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Given that so much had happened that night, Chu Sect would undoubtedly take action after Tang Xian and the others returned.

Meanwhile, after that evening's battle, no doubt, Ye Fan's whereabouts had been completely exposed. Under such circumstances, he had no choice but to leave.

As such, Ye Fan and his group kicked off their journey and headed toward the borders.

When those men who were sent by Chu Sect to guard the borders spotted the ten-thousand strong army marching toward them, they escaped back to Chu Sect to report at once, scared out of their wits.

At the same time, at the pier, Oska had gotten ready several massive cruise ships that were enough to accommodate Ye Fan's troops.

"Aren't you coming with us?"

Li Er and the rest had already boarded the ship, ready to depart.

However, Oska remained standing by the shore as he bade farewell to Ye Fan and the others.

By the looks of it, the man had no intention to leave with them.



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“Dragon Master, I will be staying here. This is my hometown and where most of my work is. Dragon Master, if you make a comeback in the future, I will gladly serve you again.” Oska waved goodbye to Ye Fan with a smile.

Indeed, he did not intend to leave with Ye Fan.

Oska was not a martial artist. He did not have exceptionally strong capabilities, nor was he talented in business.

His greatest asset was his army of five thousand soldiers.

As such, the man knew that he would lose his value if he followed Ye Fan back to China.

Ye Fan might find some work for him out of gratitude and appreciation of his loyalty, but that was not what Oska wanted.

He did not conceal his identity for so many years just to live a pathetic life as a nobody.

As such, the man chose to stay behind and remain in charge of his five thousand men-strong army.

“But you do know that you will be severely punished when your superiors get to know about what happened the previous night, right? It is a major crime to deploy troops without



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permission. Have you thought about the consequences that you would have to bear?" Ye Fan reminded worriedly.

Oska dismissed the man's concerns with a wave and replied placidly, "Don't worry. I have been in charge of this area for many years and have established a pretty good relationship with both my superiors and subordinates. I will be fine. On the other hand, Dragon Master, you should be more careful. Even though you will be able to avoid clashes with most members of Chu Sect by traveling via the sea route, that's not enough to stop their top fighters. If they manage to catch up with you, you will be in a dangerous situation."

Oska reassured the man and gave him a word of caution.

Ye Fan nodded in response.

He was already aware of everything Oska told him.

However, out of all the options available, taking the sea route was the safest.

At least, they would be able to avoid all the fighters below the Supreme rank.

As for the rest, he planned to leave it to fate.



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“Since you've already made up your mind, I won't try to persuade you any further. Take care! I hope to see you again the next time I come here.”

Ye Fan patted Oska's shoulder before turning around and boarding the ship, sailing away with the others under the glow of the evening sun.

Meanwhile, on the bank of the ocean, Oska stood at attention and raised his right hand to his forehead, giving a military salute in Ye Fan's direction.

“Farewell, Dragon Master!”

Oska's booming voice rang out in the sky.

Whoosh!

Instantly, those five thousand soldiers behind him followed his lead and saluted as well.

“Dragon Master, that would be our last goodbye...”

After Ye Fan disappeared out of sight, Oska muttered under his breath as his eyes reddened.

A while later, the man turned his troops around and set off toward Mount Chumen.



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The reason he was called “Hidden Dragon” was that he had been hiding in the shadows, just waiting for that one moment to reveal his identity.

Oska knew very well that not only would he be stripped of his position for deploying the troops and leaving Mount Chumen without permission, but he would also be court-martialed.

However, none of those were important to the man anymore.

What mattered to him was that, at that moment, he still had command over his troops.

Ye Fan had said that he would be making a comeback in one to three years' time.

However, Hidden Dragon knew that he wouldn't be able to wait till then.

Everything would be over after that night.

With steadfast determination and a resolute expression, Oska led his soldiers back to Mount Chumen.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan and the rest were on their journey back.

Exhausted from the happenings of the past few days, Li Er and the others were already sound



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asleep.

As it was deep into the night, the air was exceptionally chilly and humid.

Standing on the deck, Tang Yun gazed upon the land that was gradually becoming distant. In the dark, the mountains were also slowly fading out of sight.

For some reason, Tang Yun suddenly felt a sense of sorrow and helplessness.

It seemed like her dream was finally going to come true.

She could finally build a peaceful life with Ye Fan without the clashing of swords, spilling of blood, or people seeking revenge.

They would be able to take evening strolls in their beautiful garden every day, watching flowers bloom.

She would focus on taking care of her family and lead a stable and quiet life, playing with her kids in the morning and spending time with her husband at night.

They would have their own little world in the vast universe where they enjoyed bliss and happiness.



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Even though that was everything the woman had once dreamed of, Tang Yun could not bring herself to feel happy at all.

While Tang Yun was still lost in her thoughts, she was suddenly engulfed in a warm embrace.

Startled, Tang Yun turned around and saw Ye Fan's face, which had always given her a sense of security.

"We're finally going back. Why do you seem so sad?" Ye Fan smiled, putting his arms around the woman's waist while the night breeze blew against their skin.

Tang Yun shook her head and replied, "Ye Fan, I'm not sure why I'm feeling a little scared. I'm worried that the future might not be what we've imagined. Ye Fan, do you think we can really be happy?" Tang Yun asked softly, fearing the unknown.

After all, that was the craziest decision Tang Yun had ever made in her life, and she was worried that the outcome would not be a pleasant one.

Ye Fan smacked the woman in the head and replied, "You're such a silly girl. Why would you have such thoughts? Are you worried that I will let you down? You chose to stay by my side when I'm at my lowest, giving up your power



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and wealth. I will always remember what you did for me and will not let you down. I will explain the situation to Mucheng. She has always been considerate and understanding. I'm sure she will accept you. As for my mom, all the more, there's nothing for you to worry about. No one would reject a daughter-in-law with such breathtaking beauty. Besides, it wouldn't matter whether my mom accepts you or not. We can give her a grandson first. By then, she would have no choice but to accept it."

Ye Fan chuckled cheekily.

A blush of embarrassment spread across Tang Yun's cheeks when she heard the man's shameless remarks.

"Dream on! Did I say I'm going to bear your child? After all, I'm the head of Chu Sect. Do you think it's that easy to conquer my heart?" Tang Yun replied stubbornly, trying hard to maintain her pride.

However, she secretly wondered what Ye Fan's reaction would be if he knew that she had already given birth to their child.

As Tang Yun was rather prideful, she could not bring herself to tell the man that she had, in fact, already given birth to his child several months back.



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She planned to keep it a secret for the time being and would reveal it to everyone at an opportune time in the future.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“By the way, you said that you would fulfill all of my wishes, right? I want to go shopping to buy a lot of clothes. You have to come with me.”

Tang Yun paused for a while and added, “I still remember that you stole my clothes from the Chu residence. Hence, I'm going to make you pay a hundredfold... Hey, stop staring at me. It's the one you bought for me.”

Tang Yun got irritated and glared at Ye Fan when she realized that he was staring at her boobs.

Ye Fan was probably trying to ascertain if Tang Yun was wearing the black laced bra he bought for her.

“Apart from that, you've to treat me to hotpot, roasted meat, and all delicacies in China. Also, be my tour guide to different well-known tourist attractions, such as Westlake, Sky Mountain, Brighfell River, Tai Shan, and so on.”

Tang Yun kept talking like a young woman in love for the first time when she imagined the wonderful experiences that she would have with Ye Fan.

Seemingly, Tang Yun wanted Ye Fan to repay her for things that she hadn't experienced thus far.



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“Sure. I'll fulfill all your wishes.”

As the cruise ship blared its horns and sailed across the ocean, Ye Fan and Tang Yun planned the wonderful life they would have ahead.

After having the conversation, Tang Yun's mood was lifted, and she didn't feel gloomy anymore.

Tang Yun felt touched and looked forward to living with her lover and the kid, who was now in Jiangdong.

Nonetheless, one couldn't make an omelet without breaking eggs.

Deep down, Tang Yun was aware of the things she would lose after leaving the familiar place tonight, including the power, status, wealth, and fame that she used to possess.

From then on, she would only be Ye Fan's beloved woman and the kid's mother.

For Tang Yun, her life would change dramatically and fundamentally.

Despite that, she pledged to adapt to the new role in her life for the sake of Ye Fan and the kid whom she left in Jiangdong.

“Ye Fan, look! The sun is rising.” Tang Yun leaned against Ye Fan's shoulder and pointed to



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the east with a bright smile on her face.

The cruise ship continued to sail across the rough sea as the cold wind blew.

Tang Yun, who was wearing a long dress, looked particularly stunning at dawn.

“Yes. The sun is rising,” Ye Fan replied while hugging the beauty.

The darkness slowly faded away as more rays of light emerged.

A figure secretly emerged when Tang Yun and Ye Fan cuddled and gazed at the east.

The figure seemed to have shown up out of nowhere, for neither Tang Yun nor Ye Fan knew when he had begun following them.

Ye Fan put his guard up upon noticing the bizarre figure.

Much to Ye Fan's surprise, he felt that Tang Yun shivered before he could ask any questions.

The next moment, Tang Yun left Ye Fan's embrace in fear.

“Yun, you...”

As Ye Fan was perplexed, Tang Yun nervously



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bowed before the man.

“Master, I...”

What?

Ye Fan's eyes widened in shock after he heard Tang Yun's words.

He quickly turned around and looked at the figure, who slowly emerged from the depth of darkness.

When they became closer, Ye Fan managed to get a good look at him.

It's Chu Yuan, Tang Yun's master and the former head of Chu family!

Although the ship was in the middle of the ocean, Chu Yuan steadily ambled in the sky as though he was on the ground.

At first, Chu Yuan was seemingly far away from Ye Fan and Tang Yun.

Soon, he was already in front of them, looming over Tang Yun with a stern face.

There wasn't much expression on Chu Yuan's face.

Even though the man didn't utter a word, strong



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senses of trepidation and guilt unknowingly swamped Tang Yun's heart.

Chu Yuan was the last person Tang Yun wished to see, particularly when she was thinking about the exciting plans with Ye Fan ahead.

Nevertheless, what had to come would come eventually.

"How is it possible? Why has he come to me so soon?"

Apart from Tang Yun, Ye Fan was also surprised by Chu Yuan's arrival, for he didn't expect that the latter could find them in such a short time.

Since they were in the ocean, even supreme grandmasters and warriors from the god realm couldn't locate them so quickly.

Nonetheless, Ye Fan knew that it was pointless to dwell on it.

Gazing at Chu Yuan, Ye Fan said with a stern face, "One should hold the actual perpetrator responsible. Chu Yuan, your grudge is a matter between the Chu family and me. Since you've found me tonight, I have nothing left to say. However, I hope you won't drag others into our feud."



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Swoosh!

Chu Yuan waved his sleeve as soon as Ye Fan finished speaking.

A massive wave of Qi emanated from Chu Yuan's body toward Ye Fan like a cannon.

The next moment, Ye Fan spewed blood and was sent flying before landing on the deck.

"Ye Fan!"

Overwhelmed by nervousness and worry, Tang Yun ran toward Ye Fan to help him up.

"You b*stard! How dare you protect him in my face?"

As Chu Yuan was furious, he waved his sleeve again. Another wave of Qi suddenly emerged and restrained Tang Yun from moving.

"Let her go! I've said that you can come at me! Don't involve her in this."

Ye Fan spat out the blood in his mouth and stood up again.

Chu Yuan couldn't help but sneer, "Chu Tianfan, do you think you're in the position now to demand something from me? You destroyed my sect, hurt my child, and kidnapped my



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disciple. I can hardly feel better even if I skin you alive and turn you into dust!”

As soon as Chu Yuan finished, he raised his hand to form a wave of Qi to drag Ye Fan, who had lost his combat skills, to the front.

Then, Chu Yuan grabbed Ye Fan by his throat ferociously.

Ye Fan could have died as soon as Chu Yuan exerted extra force on him.

“No! Master, please don't do it.” Tang Yun sobbed as she pleaded with Chu Yuan.

However, the more Tang Yun begged Chu Yuan, the more furious he became.

“Yun, why are you doing this? What's so great about the bastard, so much so that you're willing to abandon the sect? Even though I've raised and taught you for many years, you choose to betray me. How can you disregard the family's interest and the responsibility of the head of Chu Sect? Tell me the reason! Do you think becoming the head of the top sect in the world means nothing compared to being with the defeated and miserable dog?” Chu Yuan questioned Tang Yun furiously.

Chu Yuan never felt as furious, even when he knew that the sect was destroyed and his



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children were dead.

However, Chu Yuan had lost his temper now, for he always saw Tang Yun as his favorite disciple and treated her like his daughter.

He offered everything with no reservations to train Tang Yun and handed over the sect to her.

Logically, Tang Yun ought to be grateful and indebted for Chu Yuan's kindness.

However, Chu Yuan never thought that everything he gave Tang Yun meant nothing compared to Ye Fan, the good-for-nothing who was driven out from the Chu family.

Chu Yuan almost exploded in anger when he saw that Tang Yun was in Ye Fan's arms.

"Master, I beg you. Please don't kill him. I'm indebted to Ye Fan because he used to protect me. I plead with you to let him go," Tang Yun continued begging Chu Yuan.

"It's impossible! This good-for-nothing has polluted and destroyed your mind. How can you take over Chu Sect if I don't kill him today? As such, he has to die!"

Overwhelmed by anger, Chu Yuan wanted to tighten his grip to kill Ye Fan in no time.



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Suddenly, Tang Yun spewed blood because she had broken some of her veins.

“Yun, what are you doing?”

Chu Yuan was shocked upon seeing that Tang Yun wanted to commit suicide.

“Master, I’m sorry. Please forgive me for being stubborn. I’ll kill myself if you refuse to let him go.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chu Yuan blew a fuse once Tang Yun finished. "Are you trying to threaten me? You know that I hate those who threaten me the most!"

Chu Yuan's words were simple and devoid of any emotion, while the murderous aura around him grew more intense.

At that time, Tang Yun's insistence on saving Ye Fan deepened Chu Yuan's determination to kill him.

Tang Yun is the next head of Chu Sect chosen by me. I have to kill anyone who tries to stop her from taking over the sect, especially Ye Fan!

Just as Chu Yuan made up his mind to kill Ye Fan, Tang Yun shivered and spewed more blood, for she used martial energy to break another one of her veins.

"You!"

At that moment, Chu Yuan was stunned, and his face turned pale.

Chu Yuan could feel that his disciple was determined to die for the sake of Ye Fan.

Since Tang Yun was stubborn, Chu Yuan finally compromised. "Very well. Tang Yun, you've won. I'll let him off the hook tonight. Nonetheless, you have to swear to break ties



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with Chu Tianfan forever in exchange for his life. Promise me to stay away from him! From now on, it will be none of your business whether he's dead or alive. If you can agree, I'll let him go tonight."

Immediately, Ye Fan shook his head and gazed at Tang Yun, hoping that she would decline Chu Yuan's demand.

Chu Yuan tightened his grip a little once he noticed that Ye Fan wanted to gesture at Tang Yun.

Because Ye Fan was suffocating, his face reddened, and veins bulged.

Given the gravity of the situation, Tang Yun couldn't afford to hesitate any longer.

Gritting her teeth and weeping, Tang Yun begged piteously, "I, Tang Yun, swear to God that I'll cut off all ties with Chu Tianfan from tonight onward. It will not be my concern whether he is alive or dead. I'll stay away from him forever!"

Every single word from her turned into a dagger that pierced through her heart deeply, one by one.

Tang Yun's heart had broken after she finished.



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"Tang Yun, remember what you have said today."

Chu Yuan nodded satisfactorily and loosened his grip.

Then, the barely alive Ye Fan collapsed onto the floor and spewed blood.

"Chu Tianfan, don't you think you'll be free of worry just because you're safe tonight. I only promised not to kill you tonight but didn't say that I've spared you forever. I'll give you seven days to escape, and Chu Sect won't harm you. However, God will decide if you are alive or dead after seven days," Chu Yuan looked at Ye Fan as he warned coldly.

Boom!

Once Chu Yuan finished, an inferno of flames shot into the sky, and a thunderous crack pierced through the air.

The explosion was deafening to the extent that one could hear it from hundreds of miles away.

Chu Yuan immediately lifted his head and turned in the direction of the explosion. The next moment, his eyes shivered, and his expression turned grim.

"Young man, did you do it? Did you send your



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men to attack Chu Sect? Chu Yuan clenched Ye Fan's throat again and questioned as his eyes turned bloodshot.

Since the flames came from Mount Chumen, Chu Yuan could tell that Chu Sect was being attacked.

Chu Tianfan was perhaps the only person bold enough to challenge Chu Yuan.

At that time, Chu Yuan even suspected that Ye Fan used himself as bait to lure Chu Yuan out of Mount Chumen.

Then, Ye Fan's subordinates grabbed the chance to bomb Chu Sect.

Given the massive scale of the explosion, Chu Yuan knew that many out of the three thousand members of Chu Sect would be dead or injured.

As Chu Yuan was deep in thought, Tang Yun reminded, "Master, you... promised me that you would let him go."

Despite his outrage, Chu Yuan had no choice but to let Ye Fan off the hook.

Chu Yuan gave Ye Fan a violent punch to severely injure the latter and vent his anger. After that, he brought Tang Yun back to Chu Sect to rescue their members.



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Mount Chumen was in a mess, for numerous bombs and artillery strikes rained down on the area.

At that time, the members of Chu Sect on the mountain had gone mad.

“Who is it? Who is attacking Mount Chumen? Could it be that Anglandur’s army grabs the chance to attack us when we are weak? Hurry! Someone call General Anthony for me! I want to ask him what is happening! What are the b*stards trying to do? Do they want to provoke us to start a war with them?”

Since the attack came without warning, the entire Mount Chumen was covered with fire when everyone came to their senses.

Mount Chumen’s ridge, which was several meters long, perished in the first wave of bombing. As a result, many weaker members of Chu Sect were either dead or injured.

The sudden attacks undoubtedly surprised the martial artists of Chu Sect.

Corpses were strewn all across the ground when the warriors of Chu Sect had gathered to defend Mount Chumen.

The mountain was already surrounded by heavily-armored troops before Chu Sect could



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ascertain who the enemies were.

The troops launched artillery strikes non-stop using tanks, missiles, howitzers, and various heavy weapons.

Meanwhile, a man in military uniform stood steadily at the frontline, watching the flames in Mount Chumen caused by the relentless artillery strikes.

After a while, a subordinate requested instructions. "General Oska, we've completed three waves of attacks. Shall we halt our attack?"

"How much artillery do we have in store now?" Oska asked.

"No more than sixty percent!"

"Continue the attack," Oska said slowly and coldly.

"General, we have less than forty percent of artillery in storage now. Should we carry on?"

"General, there's only twenty percent of artillery left."

"General, all artillery is about to be exhausted!"

The messengers reported the situation to Oska



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one after another.

In the end, Oska laughed relaxedly upon hearing that the artillery was about to deplete.

After glancing at Mount Chumen in flames, Oska gave his subordinates the last instruction.

“Assign all bombs to the artillerymen to teach Chu Sect a heavy lesson. For other units, prepare to withdraw. Ask everyone to run after the final wave of attack ends. Also, please thank everyone on my behalf for their service over the last ten years. We will never meet again!”

“General...”

Whoosh!

Tears uncontrollably streamed down the soldiers' faces as soon as Oska's words fell.

“I will not repeat my order. Execute it now!” Oska shouted, exhibiting his domineering aura to all soldiers for one last time.

Soon, another wave of artillery attack commenced.

After the deafening explosions stopped, the soldiers retreated like a tidal wave.



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Only Oska stood still on the elevated vantage point, enjoying his masterpiece.

"Alice, I've avenged you!"

Oska burst into laughter, yet tears filled his eyes as he missed his beloved woman.

Many years ago, Oska was only an ordinary man who had a happy family and a woman he loved.

One day, his girlfriend committed suicide after she was humiliated.

The murderer was the member of Chu Sect.

At that time, the furious Oska rushed to Chu Sect like Ye Fan to seek justice.

However, he couldn't even step into Mount Chumen and was almost beaten to death by Chu Sect's members.

Since then, Oska buried his hatred against Chu Sect deep in his heart.

Later, Oska Met Ye Fan and became friends because they had the same enemy.

With Ye Fan's help, he hid for many years to accumulate power and successfully rose through the ranks to become a general.



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He admired Ye Fan greatly. Perhaps the results were disappointing, but at least Ye Fan had charged into Chu Sect alone and kicked up a fuss there.

Clearly, Ye Fan was more capable than him when he was young.

Oska would follow Ye Fan forever after witnessing his courage and power.

“Dragon Master, think of tonight as my parting gift to you. A pity I can't keep you company for the rest of your journey,” Oska said.

He stared in the direction Ye Fan left and went on his knees solemnly.

One could sense the regret in his voice.

Indeed, all generals would yearn to fight alongside their monarch.

As Oska was one of The Four Dragon Slayers serving Ye Fan, he wanted to keep Ye Fan company throughout the journey.

However, when his identity was exposed, Oska knew his dream would never come true.

Perhaps Ye Fan would return to Chu Sect and make Chu Yuan pay for the humiliation he has wrought upon him.



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However, Oska couldn't wait until till then.

After the last round of attack ended, silence descended upon the area.

As planned, his subordinates retreated accordingly.

Their huddled up figures disappeared in a flash.

Oska stood unmoving as he watched them leave the forest and return to the city.

Right then, the survivors of Chu Sect dashed down Mount Chumen to find out the culprit who wiped them out tonight.

Chu Yuan, who had led Tang Yun away earlier, came back shortly after.

They found Oska on a high slope.

"It's you indeed! Oska, you're nothing but a b*stard! We had no idea you work for Chu Tianfan! Beast, you deserve to be chopped into pieces for killing so many members of Chu Sect!"

Previously, the head of elders, Tang Xian, had guessed that tonight's attack was related to the guards stationed at the foot of the mountain.

However, his initial guess was that Ye Fan and



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Oska had combined forces to attack Mount Chumen.

After arriving at the foot of the mountain, he discovered that the b*stard Oska was bold enough to lead his men to attack Chu Sect alone.

“Where is Chu Tianfan? Where is that scum? Why isn't he here? Is that coward afraid of Chu Sect and sent you to attack us? Is he hiding somewhere else out of sight?”

Tang Xian looked like a mess with his unkempt figure, but he couldn't tamp down his anger and yelled at Oska furiously.

The few rounds of the attack came too suddenly for him to take action in time.

After all, Chu Sect had sent many men out to search for Ye Fan for the past few days.

There weren't enough men at Mount Chumen. Thus, only a few men were patrolling the perimeters.

No one knew Ye Fan would take the initiative to attack right this moment.

Alas, they were obviously proven wrong by Ye Fan's actions.



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After hearing Tang Xian's questions, Oska didn't respond immediately.

Instead, he looked up and laughed out loud.

"He'll be here. Dragon Master will be here soon. The day of his arrival will be the day Chu Sect meets its doom!"

"Scum! Shut up!" Tang Xian and the rest declared.

A slap then landed on Oska's body.

Blood spurted from Oska's mouth as he was sent flying across the air.

"Don't kill him. Bring him to Mount Chumen so we can question him thoroughly," Chu Yuan ordered.

After his return, Chu Yuan discovered that Oska was a weak and defenseless human and lost interest in him.

He then ordered his subordinates to bring Oska back to Mount Chumen.

Right after he said that, a gunshot rang out.

Oska had shot himself in the mouth. Blood trickled down his body and stained the ground.



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"D*mn it! He killed himself!"

One Chu Sect member stepped forward and confirmed Oska was dead before cursing aloud.

Without hesitation, everyone else headed back to Mount Chumen to calculate their losses.

Oska didn't manage to kill many people in his attack, but he had definitely wrecked the environment and destroyed the buildings on Mount Chumen.

Everywhere they turned, signs of ruins and devastation greeted them.

The remaining flames emitted black smoke.

Throughout the entire sect, there was barely any building left standing.

"D*mn you and your whole family, Chu Tianfan!"

Tang Xian and the rest wanted to kill Ye Fan for destroying their sect. Their hatred for him promptly intensified.

"Old Master, did you find that young brat from China? We can't let him escape! I'll gather my men and go after him now. I believe Chu Tianfan had escaped by sea to return to China," Tang Xian huffed.



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The more he thought about it, the angrier he got.

After all, they had been attacked twice that night. One could imagine how livid he was.

Tang Xian was about to head out with his men when Chu Yuan stopped him.

“No need. Inform everyone outside to stop tracking Chu Tianfan now. Everyone is to return to Mount Chumen and wait for further instructions.”

“Huh?” Tang Xian froze, clearly confused about his decision. “Old Master, I don't understand. Chu Tianfan has lost his skills and is at his weakest point. If we don't go after him now, it might cause trouble for us in the future. If Chu Tianfan were to make a comeback in the future, we would have to work harder to get rid of him.”

Confusion flitted across Tang Xian's expression as he gazed at Chu Yuan.

The latter merely replied calmly, “Don't worry. He won't get to escape. I have a plan!”

After a pause, he added icily, “This time, I'll make sure he loses his life at sea before rebuilding Chu Sect's reputation!”

No one knew what the elderly man had in mind.



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"What about Ms. Tang? Won't we save her?"
Tang Xian asked.

"I've brought her back," came Chu Yuan's answer. "But Chu Tianfan harmed her, and she's seriously injured. Thus, I told her to heal her wounds in seclusion. No one should disturb her."

Tang Xian was delighted to learn that Tang Yun was back.

He finally got to hear some good news.

On the vast Pacific Ocean.

Only the turquoise blue ocean was visible in sight as it sparkled underneath the sunlight.

The setting sun signaled the end of another day.

Ye Fan and the rest were on a cruise ship heading east.

The sea was calm. One could even see fish and shrimp swimming in the crystal clear sea.

Not far away, a few seagulls were squawking noisily.

"Ye Fan, look. The ocean is so pretty. It feels like we're in a fairytale. There is no blood, fight,



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or war. The sea is calm, and the setting sun is blindingly red.”

Inside the cabin, Xu Lei wrapped her arms around Ye Fan as she stared at the gorgeous scenery.

The man in her arms seemed to be sound asleep.

His eyes were shut tight, and his breathing was shallow. The sea breeze fluttered by, causing his lashes to tremble.

A few days had passed since Ye Fan was discovered unconscious on the deck.

Alas, he showed no signs of waking up yet.

Li Er and the others would visit Ye Fan almost every day.

Meanwhile, Xu Lei remained by Ye Fan's side at all times.

“Ye Fan, do you know I've been yearning for this moment for years? Just us both, sitting by the sea and sky underneath the warm setting sun as the sea breeze tickle our skin. As you lie on the sand and enjoy the breeze, I lie in your arms and rest on your chest. I'll listen to your breathing and count your heartbeat silently..”

Xu Lei flashed a blissful smile. Her gorgeous looks could make men go crazy over her and women feel inferior next to her. However, she looked blissful and eager right now.

She had dreamt of the scene countless times, and it finally came true.

Xu Lei did her best to keep her smile, but she couldn't stop herself from crying.

Crystal clear tears streamed down her pale cheeks and fell onto Ye Fan's face.

Her heart turned cold.

In the end, Xu Lei could no longer tamp down her feelings. She hugged the man tightly and wailed, "Ye Fan, wake up! Y-You can't die! I won't allow you to die. Wake up! You're the only one I have in the world. If you leave me, no one will talk to me, knock my head, and stroke my nose."

Xu Lei burst into noisy tears as though she was a child who had lost the love of her life.

Besides Ye Fan's parents, she was among the first ones to get to know Ye Fan.

Their encounter in the Chu residence was enough to ingrain him in her mind forever.



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As far as Xu Lei could remember, Ye Fan was always proud, outstanding, and vibrant.

Even after the Chu family kicked him out, he never lost his passion.

Why did heaven treat him cruelly? Why did God create a proud and outstanding man before destroying him?

Xu Lei wasn't alone. Even Li Er, Chen Ao, and the rest couldn't believe that the bloody and disheveled man who was on the brink of death was the same man who wielded great influence over Jiangdong back then.

Ye Fan was so sensational back then.

He was capable of killing Wu Herong, who traveled all across the ocean, with just one kick.

In battle, he could intimidate the four military districts alone!

No one could forget how he battled against various Supremes and emerged victorious in the rainforest.

Ye Fan had also wiped out the entire martial arts world of Jiangbei at Westlake. After the battle ended, the area was still full of rubble.

The man was too powerful to be true.



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Everyone remembered how he crushed Japan, intimidated War God Castle, defeated Chu Zhenghong in Chu Sect, and topped the Sky Ranking.

Nevertheless, when his glory faded away, he was no longer as powerful as before.

The young man lying here was only in his early twenties.

People of his age had just graduated from university. They were still innocent and youthful.

However, Ye Fan was experienced.

Women, influence, and power.

Everyone was working hard to achieve the impossible, but Ye Fan had already enjoyed it all.

In truth, there was no need to feel bad even if Ye Fan were to die today as he had experienced it all.

Perhaps the only person he wronged was the beautiful lady before him.

Xu Lei couldn't stop sobbing.

"Ye Fan, wake up. You can't leave! You're the



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most important person in my life. If you die, there's no reason for me to stay alive..."

Tears streamed down Xu Lei's face.

At the thought of having to survive in the world all alone, Xu Lei felt a stab of pain in her heart.

"Silly girl. I wouldn't leave before seeing you getting married..."

Xu Lei was crying her heart out when a weak voice rang out suddenly.

Taken aback, she immediately stopped crying.

Looking down, she realized Ye Fan was finally awake after a long bout of coma.

Instantly, Xu Lei beamed in delight even though her face was soaked with tears.

"Ye Fan, you're finally awake! Oh, you scared the hell out of me. Do you know how long you've been unconscious?" she complained.

Overwhelmed with joy, Xu Lei flung her arms around Ye Fan and buried herself in his embrace.

"Mr. Chu, you're awake?"

"Ms. Xu, is it true that Mr. Chu has regained



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consciousness?”

Li Er and the others dashed in after hearing the commotion.

At once, they spotted Xu Lei bawling her eyes out in Ye Fan's arms. Li Er was sensible enough to halt in his tracks and exit the room.

“What's taking you so long? Let's head in now!” Lei San chided, for he didn't realize what was going on.

Li Er dragged him out and said heatedly, “Old man, you just can't take the hint, huh? Can't you see Mr. Chu and Ms. Xu are talking? If it weren't for your wealth, you would've remained single for the rest of your life.”

They waited for a while before Xu Lei summoned them in. Her eyes were red and swollen by then.

“Ye Fan is still weak, so don't keep him up for too long,” she reminded them.

“Don't worry, Ms. Xu. We just want to pay him a visit,” Li Er said.

Shortly after, Ye Fan's subordinates filed in.

Li Er, Lei San, Chen Ao, and Long Baichuan couldn't stop their eyes from turning red at the



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sight of Ye Fan's haggard and pale face.

They fell to their knees before the bed as tears trickled down their faces.

"Mr. Chu..."

"Dragon Master..."

"We weren't competent enough to help you out and cause you to..."

Li Er and the rest blamed themselves for their incapability.

They couldn't help Ye Fan at war.

Even when Ye Fan was injured and nearly died, they could only kneel before him instead of seeking revenge for him.

"G-Get up. This has nothing to do with you. You did well. It was me who underestimated Chu Sect," Ye Fan said weakly as his lips curled into a smile.

After a brief moment of sadness, Ye Fan asked his subordinates about the situation.

He could risk his life, but he had to bring his subordinates back to their homeland safely.

"Mr. Chu, we're reaching China's waters soon.



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We'll be back in our homeland by tomorrow! The scums won't be able to harm us, so we'll be safe," Li Er revealed happily.

"Yes, Mr. Chu. We're going to arrive home safely. Everyone in Jiangdong is waiting for you!"

Chen Ao, Lei San, and the others could barely conceal their excitement.

For the past few days, they were worried as Ye Fan didn't regain consciousness.

Besides feeling worried for Ye Fan, they were also afraid that Chu Sect would come after them.

Hence, none of them could sleep well.

Fortunately, things were looking better now, and they were about to arrive in their homeland!

No matter how arrogant Chu Sect was, its members wouldn't dare to chase them all the way to China.

That would constitute as an intrusion!

The millions of soldiers in China would definitely retaliate if that happened.

"Yes, we're going to be home soon. That's



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great," Ye Fan responded as his lips curved into a grin.

However, he couldn't stop a surge of inexplicable emotions from welling up in his heart.

Back when he left Jiangdong, he was ranked first in Sky Ranking, admired, and respected by everyone.

Alas, Ye Fan was no longer the man he used to be. He was barely alive when he escaped Chu Sect.

Suddenly, Ye Fan understood why Xiang Yu dared not cross Jiangdong after his defeat at Wu River.

"Where is she? Is she still here?" Ye Fan asked out of a sudden.

"She? Who are you talking about? Do you mean He Lanshan's daughter?" Li Er asked. He assumed Ye Fan was asking about He Yurou.

Ye Fan shook his head.

Something occurred to Chen Ao as he inquired, "Mr. Chu, are you referring to the veiled lady who came with you? I think she left. I haven't seen her after you showed up unconscious."



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Ye Fan said nothing as his gaze turned gloomy.

Without warning, sadness and disappointment overwhelmed his heart.

In the end, he had failed to take her with him.

“How long has it been since I lost consciousness?” Ye Fan asked after a brief moment of silence.



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"I think it has been around seven days," Li Er answered after pondering for a moment.

Ye Fan frowned upon hearing that. "Is the current speed of the cruise ship the fastest?"

Li Er shook his head. "I don't think so. It feels a lot slower than the past few days."

"Get them to move forward at full speed. I wish to reach the territorial waters of China as soon as possible. Also, tell everyone not to let their guard down. Before arriving there, we must maintain a high degree of vigilance," Ye Fan instructed as his expression turned solemn.

Meanwhile, Long Baichuan and the others were a little confused after hearing that, especially Li Er and Chen Ao, who wore expressions of bewilderment.

"I don't think that's necessary, Mr. Chu. It's been so many days, and we're thousands of miles away from Adrune. Besides, we'll reach China by tomorrow, so the most dangerous time has already passed. We were on high alert when you were in a coma, but those days went by uneventfully, so I think that those people from Chu Sect have given up their pursuit."

"Moreover, we're already here, and even if those people were to continue pursuing us, they'd never catch up to us now. So you can be at



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ease, Mr. Chu.”

Li Er and the others all smiled. Their words no longer held any hint of urgency. Instead, their relaxed tone gave the impression that they were returning home triumphantly.

This time, so many of them went to Mount Chumen. Although they failed to help Ye Fan defeat the Chu Sect, at least they brought him back safely.

From this point of view, they had succeeded without a doubt, and it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that they returned victoriously.

“That's right, Dragon Master. Everyone had been on guard day and night these few days without any sleep or rest, so we were all in a pretty strung-out shape. Now that we're almost home, everyone should get some proper rest,” Long Baichuan remarked from the side.

It was obvious that so many of them present felt that they were already safe.

After all, the area they were in now was far away from the Chu Sect's sphere of influence, so there was no need to be as frightened as they were before.

Despite that, Ye Fan was firm in his decision,



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allowing no one to change his mind.

“Listen to me. Inform everyone to stay on guard for one more day. Once we've returned home safely, I'll let everyone rest and recuperate!”

Although his voice sounded weak, his firm tone left no room for anyone to question his words.

Having no other choice, Long Baichuan and the others could only comply, steering the ship on its course at full speed and raising the defense to the highest level.

After the discussion had ended, everyone dispersed to allow Ye Fan to rest and recuperate, except for Xu Lei, who stayed by his side, taking good care of him.

She undoubtedly cherished this time alone with Ye Fan, knowing very well that upon their return to Jiangdong, he would no longer belong to her.

“Aren't you being too careful, Ye Fan? Do you think that those people from Chu Sect would dare to make their way to our country? I don't think they would dare to cause trouble at the border of our country unless they're planning to start a war between countries. After all, no one would dare to underestimate the power of War God Castle when fighting on our native land,” Xu Lei said softly while peeling an apple.



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Nevertheless, Ye Fan shook his head. "As someone who had a near brush with death, I've long accepted the risks of life, Lei. However, although I can have little regard for my life, I cannot forsake you all. You've risked your lives because of me, and I'm scared that I can't bring you all back safely. I've dragged too many people into this mess, and I truly don't want to do that to you all again."

Despite speaking slowly, his words were filled with extreme seriousness and guilt.

The reason why Ye Fan went alone to Mount Chumen back then was that he was afraid that he would be defeated by the Chu Sect and drag other people down with him.

However, the nightmare he had dreaded still became a reality.

Eigetsu is still missing, and I don't know if Gaius and the others are dead or alive. Who knows what awaits Oska, who volunteered to remain at Norwal City. And Yun, who willingly abandoned everything to go with me, was taken away in the end. I really failed too many people along the way!

Sometimes, Ye Fan could not help but wonder what he did to deserve such devotion from so many people who willingly risked their lives for him.



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“Promise me that you'll live on well no matter what happens to me in the future, Lei. Find someone you love who can take good care of you in my place. If so, you'll never feel lonely even if I'm not with you in the future.”

Ye Fan gave her a smile, his words filled with concern for her.

He had known Xu Lei for a long time, much longer than Qiu Mucheng, so they could be considered childhood friends.

Throughout these years, not many people were able to get close to him, and she was undoubtedly one of the few.

She was not like Mucheng, who still had her parents even if she lost him.

Despite being a little unkind, Ye Fan could tell after being a part of the Qiu family for so many years that they were only crude and mean to him and outsiders, for they still showed concern toward their daughter.

Because of him, Qiu Mucheng had severed all ties with the Qiu family and her parents back then. Although that was what happened, he knew that familial ties could not be easily broken.

All these years, Qiu Mucheng had been



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supporting her parents in secret.

Ye Fan was well aware of it despite her not saying a word to him. He did not mind and even hoped that she would do that, happy that more people genuinely cared about his wife in this world.

However, Xu Lei was different. She did not have anyone who truly cared about her other than the acquaintances who befriended her for their own interests.

Therefore, she was the one that he found most difficult to let go of.

The scariest thing in this world was not life and death, but loneliness.

If a person did not have someone they cared about, their life would be meaningless.

Hence, Ye Fan repeatedly urged Xu Lei to find someone she liked so that she would have an attachment in this lifetime.

Otherwise, I'm worried she'll follow me if I were to go to the afterlife. After all, a girl who stubbornly looked for someone for ten years is capable of doing anything!

"I won't! I forbid you to say such things, Ye Fan. You told me that you'd protect me forever, so



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you can't break your promise. I'll never forgive you if you abandon me..."

Xu Lei suddenly became emotional, stubbornly shouting as tears spilled out of her eyes.

At a loss for words, Ye Fan could only sigh inwardly.

Meanwhile, Chu Yuan sat inside one of the few well-preserved halls on Mount Chumen with his eyes closed while Tang Xian and the other two elders bowed down in respect.

"We've done everything as you've instructed, Old Master. All the fighters of the Chu Sect have already arrived. The martial arts leaders all over the world have also been informed and have confirmed their cooperation. However, the War God Castle in China has not responded. But according to our intelligence personnel, they're already dispatching troops and actively preparing for war. The Sword Saint has even urgently summoned thousands of martial artists from all over the country to enter the capital. It seems like they're ready to fight to the death, so we have to be on guard!"

Tang Xian, the head of elders, was visibly anxious.

Upon hearing that, Chu Yuan frowned. "What about China's strongest fighter? Did he take any



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action?"

"It seems that China's War God, Ye Qingtian, has entered seclusion, as there hasn't been any news about him for a long time," answered Tang Xian.

Chu Yuan burst out laughing. "If that's the case, then there's nothing to worry about. Rest assured. Other than Ye Qingtian, the rest from War God Castle have no courage to fight against us! Let's go. The seven days are up, and it's time for the show to begin!"



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Meanwhile, Sword Saint, King of Fighters, and Heavenly Grandmaster had gathered over in the War God Castle at Mount Yan, China.

Prince of Fighters, who had just been given the Supreme title, was also present.

The frigid wind from Summerbank howled like a wild beast as heavy snow fell everywhere at the foot of the mountain.

Although the heating in the main hall of the castle had been turned on to the maximum at this time, it did nothing to ease the frigid atmosphere.

“This issue has been blown out of proportion, Sword Saint. The martial arts leaders from all countries in the world are all joining in, not to mention Chu Yuan, who is most likely a god realm fighter. It can be said that the entire martial arts world has been affected. China is in danger...”

Tang Hao and others appeared grave and anxious as they looked at the red expedited documents gathered from all parties at the table.

China has never faced such a dangerous situation for hundreds of years! Back then, only the fighters from Chu Sect were involved in the invasion by their sect. However, all the martial



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arts leaders around the world have gathered now.

Anyone could well imagine the immense pressure the War God Castle was facing at present.

"It's all Chu Tianfan's fault! He's crazy! Why did he have to provoke the Chu Sect? How could a youngling defend himself against the best sect in the world? Now he has brought great disaster upon China!"

King of Fighters was extremely anxious.

As the Hall Masters of the War God Castle, they had to shoulder the burden of ensuring the country's safety.

Now that the entire country was in danger, there was no way they would not harbor hatred for Ye Fan.

After all, everything had happened because of Ye Fan, and he was the one who started the mess right from the start.

"Don't put it that way, King of Fighters. He has already publicly announced that he no longer has any connections with War God Castle, and his actions are his own. Maybe he also had no intentions of dragging China into this," Tang Hao explained.



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"No intentions? If he truly didn't intend on dragging China into this mess, why is he still heading here now? Look what he's done. He has put our country in danger, and we're stuck in an awkward position of fighting or not fighting. So what should we do now?"

King of Fighters became angrier the more he thought of it, his knuckles cracking as he clenched his fists.

"I've told you long ago that Chu Tianfan will bring disaster. I'd suggested getting rid of him when he was still weak, but not only did you all not listen, you even gave him the title Supreme. Look at how bad things are now. It's getting out of hand, isn't it?" he said coldly.

Tang Hao and the others lowered their heads in guilt and remained silent.

"At this point, what's the use of talking about it? Is there any news from War God? Have those who had been sent to invite him over returned?"

Sword Saint remained expressionless, merely asking about Ye Qingtian.

The son of King of Fighters, Prince of Fighters, replied, "They've returned, Sword Saint. However, they couldn't find Mr. Ye."

"Where did Ye run off to now? He's always



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nowhere to be found during critical moments.”
Tang Hao stamped his feet in frustration.

“If they weren't able to find him, stop looking. We won't wait for him anymore. Let's just head over.”

Sword Saint sighed and stopped hesitating, preparing to head over with Tang Hao and the others.

“But what should we do after getting there, Sword Saint? Should we protect Chu Tianfan or not? Also, regarding the Chu Sect, how should we communicate with them? Please tell us how we should act!”

At present, things were getting out of hand.

Various forces had gathered, and because Ye Fan originated from China, the country's martial arts world had also been pushed into the limelight.

The entire martial arts world was focusing their attention on War God Castle at present, eager to know their response to this matter.

Sword Saint gave a brief response to the inquiry.

“No matter what happens next, we must keep one principle and bottom line in mind:



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“Foreigners are not allowed to enter our sacred country. As for the other matters, we’ll adapt according to the situation.”

He looked resolute with his fiery gaze, his deep voice carrying an unwavering and imposing power to it.

Soon, four figures launched themselves forward like an arrow shot from a bow at Mount Yan, heading toward the borders.

“Huh? That’s... the direction of the War God Castle?”

The movements at Mount Yan naturally attracted the attention of those with keen perceptions.

Within Yanjing, several prominent families with spies everywhere were also on high alert.

“Yanjing’s underground queen, Xu Lei, hasn’t shown up for several days. The head of the Xue family, Xue Renyang, hasn’t returned after leaving his home a few days ago. Recently, there’s been a large-scale mobilization of border defense forces. All the martial artists of China have gathered. Now, even the supreme grandmasters guarding the hinterland have left the capital.”

“My goodness! What has happened to our



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world? Is doomsday approaching?"

As they say, experts would be the first to notice a change in circumstances.

The informants of those prominent families in China naturally would report such changes.

Within a short period, the heads of those families were consumed by panic and fear.

Contrary to them, the vast majority of ordinary citizens were not aware of everything that was going on.

They continued to live their days as they normally did by going to work, having fun, and raising children.

The sun continued to rise from the east, and birds still chirped noisily as usual.

However, little did they know that the world might be coming to an end.

"Look, Mr. Chu. Such a pretty blue sky and sea!"

The cruise ship that Ye Fan and the others were on board was still riding through the waves of the distant ocean.

Ye Fan, who had rested all night, was still weak. Nevertheless, he did not wish to stay in the



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cabin, so he asked someone to help him to the deck to gaze upon the horizon.

Standing beside him was the girl he had met several times in Japan years ago, Chiike Shizuka.

The timid little girl back then was now a pretty young lady.

Although she had a slender figure and a small waist, she was well-endowed, which would have made many women extremely envious.

At that moment, Chiike Shizuka was pointing at the sea and talking to Ye Fan happily.

The latter merely smiled in response.

Despite seeing her cheerful expression, it did not improve his originally gloomy mood much.

"You should go back to see Director Chiike more often, Master. All these years, she often thinks of you and even calls your name in her sleep." Iwai Zen smiled softly at Ye Fan from his side.

The latter hummed in agreement. "If everything's well in the future, I'll go out more often and explore places that I've never seen before, such as the snowy landscapes of Sky Mountain and the mountainous regions of



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Kransbay. This world is actually quite beautiful..."

As he said those words, Ye Fan unconsciously thought of Tang Yun.

Even though she gave up the world's highest authority for me, I couldn't help her realize even the simplest wish.

"Indeed, Master. The world is a beautiful place. In the past, we missed out on so much because we were moving too quickly. If it weren't for this incident, I was actually planning to inform you that I wish to leave Dragon God Hall and step down as a Dragon Slayer, Master. After all, I've already achieved my mission as a Dragon Slayer in forcing the Chu family to apologize. I'm getting old and don't have long to live, so I only wish to spend my remaining days with my granddaughter."



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“We've been working our way up tirelessly for the past ten years, but at the same time, we've neglected our loved ones. If I had been able to spend more time with my family, my son and daughter-in-law would still be here today...” Iwai Zen mumbled, staring into the distance with glassy eyes.

It was as though he had traveled back in time to watch the painful past unfold once again.

Iwai Zen had never supported Ye Fan's decision to attack the Chu Sect, so much so that he even refused to accept the Dragon God Token.

However, despite not agreeing with Ye Fan's goals and dreams, Iwai Zen always carried out his given tasks dutifully and to the best of his ability.

He was by no means an ingrate, but he didn't want to die in vain either.

As soon as he had gathered enough power and was confident about his chances of winning, Iwai Zen would, without a doubt, help Ye Fan achieve his dreams.

Because of that, he had worked hard at building up his forces over the years, hoping that he'd one day become powerful enough to rival the Chu Sect.



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Unfortunately, with all his time devoted to his career, that also meant that Iwai Zen couldn't give his family the attention and protection they needed.

Disaster eventually struck when one of his competitors sought revenge by murdering his only son in a staged car accident.

One could only imagine the anguish Iwai Zen had felt, especially since no parent should ever have to bury their child.

Just as the atmosphere was about to turn even drearier, Iwai Zen suddenly broke into a cheery smile.

"Thankfully, God gave me a chance for redemption by leaving me a granddaughter," he said.

"Here's a photo of her, Dragon Master. She's pretty, isn't she? If you like, why don't we plan for an arranged marriage? Don't worry. I can assure you that the women of the Iwai family are very virtuous and tolerant. They won't mind their husbands having more than one wife."

When Ye Fan didn't say anything, Iwai Zen decided to egg him on. "Well, what do you think, Dragon Master? Why don't I betroth my granddaughter to one of your future sons? If your kid happens to meet someone better in



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the future, he can always marry again. I don't have a problem with that."

Right at that moment, Iwai Zen's phone rang.

As luck would have it, it was a video call from his granddaughter. He quickly answered the phone, and an adorable, doe-eyed little girl showed up on the screen.

"Grandpa, will you be here tomorrow?" she asked with a big, bright smile. "You promised you'd celebrate my fifth birthday with me! Oh, and don't forget to get me a postcard from China!"

When he saw the girl, Ye Fan couldn't help but be amazed. "Wow, you're right. The kid's quite the looker. I'm sure she'll grow up to be a stunning beauty."

"Haha! Are you convinced now, Dragon Master?" Iwai Zen said proudly before turning his phone toward Ye Fan. "Do you see this man, my dear? Remember his face because he's going to be your future father-in-law!"

"W-What..." Ye Fan stammered, his eyes twitching.

Has the plan been finalized? I don't think I've even agreed to it yet.



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Unaware of what her grandfather had done, the little girl on the other end exclaimed, "Hello, I'm Iwai Unshio! It's nice to meet you!"

Seeing how both grandfather and granddaughter were brimming with enthusiasm, Ye Fan had no choice but to give a nod of acknowledgment.

Well, it's not like I'd be at a loss anyway, so why not agree to the arranged marriage? Besides, I know first-hand how hard it is to find a wife in this day and age. I'm only being prudent to get one for my son first.

After hanging up the phone, Iwai Zen gazed at the calm sea in the distance and started chatting with Ye Fan like an old friend. "There's one other thing, Dragon Master. The truth is, I wanted to bid you farewell a few days back. You had already settled your differences with the Chu family, which means I've done my duty. I thought of returning home and living the rest of my life peacefully."

A warm, happy smile crept across Iwai Zen's face as he continued, "I don't know how much time I have left, but I want to be with my granddaughter as much as possible. I want to send her to school and see her blossom into a capable young girl. More importantly, I want to see her fall in love and get married. Nothing's more rewarding than seeing the kids grow, isn't



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it?"

Indeed, everyone would tire of the hustle and bustle of life eventually.

After toiling away for years, even the most successful people would want nothing more than to lead a happy, quiet retirement life.

Iwai Zen yearned for that, and so did Tang Yun and Li Er.

Ye Fan, too, was no exception.

However, the fact remained that many things in life were out of one's control.

For example, Iwai Zen had laid out plans for his retirement, yet those plans might never come to fruition.

Having been defeated by Chu Sect, Ye Fan needed everyone's support even more at the moment, so how could Iwai Zen ditch him at that crucial point to enjoy retirement?

After a moment of silence, Ye Fan was about to speak up when Iwai Zen interrupted, "Haha, don't worry, Dragon Master. I only said that for fun. After all, I have to finish what I started. I'm not one to give up halfway, you know? The next time you go looking for Chu Sect, you can count on me to be there. Moreover, Director Chiike



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can now hold her own, so that's a huge burden off of me. I can finally find time to be with my family."

Upon hearing that, Ye Fan held his tongue and smiled in response.

As time slowly ticked away, Ye Fan and the others were also getting closer and closer to China.

Li Er and the rest had been so anxious for days that they immediately ran to share the news with Ye Fan, unable to contain their joy and excitement.

"Mr. Chu, I think we're almost there!"

"We're going to be home in a few hours!"

"Oh, my gosh! I can almost see the coastline!"

"Hahaha! We're home!"

"Yes! We made it back in one piece!"

"I think Dragon God Hall has got to be the only one in the world who can attack the Chu Sect and still be able to escape unscathed."

Long Baichuan couldn't hide his joy either, and even Xu Lei had a megawatt smile plastered on her face.



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"Thanks to Mr. Chu, I've traversed the globe and been through a lot in life," Li Er mused. "For that, I think I ought to take a well-deserved break. Once I return to Jiangdong, the first thing I'll do is find some ladies to satisfy my needs!"

"Watch your words, you old pervert! Ms. Xu and Ms. Chiike are both here. Show some decorum, will you?" Long Baichuan scolded.

"Oh, stop pretending, General Long. I've seen you chuckling on the phone for the past few days," Li Er teased. "Fess up. Have you found yourself a sexy, foreign girlfriend?"

With that, everyone instantly turned their attention to Long Baichuan.

Long Baichuan scratched his head and laughed nervously. "No, of course not. It was my fiancée rushing me home for our engagement. Our initial plan was to get engaged after receiving the military commission, but we've had to delay it for obvious reasons."

Even though Long Baichuan was a battle-tested general, he wasn't experienced like Li Er and the others when it came to affairs of the heart.

They might have fought countless battles and gone through similar experiences, but ultimately, everyone's dreams and goals in life were different.



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"Oh! Hahaha..."

"Well, I'm sure she's worth the wait."

"Once we're back, we'll go with Mr. Chu to congratulate you!"

Laughter rang out aboard the cruise ship as a wave of relief and joy washed over everyone.

They had been overwhelmed with stress and anxiety when they were previously fleeing for their lives.

But now that they were out of danger and almost home, everyone was naturally a lot more relaxed.

They were like soldiers who had returned from war and could think of nothing but how best to enjoy themselves once they got home.

Seeing how jolly everyone was, Ye Fan let out a contented sigh.

A lot might have happened, but he was glad he managed to bring them all home safe and sound.

As they approached China's maritime border, Lei San and Chen Ao suddenly noticed what seemed to be a massive crowd in front of them. "Mr. Chu, look!"



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Chapter 1801

"There are a lot of people in front!"

The crowd was densely packed, and it wouldn't be surprising if the number of people turned out to be in the thousands.

"Let me see!"

"Oh, wow! You weren't kidding!"

"Do you think China has sent people to welcome us from our triumphant return? Maybe they found out we almost destroyed the Chu Sect and want to thank us for avenging our country."

"Oh? Does that mean they see us as heroes and are giving us a heroes' welcome?"

Everyone's smiles grew even wider at the sound of that.

Li Er, especially, was so excited that he almost started jumping up and down.

"Haha, this is amazing!" he exclaimed. "I never thought that I'd one day receive the hero's treatment!"

Chapter 1802

Even though they were still a distance away and couldn't make out the faces in the crowd, the joy felt by everyone on the cruise ship was beyond measure.

They waved their arms and shouted gleefully at the approaching crowd.

However, just as everyone was cheering and dancing, Ye Fan's brow had knitted into a frown.

The others might not have noticed it, but Ye Fan could feel a suffocating chill coming toward them.

In fact, he could even detect the murderous intent under that spine-chilling aura.

The next moment, Xu Lei turned to Ye Fan as she smiled besottedly at him.

"Ye Fan, why aren't you happy?" she asked.
"There are so many people here to welcome us home! You went to the Chu Sect alone and turned it upside down, yet you still managed to escape unscathed. Do you have any idea what an impressive feat that is? Honestly, I wouldn't be surprised if people start worshipping you as their role model and hero. When you're giving your speech later, I want to be on camera too! After all, it's an honor to be associated with someone as heroic as you."



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Chapter 1802

Ye Fan remained silent as he continued to stare ahead.

After a long while, he finally spoke up. "Lei, I don't think those people are here to welcome us."

"A-Are you sure? But if that's not their intention, what are they here for?" Xu Lei asked, looking very perplexed.

The ship continued to sail, cutting through the water like a knife through butter.

Behind them was the vast, blue ocean, while thousands of figures loomed on the horizon in front.

The more Ye Fan stared at the sight, the more he felt a sense of impending doom.

Just then, Li Er looked through his binoculars and furrowed his brows.

"Wait, that doesn't look right!" he said solemnly. "I don't think those people are from China."

The next moment, however, he went into a state of panic.

"I-I think it's the Chu Sect... Yes, I see their blazing sun with clouds mark. Oh, sh*t! It's them! Those are the Chu Sect members!"



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Chapter 1802

As they got nearer, Li Er and the rest could finally see the people clearly.

Contrary to their initial thoughts, the crowd hadn't come to give them the hero's welcome.

Instead, they were all martial artists from the Chu Sect.

It was quite a sight to behold as their war flags, decorated with the familiar blazing sun and clouds, flapped wildly in the wind.

Now that Li Er and the others had seen who the other party was, they were ashen-faced and visibly shaken.

"Hurry, turn the ship around!"

"Retreat! Now!"

In the blink of an eye, fear and desperation gripped everyone on board the cruise ship as panicked cries and screams rang out.

Unfortunately, it was far too late to retreat.

Just as Li Er was about to steer the ship around, the rumbling sounds ahead of them got even louder.

"Chu Tianfan, you've shown the world your evil and bloodthirsty ways. Not only have you



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Chapter 1802

murdered countless martial artists, but you have also brutally massacred many others. Your actions are unforgivable! Therefore, we've gathered here today to pass judgment and bring you to justice! Chu Tianfan, turn yourself in now!"

"Turn yourself in!"

"Turn yourself in!"

The thousands of Chu Sect members chanted in unison, their deafening roars causing the earth to shake.

Gusts of wind started blowing, turning the sea choppy as waves came crashing in.

Just like that, the once calm weather had taken a frightening turn for the worse.

Massive waves continued to roll in like a tsunami of nightmarish monsters, threatening to swallow any ships in their way.

In the face of such an intense force generated by the thousands of martial artists, the ten-thousand-ton ship was pushed out and eventually landed in Chu Sect's ambush.

Once the ship stopped, Li Er and the others scrambled to their feet and looked around in panic. To their horror, they had gotten



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Chapter 1802

surrounded.

“H-How is this possible?”

“W-What's going on?”

Every person surrounding them exuded a powerful, intimidating aura that sent chills down their backs.

The one in the lead had even taken to the sky with his hands behind his back.

Naturally, Long Baichuan, Xue Renyang, and the others were all shell-shocked at the sight that greeted them. “W-Why are there so many martial artists?”

Even though China was a big country, it had only about two to three thousand martial artists.

But now, there were at least five thousand martial artists on all sides.

Including the one thousand who had followed Ye Fan, it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that half of the martial artists in the entire world had gathered there.

Then again, that was only speaking in terms of numbers.



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Chapter 1802

When it came to the power of the martial artists, Ye Fan's team felt even more despair.

All it took was one sweeping glance to see that there were at least twenty supreme grandmasters who could casually hang in the air.

“My goodness!”

“W-What do they want?”

Everyone onboard the cruise ship was on the verge of a mental breakdown, overwhelmed by the sudden turn of events.

They had thought that being near the borders would grant them safety and security.

No one had thought that leaving the wolf's den would lead them straight into the tiger's mouth.

To make matters worse, their opponents currently were a lot stronger than the Chu Sect.

“H-How did this happen? A-Are these people all from the Chu Sect?” Li Er stammered, trembling uncontrollably from the abject terror he felt.

Long Baichuan and Xue Renyang shook their heads gravely.

“No. Other than the Chu Sect, there are also



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Chapter 1802

those from the martial arts world. I see Aaron from Remdik, Prince Carlo from Western Epea, and even the King of India, Fen Tian. In short, the world's most powerful supreme grandmasters have all gathered here..." Long Baichuan muttered as worry lined his forehead.

Iwai Zen, too, looked grim and solemn.

Other than the bigwigs Long Baichuan mentioned, he had also spotted the martial arts leader of Japan, Mochizuki Kawa.

Why have they all come here? What on earth is happening?

Like everyone else, Iwai Zen had many questions but no answers.

If it's just the people from Chu Sect hunting us down, that's perfectly reasonable. But why would martial artists from other countries be here as well? What business is it of theirs?

"Darn it. Things aren't looking good..." Long Baichuan muttered under his breath.

The four Dragon Slayers are gone, and Dragon Master has also lost his powers due to injuries. We had strength in numbers when we went up against Chu Sect, but that's not the case now! As much as I hate to admit it, Dragon God Hall's in deep trouble.



Chapter 1802

“General Long, what should we do now?” Li Er asked anxiously.

“Let's not panic yet. Until we find out what's happening here, there's no need to get our panties in a bunch. Dragon Master's grudge is against the Chu Sect, so the others might only be here for the show. Furthermore, Dragon Master is one of China's martial artists. If they dare attack us right on China's borders, I believe Sword Saint and the others wouldn't leave us be.”

After a pause, Long Baichuan added, “Let's send Dragon Master back into the cabin first. He's already severely injured, and we can't let anything else happen to him.”

Immediately after, he ordered his subordinates to help Ye Fan to the cabin and instructed Xu Lei and Chiike Shizuka to look after him.

Once he knew Ye Fan was safe, he stepped out with Iwai Zen and greeted the martial artists, “Greetings, everyone. We're on our way home and only happened to pass by here. We mean no harm, but I'm not sure if we can say the same for the rest of you. Can someone please tell us what's the meaning of this?”

Aaron and the rest remained silent. After all, they weren't the main characters for the day.



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Chapter 1802

The spotlight was still on the Chu Sect, so naturally, most people expected them to reply.

However, before anyone from Chu Sect could speak up, Fen Tian stepped forward and looked down at Long Baichuan condescendingly.

“Haha! Where's Chu Tianfan, though? I remember him being so brave and proud all those years back when we were in the rainforest. What's the matter now? Has time turned him into a sniveling coward?” he scoffed. “So instead of showing his face, he has sent his pathetic subordinates to die in his place?”

Amidst his raucous laughter, Fen Tian suddenly attacked with a burst of Qi.

Boom!

The deck cracked, and the impact sent Long Baichuan flying backward, spewing blood as he did.



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“General Long!”

Li Er and his companions were shocked and enraged when they saw that Fen Tian had seriously injured Long Baichuan, and they began yelling indignantly at Fen Tian, “You b*stard!”

“What's so heroic about bullying the weak?”

“How dare you do such a thing in front of all these martial arts leaders? Aren't you afraid of bringing shame to your country?”

“If you're truly that skilled, why don't you wait until Mr. Chu recovers and fight him properly?”

Fen Tian frowned, and he looked a little angry. Perhaps it was because their comments hit too close to home.

“Where did you clowns come from? You're not martial artists, yet you dare to criticize me? I think you've all got a death wish!”

His eyes hardened. Turning to face Li Er, he raised his arm and swung his blade down through the air.

Being King of India, Fen Tian ranked as a supreme grandmaster in the Sky Ranking.

Even during the battle in the rainforest, Ye Fan



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Chapter 1803

was seriously injured by him.

Despite having one of his arms cut off by Tang Yun, Fen Tian's capabilities as a supreme grandmaster were still far beyond what Li Er and the others could take on.

Just as everyone on the ship despaired, they felt a blast of Qi slice through the air and collide head-on with Fen Tian's attack.

Time seemed to stand still for a split second before Fen Tian's blow was deflected.

Fen Tian let out a low grunt as he was sent staggering backward.

After steadying himself, his face flushed scarlet as he turned and growled, "What's the meaning of this, Sword Saint? Don't tell me War God Castle has decided to risk offending the entire world to defend this wicked brute!"

Indeed, Xiao Chen—a Hall Master of War God Castle and also known as Sword Saint—was the person behind the counter-attack.

Embarrassed that Sword Saint had managed to repel his attack and send him staggering backward, Fen Tian clenched his fists so tightly that his knuckles cracked.

After hearing Fen Tian's question, everyone



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Chapter 1803

subconsciously turned toward those from China.

Those from Chu Sect, in particular, gazed at Sword Saint coldly as they waited to see how he would respond.

"Sword Saint, please think twice before you act. Now isn't the time to act rashly," Mo Gucheng cautioned behind him in a low voice.

Seemingly unfazed by Fen Tian's questioning, Sword Saint replied frostily, "I didn't see you attack Chu Tianfan. I only saw that you were bullying the weak. How could I possibly allow a foreigner to act so lawlessly and slaughter a fellow compatriot when we're at the borders of China? Don't make the mistake of thinking you can act as you wish because War God isn't around. It'd do you good to remember that my sword is not for decoration. We don't shield criminals, nor will we tolerate your mistreatment of an innocent compatriot."

He spoke firmly and resolutely. The commanding tone behind those harsh words was evident, and his voice boomed like rolling thunder.

Even the calm sea began to stir at his words, causing it to become rough with choppy waves.

As for Fen Tian, the color drained from his face,



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Chapter 1803

and his initial arrogance dissipated at once.

The expressions of the other skilled martial artists also darkened, and they quickly warned their subordinates not to do anything impulsive.

Mochizuki Kawa had intended to kill some of Ye Fan's subordinates in the chaos, but he quickly thought better of it.

All of them could sense that Sword Saint truly meant what he said.

There were many others from China on the ship as well, and they were not about to let anyone kill any of their countrymen.

"Well said!" one of them piped up.

"I wouldn't expect anything less from the Hall Master of War God Castle. Your commanding presence alone is enough to win my admiration!" another person called out.

Just as their shouts died down, one of the men in the crowd stepped forth.

At the same time, everyone felt a spine-chilling aura erupt around them. It was even more terrifying than anything they had felt earlier, and it swept over them like a tsunami.

The imposing aura pressed down on them like



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Chapter 1803

an indomitable mountain, forcing them to take a step back.

“Is this the power of the god realm?” one of them exclaimed.

“H-How terrifying!”

Everyone was dumbstruck.

In fact, Fen Tian and his men were utterly panic-stricken, their eyes filled with fear and shock.

To most of them, the strong fighters of the god realm had always only been the stuff of legend or mentioned in books, and practically none of them had ever experienced the true power of a god-realm fighter.

But now, they had finally gotten a taste of how the mere aura of one from the god realm was enough to strike fear in the hearts of the supreme grandmasters and make them retreat.

And that was merely the tip of the iceberg.

Hence, the crowd could not imagine how much more terrifying it would be if a fighter from the god realm unleashed his full powers.

In the blink of an eye, a deep silence descended upon the ship.



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Chapter 1803

Not one of the fighters dared to make the slightest noise, and even Sword Saint's imposing aura dwindled.

Chu Yuan's show of power and dominance instantly caught the attention of everyone present.

Nonetheless, he looked toward those from War God Castle with a smile.

"Don't worry, Sword Saint. We don't mean any harm or disrespect to China's martial arts by gathering here today. Our sole purpose here is to ensure punishment is meted out to the wicked brutes within the martial arts community so that we can restore peace and justice."

Chu Yuan stood with his hands behind his back and a faint smile on his lips.

Sword Saint and the others remained silent, but Tang Hao could not refrain from retorting, "Do you mean to say that those who go against your sect are wicked and nothing but scum?"

Alarmed by Tang Hao's reply, King of Fighters paled and grabbed the former's arm. He hissed in a warning tone, "Watch your mouth, Tang Hao!"

If he says something like that now, it sounds like



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Chapter 1803

he's calling Chu Yuan out for being a liar!

But instead of getting mad, Chu Yuan merely burst out laughing.

“Of course not! I only mean those who go around killing fellow martial artists wantonly. For example, Chu Tianfan! I wonder if the Hall Master of War God Castle remembers that battle in the rainforest. Many countries suffered heavy losses because someone went on a rampage and killed hundreds of martial arts elites. After our investigations, we found that the culprit behind those senseless murders was Chu Tianfan! Such a heinous act has incurred the wrath of both men and god. My question to you is, shouldn't someone who has committed such a crime deserve to die? Shouldn't someone like that be considered the scum of the martial arts community?”

“That's...” Tang Hao paled at Chu Yuan's question, unsure how to respond.

Suddenly, Fen Tian stepped forward. His eyes flashed with rage as he turned to Chu Yuan and said vehemently, “Why do you need to ask them? Everyone knows that the massacre in the rainforest almost wiped out all of the martial arts elites from thirty-six countries, except for China. Their men retreated and did not suffer a single death. Do you think they'd empathize with us in a situation that benefits



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Chapter 1803

them? Moreover, Chu Tianfan is one of them. So, they're bound to cover up for him.”

Back then, the massacre at the rainforest battle had caused an uproar within the martial arts world.

Many people blamed it on Fen Tian, which left his reputation in tatters. He was even nearly killed by those who sought revenge.

When Fen Tian got wind of the news that Ye Fan had not died, he told everyone that the latter was actually the culprit. However, not many people took notice of it.

But now, Chu Sect was involved in the matter.

With them taking the lead in pointing the finger at Ye Fan, it would only reinforce the charges against Ye Fan.

Li Er, Chen Ao, and the rest protested at once. “Nonsense! “You're just spouting baseless allegations!”

“I think you're deliberately accusing Mr. Chu because you want him dead!”

“If what you say is true, then present your evidence. Otherwise, who will believe your groundless claims?”



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Chapter 1803

Sword Saint also seized the opportunity to add, "They're right. It's a very grave matter. Without any solid evidence, I'm afraid you won't be able to convince many people with only your words."

Chu Yuan shook his head with a smile after hearing their remarks.

"What if I told you all the other countries believe that Chu Tianfan is the culprit? Do you think the evidence still matters in such a situation?" Chu Yuan responded, gazing condescendingly at Sword Saint and the others.

The faint smile playing on his lips carried a hint of arrogance and mockery.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chu Yuan's voice rang out loud and clear.

Sword Saint, Tang Hao, and the others felt their hearts sink at his words.

Although Chu Yuan did not spell it out explicitly, his message was as clear as day.

Once the majority believed that Chu Tianfan was the culprit, that would become the "truth" even if it was not the correct version of events. What did the actual truth and facts matter when the people were inclined to believe in what they wanted?

"Looks like they're hell-bent on bringing Chu Tianfan down..." Tang Hao muttered with a heavy heart, the worry evident in his eyes.

Sword Saint's expression also turned grim.

Nonetheless, he was not about to give up just like that. He turned to the onlookers and asked solemnly, "Do all of you agree with that? Do you agree with pinning that tragedy on Chu Tianfan without evidence and identifying him as the culprit?"

Prince Carlo shook his head and replied, "I'm afraid that's the reality, Heavenly Grandmaster. Apart from Chu Tianfan, no one could've harbored any motive or capabilities to kill that many people during the rainforest battle. I'm



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Chapter 1804

sorry, but we trust Patriarch Chu's judgment. We can't deny that it's a pity since Chu Tianfan is a terrifying genius who's hard to come by. Losing someone like him will be a huge blow to the martial arts world. Nonetheless, he has committed a crime and has to pay for his actions. We must avenge the deaths of our fallen comrades."

Everyone else was also shaking their heads. Despite the pity in their eyes, their rationality told them that Chu Tianfan had to die!

In truth, even if the events at the rainforest battle had not happened, the fighters from the other countries would still find a way to eliminate Ye Fan.

After all, the greater one's success, the more detractors one had.

Maintaining a harmonious relationship between the countries was a delicate balancing act, and Ye Fan's meteoric rise had disrupted the balance within the martial arts world.

There was no way they would allow one country to have the advantage of having an incredibly talented martial artist.

It was practically an unspoken rule within the martial arts world!



Chapter 1804

That was also the reason why there were very few highly-talented martial artists and even fewer who lived to a ripe old age.

Most of the talented ones would get assassinated as soon as they displayed their capabilities.

In truth, the other nations had noticed Ye Fan's skills early on. However, he had progressed so rapidly that he had already emerged first in the Sky Ranking before they could send someone to assassinate him.

After that, they thought that Ye Fan's rise would be unstoppable.

Alas, Chu Tianfan didn't know to keep a low profile and crossed Chu Sect. He was asking for it. Now that Chu Sect is determined to get back at him, this is the perfect opportunity for us to get rid of what could've been a persistent thorn in our side.

"Y-You..."

Stunned at their similar responses, Tang Hao felt a sense of hopelessness descend over him.

Meanwhile, Sword Saint sighed, feeling powerless.

Chu Yuan turned to Sword Saint and said, "By



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Chapter 1804

now, you must already know Chu Tianfan's true colors. As the leader of China's martial arts, I'm sure you're a sensible and reasonable person. Moreover, China's martial arts world has always been known for its compassion and righteousness. I trust you won't want to tarnish your reputation for the sake of a wicked and bloodthirsty devil who takes innocent lives indiscriminately and risk going against the rest of the world."

His lips curled into a sneer, his words containing a thinly-veiled threat.

As his gaze fell upon Sword Saint and the others from War God Castle, he radiated a formidable aura that caused them to wince in pain and break out in a cold sweat.

All eyes were on them as everyone eagerly anticipated War God Castle's response.

As the supreme grandmasters of War God Castle silently pondered their next step, Li Er and Lei San could not bear it any longer and started pleading desperately. "Sword Saint, you can't just stand by and do nothing! Are you really going to let one of our compatriots die because of what they said? Mr. Chu is a rare gem. In time, he'll surely lead China to become the pride of the martial arts world! Are you going to watch these foreign b*stards kill a hero like him without lifting a finger? Sword



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Chapter 1804

Saint, we're begging you..."

Soon, all those on board from China were on their knees in front of Sword Saint, Tang Hao, and the martial artists from China. They continued to implore them for their help.

"War God Castle, please save Mr. Chu! Fighters of China, please save the Dragon Master! War God Castle, please safeguard our country's future..." they cried out in unison, filling the air with the sound of their pleas.

Li Er's eyes reddened, Lei San wailed at the top of his voice, and tears streamed down Chen Ao's face.

Meanwhile, Xue Renyang and many others wept bitterly while pleading on their knees.

Their pitiful voices and emotional pleas rose in a crescendo and reverberated through the air.

Surrounded by martial artists from different nations, Ye Fan and the others were undoubtedly at wit's end.

Those from Dragon God Hall knew they could not stand a chance against Chu Yuan and Chu Sect, let alone the Supremes or Grandmasters from all over the world.

Hence, their only hope lay with War God Castle



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Chapter 1804

and China's martial arts world.

As long as War God Castle agrees to offer their assistance and we have the protection of China's martial arts world, we have hope. If we join forces with War God Castle and are armed with top-tier weapons, we might actually stand a chance to have a fair fight.

However, there was only a prolonged deafening silence.

Faced with Dragon God Hall's desperate please and the cries of despair from Li Er and the others, those from War God Castle remained silent.

Everyone's gaze was fixed on them.

Would they choose to take action, or would they back down?

That was the question on everyone's minds.

After a long while, Sword Saint finally sighed helplessly and uttered, "What goes around comes around. One must bear the consequences of one's actions."

His brief response hit everyone like a ton of bricks.

Li Er and his companions were stunned, their



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Chapter 1804

hopes dashed.

At that moment, Iwai Zen broke into wild laughter. "What goes around comes around? One must bear the consequences of one's actions? Nice one! Did you hear that, Dragon Master? Is this the answer you were hoping to receive? After how you risked your life to defend China's martial arts, is this the response you yearned to hear from your motherland?"

He threw his head back and continued roaring with laughter, an expression of mockery mingled with contempt on his wrinkled face.

I've followed Ye Fan's news for years. Although I haven't had many chances to meet him in person, all of us at Dragon God Hall know of Ye Fan's passion for China's martial arts world. He vowed to help any martial artists from China who got into trouble, and he prohibited Grandmasters from entering China without his permission. He even issued an order banning the killing of martial artists from China regardless of any altercations that arose. He did everything within his power to protect China's martial arts world. However, all he got in return was the reply that one had to bear the consequences of one's actions!

Indeed, those words burst the bubble for many of them.



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Chapter 1804

Li Er and the others were disheartened, while Iwai Zen and those from other countries felt that Ye Fan did not deserve such treatment.

As Chu Yuan and his companions cackled away, Fen Tian snickered and took the opportunity to add insult to injury. "Well said! As expected, Sword Saint is astute at differentiating the truth from the lies and is a man who upholds justice within the martial arts world. China's martial arts world will certainly flourish under your charge."

At that moment, the situation had become clear.

Without the protection of War God Castle, Ye Fan was merely a sitting duck.

Fen Tian was the first to lift his head proudly and call out snidely, "Chu Tianfan, aren't you going to come forward and receive your punishment like a man? Don't tell me you're willing to let your comrades suffer and die in vain because of you!"



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Chapter 1805

A thunder-like rumble reverberated through the sky.

The moment Fen Tian spoke, a murderous aura enveloped the ship in front.

Everyone could feel the intense hostility he harbored toward Ye Fan.

Given how the situation developed, his intention could not be more obvious.

Evidently, he wanted Ye Fan dead.

Nevertheless, Li Er and his companions were not going to back down, despite the fact that they were ordinary folks who were faced with the most powerful martial artists in the world.

“Mr. Chu, I am a native of Jiangdong. If China doesn't protect you, Jiangdong will! My comrades of Jiangdong, listen well! We will protect Mr. Chu even if it costs our lives!”

Li Er was utterly disappointed with War God Castle. He no longer had any faith in Sword Saint and the others.

Instead, he chose to personally defend Ye Fan together with his comrades from Jiangdong, despite how weak they were.

“I will live and die by Mr. Chu's side!”



Chapter 1805

Chen Ao stepped forward, followed by Lei San.

At the same time, Tetsan, who had fought together with Ye Fan in Jiangdong, walked out to join them.

All of them had bloodshot eyes as they gritted their teeth.

Li Er's cowardly expression was replaced by one that was decisive and ruthless.

As for Chen Ao, Lei San, and the others, all of them led out a fearsome battle cry.

Even if China's martial arts world and the War God Castle abandoned Ye Fan, they would definitely not do so.

Though Li Er and his comrades were cognizant that they were no match for the Chu Sect with all their grandmasters and supreme grandmasters, they remained fearless as ever.

It was just as Han described back then. Despite being just a small star, one should still shine as brightly as one could.

At the end of the day, one must find something that one was willing to sacrifice one's life to protect.

With the three heavyweights of Jiangdong



Chapter 1805

taking the lead, the rest of the men from Jiangdong chanted, "We'll live and die by Mr. Chu's side!"

"We'll live and die by Mr. Chu's side!"

Just like crashing waves, their voices grew louder and stronger with each chant.

Having just been struck by Fen Tian, Long Baichuan wiped the blood off the corner of his mouth and thundered, "Given how high-spirited these ordinary folks are, we, martial artists, cannot lose out to them! Everyone, listen up! We will help Dragon Master break through the encirclement!"

The tens of elites behind him roared that they, too, would live and die with Dragon Master.

Finally, everyone on the ship and all the disciples of Dragon God Hall roared the same battle cry and prepared to die for their cause.

"We'll live and die by Dragon Master's side!"

Their roars were so loud that even the heavens trembled.

When they saw how Ye Fan's men were willing to die to protect him, Sword Saint, Aaron, and the other martial artists were shaken.



Chapter 1805

They could not believe how much courage and conviction it took these men to declare something like that, considering they were not even grandmasters.

After all, Li Er and his men were nothing but insects in the eyes of a supreme grandmaster.

However, not only were they unfazed by the unbridgeable gulf in strength, but they were also looking forward to a glorious death.

“Hahaha! To live and die together. Sword Saint, you can now see for yourself that this isn't a case of us not showing mercy. Instead, they are the ones who are blindly seeking death by protecting the evil Chu Tianfan. Under such circumstances, I'm sure you can't blame us for bullying the weak anymore, right?”

Fen Tian broke into hearty laughter when he heard Li Er and his comrades' unrealistic declarations.

Amidst his sarcastic words was an overwhelming killing intent.

Evidently, he was prepared to massacre the weaklings in front of him.

Just as he spoke, Fen Tian held up his blade with one hand and prepared to strike.



Chapter 1805

“Stop!”

However, right at the crucial moment, a deep voice suddenly rang out.

Subsequently, everyone saw a pale and weak man walking out with Xu Lei's support.

“Ms. Xu, why did you bring Mr. Chu out here?”

Li Er and the rest were concerned by the sight of Ye Fan.

Xu Lei replied in resignation, “I wasn't able to stop him.”

At that moment, everyone's attention was already on Ye Fan.

Meanwhile, Fen Tian, who was about to strike, had subconsciously sheathed his blade and retreated to Chu Yuan's side.

There, he stood together with the other supremes.

It was not a case of Fen Tian being cautious but more of one where Ye Fan's reputation in the martial arts world was simply too terrifying.

After all, Fen Tian had almost died in Ye Fan's hands before the latter became famous, what more with his name whispered in every corner



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of the land now.

In fact, Ye Fan alone was enough to cause chaos within Chu Sect.

If it was not because of the numerical superiority led by Chu Sect's elites, Fen Tian would never dare to challenge Ye Fan even in the latter's grievous condition.

After all, the trauma Ye Fan left him had undoubtedly filled him with boundless fear.

Nevertheless, it was not enough to rein in the immense animosity he harbored toward Ye Fan.

Standing amongst the crowd, Fen Tian stared at the feeble-looking Ye Fan and sneered, "Hahaha, Chu Tianfan, you have finally shown yourself. I was just wondering how long you were planning to hide like a coward."

Other than Fen Tian, everyone else looked at Ye Fan in silence.

Even so, Ye Fan ignored Fen Tian's comment.

Among everyone present, Ye Fan only feared one person—the former head of the Chu Sect—Chu Yuan.

After a momentary silence, Ye Fan suddenly asked a question that surprised everyone, "Is



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she doing all right?"

No one, other than Chu Yuan, knew who Ye Fan was talking about.

"Shut up! Now that your death is near, you can no longer afford to be concerned for others. Instead, you should worry about yourself!"

Upon hearing Ye Fan's words, Chu Yuan, who was initially calm, felt a sudden burst of rage within him.

*This b*stard! How dare he covet my disciple even at this state!*

Consequently, Chu Yuan's murderous intent further intensified.

To prevent Tang Yun from being harassed by him in the future, I must eliminate Chu Tianfan right here today!

When he saw Ye Fan appear, Tang Hao cried out anxiously from the crowd, "Ye Fan, they accused you of killing the nation's elite martial artists when you were in the rainforest. Hence, you should quickly explain if you were responsible back then."

In response, Ye Fan shook his head with a smile. "So what if it was or wasn't me? It doesn't matter anymore."



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He was cognizant that revenge was nothing but an excuse for the encirclement.

Even without the massacre within the rainforest, they would find some other reason to kill him.

Therefore, he could only blame himself for being defeated on Mount Chumen.

Otherwise, weaklings such as Fen Tian and Mochizuki Kawa would not have dared to follow the Chu Sect to surround and kill him.

As for the incident at the rainforest, it was not Ye Fan's fault at all.

His comrades had coveted the treasure in his possession and tried to kill him for it. Unfortunately, he ended up killing them in self-defense.

Hence, he was innocent.

"Hmph! I'm glad you're aware of it. Chu Tianfan, for all the evil deeds you have committed, we, under the leadership of Old Master Chu Yuan, have gathered here with a single goal in mind—to ensure justice is served by killing a demon like you! If you know what's good for you, you had better kill yourself with your own sword and preserve whatever dignity you still have left. Or else, once Old Master attacks, not only will you



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be obliterated, but your entire crew will also die at sea!" Fen Tian declared with a ruthless expression.

After that, Mochizuki Kawa added, "Chu Tianfan, your time is up. Stop with this pointless struggle of yours. By committing suicide, you can still die with your body whole."

Just as he spoke, Mochizuki Kawa threw a sword to Ye Fan.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The next moment, the nation's martial artists threw the weapons in their hands in front of Ye Fan as well.

Even though they did not say a word, their intention could not be any more obvious.

Everyone was forcing Ye Fan to kill himself.



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"I'll break all your f*cking legs!"

Unable to tolerate the scene, Li Er ran forward with his bloodshot eyes and threw the weapons away.

As rage filled his eyes, he cursed at them, "You're nothing but a bunch of f*cking b*stards! You know nothing other than to kick someone when they are down! When Mr. Chu defeated the head of the Chu family, Chu Zhengliang, or when he topped the Sky Ranking, why didn't you tell him to commit suicide then? During Mr. Chu's Granddad's eightieth birthday celebration, weren't all of you ingratiating yourselves to him just like dogs? Why didn't you accuse him of being a failure that deserves the death penalty then? Only when Mr. Chu was defeated by the Chu Sect and had used up all his strength did you actually have the gall to step out and hurl such accusations! Don't you feel ashamed of calling yourselves leaders within the martial arts world? In fact, no words can describe how unprincipled and despicable all of you are!"

Li Er was screaming at them at the top of his lungs.

No one had imagined the cowardly Li Er, who had hid underneath the table when faced with Wu Herong, to stand fearlessly in front of the world's top martial artists and launch a tirade at them.



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His behavior had made a deep impression on Chen Ao and the rest.

“Well said! You are nothing but a bunch of hypocrites who are worse than animals! How can you call yourselves heroes when you only know how to take advantage of someone's misery? Unlike you bunch of shameless fools, Mr. Chu remains honorable despite all the lives that he has taken.”

“Exactly! You're nothing but a bunch of b*stards! How dare you force our Dragon Master to commit suicide! You're not worthy at all!”

“That's right! If you want to take his life, you have to go through us first!”

All of a sudden, the crowd was riled up.

Everyone on the boat brandished their weapons and charged ahead while keeping Ye Fan protected in the center.

However, Fen Tian smirked in the face of their angry rants.

“Stop deluding yourselves. Do you think you lot can stop the most powerful martial artists of our nation?”

He then let out a burst of unrestrained laughter



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that reverberated in all directions.

“What if I join them?”

The moment Fen Tian finished, a frosty voice rang out.

It was followed by the approach of an angelic figure who had arrived by treading across the surface of the sea.

With her elegant movements and exquisite features, her appearance astounded everyone present.

On top of that, they were mesmerized by her beauty.

At the same time, she unleashed a powerful aura in all directions.

Upon contact with the aura, Fen Tian and the others felt as if they were struck by a tremendous force. It was so powerful that it caused thousands of their martial artists to be blown backward.

Only Chu Yuan stood steadily in the face of the tempest.

“Eigetsu?” Ye Fan cried out in delight the moment he saw her.



Chapter 1806

Obviously, his happiness was due to the realization that Moon God was safe instead of the fact that she had come to rescue him.

"Your Highness? Why are you here?" Mochizuki Kawa was so shocked that his eyes almost popped out the instant he saw who it was.

Moreover, a sense of dread began to creep into him.

"It's her?"

As for the rest of the elite martial artists, their expressions drastically changed the moment they realized it was Moon God.

"Her appearance has complicated the situation, for she is able to hold Chu Yuan off. Without him, the tide would turn if War God Castle and Dragon God Hall were to ally with each other."

As a grim expression descended on his face, Fen Tian knew things were going south.

"Sword Saint, should we..."

Meanwhile, Tang Hao and the others recognized the sudden change in the balance of power.

Unable to hide his excitement, Tang Hao looked toward Sword Saint.



Celebrate

Chapter 1806

Sword Saint nodded. "We'll play by ear. As long as Chu Yuan is occupied, we'll think of a way to evacuate Chu Tianfan."

Ye Fan and War God Castle's relationship went way back.

Even though Ye Fan was annoying and behaved brazenly, Sword Saint was not keen on seeing him killed.

After all, Ye Fan was a son of China still.

Previously, he had wanted to help but could not do so due to the huge gap in strength.

Even if they collaborated with Dragon God Hall, they were still no match for the nation's allied forces, especially Chu Yuan, whose power surpassed that of a supreme.

As an outlier in terms of his strength, he was capable of destroying hundreds of China's martial artists in a single blow.

Hence, there was no way Sword Saint would make a pointless sacrifice just to save Ye Fan.

However, with Moon God's appearance, the change in the battlefield dynamics had given him hope of turning the tide around.

Disregarding the crowd's reaction, Moon God



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focused her attention entirely on Chu Yuan.

“Moon God, we meet again. I’m surprised to see that you’re still alive. And here I was, thinking that you had been burned to a crisp by the Chu Sect’s guardian beast, Zhu Rong.”

Chu Yuan was not surprised to see Moon God at all. He simply responded with a smile, as if he was expecting her to return.

Ignoring his words, Moon God sneered, “Chu Yuan, your mother seems to be within China’s borders. By killing your mentors and ancestors, aren’t you worried she comes over and spanks you?”

“Shut your trap!” Chu Yuan was infuriated, for Moon God’s words had struck a nerve.

“An outsider like you has no right to interfere in the family matters of the Chu family!”

“What if I insist?” Moon God taunted.

“Is that so? In that case, you had better start preparing for your funeral!” Chu Yuan scowled with an icy glint in his eyes.

“I’m sure you have noticed by now that my right-hand men, the Demonic Duo, are not present in this encirclement. Why don’t you take a guess as to where they are now?” Chu Yuan remarked



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with a devious smile.

Moon God knitted her brows. "Haven't they lost their combat abilities after suffering grievous injuries?"

"Hahaha!" Chu Yuan broke into uncontrollable laughter. "Having been established for more than a thousand years, the Chu Sect obviously possesses medicine that will help them recover. Furthermore, their injuries are not fatal, unlike those that Chu Tianfan has suffered. With treatment that is being supplemented by the medicine from the Chu Sect, they will recover the majority of their strength. Even at seventy to eighty percent of their power, it is enough for them to trample upon Japan's martial arts world!"

"Chu Yuan, I dare you!" Moon God finally lost her cool.

At that moment, panic and concern were visible on that distinguished face of hers.

"Well, why don't you get that Sword God of Japan to call back and verify my words?" Chu Yuan replied with a smirk.

Jolted by his words, Mochizuki Kawa immediately made a video call back to his home country.



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“Sword God, we were just looking for you! You have to return at once! Two supreme grandmasters have suddenly breached our borders and attacked the martial art world under Sword Shrine! Many of our members have also been killed, and the perpetrators are heading toward Tokyo now!”

“They are simply too strong! We have no way of stopping them!”

Pleas from their fellow comrades rang out from the communication devices.

Panicking at the news, Mochizuki Kawa looked at Moon God. “Moon God, the greater good takes priority.”

Looking at her, Chu Yuan stated, “Your Highness, it's time to make a choice. Do you want to protect this kid from China or your citizens from Japan? Choose now, as time is running out for you. I'm sure you're well aware of the devastation two supreme grandmasters who are within the top five of Sky Ranking are capable of. Do you really want to abandon your eternal duty of protecting your countrymen over a useless foreigner?”

Chu Yuan broke into a smirk that was filled with unbridled arrogance and confidence.

He looked as if everything was under his control.

Just as Chu Yuan finished, Mochizuki Kawa pleaded in tears, "Moon God, you are the guardian spirit of Japan. As for Chu Tianfan, not only is he a foreigner, but he is also an enemy who has massacred many of our elite martial artists!"

He was extremely worried that Moon God would choose Ye Fan over saving his compatriots.

In that scenario, Japan's martial arts world would be entirely wiped out.

As someone who had experienced the destruction that Chu Sect had wrought, Mochizuki Kawa clearly understood how ruthless Chu Yuan could be.

He was aware that the latter was a man who would back his words up with action.

"Chu Yuan, how despicable of you!"

Moon God had undoubtedly lost her composure.



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After all, Chu Yuan's actions had struck at the heart of her weakness.

All this while, she was protecting Ye Fan due to having Suzumiya Eigetsu's consciousness within her.

To Suzumiya Eigetsu, nothing was more important than her master's life.

It was the strength of her conviction that drove Moon God to repeatedly help and protect Ye Fan.

However, from Moon God's perspective, nothing mattered more to her than her citizens' well-being.

Moreover, the fate of Japan's martial arts world was now weighing against Ye Fan's interest.

Consequently, she was now trapped between a rock and a hard place.

If she chose to defend Ye Fan, Japan's martial arts world would suffer untold casualties.

If she returned to her country to stop Chu Sect's attack, Ye Fan would be doomed.

She neither wanted to leave Ye Fan to his death nor ignore the safety of her fellow citizens.



Chapter 1807

“Moon God, don't blame me for this. You were the one who forced my hand. If you hadn't gotten in my way time and again, would Chu Tianfan still be alive right now? Would so much devastation be wrought upon the territories of the Chu Sect? Consequently, I am resigned to putting such a drastic plan into motion. Of course, if you're reluctant to leave this kid, you can choose to stay. However, I can tell you with extreme certainty that by the time you return to Japan, all that's left to greet you is a sea of bloody corpses!” Chu Yuan declared coldly with a darkening expression.

Meanwhile, Mochizuki Kawa was almost on his knees, begging her.

“Moon God, please stop hesitating and return right now. Even the slightest delay would cost the lives of countless citizens. The Demonic Duo are about to arrive in Tokyo soon.”

As for the martial artists who came from Japan alongside Mochizuki Kawa, they too joined in the appeal.

“B*stard!”

“You despicable animal!”

“You're just shameless beyond belief!”

At the same time, Li Er and the others berated



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their enemies from the Chu Sect.

They could not believe the most powerful sect in the world would resort to such unscrupulous tactics to force Moon God to leave just so they could take on Ye Fan.

Finally, the conflicted Moon God turned around and gave Ye Fan a look.

At that moment, he was a sea of calm as he returned Moon God's gaze with one that was gentle yet mesmerizing.

With his warm and vibrant expression, he looked just like the youth from back then who had watched the sunrise together with her.

"Eigetsu, go. I'm serious, and I can't thank you enough. Don't worry about me. I have my ways of dealing with this."

Ye Fan could see the torment within her due to her conflicting emotions.

Nevertheless, he was aware of how much she had helped him and that he would never be able to repay the debt of gratitude he owed her.

Now that Chu Sect was threatening Moon God with the lives of Japan's martial artists and citizens, Ye Fan was not going to allow her to bear the terrible sin of forgoing her duty for his



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sake.

Thus, he persuaded her to leave.

“Dragon Master, Moon God can't leave. Once she does, no one here will be able to stop Chu Yuan!”

Ye Fan's words alarmed the disciples of Dragon God Hall.

Even Xu Lei's eyes began to water.

Given the current situation, Moon God was Ye Fan's only hope for survival.

Once she was gone, he would fall back to the brink of losing his life.

“Silence, all of you!” Ye Fan thundered.

In front of him, Moon God stood still with her long dress fluttering in the wind.

Her usual calm and dignified expression was no longer present.

In its place was a helpless and bitter face.

Finally, she looked in Ye Fan's direction with her trembling red lips and remarked, “Take care of yourself, for Eigetsu's sake.”



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Her icy cold voice reverberated in every direction.

At that moment, the anguish she felt flashed in her eyes for a fleeting moment.

With that, she suppressed the sorrow in her heart and turned toward Chu Yuan.

In the most vicious tone she could muster, she proclaimed, "If he dies, I, Moon God, will annihilate every single soul within Chu Sect."

Boom!

Just as she spoke, the ocean beneath her feet suddenly turned into ice.

When they felt the tremendous aura she emitted, Tang Hao, Aaron, and the others turned pale at once.

Just like that, Moon God stepped into the air and left.

Everyone watched as her angel-like figure flew toward Japan.

At the end of the day, she chose to protect her citizens over Ye Fan, for that was Tsukuyomi's duty and calling.

Despite the turbulent emotions she felt from



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Suzumiya Eigetsu's relationship with Ye Fan, there was no way she could turn her back on her citizens. After all, that was the duty that had been seared into her soul.

"Let's head back too."

Mochizuki Kawa and his men followed her back.

Once they were gone, peace returned to the scene.

The impulse that Tang Hao and Sword Saint felt a moment ago to save Ye Fan gradually faded away.

"We're at our wit's end!"

"There's nothing we can do now," Sword Saint and the others lamented.

In the meantime, Chu Yuan had already lost his patience.

Taking a step forward, he gave Ye Fan a condescending look.

At the same time, he unleashed an unbridled aura of authority, causing the sky to tremble and the ice to shatter.

Boom! Boom!



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The massive thousand-ton ship suddenly sunk a few meters deeper into the sea.

As for Li Er and his companions, they were forced to sprawl on the ground under the tremendous weight of Chu Yuan's aura.

Even though Ye Fan still managed to stand, he threw up a mouthful of blood from having his wound agitated.

"Chu Tianfan, this is the end. Moon God has left, and there's no one left to protect you. I'll give you ten more seconds. For all the grievous crimes you have committed, you had better commit suicide, or else I'll be forced to do it for you," Chu Yuan asserted with a commanding tone.

With rays of light gathering at his finger, he pointed it at Ye Fan.

"No! Dragon Master, you can't give up!"

"Dragon Master, you have to live on!"

Onboard the huge ship, countless disciples of the Dragon God Hall called out with reddened eyes.

"Why are you wasting your breath? Just kill him!"



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Fen Tian could no longer wait. His desire to see Ye Fan dead was actually stronger than that of Chu Yuan's.

Unable to wait for ten more seconds, he reached out his hand and screamed at the sky, "Divine Thunderbolt, appear!"

Suddenly, an explosion rang out in the sky as the Divine Thunderbolt emerged.

Black clouds gathered while lightning streaked through the sky.

A golden thunderbolt descended from the sky and crashed into the ground.

"Chu Tianfan, die!"

Holding a thunderbolt in his hand, Fen Tian burst into a vicious laughter.

"No!"

"Ye Fan!"

"Dragon Master!"

In the face of the thunderbolt, Ye Fan just stood still.

On the other side, Xu Lei, Li Er, and the others cried in anguish while being pinned to the



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ground.

Grievously injured and having used up all his strength, Ye Fan was weaker than a Grandmaster in the current situation.

Thus, Xu Lei and the others were worried that he might disintegrate into dust when struck by the lightning.



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Chapter 1808

Just when everyone thought Ye Fan's doom was sealed, a shadowy figure appeared at the very last moment.

It flashed past their shocked expressions before stopping in front of Ye Fan to shield him.

The very next moment, countless rays of light were drawn to the figure before he was struck by the devastating thunderbolt.

"General!"

"General Long!"

The sudden turn of events had everyone stunned.

The subordinates who were following Long Baichuan from behind wept.

All of them could not control the overwhelming sorrow they felt.

The situation had Ye Fan equally dumbstruck, as he did not expect the weakened Long Baichuan to absorb the attack on his behalf.

Subsequently, Long Baichuan collapsed onto the ground, breathless and covered in injuries.

No one could tell whether the brave general was dead or alive.



Chapter 1808

“Baichuan, why did you have to do that?”

Ye Fan was filled with sorrow. The eyes that once carried a commanding gaze were now filled with tears.

“You insolent weakling! You have no one to blame for your death other than yourself! There's no way a Grandmaster like you can stop my Divine Thunderbolt. Did you actually think that you were able to save Chu Tianfan? That's nothing but a pipe dream!” Fen Tian sneered as he stared at Long Baichuan's fallen body.

His eyes were filled with cold indifference as if his victim was nothing but an insignificant insect.

Of course, Long Baichuan's collapse did not stop Fen Tian from changing his mind about killing Ye Fan.

When he was done laughing, he slashed his sword down, a glint in his eyes.

Consequently, a powerful energy arc was unleashed in Ye Fan's direction.

The moment it struck him, blood splattered into the air.

Despite being drenched in blood, Ye Fan survived the attack.



Chapter 1808

As someone who had once terrified the world, he maintained his defiant stance.

He stood tall in the face of his enemies; his towering figure made for a majestic sight.

“Dragon Master!”

“Mr. Chu!”

Everyone on the ship could feel their eyes redden, while Xu Lei and the rest burst into tears.

“You b*stard! We'll kill you!”

“We'll kill you!” Iwai Zen roared through gritted teeth.

By exerting all his strength, he released the aura of a supreme grandmaster and charged forward with his submachine gun. Aiming at Fen Tian and Chu Yuan, he unleashed a hail of bullets in their direction.

Unfortunately, it was a futile effort.

The two martial artists in front of him were the most powerful of all.

Even a nuclear bomb might not be enough to kill them, let alone simple firearms.



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Therefore, when Iwai Zen finally ran out of ammunition, Chu Yuan and the rest did not even have a scratch on them.

Instead, Chu Yuan moved his fingers slightly and formed an energy blade with them.

The next moment, he swung his hand and shot the energy blade forward.

“Stop, you b*stard!” Ye Fan bellowed as he attempted to dive forward to save them.

Unfortunately, it was to no avail.

Underneath everyone's watchful gazes, Chu Yuan's energy blade pierced through Iwai Zen's chest, causing blood to spew out like a fountain.

“Grandpa Iwai!”

“Rock Dragon!”

The moment Iwai Zen collapsed onto the ground, tears gushed down Chiike Shizuka's cheeks while Li Er and the rest screamed in rage.

Enduring the excruciating pain that was radiating throughout his limbs, Ye Fan dashed to Iwai Zen's side and held up the latter's body.



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"D-Dragon Master, I-I'm sorry. The next time y-you return to Mount Chumen, I-I'm afraid I-I won't be able to be by your side. T-Take care of yourself."

Grasping Ye Fan's hand tightly, Iwai Zen tried his best to eke out a smile.

Back when they were facing the Chu family, Iwai Zen refused to fight and was accused of being a deserter.

However, when placed in a life-and-death situation, he dashed forward without any hesitation.

Despite facing impending death, he felt no fear at all. Instead, all he had left for Ye Fan was a gentle smile.

Just when he wanted to say more, Iwai Zen vomited a mouthful of blood the moment he opened his mouth.

In spite of that, he used the last of his energy to hand Ye Fan a blood-covered postcard he kept by his chest.

With that, he finally left the world of man.

In the winter of that very year, Rock Dragon passed away.



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At the same time, blood began to flow into the seas of China.

When Ye Fan shifted his gaze from the elderly man to the postcard in his hand, his body began to tremble as his fingers balled into a fist.

“Chu Tianfan, why do you insist on continuing to struggle? Do you want everyone on the ship to be killed before you're satisfied? Including Oska, this is the third man who died because of you.”

Giving Ye Fan a condescending look, Chu Yuan burst into unrestrained laughter.

The haughty expression on his face seemed to dictate that everything was under his control.

Having heard the revelation, Ye Fan shivered again. “Is Oska a-also dead?”

No one, other than that howling breeze, responded to him.

Meanwhile, the raging waves seemed to be swallowing the entire sky and earth.

“You b*stard!”

“All of you are nothing but ass*h*les!”



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“Today, we, the members of the Dragon God Hall, will knock out your teeth even if it means sacrificing our lives!”

Iwai Zen's death had utterly infuriated Li Er and the rest.

Long Baichuan's fiancée was still waiting for him, while Iwai Zen was still dreaming of seeing his granddaughter.

Unfortunately, their dreams could no longer be fulfilled.

Driven mad by rage, everyone on the ship charged forward without a care for their own lives, just like moths to a flame.

However, just when Li Er and the others were about to surge ahead, Ye Fan thundered, “Everyone, stop!”

At that moment, all of them were stunned.

Li Er froze where he stood, while Chen Ao's gaze was filled with shock.

As for Xu Lei, Chiike Shizuka, and the others, all of them gave Ye Fan a listless look.

“Ye Fan?”

“Dragon Master?”



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“Mr. Chu?”

Everyone stared at him, as no one had any idea what he wanted to do.

Confusion and anxiety reigned in everyone's mind.

After stopping the crowd, Ye Fan turned around and swept a piercing gaze across Chu Yuan, Fen Tian, and his other enemies.

The moment his eyes landed on them, they felt a chill down their spines as if the Devil himself was staring at them.

Even Chu Yuan was intimidated by his glare.

Finally, Ye Fan returned his attention to Chu Yuan and chuckled.

“Chu Yuan, do you know that the biggest thing I'm ashamed of is that I share the same blood as you? I do not resent being born into the Chu family. Instead, I just hate the fact that I'm your grandson!”

With that, Ye Fan looked up and laughed uncontrollably.

His laughter was so loud that it sounded like thunder rumbling through the sky.



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From it, one could feel the sorrow of a man soon to be martyred.

“Hahaha! Congratulations, you have won. Since all of you insist upon my death, I do not seem to have any other choice. I just hope that you will keep your promise not to harm the members of Dragon God Hall.”

What?

Only when Ye Fan finished did everyone realize what his intentions were.

Consequently, Li Er and the rest could not resist panicking.

“Mr. Chu, no!” Li Er rushed forward like a mad man.

“Ye Fan...” Xu Lei collapsed onto the ground, crying.

“Dragon Master, please don't!”

Behind them, thousands of their disciples began to wail.

At the same time, everyone desperately tried to come forward and stop Ye Fan.

However, it was already too late.



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With a stomp of his feet, a thousand swords were jolted into the air.

Under his control, the swords stabbed into his chest, causing his blood to spew everywhere.

With that, the legendary figure, Chu Tianfan, collapsed onto the ground and died that day.



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Chapter 1809

Meanwhile, in Jiangdong, Yunzhou, Su Qian and Qiu Mucheng were out shopping.

The year-end holidays were coming, and the new year was about to arrive.

Therefore, the mall was decorated festively with red lanterns, while all sorts of year-end sales were being held.

“Mucheng, what do you think about this top? It costs only around ten thousand. When I saw it last month, it was priced at twenty to thirty thousand. I didn't expect it to be discounted by so much.”

In front of a luxury store, Su Qian was trying on a beige-colored jacket. While doing so, she posed in all kinds of positions in front of the mirror to demonstrate her charm.

“Mmm-hmm, it looks good and suits your style,” Qiu Mucheng replied with a smile.

Her smile was so soft that it managed to mesmerize everyone who walked past.

After all, both of them were the most beautiful sight inside the entire mall with their exquisite features, stunning figures, and dignified air.

Qiu Mucheng, in particular, looked like an angel walking amongst men.



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Chapter 1809

Because of that, she was the center of attraction wherever she went.

In fact, some men who did well in their careers gathered their courage to chat her up.

However, Qiu Mucheng would always reply cordially, "I'm sorry, but I'm already married. My husband is both handsome and successful. More importantly, he's a hero."

Every time she said that, her eyes would glisten with pride and bliss.

"Mucheng, don't just stand there. Come and pick one too. The holidays are coming. Hence, that man of yours will definitely be home. Why don't you choose something pretty and sexy? You can then welcome him home in that."

Initially, Qiu Mucheng had no intention of buying any clothes, for she felt she had too many of them.

Nonetheless, she felt that Su Qian did have a point.

*I need to flaunt my charm in front of him to remind that b*stard to come home more often, especially given how busy he is.*

With that, the two best friends began to shop until they dropped.



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Chapter 1809

They bought everything, including jackets, trench coats, dresses, heels, jeans, and many more.

Qiu Mucheng made sure that she did not leave out anything at all.

In fact, she even went to the lingerie store to purchase all sorts of stockings.

Watching her friend change from an innocent girl into a temptress, Su Qian could not help but laugh out loud.

“What are you laughing about?” Qiu Mucheng glared at her.

“Hehe, Mucheng, you have finally seen the light and know how to enjoy the pleasures of life. Evidently, marriage is the catalyst for a girl to mature. Do you remember the time when you would blush just at the mention of sexy clothing? Now, you have taken your own initiative to try.” Su Qian giggled.

Qiu Mucheng's face flushed in response. “Not so loud! Besides, I don't really have a choice. That Dragon Master of mine is always away most of the time. If I don't give him a treat now and then, I'm afraid that he might even forget that he has a wife back home.”

When she first got married to Ye Fan, she barely



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knew such things.

After many years of spending time with Su Qian, she gradually wised up to what was required of her.

Holding that thought, Qiu Mucheng was filled with guilt.

All other wives gave their husbands pleasure as a reward for the busy and dreary lives they led.

As for her, she felt bad for giving him too little pleasure.

Thus, she decided to change by becoming a minx in front of him and pleasure him until he could not have enough of her.

After hearing Qiu Mucheng's words, Su Qian shook her head with a smile.

"Look, what's so great about being married to the head of Jiangdong? It might look all glorious on the outside, but realistically, you're no different from being a widow. When I get married, I won't want a husband like yours. It's bad to have someone who's too successful," Su Qian ranted.

Qiu Mucheng rolled her eyes at her friend. "I can't believe you. Back when Ye Fan was a nobody, you looked down upon him as a bum



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and coward. In fact, you pestered me to divorce him and marry someone influential. But now that my husband turns out to be capable and also the head of Jiangdong, you tell me I shouldn't be with someone successful? People like you deserve to be single for eternity!"

Su Qian stuck out her tongue and laughed awkwardly. "My dear friend, I'm just feeling indignant on your behalf, all right? Look at how Ye Fan has wasted your youth. All right, all right. I'll stop talking about it. Let's continue with our spending spree."

Su Qian towed Qiu Mucheng along, and with that, both girls carried on shopping.

Just when Qiu Mucheng responded with a smile, she suddenly felt her heart sink, followed by intense squeezing pain.

Holding her chest while supporting herself by the wall, Qiu Mucheng began sweating profusely.

Given a fright, Su Qian asked in a panic, "Mucheng, what's wrong? Don't scare me..."

With her body trembling, she replied with a feeble voice, "I-I don't know. It's just that I suddenly felt a stinging pain in my heart as if I have been s-stabbed in it."



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At that moment, her usually vibrant face had lost all color.

Meanwhile in Tokyo, Japan, in Sanshin Organization, Mochizuki Kawa, and others took turns to report the situation.

“Your Highness, the intruders have fled to the southeast. Our men are currently treating those who are injured.”

Moon God's expression turned grim. “Pass down the order to seal the borders and prevent them from leaving Japan. For trespassing on our nation, I will slaughter them right here!”

Her icy tone was filled with murderous intent.

With that, Moon God decided to head toward the southeast in pursuit of the Demonic Duo.

Just when she was about to do so, she felt a sudden emptiness in her heart.

She trembled a little, and a gut-wrenching pain descended upon her, causing her to almost collapse onto the ground.

“Your Highness?” Mochizuki Kawa asked anxiously.

Ignoring him, Moon God lowered her head and held onto her heart.



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She, too, had no idea what was going on.

Where did this sudden sense of anguish come from?

The next moment, the answer dawned upon her. Raising her gaze, she looked in the direction of China with a drastic change in expression. "Could it be that Master is—"

Zing!

Suddenly, she felt a ringing in her mind.

Within the depths of her consciousness, she could feel Suzumiya Eigetsu's sorrow overwhelm her like a crashing wave.

By the time Mochizuki Kawa and the rest looked at her, tears were already streaming down her cheeks.

Whoosh!

In the midst of the clouds, Moon God dashed through the sky toward the northeast.

"Your Highness, you've gone the wrong way! The southeast is that way!" Mochizuki Kawa cried out.

However, they did not get any response, as no one could break Moon God's conviction.



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On the flip side, Mount Chumen was exceptionally quiet, for all its best martial artists had been sent out.

Despite the tremendous size of the sect, only a few hundred men were left behind.

Nevertheless, Chu Zhengliang's cries of agony continued to ring out in the background.

Somewhere in the depths of the building, a distinguished figure with flaming red lips and striking eyebrows was sitting in a meditative posture, breathing calmly.

She had a face that could launch a thousand ships.

However, she was confined to that space and could do nothing else but heal her injuries.

At the crucial moment of her recuperation, she suddenly shuddered before throwing up a mouthful of blood.

The next moment, she fell limp on the giant boulder she was on.

“Ye Fan... Ye Fan...”

With a pale expression, she felt a tsunami of emotions swallow her fragile heart from within.



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Despite the injuries that covered her body, she continued calling out his name.

With tears dropping like rain, she wept.

Those galaxy-like eyes of hers were filled with boundless anguish.

At that very instant, she felt as if the world was enveloped by darkness to the extent that there was no longer any light left in her life.



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Chapter 1810

Meanwhile, in the Chu residence in Fenghai, China, an elder slowly walked out of her room with staggering steps. It was a rare sunny afternoon, so she wanted to go to the garden.

Meanwhile, a large black dog lay in the garden, resting under the sunlight. When the elder came into the garden, it rushed to her and shook its tail.

It was a cold day, but the black dog still stuck out its tongue and panted heavily.

The elder smiled and shook her head upon seeing the dog. "Blackie, are you hungry again? I made steamed buns yesterday. Let me get a few for you."

The elder patted the dog and went into the kitchen. She lifted a pot cover and took out a few steaming buns before throwing them to the black dog.

Woof! Woof!

The black dog barked excitedly at the elder as if thanking her.

Then, it came over and licked her hand before moving away to eat the buns.

The elder watched the dog and sighed. "Even Blackie knows how to be thankful, unlike a



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certain person.”

At this thought, the elder suddenly looked into the distance and mumbled, “I believe that brat has escaped back to China by now. He is still too young and impulsive. How could he not stop and think about his actions? Although the Chu family has grown weak, they have accumulated power over the centuries. On the other hand, a brat like him has only been in this world for a few years. Does he think it is that easy to bring the Chu family down?”

The elder sighed before continuing, “Still, it is good for him to face obstacles. He would learn nothing if things went too smoothly. It is vital to know how to get back up after one has fallen. I hope this challenge can teach him a lesson. It will prepare him to face stronger enemies and greater challenges in the future.”

Although the elder lived deep within this old residence, she could still sense many things that happened to Ye Fan.

The elder felt that Ye Fan had already escaped the worst dangers.

She could make her phantom appear to him with the help of the Sword of Yunyang.

The elder believed that no matter how much Chu Yuan wanted to kill Ye Fan, he would not



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dare to attempt assassination again and openly contradict himself.

By now, it had been days since she made her phantom appear.

The elder estimated that Ye Fan should have already reached China.

“That brat will probably come to see me soon,” the elder muttered with an affectionate and warm tone.

There were many descendants of the Chu family all over the world.

However, among the younger generations, Ye Fan was the only one that caught her attention and liking.

If she had to choose another one, it would be the daughter of the Tang family, Tang Yun.

She remembered when Ye Fan lived in the Chu residence when he was little. Whenever Ye Fan's father had beaten him up and injured him, he would come to her for treatment.

Since then, whenever he came across hurdles that he could not overcome, he would come to see her too.

Previously, Ye Fan got into grave danger in



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Japan.

At the time, he ran to her here and managed to survive.

Therefore, she expected Ye Fan would seek her medical treatment once he had returned from Chu Sect.

However, she had been waiting for him for a few days and still had not heard anything from him.

“Could he have gone home to spend time with his wife?” The elder shook her head and smiled.

As she was muttering to herself, she suddenly sensed something, prompting her to look up immediately toward the east of China.

Then, she felt an unbearable sadness rising from her heart.

“Is that my grandson? Is that Ye Fan?” the elder whispered.

Suddenly, she cursed, “B*stards! The Chu family is worse than animals! How could they bear to commit such cruelty?”

The elder shook all over, and her eyes bloodshot.



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In the east of China, clouds swirled above the roaring sea.

Suddenly, redness like blood stained the sky.

If one stood in the distance, one would see the azure blue sky suddenly turning blood red.

Everything turned silent, and time seemed to stop as a man fell.

The clouds and the waves stopped moving. The wind disappeared.

It was so silent that one could almost hear the flow of time.

The things that happened there left an indelible imprint in the minds of everyone who saw. No one could ever forget it.

"Ye Fan!" Xu Lei fell onto the deck. Her slender fingers were covered in blood.

When the thousands of long swords pierced through Ye Fan, Xu Lei felt pained as if a knife had stabbed through her heart.

She choked with immense sadness and agony.

Ye Fan was the only thing keeping her in this world. He was the only reason she chose to continue living.



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But why? Why is this happening? The heavens are cruel! Why does it keep taking away everyone I love? Previously, it was my parents. Now, I have lost Ye Fan too.

Xu Lei was on the verge of losing her mind from grief as she watched her world collapse.

“Mr. Chu...” Li Er wept.

“Why? Why does it have to come to this?” Chen Ao lamented.

Li Er, Chen Ao, and the others looked at Ye Fan with despair as tears flowed from their eyes.

They were not the only ones. Members of Dragon God Hall who had followed Ye Fan for years all wept bitterly. Their hearts filled with pain and despair.

They could not understand why fate would play such a cruel trick on them.

They knew how hard their Dragon Master had worked. He went through painful training and kept persevering to become stronger. They could not understand why he had to die.

“He had already left Mount Chumen and came back alive. He was only one step away from Jiangdong. Why? Why does it have to end like this?” someone wailed.



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No one could accept the cruel outcome before them.

Ye Fan had gotten here after escaping the most extreme danger. He was almost home, but...

Li Er and the others kneeled bitterly before Ye Fan's body, shedding more tears than they had ever shed in their lives.

Li Er looked at Ye Fan's bloodied body and could not believe that it was real.

Is this really Ye Fan? Is this the same Mr. Chu who was renowned all over Yunzhou and shook the whole Jiangdong? Is this the man that no one could defeat?

For a moment, Li Er could almost see the proud and mighty young man who dominated Jiangbei and forced Supremes from War God Castle to retreat.

"Ye Fan, please wake up... You can't die. I don't want you to die. Please don't leave me..." Xu Lei pleaded.

The sky and the sea seemed to have fallen silent in solidarity with their grief.

One could only hear the sound of cold wind blowing at them relentlessly.



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Xu Lei and the others kept weeping and kneeling before Ye Fan's pale and cold body. Their anguished cries grew weaker as time passed.

"Did Chu Tianfan... really kill himself?" someone asked.

In the sky, martial arts leaders who had besieged Ye Fan were shocked by what happened.

No one expected Ye Fan to make such a choice.

Prince Carlo looked pale, and the Great Emperor Aaron stood stunned on his spot. Even Fen Tian was trembling.

Meanwhile, Sword Saint, Tang Hao, and Mo Gucheng were wide-eyed from shock.

Although they had expected Ye Fan's death, no one predicted that a brilliant man like him would choose to end his life.

"You..." Sword Saint suddenly looked up at the martial artists from various countries with bloodshot eyes. He said in a trembling and cold tone, "Are you happy now?"

His voice was hoarse in his attempt to suppress raging fury.



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In the end, he could not contain the anger in his heart and yelled, "All of you, get out of China now!"

Boom.

Sword Saint's hoarse and furious voice thundered, causing those present to be fearful.

On the other hand, Karl, Aaron, and the others appeared remorseful. Aaron looked at Sword Saint and said apologetically, "I'm sorry, Sword Saint. We didn't expect things to turn out like this."

Then, Aaron sighed and continued, "Even in martial arts talent alone, Chu Tianfan was a rare genius of our lifetime. Therefore, we will memorialize him. The whole martial arts world shall never forget his name."



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Most of the martial artists at the scene did not actually harbor deep grudges against Ye Fan.

They joined hands to battle against Ye Fan just for the sake of the martial arts circle of their countries, respectively.

Not to mention, others tended to be green with envy of those having expertise in their field.

The martial arts world was not as big as it seemed.

Sadly, a formidable martial artist often could not even gain recognition and acceptance from other martial artists.

Undeniably, sometimes it was not a good thing for one to stand out from the others.

Since Karl, Aaron, and the others did not hate Ye Fan deeply, they felt a bit glum instead of rejoicing at the sight of the latter, who ended his own life tragically with swords. In fact, they could not resist feeling a surge of inexplicable guilt start to well up from within them.

Therefore, the martial arts leaders of other countries were not the slightest bit infuriated by Sword Saint's oppressive words. They even expressed their utmost apologies to War God Castle.



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Needless to say, not everyone felt the same as them.

For instance, Fen Tian was over the moon as he could barely wait to rip Ye Fan apart due to his intense hostility toward the latter before.

He snickered when he overheard Karl and the others apologize to Sword Saint and his allies. "There's no need for an apology! Ye Fan only has himself to blame when he ended up having a taste of his own medicine! After all, he should pay the price for the heinous deed that he had committed! Hmph! He doesn't deserve any sympathy and shouldn't have died such a quick death! We should punish him severely by tearing him into pieces to avenge those martial artists who met their tragic ends because of his heinousness!"

His chilling tone and his cold look implied that he was still unwilling to forgive Ye Fan even after the latter had met his end.

To vent the hatred from within him, he had to rip Ye Fan apart!

"B*stard! How dare you!"

"Mr. Chu has met his end because of you! What else are you trying to do?"

"Hmph! How dare you want to lay a finger on



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Mr. Chu's body!"

"You're definitely worse than beasts!"

"We vow to fight you till the end today! You sc*mbag! Even if we're fated to meet our end here, we won't let you touch Mr. Chu's body!"

Li Er and the others who were grief-stricken by Ye Fan's death got all worked up instantly. They scowled menacingly at Fen Tian and the others as though they were beasts that had gone berserk.

All of them glared at Fen Tian and the others with petrifying ferocity in their eyes, as if they were going to take the latter down with them.

Nonetheless, Fen Tian was not the slightest bit intimidated by their fierce gazes.

Regardless of how Li Er and the others were flustered and shouted at him at the moment, they were nothing but worthless small fries to him.

"If all of you intend to meet your ends and accompany him in h*ll, I don't mind sending you off now! Isn't it great to be able to meet your ends on the same day with your respectable Dragon Master?"

Fen Tian sniggered as he brandished his sword



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toward them right away.

"Fen Tian, how dare you!" Li Er and the others fumed.

Right that instant, a bellow of rage sounded behind Fen Tian.

Shortly after, the Heavenly Grandmaster lunged forward with his gigantic iron hammer.

Clang!

The collision between it and Fen Tian's sword resulted in an ear-splitting sound and fiery sparks.

The next moment, Fen Tian was flung into the sea, resulting in turbulent waves.

The blood-chilling force caused a massive explosion, forming a crater with a depth of over a dozen meters under the sea.

Moments later, a disheveled Fen Tian emerged from under the sea and snapped, "Tang Hao, what are you doing? Say it out loud if you're thinking of battling against me! As King of India, I'm not afraid of you! But how could you blindsides me?"

After being flung into the sea by Tang Hao with just one strike of his hammer in front of



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everyone, Fen Tian blew his gasket in utter embarrassment.

As his sword glistened with the reflection of the sunlight, he started emanating massive energy from his elixir field.

It looked like a battle between supreme grandmasters was about to break out.

Fen Tian was ranked above Tang Hao in the Sky Ranking. Thus, he was convinced he could defeat the latter in a one-on-one battle.

Nevertheless, when he was about to unleash his combat prowess, Sword Saint, who had remained silent, moved forward and came to a halt right behind Tang Hao.

At the same time, the thousands of martial artists from China moved forward together with him too.

“W-What do all of you from China intend to do? Don't forget that I'm one of the members of the alliance. I-If you go against me, it will imply that you're stepping on the toes of all the martial artists gathered here today. Are you thinking of becoming the entire world's public enemy?” Fen Tian stuttered.

He could not help but chicken out. Sword Saint and the others' intimidating gaze sent a chill



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down his spine. It was as though countless demons had their eyes on him.

Horror-stricken, he staggered a few steps backward uncontrollably. He was worried that the martial artists from China would get all fired up and finish him off at any moment.

Even though he was sure he could handle Tang Hao, the former was not confident that he could face all the martial artists from China.

“Didn't we emphasize earlier that you're now on the turf of China? We'll never let any outsiders like you stir up any troubles here! No matter what, every one of us from War God Castle vow to defend our beloved nation. If you insist on inflicting harm on our people from China, it will be over our dead bodies!” Sword Saint growled. There was murderous intent amid the sheer frigidness in his tone.

Smiling sheepishly, Fen Tian tried to appease him. “Sword Saint, take it easy. I was pulling their legs to give them a scare just now. Didn't Old Mr. Chu mention just now that we're here for the justice of the martial arts world? We had vowed to mete out punishment by annihilating the demon who spelled trouble for the martial arts world. Thus, we'd only get rid of Chu Tianfan without involving the others. Don't worry. We'll respect China.”



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Since War God Castle had stepped in to back Li Er and the others up, Fen Tian changed his mind so he would not get on the former's nerves.

He paid no heed to those small fries as his goal was already achieved after Ye Fan met his end.

Sword Saint looked up and bellowed, "Then why are you still here? Get lost!"

Since Ye Fan was dead, their goal was accomplished. Hence, Sword Saint chased Fen Tian and his people away at once so they could not inflict harm on the others.

Everyone exchanged gazes with each other without uttering any words.

Apparently, they were still waiting on Chu Yuan's decision. After all, he was the leader of the alliance. Hence, they would not make a move without his announcement.

"Sword Saint, please calm down. As mentioned earlier, we don't have any ulterior motives but are solely here for justice. Now that Chu Tianfan is dead, I'll be taking his body away!" Chu Yuan stated warily.

Tang Hao furrowed his brows and questioned, "Old Mr. Chu, don't you think it's too much? Our people in China are particular about having



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their deceased family members back so they can rest in peace forever after a proper burial in their homeland. Now that he's dead, how could you insist on taking his body away? At least, we should send his body back to his homeland for his parents as a sense of compassion and humanity.”

Chu Yuan shook his head. “Mr. Tang, it's not right for you to say so. After all, Chu Tianfan is undoubtedly a demon. What's the point of treating a demon of the martial arts world with a sense of compassion and humanity? This demon had nailed my son on Mount Chumen ruthlessly, causing him to experience excruciating pain!”

“To pay him back, I'll bring him back and nail him at the peak of Mount Chumen alongside my son, keeping him company! I don't think I've made an absurd request, right? I'm only paying him back in his own coin! An eye for an eye, after all!” Chu Yuan continued as he advanced toward Ye Fan's body.

Evidently, he insisted on taking Ye Fan away with him without talking things out with War God Castle.

Moreover, War God Castle did not have any right and capability to stop him from doing so.

Needless to say, there was another reason Chu



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Yuan insisted on taking Ye Fan away. He intended to make sure the latter had really breathed his last breath.

It was never easy to get rid of supreme grandmasters. They might still be able to survive even if countless swords pierced through their hearts. If Ye Fan happened to still be alive, Chu Yuan would surely stab him to death!



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Chu Yuan knew all too well that Ye Fan was not someone he could easily deal with. He told himself he must finish Ye Fan off that day, by hook or by crook.

After putting in so much effort, he did not wish any hiccups to occur.

Thus, he made his way gradually toward Ye Fan's lifeless body.

However, Li Er and the others would never let anyone from Chu Sect take him away.

"It's just your wishful thinking to take Mr. Chu's body away! We won't let any of you touch his body, even if it'll cost our lives!" they yelled resolutely, glowering at Chu Yuan. Gritting their teeth, they were ready to sacrifice themselves to stand in Chu Yuan's way.

Nonetheless, all of them were incomparable to Chu Yuan. In fact, he did not even spare them a single glance.

Boom!

While Chu Yuan was advancing toward the ship, he emanated a wave of unbelievable force.

His combat prowess was unrivaled.

The intense pressure unleashed by him was



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overwhelming for Li Er and the others.

Bang! A massive force was exerted on them in a split second, causing them to be pressed onto their knees. Blood spewed out of their mouths and noses as they were pinned down hard.

"B*stard!"

"Stop it!"

"H-How dare you show disrespect to Dragon Master's body!"

Even though Li Er and the other fighters of Dragon God Hall could hardly move, they never stopped shrieking at Chu Yuan in exasperation. Their eyes turned fiery red, and there was intense fury amid sheer indignance on their faces.

Tears were even trickling down the cheeks of some of them.

They could not resist despising themselves for their weakness and failure to protect their Dragon Master.

Not only that, they could not even shield Ye Fan's lifeless body.

No words could describe their distress and



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grievance at the moment!

Regardless, nobody would give any hoots to the weak ones' emotional sway.

Chu Yuan did not cast any look on Li Er, Xu Lei, and the others. It was as though everyone on the ship was invisible to him. In other words, he saw only Ye Fan's body in his eyes.

At that moment, Chu Yuan had landed steadily on the deck.

Ye Fan's body, pierced by countless swords, was lying next to Chu Yuan's feet. The blood flowing out of his body had formed a ghastly red stream on the ground.

"Pfft! You shouldn't have dug your own grave! Wouldn't it have been better for you to be lowly rather than shooting yourself in the foot?" Chu Yuan mocked nonchalantly, devoid of expression.

For him, Ye Fan had spelled himself trouble for refusing to put his feet on the ground.

"I bet things would have been different if he was willing to exercise restraint after being kicked out from the Chu family. How nice if he could have embarked on a new and simple life as an ordinary villager, pulling himself out of worldly matters. No doubt, he might not have



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been able to have a foothold in the world of power and wealth again, but he could have at least spent the rest of his life peacefully. Too bad this brat was reluctant to lie low. He had even harbored a grudge against the Chu family ever since he was kicked out of our family! Hmph! He even yearned to become mightier and had the audacity to step onto Mount Chumen again to settle the score with the Chu family, demanding that we apologize to him! Thus, he only has himself to blame for causing himself such a tragic fate due to his adamancy!" Chu Yuan scoffed.

Without a second thought, he bent and stretched out his hand to lift Ye Fan's body before instructing his troops to retreat.

The others could not help grieving when the Chu Sect began their retreat with Ye Fan's body in Chu Yuan's hands.

Tang Hao, Sword Saint, and the others could not resist letting out a sorrowful sigh.

Since Ye Fan's body was being taken away, they had no choice but to accept the fact that it was impossible for him to be alive again.

It never came to their minds that Ye Fan could not even rest in peace forever in his homeland after meeting his tragic end.



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Nobody would have expected that the most unrivaled fighter who topped the Sky Ranking would have ended up in such a pathetic state.

“From today onward, the Unrivalled Supreme is no more!” Tang Hao exclaimed as he looked up into the sky.

“Come on, let's go! Now that Chu Tianfan is dead and Chu Sect has taken his body, I don't think China will be able to retaliate again. Thus, I presume India will not have to fear any threats again!” Fen Tian heaved a sigh of relief; his eyes glistened with sheer blissfulness. He was relieved since the biggest threat bugging them throughout the years was currently gone.

“Come on, let's go back to our country too!”

“Everything has come to an end.”

“From today onward, Chu Tianfan's name will go down in history.”

Aaron, Karl, and the others turned to leave after throwing a final glance at Ye Fan's body dejectedly.

With that, an intense conflict in the martial arts world had finally come to an end.

After witnessing Ye Fan's death with their own eyes, all the other martial artists from other



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countries left for their countries contentedly.

Meanwhile, only Xu Lei, Li Er, and the others were still yowling piteously at the scene.

“Sword Saint, let's go too,” Mo Gucheng, King of Fighters, suggested. At the same time, he advised all the other fighters of China to leave. Since all the other martial artists from all over the world had retreated one by one, he felt it was pointless for them to remain there.

“All right.” Sword Saint nodded approvingly. “Let's head back now. Tang Hao, you stay back with a few men and assist them in getting other matters resolved.”

“At least, make sure to bring everyone on the ship back to the country safely,” he added slowly. Somehow, he sounded exceptionally dispirited and feeble, as though he had aged dozens of years in just a few hours.

A sudden surge of helplessness from his body gradually wore him down.

Unavoidably, he could not get over the remorse for not being able to protect Ye Fan and even stop Chu Yuan from taking his body away.

Apart from that, he racked his brain on how he should explain to War God what had happened.



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He did not dare to imagine how the latter would react when he found out the elite young fighter he had been having a soft spot for had ended his own life tragically!

Suffocated by an indescribable grievance, Sword Saint could only let out another sigh of helplessness.

Everyone had seemingly jumped to a hasty conclusion when they presumed the bewildering commotion had ended.

Yet, all of a sudden, a black figure flashed across the horizon like a bolt of lightning.

Initially, nobody had sensed the presence.

When the mysterious figure emerged a thousand meters away from them, Chu Yuan finally sensed something amiss.

“Who’s it over there?” He lifted his head instinctively and thundered out at the figure.

In the twinkling of an eye, the latter showed up right in front of Chu Yuan with explosive force like a grenade that went off abruptly. He threw his massive palm toward Chu Yuan’s chest right away without uttering any words.

“Hmph! Insolent fool!” Chu Yuan snorted, narrowing his eyes. At the same time, he



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stretched out his palm swiftly to fight against the figure.

“What!” Thunderstruck, Chu Yuan's face turned ashen in an instant. His usual indifference was prevailed by a sudden surge of fear crashing into his heart like a series of never-ending waves.

Only then did he realize that he had underestimated the latter's prowess.

Nonetheless, it was too late for him to take any action.

Surprisingly, Chu Yuan was suppressed by the collision seconds ago. Due to the massive impact, his body even staggered backward a few hundred meters uncontrollably.

At that very moment, the figure twisted his palm and snatched Ye Fan's body from Chu Yuan with a grasp before he turned to flee!

“B*stard! Stay put!” Chu Yuan thundered out.

The moment Ye Fan's body was seized, it only struck Chu Yuan that the mysterious figure had an ulterior motive.

When he regained his composure, he geared up to accumulate massive force in his elixir field. The next second, his body was out of sight.



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In a blink of an eye, Chu Yuan reappeared and caught up to the figure.

Right after a thunderous bellow, Chu Yuan threw out a massive punch.

Incredibly, his petrifying prowess was far mightier than a supreme grandmaster's.

Awestruck, everyone looked into the distance and gasped, "Could it be the power of the god realm?"

They even had a feeling that Chu Yuan was unleashing an invincible power as mighty as a deity's!



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Chapter 1813

It had been more than ten years since Chu Yuan revealed himself to the world.

He had only left his seclusion for a little over a month.

Hence, Aaron, Karl, and the others did not really know the true extent of Chu Yuan's powers.

Back at Mount Chumen, when Ye Fan attacked the Chu Sect for the first time, they had seen Chu Yuan intervene a couple of times.

However, he did not unleash his full powers.

Hence, the shock that Chu Yuan gave them was limited.

Yet, Chu Yuan's punch now was able to shatter the air and break through the sound barrier.

His explosive powers caused everyone to be paralyzed in shock.

They thought that only a god would have such powers.

“Which stupid b*stard dares to snatch someone from the Old Master of Chu Sect? Do they have a death wish?”

Watching from afar, Fen Tian shook his head and smirked coldly, his eyes filled with a



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gloating look.

Although Ye Fan's corpse had already been snatched away, Fen Tian did not seem to panic.

In his opinion, it was an extremely foolish act to snatch something away from Chu Yuan.

In the martial arts world, only Chu Yuan and Moon God were legendary fighters in the god realm.

Hence, no one in the crowd believed that the mysterious man in black that suddenly appeared was capable enough to snatch Ye Fan away right in front of Chu Yuan.

"After this punch lands, that mysterious man and Ye Fan's corpse would probably be crushed into pieces."

Everyone behind Aaron had the same thought.

Finally, after catching up with that man in black, Chu Yuan aimed a heavy punch at him. Its blood-chilling impact was strong enough to send ripples through the air.

He moved so quickly that it was impossible to dodge.

The punch was so powerful that it created a massive gust of wind that formed a crater



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thousands of meters deep in the sea bed.

The waves towered menacingly as if a tempestuous thunder had just ravaged the skies.

Just when everyone thought that the man would definitely die, he quietly turned around at the most critical moment.

He leapt into the air and harnessed his energy.

When confronted with Chu Yuan's punch, he suddenly aimed a forceful kick at Chu Yuan.

"It's useless. How can any ordinary person resist the powers of the god realm?"

Upon seeing his kick, Fen Tian could not help but shake his head and scoff mockingly.

He thought that it was impossible for the man in black to oppose such an overwhelmingly powerful opponent.

Initially, Fen Tian was worried that the man possessed some sort of hidden treasure that could perhaps trouble Chu Yuan.

However, it now seemed like he was merely overthinking.

The man had just charged in recklessly to bring



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Ye Fan's corpse away.

"If this is all he can do, he's dead!" mocked Fen Tian.

However, before his grin could disappear from his face, a loud explosion sounded.

It was like tonnes of dynamite had just exploded in an instant.

When both clashed, huge volumes of seawater were immediately evaporated by the sheer impact that had just erupted.

Water vapor rose to the sky.

An incredibly deep crater, seemingly reaching the depths of the ocean, appeared in front of them.

Whoosh!

Thousands of kilometers away, the sea started churning rapidly.

Waves after waves came crashing down like a catastrophic tsunami.

The huge ship that Li Er and the rest were on was pushed thousands of meters away by the tumultuous waves.



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This chaotic commotion had the potential to destroy the world—it was far beyond everyone's expectations.

An even more terrifying event was in store for them.

After the huge boom, Chu Yuan's punch and the mysterious man's kick collided.

A moment of stalemate ensued...

Like a shot from a cannon, a figure was sent flying to the bottom of the ocean.

"What?"

"T-This..."

"How is this possible?"

Everyone erupted into an uproar.

They widened their eyes in utter disbelief.

Fen Tian, Tang Hao, the King of Fighters, and the others were incredibly shocked.

Everyone around them looked like they had just seen a ghost.

Feelings of shock, disbelief and panic washed over them.



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“H-He's defeated?”

“Was Chu Yuan defeated just now?”

“C-Could this be another fighter in the god realm?”

Everyone was on the brink of madness, unable to accept this reality.

It was undeniable how powerful Chu Yuan was.

One might claim that Chu Yuan was forced to retreat earlier because the opponent's attack caught him off guard. However, this time, they had clashed face-to-face.

Yet, Chu Yuan was kicked to the bottom of the ocean by him.

This proved that the opponent's powers surpassed that of Chu Yuan significantly.

Since Chu Yuan was already in the god realm, it was indisputable that the opponent was at least in the god realm too.

“H-How is this possible?”

Everyone could barely believe it.

For so many years, fighters in the god realm only existed in the legends of ancient records.



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Yet, within one or two years, Moon God from Japan reemerged. Next, Chu Yun from Chu Sect left his seclusion. A moment ago, another mysterious man in black appeared...

Three people from the god realm kept appearing one after the other.

Everyone could not help but feel fearful.

What has happened to the world? Why did fighters from the god realm, who was unheard of for the past century, suddenly become so common now?

The mysterious man in black did not stay for long after defeating Chu Yuan.

He spun around and left with Ye Fan's corpse, disappearing from everyone's field of vision.

The crowd was left in utter bewilderment.

"D-Did you guys see that?" He sent Chu Yuan flying away with a single kick!" exclaimed Fen Tian, still in shock.

"No, it wasn't one kick. It was thirteen kicks!" replied Aaron with a frown after a moment of silence.

"What?" Thirteen kicks?" Fen Tian and the martial artists from the other countries glanced



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over in surprise.

Karl nodded as well. "That's right. Thirteen kicks. While Chu Yuan aimed a single punch, the opponent launched thirteen consecutive kicks. However, he was so rapid that those thirteen kicks seemed like one kick.

Furthermore, each kick was stronger than the previous one. Everything was done in a single breath. The last kick was especially powerful—it was almost the accumulative strength of all the previous kicks. You wouldn't be able to tell if you weren't observing closely. It's terrifying how skilled the person is in the martial arts!"

When Aaron and Karl recalled the scene earlier, they felt their hair stand on the end. Fear engulfed them.

One could say that Chu Yuan's power was only conferred on him by virtue of his realm—he was relying solely on the powers of the god realm.

However, that mysterious man relied on his impeccable martial arts skills and ingenious use of techniques. That was how he managed to oppose Chu Yuan.

Only someone who was unimaginably skilled in the martial arts could do that.

"In that case, is the mysterious man even more terrifying than someone in the god realm?" Fen



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Tian and the others were overwhelmed with fear when they heard Aaron's description.

Initially, they thought that Ye Fan's strongest pillar of support was Moon God from Japan.

Now that another mysterious fighter had appeared, they were extremely scared.

They thought that the forces backing Ye Fan up were simply too terrifying.

There were two fighters from the god realm. In fact, one of them might have even surpassed the god realm.

If this powerful man took revenge for Ye Fan out of fury, they would not be able to resist his attacks even if they combined all of their forces.

Many of them were starting to fear upon that thought.

They regretted participating in Chu Sect's besiege against Ye Fan.

"No, you can't say that." Aaron shook his head and said, "I think that the man is not above the god realm. In fact, it's highly possible that he hasn't even reached the god realm. Otherwise, he wouldn't need to launch thirteen kicks. He could've defeated Chu Yuan with a single kick."



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"That's great, then." Fen Tian and the rest heaved a sigh of relief.

However, Karl quickly added, "But don't you think that it's even scarier? He could defeat Chu Yuan without being in the god realm. If he reaches another realm, do you think that anyone in the world can defeat him?"



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“Who else can defeat him?”

Karl's words kept echoing across the horizon.

For a moment, a deadly silence ensued.

The vast place was absolutely quiet.

An indescribable fear engulfed Fen Tian and everyone else rapidly.

Like what Karl said, he could defeat Chu Yuan without even being in the god realm.

If he reached the god realm one day, it would be a piece of cake for him to defeat Chu Yuan again.

“W-Who exactly is that mysterious man? Could he be a hidden expert from China?”

The more everyone thought about it, the more afraid they became. Their gazes landed on Sword Saint and Tang Hao.

Evidently, they were the closest to China.

Everyone's first thought was that the man was definitely an expert from China.

“Sword Saint, c-could that person be Ye? Has he left seclusion?”



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Tang Hao, the King of Fighters, and the others glanced at Sword Saint confusedly.

However, he shook his head and said, "He's not Ye. If he is, there's no need for him to appear like that considering his personality. Furthermore, I think that the person isn't from China. He's probably only related to Chu Tianfan."

Frowning, Sword Saint thought hard about it and made a guess.

Just like what he said, there was no need for Ye Qingtian to dress up like that or conceal his appearance if he had left his seclusion.

Judging from the War God's rash personality, he would have killed his way there openly.

It was even less likely for the man to be a hidden expert from China.

After all, if he was hidden, no one would know his identity or appearance. Hence, there was no need for him to wear a mask.

Yet, the person showed up with a mask and concealed his body underneath a black robe.

To Sword Saint and the rest, it felt like he was deliberately hiding his identity as he was afraid that others would recognize him.



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From that perspective, it was highly possible that the people present knew this mysterious man.

“But who would it be?”

Sword Saint narrowed his eyes too.

Puzzled, everyone started guessing the man's identity.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, the seawater rose.

A column of water shot into the sky like a dragon.

Chu Yuan, who had been kicked to the bottom of the sea by that mysterious man, charged out of the sea.

“Old Master!”

“Are you okay?”

Shocked, the Chu Sect members rushed forward worriedly and asked how he was doing.

By then, Chu Yuan was already completely drenched from head to toe, looking extremely pathetic.



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Droplets of water dripped down his shirt.

His initially solemn expression was now replaced by a gloomy and furious look.

“Of course I’m fine! I just underestimated my enemy!” bellowed Chu Yuan before scanning his surroundings menacingly.

“Where is he? Where’s Chu Tianfan’s corpse?” demanded Chu Yuan coldly.

His vicious tone was filled with a murderous and violent intent.

Having been kicked to the bottom of the sea in front of so many people, Chu Yuan, who was usually so prideful, was definitely unable to accept it.

Now, fury surged through him. He wished for nothing more than to find that person and rip him to shreds.

“Old Master, t-that mysterious man has already escaped,” revealed someone from Chu Sect fearfully.

“You b*stard! Why didn’t you stop him? How dare you ruin my plan?”

Chu Yuan was even angrier.



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“Head of elders, bring them back to the sect.”

“What about you, Old Master?” asked Tang Xian carefully.

“I’m going to kill him!” bellowed Chu Yuan in a deep voice as he leaped into the sky.

His figure turned into a flash as he shot toward the distant skies rapidly.

No matter what, he had to get Chu Tianfan's corpse back.

Although it was almost impossible for Chu Tianfan to be resurrected, Chu Yuan could not afford to have any accidents.

This time, he must kill Chu Tianfan completely.

Whoosh!

Breaking through the sound barrier, Chu Yuan vanished into thin air.

The people left in Chu Sect also followed Chu Yuan's instructions and dispersed, preparing to return to the sect.

“Mr. Tang, are we not going to kill them anymore?”

Fen Tian spared Ye Fan's enemies. He also



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urged the Chu Sect fighters to kill Li Er, Chen Ao and the rest, so they could eliminate all future troubles.

"If you want to kill them, go ahead. Chu Sect only kills those who deserve to be killed," replied Tang Xian coldly before leaving with his subordinates unhesitatingly.

Without Chu Sect backing him up, Fen Tian did not dare to make a scene in front of the fighters of the War God Castle.

Hence, he had no choice but to bow at Sword Saint and the others. "Since the sinner has already paid the price, I guess the martial arts scene in India has nothing to do with this anymore. We'll be taking our leaves first. Goodbye!"

After bidding them farewell, Fen Tian returned back to his country.

Although it was a pity that Ye Fan's corpse had been taken away, it did not matter much in the bigger picture.

As long as Ye Fan was dead, Fen Tian did not care about whether his corpse was buried in Jiangdong, China, or hung on Mount Chumen.

"We'll be going too, Sword Saint. See you next time!"



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As the fighters of Chu Sect left, the fighters from the other nations dispersed gradually.

After all, since the main characters had already left, it was pointless for side characters like them to remain there.

As for what the mysterious man's identity was, it was a matter to be investigated in the future.

The fighters gradually left.

The initially crowded ocean resumed its tranquility.

Sword Saint and Tang Hao gazed into the far distant solemnly, their thoughts unreadable.

In the end, the King of Fighters announced, "Let's go too."

"Yeah."

Sword Saint nodded.

Soon, the martial artists from China returned back home.

As for Li Er and the rest, the War God Castle arranged for a few men to escort them back to China.

However, since Ye Fan was already dead, it was



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pointless for that ship to continue shining brightly.

Following that, there was a huge problem regarding where the Dragon God Hall members should go next.

“Ms. Chiike, what do you plan to do? Are you going back to China with us?”

It was already China in front.

The bright morning sun, signifying hope, shone over the heavenly land.

However, it could not pierce through the sorrow and despair enveloping the entire ship.

Everyone was still wallowing in sadness.

The thousands of people on the ship lowered their heads, looking like they had been struck senseless.

The hope that had remained alive within them for ten years had already been extinguished alongside Ye Fan's suicide.

They felt lost, hopeless and sad...

This turmoil of emotions engulfed everyone on the ship.



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There was not a single person with their heads raised—everyone was lowering their heads.

Without Ye Fan, they would not know where to go even if they looked up.

In the midst of this despairing atmosphere, Xue Renyang, the Sun Dragon, walked out. He approached Chiike Shizuka and asked her that question softly.

The Dragon Master had committed suicide and The Five Dragon Gods' locations were unknown.

Han was still guarding Jiangdong.

As for The Four Dragon Slayers, one was slain at the foot of Mount Chumen, another had fallen in Chu Yuan's hands, and one more had been struck by the lightning, his fate unknown.

Out of the Four Dragon Slayers, only Xue Renyang could still be in control of matters.

Initially, Xue Renyang wanted Xu Lei to take command of the Dragon God Hall's future and missions.

After all, from his perspective, Xu Lei was still Ye Fan's woman. Although she did not have an official position in the Dragon God Hall, her authority was unparalleled.



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Helping Ye Fan take control of a region, she commanded what happened in Yanjing.

In fact, many people believed that Xu Lei was the queen of the Dragon God Hall.

In such a situation, Xu Lei was the best candidate to command everyone.

However, she was in no mood to care about all that.

When Ye Fan collapsed in front of her, her heart had already withered with him.

Ever since just now, Xu Lei had been guarding the place where Ye Fan had fallen. She was completely silent, as if she could not hear a single word that everyone else was saying.

She looked so despondent that it was like her soul had left her body.

Left with no choice, Xue Renyang had to step up and handle the matters regarding where the members of the Dragon God Hall should go.

For instance, Chiike Shizuka was from Japan. The ship was traveling toward China now. If Chiike Shizuka wanted to go back home, Xue Renyang should make arrangements for that soon.



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“Mr. Xue, I'd like to follow you to Jiangdong and meet Mr. Chu's relatives. After paying my respects, I'll bring Grandpa Iwai's corpse back to my country,” said Chiike Shizuka as tears flowed down her cheeks.



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After all, she wanted to bid her last farewell to Chu Tianfan.

If she could not say goodbye to him when he was still alive, she would bid his family farewell after his death.

This was the last gesture of respect she could do for Ye Fan.

“Okay, then. If that's the case, let's us go back to Dragon Master's hometown.”

Xue Renyang sighed and suggested a temporary destination for everyone.

Everyone on the ship had gathered together for Ye Fan's sake.

Yet, he was no longer around.

Actually, Xue Renyang knew very well that soon later, members of the Dragon God Hall would disperse and leave.

This journey to Jiangdong was probably the last farewell for the Dragon God Hall.

Afterward, the ship, carrying the grieving Xue Renyang and other members, reached the shore.

It stopped at the port nearest to the Jiangdong



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province.

There were a lot of people on the boat.

Including the martial artists, Li Er, Lei San, the subordinates from Jiangdong, and Chiike Shizuka's men, there were thousands of passengers onboard.

Everyone alighted the boat and rushed toward Jiangdong rapidly.

Since there were so many people gathered together, they naturally attracted the attention of the local authorities.

Before they could travel far, some personnel from the relevant departments came over to check their documents.

“Who are you guys? What event are you organizing? Have you applied for a permit with the relevant departments? Can I see the approval documents? Also, the few of you don't look like you're from China. Take out your passport, stand there and wait to be checked!”

The local authorities demanded Li Er and the rest sternly to provide the relevant permits and documents.

After all, since there were so many people gathered together, they needed to register for a



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permit.

However, no one responded to the staff and directly ignored them.

As if they could not hear anything, Li Er and the rest rushed toward Jiangdong.

“Stand right there! Are you deaf? Who's the organizer of this? Let him come out and meet me! Otherwise, don't blame us for forcefully dispersing you in the name of preventing an illegal gathering!”

They were almost a thousand kilometers away from Jiangdong province.

In this foreign province, no one recognized Li Er and the rest.

Hence, they had to act according to the rules.

The staff were about to force the members, who were heading up North, to disperse.

However, at that moment, someone looked over.

Soon, the second and third person glanced over.

Eventually, the thousands of martial artists in the crowd turned their gaze toward the staff.



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Martial artists all had an extremely intimidating aura.

While a single person's presence might be insignificant, when a thousand martial artists unleash their auras simultaneously, their coldness and murderous intent engulfed the hapless commoners.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

The dozens of staff immediately revealed a look of agony.

Unable to endure the pressure, they were forced to fall on their knees.

“We're sending Dragon Master back home. How dare insignificant people like you stop us? Do you want to die?”

The martial artists of the Dragon God Hall exuded a murderous intent.

They were mostly foreigners.

As Li Er, Chen Ao, and the rest were from the same nation, they might still spare the staff some courtesy.

However, the martial artists from foreign nations would not.



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In fact, they harbored hatred toward China.

After all, the War God Castle watched idly by when their Dragon Master was forced to commit suicide.

It was difficult for the fighters of the Dragon God Hall to take a liking to them, having seen how heartless they were.

Now, the members of the Dragon God Hall were preparing to send their Dragon Master back home like a hero.

Yet, on their way back, these foolish jerks actually dared to block their way.

In the past, their Dragon Master would accommodate these people.

However, now that he was gone, there was no reason for them to accommodate these insolent people.

Furious, dozens of Innate martial artists clenched their fists. The Black Tigers assembled, all prepared to cripple those ignorant jerks.

“Don’t...”

“Spare us!”



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“Please, spare us!”

“We're wrong... We're terribly sorry!”

Those staff were extremely scared.

Sprawling on the floor, they burst into tears.

As they were merely following the protocol, they spoke in a harsh manner to scare off those people who were gathering illegally.

However, they did not expect that those visitors were not just ordinary people.

Just by looking into their eyes, the staff were so intimidated that they could not even stand.

At that moment, they were engulfed with regret.

If they had known that these people should not be messed around with, they would never have gone over to check the documents.

By doing so, they were courting their own death.

Just when the staff thought that they could not escape, Li Er and Chen Ao quickly stopped the rest.

“Everyone, it's enough to just punish them appropriately. There's no need to kill them. After



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all, they are Mr. Chu's countrymen. If Mr. Chu is looking down at us from heaven, he'll definitely not wish to see his countrymen die because of him," persuaded Li Er.

"Countrymen? Dragon Master has always been loyal to his country, protecting his fellow citizens. But what about them? Have they ever treated Dragon Master as their fellow countryman? When the other nations cornered him and forced him to commit suicide overseas, the martial arts world in China did not even offer a helping hand! Mr. Li, are you saying that this is what countrymen should do?"

The Dragon God Hall members' eyes turned red. It was as if they could see Ye Fan again, who was forced to commit suicide and die with thousands of knives piercing through his heart.

They were overwhelmed with fury, sadness, and helplessness...

This turmoil of emotions caused the Dragon God Hall members to almost lose their minds.

"Well, it's true that the martial arts world in China is cold-blooded. However, these people are just ordinary people. They're simply following the protocol, so there's no need to drag them into this mess. Spare them."

Li Er sighed, also feeling extremely



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disappointed in the War God Castle's actions.

However, all those not involved in it were innocent.

After stopping the Dragon God Hall fighters from killing the staff, Li Er looked down at them who were overwhelmed with fear.

“You brought this upon yourself. This road is so wide. We could've just gone on our separate paths, so why must you insist on coming over and seeking trouble? If it weren't for the fact that Mr. Chu's authority still lives, all of you would've died today.”

Although Li Er was not a martial artist, he knew how hot-tempered they were, especially the foreign fighters.

They were all ruthless people who had lived through a lot of bloodshed.

By seeking trouble with those fighters, the staff were digging their own grave.

“W-We had no choice. This is our job! We cannot just turn a blind eye...”

After narrowly escaping the clutches of death, they were still very scared. At that moment, Wang He, the leader of the group, was lamenting to Li Er bitterly about his own



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grievances.

"Yes. It's your job to check the documents, but it's also their job to kill people. How about this? You'll continue checking your documents, and they'll continue killing people. What do you think?" asked Li Er.

"I-I..." Wang He directly burst into tears. *What kind of people have I bumped into today?*

"All right, stop crying. You should feel lucky that you're from the same country as Mr. Chu. You won't die today. However, you still have to pay the price for your wrongdoings. Bring your men and follow us on this journey."

"A journey? Where are we going?" Wang He was stunned.

"Jiangdong. We're going to break the news of Mr. Chu's death."

"Mr. Chu? W-We don't know him," protested Wang He fearfully.

"It doesn't matter whether you know them or not. What's important is that Mr. Chu has done China a lot of favors. As people of China, you should be part of the mourning too," replied Li Er slowly.

With that, the large group headed toward



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Jiangdong again.

Wang He and the rest were forcefully included in the group and ushered forward like ducks.

“Hello, is this the police? Help! W-We’ve been kidnapped by a bunch of people. They’re forcing us to go to Jiangdong and using us as sacrifices...”

Wang He and the rest, who had been dragged into this for no reason, were so scared that they called the police mid-journey.

“How many people are there?” asked the operator.

Wang He replied, “Around three thousand people?”

“Huh? Three thousand people?”

*Three thousand people are entering Jiangdong?
Oh my God!*

The operator was stunned.

He thought that he had just encountered an immensely major incident.

Meanwhile, in Adonia province of China, a man was giving out orders.

“Hurry up and inform all sixteen Security Departments within the province!

“Mobilize our forces to gather at the north of Adonia immediately. Remember, they have to be heavily armed. Our enemy has the numbers, and they’re great fighters. Besides, according to the intelligence, our opponents are most probably armed as well. All units are to be on high alert for their own safety! We have to make sure that these criminals are all captured before they enter the borders of Jiangdong!”

In an office in the city within the Adonia province, a middle-aged man straightened his back with furrowed brows as he contemplated his next order.

The man was Ma Guoping, the highest-ranking officer in the Security Department of Adonia.

He had just received a report stating that some unknown personnel were trying to breach the borders through a port in Adonia.

They were heading toward the north. It seemed like they were preparing to enter Jiangdong.

The group was brazen enough to force any opposing forces along the way to join their



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forces.

It was said that the group donned plain linen clothes and carried a mahogany coffin as if they were in mourning as they headed in the direction where the Big Dipper carried them - the north.

Up until then, there were already hundreds of public servants forced to join the brazen group's ranks.

Among the abducted ones were Ma Guoping's brother, Ma Guo'an.

"This is ridiculous! How dare such an insolent group disregard our nation's law? I will not allow such an impertinent group to trample all over Adonia! No matter what happens, none of them will be able to escape today!"

Ma Guoping was infuriated.

However, he was not an impulsive person.

He already knew that he was dealing with a large group of about three thousand people.

The number of people was enough to threaten the peace of Adonia.

After realizing the graveness of the situation, Ma Guoping immediately mobilized all forces



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that he could.

At the same time, he came into contact with the military base of Adonia. He hoped that he would be able to get their help when necessary.

Right then, a plan to entrap Li Er and the others was already in place.

Of course, Li Er was oblivious to Ma Guoping's secret plan.

Then again, Li Er would not pay heed to Ma Guoping even if he knew about it, especially considering that his group consisted of about two thousand normal civilians and a thousand martial artists.

After all, there were only about two to three thousand martial artists in China.

Hence, Li Er was in control of forces that could rival at least half of China.

Under such circumstances, the whole Adonia combined was no match for Li Er's group. On the contrary, Ma Guoping's combined forces going up against Li Er's group were akin to throwing an egg against a rock.

Nonetheless, Ma Guoping knew nothing of Li Er's forces.



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Worse, the man was already imagining how much of an accomplishment it was to wipe out the group of criminals.

He was delusional enough to begin imagining bagging the honor of being an exemplary national model.

Meanwhile, over in War God Castle at Mount Yan, a conversation was taking place.

“How is it over at Jiangdong? Did anything unbecoming happened?”

It had been two days since Ye Fan killed himself.

Sword Saint and the others who returned to China were still plagued with worsening anxiety as the days went by.

Even though Ye Fan was dead, most of the forces of Dragon God Hall were still intact.

There was truth to the saying that a centipede would not topple in a storm. Similarly, Ye Fan's death would not bring about the eradication of the whole group.

However, should Dragon God Hall choose to rebel, China's martial arts world would already suffer a great deal.



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Sword Saint was most concerned about the martial artists at Dragon God Hall would try to stir trouble at Jiangdong.

Tang Hao shook his head and said, "I had just asked my people over at Jiangdong. People from Dragon God Hall have not entered Jiangdong yet."

"What? They're not there yet?" Sword Saint asked with furrowed brows.

The movements of people from Dragon God Hall were undoubtedly War God Castle's primary concern.

After all, his subordinate had just reported to him that Li Er and the others were headed to Jiangdong to break the news of Ye Fan's death to his relatives.

However, it had been two days, and still, the group had yet to arrive at Jiangdong.

"This won't do. Tang Hao, please confirm their whereabouts right away. Don't let anything go wrong," Sword Saint ordered.

He was getting more apprehensive with each passing second.

After all, he was dealing with over a thousand martial artists. Even though the number still



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paled in comparison with the number in China, the group still comprised of elites handpicked by Ye Fan.

Moreover, Sword Saint knew for a fact that the two thousand martial artists in China may not be able to rival Ye Fan's thousand men.

Hence, Sword Saint deemed the elites from Dragon God Hall pouring into China a great threat.

Tang Hao immediately contacted multiple parties after receiving the instruction from Sword Saint to find out about the whereabouts of Li Er and the others.

“Sword Saint, I have warned that these damned people from Dragon God Hall cannot be granted entry into China. They pose a great threat to us. The consequences will be dire should they blame Ye Fan's death on China's martial arts world. I'm afraid that it will not be an understatement to say that they will even spell our doomsday! What is left to do, now that they've already been granted entry into the country?” The King of Fighters, Mo Gucheng, grunted anxiously after knowing that people from Dragon God Hall had yet to enter Jiangdong as promised.

Sword Saint let out a sigh. “Yeah, it's easier said than done. Do you think it's easy forbidding



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them from entry into China? Besides, Chu Tianfan was their master. There is nothing unreasonable about them entering China to mourn the death of their leader. Not only are we violating humanitarianism by denying them entry, but we also risk offending the people of Dragon God Hall by doing so, giving them more ammunition against us. It is not our position to deny them entry, nor are we capable of doing so."

Of course, Sword Saint had considered all the possible consequences.

However, he was left with no choice on the grounds of humanitarianism as he had no plausible reason to deny the entry of people from Dragon God Hall to mourn their leader.

Any attempts to forcefully deny them entry would surely cause a major ruckus.

Hence, Sword Saint granted them entry into Jiangdong.

He could only pray that the group would not try to wreak havoc in China.

Otherwise, the destruction that a thousand martial artists could wreck was unimaginable.

"Sword Saint, King of Fighters, something terrible has happened!"



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Just when the two of them were conversing, Tang Hao returned in a hurry.

“What happened? Have those people from Dragon God Hall truly gone berserk in China?”

It was the manifestation of Murphy's Law at its finest.

Sword Saint and King of Fighters' faces paled just as Tang Hao was about to report.

“No, they have yet to make a move. It's just that Adonia province is going to strike first. I've just received news that the Security Department of Adonia is working together with its military base for a joint mission. They're going to gather about five thousand men to capture people from Dragon God Hall in one go!”

Bang!

Right after Tang Hao was done reporting, Sword Saint smashed the table right in front of him.

“What a bunch of idiots! They must have had a death wish! How dare they go up against those elite martial artists?” Sword Saint gritted through his teeth in fury.

He was worried about people from Dragon God Hall might go on a killing spree to avenge Ye



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Fan. However, he did not expect that it was the mundane forces in China that struck first.

In the new era, mundane forces would be at a great disadvantage without the aid of high-powered lethal weapons if they chose to go up against martial artists.

The five thousand men that Adonia was deploying were hardly a match for the thousand martial artists.

Sword Saint reckoned that even ten thousand men from mundane forces could hardly contain the thousand martial artists. The mundane forces of Adonia were merely seeking death by attempting to challenge the martial artists.

“Hurry up and contact the leaders of China to find out which idiot has given such an instruction! Before any calamity strikes, stop them from pursuing their own death! Does he even have any idea that he's pushing the five thousand men to their own deaths?”



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Chapter 1817

Meanwhile, in the city of Adonia province, Ma Guoping was calmly receiving orders from all over the place as he sat in his office.

“The forces from Quadfield City had arrived at their designated locations!”

“There are still five kilometers left for forces from Fairlake City!”

News from all over the place filled Ma Guoping's office.

The man smiled triumphantly as he watched his carefully laid-out plans play out accordingly.

“Pass down the order to approach the criminals in a diplomatic manner before resorting to brute force. We shall play nice as long as they concede defeat. However, should the enemies refuse to yield, tell them to react accordingly. Just keep one thing in mind - destroy the enemies within the borders of Adonia!” Ma Guoping instructed.

Right then, it was already half-past four in the afternoon.

There was only half an hour left before it was time to conclude his plans.

However, he did not seem at all nervous. On the other hand, the man appeared quite confident



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that he would have the upper hand in the situation.

He even called his friend and said, "Remember to watch the news later this evening. There's going to be a major headline tonight. Hahaha, you're going to know about it soon enough."

Ma Guoping was in a jubilant mood right then.

He took his enemies lightly, thinking that they were merely a disorderly mob.

It was a piece of cake for him to gather the forces to intimidate the motley crowd.

However, the smile on his face would soon falter.

He received a direct call from Yanjing.

"A call from Yanjing? Have they received news of my military prowess so quickly?" Ma Guoping was stumped momentarily before he answered the call with a bright smile.

"Hello, Sir? I see that you're well-informed. I was about to call and inform you that I have discovered a bunch of criminals trying to breach the borders of Adonia. They are quite huge in number, and they've abducted a significant number of people as they move northward. This group poses a great threat to



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the peace of my province. However, please rest assured that I have a foolproof plan all laid out to entrap them all by tonight!" Ma Guoping said in a smug tone.

However, he had not received any praise in return. On the contrary, a cold voice chided, "You idiot! How dare you clamor for credit right now? Did you know how much trouble you have gotten us into? I hereby order you to surrender the power to command this mission and retract all forces stationed at the borders. The commander of the military unit of Adonia, Gao Bairen, shall take over the full command right away! You have been suspended after a discussion with the higher-ups at Yanjing, effective immediately."

Boom!

The call hit Ma Guoping like a thunder strike.

The air of confidence surrounding him dissipated into thin air.

Meanwhile, at the borders of Jiangdong and Adonia province, the Brighfell River separated the two provinces as towering trees stood tall by the riverside.

Five thousand men crowded the terrain that was usually empty.



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The men were heavily armed as they stood grounded. All of them were focused on a place far away.

It was as if they were waiting for someone.

Soon, the ground started to rumble.

Wild winds churned as birds flocked to the sky in a frenzy.

A few thousand men in white robes appeared from the other end.

Two burly men led the troop as they carried a coffin and entered Jiangdong.

From afar, it looked as if they were wielding a sword and piercing the depths of China.

“General Gao, our target has entered the range of fire. Please instruct us.”

The men who were stationed there immediately grew wary of the impending danger.

The man who was leading the troops immediately turned to Gao Bairen for instruction.

The general merely raised his hand and ordered the troops to wait.



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“General Gao, the enemy is less than a kilometer away from us... five hundred meters... one hundred meters! General Gao, we cannot wait any longer! They are obviously no ordinary men. We cannot afford to squander any more time, lest we suffer inconceivable losses!”

Right then, a number of men grew anxious and pressured Gao Bairen into giving his orders as soon as possible.

However, Gao Bairen paid no heed to them.

He merely stood grounded as he watched the group of men in white mourning clothes approach them.

In the end, when the elites from Dragon God Hall were almost right in front of them, Gao Bairen took a step forward and bellowed, “Attention, everyone! Give way now! Step aside and pay your respects to General Green Dragon!”

Gao Bairen's remarks stumped everyone, especially those who came on Ma Guoping's orders to entrap the criminals.

“G-General Gao, c-could you be mistaken about this? T-The higher-ups have ordered us to capture the criminals here!”

The police widened their eyes in disbelief at



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Gao Bairen.

The orders that Gao Bairen was giving out contradicted the ones they previously received.

It was only natural that they were flabbergasted by the order.

However, Gao Bairen paid no attention to them.

After he gave out the command, the leaders of the Adonia military unit stepped aside and gave way to the people from Dragon God Hall to enter Jiangdong.

“Farewell, General Green Dragon!”

Gao Bairen led his men and stepped aside. He saluted the man who was deemed a legend in the military, the Unrivalled, the hero of China.

“Farewell, General Green Dragon!” he declared.

The two thousand men that he brought along uttered their farewell to the legendary man as well with a booming voice.

However, it was only the beginning.

Right after Gao Bairen sent people from Dragon God Hall out of Adonia, within the borders of Jiangdong, about a thousand meters away, stood countless men.



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They were a part of the Jiangdong military base.

The Commander In Chief, Lu Tianhe, had gotten the news of Ye Fan's death from War God Castle. His subordinate brought along Ye Fan's belongings and headed for Jiangdong.

The news sent shockwaves throughout the whole Jiangdong defense zone.

After all, the world only knew of the Unrivaled, and it was a pity that nobody knew much of General Green Dragon's contributions.

Ye Fan was undoubtedly a major benefactor to the whole Jiangdong military base.

He was the man who led Jiangdong to its glorious win back at the military martial arts competition back then.

Ye Fan was also the man who led Lu Tianhe, Wu Yang, and the others to seize control of the whole Jiangdong army.

His contributions were so great that the Jiangdong defense zone was still singing praises of the multitudes of his achievements.

Most people even deemed him a man of the Jiangdong military base, through and through.



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Hence, it would not be difficult to imagine the sorrow that Lu Tianhe and the others felt.

Lu Tianhe immediately set aside all his responsibilities within the defense zone and led ten thousand men to the borders of Jiangdong upon knowing the news.

At the sight of the coffin-bearing, white-robed troop, Lu Tianhe whose hair had gone silver, brimmed with tears.

He could no longer hold in the sorrow and led his men to approach the incoming troop.

The man fell to his knees and paid his respects to the troop.

“I, Lu Tianhe, the Commander In Chief of Jiangdong defense zone, hereby lead my ten thousand men to welcome General Chu's return back to his homeland!”

Boom!

The ground boomed as the ten thousand men that Lu Tianhe brought along followed in his footsteps and fell on their knees.

“General Chu, welcome back to your homeland!” the ten thousand men echoed after Lu Tianhe.



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The sound was loud enough to penetrate the vast sky and grounds.

Hundreds of fighter jets circled the sky as thousands of cannons launched.

The night at the borders of the two provinces was bright as day.

It was the very night that the people of Jiangdong used the way that they deemed most appropriate to welcome the return of their rightful king.



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The men who had received orders to conduct a siege at the borders of Adonia were shocked.

“Escorted by fighter jets?”

“Cannons firing?”

“A military salute?”

The soldiers shuddered even to imagine the status of the people who were passing through their province that night.

Meanwhile, the first streaks of dawn appearing across the skies of Yunzhou heralded the arrival of a new day.

The city, however, felt a little different than other days.

To the curious astonishment of the inhabitants, the hedges on both sides of the highway had been trimmed with obvious care. Even the landmarks of the city had been scrubbed and polished with fresh plants arranged around them.

The highway that passed through the city received the most attention. Clean and presentable, it looked primed for a festive parade to take place.

“I say,” remarked one old man who was out on



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his morning run to another as he glanced at the sparkling road. "Is there a special occasion today?"

"I think you're confused," his friend replied good-naturedly. "It's months away from anything!"

"Why else would the roads be cleaned up today?" the first old man persisted.

The other shook his head with a resigned chuckle. "You haven't been keeping up with the news, have you? Apparently, a very successful entrepreneur from our fair city is returning today. The provincial government, intending to attract the successful talent to return and help develop the province, has gone to great lengths to get on his good side. I was told that there were cops stationed throughout the entire length of the highway, all the way up to his front door, to ensure his smooth passage. The mayor of Yunzhou is already at the home of the successful young man's parents first thing this morning to await the return of their son with them."

The second man did not bother to conceal his tone of admiration.

The bystanders who had happened to listen in on the conversation were shocked.



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"What the heck! The mayor must really admire him."

"Even Mr. Chu of Jiangdong did not receive a welcome as extravagant as that."

"Hurry up and tell us who it is!"

"Is it possible that we have another wildly successful young man out of Yunzhou?"

The pedestrians engaged in endless speculation.

As it had been many years since Ye Fan's dominance, his name was known by every inhabitant of Jiangdong.

We thought that Mr. Chu was already powerful enough. Here's another one even more powerful than he! What a warm welcome the city has planned for him just to return to visit his parents!

"Here's a kicker," the second old man continued mysteriously, delighted by the effect he had created. "The young man returning today is also named Chu. Rumor has it that he was a playboy who never took anything seriously at the time of his departure. After a few years of hard work, he thrived in Jiangbei and finally became the chairman of a multibillion company in a series of quick ascends. You never know where one ends up in life, eh?" He let out a sigh.



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"What? His name is also Chu? Could he be kin to Mr. Chu? Stop beating around the bush, man. Who is it?"

The crowd grew even more curious.

The man stroked his beard for dramatic effect before answering, "He is Chu Wenfei, the son of Chu Yang who once ran Yangtian Real Estate!"

"Yangtian Real Estate?"

"Isn't it going bankrupt soon?"

"Even his son made something of himself!"

"Chu Yang's leading a good life, isn't he?"

The crowd was simultaneously astonished and fascinated at the news.

Several miles away at that very moment, a black Rolls-Royce slowed down as it turned into a junction off the highway.

A man in a smart suit sat quietly in the backseat with a cup of exotic tea brewing next to him.

Amidst the billowing steam, he gazed out at the familiar yet foreign terrain of the town he was born in and felt a surge of emotions up his chest.



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"It's been three years since I left," the man muttered to himself. "But it feels like a lifetime."

Suddenly, his monologue was interrupted by a phone call from his mother.

"When are you arriving, Wenfei?" his mother asked the moment he picked up. "Lin Shi and the rest are waiting to welcome you! Don't keep them waiting."

"Yes, Mom. I'm almost there." After the brief reply, he hung up.

The driver guffawed.

"Mr. Chu, you must be the first man your age in Yunzhou to have the mayor himself welcome your arrival. Scratch that. I don't think this has happened to anybody in all of Jiangdong before. Thirty years of age and already treated like royalty? No wonder the boss has such high expectations of you to make you his son-in-law."

The man shook his head with a chuckle. "You flatter me. It's a mutually beneficial scenario, not an exaltation. As the current economic climate isn't feasible, the provincial government is having trouble maintaining the ever-growing demands of a city like Jiangdong. As a result, they're in the midst of attracting investments. They have something to ask of me."



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“You are too humble, Mr. Chu,” gushed the driver. “They chose you because of your capabilities.”

The man, Chu Wenfei, merely smiled and said nothing more.

In stark contrast to the version of him before he left Yunzhou, he returned with an air of maturity about him. The mustache he wore on his upper lip made him seem even more so.

A trial of time and tribulations caused him to have lost a great deal of his inexperience and naivety.

Chu Wenfei gazed hungrily at the city, his heart filled with mixed feelings.

The cause of his exile remained vivid in his mind after all those years. He remembered that it was due to the brashness of youth that had caused him to offend somebody important in Jiangdong.

In the face of an ultimatum, he opted to start over in a foreign land.

“I was a wreck when I left three years ago with nothing in my name. And here I am today, a triumphant return to the city that had once been my home. Oh, Ye Fan. Despite forcing me out of Jiangdong with your influence back then, I have



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returned richer and more powerful than you could imagine just by catching the right circumstances in a place far from here. In a way, you forced me out of my comfort zone where opportunities lay. What are you going to do to me now?" Chu Wenfei's eyes flashed with a menacing glint.

Seized by a sudden eagerness to see the reactions of Ye Fan and the enemies he had made back then when they realized the wealth and status he had attained, Chu Wenfei took out his phone to compose an update on his social media platform.

The post read: *Three years has been too long. Hello again, Yunzhou! Thank you to the city council and the people for the hospitality you have shown.*

He attached several photographs he had taken off the streets alongside the post, one of which was of a banner with the words "A Warm Welcome Back to Chu Wenfei of Yunzhou" emblazoned on it.

Not long after that post was posted, the likes, comments, and messages came pouring in.

Someone responded: *Well, f*ck me!*

It was followed by another comment: *Are you loaded now, Fei?*



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Someone else posted: *What's the point of getting rich and not being able to show off any of it?*

Another one responded: *I'd love to catch up. Let's grab a drink when you're free!*

One comment read: *I'm getting married, Fei. I could do with a loan of a million!*

Chu Wenfei put his phone away and shut his eyes after briefly glancing at the messages.

At that point, the car had arrived at the next station. "I beg your pardon, sir," the traffic police asked politely when the Rolls-Royce pulled over next to him. "Are you Mr. Chu Wenfei? I am the captain of the second platoon of Yunzhou's auxiliary force. I have been assigned to escort you into the city and to your home."

"Lead the way!" Chu Wenfei replied as he made an impatient gesture through the window.

Vroom!

A dozen motorcycles appeared to surround the car.

The residents of Yunzhou were unaware that on that same day, another man of Yunzhou was coming home.



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Before Li Er and the rest arrived, the provincial government of Jiangdong received similar letters from Yanjing and the Jiangdong military base, which ran in the same vein. The letters wrote: *Mr. Chu is dead. Provide as much assistance as necessary to ensure Mr. Chu is safely laid to rest in his hometown. Do everything in your power to dignify Mr. Chu's final journey.*



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The order was relayed after a discussion between the high-ranking officials of Yanjing and the members of War God Castle.

With military efficiency, all the outposts of the provincial government had received the order, though it was unnecessary.

Even without being told to do so, Jiangdong would jump at the opportunity to attend to their leader's matters with the highest honors.

As he had been operating at that place for so long, Ye Fan's status and influence within the province was no small matter.

In fact, the provincial government was the last to receive word of his demise.

At that point, Jiangdong was co-governed by He Lanshan and Han Dongmin, who were thunderstruck when they received the news.

"Mr. Chu killed himself?"

"How is that possible?"

He Lanshan stood rooted to the spot in horror as Han Dongmin shook like a leaf.

Having witnessed Ye Fan's prestige, they were unwilling to believe that a man of such caliber might be driven to take his own life.



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Several minutes later, a new directive came out of Jianghai, which was hundreds of miles away.

A large number of men were dispatched toward Yunzhou when the order was given.

“Lanshan, head over to Yunzhou to prepare everything, and I’ll join you soon,” Han Dongmin suggested in a hoarse voice. “Mr. Chu has protected us well in Jiangdong over the years. His final journey must be completed with glory.”

He Lanshan nodded and headed for Yunzhou with the vanguard in the lead.

On the other hand, Han Dongmin drove straight for Jingzhou.

He gave his son a call halfway through the journey. “Where are you, Shaojie?”

“I’m in Hainan for an inspection, Dad. What’s the matter?” Han Shaojie asked curiously.

“Come home. You might be able to make it if you catch the next available flight to Jianghai.”

Han Shaojie was alarmed. “What’s going on, Dad?”

“Mr. Chu is dead. Come home and say your goodbyes, will you?” With a great sigh, Han Dongmin hung up without waiting for a



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response.

Hundreds of miles away, Han Shaojie stood rooted to the spot as if struck by lightning.

After a long time, he dialed Shen Fei's number with shaking hands.

"Shaojie, you're a hard man to contact," roared Shen Fei boisterously. "To what do I owe this unexpected pleasure? Listen, when are you coming back to Jiangdong? I found a decent place that I can't wait to bring you to. The girls here are beautiful! On par with the ones in Salinsburgh, I would say."

When Han Shaojie could no longer suppress the grief in his heart, he choked out the very words his father had delivered to him minutes ago. "Ye Fan is dead, Shen Fei!"

Shen Fei stood frozen as his phone fell to the floor with a thud.

Several minutes later, two luxurious cars emerged out of the hotel and sped out onto the road recklessly.

Hang on, Ye Fan. I'm on my way!

Shen Fei's bloodshot eyes were filled with grief and determination.



Chapter 1819

The day in the Ye residence in Jingzhou started off like any other, with Ye Fan's mother caring for Fan Junior as she always did.

The boy had grown during the entire year ever since he had popped into their lives. By that point, he was adept at turning over and even standing up on his own.

The emergence of new life had brought joy and laughter into the silent house.

On that day, the monotony was broken by the sudden appearance of a fleet of luxury cars outside their door.

Han Dongmin emerged from the car in the lead.

"Governor Han, to what do we owe the pleasure of your visit? This way, please! Ye Fan isn't here if you're looking for him. Try asking around in Yunzhou? He might have returned." Amidst a raucous babble, Ye Xilan cordially waved Han Dongmin in for a cup of tea.

As it was his custom to visit Ye Fan's mother during the festivities, Han Dongmin had become a family friend to the Ye family over the years.

"Is Mrs. Ye here?" Han Dongmin asked gently. "I would like a few words."



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"She's in there."

Han Dongmin went into the room Ye Xilan pointed at to find Ye Ximei playing with the little boy.

"What's the matter, Dongmin?" Ye Ximei asked at the sight of Han Dongmin's morose expression. "Has my son been causing trouble and making your job difficult again?"

The man remained standing. He opened his mouth but seemed to decide against speaking by shutting it again.

"Mrs. Ye, Mr. Chu is about to return," he said in a carefully measured tone. "I have my orders to pick you up. Please ready yourself and come with us. Oh, and if other members of the Ye family are able to make it, please invite them as well. Mr. Chu should be arriving in Yunzhou soon."

Han Dongmin could not bring himself to tell her the truth, so he requested her attendance in an indirect manner.

Things like that are hard to say. How do you tell a mother that her son is dead?

"Ye Fan is coming home, isn't he? What a rascal he is for running off like that," Yi Ximei grumbled with a tiny hint of pride in her voice.



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"Arrogant fellow too, to have Governor Han himself herald his arrival."

After summoning the rest of the family to grab their coats, they prepared to depart to Yunzhou.

"Call the rest and their families as well," Ye Ximei instructed her brothers over the phone. "The entire Ye family is expected there. We might as well grab a good meal out of it for all the trouble the boy has caused us. He's paying anyway."

Soon, the entire clan piled into the fleet of cars led by Han Dongmin as they headed for Yunzhou.

None within the Ye family had the faintest idea of what was in store for them.

Aside from Han Dongmin and Lu Tianhe, Wang Jiexi of Horbah was already on the way to Yunzhou.

"Li Er, Lei San, and the rest of their cohorts took off without a word and left their mess in Jiangdong for me to deal with, as usual," Wang Jiexi muttered to himself in the car. "They're going to get an earful from me when I see them in Yunzhou."

He had just received word that Li Er, Lei San, and the rest were arriving soon in Ye Fan's



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company and that the provincial government and the military were involved in the endeavor of welcoming Ye Fan back home.

As an influential figure in Jiangdong, Wang Jiexi was expected to show up.

Aside from fulfilling his obligatory duties of attendance, he was adamant about complaining to Ye Fan about Lei San and Li Er's negligence and womanizing habits.

In the span of a single afternoon, the most influential forces from all over the country were assembled at Yunzhou.

However, the citizens of Yunzhou were completely unaware that the isolated city they inhabited had become the focus of China due to one person.

The people of Jiangdong were not the only ones rushing toward Yunzhou.

Even the high-ranking officials of Yanjing, members of War God Castle, and thousands of martial artists all over the country were watching Yunzhou closely.

That incident had been the cause of several sleepless nights for the pride of Mount Yan, Sword Saint and King of Fighters.



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As the plans to put Ye Fan to rest were not finalized, a lingering sense of uneasiness hovered over them.

King of Fighters, Mo Gucheng shook his head with a bitter laugh.

“Ye Fan kept us up well enough when he was alive. Here he is, doing the same thing in death. Only Chu Tianfan is capable of tormenting War God Castle to such a degree.”

At that moment, He Lanshan and the vanguard had arrived in Yunzhou.

His first act upon arrival was to seal off the roads of the city where the funeral procession would take place.



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