Schoolgirl 521

Chapter 521: Follow Close And Grab On

As Yu Luo relayed her plan in a hushed voice, the mountain peak was just within grasp.

Right after Yun Jian and team caught up to Battling Dragons, they remained behind them without pushing to surpass them. Coming to this point of the race, Team Monarch was still energetic as they had kept a constant speed.

In comparison, Yu Luo and her team had long been panting. They had exerted more energy since they had been talking along the way up. This caused them to feel strained even just to stretch their arms, bend down and pick up the mini red flags on the ground when they had come to the top.

With their strong determination, they managed to grab the flags nonetheless and charged down the mountain.

The way down was much easier than going uphill. Even when they were drained, they could descend the downhill route breezily.

It was just that when one had hiked up to the peak in one go and nearly drained their energy, their legs would shake endlessly like a pair of springs when they made their way down. This was what Yu Luo and her team members felt.

As for Yun Jian and team, they were not even short of breath nor were their legs shaking, a common phenomenon, on the way down. Chu Ning and others stayed behind Yun Jian closely, waiting for her signal.

Yun Jian tailed Yu Luo's team along the way, not planning to go past them. However, the latter turned anxious when the seven of Team Monarch were so close behind them. Although their legs were shaking violently, they ran faster.

All of them were holding the mini red flags. Battling Dragons ran in front while Team Monarch was close behind. They arrived at the base of the mountain in an instant, meeting Lin Kuan on the way.

The latter was stout, having already given up on running earlier after a while since it was not what he was best in. When he tried to stop Yun Jian and team by blocking in the middle of the path only to fall down, he was currently in so much pain that he could not even walk—he could forget about re-joining the match.

Yu Luo and others were about a dozen steps away from reaching the flatland now.

Once they made it to the flat ground, it would take another 300 to 400 meters to return to where they had started just now.

It was then Yu Luo and her team felt Yun Jian and team picking up speed gradually.

Were they going to lose? Yu Luo gritted her teeth and waved for her teammates to start executing the plan she had mentioned just now.

Battling Dragons was never going to lose!

...

Ge Junjian, Ai Guoxun, and Chief Yuan stayed on the spot in anticipation for both teams to return from the mountain.

All three of them had mixed feelings, especially Ai Guoxun. He was digging the fat flesh of his palms with his fingernails. Having despised Ge Junjian for a long time, it had taken him a lot of effort to select capable youth like Yu Luo and others then train them up painstakingly for this duel.

This was the day he was waiting for, his purpose and goal! To oppress Ge Junjian today!

"They're coming!" Chief Yuan exclaimed subconsciously when he saw several silhouettes running toward the flat ground from the dozen steps of stairs respectively.

During the last couple of steps, Chief Yuan then saw two people from the remaining six of Yu Luo's team stopping suddenly, moving to block Yun Jian and her team when the latter was about to surpass them and grabbing them to hold them back.

Once Yun Jian and team were pulled back while any four of Yu Luo and teammates made it to the ground and ran back to where the three adults were, Battling Dragons would win the race.

Any four people from the same team to arrive first out of the seven was considered a win!

Then, despite the long distance, Chief Yuan and his subordinates witnessed an alarming scene.

Chapter 522: An Incredibly Swift Kick And Knock Down

There was no doubt that those who were selected as Advanced Special Forces candidates were capable.

Battling Dragons and Team Monarch were parallel in terms of ability. The reason Battling Dragons dared challenge Team Monarch was because the team made up of Yu Luo and team members had completed several military missions just like the latter.

Their performance was not as outstanding as Team Monarch's but their overall ability was excellent.

When they had sprinted toward the mountain peak, everyone in Battling Dragons was brimming with confidence and inwardly despising Yun Jian and team. That was because the seven of them accomplished their tasks so speedily that it was almost illogical not to look down on them.

It was a reality that no one could deny.

Nonetheless, the missions that Team Monarch carried out and their process of completing them were never disclosed.

Battling Dragons were different. The reason they made a name for themselves was because they had completed another huge mission just previously—sneaking into the underground black market and seizing an executive member of a mafia group!

This was just a result and did not sound as impressive as Team Monarch, but Yu Luo and her teammates had gone through various hardships when they sneaked into the underground scene to catch the executive member.

They had disguised themselves to blend into the black market, but they encountered a confrontation with people there and were even injured, before finally accomplishing the task.

These were known facts by anyone in the military.

What about Team Monarch, though? What had they gone through back when they went after the international thief for the stolen antique?

Champ Squad and Flying Dragons who had gone with them for the mission must not have known too. This caused Yu Luo and her team to assume that Yun Jian and others were just lucky without any substantial ability.

What they did not know, however, was that Yun Jian had personally wiped out a foreign mafia group during her first mission.

It was what Ge Junjian had purposely kept confidential so the news was not spread, thus Yu Luo and her team had naturally not heard about it.

When Yun Jian and the members of Team Monarch were catching up, Battling Dragons had just thought that they had good stamina. Yu Luo and members were confident about their skills but they lacked in their physical strength and stamina.

Therefore, during the last few steps of the staircase, Yu Luo had two weaker and slower members stop their run to block Yun Jian and her team. The other four of them, including Yu Luo, who ran the fastest would sprint for the finishing point that was also their starting point with the mini red flags.

This ploy was Yu Luo's ultimate trick.

She also thought that for two guys to stop Yun Jian and team, as long as they could hold on to the edge of their clothes, it was enough for the four of their own team members to dash for the finishing point.

Just as Yu Luo turned to sneer at Yun Jian, telling the latter with her gaze that she was going to reach the finishing point first...

Just as Ge Junjian, Ai Guoxun, and Chief Yuan watched through the bushes some distance away, the view cleared as two guys pounced at Yun Jian who was the first to come down with the intention to grab their clothes and stop them from moving forward...

Yun Jian looked like she had been prepared for it. With a smirk, she jumped up from the step with both of her feet the moment the guys went in for her. As if wearing springs on her legs, her feet kicked both of the guys' stomachs once she was in the air.

Both young men were clearly not expecting it. In a flash of an eye, Yun Jian had knocked both of them down to the muddy ground beside the path.

As for Yun Jian, she made a 360 degree flip in the air, like how people in action movies did, and landed securely before she ran forward without lingering for even a second.

The scene amazed Chief Yuan and the officers who were standing farther away while Yu Luo who was looking back at Yun Jian in disdain was baffled!

Chapter 523: She's Guessed It. Unqualified

While Yu Luo was dumbstruck, Yun Jian ran past her with her swishing long hair.

Chu Ning and the other five teammates, who were used to Yun Jian's skill, were still more or less impressed when they witnessed her abilities again, but it was growing common for them, so they moved on only after a slight halt.

Other than Chu Ning who reproached Lin Kuan, the others like Liu Shiyun had not even made a sound since the start of the race. They were still feeling tireless right now!

What it resulted in was Jiang Weiwei surpassing Yu Luo and her team who were dumbfounded right after Yun Jian. Then, Chu Ning and others followed one after another.

Just as they reached the flat ground, Yun Jian began to accelerate. She had been running at a constant speed previously while the other six had followed, moving in a fixed velocity. Now that all of them were on a flatland, they were moving faster.

When Yu Luo and her team realized it and were trying to catch up while cursing, Yun Jian and her teammates were already speeding up for their final dash.

Among the seven of them, Chu Xiangnan who could be considered the slowest in running had already surpassed them and was ahead of Yu Luo and her team as well.

The difference between them was that Chu Xiangnan still had boundless energy, but Yu Luo and her team were exhausted. Now that Team Monarch had surpassed them, they were too drained to chase after them.

The end was decided. All seven members of Team Monarch were racing for the finishing point respectively!

Chief Yuan's initial rule was to take into account only the first seven people who came in first. Whichever team that took the majority count in those seven people would be considered the winner of that round.

Now, Yun Jian and her six other teammates had taken all the spots as the first seven to complete the race. Not even one member from Battling Dragons made it into the top seven!

The result had shocked not only Chief Yuan as well as Ge Junjian and Ai Guoxun who stood beside him but also everyone currently present in the military base.

By the time Yu Luo and her team made it to the finishing point, nothing was disputable.

Yu Luo plopped on the ground in disappointment, clenching her jaws.

They were done! Battling Dragons had no more chances!

There were two rounds for the duel between Team Monarch and Battling Dragons but the premise for that to happen was Battling Dragons winning the first round, which was this hiking race. Otherwise, they would not qualify for the second round.

"Hahaha, amazing. Very interesting!" Chief Yuan snapped back from his shock and laughed loudly. Looking at Ge Junjian appraisingly, he lauded, "Old Ge, this Team Monarch of yours is great! Very promising! I've never seen too many captains as excellent as this in my life!"

The mentioned captain referred to Yun Jian. After all, she had been guiding everyone like a leader all this while. If she had not led the way, Team Monarch might actually be trapped by Battling Dragons.

"Chief, our Yun Jian'er is marvelous! Heh, how could Battling Dragons compare to us?" Chu Ning grinned in self-satisfaction as she plucked the courage to talk to Chief Yuan.

To be honest, Yun Jian's consideration was comprehensive in their five-day training. She had only spent the first day asking the team to memorize the anatomy chart and prepared the rest of the four days to train them physically.

What impressed Chu Ning and the rest was that Yun Jian had mentioned back then that the duel might not be a battle of skills. If they were contested on physical strength, all of them needed to work on their stamina and energy other than training for a killer move.

As expected, Yun Jian had made an accurate prediction!

They had learned the assassin's move and trained physically! Winning the first round now meant that they did not have to continue to the second round of battling their skills against Battling Dragons.

This was because Battling Dragons had already lost the qualification!

Chapter 524: Running Away With A Tail Between Their Legs

"Battling Dragons really can't compare to you all!" Chief Yuan chorused what Chu Ning said swiftly. Elated and impressed by such talent from Yun Jian, his comment came without much thought when it was Chu Ning who was from the same team as Yun Jian who spoke.

As an easygoing person, Chief Yuan was straightforward with his words and had a candid personality. He was not someone to mince his words to avoid offenses.

Therefore, when he had openly stated that Battling Dragons could not compare to Team Monarch right in front of Ai Guoxun and everyone of Battling Dragons, he was not at all worried about affronting them. He was their superior anyway!

On the other hand, how could Yu Luo take it when her superior was blatantly pointing out that her team was lacking compared to Yun Jian's? She was not Battling Dragons' leader but she was also a guiding captain.

The same position in Team Monarch was led by Yun Jian, so Yu Luo and Yun Jian were basically right at odds with each other.

Now that Battling Dragons were said to pale next to Team Monarch, it was—in a way—saying that Yu Luo was weaker than Yun Jian. It was what Yu Luo could not stand the most, being called weaker than others.

While Yun Jian had not said that, the words coming from Chief Yuan meant something different. If Yun Jian had called Yu Luo inadequate, it would probably anger Yu Luo less than when the same words came from Chief Yuan.

Ai Guoxun was already glaring daggers at Yu Luo and her team from the side. He had invested all his effort in them but they failed him?

"Haha, we're all under the same military roof. Losing or winning doesn't matter, it's of utmost importance to put peace above everything else! That's all to this duel then. All of you should keep the spirit and continue working hard!" Chief Yuan patted Ge Junjian and Ai Guoxun's shoulder with a chuckle as he spoke with beaming eyes.

With that, he draped his coat over himself and left with some polite excuses.

Someone like Chief Yuan must definitely have a lot of work to deal with.

Once Chief Yuan left, Ai Guoxun scoffed at Ge Junjian before barking at Battling Dragons, "Humph, let's go!"

Yu Luo and her team scowled at Yun Jian and her team too. The undisguised dirty look meant a lot like "This isn't done".

Chu Ning and Chu Xiangnan glowered back at Yu Luo and team until they left with a snap of head.

"My goodness, are they even human!" Chu Xiangnan cried, pointing at Ai Guoxun and Battling Dragons' retreating back.

"Luckily we won." Jiang Weiwei wore a rare smile as she directed her gaze to Yun Jian. She had looked down at Yun Jian in the beginning but Yun Jian was a professional. She could lead the entire team!

"You've managed to keep your spots as the Advanced Special Forces." Ge Junjian sighed in relief and offered a kind smile. Looking at his team, he said, "We'll return to the hotel later and stay the night in F Province according to plan. You can tour around the province's busier area at night."

"Officer Ge, are you going with us?" Chu Ning cheered gleefully before turning to invite Ge Junjian.

"I'm an old man. There's no need for me to shop here. You can go ahead but don't come back too late when you go have fun at night." Ge Junjian was gentle with them. He was stern in training but when it was time to relax, he made sure they did just that.

"I'm not going too." Yun Jian pursed her lips and stretched standing on the spot.

"No way! Yun Jian'er, you have to go! Come have fun with us!" Amidst Chu Ning's whine, all of them went back to their reserved hotel happily.

Chapter 525: The Famous Yongchun Martial Club

Ultimately, Yun Jian went out with Chu Ning and others being semi-hauled and semi-shoved by them. Chu Ning also mentioned that they had won the duel today so easily because of Yun Jian. If it were not for her, how could they have won the match in a breeze? Unable to withstand the girl's insistent pestering, Yun Jian went along with them.

Being crowned the City of Ocean, F Province was the city with the most convenient coastal trade in Country Z. Its busiest area, the street people called Upper Street, was a prosperous domain teeming with people and traffic.

As the exemplary largest area of trade in the country, ordinary households in F Province were already achieving middle class status. Cars were also no longer a rare sight on the roads here.

Compared to Longmen City, F Province was generally several notches higher in standard.

Chu Ning had seemed pretty wild and rough usually but she was all in all a girl. Once they arrived at the street, she began shopping for clothes and shoes.

Liu Shiyun and the others were rather patient as they waited for her to try clothes after clothes. As for Yun Jian, she leaned against a pillar in the shop with closed eyes for some rest.

"Let's go over there and have a look!"

Chu Ning tossed another big bag of new purchases to Chu Xiangnan and was about to head to another fashionable shoe store when the latter gave up, grumbling at her helplessly, "Hey, Chu Ning, this is enough! I can barely hold all the bags. Are you going to put the hauls on my head next? Also, are you fine with everyone waiting for just you to shop around?"

When Chu Ning bought new clothes and shoes, she had made Chu Xiangnan carry all of them.

"Heh heh..." Meeting his eyes embarrassedly, Chu Ning pressed her lips together and finally settled with an apologetic smile. "I couldn't control myself for a moment there."

"Where are we going to next?" she asked with a crack of a grin.

"I heard that there's a martial club in F Province that's the biggest in Country Z. The equipment there is the latest too. We can go check it out?" Fang Xiaoran who had been silently suggested.

"That's wonderful? Heh, of course, we have to go visit!" Chu Xiangnan agreed on the first instant he heard it but he asked for the rest of the team's opinion, "What about you guys? Wanna go?"

"I think it's a great suggestion." Liu Shiyun was interested as well.

The others had no objection and all of them turned in unison to see what Yun Jian thought.

"Yes." Yun Jian gave a one-worded reply.

"Let's go then!" Chu Xiangnan was the first to bolt forward with his hands full of Chu Ning's shopping hauls.

Asking around, the group came to the most renowned martial club in F Province, the Yongchun Martial Club.

Established with 300 to 400 years of history, Yongchun Club's master was said to be its fifth generation successor and was highly skilled in his expertise.

Yongchun Martial Club was regarded highly in the province. Yun Jian and her team had gotten the club's address by simply asking around passersby. With the given directions, they arrived at the club entrance after a short while.

The entrance of Yongchun Club was a good ten meters tall. It was truly not a joke that it was Country Z's biggest martial club.

Upon entry, a receptionist welcomed them politely at the front desk and asked, "Hello. Welcome. Are you long-term members here?"

Chapter 526: Partner Up And Spar. It's Them?

The receptionist's polite question greeted Chu Ning and the team.

"No, it's our first time here," Chu Xiangnan told the receptionist before everyone else.

A registered long-term member was the type of person to frequent Yongchun Martial Club and have a membership card on hand.

"Would you like to sign up for a long-term membership then?" asked the receptionist again.

"No thanks." This time, it was Yun Jian who answered.

They were not going to stay long-term in F Province. They were here now because of Battling Dragons' challenge.

Basically, they would not be utilizing the card. Even if they had signed up for it, they could not use it if they were not visiting the province.

"Okay." The receptionist nodded and registered Yun Jian and the others.

There was a lot of martial art training equipment in the martial club as well as selected instructors to teach the students, so this place was a youth's primary choice for a training venue. Of course, there were also posers who learned martial arts to look cool.

This martial club charged by the hour, while registered long-term members paid according to semesters or years. People like Yun Jian and her team who would only be here once naturally paid by the hour.

This was only Yongchun Martial Club's rules. Other martial clubs might charge differently.

Upon discussion, Liu Shiyun and others decided to spend two hours in the club. Chu Xiangnan who came from a rich family had never lacked money and had rushed to clear everyone's payment when they were required to pay.

Since knowing that Chu Xiangnan had no regard for such an amount of money, the team accepted his kind gesture. After the registration was done, Yun Jian followed the other six members past the front desk and into a dome-shaped door modeled after an ancient building.

When they were at the front desk, the interesting interior of the martial club could not be seen. A large screen was placed behind the front desk to block the view of the inside of the club and one could only hear the shouts of the training teenagers inside.

Just as Yun Jian and her team entered the club, they were greeted by a fully modified mirror wall in front of them. Painted on the left of the space was a huge calligraphy character that stood for "martial art".

A big group of teenagers similar to Yun Jian's age stood in the center while a martial art instructor who was performing martial art movements stood in front of them. He looked to be in his forties with a square face and had single eyelids.

There were many sandbags hung in the club alongside equipment used during practices.

When the instructor who stood before the group of teenagers saw the seven members of team Monarch, he stopped immediately to ask looking at them, "Are you all new?"

"Mm." Chu Xiangnan who was standing closer to the instructor nodded dumbly.

"My family name's Xu. Just call me Coach Xu," Coach Xu said loudly before gesturing for seven of them. "Come over, let's learn some moves together!"

Chu Xiangnan and Chu Ning ran over excitedly at Coach Xu's invitation. Yun Jian went along as well, standing beside the group of teenagers where it was nearer to the corner.

Learning was something Yun Jian prioritized both in her past and present lives.

There was no doubt that Coach Xu was the master of Yongchun Martial Club, the fifth generation successor of Yongchun.

After he taught a set of punches, Coach Xu asked everyone to sit down in a circle.

"Have all of you understood this set of punches? It's now time to test it out. Come up one by one later, pair up and show me how you spar," said Coach Xu with his arms crossed in front of his chest.

Right after that, a yell came from the entrance. "Uncle! We're here!"

The familiar female voice made Yun Jian who sat in a circle with everyone else on the floor raised her brow.

It was them?

Chapter 527: Being Sought After And Being Unwelcomed

A group of people came in from the dome-shaped door that Yun Jian and friends came through just now. The one leading was Yu Luo whom they had met in the military base while the other six beside her were the members of Battling Dragons.

When Lin Kuan who was bulkier in size came through the door, he was stuck for a moment. All that flesh and blood that weighed over 100 kilograms was truly astounding. Nonetheless, he got himself out from being stuck swiftly and followed the rest to stand behind Yu Luo.

Yun Jian noticed that Yu Luo had called Coach Xu uncle—Coach Xu was Yu Luo's uncle?

This was probably what people meant by 'enemies were bound to meet'.

Quirking a corner of her lips up, Yun Jian caught a glimpse that Chu Ning and others had already taken notice of Yu Luo and her team too. It was just that the latter had not seen them yet because Yun Jian, Chu Ning, and others were sitting mixed among the rest of the teenagers.

In spite of it, Chu Ning and the team looked pretty appalled.

Ge Junjian and Ai Guoxun were nemeses. It was predestined that Yun Jian and her team were going to be enemies with Yu Luo and her team when they met. Furthermore, Yu Luo and her team were trying to win with despicable tricks during their duel. It only made Yun Jian and her team dislike them more.

"It's Miss Yu! Coach Xu is her uncle, you know? And I heard that Miss Yu is a candidate of the Advanced Special Forces! Do you know Battling Dragons caught an executive of a mafia group previously? She's one of the members!"

When the seven of Yu Luo and team appeared, the teenagers sitting in a circle on the floor broke out into excited discussion. They looked exactly like they were seeing their idol.

That was actually more or less the case. Battling Dragons that was made up of Yu Luo and members had already become the sought after group of F Province's youth.

Be it in schools or the society, Battling Dragons were sung praises, they were so accomplished despite their young age. In addition, Yu Luo and team had never tried to cover up what they had done—they would even exaggerate and publicize it. Their ultimate goal was to make everyone know how accomplished they were.

Therefore, the seven of them were like idols to many of the civilians.

"Candidates of the Advanced Special Forces? Wow, that's so cool..." someone chorused promptly with a tone brimming with admiration and veneration.

Feeling their popularity and the adoration, Yu Luo and the rest of Battling Dragons had their heads raised high in pride. Yu Luo, especially, cracked a smile and scanned the venue boldly, looking at the teenagers seated on the floor like she was looking down at ants.

Coach Xu took a look at his niece. Before he said anything, he saw her scanning his group of students and suddenly zeroing in on one slender figure.

Then, he saw Yu Luo pointing at the figure and shouted, "You! Why are you here?"

Yun Jian did not avoid the confrontation. At the receiving end of Yu Luo's murderous glare, Yun Jian smiled and asked, "Why? Can't I be here?"

Yu Luo's gaze was cutting, sharp like a knife. She glared daggers at Yun Jian before pointing to the door, yelling at her, "This is my uncle's martial club. You're not welcomed. Get out!"

Chapter 528: An Armed Intrusion Before The Fight

"Xiao Luo, she's a guest. How could you act this way?" Coach Xu voiced out with a frown when Yu Luo wanted to drive Yun Jian out with a finger at the entrance.

Coach Xu had always thought that his niece was insensible even though it was undeniable that she was talented; she would grasp whatever he taught in martial arts instantly. That was why he accepted Yu Luo as his disciple even when he disliked her character.

When Yu Luo rebuked Yun Jian with a finger at her the moment she came in, Coach Xu had to reprimand her as this was his martial club.

"Uncle, we have a grudge. Stay out of this!" Yu Luo was already treating Yun Jian like an enemy. Her resentment went deep. Despite being in front of everyone else, she could care less.

Leading the rest of Battling Dragons to Yun Jian, Yu Luo's finger was still on Yun Jian as she provoked, "You aren't leaving, are you? Okay! We didn't get to fight in the military. Do you dare fight me now?"

Yu Luo's undisguised taunting made Coach Xu's eyelid jump. He knew how capable his niece was. Judging solely on capability, Yu Luo was formidable. Coach Xu had to give it to her that it was only a matter of time for his niece to surpass him.

"Come on! Fight! Fight!" With the rare opportunity to witness the ability of the legendary Yu Luo from Battling Dragons, the teenagers present in the club stirred in enthusiasm and cheered.

The moment Yun Jian stood up, Chu Ning and others were already standing behind her. Faced with Yu Luo's provocation, Yun Jian was staring right at her without any fear.

"Me?" Yun Jian asked.

Listening to the cheers and her uncle's worried look like she was going to injure her opponent, Yu Luo answered obnoxiously, "Yes! Do you dare to?"

"You're unworthy to fight me." Yun Jian smirked with despise as she side-eyed Yu Luo before waving at Chu Xiangnan and her other teammates to signal for them to leave with her.

It was not the case of Yun Jian being scared—it was Yu Luo being an unworthy opponent!

Just as Yun Jian planned to leave the club going around Yu Luo, the latter stopped her abruptly. She was enraged by what Yun Jian had said. Blocking her way, she spoke arrogantly, "Do you think you can come and go from our martial club as you please?"

Her voice roused a flash in Yun Jian's sharp eyes.

"Wow, Miss Yu's domineering! My idol indeed, I'm so impressed by her!" A young man exclaimed looking at Yu Luo reverently.

"I'm turning into her fan!" Another young man said, covering his face in exaggeration.

When the atmosphere was at its most tense and both sides were at the peak of their vehemence, a group of people suddenly rushed in from the dome-shaped door.

These people wore all black with a piece of black gauze mask covering their faces. What was terrifying about them was that all of them had pistols in their hands.

"Ah!" The teenagers who were sitting in a circle panicked at the sight, terrorized by the intruders who had barged in with guns.

Coach Xu, Yu Luo, and others were similarly shell-shocked and paused whatever they were doing.

The leading man dressed in black with a gun pointed his pistol at Coach Xu and cried, "Ask your students to shut up! We'll kill all of you otherwise!"

Chapter 529: Careless Shooting. Release The Hostages

A hostage situation!

Everyone pictured the armed intrusion as mentioned at the same time.

Could these invading gunned men dressed in black belong to some assassin organization?

Yu Luo who had been aggressive just earlier paled instantly when she saw these gunned intruders in black.

Everyone in Battling Dragons was aghast. No one had expected this!

Coach Xu's frown was deep. He was also nonplussed by the incident, having never dreamed of his martial club being invaded by these unknown criminals. Although he did not know what they wanted, it was obvious from their tone that these men in black were up to no good.

"Ah! Ah! Ah!" Alas, it was the first time the youth in the martial club met a situation like this. To them, such a danger would only happen in movies—never would they encounter a terror like this in reality!

Consequently, all the youngsters shrieked involuntarily.

Yun Jian's gaze turned sharper, not expecting this group of men in black to barge into a martial club suddenly as well.

Coach Xu swallowed. Threatened and held at gunpoint, he was the first to realize that things were dire.

"Quiet! Quiet down!" he shouted at the members.

In spite of it, the youth there had never experienced such an encounter. They were already scramming everywhere in terror-stricken panic. How could they listen to Coach Xu?

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The man clad in black was enraged. Holding his pistol, he opened fire at three youngsters who were scrambling.

The three of them collapsed at the sound of the gunshots before blood oozed and life was drained from three bodies.

They were dead! Dead!

Everyone clammed up in shock when they saw the scene, quickly finding corners to hide themselves.

"Continue to run and this is how you'll end up!" The man in black with the pistol did not look like he was aware that he had killed three people. Sneering with reckless regard for life, his eerie gaze sent chills down everyone's back.

Yu Luo who was vehement earlier packed up all her gusto, not daring to make a sound.

Beep, beep, beep...

The siren of police cars rang outside of the martial club, obviously having come for these men in black.

Those who had originally been in the martial club were quick to realize that they had perhaps been held hostages! These gunned men in black could be criminals from some unlawful organization! After all, which ordinary person would have a pistol with them?

When the man in black saw that everyone was too scared to make another sound, he scanned the room with his pistol before shouting, "Hands on your head, squat down!"

With trembling legs, no one dared defy the man as they did what was told. Even Chu Ning, Chu Xiangnan, and others obeyed. Under such circumstances, one would be killed if they refused to follow the order. There was no way to fight violence with violence for now.

Yu Luo and team, including Coach Xu, were infuriated but they dared not say a thing. This bunch of men had killed three people just now! Three young, vibrant lives were taken away just like that!

No one dared make a sound about it, however, as all of them were scared, terrified of the guns in the men's hands.

There was a glint in Yun Jian's eyes as she followed the crowd, squatting down with hands on her head. It was best to stay quiet and unnoticed before the situation was comprehended.

Once everyone was down on the floor with hands on their head, the police's loud booming voice through the megaphone came from the outside. "Let go of the hostages and surrender right now. We'll take action otherwise!"

Hostages! These men in black really were criminals. Everyone else in the martial club was just an unfortunate victim who got caught in the turmoil.

Chapter 530: Criminals—Inferno Again

Having subdued everyone, the man in black who shot three youngsters just now turned to another man on his side, speaking in English, "Jay, go tell the foolish police that if they dare barge in, they can forget about the near hundred people we have here in the martial club leaving this place alive!"

The man in black addressed as Jay nodded and turned to leave with the instruction.

Yun Jian cast her gaze down and pressed her lips together.

From the men's speech and action, they were visibly foreigners. No one noticed their foreign identities earlier because they had black gauze masking their faces, leaving only pairs of dark eyes.

Yun Jian had also come to a conclusion swiftly.

These men in black had invaded the martial club and taken them hostage mainly because they had a lot of people here! Coach Xu alone had almost 100 students in the club. In order to escape the police, holding a bunch of people hostages was far better than detaining one or two of them.

The police might send someone directly to save the victims if it had been only one or two hostages kept but if it were a group of captives, the police would rouse a bigger commotion if they attempted a rescue. Moreover, if all of the hostages here were killed, that would surely cause large scale havoc for society.

Therefore, the police would have to think twice in trying to save the hostages.

The man called Jay came back shortly. Going to the man who had just killed the three youngsters. He looked to be the leader of these gunned men, he spoke back in English, "Those police are scared now but they aren't withdrawing. Hertz, we should call the HQ and ask for backup."

It sounded a lot like these men belonged to an organization.

Yun Jian's eyes were trained on the floor. Yu Luo and her team were terrified to silence. So what if they were candidates of the Advanced Special Forces? They were only candidates! Their enemy had firearms!

The man named Hertz fished out a cellphone from his pocket and made a call. No one in the room dared make a sound and it was pin-drop silence except for the call's monotonous dialing tone that filled the air

There were also the corpses of the three teenagers who were shot dead earlier, a gory sight that intimidated anyone who laid eyes on them.

Everyone was shaking in terror and trepidation. Faced with these terrorist-like criminals, even Coach Xu dared not speak up. Staying down with hands on their heads, they were scared to be seen and then killed like those three teenagers by these black-dressed men should they even move.

The call was connected then.

The man called Hertz spoke up at once. "I'm Hertz. I'm on a mission in Country Z. My whereabouts are discovered by the police and I'm enclosed in a martial club. Send support quickly."

"Roger that." The answer on the other end of the line was brief before the sound of the call being hung up was heard.

Hertz pocketed his phone after hanging up. The motion coincidentally revealed the back of his hand that had been covered securely.

By chance, Yun Jian caught a glimpse of it. There was a golden rose on the back of Hertz's hand. It looked like it was imprinted on the skin with something impactful and the golden rose was glaring.

Yun Jian's eyes narrowed immediately. That was... Inferno Ring's emblem!