

When Yan Qiong sensed irate radiating off Han Xiuzhi, he quickly added before Han Xiuzhi could say anything, “It’s a sword that’s pointing toward the Han family. If not for you, Jingru would never have any emotional attachments to the Han family.”

*A sword!*

The corner of Han Xiuzhi’s eye twitched. His explanation was logical as it explained the grudge Han Jingru had against the Han family. However, Han Jingru was not to blame for it. It was normal for him to feel that way with how unfairly he was treated since his childhood.

Back then, he was only a child when he was forced into the corporate world and got blood on his hands. No one could ever truly understand the pressure Han Jingru had endured in the past.

“I’m glad he had the grudge. Otherwise, he’ll be no different from Han Yu now,” Han Xiuzhi muttered.

Yan Qiong did not agree nor disagree with his

remark. A hypothesis like this was pointless. No one knew what Han Jingru would become under different circumstances. Perhaps, he might have turned out for the better.

“Regardless, he is now truly in a league of his own,” Yan Qiong said.

Han Xiuzhi took a deep breath and suggested, “Let’s go and take a look at the ancestral shrine.”

Han Xiuzhi had heard about Han Li’s arrival in Yan City from Yan Qiong some time ago. While he was there, Han Li created chaos at the ancestral shrine and dug out his grave. He regarded Yan City’s Han family with contempt, including their ancestors.

Although Han Li paid the price for what he had done, it did not suffice for Han Xiuzhi.

Ending his life was not enough to atone for his wrongdoings. The rest of the debt was Han Xiuyuan’s to return. That was also the reason Han Xiuzhi returned to Yan City.

The ancestral shrine remained as messy as it was after Han Li's disruption. Infuriated, Shi Yan refused to clean up the mess, thinking that whoever made the mess had to be responsible for doing it. However, it never crossed her mind that Han Li would die at the hands of Han Jingru.

“Shi Yan is just like Nangong Shuxian, or you could say they're the same kind of people. She despised Han Li, which was why she didn't clean this place up. She must have wanted him to do it,” Yan Qiong said, smiling as he looked around. After many years in the Han family, he had come to know Shi Yan well. To him, Shi Yan was a copy of Nangong Shuxian.

“She's still quite different from Nangong Shuxian. After all, Nangong Shuxian came to Yan City with a grudge capable of swallowing a city,” Han Xiuzhi voiced.

Yan Qiong had to admit that Shi Yan was still worlds apart from Nangong Shuxian in terms of capabilities. However, that did not impede the cruel heart Shi Yan hid in her. Regardless, with how the Han family was right now, it was

unlikely for Shi Yan to end up like Nangong Shuxian.

Han Jingru was not the cowardly boy he used to be, and the Han family would no longer compete against each other for the throne. Shi Yan, too, did not need to live with constant scheming like Nangong Shuxian had to.

“Let Han Xiuyuan fix these,” Han Xiuzhi murmured.

“I’m afraid that old man will puke blood from anger.” Yan Qiong chuckled.

Han Xiuyuan was a proud man who even looked down on his father. To him, the ancestors of the Han family were a disgrace he never wanted to bring up. Therefore, it would be humiliating for him to fix these ancestral tablets.

“He’s forgotten what a decent human should be like. No matter how excellent you are, you shouldn’t forget about your ancestors,” Han Xiuzhi muttered.

At Yun City's airport.

After Han Xiuyuan and Han Xiao got off the plane, the look of disdain on Han Xiuyuan's face was even more intense than Han Tong's when she came to Yun City.

"I never thought I'd come back here," Han Xiuyuan scoffed.

On the other hand, Han Xiao was not as repulsed as Han Xiuyuan, and he did not understand why Han Xiuyuan felt this way. Perhaps, Han Xiuyuan hated this place because it brought humiliation upon him.

"Are we going to look for Han Xiuzhi immediately?" Han Xiao asked.

"Of course." Han Xiuyuan nodded. "I don't want to spend any unnecessary time here."

Han Xiao nodded and flagged down a cab to head to the Genting villa.

The security at Genting was strict as always.

Outsiders were not allowed into the area unless the landowners notified the guards.

Naturally, Han Xiuyuan and Han Xiao were stopped at the entrance.

“How dare you stop me?” Han Xiuyuan glared at the security guard. There was no spot in the Chinese District where he could not go to. It had been decades since someone stopped him from going somewhere.

“I’m sorry. We have strict visitors’ regulations in this area. If you have friends or family living here, you can contact them first,” the security guard explained politely. After all, Han Xiuyuan did not seem like the average person. Even if the Tian family was backing the security guard up, he dared not be too arrogant since they were no longer as powerful as they used to be in Yun City.

“Scram, or else the same day next year will be your death anniversary,” Han Xiuyuan threatened.

Stumped, the security guard uttered, “These are

the rules of this place. Please don't make things difficult for a security guard like me. I'm just doing my job."

Right then, Han Xiao reminded, "We're not here to stir trouble."

This time, Han Xiuyuan was in Yun City to get Han Xiuzhi to convince Han Jingru. If they were as haughty as before, Han Xiao was sure Han Xiuzhi would never lend a hand to them.

Hearing his words, Han Xiuyuan tamped down his rage. If this had happened in the Chinese District, he would have ordered Han Xiao to kill the other party. Only death was a lesson good enough for those who stopped him.

"I'm looking for the Su family. Go notify them that Han Xiuyuan is here," Han Xiuyuan said to the guard.

The security guard heaved a sigh of relief, feeling fortunate that he had not belittled the man earlier. *He's looking for the Su family! Nowadays, the Su family is more powerful than the Tian family. In fact, they might become the strongest family in Yun City. No one dares to cross them.*

“All right. Please give me a moment,” the security guard replied with a bow.

The guard had an obvious change in his attitude at the mention of the Su family, which disgusted Han Xiuyuan. With his status, he could not believe he had to mention the Su family for the security guard to treat him with respect. It was as though the guard was humiliating him in another way.

“When the matter is settled, kill him,” Han Xiuyuan ordered.

All Han Xiao could do was nod in acknowledgment. He felt that the security guard was innocent, but since Han Xiuyuan had ordered for the guard to be killed, he could only follow his orders.

At the villa.

After receiving a call from the security guard, Su Yimo was baffled. To her, Han Xiuyuan was an

unfamiliar name. She did not know who he was, but somewhere in her mind, there was a voice telling her that this man seemed to be connected with Han Xiuzhi.

“Mom, someone named Han Xiuyuan is coming. Do you know who he is?” Su Yimo asked Shi Yan.

Upon hearing those three words, Shi Yan froze.

*Han Xiuyuan!*

*Isn't he the one who's forcing the Han family to a dead end?*

To Shi Yan, who was not the most well-informed person, Han Xiuyuan's sudden appearance was a surprise. Furthermore, Han Xiuzhi was currently away in Yan City.

“Mom, what's wrong?” Su Yimo asked again when she saw that Shi Yan was stunned.

Su Yimo's voice broke Shi Yan's train of thoughts. However, Shi Yan had already hazarded

a guess at the reason for Han Xiuzhi's return to Yan City.

*He must have known that Han Xiuyuan is coming to Yun City. That's why he went back to Yan City.*

Although Han Li was dead, it seemed like someone would be cleaning up the messy ancestral shrine for him.

“He's your grandfather's older brother,” Shi Yan explained.

“Older brother?” Su Yimo was startled. Han Jingru had never mentioned it, so she did not expect Han Xiuzhi to have a brother.

“Let him in,” Shi Yan said.

Su Yimo nodded dazedly. “Okay.”

After the security guard let them pass, they walked up the mountain path. Han Xiuyuan couldn't help but mock, “What a crappy place. I can't believe this is the most luxurious residential

area in Yun City. What a joke. He's living in a place like this. It seems like he's still as useless as he used to be.”



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Han Xiao did not respond to Han Xiuyuan's words. He knew Han Xiuyuan was venting his dissatisfaction before meeting Han Xiuzhi. If he did not do it now, he would not be able to face Han Xiuzhi later.

Han Xiao hoped that Han Xiuyuan would be able to talk to Han Xiuzhi with the right attitude. After all, they were here to ask him for a favor. Even if Han Xiuyuan was reluctant to do so, he should not act arrogantly in front of Han Xiuzhi. Otherwise, their trip to Yun City would be a waste of effort.

At the villa.

Shi Yan and Su Yimo were waiting outside the door.

Although they greeted him at the door, Han Xiuyuan felt like he was treated with contempt as he saw no signs of Han Xiuzhi.

“How nice of him to send the two of you to greet me,” Han Xiuyuan sneered.

“Dad’s back in Yan City,” Shi Yan explained.

Immediately, the dissatisfaction Han Xiuyuan felt showed on his face.

He was in Yun City for Han Xiuzhi, yet the latter had gone to Yan City. *He must be doing it intentionally.*

“Hmph,” Han Xiuyuan scoffed. “How dare that useless piece of trash tries to mess around with me?”

Han Xiao sighed in his heart when he heard his words. Han Xiuyuan did not look like he was here to ask for a favor at all. With how he was acting right now, it did not matter even if Han Xiuzhi was here. Without a doubt, Han Xiuzhi would not help him to persuade Han Jingru.

There was no trace of upset on Shi Yan’s face after she heard Han Xiuyuan call Han Xiuzhi a piece of trash. She knew she did not have the right to hold Han Xiuyuan accountable for his words. However, she was sure he would eventually pay the price for his attitude.

Shi Yan did not know what the reason behind Han Xiuyuan's visit was, but she had a gut feeling that he must have encountered a problem he could not resolve to be here in Hua Nation. In other words, he desperately needed Han Xiuzhi's help.

"If you want to look for him, you have to go to Yan City," Shi Yan said.

"I'm old. I can't take long trips anymore. Call him and tell him that I'm waiting for him in Yun City. Ask him to come back quickly," Han Xiuyuan muttered.

Shi Yan nodded. "I'll inform him, but I'm not the one to decide whether he'll be coming back."

"Does he dare to not come back?" Han Xiuyuan sneered. It seemed like he had forgotten the reason he came—he needed a favor. Therefore, he had no right to be so cocky.

Han Xiao could see the big picture better than Han Xiuyuan because he was not as prideful as the latter. Hence, it was obvious to him that Han

Xiuyuan was acting exceptionally foolish. If he infuriated Han Xiuzhi, there would be no discussion at all.

“Are you sure you’ll get Han Xiuzhi to come back with the way you’re speaking?” Han Xiao whispered a reminder to Han Xiuyuan.

“He’s been scared of me since young. How will he dare to go against my words? Just wait and watch. In less than two days, he’ll be back to meet me.” After a pause, Han Xiuyuan continued, “Don’t worry. When I meet him, I’ll change my attitude. I won’t fall out with him until the issue is resolved.”

Han Xiao nodded. He was glad that Han Xiuyuan understood his words. However, he was unsure if Han Xiuyuan would be able to keep his temper in check when Han Xiuzhi was around.

After Shi Yan called Han Xiuzhi and repeated Han Xiuyuan’s words to him, he replied, “Tell him to go back to the U.S.”

After ending the call, Shi Yan informed Han

Xiuyuan, “Dad told you to return to the U.S.”

“What?” Han Xiuyuan bell owed. Gritted his teeth, he snarled, “How dare he disobey me?”

“Those are his exact words. I’m sure they’re comprehensible,” Shiyan responded casually.

Han Xiuyuan’s clenched fists started trembling. His fury was reaching its peak.

“Please return,” Shi Yan continued.

Han Xiuyuan walked toward Shi Yan furiously and gave her a hard slap as he reprimanded, “What right do you have to evict me?”

Instead of giving in to him, Shi Yan continued to stand straight and stare into Han Xiuyuan’s eyes. “Please go back.”

Han Xiuyuan raised his hand again, but Han Xiao hurriedly stopped him. “She’s Han Jingru’s mother!”

Han Xiuyuan huffed as fury overcame him.

*That useless piece of trash. If not for Mr. Yi of Fourth Gate, he won't dare to do something like this.*

Han Xiuyuan felt indignant about the situation.

Yet, he had no choice but to accept the fact that Han Jingru had power over the Han family.

If Han Jingru found out about his reckless actions in Yun City, he definitely would not let him off, even with Han Xiuzhi's help.

Taking in a deep breath, Han Xiuyuan put down his hand and said to Shi Yan, "Remember who you are. You're only a piece of trash to me."

"Thank you for your kindness. I will never forget this."

Her last sentence made Han Xiuyuan's heart skip a beat. This woman looked ordinary, but he could sense the threat in her words.

"Fine. Very well." Han Xiuyuan stared at Shi Yan with a burning gaze. If it weren't for Han Xiao

stopping him, he would have murdered Shi Yan there and then.

After the two left, Su Yimo let out a sigh of relief.

When Han Xiuyuan was present, the atmosphere was so oppressing that Su Yimo could not muster the courage to speak.

“Mom, how are you? Are you okay?” Su Yimo inquired with concern when she saw the swollen handprint on Shi Yan’s face.

Shi Yan shook her head and smiled. “I’m fine. This isn’t the first slap I’ve gotten, and it certainly isn’t the worst one.”

Su Yimo froze. She could not believe that Shi Yan had been slapped many times in the past, even with her high social status. The Han family was one of the most prominent families in Yan City. *How could she get beaten?*

“Surprised?” Shi Yan laughed when she sensed Su Yimo’s shock and disbelief.

Su Yimo nodded before she realized it. The discovery was so startling that she even wondered if Shi Yan was joking with her.

“Remember this. There will always be someone better than you. No one can claim to be the best in the entire world.” Shi Yan paused before continuing, “Perhaps Jingru is the only exception.”

“Jingru?” This stunned her more than what Shi Yan had told her earlier.

*The best in the entire world?*

It was an unimaginable concept for Su Yimo. She knew that only competent people could do such a thing, but to her, the only thing Han Jingru was good at was housework.

“Maybe. I don’t know.” Shi Yan shook her head with a lost look in her eyes. No one could be sure of the heights Han Jingru could reach, but Han Jingru had already refuted Nangong Shuxian’s preconception that he was useless.

It seemed that Han Jingru was the man fit for the throne. He was worlds apart from Han Yu.

However, Nangong Shuxian was no longer around to see it.

Sometimes, Shi Yan wished Nangong Shuxian was still alive. She wanted her to witness how impressive Han Jingru had become.

Unfortunately, it was just her own wishful thinking.

After heading back inside, Shi Yan lost herself in her thoughts as she held an ice pack to her face.

If it weren't for the pressure Nangong Shuxian placed on her, she would not have treated Han Jingru that way. This was not the first time Shi Yan regretted her past actions. Sometimes, she would cry silently in the middle of the night. Whenever she thought about Han Jingru's suffering, she blamed herself for being a bad mother. However, she did not have the chance to compensate him now because he no longer needed love like he used to.

Despite that, Shi Yan was glad to see how well Han Jingru was doing for himself now. At the very least, Han Jingru had proved to everyone that he was not the useless boy Nangong Shuxian had said he was.

“What is the upper class? What kind of place is it? Why does Dad put so much importance on it?” Shi Yan mumbled to herself. She once heard Han Xiuzhi mentioning it, and she knew Han Jingru could enter the upper class. That was why she told Su Yimo that perhaps Han Jingru could take over the world.



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After leaving Genting, Han Xiuyuan exploded in a rage. He even rushed into the security room to beat up the staff in there. If not for Han Xiao, the elderly man would have been crippled by the security guards. However, this was exactly why Han Xiuyuan was unruly—as long as Han Xiao was by his side, he did not have to worry about getting threatened with violence.

Of course, this was limited to certain areas. When in the face of the Fourth Gate and Mr. Yi, Han Xiuyuan dared not go wild.

“Are we going to Yan City?” Han Xiao inquired after Han Xiuyuan was done with his outburst.

Han Xiuyuan had a grave look on his face. Naturally, he was not willing to go there. He was already giving Han Xiuzhi face by coming to Yun City. If he were to go to Yan City, it would be a disgrace to him.

However, Han Xiuyuan could not bear the consequences of not going there.

“He must know that Mr. Yi values Han Jingru.

That's why he's making his stand. That damn man! I'm going to make him regret it one day," Han Xiuyuan said through clenched teeth.

"I've booked our flight tickets," Han Xiao informed. Although Han Xiuyuan had been subtle about it, Han Xiao understood what he wanted. He did not need Han Xiuyuan to spell it out for him as the latter was too prideful to do that.

At Han Residence in Yan City.

"Who knew that he would still be this pompous in his current state," Yan Qiong said to Han Xiuzhi.

"He's used to it. It's normal for him to do this. Anyway, the more conceited he is, the worse he'll end up," Han Xiuzhi answered.

Yan Qiong nodded. One day, Han Xiuyuan would have to pay for his egotism. The moment he came to Yun City, he had already lost. He only refused to admit it.

Han Xiuzhi suddenly asked Yan Qiong, “Do you know why I left the U.S. back then?”

Yan Qiong had never heard Han Xiuzhi discuss this, so it remained a mystery to him.

“The rumors say it was because of women,” Yan Qiong replied.

Han Xiuzhi smiled bitterly as he shook his head helplessly. “Women have never been my life goal.”

“But that’s what everyone thinks. They even said you stole his woman, and that was why you were chased out of the U.S.” Yan Qiong was smiling. He knew these rumors were fake, but they were amusing nonetheless.

“It’s all because of a simple sentence. A very simple sentence.” Han Xiuzhi sighed.

“A sentence?” Yan Qiong furrowed his brows as he could not believe that Han Xiuyuan had chased his brother out of the U.S. over one sentence. Han Xiuyuan even humiliated him by

asking him to kneel.

“What did you say?” Yan Qiong could not help but ask out of curiosity.

“I think it’s better for the window to face the south side,” Han Xiuzhi replied.

Yan Qiong’s eyes widened as his jaw went slack.

*What the hell is this?*

He thought Han Xiuzhi had said something that crossed the line for Han Xiuyuan to target him.

He had never expected that it was all because of the positioning of a restaurant window.

“This is just his method to gain full control over the Han family. He was overbearing and scared that I would snatch the power away from him. When he realized he couldn’t control me, he came up with an excuse to get rid of me from the Han family,” Han Xiuzhi explained.

“But why did he ask you to kneel?” Yan Qiong

was confounded.

“How else would he show how powerful he was? He needed the others to fear him, so I became the sacrifice,” Han Xiuzhi continued.

Rendered speechless, Han Xiuyuan shook his head. Only now did he know that his impression of Han Xiuyuan’s arrogance was merely the tip of the iceberg.

“It must be difficult for him to come to Yun City in person,” Yan Qiong commented.

Han Xiuzhi laughed. “This means Jingru is a big enough threat to him. Why else would he resort to this?”

“Only Ma Yu knows why. I’m really curious. What’s Han Xiuyuan so afraid of?” Han Xiuyuan wondered. He had informants in the Chinese District, so he knew most of the information going around, but he was only scratching the surface.

“I’m curious too. Maybe Han Xiuyuan will help

us solve the mystery,” Han Xiuyuan remarked.

A day later, Han Xiuyuan finally reached Yan City. In order to meet Han Xiuzhi, the arrogant old man had to suppress the rage building up in him. He could not afford to lose his temper now.

At Han Residence.

Han Xiuyuan sized up the house with disdain. To him, everything related to Han Xiuzhi was worthless. It did not matter if the Han Residence’s market value was more than a hundred million or that one had to have a significant amount of wealth and connections to buy a house like this; Han Xiuyuan still looked down on it. To him, ever since Han Xiuzhi was kicked out of the U.S., the impression of his brother as worthless trash was seared into his mind, and nothing could change it.

After taking in a few deep breaths, Han Xiuyuan then walked toward the house.

Han Xiao was the one who pressed the doorbell.

Not long after, the door opened. The brothers of the Han family finally met each other after decades.

However, they were not close with each other like other brothers were. Their meeting was akin to an encounter of arch-enemies.

“Han Xiuzhi, how difficult it is to meet you,” Han Xiuyuan uttered coldly.

“Indeed. It’s rare for you to come home anyway,” Han Xiuzhi answered with a smile.

The mockery in his words was apparent, and Han Xiuyuan had to take in another deep breath before continuing, “For me, the U.S. is my home.”

“But this is the place where you grew up. Do you know what you look like now?” Han Xiuzhi questioned.

Han Xiuyuan knew it was a tough question to answer, so he fell silent.

However, Han Xiuzhi insisted on letting him know what kind of person he was, so despite Han Xiuzhi's silence, he said, "A traitor to your race and country."

"Han Xiuzhi, I have my own choices to make. You have no right to judge me," Han Xiuyuan huffed.

"Everyone makes their own choices, but most people's choices are in line with moral principles while yours aren't. Fortunately, you weren't born during the revolution. Otherwise, people like you would leave a bad name in history until the end of time. You'll be a disgrace to the Hans," Han Xiuzhi retorted.

Upon hearing his words, Han Xiuyuan gritted his teeth. Once upon a time, he saw Han Xiuzhi as a disgrace to the Han family. He had never imagined that there would be a day when Han Xiuzhi would use these words against him.

"Han Xiuzhi, I'm not here to argue with you," Han Xiuyuan uttered in a frigid tone.

“I know. What do you need from me? Just tell me.” Han Xiuzhi chuckled.

Han Xiuyuan was beyond exasperated by his words.

*What do I need from Han Xiuzhi?*

This was something that had never crossed Han Xiuyuan’s mind until now.

“I hope you’ll make sure your grandson isn’t messing around. You have no one to blame but yourself if you end up with no grandchildren,” Han Xiuyuan said.

“If this is your kind reminder, I don’t need it. I believe in Jingru’s capabilities. He can handle anything,” Han Xiuzhi answered.

Anger rose in Han Xiuyuan like a tide. He could not squeeze out the words he had prepared to say because he refused to lower himself in front of Han Xiuzhi.

“If there is nothing else, you can leave,” Han

Xiuzhi said sternly.

Han Xiuzhi glared at Han Xiuyuan as he bellowed, “If it weren’t for that boy’s luck, do you think you have the right to speak to me like this? He’s only valued by Mr. Yi. Don’t assume that luck will be by his side forever. I’d warn you now not to be arrogant.”

*Mr. Yi?*

*So that’s why Han Xiuyuan is afraid of Han Jingru. It seems like Mr. Yi is the key to this matter.*

*Is this Mr. Yi someone important from the upper class?*

Han Xiuzhi burst into laughter. *I didn’t think that boy Han Jingru would be able to find such an impressive person to back him up so quickly.*

“What are you laughing at?” Han Xiuyuan questioned the moment Han Xiuzhi laughed.

“I’m laughing at how clueless you are about the

situation you're in. If you're not afraid of Han Jingru, why would you need to cross the sea to come to me? Since you're here, why are you still putting on a show like that?" Han Xiuzhi responded.



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Han Xiuzhi's words hit the mark, and even Han Xiao had to admit that Han Xiuyuan was in no position to be conceited in front of Han Xiuzhi.

Yet, Han Xiuyuan could not bring himself to ask his brother for the favor. He was too used to acting cocky in front of Han Xiuzhi. It did not matter if he was already here in Yan City or that his body was prepared for the moment. His heart refused to admit that he was here to beg for help from Han Xiuzhi instead of negotiating with the other man.

“Han Xiuzhi, do you think you can threaten me?” Han Xiuyuan questioned in a flat tone.

Han Xiuzhi let out a laugh.” Do I need to? Han Xiuyuan, do you know why you ended up like this? You only have yourself to blame. You're too conceited, so this day was destined to come. No one is threatening you. You're the one who sent yourself into this hell.”

After a pause, he continued, “You can leave now, but will you dare to?”

*Will I dare to?*

There was nothing he dared not to do in his life. Many had died at his hands in the Chinese District. As the Han family grew stronger, the number of dead bodies increased as well. In fact, Han Xiuyuan had never been afraid of anything in his life.

Yet now, Han Xiuzhi was asking if he had the guts. Han Xiuyuan could not give him a definite answer.

If he left and Han Jingru recovered, he would be lying in a coffin in no time. With someone as powerful as Mr. Yi from the Apocalypse, Han Xiuyuan was not Han Jingru's opponent.

Apart from that, the Han family in the U.S. would collapse.

The Han family was his greatest accomplishment and pride. Hence, he did not want to be the reason for its destruction.

“Let me take you to a place.” At that, Han Xiuzhi

walked into the house.

Subconsciously, Han Xiuyuan stole a glance at Han Xiao. He only followed Han Xiuzhi after seeing Han Xiao's approving nod.

In the Han family's ancestral shrine, the ancestral tablets were strewn everywhere. It was obvious that someone had made a mess here.

"This was Han Li's doing. These are the Han family's ancestors, but they meant nothing to Han Li. Since he's your son, you should be the one to make amends for his mistakes," Han Xiuzhi muttered.

"What do you mean?" Han Xiuyuan frowned as he asked.

"I want you to get on your knees and fix the ancestral tablets," Han Xiuzhi said determinedly.

*Get on my knees and fix the ancestral tablets?*

At that moment, Han Xiuyuan could not contain his wrath anymore.

He never had the slightest respect for these ancestors.

In Han Xiuyuan's eyes, no one in the Han family could surpass him. He felt that he was the one who led the Han family into its glorious times, so his ancestors should be the ones respecting him instead, and no one had the right to make him kneel.

“Han Xiuzhi, have you gone mad? How can you ask me to kneel to them?” Han Xiuyuan thundered.

Han Xiuzhi took in a deep breath and said, “No matter how great you become, you shouldn't forget your beginnings. Han Xiuyuan, while it's true that you've led the Han family to its glory, would you even be born without our ancestors?”

“Hahaha!” Han Xiuzhi let out a laugh before he scoffed, “So they have the right to make me kneel to them just because they're older than me and I was born into the Han family? What a joke. No matter where I was born, I would still have the same achievements. It has nothing to do with

them. I can't believe you're asking me to kneel to them for a petty reason like this. How absurd."

The Han family in the U.S. never worshipped their ancestors. That was because Han Xiuyuan scoffed at these things. To him, everyone was ranked by their capabilities rather than their age and seniority.

"I think you're a joke," Han Xiuzhi uttered. *How dare a man who looks down on his ancestors talk about obtaining great achievements? No matter how high a person like him stands, he'll never get the respect he wants because he doesn't know what respect means.*

"Han Xiuzhi, if you keep talking to me this way, I'm going to kill you," Han Xiuyuan gritted out through clenched teeth.

"I'm not afraid of death. Are you? Would you like to accompany me in the afterlife? Han Xiuyuan, are you willing to walk on the same path as I did?" Han Xiuzhi asked, fear absent from his face.

To Han Xiuzhi, his time at Terra Prison was like a trip to hell. Since he had already died once, he no longer feared death.

On the other hand, Han Xiuyuan was different. He was here in Yan City because he wanted to live. Furthermore, he was aware that if he killed Han Xiuzhi, this matter would never be resolved. Death would be waiting for him in the next corner.

“Do you think you have the right to die with me? You’re just a useless man,” Han Xiuyuan scorned.

Han Xiuzhi shook his head in exasperation. Han Xiuzhi’s arrogance was seared into his bones. *He even wants to choose who to die with. Is there any difference?*

“It’s fine if you think I don’t have the right to, but you’re not in control of the outcome. My grandson is.” As Han Xiuzhi said those words, he emphasized the word ‘grandson.’ He was obviously implying that Han Xiuyuan’s life was in Han Jingru’s hands. Therefore, he did not have

the right to act all high and mighty in front of Han Xiuzhi.

Han Xiuyuan was no fool. He understood the other man's words easily, and the anger in him spiked instantly.

The younger generation of the Han family in the U.S. either fought against each other or accomplished nothing. They were worlds apart from Han Jingru.

Regardless of whether it was his luck or capability that made Mr. Yi value Han Jingru, what the young man now had was something Han Xiuyuan could not destroy.

“I can fix the ancestral tablets here, but dream on about making me kneel to them.” Han Xiuyuan had already met him halfway. *Han Xiuzhi better not push his luck anymore.*

However, Han Xiuzhi was not pushing his luck; those had been his original terms.

“It's best for you to leave. After you die,

someone from the Han family in the U.S. will deal with this for you.” After a pause, Han Xiuzhi continued, “Yan Qiong, send him off.”

Yan Qiong nodded. He walked toward Han Xiuyuan and Han Xiao to usher them, “This way, please.”

Han Xiuyuan’s rage reached its peak instantly, and he glared at Han Xiuzhi. “Han Xiuzhi, are you sure you don’t want to leave a way out for yourself?”

“Have you thought of leaving a way out for yourself back then when you forced me to kneel and chased me out of the U.S.?” Han Xiuzhi questioned.

Han Xiuyuan clenched his fists in rage. Back then, Han Xiuzhi was worth nothing to him. Moreover, he was a threat to Han Xiuyuan’s position, so naturally, he was ruthless toward Han Xiuzhi. At that time, there was no need for him to think about backup plans.

If Han Xiuyuan could foresee what would happen

today, perhaps he would not have been so ruthless back then.

Noticing Han Xiuyuan's silence, Han Xiuzhi continued, "You can leave immediately. The choice is yours. I won't force you into doing anything."

His words made Han Xiao sigh in his heart. He always thought Han Xiuyuan had greater achievements than Han Xiuzhi. Even in terms of dealing with matters, Han Xiuzhi was no match for his older brother. However, he now realized Han Xiuzhi was using a softer and subtler approach. It was more powerful than Han Xiuyuan's forceful one. While staying humble, he had his hands around Han Xiuyuan's neck. It seemed like he was giving him a choice, but did Han Xiuyuan really have a choice?

*If Han Xiuzhi had been the head of the Han family in the U.S., maybe the Chinese District would turn out much differently.*

"I heard the coffin Jingru has prepared for you is made of the finest wood. It should be perfect for

a man of your status,” Han Xiuzhi continued.

Han Xiuyuan’s heart skipped a beat. Those words effectively tamped down the anger in him.

Han Xiuyuan could not ignore the shock that those words had brought to him. He knew that the moment Han Jingru recovered, he would reappear at the doorway of the villa. When that time came, the entire Chinese District would see how the Han family came to an end. Perhaps, the achievements he had accumulated throughout his life would end up as nothing but a joke. There would not even be a chance for salvation if that happened.

Han Xiuyuan thought, *As long as I’m alive, I’ll have a chance to take revenge. I can’t die!*



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Unwillingly, Han Xiuyuan got on his knees with a loud thud. He trembled uncontrollably in a fury, but all he could do was admit defeat in the face of reality.

A moment of silent endurance was not a submission to humiliation. As long as there was a chance for revenge, Han Xiuyuan would never forget what happened today. One day, he would surely return ten times of what he had to go through to Han Jingru.

Han Xiao sucked in a deep breath. This was something he had never imagined before. In the U.S., no one was capable of making Han Xiuyuan kneel. Yet, the man had bitten the bullet and gotten on his knees today.

“Are you satisfied now?” Han Xiuyuan gritted out.

“This is what you should be doing,” Han Xiuzhi replied calmly.

Han Xiuyuan then slowly arranged the ancestral tablets back to their original positions.

Once that was done, Han Xiuzhi kneeled in front of them and bowed.

Han Xiuyuan despised Han Xiuzhi's action. *This is why he's so useless.*

*As someone powerful, how can you pray to a bunch of dead people?*

"I'll convey your message to Jingru, but the choice is not mine to make," said Han Xiuzhi after he stood up.

Han Xiuyuan narrowed his eyes, and a murderous glint flashed across them despite his efforts in containing his fury.

After Han Xiuyuan and Han Xiao left, Han Xiuzhi sighed.

"What's wrong?" Yan Qiong asked, confounded.

"If he doesn't die, he'll be a threat to Jingru," Han Xiuzhi explained.

Yan Qiong was stunned for a second before he

realized what Han Xiuzhi meant. “If he’s a threat, the earlier we deal with him, the better.”

Han Xiuzhi nodded with a thoughtful expression.

After walking out of the Han Residence, Han Xiuyuan could no longer contain his wrath. His facial features contorted into an ugly scowl.

“I want his entire family to go to hell! I want them to die a horrible death. I’ll make them experience ten times the humiliation I suffered today,” Han Xiuyuan snarled.

Beside him, Han Xiao was silent. He knew how furious Han Xiuyuan was at this moment. However, unlike the older man, Han Xiao was aware that since Mr. Yi had taken Han Jingru in, Apocalypse’s Fourth Gate would definitely back him up. It was a force that Han Xiuyuan was incapable of dealing with.

His only chance for revenge was when Mr. Yi no longer valued Han Jingru. Yet, no one had the power to decide this other than Mr. Yi himself.

It seemed like whether or not Han Xiuyuan could take his revenge was to be decided by fate.

“Han Jingru has a daughter. Find her immediately,” Han Xiuyuan ordered. It was his typical method used to deal with his business rivals.

The idea of not harming the family of those who offended him did not exist in Han Xiuyuan’s mind. He would do anything to achieve his aim, even if what he did was immoral.

“Of course,” Han Xiao answered with a nod.

Although Han Xiao knew that Han Xiuyuan should wait for the opportunity to come to him instead of actively seeking one, he could not disobey Han Xiuyuan’s orders. Han Xiao knew that if Han Xiuyuan did this, things would become riskier for him.

Meanwhile, at Genting, Jiang Yan, who was a step away from death, was dragged back into the house from the balcony by Shi Yan.

Every day, Shi Yan would leave Jiang Yan on the balcony to freeze. She wanted Jiang Yan to feel the agony Han Xiang felt when she was left on the balcony back then. Shi Yan steeled her heart after Jiang Yan committed that unforgivable sin, and she felt no emotion no matter how Jiang Yan pleaded on her knees. A woman like Jiang Yan deserved no sympathy.

Shi Yan felt immensely guilty for neglecting Han Jingru in the past. Now that Jiang Yan had done such a horrible thing to Han Xiang, as Han Xiang's grandmother, she was obligated to take revenge for her. It did not matter that punishing Jiang Yan served no purpose in fixing her past mistakes.

Jiang Yan, who was curled up on the ground, was almost purple by then. Shi Yan questioned her coldly, "Who did you hand Han Xiang to? Do you know where she is?"

Shi Yan knew she would not get the answer she wanted as Jiang Yan was just a tool for the mastermind. Perhaps Jiang Yan did not even know who the other person was. However, Shi

Yan still wanted to do everything she could to get Han Xiang back.

Jiang Yan shook her head. Until now, she had only met the driver. She did not know who was behind the scheme and why that person took Han Xiang.

“I don’t know. I really don’t. Please let me go. After I get out of Yun City, I won’t come back. Please give me a chance,” Jiang Yan begged as she kneeled and grabbed onto Shi Yan’s legs.

Shi Yan kicked her away and hissed, “A cruel woman like you begging for sympathy? Do you have the right to?”

“I’m sorry. I know I’m wrong now. I don’t want to go through this again. Please, please!” Jiang Yan cried out.

“This was how you tortured Han Xiang. Have you forgotten about it? She’s not even one month old yet. Have you ever thought of how tough it was for her?” Whenever Shi Yan thought about how Han Xiang shivered in the cold, her heart

ached tremendously. Instead of sparing Jiang Yan, she became angrier.

She grabbed Jiang Yan's hair and lifted her head. Then, she swung her hand and slapped Jiang Yan's face that was still swollen.

Jiang Yan howled from the pain. A selfish woman like her did not care about the consequences as long as she could reap benefits. Yet, when it was time for her to pay the price, she would regret her actions.

Just then, Su Yimo entered the room.

As if she had seen her savior, Jiang Yan crawled toward Su Yimo.

“Yimo, save me. Save me! I'm your mom!” she shrieked in panic.

Su Yimo glanced at Jiang Yan expressionless. When Jiang Yan expressed her intention to kill Han Jingru, Su Yimo started having thoughts of cutting ties with her mother. Now that Jiang Yan had treated Han Xiang with such cruelty, Su

Yimo no longer saw her as her mother.

Blood is thicker than water, but it was no longer true for Su Yimo.

“You’re not worthy of being my mother.” With that said, Su Yimo looked at Shi Yan and said, “Mom, the meal is ready.”

The word ‘Mom’ made Jiang Yan’s heart wrench in pain. She had a hard time accepting the fact that her daughter no longer regarded her as her mother.

Jiang Yan knew she could only blame herself for this. However, it was pointless to have regrets now.

After the two left, Jiang Yan crouched in a corner dazedly.

She recalled the things that had happened during the year. Although the Su family had gotten better, she ended up like this. Once again, Jiang Yan put the blame on Han Jingru. *This is all Han Jingru’s fault. If this useless rubbish died earlier, I wouldn’t have ended up like this.*

Meanwhile, Su Yimo and Shi Yan were having their meal when Mo Lan came. Unabashed, he grabbed a bowl and chopsticks before sitting at the dining table.

Mo Lan was still relatively reserved in front of Shi Yan. After all, the Yan City's Han family was legendary. That was why he had to be cautious around Shi Yan.

“Yimo, I have news of Jingru,” Mo Lan said.

Upon hearing that, Su Yimo nearly dropped her bowl and utensils. Nervously, she asked, “Where is he?”

“I'm not sure yet. But I heard that Tang Cheng of Bin County has gone to the U.S.” As one of Han Jingru's men in Bin County, Tang Cheng would not leave abruptly without reason. Thus, Mo Lan guessed that Han Jingru must be the reason for Tang Cheng's trip to the U.S. Following this train of thought, it was highly probable that Han Jingru was in the U.S.

Su Yimo knew who Tang Cheng was. When she had returned to Bin County back then, Tang Cheng had been the one to welcome her. It was because of Tang Cheng that the Jiangs did not dare to look down on Han Jingru.

“When are we leaving?” Su Yimo inquired.

“Stay calm. We’ll talk about this again when I’ve confirmed the news,” Mo Lan replied.

Right then, Shi Yan frowned. She knew that Han Jingru was in the U.S. If Su Yimo went there now, she might affect him.



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