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"Of course, I did. I am not a fool. But I only peeped through the red cloth so that the ginseng wouldn't escape," Frederick immediately explained. His response only served to convince Kai and Josephine that he was cheated. Even William kept shaking his head, displaying a resigned smile. Frederick was born in a well-to-do family and had never been in the real world, so he was still naive. After all, no one would dare to offend the mayor's son. Thus, he had no idea how cruel society could be. That Audi outside the Sullivan residence alone would deter everyone from getting near him. In Horington, People would run away from him no matter where he drove that car. "I believe that you are not lying. I mean it!" Kai's tone turned serious suddenly.

Just as Frederick was staring at him confusedly, Kai laughed again. "But I don't trust the farmer who sold you this. Maybe he cheated you." At that, Frederick shot him a glare. I knew it! He still doesn't believe me! "I will prove it to you right now! Let's see whether it is authentic ginseng or not!" In a panic, Frederick took the box and undid the cord.

After opening the box, he froze on the spot. It turned out there was merely a handful of grass roots inside. The thousand-year-old ginseng root was nowhere in sight. "Hahaha..." Upon seeing that, Josephine burst into a peal of laughter. She was laughing so hard that she almost shed tears. William could not hold in his laughter too.

He paid a million for a few grass roots. That's so pitiful. "D*mn it. How dare he cheat me? I swear I will find him and sue him. This is unforgivable!" Upon hearing them laughing at him, Frederick exploded with rage and smashed the box on the floor.

if() { }

"Do you even know his name? And where does he live? How are you going to find him? That's Yeringham, not Horington. Your father has no power there!" Kai continued to provoke Frederick. The latter was rendered speechless, and he flushed angrily. Unfortunately, he could not retort as Kai was stating the truth. "All right, all right. Take it as a lesson learned, then. We all make mistakes in life. Let's continue to savor the tea!" William immediately tried to defuse the tense moment and save Frederick from the embarrassment.

He figured it would be troublesome if Kai and Frederick got into a fight. After all, he dared not offend the mayor's son either.

"Mr. Sullivan, I still have a few hundred-year-old ginseng roots at home. Those are all authentic. I'll have my chauffeur bring them here now!"

Ashamed by his foolishness, Frederick was eager to make up for it.

"Fred, there's no need for that. I appreciate your goodwill!" William hastened to stop the younger man.

However, Frederick had already walked out to his car. While whispering to his chauffeur, he glanced at Kai occasionally. In the end, the chauffeur nodded and drove out of the residence.

Around twenty minutes later, he returned with a gift box in his hands. As he handed it to Frederick, he whispered something to the latter's ear.

Excitement flitted across Frederick's face, and he cast a scornful look at Kai.

Having signaled the chauffeur to wait outside with a wave of his hand, he walked toward William. "Mr. Sullivan, these are some hundred-year-old ginseng roots. Please have them when you are free."

That time around, Frederick personally opened the gift box and showed them the ginseng roots. They all seemed to be of good quality.

"Fred, you didn't have to be so courteous, but since you've brought them over, I won't rebuff your kind gesture!"

With that, William received the box.

if() { }

"Mr. Sullivan, please take good care of your health. Don't eat whatever others give to you, especially those from an ex-convict. Those who have been imprisoned are wicked people. Even after they come out of prison, their sinful nature will never change."

Frederick was looking at Kai while saying that, not even bothering to mask his contempt.

Evidently, he had asked his chauffeur to investigate Kai's background, which was how he came to know about Kai's past.

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"Frederick, what are you trying to imply? Not everyone who went to prison is a bad person. Please don't simply make a judgment like that..."

Josephine was displeased as she knew Frederick was jeering at Kai.

Frederick's expression darkened when he saw how protective she was toward Kai. "Josephine, why are you attracted to this ex-convict? Why do you keep siding with him? Don't you know my feelings for you? If we get together, your family will prosper forever in Horington. Imagine that. Wouldn't that be nice?" "Frederick, even though many people envy your status, I'm different. I'm not interested in you. Do you understand?" Josephine cast an annoyed look at Frederick.

"Why? Why is that?" Enraged, Frederick grabbed Josephine's arm. "Which part of him is better than me? He's an ex-convict! How could he possibly be better than me?" His face contorted with rage as he thundered at her.

Josephine furrowed her brows from the pain. "Frederick, you are hurting me!" As if he had lost his mind, Frederick maintained an iron grip on her, unwilling to let go. "Fred..."

if() }

William's expression hardened at that scene. That's crossing the line! How could he injure my daughter before me! "You're courting death!"

At that moment, Kai narrowed his eyes as he exuded a menacing aura. A second later, he clutched Frederick's wrist forcefully.

Feeling an excruciating pain shooting up his wrist, Frederick shrieked, "Argh!" His grip on Josephine's arm loosened, and she seized the opportunity to hide behind Kai. The next second, Kai thrust his arm forward, intending to land a punch on Frederick. William's heart sank, and he quickly yelled, "Kai, please don't..."

Frederick's the mayor's son. The consequences will be unimaginable if he gets beaten. Moreover, if Kai doesn't hold back his strength and accidentally kills him, we'd be doomed! Fortunately, Kai stopped his punch in time upon hearing William's words. Nevertheless, Frederick was so frightened that he wetted himself. After all, no one had ever dared to lay a finger on him.

if() }

"I will kill you if you dare to touch Josephine again!" Kai warned and pushed Frederick abruptly. Even though it seemed like a gentle nudge, the latter flew out of the pavilion and fell to the ground with a heavy thud. Frederick stood up immediately, his gaze filled with venom. Staring at his wet pants, he was beyond embarrassed to linger around any longer. "Bast*rd, you're just an ex-convict! How dare you go against me? I will make sure you pay for this! Just you wait and see!" Having spat a threat, he turned and left.

Once he was out of sight, William sighed in relief. "Luckily, you stopped in time. If you had punched him, the consequences would have been terrible! He's the mayor's son, after all!"

"I broke his wrist, though," Kai remarked faintly.

He had long known about Frederick's identity, but it did not bother him in the least.

"What?" William was dumbstruck. "D-Did you say you broke Frederick's wrist? This is bad!"

Josephine was startled too. "We're doomed. He won't let this slide so easily!" The father and daughter duo was filled with apprehension.

"It seems like we will need to find Mr. Grange for a favor. Even though he has retired from the state government, I supposed he still has the connections. He should be able to help!"

The first person that crossed William's mind was Walter.

Even though the Sullivan family was the richest in Horington, they were merely money trees in the eyes of the politicians.

"I don't think we have to panic even if he's the mayor's son. Plus, it's not like a broken wrist is incurable. As the mayor, his father should be a reasonable man." Kai was puzzled upon seeing how concerned William looked.

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"The thing is, Frederick is too used to having his way all the time because of his social status. Although his father, Mr. Lowe, is an honest and upright man, he's too busy with work to keep track of his son's behavior. At the same time, no one around him dared to tell him anything bad about his son. That's how Frederick has become so bumptious. I'll go and get some pointers from Mr. Grange regarding this." William left to find Walter after saying that.

"You shouldn't have been so rough! We might be in trouble now!" Josephine shot Kai a helpless look.

"Well, that's what happens when someone lays a finger on you!" the man said with a straight face while staring at her.

Upon seeing how protective Kai was of her, Josephine could not help but feel touched. After rolling her eyes at him, she suggested, "You better leave and lie low in the meantime. Let my dad consult Mr. Grange first. You should only return once they've settled that matter."

Josephine then pushed Kai out of the residence, urging him to leave as soon as possible as she was afraid Frederick might bring some men over to take revenge. Left with no choice, Kai let out a resigned sigh and headed home. Since the resources inside the Starry Compass were enough for him to cultivate for a full

day, he did not go anywhere else.

The following morning, William gave Kai a call to invite him over to the Sullivan residence. As it was his future father-in-law's order, he dared not defy it. When Kai arrived at the Sullivan residence, he saw the older man had filled the trunk of a car with gifts.

"Kai, I'll bring you to visit Mr. Lowe at his home. We should go over and apologize sincerely. Being the honorable man he is, I think he'll forgive you," William said. Kai had initially thought of rejecting the idea but changed his mind upon seeing the dark eye circles on William's face. He must've been up all night worrying about it!

Josephine wanted to go along as well, but William thought it was a bad idea because things could potentially get ugly if a scuffle were to break out due to her. After making all the preparations, William drove Kai to the mayor's house.

Glen Lowe had been the mayor of Horington for more than a decade by then. Through his own hard work, he successfully developed Horington from a town to a city. Indeed, he was a competent government official.

Soon, they arrived in an old neighborhood. Glen's house was a simple two-story house with a land size of around two hundred square meters.

It was an extremely unorthodox sight for Glen to live in such a neighborhood, considering how successful he was as the mayor of the city over the past decade. Yet, there was a luxury car worth over a million parked in front of the house. Needless to say, the car seemed to be sticking out like a sore thumb.

"Watch what you say when we're inside. Also, don't do anything impulsive!" William exhorted.

Kai nodded in acquiescence.

if() {}

Upon ringing the doorbell, a middle-aged woman in an apron answered the door. That woman was none other than Glen's wife, Helen Wood.

"Hi, Mrs. Lowe! We've made an appointment with Mr. Lowe!" William greeted in a respectful manner when he saw the middle-aged woman.

Kai was shocked to learn about the woman's identity. She's the mayor's wife? Isn't she dressed a bit too casually for a woman of her social status?

"Come on in, Sullivan! Glen told me you were coming." Helen welcomed their arrival cheerfully. "Why did you bring gifts along? Don't you know Glen doesn't like receiving gifts?"

"These are just food such as milk and honey, Mrs. Lowe. Don't worry; the total value isn't over a thousand!" William explained hastily.

Apparently, Glen had a quirky rule for visitors. Regardless of his relationships with them, he would refuse to receive their gifts if they were worth over a thousand.

Helen only accepted the gifts upon hearing William's explanation. "Please sit, the both of you. Glen is still having a meeting with some businessmen. I think he'll be done shortly!"

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"Thank you, Mrs. Lowe!" William smiled faintly before sitting down on a couch along with Kai.

While waiting for Glen, the latter took the opportunity to scan the room he was in. The furniture in this house is old and worthless. This doesn't seem like a house fit for a mayor at all! Besides, Helen's so friendly and humble, although she's the mayor's wife. I don't understand how Frederick ended up being so different from his mother.

Not long after that, the door to the study was opened, and four men walked out.

One of them was Glen. He was in his forties and looked like a total gentleman with glasses on. Although he was dressed in simple clothing, he exuded an authoritative aura.

The three other men must be the businessmen Helen mentioned. One of them was a skinny guy with a goatee. Apart from his glinting eyes, Kai felt a wave of spiritual energy emitting from his body.

"Is he an energy cultivator as well?" Kai mumbled under his breath and could not help sparing him a few more looks.

"I hope you'd reconsider our offer, Mr. Lowe. Our investment would definitely bring more opportunities to Horington and help in the city's economic development. As long as you're willing to give us the southern region, we can transform it into another city within three years," the businessman with a goatee declared.

"I'm sorry, but I can't make my decision solely based on financial gains and have my descendants denounce me. Besides, I must look after the welfare of the citizens. Money isn't the only thing I need to safeguard my position. The support of the people is also essential. I don't think we need to discuss this further. Show yourselves out," Glen said with a frosty expression on his face.

It was apparent that his meeting with the businessmen had ended on a sour note.

"Well, if you're so adamant about it, Mr. Lowe, I guess we have nothing else to talk about. Goodbye!" With that, the businessman with a goatee reached out for a handshake.

Although the discussion was not fruitful, a customary handshake was still deemed necessary. Hence, Glen shook the man's hand.

As soon as their hands came into contact, a wisp of black mist could be seen being transferred from the man's palm into Glen's body.

if() {}

While Glen was utterly oblivious to it, Kai witnessed the whole thing. He furrowed his brows immediately and stared intently at the man.

It was as if the businessman was aware of it, for he turned his head toward Kai and gave him a once-over before shifting his gaze back to Glen.

After the three businessmen left, Glen looked terribly enraged as he sat sipping the tea prepared by Helen.

"Glen, Sullivan has been waiting for you!" Helen reminded.

With that, Glen came back to his senses. Standing up with an apologetic look, he greeted William, "Hi, Sullivan! Come and have a sit. I was so upset that I'd forgotten about you!"

"Oh, don't worry about it, Mr. Lowe. You're working so hard day and night for Horington! We're very grateful for your time!" William then walked toward Glen, with Kai following closely behind.

"Sullivan, you're one of the main reasons Horington has become what it is today! Without your help, it'd be an impossible feat for me." Glen chuckled and continued, "Fred had kept me up to date regarding your family's land at the western part of the city. I've already arranged for people to expedite the approvals. As long as it's a legitimate business, you can always come to me directly. There's no need to ask Fred to be the middleman!"

He then queried, "On a side note, Mr. Grange told me on the phone that you've come to apologize to me. What's that about?"

In response, William explained hurriedly, "There was a misunderstanding between Kai and Fred at my house yesterday, Mr. Lowe. A scuffle broke out, and Kai acted impulsively when he struck Fred. Hence, I've brought him here to apologize for his mistakes."

Glen cast a glance at Kai and flashed a faint smile. "It's normal for youngsters to have a bit of a temper. You didn't have to get Mr. Grange to call me for such a trivial matter. I thought you had done something illegal. If that's the case, it would never work no matter who calls me!"

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"No, that's not it..." William shook his head before turning to Kai and instructed, "Apologize to Mr. Lowe first, Kai."

Kai had a good first impression of Glen. Based on what he saw, he could tell that Glen was a righteous government official. After meeting his parents, I seriously think Frederick was an adopted son!

"I've gone a step too far yesterday when I broke your son's wrist, Mr. Lowe. However, it isn't a permanent injury. His wrist will still be fully functional," Kai said impassively.

His attitude was halfhearted because he felt like he had nothing to apologize for. The only reason he was amiable toward Glen was that he respected him as a good government official.

Upon hearing that Frederick's wrist was broken, both Glen and Helen frowned.

Seeing that, William immediately explained and told them everything that had happened the day before, including the fact that Frederick was forceful toward

Josephine in front of the others.

At that, Glen flushed furiously and looked at Helen. "Has that rascal returned home?"

"No, he hasn't been back since yesterday!" she answered, shaking her head.

After clenching his teeth, he roared, "I'll break that rascal's legs the moment he returns home!"

Having said that, he took out his phone and called his chauffeur.

The chauffeur arrived almost instantly and was bewildered to see William and Kai inside the house.

"You asked for m-me, Mr. Lowe?" he asked, trembling with fear.

if() { }

"Sebastian, did that rascal use my car yesterday?" Glen asked sternly.

"N-No..."

The chauffeur was stuttering so much that he could not even finish a complete sentence.

Bam!

Glen slammed the table angrily and thundered, "Spill the truth!"

The chauffeur shuddered violently and blurted, "Yes, he did use your car!"

When Glen heard that, he trembled with rage. "Didn't I tell you not to let him use my car? That's not his car! That car belongs to the government! How could you let him use as he pleases? Do you want to get fired?"

Sebastian was befuddled. In fact, he was so scared that he was on the verge of crying.

When Helen saw that, she rushed toward Glen and advised, "Calm yourself down, Glen. Otherwise, you're going to get sick again! I'll have a talk with Fred, okay? Since his wrist is broken, don't you think we should first find out where he is?"

"What for? Just let him die on the streets!" Glen was so enraged that his chest was heaving rapidly. "That rascal's going to ruin my legacy sooner or later!"

Helen kept patting his back before shifting her gaze toward Sebastian. "Do you know where Fred is, Sebastian?"

if() { }

"Mr. Lowe is currently at the hospital. They've re-attached his wrist. However, I believe he's busy contacting people to seek revenge," Sebastian replied truthfully. Being in hot water himself, he gave up on covering for Frederick.

"That rascal has the nerve to seek revenge?" Glen leaped to his feet and barked, "Get him here this instant! If he refuses to come back, he's no longer allowed to return home forever!"

Sebastian nodded and left in a hurry.

"Mr. Lowe, Fred is still young. Don't be too hard on him!" William quickly advised. Glen let out a sigh. "Sullivan, this is so embarrassing. I guess it's my family's misfortune to have such a useless son."

The mayor then shifted his gaze toward Kai shamefully and said, "I'm sorry you

have to see this, young man. I feel so ashamed of my disobedient son. He deserves to be punished, so I don't blame you. We, as parents, have failed at parenting!"