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Jiang Ning remained seated on the sofa and didn't look like he was even going to stand. He raised his eyes and casually glanced at Xue Kai.

The disdain in his eyes made Xue Kai stunned for a moment before he flew into a rage.

“Don't force me!”

He waved his hands and more than a dozen men rushed in from behind him to surround Jiang Ning and Li Dong.

It was as if they were going to die if Jiang Ning didn't hand over the information he had on Linglong Group.

Jiang Ning's expression didn't change when he saw the men surround him. He was actually fairly amused.

Were all the sons of these so called powerful families in the north all so dumb?

Why weren't there more who were as clever as Song Xiaoyu?

He couldn't believe that there were still more people coming to him with a death wish.

“Brother Ning.”

Li Dong had followed Jiang Ning for quite some time now, and he was used to seeing anything now. He didn't care which family this guy was from. He knew that as long as Jiang Ning gave the order, the wolves outside would immediately

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come in and throw all of them out.

“No worries, continue your report,” replied Jiang Ning calmly, as if Xue Kai and his men didn’t exist.

“Got it,” Li Dong nodded and continued to report his analysis.

“So from what we can see, if Lin Group wants to move from single industry to multi industry, we’ll need...”

Xue Kai was initially surprised that Jiang Ning and Li Dong had continued talking as if they were alone in the room and treated him as air. But after that, his entire face turned red from anger as if he had been struck by lightning.

Jiang Ning was insulting him! He was humiliating him!

Jiang Ning pretended that he didn’t even exist!

“You...you’re asking for it!”

Xue Kai had never been disregarded like that before. Even when he was overseas, all those upper class families never treated him like this.

“Take them down!” he roared and his men dashed over.

But Jiang Ning remained seated and was lazily leaning to one side.

Li Dong sat across from him and was reading his report to Jiang Ning.

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The two of them continued their own business as if Xue Kai and his men were just air.

Xue Kai was going to blow up soon.

BAM!

BAM!

BAM!

.....

Jiang Ning was still seated where he was and Li Dong was still reading his report, but Xue Kai's men had all gone flying and crashed onto the wall before landing hard on the floor in pain.

In just a minute, more than a dozen of them were piled on top of one another at the wall.

Jiang Ning hadn't even changed position.

He leaned against the sofa and didn't even glance at the furious Xue Kai. He picked up his drink, took a large mouthful and looked at Li Dong.

"Anything else besides these items?"

Jiang Ning seriously didn't care about Xue Kai at all.

The air in the room suddenly fell silent. Even those men who had been sent flying by Jiang Ning endured the pain and stopped howling.

They had never been so humiliated before.

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“I’m going to kill you!” Xue Kai suddenly gave a loud shout. His face was all red from anger and blood rushed to his head. He felt like he had been thrown onto the floor and stepped on by Jiang Ning.

The most humiliating thing in the world was to be ignored.

And he had been completely ignored!

He roared and swung his fists as he made his way towards Jiang Ning.

BAM!

Xue Kai landed right on top of all the men who were piled up at the wall. His face instantly paled as he clutched his own chest. He couldn’t even get a howl out.

His entire body was tense and he felt like he had broken several ribs.



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The pain was nearly enough to make Xue Kai faint, but it was also painful enough to keep him alert.

Xue Kai's ears were ringing and he could still hear Li Dong talking to Jiang Ning. Meanwhile, Jiang Ning...didn't even raise his head to look at him!

The entire group of them were still howling in pain at the wall and couldn't move at all. But at the same time, nobody bothered about them as if they were just air.

After some time, Jiang Ning nodded and was clear on the current situation.

"We'll go with your plan, let me know if you run into any problems," Jiang Ning said as he got up. He walked to the door and turned to look at the pile of men at the wall who couldn't move anymore. He turned back to Li Dong and said, "Call some cleaners to clear the trash out."

Jiang Ning didn't take a second look and left the room.

Xue Kai heard what Jiang Ning said. Especially the part where Jiang Ning called them trash and asked Li Dong to get the cleaner to clear them out...

PFFT...

He couldn't take it anymore and spat out a mouthful of blood before blacking out.

By the time Xue Kai regained consciousness, he

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felt that his body was quite cold. When he opened his eyes to look around him, he instantly started screaming.

He was actually lying in the garbage dump!

The terrible stench around him made him retch and he had no idea what was on his body. The awful smell of rotten vegetables and leftover food made him feel like fainting and there were flies everywhere. He felt his hair stand on end.

Jiang Ning had literally treated him as trash and threw him into the garbage dump.

“Jiang Ning! I’m going to KILL YOU! I’m definitely going to kill you!!” Xue Kai screamed hysterically. He felt that he was so dirty, he’d never be able to wash himself clean.

He rushed back to the Xue house and frightened all the servants the minute he stepped in. Everyone covered their noses and ran away because they thought some beggar had actually barged into the house.

Xue Kai returned to his room and bathed himself for an entire hour, but he still felt like he could smell a foul stench on himself and felt very uncomfortable.

“JIANG NING!”

He was so angry that he clenched his teeth hard. He had never been so humiliated in his entire life!

He was an elite in the Xue family, and was one of

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the best in the north. Even when he was studying overseas, his results were always right at the top of the school.

But Jiang Ning...actually called him trash!

“Young Master, Master Xue has asked you to see him,” said the butler politely at Xue Kai’s room door.

“Got it.”

He was about to look for Xue Fangyang himself. His initial plan was to get this matter settled first before telling Xue Fangyang. So the moment he returned, he ran to the Jiang house immediately.

But what he didn’t expect was that he didn’t just fail to settle this matter. He was even humiliated so terribly by Jiang Ning.

Xue Fangyang’s study was very different from Jiang Daoran’s.

The décor was gleaming with jewels and precious metals. It didn’t take an expert to figure out that the calligraphy on the wall was extremely valuable, because it was framed with gold and diamonds.

It was quite strange to pair a luxurious gold and diamond frame with traditional calligraphy, but Xue Fangyang liked this style.

He sat at the desk but he wasn’t reading or writing. Instead, he was stacking his gold bars in a pyramid and was carefully placing the highest

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bar on top.

“Dad,” Xue Kai greeted him as he pushed the door open.

Xue Fangyang looked up and his elbow accidentally knocked over the pyramid of gold bars.

“What are you shouting about!” yelled Xue Fangyang with a frown.

He wasn't really that old, but his hair was already all white, so it made him look at least a decade older than he really was. “You've come back from overseas but didn't come home first. What were you doing at the Jiang house?”



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Xue Fangyang clearly sounded displeased.

He was already angry that Xue Kai had returned without telling him. Worse still, he didn't come home to say hello first and went straight to the Jiang house.

Was that house better than his own?

"Dad, I went to visit Auntie Ning," explained Xue Kai. "She called me and said that she missed me very much. She was talking and crying at the same time, so of course I had to come back and see her."

"She's pitiful too, she married a man who doesn't love her and they don't have children, so she's going to grow old all by herself. It's only right for a younger one like me to visit her."

His reason sounded so typical of women that Xue Kai nearly believed it himself.

"Serves her right!" Xue Fangyang merely scoffed. He didn't seem to have any concern or empathy for his own younger sister, and was only filled with hatred and anger.

"She chose this path herself, so she has to finish the journey even if she ends up crawling on her knees!"

Xue Kai didn't say anything.

He thought the same way as Xue Fangyang, but he was just trying to find a reason to placate Xue Fangyang.

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“Back then, there were so many men wooing her but she had to choose a man who was already married and end up being a third party who broke up someone else’s marriage! What an embarrassment to the Xue family!” Xue Fangyang was so angry that he slammed the table. “And your grandfather too! I don’t know what he was thinking about! I can’t believe he actually agreed to this marriage!”

The previous head of the Xue family had not just agreed to the marriage, but also invested a huge amount of resources to help the Jiang family solidify its position in the north, and had even helped to make the Jiang family one of the supremely powerful families.

Xue Fangyang had been bearing this grudge for more than ten years now.

He didn’t understand why the Jiang family should have benefited at all.

Those resources belonged to the Xue family. In other words, once the previous head of the Xue family died, those things should have belonged to Xue Fangyang. So why should any of it become part of Xue Ning’s dowry and be given to Jiang Daoran instead?

Back then, he had no right to raise any objections, so he had no choice but to watch the Jiang family rise and watch so many resources move from the Xue family to Jiang Daoran.

The more he thought about this, the angrier he became. The angrier he became, the more he

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looked down on Jiang Daoran and the Jiang family. He even directed his anger onto Xue Ning, his own younger sister.

If his sister wasn't so bewitched by Jiang Daoran, the Xue family would definitely have become the most powerful among the supremely powerful families!

"Why did Grandpa make such a stupid decision?" Xue Kai said in an indignant voice, "The Xue family has no reason to help the Jiang family at all. Even if we wanted to give something as a dowry, we didn't have to give so much either. Grandpa was really an old fogey!"

If the old man were still alive, this father and son wouldn't have dared to even let a fart out.

But now, they dared to say anything they wanted about what happened back then.

"Humph, an old fogey is right," grunted Xue Fangyang. "Besides making the correct choice of passing the position of the head of the family to me, he didn't make any other good decisions."

The more he thought about this matter, the angrier he became. He waved his hands and didn't want to talk about this matter anymore.

Xue Fangyang frowned as he started to smell something strange. He looked Xue Kai up and down and made Xue Kai look very uncomfortable.

"How long has it been since you last bathed?"

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Xue Kai's face reddened immediately and went into a panic.

Of course he wouldn't go for days without bathing!

But he couldn't possibly tell his father that Jiang Ning had dumped him into the garbage dump like he was a piece of trash and he was covered in all sorts of smelly things earlier either.

"I...I've bathed! I just did!"

Xue Kai clenched his teeth as his face reddened and he took a couple of steps back, afraid that Xue Fangyang might smell some other weird odors on himself.

"Dad, I heard that the Long family has collapsed and they've suffered a tremendous loss. They've spent so many years building Linglong Group but someone has taken it away from them," he quickly changed the topic. "I've come back this time because I've got my eye on these things!"

Xue Fangyang narrowed his eyes violently.

"Who told you about this?"



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Only the uppermost levels of the powerful families in the north knew about this. No ordinary person would know about it.

Xue Kai was overseas all this time, so nobody would have told him any of this.

“I happened to find out,” Xue Kai explained it away simply. “That’s not important anyway. Dad, I’m sure you know better than I do about how incredible Linglong Group is. But someone had actually made it collapse and someone called Jiang Ning actually managed to take away everything from it.”

“If the Xue family can get its hands on some of it, then it will definitely be a big boost to our capabilities and help us to go up by another level!”

Xue Fangyang snorted coldly.

He looked at Xue Kai and suddenly realized why this fellow had suddenly returned from overseas. So he had his eye on the collapsed Linglong Group.

But in reality, Xue Fangyang had his eye on the company much earlier than Xue Kai did.

He wasn’t alone. The Pang family probably had their eye on it too.

“Things are not as simple as you think,” said Xue Fangyang. “Linglong Group is also not the sort of company you think it is, so it’s better not to act rashly because...”

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He stopped his sentence halfway and his face fell as he stared hard at Xue Kai.

His sinister looking eyes made Xue Kai feel nervous all of a sudden.

“Dad, why are you looking at me like that?”

“Did you go to the Jiang house because you thought that Jiang Ning is from their family?”

“Dad, you know about this?” Xue Kai was surprised. “I did go to the Jiang house to confirm this matter. If that Jiang Ning is really from the Jiang family, then we can get what we want directly from Jiang Daoran!”

Since the Jiang family was what it was today thanks to the Xue family, then Jiang Daoran had to give them anything they wanted!

“And in the end?” Xue Fangyang scoffed.

“Auntie Ning said he’s not,” scoffed Xue Kai.

“Since he isn’t, then we can go ahead and snatch it from him.”

“And did you get anything?” Xue Fangyang had a nasty expression on his face and sounded angry now. “If you managed to get anything, would you have this nasty smell on yourself? You are such an embarrassment! The Xue family has been utterly embarrassed because of you!”

Xue Kai didn’t say anything. He knew that he couldn’t hide anything from Xue Fangyang anymore.

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His face was all red now. He just wanted to prove that he was capable enough to become the next head of the family.

“I underestimated him,” Xue Kai clenched his teeth and his fists. “I’ll definitely settle this feud with him! Besides, he’s not from the Jiang family, so we can attack him without worrying about what might happen after that!”

“You know nothing!” Xue Fangyang spat out angrily. “I’ve spent millions every year so that you can study abroad, but what did you learn?!”

“It’s easier if this Jiang Ning were from the Jiang family!”

If Jiang Ning wasn’t from the Jiang family, then the person backing him would become a mystery. In fact, there was nobody in the north who knew who the person behind Jiang Ning was.

He had wiped out so many powerful families and even managed to make the Long family suffer so badly by forcing Linglong Group to collapse.

But even if Jiang Ning was supposedly backed by the Jiang family and Jiang Daoran, Xue Fangyang wouldn’t believe it.

He didn’t think the Jiang family would have been able to support Jiang Ning to this extent.

“I don’t get it?”

“You don’t have to,” Xue Fangyang started stacking the gold bars on the table again. He

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scoffed, “I’ll handle this matter. You’re too green and you don’t have any experience in how to play this chess game of the north. It’s not going to be easy for you to get what the Xue family wants out of this.”

He wasn’t only going to get what he wanted from Jiang Ning. He was also going to find out who was behind Jiang Ning.

The Long family had suffered terrible losses with almost no explanation, while the Pang family hadn’t reacted at all. The more silent they remained, the more worrying they were.

“Dad!” Xue Kai became anxious. He had purposely returned so that he could show some results, but Xue Fangyang wasn’t even letting him participate in this.

“You can’t do anything that involves killing others yet!”

There was now a sinister aura around Xue Fangyang.



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His eyes were filled with iciness and Xue Kai felt his body shudder.

“Dad...”

“Enough. You don’t have to interfere with this matter. Just concentrate on doing the things you should be doing. You don’t understand the situation in the north, so don’t ruin my plans,” replied Xue Fangyang coldly.

He kept away the murderous air he unleashed earlier and didn’t say anymore.

Everyone wanted all those things in Linglong Group. Since the Long family couldn’t hold onto it, that meant that everyone else now had a chance.

And after the head of the Long family, Long Xiang, had suddenly died, Xue Fangyang could see some things more clearly now.

If the Xue family could seize this chance to replace the position that the Long family had, then it was possible for the Xue family to eventually become the most powerful family among the supremely powerful families of the north.

That was probably the reason why the Long family had set up Linglong Group in the first place.

Xue Kai didn’t dare to say anything when he saw how malicious Xue Fangyang looked. But suppressing his anger made him feel very uncomfortable inside.

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He had never been so insulted before!

He had to somehow get back at Jiang Ning or he would be upset for the rest of his life.

“Got it, Dad. Don’t worry, I won’t do anything rash,” said Xue Kai with a nod.

He didn’t know what Xue Fangyang was going to do, but he was sure that Jiang Ning and the Jiang family were going to suffer!

Meanwhile.

Jiang Ning and Long Ling’er had completed the share transfer and debt transfer as agreed. In order to settle the \$80 billion debt, Jiang Ning took out his cards to settle it on the spot.

The legal consultant that the Long family hired stared at Jiang Ning like he was looking at a monster. He didn’t know how to react at all.

He had never seen someone pull out so many black cards and settle a total bill of billions of dollars.

This guy was too damned rich, wasn’t he?

After everything was signed and stamped, Long Ling’er had mixed feelings inside.

She looked at Jiang Ning and didn’t really know exactly how to describe her own feelings either.

“Thank you.” Long Ling’er finally made these words out after a long time. She felt that this was

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the best thing she could say right now.

Others might not know, but she knew very well that these shares were trouble to her. There were too many people who wanted these shares.

In the past, Long Xiang was in control and the Long family was powerful enough. So even though many others coveted the company, nobody dared to do anything.

But now, Long Xiang was dead and Long Fei was a little out of his mind, so there were so many people watching the new head of the Long family very closely, especially in a messy place like the north.

If they tried to attack, how was she going to fend them off by herself?

She couldn't fight them at all.

By giving these shares to Jiang Ning, it gave him what he needed and it solved her problem.

"It's all business, you don't have to be so polite," replied Jiang Ning.

"I'm not misunderstanding the situation in any way," Long Ling'er remained calm. "Even if it's just a business deal, I want to thank you too."

Jiang Ning looked at Long Ling'er and didn't say anything.

He could feel that this woman had gone through some changes.

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She was completely different from how she was in the past. In fact, she was different from how she was just a month ago.

“Take care.” Jiang Ning nodded and packed up his things.

After getting these shares, it would be easier to get things done. Jiang Ning was going to take back all the businesses that used to be under Linglong Group so that he could fully expand his information network.

Once his information network expanded, he would be able to find whatever Hidden Sect was looking for faster than His Lordship and force His Lordship out of hiding and to reveal who he was.

“Mr Jiang.”

Jiang Ning was about to leave when a voice called out from behind him.

He turned around but didn't recognize the man in front of him.

But Long Ling'er expression changed and seemed a little surprised that this person had actually come to look for Jiang Ning.

She frowned slightly and looked slightly worried. She glanced at Jiang Ning as if to tell him not to bother about this man and to be careful, but he had already walked over.

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“Miss Long, you’re around too. It’s been a long time.”

“It’s been a long time, Pang Bo.”

Long Ling’er had purposely used his name instead of referring to him as just Mr Pang or Young Master Pang and Jiang Ning understood that Long Ling’er was trying to warn him about this man.

Pang Bo.

There wasn’t a second Pang family in the north.

Jiang Ning’s gaze immediately sharpened as he thought about what Long Fei said to him the last time.

“His Lordship...might very well be someone from the Pang family!”

Jiang Ning had a calm expression on as he looked at this slightly muscular and fairly confident sounding man. “Do I know you?”

“Oho, Mr Jiang, you’re someone of such high standing, so it’s only normal that you don’t know who I am.” Pang Bo took a step forward and put his hand out but Jiang Ning ignored it. Pang Bo didn’t seem embarrassed and retracted his hand as he smiled, “Miss Long has already told you my name. I’m Pang Bo and I have admired you for a long time.”

Jiang Ning didn’t say anything.

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He couldn't say anything either. Was he supposed to thank Pang Bo?

"Mr Jiang got through the five gantries, wiped out the Zhou family and the Wu family, then managed to gain control over more than a dozen powerful families," Pang Bo smiled so gently that he looked like he was really here to talk to his favorite celebrity. "And then wiped out the Chang family, and then the Long family...oh, Miss Long, I'm so sorry to mention this. I don't mean any harm, I hope you won't misunderstand me."

He bowed slightly to apologize to Long Ling'er and looked fairly apologetic.

Long Ling'er had no expression on her face. She was very wary of anyone from the Pang family.

Pang Bo in particular, was someone that everyone else in the same generation was afraid of.

The Pang family had remained low profile, and Pang Bo was equally low profile. He rarely made an appearance, but any news with him in it was definitely big news. Long Xiang used to say that even if you put all the children of the other powerful families together, they would lose to Pang Bo.

"Many things have been happening nonstop in the north and I've been watching it all this while. I suppose Mr Jiang has been watching too, right?"

He didn't start watching only after Jiang Ning entered the north. He had been watching ever since Donghai suddenly started rising and Jiang

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Ning took down Shenghai and the southeast region.

Pang Bo was not considered handsome, but he always sounded friendly and easygoing, so it was hard for anyone to find fault with him.

Pang Bo knew that if he remained courteous, nobody could pick a fight with him.

“I don’t care if you’ve been watching.”

But Jiang Ning didn’t bother being polite in return.

“Don’t talk as if we know each other very well. Do I even know you? What a nutcase,” scoffed Jiang Ning. He turned away from Pang Bo and said to Long Ling’er, “I’m off.”

He then turned and left.

Pang Bo was taken aback. He had taken the initiative to speak to Jiang Ning but Jiang Ning didn’t even want to hear him finish what he wanted to say. Nobody had ever dared to treat him like this before.

“Mr Jiang,” called out Pang Bo. But Jiang Ning didn’t stop and didn’t even slow down.

It was as if he couldn’t hear Pang Bo at all.

And even if he did, he didn’t care. So what if he was Pang Bo?

So what if his surname was Pang?

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Even if your surname was Sun and your name was Sun Wukong, Jiang Ning couldn't be bothered.

“Mr Jiang!” Pang Bo frowned and was quite displeased with Jiang Ning's reaction. He raised his volume and called out, “If you don't listen to the rest of what I'm going to say, you'll regret it!”

Jiang Ning suddenly stopped walking.

He turned around and narrowed his eyes slightly. He stared at Pang Bo and the beams of light that seemed to shoot out from his eyes made Pang Bo's heart skip a beat in fear.

“Then what are you going to do if I still regret it after hearing what you say?”

Pang Bo laughed and his eyes trembled slightly.

“You know Mr Jiang Daoran, the head of the Jiang family?” He looked at Jiang Ning and said calmly, “Someone wants to kill him tonight.”



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After Pang Bo said this, he looked hard at Jiang Ning to see if there was any change in Jiang Ning's expression.

But to his surprise, Jiang Ning remained expressionless. He didn't react at all.

It was as if he didn't hear the name Jiang Daoran. Or rather, even if he heard it, this person was a stranger to Jiang Ning.

It had no effect on Jiang Ning at all.

The calmness on Jiang Ning's face caught Pang Bo off guard.

"Someone wants to kill him?" Jiang Ning walked back towards Pang Bo. "And what has that got to do with me?"

Jiang Ning's expression instantly darkened when he stood in front of Pang Bo, making Pang Bo's eyelid twitch.

"You said that I would regret not listening to what you have to say," said Jiang Ning. "I've heard it now and I really regret it."

"You..."

PAK!

Without waiting for Pang Bo to speak, Jiang Ning slapped him hard across the face.

The sound was so crisp and loud that even Long Ling'er was shocked.

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Jiang Ning...hit Pang Bo?

He was from the Pang family!

He was the most outstanding young man in all of the north!

And Jiang Ning had just hit him like that.

“How dare you hit me!”

Pang Bo was stunned and barely realized what just happened.

He didn't expect Jiang Ning to hit him without warning.

“What, I still have to pick a time to hit you?” said Jiang Ning calmly. “For some reason, I just hate this high and mighty attitude that you have.”

“Why you...” Pang Bo was furious.

“I don't care about who Jiang Daoran is or who wants to kill him,” Jiang Ning was completely unbothered by Pang Bo's anger. “Whether he's dead or not has nothing to do with me. Who do you think you are? How dare you make a decision for me?”

He was so arrogant!

Pang Bo's face instantly reddened from anger.

Jiang Ning had slapped him in front of Long Ling'er. Didn't Jiang Ning know who he was?!

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Pang Bo wanted to fight back, but he knew that he was no match for Jiang Ning.

According to the information he had, Chang Zaiyuan and all his family's highly skilled fighters had died in Jiang Ning's hands. Jiang Ning would probably be able to squish Pang Bo with just one finger.

But this slap...really stung!

Pang Bo wished he could fight Jiang Ning right now, but after looking at the way Jiang Ning stared at him, he didn't dare to move at all.

He didn't expect Jiang Ning to be so hot tempered.

He thought that his haughty attitude would put him in a higher position than Jiang Ning, but Jiang Ning ignored all of that.

"Not hitting back?" Jiang Ning glared at Pang Bo and scoffed. "I'm off then."

Long Ling'er just stood there with everyone else in the office. Nobody dared to say anything.

One was the rarely seen Young Master of the very low profile but supremely powerful Pang family of the north, Pang Bo.

The other was the one who had recently caused a huge stir in the north, Jiang Ning.

But after Jiang Ning had slapped Pang Bo on the face, Pang Bo didn't even whimper.

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“Bye, Ling’er.” Since Pang Bo wasn’t going to fight back, Jiang Ning didn’t want to waste anymore time here. He waved to Long Ling’er and walked off coolly.

He left behind an angry and humiliated Pang Bo with five bright red finger marks on his face, as well as a quiet crowd who was just watching the show.

After a long time, Pang Bo took a deep breath. He clenched his fists tightly, then slowly relaxed.

“Jiang Ning...”

His expression was frosty and filled with malice. There were no traces of the elegance and intellectual look he had earlier. It was as if that slap from Jiang Ning smacked the true colors out of his face.

“Just you wait!”



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Pang Bo turned and left. Long Ling'er finally let out a sigh of relief.

She was really afraid that Pang Bo would fight back.

She wasn't worried that Jiang Ning might get hurt. She was worried that Jiang Ning might accidentally kill Pang Bo and offend the Pang family. That would be really difficult to handle.

Even though they were all from supremely powerful families, the Pang family was the most low profile of them all and there was almost no information on them at all.

The less anyone knew about the Pang family, the more potentially dangerous they were.

"I can't believe even the Pang family has their eye on Jiang Ning now," Long Ling'er frowned. Of course she knew who Jiang Ning really was.

But the rest of the supremely powerful families had probably guessed as much and were going to keep trying to see if they were right.

"Someone probably wants to kill Uncle Jiang in order to force Jiang Ning to reveal himself."

Her face was filled with worry.

If Jiang Ning didn't do anything, Jiang Daoran might really be in danger. But if Jiang Ning rescued him, then that would be as good as acknowledging their relationship.

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But Long Ling'er knew that Jiang Ning had no attachment to Jiang Daoran, so there was no way Jiang Ning would save Jiang Daoran.

She suddenly paused for a moment. Why did Jiang Ning purposely say bye to her before leaving?

Was he telling her to inform Jiang Daoran about this?

Long Ling'er didn't hesitate any longer and quickly drove towards the Jiang house.

Jiang Daoran was sitting in his study and staring at the painting on the wall. He was still in a daze.

He often just looked at the painting and went into a daze. His eyes weren't focused on anything and looked more like he was daydreaming rather than studying the painting.

Jiang Hai sat on one side and carefully made tea.

"Uncle Jiang, you'd better not go for the exhibition. You shouldn't go," said Long Ling'er anxiously. "Pang Bo said that someone wants to kill you, and I don't think he's joking!"

"Jiang Hai, are you done with the tea? What's taking you so long? I want Ling'er to try this tea."

Jiang Daoran looked like he hadn't heard anything. He didn't even turn around and continued to stare at the painting on the wall.

Long Ling'er became even more anxious.

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“Yes, Master.” Jiang Hai poured a cup of tea and placed it in front of Long Ling’er. “Miss Long, please have some tea.”

But Long Ling’er was in no mood for tea.

She was going crazy from her anxiety.

“This is that punk’s favorite tea.”

These words made Long Ling’er confused for a while.

She looked down at the steaming cup of tea and her heart pounded wildly. She reached out and picked up the cup.

Jiang Ning’s favorite tea?

“Try it.”

Long Ling’er took a small sip and immediately started frowning.

“It’s so bitter!”

What tea was this?!

Why did Jiang Ning like to drink such bitter tea? Her tongue was all numb from the unexpected bitterness of the tea.

“I was the one who brought this bitterness upon him,” said Jiang Daoran. “If I’m dead, he might become happier.”

When it came to the topic of death, Jiang Daoran

NH

didn't look upset or heavy laden. Instead, he looked a little happy and even relieved.

When he heard from Long Ling'er that Jiang Ning didn't react at all when he heard that someone wanted to kill him, Jiang Daoran knew that was a normal reaction from Jiang Ning.

"Uncle Jiang, Jiang Ning..." Long Ling'er didn't know how to say this either.

She knew that she would probably never have Jiang Ning, but she didn't want Jiang Ning and Jiang Daoran to become enemies for life.

"By the way," Jiang Daoran sat down curiously in front of Long Ling'er and didn't look like his mood had been affected in any way. "Do you know Lin Yuzhen?"

"Yes," Long Ling'er put her cup down. "I've met her twice."

Long Ling'er's heart suddenly relaxed when she thought of Lin Yuzhen. She was happy to lose to Lin Yuzhen.

Especially after the last time Lin Yuzhen had stood in front of her to protect her despite the dangers. Long Ling'er knew that she had lost for sure.

"She's very nice, very kindhearted," said Long Ling'er. "She's more suitable than me to be Jiang Ning's wife."

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Jiang Daoran burst out laughing when he heard these words from Long Ling'er.

He opened a can on his desk and took out a cube of sugar and put it into Long Ling'er's cup.

"Try the tea again."

Long Ling'er didn't say anything. She picked up the tea cup and took a small sip again.

The tea was still bitter.

But there was now a tinge of sweetness lingering in her throat.

Lin Yuzhen was that cube of sugar in Jiang Ning's life.

"I've given up," Long Ling'er put the teacup down as if she was letting go of Jiang Ning. She sighed quietly, "As long as Lin Yuzhen is around, there's no way I can take him away from her."

"You should live your own life," said Jiang Daoran. "When the two of you were children, you two played together and you insisted on marrying him. But that was just something between children playing, and you would only know what love is after growing up."

"I've been there before and I don't want you to feel pain and regret in the future. Do you understand what I'm saying?"

Long Ling'er nodded.

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“Jiang Ning won't bear to hurt you either,” continued Jiang Daoran. “He has always treated you like his younger sister and has always protected you and kept you from harm. I'm sure you can feel it too.”

Jiang Daoran leaned against the sofa and smiled.

It was as if he didn't care about what Long Ling'er said earlier about how someone was going to kill him at the exhibition tonight.

He was more concerned about Jiang Ning.

He wanted Jiang Ning to live happily ever after. He didn't want Jiang Ning to go down the same path he did and hurt any of the women who loved and protected him.

“I understand,” replied Long Ling'er. “Don't worry, I won't be a bother to them, and I can't be one anyway.”

If there was another woman in this world who could upset the relationship between Jiang Ning and Lin Yuzhen, that would make Long Ling'er even angrier.

She looked at Jiang Daoran and went back to the reason why she was here.

“Uncle Jiang, about tonight's exhibition...”

“The Pang family has never been so proactive before, so it'll look bad on me if they're so sincere and I refuse to attend,” replied Jiang Daoran with a laugh. “Whatever will be, will be, you can't hide

NH

from it. Besides, there's no need to worry about news from such avenues."

"But..."

Long Ling'er was still worried.

The Pang family were the organizers for tonight's exhibition and Pang Bo was the one who told her this information. On top of that, Jiang Ning had slapped Pang Bo so hard in public. There was no way Pang Bo was going to take this lying down.

She was afraid that this was a trap.

"No buts, don't worry," Jiang Ning smiled. "Alright now, thanks for your concern, but you really needn't worry. You'd better go back to work."

"The Long family's situation is more than enough for you to handle. We didn't have many dealings with one another when your father was around, but if you need any help, you can just tell me."

Long Ling'er knew that Jiang Daoran wasn't going to listen to her no matter what she said.

She was anxious but there was nothing she could do. She could only hope that Jiang Ning wasn't really going to be heartless enough to let Jiang Daoran just die.

Jiang Hai walked Long Ling'er out, then returned to the study swiftly with a grim expression on his face.

"Master, this is not a joke!"

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He could tell that Long Ling'er was really worried.

That meant that someone really wanted to kill Jiang Daoran and it wasn't an empty threat.

Since there were people who suspected that Jiang Ning was related to the Jiang family, then they would also feel that the Jiang family was a great threat to them.

They had to confirm if Jiang Ning was related to the Jiang family.

The easiest way to confirm this was to assassinate Jiang Daoran.

As long as Jiang Ning appeared and rescued Jiang Daoran, then there was no need for any other explanation.

"Why are you so wishy washy too?" Jiang Daoran frowned. "What could happen to me?"

"Master, the Pang family...has hidden themselves from the world too well!"

"Out of the four supremely powerful families, the Jiang family is about on par with the other two. But this Pang family...after so many years, nobody has ever been able to find out exactly how powerful they really are."

Jiang Hai was worried. "We shouldn't take them lightly!"

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Especially now that the situation in the north was very unusual.

The head of the Long family, Long Xiang, had been killed in the night and nobody had any clues on who the murderer was. On top of that, Long Ling'er told them that Long Fei refused to let her investigate this matter.

That was enough to prove that the person behind this was a very powerful person indeed.

“What are you afraid of?” Jiang Daoran looked nonchalantly at Jiang Hai. “It’s not as if it’s the first time someone wants to kill me.”

“Worry about what you should be worrying about, don’t get all antsy over something so small.”

Jiang Hai wanted to say more but Jiang Daoran didn’t pay him anymore attention. He walked back to the painting and went into a daze as he stared at it.

Jiang Hai was both anxious and upset when he saw the way Jiang Daoran reacted, but there was nothing he could do about it.

He knew Jiang Daoran could be really stubborn at times.

Once Jiang Daoran had decided on something, he wouldn’t change his mind.

Perhaps only Jiang Ning could change his mind.

Jiang Hai wanted to look for Jiang Ning, but Jiang

NH

Ning couldn't appear at this point either. If he did anything, then everyone's attention would be on the Jiang family.

A supremely powerful family with a frightening fighter like Jiang Ning.

Everyone would be wary of them.

Some people would immediately treat the Jiang family as a threat and try to wipe the family out.

It was such a difficult choice!

Jiang Hai was going to pull all his hair out from his anxiety soon, but Jiang Daoran looked like it had nothing to do with him at all. There was no worry or nervousness on his face.

Perhaps Jiang Daoran wanted to know if Jiang Ning would save him if someone really wanted to kill him.

Meanwhile.

Jiang Ning looked all relaxed.

It was as if he wasn't bothered by what Pang Bo said at all.

Someone wanted to kill Jiang Daoran?

Who cares?

In fact, even if nobody else wanted to kill Jiang Daoran, Jiang Ning wanted to.

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“Brother Ning, someone from the Pang family sent us an invitation for tonight’s exhibition,” Li Dong passed the invitation to Jiang Ning.

Li Dong’s name was written on it, but he knew that the person that the Pang family really wanted to invite was Jiang Ning.

Pang Bo could really hold it in. He had been slapped so hard but still offered him an invitation. Pang Bo was no simple person.

Only those who could hold their anger down were people who accomplished much. But they were also the most vicious sort of people.

Jiang Ning calmly said, “Since your name is written on it, you can go.”

“Yes, Brother Ning.”

Li Dong had no objections. He would listen to everything Jiang Ning said.

Jiang Ning sat on the sofa and didn’t even look at the invitation card. It was as if this entire matter had nothing to do with him.

He just held onto his phone and chatted with Lin Yuzhen and ignored everything else.

Li Dong went to get ready for the exhibition. There would be a number of big shots at the event, including the heads of three supremely powerful families.

This wasn’t an ordinary exhibition at all. Lin Group

NH

was most likely included in the invitation list only because of Jiang Ning.

The exhibition was hosted by the Pang family and the person in charge was Pang Bo.

The hall was grand and it was clear that a powerful family was hosting this event.

This wasn't just an event to attract investors and merchants, otherwise the head of a supremely powerful family like Jiang Daoran wouldn't be interested in turning up at all.

It was because this event was organized by the Pang family, so they had to turn up as a show of respect.

One entire story of Porto Mall had been set up for the event. Staff came round every now and then to adjust things and made sure that the night's event would be perfect.

The way a powerful family did things was truly different from others.

The Pang family rarely did anything so publicly. This was the first time they were doing something like this in so many years, so it attracted the attention of a lot of people.

Both large and small powerful families in the north had received an invitation and that was a great honor to them.

Pang Bo casually checked the place as if this exhibition wasn't very important to him.

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“Follow my instructions with regard to the placement of the security guards, understand?” he said very specifically.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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NH

As for the Xue family, even Pang Bo didn't have any regard for them, never mind the head of the Pang family.

He was going to use the same plan the Xue family had on them.

In fact, they were probably still thinking that they were making use of the Pang family.

What a bunch of idiots.

As for the Jiang family...if Jiang Ning didn't exist, the Pang family wouldn't have been worried about them.

After all, out of the four supremely powerful families, the Jiang family was the one with the least resources and the one with the weakest capabilities, so the Pang family wasn't bothered by them.

But with the addition of Jiang Ning, everything was different.

Pang Bo went into deep thought but there was no change in expression on his face.

Even though he had been slapped by Jiang Ning earlier, he didn't seem angry at all.

Those who could hide their emotions well were the scariest of all!

There were more and more people coming in.

It started getting noisy.

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Pang Bo walked to the entrance to welcome every guest and seemed to be a friendly and easygoing person.

The heads of other powerful families were mostly older than Pang Bo, but they also quickly ran up to him to shake hands with him and their faces were filled with respect for him.

“Young Master Pang, it’s been hard on you!”

“Young Master Pang, you’re actually receiving us at the door! You’re really too kind to us!”

“Young Master Pang, you still look as good as ever!”

.....

Many formalities were exchanged and Pang Bo patiently answered everyone and chatted with everybody, keeping up the image that everyone had of him.

“Head of the Xue family and Young Master Xue has arrived!”

The person announcing the names at the door looked up and called out loudly, as if he was trying to perform his best in front of Xue Fangyang and his son.

“Mr Xue is here!”

“Mr Xue! Young Master Xue!”

Xue Fangyang looked up and glanced at them as

NH

he nodded calmly. That was considered a response.

He glanced at Pang Bo. “Pang Bo, you’re really quite outstanding. The Pang family has taught you well.

“Uncle Xue, you’re too kind,” replied Pang Bo. “I’m so grateful that you could come today.”

Xue Fangyang nodded.

He glanced at Xue Kai and said, “The two of you are around the same age, so you should mix around more often. Xue Kai, you have to learn from Pang Bo, understand?”

“Yes, Dad,” replied Xue Kai seriously.

He turned to Pang Bo and clasped his hands together politely as he said, “Pang Bo, I’ll be counting on you.”

“Don’t say that, we’ll learn from each other.”

Xue Fangyang walked in and Xue Kai’s expression immediately changed.

He quietly said, “You haven’t done anything in years, but now you’re suddenly putting on a big show. Pang Bo, you’re not a simple person at all.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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NH

Pang Bo replied, "Neither are you."

The two of them exchanged glances and had a meaningful look in their eyes.

Xue Kai didn't say anymore and walked in.

After that, more people came and filled up the venue.

Besides those entrepreneurs who were here for the actual exhibition and some small families, there were many others who had heard about how Pang Bo had other intentions behind holding this exhibition.

They knew that this exhibition was a trap.

And it was to trap Jiang Daoran.

"I wonder if Jiang Daoran dares to come."

"I don't think he'll come. Haven't you heard? Someone wants to kill him!"

"Exactly! Look at how tight the security at this mall is!"

.....

Some were whispering among themselves and wondered if Jiang Daoran would dare to come or not.

Someone had deliberately spread the news about how someone was going to assassinate Jiang Daoran at the exhibition.

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Jiang Daoran's name tag was on the seat right in the middle and it was just next to Xue Fangyang's.

Xue Fangyang glanced expressionlessly at Jiang Daoran's name tag and scoffed quietly.

He wondered if Jiang Daoran would still come since he knew that someone wanted to kill him.

He turned to look at the seats reserved for the representatives from various businesses. The seats for Lin Group were also still empty.

"Don't tell me this father and son doesn't want to take this special chance to reunite?" Xue Fangyang laughed coldly.

Almost all the guests had arrived. Even Long Ling'er had already arrived.

She was now the head of the Long family, but she was of the same generation as Pang Bo, so she had to come to show her respect for his family.

"Uncle Jiang, please, please, please don't come."

Long Ling'er sat down and glanced at the seat reserved for Jiang Daoran and looked worried.

It wasn't only Pang Bo who was saying that someone was going to assassinate Jiang Daoran.

Even Long Fei told her about it and had confirmed that there was an assassin who would come to assassinate Jiang Daoran.

This was clearly a trap. Would Jiang Daoran

NH

come?

“Head of the Jiang family is here!”

Long Ling'er was just thinking about this when the voice at the entrance made her instantly turn around.

At the entrance to the venue.

Pang Bo clasped his hands and greeted Jiang Daoran politely, “Uncle Jiang, it’s been a long time. I hope you are well?”

“Pang Bo, I remember you. Not bad, not bad, you’re so outstanding at such a young age. Since you’ve actually put an exhibition of this scale together, then I should come and show my support,” said Jiang Daoran with a nonchalant smile.

“Thank you for your support, Uncle Jiang. The younger generation still needs the elders to teach and guide us in everything we do,” Pang Bo smiled and stretched his arm out to show the way. “Uncle Jiang, do go in and have a seat!”

Jiang Daoran nodded and walked into the venue. Not even Jiang Hai was by his side.

He must be crazy!

Jiang Daoran had actually come without his personal bodyguard.

He must either think those were just rumors, or he thought himself invincible.

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Long Ling'er's heart started pounding and couldn't figure out what was going on.

She had purposely gone to the Jiang house to warn Jiang Daoran to be careful and not to turn up if possible.

But Jiang Daoran came anyway.

He had come and he had actually come alone. He didn't even bring Jiang Hai, his personal bodyguard who was both a highly skilled fighter and someone who never left Jiang Daoran's side. Was Jiang Daoran hoping to get killed?!

Long Ling'er quickly turned around to check the seats reserved for Lin Group, but they were still empty.

Even Xue Fangyang was surprised.

It took him a while to fully realize what was happening. Jiang Daoran had actually come all by himself?

"Fangyang, why are you staring into space?" Jiang Daoran greeted him. "You seem shocked that I've come by myself."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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NH

Xue Fangyang was more than shocked. He didn't even expect Jiang Daoran to have the guts to turn up.

But now he had turned up, and he had even turned up alone.

Xue Fangyang...was actually a little pleasantly surprised.

But of course, he showed none of it on his face.

"I am a little shocked. Where's Jiang Hai?" asked Xue Fangyang casually. "It's rare to see you without him."

"I've arranged for him to attend to some other matters. I'm not coming to some dangerous place anyway, there's no need to be so nervous," said Jiang Daoran calmly with a smile as he sat down.

Jiang Daoran knew this brother-in-law of his well. Xue Fangyang never had any regard for him.

Even though he was now also the head of a supremely powerful family, Xue Fangyang always thought that everything the Jiang family had was given to them by the Xue family.

Xue Fangyang scoffed quietly and didn't say anymore.

He had nothing to say to Jiang Daoran.

They were seated together, but they had no other interaction besides a bit of small talk.

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“Uncle Jiang,” Long Ling’er came over and whispered with a face filled with worry. “Why did you come alone?”

She was already worried enough that Jiang Daoran had actually turned up. And he had actually come by himself without even bringing Jiang Hai!

That was insane!

“The invitation card only had my name on it, so of course I’ll come by myself,” replied Jiang Daoran with a smile. “Don’t worry, it’s not as scary as you think.”

He then waved his hands to tell Long Ling’er not to talk anymore. The event was about to begin.

Long Ling’er wanted to say more, but since Jiang Daoran didn’t want to hear her out, there was no point.

She turned towards the seats reserved for business representatives. Why wasn’t anyone from Lin Group here yet?

Even the heads of supremely powerful families were already here. Weren’t they a bit late?

Many people were murmuring among themselves and shaking their heads. They felt that Lin Group was being rude.

“Why, are the folks from Lin Group not coming?” Xue Fangyang peered over. “Don’t tell me they’ve expanded so much that they don’t care for

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coming to this exhibition?”

His words were dripping with sarcasm.

“I think they don’t dare to come,” Xue Kai scoffed and replied just as sarcastically.

He remembered how Jiang Ning had treated him like trash and just threw him into the garbage dump, making him stink of garbage.

He wasn’t going to take that lying down.

But Jiang Ning probably knew that he would be in deep trouble if he came, so he chose not to come.

Wasn’t Jiang Ning very formidable?

Someone was coming to kill Jiang Daoran, so wasn’t he worried at all?

“Representative from Lin Group is here!”

The moment that voice called out, everyone turned to look at the entrance.

The star of the night was here!

Everyone knew that the Pang family was focused on Lin Group and Jiang Daoran.

Everyone looked over at the entrance to find Li Dong standing there all by himself.

Even Pang Bo couldn’t believe that Lin Group had only sent one person.

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Pang Bo was more than happy that only one person from the Jiang family had turned up, because that would make it easier to carry out his plans. But he was surprised that only one person from Lin Group had turned up, and it wasn't the person he was hoping for.

"Young Master Pang, sorry for coming late. I was really busy at work," Li Dong clasped his hands together politely and smiled.

"No worries, the event hasn't started yet, so you're not late."

Pang Bo looked at Li Dong and frowned slightly.

The invitation card did only have Li Dong's name on it, but Pang Bo had reserved three seats for Lin Group. So even if Jiang Ning came along, they could even bring one more person.

But in the end, only Li Dong turned up.

Pang Bo's expression looked a little nasty now. If Jiang Ning didn't turn up, how was this show supposed to go on?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

NH

“Lin Group has sent you here alone?” Pang Bo had to ask.

“That’s right. It’s enough for me to turn up alone at such events.” Li Dong then smiled and continued to explain, “Young Master Pang, don’t get me wrong, I don’t mean anything else.”

“I’m the representative that Lin Group has in the north and only my name was written on the invitation card, so of course I’d come by myself.”

He then nodded, signed his name off on the guest list and walked into the venue.

Li Dong could feel everyone staring at him as he walked to his seat.

It was as if they were very surprised that he had come by himself.

It was just an exhibition and it didn’t matter whether Lin Group came or not. Were they hoping for a big shot like Jiang Ning to come?

Even Li Dong didn’t want to come!

Li Dong ignored all those stares and walked on confidently.

He had to represent Lin Group well and couldn’t embarrass Jiang Ning!

He walked to his seat and sat down. Everyone was still looking at him.

Even Jiang Daoran was staring at Li Dong. He

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looked calm, but Long Ling'er could see a tinge of disappointment in his eyes.

Jiang Ning really didn't turn up.

He didn't care about whether Jiang Daoran was dead or alive. He wasn't bothered despite knowing that someone was out to kill Jiang Daoran.

"I'm afraid he would prefer to kill me himself," said Jiang Daoran to himself.

He took a deep breath and turned back. He stopped looking at Li Dong and didn't say anything as he quietly waited for the event to begin.

"Dad, he didn't come," Xue Kai whispered. "Do we proceed?"

Xue Fangyang frowned.

If Jiang Ning didn't come, what should he do next?

Should he really proceed with assassinating Jiang Daoran?

Xue Fangyang didn't care about whether Jiang Daoran was dead or alive. Even if Jiang Daoran fell down dead right now, he wouldn't feel anything. He might even feel very happy.

But he couldn't possibly let his younger sister suddenly become a widow either, right?

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No matter how angry he was, Xue Ning was his younger sister and a member of the Xue family after all.

“We’ll proceed,” replied Xue Fangyang. “Even if Jiang Ning didn’t turn up, I’m sure he’s arranged for someone else.”

He was still sure that Jiang Ning would still try to protect Jiang Daoran.

He was very sure that Jiang Ning was definitely Jiang Daoran’s son. There was no mistake!

Before this, Xue Fangyang might still have some suspicions. But when he saw that Jiang Daoran had come alone, he was sure that Jiang Daoran was also hoping for Jiang Ning to turn up.

“Ladies and gentlemen,” Pang Bo stood on the stage and said loudly, “I’m very happy to have everyone here to attend tonight’s exhibition. It is my great honor to have all of you here!”

“The various companies invited today are all companies with influence in the north. Their products have been extremely well received in the northern market.”

He continued in a loud voice, “I’ve called everyone together today along with their products so that we can all interact with one another. On one hand, this will help in the advancement of the north’s economy, but also this will give everyone more chances to work together.”

Everyone clapped loudly.

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“The exhibit is behind me, and all the products are displayed here.”

“Everyone can have a look and ask anything you want. I hope that through tonight’s interaction and feedback, we can move towards working together to make the north a more prosperous place!”

After Pang Bo finished his speech, all the various representatives and guests from powerful families got up and walked towards the exhibit and started interacting with one another.

The venue was immediately filled with the sound of chatter.

“Uncle Jiang, aren’t you going to have a look?” asked Pang Bo with a smile.

Jiang Daoran got up and had a big smile on his face. “Of course. I’m interested in a few things too. Come, let’s go have a look!”

After he stood up, Xue Fangyang stood up too. He followed behind Jiang Daoran and secretly glanced at Xue Kai. Xue Kai immediately got the message.

Xue Kai walked to one side and gave a hand signal when nobody was watching.

At the same time, on the empty second story of the mall, a pair of eyes appeared from behind a pillar. They immediately became sharp and vicious.

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He wore a mask over his face, but those eyes made one feel cold all over by just looking at them.

They were completely void of feeling. This man was just a killing machine.

He saw Xue Kai's hand signal and turned around to hide behind the pillar and open the briefcase he brought.

From the outside it looked like a violin case of sorts. But if anyone saw what was really inside, they would get a terrible shock.

He expertly put the weapon together and pulled a black arrow out. He fitted the arrow into the slot with a click.

After that, he peeked out to locate his target.

He lifted the crossbow in his hands slowly and aimed it at Jiang Daoran standing in front of the exhibit.

He held the crossbow with one hand and placed his other hand on the trigger. The arrow was aimed accurately at Jiang Daoran.

But suddenly...

A hand came from the back and gently patted him on the shoulder. He instantly felt all his hair stand on end.

Why was there someone here?

NH

Wasn't the second story empty?!

Besides, he would have been sensitive enough to detect someone coming near him. Or he would have at least heard his footsteps.

But he only realized there was someone behind him after this hand landed on his shoulder!

"Is this thing fun to play with?"

He turned his head violently to meet with a curious face. "Could I play with it for a while?"

"You..."

PAK!

Before he could say anything, Jiang Ning struck him on the neck with his hand and knocked him out.

He took over the crossbow and looked down.

"Not bad, this thing would kill that old thing for sure!"

Jiang Ning ignored the assassin who had collapsed on the floor. He peered down at Jiang Daoran and scoffed quietly, "Even if you want him dead, I'm the only one allowed to kill him."

He then raised the crossbow and his stance was even more professional looking than the assassin on the floor.

He placed a finger on the trigger. He took aim and

NH

pulled it almost instantly.

SWOOSH!

The arrow shot out as quickly as lightning.

Jiang Daoran and many others were standing front of the exhibit and there were many who were listening to Jiang Daoran speak.

Suddenly a sound of something piercing through the air was heard, and the next thing they could hear was a bloodcurdling scream.

“AHHH!”

The sound of the arrow piercing through flesh made everyone's hair stand on end.

Everyone paled as they turned to find that Xue Kai was lying on the floor. The arrow had gone through his thigh and pinned him to the floor, and blood was spurting everywhere.

Many ladies instantly started shrieking and screaming from fright and quickly ran aside.

The men with them were all pale. They never thought something like this would happen.

There was a sniper!

“Run! Run!”

“Someone, come and help!”

The entire venue was thrown into confusion.

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Nobody expected someone to assassinate Xue Kai.

If Xue Kai hadn't suddenly moved, this arrow would have shot right through Xue Kai's chest.

Xue Fangyang's face paled. He never imagined things would turn out this way.

How did this bloody arrow end up shooting his own son?!

He looked up but didn't see anything at all. He started shouting, "There's a sniper! There's a sniper somewhere! Catch him! Catch him!!"

Xue Fangyang was going mad with anger.

Everyone was running in all directions and the place was a complete mess.

Pang Bo was equally shocked. He knew that someone was going to kill Jiang Daoran and he even knew it was the Xue family who was going to arrange for a killer. So Pang Bo had gone along with Xue Fangyang's plan in secret because he too, wanted to see Jiang Ning come out and save Jiang Daoran.

But in the end, Jiang Ning didn't turn up and Jiang Daoran was fine. The one who was nearly killed was someone from the Xue family instead!

What on earth was happening?

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“AHH!!”

Xue Kai was still lying on the floor. The arrow had gone through his thigh and pinned him to the floor, so it was difficult for him to get off the floor.

His cries were even more chilling than a ghost wailing.

Xue Fangyang was anxious and wanted to help him but he didn't know how to. He was even more worried that the assassin that he had hired would not stop until he killed Xue Kai.

“Help! Help!”

He couldn't be bothered about who the assassin was anymore. Xue Fangyang was worried that the assassin might shoot another arrow and kill his son.

But nobody cared about his pleas.

SWOOSH!

Another arrow shot through the air and pinned Xue Kai's other leg to the floor.

“AHHHH!”

Xue Kai's entire body was shaking now.

His screams of pain were so petrifying that it sent chills down everyone's spine.

Xue Fangyang heard the terrible cries of Xue Kai and felt like his own heart was going to leap out

NH

of his mouth.

Was that killer nuts?!

His target was supposed to be Jiang Daoran!

Why was he trying to kill Xue Kai?!

“Why are you still standing there? Help him!”

Xue Fangyang was still in a daze when Jiang Daoran dashed over and used all his strength to pull at the arrows.

“Xue Kai, hang in there, I’m going to save you!”

Jiang Daoran gave a loud shout as he broke the arrow and cut his palm as a result.

SWOOSH!

It was yet another arrow.

Xue Fangyang felt like his soul was leaving his body soon.

But this arrow didn’t seem to be aimed at nothing in particular. It grazed past Jiang Daoran’s shoulder, but if it was just off by a few inches, it would have shot right through Jiang Daoran’s heart!

Even Xue Fangyang couldn’t help but yelp.

“Watch out!”

He never expected Jiang Daoran to go all out to

NH

save his son. Wasn't he afraid to die?

Even Xue Fangyang himself didn't have this sort of courage.

"Get him!"

"He's on the second story! Hurry up!"

"Get him!"

One of the security guards followed the arrow and immediately pointed to the second story, and everyone started making their way upstairs.

"AHHH!" Xue Kai was still screaming in pain and his face was completely pale. He was in terrible pain and his tears couldn't stop flowing.

"Uncle Daoran! Save me! Save me please!"

He didn't even bother yelling for his father to save him because the one who was trying his best to save him right now turned out to be Jiang Daoran, the uncle that he never had any regard for.

"Don't worry, I'm on it!"

Jiang Daoran used both hands to grab the other arrow and used all his strength to tug at it, but the angle was making it difficult for him to exert his force.

"Fangyang! Don't run! Save your son!" He yelled so loudly that it echoed.

Almost everyone heard it. Xue Kai was in grave

NH

danger and could die any moment, but Xue Fangyang was trying to escape?

That was his own son!

Instead, it was Jiang Daoran who was risking his life to save Xue Kai and had nearly been shot earlier!

“Hurry!”

“Get him!” yelled Pang Bo loudly. Things had taken a completely different turn and he didn't understand what on earth the Xue family was doing.

He was probably going to get into trouble as well.

A whole group of security guards ran up the stairs towards the second story and went according to Pang Bo's original instructions.

Meanwhile.

Jiang Ning stretched a hand out to slap the unconscious assassin awake.

“Hey, wakey wakey.”

The assassin opened his eyes in confusion and before he could figure out what was happening, Jiang Ning passed the crossbow back to him.

“This toy of yours is not bad at all!” He got up and laughed, “Here, you can have it back.”

After that, Jiang Ning became a mere shadow

NH

and disappeared in front of the assassin.


“He’s there! Catch him!”


“That’s him! Surround him, don’t let him get away!”


The assassin turned to see a few dozen security guards coming for him from all directions with Tasers in their hands. His eyes immediately widened and his blood started to rush.

What the hell was going on now?

“Fuck!” He climbed to his feet and started running without even taking his weapon along.

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NH

“Get him!”

“Don't let him get away!”

The security guards were running after the killer like they had all gone crazy.

The killer's lungs were going to burst from his anger!

Didn't they agree earlier that after killing Jiang Daoran, someone would ensure an easy escape route for him? What was going on now?

And who was that person who suddenly appeared earlier and what did he do? The assassin had completely no idea.

He was going crazy.

He hadn't done anything and blacked out. By the time he woke up, he was being chased by these crazy people.

If they caught him, they'd probably beat him to death!

The assassin was going crazy as he continued to run for his life. He had already cursed Xue Fangyang and his son several times over in his heart.

This deal was going to cost him his own life as well.

SWOOSH!

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He ran quickly through the mall and followed the original escape route that was planned for him. The men behind him were supposed to just pretend to chase after him but would eventually let him go.

But right now, all the security guards were still running after him with a ferocious look on their faces! They looked ready to kill him right now!

“Fuck you, Xue Fangyang!” cursed the killer. He had no choice but to run like the wind, and he finally managed to shake off the security guards.

Meanwhile.

The venue slowly calmed down as a huge number of security guards flooded the place.

“Call the ambulance! Call an ambulance now!” shouted Xue Fangyang loudly.

Xue Kai was still lying on the floor. He was no longer attached to the floor, but the arrows were still pierced through his legs. Nobody dared to pull them out.

They couldn't pull them out either.

Jiang Daoran used one hand to support Xue Kai and used another hand to try to stop the bleeding, but fresh blood continued to flow through his fingers.

“Hang in there, once the doctor arrives, you'll be fine.”

NH

Xue Kai's lips were trembling and his face was pale. His bloodshot eyes were filled with tears.

He was in deep pain but he still clenched his teeth and said, "Un-uncle Daoran...th-thank..."

"Don't speak anymore," Jiang Daoran shook his head. "Stay awake, the ambulance will be here soon!"

Xue Kai nodded and didn't say anymore.

He clearly remembered that when he felt he was about to die, even his own father wanted to run for it while Jiang Daoran continued to stand in front of him.

That arrow nearly killed Jiang Daoran!

Wasn't he afraid of dying?

Didn't Jiang Daoran know that he never treated him as an uncle or an elder?

Didn't Jiang Daoran know that he never had any regard for the Jiang family?

Why did Jiang Daoran want to save him?

Xue Kai really didn't understand. Shouldn't Jiang Daoran want him dead?

The sirens of the ambulance could be heard. An ambulance was here!

"Hurry!! Save my son! Hurry!" Xue Fangyang's voice resounded like thunder. "Save my son!"

NH

Xue Fangyang's face was ashen when he saw the huge amount of blood on the floor. He never thought something like this would happen. This wasn't what he expected at all.

The medics immediately rushed in with a stretcher and carefully carried Xue Kai onto it.

"Ah!"

The movement agitated Xue Kai's wounds and he yelped in pain, then lost consciousness.

"Xue Kai!" Xue Fangyang's face was drained of color. "Save him! Save him!"

"If anything happens to my son, I'll kill all of you!"

He was really going crazy from his anxiety.

"Fangyang!" Jiang Daoran held onto him. "Don't be a nuisance to the doctors! Calm down!"

"How do you expect me to be calm? That's my son! If he dies, I'm going to make sure everyone dies with him!"

"Xue Fangyang!" Jiang Daoran bellowed. "Pull yourself together!"

His voice was so loud that Xue Fangyang shuddered and instantly calmed down. He stared at Jiang Daoran in a daze, and looked at this man who had just risked his life to save Xue Kai.

NH

“The most important thing now is to make sure Xue Kai’s legs are fine! As for who’s behind this, we’ll investigate it later!” Jiang Daoran didn’t waste anymore time and helped the medics to get Xue Kai into the ambulance and left for the hospital.

Xue Fangyang felt his chest heave. The person behind this?

He was the one who hired that killer! He was supposed to kill Jiang Daoran! How did he end up trying to kill Xue Kai and even himself?

Instead, it was Jiang Daoran who saved them. What on earth was going on?!

“Uncle Xue, don’t worry, I’ll investigate this matter carefully and be accountable to Xue Kai!” Pang Bo walked over and his expression was grim.

Such an incident made him furious too.

Everything had already been set in place and they were just waiting to catch Jiang Ning. Nobody expected things to turn out like this.

It was one thing for the killer to aim for someone else besides Jiang Daoran. How did the target become Xue Kai and Xue Fangyang?

He couldn’t understand how any of this happened.

“Be accountable?”

Xue Fangyang stared at Pang Bo and his

NH

expression darkened.

“Young Master Pang, he's gotten away!”

Before Xue Fangyang could say anything, the head of security came running over and was panting as he said, “That assassin sensed us chasing after him and had an escape route all planned out ahead of time, so our men...didn't manage to nab him.”

PAK!

Pang Bo slapped him across the face. “Useless piece of trash!”

“You useless thing!” He shouted loudly. “So many of you can't catch one killer? Why do I even pay you?!”

The head of security lowered his head and didn't dare to say anything as his face reddened.

Pang Bo was the one who purposely left a gap for the killer to escape in the first place.

He had followed Pang Bo's instructions but now he got slapped by Pang Bo for it. Of course he was angry.

“Chase after him! Make sure you get him!”

“Xue Kai met with this accident at an exhibition organized by my family, so the Pang family is responsible! We must...”

“Enough!” Xue Fangyang yelled loudly and cut

NH

Pang Bo off.

His expression was dark as he glared at Pang Bo. He didn't bother hiding the fury in his eyes.

"You don't have to act anymore!"

Pang Bo's expression instantly changed.

The thing he was most worried about was happening.

"Did you think I couldn't tell?" Xue Fangyang said coldly, "There are so many security guards here and there are almost no blind corners in this mall. So how did the killer get in?"

The Xue family and the Pang family had coordinated their efforts without actually saying anything to each other at all. Xue Fangyang had just leaked the news that someone was going to kill Jiang Daoran, and Pang Bo had the route all planned out.

Even the escape route had been planned out beforehand.

But now, Xue Fangyang suspected that Pang Bo had bribed the killer!

So the killer was going to take money from him and kill himself and his son!

Otherwise, why would Pang Bo's men allow that killer to get away even though Xue Kai getting injured was clearly not part of the plan?

NH

The only explanation was that Pang Bo had done this on purpose.

He had purposely allowed that killer to get away!

“You had placed your security guards such that it looked like they had sealed off every exit but the killer still managed to get away. Did you think I’m stupid or something?!” Xue Fangyang was furious. “Pang Bo, Pang Bo, I really underestimated you.”

“Are you very disappointed that you didn’t manage to kill me and my son?”

“Isn’t the Pang family terribly disappointed?!”

Pang Bo trembled all over.

If Xue Fangyang thought that way, then he was in trouble.

“Uncle Xue, that’s not what happened, you’re mistaken. How could I possibly...”

“Don’t call me uncle! We’re not that close!” Xue Fangyang scoffed and waved his hand as he said, “I’ll make sure the Pang family pays for this!”



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Xue Fangyang turned and left and didn't care for Pang Bo's explanation.

Pang Bo paled as he watched Xue Fangyang walk away.

He was in trouble.

If the Xue family felt that the Pang family had done this, then the two families were going to be at loggerheads.

He didn't really care too much about the relationship between the two families per se.

All the supremely powerful families were at competition with one another in the first place. In fact, they could all become bitter enemies and make sure they fought till only one of them was left standing.

But right now, Pang Bo was hoping to get the Xue family on his side, trap the Long family and then attack the Jiang family together!

He was going to attack them all at once.

He had set this up so as to kick the Jiang family out since they were a potential threat to him.

He didn't care how Jiang Ning was related to the Jiang family. He just wanted to use the current situation to kick them both out and wipe out their future generation if possible.

But before he could set up this entire trap properly, it had fallen apart by itself.

NH

On top of that, the Xue family had started to suspect that the Pang family had planned for a killer to kill Xue Kai.

That was the son that Xue Fangyang had groomed to become the next head of the Xue family.

The Pang family trying to assassinate the future head of the Xue family was big news!

“What the heck is going on?” Pang Bo yelled angrily. “How did you let him get away?!”

The head of security had a nasty expression on his face.

Pang Bo was the one who told them to leave a gap for the killer to escape, and now he was asking them?

“Young Master Pang, weren’t you the one who said...”

“What did I say?!” Pang Bo didn’t care about looking prim and proper anymore. His expression was threatening as he yelled, “I don’t care what you do, you must catch that guy! What about the closed circuit cameras? Can’t you check the cameras and catch him?!”

“In accordance with your instructions, that position on the second story is a blind spot and we shut off the cameras there too.”

Pang Bo nearly puked blood from his fury. He nearly fainted.

NH

He felt like he had dug his own grave.

He didn't know what to say.

The head of security was still standing there and waiting for Pang Bo's instructions.

"Why are you still standing here? Go and nab that guy now!" yelled Pang Bo loudly.

Things had really gotten complicated. He hoped that nothing bad happened to Xue Kai, otherwise Xue Fangyang was definitely going to direct his fury onto Pang Bo.

The Pang family wasn't afraid of an attack from the Xue family, but clashing with them wasn't something the Pang family wanted to do right now. In fact, this could possibly push them to work with the Jiang family instead.

That would make things even more complicated.

Pang Bo frowned and couldn't understand where everything had gone wrong.

He had planned everything so perfectly.

And even if Jiang Ning didn't appear, he didn't care. He still had a way to achieve his aim.

But now, everything was a mess.

The event couldn't continue any longer and everyone had left. Nobody dared to stay any longer in such a dangerous place.

NH

Pang Bo's mood was terrible now.

If Jiang Ning hadn't appeared, it should have been easier to control the situation. So how...

His eyes suddenly widened.

"Jiang Ning?"

Jiang Ning didn't appear in front of them. But what if he appeared in secret?

This matter might have something to do with Jiang Ning!

He turned around and tried to look for someone from Lin Group. But all of them had left and Li Dong was nowhere to be found.

"Men!" Pang Bo called out.

A few men quickly ran over to him.

"Go to Lin Group's branch office right now and see if Jiang Ning is in or not. Go!"

"Yes, Young Master Pang!"

His men quickly left without delay.

"Jiang Ning...I don't think you're capable of this! It's impossible!"

NH

Pang Bo remembered the slap that Jiang Ning gave him. He was going to return that one day.

He was very good at holding his emotions in. He knew that the key to surviving these days wasn't about who was more fierce or domineering, but who could outlive the rest. He was going to win this competition.

So even though Jiang Ning had slapped him, he would just pretend that it didn't happen. He would just bide his time and retaliate when he got the chance.

In no time.

Pang Bo's men reached Lin Group's branch office.

They were so fast that they reached even before Li Dong did.

They didn't hesitate at all and dashed in. They saw Jiang Ning seated on the sofa in the main hall and there were several empty packets of tidbits on the table.

There were at least five or six cigarettes in the ashtray and they had all been extinguished with water already.

Jiang Ning looked up and narrowed his eyes.

"Who are you? What are you doing here?"

"We're...we're looking for Mr Li. Is he in?"

"Nope."

NH

Jiang Ning didn't look at them anymore. He picked up another bag of potato chips and continued eating. He couldn't be bothered with them at all.

They exchanged a knowing look and went out.

From the looks of it, Jiang Ning had been in the office all this while. He couldn't have gone to the exhibition venue and made it back in time to set up everything in the office.

Jiang Ning watched the men leave before putting the chips in his hands down. He had a cheeky smile on his lips.

"Are they nice to eat?" He laughed.

Brother Gou peeked out from behind the sofa and shook his head. His throat was all dry.

"They're nice to eat, but could you at least give me a bottle of water? My throat is all dry."

Brother Gou had eaten a few bags of chips in one minute. His lips were still covered with crumbs and his throat was filled with chips. Even talking was painful.

He ran into the pantry and gulped a glass of water down. If he didn't drink water now, his throat was going to burn.

"Big Boss, that Pang Bo can really hold it in." Brother Gou felt alive again after he gulped a few large mouthfuls of water. "You slapped him and he actually didn't retaliate."

NH

Brother Gou had seen his fair share of rich men's sons from all these powerful families of the north.

All of them were arrogant and snobbish, and none of them had any regard for others at all. But Pang Bo seemed different from them. He was much more sinister and scheming than them.

"He just doesn't dare to," replied Jiang Ning directly. "If his fists were stronger than mine, did you think he would still hold anything in?"

Jiang Ning's face was filled with contempt.

He had seen people like Pang Bo before. Basically he was the type who bullied those weaker than him but feared those stronger than him.

Someone else might have been crushed to death by now, but Pang Bo didn't dare to attack Jiang Ning only because he wasn't sure of how powerful Jiang Ning could be. He didn't want to end up dying before taking Jiang Ning down.

"He was probably the one who sent those men, right?" asked Brother Gou. "Should I keep them here?"

"Whatever for?" Jiang Ning rolled his eyes at Brother Gou. How was it that this fellow still refused to use his brains after following him for so long?


He had purposely done this in order to ruin Pang Bo's plan. He had even included the Xue family into this mess, so now Jiang Ning was just going to wait and watch the show.


NH


As for what the Pang family was really capable of and whether His Lordship was really from the Pang family or not, that would depend on how hard the Xue family pressurized them!

“The Pang family has indeed hidden themselves very well. They might very well be the biggest fish in the north,” Jiang Ning narrowed his eyes. He hissed coldly, “But even if they’re the largest fish, they’re still just a fish!”

He wondered if he should steam this fish or barbecue it. Or perhaps he should just swallow it raw!

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