

Hidden 1161

Chapter 1161: Good Luck

However, now, he had to compromise. If History was toppled, he would be done for too.

"Boss, I know how I can find Han Xiao. Give me two days...but, even if I can contact him, I can't guarantee that he will help us." David understood Han Xiao a little. To hire someone as unpredictable as him to help History was not an easy task.

"As long as he's capable, we'll fulfill whatever requirement he needs," said Ning Xueluo.

"Okay, Boss, I understand." David nodded and then left.

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After he went out, David took out his phone, checked his phone log and made a call.

"Hey David, what's up?" A cheerful voice came from the other side of the phone.

"Jill, I need help with something," David said.

"The great designer David needs something from me! What is it?"

"Jill, do you remember that Italian Chinese called Han Xiao?" David went straight to the point and told him that he wanted to find Han Xiao.

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There was an awkward silence after David blurted out Han Xiao's name.

After a while, Jill cautioned, "David, I was once in the same class as Han Xiao. He studied design just for fun. You don't understand that maniac at all. You have to stay away from him, David, I'm not kidding!"

"Jill...that maniac, what did he do?" David could hear her tone of fear when he mentioned Han Xiao.

"Han Xiao was on the blacklist of the underground powers in several countries. You could never imagine the things he did. That crazy dude once offended an Italian mafia gang and they sent hundreds of men to kill him, but the hundreds of men vanished that night! They couldn't find them up until now!"

David was shocked and stopped in his tracks.

"That's not all! The next night, that maniac finished off the whole mafia. The gang leader and core members were all found dead in their villa. It was reported that their internal organs were all removed with a scalpel and a few of them were stitched together. There's even a mural of a grave on the wall!"

"Who did it? Was it Han Xiao?" David whispered.

"Who knows? People were saying it was Han Xiao who did it, but there was no proof. If it's really Han Xiao, nobody knows how he even brought down the whole gang in just one night. He even finished off the boss and the core members!"

David felt a chill travel down his spine as he swore to himself that he never wanted to have anything to do with that maniac.

Unfortunately, for Ning Xueluo, he still had to look for him.

"Jill, do you have Han Xiao's contact?" David sighed.

"Okay, David, I'll give you his contact number. Good luck..."

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After he ended the call and having finally got his hands on Han Xiao's contact number, he felt uneasy. Following some consideration, he was too afraid to call the maniac, so he sent Han Xiao a text.

[Haha, Han Xiao bro, I'm David. Do you remember ma!?]

A notification soon lit up David's phone.

[Who's your ma?]

Chapter 1162: We'd Like Your Help

Damn it! He felt nervous when he thought of the terrible rumors of Han Xiao, so he had typed in terror and made a typo, putting "ma" instead of "me".

[Bro Han Xiao, I mean, do you remember me? I'm David, a friend of Jill's. We've met before in Italy!]

David retyped his message multiple times, then picked the one he thought was most suitable to send.

[Oh, David, I don't know you.]

David felt a little awkward staring at his reply. They had really met before in Italy. In fact, he had sat right beside Jill.

[Haha, Bro Han Xiao, you must be too busy. We did meet before. You're classmates with Jill, aren't you? I'm a good friend of hers.]

Even though Han Xiao had forgotten about him, he could not have forgotten about Jill.

[What's the matter?] Han Xiao replied.

[Bro Han Xiao, I found out that you're in Imperial now. So am I, how coincidental! I'd like to meet you to catch up.]

David struggled to send this message. He kind of hoped that Han Xiao would agree to meet him, yet a part of him hoped that Han Xiao would decline.

If Han Xiao declined, then he did not have to deal with such a dangerous person anymore, but it would mean he failed to deliver what he promised to Ning Xueluo.

[I'm eating at the finger-licking good store. It's on the west side of the Oriental East building.]

[It's KFC, isn't it?] David asked hesitantly.

[KFC, without the 'isn't it'.]

David was speechless. He lost a few years of life just texting this guy...

After he received Han Xiao's location, David was still contemplating. Should he really meet that maniac?

However, as he reminded himself about Ning Xueluo and History's current situation, David knew what he had to do. David toughened himself up and drove to meet Han Xiao.

After some time, David stood outside of KFC's entrance. He took a deep breath before he entered. Han Xiao was easy to spot. He had the looks of a classic Asian hunk. Han Xiao was wearing a sporty outfit with his long black hair tied into a ponytail. He also wore a black snapback on his head and looked cool as usual.

Several sweet-looking girls were in front of Han Xiao, all staring at him.

"H-hello...y...do you mind...giving me your...contact number?"

Before David went up to him, several girls around the age of 18 were gathered around Han Xiao. Han Xiao raised his head a little and glanced at the girls. He seemed to be experienced in situations like this, so he ignored them.

The few girls just left without a word.

"Hahaha, my bro Han Xiao! I'm David!" David grinned at him as he went up to him.

"Sit." Han Xiao looked at the empty seat in front of him. "Order whatever you like, pay for yourself."

"It's alright, I ate before I came." David forced a smile.

"You're David, huh? I have some vague impression of you. What's the matter? Be straightforward, I don't like people wasting my time." Han Xiao then gobbled up the chicken he had, though he still looked unsatisfied.

"Alright, bro Han Xiao, I currently work at History. My boss knows how capable you are, so we'd like to invite you to join History." David dared not to beat around the bush with him and went straight to the point.

Chapter 1163: Direct Invasion

"Get me a few more chickens first. I'm not full yet." Han Xiao looked at David with a bored expression.

"Sure, sure!" David stood up immediately and ordered five Orleans drumsticks. He took the tray with the chicken on it and carefully placed it in front of Han Xiao.

"About what you said just now, I'm not interested." Han Xiao munched on the chicken as he replied David nonchalantly.

David was speechless.

You ate five Orleans drumsticks that I bought and now you say you're not interested?

"Bro Han Xiao, my boss said that as long as you can help us to overthrow Spirit, we'll fulfill whatever you need..." David tried to convince him.

'Spirit, hmm...' Han Xiao put on a thinking face.

"Boss, I found Han Xiao. He's right beside me. Alright, I'll turn the speaker on, so you can speak to him personally." David called Ning Xueluo right away and put the call on speaker.

A gentle female voice was heard on the phone. "Hello Mr. Han, I'm..."

"Didn't I just tell you that I'm not interested?" Han Xiao glared coldly at David.

For just a moment, David felt a chill shudder throughout his body. He ended the phone call immediately without giving any chance for Ning Xueluo to speak.

"I'm...I'm sorry." Cold sweat ran down David's brow. Although Han Xiao looked calm, a glare from him made David feel like it was oddly difficult to breathe.

"That's alright," Han Xiao said.

"Yes, please carry on with your meal. Do call me if there's anything...oh, texting is fine as well."

David then left the shop awkwardly. After Han Xiao finished the chicken, he licked his hand and then left, heading towards the direction of History's headquarters.

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"Wait! What are you looking at? I'm talking about you!"

On the first floor of History's headquarters, a few security guards stopped Han Xiao who was dressed in a sports outfit.

"Do you know where this is? Who do you think you are to come in?!" One of the guards pointed his electric baton at Han Xiao threateningly.

Not just anyone could enter History's headquarters. Their boss was the renowned celebrity, Ning Xueluo, and numerous media and paparazzi wanted to go in every day.

"Put away your toys."

Han Xiao put on an odd smile when the electric baton was pointed at him as his clear eyes started to change.

"You look just like a sissy. Go away!" The security guard impatiently demanded.

Han Xiao ignored him and walked right past the few guards with a couple of deft steps, then went right into the headquarters.

"Are you deaf!?"

"Who is this guy looking for trouble?!"

The few guards were enraged. A few days ago, they were informed not to let any media reporters go in, especially strangers. Seeing this person in a sports outfit ignoring them, one of the guards attacked Han Xiao with his electric baton.

These security guards were playing by the rules. They could not aim at the troublemaker's head because they would be held responsible if something bad happened, so they aimed at his body instead.

Whoosh!

The baton swung down with a considerable amount of force.

Bang!

The next moment, the security guard was shocked.

Han Xiao did not even turn around. He had simply blocked the electric baton by pointing a finger at his back.

Chapter 1164: Such Beauty! It Must Be A Boy

The few remaining guards were all surprised.

Did he just stop the electric baton with a finger?! That baton was swung by a guard weighing 180 pounds!

"Didn't I just say...to keep your toys away?"

Han Xiao slowly turned around and there was a flash of morbid insanity in his eyes. Under the aghast expressions of the guards, the electric baton had been broken into half by Han Xiao's right hand.

"Big Bro! This way here! Please let us know if you need anything!" The security guard suddenly did 180-degree change and succumbed to him. The other guards were frightened and had broken out into a cold sweat as well. Was this beautiful man before them even human? Could he be some sort of demon or ghoul?

Han Xiao did not continue to care about the guards. Instead, he turned around and walked right into History's headquarter.

With the presence of Mr. Han Xiao, History's headquarters instantly exploded into a frenzy.

"Ooh...so pretty! Even prettier than our big boss, Ning Xueluo!"

"Such a pretty girl. Those female celebrities whose popularities rely on their faces aren't even this pretty!"

"Are you blind?! Such beauty, it must be a boy!"

"Bro Han Xiao, why are you here?!" David, who was ready to go out, thought his eyes had deceived him when he saw Han Xiao as soon he stepped out of Ning Xueluo's office.

"Quickly, come in!"

David immediately went up to lead Han Xiao into Ning Xueluo's office.

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At that moment, Ning Xueluo was flipping through some documents in the office when she heard David's voice. She frowned and was about to say something when she noticed a beautiful man walk in with David into her office.

"David, this is...?" Ning Xueluo's eyes could not help but closely assess Han Xiao, then she asked.

Ning Xueluo had seen Han Xiao's pictures from fashion magazines, but they were all quite blurry and he also looked different now, which was why she could not immediately recognize Han Xiao.

When he heard her, David quickly walked up and introduced with a huge smile, "Boss, this is Han Xiao."

"Han Xiao?"

When she heard it was Han Xiao, Ning Xueluo was stunned for a moment. This graceful man before her was once the mad genius of Italy's fashion design industry?

"Mr. Han, I have been looking forward to meeting you for a long time." Ning Xueluo immediately got up from her chair and walked up to extend her right hand towards Han Xiao.

However, Han Xiao merely walked past Ning Xueluo and sat on her chair instead. He then propped his feet up on the table and asked plainly, "So, History's boss, what do you need me for?"

When he saw Han Xiao's attitude towards Ning Xueluo, David was afraid that Ning Xueluo would be offended and that things could get out of hand, so he wanted to explain, "Boss, Han Xiao...he's like this, don't..."

Nevertheless, Ning Xueluo just watched the man's antics and did not seem to care. She put down her arms and turned to face Han Xiao. As she smiled, she said, "Mr. Han Xiao, I've been meaning to meet you but it looks like you've heard a bit from David. No worries, I can repeat it again."

"I'm listening," said Han Xiao as he lowered his hat, looking like he was about to fall asleep.

"Mr. Han Xiao, let me first introduce myself. I'm Ning Xueluo, History's owner, and History is a high-end luxury fashion brand. As for myself, I admire all of your past work, thus I'd like to hire you handsomely as History's design consultant," Ning Xueluo got right to the point.

Chapter 1165: I'm Quite Interested

"Oh...History's design department? Isn't there anyone else." Han Xiao leaned back into Ning Xueluo's chair and stacked both feet up on her expensive desk as he smirked at her.

When Han Xiao said this, it was a little hard for David to keep a straight face. He was the head of the design department! However, David did not dare to lose his temper at Han Xiao, so he could only smile carefully and go with whatever Han Xiao said.

"I won't hide, Mr. Han. History's design team is lacking inspiration recently and our market share has been taken over by our company's biggest rival. Otherwise, we wouldn't have thought of troubling you," said Ning Xueluo, not bothering to tread carefully.

Her priority now was to overpower Spirit; everything else could be discussed. She understood that those with talents were always slightly more eccentric. As long as he had the capability, it did not matter!

"Spirit," mumbled Han Xiao.

He had looked into Spirit's apparels and felt that the designer was indeed a genius. From the outfit's designs to its charm, they were all perfect. In just this aspect, it had outdone History too much.

The current History could only continue to fight with Spirit because it had become a market leader earlier, and the consumers had a strong first impression of it. Plus, History's past famous works had initially gone viral thanks to the media. Otherwise, History would have been long gone and overpowered by Spirit.

Frankly, it was a company that was on the verge of danger. Even though it looked alright on the surface, over time, if History still could not produce attractive work, they would be completely destroyed by Spirit. It was just a matter of time.

Spirit's designer was indeed worthy of being called a genius. Such a person and his work actually got Han Xiao excited.

Even though he had only studied fashion design out of boredom back then, as long as there was something that sparked his interest, he was glad to continue dabbling in it regardless of the field.

When she saw that Han Xiao was having a long contemplation, Ning Xueluo smiled and asked, "I wonder if you know of Spirit's brand?"

Han Xiao did not answer Ning Xueluo's question. In his mind, he recalled the few designs in Spirit's store from that night. They were elegantly classic with a unique flavor and charm to them.

In addition to that, those few designs had ignited quite a bit of his creative inspiration. Had it been him, he would have torn that charm from the East into fragments and break the traditional yokes to create a deathly and black-colored feast.

"I'm quite interested in Spirit." Han Xiao fixed his hat straight and there was a burning radiance in his eyes.

That night, he told Ning Xi that Spirit's designer was not as good as him, yet that woman still did not believe him and even made cutting remarks. He saw no harm in warming up and comparing himself with Spirit's talented designer to see whose work could be full of unstoppable charm.

Ning Xueluo examined the handsome man before him and her eyes shone. Did this mean they had a deal?

"Mr. Han, if possible, I would like to hire you to become History's head designer for a handsome fee," announced Ning Xueluo as she smiled gently at Han Xiao.

"Boss..." David's expression instantly changed into an incredulous one. He wanted to say something but had been received a warning glare from Ning Xueluo.

David had mixed emotions. He had gone through all the trouble to invite Han Xiao over today, yet his boss Ning Xueluo had let Han Xiao take over his position. They had already discussed beforehand that he was only invited to cope with the emergency at hand!

Chapter 1166: How Long Do I Need To Kneel On The Washboard For?

"Huh! I'm not interested, I'm only interested in Spirit," said Han Xiao as a cold sparkle twinkled in his eyes.

When she heard that Han Xiao was not interested, Ning Xueluo was obviously disappointed and David was secretly relieved.

"Mr. Han, may I just ask one more thing? Do you actually have a history with Spirit?" When she thought about this, Ning Xueluo could not help but look gleeful.

"Nah, I'm just bored," said Han Xiao with a shady smile.

"Hmm, okay." Ning Xueluo felt a little awkward. Han Xiao was just as the rumors said. He would only do what he fancied and did not need any reason at all.

"How much in rewards do you need to be willing to take on the task?" Ning Xueluo tried to ask again.

"Zero. I'm just getting an itch, that's all," Han Xiao simply said, startling them even more.

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At Peachwood, Ning Xi had finally ended her outstation work trips and was free, so she had prepared to spend the day with the big and little bun.

However, just as she was ready to get some groceries from the supermarket, her phone rang. It was Zhuang Keer.

Lu Tingxiao had obviously seen the name on the screen from the corner of his eye. When she received the superior wife's, no...the superior's boss's look, Ning Xi immediately turned on the loudspeaker before picking up the call.

"Hello, Keer?"

"Xiao Xi, I've got something to tell you. Are you free now?"

Hmm, from Keer's tone, what was she trying to say?

"Well..." Ning Xi swallowed her saliva. Could she say no? Definitely not!

Thus, Ning Xi could only force herself to say with a straightforward and upright expression, "Yeah, I'm free! Go ahead!"

"My father and my grandfather already know about you saving me and Rongguang from the night before," said Zhuang Keer from the other end of the phone.

When she heard this, Ning Xi felt her legs go weak as she looked miserably at the poker-faced devil beside her. Damn it! She was dead!

She had painstakingly kept it a secret for so long but at last, she was still caught off-guard! What worried her even more was that the devil seemed so calm. Could...could this be the calm before the storm?

"Xiao Xi...Xiao Xi, are you still listening to me?" When Ning Xi suddenly went silent, Zhuang Keer asked from the other end of the phone curiously.

"Um, yes I'm here. How did your father and grandfather find out? Didn't we already say that we won't tell your family? How's Zhuang Rongguang? Did he get a terrible beating?" Ning Xi asked gloomily.

"Rongguang was whipped by my father. He got a pretty deep wound but it's been treated and it's alright now. Thankfully, I'm okay, or else, my father would've really killed him! Xiao Xi, we really have you to thank..." Zhuang Keer sighed.

"Keer, is there anything else?" Ning Xi asked.

Because if there was nothing else, she was going to hang up and accept the devil's punishment...

Zhuang Keer quickly continued, "Oh, I almost forgot the main thing. My father and my grandfather want to treat you to dinner today. They told me that I must invite you over!"

"Well..." Ning Xi was hesitant, then she secretly stole a look at the devil.

The thing was she did not know how long she would need to kneel on the washboard and whether she could leave...

The calmer the devil looked, the more afraid she was. Arghh!!!

Chapter 1167: My Mommy's Right! Even If She's Wrong, She's Right!

"Xiao Xi, you must come this time. If we don't thank you for this, our family won't feel good. Of course, it's not just for the night before! A lot has happened recently. I've told my parents about it and my mother especially applied for leave from the military to rush home to meet you!" Zhuang Keer said quickly.

Well...

Even Keer's mother had returned? She heard that Madam Zhuang's work was highly confidential and that she would only come home a few times a year!

"Actually you really didn't have to go through all the trouble. I was just helping out. We're friends. Do you still have to thank me for helping you? Besides, you've helped me out before too!"

"Xiao Xi, those things I helped you with were nothing. It wasn't even anything... Whatever it is, this is a must and if you don't come, my family won't feel good!" Zhuang Keer insisted with a serious tone.

Since Zhuang Keer had put it as such and Madam Zhuang had applied for leave, Ning Xi thought about it and decided it was not good to reject, so she could only say, "Okay, got it, I'll go over!"

"Mmm, that's it then! I'll wait for you!" Zhuang Keer hung up happily.

After they hung up, Ning Xi quickly ran to the kitchen and found a washboard. Then, she decided it was not enough and suddenly dug up a durian before appearing before the devil.

Ning Xi held the washboard in one hand and the durian in the other as she stood before Lu Tingxiao and looked up to him. Her expression was as flattering as she could be. "My dear, choose one! As long as you won't be angry!"

Lu Tingxiao remained expressionless. His eyes skimmed the washboard and the durian in her hand, then the space between his brows tripped as if he was about to collapse. "You think this is enough?"

This...was this not enough...!?

Ning Xi instantly felt like a bolt from the blue had just struck her. She looked hopeless and threw the things in her hands away, then whipped out her fatal weapon.

"Oh!!!" She wailed as she hugged the little bun's leg. "Little bun, save me!"

"Mommy?" Little Treasure tilted his head in confusion. Even though he did not know why Mommy wanted him to save her, he hugged his mother with determination as he shot a mean look at his father with a protective pose.

"You know that she did something wrong, don't you?" Lu Tingxiao looked at his son and said coldly.

The little bun looked at Mommy first, then continued to look vengefully at Father without hesitation. Basically, his attitude shouted, "My Mommy is right! Even if she's wrong, she's right!"

Ning Xi continued to pretend to cry and hug the little bun.

Lu Tingxiao was speechless.

As he watched the mother and son duo, the ice on Lu Tingxiao broke and he pinched the space between his brows. "Enough, I already know about it."

When Ning Xi heard him, she was stunned.

Huh? What did the devil mean?

"You...you already knew?" Ning Xi's eyes widened.

"Did you really think you hid it very well?" Lu Tingxiao looked at her disdainfully from the corner of his eye.

Ning Xi swiftly went with the flow and brownnosed him, "My dear, you really do love me! My acting is so good, yet you saw through me immediately!"

Lu Tingxiao shot her a look from the side again. "Practice makes perfect."

Ning Xi was speechless.

How many times had she done this for him to be so polished?

Chapter 1168: Calling You Handsome

Ning Xi thought about it and suddenly remembered something. "I just heard the news that a hidden illegal casino has been destroyed and that all the punks present were arrested. The police station almost couldn't fit them all...so...was it you?"

The more she thought about it, the more she felt it must have been Lu Tingxiao...

Lu Tingxiao did not say anything. He remained in his cool and elegant posture.

Ning Xi instantly let go of the little bun and snuggled into the big bun's embrace. She hopped up to kiss the man's chin. "Big Boss, thank you!"

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She had used a lot of energy to console both the big bun and the small bun. After she promised to make up for it in the future, Ning Xi made her way to the Zhuang family's residence.

The moment she reached the military district yard, there were men ready to bring her to the Zhuang residence.

At the residence gate, a graceful and subdued woman waited. When she saw the girl beside the security guard, the woman looked suspicious and did not walk over to greet her.

"Xiao Xi! You're here!" Behind her, Zhuang Keer ran out from inside the house and greeted the girl beside the guard.

Ning Xi smiled. "Keer!"

When she confirmed that this girl in a light pink dress with waist-length hair was Ning Xi, Meng Linlang gaped in disbelief. "Keer, this...this is the Xiao Xi you guys talked about?"

Ning Xi was prepared to accompany Lu Tingxiao and the little bun today, so she looked very domesticated like a true well-behaved maiden. She was probably poles apart from what Meng Linlang had imagined her to look like.

"Yes, Mother!" Zhuang Keer led Ning Xi to Meng Linlang and introduced her to Ning Xi, "Xiao Xi, this is my mother!"

"Madam Zhuang, nice to meet you," Ning Xi greeted her. The woman before her was probably in her thirties, at most. She had an oval-shaped face with red phoenix eyes and her aura was a classic beauty. She practically looked like sisters with Zhuang Keer and Ning Xi could not hide the marvel in her eyes.

"Nice to meet you. Good girl, I finally meet you! I've heard them describe you and I thought you...I didn't think you would be such a beautiful, well-mannered girl. Quickly, come in and we'll continue!" Meng Linlang intimately pulled Ning Xi by the hand and led her into the house.

Meng Linlang had never met Ning Xi before and had only heard the description of her from her husband and children. They said that her marksmanship was more amazing than Rongguang's and that her combat was remarkable, and how she did not flinch when killing the drug lords. From all of that, she had always thought Ning Xi was an especially...um, especially tough girl. She did not think she would be this obedient and sweet.

In the living room, Zhuang Rongguang was holding onto an English dictionary with a long-standing resentment but when he saw Ning Xi, his eyes lit up the way a fan would when meeting their idol. "Sis Xi, you're here! Have a seat!"

Then, he served her tea and brought her some dessert.

Today, Zhuang Rongguang had worn a simple white tee and jeans. This 18-year-old was in the spring of his lifetime and oozing with youthfulness.

Ning Xi sized him up and could not help but tease, "If you looked like this before, would your girlfriend have run off with someone else?"

Zhuang Rongguang was embarrassed from the teasing. "Sis Xi, don't expose my dark past!"

"Did I? I'm calling you handsome!"

"Hahaha, really?"

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When she saw how her spoilt child had become the way he was now, Meng Linlang felt a mix of emotions and her gaze at Ning Xi filled with gratitude. "You guys continue to chat here. I still have two dishes to finish!"

When Zhuang Rongguang heard her, he immediately extended his hand and insisted, "Mother! Mother, don't go! Let the nanny do it!"

Chapter 1169: Have To Trouble You

Meng Linlang replied unhappily, "We have a guest, so of course, I must cook a few dishes to show my sincerity!"

"Yes, we have a guest. At least, she knows that you want to thank her, or else, she'd think you want to repay with revenge!" Zhuang Rongguang mumbled.

Meng Linlang immediately shot him a look. Even though she was angry, there was still love in her eyes. "You brat!"

Keer leaned into Ning Xi's ears and laughed as she explained, "My mother's not great at cooking..."

"Ahh..." There was indistinct envy in Ning Xi's eyes as she watched at the interaction between Madam Zhuang and her children.

"Xiao Xi, have fun with Keer and Rongguang for a while. Dinner will be ready soon!"

"Okay, don't worry about me!"

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Moments later, dinner was ready.

On the roundtable, the Zhuang family was gathered at an unusual occasion.

Zhuang Liaoyuan picked up his wine glass and stood up first. "Xiao Xi, a toast to you!"

Ning Xi was overwhelmed by this and quickly stood up with her glass too.

"Sis Xi, I want to drink to you too. Bottoms up for me but you can do as you wish! You're a girl, don't drink too much!" Then, Zhuang Rongguang downed his drink.

Ning Xi laughed as she shook her head. He finally remembered that she was a girl.

Then, Zhuang Keer and Meng Linlang all offered her a toast too.

Finally, it was Elder Chief Zhuang's turn. Before he got up, Ning Xi quickly stood up and said, "Elder, if you do that, I really don't deserve this!"

The entire meal was very cheerful, probably because the woman of the house was back, so the entire atmosphere was much warmer.

During dinner, Men Linglang liked Ning Xi the more she talked to her. She even pushed her own children away and forced Ning Xi to take home all the gifts she had brought home. She almost gave her the jade bangle on her wrist too, but it was turned down gracefully by Ning Xi. She only took home gifts like local specialties which impressed her enough.

It was already very late. At last, Zhuang Liaoyuan delegated his security guards to send her home.

After Ning Xi left, in the master bedroom, Meng Linlang looked to her husband and muttered, "Is Xiao Xi really Lingyu's daughter?"

"Mmm, I've investigated it thoroughly. I can't be wrong," Zhuang Liaoyuan lit a cigarette and said confidently.

Meng Linlang's gaze was cold. "Who would have thought that that isolated sister could give birth to such a wonderful daughter!? Thankfully, because she grew up in the village, she's so obedient! If she had been left beside her to be raised, I'm not sure how she would've turned out!"

"It's best to speak less about it!" Zhuang Liaoyuan sighed.

"I still think there's something fishy about Ning Xi being shunned out of the Ning family. In fact, it might be related to that adopted daughter..." Meng Linlang muttered, then she asked, "What's the elder planning to do? Are we going to accept her as kin? Then, the Ning family made a poor judgment and can't differentiate good from the bad. It's fine if we don't know, but we can't just sit back and not care even we do!"

"The elder said that he's still not over the incident from years before, but he loves Ning Xi and told me to take good care of her!" Zhuang Liaoyuan said.

"Of course, we must! The Zhuang family isn't watching Ning Xi because she was born from her womb, but because we really like this child, there are no qualms about it!"

Once his wife put it like that, Zhuang Liaoyuan felt light-hearted and everything became clear at once. "You're right."

Meng Linlang was still worried. "You old man, what do you know about taking care of people? You even wanted to recruit such a delicate girl into the military! The report I submitted should be done soon. Wait for me to return, then I'll handle this!"

Zhuang Liaoyuan laughed, "I'll have to trouble you then, my wife!"

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Chapter 1170: Earn Marriage Capital

After she returned from the Zhuang family, Ning Xi quickly rushed to Platinum Palace to accompany the big and small buns. She even made time the next day to go to Ocean Park with them.

A short break later, she delved back into the path of earning money for marriage!

Spirit had been enjoying rapid progress recently, and their market share began to overtake History by leaps and bounds. History began to be questioned by the media and public over their performance. Ever since those striking designs that made their name and put History at the top dwindled, History started to go downhill and released new design at a slower pace. Unfortunately, none of them could achieve the quality of their famous pieces and they even resorted to plagiarizing their own past work, upsetting all their customers.

On the other hand, History's greatest rival, Spirit, did not stop with their energy. They had new products on the racks every other time and their design quality was very balanced. This also earned Spirit a lot of diehard fans.

On History's official Weibo forum, there were some onlookers who questioned History every day. They caused many of History's loyal fans to be upset and even spew vulgarities.

[What about Spirit?! They're just a counterfeit copy of History's concept!]

[If it were not for History's breathtaking opportunity that opened up the market to more potential, Spirit would not have gotten to where it is today.]

[Every industry has its bottleneck phase. Designers aren't gods either. Inspiration takes time.]

[Some of these useless people are so lowly. You're all just hired by Spirit, aren't you? This is so funny. You're saying that History plagiarized Spirit's design ideas. Do your parents know you're so good at writing? I'm not sure where Spirit was when History's brand became famous. I think there really is plagiarism for sure, but it's Spirit plagiarizing History's ideas. History is tolerating them to not fuss over minor matters, but now they dare to hit back! What a trashy brand! Only trashy people would like a trashy brand like Spirit.]

[I think we should speak with truth. History's initial pieces were indeed very stunning, so History easily took over the entire market and won initial success. But look at Spirit's old designs. They're indeed very similar to History's famous designs but they had more charm. This was what History did not do at the start. Perhaps, this whole plagiarism thing might not be a baseless claim. As for whether anyone copied the other, it should not be based on which brand had succeeded first.]

[That guy up there is obviously Spirit's fifty cents party, Spirit probably paid you more than fifty cents, huh?]

[+10086 points to that!]

[What a joke! History's retarded fangirls are like crazy dogs, biting anyone they catch with no rationale at all.]

[Haha, I'm laughing, I just want to say to Spirit's fifty cents party: eff off!]

[Spirit's retarded fifty cents party is pure dumbass.]

...

Spirit and History's loyal supporters exploded on Weibo and even made it to the latest hot topics.

At History's headquarters, Ning Xueluo looked at the hot topics on Weibo on her phone. News about History and Spirit spilled all over the pages.

Now, the online news was all over the rivalry and most of the fingers pointed at Spirit copying History. It looked like more netizens were joining the conversation. Ning Xueluo's mouth curved into a smile.

"David, how's Han Xiao's design coming along?" Ning Xueluo put down her phone and looked to David to ask.

"Well..." David stunned, then he shook his head and shrugged to show that he did not know. Ever since Han Xiao came to History, he had completely taken over the design department and even the department's employees had been chased out by him. The entire department consisted of only Han Xiao.