



Chapter 721 The Big Chess Game of the North

How did Donghai suddenly rise to become a forbidden territory? How did Lin Group, a company on the verge of bankruptcy, suddenly rise up in Donghai and become a company that was strong enough to fight against Linglong Group?

It was clear that the Long family was backing Lin Group and using it to get rid of all their rivals for them!

If anyone still couldn't see this clearly now, then they must be stupid.

The Long family really played a good game this time round!

“What are we going to do now?”

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The heads of the six powerful families looked at each other. They had to do something. If the Long family wanted to attack them, they couldn't just sit around and wait to die.

Impossible.

How many generations of hard work, effort, resources and money had it taken for their families to survive thus far and become a second tier family?

This wasn't something they were willing to give up easily.

Especially for these six who were about to reach the first tier. They



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could only advance and could not afford to move backwards at all.

“Even a rabbit bites back when provoked! So what if they’re a supremely powerful family?” one of them scoffed loudly. “Even the supremely powerful families aren’t friends with one another, right?”

What he was trying to say was that they should seek protection.

If the waters of the north were going to be stirred up, it would bring a lot of risks, but it would also present many opportunities.

All of them looked at one another and reached a decision. At a



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precarious time like this, they had to unite and move as one in order to survive this ordeal.

It wasn't just them. There were people moving around secretly all over the north.

The information they had was classified and came out from an extremely well hidden channel, so nobody could prove that this information was real. But at the same time, nobody could prove that it was false either.

All of the powerful families, regardless of whether they were third tier, second tier, even first tier and even the supremely powerful ones



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were at their highest level of alertness when they found out about this.

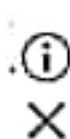
Even though nobody talked about this openly, everyone knew that there was no smoke without fire.

The atmosphere in the north was instantly different from before.

Almost everyone's attention was on the Long family. They were carefully watching everything the Long family did, including Long Ling'er.

Over at Linglong Group.

Long Ling'er stood in front of the window wall. She never expected



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things to turn out like this.

The unexpected change in the situation made the Long family the center of the whirlpool all of a sudden.

“Is Jiang Ning behind this?” Long Ling’er frowned. “That’s impossible. He wouldn’t have the power to go through that sort of classified channel. The only people with access to that channel are the supremely powerful families.”

“The Jiang family?” She shook her head again. “That’s out of the question. Father and son are enemies and get angry when they see each other. And why would the

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Jiang family do such a thing anyway?”

Even Long Ling'er wasn't sure who could have done something like this.

Now everyone out there thought that the Long family was behind this and they were trying to get rid of their opponents.

This was bad news.

RIIING...

Long Ling'er's phone rang. She looked at the caller and frowned slightly as she picked it up quickly.

“Dad.”

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“Where are you? Come home now.”

Long Xiang’s voice sounded a little stuffy and fairly stern. He hung up immediately after saying those two sentences.

It was clear that this information wasn’t a good sign to the Long family either.

Out of all the supremely powerful families, the Long family had amassed the greatest amount of power. That was because the one in control of this huge corporation, Linglong Group, was Long Ling’er, a member of the Long family.

Long Ling’er didn’t hesitate and went

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back to the Long house immediately.

The head of the Long family, Long Xiang, as well as all the important members of the family were all present in the hall.

Long Ling'er only saw these other family members at their annual ancestral rituals. Since they were all gathered here today, things had gotten even more serious than she had imagined.

"Sit." Long Xiang glanced at his daughter.

Long Ling'er didn't say anything and sat at her allocated seat. Many of them looked towards her. She

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nodded slightly and that was enough as a greeting.

“Everyone,” Long Xiang looked around at everyone and his voice was solemn. “I’m sure you’ve heard the news that leaked this morning.”

Everyone present had a stern expression on their faces and they all nodded slightly.

“This big chess game of the north has been set!”



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Chapter 722 We Are Pawns Too

A big chess game!

The north had now become a huge chess game, and all the powers in the north were on the chessboard.

How much effort had this taken?

But nobody had realized this was happening until this news was suddenly leaked and caught everyone off guard.

Long Xiang's expression was stern and his voice was low. He had never been so somber before.

"But, we are pawns in this game too!"

The next thing he said made

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everyone's expression as stern as his.

The implications of these words were tremendous and they were difficult to bear.

If a supremely powerful family like the Long family, the family with the most consolidated power, had become a pawn, then how terrifying was the person who set up the chess game?

"This is a really huge effort," Long Xiang frowned. Even though the Long family was part of this mess, he couldn't help but admire this person. "I don't know who was incredible enough to actually even make the



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Long family part of this without us knowing. Before this, I would have never thought that something like that could happen.”

He had been watching the north very closely. Even the slightest movement wouldn't escape his eye.

He wasn't the only one watching either. There were so many others keeping an eye on things every single day like him.

One needed this sort of vigilance and observant skills in order to survive in the north. You had to notice a problem as early as possible and nip it in the bud before the problem grew bigger.



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Chapter 722 We Are Pawns Too

But before anyone had realized anything, someone had already set up this huge chess game of the north.

The Long family was a pawn along with everyone else.

“Where does the information come from?” asked one of them.

“Nobody knows, it’s a very well hidden channel. Even I don’t know at the moment.” Long Xiang scoffed. “Did you think someone capable of doing something like this would reveal himself so easily?”

“But there’s one thing I’m sure of. The person behind all of this must be



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hiding inside one of the supremely powerful families!”

His words made everyone wary.

The north had only four supremely powerful families. Besides the Long family, there was the Pang family, the Xue family and the Jiang family.

All these years, the Pang family kept a low profile. The Xue family and Jiang family had a marriage of convenience many years back, but the two families didn't seem to be any closer even after more than a decade.

And so these families were even more suspicious!



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“Can’t we clarify our stand?” someone else asked. “Even though we don’t have to be bothered by a bunch of second tier families, things might get tricky if others continue to misunderstand us.”

“Clarify our stand? Do you think anyone will believe us?” scoffed Long Xiang.

It was hard to see anything on this already messy chessboard. But the moment someone was singled out and labeled as the mastermind, the chessboard instantly came to life and it would become more dangerous and unpredictable.

Any of the pawns could suddenly be

Chapter 722 We Are Pawns Too

eliminated, and even the Long family was no exception.

“Alright now, I don’t have to say anymore. I called everyone here today because I want to tell you to be on your guard from today onwards.” He said in a loud voice, “Especially those who have important positions in Linglong Group. All of you had better be careful in the things you say and the things you do, understand?”

“Yes, Master Long,” everyone replied in unison.

He turned to look at Long Ling’er and said, “Ling’er, Linglong Group is too large and it’s not just a trump card for

Chapter 722 We Are Pawns Too

the family, but more of a burden. Do you understand what I'm trying to say?"

"I understand," Long Ling'er nodded. "I know what to do."

"That's good." Long Xiang nodded and got up.

He didn't want to say too much. There was no point in saying too much at this juncture. The chess game was going to keep changing, and they would just have to keep adapting along the way.

Everyone else left and only Long Ling'er was still in the hall.

Chapter 722 We Are Pawns Too

“You have something to tell me?”
Long Xiang was about to leave the hall when Long Ling’er called out to him.

“Yes,” Long Ling’er nodded. She waited until everyone had left before whispering to her father, “Dad, there are a few members of the Long family who have too much involvement in Linglong Group. On top of that, they’re also very closely connected to some people from other families. I don’t think this is a good sign.”

Long Xiang frowned. “Are you talking about your Third Uncle?”

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Chapter 723 Full On Attack of Lin Group

Long Ling'er nodded.

“Alright, I got it. Just do what you need to do properly.” Long Xiang didn't say too much. He turned and left, but after a few steps, he turned and looked at Long Ling'er. “Protect yourself well. Nobody should stand on the sidelines in this storm, you understand?”

He then walked off and left Long Ling'er all by herself in the empty hall. She looked around at the now empty seats.

How many of those people sitting in these seats earlier were truly working for the sake of the Long family?

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Long Ling'er didn't know. She didn't even know what her own father, the current head of the Long family, thought about either.

Living in this sort of family only made her feel drained and exhausted.

The worse it was for her, the more she envied Lin Yuzhen.

Lin Yuzhen was probably able to just lean on Jiang Ning's shoulder right now. No matter how intense the storm outside got and no matter what was ahead of her, Jiang Ning would always be by her side to protect her and stand up for her.

Long Ling'er sighed and didn't say

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anything. She got up and returned to the office.

Now that something so big had happened, she had to watch over Linglong Group and make sure that everything was running normally.

The moment she reached the office, Liu Hong was walking out with a few others. He immediately put a big smile on his face when he saw Long Ling'er and greeted her, "Hello, Miss Long!"

Long Ling'er nodded slightly. She didn't say anything and went upstairs.

Given Liu Hong's position, she might

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not remember his name even.

Liu Hong's eyes sparkled brightly as he saw Long Ling'er walk away.

"Director Liu, this Long family..." whispered Cheng Feng, who was next to Liu Hong.

"Shush!" Liu Hong scoffed. "The information might not be true."

"But Lin Group has already gotten the approval documents for checkpoint in Jiebei, so they're left with only the last two gantries. I'm afraid that things might get troublesome."

Cheng Feng didn't look too good.

Chapter 723 Full On Attack of Lin Group

So many people were watching them now because he was the one who provided Lin Group with the raw materials and Liu Hong was connected to this matter as well.

If Lin Group managed to enter the northern market successfully, then they would have been a great help to Lin Group instead.

But in reality, they were hoping to lay a trap for Lin Group. Nobody expected something like this to happen at all. If Lin Group succeeded, then they would immediately become the public enemy of the north!

Even the gods wouldn't be able to



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save them.

“Don’t worry, Lin Group can’t get into the north. Definitely not!”

Liu Hong clenched his teeth. He was cursing angrily in his heart too. He was so confident of winning and he had used a method that was definitely going to work. But in the end something like this happened. If it was really the Long family behind all of it...

If the Long family was really the ones controlling Lin Group to act as an enemy so as to clean out all their opponents, then things were really going to get tricky.



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Chapter 723 Full On Attack of Lin Group

Once Lin Group entered the north, how many of them would perish?

Either way, Liu Hong was doomed.

He took a deep breath and smiled coldly. “Even if Lin Group is really backed by the Long family, did you think the others would just sit there and watch the Long family become even stronger all by themselves?”

“Did you think the other supremely powerful families would sit there and do nothing? The waters of the north have been thoroughly stirred up, so nobody can pretend to be just an onlooker anymore!”

“The last two gantries will definitely



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Chapter 723 Full On Attack of Lin Group

go all out and launch a full on attack of Lin Group!” said Liu Hong through clenched teeth with a threatening expression on his face.

Lin Group must never, ever enter the north!

He wasn't just doing this from the standpoint of Linglong Group anymore. He was going to attack Lin Group to guard their own benefits and to go up against their actual enemy.

Even if this enemy was already in the north and right next to them.

Even if they used to be friends!



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Chapter 723 Full On Attack of Lin Group

The atmosphere in the north had become very strange and nobody knew what would happen next. There was nothing else anyone could do besides being extra careful and try their best to protect their own benefits.

“That’s right! Lin Group has to go down! Then the Long family...” Cheng Feng gulped. He still had other questions but he was afraid he might say the wrong thing, so he didn’t continue.

He couldn’t simply say anything he wanted when it came to that level of power.

But he had become very anxious,

Chapter 723 Full On Attack of Lin Group

nervous and uneasy inside. If all the supremely powerful families were involved in this mess, then one wave would be enough to kill a tiny shrimp like him in seconds.

“Alright now, don’t look for me or follow me around for the time being!” Liu Hong scoffed. “I’m going to look for someone and straighten things out. I’ll update you if I get any clues. For now, help me keep an eye on that Lin Group, you hear me?”

“Got it!”



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Liu Hong couldn't be bothered with Cheng Feng and the rest. He hopped into his own car and left quickly.

He had to find someone to ask what on earth was going on in the north.

Everyone wanted to know what was going on, and everyone wanted to know what sort of decisions they should make in the secret.

At the same time.

Jiang Ning was having a video call with Lin Yuzhen.

He hadn't seen her in two days and he missed her dearly.

Chapter 724 Which One First?

“Wifey, it’s so boring here. Li Dong is a terrible fellow, bringing me out to drink every single day. If you don’t come soon, I’m going to pick up a lot of nasty habits.”

Jiang Ning looked all sad and upset.

Lin Yuzhen couldn’t help but laugh. She didn’t believe what Jiang Ning said at all.

“Do girls come with the drinks?”

“Of course! There were so many ladies but I rejected them outright and refused to let them come anywhere near me,” replied Jiang Ning very seriously. “I’m a married man!”

Chapter 724 Which One First?

“Alright, alright, I got it. I’ll reward you when I see you,” Lin Yuzhen waved her hands. “I’m very busy now so I’ll talk to you another time. If everything goes well, you’ll be able to see me in another two days’ time.”

She was really very busy. She gave Jiang Ning a flying kiss and hung up.

Li Dong was standing not too far off and felt like crying.

He had never brought Jiang Ning to those sorts of places! Brother Ning had really thrown him into the deep end!

“Brother Ning, CEO Lin will dock my pay for this!”

Chapter 724 Which One First?

“You don’t understand Big Boss,” said Brother Gou. “If you take the rap for him, the reward you get from him will be more than the cut in your pay.”

After that, he turned and said, “Since Boss Yuzhen says she’s coming up north in two days, does that mean we should make our move?”

Everyone had a stern expression when it came to serious business.

They had taken down three gantries now.

The biggest headache was the last two gantries in the north. Once they took these two down, then Lin Yuzhen’s team could bring the goods



Chapter 724 Which One First?

up north and into the northern market.

Two days was quite tight, but still sufficient.

They had already gotten news that the controllers of the last two cities, Linshan and Bei'an, were at maximum security levels now.

They couldn't do much in terms of the legal part. After all, the earthquake that shook Jiebei had just happened not too long ago, and everyone thought that the Long family was behind it.

The Wu family and the Zhou family, two first tier families, didn't dare to



Chapter 724 Which One First?

challenge the Long family no matter how bold they were.

The only thing they could do was to use the illegal circle to kill off Lin Group.

In just one day, they had gathered more than a dozen highly skilled fighters. There was even news that there were other families secretly supporting these two families because they wanted to make sure that Lin Group died at these two gantries and wouldn't be able to enter the north.

They were cruel and domineering.

Many people out there all thought



Chapter 724 Which One First?

that Lin Group was backed by the Long family, and even thought that the forbidden territory of Donghai had become so powerful because the Long family supported them.

Nobody tried to clear up this misunderstanding and it wasn't possible to either. Only time would tell. The more anybody tried to defend themselves, the more suspicious they became.

Jiang Ning had spent a lot of time and effort in setting all of this up. Huang Yuming had come to the north a few months back to coordinate efforts with Fei. Now, everything had officially begun!

Chapter 724 Which One First?

“Two days?” Jiang Ning frowned slightly and shook his head.

He had to wait another two days before he could get to see his wife?

That was ridiculous!

He stood up and looked at Brother Gou. “Tonight!”

“Tonight?” Brother Gou was a little stunned and didn’t understand.

“I want to see Yuzhen tomorrow,” said Jiang Ning.

“Got it!” Brother Gou instantly understood.

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Chapter 724 Which One First?

Jiang Ning didn't care about this Wu family or Zhou family. All he cared about was when he could see Lin Yuzhen.

Once they took down the gantries, Lin Yuzhen could bring the entire batch of new products up north and he would get to see her.

"So...which one first?" asked Brother Gou after pausing for a while.

But this time, Jiang Ning didn't have to answer. Brother Gou already knew the answer. "I'll get it arranged now."

Since Jiang Ning wanted to see Lin Yuzhen as soon as possible, they had to take the two gantries down as

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Chapter 724 Which One First?

quickly as possible. So of course they were going to...take them down at the same time!

Brother Gou immediately left to arrange things.

After following Jiang Ning for so long, he knew very well that the love Jiang Ning had for Lin Yuzhen was beyond normal human comprehension.

Since Jiang Ning wanted to see Lin Yuzhen, there was no way he was going to wait for two more days.

Nobody would have imagined that Jiang Ning was crazy enough to take both gantries down at the same time.



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Chapter 724 Which One First?



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The Zhou family and the Wu family controlled one gantry each.

Right now, they weren't fighting for themselves anymore. They were just trying to protect their interests. And the Lin Group they were up against might very well be the Long family.

The heads of both families, Zhou Shen and Wu Hongwei were seated across from one another.

They didn't look worried at all.

"Besides the skilled fighters I've arranged for, I also have six more external sources of help," said Wu Hongwei calmly. "Even if a supremely powerful family wants to attack me,

Chapter 725 Maximum Security

they'll have to weigh the consequences carefully first!"

If they were up against only the gantry that the Wu family guarded, then that wouldn't be much a problem. But now they were up against two. As long as they failed to take down either one, they would have lost.

Zhou Shen laughed. "I didn't expect Lin Group to be backed by the Long family. It's really a surprise to me."

"Are you surprised?" Wu Hongwei shook his head. "I'm not surprised at all."

"I already guessed that Donghai must

Chapter 725 Maximum Security

have been able to rise so suddenly because they were backed by one of the supremely powerful families in the north. Otherwise, who could become so strong?"

He scoffed. He already had his suspicions when Shengcheng went through a major overhaul and Broken Sword had killed his way through the north.

There were so many signs pointing to the Long family as the mastermind.

They probably wanted to fully take control of Linglong Group.

They wanted to keep all the benefits



Chapter 725 Maximum Security

for themselves.

They wanted to get rid of all their opponents and become the most powerful of the supremely powerful families?

“Too bad, they’re going to fall in our hands!”

Zhou Shen and Wu Hongwei both burst out laughing loudly.

Who still couldn’t figure out what the Long family was trying to do by now?

They were clearly using Lin Group to clear out all the threats within Linglong Group. They were going to make Linglong Group entirely theirs,



Chapter 725 Maximum Security

and claim it as the Long family's.

But this wasn't going to be easy.

Linglong Group did start off as a company that wholly belonged to the Long family.

But because Linglong Group wanted to expand, it had to pay the price in exchange for more resources. It had grown into such a huge conglomerate because of all the years of exchanging resources and benefits.

Did anyone really think that Long Ling'er was a genius? HA!

And now the Long family wanted to

Chapter 725 Maximum Security

burn bridges with everyone?

They would need to ask the other powerful families for permission first!

Would the other supremely powerful families just watch the Long family become more powerful and even possibly become the most terrifying supremely powerful family of them all?

Wu Hongwei narrowed his eyes and glanced at Zhou Shen. "As long as we stop Lin Group, that would be as good as breaking the fangs of the Long family. What can they do after that?"

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“And of course, now that the Long family has revealed their true motives, I suppose a lot of people must be furious with them.”

He gleefully added on, “When that happens, we don’t even need to do anything. The other supremely powerful families aren’t going to let the Long family off easily.”

When the time came for everyone to push this big wall down, even if the Long family wasn’t completely destroyed, they would sustain severe injuries.

And if the Long family was really destroyed, then second tier families like theirs had a chance!

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Zhou Shen's lips curled into a smug smile when he heard these words.

Of course he knew all this.

The two families were guarding the last two gantries. But they weren't guarding them by themselves. There were so many others who supported them secretly.

The Long family was destined to go down.

The tools they had, Lin Group and Donghai, were also definitely going to be destroyed!

The two of them looked at one another and laughed loudly in

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excitement. They even started making tea leisurely.

According to their arrangements, Lin Group had no way of breaking through the last two gantries. Even if they could get through one, they would suffer tremendous losses and would be unable to get through the other one.

As long as Lin Group couldn't enter the northern market, then the Long family's beautiful plan would be ruined.

Night slowly fell.

There was nobody on the streets of Linshan and Bei'an, where the two

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gantries were.

It was as if a storm was coming, and everyone could sense it, so they didn't dare to go out late at night.

There was a murderous feeling in the air along the streets, and it was very oppressive.

Now and then you would see a few men patrolling the streets as a small team.

Their expressions were very cold and they emanated an intense murderous air around them.

"If a few more highly skilled fighters join us, then Linshan's illegal circle is

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probably the most powerful in the north." A few men were chatting away while walking, and their voices were smug.

"Who would dare to come here and make trouble? And they hope to get through this gantry? They can dream on!"

"Did you hear about it? Even more highly skilled fighters have headed for Bei'an. I even heard there's a fighter from one of the supremely powerful families...it's a really powerful fighter at grandmaster level!"

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