

Physician Wife 2011

Chapter 2011: Determination and Nonchalance

“Nuannuan, this isn’t a joke. Once we make a move, the Nangong family might come face-to-face with the full wrath of the Shi family.”

“Come on! You make it sound like my family is afraid of the Shi family. Elder Wu, no matter what happens, the Nangong family still outranks the Shi family. If I’m not worried, why are you?”

Elder Wu, “...”

“You’re still young. You don’t understand how important this is,” Old Wu said. Then, he looked at Chi Yang and asked, “Lieutenant General Chi, can you suggest a way to save Jingzhong and restore him to his previous position without angering the Shi Family?”

Old Wu’s face was full of hope, but Chi Yang merely responded with a single, blunt sentence.

“Why should I care about that? I only care about keeping my family safe and loved.”

Elder Wu, “...”

The members of the Wu Family, “...”

Finally, in the face of Nangong Nuannuan’s determination and Chi Yang’s nonchalance, Elder Wu backed down.

They would take things one step at a time.

If the Nangong family really went up against the Shi family, the Wu family would be willing to mobilize all their manpower, financial resources, and material resources to support the Nangong family.

Even though their family did not have much of a relationship with the military base and the administrative office, they were still rich! They had a lot of money! Their finances were certainly not inferior to the financial strength of the four great families of Emperor District. If they really wanted to go all out, even if they could not completely take down the Shi family, they could at least wear them out.”

Anyway, the fact that Chi Yang had maintained a calm demeanor from the very beginning of the situation calmed Elder Wu significantly.

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An hour later, Nangong Nuannuan called Lan Weisong again.

He decisively declined the call.

He felt that Nangong Nuannuan’s request was extremely excessive. Even if she wanted to make trouble with the Nangong family, and the Nangong family wanted to make trouble with the Shi family, he was still in the right.

Even after what the prison guard told him about the video, he was not afraid at all.

His reaction differed greatly from Xu Binren's, who had been so scared that he wet his pants when he heard about the video. He had fallen for Wu Zongxu's trap.

Whenever he spoke to Wu Zongxu, Xu Binren could observe that he was a twisted person. Even if he was close to the Wu family, Xu Binren could never trust such a man—someone like him would not hesitate to betray Xu Binren whenever convenient. If this man possessed such a damning video, who would he have given it to for safekeeping?

He could not trust anyone but himself.

Therefore, if there truly was a video, he would have hidden it himself and not given it to anyone.

Wu Zongxu had not been dragged into the police station over this incident—he had been sent to prison by the Wu family because he orchestrated Wu Pingting's rape. It had been a sudden falling out with the family. Thus, the video definitely could not be leaked through any channels.

Therefore, upon learning that Wu Zongxu had a video, Lan Weisong only had to think about it for a moment before feeling relieved.

Even if there was a video, it was definitely not in the Wu family's hands, let alone the Xu family's.

As long as it did not end up in either of the two family's hands, once he became governor, he would be able to get rid of anyone who possessed the video.

After thinking through this matter, Lan Weisong was no longer afraid. He was bold and decisive. Even though he was going up against the daughter of the Nangong family and the young master of the Chi family, he still had a good chance of fighting his way to the role of governor of a province.

Therefore, no matter what Nangong Nuannuan wanted, he refused to back down, let alone talk to the head of the Shi family about this matter.

After all, Nangong Nuannuan was the one being unreasonable in the first place.

The meeting he had left was still ongoing.

Chapter 2012: Hardcore Fan

This meeting was being held after the arrest of Wu Jingzhong and Xu Binren. Many important leaders were in attendance.

The meeting was being hosted by Lan Weisong, alongside the state leaders and the Ministry of Justice. The meeting's purpose was to ensure that the entire state's administrative office's staff were aware of the consequences of doing something wrong. They used Wu Jingzhong and Xu Binren as examples to remind everyone not to forget their reasons for working in the administrative office. They had to be diligent and care for society.

The first thing on the agenda was for Lan Weisong and the people from the Ministry of Justice to explain the Wu Jingzhong and Xu Binren incident in detail to everyone.

The second was for Lan Weisong to make a speech and swear an oath to everyone. All the leaders also had to swear on that oath to be good officials who were diligent in their government work and also cared for society. They had to be loyal to the nation and not tarnish the reputation of the executive hall.

The third was to watch a video regarding the subcontracted road, which detailed the condition of the road after the earthquake, the actual construction of the road, how the Wu family split the money, and Xu Binren's participation in the distribution of the money. After the incident, they put all the blame on Wu Jingzhong, so they killed Wu Zongxu.

The final thing to do was for the Ministry of Justice to once again remind the meeting's participants about the rule of law. It was to ensure that everyone understood that their roles would have no impact on what would happen if they made the mistake of breaking the law—they would still be completely at the Ministry of Justice's mercy.

The first and second points on the agenda had already been completed, and the third was now coming to an end.

All the participants were dumbstruck.

When Wu Jingzhong was first arrested for this matter, many people who knew him, admired him, and were close to him did not believe it.

After all, the Wu family was so rich and had such few members. Wu Jingzhong usually could not even use up all of the Wu Group's annual dividends. Much of that money had been donated and used to build twenty schools in the poor mountainous areas. Wu Jingzhong's character and reputation were admired, so the rumors had been unbelievable. Even those who did not have a particularly good relationship with him secretly respected his meticulous nature and had to admit that they were in disbelief at the news.

However, when they saw the video, everyone sighed in disappointment. They never imagined that Wu Jingzhong would do something so stupid and use such despicable methods to earn some profit.

The video finally ended, and the fourth point on the agenda was about to begin. However, someone suddenly stood up and spoke up for Wu Jingzhong.

This person was the director of the Education Ministry. The Sea District Education Ministry managed many schools catering to the poor, providing the children of these poverty-stricken mountainous areas with a good environment to grow up in. Most of these schools had been built by Wu Jingzhong himself. Therefore, the director of the Education Bureau admired Wu Jingzhong very much. He was a hardcore fan of his!

"Governor Lan and colleagues from the Ministry of Justice, I'd like to ask you all a question."

"Director Yin, please go ahead," said Lan Weisong.

"Everyone knows that I'm close to Governor Wu, so I think I know more about Governor Wu's family situation than most of the people here. The deceased, Wu Zongxu, was indeed Governor Wu's son. However, you all may not know this, but Governor Wu never married or had any children of his own. Wu Zongxu is just Governor Wu's adopted son. The video that we just watched is evidence of Governor Wu's adopted son's actions. He was orchestrating everything from the background. It was him who contacted the contractor, and it was him who contacted Governor Xu and his secretary."

Chapter 2013: That All Sounds Reasonable

"From the beginning to the end of that video, Governor Wu only appeared once—when he was arrested. I have reason to suspect that this matter may not have anything to do with Governor Wu at all."

Lan Weisong nodded with a smile. He responded, "Director Yin's suspicion is understandable. However, our colleagues at the Ministry of Justice have already thoroughly investigated this matter. This is definitely Wu Jingzhong's fault. After all, regardless of whether they're biologically related or not, Wu Zongxu is still Wu Jingzhong's son. His only son, right?"

Yin Li shook his head. "Governor Lan, that's not what you said. Right now, there are only three potential justifications for arresting Governor Wu. First, because Wu Zongxu is his son. Second, because the beneficiaries of this project are the members of the Wu family. Third, because this project cost 200 million yuan, and the bank card used for the payment is in Governor Wu's name."

"The first reason isn't in line with our country's law. It was Wu Zongxu orchestrating this whole thing from the very beginning. It had nothing to do with Governor Wu. Why insist on arresting him and pinning this crime on him?"

"For the second reason... Even though the beneficiaries of the project are technically related to the Wu family, many of our state leaders actually know the three people who got the money from the project. They are distant relatives of the Wu family who were disowned for wronging the family. Governor Wu made them apologize and compensate the family before he publicly announced that these three people had no connection to the Wu family anymore. Thus, this matter has nothing to do with the Wu family. Even if Governor Wu wanted to carry out this underhanded scheme, he had no reason to choose those three people as the beneficiaries. Furthermore, I have reason to suspect that these three people merely contracted the road and then up and left—they wanted to blacken Governor Wu's reputation."

"As for the third reason, my younger brother, Yin Ge, is the chief of the Public Security Bureau of Wangcheng Area. After the incident took place, I asked him to investigate and obtain evidence regarding the bank card involved. Although this card was in Governor Wu's name, Wu Zongxu was the one who used it. Not once has Governor Wu ever used this card. We all know that banks nowadays have come up with all kinds of gimmicks to register an account and get a card—it's far less common for people to get away with such a thing now, but it can still happen. Given that it was Wu Zongxu opening the account, do you believe the bank employees would refuse to register a card for the governor's son?"

"That all sounds reasonable!"

"I agree!"

"I agree too!"

"Me too! I agree!"

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After Yin Li finished speaking, those with a good relationship with Wu Jingzhong and those who admired his character raised their fists in agreement.

“The Ministry of Justice convicted Governor Wu so quickly. Isn’t it unethical to broadcast such a damning video, capable of ruining his reputation with every official in the entire province, before the court has even reached a verdict? Even if Governor Wu really does turn out to be the mastermind behind this incident, right now he is only considered a suspect—not a criminal. The court hasn’t even reached a verdict yet, and the Ministry of Justice is already so casually showing all of us this video. Isn’t this very disrespectful toward Governor Wu?”

“That’s right!”

“I think so too!”

...

There was another wave of agreement.

“Everyone!” Lan Weisong waved his hands to signal for everyone to be quiet.

“I informed everyone about today’s video in advance. This is a video to remain internal to this meeting, kept only between us and not to be circulated.”

Chapter 2014: The Basics of the Art of War

“The purpose of showing everyone this video is to ensure that you all remember to remain vigilant.”

“But this matter has not been fully investigated yet, and the truth is still in doubt. Is it appropriate to show this video to the officials of various departments like this?”

“Governor Wu has always been someone we admire. We don’t believe he would do such a thing!”

“The Ministry of Justice’s investigation is too shoddy this time. The administrative office can’t interfere with the Ministry of Justice. If those from the Ministry are tempted to make an unfair judgment, what can the administrative office do? Who will stand up against the bad apples from the Ministry of Justice?”

...

A commotion broke out.

Lan Weisong had a headache. The people from the Ministry of Justice did not look too happy either.

Actually, this was not the first time a situation like this had happened. Something similar had happened before. Maybe protocol should have been implemented on how to handle this. Why could no one believe that Wu Jingzhong could fall victim to temptation like any other man?

Those who had raised their doubts were all questioning Wu Jingzhong’s matter—no one asked any questions about Xu Binren. It was obvious that Wu Jingzhong was a beloved character.

If he insisted on continuing, Wu Jingzhong might very well have his case overturned. After all, there were too many people backing him—too many people willing to plead on his behalf.

Lan Weisong had not expected to come so close to killing two birds with one stone. Destroying both the Wu and Xu families while taking down Wu Jingzhong? He had even been able to turn a blind eye to Nangong Nuannuan. However, he was being met with obstruction at this final step.

Seeing everyone before him denouncing the people from the Ministry of Justice with righteous indignation, Lan Weisong felt both heavy-hearted and guilty. After all, these people had been assigned to him by the Shi family, and he had been instructed to use them carefully. If these people were questioned and it was revealed that they were all members of the Shi family, the consequences would be dire.

Lan Weisong appeared very calm on the surface, but his heart was going through a thousand twists and turns.

He had great ideas for how to use the people from the Ministry of Justice in Sea District. He absolutely could not lose them over this matter. If Wu Jingzhong was found to be innocent, there was a high possibility that he would be reinstated. If Wu Jingzhong wanted to continue moving up the ranks, the Ministry of Justice would have many friends on the inside to help him.

Therefore, if this matter were to be overturned, not only would Lan Weisong be unable to rise to the position of governor, but he would also lose money from the Ministry of Justice. That would be seriously uneconomical.

He might as well protect the people from the Ministry of Justice and give everyone a good impression. If the people from the Wu family were able to get Wu Jingzhong out and have him reinstated, at least Lan Weisong would not suffer any losses. On the other hand, if the evidence from the Wu family was not enough to get Wu Jingzhong released, or if there was no way for the judge to reinstate him upon his release, Lan Weisong would come out on top. At the very least, if Xu Binren was sent down the hole, his position could still be further advanced. That would already be a very good result.

It had to be said that Lan Weisong was someone who understood the basics of the art of war—he knew when he should fight and when he should retreat.

Even if he had had a great start and possessed an advantage at the moment, he was willing to give that up if the risk was too great.

Lan Weisong could be considered a talent for having been able to reach this stage at such a young age.

He had analyzed all the pros and cons of the situation carefully but had failed to consider Nangong Nuannuan's involvement.

He thought that Nangong Nuannuan would not have the guts to provoke conflict between the Nangong and Shi families just over the Wu family. He also thought that Chi Yang would definitely stop Nangong Nuannuan even if she wanted to fight. After all, if the Chi family were to involve themselves in a conflict with the executive hall, they would be violating the principles of the administrative office. Lan Weisong did not know that the Shi family was avoiding Nangong Nuannuan like she was a poisonous snake, and he also did not know that Nangong Nuannuan was the young chairman of the Imperial Phoenix Group.

Chapter 2015: Turn It off Immediately!

If Lan Weisong had known about this, he would have given Nangong Nuannuan a reasonable excuse the moment he met her.

He was just about to stretch out his hand to silence everybody. He wanted to tell everyone that if they had any doubts about this matter, he would approach the Ministry of Justice about conducting another trial based on the points that everyone had just raised to make sure no criminal was allowed to continue roaming free and no hero went unrewarded. However, before he could do so, he received a text message.

Because Yin Li had been arguing with him just now, he could not answer Nangong Nuannuan's call. When she called again, he still had to decline.

He was too occupied to read this text message right now.

Just as he was about to make a decision, he received a second text message. Annoyed, he retrieved his phone and opened the two messages to read them.

The moment he saw the contents of the messages, Lan Weisong felt his heart drop to his stomach. His eyes widened in disbelief.

Nangong Nuannuan's first message was:

[Governor Lan, an hour has passed. You've really pissed me off. If I told you that I had the video Wu Zongxu recorded, would you still be able to continue speaking with those department heads with such awe-inspiring righteousness?]

The second message read:

[It seems like Governor Lan isn't going to pay attention to me. I've already tried to preserve the Shi family's honor, and it's you who's denying it now. So, you can't blame me for not giving you another chance. Governor Lan, please look at the big screen.]

Even though Lan Weisong did not know what the last sentence meant, after reading the two messages, he immediately got up to call Nangong Nuannuan.

What he wanted to say to Nangong Nuannuan could not be heard by the others in the meeting.

However, the moment he stood up, the big LED screen that had been turned off suddenly came alive again.

"Governor Lan, I've already framed Xu Binren like you asked me to. He thought that I wanted to frame Wu Jingzhong because I hated him and because I lacked money. That's why he's always trusted me and supported me in framing him."

Lan Weisong was trying to make a call to Nangong Nuannuan. Just as he was about to tell Nangong Nuannuan that he was going to release Wu Jingzhong, Wu Zongxu's voice came through the speakers of the LED screen. His first words were 'Governor Lan', and the video had Lan Weisong front and center.

"Turn it off! Turn it off immediately!"

Lan Weisong's expression drastically changed. He berated the staff member in charge for not immediately unplugging the large screen. However, even after the unplugging, the video did not stop. As he berated the staff member, he spoke again in the video.

“So, do you really hate Wu Jingzhong? Are you trying to frame him because you’re short of funds?”

“Yes, yes, yes. It’s indeed because I hate him. I hate him for not giving me money and not helping me start my company. I hate him for holding some much power, yet never allowing me to work for him. I’m very grateful to Governor Lan for giving me this opportunity to work for you. I’ll definitely serve you and the Shi family well. Right now, this matter is only a small thing to the state—but once it has some time to develop, it will drag both Wu Jingzhong and Xu Binren down with it.”

“Hehehe...” In the video, Lan Weisong laughed very happily. “If you do well, I’ll give you more opportunities to serve the Shi family in the future.”

Chapter 2016: We Need To Learn!

“Fake! It’s all fake! This damn Wu Zongxu. He actually dared to frame me! This is all doctored evidence! Quick, turn it off!”

Lan Weisong tried to move to turn off the LED screen’s power source himself, but Yin Li blocked his path.

“Yin Li, what are you doing?”

Yin Li sneered. “We should be the ones asking you what you’re doing! Since you let us watch Governor Wu’s video, why can’t we watch yours?”

“That’s right! Governor Wu hasn’t been even been convicted yet, and you’re already showing everyone his video. Why can’t we watch yours?”

A majority of the officials in the administration department were sincerely trying to help society. Especially in recent years under Wu Jingzhong’s leadership, Sea District could be said to be a very politically healthy place.

Many people found it hard to believe that Wu Jingzhong was really involved in this incident. How could they not want to see this intriguing new video exposing a new angle to the situation? Everyone clamored to watch it.

The LED screen could not be turned off, so the video continued to play.

The video’s scene changed. Wu Zongxu had been arrested and was threatening the prison guard, telling them that he had recorded Xu Binren’s actions and that if he died, the videos would immediately be leaked.

Then, he prepared to eat—before the prison guard smashed his rice bowl with a grim expression.

Wu Zongxu was not angry at all. He proudly asked the prison guard to prepare him another meal. The guard asked Wu Zongxu what he wanted in exchange for keeping quiet, and Wu Zongxu demanded one billion yuan.

The prison guard left and called Lan Weisong.

The phone call connected. The video now had two recordings side-by-side, one showing the prison guard and the other showing Lan Weisong.

“Governor Lan, Wu Zongxu told me just now that he secretly recorded Xu Binren. He bought a pinhole camera from the Imperial Phoenix Group. It is the most advanced camera on the market at the moment, so Xu Binren never found out that he was recording. I suspect he may have also recorded you two’s interactions. I initially planned to listen to Xu Binren and poison Wu Zongxu, but he seemed to know that his food was poisoned. Now, he wants me to blackmail Xu Binren for one billion yuan. What should I do?”

“Hehe, play along and poison him. Then, you can go to Xu Binren and tell him about this. I’ll get someone to arrest you and Xu Binren at the same time to kill two birds with one stone. It’ll be a little hard on you, though.”

“Governor Lan, don’t worry. It won’t be hard on me. I’ll go and try to poison him again. After that, I’ll go to Xu Binren’s place. From now on, my family is under Governor Lan’s care.”

Upon hanging up, the prison guard removed his SIM card and destroyed it. Then, he ran to the kitchen and ordered a new meal. Once it was prepared, he added a few more ingredients to it and brought it to Wu Zongxu.

When he was done, he immediately drove out of the detention center to the Xu family’s residence.

Wu Zongxu, who was still in the prison cell, did not suspect anything. After eating the poisoned meal, blood gushed out of his mouth. The prison guard who had been assigned to guard Wu Zongxu’s prison cell had left to meet with Xu Binren.

Then, everyone clearly saw and heard Lan Weisong greet the police at the police station and ask them to go to the Xu family’s house to arrest Xu Binren in half an hour.

A half-hour passed, and the prison guard walked out of the Xu family residence only to be caught by Lan Weisong’s men. The prison guard apologized to then Xu Binren, which further confirmed Xu Binren’s crime.

After that, the prison guard’s personal information was displayed on the big screen.

Chapter 2017: The Heavens Were Always Watching

The prison guard’s daughter had a very serious congenital heart condition that required a transplant, but he did not have the money. Not only did Lan Weisong help his daughter find a suitable donor, but he also hired the best surgeon in the country to operate on her.

While the prison guard was being arrested and insisting that Xu Binren was the mastermind, his daughter was being pushed into the operating room and a remittance of one million yuan was appearing in his wife’s account.

After his wife took the bank card to the ATM to check the balance, she hugged the card close and cried her heart out.

That was what her husband had traded his future, morals, conscience, and life for. It had all been for the sake of their child.

Even though Wu Zongxu was a terrible person, he had not had a fair trial yet, and even if he had, he did not deserve to die. However, in order to frame Xu Binren and send him away for good, her husband needed to kill Wu Zongxu.

Wu Zongxu had been killed maliciously, and her husband was the murderer. The punishment of the law awaited him. Even if it was not the death penalty, it was going to be a life-long sentence.

Lan Weisong's legs gave way. He fell into a chair below the stage.

The video continued.

What followed was all about Wu Jingzhong.

It described how Wu Jingzhong had been receiving 2 billion in company dividends for the past few years. He had nowhere to spend the money, so he set up an angel fund in his own name and deposited the money in there. It was meant for children in remote mountain areas.

Wu Jingzhong built a total of 20 schools and supported 20,000 poor students. He also supported the families of 500 veterans who died on the battlefield. Their families were not doing well, so he helped ease their burdens by taking care of their children's education.

For 20 years, Wu Jingzhong had been doing good deeds. The letters of thanks and many gifts he had received could fill up two huge rooms.

This situation was now very clear-cut.

Even though Wu Zongxu was Wu Jingzhong's son, he hated his father for not handing everything to him on a silver platter, so he worked with his father's political enemies.

Knowing that Wu Zongxu was short of money, Xu Binren had his secretary pull strings with him. In the end, he tricked Wu Zongxu into stealing Wu Jingzhong's private seal, dividing a four-mile-long road into 31 subsections, and subcontracting them to disowned Wu family relatives.

However, there was always a bigger fish. Xu Binren thought he had Wu Zongxu in his grasp. but who could have guessed that not only was Wu Zongxu shameless and ruthless, but also dark-hearted and overly-ambitious? He never felt anything for Xu Binren from the beginning to the end of their deal. He only liked Lan Weisong.

Lan Weisong and Wu Zongxu codirected this shameless subcontract and threw the governor and deputy governor of Sea District out of their seats.

However, there was a god above, and the heavens were always watching.

The ingrate Wu Zongxu was killed by Lan Weisong, who was even eviler and stronger than him. Lan Weisong had been too conceited, thinking that the video would never leak. Because of this, he had failed to take proper precautions.

Now that Wu Zongxu was dead, his friend was releasing this video to expose Lan Weisong.

If Nuannuan knew that everyone thought she was a friend of Wu Zongxu's now, she would probably feel more disgusted than she would feel eating a fly.

Chapter 2018: Throwing Stones

Even though Nuannuan was behind the videos, since Wu Zongxu told the prison guard that he had the videos and that they would be released upon his death, everyone figured that one of his friends was orchestrating this.

“Governor Lan, you hurt others, and now it’s all coming back around. Karma’s a b*tch!” Yin Li looked at Lan Weisong’s miserable expression, and the corners of his lips curled into a carefree smile.

The other officials who supported Wu Jingzhong and felt like Governor Wu could never do such a thing also burst into laughter at this moment.

They did not know that the entire conference had been controlled by Nangong Nuannuan.

At this moment, the president, several vice presidents, and the chief executives of the executive hall were having a meeting to look over the information. Li Heyi had already promised Zhu Tangya of the Wu family that once the meeting was over, he would go to the Ministry of Justice to find someone to help the Wu family get through this difficult situation.

Who could have guessed that before he could make a move, the LED screen in their conference room would light up?

It was obvious that their screen had been hacked.

However, their anger at the hacker was soon surpassed by their anger at Lan Weisong.

The president and vice-presidents were very familiar with Sea District’s governor, Wu Jingzhong.

He always did good deeds and expected nothing in return. Because of these good deeds, the president and vice-presidents of the executive hall had a favorable impression of him and had given him a lot of freedom. He used this freedom to hide his name from the even nicer things he was doing, so not many people in the executive hall knew about them.

The president was hearing about many of these good deeds for the first time now.

Seeing such a good comrade being persecuted, the president was filled with rage. His fist suddenly smashed the table with a bang, scaring Shi Maowen so much that he broke out in a cold sweat. In his heart, he secretly cursed Lan Weisong for being such a pig.

“Simply detestable!”

The current president had been elected with an extremely high number of votes. It could be said that he was a man of the people. In his eight years of rule, he had performed a lot of good deeds that benefited the country and its people. He was nothing like other politicians, who only made empty promises.

Li Heyi held a higher position than the Xiao family’s adopted daughter-in-law because instead of relying on a mere third-rate wealthy family’s power, he focused on doing many things that benefited the country and its people.

In the president’s eyes, respect was earned by how much one contributed to the country.

It could be seen how important the president thought this was.

The last time Nangong Nuannuan tripped up the Shi family and killed five of its members, the president was very dissatisfied. Fortunately, he managed to use Nangong Ze to help restore peace after the situation. If not for that, he did not know if the previous incident would have ended well.

He had just promised the president that he would keep a close eye on the Shi family. He would not let the people of the Shi family take advantage of his powerful background to do something illegal. It had only been a short while since that promise.

Shi Maowen looked at the LED video and was so angry that he was about to vomit blood.

While he was angry that Weisong was as stupid as a pig, he hated the people who were throwing stones at the Shi family even more.

Chapter 2019: Umpteenth

When Shi Maowen found out who blackmailed the Shi family and threatened their entire existence, he would leave them with a fate worse than death.

Although he still did not know who the mastermind was yet, he was already aiming his crosshairs at Wu Jingzhong.

Wu Jingzhong must have done it in an effort to get him out of arrest. He wanted to return to his position as the governor, so he had his trusted aide find a hacker to do this.

The Shi family never considered the minor Wu family of Sea District a threat. They assumed that Wu Jingzhong's position would soon belong to Lan Weisong. All Lan Weisong would have to do was take his seat when the time came.

If Wu Jingzhong admitted to his mistake and made amends to the Shi family, the Shi family could forgive him. Once the matter was settled, they would not let him go to jail. Once he was out, the Wu family would still be the most wealthy family in Sea District.

Why did the Wu family have to do this?

Did the Wu family think they had a right to contend with the Shi family?

Was it because of the 12th official?

Shi Maowen glanced at Li Heyi. Li Heyi caught his eye and said to the president, "President, I initially wanted to go see the Ministry of Justice after the meeting ended because the Wu family found me yesterday and told me about Wu Jingzhong's matter. They also gave me the relevant evidence. I thought that with the evidence in hand, the Ministry of Justice would be able to make a ruling immediately, so I wasn't too anxious. Who could have guessed that things would go this far? I don't think the Wu family is responsible for this. I think it was done by someone who admires Wu Jingzhong's character. The Wu family's second daughter-in-law, Zhu Tangya, is currently outside the administrative department. If the Wu family knew they were going to do this, they wouldn't have sent someone all the way here to ask me to help them with the Ministry of Justice."

Even though Li Heyi was speaking to the president, everything he was saying was also directed at Shi Maowen, telling him that the Wu family could not afford to offend the Shi family, so his suspicions were

unfounded. The hacker had not been hired by the Wu family. They were the victims of this whole situation. They?did not have the guts to make an enemy out of the Shi family.

This left Shi Maowen embarrassed.

A lot had happened. The Shi family was the perpetrator, and the Wu family was the victim too afraid to strike back. It was easy to imagine what the president was thinking at such a vivid image being painted.

The president's face was dark, and he did not say a word.

Shi Maowen knew that if he did not say anything, the price the Shi family would have to pay would definitely be even greater than it was now. Therefore, he immediately stood up and gave a 90-degree bow to all the big shots present. With an angry and embarrassed expression, he sincerely apologized.

"I'm sorry!" Those two words seemed to use up all of Shi Maowen's strength as he then closed his eyes and said, "After the incident that someone anonymously reported, I gathered the heads of the Shi family and reminded them for the umpteenth time to be careful. I didn't expect them to do such a disgraceful thing. I... As the 13th official, I've let the Wu family down, let justice down, and let the country down."

"How many times does 'umpteen' mean?" the president bluntly asked.

Shi Maowen was furious, but his face did not show it at all. Like a person who had done something wrong and deeply wanted to repent, he said, "The last time I reminded them was when the people from the Ministry of Justice received the news that some members of the Shi family's outer branches used the family name to do things outside the law, I gathered all the heads of the family and their subordinates to hold a meeting."

Chapter 2020: Of Course You Say That

"Let's wait for the outcome of this matter to be decided. An emperor can be guilty of the same crimes common people commit. Our Shi family does not tolerate any violation of the law. We will not forgive anyone linked to us who breaches it."

"You won't forgive them?" The president continued to question them. "Did you not use your power to silence others from revealing your illegal activities? And when you were discovered, you distanced yourself and told everyone that this matter had nothing to do with the Shi Family?"

"..." Shi Maowen was at a loss for words.

"Officer Shi, the Shi family is one of the four big families. They got to where they are today thanks to decades and centuries of sacrifice. I hope that the Shi family can cherish their position a little bit more. You should understand that if the Shi family was a conglomerate and all of their members were just businessmen, things wouldn't be much different than how they are today. The Shi family is a super-group that generates cash and has connections in the administrative department, the executive hall, and the Ministry of Justice. Even though our nation has no rules against families being able to pursue business ventures, we do have a clear rule against those in public office not being allowed to engage in backdoor activities with their family members. The last time those five bad apples from the Shi family revealed themselves was already bad enough. I thought Officer Shi would definitely be able to handle

this matter well and keep the family in line, but it's only been a while since then and now Lan Weisong's involvement has been exposed. And what a terrible crime! Wu Jingzhong is a good official. How can your Shi family frame him like this? They only dare to do this because you, the 13th official, and the big boss of the Shi family are supporting Lan Weisong from the shadows!"

"President, vice presidents, and chief executives, I swear I really didn't know anything about this! If I knew that Lan Weisong was framing Wu Jingzhong to get him out of his governor seat, I would definitely have stopped him."

"Of course you say that now that this matter has blown up. But I don't believe that the Shi family and you didn't know about Lan Weisong's 'ambitions'. Even the 12th official knows about Wu Jingzhong's arrest, so I don't believe that as a member of the Shi family, you didn't know about it," one of the vice presidents fearlessly said when he saw that the president was angry. "I don't believe it!"

Shi Maowen was so anxious that he was drenched in sweat. He tried to explain himself. "I really didn't know!"

"Vice President Yang, I don't think Officer Shi is lying. After all, the Shi family is huge, so it makes sense that information doesn't reach every branch of the family tree. And just like our executive hall, having a barrel full of apples means at least a few are bound to be rotten. Why should the whole Shi family be blamed for this mistake? It's just a matter of probability. So what, the Shi family got in trouble twice? I feel like since what's done is done, we should just focus on the matter at hand and work on resolving this matter. We should not blindly accuse Officer Shi and the Shi family of poor supervision. Who agrees with me?"

Those who supported Shi Maowen nodded one after another.

Shi Maowen immediately said, "President, I am still willing to personally investigate this matter and bring justice to the Wu family."

"The facts are already in front of us. Is there anything else that needs to be investigated? Do you think that the Shi family lost anything in this incident? Was Lan Weisong framed?"