

Turn Han Yu into Jingru.

Shi Yan made her unintentional remark subconsciously; she did not take it seriously.

However, upon hearing this, Han Ying's eyelids twitched. *Based on how much I know her, I wouldn't be surprised if she really did this.*

What if...

What if Nangong Shuxian really has such a plan?

Han Ying trembled at his thought and only kept it to himself as he was afraid that Shi Yan could not take it.

After waiting for a long time, Han Jingru finally returned.

He was not surprised when he saw their appearance and even took it for granted.

"Nangong Shuxian asked you to come?" Han Jingru asked the two.

Shi Yan poked at Han Ying. *I can't say it. It's too shameless of me to ask him to go home for a meal.*

Han Ying could only say, "Your Grandma asked you to come home to eat."

Han Jingru smiled indifferently. *What a shameless old hag Nangong Shuxian is. At first, she didn't consider me as a Han, but now she's inviting me over after knowing my relationship with Yang Wanlin. How ridiculous.*

"Sure," Han Jingru said.

Shi Yan did not expect him to agree so quickly and asked in shock, "D-did you just agree?"

"If I don't, you'll surely be reprimanded by Nangong Shuxian," Han Jingru said.

Shi Yan felt even more guilty when she heard this and was at a loss for words.

Of course Han Jingru would agree to this request. *It's not about going home; I just want to see what Nangong Shuxian has up her sleeves.*

He was more interested in whether Nangong Shuxian still had a bottom line, and how shameless she could get.

"If you said so, let's go home. The food must be ready," Han Ying said.

Han Jingru immediately got into Han Ying's Maybach.

This scene happened to be seen by Wu Xin, who was heading home.

"Who are these two people? Are they his parents? Wow, is his family is this rich?" Wu Xin did not know much about cars, but she could recognize a Maybach.

I never thought Han Jingru is actually from a family that could afford a Maybach; they're not the ordinary wealthy family indeed.

It seems that he is also a young master. He probably won't live in such a shabby place anymore. Wu Xin couldn't help sighing, but she was not surprised. After all, it was due to

Yang Wanlin's referral that Han Jingru helped her resolve her problem.

Wu Xin was reluctant to accept this reality because she did not want to feel distant from Han Jingru. Although he was only a kid, she was attracted to his mature behavior.

She could not suppress her feelings for him even when she knew it would lead nowhere.

On the way back to the Han residence, Shi Yan apologetically said to Han Jingru, "Jingru, Mom is too incompetent to help you. I won't bear a grudge if you blame me."

Han Jingru smiled and did not speak. *Although Nangong Shuxian bosses over everything in the family, I'll still blame Shi Yan because she never helped me nor gave me even one good meal in private.*

Is she merely incompetent?

No, this is not incompetence. She secretly values Han Yu more; that's why she ignored me.

"Nangong Shuxian is interested in my relationship with Yang Wanlin, right?" Han Jingru asked.

Shi Yan and Han Ying failed to give a response.

This was obvious enough, but they could not admit it as it was very unfair to Han Jingru.

"But this is not a toy; it's a human relationship. She can't take it away. I don't know what Nangong Shuxian will do to me with this trap she's setting for me," Han Jingru

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continued with a smile.

The expressions of Han Ying and Shi Yan became even more rigid because they had discussed this issue before. They did not expect Han Jingru to see it through and to have nailed Nangong Shuxian's inner thoughts.

"What do you guys think? Will she imprison me and let Han Yu impersonate me?" Han Jingru asked. Of course, this was not his guess but was based on his previous experience.

When Han Yu was in jail, was it not Nangong Shuxian who had let me replace him? I was really trapped in prison, and because of that, Han Yu almost made an irreparable mistake during his trip to Yun City.

Han Jingru would be infuriated whenever he thought about it. Fortunately, nothing happened between Han Yu and Su Yimo. Otherwise, his anger would not be quenched even if Han Yu went to hell.

Han Ying's face had become stiff as he had also thought of the possibility of Nangong Shuxian doing this, given her character.

Although Shi Yan had accidentally mentioned this possibility before, she did not take it seriously, let alone consider it deeply.

But after these words came out of Han Jingru's mouth, even Shi Yan came to a realization. *Nangong Shuxian might really be planning to do this!*

Meanwhile, at the basement of the Han residence's wine cellar.

When Nangong Shuxian asked the servants to move a large iron cage into the basement, Han Yu asked in confusion, "Grandma, isn't this the cage used for dogs? Why are you bringing it there?"

Nangong Shuxian smiled and said, "Yu, Grandma has a magic trick which can turn you into a friend of Yang Wanlin. Would you be happy about that?"

Of course, I'm happy to become Yang Wanlin's friend! This is also what I can brag about to the world.

However, he did not understand what the magic trick meant. So he asked, "Grandma, what do you mean by the magic trick?"

"You'll know later, but first, you have to lose weight. You will resemble him more that way," Nangong Shuxian commented.

Since the two brothers of the Han family looked very much alike, acquaintances could not easily differentiate between the two. However, since Han Yu had always eaten well, he was bigger than Han Jingru. This made it easier for others to tell them apart and was also precisely why Nangong Shuxian wanted him to lose weight.

Han Yu rubbed his face. *What exactly does Grandma want me to do? I certainly don't want to suffer by losing weight.*

"I don't want to lose weight, Grandma. I don't want you to be sad seeing me go skinny," Han Yu said. His sugarcoated words highly pleased Nangong Shuxian.

"Yu, if you want to become friends with Yang Wanlin, you

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have to do this," Nangong Shuxian directed.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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When Han Jingru returned to the Han residence, a whole table filled with tantalizing food awaited him. It was the most scrumptious feast that Han Jingru ever saw. As far as he could recall, he never had the opportunity to sit at the dining table. Usually, just having a proper meal in the backyard was considered a blessing to him.

“With such a lavish meal prepared, it seems this is a generous trap, indeed. Ever since I was little, I have never seen so many dishes being served.” Han Jingru’s sarcasm was explicit.

As Nangong Shuxian had warned Han Yu beforehand, he kept his insults to himself. Despite the immense dissatisfaction Han Yu felt inside, the most he could do was to put on a sullen expression.

However, Han Jingru’s words tugged at Shi Yan’s heartstrings. This was considered an ordinary meal for them. However, Han Jingru had never experienced this before.

“I didn’t know what you liked to eat, so I asked the kitchen to provide some options,” Nangong Shuxian replied calmly. She didn’t fawn upon Han Jingru on purpose, but neither did she show her contempt towards him.

After all, she needed Han Jingru to consume the food that had been painstakingly prepared. Only then could she execute the next part of her plan. Therefore, she didn’t want Han Jingru to feel repulsed by any part of the meal.

“Over the fourteen years, you didn’t even care if I even had enough to eat. How would you even know what my

favorite food is?" Han Jingru smirked as he sat down at the dining table.

During his fourteen years there, he never ate anything decent. However, now that he was reborn, the ordinary dishes in front of him didn't whet his appetite in any way.

However, his actions and his thoughts were total opposites.

He began to wolf down the food as if he were a vagabond who had gone hungry for a long time.

Han Yu sneered in response. After all, this was food that he had grown sick of eating. He didn't expect Han Jingru to find it so appetizing.

However, Nangong Shuxian was filled with delight—and those were her true feelings. The food had been spiked, especially those placed in front of Han Jingru. Hence, the more he ate, the more effective the drug was, thereby bringing Nangong Shuxian closer to her goal.

"Slow down, or you will choke," Shi Yan reminded Han Jingru.

From their perspective, Han Jingru was desperately eating because he had never had such good food in his life. However, the real reason he was doing so was to expose Nangong Shuxian's objective.

He knew that she was ruthless toward him. As to how ruthless she could be, Han Jingru wanted to see it for himself.

Very soon, he noticed that there was something wrong

with the food. When a sudden dizzy spell fell upon him, he realized that the food was spiked.

However, Han Jingru was no longer an ordinary human being. For someone who had reached Alpha Stage on Xenos, a roofie wasn't going to work on him.

Nevertheless, to expose Nangong Shuxian and her plan, he had to play along and pretend to be drugged.

Suddenly, his eyes became listless while his actions began to slow down.

When Nangong Shuxian was sure that the drug was taking effect, she put down her food. There was no need to pretend anymore.

Very soon, Han Jingru sprawled on the table.

In the face of such a strange event, Shi Yan and Han Ying were puzzled.

"Jingru, Jingru, are you alright?" Shi Yan shook Han Jingru's arm anxiously.

"Don't worry, he will survive. I just made him unconscious," Nangong Shuxian remarked out of a sudden.

"Mom, what did you do to him?" Shi Yan questioned Nangong Shuxian.

However, Nangong Shuxian was displeased by Shi Yan's questioning tone. She sneered, "Do I need to explain myself to you?"

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“Mom, he is my son, my own flesh and blood. I can’t just sit here and watch you harm him.” This was the first time Shi Yan stood up to Nangong Shuxian.

Unfortunately, Nangong Shuxian ignored her and instructed Han Ying, “If you cannot keep your own wife in check, I don’t mind doing it for you.”

Upon hearing the dire warning, Han Ying quickly restrained Shi Yan and persuaded, “Don’t get emotional. Didn’t Mom just say she wants to knock him out only?”

At that moment, Nangong Shuxian had two men ready beside Han Jingru. They each grabbed one of his arms and brought him into the wine cellar.

Meanwhile, Shi Yan returned to her room and wailed in sorrow.

Feeling indignant, Han Ying remonstrated with Nangong Shuxian, “Mom, what do you intend to do? Although you don’t think much of Han Jingru, he is still a member of the Han family.”

“Since he is one of us, it’s natural for him to sacrifice himself for his family. I just want to lock him up for a while,” Nangong Shuxian calmly explained. Although she had done something devious, she didn’t think what she did was wrong.

“Why are you locking him up?” Han Ying was puzzled. In truth, he had guessed Nangong Shuxian’s motives. However, he still wanted to hear her admit it.

“From now on, Yu will be known to the public as Han Jingru,” Nangong Shuxian declared.

Han Ying sighed in resignation. He didn't expect Nangong Shuxian to commit such a devious act.

At that moment, Han Jingru was put in a cage inside the wine cellar. He was also chained up as they were still worried he could escape.

Soon, Yan Qiong came down to the cellar. When he saw the condition Han Jingru was in, he felt extremely apologetic as his hands were tied. His role at the Han family was to protect the Hans from outside threats. However, he wasn't allowed to interfere with their internal matters. As such, he could only watch Nangong Shuxian do whatever she wanted.

"Jingru, I am dying to help you but I can't do it. I hope you understand my position." Yan Qiong mumbled to himself. At that moment, Han Jingru was already in a daze; he knew Han Jingru couldn't hear him.

However, he did not expect Han Jingru to suddenly sit up in the cage and look as if he had not been drugged at all.

"Is Nangong Shuxian going to replace me with Han Yu?" Han Jingru asked.

Yan Qiong's eyes widened in surprise. He exclaimed, "Jingru, you... you're actually alright?"

"It's just a little roofie. It has no effect on me at all," Han Jingru replied in nonchalance.

A little?

Yan Qiong knew how much drugs Nangong Shuxian put in the food, and it certainly wasn't just a little. There was

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enough in there to knock out a full-grown man, let alone a kid like Han Jingru.

“She will regret it because it’s impossible for Han Yu to replace me.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Within the Han family, Yan Qiong was among those who understood Han Jingru the most and also treated him the best.

However, Yan Qiong now felt as if he didn't know Han Jingru at all. He thought he did, but something felt different now. Han Jingru exuded such a terrifying vibe that even he couldn't help but be intimidated by it.

He knew what Nangong Shuxian planned to do and had the power to stop it, but chose not to do so.

Why?

What is Han Jingru up to?

"Indeed, Han Yu isn't able to replace you. But to the general public, your resemblance is enough to confuse everyone," Yan Qiong replied.

Han Jingru smiled and retorted, "Although we look the same, we do not have the same abilities. He can't solve the problems that I can. In fact, he might even lose his life."

Yan Qiong was shocked. He was indeed surprised at how powerful Han Jingru had become when they sparred earlier, to the extent he believed he was no longer a match for Han Jingru. If Han Jingru became close friends with Yang Wanlin because of his strength, then Nangong Shuxian's idea of replacing Han Jingru with Han Yu would put Han Yu in greater danger.

Yan Qiong was curious about the monumental increase in Han Jingru's power. As his master, he wondered how Han Jingru had become so strong suddenly.

“Jingru, what did you do to suddenly gain so much power?” Yan Qiong asked sternly.

“You wouldn’t believe it even if I told you. Furthermore, now it’s not the time. Grandpa Yan, don’t interfere in my affairs with the Han family. All I want to do is to seek redress for all the injustice that I have suffered,” Han Jingru explained.

Yan Qiong sighed. After going through such inhumane treatment, it was understandable for Han Jingru to resent the Han family and to demand vengeance. Furthermore, Han Jingru was more than capable to carry out his objective now. Besides, as one whose role was to defend the Hans against external threats, Yan Qiong could find no valid reason to get involved with the family’s internal strife.

It was for the same reason that he watched Nangong Shuxian spike Han Jingru’s food but couldn’t stop her.

“I’m afraid it’s not going to be easy for you to escape this place,” Yan Qiong remarked.

“Is that so?” Han Jingru extended his hand with a smile. Although it was a specially made steel cage, Han Jingru easily bent the bars with one hand. Furthermore, he even straightened the bar back to its previous state.

Yan Qiong gaped at what Han Jingru did.

Han Jingru could easily bend the steel bars to his will as if they were soft and he was just playing a game.

“I can leave anytime I want to, but I will continue to stay here until Nangong Shuxian comes to beg me,” Han

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Jingru replied with a smile.

As Yan Qiong's heart pounded furiously, he took a deep breath. He was finally confident that he needn't worry about Han Jingru anymore. The boy had grown so powerful that he could handle any situation.

Yan Qiong was still curious as to how Han Jingru gained so much strength in such a short time. But as Han Jingru had said, now wasn't the time, so he didn't question further.

"Since that's the case, you should get some rest. I will come and see you again," Yan Qiong remarked.

Han Jingru nodded before leaning on the cage with his eyes closed.

At that moment, Han Jingru's heart was burning with rage despite his calm exterior. He surmised that Nangong Shuxian had an ulterior motive when she invited him back home. However, it didn't occur to him that she would spike his food and even lock him up in a cage. Her actions had demonstrated to Han Jingru how she truly saw him.

Perhaps, to her, I deserve less than a dog.

"What a joke. I carry the same surname and am also a member of the family. In fact, we came out from the same womb. At most, you came out earlier by a few minutes, but you have become the bane of my existence within the Han family," Han Jingru mumbled to himself.

Meanwhile, Nangong Shuxian had begun to force Han Yu to lose weight. Only then would he bear even a closer

resemblance to Han Jingru and become a successful doppelganger in public.

As for Han Yu, he was extremely reluctant to do so. Ever since he was a child, he had been pampered and allowed to eat whatever he wanted. In fact, even if he wanted a snack in the middle of the night, Nangong Shuxian would quickly fulfill his request.

Therefore, to suddenly force a diet upon him, there was no way he would have the discipline to maintain it.

“Grandma, why must I lose weight? Why must I also pretend to be Han Jingru the scumbag? Can we not do this?” Han Yu pleaded with Nangong Shuxian. Compared to how mature Han Jingru was, Han Yu was acting like a childish brat who knew nothing.

Despite sympathizing with his pleas, Nangong Shuxian knew she had to go through with it. Han Jingru’s connections and resources were beyond what the Han family could achieve alone. By getting Han Yu to replace Han Jingru, she would be able to claim those resources for the Han family. Or else, Han Jingru would outshine Han Yu one day, which was a situation she wanted to avoid.

From Nangong Shuxian’s perspective, only Han Yu can bring glory to the Han family. Her blind superstition had caused her to believe a fortune teller’s words instead of recognizing the truth that Han Jingru was superior to Han Yu in all aspects.

“Yu, don’t you want to be friends with Yang Wanlin? He will be the future head of the Yang family. By being friends with him, everyone in Yan City will have to respect

you. Think about it: don't you want to be their leader?" Nangong Shuxian painstakingly persuaded him.

Her words piqued Han Yu's interest. He felt it would be nice to be a leader. With a bunch of lapdogs following him around, he would inspire awe in others. However, to achieve that position, he still needed to go on a diet. Hence, it was still a difficult choice for him.

"But how am I going to be friends with Yang Wanlin on an empty stomach?" Han Yu remarked pitifully.

Nangong Shuxian tousled his hair and replied, "As long as you succeed in losing weight, I will reward you with anything you wish for. Don't you want a sports car? I'll buy it for you."

At that moment, Han Yu rolled his eyes around as if he had a devious idea.

"Grandma, will you really get me anything I want?" Han Yu asked again.

"Of course. Since when have I lied to you? As long as it isn't the stars or the moon, I will help you get it," Nangong Shuxian replied.

"In that case..." Han Yu hesitated as he gave it some thought. He finally replied, "I want a wife, can I?"

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Nangong Shuxian was stunned at the mention of the word "wife".

Han Yu is only fourteen. From where did he get such an idea?

Anyone who heard the same thing would have reprimanded him. After all, it's not something someone his age should be thinking about.

However, Nangong Shuxian's reaction was contrary to that of an ordinary person. She burst into delightful laughter instead.

"Yu, you are all grown up now and about to become a man soon." Nangong Shuxian tousled his hair while beaming in pride.

Han Yu didn't understand whether Nangong Shuxian agreed to his request. Hence, he asked again, "Grandma, can you promise me that?"

"Of course I can. Why would I refuse you such a good thing? As long as you succeed in losing weight, I will find one for you." Nangong Shuxian promised. The extent to which she was pampering Han Yu was becoming ridiculous. Not only did she not reject such an outrageous request, but she also even happily accepted it.

Han Yu smiled and continued, "Grandma, the wife I want is not the kind for marriage."

"Of course. No ordinary woman is fit to be your wife. I understand what you mean," Nangong Shuxian replied.

“Grandma, I will definitely succeed in losing weight. Trust me.” Han Yu waved his fist with a resolute expression.

At that moment, Shi Yan was sighing in her room. She didn't know what Han Yu had asked for and that Nangong Shuxian had actually agreed to it.

Given her incessant sighing, Han Ying didn't know how else to comfort her. After all, he was too powerless to change Nangong Shuxian's decision. Meanwhile, he was worried that Han Jingru might never see the light of day given he was now locked up.

“How long do you think Mom will lock Jingru up for?” Shi Yan asked Han Ying. Of course, she already knew the answer but just wasn't willing to accept it. Hence, she wanted to try her luck by asking Han Ying.

Sitting beside Shi Yan, Han Jingru explained, “Mom wants Han Yu to replace Han Jingru by pretending to be him in public. In that case, she cannot allow Han Jingru to show himself. I'm afraid he may be locked up in the cellar his whole life.”

Shi Yan was filled with despair when she heard his answer. Although she knew it herself, she still couldn't accept that her son would be locked up in a cage for the rest of his life, just like livestock.

“Can't we think of a way to save him? We can even send him away from Yan City. He is a human being and not a dog. How can he live in a cage his whole life like a dog?” Shi Yan asked.

Han Ying wanted to help Han Jingru, too. Even though the Han family doesn't see any value in him, giving him a

life of freedom isn't too much to ask. However, as Nangong Shuxian had made a decision, Han Ying knew there was nothing he could do to change it.

"You know how stubborn Mom can be. No one can stop her other than Dad. If only he was still alive," Han Ying meekly remarked.

After a wry chuckle, Shi Yan shook her head and said, "Han Jingru's life here has been terrible given how badly he has been treated all this while. His childhood was filled with nightmares. And now, are you asking us to accept the fact that he will be locked in a cage his whole life? I can't do that. I really can't."

Just as she spoke, Shi Yan buried her head in her hands and started sobbing.

When he saw how sad his wife was, Han Ying's heart wavered. He stood up and reassured her, "Don't cry yet. Let me try and persuade Mom to change her mind. The best solution would be to send Jingru away from Yan City, or perhaps even overseas."

Shi Yan sniffled softly without reply. She knew that Han Ying would fail to convince Nangong Shuxian and that it was just a pointless effort.

The stubborn Nangong Shuxian will definitely not budge an inch on this matter.

After he left the room, Han Ying found Nangong Shuxian in the living hall.

Before he could even say a thing, Nangong Shuxian sneered, "If you want to talk about Han Jingru, you

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should save it. I've already decided and nothing you say will change my mind."

Her attitude was unmoving, illustrating her dominance within the Han family.

However, Han Ying didn't give up and asserted, "Mom, even if you let Han Yu replace Han Yu, you can't just lock him up in a cage. Can't you send him away from Yan City or overseas instead?"

"As long as he leaves the Han family, he will be a threat to Yu. I won't allow Yu's identity to be put at risk. Therefore, I can only rest assured if he is within my control," Nangong Shuxian explained.

"But what you're doing isn't fair to Han Jingru. He is also a member of the Han family. So why does he have to suffer such treatment? Why can't he live just like an ordinary human being? Are you planning to imprison him his whole life?" Han Ying protested as he seethed.

"As long as I'm still alive, he will have to stay in the cellar. Once I'm dead, I can't care less about what's going on." Just as she spoke, Nangong Shuxian stood up and returned to her room.

She had made her stance clear. As long as she was alive, Han Jingru was never going to be let out of the cage.

Han Ying felt a sense of despair. Although the answer was expected, Nangong Shuxian's unshakeable conviction still left him at a loss.

"Dad, why must you speak out for Han Jingru? He is just a scumbag. Isn't living in a cage something that he

deserves?”

Han Yu's voice rang out from behind him.

Briefly stunned, Han Ying turned around to lecture Han Yu, “He is your brother. As his elder brother, how can you bear to see him suffer?”

As of now, the only person that could change Han Jingru's fate was Han Yu. As Nangong Shuxian coddled him, perhaps she might be willing to let Han Jingru go if Han Yu put in a good word or two.

Therefore, Han Ying planned to convince Han Yu and try to turn the situation around.

However, Han Ying couldn't imagine the amount of hatred harbored by Han Yu toward Han Jingru.

Han Yu had never a day in his life treated Han Jingru as his younger brother. In his eyes, Han Jingru was just a piece of dispensable trash and didn't deserve to be his brother.

“If I had a choice, I wouldn't want to come out from the same womb as I did. We are of different worlds. I'm the future of the Han family and he is the scumbag that will just burden the family,” Han Yu declared coldly.

When he heard a fourteen-year-old spew such venomous words against his own brother, Han Ying could feel his heart bleed in sadness. This was the result of Nangong Shuxian's conditioning and Han Ying could do nothing but watch his son walk down the wrong path.

“Both of you are brothers. How is it that there's such

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enmity between both of you. As the elder brother, you should be protecting him,” Han Ying persuaded.

“Let me say it one last time: Han Jingru doesn’t deserve to be my brother so you can forget about getting me to say him.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Han Yu's unyielding attitude caused Han Ying to feel a sense of despair. He knew that no one else would be able to change Han Jingru's fate other than himself.

However, he has lost his freedom after being locked up in a cage. What can he even do under such circumstances?

Perhaps he is resigned to live his life forever under such miserable conditions.

Or perhaps his chance may come when Nangong Shuxian is dead.

Half a month later, Han Yu had successfully lost weight and was the spitting image of Han Jingru. No one else other than a family member could tell them apart.

Nangong Shuxian was delighted by the fact that Han Yu was able to fool anyone now and replace Han Jingru effectively. By doing so, the Han family's decline could finally be arrested.

"Grandma, don't forget what you have promised me." Han Yu reminded her. During the past month, it was his lust for women that motivated him to lose weight. Consumed by his desire, he was slowly losing control of himself.

Nangong Shuxian never felt that this was something wrong. Instead, she saw it as a sign that Han Yu had matured and was in fact happy about it. Hence, she didn't forget the promise she made.

"Don't worry, I didn't forget and have made the necessary arrangements," Nangong Shuxian replied.

Han Yu screamed in joy, "I'm finally going to be a man

soon!”

Shi Yan and Han Ying didn't know what Nangong Shuxian had promised Han Yu. But when they heard his words, they were filled with anxiety. *What does he mean by he is going to be a man?*

“Mom, what did you promise him?” Han Ying couldn't help but ask.

Nangong Shuxian replied with a smile, “Your son is all grown up; he wants a wife.”

Han Ying was stunned. *Does it mean that he is lusting for women?*

Han Yu is just fourteen. How can she promise him something like that?

“Mom, he isn't old enough yet. How can you allow such a thing? It will affect his growth in the future,” Han Ying protested.

Nangong Shuxian glared angrily at Han Ying and retorted, “In the olden days, one can get married and have children at fourteen. Didn't I marry your dad when I was in my teenage years? What's so strange about it?”

“No, this is unacceptable.” Han Ying asserted resolutely. *If he is overcome by lust at such a young age, the consequences will be unimaginable.*

“Since when do you have a right to voice your opinion?” Nangong Shuxian challenged him.

“He is my son and it's my duty to ensure he is brought up

well," Han Ying insisted.

Nangong Shuxian sneered, "Your duty is to help the Han family through its period of crisis. After so long, what have you done? Have you even brought in any new business for the family? Now, the whole family's hope rests on Han Yu's shoulders. Fulfilling such a small request shouldn't be a problem."

While Han Ying and Nangong Shuxian argued, Shi Yan who was beside them didn't say a word. In fact, there wasn't much of a reaction from her despite the fact that she should be shocked.

Shi Yan knew that no one could change Nangong Shuxian's decision and now, she was more concerned about Han Jingru's wellbeing.

"Mom, you will destroy him," Han Ying pleaded with a pained expression.

"He is my grandson. I know better than you what's best for him. If you're still upset, you can leave," Nangong Shuxian declared indifferently.

Meanwhile, Han Yu was grinning in delight. As long as Grandma protected him, no one within the Han family could stop him. And this was how Han Yu was conditioned to act with such impunity.

Han Ying signed helplessly.

At that moment, Shi Yan stood up and protested, "You are destroying the Han family."

"What did you say?" Nangong Shuxian slammed the

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table and stood up.

When Shi Yan wanted to leave, Nangong Shuxian blocked her way.

“What did you just say?” Nangong Shuxian demanded with her eyes filled with rage.

Fearing nothing, Shi Yan replied in defiance, “I said that you are destroying the Han family.”

If circumstances continue the way they are, Han Yu will never be able to learn to be independent. In fact, he will always rely on Nangong Shuxian's protection. Therefore, how can someone like that end up being successful? How will he ever be worthy of leading the Han family?

Slap!

A forceful slap was sent across Shi Yan's face. Five red finger marks appeared immediately.

Nangong Shuxian berated her, “Everything I do is for the Han family. What have you done? Ever since you married into the family, you contributed nothing. And yet, you dare accuse me of destroying the Han family.”

Shi Yan held onto her face as she could feel the burning pain. However, she didn't plan to back down at all.

“Look at what you have done to Han Yu. You have spoiled him by over-pampering him. Am I wrong to say that? Does he have any ability to resolve his own problems without you by his side?” Shi Yan retorted.

An angry Nangong Shuxian raised her hand and slapped

Shi Yan on her other cheek. She scowled, "He is the future of the Han family. Coddling him is the natural thing to do. You have no right to question me and my decisions."

Shi Yan smiled wryly as she put down her hand. With a fiery gaze, she rebutted, "One day, Jingru will be the one to save the Han family."

"B*llshit!" Nangong Shuxian suddenly went ballistic.

Han Jingru will save the Han family?

With what?

I have decided that it will be Han Yu. Only he is the Han family's future.

Nangong Shuxian didn't allow anyone else to doubt her decision, not even herself.

Therefore, Shi Yan's words had crossed her threshold.

"Get out of here! Get out of the Han family. I don't ever want to see you here again," Nangong Shuxian roared.

Shi Yan gritted her teeth and replied, "As you wish."

Returning to her room, Shi Yan started packing.

Han Ying, who couldn't believe matters escalated to such extent, advised her, "Shi Yan, quickly go and apologize to Mom. This is your home. Where are you going to go if you leave?"

Shi Yan's face was visibly swollen. Even her smile looked

extremely awkward. She had had enough of this house and she didn't see the need to apologize when she knew she was in the right.

Furthermore, she knew that even if she begged on her knees, Nangong Shuxian still wouldn't change her mind.

"I'm going to Jingru's house," Shi Yan replied.

"Erm..." Han Ying didn't know what to say as his family was now in tatters. Of course, he didn't blame Shi Yan. At the very least, he realized that everything was Nangong Shuxian's fault.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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During the time he was locked up in the cellar, Han Jingru didn't do anything to resist. In fact, he was exceptionally quiet and used the time to figure out how to grow stronger.

Although he was exceptionally strong on Earth, to the extent that he had no equal, he knew he had to face Qilin's revenge one day. If he didn't utilize the time he had to become stronger, the disaster would only repeat itself. And he would be killed by Qilin.

The time reversal had given Han Jingru a second chance to redo everything. Hence, he needed to fully utilize it to prepare himself to face Qilin.

During his time in the cellar, no one else came to see him other than Yan Qiong. As Han Jingru had expected, Nangong Shuxian dominated every aspect of the Han family. No one dared to see him without her permission.

"Shi Yan has been driven out of the Han family," Yan Qiong informed Han Jingru on one of his visits.

Yan Qiong had not expected Shi Yan to resist Nangong Shuxian to the extent of having a falling out. Nevertheless, it was an understandable reaction given that she was Han Jingru's mother. There was no way she could accept Han Jingru's unjust treatment and had to voice out her dissatisfaction. Hence, it was expected that she was thrown out of the house for it.

Nangong Shuxian's position in the Han family wasn't something that could be challenged by a daughter-in-law.

"Why?" Han Jingru furrowed his eyebrows slightly. Nangong Shuxian wouldn't have thrown Shi Yan out for

no good reason.

“She spoke out on your behalf and infuriated Nangong Shuxian,” Yan Qiong replied.

Han Jingru raised his eyebrows in surprise as the development was beyond his expectation. After all, Shi Yan had come to accept Han Yu as the one who would bring glory to the Han family after being conditioned by Nangong Shuxian for so long. Hence, he didn't expect to see the day that she would stand up for him.

“It seems that she does have a conscience. Leaving the Han family might not be a bad thing at all for her,” Han Jingru plainly commented.

“How long do you plan to stay in here? Shi Yan left the Han family for your sake. Aren't you planning to prove yourself to her?” Yan Qiong asked. He was waiting for the day where Han Jingru revealed his true self and he was curious as to how Han Jingru would seek redress for the injustice he suffered. In fact, he was rooting for Han Jingru deep down in his heart as he unwittingly wanted to see Nangong Shuxian suffer for her actions.

Nangong Shuxian was responsible for bringing the Han family to its current state. Hence, it would be extremely satisfying to watch her regret her actions.

“In this world, no one can make me change my plan other than her,” Han Jingru plainly replied. The “her” he mentioned was Su Yimo.

“Who is she?” Yan Qiong was curious.

“My future wife.” When speaking of her, Han Jingru's face

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Ad



broke out a gentle smile. No one else could be accorded such an honor.

“Your future wife?” Yan Qiong raised his eyebrows in surprise. *How does he know who his future wife is? Or perhaps, he already has someone he fancies, which is why he is talking this way?*

When Han Yu requested a wife from Nangong Shuxian, his motive was just to satisfy his lust. Little did Yan Qiong expect that Han Jingru also had similar thoughts.

“Grandpa Yan, when will Han Yu leave this residence?” Han Jingru asked.

“He has successfully lost weight to the extent that even I have trouble telling both of you apart,” Yan Qiong answered.

“The time will come soon enough. When Nangong Shuxian comes to beg me, that will be the time for me to leave,” Han Jingru asserted.

Yan Qiong had heard Han Jingru say the same thing the first day he was imprisoned in the cellar. Although he didn’t understand what Han Jingru really meant, he was sure Han Jingru had a plan given how confident he sounded.

“No matter what you do, you cannot hurt nor threaten their lives,” Yan Qiong reminded.

Han Jingru shrugged and replied, “There are a thousand ways for them to die. I don’t even need to do it myself.”

Yan Qiong took a deep breath when he realized that Han

Jingru had Nangong Shuxian and Han Yu's death planned. Logically speaking, he was duty-bound to protect the lives of those within the Han family and should stop this from happening. However, he didn't even know where to start as he had no idea at all of what Han Jingru was planning.

Nightfall.

Han Yu called Yang Wanlin and arranged a meeting with him.

Yang Wanlin was naturally delighted as he needed to rely on Han Jingru's strength to gain a greater chance of becoming the head of the Yang family. Han Jingru's sudden disappearance recently had caused him to feel unnerved. Now that Han Jingru had contacted him, Yang Wanlin dropped everything he was doing just to meet Han Jingru.

They agreed to meet at the Mulinsi Nightclub, where Han Jingru had saved Wu Xin before.

It was a famous nightclub in Yan City, filled with single guys and ladies every night. In fact, there would be a line just to enter; it was difficult for an ordinary person to get in.

"Remember, you are now Han Jingru. Whenever someone calls his name, you have to respond. Be careful not to expose yourself." Feeling worried, Nangong Shuxian reminded Han Yu before he left. This was the first time he was meeting Yang Wanlin masquerading as Han Jingru, so Nangong Shuxian was worried he would expose himself. After all, they had spent half a month preparing for this. If Yang Wanlin detected something

wrong with his identity, everything would be for naught.

“Grandma, don’t worry. I know what to do. Haven’t you trained me enough all this while?” Han Yu patted his chest confidently. Although he wasn’t used to others calling him Han Jingru, he tried his best to get himself accustomed. All for the sake of being friends with Yang Wanlin. As of now, he was extremely sensitive to the name and could react by reflex when someone called it.

“Also, remember not to drink. Alcohol will only spoil our plans. Besides, you’re still young so drinking is bad for you,” Nangong Shuxian continued her lecture as she was still feeling anxious.

Han Yu nodded and wasn’t bothered to say anything more. After struggling to free himself from Nangong Shuxian’s hands, he headed out the door.

He always felt frustrated by Nangong Shuxian’s nagging as there was a limit to his patience. Furthermore, he never hid his displeasure. But because Nangong Shuxian was too fond of him, she was never angry with him.

Han Yu left the house in a good mood as it was going to be his first time officially going to a nightclub. Furthermore, he was unrestrained in doing anything he wanted. Just the thought of it alone caused him to feel excited.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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When Han Yu arrived at Mulinsi Nightclub, Yang Wanlin was already waiting at the entrance. This showed how much he respected Han Jingru. As the one who was in the lead to become the next head of the Yang family, there was never a time when he waited for others. In fact, the converse was true.

However, Yang Wanlin was happy to make an exception for Han Jingru. After all, when even Yang Bin respected Han Jingru greatly, there was no reason for him to look down upon Han Jingru.

“Jingru, you finally appeared. What have you been doing the past two weeks? I didn’t hear anything from you at all,” Yang Wanlin said warmly.

Han Yu wasn’t used to Yang Wanlin being so friendly. After all, Yang Wanlin’s status was a lot higher than his. Prior to this, he didn’t even have the chance to meet him. But now, Yang Wanlin took the initiative to greet him.

Hence, Han Yu couldn’t help but ask himself what Han Jingru had done to cause Yang Wanlin to ingratiate himself with him.

“I had some personal matters to attend to,” Han Yu replied.

“Next time, please don’t disappear without a trace, or else I will be worried. Let’s go, I have booked a place and I’m sure you will be pleased tonight.” Yang Wanlin put his arms around Han Yu warmly and didn’t realize he was a doppelganger. The brothers simply resembled each other so much that outsiders couldn’t tell them apart.

The moment he entered Mulinsi Nightclub, the bass-

thumping music caused Han Yu's adrenaline to surge. It wasn't his first time in a club but his previous visits were more discreet. Furthermore, he felt unrestrained today as he was allowed to do anything.

The way he looked at women had also changed. With Nangong Shuxian's agreement, he was now given permission to taste the forbidden fruit.

Both of them were led by the staff to the top floor, which was Mulinsi Nightclub's VIP lounge. It was restricted to those who could really afford to splurge.

The top floor was split into four sections to allow VIP guests enough space so that they would not infringe on each other's privacy.

In other words, one could do anything here and no one would notice. Furthermore, the management of the nightclub would also not interfere.

"Jingru, if you see anyone you like tonight, just let me know. Regardless of who the girl is, I can definitely get her for you," Yang Wanlin proposed to Han Yu.

Han Yu's heartbeat quickened in response. Tonight was the night he would become a man; therefore, it was unavoidable for him to feel nervous and excited.

"I suppose one isn't enough," Han Yu remarked with a smile.

Letting out a doubtful smile, Yang Wanlin replied, "Are you just boasting or being serious. Given your age, it's not advisable to go all out."

“Do I look like I’m boasting? As long as they’re pretty, just introduce them to me,” Han Yu replied, filled with anticipation.

For someone that frequented nightclubs, Yang Wanlin obviously knew many beauties.

He would definitely fulfill any request that Han Yu had.

“Have a seat, I will satisfy you at once.” After settling Han Yu down, Yang Wanlin went to look for some women.

The first floor was filled with dancing ladies of which many of them knew Yang Wanlin well. In a very short time, Yang Wanlin had managed to gather more than ten of them.

All of them had curvaceous figures and alluring features despite the heavy makeup. The lighting was dim, anyway, so looks were only secondary.

Han Yu was ecstatic when all the ladies were brought before him. Furthermore, the ladies threw themselves at Han Yu under Yang Wanlin’s instructions.

When Yang Wanlin saw how lecherous Han Yu was, he thought he had found Han Jingru’s weakness. Given that Han Jingru was a philanderer, it would be easy for Yang Wanlin to curry favor with him.

However, Yang Wanlin was still surprised and didn’t expect Han Jingru to have such mature demands. After all, he was just a fourteen-year-old kid.

Han Yu’s hands were being extremely naughty with both his arms around the ladies. As the women were used to

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being felt around by others, they didn't refuse him. In fact, they reciprocated his actions.

"Jingru, if you really are that capable, just take all of them with you. I will arrange a hotel room for you," Han Yu suggested with a smile.

"You are the one that offered, so I will take your word for it," Han Yu replied in earnest.

"I'm just worried you can't get out of bed tomorrow."

By trading sleazy jokes, the bond between them developed quickly. Yang Wanlin was delighted. As long as he could gain Han Jingru's favor, he was willing to pay any price for it, let alone a roomful of women. At most he would just need to pay off all of them, and money wasn't something he lacked at all.

A short while later, a young man barged into Yang Wanlin's section of the club. Usually, the VIP guests were not allowed to disrupt each other and this was the only rule that the nightclub's management would strictly enforce on this floor. However, given that the staff didn't stop him, it was obvious that he was someone very influential.

"Yang Wanlin, since when did you fall to such lows that you need spend your time with a wimp?"

The moment Yang Wanlin looked up, the smile on his face froze.

"Wang Li, what a coincidence to see you here," Yang Wanlin plainly greeted.

Wang Li was from one of the three major families of Yan City. His position in the Wang family was similar to that of Yang Wanlin—another patriarch-to-be.

The three major families of Yan City might be cordial on the surface, but were actually enemies at heart. Behind the scenes, they resorted to all sorts of unscrupulous methods to compete with each other.

When enemies met, sparks would naturally fly.

“I’m not sure if it is a coincidence, but I came over when I heard that you are here,” Wang Li replied.

Yang Wanlin frowned in response. Given Wang Li’s hostile tone, it was obvious he did not come in peace.

However, Yang Wanlin wasn’t worried at all. With such a strong fighter such as Han Jingru around, Wang Li would be the one suffering if he caused any trouble.

“It seems you want to see me. Tell me, what are you here to beg me for,” Yang Wanlin plainly remarked.

Wang Li sneered and answered, “Yang Wanlin, who do you think you are, asking me to beg you? You are being really rude.”

“If you have nothing to ask of me, why are you here? Are you looking for a fight?” Yang Wanlin provoked him.

“Sometime before this, your family sabotaged a project that my family was managing. Your family has not provided us an explanation, hence I’m here to demand it from you,” Wang Li threatened.

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“Explanation?” Yang Wanlin gave Wang Li the side-eye and declared, “Since when does the Yang family need to explain ourselves to you? Who do you think you are?”



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Yang Wanlin's words infuriated Wang Li, heightening the tension within the atmosphere. It was as if a fight could break out anytime.

Wang Li had come prepared with men, hence he wasn't afraid of an altercation. At most, they would resolve the conflict between the two families with a fistfight.

As for Yang Wanlin, he was even less worried. With Han Jingru by his side, it didn't matter who Wang Li brought with him. All of them would equally suffer.

"Yang Wanlin, it's not convenient here. Shall we switch to a different venue?" Wang Li coldly stated.

When Yang Wanlin saw that Han Yu was still enjoying himself with the ladies, he was worried Han Yu would be upset if he were disrupted.

"Let's wait for a while, my friend here isn't done having fun yet," Yang Wanlin replied.

Wang Li scoffed as he looked at Han Yu, "Yang Wanlin, don't tell me you're relying on this wimp for help?"

Wimp?

Yang Wanlin had the exact same thought until he saw for himself how strong Han Jingru was. Even Song Yun, a powerful subordinate of the Yangs, dared not underestimate Han Jingru. Hence, Wang Li was going to pay the price for his condescension towards Han Jingru.

Furthermore, Yang Wanlin noticed an opportunity. As long as he could get Wang Li to anger Han Jingru, Han Jingru would naturally teach Wang Li a lesson even

without him asking.

Hence Yang Wanlin added fuel to the fire. “Wang Li, you should find out who my friend is first. Let me give you a piece of friendly advice. If he wants to dispose of you, even I can’t save you.”

Wang Li was naturally provoked by his words as he burst into laughter. “Hey, wimp, who the hell are you? Yang Wanlin says that you are really something. Why don’t you show your stuff to my man here?”

Yang Wanlin was ecstatic. Han Jingru would likely not tolerate Wang Li’s provocations.

Surprisingly, Han Yu didn’t react at all, contrary to Yang Wanlin’s expectations. After all, he wasn’t the real Han Jingru. He might be able to cheat everyone with his looks but not with his capabilities.

Furthermore, Han Yu was indulging himself with women and wasn’t bothered about anything else.

“Hey wimp, I’m talking to you. Are you f*cking deaf?” Wang Li bellowed. He was incensed at being ignored by Han Yu.

Meanwhile, Yang Wanlin waited in anticipation for Han Yu to lose his temper. He hoped that Han Yu would beat Wang Li to a pulp. That way, he would have one fewer enemy.

However, when Han Yu raised his head with a puzzled look, his reaction wasn’t what Yang Wanlin expected.

“I don’t like fighting. Whatever beef you have with each

other, you should resolve it amongst yourselves,” Han Yu quipped.

Yang Wanlin was stunned. *What’s the meaning of this? Why is he distancing himself?*

Yang Wanlin had placed all his hope on Han Yu. He was the reason why Yang Wanlin dared to provoke Wang Li without any of his subordinates around. If Han Yu washed his hands off the matter, Yang Wanlin knew he was dead meat.

Wang Li burst into hearty laughter when he heard Han Yu’s reply. He scoffed at Yang Wanlin, “Is he supposed to be your powerful friend? He is nothing but a useless prick. Yang Wanlin, have you gone mad? Why are you relying on a kid to protect you?”

Yang Wanlin’s expression turned grim. He didn’t know what Han Yu meant and why he acted as if this had nothing to do with him.

Yang Wanlin couldn’t have guessed that the person in front of him was a doppelganger, who obviously didn’t have Han Jingru’s strength. Therefore, he wasn’t in a position to resolve Yang Wanlin’s problems.

“Jingru, what’s wrong with you?” Yang Wanlin asked.

Han Yu gave Yang Wanlin a puzzled look as he had no idea what Yang Wanlin meant. He asked, “This is between you and him. As an outsider, I’m not in a position to interfere. Besides, what do you expect me to do?”

Han Yu’s cold words caused Yang Wanlin to wonder if

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Han Yu had deliberately agreed to meet him after being in cahoots with Wang Li.

However, it doesn't make any sense. Why would he want to do that?

“Wang Li, I concede defeat today. Kill me if you dare. Or else, I will exact my revenge next time,” Yang Wanlin admitted to Wang Li.

Despite their animosity, Wang Li still didn't dare kill Yang Wanlin. Both the Yang and Wang families were equal in power. Hence, killing Yang Wanlin would set off a battle that was beneficial to neither.

Nevertheless, Wang Li wasn't going to let Yang Wanlin off easily.

“You have disrupted my plans. Hence, I'm sure it isn't too much for me to extract some compensation.” Just as he spoke, Wang Li waved to his subordinates behind him.

They approached Yang Wanlin and started raining blows on him without another word.

Han Yu was shocked to see what happened. *Why are they fighting when we were just having fun with the women?*

In a blink of an eye, Yang Wanlin had collapsed to the ground, badly beaten.

Glowering, Wang Li knelt beside Yang Wanlin and warned, “If you dare interfere in my work next time, I won't let you off this easily. Also, let me remind you to bring along someone that can actually fight next time.

You wouldn't know what hit you with this useless kid by your side."

With that, Wang Li left with his men.

After struggling to sit up, Yang Wanlin acted as if nothing had happened. He knew he had made a mistake by relying too much on Han Jingru. Hence, he wasn't going to let history repeat itself.

"Are you alright?" Han Yu asked Yang Wanlin.

Yang Wanlin didn't understand what Han Yu was thinking. *What's the use of sounding concerned after the fact?*

"Jingru, I need to leave first as I have something on," Yang Wanlin stood up and said.

With the beauties in his arms, Han Yu was itching to go to the hotel. He just didn't know how to broach the subject. Now that Yang Wanlin was leaving, he had the perfect opportunity to do so.

"Let's go. The noise here is giving me a headache," Han Yu replied.

Taking a deep breath, Yang Wanlin felt as if Han Jingru was a completely different person after having disappeared for half a month.

However, Han Jingru may have done it on purpose. Hence, Yang Wanlin didn't dare probe him further. All he could do was to discuss the matter with the family patriarch when he got home.

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As both of them left the nightclub, Yang Wanlin got into his car while Han Yu brought the women to the nearest hotel.

Inside his car, Yang Wanlin quickly realized that there was a group of men following Han Yu, as if they were up to something.

If Han Jingru were present, he would definitely recognize one of the men within the group. He had saved Wu Xin from the clutches of that man before, so the group was obviously out for revenge. However, instead of exacting it upon Han Jingru, Han Yu was about to get the short end of the stick.

“Drive and follow them slowly,” Yang Wanlin instructed his driver.



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When he was about to reach the hotel, Han Yu was filled with excitement and was already fantasizing about the moment he became a man. The only thing in his mind right now was lust.

Suddenly, the men tailing him swarmed him and had him surrounded.

“Hey kid, I’ve been waiting for you for a long time.” The man whom Han Jingru had beaten up seethed. Ever since Han Jingru foiled his plans, he had been lying in ambush outside Mulinsi Nightclub, waiting to exact his revenge. When he saw Han Jingru finally appear, the rage in him was set ablaze.

“Who are you, what do you want?” Han Yu sneered.

“What do I want? You disrupted my plans and I’m going to break your legs as payback,” the man declared.

“Other than him, the rest of you, scram,” the man continued.

All the women fled the moment they had the chance.

This angered Han Yu as he was looking forward to his special night, which he painstakingly earned. Disrupted by the strange man, his mood before he could even enter the hotel.

“Do you know who I am? You will pay for angering me,” Han Yu declared as his expression darkened.

“Boys, let’s show him what we’re made of.” The men were there for revenge and had no time to waste on words. They understood that villains were always defeated

because they talked too much. The last thing they wanted was to allow time for Han Yu's reinforcements to arrive.

From afar, Yang Wanlin was watching everything quietly. As he was still peeved at Han Yu for not defending him just now, he decided to return the favor by not interfering.

Nevertheless, these thugs were no match against the Han Jingru he knew.

Unfortunately, it wasn't the real Han Jingru standing in front of him, but Han Yu instead.

Therefore, what happened next was just as predictable.

The group of men rained blows on Han Yu while he was unable to defend himself at all. In a blink of an eye, he was already sprawled on the ground.

After beating him to a pulp, the men left just as quickly as they arrived.

Han Yu lay on the ground, groaning and grimacing in pain.

Yang Wanlin's eyebrows furrowed at what he saw.

What is going on? How can someone who struck fear into Song Yun's heart be beaten up so badly by mere hooligans?

"Mr. Yang, should we help him?" The driver asked Yang Wanlin.

Yang Wanlin shook his head without hesitation. Despite

being puzzled by what he had seen, he was definitely sure there was something fishy about Han Jingru's identity. The real Han Jingru would have easily resolved a trivial problem such as this.

"Let's head home," Yang Wanlin replied.

The driver floored the accelerator and their car zoomed past Han Yu.

By the time he got home, it was already late and most of the Yang family had gone to bed. However, when Yang Wanlin was curious as to why the light in the living room was still on, he soon realized that Yang Bin was sitting there.

After greeting Yan Bin, Yang Wanlin continued, "It's already late. Aren't you going to sleep yet?"

"How did your meeting with Han Jingru go?" Yang Bin inquired.

Yang Wanlin was shocked when he realized that Yang Bin had stayed up just to hear about his meeting with Han Jingru. He actually felt Yang Bin had overestimated Han Jingru's importance.

"I find what happened tonight strange," Yang Wanlin explained.

Yang Bin looked up curiously and replied, "Have a seat and tell me about it."

Shocked by the sudden attention, Yang Wanlin carefully sat down beside Yang Bin and explained, "Although I did not see Han Jingru for half a month, it felt as if he was a

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totally different person. In fact, I suspect the person I met tonight wasn't even him."

"What aroused your suspicions?" Yang Bin asked.

"He was beaten up by a group of hooligans to the extent he couldn't even fight back," Yang Wanlin related.

Beaten up by hooligans?

Yang Bin was puzzled. As a Platinum rank fighter from Apocalypse, how can he be defeated by some hoodlums?

Even Song Yun is no match for him.

"Were you by any chance mistaken?" Yang Bin was doubtful as he couldn't fathom why Han Jingru would do that. He had demonstrated his strength in front of the Yang family and there was no need to use such underhanded methods to hide his power from Yang Wanlin.

Furthermore, Yang Bin had found out why the Yao family fervently stood up for Han Jingru. It was because Han Jingru had helped Yao Hanxing resolve a big problem, which demonstrated how powerful Han Jingru was.

"No, it's the truth. I saw it with my own eyes," Yang Wanlin asserted.

"In that case, are you absolutely sure he is really Han Jingru?" Since there was no doubt as to what happened, the next logical step was to suspect Han Jingru's identity. The sole reason he was beaten by the hooligans was that he wasn't who he said he was. That was the only logical conclusion.

“Yes,” Yang Wanlin replied firmly. “He is the spitting image of Han Jingru in terms of height and features. If he isn’t Han Jingru, who else could he be?”

Yang Bin gave Yang Wanlin an exasperated look and lectured, “I have warned you to always be on your guard as nothing is absolute. I want you to be extra vigilant in whatever that you do. Have you forgotten what I taught you?”

It was one of the many lessons Yang Bin taught Yang Wanlin which Yang Wanlin held dear to his heart. Nevertheless, there really was nothing about Han Jingru that aroused his suspicion.

“I have made a mistake.” Regardless of whether the mistake was his, Yang Wanlin would admit it first in front of the patriarch. As long as the patriarch determined it was his fault, then reality would be as such.

That was how Yang Wanlin approached his relationship with Yang Bin. He knew that he needed to obey whatever Yang Bin said to prove himself further.

“Have you forgotten that the Han family has a pair of brothers? Identical twins, in fact,” Yang Bin reminded.

Yang Bin’s words caused Yang Wanlin to have an epiphany. He instantly understood why he felt Han Jingru was like a totally different person.

In fact, it wasn’t because Han Jingru changed. They were two separate people to begin with.

“Oh, I have totally forgotten about it. Do you mean that the Han Jingru I met tonight was actually Han Yu?” Yang

Wanlin asked in surprise.

Yang Bin nodded as that was the only possibility. Other than that, it made no sense for Han Jingru to be beaten by a group of gangsters.

“But it doesn’t make sense as it was he who contacted me. If he really was Han Yu, then where is the real Han Jingru? With his strength, isn’t it unlikely for him to be imprisoned by the Han family?” Yang Wanlin speculated.

Yang Bin didn’t reply. He, too, was deep in thought.

After a long while, he finally commented, “If he is indeed being held captive by the Han family, he must have let them do it on purpose.”



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From Yang Bin's perspective, the Han family is incapable of controlling Han Jingru. The strongest among them was Yan Qiong, who also happened to be close with Song Yun.

In fact, he had discussed the matter with Song Yun before, and the latter made a remark that was seared into Yang Bin's memory.

Song Yun told him that even if he and Yan Qiong took on Han Jingru together, they would still be unable to beat him.

With such power, how is it possible for the Han family to keep him captive?

Therefore, if something did happen, it must be because Han Jingru didn't resist.

Nevertheless, Yang Wanlin still found it strange as to why Han Jingru would willingly let himself be imprisoned given how strong he was. It just didn't make sense for him to voluntarily give up his freedom.

"Patriarch, why would he willingly do that?" Yang Wanlin was equally stumped.

Suddenly, a smile broke out on Yang Bin's face as if he realized something.

However, Yang Wanlin was baffled by his response. Hence, he could only patiently wait for Yang Bin to explain to him.

"Everyone knows that Nangong Shuxian treats the two boys very differently. As Han Jingru is seen as trash by

the Han family, he must be doing this to prove himself to them," Yang Bin explained.

However, Yang Wanlin still didn't understand. *With Han Jingru's strength, proving himself is just a piece of cake. Why does he even need to go through such trouble?*

"I still don't get it," Yang Wanlin confessed.

"Why would Han Yu take on Han Jingru's identity? It must have been Nangong Shuxian's idea. She wants Han Yu to disguise himself as Han Jingru and trick the public. Therefore, she must also have locked Han Jingru up. As to why he didn't resist, he must be playing along because he knows that Han Yu will expose himself sooner or later. When Han Yu finally gets himself in hot soup, only Han Jingru will be able to save him."

"That is how Han Jingru plans to turn the tables on them. Once Han Yu is in trouble, Nangong Shuxian will have no choice but to beg Han Jingru for help."

Yang Wanlin finally understood after hearing Yang Bin's detailed explanation. However, he still felt it was such a waste of time and effort.

If Han Jingru wants to prove himself, there are plenty of other ways to do it. Why does he need to go through so much hassle?

"Patriarch, doesn't he have a simpler method to achieve his goal?" Yang Wanlin asked.

"He isn't looking to prove himself. More importantly, he wants to see Nangong Shuxian beg," Yang Bin explained with a chuckle. Just like a sly old fox, he was able to

deduce Han Jingru's entire plan from just a single detail.

Nonetheless, Yang Bin was aware that it was still his own speculation. He was still unsure what the truth was.

But Yang Bin now knew what he must do based on his deduction. He realized he could do Han Jingru a favor by going along with his plan.

Ever since he knew Han Jingru was a Platinum rank fighter in Apocalypse, Yang Bin had been racking his brains on how to improve his relationship with him.

There had never been a clear winner in the conflict among the three major families. Yang Bin had resigned himself to the fact that the Yang family would never come out tops in his lifetime. But with Han Jingru's appearance, he suddenly saw a glimmer of hope.

He knew the Yang family would be able to surpass the other two major families by enlisting Han Jingru's help.

"Invite him to our house tomorrow," Yang Bin instructed Yang Wanlin.

"Patriarch, do you have a way to verify his identity?" Yang Wanlin asked curiously.

"Is that even necessary? If he is indeed Han Jingru, would he be beaten up by a bunch of street thugs? Are you an idiot?" Yang Bin reprimanded.

Yang Wanlin couldn't help but shrugged his shoulders. "Alright. I know what to do now."

Yang Bin had more to say but ended up just sighing. With

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that, he went back to his room.

Despite how exceptional Yang Wanlin was and the potential he had for leading the Yang family in the future, he had a major weakness. He didn't know how to analyze a problem and would only see things from a shallow perspective. This was what frustrated Yang Bin the most.

Unfortunately, it wasn't something anyone could help with. Yang Wanlin needed to realize it himself and learn how to analyze problems in greater detail.

The sigh caused Yang Wanlin's heart to sink. In fact, he didn't even know what he had done wrong for Yang Bin to react that way.

Nevertheless, Yang Wanlin knew that as long as he could deepen his relationship with Han Jingru, his position as the heir to the Yang family would be secure.

Meanwhile, Han Yu, who had been beaten badly, rested on the ground for a long time before sitting up. During that time, everyone thought of him as a drunkard and avoided him when they passed by.

The pain reverberated throughout his body; Han Yu felt as if he were about to die. He had never suffered a moment his whole life, let alone being beaten pulp.

After he painstakingly took out his phone, he gave Nangong Shuxian a call.

When he got through, he started bawling, "Grandma, I've been beaten terribly. Come and save me, quick."

Nangong Shuxian was already asleep as she knew what

Han Yu's plans were for the night. Hence, she didn't wait up for him. When her phone rang, it jolted her awake instantly.

"What happened? Why did you get beat up? Did Yang Wanlin do it?" Nangong Shuxian's first thought was that Han Yu's identity was exposed and was beaten up for it. *How did Yang Wanlin manage to tell him apart from such a short time?*

"No, it's a group of thugs that Han Jingru had offended. They exacted revenge on me instead," Han Yu gritted his teeth as he explained. In his heart, he endeavored to make Han Jingru pay for what he had suffered. Since he couldn't beat the thugs, he would vent his frustration on Han Jingru via Nangong Shuxian's hand instead.

"Where are you? I'll come to get you right away," Nangong Shuxian replied.

After Han Yu gave her the address, Nangong Shuxian got dressed and personally drove towards where he was.

By the time she arrived and saw Han Yu sitting on the floor, she was heartbroken.

"Yu, are you alright? Do you need to go to the hospital?" Nangong Shuxian asked anxiously.

With his face all swollen, Han Yu was not thinking of seeking revenge on the hooligans who had beat him up. Instead, he complained, "Grandma, it's all Han Jingru's fault. I wouldn't have been in this state if he hadn't offended those thugs."

Distressed by how pitiful Han Yu looked, Nangong

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Shuxian couldn't help but hold Han Jingru accountable for what had happened.

"Don't worry, I will teach that scumbag a lesson when I return."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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When she brought Han Yu home, Nangong Shuxian personally helped him treat his wounds. After tucking him in, she headed to the cellar with a grim expression.

Inside the cage, Han Jingru looked terrible as he hadn't bathed in half a month.

"It's a surprise to see you here at this hour. After all, those buried in quicksand to their necks are afraid to sleep. They are worried they might never wake up," Han Jingru plainly remarked.

While Nangong Shuxian wasn't someone who would be easily angered, Han Yu was badly hurt because of Han Jingru. Therefore, she was further incensed when she heard Han Jingru's words.

"Han Jingru, your life is in my hands. Before I die, I will definitely have you killed," Nangong Shuxian declared coldly.

"Save the crap and get to the point. It's the middle of the night, so I'm sure you're not here just to threaten me," Han Jingru asserted as he knew something must have happened to Han Yu. Or else, Nangong Shuxian wouldn't come and see him at that hour.

"Han Yu was beaten up by some people you offended. As he has suffered on your account, I'm here to avenge him," Nangong Shuxian declared.

People I offended?

Han Jingru was surprised. The ones he recently offended all knew how strong he was. *Who would dare cause me trouble?*

Could it be Yao Hanxing's enemies?

That's unlikely. If they really were, Han Yu wouldn't even escape with his life.

"This goes to show that he can't pretend to be me. If I were there, they would be the ones getting hurt. However, to hold me responsible is just ridiculous. Why don't you look for those who have beat him up instead?" Han Jingru replied with a smile.

"I will ferret those people out. However, you must also suffer for it," Nangong Shuxian stated with a solemn expression.

As she moved closer to the cage, she continued, "Do you know what this cage is really for?"

Although Han Jingru wasn't respected within the Han family, he was still a part of them and was well aware of its history.

Nangong Shuxian once had a very fierce dog who had bitten many members of the Han family. As it was vicious by nature, Nangong Shuxian built a cage for it in the cellar just to tame it.

Other than restraining the dog, the cage was also electrified so that she could force the dog to obey her. Unfortunately, the dog was too headstrong and refused to submit. Hence, it was finally electrocuted to death.

"I remember that it was called 'She-Wolf' and you killed it right here," Han Jingru answered.

Nangong Shuxian smiled deviously and gloated, "I'm

glad that you remember. I can still recall its pitiful expression when it died. I wonder how will you react instead?"

At that moment, Nangong Shuxian placed her finger on the switch.

Han Jingru's expression dramatically changed as he knew Nangong Shuxian wasn't joking. In fact, he knew his life was worth less than that of a dog to her.

"Nangong Shuxian, when you come begging to me, I will make sure you do it on your knees." Han Jingru declared solemnly.

As if she heard the biggest joke in her life, Nangong Shuxian burst into laughter as she pressed the button.

When the current flowed through Han Jingru's body, the electrical shock caused him to shiver violently.

Nangong Shuxian enjoyed watching him suffer, just as how she enjoyed torturing She-Wolf back in the days.

"Han Jingru, this is the consequence of defying me. Beg me for mercy. As long as you do that, I will let you go," Nangong Shuxian declared.

The electrical shock did cause Han Jingru pain but not to the extent that it wasn't bearable. After all, his body was no longer that of an ordinary man. His only regret was that he didn't really complete the trials of the divine punishment. If he had gone through the baptism of fire of the Divine Lightning, the electrical shock would likely be but an ant's bite to him.

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However, it also made Han Jingru realize another problem. The Divine Lightning was probably extremely painful. To ascend the Higher Realms, one needed to pay an unimaginable price.

"I won't beg for mercy. However, one day, you will be the one begging me," Han Jingru retorted.

Nangong Shuxian clenched her teeth in frustration. She assumed she could force Han Jingru to submit to her, but didn't expect him to be just as defiant as She-Wolf.

Nangong Shuxian was dying for Han Jingru to be electrocuted to death. However, she knew she still couldn't afford to do it yet.

"I don't believe you can endure this forever. From today onwards, I will send someone to electrocute you until you beg for mercy. Just remember to let the person know when you decide to do so." Just as she spoke, Nangong Shuxian left the cellar. She was dead serious in what she told Han Jingru and she was a woman of her word.

The next day, Nangong Shuxian sent someone to electrocute Han Jingru, three times a day on schedule. She wanted Han Jingru to suffer until he begged for mercy.

When Han Yu woke up, the swelling on his face had reduced significantly. However, it was still obvious that he was beaten.

Han Yu had looked past the beating but he was outraged that his plans for the night were foiled. Again, he put the blame on Han Jingru.

After breakfast, Han Yu wanted to go see Han Jingru personally and to also teach him a lesson.

However, his phone rang and it was Yang Wanlin that called.

“Grandma, Yang Wanlin is calling me.” Han Yu quickly sought Nangong Shuxian’s help as he didn’t know what to do.

“Answer it and see what he wants,” Nangong Shuxian replied.

Han Yu then picked up the call and put it on speaker.

“Jingru, how was last night? I’m sure you had a good time with the ladies I arranged for you?” Yang Wanlin chuckled as he asked Han Yu. Although he had seen Han Yu being beaten up with his own eyes, he hid the fact to avoid arousing Han Yu’s suspicion.

“Something came up last minute, what a pity,” Han Yu replied.

“Damn it, did you waste such a wonderful opportunity?” Yang Wanlin feigned surprise as he asked.

“Next time perhaps. I’m sure the opportunity will come,” Han Yu answered.

“In that case, why don’t you come to my house today? I will introduce to you someone even better. Coincidentally, my patriarch wants to see you, too. He wants to initiate some joint ventures with the Han family and hopes that you can come discuss it,” Yang Wanlin explained.

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Han Yu looked at Nangong Shuxian before he replied.

She was filled with delight; it was the result that she wanted. As Yang Bin had taken the initiative to make contact, there was no way they would reject it.

After she nodded at Han Yu, he gave Yang Wanlin his answer. "Sure, I'll be there shortly."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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When Nangong Shuxian thought that everything was going according to plan, Yang Bin had seen through Han Yu's ruse.

Nangong Shuxian had oversimplified the whole matter. She assumed that just by looking the same, Han Yu could replace Han Jingru. She was oblivious to the fact that a hundred Han Yus still couldn't compare to one Han Jingru.

Drunk with her own "success", Nangong Shuxian started to fantasize about the Han family's glorious future. She thought that the young Han Yu could finally lift the Han family to greater heights.

However, when Han Yu arrived at the Yang residence, the matter didn't develop the way Nangong Shuxian expected.

Yang Bin personally came out to greet Han Yu. On the surface, it looked like he was giving Han Yu great respect, causing Han Yu to feel smug about himself. But in truth, it was a crucial test for him.

"How did you hurt yourself on your face?" Yang Bin asked Han Yu.

To hide the awkwardness of him being beaten, Han Yu had no choice but to lie. He replied, "I fell by accident. Mr. Yang, aren't we here today to discuss our cooperation? Don't let my trivial misfortune get in the way of business."

Han Yu was a serial liar. If not, he wouldn't have slandered Han Jingru incessantly, causing him to be punished by Nangong Shuxian without reason.

However, the reason he gave was simply ridiculous. Even a three-year-old wouldn't believe it, let alone a sly old fox like Yang Bin.

"Han Yu," Yang Bin suddenly called out.

Han Yu replied by reflex, "Mr. Yang, please go on."

"Since you're called Han Yu, why are you appearing in Han Jingru's place?" Yang Bin asked with a smile. It was a simple test and Han Yu had easily fallen for it.

This only proved that the simplest of methods were the most effective.

After all, he had been using the name "Han Yu" for more than ten years and it was a difficult habit to change in such a short time. Despite reminding himself innumerable times that he was Han Jingru, he was still caught off guard when Yang Bin suddenly called out his name.

"Mr. Yang, what are you talking about? I am Han Jingru. How can I be Han Yu instead?" Han Yu frantically rebutted.

There was no way someone like Yang Bin would believe such an outrageous attempt to cover up.

In fact, the moment he met Han Yu, he had already verified the latter's identity. The vibe that both of them gave out was very different. Even though they might look the same, the aura they emitted couldn't be replicated.

More importantly, Han Yu did not have a dominating demeanor.

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When he recalled the first time Han Jingru came to the Yang residence, he was as fiery as a bull. In fact, he challenged everyone there. It was the exact opposite of Han Yu's current docile demeanor. Therefore, there was no way his current guest could be Han Jingru.

"You may not know the difference between yourself and Han Jingru, but I can easily tell. I can't help but say this strategy of Nangong Shuxian's is extremely absurd. She actually thinks that just by looking the same, she could play me, Yang Bin, for a fool?" Yang Bin remarked coldly.

At that moment, Han Yu was already in a panic. When he saw how resolute Yang Bin looked, he knew the game was up.

Although he didn't know how he was exposed, he was aware that it would be dangerous to continue staying at the Yang residence. His priority now was to escape.

"Mr. Yang, if there are no other matters, I will take my leave first." Just as he spoke, Han Yu quickly stood up and wanted to run.

Realizing his intention, Yang Wanlin blocked his way immediately and sneered, "Han Yu, I was tricked by you and almost died last night because of that. Do you think you can escape so easily?"

If not for Han Yu, Yang Wanlin wouldn't have confronted Wang Li directly last night, let alone suffer the humiliation of being beaten. Everything he suffered was the result of Han Yu pretending to be Han Jingru. Therefore, he was going to vent his frustrations on Han Yu.

“What do you plan to do? Let me tell you: even if I’m not Han Jingru, I am still the Han family’s heir. If you dare do anything to me, my grandma will not forgive you,” Han Yu gritted his teeth and threatened. He was so nervous that he exposed his identity straightaway.

His words caused Yang Bin to burst into hearty laughter.

“Heir of the Han family—what an impressive title. How dare you throw your weight around in front of us? So what if Nangong Shuxian is here? Do you think that I would be afraid to do anything to you?” Yang Bin sneered as he feared no one in Yan City’s business circle. To him, the Han family was insignificant, like an ant he could easily squash.

“Mr. Yang, the Han family has no quarrel with the Yang family. Why must you make it difficult for me?” Yang Bin’s words struck fear into Han Yu’s heart. Although he was used to behaving in the Han family with impunity, he was still smart enough to realize the gap in power between the two families.

The Han family’s reputation may instill fear in some other families but in front of the Yang family, they were no different than a joke. There was no way one of the three major families of Yan City would bat an eyelid at the Hans.

“Aren’t you trying to make use of use of the Yang family when you pretended to be Han Jingru?” Yang Bin questioned.

Defiant at Yang Bin’s words, Han Yu countered, “Whatever that piece of trash Han Jingru can do, I can do the same. In fact, I can even do a better job.”

“Is that so? Since you mentioned it, I’ll give you a chance to prove yourself.” With a wave of his hand, a few bodyguards of the Yang family emerged.

When he saw them, Han Yu panicked and exclaimed, “Mr. Yang, what’s the meaning of this?”

“Han Jingru can easily deal with this few men. Since you claim that you can do whatever he can and in fact do it better, prove it to me,” Yang Bin challenged.

Han Yu was useless in fights; otherwise, he wouldn’t have been beaten to a pulp by a few street thugs and had to depend on Nangong Shuxian to save him.

Han Yu wanted to avoid the situation but it was a futile effort. Yang Bin had set up the trap on purpose.

Unlike street thugs, these bodyguards were a lot more well-trained. Therefore, it was obvious Han Yu would end up in a worse situation than the night before. In fact, his cries of agony and pain were even louder than the previous night.

Meanwhile, Yang Wanlin was ecstatic as he watched on. It was the price to pay for masquerading as Han Jingru. When he thought about the humiliation he suffered at Wang Li’s hands, he couldn’t help but step up and throw a few kicks at Han Yu.

The bodyguards finally stopped when Han Yu’s life was hanging by a thread.

“Patriarch, what are we going to do next?” Yang Wanlin asked Yang Bin.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Call Nangong Shuxian and tell her to have Han Jingru show himself if she wants to save this piece of trash.” Yang Bin instructed Yang Wanlin after some thought.

Yang Bin was still unsure of what Han Jingru’s plan was, so he could only help the boy in his own way. Of course, it was after careful considerations that he decided to do this. After all, a sly old fox like him would not make any decision if he were not at least half sure.

As instructed, Yang Wanlin immediately took his phone out.

Meanwhile, Nangong Shuxian was waiting for Han Yu to bring home the good news. She even thought of which domain the Han family should start with. As long as they could get their business resources back, it was only a matter of time before the Hans returned to the top. And now with the Yangs at their side, they could only get stronger.

Nangong Shuxian even started to imagine that the Han family would be as powerful as the Three Major Families under Han Yu’s leadership.

Suddenly, her phone rang, and she was brought back to reality.

When Nangong Shuxian saw that it was Han Yu calling, she quickly answered the call.

“How did it go, Yu? Did you work something out?” inquired Nangong Shuxian.

"It's over, Nangong Shuxian. If you want to save Han Yu, bring Han Jingru here," demanded Yang Wanlin coldly.

Nangong Shuxian's face fell when she heard that. "Who is this?"

"Yang Wanlin."

Nangong Shuxian inhaled sharply because it sounded like Han Yu's identity had been exposed. On top of that, she called Han Yu by his nickname when she answered the call, confirming Han Yu's identity.

"What did you do to him?" questioned Nangong Shuxian.

"If Han Jingru doesn't show up before dark, we'll kill Han Yu," promised Yang Wanlin instead of answering the woman's question before hanging up.

Nangong Shuxian's face turned pale as she listened to the disconnect tone on the phone.

Not only was her fantasy shattered, but she also had to worry about Han Yu's safety now.

How can this be?

They look the same! What gave Han Yu away?

Nangong Shuxian was no fool. She suspected that the only reason Han Yu was compromised was because Han Jingru was working with the Yangs.

But it's a fact that Han Jingru's out cold in a cellar. I made sure of that myself. How could Han Jingru have predicted the future?

"Han Jingru, what the hell did you do with the Yangs?" Nangong Shuxian stood up with her teeth gritted and headed to the cellar.

Although Han Jingru was tortured with electric shocks earlier, he was not in a terrible state. Instead, he enjoyed the electricity that flowed through his body because it woke his body's potential, making him stronger.

Nangong Shuxian would never have expected the torture to make Han Jingru more powerful instead of bringing him pain.

"I'm guessing you're here for my help." Han Jingru chuckled when he saw Nangong Shuxian.

He knew the old woman would not waste time on him, so there had to be a reason she came.

"Did you set Yu up by making a plan with the Yangs beforehand?" questioned Nangong Shuxian while glaring murderously at Han Jingru.

In truth, Han Jingru did not have any plans. He simply went along with Nangong Shuxian's plan because he knew that Han Yu could not impersonate him and that it would be only a matter of time before Han Yu got caught.

However, Han Jingru was surprised when Nangong Shuxian mentioned the Yangs. *Could it*

be that Han Yu had actually offended the Yangs? If that's the case, things will get very interesting.

“You didn’t send Han Yu directly to the Yangs, did you? Do you really think that Yang Bin will let Han Yu live if he finds out?” Han Jingru chuckled once again.

Nangong Shuxian clenched her fists tightly. *Yang Wanlin did make it clear that he'd kill Han Yu after dark if Han Jingru doesn't appear before him. Han Yu is indeed in deep trouble.*

However, Nangong Shuxian was not about to let her favorite grandson lose his life.

“If anything happens to Yu, you won’t get to live either, Han Jingru. So here’s my offer, save Yu, and I’ll let you go.”

Han Jingru scoffed at the still arrogant Nangong Shuxian. *She seems completely unaware that she should be more humble when asking for help.*

“I can help you to save Han Yu on one simple condition. Beg me. Do that, and I’ll help you.”

“Why the hell would I beg a piece of trash like you? I’d advise you to take up my offer, or you’ll regret it,” threatened Nangong Shuxian.

Han Jingru grabbed a steel bar of his cage with one hand. “Do you know why I am willing to be imprisoned here?”

“What? Willing to be imprisoned here?” Nangong

an then cackled. *Does he seriously think that I leave whenever he wants?*"

as about to riposte when what she said next shocked her into silence.

Jingru easily bent the steel bar and made a hole in the cage big enough for him to slip out. It meant Han Jingru really could have left if he had tried to before.

"Looking at Han Jingru with a pale face, Nangong Shuxian was at a loss for words.

"You really think I couldn't get away? You really think you're holding me here against my will?"

It was indeed what Nangong Shuxian believed, but not anymore.

"There's no one in this world who can imprison me. I only stayed here because I'm waiting for Han Jingru to get into trouble. I'll have you know that I'm the only one who can save him. Not even Yan Shu can do it, so beg me. Maybe then I'll decide to be merciful," explained Han Jingru calmly."

Nangong Shuxian was so angry that she could almost grind her teeth flat. For so many years, Han Jingru had been nothing but trash to her. In her eyes, even looking at Han Jingru felt like she was looking at a piece of trash.

Nangong Shuxian would never allow her to beg a piece of



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“There’s no way I would ever beg you!” exclaimed Nangong Shuxian decisively.

“Then I guess you’d better start picking the right coffin for Han Yu. You should also ask him what kind of design he likes. After all, he’s your favorite grandson. The least you can do is to fulfill his final wish.”

Nangong Shuxian was trembling in anger before the arrogant Han Jingru, but on the other hand, she could not just let her grandson die.

She knew that Yang Wanlin was only speaking for Yang Bin, and a man of his position would never joke around.

Han Yu would never live until the next day if Yang Bin promised to kill him after dark.

“He’s your brother, Han Jingru! How can you face your ancestors if you just let him die? And your Grandpa will never forgive you for it.”

“Brother?” Han Jingru looked at Nangong Shuxian in mock surprise. “I can’t believe you’d shamelessly bring something up like this. Did Han Yu ever think of me as his brother? I’m not even considered a Han. Are you seriously asking me if I can face the ancestors of the Han family? What a joke! Besides, Grandpa’s not going to blame me once he knows that the other Hans mistreated me. He’ll only blame you.”

When Han Xiuzhi was still alive, he had always been good to Han Jingru. He was not prejudiced

against Han Jingru and hence would never blame his grandson for fighting back.

Enraged, Nangong Shuxian turned and left. She could never bring herself to beg Han Jingru, so she had to figure something else out.

Han Jingru smirked because he believed that Nangong Shuxian would return. There was no way she would just let Han Yu die.

“That’s her favorite grandson. Would she really sacrifice him for her pride?” murmured Han Jingru to himself.

After some thought in the living room, Nangong Shuxian called Han Ying.

Upon receiving his mother’s call, Han Ying rushed home from his office and could tell something was wrong the moment he saw Nangong Shuxian’s hardened expression.

“Why did you need me to come back in such a hurry, Mom?” asked Han Ying cautiously.

“Something happened to Han Yu.”

Han Ying was not surprised because he knew it was only a matter of time before Han Yu got exposed. Nangong Shuxian overestimated her grandson’s capabilities, and it never occurred to her why the Yangs and the Yaos respected Han Jingru.

“I knew it wouldn’t work, Mom.”

Nangong Shuxian furrowed her brows. "So you doubted my plan too?"

Han Ying smiled bitterly in response, for it did not matter if he doubted his mother's plan. *It's a fact that Han Yu has failed. Is Mom still refusing to accept that?*

"So what do we do now?" Han Ying did not want to argue with his mother.

"Yang Bin has captured Han Yu. He told me that he'd only let Han Yu go when he sees Han Jingru. Otherwise, he'll kill Han Yu after dark."

Han Ying turned pale when he was told that Yang Bin was involved in the matter. *This is not going to end well for Han Yu.*

"Mom, isn't it better if you talk to Han Jingru instead?" asked Han Ying.

"That piece of trash wanted me to beg him, but that's not going to happen, so you're going to take care of this for me now," ordered Nangong Shuxian.

Han Ying's face hardened because he knew Han Jingru would only save Han Yu if his demand was met.

He also knew that he would not make a difference by talking to Han Jingru, but since Nangong Shuxian wanted him to do so, he could only try.

"I'll give it a go, Mom, but I can't guarantee that it'll

work,” stated Han Ying before heading to the cellar.

After Han Ying left, Nangong Shuxian dialed Shi Yan’s number in case she needed the woman to persuade Han Jingru.

“I’m offering you a chance to return to the Han family, but you’ll have to do something for me first,” explained Nangong Shuxian after the call went through.

She found out from Qin Fu that Shi Yan moved in with Han Jingru. After all, everyone knew that Han Jingru was the president of Dynasty then. Qin Fu had struck up many deals using Han Jingru’s influence in the Chamber of Commerce, enabling Dynasty to be developed at a rapid pace.

“I’m happy with wherever I am right now. It doesn’t matter to me if I can go back to the Hans.” From the moment Shi Yan left the Han family, she never thought about going back. She would only consider it if Nangong Shuxian died because she had had enough of the woman.

“What do you mean by that?” asked Nangong Shuxian coldly because she did not expect Shi Yan to be uninterested in her offer.

She thought Shi Yan would apologize and accept the offer since she took the initiative to call the woman.

“I think I made myself pretty clear. I’m not going back to the Han family. Besides, I reckoned the

reason why you wanted me to go back probably has something to do with Han Jingru. Let me guess. Han Yu is in trouble, so you need Han Jingru's help, but you're not willing to put your pride aside. That's why you need me to go back. Am I right?" Shi Yan's words hit the nail right on the head. Although she had no idea what happened, she was sure it had something to do with Han Yu since Nangong Shuxian called her.

"I'd advise you to think it over because this will be your last chance," stated Nangong Shuxian with gritted teeth.

"There's no need for that." With that, Shi Yan ended the call.

Shaking with fury, Nangong Shuxian threw her phone onto the floor, smashing it into pieces.

Her only hope now was that Han Ying could convince Han Jingru.

When Han Ying reached the cellar, the first thing he saw was Han Jingru sitting on top of his cage instead of inside it.

He also saw the bent steel bar and learned that Han Jingru stayed in the cellar willingly.

The scene before him was enough to further convince Han Ying that nothing he said would matter.

"I believe you know why I'm here, Jingru."

“Was I adopted?” inquired Han Jingru without lifting his head.

The question left Han Ying speechless, for he knew Han Jingru was just expressing his dissatisfaction. Han Jingru could not have been adopted because Shi Yan was the one who gave birth to him and Han Yu.

As for Han Ying, he was merely playing his part as an obedient son in the Han family and had no say in how Han Jingru was treated.



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“Jingru... No matter what, Han Yu’s still your brother.” Han Ying knew full well how shameless those words made him sound. *Why would Han Jingru want to save Han Yu after what our family has done to him?*

However, Han Ying had no choice but to try his best since Nangong Shuxian wanted him to persuade Han Jingru. Besides, he also wanted to see Han Yu come home safely.

Han Jingru gave the man a half-smile. *What a load of bullsh*t! They choose now to remember the fact that we’re brothers? It’s funny how that never occurred to them before.*

“Don’t waste your time. Unless Nangong Shuxian begs me, I’m not going to save him. You don’t have a lot of time left, so you’d better ask her to reconsider.” Han Jingru then lay down on the cage.

Seeing how determined Han Jingru was, Han Ying knew it was impossible to change his son’s mind. *At this point, I guess only Mom can make a difference.*

But asking her to beg Han Jingru is another impossible task. After all, she thinks of Han Jingru as nothing but trash. She even refused to recognize him as a Han, so why would she submit to him?

Han Ying could not help but sighed dejectedly when he left the cellar. *Who would’ve thought that the insignificant Han Jingru would play such an important role today?*

Although, I don't think we can blame Han Jingru for being cold-hearted since Mom was responsible for that. I'd say she brought this on herself.

None of this would've happened if she didn't imprison Han Jingru in the cellar and had Han Yu impersonate him.

Noticing Nangong Shuxian's grim expression when he reached the living room, Han Ying assumed that his mother never expected to be at Han Jingru's mercy.

"Mom," Han Ying called out as he approached his mother.

"How did it go? Did you convince him?" asked Nangong Shuxian solemnly.

"He said he's not going to do anything unless you beg him."

Hearing that, fury pulsed through Nangong Shuxian's veins, and the knuckles of her trembling fists turned white. It was obvious that her anger had reached its peak.

Beg him?

Han Jingru wants me to beg him?

It was not just a matter of pride. The old woman knew that if she did as told, it would mean that she admitted Han Jingru was better than Han Yu and that she made the wrong choice all those years ago.

It was impossible to make Nangong Shuxian admit that she was in the wrong.

Even in such a dire situation, Nangong Shuxian still believed that Han Yu was better than Han Jingru and that Han Yu should be the one to lead the Han family.

Nangong Shuxian would have dealt with the situation herself if the other party were not the Yangs.

But as things stand, with his influence and status in Yan City, Yang Bin would not care even if Nangong Shuxian came forward in person.

For the first time in her life, Nangong Shuxian felt helpless. The despair she felt was even greater than when she left the Nangong family.

If she had the time, she would have asked Nangong Boling for help, and there would still be a glimmer of hope. Unfortunately, she did not have that luxury.

“Mom, if you don’t do it, Han Yu will be in danger. The Yangs don’t mess around!” reminded Han Ying.

Nangong Shuxian was well aware of that. Still, she could not bring herself to submit to Han Jingru.

“I never expect that there’ll be a day when I have to beg a piece of trash.” Nangong Shuxian clenched her teeth.

Begging a piece of trash?

Han Ying would not think there was anything wrong with that sentence if it were before, but he could not understand why his mother would still say that then.

Han Jingru befriended the Yaos, and now Yang Bin even asked for him personally. Is he really just a piece of trash if he could achieve all that?

I think we may have misunderstood Han Jingru all these years.

Han Ying also knew about Dynasty and how Han Jingru was able to establish the company in private. That alone was enough to prove that Han Jingru was more capable than Han Yu.

After all, what else is Han Yu capable of now besides currying favor from his grandmother?

“Mom, I think we need to change how we look at Han Jingru. Maybe. Just maybe...”

“Maybe what?” Nangong Shuxian sprang up and scolded her son. “Are you doubting me?”

Han Ying quickly shook his head. “That’s not what I meant, Mom.”

He wanted to suggest letting Han Jingru lead the Han family because he thought that was better than putting their hopes on Han Yu, but after seeing how his mother reacted, he dared not continue.

“Stay here,” ordered Nangong Shuxian before heading to the cellar.

As much as Nangong Shuxian was reluctant to submit to Han Jingru, Han Ying knew she would do it anyway because there was no other way to save Han Yu.

However, Nangong Shuxian was not about to let anyone see her do it, so she told her son not to follow her.

Han Ying sighed after sitting down on the couch. Ever since he knew about how Han Jingru had established Dynasty, he could not help but change the view he had of his son. Even under oppression, Han Jingru was able to grow in power. Han Ying was impressed by what Han Jingru was able to achieve at only fourteen years old.

He could not even begin to imagine how Han Jingru was able to accomplish that feat, and that was why he believed that the Hans should put their hopes on Han Jingru.

Unfortunately, Nangong Shuxian’s dominance in the Han family made sure that no one would listen to Han Ying.

“Maybe someday, we’ll all regret choosing to believe in the wrong person. By then, we’ll realize that we shouldn’t have treated Jingru like an outsider,” murmured Han Ying to himself.

Meanwhile, Nangong Shuxian had arrived at the cellar.

Han Jingru could hear footsteps approaching him but he simply continued to lie on the cage. He had no intentions of getting up.

Although he did not see who it was, he could tell from the footsteps that it was Nangong Shuxian.

“Are you going to continue threatening me or scaring me?” asked Han Jingru directly.

Nangong Shuxian used to think that Han Jingru was a coward and a good-for-nothing worm. She even thought about kicking him out of the Han family so that he would not become a dead weight to Han Yu. It was because of those extreme prejudices that Han Jingru meant nothing to her.

However, everything changed on that day.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Nangong Shuxian was old but not senile. In fact, she was shrewd enough to tell who was more excellent according to the situation. Truth be told, she was also impressed that Han Jingru established his own company, which made her doubt her decision.

It was just that her pride made it difficult for her to accept that fact, so she would rather die to prove that she was right than admit that she made a mistake.

“What do I have to do for you to save Han Yu?” inquired Nangong Shuxian.

“It’s simple. Beg me. You don’t even have to kneel. Just say ‘I’m begging you,’ and that’s it.” Han Jingru sat up and looked at Nangong Shuxian with a smile. He knew that she would come to him eventually because that was her only option.

Hearing that, Nangong Shuxian puffed her cheeks and was obviously gritting her teeth.

After a long silence, she finally opened her mouth. “I’m begging you. Please save Han Yu.”

“My, my!” exclaimed Han Jingru. “Do you know how long I’ve waited to hear you say that? Have you started to doubt yourself, Nangong Shuxian? Han Yu’s accomplished nothing, while I already have my own company, and its prospects cannot look better. Do you regret what you’ve done to me

now?"

"No," answered Nangong Shuxian decisively. Even if she were wrong about Han Yu, she would do everything she can to make it right. *If I can destroy Han Jingru and have Han Yu lead the Han family, I'll be able to prove that I was right.*

Even though she knew that that would not be easy, Nangong Shuxian would still do it for her pride.

Han Jingru simply nodded, for he expected as much.

"You might not regret it now, but mark my words, you will once Dynasty surpasses the Han family in less than three months." With that, Han Jingru walked out of the cellar.

He only wanted to get back at Nangong Shuxian and see the older woman lower herself in front of him.

Others probably would not have understood the reasoning behind making Nangong Shuxian do that since she did not actually lose anything. Nonetheless, it was very important to Han Jingru.

"I want Han Yu to return home safely. If he loses even a single hair, I'll make you pay for it," threatened Nangong Shuxian as she watched Han Jingru leave.

Han Jingru chuckled in response. "Don't worry. The Yangs wouldn't dare to hurt your precious grandson because even they fear me."

Nangong Shuxian lifted the corner of her mouth into a smirk. *The Yangs fear him, huh? This brat sure knows how to bluff.*

This is nothing but a trap set up by him and the Yangs, and yet he thinks that makes him more superior now.

"One day, you'll bow before Han Yu when you realize just how insignificant you are compared to him. I swear on my mother's grave that I'll get him to the top of Yan City," promised Nangong Shuxian with her teeth gritted.

With that, Nangong Shuxian took her phone out and dialed Nangong Boling's number.

In a sense, Nangong Shuxian was arranged to marry Han Xiuzhi to benefit the Nangong family. As a dispensable member of the family, she had no say at all. Nangong Shuxian never expected that she would have to get herself involved with the other Nangongs once again, but Nangong Boling was the only hope Han Yu had of defeating Han Jingru.

When Han Jingru reached the living room, Han Ying immediately got up to approach him.

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“Jingru, are you going to rescue Han Yu now?”
asked Han Ying.

“Yes. I imagine you’d never forgive me if I let your precious son die,” replied Han Jingru calmly, his words leaving Han Ying speechless. After all, Han Jingru was also his son.

“Oh, one more thing. You should get a physical exam done as soon as possible. There are some things that can’t be changed once they’re past a certain point.” With that, Han Jingru left the Han residence.

Han Ying did not know what his son meant, for he was sure that he was doing well physically.

But why would Han Jingru say something like that then?

Han Jingru’s words worried Han Ying. *It seems like I’ll have to find a time to do the physical exam. Even if there’s nothing wrong, at least it will put my mind at ease.*

Han Jingru did not plan to change anything at first, but then he realized that everything was destined to undergo drastic changes the moment he returned to his fourteen-year-old self. That was why he decided to remind Han Ying so that his father might avoid premature death with early intervention.

Meanwhile, at the Yangs', Han Yu had already been badly injured, for Yang Wanlin did not pull his punches when he vented on the poor boy.

However, even that was not enough to release the man's rage. Every time Yang Wanlin thought of how he was humiliated in front of Wang Li, a fresh surge of anger would swell within him.

"Stop! Please stop. You're killing me." Without any strength left in him, Han Yu lay helplessly on the ground as he begged.

Panting, Yang Wanlin gave the boy another hard kick before falling onto the couch to rest.

"Damn it! I wouldn't have embarrassed myself in front of Wang Li if it weren't for you. And here I was wondering why you didn't help me last night. It turns out it was because you're f*cking useless!" Still furious, Yang Wanlin threw an ashtray at Han Yu.

Han Yu was at a loss, for he did not even know what went wrong.

Just as Han Yu was still mulling over the cause of his predicament, Han Jingru finally appeared before the Yangs', and what happened next left the former speechless.

Both Yang Wanlin and Yang Bin jumped to their feet the moment they saw Han Jingru as if they

were welcoming the man.

Han Yu was so shocked that he could only gawp at the scene before him, he had no idea what made the two do that.

How is it possible that even the Patriarch of the Yang family treated Han Jingru with such respect?

In Han Yu's mind, his brother was nothing more than a piece of trash.

On the other hand, Han Jingru was a Platinum-ranked fighter of Apocalypse in Yang Bin's mind. As such, it was only natural for him to be in awe of Han Jingru.

"You're finally here, Jingru! How are you? You good?" Yang Wanlin approached Han Jingru and patted the boy's shoulder like they were old pals.

"I'm fine, but he shouldn't be," stated Han Jingru as he glanced at Han Yu.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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It was not hard to figure out what Han Jingru was implying, and Yang Wanlin was no idiot, so he immediately ordered his men to give Han Yu another beating.

At that moment, Han Yu was ready to embrace death, for he had never taken so much beating in his entire life. The boy was physically and mentally hurt.

“Jingru, I didn’t ruin your plan, did I?” asked Yang Bin cautiously because he was worried that he might have interfered with Han Jingru’s original plan.

“No. Rather, this is even better than I thought, Patriarch,” replied Han Jingru with a smile.

Han Jingru originally intended to use the Yaos to intimidate Nangong Shuxian, and he never expected the Yangs to get involved. However, the Yangs turned out to be a much more intimidating force than the Yaos.

Yang Bin laughed heartily when he heard Han Jingru call him Patriarch. That was probably the first time he was that happy to be addressed that way.

“That’s good then!” repeated Yang Bin.

“I owe you a favor, Patriarch. Whenever you need me, I’ll be there,” promised Han Jingru. As one of

the Three Major Families in Yan City, the Yang family would be a big help to Dynasty's development, so Han Jingru made them a promise to deepen their relationship. That way, the Yangs would definitely spend more resources on Dynasty.

"I'm glad to hear that. From now on, we'll be like family!" The clever Yang Bin gave Han Jingru a near-perfect response.

And just like that, the two scheming men were happy that they got nearer to their own goals.

"You know, his groaning is getting on my nerves. I think it's time to throw him out," stated Han Jingru after glancing at his brother.

Hearing that, Yang Wanlin's men immediately stop the beating and threw Han Yu out of the Yang residence.

Before that, however, Yang Wanlin punched Han Yu two more times to vent his anger.

The scene made Han Jingru laughed. "You seem to hate him a lot. What happened?"

Yang Wanlin told Han Jingru what happened the night before. Gritting his teeth as he spoke, the man looked as if he wanted nothing more than to skin Han Yu alive.

"I'll get you your turf back when we get the chance," promised Han Jingru.

Upon hearing that, Yang Wanlin felt much better because he knew that with Han Jingru by his side, he would be able to make Wang Li pay for humiliating him.

"I'll hold you to your word then, Jingru. Don't try to fool me," joked Yang Wanlin with a smile.

"I'm a man of my word. I will avenge you when we get the chance."

Yang Wanlin gave Han Jingru a sly grin. "Oh, the chance is already here, Jingru."

As he spoke, he raised his brows playfully at Han Jingru.

"Spill it then. Don't keep me hanging."

Yang Wanlin turned to Yang Bin and waited until the man nodded before he continued, "Have you heard of the Martial Arts Summit?"

Han Jingru shook his head. "No, but I'm guessing it probably has something to do with martial arts, am I right?"

Han Jingru had taken part in a martial arts championship before. Besides martial artists, many business leaders would participate in that

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kind of event because it was a great opportunity to earn money.

On top of that, it was also an opportunity for the prominent families to prove their worth.

“Yes. The Martial Arts Summit is an annual tournament jointly organized by the martial arts community and the business community. It’s an event where martial artists have the chance to prove their strength, while businessmen take the opportunity to make money. The transactions in the open and dark markets reach billions almost every year!” explained Yang Wanlin.

Billions?

Although Han Jingru was used to seeing that kind of amount, he was surprised that so much money was involved in a mere martial arts championship.

“The Three Major Families should have their own martial arts academy, right?” asked Han Jingru. Back then, Tian Jingshuo also had his own martial arts academy in Yun City. Although Tian Jingshuo founded the academy out of interest, it was also his means to secure the Tian family’s power.

Yang Wanlin, who was not surprised by what Han Jingru knew, nodded in response.

“Yes. This is something well-known among the major families. It’s just that nobody speaks about

it, so it's pretty much non-existent," replied Yang Wanlin.

Han Jingru responded with a faint smile because it seemed like Yang Wanlin was reminding him not to expose the matter.

"So they're competing with each other in the dark to give each other a way out. Got it." Han Jingru chuckled.

Through their simple conversation, Yang Bin had come to admire Han Jingru more. Although the boy was young, he was well aware of the unspoken rules. The Three Major Families was indeed competing among themselves with their martial arts academy, but they did it secretly so that each family had a way out. After all, nobody wanted to go all in. In a tripartite competition, if two parties ever go to war with each other, the remaining party would reap the benefit of the war, and that is something nobody would want.

"You catch up really fast, don't you?" Yang Wanlin smiled bitterly, for it took him quite a while to understand the situation when Yang Bin explained it to him.

"I'm guessing you want me to participate in the Martial Arts Summit?" asked Han Jingru.

Yang Wanlin did not reply, but Yang Bin stood up at that moment to answer the question. "You can

give it a try if you're interested. Of course, your participation will greatly benefit the Yang family, but I won't ask that of you in any way."

Yang Bin was being careful with his words because he did not want Han Jingru to think that he was using him. After all, it wasn't easy for him to build a close relationship with a Platinum-ranked fighter. He would not want it to be ruined.

"Patriarch, since the Yang family will receive a lot of benefits, do you think Dynasty can get a share?" inquired Han Jingru.

Yang Bin nodded without hesitation. "Don't worry. Our family will definitely do our best to help Dynasty's development in Yan City."

"In three months, I want Dynasty to surpass the Han family. That shouldn't be too hard, right?"

Although the Han family showed signs of decline, the reputation they had established over the years was not something that could be destroyed overnight. On top of that, Dynasty, a newly established company, was only in its infancy stage, so it was definitely not comparable to the Han family in terms of recognition.

Chapter 1148



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Various data indicated that it would not be realistic to expect Dynasty to surpass the Han family in such a short time. However, the Martial Arts Summit was too important for the Yangs, so after careful consideration, Yang Bin gave his reply. "Three months it is then. We'll use all our resources to develop Dynasty."

Although Yang Bin did not give a definite answer, it was enough for Han Jingru. After all, three months was indeed a very short time. Even though the Yangs were influential in Yan City, they did not own the entire city. There were various uncertainties to consider, so Yang Bin could not give Han Jingru a guarantee.

"Alright, I shall represent the Yang family in the Martial Arts Summit then," promised Han Jingru.

When Yang Bin heard that, he could not help but break into a big smile, for he could already see the Platinum-ranked fighter sweep to victory. To Yang Bin, Han Jingru being the champion was a sure thing.

Yang Bin gave Yang Wanlin a look before excusing himself. "Well then, I'm going to rest now. You young lads should chat for a while longer."

"There's a party filled with all sorts of hot chicks tonight. You interested, Jingru?" asked Yang Wanlin with a smirk.

Uninterested, Han Jingru shook his head, for he knew that his future wife was still waiting for him somewhere. Although fooling around then would not be considered as cheating on Su Yimo, the fact remains that Han Jingru only had eyes for Su Yimo and no one else.

“I’m not interested. If there’s nothing else, I’ll be going home now.”

Yang Wanlin did not expect Han Jingru to turn him down at all. He even arranged everything for the boy at the party.

Looking at the stupefied Yang Wanlin, Han Jingru explained, “I’m not Han Yu. Fooling around with women is meaningless to me.”

Yang Wanlin refused to believe the boy because he expected every man to be lustful.

“Could it be that you’re worried about performing badly on your first time? That’s totally normal. After taking the first step, I promise you that you’ll get better. Don’t worry, Jingru. I’ll get you two inexperienced ones so that they won’t make fun of you.”

Han Jingru’s face darkened at that and he aimed a kick at Yang Wanlin’s bottom. “This time, it’s your butt. Next time, I can’t promise you that you’ll still be able to stand.”

Terrified, Yang Wanlin quickly took a few steps back. He knew that Han Jingru was not fooling around, and he could possibly end up spending the rest of his life in a wheelchair.

“Let me walk you out,” offered Yang Wanlin from afar.

“No need.” Han Jingru turned and waved the man off.

Meanwhile, Yang Bin, who said he was going to rest, actually went to the study.

“Song Yun, how confident are you that Han Jingru will be the last man standing in the Martial Arts Summit?” asked Yang Bin curiously. He and Song Yun had already selected a fighter for the tournament, but when Han Jingru opted to represent their family, Yang Bin quickly forgot about his previous candidate.

“You don’t have to worry about that at all. I don’t think anyone can match him,” answered Song Yun calmly. *Unless the other families manage to get someone from Apocalypse, no one can beat our Platinum-ranked fighter.*

Every martial artist knew that Apocalypse was hidden in the mountains, and the fighters there were qualitatively different from ordinary people. No one in the mundane world could match those from Apocalypse because all the powerful fighters

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had long joined Apocalypse.

“Do you really trust him that much? After all, you haven’t seen much of what he can do,” stated Yang Bin.

Song Yun chuckled. “Have you forgotten about what happened with the Yaos?”

Yang Bin slapped his forehead. “You’re right! How could I have forgotten something so important? Well, it seems my concern is unfounded then.”

“Unless the other families can get an Apocalypse fighter to represent them, you have nothing to worry about.”

Yang Bin let out a long sigh. “It’s been a while since our family showed strength at the Martial Arts Summit. It’s finally our time to shine this time. However, I’m still worried about the problem we discussed before.”

Song Yun’s face hardened when he heard that. They had previously discussed why Han Jingru, a Platinum-ranked fighter, left Apocalypse. They wondered if he was forced to leave because he made a mistake or some other reason.

If it was because of some complicated reason, then the Yangs would be digging their own graves by allying with Han Jingru, for Song Yun knew fighters in Apocalypse were not allowed to leave

the mountains as they wished.

However, the two could only guess because they had no way of knowing the truth.

“Don’t worry too much. After all, there’s not much we can do to find the truth. All we can do now is to leave it up to fate,” explained Song Yun.

Yang Bin nodded helplessly. Even though he was a man that could never accept any uncertainties and would do everything in his power to search for the answer he was looking for, when it comes to a mysterious organization like the Apocalypse, he could only leave everything to fate.

After leaving the Yang residence, Han Jingru went back to the place Qin Fu arranged for him.

He knew that Shi Yan had moved into his house after she was kicked out of the Han family. Because he did not know how to face her before, Han Jingru had no plans to return home.

However, he changed his mind in the end because he remembered the life he and his mother had back in Yun City. Shi Yan never had any prejudice against him, so they got along well.

After taking his keys out to open the door, Han Jingru could smell dinner, which was strange because he was sure that Shi Yan could not cook. After all, the Hans had their own cook so she

never had to do it herself.

Why does it smell so good?

Has Shi Yan been hiding her cooking skills all this while?

“Mom!” Han Jingru called out tentatively.

A second later, he heard the sound of smashed crockery from the kitchen before Shi Yan walked out with tearful eyes.

It meant a lot to the woman to hear her son calling her “Mom.”

“You’re home, Jingru.”

“Are you making dinner?” asked Han Jingru in surprise.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Just when Han Jinru finished his question, another person walked out of the kitchen.

Wu Xin?

Seeing how the woman was wearing an apron, it became obvious to Han Jingru that she was the one who cooked, not Shi Yan.

But why is she cooking at our house? Is she that close to Shi Yan?

“Why do you look so surprised? Is it really that weird I’m here?” asked Wu Xin with a smile.

“Is it not?” retorted Han Jingru, for he did not think that their relationship had reached a point where they could start going over to each other’s houses, let alone cooking at the other person’s house.

In response to Han Jingru’s straightforwardness, Wu Xin simply rolled her eyes before returning to the kitchen.

Han Jingru gave his mother a puzzled look, hoping that she would give him an explanation.

Shi Yan approached Han Jingru before saying, “I met Wu Xin when I first moved here. She helped me a lot and even offered to teach me how to cook. She said that you guys are close, so I didn’t turn her down. After all, we’re neighbors.”

We're not that close. We may have seen each other a few times, and I've helped her out twice, but that's it.

"You're not planning to go back to the Han family?" inquired Han Jingru.

Shi Yan shook her head without hesitation, for she was fed up with Nangong Shuxian. Now that she had left the Han family, she had no intention of returning to them.

"I don't ever want to see Nangong Shuxian again."

Han Jingru knew the Hans also mistreated his mother. there was a lot of time when she was forced to do something that she did not want to do, so Han Jingru did not blame her for them.

"If that's how you feel about it, then you're welcome to stay here."

"By the way, how did you get out?" asked Shi Yan curiously since she still had no idea what happened to her son.

"Nangong Shuxian begged me."

Shi Yan widened her eyes. "Don't pull your mother's leg. You think I don't know what kind of person Nangong Shuxian is?"

It was hard for Shi Yan to believe what her son told

her, especially since she had lived with Nangong Shuxian for so many years. Han Xiuzhi was probably the only person in the world who could change Nangong Shuxian's dominant and stubborn personality.

Unfortunately, the man had already passed away, which meant Nangong Shuxian no longer submit to anyone.

Hence, Shi Yan found it difficult to believe that her son got out of his cage at Nangong Shuxian's request.

"She had Han Yu impersonate me, but he got into trouble with the Yangs. Yang Bin threatened to kill Han Yu if I didn't show up, so to save her precious grandson, Nangong Shuxian had no choice but to beg me," explained Han Jingru.

Shi Yan froze for quite a while before asking in disbelief, "Are you actually serious? She really begged you?"

"Absolutely."

Shi Yan inhaled sharply as if she had heard the most shocking tale, Never in a million years would she imagined that Nangong Shuxian would submit to Han Jingru.

"How satisfying! Serves that woman right!" exclaimed Shi Yan with gritted teeth. It seemed

Ad



that hearing the matter had helped her vent some of her anger, but in the next moment, she began to worry. “Nangong Shuxian’s not going to let you walk away like that. She’ll definitely come for you.”

“I know. That’s why I’ve struck a deal with the Yangs. They’ll use all their resources to help Dynasty in the next three months. Even if Dynasty can’t surpass the Han family, at least we’ll be on an equal footing. She’s not going to get her revenge that easily.”

Pride was written all over Shi Yan’s face when Dynasty was mentioned. She was surprised when she found out that her son established his own company at such a young age, and with the Yangs’ help, she was sure that Dynasty would become a force to be reckoned with.

However, Shi Yan also figured that the Yangs would want something in return.

“What did the Yangs ask you to do?” inquired Shi Yan.

“They’ve asked me to represent them at the Martial Arts Summit and win them glory.”

Shi Yan had heard of the tournament. The Han family had the honor of participating once, but it did not end well for them. Not only did they not get any benefits, but they also lost a large amount of money.

“Those who are qualified to participate are all powerful fighters. Will you be in danger?” asked Shi Yan worriedly, but Han Jingru simply chuckled in response.

There's no one on God's green earth that can put me in danger.

Not unless Qilin managed to regain his memory on Xenos and came to Earth. However, that's almost impossible because Qilin should still be asleep right now.

“Don't worry. Even Grandpa Yan is no match for me now.”

At the mention of that name, Shi Yan was reminded of how Han Jingru beat Yan Qiong last time, which was indeed unexpected.

“Since you're so confident, I'll stop worrying myself then. Still, you should be careful of Nangong Shuxian. That vile woman has nothing but dirty tricks up her sleeves,” reminded Shi Yan.

Obviously, I'm not going to underestimate Nangong Shuxian, but looking at the situation now, the only way that old woman would be able to have her revenge is if she asks the Nangong family for help. That being said, it remains to be seen if they will respond to her request.

According to Han Jingru's understanding of the

Nangong family, Nangong Shuxian was abandoned and was very likely considered as an outsider in the Nangong family's eyes.

"Mom, do you anything about Nangong Shuxian's background?" inquired Han Jingru.

"What background?"

"Never mind. Forget it." Han Jingru smiled without explaining. *Besides Han Xiuzhi, it seems like nobody else in Yan City knows about Nangong Shuxian's true identity. This just further confirmed my suspicions that the Nangong family has severed ties with her.*

"Are you guys done? If so, let's set up the table. It's dinner time," Wu Xin informed as she walked out of the kitchen.

Han Jingru rolled his eyes at the woman who was acting like she was a household member.

"Mom, don't let weird people into our home again, please." Han Jingru did not bother lowering his voice because he intended for Wu Xin to hear him.

Although Wu Xin did not appreciate the insinuation, she did not snap back at Han Jingru but turned to Shi Yan. "If you ever want to try my cooking again, just let me know. I'm always available."

Chapter 1150



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The atmosphere seemed odd when the three sat around the table for dinner. At least that was how it felt to Han Jingru while Wu Xin and Shi Yan talked and laughed.

While the two were chatting happily, Shi Yan suddenly asked, "Wu Xin, you didn't fall for my son, did you?"

Wu Xin was immediately stunned upon hearing the question, while Han Jingru nearly choked on his food.

"Where did that come from, Shi Yan? He's just a little boy to me. Heck, he's still underage." Although Wu Xin was denying it, her head was lowered, and her ears were bright red.

As a woman herself, Shi Yan knew exactly what that meant, but she was also curious why Shi Yan would fall for her son. As the woman said, Han Jingru was still a child.

"If the feeling is mutual, I have no objection. Even though Jingru's young... "

"Are you finished, Mom?" interrupted Han Jingru. If he let his mother went on, she might get to the point of discussing marriage.

That would not do for Han Jingru because he still had to look for his future wife in Yun City after settling all his affairs in Yan City.

“No, I’m not. That was rude of you to interrupt me.”
Shi Yan glared at her son.

“Well, I’m done, so I’m going to go out for a walk.
You guys carry on then.” Han Jingru could not do
anything about his mother, so he decided to leave
the scene.

Since the weather was hot those days, many
would go for a walk outside to enjoy the cool air
outside in the evening.

Whenever Han Jingru was alone, he would think of
Su Yimo and wondered what she was doing then.

*For her age, Su Yimo should still be in elementary
school. I wonder what her grades are. Would there
be boys in her class who like her? Is she being
bullied?*

*But one thing’s for sure, the Su family must be
giving her a lot of trouble.*

*I’m sure that because of Su Wenyi’s dispensable
status in the Su family, Su Yimo is being bullied by
her naughty cousin, Su Ruijin.*

The more Han Jingru thought about it, the more he
wanted to rush over to Yun City. Unfortunately, he
had already promised the Yangs to participate in
the Martial Arts Summit, which could not be
delayed.

Just when Han Jingru was deep in thought, someone ran into him head-on and started cursing at him, regardless of who was in the wrong.

“Are you blind, you little sh*t? You’d better apologize to me now,” demanded the person arrogantly.

Han Jingru would rather not waste his time on an unreasonable person like that, so he gave the man a kick and sent him flying.

Many passersby saw what happened and were dumbfounded.

They thought there was going to be a fight, but it was over before it even started.

“Whose child is that? My goodness! That was a powerful kick!”

“Is a child even capable of doing that?”

“Better not judge a book by its cover. Seems like children these days are not to be underestimated.”

Ignoring the people around him, Han Jingru quickened his pace and left the crowded place.

Besides not wanting to be stared at, the other reason was that he noticed he was being followed.

Ad



After reaching a place that was empty, Han Jingru stopped in his tracks. Upon realizing that his presence had been detected, the stalker came out of hiding and approached Han Jingru.

“When did you notice me?” asked the stalker.

“Tell me why you followed me. I might just let you walk away with your life if I’m pleased with your reason.”

The stalked smiled faintly. “I know you have good skills, but have you considered mine before talking arrogantly like that?”

“There’s nothing for me to consider,” replied Han Jingru directly.

“I guess it’s natural for a young lad like you to be impetuous, but you should also learn your place. Too much arrogance will only get you into trouble,” stated the stalker coldly. It was obvious that Han Jingru’s remark had angered him.

“Is that so?”

The stalker felt a gust of wind before he noticed that Han Jingru, who was on his left before, suddenly appeared on his right.

“You would’ve died just now, so I’m giving you another chance,” explained Han Jingru.

The stalker's face turned pale. *That speed was not humanly possible! I didn't notice his movement at all. I really would've died if he made a move just now.*

"How did you do it?" The stalker was obviously panicking because he knew that he had underestimated Han Jingru.

"You have five seconds left to explain yourself," reminded Han Jingru.

Suddenly, the stalker's mouth turned dry, and his mind went blank because he was afraid that he might not remain standing after five seconds.

The stalker uttered, "I know you helped the Yao family, but do you know the other party's background?"

"I know they control the S Nation Assassin Organization," replied Han Jingru calmly.

"That man's name is Ting Han. As the son of the organization's founder, he's next in line to lead the organization."

"So? You still haven't told me why you're here and who you are. In that case... "

Before Han Jingru could finish, the stalker quickly interrupted him. "Wait! I was also a member of the organization."

“Was?” Han Jingru smiled faintly before continuing, “So that means you’re no longer part of the organization, but according to what I know, nobody leaves an assassin organization. Whoever does that will be hunted down. You’re not here to ask for my help, are you?”

Instead of asking for help, the stalker actually came to join forces with Han Jingru against the organization. However, that was before he witnessed how powerful Han Jingru was.

After seeing what Han Jingru can do, the stalker realized that the boy could take on the organization alone.

This boy has the power to wipe out the organization on his own!

“You’re right, they are hunting me. I thought that we could join forces since we have a common enemy, but it seems that I’ve underestimated you.”

Han Jingru chuckled. “So, your original plan was to join forces with me to deal with them, but then you realized you’re not even qualified to do that, right?”

It was somewhat embarrassing to admit that to a child, but Han Jingru was indeed more powerful, so it was only natural for the stalker to lower himself.

“That’s right.”

Chapter 1151



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“So, what’s your plan now?” Han Jingru smiled at the stalker. He had to admit that the stalker was quick to realize his own place. *He must’ve been through a lot to get here since he’s being hunted. I wonder what’s going on inside his mind right now.*

The stalker did not expect things to turn out this way, so he just stood there with no idea what to do next.

“If you can’t think of anything. I have an idea,” informed Han Jingru.

The stalker nodded and looked at the boy with a serious expression.

“Swear fealty to me. And if I find you worthy, I’ll help you solve your problem. How’s that sound?”

Han Jingru was not trying to get himself a lackey. He only did so because he knew Ting Han would come for the man sooner or later.

After all, they were fighting against an assassin organization. Although Han Jingru could make them think twice about making the next move, they would never let the deserter walk away as if nothing happened.

“Does that mean you’ll help me?” asked the stalker in disbelief.

“You could say that, in a sense. This whole thing has no end in sight. It’s only a matter of time before they come for me.”

Truth be told, the man knew full well that the S Nation Assassin Organization would make Han Jingru pay for

protecting him. Otherwise, they would become a joke in the industry.

Therefore, the stalker wondered if he could trust Han Jingru. *I'd be exposed if I stay beside him... Should I continue to hide like a street rat instead?*

"I'm sure you're tired of hiding. Otherwise, you wouldn't have come to me," stated Han Jingru.

The stalker gave a firm nod in response because that was exactly his thought. The man was sick of looking over his shoulder. "My name's Mo Feng, and from now on, I am at your service."

A smile of satisfaction appeared on Han Jingru's face because he just got his first subordinate since going back in time. On top of that, the man was a skilled assassin, who could be very helpful for Han Jingru.

"Find yourself a place to rest for now. I'll contact you." Han Jingru threw Mo Feng a phone.

Watching Han Jingru walk away, Mo Feng did not regret going to the boy for help. The reason being he knew exactly how powerful Han Jingru was, even though he was just a boy.

Mo Feng only risked his life to look for Han Jingru because he heard how the boy sent Ting Han running. Now, after seeing what Han Jingru can do, he was even more sure that the boy was a powerful fighter.

"Hua Nation sure is terrifying. Who would've thought a childlike that could possess so much power." Mo Feng was filled with awe.

Chapter 1152

Ad



After strolling around for a while, Han Jingru looked at the time and decided it was time to go home. *Wu Xin should be gone by now.*

However, when the elevator door opened, what greeted his sight was none other than Wu Xin herself. It seemed that the woman was waiting for him.

“What are you doing here so late?” asked Han Jingru flatly.

Most men would turn their heads to look at Wu Xin in her sleeveless dress, but she noticed that Han Jingru was not one of them.

She deliberately dressed up, but alas, it went totally unnoticed by Han Jingru.

Is this boy too young to appreciate my beauty, or is he just not interested in women?

“Where did you go?” inquired Wu Xin.

“Are you taking an interest in my personal life, Wu Xin? Why does it matter to you where I went?” retorted Han Jingru.

“Of course it matters to me. I mean... We’re neighbors, and neighbors are supposed to look out for each other, right?”

“Well, in that case, I think you’re overdoing it, so stop trying to show your neighborly love.” With that, Han Jingru was ready to go home.

With a face flushed with anger, Wu Xin quickly stood in

Han Jingru's way.

"Han Jingru, you little brat! Do you not see how beautiful I am?" asked Wu Xin directly. Although she refused to admit that she liked Han Jingru, her actions spoke otherwise. Wu Xin had fallen for Han Jingru since what happened last time. He might look like a child, but to Wu Xin, the boy's thoughts and demeanor were very mature and attractive.

"Are you trying to rob the cradle?" ridiculed Han Jingru.

Wu Xin froze when she heard that because it sounded too harsh for her.

To make things worse, she could not think of a comeback.

All she could think about at that moment was that she was too young to be considered as someone who would rob the cradle.

"I'm underage, you know? So what you're doing is actually illegal," continued Han Jingru.

"I... I never said I was going to do anything to you. Besides, how can someone my age be considered a cradle robber?" stuttered Wu Xin.

Han Jingru could not help but chuckle because he did not expect that even after going back to his teenage self, his charm did not lessen one bit and girls still end up falling for him. *I guess I'm destined to be pursued by women.*

"I still have important things to tend to tomorrow, so I

have to go to bed now. Don't bother me if you don't have anything important," informed Han Jingru.

Wu Xin still had a lot to say and do. She even had an urge to bring Han Jingru home to sleep with him.

However, she did nothing but got out of Han Jingru's way in the end.

It wasn't until Han Jingru went back to his home that Wu Xin trudged back to hers. Thinking about her actions and thoughts earlier, her face turned as red as burning hot metal.

"What's wrong with me? Why would I have the desire to sleep with that boy? It's despicable!" murmured Wu Xin to herself as she slapped her own face.

When Han Jingru reached home, he noticed that his mother was making a strange face as she sat in the living room. It was as if she was trying to hold back her laughter.

"I'm guessing you've heard us?" Han Jingru could not help but inquire.

Shi Yan nodded but said nothing because she was afraid that she might burst out laughing.

"Don't let her come over from now on. You don't want me to start dating at my age, right?" asked Han Jingru.

Chapter 1152



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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That certainly would not be what parents of other ordinary families wish for their fourteen-year-old child, but Shi Yan was an exception.

She thought that her son could gain more experience if he started early. Then, he would be able to find her the perfect daughter-in-law.

“Isn’t it normal for a fourteen-year-old to be dating now?”

“You have no idea how to be a mother, do you? Who would want their child to be dating at such a young age?” Han Jingru rolled his eyes.

“We’ll talk about that later. I checked out a few schools for you today,” informed Shi Yan.

School?

Han Jingru never thought about that because of how Nangong Shuxian mistreated him. Every knowledge he possessed was self-learn. On top of that, he was already well-equipped with knowledge since he was a grown-up in a child’s body.

“I still have a lot to do, so I won’t have time for school,” explained Han Jingru.

“What? Are you saying that studying isn’t important? Kids your age should be in school.” Shi Yan did not consider that before, but then their situation had changed. *Since we’ve left the Han family, I can now give my son a normal life, and that includes sending him to school. That’s where he should be for his age.*

“I know how to make arrangements for my own life. I can

learn independently, so going to school will only be a waste of my time. That'll be the end of this discussion. Good night, Mom." With that, Han Jingru went to his room. Going to school would be a waste of time, so he had no intention of doing so. He would not consider it no matter what his mother said.

Shi Yan sighed at first because she wished for a normal life for her son, but then she remembered that Han Jingru had to run and develop his own company, so it was only natural that he would not have the time for school.

After getting out of bed the next morning, Han Jingru found his mother in the kitchen. The woman was not good at cooking, but she did what she could and prepared a bowl of noodles for her son.

"You should eat while it's still hot. I know it's not very good, but I'll do better next time." Shi Yan looked at her son expectantly as she waited for the rating to her first attempt at cooking.

Han Jingru remembered how his mother would prepare many of his favorite dishes so that he would have dinner at home, but the him back then did not appreciate the gesture.

All he did was give his mother a look before walking away.

Han Jingru felt guilty about treating his mother that way because he now realized that Nangong Shuxian forced her to do many things against her own free will.

"It looks good. I'm sure it'll taste just as good." Han

Chapter 1153

Ad



Jingru smiled and picked up his chopsticks before stuffing his face with the noodles.

“Hey, slow down. You’ll choke yourself,” reminded Shi Yan.

After slurping every last drop of soup in the bowl, Han Jingru burped satisfyingly. “It was delicious, Mom. It seems that you’re a fine cook.”

“I know. I’m awesome, aren’t I?” Shi Yan could not help breaking into a smile because of her sense of accomplishment. Her son’s compliment made her felt prouder than she had ever been.

“Well, I’m off to work now. Remember what I told you last night. Don’t let Wu Xin over,” reminded Han Jingru.

Shi Yan was in such a good mood then that she would nod to anything her son said.

Business soared at Dynasty after what happened at the Chamber of Commerce banquet, leaving Qin Fu so busy that he barely had time to breathe. Even so, Qin Fu would squeeze the time to prepare a report for Han Jingru so that the boy could follow up with the company’s development. No matter how busy he got, he was always ready to report to Han Jingru.

Qin Fu was utterly impressed by Han Jingru because of what he had achieved.

After Dynasty was founded, Qin Fu tried his best to expand the company’s business, but no big company would want to collaborate with a small-time company like Dynasty. After encountering countless obstacles, he

figured that they would need three to five years before things would fall into place.

However, Dynasty's development skyrocketed when Han Jingru got involved.

Qin Fu had no idea why the Yaos and the Yangs would promise to help Han Jingru. All he knew was that there was something extraordinary about the boy.

Qin Fu would do anything to repay Han Jingru because the boy offered him a second chance at life when he was out on the streets.

When Han Jingru arrived at the office, Qin Fu quickly stood up to give the boy his seat, but instead of sitting down, Han Jingru walked to the French window.

"Boss, our company has launched many new projects recently. Shall I give you a report on them?" asked Qin Fu.

Han Jingru shook his head in response. He was not interested in the progress of the projects since he had the Yao's and the Yang's help. All he had to do was wait for the result.

"Do you remember how we met, Qin Fu?" inquired Han Jingru.

Qin Fu froze for a brief moment before responding, "Of course. I'll never forget it."

"Because of you, I killed someone for the first time," continued Han Jingru.

Qin Fu clearly remembered how calm Han Jingru looked,

even though the boy was drenched in blood. Back then, Qin Fu thought he had seen the Devil's spawn, and he could still see it whenever he closed his eyes.

"I'd gladly give my life to repay you for what you've done for me, Boss."

"Men are easily blinded by power. I only gave you full control of Dynasty because I trust you, but I also worry that you may lose your way one day. I'd prefer not to destroy someone I cultivated myself," explained Han Jingru flatly.

Qin Fu's heart skipped a beat when he realized the boy was giving him a warning.

"I swear on my mother's grave that I'll never betray you," promised Qin Fu without hesitation.

Han Jingru, who thought swearing was a ridiculous notion, simply smiled faintly in response. *If swearing an oath actually worked, we'd have no need for divorce lawyers.*

"You just have to remember one thing. I can destroy you just as easily as I built you up," continued Han Jingru.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Han Jingru said those things to Qin Fu as a preventive measure.

Although Qin Fu did not show signs of betraying Han Jingru, their situation then had changed. Qin Fu's power had grown exponentially, so Han Jingru was worried that his subordinate would be blinded by it and that things would not end well for the man.

In a sense, Han Jingru would rather not fight Qin Fu. After all, they had been in a superior-subordinate relationship for two lifetimes then.

"I'll do well to remember your words, Boss."

Han Jingru approached Qin Fu and said solemnly, "I don't wish for us to be enemies. After all, Dynasty will eventually be yours."

Qin Fu did not understand what Han Jingru meant by that. *Han Jingru gave his blood, sweat, and tears to build Dynasty. Why would it be mine?*

However, Qin Fu did not speak his mind, he knew that as long as he does what he was supposed to, that was enough for him.

"Boss, I heard you're participating in the Martial Arts Summit. Is that true?" asked Qin Fu after their heavy conversation. He was shocked out of his wits when he found out about it.

Although the Martial Arts Summit seemed like an ordinary tournament between martial artists, Qin Fu knew that it was also a power struggle among prominent families. That was why he wondered why Han Jingru

would get himself involved.

“Where did you hear about that?” Han Jingru was puzzled because it stood to reason that the Yangs would not publicize his participation. *But if even Qin Fu knows about it. Does that mean the Yangs have revealed the news to the world?*

“You might not know about it, but the Yangs have already submitted your name as their candidate. Many know about this and are discussing why you chose to represent the Yangs,” explained Qin Fu.

It was then that Han Jingru realized that it was because of the participant name list and not the Yangs’ deliberate promotion.

He had no idea that he had caught so much attention.

“What did they say?” inquired Han Jingru with a smile.

Qin Fu immediately froze because he would rather not be the one to tell the boy.

“Don’t worry. I have a pretty good idea about what they might say, so just tell me directly,” continued Han Jingru.

“Many found out who you are, and they think you’re a fool digging your own grave.”

Only the Yaos and the Yangs knew what Han Jingru was capable of at the moment, so people made fun of him when they saw his name appear on the list. Not only was he ridiculed by other martial artists, but he was also mocked by other prominent families. Everyone thought it was one big joke.

Chapter 1154

Ad



“That’s nothing new,” responded Han Jingru calmly.

“I’m curious too, Boss. Why did you join the Martial Arts Summit, and why did you choose to represent the Yangs?” inquired Qin Fu with a puzzled look. There were a lot of rumors regarding the reason behind Han Jingru’s participation, but none of them were credible, and some were just outright ridiculous.

“I struck a deal with them. They promise to help develop Dynasty for the next three months if I represent them in the Martial Arts Summit. Even if we can’t surpass the Han family by then, we’ll be on an equal footing.”

Qin Fu’s jaw dropped when he heard that.

Three months to position Dynasty on an equal footing with the Han family in Yan City?

The idea seemed almost impossible to Qin Fu.

But then again, It’s not entirely impossible if the Yangs were to do their best.

But for that to happen, Boss would have to be the champion of the Martial Arts Summit.

That won’t be easy since he’ll have to face many skilled fighters before he could claim that glory.

“I know the Yangs’ offer is compelling, but wouldn’t it be dangerous for you to participate?” asked Qin Fu concernedly.

“Are you underestimating me?”

Qin Fu quickly shook his head because he would not want to offend his boss. He just thought it would be dangerous for a childlike Han Jingru to go up against so many skilled fighters in the tournament.

“If there’s one thing I know about the Martial Arts Summit, it’s that those who’re qualified to participate are powerful fighters,” continued Qin Fu.

“Many prominent families will take this opportunity to prove how powerful they are, so it’s normal to assume that they’ll only send their strongest candidate. Nonetheless, no matter how strong their candidates are, they’re just like ants to me,” explained Han Jingru.

Qin Fu had never doubted Han Jingru before, but he could not help thinking that his boss was bluffing then.

I’ve seen those men fight like characters from the Wuxia world, so how am I supposed to believe Boss when he says that they’re simply like ants to him?

“I still think you should be careful, Boss. The Hans might just take this opportunity to play dirty,” reminded Qin Fu.

Han Jingru nodded in response, what Qin Fu said was something he had considered as well for he knew that Nangong Shuxian would not let the opportunity to get back at him pass by. *I wonder who will represent the Han family.*

Yan Qiong is a powerful one, but I doubt someone so high up the Han family like him would participate.

“The first match will be in three days. Come and watch the fight if you have the time. I’ll show you what a

powerful fighter is then.” Han Jingru curved his mouth into a smirk.

Seeing how confident Han Jingru was, Qin Fu started to wonder if his worry was unfounded. The boy did not seem to be concerned about the tournament at all.

“I’ll definitely be there to cheer you on, Boss,” promised Qin Fu.

“If there’s nothing else, I’ll leave you to your work then,” stated Han Jingru.

With that, Qin Fu walked Han Jingru to the door to see the boy off before returning to his office.

Suddenly, he was inexplicably excited to see Han Jingru fight in the first match.

I’ll finally be able to see for myself if Boss was bluffing.

“Could my boss really be the ultimate fighter?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The annual Martial Arts Summit would usually become the talk of the town since it was a free fight between all parties. It was the perfect opportunity for the business community and various martial arts academies to prove themselves. However, this year was an exception since most of their attention was focused on one man alone.

The man in question was none other than Han Jingru.

Countless were in awe yet curious about his appearance, but for the most part, they were puzzled by the Yang family's decision to send someone like him to attend the Martial Arts Summit. Moreover, he was the only fighter on the Yang family's roster. Hence, it was a puzzling situation as compared to how the Yangs usually work in the past.

In the past, the Yangs would usually arrange at least three fighters to participate in the Martial Arts Summit since it would increase their chances of winning. None would have thought that the Yangs would put all their eggs in one basket this year. The Yangs' decision made everyone wonder if they were that confident that Han Jingru would win the fight.

More importantly, there was a slight uproar when some found out that Han Jingru was the useless young master of the Han family. Some even thought that Yang Bin had gone crazy for allowing such a useless man to participate in the Martial Arts Summit.

Hence, rumors against the Yangs started to surface.

"Yang Bin must have gone senile. Why else would he allow Han Jingru to participate in the Martial Arts Summit on behalf of the Yang family?"

“The Han family never took Han Jingru seriously. I heard that he had been living like a dog. How in the world did he get involved with the Yangs?”

“Could it be that Yang Bin had given up on this year’s Summit that he made such a silly decision?”

“Yang Bin had always taken the Martial Arts Summit seriously. He would willingly spend a ludicrous amount of money every year for the Summit. It doesn’t make sense for him to do otherwise this year. Perhaps this Han Jingru is something else.”

“Something else? He would have been heavily favored by the Han family if he really is something else.”

Various kinds of rumors and speculations spread through Yan City like wildfire and soon became a hot topic.

As the man who initiated these rumors and speculations, Yang Bin couldn’t help but smiled whenever he heard people saying he had gone crazy or senile. He knew that Han Jingru’s performance at the Martial Arts Summit will soon shock these people to the core and shut them up.

“Patriarch, rumors have been flying all over recently. Should we intervene?” Yang Wanlin asked Yang Bin. He couldn’t stand some of those rumors anymore. Yang Wanlin figured it was about time for him to put a stop to these rumors.

Yang Bin shook his head and said, “Let them be. The joke will be on them in the future. Besides, we can use this opportunity to find out the ones who had been adding insult to the injury. I need you to find out what everyone

said.”

“Yes, Patriarch.” Yang Wanlin nodded. It seemed that Yang Bin was doing some bookkeeping. Anyone and everyone who had spoken terribly of the Yangs will be blacklisted. Yang Bin planned to use it against them in the future when he needed to clear the path for Dynasty.

Although his excuse seemed far-fetched, it was better than nothing. After all, the Yangs couldn't possibly make a move on those small fries without a reason.

“Patriarch, what should we do with the ones that are within our family?” Yang Wanlin asked cautiously.

Everyone except Yang Wanlin and Yang Bin from the Yangs did not believe that Han Jingru could win. Some even thought that Yang Bin had gone senile. They couldn't understand the reason why the older man would make such a foolish decision.

“A gentle reminder will do since they're still family. No need to go overboard. After all, you'll still need their help in the future,” said Yang Bin.

I would still need their help? Wait, that means...

Yang Wanlin was ecstatic upon hearing that. Although he was the most qualified member in the Yang family to inherit Yang Bin's position, Yang Bin had never personally mentioned that the position would be passed down to him.

However, Yang Bin's words had made it obvious that he was going to pass the position down to him.

Chapter 1155

Ad



"Patriarch, I know what to do now. Thank you for enlightening me," Yang Wanlin said excitedly.

"You may go now if there's nothing else," said Yang Bin.

Hearing that, Yang Wanlin left Yang Bin's office.

"Do you think it's too soon?" Yang Bin asked Song Yun who was standing behind him.

"You mean confirming Yang Wanlin's status as the heir?" asked Song Yun.

Yang Bin nodded. He then sighed and said, "The reason I've never confirmed this was that I was afraid of the impetuous decisions young men would make when placed in this position. However, it looks like no one but him could be a better partner to Han Jingru. Hence, he's the only one who deserves this position. That was why I said what I said."

"You confirmed Yang Wanlin's status as the heir because you believe in Han Jingru's capabilities. Don't you think that this is too risky? After all, we're not even sure if Yang Wanlin could stay in Han Jingru's good books forever," Song Yun reminded.

Yang Bin didn't deny that he recognized Yang Wanlin as the heir because of Han Jingru. To him, the Yangs would need Han Jingru's help if they wanted to have a stable position in Yan City after he passed away because no one in the family had the capability to do it except for him.

Yang Bin wasn't sure if he had made a risky decision, but he felt like it was the only thing he could do for the

family.

“I will find an opportunity to tell Yang Wanlin how important Han Jingru is to the family. I believe he will know what to do next,” said Yang Bin.

Song Yun had been around Yang Bin for many years now. He understood Yang Bin and the Yang family's situation. He knew that Han Jingru's appearance was a blessing to the Yangs and that the Yangs' descendants must hang on tight to Han Jingru. After all, he was only fourteen years old, and yet he was already a Platinum rank fighter in the Apocalypse and had a bright future ahead of him.

“I wonder when the Han family will come to realize Han Jingru's potential. I guess Nangong Shuxian will live to regret this when the time comes,” Song Yun said with a smile. The whole thing was a big joke in his eyes. Nangong Shuxian had valued the useless Han Yu and viewed him as heir to the Han family instead of Han Jingru.

“I hope she doesn't come to this realization for the rest of her life since blood is thicker than water,” said Yang Bin.

It seemed that Yang Bin had underestimated Han Jingru's resolve by thinking that Han Jingru would forgive the Han family just because they shared the same blood.

Han Jingru knew that Nangong Shuxian doesn't recognize him as part of the family. Hence, he considered Nangong Shuxian an outsider and would never succumb to the Hans because of Nangong Shuxian.

Chapter 1155

He still remembered what Han Jingru said about how he would create another Han family that belonged to him.



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