

Chapter 1481

Director Qi shouted furiously, "If it's not Mr. Feng, who did you think it was?"

"Director Qi, t-this is a misunderstanding. I thought that it wasn't him, I thought it was a scammer. I met a scammer here, and he said he wanted Mr. Feng to expel me. I thought he was bragging, so..." Pollard hurriedly explained.

Director Qi was even more furious as he shouted, "A scammer? That's Fade, Mr. Chen. He's a special teacher specially hired by our University. You said that he's a liar..."

Upon hearing this, Pollard fell into shock. He stared at Fade in confusion.

As a teacher of Capital University, he had naturally heard of Fade. He was just in his early twenties when the principal had personally requested him to teach in the university. Thus, it had made a record there.

Back then, due to this, there were a lot of discussions in the university, and some even questioned why Uriah did this.

However, after Fade's academic achievements and his personal achievement in Chinese Medicine were revealed, all of their doubts naturally disappeared.

He then became the university's center of attention. They heard rumors spreading around the university when it came to his background, but all of those were just rumors; none of them had evidence supporting their claims.

But now, with just one phone call, Fade was able to get in touch with Uriah, and got him fired directly. There was no doubt that

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this verified all the previous rumors.

However, it was already too late.

"Director Qi, this is a misunderstanding. I made a mistake. That is the only reason why I said all that. I'll call Mr. Feng and apologize right away. I'll..." Pollard desperately tried to make up for it.

However, Director Qi's cold and harsh words interrupted him. "No, from now on, you are no longer a member of Capital University. Don't ever come back again."

"No, Director Qi, please don't. I know I was wrong. I..." Pollard tried desperately to explain, but the sound of the call ending completely made his final attempt to make up for it be in vain.

His cell phone slipped and fell onto the ground directly. He collapsed. His entire body seemed to have been drained of all its energy and in an instant, and he was paralyzed on the floor.

"You, you actually..." He stared at Fade with a complicated expression. At that very moment, he couldn't tell what he was feeling. Shock, anger, and even feelings of hatred were all mixed in his eyes.

Fade ignored him, took Joey's hand, turned around, and was ready to leave.

Concurrently, a middle-aged man in his sixties walked out of the room.

The man was wearing a shirt, a suit, and trousers. He had a beer belly and his hands were behind his back. He definitely looked arrogant.

"Pollard, what's taking you so long? What happened?" The middle-aged man asked.

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When Pollard, who was almost paralyzed on the ground, heard this voice, and his eyes lit up. He shouted internally, "I've been fired by the university, I can't go back to Capital City. Now, my only hope is Bennett. If I can please him then it is my last hope to find a job."

Pollard then turned around and forced a smile on his face. He lowered his head as he said apologetically, "Mr. Xu, I'm really sorry. Something came up, and it delayed some of my time."

"Oh, what's the matter?" Bennett Xu, the director of the Museum in Zobery District, asked.

When he heard this, Pollard turned to Joey and said, "Director Xu, it's not a big deal. I just happened to meet my junior at Capital University. I think we are all professionals and will be colleagues in the future. I just told her to come and propose a toast to you, so that everyone could get to know each other."

"I originally had good intentions. Well, I didn't expect that they would be so indifferent to my goodwill, so I..." Pollard deliberately sighed as he explained. Then, he apologized to Bennett, "Mr. Xu, I'm really sorry. It's my fault that I delayed your meal."

When he heard Pollard's words, Bennett looked a little uncomfortable.

Pollard was just a counselor at Capital University, and he had to suck up to him. As a result, his junior, a student who had not graduated yet, actually seemed so indifferent. This inevitably made him upset.

Suddenly, he snorted, and his expression sank. He looked at Joey and said, "Nowadays, young students have quite a character! However, if they are so hot-headed and impatient, I'm afraid the archeology path is not very suitable for them..."

Before he could finish his words, Mr. Xu saw Joey's face, and the expression on his face suddenly froze. He was rooted in place for a long time.

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A moment later, after he had come back to his senses, his originally serious face was now full of smiles, and his eyes were filled with excitement. He rubbed his hands and said to Joey, "Little girl, what's your name? You are also an archaeological major at Capital University. I know Director Qi quite well. I'm eating inside. Why don't you come and join us?"

Joey looked at the fat Bennett, who had saliva drooling out of his mouth. How could she not know what he was thinking about? Her eyes suddenly turned cold and she said in an icy voice, "No, I'm not interested."

After that, she turned around, and was about to leave.

However, it was not easy for Bennett to meet such a gorgeous little girl who was also in the same field. How could he be willing to let her go? He quickly added, "You may not know, but I am the director of the museum in the Zobery District. My name is Bennett Xu. The guests in my private room are not ordinary people. They are the owners of an antiques company and experts of the auction houses. You can join us and it will help you down the road. When the time comes..."

Without waiting for him to finish, Joey waved her hand in disgust and interrupted him. "Enough, don't think that I am clueless as to what you're thinking. Don't try to play tricks with me. I'm not interested, and I don't care."

"You..." The dignified Bennett had never been spoken to like this before. Moreover, she was a little girl who had not even graduated yet.

Thinking of this, Bennett's expression instantly sank, and his face was very gloomy. "Do you know what you are doing..."

Joey didn't bother to pay attention to him. She glanced at Fade and said, "Fade, let's go."

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Seeing that Joey was about to leave, Bennett's eyes were filled with anger and unwillingness. He gritted his teeth, and waved his hand to call the security guards to stop both Fade and Joey.

Her face instantly fell. She asked coldly, "What is the meaning of this? Are you trying to force me?"

Bennett took a step forward and replied indifferently, "I'm a civilized person, so why would I commit a crime? I only stopped you, so that I can stand up for justice."

"Justice? What justice?" She frowned.

The corners of Bennett's lips curled up into a grin. He picked up a teacup from the table next to him and released the teacup. With a snap, the teacup fell to the floor and shattered into pieces.

Then, he squinted at Joey and said, "You accidentally broke my teacup. You should compensate me before leaving!"

"This teacup is also not something rare. It's just an antique from the Qing dynasty's Imperial Palace. It's not worth a lot. It's only worth six million yuan. Tell me, how do you want to compensate for it?" Bennett stared at Joey proudly.

When she heard his words, her expression grew grim as she glared at him. "Are you trying to blackmail me?"

"Huh? What are you talking about? You are the one who broke my antique teacup. Everyone has seen it. How is that blackmail?" Bennett spread out his hands and looked at the surrounding people. He then narrowed his eyes at Joey.

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Pollard and everyone else understood Bennett's meaning, thus they spoke out one after another.

"You are supposed to pay for something after you have broken it! Young lady, do you want to go back on your word?"

"This is one of the antiques that Bennett kept. It's one of a kind. 5 million yuan is already not considered much."

"You should pay for it quickly, otherwise, Bennett can call the police on you."

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Bennett stared at Joey arrogantly, stroked his chin and asked, "What do you think? Are you willing to pay now? Of course, if you don't have money, you can compensate me in other ways."

After that, he looked her up and down, a sinister grin playing on his lips. His saliva was about to drool out. Obviously, he was thinking about something obscene.

Upon seeing this, her gaze turned cold, revealing a look of disgust.

Fade then stepped forward to Bennet.

"What are you trying to do?" Feeling the terrifying aura emanating from him, Bennett was a little alarmed.

Without any hesitation, Fade swung his hand, and slapped Bennett's face. The tremendous force immediately knocked him over. He was thrown into the air, and he finally fell heavily on the ground with a painful grunt.

Then, Fade took Joey and walked towards the door.

The security guard before them saw how skillful Fade was, and did not dare to stop him. He quickly made way for the both of them to leave.

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Bennett, who had been supported up by Pollard and the others, stared after them with resentment in his eyes. There was a trail of blood dripping from the corner of his mouth, and his cheeks were swollen. He gritted his teeth. "How dare you hit me. I, Bennett Xu, will never let you go."

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Meanwhile, Fade and Joey had already gotten into the car, and drove towards the hotel where Moore was waiting.

Soon, they arrived at the hotel. Fade brought Joey to Moore.

"Joey, are you ready?" He turned to look at her.

She took a deep breath to calm down. Then, she nodded to him and answered, "Yes, I'm ready."

"Okay, then I'll knock on the door." Fade nodded, and then knocked on the door. "Master Chen, I'm back. Joey is also here."

Suddenly, there was a rush of footsteps from within the room. The pair of footsteps quickly rushed to the door and the door opened.

Dressed in a suit and tie, Moore appeared in front of Fade and Joey in a flash.

At this moment, Joey and Moore's gazes met, and they fell speechless for a moment.

When he saw this, Fade swung the door open and took Joey into the room. "Master Chen, let's sit down and have a chat!"

Moore finally came to his senses. He quickly nodded, and took the initiative to move the chair for Joey.

After the three of them were seated, the room fell into complete silence. It was as if no one knew how to break the silence.

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Seeing this, Fade took the initiative to introduce, "Joey, this is Moore, Master Chen, whom I've mentioned to you before. He is the legendary figure who won the championship at the Martial Arts Convention more than 20 years ago."

Then, Fade introduced Joey to Moore. "Master Chen, this is Joey. She is my junior apprentice, and also a student studying in Capital University. She is majoring in archaeology."

After the introduction, he stood up and said, "I have something to attend to. You can talk to each first!"

He patted Joey's shoulder and gave her an encouraging look. Then, he left the room and let the pair of father and daughter have a talk alone.

After leaving the corridor, he did not return to his room, but went to the outdoor restaurant in the hotel. He ordered a glass of whiskey, and slowly sipped it. Meanwhile, he thought about what had happened recently, and couldn't help thinking about the hidden Lin family and his wife, Quin.

Just as Fade was deep in his thoughts, a crisp voice startled Fade and brought him out of his thoughts. "Brother Chen, is that you?"

Fade turned around, and saw a cute girl in her late teens. Her cheeks were flushed as she looked at him. Her eyes were wide and bright, and excitement was written all over her face.

It was Clara Moo, of the Moo family, whom Fade had saved during the exploration of the Dragon Mausoleum.

Concurrently, Clara stared at him with surprise and excitement in her heart. Just a day ago, at the Dragon Mausoleum, she was hesitating to say farewell to him. She had thought that she would never be able to meet him again.

How would she have known she would meet him again the next day. All of a sudden, the hesitation that lingered in her heart for

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the past two days suddenly disappeared. Instead, she was filled with excitement.

Such an unexpected encounter made Clara suddenly believe in fate. It seemed that this wasn't just a coincidence; God had arranged for the two of them to come across each other again. The only word to describe this was fate.

At the thought of this and the anxiety that had been building up in her heart for the past two days, Clara's cheeks flushed red, and a touch of shyness flashed across her face. She bit her lips gently, looking shy and lovely.

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Fade was also surprised when he saw her. He smiled and greeted, "Clara, it's you! Why are you here?"

She quickly answered, "Brother Chen, I'm here to welcome the Moo family's guest. Why are you here? Could it be that..."

Clara looked at him with expectant eyes.

However, he didn't seem to notice this. He explained, "Master Chen and I have some things to deal with, so we came here."

"Oh, it turns out that you are also dealing with your own affairs!" She was slightly disappointed, but then she immediately smiled and asked, "Brother Chen, can you stay here for a few more days, and join me at the Lantern Festival?"

"Lantern Festival?" He was a little confused.

She hurriedly explained, "The Lantern Festival is a traditional festival in Zobery District. At this time of every year, there will be a celebration at the Wavey River in Long City. There will be tons of lanterns, and it's very beautiful."

Upon hearing this, he seemed to have recalled something. It seemed that he recalled a piece of news in Zobery District that reported on the Lantern Festival. It seemed to be quite popular.

However, he did not immediately agree. Instead, he said, "How about this, I'll discuss it with Master Chen and see what he thinks."

"Well, then I'll look forward to your reply, Brother Chen. Later, I'll ask my dad to send you some invitation cards," Clara answered

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with a smile.

"You still need invitation cards for the Lantern Festival?"

Clara wrinkled her lovely nose and glanced at Fade and replied, "Brother Chen, the invitation card I mentioned are the tickets for the VIP seats. If you don't have an invitation card, you can only observe it from the outside."

Thinking of this, Fade recalled that the Lantern Festival in Zobery District had a long history, and it was a huge celebration. The number of people who would take part in this celebration was in the thousands. Both sides of the Wavey River would be crowded with people. Without an invitation, Fade really wasn't interested in taking part in this celebration.

"Then I'll have to thank you in advance," he said with a smile. "Clara, you must be waiting for your guest, right? To let you personally welcome him, he should be someone with quite a high status."

"Brother Chen, you're teasing me." She stared at him with a frown, then she puffed up her mouth and explained, "Brother Chen, in fact, I don't know him at all. It's just that my father told me that they are very important people, thus he wanted me to personally welcome them. It seems that he is a secretary of some business, or the son of the president of some chambers of commerce. My father values him very much, but I'm not familiar with him!"

"Secretary, president of the Chamber of Commerce!" Hearing this, Fade started to ponder upon her words. It seemed that the Lantern Festival was not just a simple celebration!

Just as he was about to speak again, a pair of leather shoes stomped on the marble floor, and the crisp sound of footsteps could be heard. "Clara!"

Hearing the commotion, she turned around. She saw a man in a suit and tie. He was in his late twenties, and his hair was

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combed into a slick back. He approached her with a smile.

"Keith, you're here," she greeted with a polite smile.

The man named Keith Zheng saw Clara's face, and was taken aback. He smiled and remarked, "Clara, I haven't seen you for nearly five years. I didn't expect you to have grown up so much."

"Back then, you were still a little girl with a lollipop sticking out of your mouth. Now, you have grown into a gorgeous lady." Keith smiled and remarked in an intimate tone.

Clara was not used to this kind of intimacy. She frowned slightly and asked, "Keith, has Mr. Zheng arrived yet?"

"My father is taking a private jet here, and your father has gone to pick him up. I just came back from abroad, and that is why I arrived here alone," he explained, revealing how wealthy his family was.

Then, he stepped forward and reached out to pat Clara's head. "That small little girl has grown up. When I first saw you, I couldn't believe my eyes."

Seeing his intimate action, she almost instinctively took a step back to avoid his hand. His hand hovered mid-air, and it was extremely awkward.

For a moment, Keith's eyes squinted slightly and his pupils dilated. His expression fell slightly.

However, after accompanying his father to so many business meetings, he had learned some things. Although he was embarrassed, he couldn't let his emotions get out of control. Instead, he looked at Clara and commented, "I haven't met you for just a few years, and now, you don't even allow me to stroke your head."

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When she heard this, she had mixed feelings, and didn't know what to reply. She stammered, "Keith, I-I didn't mean that. But, I-I now..."

Before she could finish her words, Keith waved his hand and replied with a smile, "It's fine, Clara, you don't have to explain yourself. I was just joking with you. You are my little sister. How could I blame you?"

"Thank you, Keith!" She nodded.

"Clara, you're even calling me by my name. Are we really so distant? You really don't want to recognize me as your brother?"

There was a flash of struggle in her eyes. She glanced at Fade, who was standing next to her. Finally, she reluctantly lowered her head and shouted at him, "Keith, I-I-I am not... I didn't..."

Keith noticed her action, especially when she looked at Fade with a worried expression. His gaze immediately turned cold as he stared at him.

He quickly took a glance at Fade, and after so many business meetings, he was quick to judge someone by their cover.

"This man is in his mid-twenties. He didn't pay much attention to his appearance, so he must be a casual person. His clothes are all bought in the supermarket and at most, cost him a few hundred. He doesn't even have any jewelry or watches to highlight his wealth."

What's more, the aura that Fade was giving off made Keith even more certain about his assumptions.

Therefore, he immediately categorized Fade as the lowest tier, who was the type of person who was not worthy of being his friend.

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However, Clara's attitude towards him made Keith curious about him. He covered up the disdain and dissatisfaction in his eyes, then smiled and asked Clara, "Clara, this is..."

She was wondering how to explain it. Concurrently, Keith changed the subject. To some extent, he had saved her from the awkwardness.

Therefore, she introduced with an excited face, "Keith, oh, Keith. This is Fade Chen, Brother Chen. He is my friend, and also the savior of the Moo family."

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Looking at how excited Clara was, and how she didn't stutter when she addressed him as 'Brother Fade", Keith couldn't help but narrow his eyes. He grew even more hostile towards him.

"Hello, Mr. Chen." He hid the anger in his gaze. Keith showed a smile, and took the initiative to extend his right hand to Fade to greet him.

Although Keith had his expression under control, but in the eyes of such a skillful martial artist, Fade could see all the micro-expressions on his face.

Fade could clearly see the hostility in his gaze.

Therefore, he was not very polite to him, and he just greeted him blandly.

Such an attitude made Keith even more dissatisfied with him. He frowned slightly and then asked, "How did you two get to know each other?"

Before Fade could answer, Clara answered excitedly beside him, "Keith, we met Brother Chen while we were at the Dragon Mausoleum. Back then we came across a robber, and Brother Chen came to our rescue. We..."

Upon hearing this, Keith roughly understood what was going on.

The Moo family had a martial arts background. Thus, taking part in the excavation of the Dragon Mausoleum was not something

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unusual.

However, Keith was not interested in these things. The Zheng family was a family of business, and they already had plenty of businesses in the country. Now, they were looking to expand to other countries.

Besides, his father, Salman Zheng, was also a member of the officialdom. He started as an ordinary wealthy entrepreneur, and later, he became the president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Southern District. Concurrently, he was also a committee member of the Department of Commerce.

Over the years, his father had taught him a lot of things. Money was important, but power was even more important. However, if you had money, you would only be someone who owns a little more money. In front of a really powerful big shot, money was nothing at all. Someone powerful could turn all the wealth you had worked so hard for, into nothing.

Therefore, Salman had been working on his power, constantly raising his status. His ultimate goal was to become the best businessman of the era.

He had high hopes for such a goal. Keith was very confident in his own father as well.

After all, back then, the Zheng family was just considered an average, small family. Compared to the Moo family, they were even a little weaker than them. However, after years of hard work, the Zheng family had improved by leaps and bounds and they had overtaken the Moo family in terms of wealth and power.

If that wasn't the case, Taufeeq wouldn't have invited the father and son pair of the Zheng family over to celebrate the Lantern Festival.

Of course, they wouldn't come all the way here just for nothing. They had their eyes on the Moo family's martial arts.

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Although in Keith's mind, he prioritized money and power over marital arts. However, the Moo family had been practicing martial arts for hundreds of years, thus they had quite a high status and wealth. If the Zheng family could make use of this, then it would greatly benefit them.

In the eyes of the Zheng family, the entire Moo family was nothing more than just a tool for them to take advantage of.

As for martial artists like Fade, in Keith's opinion, they were nothing more than just pure brute force. They weren't worth a lot. He could hire any of these martial artists at any time.

Thinking of this, he regarded Fade with even more disdain. Without waiting for Clara to introduce him further, he asked, "So Mr. Chen is also a martial artist! Where are you from? Where have you learnt your martial arts from? From your family, or from a master?"

Fade then answered, "No, I just practice by myself."

Upon hearing this, Keith's impression of him dropped even further. He would have some value if he had learned his martial arts from some master, or from his family.

Now, it seemed like he just learned his martial arts by himself, and coincidentally, he had helped Clara once. Thus, the Moo family was grateful to him.

Keith did not pay much attention to someone like him, nor was he interested in making friends with him.

Therefore, he did not continue the conversation with Fade. Keith turned away and said to Clara, "Clara, my father and the others should be here now. Let's go back."

"Ah, this..." She was just excitedly introducing Fade's various heroic deeds and powerful martial arts, but had been interrupted by

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Keith. Now that she was about to leave, she suddenly seemed a little upset.

However, she knew how important the Zheng family was to her father. Therefore, she managed to squeeze out a smile and nodded. "Okay, Keith, let's go back."

She then turned around and waved goodbye to Fade. "Goodbye, Brother Chen. I'll be waiting for you at the Lantern Festival!"

Fade nodded and waved his hand with a smile. "Goodbye, I will be there."

After watching both Clara and Keith leave, Fade turned around and went back to his room.

When he went back, Moore and Joey had finished their conversation, and asked Fade to enter.

He looked at the tear marks at the corners of their eyes, as well as the smiles on their lips. He could not help but let out a sigh of relief as he smiled. It seemed that the father and daughter pair had a delightful conversation, and their hearts had been reconciled.

After talking for some time, Fade learned that they had been honest, and told each other all of their experiences.

After getting adopted by Aldred, Joey had spent most of her time on Tianwu Mountain, training. One year ago, she had secretly run down the mountain, and her life was relatively simple.

Moore's experience was obviously much more bitter. After his family was hunted down, he had wanted to use himself as bait, and allow both his wife and daughter to escape. However, his wife and daughter had been hunted down by the Chiang family. In the end, there wasn't even a trace of their whereabouts, and they might even be dead.

Moore, who was in extreme grief and indignation, had just barely escaped the Chiang family's pursuit. In the following twenty

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years, he had been in hiding, and lived like a coward. He thought of ways to enhance his own strength, to search for traces of his wife and daughter, and to get his revenge on the Chiang family.

These things had basically occupied his past twenty years, and he had been living a bitter and tiring life.

Moore had never been happy in the past twenty years, but at that very moment, he was laughing with a bright smile on his face.

The father and daughter were happy, and Fade was relieved. He then mentioned Clara's invitation to them. "Master Chen, Joey. In a few days, there will be a Lantern Festival at Wavey River in the Zobery District. Someone has invited us to participate. Are you interested in going?"

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"The Lantern Festival at Wavey River! I know, it's huge, gorgeous, and romantic. I've always wanted to go there, but I've never gotten the chance. This time, I'm definitely going!" Joey relaxed, and she started acting like herself.

Seeing that his daughter was so delighted, Moore naturally agreed, "It's a great idea to go there and have a look. It's the perfect timing for a relaxing trip."

"By the way, Fade, who invited us?" Moore asked.

"It's Clara Moo of the Moo family," Fade replied.

When he heard this, Moore nodded his head. He also knew about Fade and Clara exploring the Dragon Mausoleum. "It's the lady from the Moo family. That's expected."

"Yes!" Fade nodded his head in agreement.

On the other hand, Joey quickly asked, "What girl from the Moo family? Who are you talking about? Brother Fade, are you flirting with a woman again? When I go back, I'm going to tell my sister-in-law, Susie, Yuri, and the others..."

Fade immediately fell speechless. "Joey, stop overthinking. Clara and I are just friends. Besides, you haven't even met Quin before. How would you be able to tell her?"

"I don't care. Anyway, I have to monitor you, to stop you from becoming a playboy," Joey replied proudly as she stared at him.

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He looked at her helplessly, explaining how he had met Clara.

"I see!" After listening to his explanation, Joey nodded. After a pause, she suddenly stared at Fade and said, "Brother Fade, I guess that Clara must have fallen in love with you."

"What are you talking about? I've only just known her recently, how could she be in love with me? Stop spouting nonsense," He quickly denied.

"Brother Fade, you have to believe me. Women have very accurate intuition. Let me tell you, this is the effect of a hero saving a beauty, and love at first sight. As long as you are willing, I'm afraid Miss Moo will take the initiative to throw herself at you," she added.

"Girl, what are you talking about? It's getting late. You should go to bed early." Fade stretched out his right hand and flicked Joey's forehead, and then quickly left.

Soon, it was the day of the Lantern Festival. The Moo family had already sent someone over to send them an invitation.

That evening, Fade, Joey, and Moore changed and then took a ride to the Wavey River.

Although the sky was still bright and the Lantern Festival had not yet started, the two sides of the Wavey River were already packed with people. It was very lively.

On both sides of the Wavey River, there were all kinds of lanterns. There were antique paper lanterns, modern and fashionable lanterns, and Western-style lanterns, which were complex, colorful and dazzling.

However, the most eye-catching thing was not the festive lights, but the boats on the Wavey River. All of them were decorated with exquisite lights. Each boat was decorated in an extremely unique way, which was very eye-catching. The crowd on the river

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banks was busy taking pictures of the boats.

Of course, the most beautiful scenery would be when the sky falls dark. When all the flower lanterns lit up, that would be the peak moment of the Lantern Festival.

The three of them watched all kinds of lanterns as they snacked by the river.

Unexpectedly, the river in front suddenly widened and the two railings on both sides had an opening and it was connected to the middle of the Wavey River.

As Fade glanced over, he found that there was a central island on the river where it had widened. There were exquisite wooden structures and human figures on that island.

Without a doubt, that central island was the optimum place to observe the Lantern Festival from.

However, not everyone could enter that place. On both sides of the railings, there were bodyguards. Without an invitation, they wouldn't be allowed to enter.

Seeing this, Fade touched the invitation in his chest pocket, and thought of what Clara told him before. It seemed like that central island was the VIP section.

Fade was hesitating should he bring out his invitation cards and enter the VIP section.

Concurrently, a voice full of hatred came from behind them. "It's you!"

Hearing the sound, the three turned their heads and immediately saw a fat middle-aged man glaring at the three people with hatred. Beside the man, there was a young man who looked like he was in his thirties.

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As soon as Fade and Joey saw them, they recognized them immediately. Their faces fell as they said, "Pollard, Bennett, it's you!" The people opposite them were the people whom they had met when they went to the restaurant near the airport. It was Bennett Xu, the director of the Museum of Zobery District and the senior of Joey, Pollard.

Back then, Fade had made a phone call to Uriah, the chancellor of Capital University, and got Pollard fired directly. Then, he taught Bennett a lesson while he was there. Unexpectedly, they had met again.

On the other end, Moore's face was filled with confusion. He didn't know who they were.

Joey quickly told him what had happened two days ago.

After hearing this, his gaze suddenly turned cold. He glared at the two of them, and there was even a hint of killing intent in his eyes. "Joey, I'll teach them a lesson."

When he saw this, Joey quickly grabbed him and said, "There's no need, it's just a small matter. It's already over, there's no need to worry about it."

Joey was not sure whether Moore would kill them if she didn't stop him. Even if he didn't kill them, they might still suffer from permanent injuries after that.

After all, after being hunted down by the Chiang family for so many years, he was definitely not someone to mess with.

On the other hand, Bennett and Pollard didn't know how lucky they were to have made it out alive. They glared at Fade and Joey with hatred, gritting their teeth as they said, "You still dare to show up here?"

"All of you, hurry up and come over. Seize him!" Bennett waved his hand, giving the orders to the bodyguards at the banks of the

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river.

The bodyguards stared at them with a puzzled look, remaining motionless.

Bennett felt embarrassed, and his expression fell.

Pollard, who was beside him, quickly shouted to the bodyguards, "Are you all blind? The man standing in front of you is Mr. Xu, the director of the museum in Zobery District. Director Xu is a VIP who has an invitation. Are you all going to go against a VIP?"

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"Well..." The bodyguards looked hesitant and were frozen in place for a moment.

After all, their duty was to stand guard at the entrance to prevent riots. Their responsibility was not to teach the guests a lesson.

However, at this moment, Bennett's expression grew grim as he said to the bodyguard, "I know Taufeeq, the head of the Moo family. If you don't listen to my words, do you want me to call him over only to take action?"

Upon hearing this, the bodyguards couldn't help trembling, and their expressions changed drastically.

If it was an ordinary guest, they wouldn't have any intention of helping out. However, since Bennett was acquainted with the head of the Moo family, things wouldn't be quite the same.

After all, the Moo family was a well-known century-old martial art family in Long City. They were the second most powerful family in the Zobery District. They were nearly on par with the recent rapid-developing Chai family.

Of course, some time ago, something bad had happened to the Chai family. The heads of the Chai family, Zelson Chai and Gorgan Chai, had been found dead in the Dragon Mausoleum and this had made the Chai family suffer a huge blow. Some speculated that the Moo family would take this opportunity to surpass the Chai family and become the most powerful family in the Zobery District.

In the face of such a powerful family, the bodyguards hesitated for a moment, and finally they stepped over and were ready to

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help Bennett take action.

Seeing this, Bennett seemed very proud. He looked at Fade and Joey and commanded the bodyguards, "It's the two of them, do it. Teach the man a lesson. Don't hurt the lady, just bring her over to me, and I will teach her a lesson."

As he spoke, he gazed at her again. He licked his tongue with greed, and his expression was very obscene.

Seeing this, Moore's body couldn't help but tremble in anger. The coldness that he had just suppressed suddenly burst out. The fierce killing intent was almost about to envelop Bennett.

Fortunately, Joey stopped Moore in time, and avoided him from killing him and turning this place into a bloody scene.

"Sir, you..." The two bodyguards came to Fade and clenched their fists, looking like they were about to hit him.

He squinted his eyes, looked at them, and asked in a deep voice, "What are you doing? How dare you attack us for no reason!"

"I'm sorry, Bennett is a VIP. We have to listen to the VIPs." The bodyguard responded.

"VIPs!" Fade humphed indifferently, then stretched out his hand, took out three invitations, and continued, "We are also VIPs. Will you listen to our words?"

Seeing this, the bodyguards were dumbfounded. Their eyes were filled with surprise, and then they looked at Bennett.

Bennett and Pollard, who were feeling proud of themselves, didn't expect Fade to have an invitation at all. Their faces fell. However, with a cold snort, Bennett said with anger, "I'm not an ordinary VIP. I'm a friend of Taufeeq, the head of the Moo family. If you offend me, then you are also offending him."

Hearing this, the two bodyguards froze, and they turned to Fade.

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He snorted and replied, "He is a friend of the head of the Moo family and you want to take action on me? Then I am also a friend of the Moo family and my invitations were personally given to us by the Moo family. Then, do you guys have to listen to us?"

As he spoke, Fade flipped over the invitation. At the bottom of the card was Taufeeq's personal signature, making their invitations different from all the others.

Upon seeing this, everyone fell into shock.

Bennett and Pollard were also a little taken aback. However, their faces soon darkened as they sneered, "He claims that it is the head of the Moo family's signature, and you guys believe him?"

"As far as I know, the Moo family head has only sent ten invitations with personal signatures this time. Those are top-notch guests, but now, you're taking out three invitations at once. That's obviously too fake!"

Pollard immediately chimed in, "That's right, you guys are making it too obvious. How dare you pretend to make a fake signature of the Moo family's head? That's simply impossible."

"What are you guys waiting for? Quickly take action and arrest these liars," Bennett ordered.

The two bodyguards hesitated for a moment, and the more they thought about it, the more they felt that Bennett's words were true. Their expressions grew serious, and they were about to attack Fade.

Fade narrowed his eyes and frowned slightly. He was about to fight back.

However, just at this moment, a crisp voice sounded. "What are you guys doing? Stop right now."

Hearing they heard the shout, the bodyguards involuntarily paused and turned around.

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A cute girl in her late teens was striding towards them furiously.

Seeing this, everyone looked over at her, with a little surprise and doubt etched on their faces.

Pollard frowned and shouted at the bodyguards, "What are you guys standing there for? Didn't you hear what Bennett just said? Do it now! It's only a little girl, what are you guys..."

When the two bodyguards heard this, they looked at Pollard as if they were looking at a fool. Then they bowed respectfully to the little girl and greeted, "Miss Moo!"

"Miss Moo? She's..." He was still dumbfounded.

At the side, Bennett's expression fell. He glared at Pollard, gritted his teeth and said in a low voice, "Shut up. That little girl is the eldest daughter of the Moo family. Are you trying to drag me down with you?"

"What? She is Miss Moo?" Pollard was really taken aback. His eyes were filled with fear, and his face instantly turned pale.

On the other end, Clara came over, glared at the two bodyguards, and exclaimed, "What are you doing?"

"Miss Moo, w-we just..." The two bodyguards turned to look at Bennett.

He had no choice but to step forward. He squeezed out a smile and said, "Miss Moo, I'm the one who ordered them to do it. These fellows are scammers. They're actually barging in with the fake invitations. I was worried that they'd do something bad, so..."

Before Bennett could finish, Clara interrupted him and answered angrily, "Brother Chen and the others were personally invited by me, and the invitation was also sent by my father. What do you mean by scammers?"

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"What... I..." Bennett was taken aback. He did not expect Fade's invitation to be real, and for him to even know Clara.

After a moment of dullness, beads of sweat appeared on his forehead, and his mind began to spin quickly. The corners of his mouth twitched, revealing a disgusting-looking smirk. He tried hard to explain, "Miss Moo, I-I didn't know that he knew you. I got it wrong, I got it wrong."

"Do you think you can get away with it just because you got it wrong!" Clara replied coldly, "You wrongly accused Brother Chen. Shouldn't you apologize?"

"This..." Bennett's expression stiffened. He was, after all, the director of the museum of the Zobery District. He could also be considered as the number one figure in Zobery District.

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Now, on such an occasion, he had to apologize to Fade, such an obscure person, in front of tens to hundreds of thousands of people?

If he really did this, he would lose others' respect and he might not even be able to continue his career anymore.

Thinking of this, Bennett said to Clara, "Miss Moo, the leader of the Moo family and I know each other, so we can be considered friends. I did make a mistake in this matter, and I will compensate you later. But now, it's late, let's head to the central island first!"

He was deliberately trying to stall for time, gradually changing the topic.

But then, a deep voice sounded, which completely dispelled Bennett from his delusions.

"We are friends? Why am I unaware of this?"

After that, a man in his late forties walked towards them and stared at Bennett with a stern look on his face.

When Bennett saw the man, his face froze instantly. "Head, Head of the Moo family. Why, why are you here? I, I..."

"Seems like someone was deliberately trying to claim that he is my friend to take action against my true friends. How can I sit around and do nothing?" Taufeeq asked in a low voice.

That kind of pressure from a powerful martial artist instantly made Bennett sweat profusely, and he almost collapsed to the

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ground.

Pollard immediately understood the deeper meaning of his words. "True friends, doesn't that mean..."

As Pollard shifted his gaze to look at Fade, Taufeeq and Clara started walking towards Fade.

Clara jumped over, smiling gleefully and approached Fade. "Brother Chen, I'm sorry. I'm late and you've been wronged."

Then, Taufeeq also walked over and bowed slightly. He took the initiative to greet Fade, "Mr. Chen, you're here."

Fade shook Taufeeq's hand and said lightly, "Mr. Moo, you don't have to be so polite. Just call me Fade."

Taufeeq nodded and then turned to Moore and Joey, greeting them as well.

When the onlookers saw this scene, they were absolutely taken aback. It was already shocking enough that Fade was friends with Taufeeq, but now it seemed that Taufeeq really respected Fade.

This made everyone dumbfounded as they began secretly guessing Fade's identity and background.

Meanwhile, Bennett and Pollard, who were on the other side, were dumbstruck by what they saw. They were so shocked that they were frozen in place, not able to move a single inch.

"Fade, what's going on?" After greeting him, Taufeeq pointed to Bennett and asked.

Fade answered faintly, "It's not a big deal. It's just that we had some conflict with them two days ago. They tried to suppress others with their power and wanted to commit misdeeds, thus I taught them a lesson and now they are back for revenge."

"What!" Taufeeq's face darkened immediately as he continued in a deep voice, "Bennett Xu, it's time for someone else to be the director of the museum."

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Hearing this, Bennett couldn't help it anymore. His legs went weak and he dropped to the ground as if his legs turned to mud. "Master Taufeeq, I know I was wrong. No, don't..."

Although Taufeeq wasn't his immediate superior, and he wasn't part of the system, with the Moo family's status and power, it would be a piece of cake for them to fire him as the director of the museum.

What's worse, if he had offended the head of the Moo family, it would almost be impossible for him to continue living in Long City in the future, not even in Zobery District.

Therefore, Bennett couldn't care about his ego anymore. He just laid on the ground and cried for mercy.

However, Taufeeq, Fade and the others were not interested in dealing with such a person. They waved their hands and ordered the bodyguards to drag Bennett and Pollard out.

After Bennett's matter was dealt with, Taufeeq personally led the way and brought Fade and the others inside. They followed the wooden bridge and arrived at the middle of the central island.

Compared to the hustle and bustle of the riverbank, although the island wasn't huge, it was still less crowded.

Around the central island, there was a ring of bricks and stones. In the center of it was a three-story tall wooden building. The wooden building was exquisitely decorated with dazzling colors, which attracted a lot of attention.

Below the wooden building, a group of well-dressed people were chatting and flattering each other. The Lantern Festival had turned into a party for people with higher social status.

Without a doubt, Taufeeq was one of the most prominent figures in this party.

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The guests he had personally gone out to greet naturally became the center of attention as well. For a time, many people came forward to propose a toast, and their warm attitude made Fade somewhat overwhelmed.

After exchanging pleasantries, Taufeeq brought Fade and the others to the top floor of the wooden building.

There were even fewer people there. There were only a few exquisite wooden tables, on which fragrant tea and desserts were served. Several guests were chatting softly.

It was obvious that those who had access to the third floor of the wooden building were the honored guests amongst the distinguished visitors. Taufeeq had brought Fade to the third floor and that indirectly showed how high of a social status Fade had.

Taufeeq strode in. A middle-aged man stood up and walked up to him with a smile. "Taufeeq, you're finally back."

"Salman, I'm truly sorry for keeping you waiting. My apologies." Taufeeq's attitude was quite humble in front of Salman.

"We're all brothers, Taufeeq. Why are you apologizing? That's too excessive," Salman said forthrightly. He then glanced at Fade and the others behind Taufeeq. He was judging them as he asked, "Are these the honored guests you personally went to welcome in?"

Taufeeq nodded, then smiled and introduced, "Salman, this is Mr. Fade Chen, whom I've mentioned to you before. He's not only an honored guest, but he is also my lifesaver."

"So he is Mr. Chen." Salman looked over at him, and he was not very enthusiastic.

Concurrently, Taufeeq introduced Salman to Fade and said, "This is Salman Zheng, the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of Southern District, as well as a committee member of the political consultative conference for industry and commerce. He is a

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big shot."

"Taufeeq, you're exaggerating. I am just a president. How can I be counted as a big shot?" Salman said modestly, but his expression showed that he was still very proud.

Meanwhile, a young man who seemed to be in his late twenties called out to Salman, "Dad", before striding towards them.

Seeing this, Taufeeq immediately introduced him, "This is Keith Zheng, also known as Young Master Zheng, Salman's son. He's young and promising!"

Fade turned over and saw him. He slightly squinted his eyes. This Young Master Zheng was the one he met two days ago in the hotel where he bumped into Clara.

Back then, Keith didn't have a great attitude towards him.

As expected, when Keith saw that it was Fade, his eyes suddenly turned cold and a look of displeasure and disdain flashed across his face.

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Taufeeq did not notice the strange look in Fade and Keith's eyes. He continued introducing them to each other with a smile on his face.

Clara, however, could vaguely feel the change in their moods, thus she said, "Dad, two days ago, Brother Chen and Young Master Zheng have met each other. They already know each other."

"Oh, so you already know each other. That's even better." Taufeeq smiled. He then respectfully invited Fade to be seated.

Then, in front of everyone, Taufeeq invited Fade over to the front table. After Fade had taken his seat, only then did Taufeeq invite everyone over to be seated.

Although he took the initiative to ask Salman to sit on the left side of the upper seat and he himself sat on the right side of the lower seat, Fade, a young man, sitting in the middle of the two big bosses made people feel a little strange.

The guests at the other tables couldn't help squinting. They didn't know what to think of this.

As for Salman, although he was still full of smiles, there were unusual flashes in his gaze which was nearly impossible to be detected.

Although it was difficult to notice the strange facial expression of Salman, Keith's upset look at that moment was much more obvious.

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Having accompanied his father to tons of business meetings, he had long been accustomed to being particular about inferiority and superiority. Whether it was the position of the seats, the order of toasts, or even the order of announcing a title or name, it was very likely to affect their first impression.

Because of this, the father and son thought highly of these details.

Taufeeq invited them over to support them this time, but when arranging the seats, he let Fade, a young boy, sit in the first seat and let Salman sit under Fade.

If it was in official businesses, it would be a huge taboo.

If his father hadn't secretly shot a look at him, Keith would have lost his mind on the spot.

Fade noticed the change in the emotions of the father and son pair. He sighed in his heart as he didn't want to find trouble, but it seemed like trouble kept finding its way back to him.

Taufeeq obviously didn't take notice of these small details. Although the Moo family was also a wealthy family of the Zobery District, the Moo family was still a martial arts family, and Taufeeq was a martial artist. He usually didn't care about all these, thus he naturally wouldn't think about it and take them into consideration.

After they sat down, Taufeeq took the initiative to propose a toast. His first toast was to Fade, and this made the father and son pair look even more unpleasant.

After toasting and chatting for a moment, Taufeeq's face was already flushing red. He repeatedly thanked Fade then said to Salman, "Salman, we are old friends who have known each other for more than 30 years. This time, I will have to thank you for troubling you over."

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Taufeeq took the initiative to pour himself a glass of wine, his face flushed red. He put down his wine glass and said, "Salman, what I've mentioned to you before..."

Salman interrupted Taufeeq and said, "Taufeeq, we'd better talk about those things in private!"

"That's right, that's right!" Taufeeq nodded hastily.

Seeing this, Fade knew that they had some affairs to deal with, and he was not very interested in such occasions. Thus, he took the initiative to stand up and said, "Mr. Moo, please go on. I'll go downstairs and have a look."

"Mr. Chen, it's fine. Salman and I are not in a hurry. You..." Taufeeq knew that Fade was an expert-levelled master, therefore he naturally held Fade in high regard and spoke without any hesitation.

When Salman heard this, he couldn't help but slightly narrow his eyes.

Fade wasn't interested in drinking anymore. As he was just thinking about what to say, Clara tugged on Taufeeq's sleeve and smiled. "Dad, you've drank too much! Brother Chen is here to see the fireworks. If you are keeping him here to drink with you, how is he going to have the opportunity to enjoy the scenery?"

Taufeeq came back to his senses after being reminded by his daughter. He patted his forehead and said, "Yes, yes, silly me. Mr. Chen, why don't you go and have fun? Why don't I arrange a guide for you?"

"Dad, I'm here. We don't need a guide!" Clara pouted and then walked towards Fade. She told him, "Brother Chen, let's go and have some fun."

On the other end, Salman saw this and glanced at Keith, saying, "Keith, you go with Clara and the others. You are all young people, go and have fun together. Old men like us can't participate in such activities anymore."

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"Alright, Dad!" Keith answered and then walked to Clara's side.

Salman looked at Taufeeq and smiled, "Taufeeq, let's find a place to have a chat!"

The two big shots went away to talk about their private affairs. Fade and the group of people came down from the wooden building. Under the guidance of Clara, they began to explore.

Clara basically stuck by Fade's side the whole journey, constantly introducing all kinds of lanterns and traditional tales to Fade. However, Keith, who was following Clara, seemed like an uninvited guest.

Such a situation made Keith look even more uncomfortable. He stared at Fade with vague lividness and resentment.

They came upon a huge Lotus Lamp cruise. Clara was introducing the traditions of the cruise to Fade excitedly when a group of people came over from the opposite side, which made her face darken instantly.

"Clara, what's wrong?" Fade asked with concern.

Clara pointed at the group of people and said, "The Chai family is here!"

"The Chai family!" Hearing this, Fade couldn't help thinking of Zelson and Horgan who were killed by him. He squinted his eyes briefly.

On the other end, Keith's eyes lit up as if he had found an opportunity. He quickly stepped forward and told Clara, "Clara, don't worry. As long as I am here, the Chai family won't dare to do anything to you!"

Then, Keith took the initiative to step forward and greet the man in his late twenties, "Mr. Hollad, you're also here for the cruise!"

The man across from him narrowed his eyes when he saw Keith approaching and said, "I was wondering who it was. So it's you,

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Young Master Zheng!"

As the two were talking to each other, Clara started introducing him to Fade, "Brother Chen, that man is called Hollad Chai. He is the cousin of Horgan Chai, a former member of the Chai family. After Zelson Chai, the former leader of the Chai family died, it was Cadmus Chai who replaced him as the head of the Chai family and he is also Hollad's father."

"Now that Hollad has become the Young Master of the Chai family, his status and position has risen, thus he is now more arrogant and proud."

"I see." Upon hearing this, Fade nodded his head and glanced over.

Chapter 1489

Meanwhile, Keith and Hollad were already having a conversation. Perhaps Keith wanted to be more presentable in front of Clara, he was very proactive, and their conversation was very intense.

However, Hollad, who was opposite Keith, seemed calm. He even took the initiative to back down so as to not have any direct conflict with him.

Instead, he pointed at Clara and said indifferently, "Clara Moo, I'm certain you and your father have something to do with the death of Zelson and Horgan. The Chai family will not let this go so easily."

Obviously, Hollad did not know that Fade was the one who murdered Zelson and Horgan. The only thing he knew was that the Moo family had something to do with their deaths, and they were blaming it on Clara.

A hint of anger flashed across Clara's face and she replied, "Hollad, I don't care about your Chai family, but our Moo family has nothing to do with this, and we are ready to face whatever you all throw our way."

"Ready to face it? However bold you are, I don't think you can afford to offend the Chai family! Hmph!" After that, Hollad gave a heavy snort and turned away with his subordinates.

Upon hearing this, Clara pulled a long face and she seemed worried.

The Chai family had been developing well in recent years, and they were especially flourishing in the political and business

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world. They had some great connections and they had surpassed the Moo family. The Chai family had successfully become the most powerful family in Long City.

If they really tried to go against each other, the Moo family would most likely lose the battle.

But now, a misfortune had happened in the Chai family. The head and the young master of the Chai family were now dead. Under such a circumstance, the Moo family had a higher chance of winning if both families were to come into confrontation.

However, it was only a possibility. No one could say for certain if they could accomplish victory.

Perhaps due to this reason, Taufeeq invited his old friend, Salman, over to help him boost his superiority.

Keith obviously also had this thought in mind. Seeing the situation, he quickly came over and comforted Clara, "Clara, don't worry. My father and I are here. This time we will definitely be able to help the Moo family defeat the Chai Family. You can rest assured."

Clara was not in a good mood, but after all, Keith was speaking for her. Therefore, she smiled politely and nodded gratefully, "Well, then I'm grateful to Mr. Zheng and Young Master Zheng."

"Clara, you don't have to be so polite. Just call me Keith." Keith pressed on, "By the way, Clara, what do you think about the matter I mentioned to you before?"

When it came to this, Clara's face immediately sank, and her expression was somewhat unnatural. She replied, "This, this, I still need to think about it. And my father, he..."

Upon hearing this, Keith looked anxious and he said with pursued excitement, "Clara, why are you still hesitating? Is there anything that you don't like about me? Tell me, I'll correct it right away."

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"Keith, I, I am not..." Clara was somewhat hesitant.

Keith became more and more excited. He took the initiative to reach out to grab Clara's hand. "Clara, I really like you. I have always regarded you as my goddess. I want to be with you even in my dreams."

"Besides, the Zheng and the Moo families have such a great relationship. It's good for the two of us to be together," Keith said excitedly.

Clara's expression became more and more evasive. She stepped back to avoid Keith's outstretched hand and stammered, "Keith, I, I'm still too young. I haven't even started thinking about these things..."

"Clara, you still don't know me well. We have to spend more time together. Once you get to know me, you will definitely fall in love with me." Keith took the initiative to approach her again and he was about to reach out his hand.

Clara had already retreated to the railing, and there was nowhere else for her to recoil. She was flustered, and she was about to be held into Keith's arms.

Meanwhile, Fade stepped forward, stood in front of Clara to block Fade, and uttered indifferently, "Young Master Zheng, that's not how a gentleman treats a girl."

Seeing this, Keith couldn't help frowning. He said in a deep voice, "What are you doing? Clara is my fiancée. I have a close relationship with her. What relationship do you have with her?"

Fade's face darkened at those words.

Clara glanced at Fade and hurriedly explained, "No, that's not it. I'm not engaged to him. I'm not his fiancée."

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"Clara, my father and yours have already talked about the engagement. It will happen sooner or later. There is nothing to be embarrassed about," Keith uttered and stepped over again, trying to pull Fade out of the way and get closer to Clara.

However, Fade moved to the side and stopped Keith in his tracks. He growled angrily, "Young Master Zheng, Clara has said that she is not your fiancée, at least not for now. You better not act recklessly."

After being blocked over and over again, Keith was really getting a little furious. He rolled up his sleeves and glared at Fade, saying in a deep voice, "Since when was it your turn to take care of my business? Get out of my way!"

Fade's face sank, he sneered, "Are you sure you want to fight with me?"

As he spoke, Fade smacked his hand on the railing aside. When it was moved away, he left a clear palm mark on the steel railing.

Seeing this, Keith couldn't help but shiver. He came back to his senses in an instant. With a horrified look on his face, he took a few steps back.

Only then, he recalled that Fade here was a martial artist. He benefited from his martial arts skills in rescuing Taufeeq and Clara, and that was why they were so respectful of him.

If they were to fight head-on, Keith was definitely no match for Fade.

Of course, in Keith's opinion, all these martial artists were just brute force. The real and most powerful martial art masters did not have to fight.

Hence, Keith stepped back and stared at Fade coldly. He gritted his teeth and said, "I'll remember you. Once the festival is over, I'll let you know the consequences of offending me."

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Then, Keith took a deep look at Clara, turned around, and left.

Looking at Keith leaving, Clara's eyes showed a trace of worry. She then lowered her head and apologized to Fade, "Brother Chen, I'm sorry, it's all my fault, and that's why you..."

Fade shook his head and reached out to pat Clara on her head. He whispered gently, "Clara, there's no need to apologize. You didn't do anything wrong. Also, what happened between you and Keith?"

Upon mentioning this, Clara's face sank and she sighed softly, explaining, "The Moo family has been suppressed by the Chai family for the past decade, and it is gradually getting harder for us to continue our business in Long City. This time, the Chai family has suffered a great loss and since it is also the Lantern Festival, my father wants to take advantage of this opportunity to surpass the Chai family and regain the position of the number one family in the province."

"It's just that in order for us to have a stable position as the most powerful family in Long City, we would need support from all aspects. Our Moo family is a martial arts family, and we are confident that we can beat the Chai family in martial arts, but in terms of politics and commerce, I'm afraid that we might still have a long way to go before we can surpass them."

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After a pause, Clara continued, "In order to shorten the gap between both our families, my father deliberately went to his old friend, Mr. Zheng for help."

"Mr. Zheng is the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of Southern District. Besides, he is also a committee member of the Department of Commerce of Zobery District. He has a lot of influence over the political and business industry. If our Moo family can win over the support of the Zheng family, then we have nothing else to worry about. We can suppress the Chai family and eventually become the number one family in Long City."

After hearing this, Fade nodded. He could acknowledge Taufeeq's intention, but he could not understand why he used his daughter as the bargaining chip. He asked skeptically, "In order to get the support of the Zheng family, your father wants you to get engaged to Keith?"

Clara shook her head and answered, "Actually, my father didn't force me. At first, my father never planned for an engagement. But two days ago, after Mr. Zheng and Keith came over to my house, Mr. Zheng proposed this idea to my father the next day."

"Mr. Zheng was just giving a suggestion and my dad did not agree to it immediately. He said that Keith and I should spend more time together and get to know each other, then only will we decide if the engagement is official!"

"I don't have any feelings for Keith and I've asked around about his reputation back in his hometown. He doesn't seem like a gentleman at all. What's more, Keith has been pestering me these few days, and he often wants to get all touchy. He's very

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frivolous. So, I don't want to get engaged to him at all."

"I told my dad about this in private and wanted him to reject Mr. Zheng's engagement, but my dad was worried that it would jeopardize the relationship between our families, so he asked me to wait and only talk about this matter after the Lantern Festival."

"Seeing that my family did not reject the engagement, he thought that we had agreed to it and he even thought that I'm in love with him. He was touching me more than usual, and even wanted to invite me out for a drink last night."

Hearing this, Fade finally understood what had happened.

This so-called engagement was just a verbal agreement between their fathers and there was no confirmation of things.

On the Moo family's side, they took their relationship into account, so they did not dare to reject them immediately. On Keith's side, he was too arrogant. He thought that since Clara did not decline him on the spot, she must be in love with him. Hence, he started to get physical with her.

After sorting out the situation, Fade gently patted Clara's head and said, "Clara, you don't have to do this to yourself. If you have any opinions, don't keep them in your heart and just voice them out. If you find it difficult to talk to your father, I'll persuade him later."

Clara nodded with a smile and said, "Brother Chen, thank you, but it's all right. I'll be fine after tonight."

They continued to walk around. Suddenly, a huge bright firework lit up in the air, attracting everyone's attention.

Clara saw this and said to Fade and the others, "Brother Chen, the lantern festival is about to begin. Let's go back to the wooden building. You will have the best view over there."

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Thus, they immediately returned to the wooden building. A bunch of people had already gathered back there, but it was obvious that everyone was still seated according to their social status. The higher their social status, the higher the floor they were on.

Fade and the rest returned to the third floor. Compared to the previous time he was here, the third floor was obviously filled with more people.

The group of people that centered around Taufeeq were mainly members of the Moo family and the distinguished guests that Taufeeq had invited.

On the other end was the Chai family. They mainly consisted of the current leader of the Chai family, Cadmus Chai, and the guests invited by the Chai family.

In the center, there were several big shots of various industries of the Long City, who were also witnessing the infight of the families.

When Fade and the rest returned to the Moo family's side, Keith glared at them unkindly and gave an unpleasant snort.

Salman also shifted his gaze over and said in a bureaucratic tone, "Clara and Mr. Chen are back. Did you guys have a good time?"

It was just a casual question, but from Keith's facial expression, it was obvious that the Zheng father and son pair were not pleased.

Taufeeq's expression changed when he saw this. He looked at Clara and said in a deep voice, "Clara, what did you just do? Apologize to Keith and Mr. Zheng."

"I..." Clara was slightly surprised and puzzled for a moment.

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Fade, on the other hand, frowned and showed signs of displeasure. He lifted his leg and stepped forward, preparing to put the matter to an end. Even if he offended Taufeeq, he wouldn't care. He did not want Clara to be wronged.

But before Fade could step up, Clara tugged on Fade's sleeve and looked at him with watery eyes. She shook her head gently, bit her lip, and said, "Brother Chen, I'm fine."

Clara then walked towards Salman and Keith, bowed, and apologized, "Mr. Zheng, Keith, I was too willful just now. I accidentally offended Keith, so I'll apologize to you two."

Upon hearing that, Keith had a complacent look on his face. He deliberately looked over at Fade and raised his eyebrows in delight. He took the initiative to lift Clara up and said, "Clara, you don't have to apologize. It's no big deal. I've already forgiven you."

Salman, who was beside him also smiled. He looked at Taufeeq and said, "It's normal for children to fight and have emotions. It's usual for couples like them. As long as they get together in the end."

"It's just that it's better for them to deal with it themselves. Outsiders don't have to intervene." When Salman said this sentence, he deliberately looked at Fade warningly.

Seeing this, Fade squinted his eyes but he did not take Salman's warning seriously. Instead, he looked at Clara with an encouraging look.

Taufeeq couldn't help but let out a laugh when he felt that the atmosphere was somewhat awkward. "Look, the lantern festival has begun."

As a result, the group of people immediately casted their gaze over at the Wavey River.

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The night had completely descended. The exquisitely beautiful lanterns on both sides of the Wavey River had all been lit up. There were tons of different lanterns in combination with colorful lighting, which lit up the entire place with dazzling lights. The lights on the shore reflected on the surface of the river, and together with the remarkable fireworks, the entire Wavey River became a multicolored world, vibrant and beautiful.

In addition to delicate festive lanterns, they also used modern and advanced technology to play new tricks during this festival. There were tons of lanterns flowing on the river and drones that were suspended mid-air, carrying lanterns that could change their color. It was just fascinating.

Everyone on both sides of the river was excited to see such scenery. Cheers and shouts were all heard one after another.