

“Young Master, ten years has passed. It's time to let go of your past grudges,”

“It will be the Master's fiftieth birthday next month. It's been more than ten years since you've met him and he really wants to see you again. Besides, he also mentioned that he will announce the news to everyone that you will be back to inherit his place in the family.”

At the entrance of Hong Wu Street, Lu Chen was holding a box of desserts that he had bought for his daughter, Qiqi. His gaze swept over the elderly man dressed in a silk Tang suit as he chuckled coldly.

“Return?” Lu Chen snorted, his gaze distant.

“From the day that he allowed that harlot, Xiao Bieqing, to hurt my mother, I've severed my ties with him. However, it is still possible for me to return, under the condition that he has to severe Xiao Bieqing's head and hand it over to me!”

The elderly man and his bodyguards

beside him gave each other a look.

"If it's not possible, then move," Lu Chen grunted.

The elderly man instinctively moved aside as Lu Chen strode forward. His silhouette looked strong and intimidating, seemingly undefeatable.

Lu Chen was outraged. He was full of hatred.

Ten years back, his mother was rammed to death by a car.

Although the report of the investigation concluded that it was the fault of the driver who drove under the influence of alcohol, deep down, everyone knew that it was planned by Xiao Bieqing to gain power.

When Lu Chen went to confront his dad for an explanation, all his father gave him was a slap in the face and berated him for being ungrateful.

Disappointed by his father's actions, he

left Beijing to study in Chongqing on his own. Then, he got into a relationship, married and had children. Basically, he carried on with his life, living like any other ordinary human.

However, after he married his wife, he wasn't well-accepted by his wife's family. In fact, both him and his wife, Lin Yijun, were forced out of their house, with both of them barely surviving on their meagre wages, but he wasn't complaining. With a beautiful wife and a cute, thoughtful daughter, he was grateful with what he had.

As for going back to his family?

That would be a nightmare.

Suddenly, Lu Chen's phone rang.

Right after he answered the call, his wife, Lin Yijun's exasperated voice rang from the other end of the call, "Lu Chen, where the hell did you go? Qiqi's illness is acting up again. Don't you know how serious it is? Didn't I ask you to look after her at the hospital? How could you

leave her alone and go out on your own?"

Lu Chen felt as if he was struck by lightning.

He snapped back from his trance and tightened his grip on his phone. He replied hoarsely, "I'm going back immediately."

Lu Chen was anxious. With no time to spare, he immediately hailed a cab and headed to the hospital.

Although he was in a panic, he still held tightly onto the box of desserts that was packaged exquisitely. It was Qiqi's favourite food; she had been bugging him for days to buy them for her, so he couldn't possibly let her down.

At the entrance of the ward, before Lu Chen could even catch his breath, a gorgeous woman bolted over and gave him a slap in the face.

His wife, Lin Yijun, was a one-of-a-kind beauty with a 168cm build, gorgeous

figure, and delicate features.

Although their daughter was already three years old, Lu Chen's wife still retained her beauty as if she was still twenty years old. Not only was she still in shape, her maturity also gave her a lingering charm.

It was just that Lin Yijun was furious right now.

"Lu Chen! I'm really disappointed in you!"

Lu Chen lowered his head guiltily, "How's Qiqi?"

"I can't believe that you still have the guts to ask about Qiqi's condition! If it weren't for you, Qiqi's illness wouldn't have acted up for a few minutes before she was found by the doctors and sent to the emergency room! If her illness was delayed for even a minute longer, she could have lost her life!" Lin Yijun pointed in Lu Chen's face and spat. "It was by luck that Qiqi's condition has stabilised. If not, I would never forgive

you!”

Being told that their daughter's condition had stabilised made Lu Chen finally feel as if some weight was lifted off his shoulders.

Qiqi was his precious daughter; of course he wanted her to be happy and healthy more than anyone else!

If it was possible, he wouldn't mind sacrificing his own life to exchange for her health!

Right then, two women appeared from behind Lin Yijun.

Lu Chen obviously recognised them. They were his mother-in-law, Wang Xue, and his sister-in-law, Lin Yijia.

Wang Xue cursed when she saw Lu Chen, “You good-for-nothing trouble-maker! At least a dog looks after its master's house, while you just leech off my daughter! Great, now look what you've done? You useless trash, you can't even look after your own daughter!

My daughter had so many admirers. They could line up and fill an entire street! Not only that, almost all of them were successful entrepreneurs or pillars of society! I really don't know what curse you've bespelled on my daughter for her to be blinded and agree to get married to you!"

Then, Wang Xue turned around to face Lin Yijun and advised, "Listen to me, just get a divorce. Stop ruining your life by wasting your time with this loser anymore."

"Yeah, Yijun," Lin Yijia chided in as she rolled her eyes toward Lu Chen. "Qiqi's medical fees are literally an extortion on all of your personal savings! Has he ever contributed anything to help you out? This kind of man doesn't even deserve to be called one! I heard that your superior, Fan Ming, is interested in you, right? You should just be with him instead!"

Normally, Lin Yijun would have retorted right away when she heard her mother and sister criticising her husband.

However, she remained silent today.

She was too disappointed in Lu Chen!

She'd tolerated him when he chose to work as a security guard, but how could he go out to loiter around when his daughter was seriously ill?

Had he lost all his sense of responsibility and heart?!

Right at the moment, a nurse walked over.

She scanned Lu Chen and the others before informing them, "Family members of the patient, you already owe the hospital a total of 100,000 in medical fees. If you can't pay and add on another 200,000 as a deposit today, the hospital will stop providing medication for the patient."

Lu Chen nodded and answered before Lin Yijun could say anything, "We will pay up by today."

When he said this, he took a glance at

his unconscious daughter's ghostly pale face. His heart ached so much at the sight of his daughter.

"Be quick. If we don't receive the payment by noon, her medications will be taken off." the nurse chuckled coldly as she looked at Lu Chen disdainfully.

After the nurse left, Wang Xue's voice rose as she reprimanded, "You useless thing! How could you make the promise that you could pay up by today? Do you want my daughter to go around and beg for money? How shameless can you be?!"

An idea crossed Lin Yijia's mind in a blink of an eye. She told Lin Yijun, "Yijun, when we were on the way, I also gave your supervisor, Fan Ming, a call. I'm sure he's on his way here now. With him here, we don't have to worry about Qiqi's medical fees!"

Right when Lin Yijun wanted to lecture Lin Yijia for her immaturity, she heard footsteps coming from her back.

The man that came was Fan Ming. Around thirty years of age, the way he was dressed made him look like a successful man. He was the director of Dong Jia Group's sales department, also Lin Yijun's supervisor.

As for why Lu Chen was so sure about this was no doubt because he also worked for Dong Jia Group.

It was just that Fan Ming was a director—one of the higher-ups—while he only worked as a security guard that guarded the entrance of the enterprise.

Lu Chen frowned when he saw Fan Ming.

Fan Ming ignored Lu Chen and greeted Wang Xue and Lin Yijia. His gaze turned gentle when he looked at Lin Yijun and consoled, "Yijun, Yijia had already told me what happened. My heart aches when I see Qiqi, such a lovely child, being tortured by her illness. Why didn't you tell me about this earlier?"

Lin Yijun mumbled, "I'm sorry, Director.

This is my personal matter, so you don't have to worry about me."

"Don't be like that. You're my best subordinate and frankly, I think you're the most suitable person to befriend personally. So, obviously, your problems are mine as well!" Fan Ming 'lectured'. "I also heard from Yijia that you still need to pay for the medical fees. How much is it?"

"300,000!" Lin Yijia butted in.

Fan Ming delightfully smiled and told Lin Yijun, "Yijun, let me help you to pay it first. Just take it as if I lent you the money. It's no big deal anyway."

Fan Ming gave Lu Chen a side eye, his gaze hostile and full of disdain.

To him, Lu Chen was just some security guard at the company. How could he deserve someone as gorgeous as Lin Yijun.

That was right, he had been interested in Lin Yijun for a long time.

Lin Yijun was one of the most beautiful women in the company. How was it possible for the men in the company to not lust over her? For them to not fantasize about her?

Of course, Lin Yijun knew what Fan Ming's intention was.

She really wanted to reject him. However, looking at her daughter in the ward, she didn't have the courage to do so.

Lu Chen saw the heated gaze Fan Ming gave his wife. He clenched his fists and grunted, "We don't need the 300,000 from you. I will come up with something."

However, Lin Yijun by the side was enraged. Her eyes were bloodshot as she yelled at him, "Lu Chen, this is our daughter's life! Even if you don't appreciate her life, I do! We don't have any money left anymore. Now that Director Fan has offered to lend me 300,000, why would you refuse his offer? Tell me, why?!"

Lu Chen clenched his fists even harder, his fingernails digging into his hands.

However, he couldn't feel the pain.

Right then, the only thing he could feel was a strong sense of helplessness!

Fan Ming looked at Lin Yijun and Lu Chen with a mocking gaze. Suddenly, a thought came over him and he spoke up, "Yijun, if you guys really don't need my help, I will be leaving then."

"Director Fan..." Lin Yijun called out softly.

Fan Ming smiled at her and left the room. He was sure that Lu Chen and Lin Yijun couldn't possibly have 300,000 with them. He looked confident, as if he had already defeated Lu Chen.

After Fan Ming left, he grinned wickedly when he found the nurse that was responsible for inserting the daily IV drips for Qiqi.

He bribed the nurse with 1000 and

whispered, "Lu Qiqi's parents have no money left. You can go urge them to settle the discharge procedures later on."

Looking at the money he gave, the nurse smiled delightfully and nodded.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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As soon as Fan Ming left, Lin Yijun's eyes grew dull and despair crossed her face. "Lu Chen, could your pride be more important to you than Qiqi's life?"

Lu Chen was silent for a moment. He put the confectionery box he was holding down onto the table. "I'm going out to borrow money," he answered in a low voice.

"You're going to borrow money? Where are you going to get it? Right now, other than Director Fan, who else can lend us three hundred thousand?" Lin Yijun demanded resentfully.

"I have my own ways," Lu Chen replied as he shook his head and walked out through the corridor. He'd launched businesses and failed, but over the years, he'd made some friends along the way.

"Lu Chen!" Lin Yijun's voice rang out from behind him. "Don't make me hate you!"

Lu Chen shuddered and sped up his

footsteps.

Lin Yijun watched Lu Chen's figure disappear from sight. All the strength drained from her body and she slumped down, her heart so wretched that it felt like dying embers.

She regretted it!

Regretted her impulsiveness in the past, regretted marrying him!

Lin Yijun's gaze suddenly fell upon the confectionery box sitting on the table and was slightly stunned.

Lu Chen walked out of the hospital and lit a cheap cigarette, drawing in a deep breath. He choked, his chest wracked with coughing.

His eyes turned red.

Money!

Money!

Everything was because of money!

Money wasn't everything, but without it, it would cost him his daughter's life!

Lu Chen found a place to sit down and made multiple calls in a row. But they hung up without fail each time they heard that he wanted to borrow money.

At the end, he sighed before pulling out his phone and dialing an unregistered number.

"It's me," Lu Chen announced coldly.

"Oh! It's Little Master!" an old man exclaimed agitatedly over the phone. "Little Master, are you calling this number because you've thought it through and you're going back with me?"

"My apologies. I can't go back," Lu Chen flatly refused. "Uncle Zhong, I'm calling you regarding a different matter. Can you lend me three hundred thousand privately? I need it urgently."

"Little Master may not be aware, but everything under my name belongs to

the Lu Family. Let alone three hundred thousand, you can take my decrepit life if you wish and I wouldn't breathe a word of objection," the old man chuckled over the phone. "But only on the grounds that you sign a contract of succession. You will only be able to receive the money after you sign it."

"We'll talk about signing the contract later. I really need the three hundred thousand urgently," Lu Chen insisted. He didn't want to be associated with the Lu Family in any way, but he had no choice—his daughter was already in such condition.

"No. The Master gave specific instructions that Little Master is only to use the family's resources after signing the contract of succession." The person on the other end of the line was adamant.

Lu Chen clenched his teeth. "There's no room for negotiation?"

"I'm sorry, Little Master."

Lu Chen took a deep breath and looked up at the blue sky, the hint of a self-deprecating sneer on his lips.

Was he finally going to give in?

Yes, for his daughter, he had to give in!

“Fine. I’ll sign it,” Lu Chen said. He felt a vaguely painful sensation on his cheeks. “Where are you now?”

“I’m at Jun Yue Tower. May I know where you are? Why don’t I send someone to pick you up?” the person at the other end of the line enquired.

“No need. I’ll head over right now.” Lu Chen hung up.

Between him, Lu Tianxing, and the Lu Family, flowed a river of blood.

He had thought that he would never cross that river.

But now that his daughter was seriously ill, and he had no one else to turn to, he’d chosen to lower his head and had

actually taken the initiative in letting go of his hatred.

Life was so f*cking ironic!

Lu Chen spat the cigarette butt onto the ground, then turned and hailed a taxi, heading straight for Jun Yue Tower.

At Jun Yue Tower, Lu Chen had just stepped out of the car when he saw his mother-in-law, Wang Xue, exiting the building.

He instinctively wanted to avoid bumping into Wang Xue, but saw that she was already walking toward him.

“You said that you were going to borrow money. What are you doing here?” Wang Xue looked at Lu Chen with distaste. If it wasn’t for her daughter already having had a child, she would have told Lin Yijun to divorce this useless man.

Lu Chen saw that speaking to Wang Xue was unavoidable and could only respond with embarrassment. “I’m here to borrow money.”

“Lu Chen, Lu Chen. Can’t you see what kind of place this is? Even the red carpet before their doors is worth more than your life. Who are you to enter this place to borrow money? You think too highly of yourself!” Wang Xue sneered coldly.

Wang Xue was the assistant director of sales at Xia Kang Pharmaceuticals. Lately, they had been discussing a large business deal with Jun Yue Group; Wang Xue had rushed here straight from the hospital for it.

However, she hadn’t expected to be barred from entering the doors of Jun Yue Tower, and this made her furious.

Naturally, she wasn’t in a good mood after having had the door shut in her face. She took it out on Lu Chen since she just happened to bump into him.

“Trash, my sister has to work and take care of Qiqi while you’re out here having a good time in the name of borrowing money. And you call yourself a man?” Lu Chen’s sister-in-law, Lin Yijia, glared

at him with disgust.

Only now did Lu Chen notice that Lin Yijia had been tailing behind Wang Xue with a young man beside her.

The young man was called Hu Hong; he was a college friend of Lin Yijia.

“Yijia, is this that useless brother-in-law of yours? Your sister has bad taste—he looks just like a migrant worker,” Hu Hong exclaimed as he looked Lu Chen up and down with a taunt in his eyes.

He’d once had the honor of having a conversation with the general manager of Jun Yue Group at a reception party.

When he’d heard that Wang Xue was working on a large business deal with them, he’d volunteered to accompany Wang Xue to pay a visit to the general manager in the hopes that it would help her close the deal.

But the general manager hadn’t bothered with him at all and he’d really lost face.

Now that he saw both Lin Yijia and her mother berating Lu Chen, he wanted to vent his anger on Lu Chen as well.

“Doesn’t he? I have no idea what went on in my sister’s head that she willingly married such trash. Most importantly, this useless man has no sense of responsibility,” Lin Yijia mocked.

“It’s alright if men don’t have money at times, but they must be responsible,” Hu Hong laughed.

Lu Chen glanced at them. Instead of saying anything, he turned and walked toward Jun Yue Tower.

“What are you going there for? Shouldn’t you hurry back to take care of Qiqi?” Wang Xue frowned and barked when she saw Lu Chen walking into the tower.

“I need to discuss something with Lu Zhong,” Lu Chen turned to reply.

“What? You’re looking for Tycoon Lu? Do you want to get kicked out like a dog?!” Incensed by his reply, Wang Xue

reached out and grabbed hold of Lu Chen.

Lu Chen was just a security guard. When he got kicked out, it would be her—his mother-in-law’s—face which would be affected.

“Mum, let go. I really do have something to discuss with Lu Zhong,” Lu Chen’s brow furrowed at being held back by Wang Xue.

“Do you want to be a running joke?! Lu Zhong is the richest man in Chongqing, and you’re just a lowly security guard. What makes you think that you’ll be able to meet him?” Lin Yijia sneered.

“We can’t say that. Maybe your brother-in-law thinks that it’s possible since they both share the surname ‘Lu’. Perhaps, five hundred years ago, they were really from the same family,” Hu Hong exclaimed sarcastically.

Lu Chen was seething by this point. Did you eat dynamite today, or did all of you become premenopausal at the same

time? he thought.

But he couldn't get mad at Wang Xue; Lu Chen had no choice but to dig out his phone to make a call to Lu Zhong so that Lu Zhong would come down to meet him.

Just then, a sensuous, curvy lady clad in uniform walked toward them.

Catching sight of her, Wang Xue released Lu Chen and a curious look grew on her face.

"It's Manager Lu's personal secretary," Lin Yijia wondered.

"Perhaps they've changed their stance and are here to ask us to discuss the deal. Aunt Xue, congratulations on your closing the deal soon!" Hu Hong cried out as his eyes lit up.

"Are they really here to bring us back to discuss it?" Wang Xue almost couldn't believe it, but a glimmer of excitement shone on her face.

“That must be it. We’re the only ones around here, and we just spoke to them about it. They must be here for us,” Hu Hong nodded with certainty.

“We didn’t manage to close the deal with Manager Wang, but General Manager Lu’s personal secretary is bringing us back. It must be under the orders of General Manager Lu. Mum, looks like your huge business deal really will get closed!” Lin Yijia was thrilled. If they managed to close the sale, her mum would get more than twenty thousand!

It made sense to Wang Xue. General Manager Lu’s personal secretary was definitely here for them. She couldn’t be here for trash like Lu Chen after all.

At that thought, Wang Xue stepped forward with a smile.

“Hello, are you here to...”

Wang Xue hadn’t finished speaking when the smile froze on her face.

The beautiful secretary hadn't spared her a glance and simply passed by her as she walked toward Lu Chen.

She bowed slightly toward Lu Chen and welcomed him sweetly. "Young Master Lu, please come with me."

Lu Chen nodded. His gaze swept across Lin Yijia and Hu Hong's faces before he followed the secretary into the building, leaving Wang Xue and the others frozen with looks of surprise and incredulity on their faces.

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Lu Chen had a brief discussion with Lu Zhong. He still had misgivings about giving in and inheriting the family property.

But Lu Zhong was firm on not lending him the money or allowing him to make a call to Lu Tianxing unless he signed the contract.

Lu Chen sighed in defeat and put down his signature, then asked Lu Zhong to

help him locate a compatible bone marrow donor for Qiqi. He also asked Lu Zhong for the three hundred thousand and proceeded to leave Jun Yue Tower with it.

As for how Lu Zhong would explain it to Lu Tianxing, he really didn't care to know.

After all, he knew that Lu Tianxing wouldn't call him as long as he didn't call first.

Even if he'd agreed to succeed the family estate, he had no plans to forgive Lu Tianxing so quickly.

Back at the hospital, Lu Chen saw that Fan Ming had returned. Moreover, he was sitting next to Lin Yijun by the bedside, chatting with Lu Chen's daughter who had woken up since he left.

Fan Ming sat very close by Lin Yijun and the two of them exchanged snippets every now and then.

Chapter 2 Do You Have Three Hundred Thousand?

Lu Chen's eyes narrowed and he strode into the hospital room.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Lu Chen had wanted to announce that he'd obtained the money; that he would never let Lin Yijun live a hard life again.

But before he could open his mouth, Lin Yijun looked at him coldly.

"Lu Chen, where did you go? The hospital sent someone to ask for their fees again. If Director Fan hadn't helped to pay for it first, Qiqi would have been discharged from the hospital!" Lu Yijun was livid at the sight of Lu Chen.

Her gaze held disappointment.

Lu Chen had still walked out in a huff over that pitiful pride of his at a time like this, ignoring his own daughter. She must have been blind, to have fallen in love with a man like this.

"Mum, don't say that about dad. I wanted to eat cake earlier. That's why dad went out to buy some for me. It's been hard for him too," Qiqi coaxed, seeing that her parents were about to start another squabble.

Lu Chen had been a little ticked, but the anger in his eyes dissolved when he heard his daughter's words. He squatted down and patted her fondly on the head as he smiled at her. "My dear Qiqi, it's not hard for me. Dad will find a matching bone marrow for you in just a few days. Then our adorable little Qiqi will be able to recover and leave the hospital."

"Dad, is that true?" Qiqi cried out happily.

"Yes. Dad would never lie to you," Lu Chen nodded his head firmly.

"That's great! I can finally leave the hospital. Mum, look. I told you that Dad could do it. I wasn't lying," Qiqi giggled joyfully as her eyes looked toward Lin Yijun.

Lin Yijun felt her daughter's gaze and broke out into a smile.

But the look she threw at Lu Chen was full of animosity.

Their daughter's condition was serious and the medical fees were impossibly high. With Lu Chen's capabilities, how was it possible for him to bring about their daughter becoming healthy enough to be discharged from the hospital in just a few days?!

The way she saw it, Lu Chen was just giving empty promises!

She would see how he explained himself to their daughter when he wasn't able to fulfill his promise!

"Yijun, don't mind it. Perhaps Lu Chen just doesn't want to disappoint Qiqi since he wasn't able to borrow the money earlier."

"Lu Chen, I've already paid Qiqi's medical bills even if you didn't manage to borrow any money. After all, she did call me uncle earlier." Fan Ming smiled at Lu Chen coldly, not bothering to hide any of the contempt in his eyes.

At that, Lu Chen stood up slowly. A dangerous gleam appeared in his eyes

when he looked toward Fan Ming.

Seeing the cold glare that Lu Chen directed at Fan Ming, Lin Yijun frowned and reproached him. “Lu Chen, what are you doing!? If Director Fan hadn’t paid the three hundred thousand for us, Qiqi and I would have been chased out of the hospital. Apologize to Director Fan now!”

“Why should I apologize to him?” Lu Chen snorted. “It’s just three hundred thousand, isn’t it? I have it.”

“You have three hundred thousand?” Fan Ming laughed, the mockery in his eyes almost overflowing.

Lu Chen was just a security guard, so Fan Ming didn’t believe that anyone would lend him so much money.

Lin Yijun’s face was icy-cold and the gaze she leveled at Lu Chen grew increasingly full of disgust.

Faced with Fan Ming’s barbs, Lu Chen sneered and simply opened the black

briefcase he held. Stacks of red notes appeared before Fan Ming's eyes.

"This is exactly three hundred thousand. Take it and get lost." Lu Chen's voice was icy; Fan Ming's scheming was clear as day to him. Naturally, he held no smiles for the man.

Fan Ming stiffened, the expression on his face freezing as his eyes took in the briefcase full of money.

Fan Ming would never have imagined that Lu Chen, who was just a simple security guard, would be able to borrow three hundred thousand in the short amount of time that had passed since he'd left the hospital.

Who was so generous that they'd be willing to loan three hundred thousand to a security guard who only earned several thousand dollars each month!?

Lin Yijun was taken aback as well. Lu Chen's salary each month was only several thousand. She found it hard to imagine where Lu Chen had borrowed

the three hundred thousand.

“Where did you get the money? Did you get it from a loan shark?” Lin Yijun glared fiercely at Lu Chen after recovering from the initial shock.

Their situation was already so difficult now. If Lu Chen had borrowed any money from loan sharks, he would have destroyed their family.

Lu Chen ignored Lin Yijun and continued to stare coldly at Fan Ming. “Take the money and get lost!” he insisted.

Fan Ming didn’t leave immediately. His lip curled as he stared at Lu Chen. Honestly, three hundred thousand was nothing to him. The reason why he’d waited for Lu Chen to return, was to jibe at Lu Chen and let Lin Yijun see clearly how useless her husband really was.

But Lu Chen had somehow managed to borrow three hundred thousand. He was both surprised and somewhat dissatisfied.

But his eyes lit up at Lin Yijun's words. This was an incredible opportunity to instigate Lin Yijun into divorcing Lu Chen.

"Lu Chen, you actually borrowed money from loan sharks? How are you going to pay them back? Don't you know that it will ruin your family? That it will ruin Yijun?" Fan Ming shot an evil grin at Lu Chen.

"You're so full of sh*t," Lu Chen snapped as he grabbed Fan Ming's collar and strode toward the exit, dragging Fan Ming with him.

"You... let go!" Fan Ming hollered, shocked. He hadn't expected Lu Chen to be so strong.

Lin Yijun was stunned by Lu Chen's behavior. But by the time she had recovered from the shock, Lu Chen had already dragged Fan Ming out of the room.

"If you come to the hospital again, I'll make sure that you're here to stay," Lu

Chen said brusquely, shoving Fan Ming onto the floor and chucking the briefcase into his lap.

“Lu Chen, you’re mad! Quickly apologize to Director Fan!” Lin Yijun hurried out of the room and glowered at Lu Chen.

Fan Ming picked himself off the ground and glared daggers at Lu Chen. “Lu Chen, you’ve got guts. I’ll see you at the company tomorrow,” he sniffed.

He picked up the briefcase and turned to leave. Lu Chen was just a simple security guard. In the company, there were a million ways he could make Lu Chen’s life miserable.

“Director Fan...” Lin Yijun wanted to chase after him to apologize for Lu Chen but stayed behind after some thought.

She turned to look at Lu Chen, her face frosty as she reproached him. “Lu Chen, how could you have been so rude? Director Fan did us a favor. Instead of thanking him, you treated him so

disgracefully. Do you have any social sense at all?!”

Anger flickered in Lu Chen’s eyes as he spun to face Lin Yijun. “I’d already said not to let him help. You were the one who insisted on borrowing money from him. Don’t you have any idea of what he wants from you?”

Lin Yijun gave a start, then ranted at him. “Lu Chen, what do you mean by that? Do you think that I wanted to give him a chance? If we hadn’t paid the hospital fees earlier, they would have discharged Qiqi. If you’d been able to get the money sooner, would I have borrowed it from him? Don’t you know that I’m exhausted too?!”

Lin Yijun was enraged. If not for their daughter’s condition, if not for Lu Chen’s lack of capability, why would she borrow money from a man that she despised? Laugh and chit chat with him?

Lu Chen looked at Lin Yijun. “Keep Qiqi company for a while. I have some matters to take care of first.”

“What are you going to do? And was the money borrowed from loan sharks or not?” Lin Yijun questioned.

“No, it wasn’t. I borrowed it from a friend,” Lu Chen replied as he turned and walked away, not willing to explain more about it.

They’d been fighting so often lately; he was vexed.

He needed to be alone for a while.

He’d wanted to tell Lin Yijun the truth, but after seeing her attitude today, he was dispirited.

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The next day, Lu Chen had gone to work with the intention of resigning from the post of security guard in order to take proper care of his daughter in the hospital. He believed that as long as Lu Zhong followed through, they’d be able to find a bone marrow match quickly.

Dong Jia Electronics was the largest

electronics company in the city; it mainly produced intercom cameras for security doors.

When his startup had failed, Lu Chen had applied to become a sales representative here, along with Lin Yijun, but Fan Ming had said that he wasn't persuasive and recommended him as a security guard instead.

Only later had he found out that Fan Ming hadn't wanted him in the sales department because of his interest in Lin Yijun.

Dong Jia Tower stood ten floors tall and was manned by a total of 20 security guards. They were mainly responsible for patrolling the floors, manning the main door, directing cars to the parking spots, and several other miscellaneous duties.

"Lu Chen, how is your daughter?" The guard manning the main door greeted Lu Chen the moment he reached the office.

The guard was called Xu Jing, and he'd only been discharged from military service last year. Like Lu Chen, he was working as a security guard since he hadn't been able to find a suitable job.

Xu Jing had been a wild young man. Especially since he'd just been discharged, he was rather hot-tempered. When Lu Chen had just started working here, they'd gotten into a disagreement and Xu Jing had thrown a punch at Lu Chen.

Though Lu Chen had never served in the military, he had learned mixed martial arts and practiced the Arts of Longevity since young. There really wasn't a worthy opponent for him in the department.

After just a few moves, Xu Jing had been thrown onto the ground by Lu Chen, completely defeated.

From then on, Xu Jing had given Lu Chen his utmost respect, calling him Lu Chen respectfully at every chance.

“She’ll be fine when we find a bone marrow match and do the surgery,” Lu Chen said.

Xu Jing agreed noncommittally, then hesitated before lowering his voice. “Lu Chen, I saw Fan Ming meet with Supervisor Yu today. It seems that he wants you fired.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Fan Ming?

Lu Chen's lip curled when he recalled Fan Ming's threats at the hospital yesterday.

Though it didn't matter whether he was fired or not since he was only here to resign.

When Lu Chen showed up at the security supervisor—Yu Hai's office, he wasn't even able to hand in his resignation because Yu Hai had taken the lead in firing Lu Chen. "Lu Chen, you've been taking leave every two or three days. It's severely disrupted the schedule of the security department. I've asked General Manager Xia about it, and he says to fire you."

"Oh. Then just give me the remainder of my salary," Lu Chen requested calmly.

"You're being fired. Why would you still have a salary? Even your deposit is forfeited." Yu Hai wore a faint jeering smile. He'd thought that Lu Chen would have made a scene; instead, Lu Chen

had been unexpectedly spineless. A hint of disdain sparkled in Yu Hai's eyes.

Brat, of all people, why did you have to offend Director Fan? Director Fan is in a position of power within the company. Firing a security guard like you doesn't even require paperwork.

Lu Chen looked at Yu Hai with a veiled expression on his face. "Fine. I'll ask General Manager Xia directly."

He laughed icily, then exited the security office.

Though he had succeeded the family estate and wouldn't look twice at such a paltry sum, no one would ever dare to make off with money that belonged to him.

Yu Hai frowned at Lu Chen's confidence, then made a call to Fan Ming.

"Director Fan, that brat Lu Chen is on his way to General Manager Xia's office. We're not even returning his deposit. That doesn't seem right," Yu Hai

reported anxiously.

“Don’t worry. I’ve already spoken to General Manager Xia. He’s just a security guard—why would General Manager Xia trouble herself over him?”

Fan Ming said, then hung up and pocketed the phone, a sneer playing at the corners of his lips.

Lu Chen, oh Lu Chen. You trash. How are you going to fight for your woman now?

Firing you is just the start. When I find out which loan shark lent you the money, you’ll suffer even more.

Ten minutes later, in General Manager Xia’s office.

Xia Jun lifted his head and frowned at Lu Chen, who had just barged into his office. “Who are you? What are you here for?”

“General Manager Xia, he’s one of the guards from the security team, Lu Chen.

He insisted on seeing you and I couldn't stop him," the secretary explained as she appeared at Lu Chen's heels.

She glowered at Lu Chen. I've never seen such a crass man in my life. I can't believe that he just shoved me to the side when I didn't allow him in.

"Lu Chen from the security team..." Xia Jun nodded, recalling Fan Ming's conversation with him from this morning about firing Lu Chen.

"Yes, that's me." Lu Chen sat down on the chair opposite Xia Jun's desk and looked at him coolly.

"It's fine if you fire me, but why are you withholding my salary? And even my deposit? General Manager Xia, please give me an explanation."

Xia Jun frowned again. "I've heard about your termination. You've been absent without leave for quite a few times now so the company can't afford to hire you. Not releasing the remainder of your salary was my decision, and

according to the company's regulations.”

Since Fan Ming had brought it up with him, he had to give Fan Ming face.

Fan Ming was the sales director of the company after all. He was capable and brought in a significant number of sales for the company each year.

On the other hand, Lu Chen was just a security guard, so there was no comparison between the two. Lu Chen was, of course, dispensable.

“Company regulations? Then how is it that I’ve never heard of it? Aren’t company regulations meant to regulate staff?” Lu Chen was getting irritated. Now that he’d succeeded the family estate, the salary didn’t mean much to him, but it was a matter of principle.

The company had no such regulations and he had never taken absence without leave, for he’d received permission each time.

Xia Jun was helping Fan Ming to pick on him. Did they think that he was still a simple guard?

"I'm the boss here. If I say that there's such a regulation, then there is such a regulation. If you have it in you to become the boss, then you can also make the rules as you wish." Xia Jun threw a mocking glance at Lu Chen. Since he'd already decided to be on Fan Ming's side, there was no need to care about a small fry like Lu Chen any longer.

A small fry like him wouldn't be able to create a ruckus even if he tried.

"Are you sure that you want to pocket my money, even though it's such a small sum?" Lu Chen smiled angrily.

If he'd suffered persecution like this before today, he wouldn't have been able to do anything about it.

But things were different now.

"If you want to take things like that, so

be it. If you disagree, you can make a police report and let them handle it. Alright, you're no longer a member of my staff. You can go now." Xia Jun shrugged, sure that he had the upper hand over Lu Chen.

"Indeed, General Manager Xia. You're a very arrogant man," Lu Chen remarked, smiling as he gave Xia Jun a thumbs up. Honestly, he had never been so humiliated before.

Yes. The way he saw it, Xia Jun had humiliated him.

Even a saint would get mad when provoked. Lu Chen wouldn't just let it go after being humiliated so. Few men could make off with his money and get away with humiliating him.

He took a hard look at Xia Jun before taking out his phone and making a call to Lu Zhong.

"Uncle Zhong, Dong Jia Electronics is worth one or two billion. How long will it take if I want to bankrupt it?" Lu Chen

asked.

“Half a day, Young Master,” Lu Zhong answered, chuckling.

“Good. Then I want to see them bankrupt by the end of today.” Lu Chen ordered before hanging up.

He smiled mildly at Xia Jun. “In this world, no one would dare to take my money without good reason. If I don’t allow it, I’ll beat it out of him even if it’s just over a penny.”

He turned and walked out as his words trailed off.

Xia Jun’s face was full of scathing laughter. He brushed Lu Chen’s meaningless threats off his shoulder without giving them a second thought.

If Lu Chen had the power to bankrupt his company, why would he be working here as a guard?

.....

Lu Chen suppressed his anger as he left Xia Jun's office, intending to rush back to the hospital.

Lin Yijun was going to discuss a business deal today, so she needed him to keep their daughter company.

Lu Chen had just reached the ground floor reception counter when he caught sight of Fan Ming lounging around the counter with a small crowd, looking as if they'd been hanging around in wait for him.

That was right. Fan Ming really had been waiting there just to taunt him.

Lu Chen hadn't just roughoused him yesterday; he'd also made him lose face, and badly. He always paid tit for tat, and there was no way he was going to miss this.

"Isn't this Lu Chen? I heard that you sought out General Manager Xia for an explanation. He must have given you what you wanted." Fan Ming smiled sardonically at Lu Chen.

Yu Hai and a few other security guards watched mockingly.

They were all army veterans, yet none of them had been able to beat Lu Chen, who had never served in the army. This made them rather dissatisfied with Lu Chen.

Hearing that Lu Chen had not only been terminated but that even his deposit had been forfeited, had made these guards' hearts leap in glee.

Lu Chen looked coolly at Fan Ming, whose face was full of scorn. He took out a cigarette, lit it up, and drew a puff, all in lazy motion before replying with a faint smile, "Please, continue your show."

Since Fan Ming was acting up, then let him go all out!

But he'd see how Fan Ming would fare when Dong Jia Electronics declared bankruptcy later in the afternoon.

Hearing Lu Chen's sarcasm, the smile

dropped from Fan Ming's face. He hated it when Lu Chen kept his airs up even after being cornered.

"Lu Chen, you're just trash. Why are you putting on airs in front of me?" Fan Ming growled.

"That's right, Lu Chen. You're just a simple guard while Director Fan has both money and power. Who do you think you are to offend Director Fan? Lu Chen, listen to me. Quickly apologize to Director Fan, or you may not be able to find a job throughout the whole of Chongqing." Yu Hai's words sounded like advice, but it was laced with threats.

"A mere sales director can put the freeze on me? Yu Hai, are you kidding me?" Lu Chen was so angry that he laughed instead.

Yu Hai's face contorted slightly. He hadn't thought that Lu Chen didn't know what was good for him. He snorted, then kept his peace.

Fan Ming laughed contemptuously. “I may be a mere sales director, but one word from me got you fired from the company. And not just that—you weren’t able to get your salary, or even your deposit. Lu Chen, I’ll be honest with you. Firing you was completely my decision. I simply don’t understand. How are you even fighting with me? If you’re really all that, then get your salary before you leave or make General Manager Xia revoke your termination, why don’t you?”

“Fan Ming, you sound very lofty, don’t you?”

Just then, an authoritative voice rang out. The crowd’s heads swiveled around and saw General Manager Xia striding from the elevator toward them.

Noting the terrible expression on General Manager Xia’s face, a sense of foreboding came over Fan Ming and the others.

“General Manager Xia, are you heading out?” Fan Ming smiled shamefacedly at him.

“Humph!” Xia Jun gave Fan Ming a death stare as his voice deepened. “Let me ask you—Lu Chen has a good track record with the company, so why did you fire him? And you’re from the sales department. What gives you the power to terminate someone from the security team? Who gave you the authority?”

“Abusing your power to terminate good employees? Fan Ming, unless you apologize to Lu Chen immediately and he forgives you, I’ll terminate you right now!” Xia Jun bellowed.

“Huh?” Fan Ming flinched, completely mystified by what was going on.

He trembled in his shoes at the sight of General Manager Xia overflowing with rage.

Yu Hai and the other guards looked bewildered. Hadn’t General Manager Xia agreed to fire Lu Chen?

Then what was going on now?

Lu Chen watched Xia Jun blister at Fan

Chapter 4 Apologize to Lu Chen Immediately

Ming as the hint of a cold smile lifted the corners of his eyes.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Things had turned around so quickly that Fan Ming and the others took a while to recover their bearings.

“What are you humming and hawing for? Hurry up and apologize to Lu Chen!” Xia Jun was like a cat on hot bricks.

He could never have imagined that the person backing Lu Chen was the richest man in Chongqing—Lu Zhong.

The moment Lu Chen left his office, he'd received a call from Lu Zhong.

Lu Zhong had been straight to the point, saying that he'd offended Lu Zhong's Young Master. To appease the Young Master, Lu Zhong would bankrupt his company before 5 p.m. that day.

Lu Zhong had only made the call to ensure that he understood the reason behind his demise.

It sounded presumptuous.

But Tycoon Lu had the means to back it

up.

What chance did he stand against Tycoon Lu?!

Before Lu Zhong, the richest man in Chongqing, he was just a small fry, unfit to even meet his gaze!

There was nothing to do about it but chase after Lu Chen.

After all, no one besides Lu Chen could save him now.

Fan Ming flinched when he met General Manager Xia's intimidating gaze, caving in right away.

"L-Lu Chen, I'm sorry. I was blind. Please forgive my ignorance!" Fan Ming gritted his teeth and finally made himself apologize to Lu Chen.

Fan Ming knew what General Manager Xia actually meant, that he'd be fired if he didn't apologize.

He had a very niche customer base,

mainly for peephole cameras. And in Chongqing, only Dong Jia Electronics had made a name for itself with peephole cameras. If he was fired, unless he left Chongqing, he would be out on the streets.

Moreover, he wasn't willing to leave and give up the tens of thousands that he earned in commission each month.

Yu Hai and the security guards bowed their heads, not daring to meet General Manager Xia's gaze for fear that he'd order them to apologize to Lu Chen as well.

"Lu Chen, you see..." Xia Jun turned to look at Lu Chen expectantly, putting on a smile for him.

Fan Ming and the others followed suit and looked toward Lu Chen

Lu Chen's eyes narrowed as he considered it for a moment. "That will be alright for now."

Lu Chen knew that Fan Ming was most

likely resentful about having been forced to apologize, let alone sincere.

Since it was like that, he'd toy with him slowly.

"Don't you have to get to work?" Xia Jun breathed a sigh of relief. If Lu Chen had been willing to let up on Fan Ming; then he still had hope.

"Yes, yes. I'll start work immediately!" Fan Ming shared Xia Jun's relief, escaping like a mouse that had seen a cat.

Yu Hai hurriedly led the other security guards away from the lobby.

"Young Master Lu, I'm really sorry. I believed the lies that Fan Ming told me and had a misunderstanding about your leave of absence. I hope you'll give me a chance to redeem myself," Xia Jun pleaded once Fan Ming and the others had left, his sincerity evident.

He had no choice!

Right now, the survival of his company hinged on Lu Chen's attitude. Let alone plead, he would get down on both knees without hesitation if Lu Chen wanted him to.

Lu Chen looked at Xia Jun with narrowed eyes for what seemed like forever—until Xia Jun's heart pounded out of his chest—when he finally smiled. "Fine. Then let's discuss it in your office."

The lump in Xia Jun's throat finally went away, and he hastily ushered Lu Chen back to his office.

.....

"Director Fan, what do you think General Manager Xia means by this? He'd agreed to fire Lu Chen, so why is he on Lu Chen's side now?" Back in Fan Ming's office, Yu Hai asked with genuine curiosity.

Fan Ming's forehead wrinkled, eyebrows scrunched together. He didn't reply.

He didn't know what the situation was either.

He'd been forced to apologize to Lu Chen, and though the episode hadn't been witnessed by many others, it irked him terribly.

He, too, wanted to know what kind of spell Lu Chen had put on General Manager Xia to make General Manager Xia do such a one-eighty.

"Do you think it's because General Manager Xia has some kind of relationship with Lu Chen's wife? Maybe that's why General Manager Xia is protecting him. Lin Yijun is the most beautiful woman in the company after all. Lots of people fancy her." Yu Hai's eyes lit up.

Fan Ming jolted. That's right. Why didn't I think about that earlier?

Even he, in the prime of his life, was captivated by Lin Yijun. General Manager Xia was sure to be head over heels for her.

Alarm bells rang at the thought. He'd been fighting over the same woman as General Manager Xia. Wasn't that just looking for trouble?

"That must be it. But don't worry. Since that's the basis of their relationship, when General Manager Xia gets tired of Lin Yijun, it'll be the end for Lu Chen in the company. We'll take care of him then," Fan Ming declared in a low tone.

"That brat is really something. He actually offered his wife to General Manager Xia for his protection. That's bloody savage," Yu Hai sneered.

Fan Ming's lip curled as he turned to look out the window. He finally knew why Lin Yijun never gave him the time of day.

"Lin Yijun, Lin Yijun. I thought that you were a lady, but you're just a damn wh*re!"

Fan Ming was fuming inside. Before this, he'd only been mad at Lu Chen, but now, the thought of Lin Yijun aggravated

him even more.

'So what if you're General Manager Xia's woman? As long as you're in the sales department, I'll still be able to make your life miserable!'

A cold gleam flashed in Fan Ming's eyes. That Xia Jun hadn't moved Lin Yijun to a different department, means that he doesn't want anyone to know about their relationship. And so even if Xia Jun finds out about my making things difficult for Lin Yijun, he wouldn't be able to say anything.

.....

Lu Chen ended up changing his mind about bankrupting Dong Jia Electronics.

When he returned to the office with Xia Jun, he immediately proposed to acquire Dong Jia Electronics.

In the end, acceding to Xia Jun's pleading, he didn't brush Xia Jun aside completely, only buying out 70 percent of Dong Jia Group's shares and

becoming the principal shareholder of Dong Jia Electronics.

Lu Chen returned to the hospital after having settled everything.

“It takes such a long time just to resign?” Lin Yijun glared at Lu Chen.

They needed money desperately, but one of them had to take care of their daughter.

Otherwise, both of them would be taking leave constantly, making neither of them able to do their jobs properly.

It was why Lin Yijun hadn't said anything when Lu Chen had announced that he would be handing in his resignation today.

After all, Lu Chen's salary was a meager, stagnant sum; it wasn't much use to them.

The real reason for her anger was because Lu Chen had been gone for the whole morning.

"I was delayed by some other matters," Lu Chen explained.

"What could be more important than coming back and taking care of Qiqi?" Lin Yijun demanded as her lip curled.

Lu Chen wanted to tell her that he'd purchased Dong Jia Electronics.

But when he saw the disgust on Lin Yijun's face, he just smiled, no longer motivated to explain.

Anticipation rose in his chest. What kind of reaction would Lin Yijun have when she found out that he was the real owner of Dong Jia Electronics?

"Take good care of Qiqi. If anything goes wrong, I'll have your head," Lin Yijun warned him frostily before picking up her handbag and heading to work.

Lu Chen ignored Lin Yijun, bending down to look at his daughter's emaciated face. Her face was screwed up in pain, perhaps from a nightmare or due to her illness.

Distressed, Lu Chen lightly placed a kiss on his daughter's forehead without waking her.

He watched as his daughter's face slowly relaxed. Lu Chen then gave Lu Zhong a call, urging him to find a bone marrow match quickly before transferring his daughter to a VIP hospital ward.

Lu Chen ordered the private nurse that he'd just hired to take good care of Qiqi, then prepared to go out to have a bite. It was already one in the afternoon and he still hadn't eaten anything.

He'd just exited the hospital when he saw his mother-in-law & sister-in-law walking toward him.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Seeing that the two of them were walking toward him, Lu Chen's lips twisted into a cynical smile. He couldn't very well pretend that he hadn't seen them.

He was just about to greet them when his sister-in-law, Lin Yijia, questioned him. "Lu Chen, be honest. Do you know the upper management of Jun Yue Group?"

Yesterday, they'd thought about it long and hard. Lin Yijia and Wang Xue still found it hard to believe that Lu Chen, whom they had always looked down on, was on good terms with the upper management of Jun Yue Group. But otherwise, General Manager Lu's secretary would never have been so courteous to Lu Chen.

If Lu Chen really knew the upper management of Jun Yue Group, then Wang Xue's business deal might really get sealed if he helped to put in a good word.

"That's right." Lu Chen nodded.

Wang Xue and Lin Yijia's eyes lit up and they were all smiles.

"My goodness. I didn't think that my son-in-law was so capable. Tell me, which upper management member do you know?" Wang Xue goggled at Lu Chen excitedly.

She had never been as satisfied with Lu Chen than in that instant.

Lu Chen's sister-in-law, Lin Yijia, also looked at him with starry eyes. Throughout the years, this was the only time she'd truly seen Lu Chen as her brother-in-law.

"I only know Lu Zhong," Lu Chen told them honestly.

It was true. Throughout the entire Jun Yue Group, the only one he knew was Lu Zhong. As for Jun Yue Group's upper management, he didn't recognize a single member.

"My child, why do you call him by his name? You should address him as

Tycoon Lu.” Though Wang Xue sounded as if she was lecturing Lu Chen, her face beamed.

Her son-in-law actually knew Tycoon Lu! Now, the chances of her large business deal coming through had just gotten even higher.

Lu Chen shrugged, not knowing what to say.

“Oh, yes. Lu Chen, what’s your relationship with Tycoon Lu?” Lin Yijia asked curiously.

“Lu Zhong is my butler. Oh, mum, were you at Jun Yue Group to discuss business yesterday? Did it go well? Do you want me to help with anything?” Lu Chen was secretly overjoyed by his mother-in-law’s change in attitude toward him.

Even if they’d had grouses toward him in the past, they were still his in-laws after all. He didn’t want to think too much about it.

But their faces turned stormy upon hearing his explanation.

The richest man in Chongqing is your butler? Are you out of your mind?

Both mother and daughter thought that Lu Chen was pulling their legs.

"Tycoon Lu is your butler? And I'm No.1 on the Forbes list!" Lin Yijia smirked and jeered.

"Lu Chen, you-! What gives you the guts to pull such a joke on me?" Wang Xue was infuriated. Perhaps it was because her hopes had been dashed, but her disgust toward Lu Chen came back stronger than ever before.

Lu Chen didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Why was it that no one ever believed the truth?

"Where are you gallivanting off to instead of looking after Qiqi?" Wang Xue barked at him.

"Qiqi's asleep. I came out to get lunch,"

Lu Chen replied truthfully.

“Eat, eat, eat! All you know how to do is eat! You’ll eat yourself to death one day!” Wang Xue grimaced and led her daughter into the hospital.

Besides grilling Lu Chen, she’d also come over to visit her granddaughter.

Lu Chen watched Wang Xue and Lin Yijia from behind and threw his hands up in exasperation.

Whatever it was, he still pulled out his phone and made a call to Lu Zhong.

“Uncle Zhong, has Xia Kang Pharmaceuticals been discussing a business deal with you recently? The person in charge should be their assistant director of sales, Wang Xue?” Lu Chen asked.

“The weather has been hot lately, so the company decided to buy some preventive medication for heat stroke and hand them out to our employees. As for which company we’re buying it

from, I'm not clear on the details," Lu Zhong said.

"Hmm. If it's Wang Xue from Xia Kang Pharmaceuticals, buy it from them," Lu Chen instructed.

"Alright. Oh yes, Young Master. The Master would like to see you. If you have the time, he can take a flight and reach here today itself," Lu Zhong reported.

Lu Chen was stunned into silence for a moment. "I don't want to meet him yet."

Lu Zhong sighed. "The events of the past can't be blamed entirely on Master. And he's regretted it all these years. Do you know why he never remarried over the past ten years? It's because he felt that he had let you and Madame down. When he found out that you'd come to Chongqing, Master immediately sent me here to build Jun Yue Group. I never sought you out because the Master, knowing your temper, told me only to appear when you were in dire straits; otherwise, I'd only be disrupting your

life.”

Lu Chen staggered. Ever since he left home ten years ago, he'd never sought news of his father nor received any correspondence.

Of course, he would have hung up even if he had gotten a call.

But what had left him reeling was that when his mother passed away ten years ago, his father had only been thirty-six years old; yet to this day, he still hadn't married that harlot.

Could he really have been living in regret over the past ten years?

Lu Chen paused before he slowly spoke. “Let's talk about it when my daughter gets well.”

That was his father after all. And Lu Chen himself was beginning to see the issue more broadly—his mother's death could mostly be attributed to that harlot.

"Of course. Of course! I'll tell the Master immediately. I'm sure he'll be overjoyed to hear that," Lu Zhong exclaimed in elation.

He'd been in Chongqing for ten years, during which he'd become the area's richest man. But other than hanging around to give his Young Master a hand when he needed it, Lu Zhong had always been waiting for his Young Master to come to the decision that he had today.

After Lu Chen hung up, he went to a Chongqing noodle store outside the hospital and ordered a small bowl of noodles. He was just about to eat when he saw his sister-in-law, Lin Yijia's call coming in.

"Lu Chen, Qiqi's missing! Quickly come back and help us find her!" Lin Yijia cried out anxiously.

Lu Chen chuckled and replied, "Qiqi's been transferred to the VIP wing on the 19th floor. She's in Room 2."

"What? You transferred Qiqi to a VIP ward? Where did you get the money?" Lin Yijia questioned.

"I borrowed it," Lu Chen said lightly.

There was no need to explain further since she wouldn't believe it even if he told her.

"And when you find a bone marrow match, what will you do then?" Lin Yijia asked.

"Don't worry. I won't ask you guys for the money. I have my ways." Lu Chen remembered how he'd been swept out of the door when he'd approached Wang Xue asking for money after his startup had failed. Then and there, he'd sworn never to ask his in-laws for anything again.

"Hmph. I wouldn't lend it to a wastrel like you anyway." Wang Xue's contemptuous tones were relayed over the phone; Lu Chen hung up without hesitation.

"That good-for-nothing, he dared to hang up on me! This is too much!" Wang Xue returned her daughter's phone in a huff before leading the way to the 19th floor.

When they found their way to the VIP wing, they saw that Lu Chen had even hired a private nurse to look after Qiqi. Wang Xue cursed internally at Lu Chen's waste and disregard of money.

The two of them sat there for a while before Qiqi woke up. Though they both found Lu Chen disagreeable, they truly loved and cared for Qiqi.

They had a free afternoon and they'd planned to spend it with Qiqi, but it wasn't long before Wang Xue's phone rang.

She took the call, after which she planted several kisses on Qiqi's face ecstatically.

"Mum, who was that?" Lin Yijia asked, curious.

"The Manager from Jun Yue Group asked us to discuss the deal with them this afternoon!" Wang Xue cried out jubilantly.

"Oh, that's great! Congratulations, mum, you finally got the Jun Yue Group deal!" Lin Yijia was equally thrilled.

"Manager Wang said that they hadn't wanted our products, but someone helped us to put in a good word and Tycoon Lu made the decision based on that. But I wonder who did us such a great favor. We'll need to thank him properly," Wang Xue revealed.

"Could it be..." A suspicious figure flitted through Lin Yijia's mind.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Do you mean that it was Hu Hong?”
Wang Xue asked.

Lin Yijia nodded though she was uncertain.

“It probably isn’t him. After all, Manager Wang didn’t take warmly to Hu Hong yesterday.” Wang Xue shook her head.

“But who else could it be? Anyone who can put in a good word with Tycoon Lu probably has considerable status, but I don’t know such a person.” Now Lin Yijia was baffled too.

The mother and daughter spent some time speculating about their possible benefactor but the thought that it was Lu Chen never crossed their minds.

The way they saw it, Lu Chen was just a good-for-nothing. There was no way he had any form of relationship with Tycoon Lu.

If there really was any association between them, it would probably just be that they both shared the surname ‘Lu’.

“Alright, never mind. Let’s get the contract signed first, then ask Manager Wang who it was,” Wang Xue decided.

Just then, Lu Chen came back after having finished his noodles. Seeing the smiles on Wang Xue’s and Lin Yijia’s faces, he knew that Jun Yue Group had most likely given them a call earlier.

“Take good care of Qiqi. We’re going to Jun Yue to discuss a deal.” Wang Xue was in a spectacular mood; even her tone was so much nicer.

Lu Chen nodded. But just as Wang Xue and Lin Yijia were about to leave, Lin Yijia’s phone rang. After taking the call, she announced, “Mum, hang on. Hu Hong is coming to visit Qiqi. He’s already at the hospital.”

Hu Hong soon arrived bearing a small basket of fruits—imported dragon fruits, which were loved by all, even children.

When he looked at Lu Chen, Hu Hong’s gaze was less contemptuous than it had been yesterday.

It was no wonder. They'd been humiliated at Jun Yue yesterday, while Tycoon Lu's secretary had been so respectful to Lu Chen. Both he and Wang Xue had considered that Lu Chen's background wasn't what it seemed.

But neither Hu Hong nor Lu Chen brought it up.

Lu Chen knew that Hu Hong hadn't come just to see his daughter; there was no need to thank him.

"Oh, right. Hu Hong, did you ask your dad to help us? Manager Wang from Jun Yue Group just gave my mum a call inviting us to discuss the contract right away. They're going to buy the medicine from my mother's company." Lin Yijia suddenly raised the question. She still felt that Hu Hong was the only one who could have helped her mum.

"Huh?" Hu Hong was slightly disconcerted. Since when did my dad have such influence? And he wouldn't give a damn even if I asked, he thought.

“That’s why I said that it was most likely someone else; after all, Manager Wang didn’t pay much heed to Hu Hong yesterday,” Wang Xue remarked upon seeing Hu Hong’s response.

Lin Yijia nodded. The gaze she cast at Hu Hong held just a hint of disappointment.

“Aunt Xue, Manager Wang’s already given you a call? Looks like my dad gets things done really quickly. I’d only told him about it and asked for his help today morning. He told me that he would find time to pay a visit to Manager Wang, but I thought that he was just brushing me off.” Hu Hong only debated it for a moment before admitting to it.

Anyway, it didn’t matter even if he was exposed in the end. If he was, he would have gotten Lin Yijia by then and probably couldn’t care less.

More importantly, he suspected that Jun Yue Group had contacted Wang Xue because they thought that she

would make a good business match. If that was the case, then he most likely wouldn't be exposed.

It just happened that Lin Yijia suspected it was him and he took credit for it, making him one step closer to getting Lin Yijia.

"Oh my. You really asked your dad to help us put in a good word? Thank you so much!" Lin Yijia looked up at Hu Hong in elation. She was right about no one other than Hu Hong being able to help her mum.

"Hu, thank you so much. Really." Wang Xue was also ecstatic. She hadn't thought that it really was Hu Hong.

Lu Chen looked at Hu Hong in surprise, not expecting the brat to be so shameless.

"Are you sure that it was your dad who did my mother-in-law a favor?" Lu Chen stared at Hu Hong with a deadpan expression.

Alarmed, panic flitted through Hu Hong's eyes.

"If it wasn't Hu Hong, who would it be? You? Do you have what it takes?" Irritation and disdain covered Lin Yijia's face as she regarded Lu Chen.

"Don't mind him. Let's get the contract signed first." Wang Xue threw a dirty look at Lu Chen before leaving with Lin Yijia and Hu Hong in tow.

Lu Chen scoffed and shook his head, not bothered to do anything about it. Whether Hu Hong's character was decent had nothing to do with him.

"Dad, why are Auntie and Grandma always so fierce to you?" Qiqi looked up at Lu Chen inquisitively.

Lu Chen smiled at her, lost for reply.

Of course he couldn't tell her it was because they thought that he was good-for-nothing. He needed to impart positive energy to his daughter.

The next day, Lu Zhong finally found a bone marrow match for Qiqi; the hospital conducted the surgery immediately.

The surgery was a great success and Qiqi recovered very well. So much so that Lin Yijun was overjoyed to the point where she forgot to ask Lu Chen how he had obtained the money used to transfer Qiqi to a VIP ward and for the surgery.

When Qiqi recovered enough to be discharged from the hospital, Lin Yijun took two days off just to spend time with her.

“Qiqi is more than three years old now; we can send her to kindergarten. What plans do you have?” Lin Yijun put the question to Lu Chen as they lay in bed with the lights off, ready to sleep.

“What plans?” Lu Chen had been thinking of other matters and hadn’t noticed Lin Yijun talking to him.

“We’re in so much debt. Shouldn’t you

start thinking about how we're going to pay it back?" Lin Yijun frowned.

"I only owe Du Fei fifty thousand. I'll return it in a couple of days," Lu Chen replied.

"Lu Chen, do you mean to say that the remaining several hundred thousand that we used for Qiqi's medical bills, I'm expected to work hard to pay it back all on my own?" With a face as cold as ice, Lin Yijun turned to look at Lu Chen, who was leaning back onto the pillow and smoking a cigarette.

She would never have imagined that Lu Chen was actually so irresponsible. Was this really her man?

"What are you getting worked up over? I never said that you need to pay the debts. The money we spent later on was all my money. Right now, all we owe is the fifty thousand from Du Fei." Lu Chen laughed in exasperation.

"Your money? We spent at least five hundred thousand after that. Do you

take me for a fool?" Lin Yijun fumed.

"Honey, to tell you the truth, I was actually born in a rich family..."

Lu Chen put out the cigarette and turned around to clasp Lin Yijun's shoulders, prepared to tell her about his background. He wanted to make up for all the years of hardship that Lin Yijun had suffered for him.

Instead, Lin Yijun became ballistic, pushing Lu Chen away. "Get lost! Don't touch me!" she screamed.

"Lu Chen, I'm so disappointed. You created such a laughable excuse just to avoid going to work. Do you still call yourself a man? I'm laying it out right here, right now—I don't care even if you don't go to work, but the minute we receive a call from a debt collector, I will divorce you."

With that, Lin Yijun swept the covers off herself and got off the bed. She was really angry now. She'd married for love. Even when Lu Chen's business had

failed and throughout all the despair they'd gone through when Qiqi had been admitted to the hospital, she'd only had some misgivings against Lu Chen.

But now Lu Chen had come up with such a ridiculous excuse to avoid going to work. It was chillingly disappointing.

"What are you doing?" Lu Chen asked perplexedly.

"Sleeping in the other bedroom!" Lin Yijun retorted before exiting the room.

Lu Chen watched, bemused, as Lin Yijun shut the door with a bang

Why did no one ever believe him when it was the truth?!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The next day, Lin Yijun went to work as usual, but perhaps because she was still angry with Lu Chen, she left without even preparing breakfast.

Lu Chen made breakfast when he woke up and shared it with Qiqi before bringing her to kindergarten.

The director of the kindergarten had wanted to object to their enrolling halfway through the term, but when Lu Chen slipped him a bank card and told him that it contained a hundred thousand, the director agreed readily without even confirming the amount.

“Qiqi, Dad’s going to take you to buy some new clothes, and then, tomorrow, you’re going to come here to learn and study.” Lu Chen held Qiqi’s hand as they walked toward the mall.

“That’s great! I want the prettiest outfit; the one that grandma bought for me last time didn’t look nice at all,” Qiqi chattered happily.

“Okay. Then today, Dad will buy you the

prettiest one,” Lu Chen told her as the corners of his lips lifted into a smile.

“Dad, I want to pick it out myself,” Qiqi said.

“Alright. I’ll buy whatever outfit our little princess chooses.” With that, Lu Chen picked Qiqi up; she’d only been discharged a few days ago and Lu Chen still wasn’t comfortable with her walking so much so soon.

They arrived at New Skylight Mall very soon, where Lu Chen led Qiqi straight to a children's clothing store.

There were three floors dedicated to clothing in New Skylight Mall, all of which were high-end imported luxury goods. There were also shops that sold food and beverage, a cinema and an entertainment center. It was a lively place indeed.

“Dad, Auntie’s over there,” Qiqi suddenly pointed at a boutique beside them.

Lu Chen turned, only to see Lin Yijia

walking out from a boutique with several friends.

“Auntie, Auntie!” Qiqi cried out toward Lin Yijia and her companions.

Lin Yijia walked over with a smile upon hearing Qiqi’s voice.

“Qiqi, let Auntie give you a hug.” Lin Yijia pulled Qiqi into her lap.

“Auntie, are you here to buy new clothes? Dad is bringing me to buy new clothes too,” Qiqi announced.

“That’s right. Auntie will buy a new dress for you as well,” Lin Yijia declared.

“Wow. Yijia, is this your sister’s kid? She’s so pretty.”

Lin Yijia’s friends gathered around them. One of the girls smiled and patted Qiqi’s face. Not used to it, Qiqi shied away, making the girls around her giggle.

“Auntie, I want Dad to carry me.”

Qiqi saw that the surrounding strangers were laughing at her and refused to stay in Lin Yijia's lap.

"Qiqi, Auntie will take you to buy some new clothes. Don't mind your dad," Lin Yijia coaxed.

"No, I want Dad." Qiqi wiggled, wanting Lin Yijia to put her down.

Lin Yijia had no choice but to hand Qiqi over to Lu Chen. Her gaze swept over Lu Chen's face with distaste.

Lu Chen took no notice of her and carried Qiqi toward the children's clothing store.

"Lu Chen, the clothes in that store are all branded, imported from Italy. The cheapest thing you can find there still costs several thousands. Can you afford it?" Lin Yijia's brow wrinkled and she called out to him from behind.

She knew that Lu Chen was no longer going to work; the money he spent was all from her sister's hard work.

Most importantly, Lu Chen was in debt by several hundred thousand thanks to Qiqi's medical bills!

She couldn't help getting infuriated seeing Lu Chen spend so much money on just some kids' clothing.

"I can afford it," Lu Chen stated mildly.

"You can afford it?" Lin Yijia sped after Lu Chen and threw his statement back at him sarcastically. "Did you tell my sister that you were buying such expensive clothes for Qiqi?"

Lu Chen couldn't be bothered with her and just walked into the children's clothing store.

"Yijia, your brother-in-law must be rich. I hear that even the cheapest clothes in that store cost at least a few thousand per piece," one of the girls remarked.

"Rich?" Hu Hong sneered and jibed. "I hear that he's in debt by several hundred thousand and that he just loafes around.

“Huh? A man not going to work, letting a woman earn money to provide for him?” one of the girls cried out in astonishment.

“Such a man actually exists. What trash,” the others sneered in disdain, shaking their heads at Lu Chen’s back.

Especially those two girls—they thought that if their future husbands were as impotent, they’d have kicked him to the curb long ago.

Lu Chen’s face clouded over, ticked at what he heard.

Lin Yijia often insulted him from time to time. As her brother-in-law, Lu Chen usually wasn’t bothered to react, but they were in public; slandering him like that was a bit too much.

“Dad, I want that dress,” Qiqi piped up, pointing at a snowy white kids’ dress just as Lu Chen was about to confront Lin Yijia.

“Okay.” Swallowing his anger, Lu Chen

nodded as he turned and walked toward the dress that Qiqi pointed to.

“Sir, this is a summer outfit that we imported from Italy; it just arrived the day before. Would you like to let your daughter try it on first?” The pretty saleslady smiled as she introduced their product.

Lu Chen nodded. The saleslady had just retrieved the dress and was about to bring Qiqi to try it on when a couple walked over with a little girl around Qiqi’s age.

“Mum, I want that too.” The little girl pointed toward the white kids’ dress that the saleslady held.

“Assistant, wrap this up for me,” the plump woman ordered the saleslady without a second thought.

The saleslady looked at Lu Chen, obviously in a bind.

After all, Lu Chen’s daughter had picked it out first and was just about to try it

on.

“Dad, I want it too,” Qiqi pled as she reached out for Lu Chen’s hand and shook his arm, knowing that someone else wanted the same item.

“I’m sorry. My daughter already chose this dress and she was just about to try it on. Please choose another.” Lu Chen said as he directed his gaze toward the woman.

“Try it on? It’s you poor people who can’t afford it yet keep coming here to try on things that make so many of the clothes dirty,” the woman scoffed and looked him up and down with contempt.

Lu Chen was dressed very plainly. This made the woman feel that someone like Lu Chen was certainly unable to afford the children’s clothes under this label.

“How would you know if it fits without trying it on?” Lin Yijia, who’d followed them in, snapped.

Though she had no love for Lu Chen,

there was no way she'd just watch from the sidelines when Qiqi was bullied.

"Just throw it away if it doesn't fit. What's the big deal? You need to teach kids about money from young so it sticks with them. I'm sorry, you just don't know how rich people really live," the woman turned her nose up at Lin Yijia and the rest of them.

This was called teaching her child about money?

Everyone stared in amazement. The woman's perspective was truly unique.

She wasn't trying to raise a wastrel, was she?

"Please bring my daughter to try it on," Lu Chen told the saleslady.

He couldn't be bothered to waste time arguing about it. There was no talking to an unreasonable woman like that.

"Why don't you ask her whether she'd rather sell it to you, or to me?" The

woman mocked Lu Chen and threw him a dirty look.

Then she turned on the saleslady. “We asked them to wrap up five sets of clothes earlier—it should come up to forty thousand dollars or so. If you dare to give him this dress, we won’t take the other five either. We’ll also file a complaint to your manager. Let’s see if your manager would rather keep you or butter me up,” the woman declared arrogantly before turning back to Lu Chen, provocation overflowing from her eyes.

Lu Chen kept his calm as Lin Yijia and the others turned to look at the saleslady, waiting for her response.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The saleslady was hesitant, but when she saw the rich lady's expression, she silenced her conscience, turned to Lu Chen, and pointed at the rich lady's daughter. "This young lady picked it out first. Please just choose another."

"It was our Qiqi who picked it out first! How can you tell such a blatant lie? Do you think that we're not customers just because they're rich and we aren't?" Lin Yijia had always been hot-tempered and burst out immediately.

The saleslady's lip curled as she gave her explanation. "There are different types of customers. This lady is buying six sets in one go. If you can do that too, I'll definitely be on your side."

Since she'd already gone against her conscience, the saleslady just let herself go.

One glance at Lin Yijia and the others told her that they didn't have much purchasing power. They couldn't compare to the rich lady.

If she sided with the rich lady, she'd get a lot of commission.

The rich woman laughed pridefully and pointed out sarcastically, "Do you hear that? I can buy six sets in one go. Can you? Don't make so many demands if you don't have the money. If you want better service, think about your pockets first."

"What is there to argue with a bunch of wannabes? One look and you can tell that they can't afford it; they're just here to try things on," the middle-aged man who had been silent all this while suddenly chimed in, looking at Lu Chen and the others disapprovingly.

"Assistant, do you hear that? They can't afford it. You shouldn't let in wannabes who just want to try on branded stuff to satisfy their vanity. It'll affect the mood of the real consumers," the rich lady echoed.

"You-!"

Lin Yijia was beside herself with rage.

Her family wasn't rich, but they weren't so poor that they couldn't afford to spend a few thousand on a piece of clothing either.

This rich b*tch was so condescending. She couldn't stand it.

But the thought that she would have to buy at least six sets of clothes for Qiqi to take the rich woman off her high horse stopped her. She could afford one or two sets.

But more than six?

She really couldn't afford it.

Hu Hong could afford it, but he wanted to watch as Lu Chen was made a laughing stock, so he just watched silently.

As for the other girls, they were in the same boat as Lin Yijia—one or two sets was fine, but any more would be impossible.

Most importantly, the main target here

was Lu Chen; it had nothing to do with them.

Lin Yijia watched as the saleslady prepared to wrap up the dress that Qiqi had picked. She took her anger out on Lu Chen instead. "You aren't able to afford it, yet you insisted on bringing Qiqi to a place like this. Look at you now. Aren't you ashamed?"

The way she saw it, this brother-in-law of hers was a real wuss. The only thing he was good for was to take her anger out on.

"Did I ask you to wrap it up? My daughter hasn't tried it on yet, so what are you wrapping it up for?" Lu Chen ignored Lin Yijia and directed his question to the saleslady.

Never mind the rich woman's behavior, the saleslady's attitude disgusted him.

Moreover, Qiqi had fallen in love with that dress the moment she'd laid eyes on it. As a father—what was more, a father in a position to fulfill his

daughter's requests—he wouldn't disappoint her.

"You're still insisting on trying it on? Are you really like what this lady said—trying things on just to satisfy your sense of vanity even though you can't afford it? Sir, I didn't want to say this to you, but aren't you afraid of being a bad influence on your child?" The saleslady turned her head to stare at Lu Chen condescendingly.

"Who told you that I can't afford it? They bought six sets at once—so what?! Are you so snobbish?" Lu Chen simmered with rage.

"Why, young man, do you want to play a game with me?" The middle-aged man smirked at Lu Chen.

Watching Lu Chen get frustrated, he felt a deep sense of satisfaction and superiority.

Lu Chen turned to look at the middle-aged man, his eyes narrowing. "Oh? How do you want to play this?"

At this, Lin Yijia grabbed hold of Qiqi's hand. "Qiqi, let's go. Auntie will bring you shopping elsewhere. I'll buy two sets for you."

If Lu Chen wanted to stay back and get disgraced, then let him.

Don't you know your limits?

This couple is obviously wealthy, and you still want to play games with them?

Who the hell does he think he is, to play games with them?

He was just setting himself up to get humiliated.

"Really, Auntie?" Qiqi beamed at Lin Yijia.

Lin Yijia nodded. Qiqi tugged Lu Chen's hand. "Dad, let's go shopping elsewhere with Auntie," she implored.

She didn't understand what the adults were saying, but she did know that those people were arguing with her dad.

“Lu Chen, could it be that you’re willing to let Qiqi watch as you get humiliated? You may not care about your pride, but don’t let Qiqi see disgraceful things like this. Please!” Lin Yijia’s temper flared up again when she saw that Lu Chen wasn’t willing to give up.

“Qiqi likes that dress. If I can’t even satisfy such a small request of hers, how am I fit to be a father?” Lu Chen clasped Qiqi’s hand in his as he held Lin Yijia’s gaze.

“So are you going to buy five or six sets like them? The saleslady’s meaning was clear. Don’t you get it?!” Lin Yijia seethed, her face full of exasperation and resentment.

If Lu Chen wasn’t her brother-in-law, she wouldn’t interfere.

She had always looked down on this brother-in-law of hers and thought he had no ambition. But no matter what, her sister loved him and their child, Qiqi, was already three years old. Of course

she wouldn't just watch him get humiliated.

"Brat, you should listen to that girl. You should know what you're made of. Otherwise, when I make my move, your pride will be so shattered you won't be able to pick it up and put it together again." The middle-aged man was extremely satisfied with the fear in Lin Yijia's eyes.

"That's right. If you don't have it in you, then don't act big. How do they say it? Oh, right. If you have it and you show it, that's cool; but if you go broke trying to look rich, that's just stupid." the rich woman snickered.

She turned toward the saleslady and told her, "People like this who don't know what they're made of should be kicked out of the premises, so that the other customers' mood isn't affected."

The saleslady nodded in wholehearted agreement. "You'd better go. Don't disturb our customers," she told Lu Chen.

Lu Chen ignored the saleslady. Instead, he turned to ask his daughter, "Qiqi, do you like the clothes here?"

Qiqi nodded her head enthusiastically, making Lu Chen smile as he told her, "Then Dad will buy everything for you. You'll be able to wear a new outfit every day."

"Yes, yes!" Qiqi cried out ecstatically.

Lin Yijia cringed. Is her good-for-nothing brother-in-law mad?

Buy everything?!

Do you think that you're rich?!

"Lu Chen, I'll make a call to my sister right now if you don't listen!" Vexed, Lin Yijia fished her phone out to dial her sister's number.

"Fine, young man, I give you full marks for your theatrics. Oh, right. If you're really able to buy all the clothes in this store, I'll apologize to you on my knees," the middle-aged roared in laughter.

"And I'll kneel and lick your shoes," the rich lady added in jest.

Lu Chen's outfit was obviously that of an ordinary working-class—it cost a few hundred or a thousand at most.

"I'm worried that the two of you will cry when the time comes," Lu Chen retorted sardonically, then turned to the short-haired saleslady who had been standing silently by the side.

"Do the math for me. How much would it cost to buy all the children's clothes in your entire store? I'll buy everything," Lu Chen announced.

"Huh? Y-You're really buying everything?" the short-haired saleslady stared at Lu Chen in disbelief.

"I already made the calculations. The total for everything inclusive of those that the lady chose is 520,000. May I know if you'll be paying by cash or card?" the previous saleslady looked mockingly at Lu Chen.

Lu Chen confirmed the amount with the short-haired saleslady. "Is it 520,000?"

The saleslady nodded.

"Okay. I'll pay by card. Put it all on your tally," Lu Chen said as he walked toward the counter.

The short-haired saleslady came back to her senses and followed him, still in shock.

"My God. He can't really afford it, can he?" the middle-aged couple asked, dumbfounded. The brat didn't look like he could afford to spend several hundred thousand on clothes no matter how they looked at him.

Lin Yijia and her friends' eyes widened. Lu Chen's steadfast expression made them lose their composure.

"Sir, since you're buying so many at once, I'll give you a discount. You can just pay 500,000," the saleslady informed him as she tried to keep her excitement under wraps.

Chapter 9 I'll Buy Everything

Lu Chen nodded. But when he took out his wallet, he realized that he'd left his principal credit card at home.

F*ck. He couldn't be that unlucky.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Why? Did you go overboard? Why aren’t you swiping your card yet?” the other saleslady jeered at the sight of Lu Chen staring at his purse.

From the start, she hadn’t believed that Lu Chen could really afford to pay 500,000. Now that she saw Lu Chen’s credit card was nowhere to be found, she started laughing at him.

The rich couple was finally able to breathe.

Honestly, the confidence in Lu Chen’s eyes earlier had really given them a fright.

After all, they’d declared that as long as Lu Chen was able to buy all the clothes in the store, one of them would kneel and apologize while the other would kneel and lick his shoes.

Though there was no way that they’d fulfill their words, it would still be horribly mortifying.

“Oh my. You’ve overdone it, haven’t you?”

Did you mistake your identity card for your credit card? How very embarrassing!” the middle aged man couldn’t help rubbing it in.

“I did tell you earlier. It’s only cool if you can back it up, now this? This is stupid,” The rich woman remarked witheringly.

“Qiqi, let’s go,” Lin Yijia coaxed. She no longer had the energy to argue. Neither did she want to set eyes on her brother-in-law any longer; it was too embarrassing.

But Qiqi shook her head. “I want to be with my dad.” She held on to Lu Chen’s shirt and refused to leave.

Lin Yijia truly loved Qiqi, and she could only glower at Lu Chen, “Lu Chen, how far do you need to be disgraced before you’re willing to take Qiqi and leave?”

“Huh. Maybe your brother-in-law is a masochist and enjoys getting his *ss kicked,” Hu Hong, who’d kept his peace until now, joined in sarcastically.

He'd had it good over the last two days.

Ever since he'd taken the credit for helping Wang Xue to close that large business deal, Lin Yijia's attitude toward him had improved by leaps and bounds.

Although Lin Yijia still hadn't agreed to be his girlfriend, she was no longer refusing to go on dates with him.

There was no longer any difficulty in getting Lin Yijia; it was now just a matter of time.

"Yijia, let's go. Your brother-in-law is hopeless. Let's not allow more people to think that we're with him," one of her girlfriends said, shaking her head disdainfully.

Lin Yijia's cheeks burned. She didn't care about Lu Chen being disgraced, but she did care about Qiqi.

Even though Lu Chen was good-for-nothing, their whole family still loved Qiqi very much. If Qiqi didn't want to leave, she couldn't very well just carry

her off.

“Sir, did you forget your card?” the saleslady enquired quizzically.

“Yes. Give me a moment. I’ll ask someone to deliver it,” Lu Chen nodded, proceeding to make a call for Lu Zhong to deliver 500,000.

He would buy that dress since his daughter liked it; it no longer had anything to do with being disgraceful.

“Chang Yan, are you nuts? You still believe his crap even now?” the first saleslady scoffed.

The saleslady called Chang Yan smiled bitterly; she didn’t believe Lu Chen either.

But upholding her professionalism, she wouldn’t say anything even if Lu Chen didn’t buy a single thing.

“Sir, if you’re not going to pay, please leave and stop disrupting our business,” the first saleslady ordered coldly.

“Putting on a show without the money to back it up is just wrong. Now get lost, and maybe you’ll be able to save some face; instead of hanging around and being made a spectacle of. Then you’ll be sorry,” the rich woman shook her head in distaste. Now that Lu Chen had shown his ‘true colors’, she’d lost interest in belittling him.

Lu Chen took a hard look at the rich woman. He was just about to dial Lu Zhong’s number when a balding, middle-aged man walked toward him.

“General Manager Xing, it’s good to see you,” the middle-aged man immediately stepped forward to welcome the balding man.

The baldy threw a glance at the middle-aged man before disregarding him completely as he continued toward Lu Chen.

The middle-aged man’s face turned red and he was filled with mortification.

“Honey, who is that?” the rich woman

frowned and asked quietly; her husband was well-connected, but the baldy had just dismissed him so easily. It made her rather angry.

“That’s the general manager of this mall, Xing Bing. He’s backed by Jun Yue Group,” the middle-aged man replied softly.

The rich woman nodded. So it was a bigshot—no wonder he hadn’t bothered to give her husband any face.

Let alone Jun Yue Group, the two of them hadn’t had the social connections to rent a store even within New Skylight Mall itself.

“Could he be here to buy clothes for his children as well?” the rich woman speculated when she saw Xing Bing approaching the counter.

“It’s likely.” Her husband nodded. But then Xing Bing faced Lu Chen.

“Young Master Lu, it’s really you. I thought I’d been mistaken.” The balding

man looked at Lu Chen respectfully.

“You are...” Lu Chen let his voice trail off as he studied Xing Bing thoughtfully.

“My name is Xing Bing; I’m the person in charge of New Skylight Mall,” Xing Bing replied obligingly, a servile expression on his face.

A few days ago, Lu Zhong had gathered the entire upper management of Jun Yue Group in the Chongqing branch and held a conference. The main objectives had been to announce that Lu Chen had succeeded the Lu Family estate, and to show them Lu Chen’s pictures so that the upper management members would show Lu Chen due respect when they saw him.

As the person in charge of New Skylight Mall, Xing Bing had naturally attended that particular conference.

So when he saw that Lu Chen had come to his mall to do some shopping, he’d eagerly come forward to introduce himself.

Lin Yijia and the others didn't recognize Xing Bing, so the scene didn't provoke any reaction from them.

But the middle-aged man's face turned ashen when he saw that even the general manager of the shopping mall was subserviently respectful toward the young man that he'd been mocking.

A person to whom even Xing Bing bowed to—what kind of status did he hold? Could he be one of the major players in Jun Yue Group?

"I see," Lu Chen nodded. Since he'd succeeded the family estate, naturally, he'd learned about the assets controlled by Jun Yue Group. It stood to reason that Xing Bing recognized him.

Young Master Lu, this is the only Ultimate VIP card that the mall has ever released. With this card, you can pick anything you want and have the retail assistants wrap it up to go. Then, the mall will tally everything with the stores at the end of each month," Xing Bing said, presenting a card made entirely of

rose gold to Lu Chen.

Lu Chen took the card and studied it. "Can I buy all the kids' clothes in the store with this card?"

"You can. As long as you show them this card, you can take anything and everything you want," Xing Bing nodded emphatically. The Ultimate Card was a status symbol. It had been created for the sole purpose of being used today.

"Okay. Then wrap up all the girls' clothes for me and donate the boys' clothes to the orphanage," Lu Chen announced.

The two salesladies were struck dumb, unable to wrap their minds around the recent turn of events.

Lu Chen hadn't brought his bank card, but this Ultimate Card was far weightier.

When any of the staff in the mall conducted their in-house training, they were required to memorize this card. They were told that as long as someone

showed them the card, they were not allowed to request payment from that someone no matter how expensive an item was. It was common to see images of the card plastering the walls, and they were, naturally, exceedingly familiar with it.

“What are you two doing just standing there? Start packing!” Xing Bing admonished the two salesladies when he saw them still standing dumbstruck.

The two of them collected themselves and rushed to start packaging the girls' clothes. Even the cashier joined them in wrapping and packaging after having settled the tally.

On the other hand, Xing Bing pulled his phone out and ordered someone to deliver the boys' clothes to the orphanage.

Only now did Lu Chen slowly shift his gaze toward the middle-aged couple.

Chapter 10 The Ultimate Card



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