

PAW 1461

Chapter 1461: Drink

It's ten o'clock.

In the small banquet hall.

Under the consecutive toasts from Lu Weiguo, Chen Mingming, and others, Dong Xuebing has already consumed about 500 ml of white liquor. His entire being is swaying, and he can't even stand steadily. Constantly, Chang Juan and Gong Na swiftly support him on either side, both anxious.

Mayor Dong drank too much.

This is bad.

Chang Juan quickly decides, "Let's leave the table first."

Chen Mingming immediately says, "We haven't left yet. How can we leave the table?"

Lu Weiguo laughs, "Right, no one is allowed to leave early today. Let's continue drinking."

Annoyed, Chen Yunsong says, "Mayor Dong can't handle it anymore. If he continues, something bad might happen."

An official from the city's investment promotion department says, "We're just starting to enjoy ourselves. We can't leave now."

Gong Na is also full of resentment. The goal of getting Mayor Dong drunk has already been achieved, but these people are not satisfied. They still want to force more alcohol into Mayor Dong. They won't stop until Mayor Dong is sent to the hospital. Mayor Dong's alcohol tolerance is not good. If they continue like this, it might lead to casualties. This is not a trivial matter. How many cases of sudden death due to alcohol poisoning have occurred?

Chang Juan no longer cares, "Xuebing, let's go."

But Dong Xuebing, shaking off their hands, says with a tongue-tied voice, "Why leave? I haven't had enough yet. Um, let's keep drinking."

Chen Yunsong quickly says, "You are already drunk."

Dong Xuebing sways and says, "I'm not drunk, it's still early."

Someone cheers, "Right, Mayor Dong has a great alcohol tolerance. Let's have one more."

Someone shouts, "Mayor Dong has great alcohol tolerance. Let's have another one."

Chang Juan and Gong Na are frustrated. They can't pull him away. Despite this situation, Dong Xuebing picks up a full cup of liquor, "It's not fair for me to drink alone. Come, I propose this toast. Let's all drink together."

An official from the city's investment promotion department says, "Don't drink together. I'll have a toast with you."

Dong Xuebing shakes his head, holding up the filled cup, "Let's all drink together. I won't drink if even one person is missing." Holding the cup up, he looks at everyone.

Lu Weiguo blinks, then raises his cup.

People from the City Investment Promotion Bureau also stood up.

Except for Chang Juan, Chen Yunsong, and others, the remaining people from the city and county investment promotion departments have their cups filled.

Chen Mingming, almost reaching his limit, hesitates when he looks at the cup in his hand, but seeing Dong Xuebing's drunken state, he says nothing.

"It's all filled."

"All filled, let's drink."

"Come on, cheers."

In the small banquet hall with about fifty people, everyone clinks glasses with each other, clinking glasses echoing constantly. The room is filled with the smell of alcohol, and the scene is quite lively.

Lu Weiguo takes a sip.

Chen Mingming takes a sip.

Ma Yanfen and others also take a sip.

More than fifty people have varying alcohol tolerance. Some, who hadn't even taken a sip of alcohol, had very poor tolerance. Chen Mingming, Ma Yanfen, and a few others who had already consumed a considerable amount were among them. After this round, over a dozen people immediately fell. Chen Mingming, stumbling over a chair, was almost about to fall to the ground. A subordinate nearby quickly supported him. Seeing Chen Mingming had closed his eyes and started mumbling incoherently, they carried him to a sofa in the corner. Ma Yanfen was also a bit tipsy but managed to stay on her feet, while Lu Weiguo had a similar floating look in his eyes. As for the other dozen or so people who fell, some rushed to the restroom to vomit, some sprayed directly onto the floor, and a few just lay motionless on the table. The typical person's alcohol tolerance is usually only around 200 to 300 ml of liquor, and drinking a 500 ml is already considered quite impressive. They used large cups, and each cup of liquor equaled 150 ml. Moreover, it was strong liquor consumed in one go. The fact that only about a dozen people fell was relatively low.

The scene became chaotic.

However, just when everyone thought that Dong Xuebing, who was already extremely drunk, would surely collapse after this round, he was still standing there. Although he seemed even more limp than before, he hadn't fallen yet. Chang Juan and Gong Na supported him, and Dong Xuebing could still speak.

"Come," Dong Xuebing said, with a tongue-tied manner, "Let's keep drinking."

Lu Weiguo, Ma Yanfen, and others rubbing their dizzy heads, looked at Dong Xuebing with wrinkled brows, cursing silently. Why hasn't this guy fallen yet?

But it's sure to happen soon.

Looking at his appearance, he won't be able to withstand another cup of liquor.

An official from the city's investment promotion department said, "Mayor Dong, let's have a drink."

Dong Xuebing, casual as ever, said, "Drinking with just two people is not interesting. I propose a toast to all our comrades from the city's investment promotion. Let's all finish it."

The official said, "They can't handle anymore."

Dong Xuebing said, "We're still far from being finished. If you don't drink, then I won't drink either."

"Alright, alright, let's do it." The official glanced at the others.

Dong Xuebing clinked glasses with each of them, about ten people, and then both sides drank up.

Dong Xuebing was the slowest drinker as if each sip was like swallowing poison. The people from the City Investment Promotion side also struggled. Just a few minutes ago, they had downed around 150 ml, and now, with many still not finished their glasses, they were collapsing. After toasting, the remaining few people also vomited and fell.

The City Investment Promotion team was almost entirely defeated.

Among the fifty people present, more than half had fallen.

Dong Xuebing also collapsed amidst the exclamations of surprise from people like Chang Juan and Gong Na. But just as Lu Weiguo and others relaxed their expressions, Dong Xuebing climbed up from the chair again.

"Keep drinking," Dong Xuebing shouted with a hoarse voice.

Hearing this, everyone felt a bit dizzy.

Chang Juan said, "Xuebing, you can't continue. Let's go back."

Dong Xuebing ignored her, "Today, anyone who stops me from drinking is my enemy. If you leave, I'll be at odds with you."

He finished speaking and nearly fell to the ground again.

Gong Na was almost in tears, "Mayor Dong!"

In this state, how would they negotiate with foreign investors tomorrow?

However, Dong Xuebing staggered towards Ma Yanfen, picked up a bottle of wine, poured a glass full, and sprinkled a good amount. Then, he raised his glass and said, "Director Ma, I propose a toast to the comrades from Yangli County."

Ma Yanfen shook her head, "I really can't drink anymore, Mayor Dong."

"Old Ma, I just gave you face earlier, and we toasted. What's the meaning of this? If you don't give me face, hmm, don't give me face?" Dong Xuebing stared.

Ma Yanfen felt a bit lightheaded; she really couldn't drink anymore.

Lu Weiguo deeply looked at her.

With a fierce face, Ma Yanfen could only lift her wine glass and the remaining people from Yangli County.

After a glass, Ma Yanfen couldn't finish it and collapsed, leaning on the table and unable to get up. The other few staff members from Yangli County were also completely defeated.

Chapter 1462: He just refuses to go down

The banquet hall.

One by one, with Ma Yanfen and others from Yangli County getting drunk, thirty out of fifty people in the room were already down.

Among those thirty people, some lay on the ground unattended, some slumped on the table in deep sleep, some lay on the sofa in the corner talking nonsense to themselves, and some just sat on the floor right after returning from the restroom. In short, they were all falling over, leaving twenty people who hadn't fallen yet. However, they weren't in good shape either. The most precarious of them all was Dong Xuebing. After finishing this glass of wine, he felt even more unsteady on his feet. Constantly swaying, Dong Xuebing was being held by Chang Juan and Gong Na on either side. He had already stumbled several times, and it seemed like he could fall down at any moment. Lu Weiguo and the remaining conscious people were slightly better, but the aftereffects of the alcohol were gradually kicking in. These people looked like they couldn't handle much more. After all, each person had drunk at least a couple of pounds of alcohol. Dong Xuebing alone had consumed more than three pounds of liquor. The floor was littered with white wine bottles, and the room was filled with the smell of alcohol.

"Dong Xuebing."

"Mayor Dong."

"How are you feeling?"

Chang Juan and the others were in a hurry.

Dong Xuebing, supporting himself on a chair, said, "I'm fine, I'm fine. Let's keep drinking."

Gong Na anxiously said, "Mayor Dong, don't drink anymore. If you keep drinking, something bad might happen."

Dong Xuebing, still not listening, said, "Pour me another drink."

Gong Na, desperate, said, "You've already had more than three pounds of alcohol."

"Pour it!" Dong Xuebing looked at Chen Yunsong, not blinking.

Chen Yunsong was helpless, and Gong Na grabbed the cup to take it away, saying, "What are you doing, Xiao Chen? Do you want it to be even more chaotic?"

Chen Yunsong smiled bitterly. With Dong Xuebing speaking, did he dare not pour the wine?

Dong Xuebing, quicker than Chang Juan, snatched the white wine glass and swayed a few steps forward. He looked at Lu Weiguo and the remaining twenty people. "Come, I'll toast everyone again. Director Lu is right. We must drink heartily today!"

The remaining people looked at each other.

"Still drinking?"

"I can't drink anymore."

"Neither can I. Drinking another sip will make me vomit."

"This Mayor Dong has quite a capacity. Why hasn't he fallen yet?"

"You're right. He drank more than 1.5 liters. It looks like he can't drink anymore."

"He does have a good alcohol tolerance, but looking at him, he should be done now."

Everyone muttered in low voices. No one raised their cups. Only two drunk individuals were loudly yelling, demanding to drink alone with Dong Xuebing.

Dong Xuebing ignored the two of them. "Let's drink together!"

Lu Weiguo said, "Mayor Dong, I'm also quite intoxicated. Heh, let's drink one by one. Don't touch glasses together."

"Yeah, yeah. Let's drink individually."

"Together clinking glasses together is not fun."

"Mayor Dong, Mr. Liu, and the others will drink with you first."

Everyone echoed the sentiment, with many wanting to give Dong Xuebing a knockout blow. If they could knock him down, that would be considered a success, and their colleagues who had already fallen wouldn't have sacrificed in vain. Of course, at this point, the situation had developed to a point where many were no longer purely thinking about sabotaging the negotiation between Zhen Shui County and foreign investors. Instead, they wanted to "avenge" their colleagues and leaders because this guy named Dong was too irritating. Every time, he seemed about to fall, but he never did. They were getting more and more irritated.

Dong Xuebing provocatively said, "What, all scared now?"

A person from some county's investment promotion bureau grumbled, "Who's backing down?"

Dong Xuebing, with a drunken smile, said, "Just a moment ago, everyone was shouting to toast. Now, individually drinking is fine too. I'll drink with each of you, but there's one condition: I've made it clear that if my glass falls, none of you should have any liquor left."

No one responded.

Dong Xuebing continued, "If you're scared, forget it. Let's go, Chang Juan, let's go back."

"Wait a moment," Lu Weiguo looked at him, thought for a moment, and then smiled, "Mayor Dong wants to drink with all of us. Alright, let's listen to Mayor Dong and drink one by one." After that, Lu Weiguo looked at the remaining twenty people still standing, "Fill up the glasses for everyone. Xiao Liu, you drink with County Mayor Dong first." Lu Weiguo did leave some room for maneuver. He let the people who hadn't drunk with Dong Xuebing go first. Lu Weiguo knew that he definitely couldn't drink anymore, but with Dong Xuebing toasting one by one, there were still twenty people in between. Lu Weiguo had probably fallen down countless times already, and it definitely wouldn't be his turn for this round.

Dong Xuebing's provocative words and challenges had angered the remaining twenty people. With just one person facing so many of us, who is afraid of whom? We still haven't drunk more than him. It's a joke! Everyone began pouring more wine; after all, they had to make sure Dong Xuebing got knocked down today.

"No more alcohol."

"Call the waiter for more."

"How about another crate, no, two crates?"

They were irritated by Dong Xuebing and fueled by the alcohol. The remaining twenty people were full of anger, immediately calling the waiters.

After a few waiters brought in the wine, they were greeted with a messy banquet hall. The waiters were surprised but didn't say much. They understood these were officials and leaders, so they didn't want to create any trouble. After putting down the wine, they closed the door and left, probably getting ready to contact someone. After all, all the people from the investment promotion department were in the banquet hall tonight, and they themselves had no more staff left. For those who had fallen, they could only be carried back to their rooms by hotel staff. Tonight's workload was bound to be huge.

In the hall.

Several people came to open the wine.

On the other side, people had prepared empty glasses. Glass after glass was filled, and dozens of glasses were filled, each containing more than three ounces, looking daunting.

Gong Na was anxious, "Director Chang, this... this..."

Chen Yunsong also looked at Chang Juan, "You decide what to do. This is a mess."

Chang Juan, frustrated, grabbed Dong Xuebing, "Xuebing, listen to me and go back."

Dong Xuebing continued to ignore Chang Juan and the others' dissuasion, pulling away from Chang Juan, "Let's drink a bit more before leaving. It's still early."

Chang Juan pulled him forcefully, "Why drink more? You'll die if you drink any more with so much alcohol already. You've already had more than 1.5 liters of alcohol, what else do you want to drink?"

Gong Na whispered, "They are trying to get you drunk."

Chen Yunsong said, "That's right, Mayor Dong. Don't fall for their trap."

On the other side, the wine was already prepared, and someone called out to him, "Mayor Dong, all set, come over."

Ignoring the persuasion from Chang Juan and the others, Dong Xuebing stumbled and pulled open a few people from Zhen Shui County, sitting down on a chair, "Come."

A clerk with the best alcohol tolerance among them stood up, "I'll drink with you first."

Everyone gathered around the table, and the atmosphere was getting lively.

"Come on, old Liu."

"Finish it in one gulp."

"Let's see who has better alcohol tolerance, you or Mayor Dong."

Chang Juan and Gong Na, seeing the situation, had no choice but to join in.

The clerk, referred to as Old Liu, rolled up his sleeves. "I'll go first." After saying that, he picked up the cup and forcefully poured three or two ounces of liquor into his stomach. After finishing, he slammed the cup heavily onto the table, making a loud noise. "It's your turn, Mayor Dong. Why

haven't you drunk?" With the influence of the alcohol, he became more arrogant, feeling quite pleased with himself.

Without saying anything, Dong Xuebing slowly picked up the wine glass and poured it into his mouth. This time, he drank quickly, and within a few seconds, the liquor entered his stomach.

"Good!"

"He's a heavy drinker!"

"Impressive!"

Everyone clapped and encouraged, eagerly awaiting Dong Xuebing to fall.

Dong Xuebing fell, lying on the table after finishing the drink. Just when many people showed a slight smile, Dong Xuebing staggered and climbed up from the table again, looking at Old Liu with drunken eyes. "Great capacity. Let's have another cup, shall we?"

He spoke with a thicker tongue.

Old Liu was taken aback and also felt a bit uneasy. He couldn't drink anymore.

Dong Xuebing mocked, "Scared now? What happened to your momentum just now?"

Provoked by Dong Xuebing, Old Liu's face suddenly turned stern. He grabbed a cup of wine, lifted it, and said, "Let's do it."

Dong Xuebing also picked up a full cup, and the two of them clinked glasses again, downing the cup in large gulps. Chang Juan and the others watched anxiously.

The cups were emptied.

Well, the chair across was also empty.

After finishing the drink, Old Liu stared at Dong Xuebing with wide eyes. After a second, his neck tilted, and he fell off the chair with a thump, even shattering the empty cup.

People quickly carried Old Liu away, placing him on a nearby chair to let him sleep.

Dong Xuebing slapped the table, "Next one."

"I'll go." A young staff came over, but he clearly forced himself to do so. Probably wanting to leave a good impression on Lu Weiguo, he knowingly faced danger, without hesitation. However, he could also see that Dong Xuebing was no longer able to continue. If he could knock down the County Mayor of Zhen Shui, it would undoubtedly leave a good impression on the leaders. By then, a promotion might be just around the corner.

Dreams are beautiful.

Reality is cruel.

Dong Xuebing didn't even catch his breath. Without stopping, he directly picked up the next cup and clinked it with the young man. Both started to gulp down the drink.

However, the young man puked after just two sips. The liquor splattered, and he fell. He drank too quickly, choked, and the alcohol rushed to his head, making him unable to continue.

Another one fell.

People quickly carried him away.

Dong Xuebing, seeing that he also didn't finish, said, "He didn't finish, so I'll stop here. It's fair, right? Ha, next one." Dong Xuebing's neck was getting more and more tilted. He seemed even worse than before, unable to take another sip, as if just smelling the alcohol would make him collapse.

Chapter 1463: All gone

One person...

Three people...

Five people...

Ten people...

It was almost midnight.

Thump... thump... people fell one after another.

Except for the first Old Liu, who had two drinks with Dong Xuebing before falling, the others fell after just one cup or even less.

"Next one."

"Come on, the next one."

"It's your turn, yes, you."

Dong Xuebing wasn't in a much better condition; he was almost lying on the table, but he still shouted as if he had a little fighting spirit left.

However, seeing the situation now, fewer than ten people left were somewhat numb. Almost everyone was on the verge of cursing, having mentally scolded Dong Xuebing's ancestors for eighteen generations. How could he still not fall? Since the beginning, he had been like this, about to fall any moment, about to fall again and again. However, in the end, he drank as much as needed every time. He had drunk how many times? It was already over 3 liters of liquor! Could he still drink? Damn it, quickly lie down, can't you?

No one expected Dong Xuebing to be such a good drinker.

Already drunk, in this situation, he could still drink.

Chang Juan, Gong Na, and others watched Dong Xuebing with astonishment, and their hearts were sweating for him. Over 3 liters, what kind of concept was that? Even drinking seven jin of plain water would be tough. This was 3 liters of high-proof liquor at over fifty degrees.

Although Mayor Dong hadn't fallen yet, if he really did fall, he would probably have to be sent to the hospital for rescue. The alcohol concentration in his blood was too high.

"Xuebing, stop drinking."

"Mayor Dong, listen to Chang Ju's advice."

Chang Juan, Chen Yunsong, and Gong Na began to advise him again.

Dong Xuebing still lay on the table, holding the cup, his head swaying, staring fixedly at the next person in front of him.

Seeing that even Lu Weiguo looked towards him, the person who was named Dong Xuebing could only grit his teeth and go up. He hesitantly clinked glasses with Dong Xuebing and started drinking.

Gulp, gulp.

Gulp, gulp.

After finishing the drink, the person looked surprised that he was still okay. He was momentarily full of momentum, watching Dong Xuebing finish his drink. However, as soon as Dong Xuebing put down his cup, the person suddenly stared blankly, and alcohol surged. Without making a sound, he slumped to the side. Someone immediately caught him and carried him to a nearby chair to lie down.

Another one down.

Apart from the people from Zhen Shui County, only eight were left on Lu Weiguo's side.

Lu Weiguo's group also became vigilant, looking at Dong Xuebing as if trying to figure out if he was truly drunk or just pretending. No one took the initiative to go up.

After a second.

Dong Xuebing suddenly pushed away the cup, covering his mouth as if in pain.

"Mayor Dong."

"What's wrong with you?"

"Oh, should I call an ambulance?"

Chang Juan and Gong Na were both anxious and flustered.

Dong Xuebing took his hand away from his mouth. He didn't vomit, but his tone was very weak.

"Can't go on, can't drink anymore. Let's go back to the room."

Chang Juan gave Lu Weiguo and the others a cold look. "Let's go."

The people from Zhen Shui County noted the incident of taking turns to drink Dong Xuebing under the table today.

But as soon as Dong Xuebing said he couldn't go on and wanted to leave, he stood up, and it was clear that he could still walk with some difficulty. An Official immediately said, "Mayor Dong, don't leave. You said we'd drink one by one. There are still many people here. How can we leave? Come, I'll drink with you." Since Dong Xuebing had not gone down, he wanted to take advantage of the situation to get Dong Xuebing completely drunk.

Chang Juan burst out, "Are you crazy? What if he drink to death? Is it intentional?"

The cadre completely ignored Chang Juan. "Mayor Dong, you are a man. I've even raised this glass for you."

Lu Weiguo also said, "Yeah, we've come this far. If we don't finish it, how can it be? Come on, let's continue."

The remaining few people also joined in, instigating Dong Xuebing to finish all the remaining alcohol.

Dong Xuebing seemed unable to resist the provocation. Hearing their words, he suddenly turned around and sat down again, gritting his teeth. "I'll just drink one more cup, the last one."

"No, no."

"Yes, you must finish all of them."

"Have a complete experience."

Dong Xuebing seems heavily intoxicated. With blood rushing to his head, he declares, "Alright, I'll finish a cup with each of you, and you all finish eight cups for me."

"Deal."

"Cheers."

"Impressive, Mayor Dong, come on!"

Including Lu Weiguo, everyone else picks up their cups. However, Chang Juan and others can't contain their anger, "Mayor Dong, please stop drinking."

Dong Xuebing immediately grabbed the first cup, downs it in two sips, and then covered his mouth as if afraid of vomiting while reaching for the second cup. He drinks it, followed by the third cup.

He manages to consume three cups in just a few seconds. Dong Xuebing then looks up at the opposite side.

Seeing Mayor Dong being so aggressive, the eight people on the other side are startled. They can only send three people to accompany Dong Xuebing in drinking.

The three people collapse almost immediately. One of them lies on the ground, crying loudly and saying embarrassing drunken words.

Dong Xuebing covers his mouth again, hastily grabs the next cup, and drinks it down one after another.

After a while, all five remaining people realize that Dong Xuebing is in no condition to continue. They glance at Lu Weiguo, and a few of them decide to go all in. Holding their breath, they want to see how Dong Xuebing will fall. So, they also join in and drink.

Thud.

Clang.

Four people fall.

Only Lu Weiguo is left on the opposite side.

At this point, Dong Xuebing has finished drinking, leaving only the last cup. Without saying anything, he raises it and clinks it with Lu Weiguo.

Lu Weiguo is a bit confused now, staring at Dong Xuebing, who has consumed so many cups. He is amazed and tries a clever move. He brings the cup to his mouth but doesn't drink.

Dong Xuebing also doesn't drink and just looks at him.

After several seconds of staring, Lu Weiguo has been waiting for Dong Xuebing to fall. With so much alcohol consumed, Dong Xuebing should have already passed out. It's just that the alcohol may not have reached his head yet, so he is enduring with sheer determination. However, Dong Xuebing still hasn't fallen after waiting for a while.

Seeing no other option, Lu Weiguo symbolically takes a sip.

But this sip costs him dearly. He chokes and coughs, and the alcohol stuck in his throat seems to rush to his head. Having already consumed around half a liter of alcohol and with a relatively low alcohol tolerance, he can't hold on. Covering his mouth, he vomits with a plop and then collapses on the ground before losing consciousness. Before passing out, a clear number flash in Lu Weiguo's mind.

Over 5 liters.

The person surnamed Dong has drunk 5 liters of liquor today.

Chapter 1464: You were not drunk all this while?

Early morning.

Midnight.

The small banquet hall is already a mess, with people slouched in all directions.

"Come on!"

"..."

"Keep drinking!"

"..."

"Why is no one responding?"

Dong Xuebing calls out for a while, but no one pays him any attention.

With the collapse of the last person, Lu Weiguo, all fifty officials and staff from the City Investment Promotion Bureau and other district and county investment promotion departments are defeated. They are in no position to answer Dong Xuebing, let alone continue drinking with him. Even those who can speak are lying on the ground, speaking nonsense. Dong Xuebing has single-handedly drunk everyone down. No one remains standing in the room except for the people from Zhen Shui County.

Chang Juan quickly takes away Dong Xuebing's cup. "You shouldn't drink anymore."

Gong Na, fearing he might collapse, has been supporting his arm. "Mayor Dong, there's no one left."

"Director Chang, should we call an ambulance?" Chen Yunsong worries, "They're just drunk, but Mayor Dong is different. How much has he drunk? One, two, three, four." Counting reveals a shocking truth. Chen Yunsong exclaims, "We have eleven empty bottles here. Mayor Dong has drunk eleven bottles of liquor."

"What?"

"What?"

Chang Juan and Gong Na are also shocked.

Indeed, there are eleven empty bottles on the ground. Just looking at them makes them feel drunk.

The door of the small banquet hall is slightly ajar, and the eyes of a hotel staff member outside have been monitoring the situation inside. Seeing that the drinking session has finally concluded and hearing the conversation inside, the young man suddenly inhales sharply, closes the door, and goes out to call for help.

"Xiao Zhang, what's the situation?" A middle-aged man comes over.

Many hotel staff members follow him. After hearing about the situation here, they are all people temporarily brought in by the hotel's management. They need to clean up the aftermath.

The young man hastily says, "Manager Zheng, they've finished drinking."

Manager Zheng asks, "Nothing happened, right?"

"They're all quite drunk. The others should be fine, but Mayor Dong from Zhen Shui County has drunk the most. Although he can still stand, it's a bit precarious. We need to take him to the hospital." The young man explains.

Manager Zheng's heart tightens. Inside are city officials and county leaders. If something happened at their hotel, aside from the potential impact on their business, he couldn't explain it to the city. So, he hurriedly asks, "How much did Mayor Dong drink?"

The people behind him are also listening.

The young man smiles wryly, "Eleven bottles."

Manager Zheng furrows his brows, "These people from the investment promotion departments have good alcohol tolerance. Eleven bottles of beer, heh, I can only drink six at most."

The young man corrects him, "Manager Zheng, it's not beer; it's eleven bottles of baijiu with over fifty degrees of alcohol."

"Baijiu?" Manager Zheng, upon hearing this, almost blacks out. He's almost scared out of his wits. "Eleven bottles, 5.5 liters of Baijiu! How can he drink so much? Is he trying to kill himself? Oh, don't say anything, hurry inside, this is trouble. Get ready to call an ambulance." Manager Zheng scolds the young man while rushing toward the hall. "Why didn't you stop them? What were you doing?"

The young man innocently says, "They are city and county leaders; we didn't dare to say anything. They were all in the mood, and we couldn't stop them."

Manager Zheng is annoyed, "You should have reported it to me in advance. I thought it was beer. If something goes wrong, how am I supposed to handle this? Tell me, what should I do?"

The young man apologizes, "I'm sorry, Manager."

"This can't happen during the investment promotion event."

"Let's contact the city and their families, just in case."

"First, assess the situation, and then act quickly to get additional help."

The hotel quickly became busy. Manager Zheng led the way into the small banquet hall.

Upon entering, a strong smell of alcohol and the unpleasant odor of vomit hit their faces. Many hotel staff members covered their noses.

Inside, Chang Juan and Gong Na were each supporting Dong Xuebing.

With his back turned, facing Lu Weiguo and others, Dong Xuebing didn't say anything. After standing up from the chair, he shook off the support of Chang Juan and Gong Na.

"Mayor Dong, be careful."

"Take it slow, let me help you."

Manager Zheng took a deep breath, glancing at the fifty people in a sorry state. It was truly a distressing scene. He then focused his gaze on the person called "Mayor Dong." This is the mayor of Zhen Shui County, who consumed 5.5 liters of liquor. Astonishingly, he is still standing. Behind him, several hotel staff eagerly stared at Dong Xuebing's back, all sweating for him, wanting to see what this extraordinary person looked like.

5.5 liters.

5.5 liters of baijiu.

Is this still within the realm of human alcohol tolerance?

Not to mention meeting him, they haven't even heard of anyone being able to drink so much. According to the hotel staff outside, this person hasn't even made a trip to the restroom.

Even with 5.5 liters of water, someone would be dead!

The expressions of the hotel staff varied as they stared at him intently.

Manager Zheng quickly approached, "Do you need to call an ambulance?"

Chang Juan hesitates, and they are genuinely concerned about Dong Xuebing's current state. Calling an ambulance seems necessary. "Let's go to the hospital for intravenous fluids. Safety comes first."

Manager Zheng immediately turns his head, "Dial 110 and call."

Before he could finish, Dong Xuebing interrupted him, "No need."

Chang Juan is annoyed, "Xuebing, if you keep doing this, I'll be mad."

Dong Xuebing straightened out his messy clothes and took a tissue to wipe his pants and slightly dirty shoes. Then, he takes out a cigarette, lights it, takes a few puffs, and finally straightens his shirt collar. In front of everyone's slightly bewildered gaze, he turns around and says, "Hehe, I'm fine. How much is this compared to the amount of alcohol we just had? No need to go to the hospital." He then looks at the middle-aged man, "You must be the lobby manager. I'm sorry for the trouble we've caused your hotel today. It's a bit chaotic here. Could you please help tidy up? They are all colleagues from our investment promotion department. Just send them to their rooms upstairs. They should have room cards. Check them, and you'll know which rooms they are in."

Manager Zheng is dumbfounded, "Ah."

Dong Xuebing looks at Gong Na, "Xiao Gong, maybe you can stay and help the hotel staff take them upstairs. If anyone has drunk too much, contact their families and consider sending them to the hospital. However, it shouldn't be too serious. They haven't drunk that much."

Gong Na is also stunned.

Manager Zheng's brain is a bit slow to react, and he subconsciously says, "No need to leave anyone. I'll have my staff take care of it."

Dong Xuebing smiles, "Thanks a lot. By the way, did we set alarms for the hotel rooms tomorrow morning? Considering the current state, I think there's no need to wake everyone up tomorrow morning. It's already past midnight, and they probably won't be able to get up tomorrow. Let them rest and recover from the alcohol first. That's probably it. Thanks, everyone, and sorry for today."

Manager Zheng says, "Uh, it's fine."

Dong Xuebing turns around, "Sister Chang, let's go."

Seeing Dong Xuebing standing there confidently, smoking, calmly talking to the hotel staff, Chen Yunsong, Gong Na, and others are astonished. Not only them but even the hotel service staff are looking at Dong Xuebing with expressions of disbelief. Manager Zheng is also repeatedly taking deep breaths.

Dong Xuebing calls Chen Yunsong and Gong Na, "Xiao Chen, Xiao Gong, what are you looking at? Let's go. If you don't leave, I'll return to rest first." With that, Dong Xuebing extinguishes the half-smoked cigarette in the ashtray, picks up the remaining bit of his drink, gulps it down, and walks out of the small banquet hall under everyone's stunned gaze.

Damn it.

There's no one left, and he's still drinking.

Chang Juan and others hurriedly catch up.

Outside.

In the corridor.

Chang Juan's first sentence is in astonishment, "So, you're not drunk?"

Dong Xuebing looks at her with a smile, "Not at all. I've always had a good tolerance for alcohol."

In his heart, Chen Yunsong is thinking, "Your alcohol tolerance is not just good; it's downright amazing. Eleven bottles of baijiu, and you're still standing without any issues."

Gong Na stares at him, "You were pretending to be drunk just now."

Dong Xuebing shrugs and, along with them, enters the elevator.

Having figured it out, Chang Juan is also amused. She pats her leg and says, "I thought you fell for their provocation, but it turns out you had a plan of your own."

Dong Xuebing casually says, "Their little tricks were obvious. They wanted to make me drink, right? Okay, I'll drink with them."

Looking at him, Chen Yunsong says, "Are you okay?"

Dong Xuebing says, "Do I look like I have a problem? Although I haven't drunk 5.5 liters of alcohol at once, back in Fenzhou City, I once drank more than 4 liters of liquor in one go. I didn't even sway at the time. This is nothing. Don't mention fifty people; no matter how many come, I can drink them

all under the table." Dong Xuebing isn't bragging; he has Reverse, which helps him metabolize alcohol.

After hearing this, Chen Yunsong can't help but say, "Mayor Dong, I truly admire you, really admire you."

Gong Na is also completely convinced. Setting aside everything else, just Dong Xuebing's alcohol tolerance is something no one can deny.

More than fifty people from Lu Weiguo and the district and county investment promotion departments were originally planning to defeat Mayor Dong by overwhelming him with numbers. Still, Chen Yunsong, Gong Na, and the others find it hilarious. These people, with ill intentions, not only didn't get Mayor Dong drunk but instead, every one of them ended up defeated. It seems that Lu Weiguo and the others have had a taste of their own medicine today.

Serve them right!

They brought it upon themselves.

Chang Juan, Chen Yunsong, and others are all in good spirits. They find the situation quite amusing. When the news spreads tomorrow, they wonder if these people will dare to show up. This event finally relieved Chang Juan and the others of the anger that Lu Weiguo and his group had suppressed for several days. It's a bit of payback.

Chapter 1465: Dong Xuebing's courage

Next day.

In the early morning, around six o'clock, Dong Xuebing, after getting up, went to the hotel's second floor for breakfast. The restaurant was quite crowded, mainly with domestic investors, but there were no signs of any investment promotion staff.

"Mr. An."

"Oh, Mr. Liu."

"Why haven't the others finished eating and left yet?"

"Yeah, waiting for Director Ma from the Investment Promotion Bureau."

"Well, they're not at my place, and I can't reach Director Chen either."

"Phones can't get through. We agreed to go to their county for an inspection at six in the morning, and now it's past six."

"Yeah, they promised yesterday, and it's delaying how much time."

"What annoys me the most is people who don't keep their word. We had an agreement yesterday. How can it take so long?"

"Mr. An, calm down. I don't see anyone but us. It seems the investors who were supposed to inspect today can't reach the investment promotion department either. The cars haven't arrived. Hmm, did something happen? It seems like everyone disappeared overnight."

"If there's an issue, they should still arrange for someone. How can we be left waiting like this?"

"Yeah, that's not right. Well, that seems to be a leader from Zhen Shui County."

"Let's go, ask what's going on. I still have things to deal with in my company. I have to go back the day after tomorrow. How can I just wait here like a fool?"

"Hi."

"Are you County Mayor Dong from Zhen Shui County?"

Several investors found Dong Xuebing.

Dong Xuebing shook hands with them, "Yes, what's the matter?"

Mr. An, in a bad mood, said, "I want to ask where the people from Yangli County Investment Promotion Bureau have gone. I've been waiting for over half an hour and haven't seen anyone."

Dong Xuebing sighed, "I'm not very clear about the specifics. Maybe something came up."

Mr. An was unhappy, "If they have something, then we don't have anything. Everyone's time is precious. Where can you find people who work like them?"

Someone else approached, "Where have the people gone? I've been waiting for a long time, too."

Another investor said, "Are we inspecting today or not? If there are sudden issues, at least inform us. This is too disrespectful."

"Exactly, couldn't get through to them with a single phone call."

"I think we should all go back. Once they have foreign investors, they won't care about us."

Many investors had arranged to inspect various districts and counties at six o'clock in the morning following yesterday's appointments. However, no one showed up, and there was no communication about the delay, leaving everyone in a bad mood.

Dong Xuebing blinked his eyes rapidly, seizing the opportunity. Seeing the situation, he immediately said, "Listen to me, listen to me. The Investment Promotion Bureau you all contacted might have an urgent matter. I believe they don't disregard your importance. Otherwise, here's the deal. It seems like they won't be able to make it for a while. You can go to our Zhen Shui County for inspection first. Not to boast, it's well-known that many of the foreign investors this time were invited by our Zhen Shui County. Our county's projects are not inferior to others. Waiting is just waiting. We've already prepared the vehicles and can depart immediately."

Upon hearing this, the crowd started discussing.

Mr. An was the most relieved. He said, gambling with his temper, "All right, let's go to your county."

Mr. Liu smiled bitterly, "Sure, they won't make it. Mayor Dong, consider me in. Do you have any livestock farming projects?"

"We have them all, we have them all," Dong Xuebing suddenly said cheerfully.

No one from the Investment Promotion Bureaus of the various districts and counties, nor anyone from the City Investment Promotion Bureau were there. Only Zhen Shui County's people were still "alive." They had no other choice. Although some people chose to wait at the hotel, most were prepared to go to Zhen Shui County. They had no other options, and there was also a herd mentality – so many foreign investment groups were inspecting Zhen Shui County, there must be a reason. Those were large conglomerates with tens of billions in assets, naturally having a better perspective

than them. With this mindset, everyone thought it would be good to go and take a look at Zhen Shui County. Since those people were unreliable, some were still waiting at the hotel, but most were getting ready to go to Zhen Shui County. Under these circumstances, the Investment Promotion Expo venue would likely have only one booth – Zhen Shui County.

Dong Xuebing couldn't close his mouth, "All right, let me contact the vehicles immediately. By the way, please inform your friends, don't let them wait. If possible, just go to our county. In this situation, the Investment Promotion Expo venue will likely have only our Zhen Shui County booth."

"Okay, I'll check."

"I'll call Old Zhang too."

"Yes, don't wait any longer. These people have no sense of time."

In just ten minutes, Dong Xuebing contacted more than fifty domestic investors. And there might be more. If we include Zhang Longjuan's inspection team, the scale is almost close to a hundred. Without saying a word, Dong Xuebing excitedly skipped lunch and left the lobby, making a call to notify Chang Juan, "Come to the hotel entrance immediately."

Chang Juan, Chen Yunsong, and others arrived half a minute later. They were arranging vehicles, which Dong Xuebing had instructed to prepare for foreign investors yesterday.

Dong Xuebing immediately said, "The cars are all prepared."

Chang Juan acknowledged, "They're all in the parking lot."

Dong Xuebing ordered, "Prepare to depart, everyone, let's get moving."

"Depart?" Chen Yunsong was surprised, "Aren't the foreigners scheduled for eight o'clock? There's still over an hour."

"Don't worry about the foreigners for now," Dong Xuebing said. "I've contacted more than fifty investors. Can your cars accommodate them? If not, squeeze in."

"Fifty or more?"

"Mayor Dong, what's going on?"

Chang Juan and Gong Na were also a bit stunned by this surprise.

Dong Xuebing laughed, "All the people who drank yesterday are from all the Investment Promotion Bureaus participating in this Investment Promotion Expo. Liquor is different from beer; alcohol doesn't leave the system easily. After drinking so much last night, it's only been a few hours, and not a single one of them has gotten up. Many scheduled investors haven't been sent down on time, and all contact has been cut off. Now, in the hotel, only our Zhen Shui County remains."

Chen Yunsong was excited upon hearing this, "Ah, I'll immediately arrange for the cars to come over."

Dong Xuebing instructed, "The cars will not be enough. There will likely be more later. Also, the foreign investors' cars must be ready before eight. Can you manage?"

Chen Yunsong clenched his fist, "I'll contact a rental company. It should be possible, but the price might double if we need the cars urgently."

Dong Xuebing opened his bag and pulled out fifty thousand RMB in cash, "Take this money. I'll advance it. Don't worry about doubling; even if it's ten times the price, we'll pay as long as the cars arrive on time. Make sure to get the people to our county first. It'll be too late once the city leaders arrive or those people wake up. At this time, acting decisively is crucial, and we can't be afraid of offending people."

Dong Xuebing had the courage to do this.

Chapter 1466: Wipe your mouth and leave

Morning.

Not yet 7 a.m.

Hotel, outdoor parking lot.

Two tourist buses were filled with people, and investors got on the bus, finding their seats. Officials from Zhen Shui County were busy organizing below.

"Please board the bus."

"Mayor Dong, do you have the circuit board industry project?"

"Yes, we have everything. Please get on board."

"But I heard that Zhen Shui County doesn't have this industrial chain yet."

"We can discuss everything, and our county will provide you with the greatest policy incentives and support."

More than fifty investors had already boarded. The two buses were almost full, but some investors still had concerns, perhaps thinking about projects in other counties or fearing they would go to Zhen Shui County and not learn anything. So, they hadn't boarded yet and were talking with officials from Zhen Shui County. Chen Yunsong and Gong Na wanted to answer truthfully, but Dong Xuebing took the initiative to respond to any investors' questions, promising everything to lure them in. As a result, after some hesitation, many investors got on the third bus. Shortly after, more people who had heard the news and were still waking up also decided to join. Initially, they wanted to go to the investment promotion fair to take a look, but upon hearing that there was only one investment promotion department left in the entire city, and all the other investment promotion bureaus' staff had disappeared, some reluctantly boarded the Zhen Shui County bus.

More than seventy people.

More than seventy investors.

All three buses were full.

Except for some who weren't interested in Zhen Shui County and those who had already gone to other places for investment promotion in the past two days, Dong Xuebing had almost cleared out all the investors from the hotel.

Chen Yunsong was extremely excited.

Gong Na was also ecstatic.

This unexpected gain was too significant. Just think about the past two days. Zhen Shui County had tried so hard, spent so much effort, and didn't even manage to contact a single investor. Even investors couldn't be bothered to look at Zhen Shui County. But now, not only did investment promotion bureaus from other districts lose their investors, but even the ones that the city's investment promotion bureau had brought were now on their bus. It was like a pie falling from the sky. No one expected Dong Xuebing to achieve such an extraordinary result after showing off his might last night by getting everyone drunk. If it weren't for this opportunity, Dong Xuebing would still find a way to create one and seize its investors. Even without this opportunity, Dong Xuebing would have tried his best to find a way to make it happen. With an old grudge still fresh in his mind, Dong Xuebing hadn't forgotten the past.

Seizing opportunities.

Seizing the entire city's opportunities.

Dong Xuebing didn't care at all. His only advantage was his courage, and if this opportunity hadn't presented itself, Dong Xuebing would have found a way to create one and seize it. With or without this opportunity, Dong Xuebing would have done whatever it took to seize theirs. With a personal vendetta to settle, Dong Xuebing had already remembered the past.

Dong Xuebing was satisfied. He gave a thumbs up to Chang Juan, who was confident and bold in her moves. Chen Yunsong and Gong Na were waiting for someone to find them. Meanwhile, Chang Juan had entered the enemy's territory, going into hotel rooms to snatch and poach investors. This was how it had to be. Since the opportunity had presented itself, Dong Xuebing decided to go all out.

Chen Yunsong said, "Mayor Dong, shall we leave?"

Dong Xuebing said, "Yes, let's go. Prepare to move."

"Wait. Wait, there are still people." After disappearing for half a day, Chang Juan exited the hotel, accompanied by two businesswomen. "Leave seats for Ms. Ci and Ms. Shen." Well, she had poached them as well. It turned out that Chang Juan had also seized the opportunity. She had no less courage than Dong Xuebing and didn't care about the city's reaction.

Dong Xuebing was very satisfied and gave Chang Juan a pat on the shoulder. "Good, it's up to you now. Be flexible, and just make sure to get the people there." Checking the time, Dong Xuebing immediately ordered, "It's not early to avoid dreaming too long. Gong Na, you and the others can set off. If there's anything, contact me at any time."

"Yes."

"Stay safe."

Gong Na boarded the first bus.

Subsequently, the three buses drove out one after another.

Dong Xuebing asked, "It's seven o'clock. When do people from the city usually arrive?"

Chen Yunsong replied, "Usually around eight, but since the foreign investors were scheduled for eight yesterday, Deputy Mayor Hua will probably come early."

Dong Xuebing pondered, "There's not much time left. Is the bus for the foreign investors ready?"

"I just called. It will be here in five minutes," Chen Yunsong said.

Ring, ring, ring the phone rang. Dong Xuebing took out his phone and saw it was Zhang Longjuan's number. He immediately answered, "Hello, Ms. Zhang, are you awake?"

A burst of charming laughter came from the other end, "I woke up early. I slept in the afternoon. It's been more than ten hours already. Ah, it's been so long since I slept so comfortably."

"What about the other foreign investors?"

"They're awake, too."

"Have they had breakfast?"

"They had it before six. A few friends are chatting in my room right now."

"Oh, so early."

"Yes, I thought you wouldn't wake up. I didn't dare to call you for breakfast before six. What's up? Did you wake up early?"

"Yeah, I'm busy with other matters. Ms. Zhang, I'd like to discuss something with you."

"Go ahead, handsome."

"Let's set off now. Don't wait until eight."

"What's the hurry?"

"There's something unexpected. I'm afraid of changes, so"

"Haha, there's no problem on my end, and our people have eaten and rested well. Okay, wait for me to ask them."

"Alright, I appreciate it."

"I know it's inconvenient for you to talk. Let's do it this way for now."

"Yeah, I'm at the hotel entrance. I'll be waiting for you."

"Haha, wait, I'll be there in twenty minutes at the latest."

It took only ten minutes. Zhang Longjuan and a dozen foreign investors appeared at the entrance. Some were carrying luggage and changes of clothes, while others came with briefcases. Dong Xuebing saw them from afar and immediately signaled for the bus, which had arrived just a few minutes ago.

Dong Xuebing, being well-acquainted with Zhang Longjuan, had a close relationship with her. They had even kissed before, and Zhang Longjuan's company had a 20% stake held by Dong Xuebing. However, such matters could not be disclosed publicly. Now that Dong Xuebing was representing the investment promotion department, and Zhang Longjuan was an investor, they had to be careful about appearances. Even though they had a close relationship, Dong Xuebing was still cautious. Chen Yunsong and Gong Na were waiting for someone to approach them, but Chang Juan had already entered the enemy's territory, poaching investors directly from hotel rooms. Dong Xuebing had decided to go all out since the opportunity presented itself. He even wanted to pack up the entire hotel and bring it along.

Zhang Longjuan probably sensed his urgency and said, "Alright, let's go."

"Good," Dong Xuebing nodded and said in English, "Dear executives, please board the bus."

The dozen or so foreign investors, seemingly on a sightseeing tour, got on the bus one after another, chatting and laughing. Zhang Longjuan naturally accompanied her friends and also got on.

Dong Xuebing went up and greeted the bus driver, "Master, did you see that Land Rover? I'll be in the front, and you follow me."

The driver said, "Okay."

Turning around, Dong Xuebing snapped his fingers and said to Chang Juan and Chen Yunsong, "That's it. Let's act separately. Chang Juan, you may face some pressure here."

Chang Juan smiled, "No big deal."

Dong Xuebing said, "I leave it to you. I'll give you credit later."

Dong Xuebing naturally trusted her. While Chang Juan's work capability might not be outstanding, she had courage. After all, she grew up in Beijing City and had seen almost everything. She could withstand the pressure and threats from the city. Chang Juan was the most suitable person to stay behind.

The Land Rover started moving.

The bus followed, leaving the hotel.

On the way, Dong Xuebing wanted to call Jiang Fangfang to inform the county, but after hesitating, he didn't dare. He was afraid Sister Jiang would criticize him. Instead, he called his secretary, Yao Cui.

"Hello, Xuebing."

"Cui'er, how's everything at the office?"

"Well, we've arranged everything for your arrival in the county. The hotels are booked, and Secretary Meng and Mayor Jiang will personally attend to welcome the foreign investors."

"You might have to add a few more tables."

"Well, add tables for what? How many more people?"

"You have to add several tables and chairs. You should go to Secretary Meng and Mayor Jiang right away. Tell the leaders that this time, there will be an investment group of a hundred people coming to our county."

"A hundred people? I thought it was just a dozen or so foreign investors."

"There are foreign investors among them, and there are also seventy or eighty domestic small investors. I've contacted them. We'll discuss the details later. Anyway, the people have already gone. We'll arrive at the latest in an hour and a half. Quickly contact everyone and make sure everything is ready. Don't be short of tables and chairs when the time comes."

"Is this for real?" .com

"It's real. Hurry up and contact them."

Chapter 1467: The City Investment Promotion Fair became a laughing stock

Morning.

Seven thirty.

A car gradually approached and stopped in the hotel's open-air parking lot. Deputy Mayor Hua Li got out of the car, frowned, and made a phone call with his phone in his hand. Beep, beep, beep. No one answered the call from the City Investment Promotion Bureau director, Lu Weiguo.

This old Lu

What is he up to?

It's already so late, and he doesn't even answer the phone.

Hua Li's expression wasn't too good. Normally, it would be fine, but now it's during the investment promotion period. The city has already made regulations that all Investment Promotion Bureau in-service personnel must keep their phones open 24 hours a day during the investment promotion period. Not to mention Lu Weiguo, the top leader. But from when he set off until now, Director Lu's phone has been unanswered. Hua Li's secretary also called other officials from the City Investment Promotion Bureau, and the result was the same. Except for one person whose phone was turned off, none of the other officials' phones were answered. It's one thing for one person, but if all the City Investment Promotion Bureau officials can't be reached by phone, what's going on?

He got out of the car.

"Still can't get through?" Hua Li said irritably.

The secretary nodded, "Can't reach the heads of the investment promotion bureaus in other districts either."

Hua Li slammed the car door, "Could they have vanished into thin air?"

The secretary blinked, "Um, maybe they drank too much last night."

Hua Li also knew about the dinner last night, "How much could they have drunk? How come no one is up? Keep calling them until someone answers."

The secretary and several city staff continued to make phone calls.

Hua Li stopped talking and walked into the hotel's entrance in big strides. As far as he knew, at least forty investors were scheduled to visit various counties and districts today. At this rate, all the investors will be stuck in the hotel without arrangements. Each investor is precious to them, and attracting one is difficult. Hua Li certainly doesn't want investors to have second thoughts. So he wants to communicate with them quickly. However, after entering the hotel lobby, Hua Li and the city staff were slightly stunned. They didn't see a single investor. This shouldn't be the case; at this time, the investors should have all woken up. Why is there no one in the lobby? Could they all be in their rooms? No, it can't be. After searching around, Hua Li couldn't find any staff from the Investment Promotion Bureau.

Where are they?

Where have they all gone?

With his team, Hua Li wandered around the lobby and even went to the restaurant, but still didn't see anyone. Suddenly, he became angry, "I don't believe it. Knock on their doors. If they don't open, find the hotel staff and use a spare card to open the door and get them out."

Everyone acted separately, and all the city staff went upstairs to find people.

A few minutes later, Hua Li saw a more infuriating scene. Lu Weiguo came down, and several officials from the investment promotion bureaus of various counties and districts also came out. However, there were only about ten people left. The remaining forty or so people were nowhere to be seen. Moreover, as soon as Lu Weiguo and Chen Mingming, the director of the Meiyang District Investment Promotion Bureau came down, they both covered their mouths and started vomiting. Lu Weiguo vomited into the hotel lobby's flowerpot, and Chen Mingming couldn't hold it in, vomiting directly on the floor. The other people didn't look much better; they seemed unsteady.

Bastards!

Hua Li pointed at them and shouted, "What are you doing?"

Many hotel staff were alarmed and quickly came over to clean up.

Lu Weiguo was vomiting, so one of the slightly more sober city investment promotion officials hurried over and said, "I'm sorry, Mayor Hua. Yesterday, we drank too much."

Hua Li angrily said, "Enough with the excuses. Tell me, where are the investors? Where are they?"

The official was stunned, looking around, "They should be in their rooms. Oh, right." He suddenly slapped his forehead, "Many of them were scheduled for inspections at six."

Hua Li's secretary said, "It's almost eight. What inspections are they doing at this hour?"

The official panicked, "I'll contact them immediately, immediately." He started making calls, but no one answered after a long time. "Um, they're not answering."

By this time, Lu Weiguo also stumbled over with a painful expression, "Mayor Hua."

"Old Lu, old Lu." Hua Li pointed at him, "Look at yourself."

Lu Weiguo also felt a bit embarrassed, but the alcohol hadn't been fully metabolized yet, and he was still floating, unable to control his body.

Hua Li shouted loudly, "Contact the investors for me individually. Call all those scheduled for inspections at six. If they don't answer, go upstairs and apologize."

Over there, a hotel staff member blinked and suddenly said, "Leaders, there's no need to keep calling. Someone just took all the investors away."

"What?"

"Took them away?"

Hua Li, Lu Weiguo, and others were all stunned.

The female staff member said, "I saw them get on a bus, probably around a hundred people. The person in charge seemed to be Dong, the Mayor of Zhen Shui. I don't know about the others."

Lu Weiguo urgently asked, "Where are they?"

The female staff member said, "They've all left."

"The ones from Zhen Shui County also left," Lu Weiguo said.

The female staff member nodded, "Yes, Mayor Dong left with the foreign investors about twenty minutes ago."

Zhen Shui County, headed by Dong, took away the investors.

There was an uproar, and Hua Li and others were shocked and angry. "Why didn't you stop them?"

The female staff member looked at them and thought, "Can we really stop them? That's your Investment Promotion Bureau's business, and it has nothing to do with our hotel. Even if we wanted to stop them, we couldn't."

Lu Weiguo sobered up a bit and angrily said, "Zhen Shui County is audacious."

Hua Li's secretary exclaimed, "Is this Dong Xuebing acting recklessly?"

People from other county investment promotion bureaus were equally infuriated. This is outrageous. We worked so hard to attract these investors; while drunk, they took them all away. Damned Dong, you're unethical.

In the end, after the last contact, only around twenty investors were left in the hotel.

Who can blame others for this?

They couldn't blame anyone.

In just half an hour, the news spread throughout the city. The entire city learned about the incident. Last night, the joint efforts of the city's Investment Promotion Bureau and the Investment Promotion departments aimed to get Zhen Shui County officials drunk to snatch away the foreign investors they invited. However, instead of getting Mayor Dong drunk, they ended up getting themselves all drunk, and Dong Xuebing, alone, drank 5.5 liters of alcohol and, the next day, managed to take away all the investors brought by other districts and counties.

Many people were left dumbfounded.

Who exactly is this in Zhen Shui County Deputy Mayor?

A person who can outdrink over fifty others in just a half-hour is unheard of. This has made Lu Weiguo and others almost a laughingstock throughout the city.

Chapter 1468: Scolding the City Leaders

It's past eight.

The morning sun is rising, casting a gentle glow over the sky.

A blue wave-like expanse fills the horizon.

A black Land Rover leads the way, followed closely by a bus. The convoy has gradually left the city and even caught up with the three tourist buses escorting domestic investors. Dong Xuebing was worried that people from the city and other counties would discover and intercept them, so he had Gong Na take a slightly longer route. He had also arranged for the foreign investors he contacted, led by Zhang Longjuan, to depart early. As a result, on the outer roads of the city, they coincidentally caught up with Gong Na's bus. The two convoys merged.

Honk, honk.

Dong Xuebing pressed the horn.

Gong Na, on the bus in front, also noticed them. She held her head out the window, vigorously waving at Dong Xuebing's car. Dong Xuebing smiled, responded with an OK gesture, and then pressed the car window button to extend his hand. He signaled to the driver of the foreign investors' bus behind him, pointing to the three buses in front. The bus driver understood, accelerated, and followed behind the three buses. The four tourist buses formed a line, looking imposing. Dong Xuebing, seeing that there was no place for him, stepped on the gas and sped ahead, taking the lead in front of the four buses. He opened the car's audio system.

A rock song burst out.

It was both majestic and passionate.

Dong Xuebing hummed with gusto, glancing at the several buses in the rearview mirror. He was in a great mood. It's like finding what you want without much effort. Hua Li, oh Hua Li, Lu Weiguo, oh Lu Weiguo, and comrades from the county Investment Promotion Bureaus, sorry about that.

One minute...

Two minutes...

Three minutes...

The phone suddenly rang.

Looking at the number, Dong Xuebing saw that Deputy Mayor Hua Li was calling.

Shortly after setting off, Hua Li and the City Investment Promotion Bureau staff called, but Dong Xuebing didn't answer any of them because he was afraid of accidents. However, now that the car was out of the city and about to enter Zhen Shui County, Dong Xuebing didn't care anymore. He simply turned off the music, answered the phone, and enjoyed hearing the enemy's defeated cries. For Dong Xuebing, this was also a kind of enjoyable fun.

"Hello, Mayor Hua," Dong Xuebing said while driving.

On the other end, Hua Li's voice came out coldly, "Why did you only answer the phone now?"

Dong Xuebing smiled. "Oh, I was busy with something just now. I didn't hear your call. Sorry, it's a bit chaotic here."

Hua Li immediately said, "Where are you now?"

Dong Xuebing looked at the road signs. Technically, they were still in Chenggang County, but he casually said, "I'm in Zhen Shui County now. I just entered the suburbs and am heading towards the county town. What's wrong, Mayor Hua? Is there something going on with the investment promotion fair?"

Seeing that he was deliberately asking, Hua Li became angry, "You tell me where you are now."

Dong Xuebing laughed, "I'm already in the county. Is there something urgent for me to come back?"

Hua Li said angrily, "I told you to come back. Come back now and bring back all the investors."

Dong Xuebing sneered, "I was wondering what this was all about. So, Mayor Hua, why are you getting angry with me?"

Hua Li shouted, "What do you mean? Why am I angry? The contact and arrangements for investors from each county have already been made. What are you doing, meddling halfway, disrupting everything? Tell me, what are you up to? Are you rebelling? This investment promotion fair is crucial. The city has emphasized it multiple times. What are you doing in Zhen Shui County? You're destroying unity without any consideration for the bigger picture. I won't say much more. Now, turn around and come back. I want to see every investor in an hour, not one less."

Dong Xuebing found a duck already in hand amusing, and he could still let it fly away. He retorted, "We can't go back now."

Hua Li said sternly, "Say that again."

Dong Xuebing calmly replied, "I said we can't go back."

Hua Li couldn't contain his anger. "So, you're not following the city's instructions?"

Dong Xuebing laughed, "Mayor Hua, don't put labels on me. It's not that I'm not following the city's instructions. I just think your current demand is unreasonable. If you want to confront me, then let's discuss it. I need to make it clear beforehand. This time, it's not that I actively wanted to take away investors from other counties. The situation was critical. This morning, the investment promotion comrades from other counties were nowhere to be found. Numerous calls from investors went unanswered. The scheduled inspections at six o'clock were all stood up. You didn't see the scene. The investors were furious, all angry. The hotel staff can testify to this. If you don't believe it, you can ask them. In the end, the investors found me, asking about the whereabouts of the county investment promotion staff. I had no idea and couldn't answer. At that point, the investors had already lost trust in Meihe City. That's the most fatal blow. If this continued, everyone could leave at any time. For example, Mr. An and others have already intended to return home. Seeing the situation was not right, I had to help the comrades from other county Investment Promotion Bureaus defuse the situation. I explained to them. But the matter still needs to be resolved. We can't let the investors wait foolishly at the hotel. I decided to have everyone come to Zhen Shui County for inspection. It helped ease the situation for the absent Investment Promotion comrades. Did I make a mistake?"

Hua Li was still furious. "Why didn't you report to the city?"

Dong Xuebing dismissed it, "The situation was urgent at the time. I couldn't report in time. Besides, why didn't Director Lu and the other county Investment Promotion comrades report this matter to the city first? They are the ones who abandoned the investors first. I find it strange that Director Lu and those who left the investors unattended have faced no consequences. I'm the one who desperately helped them save and resolve the situation, and yet I'm getting scolded for nothing."

His anger thrown into his throat, Hua Li said, "Why didn't Lu and the others wake up in the morning? It might be their responsibility, but the direct reason is that you drank with them last night. Am I wrong?"

Dong Xuebing chuckled, "Mayor Hua, what kind of logic is this? You can't speak nonsense with your eyes wide open, can you? With so many people present last night, I don't believe everyone was blind. There were even service staff who saw it. This can be testified to. Did I force them to drink? I

made it clear from the beginning that I don't drink. It was Director Lu and the others who insisted on forcing me to drink. My subordinates blocked the drinks for me several times, and I was almost forced to vomit. I made it clear that I didn't want to drink anymore. However, Director Lu and the others ignored me. They repeatedly toasted me. What could I do? I had to drink with them to save face. How can you say I forced them to drink? Mayor Hua, I think anyone with a bit of logic can understand that fifty people are toasting me one after another. Who forced whom to drink? Isn't this a joke? They willingly drank, and I didn't have a gun to their heads forcing them. Now, they're all drunk and delayed the proper work. Yet, they blame it on me. Mayor Hua, I find this reasoning absurd. You know, I don't usually drink. I expressed my unwillingness to drink, but Director Lu and the others ignored me. They toasted me repeatedly, and I could only drink with them. Now, they're turning the situation around, saying that I forced them to drink. Mayor Hua, I think a person with a bit of logic can understand that when fifty people are desperately toasting me, one by one, who's forcing whom to drink? Isn't this a joke? They drank willingly, and I didn't have a gun to their heads. Now, they're all drunk and have delayed our work. Yet, they blame it on me. Mayor Hua, I find this reasoning absurd."

Hua Li was momentarily speechless.

Dong Xuebing firmly stated, "I'll say it again. If you insist on having me bring the investors back now, I will have to refuse to execute that order. I will seriously doubt whether this decision has personal motives, and I will seriously question your judgment. You can report this to the city and take disciplinary action against me—I don't care. But I'll clarify: I can justify my actions anywhere I go. Dong Xuebing stands upright, unafraid of any shadows."

Suspecting my decision?

Suspecting my judgment?

Hua Li was once again infuriated. Even though he knew that the new Deputy Mayor of Zhen Shui County was not easy to deal with, he didn't expect him to question the city's leadership openly.

Before Hua Li could rebuke, Dong Xuebing fired again, "If they force me to drink, should I allow myself to get drunk? They got themselves drunk, and now it's all my responsibility. Director Lu helped other counties snatch the investors originally supposed to come to our Zhen Shui County. It's normal work for us to help them resolve the situation, stabilize the investors' emotions, and reluctantly bring them to our county for inspection. It's ridiculous to talk about a broader perspective. I want to ask, whose perspective is this? Yours, Mayor Hua, or Director Lu's? I can't see it as the city's broader perspective. Our Zhen Shui County is also a part of Meihe City. Now that Director Lu and the others have made a mistake, our Zhen Shui County helped salvage the situation, which is normal. If the investment falls into our Zhen Shui County, it also falls into the city. But why, Mayor Hua, do you seem to have such bias and prejudice against our county? Today, I'm in a bad mood and might speak harshly. Don't take it personally. But no matter how you look at it, our Zhen Shui County is not at fault."

Enraged, Hua Li shouted, "Fine, fine!"

Dong Xuebing said indifferently, "I still have a lot of work to handle here. I won't disturb Mayor Hua's work. Once the investors' emotions stabilize, I'll send them back."

Click.

Dong Xuebing hung up on Hua Li for the second time.

Chapter 1469: Zhen Shui County's fall out

In the car.

The music started again.

The sound of rock music filled the carriage.

Dong Xuebing put away his phone and continued to drive. He felt carefree, completely unaffected by Hua Li's call. He was quite cheerful. Dong Xuebing understood that from Hua Li's attitude, he had truly hurt the pride of Hua Li and others. He had humiliated them severely, making them all feel embarrassed. In this situation, Dong Xuebing was naturally in a good mood. What could be more satisfying than seeing your opponents frustrated and angry?

As for the consequences...

As for retaliation...

As for the city's opinion...

As for the reactions of other counties...

Dong Xuebing didn't plan to consider them at all. If there was room for maneuver, it would be the best. But if there wasn't, he couldn't help it. Even if he incurred the wrath of many, even if the city constantly suppressed him in the future, Dong Xuebing didn't care. As long as the investment fair was successful, if he could secure an investment of five million or even a billion, it would be an achievement that no one could erase. It would be a reflection of Dong Xuebing's work performance. He had been in Zhen Shui County for almost three months. Once he obtained this achievement, Dong Xuebing could manipulate other aspects, allowing him to transfer back. He would not linger in Zhen Shui County for a year or two. Even if he angered many, what did it matter? Once he secured the political achievement, Dong Xuebing would leave without a trace. Even if Mayor Hua tried to make things difficult for him, he could still go to the capital or Fen Zhou City, not to mention that the party secretary here didn't have that much power.

Challenging leaders was not a first for Dong Xuebing. Like before, Dong Xuebing wasn't afraid because he had the confidence to confront the city and a retreat plan.

Of course, even if the city's attitude might impact Dong Xuebing's transfer, Dong Xuebing wouldn't compromise. He had no such word as "compromise" in his dictionary, and he wouldn't send back the investors he had snatched. Once he snatched them, it was done. Even if he became the city's thorn, he would endure it. After all, once he secured the investment, Dong Xuebing could pat his butt and leave. Even if Mayor Hua tried to make things difficult, Dong Xuebing could still end up in Beijing or Fen Zhou City. The party secretary's reach wasn't that long.

A rogue in officialdom.

This description of Dong Xuebing wasn't just for show.

This guy could be a real rogue when he wanted to be.

Ten minutes...

Twenty minutes...

Around nine o'clock.

The convoy finally entered Zhen Shui County.

Dong Xuebing led the way, driving towards the agreed-upon hotel entrance.

From a distance, Dong Xuebing could see a dense crowd. He had sharp eyes. He might not have seen Meng Rui, but he quickly spotted the figures of Jiang Fangfang and Yao Cui. Glancing back at the bus following them, Dong Xuebing sighed in relief. He couldn't go to the parking lot with so many county leaders and officials waiting. Instead, he drove over and parked the car on the side of the road.

As soon as the door opened, Dong Xuebing got out.

Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh. Dozens of pairs of eyes looked at him.

Dong Xuebing immediately went up with a smile and greeted, "Secretary Meng, Mayor Jiang."

Jiang Fangfang, dressed very formally in an all-white outfit, said in a light and elegant tone, "You're back."

Dong Xuebing nodded, "I've also brought back the investors."

The bus behind also stopped, and foreign and domestic investors walked down one by one.

The county party secretary, the county mayor, and many county committee members, such as Pu An and Jian Xiangrong, came over to greet them. However, many were taken aback when they saw more than a hundred investors descending from the bus. Even though Dong Xuebing had informed the county in advance, many were still shocked when they saw the one hundred or so investors pouring down from the bus. Their expressions were diverse—some were speechless, some excited, but most were filled with worry and anxiety. Everyone knew about Dong Xuebing's bad reputation, but no one expected him to play such a big game this time.

More than a hundred people...

And more than half of them were brought in by other counties' investment bureaus.

As a result, they were all snatched away by Mayor Dong in one go, almost emptying the city's investment forum.

Every time they thought about it, many people looked at Dong Xuebing with eyes of amazement. They couldn't fathom how daring he was, even manipulating things behind the scenes. Some well-informed individuals also heard the news from the city that Dong Mayor cleared out the investment forum all by himself, taking advantage of an opportunity when he "shone with divine light" after getting more than fifty people drunk.

What kind of capacity for alcohol do you have?

Secretary Meng's expression was uncertain, and he couldn't tell whether he was happy or angry. However, he didn't neglect his duties. He immediately joined Jiang Fangfang and other members of the county standing committee to welcome the investors. He put on a warm smile and, following Dong Xuebing's introduction, shook hands and exchanged greetings with foreign investors like Zhang Longjuan. Then, one by one, he shook hands with more than seventy domestic investors, expressing the county's warm welcome with some superficial remarks.

Before long, the investors, led by the staff, entered the hotel.

However, Secretary Meng and Mayor Jiang did not enter. Instead, they held an impromptu emergency meeting on the bus that had just arrived.

Inside the bus.

The members of the county Party committee were all present.

Secretary Meng's first question was for Dong Xuebing, "How is the city reacting?"

Dong Xuebing answered truthfully, "Mayor Hua is quite angry. As for the others, I don't know."

Chu Peng, the Secretary of the Political and Legal Affairs Committee, sighed. How could Mayor Hua not be angry? Dong Xuebing brought all the investors here, making it impossible to continue the city's investment fair.

Secretary Meng said, "What's everyone's opinion?"

No one spoke, and there was a moment of silence.

After a while, Jiang Fangfang spoke, "Given the current situation and the arrival of the investors, I think our job is to host them well, arrange investment inspections, and not worry about anything else. It's impossible to send these investors back. Choosing to inspect our Zhen Shui County is the investors' choice, and it's also the result of Mayor Dong and the comrades' efforts in the investment promotion bureau. I believe we should not only do well in settling the investors but also increase our efforts to try to keep these investors in our county."

Dong Xuebing immediately said, "I agree. Mayor Hua called me and asked me to return the people, but I clearly stated it was impossible. A few days ago, the city's investment promotion blatantly snatched the investors who were supposed to come to Zhen Shui County, assigning them to other county investment bureaus. I reported this to the city several times, but they showed no clear attitude. Oh, they completely indulged the situation. Since they've made mistakes and neglected the investors, pulling them over to us is unacceptable. Why should all the benefits go to them? Why should we always be at their mercy, eating their leftovers and nonsense?"

Hearing Dong Mayor's words, everyone knew he didn't say anything pleasant in the call with Mayor Hua. He probably gave Mayor Hua quite a hard time.

Daring to challenge city leaders...

Zhen Shui County probably only had Dong Xuebing daring to do so.

Deputy Secretary Zhang Wanshui glanced at him and criticized, "Watch your language."

Pu An tried to smooth things over for Dong Xuebing, "Mayor Dong faced many grievances and was marginalized when leading the team to the city this time. His words might be a bit sharp, but it's understandable."

Cheng Fuguang said, "But what if the city pursues this matter?"

Dong Xuebing looked at him and said, "I brought these people, and I got the people from the city and county investment promotion bureaus drunk. If there's a problem, I'll take responsibility."

Cheng Fuguang frowned, "It's not about whether you take responsibility. The investors came to Zhen Shui County; if the city has any opinions, they are directed at Zhen Shui County. If there are problems in the future, it will affect..."

Dong Xuebing shrugged, "My task is to attract investment. Anyway, I brought the people here, and I've never heard of giving away investments once they're in hand. Minister Cheng, you're noble, but I'm not that noble. I'm not a city official; I'm a county official. I only consider the interests of Zhen Shui County and its people. If Minister Cheng thinks it's inappropriate, you can bring these investors back. I won't bother."

Cheng Fuguang said angrily, "You..."

Secretary Meng interjected, "Both of you, stop arguing."

After a pause, Organization Department Director Liao Haiwei said, "Actually, I think this opportunity is rare. Our finances are in difficulty right now. It would be a pity to let go of this batch of investments."

Deputy County Mayor Ci BoYang said, "The key is there's no reason to give up. The people are here, so how do we send them away?"

This time, many people from the Meng faction also shared Dong Xuebing's point of view.

The cake is too big. If they can secure it, every department will benefit. Who doesn't want a little more funding?

After arguing, everyone fell silent, waiting for Secretary Meng to speak.

After contemplation, Meng Rui looked toward the hotel and decided, "What you all said is correct. Since the investors have chosen our county, we can't possibly send them back. The braver one eats while the timid one starves. Everyone naturally understands this principle. After setting the tone, my decision is more determined. Dong Mayor, you've done exceptionally well this time. Since you brought the people, I'll entrust you with the future investment promotion and inspection work in the county. Don't worry about anything else; just focus on bringing in investments. We won't let one slip away as long as we can secure the investments. If there's pressure from above, I and Mayor Jiang will handle it."

Dong Xuebing agreed, thinking he had finally heard something sensible after staying in Zhen Shui County for so long.

Jiang Fangfang added, "You've worked hard, Mayor Dong. The harder part is still ahead. If you need anything or encounter problems, report directly to me and Secretary Meng."

Chapter 1470: This hooligan

Lunchtime.

Zhen Shen County.

Clouds shielded the scorching sun.

Inside the hotel, a welcoming banquet was held for the investors. Initially, a private room was arranged to accommodate twenty people comfortably. However, now there were not only a dozen foreign investors but also over seventy domestic investors. The county couldn't favor one group over the other, so upon receiving a message from Dong Xuebing, the county hastily arranged a

banquet hall. The hall was large, with a somewhat festive atmosphere resembling a ballroom. Due to the large number of people, it was challenging to set up tables, so the banquet was changed to a buffet. Nearly a hundred investors, Secretary Meng, Mayor Jiang, and other county leaders were mingling together. Some stood, some sat on the surrounding sofas, and others found individual dining tables. Food, drinks, and music made the atmosphere lively, and the place was bustling with activity.

The most eye-catching figures inside were still Jiang Fangfang and Zhang Longjuan.

One was elegant and mature, and the other was glamorous and seductive. Wherever they stood, they attracted attention. Beautiful women always stood out.

"Mayor Jiang."

"Mr. Chen is here too?"

"Oh, you still remember me."

"Of course, this time I want to take another look at the project from last time."

"Yes, take another look. I haven't decided yet."

"Mayor Jiang, haha, I've been looking for you for a long time. Let's have a drink. Last year, when I came to Zhen Shen County, you didn't give me face. This time, it can't be tea instead of wine."

"Then I'll have red wine."

"Alright, any alcohol will do. I toast to you for choosing Zhen Shen County."

"Good. Bottoms up."

"It's Ms. Zhang, right? Hello."

"Don't call me 'you.' Just call me Old Zhang. Haha."

"That won't do. I'll toast you a glass. Thank you for choosing our Zhen Shen County."

"No need to be so polite. Haha, your Mayor Dong is my good friend."

"You're Mayor Dong's friend. Naturally, you're also a friend of our Zhen Shen County. I'll toast to you."

"Alright, bottoms up."

The division of labor in the banquet hall was clear.

Jiang Fangfang was responsible for building good relationships with these domestic investors, chatting with everyone about projects or just casual topics. Most of the investors who came this time were males, and having such a beautiful county mayor around pleased everyone. On the other side, Secretary Meng and several county officials were responsible for communicating with foreign investors. Secretary Meng's secretary, Zhang Feng, surprisingly had a good command of English, and her translation skills were much better than the few people hastily brought in from the city. Secretary Meng also intentionally approached Zhang Longjuan and chatted with her.

Of course, the busiest person there was Dong Xuebing.

During his time in the city, he had already interacted with many domestic investors. Essentially, he knew most of them. He also brought in foreign investors. Naturally, he had to greet everyone. Dong Xuebing was seen running back and forth, not even having time to eat, but after chatting for a while, he checked his watch and walked quickly to whisper something in Jiang Fangfang's ear. Jiang Fangfang nodded, made a sound of agreement, and Dong Xuebing left.

"Old Zheng."

"Mayor Dong, what's going on?"

"Call the people from the Investment Promotion Bureau and ask them to come out for a meeting."

"Alright, I'll talk to them."

Dong Xuebing and the Investment Promotion Bureau staff left their seats and found a nearby resting area where they all sat down after exiting the banquet hall.

Zheng Dayou, Cheng Yujie, Xiao Hong, Gong Na.

These were the few remaining people in the county's Investment Promotion Bureau.

Dong Xuebing looked at them and said, "Let me outline the tasks. We don't have many people. Even if the county has temporarily assigned some additional staff, it's not enough to handle nearly a hundred investors. This problem can't be solved, so we can only grit our teeth and go for it. Overtime is certain, and everyone might have to work from six in the morning until eight in the evening or even later. I will be doing the same. However, I believe the exhaustion will be worthwhile because this investment promotion is unprecedented in Zhen Shen County's history. Whether Zhen Shen County can remove the title of a nationally designated impoverished county and the future living standards of our people all depend on us. I hope everyone will put in their best effort. Facing each investor, we must use ten or even twelve points of enthusiasm and confidence to secure their investment."

"Yes."

"Don't worry."

"We will complete the task."

Everyone also expressed their determination.

After discussing some official matters, Dong Xuebing changed the topic, "I'll give you a bottom line here. When I came, I knew that our county's investment promotion doesn't have the commission rewards like those projects in other counties. The bonuses are variable, and the county has not issued any documents. This policy can't be adjusted for the time being. However, I guarantee each of you in the Investment Promotion Bureau that if this investment exceeds one billion RMB, each person will receive a bonus of at least three hundred thousand RMB. As for the variable part, it will be calculated based on individual contributions. Three hundred thousand is just the minimum reward."

Upon hearing this, everyone's eyes showed excitement.

Xiao Hong couldn't help but exclaim, "A minimum of three hundred thousand?" After speaking, she felt it might be inappropriate and quickly covered her mouth, not daring to speak again.

However, Dong Xuebing didn't find anything wrong. "Yes, a minimum of three hundred thousand. It will only increase, not decrease. I have already discussed this with Secretary Meng and Mayor Jiang. There won't be any problems. This is a recognition and commendation for everyone's achievements in these days and the days to come. It's well-deserved. But I also said the premise is to secure an investment of over one billion." Initially, it was set at fifty million, but given the current situation, it was natural to increase the stakes.

No pain, no gain.

For them, the bonus was substantial.

Three hundred thousand was a significant sum, equivalent to their salary for almost ten years.

As long as they worked hard for this month, it was equivalent to completing a task normally taking ten years. Everyone naturally had nothing to say, and their motivation skyrocketed.

Seeing this, Dong Xuebing continued, "Now, let me assign tasks. Old Zheng, the foreign investment group, is still the top priority. You take charge of it. Don't worry about anything else. As long as the foreign investors are in our county, you stay with them. Director Cheng, Xiaogong, and Xiaoxiao, you don't need to worry about the specific business divisions. Even the office staff, starting today, go out and handle business for me. More than seventy domestic investors are entrusted to you. Take your team to inspect projects. If someone shows interest, you're responsible for them one-on-one. If manpower is insufficient for one-on-one, find temporary staff assigned by the county. I will inform the county government office about this. When necessary, you can decide first." Reception work was also a function and duty of the county government office. Dong Xuebing was also in charge of the county government office. In extreme circumstances, they could only dispatch all personnel.

"Alright."

"We understand."

"Let it be. Contact me anytime for any progress or problems."

Although it seemed like Dong Xuebing had delegated tasks to Zheng Dayou and Cheng Yujie, everyone knew that Dong Xuebing would be the busiest. He had to accompany the inspections, handle issues on one side, and even take charge of communication during the intention phase. Therefore, no one said anything. Everyone understood that no one would be idle during this investment promotion.

Ring, ring, ring.

Zheng Dayou's phone rang.

Seeing the caller ID, Zheng Dayou couldn't help but frown, "Chen Mingming."

He looked towards Dong Xuebing, wanting to ask, but seeing that Dong Xuebing didn't speak, Zheng Dayou answered the call.

As soon as the call connected, the furious voice of Chen Mingming, the head of the Meiyang District Investment Promotion Bureau, came through, "Old Zheng, what is Zhen Shen County up to?"

Zheng Dayou wasn't in a good mood either, "What do you mean by what we're up to?"

"What do I mean?" Chen Mingming shouted, "You didn't even say hello and just took away the seven investors we contacted. What's the meaning of this?"

The tone was loud.

Dong Xuebing, Cheng Yujie, and others also heard it.

Seeing this, Dong Xuebing stepped forward, took Zheng Dayou's phone, and sternly said, "Why are you shouting? Is your voice naturally this loud?"

"Who are you?"

"I'm Dong Xuebing."

"You..."

Dong Xuebing cut him off, "Sober up, Chen Mingming. Let me tell you, don't shout here. The day before yesterday, your Meiyang District snatched investors who were originally heading to our county. Do you remember what I told you then? I didn't say anything. Investment promotion work relies on individual abilities. If you can make investors choose your district, that's your ability. Now that your investors have actively come to our county, don't waste your breath. You, yourself, delayed the investor's inspection, angered them, and now you still have the nerve to argue with us? If I hadn't intervened to smooth things, your punishment wouldn't have been just a disciplinary action."

Chen Mingming held back for a long time, "Who are you to barge in like this?"

Dong Xuebing said, "The investors have chosen our Zhen Shen County. If you can't accept it, come to our county and take them back. I'll be waiting."

Beep.

Dong Xuebing hung up the phone.

Handing the phone back to Zheng Dayou, Dong Xuebing said, "In the future, you might as well not answer such calls. If they want to shout, let them shout. We're doing everything upright and proper. There's no problem at all. There's no need to be concerned. I've never heard of someone fearing confrontation when they're right."

Chen Mingming was indeed furious. He had never seen a county leader so unscrupulous.

Initially, when he was drunk last night, he wanted to mess with Zhen Shen County a bit. Unexpectedly, not only did they not seize Zhen Shen County's foreign investors, but even their investors were embarrassed. Just now, when he sobered up, Chen Mingming received a message that the higher-ups had decided to give each of them an administrative warning.

Defeated.

Humiliated.

Now, every investment promotion department in the city felt this way.

All ten counties, including the city's Investment Promotion Bureau, had colluded to squeeze Zhen Shen County, suppress them, and even set traps to catch them. But the final result was that Dong Xuebing single-handedly dealt with all of them, and he did it ruthlessly.

Dong Xuebing.

This hooligan.