"Miss Lin, please accept my apologies for what happened today. It's Mufan Group's fault that you've suffered such unpleasantness. On behalf of Mufan Group, I would like to extend our deepest and sincerest apologies to you." Having reprimanded Ye Jian, Ye Fan turned towards Lin Yu-Han and formally extended his apologies to the young woman.

He had been unaware of what had gone on before this. Nevertheless, Ye Jian was an employee of Mufan Group and had done something horribly wrong. Ye Fan had to apologize to Lin Yu-Han.

The young woman had fallen into a stunned daze after hearing what Ye Fan had said.

Frozen to the spot, she stared at Ye Fan with eyes filled with incredulity and shock.

She had not expected the young man whom she had felt sympathy for to be the true master and owner of Mufan Group.

Everything had happened too quickly. It felt too surreal, as if she were in a dream.

Was this man the legendary Mr Chu? Was he

really the man who commanded Mufan Group?

Lin Yu-Han's eyes were colored with disbelief. She couldn't stop heaving. It must have been the shock. It was going to take her a long time to calm down.

After a long moment, she finally said in a trembling voice. "It's...it's alright. It's not your fault."

Ye Fan smiled at her.

He turned away and stared at the interviewers. "Continue the interview. But remember, Mufan Group only has one set of requirements when it comes to hiring. We only hire workers who are talented and capable. No one is going to get into Mufan Group because they know someone in the company. Do you understand?"

Ye Fan's voice was filled with unyielding authority.

The interviewers nodded profusely. They dared not utter a single word at all.

Having said that, Ye Fan turned and looked

at Ye Jian. "You, follow me. We're going to the chairman's office."

Then, he turned and left.

Ye Jian kept his head down as he followed Ye Fan out of the room hurriedly.

Yang Xiao, who had been waiting outside, hurried up to Ye Jian when he saw the latter step out of the room.

"What's wrong with you, Jian? You look terrible? Did you lose a game because your teammates weren't good enough? Don't worry, your Brother Xiao will help you win the next round!" said Yang Xiao concernedly.

Yang Xiao and Ye Jian had known each other since they had been kids. But Yang Xiao were a few years older than Ye Jian. That was why Ye Jian addressed Yang Xiao as Brother Xiao.

"Oh, right. Jian, how did it go? Did Yu-Han agree to your offer?" asked Yang Xiao nervously.

Ye Jian didn't answer him and instead gave him a hard, desperate look that clearly

meant that Yang Xiao should leave right now.

Yang Xiao didn't get the message.

"Jian, what's wrong with your eyes? Are you unwell?" asked Yang Xiao as he approached Ye Jian, ready to take a closer look at his eyes. That was when he noticed Ye Fan. A look of pure contempt appeared on his face. "Why is this punk still here? Jian, this guy out to cause trouble. Why didn't you get someone to throw him out?"

"Oh my god! Shut the hell up!" Ye Jian's face turned pale when he heard that. He was so angry he slapped Yang Xiao.

"Jian, what the hell are you doing?" Yang Xiao cupped his cheek with his palm and stared stupidly at his friend.

"What am I doing? I'm going to kill you, that's what! Before you get me killed!" yelled Ye Jian furiously before he gave Yang Xiao another slap across his other cheek. How he wished he could kill this man right now.

Yang Xiao was the one who had gotten him into this entire mess.





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He wouldn't have been fired and blacklisted by Mufan Group otherwise.

Now, Ye Fan had caught them both redhanded.

He knew Ye Fan's character. His life in Mufan Group was going to be hell.

"Get out of my way. Don't get in the way of my cousin!" Ye Jian kicked Yang Xiao aside before returning to Ye Fan's side meekly and leading Ye Fan to the chairperson's office.

"Cousin? So, you're really..." Yang Xiao was utterly dumbstruck.

He whirled around and stared at the other young man. It was as if he had just seen a ghost. Horror and shock filled his eyes.

Ye Fan's eyes landed on him then.

He gave Yang Xiao a look and a playful smile. "Well, I did tell you I owned Mufan Group. You didn't believe me then. Do you believe me now?"

His laughter erupted like a deafening bomb in Yang Xiao's ears.

Yang Xiao trembled, then fell into a boneless, pale heap.

Ye Fan and Ye Jian were long gone by then.

When Ye Jian leading Ye Fan, they soon reached the chairperson's office, where Ye Fan's mother worked.

It was empty when they arrived.

"Dear cousin, please wait here while I look for my father and uncles and inform them that you're here," said Ye Jian with a wide smile after handing Ye Fan a cup of tea.

"Sure." Ye Fan nodded. "Hurry up. Where's Shin Yu-Xiang? Get him here too."

When Ye Fan had left Fenghai, he had placed Mufan Group branch under his mother's care and promoted his friend, Shin Yu-Xiang to an important position.

Now that he was here, he would like to see his friend of many years as well.

"About that..." Ye Jian's face twitched nearly

imperceptibly at the mention of Shin Yu-Xiang's name.

"Is he not around?" Ye Fan frowned.

"Well, what an unfortunate coincidence. Shin Yu-Xiang's taken some time off work. He seems to have fallen ill and has gone overseas to seek treatment. I have no idea when he'll be back," whispered Ye Jian.

"Is that so?" Ye Fan said with some measure of worry.

"Well then, Brother Fan, please have a seat while I get my father and our uncle." Ye Jian scurried away swiftly.

Ye Fan waited patiently in the room.

Half an hour passed and Ye Fan did not see a single soul appear in his mother's office.

Bored, he left the room with the intention of taking a walk around the office. He wanted to find out the changes that the Fenghai branch office had undergone during the year that he had been absent.

As he walked down the corridor, he came

across a janitor cleaning the toilet. The latter accidentally stepped on his foot.

"I'm terribly sorry! I didn't see you. Please, let me clean that for you..."

The man was wearing a shabby set of uniform and smelled of the stinging smell of cleaning solution. He was a little plump and was still clutching a mop as he apologized profusely and bent forward to wipe Ye Fan's shoe.

His voice had Ye Fan freezing momentarily.

"Yu-Xiang, is it you?" asked Ye Fan carefully and uncertainly.

When the janitor heard Ye Fan's question, he trembled and froze to the spot. It was as if he had been struck by a bolt of lightning.

Then, he whipped his head up and finally saw Ye Fan's face, which looked familiar and foreign at the same time.

"Brother Fan...is it really you? You're finally back!" The giant towering at 1.8 meters burst out into tears at the sight of Ye Fan. It was as if he had seen a dearest friend come back from the dead.

No one could understand the depth of sorrow and grievance hidden behind the mere utterance of Ye Fan's name.

Ye Fan was visibly touched by Shin Yu-Xiang's emotional outburst.

He hugged the man. "Yes, Yu-Xiang. It's me. I'm back. What happened to you? Why are you cleaning toilets?"

After their emotional reunion, the other man wiped his tears, then shook his head and sighed heavily.

"Brother Fan, it's a long story. Let's not talk about it. I'm just happy that I got to see you again," murmured the man, his words heavy with loss and gloom.

"Come on, tell me. What happened? I personally promoted you to the position of

general manager of the Fenghai division before I left. Your position was second to that of my mother's. How did you manage to end up as a janitor? I can't believe you didn't quit!"

Ye Fan and Shin Yu-Xiang had returned to the office.

Ye Fan sat on the couch with a solemn look on his face as he questioned Shin Yu-Xiang about what had happened to him.

A general manager had been demoted to a janitor and assigned the duties of cleaning the toilets. Something must have happened.

"Brother Fan, I..." Shin Yu-Xiang seemed like he had something to say, but he stopped himself in the end. "Forget it, Brother Fan. I won't let you get into a fight with your family because of me. I'm just an outsider, after all. Let bygones be bygones. I didn't quit because I was waiting for you to return. You're the one who got me into Mufan Group. I wanted you to be the one to accept my resignation. You're back now. Here's my resignation letter."

Shin Yu-Xiang pulled out a creased letter.

He had been carrying this letter with him since he had been demoted because he had been waiting for this day when Ye Fan finally returned. He had wanted to end things properly.

"You're an idiot!" thundered Ye Fan furiously after he had heard everything that Shin Yu-Xiang had said.

He snatched the letter from Shin Yu-Xiang and ripped it into shreds. Then, he threw the tiny shreds of paper back at Shin Yu-Xiang.

"Shin Yu-Xiang, I brought you into Mufan Group and got you a position as the management of my company. Is this how you repay me? By telling me that you don't want me to get into a fight with my family? I gave you that job and that much power because I wanted you to make something of yourself. I wanted you to hold the fort and take care of my company for me. I didn't do it because I wanted my family to be happy. So, you want to quit, don't you? Well, get out right now then! From this day, I no longer have a friend called Shin Yu-Xiang. I'll forget all those years of friendship we had. You can get lost now!"





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Ye Fan was furious. He shoved his foot into Shin Yu-Xiang and pushed him towards the door. His thunderous voice could be heard throughout the entire building.

Shin Yu-Xiang sprawled across the floor. His eyes had reddened. The resentment and anger that he had kept pent up inside him finally erupted.

"Do you think I don't want to make something out of myself? Do you think that I don't want to help you run your company? Well, this company's filled with people who side with your family. It doesn't matter what position I hold. I'm just an outsider. Who's going to listen to me? Who cares what the hell I say? Everyone ostracizes me and pushes me around."

"That's not the worst of it. What's worst is having that jerk, Ye Jian, ordering me around as he pleases. All it takes is a few words from him and I'm off scrubbing toilets. I've never been bullied so badly even when I was in school. Why should I stay in this job? If not on your account, I would have left a long time ago!"

"I would rather beg on the streets and starve

to death instead of staying here and getting bullied by everyone!" bellowed Shin Yu-Xiang as he sat up and threw his cap onto the floor. His eyes had turned red from fury and resentment.

Of everyone working in the Fenghai branch, he was probably the only person who dared to yell at Ye Fan this way.

He had given up. He didn't care anymore. In fact, Ye Fan could beat him up for all he cared.

He wasn't going to do this anymore.

He couldn't take it anymore.

Ye Fan appeared unusually calm in the face of Shin Yu-Xiang's outburst.

He didn't beat Shin Yu-Xiang up or yell at him again. Instead, he walked up to Shin Yu-Xiang and pulled him up from the floor.

"I'm sorry, Yu-Xiang," he said quietly. "It was an oversight on my part. I'm sorry you had to suffer for it. If you still treat me as your friend, stay and help me. I'll make sure the problems are dealt with before I leave the

city."

Shin Yu-Xiang snorted at Ye Fan's apology and turned away. It was clear that he was still fuming.

"Come on, Yu-Xiang. Stop being mad at me. Give me another chance. I'm begging you," pleaded Ye Fan.

Shin Yu-Xiang snorted again and ignored him.

"Hey! You stupid fatty! Stop sticking your nose up at me! Come on, how old are you? Stop acting like a kid waiting for a grown-up to cheer you up," cursed Ye Fan as he lost his patience and kicked Shin Yu-Xiang in the ass again.

Shin Yu-Xiang slapped his hands over his butt and yowled in pain. Then, his face split into a wide grin.

Ye Fan burst out into laughter.

That was what it meant to be friends.

Every fight could be resolved with a kick to the butt.

If one kick didn't do it, then the second one would.

"Alright, this isn't the time for a chat. Get changed. I want you to look into everyone in the office. Find out who got their jobs because of the connections they have and who got them because they can do their job. Find out whatever illegal misdeeds the management has committed and report everything to me. I'm going to do a thorough extermination and get rid of every single rat or bug that's infesting the company. Don't let anyone's rank or background stop you. If anyone tries to stop you from doing your job, tell them to talk to me. I'm going to let them know whom Mufan Group truly belongs to. This is the company that I built for my wife. When the hell did it become the Ye family's company?"



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