

## King Hall 231

### Chapter 231: Stubborn

Watching Mu Jinyu leading the spokespersons of the three great families of River City and Mei Yinxue toward the conference hall.

Wang Huanhuan, Zhang Qiuhuai, Li Shuyue and several others had panicked expressions and no longer dared to stay, they needed to hurry back to deal with the situation, striving to erase any scandals and unclean matters within their companies.

And Wen Rou's Second Aunt, upon learning the identities of Jiang Wangchuan, Xu Tianzheng, and Du Xiangcheng from the others, was also frightened and slunk away.

"What do we do now?"

Gu Shiqian looked at the Gu family elders, their faces all looking terrible.

They had not expected that after leaving the Gu Family, Gu Xiyan would be able to rub shoulders with three out of the four great families of River City.

This made them feel very uncomfortable.

"What do we do? We haven't done anything illegal or disorderly."

Chen Jiaomeng bit her thin lips and looked coldly at the fading figure of Gu Xiyan, saying disdainfully.

"This..."

Gu Shiqian's face turned pale, she knew very well that buying the "Jade Bee Dew" secret formula from Xu Xiaojiao had its risks, but they could probably ride out the storm. However, the medicinal materials used in their "Jade Bee Dew" were somewhat...

She wanted to come clean with her uncles, but she was afraid that in the presence of so many, it might turn into a confession without being pressed.

After thinking for a moment, Gu Shiqian said, "I'll go back first and discuss the matter with Grandpa."

It wasn't good to call all the Gu family members back for a meeting directly — first, it would be pointless, and second, it would be too obvious.

Gu Shiqian hurriedly left.

Liu Xiaoyun glanced at her retreating figure, sneered, and shook her head saying, "Shiqian is still too young, scared off just like that when there's really no need. Even if our Gu Corporation has some issues, with Xiyun standing by our side, would that ungrateful girl seriously betray her own kin?"

Chen Jiaomeng nodded in agreement, adding, "Exactly, if Xiyun really dares to do that, isn't she afraid of being backstabbed to death?"

Gu Tianyun laughed dryly and shook his head, saying, "Let's go, we should also head inside to see for ourselves. I want to see if they are going to replicate 'Jade Bee Dew'. If so, we don't need to take them seriously!"

Gu Tiange chimed in, "That's right! Even if they know so many influential people, without a quality product, what's the use? Would the Xu family, the Jiang family really throw money at them to pave their way?"

The Gu family members had initially been frightened by the appearance of so many dignitaries supporting Mu Jinyu, but then they remembered that Gu Xiyun was ultimately their niece, and they wouldn't do anything to harm themselves, so they started to take it less seriously.

After a few remarks, they also walked toward the conference hall with smiles, curious to see what new products Mu Jinyu and her group could come up with to compete against them!

Lin Xiaoru and Chen Xuyang were also about to leave.

After all, they originally planned to suppress Mu Jinyu and her group, but the arrival of the three great families turned it into a joke, and they felt like they had been slapped in the face, too embarrassed to stay any longer.

However, upon hearing the words of the Gu family members, her face changed a few times.

She thought, if they dared to go in and see the new product launch of Mu Jinyu, there was no reason for her to back down.

If she slinked away now, would she not be even worse than them?

Therefore, Lin Xiaoru said to the panicked-looking Chen Xuyang, "Brother Xuyang, let's go in too!"

"This..." Chen Xuyang hesitated, feeling that it was not a good idea.

Lin Xiaoru said, "Don't be scared. If they join together, my Lin family may be at a disadvantage, but I am not someone to be trifled with. They wouldn't dare do anything to us."

After speaking, she let out a cold laugh and added, "I really want to see what kind of beauty medicine they can come up with to slap my face and make me regret it for the rest of my life!"

Lin Xiaoru still remembered that just now, Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue had said that she would regret her decision someday!

Now her anger had flared up, she was determined to see if their so-called "Beauty Pill" was truly something she would regret for a lifetime!

Chen Xuyang couldn't persuade Lin Xiaoru otherwise, eventually following her to the venue, albeit with trepidation.

"I'm sorry, but without an invitation, you can't enter!"

Just as they reached the entrance of the venue, they heard Gu family members arguing with the security guards.

"Why can't we go in? General Gu is our niece, why would we need an invitation just to come and support her?"

"Exactly, you are being way too snobbish; be careful, I might just tell General Gu and make sure you can't walk away from this unscathed!"

Liu Xiaoyun and Chen Jiaomeng stood with hands on hips, pointing their fingers at the security guards' noses, cursing loudly in a shrewish manner.

The security guards were insulted to the point of looking extremely displeased, yet they couldn't really say anything in response.

At that moment.

When Mu Jinyu heard the commotion, he excused himself from the group of reporters and made his way to the entrance.

"Chairman, we..."

The security guards, seeing that Mu Jinyu had been disturbed, immediately expressed their shame.

"It's fine, let them in. If they want to see, let them see enough," Mu Jinyu said, waving his hand.

At the same time, he glanced at Lin Xiaoru and Chen Xuyang, who had followed, without saying anything, a faint cold smirk on his lips.

He thought to himself, 'Wanting to see my embarrassment? Better wait for the next life!'

Afterward, Mu Jinyu didn't bother to greet the Gu family members or Lin Xiaoru and the others, and went straight inside to welcome guests like Xu Tianzheng, Jiang Wangchuan, and Du Xiangcheng.

Although he had had unpleasant experiences with Jiang Wangchuan and Xu Tianzheng before, they had come to show their support today, bringing along a large number of media reporters and social media influencers, so he couldn't exactly snub them.

The media reporters were to be entertained by Wen Rou, Xu Qingya, Gu Xiyan, and others for the time being, while Mu Jinyu stepped toward Xu Tianzheng and his group.

"Doctor Mu, what do you think? Does the Beauty Pill really have the effect of making someone look ten years younger?"

Xu Tianzheng, having seen the Gu family members enter and watching Mu Jinyu approach him, let out a breath and asked with some concern.

"If it really doesn't work out, we can make room in our sales channels for you. That should be enough to withstand the impact of their 'Jade Bee Dew'!"

Jiang Wangchuan also chimed in.

"Don't worry, their 'Jade Bee Dew' won't cause much of a stir. Once my Beauty Pill hits the market, all the evil spirits out there will be swept clean!" Mu Jinyu said with full confidence.

"Is the Beauty Pill that amazing?!"

Upon hearing their conversation, Du Xiangcheng couldn't help but ask in surprise.

He had been very busy lately and hadn't paid much attention to the state of Mu Jinyu's affairs. He wouldn't have made the trip if his secretary hadn't informed him of Mu Jinyu's company's new product launch today and the fact that Lin Pharmaceutical was causing trouble.

As for the "Jade Bee Dew," which had been widely circulated among the socialites and ladies of high society, he couldn't avoid hearing about it even if he wanted to.

He just hadn't expected that Mu Jinyu's new product was prepared to compete with it.

Chapter 232: The Press Conference Begins

"Of course."

Mu Jinyu turned her head to look at Du Xiangcheng and said with a smile.

"Right, if you hadn't mentioned it, I would have forgotten to apply 'Jade Bee Dew' today. Xiaoya, hold onto it for now."

Hearing their conversation, Du Xiangcheng's wife suddenly remembered that she hadn't applied "Jade Bee Dew" today. She hurriedly handed over Du Xiaoya to Du Xiangcheng and then went to fetch the "Jade Bee Dew".

Mu Jinyu's eyebrows twitched when she heard this and she quickly asked, "Lady, have you been using 'Jade Bee Dew' consistently recently?"

Du Xiangcheng's wife nodded and said, "Yes, this 'Jade Bee Dew' is very effective. I have been using it lately and feel like my skin has improved, and I look several years younger."

Mu Jinyu's expression darkened slightly. After thinking for a moment, she still decided to speak up and advise,

"Then I would advise you not to use it anymore.

It's not that I want to badmouth their 'Jade Bee Dew', but this cosmetic product was originally the new flagship product of my company. However, it was betrayed by the former CEO and thus released ahead of schedule for sales.

Moreover, they have used some substandard medicinal ingredients to cut costs and compete with me on price. There are significant hidden dangers that just haven't surfaced yet!"

"What?!"

Du Xiangcheng's wife's hand, which was just reaching for the "Jade Bee Dew", trembled with fright, her complexion turning pale.

She was delicate and gentle-looking, dignified and beautiful, but she was, after all, getting older. Despite good maintenance, crow's feet were inevitably appearing at the corners of her eyes.

In the past days, she had tried "Jade Bee Dew" and found it to be very effective. The crow's feet had lessened substantially, becoming less noticeable, and her facial skin had become smoother and fairer.

As a result, she grew more dependent on it, applying it almost three times a day.

Now hearing that the "Jade Bee Dew" contained inferior medicinal ingredients and posed huge risks, she was terrified, fearing for the beauty of her face!

Upon hearing this, Du Xiangcheng's expression also grew solemn, his brows furrowed as he asked, "Mr. Mu, are you serious about this?"

"Certainly, you can ask Elder Master Xu. He's very clear about this matter," Mu Jinyu spread her hands and said.

"Uncle Xu?" Du Xiangcheng turned his head to look at Xu Tianzheng.

Xu Tianzheng appeared somewhat embarrassed, cleared his throat, and said,

"Indeed, Doctor Mu isn't spreading lies or defaming anyone. The 'Jade Bee Dew' that's become extremely popular on the market was originally purchased by my unworthy granddaughter for a high price.

Regrettably, to make amends to Doctor Mu, I sold the company to him and transferred the CEO position to another granddaughter of mine to assist Doctor Mu in managing the company.

I already had other plans and arrangements, but I would never have imagined that my granddaughter would choose such a way of revenge..."

After saying this, he felt he might have strayed from the subject and sighed again,

"I have seen the 'Jade Bee Dew' inspection report, and to be honest, I can't tell whether there's a problem with it. However, Doctor Mu is not likely to slander others.

And the 'Beauty Pill' he presented, I know the effect of that medicine—it's at least ten times more potent than 'Jade Bee Dew'. There's no need for him to discredit another's product."

The faces of Du Xiangcheng and his wife suddenly looked very troubled.

They knew that given Xu Tianzheng's status, although he desired to establish a good relationship with Mu Jinyu, he would not stoop to lying on Mu's behalf.

He was not about to give up his dignity.

Du Xiangcheng turned to his wife and said, "Better not to use it for now."

After saying this, he turned to his secretary, handed his wife's "Jade Bee Dew" to him, and instructed, "Take this for a comprehensive test and also investigate the sourcing channels of Face of Jade Group."

"Yes," the secretary accepted the order and left.

Seeing this, Xu Tianzheng felt a sense of pity for the Gu family members.

They hadn't recouped much money before being targeted by the Governor of Jiangnan. Alas, what a pity.

It remained unclear how Doctor Mu intended to comfort his little girlfriend Gu Xiyan when the time came.

Mu Jinyu truly only intended to give Lady Du Xiangcheng a warning out of good will, not to scheme against the Gu Family; he genuinely did not want to see her end up disfigured after using Jade Bee Dew.

Such a situation would be far worse than discovering the issue with Jade Bee Dew now.

After all, what was her status?

Lady Provincial Shepherdess.

If she used a product from the Gu Family and ended up disfiguring her face, it would truly cause a major earthquake!

One could say that Mu Jinyu was not trapping the Gu Family but rather saving them!

Seeing the secretary leave, Mu Jinyu thought for a moment and said, "Madam, would you like to try my Beauty Pill? It has no side effects, and it takes effect immediately, making you look ten years younger."

"No need, no need, I've become somewhat allergic to beauty products now,"

Lady Du Xiangcheng quickly waved her hands and declined.

Having just learned that Jade Bee Dew, which she regularly used, might have significant hidden risks, despite the fact that it wasn't confirmed yet, she dared not continue using it.

And the effects of the Beauty Pill that Mu Jinyu mentioned seemed too exaggerated—ten years younger, immediate results...

It made her feel it was very unreliable.

Considering what he had just said about Jade Bee Dew's problems, it sounded as if he was intentionally slandering another's product in order to market his own.

This made her feel uncomfortable, so she did not want to try it.

Du Xiangcheng felt the same way, but he did not say anything.

"Alright then,"

Mu Jinyu shrugged his shoulders without any particular concern. Google search Novel-Fire.net

While several people were talking, the staff on the stage were making final adjustments and then left.

At this point, the seats below were mostly filled because Mei Yinxue, Jiang Wangchuan, Xu Tianzheng, and Du Xiangcheng each brought quite a few media reporters with them.

Among these reporters, some were from River City, some from Jiangnan Province, and others from different places. There were also a bunch of bloggers and creators from online media platforms.

"Hello, everyone, I've been invited to attend a very strange new product launch today..."

A cute little girl held up her cellphone, aimed the camera at herself, and began to chatter.

It seemed as if she was doing a live broadcast.

After introducing herself briefly, she turned her phone around: "This is what the venue looks like; I'll give everyone a look."

Instantly, a flurry of comments appeared on the phone screen:

[What kind of launch is this with so few people? This really lacks presence.]

[Weird, why would Mengmeng attend such a sparse event?]

[Wow, there are so many pretty girls at this launch, guys, charge!]

[Charge, charge...]

Mengmeng glanced at the comments with some helplessness and then explained, "This launch is quite prestigious; the decision-makers from the Four Great Families of River City are all here to support it. I suspect people without enough qualifications can't even get in."

At this time.

It was noon.

Xu Qingya and Wen Rou exchanged a look and then nudged Gu Xiyao to go up on stage to give her speech.

After all, Gu Xiyao had been a CEO for many years; this kind of event wouldn't frighten her.

She took a deep breath and walked onto the stage.

Chapter 233: Start Experiment

Gu Xiyao slowly walked onto the stage, her gaze fixating on the assembled media reporters below.

"Click, click!"

Immediately, the media raised their cameras and began frantically snapping photos of Gu Xiyan.

Gu Xiyan let them take her photos, facing the flashing lights with a smile, exuding confidence and composure.

Meanwhile, in Mengmeng's live stream, the comments continued to roll:

[Is the press conference starting? Who is the president of this company? She looks so young and beautiful!]

[Oh, I thought she was a greeter, but she's actually the president. I don't want to strive anymore; hug me, please!]

[...]

After the flashes of the cameras had subsided, Gu Xiyan took hold of the microphone and began speaking softly:

"Welcome everyone to the new product launch of Jinyu International Fashion. I won't bore you with unnecessary words; let's get right to the point. Today, Jinyu Group is introducing just one product, its name is 'Beauty Pill.' I believe some of you have already heard about it..."

"The 'Beauty Pill' is considered a health supplement, and its purpose is very clear—it beautifies. It can make one look about ten years younger, depending on the situation, and unlike other beauty products on the market, you don't need to undergo several treatments to see just a minimal effect..."

While speaking, Gu Xiyan held the microphone, glancing around, lingering for an extra second on the likes of Lin Xiaoru and Gu Shiqian before she continued:

"Our Beauty Pill takes effect immediately on stage; we do not engage in false advertising. Jinyu Group guarantees that if there is no effect within one minute of using the Beauty Pill, we offer a hundredfold compensation!"

Gu Xiyan finished her statement.

It immediately caused a sensation, like a stone creating ripples in a pond, sending the gathered press into an uproar.

"What? It works immediately upon consumption, making one about ten years younger?!"

"That can't be possible, right? Isn't that a bit too exaggerated?"

"The best product similar to this in the market is 'Jade Bee Dew,' but even it requires a full treatment course to demonstrate minor effects."

"Yes, 'Jade Bee Dew' requires long-term use to achieve the three-year youth renewal they advertise. This ten years younger claim is impossible!"

"..."

Amid the clamor, some reporters had already started planning their stories for their return.

Du Xiangcheng and his wife, sitting next to Mu Jinyu, listened to Gu Xiyan's pitch and couldn't help but exchange glances with Mu Jinyu.

To be honest, like the reporters, they too found Mu Jinyu's claims hard to believe, but he never expected Mu Jinyu would actually use such bold statements in the launch!

Mu Jinyu, sensing Du Xiangcheng's incredulous look, knew he still didn't believe her, smiled faintly, and said nothing.

Because he knew, just a few more minutes and he would find it even more incredible!

Gu Xiyan stood on the stage without saying another word.

Once the noise from below gradually subsided, she lifted the microphone, smiling, and said:

"I know what I just said may sound unbelievable, but I'm not lying. After all, we are about to demonstrate the product's authenticity."

After finishing, Gu Xiyan pointed to the large screen behind her and stated, "I won't use our company's employees to test the effectiveness of Beauty Pill to avoid any further doubts about its authenticity. Instead, I'll randomly select three lucky audience members right now to let you experience the feeling of witnessing a miracle!"

As she spoke, a roulette wheel appeared on the large screen behind her, and it began to draw numbers.

Soon, three lucky audience members were selected.

One man and two women.

Among the women was the live streamer, Mengmeng.

[Wow, Mengmeng got selected. She's so lucky! I want to see if their Beauty Pill is as effective as they claim!]

[Mengmeng, go up and get me the contact of that lady on stage!]

[...]

Mengmeng hadn't expected to be so lucky to be chosen and was a bit stunned before she followed the other two onto the stage.

Gu Xiyan looked at them and, holding the microphone, said, "Next, I will have them remove their makeup and wash their face. Then, I'll take some photos of their current skin condition. After they have taken our Beauty Pill, we will compare the results and see how effective it is!"

"Remove makeup and take photos?"

A female journalist who was also selected looked a bit unhappy upon hearing Gu Xiyan's words.

She probably guessed that her face would look quite disastrous without makeup, which made her especially resistant.

Moreover, the idea of having her photo taken and enlarged, exposing her acne, wrinkles, and other flaws, was even more unacceptable to her!

Gu Xiyan saw her dissatisfaction, but since she didn't leave the stage right away, she knew that because of the influence of the Xu and Jiang Families, the woman was upset but didn't dare to make a scene.

But Gu Xiyan wouldn't force anyone, so she added, "If you don't want to do this, you can leave the stage, and I will select someone else."

The female journalist gratefully glanced at Gu Xiyan and hurriedly left the stage.

Soon, the screen randomly selected another lucky audience member, this time a man.

Meanwhile, Mengmeng's live stream was buzzing with comments:

[Finally, we can see Mengmeng's bare face, hope it won't scare me!]

[Oh wow, she's about to remove her makeup, and Mengmeng isn't running off—seems very confident!]

[...]

Mengmeng chuckled as she read the comments on her smartphone, chatted briefly with her viewers, and then went backstage to remove her makeup and wash her face.

Soon, the three lucky audience members, including Mengmeng who had light makeup on, and the other two male journalists, quickly washed their faces and returned.

Their facial skin was then captured on a high-definition camera and shown on the large screen behind them so that the audience could clearly see the imperfections on their faces.

The two men, both older, had rough skin that was dark and greasy, with some acne scars as well.

They stood on stage, sheepishly smiling, not seeming to mind much.

Mengmeng's skin, however, wasn't bad; it was quite fair, just marred by some discreet acne and scars that were usually hidden under her light makeup.

[Wow, Mengmeng's bare face is still so great, love it!]

[...]

Mengmeng glanced at the comments, stuck out her tongue playfully, and didn't feel embarrassed at all, thinking to herself that no one is perfect.

Thinking this, she unconsciously glanced at Gu Xiyan standing in front of her and secretly thought:

'This sister's skin seems extraordinarily good. Could it be because of the Beauty Pill?'

Mengmeng shook her head slightly, dismissing the thought.

After Gu Xiyan saw that the three lucky audience members had removed their makeup and washed their faces and had their current facial conditions recorded, she held the microphone and said, "Alright, now that we have recorded their conditions, we can let them try our Beauty Pill and see the effects!"

After she finished speaking, Lin Qiaoxia came up onto the stage with a tray, holding three portions of the Beauty Pill.

[Wow, another super beauty.]

[This young lady's skin is so nice and tender—really makes me want to pinch it and see how long she can cry!]

[...]

The three of them took the Beauty Pills handed by Lin Qiaoxia, took a deep breath, and then popped them into their mouths.

Immediately, their eyes widened.

Chapter 234: Utter Failure

That melt-in-the-mouth delight, it really was...

So delicious!

Mengmeng sucked on her fingers, closed her eyes, her face full of enjoyment, savoring the taste of the Beauty Pill.

The audience below, however, burst into commotion again as they watched them consume the Beauty Pills.

"Click! Click!"

People raised their cameras, furiously snapping photos of the three people on the stage.

While taking pictures, someone exclaimed in disbelief, "It's inconceivable, to actually have such a product, this is simply a Miraculous Elixir!"

"If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I'd have thought this was magic."

"..."

The couple sitting next to Mu Jinyu, along with Jiang Wangchuan and others, were also staring with wide eyes, incredulous at the dramatic change of the three people on the stage.

Those two male reporters, who originally might have had dark and somewhat greasy rough skin due to being exposed to the elements while conducting interviews, now had their rugged complexions transformed into fair and smooth skin, rivaling the most idolized young actors adored by female movie fans.

Truthfully white and tender, their skin was neither greasy nor coarse, and problems like acne scars had vanished without a trace, as if they had returned to their most radiant days in school.

In Mengmeng's live stream room:

[???

[Holy shit, is this real or fake?]

[What is this sorcery? Is it a magic trick?]

[How can there be such a beauty product? It's freaking scarier than makeup, Photoshop, and plastic surgery...]

[If this is real, I'll eat a pound of shit live!]

[The guy above is scamming for free meals again!]

[How much does this Beauty Pill cost? I want to buy a box to try!]

[Mengmeng now looks like a legit loli, oh my god, I can't take it anymore!]

[Now, no one can call Mengmeng an old lady!]

"..."

Mengmeng's skin, which was originally fair and nearly flawless, had turned even whiter, softer, smoother, and more delicate after taking the Beauty Pill, much like the skin of a newborn baby.

Mengmeng was quite petite and looked very young. She dressed in a cute style but you could tell she was trying to look younger.

But now, she truly appeared like a little loli, just like a student who had just started middle school, not at all like a woman in her twenties who had already entered society.

The effect was too obvious, too exaggerated.

No need to compare before-and-after pictures; anyone with eyes could see the difference.

The female reporter who had earlier given up the chance was now looking at the astonishing transformation of the three people on stage, and she deeply regretted it to the point of feeling sick.

She kept hoping in her heart that the Beauty Pill wouldn't be too expensive!

But she knew in her heart that if the "Jade Bee Dew," which had only minor effects, was already selling for sixty-six hundred, then this Beauty Pill, which was ten times more effective, might well be priced at sixty-six thousand?

If they go for a scarcity marketing approach, selling only a little each year, they might even fetch fifty million, with numerous wealthy women willing to fight tooth and nail for it.

After all, money can be earned, but youth and beauty are not so easily regained.

So, the female reporter who originally had the chance to regain her youthful appearance and skin for free was truly filled with unbearable regret!

"Is this really happening? Are my eyes deceiving me?"

"Impossible, impossible! I refuse to believe it!!"

"This... it's all over, our Jade Bee Dew is doomed now!"

"..."

The Gu Family members, who had been sitting in the audience, waiting to see Gu Xiyuan made a fool of, were so shocked by the transformation of the three on stage that their eyes almost popped out of their sockets.

Liu Xiaoyun's eyes were vacant as she stared blankly at the three on stage, her mind spinning.

She had originally thought that Gu Xiyuan's new product launch today was just going to be a joke. With the "Jade Bee Dew" prescription leaked and a huge sum of money immediately invested in its development, how could Gu Xiyuan possibly revitalize this failing company...

But she did it.

Gu Xiyan came out with a Beauty Pill, even more outrageous and fearsome than their "Jade Bee Dew," teaching them what a real catastrophe looked like!

With this Beauty Pill available, who the hell would buy their "Jade Bee Dew"?

Then how were the Gu family supposed to recoup the fifty million they spent to acquire the "Jade Bee Dew" prescription, plus the subsequent capital costs?

Chen Jiaomeng's eyes were vacant, but she quickly regained her composure. Panic struck her heart, yet she forced herself to stay calm, murmuring,

"It doesn't matter, it doesn't matter, Xiyan is our niece, after all, she definitely won't make things difficult for us. If it comes to it, we'll just follow her lead, we won't sell 'Jade Bee Dew' anymore, we can be a downstream agent for their company and help them sell Beauty Pills, we might even earn more that way..."

As soon as Chen Jiaomeng finished speaking, the other Gu family members, still stunned from the great shock, seemed to find their pillar of support and nodded in agreement,

"Exactly, exactly, we're all one family, Xiyan wouldn't really try to kill us off, would she?"

"Right, right, Aunt Three has a point, maybe with Sister Xiyan's help, the Gu family can reach new heights!"

"..."

Liu Xiaoyun listened to their words and shook her head inwardly, feeling deeply saddened and not agreeing with them.

Such an amazing Beauty Pill, once people knew about it, they'd be fighting to buy it, who would need an agent then? And why would they share the profits with an agent?

Moreover, it didn't seem like Gu Xiyan was the big boss of Jinyu Group, was she?

Did she have the power to leak resources to the Gu family? To support them?

Liu Xiaoyun didn't think Chen Jiaomeng's idea was feasible at all, she just felt they were deluding themselves.

And Lin Xiaoru, sitting on the other side of the room, felt as if a bottle of spices had been overturned in her heart; she experienced a mix of emotions—sour, bitter, spicy, and salty, only sweetness was distinctly absent!

Seeing the earth-shattering transformation of the three people on stage, Lin Xiaoru was filled with regret.

This Beauty Pill, comparable to a Miraculous Elixir, could have been an opportunity to collaborate with Lin Pharmaceutical, allowing them to make a fortune, but unfortunately...

She had rejected it for the sake of love.

To say she had no regrets would be a lie!

And even if she truly had no regrets, once her father found out about this, he would surely make her realize what true regret felt like!

Lin Xiaoru turned to glance at Chen Xuyang, who was staring blankly, then shifted her gaze away and looked toward Mu Jinyu, who was chatting with Du Xiangcheng, Jiang Wangchuan, Xu Tianzheng, and others not far away.

She knew in her heart that Gu Xiyan's sudden resurgence was likely due to this man!

'Why, why does fate favor you so? Every time it's the same, I like Chen Xuyang, and yet he only has eyes for you. I managed to steal him away from you, thinking that this time, you would finally lose miserably. Who knew that in the end, it's me who is utterly defeated!'

Lin Xiaoru clenched her fists so tightly that her sharp nails dug into her palms, but this piercing pain was nothing compared to the agony of frustration and injustice in her heart!

Chapter 235: Entrust?

The Gu family members and Lin Xiaoru experienced a mix of bitterness, sourness, spiciness, and saltiness in their hearts. Mu Jinyu might not have been aware of the specifics, but she could guess a thing or two.

However, she didn't pay any attention to these trivial clowns; she was chatting with Xu Tianzheng and Jiang Wangchuan and a few others.

"Alas, with Doctor Mu presenting such a Miraculous Elixir, it seems that becoming the Richest Man in Jiangnan is guaranteed, and even becoming the Richest Man in Huaxia is a possibility," Jiang Wangchuan remarked, staring at the transformations of the three on stage and finally admitting defeat with a sigh after being stunned for a long time.

Xu Tianzheng laughed and said, "If Doctor Mu can produce a few more elixirs as extraordinary as the Beauty Pill, such as ones that could also rejuvenate someone's physical functions by ten years, then he'd truly be making money for the richest man in the world."

For a poor youngster without money, wealth is undoubtedly the most important thing; health doesn't matter at all.

But for the true tycoons, money is just a string of numbers; what's really most important is a healthy body.

The body is indeed the capital. With a healthy body, they can spend money lavishly and continue earning more.

Without a healthy body, one has to live in agony, following the doctor's orders, unable to eat this or drink that.

How many wealthy individuals, upon reaching old age, would wish to trade half of their fortune for a body ten years younger.

Xu Tianzheng's sigh did not come out of nowhere.

Having been diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, he had already come to terms with the fact that money was truly unimportant, and a healthy body was paramount. This was why he kept courting Mu Jinyu's favor.

Upon hearing Xu Tianzheng's words, Mu Jinyu gave a faint smile and said nothing.

She knew Xu Tianzheng was probing, as his health was not great, and he naturally longed to maintain a youthful vigor and live for several more decades without sickness or health issues.

But the problem was, Mu Jinyu didn't have such a medicine!

Du Xiangcheng also fixated on Mu Jinyu with eyes shining in astonishment. He had never expected that the words he had just spoken were actually true.

No wonder Xu Tianzheng, Jiang Wangchuan, and those other old guys were so willing to lower their stature to forge relationships with him!

Lady Du didn't listen to their conversation. Her eyes wide with surprise as she watched the trio on stage, she couldn't help but reveal her envy at the sight of Mengmeng's youthful skin, hardly concealed behind the fine lines at the corners of her eyes.

Just because of the Jade Bee Dew's emergence, with its astonishing effects capable of making someone look two to three years younger with prolonged use, she would joyously use it three or four times a day!

But after Mu Jinyu mentioned that the Jade Bee Dew had significant hidden risks—not knowing whether it was true or not—she dared not use it anymore.

Instinctively, she was entirely skeptical about the effects of the Beauty Pill promoted by Mu Jinyu and resisted it!

If the Beauty Pill's effects had not been so dramatic, Lady Du might have been embarrassed to ask for it after just having said she wouldn't use it.

However, the effects of the Beauty Pill were so overwhelming that she could not resist.

"Mr. Mu, I would also like to try this Beauty Pill, may I?" Lady Du eventually couldn't suppress her longing and, holding Du Xiaoya, turned to look at Mu Jinyu and asked.

Du Xiangcheng also turned his head, sighed softly within his heart and said, "Don't worry, we won't take your medicine for free. Whatever the cost, I'll pay the full price."

Mu Jinyu smiled and shook her head, saying, "Well, yes, you can have it, and there's no need to talk about money."

If it had been the him who had just arrived in River City, he might have retorted with, "Didn't Lady Du just say she didn't want it? Why does she want it now?" and he definitely would have charged them money, a hefty sum at that!

But his temperament had grown since descending the mountain, no longer filled with resentment, and he naturally wouldn't behave as he used to.

Moreover, Du Xiangcheng and his wife came over today to support him, and it would be really hurtful if he were to act that way.

"This..." Hearing this, the Du couple felt a bit embarrassed.

Mu Jinyu smiled and said, "It just so happens to be a good promotional opportunity for me, and it will shut up those who still want to question the authenticity of the drug's effects!"

As she spoke, Mu Jinyu chuckled again, "Of course, I'll send you the fee for the promotion later on."

Listening to this made Du Xiangcheng feel even more embarrassed.

To try out the Beauty Pill for free and then to accept the promotional fee, they were not so insatiable.

"There's no need to mention the promotional fee. We're all friends here," Du Xiangcheng said with a wry smile.

He had intended to buy some Beauty Pills for his wife and did not want her to stand up on stage to demonstrate the before and after effects of taking the Beauty Pill for everyone to see.

But now that Mu Jinyu had said as much, it would seem bad if he refused.

Seeing that he had agreed, Mu Jinyu waved over a staff member and, after instructing her on a few things, asked her to go on stage and communicate with Gu Xiyan.

At this time, Gu Xiyan was still confidently demonstrating the before and after effects of three people taking the Beauty Pill on stage, explaining:

"The effect of the Beauty Pill is there for everyone to see. In just a short minute, it turned two gentlemen with rough, oily skin into popular young idols."

As Gu Xiyan was speaking, a skeptical Gu family member with resentful eyes, stepped forward and challenged:

"Who knows if there was any trickery involved in this comparison? After all, the random selection of participants was managed by you, and who knows if there was any insider manipulation. I think those two reporters were like that to begin with, only they put on makeup to look that way before coming here; they're your plants!"

The words of this Gu family member made Gu Xiyan grit her teeth in anger.

She was genuinely heartbroken, having reminded them to back off to avoid imprisonment, and they not only ignored her but also came today specifically to see her embarrassment.

Now that they couldn't see any embarrassment, they even led the way in questioning her.

Gu Xiyao felt disheartened and wasn't that inclined to deal with them anymore.

The questioning from that Gu family member also made the journalists who were already doubting the presence of an insider scheme, waver in their conviction.

Just when everyone was inclined to question and interview further.

A staff member jogged over and whispered something to Gu Xiyao.

Afterward, Gu Xiyao nodded slightly, and then the staff member left the stage.

Holding the microphone, Gu Xiyao scanned the audience and said, "All right, just now someone doubted our Beauty Pill's efficacy, accusing us of fooling people with plants. Well, now we conveniently have a lady who will come on stage to personally test it out. Please welcome..."

The Gu family member wanted to continue picking flaws, thinking how a lady's testimony could prove she wasn't a plant.

He was about to speak, but when he saw the graceful lady ascending the stage, he immediately shut up and sat back down dejectedly.

What a joke, that so-called lady was none other than the Governor of Jiangnan's wife. Would she stoop to being a plant for someone?!

If he continued to nitpick, he feared that the entire Gu family would be implicated!

The other Gu family members and Lin Xiaoru were also surprised that Lady Du would actually come on stage to test out the Beauty Pill's effects, backing them up. Their faces were extremely unsightly.

Meanwhile, several young journalists and online media influencers brought by Xu Tianzheng, Jiang Wangchuan, and Mei Yinxue were about to start filming Lady Du to later compare the before and after effects.

They were immediately scolded, "You dare to film her too? Are you freaking asking for death?!"

Chapter 236 Thoroughly Doomed

"Hmm? Why can't we take pictures?"

The young reporters, bloggers, and video creators were chided in hushed tones and immediately asked with some dissatisfaction why they couldn't take photos.

Then, the veteran reporters who had reprimanded them looked warily over at Du Xiangcheng sitting not far away and quietly explained Lady Du's identity.

"Hiss!!"

"What? She is actually..."

Upon learning of Lady Du's identity, everyone was shocked, and they quickly put down their cameras, no longer daring to act rashly.

Nonsense, it was one thing for others to be photographed, but Lady Du's identity—did they truly dare to take before and after photos of her and then post them online for public commentary?

Did they have a death wish?

With everyone silenced, Lady Du had already gracefully ascended the stage.

After all, she was Du Xiangcheng's wife, and having been married for over ten years, what large events hadn't she seen? Not to mention a product launch filled with an audience that could hardly make her feel stage fright.

Gu Xiyan arranged for someone to take Lady Du backstage to wash her face and remove her makeup, but she didn't take her picture for a before-and-after comparison on the big screen, waiting to be used later.

She still had a sense of propriety.

And with Lady Du realizing that no one was taking her picture indiscriminately, the slight discomfort in her heart had completely dissipated, and she followed the staff to the backstage with confidence.

Soon, under the guidance of the staff, Lady Du returned to the stage.

Without her makeup, her beauty no longer shone as before; her skin turned pale, and imperfections were exposed.

It seemed as if her beauty had dropped several notches.

Even Lady Du felt somewhat embarrassed, not wishing to be seen in such a state.

If she hadn't been so eager to experience the effects of the Beauty Pill, she probably would have considered leaving.

However, even so, who in the crowd would dare to scrutinize her?

"Here, please try this."

Gu Xiyan respectfully handed a dose of the Beauty Pill to Lady Du.

"Thank you."

Lady Du accepted it, her eyes burning with anticipation as she swallowed it down with a slight gulp.

The moment it went down, her eyes widened in surprise.

It tasted... so delicious.

No wonder the three individuals had looked so enraptured after consuming the Beauty Pill!

"Wow!"

And after Lady Du consumed the Beauty Pill, a brief stir arose from the audience, but it quickly quieted down.

No one dared to pass judgment on her, but the shock in their hearts only intensified, and any skepticism about whether the previous three participants were plants completely dissipated.

"Come, have a look at the effect!"

Looking at the transformation of Lady Du, Gu Xiyan smiled faintly and handed her a mirror.

Lady Du gently touched her own cheeks, already realizing there had been significant improvements to her skin, but without seeing the changes for herself, she still couldn't quite believe it.

Trembling slightly, she took the mirror with anxiety and anticipation, cautiously facing her reflection.

Her skin was creamy and delicate, with a healthy rosy tint—almost like that of a young girl in her blossoming years...

Is this really me?

Lady Du lightly stroked her cheeks, gazing at the mirror—her eyes filled with excitement, rapture, and joy.

"Daddy, Daddy, Mommy looks so young and pretty now!"

Exclaimed Du Xiaoya happily in Du Xiangcheng's arms.

"Yeah, indeed!"

Du Xiangcheng, too, was very happy and relieved as he looked at his wife's transformation.

It wasn't that he disliked his wife's previous appearance, but who wouldn't want their wife to remain young and beautiful instead of looking haggard?

The Gu family members and Lin Xiaoru, seeing the transformation of Lady Du, lost their last bit of hope and their faces were filled with the color of defeat.

They knew they were completely doomed.

The Gu family members were depressed because their Jade Bee Dew couldn't compete with the overwhelming success of the Beauty Pill, while Lin Xiaoru worried about how Lin Pharmaceutical would deal with her after recognizing the terrifying effectiveness of the Beauty Pill!

Gu Xiyao glanced at the Gu family members, said nothing, and then signaled for Lady Du to step down from the stage.

There was no need for further comparisons upfront; no one was blind, nor did anyone doubt that Lady Du would fabricate results for them.

If it indeed was a fabrication, and it came to light, it would have a significant impact on Du Xiangcheng's career.

After Lady Du stepped down, Gu Xiyan held the microphone and spoke softly, "Alright, now that the effects of the Beauty Pill have been tested several times, I guess no one still thinks that these people are all paid actors, right?"

No one spoke, but all eyes turned in unison to that Gu family member who had expressed doubts earlier.

The person, feeling the mocking stares of everyone, was utterly ashamed, wishing he could just vanish into thin air.

Gu Xiyan didn't bother teasing them further and continued to announce, "I know everyone is very excited, having witnessed this historic moment. Everyone is eager to know, how much do our Beauty Pills cost, and how will they be sold!"

The audience nodded unanimously, none speaking, fearing they would interrupt Gu Xiyan. They all held their breath, anticipating Gu Xiyan's upcoming announcement.

Mengmeng sat in her seat, staring at the exploding barrage of comments on her phone screen, also full of anticipation for the price of the Beauty Pills.

Having personally experienced the magic of the Beauty Pill, she was ready to buy a few, no matter the cost, as long as she could afford it.

"I know many people think that with such astonishing effects, the Beauty Pill being the best beauty product on the market by a factor of ten, it must be very expensive, right? Tens of thousands? Or hundreds of thousands? Or even millions? Can everyone afford it?"

Gu Xiyan controlled the tempo, raising everyone's anticipation before finally revealing leisurely:

"Actually, the Beauty Pill is very affordable, within everyone's reach. The price is just..."

"Nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine!"

Upon hearing this, the crowd immediately buzzed with surprise, some doubting whether they had heard correctly!

Gu Xiyao looked at the astonished expressions of the crowd and smiled, "Hard to believe, isn't it? You heard right, yes, just nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine, the price isn't even ten thousand, everyone can afford it!"

Once the crowd was sure they hadn't misheard, they were overjoyed.

Although the price was close to ten thousand yuan, it was incredibly worthwhile compared to the effects of the Beauty Pill.

It was as if they had found money on the street.

And for some, this price was just a month's salary, while those less wealthy could save up for two or three months and still afford it.

When the Gu family members heard this news, their eyes became desperate, like defeated roosters.

Originally, they had hoped that if the Beauty Pill was expensive, there would still be some poor souls who would buy their Jade Bee Dew.

In that case, they could still scavenge some scraps.

But with the Beauty Pill selling for just nine thousand nine hundred, only half the price higher than their Jade Bee Dew, who the hell would buy the Jade Bee Dew then?

Not even fools would buy it!

Damn it, just save up an extra three thousand yuan and buy a Beauty Pill that can make you look about ten years younger—wouldn't that be far better than using several boxes of their Jade Bee Dew with hardly any effect?

They were finished. The Jade Bee Dew that the factory was frantically producing would probably all end up stuck in their hands.

Even if they had a liquidation sale for just one thousand yuan, no one would want it now!

Chapter 237: Forcing a Smile

The reporters below were shocked at first, but then they also lifted their microphones and began to ask Gu Xiyan about the sales approach of the Beauty Pill.

Gu Xiyan smiled and said, "Just now a fellow journalist asked me how to buy the Beauty Pill, and now I will tell everyone how to buy it. Due to some reasons, our collaboration with some distributors from Jinyu Group has been terminated, preventing us from launching a comprehensive nationwide sales effort. For now, we will start selling in our specialty stores in River City..."

Upon hearing this, some reporters frowned and asked, "Does your company not consider online sales?!"

Gu Xiyan shook her head and replied, "We're not considering it at the moment, but it will be rolled out later on."

Continuing, Gu Xiyan added, "Everyone, please be assured that although the Beauty Pill is currently only available in our offline stores in River City, very soon, we will be cooperating with Xu Group, Jiang Group, and Snow-hidden Group to build new specialty stores in major cities across the country. It won't take long."

Xu Tianzheng and Jiang Wangchuan below were immediately overjoyed upon hearing Gu Xiyan's words.

They had not expected that, by coming to support Mu Jinyu, they would receive such great benefits!

Mei Yinxue's expression remained calm and natural, indicating indifference; after all, they were like family and didn't need to fuss over such matters.

Taking a deep breath, Xu Tianzheng turned to Mu Jinyu and said respectfully, "Doctor Mu, for this... thank you so much..."

Jiang Wangchuan expressed his gratitude as well.

They had considered refusing the offer, but Mu Jinyu's gift was too generous, almost tantamount to giving them money. They really couldn't refuse!

"It's nothing," Mu Jinyu said with a slight shake of his head. "There are many things in business I don't understand, so I will have to trouble you guys later on."

To Mu Jinyu, it seemed rather trivial. They had been looking for partners to sell the Beauty Pill anyway, to expand the market. It just so happened that Lin Pharmaceutical had rejected them and even banned them.

They had specially come to show their support today, and this was his way of returning the favor.

Moreover, Xu Tianzheng had sold the Jinyu Company to him at an extremely low price. Additionally, when they had submitted the Beauty Pill for testing and other procedures at the Bureau of Drug Supervision, it was only due to the agencies' convenience opened up by them that their Beauty Pill was approved for the market so quickly.

After all, he was not short on money anymore, so sharing a piece of the cake with them would only make his own life easier.

Since Gu Xiyan had made her point clear, the press conference naturally came to an end swiftly.

All the reporters and media personnel quickly stood up to leave, pondering various headlines in their minds, ready to make a big news story.

[Shocking! Miraculous Elixir emerges, capable of reversing aging!]

[Shocking! Burly, rugged men transform into popular young idols after taking it!]

[Jade Bee Dew is outdated, the best Beauty Medicine turns out to be this!]

"..."

The more they thought about it, the more excited they became. They were also somewhat anxious, as during the press conference, a few live streamers were present. Although they weren't top influencers and the audience wasn't very large, the news had certainly already spread. They needed to hurry.

One after another, the journalists made a swift exit, all aiming to create a big news story and clinch today's headlines.

Lin Xiaoru, with a face ashen with rage, and Chen Xuyang, pale-faced, left the conference hall in a sorry state.

They had come today to witness the embarrassment of Mu Jinyu, but instead of enjoying the joke, they were slapped in the face repeatedly in quick succession!

They truly had no face left to stay any longer.

The Gu family members felt equally uncomfortable, some preoccupied with Jade Bee Dew and worried about how its sales would decline once the Beauty Pill went on sale.

Others, like Chen Jiaomeng, put on a brave face, hoping to collaborate with Gu Xiyuan!

"Xiao Yan, we're all one family. We did misunderstand you before. We should have listened to your advice. Look, we're not selling Jade Bee Dew anymore. Let's collaborate together, and sell Beauty Pills. Let's strive to make our Gu family the fifth major family in River City as soon as possible!"

Chen Jiaomeng, accompanied by several people, approached with a forced smile and spoke to Gu Xiyao, who was coming down from the stage and directing the staff to dismantle it.

Hearing this, Gu Xiyao turned and gave them a glance, looking at Chen Jiaomeng's ingratiating smile with a feeling of revulsion.

She would not forget the disgusting things the Gu family members had done today—nearly the whole family had come to gloat over her supposed downfall, with all their cold sarcasm and ridicule. At the press conference, when there were hardly any journalists questioning her, it was her own relatives who were the first to jump out, accusing her of cheating and claiming that the three individuals were stooges she had hired!

With undisguised annoyance and indifference, Gu Xiyao said, "Sorry, third aunt, I'm not the one who can decide on the collaboration."

The Gu family members who had followed Chen Jiaomeng felt that Gu Xiyao was bluffing them, but Chen Jiaomeng believed it was true. After all, she looked down on Gu Xiyao and thought she had only got to this point by clinging onto someone more powerful.

What could she possibly decide in such a significant matter?

Therefore, Chen Jiaomeng did not try to get any closer to Gu Xiyao. She immediately turned around and walked toward Mu Jinyu, wearing a phony smile, and said, "Young Master Mu, Young Master Mu, I am Xiyao's third aunt, we..."

Mu Jinyu was speaking with Du Xiangcheng and others when he heard this. He turned back, glanced at Chen Jiaomeng, and upon seeing Gu Xiyao's helpless and disgusted expression not too far away, he knew the purpose of this woman's visit.

"General Gu's third aunt, are you looking to represent the Gu family in discussing a collaboration with Jinyu Group?" Mu Jinyu asked.

Chen Jiaomeng was startled, not expecting things to go so smoothly. She nodded repeatedly, saying, "Yes, we're all one family, after all. What happened before was our fault, but it was all a misunderstanding..."

"Misunderstanding? Ha!"

Mu Jinyu directly cut off her words, sneeringly said, "What misunderstanding? Your Gu family stole trade secrets from our Jinyu Group. We have already collected enough evidence and will be mailing you the lawsuit soon enough so don't be anxious!"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Chen Jiaomeng's face turned ashen.

If the Beauty Pill, a drug with terrifying effects, had not emerged out of the blue, they could have managed to make quite a bit of money with the Jade Bee Dew even if they were sued and lost the case. During that lawsuit period, a litigation from Jinyu Group wouldn't bother them at all.

But now, although they had made a considerable amount of money from the Jade Bee Dew, they hadn't yet recouped the capital invested. With the emergence of the Beauty Pill, they found themselves in an embarrassing situation, and the litigation from Mu Jinyu would push them to the brink of no return!

"Don't do this!"

Chen Jiaomeng displayed a horrified expression and quickly yelled out, "Young Master Mu, don't be so ruthless. We're all one family. You can't do this to us!"

And at that moment,

The secretary who had just followed Du Xiangcheng's instructions to investigate Face of Jade Group and to carefully check if there were any issues with Jade Bee Dew rushed over to Du Xiangcheng and respectfully reported,

"Governor, the investigation results are in. Jade Bee Dew indeed has very serious issues. While it won't kill people, its effects are too potent, easily irritating the skin and causing various allergic reactions, even leading to disfigurement. I have already alerted the drug regulatory authorities to go to Face of Jade Company..."

Chapter 238: The True Point of No Return!

The secretary's words detonated like a heavy bomb in the minds of Chen Jiaomeng and the others!

It left their heads buzzing, feeling like the sky was about to collapse.

"How... how is this possible?!"

"Our Jade Bee Dew has been tested; there can't be any issues with it!"

"..."

The Gu family members, upon hearing this news, quickly started chattering in a panic.

And Gu Shiyu turned pale, faintly recalling the conversation between grandfather and Gu Shiqian.

Back then, they seemed eager to get ahead of Gu Xiyan by submitting the Jade Bee Dew to the Drug Administration for testing and market approval. They thought about making quick money and seizing the market before suppressing Gu Xiyan completely and then slowly continuing to research and improve this semi-finished beauty secret recipe, removing any hidden dangers later on.

But, plans can never keep up with changes. Who would have thought such a major disruption would occur? First, the Beauty Pill threatened to leave them with unsold inventory of Jade Bee Dew, and then Governor Du started investigating their Jade Bee Dew, leading to the premature exposure of its hidden dangers.

Gu Shiyu found it difficult to breathe and felt a wave of despair wash over him.

Amidst the Gu family's incessant chattering, Lady Du, after hearing what the secretary said, was also terrified, her face losing all color, and she exclaimed in horror, "Oh my God, I've been using it for several days, several times a day, could it... ruin my looks?!"

Lady Du was scared to death!

And when Chen Jiaomeng and the Gu family members heard Lady Du's cry, they were even more frightened to the core!

No wonder the secretary of Du Xiangcheng made a special trip to investigate their Jade Bee Dew; they had initially thought it was Mu Jinyu's malicious scheming that led Du Xiangcheng to conduct this investigation.

Now, it seemed that the Jade Bee Dew was simply too ostentatious, capturing the hearts of all the ladies of various families who purchased it, and they had failed to properly address the hidden risks!

Upon hearing this, Du Xiangcheng frowned deeply, glaring at the Gu family members before he turned to Mu Jinyu, asking with concern, "Mr. Mu, please tell me if my wife will..."

Chen Jiaomeng, fearing Mu Jinyu would say more and remembering that the secret recipe of Jade Bee Dew originally came from his company, hastily said:

"Governor Du, if anything happens to the lady, it's not related to us. As he just said, this recipe wasn't acquired through regular channels, it was initially theirs!"

Chen Jiaomeng was afraid that if Lady Du encountered any problems, it would bring calamity to the Gu family, so he quickly disassociated himself from the matter.

The other Gu family members also echoed:

"Right, right... even if there's a problem with the Jade Bee Dew, it's the issue with the recipe. We bought it from the former CEO of their company. This has nothing to do with us!"

"Exactly, we had no idea there would be such a problem!"

"..."

Impatient with their excuses, Du Xiangcheng turned his head and glared at them, barking, "Shut up!"

The Gu family members instantly fell silent, not daring to breathe too loudly, but their eyes were all pitifully turned towards Mu Jinyu, hoping he would not be so ruthless.

Mu Jinyu didn't bother with them—it was laughable they were even trying to shift the blame onto him.

With a sneer, Mu Jinyu began to speak:

"Our skincare products were originally unfinished goods and not yet ready for market release. If you stole a faulty secret formula, can you really blame me? Moreover, you opted for cut-rate competition to try to crush us in a price war, using substandard herbs to produce Jade Bee Dew, which is the true cause of the irritation experienced by normal skin!"

Chen Jiaomeng and the others felt utterly dejected upon hearing Mu Jinyu say this, their eyes brimming with despair—they knew the Gu Family was finished, utterly and completely finished!

At first, they had thought Mu Jinyu would sue them, making them pay compensation, and due to the Beauty Pill, they would have to sit on their stock of Jade Bee Dew, tying up their capital and leading to their total ruin.

But now it seemed, they had been overthinking after all. With the wife of the Governor of Jiangnan having used their problematic Jade Bee Dew, and Du Xiangcheng being made aware of it, their company was facing an investigation and a shutdown...

This was indeed the definition of total ruin.

Watching the Gu family members, who were like maggots in a cesspit, Mu Jinyu withdrew his gaze and looked toward Du Xiangcheng and his wife, who were eagerly awaiting his words, and began to speak:

"If you, madam, continued to use that Jade Bee Dew for a few more days, given your skin's sensitivity, you would indeed experience an allergic reaction. It would start with some red spots, then large patches

of rash, along with itching and pain as if ants were biting you. Eventually, your skin would ulcerate and you would be completely disfigured..."

"What?!" Lady Du was terrified upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, hurriedly asking, "What should I do, is there any hope for me? I don't want to be disfigured!"

Mu Jinyu reassured her, "Madam, you can rest assured that this would be the outcome only if you continued to use Jade Bee Dew. If you stop now, there will be no further issues. After all, my Beauty Pill is not just for fun."

"Moreover, even if I had not discovered your use of Jade Bee Dew today and your skin ended up ulcerating after a while, taking one of my Beauty Pills would still sweep those skin problems away. So, in that sense, my Beauty Pill can also be considered an antidote."

After hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Governor Du and his wife instantly felt a sense of relief.

Even the Gu family members felt a sense of relief.

After all, if something really happened to Lady Du, none of them would be able to escape!

Although their current situation was still distressing, at least it didn't blow up into a huge scandal!

In that moment, they were somewhat grateful for Mu Jinyu's creation of the Beauty Pill; otherwise, the consequences would have been unimaginable.

They began to blame Gu Shiqian, thinking it was all this fool's fault for tampering with the Jade Bee Dew and almost ruining their entire family!

A reporter who originally wanted to interview Mu Jinyu overheard their conversation.

Learning that the highly sought-after Jade Bee Dew had such severe hidden risks, and looking around to see that most of the reporters at the venue had left, he knew this big news would be his alone to report.

A group of people were about to make an announcement about the miraculous emergence of the Beauty Pill, and surely the public would be skeptical. But him, revealing the substantial issues with Jade Bee Dew, would secure the headlines for himself!

The reporter was overjoyed, no longer bothering to interview Mu Jinyu, hastily heading back, ready to use the photos he had taken to write up this earth-shattering news!

Soon enough, the article was published, quickly hitting the headlines!

The article first mentioned the huge hidden risks of Jade Bee Dew, explaining how its potent ingredients could cause various allergic reactions in people with slightly inferior skin quality, leading to disfigurement!

It was accompanied by a photo of the dejected Gu family members listening to the scolding of Du Xiangcheng.

As well as one of Mu Jinyu standing by, with a calm demeanor.

The article identified the individuals in the photos!

#### Chapter 239: Punishment Result

Subsequently, the article detailed that the Face of Jade Group, which produces Jade Bee Dew, had in fact obtained the secret recipe for the beauty product—a product not yet fully developed by the Jinyu Group—through corporate theft. The incomplete Jade Bee Dew then circulated in the market due to the former CEO of the company illegally selling the formula to the Face of Jade Group.

Currently, the Jinyu Group has gathered evidence and is preparing to sue the Face of Jade Group.

Moreover, in an attempt to cut costs, recover funds promptly, and engage in a price war with the Jinyu Group's Jade Bee Dew, the Face of Jade Group used substandard raw materials to produce their version of Jade Bee Dew. This fact has now been exposed, and relevant departments have become involved in the investigation.

The publication of this article caused widespread panic, as people feared their faces might be ruined due to the malicious competition of unscrupulous companies.

However, the article did offer a glimmer of hope at the end.

The reporter wrote as follows:

"To some extent, everyone should actually thank the Face of Jade Group. Without their malicious actions, the Jinyu Group would not have developed the 'Beauty Pill,' a miraculous product that could be described as a cross-era masterpiece..."

Then, the reporter showed the photos and videos taken at the press conference, featuring the instantaneous, rejuvenating effects of the Beauty Pill. Those who were unaware of the news about the Beauty Pill were utterly shocked by the evidence.

"The Chairman of the Jinyu Group, Mr. Mu Jinyu, once said to the Lady Provincial Shepherdess at the press conference that with the Beauty Pill, even if someone used the substandard Jade Bee Dew and suffered from various skin issues such as acne, blackheads, cystic acne, swelling, blisters, etc., these problems could be resolved after taking the Beauty Pill," the reporter claimed.

"Therefore, while boycotting and condemning the Face of Jade Group and rightfully defending your interests, please do not resort to any radical methods out of excessive fear!"

The article concluded there, effectively serving as a subtle advertisement for Mu Jinyu...

As more and more people read the article, the internet nearly went into meltdown.

Those "loyal" customers who had been persistently using Jade Bee Dew, applying it four or five times a day and going through several bottles in a week, were almost driven insane.

Some of them were hesitant to believe the article's authenticity and went to the Face of Jade Group's official website, only to find it inaccessible.

Then, they looked for other platforms where Jade Bee Dew could be purchased online and discovered that Jade Bee Dew had been urgently removed from sale!

They were going crazy!

They realized that the article was most likely true.

It wasn't long before local people from River City posted photos showing all the senior executives of Face of Jade Company being taken away by the authorities.

As soon as this photo was released, it fueled the fire even more, completely enraging those who had used Jade Bee Dew.

They expressed their outrage in comments under the article that first revealed the truth about Jade Bee Dew:

"Unscrupulous businesses are truly malicious. I never imagined that what was marketed as Jade Bee Dew was just a half-finished product stolen from another company!"

"Damn it, I've been getting constant acne on my face lately, and I thought I was just overheating. Turns out it was because of this crappy Jade Bee Dew!"

"You above, same here! I've been getting persistent redness on my face that just won't go away, I thought I was allergic to something I ate—turns out the damned culprit is this crappy Jade Bee Dew!"

"..."

A crowd of people vented their anger in the comments section, furiously condemning the Face of Jade Group!

Other related companies, which had also obtained the Jade Bee Dew Recipe from Xu Xiaojiao, were so frightened by what they saw that they destroyed their newly produced "Exquisite Nectar," "Fairy Water," "Coagulated Cream"... not daring to risk any further damage.

As the crowd continued their tirade, they started to scold Yu Linglong and Gu Xiyan, nearly dragging their names through the mud until someone reminded them that both women had already left the Face of Jade Group.

Gu Xiyan had even joined the Jinyu Group earlier and became the CEO. It was she who spoke at the release event of the Beauty Pill!

Soon, people delved deeper, and from employees who had left Face of Jade Company long ago, they learned the reason Gu Xiyan had departed.

From then on, the crowd stopped cursing Gu Xiyan and turned to lash out against Gu Shiqian, Gu Zhengxin, and other core members of the Gu Corporation!

At this time, a few individuals with particularly severe disfigurements, who lived in or near River City, saw news about the Beauty Pill from that article and hurried to the Jinyu Group's Beauty Pill exclusive store. After a long wait in line, they finally managed to purchase a few pills.

After taking them, their original red, swollen, and ulcerated faces immediately healed.

Overjoyed, they quickly became natural promoters for the Beauty Pill, posting pictures of their faces with various issues and comparison photos after taking the Beauty Pill online. Fearing accusations of photo manipulation, they also uploaded videos showing the effects of the Beauty Pill within just one minute of ingestion.

At first, there was skepticism online about the authenticity, but as more and more people took the Beauty Pill and restored their looks, appearing younger, the news spread.

People were shocked and were all preparing to head to River City to try and get a Beauty Pill for themselves.

Besides the idle spectators, almost no one was cursing the Gu family members anymore.

...

One day later.

Gu Zhengxin and Gu Shiqian came out of the relevant departments, looking utterly dejected.

Gu Zhengxin had aged significantly upon learning of the immense impact on Gu Corporation, and overnight, he appeared even older.

His hair, which had been a mix of grey and white, turned completely white.

The verdict was out. Since the hazards of Jade Bee Dew had been discovered in time and no major accidents had occurred yet, Gu Corporation was fined more than fifty million for producing and selling substandard products.

Basically, Gu Corporation was bankrupt overnight.

This did not even include the compensation they owed to the victims or the funds needed to recall the Jade Bee Dew from distributors!

Yet, in the midst of his despair, Gu Zhengxin also felt somewhat fortunate.

Fortunately, the dangers of Jade Bee Dew were exposed in time. Otherwise, if the Lady Provincial Shepherdess had used the Jade Bee Dew and suffered a major issue, they would face more than just fines, as criminal liability and imprisonment would be waiting for him!

"That woman, Gu Xiyan, she's really ruthless!"

Holding her phone and scrolling through the news, Gu Shiqian saw that the top two headlines were naturally the astonishing effects of the Beauty Pill, and of course, the penalties against Gu Corporation.

Looking at these headlines, it felt to her as though they echoed Gu Xiyao's mockery.

Mocking their hubris for daring to contend with her!

"Enough, say no more."

Hearing Gu Shiqian's words filled with hatred, Gu Zhengxin sighed deeply and urged her to stop.

Having experienced life's great ups and downs, he also began to see things more clearly and no longer viewed Gu Xiyao through a lens of prejudice.

Chapter 240: The Last of the Chen Family

Gu Zhengxin thought back to the time, not long ago, when Gu Xiyao would call him several times a day to remind him to stop his actions, but he disregarded her warnings, his lips curving into a bitter smile.

Now, with the Gu Family in such a state, it really seemed like they had brought it upon themselves!

As for the Beauty Pill being priced at nine thousand nine hundred, Gu Zhengxin understood that it was obviously intentional by Gu Xiyao. She wanted to use the price to pressurize them, ensuring that no one would buy the Jade Bee Dew. When the issues with the Jade Bee Dew surfaced, there would be far fewer victims.

It could be said that Gu Xiyao had always cherished her family, but they kept hurting her!

Gu Zhengxin deeply regretted his past indifference, but now, he, as her grandfather, felt too ashamed to face her.

...

"Smack!"

At the headquarters of Lin Pharmaceutical, a middle-aged man, unable to hide the raging fury on his face, stretched out his hand and violently slapped Lin Xiaoru, who was standing by, trembling!

The blow left her cheek swollen and her mouth bleeding, her face filled with terror and grievance, yet she dared not make a sound!

"You useless fool, what did you assure me back then, huh? You told me that Jinyu Group was just a small, insignificant company and that there was no need to worry about cooperating with them. What do you suggest we do now?!"

Lin Xiaoru's father, the chairman of Lin Pharmaceutical, Lin Yaoguang, had eyes that seemed to burn with flames, his face full of anger.

But if there were any old friends who knew him well present at this moment, they would certainly see a trace of fear in the depths of his eyes.

Yes, he was afraid!

Lin Pharmaceutical had failed to collaborate with Mu Jinyu to sell the Beauty Pill, and while it was painful to miss out on the money, they had to accept their fate. But...

Lin Xiaoru should never have, after cancelling the collaboration with Jinyu Group, ordered a ban on them; and after that, she kept provoking them, trying to mock them. She even specifically joined others in ridiculing them during their press conference!

This had seriously escalated their feud!

With Jinyu Group possessing the Beauty Pill, akin to an Immortal Pill, they would undoubtedly soar uncontrollably. By then, Lin Pharmaceutical's days would definitely be tough.

If Mu Jinyu becomes more ruthless, they might even be driven to bankruptcy!

"I...I didn't know they had such a thing!"

Lin Xiaoru, clutching her face, said with a trembling voice.

Lin Yaoguang, not bothering to deal with his foolish daughter, looked coldly at Chen Xuyang, who stood pale-faced nearby, and spoke in a cold voice, "The reason Xiaoru ended up as enemies with Jinyu Group and wanted to ban them, refusing to cooperate with them, was because of you, wasn't it?"

Chen Xuyang's legs trembled and he struggled to swallow his saliva. He wanted to say something, but was suppressed by the terrifying pressure from Lin Yaoguang and couldn't catch his breath.

Lin Yaoguang's eyes were as sharp as a knife, staring straight at Chen Xuyang, he shouted, "What do you suggest we do? Because of you, Lin Pharmaceutical failed to collaborate with Jinyu Group. How much money are we going to lose? And we have to face their retaliation!"

Chen Xuyang almost suffocated under Lin Yaoguang's pressure. He felt his legs were as soft as noodles, and he almost could not help but kneel.

"Get out!"

Disgusted at the sight of Chen Xuyang's pathetic appearance, Lin Yaoguang grabbed the teacup on the desk and smashed it on his head!

"Bang!"

The teacup shattered, and Chen Xuyang fell to the ground with a bloody head, looking extremely disheveled!

"Don't show your face in front of me again. Otherwise, every time I see you, I will beat you! Get out!"

Chen Xuyang could not get up. Two bodyguards waiting at the door of the chairman's office, hearing Lin Yaoguang's words, quietly came in and dragged Chen Xuyang out like a dead dog!

Lin Xiaoru shrank into a corner, watching the scene unfold, her lips moved several times as she wanted to plead for mercy, but seeing her father's fury, she forcefully swallowed the words back!

She knew that if she pleaded for Chen Xuyang, whom her father despised, while Lin Yaoguang was in a rage, not only would Chen Xuyang's fate be even more miserable, but she would likely suffer a brutal beating herself!

She could only comfort Chen Xuyang afterward.

...

Chen Xuyang was dragged out of the Lin Pharmaceutical building by two burly security guards and carelessly thrown onto the roadside to keep the company of stray dogs. The guards then left without bothering about him any further.

Chen Xuyang had his head smashed by Lin Yaoguang and was bleeding profusely, now feeling somewhat dizzy and struggled to rise from the ground but couldn't manage it; he finally lay on the ground powerlessly, looking at the sky, his eyes filled with despair and desolation.

Time seemed to stand still.

At last, Lin Xiaoru ran out of the building with a pale face and, seeing Chen Xuyang at the entrance, her heart ached, and she hurried over to help him up.

"Dad really went too far, just leaving you by the roadside like that!"

She muttered in complaint and then helped Chen Xuyang into the car and quickly took him to the hospital for treatment.

Chen Xuyang's expression was dull as Lin Xiaoru helped him, blood covering half of his face had already congealed, adding a touch of ferocity amid his disheveled appearance.

At the hospital, after simple disinfection and bandaging and an IV drip, Chen Xuyang was not in any serious danger.

"Brother Xuyang, I'm sorry, I was really scared by my dad earlier, so I..."

Lin Xiaoru said apologetically while holding Chen Xuyang's hand.

"It's okay, I don't blame you," Chen Xuyang calmly withdrew his hand, his expression tranquil.

A hint of murderous intent flashed in his eyes as he said gravely, "But I have to get revenge. I can't let this go!"

Lin Xiaoru thought Chen Xuyang wanted to take revenge on Mu Jinyu and couldn't help asking doubtfully, "But how can we take revenge on them?"

She felt that even her Lin family was powerless against Mu Jinyu, and Chen Xuyang, whose status was even lower than hers, how could he take revenge?

Chen Xuyang said calmly, "Do you know which are the Four Great Families of River City?"

Lin Xiaoru's brows knitted slightly as she spoke softly, "The Xu Family, the Jiang Family, the Du Family, and finally the Chen Family. It's said that the Chen Family is an ancient martial family, and the Family Head is the Jiangnan Martial Arts Alliance Leader. Very formidable."

Chen Xuyang suddenly spoke in a calm tone, "I am a collateral member of the Chen Family!"

"What?!"

Lin Xiaoru was a bit shocked, but then she remembered that Chen Xuyang also had the surname Chen, so it was indeed possible.

With a hint of excitement in her eyes, she said, "Then... will they help you?"

Chen Xuyang stated, "Although I am just a collateral member, I still share a blood relation with them. Under normal circumstances, they probably wouldn't bother with me, but now, I don't believe they wouldn't be tempted by the secret formula of the Beauty Pill!"

"Even if they are tempted, are they going to collaborate with Mu Jinyu again?" Lin Xiaoru didn't understand Chen Xuyang's implication and asked puzzledly.

In her view, Mu Jinyu had already known the heads of three major families. If he were to get involved with the Chen Family, who could handle him then?

Chen Xuyang sneered, "Since I have a grudge with Mu Jinyu and he has turned me into this state, won't they use this as an excuse to pressure them? To force Mu Jinyu to hand over the secret formula of the Beauty Pill?"

Lin Xiaoru's eyes lit up, "Yes, martial artists have always been domineering. With this excuse, even if they can't kill them, they can still inflict serious damage!"