

## Chapter 501: Beyond Human Limit

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Also, they’ve been doing human experimentation,” Mubai added with a sigh. This however didn’t surprise Xinghe. “I knew as much.”

“But I don’t think you knew that they were only doing their experiments on one person, follow me.” Mubai pulled her to another lab. The scale of the base was once more showcased by the number of labs available there. They took quite a journey before reaching their destination.

The lab that they were heading was the one Xinghe saw in her surveillance. As she expected, there was a woman lying in the middle of the lab.

Her eyes were still closed and her body completely still, it was as if she was already dead. However, the echo-cardiograph she was connected to was proof otherwise.

Mubai explained, “I’ve scanned through all the data here and it’s all about this woman. The captives confirmed that they have been studying this woman for years.”

Xinghe looked at him with some horror in her eyes. “She has been here for years?”

“That’s right.” Mubai nodded solemnly. “From the research data, this woman is different from common human beings. Her brain cells are highly active, her metabolism is faster than usual, and her cellular energy is unusually heightened.”

Xinghe understood what Mubai meant. She asked directly, “In other words, she’s a super human?”

“Her data seems to suggest that. Of course, this shouldn’t be that surprising since there are cases of extremely gifted individuals found in the world, but they are extremely rare.”

For several reasons, Xinghe’s first thought was, Maybe she is related to the energy crystal.

She shared her observation with Mubai. Mubai frowned in contemplation. “Why would you say so?”

Xinghe looked at him and elaborated, “Because I realized that the owners of these energy crystals are indeed people that we would call unusual.”

Comprehension dawned for Mubai. Xinghe continued her analysis, “You might not know this, but my mother is a very impressive woman, she taught me everything I know. Xia Meng’s father managed to create memory cells. Their abilities are way beyond the human limit, it’s my suspicion that they have an unusual background...”

Xinghe kept her speculation vague but Mubai got what she was hinting at. Maybe this group of people’s parents are not normal human beings, in other words, super humans.

But this speculation was too preposterous!

Then again, this world was filled with unexplainable things. Who could really deny the existence of super humans?

“We must bring this woman home with us,” Mubai decided then and there. “She might be the opening we need to further understand this mystery.”

“I need to take all the information here as well,” Xinghe added.

Mubai nodded. “Naturally.”

Maybe they could find out something more from the research data.

Mubai managed to persuade Philip to allow them to take everything they needed from the base. Xinghe spent a whole day copying the data from the base, then she was to return to Hwa Xia with Mubai.

Philip assumed office that very day. He became Country Y’s new president.

The toxin inside Kelly’s body had been cleared using Lu Qi’s antidote, but she required a period of time to recover.

Sam’s group was unwilling to part with Xinghe, but they had no choice. Xinghe intended to ask them to join her but she was rejected by Charlie.

He still had unfinished business at Country Y and his students wanted to stay with him. However, they did promise to visit her when the chance arose.

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## Chapter 502: Afraid that She'll Be Stolen

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Not only that, Philip even took Xinghe as his step-sister. In other words, Xinghe was the president's sister. He promised to value Sam's group.

With that promise, Xinghe stopped worrying about her newfound friends.

She had spent about a month in Country Y. Nobody knew when she arrived, and similarly, nobody realized she was leaving.

Only her small group of friends came to bid her farewell.

“Sister, if you have any request or difficulty in the future, feel free to come to me. Kelly and I will always remember everything you've done for us; you are part of our family now,” Philip told Xinghe seriously.

Xinghe was surprised that Philip was serious about taking her as his sister. After all, they had only known each other for a few days. However, Philip was adamant because he knew this operation wouldn't have been successful without her aid.

Xinghe nodded. “I understand, don't worry, the two of you will have a place in my heart.”

“Xinghe, don't forget about us too. We will definitely go find you when we have time. If you need our help, don't hesitate to ask,” Ali also told her with a heavy heart.

Sam smiled, trying to lighten the mood. “Even though we've only known each other for a short while, don't forget, you will always be one of us.”

Xinghe nodded with a smile. “Of course. Actually, I'm very appreciative of your help, so if you need my help, please come and find me, I will help to the best of my ability.”

This was a promise that Xinghe would hold for as long as she may live. She didn't give out promises easily, but those that she did, she would keep them for life.

“Xinghe, I really don’t want you to go,” Ali pulled her in for a hug. This was probably the first time that the hardened woman showed her vulnerable side. She didn’t have many female friends, Xinghe was the only one.

Xinghe was not one for sentimental partings, she consoled Ali rather awkwardly, “I will come visit when I have time.”

Mubai reminded them, “We have to go now, don’t worry, I’m sure we will meet again one day.”

Ali finally let Xinghe go and she waved her goodbye, “Xinghe, have a safe journey, we will go visit when everything’s settled here.”

“Alright, goodbye everyone,” Xinghe also waved them goodbye as she was pulled onto the plane by Mubai.

Ali and the rest stayed until Mubai’s plane disappeared into the sky. Xinghe saw they were still waving at her from the window and she couldn’t help but smile.

Before she had little to almost no friends but now, she found herself with more and more people that she could call friends...

“Actually, I don’t like them,” Mubai said suddenly beside her.

Xinghe turned to look at him with a befuddled look. Mubai didn’t know how he should explain himself. He looked at her and averted his eyes. He complained with some degree of dissatisfaction, “I don’t like you hanging out with them because they will take away your attention and time that could have been spent with me.”

Initially, only he knew how to appreciate Xinghe. Now he was afraid that, with more and more starting to like her, she would be taken away from him.

Needless to say, Xinghe was clueless as to what he meant. She explained clearly, “But they’re my friends, so it’s only fair that I spend time with them and pay them attention.”

Mubai turned back to look at her and asked in his raspy voice, “But, what about me?”

Xinghe was caught at a loss of words.

## Chapter 503: Do Like Him

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Mubai didn't intend to let her wiggle out of this one, so he pressed, "What about me? What am I to you?"

"You..." Xinghe opened her mouth to say something but no words came out. The atmosphere suddenly became extremely weird and awkward. Mubai kept staring at her with anticipation, waiting for her answer.

He wanted to know what his position in her heart was. He did promise her that he would wait, but he was still dying to know where he stood in the grand scheme of things.

Xinghe finally answered, "You are also my friend."

Mubai couldn't believe he just got friend-zoned.

Xinghe continued to explain, "Even though it might be weird for us to be friends but..."

"Xia Xinghe," Mubai interrupted her with a helpless shake of his head. "Do you think I'm willing to stay as your friend?"

"..."

"I'm sure you know my intentions." Mubai stared at her with burning passion. "Tell me the truth, what is your heart saying at this moment?"

Xinghe was silent with her thoughts before asking, "You really want to know?"

"Yes."

"I've been thinking about how to deal with Feng Saohuang and to uncover the mystery of Project Galaxy."

Mubai didn't know whether to give up or cry facing her honesty.

He grabbed her hand like it was a lifeline and demanded, "You've not thought one bit about our relationship?"

"Honestly, I have but only a little."

Mubai was willing to take that, a little was better than none.

“Then, what are your thoughts?” Mubai asked her on patiently.

Xinghe answered truthfully, “I’ve decided to push it back until the things I mentioned earlier are resolved.”

Xinghe’s answer was like a pail of cold water to his face.

“Then do you like me, even a little bit?” Mubai might not have been prepared to hear that answer, but he decided to be brazen about it and cut right to the point. Mubai realized Xinghe could always render his usual self-control pointless.

Thankfully, Xinghe’s honest answer this time was a lot more acceptable. “There should be a certain degree of affection, but I can’t say how much.”

Mubai could see the spring flowers blooming in the background; he was over the moon!

His pair of shining eyes locked onto hers and his face split into a broad smile. “In other words, you do like me, right?”

Xinghe, for some reason, nodded with a faint blush. She did like him to a certain degree...

Or else with her personality, she wouldn’t have wasted so much time discussing their relationship, and she wouldn’t have helped him. So, in conclusion, she did like him.

Mubai suddenly lifted her chin up and said gently, “That’s good enough, it means that you have taken the first step! Do not worry, because I will make the other remaining 99 steps, you just stand still and wait for me, okay?”

Xinghe frowned slightly. How come she felt she needed to commit a little more so that the relationship was an equal. They needed to contribute the same amount of work to be fair, right?

Mubai wasn’t aware of her thoughts he was too caught up in his own happiness. He was like a kid who just got accepted by his crush.

“Can I kiss you?” he suddenly asked. Before Xinghe could answer, he leaned in. The kiss was a gentle and short one.

It wasn't especially passionate. It reminded Xinghe of a first kiss, chaste yet treasured.

This was not the first time they kissed, but for several reasons, it touched Xinghe's heart.



## Chapter 504: Was Taken Prisoner

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xinghe didn't push him away this time. Mubai realized she didn't get mad so he couldn't stop himself from going in for another kiss. This time it was deeper and more passionate...

The plane flew into the clouds. The sunlight filtered through the window, shining on the kissing couple and creating a dreamlike picture...

Mubai thought this was the best kiss he had ever since he was born. However, he would have to work hard to make sure this wasn't his last.

He hugged Xinghe and his smile was brighter than the sun. He believed that they would achieve everlasting bliss, eventually.

He also knew the road towards that goal would be hard and treacherous, but he knew that as long as they worked together, nothing would be able to stand in their way.

...

While Mubai and Xinghe were rushing back, the Xi family was facing a giant quandary. Ever since Xinghe had escaped from the country, the Xi family had been under a lot of pressure.

The law enforcement charged them for abetting and assisting the escape of a fugitive and had been investigating them ever since. Even someone as influential as Grandfather Xi was interrogated.

However, the most impacted was Munan because he'd had the most interactions with Xinghe. He was the one who allowed Xinghe to enter into the military and he was the one who paid Xinghe's bail. Furthermore, he had the earlier history of being investigated for stealing military munitions, therefore he was the most suspected.

By now, Munan had already been suspended from his post and had been taken prisoner, waiting to be brought before the military court.

However, because of the Xi family's influence, even though he was behind bars, they didn't maltreat him. His cell had everything he'd ever need; it was not worse than a hotel room. The only difference was there were a lot of guards standing outside his room.

Every time anyone from the Xi family wanted to meet him, they needed to go through quite a few procedures.

Now, even his father had been suspended; things were looking bad for the Xi family.

However, Munan maintained his optimistic attitude. He stayed in his cell and read newspaper and books daily; it was like he was on vacation. The only thing that ruined that was Saohuang and Lin Yun's constant visits.

...

Today, they were there again. Munan was taken to a tiny conference room where the two of them already sat waiting.

He frowned instantly and complained to his guard, "Didn't I say, I'm not available if it's these two that want to see me?"

The guard didn't answer but he grumbled internally, You don't have the right to demand that now.

Lin Yun smirked with derision. "Xi Munan, I've just been assigned to oversee this case, so you have to cooperate! Now, you're no longer the venerable Major Xi but a lowly prisoner!"

"But we will not give you many difficulties, since we were once comrades. Sit down and let's have a chat," Saohuang added sardonically.

Munan had thought about just turning around and leaving. However, he still walked over calmly and sat before them. There was no trace of humiliation in his expression. "Fine, if you want to chat, let's chat. After all, I have plenty of free time."

Lin Yun leaned forward and smiled lightly. "I'm glad that you're willing to cooperate. Xi Munan, you know very well why we came to find you. You're going to the military court

soon, so this is your last chance. Cooperate with us and your charge will be lightened. So, tell us what we need to know.”

Munan scoffed listening to her fake concern. Lin Yun didn't mind it, after all, she wasn't going to lower herself to the level of a prisoner!

## Chapter 505: Tell Us Where Xia Xinghe Is

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However, her tone did get colder, “Xi Munan, tell us honestly, where is Xia Xinghe?”

This question, they had asked many times. Initially Munan would say he didn’t know, but after so many repetitions, he simply refused to answer. Lin Yun knew he was not going to cooperate, but she didn’t get mad. Instead, she patiently asked, “You and Xia Xinghe are both involved in stealing and profiteering from illegal military munitions, am I right?”

Munan remained silent. He only gave a scoff in reply.

The professional smile was still plastered on Lin Yun’s face. “You purposely helped Xia Xinghe escape this country because you were afraid she would sell you out, isn’t that true?”

“ ... ”

“Xi Munan, as long as you’re willing to admit to your sin, I’m sure the judge will look kindly on you. However, if you still refuse to cooperate then your charge will be bigger. You have to understand, Xia Xinghe’s connection to the munition organization is ironclad. Now that you’ve helped her escape, your prison time is confirmed. Only by coming clean can you be pardoned to a certain degree,” Lin Yun continued kindly.

He knew this Lin Yun had a fiery character, but every time she came, she was incredibly patient.

Munan stared at her coldly and responded, “Tell me, what kind of plan is your Lin family devising? What do you wish to get from my Xi family?”

Lin Yun didn’t expect this curveball. Her eyes shuddered. She smiled thinly. “I don’t think I understand what you mean. I was assigned to oversee your case and that’s the only reason I’m here.”

“I think you are overseeing more than me here.” Munan’s eyes fell on Saohuang, implicating their relationship. “You two can

drop your charade. The only reason you two cooperated is to bring down the Xi family, right?”

Saohuang smiled. “Munan, this accusation is a bit out there. The illegal organization you’re supporting may be a threat to this country’s safety; I’m here only because I was ordered to be. After all, the whole military is paying a lot of attention to your case.”

“But the two of you seem to care about this the most.” Munan smirked.

“I can’t help it if you want to see it that way, but now, you have to understand that it is you who is facing a criminal charge.” Lin Yun said gently, “Munan, I believe that the Xi family wouldn’t do anything this overboard. This must be Xia Xinghe’s idea, so if you tell us her location, after we detain her, she will bear the brunt of the responsibility. Why should you take the blame for this woman, it’s not worth it, don’t you agree?”

“It is indeed not worth it for her to take the fall for me,” Munan answered.

Saohuang glared at him coldly. “Xi Munan, if you give us her location, you might still have a chance to survive. By not giving us the information, you’re courting death!”

Lin Yun nodded, “He’s right. As long as we can catch her, you don’t need to accept the whole criminal charge. You’re going to be summoned to the military court soon; this is the last chance for you to come clean and save yourself.”

Munan was done listening. He chuckled sarcastically. “Come clean? If I come clean, I will die faster.”

Lin Yun finally narrowed her eyes. “So, you want to fight the law to the bitter end?”

“No, I’m fighting you two until the bitter end,” Munan corrected with a smile. “You want me to admit that Xi Family was involved in this trumped up deal? Impossible! I know as much about the law as the both of you, don’t think you can tease the words out of me.”

He was a military major, of course, he knew they were trapping him. He laughed at Lin Yun and Saohuang's futile attempt to do so.

Lin Yun laughed. "You think we're here to trap you? Even if you don't admit anything, your charges will stick! Xia Xinghe's sin will also fall on your head, are you willing to take up this burden for her?"

## Chapter 506: I Want the Xi Family to Go Extinct

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Do you really think I’m going to listen to you?” Munan chided her.

“In other words, you would rather die than admit to the truth?” Lin Yun’s smile slowly disappeared.

Munan shrugged wordlessly, garnering a sarcastic laugh from Saohuang.

“Xi Munan, we’re almost the same and your start is even more auspicious than mine, but now you’re a prisoner and I will take over the Flying Dragon Unit. Don’t you think you’ve had enough failure? So, don’t be stubborn, or there will only be more humiliation and failure awaiting you.”

“Listening to the crap that came out of the both of your mouths is already my biggest failure and humiliation; it can’t get any worse than this,” Munan told them directly.

Saohuang smiled but his eyes were cold. Lin Yun also smiled slightly. “Looks like you’re unwilling to cooperate.”

“Isn’t that a given?” Munan shrugged with derision.

“Very good, if you’re still so stubborn then we won’t disturb you anymore.” Lin Yun stood up gracefully, but the next second, her face changed, and she grabbed at the hot tea and splashed it on Munan’s face. The scalding hot tea startled Munan.

He glared coldly at Lin Yun, trying his best to suppress his desire to counter. The tea leaves flowed down his handsome features, embarrassing him...

Lin Yun slammed down the tea cup and her attitude had a drastic change. She warned viciously, “Do you still think you’re worth something? Take a look at yourself first before you talk like that to me! Don’t worry, I will make sure that the rest of you kin follow in your footsteps. Just wait and see!”

Lin Yun then spat in his face and turned to leave.

Saohuang stood up slowly and moved to stand beside Munan. He patted him lightly on his shoulder and said, “The day you are taken to court will be the day I take over the Flying Dragon Unit. Thank you for your cooperation, I wouldn’t have won so easily without you. Therefore, I will attend your trial to support you, good luck.”

He gave a smug smile and followed behind Lin Yun.

Munan swiped the water from his face and chuckled. Bunch of maggots, you’ll get your faces slapped soon enough!

...

After Lin Yun got out of the detention center, she entered the car. Not long after, Saohuang also climbed in. Lin Yun was still fuming.

She hissed, “Looks like he’s not going to cooperate no matter what. How are we going to pin this on them if he is not going to confess?”

Saohuang consoled her with a smile, “At least we have them on aiding and abetting the fugitive, Xia Xinghe. That is more than enough.”

“How is that enough?” Lin Yun complained with dissatisfaction, “I want the whole Xi family to perish, not only Xi Munan. One Xi Munan is not enough in my eyes.”

“But Xi Munan’s downfall means the collapse of the Xi family, right?”

“You’re too innocent,” Lin Yun smirked. “The Xi family’s biggest hope is not Xi Munan but Xi Mubai. Xi Munan’s downfall means nothing to the Xi family. With Mubai at the helm, they will eventually rise back to the top.”

Saohuang started his engine and replied, “What else can we do? We can’t force Xi Munan to confess, can we?”

Lin Yun seemed to have stumbled upon a solution. “The confession needn’t have to come from his own mouth. As long as his crime of colluding with the illegal organization is established, then the entire Xi family will be condemned, right?”



Saohuang looked at her with a confused expression.

“He was suspected of that, but that suspicion has long since been cleared.”

“Then, we will figure out a way to make the charge stick this time,” Lin Yun said as she smiled at Saohuang. Her smile was venomous and meaningful...

## Chapter 507: Lin Family is Not Going to Escape Unscathed

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Saohuang stopped the car suddenly by the side of the road.

He stared darkly at her. “Miss Lin, what do you mean by that?”

Lin Yun smiled thinly. “Do you really need me to spell it out for you? Do you really think I believe it is just a coincidence that bad things keep happening to the Xi family? If anything, my belief is that they’re innocent of most of this.”

Saohuang’s sharp gaze never moved. He smiled. “It sounds like Miss Lin believes it was me who framed them.”

“I didn’t say that. I’m just thinking, since there have been two coincidences already, why not make it happen a third time?”

“If you want another coincidence, you should go pray to God. Why are you telling me this?”

“I’m just discussing it with you. I believe you also hope that a third coincidence will happen, right?” Lin Yun smiled and asked but her meaning was fairly obvious. She knew it was Saohuang who framed the Xi family and she wished for him to do it again!

Saohuang smiled lightly. He had a question of his own.

“Actually, I’m curious, why is the Lin family so adamant on destroying the Xi family. Like Xi Munan asked, what is your purpose?”

“Big Brother Feng, curiosity kills the cat.”

“But we’re in a collaboration, right? If you wish for this to continue, you have to give me something.”

In other words, if he didn’t have anything on his side for leverage, he would not utilize his resources to frame the Xi family. Lin Yun was a smart cookie, so she understood what Saohuang was getting at.

She thought about it and decided to reveal some information, “Really, we’re not seeking much. It’s their own fault for refusing to cooperate with us. Since they’re not going to be

our friend, they have to be destroyed. Plus, the Xi family is sitting on such a large amount of assets, who wouldn't be interested?"

So, they are after the Xis' assets. She's right, anyone would be interested in such large assets.

"Big Brother Feng, we are running out of time. If the Xi family doesn't fall, it'll be troublesome for you as well. So, I'm sure you know what to do," Lin Yun said as she patted him lightly on his arm like she was asking him to do something simple.

However, the thing she asked was for him to destroy the entire Xi family. Saohuang might be cruel, but he was not stupid. He would not do this kind of task that mostly benefited others.

Furthermore, the thing that he wanted was already close to his hands, there was no need for him to take the extra risk.

Then again, Lin Yun had a point, as long as the Xi family still existed, he had something to worry about. After all, they knew he was the one causing their downfall. After they came back from this ordeal, they would definitely come for him.

"Big Brother Feng, if you keep this cooperation, your future is guaranteed to be bright. Don't worry because we Lin family will always be on the lookout for our allies," Lin Yun continued to lure him in.

Of course, Saohuang knew they were only using him to kill the Xi family by proxy, but he had no choice but to follow the order.

He smiled lightly. "No more next time."

Lin Yun's face split into a smile, "Naturally! I assure you, this is the last time."

Saohuang didn't reply but started his car.

...

After he dropped Lin Yun back home, he returned to his camp.

After he told Sun Yu everything, Sun Yu said anxiously, "Boss, the Lin family already knows it is us who framed the

Xi family. What should we do? They will definitely use this knowledge as leverage over us.”

Saohuang shook his head. “Don’t worry about that for now. Lin Yun only has her suspicions but no actual proof.”

“But you’ve admitted to her...”

Saohuang laughed. “So, what if I did? She still had no proof. But this Lin family really thinks I’m their lackey, huh? We’re in a cooperative relationship; I’m not someone they can just order around.”

“Then what shall we do?” Sun Yu asked.

“What else can we do? The Xi family must be destroyed but the Lin family is not going to escape unscathed either!”

## Chapter 508: Assassinate Xi Munan

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

When he said that, malevolence flashed across Saohuang's eyes. He looked at Sun Yu and continued, "You'll be responsible for this operation."

"Me?" Sun Yu was caught by surprise.

Saohuang nodded slightly. "That's right. IV Syndicate's main base has been destroyed and its people are in absolute chaos. I cannot rely on them. Now, the only person I can trust is you."

Sun Yu also had a criminal gang under his command, therefore Saohuang had to rely on him.

Sun Yu nodded. "Okay, what kind of operation will this be?"

"Of course, it is an assassination. Xi Munan is your partner, and to ensure that he doesn't sell your men out, you have to assassinate him to seal his mouth; it's that simple," Saohuang said lightly.

Sun Yu understood it immediately. He said excitedly, "That is a wonderful idea! My men have no idea who our partners are or how many partners we have, so they can't say for sure the partner is not Xi Munan."

Saohuang nodded with satisfaction. "Good. Even though this will be a great sacrifice, it is worth it. Your men will be proud to sacrifice themselves for our better future."

Sun Yu nodded. "Understood! I will go arrange it now."

After Sun Yu left, Saohuang called Lin Yun.

"Hello," Lin Yun's graceful voice came from the other side.

Saohuang asked directly, "I've arranged the thing that you asked, the Xi family will not be able to escape this time. You decide when that will be."

Lin Yun giggled suddenly. "You're recording this, aren't you?"

Why else would you call me and say something like that?

Lin Yun was an agent at the national intelligence agency; she had seen this kind of cheap trick many times before.

Saohuang didn't deny it. "I have to keep a safety route for myself, don't I? Say the word and the operation will start."

If she didn't give him any leverage, then the operation wouldn't start. This was his way of making sure that if he failed, the Lin family would fail together with him!

Lin Yun hesitated before answering, "Naturally, the operation has to be carried out tonight, as soon as possible."

"Alright, we'll listen to you. This is you asking for the Xi family to be destroyed, not me."

"That's right, it is me, Lin Yun, representing the Lin family asking you to do this. Jesus, Feng Saohuang, you sure are narrow-minded." Lin Yun hanged up after that and smiled at her phone with derision.

So, this is what Feng Saohuang is like! Unfortunately for him, we're not afraid of some small military general; record what you want!

If she was afraid of retribution, she wouldn't have approached him in the first place.

...

Night soon fell.

Munan was still kept at the detention center. The guards there stood at their post. They had no clue someone had already snuck into the building.

Sun Yu used the surveillance to familiarize his men with the geographical situation, and with his help, his men managed to sneak into the facility easily.

The assassins slid the door to Munan's cell open and saw a man lying on the bed facing away from them.

From the sound of the man's steady breathing, it seemed like he was sound asleep.

The assassins slithered in without making a sound and pulled out their daggers. They looked at each other and signaled. They plunged their daggers into the man's vitals at the same time.

The man woke up and screamed on reflex, but his mouth was quickly smothered by someone's strong hand. The daggers went in and out of his body, blood spraying everywhere.

The man struggled for a few seconds longer before going completely still.

However, the next second, the few assassins realized something was wrong.

## Chapter 509: The Boss

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

They seemed to have targeted the wrong person!

“This is not Xi Munan!” one of the assassins yelped in surprise.

“Have we been found out? Retreat now!” The few assassins quickly dispersed from the scene, but the surveillance suddenly came back online. The siren sounded immediately!

In the blink of an eye, all the guards came out. The assassins pulled out their guns in a panic and started firing.

The gunshot shattered the peaceful quiet of the night.

Munan was in his room when he heard the siren and gunshots. He looked out the window with a serious expression, but he had no clue what had happened. However, he soon found out.

...

Of the assassins, two were shot dead on the spot while the remaining were captured alive. After several interrogations, they revealed their plan to assassinate Xi Munan. However, they had no idea why they would end up with the wrong target. It was at this point that the police realized these were not professional assassins but glorified henchmen.

Their reason to target Munan was shocking as well. It was because Munan was their partner and knew about their existence. They were afraid that Munan would sell them out, so they decided to come for his life.

Alas, their plan failed horribly.

These people surrendered everything during the interrogation but there was one thing that they held back, the identity of their boss. They refused to tell who the person that ordered the hit on Munan was.

It seemed like they were afraid of this character, whoever it might be.



They said they had proof that Munan was their partner in the business of profiteering military munitions because they had really cooperated with the military before but had no clue who the insider was. But now they were certain it was Xi Munan.

When asked to present other evidence, they couldn't. However, they swore by their statement because their boss had confirmed the partner was Munan!

Of course, they had absolute faith in the validity of the news or else they wouldn't have taken the risk to assassinate him in the detention center. Plus, these people had blind loyalty in their boss, they had faith that their boss wouldn't lie to them.

Just like that, another charge fell on Munan's head. When he heard this, he was ready to curse the house down.

"You're going to believe crap like this?" Munan asked the police chief that visited him with a sarcastic smile, "Just because they said that I was their partner, it has to be so? In that case, could they have blamed anyone and that person would've been captured?"

The police chief asked seriously, "If it is not you, why did they risk coming here to assassinate you?"

"Because someone is trying to pin this sin on me!"

"Who is?"

"That I can't say, after all I have no proof, but he will be found out eventually," Munan said through gritted teeth. His hatred towards Saohuang doubled. It would probably be extinguished only after the man was removed from this Earth!

"Munan, I also believe that you're innocent, but every single one of them said that you're involved in the munitions deals, you have to find evidence to prove otherwise or we can't help you."

"My bank credit and clean history, are those not good evidence?" Munan retorted.

The chief nodded. "Which is why I am suspicious of their statements. Regardless, you're still our main suspect and we will investigate further. However, this incident has caused the

death of one inmates and several prison guards, it will probably influence your court appearance tomorrow.”

## Chapter 510: Court in the Morning

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“So be it. After all, I did none of the things they said I did,” Munan said coldly. However, he knew internally that people’s doubts had gotten much bigger. Things were getting tricky.

...

The Xi family received news of those events soon after. Even though it was already late night, no one was sleeping; everyone was awake to discuss this.

The fact that Munan had been framed again came as a surprise to them. He was already in jail and Saohuang still wouldn’t let him be.

“This Feng Saohuang is like a crazy dog that won’t loosen his bite on us!” Jiangnian complained angrily.

Grandfather Xi explained solemnly, “Since he has started this sabotage, of course, he won’t stop half way. Looks like he is adamant to crush the entire Xi family!”

“We were too careless. We didn’t realize that he has so many disposable men on his hands and the worst thing is those men are stupidly loyal to him even though they were sacrificed. This Saohuang is too cunning and clever,” Jiangsan said slowly.

Grandfather Xi nodded. “I agree, this young man is too scary. For the sake of victory, he is willing to do anything. This time, if we manage to get the proof of his criminality, we must crush him completely.”

“However, Mubai and Xinghe had been gone for so long, when will they return with the evidence? Munan is going to court tomorrow morning.” Jiangnian’s brows furrowed with worry.

Grandfather Xi stated with authority, “This is just a court appearance. Even after the verdict, we can still appeal. As long as there is still a chance, we mustn’t surrender!”

“Shall we contact Mubai?” Jiangsan asked suddenly. After Mubai left, they hadn’t contacted him. Similarly, Mubai hadn’t contacted them either. This void of communication was for the sake of covering their tracks.

However, at that juncture, he was really worried about Mubai’s situation and curious about their development.

Grandfather Xi shook his head. “Not yet, we mustn’t slip up at a time like this. Tomorrow, Jiangsan and I will go to the court, you stay at home in case there is an emergency.”

“Yes.” Jiangsan nodded slightly.

Munan was going to be taken before the military court, it was closed to the public. However, due to Elder Xi and Jiangnian’s unique identity and their relationship to Munan, they would be allowed entry.

However, Jiangsan would be held at the door, so there was nothing he could do even if he went.

...

That night, the whole Xi family was restless. It was the same for Munan.

In fact, it was a restless night for the many parties involved. There was a feeling of calm before the storm.

If there were no accidents, this would be a giant hit to the Xi family.

The only thing that the Xi family could do was to assign Munan the best lawyer. As long as Munan refused to admit his sin, then the proceedings could still be dragged. Naturally, Munan would do that. Even Saohuang knew, the guilty verdict wouldn’t happen any time soon.

However, that was okay because as long as Munan couldn’t clear his name, eventually the court would announce his guilt. It was only a matter of time until the fire reached the Xi family.

As the Xi family had thought about this so did many other people. They were worried for the Xi family’s future. Recently, the Xi family had kept getting into trouble. The

majority felt this was going to be the coup de grace for the Xi family.

Even the Xi family themselves felt that way.

Little did they know that the fate changers, Xinghe and Mubai, were on their way home...

## Chapter 511: Morals and Mores

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

After two days of flight, the plane finally landed at City T. Xinghe was a fugitive, so returning to Hwa Xia was a bit of a trouble. However, with Philip's help, their return trip was still successful.

Xinghe's emotions were complicated when she laid her eyes on this familiar cityscape. She had left the place for less than a month, but it felt like she had been away for a very long time. The last month was like a dream to her. However, no matter what, it was undeniable that she and Mubai had succeeded!

They had Feng Saohuang's proof of criminal activity in their hands. She fulfilled the promise she'd made herself: When she returned, it was going to be the end for Feng Saohuang!

Xinghe immediately pulled out her phone to make an international call, "Hello, Big Brother? We've landed, so you can start the operation now."

"Okay, I will do it now. Good luck," Philip replied, the smile on his face was reflected in his voice.

"Thank you."

After they hung up, Philip immediately ordered his secretary, "Give this document to Hwa Xia's embassy, get them to handle this immediately."

"Yes, sir."

His secretary took the document and left. The document was filled with proof of Saohuang's criminality.

On Xinghe's side, after she hung up, they got into the arranged car and left. Their first destination was the Xi family's old family mansion. They had been away for quite some time, so they couldn't help but worry about the Xi family's latest situation.

The woman who was taken from IV Syndicate's main base was immediately ferried to Lu Qi. The woman was physically weak, she was stuck in an induced coma. Probably only Lu Qi

had the capability to save her. Even though Mubai still held a grudge against Lu Qi, he had to admit he was the best doctor he knew. Therefore, he wouldn't mind getting his help.

On the way to the mansion, Xinghe was worried. "I wonder how everything is now."

She had been away for so long, it must have caused quite a bit of trouble for the Xi family. Her only hope was that they weren't too late.

Mubai grabbed her hand and comforted her, "Don't worry, I'm sure everything's fine."

They had no idea that Munan was on his way to military court.

...

The courthouse was heavily guarded because many people would attend today's hearing. Everyone present held a certain weight in the military world.

Saohuang, Lin Yun, Gu Li, and Yan Lu were all there.

From those who came, some came because they cared about Munan, others were there simply because they knew this was going to be a huge case. They didn't care about how it went.

Elder Xi with Jiangnian's support arrived at the courthouse wearing their military fatigue.

Other than Gu Li and Yan Lu, everyone avoided them like plague. Too many things had happened to the Xi family lately; they were afraid that they would be affected by the Xi family's bad luck if they wandered too close.

This was a complete 180 from before. Before, everyone couldn't wait to align themselves with the Xi family...

One couldn't help but lament the realistic nature of human hearts.

Elder Xi seemed to have grown even older in the past few months. Initially, he still commanded an impressive charisma, like a tiger watching over the whole jungle.

Now, this tiger had been declawed and lay weakly waiting for his end to come.

Some still greeted them out of courtesy, but when they saw Elder Xi, they sighed internally. The unifying thought was, no matter how glorious the Xi family was, they weren't invincible.

Tragedy could strike at any moment and a large family could topple overnight.



## Chapter 512: The Return!

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Nothing was permanent. There was no need to be envious of those at the top because you had no idea when they would fall. Furthermore, the higher they were, the greater the fall.

Some there reveling in their misery. Grandfather Xi, who had spent his entire life in politics, could read their thoughts clearly.

“Dad, why don’t you go home to rest, I can do this alone,” Jiangnian advised Grandfather Xi softly afraid that he wasn’t able to hold on. In fact, he himself was finding the situation harrowing. He felt immense pressure facing these people’s gloating gaze. It would only get worse during the hearing.

Grandfather Xi understood his thought. He pulled himself up to his full height and declared, “Remember this, even if the Xi family really falls, we mustn’t lose our pride! This is nothing compared to the fiasco I faced when I was building this family from the ground up. Do you think I will be defeated by this?”

“Of course not. I understand now.” Jiangnian nodded with shame. He admitted his EQ was weaker than his father’s. This was a great lesson for him. From then on, he would face everything without fear like how his father did.

Grandfather Xi’s words were heard by Lin Yun and Saohuang who were walking their way.

Lin Yun couldn’t help but laugh. “Grandfather Xi sure is admirable. You can sustain such a positive outlook even at a time like this. Hopefully, that will bring the Xi family some good luck.”

Grandfather Xi’s eyes darkened somberly the moment he saw them. He said darkly, “A friendly piece of advice for both of you, be cautious of the path you take when you’re young because you might not be able to bear the consequences that lie in wait at the end of the road!”

Lin Yun replied with a sarcastic smile, “Thank you, Grandfather Xi, for your useful advice.”

“You’re welcome. Also, it’s Elder Xi for now on because I wouldn’t be able to live down the shame of having someone like you as my grandchild,” Grandfather Xi shot back before walking away.

Lin Yun’s face immediately twisted from anger. “That senile old fart dares to insult me like this?”

Saohuang stared at their back coldly before saying, “Why concern yourself with their dying words?”

Lin Yun calmed down immediately. “You’re right, those were indeed their dying words. I will be sure to record their faces down clearly in my mind when the judge makes his verdict later.”

Lin Yun said smugly and filed into the courtroom. The courtroom soon filled up. The atmosphere was solemn since this was a military court.

After the judge arrived, he asked for the defendant to be brought in. Munan, who wore a plain green T-shirt, was brought in by two jail guards. Even though his situation wasn’t optimistic, but he was calm and collected.

He wore a thin smile on his handsome face as if unfazed by the verdict that was going to fall on him.

Just as Munan’s trial began, Xinghe and Mubai finally reached the old mansion.

...

The maid rushed into the living room to announce, “Master, Madam, Young Master is home!”

Mr. and Mrs. Xi sprang up from their seated position.

“Where?” Jiangan asked excitedly.

The next second, Mubai and Xinghe walked in.

When they saw them, Mrs. Xi’s eyes started to water and Jiangan’s heart was gripped with various emotions!

## Chapter 513: She Loves to Be Personally Involved in the Revenge

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

They didn't expect the two of them to return so slowly.

"Mom, Dad, we're home."

Mubai smiled when he saw his parents. Mrs. Xi couldn't control herself and rushed forward to grab his arm as if to check he was really there.

"Son, you're finally home. Do you know how worried I was? Thankfully, you're home safe."

Compared to her, Mr. Xi was more collected. He was got straight to business, he asked, "Do you have what we need?"

This was the question the whole Xi family was the most concerned about. Mubai nodded firmly. "Yes, we got it."

"Wonderful!" Mr. Xi exclaimed with excitement, "I knew the two of you could do this! Quickly, get the evidence to the police. We still have time. Munan is now at military court so your timing is perfect, we can use your evidence to save him!"

Mubai and Xinghe looked at each other.

"Munan is at military court?" Mubai's eyes darkened. "What's going on?"

Mr. Xi quickly brought them up to speed. Xinghe and Mubai then realized how despicable Saohuang was. Then again, other than frame them using IV Syndicate's people, what else did he know?

"We'll go to the court now," Xinghe told Mubai directly. She liked to deliver the face-slap herself. Her satisfaction came from personally looking her enemies in their eyes when she crushed them.

Mr. Xi rejected that idea, flatly saying, "No, you can't go to court."

"Why not?" Xinghe asked.

Mr. Xi answered, “This is the military court we’re talking about; not anyone can enter it. The surveillance is high because this case is huge so normal people wouldn’t be able to get in. The two of you are not from the military so you will be held at the door. Plus, Xinghe, you still have a warrant out on you, going there is equal to surrendering.”

So that’s why.

Mubai chuckled coldly. “This Feng Saohuang sure is lucky. The plan was to destroy him in front of everyone.”

Xinghe’s eyes shone, she had come up with an idea.

“Getting in is not hard, I can get in.”

“You?” Mubai was curious.

Xinghe nodded. “Your father is right. I still have the charges against me, so I should be able to enter the court as a witness,”

Mubai understood her instantly. Mr. and Mrs. Xi though were still in the dark.

He stared at her and asked to get confirmation, “You really want to go?”

Xinghe nodded with confidence. “Definitely. We cannot let them pin this on the innocent Munan. However most importantly, we mustn’t let Saohuang win this case.”

“Okay, I will have it arranged immediately!” Mubai decided.

Mr. and Mrs. Xi were still confused. What are they up to?

Xinghe and Mubai’s plan was deceptively simple. Xinghe would surrender, and then, she would be summoned to the trial as a witness.

Of course, what kind of statement she would give was another business. Surrendering was only an excuse to enter the court. With the plan in place, Mubai immediately took Xinghe to the precinct.

...

Right then, Munan was still under intense interrogation.

“Xi Munan, do you admit that it was you who let the suspect, Xia Xinghe, go?” the judge questioned.

Munan nodded. “That’s right, but that’s only because I believe in her. It surprised me as well that she suddenly disappeared.”

## Chapter 514: The Trial

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“But she couldn’t have evaded the police on her own, it must have been you who helped her escape the country, right?”

“I did no such thing, if all of you still want to pin that on me, I can’t do anything about it,” Munan answered nonchalantly, as if he didn’t care how they viewed him.

“Then, did you have any dealings with her selling the stolen military munitions together?”

“No.”

“Do you think we can believe that? You were suspected of this charge before and were closest to Xia Xinghe. Yesterday, the people from the munitions organization even came to assassinate you because they thought you would sell them out. This is all circumstantial evidence, but the validity of the evidence cannot be denied.”

“I, for one, question their validity. If not, why hasn’t there been concrete proof that I have done such a thing?” Munan retorted with a light smile.

The judge frowned slightly. “Xi Munan, you are also a beneficiary of this country, therefore I advise you to be truthful to the court. The law will definitely look kindly on you and give you a fair judgement.”

“Every single word that I’ve said is true, so I do hope the law will treat me fairly,” Munan said calmly. A small commotion arose in the crowd.

Thus far, they realized Munan was as calm as ever.

Is it possible that he is really innocent and was framed? But who would be capable enough to frame him?

The judge continued the trial for a while longer. Munan’s answer was the same every time. The judge tried many interrogation techniques, but his answer was constant.

It had been two hours since the trial started and Munan maintained his composure.

In the crowd, Grandfather Xi and Jiangnian were the same as him. There was no trace of anxiety or fear. They were a bulwark of support for Munan.

Lin Yun though was starting to lose her patience. She whispered at Saohuang, “This is your brilliant plan? It’s completely useless!”

The guilty verdict that she wanted still hadn’t arrived.

Saohuang replied with a low growl, “This is already not bad, I’m not as invincible as you assume.”

He had given everything he had to take down the Xi family. The first time, he’d tried to plant the munitions at Xi Harbor, but his plan had been picked apart by Xi Mubai and Xia Xinghe. The second time, he managed to pull Xia Xinghe down, but his sacrifice was big. Now, to frame Xi Munan, he’d lost even more men.

He had done everything he could to corner Xi Family. If he could bring the Xi family down with one fell swoop, need he have waited until then?

If he was that powerful, he wouldn’t have come after something as insignificant as the Xi family. He wouldn’t need to lower himself to cooperate with the Lin family either.

Lin Yun knew all this, but she was anxious; she wanted to ruin the Xi family in one go.

...

The trial continued for a while longer and the judge pounded his gavel, announcing, “The court will take a ten-minute rest; the verdict will be announced after the court resumes.”

Lin Yun said coldly, “Fine, even if we can’t ruin them completely but at least this time, we manage to strike them until they’re half dead!”

That’s right, even though the verdict was probably a non-verdict but Munan would still be locked behind bars for further investigation.

The ten minutes were an exceptionally long for certain people.

Yan Lu's face was completely dark, he was so ready to tear the place apart. If possible, he wanted to curse at the judge. How could their boss be guilty?

F\*ck, better not let me find out who framed Boss or I'll skin them alive!



## Chapter 515: It's Xia Xinghe!

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“What do you think the verdict will be?” Yan Lu asked Gu Li anxiously.

Gu Li shook his head. “I’m not sure. It definitely won’t be innocent, but I don’t think it’s guilty either.”

“F\*ck, who has been framing Boss again and again?” Yan Lu huffed angrily. Gu Li looked Saohuang’s way but didn’t answer. Actually, he had a feeling from the very beginning that this had everything to do with Feng Saohuang, but he had no solid proof...

Therefore, they could only pray for Munan.

“Miss Xia must be framed as well,” Yan Lu said suddenly, “Who knows where she is now. She’s a woman out there alone, things must be hard for her.”

Gu Li was also worried about her. “She’s so clever and capable, so I’m sure she’s fine. Who knows, she might be able to find a way to clear her name,” Gu Li suggested. He had no idea how right he was!

...

The ten minutes were finally over. The judge had come to a verdict. Due to a lack of definitive proof, he couldn’t give him a guilty verdict, but since he had the most suspicions, he still had to be jailed to assist in further investigation.

The judge slammed the gavel and announced with finality, “Take the defendant away, thank you everyone for attending this hearing, the court is withdrawn—”

“Let’s go!” the two guards ordered Munan. Munan stood up and followed them obediently. Before he had taken more than a few steps, the entrance doors were dramatically flung open.

“Wait!” a woman announced loudly as the doors opened. Munan’s eyes bulged with surprise when he saw her. Everyone there reacted the same way!

Isn’t that the fugitive Xia Xinghe? Why is she here?

Xinghe who was escorted by a group of the police strode in to face the judge. “Your Honor, I can provide evidence to reveal the real culprit that has dealings with the illegal organization that sold military munitions. Please give me some time and I will show everyone the truth.”

The judge was baffled. “You’re Xia Xinghe?”

“That’s right,” Xinghe admitted easily, “I’m the Xia Xinghe you’re looking for.”

“Why is she here?” someone finally piped up to ask. “Could it be that she’s here to surrender herself?”

“It’s Miss Xia, it really is Miss Xia!” Yan Lu was excited.

Gu Li was glad as well. “Could it be that she really has found the evidence to prove their innocence?”

Yan Lu nodded firmly. “It must be! Miss Xia is so good at her job; she must have found the evidence. This is good news, Boss is saved.”

Munan knew he was saved. Not only him, Grandfather Xi and Jiangnian thought the same. The three of them were instantly thrilled, after so long, they finally found hope!

“You said you have proof to reveal the real culprit, where is it?” the judge asked directly. “And who is this real culprit?”

Xinghe took her time to answer. Her gaze swept the whole court. Finally, it fell on Feng Saohuang who sat at the back.

Meeting her pair of clear and sharp eyes, the bad feeling in Saohuang’s heart immediately got worse!

The next second, she pointed her finger at him and declared, “That’s your culprit—Feng Saohuang!”

## Chapter 516: The Culprit Is Feng Saohuang

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

The crowd went ballistic. What is she talking about? The culprit is Feng Saohuang, how is that even possible?

Yan Lu widened his eyes, but realization soon dawned. “I knew it, it had to be him!”

“How can it be Major Feng?”

“Xia Xinghe, you’re the one with a warrant here.”

“A load of rubbish, how can it be Saohuang?”

Those who were close to Saohuang immediately came to his rescue and berated Xinghe. But Saohuang just stared at Xinghe with no expression. The only exception was his eyes which were sharp and frigid.

Xinghe held his eye contact fearlessly. There was serenity in the way she carried herself.

“Xia Xinghe, you said that the real culprit with Feng Saohuang?” the judge asked with a frown. Other than the small group of individuals, everyone thought she was making a false charge. After all, Saohuang’s hard work was public knowledge. How could a hard worker like him be involved in illegal trading of munitions?

“That’s right, that’s what I said,” Xinghe replied confidently, “He’s the one involved with the dealings with IV Syndicate. Everything that happened to me and the Xi family is his doing. He framed us because he’s the one dealing with the illegal organization.”

“That’s impossible, where’s your proof?”

The judge also asked, “Xia Xinghe, you have to back up your accusation with proof or you’re just making a false charge.”

Xinghe smiled. “Whether it’s a false charge or not, I think Feng Saohuang himself knows it perfectly well.”

Saohuang stood up suddenly and chuckled. “I’m sorry, but I know that I’m innocent, so I would like Miss Xia to produce

the proof that shows that I'm wrong or I have the right to sue you for slandering a military general!"

"Sue her already, she must be lying!"

"That's right, show us the proof!"

Yan Lu couldn't help but yell, "Miss Xia, just show them the evidence!"

Xinghe replied softly, "The evidence is not with me, but I'm certain the culprit is Feng Saohuang."

Yan Lu froze. What is she talking about? She has no evidence?

Even the smile froze on Munan's face. Big Sister Xia, can you not joke around with something this important? This is not the place for that!

Grandfather Xi started to cough violently. Everyone was stunned by Xinghe.

Finally, someone started to laugh. "You have no proof and dare to come accuse people? Your Honor, there's no need to continue this fiasco, charge her with a guilty verdict!"

"This is a court of law, Xia Xinghe you are disrespecting the law and the court, the consequence is not something you can bear!" someone scolded her severely.

Even the judge was furious. "Xia Xinghe, do you know what this place is? How dare you come to disrupt the sanctity of a court proceeding, I can send you to jail for a whole month for this violation!"

Saohuang laughed coldly. "Xia Xinghe, I'm officially charging you for slander. Your Honor, since she is so willing to surrender herself, then quickly have her captured."

"A real bimbo!" Lin Yun snuck in a jab. She'd gotten scared for no reason when Xinghe appeared, but it looked like the woman was just an idiot. Idiots like Xinghe deserved a horrible end.

"Guards, take her down!" the judge ordered. However, the guards were stopped by the police who came with Xinghe.

The leading officer opened his lips to say, "Wait."

The crowd finally realized he was the police chief. Why was he there personally?

## Chapter 517: Finally, Revenge

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

The judge was confused. “Chief Zhang, what is the meaning of this?”

Chief Zhang pulled out a piece of document and approached the bench. He whispered, “This is a document sent over through an emergency fax from Country Y. Your Honor, please take a look at it first.”

The judge accepted the document with a curious expression and opened it gingerly...

Everyone was curious as to what it was. Only Saohuang’s face dropped when he heard the words ‘Country Y’. Xinghe stared at him coldly, not letting any one of his facial expressions escape her scrutiny.

“Do you know what that is?” she said as she drew closer to him. “It contains the proof for all of your criminal activities. Very soon, you’ll have to pay for the sins that you’ve committed.”

Saohuang narrowed his eyes dangerously. “What proof? If you dare to falsely accuse me again, I will not hold back anymore.”

Xinghe laughed. “You’ve framed the Xi family and myself time after time and you still consider that holding back? Fine, let’s say that’s true, but you should know, I will not show you the same kindness. Feng Saohuang, listen to me, your comeuppance is coming, today will be your last day of freedom!”

Saohuang’s eyes widened.

Lin Yun cursed angrily, “Xia Xinghe, you arrogant hussy. Look at this place, who do you think you are that you can accuse people randomly like this? You’re the most insignificant of all the people here, so I advise you to shut your trap.”

Xinghe turned to look at her slowly.

“That reminds me,” she told Lin Yun softly. “Now that Saohuang is confirmed to be guilty, there must be something suspicious about you as well, since the two of you are so close together. Your Honor, when you investigate Feng Saohuang, remember to look into this woman as well.”

“You—” Lin Yun was close to blowing her top off. What is this b\*tch talking about? How dare she implicate me?

“If Saohuang is proven innocent, I will definitely savor your death!” Lin Yun threatened her darkly. She was confident that Saohuang wouldn’t be found out so easily. After all, that was what Saohuang told her. No one could trace the crime back to him.

Xinghe replied sarcastically, “I’m going to return you your words. I will watch your downfall closely; I’ve waited too long for this day.”

She had given a lot and sacrificed a lot, but finally revenge was hers. She was going to open her eyes and watch their end closely!

Saohuang started to feel anxious after this little chat with Xinghe. The atmosphere inside the court started to get nervous. For some reason, they felt something huge was going to happen...

The judge who was reading the information had his face increasingly drawn.

“Is this authentic?” he suddenly asked Chief Zhang.

The chief nodded. “It is, the information just came from Country Y’s embassy. We rushed here to moment we received it. Furthermore, the document had Country Y’s president’s seal and personal signature.”

The judge immediately turned to Saohuang and announced with authority, “Men, detain Feng Saohuang! The court is now officially charging him with smuggling illegal military munitions, cooperating with terrorist organization to harm the safety of this country, and the world’s citizens!”

What?

The room was astonished. They didn't expect things to turn out this way. Feng Saohuang is really guilty?

Saohuang was shocked; his expression turned ugly.

Even though he knew his sins had been discovered, at that moment, he still couldn't believe or accept it.

Saohuang was flustered watching the armed guards rush towards him.



## Chapter 518: Direct Letter from Country Y's President

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

He still felt like he was in a nightmare as he was heavily surrounded. How did things become like this?

A moment ago, he was watching Munan being sentenced. The IV Syndicate was destroyed, and he was going to be named the leader of Flying Dragon Unit. He was about to have everything.

So why... how did this happen? His crimes had suddenly been exposed.

"I object!" Saohuang called out suddenly. He glared at the judge and demanded, "I refuse to believe there is proof of my criminal activities in that document! It must be fake!"

IV Syndicate had been destroyed so how could they have gotten the evidence?

The judge declared with authority, "But this is true. This document came from Country Y's presidential office. The information is taken from IV Syndicate's base, so how can it be fake? Your crimes and information are written clearly within."

Saohuang's face blanched immediately. Lin Yun widened her eyes in shock, so did everyone else.

If the proof came from Xinghe, they would definitely challenge it, but since it was authorized by the law enforcement and came directly from Country Y's president; its validity couldn't be challenged.

Country Y's president wouldn't be so free to frame Saohuang, right?

He had better things to do than purposely framing Saohuang, so the document was believable. And just like that, Saohuang's crime was exposed and confirmed. So, Feng Saohuang really was the culprit...

The Xi family was framed after all.

“Feng Saohuang, what do you have to say for yourself?”  
Xinghe pressed, “I told you your comeuppance is coming! Do you know how much we’ve suffered and sacrificed because of you?”

She and Mubai even almost lost their lives in Country Y. She was tortured in such inhumane ways when she was Xia Meng. He had sinned too much against her.

“But now, the truth is finally out there. You will never be able to recover in this lifetime. Feng Saohuang, your end is nigh!”  
Xinghe glared at him with eyes burning with hatred.

Saohuang glared at her frigidly. For some reason, he felt this was Xia Meng’s ghost reincarnated to claim his life. This thought was weird, but he was strangely convinced of it.

The next second, he started laughing. But the laugh was short. He pulled back the laugh and stared coldly at Xinghe. “You think this will be the end of me? Xia Xinghe, we’ll see about that!”

“Men, take him down and lock him up,” the judge ordered.

The guards who surrounded him were ready to pounce but Saohuang opened his mouth to say, “Keep your dirty hands off me, I know how to walk myself!”

He straightened his uniform and glared at Xinghe before his gaze felled on Lin Yun. Lin Yun’s expression changed immediately.

The message in Saohuang’s pair of emotionless eyes was clear. Lin Yun gripped her fists tightly, to suppress the anxiety bubbling up in her heart.

Saohuang smirked with malevolence before being led away by the guards. When he crossed the hall of people, he could feel their wondering and contemptuous gaze on him.

So, this is what going from heaven to hell feels like.

Even though Saohuang kept a straight face, his heart still boiled with humiliation and anger.

The sun outside the courthouse shone down on him, bringing to light his complicated feelings.

## Chapter 519: Great Satisfaction

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

His future was originally as bright as the sun. However, there was a sudden eclipse and his life was as dark as it had ever been. He didn't think this day would ever come!

After Saohuang left, the commotion back in the courtroom started again. They couldn't believe that Feng Saohuang had surreptitious dealings with IV Syndicate.

"Your Honor, since the crime was Feng Saohuang's doing, doesn't this mean our Boss is innocent?" Yan Lu couldn't help but ask loudly. The room immediately settled down.

The judge nodded. "According to the evidence sent by Country Y, the illegal munition dealings in City T are all Feng Saohuang's responsibility. Therefore, Xi Munan and Xia Xinghe's suspicion will be further looked into. This court hereby announces that they will be granted temporarily bail. The final verdict will be given after more evidence has been collected."

Yan Lu was ecstatic. "Boss is free!"

The two guards immediately released the cuffs on Munan. Yan Lu and Gu Li rushed forward to cheer and the rest, swayed by the atmosphere, started to clap. Grandfather Xi and Jiangnian laughed happily.

Munan nodded at his men and walked towards Xinghe and thanked her, "Big Sister Xia, thank you. You're amazing, you really managed to return with the evidence."

Xinghe smiled. "I'm glad as long as everyone's fine."

"Miss Xia, you're to me a goddess," Yan Lu gave her a big thumbs up. "I, Yan Lu, have never been impressed by a woman before in my life; you're probably going to be the first and the last!"

"Miss Xia, you've surprised us again," Gu Li praised. "You managed to secure such elusive evidence!"

Xinghe couldn't help but laugh. "I think you guys are mistaken. I didn't bring the evidence, it has nothing to do with me."

Yan Lu and Gu Li were shocked. She's right, the evidence came from Country Y, which seemed to have nothing to do with her.

But how come they felt it had everything to do with her?

Munan was surprised by her modesty. This was obviously her contribution. However, since she wished to keep that a secret, Munan didn't expose her, but it didn't stop him from being proud of her!

Indeed, it is not necessary for these people to know how impressive my sister-in-law's real capability.

"Regardless, Miss Xia, what you did just now was still pretty impressive," Gu Li continued to heap on the praises. After all, not everyone had the guts to come confront Saohuang in person.

Yan Li claimed heartily, "That was satisfying watching Feng Saohuang being exposed like that. I feel much better witnessing him being publicly humiliated like that, serves him right!"

"Not only that, the letter of appointment waiting for him will be nullified," Gu Li added with a smug smile.

Yan Lu looked at him and they started laughing jovially. Only they knew what was funny. Needless to say, it was because the name on that letter of appointment would soon be changed to Munan's name. At long last, Flying Dragon Unit was finally theirs. Thinking about it made them happy.

Such an ending was satisfying, gratifying, rewarding, and fulfilling. Sharing in their happiness, Xinghe was also feeling particularly joyous.

Grandfather Xi and Jiangnian were overjoyed. They grinned from ear to ear as the crowd came over to congratulate them and apologize.

There was only one person who was left out of this celebration. That person was Lin Yun.

After she lost her ally, she snuck out of the courtroom while she thought no one was paying attention.

Xinghe stared darkly and sharply at her fleeing shadow.

## Chapter 520: Narrow-Minded Xi Mubai (End of the Foreign Country Arc)

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Munan told her suddenly, “Big Sister Xia, she’s not going to get away.”

Saohuang’s crime was definite, Lin Yun who cooperated with him must be involved in some way. Eventually, her connection to Saohuang would be revealed!

The Xi family would also do their best to uncover her sins. After so many things that had happened, the Xi family and the Lin family had made each other their nemesis.

Furthermore, it was obvious that the Lin family had evil intentions towards the Xi family, so they wouldn’t stop even after this cooperation with Saohuang had failed.

...

Xinghe and Munan were given temporary release. Even though Saohuang was now in custody, their charges hadn’t been completely cleared. Regardless, that was only a matter of time. Basically, everyone knew they would be given an innocent verdict.

Grandfather Xi and Jiangnian left early to not disturb the youngsters and their celebration.

Xinghe left the courthouse escorted by her admirers, Munan and the rest. Mubai, who waited at the entrance, saw Xinghe from afar being surrounded by the group of guys. They chit chatted happily among themselves, but their gaze had never once left Xinghe. Xinghe maintained a light smile, replying only when she was addressed.

For some reason, she radiated a strong allure that even outstanding bachelors like Munan was attracted to her. Their eyes on Xinghe were full of admiration and adoration.

This annoyed Mubai who was standing close by. Of course, he wouldn’t verbalize or showcase it.

He walked forward with an attractive smile and took Xinghe's hand proprietarily. "Everything went well?"

Xinghe nodded. "Yes, it was successfully."

Mubai caressed her hair happily. "Wonderful, let's go home, you must be tired."

"Okay." Xinghe nodded again and allowed herself to be pulled towards the car.

Mubai opened her with the door personally. He got in after her and then... he slammed the door shut and asked the driver to drive away!

He had zero thoughts for Munan who'd just been released!

"Hey, Big Brother..." Munan waved his hands at the car that sped away. Big Brother, haven't you forgotten something or someone? How can you leave me behind like this?

"So that's Boss' big brother, Xi Mubai," Yan Li said with admiration. "He looks the same as the one on TV."

Isn't that a given?

Gu Li asked, "Boss, didn't you say the two of you are like siblings, so why...?"

Did he leave you behind? It seems like he's purposely ignoring you.

Gu Li didn't finish his sentence but everyone else got the gist of it. Suddenly, the gaze from Gu Li and Yan Lu became a lot more curious. Even Munan was confused. Why would his big brother ignore him? Theoretically speaking, he should be happy for him. So where was the problem?

To smoothen the atmosphere, Yan Lu laughed. "But looks like he has a good relationship with Miss Xia. However, didn't you tell us they are divorced?"

"That's it!" Munan yelped suddenly. He finally realized why he was left behind. It was because of jealousy!

Xi Mubai, as an older brother that was born a few years ahead of me, do you need to be so narrow-minded?

Inside the car, Xinghe reminded a certain someone kindly.

“You seem to have forgotten Munan.”

“Is that so?” Mubai said with a straight face, “That’s alright, he can walk home on his own.”



## Chapter 521: Only Daughter-in-Law

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“...” Xinghe.

Your poker face could do with a bit more work.

...

If that day was going from heaven to hell for Saohuang, then for the Xi family, it was the other way round. They'd finally found the evidence they needed to clear their charges.

Even Munan was home. The Xi family was submerged in an atmosphere of happiness. Even Old Madam Xi was beside herself with joy.

Mrs. Xi had a large dinner prepared to celebrate; she even had Mubai invite Chengwu and Xia Zhi.

Chengwu and Xia Zhi heard everything from Xinghe that morning. They were shocked because Xinghe had been in such dangerous situations for the past month. Thankfully, she was back safe and sound and everything was well!

She contributed the most to getting the Xi family over this hurdle. At the dinner table, every Xi family member showered her with appreciation and praises.

Mrs. Xi raised her wine glass and told Xinghe, “Xinghe, can you forgive me for what I did earlier? I used to think that you were not good enough for Mubai, but now, I realize how wrong I was. I raise this glass to you as my apology.”

Mrs. Xi downed the glass of wine afterwards. Everyone was shocked. Mrs. Xi was a prideful woman. Her prejudice towards Xinghe had disappeared a long time ago, but this was the first time she'd officially apologized to Xinghe. They didn't expect her to go so far...

After all, it was hard for an elder to apologize to her junior, especially in a Chinese family that heavily valued family hierarchy.

Xinghe accepted her apology instantly. “Mrs. Xi, that's right. I'd forgotten about that a long time ago.”

Mrs. Xi broke into a smile and added, “Xinghe, from now on, you’re the only daughter-in-law that I’ll accept! I know you might not want to marry into our Xi family again, but I will accept no other daughter-in-law other than you.”

Xinghe was shocked, her emotions were a confused mess. Previously, she was the only one Mrs. Xi wouldn’t accept, but now she had become the only candidate she would accept...

She didn’t expect such a drastic change.

“That’s right, from now on, we will only accept you as our daughter-in-law!” Jiangan said with a laugh, “If you don’t marry Mubai then we will forbid him from marrying.”

“You’re going to make big brother die old and alone,” Munan joked.

Grandfather Xi and Old Madam Xi laughed happily. Grandfather Xi’s mood increased greatly witnessing his ex-wife enjoy herself.

He said with a good mood, “Maid, get me the thing I’ve prepared.”

The maid quickly returned with a box. Grandfather Xi accepted it and opened it while showing it to Xinghe, “Xinghe, this is my present for you, you must accept it.”

The maid took over the box and set it in front of Xinghe. Inside the box was a house property certificate.

Mrs. Xi took it out and said happily, “Xinghe, this is a house given to the Xi family by the country years ago. It is at City A’s Hills Residence; from now on, it is yours.”

Xinghe was astonished, even Xia Zhi and Chengwu were stunned beyond words. The whole Hwa Xia knew that Hills Residence was the most prime real estate in the country. It was not somewhere you could move in with money, you needed to be of a certain stature as well. In other words, the house there was priceless, because it was beyond pricing.

She didn’t expect Grandfather Xi to give her something so valuable.

“I really can’t accept this...”

## Chapter 522: Kindness

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Before Xinghe could finish, Grandfather Xi interrupted her, “You must accept it because I’ve already changed the name on the deed to yours. You have to accept this no matter what.”

“But...”

“Just accept it, this is grandfather’s kindness,” Mubai said dotingly. Xinghe wanted to say, Isn’t this a bit too kind?

“Xinghe, I also have a present for you,” Mrs. Xi suddenly said. She had someone bring it over and needless to say, it was something extraordinary as well. It was a set of valuable, antique jade accessories!

Mrs. Xi explained, “This is a set of jewelry passed down from European royalty. It is one of a kind in this world. I used three hundred million to win the bid several years ago. Now, I give it all to you.”

“Three hundred million?” Xia Zhi gulped unconsciously, this was worth more than him. Mrs. Xi was definitely generous. Naturally, Xinghe tried to reject her gift but it was to no avail.

After that, Jiangnian and even Munan gave her presents. Even Old Madam Xi prepared one for her...

The dinner suddenly became like Xinghe’s birthday party. A bunch of extremely valuable presents suddenly piled up before Xinghe. She was at a loss facing all of the presents. Even Xia Zhi and Chengwu were speechless. This was especially touching for Chengwu; he felt his heart skipping several beats from sheer joy for Xinghe.

“This is everyone’s kindness, you have to accept it all,” Mubai told Xinghe with a smile.

Xinghe replied with some difficulty, “This is too much.”

“Mummy, this is not much, you deserve more,” Lin Lin who sat beside her said with a huge smile. He was very happy because everyone liked her mummy.

“Lin Lin is right; you deserve all this and more. I’ll have the maids take these away for now, you can go through them later,” Mrs. Xi ordered the maids to keep the presents and proceeded to put food on Xinghe’s plate. “Here, eat some more, look at you, you’ve lost so much weight.”

Flustered, Xinghe stood up and excused herself by saying, “I’m sorry, I have to use the bathroom.”

She turned but left through the front door!

Xinghe didn’t know how to deal with everyone’s kindness so she chose to evade for now.

Outside, the night was cold. Xinghe walked to the garden and sat down inside an alcove.

“Sis.” To her surprise, Xia Zhi followed her. He sat down opposite her and asked, “Are you unhappy?”

Xinghe shook her head. “No, I’m fine.”

“Then, you must be overjoyed since you’ve won over the whole Xi family.”

“Not really.”

She was just overwhelmed by their enthusiasm.

Xia Zhi was relieved noticing she was still her old self. After that, he smiled. “Honestly, I was surprised by their kindness towards you; this is something I couldn’t have imagined would happen.”

“Me too.”

Xia Zhi said happily, “But you deserve such good treatment. Sis, you’re really formidable now, so formidable that I feel like you’re not my sister anymore.”

“Why would you think that?” Xinghe looked at him curiously.

“Because you’re too good. How can someone as normal as myself be your brother?”

Xinghe didn’t know to laugh or cry. “But only you are qualified to be my little brother.”

Xia Zhi was touched when she said that.

## Chapter 523: Love to Be Slapped by You

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xia Zhi smiled proudly. “That is the greatest pride of my life. Sis, thank you for being a part of my life.”

Xinghe looked at his smiling face but said no words. Xia Zhi held her eye contact and sighed. “This time last year, we were still struggling with life. I really didn’t think so many things would change in a year. Sis, this is all thanks to you. You’ve impressed everyone and have put those that dared to bully and look down on us in their place. You’ve face-slapped everyone that did us wrong...”

Xinghe though apologized. “If I had recovered my memory earlier, then you and uncle wouldn’t have suffered so much.”

“That’s fine, it’s all worth it in the end. I’m very satisfied with how things worked out. Sis, how about you, are you happy?”

Xinghe nodded. The only thing she asked for in the world was for the people she cared about to be happy, she didn’t yearn for anything more beyond that.

“Sis, I’ll be going,” Xia Zhi said when he saw Mubai walking over. He stood up and left, giving them some privacy. Mubai walked over with a smile and took the place Xia Zhi had vacated.

“Your brother is right; you did face-slap everyone that dared to defy you,” he said with a wicked grin as he sat down.

Xinghe said softly, “Actually, that was not my intention to begin with.”

“I know, nobody would like to go around raging war for no reason, but it is undeniable that you’ve impressed everyone.” Mubai’s pair of passionate eyes looked at her. He was over the moon because his family had finally accepted her.

“You’ve face-slapped me as well,” he added with a grin.

Xinghe raised her brow. Mubai took her hand and said devilishly, “But I don’t mind, even if you slap me to death, I won’t mind.”

“You like to be slapped so much?” Xinghe asked purposely.

Mubai nodded. “Only if it’s you who does the slapping because I love everything you do.”

“Actually, I don’t think I’ve face-slapped you.”

She had taken her revenge against everyone that hurt her and her family but him. This was because she knew his part in it all was unintentional, and, regarding matters of their relationship, she was partially responsible as well.

Mubai smiled wickedly. “Why don’t you do that now?”

He then grabbed her hand and slapped his own face. Xinghe retracted her hand quickly. “Stop joking.”

“I’m serious.” Mubai looked into her eyes. “Feel free to slap me if you hate me.”

“I don’t hate you.”

“This means you like me?”

“...”

Mubai came to his own conclusion. “Alright, now I know you like me.”

Just as Xinghe was going to retort, he added, “But I love you!”

Xinghe swallowed her words. Mubai looked deep into her eyes and repeated slowly, “Xia Xinghe, I love you, I will only ever love you.”

“...” Can you please talk about something else?

He knew she was uncomfortable in that kind of situation.

Thankfully, Xinghe was a master of changing the subject, “By the way, did you have someone check out the relationship between Saohuang and Lin Yun?”

Mubai chuckled, he knew she was evading. He didn’t put her on the spot but nodded and said, “Naturally. Not only that, we have to check out the Lin family as well. Their attitude towards the Xi family is too suspicious.”

“They’re trying to bring the Xi family down?” Xinghe asked directly.

Mubai retracted his levity and nodded somberly. "I think so."  
Xinghe narrowed her eyes.

## Chapter 524: Feng Saohuang Wants to See Her

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

She felt indebted to the Xi family, so she wanted to guard it as well. She wouldn't allow others to bring the Xi family down.

“Feng Saohuang will be our opening,” Xinghe suggested. Mubai hummed slowly before nodding. “You mean to have him sell out the Lin family?”

“That's right. Saohuang will have the dirt on Lin Yun. Going through him is our best course of action.”

Mubai nodded, agreeing with her analysis.

“But he might not cooperate. He might be banking on the Lin family saving him.”

Xinghe chuckled. “No one will be able to save him.”

Mubai nodded. Indeed, no one would be able to save Saohuang. One, his crime was too huge. Two, the evidence came from Country Y's president, so this is already an international crisis. Three, the Xi family will try their best to punish him. Four, his crime was exposed at the trial. If he was pardoned, it would cause a public riot.

Therefore, no matter from which angle, Saohuang was a dead man. Even if he had leverage on the Lin family, it was useless because the Lin family wasn't powerful enough to pardon a sin as big as war crimes.

“Right, we should start with him,” Mubai said with determination; he was the key to get to the Lin family.

...

To everyone's surprise, before they reached out towards Saohuang, the next day, he actively demanded to meet Xinghe.

Xinghe was curious. “He wants to meet me?”

But why? There should be nothing to discuss between us.

The officer that came to inform her replied, “That's right, he said he will only confess after he talks to you. Miss Xia, why



don't you go with Mr. Xi Mubai to meet him. If he is willing to confess, it'll save everyone a lot of time and trouble.”

Some people still found Xinghe and Munan suspicious, if Saohuang was willing to admit that it was he who framed them, then they would be cleared instantly.

Xinghe nodded easily. “Fine, I will go meet him.”

Mubai worried about her so he accompanied her to the detention center. However, Saohuang would only meet Xinghe alone, so he had to wait for her outside.

Xinghe was brought to an interrogation room. This was the second time she had been in this place. Last time, it was to visit Ye Shen, now to visit Saohuang.

The irony of Saohuang being Ye Shen's murderer was not lost on Xinghe.

Saohuang seemed to have gotten a lot more haggard even though it had only been one day.

His uniform had been removed and he wore a messy plain T-shirt. Stubble had grown under his chin. There were dark circles under his eyes, indicating a sleepless night.

The only spirited thing about him was his pair of eyes. However, his gaze was not as sharp as before, rather it had gotten more reserved.

After she walked in, Saohuang said softly, “Sit, don't worry, I won't harm you.”

There was a partition between them. Xinghe smiled. “How could you harm me?”

She sat down calmly and confidently opposite him. Saohuang laughed at his own words. He'd forgotten that the woman opposite him was not your run of the mill woman. She was brave enough to expose him in front of the court, so she was definitely not afraid of him.

“A woman such as yourself is definitely one of a kind. I've met one before, actually you reminded me of her,” Saohuang commented while staring at Xinghe.

## Chapter 525: One and the Same

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xinghe wasn't led on by him. She said softly, "Tell me, why did you ask to see me?"

Saohuang gave a wicked smile, "Because I knew you would want to see me."

"..." Saohuang predicted we would need his cooperation.

"Actually, there's a question stuck in my mind, but I cannot figure out the answer on my own, so I wanted to ask you in person," Saohuang said.

Xinghe played along, "What question?"

"Do you know Xia Meng?" Saohuang asked directly. Xinghe was a bit surprised by this question.

"What if I do?"

"According to what I've found out, Xia Meng's life didn't cross path with yours, but for some reason, she was heavily related to Xi Mubai for a sudden, albeit brief, period of her life, so I was curious. Furthermore, the two of you share the same family name and you two have the same aura about you," Saohuang stated as he stared closely at Xinghe, as if trying to read something from her unconscious movements.

Xinghe smirked. "You're curious? I'm also very curious as to why you would know so much about Xia Meng. Her life didn't cross yours as well."

"You don't need to know why I'm familiar with her, you only need to answer my question." After a pause, Saohuang's lips curved into a smile. "Of course, in exchange, I will provide you with the criminal evidence on Lin Yun."

This man was clearly no fool; it was no wonder he could corner the Xi family. He had a good sense of the situation and could predict his enemy's next step; alas, he still lost to them.

"She once came to me for help," Xinghe said with a straight face. "I'm sure you know about her disability, so she came to

me asking for an artificial leg to help her regain a normal gait. That was how we met and became friends.”

“But Xi Mubai seems to treat her as more than friend.”

Saohuang was incredulous. “So, your relationship must go deeper than what you’re telling me. Xia Xinghe, if you don’t tell me the truth, I don’t think we can work together.”

Xinghe smiled. “Then what kind of truth do you want? Ask me directly.”

“Do you know Ye Shen?”

“He’s Xia Meng’s husband.”

“Are you two plotting to take something from Ye Shen?”

Saohuang asked directly. Now Xinghe understood what Saohuang’s plan was. He still hadn’t given up on the energy crystal. The thing must hold much importance to him since he was still so hung up on it even though he was on death row.

“What could he have that would require us to plot against him?” Xinghe asked in return. Her face was placid, completely unreadable. Even for someone as astute as Saohuang, she was a closed book.

“You’re indeed one hard to read woman,” Saohuang commented with a smile. “It’s so hard to get any information from you.”

“What do you want to know? Ask and I will answer if I can,” Xinghe said generously. Just like that, she gained the upper hand in their negotiation.

Saohuang thought the initiative would be his, but evidently, he was not her match. She was too special; no matter what she did, she was a step ahead of everyone else. Her nonchalant tone and clear eyes were unique as well.

Saohuang sighed once more, “You really do mirror Xia Meng, so much so that I have the sneaking impression that you two are one and the same.”

“Don’t simply come to your own conclusion, how much do you really know about Xia Meng and me?” Xinghe retorted directly.

Saohuang nodded. “You’re right, all I have is my gut feeling.”

“So, tell me, what do you want to know?” Xinghe asked.

## Chapter 526: Avoid the Death Penalty

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

She didn't mind sharing information about energy crystal with Saohuang because she needed his information as well. She needed to give in order to take. However, the trade wasn't in her favor because it turned out Saohuang knew less than she thought.

He said directly, "I don't have many questions; I'm just curious why you two approached Xia Meng. If there is indeed a motive, I'm pretty sure our target is the same. That thing is very special, but I have no idea what its real usage is, maybe you know."

"What thing?" Xinghe asked.

Saohuang looked at her and laughed. "Are you really that dumb or do you think I'm that dumb?"

"I can't control what you think."

"Xia Xinghe, I've already lost to you, won't you tell me the truth as charity?"

Xinghe stared at him and said, "If you want the truth then you have to trade with truths."

Saohuang groaned helplessly, "I've given you everything I know about this thing that I am talking about."

"Fine, then let me ask you, what is this thing you talk about?" Xinghe asked directly. Unlike Saohuang, she had the upper hand in this negotiation. If Saohuang wanted to know the truth, he needed to cooperate with her.

"It's a type of black metal, but what kind I have no clue," Saohuang told her. "However, I hear it is very valuable, I've just not come across one before."

"What else do you know about that thing?"

"I know that many different parties are searching for it and know its location. If you want it, then let's make a deal."

This was his purpose. He suspected Xinghe knew about the energy crystal and leaked some information to her to test out her knowledge. If he saw Xinghe show comprehension of the topic then he could be certain she was also looking for the energy crystal. Then he could demand for a deal in exchange for the information he had.

“What kind of deal?” Xinghe didn’t continue this dance with him but cut to the point.

Saohuang shrugged and said, “Help me stay off the death row, that’s all I ask.”

Xinghe raised her brow. “Shouldn’t you ask the Lin family for that?”

Saohuang chuckled darkly. “I should consider myself lucky that the Lin family hasn’t had me assassinated.”

“You knew that working together with the Lin family was like asking a tiger for his skin. You deserve the fate that you have today.”

Saohuang nodded. “I know, which is why I will admit my sins, I will confess everything. I have nothing to request other than avoiding the death penalty.”

“You don’t look like someone who is afraid of death,” Xinghe observed acutely.

Saohuang smiled. “Who isn’t afraid of death? After death, all hope is lost.”

“Your crime is too big; the Xi family can’t do anything. Furthermore, it’s useless to make this deal with me, you should have gone directly to the Xi family.”

She couldn’t represent Xi Family.

Saohuang shook his head and stared deeply at her. “My instinct tells me, dealing with you is better than with Xi Family. Plus, I will only believe your promise.”

“You believe me?” Xinghe felt like laughing. They were on opposing ends, why he believe her?

“That’s right. Even though we might be enemy, but you’re worth believing in,” Saohuang said seriously, “In fact, if we’re not enemies, I don’t mind being your friend.”

“I do mind being your friend.”

“Well, consider that I’ve misspoken then,” Saohuang smiled lightly. “So, what do you say, do you want this deal?”

Xinghe gave a vague answer, “Like I said, your crime is too big, we can’t promise you anything.”

## Chapter 527: Dirt on Lin Yun

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“As long as you try your best then I’m sure you can at least suspend the execution of sentence by five years.”

For several reasons, Xinghe felt there was a bigger reason behind this, however that had nothing to do with her anymore.

“You will also provide the evidence on the Lin family, right?” Xinghe checked. Her meaning was clear; she was willing to take him up on the deal.

Saohuang nodded with a smile. “Of course. I have the dirt on Lin Yun. If you promise me, I will cooperate in any way I can.”

“Alright, I will try my best; that is the most I can promise.”

Saohuang nodded vigorously. “That’s more than enough.”

Xinghe observed, “You are also one hard individual to gauge. I had a hand in sending you in here, but you choose to believe me while I fully expected you to hate me.”

“Beggars can’t be choosers. Since I’ve lost, why still hold on to hatred?” Saohuang admitted openly. “We might be from opposing camps, but if you can help me, I don’t mind working with you.”

“If you didn’t pick the wrong path, I believe you would have ended up with a glorious future.”

Saohuang laughed. “You’re flattering me.”

“I’m just telling you the truth. Now that I’ve accepted your condition, tell me everything you know.”

And that was what he did.

“The thing I mentioned is a black metallic energy crystal; it can store an indescribably large amount of energy, but no one has seen one before. The only exception is the IV Syndicate’s leader because he has one. That’s all I know, you’d better not let slip that you also have the thing on you or that would be like asking for death.”



The news that Xinghe went to Country Y was a secret to everyone outside of the Xi family. Of course, Philip wouldn't sell them out either. Therefore, Saohuang had no idea it was her who destroyed the IV Syndicate. She had even taken the energy crystal there.

"This information is pointless to me because I have no such thing," Xinghe lied easily. "That's all the information you can provide?"

Saohuang shrugged. "That's right, I didn't think it would be so useless to you."

Actually, it had some uses. At least she knew she needed to be more careful in the future.

"So, what is the dirt on Lin Yun?" Xinghe jumped to the next question.

...

It was almost an hour before Xinghe came out of the detention center. Mubai had been waiting for her outside the entrance the whole time.

"What did you two discuss?" he asked as Xinghe got near.

"Let's get in first, we have somewhere to go to."

"Okay." Mubai nodded and helped her with the door. After they got in, Xinghe gave the driver an address for a storage facility. The dirt that Saohuang spoke of could be found there. On the way there, Xinghe outlined her conversation with Saohuang to Mubai.

She apologized, "I took the initiative to take his deal. I will figure it all out so don't worry."

Mubai merely smiled. "It's not that big of a deal pardoning him from the death penalty, after all, he did cooperate in the end. Furthermore, you only promised that you would try your best, you didn't promise him that you can definitely get him away from the noose."

"But he has framed your family again and again, we cannot let him off so easily."

Mubai smiled thinly. “But, do you know? For people like him, death is not the best punishment. Living in humiliation will be his biggest torment.”

Xinghe couldn't help but laugh, because that was her philosophy.

## Chapter 528: Arrest Her Immediately

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Unlike most of her opponents, she didn't like to resort to murder. Making them pay with a life of misery was better. Death was too good of an ending for them.

"It's good that you're not angry. Now we will go get Lin Yun's proof of criminal activities; it's her turn now!" A brutal expression flashed across Xinghe's face as she said so. It was time for Lin Yun to pay for her sins.

"Perfect!" Mubai cheered with a smile and asked the driver to step on it. Following Saohuang's directions, they soon retrieved a memory card that he'd kept hidden. Xinghe slotted the card into her phone and realized there was a voice recording within.

It was the recording between Lin Yun and Saohuang. It could attest to the fact that it was Lin Yun who ordered Saohuang to assassinate Munan. In the recording, Lin Yun admitted that it was the Lin family who wanted Munan dead and not Saohuang. The assassination was her idea. Xinghe was surprised that the proof would be so hefty.

Mubai smiled wickedly. "The Lin family has been hounding us non-stop with a fake crime, so now, let's see who will crumble and fall!"

Xinghe asked, "Should we call the cops now?"

"Naturally."

Mubai immediately called Chief Zhang, but Chief Zhang told him, "Lin Yun? She's left the city, she was picked up by the Lin family's people a moment ago."

"How long ago?"

"Not long, she is probably still on the road."

"Arrest her immediately, Xi family is suing her!"

"Alright, I will mobilize my men now."

After he hung up, Mubai told Xinghe with a dark expression, “Lin Yun is on the run. We cannot let her run back to City A or it will be out of City T’s jurisdiction.”

Xinghe knew what he meant. The Lin family had powerful influence in City A. If Lin Yun managed to return there, making this stick to her would be extremely difficult. Therefore, they couldn’t let her escape, they had to charge her while she was still in City T.

“Let’s go, we’ll go stop her now!” Mubai came to a decision instantly. Xinghe hopped back into the car after him. The quickest way for Lin Yun to leave City T was to take a plane. Therefore, they needed to block her on the way to the airport.

Proving their point, Chief Zhang called them back to inform them that Lin Yun was indeed heading towards the airport.

The storage facility was close to the airport, so they would arrive before the police.

...

At that time, Lin Yun still had no clue she was going to be arrested.

Inside the car, she was happily chatting with the man beside her. “Third Brother, why is it you who came to fetch me? When did you return from overseas?”

The man beside Lin Yun was about 28. Despite his age, he emitted a regal aura. His handsome face was almost always decorated with a crooked half-smile, giving him the bad boy appearance.

He was Lin Yun’s cousin, the third eldest among their generation. His name was Lin Xuan. He was the smartest in the Lin Family, but for some reason, he was also the most difficult to approach.

Lin Yun might have been a spoiled brat but even she didn’t dare to act out in front of him. Lin Xuan smiled lightly. “I just came back from overseas. I heard you were in some kind of trouble, so since I was on the way home, I decided to drop by to check on you.”

Lin Yun felt guilty knowing Saohuang still had something on her. However, she didn't dare to bring it up because she knew she would be punished.

## Chapter 529: We Have the Evidence

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Third brother, it’s not anyone’s fault; it’s just that Feng Saohuang was simply too unlucky. Who could have known that he had secret dealings with IV Syndicate and the organization was just destroyed? It just so happened that the evidence of his crimes was discovered and given to the Xi family, giving them the perfect chance to launch a counter attack. This is all luck’s fault.”

Lin Xuan’s reserved gaze darkened but its meaning unreadable. “That’s right, it was too unlucky that IV Syndicate happened to get destroyed...”

“That’s right, so this is not my fault,” Lin Yun said endearingly. “Third brother, you won’t be mad at me, right?”

Lin Xuan looked at her and smiled. “Of course not.”

“Third brother, you’re the best!” Lin Yun offered up a smile, but her smile was faltering. God, I hope they never find out about that thing or there will be hell to pay!

Suddenly, the driver said, “Third young master, there’s a car chasing us!”

Lin Xuan narrowed his eyes and he turned back to look together with Lin Yun. Just as the driver had reported, there was a sports car tailing them. Through the wind screen, Lin Yun saw Mubai that was in the driver’s seat. She yelped, “It’s Xi Mubai!”

Lin Xuan ordered the driver, “Stop by the side of the road.”

“Yes, sir!”

The moment they stopped, Mubai’s car caught up to them. They all got out of their cars. When Lin Yun saw him and Xinghe, she asked with dissatisfaction, “Why were you two tailing us?”

Xinghe glanced at Lin Xuan before replying coldly, “Why? That is our question for you. Your suspicion hasn’t been cleared yet, so why are you running away?”

Lin Yun flared up instantly. “What suspicion? Feng Saohuang is Feng Saohuang and I am me. I might know him, but it doesn’t mean that I was cooperating with him in his illegal activities.”

Mubai smiled. “We will know that after you follow us to the police station.”

An ominous feeling rose up within Lin Yun.

“Why should I follow you to the station?” she scoffed. “I’m from the Lin family; I can leave whenever I want, what right do you have to stop me?”

“Naturally, it’s because we have evidence of your crimes,” Xinghe said slowly.

Lin Yun’s gaze flickered with anxiety, but she hid it well.

“Xia Xinghe, you have to have proof before you go around accusing people. You have something on me? That’s laughable, what kind of proof?” Lin Yun retorted confidently. She didn’t believe that Saohuang would sell her out because she thought he still needed the Lin family to save him. After all, Saohuang wouldn’t be so stupid to hand over his leverage over her and, by extension, the Lin Family to law enforcement.

However, she was too conceited to realize Saohuang’s crime was too huge for even the Lin family to pardon. Therefore, why would he go threaten the Lin family for no reason? At the end of the day, Saohuang didn’t trust the Lin family. Pressuring them would only get him assassinated.

Since begging the Lin family would also lead to death, he made the better choice of aligning himself with the more honorable Xi family by handing them Lin Yun’s criminal evidence. The Xi family might hate him, but at least they would honor a deal.

Lin Yun thought she was so clever but when it came to planning schemes, but she was clearly less able than Feng Saohuang.

Xinghe looked at her and smiled. “What kind of proof? Naturally it is the proof of you collaborating with Feng

Saohuang to frame the Xi family! You know what I'm talking about, right, Miss Lin?"



## Chapter 530: Fear

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Lin Yun's expression changed immediately. How can they know? Did Saohuang give them the information? That's impossible...

Lin Yun's facial expressions were wholly observed by Lin Xuan. He asked softly, "Xiao Yun, what kind of evidence do they have on you?"

"Third brother, I didn't..." A flustered Lin Yun tried to explain, "They're wrongly accusing me! Why would I do something illegal? They're spouting nonsense simply because they don't like me."

Mubai laughed sarcastically. "You Lin family knows perfectly well whether your family member is capable of doing illegal things or not. You're Lin Xuan, right? You cannot take Lin Yun away, she must follow us to the precinct!"

Mubai was unfamiliar with Lin Xuan. They'd only met each other once or twice during some gatherings. The only thing he knew was that Lin Xuan had a high standing in the Lin family, even though he spent most of his time overseas.

Lin Xuan smiled in greeting. "Xi Mubai, for the sake of us being family friends, do you mind telling me, what kind of crime this silly sister of mine has committed? If she is really in the wrong, we Lin family will not harbor her."

"Third brother, but I didn't." Lin Yun shook her head anxiously. "You have to believe me, I really didn't do such a thing..."

"You didn't? Then what's this?" Xinghe played the recording on her phone. When Lin Yun heard it, her eyes widened in shock. Saohuang really gave them the evidence! How dare he? Have he lost his mind?

Even Lin Xuan's face darkened when he heard the recording.

Xinghe said slowly, "I've sent a copy of the recording to the police chief. Lin Yun, the police have officially issued an

arrest warrant for you. You'd better surrender yourself obediently and cooperate with us."

"No, the recording is fake!" Fear was written all over Lin Yun's face. She grabbed at Lin Xuan's arm frantically and begged, "Third brother, this is slander. The recording is fake, I wouldn't liaise with someone like Feng Saohuang. Third brother, you have to believe me!"

Xinghe was tired of this already. She demanded, "We'll know whether it's real or not after you follow us to the precinct."

"Xia Xinghe, watch your mouth. You're nothing, and I'm the young lady of the Lin family, who are you to order me around? Third brother, they are all bullying me, you have to help me!" Lin Yun started to cry, as if they were really accusing her.

Xinghe and Mubai's gazes turned cold. This woman sure is disgusting.

"Lin Xuan, you cannot take Lin Yun away or you'll also be charged with aiding and abetting a fugitive," Mubai cut straight to the point and warned Lin Xuan.

Lin Xuan suddenly pulled Lin Yun's hands away from her and consoled her, "Xiao Yun, since they say they have the evidence on you, you'd better stay behind to help with their investigation. This time, even Third Brother can't help you anymore, but don't worry, if you're innocent, we'll definitely save you."

Lin Yun was really afraid. She gawked at Lin Xuan in disbelief. With a shaking voice, she stammered, "Third brother, what, what are you talking about..."

Lin Xuan used his finger to gently wipe away her tears and smiled. "Xiao Yun, our Lin family must take responsibility for what we do. Be brave; we will definitely save you."

"But..." But the evidence is real. If I'm captured, then it will all be over for me.

"Third brother, I cannot go with them, I will not." Lin Yun shook her head in absolute fear, afraid that he would really abandon her.

## Chapter 531: Due Punishment

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Of course, by then Lin Xuan knew what had really happened. He whispered kindly, “But you have to, they have already made a report, you cannot hide from this forever.”

“Third brother, you... you’re not going to save me?” Lin Yun asked anxiously.

Technically speaking, he had to save her. He should know that she could not be captured or the whole criminal connection to the Lin family would be exposed because of her.

“Of course, I will save you but not now. Don’t worry, I will return to get you after I discuss with grandfather,” Lin Xuan said confidently. Lin Yun was slowly convinced by him.

“But...”

She hesitated.

“Come on now, don’t be afraid, we have your back,” Lin Xuan said gently but powerfully. Lin Yun was nodding at his words. At the end of the day, she knew she couldn’t escape even if she wanted to. Xinghe had already passed the evidence to the police, so even if she escaped to City A, the police there would continue to hound her. The Lin family couldn’t protect her so openly. Her only hope was if her grandfather could really figure out a way to save her.

“Alright, you can take her away now. We of the Lin family are honest folks that will not stand in the way of the law,” Lin Xuan told Mubai with an honest smile.

Mubai and Xinghe looked curiously at each other. This Lin Xuan was being too honest. However, since they didn’t know him personally, this didn’t raise any alarm.

Xinghe opened the car door and ordered, “Get in, Lin Yun!”

Lin Yun glared maliciously at her. She had been so close to leaving City T. If not for Xi Mubai and this b\*tch, she would have been on the private plane already.

This is all their fault! They'd better not give me a chance to fight back because they will pay with their lives if they do!

However, no matter how strong her hatred, Lin Yun eventually had to crawl into the car.

Just as Xinghe and Mubai prepared to leave, Lin Xuan suddenly walked over and handed Lin Yun her handbag. "You forgot about this."

"Third Brother, I will wait for you to save me, please don't take too long," Lin Yun pleaded.

Like the kind big brother that he was, Lin Xuan nodded. "Don't worry, just hang in there for now."

Lin Yun finally smiled, her anxiety slowly dispersing. She thought the Lin family would save her soon because her crime wasn't that big. She needed to suffer for a little while before aid came. This optimism brightened Lin Yun's mood.

Since the police weren't there, Xinghe and Mubai drove her directly to the police station.

Staring at the car that was driving away, Lin Xuan asked the driver beside him, "Don't you think Xiao Yun has failed too gloriously this time? She was dumb enough to hand such damning evidence to others."

"Third Young Master, Miss Yun is still young so it's unavoidable that she'll make mistakes," the driver answered respectfully.

Lin Xuan shook his head with regret. "There is no room for mistakes in Lin family. A small mistake can cause big repercussions. Therefore, all failure has to be taken care of with expedience."

The driver shivered involuntarily and responded with fearful silence.

Lin Xuan watched Mubai's car for a while longer before ordering, "Let's go; it's time to go home."

"Yes, sir."

...

As they drove to the precinct, Mubai's group suddenly heard the sound of clock ticking in their cramped space.

This caught the three of them by complete surprise.

## Chapter 532: Calling His Love

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

What sound was that?

“Tick—”

It appeared again.

Mubai's face changed instantly. He slammed down on the breaks, opened the door and leaped over the seat to charge at Xinghe in one smooth motion—

As he lurched at her, Xinghe heard another ticking sound. After that was a deafening explosion. Xinghe felt her eyes burn from the blinding light. The last thing she saw before the world of brightness swallowed her were Mubai's eyes, filled with determination.

Other than the sensation of their bodies being flung away by an indescribable force, she felt nothing else. After all, one who had lost consciousness would have felt nothing. It was just like death, no pain and no senses.

However, for Xinghe, it was different. Even in endless darkness, she felt her heart ache. Her heart was like being pricked by a sharp object. She felt herself scooting away from the source of pain. She was enveloped by dread.

However, someone seemed to call her name repeatedly from somewhere far away.

Xinghe, Xinghe...

The soft voice was gentle and mellifluous like a man calling his lover. His lover? Is that me? But who is this 'he'?

Xinghe's consciousness slowly gathered itself. Finally, she remembered; the 'he' was Xi Mubai. Xinghe did her best to locate the source of his voice, but it was to no avail. Xi Mubai, where are you?

Xinghe, I'm leaving... I'm sorry, I wouldn't be able to accompany you anymore...

Leaving, where was he going?

Xinghe finally recovered enough to remember the explosion inside the car. Mubai had pulled her into a tight embrace just before the car exploded. Wait, the car exploded!

This sudden knowledge woke Xinghe up from the darkness like a splash of icy, cold water!

The moment she woke up, her eyes were filled with terror. She had trouble breathing; she was like a trauma victim, her face deathly pale.

“Sis!” Xia Zhi, who had been guarding beside her, hadn’t once closed his eyes. He leaped happily forward when he saw her open her eyes. He gripped at her palm and massaged some warmth into it. “Sis, are you okay? Do you feel fine? I’ll go get the doctor!”

Xia Zhi quickly called for the doctor but Xinghe remained the same way: unresponsive and emotionless.

“Doctor, what’s wrong with my sister?” Xia Zhi asked with a shaking voice looking at Xinghe who stared blankly ahead.

The doctor sighed. “She’s in shock.”

“Then, what can we do...”

“We will give her a tranquilizer shot first.”

Just as the doctor was going to administer the shot, she said in a raspy voice, “It’s alright...”

“Sis!” Xia Zhi cried in shock. However, he swallowed his immediate joy when he saw the lack of usual luster in her eyes. He didn’t know how to broach the subject.

Xinghe turned towards him and continued in that raspy voice of hers, “Where’s Mubai?”

This was what Xia Zhi was most afraid of, afraid that she would ask about Mubai after she woke up.

He tried his best to hide it, but there was unspeakable sadness in his eyes. His mournful countenance spoke volumes as well.

“Sis, he is still in a critical condition...”

## Chapter 533: Xi Mubai's Condition

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Through the rasp of his own voice, Xia Zhi forced a smile and consoled, "Don't worry, he'll be fine."

However, he forgot he was talking to Xinghe; she could see through his fake smile easily.

Xinghe's eyes turned ashen, like her soul had left her body; she was on the edge of breaking. Xia Zhi felt this change in her and was flustered. "Sis, don't be sad; I'm really not too sure about Xi Mubai's conditions! After you feel better, we'll go visit him. Don't overthink this; it's not as bad as you think!"

To his surprise, Xinghe nodded obediently. Xia Zhi was gobsmacked. "Sis, you believe me?"

"I do, now tell me what happened..." Xinghe opened her mouth weakly to say. Xia Zhi was afraid that she would be agitated by the details, so he only described it in broad strokes.

"The car explosion sent both you and Brother Xi flying. There was another woman in the car. The explosion seemed to be closest to her; she died on the spot. That was what happened, regarding the origin of the bomb, the police are still looking into it."

Origin of the bomb?

Lin Xuan's honest face cropped up in Xinghe's mind and hatred like a bright red brand seared her heart. It would keep on burning her until she settled this debt!

However, Xinghe didn't show any change of emotion before Xia Zhi. After Xia Zhi finished, Xinghe asked, "Help me up."

"Sis, what are you doing?"

Xinghe stared at him and said in fierce determination, "Take me to see Xi Mubai's remains."

Xia Zhi's eyes widened. How... how did she know?

...



Xia Zhi might have skirted around the topic, but Xinghe knew that Mubai sacrificed himself to save her. Other than small burns and general fatigue, her body was fine. However, the lighter her wounds, the greater her pain.

Who gave you the right to decide my life or death? Who?

Other than anger, Xinghe felt immense sadness. In fact, this was the saddest she had ever been, even surpassing the sorrow she'd felt after their plane blew up in Country Y.

This time, grief tore through her face. It was so enveloping and concrete that she couldn't even summon the energy to cry. For the first time, Xinghe understood the meaning of 'despair is the greatest sorrow'.

She was in a complete daze when she was wheeled from her room to Lu Qi's medical experiment building.

She finally regained her senses when Lu Qi approached her and asked solemnly, "You really want to do this?"

Xinghe nodded slowly, "Yes."

Lu Qi squatted down to match her seated height because she was in a wheelchair. He advised, "You're still recovering. I don't think it's wise for you to see him."

"Bring me to him," said Xinghe; her words were succinct but sorrowful.

"...Alright, but you have to prepare yourself," Lu Qi said, but he had also prepared the necessary precautions just in case. If anything happened to Xinghe, he would be ready with his first aid kit.

Lu Qi personally wheeled Xinghe into the elevator.

The elevator opened to a large, structurally stable basement. Then he wheeled her into a lab.

As they entered, Xinghe saw Mubai lying inside a rectangular, transparent, airtight glass receptacle.

## Chapter 534: A Ray of Hope

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

There was a myriad of thin tubes stuck to his body. Blood red liquid circulated between his body and the machine they were attached to.

The large cardiograph beside it showed a straight line; there was almost no movement. If one didn't look closer, it was as if it had flatlined.

Xinghe opened her eyes wide to study that life line like it was her own.

Lu Qi explained, "I used the latest medical device to temporarily keep him alive. The machines are there to aid in the pumping of his heart and thus blood circulation. It seems to be working, but whether this will eventually cure him I can't say for sure."

Almost choking up, Xinghe said, "No matter what, you have to keep him alive."

Lu Qi nodded. "Naturally. Don't worry, I will not give up. I will do my best to save him."

"Thank you," Xinghe said seriously. This was the first time she'd thanked someone so sincerely.

She was thankful that Lu Qi was someone who focused on medical research or else who knew what would have happened to Mubai. What would she do?

Thankfully, they were given a ray of hope to shine through the haze of despair.

"I wish to have some alone time with him," she rasped weakly. Her fatigue was returning. Lu Qi nodded understandingly and left the lab. The moment he did, Xinghe's tears started to fall uncontrollably, like a broken dam.

Studying Mubai's pale face in the receptacle, Xinghe felt her heart being stabbed again and again. Each painful second caused the sight before her to go dark. However, she forced her eyes open to carefully study every inch on Mubai's body.

The wounds on his face, head, arms, legs... These were all Lin Xuan's presents to him.

She would remember this because, one day, she would repay him a hundred-fold!

No, that was not enough, she swore to destroy the entire Lin family! Or else, her heart wouldn't rest!

...

Xinghe stayed in the lab alone for an hour before exiting. When she came out, her whole person looked drained. She was completely exhausted, the little color she had earlier had completely disappeared.

Xia Zhi moved forward and asked with concern, "Sis, are you alright?"

"Miss Xia, drink this." Lu Qi passed her a bottle of energy drink. Xinghe reached forward to accept it, but the moment she did, her hands slumped weakly down her sides.

"Here." Xia Zhi took the bottle and fed her the drink. With some difficulties, Xinghe finished the bottle. She felt better immediately, at least the world stopped spinning.

"Miss Xia, I will try my best to save Mubai so don't worry too much. You have to take care of your health," Lu Qi reminded her kindly.

Xinghe nodded. "I know."

She would do anything for a speedy recovery because there were many things waiting for her to complete!

"Back to the hospital," Xinghe told Xia Zhi and he nodded. "Okay."

However, as they left Lu Qi's building, they saw a large, fit man waiting for them at the entrance.

He was in a black pressed suit and stood in profile away from them. His handsome features looked strikingly similar to Mubai.

## Chapter 535: Send Him to the Depths of Hell

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

At that moment, Xinghe's heart skipped a beat, thinking that was Mubai, but it was not, it was Munan.

Munan turned around and saw them. He whispered, "Big Sister Xia, can we have a moment?"

Xinghe nodded and Xia Zhi walked away on his own, giving them some privacy.

Munan pushed Xinghe's wheelchair to a nearby bench. He sat down beside her and said directly, "This incident has surprised us all. When we received the news yesterday, almost the whole family collapsed..."

Even though Munan hid it well, Xinghe could hear the sadness and anger bubbling under the surface.

"Big Brother has always been the family's pride and hope, a legend in many people's hearts. We all assumed he would be that way all his life, the one standing at the forefront holding the family's future up all on his own. But who would have thought something like this would happen.

"The police are currently looking into this; we all suspect this is the work of Saohuang's underlings. He might be in captivity, but his lackeys are still out there."

"No, it wasn't him; it was Lin Xuan," Xinghe suddenly interjected.

Munan looked at her with plain disbelief. "What did you say?"

Xinghe looked him in the eyes, making sure that he saw the hatred swirling in there. "It's the Lin family's doing; they are behind this!"

"But how... Lin Yun was also in the car, wasn't she? Blowing the car up killed her too."

Xinghe laughed mirthlessly. "That was their plan to begin with. I underestimated them. They would kill their own to save the family's reputation. So what if Lin Yun was from the Lin family; she caused her family damage and thus she had to be

removed! After all, with her death, Saohuang's crime couldn't be linked to the Lin family and they would also kill Mubai in the process, causing the Xi family a devastating blow."

Munan was shocked. "They were willing to kill one of their own because of something like that? How... how can they be so heartless?"

Xinghe stared at the space before her frigidly. "There are all kinds of people in this world."

"So they are the one who caused Big Brother's death!" Hatred burned within Munan. He clenched his fists tightly. "The Lin family has gone over the line this time, they must be destroyed!" Munan hissed. His eyes red with anger.

"Don't forget me!" Xinghe opened her mouth to say, "You mustn't leave me out of this. I will personally send them to hell!"

Especially that Lin Xuan, she would make him pay dearly!

Munan started to worry. "Big Sister Xia, will they come after you? After all, you're a witness to their crime."

"They won't," Xinghe assured him. "From the brazen ways Lin Xuan acted, one can see that he thinks highly of himself and above the law. After all, even if the police suspect him, there is no proof. He probably wouldn't care about a female survivor like myself. Furthermore, if something happens to me, the suspicion on him will only deepen. The Lin family will be too careful to do more than what they have already done."

"But we cannot be too careful. I will assign some men to protect you from now on."

"Thank you." Xinghe didn't reject his suggestion.

Munan took a look at her and went back to consoling her, "Big Sister Xia, don't be too sad. I'm sure a miracle will happen for Big Brother..."

You really think so?

Xinghe and everyone knew the possibility of Mubai recovering was extremely small because his vitals were simply

too weak.

## Chapter 536: Waiting for His Revival

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

His life was like a candle in the wind, a small breath could take him out easily. If not for Lu Qi's intervention, he would already be dead. Alas, his current condition was not much better than death.

It was difficult for him to recover, but at least his body would be preserved. As long as his physical body didn't perish, there was hope for revival. Furthermore, Xinghe had faith in Lu Qi's medical skill, he would figure out a way to save him. Even if he couldn't, Mubai would stay in this cytostatic state. With the fast advancement in medical science, in the next 10 years, 20 years... eventually, he would be saved.

Looking on the bright side, Mubai had a better chance at recovering than those who froze their bodies during their twilight years. Therefore, they would not give up on hope, praying for the arrival of a miracle. Xinghe was warmed by these thoughts and she felt revitalized temporarily.

Xinghe finally garnered her courage to ask, "How's Lin Lin?"

Pain was written on Munan's face. "He still doesn't have any idea about what's really going on. He only knows that Big Brother has suffered some serious injuries. We don't have the heart to tell him. He's too young to know this; it might influence his growth."

"Okay, what about everyone else?"

"Grandfather is not doing so well, First Uncle and Auntie are devastated but they will not fall so easily," Munan said with confidence. This was the spirit of a powerful family, they would not crumble easily no matter how big the blow, otherwise they wouldn't have reached the stage they were at that day.

"Everything will be fine," Xinghe told him in the form of a promise. This was to be her belief for a long stretch of her future. In fact, it was because of this belief that she managed to pull off one legend after another...

...

Since Xinghe said the killer was Lin Xuan, Munan quickly went to make the report. Even though the police already suspected Lin Xuan, the proof was too hard to find. The explosion had ruined everything, including Lin Yun's life.

Furthermore, the police found it hard to believe that Lin Xuan would be so heartless to kill his own cousin. Almost no one believed that Lin Xuan would do that.

After all, Lin Yun didn't commit a grave mistake, would Lin Family silence her just because of that?

Furthermore, where would Lin Xuan find a bomb on such short notice?

After all, Lin Xuan had no idea that Mubai and Xinghe would come to block their way.

Therefore, the police's main suspect was Feng Saohuang. It was because of Saohuang that Xinghe and Mubai went looking for Lin Yun. The police thought this was his plot all along. His plan was to kill everyone involved with a bomb. His hatred for Mubai and Xinghe was well documented and was angry at Lin Yun because she forced him into assassinating Munan. He had the most motive to set the explosive.

However, one thing remained a mystery. How did Feng Saohuang arrange all that?

He was under constant surveillance and there was no chance for him to set up something so intricate.

In conclusion, the case was shrouded in heavy mystery, making it an unsolved case.

...

After all, the police worked with evidence; they couldn't do anything without evidence. It was different for Xinghe. She worked with her intuition; she wholeheartedly believed in her extrapolation that Lin Xuan was the murderer.

She swore vengeance on those that dared to harm them!



## Chapter 537: Search for Xia Meng

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

While she was recovering, Xinghe spent every waking hour trying to figure out a way to fight the Lin family.

She scanned through all of the information available on the Lin family; she was tipped off by Lin Xuan's data because it was too simple. He grew up in such a normal way, studied, and worked overseas...

His life was similar to millions of normal people out there. His biography was straight forward and orderly, too straight forward and orderly in fact, because would someone with his supposed background carry a mini bomb with him and kill his cousin without batting an eye?

Therefore, there must be something at work beneath his seemingly unimpressive surface!

No matter what it was, if Xinghe was on his case, he would be found out soon enough!

...

A month had passed. Xinghe had recovered for the most part. Mubai was still the same though. Their hope had changed from him getting better to his conditions staying the same and not worsening.

In this one month, other than researching on the Lin family, Xinghe had even paid Xia Meng a visit. This was the first time they'd met after their identities switched back.

However, the current Xia Meng was no longer the old Xia Meng. She had a new identity and a new name, Liu Xiaoxiao.

That was her host's name. She was an orphan with nothing going for her. In other words, Xiaoxiao was a common young woman surviving at the fringe of the society. After Xia Meng became her, she didn't use even one cent of the huge amount of money Mubai gave her.

When Xinghe located Xia Meng, she was working in a restaurant. Her job was a waitress helping the customers with

their orders and general cleaning. It was a busy but rewarding job.

Xinghe waited for half an hour before there was a break in Xia Meng's schedule.

Xia Meng sat down across from Xinghe and asked nervously, "Do you have anything you need from me?"

No matter how long it had been, she still felt fearful and guilty towards Xinghe.

Xinghe was her usual self. She asked directly, "Didn't Mubai give you a large sum of money?"

Xia Meng nodded sheepishly. "Mr. Xi did do that, but I haven't used any of it."

"Why not?"

For some reason, Xia Meng felt that the Xinghe before her had gotten more reserved and aloof. It was as if Xinghe was disappearing into nature, like a nun that had seen the world and no longer cared about it.

Therefore, Xia Meng knew she was only being perfunctory. Regardless she answered truthfully, "Because I wanted to give myself a change. I realized I was too naïve and too dependent on others which caused me to make some bad decisions in my earlier life. I've thought long and hard about this; if I can stand up on my own, I believe my life will be different. Therefore, I don't want to use Mr. Xi's money; I want to fight for my life using my own strength..." Xia Meng continued happily, "After a few more months of work, I will have saved enough to return to school. I will give myself a new start with this new identity."

"Congratulations," was all Xinghe said. Xia Meng blushed slightly before asking again, "Then why did you come looking for me?"

"I want to locate your father." Xinghe finally stated her purpose.

Xia Meng was surprised. "My father? Why would you want to find him, is it because of the memory cells?"

“His medical skill is very good, isn't it?”

## Chapter 538: Saving Mubai

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“...I’m not sure, but he should be or else he wouldn’t have designed the memory cells.”

“Where is he?” Xinghe asked again.

Xia Meng shook her head. “This I really don’t know; he left a long time ago leaving no messages where he was going.”

“You know about Project Galaxy, right?”

Xia Meng nodded. “I do, you know about it, too, right?”

“That doesn’t concern you. How much do you know about it?”

“I’ve told you everything I know. The only thing I can remember was that my father said he had to leave because of this Project Galaxy. He then left me those two things, telling me to keep good care of them and not hand them over to anyone.”

This was similar to what Xinghe’s mother told her when she left. It looked like Xia Meng really didn’t know any more than that.

“Is there any way to find your father?”

“I wish there was, but there isn’t. If there was, I would have left to find him a long time ago,” After a long pause, Xia Meng asked hesitantly, “Xinghe, how is Mr. Xi doing?”

Mubai’s current state couldn’t be hidden forever. However, for now, the world only knew that he went overseas for treatment and nothing more than that.

“Sorry for disturbing you today. I still have something else to take care of, goodbye.”

Xinghe didn’t answer her question but stood up and left.

...

Those who knew about Project Galaxy were only a handful: Xia Meng, Ee Chen, Ruobing, Ye Shen, Xinghe, and IV Syndicate.

Xia Meng knew little to nothing, much less Ruobing. Ye Shen was dead and Ee Chen had disappeared. So, the only person Xinghe could rely on was the boss of IV Syndicate.

Her only lead for that was Saohuang. Xinghe not only needed to focus on her revenge but also figure out Project Galaxy because it would lead her to Xia Meng's father. She hoped that he could save Mubai. Xinghe knew that chances of her succeeding were slim, but she would not give up on it.

Soon, Xinghe arrived at the detention center. This period had been extremely harsh on Saohuang. His original crime was already big, but now, the bomb case was also pinned on him.

His daily schedule included interrogation, interrogation, and more interrogation. He groaned audibly whenever the guards came into his cell. He was so tired of interrogations that he felt like vomiting whenever he entered that interrogation room.

He thought it would be another grueling session, so he sighed in relief when he saw it was Xinghe. "I thought I'd lost all kindness towards human beings, but I realize I might still cherish human relationship when I see you."

Xinghe realized the huge change in Saohuang when he said so. Previously, he used to be intensely arrogant and unfeeling like he was above everyone else, but now he had mellowed out. He'd lost the arrogance and had gained an unhurried attitude to life.

Xinghe didn't waste time greeting him since they were still enemies. She told him directly, "I'm here because I have to ask you something."

"Stop!" Saohuang raised his hands to stop her. "I've said like a million times the bomb is not my doing, I have nothing to do with what happened to you. If that's what you're here for, I have nothing other than that to say."

## Chapter 539: How Can She Fall Before the Enemy Does

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“I know it wasn’t you,” Xinghe said directly. This surprised Saohuang, he didn’t expect her to believe him so easily.

He smiled sinfully. “Why are you so sure?”

“That’s because I’ve seen the killer with my own eyes.”

“Who was it?”

“Lin Xuan.”

Saohuang’s eyes darkened. So, it was him!

He laughed. “The Lin family sure is something else; every one of them born without a heart.”

What he did was definitely heartless!

“How did you know it was him?” Saohuang leaned slightly forward to ask.

Xinghe replied firmly, “My instincts tell me so; I might not have proof, but I know it’s him.”

“You’ve impressed me again.” Saohuang was not stingy with his compliments. “I love how you’re so direct and straight forward. Xia Xinghe, how come I didn’t find you earlier?”

Saohuang now had nothing to lose and he might not even evade the death penalty, so he had lost all filter. Plus, he really did admire Xinghe. If they had met under better circumstances, he probably would have pursued her.

Xinghe didn’t waste time with him. “Do you know who the leader is for IV Syndicate?”

“No idea, if I did, I would have told someone already to bargain for a lighter sentence.”

“What does he look like...”

“No idea, I have no information on him because all our dealings were done through a middle man.”

Disappointment flashed across Xinghe’s eyes, another clue gone. She really had no other way to understand more about

this Project Galaxy?

“You were here to ask me about this?” Saohuang suddenly asked.

“Yes.”

“But why?”

“Knowing too much is not good for you.”

Saohuang smiled and switched to another tactic. “How’s Xi Mubai, is he dead?”

“You’re still alive so how can he be dead?” Xinghe said softly before turning to leave. Saohuang could feel fury directed at him. Just joking about Mubai’s death made her so angry...

For some reason, Saohuang found himself envious of Mubai.

...

Even though all the leads had dried up, Xinghe didn’t give up. She personally called Philip to search for the IV Syndicate’s leader. She asked him to call her when he uncovered any new leads.

Philip promised, “We will continue searching for him. I would not let him get away even if you didn’t ask for it. But why do you want to find him?”

“I have some questions to ask him, you’ll see.”

“Xinghe, how are you holding up?” Philip suddenly asked with concern. After the explosion, it appeared like the world was comforting her. However, Xinghe didn’t need that; she was not as fragile as they thought. Plus, she would not let herself be fragile, especially at a moment like this. The harder the trial, the stronger she would become.

“I’m fine.”

“That’s great. By the way, I’m going to send you a present, you’ll receive it soon.”

What kind of present? Philip didn’t say and Xinghe didn’t ask. In fact, she had forgotten about it soon because something else needed her attention.

After Mubai's accident, even though Jiangan had been helping around the company but Xi Empire's stock was still affected. Thankfully, the effect was still in manageable range.

However, recently, a large company in City A started buying up large amounts of Xi Empire's stocks. A lot of shareholders were afraid that Xi Empire would go bankrupt without Mubai, so they were eager to sell their shares!



## Chapter 540: Let Xinghe Handle This

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

In just a few days' time, those shares were all gobbled up. This stirred up a media storm, stating that the Xi family was facing bankruptcy. The business legend in Hwa Xia was closing down!

Xi Empire deteriorated after such rumors. The workers lost their drive to work, a portion even started to prepare to jump ship. They didn't wait until the bankruptcy to switch jobs because that would have been too competitive since the whole company would have been let loose. Therefore, they decided to leave earlier. The first wave of deserters caused a ripple of anxiety across the company.

Mubai's accident had already caused a big blow to his father. Plus, he was already past retiring age, so he felt swamped suddenly throwing himself back into the business world. Facing pressure from all sides, the despair within him grew.

It was the same for the Xi family. A stubborn gloom had fallen over them like a veil, stripping them of their smiles.

Problems at the company only added to their stress. This was the product of Mubai's painstaking labor, they wouldn't be able to face him if the company failed. However, no matter how hard they struggled, things continued to deteriorate.

Watching the slow crumble of the business empire, Jiangan felt deeply aggrieved. "Is this really the end for our Xi family?"

"Husband, we must power through somehow," Mrs. Xi consoled him. Her son circling the gate of death, and her husband was surfeited with pressure. Mrs. Xi could feel her heart being torn open watching their suffering, but there was nothing a woman like her could do...

During the family meeting, the tired looking Grandfather Xi suddenly announced, "We have to get Xinghe's help."

Mr. and Mrs. Xi were dumbfounded.

"Dad, what do you mean by that?" Jiangan was confused.

Grandfather Xi explained with determination, “I mean to hand the company over to Xinghe! She is more knowledgeable than us when it comes to computers; she might be able to save the company.”

Jiangsan retorted, “She might be a skilled computer expert, but that doesn’t mean she is good at managing a company. It’s not that I don’t believe in her, but she has no relevant experience, I’m afraid it’ll be too much for her.”

“Then, you will help her, plus I believe in her,” Grandfather Xi proclaimed. “Call her now and ask for her help. If she is willing to help, we’re willing to compensate in any way she wishes.”

Mr. and Mrs. Xi looked at one another and had decided there and then. They too knew about Xinghe’s capability, maybe she really could perform a miracle.

“I’ll call her now.” To his surprise, just as he proposed the request and even before he listed the compensation, Xinghe agreed.

“Xinghe, the company is not doing so well currently, it’s a full of problems. You have to consider this carefully, can your physical condition handle something like this?” Mr. Xi asked with concern.

“I’ll be fine. Don’t worry, I’ll figure out a way.”

“Alright, you can come to the company any time. I will support you no matter what.”

“Thank you, but for now, I need all the information, as much and as detailed as possible.”

“No problem, I will send a few workers to you now.”

After he hung up, Mr. Xi immediately called his secretary to his room.

He even had the most loyal, capable, and high-ranking workers go help Xinghe.

Very soon, they arrived at Xinghe’s house. One of them was Tang Junting. Technically speaking, Junting was not Xi Empire’s employee but business partner.

## Chapter 541: Choose to Believe me

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

However, at a difficult time like this, he wanted to lend his aid to the Xi family. He was Mubai's friend, so he was also sad after he heard about Mubai's accident. The only thing he could do now was to help him secure his business empire.

Of course, Junting also knew Xinghe. He was her fan after the Hacker Competition from the year before.

Xinghe nodded at him for old time's sake before telling them, "Take a seat, I need all of you to bring me up to speed on the company's latest developments. Also, from now on, I will take over the company on Mubai's behalf, hopefully we can work together well."

They had heard about Xinghe before they arrived. They knew how she shut down her competition at Hacker Competition and that she had her own company. Her company, with the sole product of Manager X alone, had racked in tons of revenue.

Furthermore, her software was irreplaceable on the market because there was nothing better. They also knew about her other identity, which was Xi Mubai's ex-wife and Lin Lin's mother. They even knew they had plans to remarry.

Therefore, they had no issue when the Xi family decided to hand the company over to her. However, other than Junting, the rest still had doubts regarding her ability.

"Miss Xia, can you really lead a company?" a bespectacled man by the name of Jiang Haoran asked cautiously. The rest didn't say another word, waiting to hear her answer.

Xinghe nodded calmly. "I have confidence I can or else I wouldn't have accepted this request."

"But you have no managing experience, even your own company is managed by Xiao Mo." Haoran had definitely done his homework.

"Must one be good at managing to save a dying company? There are people from the Xi family and experienced workers

like all of you to handle the management. My role is only to provide business tactics. I know all of you have doubts about my skills, but don't worry, results speak louder than words. Plus, you have no choice but to believe me," Xinghe uttered with some pride. However, that was probably because everything she said was the truth. If there was not even basic trust between them, how could they overcome this hurdle together?

Junting nodded in agreement. "That's right, we can only trust Miss Xia now. Furthermore, since the Xi family trusts her, this means that she is truly capable. We need to cooperate with her because it is only through unity that we'll be able to survive this predicament."

After what Junting said, no one had any more comments. They chose to cooperate.

Xinghe knew he was helping her and remembered his kindness in her heart. Even Xia Zhi who walked in to serve them coffee heard Junting and, while no one was looking, gave him a big thumbs up. Senior, well done!

Junting also smiled knowingly at him in return. After the coffee was served, Xia Zhi excused himself; he didn't want to disturb them anymore.

With Junting leading the way, all of them started to bring her up to speed on the latest developments.

Xinghe concluded after everyone had their say, "The main issue is Bao Hwa. It is because they are purchasing the shares that things have become so serious."

Junting nodded. "That's right. This Bao Hwa is a big company in City A; it has a registered IPO as well. Therefore, they have the assets to do what they have done. However, they have nothing to do with the online business. I believe this purchasing of our shares is to help themselves pave the way to enter the online business."

After all, the internet was a highly profitable new industry; many companies were trying to get piece of the pie.

## Chapter 542: Xinghe Is Unreliable

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

It wouldn't be unfair to say Bao Hwa was making use of their misfortune to serve its own end.

“Actually, we have been trying to buy back the stocks from our shareholders, but Bao Hwa seems to be purposely coming for us. They seek out the same shareholder we're in discussions with and even use the double price to buy the shares from them,” Haoran said seriously.

Xinghe's eyes sharpened. “What is their main business?”

“Jewelry,” one of them answered.

Junting added, “They are the top company in the jewelry business, number one in the whole of Hwa Xia in fact.”

“But jewelry and computing are two completely different industries,” Xinghe said softly.

Junting asked, “Miss Xia, do you think something bigger is going on? Of course, we also think that they are purposely suppressing Xi Empire. This is very obvious.”

Furthermore, Bao Hwa was in City A and the Lin family was in City A. Xinghe couldn't afford to be too careful.

“I will check this out. You all can return for now; I will call you when I have a plan.”

“...” Junting and the rest were stunned. That's all? The meeting was less than an hour.

Xinghe didn't give them any suggestions or proposals and had them leave already? Wasn't the meeting too simplified?

Seeing as they didn't seem prepared to leave, Xinghe asked softly, “Is there anything else?”

“That's all!” Junting said in a hurry, “Miss Xia, please don't hesitate to call us if you need anything.”

“Okay. Zhi, please help me show the guests out.”

Xinghe concluded the meeting just like that.

The moment they left her villa, Haoran frowned. “CEO Tang, my doubts towards this Xia Xinghe still haven’t dissipated. Throughout the whole meeting, she only asked one or two questions and we didn’t even have an actual discussion. Can we really rely on her?”

Junting nodded solemnly. “Don’t worry, it’ll be fine.”

However, internally, he was starting to have second thoughts of his own. Miss Xia, please don’t disappoint us or I don’t think I’ll be able to support you any longer...

Xia Zhi was still at the door when they were complaining so he heard everything. After he closed the door, he rushed to Xinghe’s side to complain, “Sis, that bespectacled guy is slandering you behind your back!”

Xinghe didn’t have much reaction. “What did he say?”

“He said you’re unreliable and he doubts if you can save the company.”

“That’s all?”

“Other than senior, none of them believe in you.”

Xinghe nodded understandingly. “That’s normal. Just ignore them, come follow me to the study.”

“Why are we going there?” Xia Zhi asked.

“To investigate Bao Hwa.”

...

Others might not be able to get any information on Bao Hwa but Xinghe could. As long as the information was available online it was available to her. After some research, she realized wherein the issue lay.

Bao Hwa’s registrar, its biggest shareholder, was Lin Jing.

“It’s her,” Xinghe stared at the name and said coldly. Xia Zhi had been helping Xinghe with her Lin family research, so he was familiar with their family tree.

“Could it be Lin Family’s fifth miss, Lin Xuan’s biological sister?” Xia Zhi gasped.

Xinghe nodded. “It’s should be her.”

Xia Zhi grumbled angrily, “No wonder they’ve been targeting Xi Empire. This is all the Lin family’s handiwork, what exactly are they up to?”

## Chapter 543: Three Guys and One Girl Outside the Door

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“They’re trying to gobble up the Xi family’s assets,” Xinghe concluded coldly. This was what Saohuang had told her. According to him, the Lin family’s purpose was to take over the Xi family’s incredible wealth.

Xia Zhi scoffed with derision, “They want to swallow the Xi family? Clearly they’ve bitten off more than they could chew.”

“They’re courting death,” Xinghe said with intense hatred reading the name Lin Jing on screen.

“That’s right! Sis, you must show them how foolish they are for coming after us; destroy them and keep no prisoners!” Xia Zhi cheered with fiery indignation.

From his perspective, his sister was invincible, this enemy would eventually fall like all the rest. When Xinghe was sifting through Bao Hwa’s records, she familiarized herself with the company’s situation. A plan hatched in her mind.

With a wicked smile, she said, “They want to swallow Xi Empire? Let’s see who has the bigger appetite.”

“Sis, do you have a plan already?” Xia Zhi asked excitedly.

Xinghe nodded. “Yes, a rough outline of one.”

This would be the beginning, the beginning of the end of the Lin family.

“Wonderful, it’s definitely over for them! Sis, I support you!” Xia Zhi continued cheering. Xinghe stared at him with a helpless look in her eyes. She hadn’t even told him her plan; why did he believe in her so unconditionally?

This little brother had nothing but blind admiration for her.

...

Xinghe stayed up the whole night to go through all the details and set up her plan.

To her surprise, the day after, three unannounced guests arrived at their house. When they made their arrival known,



Xinghe was still in bed so it was Xia Zhi who opened the door.

Xia Zhi looked curiously at the three guys and one girl outside their door and asked, “Who are you looking for?”

The three guys were huge, one was Asian, one half Asian, and the last a blond-haired foreigner. The girl was also Asian.

Xia Zhi had no idea who they were, but he could sense a presence that they shared.

It was the presence of death!

It was the commanding presence of professional killers!

Xia Zhi was prone to wild imagination so right at that moment, the first thought that went into his mind was: These are assassins from Lin Family!

After all, Lin Xuan had the audacity to blow up his cousin, what was an assassination?

Therefore, these few people must be there to kill them!

“We...” The woman opened her mouth to speak as Xia Zhi slammed the door and locked it. Then, he flew upstairs in a hurry.

He barged into Xinghe’s room, screaming bloody murder. “Sis, this is bad, quick call the cops!”

Xinghe frowned as she rubbed her bleary eyes. “What’s happening?”

Xia Zhi was at the verge of tears. “There are assassins downstairs; the Lin family hired assassins! What should we do? It’s too late to call for the cops now. Let’s start screaming and hopefully get some people’s attention and maybe that’ll scare them away.”

Xia Zhi immediately rushed to the open window and leaned out to yell, “Help, we have murderers here, help us—”

Xinghe was stunned and anxious. The Lin family really set assassins on us? But this is broad daylight...

At the same, the group of individuals who just had a door slammed in their face were also shocked when they heard Xia

Zhi's screams. The four looked at one another, with the same question on their mind. Is he talking about us?

## Chapter 544: Pink Diamond

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

After he sent the security guards away with much apology, Xia Zhi turned around to see the so-called assassins crowding around his sister happily.

“Xinghe, long time no see. I’ve missed you so.” Ali looked at her with joy in her eyes, like two old friends meeting after a long time away from each other.

“All of us missed you dearly,” Sam added. Wolf was silent, but one could see the smile dancing in his eyes. The blond-haired Cairn though stood to the corner and smiled shyly.

The excitement in their hearts after meeting Xinghe after a month was indescribable. They might have not known each other for a long time, but that relationship that survived many memorable moments would forever be seared in their hearts. Xinghe felt the same way.

She had lost the feeling of happiness for quite some time, but today, she gave a rare smile. “Why are you all here?”

Sam dropped his shoulder bag to the floor and leaned lazily into the sofa. “Things with Charlie have been solved, and we have nothing else on our hands, so we decided to fulfil our promise and come visit you.”

Ali had many things to tell Xinghe when Sam brought that up. “Xinghe, do you know, it turns out the reason behind Charlie’s incarceration was due to his millionaire patron? Long story short, one day while Charlie was escorting his boss back home, they were ambushed. The boss was kidnapped but Charlie left unscathed. Therefore, the cops suspected he was behind the kidnapping, the reason was he wanted to get the pink diamond that his boss kept on him at all times that was worth several billion dollars. Charlie was the only one who knew his boss had the thing on him, so Charlie had no means to clear his name. He was thus sent into jail for several years. After he was released, he met us and took us under his tutelage.

“However, he didn’t give up searching for his old boss’ location. Somehow Barron found out about his past and also suspected that Charlie had taken the pink diamond for himself. That was why he captured him and interrogated him: to get the location of the pink diamond.

“Charlie really was unlucky because he really didn’t know where the diamond was. He was tortured for no reason at all. Thankfully, after Philip became president, Charlie came to him for help and finally the truth was revealed. Do you know what really happened?”

Ali looked at her excitedly. Xinghe shook her head. “I have no clue.”

“The culprit was his wife!” Ali said with disbelief. “His wife also knew about the pink diamond and, to get it from him, she hired some party to kill her husband and shift the blame onto Charlie. This kind of woman sure is scary, wouldn’t you agree? She already shared the diamond with her husband, but to make it her own, she had someone murder her husband; that’s crazy.”

Sam chimed in with his opinion, “This goes to show how fragile their relationship was. After all, the pink diamond was not their shared asset.”

“But according to that woman, she just felt that the pink diamond was too pretty to be left in any hands other than her own...” As if Ali was conjuring up the face of the woman when she said those crazy things, Ali shivered uncontrollably.

Xinghe didn’t know what to say so she asked, “Where’s the pink diamond now?”

Ali said with unhindered joy, “The woman has no children and the millionaire had no close relative, so the thing now belongs to the country.”

Cairn concluded with a smile, “The woman did all that for the diamond, but poor ol’ Charlie had to suffer because of her hysteria.”

## Chapter 545: Mr. Xi's Investment's Return

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Thankfully, it ended well for Charlie. Philip was impressed by his character and now he is head of security for the president,” Ali concluded happily.

Xia Zhi who had been eavesdropping with interest yelped suddenly, “The Philip you guys have been talking about is Country Y’s new president?”

Sam and the rest nodded naturally. “That’s right.”

“Wow, you all know the president. Does this mean my sister knows the president as well?” Xia Zhi turned to look at Xinghe, his eyes dancing with disbelief.

Ali giggled. “Xinghe not only knows Philip, he even took her as his step sister.”

“What?” Xia Zhi was stunned. What sister, how come I’ve not heard anything about this?

“Sis, are they for real?”

Xinghe nodded nonchalantly. “It’s true; I didn’t bring it up because I don’t think it was important.”

Xia Zhi grumbled as if slighted, “It’s very important, okay? How could you hide the fact that I’m Philip’s younger brother for so long?”

Xinghe, Ali, Sam, Wolf, and Cairn had difficulty following his train of thought. When did you become Philip’s younger brother?

Facing their confused looks, Xia Zhi sighed as if worried about their intelligence, “If my sister is Philip’s sister, I’m Philip’s brother, right?”

His logic weirdly made sense.

“Wow, I’m the president’s little brother; I have to tell dad this good news!” With that, Xia Zhi rushed out of the room.

Sam blinked. “Xinghe, your brother sure is... unique.” Ali and the rest nodded in agreement.

Xinghe was speechless. This brother of hers sure had his funny moments. After more greetings, Sam finally decided to discuss their real purpose for being there with Xinghe.

“Come join me in the study.” Xinghe stood up and led them upstairs.

After they entered the study, they stopped being so giddy and started to get serious. They were afraid they would spook Xia Zhi, so they had been suppressing their dangerous presence.

Now, they looked like they had when they were in Country Y. Their gazes were sharp and threatening. It was a unique presence cultivated from being raised in a war-torn country.

Xinghe preferred this side of her friends because it had something visceral to it.

“Xinghe, actually we’re here at Philip’s behest,” Sam said in a low growl.

“His order?” Xinghe was confused.

Cairn nodded. “He wanted us to come protect you and we’re here on a mission.”

“Which is to get your cooperation.”

“What kind of cooperation?” Xinghe was even more confused.

Ali smiled thinly. “It might be cooperation but actually it’s to repay your favor. Do you know what Country Y’s famous export is?”

Xinghe knew that; the whole world probably knew that.

“Diamonds.”

“That’s right, sixty percent of the world’s diamond came from Country Y. Philip mentioned Mr. Xi wished to sign a diamond mining contract with Country Y and Philip agreed. So, he sent us over to get you the contract, if you want, you can sign it now. Regarding the import of diamond from Country Y to Hwa Xia, you’ll be the general agent, thus controlling the whole diamond market in this country.”

Xinghe was shocked. “That was what Philip said?”

Ali nodded. “Yes, he said this was Mr. Xi’s investment’s return.”

## Chapter 546: The Beginning of the Revenge

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Investment... Now Xinghe understood what happened; this was the investment Mubai gave to help Philip win the presidency. Xinghe thought he had already planned his return. No wonder he was called a business genius; he would never commit to an unfair trade. His only failed trade was with her, where he lost his life.

“Of course, Philip said this was to repay you as well. It’s a present to you he said, so you must accept it.”

“So, this is the present he was talking about.” Xinghe sighed. She thought he was joking about the whole stepsibling thing, but he really was looking out for her. She would respond in kind in the future.

Furthermore, her initial plan was to discuss the diamond deal with Philip, but he already made it before she did. The timing was perfect because she could now officially begin her plan.

“Alright, help me thank him for this. I will not disappoint him, this will be a win-win trade,” Xinghe said confidently.

Ali and the rest were happy for her, but their mood drastically dropped after a second or two.

“Xinghe, how is Mr. Xi doing? Is he recovering right?” Ali asked anxiously. Sam and the rest looked at her with concern in her eyes.

Xinghe shook her head weakly. “No, he’s not doing so well.”

“He’ll be fine,” Ali pulled her in for a hug and consoled her.

Xinghe nodded. “I know.”

“Is it really that Feng Saohuang’s doing?” Sam asked severely. The news released to the public was that Saohuang was the culprit. No one would suspect the Lin family because it was impossible due to Lin Yun’s presence.

Xinghe scoffed. “It wasn’t him but someone else.”



“Who is it then?” Ali asked angrily, “We’ll help you kill them!”

“You can choose the way they die,” Wolf who hadn’t said anything opened his mouth to say.

Sam hissed, “They almost caused your death; we have to repay their kindness somehow.”

“Xinghe, give us their name and we will take care of it for you,” Cairn added. Xinghe felt touched hearing them say that. She didn’t regret meeting this group of friends; they would always be on her side. But she would never make use of them.

“Killing them is not that hard, but I won’t dirty your hands. Furthermore, I’m not targeting their lives. Don’t worry, none of them are going to get away.” A flash of burning vengeance lit up Xinghe’s eyes. “None of them will escape.”

She would let the Lin family know the meaning of hell! They would have to pay for what they did. She would do everything in her power to crush them.

...

Since the plan was ready, Xinghe didn’t waste any more time. With Ali and the rest’s help, her revenge plot was given a kick-start.

Xinghe made a decision that day, she would buy Bao Hwa’s shares with triple the market price.

This decision shocked everyone, including Mr. Xi.

“Xinghe, why would you make this decision?” Jiangan asked her with obvious disbelief.

Others stared at her like she was a monster. Does she know what she’s talking about? Use three times the market price to buy Bao Hwa’s shares? Is she crazy?

Xinghe answered seriously, “Because I want to swallow the entire Bao Hwa.”

## Chapter 547: Protect His Kingdom

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

This stunned everyone once more.

“Swallow Bao Hwa?”

“Miss Xia, do you have any idea what you’re talking about? How can you just swallow a company as big as Bao Hwa?”

“Miss Xia, we know you want to resolve the company’s issues, but this will not work.”

“Even CEO Xi wouldn’t dare to say something like swallow Bao Hwa. Bao Hwa is such an influential company, this is not something that can be done in a short period of time.”

“That’s right, the company is facing its critical period, we don’t have the energy to swallow another company, much less Bao Hwa.”

The serious Haoran demanded, “Miss Xia, is this your solution? Because Bao Hwa started to aggressively buy up our shares, we’re doing the same back to them?”

Xinghe nodded calmly. “That’s right.”

“You’re taking this too lightly!” Haoran tried his best to suppress his anger. “How can your thinking be so linear?”

Others nodded in agreement. They thought Xinghe was joking. Saying her thoughts were linear was already giving her face. They thought she was dumb, absolutely idiotic. Xinghe knew this would be their reaction.

“I would not do this without a hundred percent confidence.”

As expected, the moment she said so, she was rebutted.

“Where does your confidence come from?”

“You’ve just taken over the company; you have no idea how anything works, so where does your confidence come from?”

“CEO Xi, it’s not that we don’t believe in your eyes, but she really doesn’t have the capability to lead this company.”

Jiangsan also didn't think Xinghe would be so naïve. But he knew deep down that she wasn't like that. She was crucial to helping Xi Family weather one struggle after another.

Is it as they say that this woman is naïve? But would father have someone naïve come to help the company?

Jiangsan asked Xinghe prudently, "Xinghe, what is your larger plan? Why don't you tell us the entirety of your plan and we'll discuss it together?"

"I can't, the time is not yet ripe," Xinghe replied softly. "I hope that you will assist me in my plan. The only thing I can promise is that even if I die, I will help protect his blood, sweat, and tears!"

Jiangsan's eyes shuddered. The others quieted down as well. They found Xinghe's promise to be touching and sad.

Being reminded of his son's situation brought a sad frown to Jiangsan's face.

If Mubai were here, what would he do? He would trust Xinghe unconditionally.

Even though Mubai had his ways of doing things, he was still his son. Jiangsan knew his thought process well, therefore, he knew Mubai would support Xinghe no matter what. After all, he was willing to sacrifice himself to save her.

However, he was gone, there was no one to support her anymore. In that case, he would represent his son to pass on his wish and desire.

Jiangsan raised his head and announced with determination, "We will follow Xinghe's arrangements and orders. From now on, she will be responsible for the running of the company. I will bear all responsibility."

What? Everyone in the room looked at him with absolute surprise. Xinghe, too, was shocked; she didn't expect support from Mr. Xi.

Jiangsan continued with authority, "Do not choose the one you don't trust; trust the one you chose. I hope all of you

remember that what we need now to overcome this trial is unity and trust!”

After Jiangan said so, there was no one that dared to object anymore.

## Chapter 548: Xi Empire Was Still There

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Even though they still doubted Xinghe's capability and worried that she would usher in Xi Empire's doom more rapidly, they couldn't do anything but to submit. They believed time would prove them right!

...

Just like that, Xinghe's plan was put into motion. However, they still thought the plan was too dumb; they were essentially just waiting to see her fail.

Regardless, the good feeling of purchasing other people's shares couldn't be denied.

Bao Hwa might be big, but could its assets be bigger than Xi Empire's? A dying elephant was still larger than an ant.

Even without Mubai, Xi Empire was a large business empire. Therefore, since Bao Hwa dared to buy out Xi Empire, they would do the same towards them. In the competition of just money, no one could be Xi Empire's competitor.

Xi Empire's workers might not agree with Xinghe's tactic, but they wouldn't deny the pleasure of buying out Bao Hwa's stocks. It was truly a complicated feeling.

This news soon spread across the country. Earlier when Bao Hwa was swallowing Xi Empire, everyone was surprised by how powerful Bao Hwa was that they dared to come after Xi Empire.

However, Xi Empire was a veritable business legend. Even though Mubai might be indisposed, no one would be able to shake their position in the market.

When Bao Hwa started to buy out its shares, everyone thought that it was over for Xi Empire, that it had found its match. But the counterstrike by Xi Empire had truly shocked everyone.

Bao Hwa dared to buy us out? Then we would buy them back, using three times the market price. When Bao Hwa bought the retail investor's stock, it was only at a 1.5 rate.

Xi Empire doubled that in one go!

Just like that, the powerful image Bao Hwa had cultivated for itself crumbled. What was left was the public's derision and ridicule.

If they didn't go after Xi Empire so openly previously, no one would have cared. But since they were conceited enough to taunt Xi Empire, this worked out to highlight Xi Empire's strength and Bao Hwa's conceit. In the end, Bao Hwa's reputation ended up even worse than before.

This was how people operated, the richer side would always win. Xi Empire's reputation was salvaged with this operation.

The group of deserters were shocked. What happened to the promised deterioration and bankruptcy?

Why didn't things go according the rule of nature? Why had Xi Empire started to fight back after they had jumped ship?

This was just wonderful because Xi Empire's position was still unmovable, but they wouldn't be able to join back anymore!

In other words, this group of people was just kicking themselves.

Those that waited for Xi Empire to fall and were ready to cut open its dead body to share the profits were shocked as well.

At that time, they realized, even after Xi Mubai was gone, Xi Empire was still there. Xi Empire's wealth didn't disappear with Mubai. Therefore, Xi Empire was still the biggest and strongest competitor on the scene.

...

Back in City A, Lin Jing was furious after she witnessed the latest development. She thought Mubai's accident would give them the perfect opening to strike at Xi Empire and the Xi family.

Things were falling into place according to her plan.

## Chapter 549: Still the Best

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

After she'd started buying out Xi Empire, Xi Empire's stock indeed started to fall, and its product was still to stop selling. Xi Empire was also hit with another blow in the form of Xi Mubai's accident. Xi Empire didn't disappoint her, and it started to deteriorate day after day.

She knew she would need time and patience to swallow this giant whale. In fact, she had hunkered down to prepare to take it slow.

Therefore, Xi Empire's sudden clap back came as a huge surprise to her. After losing Xi Mubai, Xi Empire still came up with such a daring tactic. Just how did they do it?

Aren't they afraid such wastage of assets will accelerate Xi Empire's death? Or is this just a dying beast's last struggle?

However, no matter how she looked at it, it didn't appear like Xi Empire was giving up. Then, this was revenge against Bao Hwa. Lin Jing's face darkened when she realized this.

At that time, Lin Xuan's call arrived.

"Hello, Big Brother." Lin Jing spoke softly into the phone.

Lin Xuan asked, "Xi Empire is buying out Bao Hwa, what's your opinion?"

"I didn't expect that."

Lin Xuan chuckled. "Their reaction sure was fast. I also didn't expect after Xi Mubai's death, they could come up with a plan like this."

"In other words, this is not Xi Mubai's decision." Lin Jing's words were laced with confidence. As long as it was not Xi Mubai, then she had nothing to be afraid of. This was probably beginner's luck from the person she was going up against.

Lin Xuan thought the same way. "Since Xi Empire has fought back, the plan to swallow them will be a lot more difficult."

“Brother, don’t worry, I will handle this,” Lin Jing said in the same confidence.

“What’s your plan?”

Lin Jing smirked coldly. “Without Xi Mubai, Xi Empire’s death is inevitable. So, the only thing I can do now is to continue fighting with them, after all, we’ll be the last one standing.”

“Jing Jing, it is not clever to butt heads with Xi Empire so openly.”

“I know, but Big Brother, you’re on my side, right? With you around, I have confidence to take down Xi Empire. Furthermore, we’ve already sacrificed Lin Yun; we have to win this in her memory.”

Lin Xuan laughed. “Fine, I believe in your capability. You’ve managed so much at your young age; no one will be able to be your competitor. Go on with your plan, I will help should you need it.”

“Thank you.” After she hung up the phone, Lin Jing’s mouth curved into a villainous smile. Xi Empire, since you’re so stubborn, we’ll see who will win in the end!

...

To everyone’s surprise, Bao Hwa also fought back. Now they were using also triple the market price to buy Xi Empire’s stocks!

In other words, they were matching Xi Empire’s price.

The people who were watching were stunned. So, Bao Hwa still had it in them; they dared to continue fighting with Xi Empire, this meant that they, too, were a force to be reckoned in. Looks like this was really the end for Xi Empire.

However, in the blink of an eye, Xi Empire strike back, using five times the market price to buy Bao Hwa’s stock!

The public went wild.

So Xi Empire was the big boss! Every time they strike, they doubled the price, this was much more impressive than Bao



Hwa.

## Chapter 550: Waiting for Bao Hwa

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Bao Hwa's reputation that they'd gained earlier disappeared once more. In fact, the damage was even bigger this time.

Xi Empire doubled their purchase every time while Bao Hwa only matched the price. The comparison was unflattering for Bao Hwa.

Regardless, everyone waited with bated breath to see whether Bao Hwa would continue this contest. The only people who were saddened by this were those who let go of their shares too early.

Why couldn't they have been more patient? They had lost so much!

Those still possessing Bao Hwa and Xi Empire's stock held onto them like dear life, who knew whether the price would still increase or not?

At least those having Xi Empire's stock didn't dare to sell them so easily anymore, because they were waiting for Bao Hwa to approach them with a higher price. On the other hand, some with Bao Hwa's stock were willing to sell, because they were afraid this was going to be the highest offer. They were afraid they would end up with nothing because of greed.

However, greed was part of human nature...

So many were waiting with the question, Bao Hwa, when are you going to increase your price to purchase Xi Empire's stocks?

...

Xinghe and the rest too were waiting for Bao Hwa's next move. Xia Zhi had been following the contest for the past few days; he was like a happy baby, completely entertained.

"This time they must be dumbfounded. We went for five times the price; they must be pooping their pants now!"

Even Ali's group followed the development closely alongside the rest of the country.

Sam smiled wickedly. “I’m sure they won’t dare to continue this anymore. Five times the market price is not a small number. They will go bankrupt if they continue this fiasco.”

“Xinghe, do you think they will follow up?” Ali asked.

Xinghe nodded. “They will.”

The room was shocked. Xia Zhi didn’t believe it. “That’s unreal, where will they get the assets to do that?”

Bao Hwa might have been rich, but Xi Empire’s stock price was the highest it had ever been. Five times the price was a scary number. The total of the smaller shareholders that were willing to sell was tens of billions.

For the argument’s sake, let’s put the price at twenty billion, if Bao Hwa wanted to buy them all, they had to produce at least one hundred billion!

Such an amount would definitely make Bao Hwa end up in heavy debt.

Xinghe smiled. “Raising the price doesn’t mean that they will buy.”

Cairn understood immediately. “They just want the PR, if someone really approaches them to sell, they will come up with all sorts of reasons to stall.”

“Naturally, not only that, the purpose they’re doing this is to suppress Xi Empire, to create the mirage that Xi Empire was on its way down,” Xinghe elaborated.

“Then we can do the same thing!” Xia Zhi smiled smugly.

“We will also raise the price but not buy.”

“That’s right, we too can do the same thing.” Ali nodded in agreement.

Xinghe shook her head. “But I’m really going to buy some.”

The room was lost. “Sis, why would you want to buy their stocks? That Lin Jing had in her hands thirty percent of the stocks, even after so long, we’ve only managed to get 5 percent, we will not surpass her,” Xia Zhi pointed out.

“Xinghe, you really want to buy all their stocks at such an elevated price?” Sam frowned and said, “The trade-off is not worth it.”

Xinghe shook her head. “I’m not buying all of them, only another five percent.”

“But why?”

Xinghe smiled. “You’ll know soon enough.”

Fine, they didn’t know anything about business, so they chose to believe her. She must have her own reasons.

## Chapter 551: She's Betting

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xi Empire flipped Bao Hwa's stocks for five times, that did surprise Lin Jing. She thought triple was already the maximum, but they increased the price again following her counter-attack. This went to show Xi Empire's desire to fight to the death with her.

Earlier, Lin Jing had confidence to take down Xi Empire, but now, her confidence was slightly shaken. After all, Bao Hwa's capital was indeed far lower than Xi Empire's.

If she continued to increase the purchase price, the other shareholders would definitely step in. Even though, she had a few that definitely stood on her side and she held the most stock, but she couldn't just ignore the shareholders' opinions.

However, if she didn't increase the price, Bao Hwa would be stuck in an awkward situation. If she had stopped the first time around, things wouldn't have been so difficult. She didn't expect Xi Empire to respond so quickly to her retaliation!

The question was to increase purchase price or not. This was like a gamble; she thought she had a good hand, so she kept upping the bet. However, her opponent was even more vicious than her.

She had no idea whether her opponent was bluffing or really did had a royal flush. If it was the former than it would be fine, but if it was the latter... she could lose everything in this one gamble.

Lin Jing might be confident, but she didn't dare to make rash decision.

She called a shareholder's meeting, and no one was in support of using more money to buy out Xi Empire's stocks. They were already running low on company assets when Xi Empire's stocks tripled, they definitely wouldn't be able to survive buying them at five times the price.

"This is only a tactic," Lin Jing analyzed, "We don't have to buy every stock from Xi Empire. We can set a rule, unless they

have more than five percent, we will not be interested. Those with more than five percent stock are few and they will be loyal to Xi Empire. At this moment, we need momentum. If we don't do this, Xi Empire will be given the chance to rise again and our plan to swallow them will fail. We've given up so much already, stopping now would be a waste, don't you agree?"

"CEO Lin," one of them finally said, "It's not that we are not in support of your decision, but we don't think it is necessary to use so much money to buy Xi Empire's stocks. We will not be able to sell them at this price; this is not a good trade."

Lin Jing said coldly, "I'm aiming for the whole Xi Empire. When the whole company is ours, you don't even need to worry about selling the stocks anymore."

"But the Xi family themselves have 50 percent of the shares; we will not be able to get those."

"As long as Xi Empire continues to deteriorate, they will have to liquefy their stocks to collect funds. We will buy them out then, and Xi Empire will be ours."

"But we won't have any funds left to purchase their stocks."

"That's why we have to suppress them to make their stock price fall. If we don't maintain this momentum, how is their stock price going to fall?"

The shareholders looked at one another with dubious expressions. They felt Lin Jing was being too brash. She was gambling without any thought for the consequences.

However, it was undeniable that she was capable or else she wouldn't have created Bao Hwa at her young age.

Bao Hwa's turnover in her hands rocketed in the past few years and quickly became the lynchpin of the jewelry scene. That had many things to do with her audacity and bravery.

## Chapter 552: Finally Beat Xi Empire

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Her decisions had always been risky, but they never failed. If not for her willingness to take risks, Bao Hwa wouldn't have risen to its current position. The shareholders were used to her way of doing things.

However, this time the risk was too high, therefore, there was hesitation. Lin Jing naturally could read their hesitation.

She advised, "This is the best time for us to strike. With Xi Mubai out of the way, the Xi family will have no time to guard against our attack. If not now, when are we going to do this?"

"CEO Lin, this is too big of a gamble, plus we don't even have fifty percent guarantee..."

Lin Jing's red lips curved into a smile. "With great risk comes great reward! Don't forget how we accrued our current wealth! It was through one great risk after another!"

Lin Jing stood up and slammed her palms on the table for emphasis. "If this operation succeeds, the whole world will be ours. The world only favors the rich, so tell me, do you want to be one the favored side or not?"

All the shareholders were like children swept by her incendiary words. Of course they wanted to stand on top of the societal pyramid. This bunch of shareholders had followed Lin Jing for so long simply because they were ambitious people. That was why they agreed with Lin Jing's decision to swallow Xi Empire in the first place.

Now with additional prodding from Lin Jing, they had lost the last few shreds of rationality they still retained. If a woman wasn't afraid, then how could they be afraid?

Furthermore, they believed in her; they had faith that she would really help them win the entire world.

"CEO Lin, I support you!" one of the shareholders shouted excitedly and this was immediately echoed by others. "I too support you!"

“And me!”

“CEO Lin, all of us support you!”

Lin Jing smiled satisfactorily. “Very good, I’m glad that all of you can see the bigger picture. I, Lin Jing, will not disappoint. Xi Empire will be ours!”

The room of shareholders cheered. This reminded them of when they’d first started out. Every decision they made was a giant risk and the sensation of walking between life and death was exhilarating.

However, the greatest joy came after their victory. Therefore, this time they too believed that things would go the same way, that victory would be theirs eventually.

Furthermore, Lin Jing was more than a risk taker; she was a careful risk taker. Even with the shareholders full support, she didn’t liquefy Bao Hwa’s asset, instead she did a fund-raiser.

She received a mysterious donation of fifty million in two days.

After this news was released, Bao Hwa launched its attack and raised Xi Empire’s stocks price yet again!

However, this time instead of matching Xi Empire’s five times the price, they increased it to six times the price!

After so many crazy wars, Bao Hwa finally captured their first win against Xi Empire. If Xi Empire wanted to beat them, they would have to double the price again. However, if they really did that, the numbers would be astronomical. It would attract the attention of Ministry of Economy which would put a stop to the craziness.

The ball was now in Xi Empire’s court. If they didn’t dare to double the price, then death was waiting for them!

Of course, Lin Jing also contacted the media to spread rumors that Xi Empire was going downhill.



## Chapter 553: Stopping the Competition

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

As usual, the public bought into this kind of baseless rumor. If Xi Empire didn't dare to double the price, then it meant that they were really dying. Furthermore, Xi Empire must have lost a lot in this competition. Therefore, if they didn't fight back, they would lose their will to fight, thus accelerating their decline.

Lin Jing was waiting for that moment when the Xi family lost their desire to fight back. Even the proudest lion, after losing its will, could be taken out easily. Without Xi Mubai, the Xi family had already lost its claws; Lin Jing was now grinding out their will. Lin Jing firmly believed that she would be the eventual victor in this crazy gamble!

Little did she know that Xi Empire was not led by Mubai's father but Xinghe, a woman whose will couldn't be extinguished. Lin Jing had miscalculated one thing, which was Xinghe wouldn't fight a war that she had no confidence in winning.

...

"Not bad, finally they found their guts." Xinghe studied the data on her computer and smiled satisfactorily. That woman, Lin Jing, definitely didn't disappoint her; she knew Lin Jing would do something huge and she did.

Xinghe was in a meeting at the Xi Empire building. When the department leaders heard her, they started to get antsy.

Someone couldn't help but advise her, "Miss Xia, you cannot increase the price anymore, continuing this competition with them is not beneficial to us!"

Then opinions started to fly.

"That's right. It's obvious that they are planning to fight us to the bitter end. We might have the money, but we cannot waste it like this."

"Miss Xia, only an idiot would waste money on bad investment," Haoran said meaningfully. He was the most

against Xinghe out of everyone there. He was a cautious person and so was averse to Xinghe's brazen ways of doing things.

It was not that he had any beef with Xinghe personally, but it was just that he didn't wish for Xi Empire to be ruined by her hands. If Xinghe wanted to increase the purchasing price again, he would fight her with tooth and nail. Even Jiangan felt this couldn't continue anymore.

"Xinghe, what's your plan? If it's to continue this endless competition, you might need a better plan," he advised her in a whisper.

Xinghe nodded. "I understand. Don't worry, I will not hike up the price anymore."

They were shocked that she was so persuadable this time. At that moment, their impression of her improved slightly.

"Miss Xia, it's good that you finally see the light. But if we stop at this juncture, wouldn't this negatively influence our image?"

"That's right, the public will think we're really an arrow at the end of its flight."

"That's why I said to not commit to this plan in the beginning." Haoran frowned severely like an old-fashioned teacher lecturing his student.

Xinghe smiled. "Stopping the competition now will definitely lead to some negative publicity, but it will be temporary. Plus, don't you worry, because we'll not lose anything."

Jiangan laughed. "Xinghe is right. Bao Hwa has done us a favor by raising our stock price. Thanks to them, our stocks are at an all-time high. A slight fall will do us no harm."

Of course, they had also helped Bao Hwa with their stock prices.

Regardless, they still had no idea what Xinghe was up to.

"Miss Xia, then what is the next step of your plan?" someone asked.

## Chapter 554: Bao Hwa Is Just the Beginning

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Other people were curious as well. What was her next step?

Xinghe turned to face their quizzical gaze and announced, “To lead Xi Empire to enter the jewelry industry.”

“What?” The room was astonished. Is she serious? We’re an internet company!

Xi Empire might have many different products, but their main focus had always been computers and online businesses.

“Xinghe, what are you planning actually?” Jiangan asked with a frown.

Xinghe was confused, hadn’t she been extremely clear from the very beginning? She answered naturally, “To swallow Bao Hwa.”

“Bao Hwa is the kingpin in the jewelry business. If you want to compete with them with our own jewelry product, that is impossible,” Jiangan patiently explained to her. “Even though Xi Empire has our own jewelry brand, the scale is small. We can barely qualify as a middle-tier luxury item. Our stuff compared to Bao Hwa’s is still a distance away.”

“I know.” Xinghe nodded. “That’s why I will focus on refining Xi Empire’s jewelry first. Regarding this I’ve come up with a proposal. I will send everyone the proposal document later, so everyone please follow the plan closely.”

Someone tried to give his opinion.

“But, Miss Xia...”

Xinghe stood up and interrupted him, “I know what I’m doing. If I could explain to you I would, but there are ears behind these walls, so I cannot reveal anything yet. I’m sorry, but please be patient for a while longer.”

After that, Xinghe turned to leave. She was always like this, aloof and didn’t care to explain herself. Even though the workers wanted to cooperate with her, they still had no idea what her real plan was.

Her mission was to save Xi Empire, but she seemed hell bent on swallowing Bao Hwa. Didn't that just make things a lot more complicated?

Haoran couldn't help himself and chased after her and cornered her in the corridor.

"Miss Xia, there are certain things I have to say. Are you really serious about saving Xi Empire because you have not given us a usable tactic? All your plans are aimed at consuming Bao Hwa. Granted, that is one of the way to save Xi Empire, but that only creates another problem because Bao Hwa is not that easily swallowed. In a way, you've only created another problem for Xi Empire while the company is already dealing with a problem of its own. Don't you realize you're only creating more issues?"

The dissatisfactions that Haoran had kept bottled up during this period poured out of him. However, Xinghe was unfazed. She stood quietly listening to him.

After she realized he had finished, she asked, "Is there anything else you want to tell me?"

Against her nonchalant attitude, Haoran felt like he was punching a cotton ball; it was pointless.

"I just have one question for you, are you confident that you can save Xi Empire?"

"I am," Xinghe answered with unwavering confidence.

This caught Haoran by surprise, he thought she would brush him off. Xinghe's clear pair of eyes stared at him and repeated, "I do, is that enough?"

"Then what's your plan?"

"To swallow Bao Hwa."

"You..." Haoran sighed in defeat. "That is impossible!"

Xinghe's eyes suddenly sharpened. "Nothing is impossible, and Bao Hwa is just the beginning!"

Then she walked away calmly.

## Chapter 555: Mommy Also Has to Stay Safe

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Haoran stared at her back with complicated emotions. He was startled by the sharpness in her eyes. He didn't think such a hatred filled gaze would come from a woman like her. He swore he saw death in them. There was thus a question in Haoran's mind, Why does she hate Bao Hwa so much?

...

Xinghe's next step to swallow Bao Hwa was to open a grand jewelry showcase. This plan confused quite a bit of people. How would opening a jewelry showcase help swallow Bao Hwa? It made no sense.

No one could understand her plan. Even Grandfather Xi asked Xinghe to see him at his study. They had an hour-long meeting inside the study. Grandfather Xi was given the full version of her plan.

He nodded. "Then carry on with your plan. No matter what you plan to do in the future know that you have the Xi family's support."

"Thank you."

"There's no need for thanks." Grandfather Xi sighed.

"Everything you did is for Mubai and the Xi family's benefit. It should be us thanking you."

"Mubai sacrificed himself to save me."

So, she was compelled to do all this.

"Under those circumstances, his instincts would've kicked in, but he went against a human's instinct for survival. Therefore, it was his voluntary choice to save you."

Xinghe's eyes shuddered. Even if it was voluntary, she didn't want it. She'd rather he be safe, and it was she who died.

"Xinghe, no matter what, after so many things, I'm sure there's a relationship between you and Mubai. Furthermore, there's Lin Lin to consider. Therefore, from now on, you're

one of us, so don't shoulder all the responsibility for revenge, share the burden with us."

Xinghe nodded. "I will."

"Good, then I won't take any more of your time. Come to me if you need help."

"Okay." After Xinghe left the study, she noticed a small shadow by the staircase.

The little fella's innocent eyes were open wide, staring ahead blankly. His long lashes flitted up and down occasionally, like a feather, it caressed Xinghe's heart. Xinghe could feel herself soften.

As if sensing she had left the study, Lin Lin focused his gaze on her and rushed over.

He raised his head to look up at her and asked with unwillingness, "Mommy, you're leaving already?"

Xinghe squatted down to meet his eyes. She realized his frame had gotten smaller. He had lost weight.

Instead of answering him, Xinghe told him firmly, "Lin Lin, your father will be fine."

Lin Lin's eyes started to get watery. He tried his best to hold his eyes in and said, "I want to see him."

"After some time, I'll bring you to see him."

"Mommy, you also have to be careful and stay safe."

"I will." Xinghe pulled him in for a hug, afraid that he would see the sadness in her eyes. Lin Lin hugged her back. He felt immediately comforted.

Caught in her motherly embrace, Lin Lin felt his earlier anxiety melt away. The mother and son remained in their embrace for quite some time before Lin Lin fell asleep, cradled in his mother's arms. Xinghe left the place after putting him into bed.

Before leaving, Xinghe caressed her son's little face and it gave her the determination to fight the good fight. For the sake

of Mubai, Lin Lin, and herself, she would continue on this difficult path fearlessly!

## Chapter 556: A Gift from the Heavens

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xi Empire's given up!

Lin Jing thought Xi Empire would be troubled by Bao Hwa's counter attack for a while, but who knew just two days after Bao Hwa raised the price, Xi Empire bowed out of the competition. In other words, they stopped purchasing Bao Hwa's stocks.

This shocked the public. They were waiting for Xi Empire to hike up the price, but they gave up on the purchasing war instead. What was happening, they couldn't keep up or they didn't care for the competition?

Human nature compelled the public to envision the worst. They assumed Xi Empire was really dying and their earlier show of power was only a bluff. They were scared when Bao Hwa became serious with them. So, Xi Empire was indeed on the decline...

This development surprised Lin Jing as well. She was glad because she knew for sure Xi Empire couldn't keep up the pressure anymore. They'd finally surrendered. This was such good news to Bao Hwa's shareholders. Lin Jing's risk paid off big time.

Lin Jing called an emergency meeting. "Continue spreading the rumors that Xi Empire is going bankrupt and we will immediately lower the price we set for purchasing Xi Empire's stocks. Xi Empire's shareholders will be scared by the bankruptcy rumors and will be eager to sell us their stocks no matter how little we offer."

The group of shareholders quickly went into motion. They were excited, anticipating the day when Xi Empire would be theirs. This was Xi Empire they were talking about! With it, they would have riches that lasted several lifetimes.

Bao Hwa's people felt like this was a gift dropped down from heavens and went about their business openly, but on the other hand, Xi Empire's people kept a low profile. They didn't comment on this.



Instead, they announced another thing; Xi Empire was going to hold a large international jewelry showcase. The showcase would happen in a month. Xi Empire didn't do any large-scale promotion other than promising that it would be a showcase without peers...

This gave the public impression that Xi Empire was bluffing. Xi Empire's main product had nothing to do with jewelry, so how could they pull off something like this? Furthermore, the showcase was going to be in a month, would they have time to prepare?

Lin Jing scoffed with derision when she saw this news. The whole room of shareholders were laughing their asses off.

"What is Xi Empire doing? Trying to steal our clients?" A shareholder laughed until he was in tears.

"A showcase without peers? They must be kidding!"

"Seriously though, have the board members of Xi Empire lost their minds? They think they can challenge us in our industry?"

"Without Xi Mubai, Xi Empire really is nothing."

The room was full of the shareholders' derision and bootlicking towards Lin Jing. They finally realized Lin Jing's decision was right. If she didn't make that gutsy move, they wouldn't have known that Xi Empire was such a paper tiger. Thankfully they agreed to her plan, or else they would have missed out on an indescribable wealth in the form of Xi Empire.

Lin Jing had trouble suppressing her smug smile. "Since Xi Empire dares to challenge us at our court then we shall wait and see what kind of tricks they can pull out of their sleeves."

"I have a feeling, Xi Empire will be ours in a few months," someone said excitedly. This cheered the room greatly.

## Chapter 557: Overconfidence

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Lin Jing looked at them like they were her subjects and she was their queen. After all, she was responsible for everything. Without her, this group of people wouldn't have anything.

However, this time, they had no clue she didn't intend to share the profit with them; Xi Empire would only go to the Lin family and she would be the most powerful woman in the world!

One would think that she would come up with a better life goal, but alas, that was all she ever wanted: power and money...

...

Xi Empire's reputation was indeed hit after they stopped purchasing Bao Hwa's stocks. The rumors started flying that Xi Empire was going bankrupt. Even the government got interested, since, if Xi Empire were to really fall, it could create a shockwave that disrupt the entire country's economy.

However, the matters of PR were handled by Jiangan and his crew. They left Xinghe out of it because she needed to focus on preparing the upcoming showcase.

Xinghe, with Ali's aid, was busy with the preparations; she didn't have time for anything else.

Lin Jing took this opening to slam Xi Empire. She purchased even more of Xi Empire's shares and even managed to make Xi Empire's reputation worse causing the company's stock to fall. In just a short period of time, she managed to force Xi Empire into the worst situation it had ever been in.

However, after being told Xinghe's plan, Jiangan laughed self-assuredly watching this unfold. He rested comfortably in the knowledge that their enemy was going to get the face slap of the century!

With all these forces fighting, Xi Empire's jewelry showcase was going to begin!

Xinghe sent invitations to all the famous and influential jewelers. Of course, she didn't miss Bao Hwa. Bao Hwa's people would probably have gone even without being invited; how could they miss out on such a good opportunity to taunt Xi Empire?

Lin Jing had decided to go flaunt her victory. Recently, the public thought that Bao Hwa really was going to swallow Xi Empire, so they all crowded around her, trying to get in her good graces. Her head had gotten so big it was unbelievable.

Furthermore, she had to go to highlight Xi Empire's failure.

Before Lin Jing left for City T, she called Lin Xuan for a discussion. Lin Jing had outdone herself, so Lin Xuan was greatly satisfied.

He laid lazily on the sofa and said, "Xi Empire recently stopped counter-attacking; it looks like they are already on their death bed. You must go to this showcase to stress our dominance and deliver the final blow."

Lin Jing smirked. "Brother, Xi Empire is finally going to be ours."

"The Xi family is sitting on such wealth; it's only fair that they share it with us. After all, they wouldn't have the life to enjoy it anyway," Lin Xuan said with a smile, but there was endless ruthlessness in the depth of his eyes.

He was a heartless character. He would do anything to achieve his goals. This could be observed from how easily he killed Lin Yun simply because he believed she would implicate the Lin family.

He had been salivating over the Xi family's wealth for a long time, so of course they wouldn't hold back.

This pair of siblings was used to having the world handed to them on a silver platter, so they were beyond conceited.

Actually, their plan to take down Xi Empire had started a long time ago.

Initially they wanted Lin Yun to ingratiate herself to them, and if the Xi family was willing to give up half of their assets then

they would consider letting them be.

However, since that failed, the plan changed to framing. If the Xi Family had been branded as criminals, they wouldn't have had to use the current method to swallow Xi Empire. Alas, that plan had also failed because of Lin Yun's incapability.

## Chapter 558: Jewelry Showcase

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Therefore, her only use became a tool to divert the investigation away from the Lin family. With Xi Mubai out of the picture, their plan was restarted. If they had known Mubai was the first domino, they would have gone after him much sooner. Then again, better late than never.

Lin Xuan and Lin Jing thought Xi Empire was already in their bag and Lin Jing took her team to City T on a mission to deliver the final blow to the Xi family. Little did she know she would be the one being face-slapped the hardest.

...

The jewelry showcase was held at City T's museum. The showcase was only for one day and attendance was limited to those invited only. However, the guest list was long. Xinghe invited almost all of the country's jewelers, celebrities, and media.

Lin Jing and her team arrived at the museum early. However, when she entered the museum, the place was already full. When the other jewelers saw her, they moved towards her like moths to a flame.

Lin Jing was the star of the party, and this greatly boosted her ego. Her face was shining with confidence. Even the media couldn't stop taking pictures of her. She was a successful businesswoman, and more than that, she was young and pretty: a natural eye catcher.

Escorted by everyone, Lin Jing strode through the entire showcase.

"That's all for the Xi Empire's jewelry showcase?" Lin Jing asked after making a round of the venue, her voice dripping with derision. The items on display were too rubbish for her!

Some jewelry was worth something, but be it quantity or quality, it couldn't be called a peerless showcase. In fact, probably a small jeweler could come up with a showcase like this.

Of course, Lin Jing knew Xi Empire would prepare more than this, but she couldn't help poking fun at her enemy.

“CEO Lin, I hear this is just the basic display. The main exhibit will be revealed later,” a jeweler pandered.

“These are indeed basic, worse than the ones sold at my Bao Hwa's flagship shop,” Lin Jing joked but her intention to deride was not lost on the crowd. “But I'm sure Xi Empire will not disappoint us.”

“But of course, however, I still don't think they will be able to compete with CEO Lin's Bao Hwa.”

“That's right, Xi Empire might have the market cornered in other industries, but in terms of jewelry, no one can beat Bao Hwa.”

“I hear CEO Lin's Bao Hwa is worth tens of billions in assets.”

“That's the magazine being too kind to us,” Lin Jing said humbly, but her nose would reach the ceiling if she was flattered some more.

Another round of ass kissing had started again but Lin Jing had no time to entertain these people anymore.

“Where is the host? How come I don't see anyone from the Xi family?” she enquired.

As she said so, a large man walked to her and smiled. “Miss Lin, nice to meet you, I'm one of the hosts for this showcase. You can direct your question to me if you have any.”

Lin Jing was astonished. “Mr. Ou Yang, why are you here?”

Everyone else was shocked as well. This was another jeweler from City A, Ou Yang Qin. Why is he here? And he said he's one of the hosts?

What exactly happened... wasn't this showcase Xi Empire's idea? When did he become a part of it?

The most important point was they had not even heard about the rumors of this happening.

## Chapter 559: Ou Yang Family

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Also, when did Xi Empire start working with the Ou Yang family? No wonder they would be confident enough to say they would host a showcase without peers.

The Ou Yang family had more than a hundred years of history in the jewelry industry; they were famed for their classic designs and impeccable quality. They valued quality over quantity. For them, jewelry was an art and not just a business.

Therefore, even though they were extremely famous, their revenue was low. In Hwa Xia, if Bao Hwa's revenue was number one then they would be number two.

However, in terms of quality and customer satisfaction, Ou Yang Family was undeniably the king. Lin Jing had also been trying to swallow the Ou Yang family but had failed. Afterwards, she changed tact, asking for collaboration but was rejected as well.

Therefore, she was shocked that they chose to cooperate with Xi Empire!

If this was a joint showcase between Xi Empire and the Ou Yang family, then the showcase would definitely be more than what she had seen so far. Lin Jing's brow creased with annoyance, but she swiftly composed herself.

What Ou Yang Qin said next confirmed her suspicions. "I'm here naturally because this is a joint showcase between the Ou Yang and Xi families. We didn't release this information earlier because we want to give everyone a nice surprise," Ou Yang Qin said in a refined tone, showing his wealth of education.

Lin Jing's face darkened. This was definitely not a happy surprise!

If she had known the Ou Yang family was cooperating with the Xi family, she would have launched her attack sooner. She was there that day to see Xi Empire and the showcase fail. However, with the Ou Yang family's intervention, the

showcase might be a runaway success and that would seriously disturb her plan to swallow Xi Empire.

Lin Jing smiled mirthlessly. “Mr. Ou Yang must be kidding. Xi Empire is like a baby in the jewelry industry, why would Ou Yang Family cooperate with them? Mr. Ou Yang, I have to say, this doesn’t align with how a time-honored brand should act.”

Ou Yang Qin asked directly, “In other words, Miss Lin thinks I’m lowering myself by cooperating with Xi Empire?”

Lin Jing’s lips twitched awkwardly. Is he for real? How can he be so obtuse and direct?

However, Lin Jing salvaged the situation with a smile. “That’s not what I meant, I just think it’s unwise for you to cooperate with Xi Empire.”

Ou Yang Qin nodded with a smile. “I understand what Miss Lin meant, but since Xi Empire will be branching into the jewelry industry, this cooperation is to prepare for the future.”

“I’m shocked that the Ou Yang family would trust Xi Empire so much,” Lin Jing said meaningfully. She was mocking them for choosing Xi Empire to cooperate with. Xi Empire might be good at online business, but for jewelry, Bao Hwa was still the best.

Ou Yang Qin played along and replied gentlemanly, “Miss Lin is right, Xi Empire does deserve our trust, perhaps after the showcase, you’ll understand why.”

“Is that so?” Lin Jing laughed haughtily, “But is this all of the exhibit?”

If it was then, her opinion was unchanged.

“Of course, not. The time is almost right, everyone, please follow me; we’re going to the next exhibition hall.”



## Chapter 560: The Second Hall

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Ou Yang Qin turned to walk towards the second area. Before them, the door was slowly opened to reveal the second exhibition hall.

“CEO Lin, let’s go look,” someone entreated.

Lin Jing smiled slightly. “Yes, let’s, just to see what special exhibition they have cooked up.”

Lin Jing’s heels clicked across the hall. Her team fell in behind her, it was as if they were there to survey the place. None of the jewelers dared to walk in front of her, afraid that it would slight her. Lin Jing walked right in front like a queen leading her court.

Very soon, they entered the second hall. The second exhibition hall was more luxurious than the first one. The jewelry on display had doubled; there were about fifty pieces. The light was bright to give focus to the jewelry. The stones glittered under the precisely-placed spotlights.

The scenery gave the impression that they were inside a treasure trove, it would impress anyone. This was because there was a great difference between the jewelry here and the ones earlier. The pieces in the second hall were more rare and valuable.

There were seven to eight pieces of royal jewelry and they were past queens’ personal accessories, so they were definitely worth a lot.

Most of the jewelers dropped their decorum and started snapping pictures. The only exception was Lin Jing. She scanned the hall with scorn and derision.

“Mr. Ou Yang, are these your show stopping pieces?” Lin Jing tried her best to ask gracefully but the condescension and conceit laced in her tone couldn’t be suppressed.

Ou Yang Qin maintained his gentlemanly ways and replied, “These are indeed some focus pieces. Why, does Miss Lin have some objections?”

Lin Jing didn't answer but one of her lackeys did, "Mr. Ou Yang, it's not that we like to object but... these are really not worth much. Didn't you say this is going to be a peerless showcase? We came with great excitement and you're showing us these?"

"That's right, the collection here is extremely normal," some other shareholder said pointedly.

"While valuable, they are definitely not peerless."

"I've been to Bao Hwa's jewelry showcase before, it's much bigger and better than this."

Lin Jing took her cue and smiled humbly. "That's just a simple routine showcase that we did; it's nothing interesting."

"Doesn't this mean this supposedly peerless showcase is worth less than Bao Hwa's regular showcase?" someone in the crowd sneered. Others started snickering as well.

Even though the Ou Yang family deserved to be respected, most of them would rather side with Lin Jing because she had the bigger company and was famed for her ruthlessness.

The Ou Yang family were a group of eccentric artists; it would be extremely hard to win their favor, so many had decided to give up on them.

The Xi family? If Xi Mubai were still around, then perhaps they would give him face. However, he was not, and Xi Empire was going to be swallowed by Bao Hwa, so Bao Hwa was going to be the ultimate winner. Who wouldn't want to side with the winner?

Facing their snide comments, Ou Yang Qin maintained his mild and gentlemanly behavior.

## Chapter 561: Supposed Peerless Showcase

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

In fact, he assumed they were all barking.

“Indeed, none of this is worth being called peerless,” he admitted with a smile. “But this is not the end of our exhibition. Maybe we should reserve our opinions until then.”

Lin Jing nodded with kindness. “Mr. Ou Yang is right. So where is the next area?”

“But not everyone has finished viewing this hall yet,” stated Ou Yang Qin.

“There’s nothing worth seeing here,” Bao Hwa’s shareholder fired back rudely. “Take us to see the so-called showcase without peers!”

“That’s right, Mr. Ou Yang stop trying to eke this out. Where is this peerless showcase that we were promised? Let us see it now.”

“The only reason we’re here is to see that part of the showcase; we’re not interested in the rest so don’t waste our time on these.”

If this were a normal jewelry showcase, they would be satisfied with the things they’d seen so far. However, they represented Bao Hwa and their mission there was to suppress Xi Empire, so their standards were higher than usual. Furthermore, they were losing patience after two disappointing exhibits. In fact, they started to suspect this was all a PR move by Xi Empire and they had nothing to show. If that was the truth, then Xi Empire would have hell to pay!

Lin Jing smiled inwardly watching everyone’s reactions. This was what she wanted, to ruin this showcase completely!

She stared at Ou Yang Qin and asked, “Mr. Ou Yang, why don’t you lead us to the last exhibit? Or is that going to be an issue?”

Ou Yang Qin laughed helplessly. “Alright, if that is what everyone wants then I will bring everyone to the last exhibit.

Please follow me.”

Finally, they were going to see the main show; everyone was excited. Lin Jing smiled, waiting to see what kind of tricks they could still pull.

Actually, even if Ou Yang Family brought up their whole collection to put on display, Lin Jing probably wouldn't call it a showcase without peers. That was, after all, an extraordinary description. Therefore, in a way, Xi Empire had dug his own grave.

Bearing such hope, Lin Jing and the rest followed Ou Yang Qin to the third and last exhibition hall.

The hall was situated at the second floor of the museum and was several hundred meters wide. The armed guards pulled out the grand door and blinding rays of light flooded out from within...

All the guests shielded their eyes from the glare. After they walked in, they saw the innumerable jewelry on display within.

Along the two walls of the hall were a myriad of jewelry. There were two rows of displays, each about several tens of meters long and several meters wide.

In other words, the jewelry piled up in the display cases like gold and silver mounts. The collection of this jewelry was responsible for the harsh glare earlier. When they walked in, they felt like they were standing in between two treasure mounts.

Everyone was flabbergasted by this arrangement. Even the reporters had forgotten to take pictures.

## Chapter 562: A Hole Big Enough to Bury Them

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Lin Jing's smile snapped. Where did Xi Empire get so much jewelry to put on display? Impossible, they wouldn't have such a huge stock!

"Everyone, this is the last exhibit, please come in," Ou Yang Qin said with a smile as he led the way. The rest filed in behind him. There was a constant string of yelps and gasps. Honestly speaking, such a large amount of jewelry did shock them. They hadn't expected such an amount; every single piece seemed to be extremely valuable as well.

The jewelers and media quickly rushed forward to take a look and immediately found an issue!

"This is a lie!" someone yelled out. The rest studied the displays closely. Turned out they weren't really mountains of jewelry but an optical illusion. The display racks were designed in a mountain shape and the jewelry was heaped on top of it. With the lighting, it created the illusion of numerous pieces of jewelry.

The smile returned to Lin Jing's face as she rushed toward to confirm. She scoffed out loud, "Ou Yang Qin, what is the meaning of this? Were you trying to trick us?"

"CEO Lin is right; this is deceit plain and simple. There are not as many jewels as there appears to be!" one of her lackeys concurred. They incited the crowd which then flared up from being cheated.

Ou Yang Qin laughed good-humoredly. "How did we trick you? These are specially made racks to better display the jewelry. Are you all seriously going to take issue with that?"

The crowd then realized they had indeed gone too far. If anything, they should be impressed by the ingenuity of the design.

"But I was promised a peerless showcase." Lin Jing bit down on this reason like a crazy hound and demanded, "Other than the special effects, there is nothing peerless about the pieces

here! If that's the case, my Bao Hwa could open a peerless showcase every day!"

"That's right, this kind of level is indeed disappointing! So, the Ou Yang family, with its hundreds year of history, is only capable of this much."

"Xi Empire is really on its decline then since they would work with each other."

Ou Yang Qin stood on stage and took their snide comments like a champ. He opened his mouth to say, "Every piece here comes from Ou Yang Family's private collection. Since all of you said the things here are not worthy of being called peerless, then I wish for someone to show me something better."

Then, the crowd realized the pieces on display were indeed unusual. Earlier, they were too caught up in the drama to study the pieces closely. Now that they did, indeed each of the pieces was worth a small country. They all came from impressive backgrounds. To be able to see so many collector's pieces in one room was indeed a once in a lifetime experience.

None of them could one up the collection here, not even Bao Hwa. Bao Hwa might have a lot of stock, but the value of their jewelry couldn't rival Ou Yang Family's.

It was undeniable that the exhibit was peerless, but the shareholders from Bao Hwa still found that reality hard to stomach. Needless to say, Lin Jing wasn't going to surrender so easily.

In fact, she was glad because she realized Xi Empire was stupid enough to dig their own grave!

She chuckled coldly. "Ou Yang Qin, I'll admit that the collection here is peerless but what does that have to do with Xi Empire? In fact, I don't think I've even seen a single person from Xi Empire here."

## Chapter 563: The Last Arrival

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Hmm, has Xi Empire gotten so shameless that they had to rely on other people’s help to do this showcase? Xi Empire is such an ass hiding in a lion’s skin.”

“No, that is because a star like Xi Empire will only appear last.”

A clear voice cut through the crowd. Xinghe slowly sauntered out from behind the stage. The crowd was shocked they saw her. Who is she?

Lin Jing knew who she was; she’d learnt from Lin Xuan that she was Xi Mubai’s ex-wife and was lucky enough to survive the explosion. For some reason, when Lin Jing met Xinghe’s gaze, there was tension immediately. There was often competition between members of the same sex and people of power.

With just one look, Lin Jing knew this woman before her was a character. A conceited woman like Lin Jing wouldn’t allow herself to be outshone by another woman. Plus, the Xi family and the Lin family were like oil and water, so be it for personal or professional reasons, Lin Jing’s attitude towards Xinghe was abrasive.

“Star?” Lin Jing smirked. “Where is the star? Don’t tell me it is you, excuse me, but who are you?”

Xinghe stared at her and said vehemently, “You’ll know who I am soon enough. And Xi Empire coming out last is naturally because it is the star of the show.”

Lin Jing laughed sarcastically at her. “Everyone heard her right? She said Xi Empire is the star of the show. Just listen to her and how conceited she sounds.”

Bao Hwa’s people all started laughing. “Miss, are you sure you’re not crazy? You dare to say such a thing before those of us from Bao Hwa, that’s like putting your feet in your mouth.”

“Why, is your Bao Hwa that great?” Xinghe asked. From her position, she stared down at them, her condescension on full

display. Lin Jing, who had been doted upon all her life, naturally couldn't stand her stare.

She chuckled mirthlessly. "Our Bao Hwa might not be the greatest, but it is still greater than Xi Empire. From the moment you decided to venture into the jewelry industry, you'd lost. Anything beyond that is just finding humiliation for yourself."

"Is that so? Well, take a look at this and tell me whether you still think Xi Empire couldn't rival Bao Hwa." Xinghe pulled off the curtain behind her and the star display was revealed to the crowd.

Everyone had their jaws to the floor when they saw it!

What is that...

Atop of the display stand was a perfectly cut pink diamond the size of a chicken egg!

The diamond shimmered like a mirage refracting the lights. Everyone's eyes were naturally turned towards it; they stared at the diamond fixatedly like their souls were being pulled into it.

Even though most of the people there had come into contact with innumerable jewelry, this was definitely the first time they'd seen such a large pink diamond up close. Its cutting was perfect, there was not a single bad angle.

Even Lin Jing was dumbfounded. She hadn't expected the exhibit to have something like this. This pink diamond was like a grenade blowing up their brains.

Even Ou Yang Qin stared at it with passion. However, compared to the greed in other people's eyes, his was filled with appreciation.

The only reason he was personally there at the showcase was to lay his eyes on the most perfect diamond in the world.

He was not disappointed. The diamond was gorgeous, so gorgeous it took his breath away.



## Chapter 564: Face Slapping

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

It might not be the world's largest diamond, but it was definitely the most perfect. It attracted people's attention naturally, and most importantly, this kind of diamond wouldn't normally appear in a business jeweler's showcase!

This was something shown in private collections or national museums. The moment the pink diamond was revealed, the showcase's status immediately elevated.

Bao Hwa might have done showcases in the past, but all of their showstopper pieces combined couldn't rival this one pink diamond. Their criticisms towards this showcase were instantly dissolved. This was indeed a peerless jewelry showcase.

Everyone couldn't help but lean forward for a closer look. The media's flash had never once stopped. The public's audible gasps and camera shutter clicks were like audible slaps to Lin Jing's face.

She tried her best to appear unaffected, but the twitch in her lips belied her real feelings. Furthermore, the frustration in her eyes couldn't be mistaken. She didn't think Xi Empire would obtain this pink diamond to end their exhibit!

"Many years ago, this pink diamond once appeared in Country Y's billionaire's private collection."

"I know, this beauty came from his own mine. It was shown once after it was cut, but after that one showing, the diamond seemed to have disappeared from the world."

"That year, this pink diamond was valued at eight billion."

"Now, I believe the price wouldn't be lower than eighty billion."

"Beautiful, just beautiful."

"Xi Empire sure is our country's most powerful company since they managed to acquire such a gem for this showcase."

"This shall be the most memorable moment of my life."

A wizened elderly jeweler lamented excitedly, “I can now rest in peace having laid eyes on the most perfect diamond in the world!”

Ou Yang Qin smiled listening to their reaction. He turned to the crowd and asked, “Everyone, dare I ask is this showcase not without peers?”

The bunch of jewelers’ faces all burned with shame. They were all handed a sound slap to the face for having doubted the quality of the showcase earlier.

“Of course, it is!”

The crowd nodded, any more complaints would be nitpicking.

After all, Ou Yang Family’s jewels alone were more than enough to shut their mouths, much less this pink diamond.

If they still purposely found fault, then it would be stepping out of bounds. They were not that conceited.

“Miss Lin seems to have something to say,” Xinghe suddenly brought the spotlight down on Lin Jing.

Everyone involuntarily turned to look at Lin Jing and they saw the gloom on her face.

They were again reminded of the beef between Bao Hwa and Xi Empire. Now that Xi Empire’s jewelry showcase was a runaway success, it would surely piss Lin Jing off.

However, this Lin Jing was narrow-minded. Even though it was a stretch asking her to be happy for her opponent, did she really need to look so sour openly?

## Chapter 565: You Want Shock?

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

They didn't realize Lin Jing's anger went beyond that. If Xi Empire's jewelry showcase was an overnight success, then what would happen to her plan to swallow Xi Empire?

What about all the effort that she had gone through earlier?

The frustration irked her to no end. How could she, Lin Jing, who had nothing but success in her life lose to a woman like Xinghe?

Lin Jing clenched her fists and chuckled darkly. "That's right, I do have something to say."

What? She really wants to give comments?

Xinghe smiled. "Do share your opinions with us then; we would like to improve."

"Isn't this supposed to be a peerless showcase?" Lin Jing sneered defiantly. "It doesn't shock me! Without that shock value, this cannot be called a peerless showcase!"

The crowd looked at her with shock. This woman is truly despicable. Since when did she become the arbiter of word meanings? One needs her permission to call the showcase a peerless one? She is obviously coming after Xi Empire; she will do anything in her power to prevent others from calling this a success.

They didn't think Lin Jing would be so ridiculous, unreasonable, and petty. Their gaze towards her changed. Earlier, they had intention to cozy up with her, but was it really worth it pandering to such a despicable woman?

A heartless person like her would probably treated them like dispensable.

Lin Jing, of course, didn't deign to care about the public opinion of her. Her mission that day was to make sure Xi Empire's showcase was a failure and that was what she cared about. She had to get Xi Empire.

“A lousy pink diamond and you dare to call this showcase peerless? Don’t make me laugh. I’ll admit that this is an interesting showcase, but calling it peerless, I have plenty of issues with that. Unless you can really shock me and make this evening a night that I will never forget!”

“Miss Lin, your demand sure is... troublesome,” Ou Yang Qin said cautiously but pointedly. She was purposely making things difficult.

“I think my demands are not over the line; they’re totally reasonable,” Lin Jing answered with a straight face.

“CEO Lin, I don’t think anyone will be able to give you the shock value you want,” someone retorted in a whisper.

Lin Jing said arrogantly, “There is no limit in the known universe. You might not be able to accomplish it, but how can you be sure no one would be able to do it? If Xi Empire is not able to do that then they shouldn’t have exaggerated in the beginning. The exhibits here are indeed very good, but due to Xi Empire’s exaggeration, this showcase is a lie and thus a complete failure! Therefore, Xi Empire is nothing but slime that had lied to every one of us!”

Everyone frowned. Lin Jing had gone so far past the line that the line was a dot to her. The facts of her words aside, her viciousness and unreasonableness had soured quite a few people’s impression of her. Because of her, Bao Hwa’s place in everyone’s heart had dropped quite a bit.

Xinghe was taking her measures quietly. Facing Lin Jing’s insults, she was completely unmoved. The grace and composure of the two women couldn’t be compared.

However, they soon realized why Xinghe had been so quiet. She preferred to face slap than to chew words!

“Lin Jing, since you wanted a shock of your lifetime then I will grant your wish. I’ll make sure that you’ll remember this night for as long as you may live. Open your eyes and see what this is!”

Xinghe curled up the document in her hands and threw it at Lin Jing...

## Chapter 566: Main Diamond Agent

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

The sudden assault of the document darkened Lin Jing's face even more. She didn't even look at the document that landed at her feet.

“Xia Xinghe, how dare you?” Lin Jing yelled angrily at Xinghe.

Xinghe smiled. “How come you know me now?”

That's right, didn't Lin Jing say she didn't know who the hostess is? How come her memory has suddenly returned now? Looks like she was purposely making things difficult for the hostess earlier.

The people's impression of Lin Jing lowered even more.

Lin Jing's face twitched angrily. When she was about to say something, Xinghe cut her off, “I advise you to take a closer look at the document or you might regret it.”

“CEO Lin...” One of her lackeys picked up the document and was shocked when he scanned through the document. “Quick, you have to look at this!”

Lin Jing didn't want to but subconsciously took a look at it, and when she did, her face froze. She grabbed the document and stared at the pages with disbelief!

“This is impossible—” Lin Jing croaked with difficulty.

“What is it?”

Everyone else crowded closer to Lin Jing to take a closer look.

“Zhi, give everyone a copy each,” Xinghe ordered gracefully. Xia Zhi, who had been waiting excitedly behind the stage, moved to oblige. Cries of astonishment rose through the hall.

“Country Y's new appointed agent? Xi Empire became the new agent for diamonds imported from Country Y?”

“When did this happen? How come none of us knew about this?”

Everyone was shocked; how come they didn't hear anything about news this big? The earlier agent was someone else, when did it become Xi Empire?

This was the thing that gave Lin Jing the most shock. She studied the document closely trying to determine its authenticity. No matter how hard she looked at it, the document seemed real. Xi Empire had become the new diamond agent, that much was real.

In other words, Bao Hwa needed to beg Xi Empire for their diamonds in the future or they would have nothing to work with!

If they wanted to sell diamond jewelry in the future, they needed to ask Xi Empire for the raw materials.

Country Y was famous for their diamonds, most of the diamonds in Hwa Xia came from them. Therefore, the fact that Xi Empire had become their diamond agent greatly elevated its status.

Therein lay the problem. If Xi Empire became the agent, didn't this mean Bao Hwa would have to ingratiate themselves to Xi Empire to continue operating?

Xinghe's clear voice rang out again, "As everyone can see, our Xi Empire has become the main agent for the diamonds imported from Country Y. In other words, there will be constant cooperation between all of us in the future. Hosting this showcase is also to announce this good news, to get to know each other, and to facilitate a good future working relationship."

"Miss Xia, is it? When did this happened?" someone asked in shock.

Xinghe answered softly, "Not long, just half a month ago."

It was about a month ago that Xi Empire announce they were going to host a jewelry showcase. This probably meant that they already knew that they would become the main agent.

A month ago, Xi Empire and Bao Hwa were at the height of their competition.

At the time, Bao Hwa was the apparent victor, and everyone thought Xi Empire was on its decline and believed that Bao Hwa was really going to swallow Xi Empire.

Who knew by then Xi Empire had already been preparing to become the new diamond import agent...

They must have laughed at Bao Hwa's conceit thinking they had beaten Xi Empire. They must have been waiting anxiously for this face-slap moment.

## Chapter 567: Bao Hwa Is Crashing Down!

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Bao Hwa, in their ignorance, thought they were winning. They even came to this showcase to gloat, to show off their condescension towards Xi Empire. Lin Jing even went the extra mile to undermine the success of the showcase.

Now that was the perfect ending, a face slap so huge it would last her a lifetime!

Now that Xi Empire's hand was revealed, the various things Bao Hwa had done before appeared petty and laughable. The irony was Lin Jing asked for a huge shock. Now Bao Hwa's lifeline was in Xi Empire's hands, and that definitely counted as a shock. Lin Jing must be kicking herself from regret.

For some reasons, the crowd wanted to smile watching Bao Hwa get this deserving ending. Of course, they wouldn't revel in other's misery... Or add salt to injury.

"CEO Lin, Xi Empire becoming the agent is a shock, isn't it? In the future, every one of us, including Bao Hwa, will have the chance to cooperate with them."

"I remember Bao Hwa's main diamond supply came from Country Y, right?"

"Bao Hwa's main product is also diamond jewelry. In fact, I know Bao Hwa's diamond jewelry sells like hot cakes on the market."

"However, without diamonds, wouldn't their business turnover drop by around 60 or 70 percent?"

It was in reality more than that, the moment Bao Hwa lost its mainstay, the diamond jewelry, it would be like a crown without its stones, just an empty frame. In today's highly competitive society, what happened next was highly predictable. In other words, Bao Hwa who crossed Xi Empire, was going to meet its end soon!

These jewelers might have been sucking up to Lin Jing but that was unavoidable because Lin Jing was the kingpin in the



industry. It was through pandering to her that they would be able to get some benefits.

However, when the opportunity arose, these people did not hesitate to kick Bao Hwa when it was down! They had to try their best to kill Bao Hwa, how else would they get a bigger portion of Bao Hwa's carcass?

Hearing to their snide comments, Lin Jing's face was twisted beyond belief. She was ready to kill. The team she'd brought was also beyond the point of anger, but they were unable to do anything. Lin Jing was visibly shaking. Try as she might, she couldn't suppress the anxiety and anger within her. She knew that Xi Empire would definitely come at Bao Hwa hard.

As she expected, Xinghe looked at her and asked, "Well, Miss Lin, is that enough of a shock for you?"

Lin Jing was angry enough to cough blood. Her face was swollen from the massive face slap and she wanted nothing more than to retreat with the little grace that she could still summon. However, Xinghe was not done yet; this level of face slap was not enough.

She stared coldly at Lin Jing and approached her slowly. "If you think the shock value is not enough, I have something else prepared; I guarantee it'll make tonight a night you'll never forget."

"Xia Xinghe, you... don't think I'm afraid of you. I don't believe you'd dare to do anything to me. We, Bao Hwa, are the greatest diamond buyer in Hwa Xia; Country Y will not allow Xi Empire to do anything they want!" Lin Jing said with a shaking voice, trying her hardest to maintain her composure. After she said so, she found some confidence. "That's right, they will not allow you to decide the allocation of market so viciously!"

Xinghe suddenly laughed. She stared daggers at Lin Jing.

"Lin Jing, I advise you read the commission document carefully, especially the third clause, then let's see whether you can see say the same!"

Lin Jing's heart skipped a bit and she pulled up the document with shaking hands. Her face turned startlingly pale.

## Chapter 568: Takes No Prisoners

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

The third clause stated that Xi Empire had complete control over the import. In other words, after Country Y gave them the commission, they were free to divide the material as they pleased. Xi Empire could give the diamond to anyone they wanted; even if they didn't want to give anything to Bao Hwa, they could!

Lin Jing was stunned beyond belief. What kind of trade clause is this? This is market monopoly!

However, this was a trade commission given by Country Y, so Hwa Xia couldn't intervene even if they wanted to, but why would Country Y give Xi Empire so much power? This was impossible...

Lin Jing's face blanched as if powdered. Before she could recover, Xinghe's voice rang out again.

"From today onwards, any corporations that distance themselves from Bao Hwa will be Xi Empire's friends and those who still align themselves with Bao Hwa will be Xi Empire's enemies!" Xinghe announced with authority.

Lin Jing raised her head to look at Xinghe on stage. She felt like she had been struck by lightning. She was the Lin family's young mistress; she had never suffered such humiliation before...

Lin Jing was shaking with fury and she wished to murder Xinghe. The feeling was mutual; Xinghe also wished to destroy her and the whole Lin family.

"People from Bao Hwa listen up, I have in my hands ten percent of Bao Hwa's shares. In my capacity as the shareholder, I request to open a shareholder meeting tomorrow at City T and demand for a vote to rescind Lin Jing's CEO position. If the ruling is not passed, then Bao Hwa can only wait for its end."

Lin Jing fell back a few steps in a cartoonish manner. Everyone there was shocked; Xinghe's announcement

showcased her ruthlessness. Lin Jing was backed against the wall. They didn't think she would go so far. Did she really need to do that just because Bao Hwa had slighted Xi Empire?

The group of jewelers were spooked; they sighed in relief because at least they hadn't gone after Xi Empire...

They'd thought that, after Xi Mubai was caught in the accident, Xi Empire had lost its power, but now they knew how naïve they were.

Xi Empire was still as powerful and scary as well. This woman could rival Xi Mubai in her ruthlessness. After this jewelry showcase, no one dared to look down on Xi Empire anymore. Even without Xi Mubai, Xi Empire was not one to be trifled with because they still had Xia Xinghe. Who knew what other kinds of monsters were cooped up in the Xi family other than this Xia Xinghe.

In any case, Xinghe's action had caused its intended effect; she was beating the dog in front of the lion, deterring those that had bad intentions towards Xi Empire from acting out.

However, Xinghe got the chance to completely ruin Lin Jing!

"Lin Jing, if you're clever, you will choose to hand in your resignation. Of course, that's your prerogative, but we'll see what will happen if you refuse to do so," Xinghe warned coldly, laying it all out in the open.

She was fast, ruthless, and accurate when it came to dealing with the Lin family!

"Xia Xinghe—" Lin Jing had lost all grace by then, she screamed like a madwoman, "Who do you think you are? How dare you treat me this way, you just wait for the revenge from my Lin family!"

"Lin Family's revenge? Everyone heard her, right? The Lin family is again trying to use their power to suppress others. If any one of us from Xi Empire is involved in any accidents, you should know who the culprit is!"

"You..." Lin Jing didn't think she would let Xinghe catch her out like that. She had been too rash. She told herself to calm down; there had to be a way out of this. However, Lin Jing

realized that unless the Xi Family showed her kindness, she would have no chance at a comeback!

## Chapter 569: Successful First Step

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xi Empire had complete control over their lifeline. If she wanted Bao Hwa to survive, she had to beg for Xi Empire's mercy but that was impossible!

She didn't want to lose the company she had built either, without Bao Hwa, she had nothing...

No, she couldn't allow herself to lose everything. There had to be a way to salvage this.

"Xia Xinghe, just wait!" Lin Jing turned to leave, there was no point wasting time arguing, she needed to figure out a plan soon. My Lin family is so powerful, there must be a way for us to topple Xia Xinghe.

Xinghe called out as Lin Jing rushed to the door, "Lin Jing, remember my warning because I will not show kindness towards those who have wronged me."

Lin Jing gripped her fists tightly, trying to control herself from rushing back in to strangle Xinghe. She calmed herself by telling herself that Xinghe would get her comeuppance soon enough. Xinghe would pay for treating her this way.

Xinghe didn't give a flying f\*ck about Lin Jing's hatred towards her because her hatred towards them was even greater, she would make sure the whole Lin family pay.

However, taking revenge against a powerful opponent couldn't be rushed, and the first step had been successful, so the Lin family wouldn't be staying alive for much longer. Xinghe glowered darkly at Lin Jing's back, the Lin family's days were numbered.

...

After Lin Jing left, the showcase had lost its purpose. The jewelers all left one by one; they needed to go make a statement that they had nothing to do with Bao Hwa anymore. They didn't think Xinghe was kidding with her warning. If they continued cooperating with Bao Hwa, Xi Empire would really come after them.

Things had changed, Xi Empire was now the de facto leader, aligning with Bao Hwa would only bring about their own destruction.

Plus, it was not like Lin Jing was a saint. She had not treated them kindly while she was at the top and forced them to lick her boots. They were overjoyed that Bao Hwa was coming down.

This was their chance to shine because someone would have to rise to take the top spot Bao Hwa had vacated. Looking at how Lin Jing was face-slapped at the showcase, everyone knew what Bao Hwa's future entailed.

Alas, this was only the beginning for Xinghe.

“Sis, that was awesome! That Lin Jing is so angry that I thought her head was going to fly off. One word: amazing!” Xia Zhi gave her two thumbs up and praised her endlessly.

Even Ou Yang Qin couldn't help but smile. “Miss Xia, I don't think Lin Jing will just let this be. The Lin family is a force to be reckoned with as well; you have to be careful.”

Xinghe nodded. “I know. Mr. Ou Yang, thank you for your help this time.”

“No need for thanks, we're allies, aren't we?” Ou Yang Qin said with a smile, glad that he had chosen the right person to ally himself with.

This woman sure is impressive.

Initially when Xinghe sought him out to issue a collaboration with Ou Yang Family, he wanted to reject it. He had low confidence in Xi Empire without Xi Mubai. However, Xinghe managed to convince him with her brilliance and the proof of Country Y's diamond commission. Eventually, he chose to cooperate with her.

## Chapter 570: Visit Xi Mubai

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Most importantly, the Ou Yang family couldn't allow Bao Hwa to grow anymore. If Bao Hwa really had swallowed Xi Empire, the Ou Yang family would have been their next target. That woman, Lin Jing, was too ambitious and would stop at nothing to expand her empire; she would not accept a life of normalcy. Therefore, after she took down Xi Empire, she would have gone after the Ou Yang family. Therefore, working together with Xi Empire was Ou Yang Qin's way of saving himself as well.

The result showed that he had chosen wisely. Thankfully he had decided to personally attend the showcase too because he was given a glimpse of Lin Jing's true personality. This Lin Jing would definitely not let the Ou Yang family be if she had the chance to take them down.

The Ou Yang family had always maintained a neutral standpoint in the world of business and trade, but Ou Yang Qin didn't think that would stop Lin Jing from targeting them. Therefore, he was thankful that Xinghe had helped them remove such a threat.

Ou Yang Qin thanked Xinghe again, "Miss Xia, if you need any help in the future, don't hesitate to ask. I will gladly lend my aid if it is within my capability."

"Thank you, Mr. Ou Yang. Hopefully, we will have a happy cooperation," Xinghe said as she extended her hand.

Ou Yang Qin took her hand and smiled. "Definitely, this will be mutually-beneficial trade relationship."

...

After the showcase was over, the jewelry had to be sent home. Ou Yang Qin left with his own collection and as for the rest, Xinghe left it in Sam and Wolf's capable hands. They would escort to rest back to Country Y with aid from Interpol.

Xinghe had confidence in them so she focused completely on preparing for the next step of her plan. However, before that,



Xinghe made a visit to Lu Qi's.

She hadn't been visiting Mubai since she was too busy dealing with Lin Jing, but that day she was going to tell him, her revenge plan was beginning in earnest. Very soon, she would be able to make the whole Lin family pay for what they had done to him.

To Xinghe's surprise, when she arrived at Lu Qi's medical building, she walked into a chaotic situation where Lu Qi was trying to save Mubai from a critical condition. More than ten doctors and nurses rushed in and out of the basement lab; this scene tore at Xinghe's heart.

Xia Zhi, who was following along, was afraid she would faint from trauma, so he quickly escorted her to the side and consoled her, "Sis, don't worry, Brother Xi will be fine!"

Xinghe didn't reply and stood there quietly. Only her face was exceptionally white. They stood there for who knew how long, until their legs had become numb. Eventually they saw Lu Qi walk out of the lab.

Lu Qi took a double take when he saw them. He asked with a tired voice, "When did you arrive?"

Xinghe posed her own question, "How is he?"

She, too, was surprised by the gravel in her own voice.

Lu Qi's eyes dimmed. "For some reason, earlier today, his heart stopped beating and lost all function. Thankfully, he has been saved and his heart is back to normal."

Xinghe's eyes shuddered and she could see black in her eyes. When Lu Qi said his heart stopped, Xinghe really almost fainted.

Even though he had been saved, she was still afraid.

However, her voice was eerily calm. "Didn't you say you could maintain his condition? What happened?"

## Chapter 571: Mechanical Heart

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Lu Qi said apologetically, “I assumed the machines could keep his conditions stable, I didn’t expect his condition to deteriorate, you understand that he is not doing so well. Thankfully, there were people around when that happened...”

“He might be safe this time, but what about next time?” Xinghe asked calmly. She might look normal on the outside, but her eyes had lost their usual glow.

Lu Qi thought about it and answered, “I’ve considered this problem long and hard; I want to try something new.”

“What is it?” A ripple crossed Xinghe’s eyes.

“Transplant a mechanical heart. In other words, we’ll use an artificial heart to temporarily replace the function of his real heart.”

Xinghe and Xia Zhi widened their eyes. Lu Qi knew how preposterous he sounded, but this was his only idea.

“I thought about this many years ago, and I’ve kept up the research. However, I still need a breakthrough. Even if the device suddenly becomes successful, I doubt we can use it on him.”

“Why not?” Xinghe asked to which Lu Qi answered with a sigh, “His body is too weak, I wouldn’t dare operate on him.”

Indeed, Mubai’s vitals were too low. Who would dare to perform a large surgery on him? The risk was too big.

“Lu Qi, no matter whether this works or not, you have to give it your best,” Xinghe came to a decision. “Some chance is better than no chance.”

Lu Qi was surprised by her conviction and he was affected as well. “You’re right, I will finish the research as soon as I can, but I fear that I might need your help.”

“Tell me.” Xinghe had no hesitation. Lu Qi realized his admiration for Xinghe was growing. Under such circumstances, she not only maintained her cool but still had

energy left to help him. Any other woman would have crumbled.

Lu Qi said directly, “You are extremely gifted in the field of design; I’ve constructed the design for the mechanical heart and I need your help to create the actual product. You’re the only one who is capable enough to do this as shown by your capability in creating the artificial arm.”

“No problem!” Xinghe promised easily. “Give me the design as soon as you can. Even though I don’t have a hundred percent confidence, I will find a way to make this work.”

Lu Qi’s blood started to boil, Xinghe’s determined conviction gave him some a small amount of hope.

His said passionately, “Miss Xia, if this is another success, you will have given another wonderful gift to humanity!”

Xinghe shook her head and said lightly, “I don’t care about any of that; I just want to save him.”

All she wanted was for him to be safe; the fame and money she really didn’t care much about.

“I know, but still I wish to thank you!” Lu Qi said seriously.

Xinghe changed the subject lest they dwelled on the frivolities. “I want to see Mubai for a moment.”

“Go ahead and try to talk to him; maybe your voice will be able to instill in him the will to survive. It’ll help.”

“Okay.”

Xinghe entered the lab alone. Mubai was still the same way, connected to a series of tubes and devices.

His face had gotten paler and his features more pronounced because of the shed weight.

There were discernible changes all over his body and the only thing unchanged was his weakly beating heart.

## Chapter 572: A Different Frequency

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

It was so weak that it was barely audible. However, at least it was still beating. His heart held on despite the reality that it really shouldn't have. Xinghe was thankful for that.

Xinghe bent down to take a close look at Mubai. She opened her lips to say, "Xi Mubai, if you can hear, please promise me that you'll hang on and not surrender. This is my only request of you, I ask that you hold on. No matter how hard it might be, please do not give up. I will not give up on you and so I ask that you do the same for me. Let's survive this together, okay?"

Xinghe's only reply was the beeping from the electrocardiogram. That was as good a promise as any for Xinghe. His heart was still beating so she knew he would hold on. She knew he was the most determined person in the whole world so someone like him wouldn't die so easily.

Xinghe held Mubai hands in her palms and she hoped that would transfer some energy to him. Xinghe stayed that way for half an hour before leaving.

When she let go of his hands, Mubai's palm was warmed and had lost its earlier chilliness. In fact, when Xinghe turned to leave, she seemed to hear a faster frequency in the electrocardiograph's beeping. Xinghe instantly whipped her head around to stare at that lifeline, however there was no discernible change.

Nonetheless, Xinghe was sure that there had been a change.

"Lu Qi—" Xinghe yelled for Lu Qi to come give Mubai a body check. Lu Qi gave a thorough check but found nothing.

"The frequency is probably too small for me to pick up. Regardless, this is a good development." Out of courtesy and perhaps kindness, Lu Qi went along with her.

Xinghe stared at Mubai and said, "I will come and visit him every day."

"That might not be a bad idea."

“Send me your research information later in the day, I will start working on the mechanical heart as soon as possible.”

Lu Qi hesitated. “But haven’t you had a lot on your plate lately? Can you handle this?”

“I’ll be fine, this is nothing,” Xinghe answered with confidence. She was telling the truth, her mind was always in peak condition, perhaps because her brain was different from everyone else’s. Her brain function was exceptionally vibrant. Others would probably be tired from brain exhaustion, but she wouldn’t. As long as it was not physical labor, she wouldn’t feel tired.

After Xinghe left Lu Qi’s building, she returned to the Xi family’s old mansion. The Xi family had received news about the things that happened at the jewelry showcase.

“What do you plan to do next?” Grandfather Xi asked Xinghe. Everyone turned to look at her, waiting for her answer.

Xinghe replied softly, “The original plan was to turn the aggression towards the Lin family after swallowing Bao Hwa, but that will have to wait for now.”

“Why?” Mrs. Xi asked.

Xinghe looked at them and explained calmly, “Because Mubai’s health is more important.”

The Xi family was shocked.

“Xinghe, what do you mean by that?” Mrs. Xi started to get anxious.

## Chapter 573: All Depends on You

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xinghe relayed everything that had happened at the lab to them. There was obvious anxiety on all of the Xi family's faces. Mrs. Xi started crying.

Xinghe continued calmly, "Lu Qi suggested using a mechanical heart to assist Mubai's heart function, it's something like a pace-maker but more complicated. I'll be a part of the design process, so I need to finish this before I can move onto the next step of the plan."

"Is this mechanical heart really useful?" Mrs. Xi asked anxiously. Everyone looked at Xinghe expectantly.

"Theoretically speaking, it should work, but we will come up with the best design and make sure it does work. It will help increase Mubai's recovery speed."

"Then... will he need to rely on this machine as long as he lives?" Jiangan cut to the point.

Xinghe shook her head. "Technically, that will not be necessary, but it also depends on Mubai's recovery level. However, I believe he himself will not allow himself to rely on the machine for his whole life."

"That's right, Mubai has always been a healthy child; he will have a speedy recovery. Plus, with the advanced medical science, his body will recover well," Mrs. Xi concluded happily. "The focus now is to help him regain consciousness, only after that can we focus on recovery."

"How long do you think you'll need to finish the design?" Grandfather Xi asked excitedly.

Xinghe answered, "I don't know but I will finish it as soon as possible."

"Xinghe," Mrs. Xi suddenly took Xinghe's hands and said through a series of chokes, "Everything depends on you now. Really, without you, what would we do? What would happen to Mubai?"

“That’s right, this depends on you now.” Jiangan looked at her earnestly like she was their only ray of hope.

Facing their appreciative gazes, Xinghe averted her eyes and promised, “Don’t worry, this will be a success!”

Xinghe was not one to exaggerate, so this was the first time she had promised something she didn’t have full confidence, but she would not allow herself to fail. However, before that, she had to deal with Bao Hwa first.

...

The next day, Bao Hwa’s shareholders arrived at City T, the only absentee was Lin Jing. Even though they were unwilling, but to save Bao Hwa, they had to come. When they were taking down Xi Empire, they thought their greatest dream was going to come true, but in reality, they had always been in Xi Empire’s palm, no, in that woman’s palm.

When they met Xinghe’s chilling gaze, these shareholders knew she was a character scarier than Lin Jing. Their initial intention to mount a mutiny was immediately pushed out of their mind.

Xinghe didn’t waste any time and got straight to the point. “Since everyone’s here, I’m not going to waste time with idle pleasantries. I’m giving you two choices, one, to figure out a way to get Lin Jing to leave in a week and Bao Hwa will go under Xi Empire’s name, or two, you can choose to launch a resistance, but I guarantee you will get nothing and Bao Hwa will disappear from this world within a month. I leave the choice in your hands. Give my secretary your answer in one hour.”

After that, Xinghe didn’t give them any opportunity to speak and left the room.

She was giving them their last chance to make the smart choice; there was no room for negotiation!

## Chapter 574: Force Lin Jing Out

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

In truth, there wasn't really a choice. Xi Empire and Bao Hwa were at irreconcilable odds; one had to die for the other to survive. Xi Empire didn't care about Bao Hwa's assets, they were already a massive company, and now they had the commission letter from Country Y, and they also had a very profitable artificial limb company. In short, they were really not in need of money.

Everyone was struggling for more wealth but that was the only thing Xi Empire was not lacking in. Therefore, they would have no qualms about destroying Bao Hwa. In fact, Xinghe was already showing utmost kindness for giving another way out for Bao Hwa's workers.

To resist? That was a death wish!

These shareholders had been fed fat under Lin Jing, so they knew they couldn't survive on their own. Following Lin Jing earned them money, following Xi Empire also would earn them money. Of course, they would pick the better earner and that would be Xi Empire.

Therefore, there was literally no hesitation. They opted for the first choice to force Lin Jing out and agreed to pay allegiance to Xi Empire!

This surprised everyone at Xi Empire, they didn't think the shareholders would be so easily won over. The only one not surprised was Xinghe, to her, this was to be expected. The one that totally didn't see this coming was Lin Jing!

She had poured her heart and soul into Bao Hwa and had helped these group of people grow so fat over the years, but the moment there was a crisis, they turned on her. So how could she not be shocked, saddened, and angered? However, no matter what, the shareholders refused to budge; they demanded that she surrender her CEO post.

"CEO Lin, you're only losing your CEO post. You still have 30 percent of Bao Hwa's stock, so if you think about it, you don't lose anything."



“That’s right, if we don’t surrender, we will be left with nothing. If we do, at least you can still keep the stocks in your possession.”

“CEO Lin, it was your decision to go after Xi Empire, so you have to bear the consequences. Stop struggling and surrender.”

“Surrender?” Lin Jing almost vomited facing this bunch of ingrates. She yelled angrily, “Bao Hwa belongs to me, Lin Jing! I make all the decisions, none of you have the right to do that! Don’t forget that without me, how could any of you have achieved the positions you have today? Without me, Lin Jing, you bunch of ungrateful people will be nothing, so how dare you ask me to surrender?”

Initially, the shareholders were still willing to show her a smiling face, but since she was still ever so ready to insult them, their faces darkened. They didn’t feel like saving her face anymore.

“CEO Lin, we admit that you’ve contributed the most to what Bao Hwa is today, but how can you dismiss our contributions as well? Regardless of what you think, we’ve collectively decided to force you out of the CEO position. According to company rules, from now on, you’re no longer Bao Hwa’s top operator!”

“Miss Lin, business is like war, hopefully you can accept this loss gracefully and come back stronger,” one of the shareholders consoled her kindly.

However, Lin Jing had lost all traces of sanity. Her only goal was to take revenge on this bunch of ingrates.

How dare they treat me like that? I will make them all pay!

“Fine, wonderful, marvelous!” Lin Jing hissed through gritted teeth, “If all of you couldn’t wait to go kiss Xi Empire’s ass then go ahead, we’ll see who wins in the end!”

She turned and stormed out, her eyes glowing with evilness.

## Chapter 575: Legendary Xia Xinghe

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Bao Hwa surrendered sooner than expected!

This shocked the whole business world. A month ago, during the whole buying out contest, Bao Hwa appeared to be the final victor. Everyone assumed Xi Empire was on its dying legs. Who could've known that, in just a month, things made a U-turn and Xi Empire managed to consume Bao Hwa in just one night!

This was Bao Hwa; just how did Xi Empire manage this miraculous feat? Such a big company was consumed without warning. It was a dog eat dog world out there, and Xi Empire was obviously the biggest dog. Bao Hwa was eaten without the chance to even resist.

In conclusion, Xi Empire was too scary...

This battle of the business giants had become a legend and had deified Xinghe's position in the business world. Lin Jing, who instigated this war and lost, became the butt of everyone's jokes.

However, Lin Jing didn't give up. She even attempted to use the stocks in her hands to pull Bao Hwa down with her and make everyone end up with nothing!

Alas, it was already too late, Bao Hwa had already surrendered to Xi Empire and none of the shareholders were pliable to her influence, so she couldn't do any serious sabotage. The most she could do was damage Bao Hwa a little, but would Xi Empire care about that?

They were willing to give up Bao Hwa if needs be, so they didn't care about what happened to it.

After Lin Jing struggled a little longer, she suddenly disappeared like she was taken off this world. No one heard from her ever again.

Xi Empire immediately familiarized itself with the new industry and everything returned to normal, in fact, they had gotten stronger than ever. The people who passed by Xi

Empire's doors couldn't help but lift their eyes to admire the building. It shone brilliantly under the sun's ray, still standing tall and proud like an invincible kingdom.

When people talked about Xi Empire, they would naturally discuss that legendary woman as well. This was especially true for Xi Empire's workers. They had submitted fully to Xinghe's authority now, and she had become one of their two most admired individuals, the other being Xi Mubai.

As fate would have it, they were a couple. The workers' idle hours were spent gossiping about this curious couple, everyone was happily shipping the two of them. Xinghe didn't know about this and didn't care to find out. Others were gossiping about her business, but she was all focused on her mechanical heart research.

...

In the medical lab, Lu Qi spent a whole day going over the complicated theory with Xinghe.

"This is the general theory of the structure.

"Even though this theory has been validated many times, it still remains at a theoretical level. As you can see, the mechanical heart needs to be installed around the human heart, but it would have been too heavy. And in the human body, the most fragile organ is the heart, so it will not be able to support the weight. Therefore, even if we have the finished design, it's another issue whether there can be real life application."

Xinghe stared at the design and said, "In other words, we need a design that is light, or at least at a weight that is light enough to not put too much pressure on the human heart."

Lu Qi nodded. "That's right, however the internal structure is too complicated to allow a light weight mechanism."

## Chapter 576: Such a Miraculous Item

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Over the years, I have had people try out different ideas. Of course, technique is a big issue, no one can manage to create a complicated electrical circuit within a small case. Materials is the other big issue. If we can solve these two issues, then success is guaranteed.”

“I will try my best with the technique and I’ll have people go and search for the materials. In the meantime, please ensure Mubai’s body is kept safe,” Xinghe told Lu Qi.

“Don’t worry, I will not let anything happen to him again,” Lu Qi promised.

“Thank you.”

Lu Qi smiled slightly. “He’s also my friend, and as a doctor, it’s my responsibility to save him.”

Xinghe couldn’t help but think, Perhaps after Mubai awakens, the two of them can bury the hatchet and become friends again.

Xinghe didn’t waste any more time and left to the Xi family’s lab to experiment. Actually, this lab had long since been changed to her ownership. Since she created the golden egg laying geese that was the artificial limb, the Xi family had transferred the lab to her. So who dared to stop her if the owner wanted to use the lab?

“Miss Xia, why are you here today? Is there anything going on?” Luo Jun immediately came to welcome her when he received news of her arrival. After Ruobing left, Luo Jun became the leader and took over the daily activities of the lab.

Xinghe said directly, “Help me gather the most experienced researchers, I will begin a meeting in ten minutes.”

“Okay!” Luo Jun moved to oblige without asking any more questions. No one dared to question Xinghe anymore at the lab. They all yielded to her brilliance. In less than ten minutes, the meeting room was full.

After Xinghe entered the room, she didn't say anything but directly projected the design of the mechanical heart on the large wall.

Looking at the heart-shaped object, the room gave confused expressions. Is that a heart? But it looks mechanical.

“Miss Xia, what is that?” someone asked.

Xinghe stood at the front and explained clearly, “This is a mechanical heart, a machine that can replace the heart's function, a support device that can assist the heart without going through heart surgery. It can be attached to the human heart and will complement the human heart in its functioning.”

The room was stunned after hearing her elaboration. Is there such a miraculous thing in the world? How come they had not heard of it before?

In reality, there were many things that they had not heard about before...

Lu Qi had once said, “There are many interesting and valuable designs that have been thought up by famous doctors and scientists.”

Not all of the failures were due to theoretical failure, but most of the time it had to do with a lack of materials or the complexity of the required technique.

Science is always moving forward. Thinking ahead was not an issue as most problems lay with materials and techniques.

If anything, among all the crazy invention ideas, the mechanical heart could be considered a more pedestrian one. Therefore, its problems were also relatively easier to overcome.

However, for the current technology, solving them was still going to be a big issue. For most of these researchers, the problem would be insurmountable.

Someone couldn't help but ask, “Miss Xia, is this your design?”

Everyone waited anxiously to hear her answer.

## Chapter 577: Race Against Time

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

If it was, then wouldn't she be too much of a genius?

The artificial limb design that she came up with last time, they hadn't even finished dissecting it yet, and now she'd arrived with something new?

The group of researchers anticipated her answer with both excitement and uneasiness...

Xinghe shook her head. "This is not my design but a medical scientist's. Furthermore, the design still needs to be perfected as there are many outstanding issues. We need to work together to resolve them. Therefore, from today onwards, I need all of you to drop your current research and help me with this. I'll elaborate further on the issues we're facing..."

Xinghe went on to describe the hurdles. Actually, she knew that the researchers probably wouldn't be of much use, but unity is power. Many heads were better than one. She was racing against time; she needed to get the design finished as soon as possible or everything might be too late.

Therefore, after she explained everything, she assigned the researchers their mission and had them begin their research immediately, not wasting a second. She then retired to her own lab.

...

After that, before going to the lab, Xinghe would spend half an hour in Mubai's company. The rest of the time, she would lock herself up in her lab. The Xi family would send over food to her daily, and it was always a scrumptious meal. It was often Mrs. Xi who took the food over. There wasn't much she could do so she focused on taking care of Xinghe and Mubai.

Other times, Munan would be the courier. Munan had long since been assigned the leader of the Flying Dragon Unit so he was as busy as a bee. However, he would make time to return home every week to visit Mubai, his family, and then Xinghe.

A whole month had passed since Xinghe had started working at the lab again. Her every waking hour was spent mulling over the mechanical heart.

The Xi family understood and provided her the privacy she needed. Small matters came up like the Lin family's patriarch harassing them in court and nasty rumors spreading about Xi Empire, aka things they could handle on their own, they made sure such things didn't reach Xinghe and worry her. They made sure Xinghe could focus on the most important thing.

...

Munan took the opportunity during her lunch break to ask, "Big Sister Xia, how are things going?"

Xinghe answered truthfully, "Technique wise, there's not much issue and I've already come up with the model design, so the biggest hurdle is locating the perfect material."

"What kind of material is it? I'll have my men search for it."

"That won't be necessary, we've tested with almost all known materials, even our own patented materials are useless."

"Can't we be satisfied with a half-finished product?" Munan asked with a frown. "As long as it can help improve big brother's situation, surely anything is better than nothing."

Xinghe shook her head. "No, we can only settle with the best because who knows what will happen if we don't."

"You're right, I was wrong." Munan hung his head in shame. He noticed Xinghe had entered another moment of quiet contemplation, so he shuffled out of the room silently to not disturb her.

## Chapter 578: A Cage to Lock the Heart

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Xinghe didn't even realize that he had left. In fact, his existence had long since escaped her mind. After the short lunch, Xinghe returned to her work.

Xinghe had spent most of her time looking for a suitable material, and even though she had scanned through most of the information, she hadn't found the material she needed. The closest match was coal.

However, coal had its downsides, too. it was too fragile and thus needed other materials to support it, but that would push it over the weight limit. Xinghe needed a material that could be made into nano size without needing to be compounded with other materials and still match their requirement.

The requirement list was long; it had to be perfect in terms of weight, thermal, and electrical conductivity, compatibility with human blood and many more criteria...

Therefore, it was difficult to locate the necessary material. In fact, it should be something not available in the known world or else she would have located it by then.

Xinghe took her hand off the mouse and rubbed her weary eyes. Just as she prepared to move on, a light bulb moment happened!

The phrase 'something not available in the known world' gave her an inspiration, the energy crystal! Wasn't that something not available in the known world?

Furthermore, it was light weight, the size of a brick but it was as soft as plastic in one's grasp. Furthermore, it had incredible high density, it could produce a large amount of an energy with a small mass. This could be the material she needed!

Propelled by the excitement of a breakthrough, Xinghe dashed to the lab. When Xinghe took out the energy crystal, the researchers there were stunned beyond words.

"Miss Xia, what is this?"



They had never seen anything like it, it looked like coal but was not metallic in nature.

“It’s a unique material. You don’t need to care how I found this and, for your own safety, do not leak this information to the public,” Xinghe said softly.

The scientists nodded. “Don’t worry, not a word out of us.”

Actually, even without Xinghe’s order, they wouldn’t have said a word to the public. Those working at the lab had signed a non-disclosure agreement. This was basic ethics for those working in the sciences. Therefore, Xinghe believed them.

“Miss Xia, do you plan to use this to create the mechanical heart?” one of them asked.

Xinghe nodded. “Yes. Maybe this is usable after it has been made into a nano material.”

“Sure, we’ve tested out so many materials, we don’t mind testing this out.”

“Then, I will leave this in your hands.”

“No problem.”

After Xinghe’s gave them the energy crystal, she left with a heavy heart, worried that this would be another failure, however, her instincts told her that this would be the breakthrough they needed. Therefore, she rushed to finish the design. Xinghe dashed home to start working.

The lab had actually come up with an improved final design even though the material was still missing. Xinghe introduced some tweaks to it and, a few days later, the final design was confirmed.

It had the shape of a human heart but had plenty of empty spaces in the middle. The empty spaces were to decrease the overall weight, giving the thing the appearance of having pattern decorations.

For some reason, Xinghe felt the thing look like a cage, a cage to lock up the heart.

## Chapter 579: The Sky Was Changing (End of Jewelry Company Arc)

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

So, in essence, she had created something to capture Mubai's heart?

Isn't that a bit too on the nose?

Xinghe shook her head to push the ridiculous thought out of her mind.

The scientists soon returned with the good news, the material had been adapted and it matched their requirements perfectly!

Xinghe was overjoyed when she heard this. Her happiness was shared by the Xi family and even Lu Qi. They had finally seen the light at the end of the tunnel. Xinghe didn't waste any more time and immersed herself in her work. She had practically moved into the lab. The researchers fought by her side; there was a lot of sleepless nights...

The Xi family spent their days on edge, worried about the result of the research; this was Lu Qi's biggest worry as well. That had become their only focus, they had isolated themselves from the world. However, a world shattering piece of news happened then!

Hwa Xia's president suddenly came down with a serious illness, his life hanging in the balance. The moment this news got out, the Xi family hosted an emergency family meeting in the middle of the night. Even Xinghe was called to attend the meeting.

She was at her lab, under strict orders that no one was to disturb her, but the Xi family still called for her. This went to show the severity of the situation. Even Munan, who was at training camp, was called back home.

The atmosphere in the study was solemn, and Xinghe was the only female there.

After everyone was there, Grandfather Xi began seriously, "The reason I've called everyone here is because I have

something important to announce. The president is dying, and the sky is changing.”

The room was shocked. Munan was the first to ask, “How come I’ve not heard anything about this?”

“The news has been kept on lock down for almost half a month, but now, things have gotten so serious that it cannot be kept under wraps anymore. I only just found out about this,” Grandfather Xi said with a disappointed sigh. Even since his retirement, he seemed to have lost his footing within the political scene. He found out such a big piece of news only at the last minute; he lamented his uselessness, senility it appeared had finally caught up to him.

“Dad, is this news reliable?” Jiangnian asked.

Grandfather Xi nodded. “It has been confirmed to be true and people have been preparing for a re-election. This news will probably be released to be public in a few days and the election will be announced then, too.”

“Then this means that the Lin family...” Jiangan finally figured out wherein lay the issue.

“That’s right!” Grandfather Xi’s face was drawn. “The Lin family will enter the running as well. That old man has waited all these years for an opportunity like this, his old age might prevent him from running, but his eldest son, Lin Kang, can surely enter on his behalf.”

Lin Kang was City A’s mayor and with the Lin family’s strong family influence, connections, and power, the chance of Lin Kang winning was huge.

Munan’s face dropped. “Then what shall we do? If Lin Kang wins, our Xi family...”

He didn’t finish his sentence, but the meaning was obvious. Their Xi family would die!

Now that the rivalry between the Lin and Xi families had been brought to the daylight; they would not let the Xi family be. Currently, the Lin family didn’t dare to come after the Xi family too openly, but after a member of the Lin family became president, all those inhibitions would disappear.

## Chapter 580: I'm Not From the Xi Family

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

They would have no reservations about going after the Xi family then. Even if they didn't do it openly, there were many shticks they could pull behind the scene, like suppressing Xi Empire, destroying Munan's future, these alone could ruin the Xi family as easily as Xinghe ruined Bao Hwa. Therefore, they had to stop the Lin family from winning the election or it would be end for the Xi family!

"No wonder Lin Xuan could kill Lin Yun so easily when she slipped up," Xinghe suddenly opened her mouth to say. Everyone in the room was shocked. That's right; it was probably because of this that Lin Xuan had to silence Lin Yun. If Lin Kang was going to participate in the election, there couldn't be any scandals.

Munan muttered, "No wonder they didn't do anything even after Big Sister Xia took down Bao Hwa. They couldn't risk it because they were waiting for this."

Jiangsan added, "They must be waiting to revenge against us."

"The point is they must have known about the president's physical condition a long time ago or else Lin Xuan wouldn't have even thought about killing Lin Yun," Xinghe analyzed. Grandfather Xi looked at her and nodded satisfactorily. He did well calling her to join them; her brain was equal to, if not better than, most men.

"If that's the case, they must have been preparing for this for a long time and will go about this swiftly," Munan also contributed.

"This means that they must be confident," Jiangnian added with a low voice. The deeper they analyzed, the darker their faces became because this meant they were in deeper waters than they'd realized.

"Dad, I will go to City A now; we can't sit here and do nothing," Jiangnian said with determination.

Grandfather Xi shook his head. “You cannot do that. Without permission, you and Munan are not to leave the military. Things can easily go wrong at this juncture and the moment one of us slip, the Lin family, who must be watching us closely, will hound us endlessly.”

Jiangnian understood then. If he went to City A, he would have to pay certain people a visit. Those people might offer smiles, but they had their own allegiances and enemies. Who knew who would be in power after the election, if he was brought into some additional rivalry, it would not be beneficial to the family. They had to watch their step and thus going to City A was a bad idea.

If they didn’t have this feud with the Lin family, going to City A would be doable, but now that move would be too risky since they would be entering the Lin family’s territory.

“Dad, I’ll go. I don’t hold a government post, so it’ll be fine if I go to City A,” Jiangsan offered.

Grandfather Xi looked at him and still shook his head. “You might not be a government officer, but you’re a Xi. Trouble will still haunt you.”

“I’m not a Xi,” Xinghe said suddenly. The rest whipped their heads around to look at her.

Xinghe explained slowly, “I’m divorced from Mubai, so I’m no longer a Xi. Even if something happened to me, it wouldn’t be so easily tied back to the Xi family. Furthermore, I’m a woman; they usually underestimate a woman. At most they’ll think I’m a good businesswoman, they won’t be so guarded with my presence.”

“No, Big Sister Xia you cannot go; City A is the Lin family’s liar. You’ve angered them multiple times before; going there will land you in hot waters. It’s too dangerous,” Munan vetoed her idea immediately.

Grandfather Xi nodded. “That’s right, we cannot allow you to take this risk.”

## Chapter 581: Strongest Heart in the World

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“But if I don’t go, all of us will be in danger.”

“ ... ”

She was right; the moment Lin Kang was elected, none of them would escape unscathed, including Xinghe.

“Still, we can’t let you go.” Grandfather Xi denied her request. “Even though you can definitely hold your own, the country’s not that liberal to allow a woman to meddle in the election, so what can you do even if you go?”

Xinghe nodded. “I know, but I have to give it a try no matter what. What if I manage to find an opening to fight back?”

“If that was so easy, we would have found such an opening a long time ago.”

“Maybe that’s because we haven’t looked hard enough. The Lin family is basically a crime cartel with the amount of illegal activities they’re involved in; there must be some clues lying about that we haven’t seen yet. Grandfather Xi, I don’t like hidden threats; since we know the basics of everything that has been going on, I cannot sit idle like sitting duck and leave our fate to god.”

Xinghe’s clear pair of eyes were shining brilliantly and there was no trace of fear in her voice.

Grandfather Xi sighed. “Actually, the reason I called you here was to get you to prepare for possible danger in the future. I know you’re clever enough to take the necessary precaution, but I didn’t expect you to want to face the danger actively.”

“Since the danger cannot be avoided, then it will have to be resolved,” Xinghe answered calmly.

“I know you have the bravery to back up your words, but what will we do if something happens to you?”

“That’s right, Big Sister Xia, you have to stay out of this one. We’ll handle this ourselves.”

Munan and the rest all advised her, but she still shook her head. “If you can resolve this issue, I’ll gladly stay out of it, but in this situation, all of your hands are tied.”

The Xis’ faces were solemn. Indeed, at a sensitive time like this, they had to be careful to not commit to anything that might be used against them by their enemies.

Furthermore, this was a country’s election, how could Xinghe influence something as momentous as that? She couldn’t, but at least she could go and try her luck due to her identity or rather the lack thereof.

“Then, the decision has been made. The research on the mechanical heart is finishing and I’ll leave after Mubai has completed his surgery,” Xinghe concluded in a voice that brooked no argument. The Xi family looked at her with complicated emotions.

It never once crossed their mind that this woman that they had once looked down upon would be their only hope. In fact, she had saved them again and again despite how they treated her in the past...

Shame burned their faces thinking about their past sins. At the same time, even though Xinghe hadn’t remarried Mubai, her position in the Xi family was no longer moveable. She had become a member by extension.

...

Xinghe quickly finished building the mechanical heart. This news was accepted with mixed feelings by the Xi family. On the one hand, Mubai was going to recover, but on the other, Xinghe was going to enter the tiger’s lair on their behalf.

Lu Qi had been preparing for the surgery.

Perhaps it was due to Xinghe’s constant accompaniment, Mubai’s body had recovered to the degree where Lu Qi could risk operating on him.

Mubai’s heart was damaged greatly during the explosion, but soon, the mechanical heart would help take over his heart’s normal function. The moment his heart started working again,

his body would slowly recover, since the only reason his recovery had been so slow was because of his weakened heart.

However, he would soon be installed with the strongest heart in the world.



## Chapter 582: Lu Qi Is a Good Doctor

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

On the day of the surgery, it was showering lightly. Other than the sound of raindrops, the medical lab was quiet. Security stood guard over every entrance to prevent non-related personnel from entering.

The Xi family, including Xinghe, stood vigil outside of the surgery room. The surgery had been going on for ten hours, but no one left. No one was that greatly affected by emotions; they waited calmly for the surgery result.

Even though the risk was high, but they believed the surgery would be a success because inside was none other than Mubai, who had never let them down before. They believed he wouldn't start doing that now.

Thankfully, he didn't!

The surgery was a success, Mubai survived it and didn't disappoint them!

“Everything went swimmingly! The surgery was perfect,” Lu Qi announced excitedly. These two simple sentences were enough to make some of them cry. Even Xinghe had difficulty holding back the tears in her eyes.

This was the first time she had lost control of her emotions so much. However, the smile on her face froze when she saw Mubai who was wheeled out of surgery. His face was inhumanly pale, and his breath was weak. It looked as if the surgery had only made his condition worse. Worry was plainly written on their faces.

Lu Qi explained, “That was a large operation, so it's normal for him to look a bit weak post-surgery. But don't worry, he'll only get better from now on.”

“Lu Qi, thank you, thank you so much,” Mrs. Xi said as her tears finally fell.

“Lu Qi, your medical skill is indeed as good as they say, well done!” Munan gave him two thumbs up. Others continued to shower him with praises.

Lu Qi smiled humbly. “The biggest contributor was actually Miss Xia. Without her, the surgery wouldn’t have been possible.”

They turned to look at Xinghe and realized she was studying Mubai with a curious expression.

“Big Sister Xia, what’s on your mind?” Munan asked directly. Did she find something wrong with Mubai?

Xinghe shook her head, raised her eyes to meet theirs and said, “Release the news to the public tomorrow that Mubai’s surgery was highly successful and it was Dr. Lu Qi who saved him from the brink of death.”

“Why?” Jiangan asked instinctually. Even though Mubai’s situation had to be revealed to the public eventually, it was obvious that Xinghe had other plans in mind.

“Because Lu Qi is a good doctor,” Xinghe said cryptically but Grandfather Xi and the rest understood immediately.

The president was dying from illness, so the thing he needed most now was medical attention. Lu Qi already had a good name in the medical community, combined with this news, he would definitely be invited to cure the president.

If he managed to save the president, then the election wouldn’t need to happen!

Grandfather Xi nodded excitedly. “That’s right, get the news out now, contact the media immediately, the news has to be on tomorrow’s front page. Remember to heavily emphasize Lu Qi’s medical skill!”

“I’ll have it done immediately,” Jiangan said happily.

The Xi family was happy, but Lu Qi was befuddled. What are they talking about?

## Chapter 583: Invited by the President

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

For some reason, he felt something bigger than he realized was afoot.

However, he soon found out what was going when Grandfather Xi pulled him to the side and explained everything to him. “Lu Qi, we are out of ideas now, so we have try everything. If the Lin family gets the presidency, it’s over for all of us. Therefore, we have to trouble you this time, you have to try your best to treat his illness, and if you can’t, try your best to delay the inevitable as long as you can.”

“So, that’s why.” Lu Qi nodded. “I’ve been so busy recently that such a big piece of news just flew over my head. Elder Xi, do not worry, I know what to do. I will try to not disappoint!”

“Thank you, I represent the whole Xi family in thanking you,” Grandfather Xi said with much appreciation.

Lu Qi smiled. “There’s no need to be so ceremonious. Our two families have always been family friends; I’m glad that I’m able to be of help.”

Regardless, Grandfather Xi was thankful because he had given them a ray of hope. The Xi family would not go down so easily because many people were actually standing on their side...

...

That night, the Xi family did not rest. The next morning, before the sun even rose, the news that Lu Qi had managed to save Mubai’s life back from the clutches of death was spread across the whole internet.

Not only that, Jiangan represented Xi Empire to donate ten billion to charity and five billion to Lu Qi’s medical funds.

This piece of news sent shockwaves throughout the whole country. Xi Mubai was coming back and Xi Empire was surely generous!

This news soon became the most talked about topic within Hwa Xia. It became the trending topic on all the search engines. Therefore, even the people in City A knew about this news.

Furthermore, Lu Qi came from a good family and was already famed for his medical skills, so the validity of the news was not questioned. As they had expected, that day itself, Lu Qi received a mysterious call from City A. He really was being summoned to take care of the president!

However, since the news of the president's illness was not yet released, Lu Qi left without notice; the only party in the know was the Xi family. With Lu Qi in City A, Xinghe temporarily didn't have to leave for City A. If Lu Qi could cure the president's sickness, then the Lin family's plan would fail.

Not only that, they probably would make some mistakes due to the sense of urgency. The opportunity that they had been waiting for all their lives was suddenly taken away, so how could they not get agitated?

The moment people lose their cool is the moment mistakes happen. These were exactly the moment Xinghe was waiting for!

...

As Xinghe expected, Lu Qi's arrival shocked and annoyed the Lin family. It was only after Lu Qi arrived at the president's house that they found out about his presence. It was the Madam President who personally invited Lu Qi, so news was of it kept a secret from everyone.

"Madam, you should have discussed with us before inviting Lu Qi over," Elder Lin said nonchalantly, even though his intention was far more pointed than that. He, too, had heard about Lu Qi before and had been trying his best to prevent them from finding him, but in the end, he failed.

It was one thing if Lu Qi couldn't save the president, but what if he did?

Everything that they had prepared would go to waste. These thoughts darkened Elder Lin's heart.

Of course, Madam President was clueless to his real thoughts. She assumed this was because he had reservations about Lu Qi's capability.

## Chapter 584: Elder Lin

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

She explained demurely, “I did intend to discuss this with you, but I was too caught up with other things. However, Lu Qi is Senator Lu’s grandson and is a doctor with a good reputation. He is trustworthy.”

Elder Li smiled kindly. “Of course, I’m not doubting his character. I’m just worried his age might hold him back.”

The Madam President smiled slightly. “Why would you worry about that? You, too, have heard about the Xi family’s situation. Xi Mubai was already dying and no other doctors managed to save him, but this Lu Qi has done the impossible. It is because I read about this news yesterday that I decided to have him over.”

Elder Lin’s eyes glowered darkly. It’s that Xi family again!

He was privy to Xi Mubai’s news as well; it was impossible not to hear about it. The Xi family had given it their all to get the best PR out of the situation, so the news was practically known by everyone in the nation. Therefore, he suspected this was done on purpose.

Perhaps they found out about the president’s condition, and this is a way for them to prevent my Lin family from winning the election, since if this Lu Qi manages to cure the president, there would be no need for an election! The plan may be clever, but it is another issue whether the young doctor can heal the president or not!

It had to be said the Elder Lin was a shrewd old man; he saw through the Xi family’s ploy easily. However, like all villains in such novels, he was guilty of the sin of pride. He was confident that Lu Qi would be unable to cure the president, after all, so many doctors more experienced than him were unable to do that.

The most Lu Qi could do was stabilize the president’s condition, eventually he would have to die. However, it was not only due to luck that the Lin family was able to achieve its

position that day, Elder Lin was a cautious character. He had to take precautions just in case Lu Qi managed the impossible.

Very soon, Lu Qi finished giving the president a cursory diagnosis.

The madam president stepped forward and asked, “How is he?”

Elder Lin followed closely behind her. They looked at him expectantly, but the hopes they harbored were the complete opposites.

Lu Qi looked at them and greeted them politely before answering, “He’s not looking so well. The president’s heart has weakened quite an amount. Due to his old age and weak physical, undergoing heart surgery will be extremely risky.”

The madam president nodded. “That’s right, the other doctors said the same thing. Surgery is out of the question since it’ll most likely only make his conditions worse. However, if we just stand here and do nothing, his conditions will only worsen.”

“Unfortunately, that is true however, Madam President don’t worry, I will temporarily stabilize his condition while we come up with a better solution.”

“You can do that?” Madam President was pleasantly surprised. If her husband couldn’t be cured, keeping him alive was still better than nothing.

Lu Qi nodded and answered truthfully, “That much I can still do, but we have to solve the root of the problem soon enough or else...”

“I understand!” Madam President nodded. “As long as you try your best, it is fine. Even if it’s just minimizing his pain, that is good enough. The rest we can only leave it to fate.”

Lu Qi had a good impression of the madam president; she was a reasonable and respectful patroness.

“Don’t worry, I will try my best,” Lu Qi promised. “But I hope Madam President will advise the president to take it easy and not overwork himself.”

Indeed, at his condition, the president was still working...



## Chapter 585: Confident in Curing Him

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

However, he was a positive person, so at least he had that going for him.

Madam President sighed. “Of course, I will do that, but for him, the country is more important than himself.”

Elder Lin also sighed. “He really shouldn’t be working. The work is endless, and at this moment, his body is the most important. Madam, you should keep on advising him, let him rest and don’t let him overexert himself.”

For some reason, in Lu Qi’s ears, Elder Lin’s words took on another meaning: President, you’re already so sick, so don’t hold on to the post so stubbornly, give other people a chance to shine!

However, it seemed to have eluded Madam President’s ears, she nodded along. “Don’t worry, I’ll try my best to get him to rest. Elder Lin, you too must be tired; do go home to rest for now.”

“I’m fine, the most important thing is the president. I’ve been worried sick about him, worried that some accident may befall him. So, I’m glad that Doctor Lu is finally here to soften his pain.” With that, Elder Lin turned to look at Lu Qi approvingly. Then he asked, “I hear it was you who saved Xi Mubai. Everyone across the nation has been talking about this lately; they say you’re a miracle worker.”

Lu Qi smiled humbly. “I’m not as good as they make me out to be. Actually, I took several long months to save Mubai.”

Elder Lin’s smile grew bigger. “No matter what, you eventually saved him. Unfortunately, our Lin family was not so fortunate.”

At that point, Elder Lin’s smile turned into a frown as if on cue. They knew he was saddened by Lin Yun’s death. Lin Yun had died immediately in that explosion.

“Elder Lin, my condolences, but try not to get too affected by it. You must learn to take care of yourself,” Madam President

immediately consoled him. Elder Lin nodded and continued the conversation for a bit before leaving. His mission had been accomplished, his only reason for being there was to see whether Lu Qi had confidence in curing the president or not. Looks like he didn't.

Elder Lin's frown turned back into a smile. He believed the post of president would be the Lin family's soon!

Little did he know, after he left, Lu Qi told Madam President seriously, "Madam, I didn't tell you this earlier but regarding the president's situation, I might have confidence in curing him."

She was pleasantly surprised. "What did you say? You can really heal him?"

"I'm not a hundred percent sure so I didn't dare to say it earlier. Therefore, I wish for madam to keep this a secret as well, at least until I'm more certain of everything."

"I understand." Madam President nodded happily. "Don't worry, I will not tell anyone, and no matter what is the result, I still thank you for your help."

"Thank you, Madam, I will try my best." Lu Qi nodded and steeled his determination to save the president. The president and his wife were good people and had done a lot of good for Hwa Xia. Therefore, he would try his best.

Naturally he needed Xinghe's help. Lu Qi moved into the president's house to help with the president's health.

When he returned to his room, he immediately gave Xinghe a call. After he filled her in, she was shocked. "The reason behind the president's health issue is his heart?"

## Chapter 586: Perfect Chance

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“That’s right.” When Lu Qi found out, he was equally surprised. “I didn’t think it would be such a coincidence, now we really can save him.”

Xinghe asked directly, “You mean we can use the mechanical heart to save him?”

“Theoretically speaking, yes, but there will be some issues.”

“What kind of issue?”

Lu Qi explained, “The president’s situation differs from Mubai’s. Mubai’s heart was damaged, but the president’s suffering from an ailing heart. It’s because of illness that this is happening, so we cannot use exactly the same formula.”

“Then, what can we do?”

About this, Lu Qi had already found a solution. He smiled. “Naturally, we have to tweak the design. However, the basics will be the same, this time we really need to create a ‘heart’ so to speak.”

“In other words, we’re building a heart to replace his actual heart?”

“Theoretically speaking yes, but this, unfortunately, will not save him forever, it can only delay the inevitable for a few more years.”

“That’s enough.” Xinghe’s eyes shone. “A few more years are enough.”

They would find a way to take down the Lin family in the meantime.

“Therefore, I need your help,” Lu Qi said suddenly.

Xinghe understood and agreed easily. “Of course. Send me your design when you’re ready and I will build it.”

“No, I want you to join me here.”

Xinghe was stunned as Lu Qi continued, “I believe this is a good opportunity. If the president sees you cooperating with

me to cure his illness, it'll be immensely helpful to you in the future. In case anything happens in the future, he will be kind towards you and the Xi family for what you did for him.”

“...” Xinghe understood what he meant. Lu Qi wanted to share the credit of saving the president with her. It was essentially a get-out-of-jail-free card should she need it. It was as he said, a good opportunity. Having the president owe you a favor was indeed beneficial, and Lu Qi didn't want her to miss out on it. Xinghe understood the gravity of the situation and, without hesitation, she accepted.

“Alright, I'll go! Lu Qi, thank you,” Xinghe told him seriously.

Lu Qi smiled. “You're welcome. You've been immensely instrumental to the success of my medical research, plus I've been trying to make amends for what I did to you.”

“No, you don't owe me anything anymore. In the future, if you need any help, please tell me; I will assist whenever I can.”

“No backsies because I will take you up on that offer. I'll have you design many things for me.”

“No problem,” Xinghe promised. Lu Qi was overjoyed, with Xinghe's aid, he believed many of his medical dreams would become a reality.

“I'll go inform the president and his wife. After I get their permission, you'll come to City A as my assistant,” Lu Qi told her.

“Okay.”

“That's all then, wait for my call later.”

After they hung up, Xinghe rushed to tell the Xi family the news. Even though this was a good opportunity, there were also many hidden pitfalls. It would be good if they could cure the president, but if they couldn't then it would just a massive waste of time and effort. Furthermore, the Lin family would not waste this opportunity to come after her.

Xinghe nodded after she heard Grandfather Xi's analysis.

## Chapter 587: I'll Marry You

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“I’ve thought about all that, but we cannot let Lu Qi shoulder all of our responsibility. Risk is, by definition, something that involves exposure to danger. I cannot lose this good opportunity simply because of risk, plus it goes both ways, I can make use of this chance to get close to the Lin family, to feel them out.”

Indeed, this was a perfect chance to get close to the Lin family. Xinghe could get close to the Lin family with a valid reason or else they would have to wait for the Lin family to strike, and that would not be a good idea. Therefore, they had to initiate the first strike to prevent accidents in the future.

“Okay, you go ahead but please be careful,” Grandfather Xi advised her. Xinghe nodded. “I will.”

Just like that, it was decided that Xinghe still had to go to City A. Lu Qi quickly got his reply, the Madam President agreed for Xinghe to come and assist him.

Before Xinghe left, she fulfilled her promise to Lin Lin and brought him to see Mubai. Mubai was recovering, he had past the critical period, and he would wake up soon enough.

“Mommy, when you will come back?” Lin Lin raised his head to ask her.

Xinghe tousled his hair and replied, “It won’t be too long; I’ll be back before you know it.”

“Will you come back when Daddy wakes up?”

“It should be around the same time, yes.”

Lin Lin’s face split into a broad smile. “When you come back, Daddy and I will marry you together, okay?”

“What?” Xinghe was shocked.

The little fella said seriously, “I want to marry you together with daddy.”

“Together?” Xinghe didn’t know whether to laugh or cry, did he know what he was talking about?

Lin Lin nodded. “Yes, we’ll be married together. Actually, if Daddy doesn’t wake up then I will marry you myself.”

“...” Xinghe couldn’t help but wonder what Mubai’s reaction would be. However, Xinghe knew this was because Lin Lin didn’t want to be away from her. He was too young to understand what marriage meant; he probably thought they would become family, which was technically true.

Xinghe consoled him, “Don’t worry, your daddy will definitely wake up and Mommy will stay by your side forever.”

“How about Daddy? Will you stay by his side forever?”

Xinghe looked at Mubai’s unconscious face and replied, “I will.”

She didn’t realize that, when she said that, Mubai’s pinkie finger twitched ever so slightly.

...

Xinghe left for City A on a private plane. She didn’t bring anyone along with her because her destination was somewhere unusual. It was not some place anyone could enter. The plane flew for an hour before landing safely at City A’s airport.

When she descended, Xinghe saw the bodyguards that were waiting for her. These men were arranged by Madam President.

“Miss Xia, please get in.” The bodyguards helped her with the car door. They were courteous towards her. Xinghe didn’t say anything and crawled into the car.

They soon arrived at the president’s house. Before entering, Xinghe was given an in-depth security briefing and checking. She also had to sign many confidentiality agreements before she was given entry.

This was the first time Xinghe had been to the president’s house; the size of the place surprised her. She hadn’t expected

it to be so big. Turned out the president's house wasn't just a house but a wide-ranging area.

## Chapter 588: Moving into the President's House

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

There were a lot of majestic looking buildings, and there were security guards posted everywhere. After the car past the last checkpoint, Xinghe saw Lu Qi waiting for her by the side of a building.

When he saw her, he smiled brightly. When the car stopped, he even came forward to help her with the door.

The patrolling guards were intrigued. Who is this woman that the famous Doctor Lu, Senator Lu's grandson, would personally come to welcome?

"You're finally here," Lu Qi said with a dazzling smile. Xinghe nodded and stepped out of the car.

Lu Qi went straight to the point, "Come on, I'll show you to your room."

A group of soldiers materialized to help Xinghe with her luggage. Lu Qi pulled Xinghe along as he introduced to her the points of interest.

"That white building over there is the medical building, those beside it are hostels. You see that white villa far away, that's the president's personal residence..."

Xinghe nodded along quietly, but she didn't seem impressed by anything there.

Lu Qi saw her lack of reaction and couldn't help but feel disappointed. "How come you don't seem interested in the thing here?"

Even he was shocked by the scale of the things there when he first arrived. Xinghe was a lot more collected than he had been.

"The huge size of this place did surprise me," Xinghe said softly, signifying her shock, although it would be hard to call what she experienced as shock.

Lu Qi sighed helplessly. He realized that was how Xinghe was, impervious to most things. They soon reached the



hostels.

They might be called hostels, but they were actually studio apartments. Every apartment was exquisitely designed. Even though there was only one bedroom and one living room, the space was big enough for the single resident to live comfortably. The apartments were split according to genders even though the buildings were connected. After Lu Qi brought Xinghe to her room, he suggested they go have dinner.

“The canteen here is like a restaurant. Come on, I’m sure you’re hungry already.”

Xinghe shook her head. “I’m not that hungry, what shall I do next?”

“Assist me with my design and then construct it as soon as possible,” Lu Qi answered.

Xinghe nodded. “Then let’s start working.”

“No need to rush.” Lu Qi laughed. “It’s already quite late, take the night off and we can start tomorrow morning.”

“That works too.”

“If you don’t feel like going to the canteen, you can cook yourself. There are ingredients in the kitchen. If you need anything, you can call the service number, here is the list of numbers,” Lu Qi passed her a telephone book.

Xinghe accepted and then nodded. “Thank you.”

“Then I’ll be leaving, if you need anything, call me. I’ll be in the next building.”

“Okay.”

Even though Lu Qi had said everything needed to be said, he continued fussing like an overprotective big brother before he finally left. Xinghe didn’t know he has such a garrulous side to him. It humanized him in her eyes. After all, her impression of him had always stuck on his crazed medical scientist image.

## Chapter 589: I'm Lin Yun

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Even a crazed scientist had to eat sometimes, it seemed.

After Lu Qi left, Xinghe started unpacking. After she finished her nightly rituals and prepared to retire for the night, someone knocked on her door. Xinghe was confused by the mysterious knocker.

She opened her door and standing outside was a tall woman about her height. She was pretty, but her glaring eyes spoke more than enough of her intentions.

“Who are you looking for?” Xinghe asked softly.

The woman gave her a cold once-over and asked, “Are you Xia Xinghe? Lu Qi’s assistant?”

Xinghe nodded while she was still confused about the woman’s identity. She looked suspiciously familiar, like she had met her somewhere before.

The woman chuckled coldly when she saw Xinghe nod. “Xia Xinghe, we finally meet. The world is indeed small that we can meet under such circumstances.”

“Who exactly are you?” Xinghe asked calmly. She was not unhinged by the woman aggressive demeanor.

Realizing Xinghe was not a pushover, the woman leaned in to whisper in her ear, “Who am I? I’m Lin Yun!”

When Xinghe heard the name ‘Lin Yun’, she was indeed surprised, but she quickly found her footing again.

“You’re from the Lin family?” Xinghe asked even though her question sounded more like a statement.

The woman smirked. “That’s right, I’m a Lin! I’m Lin Yun’s real sister, surprised?”

“Lin Qian?”

Lin Qian laughed sarcastically. “Looks like you did your homework, you even know my name.”

Xinghe had memorized the Lin family's family tree when Lin Yun first appeared on the scene. The Lin family had three daughters; the eldest was Lin Qian, followed by Lin Jing, and finally Lin Yun. She had already met Lin Yun and Lin Jing so this woman before her must be Lin Qian.

In her investigation, Xinghe knew Lin Qian was a doctor, but she didn't expect she would stumble into her here. Then again, when she thought about it, how could the Lin family miss out on such a good opportunity to promote their agenda?

After all, the president had the right to suggest his or her successor and with the current president's reputation, his named successor would have a good chance at winning. Therefore, the Lin family would definitely try their best to suck up to the dying president, to give them the best chance at winning.

Many thoughts crowded Xinghe's mind, but her face showed no traces of it. Her intention unreadable, she asked calmly, "Get on with it then, what is the purpose of your visit?"

Lin Qian smirked. "No reason, just came to see the face of my sister's murderer. But from the looks of it, she's nothing special except for her incredibly dark heart!"

Xinghe picked up the shocking news, this woman thought it was them who killed Lin Yun!

"I had nothing to do with Lin Yun's death," Xinghe retorted coldly.

Like another ditzy bimbo cannon fodder, Lin Qian laughed coldly as a flash of hatred floated up in her eyes. "But she died because of you. If you and that Xi Mubai didn't forcefully drag her away, how could she have ended up dead? You two are her killers!"

Xinghe's gaze immediately darkened.

## Chapter 590: A Family of Fools

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Who harmed who exactly?

She didn't go looking for them for revenge and they had the audacity to pin the explosion on her. However, Xinghe had also realized Lin Qian had no idea what really happened. The irony of it all... it was Lin Xuan who killed Lin Yun, but her own sister was clueless of the truth. It looked like the Lin family was even more depraved than she'd thought.

"So that's why you thought it was us who killed her?" Xinghe asked.

"Is that not true?" The hatred in Lin Qian's eyes became more pronounced. "If not for both of you, she wouldn't have died! Listen to me, you murderer, the heavens will punish you for killing my sister in cold blood! One day, you will regret coming after the Lin family!"

This was such a droll, Xinghe knew she was talking about Lin Kang's eventual presidency. Alas, as long as she was around, Xinghe would not allow that to happen.

"Are you done?" Xinghe said with a tired sigh, "If you're done then, please move yourself out of my face; you're interrupting my rest."

"You—" Lin Qian didn't think Xinghe would be so rude towards her, at the heat of moment, she raised her hand to slap Xinghe.

Xinghe caught her hand in mid-air and held it firmly!

Lin Qian was surprised by Xinghe's strength; she couldn't swat Xinghe off no matter how hard she tried. "B\*tch, let me go!"

Xinghe obliged and let go of her. Surprised by the sudden release, Lin Qian faltered several steps back.

"You really should check your facts before you go barking up the wrong tree." Xinghe looked at her emotionlessly, her tone as chilling as winter's frost. "I will not be so kind next time. If

you want to find your sister's murderer, why don't you go ask Lin Xuan?"

After that, she slammed the door in Lin Qian's face. This shocked Lin Qian. What does she mean by that? Is she telling me it was Lin Xuan who killed Lin Yun? Impossible, my brother would not lift a finger against his cherished sister. Furthermore, this heartless woman has ruined Lin Jing's life, so this must her trying to pit us against each other!

In any case, Lin Qian believed for a fact that it was Xinghe and Mubai who caused her sister's death and she would make them pay for that.

Lin Qian started laughing when she realized Xinghe was also at the president's house. Xia Xinghe, now that you've stepped into my territory, let's see how long you can keep that smug smile of yours!

Needless to say, like a lazy cliché, Xinghe knew Lin Qian would come after her. However, she was not afraid of that; in fact, Xinghe was actually worried that she wouldn't come after her!

She was having trouble finding a reason to tackle the Lin family, but since Lin Qian was going to offer herself up as an opening, Xinghe welcomed it fully.

...

The next day, Xinghe followed Lu Qi as he went to give the president a checkup. Early every morning, a bunch of doctors would come to help the president with his physical so that they could keep themselves updated on his conditions. Needless to say, Lin Qian was one of them.

Actually, she had a doctorate in medical science and was quite good at work. In fact, all of the doctors there were famed in the medical field; Xinghe was the sole exception. Everyone knew she was not a doctor, she was Lu Qi's special assistant.

After the physical was done, everyone left so as to not disturb the president's rest and work. They returned to the medical building to discuss the president's conditions and recuperation.

Everyone gave their opinion, again, Xinghe was the sole exception.

Suddenly, Lin Qian glared at Xinghe and asked, “Doctor Lu, if you don’t mind me asking, why do you keep that woman around as your assistant if she appears to know nothing?”

## Chapter 591: So What?

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

The good atmosphere in the room immediately froze. Led by Lin Qian's words, everyone turned to look at Xinghe who sat beside Lu Qi. Even though she was suddenly put under the spotlight, Xinghe maintained her calm countenance.

Lu Qi smiled politely. "Who spread the rumors that Miss Xia knows nothing? She is someone I've personally requested to assist me; she is instrumental to my research."

"Is that so? However, I still don't think she'll be of any use in aiding to cure the president," Lin Qian continued her verbal assault. It was clear to the people in the room that she was doing this on purpose. However due to her family background, no one dared to stand up for Xinghe, no one other than Lu Qi, who also came from a powerful family.

"That's Miss Lin's opinion and you're entitled it; we are not going to bend over backwards trying to justify ourselves to you."

"But we are all responsible for curing the president, so why can't Doctor Lu explain this to us? If you have a brilliant idea or plan, you should share it with us. Or is Doctor Lu afraid that we'll steal your spotlight?" Lin Qian openly criticized Lu Qi.

Lu Qi frowned slightly. The room was silent, and the atmosphere had become exceptionally awkward. However, it had to be said that Lin Qian did voice out the thought in everyone's mind.

Lu Qi was suddenly invited by Madam President, who had a large amount of faith in him. Furthermore, his plan was indeed kept a secret from everyone else. Now he'd even found himself a non-doctor woman to be his assistant. Actually, everyone was curious about what they were up to. In fact, they had the same thoughts as Lin Qian, that he was too selfish to share credit.

Swayed by Lin Qian, the group started to have less than favorable opinions about Lu Qi.

“Doctor Lu, why don’t you share your ideas with us?” a senior doctor advised him, hinting at him that this was the only way to smooth over the awkward situation. In actuality, sharing his idea would not have been an issue if Lin Qian weren’t there. He knew these doctors were not that uncouth to steal his credit and he didn’t even mind sharing it with them.

He was guarding against the Lin family. If they knew he could cure the president, who knew what they would do...

Lu Qi offered a kind smile. “There really isn’t any brilliant idea, it’s just a vague framework that’s still in the works. When there is a clearer picture, I will definitely share it with everyone.”

Lin Qian was relentless. She smirked. “Since there is no plan and you have no idea what you’re doing, why did you invite that woman? Or is this something personal? In that case, then I understand, but this is not a hotel, Doctor Lu, don’t you think it’s a bit inappropriate for you to do something like this?”

“Miss Lin, please be careful with your words!” Lu Qi’s face immediately darkened. “We are all doctors here, a little bit of mutual respect should be in order.”

Having been scolded, Lin Qian’s face also darkened. “I’m just saying it as I see it. If I’ve misspoken, then show me the evidence that I’m wrong.”

Lu Qi laughed mirthlessly. “Looks like Miss Lin harbors some serious grievance against me.”

Lin Qian smiled slightly. “I wouldn’t dare. It’s just that curing the president is something serious, if it turns out that there is a Mr. Nan Gua 1 hiding among us, I don’t think any of us will be able to bear the responsibility.”

“I never said I know medicine,” Xinghe suddenly said as she glared at Lin Qian. “I’m here with Madam President’s permission, if you have any issue with that, you can take it up with her.”



## Chapter 592: Mr. Nan Gua

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“You...” Lin Qian was angered by her insolence. “Xia Xinghe, how can you be so arrogant when you know nothing.”

“That’s pot calling the kettle black.”

“What nonsense, I have valid reasons to question your presence here, since you really do know nothing. In that case, you should pack up and leave and not pretend to be a Mr. Nan Gua here!” Lin Qian directly chased her out by mocking her openly. That idea was already in everyone’s mind that Xinghe was only an outsider there, but that impression was now further enhanced by Lin Qian’s incendiary words.

“It’s not your decision to decide whether people are Mr. Nan Gua or not. Miss Lin, keep to your responsibility and let other people do theirs,” Xinghe replied calmly; Lin Qian’s aggression completely flew over her head. However, the greater her insouciance, the angrier Lin Qian became.

“Fine, it might not be my decision, but it will definitely be someone’s decision!” Lin Qian slammed her hands on the table and left in a hissy fit. The air was still polluted by the awkward argument.

Lu Qi also stood up. “Everyone, we shall take our leave as well; if you have any questions, you can come find me personally.”

Then he took Xinghe and left. The remaining doctors looked at one another in shock. They hadn’t expected things to go so awry.

A male doctor sighed. “Looks like there will never be peace between females.”

A few nodded in agreement. They assumed this was an argument sparked by jealousy. Only the senior doctor could see through the haze. He lamented, “You lot are still too young and too simple. Haven’t you heard of the relationship between the Xi family and the Lin family?”

“Xi family? From City T, what does this have to do with them?”

“That woman is Xi Mubai’s ex-wife and earlier she even helped Xi Empire consume the Lin family’s Bao Hwa.”

Now they had a new appreciation of the situation. The clash between Bao Hwa and Xi Empire was national news; they didn’t expect to meet the main participant in person!

At that moment, their impression of Xinghe changed again. The woman is not simple, but what is she doing here in the president’s house?

...

Lu Qi brought Xinghe to his private lab. He consoled her, “Don’t worry about what Lin Qian said, we shouldn’t lower ourselves to her level?”

Xinghe asked him softly, “Do you think I would demean myself by doing that?”

Lu Qi sensed the underlying condescension Xinghe had for Lin Qian.

“Regardless, it’s wonderful that you don’t get distracted by her words. We should focus on finishing the mechanical heart’s design,” Lu Qi said with relief.

“You’re right, we have to work fast, but the days ahead for you will be difficult,” Xinghe reminded him softly.

Lu Qi was taken aback. “Me?”

“Lin Qian represents the Lin family, even though her prejudice is pointed at me, but she won’t leave you out of it. In fact, because of me, she’ll probably come after you even harder. The Lin family will find out ways to chase you and me away, so you have to be careful,” Xinghe analyzed.

Lu Qi was shocked. How did she come up with all of this?

“You mean, Lin Qian is really after me as well?” Lu Qi asked in shock; he’d thought Lin Qian’s aggression was only directed at Xinghe.

## Chapter 593: Rumors

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

He'd thought he could shield Xinghe by maintaining his rather neutral stance, but in the end, he was in the same boat as her. Just how slow am I?

Xinghe nodded. "She's after both of us. She knows your relationship to the Xi family and now you've hired me as your assistant, so no matter whether you can cure the president or not, they will be guarded against you. To prevent accidents from happening, the best solution is to chase you and me away."

"That's why Lin Qian has been spreading rumors that you're Mr. Nan Gua, thus applying pressure to us..." Lu Qi finally caught up to the situation.

"That's right." Xinghe's eyes shone. "But that is fine, no matter what kind of tricks they pull, it will not work."

"You've come up with a solution?"

"There's no need for one." Xinghe smiled. "After all, a straight foot is not afraid of a crooked shoe."

Lu Qi sighed in relief. "You're right, as long as we do nothing wrong and come with only the intention to help the president, we have no need to be afraid of them. But don't worry, if anything does happen, I will shield you from the front. I don't believe she will really dare to do something against me."

Xinghe was thankful even though she really wasn't afraid. If she was, then she wouldn't be Xia Xinghe!

...

Due to Lin Qian's intervention, Lu Qi decided to isolate himself from the other doctors. Since they would only see him through Lin Qian's tainted filter, then he might as well focus on his own research, instead of wasting time with them.

Xinghe, like usual, didn't care about what others thought about her; she was focused fully with Lu Qi on the mechanical heart research. They were absolutely focused on their work. They

would spend the whole day at the lab perfecting the design and would leave only when the moon was high in the sky.

Due to Lin Qian's malicious rumors, the way everyone looked at them changed. They knew of Xinghe's past, that she was a divorcee. However, Lu Qi came from a good family, a dashing bachelor, they all thought Xinghe was not good enough for him, especially, the younger female doctors, who had googly eyes around Lu Qi.

This increased their annoyance towards Xinghe. Every time they passed her, they would give her a chilling side-eye. Other people also started to look at her curiously.

Needless to say, Xinghe knew these people were influenced by Lin Qian's words into having a prejudice against her. Thankfully, she was impervious to other people's looks so she didn't bend over backwards to explain herself to these people.

Eventually, sometime after their altercation, Xinghe finally stumbled across Lin Qian again at the president's house. She had beside her a young girl, the girl was cute, she looked just over twenty. Lin Qian was chatting happily with the girl, but when she saw Xinghe, her face frosted over. The girl also noticed Xinghe who was walking their way.

"Sister Lin Qian, who is she?" the girl queried.

Lin Qian glared at Xinghe and scoffed, "Who else but Mr. Nan Gua?"

"Mr. Nan Gua?" The girl was confused. What kind of name is this?

Lin Qian didn't explain but added, "She is the famous Xia Xinghe that caused your Sister Lin Jing to lose her beloved company."

The girl widened her eyes in shock. "That's her?"

"That's right, take a good look at the shameless woman. She doesn't know anything about medicine but is now at the president's house to help cure the president's illness apparently, so everyone refers to her as Mr. Nan Gua."

## Chapter 594: Madam President Is My Aunt

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Doesn’t know medicine but she’s here?” The girl was suddenly incensed. Her gaze that fell on Xinghe turned nefarious. When Xinghe passed them, she called out insolently, “You stop right there!”

Xinghe slowed to a stop and turned to look at her coldly.

The girl studied her with a condescending air and smirked. “Such a normal looking woman and I thought you would have three heads and six arms.”

“...” Xinghe didn’t reply and glance at Lin Qian beside the girl. As she expected, Lin Qian was smiling smugly.

“You’re Xia Xinghe?” The girl became more aggressive when Xinghe didn’t answer her. “I hear you don’t know medicine, but you somehow found your way in here; just how did you manage something as shameless as that?”

Lin Qian added fuel to the fire. “How else could she have achieved it? She found herself a fine man to attach herself to.”

“Who is so blind?” The girl played along.

Lin Qian shook her head as if disappointed. “It’s Doctor Lu Qi.”

“Lu Qi?” The girl was shocked. “Grandfather Lu’s grandson?”

“That’s right.”

The girl glared even angrier at Xinghe. Her impression of Lu Qi was good; he was a hardworking and handsome elder brother. How could he be seduced by someone like Xia Xinghe? She was feeling indignant for him.

Furthermore, Xinghe had hurt Lin Jing, Lin Xuan’s little sister. The girl’s favorite person in the whole wide world was Lin Xuan, so she would definitely help take care of Xinghe for them!

“You vicious vixen, you seduced Brother Lu to bring you in there. You are extremely shameless and gutsy; don’t you know

where you are? This is not somewhere a commoner like yourself can enter. How can a useless woman like yourself be here? Be smart and go pack your bags and leave. Don't make me call the guards!"

"Who are you?" Xinghe asked suddenly. Her intention was pure; she really only wanted to know the girl's identity.

The girl's smug smile turned bigger and the condescension and derision in her eyes deepened. "Listen well, I am Tong Yan, the president is my uncle and the madam president is my aunt. I hail from the famous Shen family, so get out of here now because I have the absolute right to decide who stays and who leaves!"

"Is that so?" Xinghe replied succinctly before walking away.

Tong Yan was stunned. She walked away just like that...

F\*ck, is she deaf? How dare she ignore me?

"Sister Lin Qian, did she just blow me off?" Tong Yan pointed at Xinghe and demanded angrily.

Lin Qian didn't expect Xinghe would be so insolent, but she was glad to witness this development.

She consoled Tong Yan, "Little Yan, don't get angry over a woman like her, she is obscenely arrogant or else how could she have consumed your Sister Lin Jing's company so easily?"

"Arrogant?" Tong Yan spat. "A woman like her dares to be arrogant in front of me? Come, let's go complain to my aunt; we'll get her to chase this shameless woman out!"

Lin Qian said with difficulty, "I don't think I can, I need to get back to work. Your uncle's body is deteriorating; I need to attend a meeting with the other doctors."

Tong Yan replied understandingly, "Then I won't bother you anymore, I'll go look for auntie myself."

She left quickly.

## Chapter 595: Most Powerful Heiress

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

Lin Qian smiled as she watched Tong Yan walk away. Xia Xinghe, we'll see whether you can whether this storm. You said I can't make the decision to force you to leave, well, I found you someone who can!

Madam President was infertile, so she kept Tong Yan around her side at all times, so in a way, Tong Yan was as powerful as the president's daughter. The Shen family, which Tong Yan hailed from, was one of the founding fathers, so her power was immeasurable.

This time Xinghe had stepped on Tong Yan's toes, so tragedy would definitely befall her. An heiress like Tong Yan who was raised in the lap of luxury couldn't stand people not bowing down before them. They were blessed from birth, as long as they didn't do something awfully serious, everyone would turn to a blind eye to what they did.

It was one thing for Xinghe to maintain her arrogance in City T, but in City A where royalty roamed the social circles, one small misstep and her life could be over!

This Tong Yan definitely had the power to end Xinghe's puny life if she wanted to. Furthermore, she was close to the Lin family and had a long-time crush on Lin Xuan. Therefore, it didn't bode well for Xinghe.

Lin Qian waited happily for the news of Xinghe's eviction. Tong Yan didn't disappoint and rushed to the Madam President to make her complaints.

"Auntie, that woman is nothing but an idiot, how can you keep her around to cure uncle? Uncle's physical condition is so important; there can't be any room for mistakes. That woman doesn't know anything about medicine, so there must be a sinister reason why she's so adamant to stay!" Tong Yan pulled on the Madam President's elbow and groused like a little girl.

The Madam President smiled good-naturedly listening to her. "I already know she doesn't know medicine; Lu Qi has already

told me all of this before he asked for her to come here. So, don't worry, she'll be fine."

Tong Yan frowned. "Since she doesn't know medicine, why did you agree for her to be here? What can she do?"

"Why do you need to know that? This is the adults' business; you don't need to worry yourself over it." The Madam President obviously didn't want to discuss this with her. However, Tong Yan was not satisfied.

She demanded openly, "Auntie, I don't like her, so you must chase her away. She hurt Sister Lin Jing and is responsible for Sister Lin Yun's death. Plus, you said she is not a doctor, so she must not be a good person. Auntie, you have to chase her out; we mustn't let her stay to harm anyone else."

Being raised by Madam President had made Tong Yan a willful child because, no matter her demands, Madam President would usually entertain her as long as they were within a reasonable range.

Therefore, she thought when she named her demands openly, her auntie would surrender to her demands like usual, after all, this was just to evict a common woman.

To her surprise and annoyance, Madam President denied her request!

"Little Yan, there's a reason why I've agreed to let her stay here. I know perfectly well whether she is a good person or not, so you don't worry your little head over something like that. By the way, you haven't visited auntie for quite some time; tell me what you have been up to..."

Tong Yan might be willful, but she was not dumb. She understood her auntie was purposely changing the subject.

She was her favorite niece, so how could she reject such a small request from her? Tong Yan felt heavily aggrieved, but she didn't show it outwardly.

Simultaneously, her hatred towards Xinghe and determination to chase her away towards had increased greatly!



## Chapter 596: She Came for Me First

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

At the same time, Xinghe walked into the lab and told Lu Qi, “Our trouble is here.”

Lu Qi, who was in the middle of research, raised his head in alarm. “What trouble? What do you mean?”

Xinghe looked at him and explained, “When I was coming over, I ran into a girl by the name of Tong Yan.”

Lu Qi felt a chill over his body when he heard the name ‘Tong Yan’. “You ran into Tong Yan? She is someone extremely powerful because her mother is the Shen family’s daughter; her aunt is the Madam President and even the Tong family is not to be trifled. I hear she’s a little tyrant; she tramples all over City A because no one dares to make an enemy of her. What happened, did you cross her?”

Lu Qi started to get anxious. Crossing the Lin family was nothing serious but crossing Tong Yan was equal to a death sentence. Xinghe might be clever and tactical, but her family background was definitely not as strong as Tong Yan’s.

Lu Qi asked hurriedly, “You really have ruffled her feathers?”

“She came for me first,” Xinghe answered coolly.

Lu Qi was speechless. What does she mean by that?

For some reason, he felt Xinghe was not at all afraid of Tong Yan but instead thought it was Tong Yan’s fault for crossing her.

“Tell me in detail, what really happened?” Lu Qi asked carefully after he calmed down. He was ready to help Xinghe get over this hurdle. It was his fault that Xinghe was there in the first place, so he found himself responsible for protecting her. If anything happened to her, when Mubai woke up, the first party he would destroy would not be the Lin family but him!

Of course, he personally wouldn’t wish for any tragedy to befall Xinghe either. Xinghe gently walked him through the

whole process.

She asked Lu Qi, “Is Tong Yan close to the Lin family?”

“That I’m not sure, but they definitely have interacted with each other since the Lin family and Shen family are family friends, so it wouldn’t be surprising if Tong Yan is indeed close to the Lin family. Then again, almost everyone knows Tong Yan likes Lin family’s third young master very much. She once said, other than her, no other woman is allowed to get close to him.”

“This is Lin Xuan?” Xinghe raised her brow in intrigue.

Lu Qi nodded.

Xinghe laughed. “Then the girl sure has bad taste to fall in love with a maniac.”

Lu Qi seemed to know a thing or two about Lin Xuan because he also nodded in agreement.

“Xinghe, you and the Lin family are absolute adversaries now and, since Tong Yan likes Lin Xuan, she will probably come after you on his behalf.”

“That’s for sure.” Xinghe nodded slightly but her face held zero concern. “Let her do what she wants, if I spot her mistake then I won’t make it easy for her either.”

Lu Qi couldn’t help but remind her, “To tell you the truth, as long as it is not a big mistake, no one will dare to lift a finger against her...”

“Then, she’d better pray that she doesn’t commit a huge mistake,” Xinghe replied with a noncommittal shrug. So what if Tong Yan was the prized heiress? If she truly angered Xinghe, she would have to deal with her.

In this world, results speak louder than words. If she was worse than others, then she would willingly surrender. However, if it was someone coming after her just because they were born with money and power, then they should be prepared to have their faces slapped.

...

Xinghe's prediction was right. Tong Yan volunteered to join the medical team as Lin Qian's assistant, but her actual goal was to make life difficult for Xinghe.

She would make use of every chance to slander Xinghe. Whenever she spotted Xinghe, she would yell out openly and loudly that she was Mr. Nan Gua, saying snide comments that she was hiding evil reasons for being at the president's house.

## Chapter 597: No One Can Pull Me Down

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

She went about spreading nasty rumors about Xinghe, saying that she was a murderer, an escaped convict, and all the bad things in the world. Due to her identity, no one dared to stop or counter her. Not one person went to tell Madam President about her bullying. After all, who had the guts to do that?

Madam President would scold Tong Yan lightly because, at the end of the day, they were one family. If anything, she would probably have more issues with the tattle-tale. Furthermore, the Shen family and Tong family weren't pushovers...

Now, she also had the Lin family behind her. Tong Yan was practically invincible.

Therefore, when the people saw how much Tong Yan hated Xinghe, they didn't dare to associate themselves with Xinghe anymore. Everyone pooled together and isolated her; she was given the worst seat during meetings and even leftovers at the canteen!

There was rarely any meat and when there was, she could see the bite marks on it. In any case, Xinghe was forced into becoming a vegetarian when she was there because that was the only food that looked edible.

Everyone would give her disgusted side-glances when they walked past her. If this was not the president's house, they probably would have done much worse.

Lu Qi was incensed noticing these acts of bullying, but Xinghe was not affected by them.

"This is nothing, compared to my revenge plot, these are nothing but childish tricks," Xinghe told him with a shrug. Lu Qi knew she was a strong person, but he couldn't help but worry. "But don't you feel aggrieved?"

Xinghe laughed. "Why would I? I never understood the meaning of that. If I feel unsatisfied then I will do something about it. In this world, no one will be able to make me feel wronged. Why give them the satisfaction?"

Lu Qi smiled, her confidence rubbing off on him. “You’re right, only those who have their mistakes pointed out would feel wronged. If the heart is strong, nothing will be able to bring us down. Looks like I’ve underestimated you again; no wonder Mubai loves you so. He must have seen through to the real you from the very beginning.”

Xinghe was shocked by this revelation. Did Mubai really understand who she was after she recovered her memory?

He had never told her that. She knew his attitude towards her had suddenly changed but she had no idea why.

“I’m curious, were you like this when you two divorced?” Lu Qi couldn’t help but dig for some gossip.

Xinghe didn’t hide it and shook her head. “No.”

“Then, what kind of person were you then?”

“I was not really a person, like soulless husk, not even interested in talking to people.”

Lu Qi suddenly remembered the old rumors that something was mentally wrong with Mubai’s wife. She was reticent, kept herself isolated from others, and would stumble soullessly like a doll from day to day. Now he realized that she must have spent that period completely focusing on rediscovering herself, so she didn’t have the capacity to busy herself with anything else.

However, everything had changed. She had found herself and her confidence; she was like a new woman.

“Xinghe, I’m sure whatever you attempt in the future, it’ll always be successful,” Lu Qi said with an impressed sigh.

Xinghe smiled. “Perhaps. However, it is true that our design will be completed soon.”

Lu Qi’s face immediately broke into a wide smile. “Indeed, after so many endless nights, success is finally within our grasp!”

However, at that time, Tong Yan’s patience had also reached its very limit.

## Chapter 598: Launch an Attack at Xinghe

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

She thought her various workplace bullying would force Xinghe away, but the shameless woman barely batted an eye at her machinations. In fact, Xinghe wouldn't even acknowledge her petty actions.

This, combined with Lin Qian's daily agitation and a few phone calls with Lin Xuan where he hinted at his deep displeasure at Xinghe, caused Tong Yan's hatred towards her to reach an all-time high. She couldn't stand the woman anymore!

She needed to take care of Xinghe fast so that she could ask for a reward from her Brother Lin Xuan.

Coincidentally, the president fell sick that day and was finally saved after a difficult operation. Tong Yan made use of the opportunity to launch an offense at Xinghe.

In front of everyone, Tong Yan pointed at Xinghe and shouted rudely, "Auntie, I really cannot stand it anymore, you have to evict that woman now! What is she doing here when she contributes nothing? She just stood by and watched when uncle's illness suddenly acted up just now. Why should we keep her around? A woman like her knows nothing other than to lie her way in here, hoping to get some benefits from us. Auntie, we mustn't let ourselves be tricked; she is a professional con artist; she needs to be dragged out of the president's house and straight into the electric chair! She deserves a fate worse than death!"

Her sudden offense shocked everyone present. Only Lin Qian seemed to surreptitiously revel in her tragedy.

However, Xinghe maintained her composure; her face was as calm as ever.

Lu Qi though was angered. "Miss Tong, Xinghe is my personal assistant; I have absolute confidence in her capability, so would you please not slander her anymore?"

After Lu Qi came to Xinghe's rescue, Tong Yan flared up even more. It was not that she liked Lu Qi, but since she was born, she was well aware that every man would be on her side since they would do everything to win her heart.

The appearance of an exception irked her to no end.

“Brother Lu, it looks like you have also been swindled by this crone. You say she's capable, yet I've yet to see evidence of that. If she's truly capable, tell her to prove it to us; where is her capability? She's been here for so long, but what has she done other than eat and sleep?” The more Tong Yan argued, the better she felt; she ‘knew’ that she was right. That was because she was, technically, right. At least in the eyes of most people there, Xinghe had done nothing worthwhile.

Even though Tong Yan's words were a bit indecorous, she did voice the thoughts in the minds of everyone there. Even Madam President was slowly being swayed by her words.

She believed Lu Qi and thus, by extension, believed Xinghe. However, she was alarmed by their lack of progress for so long.

“Miss Xia, I hope you'll forgive Little Yan's words due to her young age. However, I am indeed curious about what the two of you are up to. Could you please reveal some information to us?” Madam President asked gracefully, like a kind elder.

Tong Yan groused, “Auntie, what can she reveal other than her being a con artist? Why are we so polite towards her? She is a criminal that has deceived the president of the country; she should be given the death penalty!”

“Looks like Miss Tong does have some negative opinions of me,” Xinghe suddenly opened her mouth to say.

This lit Tong Yan up like fireworks on the 4th of July.

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## Chapter 599: Give Them a Show

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

“Why? Do you have a problem with my accusation? The fact is you are a useless woman; am I wrong? Well, I ask everyone here then, is she not a useless woman?”

Of course, no one dared to go against Tong Yan. Lin Qian was the first one to voice her opinion. She said clearly, “Xia Xinghe, you are a useless woman. You do not know anything about medicine; that is a fact, so I cannot help but wonder how your presence here is going to help the president in any way.”

“That’s right. Miss Xia, you’ve been here for so long, but you have not done anything. We can’t help but side with Miss Lin.”

“It’s not that we purposely want to make this difficult for you, but you really don’t help yourself. If you really do deserve to be here, then show us, make us see that we’re wrong.”

“Fine,” Xinghe suddenly promised. This shocked the crowd. She added, “If all of you want a show, then I shall give you a show.”

Tong Yan was stunned and asked, “Do you really intend to show us your capability?”

“That’s right, isn’t that what Miss Tong wants?” Xinghe returned her a question.

Tong Yan laughed out loud. “Are you serious? Don’t make me laugh. I’ll concede that you have a business brain, but in terms of medicine, you’re less than an amateur. If you really can make something out of this, I will call you Big Sister!”

“That won’t be necessary, I’m not interested in taking any stepsister.” Xinghe rejected her directly; she was not going to treat her differently just because her name was Tong Yan. The girl was red with anger.

“Xia Xinghe, how dare you treat me like this? If this is all just a ruse, just watch how I’ll teach you a lesson.”



“Xia Xinghe, you’ve truly crossed a line there!” Lin Qian came to Tong Yan’s aid. “But we will not lower ourselves to deal with someone like you. Now you just need to show us what you’re capable of and if you fail, then you have get out of the president’s house.”

Xinghe nodded and told the Madam President, “Madam, please follow me then.”

Madam President nodded wordlessly because she too wanted to know if Xinghe was capable of curing the president.

Xinghe led the way and Lu Qi trailed behind her. He smiled to himself, in a while this bunch of sheep would find out what the meaning of true capability was!

They said Xinghe was useless? She alone could probably rival the combined talent of everyone there. Lu Qi couldn’t wait for the face-slapping to begin. The face-slapping was going to be extra delicious because these people still didn’t believe Xinghe; they were waiting for her to make a fool of herself.

Little did they know, they were the royal fools.

...

Xinghe soon led them to Lu Qi’s lab. Lu Qi’s lab was huge, but the biggest equipment in there was a supercomputer. This was the only thing Lu Qi demanded when he accepted the job. Other than that, his lab had practically nothing.

The moment Tong Yan entered, she said snidely, “That Xia something, why did you bring us here? There’s nothing but empty space here.”

Xinghe didn’t explain but started working on the computer. Soon, the screen on the wall before them lit up, however there was no image on it.

Xinghe took a remote and stood up. She pointed at the screen and clicked a button. Immediately, the picture of a heart appeared. However, the heart looked different from a normal human heart.

Xinghe’s clear voice rang out at the same time.

“What you’re seeing before you is not a live heart but a mechanical heart!”

## Chapter 600: Impossible Design

Translator: Lonelytree Editor: Millman97

What? Everyone was taken aback when the words ‘mechanical heart’ were announced. What in the world is this thing?

Xinghe explained slowly, “The mechanical heart is Doctor Lu Qi’s brilliant design; it’s main purpose is to take over the human heart’s function. And this is a computer-generated prototype I’ve made using Doctor Lu’s ideas and design.”

Xinghe pressed the remote again and the screen changed. It was a mechanical heart where one could look into its internal structure. The heart was installed into the human body and was beating like a real heart. Every time it did so, the heart would pump blood throughout the human body. The screen showed in detail how the mechanical heart really functioned.

Everyone’s jaws were on the floor when they saw this medical engineering marvel, especially the doctors!

This was because they understood the hard work that went into this thing. Outsiders might not understand it, but they knew how hard it was to come up with something like this.

It was not that the design was brand new but the technical difficulties the design entailed were not something that could be solved overnight. Most of the difficulties wouldn’t be solved even if a hundred years had passed. Furthermore, the mechanical heart was huge compared to human organs, so it had a high requirement on the materials as well. In conclusion, this was an impossible design!

“And this design here, Doctor Lu and I have already completed.” Xinghe’s sudden voice reverberated across the room and into everyone’s ears.

A doctor gasped in shock. “That’s impossible!”

Other doctors chimed in.

“This is impossible; how can you two possibly accomplish the impossible?”

“That’s right, no one is able to complete such a complicated design!”

“Xia Xinghe, stop trying to trick us with this computer model,” Lin Qian yelled angrily. However, for some reason, anxiety sprung up in her heart. She felt that the other woman wasn’t lying...

Regardless, she had to convince others and herself that Xinghe was lying to their faces.

The Madam President though was excited. How good this will be if it’s true!

Xinghe expected as much and she said softly, “You can decide for yourself whether this is true or not after you hear Doctor Lu’s explanation. I believe the mechanical heart’s theory and application; Doctor Lu will slowly explain it to all of you.”

She then turned to share a glance with Lu Qi. Lu Qi accepted the remote and started his detailed explanation.

Xinghe’s computer-generated prototype was perfect; it was well-designed down to the smallest detail.

The prototype could be broken down into smaller pieces or sections when Lu Qi went to explain the theoretical application for a particular part. This facilitated the room’s understanding of the project. Lu Qi continued his explanation section by section...

The room was so quiet one could hear a pin drop. Everyone stared straight at the screen, their ears wide open. The doctors especially didn’t dare move their focus away from the presentation, afraid that they would miss something. The design was simply too ground-breaking!

Lu Qi’s theoretical backing was precise and intricate, a medical miracle. Like a new-born, they listened to him attentively, soaking up all his knowledge...