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Chapter 31 Who do You Think You Are?

For a big shot with an influence as far-reaching as the sky like Chu Feng, Ma Sanyuan was scared to the bones of him. Upon hearing the familiar voice, Ma Jun's face fell and immediately dismissed his goons with a wave. The previously uproarious atmosphere instantly became dead silent; this fellow could directly contact his uncle? Ma Jun was shaken, a glint of wariness flashing in his eyes.

Then, without further chitchat, Chu Feng asked right away, "Ma Sanyuan, I'm dealing with someone called Ma Jun who claims to be from the Chamber of Commerce of the Four Seas. Is he related to you? If he is, I'll cripple one of his legs. If he's not, I'll cripple both." His tone was light, but sharply imposing.

On the other end, Ma Sanyuan shuddered so badly he dropped his phone. Immediately, he picked it up and stuttered, "M-Mr. Chu, he's my own nephew—"

Chu Feng wasted no time and charged. All they could see was a black blur and the next thing they knew, Ma Jun's right leg was broken with a loud crack!

"Ahhh!" The sound of Ma Jun's bone cracking was as crisp as Ma Jun's resulting wail was loud. It deafened everyone present and sent a chill down their spines, including the flabbergasted woman. She did not expect the bastard to be this arrogant; not only did he slap her, he'd broken one of Ma Jun's legs! Ma Jun, the nephew of the Chamber of Commerce of the Four Seas's chairman, Ma Sanyuan!

"Jun, are you alright? Bastard, how dare you hit Jun?! You're dead meat!" The woman hurriedly helped Ma Jun up, then yelled and jabbed a finger at Chu Feng. She'd heard the phone call, but a woman of her stature would never have had a chance to meet Ma Sanyuan directly, let alone recognize his voice.

Ma Jun, meanwhile, was gritting his teeth in pain even as he roared, "Get him! Kill him!" The bastard must pay, even if he knew his uncle. He wanted revenge at all costs, because otherwise he'd just feel like a pitiful coward.

Just then, Ma Jun's phone registered an incoming call. Ma Jun's face froze, then he picked up the call and with barely disguised pity cried out, "Uncle, I'm being attacked! —"

"Ingrate! Animal! Damn bastard!" On the other end, Ma Sanyuan was shouting curses at the nephew he'd usually spoiled, as if he'd slap the oblivious Ma Jun too if he could. "Listen here, you little twerp. Apologise to Mr. Chu right now, or even I won't be able to save you, you hear that?"

Ma Jun was stunned into silence, but then he replied with indignant reluctance, "Who is this man, Uncle? The Chamber of Commerce of the Four Seas has ruled over Jiangling for over twenty years, so what's there to be afraid of—"

"Shut up, you damn ingrate! Do you know how that provincial kingpin, how the one who backed us fell from grace? He went from the top dog to a prisoner with just one sentence from Mr. Chu! Do you understand now?" Ma Sanyuan roared impatiently. "Apologize, or nobody will be able to save you!"

"W-What?!" Ma Jun felt like he'd just been thunderstruck. That ridiculously influential kingpin was... sent to prison with just one sentence? How?

Looking at the calm and aloof Chu Feng, Ma Jun's whole body started trembling and his phone fell to the floor with a smack. Instantly, he became pale and drenched in cold sweat; just what kind of all-powerful person had he messed with?

The woman beside him was still gloating at Chu Feng, clearly oblivious to Ma Jun's change in demeanor. "You're in for it, boy! Chairman Ma himself has called, so who do you think you are? What right, what background do you have to fight Chairman Ma himself? He can send your whole family six feet under with just a word, you hear?!"

Chu Feng calmly glanced at Ma Jun and asked, "Oh? Did Ma Sanyuan say that?"

This calm glance almost caused Ma Jun to pass out. Hastily, he lowered his head and squeezed out his words through gritted teeth, "Apologize."

The woman, however, only became more shameless and yelled arrogantly, "Didn't you hear him? Apologize!"

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Chapter 32 Fair Enough?

"You were right to cripple my leg, Mr. Chu. I, Ma Jun, consider this a fair and just punishment."

Chu Feng looked at the woman who'd fallen to her knees beside him as he demanded, "Those slaps I've given you, is it fair enough?"

"Fair enough, fair enough!" The woman was so scared and pale, she didn't even dare breathe too hard. "I-I shouldn't have driven recklessly, and forced someone else to apologise and certainly not abuse my influence to take revenge on you, Mr. Chu. You are being absolutely fair and you were right. I'm a cruel, nasty woman!"

Chu Feng glanced at her and said simply, "But I think your punishment isn't serious enough."

Ma Jun immediately rushed over at that and seized the woman by her collar, slapping her at least a dozen times as he scolded, "You nasty woman, nasty woman, nasty woman!" He punctuated each phrase with a slap, wounding her beyond all recognition.

After punishing Ma Jun and the woman, Chu Feng thought there was no point in continuing to deal with these small fry, so he dismissed them with a wave. Ma Jun and his men, however, kept thanking him as they were still shaken. After all, if this big shot could send their province-level benefactor to jail, then it was truly a blessing that they escaped alive.

In the meantime, Ma Sanyuan also made several calls as if he was attempting to beg for Chu Feng's mercy on his nephew's behalf. Since the matter was already resolved, though, Chu Feng couldn't be bothered and sent the calls straight to voicemail. Eventually, Ma Sanyuan got the hint as well and stopped calling.

Just then, Chu Feng received a call from Yun Muqing, who clearly sounded anxious and worried, "Are you alright, Chu Feng? I've already called the cops, the backup will be there soon."

Chu Feng's heart warmed instantly. "It's alright, I've resolved the matter now. Where are you? I'll come to you?" After that, he easily found Yun Muqing and Duo Duo at a cafe using the address she sent.

The moment they met, Yun Muqing worriedly checked Chu Feng for injuries. "Are you alright, Chu Feng? Did they hurt you?" She'd seen Chu Feng's fighting skills before, but Ma Jun's posse numbered in the dozens so how could Chu Feng have held his own against so many people? That was why she felt so guilty and worried, so much so that she called the cops after leaving with her daughter, but she felt relieved now that she could see Chu Feng got away without a scratch.

Chu smiled and said dismissively, "I have connections within the Chamber. All it took to fix things was a single call, so I didn't even have to lift a finger." He didn't want Yun Muqing's peaceful life to be disrupted, so he was fine with handling some things all on his own.

"That's good, that's good." Yun Muqing breathed a sigh of relief, the worry on her pretty face now replaced with a blooming smile; if something had really happened to Chu Feng, she would never have forgiven herself for 'retreating from the battle'.

"Thank you so much for helping us, Chu Feng. If it weren't for you, I really wouldn't have known what to do." Yun Muqing's eyes were shining with gratitude, among other emotions as she bit her rosy lips; from chasing Yun Tao away the previous day to saving Duo Duo's life from that woman and the Chamber's wrath today, this strange man's help made her feel safe. But try as she might, she couldn't put a name to what she was feeling.

"There is no need to say 'thank you' between you and me. Not now, not ever." Chu Feng calmly replied. When he met Yun Muqing's astonished gaze, he thought internally, I owe you too much as a husband, too much to repay in this lifetime, at any rate. "Come on, I'll send you both home." Chu Feng took her luggage from her hands and summoned a cab; Luo Gang had been tailing them the whole way, but a luxury car worth millions of dollars would have been too conspicuous, and that would certainly cause disruption to Yun Muqing's peaceful life.

The whole ride was spent in silence. Beside Chu Feng, Yun Muqing quietly stared at the man with twinkling eyes. He was a man of few words, a little aloof, straight-backed even while resting, and exceptionally blessed both in appearance and in combat. A mysterious aura emanated from him, like the clouds surrounding the mountain peaks that penetrated the skies.

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Chapter 33 He's not Your Daddy

They were now heading back home together after the incident at the hospital. Next to him, Yun Muqing felt inexplicably warm and secure. These five years, nobody could give her this feeling; it was wonderful, comfortable, and yet, somewhat dangerous.

"Chu Feng, thank you so much for today. I'll treat you to a meal another day." When they reached the door to the residential area, Yun Muqing politely thanked him.

"Alright then, I will not be shy. You better prepare to pay for the big meal," Chu Feng joked with her, trying to lighten up the atmosphere as Yun Muqing merely pouted and smiled. The scenery at that instant was breathtaking enough to make the flowers blush.

As they were about to part ways, Chu Feng looked at the still sleeping Duo Duo; he didn't feel like leaving yet and was internally conflicted.

At this point, Duo Duo suddenly groaned and gave a little stretch, her plump little hands rubbing her big eyes as she woke up.

"Daddy!" Yun Muqing was surprised and before she could react, Duo Duo had jumped out of the car and bounded joyfully into Chu Feng's embrace. She pouted, and said, "Boohoo... Daddy, I just dreamt that you left again. Daddy, please don't leave me."

Chu Feng softened; the calm internal state that he had worked so hard to achieve had become tumultuous again...

Yun Muqing was shocked and was at a loss of what to do. "Duo duo, you are mistaken. This is Uncle Chu Feng, not your dad."

In the car, Duo Duo had been sleep-talking non-stop and called Chu Feng 'daddy'. When Yun Muqing heard this, she felt grieved and sorrowful, but she thought that this little girl missed her father so much that she was simply muddled and momentarily mistaken. However, never did she expect Duo Duo to actually think that Chu Feng was her father!

How could this be?

Yun Muqing was anxious and shy as she blushed and tried to grab Duo Duo back. "Duo Duo, you are not to joke with Uncle Chu Feng. Come on, we're going home. You are mistaken. He is not your daddy."

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Chapter 34 I Have a Dad Now!

"No. He is daddy. I can smell daddy's scent on him," Duo Duo said as she tightened her grip around Chu Feng's neck and refused to let go. She pouted her tiny mouth and said, "From the first time we met, I could feel it. And when I was in danger just now, Daddy showed up instantly and used his fist to smash the car and saved me. Mommy, didn't you tell me daddy is a hero and a superman? And that when I am in danger, he will definitely appear? Have you been bluffing me all this while?"

"I..." Yu Muqing felt a heartache and was ashamed, her eyes turned red, and at that moment, she didn't know how to explain the situation to her naive daughter.

"Mommy, please let Uncle Chu Feng be my daddy. Let him stay here with me." Duo Duo blinked her big, black eyes, and pouted like she was wronged. She looked so pitiful as her tears began to drip down, one after another.

The little girl kept her tight grip around Chu Feng's neck and cried miserably. "Everybody else in the kindergarten has a dad except me. All of them say that I'm a wild child... I am not a wild child. My daddy is back now. Mommy, please don't snatch daddy away. Please don't let daddy leave, alright? I just want my daddy. Please..."

Chu Feng's heart was a spectacular mess, his eyes were turning red and he didn't know if it was the fact that they were truly related by blood, or it was the child's naivety that made him want to hold on to the doll-like child tightly in his arms and never let go.

"Duo Duo, I'm sorry. So sorry..." Yun Muqing could not bear it anymore and in an instant, warm tears streamed out of her eyes. For five years, they depended on each other; nobody understood better than her the criticism and ridicule that the mother and daughter duo had to go through, and nobody knew better than her of her daughter's need for her father's love, her desire and hopes for fatherly affection.

For five years, she struggled to make a living and exhausted every method there was to make up for her daughter's yearning for a father, often with one lie after another. But at the end of the day, Yun Muqing couldn't give her daughter what she wanted.

Yun Muqing wiped the tears off her pretty face and told herself to be strong and brave. With a choked voice, she said, "Duo Duo, I'm sorry. I lied to you. Actually..." Yun Muqing wanted to lay out all the truth to Duo Duo, even if it meant hurting her, even if it meant that she might hate her mother, but it would all be better than having her waiting pointlessly, day after day. She hoped that one day, Duo Duo would understand her good intentions. "Actually, I was angry at your dad. However, I have forgiven him now."

Then, Chu Feng, who had remained silent till this point, shocked Yun Muqing and stunned her with his sudden words. "From now on, as your dad, I will always be by your side, Duo Duo. I will watch you grow up, go to school, get married, and start a family. Our family will be inseparable from now on." Chu Feng wiped the little girl's tear-stained face, focused all his attention on her, and said gently, "Duo Duo, I'm back."

"Really? Daddy, Mommy, both of you are not bluffing me, right?" Duo Duo's huge eyes were full of hope and naivety; she was unmeasurably happy.

Yun Muqing glanced at Chu Feng and understood that he was telling a white lie. She felt grieved yet very touched that even Chu Feng, who was a stranger, was willing to put on a mask and pretend to be the child's 'father'. As her birth mother, she couldn't bring herself to ruin a four years old child's fairytale-like dreams.

"Yes, it's true. I am back, and I will never leave you again, Duo Duo."

"Let's pinkie swear!" Duo Duo stuck out her plump little hand and broke out into a smile.

Chu Feng and Yun Muqing looked at each other and they each offered a pinkie. Under the moonlight, the three of them held hands tightly, and it was warm and romantic.

"Pinkie promise is never to be broken!"

Duo Duo shouted with joy, her tiny face was brimming with happiness and sweetness. "I have a dad now!"

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Chapter 35 Working as a Fake Daddy and Husband

A child's world was always naive and pure. Looking forward to family dinner with her long lost dad, Duo Duo quickly returned to her sweet, smiling self and snuggled in Chu Feng's embrace; she laughed non-stop and even neglected her food. It was only after Yun Muqing feigned anger did the little girl unwillingly jump out of Chu Feng's embrace and obediently ate, bathed, and got ready for bed.

"Chu Feng, thank you. Thank you for pretending to be Duo Duo's dad and helping me out of this tight spot. Otherwise, I cannot imagine what would happen if this child finds out the truth. She will be so sad..." From the living room, Yun Muqing could hear Duo Duo singing her childrens' songs joyfully as she bathed upstairs. She felt conflicted, but she thanked Chu Feng gratefully.

She had never seen her daughter so happy before. Now, she understood that what Chu Feng did was right, even if it was a lie, it was to give the child a complete and happy childhood; white lies were much better than cruel truths. At this moment, she decided that since her daughter liked Chu Feng, she had to go with the flow and temporarily accept Chu Feng as a 'fake dad'; giving Duo Duo a balanced and happy environment to grow up in was of utmost importance now.

"It's nothing. Everything is for the child's sake, as long as she is happy." Chu Feng also felt conflicted in his heart; his flesh and blood was right before him and yet he could not identify himself and could only 'pretend' to be her father, this was an absurd joke. However, no matter what, Duo Duo now addressed him as her 'daddy', which made him believe that one day, he will truly become her father.

"Chu Feng, can you please do me a favor and continue this charade as Duo Duo's dad?" Yun Muqing looked uncomfortable. "Duo Duo now recognizes you as her father. If she finds out the truth, it will be a real blow to her. Therefore, I beg you to stay with me and keep at this charade. At the very least, for the near future, you must pretend to be Duo Duo's dad and my... my husband..." As she said this, Yun Muqing felt herself blush and her face felt hot. She raised her head and continued, "Of course, there will be a reward. Let's sign a contract and consider me your employer. I will give you a monthly salary as compensation. Is that okay?" Yun Muqing had an apologetic and grateful expression, as this was the best solution she could think of.

From what she could see, Chu Feng was only a kind-hearted stranger, albeit one that was more fated to be with her daughter and her. Without any further thought, she decided to pay him and buy her own peace. Never in her wildest dreams did she once think that Chu Feng, the man before her, was actually her daughter's father by birth!

And although Chu Feng, who was seated on the couch, appeared peaceful, he was actually ecstatic on the inside; this was great, why had he never thought of this method before? As a fake husband, he could stay by Yun Muqing and Duo Duo's side, protect them, and develop a bond with them.

"Of course it's okay. I'm jobless now anyway and I am grateful to you for this job opportunity." Chu Feng exhaled with a sigh of relief, put on a relaxed smile and said, "Aren't you worried about shooting yourself in the foot? When this 'fake dad' becomes a 'real husband', then you'll have to devote your life to me."

Yun Muqing blushed and playfully rolled her eyes at Chu Feng. "Don't flatter yourself. Know the limits to your abilities." As soon as she said that, she stole a glance at Chu Feng's expression; she was worried that the latter would be angry and refuse to help her anymore. It was a good thing, however, that this person was not petty.

Yun Muqing breathed a sigh of relief. The burden in her heart had greatly reduced and she started chatting with Chu Feng. Duo Duo that little girl was smart, so that meant that they had to spend time together to get to know more of each other, otherwise she would see right through them.

Under Chu Feng's intentional guidance, the topic of conversation quickly turned to Duo Duo's 'birth father'. Although Yun Muqing hesitated, she slowly told him the true story; all these years, these matters weighed heavily on her heart, so heavy that it was very uncomfortable. Now that she finally had a listening ear, Yun Muqing could finally relieve herself of her burdens.