

Chapter 93 Mercy!

Chen Yuzhou had been scared witless already. He has never been a smart one, right now with his own life on the line, he was very talkative, and simply blabbed whatever that came to his mind with complete disregard as to whether he should or shouldn't be saying these things.

Thinking was never his forte, and even more so that his life was in my hands, saying that he'd do anything, so long as I spare his life.

Chu Xiaoxiao said nothing, but simply looked at me with interest, contemplating.

Chen Yuzhou said that Jiang Ming came back to the Black Dragon only recently. After their previous leader Ge Yunfei passed away, many had tried sitting on his seat, but they never was able to sit on it for long. After much debates with both mouths and fists, they decided in the end that they wanted Jiang Ming back to lead them.

Jiang Ming had always been respected and feared in the Black Dragon. He was born into a wealthy family, and was very learned and intelligent. He was observant, wise, and cunning. In the Black Dragon, he has made quite a place for himself.

"Ming has always been well respected in the Black Dragon. After Ge Yunfei died, he was once a strong candidate for their next leader in line."

I snorted, "So you know something now do you? You, who aren't even a Black Dragon?"

"I'm... no, not me, it's my father. He used to send gifts to Ge Yunfei every year, until after Ge Yunfei died, then he began sending gifts to Jiang Ming."

"Seems like your father was quite a Tong City expert."

Chen Yuzhou sobbed, "You have to believe me. This has nothing to do with me. Everything was my father's doing. Back then, everybody believed that Jiang Ming would be the next leader in line. But then, out of nowhere, the Red Lantern popped out, and has been at wars with the Black Dragon ever since, for years. And later on, even my father stopped sending gifts to Jiang Ming."

Chu Xiaoxiao asked, "Then who's the one in charge now?"

Chen Yuzhou shook his head, from side to side as hard as he could. "I don't know."

"What are you keeping it secret for? Suddenly your father didn't feel like sending gifts?" Chu Xiaoxiao said, doubtful of his words, "Tell me!"

She stepped her stiletto heel onto his face, stopping his movements with fear. Chen Yuzhou gave in immediately, "I really didn't know! Ever since Ge Yunfei died, all the bigshots in Tong City got frightened to bits! Nobody even knew who was in charge of the Red Lantern!"

I gave Chu Xiaoxiao an eye, silently telling her to back off a little from Chen Yuzhou. I've always wondered why Zhao Zichern was so secretive about his business. The Red Lantern, under his lead, was more like a cult or secret society rather than a mafia mob.

Though it seemed that Chen Yuzhou's brain finally functioned for once. He suddenly asked, "Wait, why are you asking all these questions about the Black Dragon!? You think you can get me to spill their secret? Never!"

Chu Xiaoxiao tilted her head to look in my direction, though she doesn't seem convinced that it was my true motive.

"Looks like your brain ain't only for decorations after all. Let me tell you something, that few days that you got me into the slammers, I got to know a few Red Lanterns. Come to think of it, I still haven't thanked you yet have I? If you hadn't specifically asked those inmates to take 'good care' of me, I'd never have gotten familiar with them. We're friends now, and they hated the Black Dragons, so of course I'd look into the Black Dragon for them when I have the chance."

"Don't... please don't ask me. I know nothing about the Black Dragon. Everytime, it had been my father who spoke and dealt with them. I really didn't know anything!"

Chen Yuzhou shriveled back in fear.

"Oh, that I believe you. You're too stupid to know anything useful about them. But that's fine. I only want to know about Jiang Ming." I said, "I heard that Jiang Ming was the one who killed Ge Yunfei?"

"That I... actually don't know. Zhang Chao, you're acting strange, why are you even asking about Ming anyway?"

Shoot, did this guy suddenly grow a brain? As to not arouse unnecessary suspicion, I said, "I only heard his name from the Red Lanterns. Since Jiang Ming killed Ge Yunfei, then he must be an enemy of the Black Dragons, and any enemy of the Black Dragons is a friend of mine. Maybe we'll be able to work together, getting rid of the Black Dragons for good."

"Zhang Chao, I'll save your life this time, a life for a life, let me go after this. Just... never touch Jiang Ming. He isn't someone you can mess with. Numerous people have tried, and they all lost their lives. Though everyone said that he killed Ge Yunfei, but did anyone have any proof? He wasn't in Tong City when Ge Yunfei died, but even then, everyone else still believed that he did it. Why? Because he had too much blood on his hands already!"

"Who else also died in his hands?"

"When he was in the Black Dragon before, he was responsible for more than dozens of deaths. He is ruthless and relentless, Every time he kills someone, he would always make it look like an accident, and not even the police can pin the deaths on him. My father always said to me that I must treat Jiang Ming with respect, and that I must never offend him. My father also said that though Jiang Ming is a Black Dragon, he almost never need another Black Dragon's help when it comes to killing and murdering. He always made it look like a car accident, so that though the entire world knew that he did it, no one can pin it on him. Zhang Chao, please, I saved your life by telling you all this, please let me go."

Hearing what he said, I felt as if a bomb had gone off in my mind. I stared at him in silence, until I was finally able to come to.

"You got prove for anything you just said?" I asked.

"I have no proof. But, my father will never deceive me."

"Bullshit. Your words are just as untrustworthy. You too have blood on your hand. You killed the woman you raped, and you even killed your unborn child. And yet, you expect people to just believe what you said!?"

I felt Chu Xiaoxiao patting my shoulder. She called out my name softly, and I realized that I've been overly emotional.

My forehead was drenched with sweat, and my fingernails dug sharply into my palm, leaving a vivid mark. I could even feel faint waves of pain radiating through my body from the wound on my stomach.

I opened my mouth to say something, but nothing came. All I could think of right now was that perhaps I should do the world a favor and simply murder this bastard right here and now and bury him somewhere remote and out of sight;

"I didn't kill anyone. I'm not a murderer. The one who..." In his heated defense, Chen Yuzhou almost said it, but at the most crucial moment, he held back in, as if he had just remembered something.

Something seemed to be on his mind, but knowing him to be the chronic liar that he is, it could very well be nothing but a ruse to mislead them.

It was then that I felt Chu Xiaoxiao's slightly smaller hand enclosed around my tightly clenched fist softly, and said it in my stead, "Chen Yuzhou, if you don't want to die here, tell us exactly what we want to know about this Jiang Ming. Who is he, where does he live, what does he do, and how old he is, everything you know about him."

Chen Yuzhou asked, shivering, "Why do you want to know about him?"

Chu Xiaoxiao took a breath slightly and said passively, "That's none of your concern. So what's it going to be? Are you going to talk? If you don't, I'll go ahead a start the fire. I'll count ten seconds in for you. Ten... nine..."

"Wait, something isn't right here! You're coaxing me into saying something! Zhang Chao, from the very beginning you've been oddly interested about Jiang Ming. Who is he to you?"

Chu Xiaoxiao didn't give he the chance to breathe and consider at all, "Five more seconds, feel like talking yet?"

"I'll tell Jiang Ming! I'll tell Jiang Ming all about the two of you! You're all... finished!"

"Three seconds."

"You..."

"Zero." Chu Xiaoxiao flicked the lighter.

"You didn't even count!"

A bright flame flickered on in Chu Xiaoxiao's hand. Smooth, clean, without any hesitations at all. Chen Yuzhou's face turned blue with fear, finally convinced that Chu Xiaoxiao's threat weren't only empty words.

He told us everything he knew about Jiang Ming. Before he began speaking, Chu Xiaoxiao already began recording with her phone. After this, if Chen Yuzhou should decide to betray others about this, we'll send this to Jiang Ming so that he'd know exactly who it was that told them.

A shame that Chen Yuzhou really doesn't know much about Jiang Ming. Most of what he told us were more or less completely useless, but there are indeed a few things worthy of attention.

One is Jiang Ming's photo. He claimed that he had a photo of Jiang Ming in his phone, so I reach inside his pants pocket and fished it out, and opened it up. Flipping it to that photo, I looked at it. This was the first time I saw what he looked like.

Jiang Ming looked completely different than how I expected him to be. In the photo was an upstanding man, with a gentle smile, speaking to another person with a glass of champagne in his hand. He wasn't tall, or buffed, or looked like he was trained in any forms of combat. There was quite some white hairs on his head.

Chen Yuzhou said that he took this photo by chance once in a wine tasting convention.

"Wine tasting convention?" I mused, "You had the chance to attend the same convention he did? The two of you looked like people from two completely different worlds."

"You don't understand life like us rich people. Conventions like these, anyone can attend as long as they could afford the price. This convention was held by a winemaker. Whenever a nice batch of wine came in, he would hold a wine tasting convention and invite privileged members. Goes without saying, members only. So that's why I can go, and you on the other hand didn't even know that it existed."

And this was the second piece of useful information. Jiang Ming appears regularly at this wine tasting convention.

Before I even made any comments, an elegant looking heel already took the spot on Chen Yuzhou's face. He whimpered. At this point, he no longer had any strength left to talk tough, physically and mentally, and whatever strength he had left was reserved only for begging for mercy.

"Can the trash talk. What wine convention? When are they held? When do they finish? How to become one of their privileged members?"

"But... but, even if I told you, you wouldn't have been able to enter anyway. The entry fee is at least three million dollars!"

Suddenly, Chen Yuzhou's eyes widened and bulged in pain. Chu Xiaoxiao knocked Chen Yuzhou's head lightly with the stiletto heel in her hand.

"Even lowlifes like you managed to get yourselves in, you think Zhang Chao couldn't? I see you saying that he couldn't do what you could?"

Chen Yuzhou muttered something in his mouth, but didn't say it out loud. I knew exactly what he wanted to say. He wanted to say that it was impossible for someone as penniless as me, but in his predicament, he dared not say it and risk Chu Xiaoxiao's pointy stiletto wrath.

"Well, the night is getting late. You know what, why don't you go home and get some nice sleep." I smiled, "I never intended to kill you in the first place. Who knew, that you were so easily frightened."

Chen Yuzhou stared at me with his eyes and mouth wide open, at a complete loss for words.

I continued, "There there, look at you, if you just wanted to have a nice talk with me, why the gas and lighter? You know what they say about good boys and don't play with fire right? Remember, fire is not a toy."

"What... you...?" Chen Yuzhou was completely lost and confused, seeing me untying him and straightening him up.

Chu Xiaoxiao smiled too, "Yes, you should hurry back home. Oh, and remember to tell your dear father that you accidentally fell down the stairs and got yourself into that beaten up state. Think about it. You really don't want this recording I have here to go to the wrong pair of ears right? Like Jiang Ming's, and Jiang Ming's, and Jiang Ming's."

"You!" Chen Yuzhou was angry, angry and frustrated, "That was dirty! You never dared killing me in the first place! You delete that off your phone right now!"

I said, "Of course I wouldn't kill you. It's illegal. It's against the law."

"You lied to me!"

Only now was Chen Yuzhou certain that I wouldn't really do anything to him, and that I had him fooled into spilling everything he knew about the the one person that he couldn't afford to offend in the entire Tong City. Now, I finally have him in my hands. If he as much as crossed me, he'll have hell to pay.

I snorted, "Well, too bad that you're too stupid to realize that. We don't kill. After all, it'd be much better seeing you writhe around suffering in pain rather than giving you into the comforting embrace of death. Get out of here now, and don't ever let me see you again. Or... well, you already know."

Chen Yuzhou never would have thought it possible before he came. This time, I really played him.

I smacked him around, then conned him into giving up a ton of information, and in the end I still got a little something on him to make sure that he behaves. It must be infuriating to be in Chen Yuzhou's shoes right now.

He began to storm off, then turned back around at the door, seemingly wanting to leave a few tough words, but as soon as he saw Chu Xiaoxiao waving at him with her phone, he swallowed whatever he was going to say back down.

He had no choice but to leave, with his tail between his legs.