

No Hero
Vol. 06

山鬼 繪
御我 著

非關英雄

06

天國地獄

西元2112年，
機械改造人橫行，
世道沉淪暴力充斥，
人們唯一的希望，是英雄。
朝索·安德利斯，
一個強大的第五代吸血鬼，
他的唯一心願，
是當一個完美的管家！

Heaven or Hell

誰是最完美的英雄？誰是最完美的管家？

總有一天，英雄招來會說話的車子，或者是舉起手，在眾人的注目之下飛向高空。

DISCLAIMER!

Please take note of the following:

- The following translation of *No Hero* Volume 6 is by **Prince Revolution!** and is a “by fans for fans” translation.
- This translation is completely FREE of charge, so if you have paid for this you have been ripped off!
- **Prince Revolution!** does not ask for donations, payment or anything else of the sort. We do not benefit monetarily from our novel translations AT ALL.
- We only ask that you do not steal credit or attempt to profit monetary from our translation. Please also inform us if you come across individuals or groups stealing credit or profiting monetarily from our translations.

Copyrights

- Copyrights to the *No Hero* novels are held by Yu Wo, the author of the novels.
- Copyrights to *No Hero* novel artworks are held by Shan Gui (山鬼) and Lü Chuan Ming (綠川明), the cover artists for the *No Hero* Novels.

One Last Thing

- **Prince Revolution!** has received permission from Yu Wo to translate the novels into English. However this is NOT an official translation of the novels!
- As such, please cease distribution of this PDF (make sure you get your copy from PR! and not another site, if so, report the site to PR!) once an official ENGLISH version of the novels has been published.

HAPPY READING!

Credits

About Prince Rev!

Prince Revolution! (or PR! for short) was started in late April in 2009 by Erialis for the purpose of translating and sharing the ½ Prince and The Legend of Sun Knight novels (and now many others) with other fans (who unfortunately couldn't read Chinese). PR!'s crew has since exploded to include several translators who double as Chinese to English editors and several Proofreaders. They also have sister sites translating the novels into Dutch, Spanish, Indonesian, French, Portuguese and Vietnamese.

Proofreaders

CesiumBlack (Prologue, Chapter 2)
elisa (Chapter 7, 8)
Faren (Chapter 1)
Lala Su (Chapter 10)
Trespaserby (Chapter 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9)

Translators

clrfction (Chapter 5)
Ever (Chapter 2, 4, 6, 9)
Lucathia (Epilogue)
Minimochi (Chapter 7)
Minna (Prologue)
Tentacles (Chapter 1, 3)
Trespaserby (Chapter 8, 10)

Art

Shan Qui (山鬼) and Lü Chuan Ming (綠川明)

Chinese/English Editors

Lucathia (Prologue, Chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)

No Hero Volume 6: Heaven or Hell

Original novel in Chinese by: 御我 (Yu Wo)

- [Prologue: Prologue](#)
- [Chapter 1: Sunward University, Learning Knowledge and How to Remain Unperturbed](#)
- [Chapter 2: Evening Sun Plaza, a Tangle of Noises, Ill Habits, and Bravery](#)
- [Chapter 3: Market, Chaotic Bustle and Shouting Enthusiasm](#)
- [Chapter 4: Police Station, the Justices and Evils that Come to and Fro](#)
- [Chapter 5: General Hospital, Painful Yet Healthy Cries](#)
- [Chapter 6: Television, the Overlooked Truth](#)
- [Chapter 7: Cross, Upright and Inverted](#)
- [Chapter 8: Sewers, A Stifled Voice](#)
- [Chapter 9: Safe Room, Safety or Freedom](#)
- [Chapter 10: The Curtain Falls for Tonight and the Next Morning Shall Arrive](#)
- [Epilogue: Character Introductions](#)

Prologue: Prologue

The curtains in the living room were already open. Even though it was still morning, it was already slowly approaching midday. The sunlight was much more vicious now than in the early morning. That was why I picked a couch in a corner where the sun did not reach to read a book named "Studies about the Dissection of the Body."

Rather than reading a book about surgery, why not read a book about dissection? This was what Mr. An Te Qi had suggested. But this suggestion made me even more frightened because the target of the dissection would be the young master. If I did not have absolute certainty in myself, I likely would not have enough courage to take up the operating knife to dissect the young master... *No! To help perform an operation on the young master.*

Glancing at the clock at the wall, I discovered that time had passed without my noticing—it was already ten thirty. *Maybe I should change the breakfast I am preparing to lunch?*

Yesterday was Saturday. After breakfast, the young master had changed into Dark Sun's outfit and left. He had yet to return.

The news on TV reported all kind of headlines which changed every hour. Amidst them they mentioned many super hero sightings, but the heroes were so busy that they did not even have time to stop and look at the media's cameras. You could only see their figures, most of which were filmed from a distance, come and go on TV.

Although the young master had not come home to eat breakfast, he

had been busy all day and night, so when he returned, he would most definitely be starving. Therefore, I had already prepared numerous dishes. I was only waiting for the young master to return, so everyone could eat to their heart's content.

However, I had not thought that he would be busy for so long. I could only stop preparing dishes to avoid the food being ready too early, because by the time we finished waiting for the young master, it would already be cold and not delicious anymore.

While waiting, I made use of the time and delved into books.

These past few days, I had already studied many medical books, but the more I read the more I felt it was not enough... Books could not give me enough courage to take up the operating knife and cut into the young master's body.

But it appeared that Mr. An Te Qi did not plan to let me have more time to educate myself. He just shrugged and said, "Make the cuts and you'll know how." Then, he said that he would bring a corpse and operating tools to let me try to dissect something for real... I was to remove the organs while I was at it and test experimental drugs on the different organs. Afterwards, I was to write down the results and complete a report to give to him.

It is as if I am not a clueless beginner student but have rather already become a physician's assistant.

Thus, I decided to do more self-study, so as to avoid dissecting a whole corpse single-handedly under the circumstances of having

absolutely no experience, and even use a large quantity of medicine with unknown effects on the corpse.

Looking at the dissection book before me, I could not help sighing. Even though these books were a great help with understanding the theory, they did not help at all with the actual practice.

After thinking a while, I still decided to make a call. "Good morning, Curtis."

"Family Head? Has something happened?" Curtis sounded quite nervous. *He seems to be under the mistaken impression that something grave has happened... Perhaps in the future, I should call him more often, and not just when something happens.*

I quickly said, "Nothing has happened, I only wanted to ask you to help arrange some university classes for me. I want to... Well, start with medicine first. I need operating, dissecting and pharmaceutical classes."

"Do you want to study at medical school?" Curtis seemed surprised. "The classes in medical school are very burdensome. I am afraid that you might not be able to study and be a butler at the same time."

"I only need practical classes, not theory classes. Besides, you do not have to arrange for too many classes at a time. I can learn slowly..."

Having said that, I secretly prayed that Mr. An Te Qi would have a long life of a hundred years... *No! Make it one hundred fifty years. Let me have time to polish this knowledge to the state of absolute perfection.*

It should not be too late to operate on the young master after that.

“I understand. I will have someone arrange for your enrollment as soon as possible.”

“Thank you very much.”

At the same time that I hung up, I heard a noise from the living room’s balcony. I slide stepped over to open the French window. On the porch, a red-black silhouette knelt there. On his back, a pair of silver-white wings radiated brilliantly due to the sun’s reflection, but those rays of light gradually decreased and at last disappeared when the wings slid inside the silhouette’s back.

Smiling, I said, “Welcome home, Young Master.”

Dark Sun stood up and took off his visor, his expression cold. A pair of ink-black eyes looked toward me. His eyes were without any emotions, and his whole person was like an ice-cold metal statue.

Shortly after, he blinked a few times. His ink-black eyes were wide and round, and he even pitifully furrowed his brow. He shouted, “Charles, I’m so hungry! Super duper hungry!”

At this moment, the living room’s door also opened, and Dell loudly whined, “I’m starving! Butler, serve us some food!”

I laughed and said, “Yes, I will immediately bring the food.”



“Charles, you’re attending university?” asked the young master, a little surprised.

While eating breakfast... or rather lunch, I told the young master that I wanted to attend university, and thus I hoped I would occasionally be able to take time off to go to class.

As soon as I finished speaking, everyone, who had been wolfing down their food, actually willingly stopped their action of eating. Then, they blankly looked at me, all showing equally incredulous expressions.

“A butler needs to attend university?” Dell wondered, “What kind of classes? Housekeeping classes?”

“No.” I explained at once, “It is to study medicine because I will have to perform operations on the young master for his wounds and the like in the future. Therefore, I want to gain some basic knowledge. In this way, I can save Mr. An Te Qi the trouble of having to teach me starting from the basics.”

After hearing this explanation, everyone stopped looking surprised and continued to engross themselves in eating. Mr. Bramble even nodded and murmured, “This is a good idea because the young master gets hurt all the time...” He stopped speaking. He seemed to take into consideration that the young master was present and did not continue that thread of conversation.

“I see!” The young master nodded in understanding and said, “Studying at a university is great. Bàba certainly doesn’t have the patience to tutor you step by step. I bet he already wants you to help

with his experiments!”

Indeed.

The young master promptly gave his permission, “Go ahead and attend university. Nowadays, I’m not at home for very long anyway, so you’d probably be very bored at home all by yourself!”

“Thank you, Young Master.” While talking, I served each one of them dessert: walnut-pumpkin pie.

After eating a pie, the young master suddenly said, “Charles, remember not to wear clothing that is too nerdy when you go to school, or you’ll be bullied!”

I had not even thought of this point and promptly replied gratefully, “Thank you for the reminder, Young Master. I will keep that in mind.”

At this moment, Aren started to talk as well. “If you’re being extorted, don’t think that giving money will solve it. They’ll like seeking you out more and more to demand money, and it’ll be more and more money.” I stared blankly and replied, “All right.”

The young master ate another pie. As I placed the third pie on his plate, he raised his head and said, “Ah, right! If a professor tells you to stay behind to help or wants to help you review for class, you must pay attention to whether or not their expressions are perverted! It doesn’t matter if the professor is male or female. You have to be alert with both! If they show a perverted expression, you absolutely shouldn’t do as they tell you!”

...Young Master, just what kind of university life did you have?

“Oh, that’s right!” The young master seemed to have remembered something important. He suddenly left his breakfast and ran back to his room, then rushed out again and gave me a box that looked like a magazine. Based on what I knew from the various weapons Yue Gang had purchased before, this should probably be a magazine full of hand grenades, rather than a magazine for bullets.

I took it and asked, puzzled, “Young Master, are these hand grenades?” *But why would he give me hand grenades?*

“They’re smoke grenades.” The young master carefully explained, “There are a total of ten smoke grenades inside. If you meet any trouble, just push this red button, and the magazine will launch a smoke grenade. When the air is filled with smoke, you can use x-speed to escape!”

I looked at the smoke grenades I held. Suddenly, I was not so sure if I was going to “university” or doing some kind of dangerous activity like breaking into jail. But as I looked at everyone else’s expressions, they did not look surprised at all. Aren even nodded his head in approval... *Are universities nowadays really that dangerous?*

As I held the smoke grenade magazine, I only said, “Thank you, Young Master.”

Completely serious, the young master said, “Charles, you must take care of your safety!”

"...Thank you for worrying, Young Master. I will certainly be extra careful."

So, university is actually such a dangerous place? I could not stop myself from starting to worry.

Dear Father, please bless my quest for knowledge to be a successful one.

Dead men have no use for money... Nor do dead vampires.

Chapter 1: Sunward University, Learning Knowledge and How
to Remain Unperturbed

[AD 2110]

Why does a girl want to become a hero?

"I do not mean to discriminate against women." First Wind panicked.

"I genuinely feel it is such a pity for a girl to cut off perfectly good legs to install cybernetic ones."

My legs were amputated because of a car accident, not for the purpose of modifying them.

"S-sorry!"

Your left arm was amputated for cybernetic modification?

"Yes."

Modified to become a hero?

"Yes."

Do you regret it?

"No," First Wind said, "I have a reason that I had to become a hero. You? Have you ever regretted choosing to become a hero?"

No, not at all. I also have a reason that I had to become one.

First Wind chuckled. "My reason is my parents. Yours?"

...Husband.

To be exact, he couldn't be regarded as my husband, as he died on our wedding day.



Curtis was truly efficient. Only three days had passed since I called him, and the enrollment procedure was already done. Class schedules were also in my hands. Because of my identity as a transfer student, I could choose whichever courses I wanted. It was also even possible to directly attend courses reserved for seventh years.

The courses were roughly divided into preclinical and clinical curriculum.

First year and second year mostly covered basic courses, such as psychology, general chemistry, biology, medical sociology, and more. Only during the third year would there be clinical training like basic medical experiments, gross anatomy, and other hands-on clinical courses. Only after the fourth year would pre-medical students intern at a hospital.

Father had once said that, as a butler, one must possess a large variety of skills, but one must not be cursory in his learning and become incompetent. Thus, no matter which skills one were to learn, one must build a solid foundation, never mind the medical arts which involved a person's life. Therefore, I wanted to study step by step, starting as a freshman.

Ring... Ring ring...

I lifted up the phone and took a glance. I hurriedly answered. "Hello Mr. An Te Qi."

"You're Ch... Char, Char—what was it again..."

"Charles," I promptly replied.

"Oh, yeah! Charles, *sigh*, Ah Ye's brother kept nagging me to see you or else he would shoot me. My current experiment needs a month to complete though, so I'll see you next month!"

"All right."

"It just so happens that I have a fairly simple experiment for you to do. Next month, don't forget to call and remind me to meet up with you! Otherwise, I would definitely forget, and Ah Ye's brother would murder me."

"All right," I replied quickly and firmly committed this matter to memory.

"Say, are there any specific kinds of corpses you like to dissect? Human? Non-human? Adult, child, male, female? Tell me so that I can keep that kind in reserve for you."

"Do I really have to go straight to dissecting a corpse?" I asked back with great horror.

Mr. An Te Qi said definitively, "Of course! Or else, where do you want me to start teaching?"

I promptly suggested, "Basic chemistry or medical sociology?"

"What are those?"

Basic medical school courses.

Mr. An Te Qi said, "Anyway, that's settled. I will meet you next month. I think you should start with dissecting a human corpse. To dissect a non-human corpse at the start would be too difficult."

"Mr. An Te Qi, even if it is a human corpse, it will still be too difficult..."

Click.

I stared at the phone that had been hung up on me, stupefied for a long time. I shifted my eyes to the schedule of courses and then dialed Curtis.

"Curtis, could you please help me arrange for courses in the following: pharmacology, basic medical experimentation, histology, and gross anatomy."

"Are you starting from the third year?" Curtis asked with a little surprise and then said understandingly, "You must have already learned the basics, right? However, the course load may be too heavy. You will not have time to rest."

No, I have not learned any of the basics. It is just that I will actually have to physically dissect by next month. If I start learning the basics this month, I am afraid it would be too slow to meet this pressing need.

“The minimum amount of sleep I need in a day is only two hours. It will not be an issue even if I missed sleeping for a few days.”

“Yes, Family Head, but currently, the university has already started their classes quite a while ago. I am afraid that you will need to begin your studies in the middle. Will there be any problems?”

The problem was indeed significant, but this might actually work better. In the next month, I would have to personally dissect and experiment. If the professor was still only doing start of the term introductions, it would make me burn with anxiousness.

“No problem. Please arrange these courses for me.”

“Yes. Family Head, I have something to trouble you as well.”

Hearing this, I was a little surprised. “Please say it.”

“For the next few days, Sunset City might not be very peaceful. Please try to avoid the city center’s commercial buildings. If you really must go, please do not stay for long. During this period, I will arrange for twenty people to observe the situation in Sunset City. If you really run into trouble, you must call me. This is what I will trouble you with!”

Curtis deliberately spoke in a lower voice to emphasize the last several words.

That Sunset City was not peaceful was not new news. However, specifically mentioning the city center's commercial buildings was unusual. I could not refrain from asking, "Why do you say that?"

"Because..."

"Charles!"

This was the young master's summon. I hung up immediately and walked into the young master's workroom.

"Yes, Young Master. May I please ask if there is anything you need?"

On top of the young master's desk lay two legs... Of course, they were not human legs but cybernetic ones. Those were Solitary Butterfly's legs that the young master had sliced. To compensate her, the young master brought her legs back to repair and further enhance them. The young master stood up. He pointed at the legs one by one and explained, "The left and the right thighs can be opened. The left thigh contains grenades, the right thigh contains flash bangs, the knees can shoot out energy shots, the side of the lower leg and the toes can project blades, and the soles of the feet can project wheels for sliding. The speed of the sliding can go up to 60 km/h."

Explaining up to here, the young master paused. He turned and asked, "Charles, given this, what other functions could I still add?"

Those really were a pair of powerfully offensive legs full of practicality. After contemplating for a moment, I bowed and said, "Young Master, I

apologize. Charles really does not know what other functions could be added.”

The young master nodded. He relaxed a little and said, “Then, it should be good enough, right? I hope Solitary Butterfly will like them. Last time, I really gave her a lot of trouble.”

“I believe Solitary Butterfly will like it,” I said while smiling.

“Really?” The young master also smiled and then said, “Next will be First Wind-gē’s whip... Charles, what are you holding?”

Following the young master’s curious gaze, I only then realized that I was still holding the schedule of courses. I handed over the schedule of courses and explained, “This is what I mentioned to you last time. This is a schedule of courses for the medical major.”

The young master let out an “oh” and said, “Charles, are you going to study at the university I went to?”

I froze for a second and then remembered that the university Curtis arranged for was indeed the university that the young master had once studied in—Sunward University.

This result was not too unexpected; Sunset City’s most famous university is Sunward University. Curtis would obviously arrange this university for me.

“Charles became my underclassman!” Beaming, the young master said, “Although our fields are different, you’re still my underclassman!”

I humbly said, "Yes, I am much honored to become Young Master's underclassman."

"But if it is Sunward University..." The young master tilted his head while looking at the schedule of courses. He then said, "Then, I'll prepare two more guns for you! I don't know the medical major's situation, but guns are quite necessary for the combat major. I don't think you want to use your blood ability to attack your classmates, right?"

Of course not, but if I could, I also do not want to use guns to attack classmates.

"Young Master, is college truly that dangerous?" I could not refrain from inquiring.

The young master tilted his head and pondered for a moment. He then said, "With your strength, it might not be that dangerous. I'm more worried that you'll be naively deceived. Remember to ignore perverted professors and also perverted classmates. Don't buy the things suggested by classmates. Don't eat food from unfamiliar classmates. That way you might not have a problem."

Although it did not sound like there would be no problem, I could only say, "Yes, Young Master."

"When are you starting?"

"I can start whenever. I will probably go within the next two days

because Mr. An Te Qi has given me a call saying that he will teach me starting next month.”

“Next month? That fast?” The young master considered it for a moment and said, “Then, do you want to report in today? For the next few days, I’ll be going to Luo Chu-gē’s studio to shoot photos. I could drop you off at college along the way. After I’m done shooting photos, I could pick you up.”

I felt a little unprepared, but the sooner I attended the classes the better. I bowed and said, “Then I will have to trouble Young Master.”

“It’s no trouble at all! Charles is going to college because of me!”

The young master stood up. He glanced at the two legs on the table and muttered, “I’ll just bring these to Luo Chu-gē while I’m at it. His relationship with Solitary Butterfly seems fairly good. Wouldn’t it be better to let him hand over the legs to Solitary Butterfly?”

After he finished speaking, he looked toward me. I quickly said, “Such an arrangement is excellent.”

After getting my response, the young master appeared to be relieved. He turned his head and shouted, “DSII, wake up. Come take me and Charles to school.”

The motorcycle leaning against the wall lit up its light. A thrilled voice sounded. “Can I break the speed limit? Can I? Can I?”

The young master firmly refused. “No!”

DSII's headlight flashed nonstop, "Please~! It's been a long time since I went out and played as a motorcycle! Ah Ye always asks me to be Dark Sun! Being Dark Sun is so boring! I can finally be a motorcycle! Let me ride a bit faster! Ah Ye~~~"

"Uh..." Faced with a pleading motorcycle, the young master wavered.

Now, I seemed to become the one unable to stop worrying.

The young master glanced at me and then glanced at DSII. He said with difficulty, "Then, the speed must be under 100 km/h."

"Oh yay!"



After getting off the motorcycle, I looked up at the school gate. Sunward University was indeed Sunset City's best university. The gilded bronze gate was very grand and well-maintained for its shine.

The young master asked worriedly, "Charles, are you okay?"

I nodded and said, "Young Master, I am fine. A speed of 100 km/h is not too fast."

I did not know if I was already accustomed to it or if 100 km/h compared to the usual 200 km/h was really nothing. I, without a doubt, felt fine. The riding experience this time was not too bad.

"I rode really slowly!" DSII protested.

"Quiet down!" The young master patted DSII on the headlight. He said with a little dissatisfaction, "How many times have I told you? Don't speak randomly outside. You'll scare people!"

DSII muttered, "Fine!"

The young master turned his head and said to me, "Charles, I wanted to ask you. Is the sunlight now not too bright? You will have to go to school during the day from now on. Will you be okay with this brightness?"

It was certainly bright, making me feel extremely hot. Fortunately, last time I bought some clothing at X-Killer that was not very revealing. Now, I was wearing a silver-gray, long sleeve T-shirt and black jeans. Olga even helped me pick out a black leather hat that was said to be popular among young people. I was currently wearing the hat, which prevented the sunlight from shining directly upon my head.

I answered, "Young Master, my hat and clothing already block much of the sunlight. I will not feel too uncomfortable. Also, I will soon head into my classroom. There will be no sunlight inside."

The young master nodded and looked me up and down. He said admirably, "Olga is really amazing. Even I didn't think that Charles wearing a T-shirt, jeans, and a leather hat would not be weird at all! I don't know why the T-shirt has so many thin strings tied to it, but it looks pretty good."

I also did not understand why a T-shirt required so many strings tied to it. These thin, black strings began from the edge of both sleeves

and crisscrossed upward to the chest and back. They caused me to feel bound, although the strings did not intertwine tightly.

I asked, "If Young Master likes this kind of clothing, I can go to X-Killer and buy a set for you."

The young master shook his head and said, "I said it looked good because many people are stealing a glance at you."

Stunned for a moment, I looked around. He was right. Originally, people by the gate came and went with haste, but now there were some people stopping by the gate and casting their glances toward me.

Fortunately, the young master had not taken off his helmet. Otherwise, with his current fame, I was afraid it would not just be the problem of being noticed or not but rather of causing an uproar.

The young master suddenly looked toward the left behind me and said, "Oh, it seems like someone is coming to make a move on you!"

I froze and then heard someone shout out. "Charles Endelis!"

Very few people used my full name to address me. I turned my head to look. A man with black hair and who was wearing a beige trench coat walked toward me with a smile. Surprised, I said, "You are..."

"Lieder," he immediately filled in. Pretending to be sad, he said, "We met each other not too long ago, and you already forgot my name. This really breaks my heart."

I had not forgotten his name. It was just that I was a little surprised that he had appeared here... Oh right, at that time when Lieder had introduced himself, he had said that he had come to Sunset City to teach. *Do not tell me it was as a Sunward University professor?*

Perhaps university is indeed very dangerous.

The young master asked curiously, "Charles, who's this?"

I quickly introduced him. "This gentleman is Professor Lieder. He just came to Sunward University to teach. I remember the professor's subject is anthropology, am I right?" For the last few words, I turned and asked Lieder.

Lieder nodded while smiling.

Fortunately, my major was medicine.

"So he's a professor?" The young master greeted respectfully. "Hello Professor! I am An Xiang Ye. I graduated from Sunward University not long ago."

Lieder pushed his glasses up with his pinkie, which I rarely saw people use to push up their glasses, and then smiled dazzlingly. He said, "Student An, hello. From the day I became a professor, I have never seen such an obedient student like you."

The young master asked curiously, "Professor Lieder looks so young. You can't have been a professor for long, right?"

“Hahaha, young but not that young, I’m already thirty years old.”

“Eh? You’re only thirty and you’re already a professor? That’s so young!”

Seeing that the two of them were conversing so harmoniously, I hesitated over whether I should tell the young master that this professor had once pressed the tip of a silver fountain pen against my neck.

“Charles, do you want to report to the educational administrative office first?” The young master hesitated and said, “I’ll take you there. I’m almost going to be late, but Luo Chu-gē should be willing to wait for me.”

“How about I take him there?” Lieder proposed sincerely. “In any case, I don’t have much to do. Additionally, I can help familiarize him with the campus. This way, you won’t be late either.”

Hearing this, the young master shifted his eyes to me as if to ask, *Is this okay?*

I nodded and said, “Then, I will have to trouble Professor Lieder.”

With good manners, the young master thanked Lieder. “Thank you, Professor.” He turned his head and said to me, “Charles, I’ll pick you up in the evening.”

After saying that, the young master got on DSII and rode away. At the same time I saw the young master off, Lieder came beside me,

saying, "Has anyone ever told you that you have no sense of self preservation?"

"No one has said so in those particular words, but there was someone who had said something similar."

That person's name was E.X.

The original words went roughly like this: "There is no vampire as naive as you are! Compared to a ten-year-old girl, you are easier to abduct. That you're still alive is entirely a miracle... No, it's because Sadina made this miracle happen. She must have been unlucky for eight lifetimes to fall in love with you!"

Returning back to the present, I saw Lieder staring at me with a smile that was not quite a smile. With this type of smile in addition to his gentle face and polite manners, he still did not appear dangerous at all. He said, "I am an assailant who once held you under duress, yet you let your young master leave and are facing me alone. Don't you lack a sense of danger too much like this?"

I politely said, "I just believe a professor would not use his fountain pen to stab and kill a student in the institution where he's teaching in broad daylight."

"Oh, I agree, so to speak." Lieder nodded. He suddenly twisted the topic and said, "But now, in this era, if I secretly turned an inconspicuous corner while leading you to the administrative office and killed you there, this—I'm afraid—wouldn't be too odd, right?"

...Indeed, it would not be too odd.

"Haha, I'm just kidding. Don't be too serious." Lieder blinked and said, "If no one has employed me, I won't attack."

There was no need for clarification. I was actually not nervous. Perhaps it was because Lieder had not harmed me at all last time when he held me under duress. Therefore, I believed he was friendly. Besides, if he really did attack, I did not think I lacked the ability to defend myself.

"Let's go. If we don't go now, I'm afraid some people will come and make a move on you." Lieder laughed and said, "I don't think you will be especially happy because someone hit on you, right?"

We walked through the school gate. By this time, the school bell had already rung. The people near us were gradually decreasing. Even if there were people near us, they passed us hastily.

Compared to others, Lieder and I walked at a relaxed pace.

From the start, Lieder was even considerate and walked under the shadows of trees without my asking, not letting the sunlight hit me directly. He then nonchalantly started to chat, "What are you studying?"

"Courses relating to the medical field."

"Medical field?" Lieder froze a bit. He turned his head and looked at me. He asked, "Don't tell me you want to be a doctor?"

"Of course not. It is just for me to serve the young master better."

"To serve a master, you also need to study medical courses?" After receiving my nod, Lieder said with a smile that was not quite a smile, "A butler is such an exhausting profession."

I politely said, "I believe a professor is a profession much more exhausting than a butler's."

Lieder laughed and said, "Probably the combat major professor's is! But I teach anthropology. The students in this major are relatively gentle and quiet. They're not hard to teach."

"I see." I said with a smile, "May I ask, what are anthropology's main contents?"

"My pleasure. Is it not for a professor to be asked? It is just that I encounter very few polite students who would say 'May I ask.' It is such a pity that you are not an anthropology student." Lieder blinked and said, "Anthropology delves into the similarities and differences among humans. This can begin from many aspects such as their culture, biology..."

While casually conversing, we walked into a building and took an elevator to the third floor. Who would have known that right after we stepped out of the elevator, we would hear a muffled boom.

I froze for a moment. *Was that... the sound of an explosion?*

Lieder patted my shoulder and said, "Don't be nervous. That should be a lab exploding. This is normal. The fire alarm didn't even go off, so it must be a small explosion."

I thought only Mr. An Te Qi's laboratory exploding was a common thing.

Just after Lieder walked out of the elevator, he exclaimed, "Ah, it seems to be blocked ahead. Let's go from upstairs!"

Blocked? Could it be under construction... I looked ahead. In the hallway, there was a confrontation between two groups of people. Each group had about ten people. Everyone's face was fierce. If it were an ordinary brawl, it would not be a big deal. However, all kinds of high tech weapons were in their hands; even energy weapons were no exceptions. If a gang outside of the college started a brawl, one might not even see so many high tech weapons.

"Those are just combat major students dueling each other." Lieder patted my shoulder and comforted me. "Don't worry. Death does not occur often."

Not often... Which means, people have been killed before?

We did not get the chance to turn and leave in time before both groups started their brawl. The leading figure let out a battle cry, and everyone charged forward, using all kinds of weapons on their hands to start their fights.

The scene in the beginning was a little chaotic, but people soon found

their own main combat target. Forming pairs, they fought each other. Instantly, the hallway was filled with various kinds of sounds from the metal collisions. There were even gun shots and humming sounds from the collision of energy weapons.

Bullets and energy beams flew everywhere. Fortunately, in the hallway, apart from the two battling groups, there was only Lieder and me...

After a quick dodge of a bullet with x-speed, I took the opportunity to return back to the elevator and then call out for Lieder. He looked back at me—I do not understand why—with a surprised expression, but he, with his head lowered, also followed into the elevator.

I immediately pressed the button to close the door. Only after the elevator's door was completely shut could we then not hear the chaotic noises from outside.

"You sure are fast." Once he walked in, Lieder admired, "I completely did not see when you entered the elevator. If every vampire has your speed, I'm afraid that this world's strongest race would be the vampires."

I looked at Lieder and said while smiling, "I was just a little faster."

"No, in this world, speed determines everything! Power can be borrowed from external forces to level up continuously, but speed always has a limit. A human's brain cannot handle too fast of a speed." Lieder said lightly, "Imagine, if you are holding an almighty energy weapon, in addition to making a sudden attack, how many people will be able to react in time to block your attack?"

"Many people," I said sincerely because, recently, I had seen many battles. Furthermore, those battles were all between heroes or non-humans. I really doubted my fighting capacity could be compared to these people.

"You give yourself too little credit. From what I see, you just need a little training, and you can..." Speaking until here, Lieder suddenly stopped. He said with a smile, "Didn't your young master graduate as a combat major? Let him train you?"

This Professor Lieder sure knows many things, but does he know that the young master is Dark Sun? Since he already knows I interfered with the heroes' and police's business, maybe he already knows Dark Sun's identity?

The more I thought about it, the more uncertain I was. But no matter what, as long as I did not reveal that the young master was Dark Sun, then there should not be any problems.

"Yes, the young master did graduate from the combat major."

"Given his appearance, he must be really strong, right?"

"The young master is indeed not weak, but what does this have to do with his appearance?" I completely did not understand. Going by the young master's appearance, he really was not the strong type; he was even leaning toward skinny.

Lieder did not successfully stifle his laughter. "You misunderstood my meaning. Your young master is so beautiful. If he does not have

enough power or authority, how would he protect himself?"

I smiled. "What you have just said is right."

Lieder stopped walking and gestured at the doorplate on the wall. He said, "We've arrived at the administrative office. Come in!"

Right after I walked in, I did not get the chance to say anything because Lieder immediately pulled me everywhere to sign in, register, and receive the course selection list. Watching him being so busy with my arrangement, I felt that this Professor Lieder person was a little too passionate.

Although I could not deny the existence of passionate, friendly people in this world, this Professor Lieder's part-time job was actually that of an assassin. A passionate, friendly assassin was such a conflicting profession. This was something I really could not accept. *I would rather believe that Lieder is scheming something, but what is his scheme?*

"Let's go! Let's find the professors to get their approval."

Holding a few documents, Lieder tugged at my sleeve, gesturing for me to follow him. However, once he turned, his body suddenly wobbled. Seeing that he was about to fall, I extended my hand to grab him. Only then did he not plummet to the ground.

I helped him stand straight. After making sure he could stand firmly, I asked with astonishment, "Are you all right?"

Lieder straightened up. He turned his head to smile at me and said, "I'm okay, I'm okay. I probably tripped over something!"

Tripped? But, there is nothing in front of him. What could have tripped him?

I stared at Lieder. Although he was wearing a smile, his face was very pale, and his chin had stubble. Also, heavy dark circles were hanging below his eyes. This appearance reminded me of Mr. An Te Qi...

"Lieder, when did you have your last meal?"

Stunned, Lieder frowned and contemplated, "My last meal must have been breakfast. I must have eaten... Uh, maybe I haven't because, at that time, I was still sleeping."

I continued asking, "Then, did you eat dinner last night?"

Lieder ruminated. He then gave up and said, "I don't remember."

It was as I had expected. He was indeed a Mr. An Te Qi type. I suggested, "The time is about right. How about we have afternoon tea?"

"Huh?" Lieder looked at me strangely and said, "You want to have afternoon tea?"

"That is just an excuse," I said while laughing. "Is not everyone like this? Although phrased as afternoon tea, the real intention is to converse."

Hearing that it was for conserving, Lieder's eyes brightened. He agreed at once. "Okay, let's go!"

Although Lieder said "let's go" promptly, he did not know where we could have afternoon tea. In the end, he went back to ask the people in the administrative office. Only then did we know where there was food and drink served.

After reaching the cafeteria, I asked Lieder what he would like to eat. Apparently, he did not mind what kind of food would be stuffed into his mouth. This point was very similar to Mr. An Te Qi. The latter, except for instant noodles, ate everything; he did not particularly care what the food was made out of.

I could only try to order food that was both fully nutritious and aromatic. Once the food arrived, the aroma, as expected, caused Lieder to notice that he was hungry. He lifted up his cutlery. As he was about to devour his food, he looked up at me. Given his expression, he seemed to feel a little apologetic.

I took out a blood bag and poured the blood into a disposable cup. I then smiled and said, "I will also drink my afternoon 'tea.'"

Upon seeing this, Lieder laughed. He gave me a thumbs-up and then started eating.

While drinking blood, I observed the cafeteria. Currently, it must be class time or so; therefore, there were only two or three students here and there. The students were either reading or watching the large

televisions on the wall while eating. Each of the surrounding four walls of the cafeteria had a large television. Each television broadcasted a different news network. In this current world, there certainly were televisions wherever one goes. No matter what happened, one could always know the latest news.

Breaking news alert:

The Sun Alliance's highest authority, also known as the "Sun Emperor," will be visiting Sunset City in ten days. It is unknown how long he will be staying. The alliance claims that their main purpose is to meet with Dr. Ni Cai, who won an award some days ago for submitting a thesis on modifying the brain, in order to discuss a collaboration.

However, outsiders are speculating that the real purpose behind the Sun Emperor's visit is to expand their economic development in Sunset City and to further establish multi-enterprises...

"Ri Xiang Yan will be coming to Sunset City?" Lieder exclaimed.

I, on the other hand, was not very surprised. Not too long after I became the young master's butler, the master had already visited the young master's apartment. It was a private visit then; outsiders did not know of it, and of course there was no news report of it. On the contrary, the name Lieder used surprised me more.

He actually directly addressed the Sun Emperor by name. Not many did that. Everyone seemed to have forgotten the Sun Emperor's real

name. If I did not know the young master, I would likely not be able to react to who "Ri Xiang Yan" was.

Come to think of it, does Curtis not want me to go near commercial buildings because the master will be coming to Sunset City? He might have somewhat overthought it. There should not be anyone wanting to attack the Sun Emperor.

Lieder was bewildered. "Sunset City's economy is very developed, but the public order is notoriously bad. Those business top brasses rarely come here, not to mention Ri Xiang Yan. Why is he coming over so suddenly?"

Notorious public order, yet the young master chose to live in Sunset City.

The young master's friend Ezart always participated in dangerous expeditions, but perhaps the young master liked danger even more than him, directly choosing to live in a dangerous place.

Lieder continued with his bewildered tone. "Dr. Ni Cai's research is indeed impressive, but does Ri Xiang Yan value him to the point of coming personally?"

"I also do not know." However, I think that he might not value him that highly.

Compared to that doctor, Mr. An Te Qi, who had modified Dark Sun into existence more than eight years ago, could not be inferior in any aspect. Despite that, according to Mr. An Te Qi, the Sun Emperor,

would often press a pistol against Mr. An Te Qi's forehead without worrying that it might go off accidentally. Therefore, I concluded that this doctor should not be able to make the Sun Emperor value him to the point of coming to meet him personally.

Mostly likely, he just wants to visit the young master on the way... No! He is specifically coming to visit the young master and just to meet the doctor on the way, right? I think, this ought to be the case.

I wonder if the young master knows the news that the master is coming? By any means, I should still announce it to young master when I return home.

Ring ring... Ring...

I glanced at my phone's display screen. I simply apologized to Lieder and then walked to the side to answer the phone.

"Hello, Secretary Kyle."

He made a noise of acknowledgement and then directly got to the main point. "Soon, the Sun Emperor will be going to Sunset City and will visit the young master on the way. He said he wanted to surprise the young master. Therefore, don't let the young master know that the Sun Emperor is coming to Sunset City."

"... But the fact that the master will be coming to Sunset City is already on the news. I am afraid that it will be the top news story for these next few days."

“Therefore, during this period, you will be responsible for preventing the young master from watching the news. Don’t let him know about this!”

“I am afraid this is a bit difficult...”

Secretary Kyle coldly interrupted me, “This is a command. There is no room for negotiation.”

After the last syllable of *negotiation* was spoken, the call was ended. I stared at my phone with a small feeling of not knowing what to do. Nowadays, in this world, no matter if one were sitting in a restaurant or walking on the street, one was able to watch television at any moment. *How does one prevent a person from watching the news for a continuous ten days?*

Not to mention, this person is the young master; he can even search Wikipedia in his own head!

After pondering it over, there were still no good solutions. I suddenly remembered that the young master was currently in Ji Luo Chu’s studio. *Maybe they are already watching the news?*

I quickly dialed Ji Luo Chu’s phone number, but no one answered. Without any better options, I could only call Ah Da’s phone.

As soon as the call went through, Ah Da’s big and hearty voice sounded. He said, “Hi, Butler. Looking for Ah Ye?”

“No, please do not catch the young master’s attention,” I said

immediately. "Mr. Ah Da, I will have to trouble you. Please prevent the young master from watching television!"

"Prevent him from watching T.V.? Why?"

"Because of some reasons, I will have to trouble you to discretely prevent the young master from watching television."

"Ah? I really don't know what you want to do, but Ah Ye and Luo Chu just went out. Because there's a bank robbery near Evening Sun Plaza, they might go through the plaza. So if Ah Ye were to see the wall T.V. there by the plaza, then I wouldn't know!"

The wall television in the Evening Sun Plaza... If I go to stop him now, it would be too late, right?

No, the young master went to solve the urgent matter of a bank robbery. He might not notice the wall television. Instead, on the return, he is more likely to pay attention to the wall television. If I were to go now, I might make it in time.

"Thank you for telling me." I hung up and returned to the table. I said apologetically, "Lieder, I am afraid I will have to go now."

Hearing this, Lieder did not say much but extended his hand and said, "Then, hand me your phone! I will enter my number for you. If you have any problems with the courses, or if the professors refuse to give their approval to get you added, you can come find me."

"Thank you very much." I handed my phone to Lieder. He easily

entered the numbers.

Clatter!

I reflexively looked down. Something shiny had fallen to the ground. Upon closer look, I then realized it was actually a fountain pen. I bent down to pick it up. The carvings on the pen were very complicated, and the style was very classical. Nowadays, very few people used these types of pens.

I handed the pen over to Lieder and said, "Lieder, your fountain pen."

Lieder lifted up his head and said, while smiling, "Your phone."

We smiled at each other and took back our own item at the same time. I said, "Then, I will take my leave first. Please finish your meal and also remember to eat in the future."

Lieder blinked and said, "As expected of a butler. I will try to remember to eat, so will it be all right now?"

This person's personality must not be too different from Mr. An Te Qi's. I nodded while smiling and then turned and left.

Chapter 2: Evening Sun Plaza, a Tangle of Noises, Ill Habits,
and Bravery

Do you know Dark Sun? It seems like he's been a hero for a long time, too. Did you or did he become a hero first?

First Wind replied with an uncertain attitude, "Oh, Dark Sun? I'm not sure when he first started being a hero, since he keeps such a low profile. If it weren't for the media relentlessly pursuing us heroes these days, then he might still be unknown to the world."

Can he be trusted?

"Heh, I don't even know him, so how am I supposed to answer you?"

Then, do you trust me?

"Hmm? Oh, of course."

But you don't know me either, and you neither know my true identity nor what I do for a living. How can you trust me?

"Don't I know you?" First Wind laughed, "Do I really not know you just because we wear masks? Would you claim that you don't know First Wind?"

...You're really optimistic. You look very happy, unlike someone who has been through a lot of hardships.

"Really?" First Wind said as he laughed, "That might be because I have

a younger brother that I need to raise, so I don't have any time to dwell on sorrowful thoughts... Ah, after hearing so much about me, will you discover who I am? Haha."

Even if I did discover your true identity, I won't tell anyone about it. I swear.

"Well, I am not worried about that at all."



For the sake of reaching the destination on time, I chose to travel on top of the buildings. As I jumped from roof to roof, I thought about how I should stop the young master from watching the TV wall.

The truth is, it is quite easy to prevent the young master from watching the TV wall once or twice. The real trouble is how to prevent him from watching the news for ten days in a row, regardless of whether it was from the television at home or the TV walls outside. I would even have to prevent the young master from searching for news in his own head...

No matter how I think about it, it seems like an impossible mission.

I stopped my footsteps and leapt onto the railings on the edge of a building. I looked down to confirm that no one was in the alley below before I finally took a step forward and started falling down.

On the way down, I continuously used blood ability to slow down my fall and finally landed without a sound.

Walking out of the alley, a large crowd of people appeared in front of me. Some of them hastily walked on while some of them stayed at the plaza or danced to the music. There were also people who were sitting on the rim of the surrounding small, minor stages, the chairs beside them, or even on the railings.

Most of them were fashionably dressed young people who glowed from head to toe, since the current fad was the glowing style.

This was the Evening Sun Plaza, a favorite gathering place of the younger crowd. It could be said that there was not a single moment of silence from day to night, and the plaza would even get busier as the night deepened.

The Evening Sun Plaza was a fan-shaped area. The handle of the fan was the large TV wall that would continuously broadcast various kinds of news and advertisements for twenty-four hours every day.

Incidentally, the TV wall was broadcasting the news of the Sun Emperor coming to Sunset City. This time, it did not appear as an interruption to the news but as a formal headline. The Sun Alliance's representative was on screen, explaining the upcoming meeting of the Sun Emperor and Doctor Ni Cai.

It looks like there is no hope of this news becoming outdated by tomorrow and never broadcasted again...

If something is associated with the Sun Emperor, then it is usually big news. I am afraid that the TV stations will continue to broadcast this until the Sun Emperor arrives in Sunset City in ten days, or maybe

even until he leaves.

I lifted my head to look at the TV wall. The news story about the Sun Emperor had finished and the next one was coincidentally related to the young master, which was also a popular topic these days—the Cities Representative Election.

In the previous elections, “the young master” had defeated “Dark Sun” and became Sunset City’s representative, but that was not the final result of the election. Next comes the competition between the representatives of each city, which was when the election would reach its highest point. The news stations and various shows had all been reporting on the same topic for days and would even provide live updates of the newest vote counts.

The vote counts on the TV wall at the moment showed that the young master and the representative of another city had the most votes and were far ahead of the other candidates. That other city was also one I was familiar with; it was “Daystar City.”

Daystar City was as well-known as Sunset City among non-humans since the Church had made the city their base of operations. As such, most non-humans would choose to avoid it, especially vampires.

However, for the same reason, Daystar City had become a very safe place, which was rare for big cities.

Go support and vote for the Angel! The Angel and that damned bastard from Daystar City have fallen into a tug-of-war situation, so everyone go and vote for him. Don't let the Angel

lose to that priest!

The reporter on TV sounded very passionate about this; he even used *damned bastard* to describe the other candidate. He also reminded everyone to remember to vote and even carefully explained every detail on how to vote, as if he were afraid that the public might decide not to vote just because they did not know how to.

Come to think of it, I have not voted yet either. I will vote when I return home and tell the others to vote with me!

After the television program finished introducing the young master, they moved on to introducing the candidate from Daystar City. His name was Alex Simon and surprisingly, he was a priest.

That the candidate was a priest certainly fit the fact that Daystar City was the Church's base, but the result was still quite unbelievable. After all, the majority of voters in the election were young people, so the representatives of every city were mostly the favorite idols among the younger generation, with few representatives coming from other industries. Even the young master had also become a representative because of his position as a model and singer.

But this Father Alex actually became the representative of Daystar City. I wonder what kind of story there is behind that?

Maybe it is only because the Church is strongly supporting him... No! What I should do right now is destroy the TV wall. Why am I watching the TV instead?

I observed my surroundings; there were too many people in the plaza and several of them had stopped to look at the TV wall. *If I broke the TV wall directly, then the shards that would fall down may harm the people. What should I do?*

Right, all I have to do is to cut the power cables. I will not need to destroy the television itself. As for where the power cables were located, I still had to search for them.

"Excuse me, you're Charles, Ah Ye's butler, right?"

I was startled for a moment and turned around. In front of me was a young woman who had short, pretty black hair and was wearing a sleeveless top and a leather skirt. She was not wearing any glowing accessories, which gave her a refreshing appearance.

I smiled and said, "Hello Lin Ding, it has been a while."

Lin Ding looked at me up and down and said in disbelief, "It really is you? I was so unsure about it! I observed you for some time before I finally had the guts to come say hi. You're wearing a completely different outfit from before. You look like a totally different person!"

"Is that so?" I chuckled, "I look better, do I not?"

Lin Ding blinked. Her eyes were actually purple, and judging from the pattern in her irises, they did not look like eyes that a normal human would have. *Perhaps she is wearing contacts or simply had surgery to change the color of her irises?*

"Really? I think you look more like yourself when you're in your usual outfit, though this does look more fashionable! But it just doesn't go with the vibes that you give. Instead, there's this 'you shouldn't be wearing this' kind of feeling."

This is the first time that I have heard such an evaluation.

"Oh yeah, what are you doing here?" Lin Ding asked curiously, "Are you waiting for someone? Waiting for Ah Ye?"

... The television!

But under Lin Ding's gaze, I could only answer, "Yes, I am waiting for the young master." I hoped that she would leave quickly so that I could go find the power cables.

"Really?" Lin Ding thought about it and said, "Then, I'll wait with you."

... This is not good!

After being delayed for such a long time, perhaps the young master will arrive soon? Though I felt my heart burn with anxiety, I could not think of a reason not to wait with her, so I asked, "Why wait with me?"

"I need to ask Ah Ye some questions about his new album, so I'll wait with you! By the way, is Ah Ye going to stay in the music industry? Ever since he released his album, a lot of people have asked me to write songs for them, but I..."

After saying so, Lin Ding stopped for a bit and looked at me hesitantly.

I reflexively gave her a gentle smile and waited for her to go on.

Father had said that a smile was the best way to help people relax and express their inner thoughts.

She seemed to relax and calmly said, "If it's possible, for the time being I would like to only write songs for Ah Ye, because I don't have that much inspiration and can't write that many songs. Just thinking about my own band's and Ah Ye's songs is enough to give me a headache."

"I think I understand now. You want to uphold a certain quality for all of your work, and would rather refuse others than release songs that you are not satisfied with."

Lin Ding looked at me and solemnly nodded her head, but then asked in confusion, "Do you know if Ah Ye still wants to be in the music industry? Or do you think he might just want to stay as a model?"

"The fact is, the young master is a very easy-going person. If you can write songs that he likes, then he will be glad to continue releasing albums, but if you cannot, then he might just continue to be a model."

As I explained, I thought about how I should bid Lin Ding farewell so that I could go find the TV cables.

"Oh yeah, I think there's a director who wants him to be in a movie!"
Lin Ding suddenly said.

"Is that so?" I answered in surprise, but after thinking about it, I found

the news to be very normal since many singers would leave their original careers and move to the movie industry. So I asked out of curiosity, "What kind of movie is it?"

"It sounds like an action movie, the usual story of a hero rescuing the beauty."

"And they want the young master to be the hero?" *That would suit him perfectly!*

Lin Ding looked at me with a face scrunched up from trying not to laugh, saying, "No, they want Ah Ye to be the *beauty* that would be saved by the hero."

"...."

No! Now is not the time to go speechless. Regardless of whether the young master is the hero or the beauty, what matters now is to destroy the television. How can I be led astray again by a conversation about movies?

"Eh? Is that Ah Ye's new commercial?" Lin Ding looked at the TV wall.

The television was broadcasting the newest sneaker commercial: the young master was wearing shorts and the camera had starting filming from the sneakers and panned up, revealing the calves, knees, thighs, and finally a picture of the entire person. When I first saw this commercial, I was a bit confused as to whether they were actually selling sneakers or the young master's legs.

While Lin Ding was focused on the TV, I used the moment to take out from my backpack the two pistols that the young master had given me ... *I never thought that I would actually use them.*

At this rate, I would not be able to find the cables anymore. Though I felt sorry for the television company and the people below about having to break the TV, I would try to shatter the screen into small pieces to the best of my abilities. Since the TV should be made of safety glass, I did not think anyone would be hurt by it.

Using x-speed to leave my original position, sparks danced from the rim of the gun as I fired at the TV wall. But the sound of the gun shots was even quieter than a book dropping to the ground, so in such a noisy plaza, it would not even catch the crowd's attention.

The moment I pulled the trigger, I used x-speed to return to my original position while placing the guns back into my backpack. At that same time, a series of cracking sounds came from the TV wall.

That was the fastest I could go. I will not be discovered with such a speed, right?

Right then, Lin Ding abruptly turned around. My heart leapt and just as I was getting worried about her becoming suspicious about my actions, she pushed me to the ground. I turned my face to the sky and saw glass shards falling down upon us. I hurriedly flipped the both of us over so that I was now on top. I even covered Lin Ding's face tightly, afraid that the glass shards would fall into her eyes since she was now facing the sky.

The glass shards pattered onto my back. The comforting thing was that the shards felt very small. I looked to the side and confirmed that it was indeed safety glass. The glass had completely shattered into small pieces, and the edges were not sharp.

“Are you okay?”

I lowered my head and saw that Lin Ding was looking at me with widened eyes. Worry was written all over her face, so I smiled and tried to comfort her, saying, “I am fine. This is safety glass, so the edges are not sharp.”

Looking around, I saw that the crowd had started to get up, and a lot of brash, young people were cursing loudly. Having seen that very few people looked harmed, I let out a sigh of relief.

“Uh, I don’t really mind this, and I actually feel like I’m the one benefiting here, but there are people watching us, and they look like they’re anticipating further development. Anyway, since we’re not going to continue this, I feel a bit sorry for the audience.”

“My apologies!” I hurriedly scrambled to my feet, but as soon as I stood up, loud gun shots rained upon us, making me reflexively lie down again.

Who was it that fired?

The plaza was filled with continuous screams. Right then, I heard two clicking sounds. I lowered my head to find that Lin Ding was holding a gun in her hand and had a keen look in her eyes. She was looking

around. I assumed that she was looking for the source of the gun shots.

She told me, "Don't stand up. Crawl away and find coverage. Alright, go behind the pillars of the veranda."

I would be glad to go, but must I crawl there?

"Go quickly!" Lin Ding said with a somewhat harsh tone, "Remember to crawl!"

Since she was so persistent, I had no choice but to follow her orders and started to crawl toward the pillar of the veranda. *What a shame about the clothes that the young master bought me. I hope that the elbow and knee parts of the clothing will not become torn.*

I did not have much... experience with crawling and there was a huge crowd of people in the plaza. With such a series of obstacles in the way, getting to the pillar while avoiding being stepped on when I crawled really was not an easy task.

As I crawled, gun shots and screams sounded from above me, but most of the noise was created by angry shouts and curses.

Finally, I reached the pillar and went behind it. I stood up to examine my elbows and knees. The clothing was a bit dirty but did not seem to be torn, which was very reassuring. I was glad that I had not damaged the clothing that the young master had bought me.

I wonder how Lin Ding is doing? I looked out from behind the pillar.

The situation outside seemed very chaotic.

The young people in the plaza looked like they had been through a lot of battles before, since they were either crouching on the ground or hiding behind large obstacles with various kinds of weapons in hand. They showed no sign of fear, but instead, wore ferocious expressions on their faces as they looked around for the audacious culprit.

Right then, a van boldly crashed into the plaza and started to spew out large amounts of something. The picture right now was very similar to the raining glass shards from earlier, but those things drifted slowly, so they were clearly not glass shards. Instead, they looked like pieces of paper.

A piece of paper landed lightly on the ground not far away from me. I settled my eyes on it and realized that it was...

Cash.

The flying pieces of paper in the sky are all cash!

Suddenly, the plaza fell into a rare silence, yet the silence only lasted for a few short seconds before the noise exploded once again. Everyone tucked their weapons under their arms and with their free hands, started to fight over the cash in excitement. Some reached out their hands to the sky to catch the money, while some bent over to pick up cash from the ground desperately.

I wonder where Lin Ding went? It had only been a short while and she had vanished to an unknown place. With the situation as chaotic as it

was, I worried about her safety.

While the crowd was picking up cash, all four doors of the van suddenly opened and quite a few people who were dressed in black stepped out of the car. They carried large bags in their hands and tossed their contents out. Seeing so, the crowd quickly gathered around them, because what they had scattered was cash.

But why are they throwing away cash?

Just as I was wondering about this, ear-piercing sirens came from nearby and as the sirens got louder, flashing red lights appeared on the roads beside the plaza. At last, many police cars rushed into the outer sides of the plaza, firmly blocking the plaza's main exit.

Judging from their large formation, there must be over twenty police cars here.

Right then, the doors of all the police cars opened and a lot of fully armed policemen rushed out of the cars, discourteously firing at the sky as signs of warning.

Even though their actions were very rough and rude, in Sunset City if the police did not fire first, then perhaps no one would listen to them, especially under such chaotic circumstances.

A policeman who had rushed to the front shouted, "Everyone outta the way! The police are on this case, so everyone leave the crime scene... Screw it! Everyone down!"

I think that he might have realized in the middle of his sentence that it was a rather unrealistic request for “everyone” to leave the scene since there were just too many people here. Even though I did not know what the police wanted to do, the situation obviously looked like an emergency, so if they waited until everyone left the crime scene, then I supposed the police would miss the best time to solve the case.

That policeman’s attitude was rude and unreasonable, but that was still not enough to make the people obey and squat down. Aside from the civilians being very fearless, the fact that they were busy picking up money from the ground might also be a huge factor... *Could it be that the men clothed in black threw out the money for this very reason?*

Even though I did consider that reason, throwing away money just to get away from the police seemed outlandish. *There is so much cash, and all of these are thousand yuan bills. There might be over a hundred million yuan here. If they can throw away so much money without a second thought, then why would they live the lives of wanted criminals?*

“Stop picking those up!” The policeman took off his helmet and shouted furiously, “Those are all counterfeits! Look closely, the serial numbers are all the same!”

How unexpected. It is Yue Gang!

It has been a long time. I looked at my friend... No, previous friend, with yearning eyes.

Another policeman walked to the front with a microphone in his hand. The moment he spoke, his voice resonated through the whole plaza.

“The cash on the ground is all fake. The serial numbers are all 000000000. This is a scheme that the bank robbers have churned up in order to evade the police’s search. Please do not fall for it. Now crouch down and let the police look for the criminals.”

On hearing those words, the crowd finally started to calm down. A lot of people examined the cash in their hands, and their expressions changed drastically as they cursed, threw away the money, and then squatted down.

Seeing so, the others also squatted down, stopping the fight for the cash.

Many police stepped into the crowd with a flashlight in their right hand and a gun in their left, looking for the people that were dressed in black.

The bank robbers? Have the young master and First Wind not already gone over to support the police? Why were the robbers still able to escape? Did something happen?

Even though I really wanted to go ask Yue Gang what was going on, he had already broken ties with me... I looked at Yue Gang, and as I was wondering whether or not I should go ask him, he suddenly took out his cell phone to make a phone call. At the same time, the phone on me also rang.

I looked at the screen. The caller was actually Yue Gang.

I hesitated for a bit and rejected the call. I then stepped forward to call out, "Yue Gang!"

Yue Gang looked toward me, frowned, and then walked to me in large steps, asking bluntly, "What are you doing here?"

Put on the spot, I could not find a good reason, so I went along with my lie to Lin Ding, saying, "I am waiting for Ah Ye."

But at the same time I said these words, a sense of guilt flashed through my heart. *Even now, I am still lying to Yue Gang... For him to break ties with me really is a wise choice.*

Yue Gang locked his brows together and tried to ask, "Your younger brother... He isn't a normal person, right? He's just like you, a non-human?"

I was caught off guard but hurriedly said, "No, Ah Ye really is human."

Having heard my words, Yue Gang's brows knitted even tighter, and he said, "Really? Your brother was taken hostage by the robbers."

... The young master was taken hostage?

Perhaps my expression was so shocked that Yue Gang flinched and blurted, "Your brother really is an ordinary human?"

The young master is a human, but he is definitely not

ordinary. However, I could only nod my head and lie to him once again.

“This is bad!” Yue Gang scratched his head.

What is going on? Did something really happen to the young master?

Yue Gang suddenly patted my shoulder and said, “Don’t worry about it! Dark Sun is after the guys who have got your brother. He’ll definitely be saved!”

... Dark Sun went after them? The young master was taken hostage but it was Dark Sun who went for him? I could not understand under what kind of circumstance such an event could happen.

“Oh yeah, since you’re here, did you see those robbers get out of the car?”

I nodded my head and said, “They hid themselves among the crowd once they finished scattering the money. They have also taken off their black clothes, so unless you know what they look like, then it would be quite hard to find them.”

On hearing this, Yue Gang’s expression looked as if he had eaten... Uh, something that should not be eaten. He scoffed and said, “Well, the money that they robbed won’t disappear, will it? They must have it on them, so if we searched them, we would find it right away!”

I smiled and said, “Among the young people here, half of them are carrying large backpacks. Are you going to search them one by one? And it will not be possible to seal this area off because there are just

too many exits people can sneak away through, and the civilians might not be willing to cooperate either.”

After hearing what I had to say, Yue Gang’s entire face scrunched up. He looked like he was very distressed.

“Do you see that person with a large black backpack and absolutely no glowing ornaments?” I pointed to a man who was standing not too far away from us. Waiting until Yue Gang nodded his head, I said, “He and the woman beside him are both criminals.”

Both of Yue Gang’s eyes lit up, and he immediately picked up his handheld transceiver to order his comrades to quietly surround the two people.

I waited until after he had finished giving orders and said, “You can try searching the people who are not wearing any glowing accessories. Their clothes are mostly black and they are even carrying large backpacks. The backpacks are also dark colored, and I remember that six people came out from the car, all dressed in the same manner.”

After hearing this, he relayed a few more points on where to search into his transceiver, measuring me up and down with a weird look in his eyes as he spoke. When he finished explaining to his comrades, he immediately said, “Aren’t you worried ‘bout your brother?”

I paused and went silent for some time. During my silence, the search continued on noisily behind me, but Yue Gang seemed to have no intention of joining the search. Instead, he stared at me intently, as if he could discover some kind of truth by staring at my face.

I sighed and said, "I am sorry, but Ah Ye is not actually my brother. I am merely his butler and the others are all his bodyguards, so there is no need to worry about his safety." Since even the people at X-Killer knew about this, it was fine to tell Yue Gang, too. The young master had also told me to tell Yue Gang the truth.

After I finished speaking, it was Yue Gang's turn to fall into silence. But not long after that, he growled, "It's too late to say this now!"

Shouting so, he turned around and joined the search. He even roughly grabbed some people up from the ground along the way and searched their bags, but it seemed like he found nothing.

I took out my cell phone and made a call. "Mr. Bramble, this is Charles. Can you please tell me what is happening right now? I heard that the young master was taken hostage, but the hero who is going to rescue him is Dark Sun?"

"That 'young master' is DSII. Dark Sun is the real young master." Mr. Bramble gave me a short yet clear reply. "In order to get the criminals to release the other hostages, the young master ordered DSII to pretend to be himself and then become a hostage voluntarily. The only condition was to have the criminals release all the others."

I asked in confusion, "The criminals are in the Evening Sun Plaza right now, but I do not see DSII around."

"There are five groups of robbers this time. They purposely robbed five different banks at the same time and even chose to rob the five banks

that were the farthest apart from each other, exhausting the police and the heroes. This plan has proved to be efficient until now since only one group of the five were caught. The other groups are all still on the run, and the heroes and police are going after them in teams.”

It seems like the robbers these days are becoming more and more intelligent. But I still had a question. Even if someone can think of such a plan, where would they find others who also wanted to rob a bank?

Hmm... After thinking for a moment, I raised my head and saw that the drunken red sunset was already hanging in the sky, and therefore murmured, “It looks like it is about time to do that.”

“Do what?”

I was confused for a bit and then realized that I had not ended the call yet.

Mr. Bramble’s voice came from the cell phone with a question filled with doubt. “You know how to capture those robbers?”

“No, I do not,” *Why would he think that I have the ability to do so?*

“Then, what is *that* thing that you’re about to do?”

“Grocery shopping,” I replied honestly.

“...”

Chapter 3: Market, Chaotic Bustle and Shouting Enthusiasm

First Wind, wait! Don't leave yet.

"Yes? Do you need something?"

There's something I want to discuss with you. The tabloids are saying that there's something going on between us...

"Ah? Is that so? I don't have a habit of reading tabloids."

...Basically, I just wanted to say to you, there is definitely nothing going on! I don't have any intention of liking you!

"It really hurts my heart that you're refuting it so strongly. Am I that terrible?"

N-no, I don't mean it like that! You're not bad at all. I just, just... Just don't have the ability to accept anyone else.

"Do you want to tell me your story? You will feel much better after letting it out."

...Then what about your story?

"Mine? To be honest, my story is quite clichéd. My father became a drug addict after his business failed. He owed many debts and jumped into the sea as a result. After my father died, my mother took my little brother along with her to try to commit suicide via charcoal-burning.

Fortunately, I came back home from college at just the right moment, managing to pull the two of them back from the gates of hell."

Didn't you say both of your parents...?

"My mother later jumped from the hospital's roof." First Wind said calmly.

Isn't it exhausting? Dragging a pile of debts while taking care of your little brother?

"Haha, after forfeiting the inheritance, the debt wasn't a problem anymore, although I still got chased by drug dealers for money for a while. But, it's good that I'm taking care of my little brother! I had to earn money to take care of him, and I also had to quickly pull myself together to console him. If I didn't have to take care of him, I might have already abandoned myself to despair!"

I feel like I'm asking too much, but tell me something first. You don't have to answer if you don't want to... Where did you get the money for modification?

"Hahaha, if I said it, you might not even believe me. I won the lottery."

...

"Sigh, I've always wondered. If my father never jumped into the sea, this lottery could have cleared all his debts. Why did he give up so early, instead of persisting a little longer? Why did he choose to run away by doing drugs..."

I forgot to bring my shopping basket.



From now on, I must remember to bring my shopping basket to class. That way, after class is over, I can also buy some groceries on my way home. Then once I have arrived home, I can start cooking without any delay. We should be able to have a punctual meal this way.

On the road, many patrolling police cars drove by. The street was full of constantly flashing red lights and ear-piercing sirens. I watched as they rushed eastward and then suddenly rushed westward again like headless flies. They did not seem to be able to find the criminals.

I did not think that the criminals would be this difficult to deal with. Under the heroes and police's coordination, the criminals were still able to escape successfully. With the heroes becoming stronger and stronger, the criminals were also getting increasingly and unexpectedly strong. It seemed this would continue endlessly...

"We've arrived at the market."

I lifted my head. As I handed over the money to the taxi driver, I said, "Thank you, Nitewalker."

"You're welcome." Nitewalker only nodded and said, "Just doing my job."

"I might have to trouble you frequently over the coming days."

Nitewalker nodded and said, "Then, do you want to directly deposit money here and use a deductible payment method for your car fee? If you deposit over five thousand yuan, I will give you a ten percent discount. If you deposit ten thousand yuan, I will give you a discount of twenty percent."

"What if I deposit twenty thousand yuan?" I asked immediately.

He said expressionlessly, "Last time, Nitesea said that no matter if you take the taxi or go to the nightclub, he'll give you a twenty percent discount. Now if I give you another twenty percent off, it'll be a thirty-six percent discount. What more do you want? Me to lose gas money?"

"My apologies..."

After handing over ten thousand yuan, I got out of the taxi. First, I went to the noodle stall by the market entrance and asked if I needed to clear any tabs.

Instead, the noodle stall's female owner said, "Your police friend hasn't come by for a long time!"

He really has not come by? I bitterly smiled and said, "Yes, he has been very busy recently."

"Don't let him get so busy he doesn't eat again." The lady boss shook her head. "You're best buds! He always said that if it weren't for you, he would have already starved to death! You should persuade him to eat more than a meal a day. It's not good for him!"

Hearing this, I was also very worried. *I do not know if I can ask Yue Gang's police friends to help me bring some food to him. If I requested that they conceal the fact that the food was from me, perhaps he would accept it?*

Giving him fried chicken should be acceptable. The leftovers can be frozen and reheated whenever he wants to eat. Although it will not be delicious, it can at least fill his stomach... After saying goodbye to the noodle stall owner, I went in front of the chicken-selling stall and said, "Boss, give me a dozen chickens." *The main dish for tonight's dinner might as well be fried chicken.*

"A dozen?" The chicken vendor showed disbelief and said, "Charles, every time you come, I can straight up close my stall up for the day! So, who's new to your family this time? With a dozen chickens, you could open up a business already!"

"No one has been added to my family. It is to be made for my friend to eat." I explained quickly. "Please chop them all. I want to make fried chicken."

"Friend? Is it Yue Gang? I haven't seen him for a long time! Is he busy arresting people?" The chicken vendor sighed as he chopped the chickens, "*Sigh*, public security's been bad lately. Even when I come out to sell chickens, I have to carry two guns to have my peace of mind. I say, Charles! You're bringing a gun with you when you're out and about, right?"

"I am!" Only after I pulled out my gun from my backpack did he nod.

"You really can't go without one!" The chicken vendor complained about the public safety, "But lemme tell you! A gun is not very dependable. It's just there to scare people. If you really need to shoot, you either miss the target or shoot some bulletproof vest. Completely useless. When shit gets real, one better use a knife!"

As the chicken vendor said the word "knife," he suddenly hacked down with his cleaver. With just one strike, he cut the chicken in half.

"If anyone dares rob me, I'll chop off his right hand so that he can never rob anyone again!" The chicken vendor chopped the chickens as he kept saying that he would chop off someone's right hand. This caused my own right hand to suddenly feel cold.

Watching another chicken being chopped into a pile of meat, I further regretted not bringing a shopping basket. *How am I going to bring this home?*

"How about I lend you a cart?" The chicken vendor stared at the mountain of chicken and also felt that it would be really difficult to bring home.

Filled with gratitude, I said, "My thanks."

The chicken vendor helped to put the chicken meat into the cart. After I lifted up my head and was about to give my thanks again, I saw a car crash into the market. This caused some passersby to scream and jump away, before surrounding the car to yell and curse. *This style of driving is really too dangerous.*

The car's door opened. Five men in black clothing and wearing black helmets jumped out from the car... *They are dressed the same as the criminals in the plaza! Have I coincidentally run into two of the five groups of criminals?*

Without any hesitation, the men in black opened fire toward the sky and roared, "All of you, hands on your heads and get on your knees!"

The chicken vendor froze for a moment and then gave a violent glare. He turned around and grabbed his knife and gun. He opened fire on the men in black.

"Wait!" I was shocked. *If the men in black were to see the people in the market rebelling, I am afraid they would first kill a few to demonstrate...*

Being shot at, the men in black did not care at all. Instead, they lifted up their guns and targeted the chicken vendor. Seeing this, the chicken vendor who was in the prime of his youth actually still continued his berserk shooting. He shot while roaring, "Damned bulletproof vests!"

Being shot at caused their anger to rise a bit. A few among them pointed their guns at the chicken vendor. Facing the sounds from their heavy firepower, the chicken vendor finally knew fear. He let out a weird scream and quickly tried to run, but his opponents held machine guns. Moreover, they opened fire without hesitation.

At this time, the chicken vendor slipped to the ground in a panic. The gun and knife also flew out of his hands. Gunshots rang out soon after.

The chicken vendor hugged his head as he screamed loudly...

"AAAAAAAAAAH—"

After screaming for a while, he finally stopped. He even froze for a moment and checked his body and four limbs. He immediately looked up and blurted out, "Charles?"

I stood in front of the chicken vendor and sighed, "Do not be so rash. Did you not say last time that your wife is finally with child? Do you plan to let your young wife take care of your child alone?"

"Charles!" I did not expect the chicken vendor to wail, "Why did you do that?! You still have a bunch of brothers and sisters to raise! Without you, what will they do?!"

What will they do? The more I listened, the stranger it sounded. I said quickly, "I am fine."

Furthermore, when did the misunderstanding that I am raising my siblings start? I remember that the story we spun about my family was that my father, big brother, and two little brothers, May and Dell, all have jobs. I am just responsible for cooking and taking care of the even younger siblings. When did it become that I am raising my siblings?

The chicken vendor wailed even more miserably, "How could you be fine?! Even if you're wearing a bulletproof vest, your head would still have been shot! I owe you so much, I owe your siblings, your parents, sorry..."

"I really am fine. You do not need to worry..."

Bang bang bang!

Hearing gunshots, I turned around. Those men in black were shooting at me desperately, but their attacks were all blocked by my blood ability. They took out even more powerful guns... I hesitated. I decided to take care of these men in black to prevent the vendors from getting injured or even dying, because then the discounts for groceries I had painstakingly worked for would disappear!

First, I used my blood ability to form a thin defensive barrier. I used it to surround the men in black and me, lest the stray bullets affect the surrounding crowd. After forming my customary rapiers, I used x-speed to dart to and fro around them. They were unable to follow this speed at all, not to mention aim.

As I darted, I occasionally thrust out my rapiers. These people's bulletproof vests were indeed very sturdy. Even rapiers formed from blood ability had difficulty penetrating them. But it was only difficult, not impossible.

I purposely attacked the joints. Although they were protected by the clothing too, to allow for movement, the protection was generally lower. With the additional force from x-speed, my rapier's tip jabbed straight into their human bodies like a hot knife through butter.

The joint of the left elbow, the joint of the right elbow... So long as these two places were destroyed, they would be unable to hold onto

their guns. Even a chicken vendor could use a knife to finish a criminal without a gun!

One, two... Ultimately, I finished off all the criminals. Then, I stood in front of the last man remaining. Although he was still holding his gun, he seemed to have lost all ability to open fire. He just looked at me, trembling so hard that the muzzle of his gun shook up and down nonstop...

"Y-You... You monster!"

I walked up to him. I was a little shocked. It had been a long time since I had heard this word. *It likely was since...* After following the young master, I seemed to have ceased hearing this word. Even under a situation where people suddenly realized I was a vampire, still no one called out this name.

To be honest, most people were just a little surprised. Their reactions could not even be considered shocked. The people around the young master truly were not easy to shock, especially to the point of trembling and quavering while calling out the word "monster."

Sometimes, I almost forget that I myself am actually a vampire, a monster in the eyes of human beings...

Putting away my rapiers, I took hold of the opposing side's muzzle. After throwing the gun aside, I gave him a single punch, resolving everything.

It is finally settled. Should I call the police and have them arrest these

criminals? But the police might want to take my statement. I still need to go home and cook...

While I was hesitating, a voice coming from nearby said, "Ch-Charles, y-you... What in the world are you?"

I turned my head in the direction of the voice. The chicken vendor looked at me with his face full of fear. I turned to look at my surroundings. It did not matter if it was the vegetable vendor or the older woman that sold fish, they all had the same expression—fear.

Usually, these vendors always loved to tug on my sleeve, especially those older women, wanting me to take a look at their vegetables or their unwed daughters. Now, they all stayed far away from me with expressions filled with fright.

I had only thought that if the vendors became casualties, I would not be able to receive any discounts. However, if my identity as a vampire were known, then I would not be able to buy groceries here at all.

I smiled bitterly. It was a bit too late to have realized this now. From the moment I used my blood ability to block bullets for the chicken vendor, my days peacefully buying groceries here were over.

I looked at everyone. I apologized sincerely, "I am sorry. I have been deceiving you all. I am actually a..."

"Vampire, freeze!"

I froze for a moment and turned my head to look. That man was

actually aiming an energy gun at me with a cold expression on his face. He had a crew cut with only his left bangs slightly longer and dyed light purple.

I blurted out his name, "Xie Wei?"

Aside from Xie Wei, many other police officers stood behind him. Only now did I realize that the market's exit was already filled with police cars.

Xie Wei coldly snorted and then said, "I *told* Yue Gang. You and your entire family are problematic. He just didn't believe me! Show me your hands!"

I complied. I did not expect him to grab my hands and handcuff me. The handcuff was even made out of silver... *Am I being arrested? Why?*

"Why am I under arrest?" I asked calmly, though baffled. *If there is no legitimate reason, then I do not need to be obedient and let him arrest me, especially when I still need to go back home and cook dinner.*

"You broke the TV wall in the square!" Xie Wei said ferociously, "Don't you argue with me! Yue Gang reported that you were there! You should have been the one who did it! Only a vampire's speed could escape the security cameras!"

I was found! And the reason I was caught was because my speed was too fast... Sigh, to be honest, I actually did not need to shatter the TV wall, because the young master went chasing after the criminals. He would not have passed the plaza, so he would not have seen the TV.

But at this point, regretting it is useless.

I repented wholeheartedly, "I am deeply sorry. I did not mean to shatter the TV wall... Uh, honestly it was intentionally shattered. Anyway, I truly am sorry."

Xie Wei roared back, "If saying sorry were enough, would this world still need police? Follow me to the police station!"

A visit to the police station truly seemed inevitable. Fortunately, only the TV wall was shattered, so the punishment should not be that severe, right?

I nodded and said, "Fine. Could you let me get the chicken meat I bought?"

Hearing this, Xie Wei froze for a second, "What meat?"

"Chicken meat. The meat for fried chicken."

Xie Wei had a confused expression which quickly became an angry one. He roared, "Don't think I'd give you a chance to grab weapons or call for backup!"

This time, I was the confused one. I quickly explained, "I just need to get my chicken meat. Chicken meat cannot even be used as a weapon."

"Give it a break! 'Getting chicken meat' as an excuse? Isn't this reason too stupid?! A vampire came to the market to buy chicken meat? Who would believe that shit!"

I really just want to grab my chicken meat. How do I make him believe me? If I do not take the meat, then dinner will not have a main dish.

“Take him to the police car!” Xie Wei roared to the armed force beside him.

All of the police officers pointed powerful weapons at me. Then, two police officers wearing heavy protective gear came up, used a long hook to hook onto my handcuffs, and then dragged me forward. *This equipment is not bad. It can prevent physical contact between the police and non-humans.*

A police officer said in a low voice, “Don’t struggle. This hook can release electricity at a high voltage. If you struggle even a little, the hook will automatically electrify you.”

...This is truly a very good design. Nearly all non-humans are afraid of electricity. Even the strongest of them just have higher resistance for electricity but no way to completely withstand high voltage.

Now I could only hope that Xie Wei just wanted to take me to the police station and not electrocute me directly.

“Wait!”

The police and I all froze. We turned our heads to look. The one who had shouted “Wait!” was actually a young man—the chicken vendor.

The chicken vendor suddenly shouted, “Charles is a good guy... E-Even

if he is a vampire, he's still a good vampire. He saved my life! Why are you arresting him?"

Xie Wei angrily roared, "Non-humans that have hurt humans should be taken back to the police station for interrogation!"

This was just like what the Church would say but a lot gentler. The Church's Sin Elimination team would usually say, "Any non-human that has injured a human will be sentenced to death." If it were a vampire, even if he had not hurt humans, he would still most likely be sentenced to death.

"The ones he hurt were criminals!" The chicken vendor angrily roared, "Where's the logic in this if the police arrest those who protected innocent citizens! Are the police here to protect us or the criminals?"

Hearing this, Xie Wei's expression turned worse, but he still did not have the slightest intention of letting me go.

"Li Qi." I pleaded, "Could you keep the chicken refrigerated at your home? I will come back to retrieve it at your stall after a few days."

I think there is no way to go back home and cook dinner today.

The chicken vendor—no, Li Qi—said miserably, "Charles! You don't even know if you can come back out or not. How would you know if you can come back to get the chickens in a few days? Don't lie to me!"

This expression of grief made it seem like I had been sentenced to death already, causing me to start to feel some fear. *How do the police*

treat non-humans? I have only heard that the NC squad is specially used to deal with non-humans, but how do they "deal with" them after all?

"Everyone please think!" Li Qi shouted to all the vendors around, "Except for bargaining with you guys, has Charles done anything to you?"

B-Bargaining is also counted as a bad deed?

Li Qi jumped onto a random stall. He shouted to the grandmas and mothers below, "Charles saved me just now! But, *you* also have to thank him! If the criminals just now did seize us, who knows how many people would have died before the matter was resolved! Tell me, how can we let the police take Charles away? Of course we can't!"

"Let him go! Let him go! Let him..."

His provocative words caused all the vendors to shout with him. The people of the market normally shouted and quarreled every day. Each of their voices was astonishingly loud and clear. This combined shout had the volume of an energized army singing a military hymn. The vibrations even hurt my eardrums a little, and my chest also vibrated with the rhythm of "let him go."

Even though I knew Li Qi was an overly lively young man, I really did not expect him to have the bravery to go against the criminals and the police. Neither did I expect that... He would be willing to confront the police for a customer like me, who was even a vampire.

However, I could not let him do this, because I was certain I would be fine. I quickly shouted, "Li Qi! I truly am fine. Please do not..."

I had only said half of what I had planned before giving up because even I could not hear my own voice. My ears only heard Li Qi's shouts, the vendors' agreements, and the older women's loud cries.

One side only had knife-holding vendors and basket-holding grandmas and mothers. The other side had the heavily armed, silent police force. This picture was completely disharmonized. I simply could not imagine the tragedy if they ever clashed against each other.

I turned to meet the police officers' eyes, hoping they would receive my hint to take me away. However, all the police, except Xie Wei, avoided my gaze. *Why?*

"You foolish citizens!" Xie Wei roared, "Who do you think we are protecting?"

He even used the word "foolish." Would this not make the situation much worse?

"Protecting the criminals, of course! Who else are you protecting?" Li Qi roared back.

Hearing this, Xie Wei's complexion grew worse, his expression horrifying. Not only him, other police officers' faces also changed. Some had faces red from anger. Some were dismayed and lowered their heads.

The conflict between both sides is worsening. If this goes on, the surreal scene of police officers and citizens killing each other in the marketplace might really happen. This is definitely not what I would want to see.

“Be quiet!”

I used my vampire ability Hollow Roar. Not only did it drown out everyone’s voices, it also made the whole site completely silent.

I turned to Li Qi and roared, “I am a vampire! I do not need a random person to interfere with my business!”

Li Qi was stunned along with the vendors, grandmas, and mothers. Seeing their expressions, my heart suddenly felt heavy.

Even with the acknowledgement of the existence of non-humans, even knowing that a passerby might be a non-human, there might still be a huge difference when seeing the actual horrific side of a non-human.

I turned my head to a nearby police officer and said, “Please take me away quickly.”

The police officer was surprised for a moment but then quickly took me to the car.

“Sorry, Charles!”

Surprised, I looked at the police officer by my side. He did not dare to look at me because of his guilt, but he did steal a glance at Xie Wei.

Seeing that Xie Wei had not noticed, he then felt relieved.

I smiled, thinking, *Going to the police station should be safe!*

After being escorted to the car, the police car did not leave immediately because the police officers still needed to escort the men in black to the car as well. Also, I had broken their joints, so just moving slightly caused them to wail in pain. This gave the police huge headaches. Without any better options, they called an ambulance.

"I thought they had all died." Xie Wei came into the car. He said, "You actually didn't kill them! Why? A vampire, but still overflowing with compassion?"

I earnestly said, "I just thought that if I killed them, it would be very troublesome for me."

Hearing this, Xie Wei frowned. He did not say anything further. He just gave an order to the two police officers sitting in front, "Drive."

The car set off. As Xie Wei took off his helmet, he sarcastically said, "Don't tell me you think Yue Gang will cover for you, so you let yourself be arrested?"

No, I did not think so. I just thought that the police would not go to the point of killing me.

"Don't be stupid. He's so angry he'd send you to the Church!"

The Church... The most that would happen is that Father Yue will just

force me to eat dinner, right?

Xie Wei narrowed his eyes and growled, "Tell me! What were you doing at the market?"

I was a bit surprised and honestly said, "Buying groceries."

Muffled laughter came from the front seats.

"What are you guys laughing at?" Xie Wei glared at the police officers in the front seats. He then said to me, "What groceries does a vampire buy? You guys only drink blood and don't eat anything else!"

"Yes, but my household members need to eat."

A police in the front seat could not resist turning around to meddle. "Charles is the Angel's older brother!"

"What Angel. It's An Xiang Ye!" Xie Wei glared at him and then doubtfully questioned me, "An Xiang Ye really is a human?"

"Yes, Ah Ye really is a human."

Even though I answered, I believed that Xie Wei would not believe my words. Unexpectedly, he just uttered "oh" and did not ask further.

I looked at him curiously.

He frowned and asked, "What are you looking at?"

"You believe my words?"

"Of course not!" Xie Wei roared. He then grudgingly said, "I already found a lot of people to identify him. No one knew what kind of non-human he is. Probably human."

I blinked. *This is a little funny.*

In the past, not having a human's appearance or abilities would lead to being labeled as non-human. Now it has become "Because it is not non-human, it is human?"

I looked outside the window. It was near nightfall. In addition to the humans on the streets, there were many non-humans walking around. This made me relax. Even with both my hands handcuffed, I did not feel much obstruction.

"What generation are you?" Xie Wei suddenly asked.

I turned my head to him. I did not know how to answer. *Do I answer honestly? But Xie Wei seems to have some understanding of non-humans. If I tell him I am a fifth generation, what reaction will he have?*

"Forget it." Xie Wei suddenly became disinterested. "You look weak. Yue Gang also said you're weak. But you're not that afraid of the sun, so you should be around tenth generation or higher. Are you over two hundred years old yet?"

"More than a hundred fifty years old."

Xie Wei clicked his tongue, obviously relaxing quite a bit. Even his hostility decreased greatly. "You haven't even reach adulthood yet. Wandering around so openly on the streets, aren't you afraid of being exterminated by the Church?"

"Many non-humans live in Sunset City. The Church seldom comes here." *It would be best not to clarify that I have already reached adulthood.*

"Many? Exactly how many non-humans live here?"

I paused a bit and then said, "Maybe around thirty thousand."

"Thirty thousand?" Xie Wei jumped and almost bumped into the car's roof. "Sunset City only has six million citizens. There are actually thirty thousand non-humans? Like that, humans and non-humans are at a ratio of two hundred to one!"

I quickly said, "This is only a rough estimate. I am not too sure. Non-humans do not go out to count their populations."

"How is this possible?" Xie Wei still could not believe it. He said, "Other cities' ratios are at least five hundred to one. The countryside is even a thousand to one. Daystar City even claims it has no non-humans! Sunset City is actually two hundred to one?"

That is why the Church never comes to Sunset City. Aside from the numbers, it is said that many legendary non-humans reside here. For example, Mr. Stone. Unless it were a huge incident, they probably

would not even appear. Even last time when the Church invaded Sunset City, out of those legendary non-humans, only Mr. Stone made an appearance.

Maybe Poseidynne is one of those legendary non-humans?

It was just that I was not all that familiar with all things associated with non-humans. My honorable father had only helped me research vampires. He did not care about other non-human species.

Xie Wei frowned. He muttered, "If a war really started, how could Sunset City hold against thirty thousand non-humans!"

So he is worrying about this? I explained consolingly, "Non-humans are divided into many races. Different races have deep estrangement. They will not easily aid other races. So even an influential non-human cannot gather up more than a thousand non-humans. As you can see from last time, the Church sent so many people to Sunset City, and the non-humans who came out to fight might not have exceeded a thousand in number."

Hearing this, Xie Wei relaxed a bit.

"Do not be so tense." I comforted, "The non-humans would not want to destroy the city they live in."

Xie Wei gave me a glance. He said angrily, "Who knows what those non-humans are thinking?" Then, he turned his head to look outside the window and did not speak to me anymore.

I also turned my head to look outside, wondering if the young master had caught the criminals yet. *The young master let DSII be taken hostage while pretending to be him. Nothing would go wrong, right?*

The young master is very strong. DSII is also very strong. There should be nothing to worry about. I should be worrying more about how to get myself out from the police station. This seemed more practical. Also, where should I go grocery shopping in the future...

Chapter 4: Police Station, the Justices and Evils that Come to
and Fro

"You don't have to talk about it if you don't want to."

You hypocrite! Didn't you generously tell me your story just so that I would tell you mine in return?

"Ah, so you noticed?"

....

"Er, it's fine if you don't want to talk about it. I'm serious!"

We encountered a chase between cops and robbers on our wedding day, and all the cars had gotten caught up in an accident.

I was unconscious for a while. When I woke up, I found my legs stuck under a car that had toppled over. I was unable to move at all.

The first thing I saw was my groom, desperately trying to save me. He kept pushing on the car. His hands and body were covered in blood, and he looked as if he was on the verge of tears.

Seeing that I'd regained consciousness, he continued to tell me not to worry, that he would get me out of there and that we'd hold the wedding again on another day... Until he heard his younger sister's scream.

The robbers had taken his sister hostage. When he rushed over to

save her, he was shot in the head. He never woke again.

"... My condolences."

After that incident, I continued to look for his sister.

"Did you find her?"

I did. She had ended up in a brothel and had already gone insane when I found her. I settled her down in a psych ward.

"..."

Oh yeah, since you told me where you got your money for your modification, I'll also tell you where I got mine. I did the surgery with his insurance payment.



As soon as I walked into the station, the two policemen escorting me shouted, "Attention! A non-human was caught! Attention! A non-human was caught!"

Judging from how familiar they are with those words, I assume that they shout them every time they catch a non-human?

But the people in the station remained calm and did not even bat an eyelash when they heard the shout. It was as if they were already used to this kind of situation. One policeman even smiled at the two when he was on his way out, saying, "Good work! You've caught another rebellious non-human... Uh, Charles?"

This policeman was one of Yue Gang's pals. Well, that was a bit of a needless remark, since everyone in the police station was his pal.

Because of the handcuffs on my wrists, I replied in embarrassment, "Hello."

After the shout from that policeman, the others nearby also noticed me and looked toward us with widened eyes. As their gaze moved down and focused on my hands, their eyes widened even more.

"What did you do?" The policeman in front of me asked in confusion.

"I..."

"Don't talk to a non-human!" Xie Wei yelled, "Put him in the non-human jail!"

That policeman gasped and said, "You're putting Charles in there? But there are so many non-humans in there. It's dangerous!"

Xie Wei rebuked him angrily, "Have you forgotten that he's also a non-human? Moreover, he's a vampire, a non-human at danger-level red. He's the one who's going to be a danger to others!"

Danger-level? Since when was there such a thing?

"But Charles, he..." The policeman halted in the middle of his sentence and glanced at me, and then said to Xie Wei in a low tone, "Yue Gang says that he's really weak! If you lock him up with the other non-

humans, won't he get beaten to death?"

Pity that even though the policeman had lowered his voice, I was still able to hear what he had said.

"Beaten to what?" Xie Wei glared at him before glancing at me and said, "With so many policemen watching over him, do you think we'll just stand around and watch him die?"

The policeman hurriedly said, "But that won't be a fight between humans. Some non-humans can kill people with one punch. Even if we were looking out for him, we won't be able to stop them in time!"

I am not that weak... Yue Gang, just how did you usually describe me?

"He's a vampire. He won't die that easily!" Xie Wei roared and then yelled at the two policemen who were escorting me, "What are you waiting for? Lock him up!"

Hearing that, the two policemen pulled me away in a hurry, and we walked all the way into the center of the station... *This can't be possible, can it?*

I stared at the office hall in front of me. This was indeed the office hall of Sunset City's Main Police Station. The size of the hall was that of a small plaza, but the difference was that there were tables and chairs placed in the hall with policemen working on various things. Glancing at them from afar, I could tell that there were about seventy to eighty people. Some of them were busy interrogating criminals, some of them had documents piled up like mountains, and some of them were

cleaning their equipment.

But all of that could not compare to what was displayed in the center of the hall. A large cage was placed at the center, big enough to be called a room, and five non-humans were inside, crouching alone in separate corners.

I asked in shock, "Why, why is there a jail here?"

One of the policemen escorting me explained, "Because if we locked non-humans in the regular jails, it would be dangerous to have only one or two people standing on guard. But sending a lot of people over would be a waste of human resources, so Xie Wei decided to put the special jail over here. This way the whole station can guard them and work at the same time, saving us a lot of work. Oh yeah, the cage is double layered, so after going inside, don't touch the outside layer because the bars have electricity running through them."

Saying so, the policeman patted my shoulder and comforted me, saying, "Don't worry, this isn't some kind of dark and gloomy jail, and we're all watching! We won't let the other non-humans beat you!"

... No, if possible, I would still like to be locked up in a dark room. That would at least be much better than being in an exhibition, especially when everyone in the police station knows who I am.

As we walked over to the cage, we were seen by a few policemen that I knew, and I continued to hear murmurs such as:

"Is that Charles?"

"Are you here for Yue Gang... Hand cuffs?"

"How is this possible! What did he do?"

"Should we tell Yue Gang?"

The two policemen opened the large cage to let me in. The iron cage wasn't exactly shaped like a rectangle: there was a sectioned off area at the entrance and to enter the actual cage, one would have to go through another iron door. But after I had entered the separated area, the policemen left me there and didn't open the other iron door for me, so I stood alone in the place, unsure of what to do.

After I looked around, I realized that this separated place was quite small and a single chair was placed in it. *This seems like a visiting room? But this cage isn't completely sealed off from the outside, so why make a visiting room?*

"Sit down!"

I turned around and saw Xie Wei sitting outside, about two arm-lengths away from the cage.

After I sat down, he shouted angrily, "Speak up! Why did you break the TV wall?"

Oh, so this small space is for interrogations?

I, of course, could not tell him the truth, but I was unable to come up

with a good reason at the moment. *Why would one break a television wall? The television shows were too boring would not count as a good reason, would it?*

“Speak up!” Xie Wei suddenly took out a rod and whacked it against the iron cage. That action sparked up a surprisingly great wave of blue flames with crackling sounds.

...An electric shocking rod?

Left with no choice, I replied, “Because, because... Ah! Because I saw the news on the TV wall. It reported that the representative of Daystar City had more votes than my brother Ah Ye did, and that the representative was even a priest of the Church, so I broke the TV wall out of agitation.”

The Cities Representative Election was the only thing that I could think of right now. I realized that it was a very poor excuse. However, I could not come up with anything better.

“Yeah! Compared to the Angel, who does that priest think he is?”

The crowd of eavesdropping policemen behind Xie Wei suddenly burst into anger.

“The Angel is the best! I voted for him on the very first day! I even used my three-year-old son’s vote for him!”

The policemen shouted in unison, “Stand aside, Daystar City! A mere priest dares to go against the Angel? Serves that TV right!”

"Support the Angel! The Angel will win, Angel! Angel, An..."

Xie Wei turned his head around and roared so loud that his voice shook the ceiling, "Shut up!"

The crowd behind him went silent instantly.

"You broke the TV wall just because of that?" Xie Wei scolded me as he turned his head back around, "Did you even realize that people could have been hurt or even killed?"

"I was too hasty. I am very sorry. I will take responsibility and pay for the damages," I immediately lowered my head and apologized. *I did not think that they would believe my story, but I am glad that they did.*

Xie Wei frowned again and asked, "You're really a vampire?"

I paused in confusion before saying, "Yes, I am a vampire. Is something wrong?"

"You don't act like a non-human," Xie Wei said awkwardly, "You're the first one who has said that he'll pay up."

I smiled and asked, "Well, may I leave now?" *Being locked up in a cage and having all the staff in the police station sneaking looks at you and listening in on you is very uncomfortable.*

"Leave? In your dreams! Wait for the bail! Your bail is..." Stopping in his sentence, he turned his head to ask a policeman who had a

mountain of paperwork piled on his desk, "How much is the minimum bail for a vampire?"

That policeman scratched his head and started to look through a document. "The minimum bail is one million, but Charles didn't hurt anyone and only broke the TV wall, so this would be hard to determine..."

Xie Wei said crossly, "Who says that he didn't hurt anyone? Don't the people who were hurt by the broken glass count as his fault? Even if you want to take his side, don't speak so blindly!"

The policeman smiled in embarrassment.

"But no one was hurt!" A policeman beside them cut in, "The TV wall was made out of safety glass, so no one had to go to the hospital."

Xie Wei turned to me and said, "Then the bail will be fifty thousand yuan, and there must be someone here to bail you out. You can't pay your own bail!" Saying so, he turned to growl at the policeman beside him, "Lock him up."

"You're really locking him up?" The policeman started to get nervous.

"Does it sound like I'm joking?" Xie Wei glared at him. "Lock him up!"

So, with no recourse, the two policemen walked in and closed the outer door. As one person stood guard with an energy gun, the other opened the inner door to let me in.

As soon as I entered, the door behind me closed. There were five non-humans in total and they all looked identical to humans. I was unable to immediately identify what races they were... *Wait!*

"Vampire?" I looked at the woman in the right corner.

The woman glared at me and said sharply, "What are you looking at..."

Xie Wei said coldly from outside the cage, "Since you're both vampires, get along!"

When the woman heard his words, she said in shock, "You're a vampire?"

"Yes."

She looked confused, but then scoffed and said, "I suppose our generations are too far apart, so I couldn't tell."

"True." I nodded my head and sat down near the entrance after looking around the cage.

Xie Wei walked to the cage and surveyed the non-humans in the cage. The non-humans were all crouching, afraid to meet his eyes. *Non-humans afraid of humans?* I could not help but feel that that was funny.

Xie Wei turned around to ask the others, "Where's Yue Gang? Didn't you say that he just caught a group of robbers?"

"He went after another group of robbers."

"Just how many more groups are there?" Xie Wei said in frustration, "NC is in charge of capturing non-humans. Those robbers are all humans. NC isn't in charge of them! What is Yue Gang running around for?!"

The policeman shrugged and said, "Yue Gang's the type who never takes a break, and since no one has reported a case on non-humans, of course he'll go after the robbers. I think there are only two groups of robbers left. One is..."

Hearing this, I picked up my cell phone to make a call. As soon as the call connected, I said, "Melody, do you have time? Can you please come and bail me out?"

"Bail you out?" The recipient at the other end of the call simply said these three words and then fell into silence. After a considerably long time, the voice sounded again, "You mean like what's in the news, like how suspects get locked in jail and need someone to bail them out with money?"

"Yes, just like that."

"... How much is your bail?"

"Fifty thousand yuan." *I am glad that it is not a hundred thousand, or else Melody might not be willing to bail me out with so much money.*

"... Five hundred million?"

Fifty thousand and five hundred million sound quite different. How could she mishear me? I repeated myself in confusion, "It is fifty thousand yuan."

"Hahahahaha!" Melody suddenly burst into a long, piercing laugh that left her breathless. "A, a great fifth generation vampire ended up in jail and needs to wait for someone to bail him out, and the bail is only fifty thousand yuan. A fifth generation vampire is only worth fifty thousand! Hahahahaha—"

"... Are you willing to bail me out?"

"Get out yourself, idiot!"

Click! Beep beep beep...

Melody hung up. I suspected that even if I called again, she would still not agree to come bail me out.

Mr. Bramble and the others must be busy looking for the robbers, so who else is there that would be willing to bail me out?

"Oh no!"

A policeman yelled out, "The robbers who abducted the Angel has abducted another little boy and have separated into two more groups, one with the Angel and one with the little boy..."

Hearing so, Xie Wei turned really upset. He gritted his teeth and asked,

“Don’t tell me that Dark Sun went after...”

Not waiting for him to finish, the police replied, “He went after the robbers who took the little boy.”

“What the hell!” Xie Wei growled, “Can’t he even evaluate the situation? Everyone’s waiting for him to rescue the beauty, yet he went for the little boy?”

No matter which one he rescues, it would never be the hero rescuing the 'beauty,' right?

Young Master, it looks like to the people of Sunset City, you have now become the beauty in a hero movie. Everyone seems to think that you are the one who should be rescued by the hero.

Xie Wei shouted angrily, “Is the network for the security cameras fixed yet? It’s just a hacker. How can this take so long to fix?”

“It’s fixed, it’s fixed!” A policeman shouted and soon after, the surrounding walls that were black lit up. I then realized that the walls of the police station were actually digital display walls filled with all kinds of live feed: the news, security cameras, and small cameras that the police who were on patrol had with them.

“Good, as long as the security cameras are working, there’ll be no place for the criminals to hide!” Xie Wei yelled, “All NC members follow me! The rest of you, keep a close eye on the criminals!”

Saying so, he led a group of fully armored policemen charging out of

the station.

As soon as he left, a policeman who stayed behind laughed and joked, "I wonder who it was that said that this wasn't the NC squad's job and complained about Yue Gang going off on his own?"

Having heard what he had said, the policemen around him all laughed.

I thought I now knew why Yue Gang was still willing to join the NC squad even though he really hated Xie Wei at first. It was because Xie Wei had a sharp tongue but a soft heart, so no matter how harshly he would phrase his words, his actual actions were never like what he had made them sound to be.

"Charles, don't worry, the Angel will be okay!" The policeman standing outside the cage comforted me, saying, "The robbers won't recklessly harm a hostage who's as valuable as the Angel, so he'll most probably be safe. And even if the robbers really do try to harm him, just the Angel's fans would be enough to tear them into pieces!"

I nodded and said, "I realize that and therefore am not overly concerned, and Ah Ye did graduate with a degree in combat, so his martial arts are not weak."

The policeman scratched his head and said, "That Xie Wei, your brother was abducted and he's still keeping you in here. Sorry about that!"

"No, this is my own fault. I should not have broken the television wall..."

All of a sudden, a sharp scream stopped me in the middle of my sentence. The sound did not come from where we were. It had come from the speaker, making it sound as if it had come from the other side of a wall. *This should be coming from the television wall in the station? I wonder what has happened...*

I looked toward the television wall, but there were too many different screens on there, and it was impossible to tell which screen the scream had come from.

“Oh my god!”

Now this would be a sound coming from right here... I looked confusedly at the police who was yelling. He was jumping around and shouting, “Oh crap! Enlarge screen number 500! Hurry!”

A screen from the left side of the wall immediately enlarged to the entire wall. It displayed a scene shot from above. *Perhaps it's being filmed from a helicopter.*

The backdrop was a building rooftop, and there were two groups of people fighting on it. One group had about five people who were all armed with guns, their firepower very overwhelming, while the other group only had two people... *No, they are not humans. They are wolfmen!*

“What’s going on? Are those werewolves?” The policeman said confusedly, “I’ve never seen such tiny werewolves.”

"Those are wolfmen!" I exclaimed in shock.

Wolfmen are a type of mythical creature. They look like wolves but like to stand on their hind legs. They are very gentle, so they do not attack others recklessly... *Wait, do not tell me that that is the roof that they were living on?* If their home was invaded, then even wolfmen would attack the invaders in rage.

Why did these robbers invade a rooftop inhabited by non-humans? This was not a wise decision. The rooftops nowadays were not places that can be entered carelessly.

"It doesn't matter what kind of non-human that is! Look over there, the railing!"

Half of the railing was already damaged and was hanging over the edge of the building with only a few parts still attached to the roof. It looked as if it might fall at any instant. But swaying along with every motion of such a railing was a white figure that was grasping tightly onto the end of the half of the railing that had fallen off the roof. The figure looked as if it would fall any moment.

The policemen all gasped, "It's the Angel!"

The white figure that is hanging there is the young master!

He tried hard to hang on, but the wolfmen and robbers were fighting vigorously above him, and the stray bullets, broken pieces of concrete, and the wolfmen who would step on the remaining pieces of railing still attached to the roof all made the railing shake even worse.

Every time the railing shook, the policemen would scream and start calling for backup.

Suddenly, a policeman jumped up and yelled, "Yes, Solitary Butterfly is here!"

Solitary Butterfly rushed in from the only entrance to the roof. Though she wanted to dash through the fighting that was going on in the middle of the area, the robbers' firepower was too great, and she was forced to dodge. She even drew out her gun to fight back, and the wolfmen would also attack her from time to time.

To the wolfmen, both the robbers and Solitary Butterfly were enemies that had invaded their home.

"Stop attacking me! He's about to fall!" Solitary Butterfly shouted in anger as she fired her gun. "Who do you think he is? If he's dead, then you're all going to be dead! Take care of those two wolves. I'll go save him!"

At the moment, only three of the robbers could still fight. The other two were already put down by the wolfmen, their wellbeing unconfirmed. When the three of them heard her words, they all stopped in shock and looked as if they were unsure of what to do next.

Solitary Butterfly used this pause to scramble toward the railing, but a wolfman chased after her and leapt over her head, landing straight down...

Solitary Butterfly gasped, "Wait..."

The wolfman landed right on top of the railing and caused another bar to break. The railing started swaying vigorously and a gasp sounded from beneath, "Ah!"

When she heard this gasp, Solitary Butterfly's expression suddenly changed, and she charged to the edge of the building, ignoring all possible dangers. Looking down, she saw a white figure sprung off the railing. Silver hair floated in the dark night. The figure fell...

Given the situation, there was nothing that Solitary Butterfly could do but watch the white figure fall all the way down.

As the figure fell, he tried to grab onto things many times: window ledges, balconies, exterior decorations... But was unable to hang on to anything and fell all the way down to the bottom, disappearing after breaking a few plastic sun shades with his fall.

My mind went blank for a moment.

And then I remembered that this was DSII, not the young master. And even if the one who had fallen was the young master, his life would not be endangered that easily.

That was close...

Just then, the whole room of policemen started screaming, "He, he fell! He really fell! Oh my god!"

Oh no! I cannot act as if it did not matter. After all, my 'little brother' did just fall from a building! Should I start screaming together with them, or should I act as if I was too shocked to say anything? Maybe the latter one... Huh?

My right wrist was suddenly grabbed and bent toward my back. Right after that, a hand covered with nail polish clutched my throat tightly, the long nails piercing my neck and hurting me.

I turned my head slightly and saw that the female vampire had me clutched tightly. With her velvety lips she whispered to me as her fangs scraped against my ears, saying, "You seem to be on good terms with those policemen? Say, if I held you against the bars and electrified you, would they agree to let me out?"

I went blank for a moment since I had not expected that she would attack me because of the great difference in our generation numbers, but she...

I used blood ability to protect my neck and heart, and then slowly removed her hand from my neck. She was weaker than me, so she could not stop her hand from being pulled away, which then made her attack me in anger with her other hand.

The attacking hand naturally had long nails, too. A vampire's long nails were not just for nail polish. They were real weapons that could pierce through a human body!

However, her nails were not enough to pierce through my blood ability shield.

I had asked Poseidynne a lot of questions on battle tactics recently. Even though she used water and I used blood, there were still a lot of similarities between the two, not to mention that her way of fighting suited me very well.

Non-humans usually would not reveal to anyone their battle tactics, especially to someone from a different race. But Poseidynne was very generous and said that, "Because of Ah Ye and because you're no threat at all," she was willing to teach me.

The female vampire stared at my shield with widened eyes—to be honest, this shield was only the size of my palm—stuttering as she tried to finish a sentence, "You, you...."

I pulled away my restricted hand and turned around to grab her neck. The oppressed and the oppressor had changed their roles in an instant.

I softly asked, "What generation are you?"

The female vampire did not dare to move but could not stop herself from shaking as she said, "Thir— thirteenth..."

That is even further than what I have estimated. I asked her in confusion, "What gave you the courage to attack me?"

"I-I thought that your generation number was further than mine," she said with a bitter smile. "Just now, I thought that the reason I couldn't sense that you were a vampire was because you were from a further generation than me, and then you said 'true'...."

So this is why.

"You misunderstood me," I said, feeling annoyed yet amused. "The one who's generation is further is you, and that is why you could not sense that I am a vampire. It would usually take a vampire under ten generations to be able to notice that I am a vampire when I am not using any abilities."

Hearing so, she widened her eyes and asked, "Which, which generation might thou be in?" *Now she's even using honorifics.*

I replied tonelessly, "I do not want to answer that question."

"Charles!"

I let go of the female vampire when I heard my name and turned around to see that the policemen were busy opening the door of the cage.

"Hurry! Go check on your brother..." The police who was speaking looked at me kind-heartedly and comforted me, saying, "He, he tried to grab hold of things during his fall, and at the very end, a sun shade slowed his fall, so he might, might not be dead... He'll be okay!"

I purposely put on a solemn face and said, "Is it really all right to let me out?"

"Oh man!" The policeman said anxiously, "The situation's already like this. Who cares if it's okay or not! Hurry and go check on the Angel!"

"Thank you." After giving him my thanks, I turned around and told the female vampire in a low voice, "Do not cause the policemen any trouble. Do you understand?" After glancing at the other non-humans, I added, "And do not let the others cause any trouble either."

"Yes!" The female vampire nodded hurriedly, and her expression immediately relaxed. Her reaction was not hard to understand. Those who dared to attack a vampire of a much more powerful generation were usually put to death. If she could escape that fate, then she would feel the tension ebb.

I stepped out of the cage, and the policemen suggested, "Taking you by car would be faster. He should be at the general hospital. Hurry up!"

I knew that the young master would be all right, but seeing how worried and flustered they were, I said earnestly, "Thank you."

After I had taken a seat in the police car, the policemen sounded the sirens and sped away in the hospital's direction.

Even though the young master will be fine, how should we explain this later on? The building was about twenty floors high. If a normal human were to fall from it, he or she would have definitely lost their life!

Does the young master need to be announced dead, and only appear in public as Dark Sun from now on? That would not be good, since the young master should also have the life of a normal person.

With various kinds of concerns and theories in my mind, the police car reached Sunset General Hospital.

Unexpectedly, the entrance of the hospital was crowded with people. Both the sidewalk and roads were clogged with people, and the news vans of every news channel was there. The police car that I was riding in even had to park on a nearby lane as they could not get inside the hospital campus.

Having stepped out of the car, the three policemen escorted me as we forced through the crowd. The pushing had upset the media and other people, and thus, they pushed back against us. Someone even shouted, "You think you're great just 'cuz you're a cop? What the hell are you pushing for?"

The conflict deepened and we were not able to proceed any further. One of the policemen beside me shouted, "He's An Xiang Ye's brother! Hurry up and let him go see his brother!"

After these words got out, not only did the people surrounding us not let us through, they instead huddled toward us crazily. The camera lights flashed on endlessly, causing many black shadows to appear in my eyes.

The three policemen stomped their feet in anger, shouting, "Stop filming! Move! Get out of the way!"

Yet the media did not budge, and tens of microphones were shoved into my face, some of them almost hitting me. The reporters, one by one, started to shower me with questions: "What do you think about your brother falling off from the building?"

Er? Well, really surprised?

“Do you think that An Xiang Ye is still alive?”

I am positive that the young master is still alive.

“What do you have to say to the robbers who abducted An Xiang Ye?”

“You...”

As we faced the endless shower of questions and the human wall that seemed impossible to break through, I told the policeman beside me, “My apologies, but I will be going up by myself first.”

The policeman went blank for a moment and then asked, “How are you going to get up there... Oh, yeah! You’re a vampire.”

I smiled and leapt up. Using a few people’s shoulders as stepping stones, I walked onto the hospital wall. At that same moment, the camera lights from below flashed intensely. I was amused by their reactions, since no matter how many photos they took, my presence would not be captured in an image. I could be seen through the live display cameras, but if the video was to be replayed later on, my image would still not be visible.

After jumping into the hospital from a window, I was immediately noticed by the staff. After explaining to them that I was An Xiang Ye’s elder brother, I was escorted to the young master’s room in a hurry.

I heard that the young master is in a special operating room with specialists operating on him... Wait, a surgery?

No matter if it's the young master or DSII, both of them have bodies that are different from normal people and therefore cannot undergo examinations and surgeries!

This is bad. Will the fact that the young master is not a normal human be discovered?

Chapter 5: General Hospital, Painful Yet Healthy Cries

[AD 2113]

"Solitary Butterfly!"

You said you trusted me! Then why don't you believe me? Josh is a guinea pig. He is also someone to protect. We cannot turn him back in to P29!

"I trust you! Calm down and think about it. Dark Sun's way of taking care of it is not wrong. He is just, just a little callous... but there is a reason for that!"

What reason?

"I don't know."

...

"I know it sounds unreasonable, but that child grew up under unusual circumstances, so don't be too hard on him! I will talk to him. He won't brush me off!"

That child? Is he young?

"... Pretty young. Dang it! Don't dwell on that too much! I shouldn't divulge his personal information."



He insisted on taking Josh! Your talk made no difference!

"That was not... Dark Sun... that was DSII."

What in the world are you talking about?

"I don't know either! Anyway, Dark Sun is not wrong. That criminal has a very dangerous power! To allow him to roam free in Sunset City would cause huge problems!"

Heroes are supposed to save people, not give up on them because of this or that! If we can give up on Josh only because he might cause big trouble, is there anyone we would not give up on?

The medical staff led me to the outside of the operating room, where a red "Operating" light was lit, and said, "Take a seat here! The operation might take a while."

"Of course."

I sat down on the bench outside of the operating room, feeling more bemused than worried. *If there really is a surgery happening, then they must have already noticed something is off. Why would the surgery continue then?*

Yet I did not dare open the operating room door, so I could only sit there.

Not much later, someone else was brought over by the staff as well. It was Melody. She sat down next to me and fired off, "Don't worry. The

first thing I did was notify Kyle. He was the one who sent the ambulance to pick him up, so they should be performing a fake surgery in there.”

“You have done well,” I said, sincerely impressed.

Melody gave me a look and said, “Dark Sun is still chasing the robbers out there.”

I nodded and asked, “Dark Sun, as in the young master?”

“That’s right!” She said, “I asked Bramble and the others, and they said that Dark Sun really is the young master. The one who fell was DSII, so don’t worry too much.”

I stood up as I said, “I should return home to cook then, in case the young master is hungry when he gets home...”

Before I could finish, Melody rolled her eyes at me and said, “You’re the young master’s brother. He’s in a critical state after falling off the building, and you’re saying you’re going home to cook instead of waiting earnestly outside of the OR? Do you *want* to end up in the headlines tomorrow? Sit yourself down!”

I could only sit down again with no idea what to do. Melody spoke again, “This was such a large-scale robbery. Not only did five separate groups of robbers show up at the same time, they also attacked the five banks that are the farthest apart from each other to spread the heroes and police force thin. A hacker even infiltrated the network and disabled the surveillance cameras... If you ask me, there has to be a

mastermind behind this all! He was probably just sitting in the sidelines and watching the show, not even actually robbing a bank. That's it! Maybe he's the hacker?"

A mastermind? I paused. At this time, a white-robed, mask-wearing doctor walked over with a few assistants.

I looked at Melody, who said with a frown, "Kyle's people should be guarding on the outside. People unaffiliated with the Sun Emperor shouldn't be able to come in."

The doctor and assistants walked straight into the operating room, but the assistants came back out a few seconds later. I asked quickly, "Excuse me, has something happened?"

One of them said helplessly, "The doctor said he doesn't need us and told us to scram!"

"Well, this doctor has character!" Melody said brightly, "Is he single?"

Hearing that, the assistants looked even more helpless.

At this moment, the "doctor with character" walked out of the operating room. As soon as he saw the assistants, he grumbled, "Why are you all still here?"

Some assistants looked awkward, while some looked a little miffed, but they left one by one nonetheless.

To prevent Melody from asking something like, "Mr. Doctor, would you

be interested in dating a vampire," I quickly asked, "Excuse me, what is the situation like?"

The doctored went "oh" and said, "His bones have been knocked out of place in several spots. Fortunately, I brought back-up bones, so I just need to replace them."

Back-up bones?

"Mr. Doctor," Melody said with a smile, "can you take your mask off? It's easier to talk that way!"

I must have worried too much. Melody would likely not mention anything about dating before seeing his face.

"Hmm? Sure." The doctor took off his mask. It was... *Mr. An Te Qi!*

I glanced at Melody, who instantly transformed from a smiling beauty into an ice princess. *I think Mr. An Te Qi's looks are just fine, but why does Melody have absolutely no interest?*

"Because I don't want him to drag me off and experiment on me!" That was what Melody told me when I asked her later, and I thought it made good sense.

"How are you here?" I asked, surprised.

Mr. An Te Qi sighed and said, "How would I know? Kyle suddenly asked me to come fix DSII and tossed me onto a helicopter to fly me over. On the way over, someone told me something like 'I'm here as a

surgical specialist with a whole medical team to perform an operation' and told me to not blow my cover.

"Anyway, Charles, you come into the OR with me." Mr. An Te Qi waved at me and said, "Now's a good time start your dissection class."

Wai-, wait, we are starting on dissection already? I just checked in at medical school today and have not learned anything yet!

"Come on in!" An Te Qi urged, "What are you waiting for? Melody, you want to come in too?"

Melody immediately said, "I'll keep guard out here! If anyone sneaks in, I can beat him up at once!"

I followed up in a rush, "Did you not say you had some experiment to do and could not teach me until a month later?"

Mr. An Te Qi said resignedly, "Ri Xiang Yan came with Kyle and blasted my test subject into smithereens, so what is there to experiment on anymore?"

Hearing about the Sun Emperor, Melody's eyes lit up immediately. She asked eagerly, "Is the Sun Emperor good with a gun? I've never heard of that!"

Mr. An Te Qi nodded and said heavily, "The Sun Emperor is very good with a gun, but unfortunately, he misses the target occasionally as well."

That is very unfortunate...

"Hurry and get in!" An Te Qi urged one last time, then muttered to himself, "Fixing DSII and teaching you is done more easily together, then I can get back to my experiments sooner."

Under Melody's look of "take care," I stepped into the operating room with a heavy heart. The first thing I saw upon stepping in was a bloody young master lying on the operating table. Even knowing that was DSII, I still felt a wave of nausea.

"Charles!" The bloody young master... No, DSII sat up and said excitedly, "Are you fixing me too? That's so awesome! Daddy doesn't let me talk to him, and I get super bored!"

I followed Mr. An Te Qi to the side of the table and consciously tried to ignore the blood stains all over DSII, but I could not refrain from asking, "Do you feel pain?"

DSII widened his eyes and said matter-of-factly, "Of course I don't! Did you think I'm human? I *can* imitate pained expressions though... Charles, do you want me to?"

I said quickly, "No! Please do not imitate such a thing."

DSII nodded.

After that, Mr. An Te Qi began to show me all the different parts. Even though DSII cannot measure up to Dark Sun, many of his parts were structured the same way, so he was perfect to use to explain. Then Mr.

An Te Qi took several X-rays to explain each part in detail.

Surprisingly, the X-rays looked no different from a normal person's skeleton.

"Hmm?" Mr. An Te Qi said, "Of course it looks the same! I mean, what did you expect to see?"

"A pile of wires, gears, screws, those sorts of things...."

"What era do you live in? Frankenstein?"

"I apologize...."

"Nowadays, of course we try to make things as similar to the real human body as much as possible." Mr. An Te Qi scratched his head and said, "Though if a doctor looked, he would probably see right through it. The biggest giveaway is actually weight. We couldn't do anything to reduce the weight, plus Ri Xiang Yan keeps telling me to make Ah Ye more durable, so Ah Ye's actually getting heavier and heavier."

An Te Qi went through the X-rays as he said, "I say we should make DSII more durable too, or else if I have to come fix him every now and then, who knows how many of my experiments Ri Xiang Yan will destroy... Oh, right, I should just teach you, then I won't have to come ever again."

Wai-, wait a second...

"Come over here and look."

From then on, we endlessly studied all sorts and kinds of human body parts while the subject of observation chattered on relentlessly.

Sometimes, he would point to his disjointed left leg and say, "My femur was knocked out of place, and Daddy keeps telling me off for it, but that was a really tall building! I worked so hard to only knock my femur out of place. Daddy's too much!"

Or he would motion at his bloody abdomen and say, "Actually, my liver burst when I fell too, but just a little bit! Charles, Charles look here, right here. It only burst a little, right?"

Fortunately, I have cleaned out all sorts of weird things from houses of previous employers before, including rotten corpses, or else I would probably be throwing up in a corner by now.

"Not bad!" An Te Qi looked me up and down and said, "I thought you would throw up! This is good. Let's go straight to the next step!"

Wait a second....

"You take this knife," An Te Qi said as he handed me a scalpel, "and cut DSII's left thigh open. His femur is too bent. We need to replace it."

"Cut until here." He drew a line on DSII's leg. If I cut following that line, I would basically slice the whole leg open in half.

"Am, am I supposed to cut this?" I asked, horrified.

An Te Qi said huffily, "What. Did I give you a scalpel to cut a watermelon? Just do it."

I held the scalpel, looked down at that leg, and could not make a move...

"Cut it!" Mr. An Te Qi urged tirelessly.

"This is my first time holding a scalpel." I felt a slight urge to tear up.

Mr. An Te Qi frowned and asked, "I recall that you're not a human, so you usually don't use a gun right? What kind of weapon do you usually use?"

I answered truthfully, "Rapiers formed with blood ability."

He said briskly, "Let me see."

I did as he said, and Mr. An Te Qi's eyes lit up upon seeing the rapier. "Wow, this is really convenient. Can you make it into any shape? Anything you've seen before? How about the sharpness? The sharpest is enough to cut steel! That is so useful... right, use that to cut this leg open."

I paused for a second, then did as he said reflexively and swung the rapier. A large slit appeared on DSII's leg.

Mr. An Te Qi said, "DSII, report injury status."

DSII said happily, "The cut was just right. It stopped right above the

bone, not too much and not too little!”

An Te Qi looked down at the cut, turned to me, and complimented, “Great cut! You’re good with your hands, found the right place to cut in one try, and minimized the bleeding... Are you really not a doctor?”

I answered truthfully, “I am a vampire, so I can roughly sense the locations of blood vessels.”

“Oh~~ oh! So you’re a vampire!” Mr. An Te Qi reached into the slit on DSII’s thigh and nodded as he fished around. “Very good, very good!”

Good for what? I suddenly had a bad feeling and changed the topic, “Would you mind if I ask, what are the chances of surviving a twenty-story fall?”

“If you fell from that height,” Mr. An Te Qi said as he pulled a bloody femur out, “you don’t even need to go to the hospital. Might as well go straight to an incinerator. Can’t even be my test subject.”

“...What if there were a miracle?” I tried my best to ignore that femur.

“If you’re talking about something as unrealistic as miracles here,” Mr. An Te Qi rolled his eyes and said moodily, “then you can *miraculously* survive jumping off of a plane! Why are you asking this?”

I explained the entire story to Mr. An Te Qi as he took the new femur and put it in DSII’s left thigh.

“Why don’t you announce that Ah Ye is badly injured and needs to recover then!” He said briskly, “I might as well use this chance to upgrade him. He’s been complaining that his knee ligaments aren’t good enough. Not stretchy enough and not durable enough. Get worn out after a few times from using that slide step thing he does. Too easily damaged.” Here, he complained briefly, “What do you mean too easily damaged?! Those joints are at least twice as strong as normal human joints.”

Please do not let it be because of the time I attacked the young master’s joints...

“It took me so long to find better materials to replace the old joints... Right, I think he said he learned the slide step from you?”

Speaking of that, Mr. An Te Qi looked at my knees thoughtfully, from which I felt an ominous chill...

Ring~ Ring~~

I picked up the phone quickly, feeling saved. “This is Charles! Who is speaking!”

“... Charles, did something happen?” It was the young master’s voice, and he said worriedly, “You sound really nervous.”

“Nothing has happened.” I quickly clarified, “It’s just Mr. An Te Qi is teaching me about dissection, and I worry that I will not learn well enough.”

The other side of the line went quiet momentarily, then said, "If Bàba wants to study you, you have permission to physically stop him! As long as you don't kill him."

"Thank you very much." I felt much better after receiving permission and thanked the young master for his understanding.

"Young Master, Mr. An Te Qi asks you to feign a bad injury and stay in the hospital to recover so he can adjust your joints in that time."

"Oh? O.K., then I'll head over now. I can't find the robbers anyway." The young master sounded slightly frustrated.

This sincerely surprised me. *There are actually people the young master cannot find.*

After I finished the call with the young master, Mr. An Te Qi suddenly picked up a pile of white objects and placed them in my hands. He ordered, "Here. Now it's your turn. Change DSII's phalanges out."

...



"There have been so many bank robberies lately." The young master said anxiously as he sat on a hospital bed, eating pieces of chicken.

Everyone was gathered in the general hospital's VIP ward eating fried chicken. Of course, I had not fried the chicken, as Li Qi still had my chicken meat. Mr. Bramble, Dell, and May bought these on their way over. Even Aren brought some coke and milk to "visit the sick."

Actually, it would not be correct to say everyone is here. At least, Melody is still busy holding a press conference to explain that the young master is still alive, so she is not present.

Dell suggested eagerly, "Maybe it's because the economy has been bad! The unemployment rate hit a new high recently. People don't have jobs, so they have no choice but to rob the banks!"

"Unemployment rate?" Hearing that, the young master's frown deepened, and he said, troubled, "That's not something I can solve."

May comforted him, "Young Master, there are so many problems in the world. You can't solve all of them, so you can only do your best."

The young master sighed and said, "My best doesn't seem to be enough. Luo Chu-gē's been so busy these days, Solitary Butterfly seems to be busy as well, and they both haven't been showing up much recently, so public safety has declined lately."

"Actually, you're busy too." Aren said uncannily, looking slightly miffed.

The young master turned to look at Aren and said thankfully, "Good thing you can transform during the day too now! If you still could only show up at night, then I definitely wouldn't be able to handle it all!"

"It's not good at all!" Aren threw the chicken bones he held and yelled angrily, "I've been spending so much time as Dragon Peace that I don't have time to go help out at Luo Chu-gē's studio! How can I ask to be paid for the month?!"

The young master was shocked by the shattered bones and said timidly, "You're still helping him as Dragon Peace!"

I picked up the broken bones.

"Sorry for making you clean that up, Charles-gē." Aren apologized to me, then turned to yell at the young master again, "That's different!"

"How is it different?!" The young master said under his breath. Seeing Aren's angry expression, he turned to me quickly and said, "Charles, turn the TV on for some news!"

"At once." I walked to the TV, picked up the remote, and just as I was about to press the power button, I remembered—*the young master must not see the news!*

I almost forgot! I broke out in cold sweat, pretended to press the remote a few times, then turned to say, "Young Master, I cannot turn the TV on. Perhaps it is broken."

Before the young master could say anything, Dell complained loudly, "Are you kidding! The VIP ward has broken TVs? I'm going to file a complaint!"

With that, he jumped up and was actually going to complain right away. I quickly said, "Dell!"

He turned. "What?"

I said tactfully, "Now might not be the best time to let hospital and maintenance personnel into the ward? To the outside, the young master should be a heavily injured patient in recovery, not someone eating fried chicken."

"Oh, right! I almost forgot." Dell went back to eating his fried chicken.

"Bàba," the young master asked Mr. An Te Qi, "how long will upgrading my joints take?"

Mr. An Te Qi's voice was muffled, as he was busily stuffing himself with fried chicken. "Changing joints isn't as easy as the treatment from last time, plus I'm using new materials, so I need to do a lot of tests. You need to give me at least two weeks."

Aren jumped up and protested, "Two weeks without Dark Sun?"

The young master hurried to explain, "DSII will be there. He'll be Dark Sun in my place."

Aren thought about it and said, "Oh, then that should be fine, as long as we don't get a complicated case like we did last time..."

Hearing that, the young master hesitated, then asked, "Have you seen Solitary Butterfly recently? Is, is she still mad at me?"

"Mad for what?" Aren faltered, then said, "She doesn't have a right to be angry! You weren't wrong. You guys just have different ways of dealing with things."

"Really?" The young master's voice grew smaller and smaller as he said, "But you were on her side back then, and I thought I should not have done things the way I did..."

Aren fell silent at that. He said after a while, "I don't know if that criminal deserved to be killed either, but the situation was out of control at the time, and if we did not kill him then, we could kill him later. If we killed him though, we couldn't just resurrect him later! So I thought we should not kill him, have everyone calm down, and it wouldn't be too late to decide whether we want to kill him after thinking about it together!"

The young master digested that, then explained, "I saw that we would not have reached an agreement, so I took action."

"How would you know?" Aren said huffily, "If you didn't chase that criminal with a scythe in your hand, Luo Chu-gē and I might not have supported Solitary Butterfly, and we would've won three against one! With or without an agreement!"

The young master laughed at that. "That's tyranny of the majority!"

"Nonsense. That's democracy!" Aren retorted assuredly.

"I'm full!" Mr. An Te Qi announced as he wiped his mouth. "Come, come, come, Ah Ye. Let's go take a look at your new joints. I made a critical technical breakthrough! It's about the ligaments. We can greatly improve your joint movability, and they'll be more durable!"

"Really?" The young master said happily as well, "O.K., let's hurry up and upgrade!"

On the side, Aren muttered to himself, "You sound like you're leveling up in a game. That's just so weird!"

At this time, Mr. An Te Qi patted Aren on the shoulder and said, "You too. Drink some medicine and upgrade!"

"A-Again?" Aren's expression contorted.

"What kind of face is that?" Mr. An Te Qi said, unimpressed, "Don't you know the best medicines are the most unpalatable?"

Aren growled, "Are your medicines only unpalatable to the tongue? I go through so much *pain* throughout my entire body when I take them!"

Mr. An Te Qi said dismissively, "The pain's only around for a while after you drink it, and you don't even need to do anything during that time. You just lie in bed in pain! Yet every time Ah Ye goes through an upgrade, even if it hurts like dying, he needs to stand no matter what. If he can't stand, he'll crawl. Crawl until it doesn't hurt, crawl until he can stand, then after standing he needs to run... Did you think he doesn't hurt? You want to go read up on rehab books and see exactly how much it hurts?"

"Modification and rehab hurts a lot?" Aren was rather shocked. He turned to ask the young master, "Why have I never heard you say anything? Does it really hurt?"

"It hurts." The young master nodded and said simply.

Aren asked confusedly, "You looked so normal after an upgrade that time before?"

The young master tilted his head and answered, "I'm used to it."
"Used to it?" Aren faltered.

Aren was not the only one. I also felt some confusion and curiosity. *I should really find out more about the young master's past some time to better serve him.*

The young master did not reply. Rather, Mr. An Te Qi said, "Ah Ye was modified since he was seven, and from then for about seven, eight years, his life was all modifications and rehabilitation. Of course he's used to it."

The young master had briefly brought up this part of his past before, so everyone knew.

"To keep his brother from noticing that upgrades and rehab actually hurt a lot, he's become accustomed to not making any noise no matter the pain, and he can even chat with his brother with a smile right after an upgrade! You should learn this skill, too!"

Hearing that, Aren did not respond to Mr. An Te Qi, but instead said to the young master, "You don't need to hold it in with us! Say it hurts if you're in pain, and tell us to be quiet, or ask Dell to do something stupid to distract yourself! Don't bear it all by yourself with a smile!"

Why are you like this?!"

The young master looked at Aren and asked perplexedly, "Is smiling not good?"

"Of course not!"

The young master looked even more perturbed, but he still nodded and said, "O.K., next time when it really hurts, I'll say it hurts and won't smile."

Aren nodded back and finally said to Mr. An Te Qi, "Let's go. Medicine time!"

"Attaboy!" Mr. An Te Qi waved to me and said, "Charles, you come too."

I said at once, "Might I tidy up a bit? I will head over in a moment."

Mr. An Te Qi shrugged and left. The young master and Aren followed him out of the ward as well.

As soon as the three left, I turned immediately and said to everyone behind me, "The master is coming to Sunset City in the near future."

Mr. Bramble said, "I know. Saw it on the news."

Hearing that, I asked rather nervously, "Did the young master see it as well?"

Mr. Bramble frowned and said, "No. What is it?"

"Secretary Kyle said the master would like to give the young master a surprise, so he ordered us to keep the young master from learning about his visit until ten days later, when the master will 'secretly' visit the young master."

As I finished, everyone stared at me with wide eyes, all incredulous.

Dell howled loudly, "Butler, tell me you're pulling our legs! Today's actually April Fools' Day right?"

As much as I would have liked to say yes, I could only shake my head regretfully.

May said disbelievingly, "But the story of the master's visit is already on the news! How could this be a secret?"

"That is why we must keep the young master from seeing the news on TV for the next ten days."

"No TV for ten days?" May said, aghast, "But we watch the news every day when we eat breakfast!"

"Dell, May, break the TV right now to prevent the young master from turning it on by accident." Mr. Bramble ordered promptly.

"Yes sir!"

As the two worked on wrecking the TV, Mr. Bramble said with a heavy expression, "Actually, we can't guarantee that the young master won't

see the news even if we break the TV. He can look for online news in his head, so he can get news even without a TV.”

Hearing that, the two busy breaking the TV stopped what they were doing, but the TV screen was already half smashed.

I nodded and said, “So we must also work hard to keep the young master’s attention elsewhere to minimize the chances of him looking up news in this period.”

“I’ll get Briar to stay over for ten days!” Mr. Bramble made the call immediately. “Briar, come stay at the hospital for ten days! You have class? Study on your own here. The young master’s here, and he’s much better than your teacher is.”

Mr. Bramble, you have such incredible assertiveness. With you here, this impossible task now seems a tiny bit more feasible.

Dell suggested earnestly as well, “Getting Ezart here should help too!”

I said resignedly, “Mr. Ezart is exploring an ancient tomb and has not picked up in a long time. By the time we can contact him, it will probably be past ten days.”

“Just how are there so many tombs for him to explore?” May said stiffly, “Last time when he went to explore the polar regions he brought a huge frozen bug back as a gift for the young master. Watch him go to a tomb this time and mail a zombie back for the young master!”

...In some ways, vampires can be categorized as zombies as well.

"Please Maiden, have some common sense. Zombies are super expensive, okay! A lot of rich people out there collect those!" Dell yelled, "If he really sends a zombie, I'm selling it online! I'll make a fortune!"

May said crabbily, "Did you think the young master would let you take Ezart's gift to him and sell it online?"

Dell's excitement froze at that.

Mr. Bramble completely ignored the two, lost in thought with a frown. He finally said, "Our only silver lining is that the young master needs to be upgraded, so he won't be going out in the next two weeks, so he won't see the news outside..."

AHHHHHH—

I stopped, but Mr. Bramble and the others rushed out of the door, their reaction speed on a different level from mine. I quickly followed them out.

The noise came from the operating room. The four of us sprinted to the operating room, and Dell and May slammed the door open. Aren was lying on the ground, screaming and writhing, looking like he was in severe pain. If I saw correctly, his muscles were "writhing," as if there were countless snakes crawling under his skin, and it was quite a visual shock.

The young master knelt next to him, looking completely lost.

"A-Aren!" The young master cried nervously, then looked up at Mr. An Te Qi. "Bàba, is this really okay? Aren looks like he's in a lot of pain. Even if it hurt, he's never screamed this much before!"

A hint of hesitation flashed across Mr. An Te Qi's face, but he stiffened his expression and said, "Men need to toughen up to achieve more! It's not easy to gain power!"

Aren seemed to hear that as well. He bit down tightly, trying so hard to bear the pain that his face twisted. He forced his screams to be as quiet as possible.

"But..." The young master hesitated, then asked, "Bàba, are you positive this is okay?"

"Sure!" Mr. An Te Qi insisted, "Nothing's wrong!"

At this moment, Aren's skin began to turn red, and it was an exaggerated red. One could not turn this red even after drinking a barrel of wine. *This color is as red as a rose!*

"Is there really nothing wrong?" The young master asked more strongly.

"There shouldn't..." Mr. An Te Qi began to show signs of uncertainty, and seeing everyone's terrible expressions, he added quickly, "At least he won't die... I think!"

“Bàba, you...” The young master was close to tears. “I told you, you can’t use my friends for your experiments. What if something happens to Aren?”

“Ha!” Aren suddenly jumped up and yelled, “I’m all fine now!”

Even if he says so, he really does not look fine. Contrarily, he looks worse. On his face appeared finger-sized bulging veins one after another, his whole face contorting. Not to mention the length of his hands and feet kept changing, and random body parts would randomly enlarge. His whole body looked scarier than monsters in horror movies.

“That really looks terribly painful!” Dell swallowed.

Aren’s face twitched, and suddenly he bellowed in Dragon Peace’s voice, “Get out, all of you!”

Aren—or rather Dragon Peace, it was hard to tell who he was in his current state—shoved us all out of the door, leaving only Mr. An Te Qi and DSII inside, and slammed the door shut.

The young master quickly pressed his ear onto the door, looking extremely worried.

“Young Master!” I said loudly.

The young master turned to look at me. “Hmm?”

I kept the volume of my voice up as I said, “I went to class today and have several questions about what I learned today. Would you mind

going over them with me?”

After I said that, I lowered my voice and said, “Young Master, Aren must suppress his screams when you are around.”

The young master paused, then nodded and said loudly as well, “O.K., let’s go back to the ward then. There’s a desk and some chairs, so it’s more convenient!”

With that, we stayed quiet for a bit, and soon howls of pain began to start up in the room again. The young master looked very troubled by these sounds, but after a while, he began to look more relaxed.

“Even though it sounds awfully painful,” I said lightly with a smile, “he sounds full of energy.”

The young master smiled too. “Mmhmm, I think he’ll be fine! Let’s go back to the ward! Charles, do you really have questions?”

I smiled wryly and said, “Actually I have not even started my classes yet, but Mr. An Te Qi...”

Hearing his father’s name, the young master seemed to understand. He nodded knowingly. “I’ll give you an overview of the human body’s anatomy and some vital parts you must not damage!”

“My sincerest thanks, Young Master!”

Chapter 6: Television, the Overlooked Truth

*"Solitary Butterfly, Dark Sun finally finished repairing your legs."
Finally? The spare ones really aren't as powerful. Is your whip also finished?"*

"Not only is it finished, it's fantastic! Its energy efficiency increased greatly, its destructive power is greater and its battery life also increased significantly. The most unbelievable thing is that not only is it a whip, but it can also switch modes into a sword or dagger and can even fire bullets and be used as an energy gun! I don't even know if it counts as a whip anymore, haha!"

Give me my legs first.

"Oh, oh! By the way, Dark Sun also wrote you an instruction manual."

They're my legs and yet I need to read an instruction manual he wrote?

"Of course! Look at my whip. If it weren't for the instructions, I wouldn't even know that there were so many added features!"

Oh well, just bring me everything there is!

"Hurry up, tell me what features were added to your legs."

Hmm... Both thighs can be opened by pressing the silver decorative button. The left thigh contains grenades and the right leg has flash bangs; the knees can fire energy bullets; the sides of the calves and

the toe tips all have extendable blades; the feet have wheels that can be extended when needed for gliding with a max gliding speed of sixty kilometers per hour.

"Wow, your legs are as good as cars now."

...

"Are you satisfied with them?"

...

"Do you like them?"

...

"Just what do you think?"

I'm satisfied and I like them! I'm running out of time so I'll be going first.

"Hehe!"



"Do you know the difference between man and man?"

I looked at Lieder in confusion and said hesitantly, "There are many differences. I am not sure of which you are referring to."

"I study anthropology, which focuses on studying the differences

between humans. Do you know what my conclusion is?" Lieder said as he waved a fork around. I shook my head and he smiled and said, "My conclusion is—there's no difference at all!"

"Is that so?" I replied as my gaze drifted downwards. He gave me a confused look and shifted his gaze down too, and our eyes both focused on his plate. I said, "There is also no difference between your lunch from earlier when it was carried over and now."

"..."

I shook my head and continued, "You must eat your three meals normally in order to benefit your body."

"As a vampire, can you not care about my health so much?" Lieder said as if he were amused, "It feels very peculiar since I have no family, and therefore no one who cares about my health. In contrast, a vampire whom I've just met recently worries about my health. This feels very odd indeed."

"My apologies, I may have developed a habit," I replied embarrassedly. "Someone at home also forgets to eat, so I have to remind him quite often."

On some level, Mr. An Te Qi and Lieder act alike. The only difference is that Mr. An Te Qi does not really like to lecture someone and would rather give them a scalpel right away, while Lieder is very enthusiastic about lecturing and even forgets his food when he starts talking.

"I know."

... *Pardon?*

Lieder looked at me and laughed, "I mean, I get it. Do you have class this afternoon?"

"I have two classes."

"Where do you plan on going afterwards?" Lieder asked and then added, "It's not every day that I get to chat with a vampire. You don't mind me asking this much, do you?"

I shook my head as I laughed, "Of course not, having someone I know at school makes me feel much more reassured. After attending my classes, I am going to the market."

"Huh?" Lieder stopped and then said understandingly, "Oh, you mean the human blood market?"

"No, I meant the market that sells poultry and vegetables."

"... Has anyone ever told you that you don't act much like a vampire?"

"I hear that quite often," I admitted honestly.

"Haha... Excuse me," Lieder said when his cell phone suddenly rang. After having excused himself, he answered the call right where he was.

I lowered my head as I drank blood, acting as if I did not care, but it was still not possible to keep their conversation away from my ears.

"Oh? It succeeded? How many? Two? A bit worse than what I'd imagined. I thought that there would be at least three... Mmhmm, that's fine. Buy the necessary stuff and transfer the rest of the funding to the place we agreed to."

After finishing that conversation, Lieder ended the call and said with a smile, "There seems to be some hits and misses in my investment! Some succeeded and some failed, but at least I still profited a lot in the end."

"Really? What did you invest in?"

"Banks."

I replied in astonishment, "Banks? That sounds like a very large investment." *It does not sound like something a professor would invest in, but come to think of it, Lieder is also a part-time assassin, and assassins are usually quite rich?*

Lieder smiled and said, "It's not too big. It did take some money to start off, but the payoff is quite good."

"Is that so?"

Suddenly, Lieder's expression froze as if something had caught his attention. I spaced out for a bit and then followed his gaze to discover that he was watching the televised news.

It was evident that the camera had to zoom in to shoot the scene

since the picture was very blurry. The video showed a group of people in black suits. Only the blond man at the center of the group was wearing a long, dark-colored windbreaker. The group walked very quickly, and the blond man glanced at the camera with irritation as they passed by.

To be frank, the video was not very clear. It was only a bit better than the blurry videos from security cameras. But the two large news headings and the fact that I had seen this blond man before made him easy to recognize. He was the Sun Emperor.

The Sun Emperor rarely appeared on the news. There were not even many secret photos of him, not to mention interviews. It was surprising that the media could record such a video. Though it was only for an instant, that instant was already a very rare occurrence.

"Ri Xiang Yan..." Lieder suddenly turned to me and asked, "What is your opinion on Ri Xiang Yan?"

"My opinion?" I was caught off guard and did not know how to answer him, so I gave him an ambiguous reply, "I do not have a specific opinion, since the Sun Emperor seems too distant for a commoner."

"True," Lieder said with a vague smile, "but do you see yourself as a commoner?"

"Even for vampires, the Sun Emperor is still very distant." *I mean, for vampires aside from me.*

"You're right, Ri Xiang Yan is practically the only emperor in the world."

Lieder said emotionlessly, "Though monarchy has vanished for a long time, is it really gone?"

I was caught off guard, confused about how the topic suddenly changed to monarchy.

Lieder then said in a mocking tone, "Or maybe it's just that the name changed but it has continued to exist, so that the people in slavery won't think that they're slaves? How different are those business heads from ancient emperors?"

Were I not the young master's butler, I might have discussed this topic in further depth with Lieder. But since I served the young master, then it would be inappropriate of me to discuss the master, so I answered, "Even if the Sun Emperor really were an emperor, how would that affect the common masses?"

"That's the brilliant thing!" Lieder threw something with great force and said, "No one thinks that that has anything to do with them, and no one cares about it! But do you know how many businesses the Sun Alliance has?"

I lowered my head to look at the item that was cast on the table and realized that it was a fountain pen. "Um, many, but I do not know exactly how many... Lieder, throwing this fountain pen around does not seem like a good idea?"

"Don't worry, this pen is made of stainless steel. It's my smashing pen."

Is, is that so?

“Walking down a street, half of the shops that people walk past belong to the Sun Alliance or partner companies, and they have no idea! They’re ignorant to the fact that Ri Xiang Yan can cause inflation whenever he wants to. No one can say a thing even if he raised the prices of everyday necessities, because a lot of industries have been monopolized by him.

“Life or death, eat or starve, everything has fallen into the hands of this guy. You still think he’s not an emperor? Ya think people aren’t ignorant of their slavery? People even call him the Sun Emperor. They won’t call him by his name!”

I did not think that Lieder would have such a strong opinion on the Sun Emperor. This made me quite worried, but I could not pinpoint why I was worried. *Even though Lieder is a part-time assassin, he would not be able to assassinate the Sun Emperor, would he?*

I frowned at Lieder, wondering what kind of advice I could offer him, but he smiled and reminded me with a carefree attitude, “The bell’s about to ring. Given your personality, you’re not the type who likes to be late for class, right?”

I lowered my head to check my watch. It really was time for class, so I hurriedly said, “Excuse me, I have to go.”

I stopped in the middle of my hurried tracks and turned around to check on Lieder. He was eating his food, and when he saw me, he forked up a big portion of food and put it into his mouth, as if telling me that he was eating his food like a good boy.

I smiled at him before hurrying to class.

Maybe I was worrying too much. Many people become passionate when they are discussing a social or political topic. Lieder should be one of them. There is nothing special about this, nor is there anything that I should worry about.



I scurried into the classroom just as the bell rang. The classroom was very quiet. *Well, students in the faculty of medicine do study hard... No! They are looking at me! The entire class is looking at me!*

I looked at the classroom full of students, stumped, thinking, *What is going on here?*

"It really is him!" A student gasped.

Some people were looking at the TVs that were hanging from the walls of the classroom, so I turned my head toward them. The news was on and there really was not much to show since there was only a hospital wall and some reporters.

"I saw you on the news last night and you were still visible then! And then you disappeared today. That's so weird. According to my theory, vampires might emit some kind of electromagnetic radiation that stops an image from being recorded on film..."

"That was so cool! You walked onto a wall just like that, totally defying gravity!"

A lot more people asked out of concern, "The Angel is still alive, right? The manager didn't lie, did she? Is his life in danger? How severe is his coma?"

I nodded and said, "Yes, his life is not in danger and he has regained consciousness, though he has many wounds and needs to rest for a while. He is fine."

"Great!" The students cheered in joy, "That's the Angel who graduated from combat. If he didn't grab onto a whole lot of stuff to slow down his fall, he would have really died!"

I was glad to see how happy they were. The young master really did have many fans who cared for him.

"Student, go take a seat."

I was caught off guard. Turning around, I saw a young man standing behind me. He was wearing a black leather coat and high black boots. His expression was cold, and he had an earring that had a faint, white glow on his left ear. He looked like one of the young people on the streets, but if I was not wrong, all the books he held in his hand were professional medical books.

He is making me sit down? Is he the professor? He looks too young to be one, even younger than Lieder, and even, even more like an assassin than Lieder.

"Yes," I replied hurriedly and rushed to find a seat.

The classmate sitting beside me asked me in a low voice, "Do you know who this professor is?"

I shook my head as I took out my textbook.

"Ni Cai! The doctor that was awarded for his thesis on modifying brains!" The classmate said excitedly, "The school specially hired him. I heard that if it weren't for an anthropology prof who knew him and especially asked him to, he would never have come!"

Anthropology... Could it be Lieder? So he knows Ni Cai. Well, he did say that if the professor would not let me into his class, then he would help me out. So it was because he knew the professor.

"Oh yeah, why are you starting from third year?" The classmate on my other side asked confusedly.

That made me a bit nervous. *Should I say that I have taken first and second year courses?*

He started talking before I could reply, "First and second years all feel horrible! They know that you're a third year and that you're taking classes that they can't take yet so they're almost crying."

Crying? I asked in surprise, "Why?"

"Oh!" The classmate laughed. "A lot of reasons! Some like the Angel, some are into vampires, and some people became your fans after watching the news, like my assigned junior! You should become a

celebrity like your brother!”

I smiled slightly, not feeling odd about it. Falling for vampires was not uncommon.

“My junior said that if I don’t get her an autograph, she won’t speak with me anymore. So lend me a hand?”

My classmate said very earnestly and even took out a very formal autograph board and signing pen.

“... My brother’s autograph?”

“No, yours.”

I was speechless. I could only take the pen and sign my name. Well, I of course left out my surname.

“Thanks! She actually wanted an autographed photo, but the cameras can’t capture you. I even made fun of her...” The classmate put away the board and started writing something on a piece of note paper, saying, “Here’s my number. Feel free to call me if you have any questions!”

After receiving the piece of paper and hearing the three words: “have any questions,” I immediately remembered that I did have a lot of questions, so I hurriedly asked, “Have you taken a dissecting class?”

“Yep.” The classmate nodded and said quietly, “I’ve seen it a lot of times! Because my family owns a hospital, so I help out sometimes...”

Cough! You know! But it really isn't just me saying this, my skills totally match up to my father!"

"Can I call you, sir, when I have questions about dissecting?" I asked earnestly and saved the number into my phone immediately. *Perhaps I will have to call this classmate tonight, asking him questions while I dissect.*

"... Sure," The classmate said helplessly, "But can you leave out the 'sir?' You're scaring me!"

I apologized and he laughed, introducing himself, "I'm Shuu Kahl, just call me Ah Shuu."

"Then, please call me Charles as well."

As soon as we finished introducing ourselves, he averted his gaze and stopped looking at me. Just when I started to feel confused, he reminded me in a low voice without turning around, "Charles, look at the blackboard. The prof is glaring at us."

Hearing that, I hurriedly looked toward the blackboard. Professor Ni Cai was in fact glaring at us. Actually, the glare was more like a few cold glances in our direction, but those glances were so cold that I felt like I was in an underground freezer, as if my heart were frozen by one single glance. Compared to Lieder, I felt Professor Ni Cai was more suited to be an assassin.

I did not know what to do under the professor's gaze. Fortunately, his gaze only swept across us a few times before he started the lecture, and he did not pay any particular attention to me during class,

allowing me to sigh in relief.

Professor Ni Cai had started talking about the structure of the human body. I appreciated this greatly as I felt that I could go home today with more courage to face Mr. An Te Qi's practical lab class.

"Weird... Didn't the prof already start on brain structures?" Ash frowned and then muttered to himself, "Midterm's coming up, so maybe he's reviewing!"

Hearing this, I hurriedly turned around to ask him, "When is the midterm?"

"In two weeks... Umm, I can lend you my notes, so don't look like the sky's gonna fall..."

The midterm is in two weeks, yet I need to practice operating under Mr. An Te Qi's supervision every night, and I also have to serve the young master... Fortunately, we live in a hospital right now so not much cleaning is required, and we cannot cook in the hospital so Dell and May are in charge of buying food. This must be the silver lining amidst all this misfortune.

"Oh, and Professor Ni Cai is really strict. He said that he'll only test us on reasonable stuff, so those who fail the midterm won't have to come to class anymore... But, but you just joined this class so he might go easy on you? I mean might. Prof Ni Cai really is very strict!"

"..."



Just what should I do about the midterm? I worried as I stared out the car window.

"After applying the discount, that will be a total of a hundred and sixty-seven yuan saved. Thank you for your patronage." Nitewalker's toneless voice came from the front seat.

"Please, wait for me here. I will be back very soon."

"All right."

I exited the car and was a bit worried about how the merchants would react when they saw me, but I had to pick up the chicken I ordered since Li Qi had already chopped them for me. I could not let him take the loss.

No one in the market noticed me at first as I walked over to Li Qi's stall, but as I walked further into the market, people started noticing me and even started to follow me.

I was bewildered and turned my head to check what was happening. The housewives all stopped in their tracks and then scattered in a hurry, pretending they were shopping. Seeing this, I turned around and kept on walking until I reached Li Qi's chicken stall and said, "Li Qi, I am here to pick up the chicken."

Li Qi lifted his head and stared at me with a blank expression. He said after a few moments, "Charles, my wife and I saw you on TV."

"That many people watched the live news?" I asked in astonishment.

"A lot!" Li Qi immediately said with a nod of his head. "Do you know how many people care about the Angel? Everyone was waiting in front of the television, waiting to see how things would turn out, so of course they'd see you! Charles, is your brother really okay? The media says that he didn't die and his wounds weren't deadly... But you know the media, they'd make a great impression if half of what they said were true!"

I chuckled. "Please, do not worry, Ah Ye is really all right. If he were not, I would not be here casually picking up chicken meat, would I?"

Li Qi said with difficulty, "I sold your chicken for half the price! I was afraid that it was going to go bad and your brother got into that accident, so I thought that you wouldn't have the time to pick it up."

Hearing this, I hurriedly said, "That was a very wise decision. Please, let me pay for the half of the price you lost..."

"What the hell are you talking about?" Li Qi raised his voice awkwardly, "You saved my life! I should be the one paying you! If my wife found out that I actually took your money, then she'd definitely run off with the child in her belly! Also, my wife said that I should give you half price from now on whenever you come, or else she's going to divorce me!"

Half price! And it is from here on out!

"Charles, are you really a vampire?" Li Qi asked, scratching his face.

"I've heard a lot of stories about vampires, but I've never heard any about a vampire whose eyes would shine just by hearing that he could buy chicken at half price!"

I said with a smile, "I have already shown you my vampire form, and you still doubt that?"

"Hm?" Li Qi stopped for a split second and then said, as if everything suddenly became clear to him, "You mean that growl that you did? It's pretty unique, but that's what a vampire looks like?"

Pretty unique... I am not quite sure how to respond to that.

"By the way, my wife told me to ask you for an autograph, or else..."

"She will divorce you?"

"Yes!" Li Qi pulled out a board from his stall and said, "For the sake of my happy marriage, please autograph this thing!"

Because Ah Shuu had already asked me for one, it was not my first time and I knew exactly what to do. After signing my name and giving the board back to Li Qi, he pointed at something behind me.

I turned my head and jumped at the sight of tens of housewives looking at me hopefully. They were all either holding pens and paper or were looking for pens and paper. I hurriedly said, "Excuse me, but I should go!"

If I continued signing then there would probably be no end to it. I

really cannot sign...

Behind me, Li Qi yelled loudly, "Hey hey, why should he give an autograph if there aren't any discounts?"

Then, a set of pen and paper was given to me and a vendor told me with a very earnest expression, saying, "Thirty percent off your fish."

After a moment of silence, I took the pen and paper...

"Thirty percent off produce!"

"Twenty percent off hotpot ingredients!"

"Ten percent off coffins... Don't glare at me! I'm not trying to curse him. He's a vampire! Doesn't he sleep in coffins?"

"Oh," Everyone then said understandingly.

....



"Help me slice this piece of brain into sixths and then drop the stuff in these six test tubes on each of them."

"Understood. Do we need to record the results? How long should I wait between each recording?"

Mr. An Te Qi looked at me and suddenly sighed, saying, "Having an assistant is still nice. At least you can do these small tasks for me

quite well... Wait, I had assistants before too. Why did they make me so angry? Say, if I asked Ah Ye to lend you to me for a few years, would he agree?"

"Of course not!"

I lifted my head to see the young master come in, speaking to Mr. An Te Qi in a cross tone, "Bàba, I finally found a good butler like Charles. I won't let you take him away from me! Didn't Kyle-gē find you a lot of assistants already?"

"Tsk! I already fired all those idiots!" Mr. An Te Qi said in a displeased tone, "Not one of them had persistence. They even said that I treated them like errand boys..."

The young master laughed and said, "But Bàba, you do treat them like errand boys!"

"True... All I did was make them cook, clean, and record experiments! Quitting just because of that, don't they even know how to handle pressure?"

The young master explained to me, saying, "The assistants Kyle-gē hired were all professionals. Many of them had more than three degrees. They're respected doctors and they've perhaps won some very famous awards!"

And then Mr. An Te Qi makes them cook and clean. I guess I understand.

So I suggested, "I can ask my family to send Mr. An Te Qi a butler. If he only needs help with things such as recording experiments, then many butlers can handle the job well since they have served many scholars before."

"Charles!" Mr. An Te Qi called out to me in a very serious voice as soon as I finished stating my suggestion.

"Yes?"

"I want someone who can cook!"

"... Please do not worry. Every butler from the Elysees Family must learn how to cook before they can officially become a butler."

"Great!" Mr. An Te Qi nodded his head and then turned around to ask, "Ah Ye, when will you have the knee joint ligament surgery? I've finished all preparations. We can start right away."

The young master said hesitantly, "Sunset City is pretty quiet these days... Charles, did you notice anything at school?"

"No, nothing troubling has happened at school these days." *Aside from the troubling midterm, but that is not something that the young master can solve for me, so it will not affect the surgery... But if the young master's surgery was postponed because of me, then perhaps even Father would glare at me furiously!*

The young master nodded and said to Mr. An Te Qi, "Then let's change it now!"

"You sure?" Mr. An Te Qi asked again, "This time it'll be a big operation. It won't just be a few days of pain like before. You probably won't even be able to move your legs for a week after the surgery."

Hearing this, the young master looked hesitant, but then shook his head immediately and said, "There won't be a better time than now, even if we keep on waiting. I'm 'seriously injured' right now so I don't have to go modeling. This is the best time for the surgery!"

Mr. An Te Qi nodded and said, "Then let's do it tonight. I've got everything ready anyways. We just need DSII to prepare the instruments." He turned around to me after finishing and said, "Charles, stop doing the biopsy and come look."

Hearing this, I asked anxiously, "I, I will not be asked to operate, will I?"

"Of course not!" Mr. An Te Qi refuted at once, saying, "We'll let you operate on anything, even DSII, just not Ah Ye."

I was very relieved. Thankfully, Mr. An Te Qi still had boundaries.

"Don't feel bad. I'm not saying you can't," Mr. An Te Qi suddenly said in an attempt to comfort me, but I did not feel bad at all. All I had felt was relief. Mr. An Te Qi then explained, "It's easy to maintain and change DSII's parts, but Dark Sun is different."

"Are they different?" I had always thought that DSII and Dark Sun's bodies were exactly the same.

"The composition is pretty much the same, but of course they're still different!" Mr. An Te Qi scratched his head and continued, "Anyways, if Dark Sun is the official version, then DSII would be the lite version. No matter if you compare their sturdiness or fighting abilities, DSII isn't a match for Dark Sun!"

The young master explained a bit more, saying, "If we're up against normal criminals, then there wouldn't be much of a difference between us. If we're fighting an opponent like X, there would be a tie if I fought against him, but DSII would lose in five minutes."

There is such a big difference? I was quite shocked.

"Oh, and, DSII broke a lot of bones when he fell from twenty floors up. He was concerned about the media noticing something abnormal so he purposely fell straight down, but if it were me, I wouldn't have broken any bones."

"I understand now."

At the same moment, DSII pushed the door open and said, "Ah Ye, the operation room is ready!"

Hmm? When did... Oh, the young master can give DSII direct orders in his head.

We then entered the operating room. The doctor was of course Mr. An Te Qi and the only assistant was DSII. I was merely an observer.

DSII said in a robotic voice, "Now operating on the thigh muscles of both legs, knee caps, and anterior and posterior cruciate ligaments. The patient is Dark Sun, estimated operating time..."

The young master lay on the bed, covered in separation cloth, showing only his knees.

After DSII's robotic voice ended, Mr. An Te Qi walked forward and... And I do not want to describe the details of the operation.

I can only say that, the rule about doctors not operating on their relatives is very well-founded. Just knowing that the person lying on the table was the young master made me unable to view the operation calmly. From the first cut of the knife, all I could think of was, *Why did he cut open such a wide wound?* Then I saw the young master's skin being peeled off, his flesh and blood... *No! I should stop thinking.*

"Are you okay?"

The operation continued for eight full hours. Mr. An Te Qi only went to the bathroom once during this period.

After the operation, DSII pushed the young master back to his room. Mr. An Te Qi asked me whether I was all right or not as he took off his mask, cap, and gloves.

Though I really wanted to say "I am fine" out of politeness, I found myself unable to say so. So I admitted with a bitter smile, "I am not all right."

"That's normal!" An Te Qi comforted me as he patted my shoulder, "Practice makes perfect."

Practice... I forced a smile and asked, "About when will the young master wake up?" *If I could, I would really like to see the young master open his eyes, just to make sure that the operation was completely successful.*

"About?" Mr. An Te Qi said as he pushed his glasses into place, "I can tell you the exact time. He has already woken up."

My expression probably looked too shocked, causing him to explain with a smile, "Ah Ye's body is more unique, so we must use a very large dose of anesthetic to sedate him. But using that much anesthetic can harm the body, so I rarely do that. Instead, I have him shut himself off and DSII powers him on after the operation."

"..."

"Let's go see how Ah Ye's doing." Mr. An Te Qi said as he took off his blood splattered robe and threw it into the garbage.

The young master was indeed awake inside the patient room. As soon as we walked in, the young master turned around to face us, looking as if nothing had happened. He looked nothing like someone who had just undergone an operation and had casts on both legs.

"Ah Ye, do you want some pain killers?" Mr. An Te Qi asked. "You've never needed them before, but it's going to hurt a lot more this time."

The young master simply shook his head.

I could not help but ask, "Young Master, does it hurt a lot?"

The young master shook his head with a smile, but still did not reply.

Seeing his reaction made me worry. Just as I was about to ask him about this again, the door suddenly banged open and Aren shouted, "Ah Ye, is the surgery over?"

"Hey, he really did *just* go through an operation and needs time to rest... Oh well," Mr. An Te Qi gave up in the middle of his sentence.

Aren dashed to the bed and stared down at the young master's legs, but they were under the blanket and nothing could be seen, so the young master pulled the blanket away for him to look.

Because of the plaster on the young master's legs, Aren could not see how bad it was, so he asked, "Does it hurt?"

The young master shook his head.

But Aren growled, "You're holding it in, aren't you?"

The young master asked in confusion, "How..."

"Who the hell doesn't feel pain after a surgery!" Aren said undeniably, "You're lying!"

The young master rolled his eyes at Aren and said with an annoyed tone, "You asked me if it hurts, and then said that it'll definitely hurt. Who does that?"

Aren shouted angrily, "Of course people do!"

"No one..." The young master suddenly stopped in the middle of his sentence.

"Why did you leave your sentence half finished..." But Aren also stopped in the middle of what he was saying and asked nervously, "Is something wrong?"

"Nothing." Though that was what the young master had said, I realized that as soon as he answered, he held his lips shut in a tight line.

"I told you he needed rest," Mr. An Te Qi said as if he were not a part of this. "He just underwent an operation, and isn't on any pain killers, so he's probably in a lot of pain right now."

"A lot of pain?" Aren growled, "Didn't you promise me that you'd tell us if it was painful? What are you holding it in for right now? I howled horribly after I drank that medicine the other day. What are you scared of?"

After hearing Aren's words, the young master did not look that calm anymore. His face fell, his brows were knitted, and his lips were tightly held in a line, but he still did not wail. He only said softly, "It really hurts a lot more than before. My legs hurt as if..." He tilted his head but did not say what it felt like.

"Take some pain killers!" Mr. An Te Qi said with a frown, "You've always held it in, and I know you had no choice, but now you don't

have to. These people are all your friends and no one wants to see you endure the pain in silence.”

I hurriedly added to his words, “Young Master, please listen to Mr. An Te Qi’s advice and use pain killers.”

The young master frowned and said, “But pain killers have a lot of side effects and are addictive...”

Mr. An Te Qi shrugged and said, “You can use it today and tomorrow. You won’t get addicted in two days! If it’s that easy to get addicted to them, wouldn’t everyone who had surgery before be addicts?”

The young master hesitated for a bit and finally nodded his head.

“I’ll go get the pain killers,” Mr. An Te Qi mumbled as he walked out, saying, “His bàba’s words aren’t effective but the butler’s are. Tsk tsk! I told Ri Xiang Yan that having a butler take care of Ah Ye would bring more pros than cons!”

After he had disappeared behind the door, Mr. An Te Qi stuck his head back through the doorway and called out, “Charles.”

“Yes?”

“Someone just told me that a person named Yue Gang is here for you.”

Hearing that, I hurriedly turned around to ask, “Young Master, would you excuse me for a moment?”

The young master nodded.

Right after I exited the patient room, I did notice someone waiting for me, but Mr. An Te Qi waved me over to him. With a confused expression, I walked with him until we reached somewhere a bit farther from the patient room. He turned around and said, "Charles, after using the pain killers, Ah Ye's consciousness might be a bit hazy these few days, so he might be..."

Saying so, Mr. An Te Qi continued to make a few gestures with his hands, yet I still did not understand what he meant.

"Anyways! No matter what happens to him these few days, it's all because of the pain killers, so everything will be fine when the medicine's effect fades. Don't worry!"

"Yes, I understand," I nodded but was still very concerned, so I asked, "This pain killer really is non-addictive, is it?"

"Don't worry!" Mr. An Te Qi rolled his eyes at me and said, "It's Ah Ye we're talking about! Not to mention pain killers, even if I gave him strong drugs, he'd still be able to quit! There's no need to worry!"

"Hurry up and go find that something Gang. Ah Ye's been talking about him. Make up with him and bring him to visit Ah Ye so that Ah Ye has something else to focus on. That'll help ease the pain."

I smiled bitterly but was unable to say "yes." No matter what Yue Gang was here for, I was sure that he was not here to resolve our conflict, so I probably would not be able to do that.



I was led to a meeting room. When the door opened, there were only Melody and Father Yue. Yue Gang was nowhere to be found.

Melody had propped her legs up on the conference table. She was wearing short shorts and her white legs on the sand-colored conference table stood out quite a bit. She was doing her toenails. There was even a bottle of bright red nail polish next to her. Furthermore, the one sitting beside her was a priest with some years on him. The scene was peculiar no matter how one looked at it.

She glanced up at me and said, "I saw them outside so I brought them in," and then went back to filing her toenails.

I heard that wherever she went these days, such as to adjust the young master's original schedule, she was always followed closely by reporters. It annoyed her so much that she even said that she would bite a few of them for dinner, yet even that did not seem to deter them.

Father Yue laughed as he said, "Thank you very much Ms. Melody, or else we wouldn't have been able to get in! There were just too many reporters and fans outside! They're taking security very seriously. Yue Gang's police ID didn't work either."

"Yue Gang really came?" I asked confusedly since he was not in the room.

"He did, but he just left. I couldn't stop him no matter what," Father

Yue said helplessly, and then considerately asked, "Is little Ah Ye okay?"

I nodded and said, "The young master is fine."

Father Yue nodded and replied, "As I thought," and then lowered his voice to say, "I actually used visiting your brother as an excuse to drag Yue Gang here, but I think he realized that Ah Ye isn't your brother... Though he still came along, he left angrily just now."

"Angrily?"

"Well, I accidentally said, 'You kept saying that you won't come, but still tagged along anyways,' and then he ran off angrily." Father Yue said with his hand on his forehead, "Why is this kid so shy? Come to think of it, that's really similar to his mom. He really is her kid."

"I understand now."

"Come, these are all for you!" Father Yue said, but took out a pendant of the holy cross. Even Melody was distracted from painting her nails and gazed at the pendant with a slight smile.

Father Yue gave me the cross sincerely and said, "Because I didn't know what to bring."

Why not a fruit basket?

I took the cross and realized that all of it, from the cross to the chain, was made from pure silver. While I did not know how to respond,

Melody went from slightly smiling to laughing uncontrollably. She laughed so hard that she could not even continue to put on nail polish.

Amidst the laughter, Father Yue said sincerely, "When Ah Ye saw you wearing a cross, he laughed very happily, so I thought I'd bring a cross. Plus, it's made from pure silver so Ah Ye might laugh even more happily?"

Hearing that and then recalling Mr. An Te Qi's words that distracting the young master could decrease his pain... I silently put on the silver cross.

Father Yue gave me a thumbs up and then took out a petite bible that was the size of a palm.

Melody laughed with a "pfft" sound.

Something did not seem quite right as soon as I felt the weight of the bible in my hands. Lowering my gaze, I realized that the cover was not made of paper, but of some kind of metal... *No, it is silver!*

The entire silver frame was covered with fancy engravings and a cross lay in the middle. The entire book looked very classy and expensive. This made me think of something and I hurriedly picked up the cross from earlier. Though silver crosses do not have a very high market value, the necklace had some parts that were yellowed with age and blackened with tarnish, giving it an antique feeling. From an antique trader's point of view, this might also be an expensive item.

I asked in astonishment, "Are this cross and bible really for me? Or are

you just lending them to me? These two objects look quite expensive, much like antiques.”

“These are indeed antiques.” Father Yue smiled. “No matter if you believe me or not, these were once in the hands of a vampire. They were his collection. Giving these back to a vampire who’ll take good care of them should count as a type of compensation!”

I asked confusedly, “Why not return them to their owner?”

“Oh....” Father Yue smiled. “Because I blasted him to ash with a shotgun full of silver bullets?”

“To ash? Hm?” Melody said with a smile as luscious as a rose, “How brave of you!”

Father Yue replied with a kind and gentle smile, “No, not at all. I was a bit braver when I was young, so against those vampires who bite people without any hesitation, I’d also shoot without any hesitation!”

“Oh, cute little foolish boy, when your unhesitant Melody-jiějie started biting people, your grandfather was still in his mother’s womb!”
Melody laughed charmingly, “If you want to fire a shotgun at me, you probably won’t succeed! So just stay put and let your Melody-jiějie bite you!”

“Oh?” Father Yue replied slowly, “Since you’re older than my grandfather’s generation, then I should probably refer to you as great-grandaunt Melody?”

"... You!"

The atmosphere just then did not seem quite right. I quickly slide-stepped between them since it would be bad if they did get into an argument...

Bang!

"Charles-gē!"

A panicked roar sounded after the door crashed open. I hurriedly turned around and saw a very anxious Aren yelling, "Ah Ye looks really weird! He, he's been screaming that it hurts and he wants you there!"

Young Master?

Chapter 7: Cross, upright and inverted

"Who's done dealing with the robbers on their end? The robbers I'm chasing have divided into two groups: one group seized An Xiang Ye hostage, and the other kidnapped a small boy. I'll go save the kid first. Whoever is free, go and rescue An Xiang Ye. I've already uploaded the robbers' approximate escape route to your cell phones."

What? Wait a sec! I'll go save the boy. You go rescue An Xiang Ye! You have to rescue him without fail. If anything happens to An Xiang Ye, it'll definitely cause an uproar...

Click!

... He actually hung up on me!

First Wind promptly said, "Solitary Butterfly, calm down a bit. Dark Sun was communicating with all the heroes. He just stopped talking! He didn't hang up on you!"

He did hang up on me because I was the only one who responded!

"Jeez, you are usually a cool-headed person. Why have you been so easily agitated recently, especially when it comes to Dark Sun... Ah, is it your period?"

Most certainly not!

"Oh, right. I remember now. Your period is at the end of the month, so at the end of every month you always ask me to help you watch over

the northern district."

Good, you remembered! My anger and period are not related whatsoever!

"Can you two remember that I'm still on the line?" Dragon Peace helplessly said, "Or is it that in the future, at the end of every month, you also need my help to watch over the northern district?"

Cra-Crap! I totally forgot that Dragon Peace is still here....

"Ohh! Your help would be so awesome! From now on, at the end of every month, I won't ever be overworked..."

FIRST WIND! Shut up already!



Melody and I hastily followed Aren to the hospital room. On the way, I could not help asking first, "What happened exactly?"

"I don't know." Aren shook his head and said, "Not long after administering the painkillers, Ah Ye kept howling in pain and then wanted you to come."

Hearing this, I simply used x-speed a few times. As I darted in front of the hospital room, painful cries could be heard even without opening the door.

It hurts, ow... Charles! Charles, where are you?!

I immediately swung open the door and cried, “Young Master, I am here!”

The young master whipped his head to look over. I almost jumped out of my skin because his face was a mess from crying! It was not as if the young master had never cried before, but he had never cried with so little restraint!

“Charles! Charles! It hurts!” The young master wailed, “My feet hurt! It really hurts...”

I immediately slid by the bed. The young master grabbed my arm. He squeezed it so hard that it hurt. This was also an unprecedented situation because even if the young master was seriously injured and needed someone to support him, he would support the majority of his own weight, unless he really was completely unable to do so.

Today, the young master actually used this much force in grabbing me. *Does this mean it really hurts so much that he cannot stand it?* I turned my head to look at the others. The young master was not the only one in the room. There was also Mr. An Te Qi, Bramble, May, and Dell—even Melody and Aren had come. It was just that only now did I have time to notice them. Besides Mr. An Te Qi’s usual composed expression, the others were either dumbfounded or had a full on flustered expression.

But since Mr. An Te Qi has that kind of composed expression, the young master’s surgery should have been successful, yes?

I hesitated for a bit. The sound of the young master’s weeping

intermittently drifted over. Although he no longer bawled loudly, the tears and whimpers had not stopped. He sniffled just like a child. I picked up the cross on my chest and said, "Young Master, Father Yue came by earlier to ask about your well-being. He even gave me a very unique gift. Look!"

The young master looked up at me. He had cried so much that his eyes were red. *Crying like this, his eyes will definitely be puffy tomorrow. If there is time later, I must help the young master ice his eyes for a bit.*

I smiled and asked, "Young Master, look. Does this cross necklace suit me?"

With tears still in his eyes, the young master chuckled, nodded his head, and said, "It suits you!"

"It is even made of pure silver!" I stated while smiling. Once I finished, the young master chuckled again.

I continued, "Father Yue even told me that this cross was from a vampire. Next time, shall we ask him about the cross's story?" After hearing this, the young master's eyes sparkled. He nodded and said, "O.K.!"

"There is also this." I pulled out the small bible that had the cover with the engraved cross and turned it toward the young master. At this moment, I really could not thank Father Yue enough and said, "This bible was also given to me by Father Yue. Would you like me to read its stories for you?"

The young master nodded and said, "O.K." When he finished speaking, his face suddenly twisted a bit, as if from a flash of pain.

I hastily said, "Young Master, which piece would you like to listen... Huh?"

Once I opened the bible, I discovered that the text was upside-down. *But just now the cover was indeed...* I flipped the book over to look. When the text was right-side-up, the cross actually became upside-down.

What is with this bible? No, is this even a bible?

The young master urged, "Charles, hurry and read me a story."

"Al-All right." I opened to the first page of the bible. Only then did I realize that the text within was not printed at all but handwritten. The script was written quite elegantly. However, it seemed to use very archaic language. Even the text was in calligraphy. Nowadays, I am afraid there is simply no one who would write in such a hand. Fortunately, I have read quite a few archaic works and I could still recognize the words.

I started reading out loud. "As the result of many years of research, the existence of another civilization before ours can be confirmed. Henceforth, I shall call it the Ancient Civilization. Modern-day human beings, at most, can be considered the survivors. As to why the ancient civilization perished, there is currently insufficient evidence to draw any conclusions. Therefore, it will be omitted from this

discussion.”

This content seems to be completely unrelated to the Bible?

“Evidence shows the Ancient Civilization was more advanced than the current one... ‘Advanced,’ I am afraid, is not exactly correct as the direction of their development was not the same. Compared to our mechanical civilization, they seemed to be experts on the modification of biological forms. I do not completely understand what their so-called ‘modifications’ entailed and only have a rough understanding. They seemed to extract their own flesh to conduct all sorts of experiments, which created multitudes of human-like but also non-human-like organisms. These organisms each had their own characteristics. Among them, many of these beings can now be found in the midst of local legends, such as vampires...”

“Vampires?” The young master revealed a curious expression and said, “Hurry, continue reading!”

“Yes.” I continued, “Amongst them, there was a race called the night race. They are among the many races created by the Ancient Civilization. Many of their features are very close to what is described in local legends on vampires. Their race is labeled as the failed product that came closest to perfection. The night race is clearly mighty. They possess immortal life, but it is accompanied with almost no reproductive capabilities as well as an inability to be exposed to sunlight, or they risk being reduced to a pile of ash...”

Is reading this kind of story really all right?

As I read out loud, I grew more and more uneasy. I felt like I was onto some enormous secret. If what was written was indeed true, then this really was a colossal secret.

I looked up at the others, but they looked back at me with touched expressions. This made me feel confused. *Is this kind of story emotionally touching? Shouldn't astonished and dismissive expressions be more suitable?*

At this moment, Melody walked to the hospital bed. I followed her with my eyes and realized that the young master had fallen asleep. She pulled up the bed sheet to tuck the young master in.

Upon seeing this, I closed the book in my hands, stood up, and then said to Mr. An Te Qi, "Please come with me for a bit."

The two of us left the room together. I thought for a bit, then walked to a corner farther away from the hospital room.

"Why did he only cry in pain after using the painkillers?"

I turned around and seized Mr. An Te Qi by the collar. *I am not going to give him a chance to sweep this under the carpet!* I growled, "The young master looked very much in pain. Did the surgery go wrong? Or was it that the painkillers are completely useless?"

Mr. An Te Qi pushed up his spectacles, abnormally calm, and said, "Don't worry. The analgesics work, of course. It just can't be helped that the analgesics can't completely erase the pain. That earlier situation was due to giving a massive amount of analgesic shots,

resulting in Ah Ye's current muddled state of mind. He is unable to use his willpower to force himself not to cry out from the pain. Therefore, he will only keep crying out."

I was stunned, then I continued my interrogation, "Why did you use a massive amount of painkillers?"

"Because a small amount is the same as none!" An Te Qi said in a helpless tone, "Ah Ye's physique is different from the average person's. The dose that an average person uses simply doesn't work on him. He must use a massive amount of analgesics in order to have any effect. As a result, he was previously very reluctant to use them."

An Te Qi sighed and said, "In fact, letting him holler in pain is better than letting him desperately endure it. It's much better than chatting with you with a smile, right? There's a big difference in the level of pain when he doesn't use painkillers. Now, you understand how much Ah Ye usually endures, right?"

So it was like that. I nodded in comprehension. With this nod, I realized I was gripping Mr. An Te Qi's collar! I hastily let go and apologized, "I am truly very sorry!"

"It's all right." An Te Qi shrugged and said, "Anyway, I'm already used to it. Somehow, the people who care about Ah Ye have always been particularly violent. You're already the least violent among them. It's just grabbing my collar. If it were Ri Xiang Yan listening to Ah Ye's heart-rending cries of pain, he would probably shoot my thigh without any hesitation. Anyway..."

Pushing up the spectacles at bridge of his nose, he said, "'Without legs, you can still help perform surgeries on Ah Ye,' is how Ri Xiang Yan always threatens me."

"... I am really terribly sorry!"

"Sorry for what? You're not the one firing the shot!" Mr. An Te Qi sighed, "His trigger-happy brother is definitely the biggest reason Ah Ye ended up so good at bearing with it... By the way, you did very well at diverting Ah Ye's attention. For the next two days, don't go to class. Keep Ah Ye company!"

"Yes." I nodded immediately because this was what I had planned to do in the first place. *With the young master in this kind of situation, how could I leave for class? Even if I did go to class, I am afraid that my mind would be elsewhere.*

At this moment, the door of the hospital room opened. The one who walked out was Melody. Without waiting for her to walk over, I could not help but ask, "Did something happen to the young master?"

"Nothing happened. He's sleeping soundly!" Melody replied as she walked up in front of us. Then, she glanced at the cross on my chest and said, "You're probably the world's first vampire who'd wear a cross of pure silver."

"I think so," I agreed on this point.

"But, well done! Keep wearing it!" Melody picked up the cross, fiddled with it, then somewhat casually said, "If any non-humans dare to

laugh at you for wearing the cross, I'll have him skewered on the Church's cross! Hmph!"

I smiled and said, "All right."

"The science fiction you were reading was awful. Next time, can you switch to a different book, please? The young master should like fairy tales better, right?"

Science fiction? True. To be honest, that is also a possibility!

In the beginning, I had seen the engraved cross on the book cover, and given the fact that it was Father Yue who had personally handed the book to me, I jumped to the conclusion that it was a bible. However, this could actually just be a handwritten novel.

After Melody enlightened me, I smiled and nodded. "Next time, I will read a story about heroes for the young master."

"That's a good idea, too."



The next morning, after the young master regained consciousness, he was no longer willing to use any painkillers, and he even burrowed completely under the sheets. Afterwards, he said with a muffled voice, "You can all leave! Go, go do your own things. Aren, go to Luo Chugē's studio! Didn't you say that you're embarrassed to be getting a salary? Get out, just get out!"

Actually, no one had much to do. The young master was not modeling or being a hero, so Mr. Bramble and the others did not have to watch

the monitors, although monitoring could still help the police and the other heroes. However, they were the young master's employees in the end. Helping the police and the other heroes was just done in passing and was not their main job.

Melody was pretty much in the same position. Currently, she simply could not do her work as a manager. After all, to the outside world, the young master needed to recuperate from serious injuries. If his manager continued to arrange work, it was likely that the outside world would comment that the manager was cold-blooded and ruthless.

"Yes, Young Master!" Mr. Bramble and the other two all had dark faces, but they had to comply with the order. They could only turn around to leave.

"Bramble-shū."

Mr. Bramble had walked to the door when he suddenly heard the young master calling. "Yes, Young Master. What's the matter?"

"Don't call Briar over. Even if she wants to come, definitely do not let her come over!"

Hearing this, Mr. Bramble's expression became even gloomier, but he still replied, "Understood!"

He pushed open the door and left. Dell and May followed and left even though their faces showed some reluctance. Dell simply left walking backwards, and even May frequently glanced back.

Other than the young master, Aren, Melody, and I were left in the

room.

Aren doubtfully countered, "Luo Chu-gē gave me a break, so I'm currently on vacation. I just want to stay here..."

Ring ring...

Aren picked up his phone. The more he listened, the more helpless his expression became. At last, with no other alternative, he said, "There are a lot of robbery cases in the southern district. I have to leave."

In the end, Aren turned his head and looked at me. I nodded at him. With this, he no longer looked as worried. He then left immediately. "Melody, Charles, I'm fine by myself." The young master still had not poked his head out from the sheets, but he knew that we had not left.

"Okay, okay. It just so happens that the department store has been celebrating its anniversary recently. I want to buy many, many clothes!" Melody took a flyer out of her purse and said, "Young Master, how about I buy you something too while I'm there? Look! These things are excellent!"

Hearing this, the young master could not help but poke half of his face out. Melody immediately held the flyer before his eyes and asked, "Young Master, which one do you like?"

It was a flyer with different models on it. There were human models. There were also mechanical ones, such as motorcycles and sports cars and the like.

"Awesome!" The young master exclaimed, exposing his whole face. He took the flyer and looked at it, captivated.

"Great, right?" Melody chuckled. "I just knew you would like it! Look at this model of a motorcycle. Cool, right? How about modifying DSII this way?"

The young master smiled and said, "This model is so exaggerated. Modifying this way would be too eye-catching. I probably can't take that out, but letting Dark Sun ride it would be pretty nice."

Indeed, the motorcycle on the flyer was slightly fantastical. It was even more exaggerated than the motorcycle at home that Dark Sun used. If one really did ride that out, people would probably think that a science fiction movie was being filmed.

"Young Master, check these out first. I'll go and bring even more flyers back for you to look at later today. You can make your decision then! Right now, there's an anniversary promotion: spend five thousand yuan, get a five hundred yuan gift certificate. It's a really good deal!" As she was talking, she took out a huge stack of flyers from her purse. They were all flyers on models, which amazed me. I believed that Melody was definitely not interested in collecting flyers of models. She had likely gathered these last minute in the middle of the night. *It really must not have been easy gathering this many flyers.*

"O.K." The young master took the stack of flyers and eagerly flipped through them.

At this moment, Melody turned to look at me. Although she did not say

anything, I still completely understood the look in her eyes... A warning. Once she left, just the young master and I would be left in the room. If I dared to leave, I would probably be pierced by painted nails the moment I walked out the door.

Melody left the hospital room. At that moment, the young master raised his head to look at me. With a stiff expression, he said, "Charles, you..."

Without waiting for the young master to finish, I immediately smiled. "Young Master, I am your butler. Is it not my business to serve you?" The young master hesitated for a moment and said, "But..."

"Young Master." I lowered my eyes and pleaded, "Please do not make me leave when you really are in need of care. I will feel that I am of no use at all. You would simply not need to spend that much money to hire me, so I am resig..."

The young master's eyes widened. In a low voice, he declared, "Of course you're useful. If you want to stay, then just stay! I don't want to hear that word!"

"So, I am 'resigned' to feeling a little heartbroken. My sentence did not just consist of that word." I smiled as I said, "Thank you, Young Master. Then, I shall stay behind and be useful as a butler."

The young master was stunned for a while. He said, distressed, "Charles, you seem to be more and more..."

More and more what?

Aggrieved, he said, "I don't know how to describe it."

"Is it a bad thing?" I was a little worried.

"No." The young master tilted his head and said, "It's just a feeling like there's no way to refuse you!"

"The employer does not need to refuse the butler. If the young master wants me to leave, then I will still leave. It is just..."

"Ah! It's this feeling!" The young master gestured at me and said, "It's this 'inability to simply command you to follow orders' type of feeling. I felt this way before, but it's happening more and more!"

I smiled and said, "That is because the young master is starting to think of me as family. The young master has just awoken and should be thirsty, correct? I will pour you a cup of milk."

As I walked over to the mini fridge to get the milk, the young master's whispered inquiry came from behind me. "Did I scare you guys, crying like that yesterday?"

I turned. The young master immediately buried himself under the sheets.

I held the milk and the cup while walking back toward the hospital bed. Pouring the milk, I slowly said, "To be honest, being able to see your fragile side is our pleasure. It signifies that, in the eyes of the young master, we are worthy of your trust. Therefore, you are willing to show

this side of you.”

The young master slowly poked his head out and whispered, “But I feel ashamed...”

“Do you think that when Aren drank the medicine a few days ago, and it was so painful that he cried out, it was also a shameful thing?”

“Of course not!” The young master immediately refuted, “He was really in pain. It wasn’t random shouting.”

I smiled and asked, “Then, why do you hold yourself to a different standard?”

The young master stilled, as if he did not know how to answer.

“Here, your milk.” I handed over the milk. After watching the young master drink a few gulps, I asked, “Do your feet still hurt?”

“It hurts,” the young master nodded as he replied.

As expected, it was still painful, but the young master was unwilling to use painkillers again.

“What would you like to do? Doing something can help divert your attention and make it less painful.”

The young master thought for a moment and said, “Read that bible from yesterday to me.”

I was taken aback and said, “Young Master, that book does not seem

to be a bible.”

The young master made an “oh” sound. “Its content and the Bible’s don’t seem to be related, but it mentions things about vampires. I want to hear it.”

“Understood.” I took the petite book out from my pocket. While looking at the cross on its cover, I opened my mouth to ask, “Young Master, there is an inverted cross on its cover. Could this be a book from an anti-church organization?”

The young master shook his head and said, “That’s a misunderstanding. The inverted cross is actually called the cross of St. Peter, symbolizing St. Peter’s upside-down crucifixion. That’s why the inverted cross is also a traditional symbol of the church. Probably because the cross happens to be reversed that it is often misunderstood as an anti-church symbol, but it is actually not like that. Therefore, if it were a real anti-church organization, they wouldn’t be using the inverted cross.”

“So it is like that.”

“First read it to me.”

“Yes, Young Master.” I opened the book, then said, “But this next page has a picture pasted on it. Do you want to skip over that or take a look?”

“Let me see... Huh?” The young master took the book and after taking a look, said vacantly, “This seems to be a diagram of the structure of

DNA, but this book looks like it's very old. How can there be a diagram of DNA?"

"It was probably added later? Young Master?"

The young master's face suddenly became a bit pale. He was silent for a few seconds, then said, "Just skip all of this, then! Read the book to me."

"Yes!" He seemed to be in pain again. I hastily took the book and read. "These pictures are what I have collected over many years. On many of these pictures, text from the ancient civilization indicate that these are pictures of the night race. However, these pictures do not at all depict humanoids but rather incomprehensible spiral chains. If the so-called night race looked like this, then there is truly a huge gap between them and vampires from local legends. They actually do not even look like living beings, a puzzle that has never been solved..."

I blinked... Why do my eyelids feel so heavy? So sleepy. Is it because recently I was busy with classes and studying, and slept too little as a result?

"In addition, there are pictures of similar shapes marked with different names. Is it possible that the creatures created by the ancient civilization all looked like this..."

Reading up to here, I raised my head and looked. The young master was already asleep. The post-surgery was probably too exhausting. This was actually good. Once asleep, he should not be in pain anymore. I should also stop here to avoid having the sound of my reading

awaken the young master.

Ugh! Really, I feel so tired. But I should go and study, or else I am afraid I will not be able to pass the midterm...

I do not know if Lieder could help put in a word for me? But even so... Taking the test myself would still be better...

...

"Charles, Charles?"

Hmm...

I opened my eyes. It felt like my whole body was exhausted. *What is going on?* I was probably a bit exhausted as of late, but with a vampire's stamina, it should still be within the range of endurance. I should not be exhausted to this degree. *Hurry, get up. The young master is calling me...*

I raised my head toward the bed, but the young master was sleeping peacefully. There was a complete absence of signs that indicated he had woken.

"Hi, Charles!"

I stilled and hastily sat up. Upon seeing someone I should not be seeing, I could not help blurting, "Lieder?" *Is this a dream? Lieder cannot possibly be here.*

Lieder laughed a little and used his pinky to push up his glasses. This action was so familiar. He really was Lieder.

“What are you doing here?” I crawled up from the bed... *Wait, why can I not stand up?*

No matter how many times I tried, I really could not stand up. Even raising my hands had become difficult. I promptly reached out to shake the young master. He did not even respond. *It cannot be... No, no, calm down. The young master is indeed still breathing. The bed sheet above his chest is slightly moving up and down.*

“Stop being so lively. You just breathed in a massive amount of anesthetics. You won’t be able to move for now.” Lieder said in high spirits, “But really, I didn’t expect that you would actually wake up before An Xiang Ye. Now this is very interesting. Is it because you’re a vampire?”

I did not understand what was going on, but I was not stupid enough to think that Lieder did not have any ill intentions. *What happened to the bodyguards outside?*

“You don’t need to look outside. The bodyguards have all been withdrawn. Don’t even think about calling for help because your cellphone...” Lieder held something up and waved it, then said, “Is here with me!”

How is that possible? The ones outside are all the Sun Emperor’s people. How is it possible for them to be withdrawn? But, if the people outside did not withdraw, how could Lieder even come in?

Lieder smiled faintly. "I guess, even if he is the little brother, being disobedient still isn't O.K.!"

I was astonished, "You knew..."

He simply answered, "Yeah, I know that this cute An Xiang Ye is Ri Xiang Yan's little brother. Or should I call him 'Ri Xiang Ye?' Or maybe I should call him... Dark Sun?"

I would never have guessed that Lieder actually knew so much. *Which faction is he from? Could he be from the Church?* I kept as calm as possible and asked, "What do you actually want?"

"I just said a few things, and you weren't listening? If the little brother isn't—"

"Impossible!" I immediately interrupted him, "Please, do not say that kind of thing again! I do not know how you found out about the young master's identity, but you absolutely do not understand how deep the relationship between the young master and the master is! This sudden hostility and demanding the other's life would never happen between the two of them!"

With some curiosity in his voice, Lieder asked, "You are sure? Is rivalry between brothers in an aristocratic family really that uncommon?"

I calmly answered, "The young master does not even have his own identity. His last name is also not 'Ri.' This world simply does not know that he is the Sun Emperor's little brother. What is there to compete

over?”

“Couldn’t DNA testing verify that they are brothers?” Lieder snickered,

“Isn’t your line of thinking too simple?”

“The one who is thinking too simply is you.” I shook my head and said, “The master is the Sun Emperor. If he wants to deny a matter, would DNA testing laboratories actually dare to prove it? It does not matter if you take it to any laboratory to test. Even if one or two were willing to test, it could easily be written off as the young master buying out those laboratories. As long as the master does not want to recognize the young master, the young master would never be able to truly prove that he and the master are related by blood.”

Actually, with the young master’s “maintenance fees,” the master only needed to cut the young master’s source of money, and the young master would find it difficult to support himself. Even if he currently is a famous model and singer, it was likely he would still be unable to afford those enormous maintenance fees, unless he were willing to discontinue being hero and not allow himself to become injured.

“What if it’s about an inheritance?” Lieder snickered.

... *Inheritance?*

“If Ri Xiang Yan were to die, wouldn’t the probability of your family’s young master relying on DNA in order to seize the inheritance greatly increase?” Lieder raised his index finger and speculated, “Suppose Ri Xiang Yan recently encountered too many assassins, wouldn’t he

suspect your young master?"

If it were like this, no, it probably still would not happen. The master, he...

Lieder spoke softly, "You're shaken, right?"

"What in the world do you want?" Not batting an eye, I changed the topic. At the same time, I was very puzzled and asked, "Even if it were the Sun Emperor who dispatched you to come and kill the young master, then when we lost consciousness, you could have already made your move."

"That's if I didn't have another motive."

"Another motive?"

Lieder snickered, "Even though my side job is assassination, the side job will never be more important than the main one. Don't you agree?"

Main job? But Lieder was only a professor. This was even more unrelated to the Sun Emperor.

Lieder walked to the window. He pulled open the curtains that reached the floor. Looking out toward the night scene, he said, "I am a professor of anthropology. After researching this many years, I have finally come to a conclusion, and I want to give everyone in the world a lecture on anthropology!"

"A conclusion?" I was dumbfounded for a moment but immediately

recalled it. "It was what you said last time: 'Between man and man, there is no difference at all.'"

"You remembered it so well. You really are a rare, diligent student. What a shame... Anyway, you're right!"

He turned around and slowly said, "Even if he is called the Sun Emperor, a majestic being, he is actually not that different from the average person. His heart can be broken, he can be frustrated, he can be hurt... He can also die! Therefore, no one can be this world's 'emperor!'"

My eyes widened. *Could it be that Lieder plans to kill the Sun Emperor?*

"Ri Xiang Yan had me come and kill you two. Then, I'll take advantage of when I go back and report the success of my mission to kill him. It really is full of dramatic irony, right? I really like this plan!"

I looked at him, then shook my head. "You are incapable of killing the Sun Emperor."

With his thumb pointing behind him, he smiled and said, "With his help, it will be a lot easier."

A person walked in through the doorway. His face held a nasty smile... An expression a bit like when a child's prank goes successfully. I gasped, "You are that criminal from before!"

He heard me and snapped, "What criminal?! My name is Josh. You

people really are the worst. I didn't even do anything, and you want to kill me at every turn. Only Butterfly is a good person!"

"Did you not die..." After saying as much, I suddenly remembered. At that time, was it not Lieder who "killed" Josh? In fact, at that time, I only saw Josh lying on the ground. There were traces of blood under his body and on Lieder's fountain pen. Therefore, I had determined that he had died.

If Lieder and Josh were accomplices, then it would have been very easy to fake it.

Lieder barked, "I spent so much time rescuing you from P29. In the end, not only did you not meet me directly at the meeting point, you also caused trouble everywhere in the city. You even almost got killed by Ri Xiang Ye, which would have trashed all my hard work!"

"Sorry..." Josh seemed to be very fearful of Lieder.

Looking at those two, I suddenly understood and blurted out, "You used Josh to make the guards leave. The master did not order you to come and kill the young master!"

"You really aren't easy to fool." Lieder chuckled. "Although I just spoke without thinking much, wanting to see your reactions. If even you can't be deceived, I'm afraid that An Xiang Ye also wouldn't believe it."
The young master would never believe it!

"In actuality, I'm not supposed to be here. I have a ton of things that I'm busy with! You also know that the stuff that I do isn't easy. I have

a mountain of things to plan! But I really am fond of you. At the very least, I should personally send you off. It's only polite."

"You want to kill the young master and me?"

"No, no!" Lieder waved his hands and said, "It's just that for short time, I won't be able to see you and this cute young master. That said, his sleeping face is really very cute. Using 'cute' to describe a man in his twenties is very strange, but if it is used on your young master, it's actually very fitting."

"You're saying that he really is Dark Sun?" Josh walked a few steps closer and lowered his head to look, making me feel very uneasy. "But Dark Sun is very handsome. An Xiang Ye looks like a kid! I also like him. His posters are all very pretty. His songs are very nice, too! Before, for the Cities Representative Election, I contemplated for so long and finally decided to vote for him rather than Dark Sun. But they're actually the same person..."

"Aren't *you* more of a kid?" Lieder said grumpily.

Why is the young master still asleep at this moment?

Right then, the door was pushed open once again. A person walked over and said indifferently, "It is time to leave."

"Professor Ni Cai?" I was shocked.

Although I already knew of the friendship between Lieder and Professor Ni Cai, I never thought that he was actually one of the

accomplices... *This is very bad. The master's official reason for coming to Sunset City was to see Professor Ni Cai, was it not?*

"Why are you so surprised?" Lieder chuckled and said, "You didn't think I'd do this kind of thing alone, right?"

Lieder glanced toward the young master, then turned his head to Ni Cai and said, "Should we not give him another dose?"

"No. Even if he were awake, there is no way that he could move around freely after using a large amount of anesthetics over two consecutive days, in addition to his recent knee modification." Ni Cai shook his head and said, "Also, I don't fully understand his physical condition. He's already had the largest possible amount of anesthetics applied for the past two days. If you give him any more, he will perhaps die. Don't you have other uses for him? You don't want him dead, right?"

How dare you treat the young master this way!

"Then, let's just move them," Lieder said as he nodded.

I could not help but ask, "What on earth are you trying to do to the young master?"

Lieder first raised his index finger. "First, he will be used as a hostage to threaten the Sun Emperor." Then, he raised his middle finger and said, "Once I'm done with my business, I will gift him to Ni Cai as a guinea pig. His pay isn't cheap. Fortunately, you guys were available as a reward, so he was willing to help!

"In order to commemorate our meeting, I'll just take something from you!" Lieder walked forward. With one look, he saw the book on the bed. After an odd "huh" sound, he said, "A bible... No, this is the cross of St. Peter. A vampire holding a bible with the cross of St. Peter. Huh, even wearing a cross necklace. You really are as interesting as I thought. I'll just take these two from you!"

He took the book, and following that, reached out to take the cross from my chest. Using this chance, my right hand reached out toward his throat to stab it. *If I succeed, the sharp nails will penetrate his throat...*

A fountain pen penetrated my palm, but I did not feel any bit of pain, only regret that the attack had failed, although I had been vaguely aware that it was impossible to succeed. Just extending my nails to carry out this attack had exhausted all my strength. The attack was not even very strong...

"Ha!" Lieder withdrew the pen from my palm. He was not angered but actually laughed. "I'll miss you. I will definitely miss how hard you studied along with..."

Ni Cai came forward and stabbed my neck with a syringe. Then, he coldly said to Lieder, "If you want to kidnap him, then just kidnap him. If you want to kill him, then just kill him. Don't do something as dirty as robbing him."

"...Your view on the morality of different crimes is very interesting. O.K., O.K.! I won't take his cross, all right?" Lieder answered a bit

helplessly.

My conscious gradually became hazy. In the end, I was only able to hear one thing.

“Anyway, farewell, Charles.”

Chapter 8: Sewers, A Stifled Voice

"Solitary Butterfly, Dark Sun has been in a bad mood recently. Don't start any fights with him."

... You're making it sound like I spend all day trying to pick fights with him. What's he unhappy about this time?

"Aiya, you have a menstrual cycle, he also has a modification... going haywire cycle! Please don't fight with him. Arguing with Dark Sun currently is completely pointless!"

I get it... How is there another robbery? What's been going on lately? There's been a ton of robberies! Dealing with robbers armed to the teeth is such a pain. Good thing this case is by both our boundaries. Do you want to go or should I?"

"What about Dragon Peace?"

He just went to deal with a robbery in the southern district! Don't pick on him just because you know him!"

"Rock, paper..."

"Scissors."

Scissors.

"Hmph... I'll head over now."



“Charles! Charles!”

This time, as soon as I heard that call, it did not matter how heavy my eyelids were. I immediately opened my eyes. I could not have known that as soon as I opened them I would be greeted by a scene I would never be able to forget.

The young master had been tied to a cross. His entire body had been wrapped in chains so that only his head was exposed.

I felt a burst of light-headedness. I could only weakly cry, “Y-Young Master, you...”

The young master lowered his head to look at me. He asked in confusion, “Charles, what happened?”

“It was Lieder!”

I struggled to stand up. I had just managed to prop myself on all fours, my knees on the floor, when the young master suddenly called out in a low voice, “Don’t move.” After I froze in shock, he asked doubtfully, “You don’t feel any pain?”

Pain? I lowered my head to look. Both of my palms had a chain going through the center and were badly mutilated. The chains were affixed to the floor. If I had not stopped trying to stand up, my palms might have already fallen to the ground in pieces.

“They’re on your feet too,” the young master warned.

I turned to look. My feet were also bound and similarly fixed to the ground. Only, unlike my palms, the chains had not gone through my flesh.

The chains looked like they were made of silver, or at the very least, silver-plated. I raised my head to reply to the young master, "It does not hurt at all. Perhaps it is because I have been injected with painkillers."

"Oh." The young master lowered his head to say, "It doesn't hurt for me either. It's probably also because of painkillers. How much did they even give me? I feel as light as a feather and very comfortable!"

No wonder the young master was not in a panic. Even his expression seemed a bit dazed.

"This is very bad." The young master seemed to be trying hard to stay concentrated, but his eyes were hazy and were completely unable to focus. He asked, "The Lieder you were talking about is the university professor?"

"Yes!" I hastily relayed everything about Lieder's plan from earlier to assassinate the Sun Emperor to the young master. However, I did not know how much the young master was able to take in. He seemed completely disoriented.

"Cell phone..." The young master had some difficulty concentrating enough to say, "Charles. Your phone is behind you on your right."

I hurriedly turned. As expected, I saw the cell phone. But as soon as I picked it up, I said, discouraged, "Young Master, the cell phone's battery has been removed."

"Oh. Has it...?"

Seeing the color of the young master's face, I asked with extreme worry, "Young Master, are you alright?"

"I feel fine. But my body doesn't seem to be O.K. It's a little hard to breathe. Also not feeling any discomfort is making it worse. I often forget to breathe... Charles, you should also take a look at yourself. You also don't look quite right!"

I paused for a moment. Only then did I realize that I really was too calm. Under these circumstances, I should not be this level-headed.

I surveyed our surroundings. It was a fairly large space, but the surroundings were exceptionally dark. There were only a few dim light bulbs. I could faintly make out that the walls and floor were old, damp, and covered with moss. It smelled rank.

The sole exit was a steel door with bars. For most people, this place would be difficult to escape from. However, it was nothing to the young master and me.

But would Lieder really allow us to escape so easily? I turned my head to ask, "Young Master. Lieder intends to kill the master. What should we do?"

"Gēge is very far away. There's no way Lieder could have reached him so fast. Also, he won't be able to meet with Gēge easily. So we just have to think of a way to hurry and escape so that he won't have us as hostages. Then, we can call Gēge to warn him."

Hearing this, I finally understood why the young master was not panicking. I quickly said, "In all likelihood, the master is already in Sunset City. In addition, he is going to meet Dr. Ni Cai. The doctor is Lieder's accomplice!"

The young master froze and suddenly seemed more clear-headed as he shouted, "What? How did I not hear that Gēge was coming?"

"The master gave everyone an order to keep it from you. He wanted to give you a nice surprise." I remorsefully apologized, "I am truly sorry. Because of a reason like 'wanting to give you a nice surprise,' I acted in accordance with the order."

The young master helplessly said, "You really gave me a shock. Gēge really is, really is... Ah. Toss me your cell phone. Throw it somewhere around my head."

"Understood." I gave releasing my blood ability a try. *Using my blood ability to hand over the cell phone is probably a better idea... No. I should directly use my blood ability to sever the chains! I really was under the influence of painkillers or I should have thought of it sooner.*

"..."

"What's wrong?" the young master asked doubtfully.

“My blood ability cannot cut through the chains.”

“These chains are very strong. Even my plasma hair strands would take some time to cut them. You should just throw the cell phone over. Just take care not to throw it too far to the side.”

I threw the cell phone to the young master. His silver hair suddenly grew explosively. Several strands shot toward the cell phone...

Crack!

I froze for a moment and said, “Young Master, the cell phone has shattered.”

“... I know.” The young master looked like he was about to cry, but no tears came out. He used his hair to hold the cell phone up before him. His hair was not glowing. It seemed it was not in energy weapon mode. But even so, the phone’s casing had already been crushed, and all that was left were the scattered components inside. I did not know if it could still be used.

“I don’t have very good control over my abilities right now. So that’s why I haven’t been using my plasma hair strands to break the chains. I’m worried I’ll cut myself in half too. You also probably shouldn’t use your blood ability carelessly either.”

“Understood.”

The young master’s hair floated. It wasn’t long before there was the sound of ringing. *Those broken parts could actually be used to make a*

call!

"Are you calling the Sun Emperor?"

"I don't know who I'm calling. It's too hard for me to do precision work right now. So I randomly did some things. Let's see if the call makes it through..."

A voice came from the cell phone, "Who is it?"

This seems to be a woman's voice?

"Solitary Butterfly?" The young master quickly shouted, "Solitary Butterfly, is that you? Hurry and warn the Sun Emperor not to meet with anyone. There are people trying to assassinate him!"

The sounds that came through in response were very unclear and were filled with static. Only a few words could be made out with difficulty, "... Dark Sun, what are you... Where..."

"Someone wants to kill the Sun Emperor!" The young master kept repeating these few words. Perhaps ten minutes had passed, but the static grew louder and louder. Finally, Solitary Butterfly's voice could not be heard at all, and he had no choice but to end the call.

"The connection is bad." Annoyed, the young master said, "This place might be very deep in the sewers. I don't know if Solitary Butterfly could hear what I was saying on her end. We'd still better hurry and escape..."

Speaking up to here, the young master suddenly went silent. Only when the sound of an explosion came from the components of the cell phone did he speak up again. "There was a listening device in there. Charles, did Lieder have your cell phone at some point? While he had it, did the phone ever leave your line of sight?"

I blurted out, "Lieder recently held my phone to put in his number. At that moment, his fountain pen dropped and I bent down to pick it up..."

Could Lieder have put the listening device in my phone then?

The young master sighed and said, "No wonder he knew the best time to make a move, and just so happened to strike after I had a surgery."

Because of my negligence, I gave Lieder the opportunity to take advantage of me. This huge mistake can never be rectified... Lieder! You dared to use me to harm the young master!

"Charles!" The young master called out in a low shout, "There's no time to blame yourself! Anyway, as long as Josh exists, this would have happened regardless. At most, the bug just gave Lieder a better understanding of when a good opportunity was. Right now, the most important thing is to escape!"

I nodded. I strove to put aside my feelings of rage. I had just been overly calm, but now I was filled with fury. It really was too easy for the painkillers to influence my state of mind. I truly had no idea how the young master was able to maintain control.

At that moment, the young master's hair began to glow. The tendrils

of hair were directly aiming at himself... I quickly shouted, "Wait a moment. Young Master, did you not say that you were worried about cutting yourself?"

"I don't have time for that!"

I raised my hands and said, "Young Master, please cut my chains! If you cut yourself in half, then even if you escape, you will be unable to save the Sun Emperor. Therefore, please cut my chains!"

The young master went silent, then said, "O.K. Consider this your punishment for being careless. Afterward, you're not allowed to blame yourself, and you're definitely not allowed to say you're resigning!"

"Yes!" I did not intend to resign. *I only want to tear Lieder into a thousand pieces!*

"Stick your arms out. Then don't move. You absolutely cannot move!"

I followed his words. Once I moved, I did not move again.

Two streaks of white light flashed in front of and behind me respectively. Following that was a series of sounds as the chains fell to the ground.

"Charles?" The young master shouted in a panic, "Blood is coming from your chest!"

I lowered my head and touched it. I replied, "Just a flesh wound." Although it had narrowly missed slashing my heart, even if it had,

vampires were not so easy to kill.

“And your legs?”

I turned my head to look. The chains had been severed, but my calves had several deep gashes where bone could be seen. Quite a lot of blood had been vaporized by the plasma hair strands. Fortunately, the effect of the painkillers allowed me to feel nothing at all. I replied “They are fine,” and then stood up and walked to the young master’s side.

At this moment, the young master’s hair had stopped glowing and the young master said to me, “I can’t see where the end of the chain is. Take a look and wrap my hair around the weakest part of the end of the chain. Then let go.”

I looked around. Once I did as requested, there was a flash of white light and the chains around the young master fell away. He also dropped from the cross. I quickly dashed to catch him. The young master let out a soft gasp, and I hastily looked down. The young master’s face could not have possibly been paler... *The casts on his legs are missing!*

The young master could not utter a single word. Even if the painkillers were still in effect, he seemed to still be in pain... Although the young master had not shown any sort of expression, his face was completely white, and his lips were purple. He had not shown any expression or cry of pain despite already being in this state. *Why must he go so far to endure it?!*

“Young Master, please do not force yourself to hold it in...”

Bang!

There suddenly came the sound of gunfire. Following that, a trickle of blood flowed down the young master’s forehead... *Why must he always be hurt? What has he ever done wrong?*

“Grab your weapons already! They’ve undone the chains!” A person shouted outside the gated door, “You f***ers aren’t getting away!”

I did not pay them any mind. I only looked down at the young master. The blood had flowed into his eyes. He shook his head and used his hand to wipe away the blood. He looked exhausted, but collected himself with great effort. He said, “Charles. Put me down. Then go to the farthest corner of the room. I’m going to use my hair to deal with them.”

I blurted out, “Young Master, how can I walk away and disregard you?!”

“Huh?” The young master was puzzled for a moment and explained, “You’re not disregarding me. It’s just that my control isn’t very good right now, and I could accidentally hurt you. So I want you to stand a bit farther away so I won’t hurt you by accident.”

You are in this much pain, but are still concerned about others?

“Hurry and move already. I still have to save Gēge... Ugh!” The young master suddenly frowned. He was unable to suppress his groan of pain. He extended a hand toward his knee, but did not dare to touch that

area at all.

“Young Master!”

“I’m... Fine.” The young master growled angrily, “Move already!”

I gently placed the young master on the ground and said, “Young Master, please wait a moment.”

“Wait? Wait for what?” The young master froze.

I straightened up, materialized two rapiers, then charged at the steel door.

Behind the steel door was at least twenty fully armed people. As expected, Lieder would not allow us to walk out so easily. If my guess was correct, the bars on the door should have a high voltage current running through them; otherwise, the criminals would not have just given a verbal warning. At the very least, they would have first shot our legs.

“Charles!” Behind me, the young master cried out, “You don’t have to fight! I promised you! No matter the situation, you don’t have to...”

I looked back and smiled as I said, “Young Master, I do not have to fight. However, at this moment, I very much want to battle. You will not prevent me from doing what I wish, correct?”

“You want to fight?” The young master’s expression looked very strange, but it was still much better than his expression of suffering

just earlier.

“Back off!” The criminals shouted a warning.

I turned my head to look at them, but I had no intention of negotiating. I used x-speed and rushed at the steel door from the side. At the same time, I increased the strength of the rapiers in my hands to the point where they could destroy steel. I used the force from x-speed and cut a Z-shape with the rapiers.

Because of x-speed, almost as soon as I finished cutting, I bumped into the steel bars, and the door broke into four pieces. There was a current going through its surface as I had expected, but with enough speed, that brief contact with electricity was nothing to a vampire!

I burst into the middle of those people, bowling down several of them. But they did not lose their heads and immediately began shooting. Bullets flew at me from all directions. *Are they not concerned at all about hitting their own people?*

I slid slightly out of the way. A bullet brushed past my right shoulder. Immediately afterward, I flipped my body and leapt onto the ceiling. All the gun points followed me up, and many bullets screamed by.

With a step, I used x-speed to propel myself down like a projectile, brushing past numerous bullets. As I shot downward, I stepped on a person and swept out with a rapier in each hand. I did not know how many calves I cut into. I did not have the time to count.

As anguished howls arose, I retreated and used my back to ram into

another person. Then I stepped on another person's thigh and leapt back up to the ceiling. If I had heard correctly, that person's femur should now be broken.

With my speed, I darted amongst them. Although it was difficult to avoid being hit by the occasional bullet, they were insignificant injuries.

Their numbers dwindled more and more.

"F***!"

"He's really damn fast!"

"Grab the other one... Hurry!"

Grab the other one...?

Young Master!

"Fire already. The other one isn't weak either," a person snarled at the same time as he opened fire at the young master.

I roared, "You will not harm the young master!"

I created a shield out of blood ability to stop the bullets. But I had no way of blocking the bullets that had already been fired. I dashed behind that person. One rapier stabbed him in the back of his neck beneath his helmet, and the other rapier went into his spine at his waist.

Through the blood ability shield, I could see the young master using both his hands to cover his face. In addition, there were two bullets caught between his arms!

He shouted out a warning, "Charles, dodge!"

I slide stepped, but I had already taken too long. My back was riddled with quite a few bullets. Although I had spread a shield of blood ability behind me, the vast majority of my blood ability had already gone in front of the young master to protect him. The rest had been transformed into the rapiers. The thin blood ability shield could not block many bullets.

But I was not worried. Even if they were silver bullets, taking a few bullets would not hinder me too much. Under the influence of the painkillers, I did not even feel the pain.

I turned around. *I will not let these people escape. Any of them! They dared to fire on the young master... All of them must die!*

The blood-colored rapiers swept out, and what sprayed everywhere was a curtain of blood. I stepped in the pool of blood. Then, I made more pools of blood. The color red stained everything in view... Before I realized it, there was no one left standing beside me anymore.

Raising my rapiers, I looked all around me to confirm there truly was no one else around before putting away my rapiers. Then, I returned to the young master's side.

The young master's eyes were wide. He exclaimed, "Charles. You're

really fast! Even with my ligaments changed, I can't reach that speed!"

As I knelt down, I said, "The young master certainly can."

"No way. The numbers were calculated by a computer. After switching out my ligaments, I'm probably only..." While the young master was speaking, I lifted him up in one go. He frowned. Even with his attention elsewhere, he apparently was still in pain.

"Let's go! Carry me on your back. We have to hurry and warn Gēge."

"Yes." I carried the young master on my back and rushed out the gated door, but I did not know where to go. I hurriedly asked, "Young Master, which direction should I take?"

The young master said, "Break through the ceiling and go straight up!"

This is indeed the fastest way. I nodded and said, "Then, I will first find a place to set you down."

"You don't need to put me down. Just punch straight through! Hurry!"

Hearing this, I created rapiers that were much larger than usual. I had the blood shield block my front again so that the young master would not be accidentally injured by the debris. Following that, I jumped up and attacked. When I pierced the ceiling, I heard a faint bursting sound. *This sound is clearly growing more pronounced...*

"Damn it! There's a bomb!"

As soon as the young master finished speaking, the bomb's flame and heat came directly at us. I could only instantaneously change the rapiers I had just been using to attack into a second blood shield. But the two blood shields were unable to block the explosive force and shattered one after the other.

Using the time the blood shields bought, I turned my body around to protect the young master, hoping I could use my back to block the brunt of the explosion.

The rumbling kept going. Smoke and dust filled the air. My surroundings were very hot. I breathed in so much searing air, my lungs seemed like they were going to burst. As soon as I opened my mouth to speak, the thick smoke choked me to the point where I could not fully speak, "Cough... Cough cough! Y-Young Master!"

There was no response. I hurriedly checked the young master's condition. The young master's eyes were closed but thankfully he was still breathing... *Why do I always have to be thankful for things as basic as this?*

Still alive! The young master is still alive, just in so much pain that he fainted. Is this still something to be grateful for?

Cradling the young master, I was deeply afraid there were more bombs. I could only make my blood ability shield as strong as possible, and then rush upward, carving holes in the ceilings the whole way, until the ceiling was really too thick and could not be broken through. I could only look around me for another way out.

Suddenly, I stopped where I was. Sounds were coming from far away... *An enemy?* I hid in the shadows. Carrying the young master made it inconvenient to take action, and I did not want the young master to suffer any more injuries.

"Dark Sun! Dark Sun, are you there?"

This voice... The light of a flashlight grew closer and closer, along with over ten fully armed people. It seemed like too many to handle, but the voice was so familiar... If I did not respond, then I would have to spend a long time before I could manage to leave.

"Dark Sun..."

"Yue Gang, is that you?" I specifically used a vampire ability to call out. The source of the echoing roar would be very hard to locate.

The ten or so people stopped. The person at the very front took off his helmet and mask. It really was Yue Gang, who I could not be any more familiar with.

"Charles?" He peered left and right.

A person beside him said to him, "Don't take off your helmet! It's dangerous!"

"Shut it!" Yue Gang shot back and then shouted loudly again, "Charles—"

I stepped out of the shadows, saying, "Here."

They all froze. Yue Gang rushed forward. As soon as he saw me, he froze. An angry expression soon came across his face. He roared, "What the hell were you doing? How'd you end up looking like a roast turkey?! T-The person you're carrying is..."

"I-Is the young master. Please save him!" I said stammering. Breathing was difficult. *Did I inhale too much of the smoke earlier? Or is it an effect of the painkillers... Perhaps it is both!*

"Give him to me! I'll carry him!" Yue Gang put his hands out. "You really look a whole damn lot like a vampire right now. Your face is as white as paper!"

I turned and shook my head at him. He did not understand the young master's situation. It would be bad if he put the young master in pain by jostling the young master's knees.

"D-Does your phone work?" I said, "Someone intends to assassinate the Sun Emperor. It's Doctor Ni Cai. Inform them..."

Yue Gang was stunned. He turned his head to shout, "Hurry and call the higher ups to notify them!"

Following them, it was not long before we finally returned to the surface. Yue Gang and the others had two armed vehicles. Inside were all sorts of emergency equipment. It was comparable to an ambulance.

I sat beside the car. Because breathing was difficult, they brought a ventilator for me to put on. The young master was lying on a stretcher.

Of course, he had already been put on a ventilator along with all sorts of diagnostic equipment. Aside from an elevated heart rate and burns to his extremities, there seemed to be no major issues. It really was a relief.

Yue Gang frowned as he looked at the young master, saying, "Both you and your little brother have to get to the hospital immediately. Your back is all scorched... Ah, he's not your little brother! Tch! Whatever! Take it!" As he finished speaking, he handed over several bags of blood plasma.

Indeed, they were what I needed the most at the moment. I took off the ventilator and began to suck. After I finished a bag, I shook my head and explained, "He has only fainted. He does not need to be sent to the hospital." *And cannot be sent to the hospital. It will be bad if they discover the state of the young master's body.*

"That said, didn't your brother just fall off a building?"

I froze. I had almost forgotten about that. I hastily said, "Please do not say that aloud!"

"Please' what? The whole world knows!" Yue Gang irritably said, "I just told my bros they're not allowed to mention it and to treat it like nothing happened. Don't worry."

"Thank you," I thanked him sincerely.

"Your whole family's full of secrets!" He scolded.

I looked at him. I just quietly said, "Sorry."

Yue Gang scratched his head and sat down next to me. He said, "I thought you were pretending to be timid... T-Tell me honestly. Are you really a vampire? This is the first time I've ever seen a damn vampire putting on a ventilator!"

"I am a vampire. But my occupation is that of a butler. Butlers do not need to be very strong..."

"You're a damn vampire and you don't need to be strong? This is the first time I've heard anything like that!" Yue Gang rubbed his temples and said, "But why do those words sound so convincing coming out of your mouth? I thought you were purposefully faking being weak and laughing behind my back at what a sucker I was. I never thought you really were that weak!"

"I am not that weak. However, I absolutely was not laughing at you."

"Who would have thought?" Yue Gang huffed, "Not weak? Then why do you look like a roasted turkey?"

"Just a moment of carelessness."

"Not paying attention for a moment and you turn into a roast turkey. Just a tiny slip up and you're ready to be served on a table. You really were too damn careless!"

"I agree." A moment of carelessness had allowed Lieder to install a listening device. A moment of carelessness and we were drugged. It

was a moment of carelessness to think the heavily armed people were the final obstacle and to completely fail to notice the bomb...

"Why the long face?" Yue Gang had not changed his demonstrative habits. As he spoke, he slapped my back.

...

"Shoot! I forgot your back has burns all over it. Hey hey! You're O.K., right?"

I smiled. "I am fine."

Unexpectedly, Yue Gang stared at me with wide eyes. "You smiling looks uglier than crying, and you're still saying everything's fine?"

Hearing those words, I suddenly remembered something that I could do. I quickly asked, "Could I borrow your cell phone?"

Yue Gang shrugged and pulled out a cell phone.

As soon as the call connected, an extremely guarded voice came through the phone, "Who is this?"

"Curtis, it is I."

"Family Head?" Curtis's voice held some doubt, "Did you change numbers? Or perhaps it is only an additional number? Regardless, Sunset City has been chaotic recently. Please—"

I cut him off, saying, "I must trouble you to help me find a person... No! Three people."

"Understood. Please speak and I will report back to you as soon as possible within the next few days."

"Find them now! I need their whereabouts immediately!"

The other end of the call went silent before speaking. "Understood. If it is your wish, I can directly assist you in getting rid of them. Please do not involve yourself in anything dangerous."

Getting rid of them... I was silent for a while and then said, "Find their locations first. If you can apprehend them, then directly getting rid of them is fine as well."

"Understood!"

I hung up. Yue Gang curiously asked, "Who was that?"

"My cousin's grandson."

"... What the heck?!"

"My successor. He is the family head of an influential family of butlers, and is quite influential."

"So you're willing to talk now?" Yue Gang had a fierce expression and huffed several times.

I lowered my head and said, "I cannot speak about everything. I can tell you about my matters, but not of the young master's. Therefore, I must still keep you in the dark about many things. For you to cut ties with me is an entirely appropriate choice."

"Cut ties?" Yue Gang froze for a moment. Then he growled, "Who's cutting ties with you? You think you're a diplomat, do you? Cutting ties!"

I looked at him in astonishment, asking, "But you would not even answer my calls. Is that not the meaning of cutting ties?"

"So it's not O.K. to be angry for a bit after being tricked for so long? Let me tell you, I'm still angry! Don't think that there's nothing wrong!" After Yue Gang shouted that, he shouted some more, "Drink your blood already! Your entire body looks like roast turkey. You think it's a good look?!"

Hearing that, I lowered my head to drink. As I was doing so, I was not doing anything else, so I just observed Yue Gang. He seemed to be covered in equipment from head to toe. I said in praise, "You look just like RoboCop."

"What cop?"

My apologies. I should not have assumed that other people would enjoy watching old hero movies like I do.

"It is nothing." I shook my head and said, "You spent more money to buy equipment."

"No I didn't! This is the standard NC uniform."

I looked at him with great skepticism. *How could such high grade equipment be provided as a police department uniform? Even if it is for a special squad?*

"... I just spent some money to upgrade it."

"Not enough money to eat again?" I asked, not quite smiling.

"It's just that... It's none of your business anyway!"

"That is true." I lowered my head to drink and said in a low voice, "The lady proprietor of the noodle stall said that she thinks of you. You should go there occasionally to eat noodles and chat."

"I don't have money to eat noodles!"

"The owner said she would let you open a tab. When you have money, just go back and pay off the tab."

"The owner said that?"

"Yes, the owner said that." *But I would be paying the tab.*

Yue Gang huffed a few times, and I did not know what he was thinking. However, at this moment, a sound came from behind me. I hurriedly turned my head to look. The young master had awoken. He was currently moving in a panic, seemingly wanting to sit up. I hastily

climbed up into the vehicle and shouted, "Young Master!"

The young master removed the ventilator, softly calling out, "What about Gēge?"

I lightly said, "Young Master, please relax. We have already notified the master."

Only then did the young master calm down.

I asked uneasily, "Young Master, how do you feel?"

"Very tired," the young master calmly stated.

"Sleep if you're tired!" Yue Gang also climbed into the vehicle.

The young master smiled as he said, "Yue Gang, you haven't come over to our place to play for a while now."

Yue Gang scratched his face. "I'll go when I'm done dealing with stuff for now. Xiǎodì, your complexion is really terrible. Your brother's a vampire, so he's supposed to have a pale face. But you're a human! With a face that pale, have you even been eating properly?"

"Yes..."

"Yue Gang! It's terrible!" A shout came from outside the car, immediately followed by a head sticking in.

"What's terrible this time?!" Yue Gang muttered, "All day long, things

are terrible. I really don't know when things will ever be fine."

The other person was flustered. "When we notified them, we found out the Sun Emperor had already been..."

Yue Gang shot a look at the other person and said, "I'll come down and we can continue talking."

After Yue Gang and the other person had left, the young master's expression darkened instantly. He said to me, "Give me a phone."

I hastily exited the vehicle and borrowed a cell phone from Yue Gang. The young master dialed and said, "Kyle-gē, give me a report on my brother's status."

The young master listened to the phone for some time and then said to me, "We were a step too late. Although Gēge is hiding in the special safe room, the criminals also made it in. Charles, pick me up so we can leave here while Yue Gang and the others haven't come back."

I froze for a moment, and extremely carefully lifted up the young master. He did not utter a sound, but I did not believe that he was not in pain. *Perhaps he is simply enduring it again?*

After I left the vehicle while carrying the young master, I suddenly came to a realization. I quickly asked, "Young Master. You are not thinking of going to where the master is, are you?"

The young master said without the slightest hesitation, "Of course! Kyle-gē and I are the only ones who don't need to destroy the special

safe room to get in. Gēge gave me the highest authority. Charles, this is good enough. You can put me down. I have to stand up on my own.”

I froze, and reflexively looked at the young master’s knees. But instead I saw that the pants around his calves had been burned to tatters and his legs were black in some places and red in others. Many places had burns. In addition, he was covered in dust from head to toe. His clothes were also extremely ripped up...

I held Yue Gang’s cell phone in my hand, dialed, and after the call connected, pressed the button for speaker. Because I was holding the young master in my hands, I did not have a way to hold the cell phone up to my ear.

“Secretary Kyle, this is Charles.”

“I’m very busy. Talk fast.”

“The young master has just undergone a modification operation and is unable to stand up. However, he insists on going to save the master. I would like to ask, is it necessary?”

“Whether it’s necessary or not, the young master will not agree to stay back. That is a pointless question... You said he is unable to stand?”

“Indeed.”

“Then don’t let him go and cause trouble!” Secretary Kyle irritably said.

“Charles!” The young master seemed to have reacted. He shouted,

“What are you saying? I have to go to where Gēge is!”

I shook my head and said, “Young Master, you cannot even stand. Where you should be going is the hospital.”

“I have to go to Gēge! Kyle-gē!”

Secretary Kyle’s helpless voice came over the phone, “Young Master, if you were hearty and hale, I would have no way to stop you. However, if you are unable to stand, your going would be a liability.”

“I can stand!” the young master yelled furiously.

“Charles, take the young master to the general hospital. Mr. An Te Qi is there.”

“Yes.”

I carried the young master and turned around to head for the general hospital. Mr. An Te Qi should be able to treat the young master’s injuries.

“Charles! Put me down! I have to go save Gēge!”

“Forgive me, but I cannot follow that order.”

The young master was stunned for a moment. He roared, “Charles! I am your master. I order you—”

“Forgive me, but I cannot follow that order!” I cut off the young

master's words.

The young master was silent for a while. Then he said, "Charles, if you don't put me down, I will have to attack you."

I was stunned. My footsteps did not stop. I only advised, "I cannot follow that order! Young Master, you cannot even stand up. So you will be of no use if you go."

"I can't *not* go!" The young master roared, "That's my only Gēge! Furthermore, it is engraved into the microchip in my head that the only reason I exist is to protect Gēge, no matter the cost. Even if it's my own life!"

After he finished shouting, the young master pushed me and leapt. Perhaps he had been planning on standing up, but his knees were completely unable to support him. He fell to the floor and yelled in pain.

"Young Master!"

I hastily went to support him. However, the young master forcefully brushed aside my hand. He slowly bent his knees, as if trying to stand. But he could only kneel on the floor. Even after a long time, he was unable to stand. He could only lower his head, silver hair covering his face. I could not see his expression. But I could see that his entire body was shaking slightly.

Going this far to appear strong...

“Young Master, you cannot walk.”

The young master did not raise his head. He only growled, “I have to walk! I have to save Gēge! You and Kyle-gē don’t understand... I absolutely cannot *not* go!”

Saying that, he raised his right leg with a sudden force and finally slowly stood up. However, as his other leg tried to support him, he slipped. I hurriedly went to support him so he would not fall down once more.

The young master waved me away. However, I was gripping him firmly. I would not let him fall again.

Following that, the young master’s hair began floating. The strands wound around my neck. He turned his head away, not looking at me, and just yelled, “Let go! Or else, or else...”

I did not know how to respond. Only, I felt my heart ache from the young master’s actions. I smiled bitterly as I said, “Or else you truly will kill me?”

The young master turned his head. He did not directly reply to my question. Instead, he repeated himself once more, “I have to go save Gēge, no matter the cost. Even if it’s my own life... Yes! I won’t hesitate to kill you. Let go of me now!”

The silver hair wrapped tighter as a warning. However, as the hair wrapped tighter and his fierce words were said, his expression was wrong.

*Young Master, crying while threatening someone really is, really is...
Really is too effective.*

My heartache from just earlier vanished, only leaving behind the attitude that a butler should not let his employer be in a difficult situation. I proposed, "Young Master, if you would allow me to replace you in battle, then I will bring you there. In your current state, I am afraid you are not as strong as I am."

The young master stopped. He asked, confused, "Y-You want to battle? Charles, have the painkillers not worn off yet? You're really being very strange!"

I also did not know if the painkillers' effects had worn off yet. Perhaps they had not, since the wounds on my body still did not hurt that much. However, I clearly understood that my decision was not because of the painkillers.

The young master shook his head and said, "No matter what, I promised you that you are a butler and not a hitman. Butlers do not need to fight!"

I calmly requested, "Then, please permit me to have a side job."

"A side job?" the young master asked, stunned.

"Yes, may I ask if you are willing to spend an additional fifty thousand yuan to hire me as a hitman?"

"... Why fifty thousand yuan?"

"Because I broke the TV wall, I was arrested by the police and the bail was fifty thousand yuan. I escaped before the fifty thousand yuan was paid."

The young master laughed until tears came out of his eyes. He finally nodded and said, "Mm. Fifty thousand yuan it is!"

I supported the young master so that he could sit on the ground. Then I crouched down so my back faced him, saying, "In that case, Young Master, please let me carry you on my back."

In the end, I was still persuaded by the young master. I did not know if this decision was right or not. If bringing the young master there led to him being injured or... I was afraid that this mistaken decision would result in a lifetime of regret.

But if I did not bring the young master there, my regrets would begin now.

Once there was a weight on my back, I carried the young master in the opposite direction, that is, toward the business district.

On the way, the young master's voice, choked with emotion, came from my back, "I'm sorry. I broke my promise and made you go fight. It won't happen again."

I had never thought before that "being treated like a hitman by my employer" could actually be something that brought me happiness.

“I am glad that you have entrusted the reason you exist to me.”

Chapter 9: Safe Room, Safety or Freedom

First Wind, Dark Sun just phoned me. The situation doesn't seem good. The signal was severely distorted so I couldn't make out what he was saying. Can you contact him?

"Hold on a sec!"

O.K.!

"Solitary Butterfly, he's really gone!"

So you do know Dark Sun's true identity?

"..."

Oh well, that's not important. We should find Dark Sun first!

"Mhm! I'll tell the police to look for places with bad signals. We'll find him faster with more people."

Wait, there's another call. It's from the police.

"Attention to all heroes, there are groups of armed criminals randomly attacking civilians in the business district. Their intentions are unknown."

"Yue Gang?" First Wind said, "This is First Wind. We also have a problem. Dark Sun seems to be stuck in a place with almost no signal. Can you find out where he is?"

"... It must be the sewer! Definitely! I'll send someone over. I'll go over myself too!"

First Wind, I'll go to the business district. You go look for Dark Sun with the police!

"No, I'll go to the business district with you. One extra person looking for him won't make a difference. Armed criminals roaming the business district doesn't sound good. It feels a bit like the bank robbery last time. If we don't know what their intentions are, it's too dangerous for you to go alone. I'll get Dragon Peace to come along!"

Aren't you worried about Dark Sun?

"Of course I am! But someone's with him. If they're together, then there won't be much of a problem."



As I ran, I phoned Nitewalker to ask where he was. Unexpectedly, he was nearby, so asking him to give me and the young master a ride would be much faster than just running or contacting Melody and the others.

I carefully put the young master in the cab and said, "To the business district."

"The business area's blocked right now, so I can only give you twenty percent off." Nitewalker turned his head and said, "If you pay me full price, I can drive you somewhere near your destination. You're going

to the building that's being broadcasted right now, right?"

I asked in surprise, "Are you sure? Did you not say that that area was blocked?"

Nitewalker said emotionlessly, "Human blockades aren't really useful against nightwalkers."

I climbed into the car and said, "I will pay you double the price. Please get there as fast as you can!"

Hearing this, Nitewalker stretched out his hand and pressed a button. The car shook slightly as the car body lowered and the car hood changed into a rather streamlined shape, a spoiler was added to the back and even the circular steering wheel turned into one with handles on the side... The taxi had turned into a race car.

The young master's eyes widened and he gasped, "That was so cool!"

The car started. I did not know how fast it was going. All I noticed was that the moment it started, my entire back pressed against the car seat.

"This mode uses a lot of gas." Nitewalker said, "If you're willing to pay five times the price, I can use another kind of method that uses even more gas but can get us there even faster."

"For sure!" The young master shouted immediately.

And then the car climbed onto the side of a building.

I looked out the car window and could see that the tires were splashing up quite a bit of water. *The car seems to be driving on water... As expected from a race from the ocean. So nightwalkers also have the ability to control water?*

With high speed and the ability to go straight ahead no matter what obstacles there might be on the road, it did not take long before the car arrived in the business district.

The entire business district was full of office buildings. This place was usually as quiet as a ghost town at night. Aside from the commercials playing from some of the TV walls of the buildings, there were usually no other noises.

But tonight was a bit different. The roads were crowded with armed people. Judging from their clothing, there seemed to be guerrilla warfare going on between two groups. For some reason, they held their fire and continued to look for better hiding places. Direct combat was rare.

Since we entered the business district, Nitewalker had been driving on the buildings instead of the roads, which was why we were able to proceed smoothly.

The young master pointed at a few armed teams that were hiding and said, "That team, that team, and this team might have been sent by Kyle-gē. The others might be Lieder's. The other side might not only have Lieder, Josh, and Ni Cai, as you said, because it's not possible to control the situation with only three people."

"I understand now. The people that Secretary Kyle sent do not seem to be part of the adjudication squad?" *I thought the strongest team under the Sun Emperor's control was the adjudication squad. Why did he not send them?*

"The adjudication squad is useful for killing, but not for rescuing. Their ability to react under different circumstances is much lower than DSII's."

So that is why.

The young master thought silently for a while and said, "The other side's equipment looks similar to the equipment the bank robbers who separated themselves into five groups had. They might be the same group of people. Speaking of which, the bank robberies just might have been directed by Lieder! To start one of these plans requires a lot of money. Just the equipment needed to hack into the security cameras costs a lot, and the security cameras in the business district are mostly dead right now."

I spaced out for a brief while, and just then, the taxi suddenly zoomed above the building, as if hovering in mid-air, and then landed on the roof. Even while making such large movements, the car remained steady. *Five times the price was definitely worth it!*

Nitewalker turned around and said, "We're here. The next building is your destination. I think you'll want to get up there without any sound, right?"

"Thank you," I stepped out of the car first before carrying the young master out.

Nitewalker peered out of the car window and said lightly, "I'll wait for you around here. I can also pick you up inside the building, but that would be ten times the price, and if the car gets damaged, you'll need to take full responsibility."

I laughed and said, "I appreciate it."

With the young master on my back, I jumped over to the next building, landing soundlessly on the wall, parallel to the ground and walked upwards.

As I walked, the young master took out his phone to make a call, asking, "Kyle-gē, how's Gēge?"

"... I thought you went to the hospital?"

"I'm not going to the hospital!"

Secretary Kyle sighed and said, "Do you have a television near you? You can see the Sun Emperor's condition on TV."

Hearing that, the young master sliced open the building window with his plasma hair strands, and we stepped inside. The room we were in was a small meeting room with a television hanging from the left corner of the ceiling. I stepped forward to turn on the television. There was no need to change channels as the television was already broadcasting relevant news.

The Sun Emperor has been abducted. The business district is now completely under lockdown!

We ask civilians not to enter the business district under any circumstance. People may only exit but not enter the business district right now. Exiting also requires a full security scan. Our reporters are negotiating, hoping to be able to interview inside, but have not been granted permission yet... Wait, the criminals have turned on their camera again. We'll be switching over now.

The television's view switched, and the Sun Emperor appeared on screen. The black office chair he was sitting in and his dark colored windbreaker made his golden hair and red eyes appear even brighter, but beneath the bright colors, his expression was extremely cold. He did not resemble someone who had been abducted, but a chairman who was looking at an employee who had made a mistake... No, probably more like an emperor looking at his officials.

Regarding this, Lieder might be right. The Sun Emperor is an emperor.

Another person appeared on screen. The person wore a unique looking mask. It was completely white with only a red reversed-cross on the forehead.

The person held a gun to the Sun Emperor's head and said toward the camera, "Have those who are here to rescue him leave the business district in half an hour, or else..."

Having said this, the person suddenly smashed the gunstock against

the Sun Emperor's temple. Blood trickled down the side of the Sun Emperor's forehead, but he merely glanced sideways at the person. His glance was emotionless, as if he had simply seen an ant crawl by, as though the event did not even raise a single thought in his mind.

Would this kind of attitude anger Lieder? I felt a bit worried.

"How dare they hit my brother! Damn it, I'll kill all of you!" The young master hollered angrily, his silver hair dancing out of control as if it wanted to tear someone to pieces.

Thank goodness the conference room we are in is nicely soundproofed. I glanced at the young master who was covered in injuries but was completely unaware of them. Compared to those, the scratch on the side of the Sun Emperor's forehead was...

"Young Master!" Secretary Kyle's voice sounded from the phone, "Since you've decided to participate in the rescue mission, please coordinate with the special squad's actions."

"Understood." The young master nodded.

"Please enter the safe room through the third hidden door. Door number three is located under the main seat in the conference room. This is the door that is least likely to startle the criminals. Also, please switch your cell phone to vibrate. About ten minutes from now, I'll have people draw the criminals' attention away and then phone you. Please enter the room as soon as the phone vibrates..."

The young master looked at me as Secretary Kyle gave instructions. I

noded to let him know that I had understood them.

Carrying the young master on my back, we left this room and headed toward the conference room.

We would sometimes hear footsteps. During those times, I would backflip onto the ceiling, stepping through one of the ceiling panels and then quietly vanishing inside, waiting until they passed us before dropping down to the floor and continuing onwards.

The young master said quietly, "Charles, when you're serious, you're really hard to fight! You're super fast and silent. Your only weakness is probably just that you don't have enough strength."

"You and X are both far stronger than I am."

"But we're not as fast as you, and if hidden, you're harder to find. If we're warriors, then you're probably an assassin!"

I said softly, "Young Master, I am neither a warrior nor an assassin. I am your butler."

The young master laughed. "Right, but I'll need to ask you to be an assassin this time."

As he said the last sentence, the young master sounded a bit downhearted, so I changed the subject hurriedly, "Young Master, do your knees still hurt?"

"The painkillers are still effective, so it doesn't hurt much as long as I

don't move my knees."

I asked, "Please do not fight later. If you do, use only your hair. Would that be all right?"

The young master did not answer.

I asked in a different way, "Young Master, if I have the upper hand during battle, would you stay by the master's side and not fight?"

Behind me, the young master replied after a while, "Charles, you're really weird. The painkillers' effect on you seems to be more like the effect of stimulants? You hate fighting, and when you had to, you would think a lot about the after-effects. But when we were in the sewer, you didn't hesitate to kill anyone, were super fast, and made all critical hits..."

That does seem to be the case. But I did not mind at all, since given the circumstances right now, the stronger I was then the better it was for us. I needed to be strong enough that the young master would not need to fight.

The young master said weakly, "I feel like I'm taking advantage of you. You're only agreeing to fight because you took painkillers, right?"

I hurriedly explained, "Perhaps the painkillers raised my fighting skills, but being willing to fight has nothing to do with them. All I want is for Young Master to stop pushing yourself and not get hurt anymore!"

"The painkillers also made you meaner..."

"Young Master, changing the subject will not make me forget the favor I just asked." I stopped walking, turned my head and said, "Please promise that if I have the upper hand during battle, you will stay by the master's side and not fight voluntarily."

The young master looked stunned and asked, "Don't tell me that you won't keep walking until I agree?"

"Yes!" I said strongly.

"... O.K.," The young master agreed helplessly.

After acquiring the young master's promise, I continued to walk. The young master grumbled behind me, "I'm definitely warning Bàba not to let you use any painkillers from now on."



We arrived at the meeting room, but after a while, we still did not get Secretary Kyle's phone call signal.

After waiting for three minutes, instead of receiving a phone call from Secretary Kyle, we were greeted with a sudden boom. The building shook violently, and the young master immediately shouted, "Call Kyle-gē."

"Young Master, the call will not go through."

"Try someone else!"

I tried dialing a few numbers but none of them went through. After checking the screen closely, I realized that there was no reception. *But we are in the business district, so how can the reception be worse than down in the sewer?*

"The signal's been jammed!" The young master said decisively, "We'll go in now!"

As soon as the door was opened, we were greeted with a gunshot. Fortunately, I had my blood shield open, so the bullet did not hit us.

I dodged a few times yet the bullets followed me closely like a shadow. If it were not for my blood shield, I would probably have a dozen bullets in me by now. As I dodged, I carefully looked for a place where someone might be shooting from and quickly found it. The person was standing in a shadowed corner and was firing at us continuously with a handgun.

I used x-speed to rush up to that person, and as my hand formed a sharp cone that aimed to pierce the person's throat...

The young master yelled, "Charles, stop! That's Gēge!"

I quickly forced my hand to slide off track and sunk it into the wall, but I was too slow and the nail on my pinky finger still scratched the Sun Emperor's neck. Thankfully, there was only a red scratch and no blood.

I felt cold sweat dripping down my face.

At that moment, the gun was pressed to my forehead and I spaced out in shock...

Bang!

The gun fired. I looked to my side and saw that smoke was rising from the dark muzzle... If the young master had not pushed the gun aside in time, there probably would have been a hole in my forehead right now.

I dodged behind the master, and the young master emerged from where I was and jumped onto the master, knocking him to the floor while shouting, "Gēge! It's me, Ah Ye!"

The master was caught off-guard and his hands let go, dropping his gun. And then, all he did was stare at the young master dumbly without any reaction.

"Gē!" The young master was also shocked. He had fallen to the ground just now so his knees should be hurting a lot, yet he did not react to them at all. He just grabbed the master's shoulders and shouted, "Gē, I'm Ah Ye. I'm your brother Ah Ye! Do you recognize me?"

The master said in a hoarse voice, "Ah...Ye...?"

"Gē!" The young master was on the verge of tears.

There appears to be some other noise? I turned around, made a blood shield to protect the young master and the master, then made a rapier and stood on guard. Just then, a door in a corner opened and in rushed four people. They were... Dark Sun, Dragon Peace, First Wind, and Solitary Butterfly!

The four heroes were all here, but the young master was still here with me, so Dark Sun should be played by DSII.

As soon as DSII saw the situation in here, he ran over to break something... *A video camera! Oh no, did what just happened get recorded?*

"Charles and An Xiang Ye?" First Wind said in a weird tone.

"What the hell is going on?" Solitary Butterfly said as she looked at the young master and the master with wide eyes.

I am even more confused than you are. I asked in confusion, "How did you come in?"

DSII simply said, "The Sun Emperor's secretary couldn't contact you. He was very anxious, so he contacted me. He was the one who opened the door. Where's the criminal? Have you finished him off?"

I shook my head and said, "When we came in, we only saw the master... the Sun Emperor by himself. He seems to have been hypnotized by Josh, so he fired at us."

Solitary Butterfly asked warily, "What's your relationship to the Sun Emperor?"

How should we answer this? Just as I started to think of an explanation, a soft noise came from the side. I turned around and saw that the two doors that had been open were now closed.

DSII hurried to one of the doors. It seemed that he was pushing buttons of some sort, but the doors did not show any sign of opening. He took out his phone and said after a quick glance, "We're out of range."

"We're locked in?" First Wind frowned. "Did the criminals do this? Why did they lock us up?"

Something suddenly lit up in a corner. It was a television. The scene that was playing...

"Gē, I'm Ah Ye. I'm your brother Ah Ye! Do you recognize me?"

"Ah...Ye...?"

The television was showing a scene with the young master and the master in it. To make things worse, it seemed to be a news channel!

As soon as the video ended, the host jumped out and said excitedly, "This is the latest news that we have just received. An Xiang Ye claims that he's the Sun Emperor's younger brother! Unbelievable!"

I looked toward the young master. Actually, everyone was looking at the young master, but the young master simply glanced at the television, and then focused his attention back on the master. The young master's expression was filled with worry. His attention was fully on the master, not leaving any room for other things.

"Look at the TV!" Dragon Peace growled.

Everyone's attention moved back to the television. This time, there was neither a host nor the master and the young master, but a man in a mask—the person who hit the master with his gunstock!

On the screen, the masked man's lips quirked a smile, as he said, "Attention to all you kind citizens. All of the heroes have gone to save the Sun Emperor and have now been locked in the safe room by us. Please take a look."

The screen switched from the masked man to a very familiar scene. The master, the young master, the four heroes, and I were all on there... *Are there more cameras in this room?*

DSII rushed to a corner, and using the wall as a stepping stone, jumped onto the ceiling and tore off a video camera.

The news returned to the man as he smiled and said, "As you can all see, Dark Sun just destroyed the camera, so we're back to me. My apologies. We can't let everyone see how helpless the heroes are."

This man in the mask must be Lieder!

Lieder chuckled. "It's not safe outside right now, since our people are robbing places all over. If you don't have anything to do, then please don't go outside, just so you don't get blasted by bombs.

"I hope that everyone can understand that from now on, you mustn't rely on heroes anymore. They're too moronic to deserve your trust."

Having heard that, First Wind could not help himself and finally

shouted, "Dragon Peace! Destroy this place."

Dragon Peace roared and jumped in front of a door, smashing down his large fist. From what I could tell, this fist could send any door I knew flying... Aside from the doors here. This door did not even shake.

DSII stopped Dragon Peace from continuing his attacks and said, "This is the Sun Emperor's safe room. Even if you bomb the entire building, this room won't be destroyed. Even if I use my plasma hair strands, my energy would be depleted before cutting through the walls."

"Don't tell me we'll be stuck here forever?" Solitary Butterfly gasped.

"No." DSII shook his head and said, "The Sun Emperor's secretary will sense that things aren't right very soon. He'll get people to open the door."

First Wind frowned and said, "How long?"

"That depends on how strong the enemy's hacker is." DSII said in Dark Sun's cool manner of speaking, "From the look of things right now, they have a strong hacker. It might take a few hours to open this door at least."

"Damn it!" First Wind could not help swearing.

Although we knew that the outside world was probably in chaos by now, there was nothing we could do. This safe room was just too sturdy. No matter what the heroes tried, the walls and the doors showed no signs of being broken. After some time...

“Ah Ye?”

Everyone paused for a bit before realizing that the exclamation came from the master. He stumbled across his words in shock, “Why are you here? You...”

The master seemed to be completely awake now.

The master’s words were cut short when he caught sight of Dark Sun. He looked confused when he lowered his head to look again at the young master, but that confusion quickly vanished. The master lowered his head and asked in a quiet voice, “Ah Ye?”

The young master nodded his head unseeingly.

“Why did you get all hurt again?” The master, who was not moved at all when he was threatened as a hostage or even beaten, immediately flew into a rage and roared, “Who dared to hurt you? I’ll kill his entire family!”

“Where are those who were supposed to protect you?” The master turned his head around to look at me with eyes that seemed as if he wanted to crush me.

The young master said hurriedly, “Charles is a butler. He’s not in charge of protecting me!”

“Then where are those who are responsible for protecting you? I’m going to slice them alive and feed them to the dogs!”

I suddenly considered calling Mr. Bramble, Melody, and the others, and telling them to run as far as they could... *Wait, cell phones do not even work here.*

The young master stopped talking and then suddenly started crying, stuttering as he said, "Gēge is going to kill the people I like again."

The master immediately panicked and said in a hurry, "I won't kill them, I won't! Please don't cry..."

Even though the young master was crying, and his tears gushed down like an open faucet, I did not think that he was very sad... *These are fake tears, are they not? As the emperor of the business world, can the master really not tell that the young master is acting?*

I turned to look at the others. Aside from DSII, First Wind and Solitary Butterfly were both so shocked that even their masks could not hide their surprised expressions. Even Dragon Peace's eyes were wide. Although he already knew there was a master, I did not think that anyone had ever told him that the master was the Sun Emperor, and more importantly... That the Sun Emperor was crazy about his brother.

"Ah Ye... An Xiang Ye really is the Sun Emperor's brother?" First Wind asked hesitantly.

"And didn't he fall from a building?" Solitary Butterfly said coldly. She glared at the young master, and said crossly, "I couldn't grab his hand in time back then, and I worried and blamed myself for a long time just because of that!"

"Please do not be rude toward the young master," *Or else the master might be rude toward you...*

Solitary Butterfly glared at me. She seemed to be unhappy, but First Wind patted her shoulder in time and stopped her from talking.

"Charles!" The master growled.

I blanked out a little and turned to face the master, feeling honored yet also scared. I did not think that the master would remember my name.

He shouted with an anger that reached the heavens, "Why did you let Ah Ye get hurt? Why didn't you protect him?"

"Gē! Charles has nothing to do with this!" The young master could not stand up, so he hurriedly grabbed the master's hand to stop him from shooting me to death.

"He can't even protect you! He's useless! He's better off dead!"

"Gē!" The young master shouted loudly, "Stop always thinking about killing!"

"You're already hurt this badly, covered in burns and can't even stand up. Do I not have the right to kill this thing that couldn't protect its master?"

Hearing the Sun Emperor's words, First Wind and Dragon Peace

stepped in between us, shielding me behind them.

“Gē, the reason I can’t stand up isn’t because I’m hurt. It’s because...”

The young master stopped short since Solitary Butterfly was still here and we were not sure if Lieder had set up another camera somewhere else, so he could not say that he could not stand up due to modifications. The young master’s only identity that had not yet been revealed was that of Dark Sun.

“Sun Emperor, your attention toward our family head has made the Elysees very honored.”

That voice did not belong to anyone in the room, yet to me, it could not be any more familiar.

I turned around and saw that the door had opened without us noticing. A man stood beside the door in form-fitting clothes and with about a dozen armed security guards behind him.

“Curtis!” I said reflexively.

Chapter 10: The Curtain Falls for Tonight and the Next Morning
Shall Arrive

What kind of chaotic situation is this? What are those criminals doing running all around the business district? Don't tell me it's to steal the computers in the offices? Has the economy gotten that bad?

First Wind let out a groan. "Solitary Butterfly, the police just reported that the Sun Emperor was seized."

The Sun Emperor was seized? Then we don't have to head over, right?

"Why? Do you hate the Sun Emperor?"

It's not that! The Sun Emperor should have a lot of bodyguards and personnel who'll come save him. He's the Sun Emperor! Do we really have to go?

"That makes sense! We..."

Duck! You idiot, pay attention to your surroundings. If you lost your head, then you wouldn't even have to think about whether or not to head over to take a look.

Dragon Peace growled, "First Wind, Solitary Butterfly, the criminals have all run into the building where the Sun Emperor is being held!"

Damn it! What are they all meeting up there for? An incident isn't about to happen where the Sun Emperor is, right? Let's go look!

"Yeah!"

...

I understand now. They wanted to lure us all here and shut us in with the Sun Emperor and An Xiang Ye so they could do whatever they wanted!

I want to change my vote to Father Alex, damn it!



Seeing the doors open, First Wind, Solitary Butterfly, and Dragon Peace froze. After I called out Curtis's name, they shot each other several glances and then rushed out.

As that happened, the young master shot DSII a meaningful look, and DSII immediately left with the other heroes.

"Curtis, why are you here?" I asked in astonishment.

Curtis simply explained, "I found out the Sun Emperor had been taken by the criminals, and you could not be contacted by phone. The informants I had dispatched to Sunset City could not find you either, so I rushed over in a private jet, as I contacted the Sun Emperor's secretary. Knowing that you all had been trapped in the safe room, I immediately sent our family's best hacker to help open the door."

After he said this, he looked in the direction of the Sun Emperor. He lightly smiled and said, "I really could not believe that the Sun Alliance was unable to open their own safe room."

Hearing that, the corners of the master's mouth pulled up in a smile. But there was no trace of amusement as he laughed and said, "It's been a long time since I've seen you. The last time I saw you, you were even a prisoner!"

Curtis spread his hands and said, "The tables have turned. This time you were the one who became the captive."

"You actually still see this vampire as your family head? You're not planning on becoming family head yourself?" The master laughed and said, "Surrogate family head and family head. Just a one word difference, yet worlds apart."

Before Curtis could even speak, the young master had already interjected angrily, "Gē! You're not allowed to pit Curtis and Charles against each other! I already told you!"

"... Bad habit." The master replied embarrassedly. Then he changed the topic, saying, "And why did you end up like this again? You promised me that you'd take good care of yourself. So I removed the bodyguards and even let you have a vampire for a butler. But in the end, you still ended up like this!"

When he heard that, the young master lowered his head and guiltily said, "I-I just wasn't careful for a moment..."

"Weren't careful?" The master said with heartache, "How many times have you not been careful? You end up like this every time, so I didn't want to let you leave home..."

I smiled. The master truly did cherish the young master.

"Family Head."

I turned my head. Curtis was looking at me. With an exceptionally brilliant smile, he said, "Family Head, did I not tell you before that I had deployed twenty people to Sunset City? Why did you not call to request help at all and instead acted on your own?"

I honestly explained, "It was because my cell phone had broken and I could not access my contacts list. And in the heat of the moment, I had temporarily forgotten your phone number."

Curtis's demeanor was respectful as he said, "0911-299XXX. I must trouble you to remember this string of numbers, Family Head. If you 'temporarily forget' again, then please return to the family and practice learning these numbers by heart for *several years*. By the time you will have learned them to the point you would be unable to forget, it should not be too late for you to leave the family again."

"... I understand. I will call next time." *Should I be glad that, at the very least, Curtis's demeanor is more respectful than Sadina's? But the way the two of them behave is becoming more and more similar. They truly are related.*

"Ah, Family Head. You really are..." Curtis sighed.

"Ah, Ah Ye. You really are..." The Sun Emperor sighed.

The two of them were halfway through their laments when they realized that they had each said almost exactly the same thing. They glanced at each other... Or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that they glared at each other, and then nagged at each of their targets again, which were the young master and me.

Curtis scolded, "Family Head. You are a butler. Butlers are not in charge of fighting! Even if the employer is in danger, that is still a matter for the bodyguards. You absolutely do not have to..."

Off to the side, the master immediately turned his head toward us to growl, "What did you say? If my Ah Ye is in danger, then I expect even the old lady sweeping the toilets to go to battle!"

Curtis immediately roared back, "Butlers are not in charge of fighting! The contract is as clear as day, let alone the fact that he is the Elysees family head!"

The young master quickly grabbed the master and shouted, "Gē! Charles really isn't responsible for fighting!"

I also quickly grabbed Curtis and shouted, "Curtis! Please, do not make things awkward for the young master..."

I was partway through speaking when the world in front of my eyes suddenly spun. It felt like all of the strength in my body had left me. There was no spot on my body that was free of pain, and I was unable to even stand. I fell against Curtis. After giving him a huge shock, he hurried to support me.

I last heard the young master shouting, "Charles," closely followed by darkness...



When I next opened my eyes, I was not quite able to figure out my current situation. There was not even a single ray of light in my surroundings. As I struggled to sit up, every action was accompanied by the sound of water... *No. Is this blood?*

I smelled what was on me. My entire body reeked of blood.

I sat up. This place seemed to be a bath. The place where I was lying was at a slant, and there was even a protrusion where my neck was, seemingly to prevent my entire body from sliding into the bath... Vampires could still drown.

Having just awoken, my mind was still not completely clear. I could not quite understand how I had ended up in a bath of blood...

Next to me, a door suddenly opened. The light outside was not strong. It was a soft, yellow light, but it was enough for me to see that the person who came in was Curtis.

"Good morning, Family Head." Curtis sounded fairly happy as he spoke. At the same time, he handed over a snow white towel, saying, "After climbing out of the bath, you will be in the bathing room. Outside of the bathing room is the changing room. Your clothes have already been prepared for you."

I was slightly dazed as I extended my hand to take the towel. Curtis

asked, "Do you need assistance in getting dressed?"

"... No!"

"Is that so?" Curtis said with some disappointment.

Seeing that, I said with confusion, "You do not have to be so polite toward me. In reality, you are the head of the Elysees family."

Before, when Sadina was still here, Curtis had not been so zealously servile. After Sadina had passed, I thought that he would stop heeding me sooner or later. *But why does it seem like the opposite has happened?*

Curtis said with regret, "My grandmother taught me everything a butler needs to know. I have the qualifications of an official Elysees butler. I have not been negligent in my training at all! Only when I was able to serve you before were my abilities put into use for a short period of time. Spending so much time learning something only to have no place to use it is truly a tragedy."

So that is how it is. I somewhat understood now. I had learned to be a butler for so long, but before I met the young master, there was no way I could truly say that I was a butler. As a result, I was dispirited for quite a long time.

"Regardless, please take a bath first. I will prepare sustenance for you."

"All right."



After I had finished bathing, I walked out. This place had been furnished like a study, but it had something that a study would not have—a metal cabin.

Curtis already had a tall wine glass set out. He stood beside the dining table, holding a bottle of blood in his hands. He looked just like a dutiful butler.

This time, I did not ask him to be less polite. Instead, I directly strode over, took a seat, and allowed him to pour me a glass of blood.

Before I drank the blood, I said to him, "I will have to trouble you to report to me what happened after I fainted."

Curtis glanced at me with a trace of surprise in his expression. Then he began to dutifully report, "When you suddenly fainted, the Young Master Ri assessed that you had consumed a large amount of your blood ability earlier, but did not realize you had already used up more than you should have due to the painkillers. As a result, once the effects of the drug began to wear off, you fainted. Therefore, we used the same method we used last time and soaked you in blood."

Hearing this, I immediately asked anxiously, "I surely have not slept through another year?"

Curtis laughed and said, "I was originally worried about that as well. I had even found a hospital to provide long term transfers of blood. But please do not worry. You have only been asleep for two weeks."

Put at ease, I asked, "Then, what of the young master?"

Curtis brought over a newspaper. He did not even have to open it at all. Written on the outside was the huge headline: "The Sun Emperor's Younger Brother—Ri Xiang Ye." Next to it was a picture of the young master. I had no idea why, but they had chosen to use the poster from the young master's lipstick advertisement.

"That your young master is the Sun Emperor's own younger brother has been the headline news for the past two weeks. According to speculation, it will still be the headlines for another week. He is also correctly known as Ri Xiang Ye now.

"Incidentally, in the Cities Representative Election, Young Master Ri was originally at a stalemate with Daystar City's Father Alex. Their votes would constantly rise and fall, with Young Master Ri sometimes in the lead and the priest leading sometimes. But after Young Master Ri was exposed as the Sun Emperor's younger brother, his votes never took the lead again. The end results were that he lost to the opponent by over one hundred twenty thousand votes. He even almost lost to the person who was originally at a distant third place... The Sun Emperor's reputation is truly not very good!"

Hearing that, I bitterly smiled and said, "You really do not like the Sun Emperor much, do you?"

"Yes." Curtis nodded, but then he also said, "There is probably no one in the business world who likes him. But at the very least, the Sun Emperor and I have common ground now."

"Oh?" I truly was very curious.

Curtis coldly said, "The Sun Emperor and I already have a tacit agreement to suppress the Church together. Within ten years, we will topple their finances so much that they will be unable to climb back up!"

I was stunned for a moment. Then, I quickly asked, "Why?"

"It does not matter what that Lieder person is planning on doing. He knows about so many things that he must have a source somewhere."

"You think that his source is the Church?" I was stunned. "Lieder does not seem religious."

"He does not have to be religious. It is enough if he and the Church mutually benefit." Curtis's expression of a dutiful butler changed into that of a proud Elysees family head. He icily said, "At the moment, I still do not know how they mutually benefit, but they have attacked you on multiple occasions. I will not tolerate any more of that! We must let them know that the Elysees family is not to be trifled with!"

"Wait a moment!" I hurriedly said, "You do not have to clash with the Church because of me..."

Curtis used a respectful tone to say something not respectful at all, "Family Head, the Sun Emperor has said that he wants to completely destroy the Church. If not for Young Master Ri stopping him, he probably would have immediately pressed the button to launch missiles at the Church's headquarters and started an all-out war with

them. I am not quite so barbarous. I only want them to be unable to do anything, even obtaining the approval of the village head to set up a tiny chapel in a village.”

One person wanted to bomb the Church. The other person wanted to make it so that the Church would be incapable of doing anything. *These two people sound equally dangerous...* At that moment, the phone rang. As soon as Curtis accepted the call, he passed it to me, saying, “Family Head, this call is for you.”

A call for me? Is it the young master? I hastily accepted the phone and asked, “Is this the young master?”

“No, no! You’ve guessed wrong! Would you like to try again?”

“... Lieder?” I was shocked. I would have never expected him to call me.

Beside me, Curtis’s expression also changed. He pressed a different button, and on a paper, wrote several words for me to read: *Extend this call as much as possible so I can track his location.*

“Charles, are you still there?”

“Yes.” I kept calm and said, “Lieder, you have lost. The Sun Emperor is still alive and well.”

The sound of laughter came from the other end of the phone. “I’ve lost? Really now?”

The tone of Lieder's voice gave me a feeling of foreboding.

"Have I ever said that I wanted to kill Ri Xiang Yan?"

I froze and tried carefully to remember. Indeed, Lieder had never said that he wanted to kill the master. He had only said that he wanted to give the entire world a lesson on anthropology. Then, he had just said that the Sun Emperor was no different from everyone else. He could be hurt and he could die.

Lieder explained further, "If Ri Xiang Yan died, the world's economy would crash. Everyone would just hate on the culprit instead of questioning if Ri Xiang Yan had turned into the existence of a god. So how could I possibly kill him? I just smacked his majesty on the head lightly and then slipped out of his grasp without a single scratch on me, shattering the illusion that he is untouchable."

Planning such a huge incident just to smack the master on the head once... But to even smack the master on the head once was a very difficult thing. For a regular person, even drawing close should be very difficult.

"That's right. I'd nearly forgotten the reason I'd called you in the first place. I have to thank you for your inverted cross bible. There was something very interesting in it. And seeing as how you've given me this bible, I'll give you a word of advice."

Perhaps Lieder is saying the contents of the book are very interesting, but the way "There was something very interesting in it," was said does not sound like he means the contents of the book are what is

interesting?

As I was puzzling over it, Lieder lightly said, "Leave Ri Xiang Ye! These coming days will be a terrible time to be a hero."

After he finished speaking, the call ended.

I handed the phone to Curtis. He took it, pressed a few buttons, and asked, "Did you find his position?"

He listened for a moment, then hung up. He looked apologetic as he said, "There was interference. We were unable to find his location. May I ask if he has said anything?"

I hesitated for a moment, but still truthfully said, "He warned that something is going to happen."

Hearing that, Curtis sighed and said, "Am I right in saying that you definitely will not agree to staying with the family?"

"Of course. I am the young master's butler. I must remain at the young master's side. That reminds me. Where is the young master now?"

"Why not give him a call?" Curtis told me, "Young Master Ri specifically instructed me to have you give him a call once you had awakened."

I nodded. Curtis handed over the phone.

"Charles, you're awake! This is great!" The young master shouted as

soon as the call connected and he heard my voice. "I thought you would sleep for another year again. I didn't think it would just be two weeks. That's fantastic! Is your body O.K.?"

"Yes. There are no large hindrances!"

"Hurray! We don't have to eat fried rice anymore!"

Aren's furious roar came over the phone, "Hey! Next time, I won't even cook for you! You can go out to eat!"

"Come back soon, Charles!"

"Understood."



When I arrived back at the apartment, the young master opened the door for me himself. But he was not as happy as he had been on the phone. His face had bitterness all over it.

As I was wondering, he opened his mouth to say, "Charles, I just found out that all of P29's criminals were released."

What? I was so shocked I was unable to react. Just having Josh escape resulted in such a huge incident. If they have all been set free, then what kind of situation are we in?

"How did this happen? Did Lieder break them out?"

"No. It must have taken an untold amount of effort for him just to

break Josh out. And after Josh's escape, P29's security would have become even stricter. He couldn't have freed another person... Normally speaking, anyway!"

Not understanding, I asked, "What exactly happened?"

The young master sighed and said, "My brother gave the command himself. Yesterday night, he directly told the staff at P29 to let all the criminals go. No one dares to disobey an order from Gēge, other than Kyle-gē and another one of his personal secretaries. But Gēge didn't tell the two of them. After he gave the order, he went to bed. It wasn't until this morning when he woke up that he suddenly realized what he had done, and he had no idea why he'd done it."

I immediately blurted out, "Could it have been Josh?"

The young master nodded and said, "We were all tricked. Lieder's true goal wasn't to kill my brother. He wanted to release all of the dangerous criminals with special abilities in P29!"

"Lieder needed time to let Josh command my brother... You still remember when Josh was starting to give me commands before, he needed to unsettle me, and said I was a robot?"

I nodded. That incident had left a deep impression, since the young master had nearly killed Solitary Butterfly after that.

"For people with willpowers that are too strong, Josh has to shake their will before he can give a command. And I'm the best thing to use to shake Gēge's will. Lieder probably snatched us to be hostages so

that he could film me tied up or injured by an explosion and show it to my brother... Although Gēge also doesn't remember seeing a sight like that."

So it was like that.

Lieder has just been joined by a large number of dangerous criminals with special abilities? I felt extremely uneasy and muttered, "Will there be a war?"

"I don't know." The young master frowned and said, "But if Gēge wasn't wrong in saying that Lieder's information comes from the Church, then you'd best warn X."

"Warn X?" I did not quite understand. *What does X have to do with this?*

"Yes!" The young master nodded and said, "The Church must be getting some sort of benefit for them to leak this information to Lieder. Although Lieder robbed a lot of money the other night, that definitely cannot be the Church's goal. The Church doesn't need to do that sort of thing for money. It must be for something else.

"What Lieder has done so far is robbing money, hitting my brother on the head, exposing my identity, and releasing all the criminals in P29. The first three things can't be the Church's goal, so only the last one could be! I think that among the criminals are some people that the Church wants. And the Church has been closely following X before. The criminals with special abilities that they want perhaps have to do with seeking and killing X!"

Hearing this much, I truly began to worry. *Just Josh alone has thrown everything into chaos. What kind of special abilities do the other criminals have? They will not really capture X, will they? Once a person falls into the Church's grasp, they would meet such a horrible fate that it is beyond my imagination!*

The young master said consolingly, "Charles, don't worry. I also have to catch all those criminals anyway!"

Having said this, the young master brought over a stack of documents from the desk. There was an eye-catching red warning symbol on the envelope of the documents.

"I had Kyle-gē keep this from Gēge and secretly send the information of the most dangerous criminals. These people have to be captured at once!"

I said doubtfully, "But Lieder caused such a huge incident here. They probably would not dare to come to Sunset City, would they?"

The young master nodded. He said, "So pack your suitcase. We're going on a global hunt!"

Epilogue: Character Introductions

Li Qi: The chicken merchant at the food market. He is a towering young man who is very outspoken and straightforward.

Ni Cai: A rather famous doctor. He is one of Charles's professors at the university and also Lieder's friend.

Shuu Kahl: Charles's classmate.



Afterword

Although the fifth, sixth, and seventh volumes of *No Hero* each focus on a different case, these three volumes actually have to be combined together for the overarching case to be considered complete. That's why the flames from this time's incident will burn on in the next volume!

In this volume, the butler sure showed off his prowess! (Even though it ended with him falling unconscious.)

It was only after writing up to the sixth volume that I discovered that the butler could be so impressive in battle—I really have to thank painkillers!

Charles, you are just like Popeye the Sailor Man. You should take analgesics in place of eating spinach! (Wrong! Good children should not copy this.)

Throughout the entire volume, the other heroes had nowhere to show off their skills, but they actually worked hard, too. When the criminals were firing their guns everywhere in the business district, they were actually the ones who worked with the police to wipe them out.

Using a first person point of view has always given me a huge headache. Back when I first posted *No Hero* online, I used the first person point of view, but when it came time to officially publish the series, I had once tried using a third person point of view to write the story.

The third person point of view has the advantage of showing many different characters' perspectives. In this kind of story where "the hero is everywhere, while the butler is taking care of housework at home," a third person point of view is truthfully a lot more convenient.

However, using the third person point of view would lose the butler's perspective of the heroic young master. The reading experience would lose the unique feeling of slowly getting to know the daily life of a hero, of surmising the inner thoughts of the hero through his actions and words. That's why I deleted the beginning that I had written in third person. In the end, I used first person.

However, the disadvantage of using first person is how I sometimes really can't find a way to let Charles know all of the details of what is going on, and thus, the reader is left in the dark as well. It is true, though, that I can at least fill in some of the details in the beginning pages of each chapter.

Ever since I started writing, I have felt that both first person and third

person have their benefits and shortcomings. Neither is a perfect fit without any faults. It's just that one of them will suit the story better!

Fortunately, of all that I have written so far, there is no series where I would choose a different point of view than the one I had chosen, if I were given the choice to choose again.



I have written the Church's image to be quite poor. Let me make it up to them by saying that this story views the Church from the perspective of a vampire butler and his young master, who both side with X. That's why they feel very *****, but as a matter of fact, that is not the whole story. They have their reasons for acting the way they do.

Currently, I have plans to write E.X.'s story. Lieder and co.'s story will also become a separate book. These two series will likely involve the Church more. They may or may not help them make a comeback!

With those in addition to the previous *Eclipse Hunter*, which is the master and the young master's story, the scope of this story universe is so huge that my hand feels weak from writing, like I won't ever finish writing. But, you can read each series as a standalone. On top of that, since the main character is different, the style of each series isn't exactly the same either.

However, the series have places where they overlap, and there are also events that lead to other events, yet they must all stand alone...
☞, my ability to dig a hole to bury myself seems to have grown even stronger.

Nonetheless, I always get a sense of satisfaction when I see the world inside the story develop more and the lives of the characters advance continuously!

It's like I have given birth to a bunch of children, watching them gradually grow up. They each have their own lives. It's truly a great feeling!

I also hope that I have given everyone a sense of how these characters are continuously making growth.

However, I will have to ask everyone to wait a bit for the stories to come. I still have a few series I am currently writing. In the future, I only have plans to write two series at once as well!

Doing it that way should be better. That way, you won't have to wait too long for the next volume of a certain series.

However, the disadvantage is that you'll have to wait longer for new series.

Sure enough, there are advantages and disadvantages to everything!

I pray to the God of Light: I wish for advantages to multiply and for disadvantages to lessen.



Last but not least, the seventh volume of *No Hero* will be the final volume.¹ The preview this time will be very short because I want

everyone to read the actual content of volume seven. I don't want you to find out the content in the preview.

No Hero Volume 7: The End, the Beginning

Criminals with special abilities have escaped from P29. Other than humans and non-humans, there are now special ability users that are like both humans and non-humans. This world is becoming more and more complicated!

As the incident involving the criminals progresses, the battle between the heroes and the criminals finally unfolds. However, this is not the end but a beginning...

By Yu Wo



Character Introductions

Sun Emperor

Profession:
Business boss

Sun Emperor's
famous words:
Credibility and
ruthlessness
are the rules
of the business
world!



Sun Emperor

Profession: Business boss

Sun Emperor's famous words: Credibility and ruthlessness are the rules of the business world!



Lieder

Profession:
Anthropology
professor who
part-times as
an assassin.

**Lieder's
famous words:**
The difference
between
humans and
other humans
is that there is
no difference!

Lieder

Profession: Anthropology professor who part-times as an assassin.

Lieder's famous words: The difference between humans and other humans is that there is no difference!

Character
Introductions



Xie Wei

Profession:
The leader
of the police
department's
NC squad.

**Xie Wei's
famous words:**
Get the hand-
cuffs and drag
them to the
police station!

Xie Wei

Profession: The leader of the police department's NC squad.

Xie Wei's famous words: Get the handcuffs and drag them to the police station!



末日圍城

第 2112 期



Sunset
City

Footnotes

¹ **“the seventh volume of No Hero will be the final volume”**: No Hero was originally going to end with seven volumes, but in the end, it took Yu Wo nine volumes to finish telling the story.