

The cold left Su Huiqi shivering to the core. Compared to being abandoned by Su Ruijin, what she could not live down more was the fact that Su Yimo had flourished while she lived in hardship.

Su Huiqi had considered herself superior to Su Yimo since young and she really rubbed it in when her cousin married Han Jingru because she believed that Su Yimo was surely destined for mediocrity with him. She was certain that her cousin's life would be forever ruined by that loser.

But fortunes turned on Su Huiqi as the once downtrodden Han Jingru rose like a phoenix from the ashes. The joke was on her now and every piece of success Su Yimo celebrated with her husband felt like another slap on her own face.

She felt disconcerted and aggrieved. *Why did a man like Han Jingru end up with Su Yimo and not her?*

Su Huiqi sometimes even fantasied. *How great would it be if she's the one Han Jingru married instead?*

But it had never occurred to her what happened in the last three years. She never considered if she could have endured the same hardships Su Yimo had undergone.

Upon returning home, a despondent Su Huiqi went on to confront Su Ruijin. "You really took to your heels back there. Didn't you realize someone was missing?"

The cousin was well aware that she was not with



Chapter 688 The Discontent Of Su Wenyi

him. He just could not be bothered to go back for her as she was currently of little value to him.

“Didn’t you make your way back all the same?” He replied nonchalantly.

Su Huiqi shook with anger. “Su Ruijin, you brat! Where was your haughtiness before Han Jingru earlier? Imagine being on your knees before him. What a disgrace!”

By humbling himself before Han Jingru, Su Ruijin had completely forsaken his dignity. But he had no intention of spending the rest of his life this way. He hoped for the opportunity to turn things around.

With the rejection from Han Jingru, his self-esteem hit rock bottom. He would not allow anyone to remind him of what he would rather forget.

Slap!

Su Ruijin rose up and sent a ferocious backhand flying across the woman’s face. “I don’t need to have you digging it in, Su Huiqi. Who are you to call me out? Didn’t you have a jolly good time humiliating Su Yimo all these years? Haven’t you always thought yourself is smarter than her and believe that you will have a better life than she will? Well well, take a good look at you now!”

Su Huiqi cradled her burning cheek as tears streamed down from it. Indeed, Su Yimo was incomparable in all of Yun City and she could least of all, hold a candle to her. As at present, there was no



Chapter 688 The Discontent Of Su Wenyi

prominent family on par with the Han family that she could marry into. Even the prestigious Tian family could not match them.

“I’m not better than her, but at least I didn’t bow to anyone.” Su Huiqi dug in for her final act of defiance before Su Ruijin’s riposte left her voiceless.

“Better than me, you say? If kneeling can win you Su Yimo’s forgiveness and a ticket back into the fold of the Su Corporation, would you do it?” Su Ruijin blasted.

Returning to the Su Corporation?

This was something Su Huiqi dreamt about, because only by rejoining the family business would she be able to go back to leading the kind of life she used to enjoy.

If getting onto her knees would make that possible, she would do so in a heartbeat.

“Not even a whimper from you? I’ll take that as a yes then. So who are you to judge me?” Su Ruijin mocked.

At this moment, Su Wenyi entered the living room, right smack into the middle of their argument. He then carried on as though nothing happened.

The older man regretted looking down on Han Jingru as he had never expected that the latter would become as accomplished as he was today. Su Wenyi could not help but think how he might have



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Chapter 688 The Discontent Of Su Wenyi

benefitted had he treated Han Jingru better.

Amongst the band of old friends, Su Wenyi was now the most notable underachiever. He would avoid joining them whenever anyone suggested catching up over a couple of drinks, as Han Jingru would be lauded for being the toast of the town and there would be conversations about how the Su family could see a meteoric rise riding on his tailcoats.

Su Wenyi would gladly become an errand boy for Han Jingru, but he knew that the ship had sailed.

“Dad, do you know about Han Xiang’s hundredth-day celebration?” Su Ruijin asked his father.

“It’s hard not to when everyone else couldn’t stop talking about it.” Su Wenyi sighed. The seven-figure value that the invitation cards were trading at reflected the esteem Han Jingru enjoyed. Even Tian Jingshuo’s birthday did not garner this much attention.

Most significantly, the spending for the invitation cards was only for entry to the event. There was still the matter of gifts to be presented to Han Xiang. That could amount to another huge expenditure, but nonetheless many were willing to scalp themselves just to be there.

“Dad, could you think of something? We have to get in with Han Jingru in order to unstick ourselves from our current predicament.” Su Ruijin was looking at his father for an answer for which he had none.



Chapter 688 The Discontent Of Su Wenyi

“Think of something?” Su Wenyi chuckled. “There might have been if we hadn’t treated them the way we did. If you walked a mile in Han Jingru’s shoes, would you have forgiven us?”

Su Ruijin knew well what he had done to Su Yimo after her steady rise in the Su Corporation. How he had taken aim at her every step of the way.

As far as he was concerned, it was all water under the bridge. *We’re all family. Surely we don’t have to keep bearing grudges indefinitely?*

“I would.” Su Ruijin unabashedly proclaimed.

His father shook his head disapprovingly. He found Su Ruijin’s answer to be hysterical because he understood his son’s temperament. Su Ruijin would have crushed the couple and grounded them underfoot instead. There was no way he would have forgiven them had the roles been reversed.

“What’s the point of lying to yourself? It’s not that Dad doesn’t want to help. There’s simply nothing I could do.” Su Wenyi maintained.

“How would you know that when you haven’t even tried? Surely you don’t want to remain a laughing stock in front of your friends for the rest of your life? I know that you’ve been avoiding your drinking sessions with them for this very reason. But if we could get back to the Su Corporation through Han Jingru, who would dare to continue jibing at you?” Su Ruijin said.



Chapter 688 The Discontent Of Su Wenyi

His words hit the nail on the head. Su Wenyi could not accept for not being able to raise his head high in front of his old mates. Even though the Su family was in the second tier amongst Yun City's prominent families, he had enough capital to be able to flaunt his wealth amongst others. But with his continued absence from those gatherings, the primary subject for their discussions must surely be himself.

The father's jaws tightened as he clenched his fists.

"Dad, Su Yimo is your niece after all. She wouldn't avoid you if you go to her." Su Ruijin posited.

Su Wenyi exhaled, "Fine. I'll do what I can. There's nothing to lose anyway."

Su Ruijin was pumped. At the same time, he silently prayed very hard that something would come out of it, as there really were no other alternatives.

At the mountainside villa, Han Jingru recounted the incident at the entrance to Su Yimo. She had no sympathy for that two cousins of hers as she had written them off and no longer regarded them as relatives.

"Knowing Su Ruijin's character, he isn't going to give up easily, as you might be the only person who could save their company." Han Jingru said with a smile.

"Their success has a lot more to do with you than with me." The wife retorted.

"What's mine is yours." Han Jingru insisted.



Chapter 688 The Discontent Of Su Wenyi

“Is that so?” Su Yimo lifted her head to look at her husband. “So, what’s yours is mine and what’s mine is mine as well?”

“Of course it is.” Han Jingru affirmed without hesitation.

Shi Yan, who had been listening in on the lover’s banter exhaled as she got up from the couch, “Young homo sapiens exhibiting courtship behavior. Time for the old-timer here to get out of the way.”



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Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

Su Yimo might have become a mother but at times, she still had the tendencies to blush like a young maiden. When anyone asked about her relationship with Han Jingru, she still resembled a fresh bud waiting to blossom.

Her mother-in-law's comment left her bowed face red to the ears.

Su Yimo's reaction delighted and amused her husband, who proceeded to sit right beside his beloved. He whispered into her ear, "You're already a mom. Why're you still so shy?"

Su Yimo shot a look at Han Jingru. "Why can't a mother be shy?"

"It's not like there's nothing we haven't already done." Han Jingru winked.

As Su Yimo reached out to playfully throttle Han Jingru, the latter quickly put distance between the both of them. Her gestures were far more terrifying than the traumatic experiences he had in Terra Prison.

"Okay. Let's not get violent here." Han Jingru said self-consciously after he recomposed himself.

Su Yimo scoffed, "I'll not let you off easily if you were to say such things again."

"Alright, alright." He nodded. "No talking next time. Just straight into the action."

Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

"You..." Su Yimo fulminated. She was about to act up when her cellphone rang.

She was astounded when she saw the name on the display. If not for this incoming call, she would have forgotten that this person was still on her contact list.

"What's the matter?" Han Jingru inquired when he found her reaction peculiar.

Su Yimo said nothing when she turned the screen to Han Jingru.

Upon seeing the name displayed, he snickered, "Su Wenyi?"

She nodded.

"Told you Su Ruijin isn't going to give up easily. The old man is definitely contacting you at the behest of his son." Han Jingru declared. Su Ruijin was a perfidious man who leaned in whichever direction the wind blew. *Now that Su Corporation is a top company in Yun City, he is clearly eyeing for a return.*

"Shall I pick it up?" Su Yimo asked.

"If you had to ask then you must see a need to." Han Jingru said. *Her actions betrayed her thoughts. If she does not want to respond, she would have rejected the call for herself.*

Su Yimo swiped the call through.

Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

It was Su Wenyi's voice at the other end, "Yimo, I heard that Xiang will be having her hundredth-day. If there's anything you need help with, I have a few friends who might be able to assist."

Su Yimo put on the speaker so that Han Jingru could hear their conversation.

When the husband heard him mentioning Han Xiang, he snorted.

Su Wenyi is calling Han Xiang so tenderly even though he has never seen her. The gall of him.

"Jingru will be handling the arrangements, Uncle. I think we should be just fine." Su Yimo said.

With all the hoteliers in Yun City lining up outside their door to offer their services, they certainly would not need his help.

"Of course. It's such a simple affair. Should be no problems at all for him." Su Wenyi sounded awkward. He had thought long and hard about how to start this difficult conversation. Now it all seemed foolish. *Helping Han Jingru? Is he being serious?*

Han Jingru feigned nausea and gestured to Su Yimo as though he wanted to throw up at Su Wenyi's disingenuousness. When they were with the Su family, Su Wenyi either called him good-for-nothing or loser. The only times the man called him by name was when in the presence of others to whom he needed to appear restrained.

Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness



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Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

"Is there anything else you have for me, Uncle?" Su Yimo asked.

"Right. When is the actual day of the event? I'd be sure to arrive early to see the little princess that I haven't met before." Su Wenyi said.

Han Jingru mouthed to Su Yimo his disapproval of the old bloke. *Thick-skinned; Shameless; Disgraceful; Trying to show up uninvited.*

Su Yimo was conflicted. Her biggest weakness was her excessive affinity for familial ties. She could not give up on relationships easily, even the worst ones.

Han Jingru rolled his eyes immediately when he read her body language as Su Yimo was just terrible at hiding her sentiments. But he decided that he would respect and abide by however she chose to handle the matter. If nothing else, it would be an opportunity for Han Jingru himself to show the old fogey the majesty of the celebrations and stick it to the man who had once derided him.

"I'll leave that up to you." Han Jingru told Su Yimo on the way out as he prepared himself to go see Jiang Yingying in the backyard.

Su Yimo's indecision had ultimately determined the outcome.

Just then, Su Wenyi dropped another bomb on Su Yimo. "I haven't met your father for a long time so it might be a good chance for us to catch up. We are brothers after all."

Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

"Very well. The event will take place a week from today but we haven't settled on the venue yet. I'll let Dad inform you when we do." Su Yimo said.

"Good. Very good." The uncle was excited to see his plan working out better than expected. Su Yimo's answer seemed to have invigorated every cell in his body.

"If there's nothing else, I'll be hanging up now. The baby needs to be fed." Su Yimo said.

"Sure. Sure. Go ahead."

After the call ended, Su Wenyi breathed out deeply before turning to his son. "It's done. The event is in a week. She'll let me know the venue at a later time."

"Dad's the best! Only you could have pulled it off. This is perfect. Being able to attend Han Xiang's hundredth-day celebration is a positive first step." Su Ruijin rejoiced and threw all the unpleasantries that transpired at the villa earlier in the day to the recesses of his mind.

In the mountainside villa's courtyard. Jiang Yingying's priority every day was to practice. After familiarizing herself with the movement set taught by Yan Qiong, she had become more comfortable with how she could apply her strength but was still some ways from being considered an expert. If it came down to dealing with some ruffians, she should have no issues handling a handful of them now.

"Mr. Han." Jiang Yingying hailed. She stopped



Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

whatever she was doing when she saw Han Jingru approaching.

In Jiang Yingying's heart. The sense of gratitude she felt for the man was hard to put into words. Not only had he helped her, but he also did the same for her mother Ho Ting.

The young girl knew how Han Jingru previously got her mother out of a tight spot when she was picked on in the labor market. When Ho Ting eventually came to the Su family as a servant, she received better welfare than she would have elsewhere and Han Jingru had never treated her like a lesser. He had even once fallen out with Jiang Yan over her mistreatment of Ho Ting.

Everything he did for her and her mother made Jiang Yingying determined to devote her life to repay his kindness.

"How's it going?" Han Jingru queried.

"Pretty well so far. It took me some time to adjust but I'm able to control this energy now." Jiang Yingying said. She did not investigate how this strange power in her body came about because Yan Qiong told her that with this change, she could be of great help to Han Jingru in the future. That understanding itself was good enough for her.

"Thank you, Mr. Han." Jiang Yingying replied.

Han Jingru was surprised at this. "What's that for? That incident was a long time ago, so stop thinking



Chapter 689 Su Yimo's Weakness

about it.”

Jiang Yingying shook her head. “It’s for my mother. If not for you, I don’t know where she would be working at right now. Not only do you pay her generously, but you also even spoke in her defense within the household. A boss like you is just hard to come by.”

Han Jingru smiled. “It’s the least I could do. Besides, she had done nothing to deserve how Jiang Yan treated her.”

“But if it were up to anyone else, they would easily have sided with their kin over outsiders.” Jiang Yingying noted.

“If you want to show your gratitude, just continue to practice well and become stronger. Then I’ll be able to take you somewhere different next time.” Han Jingru said.

Jiang Yingying nodded enthusiastically. “You bet, Mr. Han. I won’t let you down.”



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The Genting villa was brightly lit at ten o'clock.

Meanwhile, Han Jingru was facing a multitude of endless regret.

For two hours straight, he had been shortlisting venues from the list of hotels and restaurants that were given to him by the security department.

Unfortunately, he wasn't the exception to this. Rather, everyone else at the villa was also involved, including Ho Ting who was illiterate.

"No way."

"This can't do either."

"This place is far too small to host all our guests."

"The environment there is too noisy. How can it be worthy of my great-granddaughter's hundred-day celebration?"

"This is too traditional. No, this is simply not suitable for my granddaughter."

Everyone had their individual opinions, paired with a list of dos and don'ts.

Utterly swamped, Han Jingru leaned against the sofa. *Had I known how difficult of a task this would be, I would have certainly passed this over to Mo Lan, for him to deal with.*

"I'm merely asking for trouble," he admitted



Chapter 690 The Resounding Praises Of Han Xiang

miserably.

Su Yimo shot him a glare. "Do you regard this as troublesome, organizing a big event for your daughter?"

Han Jingru shrugged his shoulders. "I mean... I'm simply asking for more trouble, doing this."

Su Yimo always gets the last say. Everyone began to smile in a casual manner. They were simply used to the duo's antics by now.

Su Wenlun felt very happy that Su Yimo had found a man who would spoil her rotten, even though he was quite a big shot now.

In comparison to the early days when Jingru had first joined the Su family, nobody would have thought that an outcast like him could be so successful now. Moreover, who would have expected such turning points to occur in Yimo's life?

This is rather unfortunate for Jiang Yan, for if she had decided to turn over a new leaf, her ending would have been very different. She could have enjoyed a lavish lifestyle.

Su Wenlun did not extend any of his grace or sympathy towards Jiang Yan. He had feelings of pure loathe towards her, ever since she dumped Han Xiang on the balcony.

Meanwhile, in another country, Nangong Boling made his departure. He did not return to Hua Nation.



Chapter 690 The Resounding Praises Of Han Xiang

Rather, he set off to another place. He had to prepare a precious gift for the great-grandchild that he had yet to meet.

At the Royal Theater, a world-renowned pianist, Bert, had only just completed his recital. Being nearly second to none in the world, the hefty price of a single ticket to his recital would often draw the attention of many aristocratic, noble families.

“I’m sorry, Bert will decline any personal meetings, even if you’re from the royal family. Kindly make your way out.” Nangong Boling arrived after the recital had ended. In doing so, he was stopped by Bert’s bodyguard.

“You don’t have the right to block me from entering. Let me give you a piece of advice, leave now if you don’t want to get hurt,” Nangong Boling warned casually.

The bodyguard jeered at him. *He would dare to act in such a rude manner? Is he not aware of Bert’s reputation and status in the upper-class society? Even the royalties have shown him respect.*

“I’d also advise you to...”

Before the bodyguard could finish his sentence, a harsh blow was delivered, directly upon his chest. His eyes widened in disbelief as he soon collapsed to the ground, in a daze.

He’s probably oblivious to the reason that he has died.



Chapter 690 The Resounding Praises Of Han Xiang

The rest of the bodyguards soon made their retreat, as though they had been faced with a “Goliath.”

Catching wind of what had happened, Bert was infuriated. *No one, without a valid appointment, shall get the chance to meet me, the world’s most sought-after musician.*

“Regardless of who he is, ask him to leave. Warn him not to cross me, otherwise, I’ll make sure that he won’t survive in this city,” Bert reproached angrily.

As soon as he finished lashing out, the door to the VIP lounge was kicked open. All the guards outside the door were now collapsed on the floor.

“A world-renowned musician, huh? You’ve got quite the temper too.” Nangong Boling walked in with a sneer.

“Whoever you are, get out of here now. Do you know who is backing me? Don’t test my limit,” Bert threatened him.

Being the world’s most prominent, though hidden, rich man, Nangong Boling saw no difference between a great musician and a busker on the streets.

“Of course I do. You have the royalties, backing you up in this country! However, guess what? I’m acquainted with someone like that too. In addition to that, I’ve already informed him of my arrival. I believe that he’s on his way here.”

Bert scoffed at him, convinced that he was merely



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speaking words of nonsense.

Soon enough, a blonde man made his appearance, scaring the living daylights out of Bert. *Isn't he from the royal family?*

“Mr. Nangong,” the blonde man addressed him in reverence.

Incredulous, Bert did not expect to see one of the country's most revered figures, humbling himself, before another figure.

“Is this pianist your friend?” Nangong Boling asked.

“Mr. Nangong, that is correct. He is a close friend of mine. However, if he has offended you in any manner, I'll hereby declare that this friendship of ours is called off,” the blonde man responded.

“Well, he didn't offend me. I'd merely wanted him to teach my great-granddaughter music. What do you think?” Nangong Boling stated the purpose of his visit.

“With all of his attainments in the field, he's definitely the best candidate for the job. It'll be his honor to serve you.” The man looked at Bert.

“Yes, yes, Mr. Nangong. Why would I decline such a great honor?”

A smug expression made its way to Nangong Boling's face.



Chapter 690 The Resounding Praises Of Han Xiang

“In this circumstance, do treasure this honor that I’ve bestowed upon you. I’ve heard that there’s a guy named Stanford, or was it, Stan? He has a true talent for the arts. Are you able to contact him?” Nangong Boling asked Bert.

“He’s an old friend of mine. I can assist you in contacting him.” Bert nodded.

“Sure. Tell him to meet me in Hua Nation, in three days’ time. Both of you shall teach my great-granddaughter music and arts,” Nangong Boling stated.

Bert was curious to find out about his great-granddaughter’s age. He wanted to determine if she was in the best development stage to hone her skills. If she had missed it, it would be rather hard, although she would be learning under two world-class masters.

“Mr. Nangong, may I know of the age of your great-granddaughter?” Bert popped the question.

“She’s almost a hundred days old.” Nangong Boling answered proudly.

“Al... Almost a hundred days old?” Bert was startled. *How would an infant, who can’t even walk, learn how to play the piano or paint?*

Nangong Boling frowned, with dissatisfaction. “Do you have a problem with that? Do you think that she doesn’t deserve to be your student because she’s a mere infant?”



Chapter 690 The Resounding Praises Of Han Xiang

“No... no...” Bert shook his head anxiously. “That’s not what I meant, Mr. Nangong. It’s my first time having such a young student, so I’m not sure as to what I should teach her.”

“If you’re clueless of what to teach her, just play for her and paint for her. You’ll be rewarded accordingly,” Nangong Boling insisted.

Bert felt an overwhelming sensation in his heart. *Would a top-notch musician have to play, to merely entertain an infant now? What will others think of me when they find out? Yet, I can’t turn him down, for even a member of the royal family has treated him with the utmost respect.*

“Sure, Mr. Nangong. I know what to do,” assured Bert.

“By the way, my great-granddaughter’s name is Han Xiang. Do make a public announcement that you’re going to be her personal music instructor. Make her famous too!” Nangong Boling beamed.

As much as he wanted to reject the unreasonable request, Bert had to bow down to reality, as he was forced to accept it.

“No problem, Mr. Nangong. Stanford and I will see that your command is carried out.” There was only one answer that Bert could give.

“Two World-Renowned Artists Have Simultaneously Issued A Public Statement About Taking In A Personal Tutee Named Han Xiang!” Swift to go viral, the international news soon made its way across the major headlines; it even managed to become the talk of the town, in both the arts and music industries.



Chapter 690 The Resounding Praises Of Han Xiang

Soon enough, the news broke the headlines, the following day.

This was the first time that Han Xiang had left a lasting, worldwide impression.

At the Su Corporation in Hua Nation.

As the company's acting director, Shen Zhuoman had a lot of free time to kill, seeing as she was not given many important documents to sign.

She spent her time surfing the web, watching videos online.

As she was doing so, she noticed a piece of breaking news, with Han Xiang's name in the title. Curious, she clicked on it.



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Chapter 691 Identical Names But Different Fates

“Somebody has the same name as Xiang,” Shen Zhuoman mumbled.

Reading further into the article, Shen Zhuoman soon began to raise her brows, her eyes widening in disbelief.

Though she did not possess a strong passion or understanding for music and art, she still knew who Bert and Stanford were. They were the people at the top of the pyramid. *With the current advanced technology in the world, it is certainly hard for one to not have heard about them.*

A ticket to Bert’s recital can easily cost up to millions. Furthermore, every single one of his performances had succeeded, creating a huge sensation amongst his audience.

On the other hand, paintings done by Stanford are often auctioned at exorbitant rates of billions, per piece.

Two of them have become the master of one? I wonder who this “Han Xiang” is.

Well, this is certainly something to be envious of! Furthermore, the student bears a name that is strikingly identical to Xiang’s. In any case, Xiang’s fate is too not bad either; she has a great father. Shen Zhuoman made a subconscious comparison in her heart.

No matter how powerful he is, Han Jingru will never possess the potential to be as famous and as talented

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Chapter 691 Identical Names But Different Fates

as Bert and Stanford, right?

Shen Zhuoman sighed. "Identical names but different fates. Why is there such a big difference between the two?"

She was not looking down on Han Jingru. Rather, she was comparing the two matters, in terms of fame.

Closing the tab that was displaying the news, Shen Zhuoman soon called Su Yimo.

"What is it this time?" That was the first line that Su Yimo had uttered, as soon as she answered the phone. This was due to the fact that Shen Zhuoman had frequently called her, whenever she was faced with trouble.

"Yimo, have you seen the news yet?" Shen Zhuoman asked.

"Which one?" Su Yimo was rather confused. Busy, she was currently tending to Han Xiang. Hence, she did not have the chance to check the latest news yet.

"A young child with the exact same name as Xiang has been accepted by Bert and Stanford, as their personal tutee. Haven't you heard about this international news?" Shen Zhuoman rolled her eyes. Within a short period of time, it had become the number one search, amongst all search engines.

"Bert and Stanford?" The familiar names shocked Su Yimo. She had once made a comparison, between the videos of Han Jingru and Bert. In her heart, Han



Chapter 691 Identical Names But Different Fates

Jingru would always rank first.

“Stop being a frog in a well. Go and check it out.”
Shen Zhuoman hung up.

Su Yimo immediately looked for the news application on her phone. Indeed, the first headline that had popped up on her screen was the one about the two greatest artists of all time, both taking in the same student at the same time. *That’s phenomenal!*

I can’t believe that there’s actually another person who carries the same name as Xiang. Her fate is evidently better though. Su Yimo was rather envious of the child who was featured in the news. She never once expected her daughter to be the person who was being described in the news, for the sole reason that she was merely three months old.

“What’s that about?” Seeing Su Yimo looking at her phone with a dazed expression, Han Jingru could not help but walk to her.

She glanced up. “There’s another person named Han Xiang, in this world.”

“There’s nothing strange about that,” Han Jingru muttered indifferently. *There are billions of people on this earth! It is only normal that names are often repeated.*

“However, this Han Xiang seems as though she is leading a rather impressive life. Being the only student of both Bert and Stanford, she is probably the international topic of discussion, as we speak.” Su



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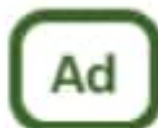
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Yimo sighed.

Han Jingru did not know much about Stanford, other than him being a famous painter. *All of his masterpieces are sold at exorbitant prices.*

As for Bert, Han Jingru knew his work well. He had even played his compositions before.

Finding the news rather strange, Han Jingru eventually speculated that only a powerful, influential person could have made that happen.

Could Nangong Boling be the one behind all of this?

“Let me see.”

Su Yimo handed her phone to him. The news was short and sweet, but its ripple effect was rather incredible.

Su Yimo mused aloud, “Wow, she’ll definitely become a great artist in the future, following the footsteps of her teachers.”

Han Jingru grinned. Although he could not quite confirm it, Han Jingru was rather certain that this had something to do with Nangong Boling. *He’s the only one who can pull strings in such a manner! Who knows? This may actually be a surprise present for Han Xiang.*

“Our girl is more promising than her.” Han Jingru was still beaming with joy. He did not share his speculations with Su Yimo, as he truly believed that it



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would be the best surprise for her, once his predictions came true.

“Of course.” Su Yimo nodded in a serious manner. “That goes without saying! She has an awesome father after all.”

Han Jingru chuckled. “Am I more amazing than both Bert and Stanford?”

“Of course!” Su Yimo answered immediately, without hesitation.

They both had a good laugh together. Such a matter could only be said behind closed doors. If it ever fell into the ears of others, especially the loyal fans of Bert and Stanford, Han Jingru would be crucified on the spot.

After work, Shen Zhuoman arrived at the villa. She soon discussed the hot news with Su Yimo.

“Who is this person? Why must she have the same name as Xiang?” Shen Zhuoman dissed.

Su Yimo had an opposing view. *It is simply the right of others to bestow upon their child whatever name they see fit. Why should we compare ourselves to her? She could very well be a prodigy. This could be the reason that she was chosen, by the two masters.*

“Would such a matter call for argument?” Su Yimo asked genuinely.

“Yes, of course.” Shen Zhuoman cringed. “This is my



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goddaughter's name that we're talking about. How can others use it in such a casual manner? I am certain that the general public is already comparing them both."

There is logic in her words. The citizens in Yun City, who knew Han Xiang, had already started to gossip about this, ever since the news went viral.

Most of the gossip in town revolved around the comparison between Han Jingru's local fame, and the two masters' international success.

Her words began to bring a sense of worry to Su Yimo. *Han Jingru is rather popular and influential, here in Yun City. Many are aware of Han Xiang's presence. It is probably inevitable, for people to make such comparisons between the two children.*

Although this would bring no effect to her now, nobody can guarantee Han Xiang's fate when she grows older! Su Yimo recalled her personal experience during her youth. She certainly did not want her daughter to be bullied, or to be poked fun at by others, merely because of her name.

"There's nothing that we can do about it. We can't change Xiang's name now, anyways." Su Yimo heaved another long sigh.

"Well, we certainly can't do that! However, we can still get the other party to change the child's name," Shen Zhuoman suggested.

Su Yimo shook her head in disagreement. *We have no right to do so. The other family may be*



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greater and more powerful than ours. Otherwise, they would not have known people like Bert and Stanford personally.

“Just let it be! Let’s not think about this anymore. By the way, have there been any vacancies in the office recently?” Su Yimo asked as she remembered that Han Jingru had wanted Jiang Yingying to work in the company.

“Do you want to make a recommendation? It’s a simple request. I can get it done, even if there are no vacancies.” Shen Zhuoman curled her lips upwards.



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Chapter 692 An Amazing Gift

“Yes, Han Jingru plans to allow Jiang Yingying to work at the office,” Su Yimo stated.

“It’s not a problem. Leave it to me.” Shen Zhuoman patted her chest, as she promised confidently.

Right then, Su Yimo called upon Han Jingru, as she soon informed him of the good news. Subsequently, he headed to the kitchen.

Jiang Yingying was busy preparing dinner when Han Jingru approached her and broke the good news. “Yingying, I plan to allow you to work in Su Corporation. What do you think?”

Is he doing this because he thinks I’m not performing my job well at home? Why is Han Jingru transferring me to the office now?

“Jingru, have I done something wrong?” Jiang Yingying was worried.

Ho Ting appeared rather anxious, as many thoughts crossed her mind. *Has Yingying made any mistakes that have caused the family to be dissatisfied with her?*

“You’ve been very helpful around the house and you’ve taken good care of Yimo, especially while Aunt Ho was gone. I just thought that you shouldn’t have been stuck here, seeing as you’re still so young. You should go and explore the world, to widen your horizon,” Han Jingru explained. He could not predict what else would befall him in the near future, along with what Jiang Yingying might encounter if she were to remain around him. Thus, he hoped that she could



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lead a vibrant life as a young adult, as opposed to staying at the villa all day long, undergoing training and doing household chores.

“Jingru, I don’t need to see the world. I’m alright with staying here,” Jiang Yingying uttered.

Regarding the incidents at Apocalypse, Han Jingru could not disclose any further information to her. He was also uncertain if she would be taken away. *However, if I withhold that information from her, she won’t understand that the freedom that she’s currently enjoying is a luxury.*

“Come with me,” Han Jingru requested.

Jiang Yingying followed him out of the villa.

The cold wind at dusk was brushing against their faces.

“Henceforth, I might be facing a completely different world. If you continue to remain by my side, you might eventually lose your freedom. That’s why I made the arrangement for you to work at Su Corporation. Go live a life that you deserve and enjoy it the way that you should. This is definitely not a punishment. You haven’t done anything wrong and we aren’t sending you away,” Han Jingru explained patiently.

“Jingru, this is the only way for me to repay your kindness. I’m willing to do so, even if it means that I may lose my freedom,” Jiang Yingying pressed forth.



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“I don’t see how working at Su Corporation will affect you, in terms of repaying your debt of gratitude.” Han Jingru smiled.

“Nonetheless, I’ll have to undergo training. If I go to the office, I won’t be able to attend training,” she rebutted.

“Don’t worry about that. You’re working in the family corporation, after all. We’ll take care of your schedule. I just want you to go out and experience life, not with the main purpose of earning a living,” Han Jingru continued persuading her.

“I can experience life too, just by staying in the villa.” She was rather stubborn.

“Won’t you listen to me anymore?” he asked sternly, his tone laced with a slight hint of anger.

Jiang Yingying lowered her head in silence.

“I don’t want to owe you too much. Nobody knows what the future may hold. If I don’t do this, I’ll feel bad for the rest of my life. Can you do me this favor, for the sake of my conscience?” he asked.

“Jingru, I don’t have a choice, do I?” Jiang Yingying queried softly.

“Smart girl.” Han Jingru laughed. Although it appeared as if he was forcing her, he knew that it was for her own good. He believed that working at the office would bring her new perspectives, enriching her with experiences that she would never receive



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from staying inside the villa.

However, if she truly wanted to stay full-time at the villa after trying out the corporate world, Han Jingru would respect her final decision.

“I’ll do as you’ve asked.” Jiang Yingying obliged.

During dinner, Shen Zhuoman brought the news up again. Other than Shi Yan who had read about it, both Han Xiuzhi and Yan Qiong were rather oblivious to the news, seeing as they did not own a smart phone.

“Is Bert Stanford an impressive man?” Han Xiuzhi was curious to find out.

“Grandpa, Bert, and Stanford are two different people.” Shen Zhuoman laughed out loud as she tried to explain, “They are both legendary, big shots in their respective fields; music and visual arts.”

Han Xiuzhi roughly figured out the backgrounds of the two “big shots.” He thought about it for a while before he turned to Han Jingru.

It’s pretty common to have a namesake, but something feels rather dubious about the other Han Xiang.

Han Jingru merely smiled, not saying a word. It was certainly better to keep the cat in the bag until his suspicions were confirmed. Han Xiuzhi soon caught his expression and understood that something was up.

After dinner, he called Han Jingru to his room.



Chapter 692 An Amazing Gift

“The one who was referred to in the news is our Xiang, right?” he asked.

Han Jingru did not intend to hide anything from his grandfather. “Perhaps. This is most probably a gift from Nangong Boling.”

Unsure how to react to this, Han Xiuzhi commented, “It surely is an amazing gift. It’s so phenomenal that it has taken the world by force. Haha!”

Han Jingru nodded in agreement. *That’s the style of Nangong Boling! To others, it may seem rather exaggerated, but to the Nangong family, it is considered to be something trivial.*

“I have yet to confirm if it’s really from him. It could be just a namesake,” Han Jingru added.

“Do you really have to think twice about this? Other than him, who else would have done something like that? He has gone to great lengths, just to please you.” Han Xiuzhi sighed. Back then, he was only a pawn to the Nangong family. He was never taken seriously by them.

Now, Han Jingru had established a name for the Han family, so much so, that even a great man like Nangong Boling had to please him.

“No one can fathom how much he values Apocalypse. He also appears to have an ulterior motive.” Han Jingru frowned at the thought of it. Nangong Boling had shown an extremely strong will, in bringing the Nangong family into Apocalypse.



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Hence, Han Jingru suspected that he had the intention to do more than just raising the status of his family name. Unfortunately, Han Jingru had yet to discover any clues.

Han Xiuzhi agreed with Han Jingru. *After all, humans are selfish beings. If Nangong Boling was only doing this for his family, he needn't offer so much, to the extent where he is willing to change his surname. That's too much of a price to pay!*

"You'd better be careful, interacting with the old fox. Once you've missed a step, you'll tumble all the way down into the abyss," Han Xiuzhi reminded him.

"Don't worry, Grandpa. I'm not a pet toy that he can fool around with," Han Jingru assured him with a smile.

"You're a blessing to the Han family." Feeling thankful, Han Xiuzhi's eyes welled up. *If it weren't for Han Jinru, the Han family would still have remained as a regular family in Yan City. Perhaps, it might have even gotten destroyed by Han Xiuyuan long ago.*

"Grandpa, it's my duty and honor to serve the Han family." Han Jingru indicated clearly.

"All right, all right, it's getting late now. Go and get some rest. I don't want to take up any more of your precious time with Yimo." Han Xiuzhi's mouth curved into a smile.

Unlike Su Yimo, Han Jingru was very open-minded about topics as such. After all, he was an adult and



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he assumed that everyone had already known much about the intimacy between a husband and wife.

“You rest well too, Grandpa. It’s going to be another long day tomorrow, visiting the various venues,” Han Jingru pronounced,

Regarding the hundredth-day celebration, several venues had been shortlisted. Nonetheless, it was difficult to picture the full layout and arrangements, hence, Han Jingru had decided to do a recce.

Aware of how absence would make the heart grow fonder, Shen Zhuoman intentionally took an early leave after dinner, hoping to give the couple the time and space that they had yearned for.

Han Jingru returned to the bedroom only to find Su Yimo looking perturbed.

“What’s wrong?” he asked.

“Do you think that Xiang will be affected in the future?” Su Yimo was seemingly bothered.

“What do you mean?” Han Jingru was completely baffled.



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Chapter 693 You Are A Member Of The Family Too

Su Yimo was still thinking about Shen Zhuoman's words, stating that people would compare Han Xiang with her namesake, creating unnecessary pressure for her.

She did not want Han Xiang to lead an unhappy life, growing up under societal pressure.

"The one who appeared in the news today, Xiang's namesake. People will definitely compare them both, in the future." A long sigh escaped her lips.

Han Jingru did not know whether to laugh or cry. He did not expect his wife to be troubled by the news, because the person featured in the news was obviously their daughter.

Still, he did not plan to tell her of it, as he wanted to keep the matter a surprise.

"Why do you look down upon Xiang? She may prove to be better than her namesake when she grows up," Han Jingru announced proudly.

His confidence encouraged Su Yimo. "That's true. Xiang might turn out to be better than her, taking over the limelight."

Sitting on the bed, Han Jingru held her hands. "Leave that to the future. There's no need to think about this so much. We should focus on the present so that we can do something meaningful."

Blushing, she stared at him. "What do you mean by meaningful things? Have you ever done something



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meaningful?”

Like a hungry beast ready to devour its prey, he threw her onto the bed as he chided, “It looks like I haven’t tamed you well enough last night, huh?”

Upon having breakfast the next morning, the family set off on their first site visit, at Bifeng Manor.

All of the employees at the manor had already gathered at the entrance of the manor before eight o’clock. From the lowest of staff to the big boss, nobody complained about waiting in the cold.

“Who is our guest? Is he that important, seeing that even the boss has to welcome him personally?”

“It is rather early. Our official working hours haven’t started yet.”

“Haven’t you heard the news? The hundredth-day celebration of Han Xiang might be taking place at our manor. I bet that the Han family is on their way here. Otherwise, why would our boss have shown up?”

Brewing for days now, a supposed, simple hundredth-day celebration had now become a top event in Yun City. Everyone was looking forward to it.

All the staff members were dumbfounded, hearing that Han Jingru was heading their way.

“I see. Han Jingru is coming. It’s no surprise that the boss is here early, then.”



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“Nobody would have expected a scumbag like Han Jingru to become a legend in Yun City! He was despised back then! I wonder how his critics will react now.”

“What do you suppose? They’ll probably run as far as they can. No one can bear the cross of his revenge.”

They were perplexed to see their boss showing up personally to receive a guest. Nevertheless, it all made perfect sense to them when they finally learned that the guest was Han Jingru. *With his remarkable status in Yun City, it is no surprise for him to receive such treatment, as though he is a guest of honor.*

The boss was a plump, middle-aged man. His eyes were fixed on the tar road outside of the manor.

At long last, two Audis appeared before his sight. Soon, he jumped excitedly.

Before the cars could pull up at the entrance, he jogged over, eagerly awaiting the guests.

“President Han, I’m sorry for troubling you to make a trip here, on this cold, winter morning.” The boss smiled widely.

“Thank you for waiting for us, on this cold, winter morning.” Han Jingru replied.

The boss waved his hands dismissively a few times. *Even if I had to stand in the cold the entire night, it’ll still be worth the chance to meet Han Jingru, face to face.*



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“Please don’t mention it. The honor and pleasure are completely ours.” The boss bowed.

“Let’s have a look around,” Han Jingru suggested.

The boss nodded before he walked them around the manor, providing detailed, on-site descriptions.

The environment was good and it could accommodate a large number of guests. There was an artificial lake in the manor and many wild white cranes were resting on the man-made island at the center of the lake.

“Jingru, this is a nice place indeed. Although it doesn’t have the modern, luxurious look of a hotel, the environment is still very pleasant, while the air is fresh.” Su Yimo was very satisfied with her choice.

The boss was over the moon when he heard the praises from Su Yimo, thinking that he could add this in, as a positive review of the manor.

Han Jingru agreed, “Indeed. It’s rare to find such a picturesque place, in Yun City.”

“President Han, please don’t hesitate to let us know if there’s any improvement needed. We will set up the place according to your preference. Satisfaction is guaranteed.” The boss seized the opportunity to promote good service, hoping that they would choose the manor as the venue for Han Xiang’s hundredth-day celebration.

Many were desperate to win him over, in order to inch



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a step closer to Han Jingru.

Considering his current status in Yun City, being friends with Han Jingru or having a business opportunity with him would spell success in the future too.

“Grandpa, Mom, what do you think?” Han Jingru consulted Han Xiuzhi and Shi Yan for their opinions.

Shi Yan shook her head. She felt that holding the event at a magnificent hotel was the most suitable, in terms of reflecting the importance of the celebration.

On the contrary, Han Xiuzhi preferred a tranquil, yet elegant environment, as opposed to one that was superficially decorated.

Han Jingru gave them a half-smile while listening to their differing opinions.

“We are merely expressing our ideas. The final decision still lies in your hands.” Shi Yan tried to reduce the pressure that was out on Han Jingru.

“Let’s check out the other venues too before we finalize our decision,” Han Jingru concluded.

Su Yimo agreed with him. After all, the manor was only the first of the many options that they had narrowed down.

They stayed for about half an hour before they left for their next destination.



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Seeing that two Audis had sped off, the boss heaved a sigh of relief. At long last, he could breathe normally again! "Phew, it's rather stressful, interacting with big shots like these."

The Hans visited multiple styles of manors, restaurants, and hotels, all within the same day. Each of the venues had its own pros and cons, causing Han Jingru to be spoiled for choice.

At seven o'clock in the evening, the entourage returned to the villa, still without a final decision made.

"Why don't you decide?" Han Jingru asked Su Yimo.

Unfortunately, Su Yimo was also in a dilemma. "I don't know which one to pick. I think that you should decide."

Seeing the two sitting on the fence, Han Xiuzhi raised a suggestion. "Let's conduct a raffle draw. Write the names of the venues on individual papers and pick one each, with your eyes closed."

"That's a good idea!" Han Jingru went looking for papers and pens.

Upon getting the papers ready, Han Jingru asked Jiang Yingying to pick one.

"Huh?" *Han Jingru wants me to take charge of such an important task?*

His intention was to get her involved in family



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matters. This would serve to make her feel like she belonged. She had evidently misunderstood his proposal of having her work at Su Corporation as a gesture to kick her out of the villa. With this move, Han Jingru hoped to clear the air with Jiang Yingying.

It was a fact that the Hans were very good at taking care of others' feelings. In addition to that, they could do so seamlessly, without bringing discomfort to others.

"Come on, you need to help us as a member of the family too." Han Jingru gave her a warm smile.

As a member of the family... These precious words touched Ho Ting deeply. She turned her head and swept her tears away. It had been a very long time since she had last felt the warmth of a family, after the demise of her husband.



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Chapter 694 Climbing Up The Social Ladder

Jiang Yingying was moved to tears. She grew up with Ho Ting and she had almost forgotten how it had felt, to belong to a family.

Su Yimo nodded to assure her, while Shi Yan smiled at her. Meanwhile, Han Xiuzhi gestured for her to start the raffle draw. All of these subtle actions had caused her eyes to glisten with grateful tears.

“Alright.” She stretched her hand out anxiously, knowing that the venue of the hundredth-day celebration was in her hand.

“Don’t worry. We like all of the places that we’ve seen. We just couldn’t decide on one. You’ll simply be helping us out of that dilemma.” Her hands were trembling so Han Jingru consoled her.

Taking a deep breath, she picked out a crumpled paper ball, as she soon passed it to Han Jingru.

“Jingru, please don’t be mad at me if it’s not a good pick,” Jiang Yingying uttered softly.

“It’s all good. Don’t worry.” Han Jingru revealed that the finalized venue was the first manor that they visited, early in the morning.

Han Xiuzhi, Han Jingru, and Su Yimo were all very happy with the results. Although the quiet and elegant environment at the manor was not at the level depicting a paradise, the tranquility offered was a plus point, compared to the hustle and bustle in the city.



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“Mom, that’s the result of the raffle draw,” Han Jingru reminded Shi Yan, knowing that she would have very much preferred to hold the celebration at a five-star hotel.

“That’s fine by me.”

Now that the venue had been decided, Han Jingru planned to inform the boss of their decision, so that he could begin to prepare for the celebration accordingly.

Zhang Bifeng was the owner of Bifeng Manor. Ever since the Hans left in the morning, he had been feeling very anxious and uneasy. He found that he could not remain calm while waiting for the Hans to decide on the venue.

“Isn’t it just a hundredth-day celebration? As a big boss, do you really have to be so nervous about it?” Zhang Bifeng’s wife asked helplessly. She could not tolerate his dazedness, throughout the entire day, seeing that he continuously checked his phone, every other minute.

“You’re a rather short-sighted woman. Do you know the significance of this hundredth-day celebration? Do you know what this means to the Zhang family?” He glared daggers at her. *With Han Jingru being at the top of the social hierarchy, anyone appointed by him to hold the celebration will instantly get elevated in his social status too.* Zhang Bifeng did not want to miss out on this opportunity of a lifetime.

“What is it? Are you short of money? What’s the big



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deal if you don't get this business deal?" His wife shot him a stern glare in return.

Zhang Bifeng was not a man who was afraid of his wife. Quite frequently, he chose to be the bigger person instead, as he did not want to waste time arguing.

However, he wanted to put his foot down on this matter, to ensure that his wife was aware of two important things; they were about Han Jingru's background and how important the matter was, to the Zhang family. He also intended to remind his wife not to offend any of the Hans, so that nothing bad would befall the family.

"I was right to say that you're a frog in the well. This has got nothing to do with money. Do you think that I'd want to charge them for this hundredth-day celebration? We need to be far-sighted. Looking at his current position in Yun City, anyone who gets to network with him will reap a lot of benefits. Money is only one of it."

"Isn't Han Jingru the useless, son-in-law of the Su family? How great can he be?" his wife mocked, her voice full of utter contempt.

Although Han Jingru had been the topic of the sensation of news in the city, her impression of him still remained at a superficial level. She did not bother to update herself with details about him.

Hearing her flippant words towards Han Jingru, Zhang Bifeng's face paled. Although they were at



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their own home, he was still worried that her words would fall into the wrong ears.

“Take back what you’ve just said. Do you know that your words can lead to the death of the entire Zhang family? Do you even qualify to criticize Han Jingru? The useless, son-in-law of the Su family... That was the news of the last century. He is in fact the young master of Yan City’s Han family,” Zhang Bifeng reprimanded his wife.

“Why have you raised your voice at me?” Stunned, she gazed at him with glossy eyes.

This time, Zhang Bifeng refused to back down. He feared that she would stir trouble for the family in the near future, had she not learned her lesson now. *She should learn to be less arrogant.*

“Let me warn you, don’t mention the name Han Jingru, nor pass any comments about him as you wish. If you ever do so in public, I’ll make sure to cut you off from the Zhang family.” Zhang Bifeng’s tone was cold and firm.

The woman was completely dumbfounded. She had yet to face a strict and fierce Zhang Bifeng. He would often budge, especially if she were to cry in front of him.

It was at that moment, when she realized Han Jingru’s importance, in Zhang Bifeng’s heart.

How did a useless, son-in-law make a name for himself, becoming so successful?



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At that moment, Zhang Bifeng's phone rang.

He was indescribably thrilled, to have received the phone call that he had been waiting for, the entire day.

Upon taking a deep breath, he carefully picked up the phone with a pair of trembling hands. His face looked so serious that it seemed as though the line would be disconnected if he were to move a second faster.

"Pres... President Han. Hi, how... How are you?" Zhang Bifeng stammered.

"Mr. Zhang, we've decided to hold our celebration at your manor. Please take good care of the preparations for us," Han Jingru informed him over the phone.

"Yes, yes, yes, President Han. Rest assured that I'll personally see to every single detail. I won't let you down." Zhang Bifeng was extremely gleeful.

Upon hanging up, he let out a triumphant roar, his face turning a bright red. Although he had been looking forward to the good news, when it finally came true, he found that he could hardly contain his happiness.

To him, it was not a regular hundredth-day celebration. Rather, it was a stepping stone, in terms of elevating the position of Bifeng Manor. He desired to be the first in the F&B industry, as he had found a shortcut to climb up the social ladder.



Chapter 694 Climbing Up The Social Ladder

“Henceforth, I’ll stay at Bifeng Manor to supervise every single detail of the hundredth-day celebration. Don’t cause me any disturbance,” Zhang Bifeng ordered his wife.

If there was a winner, there would certainly be a loser too. Hence, the ones who were unable to score the deal grumbled in despair.

From the next day onwards, Zhang Bifeng received many phone calls from corporate leaders who had used to look down on him. All of them had expressed their eagerness and desire to help him out, in organizing the hundredth-day celebration. They were willing to satisfy any of Zhang Bifeng’s requests, as long as they could get involved in the process.

If he was in the same situation, back then, he would have surely been on cloud nine, happy to receive favors from big corporations. Ironically, he no longer felt the same.

Can any of these big corporations be more powerful than Han Jingru?

Moreover, he did not need the help of these people anymore, and neither would he allow them a chance to get involved. Hence, he rejected all offers on the spot.

This stirred a lot of regrets, in the companies who had wished to collaborate with him, seeing as they had refused to build a network with him, prior to this.

Fate is unpredictable.



Chapter 694 Climbing Up The Social Ladder

Who would have thought that a small boss of a manor could become a famous man in Yun City overnight?

When it was three days away from Han Xiang's hundredth-day celebration, an unwanted guest appeared at Yun City's station. Dressed in shabby clothes, he attracted a lot of disdainful expressions from the passersby. However, he did not take notice of how the people had stared at him. Instead, he sighed at the sight of Yun City.

To Fang Zhan, city life was something that was unfamiliar to him. He had been so used to living alone in the deep mountains and old forests, surrounded by snakes, insects, rats, and ants.

It was not something challenging, for him to adapt to a new environment. Being a highly-ranked person in the past, he could not care less about the contemptuous looks that others were currently throwing at him.

In his eyes, these people were merely a colony of ants.

"The hundredth-day celebration of Han Jingru's daughter will take place, three days from now. It's the best time for you to take action then. I do not merely want him to die. Rather, I also want everyone to know just how worthless and useless he is." Lin Tong approached Fang Zhan.



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Chapter 695 The True Elite

Fang Zhan nodded. An insignificant matter, it was unimportant to him when or where Han Jingru died. He merely wanted to know his daughter's whereabouts.

He would be able to find his daughter if he complied with Lin Tong's demands. Hence, he would stop at nothing to do as such.

However, he still had to ask, "Will you receive a promotion in Apocalypse if he's dead?"

Lin Tong snorted. "With my current position, do you honestly think that I would need to gain traction by stepping over a loser like him?"

"It's evident to me that you're rather terrified of him threatening your position, as much as you'd like to deny it. This is exactly why you'll never become a true elite," Fang Zhan replied impassively.

Lin Tong gritted his teeth at Fang Zhan's remark. *Who is he to dictate whether I'll become an elite or not?*

I'm the Chosen One of Apocalypse. If I were truly unable to become an elite, what more, if it came to anyone else?

"Fang Zhan, don't you think that you're being a bit ridiculous here? Who are you to decide whether I can become an elite or not?"

Fang Zhan shook his head. "I'm not joking with you. A true elite is supercilious. On the other hand, you're troubling yourself with someone who hasn't even



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joined the Apocalypse. A true elite will never behave in such a manner.”

“I’m not afraid of him!” Lin Tong glared at Fang Zhan, his eyes full of fury. *I have never once lived in fear of Han Jingru. I merely nipped my threat in the bud. How is this considered as being terrified of Han Jingru?*

Fang Zhan’s lips curved into a thin smile. “I’ve also said that this is a fact, no matter whether you’d want to acknowledge it or not.”

Lin Tong snorted in derision once again. “Well, suit yourself then. When I have gained full power at Apocalypse, I will be sure to find you. I’ll show you my power then. I shall dig you right up from your grave, even if you’ve turned into ashes.”

Fang Zhan shook his head slightly. He did not wish to entangle himself in a futile argument with Lin Tong. He did not merely make a hasty judgment about Lin Tong. Rather, Fang Zhan was only speaking from his experience.

Lin Tong is not the only Chosen One at Apocalypse. There was once a number of capable youngsters, all contending for the position. They were able to stand out, as they had been given their positions as elites; they were fearless too. Lin Tong, on the other hand, simply does not possess the same quality.

How could he, someone who is so fearful and restrained, become an elite?



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Moreover, Fang Zhan could sense that Lin Tong had not dared to face the matter himself. Rather, he had done it out of fear for Mr. Yi, and to secure his own reputation.

Lin Tong could possibly impress Mr. Yi if he were to muster up the courage to kill Han Jingru. However, given the circumstance right now, I think it is safe to say that doing as such, is rather impossible.

Lin Tong had nearly crushed his teeth from all the grinding when he saw Fang Zhan heading off in the distance.

“Bastard, how could you dare to judge me as such? Revenge is a dish best served cold.” Lin Tong’s gaze was murderous.

At the villa.

Han Xiang’s hundredth-day celebration was approaching. Nonetheless, the family did not seem like they were busy preparing for the event since they had delegated it to their helpers. They merely had to listen to Mo Lan’s daily report.

Han Jingru treasured his time at Yun City. He stayed by Su Yimo and Han Xiang’s side most of the time, as he seldom went out. He did not know when he would next leave them, or when he would be able to come back. Everything was undecided.

Every so often, he found that he did not want to deal with the things at Apocalypse either. However, he was well aware that with the way things were right



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now, he had lost the liberty to choose.

It was a morning like any other. Han Jingru was jogging along the mountain tracks. Su Yimo tagged along by his side. It was almost as though they had traveled back in time.

Back then, Han Jingru had just bought the Genting villa, and Su Yimo would jog alongside him every morning.

The words that Han Jingru had uttered to Su Yimo when they first stepped on the mountaintop were still fresh in her mind. She no longer looked forward to the bustling city life in the north. On the other hand, she would much rather stay at Yun City, and she would be truly contented if Han Jingru could remain by her side.

Su Yimo, however, was well aware that blissful moments were fleeting. Han Jingru could not remain by her side forever.

She had a hunch that something serious would come up. When it came to such, Han Jingru would have to deal with it, in its due course. Han Jingru would certainly have to leave Yun City by then. However, Su Yimo had not brought it up. She did not wish to live under the torment of counting down their days together.

“Why is this old thing here again?” Han Jingru noticed a familiar silhouette standing at the mountain top. He had chased out the bearded, old man a few days ago. *Why is he here again?*



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“Do you know him?” Su Yimo was puzzled.

“This old man has appeared out of nowhere. I have seen him here before,” Han Jingru explained.

Su Yimo stole a glance at the old man. He had a holy and dignified air about him. She thought that he resembled those wise, old celestial beings in the TV shows. *I don't think that he's an ordinary old man.*

“Old man, why are you here again? Your legs will be broken if the security guards see you here,” Han Jingru approached the old man and warned.

The old man stroked his beard in a composed manner as he smiled. “They're no match for me.”

Han Jingru replied impassively, “Don't fib around with me. You look rather frail.”

Mr. Yi was at a loss for words. *Any man would have to treat me with utter respect at Apocalypse. Do I really appear that frail to my future disciple here?*

“The air up here is really pleasant. Amongst all the places that I've seen in Yun City, only this place has served to charm me. You have an impeccable taste, young man,” Mr. Yi complimented with a smile.

“This villa costs up to millions. Hence, the view here is certainly the best in Yun City. I could give you a villa if you'd really wanted to stay here, as long as you agree not to bother me,” Han Jingru responded. Han Jingru did not even move to bat an eye when he said that he would give out a villa that would cost millions.



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Only Han Jingru could have done such a thing.

Han Jingru had never valued materialistic possessions. Money was no more than a piece of paper, in his eyes. As of now, there was no need for him to value money anyway. The Nangong Family was so wealthy, that it would take him generations to spend it all.

“You’re a generous man. It’s a pity that I am not interested in such materialistic possessions.”

“Then, what are you interested in?” Han Jingru asked.

“You.” Mr. Yi turned around and grinned as he levelled his gaze at Han Jingru.

A chill travelled down Han Jingru’s spine. Even Su Yimo could not help but turn her neck in surprise.

Does this old man have a weird fetish or something?

“Old man, who do you take me for? I am a hundred percent straight,” Han Jingru replied.

The old man was stumped. He was baffled by Han Jingru’s train of thought. *Does this fella think that I’m interested in a man?*

“You’re too filthy-minded, you stupid, young man,” Mr. Yi chided.

Su Yimo was infuriated. *How dare this old man accuse my husband of being stupid?*



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“Old man, I’m respecting you because of your age. How could you reprimand others in such a manner?” Su Yimo retorted.

Mr. Yi sighed. *My disciple-to-be is a rather difficult one. In addition to that, his wife seems to be unfriendly too. God knows what will happen when I bring them back to Apocalypse.*

“You would be indebted to me soon. Aren’t you worried about the repercussions of disrespecting me?” Mr. Yi questioned.

“Indebted to you?” Han Jingru furrowed his brows. *What is this old man getting at? I don’t even know him. How would I be indebted to him?*

“On the day of your daughter’s hundredth-day celebration, someone will try to trouble you. Only I can save you,” Mr. Yi replied.

Han Jingru merely smiled at the old man’s remarks. *Who in Yun City would dare to threaten me right now? Even if they were to consume a lion’s heart for breakfast, they would certainly not dare to trouble him, especially on such a special occasion.*

Even if someone that fearless appeared, Han Jingru had nothing to fear, with his current capabilities.

“Old man, you think too lightly of me. You’ve said that I will need your help?” Han Jingru queried indifferently.

“There is always someone better than you out there.”



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Mr. Yi smiled.

Mr. Yi knew that Fang Zhan was coming to Yun City. However, he was actually quite surprised by it. Although he knew that Lin Tong would not give up on the prospect of killing Han Jingru, Mr. Yi was still impressed that Lin Tong had managed to get Fang Zhan, out in the open.



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Chapter 696 The Demand

Fang Zhan was one of the ten elites in Apocalypse, back then. No one had managed to surpass him thus far. This alone was corroborating evidence of Fang Zhan's capabilities.

Fang Zhan had decided to retract himself abruptly back then, and even Mr. Yi did not manage to persuade him to stay. It was a telltale sign that Fang Zhan was adamant, in regards to fading out of the scene. The fact that Lin Tong managed to convince him shocked Mr. Yi. He could not fathom how Lin Tong had managed to accomplish such a feat.

It is impossible for Han Jingru to fend for himself, especially when in the face of Fang Zhan. His death is imminent.

"You can deal with someone whom even I am unable to beat up?" Han Jingru asked.

"Why would I lie to you?" Mr. Yi replied.

His reply to piqued Han Jingru's interest. Even though he did not know the old man before him, there was no need for the old man to lie about such matters. *However, who in Yun City would threaten me right now?*

A name popped up in Han Jingru's mind right away.

Lin Tong!

Han Xiuyuan and Ma Yu had mentioned this person before. Even though Han Jingru had never seen Lin Tong in person before, he was well aware that Lin



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Tong was making him his target.

If the old man was being honest, then that person would have to be Lin Tong.

“Old man, who are you?” Han Jingru demanded. *This old man has to be someone extraordinary if he knows of Lin Tong. He might even know of Apocalypse.*

Mr. Yi merely smiled, choosing to remain silent. He had no plans of revealing his true identity to Han Jingru just yet. The main purpose of his trip to Yun City this time was to find out what kind of person Han Jingru was. He was not one to solely emphasize one’s capabilities. Rather, he also took note of the personalities of his disciples.

“Are you someone from Apocalypse? Did Mr. Yi send you here to protect me?” Han Jingru made his guess. He speculated that it was as such, because of Ma Yu. When Ma Yu appeared back then, it was on Mr. Yi’s orders too. Han Jingru guessed that the old man before him had the same intention as Ma Yu.

Mr. Yi nodded his head, playing along with Han Jingru. It saved him the effort of coming up with a fraudulent identity in front of Han Jingru. *There is another plus point to this. Han Jingru will be unable to blame me, in the future, if he ever were to discover my true identity. It was he, who had made such an assumption. How would he pin the blame on me, then?*

“Why didn’t Mr. Yi show up?” Han Jingru asked.

“Who do you take Mr. Yi for? Young man, Mr. Yi is not



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someone whom you should take lightly. Even if he wants to take you in as his disciple, do not take it as a sign that you can do as you'd pleased," Mr. Yi replied.

Han Jingru snorted. "Do you really think that I'd want to become his disciple? I have yet to promise him anything."

Mr. Yi gritted his teeth at his derision. *Does this fella know how many people want to be my disciple at Apocalypse? How can he take it so lightly?*

"Why aren't you agreeing to such a good opportunity?" Mr. Yi could not help but ask.

"Who knows what the old man is like? What if he's a pervert? Or worse, what if he has a bad character?"

Pervert!

Mr. Yi held back the urge to reprimand this young man standing before him. *How dare he think of me as a pervert?*

Nonetheless, he did not want to expose his true identity.

Mr. Yi gradually let loose of his tightened fist. *Someday, this fella will fall into my hands. I will be sure to torment him then.*

"By the way, you're good as dead without me," Mr. Yi added on.



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“Are you going to ask for something of me, even if it’s Mr. Yi who had sent you here?”

“Of course.” Mr. Yi nodded. “You’d have to offer me something if you require my help.”

“Okay, name your price.” Han Jingru was impassive. As long as something could be solved with money, it was not a problem for Han Jingru. Besides, not only was he inheriting the Han family’s wealth, rather, the Nangong family’s assets were in his hands as well. The two families’ wealth combined was an astronomical figure.

Mr. Yi tightened his fist again. He had no idea as to what Han Jingru had thought of him. *How can he dare to dismiss me, by merely using money?*

“I don’t want money,” Mr. Yi replied.

“Then, what do you want?” Han Jingru was puzzled.

Mr. Yi smiled enigmatically.

Su Yimo tugged at the corners of Han Jingru’s clothes, upon catching sight of his smile. She whispered, “I think that he’s up to no good.”

Su Yimo was trying to conceal her assumptions of the old man. On the other hand, Han Jingru deliberately piped up, “Look at him, being all suspicious! How is he up to anything good?”

Mr. Yi sucked in a deep breath, trying his best to stomach his burning fury.



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Anyone who has dared to undermine me would be finished at Apocalypse. Only Han Jingru has dared to oppose me as such.

“I want to be Han Xiang’s god-grandfather.”

“No.” Han Jingru’s rejection was point-blank. “How can Xiang address a perverted, old man like you as her god-grandfather?”

Mr. Yi stomped his feet out of exasperation. *How can he accuse me of being a perverted, old man?*

“You... You are playing with fire!” Mr. Yi burned with fury as he pointed an accusing finger at Han Jingru.

“My answer is still a no. Why don’t you decide on something else?” Han Jingru suggested.

Mr. Yi’s intention was to solidify the relationship between Han Jingru and himself. Furthermore, he had taken a good look at Han Xiang before. Even though he could not figure out what her talent was, Mr. Yi had a hunch that this little girl would grow up to become someone extraordinary.

“Forget it, then. No one other than me can save you from your death.” Mr. Yi was infuriated by Han Jingru’s provocation. He seemed like he would not give in.

Su Yimo started to worry at this point. *What if someone really harms Han Jingru? What if we really need this old man’s help?* It was impossible for her to stand idly by when someone tried to harm Han Jingru.

“Jingru, why won’t you agree to it? It’s nothing bad either. What if someone is really after you?” Su Yimo asked in a worried tone.

Truthfully, Han Jingru was well aware that the troublemaker sent by Lin Tong would be someone extraordinary. He was possibly no match for him too. If the old man did not help him out, Han Xiang’s hundredth-day celebration may very well be the day that he would die.

However, the old man was getting on his nerves. *How can I allow Han Xiang to become this old man’s god-granddaughter?*

“Your wife is right, young man. You’re going to be good as dead without my help. You’d better agree to my menial request.”

“Why do you want to become Xiang’s god grandfather?” Han Jingru demanded.

This question stumped Mr. Yi. He could not reveal his intentions to Han Jingru. However, he was quick-witted as he soon came up with a viable explanation, in almost no time at all. “If you become Mr. Yi’s disciple, then surely you would rank highly in Apocalypse. It’s only natural for me to hitch that ride, right?”

“Shameless.” Han Jingru snorted.

“So, are you going to say yes or no?” Mr. Yi smiled.

His request will not bring any harm to Han Xiang. Hence, I guess I can agree to it. However, Han Jingru was truthfully left with no choice at this point. He could not fend himself against the troublemaker. Seeing as such, he could only pin his hopes on this old man.

“How can I not agree to this? I’ll die if I disagree anyway.” Han Jingru gave in eventually.

Mr. Yi chuckled. Han Jingru’s compliance caused his anger to dissipate.

“However, I will like to make something clear. You’ll have to fight him first. I shall only step in when the situation is dire.” Mr. Yi thought that Fang Zhan’s presence was actually a good opportunity for Han Jingru to practice being an elite. *Fang Zhan used to be one of the ten best elites at Apocalypse. Surely, Han Jingru can learn a thing or two from dealing with him.*

“I’m not a coward.”

Mr. Yi nodded his head. This quality of Han Jingru was a prompt for him back then when he had decided to take him in as his disciple. He observed that no matter who Han Jingru’s opponent was, Han Jingru would fearlessly give his all while fighting his opponent. Mr. Yi wanted to harness this quality so that Han Jingru would be able to deal with the unthinkable, at Apocalypse, in the future.

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Chapter 697 Celebration Day

On the day of Han Xiang's hundredth-day celebration, a number of luxurious cars lined up, to head toward Bifeng manor. It was the most glorious day that Bifeng manor had ever seen since its opening. Zhang Bifeng knew that he would not expect such a crowd at his manor, in its foreseeable future. Hence, he considered this to be a milestone of his manor, as he arranged for photographers to capture the images of the bigshots coming here today. He even planned to have a wall of fame, to display these bigshots' photos.

The bigshots would have sought to protest against Zhang Bifeng's plan if it were any other given occasion. However, they soon decided to accept Zhang Bifeng's plan with open hearts, as they agreed that it was Han Jingru's daughter's hundredth-day celebration, after all. Hence, they were forced to accept Zhang Bifeng's plan, all with bright smiles.

It is Han Jingru's daughter's hundredth-day celebration after all. Who would dare to even furrow their brows?

The hundredth-day celebration was set to commence at twelve. However, as of eleven o'clock, all the influential figures of Yun City had already gathered at Bifeng manor. If they were to bomb Bifeng manor at such a time, the business arena of Yun City would have crumbled instantly.

"Grandpa, I was under the impression that we'd arrived early. However, it seems as though these people have arrived earlier than us." Tian Shuirou held Tian Jingshuo's hands. They arrived at Bifeng manor, at about ten in the morning. Tian Shuirou had

certainly believed that they had arrived well ahead of time. To her surprise, the car park was already full of luxurious cars. This could only mean that they were late to the party as well.

Tian Jingshuo smiled and nodded. *These bigshots often prefer to have been the last to arrive at such parties. They would usually use such opportunities to display their power and wealth to others. However, they have not dared to play the same game at Han Xiang's hundredth-day celebration. Doing as such is akin to having a death wish.*

"These people do not dare to play tricks in front of your brother. That's why they're here early," Tian Jingshuo explained.

Tian Shuirou smiled with pride. "That's right. With his current status, these people would not have dared to play tricks on him. They're all merely middle-class citizens, in his eyes."

Tian Jingshuo did not know whether to laugh or cry. *The people who have received invitations to the hundredth-day celebration are either Yun City's or the neighboring city's big bosses. Their respective assets would have amounted to billions, yet his granddaughter had described the bunch as middle-class people.*

"Perhaps you've exaggerated a little. Nonetheless, I think that it could be possible," Tian Jingshuo replied.

Unaware of the influence that the Nangong family held, Tian Jingshuo was also oblivious to the fact

Han Jingru was already the legitimate heir to all of its wealth. If he were made aware of it, he would not have had any qualms about Tian Shuirou's description today. He would have thought his granddaughter's description to be a farfetched compliment.

He would consider such people to have been merely alleviated from poverty if they were to be compared to the Nangong family's wealth.

"Mr. Tian, you're rather late." A familiar face soon made its appearance before Tian Jingshuo. It was the Yun City Go Association's president, Wang Mao.

"I just didn't expect you guys to arrive so early. Mr. Wang, I don't suppose that you think that I was joking back then, right?" Tian Jingshuo smiled.

Wang Mao was thankful that he had never offended Han Jingru. Some of the members of his association were consumed with regret, all because they had argued with Han Jingru, back then. They did not expect him to rise to such power. The people who had left the association soon rejoined too. They had wanted to utilize the association, for a chance to gain Han Jingru's forgiveness.

"I see that you're up to no good. Do you need my help with something?" Tian Jingshuo glanced at Wang Mao in disdain.

Wang Mao nodded. "I'm sure that you're well aware that quite a number of people in the association had offended Han Jingru back then. They want to make

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their amends with him. I'm not worthy enough to carry out the deed, so I'm asking you for your help."

"You're not worthy of the deed, so you think that I am?" Tian Jingshuo asked. Although he was well acquainted with Han Jingru, he certainly did not wish to exploit his relationship with Han Jingru over such a matter.

Being indebted to others is a rather complicated matter. There is only a number of times that one can milk a cow before it'll soon run out of milk. Why would Tian Jingshuo put his relationship with Han Jingru at risk, to help others who were unrelated to him?

Wang Mao knew that he was out of luck when he heard Tian Jingshuo's reply. *Who else in Yun City shall help me out, if not Tian Jingshuo?*

"Mr. Tian, please help me out."

Tian Jingshuo waved his hand in an effort to dismiss Wang Mao immediately. He did not have the intention to even reconsider his decision. "Wang Mao, please don't put me in a difficult position. I want to maintain my relationship with him. I'd like to help my own family out as well."

"Nonetheless, Shuirou is Han Jingru's sister now, isn't she? Isn't it safe to say that the Tian family is closely acquainted with Han Jingru?"

"Mr. Wang, that is between me and my brother. It has nothing to do with the Tian family. Besides, those people have brought it upon themselves. Why are they

asking for our help? They were the troublemakers who had troubled my brother back then.” Tian Shuirou pouted her lips. Although the mastermind had already been punished, those who had backed him up would have to be held accountable for their actions too.

Wang Mao heaved a deep sigh. He wanted to take this opportunity to reconcile Han Jingru’s relationship with his association. However, it would be a hard nut to crack if Tian Jingshuo were unwilling to help him.

“Truthfully, there’s no need to sigh. I don’t think that Han Jingru will take such matters to his heart, given his station now.” Tian Jingshuo tried to soothe his old friend, even though he could not help him out. However, he doubted that Han Jingru would bring this up since the incident was already well in the past. *Besides, the mastermind behind the incident had received his rightful retribution anyway.*

“Really?” Wang Mao was still sitting on the fence.

Tian Jingshuo nodded. “The way I see it, I truly doubt that he would still deem such a matter to be significant.”

“Well, I can only hope for the best.” Wang Mao sighed.

At the Genting villa.

Han Jingru and his family were preparing to head out. It was customary for them, as organizers, to arrive earlier to greet the guests.

Shen Zhuoman arrived at the villa before nine. However, it was clear as day that she was not in a good mood.

It is supposed to be a happy day. Although she might have run into some sticky situations at work, she should not have brought along such emotions today. Hence, Su Yimo was curious as to what had influenced Shen Zhuoman's mood to be as such.

"What's the matter with you? You're looking rather gloomy. Did something happen to the company?" Su Yimo asked Shen Zhuoman.

The status of Su Corporation was now much higher than that of the Tian family. Hence, Shen Zhuoman was not worried about the company at all. Rather, she was gloomy because of Han Xiang.

"Yimo, I'm simply thinking that things are rather unfair for Xiang."

"What about Xiang?" Su Yimo was puzzled.

"I'm talking about the person who bears the same name as Han Xiang. Now, even people in our corporation are gossiping about this, as they've begun to compare the two. They're even saying that our Han Xiang is incomparable to the one on TV. It's rather frustrating to hear such things. These people are really so obtuse, comparing them both." Shen Zhuoman was infuriated when she spoke of it. She already had a hunch that this would develop into a problem, sooner or later. However, it seemed as though she had not expected it to happen so soon. *If the people in the corporation have started to gossip about it, I guess that it shall be not hard for one to imagine the public's perception, on this matter.*"

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Su Yimo's face sank. Although this was within her expectations, it was still a hard pill for a mother to swallow.

To Su Yimo, Han Xiang was both her heart and soul. Nobody could measure up to Han Xiang in her heart. However, her thoughts alone would not be able to stop others' thoughts. Surely, this could only mean that people were going to gossip about this, despite the influence that Han Jingru had over Yun City.

"Just ignore them. We can't possibly control what they'd want to say," Su Yimo uttered helplessly.

"Right, but I've already given an order out. Those who are caught gossiping about this will get fired immediately, no exceptions," Shen Zhuoman announced.



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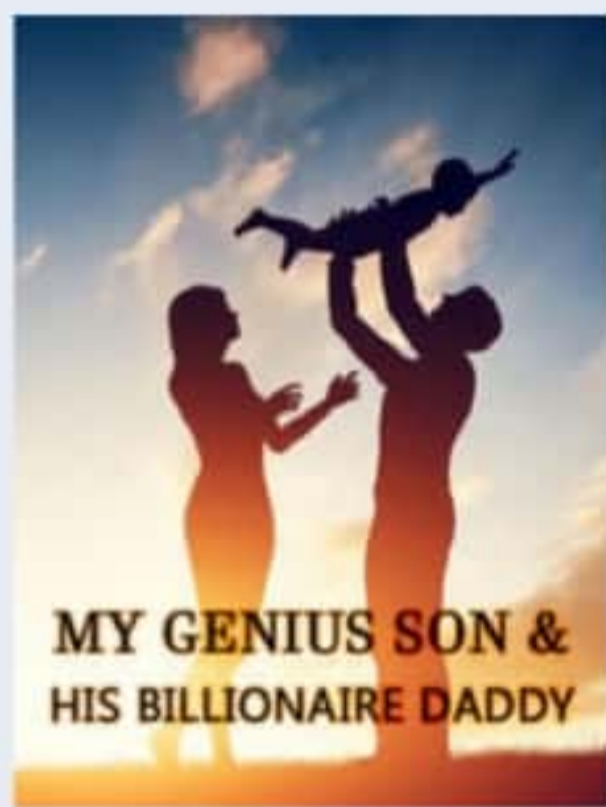
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