

## **Finest Servant**

### **#Chapter 21 - Read Finest Servant Chapter 21**

Chapter 21 Piracy

As soon as Lin Wanrong received the twenty taels of silver in the blink of an eye, Dong Rende was also very excited. Ten taels is ten taels; anyway, it's a seller's market now, and it's a one-time deal. What's there to be afraid of?

Just now, Dong Qiaoqiao, who had cooperated with Lin Wanrong to perform a double act in men's clothing, stood beside Dong Rende and smiled at Lin Wanrong, "Brother Lin, you said a dirty word."

Lin Wanrong laughed heartily, "I do what I think, and that's just me being true to myself."

Dong Qiaoqiao smiled sweetly at him and said nothing.

Lin Wanrong said to Dong Rende, "Uncle Dong, what are you waiting for? The silver is waiting for us."

Dong Rende's eyes sparkled with a beastly light. Lin Wanrong and he laughed heartily and rushed towards the group of literati.

Lin Wanrong firmly believed that soon, they would become the most popular people among the literati. With the successful marketing experience from the previous times, old Dong learned from example, and their previous transactions had already been seen by the literati around them. Therefore, as soon as the two of them appeared, they were immediately surrounded by the literati.

"Brother, is this the self-portrait of Miss Xiao from the Xiao family?"

"Brother, do you have any insider information about Miss Xiao?"

"Brother, do you have any insider information about Miss Xiao's younger sister, Xiao Er?"

"Brother, do you have any inside information on Lady Xiao?" Lin Wanrong broke into a cold sweat at the question. It seemed that all men were the same. The mother and daughter of the Xiao family had become a tempting target for everyone.

But for him, without this group of scheming fellows, where would he earn his money? As more people gathered around, Lin Wanrong and Lao Dong were already surrounded. The enthusiasm of the scholars had fully erupted. Lin Wanrong shouted, "Don't fight, don't fight! This is a rare and precious book that has been leaked from inside the Xiao

family. There are not many copies, and it is extremely valuable. It's ten taels of silver for one book. Pay me upfront, and I'll deliver the goods."

"No need to look for more," said a wealthy scholar, throwing a heavy silver ingot to Lao Dong and snatching a small booklet from his hands. He treasured it as if it were a precious jewel.

The scholars exploded like boiling water. They pushed and shoved, frantically bidding for the remaining books. "I'll pay eleven taels! Brother, give it to me quickly!" "I'll pay fifteen!" "Twenty taels!"

Lao Dong and Lin Wanrong were squeezed in the middle, sweating profusely. In the blink of an eye, dozens of small booklets that they had used for trial marketing were snatched up. Fortunately, Lin Wanrong had already instructed Dong Qingshan to bring the remaining booklets, satisfying the scholars' insane demand. By noon, only a dozen or so of the five hundred booklets remained.

Although there were thousands of talented people present, those who had the ability to spend ten taels of silver to buy a book of sensual pleasures were limited. Selling all five hundred copies was a surprise for Lin Wanrong. He watched as groups of talented people gathered to admire the book, exclaiming in admiration at the beauty of Miss Xiao depicted within. Lin Wanrong secretly laughed to himself, amazed that the portrait of Miss Xiao was worth so much.

The Dong family, father and two children, took two batches to transport all of the silver they earned. Dong Rende did not expect that this little book would sell so well, and his face lit up at the sight of the white silver.

Lunch was prepared and brought by Dong Qiaoqiao, still dressed in men's clothing. She sat under a large tree and took out the hot dishes from the bamboo basket, saying, "Big Brother Lin, it's time to eat."

Dong Qiaoqiao's cooking skills were not exaggerated. These few small dishes were delicious and fragrant. Lin Wanrong couldn't help but swallow a few mouthfuls and said, "Qiaoqiao, your cooking skills are probably better than those of the famous chefs."

He wolfed down the dishes. Dong Qiaoqiao blushed and said, "Big Brother Lin, you are too kind. You know what? I never thought that such a simple little book could sell for so much money. It's worth five thousand taels of silver. My father and brother were so happy that they didn't want to sleep at night."

Lin Wanrong chuckled. It seemed that Dong's family had never seen so much silver before. He didn't care too much about money himself. One million was enough, and even one dollar was enough. However, seeing Dong Qiaoqiao's happiness, he couldn't help feeling a bit of joy, and jokingly said, "So it seems that Miss Qiaoqiao's dowry is quite substantial. Don't forget me when you find a good husband."

Dong Qiaoqiao blushed and lowered her head, saying, "Big Brother Lin, please don't make fun of me."

Lin Wanrong had an extremely thick skin. As he looked at Dong Qiaoqiao, he burst into laughter, causing her face to turn red and her head to hang down in embarrassment, too ashamed to lift it up.

He finished off all the food in one go and took a drink of water. Patting his belly, he said contentedly, "Thank you, Qiaoqiao. I almost swallowed my tongue."

Dong Qiaoqiao giggled and asked, "By the way, Brother Lin, my father wanted me to ask if we should print a few more copies of the booklet?"

Lin Wanrong shook his head and replied, "No need. Even if we printed more, we wouldn't be able to sell them for a good price."

Dong Qiaoqiao asked, puzzled, "Why not?"

"Firstly, the market is already saturated. That is to say, the people who want to buy it have already bought it. After all, not everyone can afford to spend ten taels on a booklet. Secondly, we need to consider Miss Xiao's reputation. Let these five hundred scholars appreciate her beauty first. But with your looks, Qiaoqiao, it's probably worth twenty taels per book, without any bargaining." Lin Wanrong pretended to be considerate for Miss Xiao, but at the same time, he was teasing Dong Qiaoqiao shamelessly.

Dong Qiaoqiao, feeling embarrassed by his boastful tone and teasing, couldn't help but blush and scold him, "Brother Lin, you're such a bad person."

"Really?" Lin Wanrong laughed loudly. He knew that a man must be bad to win a woman's heart. Dong Qiaoqiao was too young to understand this. When it came to having a thick skin and being shameless, Dong Qiaoqiao was no match for Lin Wanrong. The girl covered her face with both hands, afraid to show the redness on her face.

"On the other hand, the reason is because our book has already been pirated," Lin Wanrong chuckled for a moment before his expression turned serious. He pointed to a few guys in the distance who were selling a small booklet to the scholars sneakily.

"So soon?" Dong Qiaoqiao exclaimed.

Coincidentally, there was a scholar next to them who had bought a pirated copy. Dong Qiaoqiao took a quick look and saw that it was just Lin Wanrong's booklet copied and printed hastily. The ink had not yet dried, the paper was rough, and the text and images were all blurry.

Dong Qiaoqiao pouted and said, "Compared to ours, this is really inferior."

"It's indeed inferior, but they're selling it cheap, one or two silver coins per copy. Heh, it's still very attractive to those talented scholars from humble backgrounds. Well, let others do the low-end market, we'll stick to the high-end market. We have to leave some food for others," Lin Wanrong chuckled, but he was feeling quite unhappy inside. Damn it, he planted the tree, but they get the shade. These pirates are so unscrupulous. May God bless them with two small penises instead of one.

Originally, he was planning to print more copies, but less than three hours after the first one was sold, he saw the pirated version. He didn't expect piracy to be rampant even in this era, and these guys were really fast with their hands.

Although Lin Wanrong didn't care much about money, no one would refuse more money. If he could make more, why not? Who would say no to money?

## Chapter 22 Little Girl (Part 1)

Dong Qiaoqiao also understood the reasoning behind it. After all, their purchasing power was limited, and those wealthy scholars who had the means to do so had already bought what they needed. There wasn't much profit to be made in the secondary market, and if they were to print more books, it would not be worth the cost.

She was a girl who was easily satisfied. Earning five thousand taels of silver in one morning was an absolute miracle. In the past, it was something she couldn't even imagine. She was content.

"Brother Lin, are you really going to become a servant at the Xiao family?" Dong Qiaoqiao no longer cared about the printing issue and looked at Lin Wanrong, who hesitated for a long time before finally asking, "Is it because of Miss Xiao?"

Lin Wanrong pretended to be surprised and exclaimed, "Oh, Qiaoqiao, you really are smart and resourceful. You can see through me so easily. You're like a prophet."

Dong Qiaoqiao showed a strange expression on her face, and her complexion didn't look too good.

Seeing the girl looking a bit depressed, Lin Wanrong didn't want to tease her anymore. He shook his head and said with a smile, "Ha ha, I'm just kidding. Don't worry, I'm not interested in Miss Xiao. Think about it, no one has ever seen what she looks like. If she's an ugly monster who clings to me, I might as well find a tree to hang myself."

Dong Qiaoqiao found what he said amusing and couldn't help but laugh, "You're so good at making up stories."

Lin Wanrong smiled and said, "Life is often not as good as we hope. I'm going to work at the Xiao family for my own reasons. As you know, selling these little books may be profitable, but it's not a long-term solution. I also have to eat and support my family. If I can find a place to stay at the Xiao family, it's not a bad deal. The treatment for their servants is good. As for me, I don't have any goals in life. I like to go with the flow. Plus, I'm only good-looking, have a good temper, and have a few ideas. If the Xiao family chooses me to be their servant, it's just barely finding the right person."

Lin Wanrong looked distressed, and he didn't need to pretend. If he hadn't fallen into Wei Laotou's trap, he wouldn't have come to serve anyone even if he were beaten to death.

Dong Qiaoqiao blushed and covered her mouth as she giggled. "Big Brother Lin, you really have thick skin. But I enjoy talking to you. You're not only a good person, but you also know a lot. I like chatting with you."

Lin Wanrong chuckled, "Of course. Do you know that in my previous public - oh, hometown, many girls liked to listen to me talk. When I started work, everyone gathered around me to hear my stories. How about that, quite charming, right?"

He wasn't bragging. Lin Wanrong was optimistic and had a good way with words, getting along well with everyone. To do business, one had to have a thick skin like him and not offend anyone.

"Really?" Dong Qiaoqiao glanced at him and said, "I wonder which lucky girl can marry someone from such a good family as Big Brother Lin."

Lin Wanrong thought of his past girlfriends who loved him and those he loved, who had all passed by like flowing water. He would never have the chance to see them again.

A touch of melancholy crossed his face, and he shook his head, smiling wryly, "What good fortune? I'm a single guy with a gun and a dog now. I can go anywhere I want."

Dong Qiaoqiao caught the trace of sadness in his eyes. She lowered her head and bit her lip but then raised her head with a bright gleam in her eyes.

"However, Big Brother Lin, when you put on that stern face, it can be quite intimidating," Dong Qiaoqiao imitated Lin Wanrong's expression and purposely spoke in a rough voice, "Others may give you face, but you have to earn your own reputation."

Lin Wanrong wanted to laugh but didn't. He put away his smile and said seriously, "Qiaoqiao, you can't judge a book by its cover. Just because you find it enjoyable to talk to me doesn't mean I'm not a bad person. How do you know?"

Lin Wanrong remembered the deceit and backstabbing in the past when he was in the business world. People would greet each other with smiles but stab each other in the

back when they turned around. Lin Wanrong had seen and even participated in many such incidents. Looking back now, it all seemed like a dream.

Dong Qiaoqiao was taken aback. She had been with Lin Wanrong for a few days and had never seen him like this. He was always joking around and never serious.

She murmured softly, "Brother Lin, is there something on your mind? You seem unhappy. Can you tell Qiaoqiao about it?"

Lin Wanrong laughed, "Don't be so clever, little girl. I'm very happy."

Dong Qiaoqiao looked at him and said firmly, "Brother Lin, you're a good person. I knew it from the moment I saw you."

After saying that, she looked at Lin Wanrong deeply and then ran away with her empty lunchbox.

Lin Wanrong rubbed his nose helplessly. "I'm a good person? Well, I think so too. But look at that girl run, she's really quick. If she were to practice running, she could be a real talent."

After eating and drinking his fill, Lin Wanrong was too lazy to go home. He leaned against a tree trunk and used the remaining booklet he had to cover his face, falling asleep peacefully.

He didn't know how long he had slept when suddenly his nose started to itch. He was about to sneeze when he was awakened by someone. Lin Wanrong opened his eyes and saw a beautiful face smiling at him.

He yawned and became more awake. He wondered who this girl was with such watery eyes. She was holding a small booklet and smiling at him.

The girl was probably around sixteen or seventeen years old, with curved eyebrows, big eyes, a small cherry mouth, a pink face, and wearing a yellow satin floral dress with a pair of light pink boots on her feet, exuding a mischievous aura. Although she was young, she had a high chest and was well-developed, with everything in the right place, a rare beauty.

As the girl stared at him, Lin Wanrong felt a bit familiar with her. He was curious, as he was sure he had never met her before. Every beautiful woman he had met, regardless of age, had left an impression on him.

Seeing the little girl staring at him, Lin Wanrong didn't think much of it and smiled, "Although I am tall, handsome, talented, and cute, if you keep staring at me like this, I will be embarrassed."

The girl blushed a little and glared at him fiercely, waving the small booklet in her hand, "Hey, you, did you make up this little picture book?"

The girl held up the booklet high, which was the one Lin Wanrong had put on his face when he was sleeping, and he didn't know when the girl had taken it.

Lin Wanrong chuckled, "Well, little girl, do you want to buy this little booklet? Do you have any brothers or cousins at home? Ah, those guys have such thin skin that they can't bear to come themselves and sent you instead."

The girl's eyes lit up, "Yes, yes, my brother asked me to come. Is the lady in the picture Miss Xiao?"

Lin Wanrong nodded, "Of course, this is a rare book passed down within the Xiao family, and it was not easy for me to get it. Sigh, I have a soft heart, and I can't bear to see a pretty little girl like you begging me. Well, well, I'll sell it to you at a loss for fifteen taels of silver."

The girl snorted, "You are not an honest person. Hmph, I've been following you all morning, and you sold it to someone else for ten taels of silver. Why did you ask for fifteen taels from me?"

## Chapter 23 Little Girl (Part 2)

Lin Wanrong broke out in a cold sweat. This little girl wasn't dumb; she knew to observe before bargaining. Although he had thick skin, he couldn't help feeling a bit embarrassed when the young girl, who was only sixteen or seventeen, saw through his trickery. He took the small booklet from her hand and chuckled, "Miss, not only do people sell the version for ten taels, but they also sell versions for one tael of silver. Look--"

He nodded towards a poor scholar reading a pirated booklet next to him. The foolish expression on his face suggested that he believed that owning the booklet would give him half of Miss Xiao's status.

The little girl had been paying attention to Lin Wanrong for a while and knew that the pirated version he had hastily brought was vastly different from the authentic one. She glared at Lin Wanrong and snorted, "Even if yours is authentic, you can't raise the price like this."

Her face turned red, and her eyebrows furrowed, making her even more beautiful. She was truly an outstanding beauty, but unfortunately, Lin Wanrong did not recognize personal connections when it came to business. He sneered, "Miss, have you ever heard of the term 'rare goods'? We've sold out of all the authentic versions, and this one was left for me to keep as a memento. If you want to buy it, you'll have to pay a little extra to take away what I cherish."

The little girl's eyes flickered, and she said, "Okay, fifteen taels it is, but you have to answer my question first."

Lin Wanrong looked at her and said, "Miss, answering a question costs five more taels of silver. You should think about it carefully."

The girl fumed, "What kind of rule is that? You charge money for answering questions? If everyone did that, it would be chaos!"

"Not at all, not at all." Lin Wanrong shook his head, "I'm a professional reviewer, every word is precious. Naturally, I charge for my services."

The young girl sneered, "What kind of expert? Those who take money to advertise themselves as experts."

Lin Wanrong burst out laughing, "Little girl, I didn't expect you to be so insightful. You almost saw right through me. Here's the deal: do you think there's only one person who knows the answer to the question you want to ask?"

The young girl thought for a moment, then nodded, "It seems like only you know the answer."

"Well, there you have it." Lin Wanrong chuckled inwardly. This little girl was easy to manipulate. "I can choose to answer or not to answer the question that only I know the answer to. If you want to get information from me, you have to pay an information fee. That's only fair. I'm an honest businessman, and you'll get what you pay for. Five taels of silver is already cheap, and I won't cheat you."

The young girl was stunned for a moment, then thought about it and huffed, "Fine, five taels of silver it is. But you have to answer me honestly, and no deceiving."

Lin Wanrong lightly patted his cheek and said, "Do you see this handsome face? It's my trademark. Everyone, young and old, can trust me. I never deceive anyone."

The young girl covered her mouth and giggled softly. "I've never seen someone as shameless as you."

Lin Wanrong's expression turned sinister, and he glared at the young girl. However, she didn't show any fear and asked with a straight face, "The question I want to ask is, have you ever seen Miss Xiao?"

Of course, Lin Wanrong had never seen her. He smiled naturally and said, "Didn't I tell you before? This is a unique copy that a mid-level house servant in the Xiao family passed on to me. He and I are sworn brothers. Although I've never seen Miss Xiao, I swear to the heavens that I am the first person to see this portrait of her."



He had fabricated the portrait, so of course, he was the first person to see it. This oath was shameless and deceptive to children.

"Do you know who the master was who painted this portrait?" the young girl asked.

"It's me, the master," Lin Wanrong thought to himself with a smirk, but he would never admit to being the instigator. He looked at the young girl and chuckled, "Miss, if I remember correctly, you said you would only ask me one question. I've already answered the first one, so this would be the second one, right? Hehe..."

The young girl pulled out some silver from her pocket and said, "I know. You want more silver, don't you? Look at how greedy you are."

"You're underestimating me," Lin Wanrong chuckled. "Even as an expert, I only answer questions depending on my mood. Today, I'll only answer one question for you. The other one can be a freebie."

The young girl looked at him and said, "You're so sly. You're a big cheat."

"You're just a child," Lin Wanrong laughed. "I won't argue with you. As professionals, we have rules and regulations to follow, and our reputation is essential. If I tell you who the master is, how can I face my colleagues in the future?"

"Well, that makes sense," the young girl nodded. "I didn't expect you to be so honorable, Mr. Cheat."

"So you noticed my good qualities so quickly?" Lin Wanrong pretended to be surprised. "I thought I had hidden them well. Oh well, I guess I need to reflect on myself. As the saying goes, a tall tree catches the wind. It's time to evaluate myself."

The young girl covered her mouth and giggled, "Do you have any shame left?"

Lin Wanrong was in a good mood today, having earned some silver and successfully teased the young girl. He didn't bother arguing about his shamelessness and just went along with the girl's teasing.

"You don't have to tell me the name of this master, I won't force you. Can you at least tell me your name?" The little girl's eyes lit up as she asked.

"My name is Lin San." Lin Wanrong replied straightforwardly, "This question is free of charge."

Lin Wanrong chuckled to himself. This little girl was trying to play a trick on him, but she was still too young to outsmart him.

"Lin San, Lin San," the little girl muttered to herself, "Hmph, Lin San, you cheated me out of my silver today. I will definitely get it back with interest one day." With that, she glared at him fiercely, threw a silver ingot at him, grabbed her booklet, and left.

Cheated? Lin Wanrong was taken aback. Did this little girl really think he needed to cheat her? Watching her walk away, he chuckled coldly to himself.

The Xiao family was indeed very attractive. It was said that thousands of people had signed up for the selection of servants, and literati from all over Jinling City had come to sign up.

Lin Wanrong sold the last few booklets and kept the original manuscript as a memento. It was his first bucket of gold in this world and had significant sentimental value.

When he returned to the Old Dong's house, he saw that Dong Rende and Dong Qingshan were staring greedily at the silver ingots, as Dong Qiaoqiao had said. Their eyes shone with the unmistakable light of avarice, proving that humans had evolved from animals.

Lin Wanrong smiled and patted Dong Rende's shoulder. "What's wrong, Uncle Dong? Did you get something in your eye?"

Dong Rende snapped out of his trance and rubbed his eyes. When he saw that it was Lin Wanrong who had returned, he quickly pulled out a chair, wiped his sleeves, and invited him to sit down, respectfully saying, "The young master has returned."

After making a big profit, Dong Rende was even more respectful to Lin Wanrong. There was no denying that being respected by others was a wonderful feeling, and Lin Wanrong felt great. Without any hesitation, he sat down and said, "Uncle Dong, why don't you exchange all this silver for silver notes and keep them at home? Won't it attract thieves?"

## Chapter 24 Easily Distracted (Part 1)

"Dad and little brother have never seen so much silver before. They want to stay at home for another day and feast their eyes," Dong Qiaoqiao walked in from outside and said with a smile. She held some vegetables in her hand, freshly picked from the garden, which glistened with a watery shine.

Dong Rende's old face turned red, and he smiled awkwardly. "To be honest with you, I do have this idea. I'm almost fifty years old, but I've never seen so much silver before."

As it turned out, Old Dong was not even fifty yet, but he looked like he was sixty years old. In Lin Wanrong's former world, people in their forties and fifties were in their prime of life, enjoying mistresses and sugar mommies, and living it up. Perhaps because the

average lifespan here was shorter, Dong Rende, who was under fifty, called himself an old man.

"Look, look, have a good look," Lin Wanrong took a cucumber from the basket carried by Dong Qiaoqiao without washing it, snapped it in half, and chewed on it without any manners.

Dong Qiaoqiao looked at him with amusement, but her eyes were filled with joy.

"Young Master Lin, what do we do next?" Dong Rende reluctantly tore his gaze away and slapped Dong Qingshan's shoulder. He had been staring at the silver coins with reluctance.

"Uncle Dong, as agreed, we split it fifty-fifty. There must be five thousand taels of silver here, and I have some more," Lin Wanrong took out all the silver he had sold in the afternoon. "Tomorrow, you go and exchange all this silver for silver notes. You can take half of it directly, and you can also keep the other half for me for the time being."

"No, no, no..." Dong Rende quickly waved his hand and said, "Young master, a fifty-fifty split is absolutely not acceptable. These are all talents earned by the young master, and also the young master's capital. I will only take a modest fee for my services, plus some labor costs, for a total of fifty taels of silver, okay?"

Having witnessed the deceitful ways of the business world, Lin Wanrong was impressed with Dong Rende's sense of loyalty in the face of profit. He couldn't help but nod secretly and say, "Uncle Dong, this is not just my own affair, but also your contribution. I have always said that I want to prepare a substantial dowry for Miss Qiaoqiao. Consider this my heartfelt gesture."

Qiaoqiao blushed, but looked at Lin Wanrong seriously and said, "Brother Lin, although we have also contributed to this money, you are the absolute leader. Even without us, you could have found anyone else to do it. You just gave us this opportunity. Although you have our best interests at heart, if we really accepted this money, we would not feel at ease."

"Yes, big brother, we only want what we deserve, nothing more," said Dong Qingshan. Although he was young, he was very ambitious and echoed Qiaoqiao's opinion.

What more could be said at this point? Lin Wanrong sighed inwardly. The Dong family, father, son, and daughter, were all poor but ambitious. If he continued to push the issue, he would underestimate them. He nodded and said, "Since that's the case, I have a proposal."

"What proposal?" The Dong family had already been in awe of Lin Wanrong's intelligence and eagerly asked.

"Well, since none of us wants these five thousand taels of silver, why not use it as capital and invest in some other business to make more money?"

"Invest in business?" Dong Rende pondered for a moment and said, "Young master, what kind of business do you think would be best?" Five thousand taels of silver was not a small amount, nor was it a large one. They needed to think carefully about what kind of business to invest in.

"Qiaoqiao, what kind of business do you think we should do?" Lin Wanrong asked as he noticed Dong Qiaoqiao seemed lost in thought. Dong Qiaoqiao was an extremely clever and wise woman, and should not be underestimated.

After thinking for a moment, Dong Qiaoqiao said, "As ordinary people, we are concerned about the four basic necessities of life: clothing, food, shelter, and transportation. Clothing has already been monopolized by the Xiao family and a few other wealthy families, and the competition is intense. We don't have enough capital to enter the market. However, when it comes to food, we can consider it."

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After speaking, she looked nervously at Lin Wanrong, afraid that her words might offend him. After all, it was a disgrace for an educated person to engage in business. She was also unsure whether Lin Wanrong, who was quick-witted, would approve of her idea. If he rejected it, she wouldn't know what to do.

"Qiaoqiao, you are thinking just like me," Lin Wanrong exclaimed with a loud laugh. Dong Qiaoqiao breathed a sigh of relief and looked at Lin Wanrong with joy, eager to hear more of what he had to say.

"As the saying goes, 'food is the paramount necessity of the people.' Starting a restaurant business requires a certain amount of capital, and the size of the business is determined by the amount of capital invested. It's also relatively easy to get into the industry. However," Lin Wanrong's tone suddenly changed as he continued, "if we're only opening a small restaurant, the capital investment may not be much, but the return on investment is too low. If we're going to do it, we should aim big."

"Go big?" Dong Qiaoqiao and her father both exclaimed, not understanding what he meant.

"Yes, go big. The restaurant we're going to open not only needs to have a large space and a prime location, but also skilled chefs, excellent service, and clever pricing," Lin Wanrong said deliberately.

Even Dong Qiaoqiao, who was clever and quick-witted, didn't fully understand Lin Wanrong's words. She could understand the first few points, but how could she understand the last sentence?

Lin Wanrong looked at the three people with a puzzled expression and said with a smile, "You can understand the previous points, right? Our restaurant not only needs spacious premises, but also needs to be located in the busiest golden area. As for the craft and service, I don't need to say much. As for the pricing, hehe, we need to allocate it reasonably, with low, medium, and high levels, all of which must be available. We want the guests who visit our store to have a high-end experience and feel that we are different from others. As long as the level goes up, even if our prices are slightly higher, others can understand it. After all, you get what you pay for, and everyone can understand it. What's more, we can also take care of our mid-end and low-end customers to ensure that they come in droves."

This speech left the Dong family father and son puzzled for a long time, and only Dong Qiaoqiao bit her lip and thought carefully about what Lin Wanrong had said, seeming to understand something.

"And," Lin Wanrong said with a mysterious smile, "we will also have occasional promotions for each level of customers, to ensure that they come in droves."

"Promotions?" This time, not only the Dong family father and son, but even Qiaoqiao was stunned. They had never heard of this term before and naturally didn't understand what it meant.

Lin Wanrong had to waste a lot of saliva explaining this new term to them. After thinking about this promotion carefully, you can't deny that it was really tempting.

The Dong family had blind trust in Lin Wanrong from the beginning. Hearing him say this, they suddenly thought that he was a master of this industry and their desire to open a restaurant became unprecedentedly strong.

This move by Lin Wanrong was very risky because he had no experience in opening a restaurant. However, this kid was bold and shameless, and dared to do anything. Besides, this five thousand two silver was earned out of thin air. Even if he lost it, he wouldn't bat an eye.

The minds of several people became active, and Dong Rende said, "Listening to Master Lin's words, I remembered something. A few days ago, the owner of Meiwei Restaurant by Xuanwu Lake said that he was getting old and wanted to pass his shop to someone else and retire to his hometown in Suzhou."

"Oh?" Lin Wanrong was very interested. Xuanwu Lake was a good place, with beautiful scenery and many people. As long as it was managed properly, the profit would not be small.

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Chapter 25 Easily Distracted (2)

"Meiwei Restaurant has five floors, with ample space and an excellent location. It can be said to be the best place by Xuanwu Lake, which happens to meet the young master's requirements," Dong Rende said.

"Such a good location, would the owner be willing to sell?" Lin Wanrong asked in confusion. Xuanwu Lake was a prime location in Jinling City. Owning a storefront there would definitely make one a millionaire.

Dong Rende nodded and said, "The place is indeed good, but the owner of Meiwei Restaurant is a cunning and mean person who doesn't share profits and is extremely unscrupulous. The quality of the food is poor, and the prices are expensive. It's normal that the business can't sustain. His son served as a magistrate in another place and made a lot of money, so the old man is rushing back to enjoy his retirement."

So that's it. This old man is a sharp-tongued and mean-spirited merchant who must have his eyes on money. No wonder.

"How much money does he want?" Lin Wanrong asked directly.

"I heard it's seven thousand taels," Dong Rende replied.

Seven thousand taels? That's not a small amount. If the restaurant were to be demolished and renovated according to Lin Wanrong's wishes, plus the additional equipment and staff, it would cost at least eight or nine thousand taels. He only has five thousand taels on hand, which is barely enough.

"Here's the plan. Uncle Dong, let's go and talk to the owner of Meiwei Restaurant tomorrow, and try to negotiate the price down. As for the rest of the money, I'll figure something out," Lin Wanrong said after some thought.

"Brother Lin, the selection of Xiao family's servants will begin tomorrow. You—" Dong Qiaoqiao kindly reminded him.

Lin Wanrong slapped his forehead. Oh no, how could he forget about that? He smiled at Qiaoqiao and said, "Thank you for reminding me, Qiaoqiao."

Dong Qiaoqiao glanced at him and said, "Brother Lin, are you really going to be a servant for the Xiao family?"

Dong Qingshan smirked from the side and said, "Big Brother, are you really interested in Miss Xiao from the Xiao family?"

Dong Qiaoqiao glanced at Lin Wanrong, but lowered her head and said nothing.

"Look at your big head," Lin Wanrong chuckled and cursed, but he had bitter thoughts in his heart.

He had promised Wei Laotou to do what was asked of him, and he had to follow through on that promise. While he could employ some tricks when dealing with others, he couldn't be petty with the old man who had saved his life. If he did, even Lin Wanrong would look down on himself.

Although he was reluctant to become a servant, he wasn't too keen on doing business either. Having seen too much of the insincerity and craftiness in the business world, he felt a deep sense of weariness. The reason he had asked Dong Qiaoqiao and her father to do business was extremely despicable. He wanted the father and daughter to work for him, and he only needed to provide ideas. Compared to the past when he had to personally take up arms, this was much more carefree.

Of course, he couldn't say such a dirty thought out loud.

Dong Qiaoqiao thought he had guessed what Lin Wanrong was thinking since he didn't say anything. She sighed lightly and after a while, gritted her teeth and said, "Brother Lin, you are exceptionally talented, and Miss Xiao will surely recognize your talents. You two are a match made in heaven. If you want to do something, just do it. I - we support you."

Even Dong Qiaoqiao thought so, which really made Lin Wanrong laugh and cry. "Qiaoqiao, you don't have to make fun of me anymore. Actually, I'm a lazy person and don't want to do anything. That's why I let you take the lead in doing business. As for becoming a servant in the Xiao family, although the reputation isn't very good, there are still benefits. At the very least, by leaning on the Xiao family's big tree, no one will dare to bully us in the future."

Lin Wanrong made up some stories, and Dong Qiaoqiao didn't press him for details. The group of them made plans together.

Dong Qiaoqiao was worried about the 2,000 taels of silver still missing, but Lin Wanrong smiled and said they could figure out a solution after talking to the owner of Meiwei Restaurant tomorrow.

Naturally, they had dinner at the old man's house again. Now, Lin Wanrong felt much more comfortable staying at the old man's house than in his own rundown home.

After dinner, Lin Wanrong pulled Dong Qingshan aside and secretly handed him twenty taels of silver. Dong Qingshan didn't understand and asked, "Brother Lin, what are you doing?"

Lin Wanrong patted him on the shoulder and said, "Qingshan, you need to win over your brothers. Brotherhood alone is not enough. It's all about interests. You have to remember that interests are always greater than loyalty. Only when you give them enough benefits will they not betray you. If you only rely on loyalty, it may hold up for a while, but not forever. In the end, it will be you who falls."

Although Dong Qingshan was only fifteen or sixteen years old, he was extremely intelligent. He accepted the silver that Lin Wanrong had given him and a look of gratitude flashed across his face. "Thank you, big brother. With just one word of guidance from you, I will benefit for a lifetime. Big brother, I want to take care of something tomorrow afternoon. Do you have any time?"

Lin Wanrong thought for a moment and said, "Tomorrow is the selection of the Xiao family's servants. I also have to talk to your father about the restaurant. I may not have time."

A hint of disappointment flashed across Dong Qingshan's face. "That's all right, big brother. Your important matters come first."

Lin Wanrong patted him on the shoulder. "Qingshan, as long as it's something you are determined to do and want to do, just go for it. Big brother will always support you."

"Yes, I understand, big brother." A look of joy spread across Dong Qingshan's face. With Lin Wanrong's guidance, he felt as if he had the courage and confidence to win.

After discussing the use of the silver with Dong's father and son, to avoid any problems arising, they hurriedly moved the silver to the bank and exchanged it for banknotes.

As they left, Lin Wanrong was exhausted and ready to bid farewell and return home when Dong Qiaoqiao said, "Big brother, wait a moment."

Lin Wanrong looked at her strangely, and Dong Qiaoqiao blushed and said, "Please sit down for a moment. I'll get you something."

Lin Wanrong sat down on the stool and waited. After a short while, Dong Qiaoqiao came out of the inner room. She was holding two things in her hands and walked up to Lin Wanrong, squatting down gently to slowly take off his tattered cloth shoes.

Lin Wanrong saw Qiaoqiao squatting in front of him, her delicate eyebrows lightly trembling. Her pretty cheeks seemed to have a layer of rouge on them. She nervously bit her small lips, and her full chest rose and fell as she tried to restrain her shyness. "Qiaoqiao, what are you doing?" Lin Wanrong asked urgently.

Qiaoqiao did not dare to lift her head and whispered, "Big Brother, these are the new shoes I made for you. Can you see if they fit?"

Lin Wanrong watched her put on shoes for him. Her beautiful hair hung down over her forehead, hiding her lovely eyes. Her face, like white jade, revealed a hint of shyness. The fragrance emanating from her body wafted into Lin Wanrong's nostrils, and her full chest was almost pressing against his thighs. Waves of heat emanated from her chest to Lin Wanrong's legs and then into his heart, igniting an evil fire within him.



Lin Wanrong was no longer a naive man. When he saw the tempting scene in front of him, he was stirred up inside. His dragon head had already stood up, hot all over his body.

Qiaoqiao finished fixing his shoes and was about to raise her head when her lips touched something hard. She looked up and saw that she had touched Lin Wanrong's obscene dragon head, which had become erect.

"Ah!" Qiaoqiao exclaimed in shock. Her face was burning, and she quickly turned around and ran into the house, slamming the door shut.

She leaned against the door, her heart pounding incessantly. The blush on her face could not be erased for a long time. "So embarrassing," Qiaoqiao thought of the scene just now. Her body felt weak and she quickly covered her red face and leaned against the door, unable to speak for a long time.

Lin Wanrong was not a good person to begin with. Seeing Qiaoqiao shyly run into the house, he could only dryly laugh twice and said, "Natural reaction, purely accidental, only this one time, not to be repeated."

However, his dragon head was still standing upright and had not subsided for a long time. Lin Wanrong viciously slammed it and said, "You embarrassed me. You're forbidden from eating meat for three months."

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