

Genius 651

Chapter 651 -Returning Home in Glory_1

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"Auntie... You're praising me too much! You are the truly beautiful one!"

Being complimented like that by Qin Fang's mother, Tang Feifei also showed an embarrassed expression, her fair little face blushing, which made her look even more stunning and attractive.

However, she wasn't acting coy; after all, being from a good family, she adapted quickly and promptly returned the compliment.

"Oh no, it's just too much, really..."

Qin Qing's face was also full of smiles, obviously showing immense satisfaction with Tang Feifei.

Of course, just because Tang Feifei was there, she did not neglect anyone else. Holding Tang Feifei with one hand, she turned with a beaming smile to look at Xiao Muxue, who stood beside Tang Feifei.

"This must be Muxue... Another pretty girl!"

On Qin Fang's side, he had just been amazed at how good his mother's eyesight was when she recognized Xiao Muxue right away, which left him even more surprised. He was starting to wonder if his mother had the same reconnaissance skill as he did if she also recognized Wen Yan.

"This is..."

Of course, that was not the case. Tang Feifei was Qin Fang's girlfriend; he had talked about her to his mother. As for Xiao Muxue, being a partner in Fang Feixue, Qin Fang naturally mentioned her as well.

As for Wen Yan, he never mentioned her at all, so Qin Qing naturally didn't recognize her...

"Mom, this is Wen Yan..."

Qin Fang quickly introduced her. Since they were all his women, he couldn't neglect any of them.

But he underestimated the compatibility among women. He had barely finished introducing them when within two minutes, the four women were chattering and laughing like one big family. The most impressive thing was that Qin Fang's mother had actually told Tang Feifei and the others to just call her Aunt Qing or Sister Qing...

Of course, the three girls didn't really dare to call Qin Fang's mother Sister Qing; wouldn't that mess up the hierarchy?

So in the end, they all just called her Aunt Qing...

As for changing the way they addressed her, that was something for the future. They hadn't reached that point yet, and the girls weren't quite ready to let go...

"Come on, everybody inside, have a seat, have a seat..."

The women were talking at the entrance, completely leaving Qin Fang to one side. After a while, Qin Qing remembered and promptly pulled the three girls with her into the yard.

As for poor Qin Fang...

"Fangfang, move all the gifts we brought for Aunt Qing inside..."

Upon Tang Feifei's command, Qin Fang dutifully played the part of a laborer. From afar, he could still hear his mother saying, "Look at you kids, just visiting is enough, no need for any gifts..."

Qin Fang opened the trunk to move the gifts and got quite a shock; he knew the three girls had prepared many gifts for his mother, but he hadn't looked closely before. Now that he came to move them, he found the trunk completely stuffed.

The gifts varied greatly.

Some were normal, like various health supplements, nutritional products, clothing, shoes, makeup, and so on.

Others were slightly more unusual, even including various types of cigarettes and alcohol...

"My mom doesn't even smoke or drink..."

Qin Fang was rendered speechless for a moment, but since the gifts were already bought, he had no choice but to move them out.

"Hey, little Fang, made some money out there, huh... Driving a car now, tsk tsk, an Audi with four rings... That car isn't cheap at all!"

As Qin Fang was moving the gifts out one by one, he heard a voice speaking to him.

He looked up slightly and saw the face of the person speaking, a neighbor who lived not too far away...

"Brother Junzi, it's you... Here, have a cigarette!"

They were all fellow villagers, and Qin Fang naturally couldn't snub him. Stopping what he was doing, he took a pack of cigarettes from his pocket and hurriedly offered one.

The visitor, named Tao Renjun, was a bit older than Qin Fang, almost in his thirties. His house was not far from the Qin family's, and he always looked out for the Qin family. Their relationship was very good, and he treated Qin Fang like his own younger brother.

"Da Zhonghua! Little Fang, you really are different now..."

Tao Renjun was not shy to accept the cigarette, first examining it before his eyes widened. Although there were some wealthy people in rural areas, they typically did not smoke very expensive cigarettes, and high-grade ones like Da Zhonghua were rare.

Most importantly, seeing Qin Fang now driving an Audi, smoking Da Zhonghua, he clearly had changed from before... It took him a moment to wrap his head around these changes.

"Look at you, Brother Junzi, I'm still the same old Qin Fang, the kid who used to hang around behind you and who you watched grow up..."

Qin Fang said with a laugh. Although he didn't smoke much, when he returned to his hometown, he brought things like cigarettes and fireworks with him and immediately took the initiative to light one for Tao Renjun.

"You little rascal, you know about our brotherly bond, and you're still giving me the runaround... I heard you've got yourself a very wealthy girlfriend? I, your Brother Junzi, am having a bit of a tough time now, my wife nags me every day, can you help me out?"

Tao Renjun certainly didn't act like a stranger around Qin Fang, and immediately whispered to discuss with Qin Fang, clearly the rumor had already reached the Qin Family's side.

"Damn, who started that rumor..."

Qin Fang burst out, almost spitting out his drink, and wore a strange, bitter smile on his face.

He did have quite a few girlfriends, but none that could really be considered wealthy. The wealthiest would probably be Chu Yunxuan, mainly because she made a good amount when she was in the United States.

As for the others, there really wasn't one from a truly wealthy family.

Of course, Tang Feifei was somewhat special, the Tang Family being a long line of officials, with most family members serving as civil servants, and of course, some were specifically involved in business, but those were clearly still out of reach for Qin Fang at the moment.

Qin Fang had managed to get to where he was now indeed partly due to the Tang Family's influence, but more so due to his own efforts, and of course, that bug-like system was the real reason for his rise.

"Is that not the case?"

Tao Renjun was slightly taken aback. He had a good relationship with Qin Fang and could tell from his expression that the news he had heard was obviously not true.

"My girlfriend's family are all civil servants, and they really don't have much money..."

Qin Fang shook his head and said with a laugh. The Tang Family members indeed were all civil servants, and speaking of salary, they really didn't have much money. The Tang Family didn't need to engage in corruption; there was no necessity for it, as the Tang Family naturally had its own ways of making money.

"Civil servants? That means they hold official positions... Officials have money..."

Tao Renjun obviously was still not ready to give up and started to ponder again.

"Brother Junzi, let me put it this way, my money is all earned by myself, it doesn't really have much to do with my girlfriend... If you want to make some money, I just so happen to have some leads for you. I can't promise too much, but as long as you don't mess it up, you can earn upwards of a hundred thousand a year, no problem... If you work a bit harder, you could even make more..."

After shooting the breeze with Tao Renjun, Qin Fang saw his mother waving at him from the yard and didn't want to continue on the topic. He quickly briefed Tao Renjun.

"Are you serious?"

Tao Renjun's eyes widened with disbelief.

"Of course, I'm serious... You go find a few craftsmen with good skills and form a construction team, I know a big boss in Ninghai who does decoration, and I'll help you get a few jobs. That will keep you guys busy..."

Tao Renjun was originally trained as a carpenter, but the trade had gradually declined, and now it was all about decoration. Given the fierce competition, he had been working for other construction teams. If there was a job, there was money to be made, and it was also important that the boss didn't hold back payments.

Without a job, it would be just like now, sitting at home and living off savings... Adding to that his wife's rather volatile temper, it was no surprise the couple often quarreled.

If Tao Renjun wanted to do something else, Qin Fang might not have agreed so quickly, but decoration was different. Qin Fang really knew such a big boss in Ninghai.

Who was it?

Zhu Pangzi!

The Fatty who had offended Qin Fang in the past and later, to make amends, helped decorate the Sawmill Factory workshop for free. Now, thanks to Qin Fang's connection, he was making it big in the

southern part of the city, with his company bagging all the major decoration contracts, even securing a good number of projects in the city center.

This Fatty had also learned to be more sociable, had toned down his temper, and would call Qin Fang from time to time just to check in. Like the lab that Qin Fang was in the process of building, it was being decorated by his people.

Tao Renjun and his family had always taken good care of Qin Fang and his mother. Qin Fang naturally wanted to show his gratitude. What was a mere favor to him could mean a great deal to Tao Renjun. To Qin Fang, it was just a small matter requiring a few words.

"Forget it, I guess just my word might not convince you. I'll go ahead and give them a heads-up, and you can get in touch with them directly later..."

Seeing Tao Renjun still looking incredulous, Qin Fang immediately took out his phone and called Zhu Pangzi. In front of Tao Renjun, he explained the situation and Zhu was incessantly agreeable, even assuring that he would definitely arrange some of the most profitable contracts for Tao Renjun...

In the end, they exchanged contact information between Zhu Pangzi and Tao Renjun, finally drawing the matter to a close.

"Brother Junzi, my mom's calling me, let's talk later..."

Qin Fang said cheerfully and began carrying things into the house.

"Let me help..."

Tao Renjun's heart had gained some ground by now, and he was quite excited. Noticing Qin Fang moving stuff, he quickly came over to lend a hand.

Qin Fang in his eyes was no longer the little snotty-nosed kid who used to trail behind him. Now he smoked fine cigarettes, drove a good car, and could even arrange a lucrative job with just a phone call...

"Yo, quite the crowd! I reckon Auntie won't have time to cook; I'll have your sister-in-law come over and help later..."

Qin Qing and Tang Feifei were chatting inside the house, and Tao Renjun didn't go in. He just greeted Qin Fang outside and then hurriedly ran home, excited to share the good news with his wife...

Chapter 652 - The Shock of the Little Guy_1

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Arranging this job for Tao Renjun was a trivial matter for Qin Fang, and he hadn't really taken it to heart.

He hadn't seen his mother for half a year and had missed her a lot, and this time he was coming back with several girlfriends, so naturally he wanted the whole family to gather and have a good time.

Tao Renjun ran back home, grinning from ear to ear. He even burst into song, unable to contain his joy...

"Why are you so happy, eh? You haven't been to work for two months, and the New Year is almost here. Do you want to starve me and the kid to death with your honesty?"

As soon as Tao Renjun entered the house, his wife Wang Chunlian was picking vegetables in the courtyard, with their five-year-old son helping her. Seeing him like this, Wang Chunlian couldn't help but get angry and scolded him huffily.

In fact, such quarrels had been happening countless times over the past month, with the couple arguing almost every day.

In this miraculous country, although the government repeatedly stated that it aimed to increase the income of farmers, if one really had to rely on those few thin fields, the family would have starved long ago. Without some skills to make money, life would indeed be tough.

Having no income for two months because he stayed at home, Wang Chunlian was truly anxious...

"Stop babbling, will you? Keep your voice down..."

If it had been any other day, Tao Renjun would have kept silent with his neck shrunken. Although they often argued, he always yielded to Wang Chunlian.

But today was different. Surprisingly, Tao Renjun raised his voice, and such behavior usually occurred only when there was good news, and he would fight back.

As expected, Wang Chunlian was taken aback, then asked puzzledly, "Did you find some cash on your way back, or did you win the lottery?"

"Stop talking nonsense... Did you know that Little Fang from the Qin family has come back?"

Tao Renjun said this with eyes beaming, not starting with the good news but instead asking her this question.

"Little Fang from Aunt Qin's family? So what if he's back?"

Wang Chunlian paused, a bit confused by what her husband meant. Their family was on good terms with the Qins, and the whole village knew that Qin Fang had been accepted into Ninghai University.

"What's what? Just step out the door and take a look over there..."

Tao Renjun frowned, pointed towards Qin Fang's house, which was actually on the same row as theirs, with the road in front of their doors connected.

Wang Chunlian, looking perplexed, stood up, went to the door, and took a glance, immediately spotting the Audi Q7 parked in front of the Qin's house. Although she couldn't see the four rings clearly, the car's shape alone told her it was worth a lot of money.

"This... this... what's going on? Did Little Fang strike it rich?"

Wang Chunlian was also somewhat dazed, unable to accept it all at once.

"Struck it rich? More like hit the big time... Look, even the cigarettes he smokes are these..."

Tao Renjun excitably pulled out a packet of Da Zhonghua cigarettes from his jacket, which Qin Fang had given him before he left. He'd deliberately tucked it inside his jacket, and since he was wearing many layers in winter, the extra pack of cigarettes wasn't easily noticeable.

"You know? Just one pack of these cigarettes costs several hundred, even our Boss Chen can't afford to smoke this kind..."

Tao Renjun said proudly, referring to Boss Chen, his former foreman, who in his eyes was already quite a rich boss.

"So what if he's got money? That's got nothing to do with you... Is he just going to give you money for nothing?"

Wang Chunlian thought about it and couldn't help but retort sarcastically.

"Hey, don't you doubt it. Little Fang is really generous; he actually did give me money for nothing..." Tao Renjun's eyebrows shot up.

"Really just gave you money? Tell me, how much? Ten thousand, twenty thousand?"

Wang Chunlian was startled, and joy immediately showed on her face. Obviously, her aspirations weren't that high—a sum like that would be enough to get through the New Year.

"What are you thinking, making it sound so petty? Ten or twenty thousand, is that the amount Little Fang would hand out?"

Tao Renjun said with disdain, at the same time holding up a finger, "This much..."

"A hundred... a hundred thousand?"

Wang Chunlian's eyes almost popped out. It was a huge sum of money. Even if Tao Renjun had steady work all year round, plus they didn't spend much, it would still take two years to earn that much.

But now they hadn't lifted a finger, and someone was just handing over such a large sum of money. How could she handle that...

"One million!"

Tao Renjun glanced at her side-eye as if he looked down on her, and then said smugly.

"Oh my goodness..."

Wang Chunlian nearly fainted on the spot, clutching her chest and taking deep breaths, it took her a good while to recover.

"Really... really a million?"

Wang Chunlian was obviously still very skeptical. Even though their families were on good terms, they weren't so close as to casually throw a million RMB her way as a gift, not even real brothers would do such a thing.

"Of course, it's not given directly..."

Tao Renjun, seeing he had achieved the desired effect, finally said with a smile, "Xiaofang introduced me to a big boss, who let me put together a construction team to work for myself. The big boss has already agreed to give me a million RMB order. He'll advance the money for the materials, and after the project funds are in, I'll settle the account with him... The rest of the money is all ours! And the big boss said as long as we do good work on the project, he will give us more orders to work on..."

"Really? There's such a good thing? Could it be..."

Wang Chunlian's mouth gaped wide open, clearly shocked. Although it wasn't a direct gift of a million RMB, which would have been quite exaggerated, this arrangement essentially turned her man, Tao Renjun, into a foreman, or at least at the level of a small boss. After deducting the cost of materials and labor from a million RMB order, a substantial amount would end up in their pockets. It was much better than working for others...

The most crucial point was that she, Wang Chunlian, could also become a boss's wife...

However, the thought of pies falling from the sky still inevitably made people skeptical. Tao Renjun had not given it much thought, but Wang Chunlian, being more cautious, could not help but ponder it.

"Eh... it shouldn't be..."

Tao Renjun was also stumped by Wang Chunlian's question. He started to worry a bit after thinking it over but believed that Qin Fang wouldn't lie to him.

"You said that big boss is very famous in Ninghai. I think Boss Chen should have heard of him, so why don't we call him and ask..."

Wang Chunlian still had some cunning ideas, immediately urging Tao Renjun to take action.

"Alright..."

Tao Renjun thought about it and found it reasonable. He immediately called Boss Chen, his former head foreman.

"Xiaotao, didn't I tell you? There's really not much work these days. I'm also in a hurry, chasing after work every day. Don't add to my troubles..."

It took several tries to get through, but as soon as Tao Renjun mentioned who he was, Boss Chen on the other end quickly spoke with impatience.

"No... it's not that, Boss Chen... I'm not asking you about that. I want to ask you about a person..."

Tao Renjun hurriedly denied it. Having no work for two months was tough for a foreman, but it was understandable. However, that wasn't his main concern right now.

"Ask about a person? Who?"

Boss Chen on the other end was also very curious. However, once he heard Tao Renjun was not asking about work or money, he relaxed a bit.

"You've been around, have you ever heard of a big boss in Ninghai who is in the decoration business named Zhu Dachang... He owns a big company, something called..."

Tao Renjun had spoken on the phone with Zhu Pangzi before and remembered the name, and he had also heard the company's name but couldn't recall it at that moment.

"Are you talking about Boss Zhu from Jingtai Decoration?"

Whether Tao Renjun remembered or not, Boss Chen suddenly perked up and urgently asked.

"Jingtai Decoration... Yes, that's the name, I forgot in my haste..."

Prompted by Boss Chen, Tao Renjun immediately remembered and quickly nodded in recognition.

"Hiss... Xiaotao, why are you asking about him?"

Boss Chen took a sharp breath, then proceeded to ask cautiously, even his tone of voice changing.

"It's nothing serious, just that a brother of mine got some work from this Boss Zhu, and I didn't know anything about him, so I was asking you. Boss Chen, tell me the truth, is this Boss Zhu really rich?"

Tao Renjun was honest and unaware of the guile on the other end, and he promptly spilled everything.

Crash~~

As he earnestly spoke, something seemed to have scared the person on the other end quite badly. Tao Renjun could hear the sound of something being knocked over.

The call didn't hang up, but after a full three minutes, Boss Chen's voice finally came through, "Xiaotao, that... what you said... is it reliable? Boss Zhu really is very rich, worth several hundred million... But, I've heard he's not easy to deal with. The work your brother got for you..."

"Not easy to deal with? Not at all, he seemed quite amiable..."

Tao Renjun had spoken on the phone with Zhu Pangzi, who was courteous mainly because of Qin Fang's face. Otherwise, with Zhu Pangzi's haughty nature, would he have spoken so politely to Tao Renjun?

Crash~~

Suddenly, there was another such noise on the line, followed by an accidental disconnection of the call. However, Tao Renjun had seemingly gathered the information he needed.

"How is it? How did it go?"

Wang Chunlian had been listening in, just not clearly, and now that the call was cut, she immediately asked anxiously.

"It's really him, and the company's name matches too. They say this Boss Zhu is worth several hundred million... But he said that Boss Zhu is tough to deal with, though when I spoke to him on the phone, he was quite approachable..."

Tao Renjun spoke with a bit of confusion.

"How come your brain can't turn the corner at the crucial moment! He's a big boss and Chen is just a small-time foreman; of course, he's tough to talk to him, but we're connected, so naturally, he would be polite, right?"

This time, Wang Chunlian wasn't slow to grasp the point and even took a jab at her husband, "What did you just say, Aunt Qin's family has a lot of guests? I'll go help with cooking... Maybe Xiaofang can get you even more orders?"

Chapter 653 - How to Sleep at Night..._1

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While the Tao couple was fussing about in their home, Qin Fang was naturally at his own house.

Although it was Tang Feifei and the other two women's first time visiting, Qin Qing didn't treat them like outsiders at all. Within the short time that Qin Fang and Tao Renjun were talking outside, the women had already become very familiar with each other.

Qin Qing even took out Qin Fang's photo albums to show Tang Feifei and the others. These photos recorded nearly all of Qin Fang's life experiences from the age of five until he left for school in his teens.

Many of the photos had already yellowed, being over a decade old, but these were all precious memories. Holding the photo albums, Tang Feifei and the other women looked through the photos one by one while Qin Qing commented on the side, sometimes sharing stories behind certain photos... causing bursts of laughter among the women.

Qin Fang was sorting out the gifts he had brought back, most of which were for Qin Qing. The rest, items like cigarettes and alcohol, were for the neighboring neighbors.

The Qin family had moved here from another place and had almost no relatives in the area. Qin Qing never mentioned these relatives to Qin Fang, and of course Qin Fang wouldn't talk about them with Tang Feifei and the others either. But some neighbors around the Qin Family were quite kind to them. Now that Qin Fang was returning home in glory, it was only natural to give some gifts away.

However, many of the gifts he brought back were quite valuable. For example, the cigarettes were mostly premium brands like Da Zhong Hua, and some even more expensive ones... As for alcohol, it was either Moutai or Wuliangye. Qin Fang figured those three beauties wouldn't know which alcohol was appropriate, so he just bought the most expensive ones...

After a rough estimate, the gifts that Qin Fang brought back in his trunk, if converted to cash, would certainly amount to over a hundred thousand...

With Qin Fang's current net worth, he naturally wouldn't care about this amount of money. However, he estimated that the rumor "of Qin Fang being kept by a wealthy woman" might just become seemingly true.

"Forget it, who cares what others say..."

Qin Fang wasn't the sort of person who couldn't let go. When he and his mother first came here, they had already endured all kinds of gossip. His tolerance was much stronger than the average person. Besides, the gossiping women in the village were just talking; they couldn't really stir up any trouble.

While organizing, Qin Fang was contemplating which households to send these things to. Although they were all neighbors, there were differences in closeness.

Take Tao Renjun, for instance. Starting with Old Tao, his father, to the couple Tao Renjun and Wang Chunlian, they had always looked after the Qin Family. When Qin Fang was studying away or Qin Qing was working at the factory, Wang Chunlian would take care of everything at the Qin home, including the dozen or so chickens that Qin Qing raised in her spare time...

Of course, when Qin Fang was younger, it was Old Tao who used to take him to school on his tricycle every morning and pick him up on the way back in the evening...

This kindness was something the Qin Family had never forgotten. In fact, the Tao Family never expected anything in return. It was only now that Tao Renjun saw Qin Fang had "changed his old shotgun for a cannon" and considering his own tight finances, did he think to ask Qin Fang for some help...

So, without hesitation, Qin Fang helped Tao Renjun secure a job. While it couldn't completely repay the decade of care, it did ease his conscience a bit.

Amidst all this, Tao Renjun had already hurried over to the Qin home with Wang Chunlian. The two families lived close by, just a few steps away from each other.

"Tsk tsk, this car is really beautiful... Must be worth two or three hundred thousand..."

As they reached the Qin family's doorstep, Wang Chunlian's gaze stayed on Qin Fang's Audi. Its appearance was quite imposing, clearly valuable, and she whispered to her husband.

"You don't know squat! What car is this? Recognize these four rings? Audi... two or three hundred thousand my foot, probably at least a million..."

Tao Renjun wasn't much better informed than his wife, but having worked away from home, he had seen a few luxury cars, especially the Audi with its four rings. As for the price, he wasn't sure, but from its looks, he felt it was expensive and immediately guessed a price he thought plausible.

"What? Over a million... Isn't that one worth about as much as our Boss Chen's several Buicks?"

Wang Chunlian couldn't help but be astounded, "Looks like little Fang really struck it rich, driving such an expensive car..."

"Cut the chatter, let's go in..."

Tao Renjun nodded right away, feeling somewhat relieved that the Tao Family had always taken good care of the Qin Family. At first, it was out of pity for the widow and orphan. Now he thought that his old man was very foresighted.

Although everyone in the village said Qin Fang would surely go far after getting into Ninghai University, in reality, things stayed the same: those who were close remained close, and the rest stayed the same. No one really expected Qin Fang's success to help them in any way.

"Aunt Qin, you have guests... Thinking you might be too busy, I've come to help with the cooking... My dad caught a few fish earlier, so I brought them over for you, adding another dish to the meal..."

Wang Chunlian got along very well with Qin Qing. She came over without any formality, hands carrying several fresh fish. She had specifically asked for them from Old Tao earlier. Since Qin Fang had done them such a big favor, she felt embarrassed to come empty-handed...

Chapter 654 - How to Sleep at Night..._2

"Chunlian, you've arrived just in time, right as I could use a hand..."

Seeing Tang Feifei and the other two girls had arrived, Qin Qing was so happy that she actually forgot about cooking. Now that Wang Chunlian reminded her, she couldn't help but smack her forehead.

Originally, if it were just Qin Fang and Tang Feifei returning, she would've been prepared. But now, clearly many more people were present, including Tao Renjun and his wife Wang Chunlian, who would naturally stay for the meal. That meant portions for several people, and she would be a bit overwhelmed by herself...

"Aunt Qing, let me help too..."

Xiao Muxue immediately stood up and said. As for Tang Feifei and Wen Yan, they wanted to help too, but both were pulling long faces—they had grown up in the city and had hardly done any household chores. Tang Feifei had only ever helped Qin Fang wash dishes for a month...

Scrubbing pots and washing dishes, that she could manage, but cooking and stir-frying... she truly couldn't compare to Xiao Muxue.

"Oh, Aunt Qin, this must be Little Fang's girlfriend, right? She's so pretty..."

Just as Qin Qing was about to speak, the quick-mouthed Wang Chunlian promptly delivered a compliment.

However, this flattery made many people grimace awkwardly. Thankfully, Xiao Muxue reacted quickly and immediately said with a smile, "Big Sister, you've got it wrong, this lady is Qin Fang's girlfriend. I am her college classmate..."

Actually, all three girls were Qin Fang's girlfriends, which made Qin Qing very happy, but of course, one had to be mindful of the conventional influences. Xiao Muxue was quite sensible and quickly put forth the rightful lady of the house.

"Ah... I'm sorry, so sorry..."

Upon hearing this, Wang Chunlian felt like slapping herself. She had bungled the flattery, and that was just inviting trouble, wasn't it?

"It's no problem, Big Sister..."

Tang Feifei seemed rather unfazed, the radiant smile still on her face, apparently not bothered at all.

Such a response certainly caught Qin Qing's eye. She had been somewhat worried, but now it seemed her worries were unnecessary...

As the instigator, Qin Fang couldn't escape though; he glared at her fiercely, but of course, his gaze also carried a hint of admiration. It was unclear whether he was praising his "harem" for their excellent training.

Qin Fang had returned to his village in glory!

Qin Fang had gotten himself an Audi!

Qin Fang had made a fortune...

Villages inevitably have their share of gossipy busybodies, and such pieces of news quickly spread through the small village. With evening approaching, most of the villagers who had gone out to work were also returning home, and they too had caught wind of the latest update.

Everyone is curious by nature, and these people were no exception.

Everyone knew that Qin Fang had only been at college for half a year. Even if he managed to work while studying, it was improbable that he could earn so much money in just six months...

Before long, quite a few people had gathered at Qin Fang's doorstep.

Some were sizing up Qin Fang's Audi, while others squeezed into the courtyard. Naturally, some neighbors who were on good terms with the Qin Family came over to visit.

Tang Feifei and Wen Yan, who had never faced such a situation, appeared very constrained and nervous. In contrast, Xiao Muxue was more composed, thankful that most of these people meant no harm—it was mere curiosity driving them.

"Big Pillar Brother, Third Uncle, Uncle Four... have you eaten yet? Come sit down and have a few drinks..."

As the only male in the family, Qin Fang naturally had to step up, not to mention that these people had all come because of him. He deliberately called over those who had good relations with the Qin Family.

After a bit of polite refusal, the men were firmly persuaded by Qin Fang to sit down. Qin Fang took the initiative to pour drinks for them, and soon, they were all drinking.

Most of the women had finished eating by now. Qin Qing greeted everyone before pulling Tang Feifei and the others into the room, pondering over the sleeping arrangements for the night... this was indeed a problem for her.

The Qin house was very small, with only two rooms — one for Qin Qing and one for Qin Fang. There were also only two beds... After all, coming here as a widow and orphan, they had no relatives, so naturally, no one would come looking for them.

But there were two beds and five people — four women and Qin Fang... This made things difficult. They couldn't possibly have Qin Fang sleep in one room and leave the four women in another, could they?

The three girls were all Qin Fang's girlfriends. As someone who had been through life, just by observing the eyes and expressions of the three girls, Qin Qing could tell that Tang Feifei and Wen Yan had tightly knit brows, clearly indicating their bodies were untouched... Whereas Xiao Muxue's brows were relaxed, and there were some changes to her body, clearly showing she had been deflowered.

From this perspective, regardless of whether it was Qin Fang who had deflowered Xiao Muxue or not, letting her sleep with Qin Fang for the night wouldn't be a big problem...

However, Tang Feifei was Qin Fang's most legitimate girlfriend, and it would be the most appropriate arrangement for him to sleep with her.

Qin Qing indeed found the situation quite troublesome. She never expected having many daughters-in-law would be such a hassle.

"Aunt Qing, I'll sleep with you tonight. Let Muxue and Wen Yan share a room... Let Qin Fang make do with sleeping in the car..." Tang Feifei, realizing Qin Qing's predicament, immediately offered this solution.

Although she and Qin Fang were already deep in love, in reality, the two of them had always been quite proper. Up to now, their intimacy had been limited to just a few kisses, and as for other more intimate physical contacts... Qin Fang had indeed thought about making a move, but he had been too afraid of scaring Tang Feifei, and that's why he had never touched her.

This time, accompanying Qin Fang on a trip home to meet the parents, Tang Feifei had somewhat made up her mind. She knew about Qin Fang's relationship with Xiao Muxue and even felt a bit envious. But when it came down to it, she got scared and ended up dragging Xiao Muxue and Wen Yan along with her...

The resulting dilemma was something she truly hadn't expected... She couldn't squeeze into bed with Qin Fang, so the only option left was to have him sleep in the car...

"That's fine... sounds good!"

Qin Qing nodded in agreement. This was not a bad solution, although it meant her son would suffer a bit. But she found herself liking Tang Feifei even more, as this daughter-in-law clearly knew her limits and didn't give her mother-in-law any trouble.

"Feifei, Muxue, Little Yan, don't mind the old men outside. Let Little Fang take care of them. Come in with me..." By now, Qin Fang and the others outside were already drinking. Knowing the situation when rural men drink, Qin Qing guessed it wouldn't end anytime soon. She immediately led the three women into the room with an air of secrecy, as if fearing others would find out.

In the courtyard.

The diners had changed shifts, the women had left, and all the remaining were the big men... Wang Chunlian and Tao Renjun also had dinner at the Qin Family's home. The men were now drinking and chatting. Of course, Tao Renjun stayed, while Wang Chunlian went back to the kitchen to make some more side dishes to accompany the drinks.

"Little Fang, tell your Uncle the truth about where your money comes from..."

They were drinking Flying Maotai, which cost over a thousand yuan per bottle, making all the old men's eyes bulge. The cigarettes were naturally premium brands like Da Zhonghua and Panda, also pricey.

After three rounds of drinking, conversation flowed more freely. An elderly farmer in his sixties broke the silence. In his family, he was the fourth eldest; Qin Fang called him Uncle Four, even though the Qin and Tao families weren't related.

This old man's wife had died in childbirth years ago, and his child had also tragically passed away. He had lived a lonely life since. When Qin Qing first came here with Qin Fang, he had treated them as his own daughter and grandson, even taking the money he made from raising and selling dozens of ducks every year to buy Qin Fang clothes and school supplies...

These acts showed how much he considered Qin Fang as his own blood, which was why he was so worried when Qin Fang started driving an Audi, drank fine liquor, and smoked premium cigarettes only halfway through college — he feared the money came from a questionable source...

Chapter 655 - Usury_1

...

Only those who truly care will show such concern.

If faced with a stranger on the street, no matter what ordeal he goes through, no one would bother with his well-being.

The main issue was the incredibly rapid rise of Qin Fang, who, in just half a year, managed to own such a large sum of money. The speed was simply startling.

No wonder Uncle Four was worried about the origins of Qin Fang's wealth... The fastest way to acquire money would naturally be through illegal and underhanded business.

Those who came from the countryside, being simple and honest farmers, feared such crooked thoughts and ideas the most.

"Uncle Four, I grew up under your watchful eye. You should know what kind of person I am. My money is all earned by myself through legitimate means. Let me put it this way... I can afford a car now primarily because I partnered with a college classmate to open a large restaurant called Fang Feixue, located on Nanhu Road in Ninghai City District... If you have time, you should definitely come and see..."

Qin Fang naturally also cared about those who were concerned for him. Fortunately, most of his money came from very normal sources, and even if someone were to audit him, they wouldn't find any discrepancies.

If there was any money that came from questionable sources, it would be the nearly forty million in cash he had snatched from Li Rui's hands, but Qin Fang had already planned to launder that money before distributing it to Chen Da and the others. He had never intended to keep a cent for himself.

And Fang Feixue was Qin Fang's only physical business at the moment, with a fairly substantial scale. The money earned was sufficient for his current expenses and was the best cover to throw off any suspicion.

Moreover, Qin Fang's reputation in Ninghai was now so strong that ordinary people wouldn't dare to mess with him, so there shouldn't be any problems for the foreseeable future.

"A large restaurant?"

The people present were all slightly surprised, obviously not having anticipated this.

Qin Fang was just a university student. Like others from their village who had moved to the city, there were those who opened restaurants after learning culinary skills and gathering some capital to start a small eatery.

But even if a small eatery did well, earning a few hundred thousand in a year was considered quite an achievement. However, earning millions in half a year would require a much larger restaurant...

"Heh, I guess you don't believe me. You'll know once you visit..."

Qin Fang didn't wish to elaborate further; some things lost their meaning if talked about too much.

"Definitely, we will visit... definitely,"

Several of them nodded, Qin Fang achieving success and opening a large restaurant in the city was something they had to see for themselves. They all nodded eagerly, and even Uncle Four's face was glowing as he spoke; he seemed to be looking forward to it.

"Pillar, I hear you've been lucky recently, won quite a bit of money, eh? When will you take your Uncle Three with you to check it out..."

The man Qin Fang referred to as Uncle Three immediately started muttering to Qin Fang's Big Pillar Brother beside him in a low voice. The volume was not too loud, but it was enough for Qin Fang to hear.

Qin Fang, however, didn't seem to care and chatted casually with Uncle Four and Tao Renjun.

"Uncle Three, you really shouldn't go there; it's a place that devours people without spitting out bones... I did win quite a bit a few days ago, a good few tens of thousands, but the day before yesterday and yesterday, I had really bad luck. Whatever I played, I lost, and the money I won was all gone. I even ended up in debt for several tens of thousands... Xiang Qin has been nagging me about it these past two days; I'm really at my wit's end..."

Upon hearing this, Big Pillar Brother's face immediately turned bitter.

"That's how it goes with gambling; you were foolish. You should have stopped when you won. You can't expect to win every day... Pillar, just take Uncle Three for a visit. I only play small, win or lose, and leave when it's time..."

Uncle Three couldn't help but snort a couple of times, though he still seemed fixated on that place.

Qin Fang, for his part, knew that Uncle Three had no other vices; he smoked and drank in moderation, but gambling was his greatest passion.

Like when there was a game of cards at home, he was always involved.

"Uncle Three, I'm serious, you really shouldn't go there. Basically, no one who goes comes out on top, and if you lose, they immediately offer to loan you money at high interest rates, as much as you want... I... I saw with my own eyes someone who couldn't pay, and they chopped off one of his hands..."

Big Pillar Brother shook his head vigorously, evidently very fearful of the place.

"Big Pillar Brother, what place did you just mention?"

Qin Fang's interest was piqued and he quickly asked.

From the sound of it, it seemed like a gambling den, hidden yet preying on the hard-earned money of the rural folks.

"Xiao Fang, better not ask. Now that you have money, you should definitely stay away from places like that..."

Big Pillar Brother still shook his head, unwilling to share what he knew...

But even if he wasn't willing to talk, Qin Fang had a way of finding out; he immediately used the Mind Reading Technique on Big Pillar Brother and soon located the position of the place in question.

Just as Qin Fang had guessed, that place was an underground gambling den hidden in the countryside, attracting many people from the surrounding area to gamble, even drawing in numerous individuals from the county towns who came because of its reputation.

Big Pillar Brother didn't know about it at first, but after accompanying his boss there once, he became a "regular." Otherwise, they wouldn't even let you through the door...

Such underground gambling dens were different from the likes of Elite Salon and Bihai Pavilion. Those places were designed to "fish" for gamblers; many of the house dealers were masters at cheating. The likelihood of winning money there was truly slim.

Even if they let you win, it'd just be a small amount, tempting you to gamble again, only to lose miserably next time... Especially those high-interest loan sharks, they were like bloodsucking vampires, one by one.

"Uncle Three, it's 'nine loses out of ten bets,' especially in those kinds of underground dens. If you win money, they won't let you leave. If you lose, they'll offer you high-interest loans, but in the end, you'll just keep losing more and more..."

Though such gambling dens were not of much concern to Qin Fang, he had very little interest in gambling to begin with.

"Three, what Xiao Fang says is true. It's fine to have a little fun at our doorstep, but going to those places to gamble, how much money do you have to lose..."

Uncle Four, who was in high spirits, also couldn't help but agree with Qin Fang's words. Although he had never been to such a place, having lived for so many years, he had heard plenty.

"Uncle Four, you don't understand..."

Uncle Three pursed his lips, obviously not taking it to heart, as he was about to retort.

"Uncle Four, Uncle Four, there's trouble..."

Just then, someone came rushing over in a panic, looking for Uncle Four.

"What's all the fuss about? Speak quickly if there's something wrong..."

This panicked arrival was, naturally, someone Qin Fang knew: Tao Yilong, a blood relative of Uncle Four. Though his usual relationship with Uncle Four was average, there was still some degree of kinship.

"Yi Hai's home has been invaded by over a dozen people; they're moving his stuff out... It seems like... it seems like Renjun has racked up a huge debt outside, and they've come to collect... They also said if the money isn't returned, they'll make Xiao Juan sell herself to pay the debt..."

Tao Yilong, gasping for breath, relayed the news with a panic-stricken face.

Everyone was slightly taken aback, Uncle Three in particular, who appeared incredibly shocked.

Rural villagers were all honest folks, as unrelated to high-interest loan sharks as parallel lines; ordinarily, they would never seek out these people to borrow money.

High-interest loans were like bloodsucking vampires, with interest rates so high they could extract thirteen for every nine lent out. No villager could withstand such exploitation.

If the money could not be repaid, these bloodsuckers would raid the village like Japanese soldiers had decades before, plundering everything that could be taken to settle the debt. If that wasn't enough, they would simply take away wives and daughters to sell them off to recoup the debt...

Slap~~

"How dare they!"

Uncle Four slammed the table with such force that his hair and beard bristled; the old man was angry, "Yilong, go round up some people; I refuse to believe these individuals would dare to cause trouble in our Tao Family Village..."

With such trouble arising, no one was in the mood for drinking anymore. Uncle Four stood up directly, ready to confront these people.

The village where Qin Fang lived was called Tao Family Village, inhabited entirely by people bearing the surname Tao. There were connections between every household. Though the kinship thinned over many years and generations, everyone still shared the Tao surname; any trouble was a matter for the whole village.

The person in trouble, Tao Yihai, was Uncle Four's blood relative, the son of Uncle Four's elder brother. However, since his parents had passed away early, it was Uncle Four who usually took care of him. Now that something had occurred, Uncle Four naturally had to step up.

"Uncle Four, let me go with you..."

After thinking it over, Qin Fang felt that since the trouble involved high-interest loans and over a dozen people had come, Uncle Four was getting on in years and it wouldn't be good if something happened. With him present, it would be much safer.

"You..."

Uncle Four stared at Qin Fang, clearly surprised.

"Uncle Yi Hai has always been kind to me, and I've always treated Xiao Juan as if she were my own sister. I can't just sit idly by and watch... These people are merely after money, if it really comes to it, I can pay off the debt..."

Qin Fang said with a smile.

Tao Yihai was from the generation above Qin Fang, while Qin Fang and Tao Renjun were of the same generation, so referring to Tao Yihai as uncle was fitting. As for Tao Yihai's daughter, Tao Xiaojuan, she was only a year younger than Qin Fang and had also grown up together with him; she was the little girl who used to trail behind him with a runny nose.

Now that such a situation had arisen, Tao Yihai's family was probably very frightened. With Tao Xiaojuan being young and threatened in such a manner, Qin Fang, who had always been like a brother, naturally had to step forward to help.

And the loan sharks were ultimately only interested in the money; Qin Fang could help settle the debt for Tao Yihai's family, as he had the means to do so.

"Alright, let's go together..."

Uncle Four nodded; he was naturally pleased with Qin Fang's willingness to help.

Chapter 656 - Paying Off Debt_1

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With Uncle Four's nod of approval, Qin Fang immediately went back to his room to inform his mother Qin Qing and Tang Feifei, he also needed to grab his wallet and phone.

"Xiao Fang, what's happened?"

Qin Qing and Tang Feifei were talking in the room when they noticed something amiss outside and realized something was wrong. Seeing Qin Fang entering, they immediately asked.

"Yi Haihai took out a high-interest loan, and now the creditors have come to seize property, even threatening to drag Xiao Juan out to sell her body to repay the debt. I'm going over to take a look... If it's no good, I'll pay off the debt for them!"

Qin Fang could only briefly explain the situation—it was already getting chaotic upfront, and they couldn't let the loan sharks actually take Tao Xiaojuan away, that would be serious trouble.

"Then you better hurry over..."

Qin Qing immediately grasped the gravity of the situation, and, along with Tang Feifei, they helped Qin Fang with clothes, wallet, and phone without any delay.

Qin Fang quickly got ready and together with Tao Renjun, who was waiting outside, they hurriedly headed towards Tao Yihai's place.

Meanwhile, Qin Fang didn't idle either and immediately took out his phone to call Shen Liang.

Shen Liang was Qin Fang's bodyguard and also worked part-time as financial director. Qin Fang usually didn't carry much money, so whenever he needed it, he had Shen Liang deliver it.

Since the loan sharks were there to collect a debt, this matter would be hard to settle without repayment.

Qin Fang only came back home occasionally, he couldn't stay there daily. If he used force to drive the people away, once he left, he feared the loan sharks would quickly return.

Just as Uncle Four had gone into the house to get clothes, wallet, and phone, he had already led the Tang family to Tao Yihai's house ahead of Qin Fang, and they had already started clashing with the creditors' thugs right in Tao Yihai's courtyard.

Most of the Tang family wielded things like wooden sticks and carrying poles, only a few had harder tools like fire tongs, while those thugs didn't have weapons like melon knives, but they were not short of steel pipes.

"Stop it! Everybody stop!"

Seeing the situation was awry, with both sides fighting and the chaos, where Qin Fang even noticed someone's head had been cracked open, he called out.

But his voice was useless in such chaos, no one would pay attention to him.

Out of options, Qin Fang quickly scanned the scene and noticed someone. He dashed over in two steps, grabbing the steel pipe from a guy who was about to hit Tao Yilong, who stood in front of Uncle Four.

Crack~

Qin Fang flicked his wrist and snatched the steel pipe that was about to come down, and while the guy was stunned, he took a dagger from the man's belt, reversed the grip, and pressed it against his neck.

"Stop it! Whoever dares to make another move, I'll cripple him..."

Qin Fang hadn't expected these thugs to be so tough, daring to fight back despite being outnumbered and even injuring several people. Left with no choice, Qin Fang had to subdue the leader, forcing the thugs to stop.

"Everybody, stop... stop right now!"

Feeling the icy blade on his neck as if it was about to pierce his skin, the leader shivered and quickly shouted at his thugs to stop.

The thugs obediently ceased fighting, stepping back and grouping together, glaring at Qin Fang maliciously. The villagers also retreated, facing the thugs in a standoff.

Qin Fang, however, didn't mind at all; if it hadn't been for the chaos, he wouldn't have needed to resort to such measures.

Pushing the leader away, Qin Fang let go of the dagger.

"Can't we talk things over properly? Do we really need to resort to fighting?"

Qin Fang expressed his dissatisfaction, walking over to the crying Tao Xiaojuan. Noticing several marks on her face, as if she had been hit, his brow furrowed involuntarily, and his tone also became earnest.

"Who did this?"

Qin Fang turned his head, his gaze sweeping sinisterly over the loan sharks' thugs, so intense that it resembled the stare of a fierce predator rather than a human being.

"I didn't mean to hit her, she bit me..."

One of the thugs, startled by Qin Fang's gaze, couldn't help but feel unnerved as he timidly spoke up. He rolled up his sleeve to reveal a set of teeth marks on his wrist.

Slap~~

But Qin Fang didn't even bother to look, delivering a slap that sent the burly man flying, with two blood-stained teeth soaring through the air.

"You..."

The other thugs hadn't expected Qin Fang to actually hit someone and were instantly enraged, ready to strike.

However quick Qin Fang's reaction was, it evidently surpassed these goons by far. The one closest to him had barely moved before he felt a powerful grip around his neck, a suffocating sensation washed over him immediately, and all his strength went into trying to break free from Qin Fang's hand.

"Stop! Everyone stop..."

The leader, with sharper perception, recalling how Qin Fang had subdued him, knew Qin Fang was certainly a master and immediately called off his underlings.

Qin Fang naturally let go of the thug and walked up to the leader.

"Speak, what exactly is happening here?"

Qin Fang had no time to beat around the bush with them. If these loan sharks didn't get their money, they would surely not give up, and the situation had to be resolved one way or another.

"Tao Yihai owes us money. We're just here to collect the debt. His family couldn't produce the cash, so we were taking things instead..."

The leader was fairly honest, acknowledging that with Qin Fang present, they would likely be at a disadvantage. Nonetheless, he was just there to collect a debt, and anything beyond that was not his concern.

"How much does Tao Yihai owe you?"

Qin Fang furrowed his brow but still asked the question out loud.

"Not much, only a principal of one hundred thousand yuan... However, it has doubled to two hundred thousand after three days... He's only paid back twenty thousand, so he still owes one hundred and eighty thousand... Of course, if he doesn't pay today, the amount will be different tomorrow!"

The leader said with a smug smile.

Loan sharks are such bloodsuckers, doubling the debt in just a few days. Rural people like these, without much income, could never hope to pay it off.

"How did he come to owe you so much money..."

One or two hundred thousand yuan were sums Qin Fang could easily afford, but he was genuinely curious why Tao Yihai would owe such a significant amount of money.

Tao Yihai, like Tao Renjun, was in construction, not as a carpenter but as a welder. He made a relatively good income, especially since Tao Yihai had been abroad for three years, earning a small fortune of several hundred thousand yuan, making him one of the wealthier people in the village.

"He lost money gambling and borrowed from us..."

The leader did not hide anything and told the truth.

"Hmm?"

Qin Fang's brow furrowed slightly, sensing something was amiss. He suddenly remembered that despite such a significant incident at home, Tao Yihai himself was nowhere to be seen. "Where is Tao Yihai?"

"He's still with us. Whenever we receive the money, that's when we will release him..."

The leader spoke very casually, implying that their boldness in debt collection stemmed from having the debtor in their possession—not paying meant not getting the person back.

But looking at Qin Fang's brooding gaze and recalling the icy chill of the dagger earlier, the leader quickly reined in his smugness and involuntarily shrank his neck, clearly quite frightened of Qin Fang.

It was this moment Qin Fang used to cast his Mind Reading Technique on the leader, quickly understanding the situation.

"I'll pay off the debt for him, release him immediately..."

Qin Fang sighed softly and made his offer clear. These loan sharks were indeed affiliated with the underground casino and were capable of doing anything if they didn't receive their money.

These people engaged in hit-and-run tactics, changing locations after each heist; even if they committed a crime, it was hard to track them. In addition, they had already bribed the necessary officials.

Just then, Shen Liang arrived, bringing money to Qin Fang. "Two hundred thousand in cash right here. When you return the person, you can take the money... and hand over the debt note!"

"No problem... We'll release him now!"

The leader, seeing the neatly stacked two hundred thousand yuan and noting the extra cash in the bag that Shen Liang had just taken cash from, realized that Qin Fang was genuinely ready to pay to settle the issue.

He immediately pulled out his phone, made a call to someone, speaking succinctly. It was nothing more than confirming that they could release the person since they had received the money.

The locals stood agape. They had initially planned to drive the loan sharks away and save Tao Yihai's wife and daughter first, not realizing Tao Yihai himself was missing. Now, watching Qin Fang unhesitatingly pull out such a large sum of money to help Tao Yihai's family settle the debt left them in utter surprise.

They were kin to Tao Yihai, yet Qin Fang, always considered an outsider, did not hesitate to pay, making many of them quite envious.

They already guessed that Qin Fang had made good money when he returned in an Audi, but that had been speculation. Now, the sight of actual bundles of red cash notes was tangible evidence.

With Qin Fang's willingness to pay, the rest proceeded smoothly. In no time, a battered and bruised Tao Yihai was brought back. The thugs handed over the debt note, took the two hundred thousand yuan from Qin Fang, left behind some furniture and electronics that weren't worth much, and quickly left. This matter was thus satisfactorily resolved...

Of course, this "satisfactory resolution" was in the eyes of the loan sharks.

As for Qin Fang...

This was just the beginning!

Chapter 657 - The Qin Family Heirloom_1

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Qin Fang had given the money, and naturally, the high-interest lenders had no intention of staying any longer. They directly drove off, taking a bunch of people with them and leaving.

As for the furniture and appliances they had moved out, those were naturally left behind. To them, these items weren't worth much, and it was likely they would just sell them to a junkyard to offset the debt.

"Everyone, please help move the stuff back..."

As he watched the departing enforcers of the high-interest lenders, the villagers obviously hadn't yet recovered from the shock of the incident. Qin Fang had no choice but to shout loudly.

Only then did everyone snap back to reality, and together they quickly moved Tao Yihai's furniture and appliances back to their original spots.

Of course, some losses were unavoidable, but now, nobody was in the mood to fuss over that. After all, it wasn't like the high-interest lenders would compensate for the losses... The honest villagers wouldn't dare to cause too much trouble with those people.

"Thank you, Xiao Fang..."

Tao Yihai had been badly beaten by the lenders, nursing injuries on his body that were not too severe. Now, supported by his wife and daughter, he walked up to Qin Fang, expressing his deep gratitude.

His eyes were filled with thanks but tinged with obvious shame. He had almost caused his own daughter to be forced into selling herself to repay his gambling debts... If it weren't for Qin Fang paying off his debt, he truly might have thought of ending his own life. Watching his agitated state, it seemed he was on the verge of kneeling before Qin Fang.

"Uncle Yi Hai, this is all I can help with... Don't mind my meddling, it's fine to play a little at home, but don't go to those places anymore..."

Qin Fang smiled, steadying Tao Yihai. This kind of issue was a trifle for him now. The two families were on good terms in the village, and Qin Fang wouldn't be stingy when it came to helping.

Of course, Qin Fang still had his words of advice. It wasn't every time that he could coincidentally come across such a situation. If it hadn't been for him coming home today, Tao Xiaojuan might have already been taken away by those lenders...

"I won't gamble anymore, never again..."

Tao Yihai was obviously filled with both regret and remorse. He had almost made a grave mistake, hurting not just his family but also nearly destroying their only daughter.

"Thank you, Brother Xiao Fang..."

Tao Xiaojuan also approached Qin Fang, the swelling from the slap still evident on her fair face, clearly visible against her pale complexion. She was equally filled with gratitude, the tracks of her tears still visible, her eyes red and misty...

But those eyes...

Qin Fang suddenly felt something was amiss. This girl, whom he had always treated like a little sister, seemed to have grown up. She was no longer the little girl who used to follow him around, crying with her two pigtails swinging and her nose running... She had blossomed into a graceful young woman.

On closer inspection, she was indeed a beauty, only marred by the slap mark. Qin Fang hadn't noticed it before... It was no wonder those high-interest lenders had tried to take her to pay off the debt with her body.

"It's what I should do, take good care of your dad..."

Qin Fang ruffled the girl's hair as he often had when they were children and then, after a moment's thought, handed Tao Xiaojuan a stack of cash. "Uncle Yi Hai should still go to the hospital to get his injuries checked. Take this money for now. I'll have someone take you directly to the People's Hospital..."

"Brother Xiao Fang, I... I can't take your money!"

Tao Xiaojuan's face grew anxious as she refused Qin Fang's kindness.

"Xiao Fang, I... I'm okay... Ow!"

Tao Yihai also refused Qin Fang's generosity, but his movements were too abrupt and aggravated his injuries, causing him to gasp in pain.

"Yi Hai, just accept Xiao Fang's goodwill. He already paid off your 200,000 yuan debt, what's 10,000 yuan in comparison? The most important thing is that you're safe..."

Fortunately, Uncle Four exerted the authority of an elder and forcibly stuffed the money into their hands.

Meanwhile, Qin Fang went to find Shen Liang, as the situation here seemed to have temporarily settled.

"Young Master Qin, you want to go to that gambling den?"

Shen Liang was Qin Fang's attendant and bodyguard. He roughly knew Qin Fang's character and could guess his intentions just by looking at his expression.

"Such underground gambling dens are too harmful. We can't let them stay here..."

Although Qin Fang wasn't a saint, he knew that such gambling dens in the countryside would inevitably harm many people, and tragedies like Tao Yihai's could happen again.

Having lived here for over a decade, Qin Fang was well aware that although the living conditions couldn't compare to the city, the gambling craze was just as intense.

During festive seasons, it was common to see people playing cards or mahjong just about everywhere... The sound of mahjong tiles shuffling could be heard from every household.

Underground gambling dens probably took advantage of this kind of addiction, enticing these cash-strapped farmers to join, and with just a few tricks, they could easily win all their money...

For someone like Tao Yihai, who was doing relatively well for himself, owning a little property, or if they had a pretty wife or daughter... It was quite easy for tragic incidents like today's to happen.

The existence of these underground gambling dens was a great menace, but Qin Fang couldn't take on so much; he didn't have that kind of power. At most, he could try to eliminate such threats in his hometown as much as possible...

"Brother Liang, please take them to the county city's People's Hospital and help settle their family down..."

The gambling den definitely needed to be cleaned up, but although this place was within Ninghai City's jurisdiction, it was not in the city proper. Qin Fang's influence here wasn't that significant; and not to mention that the people running the underground gambling den were hit-and-run criminals; it was tough to deal with them. Thus, if Qin Fang wanted to move against them, he needed to prepare as well.

"No problem..."

Shen Liang nodded and immediately went to take care of it, also taking the opportunity to call Chen Da from Ninghai, asking him to send some people over. At the very least, when Qin Fang needed help, there would be someone to lend a hand.

With Shen Liang driving Tao Yihai's family to the county city for medical treatment, Qin Fang and a group of people went back home. After such a commotion, his third uncle, who previously wanted to visit the underground gambling den for fun, didn't dare to make a peep anymore.

Had Qin Fang not been willing to pay, Tao Yihai's family would have truly faced the grim fate of losing their home and lives. Even the eighteen-year-old Tao Xiaojuan might have ended up being sold off to repay debts, ruining her entire life.

Compared to Tao Yihai, his own possessions were even less, so he thought better of it: it was enough just to play a little mahjong at home. Places like those were not for him.

This incident dampened everyone's spirits so much that they lost interest in drinking. Qin Fang didn't insist, and everyone dispersed. Qin Fang saw Uncle Four home before returning himself, where his mother Qin Qing and Tang Feifei, among others, were still waiting for news...

"Sigh, Yi Hai's family are such good people, they almost..."

After understanding the situation, Qin Qing sighed, "Little Juan must have been scared out of her wits..."

"Mom, it's all settled now..."

Qin Fang gently embraced his mother, softly comforting her.

Tang Feifei and the other girls had red-rimmed eyes; although they were not at the scene, they could imagine the worry and fear that Tao Yihai's family must have felt. Naturally, Qin Fang comforted each of the women with a warm hug.

"What's this?"

However, while hugging Tang Feifei, Qin Fang was suddenly tickled by something and noticed a new necklace-like object around Tang Feifei's neck. He couldn't help but ask in surprise.

Although he and Tang Feifei hadn't been very intimate, they had hugged many times, and Tang Feifei didn't like wearing necklaces or similar accessories. Usually, her neck was bare, but now there was suddenly this pendant, and Qin Fang immediately became puzzled.

At Qin Fang's question, Tang Feifei's face blushed instantly, turning into the likeness of a ripe apple, making Qin Fang want to bite into it fiercely.

Seeing this, Qin Fang couldn't help but turn to glance at his mother. As their eyes met, he saw Xiao Muxue and Wen Yan also blushing, coyly showing off their fair wrists... each adorned with a bracelet that seemed to be a matching set.

"What's there to wonder about? I gave these to them... They're all going to be my daughters-in-law someday. Can't a mother-in-law give them some gifts?"

Qin Qing spoke assertively, looking particularly proud. "This is actually a set of jewelry, it's the Qin Family's heirloom. Now that you've grown up and about to get married, it should be passed on to you guys..."

"Heirloom?"

Hearing this word, the first thing that came to Qin Fang's mind wasn't joy or excitement, but "sweat". Suddenly he remembered a movie he'd seen as a child called "Fang Shiyu", where the protagonist's mother seemed to gift a pile of so-called heirlooms to her daughter-in-law.

As far as Qin Fang knew, their Qin Family was just him and his mother, poor as church mice—they didn't have any damn heirlooms...

At this thought, Qin Fang suspected his mother might have gone to the street to buy a bunch of fake jade necklaces and bracelets to give as gifts, so he casually activated his Scouting Skill on the necklace and the pair of bracelets.

"Jade necklace of inestimable value, silver necklace, jade quality 9..."

"Jade bracelet of inestimable value, jade quality 8..."

"Jade bracelet of inestimable value, jade quality 8..."

Qin Fang quickly received three scouting results into his mind. At that moment, he was about to take a sip of water when he nearly sprayed it out because of these results...

Chapter 658 - Mysterious Origins_1

...

"Mom, where on earth did you get all this stuff from?"

The result was so astonishing that Qin Fang found it really difficult to accept it for the moment. He pointed at the jade necklace and bracelet, stammering a little.

The entire set of jewelry was made of jade, except for the necklace chain, which was made of pure silver, as jade chains are rather difficult to craft. But what truly amazed Qin Fang was the quality of the jade used in the set.

The pendant at the bottom of the necklace was a quality 9 jade. Although there wasn't any data on size, by the size proportions Qin Fang knew, the pendant should be size 1, not particularly large—just a bit bigger than an adult man's thumb joint.

But the issue was its quality—9, almost reaching the pinnacle in jade quality and specially referred to as "Imperial Green."

Qin Fang pulled out the chain and observed the piece of jade closely; it was transparent throughout, free of any impurities. The green was incredibly pure, undeniably a piece of glass-type Imperial Green, the very best in jade.

This pendant wasn't just a simple piece; it was carved into the shape of a phoenix ready to take flight, lifelike, as if it were a living being—clearly, the work of a first-class artisan.

Qin Fang had sold jade before and had specifically looked up the prices of top-grade jade... For the glass-type Imperial Green phoenix on this pendant alone, Qin Fang estimated its value to be at least several million, if not... more.

The two bracelets on Muxue and Wen Yan were only quality 8, not quite reaching the level of Imperial Green, but they were still of the glass-type. Moreover, this pair of bracelets was obviously much larger than the pendant. The combined price of the pair was also quite substantial; he estimated that acquiring such a pair of jade bracelets would also cost several million at least...

And the total price for the entire set of jewelry would be at least tens of millions...

But the Qin Family was just him and his mother, and they had long been as poor as church mice. Qin Fang had never even been aware of the existence of such a set of jewelry, yet Qin Qing had suddenly produced it—how could he not be surprised?

If they had known about the existence of this jewelry set earlier, all they would have needed to do was sell it, and their lives would have changed dramatically overnight. They wouldn't have had to struggle so much over the past decade?

"I told you, it's the Qin Family heirloom, to be passed down from generation to generation. You've grown up now, and soon you'll get married and have children. This set of jewelry is naturally meant to be passed on to your wife..."

Qin Qing appeared very calm, speaking with a smile, as though she didn't consider Qin Fang's shock of any significance, and as if she was completely unaware of the value of this set of jewelry...

But could this be possible?

It wasn't just Qin Fang who found it hard to believe; even Tang Feifei and the others beside him began to sense that there was something extraordinary about this set of jewelry.

"But..."

Qin Fang wanted to say something more, but he just didn't know how to start.

This set was a hereditary treasure of the Qin Family. According to what his mother Qin Qing implied, it was supposed to be passed on to his daughter-in-law, since the jewelry was meant for women to wear. It seemed like Qin Qing must have received this set from Qin Fang's grandmother...

Qin Fang had never delved much into his own ancestry, and Qin Qing never brought it up—as if it were just the two of them against the world, without any other relatives.

It was the same with their surname—both were named Qin. Qin Fang had always thought he had taken his mother's surname, but now it seemed... that might not be the case.

"Stop the chatter, it's late, go to sleep..."

Qin Qing didn't give Qin Fang a chance to talk further, immediately pushing him and shooing him out the door.

"Uh... Mom, where am I going to sleep tonight?"

But as Qin Fang was pushed out the door, it suddenly occurred to him that their home had only two rooms and two beds for five people— he didn't know where he was supposed to sleep...

Sharing a bed with his mom was definitely out of the question. Qin Fang had been booted to sleep on his own by Qin Qing since he was very young, in the name of "fostering independence."

Sharing a bed with Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue, and Wen Yan... that was even less likely. This was their home, not somewhere outside; if he dared to make a wrong move, his mother Qin Qing would definitely knock him dead with a stick.

"Feifei will sleep with me here, and Muxue and Xiao Yan will take your room... As for you... You can rough it in the car for tonight..." Qin Qing and the others were all full of good-humored smiles as they cheerfully assigned Qin Fang his sleeping spot, "Of course, if you don't mind the discomfort, you could always find a pile of grass outside and nest there for the night, just like you used to do when you were little..."

"Er... Pass on that!"

Qin Fang thought it over and decided against it. Sleeping in his car it would be. Luckily, his Audi had a spacious interior. When he bought it, he even fancied it would be great for a bit of fun on the road. Only this time, there wouldn't be any shaking—just him alone to rough it through the night.

The women had already finished their evening routines, leaving Qin Fang no choice but to fend for himself, quickly washing up before settling into his car. With the air conditioning on and a thin blanket for cover, at least he wouldn't be cold.

But Qin Fang lay there in silence, his eyes closing and yet he struggled to fall asleep. His mind was weighed down with concerns that made peaceful rest elusive.

The underground casino issue had been a mere coincidence, not something to lose sleep over for Qin Fang. His true perplexity centered on the jewelry set his mother Qin Qing had produced: more accurately, on his own origins.

For years, Qin Fang had questioned his lineage and his father's identity. His mother was known as Widow Qing in the village, and nearly everyone had accepted that Qin Qing was a widow, an assumption she had never once refuted over the years.

Because of this, Qin Fang, since he could remember, had held the same belief. To spare his mother any sorrow, he never inquired about his father's identity, even when he was often laughed at in school as a "bastard without a dad"—he never brought it up...

In the past, Qin Fang didn't have the means to uncover these truths and didn't want his mother to relive the sad memories of her past. But now, things were different for him. With a net worth exceeding a hundred million and considered a person of status in Ninghai, why shouldn't he investigate his own background?

Suddenly, Qin Fang felt a strong urge to do so. It was unusual for a mother and son to have lived in such a close-knit fashion for over a decade without any relatives around. And his mother, Qin Qing, hardly ever ventured far from home—even when Qin Fang studied in nearby Ninghai, she never visited the urban area once, always waiting at home for his return... This was indeed very abnormal.

Vaguely, Qin Fang felt that his mother might be hiding many things from him. Although he knew that she did it for his sake, he was now an adult, grown up—it was time some things were told to him.

What Qin Fang didn't know was that his mother, who was in the room, also had a restless night. After talking with Tang Feifei for a while and telling her to sleep first, Qin Qing stayed awake, quietly staring at the stargazing night sky through the window...

A night without words.

It was a relatively calm evening. In the second half of the night, Shen Liang brought back Tao Yihai and his family. Tao Yihai's injuries were only superficial and didn't pose a problem; a simple treatment was sufficient.

But following Qin Fang's instructions, Shen Liang meticulously made sure Tao Yihai underwent every possible medical examination the hospital could provide to ensure there were no issues before bringing them back.

Of course, the hospital loved patients like this, generating good revenue; this didn't even include the red envelopes Shen Liang slipped to the on-call doctors for some backdoor favors.

However, Qin Fang didn't care about the money; as long as the people were fine, that was what mattered. This way, Tao Yihai's family could rest easy without constant worry.

Qin Fang barely slept all night, and Shen Liang didn't sleep at all. In the middle of the night, he went straight to the underground casino with two others from Ninghai to scout the situation.

Such places are complicated and chaotic, with any kind of trouble likely to occur. If not prepared in advance, even someone as formidable as Qin Fang might not come out unscathed, hence the necessity of having Shen Liang and his team conduct reconnaissance beforehand.

After sorting out these matters, Qin Fang finally lay down to catch some more sleep. Perhaps due to sheer exhaustion, he swiftly fell into a groggy slumber.

Early next morning, Qin Fang emerged from the car, yawning, and stepped into the yard to see several women chatting and busying themselves...

His mother Qin Qing was naturally among them, joined by Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue, Wen Yan, and there was also a young girl... Tao Xiaojuan.

"Little Brother Fang, thank you. My dad is okay now..."

Upon seeing Qin Fang, Tao Xiaojuan immediately presented him with a radiant smile, expressing her gratitude with sincerity.

"It's good he's fine, no need for all this thanking..."

Gazing at the stunning young face before him, Qin Fang was surprised. He'd thought the girl had grown up and looked more beautiful, but due to the bruising yesterday, he hadn't seen her clearly. Now, with the swelling down and only a light red mark remaining, it in no way detracted from her beauty. This young girl actually was not far behind Tang Feifei and the others in looks...

Being a year younger than Qin Fang, girls naturally develop a bit earlier than boys, and by this age, she was quite matured—with all the attributes of a grown woman, just tinged with a hint of youthful freshness.

It seemed she had put some effort into getting ready today. Standing alongside Tang Feifei and the rest, there was no discernible difference... quite an impression for the formerly snotty-nosed tomboy who used to run around wildly with Qin Fang...

Chapter 659 - Infiltrating the Casino_1

...

"Qin Fang, I heard today is market day on the streets, and it's quite bustling. Aunt Qing said she would take us for a stroll..."

Tang Feifei seemed very excited, immediately reporting to Qin Fang with a big smile on her face.

"Sure, no problem..."

Qin Fang naturally agreed without hesitation.

In the countryside, market days are those specific days each month when the usually deserted marketplace comes alive, with more people coming to sell and buy things...

Here, the street isn't like those in the cities, but refers to the corresponding small town.

Since the surrounding areas are all rural, even though many people's living conditions have already changed a lot and they now prefer to go shopping in the county town or even Ninghai City District, for many farmers, life is still not so good, and it's these small-town markets that they often visit.

Just like Uncle Four, Qin Fang's relative, who almost every market day goes to sell ducks, eggs, and even fish and shrimp on the street. Maybe he doesn't earn much in total, but it's just enough to help make ends meet.

Qin Qing rarely goes out, and even for shopping, she mostly buys at the market in the town, which is why Qin Fang's clothes were all stall goods in the past, looking very countrified. When he was studying in Ninghai, he was often ridiculed by his classmates, but Qin Fang himself didn't care.

Having been mocked since childhood, after more than a decade, such scorn had become something he was immune to.

Perhaps Qin Fang himself didn't know that his ability to win over Tang Feifei's heart was because she saw this trait in him and was ultimately attracted by it, slowly sinking into it, leading to where they were today.

For Tang Feifei and Wen Yan, it was their first time experiencing such a small town. Although they had been to some ancient towns as tourists, those were heavily commercialized already, more like special commercial streets in the city, lacking this kind of atmosphere entirely.

Market days like this were different, with throngs of people passing by, quite crowded. It was almost impossible for cars to pass through, and one often had to wait a long time just to take a step. Usually, people would park their cars outside the street and walk in to shop.

Qin Qing really took on the role of a mother-in-law-to-be, leading her son and his three prospective fiancées through the crowd, with Tao Xiaojuan, whom Tang Feifei had actively invited, joining them. After all, they were of similar ages, and considering what had happened the day before, they were quite concerned about Tao Xiaojuan, so they pulled her along to shop with them.

The five women were almost all beauties, and even though Qin Qing was older, she was still a charming and attractive lady. Such a group was very eye-catching, and not only did quite a few country folks find them dazzling, but even the local hooligans lurking around the small town quickly set their sights on them.

But such riff-raff were simply courting death. Just looking at Qin Fang's strong build was intimidating enough, and when a few hooligans thought to rely on numbers, Qin Fang didn't even have to lift a finger. Shen Liang and others, hidden in the shadows, suddenly sprang out and dragged these hooligans into a dark corner to beat them up, leaving them crying out pitifully for their parents...

Unfortunately, no one would sympathize with them. After knocking these people down, the vendors could pay a bit less in "management fees."

Of course, this was just a small interlude. Whether it was Qin Qing, Tang Feifei, Xiao Muxue, Wen Yan, or even Qin Fang himself, none took it seriously. However, Tao Xiaojuan, who was with them, was quite frightened, resulting in her seeing Qin Fang in an increasingly strange light.

Accompanying women on a shopping trip is definitely a terrifying thing, and accompanying a group of women is even more so, especially in such crowded, bustling small streets, which made it all the more challenging.

However, this didn't dampen the women's enthusiasm for shopping one bit. From various snacks to clothing and shoe stores... they entered almost every shop to look and pick out items, spending quite a bit of time, but actually buying very little.

Luckily, there weren't that many shops on these small streets to begin with. It took Qin Fang nearly an entire day, but finally, all the women were satisfied, and they headed home.

By the time Qin Fang led the women back home in the afternoon, he felt like he was about to fall apart, just wanting to lie down comfortably for a few hours to feel better.

Of course, that was impossible because he still had some things to do that evening.

He had a cheerful dinner with his mom and several girlfriends, with the women still discussing the fruits of their day's shopping, such as which snacks they particularly liked, commenting on a nice piece of clothing they bought, or how beautiful a pair of shoes was—their spirits high all the way until after dinner.

Qin Fang didn't interrupt their conversation but just after finishing dinner, he said goodbye to them and, leading Shen Liang and others, left home towards their destination.

"Young Master Qin, it's all been checked out. The location of the underground gambling den isn't secluded—it's rented in an abandoned factory building not far from the highway. There are roads leading in all directions around it, with exits both front and back for escaping. There are also plenty of surveillance cameras installed, and not a few toughs guarding the two entrances. We've seen about fifteen or sixteen of them, but who knows how many more inside. Security is quite tight; generally, only those introduced by acquaintances are allowed in, or those carrying at least a hundred thousand in cash or driving can also enter after going through two layers of security checks..."

Chapter 660 - Infiltrating the Casino_2

Shen Liang briefly described the situation he had learned about. Overall, the conditions at the underground casino weren't particularly outstanding, but it shouldn't be a big problem for Qin Fang to infiltrate it.

As for the inside of the casino, Shen Liang and his men hadn't been able to get in, so the specifics were still unclear.

Qin Fang estimated that it shouldn't be too difficult; this underground casino mainly attracted gamblers from the surrounding county towns. The sums involved might be significant, but compared to the lavish betting at Elite Salon and Bihai Pavilion, it clearly fell short by a lot.

Otherwise, someone like Tao Yihai, who only owed one or two hundred thousand, wouldn't have made such a fuss about having to move belongings or sell his daughter. This kind of stupid thing, in Ninghai City District, could only happen in those small gambling joints and mahjong parlors.

"Okay, later you lead the team to keep watch from a distance. If needed, I will send a message to notify you..."

Qin Fang nodded his head, with this information he felt more prepared.

"Young Master Qin, I should go in with you, it's better to have an extra person to look out for you..."

Shen Liang still seemed a bit worried as he suggested. Those places were complicated and chaotic, anything could happen, and having him by Qin Fang's side might provide some assistance, even though he knew Qin Fang was tougher than him.

"No need, I have my own methods! Don't forget, even Song Gang died at my hands, what's a small underground casino to me..."

Qin Fang smiled and refused Shen Liang's kind offer; he already had his plans, and some secrets weren't meant to be shared with his subordinates.

Shen Liang and the others naturally knew about Song Gang and Cao Chun. In order to deal with these two, they had brainstormed multiple strategies together with Chen Da. However, before they could implement any, Qin Fang had already taken down Sharpshooter Song Gang first.

They hadn't encountered Song Gang, but understanding the lengths Chen Da was willing to go to—almost hoping for mutual destruction just to take one down—they could imagine how tough Song Gang had been.

And such a formidable figure had been taken down by Qin Fang. They couldn't help but conceive how powerful Qin Fang himself must be.

"Young Master Qin, be careful..."

In the end, there wasn't much else to say, and they all seriously reminded him to take care.

With his subordinates' well-wishes, Qin Fang immediately drove off with five hundred thousand in cash to the underground casino. Since he planned to stir trouble, it wouldn't do to not bring enough money, or the casino might not be inclined to indulge him earnestly.

He drove a car brought in from another part of Ninghai, with its license plate temporarily swapped, and guess whose car it was impersonating? Eighth Elder's—the same Eighth Elder who was formerly one of Li Rui's top henchmen, before Chen Da and his group crippled him by severing his limbs' tendons, turning him into a disabled person!

Not only was the license plate once used by Eighth Elder, but the car model was the same as well. And when Qin Fang got out of the car at the entrance of the underground casino, his features had also transformed into Eighth Elder's.

Originally, Qin Fang had intended to disguise himself as Li Rui to let the boss of Ninghai Underground take the fall for him, but then he thought better of it. Although Li Rui owned numerous enterprises, including several casinos, it was well-known that Li Rui wasn't fond of gambling, and hardly anyone had seen him gambling...

But Eighth Elder, the top enforcer, was a true gambling addict. Even the venues he managed had a dedicated casino, and he had organized several large-scale gambling events, raking in a good amount of money for Li Rui.

The crippling of Eighth Elder was actually known by very few people, Qin Fang had already made proper arrangements. One of the advisers, who was in the know, had already committed suicide after misspeaking, and none of the remaining lackeys dared to talk, so blaming Qin Fang for being the scapegoat was the most fitting choice.

Of course, if Qin Fang managed to take down the underground gambling den today, and those people went to settle accounts with Eighth Elder afterward, that was no longer Qin Fang's concern. Given that Eighth Elder had harmed countless people, even if he were hacked to death, Qin Fang would only have a round of applause for them.

The location of the underground gambling den was in an abandoned factory building, surrounded by quite a few passages, and with its internally complex terrain, even if the police came to crack down on the gambling, they would have enough time to disperse and escape.

But it was clear those police had already been bought off by them, and under normal circumstances they would be unlikely to come over, even now during a crackdown period.

As abnormal as this phenomenon was, Qin Fang felt powerless over it, his current abilities significant though far from omnipotent.

Just as Shen Liang and others had found, the security measures here were relatively strict. When Qin Fang entered, the thugs at the door would carefully check to make sure he wasn't carrying any dangerous weapons, such as knives or guns, and even mobile phones were immediately turned off.

Actually, whether the phone was turned on or off made no difference, Qin Fang noticed that the place was actually equipped with a jamming device, and mobile signals here were severely disrupted, making it absolutely impossible to make a call...

Of course, this had nothing to do with Qin Fang, he carried two mobile phones, one in hand and the other in the Props Box. He even placed the gun and bullets inside the Props Box, and no matter how they were checked, even if it was with the strictest security equipment in the world, no abnormalities would ever be found.

Just like that, Qin Fang, mistaken for the unlucky Eighth Elder, effortlessly blended into the underground gambling den. At the same time, the news that he was carrying half a million in cash was also spread to the den at the first opportunity.

For such a "Fat Sheep," the den would definitely give a "focused" reception...

As Qin Fang stepped into the gambling den, even before walking in, he could hear the shouting inside. Some were excitedly yelling after winning, while others, having lost, appeared extremely dejected, or even started to roar in agitation...

Qin Fang had seen many of life's gamblers in his time, so he wasn't too terribly affected by it all.

Entering, he was immediately hit by a scorching heat, mixed with the smells of smoke, alcohol, sweat, and more, and in this large room, roughly the size of over a hundred flats, there were more than a dozen gaming tables, surrounded by hundreds of people. It seemed that this crowd really brought life and color to the den.

Compared to large casinos like Elite Salon and Bihai Pavilion, there were no scantily clad, sexy women accompanying the players here. Instead, burly, muscular men with flushed faces patrolled around, and in some corners of the casino surveillance cameras were installed. The number of cameras wasn't high, but it was clear that these people were still very cautious.

Most of the gamblers were locals, some dressed very upscale, evidently wealthy, while others appeared a bit shabbier, but without exception, they were all keenly gambling, red-faced and necks bulging.

This was an underground casino, and there was nothing formal about it. It was cash against cash, the red banknotes stacked in piles on the gaming tables.

Nearer to the inside, there was a separate booth where Qin Fang noticed a table surrounded by several people with a long line of banknotes on it, amounting to perhaps more than a million. And when some gamblers lost all their money, they were led over there, signed IOUs, and took out high-interest loans.

Although these people knew full well they were borrowing at extortionate interest rates, blinded by the gambling frenzy, they didn't care at all, seeming extremely excited, as if with this money they would immediately recover their lost funds, pay off the high interest, and even win a big sum...

Qin Fang knew all too well that those who borrowed high-interest loans were least likely to win, they would only lose more and more... just like what happened to Tao Yihai.