

The early competition between the two brothers Xiuyuan and Xiuzhi had already formed an intense hatred between the two. To Han Xiuyuan, that hatred permeated deep into his bones; he never would allow the Yan City's Han family to stir up trouble in the Chinese District, which was his territory.

A small fry like him wanted his family to take the blame for the fault of others, and Han Xiuyuan would never let that happen.

“Is your father not back yet?” Han Xiuyuan asked furiously.

In Han Tong eyes, Han Li had already fallen into Han Jingru's arms. But she didn't know that Han Li had already died. When she returned to the U.S., the other family members claimed that her father had some other issues to take care of so he couldn't return to the U.S. in time, so they passed the position of the head of the family to her.

“Grandpa, there's been no news from my father,” Han Tong said.

“It looks like I need to do it myself,” Han Xiuyuan scowled.

Han Tong looked up at Han Xiuyuan with a shocked expression. The reason she had asked Han Xiuyuan was mainly for him to help her think of solutions; she had never thought that Han Xiuyuan would take matters into his own hands.

This wasn't what Han Tong expected, and it wasn't what she had hoped for either.

The Han family was currently under her control, so if Han Xiuyuan were to take matters into his own hands, then the authority she had would be stripped away, and Han Jingru might panic because of Han Xiuyuan's actions. If he released Han Li, Han Tong would never be able to reclaim her position again.

“Grandpa, you want to do it yourself?” Han Tong asked, astonished.

Han Xiuyuan had been in hiding for so long; he had not cared about the matters of the world since a long time ago. Nothing could interest him



except for anything regarding Han Xiuzhi. He needed to let his younger brother know that under any circumstances, Han Xiuyuan would be the victor.

*A loser is always a loser; no matter what one does, they will remain that way.*

“Don't tell me we should rely on you?” Han Xiuyuan looked at Han Tong with scorn.

Han Tong sighed inwardly; if only she knew that things would end up like this, she would've never told Han Xiuyuan what happened, but it was too late to cry over spilt milk.

Once Han Xiuyuan made up his mind, no one could change it.

“Grandpa, do you need to inform anyone else?” Han Tong asked, seemingly resigned to her fate.

“No, I don't want to scare those cowardly critters in the Chinese District when I step out of this door,” Han Xiuyuan had a smug expression. Even if he was old and worn, he displayed a strong

vigor at that moment, and that was the sign of a truly powerful man. No matter how long he has retired from the scene, once he returned to it, his imposing manner would never falter.

After he spoke, Han Xiuyuan stepped out of the door.

The whole Han family had a horrified expression when they found out the news. They all knew that Han Xiuyuan had been happily retired and wouldn't step out of his garden, but now he was back out again. And they clearly knew what it meant.

“I can't believe the Old Master wants to regain control of the Han family.”

“I don't know what would send the old man out of retirement; it's unbelievable.”

“I think it's the youngster Han Tong; it looks like the Old Master is out to get her.”

“Hmph, that youngster thought that she could make the Han family obey her if she trampled



them, but she's just a small insect in front of the Old Master.”

The news that Han Xiuyuan stepped out of his retirement wasn't spread out intentionally, but the walls had ears in the Han family, and before long the whole Chinese District knew about it.

The entire Chinese District was roused by this because Han Xiuyuan had brought a lot of bloodshed to the Chinese District when he was still a powerful presence there. Even though the youngsters couldn't imagine how domineering Han Xiuyuan was during his prime, the older ones could. They were the ones who had personally experienced the bloodshed, and as such, they had a lot of reverence towards Han Xiuyuan.

At that period of time, a lot of family elders had commanded their kids to watch their behavior lest they do something inappropriate and anger Han Xiuyuan. Because there was only one outcome if you angered that demon Han Xiuyuan - death.

It can be said that the prevalence of the name 'Han Xiuyuan' made the whole Chinese District more vigilant and self-aware even when he didn't do anything yet, and that was a testament to how intimidating and powerful Han Xiuyuan was.

In Ma Feihao's house.

When Ma Fu found out about that, his expression unwittingly changed. Even though he didn't inherit the Ma family's business during Han Xiuyuan's prime, he still did witness some of Han Xiuyuan's ways, and if it wasn't for the fact that his father managed to cooperate with Han Xiuyuan from a stroke of luck, he might've ended up dead in Han Xiuyuan's road to success.

Now, Han Xiuyuan came out of his retirement. To Ma Fu, the Han family would definitely do something big, and that something would definitely shake up the whole Chinese District.

Ma Fu couldn't help but worry if misfortune was about to befall him.

He took out a phone and called Ma Feihao.



Ma Feihao liked to go clubbing; the number of women around him never dwindled. To him, the biggest attraction in life apart from money and status was women, and only women could make Ma Feihao feel like he was truly alive.

“Dad, why are you calling me? Don't you know what I'm doing?” Ma Feihao never tried to hide his pursuits outside, knowing Ma Fu was the same. The father and son were birds of the same feather, so they didn't mind what the other person did.

“Come home quickly. I have something very important to discuss with you,” Ma Fu stated.

Ma Feihao frowned. Under normal circumstances, Ma Fu would never contact him, so if Ma Fu said something like that it must mean that there was something very important.

Ma Feihao had no choice but to reluctantly push away all the women by his side. He told them, “Wait for me. When I finish my business I'll come back and give you love.”

The two women who were dressed scantily looked at Ma Feihao longingly.

“Mr. Ma, do you really want to leave?”

“We have already thought of how to service you.”

Ma Feihao smiled slightly and said, “You two sluts, I'll make you beg on your knees when I come back.”

He left the club and sped his way through. To him, violating the traffic laws in the Chinese District was nothing if he had money, so he never cared if he was speeding or not.

As he went home, his heart sank once he saw Ma Fu's grim expression.

He knew Ma Fu quite well, and he was seldom this solemn.

“Dad, what happened?” Ma Feihao asked.

“Do you remember Han Xiuyuan from the Han family?” Ma Fu asked.



Ma Feihao nodded and said, "That old geezer was pretty strong; I heard that he hasn't appeared for a long time and that he was hiding away in the Han Family's villa. I don't even know if he has died or not."

Ma Feihao wasn't even born yet when Han Xiuyuan was in his prime. So in his eyes, Han Xiuyuan was someone who was canonized. *How strong could he be?*

"It'll be great if he was dead, but unfortunately he isn't, and now he has stepped out of his retirement," Ma Fu said gloomily.

"Dad, don't tell me you called me back because of this," Ma Feihao scoffed, speechless. *Does an old geezer stepping out of retirement deserve this much attention? He even interrupted his fun with the two women.*

Usually, Ma Fu turned a blind eye to Ma Feihao's actions, but today he wouldn't tolerate it anymore. The entire Chinese District was shaken up, and if the Ma family was involved, they wouldn't be able to continue living a lavish

lifestyle anymore.

“You youngsters don't know anything. Don't underestimate the severity of the issue, if not you might not even get the chance to regret it,” Ma Fu chided through clenched teeth.

Ma Feihao was apathetic as he nodded his head casually and said, “Yes yes yes, Dad, I'll follow your instructions. But don't we still have Uncle if that old geezer really is that impressive? Won't he be nothing in front of Uncle?”

Ma Fu thought of that too, but no one knew when he would return to the U.S., and if something bad befell the Ma family before he arrived, he wouldn't be able to do anything even if he came back.

“What I want to tell you is before your Uncle comes back, don't pester the Han family. You better keep a low profile during these times,” Ma Fu reminded.



Apart from the Ma family, the same thing happened in every prominent family. The elders were all reminding the younger ones to behave and avoid stirring up trouble.

The fact that Han Xiuyuan was stepping out of his retirement meant that all the families were extra vigilant. But there was one exception. They didn't just worry; they were scared out of their wits. They were so scared, that the whole family was deathly pale, and were shuddering in the living room.

'Dad, why not you just change the date of your birthday celebration.'

“How can I change it just like that? The invitations are already sent out and it's the day after tomorrow. Won't everyone laugh at us if we changed the date now?”

“So what if they laugh at us? Who knows what Han Xiuyuan is thinking right now. What if something happened to our family once we gain all the attention?”

The person speaking was someone young in the Wu family, and the man whose birthday was coming up was Wu Youfeng, whose expression was solemn.

He was around the same age as Han Xiuyuan. They used to have some disagreements, but Han Xiuyuan never took revenge, instead, the problems just remained unsolved as Han Xiuyuan went into retirement. Now, Wu Youfeng was afraid that he would bring up the old matters again. But canceling the birthday celebration wouldn't stop Han Xiuyuan from taking revenge.

“Dad, it's your call,” Wu Youfeng's son said.

Wu Youfeng said grimly, “The birthday celebration is to continue as planned. If Han Xiuyuan really is hellbent on finding trouble with me, what would canceling the birthday celebration do?”

“Dad, Han Xiuyuan is already that old; he wouldn't be able to do anything anymore right?” Wu Youfeng's son asked weakly.



Wu Youfeng smiled bitterly. As someone who was close to his age, he knew Han Xiuyuan very well. If he wasn't planning to look for trouble, would he really have come out of his retirement?

They could only guess who was going to be the unlucky one this time.

“There's no use in overthinking. Let's play it by ear. Send the Han family another invitation,” Wu Youfeng said.

The whole Wu family didn't look too pleased; they seemed to have made up their mind that Han Xiuyuan wouldn't forgive the Wu family.

The new invitation reached the Han family quickly.

When Han Tong informed Han Xiuyuan about the invitation, she asked, “Grandpa, are we going? There's no need for you to show up personally to someone like Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration. I can go in your place.”

Han Xiuyuan smiled slightly and said, “It looks

like that old geezer is still alive and kicking, and he even wants to organize a birthday celebration! My grudge with him hasn't been resolved yet, so I can take this opportunity to settle matters with him.”

Han Tong's eye twitched, *Han Xiuyuan wants to settle matters with him. It means that this was not something trivial.* It looked like the name 'Han Xiuyuan' was about to echo throughout the Chinese District.

“Grandpa, do we need to prepare any gifts?” Han Tong asked.

“One of the best peach wood coffins,” Han Xiuyuan replied.

Han Tong was stunned, *Sending a coffin to a birthday celebration! He wants Wu Youfeng to die!*

“Alright, I'll go and make the preparations,” Han Tong said.

Han Xiuyuan had a hint of a smile on his face



and murmured to himself, "Wu Youfeng, I never thought that you will still be useful after I showed you mercy after all these years. I'll use your life to let my name Han Xiuyuan echo through the streets."

In Han Jingru's house.

When Qi Bingying found out that Han Xiuyuan stepped out of his retirement, she felt incredulous. She had made a thorough investigation into Han Xiuyuan and had discovered that the man was a merciless presence. He never softened his blow; he was totally a cold-blooded monster. There were a lot of rumors speculating why he suddenly retired. But Qi Bingying thought that all those rumors were fake; only Han Xiuyuan knew the real reason he retired.

But no matter what, Han Xiuyuan's retirement had made the whole Chinese District breathe a sigh of relief.

No one would've thought that he would suddenly come out of his retirement! The impact of this

news to the Chinese District was akin to an earthquake on a scale of ten!

“What happened to you?” Han Jingru came home to a daydreaming Qi Bingying after he went to the race track. It was as if something happened, and he couldn't help but be scared. *Don't tell me something like an unexpected pregnancy happened.*

“Han Xiuyuan went out of his retirement,” Qi Bingying told Han Jingru.

“Han Xiuyuan?” Han Jingru frowned.

“The previous head of the Han family. He led the Han family to its glory and was the true core of the Han family. If it wasn't for him, the Han family wouldn't be what it is today,” Qi Bingying explained.

*Han Xiuyuan, Han Xiuzhi!*

Han Jingru didn't really understand the situation of the U.S.' Han family, but as he heard this name, he thought. *They seem to be brothers.*



No one had ever told Han Jingru that Grandpa had a brother!

“So what if he comes out of his retirement?” Han Jingru scoffed.

Qi Bingying knew that Han Jingru didn't understand what kind of person Han Xiuyuan was, and that was the reason why he didn't care. She could only say, “If you knew how he was like you wouldn't say that. His cold-bloodedness is something you can't imagine.”

“So what if he's cold-blooded? What does that have to do with me?” Han Jingru asked nonchalantly.

“Have you never thought that his reappearance might have something to do with you?” Qi Bingying asked. To her, Han Jingru might be the reason why this happened, and that Han Xiuyuan came out of retirement because he wanted to target Han Jingru, which was why she was so worried.

“I'll just see how it goes. Do I really need to be

afraid of an old geezer?" Han Jingru scoffed.

Qi Bingying couldn't help but roll her eyes at Han Jingru. She trusted him from the bottom of her heart. But she couldn't underestimate Han Xiuyuan, and she didn't want Han Jingru to make a mistake because he underestimated him too. After all, with Han Xiuyuan's reputation, Han Jingru might lose his life if he fell into Han Xiuyuan's hands.

"Just be careful. You have a wife and a child, and even if you don't care about your safety, you must care for theirs. Besides that, it's possible you might have two children," Qi Bingying said.

Whenever this was mentioned, Han Jingru's head tingled; he couldn't accept this truth.

"Lately my hips are so sore. I heard from a lot of pregnant ladies that it's a symptom of pregnancy," Qi Bingying massaged her hips and said.

Han Jingru's eyes twitched and said, "Maybe it's because you've sat down for too long. Quickly go and get some rest."



Qi Bingying laid down on the sofa and said to Han Jingru, "How about you massage it for me, after all, I might be pregnant with your child."

Han Jingru couldn't laugh nor cry, and said, "How about I hire a professional masseur. With my strength, I'm scared I might hurt you."

"No," Qi Bingying pouted her lips and said, dissatisfied, "I just want you to do it, come here quickly."

Han Jingru couldn't reject Qi Bingying, so he could only compromise, but he moved cautiously lest he hurt her.

Han Jingru didn't want to accept the fact that Qi Bingying was pregnant, but if something like that really happened, he wouldn't shy away from the responsibility. After all, if a man couldn't even take responsibility for his own actions, could he still be called a man?

He could only try to explain it to Su Yimo.

Qi Bingying who was enjoying the massage

suddenly thought of something, and Han Jingru could feel her whole body tense up.

“What happened?” Han Jingru asked curiously.

“Wu Youfeng is having his birthday celebration soon!” Qi Bingying said in shock.

“Why are you getting shocked over and over again? Who is this Wu Youfeng guy and why do you care about him?” Han Jingru asked.

“I don't really know Wu Youfeng, but he used to have some beef with Han Xiuyuan. The day after tomorrow is gonna be his birthday celebration, and Han Xiuyuan coincidentally just got out of his retirement. I think that the birthday celebration isn't just gonna be a birthday celebration,” Qi Bingying couldn't help but feel bad for Wu Youfeng; it was such an inconvenient time for the Wu family.

“Is Han Xiuyuan going to mess things up there?” Han Jingru asked in confusion.

“It is very possible, judging by Han Xiuyuan's



personality, and the mess he makes won't be small. Just watch and see, I think that the name 'Han Xiuyuan' is going to reverberate through the whole Chinese District because of that birthday celebration. The younger generation doesn't know how formidable Han Xiuyuan is, and I think they're gonna find out soon." There was a hint of curiosity in Qi Bingying's voice. She wasn't trying to rub salt over the wounds, she just was curious about what Han Xiuyuan would do next.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

On the day of Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration.

Luxury cars gathered around the Kailing hotel as the whole Chinese District upperclassmen gathered to celebrate Wu Youfeng's birthday.

The Wu family was well connected in the Chinese District, and everyone who received the invitation all showed up to show face to Wu Youfeng.

But there were more people who came to watch things unfold instead.

A lot of people never forgot the old grudge between Han Xiuyuan and Wu Youfeng, and Han Xiuyuan had coincidentally come out of his retirement, so a lot of people wanted to see if Han Xiuyuan would show up at the celebration.

Wu family already had eyes arranged around the hotel. They were tasked to see if anyone from the Han family came, if there did, Wu Youfeng would be informed immediately to come out to greet them personally.



But as it drew closer to the celebration's opening, the Han family didn't show up, and the Wu family slowly breathed a sigh of relief.

The people who wanted to see what would unfold were slightly disappointed.

*Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration was just a normal dinner, what could make it more interesting than Han Xiuyuan showing up?*

“Don't tell me Han Xiuyuan is not coming? Maybe he's already so old so he doesn't want to stir up any trouble anymore.”

“Judging by his character, how would he be scared? It is quite unexpected that he didn't show up.”

“Sigh, I thought that there would be something entertaining today. I never expected Han Xiuyuan to not show up; it's too uninteresting.”

A lot of people whispered and discussed whether Han Xiuyuan was coming or not. There were all slightly disappointed; they didn't mind if it got

very serious so as long as they were the ones watching and not involved.

At that moment, a large bus suddenly stopped in front of the hotel entrance.

The one watching the door smiled mockingly. *The people who joined Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration all arrived in luxury cars; how dare a bus like this stop in front of the hotel entrance?*

As they moved to chase the bus away, Han Xiuyuan walked out of the car.

The mocking expression on their faces turned solemn when they saw that it was an old man, but when Han Tong followed the old man down and walked alongside the old man, they froze.

They didn't know who Han Xiuyuan was, but they knew clearly who Han Tong was.

This old man's status was unimaginable if Han Tong walked by his side.

They felt their legs weaken, *is this the fabled Han Xiuyuan?*



Fortunately, they didn't do anything to stop Han Xiuyuan, if not they were finished.

They lowered their head and approached Han Xiuyuan, "Sir, the celebration has already started. Do you need me to welcome you inside?"

Han Xiuyuan shook his head and stood motionless.

At that moment, some people took something that was draped in red silk out of the bus. It wasn't clear what the rectangular object was, but it was very bizarre to the people watching.

It was the peach wood coffin Han Xiuyuan had prepared for Wu Youfeng for his birthday draped under the red silk.

"Inform Wu Youfeng. Be prepared to receive the gift," Han Xiuyuan told the lackeys.

They nodded and hurried to the ballroom.

Wu Youfeng was preparing to give a thank you speech before he saw the lackeys approaching him hurriedly.

Wu Youfeng's son saw this and scowled in displeasure, "What are you doing? Get lost."

The lackey wiped away the sweat on his forehead and told Wu Youfeng, "The Han family had arrived, and they have brought a gift for you and asked you to prepare to accept it."

This darkened Wu Youfeng's expression instantly, and his son's cockiness disappeared as well.

"Dad, he really came," Wu Youfeng's son clenched his teeth and uttered.

Wu Youfeng was relieved as he said, "It will be weird if he didn't come."

Wu Youfeng had made all the mental preparation he needed to face any outcomes that might arise, so Han Xiuyuan's appearance didn't make him too nervous.



The lackey's voice wasn't soft; the other people all heard about the Han family and that reignited their interest to watch what unfolded.

“I already told you, how would it be possible if Han Xiuyuan didn't come? Also, what present did he prepare for Wu Youfeng?”

“To me, I think Wu Youfeng wouldn't be able to handle that present. He doesn't have good intentions behind the gift.”

“I think that it might be true that Han Xiuyuan is already old and not that cocky anymore; he might've just come here to genuinely congratulate Wu Youfeng.”

Everyone had a different opinion on the issue.

In no time, the truth would be revealed to all of them and it would be useless to argue anymore.

Han Xiuyuan and Han Tong entered the ballroom first, and the gift followed soon after.

When the red silk coffin that was carried by four

men was put down in the center of the ballroom, a lot of people took in a sharp breath.

Even though the gift was concealed by the red silk, the people could still deduce what it was through its appearance.

*Sending a coffin on a birthday celebration!*

*Only Han Xiuyuan would ever do something like this.*

“Now for the opening ceremony,” Han Xiuyuan said with a soft smile, as he glanced at Wu Youfeng from afar.

As the red silk was uncovered and the peach wood coffin was revealed, only sharp gasps could be heard.

Even though most people had already guessed what it was, the real thing was far more impactful than their one-sided guessing!

“A coffin!”



“Han Xiuyuan actually gave Wu Youfeng a coffin!”

“This is Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration; he really doesn't show face.”

The Wu family was livid as they saw this 'precious' gift.

Wu Youfeng's son was flabbergasted even though he had expected Han Xiuyuan to stir up trouble. He had never thought that the man would take it that far.

As he prepared to step forward and lambast Han Xiuyuan, Wu Youfeng stretched his arm out and stopped him, shaking his head.

“Wu Youfeng, are you satisfied with this gift?” Han Xiuyuan asked Wu Youfeng nonchalantly.

“Han Xiuyuan, you had known me for so many years already; why can't you just let me finish my birthday celebration?” Wu Youfeng asked.

“Do you have the right to? I have allowed you to

live for so many years already, aren't you grateful at that?" Han Xiuyuan said flatly.

Wu Youfeng shrugged, knowing his life was indeed salvaged. If Han Xiuyuan settled their grudge before this, he would've died early on. How would he still have a chance to organize a birthday celebration like this?

"Can you at least let me eat a bowl of noodles?" Wu Youfeng was almost pleading.

The whole crowd erupted at his words.

*It was clear. It was clear that Wu Youfeng didn't plan to resist; he wanted to accept the coffin gift!*

*The birthday celebration is about to turn into a funeral.*

"Dad," Wu Youfeng's son cried out indignantly.

Wu Youfeng sighed and said, "If I don't die, how would the Wu family continue to establish itself in the Chinese District? I'm already so old; if I could use my life to protect the Wu family's



business, then see it as my last contribution to the Wu family.”

Wu Youfeng's son trembled. He understood that his father was trying to protect the Wu family, and even though he didn't want him to die, it seemed like nothing would go his way under the circumstances.

“Serve the noodles,” Wu Youfeng's son instructed the waiter.

The people who came to celebrate the birthday were all exclaiming in horror, “The demon is still a demon even when he has aged!”

The waiter fearfully carried the noodles over, and as he passed by Han Xiuyuan, Han Xiuyuan eyed Han Tong.

Han Tong stretched her arms out and stopped the waiter, before raising her hand and tipping the bowl of noodles completely.

The soup splashed on the floor, and even the bowl was shattered.

The waiter trembled as he lowered his head; he was scared out of his wits.

Wu Youfeng smiled helplessly; he wanted to eat a bowl of noodles before he passed on, but Han Xiuyuan didn't give him the chance to do it.

“Han Xiuyuan, I only have one request. Don't trouble the Wu family once I'm gone,” Wu Youfeng said to Han Xiuyuan.

“You don't have the right to negotiate,” Han Xiuyuan's authority was on full display at that moment. The people watching the show were terrified too. They constantly reminded themselves internally that they could mess with gods and kings, but they could never mess with Han Xiuyuan.

That day, Han Xiuyuan's name reverberated throughout the entire U.S.' Chinese District and the younger generation who looked down on him now understood why their elders all shunned Han Xiuyuan. His dominion and authority were suffocating, and that wasn't something the rich playboys now could ever compare to.



Han Xiuyuan came out of retirement.

He gifted a coffin.

At the birthday celebration, Wu Youfeng hanged himself!

The Wu family's cries of despair spread throughout the Chinese District like a siren.

No one could ever compare to the Han family's status in the Chinese District.

The name 'Han Xiuyuan' spread through the Chinese District like a nightmare.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

In Han Jingru's home.

After Qi Bingying received the phone call, she was dumbfounded and her vision lost focus as if she had suddenly lost her soul.

Han Jingru saw this and couldn't help but ask, "What happened?"

Qi Bingying turned around, staggered, and glared at Han Jingru. She then moved her lips slightly, "Guess what happened at Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration?"

Han Jingru shrugged and said, "The way you described Han Xiuyuan, I would guess that he didn't show Wu Youfeng any mercy."

Qi Bingying then realized that she was still holding on to her phone, so she slowly lowered her hands and took a deep breath and said, "Wu Youfeng is dead!"

Han Jingru frowned.

*Dead?*



*Did he die at his birthday celebration?*

*Could Han Xiuyuan be so cruel that Wu Youfeng didn't even get the chance to complete his birthday celebration?*

“How did he die?” Han Jingru asked.

Qi Bingying gulped and said, “The gift Han Xiuyuan prepared for Wu Youfeng was a peach wood coffin. Wu Youfeng hanged himself in front of all the attendees.”

Han Jingru unwittingly sat up straight.

*Sending a peach wood coffin as a birthday gift and forcing Wu Youfeng to die in front of everyone else.*

Han Xiuyuan's mercilessness did indeed exceed Han Jingru's expectations. *No wonder Qi Bingying revered him so much; that old man really is formidable.*

“Is he not scared of upsetting anyone if he did something like this?” Han Jingru was confused.

Qi Bingying smiled helplessly; even her father called to tell her about this as he hid in the toilet, how could anyone express their displeasure at this?

“You still don't know the extent of intimidation that Han Xiuyuan has on the Chinese District. Even though the younger generation does not recognize him, the older generation is terrified of him, to the point that the mere mention of his name would change their moods instantly. And I believe that from today onwards, even the younger generation wouldn't dare to underestimate him anymore,” Qi Bingying smiled bitterly. Han Xiuyuan's previous impact on the Chinese District was almost momentous for that epoch, and even if he did age, his mightiness didn't dwindle.

The incident at Wu Youfeng's birthday celebration must've traumatized a lot of people, and those people wanted to get as far away from Han Xiuyuan as possible. How could they still express their displeasure at him?

There wasn't a family in the Chinese District who



could stand up to the Han family. And with Han Xiuyuan's intimidation, the families never had the courage to join forces, as they didn't want to oppose the Han family in any way.

More importantly, the people who were angry at Han Xiuyuan hoped that by luck, they could outlive Han Xiuyuan because he was already so old. There was no need for them to stand against him anymore and increase the danger they might face.

“I don't really know it, but does only Han Xiuyuan call the shots in the Chinese District? Once people join forces to oppose him, could Han Xiuyuan still make it?” Han Jingru asked curiously.

“How many people do you think dare to stand up against Han Xiuyuan, and how many more people do you think dare to join forces? Unfortunately, those people are probably asking the younger ones to behave and stay away from the Han family,” Qi Bingying said.

Han Jingru smiled helplessly, he never thought

that the Chinese District was full of cowards who were so intimidated by Han Xiuyuan, that they didn't even have a single complaint.

“It must be a boring place. It's because of the cowardice of the people that Han Xiuyuan could reign over them so mercilessly,” Han Jingru scoffed.

This made some sense, so Qi Bingying didn't rebuke him. After all, other people didn't matter to her; the only thing that mattered was Han Jingru's safety.

“If Han Xiuyuan wants to target you, you better be careful,” Qi Bingying reminded.

Han Jingru suddenly thought of something and asked Qi Bingying as he smiled, “If I was fighting against Han Xiuyuan, would you spectate or be on my side?”

“Of course I'll be on your side,” Qi Bingying didn't even hesitate as she replied. A question like this didn't need her consideration.



“But this would involve the Qi family, and it could even cause the destruction of the Qi family,” Han Jingru continued.

Qi Bingying's froze; she could give it all up for Han Jingru, but that would've meant that she became an unfilial daughter who dragged her parents into her own mess, and that was something a daughter should never do.

Qi Bingying fell silent for some time, and Han Jingru didn't interrupt her. He simply waited silently for her answer.

After a long time, Qi Bingying raised her head and stared determinedly at Han Jingru, “Between love and my family, I would choose the former. If I were to become an unfilial daughter, then I would atone for it in my next life.”

Han Jingru inhaled sharply and sighed. He thought that Qi Bingying's reluctance meant that she would choose her family, but he never expected that it would have strengthened her resolve in love.

Han Jingru stretched his arms out and caressed Qi Bingying's head and said, "Stupid girl, at any time, nothing should be more important than your parents."

"Really? What about you?" Qi Bingying retorted as she raised her head.

"Me?" Han Jingru wagged his eyebrows and said, "I am an exception."

"Then can I not be an exception too? I want to be an exception too," Qi Bingying stubbornly said.

Han Jingru shook his head and said, "Your parents treated you like their one and only daughter, but I had never experienced anything like that before, so my circumstances are completely different from yours."

Qi Bingying wanted to retort him, but Han Jingru covered her mouth with his hands and interrupted her, "It doesn't matter if your genuine choice would change; when I heard your words just now I made up my mind to guarantee that the Qi family would not get involved in any way. Don't



worry, before I die, no one can hurt the Qi family.”

Qi Bingying's eyes lost focus. At that moment, she felt that she was enveloped in a strong sense of security, and Han Jingru's words seemed to be the world's strongest promise. If Han Jingru was there, no one could ever hurt her.

Qi Bingying finally felt some of Su Yimo's happiness, even though she knew that it might just be a small fraction of what the latter felt. Even if it was a minuscule fraction, Qi Bingying was satisfied.

“I'll go to the office,” Han Jingru informed her before he left.

Qi Bingying stared at the door and a mistiness engulfed her eyes. As she rubbed her tears away, she finally let out a smile.

“This feeling is amazing, and I never thought that I would envy Su Yimo this much.” Han Jingru, can't you just give me a chance?” Qi Bingying murmured to herself.

Han Jingru went straight to Tang Cheng's office when he arrived. No-one stopped him as they all knew his position in the company. Everyone would politely greet him 'President Han' if they saw him.

"Jingru," when the office door opened, Tang Cheng reflexively stood up when he saw Han Jingru.

"How's it going? It's not too bad right?" Han Jingru smiled.

Tang Cheng shook his head and said, "They are all trivial matters. Jingru, don't worry; I can solve them soon."

Han Jingru walked to the window that overlooked most of the Chinese District, and it was a place with a nice view.

"A bigger trouble is coming soon; can you handle it?" Han Jingru said.

Something that Han Jingru recognized as a big problem was definitely no trivial matter, so Tang



Cheng didn't dare to make any promises, and instead, he said, "Jingru, don't worry. I'll try my best, but I'm not sure if I can handle it. Regardless, I will still try my best."

Han Jingru admired Tang Cheng's honesty; he wouldn't boast or make baseless promises, instead, he would only promise to do something within his own capabilities.

Han Jingru inhaled deeply. The Nangong Family must've known about the situation in the Chinese District, but it remains unknown whether Nangong Boling would make a move or not.

Han Jingru was used to solving his own problems and would never rely on anybody else. So even if Nangong Boling didn't do anything, it wouldn't affect Han Jingru regardless.

He didn't know what kind of grudge Han Xiuyuan and Han Xiuzhi had in the past, but judging by Han Xiuyuan's character, Han Xiuzhi was likely driven out in humiliation. Since Han Jingru's grandfather was humiliated, he felt that it was only reasonable to dish back the humiliation

to Han Xiuyuan.



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A small island, the Nangong Family.

Nangong Boling knew everything about the U.S.' Chinese District and Han Jingru's strong performance in the company satisfied him. In his eyes, a youngster was supposed to have a vigor exactly like that, and that was something Nangong Sun and Nangong Yan couldn't possibly be compared to. The vigor that those two had can only be called the boastings of the wealthy; it wasn't genuine strength they possessed.

They could only dare to act cockily under the Nangong Family's protection.

But Han Jingru was different; his vigor originated from his soul, and it wasn't something the external environment could affect.

Now that Han Xiuyuan had made his grand appearance, Nangong Boling was even more expectant on what would happen to the Chinese District. He wanted to see how far Han Jingru could go on this issue.

Han Xiuyuan was a fierce character in the

Chinese District, and if he came out of his retirement just to target Han Jingru, then things would get more interesting.

Nangong Boling didn't plan to do anything, and instead, he wanted to see where Han Jingru's limits are through this issue.

The Nangong Family was different from the other prominent families; they weren't very famous, but they had control over more money and power, and the heir to these assets must be someone extraordinary who could manage them.

Nangong Sun and Nangong Yan didn't have that ability. If the Nangong Family was entrusted to them, it would only grow weaker by the day. There definitely wouldn't be a possibility where it grows stronger. But Han Jingru was different, and Nangong Boling had even thought that if the Nangong Family was entrusted to him, he would definitely take it to greater heights, to the point where the Nangong Family might even be the top hidden family in the world.

Most importantly, Han Jingru was the one who



was the most likely to bring the Nangong Family to that level.

Nobody could ever imagine how important Han Jingru was to Nangong Boling; even Nangong Boling himself couldn't define it clearly.

“How great would it be if you were born in the Nangong Family,” Nangong Boling exclaimed. Nangong Boling thought that it was most unfortunate that Han Jingru wasn't born in the Nangong Family and didn't have the Nangong surname.

But that disappointment wouldn't exterminate his expectations of Han Jingru, and it wouldn't stop him from entrusting the Nangong Family to Han Jingru.

If he could witness the moment where the Nangong Family was thrust to those heights, Han Jingru's surname didn't even matter to Nangong Boling.

Someone suddenly knocked on the study's door.

Nangong Boling frowned; this wasn't a place someone could enter easily without his instructions. Even approaching this place was prohibited, let alone knocking on its door.

“Come in,” Nangong Boling said with displeasure.

The study door opened and Nangong Yan along with Nangong Sun walked in.

Nangong Sun had a ridiculous plan, which was to kill Nangong Boling and to replace his position as the head of the family, which allowed him to remove the threat that Han Jingru posed to him. But after pondering for a long time, he didn't dare to do it, because if he failed, the consequences would be disastrous. He would never meet sunlight again if he failed, and Nangong Sun didn't have the courage to gamble on the remainder of his life.

“What are you doing?” Nangong Boling asked in displeasure.

“Grandpa, we hope that you could give us a



chance to prove ourselves too,” Nangong Sun said.

Nangong Yan continued, “That's right. We just want a chance to compete fairly with Han Jingru, and we hope that you would agree.”

Nangong Boling looked at them in contempt. They were his grandsons, but at that moment, their importance as compared to Han Jingru to Nangong Boling was vastly different.

It was kind of amusing as well, given that Han Jingru was treated like trash by Nangong Shuxian. She even ostracized him and found trouble with him wherever he went.

But after reaching the Nangong Family, Han Jingru was valued this much by Nangong Boling, and that was probably the most ironic thing to Nangong Shuxian.

Even the one who kicked her out of the Nangong Family valued him so much; what right did she have to look down on Han Jingru?

If Nangong Shuxian was still alive, she would definitely regret her choice and be angered by her own stupidity.

“Really? You guys?” Nangong Boling asked contemptuously.

Nangong Sun and Nangong Yan were livid. Nangong Boling's words seemed to remove any value from them.

“Grandpa, isn't Han Jingru only just valued by Zhuang Tang? So what?” Nangong Sun asked indignantly.

Nangong Boling laughed. Despite how angry he was at Nangong Sun, he laughed because he had never expected Nangong Sun to say something like that.

“Did you know you're very amusing? Only just valued by Zhuang Tang? Don't you know what that means?” Nangong Boling scorned at Nangong Sun.

“Can he make sure that the Nangong Family gets



to that level? Everything now is just a possibility,” Nangong Sun scoffed indignantly. In the past, he could threaten Han Jingru using Han Xiang, but now she was in Nangong Boling's hands and he lost his only bargaining chip, so he didn't have any choice but to try to fight for a chance for himself.

Nangong Boling stood up and approached Nangong Sun.

The pressure facing him made Nangong Sun short of breath. Just standing in front of Nangong Boling made him feel suffocated.

“What about you? What right do you have to compare yourself to him? What value do you even have?” Nangong Boling asked.

Nangong Sun clenched his fists unwittingly. Han Jingru used to be his lapdog, but now he transformed into one of the most important people to Nangong Boling, and he couldn't accept this transformation in his status.

“If you just gave me the chance, I could prove

myself," Nangong Sun clenched his teeth and said.

"You want a chance? Alright, I'll give you one. But if you die in Han Jingru's arms I will pretend to not have seen anything. I won't stop you from going to the U.S., but I'm warning you that the Nangong Family won't be responsible for your life or death if you leave this island," Nangong Boling said.

Nangong Sun never thought that Nangong Boling would be so ruthless, but he had no other choice at that point.

If he didn't try, then the Nangong Family would definitely fall in Han Jingru's arms, and that was something he could never accept!

"Alright," Nangong Sun spat out through his clenched teeth.

"What about you?" Nangong Boling turned to face Nangong Yan.

Nangong Yan's eye twitched because he knew



Nangong Boling's character and that he would never go back on his word. This meant that Nangong Boling wouldn't intervene if they fell into Han Jingru's hands.

And with Han Jingru's abilities, Nangong Yan couldn't guarantee that he could threaten him if Nangong Yan left this place, which meant that he would be putting himself in a dangerous position.

Besides that, in this dog fight, Nangong Yan could definitely be a spectator and collect the remains once they have worn each other out; wasn't that much better?

“Grandpa, I'm willing to stay and take care of the family's business here,” Nangong Yan said.

Nangong Sun looked at Nangong Yan, dumbfounded. They agreed to target Han Jingru together, but he never thought that Nangong Yan would throw him under the bus at that moment.

“Nangong Yan, you...” he didn't get to finish before Nangong Yan interrupted him, “Brother, someone needs to stay here to help Grandpa take

care of the family affairs. You need to prove yourself, but I don't need to.”

Nangong Sun was furious. *What a funny guy he is, how could he be so pretentious now?*

“Don't regret it,” Nangong Sun shrugged before he left the study.

Nangong Yan bowed down courteously to Nangong Boling and said, “Grandpa, I'm going to head out now.”

Nangong Boling nodded; he could decipher Nangong Yan's intentions with just a gaze.

Nangong Yan had a lot of little tricks and ploys, and sometimes they did benefit him, but these can't help him in the big picture, which meant that Nangong Yan wasn't foresightful enough and he was destined to not be able to accomplish great things.

“The more I look at those two, the more I think Han Jingru is formidable,” Nangong Boling exclaimed to himself as both of them left. He



used to think that Nangong Yan was the best out of the Nangong Family, but after comparing him to Han Jingru, Nangong Yan was a worthless piece of trash.



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Ever since Yuan Ling became Tang Cheng's assistant, she hasn't seen Han Jingru in a long time. This made her feel cleansed because she always had a sense of repulsion towards that playboy.

But unfortunately, Yuan Ling wasn't doing too great under Tang Cheng's tenure, because, in her eyes, Tang Cheng was just someone who had flattered his way to the top. She didn't like people like that. The good impression she had for him had long dissipated.

Yuan Ling really didn't understand how people who took shortcuts like this existed in the world. These people lacked their own ability, but they still managed to climb up the ranks by using just their mouths.

However, there was something Yuan Ling couldn't deny, and that was when Tang Cheng was focused on his job, he had an unprecedented dedication. Besides that, under Tang Cheng's simple organization, the company was rid of a lot of useless workers. His tough approach, in which he didn't care about how the law would affect



him forced a lot of the higher-ups to leave the company, and some of them even left of their own volition.

At that moment, Yuan Ling was daydreaming when suddenly the phone rang.

Yuan Ling was immediately alerted when she saw who was calling.

“Boss,” Yuan Ling carefully greeted as she picked up the phone.

“Help me relay this message to Han Jingru; there's no need to show any mercy no matter who the person is,” Nangong Boling said.

Yuan Ling didn't quite understand what he meant, so she could only nod and say, “Alright boss, don't worry. I'll find him soon.”

After she hung up, Yuan Ling knocked on Tang Cheng's door.

Tang Cheng was displeased when he raised his head, as he said, “Didn't I already tell you not to

disturb me?"

"President Tang, I need to find President Han. If you need anything, please ask someone else," Yuan Ling said.

Tang Cheng's expression immediately changed at the mention of Han Jingru, and he said, "Drive carefully."

Yuan Ling didn't appreciate his concern; she rather had a sharp sense of contempt towards him.

*If it wasn't for Han Jingru, why was he so concerned for me? This guy has perfected the skill of flattery; he doesn't even give up on the smallest opportunity to do it.*

Once she drove to Han Jingru's house, only Qi Bingying was home, so Yuan Ling could only sit and wait on the sofa.

Yuan Ling felt more and more indignant the more she looked at Qi Bingying because there were definitely a lot of handsome youngsters who want



to chase her, but she chose to meddle herself with Han Jingru. Yuan Ling couldn't understand her reasoning behind her choice.

If it was her, she wouldn't even take a second look at Han Jingru.

“Ms. Qi, are you and Han Jingru a couple?” Yuan Ling couldn't help but ask.

“I would like to think so, but he would never admit it,” Qi Bingying was very honest because it wasn't Yun City where she needed to deliberately conceal her feelings. If she had to live a life that carefully, it would be torture for her.

Yuan Ling controlled her urge to roll her eyes. *What did Han Jingru offer that a woman like Qi Bingying could long for him so much, it's unbelievable!*

“Mr. Qi, you so have many options; why Han Jingru?” Yuan Ling was perplexed.

“If you really understood him, maybe you would like him as much as I do too,” Qi Bingying

smiled. Han Jingru was a very strange character; the more you knew him, the more you would fall deeper into his charms. Qi Bingying had thought that she only wanted to use Han Jingru for her own benefit, and she never thought that she would actually fall in love with Han Jingru this deeply.

Even as she thought about it now, Qi Bingying didn't even understand why she could love him so thoroughly, and could even give up on her family for him.

But love wasn't something that can be explained.

“Wow,” Yuan Ling scoffed internally at her words. *How could she ever fall for a playboy like him?* She hated men who played with women like Han Jingru.

“I don't like playboys like him. To such people, women are toys who can be thrown away after they were bored of them,” Yuan Ling said.

“Playboy?” Qi Bingying laughed, *Yuan Ling's impression of Han Jingru is that he's a playboy?*



*If even he can be called a playboy, then who else in the world dared to say they weren't playboys?*

Han Jingru only had Su Yimo in his heart, and he never took a second look at any other women. Even when Qi Bingying was deliberately dressed extra sexily, he had never even taken a second look.

*There was no man as loyal as Han Jingru.*

*He is definitely a scarce presence among men.*

“Is he not one?” Yuan Ling said.

“You misunderstand him, which shows that you don't know him at all,” Qi Bingying chuckled.

Yuan Ling thought Qi Bingying must be obsessed or poisoned; if not, why would she be defending Han Jingru that much?

She didn't know what kind of spectacular miracle drug Han Jingru had that could make Qi Bingying that addicted to him.

“Ms. Qi, pardon my rudeness, but to me, you must be crazy to think that Han Jingru is a good guy,” Yuan Ling said. She wasn't scared that she would be done for if Qi Bingying got angry at her because Qi Bingying's status was very high.

“He's actually already married,” Qi Bingying smiled.

Yuan Ling stared in surprise. *That playboy is married!*

*But doesn't that mean that he's even more of a scumbag?*

*Messing around outside when he has a wife!*

“His wife is a daughter from a prominent family in China, but her status isn't very high and she's often bullied by her family members. When he married into her family, he experienced a lot of humiliation, but he never was dissatisfied because he had her. Do you know what he must've felt for a Young Master from the Yan City to be willing to marry into a second-rate family? He even was willing to do the chores and



be mocked a loser for her; can you imagine how deeply he must love this woman?"

At that moment, the envy in Qi Bingying's face bubbled up unwittingly, and she paused for a while before continuing, "He was called a loser for a whole three years, and he bore the pain of being looked down upon in those three years just for that woman. He was willing to stay by her side even though his family was much stronger than those prominent families out there, and he never had a single complaint. Do you know what the best part is?"

Yuan Ling was dumbfounded that Han Jingru was someone who married into the woman's family, and the woman's family was of a lower status than his original family, and that was very unusual to Yuan Ling.

But the truth was like that and there must've been a reason behind it. Yuan Ling didn't ask about it, instead, she was curious about what Han Jingru perceived his 'happiness' to be.

"What is it?" Yuan Ling couldn't help but ask.

“He said before that his happiest moment is when he picked her up from her work and cooked for her,” Qi Bingying was smiling, and crying tears of envy at the same time.

Yuan Ling was stunned; this was completely different from the Han Jingru she knew.

“Since he loves the woman so much, why, why does he still...” Yuan Ling didn't continue, but it was clear what she wanted to say.

Nangong Boling shook her head bitterly and said, “People always think that there's an affair between us, but actually nothing has happened between us. I just want some affection from him, and that is why I'm clinging onto him.”

This subverted Yuan Ling's whole worldview. *Qi Bingying couldn't help but cling to Han Jingru, but he didn't even accept her. More importantly, Qi Bingying is here because she just wants some affection from him.*

But even if Han Jingru was a good person, Yuan Ling couldn't understand how Qi Bingying felt;



why was she trying so hard when obviously nothing would happen from it?

“Ms. Qi, if that is so, why don't you just give up?” Yuan Ling asked, confused.

“Some people just fall in love, and nothing can ever change that. Do you think I don't want to? I just can't help myself,” Qi Bingying lowered her head, with her tears adorning her cheeks.



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Gmei Villegas Espino

can't wait for the next chapters