

THIS  
IS WHAT  
HAPPENS...

MY FAMILY  
SENDS ME ASSETS,  
BUT IF I CAN'T  
SHOW THEM ANY  
TALENT -

IF YOU  
DON'T FULFILL THEIR  
EXPECTATIONS, YOU'LL  
END UP LOSING ALL  
YOUR FREEDOM?



THAT'S  
OBVIOUS ENOUGH.  
MU NINGXUE IS IN  
A VERY SIMILAR  
SITUATION.



SHE JUST  
MANAGED TO GET  
A NOMINATION AT  
THE IMPERIAL  
COLLEGE.



WHY DID  
YOU BRING  
HER UP ALL OF  
A SUDDEN?

THE  
NEWS CAME  
OUT TODAY.









JIANG-TU!

DON'T  
GO OVER  
THERE!

STOP AT  
ONCE!

STOP!

WE CAN'T  
HAVE YOU  
CAUSING  
TROUBLE!









COUGH  
COUGH...

YOU...


WHAT DO  
YOU THINK  
YOU'RE DOING?

Y-YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
OFFEND THE GU  
FAMILY...!



THE GU  
FAMILY?

MEMBERS OF THE  
AI FAMILY COMMIT  
THEIR ENTIRE LIVES  
TO PROTECTING THE  
NORTHERN GREAT WALL,  
LEAVING A SINGLE GIRL  
HERE. AND I COME BACK  
TO SEE HER BULLIED...  
HUMILIATED...!



THE GU FAMILY...  
THE ONLY THING  
THOSE INSECTS  
WILL BE DOING  
IS COLLECTING  
YOUR CORPSE!

**BOOM**





HE'S...





HE...

HE'S  
NOT DEAD,  
IS HE?



HE WILL  
BE IF HE  
ISN'T TREAT-  
ED SOON.



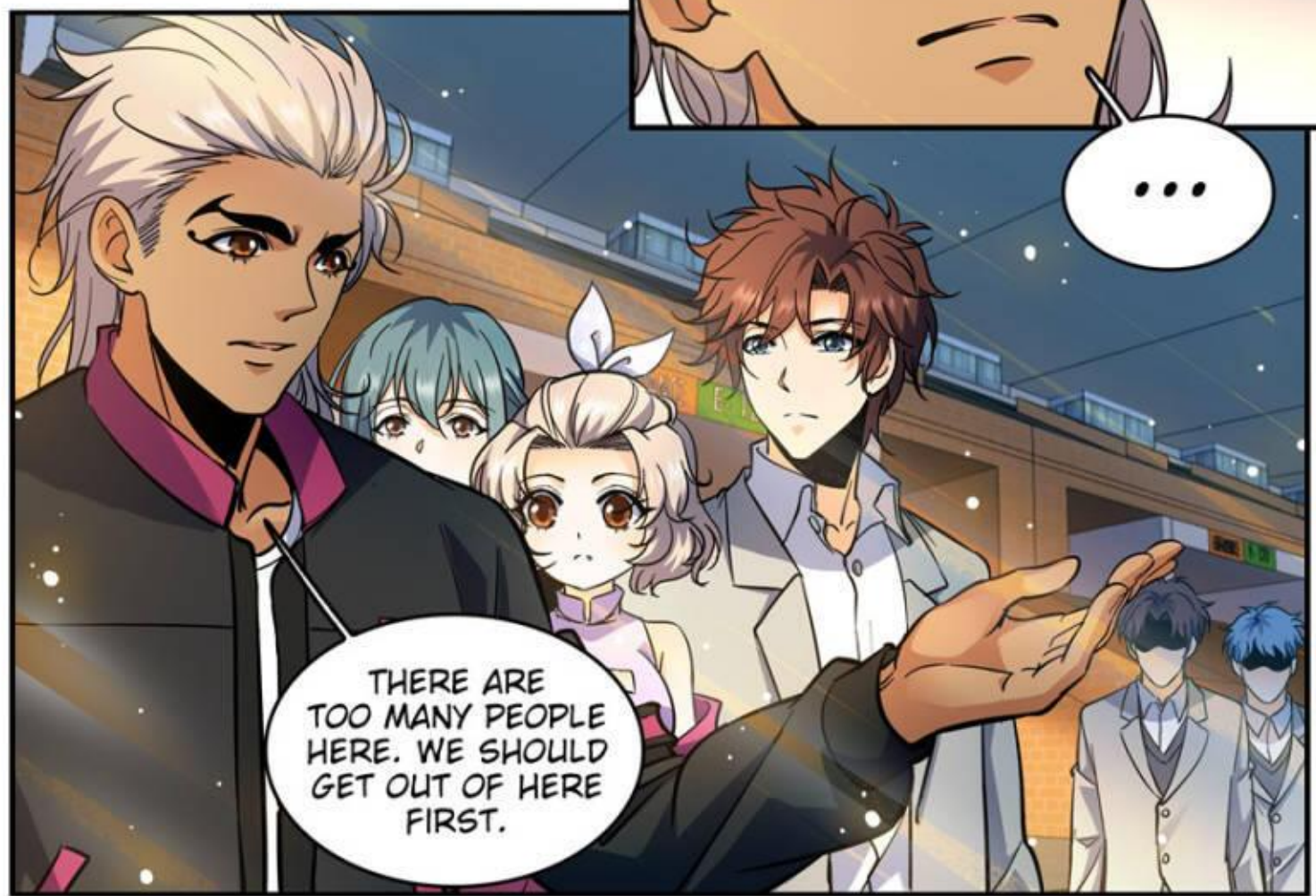
...

HE  
ACTUALLY  
SAID THAT  
OUT LOUD!



MEDIC  
TEAM! SEE  
TO HIM!







AT A  
RESTAURANT -



AHH,  
SO YOU'RE  
MO FAN...



YEAH.  
IF I KNEW  
SHE HAD A  
BROTHER  
LIKE YOU,

THEN I  
WOULDN'T HAVE  
FELT THE NEED  
TO STICK UP  
FOR HER LIKE  
THAT.



THAT'S  
DIFFERENT -

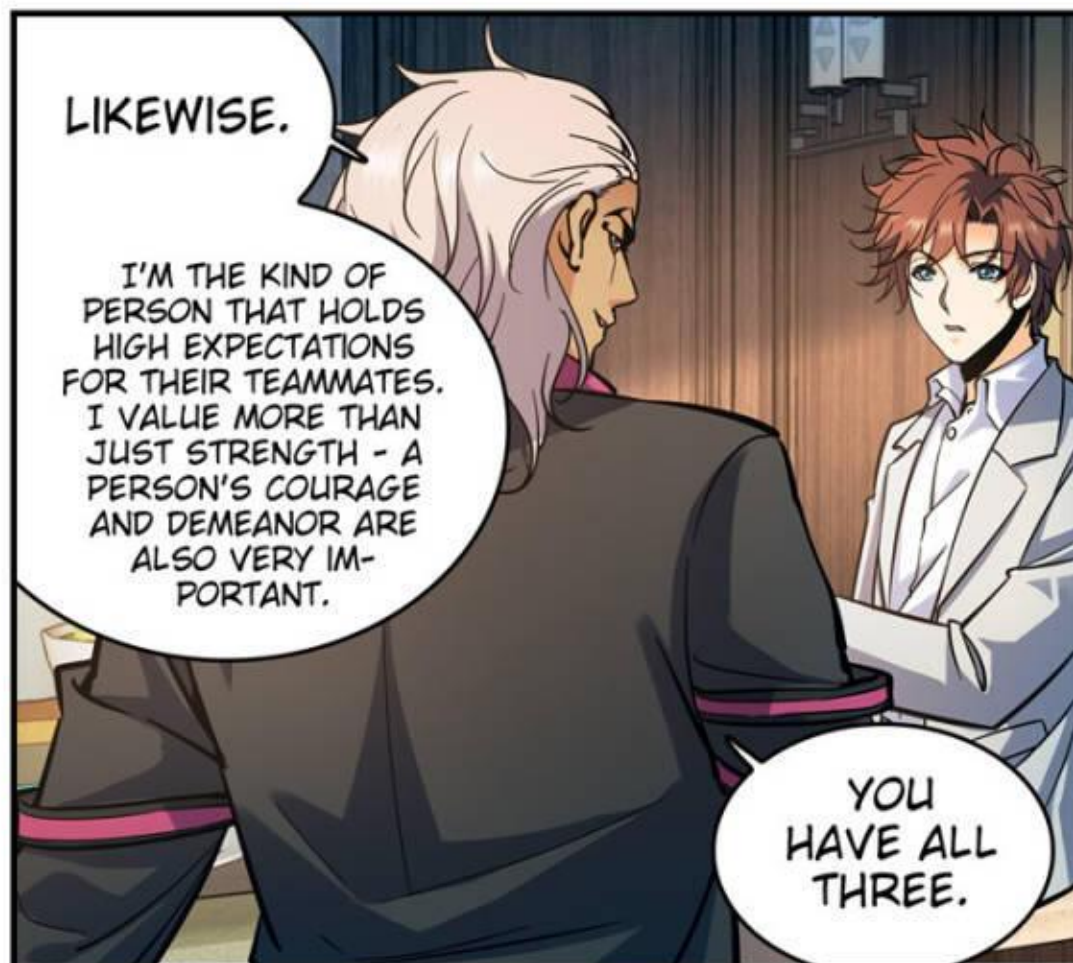
YOU DID  
SO AS HER  
FRIEND AND I  
DID SO AS HER  
BROTHER...



WELL,

IT'S  
VERY NICE TO  
MEET YOU.





LIKEWISE.

I'M THE KIND OF PERSON THAT HOLDS HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR THEIR TEAMMATES. I VALUE MORE THAN JUST STRENGTH - A PERSON'S COURAGE AND DEMEANOR ARE ALSO VERY IMPORTANT.

YOU HAVE ALL THREE.



TEAM-MATES?



!!!



AHH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! THERE'S STILL A LOT OF FOOD ON THE TABLE. EAT UP!



COULD HE BE THE ONE? IS HE THE CAPTAIN OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY TEAM?!





I NEVER  
WOULD'VE  
THOUGHT...

NEVER  
WOULD'VE  
THOUGHT  
WHAT?

ALSO, YOU  
CAME HOME  
ALONE?



OH, AI TUTU  
DRAGGED HER  
BROTHER OUT  
SHOPPING.

DO  
YOU KNOW  
HIM?

ARE  
YOU TALKING  
ABOUT AI  
JIANGTU?

YEAH.  
HE'S REALLY  
STRONG.

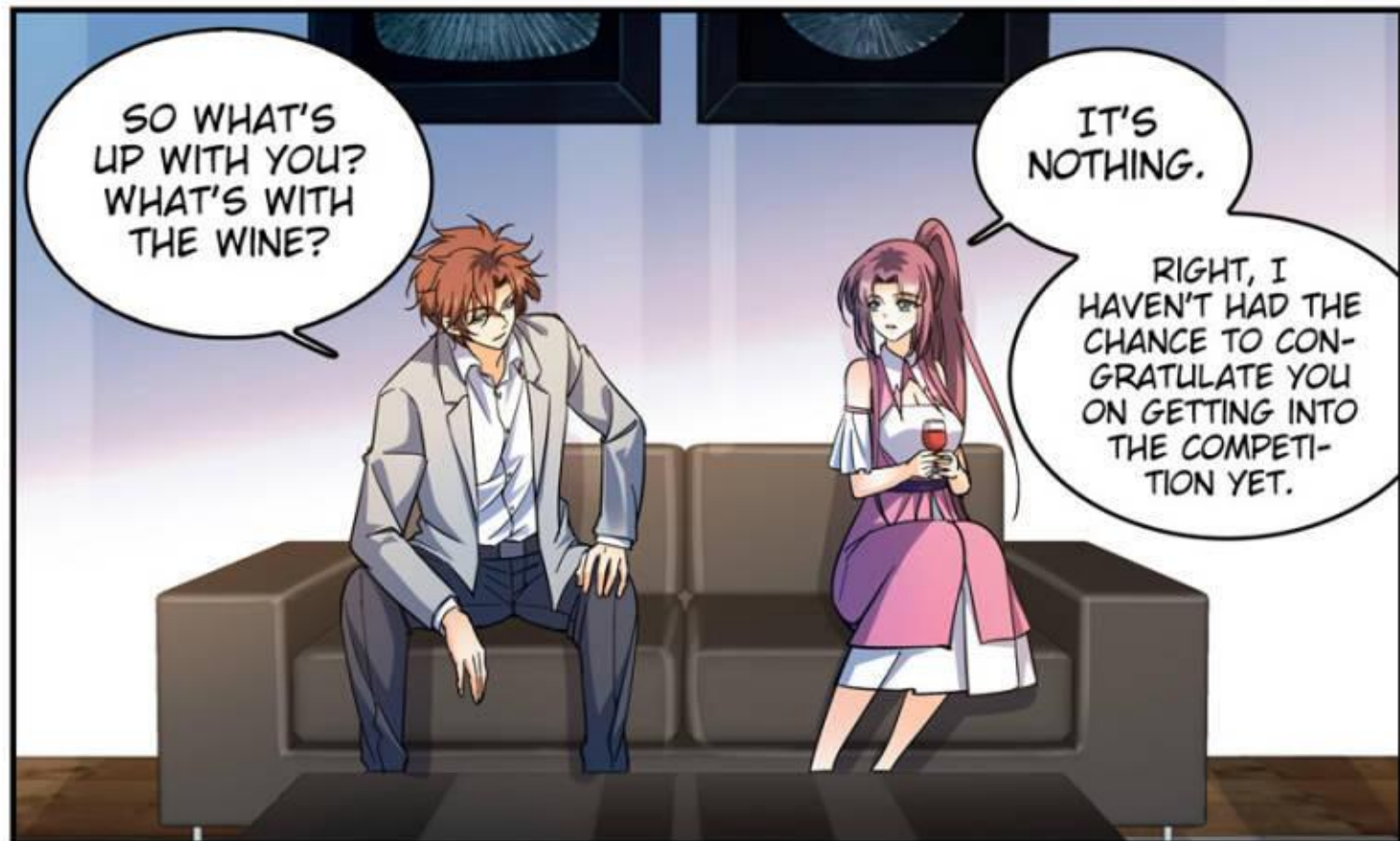


HE IS.

THERE WERE  
ALREADY RUMORS  
ABOUT HIM WHEN  
I WAS LITTLE...

HE'S FEROCITY  
INCARNATE - GOING  
TO THE MILITARY  
ACADEMY, KILLING  
DEMON BEASTS...  
HIS POWER IS  
TERRIFYING.





SO WHAT'S  
UP WITH YOU?  
WHAT'S WITH  
THE WINE?

IT'S  
NOTHING.

RIGHT, I  
HAVEN'T HAD THE  
CHANCE TO CON-  
GRATULATE YOU  
ON GETTING INTO  
THE COMPETI-  
TION YET.

YOU'RE DRINKING BECAUSE  
SOMETHING'S BOTHERING YOU,  
AND YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING  
ABOUT IT... ARE YOU WORRIED  
ABOUT THE PRELIMINARIES?



THERE'S  
NO NEED  
TO -



I DON'T  
THINK YOU KNOW  
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO  
BE A CHILD IN A  
POWERFUL FAMILY  
LIKE MINE.



THEN  
TELL ME  
ABOUT  
IT.

LUCKY  
FOR YOU -  
I'M FREE  
TONIGHT.