

Little Brat's 491

Chapter 491: Has Its Favorites

Gu Tingfeng and his wife, Liang Su, were sitting in the third private room.

Gu Siyang had been kicked out, so it was much quieter now.

It was rare for Gu Tingfeng to not pay attention to the races. Instead, he was holding a book in his hand as he flipped through it.

"Su Su, what do you think of this set?"

As Gu Tingfeng spoke, he handed the book over and pointed to a picture on it.

Liang Su tilted her head and looked at it, nodding with a smile.

"Yes, it's nice."

Gu Tingfeng smiled as well.

"This is a new one this year. It's most suitable for young ladies—"

Before he could finish his sentence, the door of the private room was suddenly pulled open.

"Big Brother."

Gu Tingchuan and Gu Tingyun walked in.

Since they were all from the same family, the door of the private room was usually not locked. They could enter and leave as they pleased.

Therefore, the two of them had entered without even knocking on the door.

Subconsciously, Gu Tingfeng closed the booklet and placed it on the table.

“Why are you two here?”

Gu Tingchuan and Gu Tingyun did not notice his actions and greeted Liang Su.

“Sister-in-law.”

Liang Su nodded with a smile.

“It’s rare that you are willing to come here during the competition. What’s so important?”

Gu Tingchuan and Gu Tingfeng sat down next to each other. When they heard this, their expressions were subtle.

Gu Tingchuan was the first one to start.

“Big Brother, you already met Ning Li yesterday, is that right?”

When he heard him mention this name, Gu Tingfeng nodded.

“Yeah, I met her at the horse racing area. What’s wrong?”

Gu Tingchuan's expression became serious.

"I think Father and Mother are giving her too much special treatment at the moment. Big Brother, I'm afraid it's not appropriate for this to continue."

Gu Tingfeng was stunned.

"What do you mean?"

Gu Tingchuan shook his head.

"It's only because she bears a slight resemblance to Yinyin. Hence, they're constantly favoring her, especially Mother. Tingyun and I went over to take a look just now. The way she's treating Ning Li is really... This girl's family background is still unclear. Mother's heart is fixated on Yinyin, so she's completely defenseless against her..."

He took a deep breath.

"How can we allow this to keep going on?"

Gu Tingfeng did not say anything.

Gu Tingyun also added, "Actually, I think that the girl herself is not bad. After all, Yinyin is Yinyin, and she is her. Regarding this point, we should still be able to distinguish clearly. Big Brother, don't you think so?"

Gu Tingfeng calmly pushed the booklet toward Liang Su. After a while, he nodded.

"Hmm... What you said is not unreasonable..."

"I think this matter still needs to be handled by Big Brother. Our parents have the freedom to decide who they like. Moreover, they are already old. It is normal for them to want to treat Ning Li better because she reminds them of Yinyin. But on our end, how can we be confused?"

Gu Tingchuan concluded, "Big Brother, you have to remind them to be more careful."

The private room was silent for a moment.

Gu Tingfeng nodded.

"I think so too."

Hearing him say this, the two people were relieved.

Gu Tingyun unintentionally glanced at the table.

"Is sister-in-law choosing a riding outfit? Didn't she just choose one last month?"

Gu Tingfeng pressed his fist against his lips and coughed.

Liang Su smiled and looked at him before saying,

"I felt that the one I chose previously was not very suitable, so I said that I would take another look again."

Gu Tingyun understood.

The few of them chatted for a while more before the two of them left.

After the private room door had closed, Liang Su shook the booklet.

“Since that’s the case, I think that this riding outfit doesn’t need to be given away?”

“How can that be?”

Gu Tingfeng raised his voice before he met Liang Su’s gaze. However, he quickly concealed it again.

“Just... I’ve already chosen anyway... It can be sent to her later. After all, she’s Siyang’s friend.”

Liang Su laughed.

“Sure.”

...

The younger men were relieved. They returned to their private rooms with great tacit understanding.

Gu Tingchuan was not in the mood to watch the competition. He was bored as he flipped through the menu for afternoon tea.

After a long while, he rang the bell and called for someone.

“Go and send mother a classic baked creme brulee.”

The waiter looked at him blankly.

“Second Master, that’s... too sweet for the old madam, isn’t it?”

Gu Tingchuan frowned.

“Is it? Then give it to Gu Siyang.”

The servant said, “Doesn’t the Young Master also not like this—”

Before he could finish his sentence, he met Gu Tingchuan’s expressionless gaze.

“Add a traditional scone and a small muffin.”

He knocked on the table and said with a heavier tone, “There has to be someone who likes it, right?”

The Servant replied, “Yes, Second Master.”

...

At the same time, Gu Tingyun was also considering the menu.

“Send a cup of English Black Tea. Father liked this when he was studying abroad.”

The servant replied, “Yes, sir.”

After saying that, he turned around and was about to leave.

“Wait.”

Gu Tingyun shook his head.

“Let’s change it to Earl Grey with fresh milk.”

The servant felt that it was a little strange, but he did not say much.

“Yes, sir.”

“Forget it. Father’s taste has changed quite a lot over the past few years. I think he prefers peach tea.”

“Then... Third Master, which one should I send?”

Gu Tingyun was silent for a long while. He sighed softly and rubbed the space between his eyebrows as if he had a headache.

“Forget it. I have indeed been lacking in concern for Father recently... Let’s just send them all over and they can keep whichever one they like.”

The servant finally heaved a sigh of relief.

“Okay, Third Master.”

...

In the second private room.

Old Master Gu was watching the match on the field. From the corner of his eye, he saw that Ning Li was still sitting beside Old Madam Gu. The two of them were sitting very close to each other. One moment, they were watching the match. The next moment, they were looking at their phones as they chatted very happily with each other.

He straightened his back and took a sip of tea. Then, he asked unhurriedly, “Ah Li, since you’re following Teacher Yu, you should be good at drawing, right?”

Although Ning Li had said that she was not Yu Pingchuan's student, being guided so attentively by him, she should know some of it.

Ning Li said, "I know how to do some simple sketching."

Old Madam Gu was a little surprised.

"Really?"

Ning Li nodded. "Yes."

Old Master Gu asked again,

"Have you participated in any competitions?"

Yu Pingchuan was the one who had brought her up. Even if she was not very talented, her basic skills should still be pretty good.

Ning Li paused for a moment.

"No, I just helped someone draw in the park for a while."

As soon as she finished speaking, the surroundings fell silent for a moment.

Old Madam Gu was stunned. She had not expected her to give such an answer.

Old Master Gu also frowned.

How could this child have done such a thing?

His thoughts had been a little chaotic when he went home yesterday, so he had not had the time to ask Ning Li about her family background.

It sounded like...

Knock, knock.

There was a knock on the door.

A servant brought a few desserts.

“Young Master, Second Master ordered these for you.”

Gu Siyang jumped up excitedly.

“Second Uncle especially gave them to me?! What a good day—”

Before he could finish his sentence, he saw the tray and he suddenly stopped speaking.

After a long while, he muttered in disbelief.

“How did Second Uncle manage to perfectly avoid my preferences?”

He turned his head to look at Ning Li.

“Ning Li, do you want some?”

Ning Li glanced at him. Before she could say anything, another servant walked in.

“Old Master, this is the tea that Third Master ordered for you.”

Old Master Gu’s gaze swept past the teacups and sneered.

How amazing. He did not like drinking any of them.

Each and every one of the little rascals were more scheming than the last.

He said to Ning Li, “Ah Li, choose whichever one you like and send the rest back.”

He leaned back in his chair.

“Remember, give the ones from Second Master to Third Master, and the ones from Third Master to Second Master.. Don’t waste it.”

Chapter 492: Tie

Old Madam Gu looked at Ning Li.

“What does Ah Li like?”

Ning Li looked at the two trays on the table in silence.

She had a vague feeling that something was not quite right...

However, since Old Master Gu and Old Madam Gu had spoken, she only hesitated for a moment before nodding.

“The small muffin and peach tea.”

...

Private Room Number 3.

Gu Tingchuan looked at the English Black Tea and Earl Grey with fresh milk that had been sent over and snorted.

What a miscalculation!

When he was choosing the desserts, he had actually forgotten to order some tea to send over!

It was said that Third Brother had always been very cunning and was indeed unreliable!

He abruptly stood up and walked out.

.....

Private Room Number 4.

Gu Tingyun looked at the classic baked creme brulee and traditional scones that had been sent over and narrowed his eyes slightly.

Compared to drinks, desserts were probably an easy way to please a young girl's heart.

Just a little bit...

Recalling how his Second Brother had said those words to his eldest brother with a dignified expression, he let out a “Ha” and walked out.

...

In the corridor, the Second Master of the Gu family and the Third Master of the Gu family had a face-to-face confrontation.

When they saw each other, the two of them stood still in tacit understanding.

The atmosphere was delicate.

After a long while, Gu Tingchuan spoke.

“I heard that you brought tea for father? How rare.”

Gu Tingyun smiled slightly.

“It seems that Second Brother also ordered dessert for Siyang? It’s indeed rare.”

Gu Tingchuan’s hands behind his back slowly clenched.

“It’s rare for Siyang to come back.”

Gu Tingyun nodded in agreement.

“Father has been working hard on the horse racing event recently.”

Gu Tingchuan's voice was cold.

"It's just a small dessert. So what if I gave them?"

Gu Tingyun's brows relaxed.

"Yeah, a cup of tea is really nothing."

Silence.

The space froze. There seemed to be some sort of subtle airflow surging in the air.

They were in a stalemate for a moment.

Finally, Gu Tingchuan gritted his teeth and took a step forward.

"What tea did she leave behind?"

Gu Tingyun did not show any signs of weakness.

"What refreshments did she choose?"

Dead silence.

After an unknown amount of time...

"Little muffins."

"Peach tea."

The two of them looked at each other meaningfully.

Very good, it was a draw.

However, at least they had gotten the answer they wanted, so it was not a loss.

No one said anything more, and they turned around and left in tacit understanding.

The Second Master and Third Master of the Gu family had fought a war without any gunpowder, and they looked at the few servants who passed by not too far away with fear and trepidation.

“Hiss, aren’t these masters usually amiable on the surface? Why are they causing such a ruckus today?”

The conflicts between the rich and powerful families were indeed terrifying!

...

Ning Li accompanied Yu Pingchuan back to the hotel after watching the horse races that day.

She sat on the sofa and stared at the numbers on her phone screen for a while. Then, she silently calculated the amount.

Still... not bad...

She rubbed her hair and logged out of the interface.

Then, she opened her email.

It was an unread invitation to the Carlsberg Auction.

There were a few more letters before it, but she did not read them.

She opened the latest one.

The Jockey Club would be held for about a week, but the official schedule was only for the first three days. The focus of the next few days would be on the horse auction and some related celebratory and entertainment activities.

Therefore, the Carlsberg Auction was scheduled to be held on the evening of the fourth day of the Jockey Club.

At that time, many celebrities would be attending the event.

Carlsberg Auction House would hold an auction every month. However, usually, with the help of the Jockey Club, the August auction was the highest-ranking and largest event of the year.

Last August, the watch that Lu Huaiyu had owned had sold for the highest price in the auction.

Since then, no other items in the Carlsberg Auction House sold for a higher price, and the record had been maintained until now.

She opened the attachment.

It was the catalog of this auction.

On the second-to-last page was a collector's grade antique watch— Mond.

There were a total of 1,001 diamonds and sapphires inlaid on the body of the watch. The dial was shaped like the stars and the moon. The whole composition was surrounded by a black strap. The design was as dark and silent as the night, shining brightly like thousands of stars in the silent universe.

Such a watch...

It was no wonder that Lu Huaiyu wanted to come.

Ning Li looked at it for a while before finally clicking off the catalog.

...

On the third day of the horse races, the competition was still going on in full swing.

Ning Li accompanied Yu Pingchuan back there.

"Ah Li, which one would you like to bet on this time?"

Yu Pingchuan looked at the field and asked.

He now understood the situation. It would not be good to rely on his own judgment. He still needed Ah Li's opinion.

Ning Li followed his line of sight and looked in that direction a few times.

"Number 5 will win alone."

Yu Pingchuan was delighted.

"That's great! I'm also the most optimistic about this!"

Didn't this mean that his standards were still there?

As he was making his bet on his phone, he said, "Ah Li, since you're so optimistic and today is the last day of the competition, why don't you raise the bet amount?"

Two days ago, Ning Li had played quite a few times, but every time, it had only been 100,000 yuan going back and forth.

Although the winning rate was not bad, this amount of principal money was really not worth much.

Ning Li was silent for a while.

"I think 100,000 is pretty good, that's all. After all, a small bet is good for one's mood, but a big bet is bad for one's health."

Yu Pingchuan suddenly felt as if he had been shot in the knee.

"... Alright."

Seeing that Ning Li was unmoved, he no longer tried to persuade her. Instead, he adjusted the amount of money he had bet.

Ning Li looked down at her phone.

...

"Young Master Tinglan, that person is here again today."

In private room Number 6, the two senior directors and Gu Tinglan were sitting together.

Even without saying it out loud, they all knew who this person was referring to.

“Number 5 wins alone. The amount of money he has bet—”

The director who was speaking paused.

Gu Tinglan seemed to have thought of something.

“All of the previous winnings?”

“Yes.”

Gu Tinglan laughed.

After the first two rounds, the initial 10 million had increased to 70 million.

If this person won again this time, the prize money would go straight up to nine figures.

But if he lost... That would mean that there really would be nothing left.

Gu Tinglan thought for a moment.

“This should be the person with the highest bet amount in this horse race, right?”

“It should be—”

“Wait a minute.”

Another member of the board suddenly spoke up.

“Young Master Tinglan, another SSS level member has just placed a bet. Number 5 to win alone. The bet amount: 10 million.”

Gu Tinglan raised his brows slightly.

“Another 10 million?”

That member’s voice could not conceal his shock.

“It’s.... 10 million USD.”

Chapter 493: Have You Thought About It Yet?

There was a moment of silence in the private room.

After a moment, Gu Tinglan laughed.

“Then these two are quite interesting.”

...

The competition for the championship this round was even more intense than expected.

Following the endless cheers from the stands, the battle between Number 5 and Number 6 was intense throughout. It was almost impossible to tell who was better.

Yu Pingchuan stood at the corridor and held the railing tightly with one hand. His heart was so nervous that it felt like it was about to jump out of his chest.

Finally, at the last moment, Number 5 overtook him again and jumped over the finish line!

The shrieks and whistles resounded throughout the entire Dutian Racecourse.

Yu Pingchuan let out a long sigh of relief.

"It's alright, it's alright!"

He touched his forehead and realized that he was sweating buckets.

He turned his head to look at Ning Li with both joy and relief.

"Number 5 is really good! If he had lost this round, I would have really lost everything in Hong Kong City."

Ning Li also let out a sigh of relief. Then, she tapped on her phone with her finger. Only then did she look up and laugh.

"Exactly."

Yu Pingchuan then spoke again with a little regret.

"Ah Li, you really should have bet more."

Ning Li's eyelids drooped slightly. After a long while, she finally curved her eyes in a smile.

“You should at least let me keep some of my living expenses. If I really lose all of it, I’ll be in debt...”

She rubbed her temples.

“That feeling probably won’t be very good.”

...

Hong Kong Airport.

It was already five o’clock in the evening when Lu Huaiyu got off the plane.

Hong Kong City’s summer was hot and humid. Even the wind was a little dry.

He lowered his head and looked at his phone.

The first round of the third day of the Jockey Club had been won by Number 5.

He raised his eyebrows and was about to put his phone away.

Almost at the same time, an unknown number called.

He pressed the answer button.

A respectful and polite male voice came from the receiver.

“Hello, Gambler has transferred 15 million US dollars to your account three minutes ago. The second payment has been paid off. Please check it.”

Lu Huaiyu did not say anything. He only raised his eyebrows slightly and pressed an asterisk to indicate that he understood.

The other party then hung up.

Lu Huaiyu then turned off his phone screen.

...

After the horse race event, the Gu family held a small celebration party at Bansen Hotel.

However, this party was not very formal. Most of the people attending were young men and women, so the overall atmosphere was more lively.

This was also a social occasion that the younger generation preferred.

The crowd gathered in groups of three or five to talk.

One of the young men looked around.

“Didn’t Miss Ning Li come today?”

The people next to him heard this and exchanged glances.

“Ning Li? Which one?”

“Who else could it be? Old Master Gu himself gifted a horse to her, and Old Madam Gu came out to protect her. Isn’t there only one person who has received such treatment?”

“Ah... you mean her? I didn’t see her. But she wasn’t on the invitation list for this cocktail party, was she?”

“What does that matter? Isn’t it just a matter of the Gu family’s word? Didn’t you see how different Old Madam Gu’s attitude towards her was? Just relying on the Gu family alone is enough for her to ascend.”

“Speaking of which, it’s strange. I’ve never heard of this Miss Ning Li’s name before. Why does she have such a deep background? Even Young Master Zhong met with a snag from her.”

“Not at all.” Someone sneered and lowered his voice. “It’s said that she came from an ordinary background in an eighteen-tier county. It’s only because... she has a slight resemblance to the Fourth Miss Gu that she’s being favored by Old Madam Gu.”

At the mention of the Fourth Miss Gu, the surroundings fell silent for a moment.

After a long while, someone muttered, “No wonder... Then her luck is really good. Just by relying on that face, she...”

If it had been anything else, it would have been fine, but it had to be for such a reason.

It was not pleasant to hear.

Someone laughed.

“Other than that, that person is also really beautiful. Besides, if the Gu family is willing to pamper her, what can other people say? In my opinion, this Miss Ning Li is really a smart person. It’s good for her to build a good relationship with important people early on.”

These words made the few of them a little restless.

After all, the Gu family was really difficult to build a relationship with. No matter what Ning Li's background was, it was her ability to be liked by Old Master Gu and Old Madam Gu that proved her ability.

A young man put down his wine glass and said with a smile, "I believe I saw her go upstairs just now. Why don't I invite her down to play with us?"

...

When Lu Huaiyu arrived at Bansen Hotel, the sky was already completely dark.

The man's tall and straight figure could easily capture the hearts of others in the night.

Yan Fei was rushing to the hotel with several other people when she suddenly stopped and looked in a certain direction in a daze.

Zuo Ling asked, "Feifei, what are you looking at?"

Yan Fei came back to her senses and smiled.

"No, I'm probably mistaken."

The auction would be held tomorrow night, so Lu Huaiyu should not be here today...

She shook her head.

"Let's go."

...

Lu Huaiyu came out of the elevator. He looked left and right before turning right according to the sign.

However, just as he reached the corner, he heard an eager young man's voice.

"Miss Ning, our invitation to you is sincere. Are you sure you don't want to come down and play?"

Lu Huaiyu stopped in his tracks and narrowed his eyes dangerously.

The young girl's cool voice rang out.

"I'm sorry, I'm a bit busy and can't go."

Everyone could hear the rejection in her words.

The man seemed to be reluctant to leave, but he was too embarrassed to pester her further.

He smiled and said, "Alright, I can see that Miss Ning is busy. Here's my business card. If you have time and want to play together, just give me a call."

Then, the sound of footsteps gradually faded away, as if someone had left.

After that, the sound of a door closing was heard.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows and walked forward. He stood in front of a door and raised his hand to knock on it.

Knock, knock.

A moment later, the door was opened, and a slightly impatient voice was heard.

“I said I’m very busy— Second Brother?”

Ning Li’s eyes widened slightly, and she looked at the man who suddenly appeared in front of her with a surprised face.

“Why are you here today?”

Lu Huaiyu looked at her. It had only been a few days, but he felt that it had been a long time.

His gaze swept past her hand.

There was a business card between her slender and fair fingers.

His thin lips slowly curled up.

“I was just afraid that my girlfriend would be so busy that she would forget to think about me, alright?”

As he spoke, he stepped into the room and held her hand. With a flick of his fingertips, the business card fell into his hand and crumpled into a ball before falling to the ground.

He closed the door behind him.

Just then, he heard footsteps from outside. It was the man from earlier who had returned and knocked on the door again.

“Miss Ning? I remembered that there’s something I forgot to tell you—”

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows slightly and pulled Ning Li over.

Then, he held her shoulder with the palm of his hand and pressed her behind the door without any explanation.

At the same time, he bent his long legs slightly and pressed them against her knees.

Their bodies were so close to each other, that even the air around them seemed to be boiling hot.

Ning Li's eyes widened slightly.

There were still people outside!

Lu Huaiyu's heart seemed to be burning with restlessness.

He leaned closer and wrapped her in his arms. He lowered his head and nibbled on her lips, his voice slightly hoarse.

"Now, do you want to?"

Chapter 494: You Are So Hard to Please, Miss Ning

Ning Li was pressed against the door by him, unable to break free.

The hot temperature came through the thin layer of their clothes, and the man's hot breath fell, mixed with the cold and ascetic smell of cedar, entwining a vague and lingering ambiguity.

His voice was so soft that only she could hear it, with a fervent and unconcealed longing.

Her slim back was pressed against the slightly cold and heavy door, but her slender waist was still held in place with the palm of his hand. It spread out in an incredibly seductive arc, forcing her to be close to him.

“Hmm? Where is she?”

The man’s voice continued to come from outside, carrying a hint of confusion. He did not seem to understand. He had clearly only just left, so why was she not responding when he had come back to call on her.

Knock, knock.

He knocked on the door again.

However, even though only a door separated them, Ning Li felt as if she was listening from a distance. She even felt the slight vibration coming from the wooden door against her back.

However, the man in front of her could not be any closer.

Her ears were red, and her hands were pressed against Lu Huaiyu’s chest. She pursed her lips tightly and refused to let him in.

Lu Huaiyu seemed to be very patient at the moment. He merely nibbled on her soft lips bit by bit, occasionally rubbing them gently.

In the silence, all the ambiguous sounds seemed to be magnified infinitely.

Ning Li reached out to push him, but he easily grabbed her wrist and trapped it behind him.

She was forced to arch her back slightly, as if she was taking the initiative to meet him.

Lu Huaiyu's breath was a little heavier, and he could not help but bite her lips slightly. His low and slightly hoarse voice was broken and blurred, and he coaxed her gently.

"So, do you want to?"

Ning Li opened her sparkling peach blossom eyes and refused to speak. She was feeling shy and embarrassed.

However, Lu Huaiyu seemed to be not satisfied with this answer. He made up his mind to make her say "Yes".

His fingers gently stroked her delicate wrist, and at almost the same frequency, he slowly and gently bit and traced the shape of her lips.

All the senses in his body were so clear at this moment.

He asked in a hoarse voice,

"What about this? Do you want to?"

Ning Li's face seemed to be on fire.

In a trance, she heard the person outside raise his voice slightly and call out, "Miss Ning?"

Lu Huaiyu also heard it.

For some reason, he suddenly let go of her lips.

Just when Ning Li thought that he was finally willing to stop, she suddenly felt him turn his head slightly and bite her delicate and fair earlobe.

She could not help but tremble and she gasped softly.

The man gently leaned in next to her ear and laughed wickedly in a low voice.

“Do you still not want to? You’re so hard to please, Miss Ning.”

Ning Li felt as if her whole body was on fire. She was feeling angry and annoyed. She raised her head and opened her mouth to bite him in the neck.

He had obviously done it on purpose!

Lu Huaiyu’s body tensed up and he grunted in a low voice.

The man outside seemed to have finally given up. He muttered as he left, and the sound of his footsteps gradually faded away.

Only then did Lu Huaiyu stop his movements. He buried himself in the crook of her neck and calmed his breathing.

His strength relaxed a little, and his body also withdrew slightly.

Ning Li was about to leave when he pressed his knees even tighter against hers.

“Don’t move.”

Lu Huaiyu seemed to be smiling, but his voice was hoarse and dangerous.

“Just hold me for a while.”

Ning Li did not move. Only feeling his hot breath as it landed on her neck.

In the quiet room, only the sound of his heartbeat was particularly clear.

After a while, Lu Huaiyu recovered and exhaled gently. Then, he turned his head to look at her.

He smiled and said, "I missed you so much. Don't you care?"

Ning Li looked up at him.

On the man's handsome face, there was a hint of travel-worn aura.

She finally raised her arm and hooked it around his neck. She pressed her forehead against his chest and said softly, "I missed you too."

Lu Huaiyu was slightly stunned, but then he relaxed his eyebrows.

He had thought that this little girl had behaved heartlessly and had been so busy having fun here that she did not miss him at all.

He pinched her chin and kissed the corner of her lips with a faint smile.

"Really? Miss Ning is so busy, yet you still have the time?"

Ning Li, "..."

She glanced at the ground. The name card was no longer in its original shape and had been casually tossed aside.

It was such a sour reaction.

She could not help but laugh.

“The Gu family is holding a small cocktail party downstairs today, but I’m not interested. I didn’t plan on going.”

As she spoke, she looked at Lu Huaiyu and stepped back slightly.

“Why did Second Brother come today?”

Lu Huaiyu caught her main point.

“You knew I was coming?”

Ning Li paused.

“I accidentally heard someone mention the auction two days ago.”

Lu Huaiyu had not deliberately hidden his whereabouts. It did not seem strange for her to have heard about it.

It could only be said that it was too much of a coincidence.

Lu Huaiyu smiled.

“Yes, the plane ticket was originally for tomorrow, but it was changed to today at the last minute.”

Ning Li asked curiously, “Why?”

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows.

“Why? Didn’t I... Didn’t I just explain it very clearly just now?”

Sometimes, body language was clearer than words.

Ning Li gave him a dry look, and she turned to walk further into the room.

Lu Huaiyu smiled, held her hand, and followed her.

“Why is Miss Ning angry again?”

When he called “Miss Ning”, his tone was especially gentle, as if he was chewing on this title between his lips and teeth until he finally said it reluctantly, with a hook at the end of his voice.

Ning Li could not bear to hear him call her that.

“Lu Huaiyu!”

Lu Huaiyu stopped when he saw her reaction and he coaxed her with a smile.

“Alright, fine, it’s all my fault.”

With him behaving like this, even if Ning Li was really angry, she would not be able to vent it out, let alone not.

“Did you have fun these past few days?”

Lu Huaiyu asked casually as he glanced at the open booklets on the table out of the corner of his eye.

Ning Li recalled the numbers in her phone and nodded.

“It was alright.”

Chapter 495: I Really Don't Have Any Money

Even after paying off a portion of the debt, of course, everything was still okay.

Although there was still quite a bit left, it had still benefited from being replenished.

Thinking about it this way, this trip to Hong Kong City was quite worth it.

Lu Huaiyu stroked her hair.

“Then, come with me to the auction tomorrow afternoon?”

Ning Li paused.

“I don't have an invitation card.”

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows.

“Am I not your invitation?”

The threshold for this auction at Carlsberg was indeed very high.

However, Lu Huaiyu was different.

With his family background, it would be very easy for him to bring someone along.

Ning Li was silent for a moment, but she still shook her head and said seriously, "I don't have any money."

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows.

"Didn't you say that you were okay to play here?"

Ning Li handed him her phone and showed him her betting records on the horse races over the past few days.

Looking at the 100,000 yuan that had been tossed back and forth, Lu Huaiyu also fell silent for once.

Ning Li said, "I really don't have any money."

Lu Huaiyu held his breath slightly.

He had not expected that one day, he would actually hear such a sentence from his girlfriend.

He used a bit of force to pull her back and raised his eyebrows slightly.

Ning Li knew what he was going to say and shook her head.

In her opinion, Lu Huaiyu's money was his, and her money was hers.

She had also seen the catalog of the auction. The things she could afford were not worth buying, while she could not afford the things that were worth buying.

Lu Huaiyu narrowed his eyes slightly.

The young girl had clearly done her calculations.

Sensing the cold and dangerous aura emanating from his body, Ning Li coughed lightly and softened her voice.

“Moreover, I’ve already made an appointment to have tea with Old Madam Gu tomorrow.”

This sentence finally brought Lu Huaiyu’s mind back to reality.

“Old Madam Gu?”

There was only one Old Madam Gu in the whole of Hong Kong City.

Ning Li nodded.

“We’ve already made the appointment. It won’t be good if I don’t go.”

This time, it was Lu Huai’s turn to be surprised.

“You and Old Madam Gu...”

There was no need to say more about what kind of status the Gu family had in Hong Kong City.

He knew that Ning Li, Gu Siyang, and Gu Tinglan were all on good terms, but Old Madam Gu...

Also, from the tone of her voice, it seemed like they were very close.

If they were just casual acquaintances, it was unlikely that they would receive such care from Old Madam Gu.

Ning Li pondered for a moment and said, "Old Madam Gu and I hit it off quite well. Moreover, she helped me a lot before, so..."

"She helped you?"

Lu Huaiyu narrowed his eyes,

"What is it?"

Ning Li had come here with Yu Pingchuan and had been invited by Gu Tinglan. Logically speaking, she should be having a good time here.

What kind of thing had happened that had alarmed Old Madam Gu?

Ning Li's eyebrows twitched.

She had only mentioned it casually, but Lu Huaiyu had immediately noticed something was not right. This man was really sharp.

Moreover, with his ability, if he wanted to investigate, what could he not find?

"Actually, it was only just that someone else had taken a fancy to the same horse as I had, at the same time. It's not a big deal."

Ning Li did not want to waste her breath talking about this.

On one hand, Lu Huaiyu had just arrived from the Capital. She did not want to affect his mood by mentioning this.

On the other hand, the matter had already passed. She did not think it was even worth taking it to heart.

“Second Brother, have you eaten dinner?”

Lu Huaiyu saw that she was not interested in talking about it, so he resisted the urge to continue asking about it.

“No.”

“Then, what would you like to eat? I’ll make it for you. Just don’t ask for anything too complicated.”

This room was equipped with a small kitchen and a small refrigerator. Some simple meals could still be made.

The corners of Lu Huaiyu’s lips curved slightly. He held her hand and kissed the back of her soft hand.

“Teacher Yu said that Ah Li’s hands are too precious to do such things.

Ning Li felt a little helpless.

He was very clear about whether she could do it or not.

“Teacher Yu merely said it casually. Don’t take it to heart.”

Lu Huaiyu seemed to agree with her.

“Actually, I feel that what Teacher Yu said was not quite right either.”

Ning Li nodded and turned around to go to the small kitchen.

Lu Huaihe pulled her back and looked at her with a burning gaze.

Ning Li turned around, wondering about what he wanted.

“Second Brother?”

Lu Huaiyu’s Adam’s apple moved slightly. He bent his head closer and said with a low smile, “What’s precious about Ah Li is more than just her hands.”

There was not a part of this little girl that was not delicate, not a part that was not soft.

She was really very precious.

Ning Li looked at him with wide eyes. Her clear and beautiful peach blossom eyes were sparkling, and the faint crimson color at the corner of her eyes had not completely faded.

She was more than just precious.

Lu Huaiyu let out a carefree laugh.

She was still inexperienced.

...

In the end, Lu Huaiyu had cooked the porridge himself.

By the time everything had been completely tidied up, it was already very late.

He was also staying at Bansen Hotel, and he was on the same floor as Ning Li.

After dinner, he sat with Ning Li for a long time before leaving.

...

The news that Lu Huaiyu had arrived in Hong Kong ahead of schedule had already spread that night.

There was a rumor that he would be attending the Carlsberg Auction.

This undoubtedly confirmed the rumor.

Countless celebrities and socialites were restless.

The last time he had come to Hong Kong City had been in last August.

After waiting for so long, he had finally come. It was no wonder that they were reacting like this.

3 pm, Carlsberg Auction House.

This was a single building with a total of three floors.

The huge round auction hall was luxurious and gorgeous. A six-meter-long crystal chandelier hung from the ceiling, giving it a complex and noble air.

The first floor was the auction hall. The stage for the auctioneer was very spacious, and the remaining red leather seats were arranged neatly. They were open seats.

The second and third floors were private rooms. They could be closed or open, according to the full-screen room owners' preferences.

Of course, those who were qualified to sit here today were not ordinary people.

It was almost time for the show to begin, and the crowd arrived one after another.

Lu Huaiyu went straight up to the third floor from the VIP channel and took a seat in his private room.

As soon as he appeared, he immediately caused quite a commotion in the venue.

“Is that Second Master Lu?”

“It’s him! He’s really here!”

Yan Fei had been preparing information backstage. When she heard the commotion, she looked towards the door.

Zuo Ling happened to walk in. She lowered her voice, but could not hide her excitement.

“Feifei, Second Master Lu has really come to support you today!”

Chapter 496: Auction

When Yan Fei heard this, she blushed slightly.

“Don’t talk nonsense.”

“How is it nonsense? You’re the auctioneer of this auction. If he comes, wouldn’t it be considered a show of support for you?”

Zuo Ling winked at her.

“Can’t you see that I’m also here to increase your popularity?”

Before Yan Fei could say anything, Zhuo Qianqian also walked in and teased her.

“Zuo Ling, stop teasing. We can’t compare to Second Master Lu. At most, we’re just playing around. His capability of being able to throw his money around is enough to make someone smile.”

The two of them came from decent families, but they could not compare to the Yan family, let alone the Lu family.

With their original status, they were not qualified to participate in today’s auction.

Their attendance now was all thanks to their family connections and their good relationship with Yan Fei.

However, they only had public seats on the first floor. They were not qualified to go to the second floor, let alone the third floor.

Zuo Ling seemed to have thought of something and raised her chin in the direction of the outside of the room.

“Not to mention, the prices of the tickets to the auction are much higher today is much higher just because of the presence of Second Master Lu!”

Lu Huaiyu and his rare trip to Hong Kong City had caused countless celebrities and socialites to squeeze their heads together just to get a ticket to the auction.

Zhuo Qianqian covered her mouth and smiled.

“So what? Second Young Master Lu has no interest, it’s useless, no matter where you sit. I’m more interested to know if Second Master Lu will be bidding today, and what price he will be offering. Feifei, maybe you can break the record this time.”

Yan Fei could not help but take a look outside.

Actually, they could not see the third floor from here. Even so, knowing that Lu Huaiyu was there, it was as if even the air had changed.

She pursed her lips and smiled.

“I think he really likes that watch.”

She actually did not refute what Zhuo Qianqian said about breaking the record.

A staff member came over to urge her.

“Yan Fei, the auction is about to start! Get ready to go up on stage!”

Yan Fei responded and told Zuo Ling and Zhuo Qianqian to go to their seats. She then looked into the makeup mirror and rearranged her clothes and hair. After confirming that everything was perfect, she turned around and went on stage.

...

On the third floor.

Lu Huaiyu was sitting on the sofa with his long legs crossed. His posture was languid.

Today, he was wearing a black shirt and a pair of slacks in the same color. It made his figure look even taller, emphasizing his narrow waist and long legs.

The two buttons at the top of his collar were loose, and one could vaguely see his pale, cool skin.

He had been born beautiful, with a natural elegance, and had always been incomparably handsome. Now that he was sitting quietly on the third floor, he looked even more cold and ascetic which made him appear to be quite unapproachable.

Many people were looking at him.

“Second Master Lu has actually made a public appearance this time?”

“Yeah, the last time he came, he hid his identity very well. If it wasn’t for someone who had seen him wearing the watch later, I’m afraid no one would have even known that he was the buyer.”

“I heard... that it has something to do with Yan Fei? After all, she was the auctioneer for both times.”

“This... It’s hard to say, right? I see that watch in the catalog is indeed worthy of weight. Maybe that person is just here for that.”

“Haha... Yan Fei is beautiful and has a good temperament. It’s rare for a man not to be tempted, right?”

The crowd discussed animatedly, occasionally mentioning Yan Fei’s name. Obviously, everyone had made their own guesses about this rumor.

After all, Lu Huaiyu and his identity were rarely revealed on an occasion such as this.

Today’s event... was indeed rare, and it made people think more.

...

Lu Huaiyu looked down at the venue and swept his gaze across it.

From here, he could easily see everything below.

Very soon, however, he withdrew his gaze.

At that moment, the light in the venue suddenly dimmed, leaving only a beam of light that shone upon the auction stage.

Everyone fell silent.

Then, a graceful figure wearing a pearl-white cheongsam appeared under the light.

It was Yan Fei.

The well-tailored cheongsam outlined her exquisite and graceful figure. Her long hair was held up with a pearl hairpin at the back of her head.

She was already beautiful, to begin with. With the addition of delicate and elegant light makeup, she looked even more delicate and beautiful.

Her gaze fixed on a certain spot on the third floor, and she could vaguely see the elegant figure.

She took a light breath, calming down her slightly fast heartbeat, and the corners of her lips curled up into a perfect arc.

“I am today’s auctioneer, Yan Fei. Welcome, everyone.”

...

The Tea Tasting Hall.

This was a high-class private teahouse owned by the Gu family that was located next to the Dutian Racecourse.

It used a private membership system, and those who entered and exited were either rich or noble.

However, today, a special guest had arrived.

Ning Li.

She had been personally brought by Old Madam Gu, so everyone of lower status was naturally very respectful and courteous.

Ning Li and Old Madam Gu sat facing each other, with a tea table in the middle.

The rich fragrance of tea wafted around, refreshing the mind.

“This is Junshan Silver Needle, Ah Li. Please try it.”

Old Madam Gu said with a smile.

Ning Li thanked her, before holding the cup of tea and sipping it.

Old Madam Gu observed her carefully, with a hint of pity in her eyes.

Yesterday, she had heard Ning Li mention that she had made a sketch of someone in the park, so she had taken special note of it. After she had gone home, she had specially questioned Gu Siyang about Ning Li’s situation.

Gu Siyang had always been a frank and straightforward person. Without thinking, he had immediately told her everything about Ning Li's background.

Her father was in prison, her mother remarried, and the little girl grew up alone with her grandmother...

Before finding this out, Old Madam Gu had never thought that Ning Li would have grown up in such an environment.

Ever since she had first met Ning Li, she had felt that this girl was clean and beautiful, with a pure temperament and good manners.

She had subconsciously thought that even if she was not the daughter of an aristocratic family, she had surely been grown up pampered by her family.

Who knew...

After understanding all this, she looked at Ning Li and felt even more heartache and love for her.

"What do you think of the taste?" Old Madam Gu asked with a smile.

Ning Li's lips curled up and she nodded.

At that moment, Old Master Gu also came over.

"Ah Qing."

Ning Li made a gesture to get up.

Old Master Gu pressed his hand down.

“Ah Li, just continue to sit.”

Old Madam Gu handed over a cup of tea.

Old Master Gu sat down beside her. He seemed to have remembered something and asked, “By the way, why didn’t Ah Li attend the auction today? It’s quite lively.”

Ning Li was slightly stunned.

Old Master Gu sipped his tea and said unhurriedly, “Didn’t you say that Lu Huaiyu is here?”

If he went alone, why had he not brought Ah Li to take a look?

Ning Li came back to her senses and could not help but laugh.

“Second Brother originally wanted to bring me along, but I refused.”

Old Master Gu’s expression became a little more pleasant, and the tone of his voice changed very quickly.

“That’s true, there’s nothing to see in that auction.”

...

The auction proceeded in an orderly manner.

The third item was a jade carved pi xiu.

The starting price was four million.

From the third floor, Zhong Haoqi raised his paddle.

“Five million.”

Many people knew that he liked to collect jade.

However, when he raised his paddle, he had immediately increased the bid by one million, which was enough to show how much he liked this jade carving.

Soon, other people raised their paddles as well.

“Six million.”

Zhong Haoqi continued to raise the bid.

“Eight million.”

After several bids, the price was set at ten million for Zhong Haoqi.

Yan Fei held a small hammer in her hand.

“Does anyone else want to raise the bid?”

There was silence.

Ten million was already above the market price. Besides, there was no need to fight with Zhong Haoqi over such a thing.

“Ten million going once.”

“Ten million going twice.”

In the spacious and quiet venue, someone raised his paddle on the third floor.

The man’s lazy voice sounded.

“Twenty million..”

Chapter 497: Buying You an Unpleasant Experience Was Worth It

The person who had raised his paddle this time was—

Lu Huaiyu.

After a short period of silence, a small commotion erupted in the venue.

“The person who raised the price just now was Second Master Lu?”

“It’s him! I’ve long heard that this person is a lavish spender and clearly, it’s true. The moment he raised the price, he immediately doubled it...”

“At most, that Jade Pi Xiu Sculpture is worth eight million. Zhong Haoqi’s ten million bid was already a high price. What is Second Master Lu thinking? He actually raised it to twenty million?”

The crowd discussed animatedly.

Zhong Haoqi, who was also in the private room on the third floor, was also shocked.

He frowned and turned his head to look to the right.

The auction hall was in a circular shape, and he and Lu Huaiyu were facing each other diagonally, so he could see him when he looked up.

Almost at the same time, Lu Huaiyu seemed to have sensed something and also looked over at him.

He smiled, but the gaze that he sent over was cold and intense.

Zhong Haoqi could not help but feel a chill in his heart, and he felt a bit uneasy.

This was not the first time he had seen Lu Huaiyu at the auction. According to his understanding, Lu Huaiyu was not interested in these jade pieces.

However, today—

Lu Huaiyu had deliberately raised his paddle before the hammer had fallen. Moreover, he had not made a move throughout. Yet, as soon as he had done so, he had directly doubled the bidding price.

Had he... done it on purpose?

Zhong Haoqi mulled this over repeatedly in his heart, but he could not remember when he had offended this person.

Many thoughts flitted through his mind. He pretended to laugh in a relaxed manner.

“I didn’t expect Second Master Lu to be interested in this.”

Lu Huaiyu smiled faintly.

“If Young Master Zhong likes it, then just continue to raise the price.”

Zhong Haoqi choked for a moment.

The Zhong family was not like the Lu family. Although he liked it, he would not spend 20 million on such an item. It would really be a loss.

He laughed.

“Second Master Lu, it’s rare for you to come to Hong Kong City. Since you want it, it would not be right for us to steal someone’s love. Second Master, please go ahead.”

This meant that he was giving face and giving up on bidding.

In fact, everyone knew that he did not want to overspend this much money and he also did not want to offend Lu Huaiyu. He was just trying to find an excuse for himself.

Some people secretly exchanged glances with each other, with a hint of wanting to watch the show.

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows slightly and withdrew his gaze.

Yan Fei’s gaze fixed on Lu Huaiyu.

“20 million going once.”

“20 million going twice.”

“20 million going three times.”

Bang.

The small hammer in her hand was brought down.

“Sold.”

...

The atmosphere in the auction venue quickly became heated because of Lu Huaiyu's bid.

At first, everyone had thought that Lu Huaiyu had come this time to bid for the watch that would be the finale item. Thus, they had tacitly agreed that he would wait until the end to make a bid.

Who would have known that he would raise his paddle only by the third item?

Moreover, he was bidding at double the price, directly crushing all opposition.

Everyone began to guess as to whether he would continue to bid.

However, Lu Huaiyu did not make any moves on the several pieces that followed.

It seemed as if he merely developed a sudden interest in the Jade Pi Xiu Sculpture, so he had casually bid on it.

Gradually, everyone's attention returned to the auction items.

The ninth item was an ancient painting, and the starting price was seven million.

This was a volume that was part of a valuable collection of cultural relics. The moment the bidding opened, many people raised their paddles one after another, and the price quickly exceeded ten million.

It was not until the bidding price had exceeded sixteen million that people began to withdraw from the competition.

It was at this time that Zhong Haoqi raised his paddle.

“Eighteen million.”

He was not interested in these things, but his father liked them.

Before he had come here, he had already set his eyes on this painting. No matter what, he had to get it today.

There were two other people participating in the bidding as well. After bidding 20 million, one of them had withdrawn.

Zhong Haoqi was determined to get this painting, so he continued to raise the price.

“23 million.”

This time, the only person who was still competing with him did not raise the price.

Yan Fei raised her hand.

“23 million going once.”

“23 million going twice.”

Zhong Haoqi relaxed his body and leaned against the sofa.

However, before the smile on his face could fully spread out, that cold and lazy voice sounded again.

Lu Huaiyu raised his paddle.

“46 million.”

...

The huge auction hall was dead silent.

At this time, if everyone could not see that Lu Huaiyu was deliberately targeting Zhong Haoqi, then they really did not need to hang around anymore!

Countless gazes turned to the third floor, sizing up the two of them in bewilderment.

Zhong Haoqi could not hold the smile on his face any longer.

He frowned slightly as he looked at Lu Huaiyu.

To happen one time could have been considered a coincidence. However, happening twice... meant that he was clearly being targeted!

“Second Master Lu.”

Zhong Haoqi’s expression did not look good,

“Since when were you interested in this ancient painting?”

Lu Huaiyu leaned against the sofa, his elbows pressed against the side. His entire body exuded an unrestrained elegance.

Hearing this, he raised his eyebrows slightly.

“Just now.”

The atmosphere froze.

Zhong Haoqi’s expression darkened even more.

Earlier, he was already very unhappy because Lu Huaiyu had snatched up the Jade Sculpture Pi Xiu.

However, for the sake of the Lu family, as well as Lu Huaiyu himself, he had endured it.

Who would have guessed that Lu Huaiyu would do the same thing again?

Lu Huaiyu was not giving him any face at all in front of everyone!

Yan Fei asked, “Young Master Zhong, do you still want to raise the price?”

Zhong Haoqi’s chest seemed to be filled with a ball of fire.

That painting was far from being worth 40 million, but if he gave up just like that, wouldn’t he lose all respect?

His heart ached, and he felt aggrieved.

However, Lu Huaiyu seemed to be unaware of it. He only propped himself up with one hand, a casual smile on his lips.

It was as if he did not take this matter to heart at all.

Or rather, he did not take him seriously at all.

Finally, Zhong Haoqi gritted his teeth.

“48 million!”

Lu Huaiyu suddenly laughed.

The sound was extremely soft, but everyone present could hear it clearly.

He laughed and said, “Young Master Zhong, why are you going to so much trouble? Why don’t I just round up the whole figure?”

He raised his paddle again.

“One hundred million.”

...

The man’s cold and languid voice rang out clearly in the venue.

Everyone was shocked and could not come back to their senses for a long time.

Lu Huaiyu was... too ruthless!

As long as Zhong Haoqi wanted to succeed in the auction, he would raise his paddle to double the bid and compete for it forcefully.

His statement that he would “round up the figure” made Zhong Haoqi’s additional two million look even more shabby!

There was no louder slap than this, and it made Zhong Haoqi lose face in public!

Zhong Haoqi’s face turned pale, and he finally could not hold himself back anymore.

He said coldly, “Second Master Lu has always been a lavish spender, but don’t you feel that it’s a loss to spend 100 million on such a painting?”

Lu Huaiyu tilted his head and looked at him.

He chuckled.

“How could it be a loss?

“Spending 100 million on a painting like this to make you unhappy.... I think it’s worth it.”

1

Chapter 498: The Night of the Milky Way

The Tea Tasting Hall.

Ning Li was chatting with Old Master Gu and Old Madam Gu.

A man in his thirties and dressed in a suit and tie walked in. He lowered his head and whispered something into Old Master Gu's ear.

Ning Li vaguely heard Lu Huaiyu's name mentioned.

Her heart moved slightly, and just as she was about to raise her eyes, her phone suddenly vibrated.

She brought it over to take a look, and her gaze froze.

After thinking for a moment, her fingertips moved slightly, and she quietly replied with one word.

[Follow.]

Then, she held onto her phone.

Old Master Gu suddenly snorted.

"He's really smart—"

There seemed to be disdain behind his words, but also a subtle admiration.

Old Madam Gu asked, "Brother Ci, what's wrong?"

"It's still Lu—"

Old Master Gu had just started when he saw Ning Li out of the corner of his eye and swallowed the rest of his words.

He paused and changed to a more polite way of saying it.

“It’s nothing. It’s just that I heard that today’s auction has been quite rowdy.”

Ning Li rubbed her teacup, her eyelids twitching slightly.

Old Master Gu’s way of saying it was really tactful.

Hearing him say this, Old Madam Gu made a vague guess as to what was going on and smiled gently.

“Is that so? It’s really a pity that Ah Li didn’t go then.”

Ning Li shook her head.

“It’s good to be here with you.”

Hearing this, Old Madam Gu’s smile deepened.

“Ah Li is good at knowing how to make me happy. Young people like to be lively. What’s the point of drinking tea with me here?”

The corners of Ning Li’s lips curled up.

“It’s also fine not to join in when things are lively. Moreover, your tea is really very good.”

Ever since her grandmother had passed away, she had always been alone.

It was probably because of the expression on Old Madam Gu's face when she had mistaken her for someone else that day that she had found it hard not to feel moved. Every time she faced Old Madam Gu, she felt a little closer to her.

Old Madam Gu looked at her and silently sighed.

This child was really well-behaved.

Old Master Gu gave the man a few words of advice, and the man quickly agreed and left.

Then, he looked at Ning Li, as if he wanted to say something but hesitated.

Ning Li looked over inquisitively.

"Old Master Gu?"

This expression... why was it so subtle?

Old Master Gu pointed outside.

"It's not so hot now. Li, do you want to go and see Qingfeng?"

Ning Li nodded.

"Sure."

...

At the auction.

After what Lu Huaiyu had said, Zhong Haoqi got up and angrily left.

If it had been someone else, he would not have let it go.

However, this person was Lu Huaiyu.

Even if they were in Hong Kong City, he did not dare to do anything to Lu Huaiyu. He could only suppress his anger and resentment.

A few people hurriedly followed him out, whispering to him as they walked out.

“... Young Master Zhong, don’t take this matter to heart. After all, he is the one who spent 100 million yuan for nothing, right?”

When Zhong Haoqi heard this, his anger finally subsided a little.

He did not know how he had offended Lu Huaiyu which had resulted in him being a target of revenge.

In any case, it would be impossible for this hurdle to be easily overcome.

He took a deep breath and sneered.

“That’s true. After all, he is the Second Master of the Lu family in the Capital. He makes such a big deal just to show his temper. Of course, others can’t compare to him.”

He really wanted to see how much capital Lu Huaiyu had that would be able to withstand such an ordeal!

...

The auction continued.

However, the atmosphere in the venue was very different from before.

Many people's thoughts drifted to Lu Huaiyu.

After all... spending 100 million just to buy Zhong Haoqi's displeasure. Such a thing was not something an ordinary person could do.

While the crowd marveled at the rich and capricious Second Master of the Lu family, they secretly tried to find out what kind of enmity Zhong Haoqi had with him to cause such a disturbance today.

The air in the entire venue seemed to become restless.

However, only Lu Huaiyu, who was at the center of the storm, was the calmest.

He sat on the sofa, still elegant and noble, yet languid.

It was as if that earlier incident was not worth his attention for even a second.

After that, a few more items were auctioned off, and all of them were successfully auctioned off at a good price.

However, after Lu Huaiyu's previous bids, the rest of the items seemed much more dull and boring.

After another half an hour, the auction finally came to an end.

Yan Fei had a smile on her face, and her eyes seemed to be filled with more vigor.

“The next lot will be the last item up for auction today: a collectible antique watch— The Mond Mille watch. This watch is inlaid with 1,001 diamonds and sapphires. The dial is surrounded by stars and the moon. If you look at it from a specific angle, you can even see the nebula ring engraved on it. Therefore, this watch also has another romantic nickname: The Night of the Milky Way.

“The starting price for this item is 30 million.”

After she finished speaking, her gaze subconsciously swept across the third floor, but she was suddenly stunned.

Even though this last item was out, Lu Huaiyu did not bother looking over at it. Instead, his head was lowered, as if he was looking at his phone.

However, very soon after, he raised his gaze slightly and looked over.

Several people had already raised their paddles one after another, and the price quickly exceeded 50 million.

Lu Huaiyu merely observed the proceedings indifferently.

When the bidding price reached 110 million, the last two people in the field were still competing.

Finally, he raised his paddle.

“120 million.”

When Lu Huaiyu finally raised his paddle, many people became excited.

This amount was only 10 million away from his last bid!

When one of the two remaining bidders saw that Lu Huaiyu had started bidding, he tactfully withdrew.

However, the remaining bidder continued to raise the bid.

“130 million.”

Lu Huaiyu immediately followed.

“140 million.”

As soon as he finished speaking, the crowd instantly became restless.

This had already broken his own record, and it had also broken the auction price record of the Carlsberg Auction House for the past year!

That big shot frowned. After hesitating for a moment, he still chose to raise the bid.

“150 million.”

Lu Huaiyu tapped his fingertips lightly, a faint smile on his face.

Only those who were familiar with him would understand. This was the expression he would have when he was about to get what he wanted.

He raised his paddle again.

“170 million.”

A gasp came from the crowd.

Even though they had known that Lu Huaiyu was determined to get this watch, they still had not thought that it would be sold for the sky-high price of 170 million!

Yan Fei's heart was beating rapidly.

"170 million going once."

"170 million going twice."

"170 million going thrice."

Thud.

"Sold."

...

The moment the hammer had dropped, Lu Huaiyu stood up.

The moment he stepped out of the room, an auction house staff member immediately came forward to greet him.

"Second Master Lu, will the three items you are auctioning today be sent back to the Capital for you, or—"

Lu Huaiyu looked at the time.

"Give me the watch."

The staff member was shocked. "Now? I'm afraid that you will have to wait a little longer. There are still some procedures to go through."

Lu Huaiyu nodded.

Then, just as he was about to walk to the VIP room, he saw out of the corner of his eye that there were all kinds of small commemorative gifts placed in the gift cabinet next to him.

In the corner, a starry lollipop gift box had been placed.

It had probably been specially prepared for young children.

He raised his eyebrows slightly and walked over.

His slender and fair fingers tapped lightly.

"Please prepare a copy of this to be taken away.."

Chapter 499: The Kid From the Lu Family, Deep in Thought

The staff member was very surprised, but he still answered immediately.

"Yes."

As he spoke, he took a gift box out from behind the counter.

"Do you need me to wrap it for you?"

Lu Huaiyu was about to nod, but after thinking for a while, he said, “No.”

Then, he immediately took the gift box over.

There were a total of eight stars in this starry lollipop gift box, representing the eight planets of the Solar System.

He casually picked up the third lollipop and put it into his suit pocket.

“Put the rest away.”

“Yes, sir.”

Just then, footsteps came from behind.

“Second Master Lu.”

A polite and earnest voice sounded.

Lu Huaiyu turned around.

A total of five people had come. They were all from the Carlsberg Auction House.

The one who had spoken was a man in his forties– the vice president of the auction house, Sheng Yan.

Behind him were four people, including three executives of the auction house and the auctioneer, Yan Fei.

Lu Huaiyu shook hands with Sheng Yan.

“Vice President Sheng.”

A senior executive behind him was about to extend his hand when Lu Huaiyu lightly nodded.

That person understood and withdrew his hand.

The staff had already packed the gift box and sent it over.

Lu Huaiyu took it.

Sheng Yan took a look and smiled in surprise.

“Second Master Lu, are you bringing a small gift for someone?”

Lu Huaiyu thought for a moment and smiled.

“Yes, she likes to eat sweets.”

He usually appeared to be extremely cold and reserved. Now that he had smiled, there was a hint of indulgence and gentleness in the corners of his eyes and brows.

Yan Fei’s heart skipped a beat. She smiled and said, “It seems that Second Master Lu really dotes on this person.”

Lu Huaiyu raised the tip of his brows slightly.

“There’s only one of her, so of course, she should be doted on.”

Yan Fei was stunned.

When she heard this, she felt that something was not quite right...

Sheng Yan asked, "I wonder if Second Master Lu is free to attend tonight's Banquet?"

Lu Huaiyu knew that he was referring to the banquet that was jointly organized by the Gu family's Jockey Club and the Carlsberg Auction House.

Many bigwigs from all walks of life would attend this grand event. Hence, this was considered the most suitable venue to socialize.

Therefore, most people would give face and attend.

However, Lu Huaiyu was different.

He had come to Hong Kong City a few times and rarely appeared in public on such occasions.

That was why Sheng Yan had asked this question.

He had thought that Lu Huaiyu would refuse to attend the event like before. Unexpectedly, however, Lu Huaiyu merely considered the question briefly before nodding his head in agreement.

"Yes, I'll be going."

Sheng Yan and the others smiled in surprise.

"That's great."

Just then, the staff member cautiously handed over the watch.

Lu Huaiyu raised his arm to accept the box and hold it in the palm of his hand.

...

Dutian Racecourse.

The horse racing area.

Ning Li went to the changing room to change into her riding clothes.

Old Master Gu and Old Madam Gu were talking in the stands.

“So that’s how it is...”

Old Madam Gu laughed after hearing this.

“It’s no wonder that Brother Ci had that reaction just now.”

Old Master Gu snorted.

“That kid is just too smart. How can Ah Li be his match? In the future, who knows how much that kid will bully her?”

Old Madam Gu narrowed her eyes.

“Wasn’t he just taking revenge on behalf of Ah Li?”

“It’s because of this that I didn’t say too much to Ah Li earlier.”

Otherwise, he would have advised Ah Li to break up long ago.

That kid from the Lu family was very dangerous.

Old Madam Gu smiled.

“It’s been a long time since I’ve heard Brother Li praise someone like that.”

Old Master Gu furrowed his brows and raised his voice.

“In what way did I praise him?”

Old Madam Gu’s smile deepened, but she did not expose him.

Ning Li led Qingfeng out.

Now that Qingfeng was hers, so it had already changed stables.

She pulled the reins and carefully led Qingfeng, slender and tall.

Old Madam Gu was stunned.

Ning Li stood still and touched Qingfeng’s head. Qingfeng suddenly sneezed. So, she smiled and rubbed its ears to comfort it, before quickly getting on the horse!

Qingfeng listened to her instructions very well. There was no need to use the horsewhip. Just by shaking the reins, it would begin to run quickly.

Old Madam Gu became lost in her thoughts.

Even though she knew that Ning Li was not Yinyin, every time she saw her riding a horse, it would always overlap with the figure in her memory.

Old Master Gu's gaze deepened. After a long while, he sighed softly.

...

Ning Li rode her horse and stopped below the grandstand where Old Master Gu and Old Madam Gu were seated.

Old Madam Gu's expression had returned to her usual gentle and kindly look.

"Ah Li, there'll be a dinner party at Bansen Hotel tonight. It'll be quite lively. Do you want to go?"

Ning Li thought of the message that Lu Huaiyu had sent her and nodded slightly.

"Sure."

Old Madam Gu was very happy when she heard that she wanted to go.

"Then why don't you go and pick out a dress?"

Ning Li paused.

"Second Brother already sent one over."

Hearing this, Old Master Gu immediately snorted.

Ning Li looked at him in surprise.

She did not know why, but she sensed that Old Master Gu did not like Lu Huaiyu.

“Old Master Gu, is something wrong?”

Old Master Gu looked at her and felt a sense of grievance. After a while, he said, “It’s nothing.”

Old Madam Gu asked, “So, is Ah Li going with him?”

Ning Li said, “Second Brother said that he will be back later—”

“What time will the auction be over? It will be even later when he arrives,” said Old Master Gu, “Ah Li will go with us.”

Ning Li, “...”

Old Master Gu saw her hesitation and said, “If Ah Li feels bad about telling him, I’ll call him myself.”

Ning Li, “... I’ll do it.”

Old Madam Gu waved at her with a smile.

“Then, let’s get ready to go.”

...

7 pm, Bansen Hotel.

The huge banquet hall was brightly lit.

All the women were beautifully and luxuriously dressed.

"I heard that Second Master Lu broke the auction record again this afternoon?"

"170 million... Tsk, how extravagant."

"Hey, Feifei, you were the host of this auction. Just by relying on Second Master Lu's single order, you'll be earning a lot more commission, right?"

"That's right. Quickly tell us, what exactly happened back there?"

Several people had surrounded Yan Fei, unable to hide their excitement and eagerness to gossip.

"Second Master Lu's support wasn't something ordinary!"

"Didn't you say that he would come tonight? Why haven't I spotted him yet?"

Because of this news, Bansen Hotel was particularly lively tonight.

Yan Fei sipped her cocktail and smiled.

"We were supposed to come together, but the Vice President and Second Master Lu still seemed to have other matters to discuss, so they will probably come later."

She had changed into a nude pink strapless dress. Her hair was loose, and her exquisitely beautiful face had been lightly made up.

Zuo Ling looked around and bumped her arm.

“Hey, isn’t that your sister? Even though that incident happened to Young Master Zhong this afternoon, she still has the mood to come?”

At the auction in the afternoon, the Second Master of the Lu family had spent a lot of money just to ensure Zhong Haoqi’s displeasure, and the news had already spread like wildfire.

“I really don’t know in what way Young Master Zhong offended that person...”

Yan Fei shook her head.

“I’m not sure about that either.”

Zhuo Qianqian smiled and said, “Who cares? Anyway, Young Master Zhong definitely won’t be coming tonight. Oh right, speaking of this, I heard that.... Miss Ning will be coming.”

Chapter 500: Little Black Dress

1

Miss Ning.

Although she did not explicitly say it, everyone knew who she was referring to.

—Ning Li.

Before Lu Huaiyu had arrived in Hong Kong, this person had been the center of heated discussion in the upper circles of the entire Hong Kong City.

After all, this was the first time in so long that the Gu family had favored someone so much.

“I heard that she was born in a small county in the mainland. She was brought up by her grandmother when her father went to prison.”

Zhuo Qianqian had a pitying smile on her face,

“It wasn’t easy for her mother to remarry into a wealthy family. However, in the end, the family went bankrupt less than a year after Ning Li had been taken into the family. I heard that her stepfather will also be sentenced to a heavy sentence. Tsk, how pitiful.”

When she said this, the people surrounding her were shocked.

“Really? Is her background that interesting?”

“Didn’t she say that she was personally invited by Gu Tinglan? Moreover, she is with Yu Pingchuan. That person is also a famous oil painter in the country. His status isn’t low...”

Zhuo Qianqian smiled and said, “All these things can easily be found out. To be honest, when I saw Young Master Gu and Yu Pingchuan being so protective of her, I really thought that she was the daughter of some kind of important family. I didn’t expect—”

She paused for a moment and shrugged her shoulders slightly.

“She must be pretty amazing, to be able to reach this stage with such a background. If only we were half as capable as her... Hehe.”

The people beside her exchanged meaningful glances with each other.

After a long while, Yan Fei smiled and said, “No matter what, she is now considered a guest of the Gu family now.”

Old Master Gu had personally gifted the horse to her and Old Madam Gu had stepped in to protect her.

This was enough.

Zuo Ling curled her lips indifferently.

“Why do you care so much about her anyway? After all, she’s just an outsider. It doesn’t matter whether she comes or not. On the other hand, Feifei— you’re the most beautiful person in the entire venue today. When Second Master Lu comes over later, you have to seize the opportunity.”

As she spoke, she raised her chin.

“Don’t you see how many women are eyeing that opportunity today?”

Yan Fei’s face was slightly red. Before she could speak, a sarcastic voice suddenly came from the side.

“The Second Master of the Lu family has very high standards. Even Xu Yini couldn’t win his favor. Some people shouldn’t take themselves too seriously, right?”

Yan Zhen.

When she heard this, the smile on Yan Fei’s face faded greatly.

“I don’t think that way.”

Yan Zhen crossed her arms, contempt flashing in her eyes.

She was very clear about the thoughts in Yan Fei's mind.

Without even considering her own background, she was trying to get close to that person.

"You have to know your place, understand?"

Her words were harsh, yet Yan Fei and the others did not say anything.

After a while, Yan Fei said, "Sister, I forgot to ask, is Young Master Zhong okay?"

When she mentioned this, Yan Zhen's expression turned ugly.

Zhong Haoqi had been completely humiliated today. After returning home, he was severely reprimanded by Father Zhong, and she did not know where he had gone and he could not be contacted.

Initially, she had wanted to look for him, but her family had ordered her not to go.

Tonight's banquet was very important. As the eldest daughter of the Yan family, she still had to come.

However, in the end, Yan Fei had brought up the issue.

She sneered.

"If you really care about him that much, why don't you call him yourself?"

Yan Fei did not say anything else.

Yan Zhen took one last look at her, turned around, and left.

“Feifei, don’t take what she said to heart,” Zhuo Qianqian advised in a low voice, “Everyone knows that Second Master Lu bought three items at a high price at the auction. Without even mentioning the first two, the watch set a new record for all the auction houses in the country.”

As the auctioneer of this auction, Yan Fei would inevitably be mentioned by others.

Hearing her words, Yan Fei’s expression finally improved.

Just then, the main entrance of the banquet hall suddenly became lively.

Everyone turned their heads to look.

A group of people were escorting Old Master Gu and Old Madam Gu over.

For a moment, the banquet hall suddenly became quiet.

Several of the masters of the Gu family had already arrived. The person accompanying Old Master Gu was Young Master Gu Siyang.

Meanwhile, the person beside Old Madam Gu...

Was Ning Li.

She was wearing a classic sleeveless black dress that went down to her knees. It was simple and luxurious.

Her long wavy hair was tied up, revealing her slender and fair swan-like neck. Her exquisite collarbones were displayed, and as the light shone, she look like she was covered in starlight.

The well-tailored dress was cinched in at the waist, which showed off her slender and incredibly slim waist.

The color was an extremely pure and rich black color, but on her body, it seemed to emit a different kind of brilliant light.

Some people were born to be the focus of everyone's attention, easily shining with boundless radiance.

Many people's faces flashed with amazement.

They had more or less heard of Ning Li's name in the past two days, but there were not many who had actually seen her in person.

Today, when they saw her with their own eyes, they were shocked to realize that she was even cleaner and more beautiful than they had expected.

Her facial features were already extremely beautiful and perfect, and her temperament was pure and clear.

Gu Tinglan was the first to welcome them.

"Father, Mother."

As his gaze fell on Ning Li, there was a hint of a smile on his face.

He had been busy with the horse race event for the past few days and had not been able to spare any time.

When he heard that Old Madam Gu liked Ning Li a lot, he felt that it was quite a rare and good thing.

Ning Li replied, "Yes."

“Doctor Gu.”

Old Madam Gu patted Ning Li’s hand lightly and smiled.

“Ah Li, let Siyang show you around first. It’s rare to see such a lively scene tonight. Just be casual. Don’t feel like you have to restrain yourself.”

There were many people attending this banquet. Other than the aristocratic families in Hong Kong City, there were also big shots from all walks of life.

Of course, there were also a lot of young people.

Old Madam Gu thought that Ning Li might feel a bit constrained being with them, and she reckoned that she would be able to get along better with her peers.

The reason she let Gu Siyang take care of her was because she wanted her to make more friends.

After all, Gu Siyang was the Young Master of the Gu family. He was quite popular. With him taking care of her, Old Madam Gu felt a lot more at ease.

Ning Li knew that she had good intentions, and her heart warmed.

“Thank you, Old Madam Gu.”

Gu Siyang was very happy to accept the mission.

“Then Ning Li and I will go over first?”

After getting permission, Gu Siyang led Ning Li to the beverage table on the right side of the banquet hall.

“Ning Li, what would you like to drink?”

Ning Li glanced at it casually.

“Orange juice.”

Gu Siyang knew that she would not drink alcohol easily outside, so he simply agreed and handed her a glass of orange juice.

As for himself, he chose a glass of red wine.

In just a short while, someone had already taken the initiative to approach them.

“Siyang, it’s been a long time since you’ve returned to Hong Kong City. I think that the person beside you must be Miss Ning, right? Why don’t you help by introducing her?”

Gu Siyang smiled, partly out of goodwill.

It could be said that these people had a good relationship with him. They were curious and inquisitive about Ning Li, but they were all very polite and kind.

After Ning Li had greeted them one by one, it could be considered that they were now acquaintances.

They chatted casually, and the atmosphere was harmonious.

Suddenly, one of them lowered his voice, unable to hide his excitement as he asked, “Oh right, Siyang, I heard that two SSS members won the nine-figure prize money at the horse races. Is that true?”

Ning Li paused for a moment before taking a sip of orange juice.