

A Valiant Life

#Chapter 11 - Read A Valiant Life Chapter 11

Chapter 11: The First Legend

Shanghai City Administrative Enforcement Bureau, otherwise known as the City Enforcement Centre.

A car was parked along the sidewalk.

Lin Fan looked helplessly as he watched the city enforcement officers lowering his pushcart from the car.

“Chief Liu, this is my first offense! How about I just pay the fine and you let this slide...” Lin Fan pleaded.

Liu Xiao Tian gazed at Lin Fan before he chuckled, “How can this be the first offense for a brat like you? You’re already a repeat offender! Where is your partner? I haven’t seen him around today.”

“He’s gone... and it’s all because of your iron-fisted approach towards such crimes.”

“If you want my opinion on this, I sincerely feel that you should get a permit so that you’ll be able to operate legally. You’re not robbing or stealing but this behavior of yours has severely affected the cityscape.” Liu Xiao Tian walked towards the bureau, intending to help Lin Fan with his registration.

However, something caught the eye of Chief Liu. It was a scallion pancake cart.

“Young chap, you are pretty skilled at making these scallion pancakes, I must say. Look at all these townsfolk who are fighting for it,” Liu Xiao Tian exclaimed.

Upon hearing that, there was a feeling of delight and pride deep down in Lin Fan’s heart. However, he humbled himself before gracefully replying, “You flatter me, this is just a small business.”

“Come on, don’t be so humble... After so many years of working as an Inspector, I really haven’t seen anything close to what you have,” Chief Liu said as he waved to a fellow colleague.

” Xiao Wang! Are you hungry?” Liu Xiao Tian asked

“No Chief! I’m not.” Xiao Wang shook his head before getting back to work.

“Hey, Xiao Li! Are you hungry?” Liu Xiao Tian then asked.

“Oh I’ve already had my breakfast before this, but I must say that I am kind of hungry right now.” Xiao Li was just about to say that he was not hungry but at that moment he felt there was something amiss with Chief Liu’s question.

Since when did Chief Liu start being so caring? He had never asked questions with such concern throughout his time in the bureau. Xiao Li thought to himself, there is definitely something horribly wrong.

“Isn’t this showing another side of yourself?”

At that moment, all the sights and scents flowed through Xiao Li’s mind. That was when he realized, it was that distinct scent. The one that came from the scallion pancake shop.

It was then that Xiao Li found himself uncontrollably headed toward the direction of the scallion pancake shop.

“Oh... I finally get it!”

Chief Liu was using this as a tactic to get some of that guy’s scallion pancakes.

Xiao Li understood how he should reply to Chief Liu’s ‘caring question’.

“Chief... I am famished... It’s a pity that there’s absolutely nothing to eat here. Look around, there’s not even a store in sight.”

Chief Liu frowned and with a look of helplessness muttered, “Yes Xiao Li, that is the main issue here.”

Having made it so obvious that he wanted some scallion pancakes. It did not take long for Lin Fan to catch on.

Without hesitation, he exclaimed, “Chief Liu! Breakfast is such an important meal of the day. Skipping it can cause a lot of health problems. I’ll tell you what, why not I make a few scallion pancakes for you? I’m sure that will fill your stomachs.”

“Oh, that is so generous of you! Although this violates our directive, health is definitely way more important. Look at Xiao Li, she has already gone pale from hunger, a few scallion pancakes will surely help with that.”

Chief Liu had become obsessed with trying the cakes and there was nothing that was going to stop him from doing so.

Chief Liu wanted to try the scallion pancakes so badly ever since he caught a whiff of it.

This time, the city enforcement platoon had also managed to smell the amazing aroma of the scallion pancakes. They also saw the joy on people's faces as they devoured the fragrant and delectable pastry.

"I'm hungry too."

"Of course, I haven't had breakfast yet."

"I didn't get breakfast also... My daughter-in-law went out this morning. I'll have a portion too."

The team could no longer resist it. They abandoned all their jobs at hand and started to gather around the scallion pancake stall.

A few of the city enforcement platoon members who didn't understand what the hype was about barely took a few glances before going back to what they were doing.

As the crowd grew larger, Liu Xiao Tian had no choice but to tell them to do their work first and would call for them once their scallion pancakes were ready.

No one had dared to disobey the instruction of the Chief. They slowly dispersed as they repeatedly reminded him to call for them once their scallion pancakes were ready.

Yes! I did it! Liu Xiao Tian thought to himself.

Deep down, he was already suppressing the ever-growing urge to tasting the scallion pancake.

Lin Fan grinned to himself and walked to his cart, proceeding to make the cakes.

He thought to himself, *I am such a genius, I can't believe I am selling scallion pancakes at the city enforcement platoon office.*

"A lot of people may think that making scallion pancakes is easy. It actually takes a lot of skill to make it this tasty," Lin Fan explained as he carefully made the scallion pancakes.

Lin Fan would do anything in order to get more Encyclopedic Points.

However, after witnessing the current situation, the city enforcement officers began to lose their interest.

From Lin Fan's point of view, their interest in the scallion pancakes was definitely growing.

After his explanation, he realized that his Encyclopedic Points didn't increase at all. He felt like he had suffered a setback.

It was no question that this world had many different types of delicacies. However, it was unrealistic for people to master the recipes by themselves

How is it that with the same seasoning and flour, I am able to make one of the best scallion pancakes around? Lin Fan thought to himself. *It must be the mysterious powers of the Encyclopedia.*

It didn't take long before the scallion pancakes were ready and a pleasant aroma filled the air.

The golden brown crust glistened under the rising sun.

"This skill you have is way too incredible!" Chief Liu exclaimed as his eyes locked themselves on the magnificent sight of the freshly made scallion pancakes.

It looked like a thousand layer pancake and each layer as the thin paper was truly something out of this world. Based on looks alone, it had already surpassed any competitors by miles.

Sniff, sniff

With the fragrance of the cakes in the air, the city enforcement officers who were watching by the side could not help but salivate, all yearning for a piece of that delectable pastry.

"The first portion is ready."

Lin Fan bagged the scallion pancake with one deft motion and put it on the counter.

It felt like time had frozen. The people were looking around to see who would be the lucky first person to get the scallion pancake.

At this moment, it seemed like anyone present would kill for a first bite of the scallion pancake.

"Chief, why don't you go first?"

"Yes, why not? It has been a busy morning and I am absolutely famished right now."

Liu Xiao Tian could no longer hold back anymore. His dream of having the first bite was finally fulfilled.

Liu Xiao Tian carefully inspected the scallion pancake.

“Perfect score on the shape, perfect score on the fragrance, perfect score on how it feels in my hand. All that’s left is to find out how it tastes like.”

He opened his mouth wide and took a huge bite. His eyes enlarged as if he had experienced something unbelievable.

Gulp

The scallion pancake slid down his throat

“Chief, how does it taste?”

“Come on Chief. You can’t be for real, that expression of yours..”

...

Liu Xiao Tian was speechless. He felt as though he was flying... spreading his wings and gliding through the skies. That bite of scallion pancake was so soothing and comforting that it could be described nothing short of a bite of happiness.

“Mmmm... Mmmm... Mmmm...” those were the only sounds that left his mouth.

Upon hearing this, his colleagues watched in agony, all wanting to get a taste.

At this moment, Liu Xiao Tian finally understood why there was a huge crowd that morning.

With such great tasting scallion pancakes, they couldn’t bear to close down his stall.

He would probably feel like dying if he didn’t get to eat the scallion pancakes again.

Chapter 12: Let’s Make This Global!

“What on earth are they doing?” officers from the City Enforcement Centre looked on with curiosity.

“Beats me. Chief Liu surely has no regard for how he looks when he’s eating. Look at him, it’s almost like he hasn’t eaten for days.”

“To be honest, I think I’m getting hungry from looking. How can one even resist this fragrance?”

“How about we head over to take a look?”

“Yeah, sure.”

With that, the group of officers headed in the direction of where the fragrance was coming from.

...

“What a special treat.”

“I feel like I’m about to fly. This taste, it is amazing! I really can’t find the words to describe how it tastes like.”

“If the scallion pancakes were really as good as how Chief Liu said, that will be absolutely mind-blowing.”

The city enforcement officers who had fortunately bought a piece of the delicious scallion pancake all had huge smiles on their faces. It was almost like they had managed to savor the absolute essence of what this earth had to offer.

After just one bite, their entire mouth was coated with the richness of the delicious scallion pancake.

Even if someone offered ten thousand dollars, they still wouldn’t give up a slice of the scallion pancake.

Eating this scallion pancake was really something else, there was a feeling of satisfaction deep down in their hearts. Their worries seem to have disappeared and even the air that they inhaled felt much fresher.

After Liu Xiao Tian tried the pancake, he closed his eyes as he tried to indulge in the wonderful taste. After which, he opened his eyes and the only words that came out were:

“This scallion pancake... it is literally the essence of this earth, the best of the best.”

Upon hearing this, Lin Fan felt extremely proud of his work. He humbly replied, “I hope I did not disappoint you.”

“Disappoint me? This is way past any form of my expectation.”

“After trying this, I’m afraid there’s nothing left in this world that can beat its taste.”

...

“Chief Liu, what are you guys up to?”

Standing beside Chief Liu, the newly gathered colleagues finally inhaled the splendid fragrance coming from the freshly made, piping hot pancakes. It was then that they realized that they had inevitably been hooked to this aroma and that they were not leaving without getting a slice.

“There are still some left, do you guys want to try it too?” Lin Fan asked as he continued shaping the scallion pancakes skillfully.

“Scallion pancakes are not really my cup of tea.”

“I’ll gladly have your share if you are not going to take it!”

“Hmmm... Since you guys seem to be enjoying it so much, I guess I’ll give it a try.”

Following which, the rest of them all started to take a piece of the scallion pancake. Those who had never tried scallion pancakes had no idea why the taste was such a big deal.

However, upon their first bite, all doubts had vanished and it was then that they realized that was the start of an insatiable appetite for Lin Fan’s scallion pancakes.

“This taste...”

“It truly did not disappoint. This is...amazing!”

As it was their first time experiencing such great tasting cake, they were all dumbfounded. No one could let out a single word and all there was were people focusing on enjoying what was left of their pancake.

The taste, the texture and the feeling they experienced from eating the pancake were absolutely out of this world.

...

Liu Xiao Tian who had just managed to recover from the shock of how good the cake tasted, nodded his head in satisfaction. It was then that he realized that he would never be able to live another day without having that cake.

“Lin Fan, round up the tab!” Chief Liu said.

“It’s fine! These scallion pancakes are free for you today!”

There was no way they could accept Lin Fan’s offer. Not when the pancakes tasted so good. Accepting them for free would only make them seem like a bunch of thugs. Thus, Chief Liu was adamant about paying.

Since they had taken them, it was only logical for them to pay for the scallion pancakes.

As such, he was firm that he would still issue the fine and pay for the scallion pancakes. In addition, abusing his power as an inspector to receive favor was sure to get him in trouble.

"I cannot accept your kindness, although we are city enforcement officers, we are definitely not the kind that abuses our authority. Please, how much do I owe you for the delicious scallion pancakes? I'm thankful for your kindness to my crew and me, but I'm afraid I will still have to write you a ticket for \$500 since this is not your first offense," Chief Liu said.

"Chief Liu, you have mistaken! Listening to what you said this morning, I feel like I'm still young and this business can't go on forever, that is why I'm planning to go look for a job. So... the stall will eventually have to go too."

Lin Fan's expression seemed to have suggested that Chief Liu's advice had some form of effect on him as if like he had been enlightened.

With that, his future seemed to be even better.

"That won't do," Liu Xiao Tian said without any hesitation.

"Why not?" Lin Fan was taken aback. "Is he still going to give me a ticket even if I'm not going to set up my stall anymore?"

cough, cough

Liu Xiao Tian coughed lightly, "No, listen to me, young man. Setting up a stall also has a pretty great future. Look how many successful people depended on setting up stalls to earn their pot of gold. You have talent and skill in making these pancakes and I am very optimistic about this business. As long as you follow the proper procedures and obtain a permit, you're free to set-up your shop anywhere you like."

"Chief Liu, this is not right. What does this have to do with having proper procedures? This is just a roadside occupation at best."

Liu Xiao Tian knew he had to tolerate the young brat. He had to allow him to continue this business. If Lin Fan had really stopped selling, he would not be able to die in peace as he still wanted to eat these pancakes in future.

"You shouldn't put in in that way... Of course, there is a difference! Enough said, let my subordinates help you to take care of this. All you need to do is just tag along," Chief Liu said.

Lin Fan shook his head, "No, the procedure is long and tedious and I still have to spend money. I don't have the time for this. Leave this to me, I'll pack the stall up and look for a job elsewhere.

Upon hearing this, his colleagues started to panic.

They had the exact same thoughts as Chief Liu. If they had not tried the pancake, it wouldn't have mattered. However, the taste was now engraved deeply in their minds, there was no way they were going to let it close down now.

They were all so conflicted, if Lin Fan really stopped selling, that would really spell trouble for their taste buds.

"Chief Liu, let us stop for a moment to think about it. It's not that easy for a young chap like him to set up a business like this. Could we do the people a favor and help him settle this?"

"I agree. Since the permit would take a few days to process, we can make him a temporary permit so that he can continue selling the pancakes for the time being.

"Oh! I'm familiar with temporary permits! I'll go make one for you right now," A young chap said before heading straight to the bureau.

"Hey! The procedures are handled by us, let's step on it and make it quick!"

"In that case, I'll call for a meeting later. Pass the word around, the store will be legally in business from now on," Liu Xiao Tian hurriedly added in.

It was obvious that those who tried the scallion pancakes had all been captivated by its amazing taste.

"Here you go! Your temporary permit is ready!"

It barely felt like a minute before the young chap had returned with the documents in his hands.

He said to Lin Fan as he handed the documents to him, "You better continue selling pancakes at this stall!"

Liu Xiao Tian took out \$300 and passed it to Lin Fan.

"You should focus on working hard and we'll take care of the rest. Once the documents are ready we'll deliver it to you personally."

Lin Fan could not believe what had just happened.

“Chief Liu... How about the fine?”

“What are you talking about? Forget about the fine! Your stall is clean, sells good food and has good service. It is totally unlike those small roadside stalls.”

“Chief Liu, I’m sure this is breaking the rules,” Lin Fan said with a deep sense of happiness knowing he would not have to pay the fine.

Not only did they pay for the food, they also made him a permit. What a lucky day for Lin Fan.

“Rules are made by humans. Although we are the city enforcement officers, we definitely do not want to discourage the youth from setting up exceptional businesses like yours!”

“Work hard and expand this business! It surely has the potential of blowing up and expanding overseas.”

After such a long talk, Liu Xiao Tian was so glad his efforts paid off and that he had managed to convince Lin Fan to continue selling scallion pancakes.

Lin Fan was absolutely ecstatic. In everyone’s eyes, he was an exceptional person.

“Quick, help the young chap load his stall up on the truck,” Liu Xiao Tian commanded.

“Yes, chief!”

As Lin Fan was getting ready to load the truck, Liu Xiao Tian gave him a good pat on the back and asked, “What time do you open every day?”

“Hmm... Around 7 to 8 am in the morning! Till around 4 pm in the afternoon.”

“Near Red Star Primary School?”

“Yes, you’ll find me there!”

After getting his answers, Liu Xiao Tian waved Lin Fan goodbye. It was time for Lin Fan to go.

Lin Fan got up the truck and took a long look at the sky.

He realized how f*cking awesome he was.

“Work hard young chap! Remember to continue selling your pancakes!”

“Don’t worry! I’m going to make this global!”

“You can do it, bro! I got my eyes on you.”

For Lin Fan, it was never about making this business global. As soon as he could, he would get out of this business.

Completing the task of making the business reputable was very much attainable for Lin Fan at this point in time.

Chapter 13: The Atmosphere is Too Intense!

With the emergence of the Internet, any viral news would circulate on the Internet.

Today, Weibo and WeChat both provided a platform for news to spread like wildfire.

That morning, however, another e-platform emerged on the Internet. It didn't have much power to influence people but it was slowly gaining popularity.

It had all sorts of eye-catching headlines.

“A shocking and mysterious scene on the Shanghai streets.”

“Youngster selling scallion pancakes surrounded by crowds.”

“Understanding city enforcement officers allowed a street vendor to continue his business?!”

The constantly improving UC news department was also shocked at the headlines and the fact that a new e-platform was gaining so much popularity. The UC news department quickly followed suit and wrote articles and news headlines regarding the scallion pancake seller.

As for the headlines, they were even more shocking.

“Breaking! Vendors, city enforcement officers and the crowd have a secret to share.”

“Breaking! How did this mysterious vendor become a crowd favorite and cause the city enforcement officers to withdraw from their stall-closing operations...”

These breaking news attracted thousands of people to read.

“What the f*ck, UC ‘breaking news’ department. What else can you do apart from providing ‘breaking news’?”

“When did the city enforcement officers become so understanding? The sun must have risen from the west!”

“These scallion pancakes are earning big bucks.”

“It doesn’t seem logical; how can these people be so crazy over scallion pancakes?”

“Their expressions look so fake.”

“Fifty cents per stack, what else needs to be said?”

“Editor, your whole news station’s about ‘breaking news’. You’ve been reporting about ‘breaking news’ the whole day but is it really ‘breaking news’?”

“Isn’t this the entrance of Red Star Primary school? How did the business flourish overnight? It must be delicious!”

“Hey you, go try the pancakes personally tomorrow and report to me.”

....

Following the city enforcement officers’ first visit to Red Star Primary school, the vendors all ran away. Then, they came back to continue their business shortly after the officers left.

For the vendors, it’s just a game of hide and seek with the city enforcement officers.

Some of the stall vendors were elated upon hearing the news of Lin Fan being arrested.

“Yeah, this lad deserved it for fighting over my stall location. It’s his retribution!” the old hag chatted loudly with the other vendors.

The other vendors didn’t say much. They just smiled and agreed that the absence of Lin Fan reduced the competition there, especially for the past two days where Lin Fan had stolen most of the customers...

Her husband continued to set up his fermented beancurd stall at the same location. “If Lin Fan still tries to fight over my location, I will teach him a lesson.”

“Wow... Where was your courage when his stall was being taken away earlier?” his wife chided.

“That’s because...”

“They’re here! The city enforcement officers are here!”

Upon seeing the conspicuous city enforcement truck, the vendors quickly packed up their stalls anxiously

“These bastards, weren’t they here just a while ago? Why are they here again?”

“And they’re so strict on us doing business here.”

“Yeah, if I don’t set up my stall today, I will have no money to survive.”

“Don’t block my way.”

“Who’s blocking you? The road is so wide, can’t you make a turn?”

To the stall vendors, it was as if they had seen a ghost. They hurriedly packed their stuff.

In an instant, all the stalls at the entrance of Red Star Primary School were gone.

The area became a ghost town.

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Lin Fan came down from the truck and smiled when he saw the empty space. Where were all the other hawkers? Then he suddenly remembered that he was taking the city enforcement truck, and understood.

Looks like I, Lin Fan, have gained some power, he thought to himself.

What’s this? Temporary licensing for vendors? What happened to the permanent one?

But Lin Fan had always been an ambitious man. This stall was a temporary thing. He had greater plans for himself in future.

Then, he saw the city enforcement officers helping to set up his scallion pancake stall. He hurriedly said, “Let me do it, let me do it.”

“Small boss, you don’t have to move. It’s alright, let us do it.”

These city enforcement officers were all captivated by him after eating his scallion pancakes.

“Sorry to trouble you then!” Lin Fan said as he leaned on a pole nearby. He didn’t expect it to be so relaxing, watching people set up his stall.

The people that witnessed this scene were all shocked at the sight.

The city enforcement officers were actually helping a vendor to set up his stall. It's the first time they've seen such a thing.

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Meanwhile at the Youth Arts Magazine Publisher...

A bunch of pretty ladies lay there motionlessly as if they haven't eaten in years.

"When is Mr. Handsome coming back?" said a lady who mumbled to herself as she revealed her thighs seductively.

"I don't think he will be coming back. The stall had been taken away by the city enforcement officers, how would he be able to set up his stall again?"

"These officers purposely came at such a bad timing, aren't they making life difficult for us?"

"I already said, we should've gone to queue earlier. You didn't want to listen to me. Now there's nothing left, nothing!"

The usually sweet looking Huo Han also looked really depressed. "If I don't get to eat the pancakes now, I would really die."

"Han Han, just shut up," Zhong Qing Yi helplessly sighed. Then she involuntarily turned to look towards Red Star Primary school. She suddenly stood up and exclaimed, "It's out! It's out!"

"Qing Yi, what's out?"

"Mr. Handsome is here..." Zhong Qing Yi pointed towards the school and said excitedly.

"What?"

Suddenly, the whole office had shaken up. It was as if each and every lady got resurrected. They suddenly had so much energy in themselves.

"Ah, he's really here! Quick... Quick!"

"Quick?" the executive office door opened. A tall and slim lady walked towards the ladies, looking rather unhappy.

The crowd shrieked in fear as they saw her walking towards them.

Huo Han looked at Zhong Qing Yi; perhaps only Qing Yi could salvage the situation at that point in time.

“Sister...” Zhong Qing Yi paused. It was all because of the scallion pancakes. In the past, she wouldn’t have spoken up regardless of what had happened.

“Call me the President or Head Editor. When we’re at work, I’m not your sister. I’m your superior,” Zhong Qing Fan said sternly, trying to establish her relationship with Qing Yi as the CEO.

The crowd’s hearts skipped a beat after hearing what the dominant CEO said. A normal person wouldn’t usually be so entitled.

Although Qing Yi was her sister, she got brushed aside by Qing Fan.

“Head editor, everyone’s hungry... we want to buy scallion pancakes from the stall opposite,” Zhong Qing Yi said.

Qing Yi felt very pressured having to deal with such a beautiful but assertive sister. She had always been compared to her even outside of work. Sometimes, she felt like she was living under the shadow of her sister.

Zhong Qing Fan looked at the people in the office and turned towards Red Star Primary school. Then, she said, “You may go.”

“Yay!”

Huo Han exclaimed upon hearing that approval had been given. However, she immediately became silent after realizing that the dominant tigress was still standing there. Then, she tried to duck down, hoping to avoid Qing Fan’s attention.

“Qing Yi, only you can go. The rest of you better continue with your work. If this week’s magazine is in the last few positions, all of you can pack up and leave.”

Bang!

The head editor’s office room was slammed shut.

As the tigress left, the rest of the office ladies could finally relax. The atmosphere was so intense that they had almost wet their pants.

Chapter 14: Life of An Awesome Ruler

The city enforcement truck was parked at about 300m away from Lin Fan’s stall. One of the city enforcement officers immediately changed out of his uniform into civilian attire.

“Sigh, sometimes wearing a uniform for my job is troublesome. I have to change out of it even when I just want to buy something.”

“Did you really think you can go without changing out of it? We are city enforcement officers. If we were pictured buying things from these stalls in our uniform, then things would be impossible to explain.

“That’s true.”

...

Lin Fan stood there and thought of the emptiness he felt despite how invincible he had become, akin to someone that was begging to be defeated.

There wasn’t a single stall in the vicinity. Even if Lin Fan wanted some competition, there was nobody to compete with. He felt lonely and depressed.

Lin Fan had become the invincible hawker of Red Star Primary School but he yearned for someone who could compete with him for business.

sound of wheels rumbling

The sound of carts being pushed could be heard as some stall vendors sneakily observed the situation outside Red Star Primary school. They looked astonished when they saw Lin Fan had set up his stall outside the school.

“It’s alright, the city enforcement officers are gone.”

Then, a large number of stall vendors slowly appeared and re-took their positions.

The old lady saw Lin Fan’s pushcart, smiled freakishly and said, “Wow, you’re back so soon. Looks like you’ve been fined a hefty sum of money. Look at how stupid this guy is. He doesn’t even know how to pick a good spot while we’re gone.”

The lady’s husband then laughed and pushed his cart beside Lin Fan and said, “Kid, how much were you fined?”

“That’s none of your business.”

Lin Fan took a glance, rebutted with a sentence and didn’t bother to say anything else.

“Wow, look at how arrogant you are. Why don’t you have any business now? Did you spend all your money on the ‘show’ earlier?”

“I think you should just do an honest business and stop with these tricks. Look, you’ve run out of actors and you have no business now.”

Lin Fan did not want to say anything. The stall vendors were still considered to be his competitors. These old people thought a young chap like Lin Fan was a pushover.

But he did not want to argue with them. After all, he had obtained a verified license for his stall.

step, step

A series of noise could be heard from a lady walking in heels as she stopped right in front of Lin Fan's stall.

In an instant, the scent of her perfume filled the air.

Lin Fan looked up and thought, *Wasn't this the pretty babe from yesterday afternoon?*

The lady had something different about her. She looked prettier by the day and today, she looked even prettier as she was wearing something different.

But Lin Fan was not a pervert, naturally, he didn't stare at the lady. Although admittedly, she had a good figure, especially her basketball sized breasts bulging from her tight dress; as if they could burst out from her clothes anytime.

But Lin Fan himself was a man of morals.

"Babe, do you want to have some scallion pancakes?" Lin Fan smiled and asked.

Zhong Qing Yi saw the scallion pancakes and suddenly felt like she was in paradise as she was standing so close to the heavenly food.

"Yes," Zhong Qing Yi replied without any hesitation. "Give me twenty pieces."

"No problem!" Lin Fan replied and thought to himself that business had arrived. Then, he took a glimpse of the sweaty fermented beancurd seller beside him.

Open your eyes, business is here!

When the fermented beancurd seller saw the lady in front of Lin Fan's stall and her giant jugs, his eyes were fixated on her. Then, he thought of the aged wife he had and felt like he had wasted his entire life, having never f*cked someone so beautiful.

"Babe, the secret to these scallion pancakes is..."

In order to earn Encyclopedic Points, Lin Fan started to explain the secret to the scallion pancakes. But he realized that he did not earn any Encyclopedic Points after he had finished explaining. Then, he raised his head and saw that the woman had been playing with her phone. She did not hear any of his words.

To Lin Fan, that was a tremendous blow.

Then, the city enforcement officers arrived in their civilian attire. They saw that Lin Fan was busy and knew that they had to queue.

They also noticed the red tag on Lin Fan's stall and figured that they had to wait even longer. Hence, they decided to take a look at the fermented beancurd stall.

"Hey..."

Lin Fan noticed that these guys looked familiar. Then he paused and realized that they were the 'brothers' that sent him there.

But when he saw that they were in civilian attire, he understood that they were definitely there for the scallion pancakes. To Lin Fan, he considered these city enforcement 'brothers' to be his good friends.

"Boss, want to have some fermented beancurd?" the man greeted and asked passionately.

"Looks like there's something wrong with the oil you're using. You haven't changed it for some time, right?" the city enforcement officers pointed and asked.

For the experienced officers, they could tell if the oil was unusual with just one look.

"How could that be? I just changed the oil two days ago. It's very clean," the man tried to look normal as he replied but there was a peculiar look on his face. In actual fact, he was using processed cooking oil which was recovered from the sewers and gutters. Could it be that this particular officer noticed that?

"Oh, is it?" the officer nodded and said. Nobody knew if he believed the man's words.

"Boss, you might not know this but for a vendor like me, hygiene is our top priority. Look at the scallion pancake seller beside me. It looks like the oil he's using has not been changed in months, the pancakes can't be eaten," the man said softly but Lin Fan still heard his words.

The man had wanted to let the lady hear it, perhaps to stop her from buying the pancakes.

But what surprised the man was that the lady did not even look concerned.

Zhong Qing Yi was not bothered by what the man had said.

How could it be that such delicious scallion pancakes were made by low-quality oil?

Even if he had used such oil, she would still eat the scallion pancakes.

But for these city enforcement officers, they couldn't tolerate the man's nonsense.

Lin Fan's scallion pancakes held a special place in their hearts.

How could they tolerate his bullsh*t?

They couldn't tolerate it, they truly couldn't tolerate it.

bang!

The city enforcement officers slammed the man's stall counter and the man was stupefied. They then took out a walkie-talkie and said, "Come to Red Star Primary School."

"Boss, what did you mean by that?" the man asked as he did not understand what was going on.

In less than a minute, a city enforcement truck appeared.

"The city enforcement officers are here, the city enforcement officers are here!"

"Boss, I'm sorry, the city enforcement officers are here. I gotta go." the man tried to push his cart away but the officer held onto his stall counter firmly.

"Don't move, I am a city enforcement officer. You are violating the law by setting up your stall here." the officer said.

This particular sentence had a huge impact on the man; as if he had said: "Sorry, I am a police officer."

Then, a uniformed city enforcement officer came. The man saw what happened and finally understood how stupid he had been. He looked around him and saw that everyone else had fled the place; even his wife.

But as he saw Lin Fan patiently making his pancakes, he exclaimed, "He is also a vendor, he must have violated the law too!"

Lin Fan turned to the man, blinked and took out a form. He dabbed a bit of wet dough on it and stuck it on his cart.

"Sorry, I have a license for this. I am abiding by the law."

"Babe, don't worry. These scallion pancakes are definitely edible. I am a verified vendor." Lin Fan smiled and said.

Zhong Qing Yi let out a loud sigh of relief; she thought she was going to be taken away by the city enforcement officers.

The man saw the piece of paper and was dumbfounded. How could it be?

As for Lin Fan, with the license in his possession, he wasn't afraid of anything.

Life is as such for a 'ruler' like Lin Fan.

Chapter 15: The Second Page

Zhong Qing Yi left happily with her pancakes. The fermented beancurd vendor was also mercilessly arrested. He was so shocked by Lin Fan possessing a license that he kept looking at it even as he was being taken away.

In the early afternoon.

Lin Fan enjoyed a luxurious meal as he immediately went to order two dishes and a soup from a nearby restaurant.

Lin Fan reflected on his life in the past and compared it to his current life. *What kind of life had he been living?*

Lin Fan happily sipped on his beer while eating his meal. He then whipped out his phone, wanting to look at some sensational news.

"I don't see any 'breaking news' by the UC news department today. Let's see what else there is..."

Lin Fan scrolled through his old and worn out iPhone 4 and paused as if he saw a strange piece of news.

"I'm on the news...?"

Lin Fan rubbed his eyes and looked in disbelief. He looked again and realized that it was really him. "Shocking scenes outside Red Star Primary School, scallion pancake vendor bewitched crowds of people..."

Lin Fan read through the article closely and clicked on another e-platform app. Just when the app was opened, mesmerizing voices could be heard.

"Wow! It's so delicious."

"Simply delicious."

“These scallion pancakes are so delicious.”

These praises caused Lin Fan to feel rather awkward. Especially after he looked at the people’s exaggerated expressions.

When Lin Fan was selling the pancakes, he did not realize that there was something unusual. But after he saw what was recorded and reported on the news, he realized that it seemed rather rehearsed.

But Lin Fan was still confident of his scallion pancake making skills and believed that he made delicious pancakes.

However, he was both angry and helpless when he saw the comments.

“These actors’ expressions are too exaggerated.”

“Fifty-one people, if there were any more people, it would have been even worse.”

“What era are we living in? Now any profession can be faked!”

Fake my a*s, my scallion pancakes are truly delicious.

Under these circumstances, Lin Fan couldn’t take it anymore. He started to leave comments to argue with this group of haters.

Lin Fan wasn’t afraid of these guys taking revenge. If that really happened, he could stuff their mouths with the scallion pancakes and use it to unify their views on these pancakes.

After spending half an hour in the comments section, Lin Fan proceeded to push his cart slowly back to its original position as he prepared to continue working hard through the afternoon.

Lin Fan thought that since he was already on the news, he would be able to complete the Encyclopedic task soon. Just thinking about it made him a little excited.

In the afternoon.

At various Shanghai news departments.

“Xiao Wang, I want you to make a trip to Red Star Primary School to interview the scallion pancake vendor and write an article about it,” said the head editor.

“Alright, head editor.” Xiao Wang was a new reporter for the company and didn’t have many opportunities to interview any well-known people. If he could make a news out of this and upload it onto the internet, it could help to boost his popularity.

Xiao Wang was envious of the experienced reporters who frequently got to interview famous people and wrote the big headlines.

“Scallion pancakes vendor? I finally get to interview someone of decent popularity. But obviously, everything is staged. Looks like I have to find an actor to go with me.”

Xiao Wang had everything planned out in his mind, even the article content was all prepared.

At 4 pm.

Lin Fan pushed his cart back to its original position outside Red Star Primary school but he realized that the vendors in the vicinity looked at him weirdly.

“Kid, you’re so awesome.”

When Lin Fan was done with setting up his stall, Fraud Tian came over and said something that Lin Fan couldn’t understand.

“Awesome? Yeah, I’m f*cking awesome,” Lin Fan replied.

“No, tell me honestly, when did you get your license? When you weren’t here just now, everyone was discussing about it,” Fraud Tian asked while looking at the piece of paper glued to Lin Fan’s cart.

As for Fraud Tian, if the license was obtained through legitimate means, he had wanted to go apply for one as well.

“Hey, hey, you wanna know how? Simple, just give me \$100,” Lin Fan said as he stretched out his hand.

“You wanna ask for money for this? That’s hurtful; it’s okay, I won’t ask further,” Fraud Tian waved his hand and said.

Lin Fan took a glimpse of another stall, hit his stall counter repeatedly and said, “My permanent pass is coming soon. In future, there wouldn’t be any more city enforcement officers coming after me. I can finally set up my stall with a peace of mind.”

“Little boss is here, Little boss is here.”

When Lin Fan was done setting up his stall, streams of people queued up for his scallion pancakes. Lin Fan recognized that these people were those that had tasted his scallion pancakes before.

“Little boss, you’re indeed punctual.”

“I can’t wait any longer, give me three pancakes.”

“I want six scallion pancakes.”

“A day without your scallion pancakes makes me feel so uncomfortable!”

In the blink of an eye, Lin Fan’s stall had a long queue in front of it. The other vendors were all envious of him.

This f*cker simply didn’t make sense. He had just set up his stall and he already had so many people queuing for his pancakes. It looked too staged.

“F*ck...”

Fraud Tian was also shocked by what he was seeing. What exactly was happening? This kid was too good.

But as people say, having connections with influential people will reap benefits. Fraud Tian then started to promote his stall.

“Don’t miss out on my amazing fortune-telling. Come, come... Find out your future and reflect on your past deeds.”

Just after advertising his fraudulent business, many people actually came over to his stall after getting their pancakes.

Once Diviner Tian saw that people were coming, he smiled ecstatically like a chrysanthemum flower which had just bloomed.

Just as Lin Fan was busy making pancakes, someone took a microphone and another person followed behind with a camera.

“Hi, I am from a reporter from Shanghai Star Publisher. Are you the famous scallion pancake man?” Xiao Wang smiled and asked.

“The scallion pancake man? Yeah, that’s me.” Lin Fan seemed rather satisfied with the name that he had been given.

“Hi scallion pancake man, I am reporter Wang from Shanghai Star Publisher. The things that happened here went viral on the Internet. I heard that each and every one of your customers would make exaggerated facial expressions after eating your scallion pancakes. May I know what’s so magical about your scallion pancakes?” Xiao Wang asked.

But in his heart, Xiao Wang thought that the crowd who was queueing for the pancakes were just a bunch of actors.

Even the best chef in the world wouldn't be able to make something so delicious that would make everyone go crazy over it; not to mention a simple scallion pancake.

"Hey, reporter, can't you see that Small Boss is busy? Can't you carry out your interview after he's done?"

"Yeah, yeah, you want to find out about the magic behind it right? Let us answer that for him, it's heavenly. It's practically heaven on earth."

"That's right. You can't understand how delicious it is without trying it for yourself."

The crowd surrounding Xiao Wang had a lively discussion which shocked Xiao Wang. It seemed unusual.

Xiao Wang merely wanted an interview with Lin Fan. He thought that Lin Fan asked the actors to surround him just to stage an overwhelming response.

But as he analyzed the situation, he realized that Lin Fan wasn't bothered at all.

It didn't seem logical at all.

"Sorry reporter Wang, I'm kinda busy now," Lin Fan smiled and said to Xiao Wang.

Lin Fan had wanted to be interviewed properly so that he could complete the task to earn the Encyclopedic Points. But at that moment, the thing he had yearned for finally happened.

After spending the entire noon on the Internet trying to increase his popularity, the task which required him to obtain 'a little popularity' was finally completed.

The magical Encyclopedia then flipped to the second page.

Just when Lin Fan read the content on the second page, he was stunned.

"You must be kidding me..."