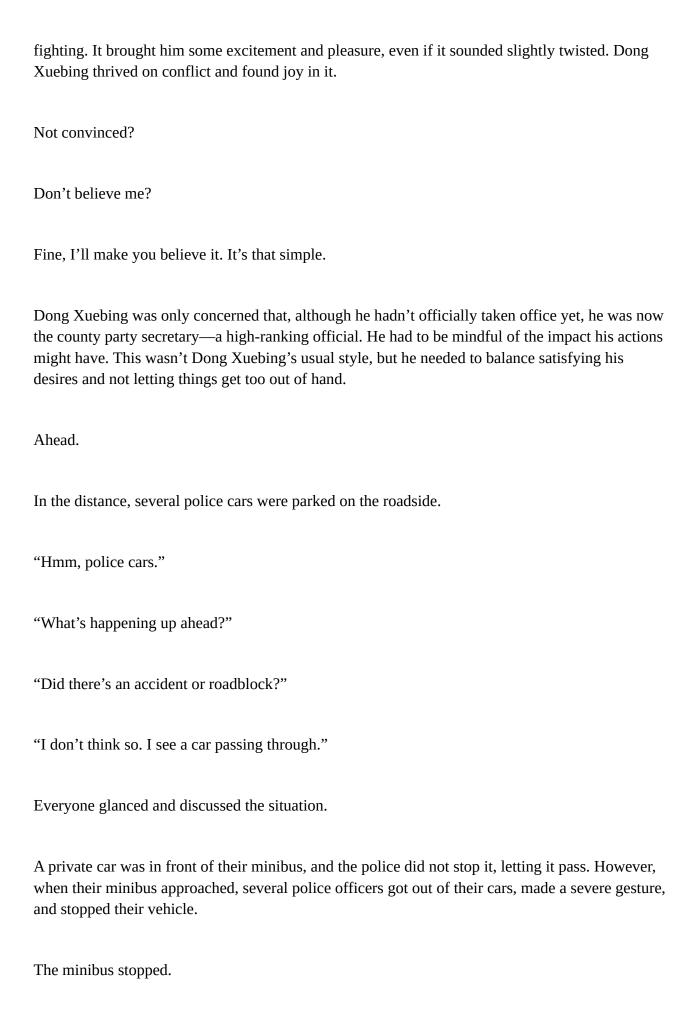
## **PAW 1784**





The driver immediately jumped out of the vehicle and yelled at the police, "Officers, someone has hijacked the bus and assaulted people!"

The lead officer replied, "We've already received a report. Where is the person?"

"On the bus, over there," the driver pointed to Dong Xuebing. He finally felt relieved. He had been nervous all along, fearing that he might end up like his unfortunate companion, being thrown off the bus by that young man. Now, he was relieved to see the police.

Their conversation wasn't loud, but it was enough for the passengers to hear.

Su Yan clicked his tongue, his face darkening as he frowned. He wasn't sure whether the big man who was thrown off had reported the incident through routine procedures or used his connections. If it had been through normal procedures, it might not have been a problem since it was a black car, and many witnesses were on board to testify to the overcharging. However, if it was through personal connections, it could be troublesome. Su Yan didn't have any real power and wasn't well-regarded in the secretary's office, so he couldn't do much, even if he wanted to help Dong Xuebing.

"I told you so," Su Yan said, looking at Dong Xuebing.

Dong Xuebing remained unperturbed, as steady as a mountain.

There were two police cars and about four or five officers—quite a few.

At this moment, the driver hurriedly led the police onto the minibus. He had been afraid that Dong Xuebing might attack him, but with the police present, the driver gained confidence. He pointed angrily at the last row of seats and said, "It's the person by the window."

The police took a look. "Are you sure?"

"That's the one who hit someone, threw him off the bus, and threatened me to drive," the driver said indignantly.

The police were surprised to see that Dong Xuebing was a thin, unremarkable young man. Usually, in such altercations, the attacker would be someone with a bad temper, but this person

seemed calm and even a bit timid, which didn't quite match the image of someone who could kick someone so far. Nonetheless, they didn't question it further since there was a witness.

Officer Liu Xing stepped forward. "Is it you?"

Dong Xuebing looked at him. "What do you mean, 'Is it me'?"

"Did you assault someone?" Liu Xing asked.

Dong Xuebing straightforwardly replied, "Yes, I did."

Liu Xing glanced at him, thinking he was pretty candid, and then waved his hand. "Then come with us to the station for processing."

Dong Xuebing smiled. "Aren't you going to ask why I did it?"

Liu Xing responded coldly, "You've already caused physical harm. What else is there to ask?"

Dong Xuebing pointed at the minibus. "This is a black car. Shouldn't you understand the situation first? Why are you heading straight for me?"

Liu Xing calmly said, "That's not our concern. Even if it's a black car or illegal operation, it doesn't mean you can assault people."

He is ignoring the black car issue.

They're only dealing with the assault.

Dong Xuebing laughed. "You are something. You've already jumped to conclusions without understanding the cause and effect, right?"

At this point, Dong Xuebing and Su Yan realized that the big man who had been thrown out sent these officers. They came directly to arrest someone without understanding the situation. There

was no proper investigation, which was not how cases were handled. So, Dong Xuebing didn't have a good attitude towards them.

Dong Xuebing didn't speak, maintaining his calm demeanor, but when he did speak, it revealed his contentious nature. Liu Xing and the officers began to believe that this young man was indeed the one who had caused trouble. With the police and police cars present, they wouldn't relent.

Meanwhile, someone spoke up for Dong Xuebing.

A woman said, "They were the ones who were overcharging."

An old man added, "That's right. It was almost a robbery. You should have seen their attitude. It was too much. They tried to force people off the bus if they didn't pay. And this was on the highway. Is this how they handle things? We all bought tickets; everyone here can testify that this young man didn't start the fight. The person before him tried to grab him first, and that's when this young man reacted."

"Yeah, I saw it too."

"It was that person who started it."

"He deserved to be beaten. He was threatening us and trying to extort money from us. It was outrageous."

"Officers, you've got the wrong person."

"You should arrest that driver instead."

"This damn black car, I won't ride it again."

The passengers all chattered in support of Dong Xuebing.

Seeing this, Su Yan, who was also well-meaning, took his credentials and showed them to Liu Xing.

Liu Xing glanced at it. "Secretary Su?"

"We're all colleagues in the government. It's not his fault. I've been watching the whole time," Su Yan said.

Liu Xing returned the ID but remained stern. "We've already opened a case, and it will be processed. You don't need to get involved." The implication was clear: Liu Xing told Su Yan that even if he wanted to intervene, he couldn't. The chief had assigned the task of handling the case, and the officers were obligated to take action regardless of the circumstances.

Liu Xing looked at Dong Xuebing again. "Come with us."

Dong Xuebing asked, "What about the black car and the overcharging?"

"You don't need to worry about that. We're only investigating the assault," Liu Xing said, visibly irritated by Dong Xuebing's stubbornness.

Dong Xuebing smiled. "So, in your eyes, illegal activities right in front of you are ignored, and today's job is just to arrest me. You're fine with all other criminal activities?" He paused, "I'm curious, who called your station? Was it your chief?" Some things were not supposed to be said, but Dong Xuebing didn't hold back, causing the officers' faces to darken further.

"Old Liu, stop wasting time with him," one officer said.

Another young officer added, "Yeah, just arrest him."

Dong Xuebing looked at them. "With so many people here as witnesses, proving that my actions had a reason and proving that this bus is illegal, you're not even taking statements or dealing with the implicated people, just targeting me, right? Fine."

Liu Xing said, "So now you're saying you have justification for hitting someone?"

Dong Xuebing said, "So it's okay for them to operate a black car and extort money? This minibus is under your protection, right? That's how I should understand it?"

