

Real Man 441

Chapter 441:

Yoo-hyun was certain as he watched Jo Hee Deok, who revealed his dark intentions without hesitation.

He was not someone who would back off just because he was given money.

He would obviously ask for more money if he was given ten thousand won.

If money could not solve the problem, the only way to deal with him for sure was to make him self-destruct.

It was then that Yoo-hyun saw an opportunity.

He saw people coming out of the meeting room through the window.

The best thing to do here was to prevent him from noticing Jeong Da-hye, so Yoo-hyun spat out a word that would divert Jo Hee Deok's attention.

“Let's make the investment 1 billion won for now.”

“For now?”

“Yes. It seems like a good business, so I'm willing to invest more if needed.”

“You have quite a skill. Haha.”

Yoo-hyun could catch Jo Hee Deok's interest, but he could not avoid the eyes of the bodyguards who were watching from outside.

Squeak.

A bodyguard opened the door and approached Jo Hee Deok, bowing his head slightly.

“Boss.”

“Shh.”

Jo Hee Deok put his index finger on his mouth, and the surprised bodyguard whispered in his ear.

“She just came out.”

“Grr.”

It was obvious what Jo Hee Deok was thinking from his troubled expression. He had a juicy prey in front of him, so he couldn't easily go to Jeong Da-hye. What if he just let it go for now?

He could execute the next plan with the help of Manager Jung Woo-hyuk. But unfortunately, Yoo-hyun's plan went wrong.

Jo Hee Deok got up from his seat and whispered to the bodyguards.

“You guys go and meet Jeong Da-hye separately. Just let her answer the phone.”

“Yes. We will do as you ordered.”

Yoo-hyun was sure that things got messed up from the sight of the leaving bodyguards.

Creak.

As Yoo-hyun got up, Jo Hee Deok smiled as if trying to reassure him.

“Haha. It's nothing. Sit down.”

If he let those bodyguards go from here?

It could be a big blow to her, who had a weak position, just by the rumor spreading.

He had to stop it somehow.

Yoo-hyun quickly looked around.

He saw a bodyguard trying to leave the coffee shop door, and Manager Jung Woo-hyuk crossing the street outside the window.

There were people gathered at the nearby tables, chatting, and a CCTV was hanging in the corner.

As always, his hesitation was short and his judgment was fast.

“Sir, wait a minute.”

Yoo-hyun naturally approached him and grabbed his wrist.

“What are you doing?”

Before he could even ask, Yoo-hyun pulled his wrist and hit his own head with it.

“Ugh.”

Jo Hee Deok was surprised and hurt by Yoo-hyun’s sudden action, but the situation was different.

His hand clearly touched his head, but Yoo-hyun flew into the air.

It was like a scene from an action movie, where Yoo-hyun’s body flipped over a table in mid-air.

Bang bang bang.

Clang clang clang.

The table fell over and the glass cups broke.

“Ahhhh!”

The people around screamed and the bodyguards ran over.

“Boss.”

“Oh my. Save me.”

Yoo-hyun rolled on the floor, attracting people’s attention.

Jo Hee Deok, who still didn’t understand what was going on, was bewildered.

“What the hell is this?”

Yoo-hyun got up and rushed at him again.

Dadadada.

The bodyguards instinctively blocked Jo Hee Deok’s front.

They just blocked him, but this time too, Yoo-hyun flew away.

Yoo-hyun swept through the flower bed that acted as a partition between the tables with his body this time.

Of course, he fell on a spot that wouldn’t hurt much.

Splash splash splash splash

But the effect was certain.

“Ahhhh!”

“Boss. Call the police. Call the police.”

People shouted frantically.

“You crazy bastard. Hey, deal with him quickly.”

Jo Hee Deok yelled in panic and the bodyguards rushed in.

“These gangsters. Don’t hurt people. I won’t let you get away with this.”

Even in the midst of this, Yoo-hyun incited the people who gathered around him.

When things got bigger, they would all be witnesses for him, so he needed to take care of them in advance.

The reaction was immediate.

“They’re running wild in broad daylight.”

“Look at that tattoo on his arm.”

As murmurs were heard from here and there, the bodyguards clenched their teeth and ran in.

“You rat bastard.”

Squeak.

It was then that Yoo-hyun saw Manager Jung Woo-hyuk entering the door.

Whirr.

He rolled his body and dodged the bodyguards’ moves, and ran towards Manager Jung Woo-hyuk.

“Manager, those guys.”

Boom.

At that moment, a bodyguard’s fist flew towards Yoo-hyun’s back of the head.

Yoo-hyun ducked his body and dodged it.

“Huh.”

Manager Jung Woo-hyuk, who was startled, instinctively shrank his body.

The fist that had momentum flew and hit the eye of Manager Shin Kwang Se, who was behind him.

Thud.

“Ugh.”

Manager Shin Kwang Se groaned and bowed his head.

Even in the midst of this, Yoo-hyun’s provocation continued.

“Who do you think these people are, you gangsters?”

The bodyguards with bloodshot eyes ran over, but they couldn’t catch Yoo-hyun.

Poor Manager Shin Kwang Se got hit again.

Then Jo Hee Deok flew over with his modernized hanbok.

“You bastard.”

Swoosh.

Yoo-hyun dodged him skillfully, and Jo Hee Deok tripped over.

Unfortunately, he fell on the face of Manager Shin Kwang Se, who was tangled up with the bodyguards.

Thump.

A dull sound of their heads colliding and Manager Shin Kwang Se’s scream were heard.

“Ahh.”

Drip drip drip.

“Blood, blood. These bastards.”

Manager Shin Kwang Se bled from his nose and got excited.

Bang bang bang.

Manager Jung Woo-hyuk fell into trouble as he was crushed by the bodyguards.

Buzz buzz.

The atmosphere of the coffee shop quickly turned into a mess.

Woo woo woo.

The police car arrived and the assault scene that happened in broad daylight was immediately cleared.

The people who were fighting in the coffee shop were all moved to the police station.

A little later, the interrogation room on the second floor of the Seoul Jongno Police Station was crowded.

Buzz buzz.

In the somewhat noisy atmosphere, Yoo-hyun faced the police.

It was Inspector Ju Ik Hyun, who was in charge of the investigation.

On the right, there was Jo Hee Deok's group, and on the left, there were the high-ranking officials who were assaulted.

Yoo-hyun calmly continued the explanation he had given several times before.

"As I told you, when I came to the coffee shop..."

"Is that all?"

He pretended to be in pain and grabbed the back of his neck as a bonus to the detective's question.

"Yes. For now, ugh."

As Yoo-hyun acted in pain, Inspector Ju Ik Hyun asked with a worried face.

"Do you want to go to the hospital first if you're in pain?"

"No. I'm fine."

Yoo-hyun said he was fine, but Inspector Ju Ik Hyun's expression showed concern.

When he saw the CCTV footage earlier, it looked like he had suffered a serious injury.

He wanted to lighten his burden, so Inspector Ju Ik Hyun's words sped up.

"So you were unilaterally assaulted, right? As confirmed by the CCTV?"

"Yes. That's right. It was an unexpected attack, so I couldn't stop it."

As Yoo-hyun answered with difficulty, Jo Hee Deok jumped up.

"Hey. No way. He's self-harming and blackmailing."

At the same time, Manager Shin Kwang Se got up and hit him.

"You hit me. What are you going to do with my nose? What are you going to do?"

"When did I hit you? You came and hit yourself."

"What did you say?"

The two started to finger-point at each other with Yoo-hyun in between.

They had been arguing since earlier and they were still doing it.

Manager Jung Woo-hyuk sat in the corner and chuckled quietly.

It was ridiculous to think about it again.

Jo Hee Deok's big bodyguards seemed to have been well trained, as they never opened their mouths and buried their heads on the ground.

Behind those bodyguards, Jo Hee Deok flared up.

"Where are you, you brat, talking to me?"

"Do you know who we are?"

Manager Shin Kwang Se was about to argue strongly, when Manager Jung Woo-hyuk opened his mouth.

"Manager Shin, sit down."

"I'm sorry."

With just one word, Manager Shin Kwang Se bowed his head.

Inspector Ju Ik Hyun glanced at Manager Jung Woo-hyuk and turned his head.

He felt that he was not an ordinary person from the charisma he exuded.

He activated his unique intuition and decided to postpone his interrogation and looked at Yoo-hyun again.

“Hmm. So why were you assaulted? It doesn’t make sense that you just got hit. You know that too, right?”

“Yes. I know.”

“Then you have to explain it. Otherwise, I can’t sort it out.”

Yoo-hyun had been holding back his words to assess the situation.

He was afraid that Jeong Da-hye’s name would be revealed in the process of mentioning the assault.

But he knew that there was something fishy about Jo Hee Deok, who hadn’t mentioned Jeong Da-hye even once.

He didn’t know if his father’s debt was real, but it was certain that something illegal was involved.

It seemed like a good time to start, so Yoo-hyun opened his mouth.

“I don’t know if I can say this here. It involves public officials and the police.”

There was a word in his faintly uttered words that caught everyone’s attention.

Manager Shin Kwang Se’s head turned sharply.

Manager Jung Woo-hyuk, who had been crossing his arms and keeping quiet, also raised his eyebrows.

Inspector Ju Ik Hyun looked around with a stiff expression and nodded.

“Tell me.”

“Ha. Okay. Then I’ll show you instead of telling you.”

Yoo-hyun took out his phone from his pocket as if he had no choice.

Thud.

The moment he put his phone on the table.

“Hey. You don’t mean to.”

Jo Hee Deok seemed to have realized something and tried to stop him, but Yoo-hyun’s hand was faster.

A sound came out of the phone speaker.

It was the conversation between Jo Hee Deok and Yoo-hyun, right before the assault.

-I’m going to start a business, and I just need your name on it. It’s a simple way that I’ve been doing for years.

-You need the permission of a high-ranking official, right?

-Yeah. It’s a business that you can get for free if you just help me a little. Of course, I’ll give you half of the business profits as a reward.

-What if the police find out?

-That won’t happen. I’m good at cleaning up. If not, I’ll take responsibility. And the police are too naive to know anything.

-I’m sorry, but I’ll pretend I didn’t hear that.

The short recording ended with Yoo-hyun’s refusal.

Of course, there was a part where he agreed nicely afterwards, but he obviously cut that out.

It was clear that Jo Hee Deok was wrong just by looking at this.

Yoo-hyun confirmed that part.

“I’m not a high-ranking official, and I couldn’t tolerate such illegal activities, so I refused. Then he suddenly attacked me.”

Jo Hee Deok got up angrily and spat out harsh words.

“When did I do that? Hey, you bastard. You made this up.”

“Are you going to use violence again with your gangsters? I will never back down from injustice.”

Yoo-hyun showed a serious expression, but his eyes sparkled.

The people who were watching empathized with his righteous act.

Jo Hee Deok, who was cornered, cursed with a fierce expression.

“Huh. You really are a wicked bastard. You said you’d see me, and then. I clearly told Jung Da...”

Just as he was about to mention Jeong Da-hye’s name, Yoo-hyun got up and gestured to the far side.

“Huh?”

Everyone’s eyes turned to where Yoo-hyun pointed.

At that moment, Yoo-hyun quickly reached for Jo Hee Deok’s chin and pulled his beard.

Squeak.

His beard came off and his stubbly chin was exposed.

“What?”

Inspector Ju Ik Hyun blinked his eyes with a dumbfounded expression.

Manager Shin Kwang Se, who had been careful to call him sir, got up and pushed his belly forward.

“Oh ho. He’s been playing tricks from the beginning. Isn’t he a complete scammer?”

“Yes. They are complete scammers. They must have other crimes too.”

Yoo-hyun agreed with Manager Shin Kwang Se for once.

“Huh. He’s really evil. I’ll check on that part.”

Inspector Ju Ik Hyun, who was furious, agreed with Yoo-hyun 100 percent.

Chapter 442:

There was no clear evidence, but all the circumstances pointed to Jo Hee-deok as the culprit.

Yoo-hyun's statement had more weight because of that.

It was a situation that would make anyone flustered, but Jo Hee-deok was rather calm.

He even showed some leisure by chuckling and stroking his stubbly chin.

“Wow, you guys are really something. Did you plan this from the start?”

Did he have some backup?

Judging by the fact that he had a bodyguard with him, he must have had some power.

Yoo-hyun ignored Jo Hee-deok and pulled out his next card.

“Inspector, and also...”

That's when the landline phone on the table rang.

Ring.

“Excuse me.”

Inspector Ju Ik-hyun raised his palm to stop Yoo-hyun's words and answered the phone.

“Yes. This is Inspector Ju Ik-hyun from Gwanghwamun Police Station. Yes, yes. Yes? Oh, Chief. Are you talking about Mr. Jo Hee-deok? Yes. That's right.”

As Inspector Ju Ik-hyun's head lowered in response, Yoo-hyun's brow furrowed.

As if he had expected it, Jo Hee-deok shrugged his shoulders and whispered.

“You can't beat me.”

“...”

While Yoo-hyun was silently facing Jo Hee-deok, Inspector Ju Ik-hyun made his last remark.

“Yes. I understand. I'll be careful. Yes. Chief. Please take care.”

He hung up the phone and looked very troubled.

From his words, Yoo-hyun's uneasy hunch was confirmed.

"Let's review the situation again. There are some points that need to be clarified since we don't have any solid evidence."

"What are you doing? The case is over if you watch the video and listen to the recording."

Chief Shin Kwang-se intervened, but Inspector Ju Ik-hyun ignored him and flipped through the documents.

Flip.

"See, this is what happens when you don't do your job properly. You should have done this earlier."

Jo Hee-deok smiled like a winner and straightened his clothes.

He had to act faster than he expected.

He needed a way to finish him off in one shot, not to drag out the time.

What should he do?

Yoo-hyun turned his head and looked at Director Jung Woo-hyuk.

He still looked calm, so it was clear that his backup was higher up.

He needed to tie up Jo Hee-deok more tightly, not only to use his strong shield for defense, but also for offense.

"How dare you push me without any evidence?"

Jo Hee-deok's words prompted Yoo-hyun to lure him out more.

"No evidence? The person who was beaten is right here, what more do you want? You said you could bribe the police with money, is that why?"

"Huh. You're making up nonsense again. Inspector Ju, what are you doing? Arrest these bastards."

Jo Hee-deok snapped, and Inspector Ju Ik-hyun gestured awkwardly.

"Mr. Jo Hee-deok, please sit down."

"Inspector, don't back down. Anyone can see that he's wrong."

“Mr. Han Yoo-hyun, calm down.”

In the awkward situation, Inspector Ju Ik-hyun put his hand on his forehead.

That’s when it happened.

A deep bass voice echoed in the interrogation room.

“The police are pathetic.”

Thud.

Inspector Ju Ik-hyun was startled and bowed to the door.

“Chief, hello.”

The police officers in the interrogation room all stood up and greeted him.

“Hello.”

The police chief walked in with his hand raised, responding to the wave of greetings.

He was one of the most powerful positions in the police force, the chief of Jongno Police Station.

The four mugunghwa badges on his shoulder showed his authority.

“You’re here. Tell the chief the truth.”

Jo Hee-deok took the initiative and acted calm.

Inspector Ju Ik-hyun quickly scanned the police chief and Director Jung Woo-hyuk.

It didn’t take long for him to confirm his suspicion with evidence.

The time it took for his judgment to turn into action was even shorter.

“Hey, you scammer. Sit down.”

Inspector Ju Ik-hyun suddenly shouted, and Jo Hee-deok was confused.

“What? Inspector Ju, what’s wrong?”

“Stop talking nonsense. I’ll put you in the detention center right away.”

“Why? I’m Jo Hee-deok. You clearly got a phone call...”

To shut up Jo Hee-deok, Inspector Ju Ik-hyun yelled louder.

“How dare you mock the police. What are you doing? Sit him down.”

The police officers next to him rushed over and forced Jo Hee-deok to sit down.

“Sit down.”

“Why are you doing this to an innocent person? Is this how the people’s stick should act?”

Behind the noisy Jo Hee-deok, the police chief bowed his head to Director Jung Woo-hyuk.

He looked like he had a deep connection with him, as they were of similar age.

“Director Jung, are you okay? I heard you were hurt.”

“Ah, Chief Hwang, it’s nothing.”

“No, it’s not. You must be in pain, and you shouldn’t keep the victim here for interrogation. You should send him to the hospital.”

“It’s okay. Don’t worry too much.”

Director Jung Woo-hyuk waved his hand as if it was nothing, but Yoo-hyun was not.

He had no reason to hesitate anymore.

To completely tie up Jo Hee-deok’s feet here?

As always, he quickly decided and acted.

“Ugh.”

Thud.

Yoo-hyun clutched his chest and fell, and Director Jung Woo-hyuk was shocked.

“Are you okay?”

“Ugh.”

“Are, are you okay?”

Inspector Ju Ik-hyun, who was interrogating him, turned pale and supported Yoo-hyun.

“My chest, ugh.”

“Inspector Ju. How can you keep the victim here for so long?”

The police chief shouted, and Inspector Ju Ik-hyun’s face turned pale.

“That, that’s, the evidence...”

“You said the testimonies matched and the video was clear. Put those bastards in the detention center and send the victims to the hospital. Hurry.”

The police chief pushed harder in front of Director Jung Woo-hyuk.

The whole interrogation room was stirred by the harsh order, and the police officers spat out their voices with vigor.

“Yes, yes. I understand.”

They all tensed up.

The situation was settled in an instant when the police chief stepped in.

Jo Hee-deok and his gang were sent to the detention center, and Yoo-hyun went to the hospital.

Along with him was Kwon Sung-eun, the youngest sergeant of the interrogation team.

He was a rather passionate policeman who took care of Yoo-hyun from the admission process to the examination.

“You don’t have to worry so much about me. Thank you.”

“Worry? This is what the chief himself asked me to do. I’ll do my best to help you. Just let me know.”

He was a bit over the top, but it was helpful.

He needed his help to check on Jo Hee-deok’s situation at the police station.

In that sense, Yoo-hyun offered him a more solid carrot.

“Thank you. I’ll make sure to tell the chief through Director Jung.”

“Really?”

“Of course. I can do that much.”

“Thank you. Thank you. I’ll do my best to help you.”

Kwon Sung-eun grabbed Yoo-hyun’s hands with a sparkle in his eyes, even for such a trivial word.

“Ha ha. Don’t mention it.”

Yoo-hyun tried to pull his hand away, but he didn’t let go easily.

For some reason, his expression looked very desperate.

The carrot that Yoo-hyun offered had an immediate effect.

Soon after, Yoo-hyun was in the doctor’s office.

Kwon Sung-eun, who was sitting next to him, spoke for Yoo-hyun as if it was his own business.

“Doctor, you must have seen the CCTV. He rolled with his whole body in the coffee shop. It was like a car accident. Especially this side of his back and neck...”

The doctor’s expression became serious because of his verbose explanation.

“It seems more serious than it looks.”

“Yes, doctor. He’s the one who stopped the scammer by throwing himself. The chief told me to take good care of him.”

“Huh. The chief?”

“I received his direct order. I appreciate your help.”

Kwon Sung-eun bowed his head, and the doctor replied with a sense of justice.

“I understand. He’s the one who risked his body to stop the scammer. I should take care of him, of course.”

“Is admission possible right away?”

“Of course. I’ll make sure you can be admitted right away.”

Some irrelevant words popped up in the process.

Admission?

Yoo-hyun was dumbfounded, but he thanked him first.

“I didn’t do anything big, but thank you for your concern.”

“You’re very humble, patient.”

“No, I’m not. But what about the diagnosis?”

And he pinpointed the necessary part.

He needed a medical certificate to prove the assault charge against Jo Hee-deok.

The doctor looked at the items listed on the monitor screen again and answered.

“Overall, it looks like it will take three weeks to heal.”

“I see.”

He didn’t show it, but it wasn’t a bad result.

There was only a slight bruise on the outside.

It was thanks to Kwon Sung-eun’s strong words that it worked.

Having gained an advantage, Yoo-hyun cautiously put his heart on the table.

“What if I don’t get admitted?”

“You may not feel any pain right now, but it will be severe when you wake up. You need to be admitted to rest.”

He would have refused the doctor’s recommendation if it was just that.

This level of pain was nothing compared to when he blocked Lee Jang-woo’s fist with his meat.

But Kwon Sung-eun’s words kept Yoo-hyun from leaving.

“Mr. Han, it will be a headache if the other side hires a lawyer. The insurance company will also check your admission status.”

“So if they think my condition is minor, they might let the scammers go?”

Kwon Sung-eun nodded at Yoo-hyun’s question.

“Yes. That’s right.”

He didn’t need to think any further when he heard the answer.

There was only one thing Yoo-hyun could do.

“My neck hurts a lot. I’ll be admitted.”

Yoo-hyun nodded his head and grabbed his neck.

“Yes. I’ll take you there.”

Kwon Sung-eun got up and supported Yoo-hyun.

Sometimes, you get caught up in something unintentional and don’t even know where you’re going.

That was exactly the case for Yoo-hyun, who was lying in a single room ward.

He was wearing a neck brace and getting an IV.

Of course, he kept this a secret.

He didn’t want to worry his surroundings for nothing.

He also wanted to sort out his thoughts quietly.

That didn’t mean he didn’t care about the situation inside the police station.

Beep.

-Jo Hee-deok is waiting for his lawyer in the detention center. I checked and it seems that Jeong Da-hye’s name came up twice during his statement. Nothing special though.

He got the message from Kwon Sung-eun that he had been waiting for.

He quickly scanned the content and replied.

-Thank you for your attention. I’ll ask you again if there’s any problem.

Thanks to the enthusiastic Kwon Sung-eun, Yoo-hyun was able to keep an eye on Jo Hee-deok’s situation from afar.

Jo Hee-deok's detention was prolonged because Yoo-hyun sued him for assault. He also added fraud charges, and eventually hired a lawyer.

He thought he wouldn't be able to touch Jeong Da-hye for a while.

It bothered him that Jeong Da-hye's name came up during his statement, but he couldn't completely block that.

He was thinking about this and that when it happened.

Creak.

The door of the ward opened and Shin Nyeong-wook, the executive director, appeared.

"Director."

Yoo-hyun tried to get up, but he stopped him.

"Lie down. You don't have to get up."

"I'm fine."

"Fine? I heard from Director Jung Woo-hyuk that you were pretty hurt."

"If I was, I wouldn't have just taken it. What's that?"

Yoo-hyun got up and pointed to the big box that Shin Nyeong-wook brought.

Thump.

He put the box on the floor and shrugged his shoulders.

"I brought it because you said you were staying alone. No one will take care of you, right?"

The box was full of snacks, drinks, and necessities.

The most welcome thing was the new martial arts novel.

Chapter 443:

"Thank you. I won't be bored thanks to you."

"Then you should let the company know."

“It’s just a short stay. It would be a bother. I’m not even sick.”

Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, shook his head as he saw Yoo-hyun take off his neck brace.

“You’re really something else.”

“I had a very important reason this time.”

Shin Kyung-wook smiled as he handed him a can of soda that he had opened.

“Yeah. Love is more important than anything.”

“I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

“I can’t fool my eyes. You’re not the type to get involved in such things.”

He had felt it before during the exhibition, but Shin Kyung-wook had a good sense of relationships between men and women.

Even if Yoo-hyun looked at Jeong Da-hye with affection, it was not easy to catch that at a glance.

Yoo-hyun stepped back at Shin Kyung-wook’s confident gaze.

“Please pretend you don’t know.”

“Ha ha. Okay. That’s not a hard thing to do.”

Shin Kyung-wook grinned and offered him a can of soda.

Ting.

The two cans collided and they exchanged a friendly smile.

It was very quiet in the single room.

It was a perfect atmosphere for chatting, and Yoo-hyun told him the stories that had accumulated.

“When I was at the exhibition, the prime minister...”

“I heard that the vice chairman praised you too. You did well.”

“How have you been, director?”

“I was a bit busy with some useless things. First of all...”

Shin Kyung-wook also mentioned the things that had happened behind Yoo-hyun.

The power struggle with the group strategy room was not Yoo-hyun's interest.

What caught his attention was the decision that Shin Kyung-wook had made recently.

“Delaying the launch of the smartphone must have been a tough choice, right?”

“Why do you think so?”

“Wouldn't the sales impact be quite big? And the people around you wouldn't be happy either.”

The mobile phone division had stopped developing feature phones following the opinion of the innovation strategy room.

On top of that, they had postponed the launch date of the newly developed smartphone.

As a result, the sales were expected to drop by more than half compared to last year.

It must have been a blow, but Shin Kyung-wook was calm.

“It's better not to release a product that doesn't earn the trust of customers. If you button up the first button wrong, you'll get a much bigger impact on your future business. That's my judgment.”

“Yes. You made a bold decision. I have a suggestion to add to that.”

“What is it?”

“A joint venture with Google, the smartphone OS provider, to...”

Yoo-hyun praised Shin Kyung-wook's judgment and mentioned the improvement plan in detail.

It was a way to grow Hansung, which had no smartphone DNA in development, production, and quality, in one go.

“A Google reference phone. You want to get blood transfusions from outside for what you lack?”

“Yes. It will definitely help. The sooner, the better.”

“I see. I’ll review it right away.”

Shin Kyung-wook, who had an open ear, accepted it immediately.

It was the moment when the direction of the company’s business was decided in the hospital room.

The two also shared the information they knew.

The biggest interest was the upcoming Apple announcement.

Naturally, Shin Kyung-wook brought up Apple’s recent situation.

“The iPhone 4 was leaked. The whole newspaper is in a frenzy.”

“Yes. I saw the leaked video. It seemed like an employee’s mistake.”

“People say it’s not like Apple. That’s why I hear a lot of anxious stories lately.”

“Are you talking about the news that Steve Jobs won’t be at the Apple announcement?”

Shin Kyung-wook’s eyebrows twitched as Yoo-hyun guessed.

“That shouldn’t be public yet.”

“Just like you have a network of information, I have ears to listen.”

“Whoever it is, they’re brave.”

“Yes. He’s a pretty useful friend.”

Yoo-hyun, who answered, recalled the call with Danaka, the information dealer, yesterday.

-Danaka, it won’t go as you know. Steve Jobs will definitely be at the Apple announcement.

-If that’s true, my customers’ choices might change.

-Give Sony and Skyworks some room. You’ll get a result that will help you.

-I’ll do that. You’ve never been wrong so far.

Danaka was not just a person who delivered information.

He was in collusion with Yoon Joo-tak, the executive director of the group strategy room, and he had enough power to influence the decisions of each connected company.

It was hard to move him even with a lot of power, but Yoo-hyun could.

He knew his pattern and predicted what would happen next.

In the end, Yoo-hyun was above Danaka in the information war.

Shin Kyung-wook looked at him with curiosity.

“How can you be so calm when you already know? Is that information wrong?”

“Yes. Steve Jobs will show up. Even if he doesn’t, I’ll make him.”

“Can I ask how?”

“I can’t tell you easily. It’s pretty high-level information.”

As Yoo-hyun tried to dodge, Shin Kyung-wook nodded as if he understood.

“Come to think of it, you’re right. I can’t get that for free.”

He pretended to be calm, but he was curious.

Yoo-hyun, who chuckled, told him something he hadn’t told anyone else.

He needed his power to connect the success of this event to the next one.

“If you want to know how, then...”

“Is that really true?”

“Yes. You’ll see the result soon.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and drank his soda.

Shin Kyung-wook, who was burning his tongue, spat out a playful word.

“Wow. You’re amazing. How can you be so great and still struggle with love?”

“Pfft. Why are you bringing that up all of a sudden?”

As Yoo-hyun spat out the soda he was drinking, Shin Kyung-wook shrugged his shoulders.

“Ha ha. I can see how flustered you are.”

Beep.

Then Yoo-hyun’s phone rang.

-Can I come to your room for a moment? I have something to talk to you.

Shin Kyung-wook noticed Yoo-hyun’s awkward expression and guessed again.

“It seems like you have a precious guest coming soon?”

“You’re too much, director.”

“You must be happy.”

“Don’t mention it.”

Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, stood up from his seat and looked down at Yoo-hyun.

His face was full of a pleasant smile.

“You shouldn’t neglect your lady. Express yourself clearly when you have the chance.”

“That’s the most valuable advice you’ve given me so far.”

“I think I’m one step ahead of you when it comes to love.”

“Ha ha. You’re amazing.”

Yoo-hyun gave him a thumbs up with admiration.

Shin Kyung-wook chuckled and patted Yoo-hyun’s shoulder.

“Good luck. I want to see you happier.”

“Yes. I’ll make sure that happens.”

As Yoo-hyun showed his determination, Shin Kyung-wook smiled contentedly and left.

Jeong Da-hye's arrival here meant that she had already grasped the situation to some extent.

She might have heard it from Shin Kwang-se, the manager, or at the coffee shop.

How much did she know?

What was she thinking right now?

Squeak.

Yoo-hyun's worries faded away as soon as he saw her enter the room.

He wanted to make her smile, so he took the initiative.

"Oh my, did you buy this for me? How did you know I like vitamin drinks?"

"I'm glad you do."

She answered softly and put the box of vitamin drinks on the table next to her.

Yoo-hyun smiled and gestured her to sit down.

"You must have been tired from coming all this way. Please sit down."

"No, I'm fine."

She lowered her head and looked at Yoo-hyun.

Her eyes were blurry with a lot of worries.

He had to hear her out first, so Yoo-hyun started the conversation.

"You seem to have something to ask me. You can say anything."

"Did you go to the police station?"

"I got tangled up with some weird people for a while."

"Why?"

"I was at the coffee shop, and they suddenly started making trouble."

Yoo-hyun tried to gloss over it, but Jeong Da-hye seemed to be sure of something.

"Why did you go to the coffee shop with him?"

“That’s...”

“Tell me quickly.”

There was no way out of this situation.

He felt helpless and grabbed his neck.

“Ugh.”

“Are you okay?”

She was startled and came closer to support him.

Thanks to that, their distance became closer in an instant.

“I’m fine. I’ll just lie down for a bit.”

“Okay. You do that.”

She put her left arm behind his head and gently laid him down.

A faint and deep lavender scent came from her embrace.

At the same time, old memories of being with her came to his mind.

-I’ve always dreamed of a life that is always perfect like the meaning of lavender.
Even though it didn’t work out that way.

That’s when you started liking lavender scent.

He was glad to see her again, and leaned his back on the bed that was slightly tilted up.

There were many things he wanted to hear and say, but not now.

Yoo-hyun already knew the answer and suggested to her.

“How about we answer your question after we secure the G20?”

“...”

“I think I’ll be in better shape by then, and you’ll be more relaxed too.”

She wouldn’t have any better options even if she heard the answer now.

It was a reasonable proposal to talk with less burden on their minds.

“Okay. I’ll come back later.”

“Next time, bring something sweet. Like your favorite cake.”

“I will.”

She left her last words and went out to the hallway.

Clang.

The door closed and Jeong Da-hye’s footsteps stopped.

Thud.

She leaned her head against the wall and looked at the ceiling.

The fluorescent light flickered mercilessly like her heart right now.

She clenched her chest in pain and muttered.

“Thank you.”

She looked very troubled.

Yoo-hyun, who was leaning on the bed in the room, also looked at the ceiling.

“Don’t worry. Everything will be fine.”

He said with his feelings for Jeong Da-hye in his words.

They scattered in the air.

There was one more guest who came.

It was Kwon Sung-eun, the sergeant who came with him to the hospital.

“How are you feeling, Mr. Han Yoo-hyun?”

“Not so good.”

“Backstabbing, right?”

“What?”

He was surprised and opened his eyes wide. Kwon Sung-eun smirked meaningfully.

“I have something that suits your skills.”

“...”

“There must be a story behind it.”

“Ugh.”

He felt uncomfortable and grabbed his chest.

Seeing him like that, Kwon Sung-eun laughed softly.

“I’ll leave you alone since you’re in pain.”

He said that as his last words and left the room.

He sat up again and took a deep breath before Kwon Sung-eun came back in.

“Sorry, I came back to say that he’s a bad scammer. Ha ha.”

“...”

He was silent and Kwon Sung-eun quickly left again.

He finally calmed down and stayed quietly in the hospital for a while.

He had a lot to prepare for the upcoming Apple announcement.

He had to synthesize the information he already knew and present a completely new direction.

He had to be careful because his opponent was Steve Jobs.

He also checked on Jo Hee-deok’s situation from time to time.

One afternoon, a few days later.

As always, he got a call from Kwon Sung-eun at the scheduled time.

-Jo Hee-deok had previous fraud convictions, and there were quite a few recent victims. We also secured testimonies.

“I see.”

-As you said, he was vicious. And we have solid evidence of the assault, so he won’t be able to get out for a while.

“Thank you. I feel relieved.”

It wasn’t just a word, he really felt relieved.

If Jo Hee-deok was arrested, he wouldn't have anything to do with Jeong Da-hye anymore.

Chapter 444:

Yoo-hyun chuckled as he thought of Jo Hee-deok after hanging up the phone.

"It's the first time I'm glad he's a bad guy."

He quickly shook off his thoughts of Jo Hee-deok and checked on Jeong Da-hye's situation.

He was able to hear it easily through Shin Kwang-se, the manager.

-I'm so busy with work that I have to go to the office with a band-aid on my face, while you're resting comfortably in the hospital...

"I understand. Team Leader Jeong is doing well."

Of course, he ignored the nonsense and only confirmed the necessary news about Jeong Da-hye.

She was preparing the materials to announce when the G20 bid was successful.

That was enough to reassure him, but Yoo-hyun didn't let his guard down until the end.

That was why he stayed in the hospital room for a while.

He got a clear grasp of the company's situation through Jang Jun-sik, who contacted him every day.

-Following Japan's Sony, China's Skyworks also raised their flags for the Retina Premium marketing. The IT and mobile sectors are progressing smoothly.

"Good. You're working hard."

-No, sir. You're working harder. Should I come and help you?

"Don't ever come. Never."

Did Jang Jun-sik know that Yoo-hyun was in the hospital?

Yoo-hyun grimaced at the scenario he didn't even want to imagine and hung up the phone.

A few more days passed, and the planned schedule came close.

In the meantime, Jo Hee-deok was arrested and investigated for various crimes.

Thanks to that, Yoo-hyun had the freedom to choose.

He told Kim Young-gil, the manager who was going on a business trip with him, his decision.

“Manager, as I told you before, I'll go ahead.”

-Are you sure you'll be okay by yourself?

Yoo-hyun shrugged at Kim Young-gil's concern.

“Yes. This is something I have to do alone.”

-I'll be there right after the exhibition preparation. You're really working hard.

“You said you stayed up all night preparing the materials to hand over to the press at Apple's announcement. You're working harder, Manager.”

-That's my job, what can I say.

Kim Young-gil's dedication to his work was unchanged even after he became a part leader.

Yoo-hyun smiled and asked him one more thing.

“Okay. And don't be swayed by any bad news, no matter what.”

-I got it. I'll assume that Steve Jobs will definitely make the announcement.

“That's good enough. See you in the US then.”

-Okay. Take care.

They didn't need a long conversation as they had built a deep trust through working together.

Yoo-hyun hung up the phone and looked at the calendar on the wall of the hospital room.

The G20 bid results didn't come out today, so it was likely that they would come out tomorrow, the last scheduled day.

It meant that he had to leave without seeing Jeong Da-hye's smile.

"But it turned out the way you wanted, right?"

Yoo-hyun comforted his regretful feelings with a single word he spat out.

Then he closed his eyes and imagined the events that would unfold.

It was time for the Group Strategy Office and Han Kyung-hoe to come forward in the situation.

It meant that the real fight had begun.

From Shin Kyung-wook's executive position, he had to make some results somehow.

If he couldn't?

In the worst case scenario, he could be pushed out with Shin Myung-ho, the vice chairman.

The decisive point was this Apple announcement.

Squeeze.

Yoo-hyun clenched his fist and gathered his will.

At that moment, in the Han Sung Tower 18th floor home appliance business director's office.

Shin Cheon-sik, the vice president, sitting in the seat of honor, asked Yoon Ju-tak, the executive director.

"Did you block all the stock purchases by Shin Kyung-wook?"

"Yes. I cleaned it up neatly. So now I'm going to make a move."

"Make a move?"

"I'm going to replace the president of Han Sung Electronics."

At Yoon Ju-tak's decision, Woo Chang-beom, the executive director of the management support division, sparkled his eyes.

“That’s a good idea. It’s a good time for various reasons, since the quarterly sales of the mobile phone division are the worst.”

“I’ve already notified the presidents of each subsidiary. If you make up your mind, I’ll start right away.”

As Yoon Ju-tak conveyed his will, Shin Cheon-sik’s mouth curled up.

“What about LCD?”

“As I told you, I’ve worked on the Japanese and Chinese companies. The TV sector, which has a lot of sales, will be hit hard.”

Shin Cheon-sik nodded his head and pointed out one more problem he anticipated.

“What about Apple? If they push it, the situation might change, you know.”

“Don’t worry. Steve Jobs won’t make the announcement.”

“Are you sure?”

“Yes. Even if he does, there’s a problem with the Apple Phone 4 right now.”

Woo Chang-beom, who was listening, clicked his tongue.

“Huh. It must be a double whammy for Apple.”

“Yes. This Apple announcement with no steam will be the beginning of the downfall of Vice Chairman Shin Myung-ho and Executive Director Shin Kyung-wook.”

Yoon Ju-tak smiled viciously, and Shin Cheon-sik nodded his head in satisfaction.

The next morning.

The news that Yoo-hyun had been waiting for, and the news that Jeong Da-hye’s wish was in, was announced to the world.

Yoo-hyun, who was sitting in the business class seat of the flight to San Francisco, looked at the front page of the two newspapers alternately on the tray.

Both newspapers ran the articles on the front page as if they were competing.

That's how great the news was, and Jeong Da-hye was at the center of it.

She had reached the end of her hard work for more than half a year through this achievement.

Breaking the prejudice of being young and female was a bonus.

Thanks to that, her wings were attached to her steps.

How far could she fly?

Yoo-hyun smiled fondly as he thought of her heading to the peak.

He was absorbed in his thoughts for a long time and turned the newspaper over again.

Crackle.

When he reached the IT page, there was a common news on both newspapers as if they had made a promise.

It was unusual for Steve Jobs not to show up at the preparation site for the announcement.

One newspaper mentioned health problems as the reason, and the other newspaper brought up the Apple Phone 4 issue.

Both were rumors, but they made it to the top of the domestic IT news by riding on foreign media.

This was a glimpse of Steve Jobs' influence.

“What a remarkable person.”

Yoo-hyun snickered as he recalled the moment he faced Steve Jobs at the evaluation meeting.

He could feel the pressure of that time just by that.

And he was going to face him again this time.

Of course, the difficulty was twice as high.

Could he do well?

Thump thump.

He was more excited than afraid.

A flight attendant came up to him and asked.

“Would you like a cup of coffee?”

“Yes. That would be nice.”

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly.

The Apple news that broke out as a flash made the company turn upside down.

Especially, Lim Jun-pyo, the vice president who had staked his neck on the Apple announcement, was furious.

Squeak.

He opened the door of the LCD business director's office and shouted at Kim Hyun-min, the manager who came in.

“Manager Kim, what the hell is going on? This is a complete disaster story.”

“No, sir.”

“What? Do you have an alternative?”

As Lim Jun-pyo glared at him with fiery eyes, Kim Hyun-min hesitated for a moment.

He remembered what he had talked to Yoo-hyun on the phone a while ago.

-Manager, have I ever told you to close your eyes and trust me once?

-Why? Are you trying to do something weird? What is it?

-Please trust me this one time. The Apple announcement will be a success.

He was always like this, whether he believed it or not.

He felt guilty, but he trusted him more.

Kim Hyun-min took a breath and looked straight at Lim Jun-pyo.

“We sent a vanguard to prepare for the problem.”

“What are they going to do? Negotiate with Steve Jobs?”

Lim Jun-pyo scoffed, but Kim Hyun-min didn't avoid his gaze.

“Yes. We will make it a success, no matter what.”

“Or else?”

“I will take responsibility. Please trust me once.”

Kim Hyun-min bowed his head with determination.

“Sigh. You better keep your word.”

Lim Jun-pyo sighed.

The news that the G20 was successfully hosted in Korea made the Foreign Ministry building buzz.

There were cheers everywhere, but Jeong Da-hye had no time to be happy.

She was busy moving around all day, distributing press materials and announcing internal plans.

The continuous work ended around sunset.

When everyone went to toast, Jeong Da-hye ran to the hospital.

The hospital where Yoo-hyun was staying.

“Huff, huff.”

She caught her breath as she entered the hospital.

She had a banana cheesecake that Yoo-hyun liked in her hand.

It was also her favorite cake.

What should she say first?

She pushed back her curiosity and excitement and opened the door to the hospital room.

There was a name tag on the entrance, but there was no one in the room.

“...”

Shuffle.

On the neatly arranged bed, there was an envelope.

-Dear Alice.

Jeong Da-hye opened the envelope with her English name on it as if she was bewitched.

-Da-hye, congratulations. I sincerely support you as you fly higher and higher towards your goal.

ps. Don't eat the cake by yourself, and keep it in the freezer.

I'll eat it when I come back from the San Francisco trip.

From. Steve.

She laughed at the short words.

“You never change, do you?”

He was as selfish as ever.

But Jeong Da-hye wasn't annoyed.

Rather, her lips curled up.

“You're not supposed to freeze the cake, Steve.”

On a happy day, Yoo-hyun wasn't there, but he left a letter and a cake.

Her footsteps looked much lighter than before as she turned around.

In the early morning of San Francisco time, Yoo-hyun was in the Airbnb office.

He sat on the sofa in the meeting room and checked the message from Jeong Da-hye that had just arrived.

-I'm going to visit you tomorrow, when are you free?

He had already heard from the nurse that she had come and gone, but he pretended not to know.

It was four hours after she had left.

She waited until midnight on purpose, considering the time difference.

She was very Jeong Da-hye-like in many ways.

Yoo-hyun smiled.

Thud.

Brian Chesky brought a fancy breakfast to the table.

“Did you get some good news?”

“Yeah. It’s good news.”

“Better than seeing my bacon cheese omelet?”

Brian Chesky pointed to the plate and raised his eyebrows.

He had a unique cheerful expression.

Yoo-hyun smiled.

“Respect my personal taste. I’ll eat well anyway.”

“Go ahead and eat. I’ll make you some coffee.”

Brian Chesky moved before Yoo-hyun could answer.

He walked briskly, looking unusually bright.

It was understandable, since the Airbnb business was sailing smoothly.

The cumulative number of reservations exceeded one million, and the sales grew by 200% compared to the last quarter.

The number of hosts also increased rapidly, so that there was an Airbnb anywhere you clicked on the map in San Francisco.

Even around Steve Jobs’ house, there was an Airbnb host.

Brian Chesky came back with coffee and said to Yoo-hyun, who was eating.

“Steve Jobs went to work today. I heard it directly from Kevin, who lives across the block.”

“He didn’t look good in the pictures?”

“Ignore the pictures taken by the paparazzi. He even goes for walks healthily.”

“Thanks. You made me more confident.”

In the past, Steve Jobs had successfully announced the Apple Phone 4 despite his illness.

Yoo-hyun didn't know the details of the situation at the time, but he guessed it would be the same this time.

Of course, he didn't rule out the possibility that there might be some changes.

He checked Steve Jobs' status one more time through Brian Chesky.

Chapter 445:

Brian Chesky, who was deep in thought, asked.

“Are you sure you know what Steve Jobs is going to do?”

“He's probably having a headache because of the iPhone 4 issue.”

“What issue?”

“Well...”

Yoo-hyun was about to answer.

Clang.

The office door opened and Joe Gebbia came in.

“Steve.”

“Long time no see.”

Yoo-hyun hugged him while Nathan Blecharczyk also showed up.

They had a long and pleasant reunion since they hadn't seen each other for a while.

The table was neatly cleared.

Without even needing to make more coffee, the four founders chatted.

They mixed serious business talk with light jokes.

Joe Gebbia, who was laughing about a crazy host story, mentioned the new investment.

“Oh, Steve, there’s a venture capital that wants to invest in us. The condition is...”

“We don’t need the money right now, do we?”

“Not really.”

“Then let’s wait a bit. The terms will be much better soon.”

Yoo-hyun’s answer made Joe Gebbia nod immediately.

“Okay. I wanted to hear your opinion anyway.”

“If Steve says so, we should consider it positively.”

Brian Chesky also agreed without hesitation.

They all accepted Yoo-hyun’s words without any awkwardness.

They felt more like partners than outsiders.

Nathan Blecharczyk gave Yoo-hyun a boost.

“Steve, you were right. Focusing on the mobile internet page was the key to success.”

“You did a great job with the site design.”

“No. If you hadn’t told me, I would have focused on the PC web. I didn’t expect so many people to access it from mobile.”

As Nathan Blecharczyk said, many web developers were still stuck in the PC environment.

But the world had changed, and people who needed accommodation on the spot accessed the internet from the streets.

Thanks to that, the Airbnb site, which was optimized for mobile, got more attention.

Yoo-hyun didn’t stop there.

“Then you must have done what I asked you to do.”

“You mean the app development?”

“Yeah. Based on the iPhone 4 environment, and with the features I requested.”

Yoo-hyun’s words made Nathan Blecharczyk nod.

“I’m working on it right now. I think I can meet the deadline.”

Joe Gebbia asked.

“But Steve, do you have to finish it before the iPhone 4 launch?”

“Yes. The phone won’t be released right after the launch, you know.”

Brian Chesky also expressed his doubt.

Yoo-hyun looked around at his three curious friends and told them the truth.

He had delayed mentioning it because of the pressure, but it was something he couldn’t postpone any longer.

“There’s a reason why we have to finish it before the launch. Steve Jobs is going to present our app.”

“What?”

“St, Steve Jobs?”

“What are you talking about?”

The three people were shocked by Yoo-hyun’s words.

“Maybe there will be some more revisions. We might have to respond to Steve Jobs’ requests.”

“Wow.”

Nathan Blecharczyk couldn’t close his mouth in surprise.

Brian Chesky, who was next to him, said with a dumbfounded expression.

“Steve, you don’t seem to know, but Steve Jobs is not the kind of person who mentions other people’s stuff. Besides, we don’t have any connection with him.”

“Just ask him when you meet him.”

“What? You’re going to meet Steve Jobs? Is that possible?”

Joe Gebbia blinked his eyes and asked.

“Maybe?”

Yoo-hyun shrugged his shoulders and looked at the phone on the table.

It was about time for the answer to come.

At that moment, the atmosphere in the secret room on the third floor of Apple's headquarters was tense.

A man was bowing his head next to the whiteboard that was filled with notes.

Steve Jobs, who was sitting on a one-person sofa, poured out his sarcasm.

“You son of a bitch. You ruined the iPhone 4. Everything went to hell because of you.”

“I'm s, sorry.”

Sam Paster, the hardware manager, bent his waist as if to bury his face in the ground.

Tim Cook, the operations manager, cautiously suggested.

“Steve, how about delaying the product schedule?”

“Are you kidding me? There's no delay even if I get dirt in my eyes.”

“If we make a mistake, the customers' complaints could be significant. Especially the antenna, which is related to the call quality...”

“Tim, shut up. You're making me angry.”

Steve Jobs' words made the meeting room quiet.

Everyone knew that if they touched him, he would explode.

Clank.

Then the door opened and Phil Schiller came in.

In the silent atmosphere, Phil Schiller carefully spoke.

“Steve, I have something to tell you.”

“Tell me.”

Steve Jobs answered without even turning his head, and Phil Schiller opened his mouth.

His expression was full of embarrassment.

“There’s someone who says he can solve our problem.”

“What?”

Steve Jobs looked incredulous, and the people who heard him blinked their eyes.

The three people who were sitting on the sofa in the Airbnb office were flustered.

It was because of the aftermath of Yoo-hyun’s words.

Especially Brian Chesky, who couldn’t believe it.

“I know you’re amazing, but even Steve Jobs...”

Zing.

Then Yoo-hyun’s phone rang.

Brian Chesky blinked his eyes at the name of the caller on the screen.

“Wow. Phil Schiller? Do you really have a connection with Apple?”

Yoo-hyun checked the message and nodded.

“He says let’s meet tomorrow.”

“Really? You’re meeting Steve Jobs? For real?”

Brian Chesky looked nervous.

Nathan Blecharczyk and Joe Gebbia expressed their concern.

“Steve, you don’t have to push it. He might get angry if you ask him to use our service.”

“Yeah, Steve Jobs is not someone you can compromise with.”

They had a valid point.

Of course, Yoo-hyun couldn't just go there.

He took something out of his pocket and put it on the table.

Thud.

“What is that?”

The three of them asked with bewildered expressions.

“It's the magic device that will make me the major shareholder of Airbnb.”

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly.

The iPhone 4 had made a historic sales record when it was released.

But the process was not smooth.

The initial iPhone 4 products had an issue where the phone would not work if a finger touched the antenna line on the lower right side.

This problem, known as the 'antenna gate', caused Apple to receive a lot of criticism from the media.

As customers complained, Apple eventually apologized and offered free bumper cases.

They even made a humiliating promise to give a 100% refund if they wanted.

At the time of the controversy, Steve Jobs had said something.

-There is no defect in the product. The problem is the users who hold it wrong.

That sentence was still strongly engraved in Yoo-hyun's mind.

Was there a better way to describe Steve Jobs than that?

The next morning.

Yoo-hyun was in the secret room on the third floor of Apple's headquarters.

He recalled Steve Jobs' words and chuckled to himself.

It was absurd, even after thinking about it.

But he maintained a calm expression on the outside and faced the arrogant perfectionist.

Steve Jobs, wearing his trademark black turtleneck and jeans, flashed his eyes.

“What kind of problem did you come to tell me?”

That one sentence pierced through the proposal that Yoo-hyun had sent through Philip Schiller.

Yoo-hyun said he knew the solution to the problem and wanted to meet Steve Jobs in person.

It would have been impossible to challenge him if they didn't know each other.

Yoo-hyun answered bluntly.

“It's the antenna problem of the iPhone 4.”

“What?”

“More precisely, the iPhone 4 has a problem where the antenna reception drops when a finger touches the antenna line on the lower right side.”

As soon as Yoo-hyun finished speaking, Steve Jobs turned his head sharply.

At the same time, the heads of the Apple executives who were standing next to him bowed.

Only the hardware department employees who had been confined for a week and couldn't go home, and the core members of Apple who were here knew this fact.

Steve Jobs snorted and scanned the Apple executives.

“Huh. There was a rat. I can't believe this secret leaked.”

“...”

No one here could answer.

In the silent atmosphere, Steve Jobs turned his head to Yoo-hyun.

“Or are you in cahoots with those dirty information brokers?”

Steve Jobs' deep and fierce eyes stared at Yoo-hyun's eyes.

Yoo-hyun felt a suffocating pressure, but he lifted the corners of his mouth.

His insolent appearance twisted Steve Jobs' lips.

As his anger was about to explode, Yoo-hyun opened his mouth first.

“Does it matter how I found out? Or is it more important to solve it properly?”

“Are you playing word games with me?”

“Word games? That's harsh. I'm just trying to help you.”

“What?”

“If you don't want to hear it, I'll leave.”

Yoo-hyun shouted, and the Apple executives turned pale.

The most absurd thing was Steve Jobs himself.

Even Bill Gates, who used to be his rival, didn't dare to provoke him like that.

But what made this kid so confident?

Steve Jobs remembered Yoo-hyun's previous retina display announcement and gave a sarcastic laugh.

“Are you sure?”

“I wouldn't have come here if I wasn't.”

“Tell me. If I don't like it, there will be no retina premium announcement.”

“Let's do that.”

Yoo-hyun answered casually, but he was not calm inside.

He had to walk on a tightrope with limited information from now on.

He could fall into the abyss with one mistake, so he had to be careful.

Yoo-hyun reminded himself of that and asked Steve Jobs.

“Can we clarify the cause of the problem first?”

“Whatever you want.”

Steve Jobs nodded his head with his arms crossed.

Yoo-hyun turned his body to the Apple executives and walked out.

Squeak.

As soon as he moved one step, everyone's eyes were on Yoo-hyun.

He approached Sam Paster, the hardware manager who was standing on the far right.

He had short blond hair and thick double eyelids that were impressive, but dark circles under his eyes showed his troubles.

“The reason for the Apple antenna issue is that they used a stainless steel antenna instead of a plastic antenna.”

“How did you...”

Yoo-hyun sped up, not giving him a chance to answer.

Instead of answering, he moved his gaze to Jonathan Ive, the design manager.

He seemed to be so busy that he had a beard on his clean face.

“This was because the design team pushed for an innovative design. They probably had some ideas to improve it, but it was too late.”

“...”

Jonathan Ive's expression confirmed Yoo-hyun's hypothesis.

He passed him and looked at Tim Cook, the management manager.

He had white hair and horn-rimmed glasses, and his forehead narrowed.

“The problem was also that they went out without enough verification to meet the schedule. The Chinese line was already set up and couldn't be stopped.”

“Did the information leak from China?”

Tim Cook asked, pointing out the wrong thing, and Yoo-hyun shrugged his shoulders.

“Of course not. Just consider it as a very strong interest.”

With Tim Cook's words, Yoo-hyun completely understood Apple's situation.

There was a solution to the iPhone 4 antenna problem, but it was impossible to meet the schedule.

And Steve Jobs would never postpone the schedule because of his personality.

It was a dilemma.

They must have prepared an alternative in this situation.

Chapter 446:

Yoo-hyun approached Philip Siller, the marketing manager, and reached out his hand.

“Philip, give me the iPhone 4.”

“...”

He had become quite close with Yoo-hyun after the retina panel negotiation, but he couldn't help but hesitate now.

It was because Steve Jobs hated the idea of the iPhone 4 being leaked so much that he would cause a scene.

As Philip Siller looked around, a deep voice rang out.

“Philip, just give it to him.”

“Yes. Okay.”

Philip Siller quickly answered and took out the iPhone 4 from his jacket pocket.

It seemed that he had done a lot of testing, as there were traces of fingerprints on the metal frame where the antenna was drawn.

Yoo-hyun turned his body towards Steve Jobs and held the iPhone in his right hand.

His index finger was touching the antenna part.

“As long as you don't hold it like this and make a call, there won't be any problem. Left-handed people might have some trouble though, since their palms will touch it.”

“You didn't come here to say something like that, did you?”

Steve Jobs asked sharply, and the Apple executives swallowed their saliva.

Even then, Yoo-hyun was relaxed.

He never rushed and unfolded his logic step by step, like tapping a stone bridge.

“Of course not. The bottom line is that the customer’s hand should not touch the antenna line.”

“So?”

“They need some protective equipment, since they can’t avoid holding it in their hand.”

“If you’re going to say something stupid like selling bumper cases, stop. I think I’ll get very angry if you do.”

Steve Jobs said, and Philip Siller’s face turned red.

That was the method he had suggested a while ago, and Steve Jobs had been furious when he heard it.

Yoo-hyun chuckled inwardly as he faced the ironic scene.

What if they had provided bumper cases at that time?

At least they wouldn’t have been humiliated enough to hold a press conference.

But even if Yoo-hyun told him this, Steve Jobs wouldn’t have accepted it.

Steve Jobs was a person who pursued perfection that much.

Yoo-hyun pinpointed that part.

“Of course not. How can you leave a flaw on the perfect iPhone? And what’s the point of putting a case on this beautiful iPhone? Besides, if you take it off and make a call, it’s all for nothing.”

As if he saw through everything, Steve Jobs raised his eyebrows at Yoo-hyun’s words.

He understood the core problem and pointed out the drawbacks of the improvement plan in one breath.

Now he wanted to hear the answer right away, rather than how he found out.

Steve Jobs’s voice softened a bit.

“Stop beating around the bush and get to the point.”

“Yes. I’ll show you the solution now.”

Thinking that it was time, Yoo-hyun answered without hesitation.

Carefully.

He turned around and took something out of his pants pocket.

Then he fiddled with the iPhone.

His mysterious action aroused curiosity.

Steve Jobs, the king of the world, leaned his head forward.

The Apple executives also came closer.

But they couldn’t see what he was doing, since Yoo-hyun held the iPhone close to his body.

‘What the hell is he trying to do?’

They could only raise question marks in their heads.

After about a minute?

Yoo-hyun turned his body quickly, and the people were startled and stepped back.

Cough.

Steve Jobs coughed and asked.

“Hmm, hmm. Are you done already?”

“Yes. It’s done.”

“Done?”

Steve Jobs looked at the iPhone in Yoo-hyun’s hand with a dumbfounded expression.

He couldn’t see any difference.

Yoo-hyun smiled and handed the iPhone to Steve Jobs.

“Check it yourself.”

“What’s different... huh?”

Steve Jobs’s eyes widened as he held the iPhone.

It was because of the sticker attached to the antenna surface.

The silver sticker, which matched the metal surface, had the Apple logo on it.

Grit.

Steve Jobs clenched his teeth for a moment.

“Are you trying to make a dent on the perfect iPhone with this?”

“It’s not bad if you stick it neatly. And I’m sure Jonathan will make it much cooler than this.”

“Don’t play with words. How is this different from a bumper case?”

Steve Jobs glared at him with a stiff voice.

It was just eye contact, but he felt a strong pressure that squeezed his heart.

Yoo-hyun hid his nervousness and looked into his eyes and answered.

“It’s different. You can take off a bumper case, but you can’t peel off a sticker.”

It was such a ridiculous thing to say that Tim Cook couldn’t help but intervene.

“Why can’t you peel it off? Wouldn’t it be worse if you peel it off once, since you have to repair it?”

“Tim.”

“Sorry, sorry.”

Tim Cook backed off at Steve Jobs’s call.

The fierce eyes turned to Yoo-hyun again.

“You must have thought about that before you said it, right?”

“Of course. You can’t peel off the sticker.”

“You can’t peel it off?”

“The improved products won’t have stickers on them.”

“What?”

Steve Jobs narrowed his eyes at Yoo-hyun’s confident answer.

What was the relationship between the improved products not having stickers and not being able to peel off the stickers?

Not only Steve Jobs, but also the others looked puzzled.

Then, Philip Siller’s eyes widened.

As the marketing manager, he was an expert in advertising.

“Could it be a limited edition?”

Yoo-hyun smiled and answered.

“Yes. This sticker will be a premium that only the first customers who lined up to buy it can enjoy.”

“...”

Suddenly, Steve Jobs’s head flashed.

He handed the iPhone he was holding to Philip Siller.

“Philip, check it out.”

“Yes. Okay.”

Philip Siller quickly came over and took the iPhone.

Yoo-hyun’s suggestion was not perfect.

It would increase the labor cost to put stickers on every product that was released.

And no matter how good the stickers were, they were not as neat as the metal surface.

Still, Yoo-hyun was sure that Steve Jobs would adopt this idea.

He could tell from Steve Jobs’s muttering.

“A limited edition, huh? They would even want to put stickers that didn’t exist.”

He was a person who wanted a perfect launch effect as much as mechanical perfection.

That was why he put so much effort into the presentation.

A moment later.

Philip Siller, who had been testing the call quality by changing his hand position, said.

“Steve, there is no problem with the antenna reception.”

“Of course not, since your fingers are not touching it.”

Steve Jobs nodded, and Jonathan Ive added a word.

“It would be nice to give it a hologram effect and engrave a small serial number.”

Without giving Yoo-hyun a chance to intervene, Steve Jobs gave his order.

“Right. We need to make it special. Start right away.”

“Yes. Okay.”

Jonathan Ive bowed his head and moved immediately.

Sam Fester, who had been through hell because of the faulty hardware design, followed him.

He ran with all his might.

Steve Jobs summed up the situation in one word and took a step.

Thud.

There was a young Asian man who had suddenly appeared and performed a mysterious magic.

It was a situation that even the CEOs he wanted would feel pressured, but the man's expression was relaxed.

How could he do that?

Steve Jobs's sharp eyes softened at the fresh stimulus.

But Yoo-hyun didn't let his guard down.

Rather, he focused more at the last gate.

“What do you want?”

He had imagined this question countless times, but he didn't get excited.

He answered calmly, as he had practiced.

“I don't want anything.”

“Nothing?”

“Yes. But I have a suggestion for Apple. Oh, and it will also help the presentation.”

As soon as he heard the answer, Steve Jobs's mouth curled up.

He offered a one-person sofa seat to the guest for the first time.

“Sit down. I'm curious about your story.”

“It will definitely help.”

Yoo-hyun sat down and smiled.

The world was changing at an unprecedented speed, as the internet became possible in the palm of the hand.

The starting point of all this was the iPhone, which was released three years ago.

And the time for another change had come.

It was time to introduce the iPhone 4 to the world, following the iPhone 3, which had recorded a revolutionary hit.

The anticipation was explosive, and the Apple craze was blowing in the global IT industry.

Even in Korea, where the iPhone had no connection, there were news related to it every day.

While the world was buzzing, Yoo-hyun also moved busily.

He went back and forth between the Airbnb office and the Apple headquarters, and kept in touch with the company.

It was to prepare for the presentation and the aftermath.

It was the day before the presentation.

Yoo-hyun was at the San Francisco airport, talking to Kim Hyun-min, the manager.

Kim Hyun-min's loud voice came through the phone.

-I got it. I'm doing everything you told me to do, so just tell me quickly.

“What?”

-You know, how did you persuade Steve Jobs?

“I'll tell you later. It's no fun if I tell you now.”

Kim Hyun-min's voice faded at Yoo-hyun's joke.

-Are you kidding? Do you know how hard I was in front of the vice president because of that?

Yoo-hyun snorted at the complaining Kim Hyun-min.

“Hey, you got over it, right?”

-No, but still...

“Oh? People are coming out of the gate. I'll call you later.”

-Hey, is a deputy more important than me?

Kim Hyun-min asked as Yoo-hyun corrected him.

“He's a manager now. He got promoted, remember?”

-Is that a promotion, when he just accumulated years of service while goofing off at school?

“You're saying you miss him, but you're pretending. I'll have fun and come back.”

-You're making me so mad right now...

Yoo-hyun hung up the phone and raised his hand.

“Manager Park.”

At his voice, a man who came out of the gate looked around.

He saw him and raised both hands and waved them, jumping up and down.

“Oh? Yoo-hyun. Manager Kim.”

People looked at him, but he didn't seem embarrassed at all.

Kim Young-gil, who was next to Yoo-hyun, shook his head.

“Park Seung-woo, that guy is still the same even after drinking American water.”

“But he lost a lot of weight, right?”

Yoo-hyun shrugged his shoulders and opened his arms.

Park Seung-woo, who had gone from a big bear to a deer, ran over and hugged Yoo-hyun.

Wham.

“I missed you, my mentee.”

“Me too, mentor.”

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly in front of the old acquaintance he hadn't seen for a long time.

Chapter 447:

Park Seung-woo, the manager, looked very happy to see his colleagues after a long time.

“You have no idea how long I've been waiting for this day. I have everything planned out for us. We're going to...”

His chatter continued even as they got into the car and entered the hotel suite.

He was not only talkative, but also easily amazed.

“What's this? Since when did company employees get such luxurious business trips?”

“What do you mean?”

“I mean, it’s weird enough that you’re driving a Benz, but you’re also sleeping in this spacious place?”

The hotel room with a living room was very large, and all the decorations were super high-end.

Park Seung-woo, who had stayed in a narrow dormitory room at school, had a rough idea of how expensive this room was.

The answer was already given by Kim Young-gil, the manager who had experienced everything at the last Apple product review meeting.

“Never mind that, take this.”

“What is this?”

Park Seung-woo, who took the laptop handed by Kim Young-gil, blinked his eyes.

“It’s the presentation material for the business director. Can you finish it up for me?”

“Why me?”

“I have to go to Apple headquarters with Han, the deputy. But you have nothing to do.”

“No, you just became a team leader and now...”

He was too surprised to stutter, and Yoo-hyun patted Park Seung-woo’s back.

“You’re good at it. Aren’t you an MBA graduate?”

“What, what?”

“We’ll be back in a while, so please take care of it. Let’s have a drink tomorrow.”

“We’re going.”

Yoo-hyun winked, and Kim Young-gil waved his hand and went outside.

Kim Young-gil, who closed the door, said to Yoo-hyun.

“Are you sure he won’t get mad?”

“Don’t worry. He’s not that kind of person.”

It was at that moment.

Clang.

The door opened and Park Seung-woo stuck his face out.

Kim Young-gil, who was right in front of him, was startled.

“Wow.”

“Manager.”

“What? You can’t go to Apple headquarters because you’re not registered.”

Kim Young-gil moved his body and answered, and Park Seung-woo shook his head.

“No, that’s not it. Buy something delicious on your way back.”

“Huh?”

He blinked his eyes at Kim Young-gil, who was behind him, and Yoo-hyun answered.

“I’ll buy you a pepperoni pizza that you like. With lots of cheese.”

“Cool. You’re my mentee.”

Park Seung-woo gave him a thumbs up.

His positive and passionate attitude was the same even though he had lost weight.

Yoo-hyun smiled and gave him a thumbs up.

Yoo-hyun arrived at Apple headquarters and parted ways with Kim Young-gil.

Kim Young-gil went to meet Philip Schiller to discuss the marketing of the Apple Phone 4 panel, and Yoo-hyun moved to the design lab on the second floor.

John Norman, who was waiting for him, ran up to him as soon as he saw Yoo-hyun.

“Ha ha. Our savior has finally come to this humble place.”

“Did you have a hard time?”

Yoo-hyun asked, and John Norman nodded his head vigorously.

“I thought I was going to die, really. But thanks to your help, I survived.”

“What did I do?”

“You said the design was not bad. Thanks to that, Steve compromised to that extent.”

“Do you think Steve Jobs would do that?”

“No. We say that Steve listens to Steve.”

What a strange thing to say.

Yoo-hyun chuckled and pointed to the table.

“Okay. Can I see it?”

“Oh, here.”

John Norman handed Yoo-hyun the Apple Phone 4 on the table.

The final sticker, which had gone through nearly a hundred design revisions, was attached to the antenna surface.

Swoosh.

Yoo-hyun took it and examined the sticker part carefully.

It had a metallic feel, so it didn't look too different from the side, and it was thin enough to not stand out.

The reflection of light changed depending on the angle, giving it a luxurious feel, just like when he saw it two days ago.

Yoo-hyun tilted his head and asked.

“But what's changed from what Jonathan showed me last time?”

“The logo size has decreased by 1.2 percent, and the arrangement has moved 0.14 millimeters to the left. And the material is a bit more...”

John Norman rambled on, but it looked the same to Yoo-hyun's eyes.

Of course, he didn't show it.

“That’s amazing.”

“Ha. I really worked hard, but I’m glad I didn’t die.”

“What do you mean, die? It’s just design.”

Yoo-hyun laughed, and John Norman opened his eyes wide and shook his head violently.

“If we didn’t have the sticker idea, we might have really died. David, who was in charge of hardware, would have been the first to go to the grave.”

“That’s a harsh joke.”

“It’s not a joke at all.”

John Norman said with a serious face, and Yoo-hyun knew it was not a joke.

It was a well-known story in the IT industry that Sam Paster, the hardware manager, quit his job when the antenna gate exploded.

The people who worked under him didn’t even have a chance to look.

Yoo-hyun pretended not to know and smiled and asked.

“By the way, you said you had something to give me. What is it?”

“Oh, right. This. Sam Paster asked me to give this to you.”

John Norman handed him a box under the table.

It was a white box with an Apple Phone 4 picture on it.

“Apple Phone 4?”

“It’s the product with the serial number 1. I put the sticker on it myself.”

“Wow. That’s amazing. Thank you.”

Yoo-hyun was amazed by the unexpected gift.

This was a product that could sell for tens of millions of won if he sold it right away.

He was more grateful for the care than the value.

John Norman asked him.

“I also have to repay you for your kindness, but how can I do that?”

“This is enough.”

“No. It’s different. What should I give you?”

Yoo-hyun asked John Norman, who was pondering.

“Ah. John, you graduated from LA Design School, right?”

“Yes. I was a scholarship student, you know. I get a lot of requests to be a professor. Ahem.”

John Norman shrugged his shoulders, and Yoo-hyun asked him with a smile.

“Then, can I decide what to give you?”

“Of course. That’s only fair.”

John Norman nodded his head happily.

It was early the next morning.

Yoo-hyun moved to the Moscone Center, located north of San Francisco, with the two managers.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who got into the car as soon as he opened his eyes, grumbled.

“Why are we going so early?”

“There will be a lot of people there even if we go now.”

Yoo-hyun, who was holding the steering wheel, said, and Park Seung-woo shook his head.

“No matter how well Apple is doing, it can’t be that much.”

And soon after, Park Seung-woo had to correct his words.

The parking lot around the Moscone Center was already full, and the line that surrounded the venue was 300 meters long.

More than 500 journalists from around the world were also busy in front of the closed entrance.

CNN, BBC, CNET, and other well-known news reporters were sitting on the ground.

7 a.m., three hours before the official event.

“Wow. What is this?”

“See? There are a lot of them.”

“Then do we have to wait too?”

“No way. We’re different.”

Yoo-hyun raised his phone, and John Norman came out of the building in less than a minute.

To Yoo-hyun, he was just a friendly Apple employee, but John Norman was a rising star in the design industry.

Buzz.

The reporters who recognized him took pictures.

Regardless, John Norman greeted Yoo-hyun and his party.

“Did I come out too late?”

“No way.”

“Come on in. Everyone is waiting for you.”

John Norman stretched out his arm and guided them to the back door where the security guard was standing.

Yoo-hyun pulled Park Seung-woo, who was next to him.

“Let’s go, Manager Park.”

“Huh? Oh.”

Park Seung-woo blinked his eyes at the unexpected VIP treatment.

Park Seung-woo’s surprise was not over there.

Philip Schiller, whom he had only seen in pictures, grabbed Yoo-hyun’s hand.

Jonathan Ive, the legend of design, hugged Yoo-hyun with open arms.

Tim Cook, who was on the verge of becoming the next CEO, lifted Yoo-hyun up.

Even Steve Jobs came out personally and dragged Yoo-hyun into the secret room.

Park Seung-woo was too surprised to speak.

Thud.

He sat on a bench in the corner and muttered.

“What, what is this?”

“What else, it’s your brilliant mentee getting treated well.”

“Wow, that kid, why didn’t he tell me sooner?”

He stuck out his tongue at Park Seung-woo, who was looking at him, and Kim Young-gil remembered the past.

He was shocked when he heard what he had done when he arrived in the US first.

And he couldn’t close his mouth when he visited Apple headquarters and saw the results.

He had already seen his amazing performance at the product review meeting, but what about Park Seung-woo?

Kim Young-gil poked Park Seung-woo’s side, who had a blank expression.

“Wait and see. How much your mentee...”

Then Park Seung-woo got up.

“No. I have to tell him now.”

“What?”

“Steve Jobs’ autograph. When else will I get it?”

“...”

Kim Young-gil lost his words at Park Seung-woo’s sparkling eyes.

Then he muttered to himself.

“I guess I forgot about Park Seung-woo for a moment.”

Regardless.

Park Seung-woo looked at the door where Steve Jobs had gone in and gathered his will.

It was 10 minutes before the start of the Apple presentation.

Yoo-hyun was seated in the third row of the center front of the auditorium.

Buzz.

He looked back and saw the seats filled with people.

Yoo-hyun’s eyes met the farthest corner seat on the right.

The blonde woman sitting there was Yoo-hyun’s seat 20 years ago.

It was right under the speaker, so he remembered it clearly.

He was so uncomfortable that he couldn’t straighten his body back then.

The only thing that changed was the seat.

In the past, Shin Chan-yong, the manager, was next to him, but now Kim Young-gil and Park Seung-woo were with him.

Park Seung-woo, who was looking around, exclaimed.

“Wow. There are so many cameras.”

“Don’t act like a country bumpkin.”

Kim Young-gil scolded him, and Park Seung-woo clicked his tongue.

“What’s wrong with that? They can’t understand Korean anyway.”

“Oh, man. Didn’t they teach you manners at MBA?”

“If I wanted to learn manners, I would have learned from Yoo-hyun. Right, Yoo-hyun?”

He asked him friendly, and Yoo-hyun pointed to the camera.

“This is live broadcasted to the world right now.”

“Really? In our country too?”

“Of course. Everyone is staying up all night to watch. Even at the company.”

“Wow. I should have put on some BB cream.”

Park Seung-woo was so surprised that he covered his face with both hands.

“That crazy guy.”

“Ha ha.”

Kim Young-gil laughed hollowly, and Yoo-hyun shrugged his shoulders.

Yoo-hyun enjoyed this moment with the people who liked him.

It was something that the frozen Yoo-hyun of the past could never imagine.

The Apple live broadcast screen turned on before the presentation.

The heat of the auditorium was conveyed, and soon the waiting room screen was shown.

Steve Jobs, who had been hiding his appearance, was caught by the camera that passed by the waiting room.

It was a fleeting moment, but the effect was certain.

The news that even the people at the presentation site didn't know was reported as breaking news.

At the same time, the number of viewers of the Apple presentation increased exponentially.

The internet communities in Korea were buzzing, and the internet news was flooded with related news.

The US was even more so.

Many companies stopped working and focused on the Apple presentation.

There were even educational institutions that stopped studying.

Chapter 448:

One of the classrooms in LA Design School was a perfect example.

A young professor stood in front of the podium and pointed to a 50-inch TV next to the central screen.

“Watching Apple’s keynote is better than any study. Especially Steve Jobs’ presentation, he elevates design to art.”

The professor then mentioned the logo that appeared on the screen.

It was the logo that Han Jae-hee submitted as an assignment, which caused controversy over its usage.

“And let’s see if Cindy’s logo really shows up in the Apple report. You’re not lying, right, Cindy?”

The professor sniped at Han Jae-hee, and giggles erupted from here and there.

“Cindy is a liar. Steve Jobs must be crazy to show that logo.”

“Right. She can’t even speak English, she only has pretense.”

“She came here relying on her company’s connections. How unlucky.”

Sophia, a female student sitting next to Han Jae-hee, said with a worried expression.

Sophia was a third-generation Korean-American who spoke Korean poorly but well.

“Hang in there, Cindy. They’re all jealous of you.”

“What? Did someone say something?”

“Uh, no. Nothing.”

Sophia shook her head as she saw Han Jae-hee blinking blankly.

Meanwhile, Han Jae-hee recalled the evaluation of Jang Hye-min, the manager, a while ago.

-The design has improved, but it still lacks the feeling of being simple yet dazzling.

What does that mean?

That was the only thing on Han Jae-hee's mind.

The lights on the stage of the Apple keynote hall turned on.

Pop.

The audience stirred with anticipation.

Soon after, a pinpoint light pointed to the waiting room in the left corner.

The door opened, and a man appeared.

It was Steve Jobs, wearing his trademark black turtleneck, jeans, and sneakers.

He had lost a lot of weight due to cancer treatment, but his walk was healthy contrary to the rumors.

He raised his hand and the audience cheered.

“Wow.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, exclaimed.

“Wow. He's really a superstar, a superstar.”

“He's an amazing person.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, also chimed in, and Yoo-hyun nodded.

There was no disagreement that Steve Jobs was great.

Steve Jobs, who stood in the center of the stage, smiled and scanned the audience.

And then he slowly raised his hand.

Swoosh.

At the same time, the screen switched and a video of the ApplePad, which was released last year, appeared.

The detailed production process made the viewers feel awe.

I'm using such a great product.

On the other hand, Kim Young-gil, the manager, had a slightly different expression.

“Our panel is in such a great product.”

“Right.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and nodded.

Then, the screen showed the amazing records of the ApplePad.

“Wow.”

Every time, there were exclamations from here and there.

“ApplePad is creating a new category faster than any product in history...”

At the points that Steve Jobs emphasized, applause burst out as usual.

Clap clap clap clap clap.

It was a one-sided self-praise, but Steve Jobs' presentation was so well-crafted that it captivated everyone.

But that was only for a moment.

As the ApplePad presentation went over 30 minutes, the audience began to sway.

“Was the iPhone 4 a rumor?”

“Maybe because it was leaked?”

“Maybe there's a problem with it?”

“Ha. I didn't come here to see this.”

As time went on, the atmosphere cooled down.

Everyone's face was filled with despair.

Whisk.

Then the screen switched and the iPhone 4 popped out.

“Ooh.”

The audience screamed at the dramatic reversal.

It looked exactly the same as the leaked one, but the audience didn't seem to show any disappointment.

They were all eager because of the delay.

Steve Jobs didn't stop there.

He looked at the iPhone 4 on the screen and made a playful expression.

“Some of you may have seen it before, but please forget about it. This is the iPhone 4 that is introduced to the world for the first time.”

It was a well-known fact that Steve Jobs was furious about the device leak.

The related companies were not even invited to visit.

Nevertheless, Steve Jobs mentioned it and turned it into a laugh.

“Hahaha.”

Thanks to that, the presentation, which could have lost its momentum, became more dramatic.

The audience was filled with joy.

Who else could manipulate the audience's psychology like this?

And that was in a presentation for the whole world.

This was something that Yoo-hyun couldn't do.

Yoo-hyun looked at Steve Jobs' face, who was casually scanning the audience.

I want to learn.

I want to grow.

Thump thump.

Yoo-hyun's heart beat with a rare stimulus.

The real show time was from now on.

Steve Jobs pulled people in with a higher voice and a faster rhythm.

“iPhone 4 has an aluminum treatment on the side for an innovative design...”

The screen showed the dissected iPhone 4, followed by its advantages.

20 percent reduced thickness.

1.5 times longer battery time.

4 times faster and more precise chipset.

“Wow.”

Every time a number appeared, there was a big cheer.

It seemed that these great changes were just the beginning, as Steve Jobs quickly moved on.

Pop.

Suddenly, everything disappeared from the screen, and Steve Jobs' voice tone changed.

“There is one more important change here.”

Gulp.

It was the moment when the audience was immersed in a dramatic tension.

Steve Jobs flashed his eyes.

“This was all possible because of the display innovation.”

As soon as he said that, a large letter dropped on the screen.

Steve Jobs emphasized that word with an unprecedented high tone.

“We define this display that surpasses the human retina as the Retina Display.”

“Ooh.”

The audience heated up.

Yoo-hyun clenched his fist.

He remembered the moment when he was excited 20 years ago.

As if he copied that scene, Steve Jobs shook the audience with his eloquent words.

He listed the specs in detail and showed the difference visually by comparing it with the iPhone 3.

He spent a considerable amount of time on technical explanations when he emphasized the ultra-high resolution.

He used various methods with a very fast pace to highlight the Retina Display. Even people who were not interested had the Retina Display engraved in their brains.

Steve Jobs did not stop there and added an unprecedented praise.

“This is the world’s best display that comes with the iPhone 4.”

“Wow.”

The audience was fascinated by his magic.

Kim Young-gil, the manager who was holding his hands together, and Park Seung-woo, the manager who was gaping, were no exception.

‘Wow, he’s amazing even if I watch it again.’

Yoo-hyun closed the page of his memory with admiration.

This was the presentation of Steve Jobs that Yoo-hyun remembered from the past.

Even this was enough to make the stock price of Hansung Electronics, which monopolized the supply of panels, soar.

What would happen if he went one step further?

Yoo-hyun’s eyes turned to the scene where a new page was added.

In the atmosphere where everyone was lost, Steve Jobs threw a bomb.

“If anyone can make it, it can’t be called the best, right?”

The screen switched and a logo appeared next to the iPhone 4.

A Retina Premium logo that shaped the letter R, and four small alphabets sparkled below it.

The audience swayed in front of the unfamiliar logo.

Whisper whisper.

Steve Jobs pointed out the logo and emphasized it.

“iPhone 4 uses the Retina Premium product certified by the world’s best display company. It’s a display that only Apple can use.”

“Ooh.”

People who didn’t even know what it was admired it.

Steve Jobs said to them.

“With this, we have completely redefined the display standard. You can experience the amazing level of screen that the competitors can’t catch up with even after a few years, on the iPhone 4.”

“Wow.”

The cheers grew louder.

Steve Jobs did not stop and raised the tension even more.

“The history of display will change before and after the iPhone 4. The Retina Display is the beginning of that.”

The moment Steve Jobs reached out to the screen.

“Wow.”

Squeak.

Clap clap clap clap clap clap.

Cheers and applause poured out.

A chill ran through Yoo-hyun’s body.

At that time, the 13th floor of Hansung Tower was bustling.

Kwon Se-jung, the deputy manager who was watching the TV on the team table, couldn’t close his mouth.

“Wow. He’s crazy. How can he promote us like this?”

Lee Chan Ho, the deputy manager, and Hwang Dong-sik, the deputy manager, who were working overtime with him, were the same.

“It’s a huge hit. Has Steve Jobs ever done this before?”

“No. Never. It’s really going to turn upside down.”

Then, Jang Jun-sik, who was checking the overseas news on his laptop, shouted.

“The articles are pouring out right now.”

It was not just an article.

CNN, BBC, CNET, and other influential foreign media were promoting Hansung Electronics.

Lim Myung-hwan, the manager who was watching, exclaimed.

“Huh. How much advertising money did we save?”

He was a former marketing team member who knew better than anyone how much money it would cost to post such promotional articles on foreign famous media.

Choi Min-hee, the team leader, fixed his eyes on the screen and said.

“Advertising money is not the problem. Steve Jobs himself said it was the best in the world.”

“Everyone will think so, right?”

Yu Hye-mi, the manager, asked, and Choi Min-hee nodded.

“Yes. Maybe a real upheaval will happen.”

Everyone who heard it swallowed their saliva.

Meanwhile, silence fell on one of the classrooms in LA Design School.

It was from the moment when the same logo that appeared on the screen came out on the TV screen.

Sophia, who was next to Han Jae-hee, blinked in surprise.

“Si, Cindy, Steve Jobs presented your logo.”

“What? Was it today?”

Han Jae-hee realized it late and was startled.

“Yo, you didn’t know?”

“Huh. What did he say?”

“Huh? That is...”

Sophia explained in her poor Korean.

Then the professor broke the silence with a cough.

“Ahem. Cindy was right. Hansung’s connection is not bad.”

At the same time, there was a stir from here and there.

“Wow, Hansung’s connection is amazing.”

“Right. She has nothing to be proud of.”

Jealous eyes stabbed Han Jae-hee.

She glanced around and asked Sophia.

“Was the content good? But why is the atmosphere like this?”

“You really don’t know?”

“What?”

Sophia was dumbfounded by her too calm reaction.

‘You don’t even know that you’re being ostracized?’

She held back her curiosity that reached her throat and shook her head.

“Uh, nothing.”

“Okay.”

Han Jae-hee shrugged it off.

She had to juggle the homework that Jang Hye-min, the manager, gave her in her busy school schedule.

She didn't have time to care about the surroundings when she didn't even have enough time to sleep.

Chapter 449:

The atmosphere in the Apple conference hall was ripe with excitement.

Steve Jobs continued his presentation under everyone's attention.

He introduced a new photo app and demonstrated a video editing app as he moved on to the software part.

He never missed a chance to praise the Retina display.

“The Retina display makes all these experiences more innovative and special.”

And then he mentioned one more example.

Click.

Steve Jobs entered the App Store and clicked on the Airbnb logo, instead of an Apple app.

Half of the developers who visited the exhibition in San Francisco were using Airbnb.

They all recognized the logo.

“Airbnb.”

As the audience cheered, Steve Jobs chuckled.

“I see that many of you know it. I guess I made a good choice. I picked one out of 10,000 excellent apps on the App Store. I was lucky.”

He didn't just respond, but also showed some concrete numbers on his iPhone.

It wasn't prepared, but improvised.

As Yoo-hyun admired him again, the app opened and a map unfolded.

Steve Jobs zoomed in and out of the map, highlighting the advantages of the display.

“Let’s experience the power of high resolution for ourselves. How is it? Pretty smooth, right?”

There was nothing better than a map to showcase the ultra-high resolution display.

The audience applauded the realistic demo.

Clap clap clap clap clap.

-Oops. There’s a problem with the internet. Let’s do this demo later.

Yoo-hyun recalled a past demo that Steve Jobs did.

He opened the map app, but a network error left a stain on his presentation.

It was also something that Steve Jobs worried about when he did the demo this time.

But Airbnb’s app solved that problem.

It supported offline maps, and optimized the UI for the ultra-high resolution panel, maximizing the exhibition effect.

Plus, Airbnb had an image of ‘innovation’.

From Steve Jobs’ perspective, it was an offer he couldn’t refuse.

“Look at this. When you click on the map, you can see various information at once. This is something that can’t be done on other smartphones.”

Nathan Blecharczyk had stayed up for several nights for this, but it was worth it.

Steve Jobs even mentioned the innovative aspects of Airbnb.

“If you press here, you can make a reservation right away. Oh? That’s our next door. I guess I’ll have to sleep there tonight.”

“Hahaha.”

Everyone laughed at Steve Jobs’ humor.

This short demo left more than just laughter.

Even though Steve Jobs didn’t mention Airbnb separately, many articles were produced.

The presentation effect of Steve Jobs was clear.

The presentation was nearing its end.

When the price of the iPhone 4 appeared on the screen, applause sounded everywhere.

The moment he mentioned the free video call feature, the audience gasped.

“Wow wow wow wow.”

He adjusted the speed and surprised them with a twist, making the hour disappear like magic.

They all knew that the end was coming, but they didn't relax.

Steve Jobs' trademark was still not in play.

That's when it happened.

Steve Jobs scanned the surroundings and raised his index finger.

“One more thing.”

At the same time, cheers erupted.

“Kyaaaaaaaak.”

Steve Jobs smiled satisfactorily and laid down the card.

“The iPhone 4 is here thanks to you, our customers. Especially thanks to our loyal fan base.”

He spoke to the people who were full of anticipation.

“We want to offer a special service for the first batch of limited edition products, for our loyal customers.”

“Wow wow wow wow wow.”

The sticker was placed on the bottom right of the iPhone 4 on the screen.

The sticker sparkled with a lighting effect.

“This shiny sticker.”

“Hahaha.”

This was too weak for a finale.

Who would be satisfied with just a sticker, after expecting so much?

He needed to provide some extra advantage for the limited edition.

Yoo-hyun was curious about Steve Jobs' choice.

Then Steve Jobs made a bombshell announcement.

“And as a token of our gratitude, we will provide Apple software for free to the limited edition products.”

“Waaaaaaaah.”

Beep.

Cheers and applause erupted from the seats.

It was already amazing to have a limited edition, but he also gave them software for free.

Yoo-hyun admired him inwardly.

“I thought he would at least give a discount, but he really gave it away for free.”

Steve Jobs knew exactly what the selling point was.

Buzz buzz.

The presentation was over, but the heat didn't subside easily.

That's how great Steve Jobs' presentation was today.

Kim Young-gil, the manager, spoke with a flushed face.

“This is really serious, isn't it?”

“Yes. It's better than I thought.”

As Yoo-hyun nodded, Park Seung-woo, the manager, walked briskly.

“What are you doing? Hurry up. You won't be able to get into the iPhone 4 test room if you're late.”

Then he joined the crowded crowd.

He was the most active person who complained about coming here early.

Yoo-hyun tilted his head.

“Why is he like that?”

“Steve Jobs is coming to the test room, so he’s like that.”

“Why?”

“I don’t know. He wants to get his autograph. I can’t believe it.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, snorted and Yoo-hyun disagreed.

“Manager Park is a fan of Steve Jobs. Of course he should get his autograph.”

“What?”

“I’ll help you out. Let’s go.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, blinked his eyes as he saw Yoo-hyun stand up.

It was a moment that reminded him of the saying, “Like mentor, like mentee.”

The first floor of the Moscone Center, the special exhibition hall, was decorated as an Apple test room.

The place was quite spacious, but there was no room to step on because of the developers and media representatives who flocked to see the iPhone 4.

Yoo-hyun got out of the crowded room and took a phone call in the corner of the hallway.

The voice of Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, came from the other side of the receiver.

-I’m so excited. I was thrilled when they talked about the Retina.

“Me too.”

-Didn’t you expect it?

“It was much better than I expected. It was different when it came out of Steve Jobs’ mouth.”

Yoo-hyun expressed his honest feelings.

Steve Jobs' presentation today was also a big stimulus for him.

-Yeah. I think the world will be shaken by this.

“Yes. I can feel it clearly from the atmosphere here.”

-They still don't know here. They say there's no innovation in Apple, judging by the articles that come up.

The media will talk about innovation for a while, but the change has already begun.

The appearance of the iPhone 4 would turn the Korean mobile phone ecosystem upside down.

Yoo-hyun thought of the huge storm that would soon hit and answered.

“They'll find out when they see the results.”

-Right. When are you coming back?

“I'm going to stay a little longer. I have to meet Jin-gun too.”

-That's a good idea. I'll make sure to support you, so take a break and come back.

“Yes. Thank you.”

Yoo-hyun answered happily.

The next words of Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, touched Yoo-hyun's heart.

-You worked hard. And thank you for being with me.

“Thank you more, director.”

Yoo-hyun smiled and answered.

Yoo-hyun hung up the phone and entered the test room.

Exclamations were heard from everywhere.

“It's really different with the Retina.”

“I feel like my iPhone 3 became obsolete right away.”

“It looks like there's a three-year gap between this and other smartphones.”

The specs were already revealed, but it was different when they touched it themselves.

The iPhone 4 was well made with a tight fit.

Yoo-hyun approached Kim Young-gil, the manager, who was touching the iPhone 4 as if he was enchanted.

He had also collaborated with Apple for quite some time, but it was his first time to see the iPhone 4 in person.

“Is it good?”

“Yeah. It’s really good. It’s going to be a hit.”

As Kim Young-gil, the manager, nodded, Park Seung-woo, the manager, looked at the buzzing side.

The attendees cheered whenever Apple executives came out.

Buzz buzz.

Among them was Jon Norman, who was gaining attention for his design lately.

But those people were not Park Seung-woo, the manager’s interest.

Yoo-hyun asked as if he understood his mind.

“Where do you want to get the autograph?”

“On the back. How is it?”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, took off his jacket and showed his back.

“Not bad.”

Yoo-hyun chuckled as a loud cheer was heard.

“Wow wow wow wow.”

It was a different dimension from when Tim Cook or Jonathan Ive came out.

Everyone’s heads turned at the sound.

Sure enough, Steve Jobs was walking through the crowd.

Trudge trudge.

He made eye contact with Yoo-hyun and changed his direction.

The eyes of the people around him moved along.

Steve Jobs stopped in front of Yoo-hyun and reached out his hand.

Yoo-hyun grabbed it without hesitation.

Squeeze.

The two smiled at each other.

Snap snap snap snap snap.

Many cameras captured the scene.

But the news that came out was not that picture.

There was still excitement in the office on the 13th floor of Hansung Tower.

Choi Min-hee, the team leader, peeked over Jang Jun-sik, who was looking at the overseas news.

“Hey, Jun-sik, can you click on the news for a moment?”

“Oh, this one?”

“Yeah. The article about the weird guy with his back up.”

“Okay.”

Jang Jun-sik clicked on the article that was posted on CNN IT.

Click.

A picture popped up, and Choi Min-hee, the team leader, was surprised to recognize the person in the picture.

“That’s right. Park Seung-woo.”

“Where? Where?”

As Lee Chan Ho, the assistant manager, made a fuss, people gathered in an instant.

“Wow, he lost a lot of weight.”

“Hahaha. Look at him smiling like a fool.”

“He’s still the same, even after going to MBA.”

People laughed and chatted from here and there, and Jang Jun-sik blinked his eyes.

He knew the name Park Seung-woo very well.

He was the mentor of his respected mentor.

But the image he imagined and the image he saw in the picture were too different.

He looked too immature.

‘Is that him?’

A question mark popped up in Jang Jun-sik’s head.

Yoo-hyun, who came out of the presentation hall, took the wheel.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who sat in the back seat of the car, checked his phone and snickered.

“I got a call from Team Leader Choi just for getting an autograph.”

“How many did you get?”

“Already five. If I add the messages, it’s over ten.”

“Haha. How does it feel to be a CNN star?”

Yoo-hyun asked with a smile, and Park Seung-woo, the manager, answered seriously.

“Yoo-hyun, you have to be humble. There’s a time to go up and a time to go down.”

“You’re kidding.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, who was listening, said incredulously, and Park Seung-woo, the manager, spat out a sound with his mouth sticking out.

“Manager, you too. I’m trying to teach my mentee something good, why are you like that?”

“Lee, the assistant manager, is much better than you. What are you teaching?”

“Manager, if you keep doing that, I’ll order a lot of room service.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, threatened not to threaten, and Yoo-hyun laughed.

Chapter 450:

As they gathered and chatted, old memories came flooding back.

“You pay.”

“No, you’re the guest, sir.”

Yoo-hyun said to Park Seung-woo, the manager, who was shouting loudly.

“You can order anything you want. The company will cover it.”

“What? Really?”

“Yes. Let’s finish the stories we couldn’t tell yesterday.”

“Nice.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager’s face brightened at the word free.

Soon after.

The hotel living room table was filled with steak and fine liquor.

The order was already done before they called for room service.

It was thanks to Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, who took care of this part as well.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, admired him after hearing that.

“Wow, he’s really a good person. He’s different from what I thought.”

“What did you think?”

“I don’t know, just, he’s the crown prince, so I had some prejudice.”

“He supports me well. He also pushes me hard.”

Yoo-hyun said casually as he ate the steak.

The thick and tender texture enriched his mouth.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, looked at Yoo-hyun, who enjoyed the treat as if it was natural, with curiosity.

It wasn't just Yoo-hyun, but Kim Young-gil, the manager, also looked very familiar.

He felt like he was the only one out of place.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, sighed.

“I should have stayed in the company if I knew this.”

“Why?”

“I'm just jealous of you and the manager working with Apple confidently, and enjoying this awesome business trip.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, who was listening, handed him a glass of ice-filled vodka and snorted.

“Don't talk nonsense and tell me about your MBA. Let me see how great you are.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, took the glass and made a serious expression.

“MBA is just a master's degree. It doesn't make a career by itself. It doesn't pay either.”

“Huh? That's different from when you left.”

“I realized when I came here. If MBA graduates were all successful, the business professors would be all rich.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager's realistic answer made Yoo-hyun chuckle.

“You've learned a lot. That's enough.”

“Kid, you're teaching me again. Did you forget that I'm your mentor?”

“Of course not. I respect you.”

Yoo-hyun bowed his head, and Park Seung-woo, the manager, shrugged his shoulders and said childishly.

“Who’s first, Steve Jobs or me?”

“Of course, you, mentor.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, shook his head.

“You guys are really playing.”

“Hahaha. Have a drink.”

Yoo-hyun smiled brightly and offered a glass.

Clang.

The glasses of the three people who made him laugh just by looking at them clashed cheerfully.

Of course, as the bottle emptied, many stories came and went.

“That’s...”

“No, that’s not it.”

The conversation never stopped because they had been apart for a long time.

They reminisced about the memories they had together, and drank liquor with their own stories.

They were not all bright and happy in their current lives.

They were just holding on with one hope for the future.

They also confided their troubles with the help of alcohol.

In this part, Park Seung-woo, the manager, had a lot to say.

“Ha. What’s wrong with Hansung Electronics these days?”

“What? Is there a problem?”

Yoo-hyun asked, and Park Seung-woo, the manager, explained the background.

“Well, I’m doing a corporate consulting project right now.”

“You mean the graduation project?”

“Yeah. But the topic is Hansung Electronics’ business direction. But this...”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, who was blinking his eyes drowsily, interrupted.

“Our company? Isn’t that better?”

“Ugh, don’t say that. It’s harder. The situation has changed so much since Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, came.”

Yoo-hyun recalled the past conversation with Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director.

At that time, he was looking for people to create the innovation strategy department, and Yoo-hyun introduced Park Seung-woo, the manager, to him.

-Park Seung-woo, the assistant manager? The friend who went to New York University for MBA?

-Yes. He’ll be helpful. He’s passionate, open-minded, and has a good sense.

-Hmm, I’ll have to check him out. By the way, one of the business professors there is my college buddy.

-Really? Then how about giving him a project through the professor?

Yoo-hyun’s suggestion at that time came back to Park Seung-woo, the manager.

Yoo-hyun didn’t give him the project on purpose to test him.

It was mandatory to do a corporate consulting process for MBA graduation, and it was better for his career to deal with Hansung Electronics.

Of course, it was also beneficial for Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director.

He could get an evaluation of the direction he pursued from a third party’s perspective.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who had no idea of Yoo-hyun’s thoughts, continued to complain.

“I did a lot of research on smartphones, but Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, postponed the launch date. So I have to do it all over again.”

“Wow. That can happen.”

Kim Young-gil, the manager, nodded his head slowly.

He looked very drunk.

Yoo-hyun brought a sofa pillow and put it on his head, and asked Park Seung-woo, the manager.

“What do you think of that decision? Don’t think of it as a project.”

“Are you asking for my personal opinion?”

“Yes. Objectively, if possible.”

Yoo-hyun’s expression was serious, so Park Seung-woo, the manager, straightened his posture and handed him a glass.

Ting.

He took a sip of the vodka with ice and opened his mouth.

“I think it’s a good decision. Everyone else says no, but you know.”

“Why?”

“Smartphones are different from feature phones. Feature phones, if you make them wrong, you can just make them in a different shape, but smartphones, the shape is not the core, but the UX inside is the core.”

Yoo-hyun felt like he knew what direction he was writing the consulting report in just by hearing this one sentence.

He asked him a question to confirm his growth a little more, pretending not to know.

It was a question for him.

“What does that mean?”

“UX means customer experience. Customer experience follows the multiplication rule, which means that if they like it once, they keep using it, but if they get a zero on one thing, they get a zero on everything. So...”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, answered by applying what he learned at school.

He was a bit drunk and rambling just a while ago, but now he sounded more confident and his eyes sparkled.

It meant that he was sure of himself.

Yoo-hyun smiled and agreed with his senior's growth.

"That makes sense."

"There's still time, so I think there's a chance for a reversal if we do it right."

His judgment was also accurate, so Yoo-hyun sincerely filled his glass.

Swish.

"You're amazing. I respect you."

"Haha. It feels good to be praised by my mentee."

Park Seung-woo, the manager, smiled and shrugged his shoulders.

They clinked their glasses again, and another glass was emptied.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who was in a good mood, seemed to remember something and raised his eyebrows.

"Oh, Yoo-hyun, do you want to hear something interesting?"

"Go ahead."

"The business professor who gave me the project knows Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director. He talked a lot about him in class."

"What did he say?"

Yoo-hyun leaned forward with curiosity.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who was chewing a banana, opened his mouth.

"First of all, he criticized him for returning suddenly. He said it was too reckless."

"It was a bit bold."

"Especially, he said it was not good politically to bring up the LCD division spin-off. It's not my opinion, but the professor's."

It sounded plausible, but Yoo-hyun thought differently.

He was able to raise his position at once by throwing a goal that was impossible to achieve.

The benefit he would get when he achieved it would be much greater than the risk he took.

Would Park Seung-woo, the manager, see this picture?

Yoo-hyun asked him out of curiosity.

“Do you think the same, manager?”

“No. I think it’s not bad. It’s extreme, but you can secure the opportunity for sure when you win.”

“That’s true. We think alike.”

Yoo-hyun smiled inwardly and lifted his glass.

He felt like he would work with him for a long time.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who was drinking with him, suddenly said.

“Oh, the professor also said this. Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, didn’t make the decision by himself, and there must be someone coaching him behind.”

It was a reasonable inference from a close friend who knew Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, well.

The previous Shin Kyung-wook, the executive director, was very calm and reserved.

If Yoo-hyun hadn’t been there, he wouldn’t have moved first.

“Really?”

“Yeah. And he also said one more thing.”

“What did he say?”

Yoo-hyun asked without thinking and drank his glass.

The sharp whiskey melted the ice and wetted his mouth.

Then, an unexpected word came out of Park Seung-woo, the manager's mouth.

"That coach must be a crazy psycho."

"Pfft."

Yoo-hyun spat out the liquor he was drinking.

Kim Young-gil, the manager, who was sleeping, woke up with a start.

"What, what's going on?"

"Nothing, nothing."

Yoo-hyun quickly got up and wiped his face with a tissue.

Kim Young-gil, the manager, who was still confused, said something else.

"Did I drool?"

"Kkkk. Yes. Why do you drool so much?"

Park Seung-woo, the manager, who was next to him, laughed and said.

"Ha. Really? Oh, sorry."

"Apologize by drinking one more glass."

Yoo-hyun came out shamelessly and Park Seung-woo, the manager, finally laughed, holding his stomach.

"Puhahahaha."

"I'll drink. Just do it."

Kim Young-gil, the manager, who didn't know what was going on, emptied his glass.

The pleasant drinking party that started with laughter continued for a while.

Where there is a meeting, there is a farewell.

The time to say goodbye came to the three people who woke up in the morning and finished the chat they couldn't finish yesterday.

Yoo-hyun shook hands with Kim Young-gil, the manager, at the San Francisco airport departure hall.

Kim Young-gil, the manager, looked at Yoo-hyun with trust in his eyes.

“I had a good experience thanks to you. See you in Korea.”

“Thank you for your hard work. Have a safe trip.”

“I’ll go. Have fun and come back slowly.”

He gave him a thumbs up with Park Seung-woo, the manager’s influence.

He had a good reason to be happy. The Apple presentation was successful, and he got everything he could.

He smiled as he entered the gate, waving his hand.

Park Seung-woo, the manager, was also happy.

He sat on the airport bench and held up the shirt with Steve Jobs’ signature.

“Should I sell this?”

“No. You should keep it as a souvenir. Who knows? It might be very expensive later.”

“Of course I won’t sell it.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, smiled and talked more with Yoo-hyun.

They just sat and talked for a while, but time flew by.

The airport speaker announced.

-Customers who are boarding Delta 868 flight to New York, please...

It was time for Park Seung-woo, the manager, to go. He got up and asked.

“Are you going to see a friend?”

“Yes. I have to see him since I came this far.”

“Okay. Have a good time and come back safely. I’ll finish well and return too.”

“You don’t have to graduate. Don’t stress and do it lightly.”

“What?”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, was dumbfounded and Yoo-hyun left him a nice word.

“Your health is more important to me than anything else, mentor.”

“Huh, you cute kid. Let me hug you once.”

Park Seung-woo, the manager, smiled and opened his arms.

Yoo-hyun approached him and his long arms wrapped around him.

Wham.

Yoo-hyun also patted Park Seung-woo, the manager’s back.

He was thin, but his hug was still warm.

“See you soon, mentor.”

“Yeah. See you soon.”

Yoo-hyun said a short goodbye and sent him off.