

Super Soldier in the City

Chapter 6 - 6 Nonsense

Xu Yingying's father, Xu Zhenguo, took out a cigarette and offered it to Li Yifei. Li Yifei quickly accepted it, and then personally lit it for Xu Zhenguo, but he himself placed the cigarette on the coffee table.

"You don't smoke?" Xu Zhenguo asked, looking puzzled at Li Yifei.

"I do smoke, but Yingying doesn't really like me smoking, so I try to smoke as little as possible."

"If you smoke, smoke, as long as you don't smoke too much, a few a day is not a big deal. Come on, light up."

It was only then that Li Yifei lit the cigarette and took a delightful drag. Along the way, Xu Yingying had flat out forbidden him from smoking, which had really stifled him.

At that moment, Xu Zhenguo asked with a smiling face, "Yifei, what are you working as now?"

Li Yifei glanced at Xu Yingying, his expression briefly showing some difficulty, which immediately made Xu Yingying tense. This guy couldn't have forgotten the plan they had agreed upon beforehand, could he?

"Yingying, I feel it's really wrong to lie to Uncle and Auntie, we should just tell the truth."

Xu Yingying was even more alarmed, but she kept a poker face, shooting Li Yifei a dark look, and said, "Yifei, what is there for us to lie about?"

Xu Zhenguo slapped Li Yifei on the shoulder and said, "Just speak your mind. My daughter may be a bit formidable, but I've got your back here. Just say what you need to say, and don't always look to Yingying's face before speaking."

Li Yifei nodded gratefully and said, "Uncle Xu, originally Yingying and I had agreed to tell you that I am a manager at a company, but I feel that lying about it isn't right. Life is about striving, and nobody can succeed overnight, so we shouldn't feel inferior just because I'm currently only a security guard."

At this point, Xu Yingying's mother immediately frowned. Xu Yingying was now a big manager with a monthly salary of tens of thousands, and Li Yifei, just a lowly security guard, was not a match for her.

Xu Yingying was secretly infuriated. How could Li Yifei change their agreed story on his own? Not to mention the increased difficulty for her parents to accept this, even if they did accept it, all their future stories would have to change. How were they supposed to deal with the two elders now? Wouldn't that unnecessarily complicate things?

Xu Zhenguo fixed his tiger-like eyes on Li Yifei and slowly said, "I'm really curious, our Yingying is ambitious and has high standards. Ordinary people simply don't catch her eye. How could she possibly take a fancy to you, a security guard?"

At that moment, Li Yifei's chest puffed out straight, and he spoke with pride, "That's why I am proud. As for why Yingying took a fancy to me, that's simple too. It's because Yingying saw my potential and knows that gold will always shine eventually."

"Oh? You're that confident?"

"Indeed, I've been confident since I was young, and my confidence is not blind. I am only confident about things I believe I can achieve. Although there is a significant gap between Yingying and myself right now, as an outstanding soldier, one should have an indomitable spirit, to overcome any difficulties. I believe I can bridge the gap between Yingying's and my career within two years."

"Good! For that spirit alone, I support you," Xu Zhenguo said, giving Li Yifei a firm pat on the shoulder.

"Thank you, Uncle Xu, I promise to complete the mission," Li Yifei stood up and gave a military salute with a snap.

It has to be said, Li Yifei really hit the mark this time. Xu Zhenguo's favorite thing was young people with military spirit. Li Yifei's response was right up his alley.

"Little Li, who else do you have in your family?" Xu Yingying's mother asked at this point, her main concern being this.

Li Yifei immediately spoke with a tinge of sadness, "I am an abandoned child, raised in an orphanage without ever seeing my parents or knowing who they are. Right now, I am completely alone."

Xu Yingying's mother's eyes lit up and she said, "That's quite good."

Xu Yingying was momentarily at a loss for words and nudged her mother, who then said somewhat awkwardly, "Little Li, Auntie didn't mean that. I mean, now there's a generation gap between young people and the elderly, and it's hard for mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law to get along. Our Yingying has a bit of a temper, so it would be even harder for her to get along with her mother-in-law. I'm no longer worried about this now."

For her mother, the most worrisome thing about her daughter getting married wasn't the prospective family's economic conditions, but rather the fear of a formidable mother-in-law. Now that her daughter had a successful career, the financial aspect was not a big issue. Li Yifei seemed tailor-made for Xu Yingying. Also, once her two daughters got married, they definitely wouldn't be around to take care of her in old age, as a son would. But Li Yifei, being an orphan, would be just like a son. Hence, based on this alone, she was quite pleased with Li Yifei, and she wasn't even concerned about whether or not he was a security guard.

Having won the approval of both elders, the following matters became much easier to handle, with everyone chatting joyfully. Especially when Li Yifei and Xu Zhenguo talked about their time in the military, they were animated and seemed to share a deep connection.

Xu Zhenguo, who had reached the rank of a regiment leader in the army before transferring to civilian work for the sake of his family, was now a District Director in Pingyang City. He didn't quite enjoy his job in the civilian sector and often missed his military days. That's why Li Yifei's military stories resonated so much with him.

Particularly after learning that Li Yifei had achieved commendations and carried out many missions in the military, Xu Zhenguo greatly admired him. He believed that a real man was forged in the army, and if someone had earned their stripes there, they were not likely to fall short in other endeavors.

Seeing Li Yifei getting along so well with her father, Xu Yingying finally breathed a sigh of relief. With her father's approval, everything else should be much easier.

At that moment, Xu Yingying's mother had finished preparing dinner and said to Xu Zhenguo, "Old man, call Shanshan and tell her to come home early for dinner."

Xu Zhenguo picked up the phone, and after dialing, said, "Shanshan, your sister's back, and she's brought your brother-in-law with her. Dinner's almost ready, so hurry back... What? Your brother-in-law is no less important than your classmates... Not leaving today, we'll all be here for the New Year... Alright, alright, just come back early and don't stay out too late."

After hanging up, Xu Zhenguo shook his head and said, "Yingying's sister is of a completely different temperament to Yingying; she's out all day playing with others and always comes back late. She even said that since you're here, you won't run away, and it will be fine if she acknowledges you later when she comes back."

Li Yifei immediately responded, "It's fine. Young people these days do like to have fun. There aren't many like Yingying and me, but it's not necessarily a bad thing."

"Heh, we'll leave her be then. We'll have our meal. You must join me for a drink tonight. It's been a long time since I had someone to drink with over the New Year, as these three women don't accompany me."

"No problem, but I can't hold my liquor that well, so Uncle Xu, please don't get me drunk."

Xu Zhenguo glared and barked, "What kind of soldier doesn't drink? Don't worry about Yingying; I'm here, how dare she stop you from drinking!"

"Well... I'm likely to be in for it later."

"You're wrong on that point. A man should have some spirit and can't be afraid of his wife. Listen to me, if you ought to drink, just drink. If a man never comes home drunk, he's not really a man."

Just then, Xu Yingying's mother came out of the kitchen with the dishes, heard her husband say this, and immediately glared at him, "You old fool, is that how you teach your daughter's boyfriend?"

Xu Zhenguo shook his head proudly and said, "I'm right, though. A man who's afraid of his wife won't go far in life or achieve much. I bet if Little Li were that sort of man, Yingying wouldn't even spare him a second glance."

Li Yifei was suddenly astonished and said, "You've seen right through that. Actually, what attracted Yingying to me was because I wasn't particularly respectful towards my general manager at first, which made her angry a few times, and that's how we finally got together."

"Haha... I just knew it. I know our Yingying's character best. She's the type that responds to strength, not weakness. You've got to be firmer than her; if you're soft, it's all over for you."

Xu Yingying, overhearing from the kitchen, was panic-stricken. Li Yifei was straying further and further from the script, completely out of her calculations. If her parents asked them separately later, it would be easy to slip up. She decided she needed to align their stories again with Li Yifei and to stop him from making things up, or else it would be even harder to handle.

Chapter 7 - 7 Accommodation

The dinner was a lively affair, Li Yifei and Xu Zhenguo kept toasting each other, and the bottle of Maotai they brought was polished off by the two of them.

Xu Zhenguo, after all, was older and his body wasn't what it used to be, although he drank happily, half a jin of white spirit had him pretty much seven or eight parts drunk, and in the end, it was Li Yifei who helped him to the bedroom to lie down.

Li Yifei's tolerance for alcohol was absolutely no problem; half a jin down, and he was still like he hadn't drunk at all, which slightly relieved Xu Yingying. If Li Yifei had drunk too much and spilled the truth, that would have been disastrous for her.

After tidying up the dining room, Xu Yingying's mother went to the bedroom and brought out a set of pajamas for Xu Yingying, saying, "Yingying, you really don't know how to take care of people. I see that Yifei didn't even bring clothes. These are your dad's pajamas; give them to Little Li to change into. We are going to bed first; you've been on the road all day, so you should rest early too."

Having taken the pajamas and watching her mother return to her room and shut the door, Xu Yingying suddenly remembered a very serious problem, where was Li Yifei going to sleep tonight?

Her home had a three-bedroom layout, with her parents occupying one of them and she and her sister each having their own, leaving no spare bedrooms.

If she let Li Yifei sleep in the living room, the sofa was quite comfortable and wouldn't be too bad, but that would be hard to explain to her parents.

If she let Li Yifei stay in her room, and then she went to her sister's, it would be the same issue. In these times, bringing someone home and claiming they hadn't shared a bed wouldn't be believed by parents, and if her sister came back at night, she would see right through them.

There was another point, her parents plainly assumed that the two would sleep in the same room; otherwise, they would have let Li Yifei sleep in the same room as her father.

Turning her head to glance at Li Yifei, the guy was sitting comfortably on the sofa, with even a hint of a sly look in his eyes, which annoyed Xu Yingying quite a bit. He was just hired by her, yet now he was acting like the lord of the manor. When had Xu Yingying ever waited on a man?

"Go take a shower and head to bed early," Xu Yingying said as she tossed the pajamas at Li Yifei, then turned on her heel and left.

Li Yifei jumped to his feet and followed her, whispering, "Where am I supposed to sleep tonight, then?"

"Just sleep in my room," Xu Yingying replied casually.

"Ah? That's not good, is it? You never said anything about sharing a bed," Li Yifei said, scratching his head, looking troubled.

Xu Yingying was even more annoyed. Was this guy actually making that face? Could it be that asking this guy to sleep in the same room as her was an imposition for him?

"Can't we add that now?" Xu Yingying lowered her voice and looked at Li Yifei.

"This..." Li Yifei rubbed his head, somewhat embarrassedly said, "I'm still a virgin, you know. I'm saving myself for my future wife."

"Cut the nonsense and go take a shower," Xu Yingying glared at Li Yifei, then went straight into her room.

Li Yifei was now a bit confused. Could it be that Xu Yingying really wanted to sleep in the same room with him? Although Xu Yingying was a bit cold and quick-tempered, she was without a doubt a great beauty. Spending a wonderful night with such a beauty would definitely be an exciting thing for any man.

Li Yifei had spent these years in a special forces unit; he didn't just stay in the barracks. Instead, he was on a variety of special missions where he had to disguise himself as all kinds of people. Thus, his life was colorful. Although he hadn't been involved in any romantic relationships, he'd shared a bed with quite a few women. It was only when he returned to urban life that he was free from entanglements with women.

A man who hadn't touched a woman in two or three months would find it difficult, so the thought of sharing a bed with Xu Yingying excited Li Yifei considerably.

However, Li Yifei was not an ordinary man. After fantasizing briefly, he abandoned the thought. Based on his understanding of Xu Yingying, she was not the casual type, so even if they were to share a room tonight, they definitely wouldn't share a bed.

After his bath, Li Yifei gently knocked on Xu Yingying's door, then pushed it open and walked in. He saw a set of bedding laid out on the floor by the window — clearly, that was where he was going to sleep tonight.

Xu Yingying was already in her pajamas by then, but they were of the cotton variety and rather bulky, so there was no hint of allure. But their natural ease added a different charm, even though her cold expression still marked her as the Xu president.

"I'm aware of that," Li Yifei shrugged his shoulders and went straight to the spot by the window to lie down.

Xu Yingying voiced her approval, "Good that you understand. I'll go take a bath now; you should go ahead and sleep."

In a new environment, and in the fragrant boudoir of a beauty, Li Yifei found it impossible to fall asleep. Sitting up, he looked around Xu Yingying's room.

Xu Yingying's room was not luxurious; in fact, it was rather simple. There was a wardrobe by the door, a bed in the middle, and two bedside cabinets. No other furniture, just a set of curtains that was quite pretty.

The room didn't carry the kind of fragrance he had imagined, probably because Xu Yingying seldom stayed there.

The bed was tidy, devoid of scattered clothes, lacking something in terms of visual interest. A woman's room... It would have been more intriguing if there were some lingerie strewn on the bed.

Surely, that wardrobe contained such items, but Li Yifei didn't snoop. Knowing Xu Yingying's sharpness, if he disturbed anything, she'd likely notice right away, and that would cause trouble for him later on.

Less than fifteen minutes passed before Li Yifei heard Xu Yingying's footsteps approaching, followed by her entrance into the room. Li Yifei sat up, resting his arms on the bed, and looked at her post-bath fresh face, complimenting, "Like a fresh lotus from the water — beautiful."

Xu Yingying gave Li Yifei a cool glance, then casually switched off the lights, plunging the room into darkness. Soon after, the rustling sound of her getting into bed could be heard.

The dark room with a breathtaking woman created a provocative environment. Despite all his experience over the years, this was the first time for Li Yifei to be in such a situation. A stunning woman was with him in a pitch-black room, and who knew if Xu Yingying had now stripped off her outer pajamas, leaving only her undergarments on?

Given Xu Yingying's cool temperament, her lingerie was probably mainly black, suiting her personality.

And then there was the thought of Xu Yingying's full bust, her impressive figure; if he were to climb onto the bed now, that would be... utterly delightful.

Li Yifei might imagine as much, but this was something he could not do. Xu Yingying wasn't the type to simply walk away after a night together. Things were different now; Li Yifei wasn't keen on being tied down so soon. He had only just started enjoying modern urban life and wasn't ready to be captivated by a woman.

Chapter 8 - 8 A Tough Night

The room slowly filled with a faint fragrance, which must have been from the bath gel and shampoo Xu Yingying used after her bath; this made Li Yifei's imagination run wild.

"Li Yifei, why did you talk nonsense so much today?" Xu Yingying's soft voice came from the bed.

Li Yifei immediately replied with pride, "I didn't want to, but when I saw your parents today, I felt that what you said wouldn't work, so I improvised a bit. At least you saw the results, didn't you? Your parents are very satisfied with me now. For such a performance, shouldn't you give me a bonus or something?"

"The performance wasn't bad, but fortunately my mother didn't have time to pull me aside for a chat. Otherwise, the two of us would have told different stories. Now hurry up and align our stories with me so that we don't get caught tomorrow."

"Didn't you hear everything I said? What's there to align?"

"You said that we had a few conflicts. What were those conflicts about? And since you're a security guard, how did you attract me? We need to get our stories straight, not just for my mom, but for my sister too. If these aren't clear, she'll see right through us."

"That's tough, I was just making it up on the spot."

"I'm amazed at you. Don't you know that one lie often needs a hundred more to cover it up?"

"Yingying, let's get this straight—this lie was started by you, wasn't it?"

Xu Yingying was left choking on Li Yifei's words, but she couldn't really blame him. At the very least, she was quite satisfied with his performance. As ideas of cliché romantic novel plots swirled in her head, she concocted a few minor tales and relayed them to Li Yifei.

Half an hour later, Li Yifei yawned and said weakly, "Yingying, I've got it all down. Can we go to sleep now?"

"No, there's a detail you haven't memorized. The devil is in the details, and you can't be careless about them."

"You really are a demanding president. Fine, fine, isn't it enough that I memorize them?" grumbled Li Yifei as he yawned again, now regretting his earlier chatter. Teaming up with such a meticulous president was simply looking for trouble.

Finally, after memorizing it all, Li Yifei fell asleep as soon as his head hit the pillow, not entertaining any provocative thoughts. Even knowing that a beautiful woman was lying in the bed next to him, all he wanted was to have a good night's sleep.

Li Yifei slept soundly, but Xu Yingying couldn't sleep at all. In her own home, she wasn't afraid that Li Yifei would dare to do anything to her. As a president, she had the confidence to manage her subordinates.

But having a man stay in her room was something she was extremely unaccustomed to. There seemed to be a different sort of smell in the room—it wasn't unpleasant, but it was too unfamiliar, too uncomfortable for her.

Listening to Li Yifei's even breathing at first didn't bother her much, but as the night grew quieter, his breathing filled her ears, seemingly growing louder and eventually thumping like a drum. It became a noisy disruption that made Xu Yingying toss and turn even more, struggling to fall asleep.

"Snore!"

At the sound of a snore, Xu Yingying suddenly sat up in bed. Her thoughts were consumed by the sound of Li Yifei's breathing, and this sudden snore was akin to thunderclap next to her ear.

"You bastard, you even snore in your sleep," Xu Yingying muttered through clenched teeth, but Li Yifei's snoring went on, relentless.

"Wake up!" Unable to take it anymore, Xu Yingying bent over and gave Li Yifei a shove.

The snoring stopped and Li Yifei mumbled, "What now?"

"You snore, how can I sleep?"

"I snore? How come I don't know?"

Xu Yingying immediately became frustrated. Who would know if they snored while they were sleeping? Angrily she said, "You wait for me to fall asleep first, then you can sleep."

Li Yifei said somewhat helplessly, "You go to sleep first? Can you really be at ease?"

"This... then how can you not snore?"

"Seems like if I sleep on the bed, I don't snore."

"That won't do!"

"Then you'll just have to put up with it." Having said that, Li Yifei turned over and continued sleeping deeply, and soon the snoring sounds started up again.

Xu Yingying was truly infuriated. This guy clearly wasn't as obedient as he was in the office, even ignoring the president's orders, "Humph, just you wait, when we get back to the company, I'll show you."

Covering her head, stuffing the pillow towel into her ears, Xu Yingying didn't know how long she tossed and turned before finally falling asleep, utterly exhausted.

She didn't know how much time had passed when Li Yifei, deep in slumber, felt several nudges and heard a woman's voice by his ear, "Get up, hurry up, my parents are already up. Why are you still sleeping?"

"Let me sleep a little longer, I'm dead tired." At this moment, Li Yifei's mind was still foggy. He waved his hand dismissively, turned his head, and cuddled into the blankets to continue sleeping deeply. But, not having had enough sleep the night before, all he wanted to do now was sleep.

"You get up!" A hard blow struck his back. That definitely wasn't a slap from Xu Yingying, but a kick instead.

This really hurt, and Li Yifei's sleepiness was instantly chased away. Sitting up somewhat angrily, he glared at Xu Yingying and said, "President Xu, I am employed by you, but I'm just your boyfriend, getting hit is not included in my services."

Xu Yingying's eyes blazed with fury as she gritted her teeth and said, "Getting hit is indeed not part of the service range. This kick is your punishment for groping me indiscriminately."

"I groped you indiscriminately?" Li Yifei frowned, then suddenly thought of the random touch he'd made earlier. Glancing at Xu Yingying's outfit, he said resentfully, "It wasn't on purpose just now."

"Humph, if it was on purpose, I would have killed you." Xu Yingying snorted coldly, "It's already past seven o'clock. Everyone in the house is up, and we haven't gotten up yet. What does this look like?" She turned around, got out of bed, back facing him, and she was already dressed, not in her usual business suit, but in very casual home clothes.

Li Yifei could only get up and then put on the suit from yesterday again. It was the same suit that Xu Yingying had bought for him at the airport, besides which he had brought no other clothes.

After getting dressed and leaving the bedroom, Xu Yingying's mother happened to walk by, smiling warmly at the two of them, "Did you sleep well last night?"

Xu Yingying was somewhat embarrassed, while Li Yifei just chuckled, saying, "Auntie, good morning, I'm really sorry for oversleeping on the first day."

"Hehe, it's very normal for you young people to sleep in. Freshen up, we'll eat soon." After speaking, she glanced again at her daughter, who looked rather haggard, and inwardly she couldn't help but marvel at Li Yifei's stamina, having worn out her daughter over the course of the night.

Chapter 9 - 9 An Alternative Side 1

Xu Yingying went into the bathroom first, while Li Yifei went over to chat with Xu Zhenguo for a bit. Xu Zhenguo was on the balcony tending to his plants, something Li Yifei didn't understand, so he could only appreciate them from the side.

Seeing Xu Yingying come out, Li Yifei then went into the bathroom, casually closing the door behind him. He sat down on the toilet; after all, even though men stand to pee, for other matters, they still have to sit.

But before Li Yifei could do anything, the bathroom door was suddenly pulled open. A woman, wearing a small tank top and skin-tight flesh-colored shorts, walked in, rubbing her eyes and completely unaware that there was a grown man inside.

The girl walked in just like that, and Li Yifei was so stunned he didn't know how to react. What was even more shocking was that the woman actually approached the toilet while reaching to pull down her pants.

This frightened Li Yifei. Although he couldn't see the girl's face clearly, he knew this had to be Xu Yingying's sister, Xu Shanshan. He never imagined his first meeting with his pretend sister-in-law would happen in such a situation.

"Stop!" Li Yifei shouted loudly, quickly covering his eyes. He needed to perform this action, or he'd be dead meat for sure. But by then Xu Shanshan's pants were already slightly pulled down.

"Ah!" Xu Shanshan screamed, finally seeing there was someone in the bathroom. She immediately dashed out, quickly opening and closing the bathroom door.

Li Yifei hastily pulled up his pants. He was too scared to go just then, and even if he wanted to again, it was too late.

After tidying himself up a bit, Li Yifei quickly exited the bathroom and saw Xu Yingying, who stood at the bathroom door looking at him angrily.

Li Yifei wore an embarrassed expression and said, "I was in the bathroom... she just walked in. I suppose she wasn't fully awake."

Xu Zhenguo and his wife also rushed over at this time. Hearing what Li Yifei said, and knowing that Li Yifei was indeed the first to enter the bathroom, they understood it wasn't his fault. With another person in the house and Xu Shanshan not meeting him yesterday, this incident couldn't be blamed on anyone.

"Well... I'll just go wash my face." This awkward atmosphere made Li Yifei uncomfortable, so he quickly turned around and went back into the bathroom.

When Li Yifei came out again, Xu Shanshan's bedroom door next to him swung open quickly. A figure dashed into the bathroom, leaving behind a comment, "Slower than an old cow." The voice was clear and melodious, like silver bells.

Xu Yingying then walked over and took Li Yifei back to the bedroom, closing the door. Glaring at Li Yifei, she asked, "What were you doing when my sister came in?"

"I was taking a leak, but I was sitting. She walked in rubbing her eyes and didn't see a thing."

"What did you see?"

"I was flustered and didn't see anything. Just knew it was your sister who came in," Li Yifei certainly couldn't say otherwise.

Xu Yingying's sharp gaze softened, and she said with satisfaction, "That's okay then." Over the years, Xu Yingying had developed a sharp eye and keen insight, confident she could tell if Li Yifei were lying.

Unfortunately, she was too confident. Li Yifei was exceptionally trained in this field, precisely to not give himself away during intense scrutiny. No matter how fierce Xu Yingying was, compared to Li Yifei's brutal training, she was out of her league. If he wanted to hide something, there was no way Xu Yingying could find out.

The pair went out of the bedroom again. Xu Shanshan was already in the living room, wearing a floral cotton outfit, with long black hair tied into a ponytail. Her appearance was identical to Xu Yingying's, even down to the most subtle features; they really were an identical pair of twins.

However, Li Yifei could still distinguish between the sisters because their temperaments were different. Xu Yingying, being a boss, had an aura of confidence and authority, while Xu Shanshan was a vibrant city girl, exuding youthfulness and energy.

Xu Shanshan was also evaluating Li Yifei up and down, seemingly not feeling too awkward about the earlier incident, and she extended her hand voluntarily, saying, "Xu Shanshan, your girlfriend's twin sister. I didn't expect our first meeting, brother-in-law and sister-in-law, would be in a bathroom!"

Li Yifei shook hands with Xu Shanshan and said, "I'm really sorry. I should have informed Shanshan sister beforehand about my arrival, so such an embarrassing situation wouldn't have happened. The fault lies with me. I hope Shanshan sister doesn't mind."

Xu Shanshan giggled, winked at Xu Yingying, and said, "I don't mind, of course I don't mind. As long as sister doesn't mind, I don't mind."

Xu Yingying snorted and said, "You're the one who got taken advantage of, so why should I mind?"

Xu Shanshan pursed her lips and then leaned closer to Li Yifei's side, whispering in his ear, "Tell me, brother-in-law, how can you stand my sister? I really admire you."

Li Yifei chuckled and said, "You don't know; while your sister appears cold, she has a gentle side."

"Really? I've never noticed. Her face is always stern, as if people owe her money. If I were a man, I couldn't stand her."

"You silly girl, what are you babbling about?" Xu Yingying immediately glared at her.

"See, here she goes again. I'm telling you, brother-in-law, my sister is hard to please."

"You silly girl, is that any way to talk about your sister?" Xu Yingying's mother came over at this point, scolding her, and dragged Xu Shanshan away to prepare breakfast.

Li Yifei turned to Xu Yingying and smiled, saying, "Your sister is really lively."

"Hmph, she can't sit still for a day without worrying someone," Xu Yingying said with a face full of helplessness.

Li Yifei found it somewhat amusing. Xu Yingying was the elder, but since they were twins, it was hard to tell who was really older or younger. Her constant act of being the elder sister might explain why Xu Shanshan didn't have a great relationship with her.

During the meal, Xu Shanshan kept her eyes moving between him and Xu Yingying. Suddenly, she smiled and said, "Sister, why don't you peel an egg for brother-in-law?"

Xu Yingying was startled inside, sensing her sister might have figured something out, but her reaction was quick. She said, "Doesn't he have hands to peel it himself?"

"He's your boyfriend, not mine. You should show a bit more tenderness. Don't you think?"

"I refuse to be tender. What of it?"

Li Yifei peeled an egg himself, placing it in front of Xu Yingying, and smiled, saying, "I've always been the one to serve your sister. When will she ever serve me?"

Looking at the egg Li Yifei had peeled entirely by hand and handed over with his fingers, Xu Yingying felt awkward inside. She wasn't overly sanitary, but she found eating something a man grabbed with his hands quite uncomfortable. But seeing her sister smiling at her, she took the egg, pretended to be pleased, and held back her discomfort to take a bite.

Chapter 10 - 10 Nonsense

Today was New Year's Eve. After a simple breakfast, everyone started preparing for the most important holiday of the year. However, for adults, New Year's wasn't exactly fun; the main thing was for everyone to be together.

Xu Yingying's mother said to her, "Yingying, the mall should still be open this morning. You should buy some clothes for Little Li or something. During the New Year, it's customary to have everything new, both inside and out."

Xu Yingying made a sound of agreement; this was exactly what she was hoping for, reducing the time Li Yifei spent with her family to prevent him from spouting nonsense.

"I'll go too," Xu Shanshan immediately shouted, then ran to her room to change.

Xu Yingying frowned but couldn't stop her sister. She could only wait with Li Yifei for Xu Shanshan to finish changing before they all headed out together.

Inside the elevator, Li Yifei stood to one side while Xu Yingying and Xu Shanshan stood on the other. Xu Shanshan looked at them both, then squinted and said, "Sister, you don't seem to be close to Brother-in-law, huh?"

Xu Yingying felt a slight panic inside but still responded indifferently, "Why wouldn't we be close?"

"Look at you two, not even standing together. Where's the couple's intimacy in that?"

Li Yifei chuckled and said, "Your sister is like this. At the company, no one knows about our relationship. You haven't seen how, when we run into each other there, it's even more like a superior-subordinate relationship."

Xu Shanshan giggled and said, "What's there to hide? Dating isn't illegal."

Li Yifei glanced at Xu Yingying, who gave a wry smile, and said, "Don't blame your sister. It's me who didn't want to say anything. Your sister is a big manager at the company now, and I'm just a small security guard. If others found out, wouldn't they gossip about your sister?"

"Wow, you're a security guard and my sister's a manager—classic story of a working-class underdog, Brother-in-law. How did you manage that? It's like a legend."

Li Yifei showed a smug smile and said, "You can ask your sister about that later."

Xu Yingying immediately turned to grab Li Yifei's arm, eagerly asking, "Sister, tell me, this is just too funny."

Li Yifei then winked at Xu Yingying secretly, quite pleased with himself.

Xu Yingying wasn't happy that Li Yifei left her with the tough questions, but she kept her cool and said, "There's nothing much to say. I liked him because I liked him. You know I'm not someone who values wealth over character."

"I know, I know, but things like this only seem to happen in novels. I find it hard to believe it's happening to you..." She glanced at Li Yifei and suddenly covered her mouth. "Hey, Sis, did you bring him along as a shield?"

Xu Yingying was quite frightened this time, not expecting her sister to hit the nail on the head and directly reveal the true nature of their relationship. However, she wouldn't admit it and snorted, "Have you watched too many dramas or read too many novels? If we were pretending, could we share a room at night?"

"Oh, so you slept together last night, huh? Haha, Sis, you've lost it."

"Get lost. Keep talking nonsense, and you're going home."

"Fine, I won't say another word." Xu Shanshan giggled, her gaze at Li Yifei full of teasing, her eyes rolling around, and no one could guess what was on her mind.

Xu Yingying gave Li Yifei a warning look, which he understood to mean that he should be careful not to slip up.

When the elevator reached the underground garage, Xu Zhenguo's family's conditions were good. Although he didn't drive, he bought Xu Shanshan a red Bora.

"Get in the car. Today, you'll have me as your driver," Xu Shanshan said, using the remote to open the car door, then got into the driver's seat.

Xu Yingying instinctively wanted to sit in the front, but Li Yifei pulled her arm slightly, waking her up. So they both sat in the back.

Xu Shanshan glanced back at them and smiled, "Now that looks more like it."

"You're the one talking so much. Am I the one dating, or are you?" Xu Yingying retorted sarcastically.

Xu Shanshan giggled and said, "I really think Brother-in-law is quite nice. Maybe you should give him to me, so I can date him."

Xu Yingying gave her sister a shove, angrily saying, "Keep talking nonsense, and we'll walk."

"Okay, okay, I won't say anymore. I'm not fighting you for him; it's boring." Laughing, Xu Shanshan started the car.

Li Yifei found Xu Shanshan more and more interesting. If he really had such a sister-in-law, there would be endless fun, but unfortunately, it was all fake.

Pingyang had a very strong New Year vibe. The streets were bustling with people, all buying New Year goods. The smile on each face was bright and joyful. Although adults often felt the New Year was becoming less meaningful, it couldn't be denied that the majority still valued this holiday greatly.

Arriving at the mall, the three of them parked the car. Li Yifei was about to walk ahead when his arm was suddenly grabbed. Then another arm wrapped around his, and he turned to see Xu Yingying's sweet smile.

"Act naturally, so my sister won't notice anything," Xu Yingying whispered in Li Yifei's ear.

Li Yifei immediately understood and nodded. Being linked with Xu Yingying like this was indeed a great pleasure. Although they were both dressed in thick clothes, lessening the thrilling sensation of bodily contact, Xu Yingying was the company boss—a famous ice queen—and having her by his side brought any man a sense of achievement and satisfaction.

Xu Shanshan caught up just then, smilingly saying, "Now, that's more like it," and then followed closely beside Xu Yingying, giving Li Yifei a knowing wink.

Li Yifei returned the smile and entered the mall with the two of them. It had been a long time since he had enjoyed the pleasure of the New Year like this, seeing all the dazzling items in the mall, choosing this, looking at that. It truly was a quite enjoyable experience.

Xu Shanshan sidled up next to Li Yifei, smiling sweetly, and said, "Brother-in-law, you don't seem like a shopping enthusiast."

Li Yifei chuckled, saying, "There's no choice. Your sister doesn't like shopping, so I have to enjoy it when I have some free time."

"Ha-ha, the woman works outside, the man works inside." Xu Shanshan winked at Li Yifei again.

Li Yifei put down the small trinket he was holding and smiled, saying, "It's also a kind of fun for me."

"Impressive, impressive, not many men like shopping. But speaking of which, there aren't many like my sister who don't enjoy shopping either."

Xu Yingying was already somewhat impatient. She didn't need to buy these things, and being here felt like a waste of time. More importantly, she still had to hold on to Li Yifei's arm, making her feel extremely awkward. She wanted to end this torture as soon as possible, saying, "Since you know I don't like shopping, can't you two speed it up? Can we just buy what we need?"

Xu Shanshan giggled, replying, "Sis, nothing's waiting for you to handle right now on a big New Year's day. Why rush? Strolling around leisurely might lead us to find something worth buying."

Li Yifei also laughed and said, "Yes, we rarely come back. Let's just accompany Shanshan for a stroll."

Xu Shanshan gave Li Yifei a thumbs-up, saying, "Brother-in-law, you're good, using me as a weapon so quickly."

"Ha-ha, how dare I use you as a weapon? Let's just say you're showing us around."

"That's more like it. Come on, let's keep walking." With that, she pulled Li Yifei's arm and led them forward.