a height of three meters.

Bringing the members of the Zhuge Family, Zhuge Zhan stood in the front yard and bowed to all the visitors who were paying respects.

After going through the recent events, the Eight Great Families were slowly dying down.

Back then, the Eight Great Families were like stars in the skies. However, after Tang Yin had inflicted huge damages on them, only the names of the Eight Great Families remained; their power, however, was gone. After being tortured by the Great Ancestor of the Zhao Family, the Duanmu Family had lost their prestige as a hidden family. The atmosphere was quite morose and gloomy indeed.

Bringing around the few people left in the Duanmu Family, Duanmu Yang walked into the yard of the Zhuge Residence and bowed respectfully to Zhuge Yi's plate.

"I can't believe that one of the Eight Great Families ended up this way!" Duanmu Yang couldn't stop welling up

as he had never imagined this would happen one day.

"Patriarch Duanmu, why are you so emotional?" Patriarch Guan laughed as he raised his head to look at the Zhuge Family. "Even though we, the Eight Great Families, have suffered a lot, we have gained as well!"

"What do you mean?" Duanmu Yang froze.

Patriarch Guan smiled. "I heard that Zhuge Pei has already reached the transformation stage—"

"Is that true?" Duanmu Yang lit up.

"Of course!" Patriarch Guan smiled gently and glanced furtively at Zhuge

Pei before saying softly, "This is witnessed by everyone. Think about it—in the past, we didn't even have two people in The God Within Level, yet we have people in the transformation stage now. If we ask for advice to reach the transformation stage, can we do that as well?"



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Duanmu Yang was tempted after hearing that.

The transformation stage!

He was only at the pinnacle of Complete Level right now, which was the level which many patriarchs of the Eight Great Families were at. If he could reach the transformation stage, his abilities would greatly increase.

"Thank you for coming, everyone."
Zhuge Zhan walked out wearing a white outfit and saluted everyone. "I represent the Zhuge Family to thank everyone!"

"Don't worry about it!"

"You're too polite! The Eight Great Families in the Snow Mountain of the

Nine Dragons are one big family. You don't have to treat us as outsiders!"

"Indeed, indeed..."

Everyone returned his thanks and bowed.

After a sigh, Zhuge Zhan took a few steps back and bowed again with all his other family members.

"Since everyone is here today, I shall take this opportunity to let you know what has happened!" With that, Zhuge Zhan extended his hands and invited them indoors. "Please come to our discussion room to catch up!"

"Okay!"

"After you."

One after another, everyone entered the discussion room of the Zhuge Family and sat down while glancing half-heartedly at Zhuge Pei, who was standing behind Zhuge Zhan.

Zhuge Pei was also in a funeral outfit. She lowered her head as tears welled up in her eyes.

Zhuge Pei, also known as Zhuge Fairy among the Eight Great Families, looked even more beautiful than usual. With this atmosphere, she displayed her soft side instead of her cold attitude to everyone, making them more amorous.

After Zhuge Zhan was seated, he said in a low voice, "I'm sure everyone knows

that my father was killed by the Great Ancestors of the Zhao Family—"

"Patriarch Zhuge!" At this moment,
Patriarch Guan smiled as he called out.
"I heard that when Patriarch Zhuge was
fighting the battle of death with the
Great Ancestors of the Zhao Family, he
forcefully raised his own powers. Is that
true?"

"Yes, indeed!" Zhuge Zhan nodded. "The battle became more intense that day, so my father forcefully increased his strength until he reached the transformative stage and exchanged attacks with the Great Ancestors of the Zhao Family."

"In other words, he really reached the transformative stage?" Patriarch Guan

was delighted to hear that.

"He forcefully increased his strength and reached the transformative stage indeed!" Zhuge Zhan nodded.

After some quick thinking, Patriarch Guan said with a smile, "To be able to do that, it means that Patriarch Zhuge's strength had already reached The God Within! Am I right?"

"Yes, indeed!" Zhuge Zhan nodded.

Patriarch Guan and Duanmu Yang exchanged glances and saw the excitement in each other's eyes.

All in all, Patriarch Guan had already reached The God Within Level—this proved that he had already broken

through the limits of the Eight Great Families. In the history of the Eight Great Families, no one had ever reached this height.

"The Zhao Family is so despicable! Even though they are very powerful, how can they bully us, the Eight Great Families?" Duanmu Yang started speaking. Then, he glanced at Zhuge Pei subconsciously before he quickly said, "Luckily, I heard that you've also reached the transformative stage, Miss Zhuge. You learned it from Zhao Yu, didn't you? Otherwise, how could you have reached the transformative stage?"

Zhuge Pei's face darkened as she lifted her head indifferently. Even though her master was Zhao Yu, she had only received some basic guidance from her.

Zhao Yu didn't pass on any special knowledge to her, so she didn't learn it from Zhao Yu at all.

"That's not the case..." Zhuge Zhan shook his head.

Patriarch Guan and Duanmu Yang frowned, looking slightly displeased.

Slightly unappeased, Duanmu Yang sat straight and said coldly, "Patriarch Zhuge, it's not an embarrassment to say it out loud after learning the moves from others and reaching the transformative stage! No matter what, I'm sure it's true that Miss Zhuge has reached the transformative stage. If you have the kindness to let us know the methods the Zhao Family used to reach the transformative stage, we will

definitely take revenge for you after we become stronger!"

"Precisely! The Eight Great Families are one big family. Now that the Old Patriarch Zhuge is dead, we will definitely take revenge!"

"That's right!"

"Please let us know the techniques to reach the transformative stage, Patriarch Zhuge. After we become stronger, we will definitely kill Zhao Yu, the betrayer!"

Everyone started piping in and letting Zhuge Zhan know their determination to do this.

However, Zhuge Zhan gently sighed,

feeling slightly disappointed. The reason he had invited everyone into the discussion room was to tell them the secrets infor it so impatiently.

Zhuge Zhan buried his true thoughts and said, "Everyone, everyone, the reason I'd asked you guys to come in is to tell you about the secret techniques of the Eight Great Families!"

Everyone was slightly stunned after hearing that.

"Patriarch Zhuge, you'd better ask Miss Zhuge to tell us about the secret techniques of the Zhao Family. After all, they are much more powerful than the Eight Great Family. We would like to learn their secret techniques..."

"That's right! Tell us the secret techniques of the Zhao Family!"

"Indeed! With their secret techniques, a few more masters in the transformative stage might be born. When that happens, forget Zhao Yu—even if we'd have to go against the Imperial God, we would also take revenge for you!"

After hearing their words, Zhuge Zhan's face darkened.

Meanwhile, Zhuge Pei, who was standing behind him, looked at them and snorted disdainfully.

Silence suddenly fell in the hall. Everyone from the Eight Great Families shut their mouths one after another and looked around furtively as they didn't

dare to meet Zhuge Pei's eyes.

"Miss Zhuge, we don't have anything else in mind. We just want to take revenge for the Zhuge Family, so that people will respect the Eight Great Family," Patriarch Guan quickly explained.

"That's right. Zhao Yu killed someone from the Eight Great Families, so of course we will take revenge for you!" Duanmu Yang added.

After looking around, Zhuge Pei said coldly, "I didn't learn any secret techniques from the Zhao Family. The reason I could reach the transformative stage was because our secret techniques are strong enough!"

After being stunned for a moment, everyone became resentful. After years of training, they themselves knew that the secret techniques of the Eight Great Families weren't that powerful.

"The Eight Great Families are all on the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons, and each of us have our own secret techniques. However, we forgot that when our ancestors first came to this mountain in the beginning, they had already reached the transformative stage. Why can't we do that? The reason is because we are not united enough, and we are defensive toward each other. Perhaps our ancestors predicted that this would happen, so they splitThe God Recordinto eight different parts that became the secret techniques of each family today." Zhuge Pei paused. "As long as we train all the secret techniques from the Eight Great Families, we will reach the first stage inThe God Record..."

"Impossible..." Duanmu Yang frowned and looked at Zhuge Pei immediately. "Miss Zhuge, if you don't want to tell us the secret techniques of the Zhao Family, you don't have to make up something like this."



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"Yeah..." Patriarch Guan was also unhappy to see this. "Miss Zhuge, we are all happy to see you reaching the transformative stage. But you shouldn't forget us after that!"

With a dark expression on her face, Zhuge Pei glanced through the crowd as she took a few books from underneath the table.

The books contained all the secret techniques of the Eight Great Families. After rearranging them, Zhuge Pei put it here.

"These are all the secret techniques of the Eight Great Families. You can just take it back home and start training. There's no need to rearrange them again." Suppressing her emotions,

Zhuge Pei took a deep breath before speaking again. "I can guarantee that you can surpass The God Within after you practice everything here."

Seeing her solemness, everyone was slightly disoriented.

Is it just like what Zhuge Pei had said? If we practise everything here, can we reach the transformative stage?

"Forget it. Since you don't want to tell us the secret techniques of the Zhao Family, Miss Zhuge, I won't force you..." Duanmu Yang slowly stood up. "After all, you are in the transformation stage now. We can't force you to do anything!"

"That's right." Patriarch Guan also stood up and walked to the door as he shook

his head in disappointment. "Miss Zhuge, you'd better keep these secret techniques to yourself. We don't believe your lies!"

Zhuge Pei was so furious that her cheeks flushed red. She had told them everything truthfully, yet this was what she got in return.

"I think the Eight Great Families is just a useless title. Why don't we break out and leave? We don't have to be fixated on this mountain, do we?" As Duanmu Yang walked out, he mumbled this nonsense.

Beyond furious, Zhuge Pei stood up immediately.

A voice suddenly rang outside the door.

"P-Patriarch Zhuge, someone is here to pay their respects!"

"Who?" Zhuge Zhan frowned as he asked.

"I-It's Tang Yin!"

As soon as everyone heard the name, Tang Yin, they froze and stiffened immediately.

His name was very influential indeed.

Just hearing his name itself was very stressful to the Eight Great Families. Everytime someone mentioned him, their heartbeats would speed up. On top of that, Tang Yin was right outside at this moment, so they were even more fearful.

Everyone stopped walking at this moment with fear on their faces.

Tang Yin had really arrived at this moment. He kneeled on the ground and kowtowed three times to Zhuge Yi's grave.

When Zhuge Pei saw this after walking out, tears welled up in her eyes.

Perhaps people in the Eight Great Families are here to pay their respects just to keep up appearances. Tang Yin, however, is here to pay respects to my grandfather sincerely.

After he finished his three kowtows, Tang Yin slowly stood up and took the funeral attire from the people beside him.

No matter how much he did not want to admit this, it was undeniable that he had slept with Zhuge Pei, and they even had feelings for each other.

Hence, it was reasonable for Tang Yin to pay his respects to Zhuge Yi.

After he had put on the funeral attire, Tang Yin took a step back solemnly.

At this moment, Zhuge Zhan waved to him and sighed as he spoke. "Tang Yin! Stand behind me!"

"Alright." Tang Yin nodded. In fact, he felt grateful to Zhuge Zhan because from his words, Tang Yin could feel that Zhuge Zhan had already approved of him.

In fact, throughout the entire Zhuge Family, Zhuge Zhan most approved of Tang Yin.

When Zhuge Pei found out that she was pregnant, she wanted to have an abortion, but Zhuge Zhan stopped her. Zhuge Yi didn't like Tang Yin, but this was not the case for Zhuge Zhan.

As a father, he completely saw Tang Yin based on his standards for his future son-in-law.

When Tang Yin stood behind Zhuge Zhan, everyone from the Eight Great Families immediately shut their mouths. In fact, Duanmu Yang was even trembling inside.

If the Duanmu Family didn't offend Tang

Yin in the beginning, none of this would have happened.

Now that Tang Yin was right in front of Duanmu Yang, and he was the son-in-law of the Zhuge Family, it was without a doubt that Duanmu Yang was beyond nervous.

"Patriarch Zhuge, if there's nothing else here, we shall take our leave now." Duanmu Yang smiled forcefulled and saluted Zhuge Zhan awkwardly before turning around to walk to the door hastily.

"I'm off too!" Without even saluting Zhuge Zhan, Patriarch Guan turned around and left.

After Tang Yin arrived, the few people

who were making Zhuge Pei's life difficult immediately dispersed.

Zhuge Pei sighed.Perhaps these people really deserve such lives. They mocked us sarcastically even after we spoke with them nicely. Even after I told them the truth, they didn't believe me at all.

Perhaps the entire world is like this.

After the people from the Eight Great Families had left, only the people from the Zhuge Family were left in the yard.

The other members of the Zhuge Family also treated Tang Yin carefully. There were a few of them who looked angry, but they did not display it too blatantly. After all, Tang Yin once killed a few people in the Zhuge Family, some of

whom were even elders.

"Let's have a talk inside!" Zhuge Zhan knew that he couldn't neglect Tang Yin at this time, so he pulled Tang Yin's hand and walked indoors.

Once they reached the backyard, Zhuge Zhan asked the servants to prepare a few dishes to welcome Tang Yin warmly.

After both of them sat down, Zhuge Zhan asked quietly, "Are you here just to pay respects this time?"

"Part of it is to pay respect, but there's another reason." Tang Yin hesitated. "I heard that after Zhao Qing escaped, she brought two Yuan jades with her, and she also took Guan Shanyue. Is that

right?"

"Yes. When we were at the Zhao Family, we also heard the people there talk about this." Zhuge Zhan nodded.

After thinking for a moment, Tang Yin continued, "I want to find them, but I don't have any clues, so I'm here to see if the Guan Family has any connections with Guan Shanyue."

"I see!" Zhuge Zhan nodded. "Since they have already escaped, why are you still looking for them? This world is too big. If they want to hide, we can't possibly find them in such a short time."

"But I don't have much time!" Tang Yin sighed gently.

"You don't have much time?" Zhuge Zhan froze upon hearing that. "What do you mean?"

After thinking about it, Tang Yin decided to tell him the truth. "I've already promised Zhao Yu to fight to the death on Mount Wang a month later. If I win, I will have peace of mind. If I lose, Zhao Yu and other people within the country will let the Tang Family go. Otherwise, I would keep feeling that someone is pointing weapons at me behind my back, with Zhao Yu monitoring us all the time."

"You are going to fight with Zhao Yu to the death?" Zhuge Zhan's expression changed immediately.

"I don't agree to this!" At this moment,

the door was opened with a loud the door. "Tang Yin, you can't fight with her to the death!"



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Tang Yin was momentarily distracted as he looked at Zhuge Pei's expression. Then, he smiled nonchalantly. "If I don't go, this cancerous tumor from the Zhao Family will not only harm the Tang Family—the Zhuge Family can't escape too!"

Zhuge Zhan became silent upon hearing that. After all, what Tang Yin had just said was true.

Standing faraway, Zhuge Pei bit her bottom lips as tears seemed to well in her eyes.

At this moment, a servant walked to them and placed a few dishes carefully on the table. Then, he bowed and retreated.

Zhuge Zhan took the wine bottle and poured a glass of wine for Tang Yin as he asked quietly, "Do you have any confidence in your fight with Zhao Yu?"

"No," Tang Yin replied with a smile.

Zhuge Zhan paused before sighing gently again.

"If it were in the past, I probably would have been quite confident as Zhao Yu was at the same level as I was. However, now that she has tamed the demonic beast on Mount Wang, I'm afraid I can't match her now!" Tang Yin nodded and held the glass up.

"I'll go with you!" Zhuge Pei said.

[&]quot;Nonsense!" Zhuge Zhan bellowed and

slightly. "Actually, there are a few notes about demonic beasts in every Hidden Family, especially us, on the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons. We have a beast here as well..."

"For real?" As soon as Tang Yin heard that, his expression slightly changed as he stood up immediately.

"Calm down!" Zhuge Zhan waved, motioning Tang Yin to sit down.

Zhuge Pei also looked at her father incredulously. This was also her first time hearing that the Zhuge Family had a beast.

"You should know the three mountains of the Hidden Families." Then, Zhuge Zhan fell deep in his thoughts, looking

as though he was thinking of a way to explain this. Finally, he said, "Actually, there's a beast on each of the mountains. This is a top-secret knowledge that only a few people in the Eight Great Families know. If your grandfather hadn't forcefully entered The God Within and headed to the secret spot of our family, we wouldn't have been able to discover this beast in the Eight Great Families!"

Waves of emotions erupted within Tang Yin as he took this in.

The Hidden Families are something indeed! They even have a beast of this caliber on each mountain!

"Based on the records, there are four types of beasts in the world—wind

beast, thunder beast, fire beast, and mountain beast. The beast from the Zhao Family is the thunder beast, and the beast of the Eight Great Families here is the fire beast. However, it was such a pity that no one had reached the transformation stage in the past century, so no one could get close to the fire beast. More importantly, its information was lost." Zhuge Zhan gently sighed.

Tang Yin's eyes narrowed as he suddenly remembered seeing three masters in the transformation stage training the thunder beast at the Zhao Residence located at the back of Mount Wang.

Since there hadn't been any masters in the transformation realm in the Eight

Great Families over the past few hundred years, I'm afraid no one would dare to approach the beast.

"Around a hundred years ago, a huge incident happened. The mountain beast at Mount South End killed hundreds of people and escaped. Because of this, the elders in the Eight Great Families also hid the information about the fire beast..." Zhuge Zhan shook his head as he heaved another sigh.

Tang Yin also sighed internally after hearing the entire story.

The elders in the Eight Great Families didn't actually do anything wrong. Since no one had reached the transformation stage, they couldn't get closer to the beast. Since they couldn't do anything

about it, it might have been better to hide the information.

"If you have more time, you can check it out at the secret spot of the Eight Great Families. Perhaps it would be helpful for you." Zhuge Zhan raised his glass again.

"Sure!" Tang Yin nodded as he already had some plans in his mind.

Since there was a beast similar to the thunder beast here, Tang Yin knew he had to check it out. Even if he couldn't get this fire beast, Tang Yin believed he could at least get a part of the Yuan jade.

After they drank and chatted with each other, Tang Yin became slightly tipsy.

Since Zhuge Zhan had something else to do, he got up and went to the funeral hall alone.

Tang Yin lay on the bed to rest, but after closing his eyes, he fell asleep unknowingly. When he was fast asleep, he felt a cool sensation on his stomach and opened his eyes immediately.

A baby who had just turned a month old looked at Tang Yin curiously with its wide, black pupils while chuckling.

Tang Yin jolted upon seeing it. As excitement surged within him, he quickly held the baby up while Zhuge Pei sat down next to him gently.

Tang Yin held the baby in his arms and played with it before turning around to

look at Zhuge Pei. "What is its name?"

"We haven't given a proper name, but its nickname is Zhuge!" Zhuge Pei shook her head.

When Tang Yin smiled, the baby chuckled again, looking quite happy.

"Tang Zhuge?" Tang Yin smiled. He didn't have any concerns about it. Instead, he continued holding the baby and smiled. "It's a pretty good name..."

Zhuge Pei revealed a forceful smile while looking at Tang Yin worriedly.

"Don't worry. Even though the chances of me surviving are quite low, it's not a suicidal mission after all. The thunder beast that Zhao Yu has is the main

point here. If I can restrain it, I still stand some chances," Tang Yin consoled Zhuge Pei before he continued to play with the baby again.

"Alright!" Zhuge Pei nodded. Then, she suddenly added, "Give the baby to the servants and go to the secret spot with me, okay?"

Tang Yin raised his head and paused for a while. In the end, he nodded. After all, he knew that Zhuge Pei was also trying to treasure the time they had. After all, there was only one month left until the final battle with Zhao Yu.

If they didn't make the complete preparations this month, they would be in a dire situation.

Hence, Tang Yin gave the baby to the servants and walked out of the house.

At this hour, the sun had already set, so the sky had darkened.

Zhuge Pei asked the servants to take two robes for both of them. After putting them on, they walked out from the back door.

The Zhuge Residence was closer to the top of the Snow Mountain of the Nine Dragons. After they exited through the back door, they felt a gust of cold wind blowing past them.

Tang Yin tightened his robe and followed Zhuge Pei, who quickened her pace.

With both of their energy, they actually walked for almost an hour.

Tang Yin realized that the so-called secret spot was not located on the top of the mountain, but in the valley at the foot of the mountain's back.

Once they entered the valley, Tang Yin heard the gurgling sound of water.

In that instant, he suddenly understood many things.



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