

# **Super Soldier in the City**

## **#Chapter 11 Buy - Read Super Soldier in the City**

### **Chapter 11 Buy**

#### *Chapter 11 - 11 Buy*

At that moment, Li Yifei found himself between the two sisters, with his left arm linked and his right arm pulled; he truly felt as if he was enjoying the blessing of two.

He could sense the extra glances from people passing by; the twin sisters were simply too eye-catching, making him, the green leaf alongside them, appear all the more vibrant.

Especially the envious looks from other men made Li Yifei feel a small sense of pride.

Suddenly feeling a pain in his left arm, Li Yifei turned to look at Xu Yingying, who was eying his right arm critically. Li Yifei could only respond with a wry smile, indicating that it wasn't his initiative; it was Xu Shanshan who had taken the lead, and what could he do?

Xu Yingying knew Xu Shanshan's behavior didn't necessarily imply anything, but for someone as meticulous as she was, her sister's casualness was a bit much, although it wasn't something she could comment on here, so she just had to suppress her displeasure and continue walking forward with them.

After browsing through the first and second floors for a while, the three of them only bought a few small items for the New Year before heading up to the men's section on the third floor.

This time, Xu Yingying wouldn't let them wander; she went straight to a brand store and bought Li Yifei a set of casual clothes, and then she hurried to the underwear section, intent on finishing their shopping quickly to return home.

The men's underwear section couldn't compare to the women's—it wasn't very large, and from outside, everything was in plain view. However, eighty percent of the shoppers there were women, with only a few men accompanying their partners.

Xu Shanshan stopped, giggled, and said, "I won't join you if you're buying this kind of thing."

Xu Yingying also didn't want to go in, but with Xu Shanshan making such a comment, if she didn't go, wouldn't it seem like their relationship hadn't progressed that far? So she had no choice but to stiffen up and walk in with her arm linked through Li Yifei's.

Without Xu Shanshan by his side, Li Yifei whispered immediately, "Yingying, the clothes we just bought were really expensive; they took more than half a month's salary of mine."

"I bought them for you," Xu Yingying replied indifferently, not minding Li Yifei's miserliness. After all, he was there to help her this time, so it was her responsibility to take care of his expenses.

"Thanks a lot, Yingying." Throughout the day, Li Yifei had indeed gotten used to calling Yingying naturally.

"Let's buy quickly, just pick a couple of items," she urged.

"Isn't that a bit improper? Look, Shanshan is still watching us. You should at least pretend to help me choose," he said.

Xu Yingying was certain her sister would be watching them and secretly lamented the situation. Even with her own father, she hadn't ever purchased underwear, and now here she was, buying it for this guy, Li Yifei.

Fortunately, there were many women around, all seemingly so natural holding men's underwear, so she wasn't too embarrassed. However, she was entirely clueless about the brands of men's underwear.

The sales assistant was quite observant, noting Xu Yingying's elegance and guessing she must be wealthy, promptly approached and offered, "This way, we have men's underwear from major brands around the world."

This indeed relieved Xu Yingying, so she nodded and followed the girl over, then upon reaching a brand counter, she said, "Take two sets of this brand for me."

"Okay." The sales clerk immediately agreed with relish. Big brands like these always offer higher commissions. She looked at Li Yifei and asked, "What size does this gentleman wear?"

Xu Yingying was taken aback, glanced at Li Yifei, and Li Yifei just shrugged his shoulders and said, "I have no idea."

The sales clerk pursed her lips and chuckled, then took another look at Li Yifei and said, "I think this size should be about right. Why don't you guys try it on?" With that, she handed a pair of underwear out, and she gave it directly to Xu Yingying.

Xu Yingying's face turned red in an instant—after all, it was men's underwear. How could she be handed that? But it seemed incorrect to decline, so she reluctantly took the underwear, holding it as if it were a ticking time bomb."

"Just measure it against your boyfriend, and you'll have a rough idea," the female clerk reminded her.

Hurriedly, Xu Yingying faced Li Yifei with the underwear in hand, but the thought of the area she needed to measure made her feel extremely awkward. At that moment, she deeply regretted coming out with Li Yifei to buy underwear.

Taking a deep, silent breath, Xu Yingying held the underwear up to Li Yifei's waist to measure it, but it was a perfunctory attempt that didn't provide any real sense of whether the underwear was a good fit.

"Pfft!" The sales clerk couldn't help but laugh out loud, but she quickly contained herself when she realized the two did not seem particularly close. She picked another pair of underwear and handed it directly to Li Yifei, saying, "Sir, I think the previous one might have been a bit small. See what you think of this one."

Unexpectedly, Xu Yingying snatched the underwear first, saying, "Let me do it." She then held it up to Li Yifei's waist and measured carefully, declaring, "This should be about right. We'll take five of these."

"Okay." The sales clerk was a bit surprised by Xu Yingying's sudden change in behavior, but understanding that wasn't her concern—as long as she made the sale.

She had no idea how a CEO like Xu Yingying would possess such strong adaptability and self-control. Even though it was embarrassing for her to do so, feeling Xu Shanshan's eyes on them, she knew she had to maintain the act.

After purchasing the underwear, Xu Yingying bought Li Yifei two dress shirts and a set of pajamas—the kind made from thin cotton fabric, comfortable for lounging and sleeping at home.

Buying these items, Xu Yingying felt less embarrassed, especially after having dealt with the most awkward experience of buying underwear. Thus, the other purchases were significantly easier, and to show off for her sister, she rather deliberately picked and chose, consulting with Li Yifei about which ones to buy.

This made Li Yifei want to laugh; Xu Yingying's acting skills were quite something. Clearly, it was a treat—for even if it was all an act, why wouldn't Li Yifei enjoy the play?

Finally having finished shopping, Xu Yingying paid the bill and joined her sister. Xu Shanshan looked at the bags Li Yifei was carrying and said with a grin, "Brother-in-law, it looks like you were right. My sister does have a gentle side. She's pretty patient when it comes to buying you underwear, hehe, I get it—it's because it's something she can see."

Xu Yingying, feeling a bit flustered, glared at her sister and said, "Stop talking nonsense. We've finished shopping, let's go."

Xu Shanshan then pouted and said, "Sis, you come all this way and you're not going to buy anything for your dear sister?"

Xu Yingying frowned slightly and replied, "Alright then, let's go upstairs, and you can pick it out yourself."

"I knew my big sis was the most generous." Xu Shanshan immediately wrapped her arm around Xu Yingying's excitedly and pulled her sister towards the upper floor.

### *Chapter 12 - 12 Sprain*

Three people arrived at the fourth floor. Xu Shanshan looked through each shop one by one. The little girl picked out those youthful and fashionable clothes, trying them one by one, which made Xu Yingying feel exasperated. However, Li Yifei was watching with great interest. Seeing a pretty girl changing outfits for him to admire was a pleasure he never got tired of.

"Sister's husband, what do you think of this outfit?" Finding it dull to discuss with her sister, Xu Shanshan tried on an outfit and came directly in front of Li Yifei, spun around, and asked with an expectant face, "Sister's husband, does it look good?"

Li Yifei nodded repeatedly and said, "Not bad, Shanshan, this kind of clothing suits you best, it brings out your energy."

In the morning, Li Yifei didn't have a good look at Xu Shanshan's figure, but now that Xu Shanshan was trying on clothes, he got a better understanding of her physique. Judging solely by appearance, Xu Shanshan's figure was identical to her sister's, both having slim waists and long legs.

However, Xu Shanshan studied dance, making her body more flexible. Every move carried a sense of beauty, especially when she twirled in front of Li Yifei while trying on clothes, leaving onlookers dazed.

"Sister's husband knows how to talk; I'll try something else." Xu Shanshan didn't immediately decide to buy this outfit but wanted to try others. For her, trying on clothes was a kind of joy and enjoyment; buying clothes was secondary.

"Aren't you done yet?" Xu Yingying appeared a bit impatient. She was completely different from Xu Shanshan; her purpose in trying on clothes was to buy them, and she wouldn't try unless she intended to buy. Otherwise, it was wasted effort. Achieving the quickest results using the most straightforward methods was her habit.

Xu Shanshan pouted and said, "Why are you rushing? It's just past ten, we can head back before twelve."

"Then you guys keep shopping; I can't stand it anymore. I'll go to the first floor and have some drinks while waiting for you," Xu Yingying said and straightforwardly turned to leave.

"Yingying!" Li Yifei pretended to call out once.

Xu Shanshan tugged at Li Yifei's arm and said, "Ignore her, she's always like that. Every time she goes out with me, she always ends up having drinks. Sister's husband, join me."

"But your sister..." Li Yifei seemed a bit embarrassed.

Xu Shanshan pouted again and said, "Hmph, she's your girlfriend, and I'm your sister-in-law, right? So if your sister-in-law makes a request, wouldn't you agree?"

"Uh... okay! Then I'll agree with you, and I'll just let your sister scold me later if necessary." Li Yifei was merely pretending to offer company; accompanying this sister-in-law was way more interesting and relaxing than being with Xu Yingying.

"Hee hee, she won't. Although my sister has a bit of a temper, she still needs to save face for you at home, let's go..." Xu Shanshan happily tugged Li Yifei's arm again and headed to the next fashion store.

As they walked through each store, Xu Shanshan frequently tried on clothes and always displayed them in front of Li Yifei.

"Shanshan, you're simply a natural model; whatever you wear, it looks so good on you and carries a special charm," Li Yifei sincerely praised. "If I had the money, I would buy all these clothes for you, so you could change outfits daily. Seeing you in different clothes always brightens my day."

"Giggle... if my sister heard you saying that, she'd definitely scold you."

"Haha, I'm just telling the truth. It's a pity that your brother-in-law is quite poor, and I can only buy you a set that doesn't exceed a thousand yuan. Otherwise, I'd have nothing but northwest wind to drink next month."

Xu Shanshan stood in front of Li Yifei, her hands behind her back. She was half a head shorter than Li Yifei, looking up with a squint, she said, "Sister's husband, my sister has money. Can't you just ask her?"

"As a man, I can't live off my girlfriend. Even though we're together, we stay financially independent. So, my financial ability has its limits, and you can't exploit your brother-in-law."

Xu Shanshan suddenly patted Li Yifei's shoulder and said, "Well, just for not pretending to be richer than you are, I approve of you."

"Haha, just because you approve of me, I will certainly treat your sister well."

"Giggle... well said, then I won't bully you. It's better to bully my sister; she has money."

"That's not right; this is my intention, and buying something for you is different from having your sister do it."

Xu Shanshan looked at Li Yifei again, and her smile blossomed like a summer flower. She said, "Then I won't hold back. Now, what I look forward to the most is for you, sister's husband, to make a fortune soon. At that time, I want to go shopping with you and you won't say no."

"Of course, with such a sister-in-law, not indulging her would be a major failure."

Though they had only been together for just over two hours, it was like being old friends, speaking quite freely.

Finally, with Li Yifei's suggestion, Xu Shanshan bought a long woolen sweater and a pair of light blue tight-fitting pants. As for knee-high boots, Xu Shanshan already had them, so she didn't buy any more.

Receiving a gift from Li Yifei made Xu Shanshan very happy; it was even better than when Xu Yingying bought her something. Not that she was taking advantage, but because shopping with Li Yifei was enjoyable, while buying clothes with her sister was merely about the purchase and listening to Xu Yingying's criticisms.

However, as the saying goes, "happiness leads to sadness." both of them were engrossed in their conversation and not paying attention to their steps when Xu Shanshan accidentally stepped on a banana peel.

Such a situation usually wouldn't occur in a mall, as the cleaning staff would promptly keep the area clean. Perhaps due to the busy holiday season, the cleaning staff hadn't gotten around to it, and Xu Shanshan happened to step on it.

"Ah!" Xu Shanshan exclaimed as her body fell backward. Li Yifei, with quick reflexes, immediately extended an arm to wrap around Xu Shanshan's waist and pulled her upright with a forceful grip on her arm.

Instinctively, and perhaps due to inertia, Xu Shanshan fell straight into Li Yifei's embrace, wrapping her arms tightly around his waist.

This situation completely caught Li Yifei off guard. Having such a soft fragrance in his arms was a sudden pleasant surprise, an unexpected delight, and quite comfortable. However, with many eyes around, he couldn't continue to enjoy it. If Xu Yingying were to come up now, it would be an inextricable situation for him.

He gently patted Xu Shanshan's shoulder and softly asked, "Shanshan, are you okay?"

Xu Shanshan, after regaining her composure, realized she was clinging to Li Yifei. She immediately felt a bit embarrassed and let go to stand up straight but stumbled slightly and, in a low voice, held onto Li Yifei's arm for support.

"What's wrong?" Li Yifei sensed something was off and promptly inquired.

"My foot hurts; I think I twisted it just now," Xu Shanshan replied with a frown and a pained expression.

Li Yifei glanced around and said, "There's a chair over there; let me help you over to take a look."

"Okay." With Li Yifei's support, Xu Shanshan hobbled over to the chair, grimacing with each step.

"Don't move; let me take a look." Li Yifei squatted beside Xu Shanshan, placed her injured left leg on his knee, rolled up her pant leg, and carefully examined her injury.

Li Yifei gently moved Xu Shanshan's ankle and asked, "Does it hurt like this?"

Xu Shanshan nodded immediately and said, "Yes, it hurts."

"How about this?"

"This hurts a bit less."

"And this?"

"This doesn't hurt."

After a few tries, Li Yifei said, "There's nothing major, just a simple sprain; it should be fine in a couple of days with some rest."

"What! It takes two days? It's the New Year, and I still want to go out and have fun." Xu Shanshan immediately pouted.



### *Chapter 13 - 13 Treatment*

"If you want to recover faster, let me give you a massage, that should fix it right away."

"What are we waiting for, help me massage it."

"But we're in a public place..."

"What's there to be afraid of in here?"

"It's not that I'm afraid, but I need to take off your shoe."

"Take it off, take it off." Xu Shanshan was very eager. She had always been a playful and mischievous girl, and being inconvenienced by a sprained ankle would be more distressing to her than anything.

Li Yifei carefully removed Xu Shanshan's shoe, revealing her foot clothed in a pair of gray cotton socks. The petite foot was just enough to fill his hand, seemingly delicate and boneless. Although he hadn't seen the foot in its entirety, Li Yifei was certain it was the most beautiful one he'd seen among all the women he'd encountered.

Li Yifei didn't have a foot fetish, but everyone has an appreciation for beauty, and how could he not admire such a foot?

"Brother-in-law, are you... going to rub it or not?" Xu Shanshan's voice was soft and tender, her eyes watery with a mix of shyness and embarrassment.

"Ah! I'll rub it!" Li Yifei suddenly felt a bit awkward, as if he was caught doing something wrong, and he quickly started to massage Xu Shanshan's foot earnestly.

"Ah, it hurts."

"Bear with it, it will be better soon." Perhaps feeling guilty, Li Yifei's tone was extremely gentle, and his movements were very careful, not increasing the pressure until Xu Shanshan got used to the pain.

Xu Shanshan was initially a bit embarrassed by Li Yifei's attention to her foot, but as she watched him massage her so earnestly, a wave of tenderness slowly filled her heart. She had been doted on by her parents when she was younger, but as she grew up, they stopped pampering and cherishing her in the same way. Li Yifei's attentiveness made her feel that sense of being cared for and spoiled once again.

Li Yifei's massage techniques were not ordinary. As a top-tier special forces operator, minor injuries during training were common occurrences, and one simply could not go to the hospital for every little thing—especially when out on missions, one had to take care



of oneself. Over time, Li Yifei had become quite proficient at treating simple injuries. Xu Shanshan's minor issue was easily managed by him.

"Does it still hurt?" Li Yifei looked up to ask Xu Shanshan, only to meet her gaze, which held a special sparkle that made his heart involuntarily skip a beat or two.

"It doesn't hurt anymore, brother-in-law, you're so kind." Xu Shanshan gave Li Yifei a sweet smile, showing off her pearly white teeth.

"Am I your brother-in-law? If I don't take good care of you, your sister might hold me accountable." Li Yifei chuckled and picked up the shoe, slipping it back onto Xu Shanshan's foot.

Xu Shanshan let Li Yifei attend to her without moving, her lips curving into a very attractive arc, but that arc disappeared before Li Yifei looked up again.

"All done, let's go. But you still need to be careful not to strain yourself." Li Yifei supported Xu Shanshan's arm with one hand and her waist with the other, slowly helping her to stand up.

Xu Shanshan tested her ankle and slightly furrowed her brows, saying, "It seems to still be a bit painful when I put weight on it."

"That's normal; it will be fine in a while."

"Mmh, then you have to hold me and make sure I don't fall again."

"Don't worry, I've got you." Li Yifei's hand on Xu Shanshan's waist applied a bit more pressure to emphasize his assurance. Her waist was very soft, befitting someone who practiced dance—the feel was amazing, almost addictive to touch.

The two of them walked slowly forward, and suddenly, Xu Shanshan turned her head, leaned in close to Li Yifei's ear, and whispered, "Brother-in-law, what were you daydreaming about just now?"

"Daydreaming just now? No, why?"

"I'm not talking about now. I'm talking about when you were taking off my shoe."

"Did I?" Li Yifei pretended to be confused.

Xu Shanshan playfully blinked and said proudly, "Stop pretending. You were clearly daydreaming. You actually held my foot and spaced out. Let's see if I don't tell my sister about this."

Li Yifei, of course, refused to admit it and immediately said, "I was checking how badly your ankle was twisted. Only then could I take action. It's like a doctor's examination. I'm helping you with such seriousness, and you actually say I have dirty thoughts? That's so unfair."

Xu Shanshan tilted her head, smiling with squinted eyes, "Really?"

"Of course!"

Xu Shanshan turned her head and continued walking forward, which allowed Li Yifei to let out a sigh of relief. Indeed, as Xu Yingying said, Xu Shanshan was a sly one. If there was a slight mistake, she really could catch it.

Taking the escalator down one floor, Xu Shanshan suddenly asked, "Brother-in-law, do you think my feet are pretty?"

"Oh... well..."

Xu Shanshan shook Li Yifei's arm and chided, "Stop hemming and hawing, I'm just asking if they're pretty or not?"

"They are indeed pretty," Li Yifei said truthfully.

Xu Shanshan smiled proudly and then asked again, "Then tell me, whose feet are prettier, mine or my sister's?"

"Of course, they're both equally pretty," Li Yifei responded offhand. Since the two were twins and looked so alike, their feet naturally would also be similar. Additionally, such a statement could also be interpreted as not wanting to offend Xu Yingying, so this seamless answer was fitting.

"You're smooth with words," Xu Shanshan winked at Li Yifei, her gaze carrying a hint of slyness.

This made Li Yifei suddenly feel uneasy. Could it be that Xu Yingying's feet were very different from Xu Shanshan's? But he hadn't seen what Xu Yingying's feet looked like until now, plus, the information Xu Yingying gave him didn't include details about her feet. He guessed such a thing would be overlooked by someone.

He tried to get some clues from Xu Shanshan, but at that moment, Xu Shanshan changed the subject and said, "Ah, what a loss."

"What's a loss?"

"I was so focused on having you buy clothes for you that I completely forgot about sister's share. Isn't that a huge loss?"

"Haha, then you can let her buy it later. For now, you should go home first. It's already noon, and they must be anxiously waiting at home."

Xu Shanshan waved her little fist and said, "She can't run away from it sooner or later. I can't catch her this way more than a few times a year. I can't let her off easy this time."

When the two of them reached downstairs, it was almost twelve o'clock. Xu Yingying was already waiting impatiently, but when Xu Shanshan and Li Yifei appeared in her line of sight, her face grew even uglier. Li Yifei was holding several bags in one hand and wrapping the other arm around Xu Shanshan's waist, while Xu Shanshan leaned against Li Yifei. Both were wearing smiles, looking so blissful that it would make anyone jealous.

Xu Yingying certainly wouldn't be jealous. After all, Li Yifei wasn't her real boyfriend. She was angry. Li Yifei had come here to play her boyfriend, and now he was like this with her sister. Wouldn't that expose the whole charade? Moreover, Li Yifei being so close to her sister, taking advantage of her, was even more intolerable.

If not for her good self-control, she would have rushed forward to slap Li Yifei at that moment. Instead, she just stood there, looking at Li Yifei coldly.

#### *Chapter 14 - 14: Making a Fuss*

Li Yifei had noticed Xu Yingying's displeased expression long ago and immediately said upon approaching her, "Were you getting anxious? Shanshan twisted her ankle, and we had to rest a bit before coming down."

With that simple sentence, he explained everything, and Xu Yingying's sour look instantly turned into one of worry; she steadied her sister's other arm and asked, "How is it? Do we need to go to the hospital?"

"Can't you see I can walk? What's the need for a hospital? Let's just go, let's go home."

Xu Yingying frowned and said, "You really are a worry, how can someone your size still manage to twist an ankle walking? When will you ever give me peace of mind?"

"Big sis, cut the nagging. I've realized that when you get old, you'll definitely be just like Mom, nagging non-stop every day."

"You... do you even realize that this is me showing concern for you?"

"Save it, your concern can be spared. Better to leave it for my brother-in-law to enjoy."

In the company, Xu Yingying could call the shots, but in front of her little sister, she really didn't have any answers and could only help Li Yifei support Xu Shanshan out of the mall.

Once they reached the parking lot, Xu Shanshan said to Xu Yingying, "Sister, you drive."

Xu Yingying had no intention of letting Xu Shanshan drive anyway; she took the car keys and went to the driver's seat, while Li Yifei helped Xu Shanshan into the back. He meant to sit in the front passenger seat, but Xu Shanshan pulled him back, saying, "Brother-in-law, you sit in the back. It's easier for me to talk to you there."

Li Yifei glanced at Xu Yingying, and seeing that she had no reaction, he joined Xu Shanshan in the back.

As soon as they were seated, Xu Shanshan chuckled and said, "Hey big sis, are you jealous over there? Hehe, don't worry, don't worry, I won't compete with you for my brother-in-law."

"Honestly, you're a grown woman and still can't speak a single serious word."

"Relax, now that you've found your place, I'm happy for you too. I always thought with your rotten temper, you'd never get married in this lifetime. I ought to have a good chat with my brother-in-law about how to properly handle you."

"Humph, as if you're one to talk about temper. So, why haven't you found a boyfriend?"

"I'm not in a rush. I'm planning to have fun for a couple more years. Getting tied down in the fortress of marriage too early is just looking for trouble."

"Give it up. Now that my issue is resolved, Mom and Dad will definitely turn their sights on you next."

"Ah, that's true, and now I'm really in trouble. Why did you have to bring a boyfriend home? Now you've really gotten me worried."

"Humph, just for you always teasing me, now you can taste this feeling too."

Xu Shanshan let out a wail and exclaimed, "Oh my god, the nagging from Dad and Mom, that's a real lethal weapon."

Along the way, the three talked and laughed, but it was mostly Xu Shanshan and Li Yifei who were enjoying the conversation. Xu Yingying found it hard to join in; firstly, she was usually a woman of few words, and secondly, their topics were all about playing and enjoying, matters that were seldom on Xu Yingying's mind.

"Stop the car! Stop the car!" Xu Shanshan suddenly banged hard on the back of the seat and shouted loudly.

"What are you doing?" Xu Yingying, startled, cried out unhappily but still pulled the car over to the side of the road.

"Firecrackers! Didn't you see the firecrackers? We haven't bought any firecrackers yet for our home."

"What's the use of those? Nobody at our home sets them off."

"That was the past. Now we have a brother-in-law, right? You can set them off, can't you?"

"I, too, seem to have not set off any for many years. Buying some to add a bit of festivity isn't a bad idea."

"Exactly, brother-in-law, let's go down and buy some."

"No buying. It pollutes the environment."

"With all your grand theories, driving a car pollutes the environment too, and I don't see you walking every day."

This remark left Xu Yingying at a loss for words, and she could only watch as the two got out of the car. After hesitating for a bit, she followed them.

Li Yifei also loved to set off firecrackers as a child, but back then in the orphanage, such luxuries were out of reach. Later, when he joined the military, and particularly in that special unit, setting off firecrackers was certainly out of the question. Now, buying some firecrackers to set off really brought a vaguely excited feeling, like returning to the days of his childhood.

Although Xu Yingying tried to stop her, Xu Shanshan still bought a lot, and even got two large firework displays, leaving Xu Yingying truly helpless.

After everything was packed into the trunk, Xu Shanshan and Li Yifei started chatting even more enthusiastically, discussing which of the purchases looked best.

When they got back home, Xu Yingying's parents were preparing lunch. The New Year's Eve meal had to be the most lavish meal of the year, a tradition passed down from the older generation. In the past, living conditions were poor, so the good stuff was only affordable during the New Year, but nowadays life is better, and New-Year-only treats can be eaten at any time, making the festive atmosphere not as strong as it used to be.

As soon as they entered, Xu Shanshan excitedly shouted, "Mom and Dad, we bought a lot of firecrackers." By then, her foot was also better.

Xu Zhenguo laughed heartily, "Exactly, it's about time we bought some. In the past, our family had only you two girls, and you didn't care for them. But now with Yifei around, making things livelier is certainly appropriate."

Xu Shanshan became even more smug, making a face at Xu Yingying, "See, Dad supports me, yet you still wouldn't let us buy."

"Hmph!" Xu Yingying huffed and changed into slippers to enter the living room.

While Xu Yingying was changing shoes, Li Yifei caught a glance of her feet unintentionally and noticed that her foot shape must be no different from Xu Shanshan's. It seemed he might have been overthinking things.

After entering the house, Xu Shanshan ran straight back to her bedroom, and before long she reappeared, dressed in the outfit Li Yifei had bought her, proudly running to the kitchen doorway and calling out, "Mom and Dad, how do I look in this outfit?"

"Not bad, not bad at all. This outfit really looks great. You must have bullied your sister into buying it for you, right?" Xu Shanshan's mother asked with a chuckle while picking greens.

"Not at all, my sister doesn't have that kind of taste. This was picked out by my brother-in-law."

"Well, now you've really got someone to pick on, but... don't go too far." Her mother's voice dropped as she finished the sentence.

"Got it. This set was only a little over six hundred yuan, it's both economical and pretty. I really admire my brother-in-law's taste."

"That's not bad."

After showing off to her parents, Xu Shanshan ran over to Xu Yingying, who had just changed clothes, brandishing her own outfit with pride and saying, "Sis, look at the clothes brother-in-law bought me. They're pretty, right?"

Xu Yingying didn't see them at the mall, but now at a glance, she was indeed impressed; the outfit toned down Xu Shanshan's usual flamboyance and added a bit of sophistication, yet did not lose the youthful vitality. The loose sweater made Xu Shanshan look a bit more mature and atmospheric, and the tight pants highlighted her lively spirit. These two seemingly contradictory styles were perfectly combined, making it a rare set of clothes that she admired.

Turning her head to glance at Li Yifei, Xu Yingying grew even more curious about this man. A security guard with such taste was indeed rare.

"Does it look good or not?" Xu Shanshan, not getting the praise she expected, urged her sister impatiently.

"It finally looks somewhat decent." Dropping this cool response, Xu Yingying headed into the kitchen.

"Pfft! Such an act." Xu Shanshan muttered discontentedly, but such a comment from her sister was already very rare, so she proudly ran back to her bedroom to change clothes.

#### *Chapter 15 - 15 New Year's Resolution*

It wasn't long before Xu Shanshan changed into another set of loungewear, which was identical in color and style to Xu Yingying's. If not for the differences in their head shapes, it would be challenging to tell the two sisters apart when they stood together.

It must be because of the New Year; the heating was turned up especially high, so the temperature in the room was quite warm. Li Yifei was feeling hot in his outfit.

"Brother-in-law, aren't you hot?" Xu Shanshan sat cross-legged on the sofa, popped a grape into her mouth, and asked Li Yifei.

"It's okay," Li Yifei replied casually, but he really did want to change his clothes; he was truly uncomfortable in the suit.

Just then, Xu Yingying's mother walked out of the kitchen and said, "Yingying, haven't you bought Yifei any clothes?"

"I have," Xu Yingying answered confidently.

"Then let Yifei change into them quickly, look, he's sweating."

Xu Yingying uttered an "Oh," and said to Li Yifei, "Go change your clothes. Nobody will say anything about you at home." It really sounded like the exchange between a couple.

Li Yifei agreed and hurried into the bedroom. He changed into the new pajamas he had bought and threw his old clothes onto the bed.

After changing into this set of clothes, Li Yifei felt completely comfortable. His least favorite thing in life was wearing suits, which he found stiff and constricting—not his style at all. He wouldn't have worn a suit if it weren't for Xu Yingying's request.

After coming out, Li Yifei went straight to the kitchen and asked, "Uncle, auntie, do you need help with anything?"

Xu Zhenguo immediately said, "No need, just go watch TV and wait for the meal."



However, Xu Yingying's mother said, "Yifei, can you cook?"

Li Yifei smiled and replied, "Yes, I cook when I'm with Yingying."

"Hehe, then show us your skills. What do you want to make? I'll be your assistant."

"No problem." Li Yifei immediately rolled up his sleeves, washed his hands, and began cooking.

Li Yifei's cooking skills may not be exceptionally good, but they're definitely something to show off. This preference for cooking was unique to him; he was never picky about anything else. But with food, he had quite the appetite. Over the years, he had sampled all sorts of delicacies and eventually became passionate about cooking himself. Whenever he had some free time, he would buy ingredients and cook, and over time, his culinary skills had actually become rather impressive.

Today presented another opportunity for him to shine, and Li Yifei immediately got to work. The kitchen came alive with the flurry of the knife and the roar of the flames, and in less than an hour, he had transformed the ingredients Xu Yingying's parents had prepared into a sumptuous lunch.

"Wow, brother-in-law, no way, did you make all this?" Sitting at the dining table, Xu Shanshan sniffed the air, took a bite of a rib, and after chewing twice, exclaimed in surprise.

"How is it? Does it suit your taste?" Li Yifei asked with a smile, enjoying the appraisal of the food he had cooked.

"Delicious, delicious, your sweet and sour ribs are way better than my mom's. They're perfectly tangy and sweet, and the meat is tender without being greasy."

"You little rascal, all these years, why do you still love eating what I make?" Xu Yingying's mother laughed and scolded.

"That's because I hadn't tasted anything better." As she spoke, Xu Shanshan sampled each dish, lavishing praise on each bite.

Xu Yingying's mother was the happiest at that moment. She knew very well that Xu Yingying was utterly hopeless in cooking. She had tried to teach her daughter in the past but gave up after a few attempts—burnt dishes or mistaking salt for sugar, no amount of teaching seemed to help. Now that her daughter had found a boyfriend who could cook, it was truly a blessing for her.

Xu Yingying had never expected Li Yifei to be this skillful either. After trying a few bites, she secretly admired his talent but still feigned indifference and said, "Everyone eat, I always eat his cooking; today, you all have to try Yifei's cooking."

However, after eating for a while, Xu Yingying's chopsticks sped up. Li Yifei's culinary skills were certainly no sham; the food was genuinely delicious.

"Sis, you eat my brother-in-law's cooking every day, don't compete with me now."

"Who's competing with you?" Xu Yingying stopped her chopsticks and said, dissatisfied, "Can't I just be hungry?"

Li Yifei saw a slight upward curl at the corners of Xu Shanshan's mouth, and a cunning glint flashed in her eyes. This made Li Yifei always feel like Xu Shanshan had figured something out.

Xu Zhenguo laughed heartily and said, "Little Li, you really are talented. A man who can cook is adaptable. You'll surely make no mistakes in your future endeavors. Come on, today is New Year's, let's all be happy, you and I should have another drink."

Xu Zhenguo enjoyed his liquor but usually didn't drink much, so no one tried to stop him. The two men started drinking merrily, while Xu Shanshan and Xu Yingying kept eating the dishes non-stop.

"Sis, I want to discuss something with you." After eating until she was half full, Xu Shanshan looked towards Xu Yingying with a smile.

"What is it?" Xu Yingying asked.

"After you marry Brother-in-Law, our family of five should live together."

"Do what?" Xu Yingying was confused.

Xu Shanshan said with pride, "That way, I can eat Brother-in-Law's cooking every day."

Xu Yingying's mother laughed and said, "You child, you will have to get married someday, too. Even if your sister and our family live together, wouldn't you have to leave?"

"Why would I? Even if I get married, I want to live at home. It would be so nice if we all lived together."

"Things don't work like that. Yifei is an orphan and will naturally live with us. When you get married, you either live on your own or with your in-laws."

Xu Shanshan immediately said with pride, "Then I'll marry someone who is an orphan too. If he has parents, I won't marry him."

"Nonsense," Xu Yingying's mother scolded with a laugh. However, if such a situation did arise, she would gladly accept it. Although her daughters were grown up, she didn't

want them to leave her side. If they could bring their husbands back home after getting married, that would certainly be better.

This time, Xu Zhenguo did not get drunk, for Li Yifei's cooking was very much to his taste. Having eaten a lot of food, he didn't feel like drinking anymore.

After eating, Li Yifei helped to clear the table, but Xu Zhenguo firmly pulled him away, saying, "Let Yingying and the others handle such tasks. Women, you can't spoil them too much. If you don't let them do anything, they won't be able to find their place at home or understand their responsibilities in the family, which is not good for the marriage."

Li Yifei then joined Xu Zhenguo for tea and a game of chess, and by the time they finished, everything had been tidied up, with everyone now sitting in the living room.

"Yifei, when are you and Yingying getting married?" Xu Yingying's mother broached a rather pointed question just after a few words of conversation.

Li Yifei glanced at Xu Yingying and smilingly said, "Auntie, I'm afraid we'll have to wait another two years. Right now, my career is not yet established. If Yingying and I were to marry now, it could hinder her career as well, and I would also feel somewhat inferior."

Xu Yingying's mother immediately said, "What kind of talk is that? What do you have to feel inferior about? I think you're quite good. You're capable both inside and outside the home. You might not earn as much as Yingying, but as long as we have one breadwinner in the family, that's enough. If both of you are career-oriented, then who's going to take care of the home? If you both work outside all the time, coming and going, the home will be cold and empty, which is not good."

Xu Zhenguo promptly interjected, "What you're saying isn't right. If Yingying takes care of things at home while Little Li works outside, that's acceptable. But now Little Li is the one at home, which is very damaging to a man's pride. And considering Yingying's temper, if they had a quarrel and this issue was brought up, there would surely be problems."

Xu Yingying's mother glared at him and said, "That's all old-fashioned thinking. What era are we in now? It's not a given that the man has to work outside and the woman has to manage the household. Just look at our Yingying. Do you think she could stay at home and not work?"

Xu Zhenguo retorted, unyielding, "Do you understand how important a man's pride is?"

"Pride, pride. Can pride put food on the table? It seems to me that even without giving you any pride, you haven't done anything to me," she taunted.

Her words immediately deflated Xu Zhenguo, and after she triumphed over her husband, she continued smilingly to Li Yifei, "Yifei, I'm not looking down on you. You surely know Yingying's temperament. With her personality, she's suited for working outside. If you were to start a business, you'd end up stretched thin, trying to handle both work and home. So it's perfect if you get married now. In the future, if you find something suitable, the two of you can work together on it, which wouldn't be bad."

Li Yifei was considering how to deflect the issue when Xu Yingying chimed in, "Mom, you have to give us some time, don't you? I promise you, we'll get married this year, all right?"

"Good, good. Then later I'll go and pick a date to see when's appropriate." Xu Yingying's mother was already discussing with Xu Zhenguo who they should ask to select an auspicious date.

No data found.