

The 80s 411

Chapter 411: If One Stands Upright, One Need Not Fear a Crooked Shadow

As the end of the workday approached, Ying Xiaoya asked Cheng Su for some time off, explaining that an old colleague from the thermos factory had organized a get-together and everyone was going out for a meal.

Cheng Su readily agreed and, as Ying Xiaoya was leaving, she inquired about who would be there and where they were eating. On hearing that Zhang Yujun would also be attending, her eyebrows furrowed, and she warned, "Take care of yourself and make sure you don't get taken advantage of."

"I know, I know, I'm not an idiot. I'm off now!" Ying Xiaoya waved goodbye.

Cheng Su shook her head; the girl was so carefree, but she couldn't decide whether that was a good or bad thing.

As soon as the time to clock out arrived, Cheng Su packed her bag and was ready to leave. She was about to lock up when she received a call from Luh Kai—it was news about that murder scene shop.

After checking the time on her wristwatch, Cheng Su said, "I'm heading back to my restaurant now, how about you come over there, and we can talk further? Last time you treated me to tea, this time I'll treat you to a meal."

Luh Kai thought for a moment and cheerfully accepted.

After ending the call, Cheng Su hurried towards the town center. The sky was a dusky gray, as if snow were on the way. By the time she arrived at the restaurant, the dinner rush had started, and people were already coming in to support the place, digging into steaming hot pots.

Cheng Su warmed her hands as she entered, and Qiulan immediately came over to greet her, mentioning that she had a guest. Looking up, Cheng Su saw Director Luh gazing at the hand-written menu on the wall.

"Director Luh." Cheng Su quickly approached, apologizing with a smile, "I'm so sorry, the weather's not great and there was some delay with the traffic. Have you been waiting long?"

"Didn't we agree to call each other by our names?" Luh Kai smiled and, pointing to the menu, said, "I've just arrived, haven't waited long. I'm just admiring the calligraphy here. I heard you wrote this; you write quite well."

"You flatter me, it's just scribbling—far from good. Please, have a seat." Cheng Su set down her bag and added, "I remember you like Pu-erh tea, right? Qiulan, bring a pot of Pu-erh."

"Yes, of course."

The two sat down and Cheng Su asked, "It's quite cold today, how about we have hot pot as well?"

Luh Kai glanced at the other guests who were mostly enjoying hot pot, chatting and eating, and then rubbed his hands together, "Sure, you're the boss, you decide."

Cheng Su nodded with a smile and, once Qiulan had brought over the tea, she ordered a hot pot and asked Luh Kai if there was anything he didn't eat, making sure to avoid those items when choosing a mix of vegetarian and meat dishes.

"Have some tea." Cheng Su poured him a cup of tea and then said apologetically, "This tea can't compare to that fifteen-year-old Pu-erh. You'll just have to make do."

"At least I can drink it," Luh Kai said with a slight smile.

Cheng Su took the opportunity to discuss the merits of tea for a while before steering the conversation back to the shop associated with the crime, "So, tell me, is the news you brought good or bad?"

"Oh? What would you consider bad news? That the shop isn't for sale?" Luh Kai raised an eyebrow, "What's on your mind, do you really dare to buy it? Aren't you scared?"

"I am an upright businesswoman. I never do anything to weigh on my conscience—I don't take money unethically from the people, nor do I act crookedly. I stand tall and walk straight, for I believe that a clean conscience fears no accusation. What have I to fear? Besides, who knows? The former proprietress might even bless my venture," Cheng Su said with a cunning smile.

Upon hearing this, Luh Kai raised his thumb appreciatively and after taking a sip of tea commented, "That's why I respect you. The news I bring is half good, half bad."

"Oh?"

"The shop can be sold but the asking price is one thousand yuan. Are you buying or not?" Luh Kai looked at her with a teasing smile.