

## **Real Man 111**

### Chapter 111

Even though Manager Shin Chan-yong said it didn't matter, Kim Young-gil's position was shaken because of that incident.

In the end, he lost the Apple Phone 4 panel that he had done everything for to Manager Shin.

And all the benefits went to Yoo-hyun.

What was the problem?

As far as he remembered, this issue was not a problem with the LCD panel, but a mistake on Apple's side.

But if he couldn't prove it, it was useless.

"You'll see."

"What?"

"Never mind. Do you want a cup of coffee?"

Yoo-hyun changed the topic and Park Seung-woo, who didn't seem to care much, brightened up.

"Sure. I've been working on the contest report all day and my head is sore."

"Is it because of the report for the manager?"

"Yeah. He'll probably say I'm wasting my time again. What can I do? I have to persuade him."

Grunt.

Yoo-hyun got up with Park Seung-woo and added a word.

"It'll work out."

"Wow, look at you talking so nicely. Who's your mentor?"

"I don't know. I think I'll have to drink some coffee shop coffee to find out who's the mentor."

"What? You're asking for it."

Park Seung-woo tried to put him in a headlock, but Yoo-hyun was too quick for him.

He dodged his attacks and Park Seung-woo gave up and shook his head.

"Let's go. I'll feed you first and then show you what a real mentor is."

“It’s an honor.”

Yoo-hyun bowed his hands and Park Seung-woo laughed incredulously.

His eyes were full of affection for his junior.

It was the same for Yoo-hyun.

Would he ever be able to spend such a pleasant time with Kim Young-gil?

He suddenly thought of that.

The Apple Phone issue was bigger than he thought.

It was because Apple had put pressure on them by bringing up the investment issue.

It wasn’t over yet.

If he remembered correctly, they would have to pay not only reduced investment costs but also cost penalties.

In the process, the development team would be turned upside down, and Kim Young-gil would also suffer a great blow.

It was a problem that he couldn’t leave alone.

“Aren’t you going home? You’re always leaving early, what’s going on?”

“I have something to do for a moment.”

“Apple Phone? Are you still looking at that? Don’t do that and just go home and rest.”

“Yes. I will.”

Yoo-hyun looked at the two Apple Phones on his desk in turn.

One was the model before the problem occurred, and the other was the model with the upgraded panel.

The PCB with Apple’s AP (central processing unit) also changed on the modified model.

The problem must have occurred in the changed part.

The problem was that there were too many change points.

Tick.

Yoo-hyun turned on both screens at the same time.

They looked fine, but in certain conditions, the screen drag was especially severe on the new model.

There were many possibilities for screen drag to occur.

It could be a problem with pixel driving within the panel, or a problem with the liquid crystal.

It could also be a problem with the panel driving IC itself.

It worked normally on a Japanese LCD panel with the same specifications.

It was a situation where Apple could doubt Hansung Electronics' panel.

The problem was that even though dozens of people in the development team analyzed it with all kinds of equipment, they couldn't find the exact cause.

What could it be?

There was no way he could find it easily by sitting in his office and looking at it.

But Yoo-hyun had a lot of experience in the company.

He didn't need any equipment to verify products. He had learned through his body for a long time that there was a cause for every result.

He had the ability to distinguish cause and effect accurately and infer causes.

He had the basic skills of product verification properly.

And he had vague but indicative memories of the past.

Everyone was focusing on the LCD panel, but the problem was Apple's upgraded AP.

If his memory was correct, they were all wasting their time.

How can you see it without any measuring equipment?

Of course he couldn't know exactly.

What Yoo-hyun wanted wasn't accuracy, but a slight difference that could be used as evidence.

He had confidence that he could distinguish it if there was a difference because he had good eyesight.

Yoo-hyun focused on the new model.

He flicked his finger to switch screens and clicked on an icon.

And he moved the icon around by touching it.

The afterimage of the icon remained on the gray background like waves.

Yoo-hyun focused on catching the afterimage that disappeared quickly.

If there was a problem with Apple's AP side, there would be a problem with sending video from that side.

It was not just dragging or leaving an afterimage, but there was a possibility that the video would break.

But it wasn't easy to see.

It was when his eyes followed the movement of the icon.

'Huh?'

For a moment, the color of a certain icon was reversed.

He tried several times and the same phenomenon was reproduced.

It was the moment when Yoo-hyun's eyes sparkled.

As soon as he came to work the next day, Yoo-hyun asked Park Seung-woo.

"Manager, can you change the color of the screen by yourself on the panel?"

"The whole screen?"

"No. Just a specific part."

"That doesn't make sense. The panel displays the input video as it is."

Yoo-hyun was convinced by Park Seung-woo's answer and muttered.

"Right?"

"Why? Is there a problem?"

Park Seung-woo stuck his big head out.

Yoo-hyun showed him the Apple Phone he was holding.

"I was touching the Apple Phone icon and it seemed like the color was reversed for a moment."

"Really? Unless AP sends the video like that, it shouldn't happen. Where do you try again?"

Yoo-hyun moved the icon and Park Seung-woo stared at the screen with his thin eyes like a flounder.

He did that for a while and rubbed his eyes and said.

"I don't see it. What's wrong?"

"Don't you see the icon dragging?"

“Oh, yeah? Is this what Apple said?”

“...”

He had such bad eyesight for someone who worked in display.

Park Seung-woo would have been scolded a lot if he had worked in the module factory.

Yoo-hyun hid his feelings and answered properly.

“Yes. Dragging is reported, so I’ll take that as it is, but color reversal is something I’ve never heard of.”

“I’ve never heard of it either. But why?”

“I just thought it was strange. Isn’t this something that shouldn’t happen?”

“Well... Ah! Don’t you have to tell Manager Kim about this?”

“I think so.”

He wasn’t a skilled engineer, and he couldn’t see it with his eyes.

Still, Park Seung-woo didn’t take his junior’s words lightly.

He had good ears, which was definitely his strength.

The problem was how to prove this to people.

He thought hard and Yoo-hyun asked him.

“ Assistant Manager Park, do we have anything like a high-speed camera?”

“No? We don’t have anything like that in the analysis room either.”

It was obvious.

There was no use for a high-speed camera in panel production and analysis.

But that didn’t mean there wasn’t one in the company.

“What about on the TV group side?”

“TV?”

Park Seung-woo rolled his eyes around.

It wasn’t something he knew well.

“Wait a minute. I need to ask my colleague.”

He quickly made a phone call and started to look for a high-speed camera.

It was an immediate action that followed his junior’s casual remark.

A few minutes later, he hung up and asked.

“They have one in the TV analysis room. But how did you know?”

If he had to give a reason, it was because of the recent competition with Ilseong Electronics over the high-frequency technology.

He needed a high-speed camera to analyze the movements of the opponent's panel.

Yoo-hyun made up an excuse.

“Oh, I just wondered. When I was trained as a new employee, I saw that the Gimpo factory was really big.”

“It is big. But why do they have a high-speed camera there? What are they using it for?”

“I want to check if the color inversion really happens.”

“Oh, is that so?”

Did he just order it without knowing why?

He looked like he had no idea what he was doing.

He was quite an amazing person in many ways.

Yoo-hyun gave him a thumbs up and Park Seungwoo smiled and shrugged his shoulders.

Anyway, he was glad they had it.

Now they just had to go to the Gimpo factory where the TV analysis room was, borrow a high-speed camera and test the new Apple phone.

The problem was who would do it.

Would they go to Gimpo just because of a new employee's word?

And with the help of TV, not mobile?

That was absurd.

But Yoo-hyun couldn't go there himself.

As he was pondering, Park Seungwoo suddenly got up.

He saw Kim Younggil, who had just finished a meeting and looked exhausted, walking towards them from afar.

“Mr. Kim!”

“What?”

He looked like he had a hard time in the meeting room.

He wouldn't be happy if someone said something out of the blue to him.

But Park Seungwoo didn't hesitate.

“I want to take a picture of the Apple phone screen with a high-speed camera.”

“Ha... Why?”

He didn't care about Kim Younggil's tired face and kept talking.

“It seems that color inversion occurs when the icon attraction happens.”

“What are you talking about?”

“Yoo-hyun has really good eyes, you see...”

“Hmm.”

Park Seungwoo told him everything as if he had seen it himself.

He looked more confident than someone who had only heard it from someone else.

Yoo-hyun couldn't look at Kim Younggil's face.

Was this what it felt like to be embarrassed?

“Anyway, it's better than nothing, right? We haven't found the cause yet, so we might as well try the high-speed camera.”

“That's true, but even if you're right. What does color inversion have to do with attraction?”

“It doesn't matter. It shouldn't happen anyway. Maybe we'll find the real cause if we follow that clue.”

“That's not an easy problem.”

“I'll make a reservation for you. My colleague works in the TV analysis room.”

Park Seungwoo pushed him hard.

He didn't hesitate anymore.

It was amazing how he changed so much.

Kim Younggil sighed and answered.

“Fine. It's my job, so I'll do it.”

“Okay. Do you want me to make a reservation? When do you want to do it?”

Yoo-hyun intervened and Park Seungwoo looked confused.

“Reservation? There was such a thing?”

“Yes. There is an analysis room reservation system.”

Park Seungwoo was surprised and looked at the monitor screen that Yoo-hyun pointed at.

It was a site where you could reserve the equipment in the TV group analysis room.

It was also a place where mobile group would never use.

“How did you know this?”

“Yes. I learned it when I was a new employee.”

“What kind of training did you guys get that they taught you this kind of thing?”

Park Seungwoo stuck out his tongue.

Kim Younggil watched him and felt more bewildered.

One person insisted on going to Gimpo without any reason.

The other person seemed to know that they were going there and already opened the reservation page.

How could they be so similar?

Kim Younggil was from the development team.

He moved to another team after becoming a deputy manager, so he stayed in the development team for quite a long time.

After that, he led projects in the product planning team and broadened his horizons.

With that experience, his ability to analyze issues was as good as any development team member.

He could go to Gimpo factory alone and check the problem himself.

He edited the videos taken with the high-speed camera and made them into reports on the spot.

Then he sent an email to Kim Hyunmin, the manager, and called him right away.

“Yes, sir. I confirmed color inversion with the high-speed camera. I think there is a problem with Apple’s AP.”

-So? Are you going to Ulsan now?



“Yes. I think the development team should analyze it.”

-Take care of yourself. Don't rush.

“I understand. I'll come back when I'm done.”

-Okay. I'll tell the team leader.

“Thank you.”

His next destination was Ulsan factory.

## Chapter 112

I had already told the development team.

Now I had to start analyzing this as an excuse.

I knew it wouldn't be easy, but a small smile appeared on Kim Young-gil's lips.

He felt a bit relieved after facing a daunting problem.

It had been two days since Kim Young-gil went down to the Ulsan factory.

He had discovered that when the screen flickered, the part of the screen that was touched by the finger, or the area around it, was slow to update the image.

Han Ho-yeon, a senior researcher from the development team who was next to him, asked.

“But why doesn't it happen on the Japanese ones?”

“That's the problem... Is there any other signal connected to the AP besides the image signal?”

“I don't know. There's nothing that affects the screen... Wait a minute.”

At Kim Young-gil's question, Han Ho-yeon opened the product spec sheet on his desk.

The pages were all worn out from looking at them so much.

“The power signal is obviously not it, I checked the I2C (inter-chip communication) signal, and the option signal has nothing to do with the image.”

“How about checking the option signal again?”

“I already did that.”

“Then maybe when the power is turned on, the option signal changes or something...”

“No, it's all within spec.”

Han Ho-yeon cut off Kim Young-gil's words.

He was annoyed by repeating what he had already done.

"I understand. I'll look into it more."

"It's not that."

"I'll think about other possibilities."

Kim Young-gil nodded for now and sat in a corner of the review stand.

Then he started analyzing again by himself.

Everyone was busy and didn't care what Kim Young-gil was doing.

He wasn't on their team, nor was he an engineer. They had no expectations of him.

Nevertheless, Kim Young-gil spent his time alone in silence.

Another day passed,

And he finally found the cause.

-Abnormal operation due to option A signal change during Apple AP booting.

"Can I use this as the title of the report?"

"Why are you asking me? You found it and you're reporting it, so you should decide for yourself."

Han Ho-yeon waved his hand as if to say do whatever you want at Kim Young-gil's question.

"You know how sensitive this matter is."

"You have to figure that out yourself."

The reason why he couldn't decide easily was because there was no evidence that this was the exact cause of the problem.

Until then, he had only summarized the phenomenon.

Han Ho-yeon felt sorry for him and said again.

"Let's just report it and look for it. Let's match it with the same timing as the Japanese ones and see if it improves then. Then we can be sure that this is the cause."

"Yes. I guess we have no choice."

It would have been nice to do the experiment quickly, but there were many constraints in the current environment.

To test accurately, they had to make a new IC or apply that signal at the right timing from another system.

In other words, they needed more time.

“What are you doing? Isn't it time to go up?”

“Yes. We should go.”

The problem was that they had to report right away.

That was why Kim Young-gil's expression was not good as he answered.

A few days later.

Hanseong Tower 1st floor customer reception room.

Yoo-hyun and Kwon Se-jung just entered inside.

“But can we sit here?”

“Why not? They'll think we're waiting for a guest or something.”

Yoo-hyun dodged Kwon Se-jung's question.

“You're right. But this coffee machine is nice, huh? I should have come here sooner. Want a cup?”

“Yeah. I'll hold our seats.”

Yoo-hyun sat on the side of the customer reception room aisle.

He could see everyone going out of the lobby from his seat if he just turned his head.

Kwon Se-jung sat down with two paper cups in his hands and asked.

“So you've been here a few times?”

“Once last time.”

“Oh... When someone you knew came by?”

Last time he came in with his classmates after having dinner outside, he ran into Lim Han-seop from Semi Electronics.

He had just passed by him briefly, but he remembered that.

“You have a good memory.”

“I'm just doing my job.”

Kwon Se-jung, who was looking around, pulled his chair closer.

Then he began to tell his story in earnest.

“Hey, you know what happened yesterday...”

“Really? Then that means...”

Kwon Se-jung always enjoyed talking with Yoo-hyun.

It wasn't because he had helped him with the new employee training, the seminar, and sometimes the company work.

He just felt comfortable talking with Yoo-hyun, and he felt like he learned something from listening to him.

He had a mentor on his team, but the real mentor in Kwon Se-jung's mind was Yoo-hyun.

That's why he wanted to do everything with Yoo-hyun.

“Hahaha, really? You're coming to the next class reunion, right?”

“Yeah. Relax a bit. People are watching.”

“Oh, right. This is the customer reception room. I should be careful.”

Kwon Se-jung brought his index finger to his mouth and then giggled to himself.

What was so funny?

Yoo-hyun gave him a proper reaction and occasionally glanced at the lobby.

That's when it happened.

A group of people surrounded by foreigners walked out of the lobby.

They were the mobile group manager, Jo Chan-young executive director, and the team leaders below him.

At one end, he saw Kim Young-gil's head bowed down.

‘It must have gone badly.’

The meeting with Apple was held in the VIP conference room.

Yoo-hyun couldn't attend, so he didn't see Kim Young-gil's presentation.

But judging by the atmosphere, it seemed like the situation wasn't good.

As Yoo-hyun looked at their faces with thin eyes, Kwon Se-jung reacted.

“Huh? The Apple guys came today?”

“Have you seen them before?”

“Yeah. Last time at the meeting, the team leader called me and I prepared some snacks. I heard their name then. Who was it?”

After thinking for a moment, Kwon Se-jung seemed to remember something and said.

“Ah! Mark Harrison. He must be the display manager for Asia.”

“Really?”

He had a wide forehead and short hair. His eyes were round and gentle. He gave off a typical American vibe.

He had a cheerful personality and was good at joking. He seemed very open-minded.

But he had started his career in the Japanese display industry and understood the culture of respect and obedience better than anyone else.

In other words, he knew very well that he was in a superior position and used it well.

It must have been hard for Kim Young-gil to report properly to such a person.

He could roughly guess what happened by looking at Kim Young-gil's expression that was completely dead.

He could check the details later.

“Shall we go up?”

“Huh? Already?”

“I remembered what Park team leader asked me to do.”

“I see...”

Kwon Se-jung looked disappointed.

‘Did he feel rewarded for following me here?’

Then he blurted out something.

“Oh, and you know the next-generation display development trends you were looking for.”

“What? How did you know that?”

“Is that important? Anyway, go check out the research information room. It should be summarized in this month's display trend report.”

“Thank you. You really know everything.”

Kwon Se-jung gave him a thumbs up and smiled with a joke.

“Oh, except for Mark Harrison.”

“Lucky you.”

“Haha, I finally got one right. Ask me again later. I’m good at remembering names.”

Is this the same Kwon Se-jung who always looked depressed and lifted weights?

He’s changed a lot, not just talking more but also being brighter.

The environment can change a person like this.

Well, that’s good.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and got up from his seat.

Ding.

He got off the elevator on the 12th floor and opened the central semi-transparent glass door and walked down the hallway.

He could feel the tense atmosphere in his team from afar.

“Are you kidding me right now!”

“...”

Then he heard the loud voice of Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader, over the partition.

On the other side, Kim Young-gil, the Assistant Manager, had his hands clasped and his head bowed.

“Kim Assistant Manager, say something if you have a mouth! Why did you report like that?”

“I’m sorry.”

“Tell me why. Why!”

It was obvious that he had been scolded by the group leader or the person in charge after the Apple report.

“I’ll correct it as soon as possible.”

“If you’re not confident in English, go learn the alphabet again!”

Oh Jae-hwan shouted and a sneer came from next to Yoo-hyun, who was walking to the team table.

“Pfft.”

It was Go Jae-yoon, the Assistant Manager who had studied abroad.

He had meetings with Nokia like eating rice, so he must have been confident in English.

So what. He barely survived with the knowledge he learned superficially.

He never did anything right.

But no one could touch him because of his psycho-like personality.

“There’s no hope for that kid. His English is...”

“Oops.”

He was mumbling sarcastically when he turned around and met Yoo-hyun’s eyes.

He instinctively looked away.

Yoo-hyun didn’t give him a provocative look.

He just looked at him.

The annoying noise disappeared and Yoo-hyun walked towards Kim Young-gil again.

He didn’t know the exact situation, but there was no reason for him to be treated like this.

He should have been able to argue back.

If he got used to this feeling of defeat, it would take too much energy to get back up.

He had to stop him before he got hurt more.

What should he do?

As Yoo-hyun looked around near the team table, he saw them.

Kim Hyun-min, the Assistant Manager, and Choi Min-hee, the section chief, were walking from afar.

They had a meeting note in one hand, probably because they had just finished a meeting.

‘The timing is perfect.’

Yoo-hyun raised his hand and opened his mouth wide and called Manager Kim Hyun-min.

He tilted his head and realized the situation after hearing the loud noise.  
He quickly approached Yoo-hyun and handed him the note and winked at him.  
He was relaxed even in this situation.

He was more amazing than Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo.

Manager Kim Hyun-min stopped Team Leader Oh Jae-hwan.

“Hey, team leader. You’re losing your temper again.”

“Why are you messing with me? Do you think I’m easy?”

“Do you think I would say this if you were easy? You know it’s not true. Kim Assistant Manager found the crucial problem. He did what the development team couldn’t do.”

“Hey! Where are you going, Kim Assistant Manager!”

“Hey, calm down and talk separately.”

“I told him to take an English class if he can’t do it. He should at least try if he can’t do it! Try!”

Team Leader Oh Jae-hwan spat out as he ranted.

Kim Young-gil’s backup arrived and opened his mouth.

“Team leader, you’re being too harsh.”

“What, what! You...”

The cold voice of Choi Min-hee section chief at a high octave silenced the atmosphere.

Team Leader Oh Jae-hwan stuttered at her sudden appearance.

Chapter 113

Choi Min-hee, the manager, did not miss the opportunity.

“Did you just call me a bitch? Do you think I can report this to the company’s complaint box?”

“Uh, that’s...”

He was speechless at her sharp retort.

While the two of them blocked Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader, Yoo-hyun and Park Seung-woo, the assistant manager, dragged Kim Young-gil, the As, outside.

How did Kim Young-gil feel right now?



He must have felt more guilty than grateful for his colleagues.

His unfocused eyes seemed to reveal his inner turmoil.

A person who had been battered and bruised until he became as smooth as a pebble.

A person who always blamed himself for his failures instead of shining like a gem.

Kim Young-gil was such a person.

“I’m fine. I’ll go by myself.”

“As.”

He shrugged off their support and walked away alone.

His back looked pitifully sad.

What kind of person was good at work in the company?

There were many factors, but the most important one was reputation, or image.

‘That person seems like he can do well.’

If you enter with a positive impression, you can get a better evaluation than others even if you do average work.

It’s because people have confirmation bias, which makes them accept only what matches their own thoughts.

Kim Young-gil, who came from the development team, was from a local engineering college.

He had no high expectations from others, since he was neither from a prestigious university nor a foreign-educated person.

The nature of the product planning team’s work was different from that of the engineers, and he had to make a lot of presentations, which was also a hurdle for him.

His poor presentation skills could be covered by detailed materials.

The biggest problem was English presentation.

That was not something he could overcome in a short time.

No matter how hard Kim Young-gil tried by himself, his competitors were too strong.

He needed some confidence, but his timid personality held him back.

-If you can't do it, you have to try harder! Effort!

Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader, spoke harshly, but he was not wrong.

Kim Young-gil should have tried to fill in his shortcomings instead of avoiding them.

If that was difficult, he should have shown his efforts as much as others would be impressed.

Or he should have had some guts to stand up for himself.

Working hard is not everything.

Yoo-hyun felt frustrated by that.

A few days later, at a pub in front of Hansung Tower.

At the place where the gathering of his peers was in full swing, Yoo-hyun asked.

“Jae-seung, are there really no one from our team who applied for the company's language course?”

“You mean the English class? I don't think so.”

Byun Jae-seung from Global HRD (Human Resources Management Team) shook his head and asked back curiously.

“But don't your team members speak English well? You work with foreign companies all the time. Don't you need language lessons?”

“It's different from learning. And it's free.”

“That's true. Geez, I'm getting a headache trying to create this good opportunity for you guys.”

“Why?”

“One of the English teachers quit. I have to fill in the gap, but it's not easy.”

Byun Jae-seung rubbed his forehead as if it hurt.

He was in charge of the language part of the company's education program.

At first, he was happy to take on such a responsible role, but it turned out to be not so easy when he actually did it.

Managing foreign teachers and organizing feedback from students was not an easy task.

It was even more troublesome when there was a vacancy like this.

He had to interview the teachers and make a report to get the approval of his team leader.

There were many cases of fake resumes, and it was not easy to hire one person because it was related to the company's security as well.

He had every reason to be reluctant.

Then Seo Chang-woo from the personnel team said.

“When you're worried like that, you should drink and forget about it.”

“Sounds good.”

Clang!

The glasses clinked and the noisy atmosphere continued.

Yoo-hyun looked around the table after drinking a glass of alcohol.

They had lost much of their rookie look on their faces after a few months.

They looked like they were already at an executive level by talking about their work stories.

Of course, most of them were complaints.

“Why did they make such a stupid seminar system?”

“They want us to make fools of ourselves in front of our seniors.”

They were people who had been recognized at school in their own way.

They had entered the best company without any trouble and with flying colors.

They thought they would live a successful life, but the reality was that they slipped on a seminar.

The seniors' sarcasm, the negative eyes, the overwhelming pressure.

They were dissatisfied with the reality that was different from their ideals.

“It's ridiculous that they take everything from us even if we work hard. It's not like the company is full of thieves.”

“It's a relief if they take it. Later, they wipe their mouths and ask what the hell we did.”

The complaints naturally spread to others.

They had done nothing wrong, so it was natural to shift the blame to someone else.

“There are so many unreasonable things. Some people are just looking at stocks on their computers and they get all the rewards.”

“That’s right. Some people work all night and get scolded. They say anyone who doesn’t make the line is trash.”

“I don’t know how the company runs like this.”

The seniors who bragged about themselves were nothing special, and the organization was only unreasonable.

It was amazing that such a rotten and problematic company could run at all.

“Our personnel system is the problem. We should cut off all the weirdos.”

“We should replace all the people above. They’re all rotten.”

I have no problem at all!

I tried to do well!

I followed FM and was loyal to the company!

Why doesn’t the company recognize me?

Why is the company so rotten and full of problems?

“Damn it, this shitty company!”

“Kukukuku. Hey, have a drink.”

They washed down their conclusion with a glass of alcohol.

The sound of glasses clinking was heard among the laughter that burst out here and there.

Yoo-hyun, who had been listening quietly, also tipped his glass silently.

He knew too.

They were just venting their complaints as a drinking excuse.

They were not really serious about complaining.

Yeah. Where else could they talk like this if not with their peers?

But.

Why did their complaints, which they spat out like a hamster wheel, feel so empty today?

That’s when Jin Sun-mi from the PR team came close and offered him a drink.

“Oppa, have a drink with me today.”

“Thanks.”

When did she get here?

Yoo-hyun glanced at her and handed her his glass.

Chirp.

“Hehe, you’re welcome. But why are you just listening?”

“Just.”

Jin Sun-mi wanted to find out something more from Yoo-hyun.

She needed some fresh material to supply to the female employee meeting tomorrow.

Her question drew the attention of his peers to Yoo-hyun.

Among them, there was a man who looked particularly uncomfortable.

It was Gong Hyun-joon from the TV sales team.

As Jin Sun-mi kept showing interest in Yoo-hyun, he glared at him with a sharp look.

“Yeah. Yoo-hyun, why don’t you tell us something. Ah, you’re doing well in the company, so you don’t have any complaints, do you?”

“No. It’s not like that.”

His words sounded sarcastic.

He knew that the guy was conscious of Jin Sun-mi since earlier.

He must have a crush on her.

It would be better to clear up the misunderstanding and soothe his young heart, but he didn’t feel like it today.

Yoo-hyun drank his filled glass and let it go.

The atmosphere became slightly awkward, and Kwon Se-jung intervened.

“Yoo-hyun has the ability, so of course he gets recognized. Why do you say that?”

“I know, I know. You’re just jealous. I honestly couldn’t pass the seminar and couldn’t sleep. You and Yoo-hyun did well, so you must have slept comfortably with your legs stretched out.”

“No. It’s not like that.”

“...”

Yoo-hyun looked up from his empty glass.

He saw Gong Hyun-joon's face with one corner of his mouth lifted.

His eyes were full of jealousy.

He was still young and didn't know how to control his emotions.

'Do I want to lecture him like an old man just because I drank some alcohol?'

Yoo-hyun smirked and drank another glass of alcohol.

The alcohol tasted bitter today.

"Yoo-hyun, come on, teach me something. What's the secret to doing well like you do now?"

"Well. I don't know."

Yoo-hyun didn't have anything to say.

He never tried to do well.

Passing the seminar first was not a criterion for doing well.

"Oh, come on. Don't hide it. Do you think it's good to be the only one doing well?"

"But there's one thing I know."

But he had something he wanted to say to Gong Hyun-joon, who was living with complaints.

Yoo-hyun put down his glass and opened his mouth.

His changed mood drew the attention of his peers.

Yoo-hyun looked into Gong Hyun-joon's eyes and said.

"You have to prove first that you're not getting paid for nothing before you ask such things."

"What? I worked hard too."

He was still a young peer.

He should have just smiled and let it go. Why did he have to point it out?

Suddenly, he saw Kim Young-gil's face on Gong Hyun-joon's face.

There was a strangely similar corner in them.

That's why Yoo-hyun's voice became stronger.

“Do you think you’re loyal to the company? Do you work all night? No. Don’t do that. You’ll only lose your body and mind. The company doesn’t want loyal people, they want people who have skills they can use right away.”

“...”

He was right.

Kim Young-gil was a loyal person to the company.

He worked later than others and tried harder.

Just like Gong Hyun-joon now.

As he was about to open his mouth with a wronged expression, Yoo-hyun cut him off.

“Do you really think you have the skills to compete with and beat your seniors? You can’t answer honestly, can you?”

“It’s different because of the experience. Experience.”

“I know. You just came in, so how can that make sense? But you said you want to go up quickly.”

“...Honestly, you can’t do it without connections or backgrounds. There’s no one who succeeded without a line.”

What was his definition of success?

He wanted to be an executive, so a high position seemed to be his criterion for success.

Then what did Kim Young-gil want?

Did he want to be an executive like Gong Hyun-joon?

He had been with him for five years, but he didn’t know anything about him.

But.

He had something he wanted to say to him.

“Connections? Backgrounds? Lines? Of course they’re important. No, maybe they’re the most important. I know. They seem like cheating. But the company is not a school. It’s a place where fairness and self-esteem matter and the results tell everything.”

“Hmm.”

He shouldn’t hide in fear or cower in self-blame.

The less he had, the more confident he had to be.

He had to face it with that mindset.

“If you want to break through and go up, you have to be a lion. You have to work twice as hard as others.”

“Me too...”

“Don’t just suck up and waste time, but build up your skills so that the company can’t help but need you. Then even if you tell this shitty company to fuck off, they’ll have to hold on to you.”

If he started to produce results without regard for means and methods, the eyes of those around him would change on their own.

The company wants such people, and the bosses want to make them their lines.

“...”

His pupils shook violently at the words that spewed out like a machine gun.

It was not something he should say to him, who had just started his company life.

It was something he should say to Kim Young-gil, who was frustrated and floundering without any tricks.

He had to try harder if he had ambition.

He had to grow himself so that Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader, couldn’t beat him up.

Maybe he looked at him with too sympathetic eyes because of his past regret?

That would not be a helpful direction for Kim Young-gil either.

‘Maybe it would be better for him to wear clothes that suit him...’

The silence continued until his thoughts were disturbed.

“...”

Yoo-hyun came to his senses and said.

“Sorry. I went too far. I’m a bit drunk.”

“No, no.”

As Yoo-hyun apologized, Seo Chang-woo waved his hand.

The other peers also smiled awkwardly.

But the atmosphere didn’t change easily.

They all seemed to be chewing on Yoo-hyun’s words.



Whether it was preaching in front of his peers or cutting Kim Young-gil down.  
He went overboard when he had no right to say such things.

## Chapter 114

Alcohol is the enemy.

Yoo-hyun blamed the awkward atmosphere on the alcohol.

That's when Jin Sunmi, who was next to him, blinked her rabbit eyes and said.

“Wow, I didn't know you had this side of you. You're so manly. People would be surprised if they knew.”

“What are you talking about?”

Why do other people need to know?

He didn't know why, but Jin Sunmi's words stirred up something.

“Yoo-hyun, you were such a hard worker. No wonder...”

“No, it's not like that.”

Kwon Sejung, who saw him every day, had a strange misunderstanding.

“I thought you were just relaxed, but you had a lot of effort. Well, that's why you prepared German too.”

“German?”

“Didn't you hear? He's not only good at German, but also at English, and his work is above the level of most managers. It's no wonder he passed the seminar in one go.”

“...”

Min Jeonghyuk even had a proud expression on his face.

That made the atmosphere go weird.

“Oh! That's amazing.”

“Yoo-hyun is really awesome.”

“I have to work hard like that.”

“No, it's not my story. I just heard it from someone.”

Yoo-hyun quickly corrected them.

That was not the direction he wanted to live in.

But they all looked at him with disbelief.

“Hey, what does it matter? I feel a little less wronged now. I thought you were just a genius.”

“He’s not just a genius, he’s a genius who works hard.”

“Stop saying that.”

Genius, what!

He didn’t want to be noticed like this.

“Brother, you’re really amazing.”

“Back off a bit.”

Jin Sunmi, don’t look at me like that.

That’s why Gong Hyunjun kept being sour.

He could tell by his glance that Gong Hyunjun had a big misunderstanding.

“Come on, Yoo-hyun got hit by the truth, so it hurts, but he also heard some good words. Right, Hyunjun?”

“Ah, yes.”

“Yeah. Come on, let’s have a drink together. It doesn’t matter what others think, we just have to do well. Who has time to blame others?”

Seo Changwoo, the leader, held out his glass.

Clank. Clank. Clank.

The glasses clashed here and there.

Gong Hyunjun, who poured two drinks down his throat in a row, pushed his flushed face forward.

Then he glared at Yoo-hyun with a fiery look.

“I’ll show you. How I work hard and climb up.”

“Why do you have to show me?”

“Just wait and see. I’ll definitely do it.”

Is he saying this because Jin Sunmi said he was amazing?

It was such a sudden change of attitude that it was startling.

‘Is he not drunk?’

As Yoo-hyun looked at Gong Hyunjun with a doubtful eye, he saw something outside the window.

There was a girl with her hands cupping her eyes next to them, looking inside. She met Yoo-hyun's eyes at that moment.

“Huh?”

The girl opened her mouth wide and opened the door of the pub and came in. Then she called Yoo-hyun with a bright smile on her face.

“Brother!”

It was such an unexpected shout that even Yoo-hyun was surprised.

The other classmates didn't need to say anything.

They all looked at Jo Euna with a stunned expression.

Jo Euna smiled as if she had iron on her face.

“Euna, aren't you supposed to be tutoring right now?”

“I came to go to the English academy. Oh, are these your coworkers? Nice to meet you.”

Jo Euna bowed her head and then words started popping out from everywhere.

“Ah, hello. I'm Yoo-hyun's classmate Byeon Jaeseung.”

“I'm his best friend Kwon Sejung.”

“Haha, come sit here.”

Even Seo Changwoo moved his seat aside and gestured for her to sit down.

“Thank you. You're all so cool.”

“Haha, thank you. You're really beautiful.”

Jo Euna sat down lightly in that spot.

Everyone was interested in Jo Euna who suddenly joined them.

They seemed curious about many things but they had just met so they handed her a glass of alcohol first.

“Do you want a drink?”

“Of course, my future senior. Thank you very much.”

The girl who came to go to the English academy smiled brightly and took the glass.

She also created a good atmosphere.

“Hahaha, you must be a student.”

“Yes. I’m in the graduating class this year.”

“Oh, this is fate. Let’s have a drink.”

She really blended in with the group at a fast pace.

The eyes of the classmates were all sparkling.

Only Jin Sunmi’s expression was serious.

‘Could it be?’

She was the most worried about Yoo-hyun and Jo Euna’s relationship in this situation.

What if she was Yoo-hyun’s girlfriend?

Her role, which was to show her presence by spreading Yoo-hyun’s news at the female employees’ meeting, might be greatly reduced.

For the sake of the other female senior employees who liked Yoo-hyun, that couldn’t happen.

“I...”

She was about to ask a question with a doubtful mind.

Screech.

Yoo-hyun got up from his seat abruptly.

It was because of someone passing by outside the window.

“Guys, I’ll go ahead. Hyung, I’ll go first. Text me the bill. I’ll send it to you right away.”

“No. I’ll pay for it.”

Gong Hyunjun said with a determined expression and glanced at Jin Sunmi.

Jin Sunmi seemed to be paying attention to something else, but what did it matter?

He said he would pay for it.

Yoo-hyun gave him a thumbs up and quickly went outside.

“Brother, let’s go together!”

Jo Euna, who was sipping her beer, said when Yoo-hyun had already left.

Yoo-hyun walked fast.

Soon he lifted his head and saw a tall building.

It was a famous English academy in this area.

Yoo-hyun ignored Jo Euna's words and walked through the crowd that filled the hallway.

There was a timetable on the front of the office on the first floor hallway.

'The night class for working adults is on the fifth floor.'

The current time was 9 p.m.

It was impossible to attend an academy at this late hour unless you had a strong determination.

If you take a two-hour class and go home, it will be well past midnight.

Looking at the timetable, he had to come at least three times a week, which was not easy at all.

Swoosh.

He got off the elevator on the fifth floor and saw people lingering in the hallway.

From middle-aged men to young women with fresh faces.

The class had not started yet, so they were going into their classrooms.

Yoo-hyun looked around the classes and quickly scanned the people.

He saw him enter this building.

But that didn't guarantee that he attended the academy.

Could he be here?

He must have been hoping for it inside.

"He really attends here."

He smiled when he saw Kim Younggil, who was sitting in the front row of the classroom.

Working adult intermediate C night class.

In there, Kim Younggil was confidently talking to the foreign teacher in front of him.

He looked very familiar with joking with the teacher before the class started.

He must have invested a lot of time in this academy.

Yoo-hyun understood why Kim Younggil came to the academy.

He didn't want to show his weakness in front of those who were good at it. Instead of hiding his shame, he was honing himself from behind. That was good. He didn't see it wrong.

The five years he spent with him.

As Yoo-hyun saw, he was always a hard-working person.

A person who acknowledged his lack and knew how to fill it up.

He just didn't know how to overcome it.

And that was something Yoo-hyun could help him with.

Yoo-hyun's smile reflected on the glass window.

Click.

When Yoo-hyun came home and turned on the switch, the small space lit up brightly.

It was a really humble house compared to the past.

But why did it feel so cozy?

Yoo-hyun put down his bag and hung his jacket on the chair at the table and boiled some water in the coffee pot.

Honey that his mother sent him was perfect for hangovers.

Yoo-hyun poured hot water over thick honey in a cup and sat down on a chair.

A faint drunkenness rose up with the sweet scent.

He pressed the button on the CD player in the corner of the table and a gentle piano melody filled the air.

Yoo-hyun leaned back on his chair and enjoyed his honey tea while listening to the music.

His expensive coffee turned into honey tea, his pricey audio equipment turned into a cheap CD player, his soft sofa turned into a hard dining chair.

But his habit of calming his mind with a serene atmosphere was the same.

He felt like his head was lighter as he pondered in the quiet mood.

"This is nice."

He liked this moment, then and now.

It was like wrapping up his day.

It didn't look much different from the past, but there was something added to his daily life.

It was checking his phone messages.

Yoo-hyun took out his phone from his bag.

When he opened the window, dozens of unread messages popped up on the small screen.

Since it wasn't a smartphone, it was hard to see all the messages at once.

But it was fun to check them one by one, remembering the previous conversations.

Beep.

The vibration rang at that moment.

-Are you having fun with your classmates? Drink until you pass out. Don't be left out for no reason.

Park Seungwoo said something he didn't mean.

He replied briefly and moved on to the previous messages.

-There was a big match at the gym today. Wow. Taesoo hyung was flying. You should have been there. Don't miss it tomorrow and come with us.

It wasn't just Park Young-hoon, his senior from the army.

-Aren't you skipping too often these days? I'm bored without you.

Kang Dong-shik, who he became close with at the gym, always sent him a message like this when he skipped the gym.

Men have nothing to do.

But he had to reply.

Especially if he didn't reply to Kang Dong-shik, he would hear some useless nagging at the gym tomorrow.

-Did you get home well? We finished soon after you left. Don't take Hyunjun's words to heart today. He's already having trouble with human relations.

He could have talked about it at work tomorrow, but Kwon Sejung always sent him a message like this.

-Thanks for the good time. Rest well and see you tomorrow. Fighting.

Seo Changwoo, the leader of the classmate meeting, who always took care of him from behind, was the same.

-Brother, did you get home well? Can I tell people what you told me today? It was such a good story.

What part of it was good?

Who are you going to tell?

He couldn't figure out Jin Sunmi at all.

Yoo-hyun snorted and sent a reply to each one of them.

He received dozens of messages today alone.

Family, friends, coworkers.

There was nothing special. They were just asking how he was doing.

What would Yoo-hyun in the past think if he saw this?

Wouldn't he think they were all useless?

They were not helpful for success or had any chance of gaining anything from them.

Rather, they would have felt annoying in the midst of his busy schedule.

"What a foolish life I lived."

Yoo-hyun smiled with self-mockery.

Why was his vision so narrow back then?

There were people right next to him who could make his life richer, but why didn't he know that?

He acted like he knew everything, but he was a half-wit who knew nothing about life.

The messages that filled the screen.

Each line contained the feelings of people who cared about Yoo-hyun.

Could he think of this as a report card for his changed life?

You did well.

Maybe not enough to stamp it with approval, but at least he felt confident that he was on the right path.

Yoo-hyun pressed the button and looked at the messages that came before.



He felt like he was reading his diary again as he remembered the emotions and situations in each word.

## Chapter 115

At that moment, I saw a message that my younger sister Han Jae-hee had sent me a while ago.

She was complaining about how hard it was to do the work that Yoo-hyun had requested.

Come to think of it, the deadline I had asked for was almost up.

Was she doing well?

That was the moment Yoo-hyun thought of her.

Ring.

My phone rang and, as if it were a lie, Han Jae-hee's name appeared on the screen.

-Check your email.

Then, before I could reply, she called me.

Ring. Ring.

Why is she in such a hurry?

-Oppa, did you see it?

“Hey, I just saw your message.”

-Then check your email quickly.

“Ugh, fine.”

Yoo-hyun sighed and turned on his computer.

Han Jae-hee kept talking about how hard she had worked.

-You have no idea how much I suffered...

“You did well.”

Yoo-hyun nodded along as he opened his email.

The attached file contained the character backgrounds and icons that matched them that Yoo-hyun had requested.

She had followed the format of the reference material I had sent her last time.

The quality wasn't too bad either.

But it didn't meet Yoo-hyun's expectations.

It was impossible from the start.

-Are you silent? Is it crappy?

"No. It's not bad, but..."

-Be honest. Is it bad? I didn't know what to do because I was working alone.

"Of course it's not easy."

-I followed the guide you gave me, but I couldn't really picture what it would look like when I put it on my phone.

"That's easy. We just have to test it on our mockup."

-Then what? Are the characters bad? I'm weak at characters because I'm into modern art. I like drawing, but drawing well is another story.

She didn't say much, but she was good at talking to herself.

It showed how much she loved her work.

She seemed to be quite nervous too.

That attitude was enough.

"No. You did well. You did very well, but it would be nice if you could bring out the characters more, like you said."

-Really? What should I do?

What should I do?

A memory from the past flashed in my mind.

-Boss, isn't it natural to ask an expert if you don't know? I think you should get help and produce results instead of struggling by yourself.

Yoo-hyun, who had been lost in thought for a moment, muttered to himself.

"Ask an expert..."

A thought crossed his mind.

Maybe he had found a way to help Kim Young-gil properly.

Then Han Jae-hee's voice rang out through the phone speaker.

-Oppa! What do you think I should do?

"Huh?"

Oh, right.

It was about Han Jae-hee first.

-Is it weird? Should I just redo it? Should I just throw it away?

“No. It’s fine. It’s fine, but it needs a little polishing. Don’t you have any experts around you who can help you? Like a school or a club.”

He had gone off track for a moment, but the answer was the same.

If you’re having trouble by yourself, just get help from an expert.

No, it’s better to get help and make something awesome than to hold on to something foolishly by yourself.

That would be good for Yoo-hyun, but also a great asset for Han Jae-hee.

-It costs money.

“I’ll pay for it. Take this opportunity to improve your skills. Then I’ll take care of you more.”

-Really? You know you’ll die if you lie.

Geez, I tried to help her and this is what I get from my sister.

“Hey, is that what you say to your brother?”

-Anyway, I’ll look around and contact you later.

She hung up the phone because she felt disadvantaged.

Anyway, Han Jae-hee’s case was settled for now.

There was still time, so he would watch and help her when needed.

There was something more important than that right now.

What should I do?

Yoo-hyun pulled out the Kim Young-gil problem that he had pushed aside earlier.

The Apple case would be resolved soon as it should be.

Then he could put out the fire right away.

But that was not a fundamental solution to the problem.

The Apple case was just a manifestation of Kim Young-gil’s problem on the surface.

He needed English to be recognized as he wanted in the future.

Why did Kim Young-gil, who was working hard at a language school, suffer from English at work?

The lack of skill was the biggest reason, but the bigger problem was that he missed the point.

A language school teacher who had never worked in a company properly could not teach business English properly.

He needed proper expert help to improve his skills in a short time.

And who to choose as that expert.

And how to connect them.

He seemed to have found the answer to his dilemma.

Yoo-hyun did not hesitate to flip through his phone contacts.

‘I’m sure I saved it...’

-James.

There it was.

The name of Yoo-hyun’s college English teacher and the person who would be a fate for Kim Young-gil.

A few days later.

“I’ll go ahead and take a look.”

“Okay. Good job.”

Kim Hyun-min, who received Kim Young-gil’s greeting, tilted his head.

It was because he saw Kim Young-gil leave work on time for once.

He quietly approached Park Seung-woo, who was talking with Yoo-hyun, and asked him.

“Park, did Kim have something good happen?”

“Why?”

“No, just. He looked depressed for a while, but he looks happy now. Did he get a girlfriend or something?”

“Hey, no way.”

“Then is it because Apple has been quiet lately?”

Kim Hyun-min tilted his head and Park Seung-woo quickly answered.

“That’s not it either.”

“Hey, what is it then? Tell me.”

Kim Hyun-min leaned in with curiosity.

Park Seung-woo sighed softly and looked at Yoo-hyun.

“Ask this guy.”

“Huh? Why Yoo-hyun?”

Geez.

He got mad over that.

Yoo-hyun sighed inwardly and said.

“I introduced someone I know to Kim.”

“Not a girl, you said.”

“Not a girlfriend, a billiards friend. Kim is good at billiards, so I connected them.”

“Hey! My nickname is Park Three-cue. How can I be worse than Kim?”

Park Seung-woo flared up at Yoo-hyun’s words.

He had been like that ever since Yoo-hyun brought up billiards in front of Kim Young-gil and Park Seung-woo a few days ago.

Kim Hyun-min ignored Park Seung-woo’s words lightly.

“Oh, really? That’s amazing. He’s not a girl, but a guy, and Kim goes out to play billiards with him? That workaholic?”

“He seems to like it very much.”

Kim Young-gil did love and play billiards well.

But that didn’t mean he would play games with strangers he didn’t know.

He was that busy of a person.

But Kim Hyun-min soon agreed.

“Well. Park hasn’t been able to match his level for a while.”

“Manager!”

Park Seung-woo shouted.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and moved aside slightly.

It was nice to watch their bickering, but he had to answer the phone that had just come in.

Ring.

Yoo-hyun walked down the office corridor and pressed the call button.

At the same time, English came out of the speaker.

It was James's voice, Yoo-hyun's college English teacher.

-Steve, how are you today? Are you doing well at work?

"No. I have to go home now. Did you meet Daniel?"

-Not yet. I wanted to ask you something before that. What part should we focus on more today?

"Are you going to do it after billiards?"

Yoo-hyun asked and James's cheerful voice came out.

-Of course. It's fun playing billiards with Daniel. He seems to be at your level?

"Hey, he's better than me. Hold on."

Yoo-hyun quickened his pace.

He sat down on the makeshift chair in the corner of the hallway and asked.

"What did you do so far?"

-I fixed his tone a bit to suit the business style. And he had a habit of frowning when he spoke English. I told him not to do that.

"He listens well to James."

-He pays for the food and the game fee. He has to pay for that value. Hehe.

The price James was talking about meant English coaching.

To be precise, it was business English tailored for Daniel, or Kim Young-gil, an assistant manager.

Yoo-hyun caught the target's characteristics.

"Nice job. Now try it this way."

-Talk. I'm listening.

The other person was Mark Harrison, the head of Apple's display division.

He had an unusual career path, going through a Japanese company before joining Apple.

He was familiar with Eastern etiquette.

But in a bad way.

He felt ignored by the other person if they didn't bow their head or speak politely in front of him.

Of course, this only applied to Asians.

“When you greet him or do a presentation, use some Eastern manners. It sounds like you're too formal.”

-Ah, so he cares about that stuff. Well, some people do pay attention to unnecessary things when dealing with Asians.

As expected. James understood the situation right away, maybe because he had experience.

If Daniel had some spare time and tact, he would have naturally adapted to that style.

But he was too busy with English to do anything but follow the textbook style.

That must have annoyed Mark Harrison.

Considering his skills and efforts that Yoo-hyun heard from James, this was a more reasonable guess.

“And one more thing...”

-Okay. This should be fun.

He thought for a moment.

How did James feel?

No matter how fluent he was in English, it wouldn't be easy to play pool, eat, and teach English like a friend with a stranger.

But he gladly agreed to help.

Yoo-hyun appreciated James for that.

“Thanks for making time for me.”

-Don't mention it. I'm happy to make a good friend, you know. And I should thank you for getting me into your company.

“No, you got in because you're good.”

James had worked for a fairly large company in Canada and had experience supporting corporate presentations in Korea.

And he was still working as an English teacher at Inhyun University, so his status was clear.

Hansung Electronics had no reason to refuse him.

-Anyway, thanks to you I got a nice side job. I'll keep my promise. I'll buy you dinner sometime.

It wasn't really a promise.

It was just a casual remark.

Of course, there was Yoo-hyun's effort to turn that casual remark into a new relationship.

-Hansung Electronics is a good company. Congratulations on graduating and getting hired, Steve. You'll take care of me later, right?

He remembered James' joking words when they met at the graduation ceremony a while ago.

He also made an effort to find James and greet him then.

He even played pool with James, which he hated, just to improve his English a little bit in the past.

It was all Yoo-hyun's doing.

"Then let's have Daniel pay for the meal."

That seemed fair enough for getting a meal out of him, right?

When Yoo-hyun answered with a smile, he heard laughter from the other side of the phone.

-Hehe. Okay. Oh, Daniel must be here. Let's talk later.

'I should thank him too.'

Yoo-hyun hung up and thought of sending a text message to Byun Jae-seung, his colleague in the Global HRD team.

He was able to move James thanks to him.

Ziiing.

As he fiddled with his phone, it vibrated.

-Yoo-hyun, thank you. I got a good teacher thanks to you. I'll buy you dinner later.

It was a message from Kim Young-gil.

This is ridiculous...

He was the one who asked for help, but they all said they would buy him dinner.



It started as a favor for Kim Young-gil, an assistant manager who needed help with English.

But James and Kim Young-gil were grateful to him for introducing them and finding them a place.

Everyone was happy with the people he introduced them to, so he couldn't help but feel good too.

Maybe this is why people become matchmakers.

A smile formed on Yoo-hyun's lips.

Chapter 116

Inside the office of the mobile sales and marketing manager.

Thud.

“...”

The expression of Executive Director Jo Chan-young reflected faintly on the monitor, was not good.

-HP delays the launch of its next-generation PDA? Facing difficulties in supplying parts.

That was the title of an electronic newspaper article.

Why was HP's news included in the news summary prepared by the LCD business division's PR team?

The reason was simple.

Hansung Electronics was the largest supplier of LCD panels.

The interview with HP's executive implied that there was a problem with the LCD panel.

There was no way to refute it, as there was indeed a problem with the HPDA3 panel that was supplied for testing a while ago.

They had a plausible improvement plan, but HP was also showing signs of discontent with the delayed parts supply.

And they even resorted to this kind of media play.

“Damn.”

Ring ring.

Just then, the phone rang.

Why did the uneasy feeling always come true?

-Executive Director Jo Chan-young come over right now.

“Yes. I understand.”

As soon as the mobile group manager finished speaking, Executive Director Jo Chan-young really ran out.

He knew from his voice that An Jun-hong, the executive director, was quite angry.

And he guessed that the reason was probably right.

Damn, Apple and HP are both a mess!

Jo Chan-young bit his lip.

After Jo Chan-young entered the mobile group manager’s office.

There was a loud scream inside.

Even the sound of something heavy falling could be heard.

The secretary outside the office looked calm as if it was a usual occurrence.

“I’ll do my best.”

“Don’t do your best, do well! Well!”

“Yes, yes. I’ll keep that in mind.”

“Then get out of here and fix it!”

Jo Chan-young received back what he usually said to his subordinates from An Jun-hong, the executive director, and cautiously came out.

“Ah, this frustration...”

He heard a sigh from behind him and Jo Chan-young clenched his teeth.

He turned his head away quickly and walked briskly as soon as he met eyes with the group manager’s secretary.

He looked angry as if he was venting his anger on someone else.

“What?”

The group manager’s secretary snorted and looked at the monitor.

Then she quickly typed a message on the company messenger window.

-It just ended. Your manager’s face is red. He might be cranky when he comes down.

-Thanks, sis. Anything else?

-HP is all there is. The Apple meeting seems to be over. I don't think there's anything else that overlaps with you?

Then the office door opened and An Jun-hong, the executive director, came out.

“Min-joo, how's the channel company meeting?”

“I've only set up a tentative date for next week. Should I make a reservation?”

“Yeah. Make a reservation and put Jo as the presenter. Let him report directly.”

“Yes. I'll let him know.”

She nodded calmly and put her hand on the keyboard naturally.

-Awesome! The channel guys are coming again. Your manager will report directly. Group manager's order.

-What, really? That's crazy.

Across from the manager's office seat.

Lee Ae-rin, who was on the company messenger, smiled and sent a message to yoo.

-yoo, I have a new schedule for the channel company meeting. Do you want me to tell you?

-Thank you. I'll buy you coffee.

-Okay. Let me know when you come.^^

yoo entered Hansung Tower lobby and saw Lee Ae-rin's message.

At this point, seeing that Channel Company had scheduled a meeting with Jo Chan-young, he had an idea of what was going on.

Channel Company must have pushed Channel Phone 2 to the mobile phone division several times, and the mobile phone division couldn't handle it and shifted the responsibility to the LCD panel side.

They even set up a report at once, which meant that there was a possibility of advancing the production schedule.

Channel Phone 2 was a problem, but HPDA3 was a bigger problem.

He saw the news that HP was already putting pressure on them.

It was an important project, so the development team must have been on fire.

The sparks would inevitably fall on the planning side as well.

Unfortunately, there was only one person in charge of both projects.

‘Shin Manager must be having a hard time.’

He must be running around like crazy by now?

It was his own fault anyway.

So be it.

yoo nodded his head when someone’s voice came from behind him.

It was Kim Young-gil, the assistant manager.

“yoo!”

“Assistant manager, you must have come back from the meeting.”

“Yeah. What about you? Oh, you went on a business trip, right? What’s that?”

“It’s the mock-up that came out this time.”

“The contest one? That was fast.”

Kim Young-gil shook his head at his words.

“It’s not finished yet.”

“Oh, I see.”

There was a brief awkward silence.

Did he remember what he said when he was drunk?

He felt like he had been watching him ever since.

“Um, you know.”

“Yes. Please tell me.”

“Well, James...”

“What about James?”

“Just. Thank you for introducing him to me.”

“It’s nothing.”

Kim Young-gil looked away and answered.

Why was it so hard to say thank you?

yoo held back the laughter that rose up.

“Well... James helped me a lot. Let me buy you a meal.”

“Really? I’m fine with that.”

“Yeah. Let’s do that.”

The corners of Kim Young-gil’s mouth lifted slightly.

That’s when they were standing side by side in front of the elevator.

Ding.

The elevator door on the first floor opened and Shin Chan-yong, the section chief, came out.

His gloomy face looked exactly like Kim Young-gil’s a while ago.

“Hello.”

“...”

yoo greeted him, but he didn’t even glance at him and walked away.

Thud.

He even pushed Kim Young-gil’s shoulder.

How rude!

When he turned around, he had already passed by.

yoo checked on Kim Young-gil.

“Are you okay?”

“Yeah. I’m fine. He’s always like that.”

He’s such a nice person.

That’s why he got everything taken away by Shin Chan-yong, the section chief.

-What’s the point of working hard like a fool? His performance is like that. You have to be smart.

He remembered what Shin Chan-yong had said to mock Kim Young-gil in the past.

“What are you doing? Let’s go up.”

“Yes.”

Of course, things are different now.

And the outcome has changed too.

The one who had some leeway was Kim Young-gil.

And the one who lost everything because of his greed was Shin Chan-yong.

HP, Channel, Apple.

All of them were big projects that had been put on hold.

The mobile sales and marketing manager and his team had to go through a stormy time.

Among them, Apple was the one that went well.

“Kim, assistant manager, you must feel relieved now?”

“That’s right. They said it was Apple’s fault. But they didn’t apologize?”

The cause of the problem was the new Apple chip.

It behaved abnormally unlike the promised specs.

It was clear that yoo’s discovery and Kim Young-gil’s analysis helped with the verification.

But they didn’t apologize.

“What do you mean apologize? You should be grateful that they let it go quietly. Right?”

Manager Kim Hyun-min asked and Kim Young-gil pursed his lips.

He looked like he had something to say with his hands on his knees and his nose flared up.

“I...”

Everyone in the meeting room looked at Kim Young-gil.

At that moment, Kim Young-gil bowed his head deeply.

“I’m sorry.”

“Hey, hey, what are you talking about? Why are you sorry?”

Kim Hyun-min waved his hands frantically and was so flustered that no one else could say anything.

But Kim Young-gil continued to speak.

“I showed you my poor side because it was hard.”

“...”

His sincere voice echoed in the meeting room.

“I felt so inadequate that I couldn’t muster up the courage.”

“...”

It was also courage to admit one's shortcomings.

Today, Kim Young-gil showed courage that yoo had never experienced before.

What made him like this?

“But thank you all for helping me first.”

Kim Young-gil looked at yoo's eyes.

Then he bowed his head again.

“I'll try to reach out first from now on.”

“...”

As the extremely serious atmosphere continued, no one could open their mouths.

They just exchanged glances as if to say what was going on.

Then Kim Hyun-min chuckled.

“What is this? Hey, Park, assistant manager. He's worse than you.”

“Manager.”

“Don't worry about that stuff and use honorifics properly. What is yoo? Don't act like you're close and cause trouble for yoo.”

“Yes, yes. I got it. yoo is fine, right?”

“Yes. Let's go in, Jun-ki.”

yoo smiled and led him inside the company.

Chapter 117

Kang Joon-ki opened the huge entrance door and stepped inside, blinking his surprised eyes.

In the center of the spacious marble floor, there was a large TV that looked like it was 80 inches.

On the ceiling, TVs that were about 40 inches long were connected horizontally, displaying a long screen.

On the side, there were a reception desk, a customer service room, a conference room, and all kinds of foreigners occupying the seats.

It was a fresh shock for him, who had only worked in a cramped space like a factory.

‘Even the receptionist lady is pretty!’

Kang Joon-ki, who was checking the visitors, handed over his ID card and stood blankly.

“Joon-ki, what are you doing? Hurry up and write your purpose of visit.”

“Ah, yeah. Okay.”

Then the receptionist said to Yoo-hyun.

“Is he your acquaintance, Yoo-hyun?”

“Yes. He’s my friend. We met at work.”

“Oh, that’s amazing. Hohoho.”

Kang Joon-ki whispered to Yoo-hyun.

“Do you know her?”

“Yeah. I greeted her once before.”

He had come every morning to find the next-generation mobile phone conference, and they had become familiar with each other.

Just enough to say hello?

That alone made Kang Joon-ki’s eyes fill with envy.

He took the visitor card and followed Yoo-hyun.

“Hohoho.”

A group of female employees passed by laughing.

There were so many people who looked good enough to make his eyes sparkle.

Did this guy work in a place like this?

Jealousy.

But the female employees suddenly changed direction.

Were they even coming this way?

Did they notice him staring?

But suddenly the female employees stopped.

“Oh, Yoo-hyun. Did you go out for work?”

“Ah, I have a visitor.”

“Oh? Is it Semi Electronics? I saw it on the visitor list.”



“You have a good memory, Ahrin.”

“Hoho, no big deal.”

They were talking very friendly.

Kang Joon-ki felt a great sense of alienation in their conversation.

That was just the beginning.

“Yoo-hyun, hello.”

“Yoo-hyun, how are you?”

“Yoo-hyun, let’s have a coffee later.”

Yoo-hyun, Yoo-hyun, Yoo-hyun.

From taking the elevator to the 12th floor and arriving at the conference room.

In less than 10 minutes, he seemed to have greeted all kinds of female employees.

They all had very kind and bright expressions.

Even the cleaning lady who came out of the bathroom next to the conference room greeted Yoo-hyun warmly.

‘What the hell is he?’

He understood why he didn’t pay any attention to women at the alumni meeting he went to recently.

He didn’t seem to have any reason to do so.

Thud.

Lim Han-seop, who put his luggage on the conference table, said.

“Wow, Yoo-hyun. You’re amazing.”

“Senior, just speak comfortably. There’s only us here.”

“Should I? But you’re really popular.”

Lim Han-seop seemed to have the same feeling.

He asked what he couldn’t ask because of his pride.

Kang Joon-ki expected Yoo-hyun’s answer.

“It’s just that I got close to them by greeting them.”

“Really? The company atmosphere must be good.”

“Yes. It’s a nice place.”

That's it? Just by greeting them?

No way!

Kang Joon-ki bit his lower lip hard and muttered.

"...did you do?"

"What did you say, Joon-ki?"

"How did you do it?"

"What are you talking about?"

"I mean, how did you make them all like you?"

He looked at Yoo-hyun with burning eyes.

He wanted to know desperately.

What is he talking about?

Yoo-hyun laughed incredulously.

"Hey, what do you mean like me? It's just greeting them."

"No. That can't be true."

Kang Joon-ki wrapped his head with both hands.

"Oh my god, this idiot. Be quiet. You're embarrassing me."

"Team leader, why can't I do it?"

He spat out words mixed with self-mockery.

With an expression of giving up on the world, Lim Han-seop clicked his tongue.

"What do you mean you can't do it? Sigh... Yoo-hyun, I'm sorry."

"No problem. He always does that."

"I can't do it..."

Yoo-hyun ignored Kang Joon-ki's words and said to Lim Han-seop.

"Oh, senior. As I told you before, we might not be able to see our manager today."

"I know. But I'll be ready anyway."

"Okay. I'll let you know when I call you later."

"Thank you. For giving me this opportunity."

“I’m grateful that you think so.”

Yoo-hyun bowed his head and went outside.

The preparation was over.

It was time to start the main page.

About 30 minutes later.

Inside the conference room on the 12th floor.

Jo Chan-young, the director, and Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader, sat in the center of the long table.

On the opposite side of the table, the staff of the third part were sitting, and Park Seung-woo, the Assistant Manager, was standing on the podium.

On the screen, there was a report titled ‘Next-generation budget-friendly full-touch phone’.

Executive Director Jo Chan-young glanced at Yoo-hyun.

He didn’t expect much from the report.

He was so busy that he had postponed it a couple of times before.

But he made time today because of a single word from the newbie.

-As you told me, I focused on my work and thought hard, and I think I came up with a good idea. I really want to show it to you.

He felt a bit sorry for him because he had misunderstood him in the previous Hyunil Automobile case.

And he came to him first and said that, so it was hard to refuse.

He was going to postpone it again if possible, but strangely, his afternoon schedule was all canceled or delayed, and he had a lot of free time.

He was sure it would be boring, but a promise was a promise.

He sat down out of obligation.

Wasn’t it just a simple report?

Executive Director Jo Chan-young looked around and asked with a puzzled expression.

“Why do we have to do it in the central conference room? And who are these people?”

Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo recalled what Yoo-hyun had said when he reserved the conference room, and opened his mouth.

“Since we all made this together, we all attended. I thought it would be good to have everyone here when we reflect your instructions.”

“Really?”

Executive Director Jo Chan-young tilted his head and pursed his lips.

He didn't seem very pleased.

It was inevitable.

He was already headache from the important projects that were all messed up, and they were all gathered here to talk about the useless contest.

So he had to make good use of this opportunity.

Executive Director Jo Chan-young's expectations were zero, so even a small impact could make a big impression.

If possible, he wanted to make a big impact and shake his mind completely.

He had to make him think that the contest result was his lifeline.

It seemed irrelevant, but Executive Director Jo Chan-young was the key member who would determine the success of this contest, in Yoo-hyun's opinion.

“Shall we start?”

“Yes. Just do as you prepared.”

As Yoo-hyun nodded, Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo began his presentation.

Crackling.

While the intro was playing, Executive Director Jo Chan-young flipped through the printout on his desk.

There were 50 pages of content printed two per page.

He had been in this business for almost 30 years.

He could tell at a glance whether this content was copied from somewhere or not.

‘Did they make all this themselves?’

He looked up at Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo again.

His posture and voice were completely different from before.

‘What happened to him?’

Executive Director Jo Chan-young’s eyes shook.

Yoo-hyun signaled Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo with his eyes.

It was a sign to turn the page.

-Assistant Manager, there’s too much content, so don’t spend too much time on one page. I’ll time it and send you a signal.

As if they had coordinated with Yoo-hyun, Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo continued his presentation well.

“This time...”

When he announced the concept, he briefly pointed out the main points.

When he showed the back data, he emphasized it clearly.

When he talked about the schedule, he followed the overall flow.

When he talked about the backup plan, he provided convincing evidence.

Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo spoke quickly but did not miss the core points.

At some point.

Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo’s gaze moved away from Yoo-hyun and toward the whole audience.

It was a sign that he had fully immersed himself in his presentation.

Yoo-hyun saw him as a solo violinist who turned on the strings in a large auditorium.

His rough breathing and rhythm made the serious movement of the strings attract people’s attention.

He completely dominated the large space alone.

He suited the protagonist well, although he always stood behind and hid himself.

Should I say he had a stage constitution?

He just didn’t have a proper stage for him until now.

‘You’ve grown a lot.’

Yoo-hyun watched his presentation, which was like his performance, with pride, knowing his hidden efforts better than anyone else.

The 30 minutes passed like a lie.

The expressions of the part members who saw Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo's presentation for the first time were tinged with curiosity.

'Was he that good?'

'He's good?'

It wasn't just surprise.

They were good colleagues, but also competitors with good intentions.

Who wouldn't want to do better?

Yoo-hyun smiled inwardly at the slight tension that entered the conference room.

They were getting ready to create harmony together after being stimulated by Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo.

Executive Director Jo Chan-young's question was a signal.

"The price is half of the existing HPDA3 panel?"

"Yes, sir. That's the current situation."

Assistant Manager Park Seung-woo handed over the note.

"We are currently considering domesticating the touch panel. If we apply it, we can save an additional 10% of the cost. And."

"Is there more?"

Manager Choi Min-hee added a harmony with the details.

If she had to express her with an instrument, wouldn't it be a piano?

She was specialized in solo, but when she collaborated like this, she enhanced the brilliance of the solo performer with her rich experience and skill.

"Yes. If we integrate the chip and the touch panel, we can save up to 30% more. We think that's possible."

"Hmm, that's big."

"The production speed improvement will have a bigger effect than the cost reduction."

When she was backed up, her weakness of being nervous and burdened was hidden.

She maximized her fast and meticulous advantages in the gap where the spotlight missed.

“Is it really possible to increase the production speed by two times?”

“By changing the liquid crystal deposition method and integrating the circuit parts, it is possible to increase it by four times.”

“Has it been verified?”

Kim Young-gil, the Assistant Manager, supplemented the sharp question.

“Yes. We contacted the HPDA3 process line and the circuit and panel side, and they replied that it was theoretically possible.”

“Where’s the data?”

“I’ll show you. It’s included in the appendix data.”

“No, never mind. Just tell me.”

“Yes. Here, if the touch panel domestication that the preceding development team is doing succeeds, we can embed it in the circuit parts and increase the production speed even more.”

Kim Young-gil was a cello.

He made a dull but serious and slow but solid sound with a low pitch range.

He didn’t seem to stand out, but his deep performance added depth to the sound.

Lee Chan-ho was a viola that showed his presence between the violin and cello.

“The preparation for the mockup is...”

Kim Hyun-min, the section chief, was a contrabass that held the center of the whole orchestra with the lowest sound.

“The personnel allocation is according to the schedule...”

Their performances, which seemed to go in different directions, began to create harmony in one direction.

Thump thump.

His heart raced at their first rehearsal, which was clumsy and dull.

He felt a thrill from his fingertips that had been moving constantly to tune them.

Yoo-hyun looked at his hand for a long time.

Chapter 118

The presentation was not only meaningful to Yoo-hyun.

Jo Chan-young, the executive director, was also quite surprised.

‘Are these guys really the same third part of the product planning team?’

They were nothing like the product planning team he had known, either in their speech or in their preparation.

He hid his astonishment and maintained a serious expression.

“This seems like a lot of talk, but... what do you think, Team Leader Oh?”

Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader, quickly rolled his eyes.

He had not seen the presentation content before.

To be honest, he thought it was good.

But Jo Chan-young’s reaction did not seem very favorable.

There were many constraints, so it was understandable.

“Well, I think the idea is good. And they worked hard on the preparation.”

“Do you think so? Can you take responsibility for it?”

“Yes? Ah... of course, this was all checked by Manager Kim...”

Oh Jae-hwan chose to shift the responsibility to someone else.

Jo Chan-young turned his head to Kim Hyun-min, the Manager.

“Can you take responsibility for this, Manager Kim?”

“If they presented such a good idea and a concrete plan, of course the responsibility should be on us. I think it’s good enough.”

“Really?”

Jo Chan-young quietly turned the pages of the printout.

It was challenging but realistic.

If they could really produce it like this, it would sell well in the mobile phone division.

‘Maybe this could really replace HPDA3.’

According to sources, HP had another reason for blaming the parts supplier.

They said that the PDA development itself was delayed.

If that was true, then there was nothing the parts supplier could say.

They just had to supply the products according to the schedule of the superior.

The problem was that even if they met the schedule, the production schedule could be delayed because of the PDA development delay.



They had to stop all the lines that they were setting up now.

HP was a long-time customer, but they had to prepare for this situation.

But there was something that bothered him.

“Honestly, the content is tempting. I acknowledge that they worked hard.”

“Yes, sir.”

“But can you really implement all of this? The schedule seems tight. You can’t afford any mistakes.”

It was not just that they could not afford any mistakes.

They needed all the related departments to be ready.

That was something that Park Seung-woo, the Assistant Manager, could not do alone, no matter how good his idea was.

Someone above him had to move.

In other words, Jo Chan-young’s question was whether he could move him right now.

It also meant that this was not enough.

Swish.

Park Seung-woo turned his head and looked at Yoo-hyun.

He remembered their conversation a while ago.

-I hope we can do a demo at this presentation.

-Why? It’s not a real contest. Why do we have to push ourselves?

-We need your help to make our schedule possible. And moving the related departments too.

-Well, that’s true. It would be helpful. But can you do it?

It was a tight schedule.

According to Lee Chan-ho, it worked for now.

But he thought it was not enough to just show an image. Yoo-hyun took it and did some more work on it.

And he saw the result a few days ago.

“Sir, we have prepared something for that. Yoo-hyun.”

“Yes, sir.”

As Park Seung-woo nodded his head, Yoo-hyun moved quickly.

Yoo-hyun took out a mockup from under the table and placed it in front of Jo Chan-young.

Red, blue, green.

It was a mockup with three different colors of cases.

“Did you check this out, Team Leader Oh?”

“Yes? Ah, I... I was busy with HP stuff.”

“Hmm, I guess Manager Kim really took care of everything.”

Jo Chan-young muttered to himself and picked up the red mockup.

It looked plausible from the outside, but he was more surprised when he touched the screen.

The background image matched the color of the case. The character and icons inside were surprisingly well-matched too.

He did not like it personally, but his young daughter would love it very much.

‘This is a complete phone?’

He had seen many mockups before, but he had never seen one with such quality.

He thought they would just put an image on an LCD panel. But they made a whole product out of it.

The most surprising thing was that it did not look like a panel that maximized cost reduction at all.

Even the touch performance was not bad.

If this level of performance could meet real usage conditions, it seemed possible to mass-produce it.

Rather, he felt like he had been making unnecessary over-spec products until now.

Jo Chan-young pressed his surprised chest and asked.

“Where did you make this mockup?”

“Semi Electronics.”

“A new company. Did the development team support it?”

“They just checked it. Lee Chan-ho was in charge.”

“Did they provide the images inside too?”

Yoo-hyun answered Jo Chan-young’s detailed questions without hesitation.

“I prepared those.”

“Huh...”

Jo Chan-young looked at Lee Chan-ho and Yoo-hyun in turn.

‘You prepared it without the development team? How did you manage to do such detailed parts? Is this what the newbie said about reflecting the idea?’

He wanted to dig deeper, but there were many people watching.

He could not show his ignorance in front of the young employees.

Jo Chan-young looked at the mockup again.

The presentation content was something that anyone could do with some brain work and time.

But making a mockup that even the development team could not make properly was not an easy task.

If it was easy, they would not have made such crappy mockups for the exhibitions.

“Did they say they could make domestic touch panels too?”

“Yes. I looked into several companies, but this one had the best price and stability. The pre-development team also confirmed that it looked good from the data.”

“Huh, really... why did everyone else waste their time?”

Jo Chan-young could not understand.

Then Kim Hyun-min, the Manager, opened his mouth.

“Mr. Jo, I thought you might be interested in meeting the people from the company, so I asked them to wait. Do you want to see them?”

“You asked them to wait? Did you anticipate that?”

“Yes. I had a feeling you would look for them.”

“Is this... the same product planning team I know?”

Mr. Jo Chan-young, the executive director, asked incredulously.

Mr. Kim Hyun-min, the Manager, smiled wryly.

“Who else would it be? Haha.”

“...”

There was a moment of awkward silence after Mr. Kim Hyun-min’s ill-timed joke.

“Ah, Mr. Kim, you’re so funny. Let’s just listen to them first. Hehehe.”

Fortunately, Mr. Jo Chan-young didn’t make a big deal out of it.

Then, the people who were listening with their eyes wide open started to laugh along.

“Haha. Hahaha.”

Among them was Mr. Oh Jae-hwan, the team leader.

He was stunned right now.

It was a report that would have been rejected long ago.

But somehow, he managed to listen to it all, and even answered the questions thoroughly.

He thought that would be enough, but he even brought out a mock-up and had the company ready to go.

It was as if he read Mr. Jo Chan-young’s mind and made a perfect report.

‘Why didn’t I pay attention to him before...’

He regretted it in his eyes.

Mr. Oh Jae-hwan was feeling anxious when it happened.

Squeak.

The door of the conference room opened and Mr. Lim Han-seop, the assistant manager of Semi Electronics, and Mr. Kang Jun-ki entered the room.

Yoo-hyun, who guided them to their seats, said.

“I’ve already opened it on my laptop, so you can just start.”

“Thank you.”

Mr. Lim Han-seop nodded to Yoo-hyun and bowed his head to Mr. Jo Chan-young.

“Mr. Jo, hello. I’m Lim Han-seop, the assistant manager of the sales team at Semi Electronics.”

“Just relax. Relax.”

Maybe it was because of the mood?

Mr. Jo Chan-young gestured casually like a friendly person.

“Hehehe.”

He even tried to lighten up the atmosphere with a laugh.

Of course, from Mr. Lim Han-seop’s perspective, it was not easy at all.

How should he start?

How much time should he use?

He really wanted to do well on this important report, but he didn’t know what to do.

The gazes that came at him felt like they were choking him.

That’s when Yoo-hyun whispered to him.

“You’ve already done the mock-up demo, so just mention the specs and schedule for 5 minutes, and emphasize the reliability part for the touch components. It should take 15 minutes in total. Leave 10 minutes for questions.”

“...Oh. Yeah, that sounds good.”

“If you’re having trouble speaking, just show them the screen. It’ll be fine. I’ve already delivered the printed report, so they’ll look at it themselves.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and leaned back.

It felt like his dark vision brightened up like magic.

“Thank you.”

“Don’t worry. It’s nothing.”

“I’ll do my best.”

Mr. Lim Han-seop nodded to Yoo-hyun and started his report.

And 25 minutes later.

The whole report ended with Mr. Jo Chan-young’s smile.

Mr. Jo Chan-young looked very happy today.

He complimented the part members including Mr. Park Seung-woo, and had a separate tea time with the Semi Electronics staff.

He also thanked Yoo-hyun for his hard work.

Watching him, Yoo-hyun wondered.

What kind of person is Mr. Jo Chan-young?

To Yoo-hyun's eyes, he was just an ordinary executive.

If everything goes as planned, he will be dismissed from his contract next year.

He was curious.

So he asked Mr. Park Seung-woo, who was sitting across from him on a bench in the smoking area on the first floor.

"Mr. Park, what kind of person is our director?"

"Hmm... Sometimes he seems like an old-fashioned jerk, but sometimes he seems very cultured."

"And when he gets angry, I wonder why he acts like that."

"Puhahaha, right? Anyway, he's not very nice. But well, he's not too bad either?"

"I guess so."

Mr. Park Seung-woo's evaluation was similar to his own.

But when he heard what he said next, it wasn't.

"Do you know why I say he's not too bad even though I get scolded every day?"

"Because he doesn't swear at you?"

"No. He's actually a very caring person."

"Really?"

"Yeah. He even came to the funeral when my grandmother passed away. It was pretty far away."

"Oh..."

He didn't know that.

"He takes care of all the condolences. From the employees to the directors. I thought it was easy, but it wasn't."

"It's not easy."

"Yeah. He's just a bit peculiar in his expression, but he's a good person."

That's why, he never saw anyone gossiping about Mr. Jo Chan-young behind his back.

He was a humane person.

He didn't look into his heart, but at least he wasn't a trash.

Yoo-hyun asked bluntly.

“Then what about Mr. Lee Kyung-hoon, the team leader?”

“No comment. I don't want to give you any prejudice.”

“He doesn't look very nice.”

“He's very political and greedy. He's capable, but too selfish.”

How did Mr. Park Seung-woo know that?

He was usually careful about judging others, so he was curious.

“How do you know?”

“Well, my colleague...”

He told him how Mr. Lee Kyung-hoon took away the bonus money from his colleague, and made him do personal errands at his house.

That was a common story.

But what Yoo-hyun experienced from Mr. Lee Kyung-hoon was much worse.

He was a person who would never help the company or its future.

“I see.”

“Yeah. So be careful. I think he has a crush on you.”

“Will you protect me?”

“Puhaha, of course. Do you think I'm a mentor for nothing?”

Yoo-hyun smiled at Mr. Park Seung-woo, who laughed heartily.

‘I'll protect you.’

For the sake of the people he worked with, he had to get rid of Mr. Lee Kyung-hoon.

The problem was before that.

He had to survive the contest period that was right in front of him.

He had to stop him from interfering and lead him to success.

At the same time, he had to prepare to completely destroy him.

He needed to move more busily.

“Shall we go?”

“Yes. Let’s go.”

Yoo-hyun walked with determination.

Once he decided, he never backed down.

It was the same in his new life.

Chapter 119

Inside an empty conference room next to the sales team.

Director Lee Kyunghoon spoke in a friendly voice that did not suit him.

“Team Leader Oh, it’s been a while since we had tea together, right?”

“Yes, Director.”

“Hey, relax. We’re both team leaders, no need to be so formal. Hahaha.”

“Yes? Oh, yes. I was just reminded of the old days...”

On the other hand, Director Oh Jaehwan looked very uncomfortable.

“Haha, yeah. We worked together back then. The people these days don’t have the same passion as we did.”

“That’s true.”

He knew him better than anyone else because they had worked together.

Director Lee Kyunghoon was a very difficult person to deal with.

In some ways, he was harder to handle than Executive Director Jo Chanyoung.

Gulp.

He swallowed his saliva as Director Lee Kyunghoon smiled at him.

Then he slowly started to bring up the main point.

“I heard that Executive Director Jo made a slight mistake.”

“What do you mean?”

“The contest. The contest. The one where you used HPDA3 as a backup.”

“Ah... It seemed like the person in charge liked the report. He even gave us some money for dinner.”

“Oh, my. At this rate, Manager Kim will rise up quickly.”

“...”

Director Lee Kyunghoon stabbed Director Oh Jaehwan’s chest with a dagger.



He lifted his lips slightly as he saw his anxious eyes start to tremble.

“Haha, I’m just kidding. Manager Kim is not much different from you in terms of skills. It’s time for him to get promoted, right? If he does well, he might even get a team leader position.”

“...”

“You don’t have to worry, you have the ability, right?”

He pretended to back off and stabbed him deeper.

Director Oh Jaehwan’s eyelids fluttered.

He seemed to feel a sense of crisis.

That was enough for him.

He would take care of the rest himself.

Given his timid personality, he would struggle to keep his team leader position.

“Don’t worry. I’ll take care of everything for you.”

“Director... Thank you.”

“Haha, what are you talking about? We’re family, we help each other out.”

Director Lee Kyunghoon laughed.

Director Lee Kyunghoon patted Director Oh Jaehwan’s shoulder and got up from his seat.

“Let’s do well together.”

“Yes, Director.”

Then he took out his phone.

His lips that had been lifted up went down and his sharp eyes became thinner.

It was his expression that came out habitually when he had something in mind.

That evening.

The members of Part 3 gathered in one place with happy faces.

“Hey, we got some money from the person in charge and you chose a soup place?”

“This place is a specialty. We can use the leftover money next time.”

“What are you talking about? Manager Kim said he would pay for the first round.”

“Then he can pay for the second round. And Manager Park can pay for the third round.”

“Puhahaha, our Chanho is the leader of organization. Good. Good.”

Lee Chanho corrected them and Manager Kim Hyunmin laughed loudly.

Anything made him laugh in this situation.

It was not a real contest, but it moved Executive Director Jo Chanyoung's heart.

That was an achievement in itself.

And it was their first achievement that they achieved by working together.

How could they not be happy?

“But why is Yoo-hyun not here yet?”

“He said he got an important phone call.”

“Really? He's such a main character type of guy.”

Manager Kim Hyunmin suddenly remembered something and poked Kim Younggil assistant manager's side.

“Ah, Assistant Manager Kim. You know what I said before. That Yoo-hyun knows how to read people's minds. That's true, you know?”

“Hey, just because he studied psychology for two years doesn't mean he can read people's minds. That's nonsense. Right?”

Assistant Manager Kim shook his head and asked the others.

But their reactions were strange.

Manager Choi Minhee, who always opposed Manager Kim Hyunmin's words, shook her head too.

“No. It makes sense.”

“I worked with him too and he did everything as if he read my mind. Thanks to him, it was so easy to make the mockup at Semi Electronics.”

Even Lee Chanho, who usually didn't mention Yoo-hyun much, agreed.

“See? It's true, right?”

“No way.”

“Why don't you bet on it then?”

Manager Kim Hyunmin suggested and Assistant Manager Kim hesitated for a moment before opening his mouth.

“...Fine. Let’s do this then.”

Yoo-hyun’s expression was not very good after finishing the call.

“Sigh...”

He even sighed.

He was about to make another call, but he put his phone in his pocket.

‘I’ll check it out later.’

He sorted out his thoughts and entered the soup place.

He received a warm greeting from the soup place lady as usual and opened the sliding door to the inner room.

Squeak.

The part members who were sitting down turned their heads at the same time.

But they all had strange expressions.

It was as if they were waiting for Yoo-hyun to come.

“What? Is something wrong?”

“Yoo-hyun, sit here for a second.”

Yoo-hyun sat on the cushion that Manager Kim Hyunmin offered him.

There were four cups overturned in the middle of the table.

Assistant Manager Kim Younggil, who was sitting across from him, put both hands on the ends of the cups with a serious expression and asked him.

“I’m going to ask you a question. Pick one of these cups that has a coin in it.”

“Why?”

“Huh? Oh...”

Assistant Manager Kim was stunned for a moment when Yoo-hyun asked back.

He was so focused on the bet that he didn’t expect a question.

Then Manager Kim Hyunmin waved his hand impatiently.

“Hey, hey, just pick one. If you get it right, Assistant Manager Kim will buy you food for life. Right?”

Manager Kim Hyunmin kept blinking one eye and Assistant Manager Kim reluctantly nodded.

“Yeah. Sure.”

“Then what if I get it wrong?”

“Hey, what do you mean? Do you think I would take money from my junior?”

This condition is too generous, isn't it?

Yoo-hyun looked around quietly.

They all seemed to be waiting for his choice.

Manager Kim Hyunmin must have prepared this event to lighten up the mood of the part.

And Assistant Manager Kim just bit into it.

Then should I play along with my cute seniors?

“Are you really going to buy me food for life?”

“Uh...”

“I like expensive things, you know?”

“It's, it's fine.”

It doesn't look fine at all, you know?

Yoo-hyun smirked.

Assistant Manager Kim was not good at deceiving people.

His natural expression could not be hidden even if he tried.

When Yoo-hyun put his hand on one of the cups, Assistant Manager Kim's Adam's apple moved.

His heart rate went up and his eyelids trembled.

His lips curled up slightly, as if he was not nervous but already drunk with the upcoming victory.

He had never seen such a lively expression on him before.

It was like he was waiting for the lottery announcement.

Swish.

Yoo-hyun suppressed a laugh and moved his hand.

Then, not only Kim Young Gil, but everyone's eyes followed his movement.

They were all focused on this.

With just one swipe of his hand over the four cups, he had the answer.

He wondered why Kim Young Gil had made such a reckless bet.

‘What should I do?’

Should he let Kim Young Gil win, or lose?

Yoo-hyun looked at Kim Young Gil’s expression and pondered.

If he could do both, it would be reasonable to choose the most beneficial option.

“Can I guess the answer?”

“Uh, sure. Sure.”

As Yoo-hyun raised his hand over one cup, Kim Young Gil’s eyes wrinkled and Kim Hyun Min’s manager bit his lower lip.

That’s when Yoo-hyun opened his mouth.

“The cup with the coin is...”

Gulp.

The expressions of the people who swallowed their saliva were amusing.

“It’s not here.”

“...”

Kim Young Gil’s eyes widened and Manager Kim Hyun-min mouth opened wide.

At the moment of joy and sorrow.

“There is no coin in the cup.”

Yoo-hyun confirmed it.

“Woahhhhhhh!”

At the same time, a cheer as loud as when they advanced to the round of 16 in the World Cup echoed in the room.

“See? I was right, right? Hahahaha.”

“Hahaha.”

Kim Hyun Min’s manager laughed and pointed his finger at him, and the people also held their stomachs.

Everyone was laughing except for Kim Young Gil, who looked like he had lost everything in the world.

Yoo-hyun smiled slyly and calmly set up a spoon and chopsticks on the table.

Kim Young Gil asked with a blank expression.

“Yoo-hyun... Is it real?”

“Huh?”

“No, I mean... Did you really read my mind?”

His words drew everyone’s attention.

What is this guy talking about?

“Of course not.”

Yoo-hyun laughed as if he couldn’t believe it and sprinkled some sauce on Park Seung Woo’s empty sauce plate.

Then Park Seung Woo shouted.

“Look at this. I was thinking that my sauce was just empty, but he knew it like a ghost.”

“Huh! Really?”

It was getting more and more ridiculous.

That’s when it happened.

A shadow appeared out of nowhere and slapped Park Seung Woo on the back.

Slap!

“Ouch.”

It was the fierce touch of the old lady who brought the pork soup.

“You’re weird if you don’t know that it’s empty. Park manager, why are you picking a fight for no reason?”

“Auntie, that’s not what I meant. Yoo-hyun is amazing at reading people’s minds.”

“Ugh, you’re just clueless. Isn’t that right?”

“Hahaha, yes.”

“Look at that, you bastard. Come on, everyone. Don’t mind Park manager’s nonsense and enjoy the service.”

“Oh, thank you!”

Kim Young Gil grabbed the glass with a grateful expression at the old lady’s kindness.

The mood was lively again, but Park Seung Woo was still unhappy.

It was all because of the old lady’s words.

“He treats Yoo-hyun specially because he’s big.”

“Why are you only taking care of Yoo-hyun?”

“He’s handsome, polite, and takes good care of his clueless seniors. What else do you want me to say?”

“...”

There was a reason why the old lady liked Yoo-hyun so much.

Thanks to Yoo-hyun connecting her to a tutor, her daughter Jung Ye Seul was studying hard.

That wasn’t all.

“Did you hear Yoo-hyun? I didn’t sell this place because of what he said. And now the prices around here are going up.”

“Really?”

“Yes. Oh my, I would have lost so much money if I had sold it then.”

The old lady didn’t sell her place because of what Yoo-hyun said, and she benefited from it financially.

‘It shouldn’t be now?’

According to Yoo-hyun’s memory, this place was redeveloped seven years later.

That’s when the price of this area skyrocketed.

Anyway, since having it was more profitable than selling it, he gave her some advice as a consultant.

“Auntie, is that true?”

“Why would I lie?”

But Manager Kim Hyun-min expression didn’t look good.

‘Does that guy know how to invest too?’

Kim Hyun Min’s manager speculated.

'The Psychology of Investing' was not a bestseller by chance.

Psychology works well for stock and real estate investing.

But it seemed that he already had some experience as well.

The proof was that he knew how to spot and advise on commercial properties.

And that too in a short period of time to make a profit.

Manager Kim Hyun-min eyes sparkled as if he had found a treasure.

Chapter 120

The lady greeted us at the door.

"Have a good time, everyone."

"Thank you."

Clack, thud.

The door closed, and it was the moment when Kim Hyun-min, the Manager was about to spit out the words he had been holding back.

But Park Seung-woo, the assistant manager, asked first.

"Yoo-hyun! Do you know how to invest in stocks?"

"Why?"

Kim Hyun-min, who missed the timing, waited for now.

"I'm planning to buy some stocks with the money I saved. The market has been going up and down lately. What do you think? Should I buy?"

"I'm curious too. How about Hansung Electronics?"

Lee Chan-ho joined in, and Kim Young-gil, the assistant manager, leaned forward.

Even Choi Min-hee, the section chief, showed interest.

Stock investment was a hot issue recently, and everyone had a tempting reaction.

That's when Yoo-hyun sighed and said.

"I think it's better to be careful right now."

"Why? Is it going down?"

"Why? Why?"

"I saw on the news that the subprime mortgage crisis is not over yet."



Subprime mortgage crisis.

It meant the situation where low-income borrowers who had taken out loans with subprime mortgages in the U.S. failed to repay their loans due to rising interest rates, causing bankruptcy of lenders and financial institutions.

Kim Hyun-min, who had studied real estate investment overnight recently, understood what he said.

Most of them here didn't know much about it.

'He definitely knows how to invest!'

As Yoo-hyun's words continued, Kim Hyun-min's misunderstanding became more and more certain.

On the other hand, Yoo-hyun felt frustrated by the constant questions.

The stock market was shaky due to the subprime mortgage crisis, but there were still rosy news coming out.

In fact, the stocks were rising again, as if mocking the experts who had predicted they would fall.

How could Yoo-hyun predict whether the stocks would rise or fall tomorrow in this situation?

He knew the big trend that there would be an economic crisis around the end of this year or next year, but he couldn't know the small trends as well.

Even if he did, Yoo-hyun didn't want to interfere with other people's investments.

He might make some money by luck and lose more later.

He didn't want to go into details and just wanted to give some advice on a reasonable level.

But things went wrong.

-Actually, I invested in stocks on the downside. I was going to tell you... Huh? Profit? Well... I invested in put options.

It was what Park Young-hoon said on the phone a while ago.

Kim Hyun-soo had invested in put options.

It means that he would make a profit if the stock price falls, but there is a deadline for options.

If the stock price falls within the deadline, he can get a huge profit ratio, but if not, he has to bear the loss accordingly.

It means that there is a lot of risk involved.

Yoo-hyun's half-hearted advice was the cause of it.

When he said he wanted to invest in stocks, Yoo-hyun told him that it was better to buy gold and dollars since the stocks would surely fall.

Then he could get a stable income no matter how much the stock market fluctuated.

But he bet big on the fact that the stocks would fall.

'If I had known this would happen, I would have told him more clearly.'

Then maybe he could have suggested another alternative to him who was impatient.

He regretted it.

That's when Park Seung-woo asked again.

"But won't it go up? The stocks have been going up all along."

"It will go up someday."

"Should I invest?"

"Then do it. Just don't push yourself too hard."

He could feel his eagerness from his expression.

Investment is based on one's own will, so Yoo-hyun gave him a principled answer.

But this vague advice was no different from what he had given to Kim Hyun-soo.

Maybe he could have given him more specific advice and prevented him from getting hurt by his crush later.

It was a hopeless problem.

While Yoo-hyun was thinking about it, Park Seung-woo said.

"Actually, I have a stock that Miracle Invest recommended me this time. I think I should put my money there."

"Huh? Do you know that place too? They say their returns are amazing."

Lee Chan-ho also chimed in.

'Miracle Invest?'

Yoo-hyun's head flashed for a moment.

It was the company that Lee Yong-oh, his classmate and scammer, said he belonged to.

The CEO of that company will be arrested for fraud with a huge amount of money in the future.

‘Yeah. Let’s go for sure instead of half-hearted.’

Yoo-hyun’s wish was that the people around him would be happy.

He didn’t want to stand by and watch them get scammed.

Yoo-hyun said firmly.

“No, don’t do it.”

“Huh? Why?”

“I don’t think it’s a good place. My classmate said he works there, but he turned out to be a scammer. Some of my classmates also suffered a lot.”

He even added a reason.

He was going to stop them unless they did it secretly.

That’s when it happened.

Kim Hyun-min, who was next to him, asked with a serious look.

“What? Miracle Invest is a scam?”

Why is this guy like this?

“Could there be a problem with the apartment they recommended me to buy? The area is Incheon and the construction company is Woo-sang Construction...”

‘Woo-sang Construction?’

Woo-sang Construction was the company that would go bankrupt soon due to a large-scale fraud.

And Yoo-hyun remembered that there wasn’t much time left for that point.

The signs were already clear.

If his father was about to sign a contract with them, it was enough to say.

Miracle Invest and Woo-sang Construction.

They were really something.

“Don’t do it.”

“I already bought it.”

“Can you get out of it?”

“I can. I haven’t paid the interim payment yet.”

“Then get out of it.”

Yoo-hyun cut him off sharply, and Kim Hyun-min looked surprised.

“What?”

“I think it’s better to get out of it even if you lose some money. My father’s company was going to sign a contract with them, but they found out that they were very insolvent.”

“Gasp!”

Yeah, he should have told Kim Hyun-soo like this.

He should have made sure he didn’t have any other thoughts.

Zzzz.

Yoo-hyun was on his way back from the dinner party.

His phone rang and he picked it up.

It was Ha Jun-seok, his friend who worked at a small construction company in Ulsan.

-Yoo-hyun, I have something I want to consult with you.

“What is it?”

He asked seriously out of the blue.

-I’m thinking of moving to Woo-sang Construction. What do you think?

“No, don’t do it. Stay where you are.”

-Why? Woo-sang Construction is much bigger than our company. They pay more too.

“It’s a long story, but they’re going bankrupt soon. And your company will grow bigger.”

-Geez! Really? They’re doing a lot of sales lately?

“That’s fraud. The people in our company also canceled their purchases after finding out.”

You have to tell them firmly if you know the right direction.

-Oh! Thank you, thank you. But how do you know our company will grow bigger?

“There aren’t many companies that can fill the gap left by Woo-sang Construction.”

-Ah, really? That makes sense. Okay.

“Yeah. Just hang in there as long as you’re not too stressed. Think about changing jobs later.”

-How’s work? Anyway, thanks.

You have to care and reach out to prevent them from going in the wrong direction.

That’s what he was going to do from now on.

Yoo-hyun came home and called Kim Hyun-soo.

“Hyun-soo, about your investment.”

-Yoo-hyun, it’s okay, man. Don’t worry.

“Still, that...”

-Thanks for caring, but I’ll handle this myself.

The problem was that he was more stubborn than expected.

If he didn’t listen on the phone, he had to meet him and persuade him.

Kim Hyun-soo’s mother had successfully undergone surgery and was transferred to a hospital in her hometown.

And Kim Hyun-soo was running a car center while taking care of his mother.

He had to go down to his hometown to meet him.

Well, that’s good.

He hadn’t been there since Chuseok.

Yoo-hyun didn’t hesitate to buy a bus ticket.

Saturday.

Yoo-hyun got off the bus and stopped by his house first.

His mother, who had closed her side dish shop early after receiving a call from him, greeted him with bare feet as soon as he arrived.

She told him not to do that, but when he saw his mother's smiling face, he felt glad.

Yoo-hyun handed her the hiking shoes he bought as a gift.

"Mom, take this."

"Oh! You don't have to. Why do you keep buying things like this?"

His mother said with her mouth, but her hands moved quickly.

She tore the package open and tried on the shoes.

Then she showed him a bright expression.

"Oh, the size fits perfectly. How did you know?"

"I know your size like a knife, mom."

"Ho ho, but it's really nice."

"I'm glad."

He could tell without saying anything.

His mother hadn't taken off her shoes since before.

She kept touching them with one hand as if she liked the feel of the surface and said.

"How did you buy this?"

"You said you were going hiking with dad tomorrow."

"Eh, tomorrow is just a drink in front of the mountain."

"Still. You have to equip yourself properly when you exercise."

Yoo-hyun cheered him up, and his mother started talking about hiking.

"Yeah. When you go hiking, you..."

"Then tomorrow's hiking event is..."

He felt so happy that Yoo-hyun gladly joined the conversation.

A conversation flower bloomed between the two people on the topic of hiking.

If he had known he liked it so much, he would have taken more care of it.

He kept thinking that.

"Which mountain do you usually go to?"

"It varies. Last time I went to Palgong Mountain in Daegu and before that I went to Jirisan."

“What about your side dish shop?”

“I just close it that day. Can people live by working all the time? You have to play when you play.”

“It looks good.”

Yoo-hyun smiled, and his mother made a bright gesture with exaggerated movements.

“Yeah. The side dish shop is good, dad’s factory is good, everything is good. I don’t have to worry about money at all.”

“Yes, mom.”

He then brought up money on purpose.

He still had the memory of being estranged from his son because of the debt problem in his family.

He didn’t need to do that anymore.

Poke.

Yoo-hyun picked up an apple cut into bite-sized pieces with a fork and held it out to his mother’s mouth.

She took it and said it was delicious while wrinkling her nose.

His smiling face felt very dear to him.

“Do you come to Seoul sometimes?”

“Of course. Seoul is a must course. I go hiking and sightseeing in Seoul.”

“Call me then. I’ll take care of you then.”

“No way. The ladies will be jealous if they see my son.”

He heard that Yoo-hyun’s reputation was quite high among his mother’s friends.

When he stopped by his mother’s side dish shop, the lady who ran the donut shop next door was the source of the rumor.

“He studies well, works at a big company, handsome, generous. Oh my. I can’t listen to her saying that all the time. It’s embarrassing.”

“It looks fine?”

“No way. People will hate me. Ho ho.”

His mother pretended to be embarrassed by what she said, but she looked happy as she smiled with her eyes.

“Should I call them once?”

“Sure. Anytime.”

No, he was clearly happy about it.

Yoo-hyun vowed to keep his promise for sure.

That’s when his mother clapped her hands as if she remembered something and asked him.

“Oh! Yoo-hyun, do you have a girlfriend?”

“Huh?”

He almost spat out the juice he was drinking at the sudden question.

Whether she took his reaction as nothing or not, his mother splashed saliva and continued.

“There’s a girl who went to medical school among my friends’ daughters. She’s pretty and nice. She said she wanted to meet you once.”

“I’m fine.”

“I know. I know. I don’t really want a doctor daughter-in-law, but I thought it would be okay if you liked her.”

It looks like you really want it?