

# A Valiant Life

## #Chapter 21 - Read A Valiant Life Chapter 21

### Chapter 21: Everything is Fated

The neighbors nimbly arranged the stools to surround Lin Fan.

Aunt Zhang and her son stood one side, wanting to see Lin Fan's capabilities. The art of fortune-telling, was, after all, a mystery. Although today's society was so advanced, many would still approach fortune-tellers for advice on the important occasions in their life. However, it didn't mean that many believed it. Most people did it for the sake of consolation.

The opening was simple. Lin Fan felt that there was a need to answer everyone's small doubts. If there were people who were good with their languages and could give a sound explanation, then the Encyclopedic Points would definitely be in the bag.

"In the 'Spring and Autumn' period (770 – 476 BC), fortune-telling was known as the study of the Yin Yang & Five Phases of Chinese Philosophy. It only flourished in the Tang dynasty, or it could be said that fortune-telling originated from the Tang dynasty. Back then, there was a great master known as Li Xu Zhong. He created the 'four column method', which is known as the study of the eight characters today."

Lin Fan tried his best to explain clearly but the neighbors were all lost in the sea of information and did not manage to understand his words. When Lin Fan was finally done with explaining, nothing happened.

Literally, none of them understood what he had explained, thus he did not receive any Encyclopedic Points.

Lin Fan sighed and thought, "This damned life, the Encyclopedic Points are so difficult to earn."

"Master Lin, why not we just go ahead with the fortune-telling? We couldn't understand you despite your detailed explanation." Mr. Zhang smiled and said as he lit up a cigarette.

"Alright."

Lin Fan looked closely at Mr. Zhang's face. From an outsider's point of view, he must be fortune-telling already. But to these neighbors, they were just there to join in the fun. But in actual fact, they were still doubtful of Lin Fan. They just listened to how profound the

idea was but how could they believe in what was being preached? The fortune-tellers in the streets these days are all scammers. They could bewitch you with their ambiguous words but it ultimately depended on whether the listener believed in their words.

Then, his entire life flashed past Lin Fan's eyes. "Zhang Guo Ming, sixty-three years old, will die at eighty-one years old..., will suffer a small disaster on the 30th of July at 2 pm. He would fracture his leg while moving some goods." The life of Mr. Zhang could be said to be smooth, with little or no major issues. 30th of July was the very next day. But as Lin Fan thought of the rules in the magical encyclopedia, he knew that he couldn't tell it to Mr. Zhang directly.

"Mr. Zhang, something bad might happen to you tomorrow but it won't be life-threatening. Don't worry too much." Lin Fan tried to console Mr. Zhang after breaking the news to him as he saw the fearful look on his face.

"Xiao Fan, you're not scaring me, right?" Mr. Zhang was really frightened by Lin Fan. Although he did not really believe Lin Fan, he still felt a strange feeling. "Hehe," Lin Fan smiled and said. "Don't move any heavy objects tomorrow and you'll be fine."

"Move things? What heavy things?" Mr. Zhang said. Lin Fan shook his head, smiled sheepishly and said, "It's a secret, just remember what I said today then you'll be good."

Lin Fan was afraid of being too direct with his words as he did not want to be struck by lightning and end up as a handicapped man.

But Lin Fan could tell that Mr. Zhang did not really believe him. To Lin Fan, what needed to be said, had been said. There's always an end to life. They were lucky to be able to find Lin Fan to fortune-tell for them. Ultimately, it all depended if they believed in him since he had already said what he needed to say.

"Mr. Zhang, did you hear what Master Lin said? Be more cautious tomorrow."

The surrounding neighbors jeered at him.

Mr. Zhang turned his head to his left and right and felt a little unhappy. Why would he be faced with a disaster? But these were all requested by him. Even Xiao Fan had said it, he shouldn't be angry.

"Elder Zhang, Master Lin has already told your fortune. You gotta pay." the neighbors laughed and mocked him as they saw that Mr. Zhang was preparing to leave.

"I am already going to have an accident tomorrow, why should I still pay? Ugh, I'm going home." Mr. Zhang slapped himself in the thigh and left. Lin Fan shook his head and did not pursue the matter further.

"All of you should have thought things through. I can read your fortune but if you hear something that you dislike, you shouldn't be unhappy. Life is like this- you can't always lead a good life and likewise, good things may happen to some people. Today is my opening and since we're all neighbors, I will do my fortune-telling for free." Lin Fan said.

"Xiao Fan, people look at the eight characters when they fortune-tell. Why don't you ask for them?"

The way they greeted Lin Fan had changed. After what happened with Mr. Zhang, some of the people did not call him Master Lin anymore.

"I am just basing it on looks. In fortune-telling, there's facial analysis, palmistry, the study of the eight characters, personal encounters, the study of the heaven and earth..." Lin Fan explained. But to these neighbors, they did not understand him at all.

"Master Lin, is Mr. Zhang really going to face a disaster tomorrow?" Aunt Zhang asked.

Lin Fan just smiled, not saying anything.

Everything was recorded in the magical encyclopedia. If one believed in it, it would change one's life. If not, it's just one's fate.

Some of the neighbors left as they had something on, while some others all had nothing much to do and so they decided to stick around to see what Lin Fan would say to them.

Everyone had their own life, and not everyone would have something major happen in their lives. Some would only occur in a few years' time and even in a few decades. Even if he were to mention it now, it would be pointless.

Besides Aunt Zhang and her son, the others would just forget about Lin Fan's words if they were to have their fortunes read by him.

It would be better not to say.

Just when Lin Fan was fortune-telling for the neighbors, something happened at Red Star Primary School. A group of citizens had gathered at the school.

"Why isn't Little Boss here today?"

"Sigh, the wait is killing me. If I don't get to eat little boss' scallion pancakes, I would feel really uncomfortable."

"It's almost eight, Little Boss isn't even here yet. I have to go to work soon."

For those people, the happiest thing that could happen to them was getting a taste of Lin Fan's scallion pancakes.

The absence of Lin Fan made them anxious.

At a random road junction...

Liu Xiao Tian was enjoying his day as he was praised by his team leader in the morning. It was all because he did not restrain little boss from setting up his stall the other day. he wanted the citizens to be able to purchase good stuff and hence decided to do away with his original decision to restrain the others.

Because of that, it stirred up the reactions of the netizens. as many of the netizens liked what he did.

This had improved the image of the city enforcement officers. As the team leader got the news, he praised Xiao Tian which showed that he had done a good job. Liu Xiao Tian was still young and he still had tremendous potential for promotion.

"Leader, Little Boss did not set up his pancake stall today." a non-uniformed city enforcement officer hurried over and said.

"What? little boss did not set up the stall?" Liu Xiao Tian was furious when he heard the news. He was there just to eat Lin Fan's scallion pancakes. It would be disastrous if he did not set up the stall.

Could it be that little boss went somewhere else to set up his stall?

"Get on the truck, let's go have a look at other places. Maybe Little Boss shifted his stall."

Besides them, the ladies over at the Youth Arts Magazine Publisher were all staring intently at the school entrance and waiting for Lin Fan.

## Chapter 22: Profound Trickery

Thereafter, all the neighbors left. Lin Fan felt a little awkward as Aunt Zhang had started to cook a spread in his kitchen. although it was the best meal that Lin Fan had eaten since he had gotten to Shanghai.

*Most men were after all, kind-hearted and favors ought to be returned.* Lin Fan knew that the reason why Aunt Zhang cooked was to thank him for his free fortune-telling. Naturally, Lin Fan accepted it.

Initially, Lin Fan had thought the fortune-telling was nothing but a scam. After he found out how powerful his fortune-telling skills were, he became extremely excited about it.

Especially those that believed in him and managed to escape the disasters- they all had returned to thank Lin Fan. This gave him a great sense of satisfaction. Which young chap didn't like the feeling of being praised? It was especially so for Lin Fan who had not accomplished anything after being in Shanghai for such a long time.

It wasn't that Lin Fan wasn't hard working, it was just that he wasn't very lucky.

Just then, Lin Fan looked at the time and realized that it was only 1 pm. There was still quite some time before he needed to set up his stall.

Lin Fan proceeded to lie down on his bed. He whipped out his phone and had an idea after he saw the Weibo app on his phone.

In the era of the Internet, anything could be found online. For his current mission to be a well-respected Master Lin, the Internet was a great place for him to fulfill his mission. Weibo was a favorite among the netizens. If Lin Fan could appear on the top searched list on Weibo, he would surely become famous.

Lin Fan had registered for Weibo before, but he rarely used it and didn't have many fans. In his opinion, that wasn't a problem. He was now a man of substance and talent and he felt that he would definitely become famous.

Lin Fan opened the Weibo app and logged in. He saw that he only had 35 fans which was a hard-earned achievement back then.

His username was: An ordinary but extraordinary man.

The name was tacky, it looked like it belonged to a school kid. As he thought of it further, he remembered that he had created it back when he was in University and it was some time during his second year. Then, he immediately changed his name.

"Old chauffeur-turned fortune teller, Master Lin."

The name looked rather impressive to Lin Fan. As long as a person's not stupid and understands Chinese, he would definitely understand Lin Fan's username.

Then, he changed his personal bio. "One look to know your past life and another to know your current life. Tag: Know-it-all."

Once Lin Fan was satisfied with everything, he posted on Weibo for the first time. "Divine fortune teller on earth, there's nothing that I don't know. Free fortune-telling for a limited time only. Leave your name and eight characters at birth in the comments."

After typing the last sentence, Lin Fan felt like something was missing. So, he added another sentence in: "If it's not accurate, I'll eat sh\*t for you immediately."

Lin Fan was finally satisfied with everything. As for the people he used to follow, he unfollowed all of them. After all, he was a divine fortune teller now. He thought that he should wait for people to take the initiative to follow him and not the other way round.

Then, Lin Fan downloaded a picture of the eight divinatory trigrams of the Book of Changes from the Internet and used it as his profile picture. After he was done with it, he closed the Weibo app. All he had to do now was wait for people to approach him.

Soon, it was 4 pm in the afternoon. Lin Fan left his house to set up stall punctually. There was a huge crowd waiting for him when he had arrived at Red Star Primary school, as if he was a superstar.

Lin Fan's scallion pancakes were considered to be heaven on earth by residents in the area. A day without it made them anxious. Hence, those that loved the pancakes all added each other on WeChat and created a group. A notification would be sent out immediately when Lin Fan came to set up his stall.

"Breaking news: Little Boss is back!"

"Those who're free please come here quickly. I'll go queue up for it first."

Lin Fan was that popular. Just one morning without selling his pancakes made life difficult for a lot of people. "Pal, why are you so slow today? Did you get a girlfriend? Was yesterday night too tiring for you?" Fraud Tian laughed and asked.

"Go, go."

Fraud Tian was acting chummy with Lin Fan. One look at him and he could tell that he wanted a favor from Lin Fan. But as Lin Fan thought about his fortune-telling career further and said, "Fraud Tian, don't rush back home later. I have something to tell you."

"What is it? Could it be that you're gay for me..." Fraud Tian's stall counter was stuck beside Lin Fan's. As a result, his business had also improved. However, the tone he had adopted was suspicious.

"Get lost..." Lin Fan did not want to speak to Fraud Tian further. This b\*stard was already quite advanced in age but he was still so wretched and perverted.

As for the residents who had eaten Lin Fan's scallion pancakes, they were all making awkward facial expressions which made the situation a little worse.

"Handsome, can I have your WeChat?" a girl said to Lin Fan loudly and clearly, just as his head was lowered while he was preparing the pancakes.

Lin Fan raised his head and was a little taken aback. The girl was so pretty. It looks like the area was definitely a precious plot of land. There were so many pretty babes around that area.

But for Lin Fan, was he really going to give his WeChat so freely?

“Why do you want it for?” Lin Fan said coldly in pretense.

“Huh?” Huo Han was shocked. She was such a pretty lady and she didn’t expect to be asked such a question when she had already taken the initiative to ask for Lin Fan’s WeChat.

Huo Han felt that something was wrong. “Handsome, you’re so indifferent...” Huo Han was a little angry when she had said it.

“Yeah.” Lin Fan just nodded and said.

“Babe, I have WeChat. How about I add you?” Fraud Tian suddenly interrupted. As for Lin Fan rejecting such a request from a pretty lady like Huo Han, he deserved to be struck by lightning.

“You, get lost.” Huo Han said, without even looking at Fraud Tian. Then she turned to Lin Fan and asked, “You’re really not giving me your WeChat?”

“Yeah, I’m not giving you.” Lin Fan replied.

Huo Han was so furious that her face had turned red. Then, she said, “If you don’t give it to me, I would shout to everyone saying that you abandoned me and you’re my husband.

Lin Fan furrowed his brows and thought, “This chick has got some tricks up her sleeve. But if he was to really talk about tricks, she’s probably just a beginner compared to Lin Fan.”

“Babe, shout then I’ll kiss you. Do you believe me?”

Lin Fan wasn’t afraid to match up to her shameless behavior.

Lin Fan continued with his work and waited for her to make her next move. After waiting for a while, he realized that she had not moved. Out of curiosity, he looked up.

Just as he raised his head, he realized that the girl’s eyes had turned red, her nose was wiggling as if she was going to cry.

“What the f\*ck... This brat could really put up a show, she could even cry on the spot.” Lin Fan thought in disbelief. Then, he waved his hands and said “Fine, fine, you win. Just take it and scroll through.”

Lin Fan took out his phone and opened the WeChat app before letting her scroll through once.

After she had added him on WeChat, she let out an evil and cunning smile.

“What the f\*ck... Are you really an actor? If you were, I’d give you full marks for that.” Lin Fan felt defeated when he saw that the girl was instantly back to normal.

“Handsome, how did you know I had always wanted to be a superstar?” Huo Han asked.

“Um...” Lin Fan took another look and realized that this chick really wanted to become a superstar. She wasn’t joking.

“Your scallion pancakes.” Lin Fan passed her a bag of pancakes that he had just wrapped.

Huo Han quickly took the pancakes over from Lin Fan and smiled. She then said, “I am Huo Han, my colleagues and I are all loyal fans of your scallion pancake!”

Lin Fan introduced himself, smiled and said, “Your dream to become a superstar might really come true one day.”

When Huo Han heard what he said, she laughed and replied, “Handsome, you’re using such an outdated method to flirt. I love my job now, I guess my dream’s impossible to come true.”

“But still, thank you for that. See you!”

Lin Fan shrugged his shoulders and thought, “This chick has got so many tricks up her sleeve.”

Then, Lin Fan continued with his work until he finished selling his ingredients. By then, it was already night time, and so, he started to pack up his stall.

“Fraud, let’s go.”

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Chapter 23: One for you, one for me

At the roadside stalls.

“Hey youngster, why are you so kind-hearted today?” Fraud Tian asked as he drank his beer. It was as if the sun had risen from the west. Lin Fan had always remembered the fact that he had been cheated of \$100 but he still treated him to a mug of beer.

Lin Fan thought that since he was going to become a Master, he would need followers in future. After all, Huang Tian Ming was already an experienced fraud and he had decent skills. If he could convince him to join him, then things would be better in future.

“Fraud Tian, full name: Tian Han Ming. 45 years of age, from Han Dong. You have two brothers and a sister. You’re the oldest of them all and both of your parents are still alive. Lastly, you’re still single and not married...”

Fraud Tian really didn’t know what Lin Fan wanted; he just continued eating shelled peanuts. But when he heard Lin Fan’s words, he was flabbergasted.

“Did you check up on me?” Tian Han Ming was dumbfounded. He was shocked beyond words when Lin Fan managed to even recite his past happenings to him. That’s literally impossible.

Fraud Tian was shocked. He was also a ‘fortune-teller’. Could it be that this man was an even better fraud than him?

“You said you’re a fortune-teller?” Fraud Tian said in disbelief. He was in the same trade and he knew that he had to base his assumptions on something; just like  $1 + 1 = 2$ . They had a comprehensive list of principles when it came to fortune-telling. There was a fixed set of rules when it came to one’s birth. Everything was written in there and one could discern it easily if they knew how to.

“You’d be able to take advantage of someone else with your legs later,” Lin Fan smiled and said. Fraud Tian was in disbelief. Wasn’t that bullsh\*t? Taking advantage of someone with my legs? I’d rather use my hands.

\*slam\*

“Brother Jun reserved this place today, please get out of here,” a skimpily dressed girl with tattoo-covered arms walked towards them and said arrogantly.

The small crowd of dispersed customers was from the same place of residence as Brother Jun. When they had heard his name, they were all shocked. Did they just mention Brother Jun, the leader of the biggest gang in their place of residence? It was Brother Wu Bao Jun.

\*Scuffling noises\*

Then, the small crowd of customers all left without saying much. The boss just nodded his head repeatedly upon hearing Wu Bao Jun's infamous name.

\*slam\*

The skimpily dressed woman slammed Lin Fan's table and the beer had spilled all over it. "Get lost," she ordered. Then, she turned around to take orders from her leader and she started to prepare some things. Then, Lin Fan just smiled and asked, "You can tolerate that?"

"No...?" Fraud Tian was furious. But they knew that this girl was so arrogant because she had a strong backing. They knew they couldn't start a fight with her.

"You see her ass? The left side's yours and right side's mine. Let's give her a kick and run away. How does that sound?"

"Okay, let's do it," Fraud Tian said as he nodded.

"Okay, let's go."

Then, Lin Fan stood up and settled the 'protection fees' with the woman as she stared at him fiercely.

Lin Fan was extremely pissed at the way she was looking at him. If he had unlocked the page for martial arts, he would've kicked her in her boobs immediately. After paying the fees, Fraud Tian and Lin Fan stood together behind the woman. They looked at each other and thought of the same thing.

"1, 2, 3, kick!"

\*slam\*

"Ahh! Who's the b\*stard that kicked me in the ass?!"

Lin Fan and Fraud Tian kicked her at each side and quickly ran away.

"B\*tch, you better not get caught by me. If not I'll chop you up," the woman shouted with rage.

The people that were walking past saw what had happened and started to laugh. By this time, Fraud Tian and Lin Fan had already run miles away.

"What the... You actually dared to do that?!"

"Want to join me from now on?"

“Okay, but how do we split the money?”

“Monthly pay of \$3000 with year-end bonuses,” Lin Fan said.

“You’re so heartless. My monthly income from the overhead bridge is not even this little,” Fraud Tian complained.

“What am I?” Lin Fan asked.

“A divine fortune-teller.”

“That’s right, I’m a divine fortune-teller. When my reputation increases in future, you’ll receive more pay! There’s plenty of money waiting for you.

“That’s true. Fine, I’ll do it,” Fraud Tian said after he thought about it for a while.

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At the small De Yuan district in Shanghai.

This district in Shanghai was mainly in charge of administrative educational work. Their time belonged to the organization and they could only knock off from work after working hours. Yang Yong Kang had been standing for the whole day as he taught his students. He was a teacher in charge of a class and therefore he had more work to do than others. After a long day of work, he would return home exhausted.

8:30 pm.

Yang Yong Kang reached home and rinsed the vegetables that he had just bought, to prepare for dinner. Yang Yong Kang thought he could buy some scallion pancakes from the vendor outside Red Star Primary School but realized that his stall was already closed.

9 pm.

Yang Yong Kang ate his dinner alone and read the news on his phone. As he had been helping some of his students financially, he could only lead a simple life. He couldn’t afford to eat and drink like a king but he was satisfied with just filling his stomach.

His two children were working and studying at the same time while attending University. He only had to transfer a bit of money to them as they were capable of earning the rest on their own. Furthermore, they had a scholarship which considerably reduced the burden on Yang Yong Kang.

It was 9:30 pm. He had finished his dinner and washed the dishes. He wanted to switch off the TV and go to bed but the TV screen attracted his attention.

“The first number is 02.”

“04.”

“12,”

“04.”

“12.”

Ball rolling sounds could be heard from the TV.

“The fourth number is 14.”

...

“The sixth number is 24.”

“Then, for the last number... If one got all 7 matching numbers, he would win the top prize which was a \$15 million dollars in cash.”

“02,04,12....”

“This is the most money that the dual-colored ball lottery has ever offered for the top prize.”

It was as if the host’s voice had some kind of magical power over everyone. It attracted thousands upon thousands of people to witness the lottery results.

“02, 04, 12, ...”

Then, Yang Yong Kang suddenly remembered the lottery ticket in his wallet. The numbers seemed a little familiar but he wasn’t sure of it. The numbers were random and not chosen by him. Therefore he only took a glimpse of it and didn’t pay close attention to it.

He took the lottery ticket out of his wallet and matched the numbers with those on the TV. His suddenly lit up. Even his breathing rate had increased.

The first six numbers are exactly the same! That...

“Alright, the last number is...”

6+1, if he could match all the numbers, he would win the top prize!

Yang Yong Kang had never been interested in lotteries, but this time, he was on the edge of his seat. He held the lottery ticket tightly and waited patiently for the last number to be revealed.

Chapter 24: How Do We Continue from Here?

Yang Yong Kang had never been this nervous.

“Special number, 15.”

“The lottery numbers are: 02, 04 12, 14, 17, 24 & 15.”

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Yang Yong Kang’s mind was blank as if something had smashed his head. But at that moment, Yang Yong Kang suddenly remembered what little boss had told him.

“Mr. Yang, you must buy the lottery ticket when you reach the school. Your luck is off the charts.”

“How would he know? Unless little boss really knew how to read people’s fortunes?”

Yang Yong Kang was stunned. Even if he didn’t believe it, he still had to.

Luck?

Although Yang Yong Kang sort of believed in it, the person who told him that was Little Boss. If it wasn’t Little Boss who told him that, he wouldn’t even stop at the lottery centre.

He would also never have bought lottery tickets in the first place.

Yang Yong Kang rubbed his eyes as he analyzed the numbers on the TV screen. He then looked at his own lottery ticket.

The numbers matched.

\*Grunting noises\*

Yang Yong Kang gulped. He wasn’t going to be able to sleep tonight.

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“Mr. Yang, you should listen to yourself and continue to buy lottery tickets, right?” Lin Fan had initially wanted to use Mr. Yang as an experiment to test his fortune telling skills but now he didn’t have to anymore.

Lin Fan could safely say that his fortune-telling abilities were nothing that he imagined- it was capable of defying the laws of nature.

He was going to reach greater heights from now on.

“Right, I’ll just read your fortune. Nothing too complicated.” Lin Fan suddenly realized that something was amiss when he read Mr. Yang’s fortune.

“What is going on? I thought I read that Mr. Yang had unparalleled luck? How did it turn into a smooth sailing life? This wasn’t logical at all.”

Lin Fan couldn’t make sense of it, so he brushed it off. Maybe he’ll understand it in the future.”

Lin Fan took out his phone and accessed Weibo to catch up on the happenings around him.

“Damn. My fan base only increased by 6 followers? That’s way too little.” Lin Fan was disappointed. The name that he had was not too bad. Why didn’t the number of viewers match up?”

Lin Fan saw two comments on his post.

Username: Autumn Sword Fish Killer: HAHA! The fortune tellers of today have finally caught up with technology and have started using Weibo as a site to do business. How retarded!

Lin Fan wasn’t too happy to see that comment. That user was just out to humiliate him.

Lin Fan laughed as he read the second comment. There were still people who believed in him.

Weibo user, ‘Joy in Chaos’: Wang Ming Yang, Male, born on 4th October 1991, born between 3-5 pm. Please read my fortune.”

Lin Fan’s post had been there for just an afternoon, and there was already one person who wanted their fortune read. It wasn’t a bad start after all

Lin Fan started calculating and reading his fortune following the data that the person provided.

The encyclopedia was awesome. Fortune telling was so easy with it.

“Oh? This person’s fortune reading looks good. Looks like everything is fated.”

Now wasn’t the time to be in awe. Lin Fan immediately got on with sending a reply.

“Your desire to gamble will take control over you, and will make you bankrupt.”

This wasn’t too direct, but any sensible person could directly tell what it meant.

After Lin Fan made a few corrections, he sent out another Weibo post.

“Free online fortune readings, last two days!”

Lin Fan immediately closed his Weibo after he did that as he prepared to sleep. His fortune telling journey would officially begin tomorrow.

Lin Fan was so contented with the encyclopedia. It was almost a dream come true.

Lin Fan was like any other young person who wanted to get rich. However, he had to put in a lot of hard work to achieve that.

If he wanted to make a fortune, all he had to do was to take Mr. Yang’s lottery ticket. After all, it was as simple as conning Mr. Yang of his lottery ticket after he had bought it. It wasn’t difficult to pull off for Lin Fan, but it would be a major dick move if he did that.

The next day!

Ding Dong!

“Who’s that knocking on my door this early?” Lin Fan asked groggily.

“It’s me, Old Man Tian!” Fraud Tian shouted from outside.

“I’m coming, I’m coming. Why this early though?” Fraud Tian walked in with a bag of things as Lin Fan opened the door.

“What is this?” Lin Fan rubbed his eyes as he asked.

“Didn’t you say you wanted to team up with me to read people’s fortunes? I brought over all my little gimmicks and gadgets.” Fraud Tian opened his bag and dumped out everything.

“What are all these things? There’s even a compass in here!” Lin Fan was stunned as he saw all the fortune reading tools in front of him.

“You’ll sometimes need to read people’s Feng Shui. You can’t do without all these fortune-telling gear.”

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Lin Fan stared helplessly. All these gimmicks were useless to Lin Fan. He was more interested in having his own shop. The biggest concern was the expensive shop rental prices in Shanghai.

Fraud Tian and Lin Fan were both broke. They had no capital, to begin with.

Fraud Tian and Lin Fan were busy for the whole day until around 4 o'clock in the afternoon. They had finally finished what they needed to do.

They set up shop at their original counter. The only difference was the signboard which read 'Divine Master Lin'.

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Red Star Primary School.

Lin Fan's stall got a lot of attention from the people walking by.

At that moment, Fraud Tian stood on a chair and hollered at the top of his voice.

"The iron-mouthed Master Lin, ladies and gentlemen. With one word he'll tell life and death, wealth and poverty!"

Lin Fan wondered what Fraud Tian was going to say. As he started talking, Lin Fan immediately stopped him. Fraud Tian was so unreliable.

"Little boss has opened his stall."

Lin Fan's scallion pancakes were legendary in that area. Everyone would remember how delicious his pancakes were. As soon as they saw him open his shop, they all rushed over.

"Little boss, I've been waiting for you to open your shop since morning. But now that you're here, we can finally buy some scallion pancakes..." one of his regular customers said before taking a look at the new signboard which stunned him.

"Eh? Little boss, what happened?"

Lin Fan gave a sly smile and said, "I've changed my profession. I now specialize in fortune reading."

"Ah! Why did you ever do that? There's no future in fortune reading. Your scallion pancakes are way better!" Lin Fan's scallion pancakes were the life of all the regular customers.

More and more people gathered around Lin Fan's stall as they rushed over to buy scallion pancakes.

All the regular customers got the shock of their lives when they found out that Lin Fan had wanted to change profession.

Lin Fan's stall started becoming more crowded. All the people around him were trying to convince Lin Fan to sell scallion pancakes instead.

If Lin Fan had followed their advice and continued selling scallion pancakes instead of doing fortune reading, he would definitely be struck by lightning.

"Little boss, you can read my fortune. But you must make me a scallion pancake once you're done."

"Yes, that's right. I'll pay for the fortune reading and the pancakes but I have to get the pancakes."

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Lin Fan felt like giving up after hearing all that. His scallion pancakes couldn't possibly be that good, could it?

"Guys, I'm really not going to make any more scallion pancakes. I'm just a fortune-teller now. If anyone is interested, please do try." Lin Fan said.

"Little boss, please pity us. We need your scallion pancakes. Fortune reading is a scam and it can't possibly beat your scallion pancakes."

"Yea! This whole fortune-telling thing is all just a hoax."

Lin Fan looked at Fraud Tian helplessly. If this were to continue, his fortune telling business would not survive. He might not even be able to fulfill his mission requirements.

A loud sound emanated from far away while the crowd was trying to persuade Lin Fan to continue selling scallion pancakes.

The voice sounded extremely excited.

"Little Boss..."

As Lin Fan turned to see who it was, the corners of his mouth curved upwards.

His savior had finally arrived.

## Chapter 25: Based on This

Yang Yong Kang was full of energy. He didn't even sleep last night. The next morning, he brought his identification documents and the lottery ticket to the main lottery center in Shanghai.

\$15 million! He had actually won \$15 million! Most people couldn't even earn that much money in their entire lifetime. If Yang Yong Kang hadn't eaten or drunk for his entire life, he wouldn't even have been able to earn that much money.

After he was done with everything, the first person he thought of was Lin Fan. If not for him, he wouldn't have bought the lottery ticket.

"Little Boss!"

Yang Yong Kang was so excited that his face and ears turned red.

"Mr. Yang, don't panic. Speak slowly." Lin Fan smiled and said.

The surrounding customers knew what had happened the day before so they interrupted to mock Lin Fan.

"Little boss, look. Mr. Yang is here to settle scores with you."

"Mr. Yang, did you waste your money on the lottery ticket that day? It's good that you're here today. Little boss said he was going to be a fortune-teller and quit the pancake business. Don't you think it's a joke?" said a resident.

"I won! I really won!" Mr. Yang was full of admiration and respect for Lin Fan. He would've gone down on his knees and worshipped Lin Fan like a god if he could.

"Won what?"

The residents were all confused.

Yang Yong Kang calmed himself down and sternly said, "Two days ago, little boss reminded me to buy a lottery ticket even though I wasn't a fan of it. However, I bought a ticket that day at the school entrance after I heard what he told me. I actually won the first prize after matching the numbers yesterday night."

The residents were all doubtful of his words. "How many numbers did you win by?"

"Just \$10, right? You're just here for free scallion pancakes, right?"

“Looks like little boss really has some talent if I were to buy a ticket every day, I would get free scallion pancakes in future too!”

...

Yang Yong Kang anxiously said, “No, no, I won the first prize. \$15 million dollars!!!”

“Huh...?”

“What...?”

Every single resident was stunned beyond words. It was as if they had just seen a cow flying in the sky.

Those who had heard what he said started to laugh. They said, “Little boss, where are your morals? How could you gang up with Mr. Yang to lie to us? We don’t believe in that bullsh\*t.”

Just as the conversation ended, several reporter vans came and a large number of reporters charged out of the vans.

“Mr. Yang...”

“Mr. Yang...”

These reporters were from the large newspaper publishers of Shanghai. This was a potential big headline.

The scale of the news article for winning the first prize wasn’t always a contender for a big headline. Most of the people who had won the first prize rejected the interviews. But it was the first time in history that someone had won over \$15 million, the highest amount ever.

Two dollars won him \$15 million dollars.

They initially wanted to just interview Yang Yong Kang and did not expect to find out any shocking piece of news. They just wanted to know how he was feeling.

Mr. Yang was unexpectedly someone who has never bought any lottery tickets before and he had wanted to donate the remaining amount of money to educational organizations after paying off all his debts.

The reporters were all shocked beyond words. It was the first time they had witnessed such a thing happen. In the past, there were cases of charitable winners but the most they had donated was merely a few hundred thousand dollars.

As for Mr. Yang who wanted to donate over \$10 million dollars to charity, the reporters had the potential to write big headlines with that piece of information.

Then, the reporters followed Mr. Yang to the respective educational organizations and witnessed him donate all the money away.

But just before he donated, he took out \$300,000 from the winnings and kept it for himself. From all the reporter's' point of views, they were full of nothing but respect for Mr. Yang. They could only use 'respect' to describe the feeling they had towards him.

He only kept \$300,000 with him and he had donated everything else. Then, they realized that the \$300,000 was to be given to someone else. This gave them more things to write about.

Especially after hearing what Yang Yong Kang said, they all felt extremely curious.

"Without Little Boss, there wouldn't even be this winning ticket."

...

Lin Fan was also stunned by the situation that had happened in front of him. It created such a big commotion. The reporters rushed out of the place as if they were stalking a superstar.

"Mr. Yang, do you regret donating everything away?"

...

The residents in the vicinity couldn't believe what they had seen. Did he really f\*cking win \$15 million dollars?

One of the residents who knew what had happened two days ago, pulled one of the reporters and asked, "What happened? Mr. Yang really won the first prize?"

Initially, the reporter that was dragged out was rather unhappy as the resident had prevented him from conducting his interview.

Suddenly, he realized how stupid the question was. What did he mean by 'really won'?

Could it be that there was something more to the story?

"Hi sir, Mr. Yang has won the first prize for the double colored ball lottery. The prize was \$15 million dollars. What were you implying when you asked if he had really won?"

The reporter placed his microphone in front of the man, hoping to get more juicy news. The other reporters who heard their conversation also did the same thing.

At that instant, the resident was shocked and couldn't believe what he had heard. All that was going through his mind was, "He won... \$15 million dollars..."

"Sir, what's wrong? Could you tell us?" the reporter noticed his reaction and anxiously asked. Why was this man so shocked?

Then, the other residents who had the same reaction came over and said, "This was what happened. Two days ago, Little Boss told Mr. Yang that he was going to win big money. He told him to buy a lottery ticket. Initially, we all told it was a joke. But he really won the first prize."

After he told them the story, the resident exclaimed to Lin Fan, "Little boss, I don't want my scallion pancake anymore, just help me read my fortune."

...

The situation became really chaotic, everyone was having their own conversation. Although \$15 million wasn't exactly considered to be a massive sum of money in Shanghai, it definitely wasn't a small sum.

What shocked the crowd was the fact that little boss had reminded Mr. Yang to purchase the ticket. If not for what they had witnessed, nobody would have believed what they said.

Yang Yong Kang took out a credit card from his pocket and shook Lin Fan's hand. "little boss, I am truly grateful for you."

"This card has \$300,000 in it, it's what you deserve."

Lin Fan had accepted Yang Yong Kang's gift of gratitude as he felt that he deserved it. Besides, with his current stall front for fortune-telling, it did seem a little underwhelming. If he had the money, he could use it to rent a nicer place to set up his stall.

But what had shocked Lin Fan was the fact that Mr. Yang donated all his money away.

"Mr. Yang, did you really donate all your money?" Lin Fan asked.

"Yes, I donated all of it. I am more than satisfied with my life even if I were to die now. I used to fascinate about what I would do if I had a large sum of money. But now I know that education of others holds the highest place in my heart." Mr. Yang said emotionally as if he was going to cry.

Lin Fan nodded after hearing what Mr. Yang had said. He was full of respect for him for donating over \$10 million dollars without saving any for himself.

At the same time, Lin Fan understood the reason why Mr. Yang decided to do that. As a teacher, he had dedicated his entire life to educating others and that's probably the reason why. He thought that Mr. Yang would definitely be promoted to be the principal.

"Hi Little Boss, may I know what's your occupation?"

"Hi Little Boss, may I know why you requested for Mr. Yang to purchase the lottery ticket? And how did you know that he would win the first prize?"

Lin Fan just smiled to the reporters, took a few steps backward as he pointed to something that was beside him and said, "It's because of this..."