

“What is that? It moves so fast!”

“It’s a familiar! Woah! He’s a Beastmaster!”

“Wow! Such a young Beastmaster! Who is he? Is he from the Imperial Court?”

When Manticore appeared beside Huang Xiaoyong, the audience let out a gasp.

After all, a Beastmaster was a powerful figure in the Imperial Court. Seeing this, people started wondering who Huang Xiaoyong actually was.

As for the old man, though he appeared to be calm, his hands were trembling slightly because he knew that Manticore was a seven-star familiar. As a Fifth Stage fighter, he knew he was not capable enough to defeat Manticore.

They were truly in trouble this time.

The young man also did not look too good. He had threatened to kill Huang Xiaoyong in front of everyone in Rouge River—and perhaps the entire Xiaoling City. However, it now seemed

unlikely to happen.

Not only was he unqualified to take down Huang Xiaoyong, but he was facing danger, too.

*Why is a seven-star Beastmaster here and not at the Imperial Court?*

“Old geezer, you should get permission from my familiar if you want to kill me,” remarked Huang Xiaoyong with a smile as he stared at the old man.

Huang Xiaoyong was extremely satisfied when he heard everyone gasp in amazement.

Previously, people would still look down on him despite him being the governor's son. Now, they surely would not ignore him even if he were no longer under the shadow of the governor.

The old man glanced at the young man. Though no words were exchanged, it was apparent that he was telling the younger man he was no match for the familiar.

The young man was embarrassed. Though he did

not want to compromise with Huang Xiaoyong, he knew he would not win if he insisted on a battle.

“I’ll let you walk away unscathed if you kneel and apologize to me,” uttered Huang Xiaoyong. His words stunned everyone yet again.

That young man came from the most prominent family in Xiaoling City. Asking him to be on his knees implied that the young man’s status was lower than that of Huang Xiaoyong!

“Who do you think you are, asking me to kneel? I am Xiao Leng!” shouted the young man through gritted teeth.

*Xiao Leng?*

Although Huang Xiaoyong did not often go to Xiaoling City, he was still aware of the Xiao family. Aside from being the most prominent family here, the governor of Xiaoling City also hailed from this family.

*No wonder he’s so arrogant. But so what if he comes from an*

*influential family? I*

Being part of the most distinguished family or the relative of the city's governor meant nothing to Huang Xiaoyong. After all, he received an invitation from the Imperial Court and could go there anytime he pleased. This was something a "royal" of Xiaoling City could not measure up to.

"Xiao Leng? Oh. I've heard the rumors of the arrogant Xiao family of Xiaoling City. Now that I've personally met one, I can say that the rumors are true. I can't believe you're so bold to kill people in public."

Hearing that, a trace of smugness appeared on Xiao Leng's face. *Now that he knows how powerful my family is, I bet he won't dare to threaten me again.*

"I'm glad that you know about us. Then let me advise you to get the hell out of here before the situation worsens."

"How dare you be so arrogant when you merely hold power over Xiaoling City? Don't tell me



you have no respect for the Imperial Court,” teased Huang Xiaoyong

Xiao Leng’s smugness faded away upon hearing the mention of the Imperial Court.

Though the Xiao family held power over Xiaoling City, they were still incomparable to the Imperial Court, for the court was the supreme place in the entire country. All cities obey commands of the Imperial Court.

“Y-you’re from the Imperial Court?” questioned Xiao Leng reluctantly. *Sh\*t! If he’s really from the Court, I’ll be damned!*

“Doesn’t being a seven-star Beastmaster say enough?” replied Huang Xiaoyong while patting his Manticore, making the familiar groan gently. Though the creature had sharp fangs and a huge figure, it was still well-behaved in front of its owner.

Xiao Leng inhaled deeply. This was a situation he most wanted to avoid.

*He's the Imperial Court's seven-star Beastmaster. Perhaps he also held a respectable position in the court. If I don't back down, I might be seen as being disrespectful to the court.*

Although Xiao Leng was full of himself, he still knew the consequences of messing with the Imperial Court.

“Now, on your knees, please. Or else, as a representative of the Imperial Court, I will hereby expel the Xiao family.” Huang Xiaoyong's voice was soft but it carried a hint of dominance. Even the bystanders were horrified.

Meanwhile, a servant ran to Xiao Zhan at the Xiao residence.

Being Xiao Leng's father and brother of the current governor, Xiao Zhan's power was unfathomable.

He was well aware of Xiao Leng's deeds all over the city, but he just let his son be because he believed there was nothing wrong with young people being impetuous. Moreover, Xiao Leng

had the means to do whatever he wanted as he was part of the powerful Xiao family, so Xiao Zhan did not control him too much.

“Master, something bad has happened!” the servant informed in a panic.

Xiao Zhan took a sip of his tea before replying slowly, “Why are you so flustered? You are the servant of the Xiao family. What’s with the fuss? Is the sky falling or something?”

“Young Master... Young Master has caused trouble in Rouge River.”

Hearing that, Xiao Zhan smiled faintly. *I truly see my younger self in my son. When I was his age, I also caused trouble in Rouge River. But since this is my territory, things like this aren't a big deal.*

“So what? Why are you panicking? It’s not like we can’t solve the problem.” Xiao Zhan smiled lightly and chose to disregard the matter.

“This time is different, Master! He’s in trouble with a Beastmaster!”

*A Beastmaster? Xiao Zhan furrowed his brows. It's indeed a bit troublesome this time. But we're still in Xiaoling City and we've recruited quite a few Beastmasters. The usual Beastmasters would still have to bow to us; there's no reason to panic.*



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

“Leng never lets me pick up the slack, so I believe he can handle this on his own.” Xiao Zhan still appeared nonchalant. *A Beastmaster may be more difficult to deal with compared to an ordinary man, but I guess this Beastmaster can't be of a high rank, so Leng should be able to resolve this matter.*

“Master, the man is a seven-star Beastmaster,” the servant clarified helplessly.

Xiao Zhan froze for a second. He then jumped to his feet with a terrified look and asked, “What did you say? He's a seven-star Beastmaster?”

“Yes. His familiar is a Manticore, a seven-star Manticore for sure, and he's related to the Imperial Court,” the servant replied.

Xiao Zhan was petrified by the revelation. In a way, Xiaoling City belonged to the Xiao family. It was not too big of an exaggeration to say that almost everyone in this city had “Xiao” as their last name.

But even the Xiaos couldn't afford to mess with a

seven-star Beastmaster, especially one who was related to the Imperial Court.

“When did the seven-star Beastmaster come to Xiaoling City? Why didn’t we get the news?” Xiao Zhan asked through gritted teeth.

“Master, please hurry. The man wants Young Master to kneel before him but Young Master is reluctant to cave in. I’m afraid the dispute may escalate. Then it’ll be too late,” the servant reminded him.

Xiao Zhan nodded vigorously in panic. His carefree attitude was nowhere to be seen.

*Never in my lifetime would I have the guts to cross a seven-star Beastmaster from the Imperial Court.*

Meanwhile, at the Rouge River.

Xiao Leng was under tremendous pressure from Huang Xiaoyong, especially when the former mentioned expelling the Xiao family. He didn’t know how to respond to the man.

As the Young Master of the Xiao family, Xiao Leng had never experienced any hardship in life, so he could not tolerate the deep humiliation of kneeling in front of so many people.

“How much more time do you need to consider my proposition? Do you think I’m joking with you?” Huang Xiaoyong said impatiently with an irritated look.

“I’m a member of the Xiao family. Can’t you show me some respect?” Xiao Leng clenched his jaw.

“Show you respect?” Huang Xiaoyong sneered while eyeing him. “Do you mean that the Imperial Court has to respect the Xiao family?”

*Xiao Leng was tongue-tied. I don't have the guts to retort his words. There's no way the Imperial Court needs to respect my family. I also dare not to brag about my family in the face of the Imperial Court.*

Soon, Xiao Zhan rushed to the scene hastily.

The moment Xiao Leng saw his father, his eyes gleamed brightly with hope.

Though he often stirred up trouble, he had never needed his father to resolve anything for him. However, at this moment, he was utterly lost, not knowing how to face this situation at all.

Xiao Zhan's eyes flicked between Huang Xiaoyong and the Manticore beside him.

*This man is definitely a seven-star Beastmaster. I've heard of those anecdotes from Longyun City, which has spread like wildfire across all the neighboring cities. I guess he must be Huang Xiaoyong.*

“Are you Huang Xiaoyong?” Xiao Zhan asked.

Huang Xiaoyong lifted his brows in surprise. *This old man actually knows me. It looks like my story has spread.*

Huang Xiaoyong was all puffed up at this thought. Never had he expected to be this famous.



“You’re sharp-eyed. Yes, I’m Huang Xiaoyong.”  
He admitted straight away.

Previously, Xiao Zhan could not care less about a nobody like Huang Xiaoyong. Longyun City and Xiaoling City were not of the same rank, so there was a great disparity between the Xiaos and Huangs in terms of capability.

But then Huang Xiaoyong had ascended two stages in one go and became a seven-star Beastmaster. As a result, Longyun City moved up the social ladder as well. Besides, the Imperial Court had sent someone to Longyun City, and he might have been recruited. Given these events, the Xiao family could no longer be compared to him.

“This is my son, Xiao Leng. We didn’t mean to offend you. Please forgive us,” Xiao Zhan pleaded with a martial salute. *A real man knows when to give in. It’s not wise to ask for more trouble just to save face.*

“He wanted to kill me. What makes you think that you can get over it with just an apology?”

Huang Xiaoyong said coldly.

With his brows snapped together, Xiao Zhan cast a glance at his son. He had warned Xiao Leng not to show any intention to kill in public, no matter how severe the conflict was. Behind the scenes, though, Xiao Zhan would let his son do whatever he wished. Yet, Xiao Leng ignored his father's instruction, and he even threatened to kill such an influential man from the Imperial Court. No wonder the servant said they were in deep trouble.

If they failed to settle this properly, the entire Xiao family would be doomed.

“Did you really say that?” Xiao Zhan asked his son in an icy tone.

Xiao Leng dared not utter a word. With his head bowed, he didn't hide the truth and nodded faintly.

Xiao Zhan took a deep breath before looking at Huang Xiaoyong. “This is my son's fault, so he has to be responsible for his own misdeeds. What

would you like him to do?”

“A big-shot like myself isn’t that petty. I usually don’t make a big fuss over such a small matter, but your son is too arrogant so I’m going to teach him a lesson. Kneel and apologize to me, and I won’t pursue this matter anymore,” Huang Xiaoyong replied apathetically.

Hearing his pretentious words, Han Jingru couldn’t help but burst into laughter.

*How can this guy proclaim himself a big-shot so shamelessly? Anyway, he indeed has the qualifications to show off now. He’s acting all high and mighty since the Imperial Court backs him up. Regardless of how audacious the Xiao family is, they won’t have the nerve to offend the Imperial Court.*

“Didn’t you hear him? Get on your knees,” Xiao Zhan reprimanded his son. Although this act was going to bring shame upon his family, he had no choice but to do it. This was the only way out and Xiao Zhan didn’t want things to get any worse.

“Dad, I’m the son of the Xiao family. How can I simply kneel to anybody?” Xiao Leng protested indignantly. He could’ve humbled himself if there were not so many bystanders around them. Now that a big crowd was watching them, he was even more reluctant to embarrass himself.

“The son of the Xiao family?” Xiao Zhan snorted coldly. “Things wouldn’t have turned out this way if you weren’t so ignorant and failed to recognize a big-shot like him. So what if you’re my son? Do you want to go against the Imperial Court?”

Sensing his father’s adamant attitude, Xiao Leng’s face turned white as a sheet.

He knew that his father wouldn’t give him a hand in this case. After all, Xiao Zhan would not lead his family to oppose the Imperial Court.

“Now kneel! Do you want to get the whole Xiao family into trouble?” Xiao Zhan whispered to his son.

*Thud!*

Xiao Leng fell on his knees. There was no other choice than to give up his own dignity.

“I’m sorry.”

An apology in exchange for the safety of the Xiao family was totally worth it in their eyes.

Knowing how haughty Xiao Leng usually was, the bystanders couldn’t believe their eyes.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

“Look! He knelt. He really did it!”

“It’s so gratifying to see Xiao Leng kneel to someone.”

“I never thought the influential Xiao family would ever compromise. They’re not so great after all.”

The crowd whispered among themselves. Some of them had been oppressed by Xiao Leng before but could only seethe with indignation silently. Now that Xiao Leng was forced to kneel, these people felt that Huang Xiaoyong was settling old scores with Xiao Leng on their behalf.

Nevertheless, these bystanders dared not speak too loudly, as they were worried that Xiao Leng might overhear them and get even with them later on.

“Can we leave now?” Xiao Zhan asked Huang Xiaoyong.

“Let me warn you. You’re under the reign of the Imperial Court for as long as you’re in its

territory, and that includes Xiaoling City. Stop thinking that you're the lord of this place, and stop doing things as you please. I'll never let the Xiao family off the hook if you behave in such an arrogant way again," Huang Xiaoyong warned.

Usually, no one would dare speak to Xiao Zhan in this manner unless they had a death wish. But now Xiao Zhan could only endure it.

"Thank you for your reminder. Our family will surely keep your advice in mind." With that, he left together with his son.

Watching them among the crowd, Han Jingru was amused by Huang Xiaoyong's ostentatious behavior. This commotion and the Xiao family didn't bother him at all.

But he could tell that this lesson meant nothing to Xiao Leng. The man was exactly like those rich brats on Earth who were so used to being arrogant that they could hardly change themselves.

A leopard can't change its spots. A person like



this would never learn.

“Master, how was it? I didn’t embarrass you this time,” Huang Xiaoyong asked Han Jingru with a smile.

“Your last sentence is pointless. Do you think that the Xiao family will take your warning seriously?” Han Jingru asked.

Huang Xiaoyong shrugged helplessly. “Xiao Leng certainly will not change. But it feels great to humiliate and teach him a lesson.”

“You’re using the Imperial Court’s name to do things as you please. What’s the difference between you and Xiao Leng?” Han Jingru chuckled.

Huang Xiaoyong was dumbstruck for a moment. After that, he quickly refuted, “Master, that’s not true. Xiao Leng and I have entirely different characters. I’m not as proud and overbearing as he is.”

“Oh?” Han Jingru raised a brow while glancing at



him. “Didn’t you want to kill me back then?”

“Hmm...” Huang Xiaoyong appeared embarrassed. *I guess I’m no different from Xiao Leng. Talk about the pot calling the kettle black.*

“Master, I used to be ignorant and didn’t know how capable you really are.”

“Are you saying that you can kill someone if he’s not capable?” Han Jingru questioned him.

Seeing that his disciple was at a loss for words, he patted Huang Xiaoyong’s shoulder and said, “There’s no need to kill anyone unless that’s the last resort. Even if you’re invincible and powerful, you should still respect every life.”

“What if someone drives me into a corner?” Huang Xiaoyong asked.

Han Jingru’s gaze grew frigid. “Then death will be their only way out.”

*The world will be at peace, provided that no one provokes me. Otherwise, I don’t mind killing them all.*

That was the rule Han Jingru lived by now. He wouldn't pick a fight, but at the same time, he was never the fainthearted coward.

At that moment, the girl being auctioned off was brought on board Han Jingru's boat.

With her head lowered bashfully, she couldn't bring herself to even glance at Han Jingru.

Huang Xiaoyong gave his master a lecherous grin. "Master, I'm going to hang out on the shore so you can have some personal space."

Han Jingru shot daggers at him. He didn't buy this girl with any indecent intention; he merely did so out of sympathy for her.

"Miss, where's your home?" Han Jingru asked, facing the girl.

She shook her head without uttering a word. He couldn't tell whether she was being shy or feeling frightened.

“Don’t be afraid, I won’t hurt you. I’ll send you home,” Han Jingru said.

The girl shuddered at the word “home”. Apparently, she was in fear, which Han Jingru found puzzling.

*To me, going home is something to be happy about. There isn’t a second when I don’t yearn to return home. Why is she so afraid?*

Huang Xiaoyong then explained, “Master, a girl like her must have been sold by her family, so going home is a nightmare for her.”

“What should we do then?” Han Jingru rubbed his forehead as he asked in frustration. *I thought I could send her home after rescuing her, but she refuses to go home. I’m at my wits’ end.*

“Miss, how old are you?” Huang Xiaoyong asked.

“Sixteen,” she replied in a gentle voice.

“Master, she’s at her golden age. Since you’ve

already bought her, let her stay by your side to serve you. With the right guidance, a stunner like her will make it difficult for you to get out of bed and away from her,” Huang Xiaoyong teased with an impish smile.

*Sixteen years old! She's still underage. I can't possibly have any indecent thoughts about her.*

Giving Huang Xiaoyong a sideways glare, he said to the girl, “In this case, I’ll give you some money and you can go wherever you want after this. What do you think?”

Having heard his offer, the girl immediately knelt before Han Jingru.

“What are you doing?” Han Jingru asked in a panic, wanting to bring her up.

“Please don’t abandon me. If you do, I’ll have to return to this place. Please give me a chance. I’ll surely serve you and take good care of you.”

Han Jingru was overwhelmed. *I didn't think that his act of sympathy would land me in a fix. I'm a free man. It'll be inconvenient to bring her along with me. And if Jiang Yingying sees this, she will definite*

*ly misunderstand me.*

“Master, her fate is in your hands now. If you really abandon her, she’ll probably suffer terrible consequences, especially if you leave her in Xiaoling City. I believe Xiao Leng won’t let her off the hook, either, as the strife between him and us started because of her,” Huang Xiaoyong reminded his master.

His words knocked some sense into Han Jingru. *If Xiao Leng gets to know that she’s still at Rouge River, he surely won’t let her off. An overbearing son of an official like him won’t go easy on her.*

“Get up first,” Han Jingru said to her.

The girl stood up, waiting obediently for him to give his next order.

“What’s your name?” he asked.

“Bailing Wan’er.”

*Her surname is Bailing?*

This surname didn't exist on Earth. Han Jingru found it interesting whereas Huang Xiaoyong's expression changed drastically.

The latter hurriedly bombarded the girl with questions. "How did your name come about? Did you choose this name yourself? Or is it given by your family?"



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Han Jingru's brows furrowed slightly. Judging from Huang Xiaoyong's concern about her surname, the girl must have a unique background.

"It's my birth name. But I've never told anyone my real surname before." Though Bailing Wan'er was answering Huang Xiaoyong's question, her eyes were on Han Jingru.

Despite seeing a horrified expression on his disciple's face, Han Jingru didn't ask him the reason behind his astonishment. He then turned to the girl and asked, "Since you didn't tell anyone before, why are you telling me now?"

"Because I feel that you're a kind man," Bailing Wan'er replied.

Han Jingru gave her a helpless smile.

*Am I a kind man?*

There was nothing wrong with her words, but such words carried a hidden meaning if they were said on Earth.



“Huang Xiaoyong, find an inn for us,” Han Jingru said.

Huang Xiaoyong nodded and asked the boatman to dock the boat. Afterward, the three of them went ashore.

Meanwhile, at the Xiao residence. A dignified, middle-aged man stood beside Xiao Leng and his father. This man was Xiao Dou, the governor of Xiaoling City and Xiao Zhan’s younger brother.

“Dad, Uncle, are we just letting this matter go?” Kneeling to Huang Xiaoyong was the biggest disgrace in Xiao Leng’s life, which had always been smooth sailing. He couldn’t accept the irreversible fact. Taking revenge was the only way to vent his resentment.

Exasperated, Xiao Dou darted a glance at his nephew. As an elder, he would usually help Xiao Leng regardless of the severity of the mistakes he had made. After all, he was the governor of Xiaoling City, so he was capable of covering up most of the wrongdoings.



However, the situation was different this time because it involved a seven-star Beastmaster from the Imperial Court. There was no need to do a background check on Huang Xiaoyong, as the Imperial Court had indeed visited Longyun City recently. This was enough to confirm Huang Xiaoyong's identity.

Though the Xiao family could tyrannize the people in Xiaoling City, they couldn't afford to mess with the Imperial Court.

"Xiao Dou, how should we go about it?" Xiao Zhan asked.

"We need to apologize to Huang Xiaoyong at his doorstep so he won't have any excuse to pick on our family," Xiao Dou answered.

"What?" Xiao Leng's face contorted with rage. *Why must I apologize to that man again? He made me kneel in public! Is that not enough? I refuse to do this! That's the last time I'll ever let someone trample on my dignity!*

"Uncle, are you out of your mind? How can you

ask me to apologize to him again? Don't you know that I've already knelt to him?" Xiao Leng protested through gritted teeth.

"Xiao Leng, I know you feel aggrieved but you need to know that Huang Xiaoyong isn't just any ordinary man from the Imperial Court. As a seven-star Beastmaster, he'll probably hold an influential position once he goes to the Imperial Court. We can't afford to mess with a man like him," Xiao Dou explained. In fact, Xiao Dou was an undaunted man himself. He had always been high-handed during the past conflicts with other cities; however, this time he had no choice but to yield to Huang Xiaoyong. The Imperial Court holds supreme authority; no city could shake it up.

"Xiao Leng, do you think that our family has what it takes to stand against him?" Xiao Zhan asked.

Xiao Leng's gaze turned murderous as he said, "Just kill him. I don't believe the Imperial Court will really get rid of us. Who else is going to rule over Xiaoling City if our family is gone? Our city

pays tribute to the Imperial Court every year. How dare they disregard us?"

*Slap!*

Right after he finished speaking, his father gave him a deafening and tight slap on the face.

Xiao Zhan asked his son the question earlier to see how naive he was. Despite knowing Huang Xiaoyong was from the Imperial Court, the young man still insisted on taking vengeance.

Xiao Leng's reply truly disappointed him. His son had been overly pampered since young that he was now utterly ignorant and even thought that the Imperial Court wouldn't disregard the Xiao family.

"Xiao Leng! I didn't expect that you've become so full of yourself!" Xiao Zhan rebuked in an icy tone.

Xiao Leng covered his face, which was burning with stinging pain. As the most favored one in the Xiao family since young, no one had ever

slapped him before.

“Dad, our family is so well established. Doesn’t the Imperial Court fear us at all?” Xiao Leng retorted indignantly.

Patting his nephew’s shoulder, Xiao Dou said, “No family has the ability to resist the Imperial Court in its territory. They can appoint a family more prominent than ours to govern Xiaoling City anytime they wish. We’re only pawns in the eyes of the Imperial Court.”

“Back then, the Bailing family was so formidable and influential. Yet, the entire family was wiped out in the end. This shows that no one is allowed to challenge the sovereignty of the Imperial Court. Not to mention that our family is nothing compared to the Bailing family,” Xiao Zhan said with a self-deprecating smile.

A hint of terror flashed across Xiao Dou’s face at the mention of the Bailing family, while Xiao Leng appeared baffled.

Obviously, Xiao Dou knew what would be at

stake if they ever infuriated the Imperial Court. His nephew had no clue.

“Is the Bailing family that great? Why have I not heard about them before?” Xiao Leng asked.

“This incident happened when we were still young. At that time, the Bailing family was the most prominent family under the reign of the Imperial Court, and they governed countless cities. Many even thought that they could overthrow the Imperial Court to form their own empire. But in the end, every single member of the Bailing family was killed overnight and there was bloodshed everywhere. That served as a warning that no one could cross the untouchable Imperial Court.” Xiao Zhan’s eyes glinted with fright. He could not imagine the consequences if his family ever provoked the Imperial Court.

Even the Bailing family couldn’t stand against them, let alone the Xiao family.

Xiao Leng didn’t experience the incident himself so he couldn’t understand the crippling fear in the hearts of those who did. However, it finally

dawned on him that his father and uncle would never get on the wrong side of the Imperial Court because that would be equivalent to digging their own graves.

No matter how overbearing he was, Xiao Leng wasn't stupid. He knew what he must do in order to keep his lavish lifestyle.

“Dad, Uncle, if you want me to apologize to Huang Xiaoyong, I'll do it as you say,” Xiao Leng said obediently.

“I know you feel reluctant to do so, but in this case, you have no other choice than to swallow your pride. Unless, one day, you become so strong that you're qualified to join the Imperial Court and challenge Huang Xiaoyong. That's the time you can avenge for yourself,” Xiao Zhan said.

Xiao Leng gave him a firm nod. “Dad, I'll surely avenge for myself. Getting into the Imperial Court is the pursuit of my life.”



“Are you kidding me? Was the Bailing clan that great?” Han Jingru asked with a doubtful face after listening to Huang Xiaoyong’s story about the Bailing family in an inn.

“Master, I’m not joking with you. Though many people have forgotten about this incident, I remember it very clearly. That’s the reason why my dad always advises me to be modest at all times,” Huang Xiaoyong replied. His dad, Huang Houyi, once told him about the Bailings when he was still a toddler. Since then, his dad often brought up this case to warn him not to be overly insolent, or he would literally be dead meat.

“You said that the Bailing family has been wiped out. Why is Bailing Wan’er still around then? Could it be that she’s actually not a member of the Bailing family?” Han Jingru made a guess.

“I don’t really know about this. The Imperial Court was the one who announced the extermination of the Bailing family. Besides, that wasn’t the first time the Imperial Court did something so ruthless. The Bailing family is massive so it’s possible that one or two of them

escaped the massacre,” Huang Xiaoyong said. The existence of Bailing Wan’er didn’t surprise him, so he didn’t suspect her identity.

In fact, he said it right. The Bailing family was enormous, so it wasn’t easy to kill each and every one of them. If someone escaped the massacre and changed their names, even the Imperial Court might not be able to root them out.

“If she’s indeed someone from the Bailing family, she must have a strong faith in me to tell me her true identity,” Han Jingru concluded. After the extermination, the word “Bailing” had turned into a taboo at the Imperial Court. The girl took a huge risk in exposing herself. If he reported her presence to the Imperial Court, she would be as good as dead.

“Master, I’m wondering why she trusts you so much. Is it only because she feels that you’re a kind man? This reason isn’t very convincing to me,” Huang Xiaoyong said.

“I guess I have to ask her again.” Standing up, Han Jingru walked out of Huang Xiaoyong’s



room and made his way to the room next door, where Bailing Wan'er was staying.

He knocked on the door and the girl opened it immediately.

He glanced at the girl briefly. Knowing her background, he no longer thought of her as an ordinary, delicate young lady. He believed she had a hidden agenda for revealing her true identity.

“Do you know what your surname implies?”  
Closing the door, Han Jingru asked her.

Bailing Wan'er smiled faintly. “I guess you've found out who I am. You're right, I'm from the Bailing family.”

“As a member of the Bailing family, don't you know how dangerous it is to expose your identity? I don't believe that you told me about this only because you think that I'm a kind person,” he questioned.

“I want to be your disciple,” she told him

directly.

“Be my disciple?” Han Jingru was stunned, gaping at her. Though he had yet to figure out her ulterior motive, her intention to be his disciple was way beyond his expectation.

“He’s Huang Xiaoyong. I know about him. He ascended two stages to the Fourth Stage and tamed a seven-star Manticore. There’s no way he accomplished these things single-handedly. All the credit goes to you since you’re his master,” Bailing Wan’er explained.

The man drew a deep breath. *She’s no ordinary girl. Earlier in Rouge River, she put on a perfect facade of a weakling. That’s why I felt pity for her. However, the truth is that she isn’t as fragile as I thought.*

“Why did you tell me these things and want to be my disciple? Do you really believe that you’ll be able to take revenge if you get stronger? Even the Bailing family in its prime couldn’t defeat the Imperial Court, let alone you. How could you possibly do that?” he asked.

“I can never take revenge with my current ability, so I want to become stronger and greater. After that, I can get into the Imperial Court. Only then will I stand a chance to destroy them,” Bailing Wan’er answered.

She was a scheming and tactful girl. Han Jingru could tell from her resolute expression that once she became capable, she could be intimidating.

“If you didn’t meet me, you would be Xiao Leng’s woman by tonight. What would you do then?” he asked.

“I’ll wait for the right time. I’m willing to tolerate anything, including physical abuse, as long as it enables me to take revenge,” Bailing Wan’er answered.

Han Jingru pulled in a deep breath. *How can such words come out of the lips of a sixteen-year-old girl?*

On Earth, most sixteen-year-old girls were probably still innocent and free, indulging themselves in their first love.

To his amazement, he had forgotten that he was even younger than Bailing Wan'er when he used to lie low and hatch his plots in the Han residence.

In a way, both of them were cast from the same mold: they could tolerate anything just to achieve their goals.

“What if I refuse to accept you as my disciple? What are you going to do?” Han Jingru continued to ask.

“I can be your woman. I've seen many men who are afraid of their wives. You'll surely teach me when you're afraid of me,” she answered.

Han Jingru burst out laughing at her words. Just a minute ago, she appeared scheming and much more mature than her age.

However, when she then said those words, she could no longer hide her innocence as a teenager.

“Why are you laughing?” Puzzled, Bailing Wan'er stared at him. *I don't think I've said anything wrong.*

Han Jingru waved his hands helplessly. “That’s a good idea, but I already have a wife.”

“So what?” she asked with a perplexed look.

“I have a wife. Don’t you understand?” he emphasized.

“What do I need to understand?” Bailing Wan’er’s bewildered face was adorable. With her gorgeous face, she looked alluring in her own way.

It almost slipped Han Jingru’s mind that this isn’t Earth. In Xenos, polygamy was the norm. That’s why the girl just couldn’t wrap her mind around the monogamy concept which he was trying to tell her about.

“What I mean is that you will never be my wife,” he replied.

“Am I not gorgeous enough?” the girl murmured, looking a little disheartened.

“No. It’s just that I’m not interested in any woman other than my wife,” he explained.

“So you’re afraid of your wife? I got it right.” A smirk spread across her face all of a sudden.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Han Jingru was at a loss for words.

Looking at Bailing Wan'er's smirk, he knew that it was pointless to explain further. She had not been in a romantic relationship so she couldn't put herself in his shoes.

Bailing Wan'er might appear mature on taking revenge, but she was still a naive teenage girl, after all.

"Rest early," Han Jingru said while he stood up.

Suddenly, Bailing Wan'er stood in his way with her arms stretched wide, refusing to let him go.

"What are you doing?" he asked with a bemused look.

"Let me be your disciple or take me as your wife," Bailing Wan'er insisted.

"Are you forcing me to make a choice?" he asked impassively.

The girl remained silent, but her resolution was evident on her face.

Meeting a powerful master like Han Jingru was the opportunity of a lifetime which she couldn't afford to miss. If she let this go, she might not have it again.

"Do you believe that I'll send you over to Xiao Leng tomorrow? I believe he will be more than willing to take you in," Han Jingru said.

After a few seconds, the girl's eyes lit up as she replied, "I'll expose your identity as well. Then everyone will know you're Huang Xiaoyong's master."

*This girl is a little difficult to deal with. I didn't expect her to threaten me with this.*



"I can choose to kill you so I'll have no worry after this," he replied.

"You bought me because you sympathized with me. How can you kill me?" Bailing Wan'er asked with a brow raised.

She was right. Han Jingru wouldn't kill her, as he wasn't a vicious person. He would not kill unless it was his last resort. She had obviously grasped his weakness.

"Give me some time to think about it. Allowing you to be my disciple is akin to going against the Imperial Court. This isn't as simple as it seems," Han Jingru replied.

"You could've taken me to the Imperial Court to gain favor with them, but you didn't. I know you're no ordinary man. In fact, we're probably the same type of people. I will never get to be your woman since you're afraid of your wife. Hence, you don't need time to consider it. You will eventually take me in as your disciple," Bailing Wan'er said.

With his brows drew together, Han Jingru stared at her. *Her intelligence quotient seems to fluctuate all the time. Sometimes she's smart, while at other times she seems slow-witted. This makes her very difficult for me to read.*

Her every word hit the bull's eye. Even Han Jingru himself felt convinced that there was no other option than to let her be his disciple.

"Do rest early." Pushing the girl away, he walked out of her room.

Instead of feeling disappointed, Bailing Wan'er flashed a



mischievous smile. Her personality was unpredictable, as if she had bipolar disorder.

The moment Han Jingru stepped out of her room door, he saw Huang Xiaoyong waiting eagerly outside.

*He hasn't gone to bed. I bet he wants to find out about our conversation.*

“Master, how did it go? Have you gotten any answer from her?” he asked curiously.

“Go to sleep,” Han Jingru urged. Although he was unable to threaten Bailing Wan'er to obey him, he could still make Huang Xiaoyong submit to him.

Unlike the cheeky girl, Huang Xiaoyong went back to his room submissively without a whimper.

Han Jingru tossed and turned restlessly in bed. The appearance of Bailing Wan'er was uninvited trouble. He could choose to ignore her, but he knew that he was her only hope. No one in Xenos would take her in after knowing her true identity.

This girl reminded him of himself when he was younger. At that time, he wasn't in need of anyone's help but he required an assistant. If Qin Fu didn't show up, his scheme wouldn't have been executed so smoothly.

Undeniably, her resemblance to him piqued his interest and he could hardly contain his curiosity.

*If given a chance, does she have what it takes to seek revenge? It'll be great if she can turn the Imperial Court upside-down. After all, I came to Xenos only to stop the people here from invading Earth. If she causes an internal dispute or, better yet, a fight to break out in the Imperial Court, then the problem of the invasion will resolve itself.*



The next morning.

Three men from the Xiao family turned up in front of the inn. As prominent figures in Xiaoling City, their presence made the owner of the inn fidget nervously. Standing in front of the three men, the owner dared not make a sound and held his breath out of apprehension.

“Sir, how may I help you?” the owner asked in a trembling voice.

“No worries, I’m waiting for someone,” Xiao Dou replied.

The owner discreetly wiped the cold sweat off his forehead. *Who is that big-shot these three men from Xiao family are waiting for? How could I not know that such a VIP is in my inn?*

After a short while, Huang Xiaoyong finally came into view. Seeing the three men, he quickened his pace and walked ahead of Han Jingru. With that, the Xiao family would think that his master was only a servant who tagged along with him and would not suspect his identity.

“Tell me you’re not here to stir up trouble for me early in the morning,” Huang Xiaoyong said indifferently while strolling over to them.

“Mr. Huang, I’m Xiao Dou, the governor of Xiaoling City,” the man introduced himself. “I came to know that my nephew has offended you unintentionally, so I quickly took him here to apologize to you.”

Yesterday, Xiao Leng had already knelt and said sorry to Huang Xiaoyong. Yet, Xiao Dou still came to him personally today. Huang Xiaoyong couldn’t help feeling smug in his heart. *It seems like my status is high enough to intimidate people now. Even Xiao Dou approached me because of yesterday’s incident.*



“I’ve already let go of what happened yesterday. Don’t worry about it, Mr. Xiao. I’m not someone who dwells on trivial matters,” Huang Xiaoyong replied.

Giving him a half-smile, Xiao Dou said, “Mr. Huang, that’s so generous of you to let bygones be bygones. If you don’t mind, please come over to the governor’s residence so that we can make it up to you.”

“Mr. Xiao, do you want to buy me a drink? However, this reason sounds rather unconvincing. Do you need a favor from me or something?” Huang Xiaoyong asked straight away.

*Perhaps the Xiao family is apologizing for a second time because they’re afraid that I won’t let Xiao Leng off. However, inviting me to their house is totally unnecessary. Hence, Xiao Dou most probably needs my help.*

“You’re a genius, Mr. Huang. I do need a favor from you. Have you heard of the Gale Ring in Xiaoling City?” Xiao Dou asked.

“The Gale Ring?” Huang Xiaoyong’s brows knitted together. *I’ve heard about it. It’s a boxing ring open all year round with an arena master waiting to accept challenges from anyone. The Gale Ring is the domain of the most powerful fighters in Xiaoling City. But why did he mention this all of a sudden? I just don’t get it.*



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



“Mr. Xiao, whatever you have to say, say it. Don’t beat around the bush,” Huang Xiaoyong asked directly, not bothering to guess what could be on Xiao Dou’s mind.

“Mr. Huang, the Gale Ring has been dominated by a ruthless figure these past six months. Everyone who challenged him had died in the ring. So, I was hoping you could come forward and help me deal with this man,” Xiao Dou said.

“Mr. Xiao, isn’t the Gale Ring a place where the strongest survives? The fact that he can defeat all the challengers shows he possesses great strength. Why are you so hostile towards him?” Huang Xiaoyong asked incomprehensibly.

“I’m afraid there is something you don’t know, Mr. Huang. As the second landmark of Xiaoling City, the Gale Ring used to be a lively and extraordinary place that attracted many to duel in the arena. But since that man became the arena master, his strength and brutality have managed to reduce the number of contestants who dared to step into the ring. If this continues, the Gale Ring might lose its original purpose.” Xiao Dou stated his purpose directly, having nothing to hide.

The Gale Ring had been quite popular in the past. It used to be a must-go for many who came to Xiaoling City, for it triggered their desire to engage in combat. But now, only a few were interested in visiting the Gale Ring, and the reduction in the number of visitors in turn impacted the prosperity of Xiaoling City. This was why Xiao Dou requested Huang Xiaoyong’s assistance to deal with that man.

It was simple, really. What was once a lively venue was now virtually deserted. As the governor of the city, Xiao Dou must find a way to turn the situation around.



“So you want him dead because he is too strong?”  
Huang Xiaoyong asked, smiling.

“The ring is created for the strong, and only the best of them is qualified to become the arena master. However, the Gale Ring is different. It is a popular landmark of Xiaoling City so we cannot have an undefeatable fighter there,” Xiao Dou said.

Huang Xiaoyong understood what Xiao Dou meant. The Gale Ring was more than just a ring. Xiao Dou placed higher regard on the commerce around the venue. An unshakeable fighter, especially one who used cruel methods to drive away contenders, would undoubtedly affect these nearby businesses. Xiao Dou would not want that to happen.

However, if Xiao Dou as the governor could not find anyone to confront the arena master, then the man must be undeniably strong indeed. Huang Xiaoyong was a seven-star Beastmaster, but as he was only at the Fourth Stage, he did not think he could beat the arena master in his current capacity.

“Mr. Xiao, you think too highly of me. I’m only at the Fourth Stage now. If you can’t deal with him, I’ll only die in his hands,” said Huang Xiaoyong.

“The Gale Ring is an arena with zero restrictions, so your seven-star familiar is enough to tear him to pieces,” Xiao Dou said with a smile. If he were not sure about it, he would not have deliberately come to meet Huang Xiaoyong.

Huang Xiaoyong did not dare to decide on his own. Frankly, meaningless fame such as this mattered to him because he wanted to be remembered by the people of Xiaoling City, but he wanted to first seek Han Jingru’s opinion.



In Huang Xiaoyong's mind, his master's words were absolute. Only with the man's permission would he dare to take action.

"I'll think about it. If there is nothing else, Mr. Xiao, perhaps you also have your own matters to attend to," Huang Xiaoyong said.

Xiao Dou took it as his cue to leave, so he said nothing more. He bade a polite farewell and went on his way.

The two men sat down in a corner. After making sure no one was around, Huang Xiaoyong said to Han Jingru, "Master, should we agree to his terms?"

Han Jingru spoke lightly as he ate, "Xiao Dou has two objectives. He either wants to use you to resolve his problems, or he wants to get rid of you."

"Get rid of me?" Huang Xiaoyong was stunned. "Master, do you mean that Xiao Dou intends to use that arena master as a means to kill me?"

"If you were to die in the ring, it would have nothing to do with the Xiao family even if the Imperial Court pursued the case. Your lack of strength would be blamed for your demise. If you manage to kill the arena master, then you will have taken care of Xiao Dou's problem. No matter what happens, it works in his favor. It seems like he has taken you for a ride," Han Jingru explained.

Huang Xiaoyong glared fiercely and gritted his teeth. "Master, it seems like the Xiao family haven't learned their lesson. How dare that old fool treat me like a tool!"

"Do you know why?" Han Jingru grinned.

Huang Xiaoyong shook his head. "I don't."



“Because he knows you are young and you care about fame, so he is quite certain you will agree,” Han Jingru said. If it were not for Han Jingru, Huang Xiaoyong would have agreed to the governor’s task without hesitation, because he was that kind of person.

With the opponent being a strong fighter who managed to defend his title for the past six months using brutal means, Huang Xiaoyong would surely become instantly famous if he won the battle. Such a temptation was too great for those who sought fame. Xiao Dou must have understood this point, which was why he was sure Huang Xiaoyong would take up the challenge.

But Xiao Dou did not realize that Huang Xiaoyong’s servant was actually the young man’s master. Before making any decision, Huang Xiaoyong would always consult Han Jingru.

“Master, why does he think I care about fame?” Huang Xiaoyong twitched his mouth.

“You’re the son of the governor of Longyun City. Do you think he wouldn’t understand how you tick? After The Hunting, he must have run a detailed background check on you. I’m afraid he knows you too well already,” Han Jingru grinned as he spoke.

Huang Xiaoyong wrinkled his nose in embarrassment. He was reluctant to admit it but he was indeed the kind of person who liked to show off. He was never one to conceal his abilities. He would love to commit acts that would shock the world and have his name be known to all.

“Master, what should I do now?” Huang Xiaoyong asked.

“Agree to take up the task but don’t fight with familiars,” Han Jingru advised.



“Don’t fight with familiars?” Huang Xiaoyong stared at Han Jingru dumbfounded. As someone whose strength was only at the Fourth Stage, wouldn’t he be killed if he fought without familiars?

“Practical combat, especially in the face of death, is the most effective way to boost your capability and improve your strength. Who knows, this could be your opportunity to go beyond Fourth Stage,” Han Jingru said.

Huang Xiaoyong’s eyebrows twitched at the idea. *Go beyond Fourth Stage!*

He had previously made it through two stages at one go. In his view, even with his master’s guidance, it would take two or three years for him to make another breakthrough. He did not expect Han Jingru to give such a statement at this juncture.

This meant that he might reach Fifth Stage very soon. The thought alone excited Huang Xiaoyong to no end.

“Master, I... can I really achieve that?” Huang Xiaoyong asked, his voice trembling.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Han Jingru nodded. He knew the benefits of the holy chestnut better than anyone else; it could do far more than just enabling Huang Xiaoyong to achieve a double breakthrough. It did more than having helped Zhuang Tang and Gong Tian of Apocalypse progress through their stages. So, if Huang Xiaoyong wanted to get to the next stage, what he lacked was merely an opportunity.

Huang Xiaoyong, who deeply believed in Han Jingru, had no doubt about his master's words, which was why he grew even more excited.

*If I could really do it and advance to Fifth Stage in such a short time, this will once again shock the entire Longyun City!*

At the governor's residence.

Xiao Zhan and Xiao Leng were both well aware of Xiao Dou's intention to have Huang Xiaoyong fight in the ring. However, from Xiao Leng's perspective, Huang Xiaoyong could not possibly accept the request. It was clear that Xiao Dou was only using him. *Huang Xiaoyong must be a fool not to have realized it.*

"Uncle, do you think Huang Xiaoyong might possibly agree to it?" Xiao Leng asked curiously.

"Not that he might. He will," Xiao Dou replied with a confident smile.

Xiao Leng glanced at Xiao Zhan suspiciously. He could not understand where Xiao Dou's self-confidence came from.

Xiao Zhan said, "You planned to use Huang Xiaoyong. He can't possibly not know about it."

"Even if he does know, and even if I outright told him, he



will still agree to it," Xiao Dou said.

Even Xiao Zhan found his brother's words quite unfathomable. *Why is Xiao Dou so certain that Huang Xiaoyong will agree to his request?*

"Why?" Xiao Zhan asked doubtfully.

"Because I know what makes him tick. He likes to show off in Longyun City, but that place can no longer satisfy him. Now that there's an opportunity for him to do so in Xiaoling City, how could he give that up? In the heat of the moment, a young man such as he won't stop to consider whether I'm using him," Xiao Dou explained.

"But won't he think about his own safety?" Xiao Leng was still doubtful.

"If you suddenly become a seven-star Beastmaster, wouldn't you grow arrogant as well?" Xiao Dou asked a rhetorical question.

Xiao Leng was stumped for a moment.

*The seven-star Beastmaster is a title unattainable by ordinary folks. It is very likely that Huang Xiaoyong has grown arrogant because of it.*

"Uncle, if he wins, won't he become even more arrogant?" Xiao Dou raised his concern.

"Win?" Xiao Leng laughed out loud all of a sudden. "How can he win? Do you know which stage his opponent is at?"

Xiao Leng shook his head. When that man first became the arena master, many people had tried to challenge him but none was able to call forth his true potential. Because of his brutal methods, the number of



challengers gradually reduced. So far, no one had seen his real capability, so no one really knew what he was truly capable of.

“He’s probably the strongest Seventh Stage fighter, and might just be a hair’s breadth from reaching Eighth Stage,” Xiao Dou estimated.

*The strongest Seventh Stage fighter!*

*Xiao Zhan and Xiao Leng’s expressions changed. No wonder no one could beat him! That man is actually a Seventh Stage fighter, and also one close to making a breakthrough!*

Xiao Zhan took a deep breath and asked, “Why would an impressive fighter like him turn up in our city?”

Xiao Dou shook his head. He had looked into this matter before but to no avail, so he could only take a guess at the man’s objective.

“From what I see, he may be looking for a way to break through to the next stage. The most direct way is through non-stop fighting. As for why he chose Xiaoling City, I haven’t the slightest clue,” Xiao Dou said.

“Uncle, according to what you said, isn’t Huang Xiaoyong doomed?” A sneer flashed across Xiao Leng’s face. This was his chance for revenge. With Huang Xiaoyong dead, he could finally rejoice!

“Aye,” Xiao Dou let out a sigh. He had not intended to go against the Imperial Court, nor did he wish to trouble Huang Xiaoyong too much. It was just that Xiao Dou had no children of his own and had always treated Xiao Leng —their family’s sole successor—like his own son. He could not bear to see his nephew being bullied, so he bit the bullet and helped him seek revenge.



“Xiao Leng, I’m taking a great risk to help you this time,” Xiao Dou said.

Xiao Leng responded with gratitude, “Uncle, I will definitely treat you well from now on.”

“How great is the risk here?” Xiao Zhan asked.

“The investigation by the Imperial Court may be troublesome, but the matter actually has nothing to do with us. After all, Huang Xiaoyong chose to fight at the ring himself, so the Imperial Court should not be able to blame it on us. Don’t worry.”

The next day, a lively crowd turned up at the Gale Ring. It had been a long time since someone had fought in the arena. The Gale Ring, which had been declining in popularity, was suddenly packed with people today.

When Huang Xiaoyong appeared, the crowd became agitated. They knew that he was the challenger—and a seven-star Beastmaster. This credential made the curious onlookers all the more eager to watch the battle.

“Why has he come alone?” Huang Xiaoyong’s showing up alone caught Xiao Dou by surprise. The servant who was always by his side did not follow him.

“According to our informant, Huang Xiaoyong was the only one who left the inn. Perhaps his servant and the woman he bought are warming up in bed,” Xiao Leng snickered shamelessly. His mind was filled with nothing but dirty thoughts. This goes to show the kind of filthy scum Xiao Leng was.

“Many people in Longyun City claim that Huang Xiaoyong is a simple-minded guy. It certainly seems to be the case. Even a servant has him running around in circles,” Xiao Dou sneered. *Someone like him could actually become a seven-star Beastmaster. It’s simply ridiculous.*



Right then, Huang Xiaoyong walked directly towards the ring.

He knew that Han Jingru was not absent. On the contrary, his master was hiding nearby and would come to his aid only if he were in danger. His master had told him so when he left the inn.

Han Jingru had a simple request—that Huang Xiaoyong would play to his strength and attack with all his might without considering the consequences. Han Jingru would help him out only if his life were at stake.

Above the ring sat an untidy man with greasy and disheveled hair that resembled a pile of weeds. If anyone got closer to him, they would detect an utterly foul smell. It seemed likely that he had not taken a shower in a long while.

With a flicker of the mind, a white figure descended from the sky.

The huge Manticore landed directly beside Huang Xiaoyong, seemingly docile.

The appearance of the seven-star familiar made the crowd gasp in excitement. Most of them had heard of the Rouge River incident but they never had the chance to see it with their own eyes. Now that the real deal was right in front of them, the visual impact was overwhelming indeed.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



“You’re at Fourth Stage, yet you’ve obtained seven-star familiar. How did you manage to do it?” The man in the ring finally took it seriously. Obviously, he was surprised by Huang Xiaoyong.

“I’m here to fight, so cut the crap, shall we?” Huang Xiaoyong uttered calmly.

That man stared at the seven-star familiar while ignoring Huang Xiaoyong. Clearly, he looked down on the other man.

“Well, you know, the Beastmaster’s life is connected with his familiar. Once you’re dead, it won’t make it too. What a waste,” said the man contemptuously.

Huang Xiaoyong frowned. This pathetic-looking man was such a trash-talker. How dared he say that before they even got started?

However, Huang Xiaoyong knew his limitations. He understood that he was no match for this man. If it weren’t for Han Jingru protecting him in secret, he wouldn’t even have the courage to enter the ring.

“You presume that I’ll die before we even get started. Don’t you think you’re too arrogant?” he uttered.

The man smirked, taking his words as a joke. “From the moment you stepped into the ring, you’re doomed to fail. As for the seven-star familiar, well, it’s just a spot of bother,” the man said confidently.

“Don’t take it wrongly. It’s just you and me,” said Huang Xiaoyong.

Finally, the man looked him in the eyes, but his gaze was full of doubt.



*Is he leaving the familiar out? Could it be that he intends to use his ridiculous Fourth Stage to challenge me?*

Three members of Xiao family, who were witnessing the competition from afar, were also puzzled when they heard Huang Xiaoyong's words.

"Uncle, what does he mean?" Xiao Leng asked Xiao Dou.

Xiao Dou couldn't understand it either.

*How can he leave the familiar out of the competition? Does he really think he can defeat the man at Fourth Stage? How naive he is.*

Just then, Manticore suddenly let out a loud roar, and then it kicked its feet and soared into the sky.

"Is he crazy?" Xiao Dou asked. He thought Huang Xiaoyong was joking, but it turned out he was serious when he claimed that he was not going to use his familiar.

"He may not be a smart one, but it still makes no sense for him to be this dumb. What's he doing?" Xiao Zhan was baffled too.

Yet, no one could answer this question.

Even the man in the ring could not understand what Huang Xiaoyong's intention to do so was.

"You're digging your grave," said the man to Huang Xiaoyong.

There was a reason why the latter summoned Manticore, yet left it out of the competition. That was what Han Jingru wanted him to do.



If he were to fight using the Fourth Stage alone, the man wouldn't even flinch and just take him down with the ultimate move. With the huge gap of stages between them, Huang Xiaoyong had no odds of winning, and he would get killed before he could show what he got.

By bringing in Manticore, it would catch the opponent off guard and make him puzzled. He would definitely give Huang Xiaoyong a chance to fight in order to find out what the man actually wanted.

To Huang Xiaoyong, this would be the best moment to strike. As long as he could bring his ultimate strength into play, it would have served his purpose of being here in the ring.

“Take that!” Huang Xiaoyong took the initiative to start the fight as he spoke. There was no defense move, as he just used up all his strength to attack the man.

The three members of Xiao family were confused by the scene. They had no idea what Huang Xiaoyong was up to. With the assistance of Manticore, perhaps he could survive the fight, but if he were to fight the man alone, then he was getting himself killed.

“Uncle, could it be that he doesn't know how capable this man is, and that's why he is making this silly mistake?” uttered Xiao Leng.

“Let's stay till the end. Only then we can figure out his real intention,” Xiao Dou took a deep breath and said.

In the ring, despite the fact that Huang Xiaoyong's attack looked legit, he couldn't even get close to the man, let alone cause harm to him.

The man stayed put because he had too many doubts about Huang Xiaoyong in his mind. So, he didn't want to



finish him quickly.

At least he had to find out why a seven-star Beastmaster would challenge him despite being at Fourth Stage. What was the untold reason behind this suicide move?

“Kid, why are you doing this? Do you realize you’re just getting yourself killed?” The man asked Huang Xiaoyong while blocking his attacks.

All Huang Xiaoyong knew was to keep attacking. He didn’t think about anything, because he knew Han Jingru was going to protect him if things went wrong. Now, what he had to do was to give his best in order to find a way to achieve Stage ascension.

“I will kill you if you keep ignoring me,” warned the man.

His threat meant nothing to Huang Xiaoyong. Instead, the latter used up all his energy to attack the man. At the moment, he could only feel the inexhaustible energy pumping up in his body. That was what he had never felt before.

Surely, he had also never been so fearless while confronting a formidable enemy!

The man’s patience slowly drained out. It could be clearly seen from his facial expression.

“I will give you one last chance. What do you want from me?” asked the man.

As usual, Huang Xiaoyong ignored his words. He was losing control of himself. The energy seemed to be going out of control. He couldn’t stop now even if he wanted to.

As soon as the man felt Huang Xiaoyong’s changes, he frowned. Immediately, he realized what Huang Xiaoyong



was trying to do. "How dare you use me to achieve Stage ascension, kid! Even if you manage to do so, I can still kill you on the spot. You doing this is simply meaningless!"

The man took a few steps back to distance himself from Huang Xiaoyong. Just when he was making a move to send the latter to hell, he suddenly felt he was targeted by something powerful. It was so powerful that he might actually get killed.

The moment the man sensed danger and was terrified by the threat, he could sense from where it was coming.

Among the crowd, there was a man walking toward him, and right then, he knew he was no match for the approaching man. He had sensed that the unidentified man was a few times stronger than him.

*How is it possible to have someone with such impressive power in Xiaoling City?*

"Uncle, what is he doing? Why is he holding himself back when he can easily take Huang Xiaoyong down?" Xiao Leng witnessed the scene from a distance, and he was bewildered. It was obvious that the man wanted to kill Huang Xiaoyong, but why did he stop all of a sudden?

Xiao Dou furrowed his brows, as he could not understand either. The man was not moving at all as if he were frozen.

"I have no idea, but I have a bad feeling about it." Xiao Dou trembled with fear as if something awful was going to happen soon.

A masked man in white walked out of the crowd, and then he took the stairs and entered the ring.

"Take a rest," the masked man said to Huang Xiaoyong in



his deep voice.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

The masked man's emergence filled everyone with doubt and confusion, and the Xiao family became even more curious as to who this mysterious lad was.

"This man..." Xiao Dou pondered for a moment before a look of terror flashed in his eyes. "Could he be Huang Xiaoyong's master?"

Huang Xiaoyong may have never revealed that he had a master, but the fact that he had managed to tame a seven-star familiar strongly implied that there was a more powerful force behind him. Hence, this wasn't much of a secret anymore.

"Is he that strong, Uncle?" Xiao Leng couldn't help but ask.

Xiao Dou didn't know—the masked man hadn't made a move, after all—but judging from the arena master's behavior, he was sure that this man wasn't ordinary.

The arena master had clearly wanted to kill Huang Xiaoyong but suddenly held back after the masked man appeared. This showed how wary the arena master was toward him.

"I may have made a mistake," said Xiao Dou, gritting his teeth. *I wanted to use the arena master to get rid of Huang Xiaoyong, but I forgot that it wasn't just his connections with the Imperial Court I have to be careful about. There's someone else behind him I have to look out for, and this guy has made it clear as day.* Xiao Dou couldn't imagine what would happen if Huang Xiaoyong's master were to unleash his wrath on the Xiao family.

At that moment, Han Jingru, who was behind the mask, had already made his way toward the arena master. His mere presence was enough to cause the latter to freeze on the spot.



It was Han Jingru's first time unleashing his true abilities. With such a powerful figure in front of him, the arena master dared not put up a fight.

"Why stay in Xiaoling City with your abilities?" Han Jingru asked the arena master, deliberately altering his voice.

"I have to take things to the next level if I want to reach the last three stages. After hearing about the Gale Ring in Xiaoling City, I wanted to use this place to achieve greater heights," the arena master answered truthfully, not daring to hide his motives.

Without even fighting Han Jingru yet, the arena master could already tell how much more powerful the former was. This masked man had such a formidable presence that the arena master didn't want to lay a finger on him. There was only one explanation for this.

Standing before him had to be someone among the last three Stages. As for which stage he was actually in, the arena master couldn't tell.

"But there isn't a single person in Xiaoling City who's more powerful than you are. What good has it brought you by killing so many people here?" Han Jingru demanded.

The arena master fell silent.

Han Jingru continued, "You want to ascend, yet you're afraid of dying. Is that why you can only resort to killing the weak and continue to live under the illusion that you've gained more power?"

The arena master's expression took a turn. In a way, Han Jingru had hit the nail on the head. *But it's not just because I fear death. There are other special reasons I can't die so easily.*



“You’re strong, and there’s no way I can defeat you. I have nothing else to say,” the arena master remarked, accepting defeat.

Han Jingru strode toward him to teach him a lesson, only to hear him mutter, “I guess I can’t go back. Maybe I shouldn’t have come in the first place.”

Han Jingru frowned. The arena master’s words might seem nothing more than ordinary to others, but to Han Jingru, those words felt completely different.

“Where are you from?” asked Han Jingru.

The arena master glanced at Han Jingru with a faint smile. “You may be powerful, but you’ve never seen a different world. Did you know another world exists out there? But someone like you will never get to see it.”

*Another world?*

Behind the mask, Han Jingru’s eyes gleamed with excitement.

*Could this be the man who was sent to Xenos by the Apocalypse?*

*If so, that makes us from the same world. I may be able to find out more about Xenos through him.*

Unfortunately, there were too many eyes on the ring now, so Han Jingru couldn’t discuss this matter in detail. Hence, he said to the arena master, “Go. I won’t kill you.”

The arena master stared at Han Jingru in puzzlement. “Why?”

“I have nothing against you, so why should I kill you? This is my disciple. I was just getting you to help him ascend



to the next stage,” Han Jingru answered while glancing at Huang Xiaoyong, who was sitting nearby meditating.

The arena master had long been aware of Huang Xiaoyong’s intentions, which was exactly why he wanted to kill him.

“He’s very lucky to have someone among the last three stages as his master,” the arena master remarked before leaving the ring.

However, this spectacle disappointed the audience. Everyone had thought that there’d be a good show, but the fight ended after the masked man appeared on stage.

“No way. Is it over? Why aren’t they fighting?”

“I guess that guy is no match for the masked man at all, so he doesn’t even dare to fight him.”

“I can’t tell if the guy in the mask is really that powerful, or if he’s just faking it.”

After the arena master left, the first thing Xiao Dou did was to walk toward the ring. As the person behind the whole incident, it was clearly impossible to free himself from it, so he decided to face it head-on.

“Should I clear the ring for your disciple, Sir?” asked Xiao Dou. To him, a fighter like Han Jingru had to be a very senior figure, so he addressed him politely.

“My disciple will settle his scores with the Xiao family when he wakes up,” Han Jingru answered calmly.

Xiao Dou’s heart sank at the response and his expression turned ghastly.



“It was indeed my fault, Sir. I’ll do my best to compensate your disciple when he wakes up.”

Xiao Leng and his father trembled as they walked toward the ring as well. The young man who always acted high and mighty dared not even look Han Jingru in the eye.

*The Xiao family may be in control of everything in Xiaoling City, but this guy is capable of killing me if he really wants to. I have to stay low in front of him.*

Huang Xiaoyong finally opened his eyes half an hour later. His presence was significantly more intense, signifying that he had successfully ascended to the next stage.

“I did it, Master! I’ve ascended!” Huang Xiaoyong exclaimed as he got up.

Fifth Stage!

This was a stage Huang Xiaoyong had only dreamt of attaining. He didn’t think he would actually reach this milestone in his lifetime.

Moreover, the young man knew that as long as Han Jingru was around, he would be able to achieve greater lengths. The thought of this excited him.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



To Han Jingru, it was nothing out of the ordinary for Huang Xiaoyong to ascend to the next stage. The latter had eaten a red fruit, after all. If he still couldn't ascend, that would only mean he was too weak. Furthermore, the guy had only attained Fifth Stage—this wasn't something to be proud of.

“You're already so excited from just attaining Fifth Stage? Is that really enough?” Han Jingru asked blankly.

Huang Xiaoyong immediately settled down as though a bucket of ice had been poured over him. “I shouldn't get carried away, Master,” he said, his head lowered.

The three members of the Xiao family were frustrated to hear the conversation. To an ordinary folk, attaining Fifth Stage was like a miracle, but it seemed to mean nothing to Han Jingru and his disciple. *This is probably how true fighters think.*

“I'll leave the rest to you. I have to go,” Han Jingru suddenly said to Huang Xiaoyong before leaving the ring in a hurry.

Huang Xiaoyong thought his master was just finding an excuse to leave, so he said nothing.

However, the true reason Han Jingru was in such a hurry was that he could feel that the arena master had already left Xiaoling City, but there was so much more he had to ask him. It'd be difficult to locate the arena master if he were to go too far.

By the time Han Jingru reappeared outside the city, he was already in a different outfit to prevent others from realizing he was the masked man from before.

However, when he stood before the arena master once again, the latter had a disdainful look on his face, not



realizing that the man in front of him was the very same person he didn't dare lay a finger on back in the ring.

"What are you doing blocking my path, young man? Have you not thought about the consequences?"

"What's your name?" asked Han Jingru.

The arena master smirked coldly. "Do you think you have the right to ask for my name? Hurry up and scram, or you'll be sorry."

Han Jingru smiled in frustration. "You must have a really bad memory, huh? We just met a while ago, but you've already forgotten all about me. Is it because I don't have my mask on?"

*Mask?*

A look of disbelief surfaced in the arena master's eyes. *This young chap is the masked man from the ring earlier?*

*That's impossible!*

*How could such a strong fighter be this young?*

"Y-You... How could this be? No. That's impossible. There's no way you're actually him." The arena master spoke frantically.

"Nothing is impossible," Han Jingru replied as his presence began to make the arena master panic once again.

Feeling this familiar energy, the latter knew that this man was indeed the same person in mask from before. He just couldn't believe that someone who was in the final stages would be this young.



“What is your name?” Han Jingru asked again.

“Zhao Yi.”

“Zhao is one of the prominent family names—just like the Qians, Suns, and Lis,” Han Jingru remarked with a chuckle.

His statement caused Zhao Yi to pale in shock. *This is a common saying back in my world.*

*No one in Xenos ever talks about family names like this. How did he...*

*Unless... What if...*

Zhao Yi’s breathing turned erratic, but he was still in a state of disbelief.

“W-Who are you?”

“I come from the same world as you do.” Seeing the way Zhao Yi reacted, Han Jingru could now be even more certain that the former was from Earth. No one from Xenos would react the way he did upon mentioning those family names.

“Y-You’re from the Apocalypse?” Zhao Yi continued to ask.

“You must be a Platinum rank. Are you from the Four Gates or Three Halls? Who do you work for—Mr. Yi or He Qingfeng?” Han Jingru continued asking.

Zhao Yi was completely dumbfounded. Only a member of the Apocalypse would know so much about the organization.

He had never imagined being able to meet a fellow



Earthling in Xenos.

Zhao Yi knew that the Apocalypse had sent many of its members to Xenos, but after all these years, he had never come across someone who came from the same world as he did.

“I belong to the Bluegreen Dragon Gate headed by Mr. Yi,” Zhao Yi answered with excitement. “What about you?”

“Mr. Yi wanted to take me as his disciple, but I never really officially practiced under him. I guess you can say I’m just a half-disciple of his,” Han Jingru replied.

Zhao Yi walked closer toward Han Jingru, feeling more animated than reuniting with a long-lost friend in a foreign land. He hadn’t felt like this since forever, considering how long he had lived in a different world.

“When did you arrive in Xenos? How did you become so powerful at such a young age?” asked Zhao Yi.

“A few months ago.”

Han Jingru proceeded to describe what happened during his days at the Apocalypse. Zhao Yi was beyond shocked to hear that Han Jingru had taken less than a month to ascend from Bronze to Platinum rank. As a Platinum rank himself, he knew how tedious the journey was, and many had died during the trial at the Devil’s Cave. Yet, Han Jingru did it all in less than a month’s time.

Han Jingru also talked about why he had come to Xenos.

Upon hearing his story, Zhao Yi had nothing but respect for Han Jingru. It took more than just courage to come to Xenos in Mr. Yi’s place.

“How long have you been here?” Han Jingru began to ask



about Zhao Yi's story after explaining his own.

Memories of the past twenty years surfaced in Zhao Yi's head. "I've been here for twenty whole years. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to find out much about this world. In fact, I haven't even been able to leave the Imperial Court or explore the other two countries."

He continued, "I'm a Seventh Stage fighter, but one would have to be among the last three stages to cross the Dark Forest. In short, I've wasted twenty years here."

Han Jingru knew that the Dark Forest served as a border between the three nations, and this was also why none of the nations had established diplomatic ties with each other. Even so, Han Jingru knew that the three nations were at war with each other, so there had to be another way to get to the other nations.

"Is there any other way to get to the other countries, apart from crossing the Dark Forest?" asked Han Jingru.

"There is a road, but it's being guarded by the country's best fighters. With my current stage, I'll only end up being killed by the Imperial Court's aces," Zhao Yi explained.

Han Jingru nodded. *They're doing this to prevent powerful fighters from leaving the country. Instead of letting them enter other countries, they'd rather kill them instead. It's not surprising that the Imperial Court would do such a thing.*

"Where do you intend to go now that you're leaving Xiaoling City?" Han Jingru continued to ask.

"I want to become stronger, but I fear death because I'm hoping I can one day return to the Apocalypse with some useful information. I thought of going to another city, but

I suppose that's no longer necessary."



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Zhao Yi's words implied that he was intending to follow Han Jingru, but the latter couldn't accept this. After all, many knew that Zhao Yi was a Seventh Stage fighter. *I won't be able to keep a low profile if he tags along with me.*

"You can't come with me," said Han Jingru.

"Why not?"

"Do you know why I had to show up in a mask?"

Zhao Yi was no fool. The mask was clearly to conceal Han Jingru's identity.

"You don't want others to know how powerful you are," answered Zhao Yi.

Han Jingru nodded. "Since you understand that, I suppose I don't have to explain why you can't tag along with me."

"But I've finally met someone from the same world as me! Can't we explore Xenos together?" Zhao Yi pleaded. Apart from being able to look out for one another if they stuck together, Zhao

Yi had his own motives too.

Firstly, he was hoping Han Jingru could help him ascend. Secondly, if Han Jingru found a way to return to Earth, he'd be able to leave this place too.

Zhao Yi had spent twenty years in this world for naught. *I don't think I have what it takes to return to Earth on my own. This man is the only person I can depend on when it comes to this.*

“Don't worry. I'll definitely take you with me if I figure out a way to leave Xenos,” Han Jingru replied frankly after he seemingly read Zhao Yi's mind.

“But where can I go if I don't follow you? I've wandered aimlessly for the past twenty years,” Zhao Yi remarked in desperation. *I don't want to be a walking corpse anymore. I want to live a more meaningful and fulfilling life.* Following Han Jingru seemed to be his only choice.

“You can think about how to ascend to another stage,” suggested Han Jingru. “The only way to



leave the Imperial Court is by becoming stronger. What are you going to do if a path connecting Xenos to Earth doesn't exist in the Imperial Court, but you aren't strong enough to leave this place?"

His question made Zhao Yi's expression turn grave. *If that's really the case, I won't be able to leave Xenos even if I know where the passage home is.*

After thinking about it seriously, Zhao Yi asked, "How are you going to contact me in the future?"

Han Jingru suddenly let out a sigh. "Without cellphones in this world, it's going to be tough trying to keep in touch."

Zhao Yi smiled hopelessly. Speaking of cellphones, he had nearly forgotten all about such devices. *I've nearly forgotten about modern Earth after living in the Imperial Court for two decades.*

"Yeah. It would be a lot easier if we had phones."

Han Jingru pondered for a moment. "Let's meet

at Gale Ring in a year's time. I probably won't need to hide my identity by then."

Zhao Yi nodded. "Then I'll see you in a year. I hope I'll have ascended by the time we meet again."

Han Jingru's words reignited the flame within Zhao Yi. Now, being able to return to Earth was a huge source of motivation, and the fact that Han Jingru was already a fighter within the last three stages fueled Zhao Yi's determination even more.

The older man used to fear death, but now, he was willing to risk his life to ascend for the sake of returning to Earth.

Of course, some risks couldn't be mitigated.

Even Han Jingru couldn't be sure if he could ever see Zhao Yi again.

But since it was beyond his control, Han Jingru didn't think too much about it. They were both Earthlings—Han Jingru would have to think about himself before thinking about Zhao Yi. *I can't afford to care about Zhao Yi for now.*



*I still haven't found Yingying, nor have I figured out that feeling of suffering. These are what I need to focus on right now.*

Han Jingru returned to the inn after parting ways with Zhao Yi.

Bailing Wan'er followed Han Jingru back into the room upon seeing him.

“Why are you afraid of people finding out who you are when you're this strong?” Bailing Wan'er had heard of the incident at the ring. Knowing that the masked man was Han Jingru, she wondered why he dared not reveal his identity.

“The Bailing family is powerful, but do you dare tell the world you're one of them?” Han Jingru asked in return.

“That's because the Bailing family was wiped out by the Imperial Court. Are you saying you're in the same predicament?” Of course, Bailing Wan'er didn't think Han Jingru had a side of him

no one else could know about. She merely wanted to refute him this way.

“You’re thinking of becoming my disciple with that attitude?” Han Jingru asked disdainfully.

“I don’t necessarily have to be your disciple,” Bailing Wan’er responded. “I can be your wife too.”

Han Jingru couldn’t help but roll his eyes. All this little sixteen-year-old brat dreamt about was to marry him. *I’d be thrown in jail by now if this happened on Earth.*

“Well, you do have one more option,” Bailing Wan’er continued.

“You should be glad that you are allowed to stay by my side despite the troubles you’ve brought me. What makes you think you have the right to give me options?” Han Jingru smirked.

“The Bailing family has a secret storehouse that the Imperial Court has spent years searching for, but I’m the only one in this world who knows



where it is.”

This statement piqued Han Jingru’s interest.

*Considering how powerful the Bailing family used to be, there must be lots of precious items inside that storehouse. The fact that the Imperial Court has been searching for it all these years says something about its value too.*

“So you’ll tell me where the secret storehouse is if I take you as my disciple?” asked Han Jingru.

Bailing Wan’er shook her head. “It won’t be as simple as taking me in. I’ll only tell you where the storehouse is after I reach Sixth Stage.”

*Sixth Stage?*

To Han Jingru, this wasn’t a big deal at all. *With the help of a few red fruits, I’d be able to get her to Sixth Stage in less than half a year.*

*But whether or not I’d let her have the fruits depends on what’s inside the storehouse. After all, Han Jingru didn’t have an infinite number of red fruits—the more he gave her, the less he’d have.*

“Are you really in a place to negotiate? I’m sure you’re aware of what will happen to you without me,” Han Jingru remarked.

“Every outcome means the same to me if I can’t have my revenge. Do you think I’d care?”  
Bailing Wan’er argued persistently.

Han Jingru hated how stubborn this girl was. On top of that, she wasn’t easy to fool despite her young age.

Huang Xiaoyong finally returned while they were conversing. The chap had an especially satisfied look on his face as though he had received plenty from the Xiao family.

“Guess how much I milked from the Xiao family, Master?”



Money never gave Han Jingru any joy, so seeing how thrilled Huang Xiaoyong looked only made the former speechless.

Then, he glanced at Bailing Wan'er before asking Huang Xiaoyong in front of her, "Have you heard of the Bailing family's secret storehouse?"

"Secret storehouse?" Huang Xiaoyong gazed at Han Jingru in surprise and gave Bailing Wan'er a glance. "Even if the Bailing family does have a secret storehouse, it's not something I'd be aware of, Master."

"If it does exist, what do you think would be inside it?" Han Jingru asked straightforwardly.

Huang Xiaoyong gave it a thought. *The Bailing family used to rule over many cities. They were practically on equal grounds as the Imperial Court! If a secret storehouse really exists out there, it has to be full of wealth comparable to that of a country.*

"Master," Huang Xiaoyong answered. "If the Bailing family does have a secret storehouse, I'm

sure it's full of riches that could even overthrow the country."

Han Jingru frowned. *Full of riches? Isn't it all money, then?* He wasn't interested in money.

He was already the richest man back on Earth after taking over the Nangong family, so to someone like him, money was nothing but a number. *There may be some differences between Earth and Xenos, but surely there's a limit as to what money can do. This isn't worth my time.*

"Is it just money?" Han Jingru asked in disappointment.

"I'm sure it's not just money, Master. There should be valuable treasures or legendary weapons too. It's just that we don't know if the storehouse is real," replied Huang Xiaoyong while deliberately casting a gaze at Bailing Wan'er. "We don't know if the storehouse even exists."

Upon hearing that, Bailing Wan'er smiled blankly. "Such ignorance. The Imperial Court has



never given up on searching for the secret storehouse. The fact that you don't know about it shows how ignorant you are.”

Huang Xiaoyong glared at Bailing Wan'er but said nothing. After all, someone of his background certainly couldn't be involved with such things.

The Bailing family being wiped out was also nothing but a rumor. Apart from the Imperial Court, no one else truly knew what had happened to the household.

“I admit I'm not someone of fancy status, but that's just right now. Don't underestimate me. One day, I'll become a high-ranking official of the Imperial Court,” declared Huang Xiaoyong as he gazed at Bailing Wan'er with his head held high.

One had to be powerful to become a senior official of the Imperial Court. As Han Jingru's disciple, Huang Xiaoyong had full confidence that he would be strong enough one day.

Bailing Wan'er smiled. Whether Huang Xiaoyong could make it wasn't for her to decide. Moreover, from how things were progressing then, it was indeed possible for the young man to enter the Imperial Court as a higher-up.

He had ascended two stages at once, and now, he was a Fifth Stage fighter. No ordinary person could make such progress.

It was also because of this that Bailing Wan'er had revealed the existence of the Bailing family's secret storehouse to Han Jingru. She hoped to use this to get the man to make her his disciple.

One thing Bailing Wan'er could be sure of was that Han Jingru was her best bet in getting her into the Imperial Court. Thus, she was willing to pay a small price. The girl feared that if she missed this opportunity, she wouldn't be able to come across someone as powerful as Han Jingru again.

"I'll believe that the secret storehouse exists, but does it contain anything I'd be interested in?" Han Jingru asked her.



“I believe the storehouse possesses things that are worth becoming your Unique Weapon. The more powerful it is, the stronger you’ll be too. Who knows, there might even be something in there that could turn you into a Pinnacle Master. A Pinnacle Master who owns a rare Unique Weapon is a world of difference from one who owns a normal Unique Weapon. Their powers are incomparable,” Bailing Wan’er explained.

Han Jingru had once heard about Unique Weapons through Huang Xiaoyong but never really asked about it. Now, after hearing from Bailing Wan’er, he realized how important and indispensable a Unique Weapon was.

Without a word, Han Jingru left the room.

He needed some time to think about all this. After all, taking Bailing Wan’er as a disciple meant becoming involved in the Bailing family’s affairs. He’d have to face her difficulties alongside her—the possible gains and losses were unimaginable at this point.

“You’re a lucky one,” Bailing Wan’er said to

Huang Xiaoyong after Han Jingru left.

Huang Xiaoyong nodded delightfully. The word “lucky” was indeed a perfect description of his situation right now. He used to want to kill Han Jingru back then, but who would have thought that he would end up being the latter’s disciple now? On top of that, Huang Xiaoyong was ascending at lightning speed and had now become a seven-star Beastmaster.

This was something Huang Xiaoyong would never have even imagined.

Once, Huang Xiaoyong’s biggest dream was to become a Fourth Stage fighter as this was already considered a remarkable feat in a place like Longyun City. But now, the young man felt like he could even become a Pinnacle Master one day.

“There’s no use flattering me. You won’t get to be my junior unless Master himself gives the green light. Otherwise, no one can help you with that.”

“Of course I know that.” Bailing Wan’er nodded.



She had complimented him not because she wanted him to help convince Han Jingru to take her in. The girl knew well that the decision rested in no one else's hands but Han Jingru's.

The compliment was merely out of envy toward Huang Xiaoyong.

“Honestly, I'd love to have a junior. It's just unfortunate that your origins are a little complicated. If it hadn't been my master whom you met, your identity would've already been reported to the authorities long ago,” remarked Huang Xiaoyong.

“It's just a shame that he's not willing to help despite me putting my life on the line,” Bailing Wan'er lamented. “The Bailing family's secret storehouse is something that the Imperial Court has been coveting for years. If not even this can pique his interest, I'm afraid I'm out of ideas.”

“Does the secret storehouse really exist?”

“You'll know if you just ask anyone about it. This is no secret in the Imperial Court.”

Huang Xiaoyong couldn't help but feel tempted upon hearing how convincing Bailing Wan'er sounded. *It doesn't sound like she's lying. Surely, a large sum of riches and secrets awaits those who find the storehouse.* The fact that the Imperial Court hadn't stopped searching for it reflected the storehouse's value.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Meanwhile, in Longyun City.

Chen Yuanhai was in the study when Chen Tiexin strode in. The latter's erratic breathing showed how unsettled he was.

“You called, Dad?” he asked as he walked toward Chen Yuanhai.

Chen Yuanhai turned and gazed at his brilliant son. The latter had spent years going through all sorts of trials and tribulations just to become stronger, only for his efforts to be in vain. On the other hand, a piece of trash like Huang Xiaoyong now had a master. Even Chen Yuanhai couldn't help but feel this was unfair to Chen Tiexin.

*How could God be so blind? My son who has worked hard all his life gets nothing, but a mere scum gets an opportunity he doesn't deserve!*

“Have you heard about what happened in Xiaoling City?” he asked.

Chen Tiexin nodded. He was feeling unsettled precisely because of that.

The news of Huang Xiaoyong ascended to Fifth Stage had already spread to Longyun City. This took many citizens by surprise. More importantly, the emergence of Huang Xiaoyong's master helped to confirm their past predictions.

Moreover, Chen Tiexin was especially familiar with the arena master of Xiaoling City and had once gone all the way there to find out that Zhao Yi was a Seventh Stage fighter. Chen Tiexin had even asked to be his disciple, but the latter merely brushed him off.

On top of that, the fact that this Seventh Stage fighter dared not even lay a finger on Huang Xiaoyong's master indicated that the latter had to be at least an Eighth Stage fighter. This was a truth Chen Tiexin couldn't handle.

He couldn't accept how he had worked hard all his life, yet Huang Xiaoyong was the one who had hit the jackpot.

More importantly, Chen Tiexin had been stuck at Second Stage for all these years, but Huang Xiaoyong was now a Fifth Stage fighter. This



made the former green with envy.

Chen Yuanhai sighed. “I feel aggrieved for you, my son.”

“I’m way more qualified than Huang Xiaoyong is, Dad. I believe that as long as I get to meet that man, he’ll be sure to take me as his disciple too.”

“What are you planning?”

Chen Tiexin took a deep breath. “I’m thinking of getting Huang Xiaoyong to refer me to his master when he comes back to Longyun City.”

Chen Yuanhai’s brows furrowed. *But the two of you have never gotten along! What makes you think Huang Xiaoyong will help you?*

*In fact, he might even humiliate you because of this.*

“Have you ever considered how Huang Xiaoyong would treat you?” Chen Yuanhai questioned.

Chen Tiexin nodded. “Of course I have.

Considering our relationship, he'll probably even laugh at me. But still, I want to give it a try. I can't miss such an opportunity."

Seeing how resolute Chen Tiexin looked, Chen Yuanhai knew there was nothing else he could say to talk his son out of it. Hence, he merely reminded him, "Remember, the Chen family is no longer what it used to be. We don't have the power to go against the governor anymore, so you'll have to bear with it no matter what Huang Xiaoyong says to you. Don't fall out with him."

"Don't worry, Dad. I know what to do."

No matter how much he had looked down on Huang Xiaoyong in the past, the truth was undeniable. Chen Tiexin was well aware of the disparities between the Chen family and the governor. *Getting into a fight with Huang Xiaoyong will only put the Chen family in a dangerous position and give the governor a legitimate excuse to deal with us.*

Chen Yuanhai said nothing more. He had faith in his son's abilities, so there was no need for him to



worry.

Upon leaving the study, Chen Tiexin was instantly filled with an indescribable amount of jealousy. The thought of Huang Xiaoyong being a Fifth Stage fighter made his heart feel as though it had been stabbed—as though Huang Xiaoyong had snatched what supposedly belonged to him.

“Ms. Yanran’s emotions are out of control again, Mr. Tiexin,” a maid hurriedly informed as she walked toward Chen Tiexin.

Recently, Chen Yanran had been suffering from extreme mood swings. She would go from looking bewildered to suddenly losing her temper, and sometimes, she would be as quiet as a statue.

Chen Tiexin gritted his teeth in fury. He knew his sister had turned out this way because of Han Jingru. *That prick must have done something to her.*

*Whoever caused this should be the one solving it.*

Unfortunately, even after deploying all of the Chen family's men, Chen Tiexin still couldn't manage to find Han Jingru.

He entered Chen Yanran's room. Everything that could be broken was now on the floor in pieces.

The room was a complete mess as though a tornado had just passed.

With her hair completely disheveled, Chen Yanran no longer looked like the beautiful princess she once was.

"Calm down, Yanran. Don't hurt yourself." Chen Tiexin hurriedly ran up to grab his sister's hands.

Upon seeing Chen Tiexin, the woman froze for a moment before asking urgently, "Have you found Han Jingru, Tiexin? Where is he? Tell me where he is!"

Chen Tiexin's eyes were instantly filled with rage. He couldn't imagine what Han Jingru had done to Chen Yanran to turn her into such a depressed soul.

“I’m doing my best, Yanran. Don’t worry. I’ll bring him to you soon enough.”

Chen Yanran suddenly knelt before her brother and began to sob. “I’m begging you, Tiexin. Find Han Jingru. I want to see him. I have to.”

Chen Tiexin’s heart bled at the sight. Seeing his dear sister kneel like this all of a sudden made him feel awful.

“Tell me, Yanran. What on earth happened?”

Chen Tiexin had never probed into this matter out of fear that he would trigger Chen Yanran’s scars, but now, he couldn’t take it anymore after seeing the mess his sister was in. He had to find out what Han Jingru had done.

But what had he done?

Come to think of it, Han Jingru never really did anything. Chen Yanran had turned out this way simply because of Huang Xiaoyong’s words. Paired with the fact that she hadn’t seen Han Jingru for so long, she became increasingly obsessed with him and would often overthink.



That was why she was in such a mentally unstable state now.

Chen Yanran was afraid. She feared that things would turn out as she imagined—that she had passed up on a truly powerful fighter.

“Don’t ask about it anymore, Tiexin. Just help me find him,” she replied with tears streaming down her face.

“Okay, okay. I won’t bring it up. I’ll personally look for him. Be good and wait here at home, okay? Don’t get upset, and don’t hurt yourself.”

Chen Yanran nodded, slowly calming down.

Chen Tiexin’s face turned red with anger the moment he left Chen Yanran’s room. He now had a strong urge to tear Han Jingru into pieces.

Han Jingru had initially gone to Xiaoling City just to take a look while also checking if Jiang Yingying was there. He had certainly learnt more about the place after visiting it, but Jiang Yingying was still nowhere to be found; instead, he now had another burden to deal with.

Still, the fact that he didn't abandon Bailing Wan'er meant that there was a possibility he would take her as his disciple. The Bailing family's secret storehouse was certainly responsible for this.

Bailing Wan'er also knew that she had a chance as long as Han Jingru didn't leave her behind, so she wasn't too concerned.

Upon nearing Longyun City, Han Jingru and Huang Xiaoyong decided to split up and enter the city separately. There was a high chance that people would find out who he was if he walked too closely with Huang Xiaoyong.

“This place is no match for Xiaoling City. Why would you choose to stay here?” Bailing Wan'er noticed how much more underdeveloped

Longyun City was compared to Xiaoling City, so she couldn't understand what made Han Jingru want to come.

In truth, Han Jingru didn't want to stay here. This was merely the first city he had visited when he first arrived in Xenos. As for why he had chosen to stay here this time, it was because his foundation was here. Furthermore, Huang Xiaoyong could help Han Jingru do some things that the latter didn't want to.

“Do I need a reason to like a place? I think it's pretty nice here,” Han Jingru replied halfheartedly.

From the way he responded, Bailing Wan'er could tell it wasn't just because he liked this place. But since he didn't explain any further, she chose not to ask.

Shortly after entering the city, Han Jingru noticed that he was being tailed, and not by just one or two people. This made him perplexed.

*I only left this city for a while and I'm already being watched? It's not like I've made any enemies back here either.*



More importantly, the people trailing him were so bad at their jobs that even Bailing Wan'er had noticed them.

“You’re being followed the moment you entered the city. It looks like you’ve pissed quite a few people off, huh?” she teased.

Han Jingru brushed his nose. Even he found it strange. *The only person I’ve crossed is Chen Tiexin, but haven’t I already taught him a lesson back when I left the Chen residence? Has he not given up?*

“I guess so,” he replied calmly.

Han Jingru eventually decided to take Bailing Wan'er back to his home. He wasn't at all worried about his stalkers finding out where he lived since this was the only way the mastermind would show up.

Bailing Wan'er was captivated by the scenery upon walking into the courtyard. The beautiful

plants and miniature stream made her feel like she was in a hidden paradise.

“This is where you live?” Bailing Wan’er asked in surprise.

“Do I look like I don’t deserve such a place?” Han Jingru asked, smiling helplessly.

Bailing Wan’er shook her head. That was not what she meant, of course. She just felt that everything about his home seemed different from other places, and the intricate designs made it look even more exceptional.

“Did you plant everything here on your own?” asked Bailing Wan’er.

“There are plenty of rooms here, but I only tidied one of them up when I first moved in. If you want to stay here, you’re going to have to pick a room and clean it up.”

Bailing Wan’er was particularly taken aback to hear that. *To think a top-class fighter like him does his own cleaning! I’ve never heard of such a thing.*

Yet, her response shocked Han Jingru even more.

“Why can’t I sleep with you?”

*Why?*

Han Jingru stared at Bailing Wan’er in bewilderment. *Do you even have to ask why?*

*How could I do such a thing?*

This girl was only sixteen, and Han Jingru wasn’t into any other woman aside from Su Yimo. Besides, even if he were a womanizer, he’d never be this much of a pervert.

Suddenly, Han Jingru frowned. “They’re here.”

Just as Bailing Wan’er was about to ask who had come, the door to the courtyard flew open.

Chen Tiexin and a group of his servants walked in, boiling with rage.



“So it’s you, Chen Tiexin.” Han Jingru was slightly astonished, but at the same time, he seemed to have expected such an outcome. After all, no one else in Longyun City apart from Chen Tiexin would order his men to track Han Jingru down.

Still, Han Jingru was curious as to why Chen Tiexin would do such a thing.

“I’m going to kill you, Han Jingru!” declared Chen Tiexin while gnashing his teeth.

“But why? There’s no bad blood between me and the Chen family.”

Chen Tiexin clenched his fists. He was about to lose it, but he still had to find out the truth before killing Han Jingru.

“What did you do to my sister?” Chen Tiexin demanded.

*Chen Yanran?*

*So he tailed me because of her?*

This confused Han Jingru even more. He and Chen Yanran were only married in name and had never consummated their relationship, so what could he have ever done to her?

“I believe there must be some sort of misunderstanding. Nothing has ever happened between us.”

Bailing Wan'er watched the ordeal in anticipation. Han Jingru could obviously solve the whole issue with violence.

*This man called Chen Tiexin is surely no match for Han Jingru. He may look like a tough guy, but Han Jingru is going to eat him alive! He probably doesn't know what he has just gotten himself into.*

“Nothing, you say?” Chen Tiexin smirked. With a wave of his hand, the Chen family's subordinates quickly surrounded Han Jingru.

“I'm going to ask you this one last time. If you don't give me an honest answer, you're going to die right here,” Chen Tiexin threatened.

Han Jingru shrugged helplessly. He didn't know anything, so how else was he going to respond?

*Am I going to end up with more fertilizer for the garden? They don't look like they're going to give up easily.*

At this moment, a voice boomed out of nowhere. "Trying to kill someone in my city? You sure have some nerve, Mr. Chen!"

Huang Xiaoyong strode into the courtyard and glanced at Chen Tiexin. "I didn't think I'd come across such a show while taking a stroll."

Han Jingru smiled. *There's no way you were just "taking a stroll."* You must have come after hearing the news. Still, Huang Xiaoyong had come just in time—he could help Han Jingru get rid of Chen Tiexin now.



Chen Tiexin looked grim. Had it been last time, he wouldn't have cared whether Huang Xiaoyong showed up or not. But now, the Chen family was no longer on bargaining terms with the governor, and Huang Xiaoyong's abilities had now exceeded Chen Tiexin's. The latter didn't have the right to act high and mighty in front of Huang Xiaoyong anymore.

"This has nothing to do with you, Huang Xiaoyong," said Chen Tiexin.

Huang Xiaoyong creased his brows in irritation and walked toward Chen Tiexin with a fiery gaze. "I'm the governor's son, and you're trying to kill someone in my city. How does it have nothing to do with me? You've got some guts, Chen Tiexin. Do you think you can do as you please in Longyun City?"

Chen Tiexin couldn't refute him, for murder was certainly a crime. He could kill whomever he wanted in secret, but he'd get into serious trouble doing it in front of Huang Xiaoyong.

"Don't you want this man dead, Huang

Xiaoyong?” insisted Chen Tiexin. Previously, Huang Xiaoyong used to loathe Han Jingru for stealing Chen Yanran from him, so Chen Tiexin tried using this fact to change his mind.

However, that was the Huang Xiaoyong from the past. The man was now Han Jingru’s disciple, so why would he want the latter to die now?

“Why would I pick a fight with a commoner, Chen Tiexin? Besides, I’ve stopped caring about your sister ages ago. You, on the other hand, used to treat me like sh\*t. Maybe it’s about time I return the favor.”

Chen Tiexin gritted his teeth, well aware that Huang Xiaoyong looked forward to having his revenge because of what happened between them in the past.

“You’re now a Fifth Stage fighter, Huang Xiaoyong. Is there really a need to get back at me?”

Huang Xiaoyong froze for a moment before bursting into laughter.

“Hahahahaha!”

*He’s humbling himself and asking for a compromise now? Is he really the same Chen Tiexin from before?*

*He used to act like a God in front of me when he ascended to Second Stage. He even bragged about how he’d become a true fighter while constantly putting me down!*

Back then, Huang Houyi was still acting as the Three Major Families’ puppet, so as his son, Huang Xiaoyong dared not fight back against Chen Tiexin.

But now, the governor was no longer at the Three Major Families’ mercy, and Huang Xiaoyong had grown far more powerful than Chen Tiexin.

“I didn’t think you’d ever say such a thing, Chen Tiexin,” Huang Xiaoyong remarked.

Chen Tiexin had long been prepared to be humiliated by Huang Xiaoyong. He used to treat the latter this way, after all, so one could say this



was retribution for his past actions.

“I’m just stating the truth,” replied Chen Tiexin.

“Tsk tsk tsk.” Huang Xiaoyong sighed and shook his head. “If I remember correctly, Chen Tiexin, you used to put on such a parade in front of me and said you’d become a true fighter one day. But I guess you may have blown your own trumpet a little too loudly, huh? I’m now a Fifth Stage fighter, but you’re still stuck in Second Stage.”

All this while, Chen Tiexin had been upset about not being rewarded for all his hard work—whereas Huang Xiaoyong simply had luck on his side.

But after hearing Huang Xiaoyong’s words now, Chen Tiexin became even more ticked off. Still, for the sake of getting Huang Xiaoyong’s master to take him in, he had to bear with it.

“I said I would become strong one day, but I never said when it would happen. Besides, I never said you wouldn’t grow strong either.”

Huang Xiaoyong glared at Chen Tiexin impatiently. “Don’t play word games with me. I’m not buying that sh\*t. Take your men and get the hell out of here. I won’t let the Chen family off if I ever see you causing such a stir in Longyun City again.”

Chen Tiexin hurriedly nodded and left with his subordinates.

No matter how much he wished to kill Han Jingru, he couldn’t afford to do so in front of Huang Xiaoyong. Longyun City was now under the governor’s control, after all, and Chen Tiexin was well aware of what would happen if he were to go against Huang Xiaoyong.

After Chen Tiexin and his men left, Huang Xiaoyong finally walked toward Han Jingru.

“That guy must’ve been blind to dare pick a fight with you, Master. He would’ve died had I not come in time,” said Huang Xiaoyong, fuming with anger.

Han Jingru merely smiled. “You’re getting even

bolder now, Huang Xiaoyong. You dare try to feel me out?”

Huang Xiaoyong hurriedly raised his hands in defense. “That’s not what I was trying to do, Master. You’ve misunderstood me.”

Han Jingru heaved a long sigh. “Well, indeed he would’ve died if you didn’t come. He was serious about trying to kill me.”

Huang Xiaoyong’s eye twitched. *It sure is Chen Tiexin’s lucky day. He nearly turned into a corpse.*

“By the way, are you here for something?” Han Jingru asked him.

“The men I sent out have returned, Master. None of them could locate your sister.” Huang Xiaoyong had scoured all of Longyun City—including the villages nearby—only to receive no news. Hence, it was highly likely that Han Jingru’s sister wasn’t even in this city.

Han Jingru sighed helplessly. He and Jiang



Yingying had entered the Dimensional Tunnel together, but how did they end up in completely different places? Moreover, considering how big Xenos was, where would Jiang Yingying be if she weren't in Longyun City?

A worrying thought surfaced in Han Jingru's mind.

*What if Jiang Yingying isn't even in the Imperial Court? It'd be bad if she's actually in another country.*

“Get more people to search other cities. It shouldn't be a problem for you considering how much money you have now, right?”

Indeed, Huang Xiaoyong had extorted a huge sum from the Xiao family. He hadn't actually thought about how to spend the money, but since Han Jingru had made this request, he certainly wouldn't refuse.

“Sure, Master. I'll send more people out at once.”

With that, Huang Xiaoyong left his master's

home, but he felt someone trailing him on his way back to the governor's residence. *ne do this to me?*

Huang Xiaoyong walked into a small alley, deliberately waiting for his stalker to show up.

The person walked right up to him, showing no intention of remaining hidden.

“Chen Tiexin!”



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Huang Xiaoyong was rather puzzled to realize it was Chen Tiexin following him.

*I've just spared your life, but here you are tailing me? Do you want to die that badly? Have you given up on ascending and decided to kill yourself this way?*

“Are you trying to get your revenge, Chen Tiexin?” Huang Xiaoyong smirked, completely unafraid of the man. *If this guy tries anything funny, I know I'll be able to take him down.*

“How could I with my abilities? I have a request,” responded Chen Tiexin.

“A request?” Huang Xiaoyong chuckled. “You’re not going to ask me to introduce you to my master, are you?”

Han Jingru had personally made an appearance for Huang Xiaoyong back in Xiaoling City, so the fact that Huang Xiaoyong had a master was no longer a secret. Hence, it wasn’t surprising that Chen Tiexin knew about it too.



“I am. I was hoping to have the opportunity to become your junior,” Chen Tiexin admitted.

“Pfft!” Huang Xiaoyong couldn’t help but laugh. *You chased my master out of the Chen family, and now you want him to take you in? What a joke!*

“You’re not qualified to become my junior, Chen Tiexin. I suggest you give this notion up completely. You’ll never get to be his disciple.”

Chen Tiexin had expected to be turned down, but he wasn’t going to give up so easily.

“Why?” he asked.

“There are some things that I can’t tell you right now, but you’ll understand in due time,” answered Huang Xiaoyong. He knew that Han Jingru’s identity would be revealed sooner or later one day. By then, both Chen Tiexin and Chen Yanran would come to realize their mistakes.

Truthfully, Huang Xiaoyong couldn’t wait to see

the look of regret on the Chen family member's faces, but this wasn't a matter he had a say in. He could only wait patiently.

“Are you afraid that I'd ascend faster than you and steal the limelight if I became your junior?” asked Chen Tiexin.

It was extremely risky for Chen Tiexin to say this. He'd be in huge trouble if Huang Xiaoyong were to take offense, but Chen Tiexin had no choice but to play mind games like these.

In truth, Huang Xiaoyong wasn't mad at all. Instead, he laughed even more heartily, for he knew that his speedy ascension was all thanks to the red fruit.

*Is this guy so full of himself that he thinks he'll be able to ascend faster than me without the fruit? What a clown.*

“I know how conceited you are, Chen Tiexin, but it's been so many years! Do you still not understand why those guys never agreed to take you in? Do you really think it's because you're so

talented that they're worried you might surpass them?" Huang Xiaoyong snorted.

Chen Tiexin truly possessed a false sense of superiority. In fact, he believed that he wasn't getting anywhere despite all his years of hard work simply because others were too blind to recognize his talents.

"Is that not the reason?" Chen Tiexin asked in return.

Huang Xiaoyong couldn't help but burst into laughter once again. *This guy is an absolute nutcase! How does his mind conjure up such incredible ideas?*

He walked toward Chen Tiexin, patted him on the shoulder and lamented, "When will you ever admit that you're but a piece of trash, Chen Tiexin?"

Chen Tiexin froze. The Chen family placed such high hopes on him—no one had ever called him trash.



Despite knowing that Huang Xiaoyong would degrade him, the word “trash” had crossed Chen Tiexin’s line.

“You’re mad, huh? But what’s the point? It’s not like you can defeat me. Besides, you have no idea how foolish you are for wanting my master to take you in,” Huang Xiaoyong continued.

Chen Tiexin clenched his fists and continued to suppress his boiling rage. *I really am no match for him right now. I could die if we got into a fight for real.*

“When the truth finally reveals itself, Chen Tiexin, you’ll realize what an idiot you sound like right now.” With that, Huang Xiaoyong left.

Blood began to trickle out of Chen Tiexin’s fists. He had clenched them so tightly that his nails dug into his palms.

“I’ll have the upper hand one day, Huang Xiaoyong. I’m going to return all the humiliation you’ve caused me,” Chen Tiexin declared, gnashing his teeth.

He then returned to the Chen residence to look for Chen Yanran.

“I’ve found Han Jingru, Yanran. I was supposed to kill that little sh\*t, but Huang Xiaoyong got in the way. Don’t worry, though. I promise to avenge you another time.”

Chen Yanran wasn’t looking for Han Jingru for revenge, but because she wanted an affirmation of her thoughts.

Hence, she froze in shock upon hearing that Chen Tiexin wanted to kill Han Jingru.

“What did you do, Tiexin? Did you piss him off?”

*Piss him off?*

*I was supposed to teach that piece of sh\*t a lesson! Who cares if I pissed him off?*

Chen Tiexin smirked disdainfully. “We’re the Chen family, Yanran. Why should we be worried about pissing him off?”

This caused Chen Yanran to instantly turn pale. *But I've been looking for him just so I can find out the truth and soothe the tensions between him and the family!* Yet, it was evident that Chen Tiexin had only served to worsen the Chen family's relationship with Han Jingru. This was not what Chen Yanran wanted at all.

“Where is he, Tiexin? I'll go see him myself,” demanded Chen Yanran.

“Calm down, Yanran. I'll bring his body back to the Chen family soon enough. Why would you want to see him now?”

Chen Yanran shook her head in a panic. “You don't understand, Tiexin! You don't understand why I want to see him.”

Indeed, Chen Tiexin didn't. All he could think of was that Han Jingru had done something to hurt Chen Yanran, which was why she wanted to see him desperately.

“Han Jingru isn't as ordinary of a guy as we think he is. The Chen family can't afford to anger



him,” said Chen Yanran.

Chen Tiexin frowned.

*The Chen family can't afford to anger a piece of sh\*t like Han Jingru? Is this some kind of joke?*

“Have you lost it, Yanran? Why should the Chen family be worried about him?”

“No, that’s not it. That’s not it! I suspect he’s been hiding his true powers, Tiexin. I think he’s the one behind everything—that he’s actually a fighter,” Chen Yanran explained.

“A fighter?” Chen Tiexin tried his best to stifle a laugh.

*I'd accept Huang Xiaoyong calling me trash if Han Jingru really is a fighter!*

Chen Tiexin placed the back of his hand against Chen Yanran's forehead. *What makes her think Han Jingru is a master? She must be unwell.*

“Yanran, I know you've been feeling lethargic lately. Just take a break and focus on resting well,” Chen Tiexin remarked.

Chen Yanran pushed away Chen Tiexin's hand and argued, “No, I don't want to rest. Tiexin, please trust me. I want to see him. I need to verify for myself.”

“Alright, stop making a fuss. Just stay at home and don't go anywhere. I don't want anything awful to happen to you,” Chen Tiexin replied as he prepared to take his leave.

Sensing something amiss, Chen Yanran hurriedly yanked Chen Tiexin's arm and continued, “Tiexin, you have to believe me. My intuition is definitely accurate. When the Wangs and the Xies brought the Fourth Stage fighters to pin me down, it was Han Jingru who vanquished them and brought them away. They have not returned since. And what about Huang Xiaoyong? He led

a group of Second Stage fighters to attack Han Jingru, yet not a single person from that gang of over ten fighters came back. Plus, you should already know about what happened at Longyan Mountains. There were only Han Jingru and Huang Xiaoyong there with me. With Huang Xiaoyong's mediocre skills, it was out of the question for him to subdue the seven-star familiar. It was Han Jingru."

What she said sounded valid. However, Chen Tiexin still felt that she was being absurd. Based on her logic, that would mean Han Jingru was Huang Xiaoyong's Master. How is that possible?

"You've said it yourself. Huang Xiaoyong wanted Han Jingru six feet under. Based on your conjecture, Han Jingru would be Huang Xiaoyong's Master. Does that even make sense?" Chen Tiexin contended.

Her argument may not be well-founded, but Chen Yanran was convinced that there were underlying information she was oblivious to.

Before she got the chance to meet Han Jingru,



she was not about to doubt her beliefs.

“Tiexin, it’s really simple to verify the veracity of this. All you have to do is bring me to see Han Jingru,” Chen Yanran implored.

Chen Tiexin was unwilling to let his sister meet with that imbecile. He was fearful that seeing Han Jingru with an unfamiliar woman was going to cause Chen Yanran even more distress.

Her mental health was already showing signs of abnormality. The last thing he wanted was for her condition to deteriorate because of that man.

“Take good care of Ms. Chen. If she takes one step out of the Chen residence, I’ll be sure to hold you accountable.” Chen Tiexin gave the maid a strict warning before leaving. It was evident he intended to keep Chen Yanran imprisoned at home.

Petrified, the maid could only nod meekly.

After Chen Tiexin took his departure, Chen Yanran sat at the edge of her bed and fell into a

deep trance. She looked as though her soul had left her.

“Ms. Chen, I, too, felt like your views sounded preposterous. You of all people should be familiar with what sort of person Han Jingru is. How on earth could he be a master? If he really is as powerful as you make him out to be, then how is it possible that Mr. Tiexin managed to kick him out of the Chen family?” the maid uttered, in hopes of pacifying Chen Yanran.

However, given the state Chen Yanran was in, she was not ready to take in others’ opinion. Unless she had the chance to prove it, otherwise, nothing anyone said could change her mind.

“Help me locate Han Jingru. I want to see him,” Chen Yanran instructed.

As Chen Yanran’s personal maid, the maid’s sole purpose was to fulfill Chen Yanran’s every wish. Nonetheless, Chen Tiexin had given specific orders for Chen Yanran to remain confined within the Chen residence.

“Ms. Chen, please don’t make this difficult for me. I beg of you. Mr. Tiexin has commanded that I strictly watch over you. If you were to leave the Chen residence with my assistance, I certainly won’t be let off the hook,” pleaded the maid.

Chen Yanran whipped her head to shoot the maid an icy glare. “So you’re frightened of him but not me?”

“Ms. Chen, please.” Chen Yanran’s reply unnerved the maid. She instantly fell to her knees and hurriedly stuttered, “I-I’m just a servant. I can’t afford to offend both you and Mr. Tiexin. Please, Ms. Chen. Please spare me.”

Chen Yanran scoffed, “Relax. When it comes to Tiexin, I’ll handle the repercussions on my own. Right now, if you refuse to do me this favor, you should be familiar with the consequences.”

This intimidated the maid to tears. Despite Chen Yanran’s usual friendly demeanor, there was a vicious side to her. Displeasing her would not go down well.



“Ms. Chen, I can try asking around for information discreetly. But I can’t guarantee any results,” the maid uttered submissively.

“Go ahead.”

Chen Yuanhai arrived not long after Chen Tiexin returned to his own room.

“So? Is Han Jingru deceased yet?” Chen Yuanhai wasted no time and got straight to the point.

“There was the perfect opening for me to finish him off. Then Huang Xiaoyong showed up,” said Chen Tiexin as he heaved a sigh.

“Huang Xiaoyong must’ve been after you,” Chen Yuanhai remarked with a hint of anger in his tone.

Lightly nodding, Chen Tiexin went into deep thought. Seeing as it was the prime opportunity for Huang Xiaoyong to take revenge on him, the former’s appearance did not come as a surprise.

“Have you asked him about his Master?” asked

Chen Yuanhai.

Chen Tiexin was just pondering about this issue.

Thinking back about what Huang Xiaoyong said in the alley, he thought it was bizarre.

*The truth will always prevail.*

What was the truth he was referring to?

Coupled with Chen Yanran's speculation, it got Chen Tiexin wondering. *Could it be? Could Han Jingru really be Huang Xiaoyong's Master? Is Han Jingru really a fighter?*

But when he was thrown out of the Chen residence, there was not an ounce of indication that Han Jingru was a fighter.

How could a fighter with actual prowess be reduced to such a state?

“Father, do you think it's plausible that Han Jingru is a fighter?” Chen Tiexin questioned with apprehension in his voice.

Chen Yuanhai had a bewildered look on his face as he glanced at his son. “A fighter? Please. Are you out of your mind? If he were truly a fighter, the Chen family would have long perished.”

Chen Tiexin could not deny that. However, he couldn't help but dwell on whatever Chen Yanran and Huang Xiaoyong proclaimed.

That prompted him to share Chen Yanran's observations and his conversation with Huang Xiaoyong with his father. He spared no details, in hopes that Chen Yuanhai was able to analyze them for him.

Chen Yuanhai's face grew somber as he paid close attention to what his son had to say. It seemed as though everything that had happened so far had something to do with Han Jingru. Whether it was the Fourth Stage fighters' mysterious disappearance, Huang Xiaoyong's Second Stage fighters' departure from the city, or what went down at Longyan Mountains, Han Jingru was the uncanny coincidence that linked all three situations.



More importantly, what exactly was the “truth” that Huang Xiaoyong spoke of? If the “truth” were actually linked to Han Jingru, they would have to reassess his identity.

“Did that Fourth Stage fighter vanish in our residence?” Chen Yuanhai inquired after mulling over his son’s updates.

“That’s right,” answered Chen Tiexin.

Letting out a huge sigh, Chen Yuanhai said, “If he met his death in our residence, his corpse must be here.”

“Father... Does that mean finding his remains would be sufficient to prove Han Jingru’s capabilities?” Chen Tiexin posed the question with uneasiness apparent in his tone.

Chen Yuanhai bobbed his head. That was the only solution that came to mind at the moment. Even though it was just a hypothesis, it was well-founded and deserved to be investigated. Should it prove to be accurate and Han Jingru really was a fighter, there stood a chance for rescue.

“Since the probability exists, it’s better that we ascertain the accuracy of it,” remarked Chen Yuanhai.

Although Chen Tiexin believed that the likelihood was low, he dared not go against his father’s wishes. If the dead body truly were in the Chen residence all this time, the servants would not have a hard time searching for it.

Deep down in his heart, Chen Tiexin hoped that Han Jingru was not a fighter. Not only did Chen Tiexin despise him, but there was also irreversible animosity between the two. Presuming that he actually was a fighter, the days ahead would be excruciating for Chen Tiexin given the two men’s history.

On the other side of the house, Chen Yanran’s

personal maid had already left the Chen residence. Even though Chen Tiexin decreed that she looked after Chen Yanran religiously, she was coerced by the latter to complete the task she asked for. Chen Yanran was not someone to be messed with.

In Han Jingru's House.

Bailing Wan'er requested to sleep in the same room as Han Jingru but was turned down by him. Hence, she had no choice but to tidy up the room beside his. Fortunately for her, it did not require much of an effort.

One thing that irked her was the fact that Han Jingru appeared to be immune to her charms. When other men ran into her, their eyes would light up. The lust in their gaze—an indication of their desire to gain possession of her—was often plain as day. Yet, that appeal seemed to be futile on Han Jingru. This caused Bailing Wan'er to have doubts about herself.

Could it mean that her enchantment only worked on normal men while magnificent men like Han



Jingru would not be attracted to her?

Staring at the reflection of herself in the bronze mirror, Bailing Wan'er wantonly tucked stray hairs behind her ears. Her porcelain-like complexion was flawless and her beauty was impeccable. But why did Han Jingru reject her advances?

“Maybe he's a prude, just like what the others claim. If I can't use my beauty to lure him, what else can I do?” Bailing Wan'er mumbled to herself.

Both her charms and the Bailing family's secret storehouse did not tempt Han Jingru, rendering Bailing Wan'er helpless.

At the same time, she was not about to forgo being Han Jingru's disciple. Not only was he the best fighter she had ever encountered, but she also believed that Han Jingru's power surpassed the masters from the Imperial Court. Someone like him was the most suited to be her master.

Of course, being her hubby was fine by her, if not

for the fact that he functioned differently from other men. Becoming a married couple was not ideal.

“Do you cook?” Han Jingru’s question dispelled her thoughts.

Despite her silver-spoon upbringing, Bailing Wan’er was abandoned at the tender age of ten. She had to fend for herself in the following six years and had long mastered the art of cooking.

“Yes,” replied Bailing Wan’er.

“Then you’ll be in-charge of our meals from here on,” said Han Jingru.

“And why is that? I’m not your disciple, neither am I your wife. Why should I cook for you?” Bailing Wan’er grumbled with evident displeasure.

“Well, you could leave. What makes you think I’m going to let you freeload here?” retorted Han Jingru.

Dejected by his response, Bailing Wan'er muttered, "I was just kidding. Don't take it to heart."

Han Jingru chuckled and said, "I was joking too."

*This young lady is constantly trying to negotiate with me. How does she even dare to discuss terms when she's living here under my roof?*

As Han Jingru was tending to his plants in the garden, he caught a whiff of the delectable meal Bailing Wan'er was whipping up. Unable to resist the urge, he made his way to the kitchen.

Seeing that Bailing Wan'er was visibly a skillful cook, Han Jingru smirked and uttered, "I didn't expect you to actually know your way around the kitchen. Since you've proven your worth, I guess I'll have to let you stay."

"If you approve of me becoming your wife or disciple, I can cook anything you want." Bailing Wan'er teased as she flashed an alluring smile.

"When can we dig in?" Han Jingru asked.



Bailing Wan'er could sense that he was deliberately avoiding her question, but she was not perturbed. As long as she was permitted to remain by his side, she still stood a chance. The key was to stay determined.

Just as they were about to begin their meal, an uninvited guest arrived in the house.

Chen Yanran's personal maid was no stranger to Han Jingru. Yet her appearance baffled him. *Chen Tiexin barely just left. What is she doing here?*

"What is the purpose of your visit?" Han Jingru asked calmly.

A glimpse of Bailing Wan'er infuriated the maid. *It was not long ago when he was banished from the Chen residence and Han Jingru has already moved on? She's rather pretty. How did this loser manage to bait her?*

"Ms. Chen would like to see you," the maid announced stiffly.

"I no longer have any relations with her. Now she

wants to see me and I'm the one who has to make the effort? Where's the logic in that?" Han Jingru responded.

"Ms. Chen has been confined within the walls of the Chen residence. She's been desperately looking for you over the past few days," said the maid. It had been a laborious journey to Han Jingru's house. The maid had to come up with all sorts of excuses to escape the Chen residence. With the addition of Chen Tiexin's supervision, it was practically impossible for Chen Yanran to leave the Chen residence.

"Searching for me?" Han Jingru quizzically raised a brow at the maid. He found it puzzling that she would be interested in his whereabouts. They barely had a relationship. Plus, it was improbable that the Chen family's precious Ms. Chen would fall for him.

"If it weren't for Ms. Chen, your life would be over by now. All she's asking is for you to see her. Shouldn't you at least do her the favor out of gratitude?" stated the maid.

Although he was unaware of what actually happened while he was unconscious for a long period of time, he knew for a fact that he would have lost his life if it weren't for Chen Yanran.

Even if she harbored an ulterior motive, it was indisputable that she saved his life.

“Did she mention what it was about? I don't think I'm welcomed in the Chen residence at present,” Han Jingru commented.

The maid speedily replied, “I could sneak you into the Chen residence if you disguise as a servant. As for her intentions, I'm not too sure about that.”



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



“He’s not going.”

Before he had the chance to answer, Bailing Wan’er piped up aggressively.

The last thing she wanted was for Han Jingru to meet another woman. To her, any woman who came into close proximity with Han Jingru was a grave threat.

Han Jingru let out a feeble smile. The hostility that Bailing Wan’er emitted was as though someone planned to snatch her hubby away. *She can’t possibly think of me as her prospective husband?*

“Who are you? The nerve of you to even speak.” The maid stared daggers at Bailing Wan’er. She was already displeased by Bailing Wan’er’s presence. With her unnecessary interference, she found the prime chance to lash out at her.

“I’m his wife,” Bailing Wan’er said nonchalantly.

The maid gritted her teeth in anger. She had that speculation when she saw her, but she did not

expect it was the truth.

*How could Han Jingru be so uncaring of Ms. Chen's feelings? It's barely been long since he was evicted from the Chen residence and he already found himself another woman?*

“Don't mind her nonsense. We're merely friends. But I still don't see a point in paying Chen Yanran a visit. My debt to her has already been repaid long ago,” Han Jingru uttered. Even without taking into account the incident where the Wang family and the Xie family threatened her, he had already saved her life just from the Longyan Mountains episode.

*A life for a life. Both do not owe each other anything.*

“Han Jingru, do you have to be that ungrateful?” At this point, the maid was seething.

“Ungrateful?” Han Jingru let out a laugh. Being thrown out of the Chen residence might have been Chen Tiexin's doing, but Chen Yanran did nothing about it.

Since she took the initiative to draw a clear line between them, there was no grounds for him to be regarded as ungrateful.

“Isn’t that the case? Ms. Chen has been down in the dumps because of you. How could you have the heart to be so callous?” the maid said.

*Down in the dumps?*

Han Jingru was unable to comprehend her words. Romance never existed between Chen Yanran and himself. Besides, she was usually unfriendly towards him. Why would she be upset because of him?

If they had spent more time together and she fell in love with him, that would make sense. However, the two barely had any interactions.

“She can’t possibly be fond of me. So why is she looking for me?” Han Jingru asked.

“She’s keeping mum about that, even to Mr. Tiexin. But she did mention that you were crucial for her to corroborate a few things,” replied the



maid.

*Corroborate a few things?*

Han Jingru's brows furrowed. *Did I accidentally reveal my powers in front of Chen Yanran?*

*Well, that would explain why she was depressed.*

Perhaps she found out he was a fighter and wanted him to return to the Chen residence.

But to Han Jingru, his stay in the Chen residence was a part of his history he did not mind going back to.

“Tell Ms. Chen that there is no reason for us to meet. Please leave this instant,” ordered Han Jingru.

Bailing Wan'er observed that the maid was still reluctant to leave and walked to her side. With her nose in the air, she smirked and said, “Are you deaf? Leave right now.”

The maid felt disrespected by Bailing Wan'er.

She may be a servant, but her employers were the influential Chen family. A young lady like Bailing Wan'er was trivial compared to them. She had no business talking down to her.

“Please, you're just a nobody. What makes you think I will take orders from you?” The maid glowered at Bailing Wan'er.

Bailing Wan'er may be a young maiden, but she was, after all, from the Bailing family. Her parentage was prestigious, to say the least. The maid had done nothing but provoked her since she arrived. Now she was glaring at her with such menace as though she was disregarding Han Jingru.

*Slap!*

Bailing Wan'er gave the maid a slap across her cheek and said smugly, “Leave right this instant. Otherwise, don't blame me for being rude.”

The maid winced as she held her cheek. She let out an incredulous gasp as she gave Bailing Wan'er a death stare, still in shock that the latter

slapped her.

“B\*tch, you will pay for this. One day, I’ll make you beg me for mercy,” the maid shrieked.

Bailing Wan’er raised her hand once again, showing that she had no intention of being kind to the maid.

Upon seeing this, the maid took off immediately.

After returning to the dining table, Bailing Wan’er acted as though nothing had happened.

Yet, tension was rising in the air.

“What sort of relationship do you and that Ms. Chen have?” Unable to resist the urge, Bailing Wan’er was the first to break the silence. Han Jingru sensed a hint of jealousy in her tone.

“We used to be in a loveless marriage. It was all for show. Chen Yanran merely treated me as a tool,” Han Jingru responded.

“Really? Nothing happened between the two of



you?” Bailing Wan’er asked as she studied Han Jingru suspiciously.

Putting his chopsticks down, Han Jingru’s reply was devoid of emotion. “I don’t owe you any explanation. You aren’t in any position to be involved in my matters, alright.”

Bailing Wan’er clenched her teeth following his reply. Her current status indeed granted her no rights to interfere, but an unspeakable emotion made her uneasy. The thought of Han Jingru with other women made her queasy, feeling as though her prized possession was robbed from her.

“Aside from me, you are not to have any relations with any women,” Bailing Wan’er demanded.

“Oh right. I forgot to mention. I’m already betrothed to someone. We even have a child together,” Han Jingru said, amused. Although Su Yimo and Han Xiang were not from Xenos, his loyalties remained with Su Yimo.

Bailing Wan’er’s face paled. She never expected him to be married and what’s more, with a child.

Despite her shock, she quickly regained her composure. In Xenos, polygamy was not unconventional. Even if he had a wife and a child, she could still become his woman.

Although she was content with being his disciple, she hoped to be able to marry Han Jingru. That way, there would be no question about their bond. When the time came for her to avenge the Bailing family, Han Jingru would be there to offer assistance.

“Bailing Wan’er, I know you wish for me to help you take revenge. But this is not the ideal solution. Besides, a romantic relationship between the two of us is out of the question.” Han Jingru’s tone was firm as he got up and left the dining table.

Undeterred by his declaration, Bailing Wan’er acted like she didn’t hear him.

“What happened to your face? Did Tiexin find out?”

When the maid returned to the Chen residence, Chen Yanran noticed her red and swollen cheek and thought she was beaten by Chen Tiexin. She felt a little guilty because it was her who had requested that the maid go find Han Jingru.

“Ms. Chen, I saw Han Jingru,” the maid replied.

“Where is he? Why didn’t you bring him to me?” As soon as she heard the name “Han Jingru,” Chen Yanran was instantly agitated. She was desperate to see Han Jingru.

“Ms. Chen, the bruise on my face was caused by his wife,” the maid added.

“Wife!” Chen Yanran felt as though there was a detonation in her ears.

*Han Jingru has a wife already!*

*How can it be?*



*How long has it been since he left the Chen residence? How could he get a wife so soon?*

Chen Yanran drew in a long breath and asked, “What happened? When did he get married?”

“Ms. Chen, you don’t really like Han Jingru, do you?” the maid asked rather perplexedly. She couldn’t understand why Ms. Chen wanted to look for such trash as Han Jingru. Worse still, this trash had even found a new woman for himself. What was there to dwell on?

“The reason I looked for him wasn’t because I liked him but it was something else. It’s related to the status of the Chen family in Longyun City in the future,” answered Chen Yanran.

“But his stance was very firm. He said there was no longer any connection between you and him, so he wouldn’t come to see you,” the maid countered.

“Where does he live? You lead the way. I must see him in person.” Chen Yanran insisted.

“Ms. Chen, Mr. Tiexin has ordered people to guard you. There’s no way you could leave the Chen residence. You should just give up,” said the maid.

Chen Yanran shook her head.

*Give up?*

It was impossible for her to yield. Until she verified the true capabilities of Han Jingru, she would never drop out of her determination to see him.

“Brainstorm with me. I have to see him and it’s a must,” Chen Yanran said with a commanding tone.

There was only helplessness written on the maid’s face. To her, Chen Yanran had probably gone mad. *How can she risk seeing a piece of trash like Han Jingru?*

*If Mr. Tiexin finds out about this, Ms. Chen won’t be punished for sure, but a maid like me can never escape the consequence.*

“Ms. Chen, if Mr. Tiexin finds out about this, I will die,” the maid said.

“Then prepare to die as well if I can’t meet Han Jingru.” The expression on Chen Yanran’s face was detached and brutal.

When Han Jingru was banished from the Chen family, Chen Yanran turned a deaf ear. Never could she have imagined then that someday in the future, she would be wanting to see him so badly.

The next day, Chen Tiexin and Chen Yuanhai met in the backyard of the Chen residence.

Chen Yuanhai sprinkled the fish feed from his hand and the koi fish leaped up from the pond to scramble for the food, creating restless waves and ripples.

“Father, I’ve asked the servants to search all the places in the house where the body could possibly be hidden, but nothing was found. It seems our assumption might be wrong.” When Chen Tiexin said that, he was actually relieved because deep down, he was hoping that it wasn’t



true.

Chen Yuanhai furrowed his eyebrows. *If the Fourth Stage fighter weren't dead, then how could he leave the Chen family without a reason?*

*It couldn't be that Han Jingru had successfully persuaded the Fourth Stage fighter to leave with mere words. Because that's nearly impossible!*

“Have you searched every single corner? Is there any spot you might have missed out?” Chen Yuanhai asked.

“No, there couldn't be any omission. We could have been overthinking,” Chen Tiexin answered.

Chen Yuanhai heaved a long sigh and continued, “But how could the fighter who was brought in by the Wang and Xie family leave without any reason? Also, how do you explain what happened in the Middle Area of the Longyan Mountains?”

“There's no doubt about the fact that Huang Xiaoyong has a master and everything that has happened is related to this master of his but we

shouldn't associate his master with Han Jingru," answered Chen Tiexin.

"Well, what about the words by Huang Xiaoyong? Were they just some chatter without other implications?" Chen Yuanhai was confused.

In fact, Chen Tiexin had also contemplated regarding this. In his opinion, it was probably Huang Xiaoyong making things up to cover up the actual identity of his master.

"Father, I'm of the opinion that Huang Xiaoyong was diverting our attention deliberately to conceal his master's identity. He might be afraid that we would find out about it." Chen Tiexin spoke his mind.

Chen Yuanhai shook his head with a laugh. *Afraid of being found out?*

*Isn't this a joke?*

*If we dared to probe further into this matter, the fighter could have wiped out the entire Chen family in an instant. There was no way he would*

*be afraid.*

“Search again—even in those places that you’ve looked before. Also, observe the soil in the residence—look if there’re any traces of it being dug,” Chen Yuanhai uttered.

Chen Tiexin sighed. He was still of the opinion that all this was an unnecessary waste of manpower because it was simply impossible so there was no need to waste time on it.

“Also, lift the grounding on Yanran. Maybe letting her meet Han Jingru would be safer for us,” Chen Yuanhai added.

“Father, that shouldn’t be done. With her current situation, Yanran must not see Han Jingru,” Chen Tiexin countered.

Chen Yuanhai turned around and looked at Chen Tiexin. “Do you understand that if this matter is not sorted out, the Chen family would be subjected to living a darkly shaded life? Regardless of whether he’s indeed a good-for-nothing or a fighter in secret, we need evidence to



prove it. Being arbitrary might lead the family to destruction.”

Despite feeling a little dissatisfied, Chen Tiexin accepted what Chen Yuanhai said as he sensed his determination.

After all, Chen Yuanhai still had the final say in the Chen family for the time being.

“Yes, father. I’ll make arrangements for everything to be done.”

“Off you go then.”

After Chen Tiexin left, Chen Yuanhai scattered all the fish feed in his hand while the koi fish made a huge splash while they scurried for food. Just as he was about to lament that even the fish had to strive to survive, a steely glint suddenly flashed in his eyes.

*This is the place where the body is hidden!*

Chen Tiexin had ordered all the servants to check every corner of the Chen residence but this pond

over here seemed to have been omitted.

Out of the blue, Chen Yuanhai started breathing heavily. His instinct was telling him that the body of the Fourth Stage fighter was most probably beneath this pond.

“Summon Chen Tiexin back here right away,” Chen Yuanhai told the butler, Bao who stood next to him.

As the butler of Chen residence, Bao walked with brisk steps despite his old age and very soon, Chen Tiexin was back at the pond.

“Father, is there anything else?” Chen Tiexin asked Chen Yuanhai.

“You haven’t searched this pond, have you?” Chen Yuanhai asked.

“Father, the koi fishes are your favorite, how could I have the nerve to lay my hands on them?” Chen Tiexin replied.

“Get the servants to release the water,” uttered

Chen Yuanhai.

With a frown, Chen Tiexin understood Chen Yuanhai's words all at once.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Chen Tiexin had made the servants search the entire Chen residence but nothing was found. The only place Chen Tiexin hadn't searched was the pond because of Chen Yuanhai's favorite koi fishes inside.

On second thought, the pond was in fact a great place to hide the body. Hence, since Chen Yuanhai had already given his order, Chen Tiexin immediately summoned the servants over.

As the water level in the pond decreased, Chen Tiexin was all the more anxious and even his breathing became more rapid. His reaction indicated his worries and fears. He was frightened both by the possibility of the body being found here and that Han Jingru was exactly what they assumed him to be.

When Chen Tiexin chucked Han Jingru out of the Chen residence, he had even deliberately set him up to be eyeballed and ridiculed by a crowd of onlookers, in hopes of ruining Han Jingru's reputation in Longyun City.

Chen Tiexin had worsened things to this extent

where there was little to no amity in the two. It was unimaginable how he should face this matter if Han Jingru turned out to be an advanced fighter.

“Father, do you really think the body is in there?” Chen Tiexin said to Chen Yuanhai.

Chen Yuanhai’s face was growing more solemn. As he pondered again and again, the easiest place to hide a body in the entire Chen residence was here. That was the most probable reason why the body couldn’t be found in other places.

But whether the body was there or not, Chen Yuanhai couldn’t be certain.

“We’ll have to wait until the result is revealed to us,” answered Chen Yuanhai.

Chen Tiexin went silent and waited at the side.

The speed of the water level going down was slow but none of them was anxious at all. In fact, Chen Tiexin wished that the pond would never be dried entirely because it was the only way for

him to escape reality.

In the evening, the water level had finally been reduced to knee-length. Under this circumstance, everything at the bottom of the pond would be visible to the naked eye.

A humanoid figure appeared in their sight.

Chen Tiexin paled at the situation. No one could have been drowned in this pond for no reason so if there was a body here, it was most likely the Fourth Stage fighter.

“Father,” Chen Tiexin took in a long breath and called out to Chen Yuanhai.

Chen Yuanhai’s hand was trembling. It was surely not the result he had intended but neither was it an outcome that he could simply avoid.

“Get some servants down to check on the situation,” Chen Yuanhai ordered.

Immediately, Chen Tiexin turned to some of the men beside him and said, “Bring that up and see



what it is.”

The few servants went down to the pond and could instantly feel the nauseating stench when they came close to the humanoid figure.

“Mr. Yuanhai, Mr. Tiexin, it’s a body.”

“Bring it up,” Chen Yuanhai ordered with a pale face.

The body had been submerged underwater for too long that it was swollen and disintegrated a little as soon as it was being touched. The few men resisted their inner impulse to puke and carried the body to the shore.

Chen Yuanhai paced over to the body. He wasn’t frightened by how it looked, but instead, he asked the servants around him, “Has anyone of you seen this person before?”

It was best for Chen Yanran to identify the body but Chen Yuanhai didn’t want Chen Yanran to know about this at the moment. Apart from that, he didn’t wish to frighten his daughter with such

a horrifying scene as well.

The few servants standing around remained silent, signifying that none of them had met the dead person before.

Then, Chen Yuanhai continued to ask, “Which of you were present when the Wang and Xie family came to the Chen residence?”

“Mr. Yuanhai, Mr. Bao should know this. He was the one who welcomed both the head of the Wang and Xie families,” one of the servants replied.

“Where is he? Get him here right away.”

Not long after that, an elderly man came running over while panting. When he saw the body on the floor, he was horrified at its decayed sight and he slumped directly against the floor.

“Do you recognize this person?” Chen Yuanhai asked Bao.

Bao shuddered in dread and pleaded, “Mr. Yuanhai, I have completely nothing to do with

this. I didn't kill him—it wasn't me. Please investigate further, Mr. Yuanhai.”

Chen Yuanhai looked at Bao with a rather helpless face and returned, “If you could kill him, would you still need to be a butler in our family? I know you didn't do it. I'm asking you to see if you can recognize him.”

With only one look at the body, Bao's feet already turned wobbly. How could he bear to give it another look? He just shook his head repeatedly and answered, “Mr. Yuanhai, I don't know him. I don't.”

Right then, Chen Tiexin came in front of Bao, seized him by his neck and said, “Keep your eyes wide open and take a good look, or else you'll be his company to hell.”

That almost scared Bao to death so he opened his eyes and observed the body carefully.

Even though it had been disfigured from the swelling, the general features of its face could still suggest how it used to look when it was



alive.

After observing the face closely, Bao froze.

“T-This... Wasn’t this...”

“Wasn’t what? Speak up quickly.” Chen Tiexin lost his patience.

“Mr. Tiexin, wasn’t this the Fourth Stage fighter who came with the Wang and Xie families? How did he end up dead in here?” Bao spoke in fear. When the Wang and Xie families came to the Chen residence to stir up trouble, it was Bao who was there to entertain them. He even paid a little more attention to the Fourth Stage fighter so he could still remember his face clearly.

That day, Bao thought that Ms. Chen was going to submit to the Wang and Xie families since they had come with a skilled fighter.

However, later, it was said that the Fourth Stage fighter had disappeared and the Wang and Xie families had to return empty-handed. The butler was feeling weird then. *How could a living person vanish into thin air just like that?*

It was only until that moment that the butler realized he had never vanished, but he was dead. *And he was dead in the pond in our backyard!*

However, in the Chen residence, who could possibly be strong enough to rival a Fourth Stage fighter and who could have the capabilities of killing him?

“Oh, Mr. Tiexin, what happened to you?” Bao found Chen Tiexin collapsed on the ground so he asked in concern.

Chen Tiexin was pale and his limbs turned to jelly. He didn't even have the strength to stand because after verifying the identity of the body, he knew he had made a terrible mistake—chasing out a real fighter from the Chen residence!

For many years, Chen Tiexin had traveled around the Imperial Court in haste just to find himself an adept master to improve his cultivation. Despite that, he walked right past this golden opportunity

when a remarkably dexterous fighter actually showed up in the Chen residence.

In addition to that, the existence of such an antipathy between the both made Chen Tiexin even more frustrated.

“Are you okay, Mr. Tiexin?” Bao wanted to help Chen Tiexin up, but with his strength, Chen Tiexin couldn’t even be moved at all.

Chen Yuanhai drew in a long breath and said to Bao and other servants, “You deal with the corpse and make sure no one else knows about this.”



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

“Mr. Bao, this was a Fourth Stage fighter. How did his body end up in the pond in our backyard?”

After Bao and the other servants carried the corpse away, one of them asked him rather perplexedly.

Bao felt strange about this incident as well. It made sense if it were an ordinary person falling into the pond accidentally and died but this body here was a great fighter who had been brought by the Wang and Xie families to deal with the Chens. It was impossible for him to stumble and drown in the pond.

Apart from that, judging from Chen Tiexin’s reaction, this person’s death was definitely not that simple. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have that sort of devastatingly petrified response.

“I remember that this Fourth Stage fighter had been brought away by that piece of trash. And it was because of that he had gone missing,” Bao said.



“Mr. Bao, are you joking?” The man laughed and not only him, but other servants laughed along as well.

“Mr. Bao, you can’t be implying that it was that trash who killed this person, can you?”

“How was that possible? He was unconscious for almost half a year in the Chen residence. How could he manage to kill a Fourth Stage fighter?”

“That’s right. This man right here was a Fourth Stage fighter. That’s top-notch in Longyun City.”

As he listened to these tattles, Bao’s face grimaced all of a sudden.

Judging from the exterior of everything, it didn’t seem possible but from how Chen Tiexin responded, the death of this man was likely the deed of Han Jingru.

*Why did Chen Tiexin respond in such a way? Even if a Fourth Stage fighter died in the Chen residence and even if it’s being found out by the Wangs and Xies, what does it matter?*

The only possibility was that his death was a tricky one which scared Chen Tiexin to the bone.

“Stop guessing already. This has nothing to do with us.” Bao paused for a while and added, “Also, you guys would better remember not to mention this person ever again in the future. Watch out for fatal trouble for being mouthy.”

Since Bao had said that, the other servants dared not say anything else.

By the pond.

Chen Yuanhai and his son were both at a loss. Of course, the discovery of the Fourth Stage fighter’s body was insufficient to prove Han Jingru was the one responsible for the former’s death.

Nevertheless, the truth was irrefutable— even Chen Yuanhai himself couldn’t deny it anymore.

*Could there be another person in the Chen residence who is qualified enough to kill a Fourth Stage fighter?*

*Besides, it was after Han Jingru took the Fourth Stage fighter away that he disappeared. Hence, there could only be one explanation for this matter—Han Jingru has been concealing his true powers!*

*Not only did he kill the Fourth Stage fighter, but the seven-star familiar in Huang Xiaoyong's possession was also tamed by him. These two revelations nearly devastated the father and son duo.*

“Father, is this true?” Out of the blue, Chen Tiexin gave himself a tight slap in hopes that he was only dreaming. Despite that, the fiery pain on his face implied that it was the reality.

At that moment, Chen Tiexin was intensely woeful.

In the past, he was even a little smug when he thought about himself chasing Han Jingru out of the Chen residence but right in that instance, there wasn't any emotion left of him but regret.

Chen Yuanhai smiled wryly. This could have

been the opportunity for the Chen family to grow more powerful and even displace the current governor overseeing the entire Longyun City. But they ended up putting their family at stake.

*By offending such a powerful fighter, who knew when he would seek revenge on the Chen family?*

*If and when he comes to avenge himself, there's no one in the Chen family who can hold him off.*

“Never would I have thought a person treated as a piece of trash by our family actually has such great abilities,” Chen Yuanhai lamented.

“Father, could there be other possibilities?” Chen Tiexin looked at Chen Yuanhai with an optimistic look. He was hoping that Chen Yuanhai could come up with another reasonable explanation. As long as it could justify that the person was not killed by Han Jingru, it would be fine.

Nevertheless, it was destined that the outcome would only disappoint Chen Tiexin.

Even if Chen Yuanhai were reluctant to admit



that to himself, he would never succumb to self-deception.

*The truth is crystal clear. Is there any use in finding an excuse?*

*Self-deceiving is pointless; it doesn't change a thing.*

“Even if you feel resistant to admit it, it’s impractical to avoid the reality. Other than him, who else in the Chen residence was able to do this?” Chen Yuanhai replied wearily.

Upon hearing that, the desperation in Chen Tiexin’s eyes was even greater. It was as though he had fallen into an infinite abyss and could never get up again.

“Father, what should we do now? I was the one who ousted him from the family, and I even mortified him. What should I do?” Chen Tiexin looked at his father with a pleading face. He didn’t want to die but neither did he have the courage to endure Han Jingru’s vengeful rage.

Chen Yuanhai took in a deep breath. *It's definitely not something good to be offending such a remarkable fighter. This can probably make the entire Chen family in dire straits.*

*In spite of that, it's not impossible to solve this matter.*

“There's only one way,” said Chen Yuanhai.

“What is that?” Chen Tiexin asked frantically.

“Should your sister come forward and intervene, we might be able to solve this matter. He's after all a man,” Chen Yuanhai returned.

Chen Tiexin understood what Chen Yuanhai meant instantly.

As long as Chen Yanran could reconcile with Han Jingru, then they would naturally lay their enmity aside. Chen Tiexin could even ask Han Jingru to help him ascend to a higher stage as Chen Yanran's elder brother. *That way, I don't even need to be his disciple. Sounds like a plan!*

“I’ll go find Yanran right away,” answered Chen Tiexin.

However, Chen Yuanhai immediately caught Chen Tiexin by his shoulder. With his current emotional state, it was unsuitable for him to meet Chen Yanran.

“What’s the matter?” Chen Tiexin asked in puzzlement.

“Yanran was still kept in the dark about the fact that we have validated Han Jingru’s true capabilities. If you go to see her in this way, she would surely reject you,” uttered Chen Yuanhai.

“Then what should I do?” Chen Tiexin asked.

Chen Yuanhai’s eyebrows were knitted together. *If Chen Yanran were to meet Han Jingru, it would be best that she goes to him wearing her heart on her sleeves and makes Han Jingru feel that she has fallen for him and wants to salvage their relationship. Under such circumstances, it’s most desirable that she remains unaware of Han Jingru’s actual competencies because it’s only in this way that her feelings will seem genuine and sincere.*

“Isn’t Yanran restless these days because of him?” Chen Yuanhai asked.

Chen Tiexin nodded. “Yanran is edgy most probably because she’s also suspicious about Han Jingru’s real strengths.”

“Let her know tomorrow morning that if she wants to learn the true capabilities of Han Jingru, she has to save the relationship between them. Just tell her that you feel sorry for her and that you’re willing to give her the chance to try. But remember to remind her that she can never reveal her real intentions in front of Han Jingru. Just ask her to show her affection for Han Jingru. That should do,” Chen Yuanhai advised.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



It was late at night.

Chen Tiexin was tossing and turning in his bed without even the nerve to close his eyes. He was afraid that once he did so, he would never have a chance to open them again.

It was indeed an unbearable experience for Chen Tiexin, knowing that he had insulted such a powerful fighter as Han Jingru whose actual prowess remained unknown.

His previous masterpiece—kicking Han Jingru out of the Chen residence and making him ridiculed by a crowd of onlookers had now turned into his worst nightmare. When he thought of this, he broke into cold sweat uncontrollably. It felt like life was slipping past him.

Furthermore, he had even gone to Han Jingru's house, breaking open his door and tried to kill him.

Thinking of all these sent a chill down Chen Tiexin's spine. He was regretting in trepidation.

If it wasn't for Huang Xiaoyong to appear out of the blue, he might have lost his life in that courtyard.

Before this, Chen Tiexin was of the opinion that Han Jingru had escaped by mere luck—Huang Xiaoyong's arrival had saved him.

But it was until this moment that Chen Tiexin realized he himself was the lucky one. *If I did show my intention to murder Han Jingru back then, would Han Jingru let me get away so easily?*

Chen Tiexin, who hadn't slept all night, got off the bed early the next morning, looking worn out.

He came to the door of Chen Yanran's bedroom and it so



happened that the maid had come out, preparing to get some water for Chen Yanran to wash up. As soon as she saw Chen Tiexin, a sense of guilt rose within her. After all, she had disobeyed Chen Tiexin's order and left the Chen residence to meet with Han Jingru.

"Mr. Tiexin." The maid lowered her head as she greeted Chen Tiexin. With a guilty conscience, she dared not look up at Chen Tiexin.

"Has Yanran woken up?" Chen Tiexin asked.

"Yes," the maid answered truthfully.

Nodding his head, Chen Tiexin said, "Alright, go ahead with what you were going to do."

"Yes."

The maid understood that it was a signal asking her to not return to the bedroom but she couldn't figure out why Chen Tiexin was looking for Chen Yanran early in the morning. *Can it be that barring Ms. Chen is no longer sufficient?*

Walking into the bedroom, he saw Chen Yanran who was all dressed up, grooming herself in front of the mirror.

For a stunning beauty like Chen Yanran, the first thing to do in the morning was to dress beautifully because she didn't want anyone to see her unkempt appearance.

"Didn't I ask you to get me some water? How come you're back so soon?" Chen Yanran heard the footsteps and asked directly without turning back to take a look.

"It's me," Chen Tiexin said.

Surprised, Chen Yanran turned around. "Tiexin, what



brings you here?"

Chen Tiexin forged a smile and replied, "Can't I come?"

"Tiexin, you look so pale. Did you have a troubled sleep?"  
Chen Yanran inquired.

With a sigh, Chen Tiexin said to Chen Yanran, "Yanran, have you fallen for Han Jingru?"

Chen Yanran frowned as she didn't quite understand why Chen Tiexin would say so all of a sudden.

"Tiexin, I've told you. The only reason I'm looking for Han Jingru is to ascertain his identity and nothing else," Chen Yanran replied.

"Silly girl. If he's indeed a top fighter, how can he simply reveal it to you? If you really want to know the truth, you have to think of other ways," Chen Tiexin uttered.

Chen Yanran was baffled at his words. It was very unusual for Chen Tiexin to bring up matters relating to Han Jingru, let alone the possibility of the latter being a powerful fighter. His behavior that morning was extremely strange. It felt as though he was even willing to help Chen Yanran find out the truth.

"Tiexin, what happened to you?" Chen Yanran asked.

"I know if I don't give you the chance to verify this, you'll never relent. I don't want to see you so disoriented and trancelike ever again," returned Chen Tiexin.

Startled, Chen Yanran brightened up instantly following that and asked, "Tiexin, does this mean that you've agreed to let me see Han Jingru?"

"How can I bear with the sight of you pining away?" Chen



Tiexin made up a helpless face and muttered.

Those words made Chen Yanran over the moon. She was still pondering about ways to leave the Chen residence to find Han Jingru. Now that Chen Tiexin had agreed to it, she wouldn't have to rack her brains anymore.

"Tiexin, thank you," Chen Yanran said excitedly.

"But remember what I've told you about. Getting to know the true capabilities of Han Jingru is not a piece of cake," Chen Tiexin added.

"Tiexin, what should I do then?" Chen Yanran asked.

"Well, why don't we let Han Jingru return to the Chen residence first? Since he's your husband, he should come back to the Chen residence. We should let bygones be bygones," said Chen Tiexin.

Apart from Chen Tiexin's suggestion of letting Han Jingru return to the Chen residence, what shocked Chen Yanran more was the phrase "Han Jingru is your husband."

*In the Chen residence, even among the servants, no one has ever really recognized Han Jingru's status in the family. How does this thinking find its way to Chen Tiexin all of a sudden?*

Feeling odd, Chen Yanran asked, "Tiexin, are you feeling unwell?"

"I just don't want you to waste too much time and energy on this matter, nor do I want to see you troubled because of it. This is the most feasible way to deal with the matter." After saying that, Chen Tiexin hesitated for a moment and continued, "Besides, it is only if you treat Han Jingru well that he will return his sincerity and reveal



what you want to know to you.”

Even though it did sound sensible, Chen Yanran still found it unbelievable because the change in Chen Tiexin’s attitude was radical.

“Tiexin, you’ve figured out something, haven’t you?” Chen Yanran asked.

There wasn’t a change in Chen Tiexin’s expression but with a wry smile, he replied rather helplessly, “What can I know? This is the outcome after my discussion with father. His heart has been aching for you these days. If it weren’t for him, do you think I would agree?”

Chen Yanran pouted. She knew that her condition recently had been worrisome but she really couldn’t restrain herself at all. Every time she thought about the words from Huang Xiaoyong, it felt like a demon was surging within her.

“Tiexin, I’m sorry for upsetting you and father,” Chen Yanran replied with guilt.

Standing up, Chen Tiexin patted Chen Yanran on her shoulder. “You’re my sister. It’s only natural that I’m worried about you but I’ve thought it through. You can do whatever you want because it’s not a good thing for a brother to keep holding his sister back. Nevertheless, please remember my reminder to you—if you want to know the truth, you can only be nice to him and even show him that you’re fond of him.”

“Tiexin, I know what to do but what if this matter turns out to be false in the end?” Chen Yanran asked.

*False?*

Of course, Chen Tiexin hoped that it was false as well



but after what happened last night, Han Jingru's identity as a powerful fighter was almost confirmed.

However, Chen Tiexin acted like he knew nothing and returned, "Regardless of whether it's true or not, as long as it makes you happy, I'm fine with it. As with how you should treat Han Jingru in the future, it's entirely up to you."

Totally unaware of the fact that she had been used, Chen Yanran said delightfully to Chen Tiexin, "Tiexin, you're so good to me. I'm so lucky to have a brother like you."



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



After Chen Tiexin left, Chen Yanran's desire to meet with Han Jingru became unstoppable because to her, it was long-awaited and she couldn't bear waiting for even another second.

Leaving the compound of the Chen residence, the maid led the way to Han Jingru's house. Chen Yanran hit the road with her brisk footsteps and a light heart.

Within the Chen residence.

Chen Tiexin came to the study of Chen Yuanhai and told him everything he had said to Chen Yanran.

"Only Yanran is able to effect a hopeful turn in this matter now. Let's hope that she won't disappoint us. Otherwise, the Chen family will likely be knocked to its knees this time," Chen Yuanhai lamented. To him, Han Jingru's capabilities were almost confirmed by then. Hence, he had no choice but to put all his hopes on Chen Yanran.

Everything that Chen Tiexin had done to Han Jingru was sufficient for the Chen family to be toppled. Even the mere thought of it was unbearable for Chen Yuanhai.

It was the cumulative efforts of a few generations that the Chen family finally gained its status today. Thus, Chen Yuanhai would never want to see it crushed in his own hands.

It was the same with Chen Tiexin. He did not want to die and he was even hoping that he could utilize his status as a brother-in-law to ask Han Jingru to help him ascend. Therefore, he yearned for Han Jingru to forgive Chen Yanran. Of course, the best outcome would be their reconciliation and Han Jingru's return to the Chen residence.



Nevertheless, the likelihood of this outcome wasn't something Chen Tiexin dared to imagine.

"Father, what is the success rate of our plan?" Chen Tiexin asked in concern.

Chen Yuanhai was silent for a moment. Then, he shook his head.

He didn't have the nerve to talk about its possibility, nor did he dare to think about it.

*With such powerful background, a woman's beauty is probably the only thing that could move Han Jingru. However, if Yanran fails, then our success rate would be extremely low.*

*Come to think of it, with Han Jingru's power, there's hardly any chance that he would be short of women.*

*Even though Yanran is considered to be a first-class beauty in Longyun City, Han Jingru is qualified enough to enter the Imperial Court. Hence, isn't it a free choice for him to choose any women from there?*

With a sigh, Chen Yuanhai uttered, "We can only let fate take its course now. Our family has indeed wronged him. It's only understandable if he refused to forgive us."

Chen Tiexin's face turned gloomy in an instance. He understood that those words were a reminder from Chen Yuanhai to him. If it weren't for him to have taken things to an irredeemable state, they would have a high chance of turning things around.

Chen Tiexin was certainly remorseful as well but now that things had unwound this way, it was pointless to dwell on it.



On the other hand, Chen Yanran had reached the door of Han Jingru's house.

She knew that she would be able to see Han Jingru once she knocked on the door. However, it was at that moment that she became nervous and dared not do so.

In the past, Han Jingru was just an expendable piece of trash to her and a puppet at her mercy. The reason she had kept Han Jingru in the Chen residence was just so Huang Xiaoyong would stop pestering her in Han Jingru's presence. In other words, she was only taking advantage of Han Jingru.

But right then, she could no longer act high and mighty before the man because the man she had always looked down upon turned out to be a remarkably strong fighter who could overturn the entire Longyun City at will.

"Ms. Chen, do you need me to knock on the door for you?" the maid asked Chen Yanran.

Chen Yanran shook her head stiffly and replied, "You may leave first."

Upon hearing that, the maid became anxious. "Ms. Chen, how can I just leave? What if that trash harm you?"

*Trash?*

Before this, Chen Yanran didn't think there was any problem when the maid referred to Han Jingru as "trash." *This word can never be used to describe Han Jingru anymore, neither should it be heard by Han Jingru.*

"From now on, you better don't use that word on him," Chen Yanran berated the maid coldly.

In fear, the maid lowered her head immediately but there



was an unmistakable dissatisfaction written on her face. *can*

*Has Ms. Chen really gone blind and fallen for Han Jingru?*

“Run along now.” Chen Yanran said to the maid once again.

Seeing that Chen Yanran was persistent, the maid replied submissively, “Ms. Chen, please be careful on your own.”

After the maid left, Chen Yanran gathered her courage and walked toward the door. Just as she was about to reach out and knock on the door, it opened by itself.

“Who are you?” Bailing Wan'er who was standing inside asked Chen Yanran.

“Who are you?” Chen Yanran was equally surprised. *How could there be another woman in Han Jingru's house?*

Bailing Wan'er eyed Chen Yanran from head to toe. *This girl over here is beautiful, mature, and even more attractive than me.*

When such a woman came to the house, it was very likely that she had extraordinary relationship with Han Jingru, which inevitably made Bailing Wan'er feel hostile toward her.

“I'm Han Jingru's wife, what about you?” Bailing Wan'er answered.

*Wife!* Chen Yanran paled instantly at what she said. *Han Jingru has a new wife already!*

Right away, exasperation soared within Chen Yanran. That was because it had been only a while since Han Jingru left the Chen residence and he had already found



himself a new love.

But as she thought about it, Chen Yanran realized that she had no right at all to blame Han Jingru because their marriage was only in name. Therefore, it was totally understandable that Han Jingru got into a new relationship.

More importantly, Han Jingru was chucked out from the Chen residence. *Since it was the Chen family who had wronged him, who are we to restrict him from finding another woman?*

Seeing Chen Yanran's reaction, Bailing Wan'er was even more certain of her identity. This made her a little complacent.

That was exactly the mentality of a little girl. Although she hadn't won Han Jingru's heart, it felt good to be able to flaunt in front of a rival.

"What's wrong? You don't seem well. Are you okay? Why don't you go home and rest?" Bailing Wan'er asked.

Chen Yanran shook her head subconsciously. She was here to see Han Jingru. How could she leave without meeting him in person?

"Is Han Jingru at home? I need to see him," Chen Yanran asked.

With a laugh, Bailing Wan'er asked, "You're Chen Yanran, aren't you? Do you think he would want to see you?"

"Since you know who I am, you must have known my relationship with him in the past. I'm here today to clarify a few things with him," Chen Yanran replied.

It didn't matter to Bailing Wan'er what Chen Yanran



to his house.

“Wan’er, let her in.”

Bailing Wan’er gritted her teeth when she heard that. No matter how much she wanted to slam the door in Chen Yanran’s face, she couldn’t go against Han Jingru’s request.

“This is my first time meeting such a shameless person!” Bailing Wan’er ranted as she opened the door wider.

As the young lady from a prominent family, it was the first time Chen Yanran was insulted in such a way. Yet, she ignored the slander as all she wished for at that moment was to meet with Han Jingru.

As she walked passed the courtyard, she couldn’t help but smile bitterly at how beautiful the place was.

There was a time when she thought that once Han Jingru left the Chen family, he would live like a beggar. Reality proved her otherwise as not only did Han Jingru not live a poor man’s life, but he also even became wealthier.

Even though the small courtyard wasn’t as luxurious as the one back at Chen residence, but it gave off a warmer vibe. To her, the place felt more like a home than the extravagant place she lived in.

When Chen Yanran stopped in front of Han Jingru, she could feel her heart racing. In the past, Han Jingru was no more than a pretty face, but now, he gave off a different vibe.

His good look wasn’t his only trait anymore. There was a unique charisma that only alpha males had.



Chen Yanran almost fainted when Bailing Wan'er said that. Yet, as Han Jingru's wife, the latter had the right to stop her from entering.

The only problem Chen Yanran had was that she was supposed to be Han Jingru's wife instead, not Bailing Wan'er/

If the Chen family hadn't chased Han Jingru out and if she'd treated him like her husband and not acted arrogantly; things would've turned out very differently. She would've been Han Jingru's wife now and not this woman.

"Wan'er, what are you doing?" Han Jingru's voice came from the courtyard.

"Nothing. Some stranger is trying to come into our home," replied Bailing Wan'er without turning around.

"Han Jingru! It's me, Yanran! Can we talk?" the visitor shouted at the top of her lung as Bailing Wan'er seemed serious about not letting her in.

"What a shameless woman!" Bailing Wan'er insulted. She blamed herself for not closing the door sooner. If she'd done that, Chen Yanran would never have the chance to get Han Jingru's attention. There was no way the man would not meet with the guest as he was a kindhearted person.

Han Jingru was surprised to hear Chen Yanran's voice.

When his maid told him that Chen Yanran wished to meet with him, he was astonished as well. From how the maid described the woman's request, he could tell that she had changed her opinions towards him.

He didn't expect that Chen Yanran would actually come



“So, what do you want from me?” Han Jingru asked.

Chan Yanran glanced at Bailing Wan'er, signaling that she didn't want to speak in front of the latter.

The glance angered Bailing Wan'er right away. “I'm his wife! I have the right to stay by his side!”

The young lady faked her identity again, which Han Jingru completely ignored as he didn't see the need to explain anything to Chen Yanran.

She could feel her heart sank. The man's silence to the statement was like an answer to her suspicion.

“I didn't think you would find yourself a new woman so soon,” said Chen Yanran as her face turned pale.

Since the Han Jingru did not deny the statement, it boosted Bailing Wan'er's confidence that she was at a higher standing than Chen Yanran.

“What do you mean so soon? Do we even need your permission to get married?”

Even though Chen Yanran was furious at the young lady's words, there was nothing she could do.

“Let's cut to the chase. I'm here today to ask you something,” she finally said.

The man replied with a “OK” sign, but since he wasn't on Earth, both Chen Yanran and Bailing Wan'er were confused.

“Hubby, what do you mean?” Bailing Wan'er asked out of curiosity.

*Right! There's no way the people here at Xenos know the hand signs fr*



om Earth! ne. "It means no problem."

Bailing Wan'er mimicked Han Jingru's sign and nodded happily. It was as if she was glad to learn something new.

Chen Yanran took a deep breath. Needless to say, she was nervous as it was finally the day to find the answer.

"Were you the one who killed the two Fourth Stage fighter that were sent by the Wang and Xie families?"

"Haven't I already told you that before? You didn't believe me back then," replied Han Jingru. He had no intention to hide the truth from the beginning. When Chen Yanran confronted him with the same question in the past, he'd already told her the truth. Yet, at that time, the woman thought he was joking.

Chen Yanran's expression changed immediately. Just as the man stated, he told her once but she still thought of him as a piece of trash at that time. With that in mind, it never occurred to her that such a useless person could defeat two Fourth Stage fighters. It was plain impossible for her to believe him.

After another deep breath, Chen Yanran continued with her question. "Then, there were only the three of us at the Middle Area of Longyan Mountains, right? There wasn't anyone else..."

Han Jingru finally raised his brow as he realized the reason Chen Yanran came to him. It seemed like she was beginning to suspect that he held great powers and even had proof of it.

The man sighed as he should've realized it when Chen Yanran suddenly changed her attitude towards him. The only reason that he would even make such a mistake



was that he always thought that he kept his secret well.

“Why are you asking this?”

“Because there are too many things that happened around you that I can’t explain. And all of these point towards one explanation, you’re not a useless person.”

Bailing Wan’er couldn’t help but laugh when she heard that.

The young lady was mocking the Chen family for treating Han Jingru as a useless person.

“Is that so? I would call those things a coincidence,” said Han Jingru.

The guest shook her head as she was confident in the answer she found. “It’s not a coincidence. Even if it is, there’s just no way it would happen so often. I know you are Huang Xiaoyong’s Master, and you were the one who helped him tame the seven-star familiar, am I right?”



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Han Jingru did not reply to Chen Yanran's question. "I have nothing to do with your family anymore. Thus, these things do not mean anything to you as well. Now that you've asked your questions, please leave."

Yet, the woman shook her head. She wasn't going to give up so easily as she still hoped to win the man back. Her goal was to bring him back as a part of the Chen family.

There was a reason for her to make such a decision. As the Chen family continued to lose their standing in Longyun City, only Han Jingru could save them now.

If he agreed to return to them, it would be great news for Chen Tiexin as he did not have to run across the continent to look for a Master anymore.

Her family was only strong in name. To prove that their family were a force not to reckon with, they needed Chen Tiexin to become a fighter.

"I'm not leaving," announced Chen Yanran.

"What the hell? What are you planning to do?" Bailing Wan'er scolded. The young lady couldn't believe the guest was so shameless that she intended to stay even after Han Jingru had asked her to leave.

"Han Jingru, as long as you come back with me, I'll still be your wife. And not just in name, I will give myself to you as well. I can satisfy you anytime you want."

Compared to her past arrogant self, the current Chen Yanran was the complete opposite. Now, she was willing to lower her status just so she could win the man back.

Bailing Wan'er became anxious, worrying that Han Jingru might actually fall for Chen Yanran's beauty. If that happened, she would lose her chance of becoming his



wife.

“You aren’t going to agree, right?” the young lady asked.

Han Jingru replied with a smile.

“What are you smiling for? Aren’t you going to chase her out?”

At that instant, Chen Yanran thought that she’d successfully persuaded the man. It allowed her to relax a little, but what the man said next made her heart sink into a bottomless pit.

“You’re just a normal looking woman in my eyes. I have no interest in you,” said Han Jingru.

The man had met a lot of women in the past, and all of them were gorgeous. Yet, no matter how pretty they were, none of them could match Qi Bingying’s beauty.

If Han Jingru were a man who thought with his other head instead of his brain, he would’ve long fallen for Qi Bingying’s seduction.

Even though Chen Yanran was amongst the top in both looks and good figure, she still couldn’t attract his attention.

His comment on her appearance was like a bucket of ice-cold water poured over her.

The impact his words was indescribable.

Chen Yanran was praised for her beauty from a very young age, and not a single person had ever called her normal-looking.

Yet, the praises from the others meant nothing to her, as



what mattered the most at that moment was how Han Jingru viewed her.

His words mattered the most as he meant every word he said.

"I-Is there nothing I can do to bring you back?" Chen Yanran still wasn't giving up. She didn't want to admit that things between her and the man were over because there were a lot of problems where she needed his help to solve.

"I believe he has made it clear. Please leave. You aren't welcome here anymore," Bailing Wan'er cut in before Han Jingru could say anything, worrying that he might take pity on Chen Yanran.

Yet, her worry was redundant as Han Jingru would only give his love to Su Yimo. Even when he took a liking to Qi Bingying when she saved his family, he never accepted her.

Chen Yanran stared at Han Jingru while completely ignoring the young lady standing next to him. All that mattered to her was his decision.

"Please leave," Han Jingru finally sighed.

His words threw her into utter desperation. It was now clear that she stood no chance of reviving their relationship.

No words could even describe the regret she felt at that moment.

If she hadn't treated Han Jingru so badly back when he was living with her and chased him out later, their relationship would've never turned sour to such a bad state.



"Please, can't you forgive me? I beg you!" Tears rolled down her cheeks.

"Just leave. I don't care much about what your family did to me in the past, so I won't seek revenge," said Han Jingru calmly.

"But we really need you now!"

"So, you came to me for your family and for Chen Tiexin?" Han Jingru smiled.

Chen Yanran quickly shook her head. Instead of revealing her real motive, she'd decided to win over his heart. "No! I came here because I love you! I came here because I want you to come back to me and be my husband!"

Unfortunately, he did not believe her. It was simply impossible for her to fall for him for no reason.

"Wan'er, see her out," he finally ordered.

The young lady was already at her limit. She walked over to the guest and said, "It's better if you leave on your own. At least you won't embarrass yourself."

Chen Yanran ignored Bailing Wan'er. She never took her eyes off Han Jingru as she knew that their relationship would be severed the moment she walked out the door.

*Bang!*

"I know what I did to you is wrong! Please, I will do anything as long as you forgive me!" the woman begged on her knees.

Yet, Han Jingru didn't even turn to look at her and returned to his room.



Even Bailing Wan'er couldn't bear the sight. It would cost a woman all her pride to do what Chen Yanran just did.

Han Jingru's ruthlessness was like an iceberg that never melted. Seeing how he treated her, Bailing Wan'er had a feeling that the same thing would happen to her sooner or later.

"Please! Just give me another chance!" Chen Yanran continued to yell.

All Bailing Wan'er could do was sigh. Han Jingru's determination was shown through his action. It was evident that he wasn't going to give Chen Yanran another chance.

"Just leave. Can't you see how determined he is?" the young lady said.

Chen Yanran felt as if her body had become a soulless husk. Never had she thought that it would end in such a way.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Bailing Wan'er was in a low spirit after Chen Yanran left. For the young lady, it felt as if she'd just seen that happening to her in the future.

Chen Yanran was better than Bailing Wan'er in terms of looks and physique. Even then, the former had to throw away her pride and begged Han Jingru for forgiveness. However, the man wasn't moved by her action. His reaction proved to others that he would not take pity on a woman. It made the young lady worry for her future even more as she was really hoping that the man would fall for her as time passed.

Judging from what happened a few moments ago, it was very unlikely for something like that to happen.

The moment she walked into Han Jingru's room, she couldn't help but sigh, "You are so ruthless. You didn't even look at her when she begged you."

"What? Are you afraid now?"

Bailing Wan'er raised her head and did not want to admit defeat. "Me? Afraid of what? I'm not like her!"

"To me, you and her, and all the other women are all the same."

"Don't lie to me. All men are the same. You fall for any pretty woman you come across. Even if you don't like me now, it doesn't mean you won't fall for me in the future."

Han Jingru sighed and shook his head. Judging from Bailing Wan'er's reaction, she would not give up anytime soon, but he wasn't worried as he was a man who once withstood Qi Bingying's seduction.

Chen Yanran returned to the Chen residence. As she walked through the door like a zombie, she kept recalling



Han Jingru's face without any expressions.

She'd never expected that he would end things in such a ruthless way, nor did she expect that there was nothing she could do to change his mind. It was as if the man had no desire for a woman.

*Why can't I charm my way through him? Is it because he's on another level?*

The woman knew that she'd long lost the chance to get together with Han Jingru again. If she did not look down on him nor chase him out of the Chen residence, she would have a different ending.

Chen Yanran locked herself in her room. She lay on the bed while staring at the ceiling with her empty eyes.

When Chen Tiexin learned of his sister's return, he ran to her room immediately.

"How's Yanran?" the brother asked the maid standing by outside her room.

The maid shook her head. She'd no idea what had happened between Chen Yanran and Han Jingru, but she could tell that nothing good came from their meeting.

"It seems like Ms. Chen took a huge blow from her meeting with Mr. Han. She didn't even react when I called her just now. It's like she has lost her soul..."

Chen Tiexin could guess the outcome from his sister's reaction. He was heartbroken to see her in such a state, regretting everything he'd done in the past.

Now that Chen Yanran had failed to win Han Jingru's heart back, the Chen family had lost their only chance at survival. If he'd not chased Han Jingru out of their family



from the beginning, things would never have resulted in such a matter.

“Yanran? Can I come in?” Chen Tiexin knocked on the door, wanting to check up on his sister as he was worried.

Yet, he did not get any response from her. He tried to push open, but realized it was locked from inside.

“Are you alright?” he asked worriedly.

“Tiexin... I-I need some time alone...” Chen Yanran’s dry voice came from inside.

The brother let out a deep sigh as he could feel how much his sister was suffering. No matter how much he wanted to help her, there wasn’t anything he could do as he was half of the reason for the state she was in.

“Take good care of her. If anything happens to her, I’ll have you dead.”

The maid nodded anxiously at Chen Tiexin’s demand.

He then walked down the hallway to Chen Yuanhai’s study room so that he could report the situation to him right away. He was hoping that his father could think of something else to solve the problem.

“Father.”

“Come in.”

Chen Tiexin lowered his head subconsciously as he had failed his father.

“Is Yanran back?” Chen Yuanhai asked.



“She is...”

Even though Chen Yuanhai was putting up a calm expression, his heart still skipped a beat. His daughter's return was a sign that she was back with an answer from Han Jingyu. His family's fate depended on that answer.

“So?” the father asked.

“She's locking herself up in her room... It seems like Han Jingyu rejected her.”

Chen Yuanhai's shoulder slumped as he felt the energy leaving his body.

Without a way to bring Han Jingru back, the Chen family was now on a path of destruction.

“We can't blame him. We should never have done all those things to him.” He shook his head.

“It's all my fault. If I didn't chase him out that time, we would've been safe.” Chen Tiexin took the blame himself as he was the one who plotted to have Han Jingru leave their family without consulting Chen Yuanhai. It was all his own decision that caused such a disaster and he had to bear all the responsibility.

The father had no intention to blame his son. He knew what Chen Tiexin was planning before and did not stop the latter from doing so. He even quietly praised his son for doing a good job by showing the public that they had nothing to do with Han Jingru.

The thing they looked forward to in the past had come back to haunt them.

“It's not your fault...” Chen Yuanhai said.



“Father, is there no other way? Are we really doomed?”  
Chen Tiexin asked.

The best idea Chen Yuanhai could think of was to use Chen Yanran’s beauty to strike that man. That move was proven to be a failure and there was no other method he could come think of.

In the end, Chen Yuanhai asked, “Do you think you stand a chance of becoming his disciple?”

Chen Tiexin had once planned to use his identity as Han Jingru’s brother-in-law to get help from him to break past his Stage. Never had he once thought of learning under the man.

Yet, he now realized that he was pretty much worthless in the eyes of Han Jingru.

*But, even if I beg him to teach me, will that change anything? Will he even teach me?*



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Chen Tiexin always thought that he was more talented than most people. As long as he could prove his talent to the strong fighters, they would teach him their skills. That was the reason why Chen Tiexin never gave up on searching for a Master even after asking half of the fighters in Imperial Court.

Yet, when he stood side to side with Han Jingru, his confidence was gone in an instant. Due to other factors, talent wasn't that important anymore.

Additionally, Han Jingru was stronger than the average fighter. He could even help a worthless person like Huang Xiaoyong advance to the Fifth Stage in a very short time.

"Father, if we maintained a friendly relationship with him, there is a possibility that he might teach me. But now... I'm afraid it's impossible," the son finally answered.

"You know what? I finally learned something."

"Which is?" Chen Tiexin was confused.

"That talent is nothing in the eyes of real fighters. That's the reason why you still can't find a Master to teach you yet. Maybe, just maybe, you'll never find someone strong to teach you."

After what happened with Huang Xiaoyong, Chen Yuanhai realized that he overemphasized talent in the past. The father had completely lost his confidence in his son's success, and all the sacrifices he made in the past all came to naught.

Han Jingru never heeded any attention to a person's talent. Even if one were born without it, a piece of red fruit could break through that barrier.



If a person's were on the verge of losing his power or wasn't training hard, all of the obstacle could still be solved with a single piece of red fruit. That was the reason Huang Xiaoyong's road to the Fifth Stage was like a walk in the park.

The only problem was the value of the red fruit in Xenos. Even a Third Stage fighter would have had a hard time getting their hand on one. None of them was as rich as Han Jingru, and they could never give out Holy Chestnut to others just like how the man did.

Chen Yuanhai only got half of it right as they had set the wrong path right from the start.

The talent that Chen Tiexin possessed was never acknowledged by others. In other words, the father and son had been living in their own world thinking that Chen Tiexin was talented.

"How is that possible? Talent is a must to achieve a higher Stage. How can it be useless?" Chen Tiexin's expression turned sour as his whole life revolved around his talent. It would shatter his confidence if it weren't important.

"We must go and meet Han Jingru tomorrow to apologize to him. I hope he can forgive us for what we'd done to him." Chen Yuanhai decided to not focus on the talent problem anymore as he knew his son's mental state would crumble because of it.

The family still needed Chen Tiexin to become a pillar of support. In the end, Chen Yanran was still a woman and they could not rely on her to do that so he could only get stronger.

After leaving his father's study room, the conversation still lingered in Chen Tiexin's mind.



*If talent is useless, then I'm not even qualified to look for a Master...*

"That's impossible. How can there be no value to it?" the young man shook his head as he mumbled to himself.

The next morning, Chen Tiexin followed Chen Yuanhai to Han Jingru's house.

On their way there, the father kept reminding his son, "Leave all your pride outside when we see him. This is our last chance. If you do anything to anger him, we'll be doomed."

"Don't worry, father. I know what to do." Chen Tiexin had already steeled his mind the day before and was ready to accept any humiliation that came his way.

"Our future rests in his hands. I would even beg on my knees if situation called for it."

At Han Jingru's house, Bailing Wan'er woke up very early to prepare a pot of congee for him.

What the young lady witnessed the day before made her worry a little, but she wasn't going to give up just yet.

In her opinion, she had to slowly become a part of the man's life so that he could not live without her if she wanted to become his wife. In order to achieve that, she had to focus on all the little things in his life.

"Not bad. I've never thought you could do so many things at such a young age," Han Jingru complimented from the bottom of his heart. It would be impossible for someone on Earth to master so many things at her age.

"How about you let me serve you the rest of your life?" Bailing Wan'er asked tentatively.



Han Jingru smiled at her but did not reply. After having his breakfast, he headed into the courtyard to trim his plants.

Bailing Wan'er pouted at his reaction. Even though she was angry, she seemed cute rather than scary.

"Why is he playing with plants when there's a woman here for him to play with..."

Her words sent a chill down Han Jingru's spine. It wasn't something a sixteen years old teen should say.

Qi Bingying acted in the same way towards him in the past as well, but since she was a grown woman, it didn't feel wrong.

Qi Bingying was seducing him, and the man was okay with it. However, when Bailing Wan'er did it, it felt wrong to him.

After doing the dishes, she went to help Han Jingru in the courtyard. To a certain extent, the two seemed more like a father and child than a couple.

"With how heartbroken Chen Yanran was yesterday, I guess she cried the whole night," the young lady said.

"Are you worried about her or your future?" asked the man with a smile.

Seeing how inconsiderate the man was, the young lady raised her tiny fist but couldn't bring herself to hit him. She knew very well that she would never land a punch on this man.

Then, she slowly put her hand down and sighed, "Why can't guys learn to take care of girls more? Do you really not feel anything?"

“There’s no need to worry about her since she had ulterior motives.”

“What motive?”

“You might get that answer very soon.”

“What?”

As Bailing Wan’er frowned, a knock could be heard on the door.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!



Han Jingru smiled and said, "There's your answer."

Bailing Wan'er was still confused. She looked at Han Jingru for a second before answering the door.

When she saw Chen Tiexin standing outside, the frown returned to her face. *Is he an idiot? Is he looking to meet his maker or what?*

Han Jingru had once told Huang Xiaoyong that if the latter had not appeared in time, Chen Tiexin would've been dead now.

"You better crawl back to whatever hole you came from. He'll not spare your life this time."

"We are not here to cause trouble. Instead, we're here to apologize to Han Jingru," he said.

Compared to the arrogance he had previously, Chen Tiexin was now much tamer. After learning the truth of Han Jingru's strength, he knew there was nothing he could do. The man also knew he was lucky to have survived Han Jingru's wrath because of Huang Xiaoyong.

"Apologize?" Bailing Wan'er was surprised. "There's no need for that. You were never a threat to him from the beginning."

As she was about to close the door, Chen Yuanhai stopped her.

"What do you want, old fool?" the young lady scolded.

Everyone who called Chen Yuanhai an old fool was met with a tragic ending, especially for a young lady like Bailing Wan'er where he had a special way to deal with. Yet, instead of getting angry, Chen Yuanhai put on a smiling face. "Please, can you let us see him?"



"Let them in." Han Jingru's voice came from the courtyard.

Bailing Wan'er opened the door unwillingly, but since the two guests weren't women, she wasn't as worried as the day before.

When the father and son saw Han Jingru tending to his plants in the courtyard, they noticed he was giving off a different vibe.

Even though he was just standing there, the father and the son could still feel the powerful aura he was releasing.

"Are you two here to apologize or trying to take me back?" Han Jingru asked.

Chen Yuanhai glanced at his son and the latter immediately begged on his knees. "I came here to apologize."

"Your sister did that yesterday. It won't do you any good."

Chen Tiexin's expression changed after hearing that. *Yanran actually did that?*

"I know we've wronged you, but I really hope that you can forgive us. If you can do that, we'll do anything you want," pleaded Chen Yuanhai.

"The Chen family?" Han Jingru laughed. "What can your family do? To put it simply, do you think that you and your family have the ability to help me?"

The father's expression darkened immediately.

Even though the Chen family was rich and was one of the Three Major Families in Longyun City, those things



meant nothing to a fighter like Han Jingru.

Money? He could have as much as he wanted.

As for status, the status the Chen family held meant nothing to him.

With how things were now, Han Jingru could even order the governor around as he was Huang Xiaoyong's Master.

"But, my son has much more talent than others! He could even surpass Huang Xiaoyong if you're willing to teach him. You could even order him around to help you!" Chen Yuanhai said.

"Are you joking?" Han Jingru laughed even harder.

"Talent? He's no more than a piece of trash in my eyes!"

Trash!

The word damaged Chen Tiexin's pride as it was the thing that fueled his confidence.

"Are you saying that Huang Xiaoyong is more talented than my son?" Chen Yuanhai gritted his teeth. As far as he is concerned, his son was a dozen times more talented than Huang Xiaoyong. Chen Tiexin could do much better in whatever the latter do.

If Huang Xiaoyong could achieve the Fifth Stage, then his son could reach the Sixth Stage technically.

Yet, in Han Jingru's eyes, the two were at the same level.

The only reason Huang Xiaoyong could reach the Fifth Stage in such a short time was because he ate the red fruit.



Nevertheless, that wasn't something that Han Jingru would give to Chen Tiexin easily.

There was one very big difference between Huang Xiaoyong and Chen Tiexin. The former could be controlled, while Chen Tiexin would betray Han Jingru once he got his hands on the thing he wanted.

The biggest reason Han Jingru didn't want to help them was because they were the Chen family. Even though he could ignore all the suffering they'd caused him, Chen Tiexin was nothing more than a weakling to him. Hence, it wasn't worth his while helping him.

"What do you mean, Chen Yuanhai?" Huang Xiaoyong suddenly appeared out of nowhere and scolded. "Are you saying that I'm weaker than your son? Do you not know that I'm a Fifth Stage fighter now? How about we have a fight now? I'll prove to you that I can take him out with one punch!"

The father did not expect that Huang Xiaoyong would show up suddenly. To make things worse, his words were heard.

Offending Huang Xiaoyong would not end well if the governor decided to take revenge. The fall of Chen family would only arrive faster.

"T-That's not what I mean..." Chen Yuanhai apologized.

"Oh? Then, what do you mean?" Huang Xiaoyong scoffed.

The question silenced Chen Yuanhai as he deeply regretted his action. If he knew Huang Xiaoyong was going to be there, he would never have made such comments.



“You are lucky you have a good Master! If I had one, do you think you can beat me?” Chen Tiexin scolded.

Han Jingru laughed once again. He'd never expected the heir of the Chen family would try to lick his boot. Unfortunately for Chen Tiexin, Han Jingru was already immune to such flattery.

“Chen Tiexin, where's your arrogant now? Since when did you learn to lick someone else's boot?” Huang Xiaoyong mocked.

It was the truth. Chen Tiexin always acted snobbishly towards everyone else in the past.

He'd always been at the cream of the cake in Longyun City and boasting that he would be a part of the Imperial Court in the future because of his talent. Most people were afraid of him because it was possible for that to happen.

Now that Chen Tiexin had come to terms with the fact that Han Jingru was standing in a higher position than him, some simple boot-licking was nothing to him.

“So what? Like you'd never done the same thing before?” Chen Tiexin wasn't even embarrassed by his action.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!