

Qin Ming gave Song Ying a call, "Ms. Song, please find out for me where the Nie family lives. I want to visit."

Qing Ming felt that Bai Yuchun's words were right. Even if he will be hated and dumped, it should be done face to face. It just didn't work out, that's all. No big deal. He had gone through relationships that failed.

All he wanted was closure.

In a short while, the extended Rolls-Royce came again. Long no longer hid in the shadows but stepped forward as if to go with him.

Qin Ming shook his head, saying, "Long, you don't need to come with me. Go to the hospital and watch over my university mate Bai Yuchun. I taught three of her dormitory mates a lesson today. They may take revenge on her.

Qin Ming was worried that after he left, those three would take it out on Bai Yuchun. That would be bad.

After all, Zhou Yun's trio were not nice folks. If they held grudges and wanted to take it out of someone, Bai Yuchun would be in danger.

Song Ying who just got out from the car, spoke, "Young master, your safety is most important. I know a little about the Nie family. They are new in Guang City and are rapidly extending their power. Because of Chairman Hou's help previously, some interested parties are watching. They are trying to use the Nie family to find you, young master. So, I feel you need Long with you."

Surprised, Qin Ming said, "Why would anyone watch the Nie family? If they can succeed in Guang City, it must be due to their tenacity and shrewdness. No one should mess with them. Can it be the He family?"

Song Ying explained, "Young master, the He family are in disgrace. That's because Chairman Hou lent a hand to the Nie family. Now, Chairman Hou's enemies as well as your enemies are bloodthirsty."

At these words, Qin Ming immediately understood the situation.

In fact, Song Ying had minced her words. Hou Qing's enemies were not an issue. It was Qin Ming's enemies that he should worry about.

His enemies were the people who covet the assets of the Huan Ning Century Corporation.

Chang Hongxi introduced people in China to Qin Ming first, including the business leaders in southern China. It was apparent that his heir was in Guang City.

Chang Hongxi's wife, her lover, the three sons and two daughters who should be the rightful heirs and perhaps others as well, must be searching high and low for Qing Ming.

Only if Qing Ming was dead, would the position of successor to the huge worldwide fortune of Huan Ning Century Corporation's assets be available again.

Only then would others have the opportunity to

be the next heir.

Puzzled, Qin Ming asked, "Is Hou Qing helping the Nie family so noteworthy? Is it that unusual?"

Song Ying nodded and replied, "Yes, the Nie family has always competed with Hou Qing in business. Though it's nothing big, Hou Qing would never help the Nie family. When the Nie family accidentally revealed that there is a benefactor behind Hou Qing, everyone knew that it is you, young master."

Qin Ming sighed softly. These people are proficient. He had been keeping such a low profile and yet this deed had been discovered.

He asked, "So they are staking out at the Nie family's home, waiting for me to show up?"

Song Ying nodded and said, "Bi Yuan received the news that a group of unregistered foreign mercenaries came to Guang City a week ago."

Bi Yuan, the captain of the assassination team who faced Long in a single combat, had been

transferred to Guang City by Song Ying to head Qin Ming's security network throughout the city.

At the university, only Long alone was deployed all this while. To station too many bodyguards at the university would be telling the whole world that the heir to Huan Ning Century Corporation was in the university.

Even so, at this moment, Qin Ming felt that his life was at risk like there was a sword of Damocles hanging over his head.

Qin Ming suddenly recalled, when he was at Tian Cheng Securities, didn't the person-in-charge of the financial securities company, Dai Gao know of his identity?

He asked, "You've met Dai Gao before. Can he keep a secret?"

Song Ying replied, "Young master, do not worry. Hou Qing is a very careful person. He always does his job well. Dai Gao is his man. After he made the mistake previously, he has been posted outstation. Presumably, after young master has

officially taken over Huan Ning Corporation, only then will Hou Qing devise a way to bring him back here.”

Qin Ming nodded silently. Chang Hongxi makes friends selectively. Even his staff are highly competent. This has been advantageous to Qin Ming. Still, he frowned and said, “Please arrange for a normal bodyguard to look after my friend.”

This was against the rules and putting Song Ying in a difficult position. Seeing Qin Ming's determination, she nodded her head to promise she would.

Sitting in the car, Qin Ming kept thinking. Since certain parties were watching the Nie family, waiting for him, what if he arrived, not as the heir to Huan Ning Century Corporation, but as an ordinary person? That would be alright, would it not?

Initially, he had wanted to come clean, and reveal to the Nie family who he really was, then they would not despise him for being poor and he could carry on pursuing Nie Haitang.

In the end, that could not be done. He had to meet them as a poor university student.

Nie Haitang did not mind if Qin Ming was poor. At the time when she had started liking him, he was still penniless.

She was upset because Li Meng supposedly had become pregnant. It turned out that it was not true. She really was not pregnant.

Anyway, Qin Ming had already sent the video clip as proof. *So, why is she still upset? Is she angry that he had slept with Li Meng? That would be ridiculous.*

Nie Haitang's home was also in Yun Shan Villas area.

Qin Ming came by foot, carrying a bag of grapes.

Ding dong! Qin Ming rang the doorbell.

“What are you doing here?” A voice came from the electronic screen at the door. It was Nie Haitang's mother, who was very impatient with

Qin Ming.

Qin Ming bowed to the camera at the door and said, "Hello, Mrs. Nie, I heard that Haitang is sick, so I'm here to pay a visit."

Nie Haitang's mother scoffed, "Tsk, don't be pretentious. Don't you already know that she was sick because of you cheating on her? She has already recovered. You don't need to visit. Anyway, she's out today."

She is out? But she did not attend any class.

Before Qin Ming could ask any more questions, Nie Haitang's mother said, "My Haitang has gone on a blind date, so don't bother her anymore."

"This guy she's meeting is from a well-known family in Guang City, with a net worth of hundreds of billions. He's young and promising. As soon as I told my daughter, she went. Well, you should let go of the past."

"Young man, my daughter is gorgeous so it's normal to be attracted by her. But you shouldn't

be so shameless and too persistent. If you go on like this, don't blame me if I take some measures against you.”

“I can be quite ruthless. You'd better leave now.”

Beep...

The intercom was turned off. Qin Ming stood there, blankly, not moving.

She had gone on a blind date.

Qin Ming's heart felt like it had been cut by a knife. He looked at the big villa that was Nie Haitang's home and pursed his lips. The bag of grapes dropped from his hands, tears filled his eyes and he walked away like someone who has lost his soul.

At this moment, in the villa, Nie Haitang, wearing pajamas and her hair in a mess, walked out and muttering, “Mom, I'm not going on a blind date. I am not interested in any wealthy young master, you understand? Who was here just now?”

Nie Haitang's mother acted a bit unnatural as she lied, "Oh, no one, dear. You've only just recovered. Think of it as going out. If there's no chemistry between you two, there's no harm in knowing a new friend."

Nie Haitang sensed something was amiss, "Mother, you're lying. Who came? Was it my classmate?"

As Nie Haitang's mother hesitated to reply, Mr. Nie came out carrying a briefcase. He was annoyed, "What type of mother are you? You lie to her face without blinking. Are you teaching your daughter to lie? In the future your daughter will lie to you, too. Is that what you want? It was Qin Ming who came just now but he's already left."

Nie Haitang glared at her mother. Still wearing just her pajamas, she ran out barefoot.

However, Qin Ming was nowhere to be seen. There was only a bag of grapes at the door. In the bag was a note quickly scribbled on the spot. "Sorry about Li Meng. I'll never come again to

bother you. Have a good life. Bye.”

“Qin Ming...” Nie Haitang held the note in her hand, instantly turning misty-eyed.

Nie Haitang's parents followed suit, and her mother said, “Oh, you poor child, you just got better. Just a bit better and you start to misbehave. You're not wearing any shoes. What would I do if you hurt your feet? Come, put on your shoes.”

Suddenly Nie Haitang angrily waved her hand, dismissing the apologies her mother was offering. She cried, tears rolling down her face. She scolded, sounding heartbroken, “You are all the same, all of you. My elder brother makes an excuse and loses my phone, I asked him to go to the university for updates and he wouldn't go. While I'm sick, you kept me in my room. When my friend visits, you lied to me.”

“For you, for my family, I willingly sacrificed my whole future to go on a blind date with He Kun. I nearly got cheated. What did you do? What did you do for me? You constantly lie to me, lie

to me, all the time, lying to me.

“I hate all of you.”

Nie Haitang finished her sentence and ran off towards the main road, not even wearing her shoes.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Nie Haitang ran for a while, stone injured her soles and her feet hurt. She had only just recovered and her body was still weak. Soon she was panting and sweating.

Now, a Mercedes-Benz was seen following her from behind slowly. It's her father.

“Come on in.”

Nie Haitang glared at her father angrily. “I'm not going in. I hate you all. I'm a grown-up now, not a child. I have my own way of life.”

Her father calmly lit a cigarette and said, “Come in and I'll tell you about Qin Ming. And then, I'll drive you to find him. Also, I have already got your cell phone back from your brother. And then, I'll tell you about the story behind the miracle whereby you used one hundred thousand to earn one million and three thousand in A share in one day.

Nie Haitang grunted, looking at her father with some resentment in her eyes.

All her thoughts and wants, her father seemed to guess so accurately. Exasperated, she got into the car.

Once Nie Haitang was in the car, Mr. Nie returned the mobile phone to her.

Nie Haitang pressed the power button but the battery was dead. Annoyed, she muttered, "Nie Zhengming, just wait, you brainless idiot."

Mr. Nie spoke, "Your brother didn't mean any harm. He was just..."

Nie Haitang was furious. She replied, "Don't mention him. The moment you say his name, I get so mad."

Mr. Nie laughed instead, "My precious daughter. When you were a child, you have always been obedient, studious and well-mannered, you never threw tantrums. I was worried you'd get bullied by men when you grow up. Looking at you now, I'm relieved."

Nie Haitang pursed her lips and then said, "No, I

didn't. Tell me, these few days when I was sick, what happened in the university?"

Mr. Nie scratched his head. He needed to organize his thoughts. After all, he was a parent. He could see that Qin Ming's was important to Nie Haitang. He did not want to have any misunderstandings with his daughter.

He said, "Well that Li Meng was lying...."

Before he finished his sentence, Mr. Nie made an emergency brake. This was quickly followed by a loud *bang*. A driver on the road in front of them had reversed his car right into theirs.

Nie Haitang and her father had barely figured out what was happening with the driver in front when another *bang* was heard. At the back of their vehicle, another car had run into theirs.

The two were feeling giddy after their car had been hit twice.

A black multi-purpose van drew up next to their car on the passenger side. Two foreign-looking

huge men jumped out, forced open Mr. Nie's door and knocked him out. Swiftly, they abducted Nie Haitang.

Vroom... the van immediately drove away. All that happened within ten seconds.

Suddenly snatched from her father's car into an unknown vehicle, Nie Haitang was scared out of her wits. She screamed, "Who are you people?"

Immediately, someone had covered her mouth with a white cloth and she was rendered unconscious. Before losing consciousness she heard a woman's voice, "People who are too impatient to wait."

Qin Ming was walking alone on the road when an MPV suddenly whizzed past. He turned his head and inadvertently made direct eye contact with a blond woman in the car. He was surprised, but the blond woman swiftly pulled down the curtain.

*Splash!*The MPV went right through a puddle by the road and Qin Ming's pants got splashed!

He tried to wipe away the water.

Through no fault of his, Qin Ming had suffered this inconvenience so he shouted angrily, “Do you know how to drive? X•A95j63 I will remember you. If we cross paths again. I'll slash your tyres.”

After firing off a series of tirades, Qin Ming had vented his anger and felt much better.

He looked around. This was the Yun Shan Villas area. The tree-lined path went a long way and was suitable for relaxation. On the other hand, people who had to take a bus would need to walk very far.

He was about to call Song Ying and ask her to go back first. He wanted to be alone, but Song Ying's phone call came in first.

Song Ying said, “Young master, the director of City First Hospital has something to discuss with you.”

Qin Ming wondered if something had happened

to Mrs. Bai? Urgently, he told her, "Let me speak with him."

After the call was transferred, an old and respectful voice said, "Young master, I am Mo Jianguo. I used to be the personal doctor for Master Chang. I am very happy to be able to talk you personally. Initially, I had referred to Chairman Hou but he said I should speak to Ms. Song. Ms. Song then asked me to discuss with you. I'm sorry to have bothered you, young master."

Qin Ming chuckled, saying, "Of course, pray tell, what's the matter?"

Director Mo explained, "It's about the Bai family's medical treatment. This morning, Ms. Song had told me Bai Dayou need not be given his mother's type of special benefits. Just treat him as an ordinary patient. I have done so."

"However, Bai Dayou and his wife started to kick up a fuss, crying, begging and bargaining. They were creating a scene. His mother knelt before us and begged that her special benefits be given to

him. It's bad for our hospital.”

“I do not know how they are related to you, Young master, so I did not dare to be too decisive.”

Qin Ming understood that Bai Yuchun's brother and sister-in-law were shameless. Furthermore, Bai Dáyóu was probably overwhelmed with the gambling debts of 500,000, and had wanted to benefit from special treatment at the hospital.

Qin Ming did not wish to be taken advantage of, especially now some people were trying to hunt him down.

He said, “Don't contact Hou Qing again about this matter. Go directly to Ms. Song. I am coming to the hospital now. Please wait until I arrive. If they went too far, you may ask the security to throw them out so that they do not become a nuisance to other patients.”

Qin Ming could not immerse himself in the grief of losing Nie Haitang. He decided from the start to help Bai Yuchun's mother. Now that there was

a problem, he had to take care of it.

With a wave of his hand, he summoned his personal car.

As soon as he got on the car, Song Ying said, "I just saw three very powerful looking foreigners, they are probably mercenaries. None of them has appeared in the villa area before. They probably haven't found out who you are. This car is newly bought, it has not been registered under master's assets yet. Unfortunately, Yun Shan Villas may also be watched."

Qin Ming asked sharply, "Aren't we guarded?"

Song Ying shook her head: "It's safely guarded inside, but their net seems to be bigger, watching all-round the periphery. Just waiting for you to appear, Master."

Qin Ming was displeased. I have only lived in the villa for a while. Now you people are making it risky to go in?

Song Ying's beautiful face was shrouded with

worry because of this and her frown was unbecoming for a beauty like her.

He said, "Get the assassination team to work. Get a name list done. Then get rid of them all."

The truth was, even without Qin Ming saying so, Song Ying had already made the arrangements. Qin Ming was seemingly fearless. There was a sword hanging over his head but he acted like that was nothing and went on to the hospital to help settle matters for others.

When Qin Ming reached the hospital, Long and other bodyguards were guarding there. Song Ying went to speak with Director Mo JianGuo.

Straightaway, Qin Ming went to see Bai Yuchun.

At the entrance, he saw Bai Yuchun's whole family on the way out.

Her brother had been stabbed by money lenders but it was not fatal. It was just a cut, nothing serious. He could walk and he looked healthy.

Surprised, Qin Ming asked, “Chun, where are you going?”

According to the info he received, they were bickering inside the hospital, were they not?

Bai Yuchun was blushing, feeling embarrassed, she said, “My elder brother was demanding for the benefits my mom was given. The hospital staff said that's against their regulation. My brother and sister-in-law then dragged me here to talk with them. Even the director was involved. He says it's not allowed. We made a lot of noise, creating a scene. Now my Aunt Lian's family is here, too and we are going for lunch. We will continue to cause trouble after eating.”

Haha. Qin Ming couldn't help laughing.

He did not find these people's actions funny. It was the expression of reluctance on Bai Yuchun's face that made him laugh.

Obviously, she did not want to do that. It was not just against the hospital regulations, but making things difficult for the staff as well. She could not

stop her family from doing this, and she had to do as a family even though it was against her wishes. And now she was ranting about this injustice.

Tactfully, Bai Yuchun asked, “Qin Ming, about that, have you spoken to Nie Haitang?”

Qin Ming's countenance was crestfallen as he replied, “She's gone on a blind date with a rich man. It's over between us. Perhaps, it was a one-sided affair. She was just grateful that I had helped her.”

At these words, a look of joy flashed across Bai Yuchun's face. Just as quickly, she put it away. Shyly, she asked, “We are going for lunch, would you like to come? Come, join us.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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When Bai Yuchun invited Qin Ming to join them, her mother had no objections but her sister-in-law had lots of objections.

Mrs. Bai complained over and over, “Why ask him to come? This little punk didn't try to save my life at all at the bar. Obviously Chun had the money to appease the debt collector but he prevented her from doing anything.”

Bai Dayou glanced at Qin Ming with disdain. He lifted his chin, exposing the hairs in his nostril and said, “You, stinky punk, look at your penniless appearance, are you interested in my younger sister?”

Qin Ming narrowed his eyes and thought, *this couple are both really weird. They're made for each other.*

When Qin Ming met Bai Dayou in person, he felt really surprised.

When he first met Bai Yuchun's mother, He Menggu, Qin Ming thought she looked plain. Possibly, she was pretty when she was young but

hard menial work and age had changed her appearance for the worse.

Now, seeing Bai Dayou in person, Qin Ming observed that he looked shabby too. His face was covered with pock marks, his teeth stuck out unevenly and hair sprung wildly from his nostrils.

He wondered, is Bai Yuchun adopted? How could there be so much difference in her genes? Maybe, their father is one of the most handsome men on earth?

Forget it. Qin Ming felt that this was not the place or time to ask such questions.

Qin Ming was not one to suffer in silence. He retorted, "How did it go? This month did you pay interest to Old Six? Did he send anyone to come looking for you and stab you? When you left the bar, did you lose a finger or a strand of hair?"

Mrs. Bai snorted and replied resentfully, "That... that was kindness of that debt collector or maybe he was afraid of the police. It had nothing to do with you. Don't try to take credit for that. You are

a dumb fool. It's better you keep quiet or else you show others how little intelligence you have.”

Bai Yuchun's facial expression revealed her displeasure. She felt that her sister-in-law's choice of words was crude. It was embarrassing.

When Bai Yuchun looked at her elder brother and his wife, her anger was gone. She became a timid little rabbit.

Bai Dayou asked, “Punk, have you bought a car yet?”

Qin Ming shook his head. In truth, he had not personally bought a car. But he had considered it today. He would buy an ordinary domestic car so he could act low-key. Also he would be considered a car owner and no one would laugh at him for being a penniless punk. That would solve some problems.

Again, Bai Dayou questioned him. “Have you bought a home in Guang City?”

Qin Ming shook his head again. He had not

bought a home yet but from today onwards, he would consider this. Yun Shan Villas was too posh and noticeable. His identity could be exposed. There was a need to buy a home for future use if and when necessary.

Bai Dayou continue to ask, “Do you have any savings?”

At this, Qin Ming nodded. He had asked Song Ying for half a million before. The money in his account had not been touched. He gave a reward to classmate Zhang Xiaoyan for a live broadcast. He never spent much after. Later, he gave Nie Haitang one million under the guise of stocks and she returned one hundred thousand as a gift, so there were more than three hundred thousand.

“Hm, huh, a penniless bum.”

Qin Ming felt that something was not right. Were these couple planning to insult and mock him so that he'll retreat and leave Bai Yuchun alone?

Unexpectedly, Bai Dayou moved forward and rubbed his hands in excitement, saying, “How

much? First lend to me for emergency. As you know, I owe 500,000 in loans. You can just write an IOU and pass the money to me. I will pay you back when I win the money. How about that? Say yes to me and I will not object to you befriending my sister in the future.”

“Dayou!” Bai Yuchun chided her brother, embarrassed. Angrily, she stamped her foot on the ground. But she did not object vehemently.

Qin Ming fumed. This couple was behaving crazier and crazier. They did not behave like normal people.

Mrs. Bai was still angry with Qin Ming. She sneered, “He is a penniless student. How much do you expect he has? I'll bet he doesn't have more than twenty thousand.”

Bai Yuchun was upset. “Qin Ming is a trader in stocks. He's very smart. He's also working part-time. He must have saved quite a lot of money.”

Qin Ming was startled. “Where did you hear this?”

Bai Yuchun pursed her mouth in embarrassment, “Didn't you buy me a smart phone? I logged into the school website and found many posts about you.”

On the school network, Qin Ming clearly was a “celebrity” a while ago, but this girl did not seem to be angry after reading about his past, and Qin Ming felt somewhat consoled.

Bai Yuchun looked like a pushover one could easily take advantage of. At the same time she made feel protective. Perhaps when we love someone, we accept those they love.

In just an instant, Qin Ming's bad impression of Bai Dayou melted away.

Qin Ming had always disliked showing off, but he could not help it now. He took out his mobile phone and opened the bank app to show off, “Not much, more than 300,000.”

Thud! Mrs. Bai threw herself on her knees. Weeping and crying, she wailed, “Honorable Qin Ming, I am wrong. I am just a village woman; I was j

alous of your excellence. You had rescued me before in the bar but still I resented you. In fact, I knew that you wanted me to turn over a new leaf. I shall not mess with those filthy things again. Please help me.”

Bai Dayou, too was emotional. He held Qin Ming's hand and said, “Brother-in-law, please lend me some? A hundred thousand will be fine. I will write an IOU note for you. By the way, let's have lunch together and get acquainted.”

Hearing this, Bai Yuchun blushed heavily, “Oh my goodness! Dayou, what are you saying?”

Qin Ming felt like laughing and crying and the same time. This family was really priceless. What a pity he had missed out the scene they had created earlier in the hospital.

Naturally, Qin Ming was not easily fooled. Dayou and his wife had used counterfeit notes to deceive his sister Bai Yuchun with no regard for the well-being of their mother. And now, seeing that there was money in Qin Ming's bank account, they were willing to “sell” his sister, Bai

Yuchun.

Right at this moment, He Menggu came to them and said, "Hey, children, what are you doing at the entrance of the hospital? Your Aunt Lian has already arrived. The whole family came in a car."

The group walked to the intersection where they saw an old couple in a Honda Greiz. In the car was a girl who was playing with a mobile phone, looking glum.

He Menggu warmly went forward, saying, "Lian, Dayou, Chun, come on, greet your relatives."

Bai Dayou calmly called out, "Aunt."

Bai Yuchun was more polite and well-mannered, "Aunt Lian, Uncle and Tao, how do you do? I'm sorry to make you drive all the way here."

Aunt Lian, named He Menglian, appeared modern in dressing, style and appearance. While stroking her own hair, she replied, "It's nothing, your mom is my elder sister and since we are siblings and we are in Guang City, we must show

our care and concern for each other.”

Mrs. Bai muttered scornfully, “Care and concern my foot. When mom was hospitalized, you just gave one thousand and said it's for funeral use. Is that care and concern?”

Her voice was not loud but it was audible.

Xie Guangkun looked displeased, “That's enough, let's not talk here standing at the hospital entrance. Come inside the car. Tao's boyfriend is already at the restaurant booking tables. Oh, by the way, you guys drove?”

He Menglian said angrily, “They don't have a car. Even if they have, it would have been gambled away. Chun, come inside the car with your mom. This young man is your boyfriend? Isn't your brother injured? Let him give your brother a hand.”

Immediately, Bai Dayou replied, “Where are you going? Didn't we agree to eat at the shop next to the hospital? It's too expensive at the restaurant. I don't have so much money.”

Xie Guangkun disdainfully said, "Of course I know you have no money. When did your family ever have money? We invite you for this meal and we are paying."

He Menglian rolled her eyes and snorted: "Isn't it so? Our old Xie has been able to earn more and more in recent years. This is not a new car. Of course, our daughter Tao is more capable. Her boyfriend is a rich second-generation. He drives a BMW."

The more He Menglian talked, the happier she seemed and she was very proud. Suddenly she started talking about her eldest sister He Menggu, "Elder Sister, I'm not being naggy here, but men should beware of entering the wrong profession, whereas women should be wary of marrying the wrong kind of man. You shouldn't have married that bastard, Bai Jingting. At the beginning, everyone said that you had married well and I married poorly, *ha ha*. Now that bastard Bai Jingting owes a heavy debt and he's disappeared."

Bai Yuchun's mom, did not know what to say.

She could only nod her head repeatedly in agreement.

On the front passenger seat, losing her temper, Xie Tao grumbled, “Mom, have you finished talking? Can we talk at the restaurant instead? My boyfriend must be getting impatient waiting there. This is so troublesome.”

“Fine, fine, fine, let's go.” Xie Guangkun said, “Hey, don't you guys have a car?”



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Bai Dayou said, "We don't have a car, so please make two trips, drive us to and fro."

Bai Dayou was unreasonably demanding. His wife was weirder, saying, "Why don't you buy take away food? We can eat at the hospital. Later we are going to make demands of the hospital admin. You can lend us a hand."

He Menggu chided, "How can we do such things? Your Aunt Lian's family is kindly inviting us to lunch. You must behave yourselves."

Xie Guangkun sneered: "Tao's boyfriend has booked the China Grand Hotel, the famous Michelin starred restaurant in Guang City. You may not be able to eat there all of your life. What do you think you are? How can you take this invitation so lightly?"

These words infuriated Bai Dayou and his wife so much that they were at a loss for words. The poor had no right to speak.

Qin Ming said, "Forget it, you can go in the car, we will go there shortly in another car."

He Menglian glanced at Qin Ming and said with disdain, "Boy, you are Chun's boyfriend? Tsk, you don't even have a car? That's embarrassing, right? Not to mention the joint venture makes, but domestic cars are cheap too. You can get one for forty to fifty thousand. Can't afford that? You have the cheek to court Chun??"

Bai Yuchun said sternly, "Aunt Lian, Qin Ming is a fine man."

He Menggu said: "Oh, Lian, that's up to the children to decide. Let's leave them alone. What matters most is that they are happy."

He Menglian would not be silenced. In the tone of a parent, she continued, "Ahh, no way! Weren't you taught enough back then? Chun respects me as her aunt. I cannot stand by and watch her life be destroyed."

Qin Ming didn't want Bai Yuchun to suffer unnecessary speculation. So, he said, "We are not in a relationship. I am just one of Chunchun's many suitors. It happened that at noon, Mr. Bai invited me to have a meal."

Bai Yuchun was taken aback. Looking at Qin Ming incredulously, she said, "No..."

He Menglian said with disgust in her voice, "Oh, you're so thick-skinned. This is our family lunch; you shamelessly came without any contribution. You don't even have a car to help transport the family? Chun, this type of man courting you? You seriously have got to think twice."

Xie Guangkun, too, put in a word, "Young man, it doesn't matter if you are poor, you have to be ambitious. If you had rented a car, we won't need to drive over. Don't tell me you can't drive, right? Haha, my daughter, Tao's boyfriend has a driver's license, even though his family paid for the car."

Qin Ming scratched his nose. He felt these words seemed to sound somehow familiar. Suddenly, Qin Ming felt that Bai Dayou and his wife were a little cuter. At least, they were more straightforward and wanted money from the start.

On the front passenger seat, losing her temper, Xie Tao grumbled, "Mom, have you finished talking? Can we talk at the restaurant, instead?"

My boyfriend must be getting impatient waiting there. He booked the place and now you asked him to wait? Can you all show some respect?"

He Menggu was embarrassed by her niece throwing a tantrum. She apologized profusely, "Tao, I'm sorry, I have kept you waiting. I will make amends to you. Okay, let your cousin make their way there by themselves. We're leaving this instant."

Xie Tao muttered, "You should have done that from the start. As if being poor isn't enough, you have to be a nuisance as well."

He Menggu got into the car. Bai Yuchun did not. She pursed her lips and said, "I'll go with Qin Ming."

However, Qin Ming pushed her forward, "Don't you worry about your mom being alone? Watch her carefully. I'll be there shortly."

Bai Yuchun gazed at Qin Ming with guilt and remorse. At that moment, she felt at a loss for words. As Qin Ming kept protecting her, she felt

she owed him more and more.

After Xie Guangkun's family left, Bai Dayou went back into the hospital with his wife in his arms.

Qin Ming asked, "You're going to abandon your mother and sister like this?"

Dayou Bai went further, "I said that we can eat at some roadside stall near the hospital. They have to try out some fine dining Michelin starred whatever. They won't feel as comfortable as the roadside snacks. Look here, I am the patient, not them?"

Mrs. Bai was resentful, "Our family is having difficulties and they don't give us any money. Yet they ridicule us and glorify themselves all day long. My mother-in-law is forgiving like that so she is willing to go in their car. Tao even call us poor relatives. And they say their family is so amazing. What is so great about an old Honda Greiz? They think we are so ignorant. BMW, Audi and Mercedes-Benz are called luxury cars."

Hehe, Qin Ming could not help but laugh, Mrs. Bai was really quite a funny character. *And she is an expert on luxury cars now?*

Since the two of them did not want to go, Qin Ming had to go by himself.

Qin Ming thought about having to send Bai Yuchun and her mother home after lunch was over.

He asked Long to fetch the bodyguard car, a Mercedes-Benz and drive him to the China Grand Hotel.

Seated in the front passenger seat, Qin Ming looked at Long's appearance. He had the charisma of the super bodyguards or special agents in movies. His gaze and mannerism were extremely aggressive.

Qin Ming started chatting with him about everyday activities. He asked Long, "Is the half-year salary I gave you last time enough?"

Long's heart was moved by gratitude. He said:

“Just enough. Young master, you don't need to give me anymore salary advancement. My brother drove a truck when he was overly tired and he accidentally killed someone. He had to pay a huge sum of punitive damages. Hence, I needed money urgently. My marriage was delayed because of that as well. That's why I took up the immoral job of a bad debt collector. Young master, my dad also wants to thank you in person for paying me so much salary in advance and saving my whole family. My fiancée, too, said we should say a proper thank you to you for bringing us together.”

Qin Mi`ng smiled, “We belong to the same team. Don't stand on ceremony. I'll find time to have dinner with your dad. When you are with me, don't be so rigid. Act natural and relax a bit, like a normal person. Your temperament is too tense.”

“Young master, I will do my best to act more normal.”

Long felt a bit embarrassed. He was not a professional actor, but he understood what Qin Ming meant. Qin Ming was usually low-key, so

Long needed to be low-key too.

When they arrived at China Grand Hotel, there were quite a lot of diners and the car park was full.

Unfortunately, Xie Guangkun's car was stopped at the entrance, and his wife argued loudly with the guard: "How could there be no parking space? The underground garage is full, but don't I see parking spaces over there?"

The guard explained: "Those are the directors' parking spaces. No one is allowed to park there because no one knows when the directors will come."

He Menglian was furious, "You are too annoying, we are here to eat and our table is already booked but we couldn't do so because of car parks being full."

The guard said helplessly, "You can park across the mall, which is only 300 meters away, and you can park for free with tickets we issue to you."

Aunt Lian was furious: “Three hundred meters away. Won't you get sweaty when you walk over? We are your guests. Is this how you treat guests?”

Long drove directly inside because this China Grand Hotel was one of the assets Qin Ming will be inheriting in the future. The electronic access control at the door here had registered the license plates of all the cars he needed daily in Guang City.

He Menglian stomped her feet with anger and pointed at Mercedes-Benz, “Hey? How can you let that Mercedes-Benz in? You watchdogs! Are you deliberately embarrassing us because our car is not a luxurious car? You let the Mercedes-Benz enter? Bring your manager out here.”

The faces of several guards flushed with anger. Security guards hated being scolded as guard dogs.

Qin Ming had guarded the door in a bar before, and he had also experienced being called a watch dog by Li Meng. It was really hurtful. There was nothing shameful about working as a security

guard because it was a job to earn an honest living.

What right have you, an outsider, to vilify us?

The guard had a considerably even temper. He only raised his voice slightly, "That car is driven by the bodyguard of our director's secretary."

"Nonsense!" Aunt Lian yelled, pointing at Qin Ming who had just got down from the car. "Is that the bodyguard of your boss's secretary? He just came here with us. Hey, you, what's your name, come over here!"



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The sun was scorching and Qin Ming did not feel like walking over there. However, seeing Bai Yuchun and her mother still inside the car, he walked over there.

He Menglian raised her voice at Qin Ming, "You tell these entrance guards, how did you go in?"

Qin Ming said, "I took a ride in a Taxi and went in."

He Menglian said, "Who are you trying to bluff? There is no parking space. That car is driven by the bodyguard of the boss's secretary. What Taxi driver uses a Mercedes-Benz? The big boss can afford a bodyguard, and the bodyguard still does private work?"

Qin Ming shook his head and said, "I don't know about that, I'm just one of the passengers."

Xie Tao got out of the car impatiently and said, "Tsk, you guys take your time to discuss, I'm going in. It's annoying. First, it's a bunch of poor relatives, and then followed by bad luck."

Bai Yuchun and her mother, He Menggu went inside as well.

It seemed as if Xie Guangkun did not want to park further away. "Chun," he said, "could you and your mom stop that driver? Beg him to let us in."

Bai Yuchun explained, "The staff have rules and regulations. It's good to let them do their work."

He Menglian said, "What's wrong with that? We invite you to eat here, why can't you help us a bit? Menggu, please go quickly, or you won't be able to catch up."

He Menggu did not want to but she could not resist her sister's urging. Quickly, she responded: "Oh, brother-in-law, one moment, I will ask the driver."

Watching this, Qin Ming silently shook his head, these couple were taking advantage of decent people.

He Menggu had always been bullied like this

since her childhood, and she was teaching by example, which led to Bai Yuchun's weak and feeble character.

Without Qin Ming's instruction, Long would certainly not let Xie Guangkun's car in. He Menglian walked back in discouragement and said, "The other party refuses to let our car in."

He Menglian lost her temper: "Tsk, we invited your family to lunch. You can't even do this little thing. Just like your walking man, totally useless."

Xie Guangkun sounded a little upset, "Forget it, I'll park the car in the mall opposite, you go in first."

He Menglian had not finished scolding. She pointed at Bai Yuchun and cursed, "You are at fault, too. Why didn't you go and put in a word for your mother? You are pretty. Maybe people will help when they see that you look beautiful? And you, who came here by Taxi, why didn't you say something? Will it kill you by doing someone a favor? Despite being a man, you are totally

useless.”

He Menglian scolded each of them, one by one. Bai Yuchun and her mother said not one word in reply.

Qin Ming snickered quietly. He had deliberately refused to give them a parking space. On such a hot day, walking for a few hundred meters would make them sweat profusely. There was a commercial pedestrian street nearby so, it was probably difficult to find a parking bay.

It was supposed to be a hospital visitation to wish He Menggu and her son Bai Dayou speedy recovery. In the end, it turned out to be a case of showing off, coming all the way to this posh restaurant to have lunch. Were they here to visit the invalids or to show off their success? They did not even bring a bag of fruits.

As everyone entered the restaurant, Qin Ming spied a black Honda MPV drew up at the restaurant entrance.

Qin Ming was surprised, “Isn't that the vehicle

that splashed water on me at Yun Shan Villas? It is the same license plate.”

Qin Ming felt angry again and his pants were still dirty.

A beautiful blonde woman got out of the car and with her were three big men who seemed to be going to eat in, but the car could not get into the restaurant compound.

Qin Ming immediately told Long, “Let their car come in.”

Long immediately went to talk to the guard and the guard allowed the vehicle into the parking lot.

The blonde beauty was white and very young. She wore a suit and had an aura similar to Song Ying. She walked up to Long, smiling and nodding her head while removing her sunglasses. She seemed to be gesturing her gratitude to Long for helping her.

Then, she made eye contact with Qin Ming again. It was not immediately clear if it was due to

politeness or something else. She smiled at him.

Qin Ming watched her high-heeled shoes clicking past him and suddenly he smelled a familiar perfume.

Qin Ming could not be mistaken about it. It was the perfume on Nie Haitang's body, a very expensive and unique light fragrance that no one else wore.

Thinking it over in detail, this vehicle had been spotted in Yun Shan Villas.

Is it possible that Nie Haitang had had a blind date with someone from this group? Is this beautiful blond the secretary of some rich young master in Guang City? And after the blind date, they are here for lunch?

Qin Ming panicked at the thought of this. Although he had decided to let go, it was easier said than done.

The time he had spent with and the feelings he had for her were real.

Suddenly, Qin Ming shook his head, mocking and thinking to himself, even know I learnt of the truth, there was nothing that I can do. If she had treasured our love, she won't go on a blind date. At the very least, she will scold me.”

At this point, Long came over and asked, “Young Master, is there a problem with the car? These people look like foreigners here on business. Guang City is an international city. There are not many foreigners.”

Qin Ming said with a smile, “Ha, you are not so observant now? She is the secretary of some wealthy young master and the men should be the bodyguards. But regardless of who they are, go and release all the air in their car tyres.”

Long looked at Qin Ming in a puzzled manner but did as he was told.

They had just finished talking when Xie Guangkun came in, panting. His was half-bald but his head was covered with drops of sweat. Seeing Qin Ming was still outside, he asked, “Why? Don't you dare to go in? Haven't seen a

posh restaurant like this before, have you? Come with me.”

Qin Ming was speechless. He was about to go in so it was pointless to say anything.

As he walked, Xie Guangkun spoke in the tone of preaching, “It's good to be young but you should know your own strength well. You must be humble like Bai Yuchun to be likable. Her brother is really despicable, he takes after his father, always gambling instead of working hard.”

Qin Ming kept silent. He was not familiar with Bai Dayou and was not fond of him or his wife. Still, he did not need a stranger to give him lessons.

Seeing Qin Ming keeping quiet, Xie Guangkun presumed he was listening. He asked, “You are a student like Chun? In the same university?”

“Yeah,” Qin Ming grunted in reply.

Xie Guangkun spoke again, “Hehe, my daughter

is also a student in Daxuecheng District, but she is from Chinese Opera University. She will be a big star in the future.”

Qin Ming tilted his head, a little surprised. Who gave Xie Tao the confidence?

Xie Tao's figure was not bad, by average. She looked ordinary. In Qin Ming's eyes, she was not as good-looking as Li Meng, let alone beauties like Bai Yuchun and Nie Haitang.

By birth, she was not naturally at an advantage. She would need to cultivate and depend on real talent.

Of course, Qin Ming was surprised. He would not look down on dreams and aspirations of others. He said, “The entertainment industry is not easy to navigate. It is admirable that Miss Xie has such ambition.”

Hearing this, Xie Guangkun was very happy. He said, “Of course it is a big ambition. What is the use of just studying now? After graduation, one could find a job and earned a fixed salary.

However, if you are famous, you will be rich. It is better than staying at employment for years. This is my life experience; you have to think about it.”

Qin Ming laughed. He was the richest man in the world. *What reason is there to worry about earning a living?*

Still, he replied politely, “Yeah.”

Seeing Qin Ming's unimpressed and nonchalant reaction, Xie Guangkun felt furious. This young man was not even grateful for the lessons and advice coming from an experienced and knowledgeable elder. *Such a stubborn young student.*

When they reached the table, they saw Xie Tao and her boyfriend being very intimate, without any care or concern for those around them.

Qin Ming silently shook his head in disapproval. This type of behavior can only be a result of bad upbringing. Oblivious of relatives or parents, just doing as they pleased; could she possibly survive in the entertainment industry? She would be used

and abused.

Seeing the arrival of her dad and a guest, Xie Tao shifted her body and her boyfriend's face could be seen.

Qin Ming took a look at the man and felt embarrassed.

It was an acquaintance.



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