

After Ye Tian and Ye Ya finished their argument, they called for Ye Jian.

"Where did you throw the melon yesterday? Hurry up and retrieve it!" shouted Ye Tian angrily. The moment he caught sight of his nephew, he wanted to kick him.

Ye Jian was the one who instigated Ye Tian to chase after Lei Ao-Ting's sports car leading to the rear collision.

Now he was the one who tossed out the yubari melon worth tens of thousands of dollars. Of course, Ye Tian was furious!

"Hmm? Melon? What melon?" asked Ye Jian. He was a little lost since he had just come in.

"I'm talking about the two melons Ye Fan gave us at the hospital the other day," explained Ye Tian as he gnashed his teeth.

"Oh, those melons. It's been a few days, so I can't remember where I threw them," replied Ye Jian. He didn't bother remembering since it was just fruit.

Ye Tian slapped his head and shouted, "Stupid pig! How can you just forget? Think carefully now!"

Ye Tian kept urging Ye Jian.

At this moment, Ye Fan led Shin Yu-Xiang and his family in.

Since they were neighbors, they came to visit when they found out Ye Tian and the others got hospitalized.

Ye Jian suddenly recalled when he saw Ye Fan. "Uncle Tian, I remember now. I passed those dumb melons to Ye Fan."

What?

"You returned them to him?" asked Ye Tian as he instantly glared. Ye Ya yelped in surprise too.

But after the brief shock, Ye Tian and Ye Ya quickly felt relieved.

There was still a chance of getting the melons back if they were in Ye Fan's hands. If they were tossed into the bin, then all hope was lost.

Ye Ya looked at Ye Fan and hypocritically smiled as he said, "Fan, where are the melons you gave us at the hospital? We told Ye Jian to get you to help bring them home. Now that we are home, why don't you bring them over for us to enjoy?"

“Dad, are you confused or something? Didn’t you tell me to throw those stupid melons out when Ye Fan gave them to you? When did you ever ask him to help bring them home?” asked Ye Jian quizzically without waiting for Ye Fan’s reply.

Ye Ya almost passed out in fury and slapped Ye Jian with the back of his hand.

“Dad, what are you doing?” asked Ye Jian indignantly in an instant.

“What am I doing? I’m teaching you a lesson! I’m trying to have a conversation here, so stop interrupting!” said Ye Ya as he trembled furiously.

If they insisted that they wanted Ye Fan to help bring them home, Ye Fan might still return the melons intact. Even if he didn’t, Ye Fan would still be at fault. But Ye Jian’s interruption only served to confirm that they idiotically threw the expensive melons away.

Now even if Ye Fan didn’t hand them over, he was blameless!

“You dumbass!” shouted Ye Tian furiously as he kept smacking his forehead and kept wondering why his nephew was so stupid.

Ye Fan shook his head and laughed as

though he were watching them make a fool of themselves. "You didn't like the fruit I gave you. Now, do you regret it? Don't worry. It's only right for me to show filial piety to my uncles. Since you want them, I will give you some."

"Really?" asked Ye Ya delightedly. Ye Tian's eyes instantly lit up too.

To be honest, they genuinely wanted to try these fruits, which were worth their weight in gold.

But since when did Ye Fan treat them so well?

Ye Fan nodded and replied, "Of course, I mean it. But you were one step too late. We already ate one of the melons, and I gave the other one to Yu-Xiang's family."

What?

"They were worth tens of thousands! How could you give it to an outsider? You brat! Take it back from them!" shouted Ye Ya furiously. His initial high spirits dissipated completely.

"Uncle Ya, if you want them, you can find them in Yu-Xiang's toilet. I reckon he has already shat them out," said Ye Fan. Shin Yu-

Xiang and his folks almost really wanted to laugh, but they gritted their teeth and held it in.

"You..." said Ye Ya as he trembled in rage.

In the end, Ye Ya also laughed.

"Haha! It's just some stupid melon, so it's not like we care. We're only asking since you were so thoughtful to send them. We have eaten all kinds of delicacies. Why would we care about some fruit? Right, Tian?" said Ye Ya as he pretended to be dignified to save them from embarrassment.

Ye Fan nodded and chimed in, "You're right."

"We were only asking about them because we didn't want to put your effort to waste. That's all. As for the melons, my friend sent us a carton from abroad recently, so we are already sick of eating them."

Ye Fan smiled even more broadly and continued, "Really? In that case, since you are sick of them, I will bring the last yubari melon home to share with Grandpa instead of giving it to you."

Ye Fan and Lu Wen-Jing carried the last melon and left as he spoke.

The corner of Ye Tian and Ye Ya's eyes twitched. They felt as though their hearts were bleeding.

But what else could they do?

Now that they have talked big in front of outsiders, even if they wanted to try the fruit which cost an astronomical sum of money, they could only put on a straight face, grit their teeth, and suck it all up.

Ye Ya was so angry that he wanted to slap his mouth for blurting the wrong things.

Damn it.

Now there was no way they could have a single bite of the melon.

So Ye Tian and Ye Ya became even more unhappy with Ye Fan.

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On the other end.

At Jingzhou People's Hospital.

Several military use SUVs came driving over.

A group of people dressed in military uniform entered the hospital and went to Lu

Tian-He's hospital ward.

"Tian-He, what happened to you?" asked the leader worriedly in an instant with his eyes red when he saw all the injuries Lu Tian-He suffered.

This man held true power in the Yanjing army and was the chief military instructor, Fang Shao-Hong.

In comparison, Lu Tian-He wasn't as prestigious as this man in the army.

Or else, Lu Tian-He wouldn't have remained the deputy chief military instructor while Fang Shao-Hong got to be the chief military instructor.

"General Fang, you're here. I'm fine. I'm just injured but still alive. I just might not be able to go back to the army to work from now on," said Lu Tian-He as he shook his head and smiled. There was a sadness in the veteran who was past his prime.

After all, Lu Tian-He was getting on his age. Now that he suffered such serious injuries, it was impossible to recover fully even after he was discharged.

His career as a martial artist was probably about to come to an end!

Fang Shao-Hong sighed, "Tian-He, we can't do without you. If you aren't coming back, who's going to handle the decision making? Who's going to teach those youngsters? As you know, although I'm the chief military instructor, I don't know martial arts. I can't do without you when it comes to the training of the martial arts special troops!"

Fang Shao-Hong's eyes turned red. He was heartbroken about losing his right-hand man.

Lu Tian-He smiled and comforted him, "Friend, calm down. Since I am determined to retire, I have put some thought into who my successor should be. If he takes over my position, the Yanjing army's martial arts special troops will become the best in China!"

"Oh?" asked Fang Shao-Hong in surprise. Then he asked deeply, "Who is it?"



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It was utterly silent in the hospital ward.

Only Fang Shao-Hong's solemn voice echoed through the room.

After a long silence, Lu Tian-He finally spoke deeply.

"His name is Ye Fan. He's the leader of Yanjing. He turned the tables at Yanqi Lake and killed He Ying-Long. At Guangyue Restaurant, he displayed his incredible prowess when he faced off the top disciple of Sword Shrine, Hua Ying-Tian. He simply used his fleshly body against Hua Ying-Tian and defeated his Mochizuki Sword Technique with his fists. People know him as Mr Chu!" said Lu Tian-He as his voice echoed through the room.

A protracted deathly silence.

As Lu Tian-He recounted Ye Fan's deeds, the hospital ward fell quiet.

All that remained was the look of shock on Fang Shao-Hong's face as he trembled.

"The leader of Yanjing? Did he triumph over the Mochizuki Sword Technique without weapons? Is...is this Mr Chu really that powerful?" asked Fang Shao-Hong in shock after some time.

Lu Tian-He nodded hard and replied, "I was there to witness both battles. He picked up those skills through true combat. Judging from my experience, he will be one of the best martial artists in China in the future. If we can convince him to join Yanjing's army, it will be our honor! Who knows? In 50 years, he just might be the next God of War, Ye Qing-Tian!"

What?

Fang Shao-Hong was instantly startled by the high acclaim Lu Tian-He had for Mr Chu. He hastily opened his eyes wide as a tsunami flooded his heart.

The God of War, Ye Qing-Tian, was a military legend and the number one pillar of the nation!

It would be Fang Shao-Hong's good fortune and a great honor to discover martial arts talents like that.

Even a long time leader like Fang Shao-Hong couldn't stay indifferent at the prospect.

Then Fang Shao-Hong said deeply, "Okay, Tian-He. I trust you! Tell me everything you know about him now. I will make arrangements to see him. The Yanjing armed forces will be the first to get the

future God of War on their side. Haha!”

Back in the day, the Jiangbei army became the top armed forces in China because of Ye Qing-Tian.

Even though they were the capital's army, they couldn't compare to Jiangbei's armed forces.

The Commander of Jiangbei's armed forces was the one who discovered Ye Qing-Tian's talents and groomed him.

Ye Qing-Tian helped him to garner the most respect and became the most important commander among the four

If Yanjing's army had the same kind of talent, their influence could rise with the tides too.

Instead, Lu Tian-He shook his head at Fang Shao-Hong and said, “Don't be too hasty. I have spoken to him before, and he seems to have some hostility towards us. If you act recklessly, you will probably get rejected.”

“Then what do you suggest?” asked Fang Shao-Hong quizzically.

Lu Tian-He continued, “I've thought about it, and I propose that one of my students sound him out. Since that student is Mr

Chu's cousin, it might be easier. I'll get her to find out what Mr Chu thinks, so we can be prepared when we meet him in person."

Fang Shao-Hong nodded and agreed, "Okay, Tian-He. You make sense. Let's run with your plan."

Then Lu Tian-He called Ye Yu-Yan over.

Since Ye Yu-Yan only injured her arm, she could still walk freely.

She soon arrived at Lu Tian-He's hospital ward.

"General Fang, what brings you here?" asked Ye Yu-Yan in surprise when she spotted Fang Shao-Hong in the room and swiftly saluted him.

Fang Shao-Hong was one of the top three leaders in the Yanjing armed forces.

Even her teacher, Lu Tian-He treated him with respect, so a small fry like her had to be even more respectful to him.

Normally, she rarely got to see Fang Shao-Hong.

"You can dispense with the formalities. Since you're Tian-He's student, you can call

me Uncle Shao-Hong. There's no need to be so formal when we are outside the camp," said Fang Shao-Hong as he laughed and appeared very genial.

He didn't seem as stern as he was in the army.

The chief military instructor's warmth left Ye Yu-Yan jittery. All these years in the army, she had never seen Fang Shao-Hong so genial!

After some perfunctory chat, Fang Shao-Hong got to business and said, "I heard you have a cousin that goes by Ye Fan, right?"

"Huh?" said Ye Yu-Yan in surprise. It never crossed her mind that even her chief military instructor knew Ye Fan.

Amid her surprise, Ye Yu-Yan nodded and replied, "Yes, his mother is my eldest aunt."

"Haha! That close? That makes things a lot easier," replied Fang Shao-Hong. He was instantly delighted to hear how close Ye Yu-Yan and Ye Fan were. At first, he was worried they might be distant relatives. From the looks of it, they seemed rather closely related.

Ye Yu-Yan found Fang Shao-Hong's

concerns even more baffling and asked, "Chief Fang, do you want to see him?"

Fang Shao-Hong nodded and continued, "To be clear, we want your cousin to join our army and work for me. But your teacher was worried that it would be too sudden if we brought it up directly. So we want you to chat with him and ask if he is interested in serving the nation and joining the Yanjing armed forces. If he is interested, we can agree to any condition! I heard from your teacher that Ye Fan is a genius. Our troops really need talent like him. In the future, with him at the helm of the martial arts special troops, your teacher and I will have nothing to worry about."

Ye Yu-Yan was stunned to hear Fang Shao-Hong's explanation.

Complicated emotions surfaced in her mind.

In her heart, she felt inexplicably disappointed.

Ye Yu-Yan finally realized that the chief military instructor only treated her warmly because of Ye Fan.

Even Ye Yu-Yan never had the honor of getting appointed personally by the chief and deputy military instructors.

From this moment, Ye Yu-Yan knew that Ye Fan had utterly surpassed her in status.

They wanted Ye Fan to lead the special troops. Ye Yu-Yan reckoned Ye Fan was to become the captain of her Dragon Hunting Special Troop.

Ye Yu-Yan found it ironic as she thought about the possibility of becoming Ye Fan's subordinate.

Ye Yu-Yan recalled how she felt sullied when Ye Fan used to write her love letters and court her.

In hindsight, her arrogance to Ye Fan ended up being a sheer joke.

It never crossed Ye Yu-Yan's mind that the man whom she despised the most in the Ye family would end up walking all over her.



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Ye Yu-Yan couldn't remember how she managed to leave Lu Tian-He's hospital ward that night.

She felt terribly upset.

And couldn't put her feelings into words.

The chief military instructor wanted her to sound Ye Fan out about joining the army.

But how could Ye Yu-Yan face Ye Fan now?

Those angry words which Ye Fan said seemed to echo in her ears.

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"From today onwards, even though we're related by blood, we don't know each other anymore! I'm not an older brother to you, and you're not a younger sister to me either. If we cross paths again, we will be nothing but strangers. Since we're on different paths, there's no point in trying to get along."

....

Ye Yu-Yan didn't put any thought into it when she first heard these words and treated them as a joke.

She felt that the likes of Ye Fan were only



good at talking.

From the looks of it now, it wasn't the desperate cries of a weak indignant man, but the contempt of a truly powerful man.

"I was wrong. I made a huge mistake. I was a snob and underestimated you..." said Ye Yu-Yan in a sorrowful tone with tears almost welling in her eyes.

Ye Yu-Yan never felt this defeated in her life.

Ye Yu-Yan was keenly aware that Ye Fan was so profoundly talented at such a young age that even both the chief and deputy military instructors wanted him to join their ranks.

In the future, Ye Fan would reach heights that were utterly unattainable for her!

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After Ye Yu-Yan returned to her room that night, she asked her mother to fill up the discharge paperwork.

Although her arm had yet to recover fully, she could recuperate at home just the same since it was a physical injury.

Furthermore, Ye Yu-Yan had a mission, so she had to hurry home to Yeyang.

The next day.

After finding out about Ye Yu-Yan's discharge, Old Master Ye held a family dinner to help his favorite granddaughter calm her nerves.

Ye Fan wasn't interested at first, but Old Master Ye specially told him to join them. Since it was his grandfather asking, Ye Fan didn't refuse him and simply went over.

He would just treat it as having dinner with his grandfather.

Although Old Master Ye was old, he treated everyone equally and didn't put Ye Fan and his mother in a spot simply because they had fallen from grace.

Instead, Old Master Ye took Ye Xi-Mei and Ye Fan in without hesitation when they were exiled from the Chu family.

Ye Xi-Mei was his biological daughter after all. Even though they once got into a huge argument, now that his daughter was in trouble, how could he sit by and do nothing?

Also, Old Master Ye helped to support them financially often and seemed to feel bad for them.

Both Ye Xi-Mei and Ye Fan would never forget how kind he was to them.

So the person whom Ye Fan respected the most in the Ye family was his grandfather, Ye Guang-Kun!

But right after Ye Fan arrived in the halls of the old residence, Ye Jian sneered, "Ye Fan, what are you doing here? Haven't you done enough damage to Yu-Yan? Are you still resentful? Are you here to gloat? Yes, you're a great fighter. But so what? In my eyes, you are still just a live-in husband. In comparison, Yu-Yan is untouchable and has a promising future. You and Yu-Yan are from two different worlds right from the start!"

Ye Jian spoke coldly to Ye Fan. His words brimmed with contempt for Ye Fan.

"Shut up, you little bastard! I'm not in my grave yet, so you have no place to speak here. We are family, and Fan is your older cousin. Just listen to all this nonsense that you are saying. Hurry up and apologize to Fan," said Old Master Ye furiously as he slammed the table from the main seat.

"Grandpa, stop helping him. All of us got into this trouble thanks to him! I was wondering why he suddenly came back this year after staying away for three years. I finally realized

he came home to hide because he caused trouble and offended someone. In the end, he implicated the entire family. Grandpa, Yu-Yan fractured her arm, and Dad broke three of his ribs! Are you still going to defend him? Even his father's family doesn't want this troublemaker, so neither should the Ye family. Or else, he will destroy the family sooner or later!" sad Ye Jian viciously.

Ye Jian had never gotten along with Ye Fan since they were children, and now that their family encountered such a catastrophe because of him, Ye Jian hated Ye Fan to the core.

So he jumped on the opportunity to condemn Ye Fan verbally.

But Old Master Ye didn't buy his words and continued angrily, "What's this nonsense? You are slandering your cousin. I know Fan well. Although he is untalented and unambitious, he knows his boundaries well and never causes trouble!"

"Grandpa, you still refuse to believe me," said Ye Jian as he turned to look at Old Master Ye. "It's fine if you don't believe me, but surely you can trust my father and Uncle Tian, right? They were all present that day, so go ahead and ask them whether Ye Fan was the one who attracted trouble," Ye Jian

persisted.

In an instant, everyone in the family looked at Ye Tian and Ye Ya.

"Tian, what happened that day? You haven't given us any details even though you've come back for so many days. Was it related to Fan?" asked their youngest aunt, Ye Xi-Lan, as she looked at Ye Tian quizzically.

"Humph. Who else could it be other than him? The Ye family should never have taken the bastard in. We put a roof over his head, but he was an ingrate. He attracted trouble and stood by to watch when we got beaten up. He watched his uncles get humiliated and watched his cousin almost get beaten to death and did nothing. It is an utter insult to have a nephew like him!" said Ye Tian angrily with a solemn look on his face in a low booming voice.

After tolerating Ye Fan for so long, Ye Tian finally let out all his unhappiness towards Ye Fan.

"Dad, I have tolerated all these years on the account that we are family, but today I'm just going to speak up. Ye Xi-Mei is my older sister and your eldest daughter, so it makes sense for us to take her in, but the Ye family certainly can't take in this little bastard. He is

not a member of the Ye family, so he has no right to attend our family dinner! Tell him to leave.”

“That’s right, Dad! This boy is nothing but an ingrate! Just tell him to get lost!” chimed Ye Ya.

Even Ye Xi-Lan instantly felt displeased with Ye Fan when she learned what had happened.

“Dad, Ye Fan was genuinely badly brought up. The Ye family shouldn’t tolerate someone as disloyal as him!”



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"That's not true. I know my son's personality well. He would never do something like that," explained Ye Xi-Mei with her face pale when she saw everyone condemning her son.

"Xi-Mei, how can you defend that terrible son of yours at this point in time? He ended up being a live-in husband because you indulge him too much! If you don't believe me, just ask him yourself. Ask him if the Ye family met with such a catastrophe because of him? Ask him if he stood by on the sidelines and watched as we got beaten to a pulp?" said Ye Ya coldly to Ye Xi-Mei with a nasty expression on his face.

Instantly, everyone turned to look at Ye Fan.

Even Old Master Ye turned to look at him and asked, "Fan, are your uncles telling the truth? Did you stand by the sidelines to gloat without helping them when they got beaten up?"

Old Master Ye clearly sounded somewhat angry.

He could tolerate Ye Fan for being unaccomplished, but not for doing something as heartless as this.

"Of course he did. I already told you he is a good-for-nothing and lacked discipline. Now

that he has done something as disgraceful as this, it's perfectly normal. He should leave the family dinner. The Ye family doesn't condone heartless people like him!"

Ye Fan's grandmother was already heartbroken when she found out that her son and her favorite granddaughter got beaten up.

Now that she learned it was Ye Fan who had implicated them, she hated him even more, so she fanned the flames and instigated her husband.

But Old Master Ye didn't decide right away.

He continued to look at Ye Fan and waited for his response, "Hurry up and tell us. Did you do it or not?"

HUUU!

The cold wind gusted outside the window.

And swept into the room through the doors and windows.

Everyone looked at the skinny silhouette with fury and disdain brimming from their faces.

But Ye Fan remained silent towards their



questioning.

"Humph. What, Ye Fan? Are you too afraid to admit to it now?" sneered Ye Jian coldly as he looked at his grandfather. "Grandpa, is it still necessary for him to give an answer now? It's clearly silent admission since he doesn't dare to speak up."

The disappointment on Old Master Ye's face intensified.

He raised his head and asked again, "Fan, I will ask you one last time. Were you the one who caused your uncles and Yu-Yan to get beaten up? Did you stand aside and gloat without helping them while they were humiliated?"

Old Master Ye's deep voice echoed through the room.

But Ye Fan remained silent.

No one knew how Ye Fan felt inside under his calm façade.

Old Master Ye sighed in the end.

"Leave. Go back to wherever. The Ye family doesn't condone people who can't recognize their own blood," said Old Master Ye deeply. These meager words seemed to have

sapped him of all energy.

He didn't think that his grandson would end up like this.

How could he heartlessly watch while his uncles and cousins got beaten up?

"Grandpa told you to leave! Get lost!"

"Leave, you heartless bastard!"

"How can the Ye family have someone as heartless as you?"

Ye Jian and the others came forward one after another.

They kept condemning Ye Fan and telling him to leave the Ye family.

Ye Fan listened and watched them.

He clenched his fists tightly as his expression grew increasingly icy cold.

At the same time, Ye Fan sneered in his heart.

Very well.

Were they accusing Ye Fan of being heartless?

Were they saying that Ye Fan didn't recognize familial ties?

In that case, Chu Tian-Fan would let them see with their own eyes what those words truly meant.

"Wait!"

The Ye family was about to drive Ye Fan away, and Ye Fan was about to explode.

Then a cold voice came from outside the door suddenly.

Ye Yu-Yan walked in from outside with one arm bandaged with her mother, Dong Mei, helping her along.

"Yu-Yan, you're here. Perfect timing! We're helping you get back at him! I said Ye Fan was the one who implicated us, but Grandpa didn't believe me. Tell him whether Ye Fan was the culprit," said Ye Jian joyfully in an instant when Ye Yu-Yan arrived.

Ye Jian acted as though he had finally found someone to back him up. He walked over and kept talking to Ye Yu-Yan.

But Ye Yu-Yan ignored him. She walked straight up and pushed Ye Jian aside. Then she stepped forward and said, "Grandpa, we

were the ones at fault that day. It had nothing to do with..." then Ye Yu-Yan paused before she gritted her teeth and continued, "It had nothing to do with Fan!"

What?

Everyone was dumbstruck when they heard Ye Yu-Yan's words.

Even Ye Fan turned to look at the door in surprise to see the silhouette of the beautiful woman.

Ye Jian found it unimaginable and stared wide-eyed.

"Yu-Yan, what did you just call him? Fan? Oh my. Are you sure? You are the Ye family's true dragon, and Ye Fan is a useless live-in husband. He isn't good enough for you to call him on a first-name basis," said Ye Jian in shock.

Ye Tian looked at her in disbelief and said, "Yu-Yan, are you confused or something? Why did you call him Fan? I'm the deputy county mayor, and you will be a leader in the army in the future. A mediocre man like Ye Fan isn't fit to be on a first-name basis with us. Also, what nonsense did you just say? Your Grandpa is right here, so you need to think clearly and correct yourself."

"Yu-Yan, you..." replied Ye Tian in shock when Ye Yu-Yan shouted.

Ye Tian never dreamed that his daughter would raise her voice at him for Ye Fan, the live-in husband.

"Dad, Uncle Ya, you said Ye Fan brought disaster upon us that day. Just ask yourself, did Hua Ying-Tian really beat you up because of Ye Fan? Or did he do it because Uncle Ya said the wrong thing to offend him and ended up getting beaten? Did it have anything to do with Fan?"

"Also, it's sheer nonsense that Fan didn't help us! If Fan didn't step forward to fight Hua Ying-Tian, I would have perished under his sword! Both you and Uncle Tian would probably have died at Guangyue Restaurant too! We used to be so harsh to Fan, but he disregarded it and saved us."

"But what about you? You are ungrateful and you've even made up stories about him to condemn Fan and mislead Grandpa. Dad, Uncle Ya, don't you feel bad about it at all? Even I despise you!" said Ye Yu-Yan with every word striking them like a nuclear missile.

Every single word she spoke struck Ye Tian and the others at their Achille's heel.

Ye Tian was especially pale and shivered hard.

He stared so hard in astonishment that they almost popped out from their sockets.



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If these words had come from Ye Fan, it would be no surprise to Ye Tian and the others.

But they never imagined it would come from Ye Yu-Yan's mouth.

Didn't she look down on Ye Fan the most?

Didn't she loathe him the most?

But now she kept calling him 'Fan' and sounded so close.

Also, she disobeyed her father and offended her second uncle for Ye Fan's sake.

Her massive change in attitude left everyone stunned.

"Yu...Yu-Yan, are you okay? Why are you suddenly taking Ye Fan's side..." asked Ye Xi-Lan, equally surprised.

Even though Ye Xi-Lan moved to Jianghai after marriage, she knew her niece was a proud woman and had despised Ye Fan since she was a child.

But she was now embarrassing her father because of Ye Fan, and it was completely unprecedented.

Ye Yu-Yan didn't answer Ye Xi-Lan.

Ye Yu-Yan plucked up her courage and walked over to Ye Fan with her eyes red. Then she bowed and said, "Fan, I'm sorry. I was childish, and I apologize for it. Also, thank you for saving me at Guangyue Restaurant. I will never forget my debt to you."

Her voice trembled a little, but she sounded sincere.

All her usual arrogance and coldness was gone when she spoke to Ye Fan.

She appeared like a young woman who had made a mistake and was waiting for her older brother to mete out punishment.

"I...what the..." Everyone was dumbstruck by the scene.

It was unfathomable why the lofty Ye Yu-Yan would lower herself and apologize to Ye Fan.

Did Ye Fan sweep Ye Yu-Yan off her feet after he domineeringly beat up Hua Ying-Tian and save her?

"Yu-Yan, get over here! He's a good-for-nothing. You haven't done anything wrong. You don't have to humble yourself and



apologize to him!" roared Ye Tian as he gritted his teeth.

In a second, Old Master Ye slapped Ye Tian's face with a thud.

"You little bastard. You're already over 40 years old and can't even be half as reasonable as your daughter. If not for Yu-Yan, I would have wronged my grandson. How can you have the cheek to reprimand Fan for disrespecting you when you don't behave like a proper elder? Get over there and apologize to Fan!"

Old Master Ye instantly realized what happened after he heard Ye Yu-Yan's words.

In his fit of anger, he walked over and slapped both his sons.

"Dad, don't get angry. It was a misunderstanding," said Ye Xi-Lan. She hurried over to help mediate and speak up for Ye Tian.

The moment Old Master Ye saw his youngest daughter defend Ye Tian and the others, he kicked her right away and said, "Do you have the cheek to speak up for them? You just maligned Fan too! You have to apologize too!"

"You..." Old Madam Ye couldn't go on watching, so she walked over to persuade him.

"You have to apologize to your grandson too, old woman!" roared Old Master Ye. He scolded everyone in sight.

Despite her resentment, she didn't dare disobey him and didn't try to speak up for the others.

They caused Ye Fan such huge injustice. Now that they had learned the truth, Old Master Ye felt guilty towards his grandson.

So he told everyone in the Ye family to apologize to Ye Fan.

Even he did the same.

"Save it. Like you said, I'm not good enough to accept your apologies! But I will remember the things that happened today. One day, you will learn what it means to be heartless and disregard familial ties!"

Ye Fan stepped forward and picked up a wine glass on the dining table as he laughed coldly.

He tilted his head and finished the wine in a gulp as though it contained all the heartless

and mercenary attitudes he suffered all his life.

Then Ye Fan set the wine glass down and turned to leave.

He left a whole room of panicky people behind!

Ye Xi-Mei left the room expressionlessly too.

"Humph! You little bastards, see what you've done? You cornered Fan, and now he wants to sever ties with you. Are you happy now?" said Old Master Ye particularly angrily after Ye Fan left.

He scolded Ye Tian and the others before leaving in a huff.

Their family dinner ended on a lousy note.

"Ye Fan might be useless, but that hasn't stopped him from being so arrogant. Old Master Ye already wanted us to apologize to him, but he refused to let it go. How could he put on airs, give us an attitude and say mean things to us? Sever ties with us? We are more than happy to do it! This nephew is bound to drag us under one day!" said Ye Ya's wife coldly without taking Old Master Ye's words seriously.

All the Ye siblings felt their father was overreacting.

He was a mere live-in husband. Did Old Master Ye have to throw such a huge temper because Ye Fan suffered a tiny injustice?

Moreover, Ye Fan was a live-in husband who probably suffered a lot of abuse from his in-laws. Couldn't he endure just a little bit of injustice back home?

"He's such a hypocrite," said Ye Xi-Lan coldly as she shook her head.

Then the quiet Ye Yu-Yan suddenly said, "You will soon learn how incredible Fan really is. I know you won't bother listening to me if I tried to convince you otherwise, but I hope you won't live to regret your choices."

Ye Yu-Yan said these words solemnly before walking out as well.

"Yu-Yan, where are you going?"

"We planned this dinner for you, but you haven't finished your food," said Ye Xi-Lan and her second sister-in-law one after another.

But Ye Yu-Yan left right away without turning back.

"Sigh. What's gotten into Yu-Yan today?"

"She used to despise Ye Fan the most."

"Why did she end up defending him?"

"Tian, what happened to Yu-Yan?" asked everyone quizzically one after another.

Ye Tian appeared particularly upset.

Ye Tian's daughter publicly embarrassed him. It felt so awful that it seemed as though he had swallowed a fly, so it was no surprise he was upset.

In the end, he turned to leave without saying a word.

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Shortly after Ye Fan left the living room, he received a call from Li Er.

"Mr Chu, most of the jade you got the rich and powerful of Jiangdong to come up with are ready. Shall we send it to you on the first day of Lunar New Year? Then we can come by to wish you a happy New Year too!" came Li Er's reverent voice over the phone.

Ye Fan nodded and replied, "Excellent. Tell them to send all the jade to the Ye residence

at Yeyang town in Jingzhou city!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Ye Fan announced his supreme identity at the Feast of the Sea and Sky so that he could mobilize everyone to collect jade for him.

If Ye Fan wanted to master Invoke the Celestial Cloud and rise to the next level, this jade was crucial for his success.

“By the time Lunar New Year is over, I would have gathered enough jade and I will lock myself up to meditate. When I’m done, the flames of war will burn! Han, it’s been ten years. It was the will of heaven that I have managed to survive for ten long years! It’s also the will of heaven for me to trample the Chu family beneath my feet.”

Ye Fan spoke to Han over the phone at night as he stood atop a deserted mountain outside Yeyang.

The sound of war drums thumping in unison could be heard in the background.

Then in an instant, all sound disappeared.

All that remained was Ye Fan’s deafeningly domineering words, which reverberated ceaselessly.

Ye Fan couldn’t see how the old man’s eyes had already turned red on the other end of

the phone.

“Yes, Young Master. It’s been ten years! Even after suffering immense hardship for ten years, our hearts remain resolute. I am here waiting for Young Master to claim the Chu family for your own as its true king!”

HUUU!

The night wind roared through the mountains in the distance.

Leaving the sand and rock trembling and the withered grass rustling.

They were like soldiers guarding the frontier waving their flags and shouting to welcome their rightful emperor and his troops!

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It was late at night when Ye Fan returned to the Ye residence.

Before he reached the doorstep, he noticed someone standing at the entrance waiting in the cold wind.

“Mum, what are you doing here? It’s winter. What if you catch a cold from standing here?” said Ye Fan when he realized it was his mother and couldn’t help worrying.



He hurried over and placed his jacket over his mother's shoulders and helped her into the house.

Ye Xi-Mei shook her head and smiled gently, "Fan, I'm fine. I can still tolerate this level of coldness. I'm just worried about your heart feeling cold."

Ye Xi-Mei spoke thoughtfully and her words were filled with concern for Ye Fan.

Ye Fan could tell what his mother was driving at, so he instantly smiled and said, "Mum, are you talking about what happened at dinner?"

"Fan, your uncles made a mistake. They still see you as family, so don't take those things they said tonight to heart. At least your grandfather is still around, and you know how much he dotes on you, and we are still family," persuaded Ye Xi-Mei.

She was worried that her son wouldn't let it go.

Her son had suffered since he was a child. Ye Fan was bullied by his father's relatives when they lived with the Chu family because of her low status and was eventually thrown out by the Chu family.

After she came back home to the Ye family, he got bullied by her own family as well.

Ye Xi-Mei didn't mind the suffering, but she couldn't help feeling guilty and heartbroken when Ye Fan kept getting bullied and had to suffer with her.

The only thing she could do for Ye Fan was to comfort him.

Ye Fan seemed indifferent. He smiled as he said calmly to her, "Mum, you're overthinking it. I've already managed to survive for so many years. Compared to the injustice I suffered all these years, that little bit of injustice they gave me was nothing. Moreover, I really don't care about what happened. I can't be bothered with them. They are just mere ants who don't deserve my attention."

Ye Fan's cold voice echoed through the air. It sounded far colder than this winter night to Ye Xi-Mei.

Ye Xi-Mei knew it was probably impossible for Ye Fan to reconcile with those siblings of hers after today.

"Fan, if you were powerful, then we wouldn't have to give a damn about them. But you..." said Ye Xi-Mei tentatively.

But in the end, she sighed, "Forget it, forget it. I shouldn't interfere with your choices. It is your life to lead."

Then Ye Fan helped Ye Xi-Mei back to her room to rest.

"Oh yes. Fan, Yu-Yan came to look for you many times after you left. She probably needs you for something. Go over when you have the time tomorrow. Stop making her go through the trouble of coming over," said Ye Xi-Mei to Ye Fan when she suddenly recalled something after reaching her room.

Ye Fan didn't pay much attention and said, "What else can she need me for? I reckon she's either here to apologize or thank me. People are just mind-boggling. She used to ignore me all the time. Ever since I helped her at Guangyue Restaurant, her attitude towards me has changed 180 degrees. Too bad, it's too late. We are destined to be strangers," Ye Fan spoke softly before turning to retire to his room.

The night passed silently.

The next day, Ye Yu-Yan came looking for Ye Fan again at the old estate.

The Ye family had three houses in Yeyang. Old Master Ye and Ye Xi-Mei lived in the

oldest one.

The two other houses belonged to Ye Tian and Ye Ya.

Ye Yu-Yan was on her way to her grandfather's place with expensive gifts from Yanjing for Ye Fan and his mother.

VROOM!

The sound of an engine roaring suddenly came from the end of the street.

Then an Audi appeared and came whizzing over like a bolt of black lightning.

It drifted when it reached Ye Yu-Yan's side. The wheels rubbed onto the ground and let out a piercing ring.

It looked like it was a knife cutting through the water as it drifted.

In the end, the entire car ran off the road and straight into the drain by the roadside.

With a clang, the car nose-dived into the drain and ended up all wet.

"Haha! Who is this stupid fellow? Why act like you know how to drift? Look at how you ended up drifting into a drain!" All the

passersby were doubling over in laughter.

Then the car door opened, and Ye Jian came out of the car shame-faced.

Ye Jian chuckled when he saw Ye Yu-Yan and said, "Sorry, Yu-Yan. I need more practice. Sorry for giving you a shock."

Ye Yu-Yan glared at Ye Jian when she realized he was the driver. Then she coldly walked away into the residence without paying him any attention.

Ye Yu-Yan used to think Ye Jian was pretty cool when he drove his luxury cars around town.

But compared to Ye Fan, her cousin was outclassed.

At best, Ye Jian could be considered a rich spoiled brat.

"Yu-Yan, don't go. I need to talk to you. Yu-Lang and Yu-Qing are here and they want to buy you dinner. We haven't hung out together for a long time."

The two names whom Ye Jian mentioned were the children of Ye Fan's youngest aunt, Ye Xi-Lan.

Ye Xi-Lan had a boy and a girl. Her son was called Jiang Yu-Lang, and her daughter was Jiang Yu-Qing.

Those siblings were brilliant and could rival Ye Yu-Yan in grades.

They just sat for their national college entrance exam last year, and both came in first.

Also, they were accepted by the most prestigious universities in China after coming in among the top ten. One of them got into Yanjing University, and the other was accepted by Qinghua University.

After both Ye Xi-Lan's children came in first, she was propelled into the spotlight, and their family became quite the legend.

Since their families were tight-knit, Ye Jian, Ye Yu-Yan, and Ye Xi-Lan's children were close too.

The four of them used to meet up whenever Ye Yu-Yan went back to her hometown.

It was almost a tradition now.

Of course, Ye Fan was excluded from their circles.

Ye Yu-Yan was home and Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing were home for the winter break, so Ye Jian started planning their little get together.

Ye Jian thought Ye Yu-Yan would be happy to hear that they could catch up.

But Ye Yu-Yan shockingly shook her head and replied, "You guys can go ahead. I'm not free."

Then she turned to leave without looking back.

Ye Jian stood behind her in shock.

But Ye Jian didn't take it to heart and thought she was just busy.

After all, even Ye Yu-Yan got hurt during the episode at Guangyue Restaurant. The army forces were probably angry about it too.

After Ye Jian managed to drive the car out of the drain, he went into the old Ye estate with Ye Yu-Yan.

Everyone was in the courtyard.

Ye Fan's aunts surrounded a boy and a girl and kept asking how they were.

"Yu-Lang, Yu-Qing, it's the holidays already?"

"When does school reopen again?"

"How's university life?"

"Ye Jian is a lousy student, so he will probably never make it into university!"

"The stars of education must really be shining on your family since both of them came in first."

"Both of them came in first!"

"You are probably the only family in Jiangdong with that luck!"

Their aunts treated Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing warmly and kept asking after them.

Even though their surnames weren't Ye either, the treatment Ye Fan received when he came home was poles apart.

"Stop praising them. They can't compare to Yu-Yan. Yu-Yan is going to be a general in the future. If we were in ancient times, your family would become the general's residence," said Ye Xi-Lan as she pretended



to be modest even though she was clearly overjoyed.

Ye Yu-Yan happened to walk right in.

Ye Yu-Yan had specially dressed up and put on some makeup today.

She usually went without makeup but put on some light makeup unprecedentedly.

Her brows were more exquisite, and her lips were brighter.

Also, she was dressed in a light pink dress. The dress showed off her slender and proportionate legs, her tiny waist and accentuated her figure perfectly.

Since Ye Yu-Yan had been in the army for years, she had the perfect figure.

Despite having seen his fair share of pretty girls at school, Jiang Yu-Lang couldn't help feeling awestruck when he saw Ye Yu-Yan.

It was his first time seeing Ye Yu-Yan looking so mesmerizing.

"Yu-Yan!"

"Yu-Yan, you're back."

Amid his surprise, Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing hurried over to welcome her.

The two of them always treated Ye Yu-Yan as their role model, so they respected her a lot.

Ye Yu-Yan was stunning, so Jiang Yu-Lang always had special feelings towards her since young.

It was only human of him to be attracted to beauty!

But Jiang Yu-Lang never dared to confess his love for her and slowly forgot about it after he grew up.

But when he saw Ye Yu-Yan looking so intoxicatingly beautiful, his heart started throbbing for her again.

As the saying went, women dressed up for the people they liked!

Did Ye Yu-Yan dress up to get his attention because she knew he was coming home today?

Very quickly, Jiang Yu-Lang would come to learn he was overthinking it.

Ye Yu-Yan nodded but remained cold.

She didn't even bother to talk to him, so how could she be dressing up for him?

Despite that disappointment, Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing were used to it.

They knew Ye Yu-Yan's personality well. She was always lofty and distant.

At least, Ye Yu-Yan would nod to them.

They could recall how Ye Yu-Yan used to completely ignore Ye Fan.

Before long, Ye Jian came over.

"Haha! Old Master Ye, all four of your grandchildren are here today. All three generations are finally under one roof, so you can sit and enjoy life now. Yu-Lang and Yu-Qing will become academics. Yu-Yan is in the army defending the country. Even though Jian doesn't like to study, he's bright, so he will definitely become a tycoon. The Ye family will have offspring in the military, business, and academic fields," said someone in the courtyard as she smiled.

Old Master Ye loved hearing these words.

"Yes, I know, right? The Ye family's children are all capable and successful. We are counting on you four to bring glory to our

ancestors!" said Old Master Ye as he smiled from ear to ear. Old Madam Ye beamed nonstop too.

Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing came over to ask Ye Yu-Yan, "Yu-Yan, we should have come to visit earlier since you're already back. Today's a good day, so why don't four of us have lunch together? We haven't caught up in two years, so we have to catch up."

Jiang Yu-Lang brought up the lunch.

Ye Yu-Yan shook her head and rejected them, "I'm not free."

"Erm..." said Jiang Yu-Lang in surprise.

Dong Mei glared at her daughter and said, "Yu-Yan, no matter how busy you are with your mission, make some time for lunch with your cousins. It's not easy for you to get together either."

"Mum, I really have no time," replied Ye Yu-Yan yet again. Then she turned to ask the silent Ye Xi-Mei, "Aunt Xi-Mei, isn't Fan back yet?"

Wh-what?

"Fan?" asked Jiang Yu-Lang and his sister in

surprise before they turned to look at Ye Jian.

“Jian, what’s going on? Hasn’t Yu-Yan always ignored Ye Fan? Why are they even on a first-name basis now?” asked Jiang Yu-Lang perplexedly.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Ye Jian shrugged cluelessly.

"He's back, he's inside the house. Let me go get him," replied Ye Xi-Mei as she walked in to call Ye Fan.

"Yes, Mum?" asked Ye Fan as he stretched lazily. He seemed to have just woken up.

Ye Ya's wife looked at Ye Fan and instantly sneered with disdain, "All you do is idle around. How can someone like you ever have any achievements? It's no wonder Ye Fan is such a good-for-nothing among all his cousins."

Ye Ya's wife and the others grumbled among themselves.

But Ye Yu-Yan walked over to Ye Fan.

Ye Yu-Yan lacked the confidence to face Ye Fan and didn't even dare to make eye contact with him. Instead, she hung her head.

Her long pink dress fluttered in the wind. There was even a light fragrance in her freshly done up hair.

Moments later, she finally mustered the courage to say in an apologetic tone to Ye Fan, "Fan, are you free at mid-day? I want

to..." Ye Yu-Yan paused before she continued, "I want to buy you lunch."

What?

Did she want to buy him lunch?

Ye Jian and the others stared dumbstruck when they heard Ye Yu-Yan. They felt as though she had just slapped them in their faces.

They felt so pissed.

They finally realized why Ye Yu-Yan wasn't free to eat with them. It was because she wanted to buy Ye Fan lunch!

Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing were equally shocked.

It felt as though they had witnessed an impossible phenomenon.

And Ye Fan's reply would leave them even more shocked.

"Buy me lunch?" sneered Ye Fan. "Sorry, I'm not free."

What?

Not free?

"Oh my god!" cursed Ye Jian in his heart as his expression fell.

Ye Jian had just asked Ye Yu-Yan to join them for lunch, but she rejected them and said she wasn't free.

They thought they had just caught her at the wrong time.

But how could she ask Ye Fan out for lunch instead?

Ye Jian found it even more unbearable that Ye Fan turned Ye Yu-Yan's offer down!

Ye Jian had begged Ye Yu-Yan to have lunch with them and failed to succeed. How could a lowly live-in husband like Ye Fan reject her now?

The more Ye Jian thought about it, the more annoyed he felt.

Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing also seemed a little upset.

They wondered if they couldn't compare to Ye Fan in Ye Yu-Yan's eyes.

"Fan, isn't it great Yu-Yan asked you out for lunch? Why don't you go?" convinced Ye Xi-Mei.



Old Master Ye persuaded Ye Fan too, "That's right, Fan. Listen to your Mum. You are the eldest after all. Since ancient times, the eldest brother is like the father to the other siblings, so you ought to be more magnanimous. I think all five of you should have lunch together. Go to the city for some steamboat and hang out."

Ye Xi-Mei and Old Master Ye immediately both did their utmost best to convince Ye Fan to go.

Even Lu Wen-Jing's eyes lit up when she heard about having steamboat.

She ran over to Ye Fan and pulled him as she said, "Fan, let's go. I feel like having steamboat. I haven't had it for ages."

Ye Fan smiled helplessly at Lu Wen-Jing's beseeching look.

"Fine. For you, we'll go out for steamboat," said Ye Fan as he touched Lu Wen-Jing's cute nose indulgently.

Ye Fan kept his gaze on Lu Wen-Jing the whole time. Even though Ye Yu-Yan had dressed up so nicely and looked stunning, he didn't even cast an eye at her.

Ye Yu-Yan felt sad in her heart.

She didn't expect that she couldn't compare with a child who was an outsider.

Ye Yu-Yan and the others went to the city for lunch with a sense of defeat in their hearts.

Ye Fan went along too.

Even though Ye Jian and the others loathed Ye Fan a lot, they had no choice. Who would dare oppose their grandfather's orders?

Moreover, Ye Yu-Yan was determined to buy Ye Fan lunch.

Given the circumstances, even if Ye Jian, Jiang Yu-Lang, and Jiang Yu-Qing were grudging about eating with Ye Fan, they had no choice.

"Jian, are we really bringing Ye Fan along? Don't you know that we never got along with him? I probably won't be able to swallow anything if I eat with him," griped Jiang Yu-Lang.

Ye Jian sighed and said, "Grandpa's orders. We can only obey him. But on the bright side, we can take the chance to mess with Ye Fan. Yu-Lang, you have no idea how much trouble the asshole caused after coming back for only a matter of days. Yu-Yan broke her arm because of him too!"

What?

"Really now?" asked Jiang Yu-Lang and Jiang Yu-Qing in shock. Then they listened to Ye Jian tell them about the episode.

Ye Yu-Yan and the others were ready to leave around mid-day.

"Yu-Yan, you probably don't get to eat steamboat when you are in the army, right? I'll bring you somewhere good today. Although it can't compare to Guangyue Restaurant in terms of luxury, it's still one of the best steamboat in Jingzhou! I go there a lot. I brought Yu-Lang and Yu-Qing there during the last summer break. Just ask them about how good the steamboat is," said Ye Jian as he laughed while driving.

Jiang Yu-Lang instantly nodded in agreement.

Ye Yu-Yan said nothing and merely nodded.

She wasn't here for lunch.

So she didn't care how good the steamboat tasted.

Ye Jian and the others continued to chat randomly.

Everyone ignored Ye Fan for the entire journey.

Ye Jian even laughed sinisterly in his heart as he hatched wicked plans.

Very quickly, they arrived in the city and pulled up near the restaurant.

Despite its small size, the restaurant décor had a lot of character. It had an antique flavor to it and seemed charming.

Ye Fan raised his head to see three words outside the establishment: 99 Steamboat Restaurant.

Since it was mid-day, business was brisk.

There were plenty of patrons, so most of the seats were taken up.

"Young Master Ye, come on in. I saved you a table," greeted the restaurant owner. The moment he spotted Ye Jian, he quickly came over to welcome them.

"Haha! Mr Fang, business is getting better and better."

"I have Young Master Ye to thank for bringing me business. Are these your friends? Don't hold back when you order. I

will give you a 10% discount. Since you are such an important client of ours, all your friends will enjoy 10% off!" said the restaurant owner smoothly as he helped Ye Jian impress his friends.

It certainly boosted Ye Jian's ego. Then he said, "Mr Fang, you're such a canny businessman. Yu-Yan, go have a seat first. I'm going to have a chat with Mr Fang."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Mr Fang, I have a sure-win business proposition for you. Are you interested?" asked Ye Jian softly after he pulled Mr Fang somewhere private.

"Oh? What business?" asked the restaurant owner, sounding interested in the business prospect.

Ye Jian didn't tell him right away. Instead, he lit a cigarette and turned back to look. Then after he was sure no one was around, he told the restaurant owner.

"Erm..." said the restaurant owner worriedly, "Young Master Ye, are you sure? I will offend him by doing this."

Ye Jian scoffed and laughed, "He's just a live-in husband. What's there to be afraid of? Moreover, I'll protect you if anything happens. Cut the banter. Are you in or out?"

Ye Jian took out a stack of money and flung it onto the table as he spoke.

The restaurant owner smiled and agreed.

"But Young Master Ye, are you sure he's just a live-in husband? Are you absolutely sure? If I end up offending a big shot, then it won't be worth it," asked the restaurant owner again. He was worldly-wise and wasn't

entirely eager about making a quick buck.

Ye Jian laughed and replied, "Don't worry. I'm cousins with him, so I know what he's made of. If he were a big shot, I wouldn't want to do it to him, right?"

Ye Jian returned to the restaurant after having a quick chat with the restaurant owner.

After Ye Jian got seated, he even glanced at Jiang Yu-Lang smugly. He seemed to be telling Jiang Yu-Lang to expect some entertainment.

Very quickly, the steamboat was sent over. The waitress adjusted the heat, and the soup started boiling before long.

"Yu-Yan, don't just look. Start cooking!" said Ye Jian enthusiastically as they chatted over lunch.

However, Ye Yu-Yan remained silent. She glanced at Ye Fan from time to time and wanted to muster the courage to make conversation with Ye Fan, but didn't know what to say.

Ye Fan only ate the steamboat on his own and helped Lu Wen-Jing to take food occasionally.

Other than Lu Wen-Jing, Ye Fan didn't give anyone else a hoot at all.

His cool attitude certainly displeased Jiang Yu-Lang, Jiang Yu-Qing, and Ye Jian.

"He's just a live-in husband. How dare he act aloof? I don't know where he finds the confidence to act like this!" Jiang Yu-Lang and the others rolled their eyes at Ye Fan and sneered in their hearts. They were filled with contempt for Ye Fan.

There was suddenly a commotion at the restaurant door.

"Excuse me, please give way."

Amid the commotion, a bunch of people walked in like rock stars surrounded by bodyguards.

Ye Jian and the others turned to glance towards the excitement.

The group of people who had just entered felt extraordinary.

Confidence and prestige emanated from their faces.

A young woman dressed in a white chiffon dress and a high-end white trench coat



walked ahead of them.

Her long wine red hair hung casually over her shoulders while she wore a pair of sexy high heel shoes.

Elegance and grace radiated from the young woman.

Her innate elegant aura made others bow to her instinctively.

However, people were more spellbound by her exquisite features in comparison to her aura.

Even Ye Jian and Jiang Yu-Lang were instantly left spellbound by her good looks.

"Wow, what a pretty woman. Even our campus belle can't compare to her! She's ravishing. Jian, since when was there anyone as pretty as her in Jingzhou?" asked Jiang Yu-Lang at a loss.

The patrons around them were all shocked by the woman's beauty and sighed nonstop.

"Just look at the bodyguards and her poise. Is she some celebrity?"

Many people couldn't help commenting excitedly.

Despite Ye Fan's usual calmness, something cracked in him.

"What brings her here?" asked Ye Fan in surprise after they walked past him.

The restaurant owner let them to the largest table at the center of the restaurant.

99 Steamboat Restaurant wasn't a large establishment and was only considered a steamboat specialty restaurant, so there weren't any private rooms. All their patrons all ate in the same hall.

Although the restaurant was a lot noisier, it was particularly lively.

The steamboat was genuinely good, so many rich and powerful people often dined here.

The people in the restaurant kept looking over after they took their seats because of the stunning lady sitting with them.

Many people glanced over curiously from time to time.

"Oh my. Who are these people anyway? Why do they need so many bodyguards when they are out for lunch? The restaurant owner even went over to toast them personally. I

was just wondering why the largest table at the center of the restaurant wasn't occupied. It seems the restaurant was reserving it for them!" said Jiang Yu-Lang as he sighed in shock.

Jiang Yu-Lang and Ye Jian were naturally curious.

Ye Jian turned to wave and say to a young woman at the counter, "Yaoyao, come over here."

"Hi, Young Master Ye. I was about to make a toast to you," replied the mesmerizing young woman. Her lovely fragrance wafted over as she walked over with a wine pot.

"Really? I thought you were so busy making money that you forgot about your old friend," said Ye Jian as he smiled and shook his head, "Oh yes, Yu-Lang. Allow me to introduce you. This is Fang Yao-Yao. She's the young and pretty daughter of the steamboat restaurant owner and a walking advert for the restaurant. If Mr Fang didn't have such a lovely daughter, the steamboat restaurant wouldn't have ended up so popular."

Ye Jian smiled as he told Jiang Yu-Lang and the others.

But it was no lie since Ye Jian first visited the steamboat restaurant because he heard about Fang Yao-Yao's beauty.

"Enough. I'll stop teasing you. I have a question. Who are those people sitting over there? Since they made such a huge entrance, they must be important people, right?" asked Ye Jian softly after chatting with her for a while.

Fang Yao-Yao nodded and said, "That goes without saying. I heard that the lady sitting at the main seat hails from an influential family from Jiangdong. Not only is she the daughter of a powerful man, but she also manages a company worth billions! She is probably in Jingzhou to make investments. Even the top brass of the city administration is entertaining her personally! The middle-aged man on the left is Jingzhou's deputy mayor."

What?

Even the city's deputy mayor came personally?

Heavens, who were these folks?

Ye Jian and the others were left dumbstruck.

Amid their shock, Jiang Yu-Lang and the others quickly turned to look at the people sitting at the center of the restaurant.

Even Ye Yu-Yan turned around uncharacteristically and was clearly curious about the elegant woman whom everyone treated with the utmost respect.

Ye Jian almost wanted to go over and offer the young woman a toast.

Even if he wasn't capable enough to date a ravishing beauty like her, there was no harm getting acquainted.

"AHHH! What are you doing, you scoundrel?" came an angry shriek suddenly while all eyes were on the big shots. Everyone was startled.

Ye Yu-Yan and the others turned to see Fang Yao-Yao shouting furiously at Ye Fan in embarrassment.

In her fury, she even raised her hand to slap Ye Fan.

"You pervert! How dare you molest me? You stupid hooligan!" screamed Fang Yao-Yao shrilly.

Very swiftly, her angry shouts became cries

of pain.

Fang Yao-Yao wanted to slap Ye Fan, but he grabbed her hand just in time.

Ye Fan grabbed Fang Yao-Yao so hard that she winced in pain!

"AHHH! It hurts! You asshole, you scoundrel! Let me go!" screamed Fang Yao-Yao in agony. Her eyes were red from the pain, and she was on the brink of crying.

"Ye Fan, what are you doing? Let go of her! You're a man! How can you bully a woman?" scolded Ye Jian hurriedly.

Jiang Yu-Lang chimed in angrily, "It was absolutely improper of you to touch her! Are you deliberately trying to take advantage of Miss Fang by grabbing her hands now?"

Ye Fan ignored their scolding and raised his head to look at Fang Yao-Yao coldly as he said, "If you weren't a woman, your arm would've been broken by now!"

Instead, Ye Fan sneered and pushed her.

After Ye Fan released his hand, Fang Yao-Yao squatted on the ground. It was so painful that tears trickled down her face.

“Yaoyao, what happened? What’s going on?” asked Mr Fang as he pretended to be anxious and hurried over upon hearing the ruckus.

Fang Yao-Yao pointed at Ye Fan angrily with her eyes misted over and said, “Dad, this scoundrel touched my butt when I wasn’t looking and molested me. Now he wants to hit me because I caught him red-handed and embarrassed him!”

What?

“Is that so?”

“Really?”

“How could he molest the girl in broad daylight?”

Many people were appalled by Ye Fan’s behavior when they heard Fang Yao-Yao’s accusation.

In an instant, all eyes landed on Ye Fan in unison.

Even Ye Yu-Yan looked at Ye Fan in surprise too.

But Ye Fan remained expressionless towards everyone’s accusation and fury.

Instead, he said coldly, "It's a completely false accusation. If I wanted women, I just have to say the word, and countless gorgeous women would throw themselves at me. Aren't you thinking too highly of yourself by accusing me of molesting you?"

Ye Fan sounded absolutely domineering.

Everyone instantly exploded into a furor when they heard him.

"He thinks very highly of himself, huh?"

"Who is this dude anyway? Why is he so cocky?"

"If he wanted women, countless beauties would throw themselves at him?"

"Does he think he's the prince of the Lei family or something?"

The only person who could wield such power and charisma in Jingzhou was the Young Master of the Lei family after all.

But Ye Fan was dressed ordinarily and didn't seem like the descendant of a rich and powerful family.

Ye Jian slammed the table and stood up while everyone exclaimed in shock. Then he



said with righteous anger, "Ye Fan, that's enough! You just keep doing this. Regardless of your lack of accomplishments, you brag nonstop! Wake up and stop fantasizing that you're a king. You're just a live-in husband. You can't even handle your wife. How can you make gorgeous women throw themselves at you? Don't you think you're absurd? Isn't it hilarious? You committed such a filthy act, yet you refuse to own up and repent after getting caught red-handed. Even I feel embarrassed as your cousin!"

Ye Jian's eyes were bloodshot as he spoke with righteous indignation.

Ye Jian stood on the side of justice and scolded Ye Fan like he was so righteous that he didn't take his cousin's side.

What?

"Do you mean he's a live-in husband?"

"Haha!"

"No wonder he touched Miss Fang. I guess his wife and in-laws probably bullied him too much, so he was venting steam out of resentment."

"His wife probably doesn't even let him

touch her because he's too useless!"

"He got too horny when he saw how beautiful Miss Fang was and couldn't hold back."

....

"He's such scum for molesting a woman in public and refusing to admit to his crime!"

"He's simply an animal."

"Call the cops."

"He'll learn his lesson after he spends a few years in jail."

After the restaurant patrons heard Ye Jian's words, they instantly found it so outrageous that they scolded Ye Fan one after another.

In an instant, Ye Fan was pushed to the eye of the storm and subjected to public condemnation.

The restaurant owner and his daughter felt a little guilty.

But they had no choice. This live-in husband had only himself to blame for recklessly offending someone.

Jiang Yu-Lang figured this was his cousin's handiwork, so he instantly smiled and gloated.

Jiang Yu-Qing was clueless that Ye Jian was behind all this and hated Ye Fan even more in her heart.

She felt utterly embarrassed for having such a shameless cousin!

But Ye Jian looked on from the sidelines and smiled sinisterly inside.

Hadn't Ye Fan always been arrogant and proud?

This time, Ye Jian was going to utterly embarrass Ye Fan in front of Ye Yu-Yan and make him lose all respect!

Ye Jian looked at Fang Yao-Yao and her father in shame and said, "Mr Fang, Miss Fang, I'm so sorry. I saw my cousin violating Miss Fang when he saw how pretty you were. I feel awful about what happened and am dreadfully sorry. But he's a live-in husband, so I hope you can understand how tough it is for a man to live with no status, get bullied and loathed by his wife and in-laws all the time. After suffering all that indignation at home, he took it out on you by acting on impulse and making such a huge

mistake! Since he did genuinely molest you, I know just a mere apology isn't enough. I will pay you to make up for the emotional damage he caused."

Before Ye Fan had said a word, Ye Jian had already acknowledged all crimes on Ye Fan's behalf.

Ye Jian even pretended to be reasonable and helped Ye Fan to apologize and settle the problem.



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