

The girl was staring at Chen Hao curiously.

In fact, at the sight of his shabby attire and his country bumpkin look, she already started to look down upon him deep down inside.

Both Jiang Weidong and Tang Lan looked extremely awkward after listening to what the girl said.

Especially Tang Lan.

Just now, she had reminded Jiang Weidong about the urgent meeting he was about to have later. With that excuse, they did not invite Chen Hao to stay for lunch.

In the end, their daughter suddenly spoke up.

They were very embarrassed by what she said.

Daughter, why didn't you come out of your room later? If you did, Chen Hao would have been gone by then!

"Oh, Ranran, you've forgotten about him.

He is the son of Uncle Chen. You two have met each other before when you were little," Tang Lan said awkwardly.

"I remember him. I think his name is Chen Hao..." she said.

"My name is indeed Chen Hao. I am surprised that you could still remember me, Ranran! It has been years since we met each other. You have turned into such a pretty girl!"

The girl's name was Jiang Ranran. Chen Hao knew her.

Back then, when Chen Hao visited their house, Jiang Ranran would always point at him and make comments in disgust. For example, she would say, "Mom, please get him out of here as soon as possible. He made our floor dirty!"

Probably because of his ego, Chen Hao was afraid of her mockery since he was little.

However, he had gotten used to it already. He was able to talk to her nicely now.

"Thank you, Chen Hao. You have grown into a handsome man too! Please be nice to me in the future!"

With poise, Jiang Ranran extended her hand to shake Chen Hao's hand.

Even though Jiang Ranran said it purely out of courtesy, it was the most pleasant thing Chen Hao had heard ever since he stepped into their house.

He smiled and said, "Sure, no problem. You can reach me anytime if you have any problems!"

Jiang Ranran took back her hand with a smile. However, she was thinking, Hmph, reaching you anytime for any problem? Who do you think you are? I think you got too carried away! I was just being polite.

Indeed, Jiang Ranran was born into a family full of government officials. Excluding her father's connection, she had vast connections herself.

After she graduated from university, she would definitely land a job in one of the

government institutions. She needed no help from others in the future!

Not to mention needing help from Chen Hao.

“Chen Hao, why don't you stay for lunch? Ranran's friends are coming and you may join them. I was too busy just now to the point that I had forgotten about this. I need to get lunch ready now!” Tang Lan said awkwardly.

In fact, she wanted Chen Hao to leave just now. However, their daughter had exposed their lies. Therefore, she didn't look too happy now.

It would be too rude of her to not ask him to stay.

“Exactly. Please do stay. It's always useful to know more people!” Jiang Weidong commented nonchalantly.

Jiang Ranran began to look upset.

She had planned to only have lunch with her classmates. Now, their lunch was

suddenly crashed by a country bumpkin. It was very awkward for her.

However, since her parents had already invited him, she had no choice but to accept it.

Her attitude toward Chen Hao turned much colder after that.

A short while later, Jiang Ranran's classmates arrived.

The gang was made up of seven to eight people, and there was a mixture of boys and girls.

After the teenagers chatted among themselves for a while, lunch was ready.

Meanwhile, Jiang Weidong welcomed the gang into the dining hall enthusiastically.

"Lin Dong, come here. Do sit beside me. We must drink to our satisfaction today!"

Holding Lin Dong's hand affectionately, Jiang Weidong urged him to take the seat beside him.

Lin Dong was quite good-looking. According to their conversation, Chen Hao got to know that his father was some high-ranking director at one of the government institutions.

His father was quite capable.

Moreover, it appeared that Lin Dong was interested in Jiang Ranran.

Jiang Weidong would love to see Lin Dong and his daughter getting into a relationship. Hence, he treated Lin Dong very nicely.

"It is our family's honor that Ranran is one of your good friends! Lin Dong, not only are you good-looking, you are also very capable and smart. I wonder who would become your girlfriend in the future. I am sure that our Ranran would never make the cut. Just take a look at her. She is just like a child. She is far too inferior to you!" Jiang Weidong stated with a laugh.

"Uncle Jiang, you are kidding me. Ranran is very beautiful. Anyone who could have her as a girlfriend would be blessed.

Moreover, Ranran has mentioned before that you have arranged for her to be married to your comrade's son back when you were still in the army," Lin Dong said with a forced smile.

"That arrangement no longer stands. It has been cancelled for quite some time already!" At this moment, Tang Lan walked over with a dish smilingly. She said to Lin Dong, "Chen Hao is the one whom Ranran's father had arranged for her to marry. He made that promise in a drunken state back then. Just take a look at Chen Hao. He is so good-looking and smart. He is simply too good for our Ranran. Is that so, Chen Hao?"

Tang Lan threw the question at Chen Hao, who was sitting at the far corner of the table.

"Yes, yes!"

Chen Hao could discern the underlying meaning of her words. Also, he would not want the conversation to be focused upon himself. Hence, he hastily nodded his head in agreement.

However, Lin Dong started to be wary of Chen Hao's presence because of what was said.

In fact, he had fallen in love with Jiang Ranran for quite some time now. He had yet to confess his feelings to her although the two were very close to each other.

According to Tang Lan, the guy whom Jiang Ranran was supposed to marry was here.

The scene became dramatic.

Everyone focused their gaze on Lin Dong and Chen Hao.

They were making comparisons between the two.

Lin Dong immediately stood up with a smile and said, "Wow! If it wasn't for Aunt Tang Lan's introduction, we wouldn't have known that you were just one step away from becoming Ranran's husband! Come on, we should get to know each other better. Chen Hao, my name is Lin Dong. I am now working at the Governmental

Department, hehe...”

Feigning surprise, Lin Dong stood up and shook Chen Hao's hand.

While they were shaking hands, he deliberately shook the shiny golden watch on his wrist as well. Humbly, he continued, “The post was arranged by my family. I count on my parents, since I am quite mediocre myself!”

“Haha, Lin Dong, you don't have to be too humble. If you were considered mediocre, I wonder who could be considered outstanding. Take Chen Hao as an example. He would never be capable enough to take up your post. Let's skip the pleasantries. Come on, let's drink.”

With a hearty laugh, Jiang Weidong patted Lin Dong's shoulder.

After that, they started to talk about the happenings in the Governmental Department. Everyone enjoyed listening to their conversation.

As for Jiang Ranran, she stared at Lin

Dong with one of her hands supporting her chin, looking satisfied.

Judging from her look, she was proud of him.

Jiang Ranran had quite a high standard for men. She was not interested in mediocre guys.

Chen Hao was sitting at the position where he felt obligated to stand up and fill up everyone's glasses with drinks.

"Thanks, Chen Hao!"

At this moment, a beautiful girl who was sitting beside Chen Hao shot him a smile.

"No worries!" Chen Hao replied.

"You don't have to fill up everyone's drink. Let them fill up themselves. Hehe, do you seldom have meals with others?" The girl asked Chen Hao inquisitively.

This girl had a nice temperament. All in all, she didn't lose to Jiang Ranran a single bit in terms of her appearance and her

temperament.

As she didn't take alcohol, the other girls and her took the seat further away from the center of the table.

From their conversation, Chen Hao got to know the girl's name.

Her name was Xu Xing.

"Yup, I seldom have meals with others!"

Indeed, it was rare for Chen Hao to attend this kind of occasion.

It was because this situation was different. Jiang Weidong, an elderly, was present.

At this moment, Tang Lan started to serve another dish to the guests. She was about to place it near Lin Dong.

However, Lin Dong was not aware of that. He raised his hand and accidentally hit Tang Lan. As a result, the plate was overthrown!

"Ah!"

Tang Lan let out a shriek.

Immediately, Lin Dong got to his feet to offer his apology.

"It's fine, don't worry. I was worried that you might get scalded. I will clean up the mess. You guys please carry on. I will make another dish!"

Tang Lan said with a smile.

Hastily, she cleaned up the mess on the floor.

At that time, Chen Hao noticed that some of their glasses were empty. Hence, he stood up to fill them up.

However, when Chen Hao was pouring drinks into Lin Dong's glass, Lin Dong's hand got shaky. The glass fell onto the table and broke. It was unknown whether he did it deliberately or it was purely accidental.

"Damn!"

Lin Dong was taken aback.

At the same time, Tang Lan caught sight of this while she was coming out of the kitchen.

“Do you even know how to pour drinks? What did you do? Why did you break the glass?”

Tang Lan pointed at Chen Hao and cursed furiously.

As for Jiang Weidong, he cast an icy look at Chen Hao. He was disgusted by how embarrassing Chen Hao was.



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Just because of the mishap, Chen Hao got a piece of Tang Lan's mind.

As a result, Chen Hao felt quite embarrassed.

Damn, the glass was broken obviously because Lin Dong did not hold it properly, so why was I scolded?

However, Chen Hao could understand.

Hehe.

Apparently, it was because Lin Dong was rich and influential, while he was just a nobody!

"This is not Chen Hao's fault. I didn't hold the glass properly. By the way, Chen Hao, you don't have a job right now, do you?" Lin Dong asked Chen Hao with a smile.

Chen Hao shook his head and answered, "Nope."

"That's bad. You could have gotten one through your connections. Why didn't you do it?"

Lin Dong put on a bewildered look.

“Nowadays, it’s getting harder to seek help from others. You have to be really close to the person that you are trying to ask for help. Take Ranran’s job as an example. I landed that job for her after making great efforts. Alas, life is hard!” Jiang Weidong stated placidly.

By saying this, he had directly ruled out any possibility of helping Chen Hao.

“It’s okay!” said Chen Hao.

“Oh, this will not do. Let me help you. Jiayun, I heard that your father’s factory is looking for young security guards, right? In my opinion, Chen Hao is a good candidate. He looks like an honest man. I am sure he will do a great job!”

Lin Dong made the suggestion while pointing at one of the guys.

“Tehee!”

As soon as Lin Dong said that, all the guests broke out into laughter.

Jiang Ranran shot an annoyed look at Lin Dong before saying, "Chen Hao studies at Jin Ling College. How could he work as a security guard?"

"Exactly. He would become a laughing stock!"

"No woman would be interested in him!"

The girls commented while laughing.

Xu Xin was the only one who kept quiet.

"Hmph, we too impose a high standard for the security guards working at our factory. We only hire people who are capable. We don't need people with no talent!"

Listening to the girls' comments, the guy named Jiayun immediately retorted. He thought they meant that Chen Hao's talent would be wasted if he worked at the factory, and they were laughing at his family's business.

"That's right. Please don't assume the factory of Jiayun's family would hire anyone just because they stayed near the

factory. Furthermore, it doesn't matter anymore whether you have a degree or not, because being a degree holder no longer gives you an advantage. We should respect all types of profession. What's wrong with being a security guard?"

"Being a security guard is a serious job too!"

Lin Dong said solemnly.

"Well said, Lin Dong! I am impressed by your maturity despite your tender age. Don't you guys laugh at him. What Lin Dong said just now makes a lot of sense. You guys should learn from him!" Jiang Weidong added seriously.

Suppressing laughter, the guests all nodded their heads in agreement.

Chen Hao was not having a good time. Despite being humiliated, he could not bring himself to vent his negative emotions out. He tried to convince himself to let the matter go, since he had already made the trip according to his father's wishes.

Although they looked down upon him, his father cherished friendships a lot.

Therefore, Chen Hao could not afford to rebut them!

So he decided to bury his head in his meal with a forced smile.

After the meal, Jiang Weidong said, "By the way, you guys mentioned that you will be going to the karaoke later. Don't spend too much time there. Go back home earlier, so that your parents would not be worried."

"I got it, Daddy!"

"Don't worry, Uncle Jiang. I will take good care of them!" Lin Dong assured with a smile.

"Okay, I feel much more at ease having you with them!" Jiang Weidong nodded his head with a smile.

At the moment, Lin Dong shifted his gaze toward Chen Hao and asked, "Chen Hao, we are having a karaoke session later. Are

you available to join us?"

"I am going to pass. You guys enjoy yourselves!"

Of course Chen Hao would not join them. Although Jiang Ranran was very beautiful, Chen Hao felt that he was not part of their social circle.

"Don't put a damper on the occasion. We should have some fun after having a meal together. Chen Hao, do you think we are not good enough to be your friends?" Lin Dong asked.

There was a tinge of irritation on his face.

He invited Chen Hao along hoping that he could entertain them.

Some people behaved this way. Just because they were capable and smart, they needed to make fun of someone less capable.

As soon as Jiang Weidong caught sight of Lin Dong's unhappiness, he immediately spoke up, "Chen Hao, just join them since

you were invited. How could you be so senseless? Think about the difference in status between Lin Dong and you! Now that he has already invited you, you should go.”

“If you say so.” Chen Hao started to feel embarrassed.

He felt especially so because Xu Xin, who sat beside him, was staring at him with her unblinking eyes. She would love to have him come along.

Moreover, Jiang Dongwei had spoken up.

He decided to just have fun without paying any regards to them.

Hmph!

After a short while, the gang went downstairs.

Lin Dong and Wang Jiayun drove here.

Both of them would drive everyone to the karaoke place.

Chen Hao was the last one to get into the cars.

In the end, both cars were full.

“Damn, both of our cars are full. You can’t be squeezing with the girls, right? It’s quite inconvenient,” Lin Dong rolled down the window and said with a smile.

It appeared to Chen Hao that ever since Lin Dong got to know about the marital arrangement between Jiang Ranran and him, he started to make great effort at mocking him.

He deliberately humiliated him.

Chen Hao knew that the reason Lin Dong invited him to the karaoke session was because he wanted to have more opportunity to make fun of him.

“There’s nothing wrong with sitting with the girls. I will make space. Chen Hao, you can sit beside me!”

Xu Xin waved her hands at Chen Hao.

Lin Dong was slightly annoyed by Xu Xin. However, he could not be too rude to such a beautiful girl.

“Thank you!”

Chen Hao nodded his head with a grin. After that, he took the seat beside Xu Xin.

After a brief journey, the gang arrived at a private room of a karaoke center.

Lin Dong had summoned another gang of his friends out of nowhere.

The gang consisted of both boys and girls. Soon, the ambience inside the private room became boisterous.

The ambience was very joyful and exuberant as some of them were drinking while some were singing.

“Jiayun is a regular customer of this karaoke. He is very close to a female manager here, so feel free to order anything, everyone. Jiayun and I will foot the bill!”

Lin Dong laughed out loud.

“Thanks, Lin Dong!”

“I love you, Lin Dong. Muacks!”

“Lin Dong belongs to Ranran. Why did I mention things of this sort?!” one of the girls patted her own head and said.

Everyone broke into laughter because of what she said.

Wang Jiayun was laughing happily too. After all, he got all the attention he wanted today.

Jiang Ranran lowered her head to hide her blushed face.

To be honest, she loved Lin Dong's personality a lot. Compared to Chen Hao who was keeping to himself at the corner, the difference between the two was stark.

She shook her head in resignation at Chen Hao.

At this moment, the door of the room was

pushed open from the outside. A girl in a red shirt glided into the room.

She had an alluring and feminine air. She was extremely sexy and beautiful.

One look at her and you knew that she was a social butterfly.

Holding a bottle of wine in her hand, she said with a smile, "Young Master Wang and Young Master Lin, this bottle of wine is on the house as a welcoming gift to you guys. Please have fun today!"

The girl in red continued with a smile, "I will give a 10% discount on your bill because Young Master Wang is our regular customer. Enjoy yourselves!"

"What? Just 10%? Jiayun, aren't you very close to her? Why is the discount only 10%?" A few guys joked.

Wang Jiayun's face darkened. He felt as if he was humiliated.

"No way, we need at least a 20% discount!" Wang Jiayun demanded with an irritated

face.

“We can’t do that, Young Master Wang. We need to keep the business running,” said the woman in red, who was chuckling with her mouth covered.

“Ahem. It’s fine then. How about you keep us company and drink with us, Madam Hong?”

Later on, the guys persuaded her to stay after seeing how sexy and beautiful she was.

“So sorry, I have some VIP customers to attend to. I really can’t stay.”

With that, Madam Hong waved at them and left.

Awkwardness hung in the air.

The guys turned to look at Wang Jiayun.

“Jiayun, what’s happening? Madam Hong paid no regards to you at all!”

“Damn, are you sure you two are close?”

She only gave us a 10% discount! I thought you two were close. In the end, she ignored you!”

After Madam Hong left, the guys scoffed and taunted.

This placed Wang Jiayun in a difficult position.

He got very uneasy.

Indeed, Madam Hong paid no respect to him at all.

During his previous trips here, Madam Hong had treated him with utmost respect. Because of this, Wang Jiayun got the wrong idea that he was close to her.

He did not see this coming. When he boasted to his friends about his connections, it did not work as he expected.

“Hmph, it’s okay if you guys don’t believe me. I will get her to keep you guys company. Just wait and see.”

With that, Wang Jiayun angrily opened the door and stomped out of the room. From his looks, he was going to look for Madam Hong.

Chen Hao, who was sitting at the corner, shook his head with a bitter smile.

He wondered whether pride mattered that much in life.

He could not understand the need to get so agitated over a small matter like this.

Also, it was obvious to Chen Hao that Madam Hong was the type of person who treated everyone with respect. It was normal for someone to do this in the world of commerce.

However, one should know how the real world worked.

“Ahhhhh!”

After a short while, a scream was heard.

One of the girls who was on her way back from the toilet pushed open the door and

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exclaimed anxiously, "Lin Dong, everyone, come quick. Wang Jiayun is beaten up by someone!"



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