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Jasper did not expect that this was what had caused Charlie to frown and stammer for such a long time.

Jasper did not know how he should react to that.

"Uncle Schuler is very easy-going, and he doesn't have much of a temper. He's a very nice person, so we can be more relaxed. Else, we'll appear to be overly formal."

However, Jasper did not think that Charlie would glare at him when he said that.

"Nonsense! We must be polite. Although we aren't going to ask for her father's blessing this time, it's still the first time both side's parents are meeting. How can we treat this casually?"

Upon realizing that Charlie was going to take this extremely seriously, Jasper said helplessly, "Perhaps we could prepare some gifts?"

gave him wine and tobacco as we usually do, he would probably

so nervous about? Uncle Schuler might be one of the richest people in the province, but I'm not that far behind either. We're not trying to claim connections with him. There's no need to be so

person in the province?!" Charlie immediately ignored everything else

life until Jasper made it big, had rarely even seen a large stack of cash with his own eyes. The richest man in the province was on the same level as a king to him... They were all

me, your son." Jasper grinned as he spoke and tried to ease Charlie's

"You're still young, so don't become cocky after a few accomplishments. He

convincing Charlie if

his personal property and real estate, Jasper felt that not only could he be named the richest man in the Southeast Province, but he could even be listed

wealth. It would be better for him to keep

were introducing you to a friend. There's no way he'll look down on you because you're a farmer, and you don't have to restrain yourself

did not say anything, but there was a stony expression on his face. Finally, he said, "You make it sound simple... Never mind, I can't come to any conclusions with you. I should talk about it with your mom and then consult

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While Jasper and Charlie were talking, at the west of Tefa City in Walmart.

Wendy and Sally talked and laughed as they picked out items while Julian stood near them and stared at everyone who got close to them.

The second time he managed to scare a little girl to tears, Wendy turned and said helplessly to Julian, "Julian, can't you have a kinder expression on your face? Look at how scared that little girl was."

Julian said innocently, "I didn't mean to scare her on purpose. I just took another look at her because she seemed cute."

"You have no idea how scary you appear when you look at people," Sally said as she laughed. She picked up a foam pillow, which had just started gaining popularity in a small part of the country in recent years.

"Wendy, do you think these pillows are useful? Jasper's dad has some neck problems, and the normal pillows don't allow him to get a restful sleep. I heard that these pillows are quite useful in allowing restful sleep."

"Charlie has neck problems? Has he gotten it checked out at the

"There's no need to have it checked. He's had that problem for many years now because of his work. Back then, we had to plant several hectares worth of rice in a day, and we spent all that time hunched

pillow and placed it in the cart. "Let's just buy one for the time being. I have a friend overseas, and I can get her to send

to such trouble," Sally

and said, "It's just a small matter. There's no need to be so formal with

asked naturally, "Do you need anything back home? Let's buy some for you

as she said, "No need, Sally. I have everything. I

your mom passed when you were young, and your dad raised you alone. He's a man, and you're a girl who hasn't done any household chores in her life. There's no way the

New Year's are approaching. You should

and touched, Wendy took Sally's hand

grown used to life without her mother taking care of her. However, she now got to

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In contrast to the surprise and excitement on the man's face, Wendy only had confusion written across hers.

The man did seem familiar to her, but she had forgotten who he was.

When the man saw that Wendy was not going to say anything else, he pointed to himself and said, "It's me, Jeremy Morris! I was a couple of months your senior back when you first started work at Commercial Bank. I taught you most of the ropes."

Not even in his wildest dreams would Jeremy have imagined he could meet the woman he had yearned for day and night again.

He had been doing well in his career lately, having secured a large project in the province. Now that he had been reunited with the girl of his dreams, Jeremy's eyes shone as he took pride in his success in both his career and relationship.

Wendy exclaimed, "Oh, it's you, Jeremy! Fancy meeting you here. It's such a small world."

said, "Wendy, so many of your colleagues were sad when you resigned. I resigned as well a week after you

a highly competent man, Jeremy. I'm sure you'll do

managed to secure a huge deal

The company where I work as a general manager is in charge of constructing a pedestrian greenway. It's an investment requiring tens of millions of dollars.

heard that Jeremy was one of the many contractors involved in the Southface River project, her liking toward Jeremy increased a notch. After all, he was working for

the outlook on the Southface River project is quite good,"

"Yeah, did you know that the largest project in the province is currently the Southface River project? Whoever gets involved even the slightest with

family had some connections

he said, but those listening

a strong focus on the company's integrity. He had emphasized in multiple meetings that subjected to public bidding before they could proceed to

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Any project that was obtained through the backdoor was not a good project to her. She might not know anything about buildings, but she knew that jerry-built building projects would only harm her son.

The expression on Jeremy's face darkened when he heard what Sally said. Frowning, he turned to Sally and said, "Who are you, old woman? What gives you the right to ask about how and where I got my project?"

An angry expression appeared on Wendy's face. "Jeremy Morris, watch your words! She's my friend's mom!"

"Friend?" Jeremy narrowed his eyes slightly.

It was nearing the end of the year now. Most people would be shopping for Christmas presents now if they were out.

The contents of Wendy's shopping cart proved that.

Jeremy asked,

"That's none of your

feeling euphoric and thought that his days of being successful in both his career and

you since the day you joined Commercial Bank and we got to know each other. I still like you to this day. How could you have just found yourself a boyfriend like

up a project in the Southface River project. I'll earn millions of dollars through this project. Where does your boyfriend work? Can he even earn a

find yourself a random man and suffer for the rest of your life with him? Why don't you get together with me? Ignoring other things, at least you can enjoy a

shameless Jeremy was. She scoffed and said, "A cut above others? How is it a cut above others? Is money that important

I'm older than you by two years, and I've seen more things than you. You

for a beautiful girl like you. If you don't get a rich boyfriend like me, who else

said, "Look at your boyfriend's mom. Look at how she acts and dresses. She's no different from the farmer wives in the country. How could a family

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"What about me?"

Jeremy scoffed and said leisurely to Sally, "You'd better be careful, you old hag. Don't make me angry. It's almost Christmas now. I would consider myself unlucky even if you don't think it'll dampen your spirits."

"Or do you want to squander my money? That's fine too. If you get your son to f\*ck off, I can give him tens of thousands if I'm in a good mood. That would be much better than him working his socks off and earning so little, right?"

Wendy gritted her teeth in anger as she looked at the gleeful expression on Jeremy's face.

"Julian!" Wendy called out.

Julian, who had long since been unable to stand him, immediately appeared. He stared unblinkingly at Jeremy.

Jeremy, who had been wild with glee, sensed the unmasked hostility from Julian when he appeared. Jeremy frowned.

"Where did this idiot come from? F\*ck off, can't you see I'm talking?"

Jeremy had just finished speaking when Julian picked him up by the collar. He was raised several feet off the ground.

His shocking strength caused everyone who was watching to cry out in surprise.

you shut up forever if you say another word. Do you believe

was enough

would do. The look in his eyes proved to Jeremy that this man, who had appeared

I don't want to see him anymore," Wendy frowned as

hatred toward Jeremy, but she did not get Julian to do anything extreme. After all, they

understand that too. Huffing, he tossed Jeremy aside. He landed

off now, or I won't let you be sprawled out so comfortably the next time,"

adjusted his collar. The fall had him

just wait and see!" Jeremy glared evilly at

you alright?" Wendy grasped Sally's

I was just so angry I couldn't catch my breath just now.

people like him won't remain gleeful for long,"

Jasper. He should be

happen? What

Jasper when I saw him speaking rudely to Mrs.

didn't do anything wrong. You were just carrying out your responsibilities, and you were worried about us. I just think that we

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It stopped less than an inch away from his feet.

Jeremy was so shocked he took several steps backward before he roared, "Can't you see that there's someone here? Are you trying to kill me?"

Then, he saw the make of the car. It was a Bentley!

Only the richest of the rich could drive such luxurious cars worth several million Somer Dollars.

Cowardice immediately took over Jeremy as he took several instinctive steps backward.

When everyone who was with Wendy saw the Bentley, a smile appeared on their faces.

They knew that Jasper had arrived.

When the Bentley pulled to a stop, Jasper got out of the car and walked straight toward Jeremy with a nonchalant expression. He turned to Julian and asked, "Julian, is he the one who insulted my mom and Wendy?"

Julian nodded.
expression on his face and was just about rang out after he slapped him. "So,
Slap!

A second slap.

to take my

Slap!

A third slap.

you would give me tens of thousands if I

Slap!

A fourth slap.

managed to get a sub-project in the Southface River

consecutive slaps were enough to slap Jeremy silly. As he backed away, he tried to use his hand to shield himself, but he could not stop Jasper from slapping him

like a pig's face after getting slapped four times in

cared if Jasper had gotten out of a

how dare you slap me?! Do you know who

his mouth. His eyes were bloodshot, and he seemed ready to eat

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That one phone call was enough to knock Jeremy into an abyss.

He could not figure out how someone who had appeared out of nowhere could tear apart the project he had gotten for himself.

Such a person was either a lunatic who was really good at acting, or they were actually legit.

Jeremy glanced at the Bentley parked behind Jasper and gulped. He felt chills running across his entire body.

Could a lunatic afford to drive a Bentley?

Moreover, based on what had just happened, it was clear that this man was Wendy's current boyfriend and the son of the farmer woman he had just laughed at!

Jeremy was incredibly decisive when he realized he was in deep trouble. He immediately knelt before Jasper and said, "I'm sorry, I failed to recognize your talent. I looked down on you because of my own twisted views!

"I have a mouth too big for my own appetite!

"But that project is our family's lifeline. None of us went through any backdoors, everything was done properly through bidding. Please forgive me this one time..."

Jeremy spoke desperately, the sincerity and look of apology on his face were not faked at all.

Jasper watched Jeremy's performance calmly and waited for him to finish before he said, "Very well. I shall investigate if you got this project legally through a bid or not.

"If you did get this project through a bid, I won't hold anything against you. However, if bribery was involved, not only will the person who accepted the bribe face time in jail, but you will also suffer consequences as the person who initiated the bribe."

The expression on Jeremy's face changed when he heard what Jasper said.

are you?" Jeremy asked dazedly as he raised his head to gaze

sentence, he ignored Jeremy and turned to walk to

head and said, "I'm

stony expression on his face as he said, "Didn't you say it was an impressive feat that

in charge of

colorless face another look before he turned

He had a sullen expression

men jumped out from them. The leader ran over

person who hit you? Don't worry, I've brought all my men along with me. I'll make sure

explain anything to these thugs and could only mumble, "Sh\*t, I'm done for. My entire family is done for. What should I

was confused, but he

be that Jeremy had angered the

at Jeremy immediately became less friendly as he asked probingly, "Young Master Morris, should we also leave now that they've left

working on to

all you f\*cking want but you're asking me for payment now even though you didn't do

you weren't circling me and

showing you respect by calling you Mr. Morris today. If I don't feel like doing so,

want to or not! Or else, don't blame me

his men who were staring greedily

...

issue was insignificant

there was a major

back when he was battling the Hull family. However, the problem that was discovered in the real estate

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The end of the year was soon approaching. Jasper's family had three important meals that they would always have at this time of the year.

The first one was on the 24th, Christmas Eve dinner.

Another one was on the 25th, Christmas lunch.

The last one was on the 26th, Boxing Day breakfast.

The south had just about the same traditions, but they just had the meals at different times of the day.

There were only a few days left before Christmas. Wendy had to return to the province to accompany Dawson. After all, even though he had not said anything about being left alone in the province, everyone knew he hoped his daughter would accompany him during this special day.

Jasper began preparing this year's Christmas Eve dinner after he said goodbye to Wendy.

Although the Laine family wasn't huge, as they were from the village, there were relatives who moved around and they all still kept close contact with each other.

they knew he had made it big this year, the majority of Jasper's relatives suggested having this year's Christmas

let go of this opportunity to have bragging rights in front of their relatives.

if they were his relatives or tribespeople. Men could not survive

did not treat him

plenty of people who held grudges because their relatives did not share their earnings with them after making it big in

relatives, Jasper's only reaction was to ask

to look good in front of them. I've already booked three tables at Shangri-La Hotel. All you have to do is go over. Moreover, I've arranged for several cars to pick everyone up because there are so many of you guys. Someone

of his legs over

and noisy on Sally's end of the line. A bunch

could also hear the sounds of a relative marveling and

we'll get going right now. Hey, where

and said, "I borrowed them from a friend. You don't need to worry about that. That's all for

said to John, "Thank you so much for your help, John. Else I would never have been able to book that private room at Shangri-La Hotel. And thank you for those six BMWs as well. I would never have been able to procure them

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"These are all insignificant, though. You're a busy man with no time for these things. It doesn't matter if we, your friends, help you take care of matters like these.

"But he still put quite a lot of thought into it, so how about we go visit him after Christmas?"

Jasper gave John a meaningful look and smiled as he said, "John, you're playing mind games with me as well now. Kai doesn't have such a simple purpose behind wanting to meet me, does he?"

John knew he could not fool Jasper and decided to say honestly, "Well, his main reason is to thank you. His other reason is that he would like to take Faith County's resources once Samuel is gone."

Jasper thought to himself for a moment. No matter how he advanced, Faith County and Tefa City would be his home base for a long time.

At the very least, his parents would retire here. They would not go anywhere else.

The company's headquarters was in Waterhoof City. The amount of time they needed to spend there would be calculated in years. They would not be able to move away anytime soon.

Thus, it would be much better to have someone on his side take care of things than to have someone like Hugh or Samuel.

know

answer and said cheerfully, "Alright, I'll

...

and John were chatting in the office,

Charlie were happily leading a team of relatives

huge villa and

turned to speak to Charlie, her envy evident

agreement and turned to gaze reluctantly at the

on farms. At most, they only managed to start a small business in Faith County. They were all your average families and had never been in such a luxurious neighborhood before. Thus,

he put on a calm expression as he said, "It's not much. It's just that our boy knows what he's doing. He's a big

still been in elementary school the last time I saw him, right? The years have just flown by. I remember saying he was a smart kid who would definitely make it big in the future. And look! I'm right,

I used to think Jasper was different from other children as well. He didn't talk much, but he was smart and always

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"You silly boy, what are you thinking about? I've already called out to you multiple times!"

Startled by that voice, Terence hurriedly turned to his dad and asked, "Dad, what's wrong?"

Jasper's uncle glared at Terence as he said, "When will you grow up? Let's not talk about your cousin, Jasper. But even your brother has his own business now. Can't you learn from them?"

Terence said impatiently, "What do you know? I'm friends with... Never mind, you wouldn't know even if I told you. What did you need me for?"

Jasper's uncle said, "Did you bring the mountain ginseng as I asked you to?"

Terence hoisted the large box in his arms as he said, "Yes, I did."

Then, the expression on Terence's face darkened as he said reluctantly, "Dad, are you really going to give this heirloom to Jasper Laine's family? Is this necessary? This is our family's heirloom and can't be bought on the market no matter how much money you have. It's 200-year-old mountain ginseng—"

name. Your cousin is older than

it to Jasper once

else? I want to give this mountain ginseng to an important figure

important

no say when it comes to this mountain ginseng. Do as I say, or you'll face my wrath when we get

father turn away from him and sidle over to Charlie, Terence hugged the box tightly. He

everyone walked out of the villa and walked to the gate, they saw six shining BMWs parked by the road. Each car had

them, saying respectfully, "Sir, Ma'am, the cars have been prepared. Everyone only needs to get in

got married. It was such a rare sight then, and we weren't even allowed to touch it. Now,

relative gasped in

considerable feat to own a car. Needless to say, they had never seen a scene as grand in front of their eyes before. There were six identical BMWs parked in

I'm so jealous." Jasper's