

Real Man 351

Chapter 351

Yoo-hyun approached the man and offered him a freshly brewed coffee.

The man's face was hidden by the brim of his straw hat.

"Would you like a cup of coffee?"

"Just leave it there."

"Okay."

Yoo-hyun answered and sat down next to him.

He should have felt offended by the man's rude tone, but he didn't.

It wasn't because the man looked quite old.

Rather, it was because he felt a sense of dignity from him.

Why did he have such a feeling for this shabby-looking man?

He tried to think of many reasons, but he couldn't find an answer.

He was just special.

That's what Yoo-hyun's intuition, which had experienced many people, told him.

Maybe it was because of Yoo-hyun's gaze, but the man clicked his tongue and said.

"Tsk tsk. You're so distracted that you can't catch a single fish."

Yoo-hyun suppressed his annoyance and replied.

"Then can I try holding that fishing rod for a moment?"

"That won't do for the price of a coffee."

"I'll treat you to some ramen."

"Fine."

The man put down his fishing rod and picked up the paper cup on the ground.

While he was sipping his coffee, Yoo-hyun quickly grabbed the wooden fishing rod.

Strangely enough, there was nothing hooked on it.

"..."

Yoo-hyun glanced at the man, but he didn't say anything. He just drank his coffee.

His eyes were still hidden by his straw hat.

Yoo-hyun didn't ask and just threw the fishing rod.

Then he focused his attention on the float.

Until now, he had fished leisurely, but not anymore.

He poured all his nerves into the fishing rod.

His excellent concentration and observation skills caught even the slightest movement of the float.

The float swayed on the rippling water.

Whip.

It was the moment when Yoo-hyun swiftly pulled up the fishing rod.

Contrary to his expectation, there was nothing on the fishing rod.

Instead, he heard the man's voice from beside him.

"Tsk tsk. Your mind is too complicated."

"How can I catch anything without any bait?"

"You have a lot of excuses. Give it to me."

The man put down his paper cup and took the fishing rod. He casually threw it.

He didn't even bother to throw it far.

Yoo-hyun watched the float that fell into the water and came back up. He stared at the man.

He didn't seem to have any pretense in his appearance.

Could it be?

Yoo-hyun hid his inner thoughts and focused on the man's actions.

At first, he observed the trembling of his hand holding the fishing rod, then he noticed his swaying upper body and his slightly nodding head.

Then he felt his pulse and followed his deep breaths.

His movements looked infinitely comfortable, like the rippling waves.

Whoo-woong.

The wind blew and the waves rose, and so did his body.

The man who had stretched out his body without caring about Yoo-hyun's gaze opened his mouth.

“They say it's not about catching fish, but about finding peace.”

Of course, Yoo-hyun knew that too.

It meant that the reason for fishing was not to catch fish, but to forget about the world's troubles.

It was also in line with Yoo-hyun's purpose of taking time out to fish.

“I didn't think about catching fish either. I just wanted to clear my mind by fishing.”

“You're just pretending to clear your mind.”

“...”

Yoo-hyun lost his words at the man's reply.

At the same time, Kim Hyun Min's words flashed through his mind.

-Yoo-hyun, you're too obvious about trying to act relaxed.

He couldn't ignore his boss's words that might have been nothing.

His desire to be relaxed had become a small indicator of his life.

Yoo-hyun wanted to be truly relaxed.

That's why he tried to empty himself more.

He agreed to transfer without a fuss, he tried to live comfortably here, and he wanted to fish.

It was all part of his effort to empty himself.

Thanks to that?

He didn't feel awkward anymore when he rested.

He even learned how to enjoy his leisure time.

He thought he would find an answer if time went on like this.

But.

The man said no.

He said it was just a pretense.

As Yoo-hyun was about to argue, the man lifted his fishing rod lightly.

Splash splash.

A fish came out as expected.

Before Yoo-hyun could be surprised, the man's voice came in.

"How can you clear your mind when it's tangled up?"

A lightning bolt struck Yoo-hyun's head for a moment.

That one sentence pierced through the thread of thoughts that was stuck in one side of his head.

Surprised, Yoo-hyun looked at the man and asked.

"How can I change if I don't think about what I have to do?"

"Are you going to ask someone else about your life now? Haha."

"..."

Yoo-hyun couldn't say anything at the man's rhetorical question.

The man shrugged his shoulders and got up from his seat. He dusted off his butt and said,

"This is boring. Let's eat the ramen later."

Yuhyun quickly got up and grabbed his sleeve. He sounded desperate, something he never did before.

"Sir, can't you spare me a little more time?"

"No."

The man turned around coldly.

Yuhyun wanted to hold him back, but he couldn't say anything.

He stretched out his hand in the air and watched the man's back.

Maybe it was because of his shirt fluttering in the wind, but his back seemed unusually large.

The man stopped for a moment, then threw a word over his shoulder without looking back.

"You'll only get a headache if you worry about everything in the world."

"..."

By the time Yuhyun came to his senses, the man was gone.

He looked around, but the man was nowhere to be found.

Only the fishing rod and the bag left behind proved that the man had been there.

The next day, Yuhyun went to the fishing spot again.

But he didn't see the straw hat man.

Thud.

Yuhyun put down his phone that he had turned off on the tent.

He didn't bother to fill the electric kettle with water or cook ramen.

He just sat down and focused on fishing.

Like when he met Laura Parker, like when he faced Steve Jobs.

He raised his concentration to the limit.

Swish.

But the result was no different.

Why wasn't it working?

Yuhyun calmly took a breath and recalled the man's movements from yesterday.

"He did it like this, right?"

He clumsily threw the fishing rod again, imitating what the man had done.

He slumped his body and fixed his gaze forward.

He felt a vibration in his fingertips as the water flowed.

He took a very deep breath and slowly closed his eyes.

He felt the cool breeze blowing on him.

The smell of grass, the smell of water filled his nostrils.

He focused on his senses that were coming alive and consciously emptied his mind.

He felt a bit more relaxed, but he still couldn't catch any fish.

Did he become obsessed with fish because of the man?

Until yesterday, he didn't care much about it, but now it felt like a stressor.

A sigh escaped from his mouth involuntarily.

"Sigh."

Suddenly, he heard the man's voice in his ear.

-Tsk tsk. Your head is too cluttered.

Yuhyun jerked his head up and lifted his fishing rod with a jerk.

He couldn't catch any fish even if he focused. There was no way the fish would bite like this.

“What am I supposed to do?”

Yoo-hyun muttered to himself and stayed still for a while.

He couldn't see the straw hat man the next day, or the day after that.

Was it because he was too conscious of him?

The more he held the fishing rod, the more his head felt cluttered.

He decided that it was pointless to spend time like this and eventually put down his fishing rod.

His actions were always quick after he made a judgment.

Yoo-hyun packed his fishing rod in his bag and slung it over one shoulder.

The heavy weight felt like it was showing his current state of mind.

He came to empty his mind but ended up leaving with a hook. He wasn't very pleased.

Trudge trudge.

As he walked, Yoo-hyun paused for a moment in front of the mat where the man had sat before.

He remembered the words the man had said when he left.

-You'll only get a headache if you live with all the worries in the world.

That became a good excuse for him.

“Yeah. I don't need to get hung up on fishing.”

Yoo-hyun chuckled and resumed his steps.

He looked much more relaxed somehow.

His afternoon schedule was empty since he didn't go fishing.

Yoo-hyun rolled around in his room at the inn and then faced his morning routine the next day.

He rolled around on the floor of the break room as well.

It was nothing special, but it was fun in its own way.

Kang Jong Ho asked him curiously.

“Why do you look so drained today?”

“No, I’m fine. Do you want some coffee?”

Yoo-hyun got up lazily and dragged his slippers to the water dispenser.

“No, I’m good. I can make my own.”

“Okay.”

Shhhhh.

As he filled his paper cup with hot water, Yoo-hyun recalled what had happened earlier.

He felt like he wasn’t thinking about anything at all.

It was a strange feeling for Yoo-hyun, who always had something on his mind.

What did he do?

He tilted his head when it happened.

Beep beep beep beep beep.

A loud alarm rang in the break room.

He quickly got up and followed Kang Jong Ho’s gaze to the TV screen.

The front of a blue van that had just passed the entrance was shown on the screen.

Kang Jong Ho shouted into the radio right away.

“The inspector is here. Hurry up and gather.”

Yoo-hyun, who was next to him, said casually.

“Finally, the inspector showed up.”

“You look happy about it?”

“I was curious.”

“What did you say?”

Kang Jong-ho, who had sneered at Yu-hyun’s answer, soon shook his head vigorously.

He still couldn’t figure out Yu-hyun.

At that moment.

Lee Young-nam, the village head, was sitting in the back seat of a van.

Bae Yong-hwan, the president of Bokdeokbang, who was sitting next to him, asked him cautiously.

It was about the fishing spots in other villages that they had visited together today.

“Mr. Lee, I think it’s a good idea to combine camping and fishing like other villages do.”

“But?”

“I’m not sure if it will work well since our village doesn’t have many visitors.”

Instead of answering, Lee Young-nam asked Bae Yong-seok, who was in the driver’s seat.

“Yong-seok, didn’t Han Ji-im say that he hasn’t been to the fishing spot lately?”

“Yes. He hasn’t been there since the day before yesterday.”

Lee Young-nam nodded and winked at Bae Yong-hwan.

“See? He’s already done patrolling the fishing spot and looking for other solutions.”

“Is that so?”

“Trust me. Just wait and see. He’s a meticulous person. He wouldn’t have overlooked such a problem.”

Lee Young-nam had a confident expression.

Then, Bae Yong-seok exclaimed in surprise.

“Huh? Mr. Lee, there’s a car from the Mokpo factory going up there.”

As he said, a blue van was climbing up the narrow mountain road.

Lee Young-nam couldn’t miss that car that he had seen countless times.

“Those bastards.”

He gritted his teeth and shouted.

“Yong-seok, follow them quickly.”

“Yes. Got it.”

The van sped up along the road.

Before long, Lee Young-nam had a cell phone in his hand.

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The expression on Park Chul-hong's face was not very good as he received a phone call in front of the factory site.

"Yes, sir. Yes, yes. I understand. Thank you."

He hung up the phone and let out a deep sigh.

Yoo-hyun asked him.

"What did the manager say?"

"He said he's coming here for an inspection. Sigh, I wish he would just leave us alone."

Lately, the manager had not called Park Chul-hong or visited the factory.

Thanks to that, Park Chul-hong had been having a great time.

But now, out of the blue, and on the day of the inspection, he said he would show up. It was enough to make his heart sink.

However, there was nothing for him to worry about.

Yoo-hyun expressed his thoughts and tried to comfort Park Chul-hong.

"Don't worry. He might help us, but he won't interfere."

"I just hope he doesn't stick his nose in our business."

Still, Park Chul-hong shook his head nervously.

His fear of the manager was clearly evident.

Meanwhile.

A blue van drove up to the road leading to the Yeontae business site.

There were two people from the Mokpo business site in the car.

The man sitting in the passenger seat looked at the side mirror and said.

"Manager Min, the manager's car is following us."

"Haha. The supervisor came today and now the manager too. The Yeontae guys must be dying today."

Min Dal-gi, who was holding the steering wheel, laughed. The man sitting next to him, Ma Jong-hyun, sneered.

"We should take this opportunity to suck up to the manager and rip them off. They've been losing their edge lately."

"They're still meeting the quota, aren't they? And honestly, the defective products we sent them were all garbage."

“They’re just trying to survive. Even a kid in the neighborhood can fix one or two cars a day, no matter how bad they are.”

“That’s true. Then should we go after their attendance this time?”

“Puhaha. That sounds good. Let’s make them unable to take any vacation.”

Ma Jong-hyun shrugged his shoulders while they arrived at the factory.

He looked at the scene in front of him with a dumbfounded expression and clicked his tongue.

“What? Look at them. They set up a soccer field?”

“They’ve really lost their spirit.”

Min Dal-gi snickered along with him.

Clank.

Yoo-hyun looked at the man who got out of the passenger seat of the van.

His angular jaw and dark skin gave him a strong impression.

He walked over to Park Chul-hong, who was frozen with fear, and smirked.

“Supervisor Park, you look well.”

“Hello, Supervisor Ma.”

“A soccer field and a bench. If someone saw this, they would think this is a playground, not a factory. Hehe.”

Min Dal-gi, who stood next to Ma Jong-hyun, waved the file in his hand and snorted.

“Everyone else is working hard to death, but it seems like you have nothing to do here. We’ll have to give you a good shake today. Haha.”

“Yeah. We’ve been too lenient with you. That’s why you don’t work and slack off.”

Ma Jong-hyun and Min Dal-gi pressured them back and forth.

Park Chul-hong and the other team members bowed their heads as if they had committed a great sin.

They probably did that to end the inspection quickly, but it didn’t look very good to Yoo-hyun’s eyes.

‘It would be much better to just take it once.’

It seemed like that would be the case.

The production staff from the Mokpo business site had no authority to inspect them.

They were just lackeys who took over the annoying tasks of the inspection team.

Yet, why were they afraid of them?

The anxiety that they would be finished if they fell behind more here was gripping the Yeontae business site team members.

The Mokpo business site staff knew that and bullied them.

He could clearly picture the next situation in his head without seeing it.

The state of the factory, the cleanliness, the dress code, the attendance.

They would find any excuse to intimidate them, and then demand a price for letting them off.

What should he do?

He thought for a moment and decided to compromise with them.

He would help them if the team members stepped up, but there was no reason to start a fight by himself.

As long as they didn't touch him first.

He nodded his head as he sorted out his thoughts.

That was when Ma Jong-hyun, who was walking with a heavy load on his back, noticed Yoo-hyun and raised his eyebrows.

“Oh my, is this kid a newbie? He looks so clumsy.”

“Hello. I'm Han Yoo-hyun. Nice to meet you.”

Yoo-hyun hid his inner feelings and politely reached out his hand.

Then Ma Jong-hyun laughed mockingly and said.

“Huh, well. This kid knows some manners at least.”

“That's right. He must have been scared a lot after being demoted. Haha.”

Min Dal-gi, who was next to him, flattered Ma Jong-hyun like a sycophant.

From their words, it seemed like the group strategy room's influence had not reached the Mokpo business site yet.

It meant that there was nothing to bother him in his rest if he just established a proper relationship with the Mokpo business site.

That was exactly what Yoo-hyun wanted, so a smile naturally formed on his lips.
At that moment, Ma Jong-hyun suddenly frowned and growled.

“What? How dare you smirk in front of me?”

“What?”

“How can you smile when you’re a newbie?”

What?

Is he a psycho?

Yoo-hyun looked at Ma Jong-hyun, who was furious, and laughed incredulously.
It was clearly a good atmosphere until a moment ago, but he changed abruptly for no reason.

He looked around and saw that the team members were bowing their heads as if they were used to it.

Just by looking at this, he could guess how much this guy had mistreated them here.

Snicker.

Yoo-hyun lifted his lips and met Ma Jong-hyun’s gaze head-on.

Compromise didn’t mean he had to stay still.

Listening to him after biting down hard on the bit was also a way of compromise.

It was when Yuhyun finally decided to step up.

Squeak.

Lee Youngnam, the manager, got out of the car that was parked close behind the van.

He had a thick wooden cane in his hand, which he never used before.

As he approached, Ma Jonghyun, the deputy manager, greeted him with a friendly smile.

“Hello, Manager Lee.”

“Ma Deputy, long time no see.”

Manager Lee’s eyes met Yuhyun’s for a moment, and he spat out a harsh voice that was unlike him.

His deep frown showed his displeasure clearly.

Ma Jonghyun acted as if he didn't care about that and teased him.

"I was going to say hello to you, but I couldn't because of the work at Yeontae factory."

"What are you talking about? Did you miss the deadline? Just do it on time."

"No. That's not what I mean. If this goes on, Hansung Electronics' support for Yeontae village will..."

Ma Jonghyun was confused by the unexpected reaction and stuttered.

"Stop talking nonsense and get out of here. Don't bother the people who are working hard."

But Manager Lee snapped at him instead.

He acted very differently from before.

He didn't curse or belittle the workers at Yeontae factory on behalf of the auditors.

He didn't beg for more resources for Yeontae factory either.

It wasn't the atmosphere to treat him with a big reward as before.

Ma Jonghyun expressed his resentment openly.

"Why are you doing this, Manager Lee? I feel hurt by our relationship."

"Our relationship? What are you talking about? Just go away."

"Last time, you clearly told me to step on those Yeontae bastards when they crawled up..."

"Who crawled up?"

Then, the cane that Manager Lee was holding flew towards him.

The tip of the cane almost grazed his face, and Ma Jonghyun flinched and backed away.

That's when Bae Yongseok appeared and grabbed his back.

"Manager Lee, I got him."

"What the hell. What are you doing?"

Ma Jonghyun shouted in surprise, and Manager Lee raised his cane high and ran towards him.

His eyes showed his intention to smash his head with the cane.

“What am I doing? It’s all because of you useless bastards.”

“Mi, Min Deputy.”

Ma Jonghyun, who was tightly held, kicked Min Dalgi’s butt with his foot in a hurry.

It meant to do something about it.

Whoosh.

“Eek.”

But Mandalki ran away in fear of the fierce cane attack by Director Lee Young-nam.

Thwack.

Team Leader Ma Jong-hyun, who had barely shaken off Bae Yong-seok’s arm, shouted loudly.

“Damn it. That crazy old man.”

“Oh, you finally reveal your evil mask.”

Regardless of his words, Director Lee Young-nam swung his cane down.

Clang.

Team Leader Ma Jong-hyun, who was retreating from the violent attack, hit his hip on the ground.

“Ugh.”

Rolling on the ground to dodge another attack, he quickly got into the car.

“Get lost.”

But Director Lee Young-nam’s momentum did not stop.

Vroom.

He even ran after the minivan that was reversing and swung his cane at it.

Yoo-hyun felt like he finally understood why the team members were afraid of Director Lee Young-nam.

Looking at the minivan that was going down the winding narrow road in reverse, Yoo-hyun whispered to Team Leader Park Chul-hong.

“Director Lee is really fierce.”

“...”

Team Leader Park Chul-hong just opened his mouth without saying anything.

The other team members were the same.

A moment later.

Director Lee Young-nam sat on a bench in front of the construction site and drank ice water with a smug smile.

It was ice water that Jo Gi-jeong had prepared for him.

Kang Jong-ho fanned him from the side, and Team Leader Park Chul-hong waited for Director Lee Young-nam's words with a polite attitude.

The people who were bad at socializing were also looking out for themselves at this time.

They looked more tense than when they faced the audit, and Yoo-hyun barely held back his laughter.

The power of one cane strike was truly amazing.

Director Lee Young-nam was still breathing heavily as if he had not calmed down yet.

Everyone was looking at his mouth, so Yoo-hyun stepped forward.

He did not want to waste time in this stifling situation.

It was not Yoo-hyun's style.

"Director Lee, thank you for your care in many ways."

"What did I do?"

"You must have been tired from traveling far, but you came to the factory right away."

They came by a truck, and they all had mud on their sneakers as if they had rolled somewhere outside the village.

From that, he could tell that they had been somewhere outside the village.

Yoo-hyun said casually, as if expressing his concern.

It was also an expression of his intention to continue the bond that was created at the drinking party.

Then Director Lee Young-nam nodded his head with a meaningful expression.

For some reason, Bae Yong-hwan and Bae Yong-seok had the same expression.

Director Lee Young-nam, who briefly met eyes with Bae Yong-hwan, turned his gaze back to Yoo-hyun.

“Can I ask you one thing?”

“Sure. Go ahead. Anything.”

“What are you going to do from now on? You have a clear plan, right?”

As soon as Lee Young-nam, the manager, asked this question, the eyes of Bae Yong-hwan and Bae Yong-seok turned to Yoo-hyun.

The half-moon gang also looked at Yoo-hyun in unison.

Yoo-hyun knew very well why they all sent him worried glances.

The problem was surprisingly simple.

Today's action by Manager Lee Young-nam was satisfying, but it caused a glitch in the gratitude.

No matter how weak the people who came to thank them today were, there was a definite possibility that the Yeontae factory would suffer damage from their words.

The problem started with the fact that they had to deliver goods to the Mokpo factory in a few days.

It was a tangled situation in many ways, but Yoo-hyun had a sure solution.

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Yoo-hyun spoke firmly, with confidence in his voice.

“Don't worry. I have a sure way to do it.”

“Can you tell me what it is?”

“It wouldn't be fun if I told you now. I'll show you the results.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and acted casually.

It was not something that could be understood by just telling.

Especially for Park Chul-hong, the team leader who looked nervous, it was something he would never have thought of.

Yoo-hyun gave a smile to Park Chul-hong, who had wide eyes.

Meanwhile, Lee Young-nam, the section chief, whispered to Bae Yong-hwan.

“Didn't I tell you? He has everything prepared.”

“I guess so. We just need to watch the fishing spot.”

Bae Yong-hwan nodded, and Bae Yong-seok, who was listening next to him, showed a determined look.

Different thoughts crossed on the large platform.

Park Chul-hong's worry subsided faster than Yoo-hyun expected.

After all, he had eaten up this audit.

And he also received active support from Lee Young-nam, the section chief.

He was so satisfied with the reality that he clenched his mouth to hold back his laughter.

It was after Lee Young-nam left, in the break room.

It was the first time in a long time that the four of them gathered there, and Park Chul-hong opened his mouth.

He said something he would never have said before.

“Han, how about donating one monitor left after assembling to the village hall?”

“That would be nice. I'm sure the villagers will like it.”

“Right?”

He asked back, and Yoo-hyun answered with a smile.

He had already received a big favor from the TV, so he widened his scope of thinking.

He looked like he had learned a little bit of social life at a late age.

“Who's going to do that?”

He even said a gentle word to Jo Ki-jeong, who asked with a prickly expression.

“How about going to eat tangsuyuk that you like? I'll pay for it.”

“Huh. Really? What's going on?”

When Kang Jong-ho, who was next to him, asked in surprise, Park Chul-hong made an awkward expression and dodged the question.

“It's nothing. Just going.”

Then Jo Ki-jeong, who got up from his seat, answered curtly.

“Then let's go tomorrow. I'm a bit tired today.”

“Okay. Let's do that. Han, are you okay?”

“Yes. Sure. I'm always okay with drinking.”

There was no reason to refuse when he offered to treat them.

Yoo-hyun got up from his seat first.

It was time to wrap up the work.

That evening.

Yoo-hyun, who didn't go to the fishing spot, spent time rolling around in his room.

He read books, made phone calls, and checked his emails on his laptop.

He used the internet cable in the factory, which was slow but worked fine.

There were several emails waiting for him, but the one from Jang Junsik caught his eye.

It looked like he had attached some data, judging by the large size.

As soon as he opened the data, a chuckle escaped from Yoo-hyun's mouth.

"Couldn't you just ask me?"

He had gone through the trouble of making a formal report to ask a question he was curious about.

It wasn't a sloppy one either. He had included all the relevant evidence and sources.

At this point, it was hard to tell if he was asking or informing.

It was such a Jang Junsik thing to do, and Yoo-hyun didn't hesitate to reply.

He was already getting daily reports from Jang Junsik, so he had a clear picture of how the company was doing.

-When making ultra-high resolution using LCD process, the things you need to check with planning are...

He quickly sent a concise email and checked Kim Younggil's email as well.

The executives from Apple were coming to visit the factory, and he seemed to be very busy.

He was not someone who usually asked for favors, but he reached out first.

It wasn't a difficult matter, so Yoo-hyun gladly put his hands on the laptop keyboard.

-I think you should mention the development of large-size panels related to the next-generation products that I told you about before. If you want to know how to do it...

There was also an email from Yeo Tae-sik, the vice president.

It was about the organizational change proposal that Yoo-hyun had mentioned last time.

Even though he still had time, he had already made a plan.

He had written it so meticulously that there wasn't much for Yoo-hyun to change.

Yoo-hyun only pointed out the parts that he had missed.

-I think it would be good to form a temporary TF with an integrated organization of TV, IT, and mobile. Instead, you should link the staff in charge of sales and marketing...

This newly formed organization would later lead to the explosive growth of the LCD division when Apple announced its retina display.

The spin-off based on the growth of the LCD division was also essential for securing Shin Kyung-wook's position as a senior executive director.

With the momentum gained from here, he had to break through the piled-up problems in one go.

That way, he could push back Han Kyung-hoe's strong pressure and reshuffle the rotten board.

Of course, it was easier said than done.

There were too many things that were hard to handle even with his full effort.

To overcome them,

Yoo-hyun drew a big picture in his head as usual.

The words of the straw hat man echoed in his mind like a reverberation.

-Tsk tsk. Your head is full of things you have to do in the future. How can you empty it?

Was it something that popped up in his head?

Or did he really hear it?

The voice was so vivid that it confused him.

Yoo-hyun took his hands off the keyboard and approached the window.

Only the sound of grasshoppers filled the dark landscape.

There was nothing there, but Yoo-hyun repeated his answer to the straw hat man in his mind.

-How can I change anything if I don't think about what I have to do?

He didn't expect an answer back.

Yoo-hyun just silently looked outside.

The night breeze rustled over the grass.

The next day, the work at the factory was as usual, uneventful.

The only thing that changed was one more record added to the work log.

It was after finishing such a peaceful day.

The team members, including the leader Park Chul-hong, gathered at a Chinese restaurant in the village.

They rarely ate lunch together, so it felt awkward to sit around a round table.

The atmosphere was silent, with only the chopsticks clinking, as they waited for the pickled radish to come out.

Yoo-hyun shook his head suddenly.

He had unconsciously thought of his future plans again.

He tried not to think about it deliberately, but it was not easy.

“What's wrong?”

Park Chul-hong asked, and Yoo-hyun made an excuse.

“Nothing. But this is my first time coming here. I've only ordered delivery before.”

“We don't come here often either. It's far, and they deliver anyway.”

“I see.”

Park Chul-hong made an excuse, but the reason they didn't come was simple.

They didn't like company dinners in general.

They were stingy with socializing with people, so they didn't see any reason to come out and eat together.

It could be seen as individualism, but there was also a comfortable aspect to it.

Thanks to that, they had a lot of time to think quietly.

Yoo-hyun took advantage of the awkward silence and practiced emptying his mind.

He relaxed his body comfortably, like the straw hat man had done.

He breathed deeply, thinking of letting go of everything in his heart.

The quiet table was interrupted by the owner of the Chinese restaurant bringing out the food himself.

He was a man with a dull impression, with sparse hair and eyebrows.

He slammed down the plate of sweet and sour pork and grumbled.

“Geez, why does the village chief want me to give this as a service?”

“Mr. Nam, what do you mean by that?”

Park Chul-hong asked, and Nam Hee-woong glared at him.

“I only get enough money from the village to cover your black bean noodles. How can I afford to give you sweet and sour pork for free?”

“What? That’s not fair. It’s okay.”

Yoo-hyun slowly turned his head at the sound of his voice.

Nam Hee-woong was giving him a dirty look, but he didn’t feel bad at all.

Rather, he smiled calmly.

“Thank you for your generosity.”

“You have some nerve.”

Nam Hee-woong snorted, and Park Chul-hong tried to smooth things over.

“Mr. Nam, I’ll pay for it.”

“No. If you don’t accept it after I offer it, I’ll look like a cheapskate. Just drink more alcohol.”

“Okay. Please give us more.”

“Fine. That way I can make some profit too.”

Nam Hee-woong put down two bottles of liquor in front of Park Chul-hong.

He seemed to have planned to push them on them from the beginning, since he brought them without being asked.

Kang Jong-ho said to Yoo-hyun, who was smiling.

“The owner is especially cranky today.”

The web novel that catches the eye is 'Real Man' (written by Kim Tae-gung), which shows the essence of a regression story and makes it feel like a movie. Get the latest information from Book Rabbit, the No.1 webtoon preview site!

“Is he not usually like that?”

“Well, he’s a bit grumpy, but he’s a gentleman compared to the boss.”

“Why? The boss is a bit hot-tempered, but he has a straightforward personality, which is nice.”

Yoo-hyun tilted his head in confusion, and Park Chul-hong, the team leader next to him, stuck out his tongue.

“He’s only like that to Han Joo-im, only to Han Joo-im.”

“First, have a drink.”

Yoo-hyun, who chuckled, poured liquor into his glass.

Gulp.

Park Chul-hong emptied his glass as soon as he received it, perhaps because of the words of the Chinese restaurant owner.

He was a person who had a naive side to him.

Nam Hee-woong grumbled, but the food was really delicious.

The goryangju that followed the liquor was also clean and drinkable.

Especially, the greasy side dishes matched well with it.

Even the team members who didn’t like drinking kept drinking.

It was natural to get drunk quickly because of the high alcohol content.

Was it because of that?

The people who didn’t even open their mouths when they drank with the villagers started to spill their personal stories on their own.

The start was made by Park Chul-hong, the team leader.

“I came here and...”

He had been here for over a year and a half.

The transfer period was one year, but he got caught in an unexpected executive audit and got an additional penalty and his term was extended.

He had a lot of things piled up inside him, and his story gradually turned into a complaint.

The peak of his complaints was about his family.

“I wish they would live with me here for a while, but they don’t want to come. Sigh.”

As Park Chul-hong’s words ended, Cho Ki-jung opened his mouth.

He complained about his past frustrating work.

“I actually think this is better now. Before...”

Cho Ki-jung liked tinkering with electronic devices, but the actual work given to him was close to hard labor.

He became irritable because the work didn’t suit him, and he often clashed with his boss.

Then his reputation went down and he ended up in this remote business site. It was a common story.

Next was Kang Jong-ho’s turn.

He complained about his uncertain future.

“I don’t even know what to do next...”

Kang Jong-ho was very good at organizing things, but he didn’t use his strengths well.

So he didn’t know what kind of work he wanted to do in the company.

Listening to their various complaints, Yoo-hyun felt itchy in his mouth.

There were parts that he wanted to point out and advise them on.

He hesitated for a moment and then shook his head.

It might be better to let them babble on with liquor as an excuse for now.

They were also pouring out their hearts for once.

Yoo-hyun left behind the team members who were mixing up all kinds of words with alcohol and got up from his seat for a moment.

He wanted to get some fresh air because he had too many thoughts.

Trudge trudge.

Yoo-hyun walked for a while towards the forest behind the Chinese restaurant.

He didn’t mind the feeling of stepping on the soil as he walked through the sparse trees.

The cool breeze that blew in was also quite pleasant.

That's when he walked deeper into the forest.

Bang.

A familiar impact sound reached his ears.

It was a sound that shouldn't be heard in such a rural village, so he became curious.

Chapter 354

As he walked further in, the sound became louder.

Soon, he saw a sight that made him chuckle.

"Someone set up a golf practice range here."

It was not just a joke. There was a green net that wrapped around the trees, like the ones in a golf practice range.

It was a large-scale project that required a lot of effort.

It was not just a net.

There was also a machine that dispensed golf balls, a basket full of balls, and a golf ball retriever.

There were golf clubs lined up on a board that was made next to the tree.

Someone had deliberately built an outdoor golf practice range here.

As he took a step closer, he saw the face of the man who was swinging the club.

It was Nam Hee-woong, the owner of the Chinese restaurant he had seen earlier.

Whish.

This time, he put too much force into it and the club missed the ball.

"Ha. I'll be a laughingstock if I go to the field like this."

Nam Hee-woong scratched his head in frustration.

But he still looked eager as he grabbed the club again.

He did not notice Yoo-hyun approaching him as he focused on the ball.

He finally gave up and put down the club.

That's when Yoo-hyun cut in.

He was slightly tipsy and happy to see a golf club after a long time. It was an impulsive act.

“Can I try it once?”

“Wow.”

“Sorry if I startled you.”

Yoo-hyun followed with an apologetic smile.

Nam Hee-woong, who was shocked, snorted.

“Do you even know how to play golf?”

“Give me the club.”

Yoo-hyun calmly reached out his hand.

In this situation, one action was better than a hundred words.

Nam Hee-woong handed him the club with a doubtful expression.

But he added one more thing.

“That’s pretty heavy, you know.”

“It’s perfect.”

Yoo-hyun swung the club lightly for a moment and smiled.

Then he took his stance on the ground where he had made a platform.

He felt his chest open as he looked at the wide view.

He swung the club with ease, like water flowing.

His smooth movement followed by an accurate impact hit the ball hard.

Clang.

The ball flew out with a crisp sound.

Sway.

The net swayed as if it would tear, even though his movement was gentle.

“Huh.”

Nam Hee-woong’s mouth dropped open at that one swing.

Ching.

Yoo-hyun stepped on the button on the ground without paying attention to him.

Then a ball popped out of the machine and landed exactly where he wanted it.

The logo on the machine was faded, so it seemed like he had bought it from a golf practice range that was closing down.

Yoo-hyun got distracted for a moment and then lifted the club again.

He wanted to swing it again as he looked at the small white ball.

He put some strength into his lower body and hit it down hard.

It was a movement that he had repeated thousands, tens of thousands of times. There was no error in it.

The golf club that hit the ball cleanly came back to his back.

Whirl.

Yoo-hyun felt a slight vibration in his fingertips and smiled faintly.

He felt this sensation for the first time in a long time and it felt very fresh to him.

Then he suddenly tilted his head at a familiar feeling that came to him.

It was the same feeling that he had when he was spacing out earlier.

He did not think of anything at that moment either.

He just repeated the movement that he had done countless times before.

“...”

Nam Hee-woong cautiously approached Yoo-hyun who was lost in thought and asked him.

“Hey...”

“Just a second.”

Yoo-hyun reached out his hand to block the ball and then resumed his stance.

He started to swing.

Once.

Twice.

He focused on hitting the ball several times.

There was no room for any distractions in his mind.

His lips curled up slightly.

“Wow.”

Nam Hee-woong’s eyes widened like lanterns.

All the balls that Yoo-hyun hit hit the net cleanly.

He was speechless.

Yoo-hyun came to a conclusion after hitting the balls for a while.

Golf was better than fishing.

It was.

He preferred playing golf in the open air like this, rather than trying to empty his mind forcibly while fishing.

His thoughts vanished as he hit the ball.

It felt more like a mental refreshment.

Nam Hee-woong approached Yoo-hyun and offered his hand.

He was much more humble than he was in the Chinese restaurant.

“Hey, how about, can you teach me just once?”

Yoo-hyun gladly agreed.

“Sure. But can I use this for a bit?”

“Of course. As long as I can hit well.”

“It won’t be bad.”

“Please, I beg you.”

Yoo-hyun nodded as he saw Nam Hee-woong’s earnest expression.

They hit it off in an instant.

Yoo-hyun got straight to the point.

“First, hold the club.”

“Like this?”

“No. Your finger placement is wrong when you hold it. What you need to do is...”

It didn’t look like Nam Hee-woong had learned properly.

His form was stiff, indicating that he had some experience, but his basics were wrong.

If the foundation was not solid, no matter how high you piled up the stones, the dam would collapse.

Yoo-hyun taught him the basics again.

“And when you lift the club...”

“It feels awkward?”

“Relax a bit. Like this...”

He even grabbed his body and adjusted his posture.

Nam Hee-woong asked with a doubtful voice, as if the movement was too unnatural for him.

“Are you sure this is how you hit it? It feels like my body and the club are doing their own thing.”

“Just try it once and see. Don’t think of hitting the ball, think of tapping it.”

“Will this work?”

“It will. Try it.”

Yoo-hyun spoke confidently, but Nam Hee-woong tilted his head in doubt.

He still looked unconvinced.

“Just toss it lightly. And keep your eyes on the ball until the end.”

“Ugh.”

Yoo-hyun gestured again, and he swung the club without hesitation.

He tried to follow Yoo-hyun’s words at least.

But what was this?

Clang.

The ball that always flew sideways this time soared forward.

He hit it so easily that he barely felt any impact on his hand.

It felt too light.

But the power was not light at all.

“Wow. It really works.”

He was surprised and grabbed the club again.

But he put too much force into it again, and this time it flew in a different direction.

“I told you, you shouldn’t think of hitting the ball. You forced your body to turn, didn’t you?”

“Well. That’s true, but...”

Nam Hee-woong trailed off, feeling that Yoo-hyun had hit the nail on the head.

Yoo-hyun was about to add something, but he checked his watch on his wrist.

Quite some time had passed.

He thought it was time to wrap up, as the dinner might end soon.

“Let’s stop here.”

“Come on, teach me a little more. I can’t lose to the former boss of Seolreongtang again.”

“The people inside are waiting for us.”

“Just a moment. We only need more food and drinks, right?”

But Nam Hee-woong had a different idea.

He picked up his phone before Yoo-hyun could answer.

Then he spoke urgently to the staff inside the restaurant.

“Hey, Han-sik, bring a large tangsuyuk and two bottles of soju to the Hansung table. Make sure they eat it all as a service. Got it?”

He rushed in without caring about the front and back, reminding Yoo-hyun of Lim Jun-pyo, the vice president who used to push things forward like a bulldozer.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and Nam Hee-woong asked him cautiously after ending the call.

“Will this do?”

“Yes, I understand. Then please watch what I do for a moment. It will help you.”

Yoo-hyun nodded and picked up the 3-wood club that was leaning.

Then he swung it lightly.

Clang.

As always, it felt good to hit the ball in nature.

He felt his mind clear as he watched the net sway in the breeze.

“Wow...”

Nam Hee-woong exclaimed and Yoo-hyun added a few words.

“You’ll be able to do it soon.”

“Really? Just tell me anything. I’ll do whatever you want.”

Yoo-hyun looked at Nam Hee-woong’s desperate eyes and swung the club a few more times.

Yoo-hyun stayed in the forest behind the Chinese restaurant for a long time even after the dinner party was over that day.

From the next day on, Yoo-hyun's lifestyle changed.

As soon as he finished his work, Yoo-hyun headed to the forest behind the Chinese restaurant.

The scenery was not much different from yesterday, but there were some changes.

First of all, the number of golf ranges increased from one to two.

He also brought in another machine that gave out golf balls. He didn't know when he got it.

And there was another difference.

Yoo-hyun asked, looking at the blue outdoor table on the empty lot.

"Boss, what is this?"

Nam Hee-woong, who had been practicing since he came earlier, answered.

"Oh, I brought it here because I thought you had nowhere to sit."

He smiled kindly and pointed to the sweet and sour pork on the table.

"Did you have dinner? Have some of this. I fried it myself with fresh oil."

"Thank you. But this is too much."

"Hey, just eat slowly. There's alcohol too, so have a drink."

"Why don't you join me?"

"I have to practice. I don't have time for that."

Yoo-hyun sat on a plastic chair and ate the sweet and sour pork, leaving Nam Hee-woong behind.

The meat was thicker than what he had eaten yesterday, so it tasted better.

Clang.

While Yoo-hyun was enjoying his food, Nam Hee-woong swung his club endlessly.

Yoo-hyun had seen him practicing when he ran in the morning.

According to the employees, he lived here all day long, regardless of morning or afternoon.

In a word, he was a golf addict.

Yoo-hyun didn't think his passion for one thing was so bad.

He wanted to say something more to him because he was so diligent.

“Boss, your center axis right now...”

“Is it like this?”

“Yes. And close your right foot a little more.”

Yoo-hyun didn't just correct his posture.

He also taught him practical things that he could use on the field right away, using his experience.

Nam Hee-woong, who put down his club for a moment, listened to Yoo-hyun's words.

“If you want to reduce your strokes on the field, it's much more efficient to improve your approach accuracy than to increase your distance.”

“What do you mean by that?”

“It means that you should practice more with short irons than with drivers. I noticed that you never swing with short irons.”

“That's because they don't go far.”

“Just trust me and try it once.”

As soon as Yoo-hyun said that, Nam Hee-woong changed his club.

He trusted Yoo-hyun's words completely, as he could see that he was improving every time he followed his advice.

Yoo-hyun also swung his club at another spot that was set up after finishing his meal.

Clang. Clang.

The two men made the net shake without a break as they hit the balls.

It was the same the next day, and the day after that.

From sweet and sour pork to kung pao chicken, from kung pao chicken to eight-treasure dish.

The dishes changed, but the two men kept hitting golf balls late into the night.

It was one evening when Yu Hyun was playing golf.

Lee Young-nam, the manager who sat on the sofa in the goshiwon, and Bae Yong-hwan listened to Bae Yong-seok's words.

Bae Yong-seok was babbling about a story he heard from a Chinese restaurant delivery man a few days ago.

“Manager Han plays golf with the owner of the Chinese restaurant every day on the back mountain...”

Bae Yong-hwan immediately expressed his concern after hearing the explanation.

Chapter 355

“Boss, it looks like Han has given up on the fishing spot. He only plays golf these days.”

“President Bae, Han is not that kind of person.”

As always, Manager Lee Young-nam spoke with confidence.

Bae Yong-hwan looked frustrated and dragged Bae Yong-seok into the conversation.

“Yong-seok, say something. Han has completely abandoned the fishing spot, hasn't he?”

“Yes, brother. That's true. But...”

Bae Yong-seok took a breath and his eyes sparkled for once.

He faced the curious gazes and uttered in a serious voice.

“What if playing golf is part of a bigger picture for the fishing spot development?”

“Hey, talk sense. You're still unemployed because you think like that.”

Bae Yong-hwan scoffed at his older brother incredulously, but Manager Lee was different.

He rather embraced Bae Yong-seok.

“No. There's some truth to what Yong-seok said.”

“Manager Lee.”

“He said he would show us with his actions. Let's wait and see.”

His words were gentle, but Manager Lee's eyes were already full of conviction.

Regardless of what the villagers thought, the clock at Yeontae Factory kept ticking.

Of course, there was nothing special to do except killing time.

After lunch, Yoo-hyun took a stroll around the nearby forest and returned to the factory.

He saw the work log spread on the shelf at the factory entrance.

He checked it and saw that 100 percent was recorded in the reassembly rate column.

It was an update by Team Leader Park Chul-hong before delivering the goods to Mokpo Factory today.

He also wrote the date in advance for the next blank column where next week's work would be recorded.

Yoo-hyun chuckled at his small but meticulous attention to detail.

Kang Jong-ho came out of the break room and saw him and muttered.

“They're going to be really pissed when they receive the goods in Mokpo today.”

“Why?”

“They always act like jerks when they give us stuff. And they got beaten by Manager Lee this time. They must be really angry.”

“Don't worry. I'll go this time.”

“Han?”

Kang Jong-ho blinked in surprise at Yoo-hyun's answer.

Soon after, Kang Jong-ho and Jo Ki-jeong sat on the bench in the yard.

They heard Yoo-hyun's intention and agreed without hesitation.

They were happy that he volunteered to go to Mokpo workshop, where they hated to go even if they died.

Kang Jong-ho explained first what he had to do there.

“Go to the reassembly workshop and hand over the monitor first...”

The first thing to do when going to Mokpo workshop was to get the work results verified.

This part was simple because there was a visible outcome.

The tricky part was getting the reassembled products for next week.

“When you receive them, make sure you get them according to the reassembly workshop staff quota...”

“I got it.”

Yoo-hyun nodded along even though he knew it roughly.

Jo Ki-jeong took over the baton and gave him more practical advice.

“They bully us when they hand over the goods...”

“That’s terrible.”

Apparently, they were picking on many trivial things and harassing them.

Jo Ki-jeong, who had been explaining for a long time, predicted today’s situation.

“Today, they will probably make us stand guard all night for not giving us the goods. They did that last time when they were pissed off.”

“Why don’t you just refuse to take the goods if they don’t give them to you?”

“You don’t know, Han. If we don’t get the goods properly and mess up the work, we’ll get punished right away. At least a pay cut.”

“They don’t get punished?”

“Why would they? It’s our fault for not doing the work.”

Technically, it was the fault of the side that didn’t give the goods on time.

And if something goes wrong at the bottom, the responsibility lies with the top.

The half-moon people here didn’t know this simple fact.

They accepted the custom as a matter of course.

In a word, they were too naive.

“I see.”

Yoo-hyun nodded his head for now.

It was then, when they were talking about work for once on the table.

Park Chul-hong, the team leader who had finished his late meal, walked out with a deep sigh.

He looked bright until yesterday, but today his complexion was very dark.

He couldn’t look good knowing that he would be bullied.

He approached the table and Yoo-hyun said to him abruptly.

“Team leader, as I told you last time, I’ll go on this business trip.”

“Han, it’s really okay. It’s easier to go with Jo.”

Park Chul-hong shook his head and Jo Ki-jeong flared up.

“Team leader, I went there last week.”

He really didn't want to go this time, judging by his expression.

Yoo-hyun insisted once again.

It wasn't to make Jo Ki-jeong or Kang Jong-ho comfortable.

Yoo-hyun was thinking of getting rid of this wrong custom once and for all.

“Don't worry. I checked the precautions carefully. I can do it.”

“I'm not worried about you, I'm uncomfortable...”

Park Chul-hong swallowed his words.

Then Jo Ki-jeong and Kang Jong-ho pushed him.

“Han said he would do it, so just go with him.”

“Sigh...”

Park Chul-hong's sigh deepened.

That's how Yoo-hyun's Mokpo business trip was decided.

Contrary to the worried eyes, Yoo-hyun was smiling brightly.

His appearance made Park Chul-hong's forehead wrinkles deeper.

They say you should pull out a horn while it's short.

Yoo-hyun, who had made up his mind, pushed Park Chul-hong.

“Team leader, let's go and come back early today.”

“Even if we go now, we won't get it. It's better to go late and save time.”

“It's impossible. I have to be back before I clock out.”

“That's nonsense.”

Chief Park Chul-hong shook his head, but Yoo-hyun pulled his arm.

“It's possible. We'll finish early today.”

“You're talking big without knowing anything. Fine. Get in.”

Chief Park Chul-hong sighed and finally grabbed the steering wheel.

Vroom.

The car went down the narrow mountain road.

As they passed the entrance with CCTV, a wide road that circled the reservoir appeared.

Yoo-hyun looked around at the scenery outside Yeontae-ri for the first time in a long time.

If they drove a little further to the opposite side, they would see the sea, but he hadn't been there yet.

He was thinking of going there next time, when Chief Park Chul-hong asked cautiously.

“Han Team Leader, do you really have a way?”

“Yes. Just trust me. I'll sort everything out.”

“How are you going to do that?”

Yoo-hyun hadn't told him the details of his plan yet.

From Chief Park Chul-hong's perspective, it was natural to be curious.

Yoo-hyun raised his luck before speaking.

“But you have to follow me exactly as I say.”

“What are you up to...”

As Chief Park Chul-hong's voice trailed off, Yoo-hyun opened his mouth.

“What we're going to do there is...”

It was the moment when Yoo-hyun finished explaining.

Screech.

Chief Park Chul-hong suddenly stopped the car and blinked his eyes.

“Does that make sense?”

“It does. Let's go.”

Yoo-hyun gestured calmly.

The Mokpo branch was located about 90 kilometers northwest of Yeontae-ri.

It took about an hour and a half by car to get to the Mokpo branch, which was a factory belonging to the home appliance division.

It was much larger than Yeontae branch, but only half as big as Busan branch, which was the main hub.

“Still, that place is a factory that handles a lot of products...”

Chief Park Chul-hong, who was holding the steering wheel, kept talking about the Mokpo branch.

He started from the history of the Mokpo branch and went on to explain the specific relationship with Yeontae branch.

It was a nervous talk that he spat out after hearing Yoo-hyun's plan.

Since he had heard it several times already, Yoo-hyun nodded his head routinely.

"I see."

"Are you listening to me?"

"Of course. I've got it in my head."

Yoo-hyun answered and looked out the window.

The urban scenery that he hadn't seen for a long time came across as exotic.

"Sigh."

He heard a deep sigh from beside him.

It was the tenth sigh he heard today.

As they crossed the Yeongsan River and circled around the West Sea, a vast factory site came into view.

Park Chul-hong, the team leader, briefly stopped at the factory entrance and showed his ID card through the driver's seat window.

"I'm from Yeontae Business Unit."

"Okay. Go ahead."

With that word, the security guard let the car pass.

As this scene showed, the Mokpo factory was much more lax in terms of access than the Ulsan factory.

It was more appropriate to attribute it to the nature of the workshop that dealt with various products, rather than the difference between the Home Appliances Business Unit and the LCD Business Unit.

The Busan factory, which mainly produced refrigerators and washing machines, had tighter access than this.

Accordingly, there were many practices that were done under the pretext of convenience in the Mokpo factory.

Even if Yoo-hyun didn't dig deep into this side, it was obvious from looking at the situation of the Yeontae Business Unit.

Yoo-hyun was thinking about that when the car passed a street where forklifts were moving left and right.

Soon after, warehouses made of container boxes spread out in all directions.

Park Chul-hong, the team leader, parked the car in front of an empty lot near a warehouse.

Clank.

Yoo-hyun got out of the car and turned his head to look at the warehouse next to him.

-Reassembly Work Team

There was a crooked sign hanging on the warehouse door.

It seemed to tell the status of the reassembly work team, which was located in the most remote corner of the Mokpo Business Unit.

Yoo-hyun approached Park Chul-hong, who was next to him, and said.

“This place is really poor.”

“But they are proud bastards.”

“They only act like that in front of us.”

“Well, that’s true.”

Park Chul-hong did not shake his head at Yoo-hyun’s words.

It was a fact that the reassembly work team’s location was the farthest from the Mokpo Business Unit.

The problem was that Yeontae Business Unit was under their feet.

Park Chul-hong did not bother to argue about it as if it was natural, and jumped onto the trunk of the truck.

“I’ll unload them first. You catch them.”

“Okay.”

Yoo-hyun received 20 boxes of monitors that were packed.

The quantity was small, so they didn’t take up much space.

Thud.

It was when Yoo-hyun put down the 20th box on the ground.

Squeak.

The container warehouse door opened and a buzzing voice came out.

“Haha. Did those parasites from Yeontae team up with old man Noh?”

“Team Leader Kang, don’t worry. We’ll crush them this time.”

“Puhahaha. Team Leader Ma, you’re so excited, so excited. Huh?”

The man who was holding his belly and laughing noticed the truck and smirked.

Then some middle-aged men who looked like they had a temper turned their heads.

Among them was Ma Jong-hyun, the team leader who had come to audit Yeontae Business Unit a while ago.

He lifted his lips in a long smile and said.

“Wow, Mr. Park, you came early today.”

“Hello, sir.”

Park Chul-hong, the team leader, got off the truck and bowed his head.

Yoo-hyun greeted him politely.

Then, the other men said something to Park Chul-hong.

They didn’t even glance at Yoo-hyun, let alone show any interest.

“Hey, Mr. Park, you’re on a roll these days because of the manager, huh?”

“Lucky me, right? I have a strong backer. Hahaha.”

Park Chul-hong couldn’t answer to the blatant sarcasm.

It was clear who was the boss and who was the subordinate.

In the office of the appliance assembly department in Mokpo branch, the assembly team was the top dog.

There were reassembly teams under assembly team A, B, C, and D.

The reason why the reassembly teams were the underdogs was simple.

Their performance depended on what kind of products the assembly teams passed on to them.

In other words, the assembly teams and the reassembly teams played a game of Go-Stop, where they tried to cheat and bluff each other.

They gave the good products to the reassembly teams instead of Yeontae branch.

The reassembly teams' results were relatively better.

That's why Yeontae branch, which used to handle reassembly exclusively, was further downsized.

And now it was reduced to a subcontractor for the reassembly teams.

Chapter 356

From the words of the assembly team leader, he could confirm their power dynamics once again.

“Team Leader Park, don't just suck up to Manager Lee, give us some credit too. Maybe then, who knows? They might give us better products instead of reassembled ones at Yeontae Factory.”

“Yeah. We need to revive Yeontae Factory too. It used to be bigger than the reassembly team, remember?”

Another assembly team leader put his arm around Park Chul-hong's shoulder and joked.

The reassembly team leader, Ma Jong-hyun, rubbed his hands quickly and flattered.

“Hey, Team Leader Cha, that's not fair. You know we can relax because of the reassembly team.”

“Hehe. Are you nervous, Team Leader Ma?”

“Of course not. I'm still at the bottom of the ladder.”

“Hahaha. True. That's true.”

The assembly team leaders laughed at Ma Jong-hyun's words.

Yoo-hyun snorted at their pathetic behavior.

They were all at the bottom of the company hierarchy.

They were acting like they had ranks and power among themselves.

Then Park Chul-hong spoke cautiously.

“Team Leader Ma, please check our reassembled products first.”

“Huh. Team Leader Park, we're having a conversation here. Don't butt in.”

“I'm sorry.”

Park Chul-hong bowed his head as Ma Jong-hyun scolded him.

He was always too humble, just like he was during the audit.

Ignoring Park Chul-hong, Ma Jong-hyun pulled the arms of the assembly team leaders.

“Oh, come on, team leaders, don’t worry and let’s go have a drink.”

He acted like a bully to his subordinate.

The assembly team leaders giggled.

“Are you going to leave Team Leader Park alone again?”

“Team Leader Ma, you’re so mean.”

“What if he cries all night?”

They exchanged useless words and Ma Jong-hyun sneered at Park Chul-hong.

“It’s okay. Manager Lee from Yeontae Factory will help him out.”

“Hahahaha.”

The assembly team leaders laughed loudly as if they had agreed on it.

Yoo-hyun just smiled and watched them play around.

Their relationships were tangled but he didn’t need to think too much about it.

Yoo-hyun’s goal was not to revive Yeontae Factory, but to live a more comfortable life.

To do that, he needed to establish a clear relationship with the reassembly team that he was directly connected to.

As Ma Jong-hyun was about to turn around, Yoo-hyun intervened at the right timing.

“Team Leader Ma, we worked hard to meet the quantity. Please check it for us.”

“What check? You do that yourself.”

Ma Jong-hyun waved his hand in annoyance.

Yoo-hyun raised his voice a little more and showed his rookie spirit.

“Then please give us some reassembled products for next week. We need them to work.”

The assembly team leaders stopped walking and turned their heads.

Ma Jong-hyun gestured roughly as he met their eyes.

He said, “Don’t give it to me. I can’t take it. Just go away and rot.”

The assembly team leaders burst into laughter.

“Puahaha. Aren’t you being too harsh on him?”

“It’s okay. This is how I learn.”

As he shrugged his shoulders and turned to leave, Yoo-hyun spoke to him clearly.

“We clearly requested confirmation and delivery of the product. You didn’t give it to us. It was you who said it was okay to go.”

“Ouch. Did you get some ink on you and fall off the ladder? You talk like a scholar.”

Despite that, Team Leader Ma Jong Hyun only mocked him.

He was trying to show off in front of the other assembly team leaders.

Yoo-hyun politely greeted him.

“I understand what you said. We’ll leave now.”

“Go ahead.”

Team Leader Ma Jong Hyun turned his head with a snicker.

A loud laughter echoed behind the leaving group.

“Puahahahaha.”

They were quite good at laughing.

After they left, Team Leader Park Chul Hong approached Yoo-hyun and sighed.

“You did as you said and left it alone. Was that okay?”

“Yes. You did well.”

“Sigh. What now?”

“What do you mean, we have to go back. They told us to go, right?”

“Just go back like this?”

“I got enough of the answer I wanted.”

He showed his phone to Team Leader Park Chul Hong, who asked with a bewildered expression.

On the screen, the words ‘Recording’ were clearly visible.

Seeing that, Team Leader Park Chul Hong shook his head.

“Recording here won’t do anything. They are so shameless. There was a case before where someone from the reassembly team reported them and...”

Yoo-hyun cut him off, feeling that the story would be long.

“Don’t worry. I just got it for confirmation, not for reporting.”

“Then what are you going to do? They will treat us the same way tomorrow. No, they will be worse because of the grudge.”

Yoo-hyun understood Team Leader Park Chul Hong’s concern.

But that was not an option in Yoo-hyun’s answer.

“I’m not coming tomorrow.”

“What? If we don’t meet the yield, we’ll be out in the next audit.”

“That won’t happen. Just trust me.”

He chuckled and got into the passenger seat.

“Team Leader, can I drive?”

“No need. You’re already in the passenger seat.”

For some reason, Team Leader Park Chul Hong’s shoulders looked more slumped.

It was when the truck carrying Yoo-hyun left the factory.

Vroom.

One of the assembly team leaders walking next to him pointed at the truck and said.

“Huh? Are they really leaving?”

The sight of it made Team Leader Ma Jonghyun snort as if he didn’t care.

“He must have hurt his pride. Just leave him alone.”

“Do you want to send him back tomorrow?”

“Of course. I won’t give it to him even if he begs on his knees tomorrow.”

The other team leaders laughed loudly at Ma Jonghyun’s words.

“Hahaha. Team Leader Ma, you’re really cruel.”

Ma Jonghyun pretended to laugh along and gritted his teeth.

His authority had been undermined by the unexpected actions of the Yeontae factory guys.

“Those bastards, did they really think they could leave? I’ll show them hell tomorrow.”

His eyes flashed fiercely under his lowered head.

A little later.

Right when the work hours were about to end, the truck that had gone on a business trip returned to the Yeontae factory.

The sun had not set yet.

Jo Gijeong, who had come out to greet them in front of the factory site, asked in surprise.

“Why did you come back so soon?”

Team Leader Park Cheolhong, who got out of the driver’s seat, gestured with his chin in a tired manner.

“Ask him.”

Yoo-hyun, who received his gaze, handed over a plastic bag and gestured with his hand.

“Let’s talk while you eat this first.”

“Huh? Octopus?”

Jo Gijeong’s eyes widened as he looked inside the plastic bag.

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly and said.

“When you think of Mokpo, you think of three-legged octopus, right?”

“Wow...”

“I bought it as a souvenir. Please enjoy it.”

Yoo-hyun guided Jo Gijeong and Kang Jong-ho to a wooden table.

Jo Gijeong opened his mouth with a bewildered expression.

“What the hell is going on...”

“That’s what I want to know.”

Team Leader Park Cheolhong, who had come back with Yoo-hyun, added with a grim expression.

A simple table was set up on the wooden table.

They all paid attention to Yoo-hyun’s mouth rather than the three-legged octopus.

Yoo-hyun chewed on the three-legged octopus and explained briefly.

“The reason why I just came back is...”

As soon as the explanation was over, the three people were surprised as if they had made a promise.

“You just left them like that?”

“They gave it to us and you’re saying that makes sense?”

“What are you going to do about the audit?”

Yoo-hyun answered Kang Jong-ho’s last question first.

“It doesn’t matter if the audit comes out. They didn’t give it to us.”

“Team Leader Ma did the audit himself.”

“That’s not proper. Team Leader Ma doesn’t have the authority to audit. If they want to discipline us, they have to come down from the audit team themselves.”

As Yoo-hyun said that, Team Leader Park Cheolhong added in a stern voice.

He was the only one who had ever been disciplined here.

“That’s what Han said.”

“Fine, let’s say Han is right. But if we don’t get the goods from the reassembly team, we can’t meet our quota. That’s a fact. Won’t that be a problem during the audit?”

Yoo-hyun answered Jo Ki Jung’s question, who had butted in.

“As I said before, that won’t happen. If we get disciplined, so will the reassembly team.”

“For not handing over the goods?”

“Yes. I have secured the evidence for that. And there is another more important reason.”

“What is it?”

Yoo-hyun had been paying attention to one question since he came to the Yeontae factory.

Why was the number of reassembled products entering the Yeontae factory so low?

If their goal was to reduce their workload, they could have increased the quantity instead of just sending defective products.

But they only gave them the minimum amount of work that matched the number of half-cylinders classified as F-grade.

That didn't match the atmosphere of the reassembly team, who bullied them as if it was their daily routine.

Rather, it felt like they were managing the Yeontae factory's performance for them.

Yoo-hyun expressed his thoughts.

"Our performance is linked to the Mokpo factory. That means, if we fail, they will also have problems."

Jo Ki Jung seemed to understand half of it and retorted.

"They will only suffer losses, but we could get fired."

"No one would risk harming themselves to get others fired."

What would a team leader do when a team member slacks off and leaves early?

One might think that he would scold him and correct him, but no.

If it gets too serious, he would rather try to hide his team member's mistakes.

Because if it gets out, it would backfire on him.

The same logic applies to organizations.

That's why Yoo-hyun decided to slack off too.

By twisting the problem this way, he had a chance to change his perspective completely.

Yoo-hyun planned to use this opportunity to overturn all the unreasonable practices.

"What if not?"

Yoo-hyun answered Kang Jong-ho's question confidently.

"Then I'll take responsibility."

"How can Han take responsibility?"

When Park Chul Hong looked at him incredulously, Yoo-hyun smiled brightly.

"Well, if it doesn't work out, I'll buy you some sweet and sour pork. You know I'm close with the Chinese restaurant owner."

“Ha.”

A sigh escaped from everyone’s mouth.

The next day.

The Yeontae factory workers did not go to the Mokpo factory to receive the goods.

They followed Yoo-hyun’s opinion more out of fear than agreement.

The situation had already gotten out of hand.

In this situation, no one had the courage to go to the Mokpo factory and clean up the mess, saying that Yoo-hyun was wrong.

And that was the right direction.

Another day passed.

At lunchtime, Park Chul Hong asked Yoo-hyun in the cafeteria.

“Did you get a call yet?”

“No. Maybe soon?”

“Ha, I guess so.”

He answered and immediately picked up his spoon.

He was worried sick until yesterday, but now he ate well.

He seemed to have given up completely.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and ate with him.

The cafeteria lady’s cooking skills were still very good.

That afternoon, when it was close to quitting time,

Yoo-hyun sat on the stairs at the edge of the forest with his butt hanging over them.

The view of the reservoir spread out from the end of the steep stairs.

He hadn’t been fishing for a while, and the surroundings of the reservoir had changed a lot.

The weeds were cut down and the soil was smoothed out.

It looked perfect for pitching a tent.

According to Bae Yong Seok, they were planning to install a temporary toilet soon.

He hadn't heard the details yet, but it seemed like they were really trying to make a proper fishing spot.

Lee Young Nam was not a person who only talked big after all.

Yoo-hyun admired him inwardly.

His phone rang and he checked it. The caller ID showed Mokpo factory's number.

Chapter 357

With Jo Ki-Jeong's help, Yoo-hyun had connected the factory's landline phone to his cell phone.

Thanks to that, he could answer the calls from the factory even from afar.

"Yes, this is Yeontae Business Place."

As soon as Yoo-hyun answered, he heard a furious voice on the other end.

-You crazy bastards! Are you not going to take the goods?

The voice was so loud that Yoo-hyun had to lower the volume of his cell phone.

Then he asked calmly.

"Can I get the goods if I go today?"

-Get what? Even if you beg on your knees, I might not give them to you.

"Okay. I understand."

-What kind of answer is that?

Yoo-hyun lowered the volume even more and replied.

"Then I'll go when I can get them."

-Do whatever you want.

The angry voice echoed through the speaker.

Yoo-hyun did exactly as he said.

He didn't go to Mokpo Business Place the next day, or the day after that.

Four days passed in a week without him doing any work.

This was the first time in history that something like this had happened.

Kang Jong-Ho, who was lying on the floor of the break room, expressed his unnecessary worry.

"Is this really okay?"

“It’s fine. Don’t worry and just read your martial arts novel. I have to read it next.”

Yoo-hyun, who was lying next to him, said casually. Kang Jong-Ho got up.

“Okay. Just wait a bit.”

Then he started to turn the pages of the book with concentration.

The book happened to feature a martial arts master who had hidden his power.

Kang Jong-Ho glanced at Yoo-hyun, who was lying down so casually.

He looked exactly like the character in the book.

Kang Jong-Ho shook his head vigorously and turned the page again.

He had a lot of strange thoughts after going through so many things.

At that moment.

Ma Jong-Hyun, the team leader of Mokpo Business Place, was facing the manager of the assembly business unit.

The manager frowned after hearing Ma Jong-Hyun’s report.

“Yeontae bastards still haven’t taken the goods? These crazy.”

“Yes. I think we have to discipline them all this time.”

“That’s right. I have to contact the audit team. Yeontae bastards didn’t come at all to get the goods, right?”

“Yes? Well... they did come.”

Ma Jong-Hyun hesitated to answer the manager’s question.

The manager’s eyes sparkled for a moment.

“Then what?”

“They didn’t take the goods and left.”

“Why? Don’t tell me we didn’t give them. If we get caught for messing up, we’ll be in trouble with the audit team.”

Ma Jong-Hyun remembered what the new recruit had said a while ago.

-We clearly requested confirmation and delivery of the goods. You didn’t give them. That’s on your side, right?

He swallowed his saliva and stammered.

“Uh... I’ll check again.”

“Yeah. Make a good decision. Yeontae Business Place’s performance is our performance. We can’t afford to miss a week.”

“I understand.”

Ma Jong-Hyun bit his lower lip and nodded.

Meanwhile, Yoo-hyun, who was reading a book, went outside because the weather was nice.

He was walking through the woods when his phone rang.

It was Kim Hyun-Min, the team leader who called him whenever he thought of him.

There was nothing more to say, so Yoo-hyun briefly explained the situation here.

“I’m here right now...”

Kim Hyun-Min laughed out loud after hearing Yoo-hyun’s story.

-Puhahaha. You cruel kid. You’re messing with innocent people there too.

“That’s not it. I’m just trying to fix some wrong practices here.”

-Yeah, that’s what it is. Anyway, you have a good habit of turning things upside down wherever you go.

Kim Hyun-Min had already made up his mind without listening or asking any more questions.

There was no reason to argue with him here, so Yoo-hyun said resignedly.

“Think whatever you want. Anyway, I’m a pacifist.”

-Kkkk. Okay. Just wait there. I’ll be there as soon as I finish the project.

“Yes. There are a lot of fun things here. It’s an amazing place.”

-You lucky bastard. You sound like you’re finally getting some sense.

“Really? That’s good to hear.”

He said it casually, but it felt more rewarding than any other compliment.

He was exchanging a few words with him when it happened.

His phone rang and he checked the caller ID. It was the Mokpo branch, which had been calling him frequently lately.

“Team leader, I’ll see you soon.”

-All right. Take care.

He wrapped up the call with Kim Hyun-min, the team leader, and answered the incoming call.

“Yes, this is Yeontae branch.”

A thin voice came from the other side of the phone.

-Hey, rookie, where did Park branch manager go?

It was Min Dal-gi, the foreman who had called him before.

He seemed to have delegated his work to him because he couldn't handle it himself.

“He went to the bathroom for a moment.”

-Ha. Hurry up and come over. I'll give you the goods.

Yoo-hyun frowned at Min Dal-gi's words, which he spat out as if he was doing him a favor.

“What do I do? Our truck is broken right now.”

-What?

“Can't you just tell him when he comes for the inspection?”

Yoo-hyun pretended not to know and asked, and Min Dal-gi snorted.

-Ha. Are you out of your mind?

“I'm sorry. Then I'll hang up.”

-Hey. Hey, you bastard...

Yoo-hyun politely said goodbye and hung up the phone.

He heard the next words, but he thought they could understand each other.

Of course, it was Yoo-hyun's wishful thinking.

A moment later.

Another call came in.

As soon as Yoo-hyun answered the phone, Min Dal-gi yelled angrily.

-Hey. You crazy bastard. Are you the only one there?

“The others are cleaning up the warehouse right now.”

-Are you really going to do this? You guys who don't take the goods are all losers. I might just flip them over.

Min Dal-gi seemed determined to be more aggressive.

He acted as if he was the branch manager himself.

Yoo-hyun calmly listened to his words and explained the situation.

“Ma branch manager told me to just go. The other branch managers heard it clearly, and it was recorded.”

-What, what? Recorded?

“Yes. It happened to be recorded.”

-You crazy bastard. Stay there. I'll send a car.

Min Dal-gi hung up with a bang, as if a fire had fallen on his feet.

He could tell what was going on from his last word alone.

There must have been a fight inside already.

“You should have listened to me in the first place.”

Yoo-hyun chuckled as he looked at his phone that had ended the call.

The word ‘recorded’ was fatal.

He remembered the conversation with the director and loaded the goods onto the truck reluctantly.

It took him two hours to sort and load the reassembled products that would be sent to Yeontae branch.

Vroom.

A little later, Min Dal-gi stepped on the accelerator as he grabbed the steering wheel.

Ma Jong-hyun, the branch manager who sat in the passenger seat, cursed as he thought about it.

“Ha. Recorded. Bullshit. What is he?”

Min Dal-gi swallowed his saliva and told him everything he had heard from Park Chul-hong, the branch manager, a few weeks ago.

“I heard he’s an office worker. And he’s a pretty promising talent, they say. His backer is from Group Strategy Office...”

“What? Group Strategy Office? Why are you telling me this now?”

Anyone who belonged to Hanseong Electronics knew how scary Group Strategy Office was.

Ma Jong-hyun shouted and Min Dal-gi bowed his head low.

“I’m sorry. I thought it was just a bluff back then.”

“I can’t believe this. Why would such a talent come to a dump like Yeontae?”

Min Dal-gi, who had been watching Ma Jong-hyun’s reaction, cautiously voiced his opinion.

“Maybe he’s trying to push us down and grow Yeontae branch.”

“Huh. No way.”

“He’s meticulous enough to record everything. I think it would be better to cooperate with him a little bit as long as he doesn’t take our quantity.”

Min Dal-gi’s words made Ma Jong-hyun scratch his head hard.

“Damn it. It’s totally messed up.”

It was almost time to finish the work.

Yoo-hyun, who was sitting in the break room of the Yeontae workplace, muttered as he looked at the clock.

“I have to go play golf...”

“Hey, how can you say that in this situation?”

Jo Ki-jeong, who was sitting in the same posture, asked with a dumbfounded expression. Yoo-hyun replied nonchalantly.

“So what? Work and life should be separated.”

“Sigh.”

Park Cheol-hong, the team leader who was listening next to him, let out a sigh.

At that moment, the alarm in the break room rang perfectly.

Beep beep beep beep beep.

The CCTV showed a truck coming up.

“Okay, the goods are being delivered. Let’s go get them.”

“Are they really bringing them themselves?”

Yoo-hyun pointed to the TV screen at Kang Jong-ho’s question.

“Yes. They said for sure. Look. It’s not a van, it’s a truck.”

“Well...”

“Come on, let’s go.”

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly and dragged the team members, but they couldn’t smile.

No matter how much they didn’t understand the situation, they had an idea of what was going to happen from experience.

Besides, the other party was Psycho Ma Jong-hyun, the team leader.

It was obvious that they would get into a fight.

Kang Jong-ho, who remembered the village leader’s feat a while ago, briefly wondered if he should pull out the big mop handle that was leaning against the break room wall.

The team members who came out to the site naturally moved to the platform.

This was now an automatic reflexive action.

Yoo-hyun sat on the platform and asked the team members who were looking around nervously.

“You don’t need to shrink your shoulders. They’re here to give us something.”

“They won’t just give it to us.”

“Well, yeah.”

Yoo-hyun nodded obediently at Jo Ki-jeong’s words.

Then sighs came out from here and there.

They hadn’t fully accepted this situation yet.

They were too used to the wrong practices.

If it had been before, they would have just left it alone because they didn’t want to get involved in annoying things, but this time it was different.

They decided that it would be better to change it quickly.

Yoo-hyun insisted more actively on his opinion.

“We are receiving a request for reassembly. It’s natural for them to come.”

“That’s what Han Joo-im thinks. Ma team leader won’t just sit still.”

Park Cheol-hong, the team leader, still looked worried.

Yoo-hyun conveyed his strong will to him.

“Even if they come out strong, we have to confront them this time. If we don’t tie up here, we’ll always be bullied.”

“What if we get disciplined?”

Everyone’s eyes gathered at Park Cheol-hong’s question.

This part was their biggest Achilles’ heel.

“Don’t worry. When you see a mad dog, you avoid it, not catch it. Ma team leader will have no choice either.”

“Ha. So you’re saying we’re mad dogs.”

“That’s just an expression.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and Park Cheol-hong shook his head helplessly.

Kang Jong-ho and Jo Ki-jeong laughed hollowly as if they couldn’t believe it.

Big changes are usually accompanied by pain.

He said it easily, but Yoo-hyun knew that the upcoming negotiation with Ma Jong-hyun wouldn’t be easy.

It wasn’t just because he was a psycho.

As much as there were mutual interests between organizations, they wouldn’t back down easily either.

So Yoo-hyun made up his mind for once.

He decided that he would endure a little trouble for a comfortable life in the future.

It was then.

Vroom.

A truck came up the narrow road.

The team members all lined up on the site.

Yoo-hyun also stood next to them.

Chapter 358

Clank.

As soon as he got out of the car, Chief Ma Jonghyun scanned the place and looked at Yoo-hyun.

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly, but he turned his head away with a sour expression.

“Chief Park, did the truck break down?”

“Ah, yes. I’m sorry. We’ll fix it.”

Chief Park Chulhong gave the prepared answer and closed his eyes tightly. He expected a burst of anger at any moment.

But surprisingly, Chief Ma Jonghyun suppressed his rage and said calmly.

“No, it happens. That’s why we brought this week’s work materials.”

“Chief, here are the defect analysis report and the work request form.”

Min Dalki, who always acted snobbish, even put on a humble face.

Chief Park Chulhong blinked his eyes at the unexpected behavior of the two men.

Then Yoo-hyun approached and looked at the work request form.

“The deadline is only three days away. We can’t do a week’s worth of work.”

“No, that’s not...”

Min Dalki hesitated as he met Chief Ma Jonghyun’s eyes.

Yoo-hyun mixed a gentle voice with a strong gaze and said.

“We’re not saying we won’t take it. Isn’t that right, Chief Ma?”

“...”

Chief Ma Jonghyun flinched as he listened.

What if he acted tough here?

Yoo-hyun was ready to clash with him once and for all.

He already had a scenario in his head.

But what was this?

The reaction was too radical.

“That’s right. Mr. Han is right. Min Chief, take out some of the quantity from Yeontae branch.”

Chief Ma Jonghyun nodded his head, and Min Dalki immediately reflected his opinion.

“Yes. I understand. Then we’ll set the target quantity at 40 percent, and we’ll match the rest. We can also reduce it further.”

“No, we have to do our job too.”

“That’s... right. Hahaha.”

Min Dalki laughed awkwardly and pretended to be nice.

Chief Ma Jonghyun's expression didn't look too bad either.

Did he think he was being recorded?

But that was too low for him.

Whatever the reason was, it was a good opportunity.

Yoo-hyun seized the chance and asked right away.

"Min Chief, I have a question."

"What is it?"

"Think about it. Usually, the place that requests the work should hand over the materials. Isn't this the right direction?"

"Hahaha. You must not know because you're new, but this is how it's always done."

"Is that really so? I should contact my superiors..."

Yoo-hyun tried to bluff a little to shake him up.

Then Chief Ma Jonghyun panicked and answered.

"Min Chief, do that."

"Yes. I understand."

He should have been angry by now, considering his psychopathic personality trait.

But he gave in too easily again.

Min Dalki was the same.

He didn't know what was going on, but there was no reason not to eat the rice cake that rolled in.

Yoo-hyun quickly brought up the next topic.

"And one more thing."

"What? Is there more?"

Yoo-hyun continued to speak to Min Dalki Chief who asked in surprise.

"Yes. Normally, audits are done by the audit team. Why are you doing audits in the work team?"

"Huh? That's because..."

"Maybe it's because it's too different from what I know. This also..."

Before Yoo-hyun could scare him, Chief Ma Jonghyun made a decision without asking or checking anything.

“Min Chief, just divide the materials and check only the performance.”

“Yes. I understand.”

Min Dalki nodded again.

“...”

The workers of Yeontae branch who were watching were speechless.

Yoo-hyun shouted inwardly with joy and spat out one more word.

“There’s more.”

“What is it this time?”

Chief Ma Jong-hyun looked annoyed.

Yoo-hyun did not avoid his eyes and answered.

“It’s about our attendance. We need to get permission for holidays and vacations now...”

As he spoke longer, Chief Ma and Min Dal-gi looked more and more exhausted.

But they listened to him until the end.

And they came to the same conclusion.

“Just do it.”

They seemed like they would even take off their pants if he asked them to.

That’s how friendly Chief Ma was.

No matter how much he abused his power, he was very pleased with him right now.

Yoo-hyun expressed his honest feelings.

“Thank you, Chief. Thanks to you, the Mokpo branch and the Yeontae branch can have a win-win situation.”

“R-right? Win-win is good, win-win.”

For a moment, Chief Ma smiled awkwardly and lifted his lips.

Instead of dropping a bomb as he expected, a warm breeze blew in the Yeontae branch.

“Wow.”

The Yeontae branch staff who saw him could not close their mouths in surprise.
After Chief Ma left.

Yoo-hyun sat down for a moment and sorted out his thoughts.

Why was he so submissive?

Did Chief Ma have a lot of trouble behind him?

That was the most reasonable thought.

It was natural to be careful when he had a lot to lose.

He got it too easily, but anyway, the important thing was the result.

Thanks to him, Yoo-hyun could now relax.

He finished his schedule lightly and Kang Jong-ho, who was sitting next to him, asked him casually.

His face was full of curiosity.

“Mr. Han, did you work in the audit team or something?”

“Something like that.”

“Ah, so that’s how you knew so well.”

It was impossible to know all the situations that were going around in the audit team.

The business units were different, and the work they did was completely different.

But there was no need to explain it in detail, so Yoo-hyun just nodded his head.

“Well, something like that.”

“It was really amazing. How did you solve it so easily?”

Kang Jong-ho clapped his hands and expressed his joy.

Then Jo Gi-jeong came over and joined in.

“That’s right. It’s much better to be here than in other factories.”

“Of course. No interference, easy work, and we can go outside. It’s the best.”

Kang Jong-ho smiled belatedly and revealed his feelings.

Yoo-hyun had already thought what they were thinking now.

Swish.

When he checked the time, it was almost the end of work hours.

It was time to go play golf, so Yoo-hyun got up from his seat.

“I’ll go first.”

“Okay. Mr. Han, have a good time.”

Then Jo Gi-jeong and Kang Jong-ho greeted him.

It was a trivial greeting, but they seemed new to him because they didn’t care much about other people’s work.

“Yes. Have a good time too.”

When Yoo-hyun turned around, he heard Chief Park Cheol-hong’s voice from behind him.

“Mr. Han, good job.”

It was the first time he heard such a friendly sound from his mouth.

Yoo-hyun turned his head and smiled wryly.

“Buy me some strong liquor next time.”

Then Chief Park lifted his lips slightly.

He could have laughed out loud, but he still seemed awkward with this kind of light conversation.

This was also a problem that time would solve.

It didn’t matter if he didn’t change it anyway.

Thud thud.

Maybe it was because he had unloaded a heavy burden?

Yoo-hyun’s steps toward the golf course looked unusually light today.

It’s hard to feel the strength of a typhoon when you’re in the center of it.

The same goes for being in the center of change.

Even if there is a big change, you can’t tell what impact it has until time passes.

This was the story of the half-workers at Yeontae’s workplace right now.

They spent the next day with a nervous feeling.

The same thing happened the next day.

And on the day after that, they finally realized for sure that things had changed.

Beep beep beep beep.

The sound of the alarm in the break room and the truck from Mokpo's workplace on the CCTV screen were the starting point of their realization.

Kang Jong-ho, who was on CCTV duty, licked his lips.

"They're really coming to pick it up."

"Yeah. Look at the back of the truck. They also loaded this week's reassembled products."

Cho Ki-jung, who was next to him, felt uneasy too.

Yoo-hyun, who was making coffee in the corner, casually said.

"Let's go get it. I think it's only right to help them unload."

Then the half-workers looked at Yoo-hyun with a dumbfounded expression.

Park Chul-hong, the team leader, turned his head away and muttered.

"I don't think that's something a junior should say..."

There were two people in the truck that Yoo-hyun had never seen before.

One of them, an older man, introduced himself as a member of the reassembly team at Mokpo's workplace.

That was the end of their conversation.

They didn't do anything like conducting an unexpected audit or making other demands like before.

They just delivered the defective products that needed to be reassembled next week.

They even showed some courtesy.

The older man who had unloaded the boxes himself handed over a document.

"Here's the work order. Please check it."

"Oh, yes. Here it is."

Park Chul-hong, the team leader, felt the drastic change and signed it.

The people from Mokpo's workplace finished their mission and left with this week's reassembled products.

It used to take at least eight hours to receive the goods while being bullied by them, but now it only took 20 minutes.

The half-workers at Yeontae's workplace were stunned by the remarkable change.

Cho Ki-jung, who was looking at the stacked boxes, gave a hollow laugh and said.

“Junior Yu, you're really amazing.”

“That's right. I can't believe this is happening.”

Kang Jong-ho looked at Yoo-hyun with an admiring expression.

Yoo-hyun said to the two people who were making small talk that they didn't usually do.

“Let's finish quickly and rest.”

The half-workers who met eyes laughed softly.

A few days passed and the weekend came to Yeontae-ri.

Clang.

Yoo-hyun came out of his dormitory wearing a neat collar T-shirt and beige cotton pants.

The cool autumn breeze was blowing, making it a perfect day to go out.

He still had some time before his appointment, so he walked leisurely.

That's when he came out to the road that connected the village and his dormitory.

He heard someone greeting him and turned around. It was Lee Young-nam, the manager.

“Junior Yu, good morning.”

“Manager Lee, hello.”

He felt happy every time he saw him now, so Yoo-hyun greeted him warmly.

Lee Young-nam, who had a pleasant smile on his face, looked at Yoo-hyun's outfit and lightly joked.

“Haha. Where are you going?”

“Yes. I have an appointment.”

Then he casually asked what he had been curious about.

Yoo-hyun had told him to wait for the results, so he couldn't ask directly and beat around the bush.

“Right. How’s work going?”

“Yes. It’s going very well.”

Yoo-hyun answered confidently as he had handled Yeontae’s workplace well.

The relationship with Mokpo’s workplace was smoothly settled, and he got everything he could get out of them.

There were no more unreasonable audits, and attendance issues were also neatly resolved.

The half-workers could now go out freely on weekends without worrying about Mokpo’s workplace.

Lee Young-nam’s help also played a part in this easy resolution of work.

Yoo-hyun expressed his gratitude in his words.

“It’s all thanks to you, manager. Thank you for your support.”

“Haha. Support? Well, I guess so. The fishing spot has been developed a lot recently.”

Why did he suddenly bring up the fishing spot?

He tilted his head slightly, but he understood since he was very interested in developing the fishing spot.

Yoo-hyun gave him a thumbs up and responded positively.

“That’s right. The village seems to be getting better and better.”

“It’s thanks to you.”

“What have I done? It’s all thanks to you, village head. And to the people of the village as well.”

“Hahaha. You are really devoted to the village’s development, even if it means...”

The village head, Lee Young-nam, laughed heartily and was about to say something when Yoo-hyun interrupted him with his sharp words.

Chapter 359

Screech.

A white van stopped in front of Yoo-hyun and Lee Young-nam, the section chief.

Nam Hee-woong, the owner of the Chinese restaurant who was sitting in the back seat, called out to Yoo-hyun.

“Mr. Han. Oh? Mr. Lee.”

He then got out of the car when he saw Lee Young-nam.

Lee Young-nam asked Nam Hee-woong.

“Mr. Nam, where are you going?”

“Yes. I’m going to the field with Mr. Han today.”

“The field?”

Lee Young-nam blinked his eyes and Yoo-hyun answered for him.

“It’s a golf course called Haenam CC. We’re going to check it out.”

“Ah, a golf course? Are you going on a survey trip?”

“Yes. Something like that.”

Yoo-hyun nodded his head and at that moment, a man who was sitting in the passenger seat leaned his head forward and revealed his face as he took off his sunglasses.

“Oh, Mr. Lee, long time no see.”

“Huh? Mr. Jeon? No, Mr. Choi too?”

Lee Young-nam was surprised to see the faces of the two men.

It was understandable because they were the influential figures of Yeonseung-ri village, which was next to Yeontae-ri village.

One of them was Lee Young-nam’s younger brother who was in charge of the village’s affairs, and the other one was a man who had graduated from a university in Seoul and worked at a company before returning to the village.

The story of how they revived Yeonseung-ri village, which was on the verge of collapse, by joining forces was well-known in Yeontae-ri village.

Lee Young-nam felt bitter every time he heard that story.

But why did they come to Yeontae-ri village?

He looked at them with a wary gaze and the man who was sitting in the passenger seat laughed heartily and pointed at Yoo-hyun.

“Hahaha. I heard that there is a very talented person in Yeontae-ri village. So I’m going to take him with me.”

“Mr. Han?”

Lee Young-nam looked puzzled and Nam Hee-woong smiled and said.

“Yes. Mr. Han is an ace.”

“...”

They were going to hire Yoo-hyun from Yeontae-ri village?

And they knew that Yoo-hyun was a talented person and an ace.

Lee Young-nam’s mind was confused by this unexpected scenario.

Nam Hee-woong ignored Lee Young-nam and gestured to Yoo-hyun.

“Mr. Han, let’s go.”

“Yes. Okay.”

Lee Young-nam, who had thought of one possibility, grabbed Yoo-hyun who was about to get in the car.

He whispered to him with a serious expression.

“Mr. Han, are you going to join forces with another village?”

“Yes. We should if we can. It’s more fun when we do things together.”

“Huh.”

Lee Young-nam realized that he had missed something.

In the past, Yeontae-ri and Yeonseung-ri villages had developed together.

Their relationship had weakened after a landslide destroyed the main road and a hill blocked their way, but it was reasonable to cooperate for the revival of the village.

But it was not easy for an outsider to lead a problem that even the section chiefs could not solve.

He asked with a worried heart.

“Are you sure it’s okay?”

“Of course. I’ll bring you good news.”

The answer was as always cool.

Lee Young-nam looked at Yoo-hyun with a trusting gaze.

“I see. I’ll look forward to it.”

“Yes. You can expect it.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and got in the car.

Nam Hee-woong, who was sitting in the back seat, whispered to Yoo-hyun.

“What did Mr. Lee say? Did he say anything about joining forces with Yeonseung-ri?”

“He just seemed a little worried.”

“Worried that we might lose?”

“Yes. So I told him to expect it. We have to win and treat him to a meal.”

Yoo-hyun’s honest answer made Nam Hee-woong clench his fist and say.

“Leave that to me. I’ll treat him well if we win.”

“I’ll look forward to it.”

The two representatives of Yeontae-ri village smiled at each other in today’s golf bet.

Vroom.

It was after the white van had left.

Lee Young-nam, the manager of Lee’s, muttered as he watched the van disappear.

“I have no idea what kind of big picture he’s drawing.”

He sounded worried, but his lips were curled up.

Hae-nam CC was located as high as Yeon-tae-ri.

Because it was next to the sea, Yoo-hyun could see the ocean from the first hole teeing ground where he was standing.

He took a deep breath as he looked at the horizon.

He felt calm just by breathing.

Maybe that was why?

The feeling of holding a golf club was different from usual.

It wasn’t about fitting his hand, being light, or anything like that.

He just felt a tingling in his chest, wanting to hit the ball as soon as he held the club.

He smiled and said,

“This will be fun.”

Then, Jeon Il-ho, who was warming up next to him, snorted.

He was a tall man with sharp features, a typical Ho-nam look, and he had a distinctive deep voice and a refreshing laugh.

He was the owner of Seol-leong-tang restaurant in Yeon-seung-ri, and the younger brother of the manager.

“You said you play golf well, but you seem to have a lot of leisure?”

“What matters is not the skill. It’s important to be here with good people in a good place.”

At Yoo-hyun’s relaxed answer, Choi Jeong-bok, the owner of the mobile phone shop in Yeon-seung-ri who was next to him, chuckled.

He was in his early forties, younger than the others, and he looked even younger because he had a small face, fair skin, and round glasses.

“Haha. Brother, I think the young friend is right.”

“Well, let’s see how much he can do.”

Jeon Il-ho turned his head with an uneasy expression.

There was Nam Hee-woong, who was taking his stance.

“Hey, Nam president, cheer up.”

Jeon Il-ho was a bit talkative.

He had a spiteful side that didn’t match his cheerful appearance.

Nam Hee-woong had practiced hitting balls all night because he didn’t want to lose to him.

Yoo-hyun smirked in between.

Bang.

The ball that Nam Hee-woong hit flew straight away.

“Wow. Nam president, did you eat some kind of elixir or something?”

Jeon Il-ho asked in surprise, and Nam Hee-woong, who was his same age, shrugged his shoulders.

“Well, it’s nothing. I just hit it well today.”

“Don’t be cocky. You should see how I do it.”

Jeon Il-ho swung his club and took his stance with a confident expression.

His form looked pretty stable as if he wasn’t just talking big.

The result was not bad either.

Clap clap clap clap.

“President, nice shot.”

The caddy who was close to him cheered him up with applause.

And finally it was Yoo-hyun’s turn.

He wanted to hit it as soon as he grabbed the club.

Which course should he take?

It was not his head but his tingling chest that decided the direction.

“Okay, then let’s see the skill of the excellent talent that Nam president praised so much.”

Jeon Il-ho sneered at Yoo-hyun who stood in front of the ball with a smile on his lips.

He looked mischievous as he raised his eyebrows one by one, but Yoo-hyun didn’t notice him at all.

“Brother, your posture looks good. Did you learn somewhere?”

Choi Jeong-bok said a word, and the caddy next to him tilted his head.

“But isn’t that handsome oppa aiming at the wrong direction? It’s hard to get over that hill.”

“Leave him alone. He must be overconfident because he’s young.”

Jeon Il-ho snickered at the caddy’s words.

The course that Yoo-hyun chose was one that would get stuck on the hill unless he had a decent distance.

He was trying to go straight where he should have turned sideways.

“It looks hard...”

Nam Hee-woong, who knew Yoo-hyun’s skill well, looked worried too.

Everyone’s eyes were on him at that moment.

Yoo-hyun moved his body.

It was a smooth motion like riding on a gentle breeze.

But the impact was explosive.

Bang.

The ball that became a dot flew far away and easily crossed over the hill in the distance.

At the same time, everyone's mouths opened wide.

"Wow."

The surprise did not stop there.

When Yoo-hyun placed the ball right next to the hole in his next approach,

When he casually scored a birdie in the first hole,

When he showed an amazing distance in the next hole,

The people who were with him looked at Yoo-hyun with admiration.

"Wow, he's really good."

Even Jeon Ilho, who had been acting snobbish, praised Yoo-hyun.

The others were speechless.

The caddy, who had been gasping in astonishment, tilted his head again.

He looked at Yoo-hyun, who was standing on the teeing ground.

"He's not going to try to hit it up the hill in one shot, is he?"

"Nah, no way."

The people shook their heads as if they had agreed.

But they also looked at Yoo-hyun with anticipation.

Yoo-hyun lifted his head and took in the scenery of the faraway place.

A small hill was visible across the lake.

The flat surface on top of the hill where the hole was located was very narrow, and it was out if it went over the back.

Whoosh.

He felt the wind blowing and adjusted his direction.

If he wanted to win?

It would have been much safer to aim for the bottom of the hill.

But Yoo-hyun didn't care about that at all.

He had no concept of score or probability right now.

He just wanted to hit it in the direction he wanted.

It was not 'I have to hit it', but 'I want to hit it' that moved Yoo-hyun's body.

The movement that he had repeated thousands, tens of thousands of times unfolded like a picture.

Clang.

He felt a tingling sensation in his fingertips as he hit the ball.

The ball flew out with a crisp sound.

The ball that flew exactly along the course he wanted went up to the top of the hill where the hole was located.

Clap clap clap clap clap clap.

"Wow. Amazing. He's a pro, a pro."

"Really, that's possible."

Amidst the applause and cheers that kept coming, Yoo-hyun bowed his head.

He felt a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in his chest.

He smiled while holding back the smile that was coming out.

He wanted to hit it.

He wanted to hit it quickly.

He felt a strange feeling that he had never felt before while playing golf.

What was this feeling?

Yoo-hyun, who was thinking for a moment, was approached by Nam Heeung, who asked him.

"Yoo-hyun, you look happy?"

"Yes. It's really fun."

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly and said cheerfully.

It was not just a word. He enjoyed hitting the ball itself so much.

He felt refreshed every time the ball flew, and a smile formed on his lips.

At some point, he liked not only hitting the ball, but also walking on the grass, breathing in the sea air, and chatting and laughing with people.

Of course, there were times when he made mistakes or hit the ball wrong.

The people sighed when Yoo-hyun's ball went off course.

“What a shame.”

“Haha. Even a pro makes mistakes sometimes.”

Jeon Ilho now called Yoo-hyun a pro.

There was no trace of his snobbish attitude at first.

He even sent Yoo-hyun a friendly look as if he had fallen for him.

Yoo-hyun responded to him with a playful smile.

“That’s life. Sometimes it’s like this, sometimes it’s like that.”

“Hahaha. That’s true.”

Jeon Ilho laughed heartily, and the others followed suit.

Yoo-hyun didn’t care about mistakes.

He enjoyed them too.

When they had played quite a few holes, Yoo-hyun realized something.

How long had it been since he played golf with such ease?

He couldn’t remember.

He liked golf, but he couldn’t enjoy it as a hobby.

Sometimes he used golf to please his boss, sometimes to show off his position.

But now it was different.

There was no one to impress or show off to.

And maybe because he had some peace of mind, he could fully enjoy this moment.

It was so fun that there was no room for other thoughts to interfere.

He didn’t even think about looking at his phone, which he used to check dozens of times a day.

It wasn’t that he deliberately avoided it like before.

Suddenly, Yoo-hyun felt like he knew what this nagging feeling in his heart was.

Chapter 360

When he drank with his friends without any worries.

When Park Seung-woo, his junior, received an award on the stage and called his name.

When he saw his colleagues grow up splendidly.

When he was with his mother's happy smile.

When he tasted the thrilling sensation of victory in martial arts.

When he poured out his skills in front of Steve Jobs.

When he had coffee with Jeong Da-hye.

He felt the same as when he enjoyed those moments fully with joy.

Swoosh.

Yoo-hyun put his hand on his chest that was tingling.

When he pretended to be relaxed at work,

Or when he emptied his mind while fishing.

He could never feel the palpitation that he felt in his chest at those times when he tried and worked hard consciously.

“So that's it.”

Yoo-hyun felt like he had found a little answer to his worries.

-Let's enjoy this moment as it is.

That realization made Yoo-hyun more free.

Then, Jeon Il-ho, who was riding on the cart, called Yoo-hyun.

“Pro. Come on. Let's go to the next course.”

“Okay.”

Yoo-hyun smiled pleasantly and ran.

After finishing all 18 holes, Yoo-hyun sweated in the bathhouse attached to the entrance building.

It was when Yoo-hyun got up from the hot water.

Jeon Il-ho, who had been praising Yoo-hyun's body all along, exclaimed unknowingly.

“Wow. Pro is...”

“What?”

“No, no. I have some pride too.”

He then went into the deep water quickly.

It was a matter of time before they became close after playing golf and taking a bath together.

The subtle sense of competition that they felt at first was gone now.

Choi Jeong-bok, who got on the car and grabbed the steering wheel, said.

“Today was so much fun.”

“Yeah. The members were so good.”

Nam Hee-woong smiled happily at Jeon Il-ho’s words.

“Haha. Let’s do it again next time.”

“Well, I’d love to do it every day if Pro allows me?”

Jeon Il-ho turned his head to the back seat and raised his eyebrows at Yoo-hyun.

“Puhahaha. That’s right. Let’s go for a cool one.”

“Hahahaha.”

Then everyone laughed loudly, including Jeon Il-ho.

They all looked like they were enjoying this moment very much.

The good atmosphere continued at the raw fish restaurant.

Jeon Il-ho and Choi Jeong-bok, who lost the bet, prepared a huge feast for them.

Clang. Clang.

The raw fish that they ate while listening to the sound of waves was so delicious.

Yoo-hyun picked up a thick piece of raw fish and admired it.

“Wow, awesome. This is really delicious.”

“How is it? Pro, do you think you’ll come again?”

“Not just next time? I’ll go anytime if you call me.”

Yoo-hyun said coolly, and Jeon Il-ho shrugged his shoulders.

“Hahaha. This guy. But I don’t like being called boss. It makes me look old.”

“I don’t like being called Pro either.”

Choi Jeong-bok came up with a perfect compromise for Yoo-hyun’s answer.

“Why don’t you just call each other brother? Honestly, if we go by skill, Pro is older than me.”

Then Jeon Il-ho asked Yoo-hyun for agreement.

“Puhahaha. That’s good. How about it, Pro? Can I call you brother?”

Nam Hee-woong and Choi Jeong-bok also joined in subtly.

“I’m the same age as you, so why not?”

“I’m the youngest among us three, so I guess it’s possible for me?”

Yoo-hyun chuckled at the eyes directed at him.

This place was not a company.

It was more like a friendly atmosphere with people who shared the same hobby rather than colleagues.

Yoo-hyun acted as he pleased without caring about others’ eyes or measuring himself in this pleasant atmosphere.

“Come on, brothers, let’s have a drink together.”

“Sounds good, little brother.”

Clank. Clank. Clank.

The four glasses of the spirited men collided pleasantly.

Yoo-hyun swallowed his drink, feeling the cool sea breeze.

“Ah.”

The taste of the liquor was superb as he drank it with the sea breeze.

It was nice to experience this kind of life.

The trivial things brought him great joy.

Going to the golf course was a good opportunity.

After that day, Yoo-hyun did not just spend his days in a daze.

He did not work hard on anything, but he tried to enjoy the moment more.

Working at the factory, resting at the dormitory, mingling with the villagers.

Fishing or playing golf.

Or lying on the factory floor like this.

His daily life, which was not much different from before, felt gradually different.

The present moment, which he might never return to, seemed more special.

That change made a smile appear on Yoo-hyun’s lips.

Thud.

Park Chul-hong, who sat next to him on the floor, asked.

“Why are you smiling like that?”

“Just because I’m happy.”

“That’s lame.”

Yoo-hyun got up from his seat and shrugged his shoulders. Park Chul-hong put something down on the floor with a thud.

“Huh? What’s this?”

“What do you mean, it’s bread.”

“Wow. Maple bread? It looks expensive.”

“Just. I bought it on my way back from my hometown. I thought it would be good to eat.”

“I’ll enjoy it.”

Yoo-hyun gave him a thumbs up and Park Chul-hong, who was scratching his head, awkwardly changed the subject.

“Nothing happened while I was away, right?”

“Yes. The Mokpo staff are quiet. No phone calls.”

“Geez, that’s amazing. This time when I went on vacation, they just told me to go and do whatever I want, and they even said I could use the corporate card if I wanted to.”

“What’s so strange about that? Just do as they say.”

“That’s true, but it’s too different from before.”

Park Chul-hong still looked uncomfortable.

It was understandable that he felt strange when the practices he had taken for granted for a year and a half disappeared in an instant.

He might think he was getting something for nothing.

Yoo-hyun suppressed his laughter and said.

“But you seem happy about it, right? You’ve been smiling since earlier.”

“Did I? Well, this is what I mean, it’s nice.”

Park Chul-hong, who had been rubbing his hands together, smiled faintly.

Vroom.

Then Jo Ki-jeong, who had gone out for a while, came back with Kang Jong-ho. He parked his car behind the factory and came over to Yoo-hyun and said.

“Thank you, Han Joo-im. Is it done?”

“What are you talking about?”

Yoo-hyun asked in disbelief and Kang Jong-ho added an explanation.

“It’s a message from the owner of the cell phone shop in Yeonseung-ri.”

“Oh, Jeong-bok hyung went to his shop?”

“There’s nowhere else around here. I didn’t know, but it was really cheap.”

“Jo Joo-im, you should say it right. It’s thanks to Han Joo-im that you bought it cheaply.”

It made sense when he heard it.

Choi Jeong-bok, who had become acquainted through golf, had treated Yoo-hyun’s colleague very generously.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and Jo Ki-jeong said with an embarrassed expression.

“Ahem. Yeah. That’s true. I looked all over Mokpo city and there was no price like this.”

“Jo Joo-im, don’t be like that and show me once.”

Kang Jong-ho poked his side and Jo Ki-jeong, who sat on the floor, reluctantly handed over his cell phone.

It was a pink full-touch phone that Yoo-hyun was quite familiar with.

“It’s nothing special, really. Here.”

He said casually but his mouth kept curling up.

He fiddled with his phone and said.

“This is the new Colorphone 2. Unlike the previous one, it shows web sites in full browsing mode like a PC so you can easily access the internet...”

As an electronics enthusiast, he explained with technical terms.

He reminded Yoo-hyun of how passionate he was when he first installed CCTV.

However, because his explanation was too long, Team Leader Park Chul-hong left his seat for a while, and Yoo-hyun ate the maple bread he had left behind.

He also peeled off pieces and fed them to Jo Ki-jung's mouth.

"Especially the LCD panels have changed a lot. Oh, thank you."

Kang Jong-ho, who received the maple bread as well, joined in.

"Ah, you must know well since you're in the LCD business unit, right?"

Yoo-hyun just shrugged his shoulders, feeling that if he said anything here, he would have to debate with Jo Ki-jung for 100 minutes.

"I don't know."

"Well, the LCD business unit is big, after all."

Jo Ki-jung, who was munching on the bread while listening to the conversation, asked Yoo-hyun.

"Yoo-hyun, are you going to play golf today?"

"Yes. I have to."

"Please say thank you to the cellphone store owner for me."

He must have been grateful for getting a discount on the cellphone.

Jo Ki-jung was usually stingy with compliments or thanks, so it was obvious from the way he spoke.

Yoo-hyun smiled pleasantly and said.

"Haha. Don't say that and come to the practice range sometime. It's fun."

"No. I'm not into golf."

Jo Ki-jung shook his head, and Kang Jong-ho also clearly expressed his refusal.

"I don't like hitting things with sticks either."

Many things had changed, but they were still shy around strangers.

After finishing his work, Yoo-hyun headed to the golf practice range behind the Chinese restaurant as usual.

There was someone who had arrived earlier than him.

It was Choi Jeong-bok, whom he had met at the golf course last time and had been playing with every day since then.

The cellphone store owner was relatively young and had worked at a medium-sized electronics company in Seoul, so he had a lot in common with Yoo-hyun.

He raised his hand and greeted Yoo-hyun.

“Hey, brother. Come on and have some.”

“Brother, what is all this?”

“What do you mean? You have to eat well when you eat.”

Sizzle.

Choi Jeong-bok was grilling pork belly on a large grill that reached up to his chest.

The savory smell filled the forest.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and looked around.

The shade cloth he had set up last time blocked the sunlight, and on the platform he had brought the day before yesterday, there were all kinds of dishes.

It felt like he had come to an outdoor camping site rather than a golf practice range.

His style of eating well and resting well when exercising was evident.

But is this okay for everyone?

Yoo-hyun was coming after finishing his work, but these people were all self-employed.

Even if there were no customers, it was rare for the owners to leave their seats like this.

Yoo-hyun, who was sitting on the platform drinking a soda, voiced his question.

“But brother, when do you guys work?”

Then Jeon Il-ho, who had unloaded the last load from the truck, said bluntly.

“What’s so important about work?”

“That’s right. We should all live a fun life.”

The other two nodded as if they agreed.

It was exactly what Yoo-hyun had realized recently.

He gave them a thumbs up as a sign of appreciation.

“That’s a wise saying.”

After they finished their preparations, they all stretched their bodies.

They had a tacit agreement to rest when they ate pork belly, and to swing their clubs when they finished.

As the sun set, Nam Hee-woong turned on the lights he had installed a while ago.

Pop!

The golf practice range was brightly lit.

Jeon Il-ho looked around the practice range and felt a bit regretful.

“This place is great, but it doesn't have the feel of a real field. I heard there's something like screen golf. Should we buy that?”

He always bought something the next day when he said something like that, so Yoo-hyun stopped him.

“No, no. You have to install a screen in front of it. And the sensors are not accurate either. It's much better to have a wide view like this.”

“I tried it in Mokpo downtown last time, and it was not good.”

Choi Jeong-bok added his opinion, and Nam Hee-woong, who made the golf practice range his second job, joined in.

“Well, it's more fun to hit the ball while walking. Should we just make the net bigger?”

“Hey, why don't we just turn this place into a golf course?”

Jeon Il-ho shook his head.

“That's impossible here. The slope is not right, and more importantly, there's not enough space for a course.”

And Choi Jeong-bok disagreed with him again.

“Isn't there any way?”

The question that followed was back to square one.

They all gave up their favorite drinks and fell into thought.