In the end, Chu Wen-Fei and Qiu Mu-Ying decided to let their insurance settle this accident.

As for that Maybach, Wang Li-Li took it back for repairs. It was going to take a while before it could hit the road again.

"HAHA! Mu-Cheng, did you see the faces on Qiu Mu-Ying and Chu Wen-Fei? Their faces were as red as pig liver! I'd bet they'd never dare to show off anymore!"

Qiu Mu-Cheng and the rest were feeling really good on their way back.

After thinking about what just happened, Su Qian found the whole thing really hilarious.

Ye Fan had given them too many surprises over the past few days.

In fact, Su Qian's attitude towards Ye Fan had quietly started to change without her realizing.

Even though the image of that Harmonica Prince in her heart had been shattered after finding out that Ye Fan was the one who was playing the harmonica back then, and she wasn't filled with admiration and passion for Ye Fan either, the disdain she used to have for Ye Fan had faded quite a lot. In the past, Su Qian would never have allowed Ye Fan to take her car.

But now, he was in the car with the two ladies and chatting with them.

Perhaps she still looked down on him because of Ye Fan's lowly birth and family background.

But she had to admit that Ye Fan had some other redeeming qualities.

She suddenly felt like she could understand why her BFF, Qiu Mu-Cheng, continued to be faithful and devoted to Ye Fan.

After they got home, Qiu Mu-Cheng went with Su Qian to the hairdresser's, and the huge bungalow was left with only Ye Fan.

Li Er happened to call during this time.

"Mr Chu, everything has been arranged. The first Feast of the Sea and Sky with you as the leader will be held in seven days' time on 1st January at Haiyuan Restaurant. I'll arrange for the invitation cards to be sent to all the various important people of Jiangdong. On New Year's Day, just wait for everyone to come and pay their respects to you!" Li Er's admiring and respectful voice rang in Ye Fan's ear.

Ye Fan nodded and just said, "Ok."

He then hung up.

Ye Fan stood next to the window with his hands behind his back.

The stars were reflected in his deep eyes.

Seven days.

These seven days were probably the last days Ye Fan could stay in Yunzhou.

And that was also the last bit of time he had with Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"Mu-Cheng, it won't be long. Before leaving, I will let you know what sort of existence your husband really is. After I leave, nobody will ever look down on you because of this!"

Boom...

The cold wind blew and brought Ye Fan's words with it to a place far, far away.

At the same time, a few dozen luxury cars sped out from Yunzhou in all directions.

Nobody would know that these cars driving

out of Yunzhou would soon raise a huge storm throughout the province of Jiangdong.

The next morning, all of Jiangdong had practically exploded.

All the corporate bosses in Jingzhou, Haozhou, Fenghai and the rest of the fifteen smaller cities of Jiangdong as well as Jianghai and Nanquan, the sub-capital cities of Jiangdong, had all received an invitation card from Yunzhou.

"Many things have been renewed and the world has gone through astonishing changes. Mr Chu cordially invites all the esteemed people of Jiangdong to gather within Haiyuan Restaurant, Yunzhou City, on the 1st of January for the Feast of Sea and Sky. We sincerely hope to see everyone there!"

This invitation was like a huge rock dropping into the sea, causing a tsunami to rise in Jiangdong.

In Jianghai.

Within the Chen house.

All was silent in the room.

Chen Ao looked at the invitation in front of him again and again. The graveness and worry on his face only intensified.

"Uncle Ao, I really can't take this lying down at all! Why is it Yunzhou? Why is Master Li Er the one hosting it? Jianghai is the largest city in Jiangdong, and you are the king of Jiangdong. For the past ten years, you have been the one hosting the Feast of the Sea and Sky in Jiangdong every year. Yunzhou is just a tiny third tier city and Li Er himself is of lowly birth as well. How could he be worthy of hosting a dinner like that? Even if Mr Chu wants it organized, it should be left to you. He's obviously looking down on you!" These angry words were coming from Chen Ao's nephew, Chen Tian-Jiao.

Chen Ao remained expressionless as his nephew ranted. After a long time, he finally replied, "Tian-Jiao, go and make preparations."

"This is the first time Mr Chu is hosting such a prestigious dinner after he became our leader. So we ought to prepare a big gift for him."

What?!

"Uncle Ao, are you seriously going? Can't you see that Mr Chu is doing this to support Li Er

and whittling down your influence in Jiangdong? If I were you, I would pretend to be sick and refuse to go in protest. Mr Chu may be strong, but we shouldn't let him push us around like this."

"Enough!" Chen Ao slammed the table and shouted to cut Chen Tian-Jiao off.

"Mr Chu is now the leader of Jiangdong and I am grateful to him for all that he has done. We will just go with whoever Mr Chu chooses as the host of this dinner. How can we go against him? Do as I said earlier. Also, tell the Li family that I will be there on New Year's Day."

"As for whatever you said just now, you'd better not say such things ever again. Otherwise, nobody can save you, not even myself."

As the saying goes, being by a king's side was like being by a tiger's side.

Even though Chen Ao wasn't one of Ye Fan's dragons and didn't fully understand the extent of what Ye Fan was capable of, whatever he saw told him that this man was much more than what he seemed.

Chen Ao knew deep inside that even though Ye Fan seemed very ordinary, he was probably holding onto a terrifying amount of power and influence.

So even if he was indignant, there was no way he could fight back and he could only choose to obey.

At the Lei house in Jingzhou.

When Lei San received the invitation, he was also slightly surprised.

"Yunzhou? 1st January? Feast of the Sea and Sky? Looks like Jiangdong isn't going to remain calm anymore," said Lei San as he shook his head and laughed quietly.

He called his secretary over and asked, "Yang, what's my schedule like on 1st January?"

The secretary opened the schedule and replied respectfully, "At 9AM, you have a meeting with the VP of Wanda Group. At noon, you are going for a party hosted by the mayor of Jingzhou. In the afternoon, the company is having a shareholders and directors meeting to talk about the plans for the new year ahead. At night, you are watching a performance at Jingzhou Expo with Mrs Lei."

After hearing his secretary's report, Lei San

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waved his hands. "Turn everything down for me."

Wha-?

"Turn...turn everything down? Mr Lei, even the party hosted by the mayor?" The secretary's eyes were wide.



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Lei San nodded. "That's right, cancel everything for me. Also, prepare three cars and send them for servicing. Make sure that nothing goes wrong with them on 1st January!"

"This..." The secretary's face paled before she trembled and asked Lei San, "Mr Lei...are you...are you going to gather all your belongings and make a run for it?"

"Mr Lei, you must reconsider. Mr Chu is now king over all of Jiangdong, so I don't think you'd get away," his secretary advised him in fear.

The secretary knew all about how Lei San's son had offended Mr Chu several times.

Now that Lei San was suddenly cancelling all his plans and sending several cars for servicing, she couldn't help but suspect that Lei San was afraid that Mr Chu would punish him, so he was going to make a run for it.

"Make a run for it? What nonsense are you talking about?!" Lei San was so shocked by these words that he burst out laughing.

He didn't expect his secretary to think this way.

"Mr Chu is the one who wants to gather all

the rich and powerful of Jiangdong at Haiyuan Restaurant for the Feast of the Sea and Sky on 1st January. Which is more important? Those random other meetings or turning up at the dinner organized by Mr Chu?"

The secretary suddenly understood what was going on.

After apologizing profusely, she quickly went to get everything prepared.

Not only was Jianghai and Jingzhou getting ready for this, Wang Jie-Xi in Haozhou and all the other big shots in Nanquan, Fenghai and other cities were getting prepared.

This invitation card from Ye Fan had really stirred up the previously calm Jiangdong.

"Mu-Cheng, have you heard about it? Mr Chu has invited all the rich and powerful of Jiangdong to Haiyuan Restaurant on 1st January! All the big shots will be here! Yunzhou's own Li Er, Lei San from Jingzhou, Wang Jie-Xi from Haozhou, Chen Ao from Jianghai and other bigwigs will all be here. That's the power of my idol, Mr Chu! One invitation card is all it takes to gather all these people in Yunzhou!"

"I didn't get to see Mr Chu at the Midautumn Festival Night Auction the last time, so this time, I'm going to find a way to get in no matter what it takes. Mu-Cheng, just you wait. Once I get to see Mr Chu, I'm going to use my beauty and charm to make sure Mr Chu falls head over heels with me!"

Information about the Feast of the Sea and Sky had already spread through the high society circles of Jiangdong.

Su Qian's father was considered an important person in the corporate circles of Yunzhou, so Su Qian found out all about this from her father.

And so first thing in the morning, she came to tell Qiu Mu-Cheng all about it with great excitement.

Qiu Mu-Cheng just smiled helplessly. "Qianqian, good luck, go for it."

"Oh my god, Mu-Cheng, what attitude is this?! I'm not the only who needs to go for it! You have to go for it too! We'll go together to see Mr Chu! What if Mr Chu falls for you?" Su Qian started trying to goad Qiu Mu-Cheng into going along with her.

Qiu Mu-Cheng laughed quietly. "Mr Chu is such a dignified and respected man who is

way up there, while I'm just an ordinary citizen of a small city. Why would he fall for me? Besides, I already have Ye Fan, so I'm not interested in such things anymore."

Qiu Mu-Cheng was clearly not interested.

She knew herself well.

She and Mr Chu were as far apart as the sky from the ground, so Qiu Mu-Cheng never held onto such unrealistic hopes.

Besides, it was good enough to have Ye Fan with her.

He hadn't accomplished much, but his devotion to her was real.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was very content with that.

"Mu-Cheng, why are you like this? I admit, Ye Fan is not bad, but I still don't think he's worthy of you. Or at least he still has quite a large gap to make up for now. A man should rely on his own capabilities to protect his wife. That's what I call a capable man. Someone who relies on his connections, favors from others and luck might have a few moments of glory, but it won't last long."

"Don't worry, I'm not going to try persuading you to divorce Ye Fan anymore. But I'd advise you to talk to Ye Fan into getting a proper job. It's better to be more practical about life after all," said Su Qian to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Clearly, Su Qian felt that Ye Fan had achieved all these things either by sheer luck, or the connections he had.

She didn't think Ye Fan himself was capable at all.

Qiu Mu-Cheng nodded. "Thanks, Qianqian, I will consider your suggestion."

"Don't consider anymore, just tell him to work here. Then he won't end up just doing nothing around the house and become a bum." Su Qian was the type who acted quickly.

After she finished saying these things to Qiu Mu-Cheng, she called Ye Fan over to the office.

Su Qian was now the director of HR in Mufan Real Estate and was in charge of hiring.

Ye Fan soon arrived at Qiu Mu-Cheng's office.

"Wifey, were you looking for me?" Ye Fan

was panting and sounded clearly anxious.

"Shush! You are not to call her 'wifey' in the office and you must call her Miss Qiu, do you understand? That's company policy!" said Su Qian loudly to Ye Fan.

Ye Fan rolled his eyes at her. "Su Qian, this is outside of your scope, isn't it? Mu-Cheng and I are lawfully wedded and there's nothing wrong with me calling her 'wifey'. Besides, I'm not a company employee, so why should I call her Miss Qiu?"

"Well, now you are," replied Su Qian calmly.

She flicked her wrist and flung Ye Fan's work pass onto the table with flourish.

"Listen up. From today onwards, you will be Mu-Cheng and my personal bodyguard. Besides ensuring our safety, you will also be in charge of company security."

"Probation will last three months and you will get \$5,000 during this time. Your salary will double after you're confirmed." Su Qian spoke as if this was cast in stone and there was no room for negotiation.

Ye Fan's face immediately fell and turned Su Qian down on the spot. The Feast of the Sea and Sky was happening in seven days, and he would be leaving the city after that. There was no way he could be their personal bodyguard or anything like that.

"You...! You're biting the hand that feeds you!" Su Qian was furious.

She had been kind enough to arrange for a job for Ye Fan and was prepared to even double his salary after he was confirmed. That kind of treatment was only reserved for elites, so very few people in Yunzhou would enjoy this sort of privilege.

But instead of being grateful, Ye Fan actually turned her down?

"Ye Fan, Qianqian is doing this with good intentions. She's not pulling a fast one on you. You don't have anything to do at home anyway, so why don't you take the job? Besides, you're being a bodyguard for your wife, so I won't treat you badly," chimed in Qiu Mu-Cheng.

But Ye Fan still refused the offer.

"Mu-Cheng, it's not that I'm being ungrateful or anything, but..."

"But what? I think you're just used to lazing

around and you don't want to work," spat Su Qian angrily.

"But...the salary is a little low. That's right, this salary is too low. \$10,000 a month isn't even enough to maintain the car." Ye Fan simply found some excuse to get them off his back.

He didn't want Qiu Mu-Cheng to know about his feud with the Chu family.

Talking about it didn't help matters anyway. It would only make one more person worry.

"Good god, you find \$10,000 a month too little?" Su Qian's eyes were going to pop out from her head.

"You're just a country bumpkin! Only Mu-Cheng and I would offer you a salary like that. You can enquire at other companies and check. Unless you run into an idiot, I guarantee you, nobody will offer you anything more than \$3,000."

"Does Mr Ye Fan work here?" Just when Su Qian was angrily yelling away at Ye Fan, the door of the office was pushed open and a middle aged man walked in.

"Dad?" Su Qian was shocked and exclaimed immediately.

"Qianqian, you're here too?" Su Yuan-Shan clearly didn't expect to find his daughter here.

"Hoho, it looks like you're progressing pretty well with Ye Fan. Continue to work at it, and bring him back to see Granny over Lunar New Year," laughed Su Yuan-Shan merrily.

Granny was Su Yuan-Shan's mother. His father passed away when he was very young, so his mother was the one who brought him up.

Su Yuan-Shan was where he was today thanks to this Granny.

As such, Granny had an extremely high position in the Su family. Even Su Yuan-Shan himself would often seek his mother's opinion.

When it came to something big like his children's marriage, he definitely wanted his mother to have a say.

Su Yuan-Shan then looked at Ye Fan.

"Ye Fan, you're really here! Su Yang told me to look for you at Mufan Real Estate, and you're really here." Su Yuan-Shan was so happy to see Ye Fan, it was as if Ye Fan was really his son-in-law. "Uncle Su, is anything the matter?" Ye Fan was curious.

He had been avoiding Su Yuan-Shan during this period of time.

After all, this fellow wanted him to marry Su Qian.

How could he do that?

Besides the fact that Ye Fan wasn't interested in Su Qian at all, Su Qian was also his wife's best friend. How could he do such a thing?

"My company is expanding our business and we need a professional antiques appraiser, so the first person I thought of was you. How's that? Want to work for me? I'll give you \$5 million a year and you'll get some company shares as your bonus annually. If all goes well, you'll earn \$7 or \$8 million a year," said Su Yuan-Shan warmly.

What?

"\$5...\$5 million?! Dad, you're nuts! Ye Fan is just a country bumpkin and you're offering him \$5 million? You don't even give me that much money every year!" Su Qian's eyes were going to fall right out of her head.

What a quick slap in the face.

She was just telling Ye Fan so confidently that no idiot in the world would offer Ye Fan more than \$3,000 a month in salary besides her and Qiu Mu-Cheng.

And now, her own father was offering Ye Fan an annual salary of \$5 million.

That was too ridiculous, wasn't it?

"Shush! What do you know? Ye Fan isn't only worth \$5 million."

Su Yuan-Shan even felt that this amount wasn't enough to hire Ye Fan.

After all, Ye Fan had been able to identify an ancient painting worth more than \$100 million back at Shanshui Hall.

He was still holding onto that painting too.

Su Yuan-Shan had witnessed Ye Fan's ability first hand.

Even if he had to pay Ye Fan \$10 million, he felt that it was still worth it.

"Don't just stand there, help me to persuade Ye Fan," hurried Su Yuan-Shan as he glared at his daughter. "Uncle Su, no need. I don't want you to become an idiot, so I won't take this job," said Ye Fan with the shake of his head and a laugh.

"Idiot? What? What's going on?" Su Yuan-Shan was confused.

Ye Fan then repeated what Su Qian told him just moments ago.

Su Yuan-Shan glared even harder at his daughter.

"Su Qian! Are you trying to drive me to my grave? Apologize to Ye Fan now!" shouted Su Yuan-Shan angrily. Su Qian hung her head and was too scared to even say anything.

In the end, Ye Fan turned Su Yuan-Shan's offer down.

Ye Fan didn't even take the job that Qiu Mu-Cheng offered him, so how could he possibly accept someone else's offer.

But Su Yuan-Shan didn't seem to have any intention of giving up.

The next day, he came looking for Ye Fan with \$1 million in cold hard cash.

Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian stared at the

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bags of cash and were both flabbergasted.

They didn't expect Su Yuan-Shan to be this desperate.

But Ye Fan still turned down the offer.

Su Yuan-Shan didn't know what else to do.

"If you really don't want to join my company, forget it then. But there's an antique exhibition on the west side of the city tonight. Surely you could at least accompany me tonight and help me to take a look, right? Take it as going for a walk?" Su Yuan-Shan sounded like he was pleading with Ye Fan.

This time, Ye Fan felt bad turning him down, so he agreed to this.

"Excellent! I'll pick you up tonight." Su Yuan-Shan was delighted.

The day passed by quickly.

That night, Ye Fan got changed and went to wait at the first floor of the office.

A car drove over and stopped in front of Ye Fan.

"Uncle Su is already here?"

Ye Fan immediately thought that car was Su Yuan-Shan's.

But when the man in the car got out, Ye Fan furrowed his brows hard.

"It's you?"

"Brat, looks like you still actually remember me." Fan Zhong-Xian was wearing a suit as he walked towards Ye Fan.

"What happened the last time was your doing, wasn't it? Very good! But don't you dare think that just because you have the help of the Shen family, I'll be afraid of you. The Fan family isn't that far off from the Shen family. Do you think the Shen family would fall out with the Fan family over a cowardly live-in son-in-law?" Fan Zhong-Xian smiled nastily and his words were sinister sounding.

But Ye Fan remained calm and asked quietly, "So what do you want?"

"Very simple. Leave Qiu Mu-Cheng, then break one of your own legs and kneel down to apologize to me! Otherwise, I'm going to make sure you regret it for the rest of your life!"

Huuuuu...

A biting wind slowly blew past them.

Ye Fan burst out laughing.

"Young Master Fan, many people have said such words to me before. Do you know where they are now?"

"Hmm?" Fan Zhong-Xian frowned.

Ye Fan continued speaking, "Some of them have been thrown into jail and they're still in there. The rest have their heads separated from their bodies and their corpses are just randomly lying out there with nobody to bury them!"

BOOM!

These icy words instantly made Fan Zhong-Xian feel a huge wave of authority surge towards himself.

In that instant, Fan Zhong-Xian actually felt rather afraid.

"You stupid brat, are you tired of living?!" Fan Zhong-Xian was furious and wanted to beat Ye Fan up.

"Stop right there!" An anxious shout called out.

Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng were running over in their high heels.

"Fan Zhong-Xian, what do you think you're doing? You want to beat him up in broad daylight?" snapped Qiu Mu-Cheng angrily.

The moment he saw Qiu Mu-Cheng, all the aggression on Fan Zhong-Xian's face disappeared. He quickly put on a smile and said, "Mu-Cheng, don't be angry, I'm just joking with him."

"That's right, Mu-Cheng. Xian is just teasing him, he's not going to really hit him. But Mu-Cheng, do you really intend to spend the rest of your life with this country bumpkin? You sure you don't want to consider Xian?" said Situ Feng as he walked over.

Before Qiu Mu-Cheng could say anything, Ye Fan randomly asked a question, "Does your butthole still hurt?"

"YOU!" Situ Feng's face was livid.



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PFFFT!

Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng immediately burst out laughing.

Even Fan Zhong-Xian's driver was clearly trying his best not to laugh.

They all understood what Ye Fan was talking about.

"You brat, just you wait! On account of Mu-Cheng, I'll let you off today. But we're not done!"

After Ye Fan rubbed salt in his wound, Fan Zhong-Xian and Situ Feng couldn't stand being here anymore and left in their car.

But before leaving, they still left Ye Fan with a few nasty words.

"Ye Fan, I think you'd better go out less," said Qiu Mu-Cheng a little worriedly after Fan Zhong-Xian left.

"Exactly. As far as I know, this Fan Zhong-Xian isn't just from a well-to-do family, but he's also a member at one of Yunzhou's boxing gyms. In university, he was the president of the martial arts club, and I heard that he's been practicing kickboxing for more than ten years now. You'd better

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take this guy seriously!" Su Qian added on.

Ye Fan was her best friend's husband after all, so Su Qian was on Ye Fan's side instead.

"Kickboxing?" Ye Fan laughed quietly. "That's nothing, don't worry about it."

"That's not the point!" Qiu Mu-Cheng was a little upset. "Ye Fan, I don't want you to fight with others, understand?"

Qiu Mu-Cheng knew that Ye Fan had some pretty good moves, but she was worried that Ye Fan might inevitably get himself hurt someday if he went around fighting just anybody.

"Alright, I'll listen to you and I won't stoop to their level," Ye Fan smiled helplessly.

Then again, Ye Fan couldn't be bothered with them at all.

They were just a couple of clowns, so Ye Fan didn't want to waste any time on them.

Vroom...

Su Yuan-Shan's car had finally arrived to pick Ye Fan up.

Ye Fan said bye to Qiu Mu-Cheng and left in

Su Yuan-Shan's car.

In no time.

Ye Fan followed Su Yuan-Shan to a street along a river in the western part of the city.

"This is the most famous antiques market in Yunzhou, it's a lot like Panjiayuan in Yanjing. You can get to see things from almost every generation. It'll be 1st January soon, so during this time, there will be a big exhibition here, and it's the most lively time of the year here. Plenty of antique enthusiasts around Jiangdong will come here to take a look during this time, and so it's also the easiest time to spot a real treasure too."

It was evening time and the street was brightly lit.

Ye Fan and Su Yuan-Shan walked along the street along the riverside and chatted.

There were two bodyguards behind them too.

Su Yuan-Shan was the CEO of a large corporation and was of high standing, so he was paid a lot of attention to security.

"Ye Fan, take a look and tell me if there's anything you like, don't hold back, you can

treat me like family. Also, help me to see if there are any good porcelain pieces. It's my mother's birthday soon, so I've got to get something good for her," said Su Yuan-Shan with a smile.

He had invited Ye Fan over not just to get closer to him, but primarily to ask Ye Fan to help him look out for a good porcelain piece.

Ye Fan nodded. "Sure, Uncle Su. I'll keep a lookout."

Just like that, Ye Fan and Su Yuan-Shan walked around for some time before they finally walked into a rather quaint and elegant looking antique store.

"This piece looks pretty good. Boss, how much is this? Could you introduce it to us?" Su Yuan-Shan was attracted to a porcelain vase in the middle of the hall and immediately went to enquire about it.

"Sir, you've got a really sharp eye. This is one of the most valuable pieces of the shop and it's a blue porcelain vase from the early Ming Dynasty. It's definitely a treasure from one of the famous kilns! Don't worry about its authenticity. We have authentication from the chairman of Yunzhou's Antiques Association, Master Gu Long-En! Also, our shop guarantees to pay you ten times the

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price if this piece turns out to be a fake."
This boss was a calculative one. After saying so many good things about the vase, he still hadn't said anything about the price.

Su Yuan-Shan asked about the price again, and the boss finally put up one finger. "\$10 million. Final price."

"I guarantee its quality. What do you think? Are you taking it?" asked the boss with a smile.

Su Yuan-Shan looked at Ye Fan as if he was waiting for Ye Fan's opinion.

Ye Fan didn't reply him on the vase. Instead, he looked at a teacup and asked, "How much is this teacup?"

"Oh, we just got hold of this tea set. It's porcelain from the end of the Yuan Dynasty, also from one of the famous kilns. But it's a pity that we're left with only one teacup, otherwise that would have been the star of the shop. It's going for \$5 million."

Ye Fan nodded and looked at Su Yuan-Shan. "Uncle Su, both items are not bad. But I'd suggest buying the teacup, it's more worth it."

"Alright!"

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Su Yuan-Shan went with whatever Ye Fan said.

But just when Su Yuan-Shan was about to pay, Ye Fan's gaze fell on an inconspicuous jade pendant.

Ye Fan walked over and picked up the jade. He asked the shop owner, "Where did this jade come from?"

"Oh that one. I got it from a cheaper source and put it here because it looked pretty. As for when it's from, I estimate it's from the early Qin Dynasty period. But of course, that's just an estimate and I don't have any authentication on it. Do you want to try your luck with it? It cost \$150,000, but I could sell it to you for \$100,000. How's that?" the shop owner continued to speak warmly.

Ye Fan immediately laughed quietly, shook his head and put the pendant back down.

"\$100,000? It's just a piece of leftover jade and it's something that was created with modern machines no less. You want \$100,000 for it? Are you treating us as fools?" Ye Fan smiled coldly.

It wasn't much money to him, really.

But that didn't mean he was okay with being

cheated of his money.

"Well then, how much are you willing to pay for it?"

The shop owner was surprised that this young man had such a sharp eye and his opinion of Ye Fan instantly improved.

It was true that he had gotten this from a cheaper source, but of course it wasn't from the Qin Dynasty period. He had just thrown that in to push the price up.

He only spent \$200 on this jade.

"\$1,000 then. If you're agreeable with that, I'll buy it for my wife. Otherwise, forget it."

"Well...\$1,000 is a bit too little, don't you think? You've cut the price to only one tenth all at once. I can consider at least \$5,000," said the owner as he pretended to look like he was put in a difficult spot.

But Ye Fan wasn't convinced. "You only spent a few hundred buying this, didn't you? \$1,000 is definitely more than enough."

The shop owner finally agreed to the price reluctantly and looked pretty upset, but he was thrilled inside.

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He had earned five times on this piece, so of course he was happy about it.

But just when the shop owner was about to wrap up the jade, a voice came from behind him, "I'm taking this jade for \$100,000!"



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"Oh my! Sir, you're really generous! Hoho, of course, of course, I'll wrap it up for you right now!" The shop owner laughed merrily since someone was actually offering \$100,000 for this.

He didn't care about how he had promised to sell it to Ye Fan.

Ye Fan frowned and was about to say something when Su Yuan-Shan held him back.

"Ye Fan, don't worry, just watch. Leave this to me. I have some clout in this area," said Su Yuan-Shan as he walked over.

"Mr Wang, I remember the big boss behind this shop, Treasure Trove, is Zhang Hai-Tao, right? If Mr Zhang finds you that you've ruined the reputation of his shop and went against the rules of the antiques world, what would he do to you?"

Su Yuan-Shan's threatening words made the shop owner's face pale immediately. He quickly asked, "And you are...?"

"I am Su Yuan-Shan. Your boss, Zhang Hai-Tao, is a business partner of mine," replied Su Yuan-Shan.

"Oho! So it's you, Mr Su. Why didn't you say

so earlier? I could have just given his jade pendant to you."

The shop owner could tell that Su Yuan-Shan was no ordinary person, so he quickly changed his stance and offered to give Su Yuan-Shan the pendant instead.

Su Yuan-Shan was pleased to hear this and nodded satisfactorily.

"Ye Fan, your Uncle Su carries some weight around here, don't I?" said Su Yuan-Shan smugly.

Then he looked at the man in a suit who offered the higher price just now. "Young man, hand the jade pendant back. If it doesn't belong to you, don't snatch it from others. You won't get anything by snatching."

"Oh, is that so?" the man in a suit laughed instead. He didn't give the pendant back and even held it even more tightly than before as he smiled coldly, "And what if I insist on snatching it?"

BAM!

Immediately after he said these words, he raised a leg and sent the bodyguard on Su Yuan-Shan's left flying out of the hall.

There was a loud bang and the shop owner's face paled in fright. He quickly said, "Sirs, if you wish to fight, please go outside, my humble shop is very small and is unable to withstand your mighty attacks."

The shop owner was afraid that his shop would suffer damage.

After all, everything inside here was fragile.

If any of them broke, the shop owner would really feel the pinch.

But the three men didn't care about what the shop owner said. After the man in a suit made that first kick, Ye Fan's expression immediately grew cold.

"Uncle Su, let me handle this," said Ye Fan coldly as he took a step forward.

But Su Yuan-Shan blocked him from doing so again.

"Ye Fan, just stand back and watch. I can handle this! Besides, if I can't handle it, then there's no point in you doing anything either. This guy here is clearly trained in martial arts. He already sent my bodyguard flying with just one kick. You're so skinny, so even if you tried to fight, you won't be of any help. Just stay put and watch!"

Su Yuan-Shan still didn't allow Ye Fan to interfere.

To Su Yuan-Shan, even if Ye Fan tried to interfere, he would only be adding to the trouble.

This boy was young and had no background, plus he was so skinny. Ye Fan was definitely of no help in this situation.

This wasn't a matter of authenticating treasures after all.

After that, Su Yuan-Shan looked at the man in a suit again. "Friend, you are really quite highly skilled! But I suppose you don't know who I am. I'm Su Yuan-Shan, the head of the Su family in Yunzhou and the CEO of Yuanshan Group."

"Yuanshan Group?" The man raised an eyebrow.

Su Yuan-Shan noticed this and thought that the man in a suit was afraid now, so he laughed coldly, "That's right!"

"Don't worry, even though you hit one of my men, I won't make things difficult for you. Apologize to my bodyguard, then hand over \$100,000 to cover his medical expenses as well as that jade, and I will take it that nothing happened today," said Su Yuan-Shan in a low voice.

He had no expression on his face, but his stiff jawlines made him look authoritative.

"Oh, really?" The man in a suit just chuckled disdainfully.

In the next instant, the man raised his leg again and sent the bodyguard on Su Yuan-Shan's right flying as well.

He kicked the bodyguard so quickly that Su Yuan-Shan's bodyguard didn't even have time to react to it.

"Uncle Su, let me handle this?" Ye Fan asked again.

"Shut up! I told you to just watch, so just watch. Why bother acting tough? My bodyguards couldn't even fight against one kick of his, so what can you do if you go over? You'd just get a beating," said Su Yuan-Shan angrily as he started berating Ye Fan instead.

It was clear that Ye Fan's rash and immature actions were making Su Yuan-Shan very displeased.

He already told Ye Fan once not to interfere,

so why was he still trying to act tough now?

Wasn't that only adding to the problem?

Wasn't that just Ye Fan being ridiculous?

Su Yuan-Shan suppressed his fury and looked back at the man in a suit after he was done scolding Ye Fan.

Su Yuan-Shan's expression was extremely dark now.

He looked like he was going to hit the roof anytime.

This man had embarrassed him in front of Ye Fan again and again. Of course Su Yuan-Shan was furious.

"My friend here, I do admit that your kicks are able to break many things. But no matter how strong you are physically, are you able to fight against power and influence? You must understand that you didn't just kick two random men, but you've clearly been rude to the Su family! I will give you one last chance. Apologize, pay the compensation and return that jade pendant! Otherwise, you shall face retribution from the Su family!"

Su Yuan-Shan was someone who had been in a high position for a long time after all.

Even in such a situation, he was still able to remain calm. None of the authoritativeness he had on his hard-lined face had dissipated at all.

Instead, it only intensified!

But even so, the man in a suit just smiled in contempt.

He even shook his head slowly at Su Yuan-Shan. "The Su family of Yunzhou?"

"Mr Su, you have a very strong presence indeed. Since you can't fight me, you want to use your standing against me. But it's too bad. No matter how powerful the Su family might be, do you think it'll be more powerful than the Li family of Yunzhou?"

BOOM ...

Su Yuan-Shan was so stunned, he looked like he had just been struck by lightning.

His eyes widened as he exclaimed, "You... you...you are...you are from the Li family?"

"Of course! I, Zheng He, is a distinguished guest in the Li household and teacher of the eldest daughter of the Li family, Li Xue-Qi! If you want to compare strength, you definitely lose to me. If you want to compare background and influence, do you think you can win me?"

"This..." Su Yuan-Shan's face paled in fright and all the authoritativeness on his face vanished

The Li family was the number one rich and powerful family of Yunzhou!

Even if there were ten of himself, Su Yuan-Shan wouldn't dare to fight against the Li family.

"So, Mr Su, do you still want this jade or not?" asked Zheng He in a teasing voice. That mocking look in his eyes made him look like he was playing with an ant.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

"No, no, I don't want it anymore, I don't want it anymore." After finding out that this man was backed by the Li family, Su Yuan-Shan was scared out of his wits.

He didn't even dare to breathe too loudly. Once he finished saying this, he pulled at Ye Fan and was ready to run for it.

A person's name and repute was like the shadow of a tree.

The Li family was really too powerful within Yunzhou.

Li Er had been at the top of Yunzhou for almost ten years now.

On top of that, Mr Chu was supporting Li Er, so now he was even more influential in Jiangdong.

It seemed like the Li family was even becoming on par with the Chen family from Jianghai.

The Li family was now at its peak, so no matter how stupid Su Yuan-Shan was, he wasn't stupid enough to go against the Li family for nothing.

So Su Yuan-Shan even gave up on the porcelain teacup and wanted to run as quickly as possible.

"Wait up. Mr Su, did I say you can go?" Zheng He's sinister and cold voice rang out from behind.

The thing that Su Yuan-Shan was most worried about was going to happen after all.

"Uncle Su, please let me..." said Ye Fan quietly when he could tell that Su Yuan-Shan was clearly on the losing end.

But before Ye Fan could finish his sentence, Su Yuan-Shan shouted at him angrily and cut him off immediately, "Enough! I'll be grateful if you don't add to the problem."

Su Yuan-Shan was shocked that Ye Fan still wanted to fight back despite knowing that this man was backed by the Li family.

Su Yuan-Shan was already terrified, so after shouting at Ye Fan, he smiled placatingly at Zheng He and said, "Mr Zheng, that was a misunderstanding, it was just a misunderstanding."

"I already know who you are, right? Since the misunderstanding has been cleared up, you can have the jade pendant. I still have to attend to some company matters, so I have to leave now."

Zheng He said in a mocking voice, "Leave? Well, that's not entirely impossible either. I kicked those two dogs of yours and it's dirtied my shoes. So you'd better pay me \$100,000 so that I can get my shoes cleaned. Also, come here and apologize, then I'll drop this matter."

Zheng He was clearly humiliating Su Yuan-Shan.

He was giving Su Yuan-Shan the same words Su Yuan-Shan used earlier.

"This..." Su Yuan-Shan had a bitter look on his face.

"Why, not agreeable?" Zheng He raised an eyebrow.

"Mr Zheng, the money part is fine, but I don't think the apology is necessary since it was all just a misunderstanding." For people like Su Yuan-Shan, reputation and pride were more important than money.

His men had been injured and he didn't manage to get the jade pendant. He didn't even mind paying. But if this man still wanted to him to apologize as well, then he was being a little unreasonable.

"Shut up! You're nothing when it comes to brute

strength, and you're still nothing when it comes to background! There's nothing about you that can win me, so do you think you still have any right to bargain with me? I'm going to give you ten seconds. Pay up and apologize! Otherwise, I'll make sure you end up crawling out of this place like those two dogs of yours," said Zheng He with a cold smile and an arrogant attitude. He wasn't giving way to Su Yuan-Shan at all.

In the end, Su Yuan-Shan gave in.

After all, Zheng He was right. He wasn't qualified to bargain with someone like Zheng He.

"Mr Zheng, I'm really sorry. We were blind and offended you, I hope you can forgive us," said Su Yuan-Shan apologetically to Zheng He as he bowed his head.

The two bodyguards who got kicked out by Zheng He clutched their stomachs and came back in to apologize to Zheng He as well.

"Hmm?" Zheng He suddenly realized that Ye Fan was still standing behind Su Yuan-Shan and was clearly not going to apologize to him.

Zheng He immediately frowned. "Mr Su, it seems like you don't just have two pieces of trash working for you, you also have an idiot."

Su Yuan-Shan quickly realized who Zheng He was talking about and quickly turned towards Ye Fan. "Ye Fan, why are you still standing there? Hurry up and apologize to Mr Zheng. The Li family is the most powerful family in Yunzhou, so we really can't afford to offend them."

Su Yuan-Shan yelled at him anxiously and hoped that this apology would resolve the entire matter.

But to his dismay, Ye Fan just smiled faintly. "You want me to apologize?

"He's not worthy!"

WHAT?!

"Ye Fan, you're insane! What nonsense are you saying?!" Su Yuan-Shan nearly died from fright.

This matter could have been settled with an apology, but the moment Ye Fan said these words, he made the conflict worse.

Su Yuan-Shan was so angry that he really wanted to slap Ye Fan right now.

This fellow was being absolutely ridiculous now!

"Mr Zheng, this is my nephew. He's young and brash, please don't hold it against him. I'll get him to apologize to you right now," Su Yuan-Shan tried his best to salvage the situation.

But Zheng He's expression had already turned cold. "It's too late for an apology!"

Zheng He immediately started walking over.

"Ye Fan, run!" shouted Su Yuan-Shan anxiously when he realized that this wasn't going to end well.

But it was too late.

Zheng He raised a long leg and lashed out at Ye Fan's face like a whip.

"Oh no!" Su Yuan-Shan immediately shut his eyes and wailed.

BAM!

A muffled blast filled the air as expected.

Then a figure flew across the shop like a cannonball.

That person crashed into several shelves and other furniture before finally sprawling on the ground, howling away like a dog.

Many ceramics were shattered in the process.

"I said, you're not worthy of my apology!"

Huuuuu...

The cold wind blew and caused some sand to fly.

In that instant, the entire shop was silent except for the echo of Ye Fan's cold words.

They were firm and strong like rocks and gold bars.

Everyone in the shop was stunned.

A distinguished guest of the Li family and a martial arts teacher actually couldn't hold up against one move from Ye Fan?

"Ye...Ye Fan, you...you're trained in martial arts too?" Su Yuan-Shan's eyes twitched and his heart was filled with terror.

Now he finally understood why Ye Fan kept wanted to handle the situation.

He wasn't being brash at all. He was truly confident of being able to handle it!

But even though Ye Fan had kicked Zheng He

successfully, Su Yuan-Shan's face was still filled with the same amount of worry as before.

He sighed deeply instead. "Ye Fan, I'm afraid you've made things worse."

As expected, the men who had come with Zheng He were making their way towards Ye Fan and surrounded him.

"Uncle Su, you guys go first, I'll take it from here," said Ye Fan to Su Yuan-Shan as he walked forward fearlessly.

"But..."

"Mr Su, let's go, no buts. We really can't afford to offend the Li family." Su Yuan-Shan wanted to say more, but his bodyguards dragged him out.

"Ye Fan, enduring pain for a moment will bring about peace in the future! The Li family is powerful and your brute strength isn't going to solve anything! Don't be rash!"

Su Yuan-Shan continued to yell worriedly at Ye Fan.

In no time, Su Yuan-Shan's bodyguards escorted him away from the shop.

Back inside Treasure Trove, Ye Fan remained standing without an expression on his face.

Zheng He had been helped up by the men with him.

He spat out the blood in his mouth and cursed, "Punk, I've underestimated you."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Zheng He's expression was grim and his heart felt as uncomfortable as if he had just swallowed a fly.

He never imagined that a master fighter of Yunzhou like himself would actually suffer at the hands of some hooligan.

This was an unforgivable insult to Zheng He!

"Mr Zheng, are you alright?"

"We'll avenge you right now!"

"We'll teach this young punk a good lesson and get back at him for you."

The subordinates who had come along with Zheng He all stood out to avenge Zheng He, as if they were all trying to fight for this chance.

"Get lost!" Zheng He hollered and sent the one right in front of him flying with a slap.

"I, Zheng He, am the grand champion of Yunzhou's martial arts competition. I am fully capable myself, so why should I need any of you to avenge me? I was just careless earlier. Otherwise, do you think this young punk here would be able to take an attack from me?"

Zheng He angrily shouted as he pushed his

men away from supporting him and walked towards Ye Fan again as he glared furiously at Ye Fan. "Punk, I'll give you one more chance. Kneel down and apologize!"

"Otherwise, I'll..."

BAM!

Before Zheng He could finish saying his threatening words, Ye Fan slapped him.

His facial bone was shattered and he spewed a mouthful of blood and teeth onto the floor.

"This..."

"He's really fierce!"

The shop owner was still watching by the side and he was completely stunned. He didn't expect this young man to persist so strongly without any regard for the other party's background or identity.

He made an attack just because the opponent said something he didn't like hearing!

"You little bastard, I'm going to kill you!"

Zheng He's face was a mess from Ye Fan's slap, but he still climbed up from the floor to

fight Ye Fan.

"What's going on? Master Zheng, what's happened, why are all of you taking so long to buy something?" a female voice called out from outside the door.

An aloof and authoritative looking woman was in a long Versace coat, and the high black boots she wore made her figure look even slimmer than usual.

The moment this woman appeared, her beautiful face attracted the attention of everyone in the shop.

When he saw her come in, Zheng He's expression fell. He quickly reported to her, "Miss, there's been a little issue."

"I wanted to choose a nice piece of jade for you, but someone here insisted on snatching it away from me. But don't worry, I'll break his legs and make him kneel and apologize to you," said Zheng He through clenched teeth.

The woman's pretty brows frowned slightly after hearing this. "So this person is also the one who injured you? How very bold! Who is it? Who dares to touch someone from the Li family? He must be tired of living!"

Li Xue-Qi was instantly incensed after finding out what happened.

Zheng He was her own martial arts teacher, so hurting Zheng He was equivalent to a slap in Li Xue-Qi's own face.

Of course Li Xue-Qi was furious!

"Miss, it's him. That's the punk who hurt Mr Zheng..." The other subordinates pointed to the person on the other side.

A slim figure was still standing there quietly.

He stood with his back facing everyone else and didn't even bother looking at Li Xue-Qi.

"Oh, it's him? You! Kneel down and apologize to my master right now!" shouted Li Xue-Qi coldly as she unleashed all the authoritativeness that she had as the eldest daughter of the Li family.

Ye Fan just laughed.

"Li Xue-Qi, you can really throw your weight around. Even if your brother were here, he wouldn't dare to make me kneel and apologize. You're just an ordinary woman, so where did you find the guts to ask me of this?" Ye Fan smiled coldly as he suddenly spun around.

Li Xue-Qi suddenly felt like lightning had just struck her brain. Her entire body trembled and her pretty eyes widened immediately.

"Mr...Mr Chu?"

Li Xue-Qi was frightened to bits now.

She never imagined that this person right here would be Ye Fan.

When she saw Ye Fan's face, Li Xue-Qi instantly froze.

All the authoritativeness she had earlier vanished as she went up to him to apologize.

"Mr Chu, I'm so sorry. I...I didn't know it was you. My subordinates were blind and stupid, I'll punish them right now. Please forgive us. Also, please, please don't tell my brother. If he knew that I offended you, he will beat me to death."

Li Xue-Qi was young and still not quite steady enough. After realizing that she was in trouble, her eyes immediately reddened and she started to humbly apologize profusely to Ye Fan. She was on the verge of tears from the terror in her heart.

Zheng He and the others were shocked by what they saw.

"M-Miss, what...what are you doing? Why should someone as highly esteemed as you apologize to a stupid brat like him?" asked Zheng He with large eyes because he simply couldn't understand.

"Shut up!" Li Xue-Qi used the back of her hand to slap Zheng He across the face.

"You stupid thing! How dare you simply go around offending just anybody?! You nearly got me killed! Hand over the jade and go apologize to Mr Chu right now!"

Li Xue-Qi was so angry that she wanted to bite this stupid Zheng He to death.

If not for him, Li Xue-Qi wouldn't have offended Ye Fan.

"Miss, I don't understand, I really don't. He's just a young fellow, so why are you so polite towards him? You are the eldest daughter of the Li family after all. Is there someone who is more powerful than the Li family in Yunzhou? Unless..."

Zheng He cut himself off as he seemed to suddenly realize something and his entire body shuddered.

He looked like he had seen a ghost when he

looked back at the skinny young man in front.

"Mr...Mr Chu? You mean he...he's that person who shook up all of Jiangdong and the strong fighters of the province and became the leader of Jiangdong? The man who Master Er and the rest regard as their king? THAT Mr Chu?!"

When Li Xue-Qi called Ye Fan 'Mr Chu', Zheng He didn't think much of it.

After all, there were plenty of people with the surname Chu. There was a Chu family in Yunzhou itself and all the men of that family were addressed as 'Mr Chu' too.

So Zheng He didn't think this Mr Chu was actually THAT Mr Chu.

But after he saw how Li Xue-Qi behaved, Zheng He could guess as much.

So he had to check with her.

"If not?" Li Xue-Qi replied through gritted teeth.

BOOM...

Zheng He's face paled and his head was ringing.

He suddenly realized who he had just offended.

But Zheng He never expected that the great Mr Chu of Jiangdong would be this young.

"So Mr Zheng, do you want that piece of jade or not?"

Ye Fan seemed to be looking down at Zheng He as he smiled mockingly. It was as if he was playing with a mere ant.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

"Are you saying that this jade pendant was secretly removed from a cave?" Ye Fan was still within Treasure Trove and asking another man this question.

This man was the original owner of the jade pendant.

"That's right! Everything I said earlier is the truth!" replied the man fearfully.

After getting the jade back from Zheng He, Ye Fan started asking about the origins of this jade pendant.

After some questions, he finally traced it back to this man named Wang Wu.

So this jade had been secretly removed from a cave in the suburbs of Yunzhou.

After polishing it and turning it into a design, he then sold it to Treasure Trove.

"Alright, you can leave." Ye Fan waved his hand and let Wang Wu go after he found out where this piece of jade had come from.

"Mr Chu, are you sure you want to go down personally to have a look? Do you want me to send some subordinates down instead?" asked Li Xue-Qi respectfully next to Ye Fan.

Ye Fan shook his head. "No need, I can go down personally."

"But Wang Wu said that the mountain with this cave has been bought over by the Liang family and the surrounding area has been cordoned off. Do you know this Liang family? Introduce me to them and it's enough for the Liang family to bring me there," said Ye Fan as he looked at her.

Li Xue-Qi thought about it, then replied, "Sure, Mr Chu, I will get this settled for you. As for the misunderstanding earlier..."

"Don't worry, I won't tell your brother about what happened today," replied Ye Fan quietly.

"Heehee, thank you, Mr Chu!" Li Xue-Qi was instantly overjoyed and felt like a huge burden had been lifted off her shoulders.

Even though Ye Fan let this matter go, Li Xue-Qi knew that he had only done so on account of her elder brother.

If her brother found out about what happened today, Li Xue-Qi was certain that he would break her legs for sure.

Now that Ye Fan had promised not to tell Li Er, Li Xue-Qi was naturally glad inside.

Li Xue-Qi then left with her men.

Ye Fan took the piece of jade and was about to leave too.

A number of luxury cars came driving over.

After the car doors opened, Ye Fan saw Su Yuan-Shan and a large group of men come along with him.

"Ye Fan, are you alright? Did they make trouble for you?" asked Su Yuan-Shan anxiously when he saw Ye Fan.

Su Qian and Su Yang had both come along as well.

Ye Fan was her best friend's husband, so if something happened while he was out with her father, then Su Qian found it hard to explain things to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Ye Fan smiled. "No problem, Uncle Su. They can't do anything about me."

"Alright, alright, as long as you're fine. But you know, one must learn how to endure in certain situations. The Li family is very powerful, so even if we have to suffer some humiliation, we must not offend people we cannot afford to." Su Yuan-Shan thought that Ye Fan must have

managed to get away because he eventually apologized to Zheng He.

"By the way, where's Mr Zheng?" asked Su Yuan-Shan.

"After I beat him up, he left," said Ye Fan nonchalantly.

Wait, what?

"What did you say? You beat him again?" Su Yuan-Shan's eyes were going to fall out of his head soon from fright.

"Ye Fan, do you genuinely not know how powerful the Li family is or are you faking it? The head of the Li family, Li Er, is a corporate giant in Yunzhou. Even the mayor is extra polite to him. You're a nobody and you actually beat one of his so badly that he ran away? Have you ever considered the consequences?" Su Yuan-Shan's face was livid.

Su Qian's mouth was also open wide from shock.

"Ye Fan, you seriously beat up someone from the Li family? Are you nuts? Did you think that just because you're strong, you can whatever you want in Yunzhou? You're really going to get Mu-Cheng into trouble someday! Hurry up and

buy something, then go to the Li house to apologize and beg for their forgiveness!"

She had heard from her father about how Ye Fan had run into a conflict with the Li family, so Su Qian was worried that this young and stupid Ye Fan would really beat the other guy up.

But the thing she had been most worried about happened anyway.

"It's just the Li family, there's no need to worry about it. Besides, if anybody needs to apologize, it's the Li family who needs to apologize. They have no right to get me to apologize to them," Ye Fan continued to smile faintly.

Su Yuan-Shan and the rest were stunned when they heard what Ye Fan said.

Their scalps felt numb from being too frightened.

"Ye Fan, what nonsense are you spouting? Are you tired of living?! If the Li family were here, these words alone could get you killed on the spot." Su Yuan-Shan was so frightened that his entire body was trembling.

"Exactly, Ye Fan. It's not the time to let your pride get in the way of things. Go get prepared,

we'll go to the Li house to apologize tonight," chimed in Su Yang.

But Ye Fan remained calm.

"You guys don't have to bother about this matter anymore. Is there anything else? If not, I'll head home first."

Ye Fan then turned and left.

"Sigh...The only problem with this Ye Fan is that he's too proud. Or rather, he's a little too audacious. Dad, such a man is not a good match for Su Qian," sighed Su Yang as he shook his head.

Su Yuan-Shan didn't say anything but he was disappointed in Ye Fan.

He didn't expect Ye Fan to still be unable to see the bigger picture clearly.

He knew a few moves and became so audacious that he didn't even have any regard for the Li family.

This was as good as sending himself to die.

"Let's go, we should head home too," said Su Yuan-Shan quietly. Then he got into the car and they all went home.

On the way home, Ye Fan continued to look at the jade in his hand as he walked.

The jade was slightly warm and it seemed to contain a strange sort of energy.

Ye Fan was going to try and absorb the energy inside this piece of jade after getting home.

He was going to see if it would help with his cultivation process of Invoking the Celestial Cloud.

"I hope you won't disappoint me," thought Ye Fan to himself.

But just when Ye Fan was about to reach home, a car suddenly stopped in front of him and blocked his way.

"Ye Fan, I've been waiting for you for a long time now. Xian would like to invite you to his boxing gym for a cup of tea and to get to know each other better. Do you dare to go?" Situ Feng emerged from the car, and a pair of twin sisters followed behind him.

This pair of twins didn't just have identical faces. They were both in the same pale red long dress and silver high heels.

Their faces were pretty and had excellent figures.

"So, this is Ye Fan? He's obviously a pauper and reeks of the countryside, but he dared to offend Xian? He must be really tired of living," said the older sister, Xia Yue. Her pretty eyes looked at Ye Fan with nothing but disdain and contempt.

"Sis, Grandpa said before that we shouldn't judge a book by its cover. I think..."

"Shut up! It's not your place to speak!" Xia Yue interrupted her younger sister, Xia Xue.

Then Xia Yue looked back at Ye Fan and sneered, "Say something, don't stand there and pretend you're deaf and mute. My Xian wants you at the boxing gym, so come along with us now!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Are you nuts?"

Ye Fan stood along the road and looked at this flashily dressed woman as if she was an idiot. He felt that she was really a laughable character.

These people seemed to regard Fan Zhong-Xian as their father and his words as the law.

But Ye Fan was above that.

So he couldn't be bothered with whatever they said.

Ye Fan turned to head home.

"You little punk! Did you think that Xian will let you off just because you avoid him? Just you wait! One of these days, you'll go over obediently to kneel in front of Xian and lick his shoes!" came Xia Yue's disdainful laughter.

"Situ Feng, I thought this Ye Fan was some big shot since he's got the backing of the Shen family. But it seems like he's just a weak fellow after all. He doesn't even have the guts to face Xian. He's really just trash who isn't even as good as one fingernail on Xian."

The laughter behind him slowly faded, but Ye Fan behaved like he hadn't heard anything.

They were just a bunch of clowns, so Ye Fan wasn't bothered by their words.

Ye Fan pushed the door to the house open to find that the living room lights were still on.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was on the sofa and seemed to be waiting for Ye Fan.

Su Qian was also around.

When Ye Fan walked through the door, Su Qian scoffed coldly, turned her face away and ignored him.

The atmosphere in the house seemed a little heavy.

"Mu-Cheng, what's wrong? Who made you angry?" asked Ye Xiao with a laugh in hope of making the atmosphere more relaxed.

Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't reply that question. She looked at Ye Fan and her tone of voice was warm, "Ye Fan, do you know why I was punished by Grandpa to marry you back then?"

Ye Fan was stunned for a while. He didn't know why Qiu Mu-Cheng was bringing this up now.

"At that time, the young master of a well-to-do family tried to molest me, so I used my high

heels to kick his lower half and he ended up in hospital. At that time, I felt vindicated and felt that he deserved what he got. But in the end? My grandfather and uncles dragged me to the hospital to apologize. Grandpa wanted me to kneel before that young master to apologize but I refused. I felt that I wasn't in the wrong and he was the one in the wrong, so why should I be the one apologizing?"

"That day in the hospital, Grandpa slapped me and I ran out crying. Later I found out that Grandpa had knelt on my behalf in exchange for the other party's forgiveness. From then on, I knew that there is no right and wrong in this world, only strong and weak. Compared to those people, the Qiu family was too small and I was nothing but dust. It only took one word from them to destroy everything the Qiu family had, so there was nothing else we could do besides bow to them."

The moon was cold as ice outside the window.

Qiu Mu-Cheng's low and warm voice resounded gently in the room like a cool breeze.

There was also a faint smile on her lips as she spoke.

This smile seemed self-deprecating and helpless at the same time.

Ye Fan didn't say anything and let Qiu Mu-Cheng continue.

"So Ye Fan, go with me to the Li house to apologize tonight. I've already prepared everything," said Qiu Mu-Cheng as she got up, picked up the gifts meant for the Li family and wanted to pull Ye Fan out of the house with her.

But to her surprise, Ye Fan continued standing where he was and didn't look like he was going anywhere.

Qiu Mu-Cheng frowned and looked in puzzlement at Ye Fan.

Ye Fan quietly replied, "Mu-Cheng, I'm not going to apologize and there's no need to. I wasn't the one in the wrong and they were the ones who offended me first, so why should I go? On top of that, even if I were wrong, the Li family wouldn't dare to accept an apology from me."

"Enough!" Qiu Mu-Cheng suddenly shouted angrily to cut off Ye Fan's words.

"Ye Fan, what's the point of saying all these boastful and empty words? I've said so much already, didn't any of it get to you? Sure, you're amazing and you can beat up ten or even twenty men all by yourself. But what about a powerful group of people? Or a rich family?"

"Do you know how powerful the Li family is in Yunzhou? Even the head of the Shen family, Shen Jiu-Yi, is just one of Master Li Er's subordinates. As for the Shen Fei whom you always rely on, he's probably not allowed anywhere near Li Er! If he wants to, Li Er can command a hundred or maybe even a thousand people to do his bidding! He even has power in the government!"

"Remember Han Wen-Xue, the woman we met at Jinding Mall during the Midautumn Festival? Her husband had assets worth more than \$100 million but his company became bankrupt overnight and he went to jail! The person who did this to them was the Li family. Even a millionaire has no power against him, so what's a poor man born in the village like you going to use against the Li family? What do you mean by saying the Li family wouldn't dare to accept an apology from you?!" Qiu Mu-Cheng shouted angrily at Ye Fan as her eyes turned red.

She was really furious now.

Su Qian told Qiu Mu-Cheng earlier that Ye Fan had offended someone from the Li family and Qiu Mu-Cheng immediately paled.

But she knew that Ye Fan was someone with great pride, so she didn't lash out at him and tried to use logic and reason to persuade him

first.

But what frustrated Qiu Mu-Cheng was that Ye Fan didn't care for anything she said and even started saying such boastful words like an idiot.

Of course Qiu Mu-Cheng was angry.

But Ye Fan laughed at Qiu Mu-Cheng's torrential anger.

That laugh was self-deprecating and sounded sarcastic.

"Born in the village? Poor fellow?" Ye Fan shook his head and his eyes were filled with selfdeprecation.

"Mu-Cheng, many people have laughed at me for being of lowly birth and of a poor background, and they look down on me. But I don't care. Because to me, all of them are no more than ants and there's no need to stoop to these clowns' level. But I didn't expect that you look at me this way too," said Ye Fan as he continued to laugh bitterly at himself.

"If not? Did I say something wrong? Ye Fan, why can't you look at yourself squarely in the eye? Why are you always living in your own imagination?" shouted Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"I know you have a lot of pride, but the Li family is really not one you can afford to offend! Do you know how powerful the Li family is in Yunzhou or not? The head of the Li family has been the leader of this city for at least ten years now, has connections on both sides of the law and has control over the city!"

"And so what?" Ye Fan suddenly roared angrily. His voice was as loud as thunder.

Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng were so shocked by this outburst that they both froze where they are.

"The Li family has immense power and influence and can control this place, but can they fight one fist of mine? Power is in my hands, so never mind Yunzhou – even if you're talking about all of Jiangdong, and even the capital, Yanjing, I, Ye Fan, will be able to destroy them with one punch and keep them under my feet!"

His words were firm and confident, like gold and rocks clanging to the floor.

Ye Fan looked arrogantly at the woman in front of him with a cold smile on his face.

"Qiu Mu-Cheng, Qiu Mu-Cheng. You only know that one must not incur the wrath of the Li family, but did you know that one must also not incur the wrath of your man?!"

"You know that Li Er has immense power and influence, but did you know that no matter how powerful he is, he is only one of my dogs?!"

It was deathly silent.

The huge living room was filled with nothing else but the howling wind and the echo of Ye Fan's furious voice.

Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian were both so frightened that their faces were pale and they were rooted to the floor.

They didn't even dare to breathe too loudly.

For some reason, they suddenly felt like the Ye Fan before them was so strange to them.

He was so unfamiliar, it made them afraid.

It made them feel as though they didn't know him at all.

After a long period of silence, Ye Fan took a deep breath.

His emotions had calmed down, so he turned to go upstairs.

But when he reached the bottom of the stairs, Ye Fan suddenly stopped and shook his head with his back facing them.

"You don't understand me at all." His low and quiet words flowed through the room with the wind.

By the time Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian looked up, Ye Fan had already gone upstairs.

They were left with nothing but silence.

After a long time, Qiu Mu-Cheng looked at Su Qian with bloodshot eyes.

Her tears started flowing down her cheeks without her realizing it.

Her voice cracked as she said through her tears, "Qianqian, did I do the wrong thing? I meant it for his own good, so why doesn't he appreciate it? Or is it really because I don't understand him and everything he said was true?" Qiu Mu-Cheng continued to sob uncontrollably.

"Mu-Cheng, Ye Fan was too angry and just said those things in a fit. Don't tell me you're going to believe anything he said? How could those things be true? Master Li Er is so powerful and influential, so how could he be Ye Fan's dog? He was just saying all that out of anger," Su Qian tried her best to comfort Qiu Mu-Cheng.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng only cried even harder.

"Why should he say angry things? How could he shout at me like that? What did I do wrong? I did this for his own good and I was thinking for him, so how could he bully me like that?"

Qiu Mu-Cheng's tears continued to flow.

This was the first time in three years that Ye Fan had blown up so badly at her.

It was impossible for Qiu Mu-Cheng not to feel terrified or afraid as a result.

But of course, Qiu Mu-Cheng was upset and felt like she had been misunderstood.

She had said all that because she was worried about Ye Fan. Why didn't he appreciate it at all?

But Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't realize that concern could be shown in many different ways.

She had no idea that the things she said hurt Ye Fan's heart deeply instead.

But it was inevitable for a husband and wife to quarrel from time to time.

The two of them were still young and it was their first love relationship and marriage too, so there was no other way to bring themselves closer to one another besides going through one trial after another.

Su Qian felt bad when she saw how heartbroken Qiu Mu-Cheng looked and continued to comfort her, "Mu-Cheng, you didn't do anything wrong. That stupid idiot doesn't know what's good for him and doesn't appreciate your concern. You didn't do anything wrong, so don't cry anymore. When he's calmed down and thought it through, he'll come back to apologize to you..>"

A dim yellow light flickered and slowly filled the dark room with light.

Ye Fan returned to his room and shut the door behind him. The world immediately became more peaceful.

"Han, you called?" Ye Fan answered a phone

call and tried to sound calm, but his voice was still trembling slightly.

"Young Master, are you alright?" asked Han worriedly as he noticed something didn't sound quite right.

Ye Fan quietly replied, "I'm fine. Say what you wanted to."

"It's about the last time you told me to find Miss Qiu a bodyguard. After thinking about it, I think it's best to send Qing Tan over. She's one of the 12 Dragon Guards, meticulous and likes quiet places, so I think she's the best one to protect Miss Qiu. But Qing Tan is still on a training mission and hasn't come back yet, so I'm afraid she won't be able to reach Yunzhou in time," said Han carefully.

Ye Fan nodded. "Sure, we'll go with that then. As for the timing, as long as she gets here before we arrive at the Chu family, it'll do."

"Sure, Young Master. I will make arrangements right now."

Han hung up after getting the go ahead from Ye Fan.

While Ye Fan sat cross-legged on the bed.

He closed his eyes slightly and started chanting the Invocation of the Celestial Cloud in his heart.

As his heart slowly calm down, a faint green glow flowed out from the piece of jade placed in front of Ye Fan.

It flowed into Ye Fan's body as he breathed and gathered within his dantian.

After some time, Ye Fan's eyes suddenly opened up again.

"The energy inside this jade is really able to help me with my cultivation process. Looks like I have to pay that cave a visit before the Feast of the Sea and Sky," thought Ye Fan quietly to himself.

Yup, that piece of jade was the one Ye Fan got from Treasure Trove earlier that night.

From the moment he saw it, Ye Fan could sense that this piece wasn't ordinary.

He realized that this piece of jade carried an extremely concentrated amount of energy from the universe.

The Book of Celestial Cloud wrote that there was a soul within jade rocks that could absorb

the essence of the sun and moon, and could contain the energy of the universe.

But most jade pieces carried very small and sparse amounts of energy if any at all.

However, the piece he had right now had a very intense energy within it.

So Ye Fan immediately figured that if he could find the source of this jade, then it would definitely be of tremendous help to the speed at which he could finally master Invoking the Celestial Cloud.

But Ye Fan was in no hurry and waited for news from Li Xue-Qi.

The Xishan area was quite large, so without anybody leading the way, it would be hard for Ye Fan to find it.

If the Liang family was willing to lead him there, it would save Ye Fan a lot of trouble.

The night soon passed.

The next morning, Ye Fan went downstairs to find that Qiu Mu-Cheng had already left for work.

She was probably still angry about what

happened last night.

But Ye Fan wasn't going to explain himself. Qiu Mu-Cheng wasn't going to believe him no matter what he said anyway.

Everything would be revealed on New Year's Day, and these girls would finally find out who Ye Fan really was.

It was soon afternoon time.

The call that Ye Fan had been waiting for finally arrived.

"Mr Chu, I've talked to the Liang family and they happen to be heading for the mountain tonight. If you want to go along, then it would be good if you can reach the Xishan Garden Hotel before 5PM. You can just tell them why you're there and someone will lead you in," said Li Xue-Qi respectfully over the phone.

Ye Fan nodded and just replied with an 'Ok'.

He looked at the time to find that it was 308PM!