

Super Soldier in the City

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Chapter 41: Chapter 40

The Deputy Minister's office was tightly shut. Michelle stood in front of the desk, nervously looking at Zhao QingSheng, the Deputy Minister, and stammered, "Minister Zhao, what did you want to see me for?"

In the Deputy Minister's office, there was only one room but three desks. Zhao QingSheng sat behind his desk, squinting at Michelle. He was a lascivious man who usually liked to take liberties with the female staff. Shen Yajuan had been taken advantage of many times, but compared to Michelle, she was far inferior. Michelle was young and beautiful, as well as gentle and timid, with a small courage—unlike Shen Yajuan, who was brash. It was fine to take small advantages from Shen Yajuan, but if he went too far, she would dare to scream. Therefore, Zhao QingSheng no longer troubled Shen Yajuan and had shifted his focus to Michelle.

However, there were usually more people in the Deputy Minister's office, and Michelle also often did not give him an opportunity. But this time, he finally had a chance and he intended to make good use of it.

"Little Michelle, it seems that your work hasn't been quite up to par lately?" Zhao QingSheng said, rocking in his chair, his face stern, looking every bit the boss discussing work.

Michelle was startled and hurriedly said, "Where have I not done well? Please instruct me, Minister Zhao, I will strive to correct it."

Zhao QingSheng had no idea where Michelle had fallen short; he simply intended to scare her. He shook his head and said, "The work in our department is indeed quite average at the moment, and you must bear some responsibility."

"Yes, I am responsible." Michelle, being young and naive, was completely fooled by Zhao QingSheng's words.

Zhao QingSheng was very pleased with Michelle's reaction and nodded, saying, "However, it's normal for young people to make mistakes, and as a leader, I can allow my subordinates to err. You don't need to be too nervous. Let's talk about something else. Do you really want to work at the branch company forever?"

Michelle immediately said, "I think our Huayang Company is very good."

"Huayang Company is indeed not bad right now, but it is, after all, just a subsidiary. Compared to the head office, it is still far behind. Haven't you ever thought of making a move and aiming for the head office? As long as you get there, not to mention the benefits and salary, but in the future, if you were to be transferred to a subsidiary, you could at least get a position as a Minister. Isn't that a great way to get promoted?"

Seeing Zhao QingSheng sitting across the desk from her, Michelle had let her guard down considerably and said, "But I'm just a junior employee, how could I enter the head office so easily?"

"That's the wrong way to think. People should always aim high, and water flows low; you need to have the ambition to climb higher, only then can you do better."

"Thank you for your encouragement, Minister Zhao, I will work hard."

"You're still so young. Do you think just by working hard, you will become a Minister anytime soon? In this era, everything is about relationships and favors. Without knowing people at the head office, it won't be so easy to advance."

"But I don't know anyone, do I?"

"You may not know anyone, but I do. As long as I help you, I can definitely get you to the head office quickly." As Zhao QingSheng spoke, he had already stood up, pretending to go pour a glass of water, and when he came back, he had moved next to Michelle.

"Minister Zhao, you want to help me?" Michelle said, somewhat excited.

"Yes, I see you as a fine young person who will definitely have opportunities for development. Of course, I would like to help you." As he spoke, Zhao QingSheng reached his hand toward Michelle's shoulder, as if a leader showing concern for his subordinate.

Michelle's heart leaped, and she quickly sidestepped, causing Zhao QingSheng's hand to hit the air. She said, "Thank you, Minister Zhao."

Zhao QingSheng missed his mark but didn't get angry. Instead, he grinned and said, "Little Michelle, in this society, you must give something to get something in return. I'm helping you get to the head office; haven't you thought of repaying me somehow?"

Michelle's face twitched slightly and she said, "Minister Zhao, I'm sorry, I think it's better for me to work my way up step by step in the branch company." With that, she tried to leave, as she had already sensed the danger from Zhao QingSheng.

Zhao QingSheng had long been captivated by Michelle's beauty and was not about to let such a good opportunity slip away. Moreover, he assumed that Michelle, because of

her timid nature, would not dare to protest even if wronged. He quickly blocked her way, spread his arms to embrace her, and said with a sleazy smile, "Little Michelle, you know, I really like you. If you agree to my terms, I can give you money and also pave the way for your promotion."

Michelle was taken aback, not expecting Zhao QingSheng to be so bold. She quickly stepped back, her hands guarding her chest as she dodged Zhao QingSheng. But just as he had said, she was indeed afraid to raise her voice. On one hand, she did not dare to offend Zhao QingSheng too deeply, and on the other hand, never having had a boyfriend, she was frightened that if others in the company learned she was harassed by Zhao QingSheng, it would damage her reputation.

After retreating only a couple of steps, she found herself against the desk. Trying to run to the side, Zhao QingSheng blocked her path with extended arms, his leering faces saying, "Little Michelle, just give in to me. I promise you won't lose out in the end."

Michelle, pale with fear, stuttered, "It's not okay... not okay. If you don't stop... I'll scream."

Zhao QingSheng chuckled darkly and said, "Go ahead and scream, and make it loud. I, a man, am not afraid. You, a girl without a boyfriend—if it gets out, it will ruin your reputation. And I will claim you slept with me, ensuring everyone looks down on you, making it impossible for you to find a boyfriend."

"You... you're shameless!" Michelle finally got a real taste of Zhao QingSheng's shamelessness but, unfortunately, didn't know how to handle it.

Zhao QingSheng let out a haughty laugh and said, "I am shameless, but if you follow me, I will definitely treat you well, and you will even go to the headquarters. Don't you think these advantages are worth it? Come on, let me give you a hug." As he spoke, he reached out to hug Michelle again.

Just then, the door to the office was suddenly pushed open, which startled Zhao QingSheng, causing him to quickly withdraw his arms, and Michelle seized the opportunity to forcefully push him away and frantically run toward the door.

"Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, wrong room." The person who came in was none other than Li Yifei, who immediately put on a smiley face, apologized repeatedly to Zhao QingSheng, and quickly retreated, closing the door behind him.

Zhao QingSheng was stunned for a moment and then became furious, he was about to succeed when Li Yifei ruined it all. What wrong room? That guy was obviously doing it on purpose.

"Damn it, kid, you've got guts, daring to spoil my plan, let's see how I deal with you." Zhao QingSheng slapped the desk angrily, knowing that Li Yifei was a new employee in

the logistics department, and as the Deputy Minister, it would be too easy for him to deal with Li Yifei.

By this time, Li Yifei had returned to the office, where Michelle was leaning on the desk, her shoulders trembling non-stop. Shen Yajuan was sitting beside Michelle, comforting her.

At this moment, Shen Yajuan looked up at Li Yifei and shook her head, "Little Li, be careful from now on, he will definitely come after you for ruining his plans."

Li Yifei shrugged his shoulders and smiled nonchalantly, "It's fine. I couldn't just stand by and watch Little Mi be bullied by him."

Shen Yajuan whispered again, "Little Mi didn't suffer any losses, right?"

"Shouldn't have; I was listening at the door. As soon as Zhao QingSheng made a move, I went in."

Shen Yajuan let out a sigh of relief, patted Michelle on the shoulder, and said gently, "You didn't suffer any losses, so stop crying. It's because you're too weak that Zhao QingSheng dares to be so bold. Do you think he dares to mess with me? I'd squash his balls."

Li Yifei immediately broke out in a cold sweat. Shen Yajuan really was bold, saying such things right in front of him.

Michelle also got quite a shock from Shen Yajuan's words, her crying stopped abruptly, and she raised her head to wipe away her tears, her eyes red as she said to Li Yifei, "Brother Li, thank you."

"What are you being formal for? In the company, I still rely on you showing me the ropes. I haven't even taken you out for a meal yet."

Michelle wiped her eyes again and turned to Shen Yajuan, "Sister Shen, do you think Minister Zhao will really make things difficult for Yifei?"

Li Yifei, seeing that Shen Yajuan was about to nod, immediately said, "Don't be scared. I was personally arranged to come here by President Xu. No matter how powerful Minister Zhao is, he can't override President Xu. If he dares to mess with me, I will go straight to President Xu and see what he can do to me."

The fact that Li Yifei was arranged by Xu Yingying to join the company was clear to everyone, and it mystified them. They couldn't understand why Xu Yingying, the most unsentimental president, had arranged for Li Yifei to come in. Now, from what Li Yifei was suggesting, his relationship with Xu Yingying didn't seem ordinary.

Shen Yajuan looked at Li Yifei with a puzzled expression and asked, "Little Li, do you really have a connection with President Xu?"

"Yeah, of course, we have a connection or else how could I have gotten a job inside the company?"

While he was speaking, Li Yifei noticed that Shen Yajuan and Michelle were giving him strange looks and turning to look behind him. Li Yifei quickly turned his head and saw Xu Yingying, who was staring at him with a murderous gaze, sending a chill down his spine instantly.

"President Xu, hello!" Li Yifei's face changed swiftly, and he greeted her with a beaming smile.

Xu Yingying snorted coldly and said, "Li Yifei, I'm warning you. Although I arranged for you to come here, I have no personal ties with you. But if you continue to flaunt my name around the company, I'll have you fired on the spot."

Xu Yingying was so angry because she had heard Li Yifei claiming they had a relationship when she came in, and nowadays implying that kind of a relationship could only mean something deeper. If others came to believe that they had a romantic relationship, it was something Xu Yingying absolutely could not tolerate.

But Xu Yingying also had a guilty conscience. In fact, Shen Yajuan had not thought of it that way at all; she merely thought there was some sort of kinship or personal favor between them. Despite Li Yifei seeming decent enough, in her heart, he couldn't possibly compare to the president, Xu Yingying, let alone have that kind of romantic relationship with her.

Chapter 42: Chapter 41 Gluttony

Li Yifei quickly chuckled and said, "Yes, yes, I'm always working hard, and I absolutely have not used your name."

Xu Yingying gave Li Yifei a cold stare, then turned to Michelle, saying, "Michelle, what's wrong with you?"

Michelle hesitated, afraid to speak, but Shen Yajuan immediately said, "President Shen, just now Minister Zhao called Michelle over, and then tried to take liberties with her, so Little Li went over to help her. Minister Zhao really went too far. How can we work like this?"

Shen Yajuan had long been simmering with resentment, but she seldom had the opportunity to complain. Today, with Xu Yingying coming to the logistics department, she spilt everything about Zhao Qingsheng's indecent actions like pouring beans from a bamboo tube.

Xu Yingying's expression grew darker as she listened, and once Shen Yajuan finished speaking, she said at once, "Don't worry, I will give you all an explanation." Then she walked out of the office, and the rapid tapping of her high heels on the floor was enough to show how angry she was.

Then the sound of the door to the Deputy Minister's office next door opening and closing could be heard, but no one heard what Xu Yingying said inside.

Shen Yajuan clenched her fist in excitement, saying, "That was so satisfying. This time President Xu will definitely take care of that bastard. It would be best if she just kicked him out of the company."

At this point, Michelle's mood also improved, knowing that President Xu had stood up for her. She felt less aggrieved, mainly because she hadn't suffered too much.

About ten minutes later, Xu Yingying came out and re-entered the logistics department, saying, "Michelle, rest assured, he won't dare to do it again."

Michelle quickly said, "Thank you, President Xu."

Xu Yingying said with remorse, "Don't thank me; I should be the one saying sorry. It's my fault that my employees cannot work properly in the company because of these things. Going forward, I will have Minister Zheng establish a proper office system, under your logistics department's management. If any harassment occurs again, no matter who is involved, I will fire them right away."

Li Yifei immediately asked, "So, you're not going to fire that guy this time?"

Xu Yingying frowned slightly, and said, "Currently there's no specific policy in place, so firing him wouldn't be justifiable." However, she felt somewhat frustrated inside. In truth, she wanted to fire Zhao Qingsheng immediately, but he had a very strong backer, and she really couldn't dismiss him right now.

Xu Yingying deeply loathed such people, yet she was managing a company that was nearly worth a hundred million in assets. She had to consider all aspects, and some things weren't as simple as how she wished to handle them. It was a helpless situation for Xu Yingying.

After Xu Yingying left, the three started packing up to leave work, while Zhao Qingsheng came in, his face ashen, looking at Li Yifei with venom, "Kid, you've got guts. We'll see about this."

Li Yifei, however, acted as if he hadn't heard Zhao Qingsheng speak and continued to pack his things, then said to Shen Yajuan and Michelle, "Sister Shen, Michelle, let's go."

By ignoring Zhao Qingsheng, Li Yifei was not only disregarding him, but it was also a naked contempt. Zhao Qingsheng's face grew even more unsightly as he ground his teeth and said, "You just wait, kid. If I don't drive you out of the company within a month, my last name isn't Zhao." After saying this, he stormed off furiously.

At that moment, Michelle immediately expressed her concern, "Brother Li, what are we going to do now?"

Li Yifei smiled lightly and said, "This company isn't his, why worry? If he wants to drive me out, he's got a long wait ahead of him."

"Are you really sure it's nothing?" Michelle asked, somewhat incredulously.

"Of course, it's nothing. Let's go. Don't forget, President Xu is the boss of this company. If you don't have confidence in others, can you really lack confidence in President Xu? As long as I work diligently, President Xu definitely won't let him succeed."

With the mention of Xu Yingying, both Michelle and Shen Yajuan felt reassured. In the company, President Xu was the backbone. It was unheard of for a well-performing employee to be forced to leave.

When Li Yifei got home and was about to open his door, he remembered the promise he made to the flight attendant and knocked on the neighboring door first. After several knocks with no response from inside, he concluded that she was not at home and went back to his apartment to tidy up and start preparing dinner.

No sooner had the meal been prepared than there was a knock at the door. Li Yifei went to answer it and saw the flight attendant neighbor, though today she wasn't in uniform. Instead, she was wearing a beige sweater and a pair of jeans, the sweater straining noticeably across her chest, clearly well-endowed. Judging by the look, they must have been at least a D-cup.

"Wow, that smells amazing!" Instead of addressing the matter at hand, the flight attendant sniffed sharply, her expression one of longing.

Li Yifei couldn't help but smile and said, "I just finished making dinner; do you want to come in and have some?"

"Would that be alright?" the flight attendant seemed embarrassed but clearly enticed by the prospect of a meal.

Li Yifei found it even more amusing, considering that the flight attendant had been very wary of him the day before, whereas today, the offer of food had significantly lowered her guard. He stepped aside and said, "Then come and join me. I think there's enough for two."

The flight attendant still appeared somewhat sheepish but followed him inside. Li Yifei got her a pair of slippers, saying, "Aren't you afraid I might have ulterior motives, just casually coming into my place like this?"

The flight attendant stiffened for a moment, then stuck her tongue out playfully, replying, "Whoever has ulterior motives wouldn't say it outright. I feel like you, Brother Li, are a good person."

Li Yifei laughed heartily and said, "Then you're mistaken; I am a bad person."

"I don't believe that. A bad person would never admit they're bad." While she spoke, she slipped on the slippers and asked, "Brother Li, isn't your wife at home?"

"I live alone; I'm not married," Li Yifei replied offhandedly as he made his way to the dining table.

"Then how come there are women's slippers here?"

"These slippers were left by the previous owner, I just didn't throw them away."

"Oh..." The air stewardess walked over to the dining table at that moment, and Li Yifei served her some rice. He said, "Eat."

"Wow, so much delicious food, Brother Li you're amazing, you even know how to cook." The air stewardess picked up her chopsticks and immediately started eating without reservation, and her eating speed was incredibly fast.

Li Yifei was taken aback by the air stewardess and couldn't help but say, "Have you not eaten for days?"

The stewardess paused, tilted her head, and said, "Seems like it's been two days."

"Two days?" Li Yifei was flabbergasted by her response.

"Yeah, I've been living on instant noodles these past two days."

Li Yifei was immediately covered in a cold sweat, so the air stewardess's reference to not eating didn't include instant noodles.

"By the way, Brother Li, what should I call you?" The stewardess finished a bowl of rice, and after Li Yifei refilled her bowl, she slowed down her eating and looked up at Li Yifei.

Li Yifei smiled and said, "My name is Li Yifei, and I think I've told you once already."

"Sorry, I wasn't paying attention then." The stewardess stuck out her tongue and said, "My name is Meng Xiaofei."

"Hmm, that's a nice name."

"Hehe, it seems like every man who hears my name says that it's nice, but I really can't see what's so good about it."

Li Yifei broke into a sweat and said, "I guess everyone thinks you're pretty, so they feel the need to compliment you."

Meng Xiaofei smiled shyly and said, "I didn't want to look like this either, but there's nothing I can do about it."

Meng Xiaofei's remarks were always a pleasant surprise to Li Yifei, and he found it rather amusing. He said, "What's so bad about being beautiful? Nowadays many people go for plastic surgery just to look beautiful."

Meng Xiaofei pouted and said, "If you're beautiful, a lot of people want to take advantage of you. I'd rather be an ugly monster, then no one would care about me and I could do whatever I want."

Li Yifei actually gained a new respect for Meng Xiaofei; the girl actually had such a mindset. This meant she was not a person greedy for vanity. Perhaps that's why she was an air stewardess despite being so beautiful.

In a short while, the three dishes on the table had been completely devoured by the two of them. The food that was originally enough for only Li Yifei's meal, he had offered some to Meng Xiaofei out of politeness, not expecting her to actually come and eat, and consume a lot at that. She had eaten more than half of the food, so Li Yifei was only three parts full.

"Brother Li, you eat so little, even less than me," Meng Xiaofei said, shaking her head after finishing her meal.

Li Yifei was somewhat speechless; after all, he hadn't eaten his fill, but he couldn't be bothered to mention it and stood up saying, "Let's go, I'll go help you with the nails to avoid being kept awake again in the middle of the night."

"Hehe, thank you, Brother Li." Meng Xiaofei playfully stuck out her tongue at Li Yifei, then ran ahead to change her shoes and left to open her apartment door.

Li Yifei followed her into her apartment, which was larger than his own with a two-bedroom and one-living-room layout, unlike Li Yifei's which had only one bedroom. As soon as he entered, Li Yifei only had one feeling: "messy".

The living room sofa was scattered with clothes here and there, the coffee table was cluttered with a bunch of snacks and such, and there were even some nails on the floor.

"Is it just you living here?" Li Yifei asked in confusion as he entered.

"Yes, what's up?" Meng Xiaofei replied breezily.

Li Yifei motioned to the living room and said, "It looks like you live with a dozen people."

Meng Xiaofei immediately felt embarrassed, stuck out her tongue, and said, "I just cleaned it up."

Li Yifei was instantly engulfed in an imaginary heap of dark clouds; this was after cleaning up? If it had been left unattended, the apartment would have been a complete disaster.

However, Li Yifei had no right to judge Meng Xiaofei's lifestyle. He picked up some nails from the floor and asked, "Where's the hammer?"

"Don't have one."

"What did you use to hammer the nails yesterday?"

"This." Meng Xiaofei pulled out a candy box that was full of dents.

Li Yifei's eyes widened, his mouth twitched twice, and he said, "I'll go back to get some tools," then turned and walked out. No wonder this girl spent half of last night hammering; using a candy box to drive nails is pointless. It was a good thing he came to help her, otherwise, he'd never get any sleep.

Chapter 43: Chapter 42 Too Careless

Li Yifei's house didn't have a hammer, but it did have a mover, left behind by the landlord. Although it wasn't ideal for driving nails, it was sturdy enough and could withstand some force. For Li Yifei, hammering nails was more than manageable.

Under Meng Xiaofei's guidance, Li Yifei put two nails in the living room wall. Meng Xiaofei immediately hung two picture frames on them, both containing her artistic photos. Looking at the photos, Li Yifei couldn't help but praise, "You're this beautiful and still taking artistic photos? Aren't you just purposely making everyone else jealous?"

"Giggle, it's my own home, not outside," Meng Xiaofei said, very happy to receive such compliments from Li Yifei.

"You even said you hoped to grow up to be an ugly monster, and now you're still so vain. You're totally fibbing."

"I didn't! I've already grown up to be like this, and there's nothing I can do about it. If I can't change it, I might as well enjoy it."

Li Yifei couldn't help but chuckle; Meng Xiaofei was indeed an interesting girl. Talking with her always amused him. Having met many women, he had never encountered anyone with her personality before.

Seeing Meng Xiaofei still admiring her artistic photos, Li Yifei shook his head and said with a smile, "Wait until I leave before you admire yourself. Anywhere else you need a nail?"

"Let me think, yes! Another nail above the head of the bed in the bedroom," Meng Xiaofei said as she immediately led Li Yifei to the bedroom.

The bedroom door had been closed, but as Meng Xiaofei opened it, Li Yifei got a glimpse of the inside and immediately felt his nose warm up. The room was a bit too romantic for a man to take in.

Scattered across the bed and the floor were several pairs of stockings, some flesh-colored, some black—a strange thing to have out in the middle of winter.

Not just stockings, but also several bras and panties were strewn about the bed, and they were those enticing lace kinds. Even for someone as worldly as Li Yifei, this sudden sight was a bit overwhelming.

"Ah!" Meng Xiaofei cried out, hurriedly rushing in to frantically gather all the lingerie together. Then she pulled open the wardrobe and dumped them inside.

Once everything was tidied, she turned back, her face and ears red, and said, "I... I washed them and hung them to dry but hadn't put them away yet."

Li Yifei was both amused and exasperated, saying, "It's a good thing I'm not a pervert, or seeing your lingerie lying here, I definitely might have taken advantage of you."

Meng Xiaofei was quite embarrassed but quickly stuck out her tongue in a mischievous manner and said, "I know Brother Li is a good person, otherwise I wouldn't dare to let you into my house."

"No need to flatter me, let's get that nail in so I can head back."

Meng Xiaofei immediately hopped onto the bed, moved the pillows aside, and pointed to the spot right above the head of the bed, saying, "Right here."

Li Yifei climbed onto the bed and hammered in the nail. Being on a woman's bed without actually doing anything was a situation he hadn't found himself in before.

After the nail was in, Meng Xiaofei handed Li Yifei a large picture frame and said, "Brother Li, help me hang this."

Li Yifei took it, admired it for a moment—the photo was a sexy shot of Meng Xiaofei in scant clothing, a small tank top, and hot shorts, incredibly seductive. Such a picture was perfect for the bedroom, but too eye-catching for the living room. And he was fortunate enough to have seen it.

"Stop looking, hurry up and hang it for me," Meng Xiaofei urged, a bit red-faced by now.

Li Yifei laughed and said, "You had it taken and won't let me look? It's a good thing you didn't actually dress like that in front of me, or I really might have turned into a pervert."

Meng Xiaofei, with a flush still on her face, scolded playfully, "Stop it, Brother Li, you're teasing me."

Li Yifei hung up the picture frame, and then he had Meng Xiaofei check and adjust its position. Once Meng Xiaofei was satisfied, he hopped off the bed.

Leaving the bedroom, Meng Xiaofei said to Li Yifei, "Thank you, Brother Li."

"Don't mention it. We're neighbors; it's only right to help each other out. If there's nothing else, I'll be going back."

"Sure, sure," said Meng Xiaofei as she saw Li Yifei to the door. As he was opening it to leave, Meng Xiaofei suddenly asked, "Brother Li, can I still come over to your place for a meal in the future?"

Li Yifei turned to look at Meng Xiaofei who quickly stuck out her tongue in embarrassment and hurriedly said, "I can buy groceries; I just don't know how to cook."

"Alright. If I have the time, you can come over for a meal."

"Yay, I've found myself a good neighbor! Brother Li, thank you. I'm flying out tomorrow, but when I get back, I'll buy the groceries."

Seeing Meng Xiaofei's excitement, Li Yifei was infected by her enthusiasm and said with a smile, "Okay, it'll even save me some money. After all, there's not much difference between cooking for one and cooking for two."

"It's a deal then!" Meng Xiaofei waved at Li Yifei, gave another radiant smile, withdrew her head, and closed the door.

Li Yifei shook his head, returning to his house with a smile on his face, feeling fortunate to have such a neighbor, ensuring he wouldn't be bored when coming home in the future.

Just as he sat down, Xu Shanshan's call came through again. Li Yifei hesitated for a moment before picking up, and Xu Shanshan immediately giggled, "Brother-in-law, where are you?"

"I'm outside," Li Yifei replied offhandedly as he settled on the sofa, knowing he absolutely couldn't admit he was at home.

"Where exactly? Did you ask for leave from my sister?"

"I'm dealing with something with a few colleagues outside, and I've told your sister already."

"Really? But my sister said you just went out, and you're already together with your colleagues so quickly?"

Li Yifei broke out in a cold sweat. Xu Yingying had received Xu Shanshan's call but hadn't notified him at all. At that moment, he heard the call waiting beep and glanced at his phone. Seeing that the incoming call was from the second line, which he reserved for Xu Yingying, he realized Xu Yingying was calling just now, obviously too late.

"It was quick, their car was waiting for me just outside the complex."

"Is that so? Brother-in-law, it's not good for kids to lie, you know. How come every time I call you guys, you're never together?"

"Who knows? It might just be a coincidence," Li Yifei could only offer that reason, but he quickly thought of a better one, "I'm just worried about affecting your sister's work, that's why nobody at the office knows about our relationship. In their eyes, I'm still single, so naturally, I'm always out having fun."

"Then tonight I'll call you guys in the middle of the night, I want to see if you're together or not."

"Why would you call in the middle of the night? That would be disturbing the peace."

"I'm going to disturb you guys. I always feel there's something off about you two; you don't seem like a couple at all. I'm going to expose you, hehe, and if you confess now, I won't bother you anymore."

Li Yifei couldn't confess; that would provoke Xu Yingying to settle scores with him, so he could only laugh, "You little rascal, go ahead and call then, but don't blame your sister if she gets mad at you."

"I'm not afraid. It's her fault for finding you to pretend to be her boyfriend. Now it's causing my mom to nag me endlessly. I will expose you two, and then let mom continue

to nag her, hahaha..." Having said that, Xu Shanshan hung up the phone, laughing triumphantly.

Only then did Li Yifei answer Xu Yingying's call, saying helplessly, "You're calling me, and Shanshan was just talking to me."

"What did she tell you?" Xu Yingying immediately asked anxiously.

Li Yifei recounted the entire conversation with Xu Shanshan to Xu Yingying. After hearing it, Xu Yingying said bitterly, "That dead girl, obviously afraid we'd collude, used two different phones to call me and you, and she called you straight after without even finishing her talk with me, making it impossible for me to give you a heads up."

Li Yifei suddenly felt a headache coming on, saying, "In that case, we're definitely going to slip up. Isn't it better to just drop the act? You've already started working, there's no need to keep deceiving them, right?"

"No, if my mom finds out, she would definitely scold me. And she'd keep pressuring me to find a boyfriend."

Li Yifei said with a wry smile, "President Xu, you've got to give me some consideration. Shanshan could call me anytime, and I'm really unprepared. Plus, she said she's going to call tonight, what should we do?"

After thinking for a moment, Xu Yingying said, "Just ignore her. If she calls you, don't pick up. Pretend you've had too much to drink. She wouldn't have any way around that, and she can't come over to verify it anyway. We'll just keep denying, and she can't do anything about it."

"President Xu, this might work for one night, but what about after that? I haven't had much contact with Shanshan, but I feel like she's someone who's very persistent. What if she calls again in the middle of the night in a few days? Don't tell me I'm out getting drunk every night."

Xu Yingying was truly troubled by now. Her difficult sister was capable of causing trouble, and the main thing was, they both wanted to escape their mother's nagging. Xu Shanshan was determined to unravel it so she wouldn't be the one nagged at.

"Let me tell you, if you really want to get Shanshan to drop this idea, we need to let her actually prove that we're still together. The only way is if we spend the nights together."

Xu Yingying snorted coldly, "What on earth are you thinking?"

"If I wanted to do something, I would have done it long ago; wouldn't have waited until now. Anyway, this is the only solution I can think of, so if you don't like it, then it's up to you to come up with something," Li Yifei said.

There was silence on Xu Yingying's end. After a long while, she finally spoke, "Let me think about it, and I'll call you back."

After hanging up the phone, Li Yifei shook his head repeatedly. He had taken on this task intrigued by the fun of it and hoping to have a good place to spend the New Year. If only he'd known there would be so many troubles afterward, he wouldn't have agreed to Xu Yingying's request. But now that he was in too deep, and not one to shirk responsibility, Li Yifei knew he would have to soldier on and find a way to help Xu Yingying.

Less than half an hour later, Xu Yingying called, "Why don't you come and stay at my place for a few days?"

"What?" Li Yifei's eyes widened in shock, utterly unprepared for Xu Yingying's quick consent. He felt like he'd shot himself in the foot.

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