

“You returned earlier than I expected,” Yan Qiong remarked to Han Xiuzhi.

Han Xiuzhi smiled wryly. From Yan Qiong’s response, Han Xiuzhi could gather that he was expecting him.

What Yan Qiong didn’t know was that Han Xiuzhi never thought he could leave Terra Prison.

“Do you know that the Nangong family’s Terra Prison is considered oblivion? Anyone who goes there doesn’t return alive,” Han Xiuzhi explained.

“I know, but I had faith that you will definitely return. And lo and behold, here you are.” Yan Qiong replied with a smile.

Han Xiuzhi shook his head. The reason he was able to come back alive was not his own doing and had something to do with Han Jingru. He knew that if it weren’t for his grandson, there was no way Nangong Boling would release him.

“I had nothing to do with my release. The only thing I did was wait for my death in Terra Prison.

Jingru is the reason I'm back here alive," Han Xiuzhi explained.

Yan Qiong had always treated Han Jingru as his own grandson. Ever since Han Xiuzhi left, he was the only person left that was good to Han Jingru.

Nevertheless, even he couldn't explain Han Jingru's sudden change despite being closest to him.

He was even more stumped now that he knew Han Xiuzhi's return was also credited to Han Jingru.

"What does this have to do with Jingru?" Yan Qiong asked curiously. Although Han Jingru was now famous within Yan City's martial arts world and no martial arts academy would disrespect him, he was still a far cry away from Nangong Boling. *So why did Nangong Boling let Han Xiuzhi go because of Han Jingru?*

"Nangong Boling came to see me and personally released me. Furthermore, he expressed fear

toward Han Jingru. Don't you think it's really strange?" Han Xiuzhi smiled wryly. On his way home, he kept thinking about the matter but couldn't come to any conclusion. In fact, he even found it bizarre.

He knew very well of Nangong Boling capabilities.

Despite Han Jingru's achievements, Nangong Boling wasn't supposed to be afraid of him. This was something that he found ridiculous.

"Did he say it himself?" Yan Qiong was filled with surprise. If it were someone else that told him Nangong Boling feared Han Jingru, he would have thought of it as a joke. But given that it was Han Xiuzhi that said it, Yan Qiong couldn't help but take notice.

"That's right, he said it himself," Han Xiuzhi sighed. If not for the fact that only Nangong Boling had the authority to release him, he would have suspected that the person was a fake.

"Nangong Boling did come to Yan City and I

suspect he was the reason why Chong Yang appeared at the Martial Arts Summit. After all, ever since Chong Yang retired, there was no news of him. The only person who could bring him back was Nangong Boling. That being said, I don't think Chong Yang's defeat is reason enough for Nangong Boling to fear Jingru," Yan Qiong remarked with a puzzled expression.

After defeating Chong Yang, Han Jingru was catapulted to stardom and considered a legend within the Yan City martial arts world. *But, what does that matter to Nangong Boling then?*

The Nangong family is the world's largest private economic entity and had absolute control of all the capital in the world. Hence, shouldn't there be a stable amount of powerful fighters within their ranks? So why is he afraid of Han Jingru?

"Chong Yang's appearance must be Nangong Boling's way of testing Han Jingru. As to why he did that, I'm afraid only he knows," Han Xiuzhi added.

Yan Qiong agreed as he too shared the same

opinion. Nevertheless, he still found the reason behind this particularly intriguing.

“Other than Nangong Boling, there’s someone else that knows,” Yan Qiong suggested with a smile.

Han Xiuzhi was briefly stunned before he shook his head. He asserted, “If this is between Jingru and Nangong Boling, I won’t force him to tell me. He is no longer just a child now. He has his own ideas and objectives. I believe he knows what he is doing.”

On their way home, Han Ying had told Han Xiuzhi everything, including the fact that Han Jingru had set up Dynasty. This impressed Han Xiuzhi as Han Jingru was only fourteen. To have such plans at such a young age was considered exceptional. Therefore, he felt there was no need for him to give Han Jingru any more advice.

“If that’s how you feel, I’m afraid you will never know why Nangong Boling did this,” Yan Qiong commented.

“To be honest, it doesn’t really matter what his reasons are. The most important thing is that I have come back alive. After all, no one is supposed to leave Terra Prison alive,” Han Xiuzhi remarked with a smile.

Speaking of Terra Prison, Yan Qiong was extremely curious about it. There were many legends about the place including where it was located. Despite the numerous rumors, no one could prove its existence as no one had found it.

“What is Terra Prison like? Is it really underground?” Yan Qiong asked curiously.

At one time, Han Xiuzhi had the same impression. Almost everyone thought that it was underground based on its name.

But, Terra Prison was not in the ground at all. This was the biggest misconception everyone had.

“No. It’s at sea,” Han Xiuzhi revealed.

“At sea?” Yan Qiong was shocked. *How can Terra Prison be at sea?*

“It’s a massive cargo ship that is big enough to withstand any sort of waves and weather. Based on my estimation, Nangong Boling must have spent a fortune to install anti-satellite reconnaissance equipment on the ship to prevent it from being detected by satellites. Therefore, no one is able to find it. Furthermore, Nangong Boling had set up many supply stations so that the ship can remain at sea forever,” Han Xiuzhi explained.

Yan Qiong took a deep breath. *The Nangong family’s economic power is simply astounding. I’m afraid they are the only ones in the world who are able to do this.*

“The Nangong family is just too powerful,” Yan Qiong sighed.

Han Xiuzhi let out a wry smile. *He thinks that this alone makes them unbelievably powerful?*

Nangong Boling had told him before that the Terra Prison was just the tip of the iceberg. That would mean it was just an insignificant portion of the Nangong family’s power.

“Alright, enough talk about this. Let’s have a reunion dinner tonight,” Han Xiuzhi declared.

Yan Qiong’s expression changed drastically. *Reunion dinner?*

He knew that a reunion dinner for the Han family was unfortunately hard to put together again. Ever since Nangong Shuxian kicked Han Jingru out, their relationship was broken beyond repair. There was no chance it could be salvaged.

Even with Han Xiuzhi’s return, it would not be enough for both of them to set aside their enmity.

“Jingru no longer sees himself as a member of the Han family. After all, Nangong Shuxian did cause him a lot of grief which was unfair to him,” Yan Qiong explained.

“I understand. We will just be having a meal. I’m not trying to get them to mend fences.”

The reason Han Xiuzhi made that statement was because he was aware of the significant harm Nangong Shuxian had caused Han Jingru. Hence, he definitely won't ask Han Jingru to submit just for Nangong Shuxian's sake.

Furthermore, the only reason he married Nangong Shuxian was for mutual benefit. In fact, he was also treated as a puppet by her. Therefore, he harbored no affection for her and certainly wouldn't use his position as his grandfather to put Han Jingru in a spot.

After so many years, Han Xiuzhi and Nangong Shuxian were only husband and wife in name and not in substance as they had no feelings for each other.

“Han Ying,” Han Xiuzhi called out as he knew Han Ying was outside.

IN the next moment, the door swung open. He was indeed waiting outside for further instructions.

During his wait, Han Ying was also wondering

how Han Xiuzhi could still be alive. His father's death then had shocked the entire city. Now that he was back from the dead, it would have a similar impact on them.

Han Ying was curious as to what everyone would think about the matter once they found out about it. He wondered if the Han family would have a chance to resurrect their business now that Han Xiuzhi had returned.

“Dad, what is it?” Han Ying asked.

“Call Jingru, tell him to come over for dinner,” Han Xiuzhi instructed.

“Sure.” Han Ying nodded. He then took out his phone and called Shi Yan's number.

Meanwhile, Shi Yan, who had since become a full-fledged housewife, was busy cooking for Han Jingru. Even though she was just a housewife now, she didn't mind doing the chores at all. In fact, she enjoyed it after living a life of luxury. She found that dealing with all the kitchen ingredients was really interesting and it

gave her a sense of purpose in life. Unlike her previous life, where she did nothing and put her fate in someone else's hands.

When her phone rang and she saw that it was Han Ying who called, her mood was greatly disrupted. The last thing she wanted now was to be reminded of all that happened in the Han family.

“Didn’t I tell you not to call me unless there’s something important?” Shi Yan snapped the moment she answered the call.

“I do have something important to tell you,” Han Ying protested. He did love Shi Yan a lot but he knew there was no way Shi Yan and Nangong Shuxian would mend fences. Hence, it never crossed his mind to get Shi Yan to return home.

“Whatever it is, spit it out quick. Don’t disrupt me cooking for Jingru,” Shi Yan quipped.

“You don’t have to cook today. Come home and have dinner,” Han Ying remarked.

“Han Ying, is this why you have called? Does

Nangong Shuxian need Jingru's help for something?" Shi Yan sneered.

She hated to go back there for dinner, let alone Han Jingru.

"Dad is back," Han Ying asserted.

"What?" Shi Yan was dumbfounded.

Dad is back?

Hasn't Dad been dead for many years? Has Han Ying gone crazy to say something like that?

"Han Ying, what are you babbling about?" Shi Yan retorted in disbelief.

"I know it's hard to believe, but Dad isn't dead. He is still alive and well," Han Ying explained. He knew it was hard for anyone to believe it unless they saw it with their own eyes. After all, dead men don't come back to life, let alone one that has been dead for many years.

"A-are you joking with me?" Shi Yan was so

shocked that she almost dropped her phone. It was simply earth-shattering news to her.

“Of course not. Why would I joke about something like that? You should inform Jingru about this and get him to come home,” Han Ying reminded.

Shi Yan gulped and ended the call without saying another word.

Han Jingru was watching TV in the living room. It was one of Shi Yan’s favorite dramas. To spend some quality time between them, she insisted Han Jingru watch the drama together with her so that they could have something to talk about.

“Mom, what’s wrong?” Han Jingru asked curiously when he saw the bewildered look on Shi Yan’s face.

“I have something incredulous to tell you. I’m just afraid that you won’t believe me,” Shi Yan asserted.

Han Jingru raised his eyebrow slightly but in the

next moment, he replied with a smile, “Is Grandpa back?”

Shi Yan was shaken to the core and she wondered if her son was joking or was actually serious.

“How... how did you know?” Shi Yan gaped in response. Before this, everyone knew that Han Xiuzhi was dead. But now, she felt as if she was the only one that didn’t know he was alive.

What’s going on?

“Of course I know. Is there anything that I don’t know about?” Han Jingru stated, grinning. The time of Han Xiuzhi’s return fell within his estimation. Therefore, he immediately knew what had happened when he saw Shi Yan’s expression.

Shi Yan quickly regained her senses. *Since Han Jingru knows that Han Xiuzhi is still alive, then he must know what’s going on.* She then asked, “What happened?”

“Well...” Han Jingru furrowed his eyebrows and said, “it’s kind of complicated and can’t be

explained in a short time. I'll tell you about it later. For now, let's hurry over and see Grandpa."

Hearing that, Shi Yan stopped with her questions. Although she was Han Jingru's mother, she would definitely not forced him to do anything. The last thing she wanted was to act like Nangong Shuxian.

"Wait for me. I need to change," Shi Yan replied.

After stretching himself, Han Jingru turned off the TV. He was relieved that it was past the scheduled time for him to discuss the drama with Shi Yan. He couldn't help but feel grateful to Han Xiuzhi for his impeccable timing.

Meanwhile, at the Han residence.

Nangong Shuxian and Han Yu had just returned home.

When Han Yu saw Han Xiuzhi, he shrieked as if he saw a ghost. He even hid behind Nangong Shuxian in fear.

As for Nangong Shuxian, she simply gaped at the sight of him. It never crossed her mind that Han Xiuzhi could still be alive. Ever since Han Xiuzhi “died”, she exercised absolute authority over the Han family. She had wanted to further develop the Han family business to prove that she was more capable than Han Xiuzhi. Unfortunately, the Han family had reached the end of its road under her helm.

“Grandma, gh-gh-ghost! I saw a ghost!” Pale from horror, Han Yu was trembling all over.

Nangong Shuxian gave Han Xiuzhi a puzzled look and asked, “How could this be?”

“It seems you’re disappointed that I’m still alive,” Han Xiuzhi quipped with a smile.

“How is that possible? I saw you die with my own eyes,” Nangong Shuxian insisted. There were no feelings between her and Han Xiuzhi, furthermore, she had coveted the Han family’s power for a long time. Her plan was to expand its influence so that one day she would be able to use it to seek revenge against Nangong Boling.

She was extremely ambitious. But her capabilities, unfortunately, fell short.

“I’m sorry to have disappointed you. Nangong Boling was behind everything. As to why he released me, It was because of Jingru. Do you know what he told me?” Han Xiuzhi added with a cheeky grin.



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If Nangong Boling was the one behind all this, Han Xiuzhi's "resurrection" would then be a lot more believable.

Given his methods, he could easily bend reality to his will.

As for what he said about Han Jingru to Han Xiuzhi, Nangong Shuxian realized it must have been something important given the expression Han Xiuzhi had.

"What did he say?" Nangong Shuxian asked.

"Fear." Han Xiuzhi laughed. He couldn't help but feel proud that a member of the Han family could cause Nangong Boling to utter such a word.

"He fears Jingru."

"No." Shaking her head adamantly, Nangong Shuxian rejected his words, "There's no way. How is it possible that Nangong Boling fears a little brat?"

Nangong Shuxian had always see Han Jingru as

trash. Despite all his achievements, she refused to acknowledge him still. In her eyes, this was something that was just impossible.

“Why would he release me without any reason then? Nangong Shuxian, there are some mistakes that are just true despite your refusal to admit them. Do you really think that Han Yu had the capability to compete with Han Jingru?” Han Xiuzhi plainly stated.

Han Xiuzhi was not particularly biased towards either of his grandsons. But because of Nangong Shuxian’s attitude, he couldn’t help but have a bad impression of Han Yu. If it weren’t for Nangong Shuxian being mesmerized by Han Yu’s flattery, the Han family wouldn’t have fallen into such dire circumstances.

Nangong Shuxian gritted her teeth. *Mistakes? How is it possible that I have made a mistake? Everything I did was done per the fortune-teller’s instructions.* Nangong Shuxian was adamant that she was in the right. The way she saw it, everything that Han Jingru possessed currently was just an illusion. Sooner or later, his true face as a piece of trash would reveal itself.

That being said, now that even Nangong Boling himself admitted how powerful Han Jingru was. Nangong Shuxian was finally feeling like there was no basis for her to maintain that she was right anymore.

“Han Jingru just happened to be luckier than Yu,” Nangong Shuxian quipped.

“Lucky?” Bursting into laughter, Han Xiuzhi asserted, “You’re telling me that he established Dynasty with just luck? Did he beat his opponent at the Martial Arts Summit with luck too?”

Nangong Shuxian was stumped by Han Xiuzhi’s rebuttal.

For Han Jingru to have established Dynasty in secret was an astounding achievement by itself. Despite Nangong Shuxian’s reluctance to admit it, she couldn’t help but admire Han Jingru for his shrewdness.

As for the Martial Arts Summit, it was something

that was way out of Han Yu's reach.

"I'm sure deep down you must have realized your mistake. It's just that you refuse to admit it," Han Xiuzhi asserted.

Nangong Shuxian remained silent as she had nothing to counter with. Furthermore, she knew that she had no right to insist Han Xiuzhi retract what he said.

All in all, with Han Xiuzhi's return, Nangong Shuxian knew very well that she had lost her position and authority.

"Since you've returned, I'm giving back the reins to the Han family to you. Everything now has nothing to do with me," Nangong Shuxian plainly remarked.

"Is what's left of the Han family important? Does it still mean anything?" Han Xiuzhi exclaimed, shaking his head. Although he had returned, it doesn't mean that he planned to step back into the position of the head of the family.

To him, he would prefer to watch Han Jingru's progress from behind the scenes. He wanted to see for himself the heights that Han Jingru could scale.

As for the Han family, it was just another puppet of Nangong Boling. Hence, it no longer mattered to him.

“Are you abandoning the Han family business then?” Nangong Shuxian asked with a frown.

“With Jingru, what's the use of the Han family business?” Han Xiuzhi replied matter-of-factly.

Han Xiuzhi was right. Given Han Jingru's achievements, the Han family business had long been sidelined. There was no longer any reason for it to exist.

“You can't do that.” Nangong Shuxian seethed at Han Xiuzhi. She asserted, “Nangong Boling gave you everything. It's not up to you to decide on whether to give it up or not.”

Han Xiuzhi burst into laughter at that. After so

many years, he was well aware of what Nangong Shuxian wanted to do. But her desire seemed to only be a fantasy.

Given the Han family's capabilities, it was in no place to go against Nangong Boling.

In Han Xiuzhi's mind, Nangong Shuxian's plan of using the Han family to exact revenge on him was but a joke.

“Have you forgotten what I just told you? Nangong Boling is afraid of Jingru. I doubt he'd dare to do anything to me. Besides, there's no way you can use the Han family to take your revenge on Nangong Boling. Rather than using the Han family, perhaps you should ask for Jingru's help, he might be able to do it,” Han Xiuzhi explained with a grin. Despite how harmless his words sounded, they were an utter humiliation to Nangong Shuxian.

To have the person she resented the most avenge her was just blatantly shameful for her.

Nangong Shuxian's face lost all color. She would

rather not take revenge than face the humiliation of getting Han Jingru to do it.

“Honestly, there’s no point for you to prove yourself to the Nangong family. Do you really think that they still remember you?” Han Xiuzhi continued.

As a pawn of the Nangong family, Nangong Shuxian’s status in the family was among the lowest. After leaving them, no one would remember her. Hence, Han Xiuzhi felt Nangong Shuxian’s single-sided desire of proving herself was a pointless endeavor.

“That’s why I want them to remember me. I want those who underestimated me to pay the price for doing so,” Nangong Shuxian scowled.

Tilting at windmills was a scary thing. And when a woman does it, it became even more frightening. As Nangong Shuxian had held her grudge for decades, the amount of animosity that built up within her was massive. Unfortunately, her capabilities weren’t sufficient for her to achieve her goal.

“This is a joke, what makes you think you’re capable of making them pay?” Han Xiuzhi challenged her.

Nangong Shuxian almost burst a vessel in response.

“Look at what you did to the Han family. Until now, isn’t it clear to you how capable you are?” Han Xiuzhi continued.

Devastated, Nangong Shuxian collapsed onto the ground.

However, Han Xiuzhi pretended not to notice and added, “Jingru’s coming home for dinner today. If you want to join us, you’d better keep your temper in check. If not, no one is going to force you.”

“Grandma, how can he be allowed to return? This place is no longer his home,” Han Yu reminded Nangong Shuxian softly. He finally realized that his position in the family was under immense threat and the only one who could stop all this was his grandmother.

But now, even Nangong Shuxian was powerless to do anything.

The moment Han Xiuzhi returned, she had lost all authority within the family.

“Yu, I’m no longer the head of the family.”
Nangong Shuxian shook her head with a wry smile.

Hearing that, Han Yu started to panic. He realized that Han Jingru was going to replace him going forward and that was simply unacceptable to him.



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Ever since he was young, Han Yu had always acted high and mighty in front of Han Jingru. He could never accept that he was on the same level as his brother. As such, when he noticed that Han Jingru might be superior to him in the family, it was a hard pill for him to swallow. Han Yu could never accept that his loser of a brother was better than him or in higher position than him.

That being said, he knew that would never be able to amount to anything with his capabilities alone. As such, he could only set his hopes on Nangong Shuxian. After all, Nangong Shuxian was the one who taught him that he would always be superior to Han Jingru.

But now, because of Han Xiuzhi's return, Nangong Shuxian was no longer the one wielding power over the Han family. As a result, Han Yu could no longer rely on the strongest support he had before.

“Why isn't Grandpa dead yet?” Han Yu gritted his teeth and muttered. At that moment, all he wished for was for Han Xiuzhi to remain dead. If Han Xiuzhi didn't return, Nangong Shuxian

would still have the final say in the Han family and his position in the family would not be affected as well.

Nangong Shuxian knew exactly what Han Yu was implying. Deep down, she couldn't accept Han Xiuzhi's return as well. After all, she had been wielding power over the Han family for years. She was now obsessed with that feeling. It was truly a severe blow to her to lose everything all of a sudden.

“Yu, I need you to apologize to Han Jingru,” Nangong Shuxian said suddenly.

Han Yu's expression soured upon hearing that.

It was impossible for him to apologize to that piece of trash.

The notion of apologizing to his brother had never crossed his mind, and even if it did, he would never do it.

“Grandma, why should I apologize? I won't agree to that!” Han Yu refused without any

hesitation. Never in his life would he ever bow down to Han Jingru. His dignity and reputation were something that he would never give up on.

Nangong Shuxian explained with a stern expression, “You will have the chance to take revenge on him, but for now, you must apologize. You must endure it patiently, just like Han Jingru did. The moment any opportunities pop up, you’d be well prepared and raring to go.

It was an undeniable fact that Nangong Shuxian had lost her power in the Han family. It was irreversible no matter what she did. Hence, she had to think of another way to help Han Yu.

From her point of view, the best way to deal a death blow to Han Jingru was to endure patiently and strike him down from behind. Otherwise, based on Han Yu’s capability alone, it would be impossible to confront him.

If Han Yu were to choose confrontation at that moment, he would definitely lose.

No matter how reluctant she felt, Nangong

Shuxian had to admit that Han Yu could never be compared with Han Jingru.

“Grandma, you’re saying that I should follow in Han Jingru’s footsteps?” Han Yu questioned.

Nangong Shuxian nodded and answered, “That’s right. As long as you pretend to have a good relationship with him, you could use him to do many things. In the meantime, you can gather your strength and prepare yourself to compete with him. Once you’re ready, we will be able to get rid of him.”

Han Yu knew that what his grandmother said made sense but he just couldn’t accept the fact that he would need to bow himself to Han Jingru. After all, he had always been acting arrogantly in front of Han Jingru. There was simply no way he was going to swallow his pride just like that.

“There’s another way,” Han Yu said.

Nangong Shuxian furrowed her brows. She couldn’t wrap her head around the fact that Han Yu had already figured out a better way when she

was still clueless.

“And what would that be?” Nangong Shuxian asked.

Han Yu took a deep breath and said with a malicious look on his face, “We’ll kill Han Xiuzhi. Once he’s dead, Han Jingru will lose his right to return to Han family.”

Nangong Shuxian did not expect Han Yu to be bold enough to think about actually murdering his grandfather. *But, if we kill Han Xiuzhi, who’s going to save the Han family during hardships then?* Besides, it won’t be an easy task to kill Han Xiuzhi as he got Yan Qiong by his side all the time to ensure his safety. Hardly anybody could approach him.

“It’s such a shame that that person disappeared mysteriously. Or else, we can collaborate with him on this,” Nangong Shuxian said.

The person she was talking about was none other than Ting Han who used to worked together with them to go against Han Jingru previously.

However, because word of what happened to the Wang family was never spread out, Nangong Shuxian had no idea that Ting Han had gone back to S Nation. Moreover, he even planned to steal the organization's classified documents due to his fear of Han Jingru.

If Nangong Shuxian knew that even Ting Han was terrified of Han Jingru, she would have stopped Han Yu's foolish plan right then and there.

For someone like Han Yu who couldn't even handle an assassin organization, he had no right to even mention killing Han Xiuzhi, let alone confronting Han Jingru.

“Grandma, I will figure this out myself. There is no way I'm going to make an apology to Han Jingru,” Han Yu said firmly. He had already made up his mind and he would stand firm on his stance.

Seeing that it was the first time Han Yu's made a decision, Nangong Shuxian not only didn't think he was being ridiculous, but she even thought

Han Yu had finally matured.

In the end, she nodded and said, “If there’s anything you need me for, just say the word. Even though I’ve lost the rein in the Han family, I will do my best to help you.”

That night, both Nangong Shuxian and Han Yu did not show up for the Han family’s reunion dinner. However, everyone else did not think it was a big deal except for Han Ying.

Han Xiuzhi didn’t think there was any problem with their absence as they have always been on bad terms with Han Jingru. On the contrary, he thought that their presence would only make an awkward atmosphere.

As for Han Jingru and Shi Yan, they would certainly not think of it as a problem.

After all, Han Jingru had always been invisible to Nangong Shuxian and he had been bullied by Han Yu since young. Besides, they had never eaten together, so, it would have been uncomfortable for him to have a meal with the

two of them.

As for Shi Yan, she had been suffering from being oppressed by Nangong Shuxian in the years when the latter was in control of the Han family. Now that she was finally free, she certainly had no wish to meet the elder woman.

“Grandpa, I’m sorry for what you’ve been through.” Han Jingru raised his glass to Han Xiuzhi and said.

Han Xiuzhi grinned in response. Even though it had been a long and exhausting journey in Terra Prison, at least he was still alive. Most importantly, Han Jingru was the reason he was able to survive. He felt blessed and grateful for having a grandchild like him.

“Well, it’s all thanks to you. If it weren’t for you, I wouldn’t be able to make it out alive,” Han Xiuzhi smiled.

Being the only one who was clueless about what had happened, Shi Yan could only keep the doubts to herself for the time being because she

didn't dare to ask further in the presence of Han Xiuzhi.

“Grandpa, now that you're back, if there's anything you need for the Han family, just let me know. As long as it's within my capability, I will definitely give it my all to help,” Han Jingru said. For him, Han Xiuzhi was the one and only real kin he had in the Han family. Thus, he was beyond elated to have his grandpa back.



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After hearing Han Jingru's words, Han Xiuzhi became even happier. He knew that with Han Jingru's current status and position, he could easily save the Han family from its dire state.

However, Han Xiuzhi had no intention to ask for his grandson's help. The reason being the Han family was not too significant to him at the moment. Besides, he would prefer to take a back seat and watch Han Jingru's growth silently.

After being a puppet for so many years, Han Xiuzhi was exhausted. Now that there was finally someone to inherit the Han family, there was no need for him to be back again.

"I know you're powerful enough to save the Han family. But I have no intention of asking you to do that," Han Xiuzhi said.

"Why?" Han Jingru queried. Although the Han family had relied on the Nangong family to reach where they were today, it was still Han Xiuzhi's hard work after all. *Is Grandpa saying that he wants to watch the Han family fall?*

Han Xiuzhi answered, “The rise or fall of the Han family no longer matters to me. What’s important to me now is for me to see how high you can reach.”

Han Jingru simply smiled in response. He knew that what he could achieve was probably beyond Han Xiuzhi’s imagination.

With his capabilities now, Han Jingru could easily get what he wants, no matter what kind of status or position. Nobody could ever stop him.

Nonetheless, Han Jingru had no desire for rank nor status. After he had been to Xenos, everything on Earth was all bygones that he couldn’t be bothered with. Wealth and status were particularly meaningless to him.

Han Jingru realized that only his strengths and abilities could be the strongest support for himself. Wealth and status would be of no help to him when he was dealing with Qilin.

Apart from that, he wanted to be united with Su Yimo as soon as possible. He had no time and

energy to improve his social status.

“Grandpa, I’m afraid that you’ll be disappointed. I have no desire for status or money. I even felt disdain for it.” Han Jingru explained.

Han Xiuzhi was a little surprised by that. After all, Han Jingru had established Dynasty secretly. That itself showed that he was in fact ambitious. *So why is he acting like he didn’t care about everything?*

“If that’s the case, what is your purpose of establishing Dynasty then?” Han Xiuzhi asked.

In actuality, the foundation of Dynasty was actually an idea from Han Jingru’s previous life. Naturally, the Han Jingru of then was trying to search for ways to secure his life and position as he knew he was going to be abandoned by the Han family sooner or later. Thus, he decided to grab the opportunity to create more value for himself by founding Dynasty. This was so that at the very least, he could make a living after leaving the Han family.

As for this life, Han Jingru was no longer facing that kind of difficulty. Even if he left the Han family, it doesn't really matter to him. At the end of the day, Dynasty was meaningless to him as well.

“It was just for fun,” Han Jingru told him. He couldn't explain the exact situation to Han Xiuzhi. Hence, he had no choice but to tell him that the establishment of Dynasty was only for fun.

Everybody at the dining table was shocked by his explanation.

Just for fun?

They couldn't believe it was just for fun.

After all, Han Jingru had lead Dynasty to the first-tier level in Yan City, and yet, he was saying that he had done all that just for fun.

Furthermore, there was even a strong possibility that Dynasty would surpass the current Three Principal Families in Yan City. *To say that he's having fun while achieving all that is simply preposterous!*

Even Shi Yan couldn't help but smile helplessly. *Look at him go, saying he's just having fun... What a bluff!* She couldn't tell if Han Jingru was joking or being serious.

“So what you're saying is that you view Dynasty as a game?” Han Xiuzhi took a deep breath and asked. Even though he was surprised, he had to treat Han Jingru's explanation seriously. *If the kid could reach that far just by having fun, what would happen then if he got serious?*

“That's right. Whether it is wealth or social status, I don't really value it so much,” Han Jingru answered calmly.

Han Xiuzhi heaved a sigh and continued, “Do you have any idea how many people would get pissed at your words? There are many people who would sacrifice everything just to have what you have and yet, you're viewing all these as just a game.”

“Jingru, if you were to take things seriously, what

would be the outcome?” Han Ying couldn’t bear it any longer and asked. He was desperate to know if Han Jingru could take Dynasty to a whole new level if he treated it with great importance.

“Take things seriously?” Han Jingru thought for a while before continuing, “If I really care about status, it would be just a piece of cake for me to acquire all the business that the Three Principal Families in Yan City’s govern in just one night. Is my answer to your satisfaction?”

In response, Han Ying simply gawped at him. *To ruin the Three Principal Families over a night... He sounded like he’s bluffing, but based on his serious expression, I doubt that was the case.*

“But the Three Principal Families have solid foundation and years of experiences. It’s not an easy task to acquire them.” Han Ying reminded his son once he had recomposed himself. He thought that Han Jingru did not really understand the capabilities of the Three Principal Families, which was why he had the guts to say those words and acted so arrogant.

“As of now, the Wang family is just my puppet, so it won’t cost me a penny to buy over them. Wang Li would even gladly hand me everything personally. As for the Yang family, Yang Bin would never dare to complain. He is probably still in deep remorse for something he did. Last but not least, for the Mo family, Mo Dafang is trying to build a long-term business relationship with me through marriage. He has even allowed me to choose anyone among his granddaughters, but I didn’t agree to it,” Han Jingru explained.

Han Ying was utterly dumbfounded.

He was already stunned when he heard Han Jingru saying that the Wang family was his puppet. As such, he was completely overwhelmed by what he said afterward.

If what Han Jingru said is true, that could only mean that he has full control of the Three Principal Families in Yan City now! It’s just that news of it hasn’t spread out yet...

“Hahaha!” All of a sudden, Han Xiuzhi threw his head back and bellowed with laughter. He

couldn't hold back his excitement.

The Three Principal Families acted all high and mighty back then and they used to look down on the Han family. Han Xiuzhi even hoped to cooperate with them before, but only got the cold shoulder from them in return. As such, when Han Jingru said that these mighty families had submitted to him, Han Xiuzhi was beyond elated.

“That’s great!” Han Xiuzhi’s words were more than enough to express the excitement in his heart.

As for Han Ying, he was stunned for quite a while before he managed to recover. However, the shock that he felt in his heart wouldn't fade so easily as what Han Jingru said was simply too unbelievable. For lack of better words, Han Ying was shocked to his core.

Apart from that, Han Ying had gained a greater understanding of Han Jingru. Initially, he thought that Dynasty was only able to reach such height was because of chance opportunities. But now, it seemed like he has underestimated the whole

thing. As it turned out, the corporate world in Yan City was basically under Han Jingru's control.



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After a few deep breaths, Han Ying finally managed to calm down a little. “If it is not fame, what are you striving for?” he asked Han Jingru.

Han Jingru couldn't help but express a warm smile usually reserved only for Su Yimo in response to the question.

Shi Yan immediately picked up on the warmth coming from Han Jingru's smile. It was a smile dedicated to a woman, or at least that was what her women's intuition told her.

She was also someone who was very invested in the goings-on of Han Jingru. Hence, she immediately asked, “So, which lady has enchanted you so?”

Han Jingru was surprised that Shi Yan had already figured things out before he said anything. *Women's intuition is indeed a formidable thing!*

“T-there's no one of the sort! I was just daydreaming,” Han Jingru stammered out. He knew that if Su Yimo's name were to be

mentioned here, there would have to be a lot of explaining to do. As it stood, he had never left Yan City. Therefore, it would have been impossible for him to have any relation with the far and away Su Yimo.

“Is that so?” Shi Yan replied. She was clearly doubting Han Jingru because he wouldn’t be wearing such a warm expression if it were just a daydream like he claimed. *Clearly, he has someone on his mind.*

“Of course, Mom. Do you think I would have the right to like someone in the past?” Han Jingru replied exasperatedly.

The Han Jingru of the past was also known as the worthless young master of the Han family. And every respectable family in Yan City knew of his infamous title. Indeed, with a title like that, he didn’t exactly have the right to like anyone at the time.

Furthermore, Shi Yan was with Han Jingru for a long time, even after he left the Han family. If there were actually anything going on with Han

Jingru, she would have picked up on it long ago.

“If you really have taken a liking to any fair maiden, just go for her. The present you is more than respectable enough for anybody,” Shi Yan said.

He is still a little too young for love. But men who don't experience emotional trials won't ever truly love a woman! Besides, a man that hasn't been fooling around will also never be loyal to their family. Therefore, I might as well let him fool around now.

“I will head on over to Yun City after the Martial Arts Summit,” Han Jingru declared.

“Yun City?” Han Xiuzhi, Shi Yan, and Han Ying all asked in unison.

Han Jingru's comment had everyone raising their eyebrows, and they could not fathom why he would want to go over to Yun City all of a sudden. After all, Yun City was also very backward compared to Yan City, so there was little value in going there.

“Why would you want to go to Yun City?” Shi Yan asked.

“I have plans there that I can’t reveal at the moment,” Han Jingru replied.

Shi Yan wanted to press further, but Han Xiuzhi raised his hand, causing her to hold her tongue.

“Jingru, you know we would support you for anything you would want to do. But if you went to Yun City, what would happen to Dynasty?” Han Xiuzhi asked.

“I’ve already tasked Qin Fu with everything and given him the power to handle it. As for the Three Principal Families, I don’t have any interest in them at the moment,” Han Jingru answered.

Han Ying could only give a bitter smile. The Han family was struggling right now, and Han Jingru showed no interest in dealing with the Three Principal Families. Their objectives could not be more different.

If Nangong Shuxian were to find out about this, what would she think?

“But can Qin Fu be trusted?” Han Xiuzhi queried. He was worried that giving so much power to someone outside the family would have disastrous consequences if he were to stab them in the back.

“I don’t think Qin Fu would play around with his life,” Han Jingru stated as-a-matter-of-factly. Qin Fu was once a bum on the streets and only got redemption due to Han Jingru’s assistance. And although Han Jingru couldn’t say he trusted Qin Fu completely, at the very least, there was no reason to doubt him. Additionally, with Han Jingru’s current status and power, Qin Fu would never dare to backstab them.

Han Xiuzhi nodded his approval in silence after Han Jingru’s brief explanation. As long as his grandson trusted Qin Fu, he wouldn’t interfere directly and would only give his advice as an elder regarding any matters. After all, this was Han Jingru’s matter and should be managed by him.

“The Martial Arts Summit is ending in only a few days. Are you leaving right after it ends?” Shi Yan asked with a bit of sadness in her voice. She had grown accustomed to her life with Han Jingru, and the thought of being apart from him made her uneasy.

“Yeah,” Han Jingru nodded. He couldn’t wait to leave for Yun City, and he wouldn’t let anything stop him.

Han Jingru also knew that Su Wenlun’s position in the Su family would cause Su Yimo’s childhood to be filled with constant bullying by Su Ruijin and the others. Thus, he resolved to be at Su Yimo’s side as soon as possible to protect her.

As for the matters with the Nangong family, Han Jingru didn’t have the time nor heart to care right now. In his heart, whatever Nangong Boling said, the Apocalypse, or whatever could happen to Xenos were all matters of insignificant consequence compared to Su Yimo’s wellbeing.

“Do you need me to come with you?” Shi Yan

asked weakly. She already knew the answer, but she had to try asking anyway.

“I’ll be fine on my own. You should stay and catch up with Dad. You’ve been apart for long enough,” Han Jingru said with a smile.

Han Jingru’s words put a smile on his father’s face. He had, indeed, been apart with Shi Yan for too long, and there were some matters that could only be attended to by his wife.

However, the same words that put a smile on Han Ying’s face only served to cause Shi Yan to roll her eyes. Her years of being oppressed by Nangong Shuxian were caused by none other than Han Ying. *If only he could have enough weight behind his words. I wouldn’t have had to endure all the hardships in the family for all these years.*

“Grandpa, is the Han family really going to be alright when I’m gone?” Han Jingru asked Han Xiuzhi.

“We’ll be alright,” interrupted Han Ying, “I will

take care of matters regarding the Han family and sell all that I can sell. There will only be Dynasty from now on!”

Han Jingru decided to respect their decision on the matter. *Nobody from Yan City in their right minds would dare offend the Han family.*

Besides, the Han family would neither fret about food nor clothing. Status and power aren't that important.

“Well, if you need anything, you can look for Qin Fu at any time,” Han Jingru reassured.

After dinner, Han Jingru did not stay with the Han family for the night. Because for him, that place held too many unpleasant memories, and he was better off living outside anyways.

Hence, Han Xiuzhi didn't force him to spend the night but felt some remorse for not even asking.

After Han Jingru and Shi Yan had left, Han Xiuzhi and Yan Qiong went to the backyard where Han Jingru had stayed in the past.

The place was like a cluttered storeroom. It was so cluttered, in fact, that even the Han family servants wouldn't visit this place often. The thought of the Han family's young master having to live here raised a lot of dissatisfaction in Han Xiuzhi's heart.

“Nangong Shuxian, you really are heartless,” Han Xiuzhi stated coldly.



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After stepping into Han Jingru's old room, Han Xiuzhi was left even more speechless than when he was outside.

The entire room had a very moldy and stale smell due to the high humidity, and the bed and closet looked like they were picked up from a garbage heap. It was unfathomable that Han Jingru used to live in a place like this.

The fact that Nangong Shuxian was able to do such a thing to Han Jingru shocked Han Xiuzhi. *Even if she valued Han Yu more, there was no need to go to such lengths to mistreat Han Jingru. Both of them have the same blood coursing through their veins, after all.*

“What you're seeing is only the tip of the iceberg,” Yan Qiong noted. He had seen firsthand how Han Jingru was mistreated by the entire household, including the servants who were supposed to be treating him. The mistreatment went so far, in fact, that he was denied even food on occasion.

“The ruthlessness shown by Nangong Shuxian

really proves that that woman has always been this way,” Han Xiuzhi coldly uttered.

Suddenly, Han Xiuzhi noticed a bunch of crooked writing as he was walking by the bedside. What he saw made him inhale a deep breath.

“There’s no place in this world for me. So, I might as well make a place mine,” Han Xiuzhi stated before pausing for a moment, “Do you know what this phrase means?”

Now, Yan Qiong was no scholar, but the existence of this phrase was noticed by him long before this moment. He had also gone out of his way to find out what the phrase meant, so naturally, he already knew what the meaning.

“I think it is precisely because of this phrase that he has achieved all his accomplishments so far. The only thing that shocks me is how fast have come and how large they are,” Yan Qiong said with a bitter smile.

Han Jingru was only fourteen years old this year. Someone of his age should still be ignorant of the

world. Even his twin brother, Han Yu, was still reliant on the family.

Not only has Han Jingru obtained his own company, but he has also made a name for himself in the martial arts world of Yan City. And that excludes his social standing!

“Yes. Even I couldn’t anticipate that I would get out of Terra Prison with his help. At this point, I don’t even know if that fortune teller was out to harm the Han family or was trying to involve Nangong Shuxian in some plot to break Jingru,” said Han Xiuzhi with a stone-cold expression.

As a matter of fact, Nangong Shuxian treated Han Jingru this way because of what the fortune teller had said. So from Han Xiuzhi’s point of view, this entire mistreatment of Han Jingru was a ploy devised by someone.

“I have tried looking into this before. However, the fortune teller was too good at covering his tracks, so I didn’t find out his identity,” Yan Qiong stated.

Han Xiuzhi shook his head in response and said, “The harder it is to find out information about this matter, the more it proves that something fishy is going on. Nevertheless, we need not fret over the investigation. I believe that Jingru will find things out for himself, as it was the fortune teller that caused him to have such a troubled past.”

Yan Qiong had long understood how things stood and had ceased investigations regarding this matter already.

However, Han Jingru himself wasn't too invested in this matter and didn't want to spend time nor effort on it. He didn't care if someone were out to get him or the Han family because he had simpler and more violent methods to deal with anyone who would dare cross him.

For example, when Han Jingru got home, he didn't even pause to think what would happen to Nangong Shuxian when Han Xiuzhi got back. Han Jingru knew in his mind that whatever happened to her wasn't important anymore. Instead, proving to her that he was the superior

one would be more than enough.

“Jingru, aren’t you curious as to what happened to Nangong Shuxian?” Shi Yan asked as Han Jingru was about to go to bed.

Shi Yan only asked Han Jingru because she herself was very curious. She knew now that Han Xiuzhi had returned, Nangong Shuxian’s power in the family would be weakened considerably. After that, she would finally get the retribution she deserved for mistreating Han Jingru!

Nonetheless, Han Jingru only shook his head in response. He truly didn’t care about what happened to Nangong Shuxian.

“Are you sure?” Shi Yan asked again, looking slightly confused. *Surely, any normal human being treated that way in the past would want to hit Nangong Shuxian now that she is down. Even if you didn’t want to hit her, you would at least want to jeer at her downfall?*

However, Han Jingru just maintained his composure. It was evident that he really wasn’t

interested in what happened to Nangong Shuxian.

“Honestly, all this revenge and retribution isn’t important to me. I only wanted Nangong Shuxian to know who was superior between Han Yu and me. Now, even if she doesn’t admit it, she knows that she was wrong deep down, and that is enough for me,” Han Jingru calmly stated. In fact, he did consider seeking retribution in the past. However, at the end of the day, Nangong Shuxian was still his grandmother. It wouldn’t sit right with him to do something so morally wrong.

“Are you really going to let bygones be bygones?” Shi Yan pressed further.

“Or what? Are you going to have me kill her?” Han Jingru joked.

Shi Yan was shocked to hear that her son could even suggest killing someone as a joke. Everyone knew that murder was a crime, so she couldn’t wrap her head around how Han Jingru was able to talk about killing someone so casually. *It is as if murder is something simple for him.*

“Of course not. I will not have you go astray and become a murderer. Revenge is hardly worth destroying the bright future you have ahead of you,” Shi Yan rebutted.

Seeing his mother’s worried expression, Han Jingru bellowed with a hearty laugh. “Mom, relax. I’m still a kid. How could I even commit murder?”

Shi Yan listened with an awkward expression on her face.

He is still a kid? But he is the head of the company with the most potential in all of Yan City. Is he really still a kid? Someone like him that can shake the entire martial arts world of Yan City is still a kid? Are these really things that a kid can do?

“Okay, that’s enough for now. Hurry up and go to bed. You’re going to need all the energy you can get for the finals in two days if your opponent doesn’t forfeit before then,” Shi Yan said.

Han Jingru giggled at Shi Yan’s comment.

Starting from the preliminaries, he had already had dozens of opponents forfeit against him. There was no question that he had already shaken the Martial Arts Summit to its core.

Now that it was the finals, there shouldn't be any forfeitures. It is the finals of a prestigious competition, after all. Even the organizers would disallow a contender to forfeit beforehand, or the organizers themselves would become a laughing stock.

After Han Jingru returned to his room, he didn't go straight to sleep but instead sat there cross-legged.

Han Jingru was trying to figure out what was amiss regarding his body. He felt the energy flow in himself become sluggish as if something were forming within him. However, even though the energy flow had slowed down, it felt stronger and more vigorous. *What's going on? But from what has been shown from my body's reactions, this seems like a boon and not a bane.*

Over the next couple of days, Han Jingru went back to the Han Residence to visit Han Xiuzhi. However, within this period of time, Han Jingru had never once caught sight of Nangong Shuxian or Han Yu. It was as if the two of them had vanished into thin air.

Despite that, Han Jingru was certain that they were at home. They were just reluctant to show their faces under these circumstances. After all, Han Jingru was no longer who he used to be.

And after Nangong Shuxian lost her authority in the Han family, she was too ashamed to face Han Jingru. Accustomed to being the one in control, she would never willingly appear before him now that she had fallen from grace.

Two days later, Yan City's much-anticipated Martial Arts Summit finals would officially begin.

Even though this was the finals, most of the spectators were only looking forward to watching Han Jingru because they had not seen him in action for far too long.

Making the finals did not matter. All they were interested in watching was Han Jingru's martial arts prowess. To them, this was something worth getting excited about. Furthermore, many among the audience were already certain of the outcome of the finals.

Han Jingru was able to win against Chong Yang, so who else in Yan City's martial arts world would be a match for him?

“It's finally Han Jingru's turn to be crowned champion. This will probably be the least suspenseful championship match in the history of the Martial Arts Summit.”

“You don't say. Based on the mastery Han Jingru has shown, there's no question that the championship belongs to him. No one is qualified to fight for it.”

“I never expected this year's Martial Arts Summit to be completely ruled by a fourteen-year-old boy.”

“Come to think of it, why did the Han family

scorn Han Jingru when he's obviously very skilled?"

When this question was raised, those who were discussing about Han Jingru started shaking their heads because try as they might, they just could not figure out the logic behind Nangong Shuxian's actions.

Nangong Shuxian had single-handedly led the Han family to their downfall, and right now, Han Jingru was the only one who could turn their fate around. However, seeing the way Nangong Shuxian treated Han Jingru, there was a high probability the latter would not lend a helping hand to the Han family, leaving them to fend for themselves instead.

"That old lady must be crazy to treat trash like treasure. Who knows? Maybe her head's just full of sh*t."

"By the way, have you heard about the Dragonlake Resort incident?" someone among the crowd asked.

The group of people immediately burst into fits of laughter.

The Dragonlake Resort incident was indeed a huge plot twist.

Back then when Han Jingru's visit to Dragonlake Resort was first reported, many people regretted not going there on that day as they missed the opportunity to meet Han Jingru in person.

There were some who even claimed that those who made it to Dragonlake Resort were blessed by God Himself as they were presented with the opportunity to introduce themselves to Han Jingru.

But the next day, a piece of mind-blowing news was released. All the people who had bothered Han Jingru were blacklisted by Dynasty, greatly shocking everyone.

Henceforth, that incident became a joke people talked about. Those who met Han Jingru at Dragonlake Resort that day only boasted about it for a day before clamping their mouths shut with

their tails tucked firmly between their legs.

“Thank goodness I didn’t go to Dragonlake Resort. Otherwise, I would’ve ended up like those unlucky ones.”

“Exactly. Han Jingru already said that anyone who harassed him in private would never receive Dynasty’s cooperation. Those guys clearly knew about this, so they brought it upon themselves when they went there to toot their own horn.”

“It’s actually a good thing for us. Since they burned their own bridges, doesn’t that mean we’ll have a higher chance now?”

Just as this group of businessmen was happily chatting away, a large group of women entered the venue. Their entrance was exceptionally grand, with each of them holding neon signboards with the name “Han Jingru” written on them. There were even extremists who wrote the words “my husband” on their signboards.

For someone who found it hard to see the point behind fandom, Han Jingru would undoubtedly

be rendered speechless upon seeing this.

Thereafter, people from different martial arts academies began filtering in. Although they had long predicted the outcome of the finals, they would never miss out on a competition in which Han Jingru would be making an appearance.

Despite knowing that Han Jingru would win this competition easily, they were willing to waste precious time just to witness how Han Jingru was going to win.

“In a way, this year’s Martial Arts Summit won’t be all that exciting. There’s no suspense whatsoever.”

“Who would’ve thought that an underdog like Han Jingru was actually a wolf in disguise? The Yang family really got lucky this time to have discovered such a skilled fighter.”

“Back when the Yang family had just submitted the candidate representing them, many people mocked them and even called Yang Bin crazy, but all of them were forced to eat their words in

the end.”

The ones, who nodded in agreement, were all envious of the Yang family, because they were not in the know, thinking that the Yang family were the closest to Han Jingru and that it was an honor.

Unbeknownst to them, Yang Bin was currently in a fix. Ever since that imbecile Yuan Hai appeared, the relationship between the Yang family and Han Jingru had become strained. For many days, Yang Bin had tried every means to mend the crack in their relationship, but he simply could not think of a good way to do it.

“Patriarch, should I look for Han Jingru after today’s competition?” Yang Wanlin suggested. Han Jingru was the reason he had a special position in the Yang family, and Yang Wanlin knew that if he wanted to succeed the position of head of the family, his relationship with Han Jingru was extremely important. Hence, he had to resolve this issue.

Yang Bin did not respond as he contemplated

whether this was the right time. He was worried giving Yang Wanlin the green light would end up backfiring on him.

“Let’s continue monitoring the situation for now. He isn’t just anyone. We must proceed with caution,” Yang Bin replied.

Although Yang Wanlin had made his own plans, he had no choice but to obey Yang Bin.

Han Jingru finally arrived just then.

The moment he appeared, countless women screamed at the top of their lungs from the stands, his idol effect in full force.

Faced with this kind of situation, Han Jingru was at a loss because he did not enjoy the feeling of being so highly sought after.

Since the competition had yet to begin, Han Jingru made his way to his exclusive seat and sat down. What happened next blew everyone’s minds.

Those in the business circle were instantly dumbfounded.

Wang Li was walking to Han Jingru's side and bowing slightly to him. *What? This is practically a subordinate paying his respects to his boss!*



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“What... What is going on?”

“I-I’m not seeing things, am I? Isn’t that Wang Li?”

“I must be hallucinating. How is it possible that Wang Li is standing beside Han Jingru like a subordinate?”

Everyone who bore witness to this scene couldn’t believe their eyes at first. After all, Wang Li was the head of one of the Three Principal Families in Yan City’s corporate world. It was impossible that he would take up such a subservient stance beside Han Jingru.

Thus, many people rubbed their eyes in disbelief, wanting to have a clearer view.

In spite of that, they could not change reality no matter how hard they rubbed their eyes.

Yang Bin and Yang Wanlin were more shocked than anyone else there. There had been whispers about something happening between Han Jingru and the Wang family, but the details were

unknown to the outside world.

Now, it seemed like the Wang family had surrendered to Han Jingru!

Yang Bin finally knew how big of a mistake he had made. He never should have doubted Han Jingru, let alone listened to that idiot Yuan Hai.

“Patriarch, has Wang Li gone crazy?” Yang Wanlin uttered in disbelief.

Yang Bin shook his head with a bitter smile on his face as he replied, “He’s not crazy. He just made a very wise decision. I believe that everyone in the Wang family is now Han Jingru’s subordinate.”

Yang Wanlin gulped, hard.

The word “subordinate” simply sounded absurd. *Why would the mighty Wang family choose to do this?*

Before Yang Wanlin could recover from his shock, Yang Bin continued, “Perhaps subordinate

isn't the right word for Wang Li. He's more likely a puppet."

Yang Wanlin sucked in a sharp breath and felt a chill run down his spine. *If even the Wang family has turned out this way, how can the Yang family be Han Jingru's equal?*

"It's only been a month since the Martial Arts Summit started, but Yan City has already experienced a seismic change," Yang Wanlin exclaimed.

That was an accurate description, and Yang Bin couldn't help but agree.

If this was the situation with the Wang family, then the Mo family was probably not doing very well.

This also meant that the Three Principal Families of Yan City only existed in name.

Tucked in a corner, Han Xiuzhi wore a faint smile on his face. He was shocked just like everyone at first, but he quickly came to terms

with it. After all, that was his own grandson, and this was a good thing for him.

“Yan Qiong, have you ever thought that there would be a day that someone like Wang Li would bow in submission? Not to mention under the gazes of so many. He’s clearly announcing that he, Wang Li, is henceforth Han Jingru’s subordinate,” Han Xiuzhi said with a smile.

Yan Qiong smiled wryly and replied, “No, I’ve never expected something like this to happen. After all, that old man was once a ruthless person.”

“Exactly. It wouldn’t be far-fetched to say that Wang Li was a vicious tyrant during his younger days.” Han Xiuzhi sighed in awe, wondering what methods his grandson had used to make someone like him surrender.

“It seems like Han Jingru’s potential for greatness exceeds our expectations,” said Yan Qiong.

“He is clearly the leading figure of this era. I never thought that my family would be able to

produce such a promising figure.” Han Xiuzhi beamed with pride.

Han Jingru himself did not expect Wang Li to do something like this. After all, Wang Li was a lofty figure in the eyes of the public. He was giving up his status and dignity by doing this.

“Don’t you think your actions are a little over the top?” Han Jingru asked blandly.

“This is what I should do,” Wang Li replied with his head bowed.

“Don’t you care about what others might think?” Han Jingru asked.

Care about what others might think?

Wang Li pressed his lips together. *What’s the point?*

After witnessing Han Jingru’s methods, Wang Li came to realize that Han Jingru had total control over the Wang family’s life and death, and it was the same for all Three Principal Families.

In the face of a force like this, Wang Li no longer cared about his image. He also came to understand that only by loyally pledging himself to Han Jingru could the Wang family thrive. He might even have the chance to see a whole different world.

Because to Wang Li, the power Han Jingru possessed could not have possibly come from an ordinary world.

“Those foolish people will never understand the reason behind my actions. There’s no need to care about what they think,” Wang Li countered.

Han Jingru smiled. *This old man obviously doesn’t have pure intentions. He probably has an ulterior motive.*

However, because his actions benefitted Han Jingru, the latter did not bother finding fault with him.

Before the finals began, a few people from the organizing party took the stage and prattled on for quite some time. This delay raised a furor as

many were eager to watch the competition.

When the organizers could no longer maintain order, they quickly arranged for the competition to begin.

When Han Jingru stood in the ring, a wave of cheers resounded through the entire area. However, they were not cheering him on to win. Instead, they were paying tribute to him through their roars of excitement.

After all, they were well aware that Han Jingru did not need their cheers of support to win.

Han Jingru's opponent was standing in front of him, already breaking out in cold sweat. He was also one of the popular candidates running for the championship. He could be said to be on par with Yan Bingfeng in terms of skills, and he used to think of Yan Bingfeng as his biggest competitor.

No one expected Yan Bingfeng to be eliminated by Han Jingru in the preliminaries.

He knew that he had absolutely no chance of

winning against Han Jingru. Hence, he only aimed to make sure he wasn't injured. Otherwise, his life would be ruined if he ended up like Yan Bingfeng.

“Don't be so nervous. You're also a finalist in your own right,” Han Jingru said with a chuckle.

If it were before he knew about Han Jingru's power, he would have shrugged his words off as nothing but a child talking nonsense.

But now, he did not dare to lower his guard around Han Jingru.

“I don't have a choice, you're too formidable. Every martial arts academy uses you as their benchmark now, and you're currently my opponent, so how can I not be nervous?” Beads of cold sweat had formed on his forehead. He would have bowed out of the competition if it weren't for the organizer preventing him from doing so.

“In that case, let's just take things easy and give them a good show,” Han Jingru suggested.

The man took a deep breath before saying, “As long as you vow not to injure me, I’ll give you my full cooperation.”

After all, this was a competition, not to mention a battle for the championship. The fact that he agreed to cooperate showed just how much he feared Han Jingru.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The match officially commenced. As per their agreement, Han Jingru and his opponent gave the audience a good show. Both of them traded blows, but anyone with a discerning eye could see that Han Jingru wasn't going all out. Instead, he was deliberately stalling the competition's progress. After all, the finishing blow he dealt Chong Yang proved that his current opponent was not worth mentioning at all.

“Why doesn't he just end the competition?”

“Maybe he wants to make the finals more exciting, but with the difference in their skills, it won't be that much exciting even if he pulls his punches.”

“We already know the final outcome, so what's the use in giving a good show?”

Everyone present did not expect the competition to have any other outcome besides Han Jingru being crowned champion, and they had come to this conclusion a long time ago.

When Han Jingru finished off Chong Yang, the

person to become the Martial Arts Summit champion had already been set in stone. To them, this championship match was only a formality.

“I wonder if there are people from Apocalypse present. With Han Jingru’s abilities, I bet he’s greatly valued by Apocalypse.”

“He’s probably the most qualified person to join Apocalypse at this point in time. If even he can’t make it, then no one in Yan City’s martial arts society can.”

Some of the more experienced martial arts practitioners started looking around even though they knew that they wouldn’t be able to tell the difference between ordinary people and those from Apocalypse.

Yuan Hai was hiding in a corner amid the crowd at that moment, with all of his attention fully focused on Han Jingru. He was traumatized by what happened at the Yang residence previously. That was because he never expected that a Platinum fighter would appear in Yan City and also participate in the Martial Arts Summit

competition.

Logically speaking, Apocalypse would never intervene in matters of the mundane world. Hence, an Apocalypse fighter participating in the Martial Arts Summit was practically unheard of. However, due to Han Jingru's high standing, Yuan Hai had no right to object. He could only speculate that this was ordered by Apocalypse's higher authorities. As for their aim in doing this, it remained a mystery to Yuan Hai.

The one thing he was certain of was that if Han Jingru were to report his evil deeds to Mr. Yi or He Qingfeng of the Four Gates and Three Halls, respectively, his life would be over as it was. The best outcome for him was expulsion from Apocalypse, and the worst was the loss of his life.

Yuan Hai had been living in fear these days, hoping to find the chance to ask Han Jingru for forgiveness and beg him to bury this matter. And today was a good opportunity to meet. Yuan Hai did not care about the competition results - his only goal was to meet Han Jingru in private as

soon as possible.

In the ring, although Han Jingru was trying his best to hold back, his opponent was still overwhelmed. After all, he was an Alpha fighter, while his opponent was an ordinary martial arts practitioner. There was a huge difference in their abilities, and it would be too obvious if Han Jingru restrained his strength and speed any further.

Looking at the sweat dripping down the opponent's forehead, Han Jingru said curtly, "Let's end this match since you can't take it anymore."

His opponent was not angered by his words. On the contrary, he felt relieved because he already felt the strain of fighting Han Jingru and wanted it to end as soon as possible.

"It is the greatest honor of my life to be able to fight against you," the man said earnestly. He knew that Han Jingru was a pre-eminent figure in the martial arts world and not just anyone was worthy of being his opponent.

Han Jingru smiled and suddenly disappeared before appearing behind his opponent in a flash.

No one at the scene could detect his movements. To their eyes, Han Jingru had simply vanished into thin air and materialized behind the man in a blink of an eye.

“What the-? He’s even faster than the eye can detect!”

“Yeah! He moves at the speed of light. Han Jingru is just too powerful.”

“His power is far beyond out imagination.”

Just when the crowd was expressing their awe for Han Jingru’s speed, he grabbed the man’s collar from behind and gave a powerful swing. Instantly, the man rose into the air and flew outside of the ring.

This move would not inflict severe injuries on the man. At most, he would feel the pain from landing hard on the ground.

Hereafter, Han Jingru was the only person left in the ring - it was clear who the champion was.

The referee was dumbfounded. He never expected Han Jingru to end the competition like this. And the inconceivable speed he exhibited just now had shocked him to the core. Like most people at the scene, the referee was filled with doubt and disbelief.

How did he do that?

How can a human be faster than the eye can see?

“Referee, what are you waiting for? Aren’t you going to declare the winner?”

“Yeah! Are you just gonna stand there? Stop wasting our time.”

“Hurry up and crown Han Jingru the champion.”

Seeing the referee still paralyzed to the spot, the female fans began to yell, expressing their dissatisfaction toward him as they couldn’t wait to see Han Jingru lift his championship trophy.

Only then did the referee snap out of his daze, scrambling into the ring to raise Han Jingru's right hand.

For the first time in history, the ground beneath the venue shook as the crowd erupted into whoops and cheers. Meanwhile, the female fans screaming hysterically as if they had lost their minds.

“Champion, champion!”

“Champion, champion!”

“My idol! My champion!”

Nonetheless, Han Jingru did not desire the trophy. That hunk of metal was not worth much, not to mention it was cumbersome to carry. Hence, he didn't feel like bringing it back. As for his female fans, their wild shrieks gave him the urge to quickly flee the scene. He couldn't imagine what would happen if they swarmed over and surrounded him.

At that moment, Han Xiuzhi watched everything

in silence, his eyes shining with pride. In his eyes, Han Jingru had gained the greatest honor in history for the Han family. He was more certain than ever that with Han Jingru on their side, the Han family would soar to glorious heights.

Han Jingru was more than qualified to be a benchmark figure for this era. This was something Han Xiuzhi never dared to dream of.

“Bravo! Bravo!” Han Xiuzhi was brimming with excitement as he applauded.

Even Yan Qiong, who had always been a calm person, was moved by this moment.

The Martial Arts Summit championship was insignificant in Yan Qiong’s eyes, but he knew that this win was only the beginning, and Han Jingru would shake the world for days to come. This was what thrilled Yan Qiong.

Han Jingru's purpose in winning the championship was to boost his reputation in Yan City. He believed that after today, he would be the talk of the town - no one in Yan City wouldn't know about him. This was also the reason Han Jingru was adamant about leaving only after he had participated in the finals.

Although he no longer needed to worry about Dynasty's development, he still had to take the necessary steps to secure its future. The pursuit of worldly power did not interest him, but he had to admit that it could still come in handy during certain critical moments. It wasn't realistic for him to personally deal with every problem that surfaced because most of the time, he would end up threatening the person's life as it usually proved efficient.

Now that Han Jingru had achieved his goal, he was about to make an exit.

Without even taking his trophy, he stepped out of the ring, leaving many people bewildered. After all, every fighter who participated in the Martial Arts Summit wanted nothing more than to hold

the championship trophy above their head and bask in its glory.

Still holding the trophy, the referee could only watch dumbly as Han Jingru stepped off the ring.

What's the meaning of this? Isn't he supposed to take the trophy with him?

The people in charge of the Martial Arts Summit were also stupefied. *This is the highlight of the event. Is he really leaving just like that?*

Or did Han Jingru forget about it?

It wasn't only until Han Jingru walked out of the venue did everyone regain their senses and realize that he really did not care about the championship trophy.

Perhaps this trophy was completely worthless to him.

If it were anyone else, the Martial Arts Summit management team would undoubtedly be livid because this was an act of blatant disrespect to

the Martial Arts Summit.

However, this was Han Jingru. Hence, they were not angry, nor did they dare to be so. After all, he was now regarded as the benchmark in the martial arts world. Offending a fighter of his caliber would only be inviting trouble for themselves.

Han Jingru became the first champion in history to forgo claiming his trophy. To dispel the awkwardness, the Martial Arts Summit's senior executives had to personally enter the ring and fabricate a random excuse to brush off the matter.

Upon leaving the venue, Han Jingru's heart swelled with excitement, but it wasn't from winning the championship. Instead, it was because he could finally go to Yun City. At that moment, Han Jingru's heart couldn't stop leaping wildly in his chest. He was already thinking about taking the flight to Yun City now.

“Jingru, you haven't taken your trophy. Why are you leaving in such a hurry?” Shi Yan caught up to Han Jingru, panting heavily.

“Mom, the trophy is worthless to me. It’ll only gather dust at home. Right now, I just want to head to Yun City as soon as possible,” Han Jingru explained.

“You little brat. Can’t that wait? I was going to hold a banquet to celebrate your victory,” Shi Yan chided.

Han Jingru halted in his footsteps and said to Shi Yan with a solemn expression, “Mom, I really am in a hurry. I can’t wait any longer.”

Shi Yan was taken aback because she had never seen such an urgent expression on his face. He was still physically here, but his heart was long gone at Yun City.

“You brat. I’m worried about you traveling so far away. This is your first time going outstation,” Shi Yan exclaimed.

Han Jingru smiled and said, “Don’t tell me you’re afraid that I’d be bullied?”

Then, he raised his fist and boasted, “Who would

bully me, Mom? My fist is no joke.”

Shi Yan chuckled in response. When her son put it like that, she realized that she was indeed worrying over nothing. Han Jingru was so powerful, no one would be able to lay a hand on him.

As the champion of the Martial Arts Summit, he wasn't someone to be trifled with.

“You're leaving right now?” Shi Yan asked.

Han Jingru nodded without hesitation because, at that moment, he could no longer suppress his eagerness.

“Come on then. I'll send you to the airport,” Shi Yan offered.

Right then, his fans poured out of the venue and swarmed toward him like a pack of wolves.

Seeing this, Han Jingru's expression changed drastically. He tugged on his mother's hand and yelled, “Mom, run!”

Shi Yan never expected those women to get so rowdy either. If they were caged in by them, it would be difficult for them to escape. “Let’s run.”

She grabbed Han Jingru’s hand and propelled her heel-clad feet forward. With that, the mother and son sprinted away together.

Fortunately, Han Jingru quickly spotted Qin Fu’s car a short distance away. After the two of them boarded the car, they could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

“Qin Fu, what perfect timing.” Han Jingru released a long sigh.

“Boss, I already foresaw this happening so I waited here much earlier on. It looks like my effort paid off,” Qin Fu replied with a grin.

Han Jingru nodded in approval before ordering, “Head to the airport now.”

Qin Fu was taken aback for a while. Even though Han Jingru had told him about this before, he never thought that he would leave right after the

Martial Arts Summit competition ended.

“Boss, are you leaving so soon?” Qin Fu queried.

“I can’t wait any longer. I’m leaving Dynasty in your hands from this moment onwards, so don’t let me down,” Han Jingru stated.

Qin Fu wore a serious expression on his face. He had long since prepared himself for this day, and once again, he reminded himself to never let ambition cloud his judgment. In this world, the one thing he would never do was betray Han Jingru. Otherwise, he would be left with nothing in the end.

“Don’t worry, boss. I will try my best to steer Dynasty to greater heights,” Qin Fu vowed.

“If my grandfather asks you for help, you must help him by any means necessary,” Han Jingru instructed.

His grandfather?

Qin Fu was stunned. *Didn’t Han Xiuzhi die many years ago? Everyone in Y*

an City knows this.

Does Boss mean that his grandfather was resurrected from the dead, or that his soul is stuck in between the living and the dead?

“Boss, what do you mean by that?” Qin Fu asked with uncertainty.

“My grandfather didn’t die. His death from many years ago was all part of someone else’s ploy. You don’t need to know the specifics, but you must not reveal this to anyone,” Han Jingru warned.

He still wasn’t certain of Han Xiuzhi’s plans or whether he would announce to the public that he was very much alive. Hence, Han Xiuzhi told Qin Fu to keep it a secret for now.

“Yes, sir.” Qin Fu nodded in understanding. This was a shocking revelation to him, and he knew that once word of this spread out, Yan City’s corporate community would descend into another bout of mayhem. After all, someone who was known to be dead for many years suddenly

coming back to life would inevitably come as a shock to many.

On the way to the airport, Qin Fu called a friend of his to help Han Jingru book a flight, lest he failed to get a seat on the plane.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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At the boarding gate, Shi Yan silently watched Han Jingru checking in with tears pooling in her eyes. During this period of time, she had forged a deep bond with Han Jingru. His sudden departure made her feel empty inside. Needless to say, she was sad to see him go.

Moreover, Han Jingru was only fourteen years old now. She still felt uneasy letting her child travel so far on his own.

Even though Shi Yan knew that Han Jingru could hold his own against most people, in her eyes, he was still just a kid. It was impossible to know what he would face once he arrived in Yun City.

More importantly, there was definitely a reason that Han Jingru was so anxious to get there. Hence, Shi Yan couldn't help but worry that whatever it was would cause him trouble and endanger him in the process.

“I never expected him to leave so suddenly. I really can't stop worrying.” She sighed softly.

Qin Fu broke into a melancholic smile and said,

“Boss left during the prime of his glory. No one else would’ve been able to do this. If he remained in Yan City, he would’ve risen to an insurmountable position.”

Shi Yan was also aware of this. Han Jingru gave up his status in Yan City, which was something others would never be able to do. However, all of these were meaningless to him. It made a person wonder how he was able to possess this kind of mentality at such a young age.

“Dynasty is now yours to handle. The Han family won’t interfere in any matters regarding Dynasty, but you must remember his instructions to you,” Shi Yan warned.

Qin Fu bowed his hand and reassured, “Don’t worry. My loyalty toward your son is unshakable.”

Shi Yan did not doubt Han Jingru’s judgment. Since he had no qualms about handing over Dynasty to Qin Fu, it showed that he was very confident in his decision. Thus, she did not bother questioning it.

Sitting in first-class seats, Han Jingru kept shaking his leg.

When the flight attendant saw this, she mistook it for nervousness. Hence, she walked over with a warm smile and said in a tender voice, “Hey kiddo, don’t be afraid. If you’re scared of heights, you can close your eyes when the plane takes off. But if you’re still nervous then, I have some bubble gum here. It can calm you down.”

Han Jingru shook his head. He wasn’t nervous or scared but was bubbling with anticipation, causing him to feel jittery all over.

“Thank you, but I’m not scared,” Han Jingru replied.

“You don’t need to act tough in front of me, kiddo.” The flight attendant smiled and couldn’t help but think Han Jingru was cute. *He’s obviously scared, but he’s still pretending that he’s not.*

On the other hand, Han Jingru felt slightly exasperated. He knew that the flight attendant

was just being kind, but he really wasn't scared.

“Can I hug you if I'm scared?” Han Jingru asked with a smile, casually flicking his eyes toward her chest.

The flight attendant's face instantly flushed a beetroot red as this was the first time a kid flirted with her.

“Not just anyone can hug me,” she countered.

“That's a shame.” Han Jingru arranged his face to portray disappointment.

Thinking that Han Jingru was bad news, the flight attendant left him to his own devices.

As the plane took off, Han Jingru finally regained control of his emotions, calming down significantly. He stopped shaking his leg as well, lest other people mistook it as fear again.

Han Jingru knew Yun City like the back of his palm. The Genting Villa especially evoked many sweet memories because there, Han Jingru had

experienced what a true home felt like. Of course, this was only a feeling Su Yimo could give him. As for Jiang Yan and Su Wenlun, they no more than outsiders to him.

The flight time for domestic travel was short. As the plane gradually descended, Han Jingru could already make out Yun City's landscape.

Compared to ten years in the future, the current Yun City looked backward, which made sense because the city was only starting to develop. During this period of time, the Su family was already considered quite well known as they were in the construction industry and met the requirements of Yun City's development.

Soon, the plane touched down smoothly. Upon stepping off the plane, Han Jingru took in a deep breath, enjoying the familiarity washing over his senses.

Content, he stretched lazily when suddenly, a disgruntled voice came from behind him. "Move it! Don't block the way."

Han Jingru looked over his shoulder and saw a young man wearing an impatient look on his face. He had a set of thick brows and large eyes which made him look quite intimidating.

Behind him was another young man who looked slightly familiar, but Han Jingru couldn't recall when he had seen him before.

Han Jingru did not wish to pick a fight with them. After all, he had just arrived in Yun City, and causing a ruckus was the last thing he wanted. Hence, he quickly gave way to them.

Right then, several S-class Mercedes-Benz drove on the airstrip, heading right toward them.

A hint of surprise flashed across Han Jingru's eyes, surmising that these two young men were important figures. Otherwise, privately-owned cars would not be casually allowed entry onto the airstrip.

Han Jingru grew more curious about their identities, especially the man who seemed familiar to him.

After racking his brains for a while, Han Jingru's eyes abruptly widened as realization dawned on him.

This person didn't just look familiar, he was also someone Han Jingru knew very well. However, due to his age, Han Jingru could not recognize him at first glance.

Mo Lan!

This man is Mo Lan during his younger days.

What surprised Han Jingru was that this young Mo Lan was rather charismatic. Perhaps this was another reason Han Jingru failed to immediately connect the dots.

After all, when Han Jingru met Mo Lan, he was already a scruffy-looking middle-aged man. In addition to that, he was also an unscrupulous boss who only cared about his own interests.

Han Jingru released a helpless laugh. The first acquaintance he bumped into upon reaching Yun City turned out to be Mo Lan, which was

completely out of his expectations.

Furthermore, the present-day Mo Lan looked as cool as ever, with a few Mercedes-Benz picking him directly upon alighting the plane. This was enough to show how high his status in Yun City was.

Many years into the future, Mo Lan had given up his status for a woman. The amount of courage it took to do this was simply unimaginable.

Since he was an acquaintance, Han Jingru was even more willing to dismiss his rude act from earlier. However, it was probably too early for a reunion because he was quite certain that Mo Lan would completely disregard him.

After leaving the airport, Han Jingru did not go directly to Su Yimo's house but headed toward Genting residences first. The Genting Villa was once his home, so the first thing he did upon returning to Yun City was to repurchase it.

However, things were different from the future now. There was still a prominent figure in Yun

City living there. Thus, it wasn't going to be easy for Han Jingru to buy the villa.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Without a moment's delay, Han Jingru made his way toward the Genting residential area.

The environment here now was much better than in the future because the residential area had only been completed less than two years ago. Of course, due to the Tian family's influence in Yun City, they had already managed to ramp the price of villas here to the point that the mere mention of it scared common folks. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that they felt pressured just passing by Genting residences. This was because only the truly wealthy people could live here while ordinary people would never dare to dream of setting foot in here.

Han Jingru stood by the entrance as vivid memories of the past surfaced in his mind.

Just then, a fierce-looking security guard walked toward him.

This was, after all, the most high-end residential area in Yun City, and common folks were not allowed to come close. The security guards would even chase away anyone who stared too

long. Hence, they naturally could not stand the sight of a kid standing by the entrance in a daze.

“Boy, what are you standing around for? Get out of here. This isn’t somewhere you should be.”
The guard came up to Han Jingru and snapped at him.

Han Jingru smiled without mirth. This security guard did not even bother asking about his identity before telling him to get lost. It was undoubtedly because of the Tian family. After the completion of the Genting residential area, the Tian family had also set up the security department. Thus, the security guards always acted arrogantly. As long as the other party wasn’t from the Tian family, they wouldn’t bother being polite.

“I’m here to buy a house. Can’t I take a look first?” Han Jingru said with a smile.

The security guard threw his head back with laughter upon hearing this. As this was the most luxurious residential area in Yun City, the villas were already sold out long before the project’s

completion.

“Hey punk, don’t you know what this place is? Even if you have money, not just anyone can buy a house here. Hurry up and get lost. Don’t let those rich people see you because you’ll only end up with a bruised ego,” the security guard sneered.

“What if I have a lot of money?” Han Jingru asked.

“Stop fooling around. Do you know where this place is? And do you know who lives here? Besides, all the villas here have been purchased. You can’t buy one even if you had the money,” said the guard.

“I want that one.” Han Jingru pointed directly at the villa located on the hillside.

The security guard glanced at the direction Han Jingru was pointing at and was instantly intrigued. *Isn’t that the Genting Villa? It’s the most expensive villa in the entire Genting residential area. A mysterious person whom even the Tian family has to respect is living in it. Hah! This punk really has some balls of steel.*

“Scram! Stop wasting my time, or you might land yourself in the hospital,” the security guard said impatiently. At first, he found Han Jingru entertaining and thought it wouldn’t hurt to add some spice into another boring day at work. However, finding that Han Jingru was getting more ridiculous by the second, he finally had enough of him.

“Does the Tian family know how arrogant you are?” Han Jingru asked airily.

The security guard raised his brows. *This punk actually knows the Tian family. I guess he’s quite well-informed. But since he knows that, how can he still have the guts to cause a ruckus here?*

“If you know the Tian family, then you should know that this is no place for you to fool around. Get out of here. Don’t play with fire and ruin yourself at such a young age,” the security guard said.

“I’d like to go in and have a look,” Han Jingru

requested.

The guard was instantly infuriated. *What an idiot! Does he think just any Tom, Dick, and Harry can enter Genting residences?*

“You’re the one asking for trouble, punk, so don’t blame me for this.” With that, the guard raised a clenched fist and swung it toward Han Jingru. Since his verbal warnings had fallen on deaf ears, it was time for things to turn physical.

However, he was just a child after all. Hence, the guard planned to pull his punches to avoid severely injuring Han Jingru.

Of course, Han Jingru had the same thought. He did not intend to cause trouble here. All he wanted was to go in for a look. If he beat this person into a pulp, he would have to answer for it.

Generally, people would assume the adult to win against a child in a fight.

But after a brief exchange, the guard was already

sprawled on the ground. On the other hand, Han Jingru looked completely fine as he strode toward the entrance.

The guard looked dazed on the ground as he tried to make sense of what had happened. He had only felt a sudden sharp pain in his lower abdomen, which caused him to go weak in the knees and fall to the ground.

As for how it happened, he was completely clueless because he did not even see Han Jingru attack.

After entering the residential area, Han Jingru did not spare the other places a glance. Instead, he went straight toward the hillside. After all, this was the place he wanted and only this place held good memories for him.

Genting residences had a very strict rule - every household had its own private property. It didn't matter if you were one of the owners of the villas here, you were forbidden to trespass into the private property of others. Once you trespassed, the Tian family would get involved, and the

consequences ranged from getting beaten black and blue to being banished from Yun City.

Despite that, Han Jingru paid no heed to the rule. Even if the Tian family appeared in person, he had nothing to fear.

Besides, he saw nothing wrong in checking out his future home.

Upon reaching the front yard, he noticed that the flowers and plants grown by Han Xiuzhi were missing. Other than that, everything else looked the same.

Han Jingru could clearly remember that ever since Han Xiuzhi moved into the villa, he had been fascinated by the gardens in both the front and back yards. Thus, like a hardworking gardener, he had spent all his time planting. It was due to his efforts that the villa was blessed with a uniquely beautiful sight of all kinds of blooming flowers.

Just looking from outside wasn't enough for Han Jingru, so he walked up to the door and pressed

the doorbell without hesitation.

Only Han Jingru dared to be so brazen in Genting residences. His actions were a direct challenge to the authority of the Tian family, which was an idea no one in Yun City would ever dare to entertain.

Soon, footsteps came from the inside, and a middle-aged man opened the door.

Wearing pajamas and sporting a goatee, he had a mature charm befitting of his age. Upon seeing Han Jingru, he frowned with dissatisfaction.

Every homeowner here knew the rules of Genting residences. *How dare this kid come knocking on my door?*



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“I’d like to take a look inside.”

The middle-aged man smiled coldly at Han Jingru’s words. *How arrogant. Which family does this kid come from?*

From his tone, it was obvious he wasn’t asking for permission. Instead, he unabashedly demanded entry and left no room for refusal.

“Boy, do your parents know that you’re here?” the middle-aged man said icily. Although he was facing a child, he was displeased because this child did not only ignore the rules here, but he also even disrespected him.

“I do whatever I want without their knowledge,” Han Jingru replied.

The middle-aged man’s face turned even more hostile. *I wonder what kind of parents raised their kid to be so arrogant and insolent.*

Even the Tian family had to show him some respect, but this kid completely disregarded him.

“Fine. Go on in,” the man said.

Han Jingru nodded politely but otherwise kept silent.

The middle-aged man immediately dialed Tian Jingshuo’s number. Instead of calling the Security Department, he planned to get Tian Jingshuo himself over to handle this matter. *I don’t care what kind of background this boy has. Since he rubbed me the wrong way, he’s destined to meet his end in Yun City.*

And seeing that his family didn’t teach him any manners, I’m going to do it for them and let their child see the ugly side of society.

After Han Jingru entered the house, he found that the interior design style did not match Su Yimo’s preferences. Hence, he kept shaking his head and sighing inwardly wherever he walked, already planning a major redecoration.

“I see that my home isn’t to your liking,” the middle-aged man said in a stiff tone.

“You’re right, it isn’t,” Han Jingru responded.

Upon hearing his answer, the man was beside himself with rage. This was his house. He wasn’t selling it to this kid here, so why should he care whether the latter liked it?

To suppress his anger, the man took a few deep breaths to douse the flames in his heart.

“You’re not living here, so why should I care if you like it?” the man challenged.

“Because I’m going to buy this house and live here later on, so of course I have to like it,” Han Jingru explained.

The corners of the man’s mouth twitched. This was probably the most outrageous thing he had ever heard in his life. Even during normal business dealings, as the seller, he had to be willing to sell it to him. However, Han Jingru completely neglected this point. His attitude seemed to imply that the man had no choice but to sell it to him.

“I’m very curious about what your parents teach you at home. Didn’t they ever tell you about the painful price of arrogance? It will even implicate your family,” the middle-aged man said.

Ah... The price of arrogance.

No one knew this better than Han Jingru because all those who had been arrogant in front of him had faced tragic endings. More often than not, Han Jingru was the reason they were haunted by regret.

However, all of this had nothing to do with Han Jingru because they deserved what was coming for them.

His overbearing actions this time were simply because he couldn’t wait to move in here and transform the place into Su Yimo’s dream home. Hence, he didn’t want to waste another second.

More importantly, Han Jingru had every right to be arrogant.

“Of course I know, but since I have enough

power in my hands, I won't be the one paying the price," Han Jingru replied coolly.

The middle-aged man gritted his teeth. He had never seen such a hubristic person before, not to mention one who was only a teenager. He could only infer that Han Jingru was an ignorant child who did not know how vicious society could be.

"I'd like to see just how much power you have," the man snarled.

"Tian Jingshuo is probably on the way here, right?" Han Jingru asked all of a sudden.

The man definitely had a high status in Yun City, seeing as he was able to live in the Genting Villa. In fact, he was probably closely acquainted with the Tian family as well. Hence, Han Jingru knew that the Tian family would be alerted by his actions. Since the man was of a lofty status, he would undoubtedly get the head of the Tian family, Tian Jingshuo, to come and handle this personally.

The middle-aged man was surprised by what Han

Jingru said.

Did he just barge into my home fully aware of the consequences?

Does he really have the power to challenge the Tian family?

But in the entire Yun City, who can compare to the Tian family?

Even the large and influential families in other cities would never come to Yun City to challenge the Tian family. After all, outsiders were no match for the local powers here. This was a simple logic everyone understood.

“You knew that this would reach Tian Jingshuo’s ears?” the man queried.

“I just made a guess, but from your reaction, Tian Jingshuo is probably on the way here. In that case, I’ll wait for him.” After that, Han Jingru lowered himself onto the sofa with no trace of fear in sight.

Besides young, cocky and ignorant, the man couldn't think of any other words to describe Han Jingru.

The fool seems to know no fear. Perhaps he doesn't know what the Tian family is capable of, that's why he's so gutsy.

Even so, an odd feeling swelled in the man's heart because Han Jingru looked too calm, making him suspect that Han Jingru really did not fear the Tian family.

Meanwhile, Tian Jingshuo had already left his own villa in a hurry with a group of thugs in tow.

Whenever problems arose in this residential area, the Security Department would be the one to handle them. However, someone had barged into the Genting Villa this time. Thus, he had no choice but to come in person.

“Damn it. Who the f**k dares to cause a scene in Genting Villa?” Tian Jingshuo cursed.

The current Tian Jingshuo was much younger and

was still in charge of the Tian family's affairs, having not passed it down to Tian Honghui yet. In addition, Tian Jingshuo was notorious for being ruthless in Yun City, so most people would avoid the Tian family like the plague.

All the homeowners in Genting residences always made sure to abide by the rules, all to avoid offending the Tian family.

“Boss, I've already contacted the Security Department. They said that it's a kid,” one of his subordinates stated.

“A kid?” Tian Jingshuo gnashed his teeth together and cursed, “What a bunch of trash! They couldn't even stop a little brat?”

“Well, one of them was taken down by him, but we don't know the details yet.”

After Tian Jingshuo got into his car, he growled with a glacial expression, “I don't care which family this kid is from; I want all of their assets in Yun City seized within a day. This is the price of offending my client.”

Soon after that, three vehicles roared to life, and approximately twenty thugs headed toward the Genting residential area.



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When Tian Jingshuo arrived at the villa, he was greeted by the sorry sight of the bodyguard who had tried to get in Han Jingru's way. The guard feared the potentially severe repercussions he might receive from his superior for his own failure in performing his duties.

"I'm so sorry that I failed to stop him from getting past me, Mr. Tian," the man said as he got onto his knees.

Nonetheless, Tian Jingshuo did not blow his top as he saw that there must be a reason why his subordinate was not able to stop that child.

"Were you not able to beat him?"

"Y-Yes. I suppose so." The guard was not even sure how he was floored.

"Useless. We'll sort this out after the matter has been resolved." Tian Jingshuo then quickly made his way towards the Genting Villa.

Meanwhile, Han Jingru continued to be a picture of calm as he waited.

The middle-aged man had been observing Han Jingru for a while without being able to detect a sliver of unease in him. The boy's sedateness had far exceeded that of his imagination.

At this moment, the doorbell drew their attention to the entrance.

The corner of the man's lips lifted slightly. "The one whom you've been waiting for has come."

The boy got up and stretched himself. "He really took his time. Not a very efficient person, this Tian Jingshuo."

The man smirked as he thought how the little braggadocio with a death wish must have no idea what was coming his way.

When the door opened, Tian Jingshuo entered and offered his apologies. For one as prominent in Yun City as himself to act so cordially around the middle-aged man was telling of the latter's stature.

"This little rascal here has been waiting, and he

doesn't seem to think much of you," the middle-aged man said.

Tian Jingshuo was slightly surprised.

Waiting for me?

It would take some guts for anyone to venture to do something like this.

"Whoever he may be, he cannot hope to walk out of the villa alive today."

"Try not to mess up my place," the middle-aged man said.

Tian Jingshuo's expectations were confounded the moment he stepped into the living room, as the adolescent in front of him looked more green around the gills than anything else. There was no haughtiness about the boy's soft expression either.

"So this is how you look when you were younger," Han Jingru said with a smile.

These words were mystifying to Tian Jingshuo. It was as though the brat was suggesting that he had seen him in his old age.

“Do you know where you are, my young friend?” the older man asked.

“Of course. This is the Genting Villa, the turf of the Tian family,” he replied.

The corner of Tian Jingshuo’s lips lifted into a sneer. “Why then do you come here to court death, knowing well that this is my family’s domain?”

“That’s not quite what I have in mind. Actually, I’m here to negotiate with that guy over there for the purchase of this villa.”

Tian Jingshuo twitched his lips at the peculiar boy’s unusual request. The Genting Villa was not a place that anyone could simply acquire, especially not by one such as he.

This time, it was the middle-aged man’s turn to speak. “I’ll gift this place to you for free if you

are able to walk out of here today... alive.”

Even if money was no object for him, Han Jingru’s brows perked up at the prospect of coming into possession of the villa without having to fork out a single cent.

“I’ll be holding you to your word then,” the boy chuckled before turning to Tian Jingshuo. “Have you brought enough men with you?”

Tian Jingshuo was incensed. Never before had he felt so slighted by anyone in Yun City, until now.

“You’re dead meat, kiddo,” Tian Jingshuo said as he gnashed his teeth.

Han Jingru laughed, “Let’s take it outside. I won’t want to cause damage or spill blood here, even if I don’t like the decor. It’s bad luck.”

With that, the boy took the initiative to be the first to walk out.

At the same time, the twenty henchmen Tian Jingshuo brought with him were already

assembled in the front courtyard as they awaited their orders. They were akin to bugs in Han Jingru's eyes; their numbers never bothered him.

When the middle-aged man saw Han Jingru standing poised with his hands behind his back, he asked Tian Jingshuo, "Do you know anything about this ballsy kid? We won't be the ones who would get embarrassed later, would we?"

Tian Jingshuo shook his head. His men were ex-military personnel and martial artists - all elite combatants in their own rights who could take on multiple opponents by themselves. They would be more than a match for one little rascal.

"That won't happen. If I were to get beaten here, how would I be able to face anyone in Yun City in the future?"

The middle-aged man felt much reassured after hearing that.

"One at a time, or all at once?" Han Jingru said as he abruptly closed his eyes.

That had Tian Jingshuo absolutely stewing. It was only now that he comprehended the boy's level of arrogance.

Could near twenty grown men not handle one little brat? Hmph! Puh-lease!

“Help the rascal understand the harshness of society,” Tian Jingshuo commanded.

Up stepped one of the men into the fray.

His henchmen had no intention of ganging up on a child, as that might seem both excessive and dishonorable.

The first man leaped into the air winding up his fist. If the eventual blow connected, it would be hard even for the strong to endure.

However, the boy stood without wavering with eyes closed as his opponent swiftly bore down upon him.

“Look at how accepting the posturing little prick seems to be of his fate,” said Tian Jingshuo to the

middle-aged man.

It felt inevitable to the latter that Han Jingru would be struck down, but at the same time, the boy's response roused in him a certain sense of foreboding.

Perhaps the boy had his eyes closed because he did not even think much of his opponents.

“Something's off,” said the middle-aged man.

Nevertheless, Tian Jingshuo remained confident. “What could possibly go wrong? He's not even going to have the chance to counter that killing blow.”

The other man shook his head. While he could not put a finger on it, his instincts told him that nothing was as it seemed.

Han Jingru had never behaved like a regular child right from the beginning. If he were merely a helpless boy who sought death, why would he need to put himself through so much trouble?

Tian Jingshuo had a different take on the matter because he knew his own subordinates. In his esteem, the boy's provocations were tantamount to a death wish. How could he match up with these men?

Apart from the difference in age, there was also the consideration of capability. These were hired professionals; ordinary men had no chance against them, never mind a mere child.

Very quickly, his expression froze. Instead of Han Jingru being downed in one strike, it was his henchman who had cried out in agony. Tian Jingshuo sensed that the boy had moved slightly but did not manage to catch how his blow landed.

The henchman fell to the ground and quickly lost consciousness.

All present were stunned as they tried to make sense of what had just transpired.

They were confounded by how the boy was able to retaliate with such accuracy with his eyes closed and also take out a man several times his

own size.

The middle-aged man's face stiffened. It was hard for him to accept what happened in spite of the fact that he had somewhat anticipated that, as the person in front of him was but a mere child.

“What are you waiting for? Send them all in,” he said with gritted teeth. A battle of attrition would not work in their favor considering the powers that Han Jingru had just demonstrated. In his esteem, it would be best to hit the boy hard and fast with overwhelming force through the strength of numbers.

Pitting big against small and many against one may not be respectable, but it was the optimum strategy given the circumstances.

Tian Jingshuo drew a deep breath as the middle-aged man's words stirred him to his senses. Never would he had expected this little brat to possess such immense power. It was obviously not advantageous for his henchmen to continue taking him on one on one.

“All of you. Now,” Tian Jingshuo hollered.

His men shouted in unison, as though they meant to simultaneously bolster their own morale and intimidate Han Jingru before they charged forth.

The boy nonetheless kept his eyes closed and his hands behind him. At this moment he was irrepressible, like the peerless martial artists in the movies.

Tian Jingshuo fists tightened instinctively. “This kid needs to be taught a painful lesson for his insolence.”

The middle-aged man looked deeply concerned. If these men were to fail to match up with Han Jingru, was he really to give the villa away for nothing?

Certainly, the value of the villa was beside the point. With his financial capability and status, he could acquire the whole of the Genting residential zone if he so desired.

The part that bothered him was the thought of his

reputation being trampled underfoot by a fourteen-year-old brat.

A pity for him, for the moment he met Han Jingru, the outcome had already been cast in stone.

The boy was now an Alpha Stage fighter in Xenos. If he had no equal in that realm apart from the Qilin, who on Earth could realistically go head to head with him?

Roughly twenty men came at him from every angle possible at that moment. Even so, Han Jingru could visualize their every move vividly in his mind's eye as though his physical eyes were wide open.

The corners of his lips curled into a wry smile. It was only the second time since he was reborn that he was thrust into a fight of this caliber.

His first such encounter was at the Wangs with the hitmen from S Nation. He had painted the walls with the blood of his foes that time without leaving any survivors.

Naturally, he had no intention of doing the same in front of Tian Jingshuo. The Genting Villa was somewhere he planned to stay for a long time. It would be unnecessary or even counter-productive to try to scare the man that way.

The symphony of pain had thus begun. Each man who came within striking distance of Han Jingru would be forcefully repelled with a single blow and left completely demoralized as they writhed on their backs.

The less than twenty men were all on the floor within sixty seconds, without exception.

With the men falling unconscious, one after the other, the Genting Villa courtyard was completely still, save for the whistle of the breeze and the rustling of leaves.

Tian Jingshuo's scalp numbed at this sight.

He had envisioned Han Jingru to be on his knees, battered and bruised, and begging for mercy.

But now?

The boy was the only one on his feet as his opponents lay unconscious all around him.

What was this!

What had happened here?

A bunch of hired professionals getting their asses handed to them by a mere child.

“This... how could this be possible?” Tian Jingshuo’s mouth was agape as he kept mouthing those words repeatedly in sheer disbelief.

Combat had been a recurring occurrence in his life, as otherwise, he would not have founded his own martial arts academy in the future.

He was a man who loved a good fight, but after this encounter with Han Jingru, he seemed to have lost his hunger for it.

The middle-aged man’s fingers gradually loosened as he was gripped by a sense of helplessness. The worst possible outcome that he feared had come to fruition. What was he to do

when even so many men could not hold their own against the boy?

“It’d seem like the villa is mine to have. Isn’t that right?” Han Jingru smiled.

To the man, these words carried the gravest of insults. He turned around and went straight back inside the house in a huff.

Tian Jingshuo responded by following in kind. After he reached the other side of the entrance, he immediately closed the door behind himself.

“How is it that these fools of yours can’t even handle a child?” the middle-aged man asked.

It was evident that Tian Jingshuo had no good answer for that. The men he had brought along were amongst the finest within the Tian family and were incomparable in all of Yun City.

He was shocked that a crew like that would be taken out by a kid.

“This one is no ordinary child.” Tian Jingshuo’s

face was severe. With such skills at such a young age, the formidable boy must, at the minimum, hail from a prominent martial arts lineage.

“I don’t care who or what he is. I want him dead. And if you can’t do it, this is going to change the complexion of Yun City,” the middle-aged man fumed.

That put Tian Jingshuo in a tough spot. According to the man, he was deemed more than capable of accomplishing that.

It was this man’s invisible hands working behind the scenes that the Tian family was able to be where they are today. It was out of acknowledgment of this that Tian Jingshuo put up with this sort of treatment from him.

Just when Tian Jingshuo was about to speak, a voice suddenly rang out. “Do you want to kill me?”

The appearance of this voice sent chills down their spines.

When they turned in the direction of its source, they spotted Han Jingru seated on the couch. They had no idea when he got there.

“You... How did you get in here?” Tian Jingshuo’s eyes were forced wide in astonishment. When he locked the door, he distinctively recalled seeing Han Jingru still standing outside.

He was confounded as to how the boy could have found his way in undetected.

In the meantime, the other man was so shaken that he staggered backward with eyes filled with terror.

He understood then that the notion of him killing Han Jingru was just empty talk.

Conversely, it would take no effort whatsoever for the boy to take his life.

“I think I’d rather not try explaining how I did it. I’m worried that you may shit yourself,” Han Jingru said with a smile.

Never before had Tian Jingshuo’s heart thumped so fast that it threatened to burst out of his chest. He was unable to arrest his own emotions.

That he might shit himself if it was explained to him?

Not explaining already did that for him because the boy had popped out like a ghost inside a locked house.

“What exactly do you want?”

“I thought I’ve made it obvious enough that I just want to buy this villa. Well, that was before he said that he was going to gift it to me,” the boy replied. He then turned his attention to the middle-aged man before he continued, “I hope you aren’t thinking about backing out?”

The man swallowed. Perhaps it was fear that made his mouth feel parched.

If he were to back out, he might lose his life at Han Jingru's hands.

Should he gift the villa in obeisance, he would have trouble maintaining his dignity.

“Do you know who I am? Do you know what would happen to those who cross me? Even if you were to kill me here, my powerful backer will chase you to the ends of the world, and you shall know no peace for the rest of your life.” The man did not choose to submit as his position did not allow him to. He feared that if he were to do so, even Tian Jingshuo would despise him.

“Backer?” Han Jingru said in surprise. He was unsure of this man's background, but it would appear that the true source of his influence came from the one whom he served.

That made him thought of a bemusing possibility, be it as remote as it was - That this man could be another of Nangong Boling's puppets that spanned the breadth of the planet.

Seeing the boy's bitter smile, the middle-aged

man mistakenly thought that his threat had taken effect. “His stature is beyond that of your wildest imagination. His influence extends all over from which there will be no escape.”

Global power:

Other than Nangong Boling, Han Jingru could think of no other who could match this description.

He decided to test the waters. “Surely we are not talking about Nangong Boling, are we?”

The color fell from the man’s face. In his eyes was not just fear but dread.

He did not expect the kid to know of Nangong Boling.

Aside from his fellow puppets and the core members of the Nangong family, there should be no more than a handful who could have known that name.

“You... You know him?” His voice trembled as he

spoke.

Han Jingru's conjecture had been confirmed. Though, he had not expected to run into one of Nangong Boling's many puppets under such circumstances.

“Not only do I know him, but we are also really tight. You could call to ask if you don't believe me. And yeah, tell him that Han Jingru said hi,” the boy said with a smile.

The man shook his head. He was only a pawn at the beck and call of Nangong Boling. There was no way he was going to contact his master on his own accord.

The fact that Han Jingru knew his backer's name was sufficient to prove that he knew Nangong Boling himself.

“You are his puppet, aren't you?”

That definitively banished any lingering doubt the man might have of how closely the former two must be acquainted.

What followed left Tian Jingshuo shocked and bewildered.

The middle-aged man had gotten onto his knee in front of the boy.

A mere puppet was in no position to offend a friend of his master.

For him, getting onto his knees and offering his apologies was the only way by which he could preserve his own life.

At the same time, Tian Jingshuo was dumbstruck.

He knew where the middle-aged man stood. Even though he had no idea who was the Nangong Boling that they kept mentioning, the pecking order here had been established the moment the man caved in.

“My apologies for not knowing my place,” the middle-aged man said.

The boy got to his feet and approached until he was looming over the man on the floor. “Would

you believe that he would only applaud even if I were to kill you?"

"Yes, yes. I believe you," the man said as he shivered.

Between a friend and a pawn, who was of greater worth?

He knew well that Han Jingru's words contained no element of frivolity.

"Your life is worthless to me. The only thing I seek, is this villa."

The man nodded profusely. "Yes, of course. I will have ownership of the deed transferred to you in the quickest time possible. I'll do anything. Just don't kill me."

Han Jingru then lifted his head to regard Tian Jingshuo.

The latter lowered his head in servility the moment their sights grazed each other.

“I don’t quite like the style of these interiors. Help me find a renovation company to get it changed up. As for the expenses incurred...”

Tian Jingshuo interjected before he could finish, “My family owns a renovation company. Please rest assured that you won’t need to spend a single dime on this.”

Han Jingru’s brows raised. He smiled staidly at having saved up yet another considerable sum.

Even if he were not short of money, he would not say no to not needing to spend out of his own pocket.



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“Would it be reasonable for me to come back for inspection in a month’s time?” he asked.

Talk of that was superfluous given Tian Jingshuo’s position in this food chain. Even if Han Jingru asked to have everything ready in ten days, he would have to find a way to get it done.

“Of course. I’ll be sure to do my utmost,” he replied.

The boy nodded before he took his leave.

After he left, the man on the floor only got unsteadily back onto his feet when he heard the door close.

Tian Jingshuo could not empathize with what he felt, but it was clear then the man’s life had just hung by a thread. If Han Jingru wanted the man dead, all the man could do was stick out his neck so that it may be done cleanly.

The middle-aged man exhaled before he slumped into the couch.

Tian Jingshuo had many burning questions he wanted to ask of Han Jingru and the man but restrained himself as he could not afford to offend either.

“You must be curious as to why I chose to kneel.”
The man took the initiative to break the silence.

Tian Jingshuo did not know how to respond to that; thus, he held his own tongue.

“Allow me to warn you - that getting on that kid’s bad side would promise a worse fate than offending Hades himself.”

Tian Jingshuo’s eyelid started to twitch. The boy must be exceptional enough to prompt him to speak in such terms.

“I will be sure to heed your words,” he replied.

“I will look to leave Yun City today, and I don’t expect to ever return,” said the other man.

“You will always be an honored guest to the Tians should you ever decide to come by.”

The man's departure might not necessarily be a bad thing for the Tian family, as in his absence, they would practically have the whole of Yun City beneath their feet.

Certainly, the emergence of Han Jingru could cause wariness for Tian Jingshuo, but he knew that the boy's continued presence would not be a deterrent towards the family's growth. The two issues were mutually exclusive.

The middle-aged man chuckled, "There's no need for such pleasantries. You should be delighted that there would be no one to threaten your position when I'm not around."

Tian Jingshuo remained respectfully silent. There was no cause for him to speak wantonly with the man still in front of him.

His counterpart stood up and patted on his shoulder as he came alongside him. "If you have the opportunity to serve this young man well, the future for your family would exceed your wildest dreams. His position is well beyond the reach even of one such as myself."

Tian Jingshuo was not too surprised to hear this, as the fact that the man took to his knees already served to illustrate this point.

After Han Jingru left the villa, he headed straight for a school somewhere in Yun City.

Su Yimo must still be an elementary student at this age. The notion of this felt strange to Han Jingru.

For him to want to treat her as his own wife made him feel like a pedophile.

He may still be an adolescent on the outside himself, but his understanding of things went far more beyond that of his contemporaries.

Han Jingru squatted right across the school gate as classes were still ongoing. As he did so, his nerves started to mount. The prospect of meeting her for the first time since his rebirth gave him more jitters than when they consummated their marriage.

“I wonder how you look like right now. Would I

be able to recognize you?” he muttered while he wrung his hands in an attempt to calm himself.

It was not too long before a fringe group with pompadours slicked back into a ducktail also started squatting on the same side of the street.

“You waiting for your chick, man?” One of the teenagers with tattoos on his arms approached with a smile.

Han Jingru did not have a good impression of these wayward types. This was because of their reputation as belligerents of society inclined towards kissing up and kicking down. Hence, he was not enthused to engage with him.

However, for people like them, to ignore their entreaties was considered a sign of churlishness.

The tattooed youth was slightly miffed to have the boy ignore him. “Did you not hear me talking to you? Are you deaf?”

“I don’t want trouble, so I’d advise you to not come begging for it.”

When his counterpart heard it, he let out a scornful laugh.

“Do you know who you are talking to, man? Have you not heard of Xiao Long?” His tone was cold.

“Xiao Long, is it? Are you very famous?” Han Jingru inquired inquisitively.

Xiao Long’s face perked up smugly as the one beside him spoke, “This is Long. There’s no one here who doesn’t know him.”

Little brat has the cheek to coin himself

Long. Han Jingru sniggered at the habit of these small-time hoodlums picking pompous names for themselves in order to pretend to be more important than they actually were.

“Never heard of you,” the boy answered flatly.

Xiao Long’s expression instantly soured. “Looks like we need to be properly introduced then, you little shit.”

His crew quickly had Han Jingru surrounded.

If Tian Jingshuo's elites were not a match for him, what threat could this ragtag bunch pose?

Han Jingru straightened himself up and sighed, "When will I ever learn to stay out of trouble."

"Give it to 'em!" Xiao Long howled.

Although quite a few of them went at him in concert, Han Jingru was not to be outdone. He struck time and again, and before they realized what hit them, they were all piled up on the ground. The boy then resumed his wait for Su Yimo, squatting as though nothing happened.

Meanwhile, Xiao Long and his crew had no idea how good the boy was with his fists. As much as they wanted to get back at him, they just had not the balls to follow through. Neither did they want to just run off with their tails between their legs and live with the embarrassment.

"What should we do, Long? We can't beat this guy," one of them asked.

Xiao Long stole a glance at Han Jingru. He could scarcely believe that a puny fella like him could fight so well and floor them so easily, in spite of him holding back on them.

Then an idea popped into his head.

He approached the lone boy cautiously wearing his most obsequious smile. “Are you looking to recruit, boss? How would you like for the lot of us to become your followers?”

Han Jingru was nonplussed by this rapid turnaround, where the guys he just fought wanted to serve him.



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“Can’t you see that I’m not even old enough to drive? Won’t it be embarrassing for you to follow me around?” His crew in the future would consist of men of the likes of Mo Lan. He could not see how these young ruffians could be useful to him.

Xiao Long nodded profusely. He did not mind Han Jingru’s age as his martial prowess was already far beyond his years, surpassing that of even most adults.

“It’s fine. You are so good enough that you would definitely become someone who could make a name for yourself in Yun City,” he said.

If nothing else, Xiao Long had a good eye, as Han Jingru was once someone who went from a notorious good-for-nothing to one who took the city by storm.

Han Jingru was no longer interested in chasing wealth and respect. He hoped to be able to focus his energies on Su Yimo instead.

Certainly, he was aware that it would be impossible to refrain from severing all ties to

elements of the underworld. There would come a time when he would have a need to call on those who operate on the fringes.

At this moment, the school bell chimed. Out came the rowdy students who started filing out in groups from within the school gate.

Han Jingru squinted his eyes to scrutinize every single person walking out. He dared not to blink as he was afraid that he might miss Su Yimo.

His gaze finally landed upon a girl lugging three school bags on her shoulders.

Su Yimo was not yet the unparalleled beauty that she was in adulthood. Neither was it obvious that she had the potential to become the most beautiful woman in Yun City. Han Jingru, however, was certain that that was his future wife.

Why is she carrying three schoolbags by herself?

As he pondered that question, the answer he sought came in the form of the pair that followed

behind her.

Su Ruijin and Su Huiqi were two persons that he would never likely forget. In his earliest days with the Su family, the former had sought all sorts of ways to ruin his reputation in Yun City. He was the very reason Han Jingru had been slapped with the label of good-for-nothing son-in-law.

Not to leave out Su Huiqi, who was a constant thorn in Su Yimo's side. This was a woman whom he held no positive sentiments for.

Seeing how the two had been picking on Su Yimo from young, made Han Jingru's blood boil.

When Han Jingru glanced towards Xiao Long and his crew, he initially had no intention of accepting their request. However, it was times like these that they could prove very useful for dealing with the likes of Su Ruijin.

“Didn't you say you want to be my follower? Help me with a task, and you will be well rewarded.”

Xiao Long nodded hard. “Just say the word, Boss, and I’ll get it done.”

“See that chap over there? Teach him a lesson for me and warn him to never bully the girl who’s carrying the three schoolbags again, ever.”

Since intimidating elementary schoolers had always been Xiao Long’s specialty, he accepted the task without hesitancy.

And off he went with a few of his guys. They approached the schooling trio and stopped them in their tracks.

Su Huiqi hid behind Su Ruijin immediately as she was naturally afraid of men with tattoos.

Su Ruijin felt even worse standing at the front, as he was aware of Xiao Long’s unsavory reputation in these parts.

“W-What do you want from us, Long?” Su Ruijin asked in fits and starts.

Surprised to be recognized, Xiao Long could not

restrain a pridefulness on his face. “Not too bad, kiddo. You actually know who I am.”

Su Ruijin had all the makings of a sycophant since he was little, which was one reason why Madam Su had thought so highly of him. Of all the descendants, he was the one who best knew how to please her.

“There’s no one here who has not heard of your illustrious name, Long,” Su Ruijin fawned.

Although the buttering hit the spot for Xiao Long, he was not so caught up that he forgot about what he was doing before.

He walked up to Su Ruijin and delivered a punch right smack in the latter’s chest.

That had the smaller boy curled up on the floor. The sharp pangs of pain almost left him gasping for air.

At the same time, Su Huiqi went weak at the knees as she slumped onto the floor seated and started wailing.

Su Yimo, too, was a child. She was frightened as well when confronted with such a scene.

It was then that Han Jingru came up alongside her. “Don’t be afraid. These boys won’t hurt you.”

Su Yimo turned to regard the newcomer quizzically. He did not seem that much older than herself but seemed to be familiar with these riffraff.

A peculiar feeling was roused within her since his appearance; she did not feel so afraid anymore.

“Who are you?” she asked.

Han Jingru smiled as he extended a hand to remove her cousins’ bags from her shoulders before tossing them onto the floor. “From today onwards, you don’t have to carry these for them anymore.”

Su Yimo had always found herself at the mercy of Su Ruijin and Su Huiqi. With her own father, Su Wenlun’s, lack of esteem in the eyes of the

family's elder, Madam Su, she knew that her own position paled in comparison to that of her cousins. That was why she silently endured her own bullying, especially when it came to such menial labor that was foisted upon her.

Not that Su Yimo did not try to resist, but her efforts often only made matters worse for herself. From there on, she just pliantly carried out Su Ruijin's bidding.

After she heard Han Jingru's words, her subconscious mind had her shaking her head.

"What's that for?" he asked.

Su Yimo dared not speak, as she was worried Su Ruijin would bear a grudge if he overheard.

"Don't worry. He'll not dare harm you when I'm here." Han Jingru then gave Xiao Long a look.

The young scoundrel picked up on the cue and started pummeling on Su Ruijin.

The smaller boy hunched over and yelped in pain

as he huddled into a ball to protect himself. Su Huiqi was so scared witless that she could not stop crying.

Not only did this fail to reassure Su Yimo, but it also left her feeling more unsettled.

In her view, it was her fault that Su Ruijin was in this predicament. She foresaw that he would surely visit it upon her in the aftermath tenfold.

“You can’t be there to protect me all the time,” she said.

Han Jingru let out a subdued smile. He had come expressly to Yun City in the hope of being able to stay close and save her from harm. For that reason, he was not going to be anywhere else but here.

“Don’t worry. Apart from when you sleep, I’ll always be around,” he replied with resolve.

Su Yimo did not know Han Jingru, much less whether she should trust him.

When she heard him, she felt an inexplicable feeling that she could place her complete trust in him. For some odd reason, he gave her a sense of security that she had never known, even from her own parents.

How could this be possible?

Su Yimo was full of doubt as to why she had such faith in a stranger whom she had never met.

“Who are you?” she asked.

Han Jingru wore a slight grin - he was her future husband.

Of course, he could not state it so plainly, lest he despoiled his image in her heart and had her taking him for some creep with ulterior motives. He had to tread carefully, as opposed to being brought together in a forced union like before; he would have to put in the effort to woo Su Yimo in this lifetime.

“It isn’t important to know who I am. All you have to know is that I won’t do you harm. Come on, let’s see you home.”

Su Yimo looked over her shoulder to regard the agony etched on Su Ruijin’s face and Su Huiqi’s tear-soaked eyes.

As pitiful as they looked, she had suffered more than her fair share of grief from them to want to offer them her sympathies.

She nodded towards Han Jingru. “Let’s go.”

Su Yimo allowed him to walk her home because she wanted to know him better and figure out why she found this stranger so trustworthy.

When Xiao Long saw him leave, he caught up with him and asked, “Boss, what would you like for us to do?”

“Wait here, I’ll be back,” he said.

Xiao Long nodded in acknowledgment. For some inexplicable reason, he too had a similarly good

feeling about Han Jingru.

On the way home, Su Yimo kept her head low, not daring to converse with the stranger beside her. This was in spite of the fact that she had so many questions she wanted answered.

Han Jingru read her body language and noted her apprehension.

“If there is anything you want to say, just shoot.”

She took a deep breath and finally mustered the courage to ask, “Who are you? What’s your name? Why do you want to help me? And why should I trust you?”

He could only scratch his head and smile when hit by this barrage of questions.

“My name is Han Jingru, from Yan City. As for why I wish to help you, you’ll not believe it even if I told you. So, for now, I can only say that this could only be duly answered in time.”

“Yan City?” Su Yimo looked at him with eyes

widened. She knew that this boy could not be that much older than her, so she wondered why he had traveled so far from home.

“Have you come to study? Isn’t the environment in Yan City is comparably better?”

Han Jingru had no interest in studying. He had at one point entertained the idea of enrolling at the same school as her when in Yun City so that he might stay close for her protection.

However, he dismissed this notion as soon as it arose. As in his present state of mind, he could not tolerate idling his time away in a classroom.

“I’m here to see to a more important matter,” he said.

“What could be more important than studying?” She was curious as to what else might someone his age be responsible for.

“There is, but I can’t tell you what that is,” he replied with a smile.

She had the gnawing feeling that apart from his name, his answers had only left her with a million more questions than she started with.

At this point, she was almost home. There was not going to be time for her to try and find out more.

She halted abruptly and stood rooted to the spot when she realized that Han Jingru had been walking in the lead all this while. That might suggest that he knew the way to her place.

“How do you know where I live?” For the first time, Su Yimo felt fearful of him. If he knew her address, then all this may be part of his ploy.

“Are we close?” Han Jingru started looking around as he pretended to not understand her. “Do you live around here?”

Su Yimo furrowed. His puzzled expression led her to dismiss her own suspicions and concluded that it might only be coincidental that they ended up where they were.

She gradually let her guard down again. “My home is close by, so I think we could part ways here.”

That set the boy’s heart at ease. If she became suspicious of him from the first meeting, it would be much harder for him to get close to her later on. He was relieved that his quick thinking was able to help him avert a potential crisis.

“Alright, you go on ahead. Remember what I told you. Don’t let them pick on you next time. I’ll be sure to protect you.”

The girl did not know how to respond to that, so she merely nodded before she scooted off.

“Crap. I’ll have to be more careful not to let my future wife develop hostility for me,” he muttered to himself.

He returned to the school gate shortly after.

Xiao Long and his crew were still waiting at where he left them. Neither did they allow the Su duo to leave.

“What shall we do with these two, Boss?” Xiao Long approached to ask the moment he spotted Han Jingru.

Han Jingru stopped in front of Su Ruijin. The latter may be a scion of the Su family, but he instinctively curled up and hugged his own legs in fear when faced with these delinquents.

“From now on, if I ever hear about you bullying Su Yimo, you’re going to seriously get it from me.”

Su Ruijin nodded his head profusely. He would not choose resistance at this moment.

But true to someone as vindictive as he, he had already payback on his mind.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

After letting go of Su Ruijin and Su Yimo, Han Jingru asked Xiao Long, “Where is the most popular nightclub in Yun City?”

Hearing that, Xiao Long was a little moved. Although he claimed to be the strongest person in this area, he only had the guts to bully those weaker than him to earn some money to fulfill his basic needs. Going to the nightclub had barely crossed his mind because he couldn’t afford the expenses. Never would he expect that on the first few days of becoming Han Jingru’s follower, he might actually get a chance to visit a nightclub finally!

However, Han Jingru was still a child after all. So, Xiao Long was in doubt about his financial capability.

He knew that Han Jingru could fight well, but he had no idea about his financial status.

“Boss, not everyone can afford the expenses in the nightclub. I have no money,” said Xiao Long.

“You don’t have to pay anything. There is

someone who will foot the bill,” Han Jingru replied with a smile.

The entire Yun City was under Mo Lan’s jurisdiction then. In other words, the most popular nightclub in Yun City must be under Mo Lan.

At first, Han Jingru did not plan to get in touch with Mo Lan that early. However, upon seeing Su Ruijin’s attitude toward Su Yimo, he decided to build a relationship with Mo Lan because the latter would become someone useful to him if anything happened.

Han Jingru was a prominent figure in Yan City, but he was just an ordinary man in Yun City. If he had a conflict with the Su family or other business families, he had to rely on the power of Mo Lan to solve the problems.

“Boss, what do you mean? Who will pay the bill for us?” Xiao Long queried. He would never dare to have any desire to get such a free lunch.

“Stop asking pointless questions! Just take me

there,” Han Jingru ordered.

On hearing that, Xiao Long regained his composure. *How could Han Jingru make it sound so casual? I think he has a plan. Anyway, if anything happens, Han Jingru can fight well, so there shouldn't be much of a problem.*

“Boss, I have to remind you. The place we're going to now is the territory of the strongest person in Yun City. If you plan to dine and dash, I think the plan isn't going to work,” Xiao Long kindly reminded him.

“Do I look like the kind of person who will do something like this?” Han Jingru asked with a smile. *Strongest person? I think it must be Mo Lan.* This meant that he got it right. The nightclub was indeed related to Mo Lan.

“Let's go.”

Then, they walked toward the Sunshine K Bar.

On the way there, Han Jingru asked Xiao Long, “Do you have a driver's license?”

Not having a car was indeed something inconvenient for Han Jingru. Although he knew how to drive, he was still too young to own a driver's license. Therefore, it would be easier for him if he had a chauffeur.

“Boss, I do have a driver's license, but I don't have a car,” Xiao Long replied and let out a wry smile. It looked like the “greatest man” in Yun City was not so great after all.

“Wait for me at the school entrance tomorrow,” Han Jingru instructed.

Xiao Long's eyelids twitched upon hearing Han Jingru's words. He got excited as he guessed the latter wanted to get a new car.

“Boss, are you going to buy a car?” Xiao Long asked eagerly.

“Yes. It is not convenient to get around without a car. Will you feel upset if I let you be my driver?” Han Jingru teased him.

“Of course not! Why would I be upset? It's my

honor,” Xiao Long answered in excitement.

Han Jingru let out a helpless laugh on seeing his response. From Xiao Long’s attitude, people would be able to tell how low his status was. *Hah! It’s funny how he dared to call himself a leader...*

Fortunately for Xiao Long, Han Jingru crossed his path. With the latter’s help, Xiao Long could rise through the ranks quickly.

Half an hour later, they finally reached the entrance of Sunshine K Bar.

With the LED lights and the dance music, the atmosphere in the nightclub led Xiao Long to sway his body to the rhythm. However, the first thing Han Jingru did was to observe the surrounding.

Since it was still early, there were only a few customers in the nightclub.

When the promoter saw the both of them, he immediately went up to them and queried, “Yo peeps, got your booth already?”

“Get me a booth. I want the one with the best view. Money is not an issue here,” answered Han Jingru.

Upon hearing this, the promoter could not help but giggle. *It seems like they are my biggest clients tonight. I must attend to them properly.* The promoter did as Han Jingru said and brought them to the booth with the best view.

There was minimum spending imposed for each booth reservation. Since Han Jingru requested a booth with the best view, naturally, the prices were high.

“What would you like to drink?” asked the promoter.

“What are the premium options available?” queried Han Jingru.

On hearing that, the promoter’s smile widened. He knew Han Jingru’s motive, but the only thing he didn’t expect was that the youngest man among this group of people was actually an expert.

“Bro, it’s Ultimate Epiphyllum Elixir. It is sure to create a lot of buzz for you,” the promoter answered.

Han Jingru nodded and said, “You know when to serve it, don’t you?”

“Yes, of course,” the promoter nodded repeatedly. Usually, the Ultimate Epiphyllum Elixir was used to liven up the club and catch people’s attention. Hence, the servants would serve it when the atmosphere was at its climax.

“Well, you may get on with your work. We will have some finger food for now,” Han Jingru ordered.

Then, the promoter hurried off to make preparation. He didn’t dare to delay even a second when faced with VIP.

Since Xiao Long had never been to a place like this, he was stunned at that moment. He was shocked when he found that Han Jingru was actually an expert and knew the modus operandi of the nightclub so well. From Han Jingru’s age,

Xiao Long couldn't believe that the former was so experienced.

“Boss, are you a frequent visitor to the club? You know a lot about it!” Xiao Long asked curiously.

Han Jingru had always been reluctant to go to the nightclub. To him, it was too noisy. However, he was extremely familiar with its modus operandi because, after all, he owned a nightclub before his rebirth.

“I don't like the environment,” Han Jingru replied.

Xiao Long pursed his lips on hearing that. He felt that Han Jingru was pretending. *If he doesn't like the club, how would he know the nightclub so well?*

At around 8 p.m., people started to come in. However, the bar would reach its maximum capacity at around midnight, so the night was still young.

Han Jingru shut his eyes for a while in a bid to

rest. He was unsure if Mo Lan would come to the bar tonight. If the latter didn't come, his plan would probably fail. However, at this age, Mo Lan might not have a girlfriend yet, so Han Jingru thought Mo Lan would not miss the chance to know the girls in the bar.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

More clubbers gathered at the nightclub as time went by. Xiao Long and others were obviously in eager anticipation; their eyes were glued to the dance floor without blinking.

A few scantily dressed young girls were swaying their lithe figures seductively on the dance floor. Drool almost trickled down from Xiao Long as he gaped.

Xiao Long addressed himself as “Long”; he was of the lowest rank among the gangsters. To prevent himself from starving, he had no choice but to bully the weaker ones as gangsters do. He could not afford to entertain himself at such an upscale venue, so it was almost impossible for him to get to know the ladies who patronized this high-end nightclub.

“Boss, are you not planning to relax for a while on the dance floor?” When the clock was about to strike ten, Xiao Long could not resist the urge to ask Han Jingru. He felt bored after sitting for a long time and started to be restless.

Han Jingru smiled, knowing full well what he

meant, and replied, “Since all of you are feeling bored, just go ahead. Don’t worry about me.”

“Boss, I don’t think it’s a good idea. You’re the one footing the bill tonight. It’s inappropriate for the rest of us to go and have fun while leaving you here alone.” Xiao Long reluctantly admitted.

“Are you being true to your heart when you say this? If I ask you to accompany me here the whole night, would you be willing?” Han Jingru asked with his eyebrows raised.

Xiao Long instinctively shook his head. *Sitting here the whole night? If so, what’s the point of being in a nightclub?*

Of course we’re here to have fun, dance, and befriend pretty girls. Why would we just sit here for the entire night and act cool?

“Boss, how about we go have some fun first?” Xiao Long asked tactfully.

“Go right ahead. I’m waiting for someone,” Han Jingru replied placidly.

There was still no sign of Mo Lan, yet Han Jingru was not worried. It was not midnight yet, and the exciting ambiance of the nightclub had not reached its peak. In other words, it was still not the most ideal time for one to hunt for a partner to spend the night with.

Given Mo Lan's current status, it would not be strange for countless women to approach and seduce him, hence there was no need for Mo Lan to make the first move.

Thinking about this, Han Jingru was still a bit worried. *If Mo Lan doesn't appear tonight, all my preparations would be wasted.*

Once Xiao Long and the others reached the dance floor, they danced in high spirits as if they were horses released from their reins. They were having great fun and totally did not mind how other clubbers stared at them.

At that moment, Han Jingru spotted a few young men seated at the corner. They were all well-dressed in luxury clothes and did not look like people of ordinary family backgrounds.

They behaved differently from others in the nightclub—they did not scan their surroundings for ladies. Han Jingru also spotted various bottles of expensive alcohol in front of them. Apparently, they were waiting for women to proactively approach them.

This clubbing phenomenon was nothing new to Han Jingru. There would always be men and women who just wanted to freeload. They were unwilling to spend their own money and solely wanted to take advantage of those who were willing to pay for their drinks. That was why certain women, especially the good-looking ones, could drink to their hearts' content without needing to spend any money.

Those few young men were apparently waiting for young girls who were freeloaders. The practice was favorable to the men as they were free to choose the women they preferred. If they were dissatisfied with the young girls, they could always reject them right away and wait for more to show up. Upon finding those ladies to their satisfaction, they would then invite the latter to have drinks.

Needless to say, the bar sales rep played his part well, too. He would normally help to introduce potential young girls to clubbers with high spending power. After all, his commission was directly proportional to the value of alcohol he sold.

Take Han Jingru for instance, the sales rep had been offering to introduce potential young girls to him. His eyes lit up when Han Jingru ordered the Ultimate Epiphyllum Elixir earlier. Not everyone could afford to buy this premium drink, which was the most expensive of all drinks in the nightclub. In other words, the sales rep was eyeing Han Jingru's spending power. If the young girls he found for Han Jingru happened to be serious drinkers, the drink would be finished within a short time and they would surely order a second round.

For big spenders like Han Jingru, the sales rep would always ensure that only attractive young girls with outstanding figures and who could drink were introduced to him.

When the clock struck eleven, Xiao Long and

others were finally back to their seat again. Not long after that, the sales rep brought a few young ladies over to them.

The men's eyes nearly popped out of their sockets at the sight of the women, yet Han Jingru was not interested at all. He continued to rest with his eyes closed.

“Boss, these girls would like to be friends with you. What do you think?” the sales rep asked Han Jingru.

Only then did Han Jingru open his eyes again. He knew well about this nightclub tactic. Since the sales rep volunteered to introduce young girls to him, it meant that he was treated as a clubber with high spending power. Han Jingru decided to put on a show as well, so as to not disappoint the sales rep.

“Let them take a seat. We'll have the Ultimate Epiphyllum Elixir; give me three sets,” Han Jingru responded placidly.

The sales rep was delighted and quickly arranged

for the young girls to be seated before heading off to prepare the premium alcohol for Han Jingru.

A while later, a few waitresses served the premium alcohol in a unique way. They strutted towards Han Jingru's table with the drink raised high above their heads to attract other clubbers' attention. This undoubtedly stole the limelight at the nightclub. Xiao Long finally realized how wonderful it felt being the focus of the night.

At that moment, the growing vanity in his heart urged him to stand up impulsively so everyone would know they were the ones who ordered the premium alcohol.

Han Jingru let Xiao Long bask in the limelight as he himself was not keen on gaining fame. Coincidentally, his main intention to bring along Xiao Long tonight was to let him play the role of a wayward character, so Xiao Long's high-profile behavior was indeed a good fit with Han Jingru's plan.

After the drink was served, the young girls

became even more passionate and seductive, and they kept replenishing alcohol for Xiao Long and his companions.

One of the ladies wanted to lean closer to Han Jingru, but he stopped her with a stern look.

Han Jingru continued to meditate with his eyes closed until it was finally midnight—the time when the nightclub's ambiance typically peaked. As this was a popular club, the house was full by now.

Han Jingru opened his eyes abruptly while the corner of his lips lifted into a slight smile.

The person he had waited for the whole night was finally here.

The young and arrogant Mo Lan could not resist the great charm of beauty.

Once Mo Lan stepped into the nightclub, he headed straight for the private room, as expected by Han Jingru. It was impossible for the man to have fun in the lounge due to his current status.

Besides, his presence would surely make other clubbers tense up.

Fortunately, Han Jingru had a brilliant idea on how to attract Mo Lan's attention and lure him out.

It was finally time for Xiao Long to play his role.

I don't think anyone from Yun City dares to create havoc in Mo Lan's territory.

Anyway, since Xiao Long is almost drunk now, he should be a lot more courageous than usual.

“See those few young girls over there? You go and get them over here,” Han Jingru instructed Xiao Long.

Xiao Long glanced at the direction to which Han Jingru pointed. That was the corner where Han Jingru spotted the few well-dressed young men a while ago.

Without thinking much, Xiao Long, who was almost drunk, walked towards the young men. *I really pity Boss as he has been seated here for the whole night. Finally, there are women who aroused his interest! As his faithful follower, of course I'll try my best to fulfill his request.*

Han Jingru touched the tip of his nose unknowingly. *Hopefully, this guy will not be beaten up too badly later.*

Once Xiao Long was at the corner where the young men were seated, he said directly to the young girls, "My boss likes all of you; follow me to go and see him."

Instantaneously, the few young men raised their heads and glared at Xiao Long in annoyance. *Is he out of his mind? How dare he challenge us by snatching away our women!*

"Kid, get lost. Don't dig your own grave here even if you have a death wish!" mocked one of the young men.

With Han Jingru's support, Xiao Long had no

fear of anything. Thus, he could not hold back his displeasure when he was being reprimanded.

“Idiot, mind your tongue! Death wish? Are you sure it’s me and not you? Do you know who I am?” Xiao Long asked coldly.

The young guy laughed again. He was a frequent clubber here. All the regulars at the nightclub knew who he was. *However, this fellow really behaves like an idiot.*

“Do you know who I am? How dare you challenge me without having any idea of my background!” he raised his voice.

“I don’t give a sh*t who you are. These few girls are wanted by my Boss. If you have any objection, you shouldn’t think of stepping out of this place in one piece,” Xiao Long threatened.

The young man’s companions burst into laughter after hearing Xiao Long’s remark.

This is Mo Lan’s territory. None of us dares to create trouble here. Is this idiot so daring that he isn’t afraid of being killed by Mo Lan?

“Kid, when you say this, have you ever thought of whose territory this is?” The young man stood up and asked complacently. He appeared to be far more presentable than Xiao Long in terms of his appearance and taste in fashion.

Even though Xiao Long was in slight dizziness due to the alcohol he had consumed, he was still aware that he was currently on Mo Lan’s turf.

He suddenly realized that he had messed things up.

This is Mo Lan’s turf! If he finds out I’m stirring up trouble here, he would surely finish me off!

“This is just a small issue; I don’t think Mr. Mo will have his time wasted on this.” Xiao Long became a deflated balloon, intimidated by Mo Lan’s formidable reputation. Xiao Long would not hesitate to face off the young men, but he would never have the guts to challenge Mo Lan.

“So? You’re terrified now? If so, kneel down at

once and apologize to all of us so we won't go after you for your foolishness!" the young man said disdainfully.

The girls at the table could not help giggling among themselves. *This idiot is really daring in challenging all these young heirs! They're all from well-to-do and prestigious families in Yun City. What a joke that this bum dares to fight with them for women!*

Xiao Long was a man of great ego. He could not resist embarrassing himself by kneeling down and apologizing to them.

"Are you crazy? You're asking me to kneel down before you? Do you know who I am? I'm Long of Yun City!" Xiao Long raised his voice provocatively.

There was an instant change to the young man's expression. *I'm an heir from a reputable family. If anyone were to find out I'm being looked down upon by a bum, I'll be totally humiliated.*

"Brat, you have to pay the price for being so

rude!” the young man bellowed and smashed a beer bottle on Xiao Long’s head.

*Crack!*The bottle cracked in a split second; Xiao Long covered his head and wailed in excruciating pain.

The young man was blinded by growing rage and kicked hard on Xiao Long.

The other clubbers were not alarmed as fight scenes were common in nightclubs; they felt they were just watching a movie being filmed. Those who patronized this nightclub were familiar with the family backgrounds of those few young men. If Xiao Long were beaten to death by them, he could only blame himself for infuriating them.

From a great distance, Han Jingru shook his head at the sight of the fight scene. *I was still hoping that Xiao Long won’t be beaten up by them. Who knows that guy would be so violent that he straight away smashed Xiao Long’s head with a beer bottle. Ouch! He must be in great pain! But I wonder why he did not duck the attack at all.*

Xiao Long was actually not in time to react; the alcohol had stiffened his muscles and slowed down his reflexes.

“Boss, Long is beaten! What should we do?”
Xiao Long’s companions stood up one by one and asked anxiously.

Han Jingru waved at them and tried to calm them down. “You just remain seated here. I’ll go over.”

All of them gave a sigh of relief hearing Han Jingru’s words. They had no doubt about Han Jingru’s great fighting skills and were confident that he would be able to save Xiao Long.

Meanwhile, the ladies seated at Han Jingru’s table were visibly anxious. These women were frequent customers of this nightclub and knew who those young men were. If Han Jingru and his men infuriated those young men, they themselves could be affected and end up in trouble, too.

Han Jingru approached Xiao Long and asked in concern, “How are you feeling? Not too bad, right?”

Xiao Long touched the blood which was trickling down from his forehead. His wound was still bleeding, but it was not too serious. "Boss, I'm fine," he forced a smile and replied weakly.

"Boss?"

"So you're his boss?" one of the young men jeered.

"Pfft! Hahaha!"

"This little guy is actually a boss! This is the funniest thing I've heard today!"

The young men broke into laughter after hearing how Xiao Long addressed Han Jingru.

Meanwhile, the girls seated with the young men also glanced at Han Jingru disdainfully; they could not help but flash a mocking smile.

"You're overjoyed after beating up my man, aren't you?" Han Jingru coolly questioned the attacker.

“Kiddo, your man is dumb enough to challenge me. What can I do?” the young man replied sarcastically.

“Who the hell are you? My man can’t challenge you?” Han Jingru asked again with profound coldness in his tone.

The young man’s expression froze immediately. *How dare this brat jeer at me! Who the hell is he?*

“Kiddo, take my advice. Get out immediately, or you’ll never have the chance to know how it feels to be an adult.” The young man threatened him with clenched teeth.

“You piece of trash, what do you think you can do to me?” Han Jingru scoffed.

The young man almost burst a blood vessel. *I’m the creme de la creme, yet this kid dares to address me as trash?*

“How dare you! I’m going to teach you a lesson!” he bellowed and picked up a beer bottle.

Han Jingru was no ordinary man like Xiao Long; there was no way the former would let the beer bottle land on his head.

Just as the young man picked up the beer bottle, Han Jingru kicked him hard like a bolt of lightning, sending him flying and falling hard on the ground.

Everything happened incredibly fast in a blink of an eye that the crowd surrounding them was dumbfounded.

The onlookers had expected Han Jingru to be beaten up by the young man, but unexpectedly, the boy sent an adult flying with one powerful kick!

“My goodness! This kid has such great strength!”

“I didn’t see wrongly, did I? He sent Chen Fei family flying with just a kick! What magical power is this?”

“Great strength won’t help at all. Chen Fei is no ordinary man. Do you think he’ll spare anyone

Everyone was sure that Han Jingru would be in great trouble for provoking Chen Fei, but Han Jingru was not thinking of sparing him.

The situation escalated after Xiao Long was assaulted. Han Jingru grabbed the opportunity to provoke Chen Fei intentionally in order to lure Mo Lan out.

If we can't catch Mo Lan's attention and make him appear, Xiao Long will have injured his head for nothing. Looks like I have to create greater chaos.

Thinking of that, Han Jingru walked towards Chen Fei again.

“What is he trying to do? Has he not had enough after giving Chen Fei such a powerful kick?”

“Looks like he intends to get himself into bigger trouble by continuously provoking Chen Fei. I really doubt he could continue to be sound and safe in Yun City from now on.”

“The young ones are always overconfident and

impetuous. This kid is still doesn't know he's landed himself in hot soup.”

Chen Fei appeared to be the most powerful among the few young men. When Chen Fei's companions saw their friend being attacked, they stood up to block Han Jingru's way.

As Chen Fei's friends, they would not let him get beaten up without taking any action.

He's just a little brat. Chen Fei can't defeat him by himself, but it doesn't mean that we can't defeat him as a group!

“Little brat, do you realize what kind of trouble you've gotten yourself into?”

“It doesn't matter what your family background is. In Yun City, you can get yourself ruined by provoking the Chen family.”

“I advise you to kneel down, apologize to Chen Fei sincerely, and let him vent his anger. If not, not only you but all your family members will be in great trouble.”

They took turns to threaten Han Jingru.

Nevertheless, Han Jingru did not panic the least bit. Those prominent families in Yun City were nothing to him.

As with the Three Principal Families of Yan City. And the Nangong family—the largest private financial entity in the world with wealth beyond anyone’s wildest imagination.

All these were never a threat for Han Jingru.

“If you intend to give him a hand, go ahead,” Han Jingru said calmly.

The young men gave up advising Han Jingru since he was so adamant; they were ready to have a fight with him.

Meanwhile, the lounge manager of the nightclub rushed towards Mo Lan’s private room.

He had to notify Mo Lan about the incident since those young men were all people of status.

“Mr. Mo, something happened! Something happened!” the lounge manager yelled anxiously once he reached the private room with beads of perspiration on his forehead.

Mo Lan did not raise his eyebrows at all. He was young and vibrant, with an air of arrogance. The whole Yun City was fully under his control at the moment, and nothing could shake his sense of indifference.

“Is the sky falling?” Mo Lan asked with sarcasm.

“There is a fight! They’re fighting!” the lounge manager cried nervously.

Mo Lan raised his head and said scornfully, “If you can’t even settle small matters like this, what’s the point of hiring you?”

“Mr. Mo, it’s a fight between Chen Fei and a kid whom I’ve never seen before,” the lounge manager explained patiently. If it were a fight involving normal clubbers, he would directly assign security guards to chase them out of the nightclub. However, he did not dare to make any

decision without getting Mo Lan's consent when it came to Chen Fei.

“Chen Fei is even bullying a kid now? I foresee him ruining the reputation of the Chen family sooner or later,” Mo Lan snickered. He knew well about the Chen family and had crossed paths a few times with them previously. As for Chen Fei, he heard that the young man was a good-for-nothing alcoholic and womanizer. If the family were handed over to Chen Fei one day, Mo Lan would not be surprised that the Chens would declare bankruptcy within two years.

“Mr. Mo, he isn't bullying the kid; he's the one getting beaten up!” the manager explained. If Han Jingru were the one being beaten up, the manager would have no need to notify Mo Lan about it. After all, Han Jingru looked like a kid from a common family, meaning there were many other ways to settle the matter.

However, the one being beaten up was Chen Fei!

Mo Lan's brows furrowed instantly. *Chen Fei is an adult and is surrounded by quite a few of his buddies. How could he be beaten up*

by a kid?

“Are you sure? How can Chen Fei be beaten up by a kid?” Mo Lan questioned in disbelief.

“Mr. Mo, it’s true. If you don’t believe it, you can go out and have a look,” the manager replied honestly.

Mo Lan glanced at his men. He could not care less if Chen Fei had beaten someone up. But the fact that Chen Fei was the one being beaten——and by a child——made Mo Lan very curious.

“Let’s go out and have a look,” Mo Lan ordered and stood up.

His men followed him closely out of the private room.

The music had stopped by the time Mo Lan reached the main hall. Almost everyone had their gazes of disbelief fixed on Han Jingru.

Just a while ago, Han Jingru had beaten those

young men badly with his superior skills. Nobody could expect that a few adults would be so miserably defeated by a kid within such a short span of time.

Han Jingru was now seen literally trampling on Chen Fei's body. This very scene sent chills down everyone's spine.

Chen Fei was, after all, still the heir of his family. Given the humiliation, Chen Fei would surely settle his score with Han Jingru by all means possible.

“Here comes Mr. Mo!”

“I really didn't expect that Mr. Mo to show up!”

“This kid——how dare he wreaks havoc on Mr. Mo's turf! I bet he's either stupid or doesn't know what will be awaiting him later.”

Mo Lan knitted his eyebrows the moment he saw Han Jingru. *He's obviously just a kid. How on earth did he manage to make Chen Fei and his companions writhe on the floor?*

Mo Lan stared at Han Jingru suspiciously. *Did this young guy really defeat all of them by himself?*

And he even has Chen Fei under his foot. Is he not worried about how big of a fuss he has kicked up and the consequences that will follow?

Han Jingru's lips lifted into a faint smile once he saw Mo Lan.

Han Jingru had to use this troublesome method to see Mo Lan because he knew the latter would not easily appear under normal circumstances. If Han Jingru had gone to see Mo Lan directly, it was highly possible that he would be chased away by Mo Lan's men and be treated like a joke by them.

“Do you know who's the person under your foot?” Mo Lan stopped in front of Han Jingru and asked.

“Based on how he's dressed, he should be the heir of a reputable family, am I right?” Han Jingru gave Chen Fei a glance and casually replied.

Mo Lan was even more doubtful. *This kid still dares to cause trouble even after knowing that Chen Fei is no ordinary person. Is it possible that his own background is even more powerful than Chen Fei's?*

Mo Lan had never seen Han Jingru before, nor heard that there was a kid with impressive fighting skills in Yun City.

“So you know... But you still beat him up. You're really daring.”

“If I didn't cause this chaos, I wouldn't have the chance to see you. You're the boss of Yun City: I need to put in a greater effort to see you,” Han Jingru replied.

“So you caused this ruckus just to see me?” Mo Lan frowned in puzzlement. He could not believe that the kid had done so much just to meet him.

Han Jingru's action baffled many on the scene. Nobody was willing, or rather, brave enough to provoke Mo Lan in Yun City. There was hardly a good ending for those targeted by Mo Lan.

Hence, those who were part of the underground scene had to obey him, whereas the businessmen chose to keep their distance from him.

Although Xiao Long was a minor character in the underworld, he was clear of Mo Lan's status in Yun City. All in all, no one would want to get on Mo Lan's bad side, no matter their status.

At that point, Xiao Long had only one thing on his mind—sever all ties with Han Jingru.

However, a person of lowly status such as himself was not entitled to voice any opinion.

“Mr. Mo, I am Chen Fei from the Chen family. I want an explanation for this!” Chen Fei said while being stepped on by Han Jingru.

Some in the crowd were not familiar with Chen Fei at all. Hence, they got into a heated

discussion after hearing the latter's declaration.

However, given that Chen Fei was bold enough to demand an explanation from Mo Lan, the Chens must have a certain status in Yun City.

“Who is Chen Fei?”

“You don't know the Chens? Have you heard of Chen Corporation before? It belonged to their family.”

“Chen Corporation!”

Those who didn't know about Chen Fei's identity were surprised after learning about his family background.

Being one of the top-tiered families in Yun City, the Chen family was second only to the Tian family.

Xiao Long was terrified. He didn't know that Chen Fei was part of the Chen family. The latter was well known for his pettiness. He definitely won't forget about today's incident and would

surely find a chance to exact revenge.

Xiao Long's face turned paper pale at that thought. He didn't expect that his first nightclub experience would land him in such big trouble.

Now that he was completely sober, he could feel the rising panic.

“Chen family?” Mo Lan had no fear in challenging even the most prominent Tian Family, let alone the Chens.

Chen Fei wouldn't dare to speak to Mo Lan in a challenging tone under usual circumstances. Since the Chen family was in the corporate world while Mo Lan was part of the underworld, it won't be easy for the Chen family to find fault with Mo Lan.

On the contrary, it would be easy for Mo Lan to find fault with the Chen family if he wanted to.

Now that Chen Fei had been humiliated, he had no such concerns anymore. He only wanted Mo Lan to help him regain his pride. So he used the

Chen family's reputation, hoping that Mo Lan would think twice before rejecting him.

However, Mo Lan clearly didn't care about all that.

“Who the hell are you? Chen Fei? This is the first time I have heard of your name. I will only speak to Chen Bishan,” Mo Lan said.

Chen Bishan was Chen Fei's father as well as the head of the Chen family. Chen Fei couldn't let his father know about such a humiliating incident and him visiting the nightclub. Chen Bishan didn't like him frequenting nightclubs. If it weren't for his mother, the senior Chen would have cut off his financial support long ago. Hence, there was no way he would ask for Chen Bi Shan's help.

Mo Lan had no interest in Chen Fei, so he turned to scrutinize Han Jingru. He was impressed with Han Jingru's boldness to create trouble in his turf. What more, he had no regard for Chen Fei's background.

Mo Lan didn't see Chen Fei as a threat—the former was the boss of Yun City's underground scene. In fact, there wasn't anyone else he needed to be cautious of, other than the Tian family.

Well, this little brat definitely didn't have his capabilities. Besides, based on Mo Lan's understanding of the Tian family, they didn't have a kid his age.

“Who are you? Why do you want to see me?” questioned Mo Lan.

In Han Jingru's previous life, they were such close friends that Mo Lan was always mooching food, drinks, and cigarettes at his place. They were like brothers.

However, at that moment, in Mo Lan's eyes, Han Jingru was a stranger. If Han Jingru were to divulge his rebirth, Mo Lan would probably think the former was nuts!

“I heard that you are very powerful, so I came to see for myself,” Han Jingru smiled.

Mo Lan was pissed at Han Jingru's words. *Pfft! Is he mocking me?*

In Yun City, everyone had to be careful with how they speak or act when around Mo Lan. However, this little brat had the guts to mock him.

Mo Lan suspected that Han Jingru had a strong background. Otherwise, he wouldn't be this brazen.

A lackey beside Mo Lan said, "Mr. Mo, this little brat looks familiar. "

"Oh?" Mo Lan questioned, "Where did you see him before?"

The lackey frowned in deep thoughts. "Mr. Mo, do you remember when we were at the airport after taking a flight back from Yan City, we were blocked by a little brat? I even scolded him."

Yan City!

Mo Lan arched his brow. *So this little brat is from Yan City?*

Yan City was the city of the rich and powerful. If he did come from Yan City, then there was the need for extra precaution.

Although Yun City was far from Yan City, it wasn't hard for Yan City to stretch its authority to Yun City.

“Kid, are you from Yan City?” quizzed Mo Lan.

Han Jingru nodded. His motive was to befriend Mo Lan. This was so he could have the power in Yun City to deal with any arising issues in the future. As for the method of befriending Mo Lan, it was not important to Han Jingru.

If Mo Lan had heard about his reputation in Yan City, it would save him a lot of explaining.

Even if Mo Lan had never heard of his reputation, but he seemed to be cautious of Han Jingru's background as coming from Yan City. This was advantageous to the latter.

Mo Lan's attitude changed once he had Han Jingru's admittance. Before he was sure of Han Jingru's background, he wouldn't want to provoke this brat.

“This place is too noisy. How about we talk in a quieter place?” Mo Lan suggested.

Everyone at the scene was dumbfounded at Mo Lan's suggestion. This kid had provoked Mo Lan. Not only was he not thrown out of the nightclub by the bouncers, but Mo Lan had even suggested changing the discussion venue. This meant that Mo Lan was wary of this kid before him.

This led the bystanders to speculate about Han Jingru's identity. They also didn't dare to disrespect Chen Fei under Han Jingru's foot.

Earlier, Mo Lan was callous when dealing with Chen Fei. When it came to Han Jingru, however, his attitude seemed to have eased up a little. Most probably, the little brat's status was higher than that of the Chen family.

“Sure.” Han Jingru headed towards the entrance

without waiting for the others.

Mo Lan stared at Han Jingru's back. *This kiddo sounds really mature. He certainly doesn't behave like a kid.*



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