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Chapter 1421

Even though Leighton was much more vigilant towards Fade because of what had happened to Egas, the very thing he was trying to avoid still happened. A horrible weight crushed against his body as he was about to utter the last word. The final word was stuck in his throat as it struggled to escape his lips.

His bloodshot eyes widened in horror. He shook his head desperately, trying to convey his intention to admit defeat. However, his entire body was paralyzed under Fade's unforgiving force.

As he watched Fade's fist that was about to hit his chest, Leighton felt the despair at the brink of his death. "Am I going to die in the arena like Egas?" He thought.

The audience below the stage was equally shocked. They thought that he would surely be killed.

At that critical moment, Fade felt an invisible and majestic force shooting towards him. It blocked his attack and bought Leighton some time.

As soon as Leighton felt that the weight on him was lifted, he shouted at the top of his lungs, "I admit defeat, I admit defeat! Referee, quickly announce..."

The referee was as shocked as him. When he finally came to his senses, he quickly announced, "The winner of this round Fade."

Fade stared at Leighton with a murderous gaze for a while. Finally, he withdrew his fist and turned to head towards the audience

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seats.

On his way back, he glanced at Dannon in the VIP seat with a cold stare.

He was almost certain that Dannon was responsible for the mysterious force that intervened in his battle at the crucial moment. There was probably no one else on the scene who could block his punch so soundlessly.

"You can save him once, but you can't save him forever," Fade murmured to himself as he glared at Dannon.

Dannon, who was not looking at Fade at all, frowned slightly and turned his head towards his direction as he heard him. He shot a meaningful stare at Fade with a hint of warning in his eyes.

Fade ignored his warning and returned to his seat. He shut his eyes and regulated his breathing to restore his strength.

His victory over Egas was still within many people's expectations, but now, he had defeated Leighton. Moreover, it was in such a simple manner. This result was beyond many people's expectations.

In the midst of the crowd's discussion, this round of competition finally ended. Fade had successfully entered the top eight.

The next round would still be a one-to-one duel, but it was different from the previous matches, as the fight between the eight participants would be relatively less intense. After all, those who reached the top eight would be qualified to explore the Dragon Mausoleum, and the following rounds were just to determine the ranking of the participants on the Dragon List.

Of course, the titles and rewards could not be compared to the Dragon Mausoleum.

Therefore, in the following quarterfinals, as long as the participants felt that they were no match to the other, they would voluntarily give up and preserve their strength to prepare for the Dragon Mausoleum.

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Fade's opponent from the quarterfinals knew that he was no match for him and conceded defeat after exchanging only three moves with Fade.

The next opponent in the semifinals happened to be his friend. It was Romeo, the captain of the Five Element Squad's Gold Squad.

After his previous experience with Fade, Romeo did not have any intention to fight against him. Instead, he admitted defeat as soon as he stepped into the fighting ring.

Just like that, Fade successfully advanced into the finals. The one-to-one final match would determine the champion of the Earth Level category.

His opponent was none other than Faxon, who ranked second on the Dragon List.

Both participants of the final battle were respectively the number one and number two on the Dragon List. Not only that, there were all sorts of disputes between them throughout the competition. The atmosphere of the final battle immediately became tense due to their relationship.

The surrounding audience waited nervously for the battle to start.

The betting stalls on the roadside became more lively as everyone was placing bets on their champion candidates. At the same time, they chatted enthusiastically.

"Without a doubt, Faxon will definitely be the champion! He has been the hottest topic ever since the beginning."

"I would have agreed with you if it were before, but now, I don't think anyone can be certain about the current situation. Fade is equally powerful too, and we can't underestimate him."

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"No matter how strong he is, he is still far inferior to Young Master Faxon when it comes to their strength. You don't have to doubt his strength."

"When Fade fought against Egas and Leighton earlier, you said the same thing, but look at the results now."

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The noises of their discussion and arguments filled the arena.

At this moment, Fade remained calm. Sitting on the VIP seat, he shut his eyes to rest as he prepared himself for the upcoming battle.

On the other side of the VIP area, Faxon watched him spitefully. He kept stealing glances at him with a sharp coldness in his eyes.

Dannon noticed his gaze and gently reminded, "Faxon, you must stay calm before the battle in order to stay composed during the battle and not make mistakes. You are too impatient now."

Faxon said, "Master, I understand. However, I'm certain that my seven-level strength will be enough to defeat that guy."

"Don't be too careless. That kid's strength is a little unusual," Dannon said.

"Don't worry, Master. I won't lose," he said with confidence. "Also, I will take back my position as number one on the Dragon List. I'll let those who misjudged him regret their decision."

After he finished speaking, Faxon and Dannon looked at Galeno in unison.

Previously, when the Dragon List was announced, it was because of Galeno's insistence that Fade, who suddenly appeared on

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the Dragon List, be promoted to the top of the ranking.

Faxon and Dannon refused to let this matter go. They were still displeased with the arrangement.

If Faxon could defeat him in this competition and officially secure his position on the Dragon List, it would be a slap in Galeno's face.


The final battle was held on the highest fighting ring in the center of the lake, and it began in a tense and hostile atmosphere.

Under the referee's order, the two people got up from their seats and walked towards the main fighting ring.

When they arrived at the shore, Faxon turned his head and snorted at Fade. Then, he leaped into the air and flew more than 20 meters away. Finally, he landed gracefully on the fighting ring in the center of the lake. He stood with his hands clasped behind his back, and the sight of his elegant and handsome poise caused a group of female martial artists to scream and go crazy over him.

"Young Master Faxon's moves are so cool."

"Young Master Faxon indeed lives up to his name. I am rendered speechless by his strength and elegance."

"Young Master Faxon, I love you. I want to have your babies." 

.....

Fade ignored Faxon's charade and walked slowly on the wooden bridge along the lake as he headed towards the ring in the center of the lake.

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Chapter 1422

A tumult of voices broke out.

"Read the room, Fade. Why don't you show off some of your skills and let us witness your strength?"

"Show off? I think he has nothing to show off, hence why he chose to walk over there silently."

Someone snickered, "He's far from being Young Master Faxon's opponent. There's nothing to look forward to in this match."

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Faxon narrowed his eyes as Fade strode towards him, shooting him a withering stare.

As he watched Fade walk towards the middle of the wooden bridge, Faxon suddenly thought of an idea.

He shifted his body towards Fade's direction, and his right hand dropped from behind his back to his side. With a flick of his fingers, a burst of energy shot out soundlessly from his hand and flew toward the pillars under the wooden bridge.

Given that this attack was extremely stealthy, the crowd was too engrossed in their conversation to notice it.

The pillar of the wooden bridge instantly broke under the impact of the energy and the entire bridge collapsed with a crash. Startled, the audience gasped at the sudden commotion.

"F*ck, what's going on! The bridge just collapsed."

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"How is that possible? The bridge was very sturdy. How could it collapse all of a sudden?"

"Is someone sabotaging the competition?"

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Someone snorted. "Can't you see? It's obvious that someone is deliberately trying to make things difficult for Fade!"

"Look, the bridge has collapsed. Let's see how he will deal with it."

"What can he do? Will he fly and jump into the fighting ring? Or will he fall into the water and make a mess of himself? No matter what he does, he'll end up miserable!"

.....

As the people were busy gossiping, the remnants of the wooden bridge crumbled and flopped into the lake with a loud rumbling noise, splashing water everywhere as they hit the surface of the lake.

Just as everyone was expecting Fade to emerge from the lake looking wretched, they were instead amazed by the incredible sight before their eyes.

Although the wooden bridge had collapsed, Fade, on the other hand, was unflinching. Step by step, he continued ambling towards the center of the lake, as if he hadn't yet noticed that the wooden bridge under his feet had vanished.

"What, what's going on?"

"Is Fade walking on air? He looks like an astronaut!"

"How on earth did he do it? By the gods, his power is terrifying!"

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"His movements didn't seem to change at all, which means that he hasn't been stepping on the bridge since the very beginning. Instead, he has been walking on air the whole time!"

.....

Everyone gaped at Fade. Meanwhile, some of Faxon's female admirers could not help but scrunch their faces in displeasure.

"So what? It's just walking on air. What's so amazing about it?"

"That's right. He's not even half the man Young Master Faxon is. I wonder why the heck are they so surprised."

"It's just a little trick, don't make a fuss about it. If it was Young Master Faxon, he'd amaze us an even more impressive trick."

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A few martial artists sitting beside them couldn't stand their remarks anymore.

"If you're not as powerful as him, then keep your mouth shut. Keep your jokes to yourselves."

"D*mn right. Don't make a fool of yourself if you don't even have that level of knowledge or ability in the first place."

"You call that a little trick? Do you know what a feat it is to walk on air?"

"Not only does walking on air require strong positive energy as support, but it also requires precise control over one's positive energy. Otherwise, once your positive energy becomes unstable, you won't be able to support your body and lose balance mid-air."

"Recall Fade's gait when he crossed the bridge. If it wasn't for the wooden bridge collapsing, we wouldn't have noticed that he was walking on air. This proves that he has exceptional control over his positive energy."



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.....

After listening to their arguments, Faxon's admirers cut them dirty looks and pursed their lips as they kept fumbling for excuses to defend Faxon.

"Keep bragging. It doesn't change the fact that his trick could never compare to the way Young Master Faxon jumped elegantly into the fighting ring with a single leap."

"Yeah. Who gives a care about his control or precision? He'll lose the fight for sure anyway."

"No matter what, Fade is certainly not a match for our Young Master Faxon."

.....

The martial artists next to them shook their heads in defeat as they scoffed at the blind madness of the female admirers, no longer in the mood to explain further.

One sneered, "Oh well, you're just a bunch of dumb fangirls. Suit yourself!"

"If I told you just now that Faxon has a seventy percent chance of winning, I take it back. After Fade showed us this trick, I think he has at least fifty percent chance of winning."

"I disagree. I think Fade has the upper hand, and he has a sixty percent chance of winning."

.....

In the midst of the crowd's clamor, Faxon's plan to humiliate Fade was foiled. He scowled at him when he stepped into the fighting ring. "You are quite good at showing off! However, your fancy tricks are useless in the face of a real battle."

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He paused and smirked. "Because I won't give you the chance to use it." His eyes turned cold and arrogant as he continued, "The incident at the auction a few days ago, the murder of Egas, and Leighton's injury. I will make you pay for them one by one, Fade. When the time comes, you will learn the hard way the consequences of offending me..."

"Why are you blabbering so much? If you want to fight, then fight. Stop being a sissy!" Fade interrupted him with a frown.

"You..." Faxon was furious. No one had ever insulted him in public like this before. His perfectly arched eyebrows pulled closer, and his nostrils flared. "Since you have a death wish, I'll do you the courtesy of fulfilling it."

The positive energy in his body blasted out like a majestic wave as he spoke.

Waves after waves of positive energy roiled on the surface of his body as they expanded, then transformed into a giant on the arena.

His late-stage Earth Level positive energy erupted instantly. Not only did his energy envelop the entire main arena, even the lake water under the fighting ring was also under its manipulation.

Just a while ago, the peaceful lake was still undulating gently under the gentle breeze. However, in the blink of an eye, plumes of white mist appeared on its surface and rose towards the sky. Frost began to crystallize on the surface of the lake.

The frost spread from the center of Swallow Lake, where the main arena was located, and across the lake surface rapidly, turning the entire lake into ice.

Even the audience by the lake could sense the spine-chilling cold. Some lower-level martial artists shuddered uncontrollably as they hugged themselves and pulled their clothes tighter around their bodies.

Despite the cold, many of the audience were excited, and their eyes lit with enthusiasm as though they were about to ignite the


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air around them.

"Young Master Faxon has made his first move. His skills are too intimidating."

"Straight away, he froze the surface of the lake just like that. Even many famous and experienced Earth Level martial artists couldn't achieve this kind of skill!"

"Correct me if I'm wrong, but this should be Thousand-miles Freezing Skill, a secret technique by the Chiang family."

"But words have it that only Heaven Level martial artists could perform the Chiang family's Thousand-mile Freezing Skill. How can Faxon..." 

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Chapter 1423

Meanwhile, in the fighting ring, Faxon was giving Fade a contemptuous smirk. A chilling aura, along with his terrifying and imposing energy, surrounded him. "This is the improvised version of my family's secret technique, the Thousand-miles Freezing Skill. Originally, this unique skill could only be performed by Heaven Level martial artists, but now, I can perform it too."

"You still have a final chance. Any last words?" Faxon said smugly.

Fade flicked his gaze between the arrogant Faxon and the frozen lake, then shook his head. "Thousand-miles Freezing Skill? You're only utilizing ice-class positive energy to freeze the surface of the water. It's a mere child's trick."

He shook his head and continued, "The real Thousand-miles Freezing Skill is able to summon a snowstorm with a thought. You are still far from that."

Faxon pulled a long face and spat, "You arrogant b*stard, I see you haven't lost your silver tongue. Then, I'll let you have a taste of what my Thousand-miles Freezing Skill is capable of."

He waved his right hand as he spoke, and a one-meter-long icicle emerged from the frozen surface of the lake. Sunlight bounced back as it hit the crystal clear icicle, and colorful spotlights projected from its surface.

"Go!" Faxon roared, and the icicle whizzed out like a sharp sword, darting toward Fade's chest.

The attack nearing, Fade stood where he was and blew a gust of air out of his mouth. The breath turned into a sword and hit the

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icicles directly. The icicles instantly smashed and exploded into ice powder, then sprinkled down from the sky.

"Humph!" Faxon glared at him icily and lifted his left hand.

Immediately, another ice-sword shaped icicle sprang out from the lake and attacked.

This time, Faxon didn't stop his movements, and his right hand also moved simultaneously. Crystal clear ice swords gleamed as they shot out from the lake and drew arcs across the sky. They landed behind Faxon and arranged themselves densely into a row, forming a dreamlike and colorful sword formation.

"Out!"

As he swept his hand and gave the order, hundreds of ice swords behind him roared past him in an instant, forming a sword rain that directly aimed towards Fade.

The ice swords advanced rapidly with close formation, sending chills that slithered through one's spine as if they were going to pierce through and freeze everything in front of them.

Many martial artists sucked in a deep breath as they watched on the shore. Even from afar, the sight of the sword formation was already enough to make their hairs stand on end.

Even the other participants from the top 8 were dumbstruck, sighing and lamenting.

"Faxon's move is too powerful. If I was Fade, I would have no choice but to surrender."

"Thank God I admitted defeat very quickly in the first round, so Young Master Chiang didn't get to use this move. Otherwise, I would've died for sure."

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"Fade is in danger now. I wonder how he will deal with it."

"In my opinion, the best way is undeniably to admit defeat. Although he may lose face, it's the safest way."

Many contestants nodded in agreement. From their point of view, it was not a big deal to lose to Faxon after all. Besides, they were still young, and they still had a long way to go. There was no need to wager their own lives in this kind of competition.

However, just as they were expressing their approval, beside them, Romeo sneered and said, "Are you kidding? Asking Mr. Chen to give up?"

A few players suddenly snapped their heads to look at him when they heard his comment. They frowned and said, "Romeo, do you have a different opinion?"

He replied, "Of course I do. I believe that not only will Fade not give in, he will also win the competition."

"Romeo, jesting, are we! Once Faxon performed the Thousand-miles Freezing Skill, the outcome has been destined."

"Romeo, I think you are scrambling for an excuse for yourself. After all, during the semi-finals, you didn't even fight Fade and admitted defeat straight away. You are exaggerating Fade's strength to save your own face!"

Romeo snorted. "It's not a shame to lose to Mr. Chen! In fact, it's Faxon's honor to fight with him today."

To the other contestants, Romeo's words were more and more outrageous, as if he was trying to put Fade on a sky-high pedestal. The few of them shook their heads and refused to concern themselves with Romeo any longer.

"A group of short-sighted men." Romeo ignored them and returned his focus to the main fighting ring.

Although Romeo was almost 100% sure that Fade could win, he still wanted to find out how he would deflect Faxon's Thousand-

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miles Freezing Skill.

At this moment, Fade stood tall on the stage as he glared at the ice swords that were coming at him from all directions. He narrowed his eyes and muttered to himself, "His aura is strong enough, and the display he put on was majestic. Hell, it does look quite frightening."

"However, empty vessels make the most noise. These ice swords are nothing but ordinary icicles, which can be smashed easily. They don't pose much lethality at all. The ice swords condensed by real ice-class masters are harder than steel and colder than frost."

"This so-called 'Thousand-miles Freezing Skill' still pales in comparison," he said as he shook his head.

On the other side of the fighting ring, Faxon overheard Fade's whisper. He raised his eyebrows in dissatisfaction. "Such audacity! In that case, take this, the Thousand-miles Freezing Skill!"

As he spoke, his hands swung violently and he channeled his positive energy into the ice swords. The swords sped up and whistled loudly as they charged towards Fade, leaving him no room to escape.

The swords were closing in on Fade. At this moment, he squinted gently and then raised his right hand. His eyes were riveted on the swords, and he shouted, "Melt!"

In the blink of an eye, a flurry of fiery-red positive energy spewed out from his palm. The positive energy flame carried with it an extremely scorching heatwave, and it devoured all of the incoming ice swords.

The ice swords melted when they came into contact with the flames, turned into water, and pitter-pattered like drops of rain. As soon as the water droplets touched the ground, they sizzled and evaporated into the air. Shortly, white mist rose from the ground

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and enveloped the entire fighting ring like a veil, obscuring the view from the crowd.

"What's going on? What happened?"

"What in god's name is that fiery positive energy? That impact gives me the creeps!"

"Surprisingly, Fade has a hidden tricky move. How could he be so good at hiding it?"

.....

Everyone guessed and debated. At this moment, Faxon was shrouded in a white fog, his expressions turning gloomy.

Less than ten meters away from Fade, he could feel the blazing heat more than anyone else when Fade's fiery positive energy was directed at him.

Faxon shifted his positive energy to shield from Fade's fiery energy, but to his horror, he discovered that the energy was all too powerful. His positive energy instantly shattered the instant it slammed into Fade's.

Waves of heat swept over him, making him sweat profusely. He was on the verge of collapsing.

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Chapter 1424

"What the..." Faxon was shocked. Desperately, he channeled his positive energy in an attempt to block Fade's attack.

Despite his defense, the scorching waves of heat kept hitting, and Faxon couldn't hold them back anymore. He felt as if his skin was burning up, and an intense surge of fear washed over him. "Am I going to lose?"

Just as the thought surfaced in his mind, he shook his head violently, gritted his teeth, and muttered to himself, "It's impossible, I won't lose. I am a genius in the Martial Arts League; I am from the Chiang family of the hidden family. I will not lose."

Faxon screamed internally, his eyes turning red. He clenched his teeth, and all of a sudden, his positive energy burst out violently and bolted towards Fade.

This impact from the sudden burst of energy was extraordinary. It chased away the fog shrouding the fighting ring, and finally, the surrounding audience could see them clearly.

Although the two stood separated from each other and seemed no different from the time before the battle, when the audience studied them more carefully, they realized that Fade stood motionless on the same spot, unfazed, as if nothing had transpired.

As they shifted their gaze to Faxon, they saw that his cheeks were flushed, and beads of sweat dripped down his forehead. He looked elegant and handsome before the fight, but now, he looked miserable.

Everyone gasped in surprise, ripples of mumbles starting to spread.

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"From the looks of it, Young Master Faxon is at a disadvantage."

"It can't be. He had just employed the Thousand-miles Freezing Skill. Why would he be placed at a disadvantage?"

"The situation is already crystal clear. It's right in front of our eyes!"

"If this goes on, Fade might really win!"

"No, he won't. Your imagination is not even close to Young Master Faxon's true strength. He must have not yet given his all. As long as he exerts his full strength, Fade will definitely lose."

.....

At this moment, Faxon was gasping for his breath as he stared at Fade, disdain stark on his face. He gritted his teeth and hissed, "You have really gotten on my nerves now. From now on, I won't hold back, and you'll know how powerful I am."

"Really?" Fade replied indifferently. Apparently, he didn't seem to take Faxon's words seriously.

"You..." Faxon was even more furious when he saw Fade's response. He bared his teeth and took a step forward, his positive energy instantly blasting out like a torrent.

As his positive energy continued to grow and spread, his entire body felt as if it had turned into a huge heart that was pulsing rapidly.

At this moment, Faxon seemed to grow stronger as his positive energy roiled in him. Then, he suddenly dragged his gaze in front of him and swung his arms forward.

A gust of spine-chilling white positive energy instantly shot out like a gleaming ice sword and attacked Fade fiercely.

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"Go to hell!" Faxon shrieked, and the huge ice sword sprang out.

Fade stared at the huge sword coming at him. He shook his head and whispered, "Is this all you got? This is mediocre."

As soon as he finished talking, he stretched out his right hand and tapped gently.

A ball of fire immediately fluttered out of Fade's right hand. The fireball flickered and wavered in the air, seemingly harmless.

However, when it fell on the tip of the giant ice sword, the tough and solid ice sword instantly melted like jelly and turned into raindrops pouring down from the sky.

"How is this possible?" Faxon could not believe what he just witnessed, and his eyes widened in shock.

The audience, who hadn't been able to see how Fade had destroyed Faxon's ice sword formation earlier, finally got to behold his attack, and they were equally amazed.

"How on earth did this happen?"

"I can't believe that such a weak ball of flame could melt Young Master Faxon's ice sword so easily."

"Who exactly is this Fade? Does he have a hidden identity?"

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At this moment, many people, including Faxon, had questions about Fade. However, the answer to their questions was simple.

It was because he was practicing The Kong Fu of Jiu Yang. It was a top-level fire-class martial art, which was why the fire-class positive energy in his body had become extremely invincible.

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Not to mention Faxon's imperfect Thousand-miles Freezing Skill and giant ice sword, even a great deal of Heaven Level martial artists avoided The Kong Fu of Jiu Yang from Fade like a plague.

It was exactly because of that difference in the quality of their skills that made it easy for his fire to destroy Faxon's ice sword.

He was still disoriented. Meanwhile, Fade raised his right hand gently. His index finger and middle finger pressed together to form the shape of a sword, and he gently waved it in the air.

Instantaneously, a virtual sword whistled out of the air and sliced down with a fierce aura.

Faxon felt the murderous aura from the virtual sword and flinched. His body jerked instinctively, attempting to dodge Fade's attack.

However, as he was about to duck to the side, he realized that there was an invisible force pressing down on him, immobilizing him.

The virtual sword was approaching him with a roaring noise, and he could sense the fatality in this blow. He started to panic, horror flashing across his eyes.

The deadly attack surprised the audience and also a few others from the VIP area. Dannon, Leighton, and the others grimaced. Leighton, oblivious to his own injury, yelled, "Young Master Faxon, please admit defeat!"

A look of reluctance shot through Faxon's eyes, but as he gritted his teeth and struggled to move, he realized he was still immobilized.

He glanced up and saw Fade's virtual sword was about to come down on him. He was unwilling to give up, but at this critical moment, he bowed his head sadly and strained out the words, "Stop, I admit..."

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The audience sighed emotionally in unison as they heard those words.

"Alas! I can't believe that Young Master Faxon would lose."

"Wait a minute. Young Master Faxon still hasn't finished shouting his words. Do you think what happened to Egas will also befall him?"

"How could it be? Even if Young Master Faxon hasn't finished his words, Fade wouldn't have the nerve to kill him. You're kidding!"

"Geez, I placed a bet, and now I've lost all my money."

.....

In the midst of the crowd's sighs, Fade squinted, a bloodthirsty gaze in his eyes. He wanted to end Faxon. However, he knew that Dannon was there, and he would not let him get his hands on Faxon so easily.

After all, Dannon had secretly helped Leighton by blocking his attack. He definitely would not stand by and watch since Faxon was his favorite disciple.

As he thought about it, Fade snapped his fingers lightly and the virtual sword shifted slightly in its direction. He wanted to teach Faxon a lesson and sow in him the realization of his strength.

However, just as Faxon was about to utter the final word to admit defeat, he suddenly halted himself and glanced up at Fade.

"Hey..." Noting this, Fade's heart skipped a beat.

The corners of Faxon's mouth tugged into a cruel smile. "Fade, huh? I have investigated your identity. You've set foot in Capital City a few months ago," he whispered.

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Chapter 1425

"What are you trying to say?" Fade glowered.

Faxon continued, "I know that you work as a lecturer in the Chinese Medicine School of Capital University. I also know about your junior, Joey Chen. And there's another girl named Yankee Meng working as a secretary in your company."

"Also, you are friends with the singer Susie Song and a girl named Yuri Zhang. You knew them through the Capital City Music Academy."

"I know everything about them! If you don't admit defeat now, I..." Faxon sneered.

Fade stared angrily at him as he spat, "Are you threatening me?"

"You can choose not to believe me, but then I won't be nice to those women around you," Faxon sniggered.

"Don't you dare!" Fade shouted, his face twisting in a fury. "If you dare to so much as touch them, I'll send you to hell for free."

"Is that it?" Faxon gave a short, mirthless laugh. "Since you don't believe it, then I'll let you have the first taste."

Then, he glanced towards the VIP seat and said, "That girl, Jasmine. She is your student and disciple, isn't she? It's a pity that Egas didn't manage to kill her before. Now..."

"You..." Fade raised his eyebrows, his nostrils flaring. Instinctively, he snapped his head to look in the direction of the VIP seats.



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As if on cue, a hooded figure was silently creeping towards Jasmine from her side.

Fade's heartbeat quickened, and he shouted at once, "Jasmine, be careful!"

Jasmine responded to Fade's warning with a confused look. "What's wrong, Mr. Chen?"

Lucille and Hollace took the hint. Lucille immediately got up and threw herself in front of Jasmine protectively. Hollace, on the other hand, charged towards the hooded man and restrained him by pinning him under his body.

"What are you doing? Help, someone is attacking me!" The man yelled as he was being held down.

At that very second, a look of surprise flitted across Hollace's face as he shouted in realization, "Something's not right. He's only at peak-stage Yellow Level. It's impossible for him to..."

Fade's heart turned cold as he heard Hollace. His eyes glinted as he thought of something, and he immediately shifted his gaze back to Faxon from across the fighting ring.

Meanwhile, Faxon's mouth lined into a contemptuous sneer. He fumbled out a red pill and slipped it into his mouth. Almost instantly, his eyes turned red, and a huge blast of energy with a metallic tang of blood rushed out from his body. His energy took form in the shape of a bloodied long sword and rushed towards Fade.

"Gotcha." Faxon laughed sinisterly and lunged towards him with murderous intent. "I, Faxon Chiang, will never lose. I must win the first place on Dragon List. I will not lose."

Fade screwed up his face when the realization struck him like a flash of lightning.

Faxon had said those threatening words to distract him and took the opportunity to pop the pill and launch a sneak attack on

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him.

His intention to admit defeat earlier was simply an act for the sake of his final sneak attack to achieve victory. To emerge as the final champion, he resorted to foul play.

If Fade had been cool-headed enough earlier, he would have seen through Faxon's lie. Besides, Jasmine was sitting only less than two meters away from Galeno.

No matter how powerful Faxon was, he would never have the balls to hire assassins to kill someone under Galeno's nose. That would be a suicide mission.

However, he had been too nervous and overwhelmed by his worry about Jasmine's safety at that time, leading up to him being deceived by Faxon's lies and accidentally gave him the time to fight back.

Fade had only paused for less than three or four seconds as these thoughts flashed through his mind, but Faxon, who was determined to see blood, suddenly pounced on him. The deadly sword that stank of blood was only less than half a meter from Fade's heart.

The audience had not recovered from their shock at Faxon's submission, yet in the blink of an eye, they noticed that the tables had turned dramatically.

Faxon, who had almost lost the fight, suddenly launched a final attack at Fade in the final moment.

This final strike was not only a matter of victory and defeat, but it also determined their life and death.

If Fade was unable to block the sword, it would pierce through his heart, and he would drop dead.



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His friends couldn't help but grow restless for him as they exclaimed.

"Fade, be careful!"

"Mr. Chen, dodge him."

"Fade, hurry up and admit defeat. It doesn't matter who wins now."

.....

The audience were equally astounded.

"Holy hell, how the tables have turned. What bloody thing has happened?"

"Is Faxon going to turn the tide? He's too bad*ss."

"Sweet niblets! Now I can win my bet. I support you, Young Master Faxon."

"Faxon is too shameless. He threatened and lied to Fade. This kind of victory is nothing to be proud of."

"My a*s, a victory is victory. There's no need for any justifications. As long as he didn't break the rules, then there won't be any problem."

"That's right. Fade can blame himself for being foolish enough to fall for Young Master Faxon's trap."

"Joke's on him for showing off earlier. Now, he played himself!" Laughter reverberated.

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Faxon was lost in his smugness thinking that he was about to win the competition.



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But just then, Fade shot him the death stare. The last thing he could accept was being cheated and threatened, and Faxon had ticked all the boxes.

At this moment, molten anger raged through him. He glared at Faxon and shouted, "You have a death wish!"

"You..." Noticing the shift in Fade's energy, Faxon's face blanched, and he was scared witless.

He tried to conceal his fear as he gathered his entire strength for a fatal blow. "Go. To. Hell."

However, when the sword landed fiercely on Fade's chest just above his heart, it skidded to a halt, as if it was stabbing onto a steel plate. The sharp sword propelled forward, but it was unable to pierce through his skin, let alone his heart.

"How come... You..." Faxon's eyes widened in disbelief.

Fade's eyes turned scarlet red as rage churned inside of him. He smashed Faxon's sword with one hand, then proceeded to raise his right arm. A train of energy burst out, hit Faxon, and sent him flying. Faxon spurted out a jet of blood, falling like a drizzle.

Bang! Faxon smacked heavily on the wooden floor and spat out another mouthful of blood. His face was ashen and his body was paralyzed.

Just then, Fade stepped forward. Energy flickered in his palm as he was about to deliver another strike.

Sensing Fade's bloodthirsty aura, Faxon's dread hit home. He whimpered in horror and wailed, "Please don't. Stop, I admit..."

Fade cut him off and roared, "Admit defeat? You lost the chance to do that now. I want you dead!"

Breaking through his furious roar was his lethal blow towards Faxon.

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Chapter 1426

Faxon was horrified at the sight of this. He wanted to flee, but was at the mercy of his immobilized body. He could only feel death itself pressing down on him quickly.

Leighton and the others who were seated at the VIP seats were also shocked. They hurriedly shouted, "Stop! Young Master Faxon has already admitted defeat."

"Fade, if you dare to kill Young Master Chiang, we, the Martial Arts League and the Chiang family, will not let you get away with this!"

However, Fade was unfazed and their threats bounced off his ears. He was about to kill Faxon with a last deadly blow.

At that critical moment, Dannon couldn't sit still anymore. He let out a thunderous roar, "How dare you!"

Before he could finish his words, he manifested on the ring, as if he had teleported from the VIP seats.

Boom!

Dannon deflected Fade's lethal attack in the nick of time.

Seeing this, Fade's eyes slipped into a cold and merciless veil. Towards Faxon, he launched another palm with his left hand, dense killing intent in his eyes.

When Dannon saw this, his expression turned angry. He bellowed, "How dare you attack, you madman!"

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While speaking, he slapped towards Fade and blocked his attack once again.

At this time, Faxon, who had escaped the fatal blow, finally came to his senses and shouted, "I admit defeat, I admit defeat."

However, Fade's attacks did not ease up at all. He continued to attack Faxon as if he would not give up until Faxon's corpse was before him.

His wrath incurred, Dannon emitted a strong murderous intent. He struck Fade with a heavy blow and said, "Impertinent! Faxon has already thrown the white flag. How dare you still attack him? Are you tired of living?"

As a master of the Heaven Level, Dannon's palm struck out with an overwhelming force that almost enveloped the entire Swallow Lake. Even the spectators by the lake felt a terrifying killing intent.

For a moment, everyone was stupefied.

"Is this the strength of a Heaven Level expert?"

"Too powerful! This pressure, this aura, it's like a heavenly deity descending into this world!"

"Fade is in danger. How dare he confront Dannon head-on. He's looking for death!"

.....

As the crowd gasped and yelped, Dannon's furious attack was about to land on Fade's body.

At this critical moment, a deep voice rang out, "Dannon, aren't you going too far, bullying a youngster?"

As his voice fell, Galeno's huge figure appeared in the arena and he threw out a punch. His punch collided with Dannon's huge palm. In an instant, a bubble of strength exploded. The positive energy dissipated, and the arena was smashed into pieces,



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teetering on the verge of collapse.

The lake water at the bottom of the arena was abruptly exploded by the dispersed strength, giving rise to a drizzle, and falling in the air.

Without a doubt, this was a battle between two Heavenly Level experts. Furthermore, they were both experts from the late stage of the Heaven Level. Such strength was truly too frightening.

After the blow, Galeno and Dannon stood with their hands behind their backs, their gazes connecting.

Dannon asked in a low voice, "Galeno, what do you mean by this? He undermines the rules. Even after Faxon's admission of defeat, he insisted on killing him maliciously. He even has the guts to lay his hands on me. Are you still protecting him?"

Before Galeno could speak, Fade said with a tinge of sneer, "Speaking of undermining the rules, Dannon, you did it first."

"If it wasn't for you interrupting ever so shamelessly, I would have killed Faxon before he gave up, but in order to protect your disciple, you blocked my attack and directed one of your own on me. If I may ask, what do you mean by this? Do the rules still apply here?"

"What's more, when I was fighting with Leighton, did you think I was unaware of your secret attack?" Fade interrogated, an edge in his tone.

Dannon's face fell. He glared at Fade, his words not forthcoming.

Discussions undulated among the audience after they heard what Fade had said.

"If you analyze it carefully, Fade does make sense! Dannon violated the rules first."



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"During Leighton's duel, I was wondering why Fade showed mercy all of a sudden. So Dannon was behind this! No wonder!"

"What a benevolent master someone has, saving his a*s when he's no match for the opponent. The rest of us are not so lucky. In this competition, there are no less than five people who have died in the hands of Faxon and Leighton!"

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"Are you all out of your mind? That's Dannon, the alpha from the Martial Arts League, an expert of the Heaven Level, and a powerhouse ranking 13th on the Divine Dragon List. How dare you tattle about him this way? Are you all seeking death already?"

In an instant, the bustling scene was bludgeoned to stillness. Everyone tucked their prattle away.

At this moment, in the arena, Dannon's expression was dark and cold in the face of Fade's questioning. He waved his hand and shouted, "That's nonsense. Faxon admitted defeat first. I got into the fight just to stop you, an evil killer. As for Leighton, that's even more bullsh*t!"

Hearing this, Fade sneered and said, "You're not only trying to deny it, but you're also trying to manipulate the truth. Do you take everyone present here for fools? Or do you think that you're so powerful you can shut all of us up?"

"Shut up, fanatic, you're looking for death..." Dannon was incandescent. The aura on his body exploded and he slammed his palm towards Fade.

Fade's eyes sharpened its focus and his aura surged. He was about to strike back.

However, Galeno stepped out and thwarted Dannon's attack. Then, he shouted angrily, "Dannon, I can understand that you are thinking for your disciple's sake, but don't go too far in some things."

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After that, Galeno whirled his head around to look at Fade and said in a low voice, "Fade, let's put an end here."

Fade held his gaze and paused for a moment. Finally, he nodded and said, "If you say so, Master Zhu."

Galeno nodded and looked at Dannon across from him.

Dannon gave a heavy snort and glared balefully at Fade. Instead of returning to the VIP seat, he took the injured Faxon and left the scene directly.

Seeing this, Galeno sighed. He looked back at Fade and said, "Fade, the Martial Arts League has failed you in this matter, but there are some things and some rules that you can't interfere with just because you find it wrong. Do you understand me?"

Fade nodded and said in a low voice, "I understand. The world of the martial artists is no different from the law of the jungle. At the end of the day, skills are the most important in this world."

Somewhat taken by surprise, Galeno looked at Fade and said, "I'm glad that you can understand. I hope you won't begrudge the Martial Arts League for this. I'll report this matter to the higher-ups and make it up to you."

Fade glanced in the direction where Dannon had left and said coldly, "Thank you, Master Zhu. You don't need to compensate me. As for the grudges I hold, I've always been clear about them."

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Chapter 1427

Sighing, Galeno patted Fade on the shoulder as he said, "Now that the Martial Arts Convention is over, let's prepare for the award presentation ceremony."

"Okay!" Fade nodded, then jumped out the ring with Galeno and returned to the VIP seat.

Next was the award ceremony for each competition. Without the complication of any formalities, the organizer directly distributed the awards to the winners.

Among them, the category that garnered the most attention was naturally the Earth Level. After all, they were the strongest and won the most awards to boot. Moreover, one of the awards was obtaining the long-awaited access to the Dragon Mausoleum.

Under everyone's attention, Galeno retrieved several palm-sized black cards and distributed them to the contestants who made it to the top ten spots. Then he said, "The black card is the entry ticket to the Dragon Mausoleum. You will be notified about the time and venue when it is open. You can travel there on your own by then. Am I clear?"

"Yes!" Everyone nodded and immediately tucked their black cards away.

Although the Martial Arts Convention was officially wrapped up at that moment, that was only referring to the official event by the host. The convention, however, was still proceeding.

The audience and many other contestants were not in a hurry to leave. Instead, they took it upon themselves to gather in the

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venue. Some of them were catching up, while others were exchanging martial arts experiences. There were also some who had set up stalls to sell some objects.

The Swallow Lake ushered in a crowded market for the martial artists. They started shopping around. Some martial artists would even rush over to the venue after the convention was done for the sake of participating in this bustling market.

After all, there weren't many opportunities for such an assembly of the elite martial artists of the nation. Regardless of what their intentions were, whether it was to learn from some other masters, to share experiences, or to sell their products, this was a great opportunity for all.

Fade had intended to bring Jasmine back to treat her wounds as soon as possible, but she insisted that she was fine and was more interested in looking around the market instead.

Therefore, he stayed behind and began roaming around with her and Tom.

As for Tom's so-called "friends", after witnessing Fade winning the fight, they left dejectedly and didn't bother to stay for another second more.

The three of them walked along the banks of the Swallow Lake. Their main purpose was to shop around the stalls set up by other martial artists and see if they could come across any bargain.

Due to the fact that Fade had won the match, more people in the crowd were familiar with him, and people started discussing him.

Some people even compared Fade to Moore, who had suddenly risen to fame more than 20 years ago. They said that Fade and Moore were both lucky to make their names out there by winning the championship.

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Thinking of this, Fade was reminded of Joey. If the message he had received was true, Joey was most likely Moore's daughter.

Thinking of this, a strange emotion emerged in Fade's heart.

He was deep in thoughts when a crowd started gathering around a stall right in front of him. The lively ambience pulled his attention back.

Striding towards that direction, he got to listen clearer to the noises around.

"To actually trade a herb of the Heaven Level, this is one hell of a bargain!"

"Heaven Level herbs are too precious. Is it genuine? You're not trying to deceive us, are you?"

"Several masters have all checked it out but they couldn't find any fake traces. It should be genuine."

"If I can get my hands on the herbs, I'll be filthy rich."

"Boy, you'd better solve the formation first!"

.....

"Heaven Level herbs!" Hearing this, Fade's eyes narrowed slightly as he ambled towards the stall.

When the crowd saw Fade coming, they naturally made way for him.

It was an ordinary stall. There was a linen cloth laid out on the ground. On top of the linen cloth, there was a withered branch with a few withered red flowers on it. It looked nothing special.

However, as soon as Fade's gaze swept over the branch, he froze. His gaze couldn't help but stare at the branch, and his heart

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began to beat violently. He murmured, "This, this is the branch and flower of the Frost Plum Blossom."

The Frost Plum Blossom was a rare plant of the icy and cold nature. It was one of the cold-attribute materials that Fade needed to cultivate the Nine Suns Flaming Skill.

The Frost Plum Blossom Fruit was on par with the Nine Leaf Ice Flower and the Ice Lotus which Fade had already cultivated before. If he could refine and take it in, his strength would improve further.

He could also learn an additional unique skill other than the Blazing Vision and Ice Lotus Flame.

Although the stall was not selling the Frost Plum Blossom Fruit, even getting hold of it would highly benefit Fade's cultivation.

Therefore, he was almost determined to purchase the Frost Plum Blossom at first glance.

Although he was inundated with sheer excitement, Fade didn't let it show. There was not much emotion on his face when he continued observing.

On the other side of the linen cloth, there were a few lines of words written with ink. Glancing at it, Fade found that it was the rules dictated by the stall owner.

It turned out that the vendor wasn't selling the Frost Plum Blossom for money, but would rather exchange it under some condition. His exchange condition was also unique, for he wasn't exchanging it for the same level of precious herbs, cultivation techniques, or weapons.

His request was to break through the three formations he had drawn. If anyone could break through all of them, then he would willingly hand over the Frost Plum Blossom.

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If the challenger could only break through one or two formations, the stall owner would exchange something else as a complimentary gift.

"Break the formation," Fade looked curious as he read further down.

Below the words were three pieces of white cloth. On the cloth were three Tai Chi Eight Diagrams and all of them looked roughly similar, but upon closer inspection, you could find that the arrangement and lines inside were different. They were complementing but also restricting each other, which formed a complex yet closely-knit formation.

According to the vendor's request, they needed to look for the three openings in the formation and crack it.

At this moment, there were already many martial artists who had been staring at the three formations for quite some time, but the frowns on their faces indicated that there wasn't any clue.

A few people pooled together and began to confer with each other to find a solution to this.

"Judging from the pattern on the formation, it seems ancient."

"Yes, there is a lack of information about the ancient formations. It is difficult to understand, but it is even more difficult to crack it."

"These three arrays ought to all be defensive type arrays. Each one is more rigorous than the previous one, and each is more difficult to break than the other. They have got us now."

"Of course. If it wasn't difficult, would anyone bring out a Heaven Level herb like the Frost Plum Blossom as a reward?"

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Chapter 1428

"Gosh, forget it. I've been staring my eyes out and still can't figure it out. This reward just isn't something that someone like me can get."

"Let's try it again. Maybe we'll be able to crack it."

"Absolutely. It'll be good enough to break even only one of them. If Moore can bring out the Frost Plum Blossom, there must be some other good stuff in his possession too."

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In the midst of the discussion, Fade did not choose to break the formation first. Instead, he latched his gaze on Moore, the stall owner who was squatting on the ground.

Moore was a middle-aged man. His hair was tousled and his clothes were rather unkempt. He looked no different from the street folks in the city.

However, Fade felt a deep aura from Moore. It felt as if he was akin to the lake water, which surface looked ordinary and calm, but something exceptional was hidden beneath that.

"He's an expert, a powerful expert," Fade evaluated in his heart.

Then, he looked away and focused his attention on the three formations, starting to solve them.



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Not long after, just when Fade was still in his thoughts, a burst of noisy footsteps came rushing in this direction.

A man in his thirties was leading a group of people and wading through the crowd. They squeezed straight to the front of the stall.

As soon as he got in, the man shouted at Moore with an arrogant tone, "Hey, how much are you selling the Frost Plum Blossom for?"

Moore looked up at the man, then he pointed to the linen cloth on the ground and said faintly, "Just break the formation. There's no price on it."

Hearing this, the young man suddenly frowned and said coldly, "I did try to be nice with you, didn't I. I, Farrell Hu, don't believe that there's something that can't be bought for money."

"I'll make it clear right now. I'll take this Frost Plum Blossom," After finishing his words, Farrell chucked a bank card at Moore and said, "Well, I won't rip you off. There's fifty million yuan in this card, I'm buying this."

Farrell bent down and was about to pick up the Frost Plum Blossom from the stall.

Seeing this, the crowd started murmuring among them.

"He's too conceited. It is already stated that it's not for sale, yet he is forcing the owner!"

"Goodness, he's Farrell Hu, the young master to the Hu family. You just can't refuse him, do you get me?"

"Farrell Hu? Is he that powerful of a man? His name doesn't ring a bell in the martial arts world, though."

"He's not from our world; he's from the officials. Do you still not get it?"

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"So full of himself just because he's an official? He can't just force someone else to sell that to him! What the h*ll?"

"I agree. We martial artists hate it the most when someone tries to bully others with nothing else but their social status."

"You guys better stop with that. Although the Hu family is not from our martial arts world, still, they have connections to our world, and as officials, they can easily torture us."

"What connections?"

"The Zhao family! Haven't you heard of it?"

.....

"The Zhao family? I haven't heard of that either. Are they well known? Why didn't I spot anyone from the Zhao family in the Martial Arts Convention then?"

"Man, they won't even be bothered to participate."

"Let me tell you this. For decades long, the Zhao family have been serving the renowned figures as personal bodyguards. They are equivalent to the imperial palace guards in ancient times. The Zhao family have already established their status in the world of officials, so why would they bat an eyelid in events like this?"

"No wonder..."

Most people in the crowd couldn't stomach the scene, but after learning Farrell's identity, they all had to take a step back, lest they provoked someone like him.

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Farrell had only grown even haughty with people in the crowd acknowledging his background. He glared at Moore and said, "You hear that? You won't get away with this if you said no."

"Just take the money and scam. You can still make a fortune at this, 'cause otherwise I won't be paying you a cent!" He snorted.

Furious as the martial artists in the crowd were at his attitude, they could only hold back their anger.

Some of them even started to rope Moore into this exchange.

"Boss, let's just accept it! At least you get the money."

"That's right. It's better not to provoke people who we can't afford to offend."

"As the saying goes, a fall into the pit, a gain in your wit!"

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Moore was expressionless as the crowd around him started persuading him. He did not pick up the bank card, but instead, he stretched out his right hand and pressed Farrell's right hand. He said coldly, "I said, unless you break the formation, or else no one can take this Frost Plum Blossom away."

"What did you say?" Farrell's face fell. He stared at Moore with a frigid glint in his eyes.

Farrell's men strode out and yelled at the stall owner.

"Let go of Young Master Hu."

"You are courting death. Let go of him."

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"Or else we won't spare you mercy."

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In the face of those threats, Moore remained unfazed. With a determined look, he shook his head slightly and repeated, "I've said that no one can take away my Frost Plum Blossom unless they break the formation."

"D*mn it, you are seeking death!" Light in his eyes dimmed, Farrell cried out, "Kill him!"

In an instant, his followers barricaded Moore and were about to attack him.

Although the onlookers around sympathized with Moore, no one was willing to get involved with the Hu family. Moreover, Farrell's followers were obviously not people to be trifled with.

Every single one of them was a martial practitioner with a solid foundation of skills beyond the Black Level. If there were seven or eight of them combined together, even a martial artist of the Earth Level would have to think twice before engaging in the fight.

Just as the fight was about to set into motion, Fade, who was on the side, stepped forward and said, "You're going overboard!"

Upon hearing this, Farrell looked over at Fade and sized him up. Then, he smirked and said, "Who do you think you are? How dare you meddle in my business? Are you on a suicide mission?"

Farrell wasn't a martial artist, and he hadn't attended the Martial Arts Convention. Therefore, he didn't know Fade at all. Naturally, he looked down on him since Fade was but a young man to him.

Bereft of a hint of emotion, Fade looked at him and said in a deep voice, "Moore has already set his own rules. Not abiding by the

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rules means you're making trouble , and I hate troublemakers the most."

"Who the f*ck are you? Do I, Farrell Hu, look like I care about your opinions?" Farrell spat and waved his hand, "Get him out of my way and teach him a lesson.

"What the h*ll is happening with everyone acting against me," Farrell said, his tone dripping hubris.

A few of his followers immediately changed targets and were about to attack Fade.

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Chapter 1429

Farrell couldn't be bothered with the fight at all, as Fade was a nobody to him and he was confident that his men would take him down easily.

However, just as he turned around to fix his gaze elsewhere, a series of miserable cries could be heard before they were thrown in the lake.

Farrell snapped his head around and was dumbfounded at what he saw. His men were tossed into the Swallow Lake, their humiliating faces all swollen.

Then, he looked over at Fade, who was still standing on the same spot, poised as ever.

At such a sight, Farrell pulled his brows together and asked in confusion, "How, how could it be..."

At this moment, someone next to him returned a response.

"He is Fade Chen, the champion of the Earth-level Realm in the Martial Arts Contest."

"He is the one who defeated Faxon."

"He's also the number one on the Hidden Dragon List."

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Hearing this, Farrell's eyes flickered slightly as he revealed a strange expression. However, his gaze soon returned to the arrogant look from before. He sneered, "So what if he's a champion? Put whatever spin you want on it. He's no more than someone with nothing but strength. You are all circus animals competing to see who is the better one.

D*mn, martial artists are just mere bodyguards to me," he said dismissively, "What era are we living in, and why are you guys still fighting with your bare hands. You uncivilized folks."

"I know not a thing about martial arts, but do you dare lay a finger on me, a member of the Hu family?" Farrell looked arrogantly at Fade, his face awash in pride.

Squinting his eyes, a trace of anger flashed in Fade's gaze. His arm moved slightly and he was about to make a move.

However, at the same time, Moore rose to his feet, looked at Fade and said, "Young man, thank you for your help, but leave this matter to me."

After that, Moore cut a glance at Farrell and said, "Let go of my Frost Plum Blossom."

Farrell, with his stuck-up face still intact, said, "If I don't let it go, what can you do? Hit me?"

As soon as he finished his words, a cold light darted across Moore's eyes, and then a crisp sound was heard.

Farrell let out a miserable cry. His right arm which was holding the Frost Plum Blossom was snapped broken. Cold sweat was dripping down from his forehead as another wretched cry escaped from his lips.

"You, how dare you hit me... You broke my arm! I want you dead! I'll kill you!" Farrell gritted his teeth.

Moore ignored Farrell's curses and carefully reclaimed the Frost Plum Blossom from his right hand. Then, with a slight push,

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gone was Farrell as he was thrown into the lake, accompanied by a string of cries.

The crowd was astonished at the scene.

They couldn't believe it. Farrell was obviously someone with an exalted status from the Hu family. No one would dare to ruffle his feathers.

Not to mention Fade wiping out his followers, even Moore made his move on him. The crowd couldn't come to their senses for a while.

Ignoring the stares and comments from the crowd, Moore clapped his hands and restored the Frost Plum Blossom to its original place. Then he looked at Fade and said, "Thank you for your help, young man."

Fade smiled and said, "It seems like you didn't even need my help. You're strong enough on your own. I was just lending a hand."

Moore shook his head and replied, "You were brave enough to act out in that situation. That alone should warrant my thanks."

Fade cupped one hand in the other before his chest and said, "Sir, you flattered me. I had my own selfish motives as I hope to get the Frost Plum Blossom from you."

Moore said, "It doesn't matter what you were thinking. No matter what your motive is, I should thank you for helping me."

Hearing this, Fade said in a joking tone, "So, sir, are you willing to sell the Frost Plum Blossom to me?"

Moore shook his head and said, "My apologies, but if you want to obtain it, you will have to follow the rules and break through all three formations."

"But of course, I will still give you something for helping me." He looked at Fade.

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Hearing this, Fade quickly smiled and waved his hand, saying, "You're welcome, sir. I'm just kidding. You don't have to worry about it, but I do have some ideas about the formation."

"Then I'm looking forward to seeing you break the formation, young man." A trace of surprise appeared on Moore's face.

Fade nodded and said, "Give me a little more time."

Moore nodded and did not say anything, nor did he disturb Fade. He allowed him to observe the formations carefully.

Time passed by, one second after another.

Five minutes. Fifteen minutes. Half an hour. An hour had passed.

At the beginning, some people were still curious about it as they stood beside Fade and started studying the formation with him. However, after watching for a while, they still couldn't find their way through it, so they all left with a sigh.

The crowd around him had been changing with time. Only Fade and Moore were standing there in silence all the time.

Moore was not anxious. Where Fade did not say anything, he would just allow him to observe and study in silence.

Another hour passed in silence.

Even the lively Swallow Lake gradually quieted down. Most of the crowd had already left the venue.

The sky was dark, and midnight was nigh. Only a few staff members, as well as some martial artists who still had something to do stayed in the venue.

There were no customers beside Fade, Tom and Jasmine at the stall.

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Even Tom and Jasmine were slightly confused at the sight of Fade standing there for two whole hours.

However, Moore was still calm and not a sliver of restlessness shown.

In the middle of the night, the moon rose to the highest point. The cold moonlight sprinkled on the lake, as if the Swallow Lake was speckled with silver glitters. The moonlight swayed gently in the wind, shining brightly and dazzlingly.

At that moment, Fade suddenly opened his eyes and looked up at Moore. He smiled and said, "I got it."

Hearing this, Moore also showed a hint of excitement. He gently pointed to the three pieces of white cloth on the linen and said to Fade, "Please."

He attached himself to the first formation and began to move his finger. "The first formation is mainly a Stone Defence Formation and there are some slight changes on its foundation. However, the basic principle is still unchanged. It absorbs the earth energy from the stones and soil to form a protective formation. Since its main characteristic is strong and hard, it is difficult to break it directly.

If you want to break through this formation, this point here is where you should start. First, deal with the positive energy to break through this weak point, and then follow this route to break through the points one by one..."

Fade gesticulated the formation at ease. In the beginning, Tom and Jasmine were still able to understand his words.

However, shortly after, they couldn't keep up with Fade's movements and words. They had not the slightest inkling what he was talking about at all. In the end, they could only sigh and give up.

However, Moore listened carefully to Fade's words and watched his movements. His eyes were sparkling, and a smile broke across his face.

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One was gesturing and explaining, while the other was paying rapt attention, listening, nodding and even raising some questions.

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Chapter 1430

Half an hour later, Fade finished breaking all three formations. He looked up at Moore and said, "That's how to break the formation."

He raised his head and looked at Fade, admiration glinting in his eyes. After a moment of silence, he sighed and said, "Talk about a young talent! It's amazing that you could break these three formations in such a short time."

"Sir, you're too polite. I only happened to be lucky," Fade smiled and cupped his hands.

Moore took the initiative to hand over the Frost Plum Blossom and said, "This is yours now."

Accepting it, Fade asked, "There's one more thing I'd like to ask you."

"Please speak," Moore said.

Fade pointed at the Frost Plum Blossom in his hand and asked, "I'd like to ask you, sir, where did you get this?"

"This..." Moore was put in a bind.

Fade hurriedly explained, "To be honest, I need the Frost Plum Blossom Fruit, so I'm curious to know. If you can tell me, I'll exchange it for anything you wish for. Of course, if you do not wish to share, I won't force you."

After hearing his words, Moore pondered for a while. Finally, he looked up at Fade, shook his head and said, "I hate to say this, but I can't reveal the origin of this Frost Plum Blossom."

07:50 

Seeing a hint of disappointment in Fade's eyes, he quickly continued, "However, I believe that with your strength, you will be able to find the Frost Plum Blossom Fruit soon. Not to worry."

Fade forced a smile and nodded his head. He cupped his hands towards Moore and said, "Thank you for your kind words, sir."

Immediately, Moore packed up his things and left the venue. Although Fade felt slightly regretful for not knowing the origin, he still acquired the Frost Plum Blossom in the end. Therefore, he headed back to Capital City feeling content with Tom and Jasmine.

The next day, Jasmine's injuries were quickly healed under Fade's personal treatment. Her actual combat abilities had also greatly improved during the Martial Arts Convention, and her skills had broken through another level, reaching the middle stage of the Black Level. Her speed of improvement was terrifying.

As for Tom, Fade also personally guided his martial cultivation and adapted some suitable martial arts skills so that he could practice on them as well.

On the other side, Joey, whose mind was blanked out when she'd heard about her parents' news, finally recovered from it in the next few days. She was back to being her usual optimistic and quick-witted girl again.

After learning that Fade had won the championship of the Martial Arts Convention, she immediately urged him to treat them all to a dinner and celebrate his achievement.

As Fade couldn't refuse her, he booked a table in a five-star hotel for dinner and also for a simple reunion among the friends and families.

That evening, in the hotel.



07:50

Joey, Jasmine, and Yankee came together from Capital University, whereas Tom and Melanie arrived from their respective offices. As for the Capital City Music Academy, Fade had invited Yuri and Susie to come over together.

However, only Yuri turned up.

After asking, they knew that Susie was occupied with an important performance for those two days, and she was in a last minute rehearsal at that time. Having no choice but to skip the dinner, she'd also deliberately asked Yuri to apologize to Fade on her behalf.

Although they were short of one, the dinner still proceeded in a lively manner. They were all in their 20's, and the atmosphere of the whole meal was carefree.

After dinner, Joey insisted on going to the bar and enjoying herself.

Jasmine and Yuri, who were more ladylike, didn't really like visiting bars, but they saw how excited Joey was, so they agreed to go together with the gang.

Melanie was much more experienced in this aspect, as her main clients and spokesperson for her Emerald Plum Jewels company were all rich and respectable figures in this social circle, which accounted for her familiarity with bars in the city.

Therefore, the gang swung by Windy Desert Bar as she suggested. The bar was not large in size, but its decoration was unique from others. As they walked in, the colorful lights were shining and the music was blasting. There weren't many customers around, nor was there any wild dance scene, so it was still a decent enough place for them to hang around.

They settled down in a booth and ordered some drinks. They were drinking and chatting while also enjoying the performance by the bar counter. The atmosphere was great.

07:50 

After hanging around for a while, Yuri and Jasmine got up and headed to the bathroom. Both of them were lightweights.

The rest of the gang were still enjoying the atmosphere, especially Joey who looked like she was on an adrenaline rush. She even urged Fade to give a performance, to which the latter rejected her.

About ten minutes later, Yuri and Jasmine still hadn't come back, and Fade was a little curious about their whereabouts. He got up and said, "Yuri and Jasmine haven't come back yet. I'll go and check on them."

With Jasmine's skills being among the middle stage of the Black Level, it was impossible for any ordinary person to hurt her. However, just in case of any unexpected event, Fade still sprinted to their direction.

The lights in the bathroom were very dim. Where Fade walked across, there were couples making out in every corner as well as along the corridor. Scantly clad, they were all engaged in passionate make-out sessions.

Although the atmosphere of this bar was much better than other bars, it was still a bar where make-out sessions like this could not be missed.

Ignoring the intimate atmosphere around him, Fade headed inside. When he came near the bathroom, he heard Jasmine shouting, "Get lost or don't blame me for what comes next!"

Then, there was another perverted voice of a man, with a hint of smirk, "What comes next? Well, I do want to see what comes next. Does it involve a bed?"

Fade frowned and quickened his steps towards them, then he saw what was happening.

At the end of the corridor stood a man about 23 or 24 years old. He was standing in front of Jasmine and Yuri. His hair was yellow, and he was blocking their path.

07:50 

Yuri was furious and she glared at him and warned, "Easton Liu, you'd better get out of the way or I'll call the police."

"Yuri, why involve the police in this," Easton smirked at her and said, "You've always been the innocent goddess in our campus, so why are you here in a bar? Was your innocence nothing but an act?"