

Golden 96

Chapter Ninety-Six: Zhou Rui Joins the Party

After listening to Liu Chuan's words, Zhou Rui lowered his head and thought for a while. Then, he stuffed the remaining half of the green radish into his mouth, chewed it vigorously a few times, and the slight spiciness of the radish made beads of sweat appear on his forehead.

As if he had made up his mind, Zhou Rui said, "Da Chuan, Zhuang Rui, since you think highly of me, Zhou Rui, then I'll work for you. But I'm a straightforward person, and I need to make this clear from the start: if I can't make money with you, I'll leave. I'm not like you; I'm responsible for my younger siblings' schooling and food. If I lose my income, you can afford to wait, but I can't.

Zhou Rui spoke frankly. In the past few days, Zhuang Rui and Liu Chuan had been observing him, and Zhou Rui had also been observing the two of them. In his mind, Zhuang Rui was a calm and steady person, but he was also courageous and decisive in his actions at critical moments. These were all Zhuang Rui's strengths.

But what Zhou Rui valued most was Zhuang Rui's innate good fortune. You see, in Tibet, both purebred Tibetan mastiffs and reincarnated living Buddhas are extremely rare. Many Tibetans never see either one in their entire lives. But Zhuang Rui first obtained a Tibetan mastiff king and then received the empowerment and gift of a pearl from a living Buddha. Zhou Rui, who had lived in Tibet for many years and was an atheist, couldn't help but have some doubts.

As for Liu Chuan, although he is somewhat impatient, he is very organized when handling important matters and has a good grasp of timing. He may seem reckless, but he is actually meticulous. In the black market auction, he provoked Old Man Xie and clashed with Fatty Ma, but it was all intentional. Zhou Rui only realized this after hearing Fatty Ma's words.

Furthermore, during their winter retreat, Zhou Rui noticed that Liu Chuan and Renqing Cuomu seemed to have reached an agreement. Having spent years traveling and working outside, he had some understanding of Tibetan mastiff prices, but he lacked both capital and connections, making it impossible for him to engage in this business. If Liu Chuan and Zhuang Rui were truly interested in developing this business, Zhou Rui was quite optimistic about his future following Liu Chuan.

"Don't worry, Brother Zhou. Although I don't have much money, only a few hundred thousand, as long as I have food to eat, your younger siblings will have money to go to school and eat. You don't need to

worry. Besides, with Boss Zhuang around, what are we afraid of? Once those treasures in the car are sold, millions will immediately come in."

Upon hearing Zhou Rui's agreement, Liu Chuan was overjoyed, patting his chest muscles until they turned red. He made a promise, though he underestimated his net worth. Although he currently only had a little over a million, his assets would multiply several times over after selling the Tibetan Mastiff in the car to Song Jun.

Although the initial agreement with Song Jun was for 500,000 yuan, that was only for Tibetan Mastiffs of average breed and not very purebred. However, the two puppies brought back are both descendants of purebred Golden Retriever Tibetan Mastiffs, and their breeding female is also a Tibetan Mastiff. This makes the price of the two puppies much higher, and they can't be bought for 500,000 yuan. A few days ago, when Liu Chuan was on the phone with Song Jun, Song Jun said that each puppy was worth 3 million yuan. If Liu Chuan hadn't been reluctant to spend the money, he would have bought both of them.

"Get lost. You can have that sandalwood root carving. As for the mastiff farm, I'll give you another three million. Don't even think about anything else."

Zhuang Rui laughed and scolded upon hearing this. After returning from Renqing Cuomu's place on the grassland, he and Liu Chuan had already discussed it in the car. Zhuang Rui would invest three million and Liu Chuan would invest four million in the initial investment of the Tibetan Mastiff kennel. They would first find a remote place, buy some cheap land, and build the prototype of the kennel. Because the later introduction of Tibetan Mastiffs for breeding would basically not cost much. According to the agreement with Renqing Cuomu, some adult Tibetan Mastiffs could be brought over from the grassland for free.

Of course, this "free" only means no cash payment is required. However, after the Tibetan Mastiff kennel is established, Renqing Cuomu will also hold shares. Liu Chuan and Zhuang Rui have roughly divided the shares: Liu Chuan will invest four million, serving as the legal representative and chairman of the kennel, holding 40% of the shares; Zhuang Rui will invest three million, holding 30% of the shares; and Renqing Cuomu will provide the adult Tibetan Mastiffs for breeding and own the rights to supply them, holding 25% of the shares. The remaining 5% will be reserved for Zhou Rui.

Previously, Zhou Rui hadn't agreed to quit his job and go to Pengcheng with them. Liu Chuan and Zhuang Rui had racked their brains over how to communicate with Renqing Cuomu, because spring was coming and the winter camps would soon be disbanded. Renqing Cuomu had no fixed abode on the grassland and couldn't be contacted by phone or other means. If you weren't very familiar with the lives of the

herders, you wouldn't be able to find them at all. But now that Zhou Rui had agreed to work with them, this obstacle no longer existed.

"A Tibetan Mastiff kennel? Zhuang Rui, Da Chuan, are you really planning to raise Tibetan Mastiffs?"

Zhou Rui had no idea that the two of them had already made up their minds. He had only been guessing before, but after hearing Zhuang Rui's words, he was finally certain.

"Brother Zhou, it's not 'us,' it should be 'you all,' it's you, Da Chuan, and Renqing Cuomu. I'm only responsible for providing the money and managing the finances; I don't concern myself with anything else. By the way, you also have shares in this mastiff kennel..."

Zhuang Rui smiled and corrected Zhou Rui's words. Then he roughly explained his and Liu Chuan's plan to Zhou Rui. However, when Zhou Rui heard that he would have 5% of the shares, he shook his head repeatedly and said, "Zhuang Rui, Da Chuan, I appreciate your kindness, but building this mastiff kennel will cost a lot of money. I don't feel at ease taking these shares if I don't contribute a single penny. I'd rather work for you."

"Brother Zhou, don't refuse. We'll need to consult a lawyer about the specifics of how to proceed. Once we've bought the land for the mastiff farm, it would be best if Brother Renqing Cuomu came over so we can all discuss it together. As for the shares, you might not even get five percent by then, so let's not talk about it now."

Liu Chuan waved his hand, somewhat like a chairman before taking office, but his words were not offensive. After thinking for a moment, Zhou Rui nodded in agreement.

"Brother Zhou, take this. Go back to your hometown and settle down with your parents for a while. Then come to Pengcheng to find me. Once the mastiff kennel is built and we brothers get busy, we might not have time to go back again."

After the group returned to their hotel room feeling refreshed, Liu Chuan took out a black handbag and tossed it to Zhou Rui.

Zhou Rui paused for a moment, then casually opened the handbag. His body immediately stiffened. There were ten bundles of RMB, totaling 100,000 yuan, bulging the handbag. Zhou Rui wasn't unfamiliar with so much money, but that money didn't belong to him. Now, after hearing Liu Chuan's words and looking at the money in the handbag, even Zhou Rui, who remained calm when fighting drug traffickers at the border, couldn't help but be stunned.

"Da...Da Chuan, this money...is it for me?"

Zhou Rui's speech became somewhat incoherent. After leaving the army, he had done many jobs, with the highest salary being only a little over a thousand RMB. Now, suddenly seeing all this money belonging to him, he couldn't help but lose his composure.

With Zhou Rui's skills, it wouldn't be difficult for him to make money through crooked means. However, after witnessing the fate of many criminals, Zhou Rui has always adhered to his principles: "Work hard and be an honest person." Although it is tough and tiring, every penny he earns is clean and honest.

After the initial panic subsided, Zhou Rui calmed down, pushed the bag to Liu Chuan's side, and said, "Da Chuan, I know you mean well, but I can't accept this money. As the saying goes, 'No reward without merit.' It's not right for you to give me money before I've even done anything. Even if you don't give me this money when I work for you in the future, I will still accept it."

Zhou Rui made a rare joke, but at the same time, he made up his mind to work for Liu Chuan and Zhuang Rui from now on. You know, they didn't even look at his ID card and just casually pulled out 100,000 yuan. With such a bold boss, he believed that his future would be bright.

Upon hearing this, Zhuang Rui pushed away the little white lion that was circling around him. He hadn't seen the little guy for only an hour or so, and it started tearing at Zhuang Rui's trouser leg. He didn't know if it was revenge for him not taking him to the bath, or if it was due to their intimacy.

"Brother Zhou, take this money. You know, Da Chuan and I came here to buy Tibetan mastiffs because someone else pre-ordered them. If it weren't for you leading the way, we would never have been able to find any herders on the grasslands. So this money is your labor fee for this trip. Even if you hadn't worked with us, this money would still have been prepared for you. You deserve it, there's no need to feel embarrassed."

Zhuang Rui was telling the truth. Although Renqing Cuomu gave the Tibetan mastiffs to Liu Chuan, Zhou Rui was the one who did all the killing and skinning of the wolves. Without his reminder, how would Liu Chuan know to exchange gifts with the herders? Besides, Liu Chuan got both Tibetan mastiffs all by himself. If it were based on merit, it would be reasonable for Zhou Rui to ask for one as well.

So giving Zhou Rui 100,000 yuan was something Liu Chuan had planned long ago. This money was taken from Zhuang Rui's 300,000 yuan, and it was considered a loan from Zhuang Rui to Liu Chuan. It would be offset in the accounts later.

“Okay, I’ll take the money. I’ll go back and resign tomorrow. I’ll be able to get to Pengcheng in three to five days. I, Zhou Rui, am not good at sweet talk, but I will do my best to help my two brothers in the future.”

Zhou Rui didn't make any further recommendations. Holding the cold leather bag in his hand, his heart was burning with excitement. He hadn't expected these two young men to be so generous, and he had made up his mind that he was willing to sell his life to them.