

Super Soldier in the City

#Chapter 21 Hero Saving Lives - Read Super Soldier in the City Chapter 21 Hero Saving Lives

Chapter 21: Chapter 21 Hero Saving Lives

The two of them went out, and Xu Yingying's face was still flushed. Just as Xu Shanshan also walked out from the opposite door, she immediately exclaimed as if she had discovered a new continent, "Sis, your face is so red, you must have been up to no good."

Xu Yingying's face turned even redder. She glared at Xu Shanshan and reprimanded, "Nonsense." However, if it led her sister to think this way, then she wouldn't believe that the relationship between her and Li Yifei was fake, which wasn't entirely a bad thing.

At this moment, Li Yifei found his mouth somewhat dry. Both Xu Shanshan and Xu Yingying were wearing the same kind of shirt, perfectly showcasing their curvy figures. Coupled with the fact that the two sisters were twins, both equally perfect and beautiful, looking at them filled him with impulsiveness as a man.

Xu Shanshan sensed Li Yifei's gaze on her and playfully stuck out her tongue at him, saying, "Watch out, or my sister will make you sleep on the floor tonight."

Xu Yingying immediately turned her head to stare coldly at Li Yifei. Li Yifei quickly coughed to cover his embarrassment.

Xu Shanshan had already run over to her parents, and Li Yifei quickly followed. He was afraid Xu Yingying might lose her temper at this point.

Xu Zhenguo and his wife exchanged a few words of blessing, then the family of five went back to their rooms to rest.

When Li Yifei and Xu Yingying entered the room, Xu Yingying looked at Li Yifei coldly and said, "Keep your distance from Shanshan."

Li Yifei gave a dry laugh and said, "I haven't been that close to her."

"Hmph, remember your role. You are my boyfriend."

"I know, since I'm your boyfriend, I can't just pretend not to know my sister-in-law. Besides, a sister-in-law teasing her brother-in-law is kind of a long-standing tradition in our country."

"What I'm telling you is to have no intentions toward Shanshan. If you dare to do anything to her, I'll make your life miserable."

"This job is really not easy, alright, alright, I'll try to do better and make you, the president, more satisfied."

After saying this, Li Yifei took his quilt and other things and placed them on the floor, lying down in his new shirt.

Xu Yingying said little, turned off the lights, and got into bed.

That night, Xu Yingying slept more soundly, possibly because Li Yifei had behaved yesterday, so she didn't worry he would do anything to her. She was also afraid he would fall asleep first and snore, keeping her from being able to sleep. In any case, she fell asleep quickly.

When she woke up, she found that Li Yifei was no longer in the room, and his quilt and other things were also gone. She quickly got up, changed her clothes, and opened the door only to hear Li Yifei talking with her mother in the kitchen, which made Xu Yingying very satisfied. This guy was indeed performing quite well.

"Yingying, go wake up Shanshan too. Someone will be coming to pay their New Year respects later." At this moment, Xu Zhenguo said to Xu Yingying.

Xu Yingying agreed and went to pull the reluctant Xu Shanshan out of bed.

After breakfast, it was already eight-thirty. The sound of knocking on the door began, and those coming to pay their New Year respects started arriving.

Xu Zhenguo's apartment was purchased through a unit collective purchase, so in this building, he had many colleagues. Since Xu Zhenguo was a leader, those subordinates naturally came to pay their New Year respects, so there was an endless stream of visitors early in the morning.

"Huh, you were the one who pushed me down yesterday, weren't you?" A man in his thirties came in, having paid his respects to Xu Zhenguo and his wife. When he saw Li Yifei, he was immediately a bit surprised and asked.

Xu Yingying immediately frowned, while Xu Zhenguo was a bit puzzled and said, "Little Wang, what's the matter? This is our Yingying's boyfriend, Li Yifei."

The man called Little Wang looked at Xu Shanshan again and immediately exclaimed excitedly, "That's right! Last night, a firework shell didn't explode in the air, it landed on the ground and exploded. I didn't even notice, it was Little Li who pushed me down, saving me from being hit by the firework. Director Xu, you know how powerful that firework was. Little Li practically saved my life."

Li Yifei also knew he couldn't deny it, so he smiled and said, "Brother Li, don't mention it, I just acted on instinct."

"This was no casual gesture. There were six or seven people there yesterday. You saved them all; otherwise, it would have been disastrous. Everyone was looking for you afterward, but you left, and no one noticed you were with Shanshan; otherwise, they would have come over to thank you sooner."

Xu Zhenguo initially thought Li Yifei had caused some trouble, but upon hearing this, he was immediately relieved. He chuckled and said, "No need to thank us. We're all neighbors."

Xu Shanshan became even more pleased and immediately started jabbering about the events of last night. Although she hadn't seen it, her imagination was extremely vivid, and her storytelling ability was outstanding. She described it so vividly, as if she had seen it with her own eyes, especially when talking about Li Yifei, making him sound incredibly brave, almost like a Spider-Man-like superhero.

The more Xu Zhenguo and his wife listened, the happier they became. The more satisfied they were with Li Yifei, this incident showcased both a person's character and their ability. Managing to push six or seven people aside without anyone getting hurt requires exceptional skills.

Xu Yingying was also seeing Li Yifei in a new light. To her, Li Yifei was merely a security guard, not someone who could be considered talented, perhaps just strong. But now it seemed he was not so simple, at least from this incident, he achieved something most people couldn't.

However, when she heard that Li Yifei finally pressed Xu Shanshan to the ground, Xu Yingying frowned. Once the visitors left, she immediately dragged Li Yifei, who was being praised by her parents, into the room.

"What are you doing? You wouldn't say you disagreed with us buying fireworks from the start, would you?" Li Yifei looked at Xu Yingying with a bitter smile.

Xu Yingying snorted, "You already realized it, so why should I say anything? I just want to know, why did you press Shanshan down? Couldn't you have just pushed her aside?"

Li Yifei immediately widened his eyes, looking at Xu Yingying with some displeasure. He said, "Listen up, Xu president. I didn't know the others; it's not my concern whether they got hurt or not. But Shanshan is your sister, and I went out with her. I had to be responsible for her safety. I blocked the blast's shockwave with my body. Can't you see that?"

Xu Yingying was momentarily stunned. Li Yifei continued, "That could be considered an act of sacrifice for others. You didn't praise me or give me any reward. Instead, you

think I took advantage of Shanshan. In that situation, do you think I had time to think about such things? And... Xu president, can't you be more optimistic and not always suspect others of doing bad things?"

After saying this, Li Yifei ignored Xu Yingying, swung his arm, and turned around to leave the room.

Chapter 22: Chapter 22 Return to Hometown

Xu Yingying never expected that Li Yifei would speak to her in such a tone, and at first, she was a bit annoyed. This was absolutely a huge contempt for her as the CEO. But after carefully thinking about what Li Yifei had said, she felt there was some truth in it. In that situation, if someone could still think about taking advantage, they must have immense confidence in themselves.

Having realized this, Xu Yingying's expression calmed down, and she too walked out of the bedroom. She saw Li Yifei talking with her parents, both of whom were beaming with smiles and praising Li Yifei, while Xu Shanshan sat beside him, looking so happy and joyful.

Watching the two of them, Xu Yingying suddenly felt that Li Yifei paired up with her sister seemed quite fitting. At the very least, no matter how crazy Xu Shanshan seemed usually, always going out with friends, the number of boys she took a fancy to was extremely few. She had never seen her getting along so well with a guy like this before.

If Shanshan and Li Yifei got together, it actually might be nice... The moment Xu Yingying entertained this thought, she found it utterly absurd. Not to mention that Li Yifei was just a lowly security guard, and currently pretending to be her boyfriend, it would be impossible for their parents to accept Li Yifei and Xu Shanshan getting together in this household.

"Move over a bit," she said upon reaching the sofa, and Xu Yingying stood between Xu Shanshan and Li Yifei, giving her sister a little kick.

Xu Shanshan chuckled and said, "I'm not fighting with you for a brother-in-law, so why are you acting so sour?" She then scooted over to make space.

Xu Shanshan's mother laughed and scolded, "You girl, always babbling nonsense."

The two sisters had fought with each other since they were young, wanting everything to be equal. If one had something the other didn't, it would definitely lead to a fight. As they grew older and each found their own jobs, they no longer fought as much, but the competition between them never ceased.

Just then, more people arrived. Little Wang, who had left earlier, had apparently told others about Li Yifei's act of heroism. The people he had saved yesterday were now all

coming to express their gratitude to Li Yifei, bringing great honor to the Xu Zhenguo Couple.

At the Xu Zhenguo Couple's age, they no longer cared much about their own accomplishments. What mattered most to them were their children. If their children were doing well, they could rest easy. Now that Li Yifei had gained recognition from so many neighbors, it proved their daughter had good taste and, of course, it brought them face as well.

Especially since Li Yifei had saved someone without seeking recognition, it pleased Xu Zhenguo immensely. Such unexpected praise was the most delightful.

An aunt praised, "Yingying really has an eye for talent, even her boyfriend is so amazing."

Xu Yingying's mother immediately replied with a laugh, "Hehe, I don't care about all that. What I value the most is that Yifei is very considerate and good at housework. He cooked all of our New Year's food. This year has definitely been the most relaxing one I've had."

"Sister, you're so lucky. Unlike my son-in-law, who just lounges around like a lord when he's at my place, doing nothing."

Xu Yingying's mother beamed even more, saying, "As long as the children are doing well, we're satisfied. Hehe, now that Yingying has found a good match, it's just Shanshan we need to worry about. I hope Shanshan can also find a good family to marry into."

Xu Shanshan's face darkened instantly, and she quickly protested, "Mom, my sister isn't even married yet, can you not drag me into this already?"

"Why wouldn't I involve you? You're only two hours younger than your sister. If she's getting married this year, you need to start looking too. Marrying you off will let me rest easy."

Xu Shanshan wailed, "Really, Mom? You want to marry off your dearest youngest daughter so soon?"

At that moment, Xu Yingying looked at Xu Shanshan smugly, knowing that after bringing Li Yifei home, it would be Xu Shanshan who had to listen to their mother nag. Finally, she could be free of it.

On the second day of the Lunar New Year, the Xu Family arrived at their old home in the suburbs. Xu Zhenguo's elderly father lived here, and the five spacious bungalows were quite imposing.

The Xu Family had lived here for decades, and they had many relatives in the area. Since Xu Zhenguo was considered the most successful member of the Xu Family, their arrival immediately drew the seven aunts and eight uncles to converge on the place.

And of course, what they were most interested in was Li Yifei, Xu Yingying's boyfriend. Everyone bombarded Li Yifei with questions, and he managed to respond appropriately. However, there was a noticeable drop in enthusiasm when they learned his job was merely a security guard. But when Xu Yingying's mother mentioned how bravely Li Yifei had saved someone the night before, plus his excellent cooking skills and his attentiveness to Xu Yingying, everyone eventually accepted him as the prospective son-in-law.

After the big family meal at midday, Li Yifei retreated to a room on the west side and finally let out a sigh of relief. Facing this crowd was, in fact, even more daunting than dealing with terrorists.

Xu Yingying and Xu Shanshan were also in this room. Xu Shanshan giggled and said, "Brother-in-law, feeling a bit overwhelmed?"

Li Yifei laughed dryly and said, "Everyone's just so enthusiastic, I'm not sure if I did anything wrong, embarrassed your sister."

Xu Yingying nodded and said, "You did quite well."

Li Yifei chuckled and said, "Thank you, boss, for the praise."

But before Li Yifei could relax for long, the young folks of his generation dragged him into playing cards. Li Yifei, of course, couldn't refuse and joined in the game. After dinner, they played until after ten o'clock before finally releasing him.

New Year's is all about the festive atmosphere, especially in the countryside where the festive feeling is even stronger. However, it must be said that it could be quite exhausting too.

Today everyone was resting here. Xu Zhenguo Couple had already gone to bed, but at this point, Li Yifei had no idea which room he should sleep in. Just then, Xu Yingying came over, and Li Yifei immediately asked, "Where am I sleeping tonight?"

Xu Yingying's expression was quite peculiar as she led Li Yifei to the same western room. As he looked around, Li Yifei realized why Xu Yingying had that look on her face.

There was only one bed in the room, with a cement floor—it was clear he couldn't sleep on the floor again. The bed was only one and a half meters wide, which, while big enough for two people, surely meant that he was actually going to share a bed with Xu Yingying tonight.

"You're not going to tell me you're staying here too, are you?" Li Yifei asked cautiously.

Xu Yingying didn't reply, but instead went to close the door and locked it, using this gesture to answer Li Yifei's question directly. Li Yifei immediately felt his breathing quicken. Damn it, sharing a bed with a beauty like Xu Yingying was going to be the death of him. The worst part was that Xu Yingying would surely not let him do anything; it wasn't a blessing but a curse.

"Behave yourself, or don't blame me for being rude," Xu Yingying said coldly before climbing into bed.

There were two quilts on the bed, not separate, but spread out together. The rooms in the countryside were quite cold, and one quilt wouldn't be warm enough, so two quilts were prepared for the two of them.

After Xu Yingying got into bed, she immediately separated the quilts, took off only her coat, and lay down.

Li Yifei turned off the lights and climbed into bed, too, removing just his coat before pulling the quilt over himself. The room instantly went quiet, but Li Yifei could distinctly feel Xu Yingying's breathing was erratic. Clearly, the beautiful CEO was very tense, even more so than the first time they had stayed in a room together.

Chapter 23: Chapter 23: Endless

After a moment of silence, Xu Yingying said, "Li Yifei, I believe you are a capable person. Once we're back at the company, you can come to work for me. What job would you like to do?"

Li Yifei knew that Xu Yingying was making this offer out of fear that he might do something to her, so at this time, she was promising benefits to make Li Yifei think twice. For Li Yifei, being in the same bed with a beauty like Xu Yingying was indeed a test. However, such a test was definitely not something he couldn't resist.

In the past, many of the missions Li Yifei undertook were of national secrecy level. Therefore, they had to undergo a lot of training to prevent them from spilling secrets in case they were captured. Training for resisting temptation by beauties was also essential; otherwise, they would succumb to any beauty who came their way and forget their own fathers, let alone be considered qualified super agents.

When it came to beauties, he might not be completely immune to temptation, but his heart was always on guard. The kind of situation where desire clouded his judgment was absolutely not going to happen to Li Yifei.

Now, even though he had returned to urban life and was about to lead a normal life, the training Li Yifei had undergone was still ever-present in his body. Thus, even if he

shared a bed with Xu Yingying, he could restrain himself and not do anything untoward to her. However, since Xu Yingying had put it that way, how could she be reassured if he didn't agree with her?

"President Xu, you're not just saying this, are you?"

Xu Yingying immediately responded, "To be honest, I didn't know much about you, but based on your performance over the past couple of days, I feel you truly have talent. If you can bring out more of your potential in my company, do you really want to be a security guard forever?"

Li Yifei immediately looked quite excited and said, "Of course, I don't want to be a guard. In the eyes of others, aren't guards low-class citizens? Look at the people in the office buildings; every one of them looks down on us, ordering us around. If I had the chance to be a white-collar worker, I would still want to be one. But as you know, I don't have the educational qualifications, not even a college diploma. Can I become a white-collar worker in your company?"

"A person's ability is not determined by their diploma. As long as you have the ability and the willingness to work hard, there will be no problem."

"Alright, since the president said so, I'd be a fool not to agree. But... I really don't know what I could do."

Xu Yingying pondered for a moment and said, "I feel there are two departments that might suit you, one is the marketing department and the other is logistics. The sales department is quite tough, but you can earn more, whereas logistics is also busy but doesn't require you to run around outside all the time. You choose."

Without any hesitation, Li Yifei immediately said, "Then I'll go to logistics."

Xu Yingying was somewhat disappointed. She had actually hoped that Li Yifei would choose the marketing department because it was very challenging. But Li Yifei chose logistics, where it would be harder for him to showcase his talent. Nevertheless, her main goal right now was to secure Li Yifei's loyalty by making him feel that she had offered him a benefit, so that at the very least, he would have some considerations in his actions.

Xu Yingying could become a president and lead a small branch to such success because she had methods of managing people. If she could not manipulate her subordinates well, the company would not be able to perform so successfully.

A person, if without any hope, would dare do anything. But once they have hope and expectations, they will have considerations when acting. Xu Yingying was using this psychology to promise Li Yifei benefits at this moment.

Therefore, she immediately said, "That's settled then. I'll arrange for you to join our company's logistics department. What I, Xu Yingying, have said will stand; I will not go back on my word."

"Thank you, President Xu. Does this mean I count as a white-collar worker now?"

"Of course, you do. If you want to change departments later, you can also tell me. Though I feel the best department for you would still be marketing, where there are more opportunities, more commission, and if you do well, a better chance of promotion. But in logistics, I'm afraid it would be more difficult for you to get a promotion and a raise."

Li Yifei chuckled and said, "Thanks, President Xu, but I do have a bit of self-awareness. I've never been to college and only served as a soldier for a few days; how could I deal smoothly with clients' issues? So I think logistics suits me better."

"Logistics isn't as easy as you might think either; it's still very demanding."

"But it's still a white-collar job, isn't it? The main thing is that I'm capable of handling it."

"Alright then, you can start in logistics first."

"Thank you, President Xu, heh, I'm going to be a white-collar worker now," Li Yifei said, looking quite excited.

Xu Yingying looked down on Li Yifei somewhat, as a man without ambition. He didn't know how to grasp the opportunity given to him and instead was complacent about becoming a white-collar worker, demonstrating no prospects of advancement. Therefore, Xu Yingying's opinion of Li Yifei dropped significantly.

"Let's sleep," she said before turning over, her back facing Li Yifei. For a man who was easily satisfied, there seemed to be even less cause for worry.

Li Yifei wasn't sure when he fell asleep, but he was awakened by the cold feeling on his forehead. The single layer of blanket was no longer enough to keep him warm.

Although there was an electric heating pad under the bed keeping the mattress warm, the room temperature had dropped considerably, a common trait in the countryside, where people burned their own heating fires. By the late night, when the fire died down, the room naturally became cold. The locals were accustomed to it, but for someone who lived in a heated apartment building, it would be uncomfortable.

Li Yifei didn't mind the cold, but the drop in temperature instinctively woke him up. Just as he was about to go back to sleep, Xu Yingying moved closer to him.

Guided by the starlight outside the room, Li Yifei saw Xu Yingying curled up into a ball, obviously very cold.

After hesitating for a moment, Li Yifei pulled half of his blanket over Xu Yingying's, keeping only half for himself. Xu Yingying soon felt more comfortable and her body relaxed.

With only half a blanket covering him, Li Yifei could feel a draft but managed to close his eyes and fall asleep. In the past, he could sleep even in tougher conditions, let alone now with a warm electric heating pad beneath him.

He didn't know how long he had slept when he awoke again, not due to cold but to warmth, as someone was now in his embrace. He and Xu Yingying shared the same blanket, which now covered both of them and brought warmth through their snuggling together.

At that time, Xu Yingying was lying on her side facing him, her arm wrapped around his back and one leg entwined with his, sleeping soundly.

Although both were dressed in several layers, holding a beautiful woman in his arms still made Li Yifei feel his mouth go dry. He swallowed hard and discarded any idea of making a move. Xu president was not someone to be trifled with. If he did something, the consequences would be terrifying.

Moreover, he could tell that a woman like Xu Yingying was no pushover. If anything happened between them, it would certainly be troublesome. Although he wanted to lead an ordinary life, he wasn't ready to be tied down by a woman yet. As attractive as Xu Yingying might be, she was too much for him to handle. So he took a deep breath to calm his restless heart and closed his eyes to fall back asleep.

When he woke up again, it was because of the cold look Xu Yingying was giving him. Li Yifei didn't open his eyes immediately but assessed the situation, and he inwardly cursed his luck.

Xu Yingying was lying flat on her back, only her face turned towards him, and one of his hands had somehow slipped under her neck while the other hugged her shoulder, his leg pressing down on hers. No wonder Xu Yingying, who had woken up first, hadn't gotten out of bed but was staring at him instead.

What was worse, his hand that had found its way under her neck was now inside the collar of her clothing, though it hadn't touched her breasts, it was against her skin.

With her arms and legs pinned by him, she wasn't just unable to get out of bed; she couldn't even pull his arms away. That's why she was looking at him with a murderous glare.

Thinking of how to explain their current situation, Li Yifei continued to feign deep sleep. After two more minutes, he moved a little and then slowly opened his eyes. When he met Xu Yingying's gaze, he froze, then flustered like one stung by a scorpion, struggled to let go of Xu Yingying, and in apparent panic said, "President Xu, I... I... How did I end up sleeping in... the same blanket with you?"

Xu Yingying didn't speak, just kept staring at Li Yifei. He quickly sat up and, meeting Xu Yingying's gaze, stuttered, "President Xu, I really didn't mean to do it. I woke up once in the middle of the night... saw you were cold, so I put half of my blanket over you. Look... that's what happened, but I didn't know how afterward... President Xu, I really didn't do it on purpose."

Xu Yingying glanced at the blanket covering her, indeed one half was Li Yifei's. She saw that what Li Yifei had said was more or less true.

"President Xu, is it... is it still possible for me to go work at your company?" Li Yifei then cautiously asked.

This time Xu Yingying truly believed Li Yifei. A small fry so concerned about his job wouldn't have the nerve to assault her in the middle of the night. Besides, judging by how her body felt, she hadn't been violated. However, the fact that she ended up under the same blanket with Li Yifei and even allowed his hand into her clothing made her quite irritated.

With a "hmph," Xu Yingying said, "I, Xu Yingying, always do what I promise."

"Thank you, President Xu, thank you. You are truly generous," Li Yifei immediately said with great gratitude, but inwardly he was filled with regret.

Chapter 24: Chapter 24 Gathering

"Knock, knock!" Accompanied by a knocking sound, Xu Shanshan called from outside the door, "Sis, Brother-in-law, time to get up!"

Xu Yingying responded and then whispered to Li Yifei, "Let's just forget about this matter, don't feel burdened, you are now my boyfriend."

Li Yifei hastily nodded his head, then took a deep breath, smiled at Xu Yingying, and said, "No problem now."

Xu Yingying nodded, got up to open the door, and Xu Shanshan immediately squeezed in. She glanced at the quilt on the bed and then scrutinized their clothes, chuckled, and said, "You two got dressed pretty quickly, huh?"

Li Yifei coughed dryly, showing a bit of embarrassment, while Xu Yingying glared and retorted, "What do you mean by that; are we supposed to stay undressed for you to see?"

Xu Shanshan giggled and said, "If you're not wearing clothes, there's nothing to see, but Brother-in-law... hehe, I wouldn't dare to look."

Li Yifei chuckled, quickly started folding the quilt, and after he finished, he put on his outerwear, by which time Xu Yingying had also dressed.

"What are you doing running over here so early in the morning?" Xu Yingying asked.

Xu Shanshan let out a light laugh and said, "Nothing much, Mom woke up early and that woke me up, so I came to bother you all."

"Hmph, you really are bored," Xu Yingying said as she fixed her hair, which was curled into large waves and quite easy to manage.

"So what should we do? There's nothing to do this early in the morning. How about we go out for fun later?"

"What's there to do for fun, isn't chatting with Grandpa nice?"

"You come back home once a year, but I visit every month. Grandpa doesn't miss me, Brother-in-law, will you go play with me, please?"

Xu Yingying immediately vetoed the idea, "No way, your brother-in-law also has to keep Grandpa company."

"Boring, hmph, I'll go find someone else to hang out with then," Xu Shanshan said to Xu Yingying while sticking out her tongue, then turned and ran out.

Xu Yingying shook her head, feeling completely helpless about her sister, then turned to Li Yifei with a smile and asked, "What are you laughing about?"

Li Yifei responded, "I just wonder, you two are identical twins, so how can your personalities be so different?"

Xu Yingying, feeling rather helpless, said, "Hmph, she's just a child who won't grow up, I really don't know when she'll let me stop worrying about her."

"It's not like that. I think Shanshan's way is alright too, being happy and carefree. A girl should just live happily, there's no need for her to be so full of ambitions and pursuits like you."

Xu Yingying, dissatisfied, said, "You're not allowed to say these things to Shanshan, or she'll become even more insolent. I'm telling you, I don't expect her to be like me, but she can't just run off to play all the time, especially not with those sketchy people she calls 'art friends.' I see them as a bunch of people with no real skills who use art as an excuse."

Li Yifei, not familiar with the situation, said, "Well, I don't really know about that. If the people Shanshan is hanging out with are really sketchy, then we should indeed intervene."

Xu Yingying looked at Li Yifei and suddenly asked, "Are you good at fighting?"

"I'm okay, why? Do you want me to fight someone?"

"It's not about fighting, but finding an opportunity to teach those guys a lesson and keep them away from Shanshan."

"Really? Interfering like that in Shanshan's friendships might just make her angry."

"Hmph, so what if she gets angry, I'm her sister, what have I got to be afraid of?"

"This... I think it's better to be cautious. If you trust me, I'll take the chance to meet Shanshan's friends and see what kind of people they are. If they really aren't up to snuff, I'll deal with them. If they're okay, then I think we should just let her be."

"You..." Xu Yingying's eyes showed extreme skepticism.

Li Yifei shrugged and said, "If you don't trust me, then there's nothing I can do."

At this point, Xu Yingying nodded and said, "Then go and check them out. They are bound to have some gathering in the next few days; just follow along."

Li Yifei grinned and replied, "No problem, this one's on the house, a bonus."

Xu Yingying rolled her eyes at Li Yifei and said, "I've already given you plenty, and besides, when we get back, I'll be arranging a job for you, so it's only right that you do a bit extra."

Seeing Xu Yingying speak in such a tone was rare, and Li Yifei just chuckled before he and Xu Yingying went out to the living room. Grandpa and the Xu Zhenguo couple were there, but Xu Shanshan was nowhere to be seen.

After breakfast, a round of New Year's visits began, with even distant relatives joining in, creating a buzz all around, before the Xu Yingying's family of five finally returned to their home in the city that afternoon.

Compared to the bustle of the countryside, their city home felt relatively quiet. Xu Shanshan answered several calls as soon as she arrived home, with friends discussing plans for a get-together.

After Xu Shanshan finished her calls, Xu Yingying said, "Shanshan, since your brother-in-law doesn't have anything to do at home, why don't you take him out for a bit?"

Xu Shanshan looked at Xu Yingying in surprise and asked, "You trust me to take my brother-in-law out without worry? Aren't you afraid I'll lead him astray?"

Xu Yingying snorted and said, "I want him to keep an eye on you."

Xu Shanshan chuckled and said, "No problem," then gave Li Yifei a wink. She had always been skeptical about Li Yifei as a brother-in-law, but since he was sharing a room with Xu Yingying, she couldn't help but believe that Li Yifei was her sister's boyfriend.

She actually thought this brother-in-law was pretty nice and wasn't afraid of Li Yifei at all. In fact, she got along with him very well, and the thought of going out with him was very appealing.

Around five o'clock, Li Yifei left home with Xu Shanshan, who didn't drive because they were planning to drink that evening.

They hailed a taxi and arrived at a place called Art Bar. The decor seemed quite unique, but the interior was a bit dark. After circling around a round corridor, they reached a small hall surrounded by chairs and tables. At that moment, six or seven people were sitting at two tables, drinking, while a young man with long hair sat on a small stage in the center, playing a guitar and singing a song Li Yifei had never heard before.

"Shanshan's here," someone called out first, and then everyone greeted Xu Shanshan warmly as she appeared very familiar with them all.

"Shanshan, who is this?" inquired a long-haired woman who wore a low-cut shirt and floral pants, wiggling her hips suggestively and pointing at Li Yifei. Her gestures were indeed very flirty.

"Let me introduce you all—this is Li Yifei," Xu Shanshan said, pulling Li Yifei to her side and introducing him with a smile, without mentioning that he was her sister's boyfriend.

"Li Yifei, I'm Xiao Ming," said the flirtatious woman, extending her hand, which was adorned with red nail polish, toward Li Yifei.

Li Yifei shook her hand, said hello, and then suddenly realized something was off; this person had an Adam's apple. Upon closer inspection, despite the heavy makeup making him look convincingly feminine, a hint of stubble was visible above his chin.

This gave Li Yifei an unpleasant shiver, having seen plenty of transvestites in Thailand but never expecting to encounter one in his life. Today was truly an eye-opener.

"Shanshan, who is he to you?" Xiao Ming then asked Xu Shanshan.

Xu Shanshan playfully winked at Li Yifei, then replied, "I brought him with me—what do you think he is to me?"

"Wow!" Xiao Ming suddenly exclaimed, then gave Li Yifei a thorough up-and-down look, which made the hair on his back stand on end. He had never felt so rattled, not even when facing a formidable opponent.

"Shanshan, what's with your taste in men—how did you find such a boyfriend?"

Xiao Ming's remark made Li Yifei quite displeased, especially since everyone seemed to have mistaken him for Xu Shanshan's boyfriend, a misconception Xu Shanshan appeared to encourage intentionally.

However, Li Yifei didn't contradict it, as Xu Shanshan had given him a meaningful look earlier, clearly indicating her intention. The cheeky girl hadn't said a word on the way there and chose to present him with the situation as a fait accompli upon arrival.

Immediately, Xu Shanshan latched onto Li Yifei's arm and declared, "Xiao Ming, you have no taste. Let me tell you, my boyfriend is amazing."

"Amazing? What can he do? Does he understand music? Does he dance? Does he paint? Does he know art?" Xiao Ming challenged with a shrill voice.

Li Yifei shook his head, saying, "I don't know any of those."

The boy who had been singing on stage jumped down and approached Xu Shanshan with hostility in his eyes, saying, "Shanshan, what are you doing? Why did you bring someone who doesn't understand anything?"

Xu Shanshan pouted and said, "You just don't see what I see. Yifei's qualities aren't something you can just recognize. If you keep talking like this, I'm going to leave."

The long-haired man opened his mouth, then said nothing. Instead, he reached out to Li Yifei and said, "Zhao Qingsong."

Li Yifei shook hands with the long-haired man, smiling and about to let go, but the young man suddenly tightened his grip. The others watched excitedly, making it clear that they knew Zhao Qingsong was competing in a test of hand strength with Li Yifei.

Li Yifei couldn't help but smile, holding the hand of Zhao Qingsong, curious to see what the young man was capable of.

"Hehe, Shanshan, be careful your boyfriend's hand doesn't get crushed," someone teased.

"That's right, you know how strong Qingsong is. He's trained in martial arts," another added.

"If you want to be Shanshan's boyfriend, you've got to show some real skills. How else could it be?" they continued.

Xu Shanshan looked a bit nervous as she watched Li Yifei. She knew Zhao Qingsong had considerable hand strength, but she was unsure about Li Yifei. At that moment, she was truly worried he would be at a disadvantage. She had meant to warn Li Yifei moments ago, but it was too late, and now she hoped Zhao Qingsong would release Li Yifei. However, seeing Li Yifei's consistently relaxed demeanor, she swallowed her words and her eyes shone with the same excitement as everyone else's.

No data found.