

07:45 

Chapter 1411

Fade wouldn't call him that. It was inappropriate to address an elder by his name. Instead, he thanked him with a smile, "Thank you for your help before, Master Zhu."

Galeno said, "Well, kid, since you refuse to call me that, then I'll not force you to. By the way, how's your preparation for the Martial Arts Convention? How confident are you in winning?"

"Not too bad," Fade smirked as he replied.

"Not too bad," Galeno repeated what Fade said and laughed heartily, "You sound confident. I am looking forward to seeing you take the crown home!"

Someone snorted from behind and said, "Winning is not easy!"

Everyone shifted their attention towards the voice. A man in his sixties swaggered towards them with both hands behind his back. He had a smug look. He wore a green robe, and the edges of it fluttered in the air as he moved.

Several young men stood behind him. Among the leaders of the group were Faxon and Leighton. Fade's eyebrows raised in amusement as he recalled their recent fight.

Lucille muttered to Fade, "Mr. Chen, that man over there is Dannon Shao. He's a senior official of the Martial Arts League, but he often disagrees with my master. By the way, he is also Leighton and Faxon's master."



07:45

Fade narrowed his eyes as he nodded. He finally understood why Dannon and his people were so hostile towards them.

"Winning is not easy. However, I have faith in Fade," Galeno squinted his eyes at Dannon and said.

The corner of Dannon's mouth curled upward when he heard that, "Is that so?"

Then, he took a step forward and leaned towards Fade, "So you're Fade Chen? I have heard so much about you from Leighton and Faxon."

"Really?" Fade replied faintly, keeping his face neutral.

However, he seemed arrogant to Dannon.

Leighton and Faxon quickly stepped forward and glared at him disdainfully. They couldn't be bothered to hide their resentment towards him.

"I haven't got to kick your a*s for bullying my brother the last time. Just you wait this time," Leighton shot daggers at him as he threatened him.

Fade didn't flinch, "Are you talking about the time I broke Thomson's legs? Well, bring it!" He replied calmly.

"You..." Leighton was on the verge of attacking him.

Lucille, who was watching silently at the side, suddenly stood up and defended Fade, "Leighton, what are you doing? Are you planning to start a fight with Fade in front of my master?"

He paused when he heard Lucille's warning. Galeno was a powerful man, and Lucille was comparable, so he did not dare to act recklessly in front of them. He glared at Fade and stepped back.



07:45

At this moment, Frodo stepped forward to warn Leighton, "We are here for the Martial Arts Convention. If you have any disagreements, settle them outside."

Leighton snorted angrily, but he didn't say a word.

Faxon moved beside Leighton. His gaze shifted from Hollace, Lucille and finally fell on Fade. "They can protect you for now, but they can't protect you forever," he seethed.

"I don't need anyone's protection," Fade retorted.

"Really? Just you wait," Faxon sneered. "I will never forget what happened at the auction."

"Then don't forget it. We'll encounter situations like that in the future," Fade replied.

Faxon's expressions turned dark. He glared at Fade and snarled, "Aren't you a piece of work..."

His energy erupted from his core instantly. He was about to attack Fade.

Galeno snorted and warned, "The competition hasn't started yet. What are you doing?"

He let out a powerful wave of energy, and it crushed Faxon effortlessly. Clenching his teeth, Faxon's face turned white from exertion.

Dannon immediately stepped forward as he saw Faxon's terrified expression.

Attempting to rescue Faxon, he forced an equally strong wave of energy and went against Galeno.

"Old Zhu, there's nothing to be proud of for attacking someone less than you," Dannon exclaimed.

07:46 

Galeno replied with a low voice, "He is a disciple of the Martial Arts League. It is my responsibility to teach him a lesson if he does something inappropriate."

"Whatever Faxon did wrong, I'll teach him myself because I'm his master. You don't have to worry about him," Dannon defended.

"I'm worried that you won't teach them well."

"Ugh..." Dannon's face darkened, and a look of anger painted across his face.

The tension between the two masters grew as they stared at each other intently. Just then, the sound of loud drums interrupted them, followed by a clear voice announcing, "Welcome to the Martial Arts Convention opening ceremony!"

Rustling sounds filled the scene as everyone scrambled to take their seats. Their gazes were focused on the fighting ring in the center of the lake.

The host didn't use a microphone. He projected with his natural, resonant voice. His voice was as deep as thunder, and it spread throughout the venue.

The host quickly introduced what the Martial Arts Convention was about. Then, he explained the rules of the competition before announcing the rewards.

The guests were familiar with this information. They lost interest in his speech and began to murmur amongst each other.

Of course, they were discussing the conflict between the two Martial Arts League masters, Galeno and Dannon.

At the same time, Halge and the group were also talking about the incident enthusiastically. However, they were more interested in Fade.

07:46 

"No wonder Fade was so arrogant. Apparently, he has Galeno backing him."

"Perhaps it was Master Zhu who helped him to come in first on the Dragon List! Otherwise, how could a nobody suddenly appear first on it?"

"Even if he really has the ability and strength to be number one, who cares? Now that he has offended Leighton and Faxon, he will definitely suffer the consequences."

"That's for sure. Leighton is eleventh on the Dragon List, and Faxon is second. Both of them are very powerful."

"Haha! Let's see if he dares to be this arrogant when the competition begins!"

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Tom was annoyed by what they were discussing, but he wasn't in the mood to defend his views or refute their claims. At this moment, all he could worry about was Fade's odds of winning. Faxon and Leighton were both reputable martial artists. Even if Fade ranked first on Dragon List, it would be challenging for him to fight against them.

Besides, it looked like Fade had formed a wedge with the two. Now that they despised him, they would not hesitate to fight dirty. When the time comes, he could end up badly injured, or even disabled.

Besides, this was the Martial Arts Convention, not a performance. Someone getting hurt was inevitable. There were even contestants who were killed at the scene.

Everyone turned their attentions back to the main arena in the middle of the lake as the host finished announcing all the information and finally went off the stage.

07:46 

The competition began.

The Martial Arts Convention competitions were classified into three categories according to Kungfu Levels. They were the Yellow Level, the Black Level, and the Earth Level.

However, the highest level, Heaven Level, was not included in the competition. Since all Heaven Level martial artists already reached the highest state of cultivation, they were regarded as prominent figures in the martial arts world. To participate in such a competition would only waste their time and effort.

Hence, there were only three categories in the competition.

Chapter 1412

Each participant would compete in a one-on-one battle with an opponent of their level within their category. At the end of the competition, the top three participants of the lower levels would be qualified to compete in the higher-level categories.

In addition, each category's top achievers would also be rewarded handsomely.

The first category to compete was Yellow Level, which was the lowest level. Obviously, the spectators were unimpressed by the contestants from this category, as they only had average fighting skills and the fights were boring.

However, some of the audience who came from powerful and influential families watched the competition with fascination.

They were interested in the low-level competitions for a reason. The main purpose of them was to single out talented martial artists who had the potential to develop their skills. They were waiting to see which of these participants could show off their strength and come out on top.

Many of these powerful families and clans would recruit the top performers on the spot and provide them with formal training. This way, the families could expand their own team of future martial artist experts.

Moreover, the participants were mostly young disciples who came from upper-class families. They saw the competition as a chance to practice their skills and a platform to prove themselves to the public, and to make a name for themselves.

For this category, multiple pairs of contestants fought simultaneously in separate fighting rings. The competition went on very

07:46 

fast, and within two hours, the top ten winners were determined.

Among the top ten, eight of them were young martial artists who came from prestigious backgrounds. The other two were dark horses who finally got to showcase their talents during the competition. One of them was immediately recruited by the Martial Arts League, whereas the other one was taken under an influential family's wing.

The competition paused for a short while after the Yellow Level category matches ended. The next round would be the Black Level category.

The audience was obviously more interested in the Black Level matches than the Yellow Level. Most of them belonged in this level after all. Besides, a lot of them signed up to participate in this category too.

The competition resumed shortly after, and the participants were called to the stage to draw their lots. The numbers they drew would determine their order. Two participants of consecutive numbers would battle against each other.

Jasmine was currently at the early stage of Black Level, thus she signed up to participate in this category.

After drawing in a deep breath, she got up from her seat and stepped towards the fighting ring on the lake. Her expression was tense, and her soft hands were tightly clenched into fists. Overwhelmed by her nervousness, her steps wobbled as she walked.

Noticing her response, Fade quickly patted her on her back and whispered in her ear, "Jasmine, calm down. You are stronger than most of the participants here, so don't be afraid of them. Besides, I have taught you well. You have to be confident in yourself, do you understand?"

She relaxed under his reassurance and turned around to look at Fade in the eye as she nodded solemnly. "I got it, Mr. Chen!"

"Alright, go ahead!" He said, tilting his chin towards the fighting ring.

07:46 

Meanwhile, Tom and his friends were also walking towards the stage to draw their lots. The four of them had also signed up as Black Level participants.

The participants were notified of their order for the competition soon after. Jasmine drew the number 88, which was relatively behind. At least she had the opportunity to watch other participants' matches and gauge their strengths to prepare herself.

The competition began, and similarly, a few different pairs of opponents fought against each other at the same time.

The arena was suddenly filled with all kinds of noises: the shouts of the participants as they fought, the whistling sounds of their positive energies, the smacking sounds of bodies slamming against each other, and the horrifying screams of pain. The arena immediately descended into chaos.

The audience was intrigued by the sight of such brutal battles, and they hollered and shrieked excitedly. Some of them cheered for their friends, whereas some of them were busy placing their bets at the gambling stalls on the roadside.

Fade scanned through every arena and took note of the battle results. Whenever he saw the average strengths of the other participants, his confidence in Jasmine grew. Although her level was not high, he had taught her to cultivate his unique martial arts technique. Besides, she had the rare Green Wood Spirit, which was something ordinary martial artists could not surpass.

Placing a hand under his chin, he predicted that with Jasmine's current strength, she would most likely be able to defeat an ordinary advanced-stage Black Level martial artist. However, that would not be the case if she was to fight against one from a powerful clan or a peak-stage Black Level martial artist.

As he continued to observe the fighters in the arena, he noticed a few familiar faces. He narrowed his eyes and carefully watched the battle results of Tom and his friends.

07:46 

Tom had just entered the early stage of Black Level, and his fighting skills were only average. However, he got lucky in the first round, where his opponent was just like him, a beginner in the Black Level.

After an intense battle, Tom managed to advance to the next round.

Lillian, who was also in early-stage Black Level, was not as lucky as Tom. Her opponent had easily defeated her in the first round. However, Halge, with his middle-stage Black Level skills, and Hertzell, a late-stage Black level martial artist, qualified for the next round.

The competition went on without delay, and soon enough, it was already Jasmine's turn to fight.

The opponent who fought against her was a middle-stage Black Level self learner. He was not famous among the circle, but judging from the energy he gave off, his strength was decent.

Everyone's gaze was instantly drawn towards Jasmine as soon as she stepped onto the stage.

Her charm was undeniably one of her fascinating characteristics. She was always able to catch people's attention on any occasion, even more so in such a hot-blooded situation. Jasmine's delicate beauty piqued the audience's interest and curiosity. She immediately became the center of everyone's attention.

Tom and the group, who had just finished their first round of battle, spotted her as she walked onto the stage. Their jaws dropped as they looked over to Fade.

"That girl! She's the girl who was with Brother Fade!" Tom gasped.

Lillian, who had just been eliminated from the competition, looked displeased. She frowned and muttered, "What's so interesting about her? She's just another pretty face. I bet she can't even take three blows from her opponent. She's definitely going to lose."

07:46 

Halge's eyes glinted in delight as he licked his lips and said, "I hope that she can advance to the next round. If I was to fight against her in the next round, we can have a good time together."

Hertzelt squinted and shifted his attention to the other stronger opponents. Obviously, he looked down on Jasmine.

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Under the crowd's anticipatory gaze, the referee announced that Jasmine's battle with her opponent had officially begun.

The opponent was taken aback by her looks too. He smiled and said, "Miss Zhuo, I'll go easy on you. After all, it is not a gentlemanly gesture to hurt a beautiful lady."

She scowled in disgust and scoffed, "We are in a martial arts arena, so you'd better go all out!"

"Ms. Zhuo, I..." As he was about to say something, her figure shifted, and with a blink of an eye, she was already charging towards him.

He did not take her attack seriously and casually struck out his palm to defend her attack. However, his eyes widened in shock as her positive energy was shooting dangerously towards him. He could feel that her positive energy was imposing and even more powerful than his own.

07:46 

Chapter 1413

The opponent finally came to his senses and immediately channeled his positive energy to defend himself against Jasmine's attack.

However, it was already too late. His eyes widened in horror as her slim but powerful hand landed heavily on his chest.

Her violent strike sent him flying across the fighting ring, and a spurt of blood gushed out from his mouth. He landed on the other end of the fighting ring and writhed in pain, unable to stand up anymore.

At that moment, the referee announced her victory.

Such a result was totally out of the audience's expectation. Instead of cheering for her, they fell into a heated discussion, and all of a sudden, Jasmine became the hot topic among the crowd.

Tom was equally surprised by her achievement. "I never thought that Miss Zhuo would be so powerful! Well, she's Brother Fade's disciple after all. She is formidable."

Lillian's lips puckered as she crossed her arms in front of her chest. "What's so great about her performance? She tricked her opponent with her good looks and then snuck an attack on him. That's cheating. I told you she had no actual strength."

Her remarks were mean and filled with envy. Meanwhile, many of the spectators shook their heads as they expressed their pity.

"That guy was totally hypnotized by her beauty. It seemed like he had forgotten to defend himself. That's why he was easily

07:46 

defeated by only one strike. What a joke!"

"He couldn't even beat a woman. How can he call himself a martial artist?"

"Haha! That's easy for you to say. Would you be able to resist a beauty like Jasmine if it was you?"

"She's smart. She knows how to put her advantage to good use! However, she won't go far with these tricks."

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Jasmine's tense facial expression finally turned into a grin after winning the first round of the competition. She left the fighting ring and waved at Fade.

He quickly rose from his seat and gave her a thumbs-up. "Good job! Keep it up. You will definitely win the upcoming rounds," he said as he clapped his hands.

The first round of the competition was over in no time. It was time for the second round.

Similarly, the participants who were qualified for the next round would draw lots, and two consecutive numbers would fight against each other.

This time, Jasmine got the number 16, which meant that it would be her turn to compete relatively quickly.

Soon, it was her turn. She was already waiting for her opponent on the stage before the host announced her name.

Contestant number 15 entered the fighting ring. Fade and Jasmine raised their eyebrows in surprise as they realized who the fighter was.

Jasmine's opponent for the second round was none other than Halge, one of Tom's friends.

07:46 

"It's you!" She exclaimed.

Halge smirked as he looked her in the eye. He dipped his chin like a gentleman and greeted, "Miss Zhuo, we meet again!"

She tilted her chin and glared at him grimly. "Cut the crap and let's begin!"

Halge chuckled and shook his head. "Well, you see, Miss Zhuo, I've already reached the middle stage of Black Level, but you are only a beginner. You are definitely no match for me."

He smacked his lips and said, "I don't want to hurt you, Miss Zhuo. Thus, I have a suggestion."

"What is it?" She asked.

He smiled and replied, "It's simple. Believe it or not, I don't care about this competition at all. Thus, it doesn't matter whether I win this round or not."

"What are you trying to tell me?" Her brows knitted in confusion.

"What I am trying to tell you is that I am mesmerized by your beauty and elegance ever since the first time I laid my eyes on you, Miss Zhuo. After the day we first met, I couldn't sleep, for all I could think of was your beautiful face. I've fallen head over heels in love with you."

He ruffled his hair and continued, "I really can't bring myself to fight against the girl I admire. Hence, this is what I propose. I'll surrender and give up this fight if you agree to go on a dinner date with me after the Martial Arts Convention."

Halge's proposal left Jasmine flustered and speechless, and the crowd was equally shocked. The audience's chatter suddenly filled the arena.



07:46

"Holy sh*t, what is he doing? I can't believe this!"

"D*mn, so he's going to flunk the game?"

"This guy is not qualified to participate in the Martial Arts Convention. He doesn't even have the martial arts spirit. Get out of here!"

"I'm afraid that I have to disagree. As the saying goes, 'the youth yearns for the good maiden', thus I understand why this gentleman is doing this to woo the beautiful lady."

"That's right! He is merely sacrificing a chance to advance to the next round. Why would it matter if he can win the beauty's heart in exchange?"

"The other participants are fighting to their deaths. Meanwhile, he is hitting on a girl in the fighting ring. I like this guy."

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Tom, who was watching from the crowd, was dumbfounded. His jaw dropped open, and he couldn't say a word.

Hertzel only frowned and shook his head. He didn't say anything too, but there was a hint of disappointment in his eyes.

Beside Hertzel, Lillian was staring at Jasmine with hateful eyes as she clenched her fists and trembled in a fury. She gritted her teeth and said, "That vixen must have performed some kind of witchcraft on Halge. That's why he's losing his mind over her!"

"I'm against his actions. If the vixen could win like this, then she might as well sleep with him! What's there to compete for then?"

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Amid the audience's lively discussion, Halge stared at Jasmine with a smug grin on his face. In his opinion, his proposal was a



07:46

win-win for her.

Besides, he believed that his skills were extraordinary and that he was a handsome gentleman. Therefore, he was worthy of such a beauty like her.

However, much to his dismay, her face darkened after listening to his proposal. She snorted, "I don't need you to admit defeat because you are no match for me."

Jasmine hurled her body upwards with a violent kick. Like an arrow from a bow, her graceful figure drew an arc in the air. Her positive energy spread out like numerous tendrils, and she aimed them directly at Halge.

He was caught off guard. His face darkened as he expressed his displeasure, "Jasmine Zhuo, I gave you a chance, but you are an ungrateful wretch. Now, don't blame me for hurting you."

With a snort, he turned his positive energy into a giant ax and slashed at her.

His strike was impressive and extremely violent. If she was to be struck by him, she would definitely suffer serious injuries.

The crowd gasped in horror as they witnessed such a brutal attack. Some of them gaped at Halge's strength, while others were screaming in fear for Jasmine.

Lillian was probably the only one with an excited expression on her face. She bared her teeth and chanted, "Kill her. Kill that vixen."

"Miss Zhuo, this is your last chance. Once I attack, you won't have a second chance." Halge didn't give up.

She ignored his threats. She leapt nimbly in the fighting ring, and her elegant body swayed in rhythm as if she was dancing. Her

07:46 

eyes glinted as Halge charged towards her with his huge ax, and she stretched out her arms.

Streams of positive energy sprang upwards from her body like twigs and vines, and they wrapped around Halge's positive energy ax, immobilizing him.

"This, how could you..." Halge gathered his positive energy and attempted to break away from the vines. However, it didn't work at all. It was as if his energy had hit a gummy bear; it bounced off directly from hers.

07:46 

Chapter 1414

"What exactly is this? How did you do it?" Halge looked at Jasmine, aghast.

She ignored his question and manipulated her positive energy to lash out the vital vines like a whip. Halge was sent flying through the air in an instant. Her mighty energy threw him out of the fighting ring and into the lake.

The audience was dumbstruck. They finally came to their senses when the referee once again announced that Jasmine had won the battle. In an instant, they began talking about her unexpected victory.

Meanwhile, the staff members were busy rescuing Halge from the middle of the lake. He was completely drenched when he was out of the water, and he looked miserable. He glared at the fighting ring with resentment in his eyes.

Lillian hurriedly went up to help him with a concerned look on her face.

On the other hand, Tom did not budge and stood silently in his place.

The competition went on as if nothing had happened. Hertzal won his fight and successfully entered the third round of the competition.

The participants were already familiar with the procedure, and they quickly drew their lots for the third round. This time, Jasmine was the first to compete.

Fade raised his eyebrows in surprise when he saw Hertzal holding the number two stick and that he was Jasmine's opponent. A



07:46

look of worry flashed across his face. Hertzal was the most powerful martial artist among Tom's group of friends.

At the same time, Lillian and Halge noticed Hertzal's draw too, and their faces lit up with excitement.

"Finally, you are up against that vixen this time, Hertzal. You must take revenge for Halge!"

"Jasmine is an ungrateful little twat. You must teach her a lesson, Hertzal."

Hertzal's face was calm. "My goal is to advance to the next round. I will not let anybody stand in my way."

The third round of the competition began soon after. Jasmine stepped onto the arena, followed by Hertzal.

He kept a serious expression as he stood face-to-face with her. He cut to the chase and warned her coldly. "You'd better not get in my way of advancing to the next round. Or else, don't blame me for not being nice."

She replied faintly, "Same to you."

"Oh really? If that's the case, then you are going to regret it," he hollered and immediately began to launch an attack at her.

In the blink of an eye, he pounced at Jasmine like a fierce, starving tiger. His movements were swift and agile.

She did not react to his attack. Instead, she stood there, motionless. When he was only a few steps away from her, she raised her hand elegantly to defend herself.

"It's too late to react now!" His lips curled into a cruel smile as he performed the Heart-digging Strike and aimed it towards her chest, attempting to bring her down without the slightest hesitation.

The odds seemed to be in Hertzal's favor, and everyone began to feel anxious for her.



07:46

Just then, Fade stared at them from below the fighting ring and yelled, "It's close enough!"

She suddenly jerked her hand upwards as she heard his signal. The energy in the arena changed in an instant.

Countless streams of vital vines slithered like snakes all around the arena floor. They grew into giant trees and wrapped around Hertzal swiftly.

As he struggled to resist the giant trees' grip, she leapt up towards him. Her movements were light and effortless like a fairy from the woods. She threw multiple hard punches at him, one after another, and kicked his body violently.

The horrifying sound of bones cracking filled the entire arena. Hertzal spat out a mouthful of blood, and his face blanched.

His entire body trembled in exertion as a wave of positive energy spread out around him and shattered the vital vines trapping him. His eyes were filled with rage as he raised his hands to attack her.

She stood in front of him and said calmly, "I suggest that you'd better not try to fight back. Otherwise, you'll see your entire life of martial arts cultivation destroyed."

"What did you say? I..." Hertzal's face sank, and he was ready to fight. However, as soon as he took a step forward, his face changed instantly, and he spat out a mouthful of black blood.

"You... You poisoned me?" He looked up at her, and his gaze was a mix of anger and disbelief.

She nodded and said, "Yes. I have injected the poison into your body via the vital vines. You might be able to kill me if you were to channel your positive energy forcefully, but in the end, your meridians will explode and you'll die."

"You..." Hertzal was in shock. He gritted his teeth and glared at her.

07:46

Jasmine's words caused a commotion in the crowd. Among them, Lillian shouted on top of her lungs, "Referee, she poisoned him. This is a violation of the rules, and she should be disqualified!"

All participants were prohibited from bringing poisons into the Martial Arts Convention as a safety precaution. Although this might hinder some poison experts to perform their skill, it served as an additional protection for most participants.

The referees began to discuss amongst themselves after hearing Lillian's protest. One of them turned his head towards Jasmine and asked, "Miss Zhuo, did you violate the rules by sneaking in poison?"

She shook her head. "I didn't."

Before Hertzell could argue his stance, Lillian retorted, "Only a dead man would believe your words. How could you defeat Hertzell if you didn't use poison? Besides, you just admitted that you used poison on him!"

She darted a look at Lillian before she explained, "I indeed used poison on him, but it doesn't mean that I'm carrying poison with me. The poison I used in the battle was a simulation. It was a combination of my cultivation technique and my positive energy. It's not real poison."

Everyone on the scene was astonished by her claim.

"Using positive energy to simulate poison! Is... Is this possible?"

"Is there even such a thing?"

"Something smells fishy. I bet this is just her excuse!"

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07:46 

Jasmine defended herself, shouting towards the crowd, "If you don't believe me, you may come forward and take a look."

A few of the judges stepped forward immediately and performed a full-body inspection on both Jasmine and Hertzell.

The judges looked at each other in amazement and turned around to announce to the crowd, "After a detailed inspection, we found that Ms. Zhuo did not violate the rules. Hence, the competition continues!"

She turned to look Hertzell in the eye. "You have ten seconds left before the poison takes effect. Are you willing to admit defeat?"

"You..." He gritted his teeth and hissed unwillingly. Finally, he had no choice but to nod and say, "I surrender!"

As soon as he uttered those two words, she leaned forward and tapped his forehead lightly with a finger, transferring a green wave of positive energy into his body. Then, with a gentle leap, she returned to Fade's side.

"Mr. Chen, your method is indeed effective!" She looked at him as she grinned from ear to ear.

07:46 

Chapter 1415

Fade returned Jasmine's grin with a nod. "Hertzel is a late-stage Black Level martial artist, thus he is two levels higher than you. Not only that, he has a lot of battle experience. You might be able to win if you were to fight him head-on, but you'll definitely be heavily injured then. That was why I taught you to put your Green Wood Spirit to good use and plant vital vines on the wooden floor beforehand. By using the poison created from your positive energy to control him, you'll be able to win the battle unscathed."

She bobbed her head and suddenly whipped up her head as she thought of something. "But Mr. Chen, I've already tipped my hand in this battle. If I were to fight against other powerful opponents in the next few rounds, I'm afraid they'll be prepared for it. It'll be difficult for me to advance any further now."

Fade smiled and replied, "You've already done a good job by making it this far. After all, the remaining contestants that made it into the final rounds are either late-stage or even peak-stage Black Level martial artists. It's understandable if you can't defeat them."

He paused and continued, "You must learn to grasp the rhythm when the time comes. If you think that you are no match to the opponent, then admit defeat. I brought you here to practice, not to risk your life. Do you understand?"

Her facial expression was regretful, but she still nodded her head seriously.

In the meantime, the competition went on. However, the crowd had lost interest in the upcoming battles. They were still not over

07:46 

Jasmine's performance earlier.

After all, who wouldn't be amazed when a stunning beauty like Jasmine had won three rounds of battle in a row? Especially when her performance in the third round was so spectacular.

Even the masters seated in the VIP area were impressed by her skills, and they began to show their interest in her.

"That girl looks younger than twenty years old! As a Black Level beginner, she managed to defeat middle-stage and late-stage Black Level martial artists. She has great potential. I want to recruit her into my team."

"It's not uncommon for a 20-year-old martial artist to achieve early-stage Black Level. However, her skills and technique are really unique. She deserves all the attention."

"Turning positive energy into vines and toxins, these strategies are unpredictable. It is such a rare sight!"

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Even Galeno, one of the superiors, turned towards Fade and Jasmine with interest. "Fade, correct me if I'm wrong, but Little Zhuo has a wood-class physique, and she has the wood-spirit talent."

He nodded. "You are very observant, Master Zhu."

He didn't mention Jasmine's Green Wood Spirit. Her wood-spirit talent was already rare and highly coveted, not to mention that her Green Wood Spirit was the rarest of all. She was gifted with a unique physique. If it was exposed, it would inevitably attract unwanted attention, which would not be good for her.

Then, Master Zhu turned to Jasmine and asked, "Little Zhuo, are you interested in joining the Martial Arts League? If yes, then I

07:46 

will accept you as my disciple. What do you say?"

The guests around them were amazed by his offer. They immediately turned around to look at him, surprise and admiration painted on their faces.

Everyone knew who Galeno was. He was the Martial Arts League's leader and one of the masters on the Divine Dragon List. It was many young martial artists' dreams to be his disciple.

The crowd around them stared at Jasmine anxiously as they waited for her to accept his offer.

However, she looked hesitant. Her eyes darted between Fade and Galeno as she considered it. Finally, she shook her head and answered, "Thank you for your kindness, Master Zhu. However, I've already acknowledged Mr. Chen as my teacher. Therefore, I can't..."

Galeno did not insist. He tilted his chin and said, "If that's the case, then I won't persuade you anymore. Of course, if you need any help in the future, you can always come to the Martial Arts League and ask for my help."

"Thank you, Master Zhu!" Jasmine thanked him respectfully.

The onlookers were dumbfounded; their eyes grew three sizes wider, and their jaws dropped open. They were going crazy over Jasmine's decision.

They couldn't understand why she would choose Fade over Galeno to be her master. In their opinion, Fade could never compare with him.

Although he held an empty title of Dragon List's number one, his strength was still far inferior to Galeno's.



07:46

However, Jasmine would rather give up the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and chose to be Fade's disciple instead. The people around them scratched their heads in bafflement. They couldn't figure out the reason she did this.

Once again, Fade and Jasmine became the focus of everyone's attention.

Someone from the crowd shouted at her to persuade her into accepting Galeno's offer. Others blamed Fade for being too selfish. They urged him to let go of her so that she could leave him to receive better guidance.

Fade shrugged them off and continued to watch the competition.

The third round of matches ended very quickly. Next up would be the fourth round, and this was also the match that everyone was very interested in. This was because there were only sixteen candidates left after the third round.

After the fourth round, the top eight of the Black Level category would be determined, and they would be rewarded with corresponding prizes. To reach the top eight was considered the final goal for many participants.

As usual, the fourth round would still be one-on-one matches. Jasmine got the number 16 this time, and she would be in the last pair to compete.

Those who made it into the top 16 were mostly late-stage and peak-stage Black Level martial artists. Jasmine was one of the rare ones to join them in this stage as a Black Level beginner.

One after another, the matches ended. Finally, it was once again Jasmine's turn.

As the dark horse in the Black Level category, she was the center of everyone's attention. As soon as she stepped onto the stage, the audience immediately cheered in excitement, whereas some discussed her performance.

07:46 

However, when her opponent stood up from his seat, the excited cheers turned into exclamations and worried tones.

Fade raised a curious eyebrow and was confused. "What is going on?"

"Jasmine's opponent for this round is Egas Lin. He is a well-known talent among the younger generation of martial artists in Capital City. He achieved the peak of Black Level at only 18 years old. In the previous three rounds of competition, he defeated his opponents with only a single move. He did not give his opponent any chance to fight back," Lucille explained.

"By the way, Egas was adopted by the Chiang family, and he grew up with them since he was little. Technically, he is Faxon's younger brother."

Fade frowned at the information. He raised his head and glanced towards Egas' seat.

Sure enough, he was sitting right next to Faxon. Egas lowered his head as he leaned towards Faxon, and it seemed like Faxon was whispering something to him. After a while, he stood up and strode towards the fighting ring.

Faxon seemed to have noticed Fade's gaze. He turned his head and looked over at him, and the corners of his lips curled into a sneer.

07:46 

Chapter 1416

Fade's heart turned cold when he saw Faxon's sneer, and his expression became solemn.

He snapped his head towards the fighting ring and hollered at Jasmine, "Remember what I told you just now, Jasmine. Know your limits. Do you understand?"

She paused for a moment before answering, "I understand, Mr. Chen!"

Lucille looked at Fade and said jokingly, "Don't you have any confidence in your disciple? She hasn't even started fighting, yet you already told her to know her limits."

He shook his head and said, "It's not that I don't have faith in her. It's just that she's still a beginner. If we disregard her previous experience in martial arts, then she only has three months of experience, counting from the day she officially started learning martial arts from me. Thus, I have no high expectation of her."

His words left Lucille speechless, and she stared at him with amazement.

"Are you telling me that she achieved early-stage Black Level in only three months? And now she is challenging her limits! Is... Is she still human?"

Fade didn't respond to her question. That was because, at this moment, Egas was entering the fighting ring. The match between him and Jasmine was about to begin.

07:46 

Egas stood across her after going onto the stage. "Usually, I would refuse to lay my hands on such a beautiful woman like you," he said, with an evil smile on his face.

His tone was confident and smug as he continued, "But since your master offended Young Master Faxon, I am forced to teach you a lesson."

Jasmine frowned, but she didn't say a word. Instead, she took a few steps back. Her positive energy spread all over the wooden floor of the fighting ring as she began to set her trap.

As soon as the judge announced the start of the battle, she charged towards Egas without hesitation.

The positive energy she hid on the wooden floor earlier exploded into the air like vines and tree trunks, and they launched towards him.

Her movements were swift, but he stood calmly in front of her and sneered, "You are still using this trick? It won't work on me."

He drew out a long sword as he spoke, and shadows trailed behind the sword as he swung it gracefully.

Whistling sounds filled the arena as the sword sliced off all of Jasmine's vital vines, and its shadows danced in the air to form the shape of a flower. Her positive energy poison was practically useless this time, as she couldn't get near enough to him to inject the poison.

She gritted her teeth in frustration and stepped back away from him as she watched him destroy her vital vines. Gathering her strength, she immediately launched another attack.

However, Egas moved even faster. The long sword gleamed as he held it high in the air, and intense Qi aura surged from the blade. He swung it down with a whoosh to fend off her attack.

07:46 

His movements were fast and deadly, and the sword carried a terrifying chill as if it was going to cut off everything in its way.

She was intimidated by the sword's power. She furrowed her brows and bit her lip. Although she was unwilling to give up, she knew her limits. She would not be able to hold off such a powerful blow.

Snapping her head towards him, she shouted, "I surrend..."

Before she could finish her words, he suddenly picked up his speed and brandished his sword. He brought down the sword and slashed it towards her.

She did not expect him to continue attacking her when she had already admitted defeat. It was too late for her to dodge the attack, and she could only watch helplessly as the sword came down on her, her eyes filled with terror.

At this moment, Fade got up from his seat and shouted angrily, "Stop! Jasmine has already admitted defeat."

However, Egas turned a deaf ear to him and charged towards Jasmine with an even quicker speed.

Fade was furious. He quickly lunged towards the fighting ring to stop him.

Although he was already moving very fast, there was still a huge distance between Egas and him. By the time he reached the side of the fighting ring, Egas' sword had already landed on Jasmine.

There wasn't enough time for her to fight back, and as a result, the blade sliced through her clothes and her skin, leaving a bloody wound. Her face blanched.

The sword continued to cut deeper into her shoulder as Egas was trying to hack her entire arm off.

Fade shot out a ray of Qi aura to deflect Egas' long sword at that critical moment, causing it to brush past Jasmine's arm. The

07:47 

sword hacked viciously into the wooden floor, splitting it in half.

"Jasmine!" Fade rushed to her side and held her in his arms. A huge amount of blood had soaked through her clothes, and her face was ghostly pale.

Meanwhile, Egas was still unwilling to give up even after Fade had tried to stop him. The long sword in his hand swayed and shifted its direction. This time, it was coming down at Fade and Jasmine.

His stubbornness infuriated Fade. He raised his hand to shoot out a stream of positive energy, smashing Egas' long sword into pieces.

Then, he moved to stand in front of him in the blink of an eye and grabbed him by the throat. His eyes turned red as he snarled, "You have a death wish, don't you?"

Egas' face blanched. "You... You are violating the rules!"

Just then, Faxon leaped from his seat and landed in the fighting ring. He howled, "Fade, what are you doing? The contestants were fighting, but you suddenly barged in and attacked the contestant. What do you think you are doing?"

Fade replied coldly, "Jasmine had already admitted defeat. Why does he still want to attack her?"

"I didn't hear her! That's why I continued to fight."

"You didn't hear her? Do you think I would believe such nonsense?" Fade shouted angrily. He tightened his grasp on Egas' throat and choked him until his eyes turned white.

Faxon's voice boomed, "You are offending the Martial Arts Convention as well as all the judges and guests, Fade. I'll kill you on

07:47 

the spot if you continue to hurt him."

He snickered and said, "Do you think you can kill me?"

"Do you want to die?" Faxon roared. His energy burst forth, and he looked like he was about to start a fight with him.

Sensing the tension between them, Lucille and Hollace jumped into the fighting ring.

"Fade, please don't be impulsive."

"Don't give him what he wants, Fade. He is trying to provoke you into hurting Egas. Dannon will finally have an excuse to punish you when he knows about this. When the time comes, it's not just you who will be in danger, but Jasmine too."

.....

As the two were attempting to persuade Fade, Galeno's voice echoed throughout the arena, "Fade, I'll handle this matter fairly, as a judge of the Martial Arts Convention."

Lucille quickly added, "Fade. The most important thing now is to treat Jasmine as soon as possible. She is injured and is still bleeding!"

His anger slightly dissipated as he heard Lucille's words. He snorted as he loosened his grip on Egas and hurled him onto the ground. Then, he turned around to pick Jasmine up. With an effortless leap, he returned to his seat.

07:47 

Chapter 1417

On the other side of the arena, Egas was clutching his throat as he coughed non-stop. When he finally recovered from his coughing fit, he looked up and glared at Fade hatefully. Faxon helped him walk down the arena and began treating him when they returned to their seats.

The battles resumed after their little incident. The top eight of the fourth round would compete against each other again in the final round, and the top three of the final round would have the opportunity to challenge the participants in the higher level.

The results for the fourth round were just like what everyone expected. Although Fade had just choked Egas as a warning, he had not caused any substantial damage to him. In the end, he still managed to win first place in Black Level category.

After announcing his victory, he stared at Fade coldly, his expressions hostile.

The audience began to discuss Egas' victory excitedly. His win in this category meant that he would be qualified to join the Earth Level competition, and it also meant that he might fight against Fade.

Everyone couldn't help but feel excited as they thought about it. They were all looking forward to the match as if they were about to watch an interesting show.

After a short break, the Earth Level competition that everyone was looking forward to finally began.

There was no doubt that the Earth Level competition was the main attraction in the Martial Arts Convention and it was the

07:47 

platform for powerful martial artists to show off their strength. More importantly, the top contestants in the Earth Level competition would be qualified to explore the Dragon Mausoleum, which was the main purpose of many masters taking part in the Martial Arts Convention.

Suddenly, the crowd bustled with noise.

Fade supported Jasmine's weight with his arms around her waist and helped her to sit down. "I'm going to draw lots for the competition now. I'll seek revenge for what happened to you just now," he got up and said.

Jasmine's face turned into a worried expression. "Mr. Chen, I'm fine. Please don't be impulsive. What if you put yourself in danger? I'm afraid..."

Fade shook his head and smiled confidently as he reassured her. "Don't worry. This kind of battle is not dangerous to me at all."

Then, he queued up and drew his lot. The competition began immediately.

During the first round, Fade was lucky enough to be paired with one of the three participants who had just ascended from Black Level to Earth Level. The opponent went all out to make it hard for him to win.

However, Fade eventually defeated him with only three moves and advanced to the next round smoothly.

As the center of the crowd's attention, Fade's lucky and easy win had raised controversy.

"D*mn it. Fade is so lucky to have such a weak opponent in the first round."

"Could it be that Galeno was secretly helping him? That guy was chatting happily with him just now, and they seemed to have a good relationship."



07:47

"No way. Would a highly respected man like Galeno do such a thing?"

"If he doesn't have true strength, even with Galeno's help, all will be futile. He'll definitely encounter powerful masters in the later matches. He won't be so lucky anymore to be running a charade."

.....

After the first round of competition, the participants began to draw lots for the second round.

This time, Fade was still the focus of everyone's attention, especially when his opponent was revealed to be Arthur Lin. The crowd's discussion started to heat up.

"Holy sh*t, Arthur Lin! Isn't he the captain of the wood team from Five Elements Squad?"

"Arthur is a middle-stage Earth Level master. He ranks 20th on Dragon List, thus he's undeniably an expert!"

"That kid finally lost his good luck. Let's wait and see how he'll be tortured!"

.....

As the crowd fell into a heated discussion, Egas' face turned into hatred. "That fellow is lucky that he got Arthur first. Now, we won't have a chance to teach him a lesson anymore. He will definitely lose this round."

Faxon darted his eyes at Egas and replied coldly, "Calm down. There are lots of opportunities for revenge. He is not some important person, and we'll deal with him when the time comes. Don't worry about it."

"Alright!" Egas nodded.

.....

07:47 

On the other side of the spectator area, Tom and his friends held different opinions on Fade. Tom looked worried, but Halge, Hertzell, and Lillian were gritting their teeth with resentment.

"That guy is going to lose for sure."

"I'd like to see how arrogant he will be when he fights against a master ranked on top of the Dragon List."

"He'd better be teaching him a lesson that he will never forget."

.....

The crowd's attention shifted to Fade when it was his turn to enter the fighting ring.

Fade stepped into the fighting ring with both hands behind his back. He glanced at Arthur, who was standing across him, and asked, "Arthur, do you want me to fight?"

He shook his head bitterly and answered, "Instructor Chen, I didn't expect to meet you in the second round. It's really..."

Fade's facial expressions softened as he noticed Arthur's upset face. He walked over and patted his shoulder to comfort him. "It's alright. Train harder after this. True strength is forever, but these rankings are pretentious."

"Thank you for your guidance, Instructor Chen." Arthur cupped his hands and bobbed his head. He turned to look at the judge and announced in a clear voice, "I admit defeat."

Before anyone could figure out what was happening, Arthur strode out of the fighting ring.

There was a deathly silence when he left the arena. Only when Fade descended from the fighting ring after the referee announced his victory did the dumbstruck crowd come back to their senses and began to discuss among themselves.

07:47

"Holy f*ck, what's going on? Arthur just admitted defeat."

"What on earth just happened? Why did Arthur admit defeat? He's a master ranking 20th on the Dragon List!"

"There must be something shady going on. That's for sure."

"Do you still remember their interaction before the match started? That guy is the Five Elements Squad's instructor. That's why Arthur admitted defeat immediately!"

"Why does he deserve to be Five Elements Squad's instructor? Something smells fishy here."

"This guy has a strong backing. In order to win his favor, they even arranged the Five Elements Squad to act alongside him."

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The crowd's doubts and gossips filled the entire scene. Some of them even petitioned for the participants to draw lots again and restart the competition.

However, the referee ignored these people's shouts and announced that the competition would continue.

The referee's decision caused an outcry among the audience. They shouted about the shady competition and cried for the unjust treatment between participants as they started booing.

On the other hand, the people on Faxon's side remained quiet. They sneered and whispered, "In that case, let's end him ourselves."

Soon, the second round of the competition was over. Fade advanced to the third round, raising controversy, and he became the focus of everyone's attention.

07:47 

Chapter 1418

The crowd stirred with excitement when the results for the draw came out. This time, Fade would be fighting against Egas.

"Sh*t, he got Egas! It's inevitable anyway. There's a saying that goes, 'destiny will make enemies meet'."

"Although Egas is talented, Fade is at the peak stage of Black Level. There's still a huge gap between their strengths!" 3

"There were only three participants from Black Level who advanced into this category, and Fade got two of them consecutively. There is obviously something shady going on."

"I don't think so. Well, you see, Faxon is personally instructing Egas right now. Besides, Egas will never throw the game and let him win. Perhaps this time, the result will be beyond our expectations."

.....

On the other hand, Egas was preparing to seek revenge. He clenched his fists as he stared at the fighting ring, his eyes cold and ruthless. His expression showed a hint of excitement as he thought about revenge. "I will make him pay for what happened just now. I will let him know that I'm not the one to be messed with," he snarled.

Beside him, Faxon was visibly calm. "Fade is relatively powerful. You may not be able to defeat him."

Egas rolled his eyes and scoffed, "It's not a big deal. I'll just use that trick."

"Are you sure you want to use that trick now?" Faxon raised an eyebrow.

07:47 

Egas nodded. "I have never suffered such humiliation throughout my whole martial arts career. I must make him pay. Otherwise, I will be ashamed to stay within the circle."

Faxon remained silent for a while before he tilted his chin in approval. "Since you have decided, then go ahead. Of course, if the situation is critical, don't overexert yourself and immediately admit defeat. Leighton and I are still here. He can't escape his fate."

"I got it, Young Master Faxon." Egas dipped his chin and stepped into the fighting ring with revenge on his mind.

Meanwhile, in the fighting ring, Fade gave him a chilling stare as he walked in, and he didn't say anything.

"I will make you pay for the humiliation you caused me." The corner of Egas' lips curled into a sneer as he spoke.

Without warning, he brandished his long sword and slashed it through the air without holding back. The sword came down mercilessly while exuding an intimidating aura.

The whistling sound of the sword slicing through the air startled the spectators on the shore of the lake. The air around them turned cold.

"Egas is furious. It looks like he's going to fight seriously this time."

"Behold the talented Egas! His imposing manner made him seem more intimidating than some Earth Level martial artists. He has a bright future ahead of him!"

"That's right. I initially thought that Egas would definitely lose, but judging from the situation, he will most probably win!"

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At the same time, Tom's "friends" gloated over Fade's luck.

07:47 

"Haha! He finally runs into a tough guy. He's going to be defeated this time."

"If he loses, then he'll become the biggest joke of this competition. He defeated Arthur, who ranks twentieth on Dragon List in his previous round, but in the next round, he loses to Egas, who is only a peak-stage Black Level martial artist. Haha!"

"He is already a joke in the first place, and now he'll just become a bigger joke."

.....

As the crowd was trying to ridicule Fade, he stood motionless when facing Egas' aggressive attack. He looked calm and unwavering, and there wasn't even a hint of panic on his face.

"You..." Egas was surprised by his unusual calmness, and he frowned and roared, "Go to hell!"

Instantly, waves of positive energy surged from the long sword in his hand as it turned into a giant sword in the air, and he brought it down with terrifying strength.

Despite facing such a violent attack, Fade was oddly composed. He shook his head gently, then swiftly raised his right arm and flicked his finger at the giant sword falling from the sky.

Ding! The crisp sound of metal hitting against each other filled the arena. The giant sword in the air immediately shattered into wisps of energy and dissipated into the air. The long sword in Egas' grip made a cracking sound. Fissures appeared on its surface, and it splintered. Pieces of metal fragments fell to the ground, creating a huge clanking noise.

"You..." Egas' jaw dropped open. He couldn't believe that Fade was so powerful that he deflected his attack with only one flick of his finger.

07:47 

Clenching his teeth, he tossed the sword handle onto the ground and muttered, "It looks like I will have to use that move."

He stomped his feet on the wooden floor, and his eyes turned red. The positive energy in his body began to surge wildly as clouds of red energy lingered around him.

As the energy in him continued to grow, his power increased rapidly.

Sensing the change in atmosphere, the audience could not help but express their astonishment.

"What's going on? How did Egas become so much stronger all of a sudden?"

"That's... That's the Blood Ignition Skill."

"What? The Blood Ignition Skill! It involves burning one's spiritual blood to raise his own strength in a short period of time. However, this technique will also cause a great deal of damage to one's body! Must Egas go all out like this?"

.....

Just as the crowd was busy discussing, Egas' energy had skyrocketed to the limit. He was no less powerful than an Earth Level master.

His lips curled smugly as he inched closer towards Fade while being surrounded by a red glow.

Fade narrowed his eyes and took a step back.

Egas sneered at him. "Are you trying to escape? Or are you trying to buy yourself more time? Let me tell you, it's useless. My Blood Ignition Skill has been refined by the Chiang family. As long as I take medicine as a supplement, my body will not suffer much damage. I can perform the Blood Ignition Skill three times in a row. Let's see how you will fight against me!"

07:47 

He cackled and charged towards Fade, his energy growing stronger and stronger with every step. He approached him like a monstrous behemoth, forcing his imposing strength onto him.

The audience by the lake watched their interaction in amazement.

"The Chiang family actually managed to refine the Blood Ignition Skill. They are just too powerful!"

"He can even perform Blood Ignition Skill three times in a row, thus his strength will increase greatly. I believe he will be able to fight against more powerful opponents now."

"If that's the case, then no one else can go against the Chiang family anymore!"

.....

The crowd's exclamations filled the entire arena. Meanwhile, Fade stood face-to-face with Egas and gently shook his head. "So you want to see how I will fight with you? I'll show you how, then. "

As soon as he finished speaking, he raised his right hand, and a stream of blue positive energy gathered in his palm.

The positive energy condensed and transformed into a fresh blue lotus. The lotus petals swayed in the wind, and its gentle movements hypnotized everyone on the scene.

"Go ahead!" Fade raised his right hand and tapped on it gently, pushing it forwards. It left his palm and flew directly towards Egas.

He narrowed his eyes at the flower. He sensed a faint icy cold aura exuding from the lotus flower, but he didn't detect any hint of threat.

07:47 

Doubtfully, he took a few steps back and shot out a stream of positive energy at the blue lotus.

Surprisingly, the blue lotus immediately shattered after being hit by Egas' energy, and pieces of its remnants scattered and floated in the air.

07:47 

Chapter 1419

"Haha! So is this your unique skill? What is it for? Is it a joke?" Egas laughed arrogantly.

Fade ignored his remarks. Instead, the corner of his lips quirked into a faint smile, and he muttered to himself, "Do you think it will be easy to defeat my Ice Lotus Flame?"

"Ice Lotus Flame? What's that?" He frowned but then snorted while saying confidently, "I don't care if it's ice or fire. It can't do anything to me. I'll smash them all with one punch."

He inched closer towards Fade, closing the distance between them step by step. A haunting red glow surrounded his body, and energy surged tempestuously within him.

Despite Egas closing in on him, Fade stood unflinching. When he was only a few inches away from him, Fade lifted his right hand spontaneously. His positive energy burst out in an instant and turned into a giant palm in the air.

The giant palm whipped across the sky and slammed down on Egas with terrifying force. The pressure from Fade's positive energy came down on him like an avalanche.

Egas' smug expression immediately turned to horror. At this moment, it was already too late for him to launch an attack on Fade. Instead, he quickly channeled the positive energy in him to resist his attack.

However, Fade refused to give him the chance to defend himself. Egas attempted to condense his positive energy, but it was

07:47 

shattered into nothing the moment it came into contact with the giant palm.

The giant palm came crashing down on Egas like a mountain falling from the sky. Its pressure rammed him against the ground. He could barely lift his hands to defend himself.

Despite Egas' struggle, the giant palm was still pushing down on him, bit by bit. Blood trickled down from the gap between Egas' clenched teeth, and his arms began to tremble in exertion. Fissures appeared on his skin as the muscles beneath began to tear, and blood gushed out from his body.

Just by looking at Egas' condition, even an untrained person could tell that he could not withstand such extreme force.

"Egas has been crushed into such a horrible state. How is that possible?"

"Didn't Egas just performed Blood Ignition Skill? How could he still lose the fight?"

"Fade is much more powerful than I thought."

"Egas is about to be defeated."

.....

The crowd sighed emotionally. At the same time, Faxon and Leighton sat stiffly on the VIP seats, and their proud faces turned grim.

Faxon frowned and hollered, "Egas, that's enough."

He understood what Faxon meant. He wanted him to admit defeat.

Although he was unwilling, with the increasingly heavy pressure above his head, he had no choice but to admit defeat. With his

07:47 

current state, he would never be able to fight back.

He spat a mouthful of blood before he groaned in exertion, "I... admit..."

However, just as he was about to say the last word, Fade sneered, and his eyes glinted with a faint blue light. "Do you think you have the chance to admit defeat?"

Then, dark blue light burst out from his eyes and shot directly into Egas' body.

"You..." Egas was about to say something but stopped himself as he felt a sense of chill gushing out from within his body. The coldness came from the inside as if there was a block of ice in his body that was freezing his internal organs bit by bit.

He felt his body stiffen gradually. Bits of blue light and striations began to appear on his skin. The pattern of the striations gradually spread and converged into the form of numerous blue lotus flowers.

The blue lotuses emitted a cold aura, causing Egas to freeze on the spot. He could not move at all, and it was as if he had turned into an ice sculpture.

Fade said sternly, "Ice Lotus Flame is a unique skill that I learned after absorbing the Ice Lotus. It freezes the opponent's blood vessels and positive energy, then utilizes the ice-cold blue flames to burn the opponent to death without them knowing."

He could have burned Egas to death when his Ice Lotus Flame entered his body. However, he did not want him to die an easy death, thus he deliberately tortured him for some time.

He wanted him to stay frozen on the ground and experience the pain of being crushed.

The huge palm in the air pushed down on Egas bit by bit like a giant compressing machine, crushing and grinding his body flat.

07:47

The fear of unable to do anything as death was approaching him was horrifying and despairing.

Egas could only move his eyes in horror as he could not move or make any sound. He could only watch as his body was being crushed flat, bit by bit.

At the sight of Egas almost being killed, Faxon's eyes darkened and he shouted from the audience area. "Stop! Egas has already admitted defeat."

"Admit defeat? But I didn't hear him say so," Fade replied coldly.

Fade was re-enacting Egas and Jasmine's battle, and he beat Egas at his own game. However, this time, he made Egas pay back with double the pain and fear.

Faxon was infuriated. He leaped straight into the fighting ring and walked towards Fade with a gloomy expression. "Let Egas go. He has already admitted defeat," he shouted into his face.

"Then, let him say those words himself!" Fade's expression was dark as he spoke.

"You..." Faxon threw an angry slap towards Fade, initiating an attack.

Before Faxon's slap could land on him, Fade snorted heavily and punched out with his left hand to counter his attack. Meanwhile, he made a slamming gesture with his right hand, and a deafening rumble followed.

The giant palm crashed down heavily from the sky, and with a loud blast, Egas was completely slammed into the wooden floor. After that, the giant palm disappeared into thin air. Egas' body was unrecognizable, and what remained was a bloody mess of flesh and blood. He was dead. 🗨

07:47 

Although the participants were all martial artists, many of them still couldn't bear to witness such a revolting sight. At that moment, the sounds of people retching and gagging filled the arena.

Faxon's eyes turned red, and his body trembled in anger. "You killed Egas! You are going to pay for it with your life!"

Instantly, dazzling lights shone out from Faxon's body and turned into terrifying beams of lasers. They shot towards Fade like sharp knives.

Fade did not back down. He snorted and jerked his body violently, and a stream of red positive energy surged out like heavenly fire falling from the sky, engulfing Faxon's attack.

Just as the two were about to start a fight, a majestic and heavy aura enveloped the arena, shrouding Fade and Faxon, halting their attacks.

"Who dares to stop me?" Faxon yelled angrily.

"It's me!" A deep voice boomed out like thunder, and a figure suddenly appeared in the fighting ring. Everyone looked closer and realized that the mysterious figure was, in fact, Galeno. Their eyes immediately widened in astonishment.

"Master Zhu, why did you stop me?" Faxon's face softened a little, but his eyes still had a hint of anger as he looked at Galeno.

07:47

Chapter 1420

Galeno's deep voice reverberated around the lake area as he spoke. "A ring battle is a duel between two fighters. No one is allowed to interrupt them, and those who intervene will be disqualified. Are you sure you want to fight him?"

"I..." Faxon's face darkened. "Egas had already admitted defeat just now, but he still deliberately killed him. That is against the rules too! How are you going to punish him then?"

"According to the rules, Egas didn't voice out the words 'I admit defeat' in person, so technically, he didn't admit defeat. Therefore, Fade's attack is considered reasonable, and he did not violate any rules."

"Was it not against the rules? Everyone can tell that he had stopped Egas from voicing out and killed him for revenge," Faxon defended.

Galeno knitted his brows. "It's the same as Egas' and Jasmine's case. Based on our previous verdict on their battle, Fade's actions in this contest are not against the rules."

"But..." He insisted.

Just then, Faxon's master, Dannon, interrupted, "Faxon, that's enough. You may return to your seat!"

Although he was unwilling to give up, he didn't want to go against his master. He had no choice but to turn around and return to his seat.

07:47 

Immediately after, the referee announced that Fade had won the match. As for Egas, since every participant had already signed a contract when they signed up for the Martial Arts Convention, his death was no one's responsibility. The officials would not look any further into this matter either.

Fade returned to his seat with his head held high.

At this moment, all eyes were on him.

Although everyone tried to keep their voices as low as possible, the collective noises of everyone whispering at the same time made the crowd seem lively.

Meanwhile, Tom's brows knitted tightly as he listened quietly to the discussion between Halge and his friends.

"Fade is very powerful. He killed Egas on the spot."

"According to my evaluation by looking at Egas' strength, Fade's strength should have already reached the Earth Level."

"We offended him previously. What if he comes to take revenge on us as soon as the competition is over?"

"Don't worry about it. Although he is indeed powerful, he had upset Faxon by killing Egas. Faxon won't let him have it easy in the following rounds."

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The competition proceeded after the staff cleaned up the fighting rings.

The following matches were just as intense and exciting as the previous ones. However, after Fade's battle, the participants after him seemed to be more vigilant during their fight. As soon as they felt that they were no match for their opponents, they would

07:47 

admit defeat without hesitation.

This was the impact Fade had created after killing Egas. After all, no one wanted to be the second Egas, to be unable to admit defeat before being murdered by their opponents.

Their actions sped up the competition's flow, and as a result, this round's matches were over in a flash. The next round of contests began shortly after.

Fade once again went on stage to draw lots. The audience shouted in unison when they found out who he would be fighting against.

Coincidentally, Fade's opponent for this round turned out to be Leighton.

Across the spectator area, Leighton stared at him with a hateful gaze. He did not seem surprised by the result of their draw.

Fade noticed his unusual calmness. He immediately darted a suspicious glance at Dannon and spotted his shady facial expressions. He sneered and muttered, "Don't blame me for not being nice, as you are the one who sent your disciple to die."

The competition went on smoothly, and soon, it was Fade and Leighton's turn.

The two of them were the focus of everyone's attention. The scene became heated as soon as they made their appearance on the fighting ring.

Leighton's face was dark as he stood tall and stared at Fade viciously. "My brother's legs were crippled because of you. Egas died because you murdered him. Besides, you disrespected Young Master Faxon. Today, I will make you pay for everything you have done, right here, in this arena."

07:47 

Fade scoffed, "Is that so? Do you have the strength to do that? Otherwise, it will be too late for you to regret it if you were to end up like Egas."

Leighton snorted loudly at the insult and immediately lunged at him. His body sprang forwards like an arrow from a bow, piercing through the air as he came down on Fade. "How dare you say that! I'll give you a little taste of what I'm capable of."

Gusts of wind whistled and parted at his sides as he moved. It was as if his body was slicing the air in the fighting ring into half. A wave of terrifying aura surrounded him as he aimed himself towards Fade.

It was a spectacular sight.

"Leighton's positive energy is too formidable. He was serious about this fight from the very beginning, and it looks like he's about to get real!"

"Is this what the eleventh on Dragon List is capable of? It's too terrifying."

"With his strength, it wouldn't be a problem for him to enter the top ten after this match."

"Let's see how Fade deals with Leighton. He is not like Egas. No matter how powerful Egas was, he was only a Black Level martial artist. However, Leighton is a middle-stage Earth Level martial artist, thus his strength is undeniably much stronger."

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In the meantime, Fade watched calmly as Leighton was closing in on him. His facial expressions were neutral and showed no emotions.

When Leighton was only inches away from him, he shook his head indifferently and sighed, "Is that all you've got?"

07:47 

"You..." Leighton stared at him in disbelief. He scowled and gritted his teeth as he shrieked, "You self-conceited piece of crap! Before you speak, let's see how you defend this."

Fade shook his head harder. "Once I block your attack, you won't be able to fight back anymore."

"How dare you..." Leighton was about to say something as he fumed with rage.

Just then, Fade's right fist smashed right into Leighton's chest with a loud thump.

It was only a simple punch, nothing fancy. However, when the punch landed on Leighton, he felt an overwhelming force rushing towards him.

The impact hit like torrents of floodwater rushing down a mountain and engulfing him. Although he saw Fade's attack coming, he was unable to fend off such a powerful force. He had no choice but to clench his teeth and cross his arms in front of his chest to resist the deadly blow.

As soon as Fade's fist came into contact with his arms, he heard a horrifying crack. The brute force from the punch broke his arms instantly, but it didn't stop there. Instead, it was aiming towards his chest.

The agonizing pain of his broken arm, along with the terrifying surge of force, made his blood run cold. "If such force was to hit my chest, my internal organs would explode, and I would just drop dead," he thought to himself.

"Fade wants to kill me. He wants to kill me with only a single punch." A chill swept through him as the thought arose in his mind. The overwhelming fear in him made him unable to reason. He immediately opened his mouth and shouted, "I... admit..."