

PAW 781

Chapter 781: Huilan, can you lend me money?

Next morning.

Central Party School dormitory.

“Xuebing, Xuebing.” Han Xinghua called. “Wake up.”

“Brother Han?” Dong Xuebing opened his eyes and looked at the time. “Oh, it’s already past 8 am.”

Han Xinghua laughed. “We got to go to the library this morning, and we don’t have classes. You don’t need to rush.”

“Thanks, Brother Han. I might have slept until the afternoon if you didn’t wake me up.” Dong Xuebing got up and quickly washed up. He had been busy with his proposal and sneaking out every night. He returned from Sister Xie’s home quite late and dreamt of their wedding.

It’s almost 9 am when Dong Xuebing is done.

Dong Xuebing was about to go to the library when he received Xie Huilan’s call.

“Are you at your dormitory?” Xie Huilan asked.

“Yes. I am downstairs. What is it?”

“There are no lessons today, and I applied for leave for you. Come out with me, ok?”

“Hey, why did you apply for leave for me? It will affect my results, and I might not graduate.”

“Haha.... It’s alright. I know the Deputy Principal and my parents are friends with the Principal. Getting one or two days off is fine.”

“Where are we going?”

“Let’s talk later. Meet you at the gates.”

“Ok. Wait for me.”

Party School Gate.

Xie Huilan is chatting with a man in his fifties at the guardhouse, and Dong Xuebing immediately recognizes him. He is the Deputy Principal who gave a speech at the opening ceremony. His surname is Wen. The Party School’s Principal has other duties, and he left the Party School to Deputy Principal Wen.

Dong Xuebing walked over, and they turned and looked at him.

Xie Huilan smiles. “Uncle Wen, this is my fiancé, Dong Xuebing.”

Dong Xuebing quickly extends two hands for a handshake. "Principal Wen."

"Nice to meet you." Principal Wen laughed. "I have heard a lot about you, Fen Zhou City's Xiao Dong."

Xie Huilan narrowed her eyes. "We are getting married in a few days. You must attend our wedding ceremony."

Principal Wen joked. "I was afraid I might not get invited."

"How can I not invite you? It's our honor if you can come. Haha.... Xiao Bing and I got to run some errands, and we shall not bother you anymore."

"Go ahead. There are a lot of things to prepare for a wedding. I will let your trainers know, and you can let them know if you two need to leave in the future."

"Thank you, Uncle Wen."

"Alright. You don't need to be so polite to me. I had watched you grow up." Deputy Principal Wen looked at Dong Xuebing and patted his shoulder. "You must treat Huilan well after you two got married. I will not let you off if you bully her."

Dong Xuebing smiled nervously. "It will not happen."

Xie Huilan and Dong Xuebing left the Party School and walked along the streets.

Dong Xuebing asked Xie Huilan when there was no one around them. "Is that Principal Wen close to your family?"

"Not really." Xie Huilan giggled. "We are not very close."

Dong Xuebing is speechless. "Then why did he say he watched you grow up?"

"Hehe.... Uncle Wen visited our house a few times when I was young. It's not wrong for him to say he watched me grow up." Xie Huilan explained. "You had joined the Government for two years, and you should know all the high-level officials in Beijing knows each other. Some are relatives, friends of friends, etc. The relationships are complicated. It can't be explained easily or can be identified by different factions. Never mind, you will understand when you are at their level. You won't understand even if I tell you now."

Dong Xuebing smacked his lips. "Look at you.... You are acting all high and mighty again. Why can't I understand now? Do you think I am stupid?"

"Haha.... You are not very smart."

"Hmph! I dare you to say that again?"

"What? Are you going to hit me?"

“Don’t think I don’t dare to do that. I will teach you a lesson if you piss me off.” Dong Xuebing retorted, but he didn’t dare to bully her.

Xie Huilan laughed. “Fine. Today, I am in a good mood and will not argue with you.”

Dong Xuebing felt better. “Should we tell our colleagues and friends in Fen Zhou City about our wedding? Although we are not inviting them, we should inform them.”

Xie Huilan replied. “We can’t invite them even if we tell them. We might as well not tell them.”

“But.....”

“Furthermore, Fen Zhou City is rebuilding after the earthquake. What will others think if we get married now?”

“Hmmm.... You are right.”

“That’s why I say we should not tell them.”

“Why did you call me out today? Where are we going?”

Xie Huilan looks at her watch. “My parents said they would do all the wedding preparations, but we got to settle some things ourselves. For example, my wedding dress and our wedding photos. My Mum felt it was too rushed and asked us to settle our wedding dress and photos.”

Dong Xuebing is speechless. “Wedding dress? Don’t you think it’s too rushed?”

“Our wedding is in a few days. Are you thinking of buying my wedding dress on that day?”

“I don’t mean that. I am asking if we can hold it off for two days.”

“We will do it today.” Xie Huilan said and flagged a taxi. She held Dong Xuebing’s arm and got in. “Wang Fu Jing. Thank you.”

The driver nodded.

“This is too rushed.” Dong Xuebing said. “I am not prepared.”

Xie Huilan smiles. “Are you not prepared to take our wedding photos or not prepared to get married? If it is the photos, you don’t need to be prepared as I had made the arrangements. The makeup artist and hairstylist are waiting for us. If you are not prepared to get married....” She looks at him with a smile. “We can stop now as we have not sent out the invitations. You can still change your mind.”

Dong Xuebing quickly explains. “What are you saying? I am not regretting.”

“Hehe.... Then what do you mean?”

“I.... I....”

Dong Xuebing doesn’t know how to tell Xie Huilan his problems.

The taxi stopped outside of Wang Fu Jing. Xie Huilan saw Dong Xuebing did not take out his wallet, and she paid the fare.

Xie Huilan held Dong Xuebing's arm as they walked along the street, attracting attention from passersby.

Everyone is attracted to Xie Huilan's beautiful looks.

Dong Xuebing seldom walks with Xie Huilan with her holding his arms, and the attention flattered him. But he felt down when he remembers his problems.

"We are here." Xie Huilan stopped.

It is a three-story bridal shop, and the windows display many wedding dresses. All of them look expensive and cost at least 10,000 RMB.

"Let's go." Xie Huilan held his arm.

Dong Xuebing did not move and pulled Xie Huilan aside. He took out his wallet and gave it to her. "Look at my wallet."

Xie Huilan is puzzled. "What do you want me to see?"

"You will know when you look at it." Dong Xuebing felt embarrassed to say it.

Xie Huilan opened his wallet and was stunned. The wallet only has 2 RMB inside. She is amused. "No wonder you are acting weirdly. Haha.... How come you only got 2 RMB? What about your cards?"

Dong Xuebing replied. "I spent all my money on the rings. 300 million.... Although I had won over 100 million RMB in the lottery, it was not enough. I got to borrow 2 million from my mother and 500,000 RMB from my former Leader to raise it. I don't even have money to buy cigarettes. This is why I did not bring any gifts when I went to your house yesterday. What can I buy with 2 RMB? It's not even enough to get a few apples."

Xie Huilan pokes Dong Xuebing lightly. "You are always trying to show off. Don't get the rings if you don't have enough money. Why did you borrow money for it?"

"You like that pink diamond, and I must get it for you even if I become bankrupt."

Xie Huilan smiled and stroked his hair. "You are so good to me."

"Of course."

"You are so sweet."

Dong Xuebing asked after a short struggle. "This is my current situation. Err.... Huilan, can you lend me some money?"

Xie Huilan giggles. "This is our wedding, and we will be husband and wife. You don't need to ask me to lend you money."

Dong Xuebing smiles embarrassedly. "But that's your money."

"I don't mind." Xie Huilan took out a bank card from her wallet and gave it to him. "I have a few hundred thousand inside. I don't remember the exact figure, and it is our joint assets now. I think this is all of our liquid assets. You will use it to pay for the wedding dress later. The pin is my birthday."

"Ah.... How can I do this?" Dong Xuebing said, but he still kept the card in his wallet. "I will hold it for you. We should need to spend a lot for the wedding, and we should try to save if possible these few days. I will try to make money when I get the opportunity."

Xie Huilan held his arm. "Let's go. Haha...."

Chapter 782: Your wife is so beautiful

Morning.

Wang Fu Jing.

Makeup room in Paris Bridal Shop.

Dong Xuebing looks at himself in the mirror. The makeup and hairstylist put on makeup and styled his hair for him.

"Xiao Bing." Xie Huilan called him from outside. "Come here for a while."

Dong Xuebing replied without turning back. "My makeup is not done yet. What is it?"

"I want you to pick the wedding dress with me."

"It will take a while for me. Pick the one you like."

"It must also be the one you like too."

"I know you well. When had you sought my opinions? You will not accept my suggestions with all sorts of excuses, and you will pick the one you like in the end. The sun will rise from the west if you listen to me." Dong Xuebing knows Xie Huilan well.

"Am I like that?"

"Yes."

"So, this is how you see me. This is breaking my heart.... Haha...."

"Err.... Then wait ten minutes for me. I will help you pick after I am done."

"Forget it. I will pick it myself. Hmm.... This dress is nice."

"....."

The female stylist smiled as she combed Dong Xuebing's hair. "Mr. Dong, your wife is beautiful."

Dong Xuebing smiles. "No, she's not."

The stylist replied. "You are being modest. I have worked here for almost six years, and your wife is the prettiest bride I have ever met. Our boss asked if you two are willing to let us hang your wedding photos in our shop. We are willing to waive the photos and makeup fees."

"Thank you." Dong Xuebing smiles. "But sorry. We can't do it."

The stylist continues. "Why don't you ask your wife? We..."

Dong Xuebing interrupts her. "Don't need to ask. We can't allow it."

Although Dong Xuebing is poor now, he doesn't want their photos to be displayed. Xie Huilan is Xie Family's third generation eldest Sister. How can her wedding photos be displayed in the bridal shop? Furthermore, they are leaders in the government.

Twenty minutes later, Dong Xuebing's makeup is done.

Dong Xuebing walks out of the room and sees Xie Huilan trying on the wedding dress.

Xie Huilan is stunning in the white dress.

Xie Huilan smiles when she sees Dong Xuebing in a neatly pressed suit. "Oh, who is this handsome young man? Is my husband inside?"

The stylist laughed.

Dong Xuebing blushed. "Stop playing around."

Xie Huilan narrowed her eyes. "Shall we exchange numbers before my husband come out?"

Dong Xuebing gave her a stare. "There are others around. Can you stop it?"

"Hahaha...." Xie Huilan walked over gracefully. "Who is playing around with you? When did my man become so handsome suddenly? I can't believe my eyes. Come over and let me see." She stares at Dong Xuebing's face.

Dong Xuebing replied. "Don't look at me like this. You are the center of attraction today. Let me look at your wedding dress. You are so beautiful."

Xie Huilan giggled. "Really?"

"Yes." Dong Xuebing looked at her from top to toe. "Not bad."

A photographer walked over. "The backdrop is ready. Shall we start taking your pictures now?"

Xie Huilan nodded. "Alright."

They did not take outdoor wedding photos as they wanted to save time and money. The photoshoot is in the bridal shop's studio.

Click.... Click.... Click....

Dong Xuebing can sense Xie Huilan is in a good mood today. She held him and made many poses. In total, they took more than a hundred photos.

"Alright. This is the last photo." The photographer directed them. "Move closer and kiss."

Xie Huilan looked at Dong Xuebing and giggled.

Dong Xuebing felt his face turning red as he moved closer to kiss Xie Huilan.

The photographer said. "Mr. Dong, you are looking too tense. Relax. Let's take another one."

Dong Xuebing kissed Xie Huilan again.

"We are almost there. This picture doesn't look good." The photographer looks at them and smiles. "Mr. Dong, your smile looks unnatural. Look at your wife. She has a sweet smile. Treat me like I am not around and kiss her like how you do it normally."

Dong Xuebing thought to himself. How can I be like Huilan? She is not shy at all.

Three people are in the studio looking at them, and Dong Xuebing feels uncomfortable kissing Xie Huilan. "I think we had taken enough photos."

Xie Huilan refused. "It's just a photo of us kissing. Do it properly."

Dong Xuebing had no choice but to comply.

They tried a few more times before the photographer was satisfied.

Dong Xuebing is sweating buckets when it is done. The wedding should be a happy occasion, but it's tiring and torturous for him.

Xie Huilan seemed to be enjoying herself. She went over to the photographer and started to pick the pictures.

"Xiao Bing, come over."

"What is it?"

"Should we put up this picture on our wall?"

Dong Xuebing looked at the picture. "Ok. You decide."

Xie Huilan nodded and pointed to another photo. "How about this?"

"It's fine too."

"Huh? This is too ugly." Xie Huilan is mad. "Hey, can you be more serious? This is our wedding."

Dong Xuebing is speechless. "Why did you ask if you don't like that photo?"

"Haha.... I am testing you to see your attitude."

Dong Xuebing had nothing to say. "I have a good attitude, but we have different preferences. You might not like the ones I like. Stop judging me by your standards. What did I do wrong?" He points at that photo. "I like this picture because we are smiling modestly. I don't like too exaggerated poses. I'm afraid I have to disagree if you want to hang that kissing photo on the wall."

"Fine.... Haha.... I know you are shy. Let's pick this one."

"Hmm.... That's more like it."

“But I also want the picture of us kissing. I like it.”

“.....”

Chapter 783: Football lottery

A few days later.

Morning. Central Party School.

Dong Xuebing returned to his dormitory after his morning lesson. He is exhausted and throws himself onto the bed to rest. His mother had come and is staying at Sister Xie's house. He was busy with his wedding preparation and still had to attend lessons. He can send the invitation cards to some ordinary leaders. Still, he got to visit the high-ranking leaders with Xie Huilan to invite them. There's no time to rest.

However, getting married to Xie Huilan is Dong Xuebing's dream, and he doesn't mind the hassles now.

Ring... ring... ring....

Dong Xuebing answered. “What is it? Huilan?”

“The wedding photos are ready, and I am at Wang Fu Jing. Can you come over?”

“You can decide on your own. I had just finished my lesson and might take a while to get there.”

“Alright. Your mother and I will pick the photos.”

“My Mum is there too?”

“Yes. She says she wants to look at the photos, and we come together.”

“My Mum had been very excited these few days. Help me look after her as she has high blood pressure.”

“Haha.... I know. Oh, how much money do we have in our bank cards?”

“We had spent some for the preparations, and I think we should have around 100,000 RMB left. Are we short of money?”

“I am not sure as we might need money for other areas. I have not asked my parents for help. If it is not enough, I will ask my mother and let them pay the rest.”

“No.... we cannot do that.” Dong Xuebing is prideful and does not want to ask Xie Huilan's parents for help. “Don't worry about money. I.... I will think of something.”

“Don't go and borrow money from others.”

“I will not borrow money. I know what to do.”

Life is demanding without money.

Dong Xuebing felt a sense of urgency after hanging up. They had almost finished spending all their money on their wedding, and how were they going to survive in the future? He is too prideful to ask for her family's help. He needs a way to get money in a short time. Capital of 100,000 RMB is too little to make money from the stock and futures market. It will be a waste of time....

Dong Xuebing's only solution is lottery.

But there's a problem. Dong Xuebing had won the lottery several times, and he won 100 bets of Double-colored balls lottery last year. Although Qu Yunxuan claimed the prize, people might suspect him due to his relationship with her. Furthermore, how can someone be so lucky?

Lottery....

Lottery....

Suddenly, the door opens.

Roommate Han Xinghua returned. "Xuebing, you are back."

"Yes. I just returned. The classroom is too hot, and I returned for a short rest."

"Today's weather is stuffy. I think it's going to rain." Han Xinghua walked over with a copy of the newspaper and kept it in a drawer. Dong Xuebing noticed a few words on it. It's about the European Cup.

Dong Xuebing brightens up. "Brother Han, you like football?"

Han Xinghua laughed. "Yes. It's the European Cup now, and I will buy sports newspapers every day. I went out just now to get today's copy. Are you also interested?"

"I watched it once in a while."

"Terrific. We can discuss football later. Let's go. The class is starting soon."

"We still have ten minutes. I am going to rest a while more. I have been too tired recently."

"Alright. I will go to class first. Don't be late. Your marks will be affected."

"Ok."

Dong Xuebing remembers his roommate would buy a copy of the sports newspaper every day and keep it in that drawer.

Football....

Football....

That's right. I can buy a football lottery.

Dong Xuebing got excited and felt this was a good idea.

The reason is simple. The football lottery is different from the Double-colored lottery and other lotteries. The football lottery is not entirely dependent on luck. You need knowledge of the teams, players, and managers. The ones who win the jackpot are mostly the ones who understand the game

well. Of course, luck plays a part too. People might feel suspicious if he buys and wins the football lottery jackpot, but no one can say anything. After all, technical knowledge of sports is crucial in this lottery.

This is it!

Dong Xuebing urgently needs to solve his financial problems. He didn't hesitate and went online to the sports lottery website. He opened the betting page and saw the European cup was ongoing. Twenty-four matches will be played from today and the next four days. The deadline for bets is also today. Czech vs. Poland, Greece vs. Russia, etc.

Dong Xuebing doesn't know much about football betting, and he checked the betting rules.

Dong Xuebing knows how to play and bet after reading the rules. He stood up and went to his roommate's drawer. He pulled it out and saw four copies of the sports newspaper inside. He closed it again and placed his palm on it. "FORWARD!"

One minute....

Three minutes....

Five minutes....

Forward deactivated.

Dong Xuebing took a deep breath and pulled open the drawer slowly.

The four copies of newspapers had become ten copies.

Yes!

FORWARD had taken effect.

Dong Xuebing quickly took out the few copies on top and checked the dates. Tomorrow's copy, the day after tomorrow, and the following few days!

Dong Xuebing is excited and quickly brings all the papers to his laptop. He checked the matches on the webpage against his newspapers and wrote down all the results. Although he doesn't follow football closely, he knows which teams are stronger and weaker. He looks at the results and knows not many people can win the jackpot. There are upsets in five to six matches, and two of them are great upsets!

Very few people can guess the results of these five to six matches as most people will not expect the hot favorites to lose.

Dong Xuebing is different as he doesn't even need to guess the results. He doesn't need to analyze the teams and matches, as he knows the final scores of the matches!

Dong Xuebing can start to place his bets. He looked at the time and couldn't care if he would be late for his class. He immediately registered an account and picked the 24 matches win-lose bet. He chose this bet type because the chances of guessing the winners of 24 matches are slim, and the odds are better.

Of course, Dong Xuebing is not stupid to place only one bet. It will be too obvious.

To cover up his tracks and not get suspected, Dong Xuebing used all the money on Sister Xie's bank card to bet. He selected the winners of the matches randomly despite knowing the winners. He made many such bets. After he made those bets, he placed thirty bets on the win-draw-lose bets according to the results in the newspaper. The jackpot is slightly more than 100 million, and thirty bets are the limit. The prize money will not increase even if he places more bets.

Ok!

Dong Xuebing clicked on the payment button to complete the transactions.

Dong Xuebing stretches himself and checks if he has made any mistake before burning the future newspaper copies with his lighter in the bathroom. He flushed the ashes away and washed the bathroom to remove all traces.

Suddenly, Dong Xuebing's phone rang.

It's Xie Huilan. "What have you done?"

Dong Xuebing is puzzled. "What do you mean?"

"You had used my internet banking earlier, and I received notifications on my phone."

"Huh? Err.... Yes. I used some of it."

Xie Huilan replied. "You call this some of it? You had used almost all of our money. That's 100,000 RMB. You don't hold back when it comes to spending money."

Dong Xuebing laughed. "I did that to make money."

"How much did you make?"

"I bought 100,000 RMB bets for the Football lottery. I have a good feeling about this."

"Are you sure we will not lose this 100,000 RMB? We will be penniless if we lose this."

"Don't worry. You should know I will not do anything if I am not confident. We will win the grand prize this week!"

"Alright. I will wait for you to win another lottery jackpot. Haha...."

"Eh? You think I can win?"

"I can say the word 'impossible' doesn't exist in your dictionary. You had made 300 million RMB from scratch. What else you cannot do? Furthermore, I don't mind you spending the money."

"Huilan, this is the first time you treat me so good."

"What do you mean? Are you saying that I had mistreated you in the past?"

"Ah.... I don't mean that. I only feel you are slightly overbearing previously."

"You still don't know a lot of things about me. I will show you how caring I am after we are married. Haha...."

“Huh? Are you serious?”

“Hmmm.... No.”

Dong Xuebing: “.....”

Chapter 784: Buying car

Dong Xuebing got busier the next few days.

He attended lessons at the Party School, sent out wedding invitations, and watched every match of the European Cup.

Tonight.

Party School Dormitory.

It's the final match of Dong Xuebing's lottery bet.

Roommate Han Xinghua is a football fan. He had not slept these few days and watched all the live-telecast matches with Dong Xuebing.

“Eh.... He passed that player....”

“He reached the penalty area. He has a good chance of scoring now.”

“He passed another defender! Goal! Goal!”

“Fantastic! What a wonderful goal!”

“This player is retiring, but look at his speed....”

“2:0. This is an upset again. Who would have expected the weaker team to be so good?”

The match ended fifteen minutes later, and the final score was 2:1.

After switching off the laptop, Han Xinghua and Dong Xuebing went to their beds. Han Xinghua fell asleep quickly, but it was hard for Dong Xuebing to sleep. His thirty bets on the 24 matches had won. The results were the same as in the newspaper, and he had won the jackpot. The grand prize amount is not finalized, but it will not be too low. Anyway, Dong Xuebing has enough for his wedding now.

Dong Xuebing is too excited.

Dong Xuebing couldn't sleep and checked the results against his betting slips. 3:2, 2:0, 3:3, 2:2, etc....

Yes. All the scores are correct.

Next day.

Dong Xuebing got up early to check the prize amount as the website was not updated last night.

Only a few people had won the jackpot due to the upsets. Most of the winning bets are single bets and cannot be compared to Dong Xuebing's thirty bets. He checked the prize money, and it was more than 120 million RMB!

After taxes, Dong Xuebing can get around 100 million RMB of winnings.

Dong Xuebing finally has money again, and he can't stop smiling.

Dong Xuebing immediately applied for leave from his class and left the Party School to collect his winnings. He called Xie Huilan to share the news.

"Hello, Huilan. We won!"

"Huh? What did we win?"

"The sports lottery."

"Really? How much did we win?"

"The grand jackpot prize! I had placed thirty bets, and we won 100 million RMB after taxes."

"Haha.... Are you serious? Are you joking with me?"

"Ah.... When have I lied to you? We won, and I am going to claim my winnings now. You will see the money later. Haha.... We don't need to worry about money for our wedding."

"If the prize is 100 million, we don't need to worry for the rest of our lives."

"That's right. We are rich again! Sigh.... The past few days had been torturing. I can't even bear to buy a packet of 10 RMB cigarettes." Dong Xuebing loves to be praised. "Don't you think your husband is capable?"

"Not bad. Haha...."

"Oh, let's take a break from our wedding preparations and go to the 4S shops tonight."

"Why? Are you going to buy a car?"

Dong Xuebing replied. "I had wanted to buy after I sold my damaged Cayenne. I have to take a taxi when I go out now. It's so inconvenient. You can help me choose my car. Should I get a Mercedes or BMW?"

"Can't you get an ordinary car?"

"I am used to driving good cars. Anyway, we have gotten our money legally, and we are not afraid of others checking our finances. What's wrong with buying whatever I like with my money? Let others say whatever they want. Furthermore, I had been driving such cars for two years."

"Anyway, it's your car, and you can buy whatever you want."

“But you must accompany me there tonight. I am going to claim my winnings. See you tonight.”

“Xiao Ran and Xiao Jing want to discuss their work issues with me, and I don’t know when I am free. You can go ahead first, or I can bring them along.”

“No problem.” Dong Xuebing thought for a second and asked. “Do your younger brother and sister have their cars?”

Xie Huilan laughed. “What are you up to again?”

“I am just asking.”

“Xiao Ran doesn’t own a car. He is on the Youth Committee and can’t use his workplace cars. He has to take the subway to work. Xiao Jing can drive Xin Hua News Agency’s cars, but she can’t use them on weekends.”

“That means they don’t have cars. Alright. I know.”

“Are you going to buy cars for my brother and sister?”

Dong Xuebing nodded and flagged a taxi by the roadside. “We have been dating for almost two years, and we are getting married. As the eldest brother-in-law, how can I not buy something for them?”

“No need. Our family doesn’t follow these customs.”

“It’s not about your family cares about these customs. I must do my part. You should know that I am younger than your younger brother and sister, and they have to address me as their Brother-in-law (Older) in the future. I must act like one. Anyway, cars are not expensive.”

“Alright. I agree with you on this matter.”

“Oh, you also agree with me?”

“Xiao Ran and Xiao Jing’s parents had wanted to buy cars for them. Many of our family members are working for the government. We can afford a few cars, but we can’t afford the better ones. Since you are willing to pay, why would I disagree?”

“Great. That’s settled.”

“Ok.”

“Oh, I suddenly remember that you don’t have a car too.”

“Haha.... I can use my workplace’s car, and I can use it whenever I want.”

“No... that’s not right. I will get one for you tonight. You can pick Porsche, BMW, or whichever you want. We have money.”

“Don’t need. It will attract too much attention.”

“I will still buy one for you. You can park it at home if you don’t want to drive it.”

“Let’s talk about this tonight.”

“Alright. Don’t let Xiao Jing and Xiao Ran know about this. It’s a surprise.”

Chapter 785: Cars as gifts

Same day.

Dong Xuebing went to many places.

Dong Xuebing had bought the sports lottery online. The website will credit winnings below a certain amount into the winner’s account. But for significant amounts, he has to collect the winning ticket from a designated lottery store and claim the prize at the Sports Lottery Center with his identification card. He spent the whole afternoon running around before getting the 100 million into his bank account.

Dong Xuebing finally gets his money, and he feels secure.

Dong Xuebing looked at the time and arranged to meet Xie Huilan at the Car market at North Third Ring Road.

Outside of the Cars market.

Xie Huilan is chatting with Xie Ran and Xie Jing outside.

Xie Hao is also around, talking loudly with exaggerated gestures.

“Eh, Brother Dong is here.” Xie Jing saw Dong Xuebing and waved to him.

“Brother Dong.” Xie Ran nodded and greeted Dong Xuebing politely.

Xie Huilan smiles. “Why are you so late? We have waited for a while.”

“It’s evening peak period, and the traffic is congested.” Dong Xuebing looks at Xie Hao. “Why are you here? Should you be doing your homework at home?”

Xie Hao giggled. “You and my Sis are buying cars, and I must be here to offer my suggestions. I am not boasting. I know a lot about cars, and I can recommend a few good ones.”

Xie Huilan laughed. “This kid overheard my conversation with Xiao Ran and Xiao Jing, and he insisted on tagging along.”

Xie Jing points at Xie Hao. “This brat is so annoying.”

“Go, go, go....” Xie Hao ignored them and pulled them into the Car market excitedly.

The showrooms are crowded at this time. Many buyers are checking out the cars on display.

Xie Hao loves cars and is very excited. He started introducing the cars to Xie Huilan and the rest like a salesperson.

Dong Xuebing secretly pulled Xie Huilan aside and whispered to her. “Let’s buy your younger Brother and Sister cars first.”

Xie Huilan nodded. "Ok."

"Which car and model do they prefer?"

"Haha.... I am not sure."

"Let me ask them."

Dong Xuebing walked over to Xie Jing and Xie Ran. "Xiao Ran, Xiao Jing, which cars do you all prefer?"

Xie Jie smiles. "Which type of cars do you and my Sis like?"

"I don't know either. Which do you think is better?" Dong Xuebing throws the question back at her.

Xie Jing giggled. "If it's for you and my Sis, A6L is not bad. Most government agencies use this model, and it doesn't stand out."

"Huh? A6?!" Xie Hao interrupts. "It's too old, and you can see it everywhere on the streets."

Xie Jing gave Xie Hao a stare. "If you can see it everywhere, it means it is a good car, and everyone is getting it. What do you know?"

Xie Hao ignored his second Sis. "Brother Dong, you must not listen to her. A6 is outdated."

Xie Huilan looks at her younger Sis. "Xiao Jing, do you like A6?"

"My unit's car is this model." Xie Jing replied. "I had been driving it for a while and am used to it. I like the feel of it. My Mum and Dad had wanted to buy a car for my brother and me, but it cost around 400,000 RMB. Two of them will cost almost one million. We decided to get other cars after discussion. I intend to get an Accord. Bro, which car did you say you wanted to buy?"

Xie Ran replied. "The new Passat."

Xie Hao smacked his lips. "You all are getting all the lousy cars. Those cost only 200,000 RMB each."

Xie Jing gave her younger brother a stare. "Do you think I am rich?! Only 200,000?! I got to borrow money from my parents to get it. If I am rich, I will not get A6. I would pick A8! Who doesn't like to drive good cars? You will know how hard it is to earn money after you start working."

Xie Hao replied. "Audi A8 is not bad."

Xie Ran laughed. "Of course. It cost one million. How bad can it be?"

Xie Hao replied. "My principle is to either get the best one or don't get one. What's the rush to get one now? If you don't have enough money, save a few more years."

Xie Jing replied. "I can wait, but my brother cannot. He will be posted to the grassroots level soon. It will be inconvenient if he doesn't have a car."

Dong Xuebing suddenly says. "Let's go to the Audi showroom."

Xie Jing looks at them. "Are you two also thinking of getting Audi?"

Xie Huilan nodded. "Let's go there first."

They walked to the Audi showroom on the western side. Audi is quite popular and displays many models in the showroom. But Audi cars are pretty pricy. Many buyers and salespeople are standing around the A4L, A8L, Q5, and Q7 models. Xie Hao knows a lot about cars and tells Dong Xuebing and the rest about A8L and Q7's specs.

A8L is a good car.

Dong Xuebing asked the salesperson. The latest model of A8L is around 900,000 RMB, and the most expensive variant is around 1 million.

Xie Jing and Xie Ran went over to look at the A8L model, and Xie Jing even got into the driver's seat to have a feel of it. She looks like she likes it a lot. A8L is the best-looking and biggest in its series, and it's suitable for government leaders. It is spacious and powerful, and it is imported.

Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan exchanged looks and smiled.

Xie Jing and Xie Ran came out of the car, and Xie Jing turned to Dong Xuebing. "Sis, Brother Dong, this car is not bad. You two should bring it out for a test drive."

Dong Xuebing replied. "We don't need to test it. We will take it."

Xie Hao is stunned. "Why did you decide so fast? You should check out other cars first."

"No need." Dong Xuebing looked at Xie Jing and Xie Ran. "Oh, which color do you think is better?"

Xie Jing thought for a while. "You should get a black color if you are driving it, and silver for my Sis. What do you think? I think the silver color is nice and is more suitable for women."

Xie Huilan smiles and nods. "Ok. Let's listen to her. Haha...."

"Eh, over here." Dong Xuebing waved to a salesperson and pointed to the A8L. He is buying a black and a silver standard version of this model. Both cars cost around 2 million.

The salesperson did not expect Dong Xuebing to decide so quickly. She brought them to a resting area beside the showroom to settle the paperwork.

Dong Xuebing left to make payments.

Ten minutes later.

Resting area.

Dong Xuebing returned with a receipt and passed it to the female salesperson.

The salesperson smiled professionally and showed Dong Xuebing a document. "Please look at this. If everything is alright, please sign here. We don't have cars now, but they will arrive next week. You can collect the cars then." The salesperson took out another document and gave it to Xie Huilan. "You need to sign it too, and I need your identification cards."

Dong Xuebing glanced at the contract and interrupted the salesperson. "Don't give it to us."

The salesperson is stunned. "Huh? Why?"

Dong Xuebing took the document from Xie Huilan and gave both documents to Xie Jing and Xie Ran. "Xiao Ran, Xiao Jing, sign your names on it."

Xie Ran is confused. "Sign our names?"

"Why are we signing it?" Xie Jing is also confused.

Dong Xuebing exchanged looks with Xie Huilan and replied. "The cars are for you two."

Xie Jing got shocked and quickly pushed the contract back to Dong Xuebing. "No.... we cannot accept it."

Xie Ran also waved his hand. "That's right, Brother Dong. We cannot accept it."

Dong Xuebing smiled and placed the contracts in front of them. "Don't reject us. Your eldest Sis and I had discussed this before coming. We are getting a good car for each of you. Just take it as a gift from us. Alright. Just sign your names on the contract. Oh, we are only paying for the cars. You two got to get the registration plates and other approvals yourself."

Xie Jing is anxious. "Brother Dong, we cannot accept it. We will accept if it costs tens of thousands of RMB. But these two cars cost two million. We...."

Xie Ran added. "That's right. It is too expensive."

Xie Huilan narrowed her eyes and knocked on the desk. "Alright. Stop talking so much and sign!"

"Sis...." Xie Ran replied. "How can we accept such a valuable gift?"

Xie Huilan smiled. "What wrong with your Eldest Sis and your Brother-in-law giving you all gifts? Are you trying to make me angry?"

Xie Hao giggled and poked Xie Ran and Xie Jing. "Our Eldest Sis and Brother-in-law are wealthy. Don't you two know how to take advantage of them? Hurry up and sign it."

In the end, Xie Jing and Xie Ran signed the contract as the cars had been paid for. They thanked Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan again. "Sis, Brother-in-law. Thank you."

Dong Xuebing replied. "We are a family. What's there to thank?"

Xie Hao giggled and went up to Dong Xuebing. "Brother-in-law, we are also a family. Are you and Sis going to get me a car too? You cannot favor them and leave me out."

Xie Huilan laughed.

Dong Xuebing looks at Xie Hao. "You want to be part of everything. You are still schooling now. Wait until you get your driving license first. Alright.... I will give you a car when you get into a university."

Xie Hao laughed. "How much will the car be?"

"One million."

"Oh yeah!" Xie Hao cheered.

Chapter 786: Porsche Panamera

North Third Ring Cars Market.

It's late after settling the paperwork for Xie Jing and Xie Ran's A8L. But they did not leave for dinner and continued to shop around.

Suddenly, Xie Jing's phone rang.

"Hello, Mum." Xie Jing answered.

Ministry of Civil Affairs Deputy Minister Xia Yanzhen asked. "Are you coming back?"

"No. I am not going back for dinner. I am at the Cars Market with Sis."

"Why are you there? Are you going to buy a car? I will transfer money to you and Xiao Ran."

Xie Jing replied. "I need to tell you something. Err...." She walked aside. "Brother Dong and Sis gave my brother and me a car each."

Xia Yanzhen asked. "Which car?"

Xie Jing replied. "Audi A8L."

"You all accepted A8?!"

"Brother Dong had paid for them, and we tried to refuse it."

"Do you know that car cost almost one million? I am only driving an A6."

"Then what should I do?"

"You should know your Sis and Brother Dong well. They are stubborn and will not take back whatever they give out. Alright. Pass the phone to Huilan.... no. Pass it to Xiao Bing. Let me talk to him."

Xie Jing quickly gave her phone to Dong Xuebing. "Brother-in-law, it's my Mum."

Xia Yanzhen smiled. "How can you two buy cars for Xiao Jing and Xiao Ran? Moreover, those are expensive cars."

"Ah, it's alright. Eldest Aunt. It's just a gift, and we paid for it. We can't get refunds now."

"Sigh.... I can only thank you."

"It's a small matter. Don't mention it."

"Come over to my place when you are free. I will make dinner for you and Huilan."

"Sure. We will visit you another day."

Dong Xuebing returns the phone to Xie Jing after hanging up.

Xie Ran said. "Thanks, Brother-in-law."

Dong Xuebing laughed. "Stop it. Have you all counted how many times you have all thanked me? Let's go to the Land Rover showroom. Your Sis needs a car."

Xie Hao shouted. "Sis, let me choose one for you!"

Xie Huilan laughed. "Sure. I want to see how good are you."

Xie Hao ran forward and entered the Land Rover showroom.

This showroom was less crowded than Audi because it was almost dinnertime, and these cars were more expensive. When Dong Xuebing, Xie Huilan, and the rest reached the showroom, Xie Hao had picked one of them. He starts to introduce the car excitedly.

"This one! This one!" Xie Hao shouted. "This is the latest model Land Rover Range Rover. It's so beautiful."

Xie Huilan nodded. "Haha.... Not bad."

Dong Xuebing looks at her. "Are you sure you like this? Men mostly drive these SUV vehicles."

Xie Huilan glanced at him. "All cars are to be driven, and the driver's gender has nothing to do with it. Are you discriminating against women?"

"What are you talking about?" Dong Xuebing smacked his lips. "I don't mean that."

Xie Huilan laughed and went closer to look at the Range Rover. "I don't know much about Land Rover's vehicles. How much does this cost?"

The salesperson quickly stepped forward to introduce herself, but Xie Hao was faster. "The price has a wide range. The cheapest version is around 1.7 million, and the best version, which is also the one I recommend, is 3.3 million. Overall, it will not cost more than 4 million."

Dong Xuebing interrupts. "This car does not suit your Sis."

Xie Huilan points at Dong Xuebing in front of her brothers and sister. "Look at your stingy Brother-in-law. He heard the price and refused to get it for me. This is different from what he said over the phone. He said he will buy whichever car I want."

Everyone laughed.

Dong Xuebing gave Xie Huilan a stare. "Must you criticize me every day? Who says I am not willing to spend money? I find this car is too big for you. Never mind. You will never listen to what I say anyway. Buy it if you like it. Hmph! Don't regret it in the future."

Xie Huilan laughed. "I like this car. But I don't need to get the best version. The standard version is good enough."

"No. If we are getting it, we must get the best." Dong Xuebing looks at the salesperson. "Give us this car. I want the best version. The V8SC model."

Dong Xuebing spent almost 4 million in an instant.

Xie Ran and Xie Jing smiled to themselves.

Dong Xuebing changed his perception of this car after Xie Huilan got in to test drive it. Who says Land Rover is more suitable to be driven by men? Xie Huilan looks good in it, and it suits an overbearing woman like her.

Xie Huilan smiled and nodded after her test drive. "Not bad."

After settling the paperwork and payment, they continue shopping.

They arrived at the Porsche showroom a while later.

Xie Hao laughed. "Brother-in-law, you drove Cayenne previous, and I think you should get another Porsche." He recommended a few models to Dong Xuebing.

Most Porsche cars are two-doors sports cars, and the interior space is too small. If Dong Xuebing has to fetch or send people, the passenger sits beside him. This made him uncomfortable.

Suddenly, Dong Xuebing noticed a black Porsche.

Other than Cayenne, this is the only five-seater sports car. The body is streamlined and doesn't look like the typical sportscars. Dong Xuebing likes the exterior color and shape. This car is Porsche Panamera, the most expensive model in the showroom. The top edition cost more than three million, about the same price as Xie Huilan's Range Rover. Both are top-tier luxury cars.

Dong Xuebing looked at the exterior and the fittings inside and waved his hand. "This one!"

The salesperson asked. "Which edition do you want?"

"The best edition. Black color."

Another car cost almost four million.

Xie Hao exclaimed after Dong Xuebing bought the car. "Sis, Brother-in-law, you two had just spent almost ten million in a few hours. But I feel both of you should exchange cars. My Sis should drive the Panamera, and you should drive the Range Rover."

Xie Huilan laughed. "We can exchange cars in the future."

Xie Hao replied. "The three of us can drive each other's cars."

"Wait after you graduate first."

Chapter 787: Everyone got promoted

Several days later.

Western suburbs villa.

The wedding preparations had entered the final phase.

"Xiao Bing, pass me the 'Xi' paper cutting. I will put it up."

"Mum, take a break. I will do it."

"Then go and put it up. Center.... no.... move towards your left slightly."

"Here.... Is it ok now?"

"Come down and let me see it. Perfect."

Yang Zhaode and his niece, Su Jia, are with Luan Xiaoping as Dong Xuebing's family representatives. They helped decorate their wedding house and hung red paper cuttings on the windows.

Dong Xuebing took out bottles of mineral water from the kitchen. "Sister Su, take a break. You had been busy since you came."

Su Jia laughed. "I am here to help."

"Here." Dong Xuebing passed the water to her. "Have some water. Uncle Yang, you should take a break too."

Yang Zhaode laughed. "Ok. The window decorations are almost done."

Everyone went to the poolside to rest.

Dong Xuebing felt terrible. "Mum, Uncle Yang, this villa was bought as your wedding gift. How come you turn it into my wedding house? I can buy another one. How can I use your house?"

Luan Xiaoping looked at him. "You need time to renovate and get furniture if you buy a new house. Your wedding is two days away, and there's not enough time. This place is more convenient."

"But...."

"We had done the decorations. Stop talking about this."

"Alright. Anyway, Huilan and I will be staying here for a short while, and we got to move back to Fen Zhou City."

Yang Zhaode said. "Your Mum and I have no intention of moving here. Just use it with Huilan. We don't need to make it so clear. Haha...."

Dong Xuebing waved his hand. "No. I gave this house to you two means it is yours."

Luan Xiaoping smiled. "Your Uncle Yang is correct. We are not staying here. Don't you know that he is going to Lu An City? The city where you went undercover to investigate a case. It is next to Fen Zhou City."

Dong Xuebing was surprised. "Uncle Yang is going to another city? A promotion?"

Yang Zhaode laughed and nodded. "The transfer order was just issued. I will be the acting Mayor for Lu An City."

The Mayor of a Prefecture City is in a good position.

Mum is going to be a City Mayor's wife!

"It's a Bureau-Director level position." Dong Xuebing laughed. "Mum, didn't I tell you that Uncle Yang will not retire soon? He is in his prime and is going to be a Bureau Director. He might even be a Deputy Minister in two years." He is not surprised by Yang Zhaode's promotion as he was the one who made Fen Zhou Daily publish the earthquake warning article. He had also suggested to the City Party Committee to take earthquake precautions. Now, he is reaping the rewards for his efforts.

“What Mayor’s wife?” Luan Xiaoping replied. “Life is still the same.”

Dong Xuebing giggled. “I can tell you are jumping with joy inside. Haha.... Mrs. Mayor.”

“You are asking for a beating.” Luan Xiaoping laughed and smacked her son’s arm.

Su Jia suddenly said. “Xuebing, I might be moving up too.”

Dong Xuebing was surprised again. “Sister Su is also getting promoted? That’s terrific! Where will you be going?”

“I think I will still be with the news agency.” Su Jia smiled. “I should be promoted to Fen Zhou Daily’s news department’s Chief.”

“Oh... congratulations. We must celebrate today.”

“It’s all your credit.” Su Jia laughed. “If you had not asked me to publish that article, I might remain as a staff in the news department.”

Dong Xuebing laughed. “Ah.... I was lucky to guess it correctly.”

“Hmph.... Are you trying to be modest?” Yang Zhaode laughed. “All of us owe you for this. Xiaoping, I have finally seen our son’s real capability.”

Dong Xuebing replied. “Uncle Yang, stop praising me.”

Dong Xuebing is happy to see everyone around him get promoted.

Geng Yuehua was promoted to the District Party Secretary.

Yang Zhaode was promoted to the acting Mayor of an adjacent city.

Su Jia was promoted to the head of the news department.

Everyone around Dong Xuebing is promoted, and they can help with his career in the future.

Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan’s new roles are not announced yet. He asked Yang Zhaode. “Uncle Yang, do you know where Huilan and I are going?”

Chapter 788: Pre-wedding

A black and a silver Audi A8L entered a high-class villa residential estate slowly and stopped in one of the villas. Many people alighted from both cars. They are all the female members of the Xie family-like Xie Huilan, Madam Han, Xie Jing, Xie Ran, Xia Yanzhen, etc. They had come to look at Xie Huilan and Dong Xuebing’s wedding house. The wedding is only one to two days away.

Courtyard.

Xie Huilan smiled after alighting from the car. “How is the car’s handling?”

Xie Jing went over and held her sister’s arm. “It felt good. Thank you, Sis!”

“Don’t mention it as long as you and Xiao Ran like it. Haha....” Xie Huilan replied.

“They love it.” Xia Yanzhen laughed. “They drove around North Beijing after getting their cars last night.” She touched the A8 and looked at Xie Huilan. “Huilan, I will give

you two a car after your wedding.” Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan had given her son and daughter expensive gifts, making her feel bad. She discussed with Xie Guobang that night and decided to return an expensive gift.

Xie Huilan waved her hand. “Aunt, you don’t need to do this. Xiao Bing and I had bought our cars.”

“You all had bought cars?” Xia Yanzhen looks around. “Where are your cars?”

Xie Ran replied. “Sis and Brother-in-law bought a Range Rover and a Porsche.”

Xie Jing added. “Those must be ordered in advance, and their cars should arrive in another few days.”

Xie Huilan laughed. “The wedding is on the day after tomorrow. I don’t think it can arrive in time.”

Han Jing smiled. “Your father has not driven a Land Rover before, and you are getting one soon. Are you not afraid of others gossiping about you?”

Xie Huilan laughed. “Xiao Bing drove a Mercedes since he was transferred to the grassroots level, and he changed to Cayenne later. Why should I be afraid?”

Han Jing was speechless. “You two are made for each other.”

“Don’t worry.” Xie Huilan brushed her hair back. “I will try not to drive to work.”

“So, this is your wedding house.” Han Jing looked at the villa and nodded. “Not bad.”

Xie Huilan explained. “Xiao Bing had bought this villa for his mother, and we will be living here for a few days after our wedding. We will be moving away after that. Haha...”

The villa’s door opened.

Dong Xuebing stepped out. “Ah, you all are here. Come in!”

Han Jing looked inside the villa. “Where are your family members?”

“Sigh....” Dong Xuebing replied. “My Mum has gone out to buy red bedsheets. She insists we must use a set of red sheets.”

Xie Huilan gave Dong Xuebing a stare. “Our Mum has high blood pressure. How can you do her work while you rest at home?”

Dong Xuebing replied helplessly. “I tried to stop her and wanted to go, but she refused. She says she doesn’t trust me.”

Han Jing stepped into the villa. “Let’s go in and wait for the in-laws.”

Xie Ran looked around. “Brother-in-law, how much did you buy this villa for?”

Dong Xuebing rubbed his nose and thought for a second. “Err.... I can’t remember the exact amount. I think it is around twenty million.”

Xie Jing gasped. “Twenty million?!”

Han Jing lamented. “The property price here is very high.”

Xie Jing blinked and looked at Xie Huilan. "Sis, Brother Dong treats you well. Three hundred million diamond rings, a few million cars, twenty million villa...."

Xie Huilan laughed. "This guy is a tycoon, and he doesn't know how to spend his money."

Dong Xuebing complained to Han Jing. "Auntie, look at Huilan. She is making fun of me again. All she does is make fun of me every day."

Han Jing was amused. "Alright. I will scold her later."

Xie Huilan narrowed her eyes as she looked at Dong Xuebing. "Oh, you are complaining about me now...."

"Let me get water for you all. Have a seat." Dong Xuebing ignored Xie Huilan and went to prepare tea and a fruit platter.

"Brother-in-law, let me do it." Xie Jing said.

"No need...." Dong Xuebing replied. "Just watch TV here. The remote control is on the sofa."

"Ah, why are you being so polite with me?" Xie Jing insisted on helping.

"It's not being polite. Just stay here." Dong Xuebing will not let Xie Jing touch anything and insist on preparing the tea himself.

Xia Yanzhen looked at Dong Xuebing and laughed. "Xiao Bing must have grown up in Old Beijing's Hutong. Haha.... I can tell from his actions."

Xie Jing looked at her mother. "You just realized it? Didn't I tell you he is from Beijing?"

Xia Yanzhen shook her head. "Old Beijing is different from Beijing. Xiao Jing, Xiao Ran, you two are not considered from Old Beijing."

Xie Jing retorted. "I was born and grew up in Beijing. If I am not from Beijing, where am I from?"

Han Jing laughed. "Your mother is referring to the environment you grew up in. You and Xiao Ran were born in Beijing, but you two did not live in Hutong before. You have lived in an apartment building since you were young, and it is different from someone from an Old Beijing environment. That's why your accent and habits are different. Yanzhen and I are also not considered from Old Beijing. Only Huilan and Xiao Bing are authentic Old Beijing among our third generation. Huilan grew up in a Hutong, and you can hear it from her accent. Xiao Bing is the same, and his accent is stronger."

Xie Jing laughed. "Oh, no wonder Brother-in-law is so polite."

Dong Xuebing laughed. "There's nothing wrong with being polite. I am not treating you all as outsiders. This is a habit of mine."

Xie Huilan added. "We are not considered from Old Beijing too. How many Old Beijing people are there other than our grandfather?"

"You are right. Most of the Hutongs are rented to people from other provinces, and the environment is different from the past."

They chatted while watching TV.

Half an hour later.

Luan Xiaoping returned.

“Oh, in-law.”

“Sorry to keep you all waiting. I did not expect you all to be here so early and went out to buy some things.”

“We have just arrived. Huilan, come and help your mother-in-law to carry her shopping bags.”

“No need. I can do it myself. Please remain seated.”

They chatted for a while. Han Jing and Luan Xiaoping seemed to have arranged something before this meeting. They asked Xie Huilan and Dong Xuebing to a room upstairs.

Inside the room.

They sat on the bed, and Han Jing held Xie Huilan’s hand. She looked at her and Dong Xuebing. “Your wedding is the day after tomorrow, and you two are not supposed to meet according to customs. That’s why I must use this opportunity to talk to you two today. Haha.... Xiao Bing, Huilan, I am happy to see you two getting married. Xiaoping and I didn’t sleep well and had been thinking about your wedding. It’s not easy for you two to reach this stage, and I want to congratulate you. Compared to others, you two know how to cherish each other more. I hope you two can overcome whatever problems or fights together in the future. Remember, all problems can be solved, and all couples will fight.”

Dong Xuebing replied immediately. “We understand, Auntie.”

Han Jing nodded and patted Dong Xuebing’s hand. She placed Xie Huilan’s hand into his. “Treat Huilan well. She is my only daughter.”

Dong Xuebing replied. “Don’t worry, Auntie.”

Han Jing smiled. “Why are you still calling me Auntie?”

Dong Xuebing blushed. “Mum.”

Han Jing smiled and held their hands tightly. Her eyes turned red, and she looked like she was going to cry.

Xie Huilan patted her mother’s hand. “Mum, can you don’t cry? We feel scared. Haha....”

“These are happy tears.” Han Jing smiled and turned to Luan Xiaoping. “In-law, you should say something too.”

“Alright.” Luan Xiaoping held Xie Huilan’s hand. “Huilan, it’s Xiao Bing’s fortune to get married to you. This kid had suffered since young. Since his father passed away, his life has been difficult, which is my fault. I always feel sorry and owe him something.”

Dong Xuebing interrupted. "Mum, what are you saying? I am the one who owed you. Which parent will owe their children, and what's there to be sorry?"

"Let me finish." Luan Xiaoping moved towards Xie Huilan and held her hand tightly. "Huilan, your mother had given your hand to my son, and I am handing my son to you. Xiao Bing... is always rash and never considers the consequences. But I know he has a kind heart. You are older and more mature than him. Please take care of him in the future, and try to give in to him. If anything happens, try to forgive him."

Xie Huilan replied. "Rest assured."

"I am assured as you are with him." Luan Xiaoping looked at her son. "You too. You must treat Huilan well! I will not let you off if I find out you bullied her."

"I know." Dong Xuebing replied. Who dares to bully her? I should be thankful if she doesn't bully me.

"Huilan, you know my number." Luan Xiaoping continues. "Call me if this brat does anything wrong. I will teach him a lesson."

They felt like family after this long talk.

Chapter 789: Wedding (1) of 2

The day after tomorrow.

Morning.

Senior Xie's Mansion.

Firecrackers' sounds filled the compound. Today is Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan's wedding day, and guests have arrived.

Inside of the Mansion.

Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan greeted and received every Xie Family member and guest.

"Congratulations."

"Congratulations on your coming happy union, haha...."

"Come.... This red packet is for you."

Dong Xuebing had met most of the people. For example, Xie Huilan's parents, Xie Guobang and Han Jing, Xie Ran and Xie Jing's parents, Xie Guoliang and Xia Yanzhen, Xie Hao's parents, Xie Guojian and Ci Lifen, etc. The rest of the third-generation members are there, and there are a few unfamiliar faces. An elderly man sits with Senior Xie, and Han Jing holds hands with a middle-aged woman and man. A young man, which Dong Xuebing has not met before, is chatting and joking with Xie Hao.

Dong Xuebing greeted everyone. "Grandfather, Dad, Mum, Uncle, Aunt, etc."

Xie Huilan, in her gorgeous wedding dress, greeted Luan Xiaoping and Yang Zhaode. "Mum, Uncle Yang." Luan Xiaoping and Yang Zhaode are not married, and she cannot address him as Dad. She

looked at Dong Xuebing and smiled. "You have not met some of our relatives. Let me introduce myself. This is our Fourth Grandpa."

Dong Xuebing quickly greeted that elderly man politely. "Fourth Grandpa."

Fourth, Grandpa smiled and nodded. "Huilan has a good eye."

"You flattered me." Dong Xuebing was happy and shocked to hear this.

"No. I have heard of you more than once. You have done well."

Dong Xuebing had heard of Xie Huilan's Fourth Grandpa from Huilan and knew his surname was not Xie. He is a distant relative of Senior Xie, and Huilan had lived with him for a long time when she was young. She treats him as her grandfather. More importantly, Fourth Grandpa has not retired. He is the current Central Commission for Discipline Inspection Secretary and a member of the standing committee of the Political Bureau. He is one of the top ten Central Government leaders and one of the nine top party members in the country. His rank is the highest in the Party among the Xie Family. Although he is old, National Leaders don't have a retirement age, and they will continue until their bodies can't take it.

Fourth Grandpa is full of praises for Dong Xuebing.

Dong Xuebing is very nervous as he talks to the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection Secretary, and he accepts the praises modestly.

Xie Huilan brought Dong Xuebing to the middle-aged couple and smiled. "This is my youngest Aunt, Xie Guoyue, and her husband, Hou Xingan."

Dong Xuebing quickly greets them. "Aunt, Uncle."

Xie Guoyue laughed. "It's finally our turn. Congratulations, Xiao Bing, Huilan."

"Haha...." Xie Huilan replied. "Thank you, Aunt."

Xie Guoyue smiled. "I am relieved now. Our Huilan is finally married."

"Stop joking around." Xie Guoyue's husband, Hou Xingan, turns to Dong Xuebing.

"Xiao Bing, we live in Shandong province and still have not met you despite Huilan and dating for two years. We are a family now and should have get-togethers more often."

Dong Xuebing quickly agree.

Dong Xuebing had heard Huilan mentioning Huo Xingan several times. He is currently Shandong Province's Deputy Governor, a Provincial-Ministerial level Leader.

Xie Huilan continues to introduce. "This is my cousin. Huo Ming, our younger brother."

Dong Xuebing shook hands with him. "Hello."

Huo Xingan's son is older than Dong Xuebing and is good-looking. He had inherited his good looks from his mother, Xie Guoyue.

Huo Ming shook Dong Xuebing's hand lightly. "Brother-in-law." He felt awkward addressing someone younger than him as his Eldest Brother-in-law.

Xie Huilan looks at Dong Xuebing. “Haha.... Xiao Ming is the most educated person in our family. He holds a Master's Degree from Peking University, and he got it two to three years earlier than other people.”

Dong Xuebing is surprised. “Wow.... That’s impressive.”

“Haha.... I am impressed too.” Xie Huilan added.

Huo Ming smiled awkwardly. “Sis, stop teasing me. Everyone knows you are the smartest in our family. You can get a Ph.D. from Peking or Tsinghua University easily if you want. I am nothing compared to you.” Education is essential in the government sector, but it does not mean higher education means one can go further. One would be at least thirty years old when he becomes a professor. He also can’t concentrate if he works and studies concurrently. He will pass his prime when he graduates. That’s why Xie Huilan entered the Government and did not continue her studies.

Xie Huilan laughed. “Look at my brother. He is got a sweet tongue.”

Dong Xuebing agrees that Xie Huilan is smart.

Xie Hao pretended to gag. “Sis, Brother, stop flattering each other. I am getting goosebumps.”

Xie Jing joked. “You are being jealous.”

“Hmph! What’s there to be jealous of?” Xie Hao retorted.

Xie Huilan points at Xiao Hao. “You must learn from your brother and study hard.”

Xie Hao patted his chest and boasted. “Hmph! What’s so great about having a Master's Degree? I will become a Professor in the future.”

Xie Hao’s mother, Ci Lifen, laughed. “I will be grateful if you can enter a good University. Professor? That’s impossible.”

Everyone laughed.

This is a joke. However, Dong Xuebing believes the Xie Family has the power to enroll Xie Hao into Peking or Tsinghua University he wants.

Dong Xuebing had met everyone from the Xie Family.

Senior Xie waved his hand. “Alright. It’s about time. Guobang, bring the kids out to receive the guests.”

In Xie Family, Senior Xie’s words are the imperial decree. Xie Guobang nodded, and the younger generations followed him out.

Han Jing was about to follow her husband when Senior Xie stopped her. He smiled and said. “Stay here and accompany our in-laws. Don’t let them feel left out.”

“Ok. I know.” Han Jing walked over.

Luan Xiaoping quickly reply. “You don’t need to accompany us. Let’s go and receive the guests together.”

“That’s right. Let’s go together.” Yang Zhaode stood up.

Han Jing held Luan Xiaoping's hand. "Alright."

Yang Zhaode had been through ups and downs in life. His wife had passed away, and he has no children. His life experiences gave him a calm composure. He is neither humble nor arrogant in front of the Xie Family. He was not intimidated or nervous when he met the high-rank Government Leaders on Dong Xuebing's side of the family. But Luan Xiaoping is uneasy. She faces the former Party Chief Secretary, Beijing City Party Committee Secretary, Army's top Leader, Provincial Governor, Central Government Ministry Leaders, etc. They are the country's top leaders, and she is only an ordinary civilian. She had never met so many top leaders and was very uneasy.

Outside.

This wedding feels more like a political event. Dong Xuebing has never attended or seen such an event, and he doesn't know the procedures. He asked Xie Huilan softly. "Huilan, what should I do later? How come I didn't see the MC for today? Are we going to exchange rings later?"

Dong Xuebing is nervous like his mother because of the many government leaders there. He is concerned about the wedding.

Xie Huilan laughed. "We don't have MC or procedures. The bride and groom are the biggest on their wedding day, but it's different in our family. We are not the stars in this wedding ceremony. The guests are the stars, and our job is to receive them at the door. The guests who are arriving now are not the special guests. Senior Xie and Fourth Grandpa will come out when the important guests arrive. These people are our family's allies, relatives, and friends. Of course, many of them are our family's political rivals. You must watch what you say later."

Dong Xuebing is speechless. "This is so complicated."

"Why do you think so many Central Government Leaders had come out to receive the guests with us?" Xie Huilan laughed. "The VIPs will arrive during the banquet later."

"It's so troublesome."

"Just follow my lead later. If you don't know what to say, just keep quiet and let me do the talking."

"Alright."

"It will be fine. I am around. My father and Uncles will help us handle the guests."

Both of them walked out of the Mansion to the front yard. Tables and chairs were set up, and people were mingling among themselves.

Suddenly, Xie Jing walked over. "Sis, Brother-in-law, Director Liu is here."

"I know." Xie Huilan turned to Dong Xuebing. "Let's go and receive him."

Dong Xuebing knows this must be an important person for Xie Huilan to receive him. "Who is Director Liu?"

Xie Huilan replied. "He is the PLA General Hospital's Deputy Director, a Major General. It's rare for the army to have a female general, and she is close to our family. Just call her Aunt Liu. She is not an outsider."

Main gates.

A middle-aged woman walked over with Xie Ran. She looks attractive despite the fact that she is around fifty years old. Her complexion is too fair for a soldier, but her movements are stiff, and her back is straight. The woman saw Xie Huilan and smiled. "Wow.... Our bride is so pretty."

"Haha.... How can I be compared to you?" Xie Huilan held Dong Xuebing's arm. "This is my husband, Dong Xuebing. This is Aunt Liu."

Dong Xuebing quickly greets her. "Hi, Aunt Liu."

"Hello. Congratulations on your wedding." Aunt Liu smiles.

Xie Huilan replied. "Thank you."

Chapter 790: Wedding (2) of 2

Senior Xie Mansion.

The sun is shining down on the people brightly.

"Congratulations to you two. Haha...."

"Thank you for attending our wedding, Uncle Liu. Haha.... Xiao Bing, this is Ministry of Health's Minister Liu."

"Director Wu, please come in. This is my husband. This is Director Wu from the Development and Reform Commission."

"Haha.... Aunt Chen, this is Xiao Bing. Xiao Bing, this is our Aunt and her husband."

The mansion is crowded.

Xie Huilan grew up in this environment and is used to these events. She knew most of the people there, but not Dong Xuebing. Sweat is dripping off his forehead after receiving guests for around one hour. His suit is wet, and he is exhausted. He knew such a political event would be tiring, but he did not expect it to be so exhausting. His throat is dry, and he doesn't even have time to go to the toilet.

Guests are still arriving.

Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan stood by the door to receive the guests, and Xie Guobang, Xie Guoliang, Han Jing, and the rest entertained them inside.

Suddenly, Xie Jing walked over. Sis, Brother-in-law, the Chief Secretary is here."

Dong Xuebing quickly straightened his back and tried to look smart. His palms are wet from his sweat.

Xie Huilan nodded and replied as if nothing had happened. "I know." She continues smiling and chatting with the arriving guests.

A few moments later, the Chief Secretary walked over with a bright smile.

This is Dong Xuebing's first time meeting the Chief Secretary, and he is very nervous.

Xie Huilan held Dong Xuebing's arms and walked forward to greet the Chief Secretary. Other guests either stop chatting or lower their voices.

The Chief Secretary points at Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan. "Hahaha.... Huilan. It's been a few years. You are getting prettier and prettier. I almost didn't recognize you."

Xie Huilan smiled gracefully. "Chief Secretary, you are making me blush."

"Blush? I have not seen you blush after your sixteenth birthday. Hahaha.... You must be Xiao Dong." The Chief Secretary patted Dong Xuebing's shoulder. "You have done well, young hero."

Dong Xuebing quickly acknowledge modestly.

The Chief Secretary did not stay there to chat with them. He congratulated Xie Huilan and Dong Xuebing and entered the mansion.

Senior Xie walked out with the help of his doctor, and he nodded to the Chief Secretary.

The Chief Secretary quickly went up to help Senior Xie. "Senior Xie, why did you come out?"

Senior Xie laughed. "You are here. Come in."

The Chief Secretary smiled and helped Senior Xie return to the house.

This is not a surprise. Although the Chief Secretary is the highest-ranking Premier in the Nation, Senior Xie is one generation above him. Senior Xie and his father were formerly comrades, and he is the Chief Secretary's elder. The Chief Secretary must show his respect toward Senior Xie. Only a handful of people in the country hold the same status as Senior Xie.

Dong Xuebing is relieved after the Chief Secretary left. He is honored for the Chief Secretary to attend his wedding, but he knows he is here because of Senior Xie. He had heard from Xie Huilan that the Xie Family could enjoy its status because of Senior Xie.

After a while, the Premier's wife arrived.

Dong Xuebing forced himself to remain calm and alert again.

The Premier's wife congratulated Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan. She told them the Premier could not attend the wedding because of work. She is here as his representative and has brought gifts.

Dong Xuebing quickly thanked her.

Everyone is here, and the banquet starts.

The Chief Secretary chatted with Senior Xie and congratulated Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan again before leaving. The Chief Secretary is very busy and has no time to wait until the end of the banquet. Furthermore, Xie Huilan is the Third Generation's eldest daughter. She is not the eldest son, and there's a slight difference in the guests' attitude.

Xie Huilan and Dong Xuebing walked the Chief Secretary out.

The Premier's wife did not leave. She continued to chat with Senior Xie and asked about his health.

It seems that Senior Xie is the star of this wedding.

After the banquet started, Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan went to all the tables to drink with the guests.

This is a test of alcohol tolerance, and all the guests are at least Bureau-Director level. Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan had to drink with every guest, respectively, and could not drink with all the guests at the table. They couldn't even count the number of glasses if they did it. Luckily, Han Jing had switched the Maotai in Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan's bottles to water. This is not disrespecting the guests. No one on earth can drink so much alcohol, and the guests are understanding. They will not point it out even if they know it's water.

Dong Xuebing and Xie Huilan offered toasts to the seniors, like Senior Xie, Fourth Grandpa, Xie Guobang, Luan Xiaoping, etc., followed by every guest at the various tables.

"Minister Liu, let us offer you a toast."

"Director Chen, thank you for coming despite your busy schedule."

"Aunt Liu, we will bottom up. I know you can't drink. Hahaha.... You can take a sip while we finish our glasses."

Xie Huilan does all the talking, and Dong Xuebing's job is to drink the "alcohol."

One glass....

Five glasses....

Ten glasses....

Dong Xuebing felt his stomach bursting as he continued to smile and chat with the guests.

Even if they are not drinking alcohol and water instead, he is getting bloated.

A wedding is a such torture. Why was I so anxious to get married?

Dong Xuebing grumbled in his heart but stopped grumbling when he saw his mother drinking with Han Jing happily.

It's rare to see his mother so happy.