

Born Winner 121

Chapter 121 On Your Knees!

The sounds and voices were echoing in the room.

It was as if the air was frozen.

The two mid aged men's pupils went small, their faces showed surprise.

Mister Ward and Brent were pale in their faces from the shock.

Mister Ward said to Jack hurriedly, "Master Hughes, don't lose your temper."

As he said so, he turned to Madam Hughes to explain, "Madam Hughes, I apologize to you on behalf of

Master Hughes, please excuse him."

"Huh!"

Madam Hughes snorted cold, she didn't even look at Mister Ward who was on the floor, instead she

was fixed on Jack, her eyes were slightly squinted.

Since the start, Jack had no other emotion on his face except for the coldness.

He stared Madam Hughes in the eyes, and made no intention to back away.

Since the moment he entered the room, he recognized that Madam Hughes was reading from the sin

expiation Buddhist scriptures, "Ksitigarbha Bodhisattva PurvaPranidhana Sutra".

But he came here carrying sins, to ask for forgiveness, he wanted Madam Hughes to concede, so he swallowed his anger.

But Madam Hughes kept reading her prayers, and ignored him, if it wasn't Mister Ward, who interrupted

her, Madam Hughes might have really kept reading the prayer a hundred times.

The time she needed to read it a hundred times, he might have died due to excessive blood loss.

He was really there to ask for forgiveness.

But he wasn't a pushover, neither was he a hothead.

Madam Hughes was already using the scriptures for the dead to against him, why would he keep enduring?

Mister Ward looked very anxious, and as he was staring at Madam Hughes, his eyes reddened.

When he entered, he as well noticed what Madam Hughes was reading.

But he didn't dare to interrupt her.

If it wasn't for Jack's condition to gradually worsen, he as a servant, would never had the balls to do so.

Who knew that Jack as well recognized the prayers she was reading and he went so far to say it out

loud right in front of Madam Hughes.

This was great disrespect!

In that moment, Madam Hughes got up, and went to the computer, then she turned off the prayers, and stopped to pause.

The room was deadly quiet.

Both Mister Ward and Brent, and the mid aged man with graying temples were staring at Madam Hughes, and felt suffocation.

After a moment.

Madam Hughes suddenly started to laugh, "Well, well, you really are the son of Patrick, with your shrewdness, your courage, I guess I am of no use anymore, since you are butting against me."

Even though she was laughing, everyone in the room noticed the coldness in her voice.

As she finished speaking, Madam Hughes turned around to stare at Jack.

"Now that you know to open the wound to beg me to concede, why should I not release your soul from your body?"

Jack's pupils narrowed.

In that moment, he felt he was read through by Madam Hughes.

Because she knew that I was going to open the wounds, that's why she was reciting the prayers?

What a mean old bitch!

"Kneel down!"

Madam Hughes demanded, her eyes looked furious.

Jack's brows knitted while he was undecided.

His eyes showed his struggles, with his right hand he had to put pressure on his wound, so hard that he

almost buried his fingers in the wound.

A man didn't go on his knees, unless it was in front of god, or his parents.

If he did now, it meant that he surrendered to the Hughes family's powers!

And Madam Hughes came to send punitive forces against him!

"Master Hughes, kneel down!"

Mister Ward said to him, his voice was trembling, and his eyes red.

No matter how calm of a person Mister Ward usually was, now he clearly was scared.

Madam Hughes had the most high position in the Hughes family.

In this situation, even if old Master was there, he wouldn't have the powers to turn the situation around.

If Jack was to be disinherited, it would have been all for nothing.

"Master Hughes..."

Brent wanted to say something, but then stopped, his eyes flashed.

"Huh..."

Jack exhaled deeply, his cold face suddenly showed a smile, "Alright, I will kneel down."

Then, he endured the horrible pain shooting from the wound on his stomach, and kneeled down slowly.

It looked like the moment was in slow motion.

Jack's pale face was showing a smile, but his eyes were shining.

His hands were subconsciously clenched to a fist, his veins were popping out.

Even his tightly bit teeth were making noises.

This was a humiliation!

This was the biggest humiliation since he was born into this family.

Even though he didn't want to kneel down, he had no choice but to do so.

If he did, he still had the chance to be the winner.

If he didn't, he would become an outlaw, or maybe even worse.

Poof!

When his knees touched on the ground, his heart beat loudly.

That moment, Jack's consciousness was a little blur, his head was empty.

"And I thought you were made of steel, a cross breed, but who knew that your knees could bend?"

Madam Hughes was standing above Jack, staring down at him, her eyes were filled with dissatisfaction

and hate, "You have hurt my grandson, Killian, what do you deserve?"

Mister Ward got worried, "Madam Hughes, didn't the family already talk about that?"

"Humph!"

Madam Hughes swooshed her hand, her eyes looked furious, "He was bullying my grandson for being

a good and nice boy, and now he wants to mud this water, does he really think I am already dead?

Killian was such a lively boy, and was beaten to that extent, is that something one knife wound could

make up?"

Good boy?

Nice?

Jack laughed, his eyes were filled with anger.

She was taking his side, how can she send punitive forces against him!

"Madam Hughes, Master Hughes has already gotten the knife wound, don't you see it?"

Mister Ward was supporting Jack, his eyes were still red, his body trembling.

"You are just a servant, who are you to talk!"

Madam Hughes knitted her brows, her eyes were widened, then she threw a look at Jack, "He is a

bastard, he has no right to be equal to my grandson Killian! Last time it was George, this time it's

Killian, you really are something!"

Jack's smile on his face widened.

Bastard?

He really was one!

"Madam Hughes, Master Hughes is still blood related to Old Master, he is still a child of the Hughes

family!" Mister Ward couldn't help but to act against his role.

Madam Hughes's words were not just taking someone's side, they were for sure not sending punitive forces against anyone.

She just wanted Jack to be dead!

And as a servant, if he couldn't protect his master, what was he good for?

"Do you know how important the Hughes family is? Who the hell is he?"

Madam Hughes was staring at Mister Ward, her long and bony fingers were pointed at Jack, "He is just a bastard, given birth by a whore, how is he the child of our family?"

"But..."

Mister Ward wanted to say more.

Brent, who was also kneeling on the floor, was filled with anger, and wanted to argue.

The room was filled with the smell of gun powder.

The murder intent was obvious.

Minister Mable had his brows knitted, he looked at Jack with a serious gaze.

"Really well said!"

Jack said loudly.

In that moment, Madame Hughes, Mister Ward and Brent were all startled.

Then, while they were staring at him.

Jack was slowly standing up, still holding his wound, "You are right, I am just a bastard, and I am made of steel, I cannot bend!"

"You... kneel down right now!" Madam Hughes stared at him angrily.

In the Hughes family, nobody dare to be disrespectful to her!

And outside the family, nobody dared to be so provocative!

"Since you don't really see me as a Hughes, since I am just a bastard, any you are disrespecting my mother, why should I kneel down in front of you?"

Jack was filled with anger, his eyes were sharp as a knife.

That moment, he was riding the high horse.

Chapter 122 My Son!

Whoosh!

Mister Ward and Brent were as if they were hit by lightning, scared to death.

Mister Ward had tears running down his cheeks, and despair was written on his face.

This was the end!

"You..."

Madam Hughes was furious.

This bastard dared to talk to her like that?

This was outrageous!

The Hughes family was in her hands, she was aloof from the world, no matter who they were, everyone respected her.

In her heart, Jack was the family's head's child.

If she was happy, she would call him a bastard.

If she wasn't in a good mood, he was nothing to her.

Not even a bastard.

But now.

Jack took a step toward her, majestic and eye catching.

"I respect you, you are Madam Hughes, if I don't respect you, who would you be?"

These words cause Madam Hughes' face to change colors.

With her self-cultivation, her mind was agitated, raging, her face flushed, her teeth clenched.

But, Jack made no intentions of backing off.

Instead, he took another step forward.

"You came to send punitive forces against me, I gave you face and opened my wound again, with my blood I want to trade for you giving in."

"I wanted you to take a step back, not for you to force me into a corner, using prayers to release my soul from my body."

His voice sounded like thunder, awakening the deaf.

Jack wasn't stupid.

Madam Hughes' intentions were to send him to hell before his father found out.

He could back off, he could endure it, he could even drop to his knees.

But to force him to wait for death, no ways.

The air in the room was as if frozen, making it hard for anyone to breath.

The two mid aged man with graying temples had their brows knitted deeper, they were looking at Jack with sharp eyes.

Mister Ward and Brent were pale in their faces, both of them crying.

Everyone knew that the powder kit had exploded.

Completely exploded.

Madam Hughes looked pale in the face, she was trying to catch for air while staring at Jack with eyes that were about to murder him.

She had always been head of the family, she had the powers, ever since she entered this family.

She was like a god overlooking everyone like ants.

She was so used to her position, that today, since she has met someone who dared to pull her off her chair, she had trouble to calm down.

Suddenly, Madam Hughes went back to her chair.

She stared tightly at Jack, her teeth were clenched, "Young man, don't be too arrogant."

This was a warning.

But Jack only snorted.

He took another step toward her, his eyes were ice cold, then he said, "If I wasn't arrogant, how could I be a young man?"

Whoosh.

Madam Hughes was as if hit by lightning.

Her chest was lifting up and down, she almost spit blood.

"You, you bastard... today I will have you die a grave-less death! Even if your father is head of the family, I will not allow you to live!"

She was full of murderous intentions.

Madam Hughes had never wishes to kill someone so strongly.

Today as she saw Jack, heard his speak, and saw him act, she forgot about all her dignity that she had kept over the years.

"Try me."

Jack raised his brows, his gaze deep, and laughed, "I am only three steps away from you."

Jack was as well filled with murderous thoughts.

He was warning her just the same way she did.

If he was going down, he was going to pull her with him.

Since his childhood, he had to carry the name of a bastard, it took great work to walk out of his shadows, and reach where he was today.

Just talking about himself, he was sure that he had made it.

So, even if it was Madam Hughes, she had to be buried under his body.

And his mother would have the protection of his father, she would be fine.

And then.

Madam Hughes expression was fixed, her pupils were narrow.

Her power was the result of her influence.

Her body had reached high age, if Jack took those three steps, he could kill her easily.

Neither George nor Killian could take it up with Jack, and they were the elite children of the family, both of them had enjoyed the best Combat Skill training. If they couldn't beat him, then Madam Hughes couldn't count on the two men to protect her.

And, she never doubted Jack's words.

A bastard could do anything.

Time was standing still.

Everything was frozen.

Mister Ward and Brent didn't know what to think, their world had crushed.

The two men with grayed temples hadn't shown their opinion since the beginning, they only sat aside and watched.

Jack and Madam Hughes were staring at each other, none of them moved back.

If the world got wind of this scene, it would have been a big deal.

The Hughes family was a supreme super clan.

No matter how rich or powerful one was, they had to surrender in front of them.

And now, there was this youngster, who wanted to cause Madam Hughes' blood to splatter with just three feet away from her.

Time was passing slowly.

Outside the room, one could hear the spattering noise of water running.

Suddenly.

A deep voice that contained endless coldness was heard from behind Madam Hughes and the mid aged man.

"Madam Hughes, that is my son!"

This simple sentence had the effect of a bomb.

Everyone was surprised.

"It's old Master!"

Mister Ward had a light of hope in his eyes, as if he was holding on to the last hope of staying alive.

Brent was as excited and clenched his fists.

The med who were sitting on chairs suddenly stood up and bowed in front of him.

"Old Master Hughes."

"Mr. Mable, no need to be so formal."

Behind the bamboo shoots, a think deep voice replied the mid aged man.

"Humph."

Madam Hughes who was sitting on a chair snorted, she laughed with anger, "Patrick, you arrived pretty fast!"

"Not as fast as you."

Madam Hughes' laughed, then she raised her hand to point to Jack, "Take a look at this little bastard, he is so provocative, who is he to compare himself to our elite children? Who is he to be in our heritage?"

Jack was stunned.

His emotions were suddenly messy.

His eyes were staring toward the bamboo shoots.

He could make out that there was a dark and blur shadow behind them.

It has been more than 20 years, the first time since his birth.

Jack squinted his eyes, and tried hard to see the man's face clearly.

But it was too dark, so dark that he couldn't see anything.

Then, Patrick's voice was heard again.

"Madam Hughes, what did he do wrong?"

He asked in return, and it cause Madam Hughes to pause, then he quickly added, "He is not a bastard,

he is my blood and flesh!"

Whoosh!

Now Jack felt as if he was hit by lightening, his body trembled.

"Blood and flesh", those words were as if there was a big hammer that hit him on his heart.

Patrick did not pause, he kept talking his words ringing.

Just as Jack before, he was pompous and domineering!

"He wasn't acting provocative. Anybody who was forced to the ground would take his chances to fight for life, and on top of that his mother was being disrespected, anyone would want revenge. His temper really just looks like me!"

"Since he is my son, why would he not be a heritage of the elite children of our family? George is still recovering from his injuries of legs at home, and Killian would have already been buried if not protected by family rules, how can you say that he is not better than those two?"

"Madam Hughes, I am the head of Hughes, I have the say!"

Chapter 123 My Fierce Father

Patrick's voice was echoing in the room.

It was a unusual calm voice, but it was carrying a dominance, causing nobody being able to reply to it.

This kind of aura, only the head of Hughes family could spread out.

Madam Hughes looked pale in her face, her tiny body was trembling, and her teeth were clenched.

Patrick was the head of his family, but he was Madam Hughes junior.

As a junior, to contradict her as a senior, showed no respect.

This kind of behavior was forcing Madam Hughes into a corner, and left her with no face.

Mr. Ward and Brent were admiring him for that, with red eyes, they were staring towards the shadow

behind the bamboo shoots.

Patrick's words were clearly stating to save Jack.

Even Minister Mable was surprised.

As was Jack.

He suddenly felt tears coming up.

The father he had never met, was he really so fierce?

"Patrick, even though you are the head of this family, how do you dare to speak to me like that?"

Madam Hughes spoke with her teeth bitten, "Where are your Hughes' manners?"

"What do you want to tell me?" Patrick's voice was suddenly carrying a slight banter.

"He is a bastard child, and he talked back to me, he was acting unfilial, and you as the head of this family, are not acting according to our rules, instead, you are taking him under your wings, where is your obedience?"

Madam Hughes suddenly pointed towards Jack, her momentum was growing again.

In the Hughes family, there were strict family rules, and being filial was one of the most important ones.

This was one of the reasons why the Hughes family could exist in this hidden world without being taken down, instead, they had held the place high above the clouds overlooking the others.

"How was he disobedient? If it wasn't for you pushing him so hard, why would my son talk back to you?"

He came here to you with a wound that he opened himself again, to ask for your forgiveness, you as his ancestor, what did you do?"

Patrick's voice suddenly deepened.

Madam Hughes eyes were widened and glowing, she threw a gaze towards Minister Mable.

He paused, and hurriedly looked down.

In the room, the air stood still.

The smell of gun powder was getting thicker.

Jack didn't say anything, he knew that this situation was now between his father and Madam Hughes to be solved.

But then, what Madam Hughes said next, suddenly made Jack's heart ache.

Madam Hughes bit her teeth, and said, "What if today, I insist on killing this bastard?"

She was filled with murderous thoughts.

Her voice was ice cold.

As soon as she said that, the room felt as if the temperature sank a few degrees.

"Pah!"

Patrick snorted, "Do you really think I am still the same Patrick I sued to be? The one that was forced to leave his family and return to the Hughes family? Madam Hughes, today, I have the say in this family!"

"Since I am the head of this family now, do you think I will allow you to hurt my woman and child?"

His words were dominant, with no intentions to take a step back.

Bang!

Madam Hughes was furious, and banged her hand on the table.

"Patrick Hughes, I will let you watch how this bastard dies right in front of your eyes!"

As she said so, Madam Hughes yelled towards the door, "Guards, kill this bastard child, Jack!"

In just a moment.

Madam Hughes' three servants who were waiting in the grove, rushed into the room.

"Brent!"

Patrick yelled loudly.

Before Patrick even said anything, Brent had already stood in front of the door like a tower with is tall
body.

With his tall built body standing right in front of the door, the three servants were immediately stunned.

"Patrick!"

Madam Hughes was so furious that she was trembling all over, her eyes were widened with anger, she
was not the dignified and elegant woman anymore.

"I am not dead yet!"

Her voice was echoing in the room, hurting in the ears.

"Madam Hughes, Jack is my son!"

Patrick spoke slowly, "If this is really what you want, I don't mind to add another name in the Hughes' ancestor's hall!"

His words had the effect of thunder.

Jack had his surprise written on the face, he felt a big wave catching his heart.

What a man!

My father really is fierce!

His words carried the intentions of killing Madam Hughes!

He ignored all of the Hughes family rules!

In that moment, everyone in the room was stunned.

Nobody would have thought that Patrick would say something like that.

"I..." Madam Hughes had to control herself, her breathing was heavy.

But before she could finish her sentence.

Patrick said, "Madam Hughes, you and I are not that close, if you are going to respect the agreements we had made, I will still respect you, but if you ignore it all, then next year at the tomb sweeping day, we are going to visit your grave!"

Bang!

Madam Hughes was so furious, her eyes filled with anger, and banged her hand on the table, before she started cursing.

"Well, Patrick, no wonder you are the head of this family now!"

"This bastard being so disobedient is clearly coming after you!"

"I must have been blinded when I chose you to lead this family!"

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Madam Hughes continued to curse with the ugliest words, it made her look like a crazy woman.

Everyone was just staring at her in disbelief.

A while later.

Madam Hughes waved her hands, "Let's go!"

She threw a hateful look at Jack, then she walked out of the room angrily, taking her three servants with her.

"Do you really think I am so easy to deal with?" Patrick laughed behind the bamboo shoots.

Then.

The room returned to its silence.

Minister Mable smiled, and bowed towards the shadow behind the bamboo blinds.

"Old Master Hughes, we will leave for now."

"Minister Mable, thank you for your time."

"No need, it is my honor to serve master."

He shook his head, smiling, actually Patrick had arrived at the Four Impressions Club long ago, and he knew about it, but he still did as Patrick asked and did not tell Madam Hughes about it.

Only this way, Patrick had the chance to observe everything from behind the bamboo shoots.

As he was leaving, he passed by Jack, his eyes were deep, and bowed towards him as well with a smile.

"Thank you." Jack smiled and nodded to them, his face was still pale.

When he left, the room fell silent again.

Jack looked at the shadow behind the blinds with mixed feelings.

That shadow had not moved since he was there.

But he used the most dominant words, ignored all of the family rules, and scared Madam Hughes

away.

This scene, Jack had dreamed about.

He had dreamed about it for more than 20 years!

A while later.

Jack laughed, "Don't you wanna come out?"

"I have to leave."

Patrick said, and started walking outside.

Suddenly, Jack was startled.

Even Mr. Ward and Brent were stunned.

He was already here, why would he not wanna see him?

"I hope the first time I get to see you, will be when you enter the Hughes family!"

Patrick's voice came from afar, then he coughed a few times.

"Old Master Hughes, your health..."

Mr. Ward asked with a different expression.

"I am okay."

Patrick's voice went further away.

Mr. Ward's look was deep, then he turned and looked at Jack.

When he saw him, he paused.

Jack's eyes were reddened, and watery.

He didn't run after him, but spied upon Patrick's shadow.

Instead, he stayed in his spot, and cursed with a trembling voice, "Asshole."

Chapter 124 Unfaithful

Mr. Ward and Brent helped to support Jack as they were leaving the Bamboo Grove.

The gray haired man was waiting on the bridge.

"You should bring young master to the hospital as soon as possible."

"Thank you, sir."

Jack smiled towards Minister Mable, "Sorry to disturb you."

He was someone even Aiden had to follow, Jack didn't want to offend him, he was better off with another friend instead of another enemy.

As Minister Mable was watching the three of them leave, his gaze deepened.

A while later, he smiled, "Who would have thought, that the Young Master of Hughes family would be hidden on my property. Seeing Old Master Hughes attitude today, I guess the young master will soon be very successful."

Leaving the Four Impressions Club.

Brent was driving the Rolls Royce as if it was a race car.

They had wasted a lot of time in the Bamboo Grove while Jack's wound was continuously bleeding, his face had lost all colors, if they didn't get him into a hospital as soon as possible, everything would point to a disaster.

Madam Hughes had the intentions of reading Ksitigarbha Bodhisattva Purva Pranidhana Sutra one hundred times, and leaving Jack to bleed to death in the meantime, this was ruthless!

The good news were that they arrived at the hospital in time and the doctors fixed Jack up, he was going to be okay.

In the ward, Jack looked at Mr. Ward and Brent, who were both looking nervous, and smiled, "I am alright, why are you both still so miserable?"

Mr. Ward and Brent exchanged a look , but didn't speak.

Jack knew that he was different, if something happened to him, even if Mr. Ward and Brent could regain his father's trust, they would end up in a disaster.

So he just changed the topic, "What do you think, is this going to be over now?"

His father had chased away Madam Hughes in his dominant way.

He didn't even care for the family rules, daring to blackmail Madam Hughes with death.

Jack could not understand this Hughes family at all.

A family that was above all, that could ignore all rules, and view a normal human being as unimportant as ants.

Would Madam Hughes really accept her defeat against Jack's father?

"I don't think so."

Mr. Ward's gaze was deep and troubled, "The Hughes family is very difficult, there is Madam Hughes, who is above all, the elite children who are the heritage of this family and all waiting to take over the position of the family's leader, and in between, there are a bunch of factions who work against each other."

No wonder!

Jack laughed helplessly.

In just a moment, Jack was visibly moved.

The Hughes family was so complicated, and yet his father sent Mr. Ward to him.

Not only to save his mother, but also to allow him to have a chance to be an heir to the family.

This had a deep meaning.

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TM Villa District.

Aiden was holding his cigar, standing in front of the window like a statue, staring into the night view outside.

The thick smoke coming from his cigar was lifting into the air.

On the floor were the fallen ashes.

He has been standing there like this for almost an hour.

Knocking on the door.

It pulled Aiden back into reality.

"Sir, Madam Hughes has taken her private jet and left." His butler told him from behind the door.

"She left?!"

Aiden's face changed, and asked worriedly, "How is Jack doing?"

"Jack ripped his would open before he entered the Four Impressions Club, now he has already left, and been admitted to the hospital for treatment." His butler said.

Whoosh!

Aiden felt as if hit by lightening.

He took off his golden framed glasses, and rubbed his eyes, "Did, did nothing happen at all? Did Jack get any other injuries?"

With his experience, of course he knew what it meant when Jack opened his wounds before entering the Four Impressions Club.

But coming out without any further injuries meant for him to be alarming.

His butler said, "No."

"That's not possible!"

Aiden's eyes widened in surprise, his body softened, and he fell into his chair, "How is this possible?"

This is impossible..."

He repeated again and again, as if he was hysteric.

Madam Hughes came to this city with such huge turmoil, and even Killian had told her that Jack would be coming, for him to take care of him.

Madam Hughes was clearly here to send punitive forces against Jack, she wanted to take revenge for Killian.

And now, Jack was doing well in the hospital.

Madam Hughes had left the city in a hurry.

This must be a joke!

"Sir, I have made sure that I got the right message, there have been no mistakes." The butler said, as if trying to calm Aiden down with a bucket of cold water.

In the lights, he was sitting in his chair, his eyes were as deep as a black hole.

After a long time, he started to laugh bitterly, then put on his glasses, and said, "I guess this time I made the wrong bet."

Then he yelled to his butler, "From tomorrow on, annul the supply boycott for DT."

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The following days were calm.

Everything was done in an order.

But the fact that all the suppliers had annulled their boycott towards DT was giving Jack mixed feelings.

He knew that this was the doings of Aiden, his choice of riding on the fence.

He didn't really care, Aiden could do what he wanted, as long as Aiden didn't end up on his side.

He had been unfaithful once, so he would never trust him again.

Before, Jack was still feeling thankful towards Aiden, because he really had helped him.

Then Killian appeared, and if it wasn't for his mother, he would have taken the risk and forced him out of his way.

Later, if it wasn't Killian, who had taken it on with him in this city, Aiden would never have soft hearted towards him.

With the annulment of the supply boycott resulted in the fact that the suppliers Aiden had helped find now came to DT again.

Jack had asked Corbin to decline those immediately, then sent out a message on their website.

They announced that they would cooperate with EnRich in all their West Shantytowns projects.

With that, they successfully denied all the small suppliers who were looking for their chances.

The days passed quickly, and it was the last day of the month.

In the ward.

Corbin came with a pile of documents from the office, and was just reporting to Jack.

"Jack, are you sure you want to start the pre-sales of all three estate?"

When he finished his report, Corbin asked worriedly.

One company was not allowed to start the pre-sales of multiple estates at the same time.

But similar to DT, who was having their estates in the same district, were quite often.

It was a big risk to take, because that would cause the buyers to shift their focus-

"I am sure."

Jack nodded his head, "To open them at the same time is to get the funds as quick as possible, even

though it might lower the popularity, I have already prepared myself, I don't think it will sink all too much

with what DT has achieved so far."

"Alright."

Corbin didn't ask more, he looked at Jack's injury, "So, the ceremony tomorrow..."

Jack looked down, and said with a smile, "This will not get in my way, I will be there in time, you can go

home now."

After Corbin left.

Jack knitted his brows, deep in his thoughts.

"Master Hughes, what are you thinking about?" Mr. Ward asked.

Jack raised his brows, "Tomorrow is already next month, Amber should be back with her

parents."

Chapter 125 Jack is Not Bad At All!

"Are you nervous?" Mr. Ward asked.

Jack put on a smile and replied, "What do you think?"

Mr. Ward gently rubbed his chin and said with emotion, "Young master, the son-in-law eventually has to meet their father and mother-in-laws."

Jack didn't know what to say in response to that.

However, it would be a lie to say that he was not nervous at all.

Although he had met Amber's parents when he was fresh in university all those years before, but it was different from now.

Back then, he was just Amber's friend, but now he was her boyfriend.

To make things worse, he was someone who had a divorce previously.

This fact alone was enough to degrade his image in her parents' heart.

Ever since he parted ways with Amber last time, they didn't really get in touch with each other often.

Now that they were reunited, he also needed to meet Amber's parents.

What would happen this time around?

The more Jack thought about it, the more he felt uneasy.

When he was able to get three housing areas booked in advance last time, he was even able to keep his calm.

However, he somehow felt restless this time around when he was going to see Amber again.

Mr. Ward could see that Jack was very nervous with the way his brows were all knitted up, so he

laughed to calm Jack down, "Young master, the way you are looking right now is exactly how your

father used to look like when he was seeing your mother's family members a long time ago."

"My parents?"

Jack looked towards Mr. Ward.

Mr. Ward froze momentarily as a strange glint flashed in his eyes. Then, he waved his hand to dismiss

his own words, "It is just some old history which is not worth mentioning anymore."

Not worth mentioning anymore?

Jack felt doubtful when he heard that.

Since he never had a father all along, he knew very little about his parents' past.

Mr. Ward's words suddenly piqued his interest in this subject.

However, Mr. Ward quickly ended this topic before it even started. There was something ominous about this whole thing.

...

The next morning, the attention of the citizen in the whole city was focused on West Shantytowns the moment the sun appeared in the horizon.

After an encouraging period of pre-sales, almost everyone knew that DT real estate agency would pre-sell three housing estates.

The explosive pre-sales event of Dragon Garden from not long ago was still fresh on everyone's mind, and it was only a brief period of time after that eventful day before this pre-sales occurred with much fanfare. This time around, three housing areas were open for sales!

Based on the housing prices of the houses in West Shantytowns, even if three housing areas were opened for booking, it barely put a dent in their popularity.

When Dragon Garden was opened for sale last time, all units were sold in just one day, which

disappointed a lot of people preparing to grab one unit for themselves.

This time around, with three housing areas being opened for booking, the number of units was large enough to reignite the passion of those disappointed people from last time.

Buying a unit this time would mean a great bargain for these people, so naturally they were very enthusiastic about this event.

However, as Jack and his team expected, with the sales of three housing areas ongoing at the same time, everyone's attention was readily dispersed.

Each housing area was being visited by many buyers and onlookers, but the crowd around each area couldn't compare to the situation at Dragon Garden last time where the visitors had managed to form a long queue. The sight was magnificent.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony that signified the commencement of the pre-sales was done, Jack immediately went back to the office building of DT real estate agency.

He sat in front of his computer and scrutinized the real time data that told him the actual sales volume of those three housing areas.

Although the transaction volume wasn't especially outstanding, the data showed that it was actually

rising steadily. With such a trend, it was just a matter of time before every unit was sold off.

“Jack, this event isn’t as exciting compared with that Dragon Garden event last time. I reckon the media probably would be at a loss of idea when it comes to creating a buzz out of this.”

Corbin felt a little helpless when he compared the atmosphere surrounding Dragon Garden from last time to this current event. He felt a little empty in his heart.

If they had planned separate pre-sales for each of their three housing areas, they would be able to recreate that buzz for several more times!

It was the prime opportunity for DT real estate agency to take center stage during this period of time!

“Once is enough.”

Jack smiled with a relaxed expression as he pointed at the monitor of his computer, “What we are going after is the actual sales volume. It is better to make tons of money silently and remain low-profile.”

Corbin also focused his gaze on the changing numbers on the monitor too and he found himself satisfied with the current state of things of this pre-sales.

Despite that, he was still unable to fully comprehend Jack's words, "Shouldn't we spread the name of our agency even further with the constant media exposure? I think that would help us in the long run by cementing our good image in people's hearts, no?"

"A tall tree always attracts the wind!"

Jack uttered these words with a solemn expression as he continued to stare at the data on his monitor.

Corbin lowered his head as if deep in thought.

In this pre-sales event, a black G-class Mercedes Benz slowly rolled to a stop by a road not far from the housing areas on sale. The car window was winded down and a middle-aged man who looked impressive came into view. He had white hair which was combed into an immaculate style. He was craning his neck out of the car window to get a good view of the commotion in front of the pre-sales building.

The middle-aged man slowly nodded with a smile, "This young man has been doing well, it seems."

"Dad, why do you even think that he's doing well? Jack has made a terrible mistake this time."

In the car, a voice rebuked him, "The last time around, that pre-sales event was something never seen before and it was the talk of the town. I can't believe that they don't make use of that reputation

properly, and they even open three housing areas for booking this time. Aren't they being too greedy? If

he could recreate the buzz that could hold a candle to their previous event, the DT real estate agency would definitely be an unshakable company in the citizen's hearts."

"Oh, I saw that video on the internet some time ago. He has blatantly confessed his love for my daughter in public, so it was only natural that it had caused a sensation at that time."

The middle-aged man joked, "Do you still think that it was the pre-sales even at that time that was the talk of the talk? I think that my daughter was the one who was the talk of the town!"

"Dad..."

That female voice sounded a little powerless.

"You old geezer, why are you making fun of your daughter like that?" That gentle voice sounded again wryly.

That middle-aged man let out a guffaw while rolling up the car window.

Then, the G-series Mercedes Benz roared to life once again.

In the car, that middle-aged man was studying a piece of document intently.

A meaningful smile was forming on his lips, and from time to time he would nod lightly.

By his side, there were two women who were glancing at him.

One of them was none other than... Amber!

There was an attractive woman seated beside Amber, and despite looking mature, she was able to maintain her figure and appearance well as if time didn't really rub off on her that much.

If they were seen by outsiders, those people would never have thought that they were actually mother and daughter. They resembled a pair of sisters more.

In reality, Amber had returned to the city together with her parents last night.

The fact that she was spending time with her parents coupled with Jack's pre-sales event caused her to decide not to inform Jack prematurely of her return.

This morning, her father suddenly suggested to go to the scene of the pre-sales event to get a good look of the situation.

This was why they had appeared not far away from the sales building.

"Dad, why are you thinking so highly of that silly guy?" Amber was a little stunned.

Jack's greedy disposition which caused him to give up on making DT real estate agency the main topic

of the city for a long time was a pretty stupid move in Amber's eyes.

The West Shantytown had so much untapped potential, and by making moves on it slowly with a plan in mind, Jack wouldn't need to worry about the sales of his housing areas. On the contrary, he could slowly cement DT real estate agency's reputation in the people's hearts.

If a corporation wanted to have a long-lasting development in the city, acknowledgement given by the citizen surrounding it and also a good reputation was essential.

However, judging by her father's reaction, she felt that something was wrong about his opinions.

"You silly girl!"

The middle-aged man gently rubbed Amber's hair and said meaningfully, "A tall tree attracts wind, and the bullets of a gun always hit the birds who emerge from their hiding first. If one were to act too brashly and expose oneself in such a high-profile way, he might attract misfortune instead."

He pointed at the bustling scene of the pre-sales event and continued, "The West Shantytowns is a huge piece of cake with so much untapped potential which is also targeted by many. If DT real estate agency somehow causes a lot of sensation with their events, it would only further fuel emotions of envy

of those people who are jealous of the agency. They might not be afraid of getting their data or money stolen but it is always dangerous to get targeted by unscrupulous people.”

“The business field is like a war territory, conspiracy and back-stabbing happen all the time. Which one would you choose: flaunting oneself in public or simply earning the big bucks from behind the scenes?”

As he finished his explanation, the middle-aged man cupped his chin and revealed a faint smile.

“Jack is really not bad. That time when I first saw him, I never imagined that he is someone with such broad vision.”

As she listened to his father’s words of compliment being thrown at Jack, Amber only felt secretly happy. She somehow felt that those compliments were rubbing off on her despite the fact that she was not the one being complimented.

With a glint in her eyes, she suddenly asked, “Then, have you guys decided when to see him?”

Chapter 126 Invitation Card!

Since that incident last time, Amber had used up a lot of energy to fully calm herself down after returning home.

She was very understanding about Jack’s situation at that time.

This time around, when he was planning her parents’ meeting with Jack, she was feeling a little

queasy.

Jack did indeed produce some eye-catching results for himself, but compared to her family background, his current achievements were nothing in the grand scheme of things.

Amber wasn't just any other silly and spoiled daughter. She knew the importance of having a partner with equally significant or affluent background.

Or else, her father wouldn't have staged so many dates for her when she was still staying overseas for three years. She had to go to dates with nobles from wealthy family, the oil and gas tycoons as well as the heir to huge conglomerates of the Silicon Valley.

She already had her eyes set on Jack, therefore she had rejected all of her previous dates.

However, now that she was bringing her parents to meet the one she loved, even though she never let

Jack's background affect her feelings for him, what about her parents?

Jack even had a divorce some time ago!

This fact alone was akin to an eyesore for people like her parents who was from the older generation.

Since her father was throwing praises at Jack at the moment, perhaps bringing up the topic of their

meeting with Jack would be able to improve his image in their hearts.

If she were to mention about their meeting up sooner when her father was no longer so thinking highly of him, maybe nothing she did could help fortify his image anymore.

As expected!

The middle-aged man stopped smiling and asked gravely, “Amber, have you really decided that he is the one?”

Amber slightly jerked with her eyes giving out a strange light and her lips slightly quivering.

She knew what her father was about to say.

In fact, the moment she decided that she wanted to return to the country to see Jack, her parents never failed to broach this topic from time to time.

It was about his second marriage!

It was an undisputable fact after all.

“You must be aware that he is going to remarry while you are a golden single lady. Putting aside the fact that his last marriage was with your former best friend, Katherine, are you really sure that you want to put your future on his shoulders?”

The middle-aged man's voice was calm and serene, yet it was exuding an impressive pressure on her.

His voice was similar to a blunt knife which was slowly slicing Amber's heart. It caused a great deal of anguish for her.

"Amber, you are the apple of our eyes. We always respect your decision on everything, but you have to really think things through about this matter."

The mature and beautiful middle-aged woman chipped in but her tone was not one of aggressiveness.

She was trying to lead Amber to see her point in a much gentler way.

In reality, this was always how this pair of old couple work in tandem.

"If you end up with him anyways, a long winding road is ahead of you guys. You might suffer from a lot of hardships and you might even lose everything."

The mature woman's voice was low and she was peeking at Amber with unwillingness and slight indignation, "You are someone from such a good family background and you deserve someone who is more excellent too. Jack has gone through a divorce before, and despite the fact that he has a little achievement on his belt, that is still not enough to give you a sense of security."

Amber only smiled mildly in response.

She knew that her parents were just worried about her long-term future.

However, ever since she was a child, she was the stubborn type.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have rushed back to Jack's side the moment she knew that Jack had divorced

Katherine. Perhaps she was just fond of their past memories or perhaps she already had her heart

stolen by him.

The atmosphere in the car was a little heavy.

Amber's parents wasn't planning to force an answer out of Amber there and then. They knew that they

had to give her ample time to make this decision that would have long-lasting effects on her future.

"Dad, mum."

Amber suddenly looked up with a determined look in her eyes. She said with a confident smile, "He told

me that he wouldn't let me suffer any losses!"

"You are betting on him with your whole life. I can't bear to see you suffer from losses either."

The middle-aged man muttered and a new light appeared in his eyes as he declared, "Alright then. We

will see him tonight. At the same time, I just so happen to have asked a few old friends over to gather."

“Thank you, dad.”

Amber plunged into that middle-aged man’s embrace excitedly.

The middle-aged woman shot an unsatisfied look at him.

He simple replied, “As long as our daughter is happy.”

Then, he pushed Amber lightly and said seriously, “However, although we have decided to meet him, I will have to let you know that come tonight, we are going to see for ourselves what your future holds.

Whether Jack is the real deal or not, it is up to our scrutiny. He has to pass our test first. By then, you must promise me that you won’t interfere and defend him!”

“Dad, what are you planning to do?” Amber was a little anxious.

The middle-aged man didn’t answer her. He continued from where he left off, “If you don’t agree to our terms and conditions, your mum and I won’t be seeing him tonight anymore. We will turn around and leave now.”

“I promise you. I really do.”

Amber didn’t dare to pursue this matter further as she hurriedly agreed to his terms.

At the same time, Jack who was in DT real estate agency was in the dark about all of this.

He would never expect that Amber would return out of the blue on the first day of the month!

The real-time data that reflected the sales volume of the three housing areas told Jack that everything was going smoothly. Based on the trend, it would at most take a week for the company to sell out all of the units they put on sale this time.

That would be the best possible scenario he could foresee.

With the condition that they didn't create any unnecessary fuss, they wanted to achieve maximum profitability with their sales this time.

By five o'clock, Jack was already instructing Corbin to plan for a celebration dinner at night.

However, when he saw an invitation card on his office desk, all his previous plans had to be forfeited.

There was only a line of words printed on the card which elicited emotions of joy and astonishment from Jack.

He studied the words on the card with his brows knitted: Four Impressions Club.

This was the card that enabled him to enter Four Impressions Club!

"Who sent this?" Jack looked towards Lone Wolf.

Lone Wolf simply shook his head and answered, "It was a young guy who handed this to me without saying anything more other than asking me to make sure this reaches you."

Jack was speechless for a moment.

There was no way this invitation card would be forged since the Four Impressions Club was an impressive organization backed by very capable people.

This was also an invitation letter at the same time that was usually given to a guest by the Four Impressions Club that granted him the right to invite whoever he wished.

However, there wasn't any name printed on the card that indicated the sender.

Could it be... Minister Mable?

Jack mulled over this thought with his brows twisted up. Since Minister Mable had a special identity, it was very likely that he wouldn't have his name seen anywhere on an invitation card which was sent out by him.

"Corbin, you guys have to take care of the celebration dinner. I have a dinner that I need to attend personally."

Jack waved the invitation card in his hand while saying to Corbin.

If this was really sent by Minister Mable, then he couldn't just dismiss his invitation and make him lose face.

Such a simple-looking card was actually something revered by Aiden and Drago. They viewed this as a "precious treasure"!

Now that he was the recipient of such an important piece of invitation, if he didn't cherish this opportunity, wouldn't that just make him a moron?

When night came, the Four Impressions Club was shrouded in its usual mystery and ominousness.

In the compound full of bamboo shoots, the surrounding was clear as day and sounds of banter could be heard all around.

Normally, outsiders only knew about the existence of the Four Impressions Club, and nothing more. No one could be granted entry without an invitation card.

Only a regular here knew that this small courtyard surrounded by bamboo shoots was the most prestigious place in the entire Four Impressions Club.

The surrounding was serene and peaceful.

The atmosphere was totally different from the other parts of the club. It was as if one had arrived at an otherworldly paradise that was far removed from human civilization.

Only the most prestigious guests could set foot on such a place. No other ordinary person could come here unless they were the owner of this club.

The last visitor here was none other than Madam Hughes, and this time around it was the Knight family who had descended upon this place!

“Mable, within the few years I was not around, it seems like you have become a force to be reckoned with.”

A middle-aged man playfully landed a punch on the chest of another middle-aged man with ashen hair.

If someone else were to set their sights on this scene, they would definitely be so shocked that their mouths would be hanging.

Nowadays, even for a business tycoon like Aiden, he would still cower in fear and humbleness in front of these two middle-aged man with ashen hair.

There wouldn't be anybody else who could give off such a relaxed vibe in the whole city!

“You old dog of the Knight family, stop your bullshit. After so many years, tell me, who have you invited? I have to remind you that the Four Impressions Club is closed off for today because of you. If I don’t make you drunk later on, I will give up on my family name!” Then, the two of the middle-aged men laughed loudly.

This version of Minister Mable couldn’t be seen anywhere else!

At present, they had discarded their serious self and transported back in time to the old days when they could nonchalantly banter and laugh with each other without reserve. It was as if nothing had changed even after so many years had passed by.

“You old geezer!” The middle-aged man cursed cheerfully before pointing at Amber and said, “I am gathering you guys tonight because I want you to examine my daughter’s boyfriend. Don’t buckle with fear later on!”

Minister Mable stole a glance at Amber and was stunned for a moment.

He found Amber slightly familiar for some reason, so he couldn’t help asking, “Girl, have we met each other before?”

Before Amber could respond, the middle-aged man interjected mischievously, “Hey, you old geezer, it

seems that you are feigning familiarity with my daughter.”

A glint appeared in Amber’s eyes. She looked at Minister Mable and thought that it was probably that fiasco last time where Jack had confessed his love for her that had made the news. Minister Mable had probably seen her in the news, she thought.

“Get lost!” Minister Mable rolled his eyes at the middle-aged man and then he continued, “Alright then, I

will make sure to examine him carefully later on. Who is that guy anyway?”

The middle-aged man flashed a faint smile and answered mysteriously, “I will introduce him to you very soon!”

Chapter 127 Suddenly Meeting The Parents

At the courtyard of Bamboo grove. Joyous laughter broke the usual silence.

Amber sat on the chair while she looked uneasily at her father happily sharing stories with his friends.

There was a senior government Minister, a renowned artist, and a medical expert. These people were not only famous in the country, they also were well known internationally. They were her father’s good friends.

What would the situation be when Jack came?

“Lansing, we haven’t met for so many years. You are already famous internationally as the director of LJ Hospital!”

The middle-aged man smiled radiantly looking at another man with a head of white hair and said in surprise, “The international medical journals feature you regularly.”

“Ha ha ha... stop flattering me. All I get in return for my efforts is this head of white hair.”

Director Lansing smiled and said, “Talking about becoming world-renowned, it is artist Warnock who is truly famous internationally.”

Another gentle-looking man with spectacles smiled and replied, “I’m just a poor artist. How am I famous? This rascal Steve is the one who is dealing with the oil barons and socializing with the big wigs at Silicon Valley.”

“Stop all the flattering. I’m sure Steve has some reasons for asking us to come today.”

Minister Mable said solemnly, “He wants us to help him assess his future son-in-law.”

Director Lansing and artist Warnock’s eyes lit up when they heard this and were very curious who Steve’s future son-in-law was. Steve smiled but didn’t elaborate. He simply told them to wait for the

introduction.

Director Lansing couldn't suppress his anxiety and said, "It's so unexpected that Steve made his fortunes here and now his son-in-law is also from this city. I wonder which talented young man could capture the heart of his daughter."

"You will know when he comes in a while." Steve smiled and looked towards Amber, "I'll have my friends to check out if this young man is an upstanding gentleman!"

Amber wrung her hands nervously.

The few uncles here were all great men and leaders of their respective fields.

And they also very cherish your reputation.

She expected that Jack, who was a divorcee, would be penalized by these uncles for his past.

"Don't worry. Your dad knows what he is doing." Rosie could sense what Amber was thinking and placed her hand on the back of Amber's hand and comforted her.

Amber nodded, "Thanks, mom."

...

Outside the Four Impressions club.

The Rolls Royce drove over and after the welcome at the entrance, it drove in the club unrestricted.

After the car stopped, Jack got out of the car with the gift and asked Mr. Ward and Brent to remain in the car. He was invited by Minister Mable who had a very special status, hence it was better that he went alone.

He was escorted by the security to the Bamboo grove. He could hear the joyous laughter from the courtyard. It wasn't just Minister Mable who he was meeting?

Jack frowned but was unfazed and entered the courtyard with his gift.

"Sir, Mr. Jack Hughes has arrived." When they entered the courtyard, the security guard walked briskly over to the hall to announce Jack's arrival.

The hall fell silent, "Quick! Bring him in!" someone shouted excitedly.

Amber? Jack was suddenly startled. He definitely heard Amber's voice.

But wasn't he invited by Minister Mable? He was stunned for a moment.

As he approached, a beautiful and radiant smile welcomed him. It was Amber!

"Silly rascal! Heh heh... you didn't expect it, did you?" Amber's words snapped Jack back to his

senses. Jack was lost for a moment. If Amber was there, then her parents...

Jack looked down at his gift and immediately felt awkward.

He thought that it was Minister Mable who invited him which was why he only prepared one gift for

Minister Mable. How was he to expect that it turned into a session to meet her parents? He didn't even

have a gift for Amber's parents during their first introduction!

"Why are you standing there like a fool?" When she saw Jack standing still looking stunned, Amber

twitched her eyebrows and skipped over to grab Jack's arm.

"You, why didn't you inform me that you're back?" Jack said awkwardly.

"My parents didn't want me to inform you. Now you know that I'm back." Amber smiled cheekily.

"But... but I thought that it was Minister Mable who invited and I only prepared one gift. It's so ... so

impolite of me for not bringing anything for your parents!" Jack was so nervous that he started to

stammer.

"It's alright. My parents just want to meet you along with some of my father's friends. They won't mind

at all." Amber smiled and led Jack towards the hall.

Jack had no choice but to brace himself to meet her parents.

At the same time.

Steve and his friends exchanged looks. "Relax, rascal Steve, we'll grill this chap later." Minister Mable's status was high, important, and influential in this city. Artist Warnock and Director Lansing also nodded in agreement.

"Rest assured, Steve, we've been friends for so many years. Since you've invited us, we'll definitely assess his character for you."

"I do want to see which young man in this city is able to win your daughter's heart."

Steve smiled and thanked his three friends. Just at this moment, Amber brought the awkward Jack into the hall.

When they saw Jack, Minister Mable and Director Lansing were both surprised, their pupils constricted and their eyes twitched. There was a collective 'Boom'! in their minds. This... this was Steve's future son-in-law?

Oh lord!

Both of their statuses were high in society but it set off a wave of doubt. Jack's status was equally high

so who was assessing who tonight?

Minister Mable knew about Jack's identity.

Director Lansing was the director of LJ Hospital and although he didn't appear during Jack's mother's treatment, he had heard from Dr. Hale about Jack's matters. So he knew some details of Jack's issues.

"Steve... this is the gentleman that you want us to assess for you?" Director Lansing asked. On one side, Minister Mable looked surprised at Director Lansing. He suddenly realized that Director Lansing also knew Jack's identity!

In fact, Jack was also in a daze when he entered the hall. He didn't expect there to be so many important people present for the session. Not only was Minister Mable present, there was also Director Lansing of LJ Hospital. He had seen Director Lansing's picture in the hospital where his mother was treated.

The only person he didn't know was the one who looked very pleasant and gentle. But since he was sitting with Minister Mable and Director Lansing, he must also be a man of high status!

When he heard Director Lansing's remark, Jack was startled and looked towards Minister Mable and Director Lansing.

Tonight he was meeting Amber's parents and he was already feeling very awkward for not bringing them gifts. He didn't wish that the session became even more awkward because of his identity.

Minister Mable was first to react and asked Steve, "Steve, why don't you introduce him to us?"

Director Lansing also came to his senses and suppressed his emotions and said calmly, "Yes, introduce him."

The scene evolved rapidly but Steve didn't sense that anything was amiss. With Minister Mable's prompting, Steve smiled and began his introduction, "Come come, I'll introduce to everyone. This is Jack Hughes, my daughter's boyfriend."

"Good evening, Sirs."

Jack smiled and nodded politely and then presented the gift to Steve and Rosie. He said awkwardly,

"Mr. Knight and Mrs. Knight, I didn't know that I'll be meeting you tonight so I didn't prepare ahead for this session. This antique calligraphy scroll is a simple expression of my gratitude. I'll make up for tonight next time."

The gift was supposed to be for Minister Mable and he could only redirect it to Amber's parents.

“Ha ha ha... you’re so silly, how can you make up for something like this?”

Amber teased, “Aren’t you always so calm and confident regardless of the occasion? Why are you so flustered when you see my parents?” Everyone laughed when they heard this.

“We are to be blamed for this. We didn’t give you any time to prepare for tonight. Don’t be nervous, we are just having dinner together.” Steve smiled happily and introduced his three friends to Jack.

Since Jack didn’t want them to reveal his identity, they also pretended that it was the first time they met.

It was Artist Warnock who was intrigued by Jack’s antique calligraphy scroll.

He rubbed his hands and said to Jack, “Jack, I’m an avid fan of antique artwork. Can I have a look at that antique calligraphy scroll?”

“Certainly!” Jack smiled and replied.

Artist Warnock looked with anticipation at Steve and Steve didn’t mind and handed the scroll over to Warnock.

Artist Warnock unveiled the scroll. As soon as he saw the calligraphy, Artist Warnock was stunned for a moment and then his expression turned cold and said to Jack, “Jack, it’s not right to deceive others!”

The warm and friendly atmosphere turned cold immediately.

Steve was startled, "Warnock, what's the matter?"

Artist Warnock handed the 'Voyage of Qiantang' to Steve and said coldly, "This chap gave you a fake

antique scroll. What can his intentions be?"

Chapter 128 Hypocrite! Please Leave!

Boom!

The statement shocked everyone. The atmosphere tensed up instantly. Steve's mood immediately took

a dive. Amber's mother's expression also darkened. Minister Mable and Director Lansing were both

stunned.

"Mr. Warnock, Jack will not take a fake antique to present as a gift." Amber quickly came to Jack's

defense.

This was the first time Jack met her parents. With her family background, her parents would not take

issue with the value of Jack's gift but if the gift was fake, then it would take a different meaning! That

meant that he was insincere and disrespectful to the recipient of the gift.

"Yes, Warnock, have a good look. Don't accuse him unnecessarily." Director Lansing sided with Amber.

He knew about Jack's identity and how could he give a fake gift? He was certain that Artist Warnock

made a mistake!

Minister Mable also said, “Warnock, you just had a glance. You must have seen wrongly. You are always so rash. Why are you so quick to make a judgment?”

“Who says?” Artist Warnock glared at Minister Mable.

He was one of the Master artists of the country and internationally renowned. Each of his artwork was valued in the millions of yuan. He was immersed in the art world for decades and had assessed countless antique artwork.

Perhaps he can make a mistake for other pieces of antique artwork. But for the calligraphy of Tang

Bohu’s ‘Voyage of Qiantang’, he can distinguish the fake from the original with just a glance!

“You...”

Minister Mable’s eyes twitched, he looked at Jack and then back towards Artist Warnock and said, “You stubborn ass, today Amber brought his boyfriend to meet her parents, why do you have to be such a killjoy?”

How can the son of the Hughes family give a fake artwork? Wasn’t that an international disgrace?

If this were to antagonize Jack, with a word from the Hughes family, Warnock's reputation would be at stake even if he was a renowned master artist.

"Mable, why are you blaming me?"

Artist Warnock said solemnly, "Do you think that my title as the country's master artist was freely given to me? I can't accept that this young man gave Steve a fake painting on their first meeting. The significance of a gift is of utmost importance. If you can't afford an expensive gift then you can give a cheaper gift but it can't be a fake!"

Minister Mable and Director Lansing were gripped by anxiety and their hearts raced. The two of them exchanged looks but were helpless. Warnock was clearly threading on the razor's edge. He was making a huge mistake!

But they were very clear how stubborn Warnock was. When it came to artwork, he couldn't accept any inadequacies.

"Mr. Warnock, please explain why do you think that this is a fake." Jack was calm and smiled. The drawing was prepared by Mr. Ward and he didn't view it after receiving it. But he believed that Mr. Ward

wouldn't give him a fake artwork to present it as a gift.

Minister Mable and Director Lansing's hearts sank.

"Ah! You're rather calm even when challenged by an expert!" Artist Warnock scoffed and arrogantly said, "Okay, I'll let the facts convince you. I'll teach you not to challenge a master artist like me with a fake artwork!"

After he said, he looked at Steve, and politely said, "Steve, please be patient with me." Steve smiled faintly and nodded. He then looked coldly at Jack.

He was not at all impressed with Jack's status. Although Jack had performed very well with DT Real Estate Agency, those achievements were insignificant in Steve's eyes. But Jack's temperament was something that had Steve's approval. However, the fake artwork totally dashed whatever good impression he had of Jack.

Amber was panicking inside her and grabbed Jack's hand tightly. She was so anxious that her palms were perspiring. She wanted to help Jack with an explanation but now that the situation had devolved to this stage, it was no longer within her abilities.

Warnock took up the 'Voyage of Qiantang' and didn't even look at it. With a lofty expression and said

with full of confidence, “ ‘Voyage of Qiantang’ was a masterpiece of Tang Yin, with Tang Yin’s

reputation in the art industry, this drawing’s value was worth 24.64 Million yuan three years ago!”

Boom!

With that said, the entire room was shocked! Although everyone there was extremely wealthy, their

knowledge of art collection was very limited. They were certainly not as familiar with calligraphy as a

master artist such as Warnock.

If the drawing was worth over twenty million yuan, then this gift was far too valuable! Jack was also

shocked that Mr. Ward was so extravagant to hand him something worth over twenty million yuan to

give away as a gift!

Following this, Jack smiled, “Mr. Warnock, although I’m not as accomplished as you gentlemen here, I

am still able to afford a twenty million yuan gift.”

“Not only you are young, but you are also rather arrogant!” Warnock started to frown and his gentle and

pleasant demeanor started to turn ferocious.

Amber’s eyes sparkled and thought about Jack’s worth and indeed he could afford twenty million yuan.

She was about to speak up for Jack when Warnock continued.

Warnock scoffed with disdain at Jack, "Did you hear me clearly? The value which I said was three years ago!"

"I heard you clearly." Jack nodded calmly.

"Do you know why I'm so certain of its value of 24.64 Million yuan?"

Warnock's eyes lit up, scoffed, and said sternly, "That year I was present when this artwork was auctioned. The artwork was bought at 24.64 Million yuan and bought by a mysterious buyer!"

"Additionally, after the artwork was bought, it had not surfaced since. Young man, don't tell me you are the one who bought this artwork?"

Kaboom!

Amber's body trembled and was shocked. Three years ago... was the year when Jack and Katherine

married. How could Jack have the money to buy the artwork at that time?

Could it be... that this artwork was fake? At that moment, Amber felt her vision darken as if her heart was being snatched away and she felt indescribably empty.

Steve's expression turned totally cold. He did not doubt what Warnock said. Warnock was the country's master artist and an expert in this area. What he had said must be the facts.

"Jack, I really didn't expect you to be so deceptive like a snake!" Steve said sternly, "That year when I saw you, you were still an intelligent and honest young man!"

"Mr. Knight..." Jack became flustered.

"What else do you have to say?" Steve waved his hand in anger, "I and her mother agreed to see you because Amber likes you. Based on my background, I will not care about the value of your gift but I only care if you are genuine. What are your intentions for bringing a fake artwork? Are you trying to tell me that you are not serious and genuine towards my Amber?"

"Steve, stop accusing Jack. Perhaps he was mistaken and didn't know that the artwork was fake?"

Director Lansing anxiously said.

Minister Mable gave Warnock a push and glared at him, "Warnock, you only had a glance. How could you be so sure? Look at it again. What if you were mistaken and wronged Jack?"

He knew Jack's identity and personally witnessed the head of the Hughes family announce his willingness to accept Madam Hughes into the family ancestral hall for the sake of Jack. Had it been

someone else, Minister Mable would choose to believe Warnock. But Jack was the one who gave the artwork. Why would he give a fake artwork? Would there be any artwork that the Hughes family can't obtain?

"Mable, if you doubt me again, don't blame me for ending our friendship!" Warnock became furious and glared at Minister Mable, "It's fake! I say it's fake and it's a fake! It can't be real!"

Minister Mable was so frustrated that he wanted to pound his chest.

Just at this moment, Steve said furiously, "Jack, please leave!"

Chapter 129 What Talented Young Man, He Is A Dragon-In-Law!

Once he spoke, time seemed to stand still in the Hall.

Minister Mable and Director Lansing looked terrified and their foreheads started to perspire. Warnock was domineering and looked at Jack with disdain.

Amber's sight started to blacken and her body began to shiver. Her parents were angry and Jack's first meeting with her parents was ruined! So what will become of her and Jack? Her red lips slowly opened and said, "Jack..."

As soon as she said, Jack smiled and it was like a warm breeze. But a thick sense of despair arose

and it became exceedingly depressing.

Mr. Ward gave him the Tang Bohu's 'Voyage of Qiantang' and he was certain that Mr. Ward would not give him a fake artwork to present as a gift. Even if this artwork was supposed to be given to Minister Mable, it could not possibly be fake.

What was depressing was Artist Warnock's attitude. He was so certain with just a look. Even if he was an expert, it was too opinionated! It was Warnock's reckless assessment that caused the surprise meeting with her parents to be ruined!

When Jack heard Amber's voice, Jack smiled and said to her, "Amber, I'm alright. I should take my leave now." With the current situation, if he continued to remain there, it would only make things difficult

for Amber. Jack didn't want Amber to be caught in between her parents and him.

After saying, Jack smiled and nodded to them and left.

"Jack..." Amber wanted him to stay.

But Steve held onto her, "Amber, don't you understand?"

"Dad... what do you want me to understand?" Amber's beautiful eyes welled up with tears and she

pursed her red lips tightly.

“My niece, perhaps this chap is a talented young man in this city. But he gave a fake artwork during the first meeting with your parents. He wanted to present a valuable gift and didn’t care if it was genuine.

This meant that he is not a genuine person. This kind of character is unacceptable!”

Warnock continued, “Your father wanted the few of us to come tonight to verify and assess your boyfriend. Your father is right to call us. Now I have done you a favor by exposing this man’s true colors!”

Steve and Rosie looked at each other and sighed. Based on the Knight family’s background, they were not concerned about how rich Jack was. In Steve’s opinion, no matter how rich Jack was, Jack couldn’t be richer than he was. What they were more concerned about was Jack’s personality and if he was genuine to Amber.

That was why Steve was willing to meet him even if Jack was a divorcee. Furthermore, he started to admire Jack for being able to launch the sale of three properties. In fact, he had already decided with his wife that as long as Jack was not a bad character, they would accept their relationship. After all, their daughter liked Jack. But who knew that this was the outcome of such a session!

“Warnock, thanks for helping us tonight!”

Steve expressed his appreciation for Artist Warnock, sighed, and looked sternly towards Amber,

“Amber, your dad and mom do not need you to seek any riches. Even if Jack has nothing, our family’s

wealth is sufficient for you and your descendants to live in a lap of luxury.”

“But your dad and mom want you to be happy and marry a good person. Do you think that based on

what happened tonight, Jack is a decent person?”

A chill ran down Amber’s spine and her beautiful eyes sparkled due to her tears but she remained

silent.

Just at this moment.

“Warnock you stubborn ass, you blind scoundrel! You can’t even see what’s in front of you!” Director

Lansing couldn’t hold back anymore and scolded Warnock.

The sudden eruption took everyone by surprise.

Just as Warnock was about to retaliate, Director Lansing clenched his teeth, placed his hand on

Warnock’s chest, and shoved him causing Warnock to stagger backward.

“You stubborn ass, we just couldn’t talk any sense into you just now!”

“Lansing you rascal, what is the meaning of this? Do you want a fight?” Warnock glared furiously at

Director Lansing.

They were good friends for a long time and were champions of their respective fields and certainly had

their own temper. Although they were cordial and friendly to each other, if they were to fight, neither will

make concessions.

Director Lansing’s eyes were bloodshot, and continued angrily, “You are just a stubborn donkey. Do

you think that I’m afraid of fighting you? If I lose in a fight, I can treat myself but if you were to lose, you

will beg me to treat you!”

“You...” Warnock also became flushed in red from anger.

The atmosphere became tense and thick with confrontation. Steve was startled and wondered what

was going on. Why were his friends at loggerheads?

At this moment.

Minister Mable stepped forward and looked at Warnock impatiently, “Warnock, oh Warnock. This time

you are the one who had made a mistake! Lansing was right to scold you!”

“Mable, why did you...” Warnock was startled and bewildered. But immediately his eyes were wide open as if he suddenly realized something.

Among them, Mable’s character was the most steady, otherwise, he wouldn’t rise to such a high status in the government.

“Lansing, Mable, what do you mean?” Steve was anxious and asked. Rosie and Amber also looked with surprise at Minister Mable and Director Lansing.

Director Lansing’s character was slightly brasher. He firmly stomped his feet and pointed towards the artwork and demanded, “Examine this drawing closely. If this artwork given by Jack is fake, I’ll eat the drawing right in front of you!”

Kaboom!

It was as if Warnock was struck by lightning and was stunned. Why did Minister Mable and Director Lansing defend Jack so rigorously? Unless... unless he really made a mistake?

Warnock grudgingly picked up the ‘Voyage of Qiantang’ and carefully unveiled it on the table. He even took out a magnifying glass from his pocket and started to inspect the artwork in detail. He certainly

inspected the artwork more carefully than before.

It was so silent in the hall that one could hear a pin drop.

Steve and his family were particularly anxious. Minister Mable and Director Lansing were both embarrassed and frustrated.

Clink clank...

Suddenly, Warnock's magnifying glass fell onto the ground.

His eyes were wide open and he looked up in disbelief, "Real... it's genuine... this artwork is really from Tang Yin!"

His voice shook and was full of disbelief. How could the 'Voyage of Qiantang' bought by a mysterious buyer at the auction three years ago end up in the hands of this young man?

Kaboom!

These words roared like rolling thunder into the ears of Steve and his family. Steve and Rosie's expression changed immediately. Amber's tear-soaked eyes suddenly sparkled and she grabbed her parents' arms, "Dad, mom! It's genuine! I already said that Jack would not lie to you!"

Steve and Rosie were conflicted and felt extremely awkward. If the drawing was real, then didn't they wrong Jack just now?

"Er..."

Minister Mable walked to the stunned Steve and said profoundly, "Steve, there are some things we can't say directly but the son-in-law picked by Amber isn't just a talented young man, he is practically a dragon-in-law!"

Minister Mable agonized when he thought about what the head of the Hughes family did for Jack just to bring Madam Hughes into the ancestral hall.

Steve indeed was wealthy but was nowhere close when compared to the Hughes family.

Now just because of the stubbornness of Warnock, he almost drove away this outstanding man. He and Director Lansing had promised Jack not to reveal his identity and could only use these means to resolve the misunderstanding.

Steve was very conflicted, looked around the hall, and was about to speak.

Director Lansing stomped his feet again, clenched his teeth, and said to Warnock, "Warnock, based on our decades of friendship, we're doing this for your own good. Listen to me and go after Jack and

apologize to him. If you don't, it will be disastrous for you!"

Chapter 130 He's the Best Match!

Artist Warnock trembled and was totally conflicted. He was a master artist of the country and being at the top of his field, he naturally had his pride and dignity. His reputation extended internationally and was revered by his peers.

With his status, apologizing to anyone professionally was a distant concept not to mention to lower himself to a young man.

When they saw that Warnock didn't intend to budge, Director Lansing continued to lecture him, "You stubborn ass! Do you refuse to believe me or Mable?"

Minister Mable sighed, "Go after Jack, it won't be considered as losing face."

Being the son of the head of the Hughes family who could make his father against his duty to be filial, was someone who was worthy of this master artist's respect and apology.

Artist Warnock suddenly realized the situation. He could disregard Director Lansing's words but now that Minister Mable also urged him to apologize to Jack, no matter how stubborn he was, he must know that there was more to this than meets the eye!

Artist Warnock took a deep breath and hurried out of the hall!

“Dad, mom, I’m going after Jack!” Amber ran out of the Bamboo grove excitedly.

Now that the misunderstanding had been resolved, it was as if Amber was in hell one moment and then went to heaven in the next. Which girl wouldn’t hope for her parents to accept someone who she loves?

Artist Warnock also quickened his footsteps.

It was so silent in the hall that you could hear a pin drop. Steve and Rosie had not come to their senses. The events of that night had changed too rapidly. From joy to fury and now to astonishment.

They wanted their old friends to help ensure that their daughter’s boyfriend was a decent man but who would expect it to turn into such a huge misunderstanding? When they thought of their attitude towards

Jack, the two of them became extremely embarrassed.

Steve looked at Minister Mable and Director Lansing.

“We were friends for so many years and you still hide information from me?” It was obvious that he was referring to Jack!

“We can’t tell you directly.” Minister Mable shook his head and said with a deep gaze, “Steve, do you think that you have made your fortunes and reputation overseas?”

Steve paused for a moment and nodded. He wasn’t someone who was shy about his achievements.

His wealth overseas was just as what Mable said. Otherwise, he wouldn’t try to set Amber up with oil barons and moguls from the silicon valley. Only when everyone stood on the same level would they be able to continue to prosper. Otherwise, who would respect him?

Minister Mable smiled and with a trace of disdain, “No matter how rich you are, you won’t be richer than

him!”

Slap!

Steve was stunned and started to flush in red. What Minister Mable said was exactly one aspect which he felt superior over Jack but now it was like a ruthless slap across his face.

Before Steve could react to what Mable said, Director Lansing nodded, “Mable is right.”

Slap!

Steve’s pupils constricted as if he was slapped for a second time.

“Can both of you elaborate?” Amber’s mother asked.

Minister Mable shook his head and look at Steve, “Cherish this. Amber has stepped up the social ladder. Whether she can enter this family will depend on your family destiny!”

After he said, he and Director Lansing left together, leaving Steve and Rosie to ponder deeply about this. Jack signaled them not to reveal his identity and for them to say to this extent was already based on their decades of friendship.

After a while.

Amber’s mother started to speak, “Steve, do you believe them?”

Steve smiled bitterly and heaved a sigh, “Mable and Lansing will never joke on this matter.”

“Then Jack... the way we treated Jack, was absolutely inappropriate.” Rosie frowned.

A joyous occasion was turned upside down by a drawing to cause such a misunderstanding. She felt guilty about their attitude towards Jack.

After a pause, Rosie said, “Why don’t we stay here for a few more days. We’ll find a reason to meet up with Jack and apologize to him to resolve this misunderstanding.”

“Apologize?” Steve twitched his eyebrows, “Is it appropriate for us to apologize to him?”

Rosie said angrily, “Than do you intend to have our daughter sandwiched in between? How can you as a father not care about your daughter during this crucial time?”

“Okay then.” Steve sighed again and agreed. He continued, “But we are just staying here for a few days and now our contact with the Hughes family will have to be shelved.”

He became very disturbed when he thought about this.

“I know that you always wanted to utilize the Hughes family to push your accomplishments to a higher level. I agree and had always supported you in this.”

Rosie’s tone was very tender and her eyes were full of love, “But Steve, Amber’s our only daughter.

Your achievements are beyond what countless people can dream of. We are wealthy enough. Now the happiness of our daughter should be our main objective.”

“But...” Steve wanted to explain himself.

“I don’t wish that due to our moment’s folly, we caused Amber to miss out on her happiness. Even if we disregard Jack’s family background, his achievements are rather admirable now. If Amber and Jack were to break up because of us, then how will you be at peace with your conscience?”

Rosie raised her voice, "Or do you think that Amber will accept the oil barons or silicon valley moguls?"

Steve was in a daze and smiled bitterly.

Immediately, he said outrightly, "How about this. Since we're here for a few more days, we'll arrange to meet Jack again and apologize to Jack. That will be considered as the actual session for him to meet us."

"Now that's a good father!" Rosie smiled lovingly.

...

Jack was nowhere to be seen when Amber and Warnock ran to the carpark of the club. They only saw a Rolls Royce driving out of the club.

Amber frowned.

Warnock anxiously questioned the security guards. His expression changed when he found out that

Jack was inside the Rolls Royce. In his mind, he repeatedly replayed the words of Minister Mable and

Director Lansing which caused his heart to race.

When Amber heard the conversation between Warnock and the security guard, she quickly took out

her phone to call Jack. Her call was promptly answered.

“Hey, Jack! You silly rascal. Why did you leave so quickly? Please don’t be angry!” Amber said pitifully

as soon as the call went through.

“I’m not angry.” Jack laughed.

How could he not be angry?

Amber explained, “The misunderstanding had been resolved. Mr. Warnock looked at the artwork again

and verified that it was genuine. He was also looking for you to apologize. Can you don’t leave? I

apologize on behalf of my dad and mom.”

What happened just now was totally unfair to him. She wanted to fight for Jack but she was powerless

to do anything. Now that the misunderstanding had been resolved, she hoped that Jack would not

misunderstand her parents.

“Okay, silly girl. In that situation, I will only make things difficult for you if I don’t leave. I’m really alright.

Have a good rest.” Jack ended the call when he finished.

In the Rolls Royce.

Mr. Ward looked at Jack and smiled, “Master Hughes isn’t angry?”

“Amber had already wagered her entire life when she came to me during the most difficult period of my life.” Jack shook his head and smiled warmly, “How can I get angry with her parents over such a small issue?”

After he said, his expression turned serious, “Even if I was unhappy, it would be because of you. I was only supposed to have dinner with Minister Mable, how could you prepare a genuine drawing valued in excess of twenty million yuan for me to give it away? Isn’t it too extravagant?”

Facing Jack who suddenly erupted, Mr. Ward answered innocently, “Was twenty million yuan too much?”

“Isn’t it?” Jack asked in return.

Mr. Ward shrugged his shoulders, “Each gift your father gives is no less than a hundred million yuan.

Previously when your father had dinner with an oil baron in the western border, your father even gave him an oil field.”

Jack, “...”