

## Middle Age 96

Chapter 96: Mendeleyev Comes to Restock Again

Back in the car, Qi Yun checked the time and saw it was nearly eleven.

"That woman should be awake by now, right?"

Thinking of this, he called Wang Fei.

The phone rang several times before being answered.

"If you call me this early again, be careful, I won't go easy on you!" Wang Fei's voice came from the other end, carrying a hint of annoyance.

Qi Yun clicked his tongue inwardly; this woman has quite a temper when waking up.

He cleared his throat to ease the awkwardness, then went straight to the point: "I want to ask you for a favor."

"Hmph, go on." Wang Fei replied with a proud tone.

"Is there a 'Ming Dynasty copper enamel snuff bottle' at the Chang'an auction? I'd like you to help me buy it."

On the other end, Wang Fei sat up in bed, gritted her teeth and snorted: "Hmph, you really know how to ask for favors. I asked you to go to the auction with me but you didn't, and you still want me to help you buy it."

"No way!"

Qi Yun didn't expect her to reject so bluntly, and for a moment didn't know how to respond.

Wang Fei saw his silence and her temper eased a bit, though she still didn't relent.

"It's still possible to register now. If you want to go, send me your ID card, and I'll handle the procedures for you."

"But expecting me to help you buy it back is impossible!"

Qi Yun lit a cigarette, took a couple of puffs, and seeing he couldn't win against her, he slowly said: "Fine, I'll go with you then."

If he didn't go, the snuff bottle in his pocket would only sell for a maximum of ten thousand, but paired with this one, it could sell for sixty thousand.

He couldn't let money slip away, so he compromised.

"Oh, you're quite unwilling, aren't you? You find it embarrassing to go with me?" Wang Fei sarcastically commented again, "Send over your ID card!" Then hung up the phone.

Qi Yun stared at the dark screen for a moment and decided never to call her in the morning again.

After finishing his cigarette, he started the car to head home, when Zhong Rui messaged him that the house was chosen and asked him to come check it out. So he drove towards the location sent.

Quickly, Qi Yun arrived at the location Zhong Rui mentioned.

It wasn't far from Vanke Mansion; a self-built house in an alley, two stories high, the exterior walls were painted white instead of tiled, looking quite decent.

The street's trees were lush, and at the entrance was a small concrete yard with a few green plants sparsely placed.

As Qi Yun approached the entrance, Zhong Rui eagerly came up, nervously asking: "Boss, is this place okay?"

This was the first task Qi Yun assigned him, and he feared doing it poorly would dissatisfy his boss.

Qi Yun glanced around, slightly nodding: "Let's look inside, did you ask about the rent?"

"Yes, yes!" Zhong Rui nodded quickly, following Qi Yun inside, "The landlord said twenty-five hundred a month, deposit of one month and pay for three months in advance."

"But this price can still be negotiated. I sensed the landlord's willingness to lower it if we're sincere about renting."

Inside, the lighting was nice, quite bright, with neatly tiled floors.

There were three rooms in total, estimating about seventy to eighty square meters in total.

The second floor had a similar layout but was filled with various clutter, spider webs everywhere, looking like it hadn't been used in a long time.

"This place is good, let's go with this."

Seeing the boss satisfied, Zhong Rui felt relieved and smiled.

After signing the contract with the landlord, Qi Yun immediately paid a year's rent.

He also transferred a thousand yuan to Zhong Rui, saying: "In the next couple of days, focus on handling the business license. If you need any materials, call me."

"Use this thousand yuan to hire a few people to clean up the place, and pick a room for yourself to live in."

Zhong Rui happily patted his chest: "Boss, rest assured, I will definitely manage it well."

Qi Yun nodded and after a few more reminders, planned to leave.

Back in the car, he suddenly remembered the stack of fuel cards. After a moment of thought, he counted out twenty cards totaling twenty thousand yuan.

"Zhong Rui, come over here!"

Hearing the call, Zhong Rui hurried over with a puzzled look: "Boss, anything else?"

Qi Yun handed over the twenty fuel cards and said, "I have some fuel cards here, help me sell them."

Zhong Rui was slightly taken aback but instinctively accepted the fuel cards, nodding: "Alright, boss, I'll handle it."

"Okay, I'm leaving first, call me if there's anything."

"Alright, take care, boss."

After leaving the rental house, Qi Yun drove straight home.

Inside, the house was spotless, but Zhao Qing and the girl were not to be seen.

Qi Yun took out the key Zhao Qing previously gave him, opened the door across, but still found no one home.

"Out?"

He puzzledly called Zhao Qing, only to learn that school was starting soon, and she had taken the little one shopping for a new backpack.

"Where are you? Want me to pick you up?" Qi Yun asked.

Zhao Qing thought for a moment and agreed: "Sure, I'll send you the location."

Soon the location was sent over, Qi Yun had barely sat before heading out again.

Upon reaching the mall's second floor, he saw Zhao Qing and the little one in a Lilang men's clothing store.

Seeing Qi Yun walking over, Zhao Qing quickly waved: "Brother Qi, come try this jacket."

Qi Yun was slightly surprised. Was she choosing clothes for him?

"Here, I think this jacket really suits you, quickly try it on for me to see." Zhao Qing said with smiling eyes, handing over a jacket.

Qi Yun, seeing Zhao Qing's expectant gaze, took the jacket and went to the fitting room.

He put on the jacket, adjusted the collar slightly, then walked out.

Zhao Qing's eyes brightened, she looked him over and smiled satisfactorily: "Wow, Brother Qi, this jacket really suits you, makes you look so spirited and changes your aura entirely."

The little one also clapped from the side, saying in a childish voice: "Daddy is handsome, Daddy is handsome!"

Qi Yun smiled sheepishly, realizing that he hadn't bought any clothes for several years since his divorce.

"Really? I feel a bit out of place, though."

Zhao Qing stepped forward to adjust his clothes: "Of course it's true, you never pay attention to dressing up, but now you look completely different."

Saying this, Zhao Qing turned to the shop assistant and said, "We'll take this piece. Also, please show me some other styles that might suit him."

The shop assistant nodded with a smile and started making enthusiastic recommendations.

Qi Yun said somewhat bashfully, "Isn't this too much trouble? I have enough clothes to wear."

However, Zhao Qing insisted, "No, you need to dress appropriately when you're out, so get a few more pieces to change up."

Under Zhao Qing's persistence, Qi Yun tried on a few more outfits, and Zhao Qing eventually picked two jackets and a pair of pants for him.

Watching Zhao Qing seriously pick out clothes for him, a warm current surged in Qi Yun's heart, a feeling of being cared for that he hadn't felt in a long time.

At checkout, Qi Yun intended to pay, but Zhao Qing wouldn't allow it and insisted on paying herself.

Qi Yun smiled helplessly, not persisting further.

After coming out of the store, the three went for hot pot, and considering the little one couldn't eat spicy food, Zhao Qing thoughtfully ordered a yin-yang pot.

The little one ate with oil all over her mouth, and Qi Yun also enjoyed the family-like atmosphere.

After dinner, the three of them went to the parking lot. Zhao Qing looked at the BMW 5 series in front of her, a hint of surprise in her eyes.

"Qi Big Brother, you bought a car?"

Qi Yun nodded with a smile, explaining, "Yes, I earned some money doing business recently and just happened to find this car cheap, so I bought it. It's a secondhand; it's not worth much."

Zhao Qing's beautiful eyes flickered, suspiciously nodded, and didn't ask more. She patted Nuannuan's little face and asked, "Nuannuan, do you want to ride in Dad's car or Sister Qing's car?"

The little girl was clearly uninterested in BMWs or such, hugging Zhao Qing's leg and saying in her sweet voice, "I want to ride in Sister Qing's car."

"Well then, let's go."

Qi Yun shook his head helplessly and reminded, "Drive slowly."

"Got it!" Zhao Qing waved her hand towards the back.

When the three of them got home, it was already dark outside.

After coaxing the little one to sleep, Qi Yun secretly sneaked into Zhao Qing's bedroom again.

After a passionate encounter, they leaned against the bedhead.

"Xiao Qing, I need to go to Chang'an the day after tomorrow to handle some business," Qi Yun played with Zhao Qing's silky hair and said.

Zhao Qing slightly turned her head, a hint of reluctance flashing in her eyes, and asked softly, "Ah? How long will you be gone?"

"It'll probably just be a day or two, I'll be back soon."

"Oh~" Zhao Qing responded, and then her delicate hands started to misbehave again.

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The next day, when Qi Yun woke up, the pillow beside him was empty.

It turned out that he was too tired after working last night and fell asleep directly on Zhao Qing's bed.

Zhao Qing was afraid the little girl would wake up in the middle of the night and not find anyone, so she went to the other room to sleep with the little girl.

"Ah, it seems we still need to quickly get a bigger house to avoid the hassle of running back and forth."

Qi Yun sighed, his mind turned, and the light curtain appeared in front of him.

[Today's Intelligence 1 (White): Among the clutter you stored on the second floor of the house you rented yesterday, there is a bundle of the third set of Renminbi "Green Watermark" dime bills wrapped in newspaper, discarded by the previous tenant three years ago, totaling 12 pieces, valued at 50,000 yuan]

[Today's Intelligence 2 (Red): The cashmere rugs Mendeleyev brought back last time have all been sold out, and he plans to come to the city in two days to buy a batch of cotton textiles]

Mendeleyev? Cotton textiles?

After seeing the intelligence content, Qi Yun fell into deep thought.

Regarding cotton textiles, there are quite a few textile factories in this city, making competition a bit fierce.

However, since he had traded with Mendeleyev before, if the price difference isn't too big, there's still a good chance of securing the order.

It's just that the other party is coming in two days, and by then, I'll be on my way to Chang'an...

Thinking it over, he still decided to call and ask about the situation first.

He picked up his phone, checked the time in Russia, and seeing that it was already afternoon, he dialed the overseas number Mendeleyev gave last time.

"Hello, Qi Yun, what's prompted you to call me?" Mendeleyev's loud voice boomed over the phone.

Qi Yun laughed, "I'm calling to ask about the goods from last time. If you weren't satisfied, I'm worried you might not come to me next time for business."

Mendeleyev laughed heartily, "Haha, Brother Qi, you're too modest! The cashmere rugs were top quality. They were snapped up as soon as I brought them back."

"I have another business deal and am planning to come to your city the day after tomorrow to discuss it with you."

Qi Yun felt delighted and pretended to ask curiously, "Oh? What business?"

Mendeleyev cleared his throat and didn't hold back: "It's about cotton textiles. We've been short on this lately, the factory can't keep up, and prices are high."

"I'm planning to come over and see if there's an opportunity to buy a batch at a lower price. Do you have any connections in this regard, Brother Qi?"

Qi Yun pondered for a moment and then responded cheerfully, "Since you've asked, even if I don't have connections now, I'll figure out a way to find them."

"How much are you planning to buy? I'll make some contacts later."

Mendeleyev laughed heartily, "Brother Qi, I knew I could count on you! I'm planning to purchase around three hundred tons, and the quality must be top-notch, preferably meeting our market's first-class standards."

"As for the price, we'll discuss it when we meet."

Qi Yun didn't have much concept of cotton textiles, but judging by the long trip Mendeleyev is making, the deal surely won't be small.

So he agreed: "No problem! Rest assured, Brother, I'll get in touch now, let me know when your flight is confirmed, and I'll have Peng Fei pick you up."

"Hahaha, sure."

After hanging up, Qi Yun immediately called Brother Peng and explained everything to him.

Brother Peng beamed with joy upon hearing that Mendeleyev was coming to purchase again.

Qi Yun continued, "My plan is to go to Manager Sun's textile factory first and see what's going on."

"Besides, I'll be going to Chang'an the day after tomorrow, so you'll be the one to deal with him."