

Chapter 221 Promising Young Man

Sun Qiaoqiao's death was a huge blow to Tsai Xiaobing and I. Zhao Zichen's presence made it difficult for us to gather ourselves.

There were traces of blood on Zhao Zichen's gloves. He took them off and removed his mask. Then, he clapped his hand down hard on my shoulder. "I understand, Brother."

Tsai Xiaobing grabbed at his hair. His throat was choked up and he looked at me with bloodshot eyes. "Captain, why couldn't we save her? We were so close!"

My eyes were red-rimmed too. After so many battles and so much death, I still could not face it calmly.

However, I could not fall into despair like Tsai Xiaobing. I was his captain!

"Sun Qiaoqiao's death will not be in vain. We'll avenge her. Rock is going to hand over a shipment of guns on the twenty-eighth of October. Go back and get the old man to give you orders and support. This time, we'll settle Rock once and for all. Sun Qiaoqiao's name will be immortalized with future military medals."

Ever since the day we joined the Snow Leopards, we gave our lives to our country and our unit. We had already prepared ourselves for the ultimate sacrifice. However, the death of comrades or civilians still hurt us deeply, turning us from hardened warriors into helpless people.

Tsai Xiaobing clenched his fists and grit his teeth. "Yes, we'll avenge Sun Qiaoqiao!"

Zhao Zichen passed us cigarettes. There was a "No Smoking" sign behind us, but I still took the cigarette. I did not think I could cope without it.

"Sun Qiaoqiao's cause of death was an infection caused by laceration of the lower body. It can be determined to be caused by rape. I won't tell you how bad it was, you could smell it for yourself. It was a miracle that she managed to survive for three days. The rape caused a rupture in the rectum, and she was only treated with a simple suture. There will still be a forensic investigation into the cause of death. If we can retrieve semen and other biological traces from the rapist, we can report it to the police."

Zhao Zichen spoke matter-of-factly, but his expression said otherwise, as if this was something that would never happen.

In fact, he then grimaced at the ceiling. "We can report it, but who's going to make an arrest? No one will dare to arrest anyone from Lady Of The Night."

Tsai Xiaobing said angrily, "Is a life worth nothing? Do the police not care? Someone is dead, this is a murder. Murders must be solved! Is there no law and justice here?!"

I remembered the arrogant yet completely truthful words that Qu Shufang had said to Sun Qiaoqiao.

In this city, they were the law.

Zhao Zichen himself was from a gang. If even he could say such hopeless words, there really was no law or justice here.

"I grew up here," I said, "I never imagined that it would become like this."

Zhao Zichen stared at the rising smoke and snorted. "I thought the same when Brother Ge died. I never imagined how sinister Tong City was. It's so overwhelming that I can barely breathe."

I was going to avenge Sun Qiaoqiao. If not for anything, just for her lying in my arms and asking me, "Officer", to save her.

Zhao Zichen told us that as Sun Qiaoqiao was classified as unnatural death, they had to report it to the police.

Since we did not want our identities to be known, he made us leave the hospital first. This would prevent the police from questioning us and exposing the fact that we had saved Sun Qiaoqiao.

I was sure that Gongsun Qingfeng had seen through me. It was very possible that Rock no longer trusted us, and there was no need to keep acting.

"You should leave. This is all more complicated than you can imagine. I know better than you how dark Tong City is. You don't want to be bitten by these dogs." Zhao Zichen smiled.

I understood what he meant. Chen Yuzhou had done this the last time. He clearly wanted to drug and rape Lin Fang, but he had turned around and accused me.

In the case of Sun Qiaoqiao, the power of Lady Of The Night could even turn black to white. It would only take a few moves behind the scenes, and Tsai Xiaobing and I would take the blame.

Of course, I was different from before. When Chen Yuzhou framed me, few people from Tong City knew who I was. Now, I had the spotlight of the Junran heir on me.

"You're right. We still have more important work to do. If we're detained, even for forty-eight hours, it would delay too many things."

Tsai Xiaobing and I left the hospital. We had just left when we saw a police car enter.

We were struck by a cold gust of wind. It calmed me significantly.

Tsai Xiaobing observed, "Winter is coming."

As Zhao Zichen had expected, the first thing the police asked was who had brought her to the hospital. Zhao Zichen insisted that he did not know and that she had been left at the door of the hospital.

The police immediately checked the surveillance footage. Luckily, Zhao Zichen had already informed the men monitoring surveillance. The cameras had been angled in particular positions, and we were not captured on video.

There were many non-professional positions in the hospital where he had inserted his Red Lanterns. The Red Lanterns would never betray Zhao Zichen even if someone was holding had a knife to their throat.

The police did not notice anything suspicious in the surveillance footage. They demanded Sun Qiaoqiao's body and all the preliminary investigation reports.

Zhao Zichen claimed that the hospital needed to retain the originals, and suggested making copies for the police.

At this point, I was still on the phone with Zhao Zichen. He had not hung up when the police showed up, so I heard their conversation.

"Dr. Zhao, don't make things difficult for us. Director Zhao will be retiring soon. Don't you want the time before he retires to be peaceful? Or do you want the Health Department to discuss this matter with Director Zhao?"

This was an open threat! This bunch was so uncontrolled that they could not be bothered to even pretend.

Zhao Zichen's guess was on the nose. If we remained there, we would have been framed. However, I had not expected that Lady Of The Night would move so fast. It had barely been an hour since the initial report, and they had already set their connections in motion.

There was silence over the phone, then the rustling of papers.

The police officer who had spoken earlier now moderated his voice to a friendly tone. "Dr. Zhao is a smart man. It's always good to cooperate with the police. There's been a severe crackdown on gang activity lately. Many members from the Red Lanterns must have been arrested."

Damn, they knew about Zhao Zichen's connection to the Red Lanterns. Now we could only hope that his status as their leader was still under wraps.

I could hear the fury in Zhao Zichen's voice. "What else do you want? Don't talk in circles. I really don't know who dropped her off. I'm a good citizen that cooperates with the police, but you can't make me know something I don't."

"I was wondering if you could remember anything. If you can't, that's fine. I'm leaving then." The police officer had not taken too many steps when he turned back and sneered. "Oh yes, I'll have someone take good care of the Red Lanterns members in custody. Dr. Zhao, you're a promising young man. Don't let anyone report your connection to the Red Lanterns. Some things are not worth ruining your own life over, don't you think?"