

## PAW 1341

Chapter 1341: A shocking jump!

A while later.

The fire department arrived.

The firemen started putting out the fire and rescuing people. It was chaotic again.

Is there anyone else inside?

Hurry and tally the numbers. Who else is inside?

Ah Sister Liu! Sister Liu is still inside!

Didn't Sister Liu send her child to school?

She came back earlier, and I did not see her coming out.

Sister Liu stays on the sixth floor. We did not hear her shouts. Could it be she

The firemen who had just put out the fire started preparing the long ladder. They took a long time to prepare the ladder.

Dong Xuebing could not wait. Although he knew no one died today from the newspapers, he could not stand around and watch. He jumped and landed on a first-floor windowsill and jumped again. He reached the second floor. He caught the windowsill and quickly reached the third floor. He had lost count of the people he saved now. His clothes were torn and full of cuts. He was also covered in dust and victims blood.

Ah!

Mayor Dong went up!

Oh my god. That's too high! It's the sixth floor!

Hurry and look for cushions and mattresses in case he falls!

Dong Xuebing's movements were fast. He was more professional than those rescuers. Before those people could get over their shock and get the cushions and mattresses, he kicked open a sixth-floor window and jumped inside.

Everybody was dumbfounded when they saw Dong Xuebing's agility.

F\*\*k!

Are you Spiderman?

The people outside were worried as they looked at Dong Xuebing climbing up the building again.

Jiang Fangfang and her men returned after evacuating the next building's residents. Party Secretary Meng and Political and Legal Affairs Committee Secretary Chu Peng also arrived.

How is it?

There's still one person inside.

Only one? Great.

No one has died until now.

The building might collapse entirely soon, and only one person is inside.

If they can rescue this person, there will be zero casualties in this incident.

Secretary Meng and Mayor Jiang were not at the building earlier and did not understand the situation. Mayor Dong? Where is Mayor Dong?

A Party Committee staff pointed at the building. Mayor Dong went in to save that person on the sixth floor. He had climbed through the windows.

What?

Sixth floor?

He climbed up?

Jiang Fangfang turned and looked at a fireman. Mayor Dong has not recovered from his injuries. How can you all let him go in?

The fireman replied. We tried to stop him, but he refused to listen. He rescued almost half of the people from the building. We could not do anything. Dong Xuebing was too fast, and the firemen had to admit he was more efficient. The difference was too broad. When they were thinking of a way to rescue the victim and prepare the equipment, Dong Xuebing completed the rescue.

All the family members and Public Security Bureau staff who rushed over from work stood outside the family quarters. Meng Rui, Jiang Fangfang, and other leaders stood outside the cordon. Although they were far away, everybody was staring at that sixth-floor window. It was the apartment of the last victim.

One second

Ten seconds

Half a minute

Its been a while, and there are no movements.

Everyone was anxious. What happened inside? Where is the victim? Why hasnt Mayor Dong come out?

Jiang Fangfang asked. Why is the ladder not ready yet?

The firemen were trying to fix the ladder. Theres a malfunction. We are trying our best.

Malfunction? A malfunction at this time? Chu Peng was furious. Hurry and get the ladder up! The building is going to collapse soon! The stairwell had collapsed. How are they going to get down?

The Countys fire department lacked funds for equipment and maintenance. All of their equipment was old and seldom used. Its normal for them to malfunction. The firemen started to panic when the County leaders scolded them.

Eh! Look!

Thats Sister Liu! Its Sister Liu!

Mayor Dong came out too!

Dong Xuebing was carrying a middle-aged woman at the windows. The woman was in pain, and her leg was covered in blood.

Jiang Fangfang asked. Where is the ladder?

A fireman wiped his sweat. Its not ready. We cannot open the ladder.

Chu Peng shouted. What are you all doing? Hurry and repair it before it is too late?

No one knows when the building will collapse completely. They cannot wait.

Mayor Dong can climb up the building quickly, but it is harder to climb down. He could not climb down the building now. That is the sixth floor. He would fall to his death if he slipped. Moreover, he was carrying an injured woman. He was trapped upstairs.

The air became tense.

Dong Xuebing looked at the fire engine and knew the ladder might be faulty. It could not be extended. He did not mind and said to the woman in his arms. Sis, hold on to my neck tightly. Dont let go.

The middle-aged woman gasped. What are you going to do, Mayor Dong?

We are going down. Before the woman could react, Dong Xuebing jumped out of the windows.

Ah!

Mayor Dong!

Are you crazy?

The onlookers gasped. Mayor Dong was committing suicide.

Twenty meters

Nineteen meters

Eighteen meters

Dong Xuebing carried the woman and fell quickly. When they reached the fifth floor, he stepped on the windowsill. His falling speed slowed down slightly. That sudden drop in speed caused him to lose his balance. The woman and him were falling diagonally. Air has resistance, and they cannot fall in a straight line. When they reached the fourth floor, Dong Xuebing was almost horizontal. But he was not worried. He reached out one hand and grabbed a railing. Crack! The railing broke off, and his falling speed dropped again. He also adjusted his body position. He was falling feet down again.

Thirteen meters

Twelve meters

They reached the third floor in a flash.

The woman realized Mayor Dong had jumped off the building with her and let out a shriek. Ahh!

Dong Xuebing still had time to make a helpless expression.

The people on the ground held their breaths and watched them fall.

Dong Xuebing broke the railings, but he did not throw it away. He carried the woman with one arm and pushed the railing down. The broken railing part flew into a third-floor window, and the other end was stuck. He held the broken railing tightly, and their falling speed slowed further.

Ten meters

Nine meters

They reached the second floor.

Dong Xuebing had let go of the broken railing. He noticed his body was slanting and patted the wall behind him three times.

Thud thud thud

The friction caused his body to be upright again.

Dong Xuebing immediately stepped on the second-floor windowsill hard. His foot did not land on the windowsill properly. Although he slowed a little, their bodies flipped. He quickly kicked against the wall and repositioned their bodies.

Thud!

They landed on the ground.

Dong Xuebing almost somersaulted in midair and landed steadily on the ground. His knees bent to cushion their fall, and he stood straight again. He put down the screaming woman and said calmly. Stop shouting, Sis. You are safe now.

They were safe.

Everybody was stunned.

WTF? How agile are you?

Meng Rui, Chu Peng, and the rest were also stunned. Mayor Dong was carrying a person! He was fine after jumping off from the sixth floor!

Everyone was silent for a while.

Clap clap clap someone started clapping.

Everyone followed and started clapping.

The final person was rescued. Everybody was relieved.

But a lot of people looked at Dong Xuebing weirdly. He had not fully recovered from his injuries, and he was fine after jumping off from the sixth floor with a woman in his arms. How did he get all those fractures from falling off the City Finance Department building? That was only the third floor. You got injured purposely.

You purposely get injured to blow up that incident!

Unscrupulous!

You are too evil!

The medical team quickly rushed over.

The middle-aged woman sat on the floor and thanked Dong Xuebing profusely. But her leg was bleeding nonstop.

Let me see. Dong Xuebing kneeled.

I was hit on my leg and injured my blood vessel. The woman said.

Its all right. Dont move and bear with it. Dong Xuebing pressed hard on a few acupuncture points on her leg.

The medical team reached them and said. Leave the victim to use, Mayor Dong. We got to stop the bleeding first.

Dong Xuebing stood up and said. No need. Just send her to the hospital. The bleeding stopped, and she is fine now.

The bleeding stopped! A nurse looked at the wound on the womans thigh. It stopped bleeding. It seemed the acupuncture points Dong Xuebing pressed earlier stopped it.

You know Chinese medicine? The nurse was shocked.

Dong Xuebing calmly replied. I know a little.

Climbing up from outside of a building.

Getting over obstacles.

Putting out the fire

And stop bleeding with Chinese acupuncture points.

The fire department and medical team do not even need to be here.

Mayor Dong alone is enough!

Chapter 1342: whole body entire of scars!

Before noon.

After 11 am.

The fire department left. The ambulances sent the injured to the hospital.

Dong Xuebing brushed the dust off his blood-stained shirt and walked out of the compound where everyone had gathered. Almost a hundred people, including leaders, staff, and family, gathered there.

Jiang Fangfang looked at Dong Xuebing. Thanks for the hard work, Mayor Dong.

Dong Xuebing smiled. Its great we have no casualties.

Jiang Fangfang looked at his shirt. How are you? Are you injured?

Dong Xuebing looked at his clothes. These are other peoples blood. I am fine.

Many rescued family members and a few Public Security Bureau staff walked over to thank Dong Xuebing. Someone even took off his shirt and gave it to him. Dong Xuebing did not reject. He took off his torn and tattered blood-stained shirt and wore that mans shirt. His scars were exposed when he took off his shirt. His upper body was covered in scars. Some were old scars, and some were

newer ones. He had used REVERSE to recover but will not REVERSE for a long time. That's why most of his scars remained. Everyone was shocked by his body.

A child got a fright and burst out crying.

Even the adults were shocked by his scars.

Meng Rui, Chu Peng, and other leaders were stunned. Chu Peng asked, Mayor Dong, you how did you get so many scars?

Dong Xuebing smiled. I was in the Public Security Bureau before.

Chu Peng felt ashamed. He was the County's Public Security Bureau Chief and worked in the Public Security Bureau for a few years. But he did not have a single scar.

Everyone knew Dong Xuebing had been seriously injured several times.

He must have gotten those scars at work or saved others.

Many leaders, including the Meng Faction leaders, respected him.

Many thought Dong Xuebing had come to their County to gain experience and would leave after getting some credits. They met many leaders like this. But after working with him for a while, they were surprised. This guy is not those scholars or those weak young masters who came here to gain exposure and experience. Putting his combat abilities and working ability aside. Just his whole body full of scars proved he had risked his life to climb up the ranks. Those wounds he had were scary. Any deeper would be life-threatening. Others might have died several times if they were injured so severely. He survived those injuries and had no fear. The building was collapsing, and he rushed in to save people.

Mayor Dong is a leader.

He is also a Party Committee member.

How many leaders can do what he did?

Meng Rui walked over and patted Dong Xuebing's shoulder. Well done.

Although Secretary Meng was unwilling, he had to show concern and praise Dong Xuebing.

Meng Rui left with his men to the hospital to check on the injured. The family quarters were cordoned off. The building did not collapse, but no one knows when it might happen. Even if the building did not collapse, it would be torn down.

Only Jiang Fangfang, Dong Xuebing, and the rest remained.

After recovering from their shock, the family members started complaining.

It is too scary!

How are we going to go home?

That's right. This is a ticking time bomb!

Whoever wants to continue staying here can go ahead. I am not going to stay here anymore.

Yes. The building collapsed with a small impact. Who knows if our buildings are next?

Everybody was emotional. This incident was too scary and dangerous.

Dong Xuebing heard them and said. Dont be anxious or worried. We will arrange the lodging for the families affected. Mayor Jiang had proposed using 30 million RMB to repair or rebuild the family quarters in this mornings Party Committee meeting. This is for everybodys safety. But this incident happened immediately after we proposed. We were too late.

Really?

The County Party Committee is going to repair our family quarters?

Is the county going to build new family quarters for us?

They had waited for many years.

Dong Xuebing was helping the Jiang Faction gain popularity.

The other Party Committee members were suspicious. Dong Xuebings proposal timing was too accurate. It was as if he planted a time bomb at the Public Security Bureau family quarters and blew it up when the Meng Faction refuted him. Of course, they knew this was impossible. It should be a coincidence. This incident broke the Meng Factions overall control in Zhen Shui County.

But if its a coincidence

How can it be a coincidence?

Only Dong Xuebing knew. He knew about this incident from that future newspaper.

It was todays evening papers. The headlines were about this incident, and they stated the exact timing. Dong Xuebing remembered the report clearly. Although the building had collapsed partially and dozens of people were injured, no one died from the incident. Thats why he waited in the meeting. He would skip the meeting and rush to save that person if anyone was going to be killed in this incident. He would rather forgo this credit than see anyone get killed. He might be ruthless towards his enemies, but he has a conscience.

Why did Dong Xuebing propose to repair the quarters? Because of that, future newspapers reported the Party Committee's decision when the incident happened. Secretary Meng proposed to check and repair the government departments family quarters gas pipes and electrical wirings. Although it was not repairing the quarters, it addressed the family quarters safety issue. Secretary Meng also proposed to repair the roads in the meeting, and his proposals were better than Mayor Jiang's. Dong Xuebing felt the Jiang Faction would be lagging and might be a critical mistake. Secretary Meng might use their proposal and suppress the Jiang Faction further.

Thats why Dong Xuebing proposed it early in the meeting.

Dong Xuebings proposal disrupted Secretary Mengs plans, and he did not mention repairing the family quarters' gas pipes and electrical wirings. The Meng Faction also opposed Dong Xuebings proposal firmly.

Dong Xuebing knew the Meng Faction lost.

It was a terrible loss.

Chapter 1343: First political achievement!

Afternoon.

After 3 pm.

Dong Xuebing could finally take a break after working from morning until now. Jiang Fangfang and the other County Government leaders insisted he return to his apartment to rest. He took a bath to wash away his blood and changed his clothes.

Ahh

Tired

Dong Xuebing lay on the couch and smoked. He does not want to move.

He took a short nap, and his phone rang around 4 pm.

Dong Xuebing woke up and answered. Hello? It was Secretary Mengs secretary, Zhang Feng.

Zhang Feng said. Mayor Dong, Secretary Meng asked me to tell you to come to the Party Committee building if you are fine.

Huh? Did something happen?

No. It is about the Party Committee meeting.

Oh, ok. I will go now.

Dong Xuebing grabbed his bag and drove to the Party Committee Building.

Party Committee Building meeting room.

Many of the Committee members were there when Dong Xuebing reached.

Discipline Inspection Secretary Pu An asked. I heard you rescued a lot of people and almost fell off the building this morning. How are you now?

Dong Xuebing smiled. I am fine.

Thats good to hear. Pu An replied.

Jian Xiangrong chatted with Dong Xuebing, too. His attitude was different from this morning.

Pu An and Jian Xiangrong were puzzled when Dong Xuebing proposed to repair and rebuild the family quarters during the morning meeting. Why did he make such a ridiculous proposal? They almost banged tables and scolded him. But the Public Security Bureau family quarters collapsed half an hour later. They realized Dong Xuebings ridiculous proposal coincided with this incident. It became a brilliant proposal.

A ridiculous idea turned into a brilliant proposal.

This incident almost killed the Meng Faction.

Pu An and Jian Xiangrong felt Dong Xuebings move was fantastic.

All dialogues in the Party Committee meeting are recorded and filed in the meeting minutes. The minutes will be submitted to the City Government and cannot be amended. The Meng Faction had opposed Dong Xuebing and Jiang Fangfangs proposal during the meeting, and they are not in control now.

No this is not about who is in control now.



The Meng Faction had lost.

The Meng Faction men looked at Dong Xuebing. They were looking terrible. Jiang Fangfang had to face the Meng Faction by herself in the past, and she had no hopes of winning. But after Dong Xuebing came, things started to improve for her. He became her vanguard, argued against all the committee members, and pulled Pu An and Jian Xiangrong to her side. They got a bigger say in the County, and today's brilliant move suppressed the Meng Faction entirely.

This Dong Xuebing

Where did this guy come from?

How could it be such a coincidence that the family quarters building collapsed?

Footsteps got nearer. Mayor Jiang arrived, and Secretary Meng arrived a while later. Secretary Zhang Feng closed the door.

The meeting room was quiet and felt tense.

Why did the building collapse?

How did it happen?

Why didn't it collapse earlier or later? Why did it collapse immediately after Dong Xuebing and Mayor Jiang proposed it?

Everybody was puzzled and kept thinking about these questions. They still could not accept it.

Meng Rui sat down. He did not clear his throat before he talked like usual. He looked at everybody and said. Let's continue with this morning's meeting. All of you know about the Public Security Bureau family quarters. The injured were sent to the hospital, and there were no serious injuries. Because the building did not collapse completely, most of the injured suffered minor injuries. Oh, I must praise Mayor Dong. Most of the injured were rescued by Mayor Dong. Everybody knows he was injured recently but still rushed into the building to rescue the residents. We must learn his spirit and courage from him. Although Meng Rui praised Dong Xuebing, his tone did not sound like it.

Meng Rui was about to continue.

Jiang Fangfang interrupted by clapping.

Pu An and Jian Xianrong also clapped. The Meng Faction's men had no choice but to clap unwillingly.

Dong Xuebing said. It's my duty

The applause stopped, and Meng Rui could continue. Everyone saw it. Our government departments' family quarters are old and lack maintenance. They are safety hazards. He paused for a second and continued emotionless. Everyone knew he was willing to say these. I agree with Mayor Jiang's proposal to repair and rebuild our family quarters. I have no objections to Mayor Dong's budget of 30 million RMB.

30 million RMB

The Meng Faction's men were feeling the pinch.

This money was supposed to be used for their road repair proposal.

But they knew Secretary Meng had no choice. He was forced to agree, and the other Committee members had no opinions.

Meng Rui saw everyone had no objections and said. We have 10 million RMB left. We will use 5 million RMB to relocate, compensate the victims, and keep the rest for emergencies. We will talk about the road repairs another time.

Jiang Fangfang said slowly. I agree.

Pu An said. This is a large project, and we need a leader. Since this is Mayor Jiangs proposal, she should be responsible for this project.

This was taking advantage of the situation.

He is not going to leave anything for the Meng Faction.

But what can Meng Rui do? He and his men objected to this proposal this morning, and he cannot be appointed in charge of this project. He said. Mayor Jiang will lead the project, and Mayor Dong will be the deputy in charge.

Dong Xuebing paused for a second and replied. I will monitor this project closely.

Meng Rui waved his hand weakly. Thats all. Meeting dismissed.

The Meng Factions men walked out listlessly. Some were angry, but they could not do anything. Mayor Ci had objected to this proposal this morning, and Secretary Meng could not let him be the deputy of this project. He can only let Dong Xuebing take up this position. The Meng Faction suffered a total defeat this time.

Deputy in charge of a 30 million RMB project?

Dong Xuebing was overjoyed. All his efforts were worth it.

This project will be recorded in his resume. This was Dong Xuebing's first political achievement in Zhen Shui County.

Chapter 1344: Promise!

The Party Committee meeting ended.

The Committee members walked out slowly.

Pu An is called Dong Xuebing. Mayor Dong, its late. You should go back and rest.

Dong Xuebing looked at his watch. Haha its still office hours.

Pu An walked with Dong Xuebing along the corridor. Its almost the end of the work day. You must be exhausted today.

Dong Xuebing smiled. I am fine. I will go back later. I still got work to do.

Pu An nodded. Ok. Take care of your health.

Yes. I am going off after I am done. Dong Xuebing parted ways with Pu An.

Pu An left, and Jian Xianrong gave Dong Xuebing a thumbs-up when he walked past him. Dong Xuebing smiled and nodded. Although they did not say anything, they knew what that thumbs-up meant. It was not because Dong Xuebing saved those residents. It was because of his proposal in the meeting. The Meng Faction had an overwhelming victory today and were in high spirits. Jian Xianrong even walked with his head held high. This was Secretary Meng's first loss to Mayor Jiang in the Party Committee meeting.

Mayor Dong.

Mayor Jiang.

Lets talk in my office.

Sure. I was looking for you, too.

Jiang Fangfang called Dong Xuebing. They did not talk much and walked straight into the Mayors office. They had many things to discuss.

The other side.

Party Secretary office.

Meng Rui sat behind his desk angrily. Deputy Secretary Zhang Wanshui and the Party Committee Office Director Jiang Hai were sighing. They were in a bad mood.

This is too much of a coincidence.

The gods are helping them.

Our road repair proposal would be approved without this incident.

This Dong Xuebing is too lucky.

Ring ring ring Secretary Mengs phone rang. It was from the City leader. He called to ask about todays incident. Meng Rui reported the situation to the leader. The leader ordered Zhen Shui County to set up an investigation team to investigate the cause of this incident. He wants to know the cause and hold the people related to the incident responsible.

The people responsible for the collapse?

Where is he going to find them?

Meng Rui wanted to push this incident to the Jiang Faction to mitigate Jiang Fangfangs victory. But the building was built decades ago. Those leaders might not be alive, and the building was worn down over time. It had nothing to do with anybody. It might be fine if it was a gas pipe explosion. But this incident started because a residents gas cylinder exploded. It was an accident. Everyone knows they could not find the person responsible for this incident. It would be the County leaders bearing full responsibility.

The Meng Faction had swallowed a bitter pill in silence.

They were set up by Mayor Jiang no! It was Dong Xuebing who set them up.

The road repair proposal would benefit many people from the Meng Faction, but Dong Xuebing messed it up.

Thirty million RMB of funds from the Central Government were all taken away by the Jiang Faction.

Meng Rui and his men could not get a single cent.

This was more than the benefits. Secretary Meng and his men felt humiliated. They always got the final say in the County, but the Jiang Faction had broken the spell.

Who can stand it?

The Meng Faction was utterly defeated.

At around the same time.

Mayor Office.

Jiang Fangfang and Dong Xuebing entered, and Secretary Li Xiaona quickly stood up to receive them. She looked at Dong Xuebing weirdly as she poured tea from them.

Inner office.

Jiang Fangfang sat behind her desk. Xiaona, carry on with your work.

Ok. Call me if you need anything. Li Xiaona left and closed the door.

Jiang Fangfang drank her tea and looked into Dong Xuebing's eyes without saying anything.

Dong Xuebing cleared his throat. He observed her expression and said. Mayor Jiang, I must apologize to you. I was abrupt this morning in the meeting. I did not follow your proposal on repairing roads in the villages. I could not inform you as your phone was off. I came to look for you at your office, but you left for the meeting. Secretary Li knew I came looking for you. That's why I proposed repairing and rebuilding the family quarters during the meeting without discussing it with you. It's my fault, but I got my reasons. Don't be angry with me. This is the last time I am disobeying your orders.

Don't be in a rush to prove your loyalty. Jiang Fangfang looked at him. I am not angry. I am curious. How do you know?

Dong Xuebing feigned ignorance. What do I know?

Jiang Fangfang replied. About the family quarters collapsing.

Dong Xuebing waved. I don't know about it. I am not a fortune teller and cannot predict the future.

You don't know? Then why do you have the guts to raise it during the Party Committee meeting?

Jiang Fangfang looked at him. From my understanding of you, you will never do this. You might be rash and disregard any possible consequences. But if all the things you did were listed, you would realize that those you put your mind to got outstanding results. You will not do anything you are not confident in.

Dong Xuebing quickly replied. No I was lucky. This was a last-minute decision. A friend called me and told me many family quarter buildings became unsafe because of the lack of maintenance. He also showed me some photos. It was scary. He lied. You should know I was transferred from Fen Zhou City. I experienced Fen Zhou City's earthquake last year. Many people were killed, and it was hell. I was afraid that an earthquake would happen in Zhen Shui County. Those family quarter

buildings will surely collapse, and the death toll will be very high. That's why I changed my mind and did not discuss it with you at the last minute.

Jiang Fangfang nodded. Ok.

Dong Xuebing replied in a joking manner. You said we are friends. You should not be angry because of this incident.

Jiang Fangfang smiled. I would not support you if I was angry.

Dong Xuebing remembered. I still have not thank you. Thank you for your trust.

It is not about trust. I was quite surprised when you raised that proposal. I don't know what you are up to. Jiang Fangfang replied calmly. But you must have your reasons to do that. You have supported me since you came to Zhen Shui County and greatly helped me. I must support you.

This is the trust you have in me.

If you say so.

But have you ever thought my proposal might raise problems? Then

Yes. I would be angry when that happens. Jiang Fangfang seemed to be joking. She smiled. But it seems I don't have the opportunity to be angry with you.

Mayor Jiang was always calm.

She remained emotionless even after the meeting.

But Dong Xuebing knew Jiang Fangfang was not as cool as she looked.

You performed well in this meeting and raised the proposal at the correct time. Jiang Fangfang looked at him. I saw many comebacks in Party Committee meetings. But this was the first time I saw a fightback happening because of a sudden incident. Well done.

Thanks for the compliments. It was a coincidence.

We need some luck sometimes, which is part of one's abilities. You had won the lottery before. That means you are someone favored by God.

Dong Xuebing was surprised. You believe in fate?

Jiang Fangfang looked at him. Of course not.

Dong Xuebing was stunned for a second, and they burst out laughing.

It's almost time to end work. Jiang Fangfang looked at the time. I must visit the Public Security Bureau family members and the hospital. I might not have much time. Let's discuss repairing the family quarter buildings briefly. You will be doing most of the work. Although I am the overall in charge, it is only a name. The actual person doing the monitoring of the progress is you. You can decide without reporting to me. We will discuss the general direction. Let's set when we will start work, and I will leave the rest to you.

Dong Xuebing replied. I don't have any experience in this. You

I know your capabilities. Jiang Fangfang was confident of him. You will be fine and don't need to do everything yourself. You can set the general direction and let the people below do the rest. You only need to send someone to monitor the progress and quality.

Dong Xuebing nodded. Ok.

They discussed the details.

A while later, Jiang Fangfang's phone rang. Hello? Yes yes we will repair the roads. Don't be anxious. I will do it since I promised you all. I understand the villagers' plight. I had visited the villages more than once, and I know

Jiang Fangfang puts down her phone after hanging up.

Dong Xuebing knew Mayor Jiang might have promised the villages. But the funds will be used to repair the family quarters. Although the Jiang Faction won this round, she must be worried about the road repairs in the villages. Dong Xuebing looked at her and promised. I disrupted your plans today. Don't worry. The villages' roads will be repaired. I will think of a way to get the funds.

This has nothing to do with you. Even if I proposed repairing the roads, the funds would still be used to repair the family quarters. There's nothing we can do about it.

But you promised the villagers and did not bring up this proposal at the meeting. It was my fault for you to let those village leaders down. Dong Xuebing felt guilty. Anyway, I will think of a way.

We will think of a solution.

Chapter 1345: Exceptional!

5 pm.

The government department ended the work.

Of course, only the leaders are allowed to leave at this time. Other staff members cannot end work so early. They will continue working until 5.30 pm or even 6 pm sometimes. But today, many departments work overtime due to the incident of the Public Security Bureau family quarters. Dong Xuebing had not recovered from his injuries and did not need to help out. He remained in his office to plan the family quarters repairs and rebuild.

This was not something Dong Xuebing was good at.

Construction engineering He does not know anything.

Dong Xuebing realized he was the County leader and not a specialist. Mayor Jiang was correct. He only needs to set the general direction, and the others will do the work.

Dong Xuebing called Yao Cui to his office.

Mayor Dong, are you looking for me? Yao Cui entered the office.

Dong Xuebing replied. Get the County Government Office to devise a plan and budget for the family quarter repair and rebuild project. I need it tomorrow.

Yao Cui nodded. Ok. I will inform them. Do you have any special requirements?

Dong Xuebing thought for a while. No. Keep the budget within 30 million RMB. Let me see when it is done. I might have changed.

All right. I understand. They finished talking about work, and Yao Cui laughed. Its time to get off work. Are you free to have dinner tonight?

Is it about the heels? Dong Xuebing replied. You gave me a treat, and we are old friends. Stop thinking about the pair of heels.

Yao Cui laughed. I am not giving you a treat. The Finance Departments Chief Yan and Chief Chen wanted to treat you. They want to celebrate with you.

Celebrate what?

Your promotion to the Deputy in charge of this project.

Its just a task assigned to me. This is not a promotion.

You can decide how to use the 30 million RMB and which quarters to rebuild or repair. Everybody must listen to you. You have the overall authority.

Stop teasing me.

Haha I am the messenger. They feared you might be busy today and asked me to check if you are free.

Dong Xuebing thought for a while and said. We should not eat outside as a major incident just happened. Although no one died, a few dozen residents were injured. We would invite gossip if we eat outside in a group. This was not a big deal at the grassroots level. But Dong Xuebing was influenced by his wife and was watchful of these details. Lets go to your places courtyard for dinner if convenient. But I am afraid it might trouble your parents.

Yao Cui laughed. We are friends. Its not troublesome. All right. Lets have dinner at my place. My parents would also like you to come over to have dinner.

Thats settled then.

Ok. I will call them now.

No need. I will get the groceries. I am going to show off my skills.

How can we let you cook dinner? My parents will skin me alive.

Knock knock

Someone knocked on the door.

Yao Cuis expression turned serious. I am going back to work.

Dong Xuebing nodded. Ok. Remember to inform Old Yan and Old Chen.

Yao Cui opened the door and walked out. Jiang Fangfangs secretary, Li Xiaona, was outside. Yao Cui smiled and greeted her. Sis Li.

Li Xiaona returned a smile. Is Mayor Dong busy?

No. You can enter. Yao Cui stepped aside to let Li Xiaona enter and closed the door.

Dong Xuebing smiled. Why are you here, Secretary Li? Is Mayor Jiang looking for me? You can call.

Li Xiaona replied. No. Mayor Jiang had left, and she asked me to make sure you go home. She is afraid you might continue working. Haha that's why I am here.

Dong Xuebing replied. It's still early. Everybody is still around.

Li Xiaona said. You still have not recovered, and Mayor Jiang is concerned.

I know. Dong Xuebing paused for a second and said. I am going back now. Help me thank Mayor Jiang for her concern.

Li Xiaona did not remain to watch Dong Xuebing. She left after he said he was going back.

Dong Xuebing packed up and went downstairs. He would buy some ingredients and bring them to Yao Cui's house.

The Party Committee Building compound.

Few people were in the compound, as most staff were still working.

But a few staff members and some leaders were walking out. They saw Dong Xuebing, and they had weird expressions.

Mayor Dong.

Mayor Dong.

Are you going home?

Dong Xuebing nodded to them and got into his Land Rover.

They watched the Land Rover leave the Party Committee Building compound and started talking.

Everybody focused on the Public Security Bureau family quarters building this afternoon. They were worried as their family quarters building was in the same condition. They were wondering when the County would repair or rebuild their family quarters. The Party Committee meeting continued in the afternoon, and they heard their family quarters would be repaired or rebuilt. They were excited.

But everybody was also speechless when they heard who would oversee this project.

This was a 30 million RMB project, and Mayor Jiang was overall in charge. Her deputy was Mayor Dong. This project's no. 1 and 2 were all from the Jiang Faction!

How is this possible?

Mayor Jiang will lead this project, and the next person in charge is from the Jiang Faction.

What was Secretary Meng thinking? Why did he hand over such an essential project to other people?

This was puzzling, and everybody could tell something was wrong. A few hours later, everybody slowly found out the truth.

Mayor Dong proposed rebuilding the family quarters before the building collapsed, and the Meng Faction rejected his proposal.

Almost immediately after they rejected Mayor Dong's proposal, the family quarter building collapsed.



Everybody was shocked, and many almost cursed out loud.

F\*\*k! How can there be such a coincidence? Can you tell the future?

Dong Xuebing was in the limelight again. He started working in Zhen Shui County for around one month and had shaken the County several times.

There were rumors that Mayor Dong could predict the future.

Someone said Mayor Dong brings bad luck.

There were all sorts of rumors because of this incident.

Dong Xuebing carried a woman and jumped off from the sixth floor. He managed to land safely with his exceptional skills. Everybody in Zhen Shui County Government departments knows an exceptional Deputy Mayor came.

Secretary Meng lost.

He controlled the majority of votes in the Committee but still lost.

This was a signal. Secretary Meng can no longer control Zhen Shui County from now on.

Chapter 1346: Jiang Faction's gathering

Yao Cui's house.

Courtyard.

The sky was still bright.

Dong Xuebing stopped in the alley outside and got out. He took the dinner ingredients, like vegetables, eggs, meat, etc., and stood outside Yao Cui's house.

The door was ajar.

Knock knock no one answered.

Dong Xuebing entered. Yao Cui?

Yao Cui's parents' room door was opened. They seemed to be out.

Yao Cui said from her room. Xuebing? Why are you so early?

Dong Xuebing walked over. Secretary Li came and asked me to go home after you left. I went to the market to buy some ingredients and came over.

Ah I told you not to get anything.

It's not nice to keep eating at your place for free.

It's fine. You don't need to be so calculative with me.

I'm not. Haha Did you just come home?

Yes. I just came back a few minutes before you. Wait for a minute. I need to tidy up my place.

Dong Xuebing stood outside Yao Cui's room. He did not think much and entered. I wanted to give you a lift, but I saw you riding your bicycle when I came out. So, huh? He was talking as he entered her room and was shocked.

Yao Cui was also shocked. She was in her heels and trying to buckle her bra behind her back. Her light green bra was exposed, and she wore a flowery skirt. She was not wearing a top!

Ah! Dong Xuebing was shocked.

Yao Cui blushed and quickly covered her chest. Her bra strap slides down when she lets go of it. Part of the right breast was exposed. She quickly shouted. You Go out first!

Dong Xuebing quickly left the room and closed the door. His heart was racing as he saw everything. Didnt you say you are tidying your room?

Yao Cui stomped her feet. Why do you believe everything I say?

Dong Xuebing sighed. I would not go in if you tell me you are changing.

Yao Cui grumbled. I was embarrassed to tell you. Why didnt you knock before you come in?

Dong Xuebing replied. I thought you were moving your furniture to tidy and I could give you a hand Ok. Its my fault.

The door opened.

Yao Cui was dressed and walked out.

Dong Xuebing looked at her clothes and the jade-green heels. Beautiful.

Huh? Dong Xuebing lied. No I did not see anything.

Yao Cui gave him a stare. Do you think I believe you? You must have seen everything.

Dong Xuebing cleared his throat. Its my fault. I will punish myself by cooking a sumptuous dinner for my beautiful classmate.

Yao Cui laughed. You are good with words. Lets prepare dinner together.

Dong Xuebing looked towards the other room. Where are your parents and brother?

Yao Cui replied. They went to visit relatives and will not be back today. It will be the few of us.

Stop lying. Dong Xuebing smacked his lips. You must have asked your parents to leave, right? Why did you do that?

Yao Cui smiled. Chief Yan and Chief Chen are coming, and my parents felt uncomfortable around them. They did mention they want to visit our relatives these few days. So I asked them to go.

I will not dare to come if you do this. I wanted to visit your parents, and you asked them to leave.

All right I will not do this again.

I bought something for your parents from Beijing. Dont forget about it. It is in my car. Remind me to get it before I leave.

Ok. I remember.

Lets start preparing dinner.

Ok. Chief Yan and Chief Chen should be arriving soon.

Dong Xuebing carried the groceries into the kitchen and saw the kitchen counter. Yao Cui had bought ingredients, too.

Yao Cui rubbed her temples. I told you not to get anything.

Dong Xuebing laughed. You can keep some in the fridge.

My fridge is not big enough. Yao Cui grumbled. It is a waste if it cannot fit into the fridge. These ingredients are not cheap, and we cannot finish everything.

Dong Xuebing remembered Yao Cui was alone at home and said. I will call Secretary Pu and Minister Jian to ask if they are free.

Yao Cui nodded. Ok.

Dong Xuebing walked out to the courtyard to call them. Jian Xiangrong was free and agreed immediately. Secretary Pu was still at work and said he would try to come. Dong Xuebing thought about it. He had invited the prominent members of the Jiang Faction, and he should ask Jiang Fangfang, too. Although she might be busy today, he still called her.

Mayor Jiang, its me.

What is it?

Are you outside? I am at Xiao Yaos place, and we bought many ingredients for dinner. Minister Jian and Chief Yan are coming. Secretary Pu will be coming later. Dong Xuebing smiled. Its just a few of us. Do I have the honor of inviting you over for dinner? He was in a good mood.

I shall see about it.

We will wait for you.

Dont wait for me. I dont know if I have the time. Lets talk about this later.

Jiang Fangfang could not confirm if she were joining. She should be very late even if she comes. Dong Xuebing was not in a rush to prepare dinner. He entered the kitchen and told Yao Cui they started preparing the ingredients.

About ten minutes later.

Finance Department Chief Yan Yizhi and Chen Xiaomei arrived.

Secretary Yao.

Mayor Dong.

They did not see anyone when they entered.

Dong Xuebing walked out of the kitchen, holding a bunch of wet vegetables. He smiled. Old Ya, Sis Chen. Come in.

Yan Yizhi was surprised. You are

Dong Xuebing laughed. I am washing the vegetables. Wait a while. Mayor Jiang, Minister Jian, and Secretary Pu should be coming. Xiao Yao and I are preparing the ingredients now.

Chen Xiaomei quickly walked over. No no how can we let you prepare dinner?

Thats right. Leave it to us. Yan Yizhi snatched the vegetables from Dong Xuebing.

Chen Xiaomei wore that pair of white-colored jeans Dong Xuebing gave her. It was fitting and showed her curves. It made Dong Xuebing look at her legs. Its fine. I will let you all try my food today.

Inside the kitchen.

Dong Xuebing continued to wash the vegetables.

Yao Cui was picking the rotten leaves of the vegetables, and Chen Xiaomei was cutting.

Yan Yizhi does not know how to cook. But Mayor Dong was preparing dinner in the kitchen. He cannot go outside or stand around and watch. He looked around and saw a few spring onions. He walked over and slowly pulled away the spring onions' bad parts.

A while later.

Jian Xiangrong and Pu An arrived.

Minister Jian, Secretary Pu. You all are early.

Yes. I handed my work to my men and came.

Mayor Dong. Haha Why are you preparing dinner?

Mayor Jiang might be coming later. I want to show off my cooking.

Old Pu and I cannot cook. But is there anything we can help?

No need. We dont need so many people in the kitchen. Just have some tea and wait.

The ingredients were prepared. They only need to throw them into the wok and cook. Mayor Jiang still has not confirmed if she is coming, and they cannot start cooking now.

Suddenly, someone entered the courtyard.

It was Deputy Mayor Lu Zhi. Secretary Pu, Mayor Dong, Minister Jian, and Old Yan are here.

Dong Xuebing did not invite Lu Zhi or know why he came. But he still invited him into the house. Come in, Mayor Lu. Lets have dinner together.

Lu Zhi replied. Mayor Jiang invited me.

Mayor Jiang invited him? Dong Xuebing immediately understood. The quiet Deputy Mayor Lu wants to join the Jiang Faction, or Mayor Jiang would not invite him. Pu An and Jian Xiangrong understood, too. They chatted with Lu Zhi and drank tea. Although the Jiang Faction had few members, it was also the reason they were united.

Around 7.30 pm.

Jiang Fangfang arrived with Secretary Li Xiaona.

Everybody stood up when she entered the courtyard.

You all are here. Jiang Fangfang smiled. I just finished my work. Didnt I say not to wait for me? Why didnt you all start first?

Pu An smiled and replied. We are not hungry.

Jian Xiangrong added. Yes. We had late lunch.

Dong Xuebing interrupted. We can be hungry now after you come.

Li Xiaona burst out laughing. Jiang Fangfang pointed at Dong Xuebing, and everyone laughed.

Its time for me to show off my cooking. Wait here. I am going to cook. Dong Xuebing turned and entered the kitchen.

Chen Xiaomei said. Let me help.

Yao Cui and Yan Yizhi followed. Li Xiaona also wanted to join.

Secretary Pu and Mayor Dong have the highest authority other than Mayor Jiang. They cannot let him prepare dinner alone.

Dong Xuebing rejected their offer. He smiled and stood at the kitchen entrance. Dont snatch with me. I came to Zhen Shui County for so long and encountered many issues. I had no time to treat you all. I am borrowing my classmates house to give you treat you all today. I am going to cook all the dishes. Of course, I cannot guarantee the food will be tasty.

Pu An laughed. It will be delicious.

Jiang Fangfang smiled. Then we will have a good dinner.

You all are giving me lots of pressure. I am going to cook. Haha Dong Xuebing turned and entered the kitchen to cook.

Chapter 1347: Mayor Dong's cooking

Evening.

Yao Cuis house courtyard.

The kitchen was smoky.

Dong Xuebing held the ladle and cooked. He decided to cook because he had not treated his colleagues to dinner since he came. Having a meal with colleagues would improve their relationship. It was inconvenient to go to a restaurant, and he would cook for them. Cooking himself would be more effective than going to a restaurant. He was confident his food would be excellent because of Jiang Fangfangs pointers yesterday. The fire must be intense. He discovered why his food was not as delicious as his mothers. It was the fire.

Dong Xuebing was treated and wanted to try cooking.

Dong Xuebing put his heart into every dish and took care of controlling the fire.

But Yao Cuis house was not using piped natural gas. They were using gas cylinders, and the fire was not very intense. Dong Xuebing could only make do with it.

Five minutes.

Ten minutes.

Twenty minutes.

Dong Xuebing worked hard.

Yao Cui, Li Xiaona, and Chen Xiaomei came in to bring out the dishes. Over ten dishes were brought out of the kitchen.

How many dishes is it now? Dong Xuebing asked.

Chen Xiaomei replied. I think it is over ten dishes.

Dong Xuebing blinked. How many exactly?

Li Xiaona remembered. Eleven dishes, including the appetizers.

Dong Xuebing looked around and could not find any more ingredients. He took a few eggs. I will make one more dish.

Its enough, Mayor Dong. We got more than enough food. We might not finish them. Chen Xiaomei was afraid he would get tired.

Lets make twelve dishes. Even number is better. Dong Xuebing was raised in Beijing and was more particular with these customs. It might be fine if it was a few people. His family had never served an odd number of dishes at dinner with many people or during festivals. Even eggs must be even numbers. It would be considered rude if an odd number of dishes were served. This was not superstitious. He wants to treat everybody and must do a good job.

The eggs were fried.

All the dishes were cooked.

Dong Xuebing wiped his hands and walked towards the northern room. He entered and saw everybody sitting at the table. But they had not started eating.

Pu An waved. Sit, Mayor Dong.

Lu Zhi added. You should take a break.

Dong Xuebing laughed. Why havent you all started eating?

We are waiting for you. Jiang Fangfang waved. Take your seat. We can start eating.

Dong Xuebing sat down. You all should start first. The food tastes best when its hot. They should wait for him if it were Yan Yizhi, Lu Zhi, and the rest. But Mayor Jiang and two Party Committee members were there. He did not expect them to wait for him. Lets eat, lets eat while its hot. My cooking is not very good, and it will taste weird if it gets cold.

Jiang Fangfang started first. Haha let me taste it. She took a small bite and nodded. Not bad.

Pu An, Jian Xiangrong, and the rest started eating.

Delicious.

I didnt know you can cook so well.

Although it is different from the local way of cooking, it is delicious.

Dong Xuebing was on cloud nine, but he knew they would still say the food was delicious even when it was not. After all, he spent so much time in the kitchen. He ate some.

Eh?

Its delicious.

Dong Xuebing was surprised by his cooking. Although two dishes were not as good, and one was a bit salty, the rest were delicious.

Everybody started eating.

Yao Cui suddenly said. Oh, I got alcohol at home.

Jian Xiangrong loves to drink. Is it Erguotou?

Yes. Baijiu. This was a gift from her neighbors when she was promoted to Dong Xuebing's secretary. Her family seldom drank, and no one touched them.

Jian Xiangrong said. Then let's drink.

Pu An laughed. Sure. Give me one glass.

Old Lu, you must drink too. Jian Xiangrong said.

Lu Zhi replied. I am not good at drinking. But I will drink some.

Dong Xuebing cleared his throat. Err I am driving. I will not drink with you all.

Jiang Fangfang replied. Xiao Li will not drink. She can send us back later. Give me half a glass.

Yao Cui took out three bottles of Baijiu. Li Xiaona and Chen Xiaomei helped to pour.

Jiang Fangfang said. Xiao Li, Xiao Yao, Old Chen, you don't need to pour for us. We will pour ourselves. Sit. We will not talk about work and put aside our positions. Just treat this as a friends' gathering.

Dong Xuebing opened a bottle and poured it for himself. Yes. We will pour the amount we want to drink. I can only drink one glass. Don't laugh at me.

Lu Zhi laughed. I can only drink half a glass.

Pu An added. Just drink enough will do. We don't need to drink a lot.

Jian Xiangrong poured a full glass for himself. He can drink a lot and loves to drink. This is good alcohol.

Dong Xuebing said. Minister Jian. I will bring some pure Erguotou back from Beijing if you like to drink. It's strong, and we call them Jing Liu Er in Beijing.

Jiang Xiangrong's eyes sparkled. Sure. Thank you. Pure Erguotou is rare.

Dong Xuebing said. It should not be a problem. When I return to Beijing, I will ask my friends to help me get it.

The alcohol was poured.

Chen Xiaomei poured a glass for herself. Only Li Xiaona and Yao Cui did not drink.

Dong Xuebing looked at Jiang Fangfang. Mayor Jiang, say something.

Jiang Fangfang smiled. This is a friends gathering. I will not say anything. She stood up and raised her glass. Let's have a toast. You all don't need to bottom up. Just drink whichever amount you can.

Clink!

Everybody knocked on their glasses.

Everybody could tell Jiang Fangfang did not like such get-togethers with her character. This was the first Jiang Factions leaders gathering. Although they knew each other and had meals together before, they had never sat together and drank. Everybody knew this was Dong Xuebing's credit. It was not because he organized this gathering. He helped the Jiang Faction win at the Party Committee meeting today.

This was a day worth remembering.

The Jiang Faction had an overwhelming victory, and it's worth celebrating.

Chapter 1348: There are benefits everywhere

Night.

After 8 pm.

Yao Cui's courtyard became lively after drinks and food. Although they said not to overdrink, they started to make each other drink.

Let me offer you a toast, Mayor Jiang.

Mayor Dong, have another glass.

I cannot drink anymore. I drank a lot.

It's still early. Pour a full glass. Cheers!

I really cannot drink anymore. I will drink half a glass. That's my limit.

Jiang Fangfang held the highest rank at the table, and no one dared to make her drink. She took small sips and didn't bottom out. But Dong Xuebing was not so lucky. He was the host today and helped the Jiang Faction win today. Pu An and Jiang Xiangrong did not let him off because he was the star of this gathering. They kept making him drink. He drank a few glasses and felt giddy, but he was not drunk.

Pu An changed the way he addresses Dong Xuebing. Xuebing, I heard you climbed up to the sixth building and jumped down while carrying a woman today.

Lu Zhi could not hold his liquor. He stopped drinking much earlier. He looked at Dong Xuebing curiously. Yes. I heard about it, too.

They were not at the scene and did not see what happened.

Dong Xuebing waved his hand. I did not jump. I used some techniques to break my fall.

Jian Xiangrong laughed. It's a pity we did not see your heroic posture.

Dong Xuebing laughed. It's pathetic. It was too risky. I would not do it if it weren't for the fire engine's ladder broke down.

Yan Yizhi interrupted. You must have the skills; not many will dare to do that. I would be scared to death before I jump.

Chen Xiaomei said. That's right. That is the sixth floor.

Pu An asked curiously. Xuebing, where did you learn these skills?



Dong Xuebing explained. I worked in the Public Security Bureau for a year and was trained there. My body is also slightly better than many people.

Jiang Fangfang said slowly. Your body is much better than others.

Everybody nodded. You injured yourself when you fell from the third floor, and you recovered in a month. No one can compare to you.

Dong Xuebing replied. No

Jian Xiangrong said. I went to the Public Security Bureau this afternoon and heard you rescued almost twenty people today. Everybody was grateful to you.

Dong Xuebing sighed. It will not make a difference as the fire department can rescue them. Its been so long, and the building did not collapse fully.

Pu An replied. Its different. The situation was terrible, and no one knows when the building will collapse. Some units were on fire, and bricks and tiles were falling. What if another explosion happens? It will surely collapse, and no one will survive. You dare to rush in and rescue those people. Everybody saw it. The Public Security Bureau and their family members are grateful to you.

Dong Xuebing said some modest words.

Pu An and Jian Xiangrong started drinking with Dong Xuebing again. Dong Xuebing was getting drunk. He could only drink around 150 ml if he did not use REVERSE. He was not used to hearing others talking about him. He likes to stay away from the limelight. It was not because he wanted to stay low. It was because he was afraid the Chinese Academy of Sciences might cut him up for experiments.

Dong Xuebing wobbled and put down his glass. I finished my glass. I cannot drink anymore. My head is spinning, and I need to wash my face.

Jiang Fangfang looked at him. Stop drinking if you cannot drink anymore. You just recovered from your injuries.

Pu An showed his concern. How about you lie down and rest for a while.

Dong Xuebing stood up. I am fine after washing my face. Carry on eating. Has the food gone cold? I will heat them when I return.

Jiang Fangfang said. Dont worry about it. Let Xiao Li heat them.

Li Xiaona acknowledged and brought the dishes into the kitchen.

Dong Xuebing's legs were wobbly as he walked.

Yao Cui noticed it and quickly went over to support him. She helped him to the tap in the courtyard.

Dong Xuebing turned on the tap and washed his face with the cold water.

He sobered up slightly.

I dont have a towel here. I will get one from my room.

No need. It will dry in a while.

No. Your face will itch if it is blown dry by the wind.

All right. I can walk by myself. You dont need to help me.

How are you fine when you cannot stand properly? Stop talking.

No one was around, and Yao Cui did not speak politely with him. She ignored him and helped him into her room.

The room was dark.

Yao Cui turned on the lights.

Dong Xuebing took a few steps and sat on Yao Cuis bed. Where is your towel?

Wait. I will get it.

Ah My classmate is the best.

You noticed it now? Who asked you to drink so much?

Sigh I cannot reject them.

Dont drink anymore. I am not going to send you back if you are drunk.

Haha Sure. I will listen to you. I am not drinking anymore.

Thats more like it. Yao Cui giggled. She took a new towel and passed it to Dong Xuebing. Its new. No one used it before.

Dong Xuebing nodded and wiped his face with the towel before returning it to Yao Cui. Thanks.

Yao Cui saw there were still droplets on Dong Xuebings chin and ears. She took the towel and started dabbing the water droplets on his ears. You still dare to call yourself a Mayor? You dont even know how to wipe your face.

Dong Xuebing laughed.

Dong Xuebings face was dried.

Yao Cui turned to hang the towel. Dong Xuebing was exhausted and laid on Yao Cuis bed. He stretched and felt something on the bed. He pushed it aside subconsciously and felt something moved under him. His body was lying on it. He turned slightly and pulled that thing out.

Damn!

What the hell is this?

It was a yellow bra.

Dong Xuebing was surprised and looked beside him. A pair of yellow underwear was beside the pillow. These two items were not conspicuous, and he did not notice them earlier.

Yao Cui hung the towel and turned. She saw it and blushed. She quickly snatched the bra from Dong Xuebing and stuffed it into a drawer. She stared at Dong Xuebing. Why are you touching my things?

Dong Xuebing protested. I dont know. It was under me, and I pulled it out.

Yao Cui was mad. Then cant you see what it is before you take it?

Dong Xuebing raised his hands. Its my fault. He mumbled. Why didnt you put your clothes away after you changed? Why did you leave it on your bed?

Yao Cui heard him. I was changing, and you barged in. I got no time to tidy my room!

Yes. I am sorry. Dong Xuebing knew she was not angry. He was tipsy and started flirting with her. All right. Dont be angry. Next time, I will leave my underwear on my bed for you to see.

Yao Cui grumbled. You pervert. Why should I look at your underwear?

Dong Xuebing cleared his throat and felt he had said the wrong things. I was talking rubbish. Im drunk.

No one drunk will admit they are drunk. Yao Cui exposed him.

Dong Xuebing was dumbfounded and held his head to pretend he was feeling terrible.

Yao Cui looked at him. When are you going back? Are you going to sleep on my bed?

Yao Cui waited for a while and sat beside him. She pressed Dong Xuebing's temples with her thumbs and massaged gently.

Stop stop Dong Xuebing said.

Just lie there. Yao Cui continued to massage his head.

Dong Xuebing tried to stop her, but she continued, and he let her be.

But Yao Cui was bending over Dong Xuebing, and her blouse opening opened up. He could see a deep cleavage down her blouse.

It looks so soft and smooth.

Dong Xuebing could feel it without touching it.

But Dong Xuebing does not dare to look down at her blouse openly. He would be discovered. He closed his eyes, looked around, and glanced at her chest. Yao Cui did not realize and continued to massage him. Her breasts swayed along with her arm movements.

Dong Xuebing was enjoying himself.

There are benefits everywhere.

Chapter 1349: There is someone left behind in the building

Western room.

Yao Cui continued to massage Dong Xuebing's head.

Dong Xuebing continued to peep down her blouse.

One minute

Two minutes

Three minutes

Yao Cui was gentle, and the massage was good. He felt he might fall asleep anytime.

Yao Cui asked. Are you feeling better?

Dong Xuebing nodded. It felt good.

You know how to enjoy. Yao Cui grumbled. My mum also did not enjoy my services.

Dong Xuebing quickly replied. Huh? I will massage your head if you are drunk next time. I learned Chinese medicine before. It will feel good.

Stop boasting. Yao Cui laughed. Chinese medicine? Do you think I don't know what you studied? They were from the same class, and she knew what they learned.

I am not boasting.

Do you know Chinese medicine after reading one or two books?

I am serious. I also know Western medicine and surgeries. Why don't you believe me?

Ya ya ya carry on boasting. I will not expose you. Haha

Dong Xuebing: He did not explain further.

Yao Cui said. Are you ok now? Mayor Jiang and the rest are still eating.

Dong Xuebing stretched. I feel much better now. Thank you.

Dong Xuebing felt better after a short rest. He got out of bed and could walk steadier than before. They returned to the northern room.

Inside.

The food had been heated.

How are you, Mayor Dong?

I feel much better now.

Sit and have some tea.

Dong Xuebing was full and did not continue eating.

Lu Zhi, Pu An, and the rest were still eating. Jiang Fangfang was talking on the phone away from them.

Jiang Fangfang returned and said. The damaged family quarter will be demolished tomorrow morning. The City will send professionals to handle it. It has been confirmed.

Pu An nodded. It should be demolished as soon as possible. Everybody will be worried if it was left hanging there.

Jian Xiangrong drank a lot today and started to talk more. Luckily, there's no casualty, or this incident will blow up. Sigh Old Chu is too much. The fire department had many issues, and the ladder malfunctioned at a critical moment. I don't know how long it will take if Mayor Dong did not help them rescue that woman. Mayor Jiang, Chu Peng, and the fire department must be held responsible. Chu Peng is the Secretary of the Political and Legal Affairs Committee and the Public Security Bureau Chief. The fire department is under him. Jian Xiangrong was implying to use this incident as an excuse to target the Meng Faction.

Pu An thought about it and felt this suggestion was wrong. This incident did not blow up, and Chief Chu He looked at Mayor Jiang.

Lu Zhi said. Chief Chu had switched sides in the earlier Party Committee meeting, and this is too much.

Everybody knew about this incident. It was Dong Xuebing's first Party Committee meeting. Chu Peng and the former Executive Deputy Mayor had been Jiang Fangfang's supporters. But the former Executive Deputy Mayor retired, and Chu Peng had drifted away from Jiang Fangfang. That was the first time Chu Peng did not support Jiang Fangfang at the meeting. He chose to give up his vote and got closer to the Meng Faction after that.

Everybody hates the one who sits on the fence.

Chu Peng would not go far in the Meng Faction. Only Secretary Meng thinks highly of him. But the other Meng Faction members had fought against the Jiang Faction for years. It will take a long time for them to accept him. Pu An felt this is where it goes wrong. Chu Peng might have switched sides, but he might return.

This might be possible.

The Jiang Faction needs to attract more members to its side.

Although they won against the Meng Faction this time, it was by luck. The Meng Faction still owns the majority votes, while the Jiang Faction only has Jiang Fangfang, Dong Xuebing, Pu An, and Jian Xiangrong. Four votes. They were still lagging behind Meng Rui. He will still have the final say in critical issues and decisions. Secretary Meng cannot call for voting on every issue as it will tell the higher-ups he calls the shots. The higher-ups will also question his leadership. But the Jiang Faction cannot afford to lose even once for important decisions.

What should we do?

How can we turn the situation around?

Pull another Party Committee member over? This is the best solution.

But almost all the Meng Faction's people were long-time members. They will not join Jiang Fangfang. Chu Peng might be the only person who might join the Jiang Faction. After all, he had supported Jiang Fangfang in the past.

Everyone at the table understood.

Jian Xiangrong asked. Mayor Jiang, Old Chu

Jiang Fangfang shook her head. She was full and was drinking tea. I am not sure.

Mayor Jiang gave an ambiguous reply. Is she unsure if she can pull Chu Peng over or why he switched sides?

Jian Xiangrong said. I think it is impossible to pull Old Chu over. He

Jiang Fangfang said calmly. Let's not talk about work and politics today.

Jiang Fangfang set the tone, and everybody did not continue with this subject. They started talking about something else.

The dinner ended after a while.

It's getting late. We should be going.

Thank you for the dinner, Mayor Dong.

Dont mention it. I will cook again if you all think it is delicious.

Deal! The food is delicious. I am not flattering you.

Everybody stood up. Some wore their jacket, and some packed their stuff. They were getting ready to leave.

Suddenly, Jiang Fangfangs phone on the table rang. She looked at it and answered. Hello, what is it?

Pu An and Jian Xiangrong chatted as they walked out. Dong Xuebing, Lu Zhi, and the rest had gone to the courtyard. No one stayed beside Mayor Jiang as she answered her call. They stood outside and smoked. Mayor Jiang was around during dinner, and they did not smoke.

As the rest were chatting, Jiang Fangfangs face changed.

She hung up and walked out. The words that came out of her mouth shocked everybody. Hurry! To the Public Security Bureau family quarters now! Someone is still trapped in the building!

Chapter 1350: Is there anyone strong?

Almost 9 pm.

Night.

After hearing from Mayor Jiang, the few leaders in Yao Cuis house courtyard looked terrible. They could not believe their ears.

How is this possible?

Why is someone still inside?

Thats right. We confirmed with the residents.

We should not miss anyone. The fire department will not make such mistakes.

We worried we might miss anyone, and the fire department searched every unit. Our County does not have life detector devices, but the residents are our staffs family. Everybody knows each other. We should know if anyone was missing. Dong Xuebing said. He does not believe theres anyone trapped in the building, as the Future newspaper reported everybody was rescued. How can there be someone inside?

Eh? Wait a minute!

The Future newspaper.

Dong Xuebing suddenly remembers that the newspaper was todays evening papers. The reports should be written in the afternoon.

It is almost 9 pm now.

The information in the papers was outdated.

The future newspapers report will not report any new information at 9 pm.

Shit!

An oversight!

Jiang Fangfang said. Nothing is impossible. The fire department had gone to rescue that person. The one remaining in the building is Chu Peng's wife.

Chu Peng?

Chief Chu's wife?

Lu Zhi's face changed. His sister Zeng.

Pu An was shocked. Old Chu and his family are staying at the Party Committee family quarters.

Jiang Fangfang said. The Public Security Bureau had kept an apartment for Old Chu. The fire department had combed the building, but the search was based on the resident name list. Even Old Chu does not know his wife went to the Public Security Bureau family quarters today. They fought in the morning, and his wife went out. She told him she would not be coming home for dinner. Afterward, the building collapsed, and Chu Peng got very busy. He remembered his wife when he got home. He tried contacting her but to no avail. He learned where his wife was from a rescued family member who regained consciousness at the hospital. After the fight with Chu Peng, she went to the family quarters.

Someone was inside.

And it was a County Party Committee member's wife!

Dong Xuebing turned pale. He slapped his forehead and felt guilty.

Why didn't he spend more time seeing tomorrow's newspaper? He would rescue Chu Peng's wife earlier. Even though Chu Peng is his political rival, Dong Xuebing will not leave his wife to die. He will save her.

Let's go to the scene! Dong Xuebing took out his car keys and ran out.

Pu An quickly said. Mayor Dong, you cannot drive. You drank earlier. Let Secretary Yao drive.

Everybody knew this was an emergency. They rushed out of the courtyard, and Yao Cui snatched the car keys from Dong Xuebing. She entered the driver's seat, and Li Xiaona drove Pu An's car with Jian Xiangrong and Lu Zhi. Both cars sped towards the Public Security Bureau family quarters. That building might collapse anytime. Chu Peng's wife did not cry for help when the firemen searched the building this afternoon. She might be badly injured and unconscious. It's been around ten hours since the incident happened. Who knows if she was still alive? It would be bad if someone passed away after the building was searched. It was a grave oversight.

Many people will be held responsible.

Five minutes.

They were near to the scene and reached in five minutes.

The cars parked outside of the entrance. Powerful lights were set up. The fire department had reached. The ambulance arrived around the same time as Dong Xuebing. They exited the car, and Dong Xuebing saw the fire engine's ladder extending to a window on the third floor. A fireman had climbed in, and the others brought equipment and tools. They were preparing to rescue Chu Peng's wife.

Meng Rui was there.

The Meng Factions members arrived.

Almost all the Countys top leaders had gathered. A Party Committee members wife was trapped in the building, and they all had to come.

Jiang Fangfang walked over. How is the situation?

Pu An and Jian Xiangrong rushed over anxiously. Is she found?

Chu Peng was staring at the third floors window. His fists were clenched tightly and shaking. He was anxious. Shes found.

Jiang Fangfang asked. How is it?

Meng Rui replied. It is not looking good.

The Organization Department Minister Liao Haiwei said. The fire department found her and is trying to rescue her now. But my sister-in-law was severely injured. We are unsure of the situation inside and are waiting for news. He was two years younger than Chu Peng and had been addressing Chu Pengs wife as sister-in-law.

Jiang Fangfang walked over and consoled Chu Peng. Dont worry, Old Chu. Sister-in-law will be fine.

Chu Peng said regretfully. I should have discovered it earlier. What was I doing? I was here the whole day and realized it so late.

Meng Rui said. Its not your fault. We don't know Jinhua came here today.

Zeng Jinhua is Chu Pengs wife. She is in her forties. Although many people disliked Chu Peng for switching sides and sitting on the fence, Zeng Jinhua was popular and close to other Committee members wives. She was friendly and gentle. Thats why even Jian Xiangrong, who hates Chu Peng, was anxious too. Everybody does not want anything to happen to Chu Pengs wife.

She is popular and liked by everybody.

Two middle-aged women were holding hands and waiting anxiously, not far away from Dong Xuebing. The slightly younger woman was almost crying.

These two were Cheng Fuguang and Liao Haiweis wives.

Ask them to save Sister Zeng!

What are they waiting for?

Why is Sister Zeng not rescued? What are they doing?

Many people were shouting out of anxiousness.

The medical team had rushed over with the first-aid box. The fire department commanding officer immediately called them over.

Chu Peng was furious. He shouted. What is going on? Where is Jinhua? Where is she?

The firemen hesitated to talk.



Secretary Meng was mad, too. Hurry up and tell us. How is she? Didn't you say she is found and is alive? Why are you not talking now?

Cheng Fuguang's wife was trembling. Don't tell me she is gone.

The Fire Department's person in charge said. Although her breathing was weak, she was still alive. She still has a pulse, but a fallen piece of ceiling concrete slab fell on her. There's a gap, and she was not crushed. It was pressing on her. We cannot rescue her without moving the concrete slab. We don't know about the situation behind the slab, but she lost a lot of blood. I checked with a medical staff. They said Madam Zeng might have been severely injured. We cannot break the concrete slab by force.

Zhang Wanshui said. Then you all can lift the concrete slab carefully.

The fireman replied helplessly. We tried all ways, but the concrete slab was too heavy. Seven of us could not lift it. We used all our strength and could not lift it by an inch.

Jiang Fangfang asked. What about equipment?

The fireman replied. We only got small equipment, and the concrete slab was too heavy. We tried but failed. Furthermore, the building structure is unsound. The ground is unstable, and the equipment almost causes the floor to give way. It was full of cracks. We contacted heavy machinery but cannot use it on the third floor. It might cause the building to collapse with its weight. They risked their lives entering the building to rescue Chu Peng's wife. A fireman almost died when the concrete floor he was standing on gave way.

Secretary Meng asked. Then what are you going to do?

The fireman thought for a while. We will add more people and try to lift the concrete slab. We will try ten men if we cannot lift it with seven men. We will call in fifteen men if ten men cannot lift it. But we are short of manpower. We only got slightly more than ten people. A few of us must operate the ladder and drive. We need more people to help.

Chu Peng understood. I will go.

Secretary Meng interrupted. No! You will remain here!

Chu Peng's eyes were red. My wife is inside!

Jiang Fangfang turned to the people watching behind. They were residents and their family members of the family quarters and some civilians living nearby. We don't have enough people. Is there anyone willing to help rescue the person inside?

No one said a word.

The fireman added. The building cannot withstand the weight of too many people. It should be safe for ten people to go in. The building might collapse if more people go in. We need strong people to go in.

People continue to keep quiet.

This concerns life and death.

What if the building collapses? Everyone inside will be dead.

Many Public Security Bureaus family members were unwilling to risk their lives despite Chief Chus wife being trapped inside. It was too dangerous.

Silence

No one moved.

But there was an exception. Only one person stepped forward.

Dong Xuebing rolled up his sleeves. I will go.

Jiang Fangfang immediately said. You are not going anywhere.

Yao Cui got a fright and quickly grabbed Dong Xuebing. No! You have not recovered from your injuries.