

## King Hall 51

### Chapter 51 Different Disciplines

Mu Jinyu saw that they had fallen silent and let out a cold laugh, then turned to Xu Zhixin, whose expression was growing colder, and said, "Being messed with by them like this, tell me, am I angry? I am so angry I can't even eat, how do you expect me to treat your father? I'm not in the mood to treat him, and begging me is useless. I'm afraid that with my bad mood, one wrong injection could not only fail to cure your dad but might actually hasten his death!"

Mu Jinyu knew that by speaking these words, they would all face retaliation from the Xu Family, but he didn't care about that at all.

If he wasn't capable, wouldn't he have been thrown into jail by them just now?

He wasn't anyone to be trifled with—just now, they called him a thief, wanted to call the police, called him a kept man, this and that, did they ever consider his feelings?!

Since these ladies and wives of nobility, one after another, are used to looking down on others and enjoy watching the spectacle, feeling that the fire won't reach them, now that it has, why should he care about their fates?!

When Xu Zhixin heard Mu Jinyu speak like this, he understood his meaning—if he didn't stand up for him, he guessed that Mu Jinyu might not be willing to save his father.

After scanning the faces of the women in the crowd and confirming that none of them was untouchable, and seeing them all shivering, aware that there was no outsider overstepping their bounds, he respectfully said to Mu Jinyu, "Divine Doctor Mu, rest assured, for their gossipy ways and slandering you, I absolutely will not spare them!"

Having said that, Xu Zhixin turned to the younger members of the Xu Family waiting behind him, who dared not even breathe loudly, and instructed, "Remember their identities, those who are cooperating with our Xu Family, cancel all cooperation, and then suppress them. For those who are not, directly crush them without mercy."

"Yes!" the Xu Family juniors responded, taking out their phones with cold faces, started taking photos of the women, and then went to look up their identities.

The gossipy wives, upon hearing Xu Zhixin's words, instantly turned ashen with shock.

They had never imagined that just by doing what they were accustomed to—making idle comments at a spectacle—something they had always done without consequence, today, because of their chatter, they would bring ruin upon themselves and their families!

Thinking about the consequences of their families being torn apart, no longer being able to dress glamorously, no longer able to lord over others, and having to change from prestigious ladies to women stuck doing housework at home, they felt the world spinning and were utterly unable to accept it.

"Thump!"

One of them, unable to bear the pressure, knelt down to Mu Jinyu and started begging for mercy.

Then, after the group was taken aback for a moment, they followed suit, one after another, and knelt down to Mu Jinyu.

"Divine Doctor Mu, we were wrong. We shouldn't have looked down on you with our dog eyes. We dared to slander you without knowing the full story. We'll never dare to do it again. Please, spare us!"

They cried so hard that their tears and snot flowed freely.

Li Shuyue looked at this scene, and suddenly felt some schadenfreude because she wasn't the only one in misfortune...

Mu Jinyu, seeing them kneel before him, felt no change in his heart, and had no intention of forgiving them just like that.

His eyebrows furrowed slightly, but he was displeased with Xu Zhixin's recent phrase "crush them without mercy."

Those words seemed to suggest that he was prepared to drive them to ruin, didn't they?

Although his character was not magnanimous and he was vengeful over even the smallest offences, he wasn't the sort to drive people to death over trivial matters.

Furrowing his brow, Mu Jinyu said to Xu Zhixin, "Just teach them a lesson. There's no need to drive them to ruin."

"Yes," Xu Zhixin hastily agreed.

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Gu Xiyan, who was somewhat dissatisfied with the idea of Mu Jinyu taking advantage of his position to retaliate against others, her eyes lit up again and she started to feel satisfied with Mu Jinyu once more.

And the group of gossiping wives who had knelt down begging for mercy, hearing Mu Jinyu's words, became even more grateful, thanking him profusely.

Li Shuyue also felt quietly delighted, thinking that she would receive the same treatment.

Little did she expect...

Mu Jinyu raised his hand again, pointing at her and instructing Xu Zhixin, "As for this fatso who called me her boy toy and was getting ready to snatch my clothes, you don't need to drive her to ruin, just take special care of her!"

"What?!"

Li Shuyue fainted on the spot.

The store manager standing behind the counter witnessed the scene unfold with panic and fear gripping her heart, her legs trembling uncontrollably.

She was the first one to suspect Mu Jinyu of theft, leading to his being insulted and talking about calling the police—the main culprit!

And the person who suspected he was a gigolo kept by a rich woman and notified Li Shuyue was also her!

But looking at the situation now, her boss Gu Xiyan was his girlfriend; one of the Four Great Families of River City, the Xu Family, treated him with the utmost respect, fearing to displease him; with such a background, how could he possibly be a thief, how could he be a boy toy?

It's over, she's done for.

The store manager knew she wouldn't only lose her job, but she was likely to be blacklisted and wouldn't even be able to stay in River City.

Although her suspicion of Mu Jinyu just now was completely out of caution, handling the matter professionally, who made Mu Jinyu look so suspicious at the beginning?

But when people in power seek revenge on the small fry, they don't care whether it's been handled professionally or not!

Indeed, before Mu Jinyu thought of her as the main culprit, Gu Xiyan took the initiative to bring her up, "What about my employee, then? What do you plan to do with her?"

Gu Xiyan spoke with a hint of coldness, yet no one paid attention to this.

Mu Jinyu glanced back at the store manager without much thought and said indifferently, "Your person, you deal with her."

After a pause, Mu Jinyu added, "However, the store manager is actually okay, responsible in attitude, it's just that when confirming my girlfriend, she directly labeled me as a boy toy and notified that fat woman to come over, which really annoyed me!"

Upon hearing this, the slightly cold expression on Gu Xiyan's face softened.

The non-aggressive attitude of Mu Jinyu made her more favorable toward him.

"Then shall I just demote her?" asked Gu Xiyan tentatively.

If it weren't for needing something from Mu Jinyu, Gu Xiyan wouldn't act this way, with a slight hint of flattery, but because the involvement of Mu Jinyu's underwear was significant, she naturally, like Xu Zhixin, prioritized satisfying Mu Jinyu, without even pursuing the fact he had deceived her last night.

"That's not necessary," Mu Jinyu said, realizing that Gu Xiyan not only had no intention of pursuing his deception from the night before, but her attitude was also somewhat ingratiating, like Xu Zhixin's.

He didn't know what was up with Gu Xiyan, but he knew that if he was just casual about it, the store manager would probably still be demoted by Gu Xiyan, who wanted to please him.

Mu Jinyu felt that the store manager hadn't really done anything wrong, she was just overly cautious. Because he was somewhat evasive, she suspected that his clothes were stolen and wanted to get to the bottom of it; for a store manager, that's a responsible attitude, and he found nothing to blame her for.

After all, although she suspected his clothes were stolen, she never said anything rude from the start, nor did she mention calling the police.

It was just about proving his innocence, which was fair.

And the mishap of bringing that fat wench Li Shuyue over was actually due to his own lack of clarification; he couldn't really blame the store manager for that.

Shaking his head slightly, Mu Jinyu casually said, "Just deduct some of her bonus then."

As soon as these words were spoken, the store manager, who had thought herself finished, suddenly looked up, her eyes shining with surprise as she looked at Mu Jinyu, almost wanting to kneel down to him with gratitude.

Chapter 52: Heroes Have a Hard Time Passing the Beauty Test

Facing Gu Xiyan's equally incredulous gaze, Mu Jinyu helplessly pouted and said, "Please, do you think I'm that petty? I just distinguish right from wrong."

Gu Xiyan chuckled softly, relieved, and said, "It's just a bit surprising. Those customers needed a substantial lesson, but with the first manager who doubted your store, you only asked me to dock some of her bonus, which really surprised me."

Mu Jinyu replied indifferently, "She is responsible, not purposely making trouble for me. My heart may not be broad, but I wouldn't hate her for that. However, those gossipy women, and that dead fatty, they intentionally insulted me, and of course, I had to teach them an unforgettable lesson."

While Mu Jinyu and Gu Xiyan were talking,

Xu Zhixin had already instructed the Family members of the Xu family to identify all the gossipy women present. Knowing they were not of significant status, he planned to give them an unforgettable lesson and came over to consult with Mu Jinyu, informing him of his intentions.

After listening, Mu Jinyu knew that Xu Zhixin had heeded his words and abandoned the plan to ruin their lives, opting instead for a simple suppression. He waved his hand and said, "That will do, let it be."

Upon hearing this, Xu Zhixin's hanging heart fell, and he hastily displayed a flattering smile, asking, "Then, Divine Doctor, have you cooled down? When my father arrives, could you possibly lend a helping hand?"

"We'll see," Mu Jinyu said in a flat tone.

If it had only been the Xu family members questioning and cursing him yesterday, and Xu Zhixin standing up for him today, Mu Jinyu guessed he wouldn't be angry with them anymore.

But this morning's aggressive attitude from Xu Huaguang, along with his actions to physically drag him away, were vivid in Mu Jinyu's memory.

Although Xu Zhixin's efforts had somewhat appeased his resentment towards the Xu family members, it wasn't enough for him to immediately lend assistance to Xu Tianzheng!

After Xu Huaguang and the group from the Xu family came over, and self-slapped hundreds, thousands of times, then they would talk.

Seeing Mu Jinyu's cold demeanor, Xu Zhixin bitterly smiled, knowing his efforts were merely icing on the cake, far from essential help. Mu Jinyu wouldn't appreciate their past kindness and overlook previous disputes.

'Ah, if only I had come earlier to relieve this guy, the effect would have been quite different. Unfortunately, I was a step too late, and that young girl got ahead of me,' Xu Zhixin thought regretfully. Then, hoping to make a significant achievement, he revitalized his spirit, putting on a smile and said, "Then, Divine Doctor, may I accompany you? After all, my father and the others will be here soon. If you simply leave, we will have to search for you again. If you allow me to accompany you, they can come quickly to offer their apologies."

Mu Jinyu glanced at Xu Zhixin and said, "There are still six days left, what's the rush?"

Xu Zhixin displayed a pleasing smile and said, "Isn't it better to end it sooner rather than later? That way, we can rest easy sooner as well."

Mu Jinyu scoffed and said, "Wanting it to end soon? Yet yesterday, you pushed me away with one hand?"

Xu Zhixin bitterly smiled and said, "My mother wasn't aware of your exceptional medical skills. Otherwise, she wouldn't have made such a foolish mistake."

Mu Jinyu slightly shook his head and said with a wry smile, "You pay a hefty sum to seek my help in saving a life. Upon my arrival, despite my youth, you didn't take me seriously, and faced all sorts of difficulties. Dismissing it as a folly? Knowing that my medical skills are excellent and truly can save your father, what was your attitude when you came to ask for my help? You had the guards bind me and take me away! Since you never took me seriously from the beginning to the end, I won't take you seriously either! If you want me to help again, it depends on my mood."

After listening, Xu Zhixin did more than just bitterly smile; he didn't dare say more, yet he deeply regretted and detested Xu Huaguang!

He could only hope that Xu Tianzheng would arrive quickly, then have those people who angered Mu Jinyu yesterday self-slap hundreds of times to dispel Mu Jinyu's anger. Perhaps then he might be persuaded to help.

The crying and wailing gossipy women, who hadn't left yet, heard the conversation between Mu Jinyu and Xu Zhixin. Observing Mu Jinyu's nonchalant attitude towards Xu Zhixin, their eyes nearly popped out in astonishment.

The second son of the Xu family from one of the Four Major Families of River City, Xu Zhixin, was such a significant figure. Yet, he was humbling himself to dust before Mu Jinyu, which was simply too incredulous!

He didn't even dare let Mu Jinyu go to the Xu family to practice medicine; neither did he dare to ask Mu Jinyu to stay put and wait for Xu Tianzheng to come over...

Instead, he begged Mu Jinyu to allow him to stay by his side, so he could send messages to Xu Tianzheng at any time, making the proud Patriarch of the Xu Family come personally to ask for his help?!

And yet, Mu Jinyu still rejected him!

It was one thing for Mu Jinyu not to rush to the Xu Family in fear to treat the Family Head, but to actually demand that people come to him and still decide based on his mood!

What kind of big shot was he?

What kind of Divine Doctor was Mu Jinyu that they had to humble themselves like this?!

And what illness did the Patriarch of the Xu Family have that they had to beg Mu Jinyu like this, rather than going to a hospital or seeking other experts?!

Countless questions arose in their hearts, but they dared not ask, nor think too much, let alone stay here any longer.

Although Mu Jinyu asked Xu Zhixin to show mercy, the trouble the Xu Family could cause for their families was certainly not minor; they needed to hurry back and brace for their husbands' anger.

"Ah, it's all because of our blabbermouth ways. Fortunately, that young man didn't take it personally. We won't speak out of turn again."

A group of gossipy women, burdened with worries, left the Face of Jade Exclusive Store.

The departure of these gossipy women didn't concern people like Mu Jinyu, Xu Zhixin, or Gu Xiyuan.

Gu Xiyuan's eyes were fixed on Mu Jinyu. She observed his attitude now, which was completely different from his previous weeping, as well as his casual conversation with Xu Zhixin.

Gu Xiyuan suddenly thought, the way he clung onto her and cried earlier, was that all just an act?!

Was he intentionally taking advantage of her?!

As this thought emerged, Gu Xiyuan felt as if her safe harbor had again stirred up strange feelings.

"Hey, Lin Feng?" Gu Xiyuan stared at Mu Jinyu, enunciating each word, her teeth clenched as she spoke, "Were you doing that on purpose just now?"

Mu Jinyu, hearing Gu Xiyan mention the false name Lin Feng, knew she had caught on and shrank his neck, saying, "No, I was just really aggrieved and angry, that's why I lost control."

"Hmm?" Xu Zhixin saw Gu Xiyan's unpleasant expression and wondered, hadn't they just been chatting amicably? Why were they starting a quarrel now?

Wait, that's not right...

This little girl from the Gu Family, she just called Doctor Mu... Lin Feng?!

Oh, this girl must have mistaken him for someone else and kept pestering Doctor Mu. After all, as a young man, Doctor Mu probably found it hard to resist a woman of her allure and thus didn't behave as standoffishly as he did with others.

Xu Zhixin suddenly realized that Mu Jinyu also behaved quite differently towards Xu Qingya.

Well, indeed it's tough for a hero to overcome the charms of a beautiful woman...

Chapter 53: Is There a Woman Who Doesn't Even Know Her Own Boyfriend's Name?

Xu Zhixin snickered to himself, wondering why his father had said to let Xu Qingya come forward after finding Mu Jinyu. It turned out that the old man had seen through everything long ago.

Hmm, Xu Zhixin instantly decided that he needed to have Xu Qingya build a good relationship with Mu Jinyu as quickly as possible, seizing the opportunity to marry her to him before this piece of jadeite began to shine brightly!

In that case, their Xu Family would be bound to Mu Jinyu, and they would not have to worry about him refusing to treat them in the future.

Hehe...

After scheming, Xu Zhixin noticed that Gu Xiyan looked displeased. After she exchanged a few words with Mu Jinyu, she couldn't hold back and reached out to grab Mu Jinyu's ear, but Mu Jinyu was not willing to be manipulated and dodged with a bitter smile, trying to explain.

He knew this was his chance.

While Mu Jinyu and Gu Xiyan had not yet developed a deeply antagonistic relationship, and Mu Jinyu felt just a vague fondness towards Gu Xiyan with an added touch of annoyance, he should quickly step in to create a rift.

That way, Xu Qingya would have an opportunity to get closer to Mu Jinyu.

"Hey, I already told you, I didn't mean to take advantage of you. Why won't you believe me? Stop hitting me, or I'll turn my back on you," Mu Jinyu urged.

Gu Xiyan puffed up her cheeks, looking somewhat annoyed and embarrassed, and continued to try to hit Mu Jinyu who kept dodging, and was somewhat helplessly and irritably trying to calm her down.

Seeing this, Xu Zhixin quickly put on a stern face, stepped forward to stop Gu Xiyan, and pretended to be displeased as he said, "The girl from the Gu Family? There's a limit to joking around. Divine Doctor Mu has been generous and hasn't taken it personally, but you shouldn't go too far."

When Xu Zhixin stepped forward to scold her, naturally, Gu Xiyan couldn't continue to chase and hit Mu Jinyu. She looked at Xu Zhixin, whose face was dark with anger, got a fright, stopped in her tracks, and pulled back her hand, carefully trying to explain, "Uncle Xu, I..."

"Enough said." Xu Zhixin waved his hand impatiently, stopping her from speaking further, and reprimanded, "Considering you probably didn't know Divine Doctor Mu's identity and that's why you dared to play around with him, I won't hold it against you. Just leave now, and remember to be more mindful in the future!"

The Gu Family in River City was just an average small clan and couldn't compare with his Xu Family, let alone Gu Xiyan who was practically marginalized within the Gu Family due to her reluctance to marry Zhang Qiu Huai?

Facing such a minor character, Xu Zhixin didn't care at all.

He could easily suppress her so that she wouldn't dare speak and would obediently leave.

As expected.

Faced with the second son of the Four Major Families' Xu Family, Gu Xiyao naturally didn't dare to continue making a fuss as she had with Mu Jinyu. She agreed with a sense of grievance and pondered in her head about who exactly Mu Jinyu was and what his status was, preparing to leave.

Mu Jinyu furrowed his brows and suddenly stood up, looking sternly at Xu Zhixin and said, "Who gave you the right to lecture her?"

Gu Xiyao paused in her steps, turning back in surprise to look at Mu Jinyu who was defending her.

"I..." Xu Zhixin got a shock when he saw Mu Jinyu's expression, and cold sweat immediately broke out. He hurriedly explained, "I just thought...since she was being disrespectful to you, and you didn't seem willing to hold a grudge against a woman, I wanted to..."

"She's my girlfriend," Mu Jinyu said indifferently, cutting off Xu Zhixin's defense.

With that one sentence, it was like a final blow.

Upon hearing this, Xu Zhixin's heart leaped from his chest to his throat, and cold sweat poured down; he sensed that something was terribly wrong.

He had thought it all through, assuming that Mu Jinyu, having just come down from the mountain, would merely have a vague fondness for Gu Xiyao—something he himself might not even be clear about—so he could take the opportunity to play matchbreaker. But who could have guessed that Mu Jinyu would win over Gu Xiyao in just one day?!

Quick to react upon realizing his blunder, Xu Zhixin immediately abandoned all seniority and dignity, bowing deeply to apologize to Gu Xiyao, "Lady Mu, I misread the situation. My apologies to you!"

Gu Xiyao, who had been standing by, felt a flutter of unusual emotion and a blush on her cheeks at Mu Jinyu's statement, "She is my girlfriend." But upon seeing Xu Zhixin's sudden groveling attitude, she was taken aback.

"I...you...Uncle Xu, you don't need to do this..." Gu Xiyao stammered and hurriedly gestured to Xu Zhixin.

The boutique was now devoid of other customers, but the manager, employees, and Yu Linglong were still there.

They watched as Mu Jinyu simply declared, "She's my girlfriend," which caused Xu Zhixin, who had been lecturing Gu Xiyao with a senior's authority, to lower his head and admit his mistake, his eyes nearly popping out.

Damn, the difference in his attitude before and after, isn't it too big?!

What on earth is the identity of the boyfriend our boss has found?

Noticing that Gu Xiyao seemed overwhelmed by Xu Zhixin's apology, Mu Jinyu took her hand and said indifferently, "There's no need to deal with him like this. You are my girlfriend, and no one can lecture you."

After speaking, Mu Jinyu picked up the suit he was going to return, and while leading a somewhat dizzy Xiyao out of the store, he didn't look back as he said to the bitterly smiling Xu Zhixin:

"Remember, it's not your place to meddle in my relationships. My woman doesn't need your guidance, and if there's a next time, I'll make you understand the consequences!"

Watching Mu Jinyu walk away with Xiyao, Xu Zhixin stood frozen, his expression a mix of wanting to cry and not being able to. Although Xu Tianzheng was about to rush over, Xu Zhixin didn't dare to follow them.

At this moment, his heart was filled with immense regret, wishing he hadn't gone that extra mile.

He had thought to provide Xu Qingya an opportunity to rise in status, while also trying to curry favor with Mu Jinyu, but who would have thought that he would end up shooting himself in the foot?

Oh crap, it's done for, it's all over...

If he had known, he wouldn't have been so greedy, trying to marry Xu Qingya off to Mu Jinyu. Now he feared that the good impression he had barely managed to restore was probably completely ruined by his recent actions.

And that last sentence from Mu Jinyu truly scared him, as it seemed like he had seen right through Xu Zhixin's intentions.

This made him feel even more guilty and panic-stricken.

...

Mu Jinyu walked out of the boutique with a somewhat confused Xiyan, a trace of a cold smile still on his lips.

Initially, Mu Jinyu hadn't understood Xu Zhixin's intentions, thinking perhaps he really believed that Gu Xiyan was pestering him and that was why he had spoken out to chastise her.

But later, Mu Jinyu felt that Xu Zhixin's tone was a bit off. Although it seemed like he was defending Mu Jinyu on the surface by scolding Xiyan, behind the scenes, Xu Zhixin was clearly overstepping his bounds regarding Mu Jinyu's personal relationships!

This was something Mu Jinyu could not tolerate!

Although Mu Jinyu did not know what Xu Zhixin was plotting, he would never allow anyone to meddle in his relationships!!

So, without hesitation, he simply walked away with Xiyan.

Earlier he had said he might consider treating Xu Tian's illness if he felt like it, but now he was rooted to the spot and not moving, waiting for Xu Tian to come over and be cured. But he didn't care about that anymore.

Xiyan, still feeling dizzy after being pulled out of the shop by Mu Jinyu, couldn't grasp what was happening. Her mind repeatedly flashed back to Mu Jinyu's words: "You are my girlfriend, and no one can lecture you!"

She felt something strange blossoming in her heart.

Then, Xiyan suddenly realized something—what girlfriend? Damn it, up to now, she still didn't even know his name!

Blushing with annoyance and feeling the warmth from Mu Jinyu's broad palm, she jerked away as if she had been scalded by boiling water.

Then, she turned to gaze at Mu Jinyu, her beautiful eyes filled with embarrassment and indignation as she said, "What nonsense were you spouting just now? Is there a woman who doesn't even know her boyfriend's name?!"

Chapter 54 Have you been tested by him?

Mu Jinyu's heart thumped with trepidation upon hearing Gu Xiyan's questioning, a voice within her chastising the potential mess.

The earlier chase by Gu Xiyan was an account settling for the advantage Mu Jinyu had just taken of her.

Now, it was her reminder that made Gu Xiyan remember her actions from the previous night, beginning to clear the account of Mu Jinyu's impersonation of Soldier King Lin Feng, having deceived her trust and closeness.

Mu Jinyu's heart sank, but her eyes looked tenderly into Gu Xiyan's with a tone filled with sorrow and apology, saying,

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean to deceive you. We had just met, and I was already stunned by your beauty, overwhelmed by your grace. I knew that if I didn't seize the moment, I might never get another opportunity to be close to you. Forgive my impersonation, for I didn't want to live a life of regret over a moment's hesitation."

Gu Xiyan, looking into Mu Jinyu's earnest and passionate eyes, seemed to feel his burning love as well. She quickly dodged his gaze, her pretty face blushing as she said, "Stop talking nonsense. First, clarify exactly who you are and what your name is?"

"Hmm," Mu Jinyu nodded and said, "Let's get to know each other again. My name is Mu Jinyu; 'Mu' as in admiration, and 'Jinyu' as in 'Jinyu Mantang' (a proverbial expression for a house full of gold and jade, implying wealth and prosperity). My identity is Gu Xiyan's boyfriend."

Gu Xiyan's face instantly flushed red, as red as a ripe apple. She swatted Mu Jinyu with annoyance, retorting, "What are you raving about? Who's your girlfriend?!"

Mu Jinyu paused, and then instinctively grabbed Gu Xiyan's hand. Yet his expression darkened as he spoke softly, "I'm sorry, I forgot that since our breakup last night, we're not even pretend boyfriend and girlfriend anymore..."

Gu Xiyan had always known men who were either pursuing her or not, to be courteous and humble. She had never encountered someone like Mu Jinyu and was a bit at a loss. Her intention to pull away her hand was momentarily forgotten.

While Gu Xiyan's hand was soft and tender, Mu Jinyu wasn't planning to take further advantage. He released her hand in time, his voice deep as he said, "However, having had the experience of being your boyfriend, even if it was just pretend, is enough for me. Thank you for the beautiful memory, and I wish for you to find your perfect Prince Charming soon..."

Having said that, Mu Jinyu watched Gu Xiyan's face, seeing her slightly dizzy from his words, reveling inwardly before promptly turning to leave.

Of course, the act had to be played through to the end. Even on the verge of success, he couldn't get carried away; he had to leave Gu Xiyan with an image of his desolate back.

Gu Xiyan, although a bit dizzy from Mu Jinyu's ruse, felt sad watching his retreating figure. However, she wouldn't forget the reason she came looking for him. Seeing Mu Jinyu walking away, she quickly stepped in front of him, saying, "Stop."

At Gu Xiyan's interception, Mu Jinyu's heart skipped a beat, sensing trouble.

Why hadn't she been fooled? Had he said too much? Did she really start to like him? Was she preparing to persist in badgering him?

As thoughts whirled in his head, Mu Jinyu steeled himself and looked at Gu Xiyan with feigned passion and surprise, his face breaking into a smile as he said, "Yanyan, could it be... you're actually willing to be with me for real?!"

With that, Mu Jinyu excitedly reached out to embrace Gu Xiyan.

Gu Xiyan, ever vigilant, quickly stepped back to avoid his reach, saying, "Stop fantasizing about all this nonsense. I have a question for you."

Mu Jinyu sighed lightly, his voice melancholic, "How could being with you ever be called nonsense?"

"You..." Gu Xiyan was at a loss for words.

Mu Jinyu smiled and said, "What's the question? Ask away. I'll tell you anything I can."

Internally grumbling, she wondered, 'Is she going to make me cough up the payment for yesterday's labor?'

Gu Xiyan saw that he was finally taking things seriously and secretly let out a sigh of relief.

Then, she took out from her bag the pair of Five Divine Silkworms Silk underwear that Trotsky had praised to the skies—of course, they were in a plastic bag.

After all, the underwear had been worn, and as a pure, unmarried girl, how could she have the nerve to take it out in front of Mu Jinyu, the original owner, with her bare hands?!

Mu Jinyu saw the piece of cloth that Gu Xiyan had taken out of her bag, wrapped in a transparent plastic bag, and recognized it at a glance as the pair of boxers he had changed out of the day before.

His face immediately lit up with joy. When he was about to part ways with Gu Xiyan the night before, he had planned to ask her for it back, but he couldn't explain himself at the time, and when a phone call came that could have blown his cover, he ran away without daring to ask again.

He hadn't expected that the matter Gu Xiyan mentioned was to return his clothing.

"Wow, I thought it was something serious," Mu Jinyu relaxed, as long as it wasn't about him losing money the problem wasn't too big, and said with a smile, "I thought you had thrown them away, but you've brought them all the way here. I feel really embarrassed."

As he spoke, Mu Jinyu reached out his hand to take his clothing back.

But Gu Xiyan took a step back and did not let him take it. Mu Jinyu was momentarily stunned, then Gu Xiyan stroked her hair with her hand, her pretty face slightly blushing, and asked somewhat embarrassedly, "Wait a minute, don't be hasty, let me ask you, these boxers, are they made of silkworm silk from five different kinds of what-do-you-call-it silkworms?"

"Yeah, how did you know?" Mu Jinyu said in surprise.

Now that the topic was opened up, Gu Xiyan felt less embarrassed. With a blushing face, she said, "These boxers are quite valuable, someone wants to buy them. Do you want to meet him?"

"They're valuable?!" Mu Jinyu wasn't aware that his boxers were valuable, and upon hearing this, he was quite interested, quickly asking, "How much? Who wants to buy them, a man or a woman?"

Gu Xiyan honestly replied, "I'm not sure how much, but he seems quite sincere, so the price should be substantial. It's a man."

"A man?" The expression on Mu Jinyu's face stiffened, and he asked with an odd look, "What does he want with my boxers?!"

Gu Xiyan said uncertainly, "It seems that he said your boxers are magical, that if worn for a long time, they prevent all sorts of illnesses, ward off poisons, promote strength and health, or something. He probably wants to buy them to wear himself, right?"

"Hmm?!" Mu Jinyu's eyes sharpened as his anger surged.

Damn it, some other man actually wanted to buy and wear the boxers he had worn?!

Just thinking about it made him feel incredibly disgusted.

"No, no, I won't sell them for any amount of money!"

Mu Jinyu immediately shook his head in refusal and then prepared to take back his boxers, when suddenly, he thought of something and looked at Gu Xiyan with suspicion, asking, "My boxers, they haven't been tried on by that damn pervert, have they?!"

Gu Xiyan gave an embarrassed chuckle and said, "He hasn't tried them on, just sniffed them."

Chapter 55 How many women have you said this to?

"Smelled it?!" Mu Jinyu exclaimed, her expression freezing, and her brows twitching wildly.

"Yes," Gu Xiyan answered honestly, "He got pretty close, the kind that keeps sniffing with his nose, but he didn't touch the fabric. He was actually about to do something even more excessive, but I stopped him."

Upon hearing that, Mu Jinyu broke out in goosebumps.

Ugh, how disgusting, this freaking pervert.

"Damn it, good thing you stopped him!" Mu Jinyu retracted her hand as if bitten by a snake, no longer intent on taking back her boxer briefs, and said with disgust, "I don't want these boxer briefs anymore, just throw them away for me."

There was money that Mu Jinyu could make by abandoning some principles, like: pretending to be Gu Xiyan's boyfriend.

But to sell his own boxer briefs for money was an absolute no-go, as far away as possible.

He would rather not make that bit of money than have his boxer briefs played with in the hands of a freaking pervert all day long, the thought alone was so disgusting he wanted to vomit.

"Throw them away?" Gu Xiyan said upon hearing this, feeling a bit regretful, but without saying much, she nodded and replied, "Okay."

Then, she put the plastic bag containing the boxer briefs back into her bag.

Mu Jinyu saw this and didn't say anything, assuming she was too embarrassed to throw it away on the busy street and planned to find a trash can to dispose of it later.

Rubbing his temples, Mu Jinyu endured the nausea and didn't feel like chatting with Gu Xiyan anymore, saying, "If there's nothing else, I'm leaving."

"Hey, wait..." Gu Xiyan called out hastily.

"What now?" Mu Jinyu turned back to look at her with some impatience.

Gu Xiyan hesitated and then said, "Do me a favor, meet with him once."

Mu Jinyu's brows shot up, he said angrily, "You want me to meet with that freaking pervert?!"

Gu Xiyan knew that Mu Jinyu was very disgusted and resentful towards Trotsky, but in order to cooperate with the luxury company behind Trotsky, she could only ask Mu Jinyu to lower himself and took his arm to shake it.

Gu Xiyan coaxed, "Come on, just do this one favor for me, meet with him once, even if to reject him, do it to his face. Please."

"No way!" Although Gu Xiyan's coquettish behavior was quite enjoyable for Mu Jinyu, and made him feel somewhat elated, the thought of meeting with that freaking pervert made Mu Jinyu coldly refuse.

Because, he feared that if he met Trotsky, he would not be able to refrain from beating him to death!

"Don't want to?!" Gu Xiyan, seeing how Mu Jinyu was not being swayed by persuasion, also grew angry, her Liu Mei brows inverted, she let go of Mu Jinyu's arm with a snap and said loudly, "Fine, then let's settle yesterday's accounts, shall we? You impersonated someone else, took one hundred thousand yuan from me, took advantage of me at the birthday banquet, and today you're causing trouble with the clothes I bought for you, tell me, how should we deal with this?"

Listening to Gu Xiyan tallying up their troubles, Mu Jinyu's stern expression froze, and he said with a forced smile, "Haven't we turned the page on this matter? Why bring it up again?"

His tone unconsciously softened a bit.

"Turn the page? Who turned the page with you?" Gu Xiyan's Liu Mei brows stood fiercely, and she said aggressively, "I never said anything about turning the page from the beginning to the end, I didn't bring up these matters earlier because I thought if you helped me out, it could all be written off, but since you are unwilling to help, then as for these matters, let's... have a proper chat!"

As she spoke, Gu Xiyan also clenched her fists, looking like she was ready to punch someone.

Mu Jinyu felt his scalp tingle, recalling his conversation with Gu Xiyan; she indeed had never said anything about turning the page, rather it was he who had tried to bluff her and then run off.

But because of those boxer briefs, he forgot to run off, refused Gu Xiyan's request, and was caught by her bringing up the past again.

Ah, what a headache...

"Alright, alright..." Mu Jinyu, rubbing his temples, said helplessly, "I agree, I'll meet with that freaking pervert."

"Really?!" Gu Xiyan's frowned brows relaxed upon hearing Mu Jinyu loosen up, her eyes smiling as she hurriedly asked, "You're not lying to me?"

"I'm not lying to you," Mu Jinyu said gloomily, "But... after I meet with that pervert, all these things..."

"Will be wiped clean, and I won't bother you with these matters anymore," Gu Xiyan said, "and I'll give you an additional one hundred thousand yuan."

Upon hearing this, the gloom in Mu Jinyu's heart lifted quite a bit.

He nodded and said, "Okay, but let's wait a few days to meet with that pervert. I need some time to adjust my mood, otherwise, I'm afraid the moment I see him, I'll remember that the sick bastard once defiled my boxer shorts and I won't be able to help myself from beating him to a pulp!"

Although Gu Xiyan was eager to collaborate with Trotsky, after thinking it over, she was even more worried about Mu Jinyu hitting someone, so she agreed, "That's fine."

Mu Jinyu extended his hand toward her.

"What for?" Gu Xiyan looked at him, puzzled.

"The money," Mu Jinyu said matter-of-factly, "Didn't you just say that once I agree, all prior matters would be settled and you'd also give me another one hundred thousand yuan?"

Gu Xiyan was speechless, her hand to her forehead.

Oh my god, how did I ever get entangled with this money-grubber.

"I'll give it to you after you've met with him," Gu Xiyan said, "Don't worry, I won't shortchange you. I'm just afraid you'll take the money and run."

"What do you mean by that? Am I that kind of person who would take the money and run?!" Mu Jinyu was immediately unhappy.

"Not yesterday," Gu Xiyan looked at Mu Jinyu skeptically and said, "But today, I have my doubts."

Indeed, yesterday Mu Jinyu had earned his pay fair and square, successfully helping her to complete the task of pretending to be her boyfriend. But today, this deadbeat was trying to return the suit she bought for him to get the money back.

After seeing her, he first acted pitiful while taking advantage of her, then tried to fool her, and after coming out, he kept changing the subject, wanting to flee.

This made Gu Xiyan seriously question Mu Jinyu's character.

Seeing Gu Xiyan's doubtful look, Mu Jinyu felt hurt. He waved his hand with disinterest and said, "Forget it, I can't be bothered to talk more with you. Once I've met with that damn pervert, let's not see each other ever again."

"Not see each other ever again?"

Upon hearing those words, Gu Xiyan scanned Mu Jinyu from head to toe. Although she hadn't planned to have any further contact with Mu Jinyu after this, his words somehow made her uncomfortable, "Didn't you just insist you wanted to pursue me?"

"Did I?" Mu Jinyu denied it outright, saying shamelessly, "You must be imagining things."

He had just showered Gu Xiyan with sweet nothings, intending to keep her from thinking about settling accounts.

But now that they had agreed on terms, he no longer felt the need to pretend.

Naturally, Gu Xiyan was absolutely livid.

Watching Mu Jinyu get ready to leave, Gu Xiyan suddenly thought of something and asked, "Hey, how many girls have you said that line to before?!"

"Which line?" Mu Jinyu paused in his steps, turning back to look at Gu Xiyan.

If he were still in a situation where he needed to bluff Gu Xiyan, even if he didn't know which line she was referring to, he would definitely claim that every romantic word he had just said was said to her alone...

But since he no longer needed to bluff Gu Xiyan, he asked quite directly.

Gu Xiyan stared into Mu Jinyu's eyes, seeing them indifferent and casual, she displayed a look of disappointment, waved her hand, and said, "Never mind, just go."

Chapter 56: Go After What You Like

"It's inexplicable."

Mu Jinyu shook his head and walked away nonchalantly.

He couldn't be bothered to ponder which off-the-cuff ghost story of his had touched Gu Xiyan's girlish heart, prompting that mildly jealous question from her.

Mu Jinyu left.

Gu Xiyan stood there, her eyes somewhat despondent.

In her mind, the image resurfaced of Mu Jinyu stepping in front of her earlier, scolding Xu Zhixin, and then saying to her, "You are my girlfriend, no one is allowed to lecture you!"

This statement had greatly moved Gu Xiyan, who had thought he was serious at the time.

But in the end... it was just like the nonsense he spouted later, all just to bluff her.

At that moment.

Yu Linglong also stepped out from the boutique and came to Gu Xiyan's side, her eyes curious as she softly said, "Hey, what are you still looking at? He's already gone."

"No..." Gu Xiyan came back to her senses, her complexion not looking too good as she turned to Yu Linglong and asked, "Why did you come out? Aren't you accompanying Uncle Xu?"

"After Doctor Mu split up with you, of course Uncle Xu clandestinely followed him." Read full story at [novel-fire.net](http://novel-fire.net)

Yu Linglong casually replied, then looked at Gu Xiyan, and seeing her face looking a bit off, she couldn't help exclaim in surprise, "Oh, you look so forlorn, don't tell me you've actually fallen for him?"

"Absolutely not, don't talk nonsense!" Gu Xiyan said, a flicker of panic passing through her eyes, a panic she couldn't explain, making her heart race suddenly as she hurriedly retorted.

"Not yet?" Yu Linglong scanned Gu Xiyan from top to bottom, her gaze scrutinizing, and exaggeratedly screamed, "Wow, aren't you overreacting a bit? It hasn't even been a day and you're already smitten?"

As her best friend, Yu Linglong knew Gu Xiyan well and could tell from her demeanor that even if she hadn't truly fallen for Mu Jinyu, she was at least somewhat moved.

"Ah, I told you nothing's happened, how could I possibly fall for that greedy jerk? Stop spouting nonsense!"

Gu Xiyan was somewhat agitated by Yu Linglong's words, and her tone unconsciously became a bit harsher.

Yu Linglong didn't mind these things, but she still had to consider her friend's feelings, so she didn't say anything more, only muttering in her mind, 'You've already called him a jerk, which clearly shows you're slipping, yet still dare to argue, huh...'

After speaking her mind, Gu Xiyan realized she had lost her composure and then awkwardly apologized to Yu Linglong, "Sorry, I don't really like it when people joke about this kind of thing; I was a bit harsh just now, I apologize."

"It's nothing." Yu Linglong generously waved her hand, indicating she didn't mind, and said, "We're best friends, after all. A little friction won't affect our sisterly bond."

Gu Xiyan smiled at Yu Linglong.

Yu Linglong changed the subject, saying, "By the way, do you know why Uncle Xu calls that guy Doctor Mu? Is he a doctor?!"

"How should I know!" As soon as Mu Jinyu was mentioned, Gu Xiyan answered impatiently.

Yu Linglong didn't mind Gu Xiyan's poor tone, giving a faint smile as she said, "This guy is really mysterious, impersonating War King and actually being able to crush a Nokia with his bare hands, showing that his skills might not be inferior to Lin Feng; a pair of underwear changed out, with such an

exaggerated origin, shocked Trotsky even in public; now the Xu family members are treating him with such respect, calling him Divine Doctor, I'm becoming more and more curious about him..."

Listening to Yu Linglong being curious about Mu Jinyu, Gu Xiyan felt inexplicably irritated, and said impatiently, "What's there to be curious about, it's probably just him being a blind cat finding a dead rat, making the Xu family revere him like a heavenly god..."

"Don't say that," Yu Linglong shook her head in disagreement, saying, "Just treating a minor illness wouldn't make Xu Zhixin, a pivotal member of the Xu Family, treat him with such extreme reverence, humbling themselves before him; and even if it were a serious illness, even if he himself were sick, he likely couldn't swallow his pride to beg like that. Only one person could make him do this!"

"Are you talking about the Old Master of the Xu Family?" Gu Xiyan turned her head towards Yu Linglong, arching an eyebrow as she spoke.

"Yes." Yu Linglong's eyes shimmered with mysterious light, confirming, "Only if something happened to the Old Master of the Xu Family and the only one who could save him was Mu Jinyu would they make such a big fuss."

Speaking of which, Yu Linglong pointed her finger towards the street, where a motorcade slowly drove by, filled with luxury cars and license plates with strings of lucky numbers.

That was indeed the Xu family's motorcade.

"See?" Yu Linglong tilted her fair chin slightly, remarking, "In that Maybach in the center of the Xu family's motorcade sits Old Master Xu."

Gu Xiyan turned her head to look, and wow, sitting in the back seat of the Maybach in the center of the motorcade was indeed Elder Master Xu, Xu Tianzheng.

Gu Xiyan shivered, suddenly recalling a rumor, and looked at Yu Linglong, exclaiming in surprise, "I heard that Elder Master Xu fell ill some time ago and was paralyzed in bed, and even numerous renowned doctors could do nothing; how come he can move now, could it really have been that bastard Mu Jinyu who treated him?"

Though the Xu family members tried hard to hide Elder Master Xu's disease that left him bedridden, inevitably, since they had to invite various doctors to treat him, they couldn't completely conceal it.

Thus, anyone in River City with a bit of an information channel knew about Old Master Xu's illness, although what exactly the illness was, some knew, while others, like Gu Xiyan, remained unclear on the specifics.

Yu Linglong chuckled, "Obviously, it must have been Mu Jinyu who treated him; otherwise, Xu Zhixin wouldn't be calling him Divine Doctor."

Still confused, Gu Xiyan asked, "But if Old Master Xu is already recovered, and Mu Jinyu has such a poor attitude towards them, why do they still humble themselves like this? It's totally unnecessary!"

"Who knows?" Yu Linglong shrugged and said, "But since Elder Master Xu personally came out to seek medical help, perhaps... his illness hasn't fully recovered yet, and since his subordinates offended Mu Jinyu, maybe that's why. But seeing how Mu Jinyu just treated Xu Zhixin with such hostility because of you, I guess their effort this time might be futile again."

Listening to Yu Linglong mention how Mu Jinyu had flared up in anger because of her earlier, Gu Xiyan's heart stirred with unusual emotions once more.

She wondered, who exactly... is he?

Yu Linglong glanced at Gu Xiyan, seeing her cheeks flushed and looking rather adorable, and smiled slightly, suggesting languidly, "So yeah, if you really like him, I'd advise you to seize the moment and make the first move..."

"Otherwise, with his abilities, he surely won't lack women around him, and you might regret it later."

When Yu Linglong brought up the topic again, Gu Xiyan stamped her foot in embarrassment and annoyance and said, "What nonsense are you spouting again, maybe it's you who fancies him?"

Yu Linglong was quite frank and shrugged her shoulders, admitting, "To tell the truth, I kind of like him too, but since you met him first and even mistakenly took him away as a laborer due to a misunderstanding, it shows you have a destiny together. I wouldn't want to steal someone else's chance, but if you really don't like him, I don't mind making the first move."

"I don't like him, so if you like him, go ahead!" Gu Xiyan pouted.

"Alright, you said it." Yu Linglong concluded, "Just don't come regretting it later, asking me to let him go to you when I'm with him, flying together as a pair."

#### Chapter 57 Good News

Gu Xiyan didn't know whether Yu Linglong was serious or just joking with her words, but she couldn't see through her thoughts from her smiling expression.

Gu Xiyan nodded lightly and said indifferently, "I won't regret it, the word 'regret' isn't in my dictionary. You'd better hurry up and chase after him. If he really is the Divine Doctor, you'll be in luck."

...

While Gu Xiyan and Yu Linglong were chatting and joking around,

On the opposite side of the street not far away.

Wang Huanhuan, who had completely become a loser in the confrontation with the brand company backed by Trotsky after losing both her husband and her troops, was standing there, continuously observing the movements here.

After losing terribly because of a pair of worn-out boxer shorts, Wang Huanhuan had completely hated Mu Jinyu, the owner of those boxer shorts.

Therefore, after knowing that Gu Xiyan was going to look for the owner of the boxer shorts, she had been stealthily following and silently observing...

Standing on the opposite side of the street, Wang Huanhuan watched as Gu Xiyan and Yu Linglong re-entered the boutique, and a trace of cold light stealthily passed through her eyes.

In her mind, at that moment, the images of the earlier conversation between Mu Jinyu and Gu Xiyan resurfaced, as well as the scene where Gu Xiyan took out the plastic bag containing those boxer shorts and asked Mu Jinyu about them.

"That man must be the owner of those boxer shorts that Trotsky praised to the skies, right?"

Wang Huanhuan muttered to herself, starting to calculate in her mind how to deal with Mu Jinyu.

However, because she was standing on the opposite side of the street, she neither saw Xu Zhixin's humble attitude towards Mu Jinyu inside the boutique nor would she know that the reason behind the departure of the Xu Family's motorcade was actually for Mu Jinyu.

...

After parting with Gu Xiyan, Mu Jinyu naturally would not be aware of the subsequent conversation between Yu Linglong and Gu Xiyan.

Nor the ridiculous idea of Wang Huanhuan trying to deal with him beyond her ability.

But after separating from Gu Xiyan, he could sense that Xu Zhixin and his group were sneakily following behind him.

Mu Jinyu of course knew Xu Zhixin's thoughts: he wanted to follow him, then have Xu Tianzheng show up, and make the Xu Family members slap themselves a hundred times to persuade him to save Xu Tianzheng.

Heh, since he had made up his mind to leave them hanging for a few days, he naturally wouldn't just let them have their way.

The two members of the Xu Family he met today, one being Xu Huaguang with his malicious attitude, tried to kidnap him by force when he couldn't be persuaded, and the other Xu Zhixin, though respectful to him, still wanted to meddle in his personal interactions...

Not letting them learn a lesson, Mu Jinyu felt like he would be just dough, to be kneaded by them at will.

Arriving at the entrance of a small alley, Mu Jinyu slipped in, then quickly turned and left the alley before disappearing in the vicinity.

Xu Zhixin led his men to quickly follow, entering the alley, but they couldn't find Mu Jinyu's whereabouts. "Where is he?"

He pulled his hair in frustration, feeling as if he had lost track of him.

His bodyguards, one swiftly went to the alley's end to see if Mu Jinyu had run that way. The others were checking whether Mu Jinyu was in any of the various stores within the alley...

Soon, they all came back and reported to Xu Zhixin:

"He's not in any of the stores in the alley."

"He's not at the other alleys' ends."

"We've lost him."

"..."

Xu Zhixin stomped his foot in annoyance, about to say something when his phone suddenly rang with a ding-a-ling.

Upon checking, it was a call from Elder Master Xu.

The old master had arrived, but the person, had been lost.

Xu Zhixin was on the verge of tears without them flowing.

He truly regretted his momentary lapse of reason just now, attempting to sow discord between Gu Xiyuan and Mu Jinyu, only to turn around and try to set up Xu Qingya.

...

After shaking off Xu Zhixin and his group, Mu Jinyu walked on the spacious street, casually tossing the keys to the five houses he had, the corner of his mouth raising in a smug smile unconsciously.

"Hehe, they still want to track me? Maybe in a million years," Mu Jinyu scoffed disdainfully.

Then, adjusting the bag that contained the suit in his hand, his eyes sharpened, and he came to a halt.

"Ah, it seems I forgot, since that woman Gu Xiyuan has said it's all been written off, I should be able to return the suit openly and aboveboard, right?"

Mu Jinyu rubbed his head, somewhat regretful for having rushed off so hurriedly just now.

"Forget it, forget it, since the return wasn't successful, I might as well not do it; I don't want to encounter the same situation as just now, embarrassing myself over just over a hundred thousand yuan, it's not worth it. I'll keep the suit for now, not returning it, I'll wear it when the time comes," Mu Jinyu comforted himself.

Afterward, not letting his thoughts run wild anymore, he prepared to go find Wen Rou and tell her the good news that he had helped wipe clean her father's gambling debts, so she wouldn't have to work so hard in the future.

Looking around, Mu Jinyu wasn't quite certain of his location, but since he had a mobile phone, he quickly found the location of Wen Rou's restaurant with the map and started running in that direction.

Before long,

Mu Jinyu found Wen Rou's little restaurant.

Due to the Blond Thug, even though it was nearly noon, there were hardly any customers brave enough to come for a meal at Wen Rou's little restaurant.

After all, they didn't know that Wen Rou's trouble had been resolved.

Thinking of this, Mu Jinyu took out his phone and made a call to Wang Zhengbiao.

"Hello, Doctor Mu, what can I do for you?" Wang Zhengbiao's tone was still very respectful.

Mu Jinyu said, "My friend's restaurant has no customers willing to come eat because of your little nephew's business. Have that guy bring a group of people over and personally apologize to my friend."

"Okay, I'll get on it right away," Wang Zhengbiao agreed immediately.

Mu Jinyu didn't beat around the bush; once Wang Zhengbiao had agreed, he said no more and hung up the phone.

His logic was simple: the trouble was caused by the Blond Thug, and as long as the Blond Thug came with his fellows to apologize to Wen Rou personally, the neighbors would naturally spread the word upon seeing it, and they would know that Wen Rou's problems had been resolved.

By then, the old customers of the small restaurant would start coming back.

After the call, Mu Jinyu entered the restaurant. The main hall was empty, but there was some noise in the kitchen. He went in to look and saw Wen Rou busily organizing the freshly purchased ingredients.

Wen Rou always insisted on using the freshest ingredients bought on the same day, except for some frozen products. She never used leftovers from the previous day.

Even though these days, hardly anyone dared to come to eat, she still stuck to this principle, only just buying less of the ingredients.

Looking at the busy girl, Mu Jinyu showed a heartwarming smile, cleared his throat, and said, "Wen Rou, I'm back, and I've got good news for you. Guess what it is?"

Hearing movement, Wen Rou turned her head to look, and upon seeing that Mu Jinyu had returned, she meticulously sized him up from top to bottom. Seeing that he was unharmed, the concern that furrowed her brows dissipated, and her pretty face revealed a sweet smile as she said, "Your safe return is the best news indeed."

Chapter 58: Run! They're Coming Again!

When Mu Jinyu heard Wen Rou's answer, he became unhappy and said discontentedly, "So from the beginning to the end, you never really had confidence in me? Did you think that whenever I dealt with those places, I was more likely to fail than succeed?"

Wen Rou's pretty face blushed slightly as she quickly set down the food she was handling and waved her hands, saying, "No, I didn't mean that, I believe you would definitely succeed, but I still can't help but worry a little."

"That's more like it." Mu Jinyu's expression eased a bit, and he walked over to glance at the ingredients Wen Rou was organizing. He said, "It's getting late, let's eat here, just give me a bowl of rice, radish pork rib soup, and some greens on the side."

"Okay, then you go out first, I'll make it right away," Wen Rou said with a smile, nodding her head.

She didn't ask whether Mu Jinyu had resolved any troubles in his outing; she merely thought about how Mu Jinyu had spent the morning running around for her and must be hungry, so she should prepare lunch for him.

Mu Jinyu nodded and didn't think to stay in the kitchen and make trouble, so he went out and waited in the hall.

Soon, Mu Jinyu hadn't been waiting long when Wen Rou brought over the dishes he had ordered.

She even added a few more dishes.

Pork belly with preserved mustard, minced meat with eggplant, sweet and sour pork ribs...

Mu Jinyu didn't say anything when he saw the dishes; after all, it was just a bit of money. For him now, worth hundreds of millions, it was no big deal.

After serving the dishes to him, Wen Rou, carrying the tray, was ready to head back to the kitchen to continue organizing the ingredients,

Mu Jinyu grabbed the ties of her apron and called out, "Hey, don't go back to work yet. You probably haven't had lunch either, right? I can't finish these dishes by myself, so come and sit down to eat with me."

Wen Rou turned around, her face slightly flushed as she gently freed her apron ties from Mu Jinyu's grasp, softly saying, "Hmm, wait for me, I'll go wash my hands."

Having said this, she carried her tray back to the kitchen to wash her hands.

Mu Jinyu sat at the table, pondering whether her refusal to refuse outright but going to the kitchen to work meant she wouldn't come out at all?!

It really didn't matter much to him anyway.

One persuasion was enough. If she refused, he had no intention of persistently hounding her; he was not a lackey, nor was he planning to chase after her, so why degrade himself?

Shaking his head slightly, Mu Jinyu picked up his chopsticks, ready to eat.

Then he saw Wen Rou genuinely come out after washing her hands and untie her apron.

"Oh," Mu Jinyu uttered in surprise as he saw Wen Rou come out.

After all, in his view, although Wen Rou seemed gentle and frail, she was actually very self-respecting and wouldn't easily accept others' kindness.

He had only called out casually, originally thinking her return to the kitchen was a polite refusal, but unexpectedly, she really came out.

'It seems that I hold quite a significant place in her heart.' Mu Jinyu couldn't help feeling a bit smug internally.

"Come on, eat, don't be polite with me," Mu Jinyu said, waiting for Wen Rou to sit down and inviting her to eat. After speaking, he suddenly felt a bit odd.

After all, these dishes were prepared by Wen Rou, yet he was inviting her to eat as if he were the host, which felt somewhat peculiar.

But, it was perfectly normal since he was paying for the meal.

Mu Jinyu suppressed the strangeness in his heart and did not urge Wen Rou to eat anymore, starting to enjoy his meal with slow, satisfying bites.

While Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou were having lunch together,

the neighbors in the small alley had their lunchtime and were preparing to go to a nearby small restaurant to address their hunger. When they reached the front of Wen Rou's small restaurant, they unconsciously stopped in their tracks.

In the past, when they solved the lunch problem, they always came to this small restaurant owned by Wen Rou.

After all, the food cooked there was fresh and delicious, and any leftovers that couldn't be sold were given to the stray dogs and cats nearby; they would never keep them overnight to cheat their customers.

Plus, they felt sorry for the young girl: her mother had disappeared, her father had jumped to his death, and the grandmother who had raised her had also passed away. She was alone, shouldering her father's gambling debts. As neighbors, they would take care of her at least a little.

But since last week, those thugs from the Snow Hidden Association had set their sights on the young Wen Rou and began causing trouble everywhere. Anyone who dared to support her business got beaten up, preventing them from dining there and forcing them to switch to another local eatery, a rather poor one.

The taste and prices at that poor eatery just couldn't compare with Wen Rou's.

This made them somewhat nostalgic for the days when they used to eat at Wen Rou's restaurant.

So, whenever they came to Wen Rou's restaurant, their steps would involuntarily hesitate for a moment.

They stopped walking and unconsciously peeked into the restaurant. They had expected to see the young Wen Rou sitting stubbornly behind the counter with a pale face, her eyes filled with hope as she awaited customers who hardly ever came.

But unexpectedly, Wen Rou was not sitting alone as before; she was eating at a dining table in the main hall, sitting together with a young man.

Seeing this, their eyes widened in surprise.

Hmm? Who was that young man? Was he a relative of Wen Rou?

Probably not. She likely didn't have any relatives who would come to help her, right?

A classmate?

That didn't seem likely either, as the boy appeared a few years younger than Wen Rou and more like a high school student.

So was he just an uninformed customer who couldn't resist coming in for a meal after seeing Wen Rou's beauty?

They guessed that was the case. Usually, there were such people who came for Wen Rou, their real intentions not on the food itself.

But ever since those thugs started showing up, those people didn't dare to come anymore, and those who did, having been beaten once, had learned their lesson.

The neighbors and locals, seeing Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou eating together, noticed that Mu Jinyu was young and handsome, behaving respectfully during the meal. They hesitated whether they should warn him to stop eating and leave quickly before the reckless thugs showed up. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to just walk away.

Most people were too timid to speak up for fear of bringing trouble upon themselves, but one auntie, quite fond of Mu Jinyu, finally couldn't help but call out, "Hey, Xiaorou, how come you're letting someone eat here today?"

In her memory, Wen Rou was quite careful; during the times when the thugs were known to make trouble, even if there were unwitting guests who came to eat, she would send them away to avoid involving them.

And now, it was lunchtime, which was exactly when the thugs might show up to cause trouble.

Why was she letting Mu Jinyu eat there today?

When Wen Rou heard the aunt's shout, she looked up and saw many of her neighbors peeking around the entrance. She smiled slightly and said, "Auntie, it's okay. He's a friend of mine. I invited him to eat, and he'll leave soon after we finish. There won't be any trouble."

"You invited me to eat?" upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu paused from eating.

Wasn't he supposed to be treating her to a meal? How had it become her treating him?

Oh, he hadn't paid yet; that's right. No wonder she cooked extra dishes and didn't awkwardly refuse but instead sat down openly to eat with him. It seemed she had planned to invite him for a meal.

While Mu Jinyu was pondering this, the aunt suddenly called out in a low, anxious voice:

"Oh no, those people are coming again, Xiaorou, you should let this young man hide somewhere quickly, or else it could be really troublesome."

Chapter 59: Apologize and Make Amends

The auntie warned them, fearing she might get burned by association, so she took the chance to slip away to one side while that group of ragtag hoodlums hadn't noticed them and pretended to browse through some goods.

But from the corner of their eyes, they couldn't help but keep an eye on the situation, secretly praying in their hearts that the handsome young man wouldn't be crippled by the group.

Wen Rou's seat faced the entrance, and when she heard the auntie's warning, as well as the hurried evasion of their neighbors, distancing themselves from the matter,

she knew that it must be the same group of ragtag hoodlums from last night.

Wen Rou immediately put down her chopsticks, no longer in the mood to continue eating.

Her heart fluttered with anxiety. Hadn't Mu Jinyu said that he would handle these troubles? Why had they returned?

Then, she turned her head to look at Mu Jinyu, who seemed to be unharmed, his clothes still neat and without a speck of dust, and thought, could it be... that he actually hadn't gone over, and after just making a round nearby, had come back to claim credit without doing anything?

Feeling that this guess was highly probable, a sense of disappointment inevitably rose within Wen Rou's heart.

But she wasn't one to disregard the bigger picture and quickly stood up, went over to Mu Jinyu's side, and pushing him, she called out anxiously, "They've come looking, and they've probably brought a lot of people with them, you better hurry to the kitchen or the bathroom and hide..."

Mu Jinyu didn't share Wen Rou's panic, continuing to eat his food with ease and without a hint of tension, "Hide? Why should I hide? If they want to come, let them come, it's no big deal."

"What do you mean no big deal?" Wen Rou, seeing him so casual, nearly burst into tears of anxiety, "They were beaten so badly by you yesterday, they must be here for revenge..."

"Come for revenge?" Mu Jinyu cut off Wen Rou, took a sip of radish and pork rib soup, and laughed, "Don't worry, they're not here to cause me trouble, but to apologize to you, to help your restaurant return to how it was."

"Apologize to me?" Wen Rou was startled for a moment, echoing Mu Jinyu's words, then snapped back to reality, feeling that it was impossible, and somewhat upset with Mu Jinyu for joking with her at such a time, she called out again, "Stop joking around. You better go hide."

Mu Jinyu remained seated, unmoved as a mountain, and took another sip of the soup, "Hide? Why? They're already here."

Upon hearing this, Wen Rou let out an 'ah' and hurriedly turned her head to look.

Indeed, at the entrance, a blonde young man led the way, followed by a group of people, the same ragtag hoodlums from yesterday who had caused a commotion in the restaurant, with their numbers even greater than before by a dozen or so.

Seeing this, Wen Rou's heart fluttered, internally thinking they were doomed. They had been caught red-handed.

She stomped her foot lightly in annoyance and took the plunge, walked towards them, and demanded, "Whatever your issue is, aim it at me, don't..."

She didn't finish her formidable words when she was stunned into silence by the actions of the hoodlums following them.

Seeing Wen Rou appear, the hoodlums, who initially looked as if their parents had died, forcibly squeezed out a tearful smile and then bowed respectfully to her, exclaiming in unison:

"Miss Wen Rou, we're sorry, the disturbance the other day was our fault, please forgive us."

An apology?

Were they really apologizing?

Were they truly apologizing to me?

As Wen Rou saw them bowing in apology, her previously cluttered mind suddenly went blank.

In the end, only the words that Mu Jinyu had just said to her remained, that they had come to apologize to her.

It turned out he hadn't lied to her!

It turned out that he hadn't just walked around the vicinity and returned after chickening out, but had actually gone to solve the trouble for her...

Wen Rou's mind was in chaos, from meeting Mu Jinyu last night until today, various conversations with him kept resurfacing in her mind.

Meanwhile, at the small restaurant across the street, the aunties and uncles who had been secretly glancing over with the corners of their eyes were shocked to see the rowdy hooligans—who had always been lawless—entering Wen Rou's shop not to create trouble but to apologize to her.

They found it unbelievable, almost as if their eyeballs were about to pop out of their sockets.

How was this possible? These people were always unbridled and dared to do anything; how could they possibly be bowing their heads to apologize to Wen Rou, a frail woman?

"You guys, look, they actually..."

As they stood dumbfounded, they saw the gang, taking out beautifully packaged gifts from their black plastic bags and apologizing to Wen Rou,

"Miss Wen Rou, this is a small gesture of our apology, please do accept it!"

Were they really offering an apology?

Everyone heard this and couldn't believe their ears, but their feet involuntarily moved toward the small restaurant, eager to hear what they would say and see what they would offer as an apology...

Wen Rou watched the hooligans who usually bullied her mercilessly stand before her now, obedient as quails, bowing and presenting their gifts as an apology, her heart filled with mixed emotions.

She knew that without Mu Jinyu's help, it would have been impossible for them to not only apologize but even to stop bullying her.

Bowing her head to look at the various gifts they were holding—ginseng, deer antler, watches, necklaces, high-heeled shoes, cosmetics...

Wen Rou smiled faintly. Although she didn't know how Mu Jinyu had frightened them so much that they were apologizing to her, she was not a woman who was truly weak and easily bullied.

She wouldn't choose to be nervous and afraid, wavering her hands and exclaiming, "Oh no, no need, as long as you know your mistake that's good, just don't do it again in the future..."

She was not that foolish woman. Due to their harassment, her business had suffered greatly, and she had lost a lot of money, so she felt fully justified in accepting their apology gifts.

She didn't need Mu Jinyu to tell her to accept them, so Wen Rou softly instructed, "Mmm, put it over there on the counter."

"Yes, yes..." The hooligans, upon hearing this, looked at Wen Rou with endless gratitude, dared not look any longer, hurried with the gifts toward the counter, set them down, and then obediently came to Mu Jinyu's side, nervously asking, "Master Mu... can we leave now?"

Mu Jinyu, who hadn't stopped eating since they entered, looked up at the door upon hearing their question, saw the horrified expressions of the aunts and uncles outside, and responded in a low voice, "Go, and don't come back here to cause trouble!"

"Yes, yes... we won't dare anymore..."

After receiving Mu Jinyu's orders, the group replied, then scampered out the door like dogs that had lost their homes.

The aunts and uncles at the entrance, who had unconsciously moved closer to see the commotion, thought they were about to be beaten when the hooligans suddenly rushed out. Instead, to their surprise, the gang bypassed them, even apologizing,

"Sorry, so sorry, we almost bumped into you, we're leaving now and won't come back..."

The bystanders stood there, dumbstruck.

Was this still the group of lawless hooligans they remembered?

Chapter 60 Were you the one who called him over on purpose?

The scruffy thugs had rushed off impatiently, and Mu Jinyu glanced at Wen Rou, a look of surprise and admiration flashing in his eyes.

Originally, he had thought Wen Rou was the kind of saint who, though fragile and weak, would consider others even when bullied.

But her display just now was soft on the outside and tough on the inside, which made him respect her even more.

It also proved that he hadn't helped the wrong person.

"Heh..." Mu Jinyu chuckled lightly and continued to eat his meal.

For Wen Rou, of course, there was no more time to eat.

After the gang fled in disarray, the stunned aunties and uncles around finally caught on, although they didn't know why the thugs had submitted to Wen Rou. Whatever the reason, based on their recent behavior, it seemed they wouldn't bully Wen Rou anymore.

That said, the neighbors no longer needed to go to that nearby, disgusting, and overpriced "Fly Restaurant."

Thus, they all enthusiastically streamed into the small restaurant and called out to Wen Rou, "Xiaorou, you really got some skills! We saw them charging over menacingly and were so worried for you, but it turns out you had already handled them."

Wen Rou gave them a soft smile and spoke gently, "It's not really my doing—it was..."

She paused, about to tell them that Mu Jinyu had solved the problem, but unsure if he wanted to be mentioned, she changed her statement,

"It was a friend who helped me out, and I need to thank him later."

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu smiled faintly, remaining silent. He didn't want to make a fuss and be swarmed with endless questions by the aunties and uncles.

"Then you're really fortunate."

"Yes, otherwise if the thugs had gotten to her, her life would've been ruined."

"..."

After the uncles and aunties praised her for a bit, they didn't dwell on the subject much longer, since, aside from wanting to know how Wen Rou had managed to rid herself of the thugs, they were primarily there to fill their stomachs.

"Hey Xiaorou, it's been so long since I last ate here. As usual, I'll have a large bowl of beef noodles and a basket of steamed dumplings," said an auntie.

"Same here, the usual for me too—a duck leg rice and a seaweed egg soup, and take your time, we'll wait," another joined.

"I'll stick to the usual, Xiaorou. Ah, it's truly nice at Xiaorou's place, tasty and clean. That Fly Restaurant nearby, I almost threw up last time I ate there."

"Lucky Xiaorou's shop is open, otherwise I'd probably have started bringing my own lunch."

"..."

The crowd buzzed, ordering food from Wen Rou while complaining about how awful the nearby Fly Restaurant's food was.

Wen Rou didn't say much, just nodded with a smile, took their orders, and then told Mu Jinyu to eat slowly before she turned, her slender waist swaying as she headed to the kitchen.

Once Wen Rou had left, the faces of the uncles and aunties twisted oddly, recalling how she had just spoken to Mu Jinyu to eat slowly, and what she had said about that friend...

Could it be this young fellow before them?

They hadn't seen it before when Blond Thug had asked Mu Jinyu if they could leave because he was blocked by a group of thugs, so they could only guess, not confirm.

"Hey, young man, was it you who helped Xiaorou with her trouble, the friend she just mentioned?"

The elderly lady who had earlier warned Mu Jinyu to hide approached and asked him.

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu stopped eating, smiled at her, and said, "Ma'am, you're overthinking it. I'm just an ordinary guy, how could I have such abilities?"

"That makes sense." The elderly lady looked him up and down, and seeing nothing particularly remarkable about his appearance or demeanor beyond being handsome, she noted that he seemed quite ordinary.

Then, she asked, "Hey, when those people came rushing over, didn't I tell you to hide quickly? Why didn't you hide? You just kept sitting and eating?"

After swallowing a spoonful of soup and wiping his mouth, Mu Jinyu casually said, "I didn't expect there to be so many of them. I was so scared that my legs went weak, and I couldn't run. I thought I was done for, but I didn't die, so now I'm just eating to calm my nerves."

"Oh." The elderly lady and the eavesdropping crowd nodded as if everything suddenly made sense.

So he was too scared to run, and that's why he kept sitting there eating.

Thinking this, they no longer associated Mu Jinyu with Wen Rou's mysterious and powerful friend and lost interest in chatting with just an ordinary person.

Soon after, they started chatting among themselves about Wen Rou's mysterious friend, wishing they could meet him too so those thugs wouldn't come to collect protection money from them anymore.

Mu Jinyu simply smiled at this and continued eating leisurely; there was plenty of food on the table, and he always had a big appetite, so finishing it wouldn't be a problem.

Wen Rou cooked very quickly. In no time at all, she had prepared the meals the group of elderly men and women had ordered.

And unlike Mu Jinyu, who could afford to eat at his leisure, these elderly customers needed to finish quickly to get back to their own shops and work.

So, in just a short while, they hurriedly finished their meals, paid the bill, and left satisfied.

Seeing that there were no more customers, Wen Rou washed her hands and went over to Mu Jinyu, then stopped in surprise.

She had thought that Mu Jinyu was still eating because he was waiting for her to finish her work so they could eat together. However, upon arriving, she found that Mu Jinyu had cleaned up all the dishes, leaving nothing behind.

Even the few bites of rice that she had started to eat were all gone.

Wen Rou was stunned and blurted out, "How could you eat everything? Even my leftovers..."

As she spoke, she felt somewhat embarrassed, and a rosy blush spread across her cheeks.

"Oh, I thought you weren't going to eat them," Mu Jinyu replied casually, wiping his mouth with a napkin.

"..." With that said by Mu Jinyu, what could Wen Rou say? She could only shoot him a coy look and shyly lowered her head.

"Here, let's see how much it is." Mu Jinyu took out a One hundred coins note, slapped it on the table, and pushed it towards Wen Rou.

"Huh?" Wen Rou snapped back to reality, quickly said, "No need, I got this meal. You've helped me so much already. Besides, didn't you treat me to a meal this morning?"

Mu Jinyu frowned and said, "I almost ate it all by myself. How could I let you treat me again? Take it, just give me a 10% discount."

Upon hearing this, Wen Rou finally understood why Mu Jinyu had even eaten her leftovers. Feeling a bit warmed by the gesture, she no longer insisted, took the money, settled his bill, and then handed him the change.

Mu Jinyu took the change, put it in his pocket, bid Wen Rou goodbye, and prepared to leave.

With Wen Rou's trouble fully resolved, he didn't have much else to worry about her. He planned to check on his five properties, to see how the renovations and surroundings were.

Wen Rou glanced at Mu Jinyu's retreating figure, hesitated for a moment, and then called out, "Hey, Little Mu, were those guys specially called by you?"

