

Genius 311

Chapter 311 Recruitment (Part 1)_1

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Director Ye's courtesy and warmth made Qin Fang feel a bit guilty, but he also knew it was motivated by self-interest, so he accepted it comfortably and rightfully.

After this meal, the relationship between Qin Fang and Director Ye had improved significantly. Director Ye also made it very clear that in Ninghai, as long as he could help, he, Ye Heng, would never shirk his duty.

This promise was both offensive and defensive and was indeed the greatest commitment the old fox Ye Heng could offer. After all, Ninghai is the capital of Jiangnan Province, and his power as a city bureau chief was significant, but not without limits. There were the city's Party Committee and Municipal Government to consider, not to mention the direct oversight of the Provincial Department and the Party Committee and Provincial Government looming over him.

Nevertheless, Qin Fang was pleased with the promise. At least the issue between him and Ye Xiang had been thoroughly resolved, and he didn't have to worry about Ye Heng settling accounts with him after the fact.

Both parties enjoyed the meal thoroughly, and a fair amount of liquor was consumed. Ye Heng's capacity for alcohol was remarkable; half a jin down and his face hadn't reddened in the slightest. However, Ye Heng was still worried about his son Ye Xiang's condition, so Qin Fang took the initiative to break up the gathering and return to wait for Ye Xiang to wake up.

They waited at the hospital for about another hour. As Ye Xiang lay on the bed and suddenly let out a thunderous fart, Qin Fang knew that Ye Xiang had woken up and quickly slipped out of the ward.

Almost simultaneously with the fart blast, Ye Xiang, who had been unconscious for a long time, suddenly bounced out of bed, quickly scanned the ward, and immediately rushed toward the bathroom.

With a bang, the door shut.

Everyone was bewildered by the sudden turn of events, and their ears clearly picked up a series of noises from inside the bathroom, the sound of excretion that lasted quite a while.

"Xiao Qin, is Xiao Xiang...?"

Ye Heng's face was also filled with concern. He walked up to Qin Fang and couldn't help but inquire.

"It's alright, this is a normal reaction! His body is extremely weak, so I just took the liberty of helping him detox..."

Qin Fang smiled. The ordeal was a bit frightening, and Ye Xiang would be drained from the ordeal, but after recovery, he would be much more energetic. Although he couldn't become strong all at once, his condition was much better than before when his body was hollowed out by indulgence in alcohol and sex.

"As long as he's fine, that's good..."

Reassured, Ye Heng waited quietly for Ye Xiang to come out of the bathroom.

"Director Ye, since Ye Xiang has woken up, I should be going. With just a bit of recuperation, he'll be bouncing around in no time!"

With his task accomplished, Qin Fang naturally said his goodbyes. He was well aware that the recently awakened Ye Xiang would not want his company. Staying any longer would not be a good thing.

"Alright, I'll have Xiao Li escort you..."

Ye Heng understood as well and didn't insist. He immediately assigned one of his police officers to give Qin Fang a ride on the way.

"Officer Li, please take me to Nanhу Road..."

Qin Fang wasn't heading back to his university but rather to Fang Feixue in the city center, the restaurant he had just taken over not long ago, where the final preparations were being made for the opening.

This Officer Li did not hesitate. Being a direct subordinate of Director Ye, he had long heard of Qin Fang's reputation. He had thought that Director Ye would deal with Qin Fang, but to his surprise, it turned out that Director Ye was actually eager to court Qin Fang's favor.

With his superior behaving as such, how could he, a mere private, not be perceptive? If his rank weren't so low, he would be keen to cultivate a good relationship with Qin Fang.

The hospital was not particularly far from Nanhу Road. Qin Fang had visited the place a few times before. Under his direction, they soon found the Ninghai Main Store of Fang Feixue.

"Young Master Qin, do you own this restaurant?"

This police officer named Li Qiming figured it out upon seeing the restaurant's name. Although it was somewhat presumptuous, he still cautiously asked a question.

"Yes, it's mine. I started off small, and now I'm planning to expand the business!"

Qin Fang wasn't surprised that Officer Li knew about his business, and he admitted it without any hesitation.

Officer Li nodded, not explicitly expressing anything but clearly taking note of this location.

Because this main store had not opened yet, only Uncle Fang was overseeing the place with a few waitstaff, busy with decorations, purchasing necessities, preparing uniform attire, and so on... Clearly, there was no meal to be had, so Qin Fang let Li Qiming know before sending him on his way.

But Li Qiming was quite astute; he got the opening date from Qin Fang, then left with a cheerful demeanor.

"Uncle Fang, busy with work?"

After sending off Li Qiming, Qin Fang entered the store and saw Uncle Fang busy directing the waitstaff in the final cleaning. Qin Fang greeted him casually.

"Xiao Qin, your timing is perfect. I was just about to report the situation to you!"

Uncle Fang saw Qin Fang and immediately broke into a smile, dismissing his subordinates to continue working as he came over to report the current progress of the preparations.

During the busy days Qin Fang had had, the main store of Fang Feixue was finally ready. Today was the last day of cleaning, and then they were just waiting for the reserved opening day, which was only a few days away.

"For these few days, we'll temporarily close the university town branch and let Wen Yi and the others all come over. Since we're opening, we need to make an impression, and the first shot must be a success!"

The university town branch of Fang Feixue had always been very busy, with queues forming at mealtimes. Wen Yi and the chief chefs were the busiest. Qin Fang planned to let them rest for a few days to be in top form for the grand opening of the Fang Feixue main store and the Food Carnival a week later.

"Xiao Qin, I have something to tell you..."

Uncle Fang naturally nodded in agreement with Qin Fang's suggestion, but he hesitated as if he had more to say.

"Uncle Fang, do you have any difficulties? Just tell me, and as long as I can handle it, I'll definitely help you..." Qin Fang held Uncle Fang in high respect; he had been taking care of the Fang Feixue branch for the past few months, which saved Qin Fang a lot of worry.

"As you've seen, the shop has grown bigger, and there are more people. I'm an old man now, isn't it time to have someone else manage it?"

To Qin Fang's surprise, Uncle Fang was actually suggesting stepping down voluntarily.

Qin Fang fell silent, "That's fine, let's recruit a new hall manager, and hand over the responsibilities to him. You only need to supervise things in the shop!"

Uncle Fang wasn't actually that old—just over fifty—but Qin Fang could tell that he lacked confidence in himself, so he didn't insist. However, having him supervise was very appropriate.

"That works..."

Uncle Fang had no objection to this arrangement and immediately agreed.

There were only three days left until the opening of Fang Feixue, and they needed to recruit a hall manager. Although the time was tight, there was a place called the talent market.

Originally, Qin Fang and Uncle Fang were supposed to go together, but Tang Feifei also came to join in the fun. Uncle Fang, not wanting to intrude on Qin Fang and Tang Feifei's private world, volunteered to stay and take care of the store, so it ended up being just Qin Fang and Tang Feifei who came for the recruitment.

After setting up the recruitment booth, Qin Fang and the others didn't have much prepared, just a simple recruitment poster with several requirements listed. Qin and Tang sat there waiting for job seekers to arrive.

These days, the employment rate for college graduates was terrible, and most were arrogant yet incompetent. There were many job seekers, but very few who actually had the capability and level required.

Fang Feixue was looking for experienced managers, so those fresh college graduates were directly ruled out, especially since they would need relevant hotel or catering majors even to be considered.

However, with Qin Fang and Tang Feifei sitting there, a considerable crowd gathered. Several self-proclaimed handsome young men kept squeezing toward Qin Fang's side, handing over their resumes one after another, all reluctant to give them to Qin Fang but eagerly stuffing them into Tang Feifei's hands.

Seeing this, Qin Fang got really annoyed. Without even looking at the resumes, he threw them aside.

He was looking to hire someone who could manage Fang Feixue, not to find a rival in love for himself, not to mention having to pay a salary to this rival...

"What's the matter? Jealous?"

Tang Feifei, seeing Qin Fang's overwhelming jealousy, beamed with a beautiful smile and couldn't help but tease him.

"I am jealous! Those toads think they can pursue my Feifei; they should be thankful I haven't beaten them up yet..."

Qin Fang felt no embarrassment, showing his jealousy openly.

"Hmph, then you better behave, or if you make me angry, watch me kick you..."

Tang Feifei's smile bloomed even more, looking like a beautiful flower, but her words were firm.

"You wouldn't dare!"

Qin Fang immediately struck a fierce pose, then wrapped his arm around her, pulling Tang Feifei into his embrace and looked around proudly at the envious and jealous young men.

"Stop messing around... Lots of people are looking!"

Tang Feifei's face turned red with shyness. The intimacy she shared with Qin Fang was mostly just holding hands, and such close hugs were rare, let alone in front of hundreds of onlookers.

"Let them look, who cares!"

Qin Fang was defiant, completely unaffected by the many sharp gazes.

"I can't be bothered with you! I'm going to the restroom..."

Tang Feifei rolled her eyes at him and then, struggling out of Qin Fang's embrace, she went off to the restroom.

Qin Fang wasn't too concerned about that; they had been sitting there for quite a while, and although they'd received many resumes, not a single one seemed reliable. He was getting frustrated himself, not to mention Tang Feifei.

Chapter 312 - Recruitment (Part 2)_1

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"You're recruiting for a front desk manager?"

It's always a bit troublesome when women need to use the restroom, and with so many people around, Qin Fang waited for Tang Feifei to return but she didn't show up after a while. He himself was also in a desperate need for relief, and so Qin Fang kept craning his neck towards the direction of the bathroom.

Just then, a soft voice reached Qin Fang's ears, momentarily startling him.

Fortunately, Qin Fang remembered what they were here for and immediately looked in the direction of the voice.

What came into view, however, was a pair of fair and plump... and the unfathomable ravine beyond...

"Er... yes!"

Qin Fang was temporarily stunned, and then, lifting his head up a little, he affirmed.

The owner of the voice was a voluptuous and mature-looking young woman with a beautiful face. Qin Fang estimated that she was no more than twenty-seven or twenty-eight, but she looked as ripe as a peach.

This young woman was dressed in a smart suit, her hair up in a bun, wearing light makeup that gave her a capable and sharp impression. However, her brilliant and warm smile was full of approachability, making a very good first impression on Qin Fang.

"This is my resume..."

The gorgeous young woman seemed to have noticed Qin Fang's awkwardness, and immediately took out a resume from her small bag, placing it in front of Qin Fang, while she herself stood up straight, and hid her snowy white and rounded treasures once again.

Qin Fang silently lamented the loss and then turned his attention seriously to the resume.

The young woman's name was Xiao Qing. Her educational background was average, but where she had worked was what truly surprised Qin Fang. The Hilton, Marriott, Yan Guilai, Songhelou and even a few months at the Elite Salon... these were all very famous hotels in Ninghai.

"Miss Xiao, if I may be so bold to ask, with your qualifications, you could work at any five-star hotel in Ninghai, so why choose our Fang Feixue, which is unknown to the public and hasn't even opened for business yet?"

Qin Fang wasn't desperate to hire anyone. His enemies were powerful; he had to be cautious, not wanting to bring in a ticking bomb, even if Fang Feixue wasn't a significant part of his business empire.

"To tell you the truth, I kept quitting jobs just to avoid being taken advantage of..."

Xiao Qing's answer left Qin Fang astounded; he had considered many possibilities, but hadn't thought of this one.

There was no denying that Xiao Qing was stunning. Out of ten men who saw her, several would take interest, and the one who didn't would be gay. Even Qin Fang couldn't deny the allure she had on him when he first saw her.

"Aren't you afraid that I might take advantage of you?"

Qin Fang chuckled and asked offhandedly.

"If my boss were a young cutie like you, I wouldn't mind at all being taken advantage of..." Xiao Qing, the mature woman, was truly bold, throwing him a flirtatious glance and speaking in a suggestive manner.

Great, he was being flirted with!

"Just kidding, don't take it personally! In fact, I've been watching you, and I know you have a very beautiful girlfriend... With such a beauty by your side, how could you possibly be interested in an old lady like me?"

Luckily, this mature woman still knew where she was and what she was doing, so she gave her reasons.

Qin Fang smiled, neither confirming nor denying her reasons, but found them logical, so he reluctantly believed her.

Gurgle gurgle...

At that moment, his desperate need to urinate became unbearable, and his face was almost green.

"You're hired, a one-month probation, six thousand salary, ten thousand monthly salary upon passing probation, plus other bonuses... I can't bear it any longer, I'll leave this to you. Hire three more middle managers, as for the salary, do as you see fit..."

When one has to go, not even a god could bear it, Qin Fang leapt up from his seat, not caring whether Xiao Qing was willing or not, scooped her up with a swift embrace and set her down in his chair, then he parted the crowd and dashed towards the bathroom.

"This... jerk!"

Xiao Qing was left bewildered by Qin Fang's action. Sitting in his chair, she was confused, her face changing colors rapidly. She opened her mouth wanting to scold Qin Fang, but by then he had disappeared without a trace.

But how could she not be pissed? She was suddenly and inexplicably held by Qin Fang for a while and couldn't swallow her pride.

Qin Fang, however, had no mind to care about these things. Desperate for a pee, he dashed directly to the restroom, and as soon as he entered, he aimed at the urinal and unleashed a torrent.

The stream was fierce, and it lasted an impressively long time. Finally, after shaking off the last few drops, he zipped up, feeling much relieved.

"Shit, what the hell are you looking at?"

Qin Fang might have been relieved, but as he turned his head, he saw a guy next to him, eyeing his not-yet-put-away buddy with a lecherous gaze, which gave Qin chills and goosebumps all over.

"Buddy, you've got quite the assets. How about I introduce you to a job? A salary of thirty thousand a month... Do well, and you could be making a hundred to eighty thousand!"

"No need to introduce, buddy, here's my card. If you're interested, feel free to contact me at any time..."

This guy, however, didn't get angry at all, even pulling out a card and handing it to Qin Fang.

Qin Fang didn't want to take it, but the guy pushed the card into his hand and then disappeared in a flash.

"What the hell was that?!"

Smiling wryly, Qin Fang looked at the card, "Jincheng Entertainment City PR Department Manager Liang Xiaobin."

"Looks like some sort of gigolo..."

Qin Fang chuckled and tossed the card into the trash can nearby, not giving the matter a second thought.

However, because of gigolo Liang Xiaobin's interruption, Qin Fang was delayed quite a bit. When he got back to the recruitment booth, Tang Feifei had returned, but she was giving him the evil eye while Xiao Qing was all smiles, handling the jobseekers.

"What's wrong, Feifei? Your pretty little face is almost turning into a pig's head from holding back..."

Qin Fang was puzzled by Tang Feifei's expression, but knowing her temperament well, he immediately joked with a laugh.

"Pfft! You're the pig's head! Dead pig head, dead pig head..."

Tang Feifei couldn't hold back her laughter when teased by Qin Fang, bursting out laughing. Seeing Qin's twinkling eyes, she immediately started pelting him with small punches, many in number but not much in strength.

"Not angry anymore?"

Seeing Tang Feifei laugh, Qin Fang was delighted too, and pinched her smooth cheek, earning himself an eyeroll.

"Stop clowning around with me. First explain to me what's up with this beauty here? Are we hiring a lobby manager, or a wet nurse?"

Tang Feifei calmed down, clearly still a bit jealous of Xiao Qing, a siren indeed. It couldn't be helped—Tang Feifei was still a pure young girl, not fully mature in body, particularly self-conscious about her modest bust, which was always a sore point for her. Now, seeing Xiao Qing's assets, she couldn't help having thoughts.

"What are you thinking with that little head of yours? Am I that kind of person? Have you seen Xiao Qing's resume?"

Qin Fang immediately defended his innocence with righteous indignation, although he couldn't deny a certain fascination with Xiao Qing's "weapons." Yet, at least for now, he really had no other thoughts.

"I've seen it..."

Tang Feifei nodded, "In just the short time you were gone, she has already recruited two people. Her ability is definitely not in question..."

"Recruited two already?"

Qin Fang was taken aback, as it was only the time it took to pee that Xiao Qing managed to recruit two people. He and Tang Feifei hadn't seen any suitable candidates after half a day's effort.

"Here are the resumes, take a look for yourself..."

Actually, Tang Feifei had already approved of them by the time she arrived. Xiao Qing had been sitting there and even conducted a brief interview with two people right in front of Tang Feifei. This was the difference between a professional and an amateur.

Of course, it also helped that there were two beauties, one mature and one young, sitting at the booth, certainly more pleasant to look at than the Qin couple.

"If you think they're good, then it's fine. I don't want to deal with that..."

Qin Fang was a little uneasy inside, considering he wasn't the most reliable person. He decided to just let go and put Xiao Qing and Tang Feifei in charge while he could sneak a break, which was obviously the best outcome for him.

Chapter 313 - Recruitment (Part 3)_1

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It must be said that Xiao Qing, no wonder for her reputation as a professional who had worked in various famous hotels, possessed a truly unique vision and considerable skill.

Within a mere twenty minutes, she completed the task Qin Fang had given her, not only bringing in the expected three mid-level managers but even exceeding the quota by one.

"Manager Xiao, from now on, these four people will be directly responsible to you, assisting you in managing the store's affairs..."

Qin Fang was quite satisfied with these four individuals. With them on board alongside Xiao Qing, Fang Feixue was now officially on its way from being an amateur outfit to a formal army.

"Boss, although I am already an employee of Fang Feixue, at the very least you should take me to see the place where I'll be working!"

After completing the task, it was natural for Qin Fang and his party to leave. Xiao Qing said this with a smile brimming with laughter.

"Naturally! We were just about to head back to the store, come with us..."

Qin Fang naturally wouldn't refuse, after all, you can't have a manager recruited and not even know the direction the store's door faces, right?

Thus, the three of them tidied up their station and left the talent market, ready to head to Fang Feixue's Ninghai Main Store.

Qin Fang and Tang Feifei didn't drive over, but Xiao Qing had come in her own car, a very compact Chery QQ. And so, the three squeezed into it.

Qin Fang felt somewhat embarrassed to drive such a tiny car, so he naturally took a seat in the back. Tang Feifei gave him a disdainful look and sat upfront with Xiao Qing in the driver and passenger seats.

"You know, Boss, you're supposedly worth tens of millions, yet you can't even bring yourself to buy a car. That's a bit too stingy..." Tang Feifei didn't really care, but Xiao Qing, a mature woman, didn't hesitate to express her deep disdain for Qin Fang, the 'tens-of-millions-guy.'

"Well... I've actually been thinking about it for a while, just never got around to it! Feifei, why don't you come with me to pick one out someday? Whichever model you like, that's the one we'll buy..."

Qin Fang was a bit embarrassed. He had been planning to buy a car for quite some time, but he had just been too busy with other things and hadn't gotten around to it. Now, this new mature female subordinate of his had fiercely scorned him.

"Then let's get a QQ like Sister Xiao's, with its big cute eyes..."

Tang Feifei's eyes twinkled, and she immediately said with a smiling face.

"Er... you might as well kill me. How can a grown man like me drive such a tiny car..." Qin Fang immediately put on a dramatic, life-seeking expression and made it very clear that he was opposed to the idea.

He had driven compact cars before; Fan Ning's Beetle was also a small car, but it had a cooler look than the Chery QQ.

However, Tang Feifei had no idea about the relationship between Qin Fang and Fan Ning, simply assuming they had a simple teacher-student relationship. She never considered that the teacher-student pair had shared the same bed.

"Look how scared you are, can't we pick something other than a QQ?"

Tang Feifei and Xiao Qing couldn't stop laughing merrily, clearly amused by Qin Fang's antics.

They also understood that, after all, Qin Fang was a boss and what car he drove was a matter of face. If he went out to socialize in a QQ, that would be a total loss of face. Don't Dragon Country people care about face the most?

"It probably won't work today, how about tomorrow? Let's go car shopping then. We'll ask Brother Qiang to get us a good license plate number..." Tang Feifei looked outside at the time of day; it was already past one in the afternoon. With lunch and tasks to instruct, among other things, she figured they'd be busy for the rest of the afternoon.

"Why go to Brother Qiang, when we can just go to Sister Ning? She's a police officer, very convenient. I've even talked to her about this already..."

Qin Fang was somewhat startled. He had just asked Ning Weiqiang for a favor, and it had involved Fan Ning. He was a bit worried that Ning Weiqiang might accidentally let something slip, causing Tang Feifei to learn something she shouldn't. That would truly be troublesome.

While he wasn't intentionally hiding things from Tang Feifei, he didn't want to reveal them before officially laying his cards on the table, especially because Tang Feifei was the one he liked the most in his heart.

"Going to Sister Ning, huh... that could work... Although she's been really busy lately, every time I ask her out shopping, she says she doesn't have time!"

Tang Feifei hesitated a bit but didn't refuse.

"She should be less busy now..."

Qin Fang of course knew what Ning Yumo had been busy with: the visit of a high official from Little Island. However, that official surnamed Li had already left the Inland and returned to Little Island. Before leaving, his son Li Jian had even called Qin Fang to invite him for a meal as a token of gratitude.

Qin Fang had turned down the invite politely at the time because he needed to protect Fan Ning and didn't dare to leave her side. Li Jian had said that if Qin Fang ever visited Little Island, he should contact him to let him extend his hospitality as a landlord. Qin Fang naturally had no reason to refuse, though he himself wasn't sure if he would ever visit Little Island.

"How about... asking my brother for a military plate?"

Tang Feifei, hearing the uncertainty in Qin Fang's voice, hesitated before making that suggestion.

"Let's avoid that, it's a bit too ostentatious..."

Qin Fang actually had the same idea in mind. Having a military plate would make moving around in local areas much easier, like he said, though, it would be a bit too ostentatious.

"Forget it then... I'll call Sister Ning first to ask!"

Tang Feifei nodded, not insisting, and immediately called Ning Yumo.

While Qin Fang and Tang Feifei were talking, Xiao Qing was driving seriously and also carefully listening to the conversation between the young couple.

Since Tang Feifei and Qin Fang were speaking from the front and back seats, their conversation naturally passed by her ears, and she heard it very clearly.

But the more she listened, the more puzzled she felt, continuously speculating about the identities of Qin Fang and Tang Feifei.

They mentioned the police and the military, and both of them sounded very relaxed, as if it were all just a piece of cake. This made her even more respectful towards the two of them. She had once worked in an upscale hotel and had seen quite a few big shots, as well as the tactics of many privileged young masters. However, she had never imagined her own boss to be such a figure, which made her feel a bit worried and simultaneously quite excited.

Qin Fang and Tang Feifei, of course, knew nothing of Xiao Qing's thoughts; they were just having a normal conversation and did not think much of it.

Just at that moment, Qin Fang's phone suddenly rang.

Qin Fang looked at the number and answered immediately, "Bureau Chief Ye, how come you have time to call me?"

"Xiao Qin, my son Ye Xiang has completely recovered. I was thinking about inviting you to dinner as a way to express my gratitude..." Ye Heng said with a chuckle on the other end of the phone.

And truth be told, after being jabbed with those few needles by Qin Fang, Ye Xiang may have been close to collapsing from vomiting, but his recovery was swift. In just over a day, his spirits had considerably improved.

Once Ye Xiang learned that Qin Fang had saved him, he felt quite embarrassed, but at the same time, he was even more afraid. After listening to his father Ye Heng analyze the pros and cons, not only did he not hold a grudge against Qin Fang, but he also felt an urge to go out of his way to curry favor with him.

With that in mind, father and son discussed it and decided to simply invite Qin Fang to a meal. It would serve as an opportunity to connect and, secondly, to resolve any ill feelings and officially become friends.

"Bureau Chief Ye, you are being too polite. I should be the one inviting you for a meal... How about this, in two days, my new store on Nanhу Road will be opening. You and Young Master Ye come and try the specialty dishes at Fang Feixue!"

Qin Fang had now learned a bit about how the world works. Moreover, with the opening of the new store, Qin Fang was worried about not having enough people to support the event, and here someone had proactively delivered the perfect opportunity.

"Alright, then it's settled. We father and son will definitely be there to support you!"

Ye Heng naturally would not refuse. In fact, he had already learned from Li Qiming that Fang Feixue would soon be opening, and that Secretary Tang's daughter, Tang Feifei, had shares in the store. He certainly planned to support the event.

"Then I am looking forward to the honor of your company!"

Qin Fang also happily ended the call.

"Who was that? You look pretty happy,"

Tang Feifei, who had finished talking with Ning Yumo by now, saw Qin Fang's silly smile and couldn't help but ask.

"Sister Ning's supervisor, the city bureau chief, Ye Heng..."

Qin Fang naturally told the truth, "He and his son will come to our new store's opening day to support us!"

"The city bureau chief, huh? Should I ask my dad to come and support us too?"

Tang Feifei lit up and cheerfully proposed.

"Er... let's not. If your dad comes, I'm afraid I won't be able to hold the fort..."

Qin Fang immediately broke out in a sweat. If Secretary Tang came, it would be like an ugly son-in-law meeting his future father-in-law ahead of time. He feared his heart couldn't take it.

Tang Feifei didn't say much more, but Xiao Qing looked very surprised. The city bureau chief had spoken so cheerfully with Qin Fang, yet when Tang Feifei's dad came up, Qin Fang turned instantly sheepish. Just how high-ranking could Tang Feifei's father be...

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"Uncle Fang, this is Miss Xiao Qing. She will be the manager of Fang Feixue from now on, in charge of all the store's affairs... Miss Xiao, this is Uncle Fang, an old-timer at Fang Feixue. He won't manage the daily affairs of the store, but the responsibility for oversight will still be handed over to him."

Qin Fang introduced Xiao Qing and Uncle Fang very formally, marking a passing of the torch at Fang Feixue that would nonetheless continue the partnership.

"Miss Xiao, nice to meet you!"

"Uncle Fang, hello!"

Uncle Fang was quite polite to Xiao Qing, not only because she would be managing Fang Feixue but also because she was a beautiful woman. Of course, Uncle Fang wouldn't entertain any untoward thoughts, as he was of an age where, even if he wanted to think along those lines, he wouldn't have the energy.

Not to mention, as soon as Uncle Fang saw Xiao Qing, he couldn't help but give Qin Fang a look, having already pegged Xiao Qing as Qin Fang's mistress in his mind—an idea he wouldn't act on.

Luckily, Qin Fang had no idea what Uncle Fang was thinking; otherwise, he might have collapsed on the spot, crying foul.

Similarly, Xiao Qing showed great respect for Uncle Fang, who was close to her father's age. She definitely wouldn't be lacking in manners.

Chapter 314 - Buying a Car (Part 1)_1

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The handover of responsibility between the old and new heads of Fang Feixue went very smoothly. Uncle Fang handed over his duties and seemed to relax quite a bit. He even happily hummed Peking opera tunes as he left, exuding an indescribable sense of contentment.

Xiao Qing stayed behind to familiarize herself with the store and to prepare for the opening ceremony two days later. She knew that even the city bureau chief would personally come to support the event, not to mention the numerous underlings who would probably be there as well.

All of this didn't concern Qin Fang much. Tang Feifei went back to rest at her family home in the Provincial Committee residential compound, while Qin Fang casually picked a hotel in the city to stay in.

It was Xiao Muxue who learned from Tang Feifei that Qin Fang planned to buy a car the next day. She came from the school late at night and naturally stayed in Qin Fang's room. They inevitably spent a passionate night together.

The next morning, Qin Fang was awake early, feeling refreshed and reinvigorated. Xiao Muxue, having been exhausted by the night's activities, lay weakened on the bed, looking at Qin Fang with an innocent and pitiable gaze. She also grumbled helplessly about how Qin Fang was becoming more and more beastly.

As usual, he practiced punching a few rounds in the morning to improve his Proficiency, and conveniently went to the hotel kitchen to prepare a very exquisite and tasty breakfast for Xiao Muxue and Tang Feifei.

It must be admitted that ever since they knew about Qin Fang's superb cooking skills, both Tang and Xiao beauties had their three meals a day looked after by Qin Fang whenever the circumstances allowed.

Tang Feifei arrived quite early. Her family was not very restrictive and allowed her a high degree of freedom. Plus, Qin Fang knew that Tang Feifei was actually protected secretly, so he never worried too much about her safety.

Tang Feifei wasn't surprised by Xiao Muxue's arrival. The three of them happily enjoyed the sumptuous meal.

"Fangfang, have you decided on what car to buy?"

During breakfast, Tang Feifei asked, having been considering this since the day before.

"A Porsche, it looks really cool and flashy..."

Xiao Muxue cheerfully suggested. The damaged Porsche in the courtyard of the Sawmill Factory had been mostly restored, but its paint had peeled off, and its appearance had changed a lot. It was completely unrecognizable as a Porsche sports car.

Despite this, she still had a particular fondness for it.

"No way, it's too flashy! If he drives it back to the school, who knows how many beauties would cry and chase after him..." Tang Feifei immediately objected, expressing considerable distrust in Qin Fang's self-control.

Qin Fang could only offer a forced smile in response, though inwardly he didn't mind much. Of the known beauties from Ning University, he had already met almost half of them.

"That's true, those women are all perverts... Absolutely no sports cars!"

Xiao Muxue quickly agreed. Although sports cars were flashy, they made Qin Fang too conspicuous, which was definitely not acceptable.

"BMW and Mercedes are too old-fashioned; they look like nouveau riche. That's no good either... How about an Audi?"

Tang Feifei pondered for a moment and then immediately suggested, "Audi is classy and, being a German car, it's of excellent quality. My dad and his colleagues all use Audis..."

Qin Fang's forehead was marked with lines of dismay at the suggestion. All the top leaders in the Provincial Committee drove black Audis, but he wasn't an official—just a nouveau riche.

"Audi is not bad; I think it's suitable..."

This time Xiao Muxue just smacked her lips and didn't say much. Generally, she tended to agree with Tang Feifei, it seemed to give Tang Feifei a sense of authority as the 'head wife'.

"Then let's go with Audi..."

When he was with the two women, his opinions were generally sidelined. He just waited for the women to come to an agreement before he expressed his concurrence. It had been the same when they were discussing the decoration of the small house.

"That's settled then, I'll give Sister Ning a call."

Tang Feifei said cheerfully and immediately went to make the call.

...

Inside the Audi dealership at this hour, there weren't many people. Most were lookers rather than actual buyers since Audis generally aren't cheap and are beyond the means of the average person.

Qin Fang and the two beauties arrived by taxi. The receptionist at the door was very polite, but her eyes betrayed a hint of disdain.

The reason was simple: even though Qin Fang was worth millions, he still dressed as indifferently as ever, his clothes were the everyday kind that cost a mere hundred or so yuan each.

He was the kind of man who didn't have high demands for the quality of life; as long as he could get by, he generally wouldn't deliberately pursue any particular luxury.

Compared to Qin Fang's ordinary attire, the outfits of Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue were clearly more upscale. Although not clad in luxury brands like LV or Hermès as those rich girls do, the items they wore were nonetheless pricy selections from the shopping mall.

Tang Feifei, who came from a well-off family with a father serving as the municipal party secretary and a mother as a top-level executive in a listed company, usually seemed very understated. However, she had never suffered financially, which could be summed up in one phrase—money was never an issue!

Although Xiao Muxue's situation was unlike Tang Feifei's, she was Qin Fang's close personal sweetheart. Even if she wanted to keep a low profile, Qin Fang himself wouldn't have it, often joining Tang and Xiao on shopping trips to buy them clothes and accessories, and Tang Feifei never found it inappropriate.

Still, the three of them together looked somewhat mismatched, but it was nobody else's business, at most warranting some gossip behind their backs.

Even Qin Fang, with his keen ears, overheard someone call him a "kept man" by the two beauties. At least, although he wasn't broad-shouldered and muscular, he had grown to over 1.8 meters tall, making him relatively tall and burly, with a hint of a tough-guy aura.

In response, Qin Fang could only give a wry smile. It wasn't like he could tell people, "I'm not a kept man."

"Sir, miss, what can I help you with? I can make some recommendations for you..."

Despite that, the staff at the 4S store appeared not to be prejudiced, and promptly a saleswoman came over with a smile to speak to them.

"Not for now, we're just looking around!"

Before Qin Fang could speak, Tang Feifei, who was by his side, had already turned down the offer. As for why, well, it was because the saleswoman named Su Ting was too beautiful.

Only Tang Feifei knew what she was thinking, others just saw a man beside the women, but it was the women who called the shots, leading many to further assume that Qin Fang was a kept man.

Su Ting didn't take it to heart, as most customers who came into the store behaved similarly: they would look around, compare, test drive, inquire about prices, and only then would they consider purchasing.

Of course, some customers came in for a specific model, but such happenstances weren't many.

"Please take your time, and call me if you need anything..."

Su Ting said politely, then stepped aside.

Perhaps due to the presence of the beautiful saleswoman, Tang Feifei now quite generously looped her arm through Qin Fang's, heading towards the displayed Audi cars.

Audi is a world-renowned brand and a benchmark of German cars, while also possessing a high level of recognition among Dragon Country people with unbeatable quality and reputation. The only drawback was the exorbitant price tag, preventing it from being the top choice for Dragon Country citizens looking to purchase a car.

However, it was this very reason that made Audi a symbol of status. Although not as high-end as Rolls-Royce or Bentley, it had become the preferred choice of many government departments for official vehicles.

An Audi gave off an impression of magnificence at first glance. Of course, as times progressed, so did Audi's innovative technology. Many of their newly developed models were very suitable for the needs of young people, unlike the old-fashioned, conservative styles of Rolls-Royce or Bentley.

Being young, Qin Fang and his company naturally couldn't pick models that were too mature or outdated. They headed straight for the newly released models that appeared more stylish and sporty.

"Fangfang, what do you think of this one?"

Tang Feifei caught sight of an Audi TT sports car that resembled Xiao Nan's Z4, at a similar price point.

"Hmm, quite nice, but it's a shame it has only two seats..."

Qin Fang nodded. The car was indeed nice, and having driven Xiao Nan's Z4, he had become somewhat used to it. Seeing this car, though from a different brand, he felt a sense of familiarity.

"Uh... that's true! The two-seater is quite inconvenient..."

Tang Feifei was momentarily taken aback and looked at Xiao Muxue beside Qin Fang before dutifully nodding.

"Sir, miss, actually, the Audi TT does have a four-seater model, please come this way..."

Su Ting had been following Qin Fang and the others at a slow pace, and when she heard their conversation, she immediately came up with a smile and began leading the way.

They did have a four-seater TT but all three of them clearly lost interest upon seeing it.

"This Audi TT model..."

Su Ting hadn't noticed the lack of interest and continued trying to introduce the features of the car to them. This time, however, the dynamics changed. The two beauties remained silent, letting Qin Fang do the talking, "Beauty, no need to introduce it, we'll keep looking and check out some others..."

Hearing this, Su Ting couldn't help feeling a touch of frustration. Their commissions as saleswomen rested on performance, with earnings coming from successful sales, without which even the meager basic salary was barely enough to live on in a large city like Ninghai.

Audi was a luxury brand, with new car prices starting at over three hundred thousand. The two Audi TT models Qin Fang and the ladies had just viewed were priced upwards of six hundred thousand, and a single sale would mean she wouldn't have to worry too much for the month.

However, she could see that the little beauty next to Qin Fang was very wary of her. The other woman, who seemed amiable, smiled at her now and then, blinked her eyes playfully, and appeared very friendly. As for Qin Fang, he barely gave her more than a couple of glances...

Chapter 315 - Buying a Car (Part 2)_1

...

Undeniably, Su Ting was a very beautiful woman.

Although her educational background wasn't high, she managed to land a job at the Audi Ninghai 4S Flagship Store, which certainly had something to do with her pretty face.

Just thinking about the sleazy bald manager made Su Ting feel extremely uncomfortable, but for such a well-paying job, she could only grit her teeth and bear it.

At this thought, Su Ting couldn't help but feel a bit envious of Qin Fang, surrounded by two women.

She was a woman, a beautiful one at that, and women's intuition is often quite accurate. She didn't believe Qin Fang was the kept man others gossiped about. From the confidence in Qin Fang's eyes, she knew that the real leader among the three was this plainly dressed boy.

That's right, a boy, one who appeared to be about her age.

As a man, there was a natural affinity for off-road vehicles, it was just too bad that Audi did not have that kind of specialized off-road vehicle. There were some SUVs though, for example, Qin Fang had noticed an Audi Q7 not far from the four-seater TT.

"Let's take a look at that one..."

After declining Su Ting's help, Qin Fang signaled to the two beauties towards the Q7 nearby, and the two nodded in agreement, following Qin Fang over.

Following the direction Qin Fang pointed, Su Ting also set her sights on that Q7, and her eyes immediately lit up.

If before she was disappointed at not having sold the Audi TT, now she was hoping that Qin Fang would buy this latest model Q7. Su Ting quickly hastened her steps to catch up.

Su Ting had good eyesight, but some people's vision was even better. Seeing Su Ting going to check out the Q7 with the customers, another saleswoman who was free took a shortcut and reached the Q7 first.

"Hello Sir, Madam, I am the deputy sales manager of this store, Wang Fang. If you have any requests, please feel free to tell me. Su Ting, you take care of the other customers over there. Let me introduce this model to you..."

Wang Fang, the saleswoman in question, was also quite a beauty, and she looked rather flirtatious, with her brows and eyes already expressing as much, undoubtedly a fully blossomed woman with a long-since explored past.

However, such a woman, appearing so abruptly, might have been fine for other customers, but Qin Fang and his group felt extremely uncomfortable, especially Tang Feifei, who could detect a distinctly fast-life aura emanating from Wang Fang and couldn't hide her distaste.

Tang Feifei probably hadn't expected that this Wang Fang did indeed work as a hostess in a nightclub before, and that hard-to-miss worldliness was no accident.

Seeing Wang Fang barging in, Su Ting was very uncomfortable, but as a regular saleswoman and Wang Fang being the deputy sales manager, her superior, Su Ting could only sigh in resignation, although she felt aggrieved, as she prepared to leave.

"Don't go just yet..."

It was Qin Fang who suddenly spoke up, "Manager Wang, right? I think this lady was doing a fine job explaining, so there's no need for a switch. Miss Su, please continue..."

Wang Fang was taken aback, her heavily powdered face suddenly becoming the epitome of awkwardness. She realized the customers were displeased with her, and as she couldn't lash out at them, all she could do was look unpleasantly at Su Ting and say, "Well then, Miss Su, these customers are now yours..."

After uttering those words, Wang Fang turned and left, though she shot Su Ting a venomous glance before she did.

Su Ting was quite surprised; she hadn't expected such a turn of events and was immediately overjoyed, missing Wang Fang's spiteful look.

"Thank you..."

Su Ting quietly expressed her gratitude to Qin Fang, and this time, Tang Feifei and the others had no objections, since compared to their wariness of beauties, they preferred dealing with Su Ting over that distasteful woman.

"There's no need to thank me, just don't blame me if I've inadvertently caused you trouble..."

Su Ting missed Wang Fang's grimace, but Qin Fang caught it. He didn't expect Wang Fang to be so petty, to become so spiteful towards Su Ting over such a small matter.

After hesitating a moment, Qin Fang took out a business card from his pocket and handed it to Su Ting, saying, "If you do end up losing this job because of what I've done, you can go to this place and look for Miss Xiao Qing. She will arrange a job for you!"

Su Ting was slightly taken aback, looking at Qin Fang with some surprise, as if trying to discern from his eyes if the boy had any ulterior motives toward her.

But in the end, she found nothing and, hesitating for a moment, she still took the business card and tucked it into the pocket of her uniform, not paying much attention to it.

"Now, let's learn about this model..."

Qin Fang didn't mind, pointing at the Q7 and stating his interest. He was here to buy a car after all, and couldn't forget about the main event.

"This Q7 is a newly arrived model, the only one in the whole Ninghai area. It has a very spacious interior, utilizing the latest 6.0 TDI technology, all styles are equipped with a six-speed tiptronic transmission, making it very convenient to operate..."

Perhaps it was because Qin Fang had just sent that annoying Wang Fang away, but suddenly Su Ting seemed much more favorably disposed towards him. From Qin Fang's perspective, it could be considered a significant increase in favorability...

However, Qin Fang and her had merely encountered each other by chance and didn't have any acquaintance, so the level of goodwill didn't really matter.

"Additionally, it comes with dual-stage front airbags and side airbags. Such airbags, once deployed, won't instantly deflate, effectively preventing secondary collisions and greatly enhancing safety..."

Su Ting didn't read too much into it and was still very earnest in pointing out some advantages of the car to Qin Fang. It had to be said that Su Ting had quite the gift of gab. She spoke coherently and with a good sense of structure.

"Let me try it..."

Qin Fang nodded and then opened the car door and sat inside.

Perhaps because he was used to driving smaller cars, the moment he got in, he immediately noticed that the interior space was significantly larger. With his height, driving such a car was just right. In contrast, driving smaller cars like the Beetle or Chery QQ made Qin Fang feel a bit constrained.

"Oh, not bad! What do you think?"

Qin Fang was very satisfied with this car. Whether it was performance, interior, or the size of the space, everything was quite pleasing. As for fuel consumption, which others considered important, he didn't regard it as highly.

Even though fuel prices kept rising, it was the ordinary people who truly suffered a heavy loss. For someone as wealthy as him, even if the price of gas doubled, it would still be acceptable.

"Pretty good..."

Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue also got in and tried it out. Given their height and figure, driving such a car wasn't quite suitable, but just the feeling alone was pretty nice.

"Alright, asking you is pointless. I'll just buy you small cars to drive in the future..."

Qin Fang chuckled, knowing from the expressions of the two beauties that they were just echoing his words. After all, men and women have different perspectives and tastes.

"Hehe, you said it. Once that deal goes through, I want a Porsche..."

"And I'll take a Maserati..."

Upon hearing Qin Fang's promise, Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue both laughed at the same time, exchanged glances and immediately said in unison.

"Sure, no problem!"

Qin Fang readily agreed, knowing full well that both women were aware of his plans to sell lithium battery technology, which was a deal worth billions. Buying them a few million-dollar sports cars was truly nothing in comparison.

Su Ting's mouth fell open slightly, her eyes filled with envy. Being a woman, she was quite sensitive to certain things, especially to the affectionate look in Qin Fang's eyes when he looked at the two beauties.

What really surprised her was how quickly Qin Fang agreed to their requests without even a moment's hesitation. Two top-tier sports cars, totaling a few hundred million, and he agreed just like that, as if they were mere tens or hundreds of dollars.

"Ah, some people are just born with different destinies..."

Regarding this, all Su Ting could do was sigh helplessly. In terms of looks, she didn't fall short of the two beauties, and she was actually only twenty herself, about the same age as Tang and Xiao. It was just that she had entered society earlier and thus appeared more mature.

"Enough about that. Let's go with this one..."

Qin Fang affectionately pinched Tang Feifei's nose but didn't dare to do the same to Xiao Muxue, especially with Tang Feifei so close by, as he made his decision.

"How much is this car?"

Since the three of them had decided, it was naturally time to ask for the price.

"This model is the latest, the only one in Ninghai, and quite expensive. The price is 2.58 million..."

Su Ting was very cautious when she said this. Although she had gathered from their conversation that Qin Fang was well-off, the price of the car was still quite steep, rivaling those of luxury sports cars.

"2.58 million..."

Hearing such a price, Qin Fang was somewhat taken aback. The SUV, which appeared rather nice, commanded a surprisingly high price, unexpectedly beyond what he had anticipated.

"This one looks pretty good; let's take this one..."

Just at this moment, they saw Wang Fang, the one Qin Fang had previously shooed away, leading a young couple over. The guy had an uneven face and was covered in a teenage awkwardness that was hard to ignore, almost enough to turn one's stomach, yet, strangely, the woman beside him was quite beautiful. She might not compare to Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue, or Su Ting, but she looked much better than Wang Fang at least.

This pair was truly a classic 'beauty and the beast' pairing.

However, what was surprising was that the young man took just a simple look at the Q7 and declared outright that he would buy it, not even bothering to ask for the price.

Chapter 316 - Buying a Car (Part 3)_1

...

"Okay, okay, okay... Young Master Fang, I'll go and handle the paperwork for you right away..."

As soon as the pimple-faced rich second generation finished speaking, Wang Fang immediately nodded in agreement with a very proud look and even cast a disdainful glance at Su Ting, her neck held high right away.

"Manager Wang... this gentleman was the first to take an interest in this car!"

Su Ting immediately became anxious and spoke up right away.

Wang Fang was slightly taken aback—although she was well aware of this, seeing Qin Fang and his party dawdling for so long, and Young Master Fang being so straightforward, naturally, she didn't care about these things.

"Did they say they wanted to buy it?"

However, Wang Fang also knew the store's rules—first come, first served, so she asked without delay.

"This... not yet!"

Su Ting hesitated for a moment and looked at Qin Fang; she wanted to provide a definite answer, but she had just seen Qin Fang's astonished expression when he heard the price, which made her unsure.

"There you have it! The gentleman didn't say he'll buy, Young Master Fang says he will. Naturally, we'll sell to Young Master Fang. I won't waste time talking to you; I'm going to process it..."

Wang Fang immediately felt triumphant. In fact, she had also vaguely overheard the conversation between Qin Fang and Su Ting, and took the opportunity to put down Su Ting, as generally beautiful women feel very dissatisfied with those who are more attractive than themselves.

"But we didn't say we didn't want to buy it either!"

Tang Feifei was the first who couldn't stand it any longer and immediately retorted.

"Pretty boy, can you afford it?"

The young man simply looked down on Qin Fang with disdain, his neck craning so high, and it was his female companion who spoke with contempt.

"It's none of your..."

Tang Feifei's temper was relatively hot, and she was about to start cursing right away, only she came from a wealthy family and such foul words couldn't easily come out of her mouth; she stopped halfway through.

Qin Fang smiled, gently patted the back of Tang Feifei's hand, then said to Su Ting with a smile, "Miss Su, I'll take this car, please proceed with the paperwork..."

He did indeed quite like this car model, both the design and the performance were great, and although the price was a bit beyond his expectations, it was still within an affordable range.

The junk Porsche back at the Sawmill Factory alone had cost him two million—that was left for Shen Liang, Lei Zi, and the others to drive around for fun. If the car driven by him, the boss, was worse than those driven by his subordinates, that would be a huge loss of face.

"Right away, right away..."

Su Ting's face lit up with joy. She thought that the deal wouldn't be so easily concluded, but to her surprise, it went so smoothly. She hurriedly nodded and was about to turn around to handle the paperwork.

"Wait... gentleman, you're a bit late. Young Master Fang had already indicated his intention to buy before you did, so we can only sell the car to Young Master Fang!"

Wang Fang, of course, didn't want to see the deal fall through. Their income was based on the sales volume sold, and although the cars in the dealership were very expensive, the more costly the car, the harder it was to sell, and the higher the commission.

Selling 2.6 million in sales volume wasn't particularly difficult, but selling a luxury car worth 2.6 million was more challenging, and the commission was much lower than that, not even half, at most one-third.

Just the commission on this car alone was fifty thousand, which she as an assistant manager couldn't earn in a month.

"Manager Wang, how can you do this? It was clearly me..."

Su Ting was also angry. Although she didn't want to offend Wang Fang, a schemer, this commission really meant a large sum of money to her, and she had to fight for it.

"Shut up, is this your place to speak?"

But Wang Fang, true to her tough background, was quite the character when she threw a tantrum, at least Su Ting was definitely no match for her.

"Exactly! We were the first to want this car, so of course you have to sell it to us... Besides, given this poor sucker, can he afford such an expensive car? Hurry up and process it, our time is precious..."

The woman next to the pimple-faced young man started to show off again, and after finishing, was even excited to give the pimple-faced young man a "smooch," that pursed lip pig-like appearance was something that made people want to slap her back into her mother's womb for a redo.

"Hmph..."

Wang Fang immediately swelled with pride, glared furiously at Su Ting, and then proceeded to handle the paperwork.

"Young Master Qin!"

Just then, someone called out in surprise.

Qin Fang was slightly taken aback, instinctively looking in the direction of the voice.

"Ah, it really is Young Master Qin!"

The ones speaking were three young people, who seemed uncertain at first, but with Qin Fang turning his head, they got a clear view and immediately came over to him, with even the bald manager of the 4S dealership accompanying them cautiously.

"Who are they..."

The woman next to the pimple-faced young man was very annoyed; they had only been accompanied by an assistant manager when they entered, but they hadn't expected the others to appear even more impressive.

"Shut up..."

But unexpectedly, the acne-faced youth's complexion changed instantly, and he lightly scolded right away, moving forward to meet them.

"Young Master Liang, Young Master Tang, Young Master Gu..."

The acne-faced youth immediately approached the three of them, with an indescribably fawning tone.

However, the three young men just frowned at him and didn't pay him any attention; instead, they quickly rushed over to Qin Fang's side.

"Young Master Qin, we didn't expect to meet you here, it's such a surprise..."

"You are..."

These three were somewhat overfamiliar, but fear was evident in their eyes. When speaking to Qin Fang, they also adopted a very low posture. However, Qin Fang looked at the three, feeling he had seen them somewhere before but couldn't recall anything significant.

"I am Xiao Liang, and these are Xiao Tang and Xiao Gu. On the way to Longquan Mountain that night..."

The leader of the trio said embarrassingly, with a hint of fear in his tone.

"Oh, it's you guys. Long time no see..."

Qin Fang now remembered that these three were part of the group he had almost played to death before. They had even come to apologize to him afterward.

"Long time no see! Long time no see..."

The three immediately echoed cautiously, their manner very similar to the fawning of Young Master Fang by their side.

Nevertheless, Young Master Fang's face looked extremely unpleasant at this point; he hadn't expected the three noblemen he knew to be so afraid of this ordinary-looking Qin Fang, making him feel rather insignificant. Wang Fang was even paler, her body trembling.

"Young Master Qin, are you here to buy a car?"

Young Master Liang asked tentatively, as this was a 4S shop, and Qin Fang was accompanied by a pretty saleslady and two beautiful women at his side.

"Yes, that's right, to buy a car..."

Qin Fang nodded.

"Whichever model Young Master Qin likes, just let me know, and I'll have them give you a 70% discount... uh, I misspoke, with your reputation, even if they were to give you the car for free, you accepting it would be doing them a huge favor..."

Seeing a possibility, Xiao Liang immediately got excited. He had a good relationship with the shop's owner, and a 70% discount was attainable. However, as soon as he spoke, he corrected himself, with the other two young masters echoing him.

The bald manager of the 4S shop was also astonished. The shop had a formidable backer, and it was possible to give face to these three young masters, but he hadn't expected the unknown Qin Fang to command such respect.

Give away for free?

A luxury car worth 2.6 million given away for free?

And it was considered a favor for them if he simply accepted?

What kind of privileged young master had such influence?

Was he Young Master Tang? Young Master Ning? Young Master Li?...

Although this bald manager's own status wasn't high, he knew some major figures in Ninghai's circle of young masters and couldn't correlate any with the Qin Fang before him.

Upon hearing these words, Young Master Fang's complexion worsened, almost turning green. If it weren't for his trembling girlfriend beside him, almost on the verge of collapsing—to which he clung for support—, he might have already fallen to the floor.

As for Wang Fang...

With a thud, she fell to the ground alone. Though she didn't lose control of her bladder or bowels, the sight was incredibly ungraceful.

Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue were quite puzzled as well. They didn't know much about Qin Fang's adventures outside, but they weren't overly concerned.

Tang Feifei was a wealthy heiress who had seen much more significant events many times; Xiao Muxue wasn't any less experienced—in Southern Yue, she had mingled with the sons of provincial party secretaries and grandsons of powerful families such as Elder Qiao's, and had widened her horizons quite a bit.

It was Su Ting who stood with her mouth slightly open. She knew Qin Fang was wealthy, but she also knew a bit about Young Master Fang, a rich son from a chain restaurant business, and Xiao Liang and the trio were even more familiar, seeming to come from families of provincial officials, the kind with significant clout. Yet, they appeared so fearful before Qin Fang.

So, the identity of this simply dressed young man... Suddenly, she felt her mind couldn't comprehend it all.

"No need to give it away, I'll pay whatever the price is..."

Qin Fang waved it off; getting things for free was not unwelcome, but he wasn't keen on owing favors, especially when he could afford to pay.

"Right, right, right..."

Xiao Liang and the other two had no option but to agree, immediately turning to the stunned manager, "What are you waiting for, Old Hu? Hurry up and process the paperwork..."

"Let Miss Su do it since she was the one who received us!"

Just as the bald manager was about to proceed, Qin Fang spoke up first, directing this favorable opportunity to Su Ting.

"Me?"

Su Ting was taken aback, thinking she had no part in this, but suddenly, due to Qin Fang's intervention, she was in line to receive a substantial commission, and her eyes filled with gratitude.

...

"Yes, yes, yes, let this young lady take care of it..."

Xiao Liang and the others were descendants of government officials, with a keen eye for detail, their gaze shifting as they caught sight of the sweet-looking Su Ting, flashing a hint of unusual interest, and quickly chiming in agreement.

Actually, these three guys weren't exactly upstanding, often coming to this 4S car dealership not just to pick up cars but also to pick up girls.

Su Ting was the belle of this dealership, and although she hadn't been working here long, they had seen her a few times but had not yet had the chance to make a move.

But now with Qin Fang stepping in, the situation had changed. This beautiful saleswoman was essentially Qin Fang's woman, evident by the standards of beauty of the two women beside Qin Fang, and they also clearly remembered another pretty young lady in Qin Fang's car when they first met him.

Realizing all this, they understood that Young Master Qin was not only outstanding at driving but also top-class when it came to women, way out of their league.

Looking at Su Ting's pretty face, they dared not harbor any more thoughts towards her.

Su Ting went to handle the paperwork, her excitement enduring for a long time without subsiding, and she was also left with a very deep impression of this unassuming and temperate young man, Qin Fang.

Soon enough, the paperwork was complete, and Qin Fang paid by card, in full, without even a frown, immediately stirring the envy of many of Su Ting's female colleagues.

This expensive Audi Q7 was naturally driven away by Qin Fang himself. Although the dealership could handle the license plate, he planned to ask Ning Yumo to arrange a good number, so there was no need for the 4S dealership to do it.

Xiao Liang and his group naturally saw him off, the three of them, plus Young Master Fang, the bald manager, and Su Ting.

"Xiao Liang, the day after tomorrow I'm having a grand opening for a new store on Nanhu Road, if you're free, come and support the event..."

As soon as Qin Fang drove out of the dealership, he suddenly remembered something, immediately stopped, and Xiao Liang's group quickly approached. Qin Fang took out three business cards from his pocket, handing them to the trio, while casually extending the invitation.

"We'll definitely be there! Definitely..."

They looked at the store's name on the business cards, memorizing it instantly, and hurriedly expressed their eagerness. Moreover, they were contemplating bringing along a few good pals to support the event—a perfect opportunity to get closer to Young Master Qin, one they wouldn't miss.

Qin Fang merely nodded, then drove away.

"Phew..."

It was only long after Qin Fang's car disappeared into the traffic outside the 4S dealership that Xiao Liang and his group took a long breath, carefully storing the business cards Qin Fang had given them.

"Young Master Liang, who is this Young Master Qin?"

It was then that the bald manager Old Hu cautiously approached and asked. He had a good relationship with Xiao Liang's trio, often personally attending to them when they visited, which gave him the courage to ask.

Hearing this, Young Master Fang with acne immediately edged forward, seemingly eager to know as well.

"Is that something you should be asking?"

Xiao Liang's face immediately tightened, and he reprimanded sharply. Xiao Tang and Xiao Gu did the same, "All you need to know is that Young Master Qin is a big shot, even your boss... huh, isn't fit to carry his shoes!"

"Forget it, it's meaningless, let's go! The day after tomorrow, we have to get ready..."

Xiao Tang and Xiao Gu immediately patted Xiao Liang's shoulder and took the lead towards their cars.

"Right, right! We need to get ready..."

Xiao Liang also slapped his forehead as if remembering something important and instantly got into the car with the others, quickly leaving without a second thought to their original business at the dealership.

"Have you heard about the incident at Bihai Pavilion..."

Before leaving, Xiao Liang seemed to drop a casual hint, murmuring a sentence that made them abruptly drive off.

"The incident at Bihai Pavilion..."

The bald manager just repeated the words in confusion. As someone of humble status and limited income, he had been to Bihai Pavilion once or twice but only experienced ordinary services.

Thump~~

Just murmuring to himself turned out to be a bad idea, as Young Master Fang immediately collapsed to the ground, his pants emitting a foul smell—he had been scared into wetting himself.

The Fang family had money, but not enough to be eligible for Elite Salon; hence, they frequented Bihai Pavilion quite often. Qin Fang had caused a huge commotion at Bihai Pavilion on that night, and Young Master Fang happened to be there. However, he received the news too late to witness the event and had only heard about it from others.

Though already an exaggerated tale, the rumors had amplified it further.

Not many knew Qin Fang by name, but everyone was aware that someone surnamed Qin had caused the disturbance. With so many individuals sharing that surname, people generally didn't connect the dots to him.

But what he never expected was that today, while coming out to buy a car and trying to show off, he picked on someone incredibly powerful, a person who wouldn't even give Ninghai's Young Master Rui face...

Thinking about this, he couldn't help but recall his own behavior just a moment ago, and immediately backhanded his beautiful companion, making her lovely face swell up, with five distinct fingerprints clearly visible, "Goddammit, are you trying to get me killed?!"

"What... What does this have to do with me?"

His female companion also looked aggrieved, with tears brimming in her eyes.

"It's not your business?"

Young Master Fang was instantly furious, his voice grew much louder as he slapped her again and the other half of the woman's face swelled up, "Goddammit, if I get killed because of you, I'll make sure your whole family pays!"

After saying this, he went straight to his car, ignoring the woman completely, not caring about the wet patch on his trousers, he clearly knew what was more important between his life and his dignity...

The bald manager was also stunned. He really didn't expect things to turn out this way. After thinking about it, he realized he hadn't offended Qin Fang, which calmed him down quite a bit. Turning around, he saw Su Ting's pretty face.

"Little Su, I think you are more suitable for the position of deputy sales manager... Work hard, you mustn't let Young Master Qin down!"

He had had his eye on Su Ting ever since her first day at work and had hinted at it several times, but Su Ting had remained unmoved. Now, however, Su Ting had caught the eye of this mysterious Young Master Qin, so he wouldn't dare touch her even if he had ten times the courage.

Not only that, but he also had to try his utmost to fawn over Su Ting; he couldn't let Young Master Qin know that he had once harassed her, otherwise, he would be finished.

Moreover, he had just seen Wang Fang offend Qin Fang. Even though he'd had a brief fling with Wang Fang, in the face of such significant events, it was necessary to get rid of her, so the vacant position of deputy manager naturally fell to Su Ting.

Su Ting was also somewhat stunned. Qin Fang was just a passerby in her life, yet she hadn't expected him to help her so much and even secure her a deputy manager position.

Looking back at the previously arrogant and miserable couple, she became even more curious about this mysterious Young Master Qin. She thought for a while and pulled out the business card from her pocket.

"Fang Feixue... I will visit!"

She murmured softly to herself and then carefully tucked the business card into her wallet.

...

After leaving the 4S dealership, Qin Fang drove to the vehicle administration office to get his new car registered.

"Tell me, did you fall for that beauty?"

Tang Feifei was pulling Qin Fang's ear, speaking fiercely.

"Exactly, exactly, you totally fell for that beauty!"

Xiao Muxue joined in with the jeering from the side. However, unlike Tang Feifei's overflowing jealousy, Qin Fang couldn't help feeling she was rather taking pleasure in his plight.

"See how I'll deal with you tonight!"

He glared fiercely at Xiao Muxue, sending her this kind of look.

"Who's scared of whom!"

Xiao Muxue puffed out her chest, showcasing the fullness Qin Fang had made even more prominent by his kneading, and matched his glare with one of her own.

"You're ruthless!"

Qin Fang was helpless; with Tang Feifei by his side, even though he really wanted to heavily reprimand Xiao Muxue in the back seat, he just didn't have the guts to do so.

"Hmm, there's plenty of space in this car, it must be nice to get busy in the backseat, the legendary car shaking..."

Seeing Xiao Muxue half reclining on the backseat, an idea immediately popped into Qin Fang's head, and a lecherous smile appeared on his face.

Uh-oh...

But his smile was his undoing; as soon as Tang Feifei caught sight of it, the grip on his ear, which had been gentle, suddenly intensified, and Qin Fang's ear was twisted a full three hundred sixty degrees... As a result, Qin Fang let out a scream.

"Just as I thought! Let's see how I deal with you..."

Tang Feifei was irate, persistently twisting Qin Fang's ear without letting go, and Qin Fang let out howls one after another.

Xiao Muxue laughed unrestrained, as she had positioned herself deliberately for Qin Fang to look. She guessed what his smile meant but did not expect that it would provoke such a reaction from Tang Feifei, causing her to relish the situation even more.

Although Qin Fang's cries sounded pitiful, he wasn't actually in much pain. Tang Feifei's initial grip had indeed been vigorous, but seeing his ear twisted, she softened out of concern. However, with Xiao Muxue present, she couldn't lose face, so she continued the charade, while Qin Fang cooperated by screaming relentlessly.

"Okay, stop faking it already!"

But as Qin Fang's sham became more vigorous, his screams took on a cadence that sounded somewhat like moaning, so much so that even Tang Feifei couldn't stand to listen any longer. She finally released Qin Fang's ear, flushing and huffing fiercely, she glared at him.

Chapter 318 - License Plate Number 00544_1

...

The two women had only made a bit of a fuss, and the incident quickly passed; they understood that the somewhat threatening Su Ting was just a passerby they had encountered.

Qin Fang's car purchase was all set, and he was unlikely to visit that 4S dealership again—after all, the Audi SUV they were seated in was the most expensive model in its line.

It wasn't a short distance from the 4S store to the vehicle management office, and in a major city like Ninghai, traffic routes were often congested, so their speed was considerably reduced. A journey that should have taken just half an hour was delayed by an extra fifteen minutes, taking one and a half times longer than expected.

"I'm sorry, Sister Ning, for making you wait so long..."

Seeing Ning Yumo standing in the sunlight, Qin Fang felt somewhat apologetic; the commotion on the road had slowed him down, and he hadn't dared to drive too fast, causing the delay.

"I've just arrived too. Let's go pick a number..."

Ning Yumo didn't mind much and immediately led Qin Fang and the others to choose a vehicle number.

Due to Ning Yumo's special relationship, she had likely contacted the leaders of the vehicle management office before arriving, allowing them free reign to select any number—even the reserved auspicious ones, although some still required a nominal fee.

Of course, those single-digit numbers were out of the question; they were reserved for provincial and municipal leaders. Just as the number 1 was typically for the vehicle of the Provincial Party Secretary and 2 for the Provincial Governor, if Qin Fang and his friends wanted a two-digit vehicle number, even the vehicle management office wouldn't dare release it.

"Qin Fang, what kind of number do you want? How about four sixes or four eights?"

Before Qin Fang had arrived, Ning Yumo had already made some inquiries. The five-digit identical numbers had already been issued, and the best ones left were four-digit identical numbers. These had only become available because a car was scrapped and the number reclaimed, and a young master from the provincial leadership had reserved it. Still, Ning Yumo had made a request, and they had to give face to her, so they had kept the number on hold.

"That's... I think there's no need for that!"

Qin Fang hesitated and then shook his head; he truly did not wish to be too ostentatious.

He was very aware of his background and the bizarre occurrences over the past few months, where he had unexpectedly encountered braggarts challenging him. If he were to be more conspicuous, who knows how many would take issue with him.

"I'll choose one myself..."

Forsaking the option of four identical digits, he turned to select one of the less ostentatious numbers, such as three of the same or pairs of identical digits.

The numbers flickered rapidly on the computer screen. With a specific range in mind, Qin Fang didn't need to cast a wide net; targeted fishing would suffice.

"Stop!"

Just then, Qin Fang suddenly called out, and Ning Yumo immediately paused, then glanced at the computer screen. After quickly scanning it, she found a few reasonably good options.

"Do you want this one with three eights, or the 6688?"

Those appeared to be the best numbers on the current page.

"Go back one page..."

But Qin Fang shook his head; the page went back one, and he pointed at a number, asking, "What do you think of this number?"

As he spoke, Qin Fang's face carried a hint of a smile, albeit a bit odd; however, all three girls were captivated by the number and didn't notice Qin Fang's expression.

"00544?"

All three girls couldn't help but utter the number in unison, their expressions similar and filled with confusion and doubt.

"What's with this number? It doesn't seem special at all..."

"Exactly, and it even has two fours—how inauspicious! Let's change it!"

Seeing this number, the three women almost all frowned at once. Though choosing numbers like 666 or 888 would have been a bit too flashy, they didn't need to go for a number this low-key.

Dragon Country's people are somewhat superstitious: although 88 sounds like "prosper prosper" and 66 signifies "smooth sailing," the number 4 is not considered auspicious since it sounds like "death." Hence, this number was usually avoided.

Naturally, as the educational level of Dragon Country's citizens has risen, many have come to recognize that in music, 4 represents the sound "fa," and gradually more have chosen it, though the number remains limited.

"Let me tell you a joke... One day, someone was driving out and accidentally collided with another car, leading to a quarrel between the two drivers. One of them angrily said, 'Are you blind, didn't you see my license plate, 00544, try touching me...'"

Pfft...

Right after Qin Fang told the joke, all three girls paused for a moment and then couldn't help bursting into laughter. Zero could be seen as a hole, and 00544 could be humorously interpreted as "try touching me."

"Qin Fang, that's quite a prank you've pulled!"

"Seriously, I can't stop laughing!"

"With that license plate, who would dare to bump into you on the road..."

Qin Fang, still chuckling, said, "Don't rush; I haven't finished yet. The other driver got angry too and retorted, 'Are your eyes planted under your feet? Didn't you see my license plate?' When the person looked, they were stunned—guess what, that license plate was actually 44944..."

"Hahaha..."

"This is too funny; I can't take it anymore..."

The joke was over, but the meaning had been clearly conveyed, and judging by the looks of it, all three girls seemed to have no objections to the license plate number anymore.

"Then let's choose this license plate number!"

A smile appeared on Qin Fang's face as well. Although the number wasn't particularly good, it was the kind that made people burst into laughter and was hard to forget.

Qin Fang was also pondering that the next time he accidentally bumped someone's car, he could very arrogantly shout, "Motherf...! Didn't you see my license plate..."

Of course, this was just a thought, and in such a situation, he would not actually do something like that.

"Qin Fang, do you think if we use this license plate, we'll run into the one with '44944' in the future?"

After deciding on the number, Ning Yumo went on to instruct the DMV staff to handle the registration and put on the plates, while Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue were chattering away. Suddenly, this idea popped into their heads, and they immediately asked Qin Fang.

"This... how would I know!"

Qin Fang was initially taken aback, then chuckled bitterly—he had just seen the number and thought of the joke, which is what inspired the choice.

"There really is such a number, and no one is using it for now..."

However, it was Ning Yumo who, upon hearing their conversation, immediately searched in the number database and, to her surprise, found that this particular number was still available and hadn't been taken.

But it made sense; the number had four 4s, and most people wouldn't dare to use such a number.

"Haha, this number actually exists. When I buy a car next time, I'll use it..."

Tang Feifei immediately burst into laughter, already thinking about registering this number so that it would match Qin Fang's plate as a couple's set, which was a rare thing to see.

To Tang Feifei's idea, both Ning Yumo and Qin Fang were helpless but didn't pay much attention, treating it as if it was just a joke from Tang Feifei that she would probably forget in a few days.

In Dragon Country, there's indeed a big difference between having connections and not having any.

Choosing the number was one aspect, but handling the paperwork and getting the plates were specially expedited. Normally, it might take some time, but under Ning Yumo's urging, the procedures were completed that very day, which was impressively quick.

"Sister Ning, my new store is opening the day after tomorrow, and you must come, as well as Brother Qiang..."

After the paperwork was done, Qin Fang naturally extended a serious invitation to Ning Yumo. He didn't have many friends in Ninghai, and this time it wasn't a small restaurant like before, but Fang Feixue—a bigger deal, so he wanted to have a grand opening and invite his friends to support him.

"Your invitation is a bit late..."

However, Ning Yumo's expression turned serious and she spoke solemnly.

Qin Fang was startled and then looked somewhat disappointed. These days, Ning Yumo had been taking great care of him as his 'sworn sister' and helped him solve many problems. Qin Fang had been planning to surprise her but didn't expect it to backfire.

"If you can't make it, it's okay, you just do your thing!"

Qin Fang's words were somewhat forced, and one didn't need to say anything about the smile on his face—it was clear to anyone.

"Pfft~~"

But to Qin Fang's surprise, right after he spoke, all three women suddenly laughed, especially Tang Feifei, who had the most exaggerated laugh.

"What are you laughing at?"

Qin Fang suddenly felt that something was amiss. Looking at the expressions of the three women, he knew he was being played with, but he also quickly caught on, silently chuckling and continuing to play dumb.

"Nothing, I just thought of something really funny and couldn't help it..."

The three women looked at each other, and then Ning Yumo spoke solemnly.

"Me too..."

"Me too..."

Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue chimed in.

"Who are you trying to fool? Sister Ning, if it's a funny thing that made you laugh, I believe it when it's just you, but how could all three of you laugh at the same time?"

Qin Fang knew what they were laughing about, but he pretended not to know and continued to tease.

"Because it's something the three of us discovered together, of course, we laughed together..."

Ning Yumo was quite composed, not giving anything away and asserting with confidence.

"Oh, is that right..."

Qin Fang put on an enlightened expression, but the faint disappointment on his face didn't completely fade, making the three women hesitate about whether they should tell the truth.

In the end, Ning Yumo still held back, and since Qin Fang wanted to surprise her, naturally she could also surprise him in return.

Chapter 319: The Apprentice's Graduation Gift from the Normal University_1

...

After the license plate was arranged, Qin Fang immediately left with Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue.

As for Ning Yumo, Qin Fang did want to invite her to join them for a meal, but unfortunately, she was still on work hours. It was alright for her to step out once, but being a rule-follower, she didn't want to give people a reason to talk behind her back, so she went back to work.

However, good news kept coming. Just as Qin Fang finished purchasing the car and completing the paperwork, on his way back to Fang Feixue, he suddenly received a string of system notifications.

"Congratulations, your disciple Wen Yi has broken through from beginner to intermediate Cooking Skill, meeting the conditions to graduate, officially graduated..."

"Congratulations, you have gained 1,000 Character Experience Points!"

"Congratulations, you have gained 10,000 Skill Experience Points!"

"Congratulations, you have gained 100 Fame Points!"

"Congratulations, you have earned the title 'Junior Master'!"

Qin Fang was almost dumbfounded by this barrage of notifications; it had been a long time since he received such alerts.

He had advanced to Level 3, his skills to intermediate level; the amount of experience needed to level up his character and skills had quadrupled, especially since the skill levels were reset to zero, starting all over again.

Doing the math, his character experience had tripled, which means $1600 * 3 = 4800$ points, and he needed that much more to reach Level 4. The ways to obtain experience were too few and the amount gained was not that much.

Qin Fang checked his current character level status; he had just surpassed 35% of Level 3. Converted, that was 2240 points, an increase of six or seven hundred points from the previous level, which is equivalent to 10% of the total upgrade experience. Yet, it took him more than a month to achieve this. According to this rate, it would take at least another six months to reach Level 4, which shows how difficult it was to obtain character experience.

But now that Wen Yi had graduated, Qin Fang was directly given a whole 1,000 experience points, which converted to 15% of experience, pushing the character experience past 50%. For the remaining 50%, even at the previous rate, he would only need another four or five months to complete it.

Of course, if Qin Fang encountered good fortune like this again, his leveling speed would be even faster.

Compared to character leveling experience, Qin Fang cared more about skill experience points. In his eyes, these 10,000 skill experience points were not only far greater in number than the 1,000 character experience points but were also more important in quality.

These skill experience points were the same as before, ready to be applied to any skill he chose.

But it was because of this that Qin Fang hesitated a bit.

Currently, Qin Fang had many skills but most of them were beginner level. Only a few had reached intermediate—Cooking, National Arts, Investigation (Appraisal), Riding, Acupuncture, Shooting.

At present, Qin Fang's Scouting Skill was the most frequently used, almost growing slowly every day. Its proficiency increase was the fastest, currently at 73%, leading the way, and Qin Fang had roughly estimated that it would take less than a month for his Intermediate Detection Skill to be upgraded to Advanced Detective Skill.

Following closely behind was the Cooking Skill, which had also reached 70%. This skill's upgrade was connected to both Fang Feixue and Wen Yi.

Wen Yi, to begin with, was Qin Fang's only disciple and the sole inheritor of the Cooking Skill. The skill experience she obtained was only one-third hers, while the remaining two-thirds went to Qin Fang.

Taking into account that the proficiency needed for an intermediate skill is four times that of a beginner level, 10,000 points were needed to go from beginner to intermediate. Thus, 40,000 points would be needed for intermediate to advanced, and these were a hard 40,000 points, not cumulative like the experience for character levels.

With these calculations, Wen Yi's graduation requiring 10,000 points meant that she had already given Qin Fang 20,000 points, effectively earning him half of the experience needed.

After Qin Fang's Cooking Skill reached intermediate, the true experience earned on his own was very little; at most, it was probably no more than 10%. The rest came from Fang Feixue.

This was something Qin Fang discovered by chance. When he made the discovery, his first thought was similar to the research cooperation teams he had before, which were constantly improving his proficiency in Repair Skill.

It was this discovery that led Qin Fang to find a very inconspicuous option hidden in the corner of his character panel. It clearly indicated Qin Fang's property, with Fang Feixue being the only one at the moment, and it clearly stated—this building provided a certain increase in proficiency for the Cooking Skill.

It was this discovery that ultimately prompted Qin Fang to decide on expanding Fang Feixue.

Previously it was a small restaurant, but now there was a large liquor house added to it, yet the liquor house had not opened for business and was still in a state of disuse. Looking over now, the small restaurant also appeared dormant, due to being closed for the past few days.

Only by such calculation could the Cooking Skill reach 70% Proficiency, with 70% remaining to level up, less than a third, needing just twelve thousand points of Skill Experience.

Additionally, there were National Arts and Riding, two skills where the Proficiency was significantly lower. National Arts Skill had been increasing quite well because Qin Fang practiced Xingyi Fist every day, exceeding 40% in less than two months' time, while Riding was practiced by Qin Fang while driving. Furthermore, by winning the championship in a car race at Longquan Mountain, the System awarded five thousand points, bringing the Proficiency to more than 30%.

Acupuncture was truly challenging though; despite requiring a small amount of experience—roughly 400 points, which was one percent of other skills—its quality demands were high. Qin Fang rarely performed acupuncture, so while the level-up speed was not considered fast, it was not too slow either, nearly hitting 20%.

Lastly, there was Shooting, which similarly required a large consumption of bullets to improve. But in Dragon Country, besides the military, there were hardly any places to freely spend bullets. After Qin Fang's Shooting reached Intermediate level, he barely practiced it, with the Proficiency not even reaching 10%.

Essentially, these were Qin Fang's Intermediate Skills, and he only had ten thousand Skill Experience points on hand, leaving him momentarily stumped.

Undoubtedly, putting these ten thousand points into Beginner Level skills would immediately level them up to Intermediate. Qin Fang had a few Beginner Level skills he very much wanted to improve quickly, such as Repair, Strong Body Technique, One-Handed Weapon Mastery, and so on.

Similarly troubling for Qin Fang was that a few Intermediate Skills were also close to reaching the Advanced level. For example, if he added these ten thousand points to the Scouting Skill, with just a bit more effort, the skill would level up to Advanced within a day or two, giving Qin Fang his first Advanced Skill.

The same held true for Cooking Skill. Adding ten thousand points, which equated to 25%, would leave only 5% left to level up. With some extra effort from Qin Fang, he could certainly level up within half a month.

This would coincide perfectly with the ongoing culinary festival. Qin Fang could completely establish Fang Feixue's reputation with the Advanced Cooking Skill, potentially contending for a place among Ninghai's top ten.

As for the National Arts, Riding, and Acupuncture, Qin Fang didn't have any grand plans yet, mainly because these ten thousand points wouldn't produce a particularly significant effect on these three skills.

Looking at the Beginner Level skills, by elevating the Repair Skill to Intermediate, the benefits to Qin Fang were obvious. He would gain access to the entire suite of lithium battery improvement technology-technology that could take years for researchers like Lin Hai and his team to fully understand.

Moreover, during this process, it was quite possible for Qin Fang to come across other technological hints by chance, which would be an inestimable fortune.

The effects of the Strong Body Technique were similar. Leveling up to Intermediate would allow Qin Fang to increase his Life Point limit by 10. Currently at Level 3 with 25 Life Points, that meant he would rise straight to 35 Life Points.

With such a high Life Point limit, Qin Fang would naturally still be vulnerable to guns. He had already figured out that the minimum damage from a gun was 50 points, and even with 35 Life Points, a shot to a vital area would unquestionably be lethal.

Common blades like daggers and knives targeting vital areas could also deal around 50 points of damage, still fatal, but as long as it wasn't the heart, brain or other critical parts, there's no risk of dying--provided that Qin Fang remained conscious and could heal in time.

For other damage types, as long as it didn't exceed 35 points, it was basically non-lethal; once the Life Points were restored, it wasn't even considered an injury.

The passive skill One-Handed Weapon Mastery was applicable to all objects that could be held in one hand. The dexterity achieved was almost dizzying, unimaginable.

Though this skill seemed to be of little use, only Qin Fang could truly appreciate how significant it was.

After all, most actions a person takes are completed with their hands...

"Forget it, let's just add it to Cooking..."

Qin Fang hesitated for a while, but ultimately decided to add the skill points to Cooking. Without an industrious apprentice like Wen Yi to add experience, his Skill Proficiency would grow exceedingly slow. He could only rely on the supplemental experience from Fang Feixue, but as the levels increased, so did the required Experience Points, making the supplement seem like a drop in the bucket.

"Add some to Repair..."

Qin Fang allocated all the skill points to Cooking Skill, watching the data rise steadily, then glanced at the other skills with slow growth and added some to the Repair Skill as well.

Not much, just 1500 points, was enough to raise the Repair Skill's Proficiency to 40%. Qin Fang smoothly gained the third suite of lithium battery improvement plans.

For the Intermediate Skills, such a small amount of experience was merely less than 4% of the required Proficiency. Qin Fang figured it would only take an extra ten days to level up.

Chapter 320: Junior Master! Taking a Second Disciple_1

...

"Reputation Points: 100..."

The prompts this time were quite numerous. The experience gained was relatively normal, but the reputation points left Qin Fang a bit puzzled, as there were no hints about their use.

With no hints available, the only option was to figure it out slowly. Perhaps one day he would discover their purpose.

Qin Fang decided to set it aside for the moment and looked at the last prompt.

"Title: Junior Master!"

He was not unfamiliar with the title system. As of now, Qin Fang had already acquired four titles: "Novice Barbecue Master," "One Against Hundred," "Newbie in the Tavern," and "Good Person."

Apart from "Newbie in the Tavern," which had a vague explanation, the other three titles came with clear annotations. "Barbecue Master" came with a chance of obtaining mutant food, "One Against Hundred" came with a chance of dealing group damage, and "Good Person" gave a boost of Charm +1.

Qin Fang was aware of the effects of these titles, but he hadn't truly tried out their actual utilities. The only somewhat useful title was "Good Person," whose effect he had figured out: the Justice Points lost from using the Stealing Skill were halved, and Skill Proficiency gained was doubled.

What had been 20 points of Justice Points was now down to 12, with 8 points lost. Qin Fang checked his Proficiency, which amounted to just 16 uses, averaging a loss of 1 point of Justice Points every two uses, meaning his 20 Justice Points would only be good for 40 uses.

Afterward, as the Justice Points depleted, the title "Good Person" would automatically disappear. When using the Stealing Skill again, Proficiency would increase slowly and Evil Points gained would double.

However, Qin Fang had already begun to reap the benefits of the Stealing Skill. It was like how he had played Li Mingjun in Shenzhou, with a sleight of hand so subtle his pants could unbuckle unnoticed...

It was precisely because of the numerous advantages this skill offered that, despite its slow growth and low use rate, Qin Fang still wanted to maintain the title "Good Person" for its additional benefit, not to mention its attribute of Charm +1. Qin Fang contemplated that his increasing popularity with women seemed to be related to this attribute.

This was the only title whose use Qin Fang fully understood. He was unclear about the others because he hadn't had the chance to put them into practice...

With that thought, Qin Fang meticulously examined his newly acquired fifth title: Junior Master.

"Junior Master, the lowest level title in the Apprentice Fame System. Holding this title, a master who has graduated a disciple in a single Skill can take on +1 more disciple, while the number for other Skills remains unchanged."

Upon reading this explanation, Qin Fang's eyebrows knit slightly.

This title couldn't be considered bad, but it certainly wasn't very good either. On the surface, it merely meant that for the sole Cooking Skill, after Wen Yi graduated as a disciple, Qin Fang would be able to take on one more disciple, increasing the number from one to two, while the number for other Intermediate Skills would remain the same.

Of course, if one analyzed it carefully, a smile quickly spread across Qin Fang's face.

He was well aware that the rapid growth of his Cooking Skill was not due to his own diligence, but rather because he had a hardworking disciple, Wen Yi, whose master gained double the experience points.

Previously, as a master, Qin Fang could only take on Wen Yi as a disciple, so his Skill Proficiency gains mainly relied on her. But now, with the ability to take on two disciples, his gains would be doubled once again.

"Hahaha..."

At this thought, Qin Fang couldn't help but burst into laughter. Just moments before, he had been contemplating how many more days it would take for his Cooking Skill to advance to Advanced Level, and now he was presented with such a generous gift.

With two disciples, and calculating the double gains, which amounted to fourfold, it perfectly offset the ratio between Intermediate and Beginner Level Skills. This meant that if a disciple increased their Proficiency by 1%, Qin Fang, as the master, would gain a 1% increase in Proficiency as well.

Perhaps advancing Proficiency in Intermediate Skills was much more challenging than in Beginner Level Skills, but under such efficiency, Qin Fang's progress would still be considerably fast.

If Qin Fang wasted no time, it was entirely possible for him to rush to Advanced Cooking Skill level before the start of the culinary festival, which could lead to Fang Feixue achieving a higher ranking.

Slap~~

Qin Fang was elated, but then a slap came flying at him, landing heavily on his shoulder.

"Qin Fang, are you looking to die? Having a fit while driving..."

Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue were both furiously shouting at him. Qin Fang had suddenly burst into inexplicable laughter just a moment ago, his gaze becoming erratic. If the car hadn't been running so smoothly, they would have worried he might drive it into Qinglong Lake...

"Eh... What happened?"

That slap jolted Qin Fang awake, but he was still somewhat bewildered, facing two angry countenances without understanding what had transpired.

"You still have the gall to ask? Having a fit while driving, not even watching the road and laughing like an idiot..."