

The Beauty 1401

Chapter 1401 Who's the Dog? (2)

Shao An pointed at the foreign friends, displeased, and said, "Don't you have a lot of subordinates? Teach these bastards a lesson for me and show them how powerful I am."

"That's not a good idea." Zhao Zhengxiong looked troubled and said, "Once inside, everyone is my guest, and I can't be biased towards anyone. Besides, it's better to resolve enmity than to deepen it; there's no need to blow things out of proportion. President Shao, please do me a favor and let it go. All the expenses tonight will be on me; let's consider it as my treat. What do you say?"

Shao An originally intended to show off in front of Leng Feifei, but he didn't expect Zhao Zhengxiong to refuse, which made him furious and embarrassed. Suddenly, Shao An pointed at Zhao Zhengxiong's nose and cursed, "Give you face? Who do you think you are to make me give you face! Don't think that just because I call you Mr. Zhao, you are someone important. In my eyes, you are not even qualified to be my dog. Hmph! Do you think I care about this little bit of drinking money? Let me tell you, I am not short of money." Saying this, Shao An took out a thick stack of hundred-yuan bills from his pocket and threw them in Zhao Zhengxiong's face.

When the commotion started, the whole nightclub's attention was drawn here. At this moment, seeing Shao An's actions, everyone fell silent, even the DJ paused the music. The entire nightclub became extremely quiet, with only the sound of everyone's breathing rising and falling.

Zhao Zhengxiong rubbed his somewhat pained cheek, but still maintained a smile. However, those who knew him well understood that this was a cold smile, indicating he was genuinely angry.

"President Shao, no one in the whole of East Sea City has ever dared to treat me like this; you are the first." Zhao Zhengxiong said indifferently.

"So...so what?" Shao An asked. At this point, he sensed something was amiss, especially the looks from the onlookers outside, as if they were looking at a dead man, which made him feel uneasy.

"Not much." Before Zhao Zhengxiong could speak, Ling Chen smiled and took over the conversation, saying, "I'm a civilized person and don't like violence. However, Xiong is my brother. If you mess with my brother, you're messing with me. If I don't do something, wouldn't that make us look incompetent? Don't you agree?"

Shao An sized up Ling Chen and said disdainfully, "Just you? Hmph! I know you have a lot of people, but so what? Do you dare to touch a hair on me? I'll make you spend the rest of your life in prison."

"Don't worry, I just said, I'm a civilized person, not fond of fighting and killing. By the way, what did you just say? My brother isn't even qualified to be your dog? Is that correct?"

"I said it."

"Very good." Ling Chen nodded and took out his cellphone, dialing a number.

"Hello! Dong Ying, sorry to disturb you so late. I've heard of a Shao Group in Beijing, do you know it? Yes, that's right, tell the chairman of Shao Group that his son is here with me, and he just told me I'm not even qualified to be his dog. Do you get what I mean? Okay, I'll hang up now." After speaking, Ling Chen ended the call and looked at Shao An with a smile, saying, "I hope you continue to stick with what you just said."

Shao An opened his mouth and said, "I didn't say that you..."

Ling Chen responded coldly, "He's my brother. Do you know what brotherhood means? Brothers are like limbs; insulting him is the same as insulting me."

Upon hearing this, others didn't feel much, but Zhao Zhengxiong was immensely touched.

In less than two minutes, Shao An's phone rang. He took out his phone and upon seeing the caller ID on the screen, his expression changed slightly. He glanced at Ling Chen nearby, then turned around and answered the call.

"Hello! Dad, I..."

Before Shao An finished speaking, a torrent of cursing came from the other end of the line, clear enough that even the surrounding people could hear it. After a while, Shao An shakily hung up his phone, looking pale as he looked at Ling Chen and Zhao Zhengxiong.

"That... Mr. Ling..." Shao An swallowed hard, trying to squeeze out a smile, and said, "Mr. Ling, I didn't recognize Mount Tai, please forgive my ignorance... I..."

Ling Chen sneered and said, "Didn't you just say that we're not even qualified to be your dog?"

"I... no, it's not, I... I just..." Shao An was sweating profusely, stammering with no idea what to say. He initially thought Ling Chen and Zhao Zhengxiong were merely thugs, but his father's call just now nearly scared him to death.

Ling Chen! The controller of some major power in Beijing, the one who replaced Hong Wei. Offending him is tantamount to seeking death. Just now, his father had issued a stern ultimatum: if Shao An couldn't earn Ling Chen's forgiveness, then his father would have no choice but to cut ties with him.

"Actually, I don't want to make things difficult for you. I just want to know, amongst the three of us, who is really the dog." Ling Chen said indifferently.

Hearing this, Shao An's heart moved. He quickly lay on the ground, crawling around Zhao Zhengxiong and Ling Chen like a dog, barking 'woof woof' twice.

"Mr. Ling, in front of you I am just a dog. Please, be merciful and spare me this time. I promise, there will not be a next time." At this moment, Shao An could no longer care about his face. Compared to his dignity, the safety of the Shao Group was far more important.

"Good." Ling Chen nodded and said, "At least you've recognized your place. Since that's the case, I will give Shao Group some face and won't make things difficult for you." After speaking, Ling Chen waved impatiently, "Go, don't let me see you again."

"Yes, yes!" Shao An, as if receiving a great pardon, hurriedly got up from the floor, leaving his subordinates behind and quickly ran towards the outside.

As this farce came to an end, Zhao Zhengxiong gestured to the DJ on stage, who understood and vibrant music once again burst from the speakers. Soon, everyone forgot the conflict that had just occurred, and they danced freely in the dance floor, burning with passion.

"Thank you for your help," Leng Feifei said to Ling Chen.

Ling Chen smiled slightly, "Don't get me wrong, I was helping my brother this time."

"Mr. Ling, you're really amazing." Sofia, standing to the side, looked at Ling Chen with glowing eyes, as if discovering a new continent, examining him with great interest, her fiery gaze making Ling Chen a little uncomfortable.

"Everyone, I'm really sorry for disturbing your pleasure. How about this, I'll arrange another room for you and cover all the expenses tonight." With that, Zhao Zhengxiong immediately arranged for someone to vacate the room next door and moved Leng Feifei and the others there.

"Chen, stay with your friends, I'm going to check on Qiu."

Ling Chen nodded and said, "Okay, let me know when things are done on his side."

Chapter 1402 Exceptional Ancestor

After watching Zhao Zhengxiong leave, Ling Chen sat on the sofa with Leng Feifei. At the same time, Sofia was quietly chatting with her white friends, and the four of them occasionally glanced at Ling Chen.

"Feifei, are these your friends?"

"Yeah, they're all friends I made while studying abroad. They're from good families and insisted on visiting when they heard I returned home. We were all having a great time until we ran into Shao An." Leng Feifei looked a bit troubled when mentioning Shao An.

"How do you know Shao An?"

"Shao Group and Changlong Technology have some business dealings, which Shao An and I handle. From the first meeting, Shao An was very forward and later often asked me out under the guise of business talks. Initially, I went along for the sake of business, but I realized his real intentions, so I started refusing. I didn't expect him to show up in East Sea City for the contract signing with Hongyu Group and

even find his way here. Earlier, he tried to forcefully take me away, but my friends stopped him, leading to a conflict."

"So that's how it is."

While speaking, Sofia came over, sat boldly beside Ling Chen, and a faint fragrance wafted over.

"Mr. Ling, what do you do?" Sofia asked with interest.

"Me?" Ling Chen replied with a polite smile, "I'm not doing anything. Just unemployed."

"Then your family must be wealthy."

"Well, it's okay."

Hearing Ling Chen's answer, Sofia was a bit disappointed. She thought Ling Chen might be someone important, but it turned out he was just a second-generation rich kid. Having seen many people with well-off families living off their parents without any abilities, she found them no better than parasites.

For a moment, Sofia lost interest and went back to talk with her white friends.

"I'm sorry." Leng Feifei apologized, "Sofia doesn't know you well, so..."

Ling Chen waved his hand with a smile, "It's fine, I never mind these things."

"By the way! Last time we met, you didn't tell me how you joined Changlong Technology?"

"It's partly luck." Leng Feifei said, "When I was studying abroad, I ran into an elderly gentleman in the school's exhibition hall who was very interested in Huaxia culture. I helped him a bit as he couldn't recognize our language. You know, I minored in historical literature at East Sea University and am well-

versed in ancient Huaxia culture, so we had a great conversation. He even gave me his business card and invited me to his home."

"I thought he was just being polite, but the next day, a car was waiting outside the school to take me to his place. It turned out that he was the founder of Changlong Technology. I was studying Economics and Management abroad, and he asked if I'd be interested in working at his company. Such a great opportunity, of course, I wouldn't refuse. So, I studied while interning at the head office, gaining experience."

"In just half a year, because of my outstanding work, I earned his appreciation. After graduation, he entrusted me to come to Huaxia to lead a tech project. Foreign companies differ from domestic ones, where age and experience are critical. Important roles are seldom given to young people, but foreign enterprises emphasize innovation and enthusiasm. If you have the ability and drive, they're willing to invest in you. I was fortunate enough to be given a platform to showcase my ambitions, thanks to that elderly gentleman's recognition."

Ling Chen smiled and said, "Besides opportunity, the most important thing is your own ability. It wouldn't matter how much someone appreciates you if you lacked competence."

"Which is why I cherish this opportunity. And you?"

"Me?" Ling Chen asked, confused, "What about me?"

"How's your relationship with Miss Nanrong progressing?"

"We're taking it naturally. We're both quite busy and haven't had time to discuss it."

Hearing this, Leng Feifei couldn't help but laugh, "As long as you two aren't discussing marriage yet, I still have a chance. I know I can't compare to Miss Nanrong now, but I have confidence in becoming as successful as her."

Uh...

Ling Chen touched his nose awkwardly at this comment, unsure how to respond. Just then, there was a knock on the box door, and Zhao Zhengxiong came in, looking at Ling Chen, "Chen, Qiu is looking for you."

"Alright, I got it. You go ahead, and I'll be there soon." With that, Ling Chen stood up and said, "Feifei, I have something to do. Enjoy the time with your friends, and if anything happens, find Xiong."

After leaving the private room, Ling Chen followed Zhao Zhengxiong to a luxurious box on the second floor. Upon entering, he saw Ling Gengqiu sitting lazily on the sofa with a beer in hand, looking very pleased.

"Hey, are you having fun?" Ling Chen smiled as he walked up and asked.

"Not bad," Ling Gengqiu squinted and said, "You still have some sense, knowing how to treat the elderly."

"Want to go out and get something to eat?"

"I haven't been this happy in a while. Let's go eat something nice to replenish my energy."

"Chen, Qiu, I'll see you out."

After leaving the night club, Zhao Zhengxiong wanted to accompany them, but Ling Chen declined. When he's with Ling Gengqiu, they can speak freely, but with Zhao Zhengxiong around, Ling Gengqiu might not be as comfortable, so it's better for just the two of them.

Not long after, Ling Chen drove to a food street. It was already past ten in the evening, and the street was lined with food stalls. Ling Chen casually picked a stall and sat down with Ling Gengqiu, ordering some marinated dishes.

Recently, Ling Gengqiu has taken a keen interest in food. Compared to his era, today's food preparation is more diverse and full of flavor, especially street food, which Ling Gengqiu loves and insists on dragging Ling Chen out for every night.

After a few drinks of white liquor, their conversation increased.

"Bro, keep this safe." Ling Chen handed an ID card to Ling Gengqiu. He had leveraged many connections for that.

"You already have a phone, and here's a bank card. I'll take you to the bank someday to show you how to withdraw money. If you're short on cash when chasing girls, just withdraw some yourself."

"You rascal, women today may be more open, but top-notch ones are rare. When will you take me to find some real top-notch beauties?"

Ling Chen grinned and said, "Bro, top-notch beauties are hard to come by. Don't count on it."

"Not necessarily, I..." Ling Gengqiu was about to continue when he seemed to notice something, his gaze suddenly brightened, and he abruptly got up and rushed out of the food stall without finishing his sentence.

Chapter 1403 The Patriarch's Hobby

Ling Chen looked at Ling Gengqiu with surprise, only to see him quickly run up to a beautiful woman, gesturing wildly as he spoke. The woman was quite attractive, with a slightly above-average aura, likely a career woman, dressed in a short outfit, carrying a delicate handbag.

However, from the woman's attitude, it was clear she wasn't very interested in Ling Gengqiu, as she kept looking down at her phone. Ling Chen couldn't help but smile, guessing that their family's ancestor was about to hit a wall.

To be honest, Ling Chen really admired Ling Gengqiu. After being so carefree with Zhao Zhengxiong, he still had the energy to try and pick up girls. Who knew how much energy he had.

As expected, a few minutes later, Ling Gengqiu returned with a disappointed face. Sitting back in his seat, he picked up a glass of liquor and drank it all down.

"Kid, what's up with women these days? I talked to her so much, and she didn't react at all, didn't even look at me, just kept staring at her phone and laughing. Do you think they have a problem?"

Ling Chen laughed and said, "Brother, they don't have a problem. It's just that times have changed, and romance isn't all about talking anymore."

"Then what's it about?"

"It's about the phone." Ling Chen took out his phone and pointed at the apps installed on the screen, saying, "See, nowadays people communicate using social apps. With these, you can chat with a beautiful woman even from a thousand miles away. If you can get them to agree to meet, you've succeeded. But women today have high standards and won't easily agree, so you must really show your charm."

"Wow! There are such great things." Ling Gengqiu quickly took out his phone. Previously, Ling Chen had only taught him how to make calls and send messages, he hadn't mentioned the other functions. Upon learning that the phone could be used to pick up girls, Ling Gengqiu immediately became interested.

From ten o'clock to one in the morning, the two sat in a street stall, drinking and teaching Ling Gengqiu how to use those social apps. It must be said, living for hundreds of years makes a difference, and with high comprehension, in just over two hours, Ling Gengqiu had mastered various functions.

Seeing Ling Gengqiu so absorbed in the world of phones, unable to extricate himself, Ling Chen couldn't help but shake his head and invited him to head home together.

The next day.

Ling Chen and Ling Gengqiu went straight to the Dragon Tiger Hall, feeling it was time to do some proper work after such a leisurely period. Upon arriving at the hall, they saw He Ziyun alone in his office, while Tong Zhentian was outside checking on the students' training.

Seeing Ling Chen and Ling Gengqiu approach, He Ziyun quickly stood up and invited Ling Gengqiu to sit. Ling Gengqiu only thanked him, his eyes never leaving his phone.

Seeing this, He Ziyun felt a bit puzzled and glanced at Ling Chen. The latter shrugged, looking helpless. Since teaching Ling Gengqiu to use social apps last night, Ling Gengqiu hadn't slept, chatting happily with several beautiful women in the living room right up until this morning.

"Mr. He, don't mind him, he's already obsessed." As he spoke, Ling Chen pulled He Ziyun to sit aside and inquired about the latest situation at the Dragon Tiger Hall.

"Ever since Mr. Guo joined the Dragon Tiger Hall, our competitiveness has greatly improved, attracting many martial arts enthusiasts, effectively curbing the momentum of the Heavenly Mechanism Arts Hall."

"That's good. As long as we slow down the Heavenly Mechanism Arts Hall, we have a chance to surpass them. By the way!" Ling Chen shifted the topic and asked, "How is the preparation for the construction of the Dragon Tiger Hall's branch going?"

"Everything is proceeding as planned. In about a month, ten branches across the country will gradually open. Additionally, a branch will also be established in East Sea City. We have no choice; the hall has recruited too many people, and the housing and area are far from adequate."

"That's no problem," Ling Chen said. "Didn't I have Hu Fei allocate a special fund to the Dragon Tiger Hall last time? It should be enough. If you're short, let me know. After all, I'm not short of money right now."

"Alright." Speaking of which, He Ziyun seemed to remember something and asked, "Have you heard about what happened at the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion a few days ago?"

"What happened?"

"Someone broke into the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion, injured the pavilion's disciples, and rescued Wang Hao from a cell. Because of this incident, the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion Master announced that they would severely punish anyone who trespassed on the pavilion. However, several days have passed with no news of that person."

"Ha!" Ling Chen chuckled softly, "There won't be any news. If I'm not mistaken, the person who trespassed into the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion is definitely Su He. Su He is all alone now, with no resources, and Wang Hao is an obedient lackey. Su He would surely not abandon him."

"If it's Su He, doesn't the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion Master know?"

Ling Chen thought for a moment and said, "I think Su Mei probably knows. It's impossible for Su He to enter the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion without seeing Su Mei. However, the Heavenly Mechanism Arts Hall has severed ties with Su He, and Su Mei couldn't openly release Wang Hao, as that would likely arouse suspicion. So, they staged a play, letting Su He storm the pavilion to rescue Wang Hao. This way, even if something happens to Su He and Wang Hao in the future, the Heavenly Mechanism Arts Hall can absolve itself of responsibility."

At this, Ling Chen couldn't help but smile, "Sometimes, only through experience can one grow. Su Mei is undoubtedly a good example. She is increasingly becoming like a Pavilion Master. However, I hope she can maintain her integrity and not follow in Su He's footsteps, doing something out of line. Otherwise, even if I have a connection with her, I won't let her off."

"Kid." At this time, Ling Gengqiu, who had been playing with his phone with his head lowered, suddenly looked up excitedly and said, "Quick, arrange a car for me. I need to go out."

Ling Chen was slightly taken aback and asked, "Brother, where are you going?"

"I just arranged a lunch with a beautiful woman, and we're also going to see a movie and stroll around. Wait a moment." Ling Gengqiu looked at his outfit and shook his head: "No, I need to change clothes. Kid, first take me to buy a couple of high-end outfits."

Ling Chen said with a wry smile, "Brother, why the rush? It's only nine o'clock. Don't worry, I'll help you sort it all out. Mr. He, if there's nothing else, we'll take our leave."

"Alright." He Ziyun nodded, but his gaze toward Ling Gengqiu was somewhat peculiar.

Leaving the Dragon Tiger Hall, Ling Chen drove with Ling Gengqiu in the car. As the car started, Ling Gengqiu suddenly said, "Su Cheng'en probably can't sit still. You should be careful."

"Hmm?" Ling Chen didn't react immediately.

"Since Su He is making moves, it means Su Cheng'en is ready to act. He knows my current strength hasn't fully recovered, so he's likely to take this opportunity to cause me trouble."

Chapter 1404 Jiang Hao's Girlfriend (1)

"Bro, what should we do then? How about..." Ling Chen suggested, "We strike first, find a chance to take them out?" Ling Chen knew where Su Cheng'en lived, hence the idea.

"You know where he lives?"

Ling Chen nodded and said, "He lives in the valley of the Yangxin Pavilion at the Heavenly Mechanism Pavilion."

"Alright, find someone to check it out. If he's still there, we can take the initiative. Su Cheng'en alive will always be a threat. Only after dealing with him can I be at peace chasing girls."

Uh... Ling Chen didn't even know how to respond to that.

Chasing girls... is it really that important? Shortly, Ling Chen took Ling Gengqiu to a large shopping mall. He found a brand store and got Ling Gengqiu several outfits, spending over a hundred thousand. Then, Ling Chen took him to a watch store and spent more than two hundred thousand on a handcrafted mechanical watch.

If you want to look the part, you have to be willing to spend. With time to spare, Ling Chen took Ling Gengqiu to a high-end hair salon for a haircut.

Over an hour later, Ling Gengqiu was refreshed from head to toe.

"Bro, it's about time. I reserved the best spot for you at a Chinese restaurant."

"OK! Let's go, accompany me to pick up the beauty. From now on, you're my private driver and bodyguard, got it?"

Ling Chen touched his nose. With the ancestor giving the orders, how could he dare say no?

Following the instructions given by the beauty, Ling Chen drove to the destination. Once there, he rolled down the car window and glanced outside a few times. Soon, a beautiful woman with flowing long hair appeared in his view.

The woman was about 1.7 meters tall, with long slender legs clad in black stockings, topped with a leather jacket—extremely sexy. Her beautifully dressed face was charming and alluring, deserving of the title 'beauty.'

"Bro, is it her?"

Ling Gengqiu nodded and said, "I'll go meet her first, keep an eye for me." After saying this, Ling Gengqiu pushed open the car door and headed straight towards the beauty.

Ling Chen sat in the driver's seat, watching Ling Gengqiu interact with the beautiful woman. There's no denying, his investment of hundreds of thousands wasn't for nothing, as the beauty quickly followed Ling Gengqiu back.

Time for me to show up. Ling Chen thought to himself, as he hurriedly got out of the car to open the back door for them.

"Ling Chen, drive."

"Yes, Mr. Ling." Ling Chen responded quickly and drove towards the restaurant.

Along the way, Ling Gengqiu and the beauty were sitting in the back, chatting freely with laughter occasionally heard. Listening to their conversation, Ling Chen couldn't help but admire that the ancestor really had skills in picking up girls. At this rate, he might have to book a hotel tonight too.

Outside the restaurant, the beauty was already holding onto Ling Gengqiu's arm as they went upstairs, leaving Ling Chen alone in the car.

Checking the time, it was already noon, Ling Chen closed the car door and prepared to find a spot for lunch. However, at that moment, a Hyundai slowly drove up and parked by the roadside.

Ling Chen took a glance, and his eyes immediately fell on the license plate of the Hyundai.

Oh! It's Jiang Hao's car.

Sure enough, as the Hyundai door opened, Jiang Hao jumped out from the driver's seat. He quickly ran to the passenger seat to open the door and welcomed a young woman out of the car.

The woman looked about twenty-three or four, with striking features, standing 1.6 meters tall, dressed in casual wear paired with light blue jeans, her long hair draped over her shoulders, holding a handbag, looking very serene.

The two got out of the car, immediately linking arms and heading directly to the Chinese restaurant. Ling Chen, fearing running into Jiang Hao, quickly hid behind the car. Only after Jiang Hao and his girlfriend entered the restaurant did Ling Chen come out.

Tsk tsk! Just heard from Zhao Zhengxiong that Jiang Hao was dating, didn't expect to run into them so soon.

This guy... hid it well, didn't even tell me. Ling Chen thought for a moment, took out his phone, and dialed two numbers.

Within twenty minutes, a Porsche and a Jeep Wrangler arrived outside the restaurant one after another.

The car doors opened, and out came Zhao Zhengxiong and Nanrong Hao respectively. They greeted Ling Chen, curiously asking, "Chen, did something happen since you called us so urgently?"

Ling Chen grinned and said, "Nothing serious, just bored and wanted to invite you guys for a meal."

"Chen, you should've told us earlier, I already ate at the office."

"Then have a couple of drinks, come on." With that, Ling Chen pulled Nanrong Hao, heading straight for the restaurant.

Upon entering the restaurant, Ling Chen scanned the room and soon spotted Jiang Hao in a corner of the hall. At that moment, they were sitting at a round table, pointing at the scenery outside the glass window, smiling happily, seemingly having a great conversation.

Following Ling Chen's gaze, Zhao Zhengxiong's eyes lit up and his lips curled into a playful smile, "Chen, is this probably the real reason you invited us here?"

"Chen, who's that woman with Jiang Hao? I've not seen her before."

"That's Jiang Hao's girlfriend. The kid kept it such a secret, told no one. If I hadn't stumbled upon them, we'd still be in the dark."

"Really?" Hearing Zhao Zhengxiong's words, Nanrong Hao got interested instantly, "I'm going to say hi."

"No rush." Ling Chen grabbed Nanrong Hao's arm, then called over a waiter and whispered instructions. Shortly after, the waiter headed to the table next to Jiang Hao's.

Minutes later, guests at the adjacent table all left the restaurant.

"Let's go." Ling Chen gestured, leading Zhao Zhengxiong and Nanrong Hao to the table. The spot was right behind Jiang Hao. So far, Jiang Hao hadn't noticed, engrossed in talking to the beauty.

"Gentlemen, what would you like to order?" Asked the waiter, holding a menu.

Nanrong Hao rolled his eyes and with a smile asked, "What's the status of your chefs here?"

The waiter hesitated a bit but still replied honestly, "We have two master chefs here."

"Good, take note of the dishes: Flying Together, Till Old Age, Bathing in Love River, Everlasting Unity, Perfect Match, Harmonious Melody, Phoenix in Flight, Perfect Symmetry, Centenary Happiness. Mm, that's about it, go make them, quickly."

The waiter looked troubled and said, "Sir, we don't have such dishes."

Hearing this, Nanrong Hao glared and said, "If you have master chefs, can't they make these dishes? Less talk, go on, whatever the price for these dishes, it's no issue."

Chapter 1405 Jiang Hao's Girlfriend (2)

Regarding Nanrong Hao's special request, the waiter had no choice but to find the restaurant manager. Shortly, the manager came over to Nanrong Hao, smiling, and said: "Mr. Nanrong, don't worry, we'll make sure you're satisfied."

"You know me? That's good. Just so you know, if things don't go well, I won't hesitate to ruin your restaurant."

"Yes, of course." The manager quickly retreated.

At this moment, the beauty at the next table noticed Nanrong Hao's gaze repeatedly drifting toward her, and she couldn't help but feel a bit annoyed. However, she said nothing, just lowered her head, ignoring Nanrong Hao's eyes. Sensing his girlfriend's discomfort, Jiang Hao asked concernedly, "Liu Xin, what's wrong? Are you feeling unwell?"

"No." The beauty named Liu Xin gently shook her head and whispered: "The guys at the opposite table keep looking at me. I don't like that look."

Hearing this, Jiang Hao frowned and said seriously, "Wait here, I'll deal with them."

"No." Liu Xin quickly grabbed Jiang Hao's hand, "Don't go. It's rare for us to have time to go out on a date today. Let's not let those few people ruin the mood. How about we change seats?"

"How can that be? My girlfriend isn't someone anyone can just stare at." Saying this, Jiang Hao patted Liu Xin's delicate shoulder and said, "Don't worry, I'll just talk to them and reason it out. I won't get physical."

With that, Jiang Hao stood up despite Liu Xin's attempts to dissuade him, turned to look at the table behind, and said coldly, "You guys... uh!"

No sooner had he spoken than Jiang Hao froze. At this moment, Ling Chen and his two companions were sitting in a row, smiling at Jiang Hao, and asked, "What about us?"

Hearing Ling Chen speak, Jiang Hao finally came to his senses and said with a wry smile, "Chen, how come you guys are here?"

"We're here for a meal. We thought about inviting you, but you seemed too busy. So we didn't call you. It's okay; you keep busy. We'll eat without disturbing you."

With a face of helplessness, Jiang Hao said, "Chen, can't I just admit I was wrong?" After speaking, Jiang Hao coughed lightly and turned to Liu Xin, saying, "Xinxin, let me introduce you."

Liu Xin curiously walked to Jiang Hao's side and asked, "You know them?"

"This is Ling Chen, this is Haozi, and this is Zhao Zhengxiong. They're all like brothers to me, my closest friends."

Zhao Zhengxiong chimed in with a smile, "Brothers are brothers, but whether we're the closest isn't certain. Chen, what do you think?"

Ling Chen nodded and said, "True, having a girlfriend and not telling your brothers."

"Yes, yes, my mistake." Jiang Hao hurriedly admitted his fault: "Chen, I was wrong; how about I punish myself with three drinks?"

"Alright! Just joking with you, come and sit down." Ling Chen pointed to the seat beside them and said, "Haozi specially ordered nine dishes for you guys, so later we can all eat together." At this point, Ling Chen apologized to Liu Xin, "Miss Liu, sorry for interrupting your date."

Liu Xin smiled slightly: "It's fine, I'm glad to meet Jiang Hao's friends. Oh, I forgot to introduce myself; I'm Liu Xin, a middle school Chinese teacher."

"Pleased to meet you. Jiang Hao is lucky to have you as his girlfriend. If he ever dares to bully you, just let me know, and I'll set him straight."

"Jiang Hao, we've known each other for so long, how come you've never mentioned your friends?"

Jiang Hao coughed lightly and awkwardly smiled: "I was waiting for the right moment to tell you."

Liu Xin rolled her eyes at Jiang Hao, "What's a right moment then? Does it have to be when we're married?" Without waiting for Jiang Hao to respond, Liu Xi looked at Ling Chen and his companions and said: "I've been curious; we've been dating for months now, and I've never met his friends. It's like he's doing something shady."

Nanrong Hao helped smooth things over: "Actually, it's not Jiang Hao's fault. We're often on business trips, rarely staying in East Sea City, and this time it's a rare opportunity to gather together."

"Business trips? What kind of work do you do?"

"I'm with Hongyu..." Nanrong Hao was about to explain when he felt a kick on his left foot. Looking up, he saw Jiang Hao winking at him incessantly.

"Xinxin, Haozi works for Hongyu Group, they're often on business trips," Jiang Hao quickly filled in.

Liu Xin nodded and then turned her gaze to Zhao Zhengxiong. Before Zhao Zhengxiong could speak, Jiang Hao immediately said, "Xiong is in the small business of selling alcohol."

"Haha! I'm currently unemployed, not doing anything," Ling Chen jokingly interjected. Although he didn't understand what Jiang Hao was up to, Ling Chen played along.

"Haozi, Xiong, chat with Xinxin for a while. I'm going to get some wine with Chen." With that, Jiang Hao gave Ling Chen a look and then walked toward the restaurant counter with him.

"What are you up to?" Ling Chen asked puzzled, "Are you afraid your girlfriend will find out our real identities?"

"Chen, I really have no choice. I can't very well tell her I'm involved in shady business, right? When we first met, she told me she dislikes those little punks who loiter and cause trouble everywhere, even corrupting students in schools. If I told her I'm the leader of those punks, she'd definitely dump me."

Jiang Hao was full of helplessness: "Chen, I really like her, please help me and don't expose me."

"Even if you keep it a secret now, what about the future? Are you planning to hide it from her forever? I think you guys have been dating long enough, and since you know each other so well, why not try telling her the truth? She might accept it. After all, women hate being deceived the most, and you're playing with fire here."

"I know, that's why I'm so troubled right now and don't know what to do. Otherwise, I'd have taken her to meet you guys long ago."

"As long as you're sincere, I think she shouldn't mind." Pausing, Ling Chen asked, "What did you tell her you do for a living?"

"I told her I'm a bar owner and that I run a small bar."

That explains it!

Ling Chen nodded to himself; earlier, when he saw Jiang Hao outside the restaurant, he noticed he was driving a Hyundai sedan. That car was bought a long time ago, and since he got a luxury car, he hadn't

driven it. At the time, he thought it was odd; Jiang Hao has several multi-million-dollar cars, so why drive an old car to pick up his girlfriend? Now, after his explanation, he understood.

"Although I, as a brother, want to help, this is the kind of thing you'll have to solve yourself. Like I said earlier, the sooner you find an opportunity to tell her the truth and ask for her forgiveness, the less likely things will get worse."

Chapter 1406 Scum (1)

"Let's talk about it later," Jiang Hao said with a bit of a headache. "Maybe we can keep it a secret."

The two returned to the table, where Liu Xin and Nanrong Hao were happily chatting. To avoid giving themselves away, Nanrong Hao and Zhao Zhengxiong seldom spoke, mostly listening to Liu Xin's amusing stories from school.

As they listened to Liu Xin, Ling Chen and the others finally understood why Jiang Hao was so worried. Being a teacher, and of middle school students no less, he knew that kids this age were easily led astray. In Liu Xin's class, many male students had been recruited by gangsters to run errands, skipping classes, fighting, and generally making their parents worried and their teachers anxious.

Liu Xin wanted to guide those students, to reform them, and persuade them to stay away from the gangsters outside school. However, the students not only refused to listen but also insulted Liu Xin right to her face, accusing her of meddling. Because of this, the principal reprimanded those students one by one.

Yet, the students felt wronged and blamed Liu Xin for the criticism. Consequently, gangsters frequently jumped over the school wall for a whole week to harass Liu Xin in the teachers' dormitory. One day a window would be smashed, the next day the door would be graffitied, and some even banged on her door late at night, making indecent remarks.

The week's events were pure torment for Liu Xin. Being from Jinhai City and knowing no one in East Sea City, she had no one to turn to and had to endure it all alone. It was during that time that Liu Xin met Jiang Hao by chance. Faced with his pursuit, she quickly fell for him. Apart from Jiang Hao's sincerity, Liu Xin needed someone she could rely on.

After listening to Liu Xi's story, Ling Chen and the others exchanged glances. No wonder Jiang Hao dared not reveal his identity; it was because of this. Understandably, Liu Xin despised those gang members. If she found out Jiang Hao was their leader, she certainly wouldn't treat him kindly.

This is indeed a problem!

"That's why I often tell Jiang Hao to quit the bar business. Places like that are filled with those wayward youths. I'm really worried something might happen to him one day," Liu Xin said worriedly. "Ling Chen, you're all Jiang Hao's good buddies. Help me persuade him to switch to another business."

Ling Chen smiled perfunctorily, "No problem, we'll definitely help you talk to him."

Soon after, the nine dishes that Nanrong Hao ordered arrived one after another. There's no denying it, a top chef is indeed a top chef; each dish not only had a unique appearance but also looked, smelled, and tasted amazing.

"Jiang Hao, I specially picked these dishes for you all," Nanrong Hao said with a smile. "Manager, ask your chef to come out and introduce the dishes for us."

The restaurant manager quickly responded, "Sure thing."

Soon, the chef came to the table and introduced the names of the dishes.

Listening to the auspicious dish names, Liu Xin's face lit up with smiles, "Thank you all."

"No need to be so polite; it's what we should do. When you two get married, I'll prepare a great gift for you."

"Oh!"

Just then, a not-so-friendly voice came over. Everyone turned to see a young man in a suit walking toward them. The young man was quite ordinary in appearance, not particularly tall or charismatic, except for his brand-name clothing which stood out.

Seeing the young man's approach, Liu Xin's face changed slightly, a hint of unease in her eyes.

"Liu Xin, what a coincidence, running into you here," the young man said as he casually moved to the table. Looking at the sumptuous spread, he laughed, "Such a feast, are you having a gathering?"

Liu Xin replied coolly, "Yang Ping, I'm dining with friends."

"Friends?" The young man named Yang Ping glanced around at everyone at the table and smirked, "All males except you. What kind of friends are these? Could they be boyfriends? One woman with four men, can you handle that?" Yang Ping laughed lecherously.

"She's my girlfriend, show some respect," Jiang Hao abruptly stood up, snapping coldly.

At this, Yang Ping looked Jiang Hao up and down, a sneer playing at his lips, "So, you're her boyfriend. Honestly, I don't see anything special about you. Liu Xin, I have to say, you're great at everything except your taste in men, choosing him over me. If you were with me, not only would your career be smooth, but you'd also live in luxury every day."

"Thanks, but I'm not interested."

"Fine, if that's how it is, pretend I said nothing. But if you ever change your mind, you can always come find me. You have my number and know where I live." Saying this, Yang Ping walked off on his own.

"That bastard..." Watching Yang Ping leave, Jiang Hao ground his teeth, speaking in a low voice. "I really want to teach him a lesson." With that, he was about to go after him.

Seeing this, Liu Xin quickly grabbed Jiang Hao's arm, shaking her head, "Don't go, you can't take him."

"How do you know I can't?" Jiang Hao retorted, frowning.

"He's the son of one of our school's board members, holding a titular position. He's arrogant and unrestrained, and no one dares to provoke him. Many female teachers have suffered because of him. His family has strong connections, which intimidates everyone, making them either endure in silence or resign. Not long ago, he sneaked into a female teacher's dormitory late at night. The teacher complained to the principal, but Yang Ping was unscathed, and instead, the school fired her. In outrage, she sued the school, but nothing happened to Yang Ping or his backers. Instead, she was accused of misconduct, and eventually, she even lost her teaching license." Liu Xin sighed lightly and said, "That's how society is today; the law favors the rich and powerful."

Jiang Hao frowned deeply, "He didn't do anything to you, did he?"

"One night, he came to knock on my door. I didn't open, and to my shock, he had a key to my room. Fortunately, I had deadbolted the door from the inside, otherwise, he would have gotten in. I was terrified and had no idea how he got the key. The next day, I immediately had a locksmith change the lock. He's been bombarding me with texts and calls, which I've ignored. I heard he's leaving the country soon. Once he's gone, things will be better, so there's no need to provoke him now."

Ling Chen shook his head, "Schools should cultivate talents, yet there's scum like him. And your school's board not only does nothing but also abets his behavior. Clearly, they're no better. Liu Xin, honestly, you should resign and find a job elsewhere."

Chapter 1407 Scum (2)

"Xinxin, Chen is right. You should change your workplace. At worst, I can help you find a more legitimate school," Jiang Hao chimed in.

"No need," Liu Xin replied. "Finding a job isn't easy these days. It's not like I haven't thought about switching schools, but I haven't succeeded. A school seemed interested in my application and even scheduled an interview with me. But for some reason, just when I was about to leave, they suddenly called and said I was no longer needed because they weren't lacking teachers."

"Do you think it's that Yang Ping causing trouble?"

"I'm not sure. In any case, he's about to go abroad. Once he's gone, no one will bother me anymore." After speaking, Liu Xin picked up her chopsticks, smiled, and said, "Let's not talk about this anymore. It's rare to meet with you all, so let's be happy."

Ling Chen nodded, choosing not to say more. Since Liu Xin felt there was no issue, he didn't want to waste his breath. After finishing their meal, they took a short break before Ling Chen received a call from Ling Gengqiu.

"Everyone, I have something to attend to. Take your time; I'll head out first."

"Chen, let's go together. I have to head to work later," Nanrong Hao said.

Zhao Zhengxiong asked, "Jiang Hao, do you have any plans for the afternoon?"

"I'm planning to take Xinxin to the amusement park for a bit of fun." As he spoke, Jiang Hao glanced at the time, stood up, and helped Liu Xin with her bag, suggesting, "Should we head out as well?"

"Okay."

The group left and headed toward the restaurant exit. As they approached the door, Liu Xin suddenly grabbed Jiang Hao's hand and whispered, "Did you pay the bill?"

"Haozi already took care of it. Xinxin, what's wrong?"

"They're all regular employees and aren't as well-off as you. This restaurant is quite expensive, and the meal earlier probably cost a few thousand yuan. It's not right to let them pay for it."

Jiang Hao laughed and said, "It's okay; they're not as broke as you think. Let's go!" With that, Jiang Hao took Liu Xin and walked out of the restaurant.

Meanwhile, Ling Chen and the others were waiting outside for Jiang Hao and Liu Xin. After watching them drive away, Zhao Zhengxiong and Nanrong Hao each left in their luxury cars.

Ling Chen adjusted his suit, returned to his car, and shortly after, saw Ling Gengqiu come out of the restaurant with that stunning woman. Earlier, the woman had been holding onto Ling Gengqiu's arm; now, her body was tightly pressed against him, especially with Ling Gengqiu's arm nestled between her ample assets.

Looking at Ling Gengqiu's enjoying expression, it was clear that the lunch was quite delightful.

Once in the car, Ling Gengqiu, with the beautiful woman beside him, said, "Ling Chen, arrange a place for the afternoon. I want to have a deep conversation with this lovely lady."

Ling Chen wanted to laugh, knowing exactly what kind of "deep conversation" it was. However, as a driver, he couldn't very well mock Ling Gengqiu openly. Ling Chen then called to book a presidential suite in a luxury hotel in East Sea City.

After a half-hour drive, Ling Chen drove Ling Gengqiu and the woman to their destination.

Watching their figures disappear into the hotel entrance, Ling Chen whistled and drove straight to the base, with no time to spare on Gengqiu's leisure.

Upon reaching the base, Ling Chen went to the control room where he found Hu Fei with a cup of coffee, leisurely watching videos.

"Fatty, you seem pretty free today."

Hu Fei glanced at Ling Chen and kept his eyes on the screen. "After being busy for so many days, it's nice to relax a bit. What brings you here today?"

"Just thought I'd drop by since there's nothing else to do. Hey! Any news on the thing I asked you to check?"

"I just got their report. The place you mentioned is empty, and Su Cheng'en has already moved."

"Empty?" Ling Chen's heart sank, realizing Su Cheng'en was already on guard. He had intended to make a move, but it seemed another strategy was now necessary.

"Fatty, what about that other guy? Still no news?"

"You mean Zhu Hong?" Hu Fei shook his head. "That guy is as cunning as a rat. Who knows where he's hiding? Not a single clue. If he keeps his head down, he's hard to find. But if Zhu Hong is smart, he'll find some remote place to stay and not return home. Given the force you command now, if he tries anything, it's practically suicide."

"Let's hope so."

After chatting with Hu Fei for a bit, Ling Chen checked the time. It was nearly dinner, and Gengqiu was likely done with his afternoon dalliance. Ling Chen said goodbye to Hu Fei and left the base alone.

Driving away from the base, Ling Chen merged onto the highway, heading toward the hotel. As his car gradually disappeared from view, a young man seated in an outdoor café lifted his head, adjusted his baseball cap, tossed a hundred-yuan bill on the table, and got up to leave.

On reaching the roadside, the young man hailed a taxi and mentioned a location, prompting the driver to head off.

About ten minutes later, the taxi arrived in East Sea City's Old City. Thanks to significant investment by the Hongyu Group and government support, the Old City had been transformed into the city's new district, with all the old buildings replaced by high-rise structures.

Alighting from the taxi, the young man adjusted the brim of his hat and hurried to a rolling gate.

Soon after, the gate slowly lifted, and the young man bent under it to enter.

Once inside and the gate closed, the young man finally removed his baseball cap.

"Mr. Zhu." Seeing the young man return, a middle-aged man in a lab coat immediately approached. "Our pharmaceutical supplies are running low. When can you procure more for us?"

The young man was none other than Zhu Hong.

After hearing the middle-aged man, Zhu Hong scanned the surroundings. In the warehouse lay various equipment, with over a dozen researchers bustling about. At the center stood a transparent glass vessel soaking a severed leg in liquid.

After a quick glance, Zhu Hong turned his attention back and asked, "Can it wait?"

"I'm afraid not. Our experiment is at a critical stage. Without enough drugs, the experiment might fail, wasting all our previous investments."

Zhu Hong nodded. "Alright then, give me a list, and I'll figure out how to get the supplies."

"The list is ready," the middle-aged man said, handing Zhu Hong a slip of paper.

Looking at the inventory of drugs, Zhu Hong couldn't help but frown, "Why are they all banned substances?"

"We have no choice. Regular drug doses aren't sufficient."

Chapter 1408 Speeding

"The illegal drugs you're prescribing aren't available at pharmacies, only large hospitals can get them, and every hospital has a fixed quota. The amount you're asking for is equivalent to the quota of several large hospitals, where am I supposed to get it for you?" Zhu Hong said.

"Such drugs should be available on the black market."

"The black market does have them, but they can't be bought domestically. Are you suggesting I go abroad to get them for you? Not to mention whether it'd clear customs, it would take at least a month time-wise."

The middle-aged man shook his head and said, "That's not possible, time is too short; these drugs must be obtained within three days, or the experiment can't continue." Pausing, the middle-aged man said, "As far as I know, on the third of every month, a special vehicle delivers drugs to various hospitals. All the drugs I need are on that vehicle, and the quota is sufficient. If you can figure out a way to deal with that vehicle, the drug problem can be solved."

"You make it sound easy." Zhu Hong pondered for a while, then nodded and said, "All right, I'll handle this. You all focus on the experiment; no matter what, this experiment must not fail. Remember! You've repeatedly promised me that if there is any accident with the experiment, don't blame me for being harsh."

"Rest assured, as long as you follow my plan, there will be no problems."

Upon arriving at his independent studio, Zhu Hong turned on the computer and checked the information regarding the drug delivery vehicle. The third of the month... that's the day after tomorrow, Zhu Hong muttered to himself, furrowing his brows; time is extremely tight, preparations must be made quickly.

If possible, Zhu Hong wouldn't want to use this method to obtain drugs, it's too conspicuous, and could easily expose his identity. During this period, he has been living under Ling Chen's scrutiny, being very cautious to avoid drawing attention, handling everything personally. The fewer people who know, the safer his situation is.

"Still not enough manpower." Zhu Hong was a bit worried. Besides himself, the only one he could use now was Chen Quan. Although Chen Quan is a top expert on the Heavenly List, very powerful, capable of taking on ten people, some things can't be done by one or two people alone. To complete this operation smoothly, help is urgently needed.

"Chu Huaiyang, Song Mingzhe..." Zhu Hong quickly thought of these two people, but back when Chen Quan was abandoned, Chu Huaiyang and Song Mingzhe felt betrayed, and although they are both in East Sea City, it might be difficult to ask them for help. Moreover, as he knows, these two are quite close to Ling Chen. If his whereabouts were exposed because of them, he'd be doomed.

He must find a few people he can completely control... Zhu Hong pondered for a moment, then suddenly brightened up, a plan forming in his mind.

In the blink of an eye, two days had passed.

"Hey, bro, can you stop staring at your phone all day?" In the living room, Ling Chen looked helplessly at Ling Gengqiu. He was truly impressed! Ever since Ling Gengqiu discovered the joys of social media flirting, he's constantly glued to his phone, sometimes chatting with over a dozen women at once.

Looking at Ling Gengqiu's excited expression, he's completely immersed in it.

Responding to Ling Chen's complaints, Ling Gengqiu didn't even lift his head and said, "After being bedridden for so many years, I've finally found some enjoyment, are you heartless enough to take that away? Would you believe I'd report to your dad if you did? Before he left, your dad told you to take good care of me."

"Old Master, it's not fair to say this. Haven't I been treating you well enough already? I provide all the funds for your flirting, I act as your chauffeur whenever you go out, while you're enjoying yourself in the hotel, I'm stuck listening to the radio in the car; you ought to consider my feelings."

"Alright, alright!" Ling Gengqiu said, "It's just driving, isn't it? I'll go learn later, and from now on, I'll drive myself when I go out." Then, Ling Gengqiu turned his phone screen towards Ling Chen and said, "This car's styling is pretty good, go get me one, I'll drive it in the future."

Ling Chen glanced at it, and his eyes immediately widened. Damn! "Old Master, do you even know how much this car costs? Don't you ever look at the prices?"

Ling Gengqiu replied with, "Do I need to?"

Ling Chen was speechless; this is a limited edition Ferrari, costing at least seven figures. He had to admit, the old master's taste is quite remarkable.

After chatting with those beauties for a while, Ling Gengqiu finally put down the phone and dragged Ling Chen outside to learn how to drive. As a master amongst masters, his reactions, awareness, and comprehension are far superior to ordinary people. In just over ten minutes, Ling Gengqiu grasped the essentials of driving.

"Okay, I got it. You stay home, I'll go out for a drive." With that, before Ling Chen could say anything, Ling Gengqiu stepped on the gas, and the car shot out, disappearing from Ling Chen's sight instantly.

"Bro, bro..." Ling Chen called out anxiously, but Ling Gengqiu was already gone, nowhere to be seen.

Shaking his head, Ling Chen sighed and had to return indoors. With Ling Gengqiu's skill, nothing should go wrong. Ling Chen comforted himself.

However, the more you worry about something, the more likely it is to happen.

Two hours later, Ling Chen received a phone call.

"Hello! Where are you?"

"Hey, Officer Xia, long time no see. What's up, are you missing me, wanting to ask me out for a meal?" Ling Chen teased.

"Cut the crap, you better get over here soon."

"What's going on?"

"Someone was driving recklessly on the road, causing a major traffic accident. Not only that, he resisted arrest and injured several people. If you don't come over soon, we'll have to take compulsory measures."

Upon hearing this, Ling Chen's expression changed. His family's old master really is a troublemaker, only knowing how to cause trouble for him. Without much thought, Ling Chen hurriedly asked for the address and then drove over.

Arriving at the location, he saw several police cars parked outside a café, and not far at the intersection, over a dozen cars were involved in a collision, parked chaotically on the side of the road, blocking the entire intersection. Ling Chen whispered to himself that this was bad, and rushed to the café's entrance, where Xia Mutong was waiting for him.

As soon as they met, Ling Chen hadn't spoken before Xia Mutong asked, "Explain this clearly to me, who is that person to you?"

Ling Chen smiled apologetically and said, "Officer Xia, I'm really sorry, he's a family member."

"Family member?"

"Yes, yes. Uh... I'll go inside and call him out, we'll discuss the matter later." Saying this, Ling Chen stepped into the café. At this moment, the spacious café had only Ling Gengqiu alone; he was sitting in a booth, holding a cup of coffee, leisurely eating, completely unfazed by the outside commotion.

Chapter 1409 - The Carjacker (1)

"Hey, big bro, what are you up to?" Ling Chen looked at Ling Gengqiu, asking with a headache.

Ling Gengqiu took a sip of coffee. The bitter taste didn't sit well with him, and he frowned slightly, saying, "Nothing much, I was just driving. Who knew those people would go crazy chasing me, and causing a mess. I thought I'd give you a call, but then they tried to arrest me, so of course, I taught them a lesson. Hey! You got here just in time, help me sort this out. I've got a date later."

Ling Chen rubbed his forehead, feeling his head swell.

"My dear ancestor, those people are police officers. Do you know what the police are? Going against them is asking for trouble."

"What's so special about the police?" Ling Gengqiu said indifferently, "They're all wimps. I can knock them down with just a couple of kicks." After a pause, Ling Gengqiu seemed to think of something and added, "That woman outside is not bad, really strong, but unfortunately, all brawn and no skill. If she were given a little training, she might become an expert."

There's no need to ask, Ling Gengqiu was referring to Xia Mutong. Back then, Xia Mutong was captured by the God Organization and forcibly subjected to an enhancement experiment, which increased her strength several times. Later, Ling Chen rescued her from the hands of the God Organization, and her enhanced strength remained.

Recently, Xia Mutong has been solving cases one after another. Her outstanding abilities even earned her a commendation from the Ministry of Public Security. All of this is closely related to her bodily enhancement.

"Bro, the police enforce the law. Going against them won't do you any good, and I might not be able to help you." Ling Chen was helpless. If he had known Ling Gengqiu would cause such a mess, he wouldn't have let him drive off. Now, not only did he cause trouble, but he also alerted the police. It's really troublesome.

"Enforce the law?" Ling Gengqiu thought for a moment and said, "You mean... they're government officials?"

Government... Upon hearing this peculiar term, Ling Chen was slightly stunned and immediately understood. Many of Ling Gengqiu's thoughts were still centuries old, from a time when there were only government officials, no police stations.

"Although the terms are different, the meaning is pretty much the same."

Ling Gengqiu frowned slightly and said, "In our time, people from the martial arts world dreaded dealings with government officials the most. Kid, seems like this is serious."

Ling Chen nodded. His ancestor finally realized the gravity of the situation.

"Since it's so serious, I'll leave it to you to handle. I'll wait for your news at home."

Hearing this, Ling Chen was taken aback, and by the time he reacted, Ling Gengqiu had vanished. Looking at the slightly shaking window pane, Ling Chen couldn't help but crack a wry smile. He thought Ling Gengqiu would face the music bravely, who knew he'd slip away instead.

Sigh! Such a hassle.

Ling Chen shook his head helplessly. There was no choice; he had to step in to smooth things over.

As he stepped out of the café, Xia Mutong immediately approached him, her eyes looking past him, "Where is he?"

Ling Chen shrugged, looking helpless as he said, "Don't bother looking, he's already run away."

"What, run away?" Xia Mutong's face fell, looking at Ling Chen angrily, "You must have instructed him to flee and evade the law."

"Injustice, I'm wronged." Ling Chen hurriedly raised both hands, saying innocently, "I originally wanted him to turn himself in, but who knew he'd slip away when I wasn't paying attention."

"I don't care." Xia Mutong tossed her head, refusing to believe Ling Chen's nonsense, "He's someone you know. Either you find him and hand him over to me, or you help him face justice. The decision is yours."

Ling Chen said bitterly, "Is there a third option for me?"

"No."

"Alright then." Ling Chen sighed. He definitely couldn't hand Ling Gengqiu in, given Ling Gengqiu's character, who knows what trouble he'd stir up if brought to the police station. Sigh! He's my ancestor, after all. If the ancestor makes a mistake, it's up to me to handle it.

"Officer Xia, in that case, I'll go with you." Ling Chen extended his hands obediently.

Upon seeing this, a nearby officer immediately pulled out a pair of handcuffs, preparing to put them on Ling Chen. However, Xia Mutong quickly stopped their action. She rolled her eyes at Ling Chen, saying grumpily, "These things are useless on him. If he really wanted to leave, none of you could stop him."

Hearing this, Ling Chen grinned: "Officer Xia, you know me best."

"Phooey! Only a ghost would know you. Get in the car. Wait till we get back, and you'll see how I'll deal with you."

Ling Chen laughed it off, obediently getting into Xia Mutong's police car.

"You guys take the other cars, I can handle this one alone." Xia Mutong sent her colleagues off and then started the engine, driving the police car towards the station.

On the way, Ling Chen gazed at the scenery outside the window, occasionally teasing Xia Mutong. However, knowing his nature, she didn't engage in his teasing.

Talking to himself was dull, so Ling Chen looked around bored. Seeing a newspaper on the backseat, he casually picked it up. Reading the headline news, Ling Chen found it interesting and asked with a smile, "Officer Xia, are you in charge of this case?"

"It's not happening in East Sea City, what's it got to do with me?"

"Tsk ts! Even nowadays, someone dares to hijack a prisoner transport. Really bold, completely disregarding the police." Ling Chen remarked.

"Don't you think this case is strange?"

"Strange? What's strange about it?"

"Take a closer look at the report. I don't believe you can't spot the issue."

With Xia Mutong's words, Ling Chen immediately focused on the content of the news, examining it word by word. After finishing the entire report, he finally understood what Xia Mutong meant by 'strange.'

"None of the criminals in that transport were major offenders, and none had ties to any criminal organizations. Plus, the ones who hijacked the transport weren't aiming for a single target; they rescued everyone. These criminals have no connections with each other, so who on earth would go to such lengths to save all of them? Or is it to divert attention, hiding the actual target?"

Xia Mutong nodded, saying, "Your speculation makes sense. But this case isn't under our jurisdiction, so there's no need for us to poke our noses in."

As they talked, Xia Mutong gradually slowed down, looking at the traffic jam ahead and couldn't resist complaining, "It's all your friend's fault. If not for him, we wouldn't have had to come this far. With the traffic like this, it'll take at least an hour to get back."

Ling Chen chuckled and said, "How about we find a place to rest a bit first, and I'll buy you a coffee?"

Chapter 1410 - Carjacker (2)

"Hmph! Do you think everyone has as much free time as you?"

Just as Xia Mutong finished speaking, an urgent voice suddenly came from the police channel on the radio: "Attention all personnel near Jinhai Road, a medical transport vehicle has been hijacked. The driver and staff are in the hands of the hijackers, please proceed immediately for reinforcement. Repeating, all units near Jinhai Road..."

Upon hearing the call for backup on the radio, Xia Mutong immediately picked it up and replied, "This is Xia Mutong, I'm on my way."

After speaking, Xia Mutong swiftly reversed the police car and then turned onto another road. Meanwhile, several other police cars followed suit.

"Jinhai Road..." Ling Chen took out his phone to check the map and found that Jinhai Road was less than two blocks away from their current location, very close indeed.

"Nowadays, there really are all kinds of people, even robbing medical transport vehicles."

Xia Mutong remained silent, eyes fixed on the road ahead, pressing the gas pedal with his right foot, accelerating the car.

"Watch out! Watch out!" Seeing the red light at the intersection ahead and the constant flow of traffic, Ling Chen couldn't help but grab the car handle and loudly remind him.

However, Xia Mutong showed no sign of slowing down, instead, the speed increased. Watching the vehicles at the intersection move toward the center, Ling Chen widened his eyes, his heart pounding.

In just one second, Xia Mutong drove the police car straight through the red light. Fortunately, the other vehicles reacted quickly and braked urgently, otherwise, a severe traffic accident would have happened.

Crossing the intersection, in no time, Ling Chen and Xia Mutong saw the hijacked medical transport vehicle. Around the vehicle, more than a dozen men had gathered. Some were moving boxes of medicine from the transport vehicle to two other vans.

Ling Chen glanced around and immediately locked eyes on the two staff members being held hostage.

With the arrival of the police car, the criminals turned their attention toward them. Ling Chen observed them, eyebrows raising slightly, these people... looked somewhat familiar, as if he'd seen them somewhere before.

That's it! In a flash, Ling Chen recalled and quickly picked up the newspaper beside him. On the front page, there were photos of the criminals who escaped the previous day. No wonder they seemed familiar, these were the ones who escaped yesterday.

Strange!

Why are these people here and hijacking a medical transport vehicle?

"Officer Xia, leave the hostages to me." With that, Ling Chen directly pushed open the car door and quickly charged toward the criminals.

"Courting death!" A burly man wearing a tight vest, muscles bulging, roared and swung a machete toward him.

Ling Chen didn't slow down, acting as if he didn't see the attack. As the machete was about to come down, Ling Chen slightly tilted his body, easily dodging the blow. Simultaneously, his fist flew out, striking hard at the man's abdomen.

In an instant, the man's body flew away like a ball, hitting the ground heavily.

Witnessing Ling Chen's prowess, the other criminals hesitated for a moment, then quickly gathered and surrounded him, intending to take him down together.

As the group slowly approached, a faint smile appeared on Ling Chen's lips. His body suddenly leaned forward, turning into a blur, disappearing from their sight. Before the criminals could pinpoint Ling Chen's location, screams erupted from their midst.

In seconds, the six or seven men around had all been knocked to the ground.

At this point, the men moving the medicine boxes saw this, their expressions changing, abandoning their comrades, and hurriedly jumping into the vans to escape.

However, Xia Mutong had already blocked the vans' path.

"Crash through, run her over," one man shouted loudly.

Watching the two vans quickly driving toward her, Xia Mutong's expression didn't change at all.

When the first van was about to reach her, Xia Mutong suddenly leaped up, kicking through the van's windshield, hitting the driver squarely.

The driver couldn't even struggle before passing out under Xia Mutong's kick.

As the first van came to a halt, the second van couldn't dodge in time and crashed into its rear, the fronts and ends of both vehicles deforming instantly.

This gave Xia Mutong the opportunity to quickly jump from the first van, circle around to the second, and forcibly drag the driver out.

"Captain Xia!" At this point, Xia Mutong's colleagues arrived one by one.

"Arrest them all, and call for reinforcements," Xia Mutong ordered.

"Officer Xia, are you okay?" Ling Chen, with his hands in his pockets, walked over with a smile.

Xia Mutong glanced at Ling Chen, saying, "Thanks for your help this time."

"No need to be polite." Ling Chen looked at the handcuffed criminals being led to the police cars, curiously saying, "What's with these guys? They just escaped yesterday and now they're hijacking in East Sea City. Whoever broke them out surely has a complex motive."

"I know, I'll investigate this thoroughly." As they spoke, a male officer approached, reporting, "Captain Xia, we've captured them, seventeen in total."

Xia Mutong nodded, "That's right, there were seventeen people who escaped yesterday, the numbers match. Bring them all back for a thorough interrogation."

"Yes."

"Officer Xia, if there's nothing else, I'll head back now."

As Ling Chen turned to leave, Xia Mutong immediately called out, "Where do you think you're going? Don't forget you still have unresolved matters."

Ling Chen scratched his nose and said, "Officer Xia, I've made up for my mistakes. Can't you let it go? How about this, I'll treat you to dinner another day."

"Alright, you said it."

Glad that Xia Mutong didn't pursue his mistakes further, Ling Chen thanked her, and after watching the convoy leave, he took a taxi home.

Bam!

In an alley not far from the crime scene, Zhu Hong smashed his coffee cup on the ground, his face livid. Ling Chen, it's Ling Chen again... Zhu Hong gritted his teeth, his eyes blazing with anger.

After all his efforts to gather a team, the entire plan was ruined by Ling Chen. Zhu Hong couldn't fathom how Ling Chen suddenly appeared at that place.

A ghost that won't rest. Now, all the medicines have been taken by the police as evidence. Where on earth will he find more in such a short time?

Thinking of that crucial experiment, Zhu Hong felt utterly despairing.