

This one punch was too frightening.

Jiang Ning only needed one punch to shock everyone else. Nobody else dared to move now.

They were all trained in martial arts and could tell how horrifying this punch from Jiang Ning really was. They hadn't even seen how Jiang Ning made that punch.

The entire banquet hall was silent.

Nobody moved and nobody spoke.

All the highly skilled fighters who came along with the Wu family and the Zhou family were all unable to move. It was as if someone had nailed them to the floor.

They looked warily at Jiang Ning and felt like they were about to stop breathing.

Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen felt their hearts pounding wildly and were still in a daze.

They couldn't fully understand exactly how powerful Jiang Ning really was, but it seemed like...he was even scarier than the grandmaster level fighters in their families.

The thing that frightened them the most was how they could feel that terrible pressure on themselves despite not understanding what Jiang Ning just did.

“Why aren’t any of you moving?” Jiang Ning asked calmly. “I thought you wanted to break my limbs?”

“Those two boys from the Zhou family and Wu family also said that they wanted to break my limbs, and now the two of you are saying the same thing.” His voice became colder now, “They’ve already knelt down and apologized to me, so what about you two?”

WOONG.

Everyone felt like their ears had gone numb.

It was as if they had been struck by lightning.

What did Jiang Ning just say?

He wanted Zhou Shen and Wu Hongwei to kneel down and apologize to him?

Was he nuts?

Even if he was very highly skilled, how could he publicly go up against the Wu family and the Zhou family?

This wasn’t just inviting trouble to himself. This was also dragging the Song family down with him into a very difficult position.

“Who on earth are you?!” Wu Hongwei clenched his teeth and he looked very warily at Jiang Ning. “This is the north, a place where you can’t simply do whatever you want!”

“The north, you said?” replied Jiang Ning. “Isn’t the rule here survival of the fittest?”

“I’m sorry but in front of me, both of you aren’t even worthy to be prey.”

He took a step forward and unleashed the air within him. He now seemed like an uncontrollable wild beast and the murderous air inside him filled the hall.

Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen felt as though they could see a mountain of corpses behind Jiang Ning.

Were those all the prey that had died at Jiang Ning’s hands?

The terrible pressure became real and seemed to weigh down heavily on Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen, causing them to sweat profusely.

THUD!

Both of them suddenly felt their legs give way as they couldn’t bear the weight of the pressure anymore. They immediately fell to their knees with a loud thud!

The thud was so loud that everyone heard a ringing in their ears.

The entire hall was deathly silent.

Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen had really fallen to

their knees?

Jiang Ning told them to kneel and they really did?

Who was this man?

Even the Wu family and the Zhou family had to bow to him.

Nobody knew what to say and they felt like they couldn't stand properly anymore.

What on earth was going on?

They had never seen anything so shocking before in their lives.

Someone who had suddenly appeared out of nowhere had made the father and son of the powerful Zhou and Wu families kneel down to apologize to him?

They felt like they were seeing things.

Even Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen themselves were still in a daze when they suddenly fell to their knees. The terrible pressure in the air pushed against them so hard that they weren't able to look up anymore and their legs couldn't take the weight of their own bodies anymore either.

It was as if their hearts would collapse if they didn't kneel down.

“Those two boys didn't seem very willing earlier,

but I suppose you two are," said Jiang Ning calmly as he looked at Zhou Shen and Wu Hongwei. "If the young ones don't know how to behave, kneeling down to apologize is enough punishment. But when the older ones don't know how to behave, then things will not be so simple."



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“You...what do you want to do?” Zhou Shen’s voice was a little fearful.

The man who had been punched unconscious by Jiang Ning earlier was a fighter from the Zhou family. He was one of the best five in the family!

But now he wasn’t even sure if the man was still alive or not.

“What do I want?” Jiang Ning turned to look at Song Xiaoyu. “Do whatever you want.”

“If these two families dare to be rude to you again, this is what will happen to them.”

Jiang Ning stomped hard on the floor and the hard marble tiles on the floor cracked and some chips were even sent flying.

Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen’s faces instantly paled.

They felt like their hearts were going to leap out of their mouths anytime now.

This Jiang Ning was someone from the Song family?

He was a fighter for the Song family?

When did Song Xiaoyu hire such a frightening fighter?

“The Zhou family and Wu family have never

crossed paths with the Song family,” said Song Xiaoyu calmly. “And I have always been respectful towards the two of you as my seniors. But now I have become the head of the Song family and even though I’m not as experienced as the two of you, I’m afraid my temper isn’t much better than either of you.”

Wu Hongwei and Zhou Shen clenched their teeth but neither dared to speak.

They knew that Jiang Ning was really terrifying.

He was definitely at least at grandmaster level. No, he was more powerful than a grandmaster because the man he sent flying with one punch earlier was at grandmaster level!

How could someone so terrifying be part of the Song family?

They thought that this sort of powerful fighter only worked for either a first tier family or even a supremely powerful family.

“I can give both of you a chance this time round, but next time...” Song Xiaoyu’s expression darkened and he emanated a murderous air. “... don’t blame me for getting nasty! Get out now!”

He was imposing.

And really bold.

But neither Wu Hongwei nor Zhou Shen dared to

say anything.

The Song family now had a fighter who was even more highly skilled than a grandmaster. They couldn't afford to offend this family ever.

Wu Hongwei now realized why Yang Xu insisted that he leave the hall. So he already knew!

But the two of them remained silent as they quickly left with their men. No matter how indignant they were, they didn't dare to say anything now.

After the two families left, it was impossible to continue with the dinner party.

The way that the members of the other powerful families looked at Song Xiaoyu was completely different now.

Now they were filled with admiration, wariness and even fear, but there was no doubt in their eyes.

Who dared to doubt him?

Who still dared to say that Song Xiaoyu didn't deserve to be the head of the Song family?

He had such a powerful fighter on his side, so even a first tier family might not want to go up against him.

"Everyone!" Song Xiaoyu glanced at Jiang Ning. Once Jiang Ning nodded, Song Xiaoyu turned and

addressed the crowd, "I'm sorry that all of you had to witness this embarrassing scene."

The embarrassing scene he was referring to wasn't about how the Song family was embarrassed. He was talking about how the Zhou family and the Wu family were embarrassed.

In less than half a day, all of the north would know about how the father and son of these two families had knelt down to apologize to one person.

That person was the head of the Song family, Song Xiaoyu!

"I'm really sorry for dampening everyone's spirits," said Song Xiaoyu. "Tonight's party will end here, I will invite everyone again if I get the chance to, and I'll make it up to all of you!"

"Mr Song, you're being too kind!"

"Exactly, we're already so honored to receive an invitation from you, so how could we expect you to make it up to us?"

"That's right! After I get home, I'm going to tell them that the head of the Song family is really a wonderful talent among the younger generation. I'll invite you over to my house for a visit, I hope you will come!"

.....

All of them started saying similar things.

These were the people who were just watching the show from the side and some of them were even hoping for Song Xiaoyu to embarrass himself earlier. But now they were full of smiles and kept saying nice things.

If even the Wu family and the Zhou family didn't dare to offend Song Xiaoyu, then they didn't dare to either.

If they refused to acknowledge Song Xiaoyu as the head of the Song family in the past, then nobody had anymore doubts now.



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Song Xiaoyu smiled and waved his hands to get his subordinates to see the guests out.

He followed Jiang Ning back to the VIP room and his eyes were a little red.

It was a really difficult thing to become the head of the family. He had to fight within the family for the position, and he had to find some way to gain prestige so that the north would acknowledge him.

Otherwise, nobody would care about you even if you were the head of the family.

After he became the head of the Song family, the number of people who acknowledged him as the head were few and far in between, since he didn't have much of a presence before this.

But who would dare to look down on Song Xiaoyu now?

"Mr Jiang, it's difficult for me to express my gratitude. But from today onwards, my life is now yours!" he clasped his hands together politely as he bowed deeply.

Jiang Ning had purposely helped him to become the formally recognized head of the Song family and to gain a strong foothold in the north.

He could stand tall now!

"As I said, if you follow me, you will only have

responsibilities to bear and obligations to fulfil. You will not have any power, you'd better be prepared for that," said Jiang Ning calmly. "I'll be looking forward to what you can do."

"Mr Jiang, don't worry, I will not disappoint you!"

Jiang Ning nodded and didn't say anymore.

He needed a base in the north, a powerful family in the north to do the work for him, so that he could break the system in the north down from the inside.

Song Xiaoyu was the most suitable candidate for this at the moment.

Jiang Ning was certain that Song Xiaoyu knew that Jiang Ning could give him everything, and he could take everything back as easily.

Jiang Ning left with Li Dong and Brother Gou.

Song Xiaoyu sorted himself out and got to work.

The rise of the Song family, the rebirth of the Song family, was going to start from today!

Song Xiaoyu was honored to be part of the movement to change the huge and prosperous flow in the north.

And it was a greater honor to be working for someone like Jiang Ning.

Even if he died, it was worth it.

Meanwhile.

The Zhou family and the Wu family were still gathered together. They didn't go separate ways and went straight to the Wu house to discuss.

This matter had impacted them hard.

News had already spread that the father and son of both families had knelt and apologized to the Song family, and this was a terrible humiliation.

"I want them to die!" said Wu Hongwei through clenched teeth.

He flung a cup to the floor angrily and it shattered into pieces.

Zhou Shen didn't say anything, but his expression was equally nasty.

This level of humiliation was something that the Zhou family might never get rid of.

He had lost the gantry his family controlled, lost a steady source of income and now his family had been stepped on. How was he going to walk with his head high?

"Kill them? That's easier said than done! How are you going to do that? That man is even more highly skilled than a grandmaster!" Zhou Shen finally said after remaining quiet for some time.

He looked at Wu Hongwei, "That Yang Xu already told you to leave and not to provoke the Song family. Why didn't you listen to him? Why did you make the Zhou family embarrass ourselves with you?!"

Yang Xu had advised Wu Hongwei against doing this, but Wu Hongwei paid no attention.

Wasn't Zhou Shen being sarcastic now?

Wu Hongwei became even more furious now.

"So my family made yours embarrassed?" He scoffed angrily. "Zhou Shen, you old fart! Your family is the one that's useless, so what has that got to do with me?"

"Wu Hongwei!" Zhou Shen stood up. "I'd advise you against making me angry now!"

"Did you think I'd be afraid of you?!" Wu Hongwei sounded like he had gone mad now. "If not for the Zhou family, did you think the Wu family would have embarrassed ourselves? I don't even know how we're going to continue living in the north at this rate!"

The two of them continued to quarrel and fight, and their anger overtook them.

They had initially intended to discuss how they were going to deal with the Song family and Jiang Ning, but in the end they nearly started fighting and parted ways unhappily.

“Idiots!” Wu Hongwei spat out angrily. “He even wanted to rely on one of the first tier families for protection. Has the Zhou family reached a point where they have to start begging?!”

“The Wu family will never surrender to anyone else even if I have to die!”

His voice echoed throughout the entire hall and nobody dared to step in.

Earlier, Zhou Shen had suggested combining the last of their resources to exchange for a highly skilled fighter who worked for a first tier family to exact revenge, but Wu Hongwei rejected him.

They could have become a first tier family themselves in just a few more years, but now he had to rely on a first tier family?

Then there was no way they would ever be able to become a first tier family in the future!



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This was the path that the Wu family had to go down. Even if it cost him his life, Wu Hongwei wasn't going to let the efforts from the past few generations go down the drain.

He rejected Zhou Shen's proposal. He would rather die fighting the Song family than to rely on a first tier family.

The two parties had gone separate ways unhappily. Zhou Shen left the Wu house, while Wu Hongwei slowly calmed down.

In such times, it was most important to remain calm.

"Where's Yang Xu?" he looked up and asked.

"Master Wu, Yang Xu...has lost consciousness, I'm not sure when he will come to," replied the butler very cautiously.

Wu Hongwei was the one who ordered his men to break Yang Xu's limbs, and now he was looking for Yang Xu?

Why did Wu Hongwei still stick around in the banquet hall earlier?

If he had listened to Yang Xu, then the Wu family wouldn't become the joke of the north now.

But the butler dared not say any of these things out loud.

“Useless thing!” Wu Hongwei was angry, frustrated and indignant.

But there was nothing he could do.

He didn't even know where Jiang Ning came from or who he was.

He had been in the north for so many years but he had never seen Jiang Ning before. He had never heard of such a terrifyingly powerful fighter in the Song family before either.

But what puzzled Wu Hongwei the most was why a fighter who was even more powerful than a grandmaster would choose to remain in the Song family.

There were nearly ten first tier families. Could they have offered him less?

But surely even those four supremely powerful families would be fighting for someone like this too.

As long as that highly skilled fighter was around, the Wu family could forget about trying to salvage their reputation. If he went to attack the Song family again, he would definitely return in shame.

“ARRRGHHHH!!!” Wu Hongwei was indignant and helpless at the same time. He felt like he was going mad soon and started roaring to vent his frustration.

“I’m sure I’ll find a way!” His expression was dark and his nails were going to cut into his own skin. “The moment I find a chance, I’ll definitely make your lives a living hell!”

Meanwhile.

Zhou Shen had returned to the Zhou house. He was furious.

“Kneel down now!”

Zhou Fang didn’t dare to utter a single word and just knelt down in the main hall. Nobody spoke up for him.

Even his indulgent mother knew that Zhou Fang had made a terrible mistake this time round, so nothing anyone said would help.

“You’ve completely ruined the Zhou family!”

He slapped Zhou Fang across the face. Zhou Fang’s mouth was filled with blood but he still dared not make a single noise.

“All the efforts that generation after generation has put in have been completely destroyed by you! You little bastard!”

Zhou Shen got angrier and angrier. He punched and kicked Zhou Fang until he was almost dead before he stopped.

The Zhou family had suffered as badly as the Wu

family.

The powerful families of the north were not afraid of losing resources or status because there was a chance to earn those back.

What they feared the most was losing their prestige and their pride!

But they had lost them all tonight!

Father and son had both knelt before the young Song Xiaoyu and begged for forgiveness.

Now Song Xiaoyu was famous and wielded authority. But what about the Wu family and the Zhou family?

Zhou Shen couldn't be bothered with what would happen to the Wu family. He was only thinking about how to restore the Zhou family's prestige.

"Drag this eyesore out of here!"

He glanced with disgust at the unconscious Zhou Fang.

He took a few deep breaths and calmed down. He had reached a decision.

"Even if I can't become a first tier family, it's not bad to remain within the second tier." He clenched his teeth and said, "I can't let everything that belongs to the Zhou family be ruined in my hands!"

He immediately got up and left the house without even bringing a bodyguard along.

At the Chang house.

There were fewer than ten families in the north that were considered first tier families. The four supremely powerful families controlled 70% of the resources of the north, while these first tier families controlled about half of the rest!

They were considered to be of high standing, and were just below the four supremely powerful families.

Even though in terms of standing and power, first tier families were not far off from the supremely powerful families, they just couldn't move from their tier into the next highest category.

In order to become a supremely powerful family, a vacancy had to exist first. There were only four vacancies, and no more than that.

The Chang family was not the most powerful among the first tier families, but they had done many things recently and had been very active.

Right now.

Zhou Shen was standing in a study room with his body slightly bowed. His posture was very respectful, as if he was here to see an elder.

He didn't dare to be disrespectful at all.



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After waiting for two whole hours, there was finally a response from within the study.

“Why is one small Song family even worth mentioning?”

Zhou Shen bowed even lower when he heard the response.

“As long as you are able to help the Zhou family regain its reputation, I am willing to give you everything I own in the southwest!”

“Did you think I would care for it?” asked that same dignified voice.

“Oh of course, of course,” Zhou Shen quickly replied. “I understand that the Chang family will not think much of it, but...that’s the only thing that the Zhou family is able to contribute now!”

The Zhou family had lost the gantry in Linshan, and now they were going to lose the assets they had built up in the southwest over the past decade. The Zhou family was going backwards by more than ten years.

“Fine, I’ll take it along with the gantry your family lost at Linshan.”

“Sure!” Zhou Shen quickly put his palms together politely. “The gantry in Linshan was what I meant to use to present to you, so Mr Chang can go ahead and take it too!”

COUGH COUGH.

There was suddenly a violent coughing sound coming from the study.

Zhou Shen froze for a while and didn't dare to speak.

It was rumored that the third son of the Chang family practiced martial arts from a young age. But the way he coughed sounded like...he was hurt?

"Aren't you going to leave?" The voice inside yelled coldly as if he knew what Zhou Shen was thinking about.

"Yes, yes! I will take my leave!" Zhou Shen dared not stay a moment longer. He quickly took a step back and left the study.

A middle aged man was lying shirtless in the study on a long bench. The blood stains on his chest could be clearly seen.

The area where it caved in had at least two or three broken ribs.

Chang Zaishan narrowed his eyes as if none of this meant anything to him. He slowly breathed in and out and his chest slowly started to expand.

After some time, his chest looked like what it looked like before. If not for those spotty bloodstains, it was impossible to tell that a bone

had been broken before.

“A highly skilled fighter that is even more highly skilled than a grandmaster...”

He narrowed his eyes. He didn't care for anything that Zhou Shen had offered.

He didn't care about assets, resources or any gantries in the illegal circle.

The only thing he cared about was that fighter Zhou Shen told him about. The one who was more powerful than a grandmaster!

“I can't believe that a second tier family actually has such a fighter on their hands,” Chang Zaishan narrowed his eyes. “And he doesn't even look 30?”

What an enviable age!

“If he joined Hidden Sect, then will my position have to move downwards?”

There was a sudden burst of murder in Chang Zaishan's eyes.

He got up and put a long robe on. He was like a sword, sharp and gleaming dangerous, making everyone around him fearful and uneasy.

Chang Zaishan walked to the mirror and smiled at the somewhat threatening looking face he saw. It was a strange sight.

“Master Zaishan, the head of the family would like to see you,” called out a polite voice from outside the door.

“Got it,” Chang Zaishan replied.

He hadn’t come home in a long time. Just after getting home, he was called over to see his elder brother. He found it a little annoying.

The head of the Chang family sat in the main hall. Chang Zaiyuan’s hair was greying and he was already 60.

As the head of a first tier family, Chan Zaiyuan knew the advantages that the Chang family had. He also knew that it wasn’t easy to survive in the north.

It was like skating on thin ice.

That was the only way to describe it.

Even though they were a first tier family and was able to have an unimaginable amount of power and wealth, there were four more supremely powerful families above them!



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The supremely powerful families seemed so near yet so far. The difference between the first tier families and the supremely powerful families was like the difference between the earth and the sky.

It would take an incredible opportunity to catch up with them or become one of them.

“You’re back?” Chang Zaiyuan raised his head and frowned a little when he heard footsteps coming his way. He didn’t seem too happy about this third brother of his.

“You haven’t come home in so long. Did you think you’re still some youngster?”

“I’ve just come back and you already want to discipline me?” Chang Zaishan scoffed and sat down on a random chair. “Just say what you want to say, don’t bother me if there’s nothing.”

Chang Zaiyuan’s expression darkened slightly but he didn’t chide his brother anymore.

“Something has happened in the north,” he said directly. “One thing after another has happened and it seems like the supremely powerful families have issues with one another.”

“Isn’t that even better?” Chang Zaishan laughed coldly. “If none of them fall, then how are we going to have a chance?”

Chang Zaiyuan frowned. He hated it when Chang Zaishan had this flippant sort of attitude. He was

going to get into trouble someday.

“Don’t say such things so casually!” he shouted sternly. “Don’t think that those supremely powerful families are anything good! Are you trying to invite trouble and cause harm to the Chang family?”

Chang Zaishan just smiled coldly and wasn’t bothered at all.

He didn’t care about these supremely powerful families. Once he got to do what he wanted, the whole world was his!

Who could stop him?

What were those supremely powerful families?

He could make them disappear with the wave of a hand!

“I’ve already pulled all the Chang family members out of Linglong Group. They’re in the eye of the storm, so if I don’t get them out now, I’m afraid I’d lose the chance to.”

Chang Zaiyuan sighed.

He didn’t know how many people were going to die in this storm.

Linglong Group looked like it belonged to the Long family on the outside. But how could the Long family create such a huge conglomerate by themselves?

This was a conglomerate that was created by all the powerful families in the north in order to reap benefits for themselves.

But this huge body of benefits seemed to be on the verge of destruction.

“Does it have anything to do with me?” asked Chang Zaishan. “If there’s nothing else, I’m off.”

He got up.

“I want to tell you to please, turn back!” yelled Chang Zaiyuan loudly after his brother.

Chang Zaishan stopped in his footsteps.

Chang Zaiyuan continued in a cold voice, “Don’t think that I don’t know what sort of path you’ve chosen for yourself. I can understand your love for training in martial arts, but if you’ve fallen into some other wicked path...”

“I don’t think you have any right to chide me,” Chang Zaishan turned around and his smile was somewhat sinister. “If I didn’t give up, did you think you could take the position of becoming the head of the Chang family?”

He then turned and left without bothering about what Chang Zaiyuan was saying.

Chang Zaiyuan was so angry that his face was all red. He pointed a finger at Chang Zaishan but couldn’t get a single word out. He could only

watch him leave and disappear into the distance.

After a long time, he sighed and shook his head.

“You’re my younger brother! I don’t want to watch you die!”

Chang Zaiyuan slammed the table hard.

He could tell that Chang Zaishan was injured. How many in the north could hurt him given Chang Zaishan’s current level of martial arts?

But if he went to that place, then he might face death anytime, never mind an injury.

That was a bunch of mad men!

And the one right on top was a terrifying demon!

Chang Zaiyuan had done his own investigations too. But that place was like a pot of black ink. It was so dark that one couldn’t see the bottom of the pot, and he couldn’t get any information on them at all. There was no way to find out who the man right at the top was.

And perhaps, even Chang Zaishan didn’t know either.

Why did he want to go to such a dangerous place?

Wasn’t it enough to be a first tier family for the rest of his life?

Chang Zaiyuan knew that he couldn't persuade his brother otherwise. He just hoped that his brother could lead a stable life and live...for a little longer. That was his own brother after all!

Meanwhile.

Night had fallen.

Jiang Ning had returned from the Song family dinner party and immediately gave Lin Yuzhen a call.

"Wifeyyy, you can come over tomorrow, I really miss youuuu..."

He was actually sounding all cutesy!

The rest of them were so stunned by this. They immediately tried to cover their ears and eyes to find that two hands weren't enough.

"We've made it through all the gantries in the north. Li Dong is not bad, so I was thinking of increasing his salary," said Jiang Ning. "How much should we increase it by?"

He turned to look at Li Dong who was trying to steal a glance through the gap between his fingers.

"Forget it, Li Dong said he's not interested in money and has doesn't use any money. So let's stop giving him a salary."

Li Dong was about to cry.

He was about to explain himself when there was a swooshing sound. An arrow flew in and instantly hit the phone that Jiang Ning was holding in his hand.

PAK!

The phone was hit against the wall and broke into a few pieces.



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The sudden attack frightened Li Dong so badly he screamed loudly.

“Who is it?!”

Brother Gou and the rest instantly dashed out and stood in front of Jiang Ning and were on guard.

They had never been so serious after they came to the north.

Not even when they swept the illegal circles at each gantry clean.

They had an unwelcome visitor today.

That arrow was still stuck on the cement wall. It had sunk a couple of inches into the wall. That was a terrifying amount of force.

The wolves stood in front of Jiang Ning and their eyes were like laser beams. They were prepared to block him from any arrows.

Jiang Ning was still in the same position, as if he was still holding a phone. The expression on his face didn't change at all.

DA!

DA!

DA!

There were light footsteps coming from outside

the door, and they carried a special rhythm to it.

The wolves looked even grimmer than before.

It was a highly skilled fighter.

And this one was extremely highly skilled.

So this was the north?

A place where many highly skilled fighters were hiding!

Jiang Ning had told them before that they should not look down on anyone, even if it's just an old man on the streets, because he could turn out to be a really highly skilled fighter.

The footsteps coming from outside seemed to have a magical power and knocked on their hearts, causing their blood to rush through their bodies.

How powerful was this person?

Besides Jiang Ning, this was the first time the wolves had felt this way.

The person coming was really powerful.

He was so powerful, he was frightening.

They were going up against a strong enemy.

But Jiang Ning remained calm.

He just frowned a little.

He looked at the phone that was smashed to pieces on the floor. Anger slowly filled his eyes.

Jiang Ning was angry now.

He had been on a video call with Lin Yuzhen and was just looking at his charming and gorgeous wife. He wanted to exchange a few more lovey dovey words with her but someone interrupted his call.

And in such a violent manner.

Would Lin Yuzhen get a scare?

Would she be worried?

She'd definitely be in a bad mood!

A thick murderous cloud instantly covered Jiang Ning's face and it was as violent as the sea.

"I'm surprised that there are so many highly skilled fighters here." The voice of the man coming their way could be heard before they saw him. "I was thinking of killing someone to vent my anger. Just nice, I can kill a few more."

One foot made its way in and Brother Gou immediately roared, "Get into formation!"

A figure completely dressed in black with appeared with a mask on his face. But there was a

malicious look in the eyes beneath the mask.

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

.....

The wolves had never felt so tense before. This was the strongest enemy they had come across so far.

They had never been this wary even when faced with a grandmaster level fighter. The man in front of them was probably even more highly skilled than a grandmaster.

“Move aside.”

But Jiang Ning suddenly spoke up.

He got up from the sofa and stretched his hand out.

“Big Boss!” Brother Gou was worried.

This man was very powerful, so even if they couldn't help Jiang Ning, they could help him to hold the enemy back even if it cost them their life.

“It's alright, move aside.”

Jiang Ning turned and walked in front of the

wolves. That stern expression on his face meant that he was angry. "I don't want blood to get all over you guys."

What domineering words!

The wolves immediately moved back several steps. But they were all prepared mentally that if anything happened, they were going to make sure Jiang Ning would be alright even if they died.

"What bold words," the masked man scoffed coldly. "You really make others envious! You're so young and you already have this level of ability. If that fellow discovered you, I'm afraid you would just be another good pawn in his hands."

"I don't care who you are." Jiang Ning walked towards the masked man and allowed the murderous air around him to rise.

It gushed out from him like sea waves, each wave more ferocious than the last, and each wave more violent than the last.

It was as if a 900 foot high wave was right behind him, and it would come crashing down to crush everything in its way in an instant.

"You interrupted my call with my wife and even damaged the phone that my wife gave me...so you deserve to die!"



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BOOM...

Jiang Ning made his move!

When he decided not to move, he was as stable as a mountain. But once he started moving, he was like crashing waves!

He stepped hard and there were several blasts that resonated on the surface of the floor, and there was even a green mist rising.

SWOOSH!

He reached the masked man in an instant.

“So fast!” The masked man was surprised. He moved to one side and reached out to block Jiang Ning’s fist. “What a powerful amount of strength!”

BAM!

He was pushed back by a few steps, but the excitement in his eyes grew.

“Hahaha, this is really an enviable gifting. But too bad, you’re going to die here today!”

The masked man made his move and this one was a fatal move.

“Don’t ask why because there’s no reason. I just want to kill someone! And I’m going to kill you!”

BAM!

The two of them clashed violently and there was a huge blast.

Li Dong was already hiding behind the sofa in fear while the wolves could feel their adrenaline rushing.

These two were simply too powerful.

They couldn't control their adrenaline at all while watching this battle between two strong fighters.

They knew that Jiang Ning was powerful, but today was the first time they saw someone able to block Jiang Ning.

The two of them had exchanged five or six moves in just moments. Each punch hit flesh and the sound was ear deafening, as if two pieces of steel struck each other.

"They...they're too powerful!" Number 6's lips were trembling.

"Are they still human?" Number 8 could feel his breathing quicken.

But Brother Gou said these words instead, "Big Boss...Big Boss looks like he really wants to kill him!"

This was the first time he saw such a murderous look in Jiang Ning's eyes and it was terrifying.

Suddenly, Jiang Ning increased his speed and

there was a glint in the masked man's eyes.

He wasn't able to dodge in time and Jiang Ning landed a punch on his shoulder. He staggered two steps back and stared in shock at Jiang Ning. He was surprised that Jiang Ning could still go faster.

"Who on earth are you?!" shouted the masked man.

Jiang Ning's true ability was a little beyond what he had imagined.

He thought that Jiang Ning had already unleashed his maximum power only to find that he hadn't.

It seemed impossible to see how powerful Jiang Ning really was.

"A dead person doesn't need to know!"

With a boom, Jiang Ning made a move again.

His speed increased yet again.

The masked man paled.

"That's impossible!"

Before he could react, Jiang Ning was already right in front of him.

"You're the first one who dares to attempt killing me while being injured!"

BOOM!

One punch!

It was even fiercer than the previous one!

Even faster than the previous one!

Even more vicious!

Even more intense!

There was a loud PAK! His fist smashed hard into the masked man's chest.

CRAAACK!

The sound of his bones breaking went through his body and reached his ears. The mask on his face was instantly dyed red as blood spurted everywhere.

"AHHH!!"

He flew right out and his chest caved in. This injury was even more severe than the previous one.

His mask had already shattered into pieces on the floor to reveal a shocked and fearful face that was filled with disbelief.

"Impossible! That's impossible..."

CRAACK!

Jiang Ning stepped hard on him and his face was covered with anger. "Did you think you could kill me just because you have reached advanced grandmaster stage?"

CRAACK!

Jiang Ning stepped harder and broke a few more bones.

"AHHH!!"

His opponent couldn't hold the pain in.

"Do you know how many advanced grandmasters have died at my hands?"

Jiang Ning gave a low shout and sent the man flying out. He slid along the ground for several feet, creating a bloodied trail behind him.

The long trail of blood was terrifying.

The broken mask revealed Chang Zaishan's bloodied face. His beard, his lips and even his hair were all covered with blood.

PFFFT!

He opened his mouth to spew a mouthful of blood. He looked up at Jiang Ning with fear in his eyes.

"You..."

Chang Zaishan never expected Jiang Ning to be this powerful.

He was much stronger than he had expected.

He thought that Jiang Ning would have just reached grandmaster level at this age, so killing him was no problem.

He just wanted to kill someone to vent his frustration. He didn't expect Jiang Ning to be this terrifying.

“Advanced grandmaster?”

Jiang Ning walked towards him and was actually able to unleash an even more furious air than before. Chang Zaishan's expression became even paler now.

“How...how could this be...”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chang Zaishan's face was filled with fear and shock. Terror started to creep into his eyes as he looked at Jiang Ning.

How could this young man in front of him be this terrifying? That was way beyond what he had imagined.

The man he had been challenging and wanting to kill was probably not much more powerful than Jiang Ning.

"Who on earth are you?!"

Chang Zaishan was panting heavily. His clothes had been torn from sliding on the ground and he was covered with blood. The chest injury that had recovered now sank back in again.

"You don't even know who I am and you tried to kill me?" Jiang Ning's expression darkened. "And you even dared to interrupt my call with my wife and damaged the phone that my wife gave to me?!"

"Unforgivable!"

He couldn't be bothered to talk anymore and delivered a solid punch.

BAM!

The wind from the punch hit Chang Zaishan's body and made him howl in pain.

Then he suddenly widened his eyes in horror. He

felt that Jiang Ning's punch emanated a force that could go through his skin and hit all his internal organs.

PFFFT...

He flew out once more. He opened his mouth and vomited mushy bits from his crushed internal organs.

Chang Zaishan had never felt so close to death before. Not even when he was faced with that man.

He opened his mouth to speak, but nothing else but blood spewed out of it.

He suddenly felt that everything around him had become very quiet. His ears seemed to be bleeding, so he couldn't hear anything. His vision was blurred and his nose seemed to be bleeding too...

What was this force and how was it so intense? That was really creepy.

"You..."

Chang Zaishan didn't have anymore energy to fight and didn't want to fight Jiang Ning anymore. Jiang Ning was too powerful for him!

He was terrifying!

"Run!"

Chang Zaishan was obsessed with martial arts and wanted to become more and more powerful. But he wasn't an idiot. If he stayed here, he would definitely die.

He never thought that there would someone so well hidden in the north. He knew almost every highly skilled fighter in this region. But who was this young fellow?

Chang Zaishan couldn't think about this now. He staggered to his feet, clutched his chest and ran for it.

Jiang Ning didn't chase after him. His gaze grew cold and dark.

"Gou."

"Yes, Big Boss!"

Brother Gou was still in a daze. Jiang Ning had displayed a new level of prowess earlier and all the wolves were amazed once more by what they now knew about Jiang Ning.

Jiang Ning didn't seem to have any limits on his ability. He was always so powerful and could always defeat his opponents easily.

"Follow him."

"Got it!"

Brother Gou got excited. When he heard this

instruction, he knew that Jiang Ning purposely left Chang Zaishan alive.

If the last punch hit Chang Zaishan's head, his head would have exploded by now.

Brother Gou didn't hesitate and quickly followed Chang Zaishan out.

He knew that Jiang Ning had already rendered Chang Zaishan's senses useless. Otherwise there was no way Brother Gou could follow Chang Zaishan without Chang Zaishan noticing him.

Everyone in the hall was still in shock. They felt like they had just gone through a cleanse and even their souls were shivering.

"I didn't expect red clouds to be everywhere in the north."

When Chang Zaishan's clothes had been torn from the impact, he saw that Chang Zaishan had that eye catching red colored cloud shaped tattoo on his chest.

He didn't expect to run into another person from Hidden Sect.

He didn't expect someone from Hidden Sect to actually come looking for him. Someone who had gone past grandmaster stage and had reached advanced grandmaster stage was already trying to kill him?

They really overestimated themselves.

“Big Boss, why did he want to kill you?” Number 6 couldn’t understand this.

Jiang Ning didn’t expose his identity in the north at all. Only Song Xiaoyu knew who Jiang Ning really was.

So why would such a highly skilled fighter come trying to kill Jiang Ning?

“These people never killed for any reason. They kill because they want to,” replied Jiang Ning. “They only care about themselves. Other people and their lives are not worth anything to them.”

His eyes suddenly became cold.

“And that’s exactly why I must get rid of them!”

“Their lives are even more like trash to me!” He turned to the rest of the wolves. “Since he knows who I am, someone must have told him. Investigate who this man is!”



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“Got it!” the wolves replied in unison and left.

There were red clouds everywhere in the north.

Jiang Ning wasn't surprised. When his Master left, he had told Jiang Ning that the north was a very messy place where many strong powers hid themselves. Hidden Sect was even better hidden.

If one Linglong Group could already be connected to so many powerful families and even the supremely powerful families, then the mysterious Hidden Sect would have even more of such connections.

Jiang Ning's eyes suddenly lit up.

“Perhaps there are some of them hiding in Linglong Group.”

Meanwhile.

Chang Zaishan continued stumbling on and left a lot of blood trails along the way.

Brother Gou continued to follow him carefully. Even though Jiang Ning had effectively destroyed his senses, he didn't dare to be careless.

This man was a true martial arts expert, and it was easy for him to even kill a grandmaster level fighter.

PFFT!

Chang Zaishan continued walking along the road and collapsed several times, but managed to struggle to his feet.

He couldn't hear anything nor smell anything. He could barely see anything and couldn't speak. He just followed his memory and felt his way back to the Chang house.

“砰! ”

BAM!

Chang Zaishan collapsed and crashed onto the main gate. There was a loud crashing sound, then it was silent.

“Who is it?” called out a voice from inside.

The main door was opened and the lights were turned on. The person who opened the door screamed from fright when he saw someone lying on the ground all covered with blood.

“AHH!! It's a ghost!”

But when he saw the face of the man on the ground, he was even more alarmed. “Master... Master Zaishan!”

He didn't expect it to be Chang Zaishan!

“Men! Hurry up!” He yelled loudly and many servants came forward to carefully carry Chang Zaishan in and the gate was shut again.

Brother Gou was hiding in a dark corner far off. He looked up and saw the two large golden words 'Chang Residence' on the gate and his gaze became sharp.

"The Chang family!" He scoffed. "I don't care who you guys are, but since you dared to attack Big Boss, I'm going to kill all of you!"

SWOOSH!

Brother Gou disappeared like a ghost.

In the Chang house.

All the lights were on.

Chang Zaiyuan didn't expect something like this to suddenly happen.

He had just scolded Chang Zaishan in the afternoon and told him to turn back, but Chang Zaishan refused to listen. He had chided him for many years now, but Chang Zaishan never listened to him.

He was most worried that someday he would suddenly receive news of Chang Zaishan's death.

"Hurry up and save him! Hurry!" Chang Zaiyuan was yelling loudly. "Call the doctor over! Hurry!"

The entire household became very busy. All the servants had stern and anxious expressions on their faces.

Chang Zaishan lay on the bed unconscious. It was as if he had no more life left in him and couldn't seem to breathe in any air at all.

Chang Zaiyuan had both hands behind his back as he paced up and down. His expression didn't look too good.

He didn't expect Chang Zaishan to be so severely injured.

"Who else in the north could injure him like that? Was it...that man?" Chang Zaiyuan became furious. "I don't care who you are! But since you dared to hurt my brother, I'm going to kill you!"

The blinds were rolled up and the doctor walked out. Chang Zaiyuan immediately walked over to him.

"How is it?"

This was the Chang family's most trusted doctor and his skills were top notch.

"There's nothing I can do," the doctor shook his head. "He won't last long."

Chang Zaiyuan felt his head explode.

He was going to die?

"His internal organs have all become mush and his ribs are all broken. It is already amazing enough that he managed to make it all the way

home. I've never seen such injuries before, this is really terrifying." The doctor had a grim expression on his face. "Master Zaiyuan, you have to be careful."

He was telling Chang Zaiyuan that the person who injured Chang Zaishan was very terrifying!

Extremely terrifying!

These injuries looked like they came from the inside, but they were clearly caused by an external impact. What sort of move could create such injuries?

He had never seen anything like this in all his 30 years of medical practice.

"You can go back first."

Chang Zaiyuan didn't say too much and told the doctor to leave. He quickly ran in to look at his brother. Chang Zaishan was lying on the bed and had opened his eyes, but they were unfocused and cloudy, and he was on the brink of death.

"Number 3!" Chang Zaiyuan yelled loudly, as if Chang Zaishan would be able to hear him if he yelled louder and would be able to survive this ordeal. "Who was it? Who injured you?!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chang Zaiyuan was speaking very loudly, but Chang Zaishan couldn't hear him at all. He could only roughly see that Chang Zaiyuan's mouth was moving but no sound was coming out at all.

He tried his best to shake his head. He opened his mouth only to spew more blood and some mushy bits of his internal organs...

Chang Zaishan was even weaker now.

It was already a miracle that he had made it home even after Jiang Ning had already turned his internal organs to mush. It was impossible to continue living on for long after that.

Without going through this experience personally, it was impossible to understand how truly terrifying Jiang Ning was.

Chang Zaishan thought that he was just going to kill someone to vent his anger, but he never expected to lose his life doing so.

"Who was it?! WHO?!" Chang Zaiyuan continued to shout. He didn't care about whether Chang Zaishan survived his injuries or not because that was impossible. All he wanted to know now was who did this because he wanted to take revenge!

Chang Zaishan's lips curled up slightly and wanted to say something. But the moment he opened his mouth, blood would flow out and he would be unable to say anything.

Before Chang Zaiyuan could ask again, Chang Zaishan's pupils suddenly narrowed and the light in his eyes slowly faded...

"Zaishan! Zaishan!" Chang Zaiyuan hugged him tightly and shouted again and again, not caring that his own clothes were being dyed red from all the blood.

His voice cracked as he started to cry, "Zaishan! Wake up! Don't die!"

But no matter how loudly he shouted, Chang Zaishan didn't respond. His eyes remained wide open and there was a complex expression on his face. It was hard to tell whether he was indignant or not.

The air in the Chang house became extremely heavy.

The Chang family was a first tier powerful family, and they were considered one of the top first tier families. But now Chang Zaiyuan's expression had nothing but self blame and murder.

The three brothers of the Chang family were very close knit since they were children.

Chang Zaishan was the most gifted and the most intelligent, so he was the family's first choice to become the heir. But he became obsessed with martial arts and went to an extreme.

His second brother was still nowhere to be found.

Chang Zaiyuan had been the head of the Chang family for many years, but the thing he wanted to do most was not to bring the Chang family up by another level. The thing he wanted most was for the three brothers to be reunited, because they were the core of the Chang family.

But now?

Chang Zaishan was dead!

And he had died so terribly.

His internal organs had been smashed from an external impact, and his ribcage was broken, so his chest had caved in.

He felt terrible just looking at these injuries.

“Who did Zaishan see recently?” Chang Zaishan’s face was extremely pale. “He had just come home, so none of his enemies would have found out. And even if they did, who would dare to attack one of my family members in this region?”

Even those supremely powerful families didn’t have a good reason for killing Chang Zaishan.

“Master Zaiyuan, it has always been difficult to track down Master Zaishan’s movements. He came back two days ago already but he refused to let any of us tell you,” the butler was very nervous. “He just cooped himself up in the study and it seems...it seems someone did come to look for him.”

“Who?!” Chang Zaiyuan’s angry eyes widened.
“Investigate this matter! Find out who it was!”

“Yes, Master!” The butler ran off to get this done.

Chang Zaiyuan’s expression was filled with murder. The fury in his heart was boiling like sea waves.

He could accept that the Chang family remained a first tier family forever and could not go up by another level. But he couldn’t accept how his own brother was killed so cruelly!

Chang Zaiyuan turned to look at his personal bodyguard, Wei Ming.

“How many people in the north has the ability to kill number 3?”

“Among those we already know, not more than three people,” replied Wei Ming. He was a tall and slim man who looked like a sword. His entire body gleamed dangerously and was as sharp as one. “I think the person who killed Master Zaishan is someone we don’t know.”

That was because the three he knew about would not appear so easily, and they had no feud with Chang Zaishan either, so they had no reason to murder him.

Besides, those three never revealed themselves easily.

But it was harder to say if there was a highly skilled fighter hiding in the shadows.

“Are there some more of such highly skilled fighters hiding in the north?” Chang Zaiyuan gripped the arm handle of his wooden chair tightly. “Could it be...a supremely powerful family?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Wei Ming shook his head. "On the surface, it's not possible."

What he meant to say was that even if they did anything, they would never admit to it or publicize it. They would have covered up their own identities.

Chang Zaiyuan seemed to have thought of something. He narrowed his eyes, but the murderous air coming out of them was even stronger than before.

This sort of thing had happened before too.

There were supremely powerful families who felt that some of the first tier families posed a threat to them, so they just killed off all their highly skilled fighters in order to make sure they remained in their place.

Did they think that the Chang family were pushovers?

Even if these people were supremely powerful families, if pushed into a corner, the Chang family was going to make them pay!

"Master Zaiyuan, I would just like to give you a gentle reminder." Wei Ming could see that Chang Zaiyuan was furious and he was afraid that Chang Zaiyuan might lose control of his emotions. "The north is not the same as before. The situation has suddenly changed and things have become harder and harder to predict. It is better to tread carefully."

At a time like this, the most important thing was not to advance or expand. It was to stay alive.

Chang Zaiyuan looked at Wei Ming seriously but didn't say anything.

These were words that he often told Wei Ming. He knew how hard it was to survive in the north.

Everyday was like skating on thin ice.

Even though the Chang family was a first tier family and there were very few who posed a threat to them.

But even though there were few, they still existed.

He knew that Chang Zaishan always wanted the Chang family to become the most powerful family in the north so that nobody could threaten them nor move them from this position.

Chang Zaishan had chosen an unusual path, and this was the main reason why the brothers quarreled.

But both sides were really doing it for the Chang family!

"If this person could kill Master Zaishan, that means that he must be an extremely powerful character. He's likely to be one of the top ten fighters in this region, and who knows how powerful this sort of person's backing is," said Wei Ming. "I'm not trying to ask you to give up taking

revenge, but I hope that you can remain calm. We must take revenge for sure, and I'm sure you know what to do."

He had followed Chang Zaiyuan for many years and knew Chang Zaiyuan's temperament well.

Chang Zaiyuan would have held it in and remained calm when it came to other matters. But when it came to Chang Zaishan's death, he would definitely not give up taking revenge.

"I know what to do." Chang Zaiyuan never said too much.

He was waiting.

He was waiting for all the information related to Chang Zaishan's death.

The moment he knew who did this, he wasn't going to let that person off, even if he came from a supremely powerful family!

The night grew darker and darker.

The weather in the north was such that one could still see the stars brightly in the night sky even if you were in the city.

At the Zhou house.

Zhou Shen was pacing up and down his living room. There were more than 30 men standing in the courtyard. These were the Zhou family's best.

He was waiting for news too.

He was waiting for news of Jiang Ning's death and how the Song family would suddenly go into chaos.

He had paid everything that the family could afford to give so that Chang Zaishan would attack Jiang Ning and kill off the person that the Song family relied on the most.

That way, the Zhou family could take revenge and step on the Song family to rebuild its prestige.

Zhou Shen knew a thing or two about the martial arts obsessed Chang Zaishan. As long as he heard about a highly skilled fighter, then Chang Zaishan would surely want to challenge him or even kill him. Zhou Shen just needed to tell him and Chang Zaishan wouldn't sit still anymore.

Zhou Shen was lucky to find Chang Zaishan at home the first time he paid him a visit.

And as he expected, Chang Zaishan agreed after listening to Zhou Shen's side of the story.

Otherwise, a first tier family might not care for whatever the Zhou family had to offer.

"Master, do we continue to wait?"

His subordinates were getting a little impatient. They had been waiting in the courtyard for a long time for Zhou Shen's orders.

The loss at Linshan had made their morale fall and many others had laughed at them. They were going crazy from having to endure this humiliation.

So as long as Zhou Shen gave the order, they would go to the Song house immediately to wipe out everybody in the Song family!

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 Wait! I Have Something to Say!

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“Wait for a while more!” Zhou Shen shook his head and dared not give the order.

For as long as he didn't receive confirmation that the skilled fighter in the Song family was dead, he didn't dare to send anyone there. That would be a suicide mission.

Zhou Shen knew that skilled fighter was enough to fight his entire family.

So he had to wait.

He was going to wait until Chang Zaishan killed Jiang Ning off before going to the Song house. Then Zhou Shen would be the one in control of Song Xiaoyu's life.

The Zhou family had to rebuild its prestige starting from the destruction of the Song family.

So they had to wait!

Without any news, he would not move forward.

The Zhou family couldn't afford to lose anything now.

“Master, we can't stand waiting anymore,” said his subordinate. “It's just one Song family! We can wipe them out easily!”

“Shut up!” Zhou Shen spun around and yelled angrily. “What do you know?!”

“What do you know about the complexities of the north? If you’re not careful, the one who will die is not the Song family but the Zhou family!”

“Keep waiting! If anyone dares to defy my orders, then don’t blame me for being heartless!”

“Yes, Master!”

They had no choice but to continue waiting in the courtyard.

Zhou Shen himself was sitting on the edge of his chair.

That Chang Zaishan was like a mad man when it came to things like this. He should have gone on an attack by now.

Was his own source of news too slow?

He was sure that Jiang Ning had to be dead by now.

The Song family must have lost their best by now.

“Why isn’t he back yet?” Zhou Shen was getting anxious. This news was taking too long.

BAM!

Suddenly the main gate was kicked open and broke into two parts.

“Who is it?!”

There was an angry mob of men standing and waiting in the courtyard. They were surprised that someone dared to barge into the Zhou house like this.

Zhou Shen turned around in shock and yelled angrily, "Who is the one who dares to barge into the Zhou house like that?! You bold..."

Before he could finish speaking, his expression suddenly changed.

"Mr...Mr Chang..." Zhou Shen's voice started trembling.

Why was it Chang Zaiyuan?

Why was the head of the Chang family at his place?

"Tsk," Chang Zaiyuan looked around and noticed many people standing in the courtyard. His expression darkened. "What is your family trying to do?"

"Mr Chang!" Zhou Shen quickly ran over and said politely, "I'm...we're not trying to do anything. What brings you here? Is anything the matter?"

Chang Zaiyuan didn't say anything. He walked into the living room and sat down at the seat reserved for the head of the family. Wei Ming stood by his side.

Zhou Shen didn't dare to say anything and he was

feeling a little guilty inside.

Could Chang Zaiyuan have found out that he went to look Chang Zaishan up?

But Chang Zaishan didn't need Chang Zaiyuan's permission to do anything, right?

"Why did you look for Chang Zaishan?" Chang Zaiyuan didn't beat around the bush and asked directly. "Who did you tell him to meet? Who did you tell him to kill?"

Zhou Shen trembled.

"I didn't do such a thing!" he quickly tried to explain himself. "I don't have the right to ask Master Zaishan to do anything for me! Don't malign me!"

PAK!

Chang Zaiyuan stood up and slapped Zhou Shen across the face as he roared angrily, "How dare you lie to me!"

He didn't bother being polite even though Zhou Shen was also the head of a powerful family. He wished he could kill Zhou Shen now.

This slap made Zhou Shen's blood start to boil.

They were both heads of powerful families. So what if Chang Zaiyuan came from a first tier family and was of higher standing than himself?

First that young punk from the Song family had humiliated him, and now Chang Zaiyuan had slapped him across the face!

Did they all think the Zhou family were pushovers?

“You...don’t force me to do this!” Zhou Shen clutched his face and spat back angrily, “I had a deal with Chang Zaishan, what has that got to do with you? Are you in charge of your brothers?”

“Men!” He yelled out, “These men are not welcome in the house, see them out!”

The men in the courtyard were already raring to go.

The moment they heard the order, they immediately dashed into the living room.

Chang Zaiyuan didn’t even look at them. Wei Ming scoffed coldly and suddenly moved. He was as violent as a dragon!

BAM!

BAM!

BAM!

.....

In the blink of an eye, the ground was covered with nothing but corpses.

Zhou Shen was so frightened that he collapsed onto the floor.

“Who did he see?” Chang Zaiyuan grabbed Zhou Shen’s collar and roared nastily, “Speak!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Zhou Shen was dumbfounded from fright.

All these men were the only skilled fighters that the Zhou family had left. And they had all been killed in the blink of an eye?

Chang Zaiyuan's personal bodyguard was really terrifying.

Zhou Shen's entire body was trembling. He didn't expect Chang Zaiyuan to be this angry. Zhou Shen had only tried to strike a deal with Chang Zaishan, and the Chang family didn't suffer any losses.

"The Song family! The Song family!" Zhou Shen couldn't think too deeply about this. He quickly shouted out, "It's the Song family! He's gone to look for that man from the Song family!"

He was afraid that Chang Zaiyuan would suddenly decide to kill him if he didn't quickly say anything.

"The Song family?"

Chang Zaiyuan frowned deeply as he tried to think which Song family this could be. After he finally realized which family Zhou Shen was talking about, his expression grew even nastier.

PAK!

He slapped Zhou Shen's face again. This was a really hard slap. "Do you think I'm old and stupid?"

The Song family?

Did Zhou Shen think it was easy to fool him?

A second tier family couldn't possibly be capable of killing Chang Zaishan!

"I'm not lying to you!" Zhou Shen yelled. "The new head of the Song family, Song Xiaoyu, has found an extremely highly skilled fighter. Chang Zaishan must have gone to look for him! He must have!"

And so what if Chang Zaishan had gone looking for the Song family?

Zhou Shen couldn't understand why Chang Zaiyuan was so angry.

"You're still lying to me!" Chang Zaishan couldn't stand it anymore. "Wei Ming!"

Wei Ming immediately broke Zhou Shen's arm.

CRAAACK!

"——"

Zhou Shen squealed loudly like a pig getting slaughtered.

But he wasn't lying!

"Do you think I'm stupid?" said Chang Zaiyuan coldly. "If the Song family had an extremely highly skilled fighter, why would they have lost half of Shenghai? Why would they be on the verge of being destroyed and chased out of the north?"

Out of all the children in the Song family, the best two were dead. Otherwise there was no way for Song Xiaoyu to become the new head of the family.

Chang Zaiyuan kept an eye on everything that was happening in the north too. Did Zhou Shen think he was old and muddleheaded? Or did he think he was stupid and easy to fool?

“Looks like you’re not willing to tell me the truth.” Chang Zaiyuan’s voice became icy cold.

“I am! Everything I told you is true!” Zhou Shen was going crazy from his fear.

Everything he said was the truth! It was Chang Zaiyuan who refused to believe him. “So what if Chang Zaishan went to look for the Song family? Just because of that you killed so many people from my family? You...”

“Chang Zaishan is dead!” Chang Zaiyuan roared angrily.

Zhou Shen stopped talking. He went into a daze and had trouble processing what he just heard.

His mind went blank and all he could hear were the words ‘Chang Zaishan is dead’ ringing in his head.

“De-dea...dead?”

Zhou Shen’s lips trembled and he felt like this was

a hallucination. How could Chang Zaishan be dead?

“Who instructed you to do this?” Chang Zaiyuan had no more patience left. He grabbed Zhou Shen’s hair and bellowed, “TELL ME NOW!”

“It’s...it’s the Song family! It’s the Song family!”

CRAAACK!

Chang Zaiyuan violently twisted his hand to one side and broke Zhou Shen’s neck.

Zhou Shen immediately collapsed limply with a thud.

“The Zhou family...deserves to die!” Chang Zaiyuan scoffed and glanced at Wei Ming. “Don’t leave a single one behind!”

He then left while Wei Ming nodded his head. He took a knife out and walked towards the Zhou family’s living quarters...

Early the next morning.

A series of shouts and shrieks filled the air.

All the usual suppliers that delivered food to the Zhou family came to find that the ground was covered with blood and dead bodies. Some of them ran so hard and didn’t care that they left a shoe behind, while some of the fell to the ground in shock.

News quickly spread through the region.

The Zhou family had been exterminated.

So many people were awoken from their slumber because of this terrifying news.

In one night, nobody in the Zhou family was left alive, and blood flowed through the entire house.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The Zhou family was a second tier family that was doing pretty well in the north and previously controlled one of the important gantries into the region. So many people had been jealous of them.

But they were gone in just one night.

The gantry they controlled was gone, but now even the Zhou family had disappeared completely from the face of the earth.

In this short period of time, the north continued to be in turmoil. Many people had nightmares while they slept. They were afraid that one day they might go to bed and never wake up again.

They lived in fear every single day.

The Wu family was now living in great fear.

PING!

Wu Hongwei was still having breakfast when he heard the news. His face instantly paled and his hands started trembling. The teacup in his hand fell to the floor and shattered into a few pieces.

“What did you say? The Zhou family...is no more?”

“They’re all dead, it’s a terrible tragedy.” The butler’s voice was trembling too.

He didn’t go and have a look at the Zhou house, but it sounded terrifying from the way others described it.

Who could have done something so cruel?

Wu Hongwei's lips trembled. "Not...not a single one left alive?"

The butler shook his head. Wu Hongwei gulped and felt a terrible fear overcome him.

If the Zhou family was gone, then what about his family?

The deep seated terror in his heart kept growing and he couldn't hold it in anymore.

The Wu family always worked with the Zhou family. If the Zhou family had been wiped out, then the Wu family was probably next.

A figure appeared in Wu Hongwei's mind.

Jiang Ning!

It had to be him!

That terrifying highly skilled fighter!

Zhou Shen said that he was going to find a first tier family's fighter to kill Jiang Ning and Jiang Ning must have retaliated. That was why the entire family was wiped out overnight.

It must be that fellow!

Wu Hongwei's hand trembled a little. He reached out to take a glass of water, then pulled it back.

He initially wanted to wait for a chance to find a weakness in the Song family. Then he would attack the Song family, rebuild the Wu family's prestige and wipe away all the humiliation they suffered before.

But after he found out about what happened to the Zhou family, he felt like someone had poured a tub of cold water on him.

His entire body was shivering now.

It was as if he had fallen into an ice cave.

"Master?" The butler swallowed hard. "What...what should we do?"

Nobody wanted to die.

Since the Zhou family had been wiped out, was the Wu family next?

Wu Hongwei grabbed a glass of water and spilled half of it before it even reached his mouth.

He looked at the butler and opened his mouth to say something, but he didn't know what to say. The more he wanted to say something, the more fearful he felt.

"Master...if you don't do anything soon, then it'll be too late!" said the butler anxiously.

Wu Hongwei put the glass down and took a deep breath. He kept trying to think of a plan to make

sure they would survive this.

After thinking about it for a long time, there seemed to be only one way out of this.

Beg for mercy!

As long as the Song family agreed to let him off, then the Wu family would live. If that Jiang Ning was sent to attack the Wu family, none of them would survive.

The Zhou family was the best example of this!

It was a warning to him!

He didn't dare to think about taking revenge on the Song family anymore.

He couldn't afford to offend them at all.

The more important thing now was to think of a way to get out of being the Song family's target and survive!

"Where's Wu Fan?" Wu Hongwei finally spoke up after being in deep thought for a long time. He hesitated for a moment, then became determined. "Tie him up!"

Wu Hongwei had never felt so fearful before.

Just one day ago, he was still going on about how he was going to find a chance to take revenge on the Song family and on Jiang Ning. But just one

night later, he had to swallow all those words.

He slapped himself hard and made sure he stopped thinking about those things.

Take revenge on the Song family?

Take revenge on Jiang Ning?

That was as good as killing himself.

“You...what are you doing?!” Wu Fan was still sleeping in bed when he saw the butler come in with a few men to tie him up. He immediately woke up in fright and cried out angrily, “I’m the young master of the Wu family! What are you trying to do?!”

“Let go of me! I said, LET GO!” Wu Fan started cursing at them, “Are you guys tired of living? My dad will kill you guys!”

“I’m sorry, Young Master Fan, but these are instructions from Master.” The butler waved his hand and gave instructions, “Tie him up!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Help! Help! DAD!!” Wu Fan continued to scream and shout but all his struggling was futile.

The servants who were normally polite to him and obeyed his orders were now more than happy to tie him up well or to even kill him.

There was viciousness and fury in their eyes.

Wu Fan was all tied up and brought to the main hall where Wu Hongwei had been waiting for a long time.

“Dad, what are you doing?!” Wu Fan yelled. “I’m your son! Your biological son!”

“Even if I’ve made a mistake, you can’t treat me like this, right? Hurry up and untie me!”

Wu Hongwei walked over and looked at Wu Fan with a rare expression of gentleness, some guilt and even looked apologetic.

“Wu Fan, one has to bear the consequences of his wrongdoing, do you understand?”

Wu Fan was stunned. He had never seen Wu Hongwei look at him like that before.

It was as if his father was bidding him farewell and saying his last words to him.

Wu Fan instantly went into a panic and quickly shook his head.

"I don't understand! I don't understand! Dad, put me down! I was wrong! I'm sorry!"

He felt like he was about to be sent to the gallows.

"It's too late," Wu Hongwei sighed. "The person who can forgive you isn't me, don't you get it?"

"Dad!"

"Don't worry, the Wu family still has me and your two older brothers. The Wu family will live well, so you just need to bear the things you ought to be responsible for. That's part of your duty as a descendant of the Wu family."

After that, Wu Hongwei turned around and couldn't bear to look at his son anymore.

"Let's go!"

He led the way while the rest of the men carried Wu Fan like a pig waiting to be slaughtered.

Meanwhile.

At the Song house.

Song Xiaoyu continued to find ways and means to understand the various connections that held the powerful families in the north together.

The mission that Jiang Ning gave him was to find out all the different secret dealings and agreements all these powerful families had with

one another.

He was now at the top of his game.

This was especially after everyone knew about how the heads of the Wu family and the Zhou family and their sons had knelt to apologize to him.

It seemed like everyone now knew that the Song family was different from before, and this Song Xiaoyu was definitely different from before.

Everyone who looked down on him or even ignored his existence before this changed their attitude towards him. They all became much more polite and nobody dared to be rude to him anymore.

As a result, Song Xiaoyu had more and more channels of information.

“What did you say?”

Song Xiaoyu was having breakfast while looking at the information that he had gathered.

When he saw the news of how the Zhou family had been wiped out overnight, he couldn't help but take a second look.

The Zhou family had just offended him the day before, but because Jiang Ning used his abilities to terrify them, both the head of the family and his son knelt before him and this news was already

shocking enough.

Then after that, the entire Zhou family was killed in one night?

Was it Jiang Ning?

“That’s not possible.”

Song Xiaoyu immediately shook his head and dismissed this conjecture.

“Mr Jiang is not an ordinary man and would not care to do something like that. If he wanted to kill them, he would have killed them on the spot.”

Song Xiaoyu was an intelligent man and knew that a powerful man like Jiang Ning would never wait unnecessarily to mete punishment. If there was a feud to be settled, Jiang Ning would take revenge on the spot.

Then who did this?

Who would have dared to wipe the entire family out in one night?

It had been a long time since something like that happened in the north.

“Master, the head of the Wu family, Wu Hongwei, would like to see you,” said one his subordinates politely after walking into the room.

“Wu Hongwei?” Song Xiaoyu frowned slightly.

“Why is he here?”

“I don’t know, but he’s tied up one of his sons, Wu Fan and brought him here too.”

Tied him up?

Song Xiaoyu figured it out quickly.

The Wu family was now frightened.

The Zhou family had been wiped out in one night and the Wu family must have thought that the Song family sent Jiang Ning to do it. Perhaps the Wu family was still thinking of a way to take revenge, but this morning they were too scared to think about it anymore.

“Master, do you want to let them in?”

“Wait,” replied Song Xiaoyu quietly. “It’s not so easy to get into my house. Leave them outside.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The Song family was not the same as they were before. Even though Song Xiaoyu was not going to expose his connection with Jiang Ning, everything he did and said still represented Jiang Ning.

He must not embarrass Jiang Ning!

“Yes, Master,” replied the subordinate.

Outside the Song house.

Wu Hongwei had already waited outside for half an hour. In the past, he would have hit the roof, barged in and cursed at everyone in the house by now.

But today, he stood quietly at the gate.

The message from Song Xiaoyu was that he was busy and couldn't see him now, so Wu Hongwei could wait if he wanted to. This message made Wu Hongwei feel even more afraid and uneasy.

This was testing him!

Song Xiaoyu was able to treat him this way because he had the confidence and ability to do so. Wu Hongwei was now even more certain that Song Xiaoyu had sent Jiang Ning to wipe the Zhou family out.

What a vicious man!

“Master, he won't see us. What should we do?” The butler of the Wu family was equally anxious. He

was afraid that Song Xiaoyu refused to see Wu Hongwei because he had already decided to wipe the Wu family out too.

“We’ll wait!” Wu Hongwei clenched his teeth. “We have to show our sincerity! What’s a little waiting? We’ll wait even if he makes us wait a day!”

Wu Fan’s face was already ashen.

When he saw that they had come to the Song house, he knew why he had been tied up.

The Wu family was going to kill him to appease the Song family’s anger in return for a chance to live.

He really regretted it now.

Why did he go and offend Song Xiaoyu? Why did he offend that terrifying Jiang Ning?

He just wanted to look high and mighty and didn’t think he might lose his life over it.

CREAAAK...

The gate opened.

Wu Hongwei and everyone else immediately looked up.

“Our Master would like to invite Mr Wu in.”

“Thank you!” Wu Hongwei breathed a small sigh of

relief. He quickly clasped his hands together politely at the Song family's butler and said with great respect, "I will have to trouble you to lead the way."

The Wu family followed the Song family's butler into the main hall of the house. Song Xiaoyu was seated in the hall and making notes seriously with a book in hand.

"Mr Wu is here."

Song Xiaoyu just grunted and didn't even raise his head.

"Mr Song!" Wu Hongwei put on a toothy smile and quickly ran forward to greet him politely.

"Greetings to you, Mr Song!"

He didn't behave like he was someone older at all. He looked more like a younger person greeting an elder of the family.

"Mr Wu, you're being too formal with me." Song Xiaoyu put the book in his hands down. He looked up and his gaze was deep. "I was thinking, if Mr Wu didn't come looking for me today, then I'll have to knock on your door tonight."

Wu Hongwei instantly paled at these words.

What did these words really mean?

Was Song Xiaoyu saying that he was going to visit the Wu family at night to wipe them out?!

The Zhou family was wiped out just the night before!

Wu Hongwei gulped. He dared not ask at all. Surely he couldn't ask Song Xiaoyu point blank if he was going to kill the entire Wu family, right?

"Hoho, I didn't expect you to be waiting for me already, I'm so sorry about that." Wu Hongwei quickly tried to change the topic, "I needed to look for you, so I came over."

"I hope I'm not disturbing you in any way."

Song Xiaoyu glanced at Wu Hongwei.

"Oh, is that so? I wonder why you're looking for me. Is it the same reason why I'm looking for you?"

Wu Hongwei felt that the person sitting in front of him wasn't a young man in his twenties. Song Xiaoyu was more like a wily old fox who was much older and had a deep understanding about life.

"Bring him here!" Wu Hongwei quickly turned around and shouted.

The men behind him dragged Wu Fan in.

"UNGH! UNGH!"

Wu Hongwei was afraid that his son would say the wrong thing, so he quickly made sure his mouth was gagged. Wu Fan could only continue to

struggle and make random noises. His face was filled with despair.

“Mr Song, the Wu family was the one in the wrong the last time. Wu Fan is young and stupid and doesn’t know how to behave, so he offended you. I am here to apologize to the Song family on behalf of the entire Wu family!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Wu Hongwei bowed at close to 90 degrees.

“I hope that you can be magnanimous with us and spare this lowly son of mine. You can go ahead and hit him or scold him, I will not say anything!”

Even if he beat Wu Fan to death, Wu Hongwei wouldn't dare to say anything.

As long as the Wu family could survive this, then even if he had to sacrifice Wu Fan, Wu Fan was the one who brought this upon himself.

If he hadn't gotten into trouble, the Wu family wouldn't be in such a panic now.

“Mr Wu, you're really good with the formalities,” Song Xiaoyu scoffed. “But it's not up to me to decide whether to spare him or not. It doesn't really matter whether your son has offended me or not. After all, I'm just this young punk that nobody looks up to despite being the head of the Song family, no?”

“Oh no no, that's not true, that's not true,” Wu Hongwei waved his arms about.

“The one he's offended is the other gentleman. So he gets to decide on whether to spare your son or not.” Song Xiaoyu raised an eyebrow. “Would you like me to ask him to come over so you could ask him personally?”

“No! Don't!”

Wu Hongwei felt like his soul nearly flew out of his body from his fright.

He wouldn't dare to trouble Jiang Ning. That was as good as asking to be killed.

"Mr Song, we don't have much dealings with one another so perhaps you don't know me well. I am not the type who would shield my children without question. So as long as you can forgive us, you can set any terms you want and the Wu family will try our best to satisfy everything that you want!"

He just wanted to settle this matter. It didn't matter how much he had to pay.

He was already prepared to give his son's life away. So there was nothing else that Wu Hongwei couldn't bear to part with.

It was more important for the Wu family to be able to stay alive and stay in the north.

Song Xiaoyu didn't say anything.

The more silent he was, the more Wu Hongwei panicked.

He really felt like Song Xiaoyu was already prepared to wipe the Wu family out that very night.

Wu Hongwei was very nervous. He didn't know what Song Xiaoyu wanted and Song Xiaoyu wasn't saying anything either!

PAK!

Wu Hongwei suddenly spun around and slapped Wu Fan hard on the face.

“Hurry up and kowtow to Mr Song and apologize to him!” he shouted angrily. “Did you think you could offend the head of the Song family? You should bear the consequences of your own actions!”

“UNGHH!”

Wu Fan was gagged and couldn't say anything. His eyes were red and there was despair and pain written all over his face but there was nothing he could do. He couldn't even struggle because his father's men were holding him down.

THUD!

The person behind him kicked his knees and he fell to the floor.

Wu Hongwei pressed Wu Fan's head down.

“Kowtow and apologize to Mr Song!”

DONG!

DONG!

DONG!

.....

After being forced to kowtow more than ten times in a row, Wu Fan's forehead was covered with blood.

But Song Xiaoyu remained silent and didn't even glance at Wu Fan.

Wu Hongwei was about to go mad.

What did Song Xiaoyu want?

The Wu family was prepared to give him anything! Even his own life!

As long as the rest of the family could live on.

"Mr Song..." Wu Hongwei's voice was trembling and it cracked. He had grown desperate and his entire mind was filled with the terrible possibility that the Wu family might be wiped out like the Zhou family.

"Enough," Song Xiaoyu finally spoke.

"I don't want much."

"I just want to know all the connections the Wu family has with Linglong Group, including all the benefits, agreements etc.," said Song Xiaoyu. "As long as it's something to do with Linglong Group, I want to know about it. If I find anything missing, then I'll have to visit your place personally to get the information."

These words carried a threat.

Wu Hongwei was a little stunned and wasn't sure why Song Xiaoyu wanted this information. But if it would ensure his survival, he was willing to give anything!

“Yes yes yes! No problem! No problem at all!”

This information wasn't particularly classified information either. Wu Hongwei started to feel antsy. Was that all Song Xiaoyu wanted?

He waited for a while. Song Xiaoyu didn't say anything, and he didn't dare to leave.

“What, still not leaving?” asked Song Xiaoyu. “That gentleman is coming in a while. Do you want to see him again?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Wu Hongwei quickly shook his head.

“Then my son...”

“If children commit mistakes, it is the fault of their parents. Mr Wu, bring your son back and teach him properly. If you don’t watch him carefully, someone else will.” Song Xiaoyu spoke like he was teaching his grandson a lesson. “If you don’t let him experience some pain in life, he will never learn.”

He then waved his hands. Wu Hongwei clasped his hands together politely and left to prepare all the things that Song Xiaoyu asked for.

After Wu Hongwei left, Song Xiaoyu immediately put the book in his hand down and walked briskly to the garden at the back.

Jiang Ning was seated in front of the pond with a fishing rod in his hand. He looked at all the fish swimming around in the pond, but not a single one came to bite his empty hook.

“Mr Jiang,” Song Xiaoyu smiled as he took some fish bait and threw it towards the section of the pond where Jiang Ning sat. “Without any bait, these fish won’t come over.”

The fish bait hit the water with a splash and all the fish swam over from all parts of the pond. They gathered to fight for the bait and made a lot of water splash out of the pond.

Jiang Ning looked up at him.

“Looks like you’ve gotten yourself some fish bait.”

“There’s a breakthrough point,” replied Song Xiaoyu. “The Wu family has come knocking on my door.”

“Going by what you’ve said before, we must go through Linglong Group to find the person hiding behind all of this. Everything in the north has some connection to Linglong Group.”

“As long as we tip the balance within Linglong Group, then anyone who is affected won’t be able to hide himself anymore.”

Jiang Ning nodded. “I didn’t expect you to be so smart. You’re almost as good as Yuming.”

“Thank you for the compliment,” Song Xiaoyu clasped his hands together politely. “I will see to this matter personally and I will sort out the entire network within Linglong Group as soon as possible.”

“Good.” Jiang Ning got up. “I came today to talk to you about something else.”

“There’s a problem with the Chang family.”

Jiang Ning’s expression was rather stern and Song Xiaoyu immediately understood how important this matter was.

“The Chang family?” he frowned slightly. “The first tier family? The head of the family is Chang Zaiyuan?”

“What, is there another Chang family in the north?”

Jiang Ning got Brother Gou to follow his attacker that night, and that man found his way back to the Chang house. Judging from the reaction of the family, this man was highly ranked in the family.

Someone so important had to be fairly influential in the north. But it seemed like even Jiang Ning didn't have any information on him.

“The Chang family isn't really very famous in the north and they keep a low profile. But I've heard that they are very capable.”

Song Xiaoyu had investigated all the powerful families of the north, especially some of the first tier families.

But in the past, he didn't have access to much information and wasn't able to find out a lot. But he did have some basic information on hand.

“The head of the Chang family, Chang Zaiyuan, has two more younger brothers. Number 2, Chang Zaifeng, has been missing for years and apparently nobody has seen him for more than ten years now. Number 3, Chang Zaishan, is obsessed with martial arts...”

Before he could finish his own sentence, his

expression changed as he looked in shock and disbelief at Jiang Ning.

Song Xiaoyu had just received a piece of news that was highly classified. Chang Zaishan had died.

This news was not made public, so after Song Xiaoyu heard about it, he didn't think too much about it. But after hearing Jiang Ning mention the Chang family, his heart nearly stopped.

"Mr Jiang, this Chang Zaishan..."

"I killed him," Jiang Ning didn't bother hiding this fact at all. "Of course, it's because he tried to kill me first but he wasn't powerful enough to do so."

Song Xiaoyu gulped.

That man was obsessed with martial arts and had reached an incredibly high level of skill. Among all the known highly skilled fighters, he was definitely one of the top ten.

But Jiang Ning said he wasn't powerful enough?

Sometimes Jiang Ning said the scariest shit.

Song Xiaoyu paled a little. It wasn't because he was scared, but because he was so stunned.

He hadn't thought much about it when he learnt that Chang Zaishan had died. But the moment he found out that Chang Zaishan had been killed by

Jiang Ning, he suddenly felt numb all over.

He was really glad that he had made the right choice. Otherwise the Song family would be wiped out by now.

“Mr Jiang, you want me to check on this Chang family?” Song Xiaoyu didn’t ask further. He knew what questions he should ask and what was just for him to hear.

“Not just the Chang family. I want to know everything about all the first tier families in the north. I’ll give you one week to do this. Is that enough time?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Jiang Ning didn't bother explaining further and went straight to the point.

"It's enough!" Song Xiaoyu didn't hesitate in his reply either.

Even if Jiang Ning gave him only three days, Song Xiaoyu was going to complete this task without eating or sleeping.

But a week was more than enough.

Song Xiaoyu had accumulated quite a bit of information over the past few years and he had more channels of information after his standing in the north went up. It wasn't a problem to find out more about all the first tier families.

Jiang Ning wasn't going to push him for information that the families had hidden away carefully either.

"Someone so important to the Chang family had died but they didn't announce it. Looks like they are a very special group of people," said Jiang Ning quietly. "Xiaoyu, you have to watch the connections that these powerful families have with Linglong Group very carefully. Do not let any of their networks slip past you."

Song Xiaoyu's eyes gleamed.

His heart started pounding wildly.

Jiang Ning was sharing his thoughts with Song

Xiaoyu – did that mean that whatever Jiang Ning was looking for was within Linglong Group?

“Mr Jiang, don't worry,” Song Xiaoyu clasped his hands. “I will not let you down!”

Jiang Ning didn't say anymore. He had kept Song Xiaoyu by his side to do all these things. Otherwise there was no point in keeping him here.

He knew that Song Xiaoyu was very clear on why he was given a chance.

After Jiang Ning left, Song Xiaoyu took action without wasting any time.

The clues that he got from the Wu family could be put to good use already.

He had guessed long ago that the secrets of the north were all hiding in Linglong Group, and this was the same guess that Jiang Ning had. So Song Xiaoyu was even more confident of his direction.

As long as he could dig out the secret of Linglong Group, he would be able to dig out the secrets of all the powerful families.

But he didn't know that Jiang Ning had bigger plans.

Besides hiding a messy network of benefits, Linglong Group was also hiding the volatile group called Hidden Sect!

The ones who tried to assassinate him in Donghai, the one who barged into the Tan house in the northern mountains and this Chang Zaishan...they were all members of Hidden Sect.

Jiang Ning had no idea how many people in the north had joined Hidden Sect.

This could be it, but it was also possible that there was a member in every powerful family.

That would be truly frightening.

But no matter how many there were, Jiang Ning was going to smash them to smithereens with his iron fists.

Jiang Ning left this matter to Song Xiaoyu and didn't care about the process. He just wanted the results.

On the other side, Lin Group's plan to move up north had gone into its final stage.

Lin Yuzhen was on her way here.

Jiang Ning had looked forward to this for a long time now.

Jiang Ning was upset with himself for not being able to be by Lin Yuzhen's side during this time and he missed her dearly.

He could only use the little time they had over the phone to try to make himself feel better, but he

realized that he only began to miss Lin Yuzhen more than ever.

“Big Boss seems pretty excited,” Number 6 glanced at Jiang Ning from afar and whispered, “I’ve never seen Big Boss like this before.”

“Boss Yuzhen is coming, so of course he’s excited,” Number 5 scoffed. “Absence makes the heart grow fonder. You’re still a small boy, so you don’t understand such things.”

“Who says I’m a small boy?”

“Tsk, we’ve showered together before, it’s not as if I’ve not seen how small you are.”

“Damn it! I’m going to bash you up!”

.....

Jiang Ning was full of smiles. He was in such a good mood, he was even humming.

“Brother Ning, CEO Lin is on the way. She’ll land in an hour, I’ll arrange for someone to pick her up.”

Li Dong put down the phone after confirming Lin Yuzhen’s schedule.

“Oh no, I’ll pick her up myself.”

Jiang Ning got up and Brother Gou immediately followed behind him. He couldn’t be bothered with Number 5 and Number 6 who were still fighting.

Didn't these two childish boys know that technique was more important than size?

Brother Gou drove Jiang Ning towards the airport to pick Lin Yuzhen up.

Meanwhile.

Lin Yuzhen was on the plane and she leaned against the seat to get some shuteye.

The only thing in her mind now was the phone call that Long Ling'er gave her before she boarded the plane.

"If you don't want to cause harm to Jiang Ning, come and look for me."

Cause harm to Jiang Ning?

Lin Yuzhen got a fright and immediately started to worry.

Even if she died or she had to undergo great torture, she didn't want to see Jiang Ning get hurt.

Jiang Ning was already part of her own life. How could she bear losing him?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“CEO Lin, the plane will land in one hour, don’t be so anxious.” Xiaozhao thought that Lin Yuzhen was anxious because she wanted to see Jiang Ning as soon as possible. “Brother Ning must be waiting at the airport for you already.”

“Xiaozhao, I won’t look for Jiang Ning, I need to go elsewhere first,” said Lin Yuzhen. She paused for a moment, then added on, “Don’t tell Jiang Ning.”

Xiaozhao was surprised. Lin Yuzhen wasn’t going to look for Jiang Ning first?

She knew that Lin Yuzhen had been looking forward to this day for a long time now. Lin Yuzhen had been working very hard everyday so that she could go to the north as soon as possible to meet with Jiang Ning.

Why was she going elsewhere? And why didn’t she let Xiaozhao tell Jiang Ning?

“CEO Lin...”

“Xiaozhao, don’t ask.” Lin Yuzhen shook her head. “Just promise me.”

“Alright then.”

Xiaozhao knew that Lin Yuzhen never did anything rash. She missed Jiang Ning so much and couldn’t wait to see him, so there must be some important reason why Lin Yuzhen was going elsewhere instead.

Meanwhile.

At the Chang house.

The air in the house was somber, and it was so heavy, it was hard to breathe.

The entire Chang family was still mourning for Chang Zaishan. The pain and fury in their hearts was suppressed to its maximum.

Chang Zaiyuan sat in the main hall as if he was a pillar. He didn't move for one whole day.

His usually calm gaze had deepened. They were now malicious and murderous.

"Zaishan, I always scold and chide you for your own good. It was precisely because I was afraid that this day would come," said Chang Zaiyuan coldly. "That path you chose has an enormous number of dangers, and it is a road that leads to a dead end!"

His knuckles cracked loudly. All his veins were popping and looked terrifying.

"I don't care who it is! Nobody is allowed to kill you! Because you are my brother! A member of the Chang family!"

"I'm going to make your murderer pay for this with his life!"

Chang Zaiyuan suddenly gave off an incredibly

powerful aura. If any martial artist were here, he would be shocked at how well Chang Zaiyuan had hidden his abilities.

From the outside, Chang Zaiyuan looked like a gentle and studious man. But he was actually a highly skilled fighter!

SWOOSH!

A figure appeared in front of him.

“Have you found anything?” asked Chang Zaiyuan sternly.

“I have some clues,” replied Wei Ming. “That day, the Wu family and the Zhou family had both attended the dinner party that was organized by the head of the Song family, Song Xiaoyu, and had a run in with Song Xiaoyu.”

“Apparently, there’s a highly skilled fighter in the Song family who was so shockingly powerful that the heads of the Zhou family and the Wu family and their sons all knelt before Song Xiaoyu to apologize to him.”

Chang Zaiyuan narrowed his eyes.

The Song family!

So it really was the Song family after all.

For a fighter to make the heads of two powerful families bow down and apologize, he had to be at

least a grandmaster level fighter.

But hadn't the Song family's grandmaster level fighter perished in Shenghai?

Also, the Song family had suffered terrible losses and were about to be kicked out of the north soon. But a new head of the family appeared and he was rising so powerfully.

"The new head of the Song family used to be practically unknown and nobody ever paid any attention to him. He turns out to have been hiding his true potential all this while and he's so young too. Many suspect that someone is backing him," said Wei Ming.

There was no need to suspect, this had to be the truth.

It was impossible for someone to make a turnaround in the north. Almost everyone's future was set from the day he was born.

"Anything else?" asked Chang Zaiyuan.

"That highly skilled fighter has disappeared, as if he never appeared at all. I've been to the Song house twice and I've not noticed any skilled fighters like that around," said Wei Ming. "So it's highly possible that a powerful backer lent Song Xiaoyu this fighter temporarily."

Chang Zaiyuan's expression was even nastier now. This was getting closer to what he had guessed!



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“The Song family is at the top of their game after stepping all over the Zhou family and the Wu family. Song Xiaoyu has been very busy lately and on the surface, it looks like he’s trying to rebuild the family’s prestige, but I’m afraid he has other motives. I’ve also found out that Song Xiaoyu had some dealings with someone from Donghai.”

Donghai!

It was these Donghai people again!

There was a rumor that the Long family was backing Donghai to create a new power just to stir up the north and get rid of all the threats to Linglong Group.

This was no secret among the highest levels of the powerful families in the north.

“Lin Group is going to enter the north formally soon and I have news that the CEO of Lin Group, Lin Yuzhen, is on her way here. And she’s going to meet with somebody.”

“Who?”

“Long Ling’er!”

The Long family!

Everything was confirmed now.

Lin Group and the Long family were clearly connected to one another in some way or another.

Whether the Long family was really backing Lin Group from Donghai or they were connected in some other way didn't matter anymore.

Chang Zaiyuan stood up and a murderous air filled the hall.

He was now like a ferocious tiger that had been in hiding for many years. Now he opened his mouth wide to reveal those sharp teeth inside.

"The Long family...did you think that the Chang family can be bullied so easily?"

"So what if you're a supremely powerful family? Did you think I would be afraid of you? What a joke!"

"Since you made me lose a brother, I'll make you lose a daughter!" declared Chang Zaiyuan coldly.

He turned to look at Wei Ming as the murderous air coming out from him grew more intense.

"Master, this information has not been confirmed yet. Do you want to take action?" asked Wei Ming with great respect.

"I'd rather kill the wrong one than to miss one!" Chang Zaiyuan gave orders, "Wei Ming, you shall do this for me personally. Bring ten men with you and kill Long Ling'er!"

"And that Lin Yuzhen!"

"I don't care if Lin Group of Donghai has anything to do with the Long family or not and it doesn't matter. As long as there's a possibility, I'd rather just kill her. I'm going to make the Long family pay and let them know that they've picked the wrong person to kill and they've made a grave mistake. The Chang family is not a family they can do whatever they want with!"

"Got it!" Wei Ming answered.

Wei Ming then left, while Chang Zaiyuan sat back down on his chair. The terrifying air around him dissipated in an instant.

In just a moment, he had calmed down and looked like a gentle old man. Nobody would have expected the murderous air that he emanated earlier to be even more powerful than Chang Zaishan's.

At the same time.

Lin Yuzhen had gotten off the plane but she didn't come out from the way she was supposed to. She left by another exit and a car was already waiting for her.

"Get in." Long Ling'er wound down the window and Lin Yuzhen could see her rather unfeeling looking face.

Lin Yuzhen got in and turned to tell Xiaozhao, "Don't worry about me, she won't hurt me. I'll be back in a while."

Xiaozhao's face was filled with worry. She got even more anxious when she realized the person driving was Long Ling'er.

This was the woman who came to Donghai the last time and said that she wanted Lin Yuzhen to give Jiang Ning to her, and she had even intended to use Linglong Group in exchange for Jiang Ning.

Lin Yuzhen was actually meeting with her?!

VRRROOOM...

The car's engine revved loudly and disappeared quickly into the distance. The sound of the engine slowly faded.

"CEO Lin..." Xiaozhao clenched her fists and didn't know what to do.

Lin Yuzhen told her to keep it a secret, but she was worried that something would happen to Lin Yuzhen.

"I don't care anymore," Xiaozhao clenched her teeth. "Brother Ning will be so heartbroken if anything happens to CEO Lin."

"Who cares if she scolds me or even hits me?"

She took her phone out and called Jiang Ning.

Jiang Ning picked up the call after two rings. Xiaozhao was so anxious, she quickly shouted, "Brother Ning, CEO Lin has left with that Long

Ling'er!"



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Jiang Ning was still waiting at the arrival hall for Lin Yuzhen. He immediately frowned upon hearing what Xiaozhao said.

“You said WHO? Long Ling’er?!” Jiang Ning practically jumped up. “Why did she leave with Long Ling’er?”

Xiaozhao sounded like she was about to cry. Jiang Ning quickly asked, “What car did she get into? Do you remember the license plate number?”

“Ok, ok!”

Jiang Ning hung up and called Song Xiaoyu. “Track this car down for me, NOR 7366 C. Find out where it is right now!”

He then hung up and got into the car. Brother Gou had already started up the engine. He stepped on the accelerator and drove off immediately.

“Long Ling’er, if you dare to hurt Yuzhen, I won’t let you off!”

A terrifying fury was written all over Jiang Ning’s face.

Even though Long Ling’er was a childhood friend of his, Jiang Ning wasn’t going to be kind to her if she dared to hurt Lin Yuzhen.

The car roared into the distance like a wild beast.

Meanwhile.

Lin Yuzhen sat in the front passenger seat. She didn't have any expression on her face as she faced the front.

"Why do you think I won't harm you?" Long Ling'er asked as she drove. "Honestly I really wish you would disappear. Then Jiang Ning will return to my side."

"No, you wont," replied Lin Yuzhen. "If you were that sort of woman, then Jiang Ning would never fall for you."

She paused for a while, then added one more line in case Long Ling'er got the wrong idea, "He only likes me now."

Long Ling'er chuckled, but Lin Yuzhen wasn't sure what that chuckle meant.

Long Ling'er kept her eyes in front and started to step harder on the accelerator. It seemed like that was the only way to calm herself down.

The two of them remained silent.

The car left the airport and went along the highway but wasn't headed for the city.

"Where are you bringing me to?" asked Lin Yuzhen.

Her voice was very calm and didn't sound afraid or even nervous.

“Aren’t you scared?” Long Ling’er was driving even faster than before.

“I’m scared,” replied Lin Yuzhen.

“If you’re scared, then why did you leave with me? Do you really think I don’t dare to kill you?”

Long Ling’er was getting frustrated and it was evident in her voice.

She didn’t want to see Lin Yuzhen continue to look calm. Since she was scared, then it should show on her face.

If she was afraid to die, then she should say so. But she didn’t say anything nor do anything and even listened to Long Ling’er so obediently.

Why was there such a foolish woman in this world?!

“I don’t want anything to happen to Jiang Ning,” Lin Yuzhen was silent for a while and there was a slightly worried look on her face. “As long as he’s fine, it doesn’t matter what happens to me.”

Long Ling’er felt like she was going mad.

She suddenly turned the steering wheel to exit the highway, accelerated hard then suddenly stepped on the brakes. The car screeched loudly and the wheels looked like they were giving off some smoke.

Lin Yuzhen paled a little.

She got a fright.

She placed a hand on her chest and breathed out slowly.

Actually she was terrified. She was feeling scared since she got the call from Long Ling'er.

She wasn't worried about herself. She was worried about Jiang Ning. She was really afraid that something would happen to him.

There were dangers hiding everywhere in the north. The more she found out about this region, the more Lin Yuzhen felt that coming up north might have been a mistake.

Even if Lin Group continued to develop only in Donghai or only in Shengcheng, she just wanted her family to be together and have Jiang Ning by her side.

But then she promised Jiang Ning before to become more outstanding and to work harder to help more people.

When she had to choose between helping others and Jiang Ning, Lin Yuzhen felt really upset.

"Can't you think about yourself for once?" Long Ling'er took a deep breath and started ranting like she was venting her anger. "You always either think about others or you think about Jiang Ning.

Can't you just think about yourself?"

"You're living for yourself! Not for others!"

"Can you stop being so kindhearted all the time?!"

She shouted away as her expression looked angry, anxious and frustrated at the same time.

It seemed like no matter how outstanding Long Ling'er was, she was always missing one thing when she compared herself to Lin Yuzhen, and that was the one thing that Jiang Ning liked about Lin Yuzhen.

"I just want to be myself," Lin Yuzhen replied softly. "Jiang Ning said I just need to be myself."

Jiang Ning said? Jiang Ning said again?! It was always whatever Jiang Ning said!



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Long Ling'er clutched at her hair and didn't know how to talk to Lin Yuzhen at all.

She was actually losing to such a woman. How was she supposed to admit defeat willingly?

In terms of family background, Long Ling'er was from the Long family, a family that was powerful enough to kill a hundred Lin families in seconds. When it came to talent, Long Ling'er was the legendary Corporate Goddess of the North who built an empire like Linglong Group from scratch. Lin Yuzhen's tiny Lin Group couldn't be compared to Linglong Group.

If you talked about looks or figure, she wasn't any less than Lin Yuzhen for sure.

But she had lost!

Jiang Ning protected Lin Yuzhen from all sides and held her in his hands. He used everything he had to protect her most pure and innocent side, and didn't even want to acknowledge Long Ling'er.

Long Ling'er had cried over this so many times now.

And now, she couldn't hold it in anymore either. She leaned against the steering wheel and started crying.

She just kept crying and didn't say anything.

Lin Yuzhen suddenly didn't know what to do.

She wanted to know what danger Jiang Ning was in and whether there was anything she could do. Even if she had to sacrifice herself, she was willing.

But she couldn't ask Long Ling'er in such a situation.

"Are you alright?"

A hand appeared at the steering wheel with a piece of tissue.

Lin Yuzhen had concern and worry in her voice as she said, "Don't cry anymore, alright?"

Long Ling'er looked up at the tissue in Lin Yuzhen's hand and pursed her lips tightly. She did have the urge to step on the accelerator as hard as she could and then just close her eyes earlier...

But she didn't dare to do that in the end.

When she looked at how Lin Yuzhen was so confused and was even worried about her, Long Ling'er suddenly straightened her thoughts out.

"Thank you."

Long Ling'er stopped crying. She took the tissue from Lin Yuzhen and wiped her tears.

"I told you Jiang Ning was in danger, but that was a lie," admitted Long Ling'er. "I was just jealous of you and didn't want you to meet with Jiang Ning."

And earlier...I even thought of killing you.”

“No you won’t.”

Why did she say this again? Long Ling’er felt like she was going mad.

Did Lin Yuzhen think that everyone in this world was as kindhearted and as bighearted as her?

How did such a naïve woman still exist in this world?

Long Ling’er looked at Lin Yuzhen for a full minute.

“I’ve finally figured out why Jiang Ning likes you so much, and why he tries so hard to protect you and prevent you from getting tainted by the world.”

There was a look of disappointment on her face, but she was also relieved that she said this out loud.

“Even though I’m indignant, you’re right. I won’t harm you. I can’t do it.”

Long Ling’er didn’t want to say anymore and was prepared to send Lin Yuzhen back to Jiang Ning.

Just as she was about to restart the car, there was a terrible booming sound.

The car shook violently and the two ladies in the car both screamed in shock.

BOOM!

BOOM!

Two more booms were heard.

Someone had bust the tires!

Long Ling'er got a shock. She looked up to see more than ten men run out from behind the trees.

Her face paled. The car couldn't move anymore!

"Run!"

It wasn't the first time Long Ling'er had run into a situation like this. But nobody knew that she had come outside today.

So these people who had followed her were clearly people with ill intentions!

She immediately undid her seatbelt and shouted, "They're bad guys, run!"

Long Ling'er immediately opened the car door and didn't have time to bother about Lin Yuzhen.

Lin Yuzhen took a while to understand what was going on. She tried to undo her seatbelt but it got stuck.

She started to panic and looked at the men running her way. She wasn't sure if she could get away.

Who were these people? They were running towards the car with vicious and murderous looking faces, and they...they were holding weapons!



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Lin Yuzhen's face instantly started to pale.

Danger loomed.

"Kill her!"

One of the men pointed at Long Ling'er who was trying to escape.

The men immediately split into two teams to surround Long Ling'er. They were already prepared to make sure Long Ling'er had no way out.

Long Ling'er began to panic when she realized that she was blocked on all sides.

These people were here to kill her.

She had many enemies, and the Long family had many enemies too. She had gone through many assassination attempts in the north since she was a child, but she never had to worry because she always had bodyguards to settle these people and protect her safety.

Many times, these dangers were all resolved before she even realized it.

But she had come out by herself today and purposely dodged all the bodyguards because she wanted to meet with Lin Yuzhen by herself. She didn't expect to be followed.

Since there was no way forward, Long Ling'er could only think of hiding in the car.

If she remained in that sheltered space, she would feel safer and there was a chance for her bodyguards to save her...

The moment they realized she was missing, they would definitely come running to look for her.

"Trying to escape? Where do you think you can go?" Wei Ming was wearing a mask and he scoffed coldly. "Miss Long, don't bother thinking so much about it. Nobody is going to save you today."

"I've already killed off all those bodyguards of yours on the way here."

Long Ling'er heart sank.

"Nobody in the Long family knows you came outside today, and even if they do, they'll only reach in time to collect your dead body." Wei Ming didn't seem to be in a hurry at all as he looked at how pale Long Ling'er's face was becoming. "Just obediently wait to die, you'd feel better that way."

"Who are you?!" Long Ling'er shouted as she leaned against the car door.

She looked at the masked men in front of her. She had never heard their voices before.

These weren't people from Linglong Group nor anyone she normally came in contact with.

Who was trying to kill her?

“Who we are isn't important. The important thing is who YOU are.” Wei Ming laughed coldly. “The Long family has been too domineering and too greedy, so they killed someone they shouldn't have and will have to pay dearly for this. Your life will only serve as a warning.”

He waved his hand. “Enough talking, let's send Miss Long on her way.”

One of them pulled a dagger out. Long Ling'er face paled and her palms were sweating.

“STOP IT!”

An effeminate but strangely determined and brave voice yelled out.

Lin Yuzhen ran out of the car and stood in front of Long Ling'er. She stared at Wei Ming and the men. “You can't kill her!”

Long Ling'er started tearing up when she saw Lin Yuzhen stand in front of her.

Why did Lin Yuzhen still try to protect her when she might die doing so?

Was she crazy?

Did she think that these assassins were just pretending? She might die!

“Oh there's one more.” Wei Ming narrowed his eyes slightly.

“Lin Yuzhen from Lin Group?”

“Lin Group and Linglong Group are rivals, right? So why are you protecting her?”

Lin Yuzhen clenched her teeth. “Because she’s innocent!”

Wei Ming burst out laughing loudly.

Innocent?

Everyone who died was innocent.

Perhaps everyone on this earth was innocent. But some people just deserved death. Not because they had done anything wrong, but their background and their identities alone was a sin that deserved death in itself!

“Move aside! Lin Yuzhen, move aside!” Long Ling’er yelled. “I don’t need you to protect me, so move aside!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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How could Long Ling'er allow a weak woman like Lin Yuzhen to stand in front of her and protect her?

Long Ling'er's voice cracked as she yelled at Lin Yuzhen.

But Lin Yuzhen refused to move. She stretched her arms out and continued to stand there.

"Lin Yuzhen, you're wrong. She's not innocent at all," said Wei Ming. "When this woman started Linglong Group, she did a lot of bad things. She snatched and cheated others of their things and caused the death of a lot of people too. As long as anyone is in her way or in the Long family's way, those people would be wiped out."

"Did you think Linglong Group could become what it is today because she did business legally and ethically?" Wei Ming's vice was dripping with sarcasm.

He glanced at Long Ling'er and the murder in his eyes was boiling. "Nobody who stands to benefit from Linglong Group has clean hands!"

Long Ling'er's face was completely pale now. She felt like someone had pulled off all her layers of hypocrisy and now her entire body was cold, as if a chilly wind was blowing.

She had tried to maintain her own image as much as possible in front of Lin Yuzhen, but she felt like she was standing naked in front of her now.

“So, do you still want to save her?” Wei Ming looked cheekily at Lin Yuzhen.

“Yes, I still want to save her.” Lin Yuzhen didn’t need to think about it at all and her voice remained determined. “She has done wrong and might even really deserve to die. But the ones who should be killing her are not you guys, so I won’t let any of you hurt her!”

“HAHAHAHA!”

Wei Ming felt like he had heard the biggest joke in his life. It sounded funny to him, but there was also a strange feeling in his heart.

For that one moment, he didn’t want to kill Lin Yuzhen anymore.

But it was just for that one moment. His heart had grown cold a long time ago.

“Too bad, I’m not only going to kill her today, I’m going to kill you too!”

Wei Ming’s gaze went back to its usual icy and unfeeling state. He waved his hands and shouted, “Attack!”

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

Three men with daggers ran over and sealed off the only route of escape the two ladies had.

If those sharp blades came towards Lin Yuzhen and slashed her throat, she would definitely die!

But she was still standing there!

She was still standing in front of Long Ling'er. Even if she had to die, she still wanted to protect Long Ling'er.

Long Ling'er started sobbing miserably as she grabbed the door handle tightly. There was no more fear in her heart. She only felt apologetic towards Lin Yuzhen, ashamed of herself, and immense regret...

WOOSH!

WOOSH!

WOOSH!

A few rocks suddenly came flying out from nowhere.

They landed accurately on the hands of the three men, causing them to drop the daggers in their hands and they clanged loudly onto the ground.

Wei Ming's expression changed and he quickly turned around to see a face coming towards them like a wild beast, and the murderous air coming out from this man was beyond his imagination.

“All of you are asking for it!” Jiang Ning roared and his eyes blazed. He made a beeline for the men and reached them in an instant.

He was like a mad dragon that had emerged from the sea and caused the waves to rise by ten thousand feet!

Jiang Ning was now like an angry dragon. He was incredibly fast and ferocious, and nobody knew what to do at all.

All the men felt that even their souls were trembling when Jiang Ning stared at them.

They were all rooted to the ground.

Wei Ming froze for just one instant, but by the time he snapped out of it, Jiang Ning was right in front of him.

BOOM...

One punch!

Jiang Ning didn't do anything else. He just sent one punch out and Wei Ming's eyes narrowed violently.

He could feel that even though Jiang Ning's fists seemed to move slowly, they were really moving as quickly as lightning.

BAM!

Wei Ming reacted instinctively by placing both hands in front of him and took Jiang Ning's punch directly.

At the same time, he didn't hesitate any longer. He stepped lightly on the ground and quickly moved back to soften the impact of Jiang Ning's punch. He suddenly realized that this punch was a really scary one. If he hadn't defended himself, he would be hurt by now.

But Wei Ming's expression suddenly changed.

He managed to redirect the impact of Jiang Ning's fists, but when Jiang Ning's fist landed on his arms, he suddenly felt that the fists that didn't seem to land very hard on him was able to unleash a force that hit him in waves. Wave after wave crashed against his arms.

CRAAACK!

CRAAAAACK!

"AHH!!" Wei Ming exclaimed loudly. The bones in his arms cracked loudly and were broken from the impact.

He paled even more and started moving backwards even more quickly than before. But Jiang Ning wasn't letting him off.

"Still trying to run?" Jiang Ning bellowed as he sent another punch out. "Anyone who tries to kill my woman is doomed to die!"



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This punch was even faster than the last.

Even stronger!

Even fiercer!

Even more domineering!

PAK!

The punch landed hard on Wei Ming's chest and his chest caved in instantly. Wei Ming was like a kite whose string had broken as he flew several feet out and crashed onto the ground. He opened his mouth only to spew blood.

His face was already pale and his eyes were filled with fear.

This man was terrifying!

When did the north have such a terrifying fighter?

He fell to the ground and his mask fell off. His hair was disheveled and his lips were covered in blood. He looked warily at Jiang Ning and took a deep breath even though his rib cage was already all broken. The fear and shock in his eyes only continued to grow.

"You...you were the one who killed Master Zaishan?"

Wei Ming suddenly realized this.

He had checked Chang Zaishan's body before. He had a total of eighteen broken bones.

All his bones had been broken by brute force, and didn't this young man just display a boxing technique that was vicious and domineering enough to achieve this?

The more shocking part was how Chang Zaishan's internal organs had also been turned to mostly mush. How frightening were Jiang Ning's fists?!

"Jiang Ning!"

When Lin Yuzhen saw how Jiang Ning had fought like an angry dragon, Lin Yuzhen was really scared. She didn't expect any of this to happen and realized that she might have never seen Jiang Ning again.

Long Ling'er had collapsed on the ground and lost all her energy from being too frightened.

She had seen how Jiang Ning had become like a ferocious dragon in order to save Lin Yuzhen. The fury and murder on his face was all for Lin Yuzhen.

"Kill him!"

The other men were shocked that Wei Ming had failed to hold up against even one move and had been severely injured. He was the most powerful one among them.

But they couldn't think too much about this now. If

they didn't kill Jiang Ning, they couldn't kill Long Ling'er and Lin Yuzhen. That meant that they would have failed the mission Chang Zaiyuan gave them and that was a crime punishable by death!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

SWOOSH!

The rest of them ran towards Jiang Ning but they were sent flying at an even faster speed and died on the spot.

Jiang Ming didn't hold back at all. His iron fists sent blast after blast into the air.

Wei Ming's heart nearly dropped every time Jiang Ning delivered a punch.

He was nearing despair.

"An advanced grandmaster...no! Higher than that..." Wei Ming's lips trembled. He suddenly understood how someone as powerful as Chang Zaishan had been beaten so soundly and had died so miserably.

His opponent was too frightening!

Was there anyone in the north who could stand up against someone as strong as Jiang Ning?

Wei Ming immediately thought of a few people,

but these were old fellows who hadn't fought in many years now...so they might not be able to either!

"Who...who on earth are you?!" shouted Wei Ming as he clutched his chest and watched Jiang Ning walk towards him.

CRAAAACK!

Jiang Ning couldn't be bothered with him. He aimed his punch straight for Wei Ming's head.

"Dead people don't have to know!"

The fury on his face had not subsided. Whoever tried to attack Lin Yuzhen deserved to die and there was no room for negotiation.

He was like that invincible God of War he was back then.

If a god came for him, he would kill him. If a demon came for him, he would kill him too!

Whoever dared to hurt the woman he loved the most was doomed to die. Jiang Ning didn't care even if you were god!

The air was filled with the terrible stench of blood. When the wind blew, the smell made one feel like vomiting.

Lin Yuzhen's face was pale as she stood in front of the car and didn't dare to move.

This was the first time she had seen Jiang Ning so violent and so unhinged.

And this was all because those people wanted to kill her.

Lin Yuzhen trembled and bit her lip hard when she saw Jiang Ning walk towards her.

She said in a very soft voice, "I...I'm s-sorry..."

She didn't listen to Jiang Ning and didn't wait obediently for him at the airport. Instead she had left with Long Ling'er and even kept this a secret from Jiang Ning.

And she nearly lost her life as a result.

Jiang Ning said that he never wanted her to come to any harm, but she didn't listen to him.

He was definitely angry this time.

Judging from his expression, he was probably more than angry.

"I..."

Before Lin Yuzhen could finish saying what she wanted to, Jiang Ning pulled her into his arms.

He said in a low voice, "You really frightened me to death!"



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His voice trembled slightly because he was so afraid.

He was afraid that he would lose Lin Yuzhen.

Jiang Ning was too tough to be frightened by anyone else in the world. But if anything happened to Lin Yuzhen, he would really go mad.

Lin Yuzhen was stunned for a moment, then reached out to hug him too. She whispered into his ear, "I'm sorry, I was in the wrong. I won't make you so worried again."

She knew how much Jiang Ning cared for her.

Jiang Ning was already tearing up.

After a long time, Jiang Ning let go of Lin Yuzhen and looked at this woman who made him worried and angry at the same time.

He wanted to lose his temper but couldn't get a single word out.

"As long as you're alright."

He then turned to glare at Long Ling'er. His gaze immediately turned icy cold and his chilling stare made Long Ling'er feel cold all over even as she stood up.

Why did Jiang Ning look so frighteningly at her?

Why would he look at her like that?!

“Jiang Ning...”

“This is my first and last warning to you! You’d better not have any funny ideas about Yuzhen! If you dare to even hurt a strand of hair on her head, I won’t be kind, not even to you!”

Jiang Ning’s words instantly shattered Long Ling’er’s heart.

He...he was giving her a warning?

He was warning her because of Lin Yuzhen?

Long Ling’er was sure that if she had really brought harm upon Lin Yuzhen, Jiang Ning would kill her without hesitation.

He...could bear to kill her?

She looked at Jiang Ning and tears streamed down her face. She was on the verge of breaking down.

She had waited and looked forward to seeing Jiang Ning again for fifteen years in hope of seeing the way he used to look gently at her.

But Jiang Ning now even wanted to kill her.

He had eyes for nobody else but Lin Yuzhen. His heart only had space for her.

Long Ling’er bit her lip and tried her best not to cry, but the tears refused to listen to her and rolled

down her cheeks.

Her heart was completely broken.

She even started to wonder if the man standing before her was really Jiang Ning.

Was he still the one who used to make her laugh, willing to take a hit for her and always took care of her?

It seemed like it really was him, but he was no longer the same as before.

They had all grown up and they had both changed.

Jiang Ning had become more mature and clearer on what he liked and what he wanted. But what about her?

She seemed to have lost herself.

“Jiang Ning...”

Lin Yuzhen felt bad when she saw how miserably Long Ling'er was crying and didn't want to see her so sad.

“Let's go.” Jiang Ning didn't care and didn't want to give Long Ling'er even a glimmer of hope. He didn't care if she hated him.

He took Lin Yuzhen's hand and walked off without looking back at her.

Jiang Ning and Lin Yuzhen soon disappeared into the distance. Long Ling'er couldn't hold it in any longer. She sat on the ground, buried her face in her knees and cried miserably.

She didn't blame Jiang Ning and didn't blame Lin Yuzhen either. She only blamed herself for throwing herself away over the past few years. She had thrown away the part of herself that Jiang Ning liked.

Long Ling'er's tears flowed like a river. She looked like a little girl who had lost the thing that was most important to her. She looked both upset and distraught.

Some men from the Long family appeared soon after.

After they realized that Long Ling'er had dodged the bodyguards, the family immediately sent others to track her down.

It wasn't hard for them to track down anybody in the north.

When they saw the ground strewn with dead bodies and how terribly they died, even these men felt fearful. They had seen all sorts of things in life but even this scene made them pale in the face.

"Young Master Long, they're all dead. They all died with one punch to the heart!"

After checking all the bodies, the conclusion they

came to terrified even themselves.

Long Fei stood there and frowned slightly. There was a grim look on his manly face.

“Who are they?”

“One of them is Wei Ming, personal bodyguard of the head of the Chang family, Chang Zaiyuan. The rest of the men should be his subordinates.”

“The Chang family.” Long Fei narrowed his eyes. As the eldest son of a supremely powerful family, he wasn’t spoiled like the sons of other powerful families who were usually playful, hated to work and only cared about enjoying themselves. Instead, he was more hardworking and put in more effort than anybody else.

That was because he knew that if he wasn’t capable enough, there was no way he would be able to control a supremely powerful family like the Long family in the future.

He never expected that a lowly family like the Chang family had actually dared to assassinate his younger sister. Were they tired of living?!



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“Clear all the dead bodies and make sure nobody leaks what happened. Anyone who goes against my orders shall die!”

“Yes, Young Master Long.”

Long Fei walked over to Long Ling'er and squatted down in front of her. He reached a hand out to gently pat her back. “Ling'er, everything's fine now, don't be scared.”

Long Ling'er continued to cry and didn't even look up.

“Come along now, I'll take you home.”

Long Fei stretched a hand out and helped Long Ling'er to her feet. He looked at her red eyes and dejected expression. She didn't look like she was crying from being scared by an assassination attempt. It was some other reason.

He didn't ask. He knew that if she didn't want to talk about it, there was no point in asking her.

He drove Long Ling'er home and she didn't say a single word on the way back. She just looked out of the window and cried silently, making Long Fei feel bad for her as well.

Long Fei sent Long Ling'er back to her own room. He instructed the servants to take good care of her and went to the main hall.

Long Xiang had been waiting there for a long time.

“How’s Ling’er?” Long Xiang looked up at Long Fei.
“Is she injured?”

“No, she’s not injured,” Long Fei shook his head.
“But maybe she’s hurt.”

Long Xiang frowned and didn’t understand what Long Fei was talking about.

“But that doesn’t matter. I’ll ask Ling’er when she’s willing to talk.”

Long Fei didn’t want to spend too much time on this matter. He was the only one who dared to speak like this to Long Xiang in the Long family. Even his uncles had to be polite to Long Xiang.

“Who did this?”

“The Chang family.” Long Fei’s eyes grew cold.
“One of the corpses at the scene was Wei Ming, personal bodyguard to the head of the Chang family, Chang Zaiyuan. My men have confirmed that the rest are all from the Chang family.”

“The Chang family is really bold!” Long Xiang fumed. “They dared to even try killing my daughter!”

The Chang family was a first tier powerful family and normally kept a low profile. They never had any feud or disagreement with the four supremely powerful families.

They also didn’t have any direct conflicts of

interests with the Long family. So why did they suddenly try to assassinate Long Ling'er?

They had sent so many people after her as well. That meant that they were bent on killing her.

Long Xiang started to get angry and felt the urge to retaliate and wipe out the Chang family immediately.

But he knew that this first tier family was not so simple. They were much tougher than they looked on the surface, and weren't easy to deal with.

"I feel that it's more important to find out why the Chang family tried to kill Ling'er," said Long Fei. "Dad, is the Chang family trying to become one of the supremely powerful families?"

"I don't know, I don't have any information on this. But even if they do, they wouldn't say anything and only work in secret."

Who didn't want to become a supremely powerful family?

That would make them a family that stood at the top and controlled a massive amount of resources, status, power and wealth.

But there were only so few vacancies. If anyone wanted to become part of the four supremely powerful families, they had to kill one of the existing ones off first.

“And even if they wanted to replace the Long family, did they think that killing Ling’er would make that happen?” Long Xiang’s expression was still murderous. “The future head of the family is you. Killing Ling’er will not mean anything to them.”

This matter was becoming weirder and weirder.

The Long family and the Chang family never had any feud both in the past and now. So why did the Chang family want to kill Long Ling’er? And Chang Zaiyuan had actually sent his personal bodyguard to get this done.

How confident must he have been? Either he would manage to kill Long Ling’er, or he would be exposed as the mastermind behind the killing.

“Let’s not think about this first. I think matters have become more complicated than we imagined,” Long Fei shook his head. “I fear that someone else is involved in this.”

Just the scene of the assassination attempt alone was suspicious. How did Wei Ming and the other men die so cruelly? That wasn’t something an ordinary highly skilled fighter was able to do.

Even Long Fei himself wasn’t confident of being able to do that. How many people in the north would be able to do that?

Also, Long Ling’er had been crying miserably from the time he found her all the way till they reached home. She was crying because she was sad and

not because she was scared. She must have seen someone who meant something to her.

But who could have made her so sad?

“How’s Ling’er?” asked Long Xiang out of concern.

“She’s not in a very good condition and she keeps crying,” Long Fei sighed. “Dad, I think she’s no longer able to continue taking charge of Linglong Group in this state, so let her rest at home.”

“I’ll take over Linglong Group.”



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Long Xiang looked at his son. After thinking about it, he nodded in agreement.

“I’ll be counting on you then.”

Long Ling’er was no longer suitable to remain in Linglong Group. She wasn’t able to take control of such a huge corporation, and continuing to do so would only make her more tired.

She might even run into danger again.

Long Xiang didn’t want to see something like that happen again.

“The situation in the north has changed and Linglong Group is a mess. It will be very hard to take everything back and make it belong to the Long family alone,” said Long Fei. “But I will try my best to get rid of everyone who has nothing to do with us!”

“In everything you do, proceed with caution.”

“As for the Chang family...”

Long Fei frowned a little.

He had to be very careful about this.

The Chang family wasn’t an ordinary powerful family. Even though the Chang family was classified as a first tier family, they were actually not far off from a supremely powerful family.

Chang Zaishan was very capable and was obsessed with martial arts. He was extremely famous in the upper circles of the north.

Most people weren't willing to provoke him at all. Also, nobody had any news about Chang Zaifeng for so long.

The more secretive things were in the family, the more wary others became of them.

The head of the family, Chang Zaiyuan, normally looked like a gentle and studious person. But since he was able to lead the Chang family and maintained their position in the north for so many years, Long Fei didn't think he was really a meek and gentle person.

"Just watch them closely first. Once we get a chance, we can attack them," replied Long Xiang seriously.

It was important to be cautious around such a family, particularly when the situation was very complicated now.

Nobody could tell for sure what was really going on and the waters of the north were getting cloudier and cloudier. There was also no movement from the other three supremely powerful families.

That made him worry the most.

The Long family had become everyone's enemy

for no reason, so they really had to tread cautiously.

On the other side of things.

Lin Yuzhen looked like a child who had done something wrong. She sat on the sofa with her knees together and her hands on her knees. She bent her head and didn't say anything.

She was going to quietly allow Jiang Ning to scold her.

But Jiang Ning couldn't bear to scold her at all.

But this time she had really run into danger. If he was late by just one second, Lin Yuzhen would have died!

"I know I was wrong," Lin Yuzhen said quietly. "Don't be angry anymore, ok?"

"Or why don't you scold me? Or hit me?"

She looked up at Jiang Ning with a serious look on her face. "I won't protest, you can go ahead and discipline me."

Jiang Ning scoffed and raised his hand. Lin Yuzhen immediately shut her eyes, but Jiang Ning's hand only gently landed on her face to caress it.

"I can't bear to," said Jiang Ning. "Wifey, I can't even bear to scold you, how do you expect me to

hit you?"

"But I have to make this very clear. I got really angry this time, ok?"

"I know, and I know I was in the wrong. Hubby, I'm sorry."

Lin Yuzhen's eyes started tearing up and she stretched her arms out.

Jiang Ning didn't know what else to say. He sighed and pulled her into his embrace.

The wolves were standing some distance away and they had mixed feelings in their heart.

"I thought Big Boss was going to lose his temper, but in the end we had to watch them being all loving like they always are," Number 5 remarked enviously. "Sometimes I wish I was a woman too. It must feel nice to be protected."

"Oh please. With this face of yours, I'm afraid Big Boss probably felt like wringing your neck the first time he saw you."

"Number 6, are you picking a fight again?"

"If not?"

The two of them started fighting again.

Brother Gou waved the rest of them over.

“The north is very complicated, so even if Big Boss is around, any two of you have to protect Boss Yuzhen round the clock, understand?”

“Don’t worry, we’ll protect Boss Yuzhen’s safety even if it costs us our life.”

Brother Gou nodded and looked over at Number 5 and Number 6. “Not those two. They’re better at killing people.”



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