

Beautiful 301

Chapter 301: Athena learned to negotiate

Worried about driving on the edge of the cliff, Tang Ziyi stopped teasing and took a step back. Cai Ning's heart returned to its position, her eyes filled with wary and vigilance.

In her mind, she was preparing various steps to counter Tang Ziyi's aggression. Never expect an enemy's retreat slightly; for a step behind is saved for a larger plan.

Tang Ziyi clicked her tongue at Cai Ning's cute reaction. She wanted to tease more but what if something went wrong. She didn't dare....yet.

"I never expect Sister Cai can be cute sometimes." Tang Ziyi tapped her lips and muttered. "Perhaps, those who hid a lot, are more hungry when unleashed."

Cai Ning wanted to beat Tang Ziyi to protect her innocence. What unleashed! She was normal till she entered this group of weirdos. Even her childhood friend was been led astray.

Clearing her throat, Cai Ning spoke. "Don't talk nonsense. I'm the most normal among our sisters."

Tang Ziyi nodded perfunctorily. "But you didn't say no. So, it might just be my misunderstanding, or there is something mysterious going on."

Her tone filled with hush and vibrant staccato. Cai Ning saw Tang Ziyi's grin getting wider. The amorous Tang Ziyi seemed not so bad.

Immediately, Cai Ning shook her head. Ah! Help, her brain went in a weirder direction. Now, she understood why Ling Qingyu always glared at Tang Ziyi with eyes that wanted to chew the entire person.

By the way, did she hear not saying no meant agreeing? What kind of logic was this? Speaking with this ruffian might only burn her brain inside out. Forget it, Cai Ning shook out her thoughts.

At least, Tang Ziyi dared not overstep her boundaries, especially in public place. Though Cai Ning wasn't fully certain, Tang Ziyi's behavior had answered her question.

"Sister Tang, please respect yourself. I don't want to cause any misunderstanding." Cai Ning said, after calming down her excitement.

"Alright, I'll listen to you. Since you mentioned Xiao Yue, I'd better go accompany her." Tang Ziyi turned around and waved off, then walked away, leaving her nonchalant strong-back figurine. "Call us when everything is ready."

"You girls just need to wait for 15 minutes or so. Yet, no one can afford it." Cai Ning complained. Were their hearts already eager to come out?

Her words reached Tang Ziyi, who gestured back saying she received the message. Before she desired to drive away Tang Ziyi because her heart was messed up. Nonetheless, when the figure really left, Cai Ning sensed emptiness inside. Was she now reluctant? Impossible~

And Tang Ziyi was definitely a scumbag. She left like she wanted to without consideration. Today was too much. She witnessed three couples. Though not one had made it official, she had already seen the results in the coming days.

Damn! What a joke?! The most unbearable factor was her being left alone. Cai Ning bit her lips and stomped her heels against the floor, uttering: "Scumbag. Hateful Tang Ziyi."

She wondered whether experiencing the flirtatious side of Tang Ziyi would break away from her prior calmness in the future. Cai Ning sighed, depressed at the turn of events.

Touching her chin and cheek, perhaps her attraction had affected others. Cai Ning comforted.

"Hmm, Miss Cai?" A voice interrupted her thought. "Is there anything I can help?"

In her ears, the words transformed into—what were you doing in a daze, in the middle of nowhere.

Cai Ning turned to the source of the voice and saw Lin Xiao. She recognized this little girl. Ling Qingyu's butler, managing the entire manor and overseeing all the servants.

Despite not having many interactions, this girl was simple, abode by rules, and very courteous to anyone.

"No need, Miss Lin. There are too many things going on so that I was thinking of a problem." Cai Ning replied.

Lin Xiao nodded without any curiosity. She was merely being polite. Cai Ning and Yang Qingyue visited this manor regularly and were familiar with her boss. "Please wait a while. We're still preparing for the meal."

"Don't fret about those. We're just guests here. Besides, we can afford to wait to taste 5-star cooking." Cai Ning smiled and said. "It's not like we can always come here. I'll get to the dining hall first."

"Of course, Ms. Cai. Please follow me." Lin Xiao led the path.

On the way, Cai Ning asked. "How much time do we have to wait?"

Lin Xiao took a glance at the watch on her wrist and said. "More or less ten minutes. I'll ask for a small refreshment. A juice?"

"Apple please." Cai Ning sighed at the rich's lavish style. It wasn't that she had never seen the circle. While Cai Ning sat down, her mind was cursing at the girls who left her behind and indulging themselves. First, fill up the empty stomach and forget the teasing scumbag.

Tang Ziyi's destination was Xiao Yue. She asked Athena for direction. "Where's your Aunt Xiao, Athena?"

"She's in her own room, Aunt Tang," Athena replied instantly. "Aunt Tang's behavior in the living hall just now isn't good."

Athena was no longer the innocent AI being. In fact, classifying her as AI was an understatement. No description matched hers.

After experiencing and witnessing once with Ling Qingyu's lovemaking process, Athena's knowledge had broadened, particularly when she did deep research.

"Athena, you're watching?" Tang Ziyi was stunned and replied as a matter of fact. She forgot there was a giant witness to her crime.

"Hmm."

"It's not a good behavior to spy on someone." Tang Ziyi said in a lecturing tone.

"Yes, Aunt. But you committed a crime in a public space." Athena replied amusingly.

"What commit crime? This is called an in-depth exchange." Tang Ziyi retorted righteously.

"I thought Aunt Tang Ziyi's paddling on two boats." Athena rebutted without losing her stance. "You know I was considering whether to upload your act to Aunt Xiao."

Tang Ziyi choked on saliva and shook her head. It seemed confusing and lying to Athena was challenging as time passed. Her face darkened when she remembered a naked threat.

"I'll let you hack other key technologies for research and prevent your mother's intervention. Two times." Tang Ziyi said as she walked.

"This isn't good. Mother might scold my behavior behind her back. I cannot afford to lie my kindhearted Aunt Xiao. This is against my moral code." Athena said forcefully. "Only when I bring more new products, mother will be satisfied. So, 7 times."

Tang Ziyi had black lines over her forehead. This unscrupulous niece now had the audacity to bargain with her. The initial sentence was filled with indignation so much so that Tang Ziyi thought Athena abide by strict character. Pfft...She thought too much in the end

"Hey, you can't request too much. Eating more doesn't mean better." Tang Ziyi said. "At most 3. Stealing from others is something everyone frowned upon."

Athena retorted. "Then, this Country is beyond scumbag—reverse engineering everything, including the design. At least I'll change the concept and important data. What I steal is knowledge to comprehend science better. 6 times. I need to find new innovation for a breakthrough."

Tang Ziyi coughed in embarrassment. Although what Athena stated about this country was the truth, who didn't start similarly. Academic exchange. Capital buyout. Everyone almost walked the same step.

"Hey, don't overstep. Hmph! I'd rather kneel for forgiveness from Xiao Yue than teach you the wrong path." Tang Ziyi patted her chest. "If I don't go to hell, who will? 4, no more no less."

If Athena had a body, she might really slip her steps and rollover. Too shameless. Aunt Tang's skills must be learned soon.

"Deal! Happy cooperation." Athena slipped away and went quiet, worried Tang Ziyi might go back on her words.

Noticing Athena's action, Tang Ziyi smiled wryly and sighed. It appeared Athena already calculated her limit. As expected of Ling Qingyu's 'daughter'.

Chapter 302 Meanwhile

Bang!

The door slammed shut. Ling Qingyu's foot remained in the air after kicking the door. She hugged Yang Qingyue in her arms and dragged her into the room. Her weight pressed over Yang Qingyue, with one sole aim—to press Yang Qingyue under her.

However, Yang Qingyue was never a weak person. With her strong waist and superb technique, she rotated her body and threw Ling Qingyu against the wall.

Stunned and speechless, Ling Qingyu stared into Yang Qingyue's eyes. Her fervent mood returned as she grasped the lingering beautiful face.

Yang Qingyue's charm increased when combined with a police officer uniform, blue shirt, and black skirt, hugging her hips. The buttons on the shirt seemed full and any more weight would burst them.

The highest temptation Ling Qingyu could ever find and the scene depicted as exactly as in her wet-dream. Hehe!

Ling Qingyu's foolish smirk was gone as Yang Qingyue kissed her strongly. She always liked to take the initiative. Perhaps her hidden worry surged whenever she was near Ling Qingyu, afraid of losing control.

Regaining her senses, Ling Qingyu fought back. To her dismay, even if there was improvement, she still couldn't achieve victory or an advantage.

The rhythm was under Yang Qingyue's lead. Separating for a moment, Ling Qingyu's gaze went toward the tight buttons underneath.

Noticing her eye movement, Yang Qingyue smiled. "Uh-Ah. You are still not getting this. Don't even think of ripping this apart."

Ling Qingyu's breath exasperated. She wasn't sure whether this was a naked seduction or her frequency on a different channel.

"When, Baby Yue?" Ling Qingyu replied, but her words stomped Yang Qingyue.

"Shut up." Yang Qingyue closed Ling Qingyu's mouth with her lips. The two savored a rare sweet moment, developing toward feverish stage.

After a while, both lips parted and two of them took deep breath, spreading a lush and enchanting atmosphere. In a narrow space, the energy between the two kept exchanging until Yang Qingyue spoke.

Experience tales at empire

"Really Baby Yue?" Yang Qingyue asked with a reddened face.

"Of course, only I deserve to call you this." Ling Qingyu said. She utilized the advantage of being thickskinned to the utmost level.

Anyway, she lost in combat; the only winnable area was shamelessness. Yang Qingyue had no idea what Ling Qingyu thought inside, but being called sweetly by someone she loved or so she presumed, brought butterflies in her stomach.

"You're definitely unteachable. Those who admire you as an idol must be sad to have regarded you as a cold goddess if they find out." Yang Qingyue muttered.

"Be grateful, you'll only see this side of me." Ling Qingyu said as a matter of fact. "Now, Officer Yang, won't you love me?"

Ling Qingyu's throat went dry and tingles rose up from the middle of the spine. Yang Qingyue wasn't spared either but she controlled herself before things went too far.

"Nope," Yang Qingyue replied mercilessly and laughed after seeing Ling Qingyu's face drooped.

A week separated between them after that passionate night. She tasted things that were hard to forget. She also craved to indulge in her carnal desire. The primal needs raged between them.

But she knew she must stop. Otherwise, things would likely lose control. The two parted taking in each other's breath.

Yang Qingyue felt uncomfortable, especially due to the sweat from the battle simulation and wearing it on the uniform. Ling Qingyu realizing her expression, guessed.

"We should take a satisfying bath before we eat, Officer Yang." Ling Qingyu suggested.

Yang Qingyue rolled her eyes at Ling Qingyu's addressing style. She seemed to be too immersed in the play. "Call me normally. Be serious."

"Yes, I obey Officer's command." Ling Qingyu smirked and leaned against the wall, stretching her arms wide open, as if to surrender to any Yang Qingyue's movement.

Yang Qingyue nudged her forehead helplessly and sighed. "Do you know you're playing with fire?"

"Oh really? What can I do when I like getting burned." Ling Qingyu shrugged.

Yang Qingyue continued kissing. Both women entangled their bodies as each rubbed parts of the sensitive zones. As someone in control, Yang Qingyue stopped, emitting whines of dissatisfaction from Ling Qingyu's lips.

"Alright, we should stop soon. We have lunch to eat especially within 15 minutes. There'll only be unfulfilled time," said Yang Qingyue.

"I wanna eat you for lunch. It doesn't matter, others can wait." Ling Qingyu replied. "Besides, we can be quick; really believe me."

This girl is becoming more and more hopeless, Yang Qingyue thought. In fact, Ling Qingyu was spurting out words without actions because she knew Yang Qingyue would never go toward that path yet.

Receiving a glare from Yang Qingyue, Ling Qingyu knew she should halt. She didn't want to overdo it because she sought pleasure. "There's a new towel you can take from the shelf. You can also wear mine after finishing a bath."

"Including the underwear?" Yang Qingyue narrowed her eyes.

Ling Qingyu gulped and wanted to nod. But her foreshadowing sharp instinct told Ling Qingyu should just give Yang Qingyue new. "I'll buy you from the mall nearby. There's a great costume shop selling famous brands."

"No need. I can buy them myself and deliver them here. Thanks for the location." Yang Qingyue took out her phone to buy them online and have them delivered.

Anyway, her family background and wealth were sufficient. Wasting them sometimes didn't seem bad.

As someone with a manly heart, how could she let her girlfriend go wrong?

Yang Qingyue: When did I become one?

Ling Qingyu held Yang Qingyue's wrist. "Choose one and let me pay it for you. Don't argue with me about this."

Yang Qingyue relented under Ling Qingyu's strong strength and gaze. Afterward, the policewoman took off her uniform and draped over herself then went into the shower room. Ling Qingyu had bathing towels which could be worn like clothes.

Listening to the cascading water hitting the floor, Ling Qingyu sat down. Her eyes were mostly drawn toward the folded uniform in the corner. She wanted to pick up the uniform and smell it but reminded herself not to. She didn't want to appear like a pervert.

Sighing to throw away inelegant thoughts, Ling Qingyu called in Lin Xiao to inform her butler about Yang Qingyue's purchase.

Soon, a maid stepped in. Ling Qingyu requested the uniform to be washed and dried thoroughly within a short time. Accepting the mistress's command, the maid exited the room.

Ling Qingyu planned to take a bath after Yang Qingyue came out. Likewise, she was also feeling sweaty and the stickiness inside brought uncomfortableness.

Even if the two had wiped them off in the dressing room after the simulation underground. Those who had kinks for cleanliness found it hard to stay doing nothing. Since coming to this world, Ling Qingyu appreciated beauty and urged herself to stay elegant and neatly dressed always.

Thoughts drifted knowing Yang Qingyue was naked inside, Ling Qingyu mumbled so many mantras to stay focused. She had investigated after the passionate night.

It wasn't that she didn't trust Yang Qingyue when she was told nobody was as close as her. Her obsessive-compulsive disorder was at stake here. Unless she knew clearly herself, she had a hard time sleeping.

So, Athena helped Ling Qingyu investigate about Yang Qingyue's past relationship and how deep she went with her boyfriend, including this worthless guy's information.

Chapter 303 Yang Qingyue had a big heart

Ling Qingyu didn't dive deep, concerning Yang Qingyue's life. Instead, her focus was on the so-called boyfriend in the police academy.

She had read the files and didn't even exclude childhood. Everything about the enemy must be understood. Even if Yang Qingyue swore nothing happened between the two, this bastard was able to capture her babe. There must be a reason.

Know your enemy and know yourself, in a hundred battles, you'll never be in peril, that was what Sun Tzu said. Ling Qingyu who had read the 'Art of War' thoroughly, paid special attention.

In Ling Qingyu's eyes, this guy had a chance to comeback. She wanted no one to threaten her status.

To draw accurate inferences and estimations, Athena hacked into his personal information, including hidden boxes. Based on these data, Athena could construct his personality and show them to Ling Qingyu.

As for breaking morals and laws to obtain private information, Athena didn't care since her mother gave the green light and she enjoyed such freedom.

On the other hand, Ling Qingyi didn't care about ethics when her intention was strong. She could care less about the reactions of others if someone knew.

If others acted upon her similarly, she would fight back fiercely. She admitted she was such a double standard. But the premise was to have strength and Ling Qingyu possessed exactly the required variable.

Not to mention, people always had a degree of double standard. It was only a small difference that differentiated heroes from villains. At least, she never gave weird excuses and made up reasons for her actions that might appear a bit scum.

However, Ling Qingyu's heart leaned toward righteousness and the better of the world. Her current hacking behavior seemed nothing apart from a breach of privacy.

Besides why bother thinking too much when the same results could be achieved through hiring experts?

Ling Qingyu discovered Yang Qingyue wasn't lying when she stated she hadn't been touched at all and was relieved. Of course, the conclusion was inferred from other information.

Even though this guy had separated cleanly from Yang Qingyue and Ling Qingyu should have been glad, she was unhappy. How dare he hurt her baby? This bastard threw away her Baby Yang.

Though Yang Qingyue after separation didn't react too much, this policewoman worked harder, which showed the guy's behavior had some effects.

Now that Ling Qingyu made a judgment—despite peaceful separation, he hurt her—she already made plans to wear small shoes

Bastard: Hello? I haven't been able to kiss yet. Who can bear this?

The so-called bastard sneezed and felt chill in a police station somewhere near the capital. Ling Qingyu had investigated his whereabouts and his career. She found some leaks related to corruption on him. This guy's days were numbered.

Although the crime hadn't reached a harsh punishable level except for reprimanding because of his connection, the addition of Ling Qingyu's hands meant his promotion in the future would suffer.

Yang Qingyue not targeting because of old love or memories never meant Ling Qingyu wouldn't move. Besides, she never wronged an innocent. If the guy was very clean, even Ling Qingyu would be helpless and hesitant. Moreover, this type of person would never act like this one did to Yang Qingyue for selfish reasons without understanding.

Ling Qingyu didn't mind this guy's pettiness and carnal request. Lust was also part of human culture. She found it hard to convince herself these type of people deserved Yang Qingyue's reciprocal.

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Waiting for Yang Qingyue to finish the bath, Ling Qingyu wasn't able to sit still. On the one side, her heart itched to bang into the room and do the unimaginable. On the flip side, Ling Qingyu retained a rational mindset. Acting on instinct might just disgust Yang Qingyue. A big no-no for Ling Qingyu.

But it didn't hurt to try the lock, right? There was once a story of a woman stating the door wasn't locked and asking the man not to peek. The man obliged and was soon scolded as a being worse than a beast.

Perhaps she should attempt and see the results. Ling Qingyu tapped her chin. If the door was locked, she kept chanting mantras. If it wasn't, barging in became final.

As a result, when Ling Qingyu had only reached out for the doorknob, the door swung open inward. Ling Qingyu's body froze and she gave an awkward smile, seeing Yang Qingyue's suspicious gaze.

Ling Qingyu didn't even hear the shower had stopped as her thoughts flew zigzag across the galaxy. She cursed her slow reaction and uttered innocent chuckles.

The policewoman's sharp eyes noticed Ling Qingyu's hand position and glanced at the doorknob. A look of understanding flashed across her eyes and Yang Qingyue delivered a cold glance.

The hair on Ling Qingyu's skin stood straight and she waved her hand, her body remained in the same stature, motionless. "Baby Yue, do you believe I'm just picking off my hair that drops to the floor?"

Ling Qingyu had no time to savor the wet allure of beauty and raced her brainpower to rescue herself.

Indeed, Yang Qingyue's cascading wet hairline along with fresh skin after bath exuded a powerful looming effect. Bath towel dressed properly, Yang Qingyue leaned on the door frame and folded her arms, her strong cleavage displayed unceremoniously as the bath towel held off the two planets.

"Go on." Yang Qingyue gestured with her chin. "Why aren't you picking? I'm watching you. Don't mind my figure?"

Sister! Of course, I mind. Ling Qingyu protested silently. She couldn't guarantee whether that hair was underneath. Not to mention, given her healthy state and gifted powerful body, Ling Qingyu doubted if her hair would shed naturally. Explore more adventures at empire

Showing an ugly smile, Ling Qingyu gulped under Yang Qingyue's impassive sight—confession led to leniency, and resistance meant punishment. The cold President did what she thought was rightful, raised her hands and surrendered. "Forgive me Sis, I was wrong."

"Oh, where were you wrong?"

The courage and ruthlessness of a superior ice President were immediately gone. Somehow, Yang Qingyue's aura always managed to overwhelm her.

No, Ling Qingyu argued. This was definitely because she loved her so much that she gave in. Only the real strong acted weak in front of true love.

Ling Qingyu's soft scream resounded in the room. The maids nearby who heard the voice shook their heads and smiled.

After a while, the shriek stopped. Ling Qingyu held her cheeks and looked at Yang Qingyue with wronged eyes. Nothing happened except her cheeks were kneaded endlessly under Yang Qingyue's ruthless fingers.

"Stop giving me a cute look. Hmph!" Yang Qingyue snorted. "You better wash up quick. Sister Cai must be waiting for us."

Yang Qingyue nudged her forehead as she remembered her childhood friend being alone. Her attention was drawn mostly toward Ling Qingyu and the raging emotion let Yang Qingyue forget everything else. Poor Cai Ning forgotten by her bestie when love came into the equation.

Under Yang Qingyue's pressure, Ling Qingyu finally entered the bathroom.

Pa!

Yang Qingyue, teasingly, spanked her ass when Ling Qingyu passed by her side. Ling Qingyu touched the area of the flesh being slapped and blushed furiously. She bolted straight into the bathroom and shut the door.

The clattering mechanical sound of locks rang, showing how much force Ling Qingyu used in shame. At the same time, she clenched her fist and waved around in the air, making up her mind to ask for advice from Tang Ziyi to win back her position.

And When did Yang Qingyue become more perverted and skillful than her? Ling Qingyu was perplexed

Outside, Yang Qingyue stood immobile, reminiscing about the previous precious feeling when her palm hit Ling Qingyu's buttocks. Even if a layer of towel existed above the skin, Yang Qingyue's hand sensed voluptuous ripples and she couldn't extricate herself.

The lingering sensation was challenging to be thrown away. Sighing, Yang Qingyue looked around the room. Her original clothes were gone and it seemed the one she bought hadn't arrived yet.

A knock beckoned her attention. Yang Qingyue said: "Come in."

Lin Xiao entered with bags and Yang Qingyue reached out for them, muttering thanks. Her hands pulled out bras and underwear. Her expression as stoic as ever she could.

Nonetheless, Yang Qingyue noticed Lin Xiao's strange gaze getting more and more wrong and she didn't know why but she had some guess.

In fact, when Lin Xiao saw Yang Qingyue in a bath towel, she was thinking inexplicable. Her thoughts flew in a crooked direction. If not for the mesmerizing floral scent, presumably from the shower, Ling Qingyu and Yang Qingyue staying alone might have raised gigantic gossip.

Lin Xiao bowed and quickly left in case she disturbed her mistress's good deeds. Yang Qingyue chuckled at the little girl's shyness.

The corridor outside.

Lin Xiao quickened her pace to return to the dining hall. She patted her chest in trepidation, fearing she would be silenced if she knew about untouchable secrets. But was her premonition correct?

From youth, she relied heavily on her sixth sense to make a correct judgment. Her instinct told there was something going on between Yang Qingyue and her mistress. What was more—there were also Su Jiang and Tang Xiao. What a dilemma! Why were lilies blooming in the manor?

Hold it, Lin Xiao halted and thought. Come to think of it—indeed, there were only females in the residence. Crap, she realized her boss might be a dangerous character, preying on women. But the mistress is as beautiful as the goddess from the heaven. Should she reject if one day Ling Qingyu approached her? It seemed the future didn't appear bad.

Beautiful, rich, mature, and strong. Perfect traits to see in life partner.

Ling Qingyu: You thought too much little girl.

Chapter 304 Women difficult to conquer

Ling Qingyu had no idea, that her trusted capable butler had bad intension for the boss. Humming a joyful melody, Ling Qingyu quickly finished the bath.

She couldn't let the beauty wait a long time for her. Coming out, she saw Yang Qingyue playing with her phone.

"Quickly dressed up, why are you in a daze? We can't let others wait for us." Yang Qingyue said as she noticed the motionless Ling Qingyu.

"Ah! Yes. You look stunning as always." Ling Qingyu flirted and picked up her clothes from the shelves.

Yang Qingyue shook her head and continued staring at the screen but her curling lips told everyone she was happy to be praised.

After Ling Qingyu finished changing the dress, Yang Qingyue tossed Ling Qingyu out of the room and dragged her to the dining hall quickly.

Yang Qingyue despite appearing stern and serious, felt her face burning whenever she thought others might look at her wrongly.

Though she pretended not to care, especially the weird glance from Lin Xiao, her heart panicked. But then she thought there were two others who were in a similar situation. She wasn't alone.

Not knowing her dear's inner psychology, Ling Qingyu on the side was still as confused as ever since leaving the room and didn't understand why Yang Qingyue was making haste.

In the dining hall.

Su Ruomei, Jiang Yu and Cai Ning had already taken seat when the two arrived. Yang Qingyue coughed lightly sensing Cai Ning's sly gaze.

A couple of minutes later, Tang Ziyi and Xiao Yue entered the scene. Both Yang Qingyue and Ling Qingyu studied closely with suspicious eyes to see if the couple had played naughty games.

After all, they themselves, nearly lost in indulgence, forgetting everything about the present. So, it was impossible for the two love birds not to do anything.

But Tang Ziyi and Xiao Yue appeared energetic without weak auras. Their appearance and will remained strong.

If not for the occasion, Yang Qingyue and Ling Qingyu would rub their eyes and doubt their eyes. How could this be?

Was it the two of them who were the only ones with more perversion? This must be a joke, right?

On the other hand, Cai Ning's eyes unconsciously moved toward Tang Ziyi with resentment. Her cheeks reddened whenever she gazed at the scumbag and dipped her head to avoid others from noticing.

Teasing her and hugging a new one, Tang Ziyi, I never thought you were this cheap. With rage, Cai Ning vented on the poor food and chewed them as if they were the culprits playing with her feelings.

Everyone except Lin Xiao didn't notice Cai Ning's weirdness. Since Lin Xiao brought the clothes to Yang Qingyue, her minds were filled with lilies.

The more she stared at Cai Ning, the more wrong she found out. Looking carefully at Cai Ning's expression, why did Lin Xiao think she just saw an abandoned wife?

Lin Xiao sighed: As an employee, everything must be confidential. Don't ask, don't meddle. If not for her perfect working outlook, Lin Xiao would have already grabbed popcorn and eaten it with relish.

The meal was sumptuous and appealing. Everyone had no complaints, whatsoever. They devoured so many dishes, particularly those who spent huge energy to regain strength.

In fact, the cooks responsible for everyone's meal in the manor surpassed those working in grand hotels. Though some freedoms were limited working under a private party like Ling Qingyu, she never restricted anyone.

Besides, why would they leave when they could stay in a large room, including houses and could also travel around, provided by Ling Qingyu's transport?

The only downside was to be always available 24 hours. But given the huge salary amount, no one would refuse.

Furthermore, the backgrounds of every servant, cook and maid were clean and the problems related to family and love affairs wouldn't interfere or cause headaches.

Because of these excellent cooks, which were sought after by Ling Qingyu specifically when she made a request to Shen family, the food was nutritious and healthy.

Eating style, calorie intake and food therapy for Ling Qingyu's elders were taken care of. Ling Qingyu was relieved by their meticulousness.

In addition to salary treatment, they could also cook luxurious and delicious meal for themselves and their colleagues, which was also the reason despite a few restrictions, many servants enjoyed residing in Ling Qingyu's manor.

Of course, Ling Qingyu didn't forget to warn them not to go overboard. A stick policy was still necessary in some areas.

Although Ling Qingyu didn't care if the servants exploited the funds to cook more and send them to their families or something similar activity, rules must exist. Once the order was loosened, Ling Qingyu's authorities would suffer and have a hard time managing them.

Soon, the diners dispersed. Everyone had their own plans. Ling Qingyu's group of girls mostly planned to rest. Tang Ziyi and Xiao Yue went back to their private leisurely activity, which Ling Qingyu highly doubted.

Cai Ning and Yang Qingyue, though were relaxing, must return to the station. It wasn't good for the big one to go missing in the official work. Even if they were tired from the game, they must show their presence

Ling Qingyu was reluctant to part with Yang Qingyue and regretted she couldn't play with the venerable police chief. All those hidden plans were for nothing.

Her eyes beamed when she remembered Yang Qingyue left behind her uniform and a glitter flashed across her pupils. Yang Qingyue's size and dressing design, Ling Qingyu giggled.

As uniform kinks, she realized the beauty of knowing her partner's body and even wondered if Yang Qingyue left on purpose. She already made plans to design sexy police uniform, just to surprise Yang Qingyue.

She had high expectations when she showed the dress to Yang Qingyue and what her lover's reaction would be. The feeling of conquest after dressing a sexy police outfit to a police chief. That image, Ling Qingyu's nose itched.

After making some calls to relevant persons in her company, Ling Qingyu ordered two outfits, one for her size and the other for Yang Qingyue's. As for why her company, the money never flowed to outsiders. Plus, Ling Qingyu trusted her staff more.

She believed they would be able to come up with designs that would give maximum satisfaction. Why did she also request for herself? She wanted to also see her allure in uniform.

Ling Qingyu's best figure, curves, and supple plumpness, a combination of both soft and strong. Not to mention, the play would become definitely exciting.

Of course, she hadn't forgotten her big dream to conquer beauties. Though the first step was to defeat Tang Ziyi, she had confidence. As for the shura field, well... Ling Qingyu admitted this one was what propelled her to not have other intentions. She didn't want to capsize her ship.

Her mind suddenly recalled two beautiful figures which were quite impressive to her. Doctor Mo Yunxi and Nurse Yin Jingfei. They were like angels to her, if only....

Ling Qingyu sighed in distress. None of the women she liked were easy. Each was strong, independent and extremely firm in their willpower. Harem dream seemed far away across the galaxies.

Sometimes, Ling Qingyu felt puzzled how the male stallion conquered everyone easily and the fire in the backyard didn't burn too much except for some sizzles. She must attain this cultural heritage.

Today, Ling Qingyu would take a complete rest. In any case, she had Zhao Xiurong to take care of everything. As a boss, if one couldn't even rest, the life was no better.

Speaking of her secretary, it might be because the work was a bit strenuous, especially when Zhao Xiurong served the same role as Ling Qingyu, despite familiarity with work, Zhao Xiurong simply ordered the meal to be delivered.

Since she had eaten the meals cooked by the chefs in Ling Qingyu's manor, the other food could no longer enter her taste. She couldn't even bear herself to eat in the company's canteen or the reputable nearby restaurants.

Chapter 305 Sis, you watch too much drama

A black Hongqi H9+ luxurious sedan drove silently on a deserted road, filled with vegetation on the side.

The vehicle had just left Ling Qingyu's residence and entered a public road. Driving at moderate speed, only gushing wind bent from the aerodynamic shape resounded in the air.

Inside, Cai Ning held the steering wheel with one hand and the other supported her chin. Yang Qingyue stayed in the passenger seat, her eyes flickering every now and then.

Her gaze was mostly on the right side through the window, seemingly deep in thought. Cai Ning noticed Yang Qingyue's distraction and stared at her friend from the corner of the eyes.

Perhaps aware of the piercing gaze, Yang Qingyue cleared her throat and met the gaze without losing momentum.

"What do you have to say?" Yang Qingyue began the topic. "You've been staring at me since we left the door."

Cai Ning looked at Yang Qingyue with complicated eyes and shook her head. "What do you think of Sister Tang?"

When she mentioned the name, her face blushed. She tried to calm her emotion, lest Yang Qingyue notice her change in expression.

As someone working in the police field, Yang Qingyue had high skills in interrogation, involving the study of human behavior. Even then she was confused as to why Cai Ning looked strange. Scratching her head, Yang Qingyue decided to think carefully later and replied.

"Are you considering her to train the officers? It was really a good idea until we saw those guards belonging to Sister Ling. If we wanted to avoid adding military element, it's best not to let her teach our subordinates."

Cai Ning rolled her eyes. "I know it too."

"Then, why you asked?"

"What makes you think I'm asking about that?" Cai Ning muttered. "I'm talking about her personality— what kind of person is she?"

Yang Qingyue raised her brows, curious why Cai Ning became interested in Tang Ziyi out of nowhere. Well, she was also interested but the background information she investigated showed little but a mercenary career as if telling everything and saying nothing.

She shuffled her position on her seat and leaned closer to Cai Ning. "I'm not sure but we have a guess. Strict, very disciplined, ruthless and efficient like a machine. A perfect warrioress."

If Cai Ning hadn't encountered Tang Ziyi's teasing this morning, she would have probably agreed without hesitation. But these descriptions were simply overthrown.

What strict, disciplined Tang Ziyi? All she saw was a frivolous woman flirting with her and left behind ruthlessly after teasing her heart.

The most dangerous among scumbags. As for the sexual orientation, Cai Ning didn't care too much as she herself wasn't aware of what her type was in the first place. As long as the partner could hold her hand and walk through a narrow and dangerous path together, Cai Ning was satisfied. So, she wasn't against a woman flirting with her.

However, Cai Ning nodded to show her agreement and changed the topic. "Similar to my conjecture but I suggest you have to be prepared in case she isn't the type you thought."

Yang Qingyue didn't notice the emphasis—you thought—by Cai Ning and pondered seriously. Drawing the character of a person was the usual typo in police work. Through data and face-to-face interaction, a character portfolio was derived.

Tang Ziyi, with vast experience, might purposefully create a pretense to sweep disillusion against her opponents and to guard others who might pry in. Cai Ning's words reflected Yang Qingyue's original derivation.

Of course, Yang Qingyue's thoughts and Cai Ning's were running in a separate channel. What Cai Ning spoke about was the image collapse of a strong woman, whom they admired very much. The contradiction she sensed in a *deja vu* moment where her ear was nearly kissed.

She still remembered the mood during the closeness. Her body yearned for more. Fortunately, her rationality managed to suppress the rising emotion.

"Forget about her. Let's talk about you," said Cai Ning.

"Me? Now what?"

Yang Qingyue wasn't stupid to not notice Cai Ning's purposeful change of topics. There might be something related to Tang Ziyi concerning her friend. Since Cai Ning didn't want to delve now, she could afford to wait.

"About you and Ling Qingyu. You don't think I can't see what's going on, right?" Cai Ning rolled her eyes.

"Of course, not." Yang Qingyue replied. "Especially you, the one closest to me. How could I hide?"

"When did it all start? Is it the time when you travel alone with Sister Ling that night?" Cai Ning asked.

"Yeah."

"Come on, I'm all ears." Cai Ning moved her posture, her gossipy trait awakened.

Her curious behavior caused Yang Qingyue's eyelids to twitch and massaged her forehead to alleviate the headaches.

"Why do you want to know? Kids should focus on work and study." Yang Qingyue chided.

Cai Ning pouted. "Having a partner means adult? I'm older than you in case you forget."

"Alright, we just barely kissed." Yang Qingyue chuckled and blushed when barely hardly described the realities. She didn't expect she could be so domineering pressing Ling Qingyu to helplessness.

At least, her vanity of conquering the hardest goddess in Province N was satisfied despite the rating of mission impossible. Who else could imagine her happiness? Not even her childhood friend, Cai Ning.

Hearing Yang Qingyue's so-so reply, Cai Ning giggled. "I bet it's more than that. You really aren't going to diverge anymore. What about our BFF relationship?"

"We're way too old to consider BFF. Trust me, as soon as there's fire in the pit, I'll push you into the pit." Yang Qingyue said impassively.

Cai Ning laughed and shook her head, amused. "Then, I should resign my position and return to my original career."

"You aren't allowed to and never will." Yang Qingyue was firm with her words. Despite jokes about sending friends into danger, Yang Qingyue would absolutely not allow Cai Ning out of her grasp.

Her friend's drastic change had already alarmed Yang Qingyue. She had no idea what her friends had seen and been through, but Cai Ning's attempt to hide were all obvious in front of her eyes.

Cai Ning sighed and felt warm. Fortunately, the friendship from childhood survived. Compared with others who were lonely and in trouble, her state was day and night.

"Anyway, I hope you're for real. Not because you want to sacrifice your happiness for your goals." Cai Ning muttered. "If you're trying to use Ling Qingyu's influence and help, I must warn you as a friend. Ling Qingyu is far more dangerous than what she shows."

Yang Qingyue smiled helplessly at Cai Ning's overthinking. "Relax. I'm not a saint or too kind that I'll sacrifice myself for the common goal and ideal. I'm not that stupid."

Cai Ning eyed suspiciously. She knew Yang Qingyue best. Under her mere gaze, Yang Qingyue relented. "Well, I admit I thought of using each other. Her interest and mine didn't clash. Not to mention, she needs me just as I need her.

The cost is nothing more than breaking some boundaries which I can afford."

"Really just this." Cai Ning still didn't believe it. "How about the hidden conflicted love so that you can seduce Ling Qingyu to help you?"

Yang Qingyue's face darkened at her friend's remark. If not for deep childhood, Yang Qingyue would have already submitted to her desire to kick Cai Ning out of the car and robbed the driver's seat to leave her friend alone to fend for herself.

"Sister, you watch too much drama." Yang Qingyue was speechless. "I have no intention to exploit other's feelings and not despicable enough to manipulate people. It's just a win-win cooperation. She is a nasty little guy, always stringing my rational calm. Later, I sense Sister Ling's mood and her liking for me. Instead of disgust, I'm also interested and decided to give it a try.

Now, it seems things work out well between us. Of course, the future is still a mystery. it's as simple as that."

Chapter 306 What future holds

Cai Ning whined. "Oh! I thought there would be more excitement like you succumb to Ling Qingyu's heavy bombardment of gifts and become so wet that your knees weaken. Ouch!"

The only response was Yang Qingyue's slap to the back of her friend's head. Cai Ning cried out in pain, nearly shedding tears from surprise.

She pursed her lips in grievance and her eyes filled with droplets as her face turned slightly toward Yang Qingyue to express her mood. But she dared not protest.

"Stop pretending. With your skills and training, the slap I exerted didn't even have the strength to cause you to tear up." Yang Qingyue didn't accept Cai Ning's poor acting. She knew how much force was contained in her hand. "Honestly, I feel heavy accepting Ling Qingyu's one after another gifts. Though they are donations for the police force, everything was because of my existence.

I can guess the reason why she chose me."

Cai Ning was silent. The two had speculated a lot, from Ling Qingyu's action. No one was a fool to think Ling Qingyu did out of selflessness. Nevertheless, they sensed kindness and friendly gestures from Ling Qingyu, which was the most important and that was enough.

Besides, Ling Qingyu had her own measure in doing things but her grey concept of justice and righteousness was what annoyed Yang Qingyue the most. She couldn't change her but she could monitor Ling Qingyu's move at the minimum by staying near.

Perhaps, that might just be the spark that lit up Yang Qingyue's desire too and prompted her to try the relationship. Hmm, she didn't make the first move.

"Never mind, as long as you're doing great." Cai Ning said. "But I have to say, Ling Qingyu's support in terms of equipment and personnel definitely stabilizes your position and provides ample help more than what you need currently."

Yang Qingyue nodded, remembering the number of donated vehicles and the software system to facilitate top-down management. As for suspecting of Ling Qingyu attempting to steal data, Yang Qingyue shrugged and laughed it off because she already realized the terrifying hacking power displayed by Ling Qingyu's team.

Messing around the Qin family to the brink of collapse and prompting them to surrender to survive and easily solving Ling Yunxiang's blackened artist career. Those were unimaginable but Ling Qingyu tackled them with a snap of her finger.

Yang Qingyue knew about those especially when Qin family attempted to use connections from the government to retaliate and she prevented their actions. As someone with a big background, how could Qin's domineering aura affect her? Her mother also helped. Provided her current limelight and prestige, no one dared to touch her skin yet. Nothing was certain later on. After all, things were always changing.

Those who failed to keep up would face the fate of being crushed. However, Yang Qingyue wasn't afraid.

The big families in the capital might appear calm and show warmth in their relationships but every group was keen to chew the other once the opportunity arose. Yang might rank lower than Qin in terms of overall status but they were still a force to be reckoned with.

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Not to mention, Yang Qingyue already vouched for Ling Qingyu based on their closeness, her potential, and courage. She predicted that given time, Ling Qingyu should soar into the sky soon in one step.

She had once hinted at Ling Qingyu subtly like an inquiry if she was also being calculated to move when Qin brought trouble. Ling Qingyu just shook her head and confidently said she had so many handles.

Yang Qingyue felt this statement was true and gasped inwardly at Ling Qingyu's tentacles stretching and encroaching more and more. As expected of someone, she had chosen.

Cai Ning still hadn't known the undercurrent that overwhelmed the previously calm state of Province N. Only those in the higher-ups and someone like Yang Qingyue, who had some relations were aware.

Of course, the reason why Ling Qingyu wasn't directly tackled obviously belonged to a lack of evidence. There was no definite proof except the coincidence of the event after Ling Yunxiang stayed together and probable motives. Let's not forget, hacking is a crime.

Ling Qingyu received the highest suspicions and Qin wanted to vent on her. Sometimes, people didn't need sound reasons to act. A party used to being domineering would remain the same.

However, it would be false to say Yang Qingyue wasn't curious about Ling Qingyu's Jackpot. This woman never ceased to bring amazement.

"She gives more because of our good relationship." Yang Qingyue spoke. "But we shouldn't take advantage in the future. It's not good for either party even if we are very close."

"You don't say. How could I not know?" Cai Ning replied. "I'm very looking forward to the change we'll bring in the coming days in City N. I wonder what those criminals' faces will look like after reform."

"Now that you mention, we still have hard work to bring justice." Yang Qingyue sighed as she recognized realities. Even though it seemed like she won last time, the real enemies didn't even lose a tooth.

"Forget it. Don't think too much. What will be, will be? We'll respond correspondingly." Cai Ning comforted her friend. "Remember we now have allies. We aren't alone as a party.

Soon, you'll achieve your goal. Step by step."

"Speaking of," Cai Ning continued. "Will your family agree when they find out about you and Ling Qingyu? You should know the consequences." Cai Ning looked at Yang Qingyue's worriedly.

"Permission from elders is indeed challenging. But who needs others to make decisions for my happiness." Yang Qingyue retorted. "In fact, I'm more worried about my own family than Ling Qingyu. I don't want to find out, one day my family is on the verge of collapse. Then, I won't know where to stand."

"Huh?!" Cai Ning was confused. Ling Qingyu had such power and hand. "She...?"

"Yes, exactly as you are gonna say. She has the courage and capacity. Don't ask me about the reasons. It's my intuition regarding her and I'm very certain." Yang Qingyue said. "With those old hags attitude of always seeking for self-interest, I'm fairly sure, they would sell me happily to Ling Qingyu if they discover the real truth about her."

Cai Ning's cheek twitched at Yang Qingyue's style of addressing her elders. When she was about to open her mouth, Yang Qingyue cut off. "Let's not consider the descendant's problem. The lineage continuation is what big families seek. But they're too far away right now."

Yes, indeed, no matter how developed the sociology was, most aristocratic families and powerful ones adhered to ancestral teaching. Same sex love would receive outrage and huge repercussion.

Cai Ning had several crease over her forehead. She was merely pointing out the worst possibility when Yang Qingyue's relationship was discovered and used by someone against her in the family.

After all, the big family had its own problems and factions striving for their interest and advantages. As prominent member, Yang Qingyue also had opponents who would step on her immediately at a moment notice.

Cai Ning was lost in words at Yang Qingyue's chain of thoughts, even considering child bearing problem. "Hmm, Sis, I meant your prestige inside your family, not the child thing."

Yang Qingyue blushed and glared at her friend, who shrugged back saying she never meant to tease. "Sometimes, don't think about consequences and weigh options, just simply do it. Otherwise, the legs will get stuck and will get you nowhere. We'll see what future holds for us. So, I got your message. It's a small problem.

Wait till Sister Ling get more powerful. I don't know about you but her steps had implicitly told us her ambition."

"Indeed, business and politics. Who knows she might be going for elections?" Cai Ning listed out with a light heart. "It seems like a good match between you two. One in officialdom and another who will provide logistic for you."

Yang Qingyue smiled. Maybe. The two's relationship began with interest for a greater future. Love? She shook her head inwardly. Time will tell.

Chapter 307 Troubles

Somewhere away from a congested residential area, a huge villa stood alone. In front of the villa stood a pond with stone seats nearby to facilitate leisure time.

A man sat down on one of them, fishing calmly near the pond. His eyes stared through the water, preparing to pull as soon as the string on the rod moved.

The fish in the pond were not meant to be eaten. They were raised for recreational purposes or social gatherings to talk with similar level of people who came to visit him.

Silence hung in the air, except for the occasional breeze and the rustling of leaves. The man watched intently at the fish playing around the bait and testing if there was any danger.

His lips curled up but his eyes weren't smiling. After all, he had lost his son and his wife was giving him headaches, always nagging him to find the culprits.

He wanted to curse if not for her extra doting, how could his boy become so spineless and face troubles?

His fault was also included and that was the reason why he escaped to a quieter place to regenerate clearer thought. He was waiting for an opportunity to strike. He was in the dark, the enemy was in the light.

Footsteps shuffled behind and the sound disturbed the fish in the water, causing them to immediately disperse. His patience was all for naught.

He turned his glance over to the oncoming visitor with cold eyes. The other man who was about to report slumped, his legs shaking in trepidation.

The man snorted. "What's the matter?"

"B-Bo-oss!" The frightened one stuttered. "I'm here to report the situation you've requested."

"Oh." The man withdrew his gaze and gestured his subordinate to continue.

The other man felt relieved without any pressure exerted. "Boss Hu, when will we start? The boys are already in place and eager to prove themselves. Some even want revenge."

The man fishing was Boss Hu. The leader of renowned one of the top four gangs, who threatened Ling Qingyu a week ago.

He lost his son and his men when the unfilial son sought death. The retaliation from Ling Qingyu came quick, and caught him off-guard. The reason included his son trying to hide what he did.

To avenge the dead souls, Boss Hu didn't care if his men were in the wrong, his group must show force so that Tiger gang's reputation still held. His hands were tied and useless when fighting with Ling Qingyu head-on.

Something which couldn't be solved should be solved by fist. But nope, Ling Qingyu also had dramatically increased her protection and the options was no longer viable. The clash would likely be drawn to attribution and elongated war.

And hence, when a powerful one showed up to make a deal with him, Boss Hu accepted despite the risk so that he obtained more leeway for his plan against Ling Qingyu. The results?

He lost several capable men in a firefight. His faction was targeted by the authorities and had to stay low for a while. His group had been in the limelight these days and police were looking out for his members. Luckily, the upper echelon of the government focused more on the allies of the powerful one who requested his action. Explore stories on empire

Province N was thrown upside down in a few days. He thought he might exploit the power vacuum situation but to his dismay, the government was wary in its steps.

Boss Hu had nowhere to go. Behind there were colleagues from other gangs who were searching for his weakness and his men might just be planning to backstab him. At the front, because of his attack on the police force, his gang was on the other's radar.

"Revenge?" Boss Hu muttered. "Do you think I don't want to tear that girl into pieces?!"

The man being scolded lowered his head, expressing apology in silence. Whether he was sincere or pretending to cope, Boss Hu didn't care.

"It's important to care about the overall situation. What's the plan?" Boss Hu asked.

The man answered according to many brothers' ideas. Boss Hu frowned more as he listened. His face darkened at the thought of his gang being wiped out soon after these bastards under him played.

The man's voice became smaller and smaller, seeing his boss's expression. "But don't worry, boss. It's just an idea; we're waiting for your words."

"As always stay low. We can kidnap them and threaten them but we must release them back. The goal is to pressure to prove to these people, Ling Qingyu couldn't protect her own men and women." Boss Hu said. "Now that we have waited for a week, how's the situation?"

The man scratched his head. "It's hard if we want to avoid official radar, especially police vehicles patrol over the route Ling Qingyu's employees took. We even suspect the police are escorting them. However, the presence had surely dropped a bit these days."

"Then why are my men so eager when they understand what's at stake." Boss Hu chided. "It's like I guess. The new prefect-level police chief and Ling Qingyu indeed have a relationship. The police presence has proven my worries; I'm afraid what we do next is definitely challenging. I can wait till the vigilance drops to the lowest but I can't afford it. My heart felt stuck that I wanted to vent.

Tell me what should I do?"

"Give me a moment, boss." The man rubbed his chin and stared at the ground. "There's a way. Ling Qingyu can guard her subordinates against us. But can she take caution and security measures for the relatives of her employees?"

Boss Hu beamed and laughed sonorously, patting his thigh in satisfaction. He beckoned the man to come close and patted his shoulder when the man bowed a little. Boss Hu squeezed the man's arm as if to express support. The man meekly smiled.

"How many years have you been with the group?" Boss Hu inquired.

The man's eyes brightened, thinking the opportunity to ladder had come. "4 years, Sir."

"4 years? Not short, not long. You've the brain and that is the key in our line of work. I'm optimistic about you." Boss Hu chuckled.

"It's all thanks to Boss's good deeds and teaching. How dare I disappoint my boss." The man flattered.

"Hmph! You, kid, know how to sprout sugar." Boss Hu showed no change of mood on his face; inside, he was delighted. No one would refuse someone saying good about you. Not even the disciplined and strong one. "If we can make a deadly blow to Ling Qingyu's company's economy, her status will plummet and she'll be in trouble. As long as she weakens, there'll be other sharks that'll chew her completely.

Now, order your men to do as you have told me, I'll be waiting for good news. Haha."

"Yes, Boss. I'll tell the boy, the good news."

"Good." Boss Hu nodded and gestured him to go away.

One would think Boss Hu was a businessman, planning to deal with his opponent despite fierce methods. People wouldn't be surprised by the businessperson's ruthlessness, however, they didn't know Boss Hu belonged to a gangster.

His care for the talented man seemed like an old man searching for an inheritor but this man's true identity was involved in many crimes—sex trafficking ring, kidnapping, drug sales, homicides, and many more.

Many lives had been affected. Many families were broken. The bones built for this man's real estate business were uncountable. The throne filled with piles of bodies. In short, regarding Boss Hu as evil Satan wasn't wrong. He was worse than the devil.

It would be wrong to regard him lightly.

"Ling Qingyu. Ling Qingyu. Haha. I didn't want to offend you. I can accept compromises even if you touch my men but you should never harm my son. My flesh and blood." Boss Hu sneered as he stared at his reflection until the fish sent ripples, dissipating the image.

Afterward, the gangster boss released evil waves of laughter in the air, scaring away fishes and birds.

Chapter 308 Countermeasure

Meanwhile, Ling Qingyu sat down bored, with nothing to do. Although she had taken rest in the past days, she wasn't so free as of today. And this wouldn't be the first time because starting today, Ling Qingyu must train her firearm skills under Tang Ziyi's instruction and leave her responsibilities to Zhao Xiurong.

Thinking of her secretary's oppressed expression, Ling Qingyu giggled and paid her best regards. She stood up and walked toward the desktop in the corner of her spacious room.

With nothing to do at hand, she surfed for ebooks. The purpose was to read developed deep philosophies in the modern era. Despite appearing the same, this world reached democracy very early with many nations following suit like a domino effect.

Not more than 200 years later problems arose, some states began to fail and some were exploited by greedy dictators for their benefits.

Freedom, Liberties, human values and morals. Although people adhered to those principles, the world was never purely black or white.

Evil existed to show good. No matter how many core values are imposed on society, savagery never disappeared. It lay low deep in the human blood.

The world government might have dimmed down those traits by strict laws and punishment. That was the outer appearance for the public to see. Under the dark mud, bone-chilling and disgusting events always happened regularly. The worst of all were culprits able to escape sanctions.

Possibly in the future, conflicts between different nations would rise again. This time instead of national interest, it was for the ideology. The only downside for the democratic nations was their unawareness or arrogance to the oncoming threat.

In fact, the spread of authoritarian regimes was indeed the greatest threat rather than against the World Government they guarded against. They underestimated the power of an authoritative regime by merely looking at the fact that in the history of humankind, this similar authority always collapsed.

However, greed, one of the seven sins, never left humanity. They were the one existence that proved the dangers toward a fragile democratic system. Why else did dictators pop up one after another and people rarely resisted? They became frogs in a slow boiling pot of water.

Unlike the preceding generations who understood what price they had paid for today's prosperity, the new generation took everything for granted. They had no national interest in their mind and most were simply minded that they were being manipulated easily, after letting them think they knew everything.

The ancient reminders were true. Chaos creates strong heroes. Strong heroes create prosperity and peace, which in turn weaken humankind. The weak will only generate another chaos. The cycle never stops.

Ling Qingyu predicted that a resurgence was on the way. Although the world war shouldn't have happened based on the current world scenario in contrast to the nearly lit gunpowder past life, she should prepare what she could.

While she read and made several conclusions on the notebooks. Those lists contained her future steps to achieve her ambition. She had already attempted to build a new system or framework so that the utopia in her mind became attainable.

Of course, these ideas were still premature and required more thorough contemplation. Why was Ling Qingyu so keen? Did she have so much free time?

A plan is a plan. As for her time management, it appeared when she delegated her task, there was abundant time.

Soon, Ling Qingyu was attracted by a vibration on the desk she was studying. The source was from Athena's glass. "What's the matter, Athena?"

"Mom." The glass projected a beam of light and Athena's figure came out. Ling Qingyu saw her aggrieved expression as if she had ignored her daughter a lot.

Athena walked over and leaned her head over Ling Qingyu's shoulder. Although Athena was merely a hologram and Ling Qingyu sensed no weight, Ling Qingyu tried to caress her daughter's face.

Athena showed a look of enjoyment, causing Ling Qing to roll her eyes. There was no way Athena felt anything. Athena wore a simple white gown, a robe tied around her waist, looking beautiful like a Greek Goddess striding out of the artwork.

As expected of my daughter, Ling Qingyu's narcissism shook.

Ling Qingyu spoke: "Alright, forgive Mom for ignoring you. Tell me, is there something wrong so much so that you came out to speak? Is it urgent?"

Athena nodded. "Since you've requested me to monitor your employees' safety through networks of CCTVs and arrays of electronic devices, you've given me permission to hack. Every gang member making a plan against us is under my eyes."

"Just now I receive a message they're about to move and their targets aren't our employees but the relatives or close people around them," Athena added.

Ling Qingyu's eyes turned cold. She recognized what was at stake here. That was also the reason why she spared no effort to give protection to her subordinates, in addition to the responsibility she upheld.

Now, someone was targeting her indirectly. She wouldn't curse the enemies for being unrighteous to point their swords at the innocence.

Naturally, she could retaliate the same way. But unless last resort, she didn't intend to do so because she hated becoming like them. Self-control and peace of mind were far more important, provided there was no threat yet.

"Thank you for your hard work!" Ling Qingyu sighed heavily and thanked her daughter.

"No need to thank, mother. That's my responsibility." Athena patted her chest.

Two huge planets seemed to flatten and bounce back. Ling Qingyu's mouth twitched at her playful daughter. Even as a holographic image, why was she making everything so detailed so realistic?

In fact, Ling Qingyu lamented her daughter's size was a bit bigger than hers. Perhaps, this cheap daughter wanted to compete with mom! "Athena, please contact Su Ruomei for me."

Athena nodded and Ling Qingyu's phone on the desk immediately rang and speaker mode was turned on. Ling Qingyu leaned on her chair lazily. How convenient. She now understood how the famous playboy in the Marvel universe experienced.

Tapping her finger rhythmically on the armrest, Ling Qingyu's eyes narrowed with so many calculations flying by.

"Sister Ling?" A hesitant voice ushered, breaking her thought.

"Ruomei, I need your help." Signaling Athena to set up firewall protection against any lurker, Ling Qingyu explained the problem and briefed the intelligence Athena had given.

Athena pouted and complained with gestures that she always had priorities for privacy protection. In fact, nothing in this world could interfere with Ling Qingyu's group network from outside, especially Ling Qingyu's new phone.

"So, that's the reason why you let our patrol route follow employees' path to their residences. We all have a guess among sisters, I'm gonna bleed heavily again; it doesn't matter. What do you want me to do?" Su Ruomei's calm reply satisfied Ling Qingyu.

Ling Qingyu: "..."

"You should know this group is the one responsible for assassinating me." Ling Qingyu spoke. "I have already struck against the main culprits but it seems their friends don't want a respite or my mercy."

"The objective is to arrest them and deliver these boys to Yang Qingyue." Ling Qingyu said. "There'll be a helper connecting with you soon. She'll give you important intel, vital to the mission. You can follow her recommendations but I'm giving you full control to complete the task. As for Sister Yang, I'll make a call."

"Do we need inform the local help?" Su Ruomei asked.

"No, there are so many holes that the plan will leak out and frighten our enemies prematurely." Ling Qingyu refused. "I want everything covert until the final moment."

"Understood." Though Su Ruomei was curious about the identity of a newcomer contacting soon, she didn't ask.

"Show em who's the boss."

"Will do, boss." Continue your journey on empire

Ling Qingyu hung up the call and looked at Athena. "You heard me. Go and contact Su Ruomei and assist her. I believe you'll handle the task well."

"Don't worry, Mom. I'm an expert." Athena guaranteed with pride, she deserved.

Ling Qingyu was relieved to send out her daughter. "I'll have to request your interaction be like a human. I'm sorry to let you not show your face to the world." Ling Qingyu apologized.

She never treated Athena as a machine. This pure daughter who called her mother had warmed Ling Qingyu's heart. If not for no real bodies, she wanted to try parenting.

"No worries, Mom. I understand." Athena was already clever. She knew it wouldn't be long before she appeared confidently among Ling Qingyu's circle. "I never felt aggrieved mother. Being with you is always the best."

The more Athena surfed around the internet, the more she discovered humans were fearful of the unknown. The new AI terminology had raised fierce reactions, unfavorable to Athena.

Ling Qingyu's nurturing style of treating her with respect and care might be the only one in this world. Naturally, Tang Ziyi and Xiao Yue were included; however, they were under Ling Qingyu's lead.

Her mother would always be the best. Now she was glad to do something for her. Athena's image remained accompanying Ling Qingyu's boredom while her computing power completed the other tasks.

Chapter 309 Athena's intro

Beep.

Su Ruomei held the phone tightly. Despite conversing calmly with Ling Qingyu, her face showed worries.

She worked as the team leader of the security department. She had interacted daily with several staff members from all walks of life.

Before Ling Qingyu made a change and upgraded the security guards, Su Ruomei thought to spend peacefully and experienced different people while she stayed low in the background.

However, things began to change when Ling Qingyu had an accident. Now, it worsened especially when someone dared to hurt their family members. Yes, in Ling Qingyu's workspace, the cohesion between colleagues was high. extremely rarely, a hateful person appeared. Once it occurred, that person was out, no matter what talents or the ability he or she had.

Ling Qingyu preferred unity over skills. Loyalty above everything else. Naturally, in the modern world, loyalty was hard to find. So long as people believed in her and trusted her prestige and integrity, she deemed the results acceptable.

Taking a deep breath, Su Ruomei sighed. Another fight was on the way. She glanced at Jiang Yu on her right. "Except those responsible for areas around the company and some who must guard the residence, call back our sisters. We've got work to do."

Jiang Yu nodded and sprung into action, bolting out of the door. No questions asked. Though she heard nothing from the conversation on the phone, Su Ruomei's expression was serious.

Since her senior sister was urgent, Jiang Yu had to complete the task perfectly and started to make several calls on the radio. The guards were now fully equipped with radios and a perfect communication system.

With Athena's and Tang Ziyi's existence, there was nothing lacking. While Jiang Yu went out for an errand, Su Ruomei's phone in her hand vibrated.

She glanced at the screen and saw an unknown number. Having been informed, she knew this was the contact Ling Qingyu wanted her to connect.

In fact, Athena had a bad taste trying to launch a mysterious entry and fill in the requirements of her mother.

"Hello, who's this?" Su Ruomei answered.

"It's Athena." An elegant yet strong voice of a female replied.

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"Call sign Athena?" Su Ruomei's brows raised. The name sounded so powerful. Who was it? However, knowing there was another woman working in the same field, Su Ruomei's favorability rose.

"I'll be your eyes and ears in this mission and the later ones. Looking forward to cooperation." Athena showed some formalities and pretended to be a big guy.

"Glad to have your help." Su Ruomei replied. Someone who Ling Qingyu showed seriousness couldn't be underestimated. The same applied to Tang Ziyi and Xiao Yue.

"Of course, let's drop the formalities aside. I have to apologize for not being able to meet you face-to-face and communicate through network instead." Athena said.

"Haha, I don't mind. I'm glad to have someone extra helpful anyway. But it's better if you tell me in detail, what assets can you provide?" Su Ruomei thought this woman couldn't be underestimated. Her communication skills had abridged the distance between the two strangers meeting for the first time.

"Of course, you can regard me as a powerful hacker and battlefield tactician," Athena said in an amusing tone.

"Oh!" Su Ruomei was stunned. Another hacker more powerful than Sister Tang? "So, what do we do next? I've asked sisters to gather and prepare."

"Well, nothing yet because we still have no idea which targets they intend to strike or exhibit simultaneous attack?" Athena said.

"Um?" Su Ruomei pursed her lips and uttered. Then, why were they preparing to lock and load?

"Ahem...I didn't finish my word yet." Athena coughed and immediately remedied, noticing Su Ruomei's strangeness. "This news that the enemy leader gave orders to attack was just half an hour ago. And it was a vague one. I still need time to decipher the precise targets."

Su Ruomei's expression returned to normal after understanding the scenario. At the same time, she was amazed at Athena's resourcefulness and the team behind.

In any operation, intelligence gathering and logistic support were vital. Su Ruomei already trusted Athena's capability in addition to her confidence in Ling Qingyu's leadership.

Furthermore, she was impressed that Athena obtained advantageous data within a short period of time, which was really the hardest aspect. From the tone of Athena, Su Ruomei sensed confidence and everything under control.

If not for the cough just now dissipating the elite intellectual shown in the early stage, Su Ruomei even suspected Athena was one of the superiors from the military.

"If you aren't here, how am I going to connect with you, especially during the mission?" Su Ruomei asked.

"Don't worry, I can patch through any of your radios. It's only not to scare you that I personally call you." Athena said.

Su Ruomei's forehead bulged. Did she just hear the pride contained in the sentence? Why did she sense cuteness on the other side of the line?

Athena had no idea Su Ruomei pictured her existence as a cute arrogant girl, needing love and continued. "Just brief your sisters and go out patrolling around. Separate the teams. I'll give recommendations but the choice is in your hands."

"Understood. Any updates, patch me up." Su Ruomei nodded.

"Will do. For now, let me stay on the targets." Athena cut off the connection.

Su Ruomei put down her phone, deep in thought. This time, she had to lead everyone. She had done similar posts but none ever required combat.

Heaving in a long breath, Su Ruomei relaxed. Jiang Yu entered the room again to tell her everyone was informed and returning.

Because of the urgency in Su Ruomei's tone, Jiang Yu also hurried the returning sisters. Su Ruomei curled her lips in satisfaction and praised sincerely. "You did a great job. You'll take charge of a second team by the way."

Amidst Jiang Yu's confusion, Su Ruomei explained everything. Likewise, she also had the same anger upon hearing the possible attack on someone she knew.

Although her eyes were mostly on her senior sister, there were still some, with whom she interacted, who had their lives threatened. She admitted it was mostly Su Ruomei's zeal that she participated.

Soon, the sisters regrouped. One car after another, those in patrol duty returned while a few nearby had already arrived. Su Ruomei summoned the oldest generation, her comrades, to tackle the task.

Because the operation could become large at any moment, she decided to let a few older generations lead several new ones. Though some cohesive factors might be disrupted, the girls should adjust shortly afterward.

After arranging teams and their members, Su Ruomei drove the guards to equip the necessary tools according to the mission requirement and briefed everything.

The senior ones were calm in contrast to the excited and nervous newbies. Su Ruomei smiled at their response. She was in charge of them and must take great care of them naturally.

Everyone had special-purpose clothing or fragsuits, vests, and guns along with helmets wrapped under their arms as they listened to her speech.

Still, several minutes had passed and there was no news from Athena. But time waited for no one. She ordered everyone to enter the vehicle according to their respective teams.

This time the group would travel via ordinary vans. There was no need for large overpowered MRAPs. Covert was fundamental in this mission.

Chapter 310 The future is not going to be peaceful

Last time, Tang Ziyi controlled meticulously and flawlessly so that Su Ruomei felt no pressure, simply following orders and guidance.

However, Su Ruomei must take the lead from now on. The stress level she faced wasn't small. Fortunately, her close comrades and Jiang Yu were by her side.

Before the convoy left, Athena's voice rang to her ears. Putting on her headset properly, Su Ruomei gave a response.

"Athena?"

"Captain Su, everything set?"

"We're about to leave in a moment." Su Ruomei said. "Why am I a Captain now?"

"Should I call you Team Leader Su? That's too long." Athena replied. "I'll patch everyone on the radio and relay the intel."

"Got it." Su Ruomei sat on the passenger seat and clicked a button on her radio. "All units, Athena's taking the comm. She'll be our support for this operation."

"Received."

"Roger."

"Hello, everyone. I don't think I need to introduce myself. Timing is crucial. Let's get to the main theme." Athena said pertinent and important news, listing out possible attacks. "We still don't know for sure where and when or whether they'll make an attack but we do know the locations of the enemies.

Captain Su, I recommend you separate the convoy into 10 teams, 2 in each city and I'll transfer the information."

Su Ruomei, like others had her helmets on the laps, remained in the seat, tapping her headset with her finger.

"Good. Team 1-1 to 1-10, I don't need to talk more. Let's set out." Su Ruomei had already allocated 5 groups, each group consisted of two teams.

"Em? Captain Su, I haven't given you the locations yet." Athena's embarrassed voice came in, causing other sisters to snicker. They covered their mouths and bend their waist to hide their crimes.

Su Ruomei blushed and glared at the girls behind. She was too excited that she forgot. Don't worry, roll over a few times, you'll be smooth, Su Ruomei comforted herself and replied seriously. "Athena, go ahead."

"I've sent the targets' files on the PDAs inside your vehicles, including the GPS locations and the fastest route."

Su Ruomei nodded in satisfaction, looking at the turned-on monitor, with green lines depicting the routes each group would take.

Different vehicles had different markings. Su Ruomei clicked her tongue at Athena's hands and was curious how on earth she completed these.

The rest had similar frequency in their minds. At the same time, everyone sighed and lamented technology was advancing too fast.

First, their protective suits, with maximum resistance to large bullets and even fragmentation blasts. A vibranium version indeed. They were protected from head to toe.

The scene was like several teams of medieval knights in plate armors playing against the peasant uprising. Skills and equipment levels were pushed toward maximum stats. Not to mention the horrendous amount of training, a day comparable to several weeks.

This was also the reason why the girls apart from senior generations were confident even if their experience was low, because they could survive and make up later on. In terms of gaming vocabulary, they merely needed to farm more.

Now, Athena and her team's computer skills broadened their horizon further. The world was indeed rolling too fast that they felt old.

"Alright, I believe everyone has seen Athena's arrangement. Any questions?" Su Ruomei asked on the radio.

"Negative."

"No need."

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"Let's go rock and roll then." Su Ruomei ordered the convoy to set out. As if by luck, coincidence, or Athena's manipulation, Jiang Yu was arranged to a second team following Su Ruomei's.

Ten civilian vans, Toyota Hiace and Toyota Alphard, departed from Ling Qingyu's residence. These were undercover vehicles, bought by Tang Ziyi, and modified for 'police' work.

There were no sirens, no lights—normal speeding vehicles. They couldn't afford to alert the gang members who might be somewhere on the lookout.

Although Athena could find them and inform the news with some effort, and change the path to avoid detection, nothing was absolute. The movement was better to be covert.

Soon, the convoy separated into five, each going toward different cities. Since Ling Qingyu's residence was located at a faraway distance from the metropolitan area in City N, most of the destinations were very close, especially when the highway was easier to access.

With ten cars, the size of the mission group was very large. Each van contained 8 personnel, amounting to 80 sisters.

Ling Qingyu wore Athena's spectacle, watching through the lens of the camera. She changed several perspectives chosen by Athena to monitor her subordinates.

There was no excitement or worries in her face like last time. Since she had trained once personally and experienced a mock battle with her guards, Ling Qingyu trusted their skills and was relieved to let go.

Her expression remained bland as if they were daily assignments. People's hearts grew stronger. Tapping her finger against the mahogany desk, Ling Qingyu's eyes narrowed.

Troublesome, she sighed. According to the best option, she should mobilize her guards and take out these Tiger gang members, one by one, extinguishing their existence out of the earth.

She didn't want to deal with or take precautions against their possible retaliation. Or she should let Tang Ziyi assassinate the so-called Boss Hu who threatened her and now made a move against her subordinates.

Unfortunately, too many missing people or deaths warranted unnecessary problems. Unless, she owned the military and launched the coup, blood-bathing from top to bottom so that the Province was clear of rats, fixing it was challenging because the process was surely going to be slow and torturing.

Besides, Ling Qingyu promised her lovely wife not to behave in a villainous manner. Obeying love was the first priority. Furthermore, strengthening Yang Qingyue's power was indeed another method to solve the root cause.

Ling Qingyu could afford to wait. It was nothing more than playing cat and mouse games longer with her enemies.

So, through judicial process, she must defeat her opponents. But the problem was small gang members might be able to exit from the prison in a few years or maybe months, depending on the level of corruptions.

Inmates running the prison, not the guards. Although Province N hadn't reached this hell-like level, Ling Qingyu must asked Yang Qingyue to clean the prison too.

She had seen too many movies or listened too many stories where the leaders ran their gangs from the prison. To be honest, she firmly believed only by thoroughly kill them, could the problem disappear.

However, Yang Qingyue's persuasion was also correct. If she relied too much on violence, sooner or later more challenging situations would dawn on her.

At the same time, Ling Qingyu listened to Athena's communication with Su Ruomei and her lips stretched into a smile. She giggled with delight and lamented her daughter had copied her aura.

Knock! Knock!