#don't try this at home

by eringeosphere

Summary

Ye Xiu has a great many secrets. That 'Ye Qiu' is actually his twin brother might be the smallest of the lot.

Notes

So...

Welcome to this very self-indulgent piece of idontevenknow what it is exactly, inspired by someone prompting 'what if Ye Xiu could use all the skills he'd learnt in Glory in real life', at which point my brain went - ooh parkour! .

And then somehow slid sideways into crackish territory and decided that obviously that meant Ye Xiu was destined to be a stunt double.

I'd apologise, but I'm really not sorry.

This is going to be a collection of mini-stories written in no particular chronological order as the inspiration strikes, aside from the first one, which does start things off.

Hope you enjoy!
It ends something like this.

Ye Xiu and Su Muqiu are walking in the direction of the tiny apartment that they call home, Su Muqiu carrying a shopping bag of ingredients to make dinner. Su Mucheng is waiting for the pair of them to return, sitting on the window sill and peering down at the street below in hopes of catching a glimpse of her two brothers as they return.

It’s a normal sort of day, as far as all three of them are concerned, but their future is about to change in a way that none of them could have ever imagined.

Su Mucheng hasn’t been waiting long before they appear, moving at a steady pace along the sidewalk on the opposite side of the busy road. Su Muqiu is a bundle of energy, as per usual, gesturing animatedly as he chatters away with Ye Xiu nodding at the appropriate moments.

Su Muqiu waves enthusiastically at her, jostling Ye Xiu next to him, then nudges him in the side, pointing upwards. Ye Xiu lifts his head, spots Su Mucheng and gives her a much more restrained wave than his friend next him. Su Muqiu is bouncing on the spot slightly, eager for the lights to change and for them to be able to cross over the busy road.

Su Mucheng grins at their antics. She can picture the long suffering expression on Ye Xiu’s face all too clearly.

It only takes a handful of seconds for everything to go horribly wrong. Su Mucheng sees it coming before it actually happens, lurching forwards and slamming her hands against the glass, screaming her brothers’ names.

A cyclist, travelling far too fast on the pavement behind the group of people waiting to cross the road looses control; its tires skidding in a puddle of water left over from the rain earlier in the day. The bike ploughs into the people standing at the back, and the effect ripples forward through the group of pedestrians, sending them staggering and falling every which way.

Ye Xiu and Su Muqiu are right at the front, next to the road.

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It starts something like this.

There’s a girl, crying herself to sleep at the bedside of a hospital bed with one brother dead and the other not thought to have much chance of surviving to the next morning.

Eventually slumber claims Su Mucheng where she’s sprawled partially across Ye Xiu’s legs, the steady click of the ventilator the only sound in the room. The nurses leave her be, none of them having the heart to disturb the poor child, given the tragic fates of her family that day.

The night draws on, a hush descending as the city calms whilst the hour grows later. There’s a slight tension in the air, like someone’s holding their breath.

Like someone’s waiting for something to happen.

Su Mucheng shifts slightly in her sleep, and unnoticed by her, an account card slips from the pocket of the coat she’s wearing. It’s Su Muqiu’s, grabbed in her haste of leaving the flat earlier.
The card rests briefly on top of the white sheet covering Ye Xiu, before sliding a little further and coming to a rest against one long fingered hand. The card shimmers slightly, then splinters into a whirl of light that sinks beneath the skin on the back of his hand. Faint traces of gold and silver thread along his blood vessels, travelling up his arm, across his shoulder, spreading across his chest - a patchwork lattice fusing into the very fabric of Ye Xiu’s being.

Ye Xiu’s fingers twitch slightly. His wavering heartbeat steadies. His blood pressure stabilizes and oxygen levels begin to approach something resembling normal.

A melodious voice gives its approval.

“Much better.”

Unseen by all, a graceful figure bends and presses a gentle kiss to Ye Xiu’s forehead.

“Recover soon, and well. There is still a great deal left for you to do.”
Chapter Summary

The free running group of Hangzhou notices someone new.

Chapter Notes

Happy b-day Tsu!

Chapter 2

[City H freerunners Chat]

Wallrun145: Hey guys, you seen this video? https://weibo.com/profile/Eldest%Leaf%=vsokeg

Wallrun145: someones been doing some serious freerunning around Hangzhou

Wallrun145: check out the jump at 2:32!!! I’d have baulked.

Crazydayz: O_O

Tic2Tac: O_O

Keeponrunnin: O_O

Tic2Tac: its all 1st person too

Wallrun145: they must be wearing a chest cam or something

Dropnroll98: can we invite them into the chat? do they give any other social media info

Wallrun145: not that i can see - just a username ‘EldestLeaf”. And the hashtag ‘dont try this at home’

Crazydayz: T_T

Keeponrunnin: wait a minute

Keeponrunnin: 4:56. Isnt that the jump that @Mandown f*ked up and broke his leg on

Wallrun145: OMG
Tic2Tac: IT IS

Crazydayz: ( -‸ლ)

Dropnroll98: ( -‸ლ)

Mandown: Id like 2 c u try

Wallrun145: You should be good to be back in about a month, right?

Mandown: yeah, workin thru the last of physio

Mandown: wont b tryn that jump any time soon (-_-)!!

Wallrun145: Well, keep an eye out guys, you never know, we might run into him one time!

Dropnroll98: Aye aye

Crazydayz: (^^)/

Manbackup: Wooo, new EldestLeaf video! https://weibo.com/profile/Eldest%Leaf%=asoigsec

Dropnroll98: Where is that?

Tic2Tac: Where is that?

Nightlite: Where is that?

Keeponrunnin: I see the sea!!

Dropnroll98: Oh! Thats Qingdao!!!! Man im impressed at the view hes managed to get

SnailGal: Um? EldestLeaf?

Manbackup: Oh yeah, ur new

Keeponrunnin: He’s a freerunner that started posting first person videos about a year ago.

Keeponrunnin: Mostly around Hangzhou

Keeponrunnin: But some elsewhere

Tic2Tac: Th at Guangzhou o ne was legit

Crazydayz: \\((@o@)/ !

Tic2Tac: Crazy
Manbackup: Hes batshit

Tic2Tac: He is the definition of #donttrythisathome

SnailGal: Ohhhh

SnailGal: Do you guys know him?

Manbackup: @Wallrun145 thought he saw him one time

Wallrun145: Yeah, happened to be scouting a rooftop run and saw a someone tearing through the place.

Wallrun145: Didn’t recognise him and he was fucking fast.

Wallrun145: Too fast to catch (-_-)

Wallrun145: One of the cleanest cat pass’ I’ve ever seen. Id love to trade tips or do a run together

Tic2Tac: Careful ur crush is showing ;)

Wallrun145: ...

Manbackup: U never no!

Manbackup: Maybe one day you’ll happen to run into each other ;) ;)

Crazydayz: (°°)=3

Dropnroll98: Hahaha

Wallrun145: You’re all the worst

Tic2Tac: GUYS I MET HIM

SnailGal: Who?

Tic2Tac: EldestLeaf!!!

Manbackup: FCK!

Wallrun145: GDDMT

Dropnroll98: Deets.

SnailGal: Deets +1

Nightlite: Deets +2

Keeponrunnin: Deets +3
Crazydayz: °°

Dropnroll98: Well at least it wasn’t crazydayz

Dropnroll98: Or we’d be trying to decipher a paragraph of emoticons

Crazydayz: (¬_¬)ﾉ

[EldestLeaf has joined the chat]

SnailGal: Hi

Manbackup: yo

Dropnroll98: Hello!!

Crazydayz: (^^)/

EldestLeaf: ‘sup

Wallrun145: Good to have you!

Tic2Tac: We’ve been enjoying the videos you put up

EldestLeaf: thanks

EldestLeaf: my sister got me the camera

EldestLeaf: said she wanted to see where I go when I run

Crazydayz: o.o

[A video opens to the view of a small group of people, five or six at most, all dressed in exercise clothes and trainers. Several of them wave at the camera, which turns and pans around their surroundings, revealing that they’re all clustered on the top of a building, the setting sun bathing the rooftops around them in a gentle orange light.

One of them waves, beckons the crew onwards and they begin their run.]

Comments 345  Views 23 k  Likes 7865

Justarunner64: Nice!

Catpaws: Mad skills

Vault2u: Yo @Manbackup, good to see you back!

Manbackup: hey Vault! hows it hangin in ur far distant city
Vault2u: Nb, nb.

Vault2u: Who’s the cameraman?

Manbackup: EldestLeaf

Wallrun145: He’s got his own channel with a load more clips.

Vault2u: Stellar job, man @EldestLeaf

EldestLeaf: thanks

2ndEldestLeaf: @EldestLeaf I can’t believe

2ndEldestLeaf: Of all the irresponsible things

2ndEldestLeaf: THIS IS WORSE THAN THE OTHER ONE

EldestLeaf: (´－`)y~~

Nightlite: wtf

Tic2Tac: Am I seeing things

Manbackup: Holy shit

Dropnroll98: aglkcoenvcjo

Keeponrunnin: EEP

Wallrun145: Fml

Nightlite: Who’s this Ye Xiu guy?


SnailGal: EldestLeaf is Ye Xiu????

SnailGal: Glory textbook formerly Ye Qiu Ye Xiu.

Crazydayz: (°◇°)

Manbackup: @ Wallrun145 you sure know how to pick em, man

Wallrun145: I’m just gonna go

Wallrun145: Lie on the floor and question my life

SnailGal: @Nightlight He’s really well known in the gaming community, but until this last season he didn’t show his face at all.
Manbackup: i wonder what changed

Tic2Tac: Huh

Tic2Tac: Do you think he’d be willing to give me an autograph

Crazydayz: ( -‿ gio)

Keeponrunnin: Okay guys

Keeponrunnin: I think that the most important thing to take away from this discovery

Keeponrunnin: Is that EldestLeaf is also good games

Wallrun145: ‘good at games he says’

Keeponrunnin: Sorry, ‘very good’ at games

Keeponrunnin: But he’s still the same batshit crazy guy we’ve occasionally run with.

Manbackup: so wut ur tryn 2 say

Manbackup: is that hes our batshit crazy also-happens-to-be-a-pro-gamer guy

Dropnroll98: I’ll take that

Crazydayz: (^^)/

SnailGal: ^

Tic2Tac: ^^

Nightlite: ^^^

Wallrun145: ~~~~

Wallrun145: @EldestLeaf, feel free to join us when you can. Your crazy ass will always have a place here.

EldestLeaf: ur all nuts

EldestLeaf: but thanks :)

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