

## Chapter 178 Victorious Counterattack

When I woke up again, I could barely open my eyes a sliver.

"Where am I?" I wanted to say, but my throat felt as if I had swallowed shards of glass, and I could not utter a sound.

A while later, a light came on in the pitch-black room. I heard footsteps to my left, then Lin Fang bent over to examine me. "Still asleep."

"There's no need to wait for him to wake up. He might die in his sleep."

My heart thumped loudly at the sound of this exceedingly familiar voice. It was Liu Rong!

Why was he here?

I thought I had heard wrong. The drug was still in my system, and my ears were still buzzing, making voices sound odd.

But my doubts were soon dispelled. It was indeed Liu Rong.

Lin Fang said, "Mr. Liu, he's now in your grasp and can't escape. He's made you suffer by auditing the accounts. I heard that they found many issues with your subordinates, and they found more issues with the branch offices you manage. This will all be brought up at the shareholders' meeting. The branches you manage might be taken over by the group. This would destroy your life's work. Are you willing to let him die in his sleep?"

How did Lin Fang know about this?

Gan told me about this in our nightly reports, but I had never mentioned it to anyone.

Liu Rong was as surprised as I was. "You know a lot. You say I hate him, but it looks to me that you hate him more than I do. You just want to use me to torture him."

Lin Fang replied sadly, "I love him so much, but he doesn't accept my love. What else can I do but hate him? Should I forget about him? I can't. There's no turning back for me."

"Miss, I'm not interested in whatever love or hate you have with Zhang Chao. I'm warning you that Zhang Chao isn't a normal person. He's not that easy to deal with. If you think he's just a useless straw man who is defined by his status as Junran's heir, you're wrong. I used to think like you, and I suffered the consequences. Killing him in his sleep is an easy move."

By this time, I was beginning to regain feeling in my limbs. I focused my mind, and I could feel myself fighting off the effects of the drug. Even if I was poisoned, the training I had undergone as part of the special forces made it easier to metabolize the toxins.

Liu Rong was eager to kill me off, Lin Fang would not be able to stop him. Maybe Lin Fang was not going to stop him. She said she liked me, but she had served me up to my enemy. Did such affection exist in the world?

Sure enough, Liu Rong suddenly stood up, his chair screeching across the floor before falling. I heard him unwind a length of rope and approach me.

Before I could gather myself to swear at him, I felt the length of rope go around my neck and tighten slightly. My heart sank. While I could now move my limbs, I had not regained my strength back. If I fought back, I was no match for Liu Rong. Was I going to be strangled to death, unable to do anything?

Liu Rong did not hesitate, testing the knot he had tied. He heaved a sigh at the top of my head.

"Zhang Chao, I was friends with your father. I'm an uncle to you. If you hadn't been hoodwinked by Han Kun and Gan Ling and made me your enemy, I would have liked to take care of his orphan. Don't blame me. Blame Han Kun for this."

Damn it! Why did he make it sound as if I had forced him into shameless actions? Such people were so good at exonerating themselves.

Perhaps because this was the first time he was killing someone, Liu Rong felt the pressure and hesitated, "Zhang Chao, don't hate me when you reach your destination. I saved your father before, but I didn't manage to save him in the end. Han Kun and the others didn't agree and wanted him dead. I tried my best..."

My mind was buzzing. There was no way I was mistaken. I heard him loud and clear.

The first two times, Liu Rong might have been lying to me on purpose, but there was no need to this time. He was determined to kill me, and there was no reason to lie to a dead man.

But what did Liu Rong mean? Had Han Kun killed my father?

Impossible! Liu Rong said that Han Kun had always liked my mother. He took care of me according to my mother's last wish. Even if he planned to kill my father, there was no way he would have planned to kill my mother.

Shocked, Lin Fang murmured a question, "Zhang Chao's parents were killed by Han Kun? Zhang Chao mentioned him to me. Han Kun treats him better than his family does."

Liu Rong tutted. "Han Kun is ruthless. The company was facing a massive crisis then. Only Zhang Jun's death could resolve all the internal and external issues. I didn't agree with it. Zhang Jun and I weren't as good friends as they were, but I couldn't kill someone. Of course, I didn't realize that Junran could become so successful. I advocated for admitting defeat and losing some profit in order to guarantee the company's survival. But Han Kun and the others didn't want to. Han Kun is more vicious than me. He wanted Junran to be the biggest company in Tong City. Junran's profits could not be reduced, so Zhang Jun had to be sacrificed."

Impossible. This was all nonsense. Uncle Han was definitely not that kind of person.

I protested internally, but at the same time, I wondered if Han Kun was really that kind of person.

"What happened?" Lin Fang asked, "Why did the legal owner of the company have to die? That's impossible. The death of the legal owner would affect the share prices."

"Junran had not gone public yet. Well, it doesn't matter whether you believe me. Haha, just treat it as a story. Zhang Chao, you can only blame yourself for being too smart and unlucky. If you were an idiot being used by others, you might have lived to old age. Did you think that this was a battle between me and the company? Sigh. You've been enveloped into a war that's been going on for twenty years. Your father didn't make it, and neither will you. I'm helping you by sending you off today. If you keep living, you'll only suffer and lose more."

He rambled on, then started tightening the noose. My survival instinct made me want to grab at the rope. At the same time, my years of training reminded me that my body had not recovered fully. I had to overpower him in one move, otherwise, I would lose my opportunity to make a victorious counterattack if he discovered that I was awake.

The muscles in my body convulsed out of fear. This was out of my control. Luckily, the light in the room was dim and Liu Rong did not notice.