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Chapter 82.2

Chase to Kill (Part 1)

Looking at the sky, Shang Jun put down his bowl and chopsticks and said with a smile, "Let's go."

As the two walked out of the manor, there was a black clothed man pulling a fine horse as he indifferently waited along with four other men with horses behind him. They all had the same cold and solemn attitude and upon noticing Qin Xiu Zhi coming out, the black clothed man walked up to him and respectfully cupped his hands to salute, "Master."

Shang Jun lightly raised his eyebrow; this person was tall and strong. Looking at his physique, one would know that he had been practicing martial arts for a long time and had a strict personality. Was he the bodyguard that Qin Xiu Zhi brought from Hai Yu? It turned out that there were such valiant and strong men in Hai Yu. Shang Jun understood that Qin Xiu Zhi's status must be rather high in Hai Yu since he was able to have these kinds of people to accompany him.

Qin Xiu Zhi said to the black clothed man, "Xi Mu, he is my good friend, the owner of Piao Miao Manor, Shang Jun."

It turned out that his name was Xi Mu; Shang Jun appreciatively nodded and smiled at him.

Xi Mu took one glance at Shang Jun and only nodded slightly as a greeting before standing respectfully behind Qin Xiu Zhi and remaining silent.

Qin Xiu Zhi looked at Shang Jun with some embarrassment and helplessness as he wore an expression of 'please forgive me' on his face. Actually, he was not too familiar with Xi Mu at all; Xi Mu was his Imperial Mother's best secret bodyguard. He did not expect that his Imperial Mother would give him the secret bodyguards led by Xi Mu to go to Dong Yu this time. Perhaps this was Imperial Mother's apology and guilt towards his father; he had accepted it with some reluctance. He just wanted to wander freely in this world, so why would he need a group of elites following him around?!

Shang Jun did not pay any attention to Xi Mu's indifferent attitude and smiled at Qin Xiu Zhi comfortably as he said, "Is Xiu Zhi riding in a carriage or a horse?"

The weather today was very good as the sun was shining on the snow-white ground and although everything looked white all around, it had a special feeling, so Qin Xiu Zhi answered, "Since I am going for an outing, I naturally will ride a horse."

"Alright." Shang Jun took the two golden steeds brought by Yang Zhong and handed the reins to one of them over to Qin Xiu Zhi. He then turned around to lightly get on the other horse as he raised his whip and laughed, "Xiu Zhi, quick, let's have a race!" After he finished speaking, the horse was already raising its hooves ready to leave.

Being infected by Shang Jun's good mood, Qin Xiu Zhi also neatly mounted his horse as he chased the white shadow galloping on the snow in front of him. On the snow-covered road, the shadows of the two golden brown steeds were chasing and galloping in the cold wind. Qin Xiu Zhi's mood that was still in a tangle this morning, seemed to be no longer important at this moment

In front of Long Xia Gu canyon, Shang Jun smiled at the winding gorge that was like a jade belt in front of him, "Upfront is Long Xia Gu canyon."

No wonder it was called Long Xia Gu canyon. From the mouth of the valley, it looked like a blue dragon. Qin Xiu Zhi sighed, "Sure enough, the terrain is dangerous, and the peaks are numerous."

Shang Jun took the lead to enter it and smillingly said, "You can feel its charm even more once you are in it, so let's go!"

After entering the canyon, Qin Xiu Zhi had to admit that Shang Jun was right. Because of the terrain, the outside of the Long Xia Gu canyon was covered with snow and the wind was bitterly cold, but inside the canyon, there was no cold wind at all. The vegetation was still lush and flourishing inside this canyon and only a small piece of the sky could be seen when one looked up. The nearby peaks blocked the view and people seemed to be surrounded by the peaks, which was very beautiful.

Qin Xiu Zhi sighed from the beauty of the scenery, but Xi Mu vigilantly watched their surroundings. The terrain here was complicated and since they were at the bottom of the canyon, their location was very unfavorable. Xi Mu exchanged a look with the four people behind him and two of them flew up immediately. Standing on the rock wall about ten or twelve meters up, they were observing the surrounding terrain, while the other two guarded Qin Xiu Zhi together.

Shang Jun saw this and sighed in his heart secretly; he was a cautious and careful person.

Guiding his horse, Shang Jun leisurely rode in the front. Qin Xiu Zhi rode his horse with him and asked, "Is Shang Jun familiar with this place?" Seeing him riding along the way, he seemed very confident.

Shang Jun chuckled and replied, "Fortunately, it is inevitable that I have to go through here when I go back and forth to Dong Yu and <u>Cang</u> Yue."

As he rode to the bottom of the perilous peak, Shang Jun stood up and dismounted. He pointed to the top of the perilous peak and said, "The top is a supreme place; it is the most rugged place in Long Xia Gu canyon, but the scenery is also the most beautiful. It is the only place in the canyon that one can see the sunrise and sunset."

Although it was not easy for a person who did not know martial arts to climb up, Qin Xiu Zhi still dismounted and replied readily, "Then I must take a look."

After he finished speaking, he rolled up his clothes and seriously started to climb up. Shang Jun looked at his unsteady back and could not help but chuckle. In order to encourage him to go into business, Shu Qing once said 'if you are good at something, do it successfully as it should be.

But if you are clearly unsure of anything, you still need to work hard to do it and it will be more admirable.'

The man in front of him was doing something admirable, so for the first time, Shang Jun did not jump up with his light body skill but accompanied Qin Xiu Zhi to climb up little by little. Xi Mu who was standing at the bottom, stared at the backs of those two people who were going up the wall a little at a time and the corner of his mouth that was originally in a tight line, slightly raised up in a smile.

It was only about 15 meters high, but Qin Xiu Zhi climbed up for an hour and after great difficulty, he finally reached the summit. He immediately sat down on the rocky ground, panting for breath. In the cold winter, a thin layer of sweat had still formed on his forehead.

Qin Xiu Zhi could not help but sigh bitterly; Shang Jun had also climbed up this mountain, and while Qin Xiu Zhi made it to the top look embarrassing, the person next to him looked refreshed and alert. The sleeves of his white clothes were fluttering, and one could not even see any speck of dust on them. Standing tall at the summit of this perilous peak, he looked confident and free. Looking at this kind of Shang Jun, Qin Xiu Zhi felt that his heartbeat that was already somewhat chaotic, was even more frantic now.

Qin Xiu Zhi's strange expression caused Shang Jun to be a little worried, so he asked, "Xiu Zhi, are you alright?"

Murmuring with a soft voice while he quickly moved his gaze away; what the heck was wrong with him?! Shang Jun is a man, a man ah!! They are friends and can only be friends!! He kept admonishing himself in his heart, so Qin Xiu Zhi slowly calmed down and unnaturally smiled to say, "I am fine, but a little tired."

After he calmed down, Qin Xiu Zhi realized that the scenery in front of him was shockingly beautiful. The top of the perilous peak was almost as high as the other peaks. At this height, one could clearly see every mountain top, as if staring at the end of the forest, and it was as though one could lift one's foot gently to walk among the peaks. Qin Xiu Zhi could not help but sigh, "Sure enough, the boundless scenery is on the perilous peak."

The top of the peak was not very spacious, and it could only accommodate five or six people. There were only two people on the top of the peak now, as he and Xiu Zhi were the only two there. Shang Jun felt there was movement between the opposite peaks and the forest; there should be someone lurking in it. Xi Mu also noticed it and immediately flew up, guarding Qin Xiu Zhi Dehind him as he alertly stared toward the opposite mountain.

Shang Jun originally thought it was a member of Flying Eagle camp, but after careful observation, that was not the case. The martial arts of the visitor was obviously much higher than those of the Flying Eagle camp. Could it be You Xiao's people?!

Shang Jun stepped forward and stood on the edge of the peak as the low but clear and firm sound of internal force returned within Long Xia Gu canyon.

"Who is there?!"

Sian's notes:

So is this their "first date"??? 🕄 🕄

Dan, dan, dan.... the moment of truth for me. This chapter made me realize that QXZ doesn't know any martial arts. Lol... It never really dawned on me that he never knew martial arts when I read book 1 so it kind of hit me hard that he can't really "protect" our SJ either. I mean SJ has powerful martial arts but I'm not sure I like the fact that QXZ doesn't know any martial arts. How can he help SJ??? Emotionally???

Sorry.... the author stopped while it's getting interesting... by now, you should know that the author is an expert on this though! $\textcircled{\mathfrak{D}}$