"Was there anything wrong with what I said?" Gaia grumbled incessantly. "What do you think, Chandra? What's going on between the Dragon Master and Chu Sect's sect leader? I have a feeling there is something between the two of them. The Dragon Master wouldn't have lost his composure when he heard her name if there weren't."

Gaia never learned from his mistakes.

Ye Fan had barely left and here he was, bringing up the matter again.

Chandra ignored him and instead allowed her senses to drift as she savored the beautiful melody singing in the air.

After leaving Xijiang, Ye Fan traveled tirelessly as he rushed back to Jiangdong.

The next day, a slim figure appeared outside the city of Fenghai.

Compared to Yunzhou, Fenghai was a city that was situated inland.



If Ye Fan wanted to reach Yunzhou, he would have to go through Fenghai.

Before he made his way back to Yunzhou, he decided to make a brief stop at Fenghai and pay a visit to his mother.

Before Ye Fan had left, Qiu Mu-Cheng had taken over the reins in Yunzhou and taken over command of the Mufan Group's headquarters.

Ye Fan's mother had taken over the running of the subsidiary branch in Fenghai.

Ye Fan had thought about resettling his mother in Yunzhou. They would be nearer each other and he wouldn't have to run around all the time.

But her mother was old and comfortable where she was.

Ye Xi-Mei had grown up in Fenghai and she had built too many memories in the city. She felt intensely about the city. Unless she had no other choice, she didn't want to leave her home and move to another foreign city.

Besides, Ye Fan's grandfather was still alive

and living in the same city.

Ye Xi-Mei wanted to remain in Fenghai so that she could care for her parents.

Ye Fan had no other choice but to accede to his mother's wishes and let her run the company's branch in Fenghai.

He had not been to Fenghai for a long time. The city had not changed much.

Everything remained peaceful and quiet.

That eased Ye Fan's worry about his mother and Qiu Mu-Cheng considerably.

He had worried too much. This wasn't his first time being away from Jiangdong for such a long stretch of time. After what had happened the past few times, anyone who had harbored ill intentions in Jiangdong would have learned their lesson and kept their heads down instead of causing trouble.

Besides, he had basically gotten rid of anyone who could pose a threat to him and his family during the last few coups in Jiangdong.

Jiangdong had become his stronghold. In fact, it had basically become his home.

Besides, he had placed Jiangdong in Qiu Mu-Cheng's capable hands. With Li Er and the others helping her out, they could deal with anything. He could be away for more than a year, or even forever. Things would continue to run.

In the secular world, no one or no entity could pose a threat to the Mufan Group.

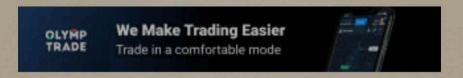
The only threat that the Mufan Group faced was the forces of the martial arts circle.

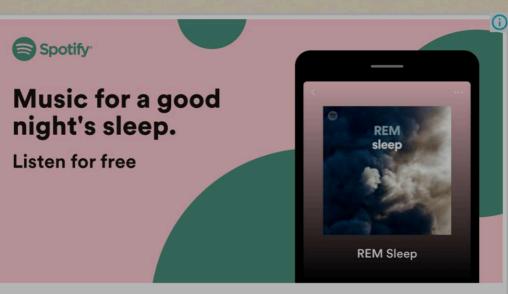
But Ye Fan wasn't particularly concerned about that either.

After all, the mission he had embarked on this time had been issued by the country and War God Castle.

War God Castle had guaranteed the safety of his family before he had left for the assignment.

With War God Castle as their guardian, who in China would dare harm his family?







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With that in mind, the worry that had weighed on Ye Fan's heart gradually eased.

It eased further when he saw the cars parked outside the Ye family's manor and the guests streaming in and out of their house.

That new year, Ye Fan had bought a house in the city for his mother after they had left Yeyang in a fit of anger. His mother had moved in.

Now, the manor had become the family home for the Ye family.

Ye Xi-Mei's siblings had moved into the manor.

Naturally, Ye Fan's grandparents had moved in too.

They were still family. No matter how terribly they had fought, blood was still thicker than water. You couldn't just walk away from your family.

After that new year, Ye Fan's uncles and his aunt had come knocking and apologized to Ye Xi-Mei. Ye Fan's grandfather had tried to

play the role of mediator and in the end, Ye Fan's mother had forgiven them all.

Ye Fan had not said a single word to his mother about her decision.

He knew that his mother cared very much about her family. Besides, he was constantly away. His mother needed someone by her side.

His uncles might be somewhat mercenary at times, but they were still his mother's siblings. When there was an emergency, they would be more reliable than an outsider.

That had been why Ye Fan had allowed them to move into his mother's manor without any fuss and why he had allowed her to place them in important offices in the company.

"Well, it seems like they've done a fine job with the company."

Ye Fan eyed the expensive cars lined outside the manor and the businessmen crowded outside his house and smiled.

The stream of guests dying to win the Mufan Group's favor was clear evidence of how

well the company was doing.

"Stop right there! Who are you and what are you doing here?"

Ye Fan was ready to enter the grounds of the estate when he was stopped by a guard.

He smiled wryly.

Well, some things had certainly changed.

He had only been away for a year and now, he couldn't even step into his own house.

Ye Fan did not get mad at the guard who had stopped him.

He was just doing his job, and he was making a commendable effort.

Ye Fan answered him honestly. "I'm here to see my mother."

"Your mother?" The guard glared at him, then gave him and his plain, shabby attire a once over. He sounded annoyed when he spoke next. "Are you taking me as a fool? You're looking for your mother? Well, you're not going to find her here. Go somewhere



else to find your mother. Walk another five hundred meters and then turn left. There's a wet market. She might be there."

With a wave of his arm, he gestured for Ye Fan to leave.

He was staring at Ye Fan like he would a clown.

Was this young man trying to weasel his way into a rich family by pretending that he's someone's son?

Well, he could dream on.

"You..." Ye Fan was rendered speechless.
Forget it, he wasn't going to start an argument with a guard. "Well, I'm looking for Mr Ye, the general manager of the Mufan Group's Fenghai branch. He should be in, shouldn't he?"

"I knew it. I knew you were here for Mr Ye.

Are you another one of his poor relatives who heard about the company's hiring exercise? You're here to try and get yourself a job on the basis of your being family? Well, you're the eighth person to do that." The guard rolled his eyes and scoffed in derision.

He cared nothing for folks who tried to exploit their relationship with the Ye family and use that to their advantage. But this man here was a distant relative of the Ye family, so he dared not offend him.

He simply shrugged and said coldly. "Mr Ye isn't here. If you wish to speak to him, you can find him at the office."



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"The office?" muttered Ye Fan to himself.

Ye Fan did not waste time with the guard and headed to the office instead.

It made sense. Everyone should be at work right now.

His mother would have arrived at the office early in the morning and thrown herself right into the middle of work.

"Fine, I'll look for her at the office."

In the end, Ye Fan did not step into the house at all.

Regardless how grand the house was, the only thing that Ye Fan missed about it was his mother.

Compared to seeing the rest of the family, Ye Fan was more eager to see his own mother.

He soon arrived at the Fenghai branch of the Mufan Group.

Something seemed to be going on at the Mufan Group today.



Ye Fan was greeted by the sight of a crowd waiting outside the building when he arrived.

They were young men and women who looked as if they had just graduated from college.

The men were dressed in suits, their shoes polished and shining and their hair styled neatly. They looked as if they were dressed for a matchmaking session.

The women were dressed in similar attire meant for the office. In pencil skirts, white shirts and their ties, they looked sharp and competent.

Because of the way they were dressed and the way Ye Fan was dressed, the latter immediately caught everyone's eye when he appeared.

"Is he still dreaming? Is this what he's wearing to his interview? He's not even in a suit! He looks like he's here to interview for the position of the delivery boy."

The looks that many of them directed at Ye Fan were filled with scorn and mockery.



It made sense that his casual attire would attract the attention of others, considering that they were standing in the lobby of a grand office building.

While everyone was secretly sneering at Ye Fan, a young woman stepped forward and headed towards Ye Fan.

"Are you here for the hiring exercise too?"
The young woman was pretty. You could see her dimples when she smiled. It was a dazzling smile filled with warmth and friendliness.

"Well, actually..."

Ye Fan smiled. He wanted to tell her that he wasn't here for the hiring exercise. He didn't need to be hired, because the company belonged to him. He was just here to see his mother.

The words got stuck in his throat and never left his lips.

They were barely acquaintances. There wasn't any point in trying to explain why he was here.







After all, she probably wouldn't believe him.

The young woman seemed to have mistaken the look on his face though.

She gave him a comforting smile.

"Don't worry about what the others think about you. It's nothing to be embarrassed about. So what if you're not in a suit? It's not a big deal. You know what? We can wait for my friend to be done with his interview and get him to lend you his clothes. It must be your first interview. People aren't always well prepared for their first interview, after all. I have a classmate who had his pants on the wrong way during his first interview. Everyone in our dormitory laughed at him so hard when we found out. Oh, I haven't introduced myself. I'm Lin Yu-Han. I graduated from Jiangdong University. How about you?"

Lin Yu-Han was clearly the chatty sort. She had struck up an easy conversation with Ye Fan even though they had been strangers a moment ago.

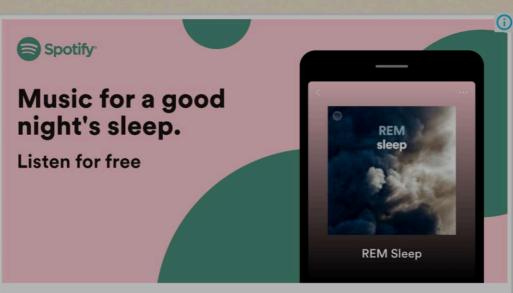
But her friendliness wasn't the trait that had earned his admiration. It was her kindness





HE IS TIED UP, **HELP THE MAN!**

Chapter 1423 Mufan Group's Hiring Exercise





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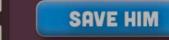


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and warmth.

During their brief conversation, Ye Fan had sensed the goodness and kindness that had emanated from the young woman. She had been a stark contrast to the mocking and condescending crowd.

It was rare to find such a purehearted and kind lady in this fiercely materialistic and capitalistic world today.

"I'm Ye Fan," he replied easily to her question.

"Ye Fan?" Lin Yu-Han repeated his name once, then smiled. "Your last name is Ye too. What a coincidence! Did you know? I heard that the boss of the Mufan Group shares that last name too. You might not even have to pass the interview. They may make you an exception and hire you on the spot when they find out that you share his last name."

She laughed softly.

"Alright, I'm not going to tease you anymore. We should rely on our own abilities when it comes to finding work. We should do our homework, observe how our seniors





SAVE HIM

Chapter 1423 Mufan Group's Hiring Exercise

perform during their interviews and learn the techniques and strategies that they use. That's how we improve our chances of getting hired. I'm assuming from the way you're dressed that you didn't do any homework before you came for the hiring exercise, did you?"

Lin Yu-Han gave him a look.

Ye Fan smiled and, as Lin Yu-Han had expected, shook his head.

Lin Yu-Han slapped her palm against her forehead in exasperation. "You're really something. You're just wasting your time coming for the interview without doing your homework. Alright, I'm going to help you out here. Listen, I'm going to teach you a few easy tricks that you can use for the interview. First impressions count for a great deal during an interview. You have to pay attention to how you dress. You don't have to look rich. You simply have to look sharp and clean. Another thing..."

Lin Yu-Han went on tirelessly as she shared with Ye Fan the lessons that she had learned from multiple rounds of interviews.







HE IS TIED UP, HELP THE MAN!

Chapter 1423 Mufan Group's Hiring Exercise

Ye Fan couldn't bear to interrupt her. So, he simply listened quietly to everything that she had to say.

"Yu-Han, I've been looking for you all day. Why are you here? Why are you giving this punk lessons? Look at his shabby clothes. He probably thinks he's not going to pass the interview anyway. Why are you wasting your time on him? You can talk to me if you want someone to talk to."

A young man approached them suddenly. He was dressed in a white suit and had on a pair of fashionable, square-rimmed glasses. His hair was permed and lightly curled. He looked like extremely well-dressed scum.

He was Yang Xiao, Lin Yu-Han's university classmate.

Hints of desire and adoration flashed across his eyes as he stared at Lin Yu-Han.

She ignored him completely and seemed oblivious to what he had said though. Instead, Lin Yu-Han continued sharing her interview tips with Ye Fan patiently.

Lin Yu-Han's complete disregard for Yang



Xiao both embarrassed and angered him.

But he wasn't mad at Lin Yu-Han. He was mad at Ye Fan.

"Look at that poor bastard, believing that he's got a chance to land a job at Mufan Group. He must be dreaming! I'm going to let him know the cruel realities of life." Yang Xiao's eyes turned cold while his fists hidden in his sleeves tightened.

"Yang Xiao, you're next." The person in charge of the hiring exercise called Yang Xiao's name then.

Yang Xiao straightened his tie, then looked at Lin Yu-Han and smiled confidently. "Yu-Han, I'm up next. I'll be outside waiting for you when it's your turn."

He winked at Lin Yu-Han, then strode into the room confidently.

"What a narcissist. Ye Fan, ignore him." Lin Yu-Han said frostily before continuing her lesson with Ye Fan. She didn't seem to like Yang Xiao at all.