The seconds ticked by.

And soon, the five minutes would be up.

However, outside the restaurant, things remained calm. Apart from the bustling tourists, there was no sign of anybody else.

Zhao Li-Chun remained seated. And as he leisurely munched on some peanuts, he continued to hug his female companion.

As for Ye Fan, he was as composed as ever. With his hands stuck in his pockets, he waited quietly as the seconds ticked by.

"You bastard. You are a good actor, aren't you?"

"Let's see how long you can keep up this act?"

Zhao Li-Chun snorted as he looked disdainfully and mockingly at Ye Fan.

From the very beginning, he had never taken Ye Fan seriously. So, naturally, he did not believe that Master Lei San would actually come to the restaurant. The only reason why he was keeping Ye Fan

company was because he wanted the latter to break his own legs.

After all, if Zhao Li-Chun let his men break Ye Fan's legs, then they might encounter some trouble later on if their victim filed a report with the authorities.

But if Ye Fan broke his legs of his own volition, then even the police would not be able to find fault with them.

Finally, the hands on the clock reached seven o' clock and thirty-five minutes.

Zhao Li-Chun smiled and said, "Country bumpkin, your five minutes is up."

"But your Master Lei San did not come."

"Go on, break your own legs."

"You are just a lowly country bumpkin. How dare you show off in front of me?"

"This is your end."

Zhao Li-Chun smiled lightly. He continued to munch on the peanuts and caress his female companion.

And Ye Fan smiled in return. "Yes, that's right. The five minutes is up."

"And your life is about to end as well."

Mm?

"You bastard! Do you have a death wish?"

Ye Fan's words caused the gangsters to erupt in anger. Their patience was at an end. When Zhao Li-Chun barked an order, all of his underlings rushed forward at Ye Fan.

However, at this moment, the roar of car engines rang out from outside the restaurant.

The earth trembled and the sound of tires screeching on the ground resounded through the air.

Immediately afterward, the door to the restaurant was kicked open with a loud bang.

And then a mass of men swept into the lobby like a tide of lava. Their leader was a man with a crew cut.

Zhao Li-Chun's men were greatly shocked by the intrusion. The vampish-looking woman was so frightened that she jumped up and started scolding the intruders.

"Where did these ignorant fools come from!"

"This is Mr. Zhao's turf, so how dare you..."

But when Zhao Li-Chun saw the leader of the intruders, a horrible change came over his expression and a tremor ran through his body. Right away, he jumped up from his seat and slapped the vampish-looking woman to the floor.

"Mr. Zhao, what are you doing?" The woman's eyes reddened and she nearly wept as she clutched at her face.

"Screw you! Shut your stupid mouth!" Zhao Li-Chun scolded.

At this moment, he was so frightened that he nearly wet his pants. Without further delay, he hurried forward and greeted the new arrival with a respectful smile.

"Mr. Yu, what an unexpected surprise?"

"You should have told me you were coming. I would have prepared a reception for you. With plenty of good food, good wine and beautiful women!"

"But you came without any warning, so I was not able to prepare anything for your arrival."

Zhao Li-Chun put on a fawning look as he spoke to the man with the crew cut, and there was no trace left of the arrogance he had exhibited toward Ye Fan.

It could not be helped. The person called "Mr. Yu" was a favorite of Master Lei San, and he had been put in charge of several counties. And it was thanks to Mr. Yu's protection that Zhao Li-Chun was able to thrive in Anning County.

Privately, the two got along well and they often associated with each other.

Zhao Li-Chun had also personally recruited a number of beauties and delivered them to Mr. Yu.

However, the moment Zhao Li-Chun had finished speaking, the crew-cut man kicked him in the stomach and sent him

sprawling to the floor.

"Prepare?"

"You should be preparing for your death!"

"You reckless fool! You don't give a damn who you offend, do you?" the crew-cut man scolded.

Zhao Li-Chun looked dumbfounded as he laid sprawled on the floor. He wanted to ask what was going on, but he was not even given the chance to do so.

The crew-cut man simply ignored him and led his men to line up at both sides of the entrance. As they turned to face outside the restaurant, they bowed at the waist and made respectful greetings.

"Welcome, Master San!"

"Welcome, Master San~"

Boom~

The ear-splitting sound coalesced into a stream and swept through the lobby.

At that moment, everyone was

dumbfounded.

Meanwhile, Zhao Li-Chun was overwhelmed with shock and panic. His pupils had contracted and his eyes were almost popping out of their sockets.

Could it be that Master Lei San was actually here?

As everyone was reeling in panic, a middleaged man with a bald patch came into the restaurant from outside. He was dressed in a suit and black leather shoes. When he walked into the lobby, he was surrounded by his underlings.

At this moment, his face was devoid of all emotions except for anger and coldness.

The moment Lei San entered the lobby, he started to look around. Finally, his gaze landed on a person in the crowd.

Without delay, he walked over and bowed slightly. And as everyone looked on in shock, he greeted Ye Fan respectfully: "Mr. Chu, this happened because I have failed in disciplining my men. I am sorry for causing you distress."

"This~"

"This... This..."

Everyone was shocked by what they were seeing.

Zhao Li-Chun, the vampish-looking woman and everyone else were all dumbstruck.

The gangsters who had wanted to assault Ye Fan with their weapons were especially affected. Their faces turned pale as panic overwhelmed them. At this moment, they were so frightened that they were ready to wet their pants.

Meanwhile, Zhao Li-Chun was staring at the young man who was being greeted respectfully by Master Lei San. Just then, his mind was a blank. He opened his mouth to speak but he could only stammer his words.

"How... how is this possible?"

Zhao Li-Chun found it hard to believe that a loser from the countryside could have the prestige to command respect from a personage like Master Lei San of Jingzhou. Just then, Zhao Li-Chun recalled the phone call he had answered earlier.

Could it be that Master Lei San had really been the caller?

Good heavens!

What have I freaking done?

I told Master Lei San to call me father?

Zhao Li-Chun was completely dumbstruck. His heart was overwhelmed with panic and despair!

Only now did he understand why Mr. Yu had told him to prepare for death when they met earlier.

He had offended two big shots in one go! His life was definitely over!

Inside the restaurant.

Ye Fan stood there with both hands clasped behind his back. In response to Lei San's apology, he coldly said, "So you do know that you have failed in disciplining your men!"

"This person has just told me that he wanted to break my legs. I expect you know what to do?"

"Mm," Lei San nodded. "Mr. Chu, please do not worry. I will handle the rest."

Lei San turned around right away and stared sinisterly at the bald man who had dared to pretend to be his father. His eyes turned cold and then, as he waved his hand, Lei San said softly, "Break all his limbs."

"And then, send him to the police station."

"A scumbag like him should remain in prison for the rest of his life."

Lei San's words were like a death sentence to Zhao Li-Chun. The latter's face turned white and he collapsed onto the floor as if all strength had left his body. As he laid there, his heart was filled with despair.

At this moment, a mass of men, numbering nearly a hundred, marched in from outside the restaurant. Almost immediately, the new arrivals wrecked Zhao Li-Chun's den and restrained his men.

At the same time, Lei San threw a metal bat at Zhao Li-Chun and told the latter to break his own legs.

Finally, Lei San's men picked up a painracked Zhao Li-Chun as if he were a dog and was about to carry him out when Ye Fan suddenly stopped them with a shout.

Just then, Ye Fan had both hands clasped behind his back and his eyes were sneering at Zhao Li-Chun as he looked down at the latter's bloodied body. And then he smiled indifferently.

"Before you leave, there is something I would like to tell you."

"So what if somebody is from the countryside, and so what if he is from the city?"

"Whether a person is noble or base depends on his capability! What does it have to do with his birth?!"

"One should not question a hero about his origins!"

"There are hidden dragons, even in the hinterland!"

Chapter 142 I May Be Poor, but I Am Puissant!

"I may be poor, but I am puissant!!!"



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In the end, Zhao Li-Chun was taken away. The only things awaiting him in the future were the merciless sentencing from the court and long days of darkness in prison.

Most likely, Zhao Li-Chun himself had not expected that a country bumpkin, somebody he had looked down on, would turn out to be the one to seal his doom.

He had treated Ye Fan's warning as nonsense but, as it turned out, the words were a prophecy. In the end, Zhao Li-Chun could not escape his fate of serving a lengthy sentence in prison.

Before he left the restaurant, Ye Fan's aweinspiring words continued to ring in his ears.

"There are hidden dragons, even in the hinterland!"

"I may be poor, but I am puissant!!!"

"Hahaha! Indeed! There are hidden dragons, even in the hinterland~"

"Well said!"

"Hahaha~"

"I, Zhao Li-Chun, have misjudged you~"

He looked heavenward and sighed heavily. Tears started to stream down from his eyes and his piteous laughter resounded through the surrounding area.

Nobody knew just how much regret Zhao Li-Chun was feeling at this moment.

If he had known earlier that Ye Fan enjoyed such power and influence, he would never have challenged the latter no matter what.

However, there was no "if" in life. Sometimes, a person's success or failure was decided in the blink of an eye.

Take today for example. If Zhao Li-Chun had not been blinded by greed and if he had not agreed to help Liu Jia-Wei deal with Ye Fan, he would not have found himself in such a sad state.

When he was being carried away, the surrounding onlookers could not help but sigh feelingly.

To think, the pathetic person before them had been swaggering around like a king just a mere half an hour ago.

Life was full of unexpected circumstances.

Now that the matter at the restaurant had been settled, there was no reason for Ye Fan to stay. So he went along with Lei San to the hall where the tournament would be held.

The Mount Tai Hall was located at the foot of the mountain, where it towered over the surrounding area. It had been constructed with the intention of using it as an arena for underground boxing matches and, indeed, it had served that purpose. For that reason, the building occupied a huge area. The hall was luxurious and its dome looked like a gigantic sword thrusting upward toward the sky.

"Mr. Chu, these are the clothes you wanted. I got somebody to deliver them here."

Earlier, Ye Fan's clothes had gotten soaked with wine when he was dealing with Zhao Li-Chun and his men. Afterward, he had asked Lei San to bring him a change of clothes.

Right now, he was wearing a white short sleeve shirt, a black sports jacket and a

pair of Nike running shoes.

"Mm, not bad. The shoes fit me perfectly." It was Ye Fan's first time wearing a pair of branded sports shoes and, indeed, it felt comfortable on his feet.

Once he had changed into his new clothes, Ye Fan said nonchalantly, "Alright, you go ahead first."

Lei San was confused. "Mr. Chu, aren't you going to enter the hall with me?"

VIPs, such as themselves, had their own exclusive passageway. But it seemed that Ye Fan had no intention of entering the arena with them.

"No. I will be using the regular passageway. I am going to look for some friends of mine," Ye Fan replied.

When Lei San saw that Ye Fan had made up his mind, he did not question the latter further.

"Since you have decided to meet up with your friends, I will not impose on you further. I will go to the venue before you. But Mr. Chu, you have a match later on, so

please do not be late. The survival of Jiangdong rests solely in your hands."

And then Lei San continued to chat about other things. But when he saw that Ye Fan was getting impatient, he wisely shut up and hurriedly departed for the arena.

After he parted company with Lei San, Ye Fan turned around and left the place as well.

Just then, a white BMW drove toward the spot where Ye Fan and Lei San had been standing and came to a halt. Afterward, a peerlessly beautiful figure stepped down from the vehicle and started looking around the building for a parking spot.

"Mm?"

But while the beauty was looking around, a slight frown suddenly appeared on her face. As she stared at the back of a passerby in front of her, she found herself slightly lost in a daze.

She could not explain why, but she felt that the person's back view greatly resembled Ye Fan's.

"Cheng-Cheng, what are you looking at? Have you found a parking spot?" Su Qian's head popped out of the car's window and started complaining at her friend.

"Mm mm, I am searching right now." Qiu Mu-Cheng pulled back her gaze from the passerby and started to help her friend find a parking spot.

But before she left, Qiu Mu-Cheng turned around again to take another look. Finally, she heaved a sigh inwardly.

What was wrong with her?

Why had she slipped into a trance? Why did she keep seeing Ye Fan wherever she looked?

Did she really miss him that much?

"Impossible. Why would I miss a jerk like him?"

"It has been a whole day already. How dare he not give me a call~"

When she thought about Ye Fan, Qiu Mu-Cheng could feel an inexplicable anger rise up within her.

She had already made up her mind. If Ye Fan was not going to take the initiative to call her, then she was not going to take the initiative to call him either.

I hope you will leave me alone forever!

Just then, Qiu Mu-Cheng was feeling great resentment toward Ye Fan and it looked like she was ignoring him in order to spite him.

While Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian were outside looking for a parking spot, Li Xiao-Hong and Chen Nan were inside the hall and they were starting to get worried.

"Uncle, why isn't Ye Fan here yet? Do you think he has encountered some problem?"

Earlier, Li Xiao-Hong had been addressing Ye Fan as "Mr. Chu," but the latter had smiled and said it sounded aloof. He had told her to just call him by his name. So she had started to call him "Ye Fan" since then.

"That's right, Uncle Wang. Why is Fan chatting so long with his friend?" Chen Nan was also feeling worried. She was ready to go back to the restaurant and

search for him.

But, just then, both Wang Yu and Liu Jia-Wei were feeling smug as sinister smiles appeared on their faces.

You still think your boyfriend is coming?

I am afraid you are going to be disappointed.

I am afraid he is not going to show up tonight.

Liu Jia-Wei estimated that, at this moment, Zhao Li-Chun and his men had already broken the country bumpkin's legs and dumped him in a gully somewhere.

But although they were thinking such dreadful thoughts, both Liu Jia-Wei and Wang Yu continued to put on kindly smiles.

"Miss Chen, nothing will happen to him. Stop thinking about him."

"That Ye Fan is just a country bumpkin. How is he worthy of you?"

"If he never returns, isn't that for the best?"

"At that time, you and Young Master Liu can become a couple. Nobody will stand in your way then. Am I right?" Wang Yu smiled creepily.

Now that Ye Fan was not around, Wang Yu could afford to speak without restraint.

But Chen Nan looked a little unhappy. She glared at Wang Yu and said, "You are not to speak of Fan this way."

"Alright alright alright. I won't say anything."

In any case, that country bumpkin is not coming back. They have probably beaten him to death already.

Wang Yu sneered as he thought this.

And Liu Jia-Wei had a gleeful look on his face.

When they were at the restaurant, Ye Fan had embarrassed him several times. Liu Jia-Wei had already wanted to kill Ye Fan back then. And now, by making use of Zhao Li-Chun, he had managed to get rid of the country bumpkin. Undoubtedly, that was the result Liu Jia-Wei wanted.

Young Master Liu, I am afraid you have to be disappointed."

Just as Liu Jia-Wei and Wang Yu were sneering to themselves, a faint voice rang out from behind them.

They turned around and saw a slim youth with a faint smile on his face. And as he walked toward them, they could see that he was completely unharmed.

"Fan~"

"Ye Fan!"

When Chen Nan and Li Xiao-Hong saw Ye Fan, both of them were overjoyed.

But Liu Jia-Wei's face trembled a little and his pupils contracted. He was shocked.

How... how is this possible?

How is it possible for him to come back?

And he is unharmed? He even changed his clothes?



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