

Two Trillion 1251

Chapter 1251 - Don't Let the Honest Person Suffer!

Lei Ying and the others had left, but An Zaiyi's group remained in the small conference room.

All of them were restless and uneasy.

The smile Lei Ying gave before leaving was truly "terrifying".

The key is that the information it conveyed was unclear, leading to wild speculation and internal torment.

They didn't specify how they were going to deal with them—sending them back to headquarters, kicking them off the team, or having them wait for their own confession...

Nothing was said, what does this mean!

An Sangyi and the others felt that maybe after a while, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng would come and talk to them alone.

So, they all thought to wait a little longer.

That wait lasted for a whole half hour and then some.

The door to the small conference room stayed silent throughout.

Now, those people began to grow restless.

Because An Zaiyi had "performed well", Officer Lin Yu treated him as the "person in charge" on this side. Hence, everyone immediately pushed him out first.

Since he was the person in charge, he had to take responsibility to find out the situation.

Although An Zaiyi was reluctant, he felt even worse just sitting there doing nothing.

So, carrying the expectations of several people, he stepped out of the small conference room.

After going around outside, An Zaiyi found that the large conference room was already empty.

That was somewhat expected.

An Zaiyi was somewhat prepared for this in his heart.

But it was only after he inquired about Mr. Bai Xiaosheng from a female employee of Shenhe that he was truly taken aback.

The girl looked at him with her big beautiful eyes, seriously and surprisingly said, "Mr. Bai Xiaosheng left early, it's time to get off work now."

Left early...

Off work...

An Zaiyi looked at the time and smirked bitterly.

It's already past eight o'clock in the evening!

He had been anxiously worrying about the situation, completely forgetting about the time and his hunger.

And until now, An Zaiyi didn't feel like eating at all.

He didn't have a clue what Mr. Bai Xiaosheng was thinking or how he planned to deal with them!

An Zaiyi figured he wouldn't taste his food today and would have a sleepless night.

After thanking the young sister, An Zaiyi headed back the way he came.

The others were still waiting in the small conference room. Seeing An Zaiyi return, they hurriedly surrounded him.

"How is it, Boss An, what's the situation outside?"

"Yeah, Old An, we've been waiting another hour, what's the meaning of all this!"

"Is Mr. Bai Xiaosheng... the Great Affairs Officer coming over, or are we supposed to go see him?"

"What did you find out exactly?"

...

Everyone bombarded him with questions as soon as he arrived.

An Zaiyi replied to them all with one sentence.

"I didn't find out anything, don't you see the time, people have gone off work!"

This statement left the remaining few people staring at each other, a thousand words stuck in their throats.

People, off work...

Off work...

"How could they have left!"

"Exactly, we're still here!"

"It's too much, it's simply too much!"

...

The group was indignant.

An Zaiyi said with a cold laugh, laced with mockery and helplessness, leaving his own people speechless once again, "Didn't Assistant Lei Ying tell us to do as we please? We didn't understand and just stupidly waited here!"

As the others stood in silence, they looked at An Zaiyi with a sense of deep resentment.

An Zaiyi silenced them twice over, sporting a mocking expression. Whose side was he on...

He couldn't be a "spy" who had infiltrated our ranks, could he...

"What are you all looking at me like that for!" An Zaiyi grew annoyed at their stares, "Any of you going to find out would've been the same! Don't just stand there! Hurry and discuss what we're going to do next!"

An Zaiyi felt an immense headache thinking about it now.

Mr. Bai Xiaosheng had left them in a baffling predicament.

The current situation relied on guesswork, on imaginings!

That's what was most agonizing.

"First of all, we're definitely exposed! Otherwise, they wouldn't have locked us up here on our own!" someone asserted with certainty.

"That's stating the obvious!" scolded An Zaiyi, rolling his eyes in annoyance.

"They must have had some important arrangements and plans in the large conference room!" another person chimed in.

"That's still stating the obvious!" An Zaiyi rolled his eyes again.

After the two consecutive "nonsense" remarks, the third person didn't dare to speak.

Therefore, everyone looked at An Zaiyi, their eyes all conveying a "You're definitely on their side" kind of expression.

"Can't you guys, offer some constructive suggestions?!" An Zaiyi, looking at these people, said irritably.

Each one usually so cunning, how can they be so stupid now!

The one surnamed Bai just plays his cards unorthodoxly. As long as you think it through, you can always see through him.

Finally, the third person spoke, and it was indeed a constructive suggestion, "How about, we report our situation here, huh?"

His words awakened everyone.

"Exactly, report it!"

"Right, right, after such a big event, we must report it."

"I agree too!"

The crowd echoed repeatedly.

"Report my ass!" An Zaiyi, unable to contain his anger, was almost driven to tears by the stupidity around him, "Report? And say what? That we idiots have been found out? That all the previous good news was useless? Gentlemen, are you trying to be labeled fools and never used again?!"

As An Zaiyi said this, he felt a chill up his spine.

We absolutely cannot report this!

"So you say, what should we do!" the third person said angrily.

An Zaiyi was appointed as the person in charge on this side, not just to act like the big boss.

If you have an idea, then speak up!

"Listen to me, we cannot report this matter yet! Otherwise, we're all finished, and we might never be trusted again in our lives!" An Zaiyi also dropped the pleasantries, looked around at everyone, and warned, "Even if we must report, it cannot be now! We must at least find out what kind of meeting they are holding over at the Great Meeting Room, what's being discussed. Only by finding out this information, and reporting it all together, even if we are all exposed, we can still redeem ourselves for our merits!"

After hearing An Zaiyi's words, the people looked at each other.

Eventually, they couldn't help but nod, "Right, this proposal is correct!"

"But, Officer Lin Yu already knows that today there's 'good news,' we can't just not respond," someone couldn't help but point out.

Suddenly, everyone got tense again.

"You guys don't worry about it, I'll handle it."

"In any case, we must find out within these two days, what exactly is the meeting content in the Great Meeting Room!"

"Also, continue to stir the emotions of others. As long as the dismissals aren't resolved, their anger remains. Even if we're exposed, what evidence does Bai Xiaosheng have! If he dares to drive us away, we'll say we were persecuted by him!"

"Those who harbor resentment will definitely stand on our side!"

An Zaiyi spoke very decisively.

The others nodded one after another.

Indeed, that's the logic!

After making their plans, they quietly left the small meeting room.

Walking along, An Zaiyi held his mobile phone, constantly contemplating his wording.

That evening.

Lin Yu received another "good news" report.

An Zaiyi said that Bai Xiaosheng organized a meeting to discuss ways to stabilize morale. They actively instigated the unrest, leading the Affairs Officer to collectively protest, causing the meeting to lose control for a while...

He made it sound so real.

As for what to do later when it's mentioned that the meeting was a success.

An Zaiyi also had a plan.

By then, he would say that after the disturbance, they were forcibly taken to the small meeting room by Assistant Lei Ying, and suffered a painful ordeal...

That way, he could round out the story...

Half-truths are more credible after all.

Soon, An Zaiyi received a response from Lin Yu, which was a major encouragement for him.

Ordinarily, such responses were incredibly gratifying, but now, An Zaiyi was just annoyed, so he simply stopped looking.

...

Meanwhile.

Bai Xiaosheng was chatting and drinking tea on the hotel room's balcony with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

They were naturally discussing the content of today's meeting and matters related to An Zaiyi and his people.

"Xiaosheng, following your advice, I had those Affairs Officers leave early too; no overtime today, just to rest for the day, and we'll go all out tomorrow," Lin Weiwei said.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded his head.

Today everyone's mood has swung dramatically, it's not good to dive back into work. Better to rest for a day.

"It's just that, are you sure that if we ignore An Zaiyi and his people, they really won't report the incident?" Lin Weiwei was still worried about this.

"Don't worry. As long as we ignore them, not only will An Zaiyi not report on this matter, he will even cover for us," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, "I see right through that person!"

In reality, Red Lotus had helped him analyze the probabilities.

"To say nothing of that, even if he does report and Shen Peishen gets wind of it earlier, what can he do. At most, he'll think of some other malicious scheme. We've already bought the time here, enough to complete the investigation!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a laugh, "As for Li Haofeng, Zheng Honghu and the others, you worry even less. They have isolated and dispatched the spies, dealing with it naturally even better than we have. They've sent me a message, saying that the recruitment event was a complete success."

Hearing this, Lin Weiwei also smiled, clicking her tongue and saying, "Speaking of which, I find it unbelievable that Senior Affairs Officer Li Haofeng would agree to your 'reckless' ideas!"

Lei Ying deeply agreed, nodding along.

"Got to say, old Li is a genuine guy!" Bai Xiaosheng exclaimed, "And those who work with us are all genuine people!"

"Genuine people, honest people!"

"How does that saying go, 'Don't let the honest people suffer!'"

Chapter 1252 - An Zaiyi, Taking Action

The next day, An Zaiyi arrived at the office early. Today, he was the first one.

He was waiting for the second person to come.

Five minutes later, the door to the office opened, and finally, the second person arrived.

It was a chubby middle-aged Affairs Officer, always with a smile on his face.

Seeing that An Zaiyi had already arrived, he paused in surprise before greeting him with a smile, "Officer An, early today, eh?"

"Morning! Wang, you're quite early too!" An Zaiyi responded cheerfully.

As Officer Wang set down his belongings and was about to brew tea, An Zaiyi strolled over, offering his exquisitely delicate canister of tea leaves, enthusiastically saying, "Going to make some tea? I've got some good tea here, try it! It's usually too precious for me to drink!"

Officer Wang glanced at the canister and then at An Zaiyi, accepting it with a beaming smile.

An Zaiyi's treasured tea canister and tea were no secret; according to him, it was a gift from an old classmate.

Officer Wang didn't hold back, putting quite a bit into his teacup.

An Zaiyi watched painedly, suppressing the urge to tell the other party, "That's too much."

This tea, it really was excellent; the few ounces of tea leaves in the canister were worth five thousand yuan!

They were a gift he had received in the past and decided to accept, not from any friend.

In the past couple of years, someone named Bai Xiaosheng had joined the affairs department, stirring up the stagnant waters.

Even the Affairs Officers were frequently under investigation and slipping up; An Zaiyi no longer dared to accept gifts from others.

From this perspective, he quite resented Bai Xiaosheng.

With his supplies dwindling, he usually couldn't bear to drink the tea himself, and when he did, it was only a little.

But now, using it to draw out information was really costing him dearly.

Officer Wang brewed a cup of tea, sniffed its aroma, and praised with a smack of his lips, "This is real good tea! No wonder Officer An usually can't bear to drink it, haha, I won't hold back!"

An Zaiyi felt the pain but maintained a carefree smile on his face.

"Hey, Wang, about those key points discussed in the meeting yesterday, what were they again?" An Zaiyi casually asked as Officer Wang was about to leave.

The chubby Officer Wang, holding his teacup, glanced at An Zaiyi with a smile, "Weren't you at the meeting yesterday?"

"Aiya, yesterday's meeting was so long, over two hours. I've been so tired from work these days, I dozed off at the end and can't quite remember the last few key points." An Zaiyi said offhandedly.

Although he was the first to be called into the small conference room, in full view of everyone, who could say the content was the same on both sides?

An Zaiyi was betting this chubby guy didn't know.

"Oh, is that so." Officer Wang replied regretfully, "I find it even easier to doze off during meetings, it's a problem I've always had at headquarters, you know this, haha. You might want to ask someone else later."

Officer Wang chuckled and turned to leave for his workstation.

"Hey!" An Zaiyi wanted to stop him but then recalled that this plump fellow did seem to have a tendency to nod off during meetings, so it didn't seem like a mistake.

"No, that's not right! Even if he dozed off because he was sleepy, that's normal for meetings. But what kind of meeting was yesterday? How could you sleep through it?!" An Zaiyi wondered, "Besides, even if you didn't catch everything, it's impossible to not remember anything at all."

However, thinking about the "dozing off" excuse stemming from his own words, An Zaiyi almost wanted to slap his own thigh.

It was his own oversight to begin with!

While An Zaiyi was still thinking about how to smooth things over, the office door opened and another Affairs Officer arrived.

That person, seeing An Zaiyi, was also surprised, his gaze flickered, but he eventually nodded with a smile.

An Zaiyi also nodded back with a smile, "Old Zhang, you're quite early."

"Not as early as you." Officer Zhang chuckled and went straight to his station.

His workstation was right next to An Zaiyi's.

Therefore, An Zaiyi gave up on chasing down Wang, the chubby fellow, and turned his attention to Zhang instead.

Officer Zhang, who liked cleanliness, was meticulously wiping his desk with a tissue.

"That tissue is so inconvenient, use mine," offered An Zaiyi fervently, passing over his own small hand towel that he usually used.

"Is it alright?" Officer Zhang asked.

"Why the formality, go ahead and use it!" insisted An Zaiyi decisively.

"Alright then," Officer Zhang said with a simple smile and then bent over to wipe the computer tower.

An Zaiyi's expression immediately turned awkward.

Even if Officer Zhang was scrupulous about cleanliness, with the busy days recently, there hadn't been time to dust, leaving a thin layer of grime on the computer case.

An Zaiyi watched as his white towel turned black.

"Old Zhang, about yesterday, what do you think about the strategies proposed by Senior Affairs Officer Sheng? Should we just accept them?" An Zaiyi inquired in a low voice.

Officer Zhang paused momentarily, then continued as usual, murmuring, "Of course not."

"Where do you think it's not right?"

"None of it is right!"

Officer Zhang with the surname Zhang lifted his head and smiled, handing over the dark towel to An Zaiyi, "Returning it to its rightful owner!"

An Zaiyi eyed the pitiful white towel, his eyelid twitched, and he reluctantly pinched a corner with two fingers to take it.

"So, which parts do you think are no good?" Officer Zhang surprisingly asked back.

How could An Zaiyi have an answer to that.

"I also think, none of them are good!"

"Then tell me!"

"I... I need to wash a towel first." An Zaiyi fled.

As soon as he left and the door closed behind him,

Officer Wang inside lifted his head and exchanged a knowing glance with Officer Zhang, both sneering coldly.

An Zaiyi still wanted to fish for information.

Pfft, that dog!

"We've already greeted each other yesterday, remember not to spill it all and don't let him pry any information out of us. If he wants to play, we'll play along!" Officer Wang said.

Officer Zhang's smile overflowed as he gave an "OK" gesture.

...

An Zaiyi, in the corridor, on his way to the restroom, ran into three officers, some from his office, some not.

An Zaiyi tried every trick in the book to coax information out of them, but the responses he got were either fruitless or ambiguous.

An Zaiyi washed his black as tar white towel in the restroom, pondered for a long time but just couldn't unravel any useful information.

Little did he know, Bai Xiaosheng wasn't in a meeting but had arranged a "job fair"!

Telling this to anyone would sound unbelievable!

Lin Yu would probably be stunned if An Zaiyi tried to report this to him!

After all, the whole situation was just too absurd...

Now, whether touched by Bai Xiaosheng's sincerity or hopeful for a chance to change jobs, the officers all made sure to keep tight-lipped.

With extraordinary determination!

An Zaiyi, the clueless fellow branded as an "inside betrayer", how could he possibly inquire anything useful.

An Zaiyi, frustrated and agitated, rubbed the towel in his hands.

Wash it as he might, black remained black, and it could never become white.

An Zaiyi gave up and threw the white towel directly into the trash can.

Afterward, that morning, An Zaiyi loafed around as usual, wanting to probe someone for information.

Strangely enough, today the officers were hustling, even running to the restroom.

This left An Zaiyi only encountering "idle" companions like himself, also "betrayers."

After exchanging information with each other, they all felt even more confused but also more curious.

What exactly was the meeting in the large conference room about?!

Why did it always seem shrouded in a layer of "mystery"?

"I think we're just not working hard enough! Think about it, we're already almost at the answer; the truth is within reach. Let's redouble our efforts!" An Zaiyi encouraged them.

The others nodded and dispersed.

On his way back, An Zaiyi sent a message to Lin Yu, naturally stating—

"The situation is splendid; the workflow here has entered total chaos, the investigation process severely hindered!"

After sending the message, An Zaiyi arrived in front of his office door and pushed it open.

Then, he froze.

The scene of "officers neglecting work and clustering to commiserate in fear and anger" wasn't unfolding.

The office seemed noisy, yet on closer inspection, they were working.

Busy as bees!

What's going on?!

An Zaiyi was stumped.

"Officer An, you're here," suddenly a pleasant female voice came from behind.

An Zaiyi turned around to find Lin Weiwei smiling at him.

"Assistant Lin, you're looking for me? What's the matter?"

"Of course, I have some important work for you!"

Chapter 1253 - Triumphant Return

"Assistant Lin, you, you said you would arrange work for me!" An Zaiyi looked at Lin Weiwei, somewhat astonished.

What the hell!

They were completely exposed yesterday!

And even locked away in the dark room alone!

A big and burly man, just like in the TV shows, one chop down, "crack" - a table split right in two...

Both sides have already torn each other's faces off.

And you still want to arrange work for me?

How do your brains even work!

An Zaiyi felt it was a little unbelievable.

Lin Weiwei looked at him, calmly nodded, and said, "According to the arrangements from yesterday's meeting, everyone has been assigned new tasks. Naturally, that includes you."

Agreed upon in the meeting yesterday?

An Zaiyi was startled.

The thing is, whatever you guys were saying in the big meeting room yesterday, I had no clue...

Thinking about how he had been busy all morning and didn't manage to pry out any valuable information, An Zaiyi felt a surge of frustration, a deep sense of grievance, and brooding anger.

No matter what the content of yesterday's meeting was, surely, Sir Shen would not give up on punishing those Affairs Officers.

To kill the chicken to show the monkeys, how could it be abandoned halfway!

An Zaiyi thought to himself.

As long as those Affairs Officers have no choice but to leave, the conflict here can't be eased!

Thinking about this unchangeable situation, An Zaiyi suddenly became angry and shouted loudly—

"Then how are we going to solve the issue of us being dismissed by headquarters? The final deadline is tomorrow, no, this afternoon... by this afternoon, we have to complete the handover and prepare to leave!"

"If this problem is not completely resolved for us, we won't do anything!"

"We want to see Senior Affairs Officer Bai Xiaosheng, to protest against him!"

"Senior Affairs Officer Bai Xiaosheng has conflicts with the headquarters, he cannot let us suffer the consequences!"

"You guys say, isn't that right..."

After An Zaiyi yelled and screamed, he suddenly felt awfully lonely.

No one echoed his sentiments.

Turning his head to look, the bunch in the office were just minding their own business, seemingly indifferent to the commotion over here?

An Zaiyi was dumbfounded.

This...

What's going on!

How could these people be so apathetic?

Many of them are about to be fired, to pack up and leave, how can they be indifferent!

How is that possible!

"You said it yourself, everyone wants to solve the problem, and the solution lies within the work itself. So, Officer An, do you want to leave early for disobedience, or do you want to work?" Lin Weiwei said smilingly.

An Zaiyi hesitated.

Now, he was unsure of what to do.

An Zaiyi stood at the doorway, his back turned to the people inside the room.

He didn't see that the Affairs Officers inside were all looking up in his direction, and many of them even flashed a smile towards Lin Weiwei.

Lin Weiwei pretended to ignore it.

Actually, when An Zaiyi went out to wander around and gather information, Lin Weiwei had already arrived.

Although Bai Xiaosheng said there was no need to pay attention to An Zaiyi, after communicating with the Affairs Officers here, everyone agreed that it was better to keep him "busy" rather than letting him be a nuisance like a fly.

Find some of the most tiring and tedious tasks here and dump them on him. With everyone watching, there's no worry he will cause trouble!

Adhering to the principle of not wasting resources, Lin Weiwei adopted this idea.

Now, Lin Weiwei is "threatening" An Zaiyi.

So far, since Shen Peishen hasn't made any moves, it proves that they are not aware of the situation here, and it also proves that An Zaiyi, just as Bai Xiaosheng said, has not reported the situation truthfully.

An Zaiyi still thought about getting the details of the meeting in the big conference room.

Well, then it's easy!

If he chose not to report initially, he has to follow this path to the end!

An Zaiyi can't afford to switch strategies now!

Without obtaining what he wanted, he couldn't possibly give a satisfactory report!

Therefore, Lin Weiwei spoke with firmness.

An Zaiyi opened his mouth, but ultimately, he said nothing.

Looking at his colleagues behind him who were immersed in their work, he felt even more perplexed.

Maybe...

The secret really lies within the work...

Otherwise, I'll just try and see if I can find something out...

An Zaiyi was already beginning to accept this internally.

In fact, he had no other choice.

If he was really sent back early by Bai Xiaosheng, he would lose any chance to redeem himself.

If that happened, once he returned, it would be over for him.

Every time these thoughts crossed his mind, An Zaiyi was filled with anxiety.

He was truly scared.

"Doing the work first is not impossible... But the problem is, Senior Affairs Officer Sheng has to solve our issues, or we won't let this go easily," An Zaiyi said with little confidence.

He was also seeking a way to save face for himself.

Lin Weiwei smiled unapologetically and dumped a thick stack of files into his arms, "Then finish these by tomorrow morning! Once you're done, you'll have your answer."

An Zaiyi browsed through them casually.

All these tasks were dirty and tiring; of course, he was reluctant, but when he looked up, Lin Weiwei had already strode off.

An Zaiyi gritted his teeth with resentment, wishing he could throw everything to the ground.

Just forget it.

"Old An, there's a report in there that's mine, get it done for me this afternoon."

"Oh right, that statement, help me draft it up, I need to use it."

"And mine too, you have to help me with it..."

Suddenly, everyone in the office was issuing orders to An Zaiyi.

The Affairs Officers had made arrangements with Lin Weiwei; everyone in the office was watching An Zaiyi, keeping him so busy he had no time for a bathroom break, ensuring he couldn't sabotage the work.

"What's gotten into all of you, being so active? We're getting fired, and you still want to work!"

An Zaiyi incredulously faced everyone.

"It was clearly stated in yesterday's meeting, don't you remember..."

"Yeah, we all agreed..."

"If you forgot, just start working. Once you're done, I'll fill you in..."

In his confusion, as An Zaiyi looked around at all those faces, he felt even more lost, but also like he was getting closer to the answer.

Didn't someone say, once the work is done, they'll explain the contents of the meeting to him...

Maybe he should just help them out a bit first and gradually get the information out of them!

An Zaiyi thought to himself.

Once he started working, An Zaiyi didn't stop.

One person left, another came over.

Under the urging of everyone, An Zaiyi found himself too busy to attend to the "real work", and by the time he was free, the workday was already over.

The Affairs Officers took their work and marched away, ready for an overnight battle, agreeing to meet the next day.

An Zaiyi was left there, staring blankly at the computer, exhausted to the point of collapse.

Early the next day.

When An Zaiyi arrived, he found that a number of people were missing from the office.

They had been let go according to the company notice...

Their departure was so carefree, without any fuss or hurry, clean and decisive...

An Zaiyi stared wide-eyed, with only one thought in his head: "How could they just leave like that? Without any temper?!"

In the end, another thought emerged in his mind, "What the hell was the content of the general meeting the day before yesterday!"

An Zaiyi desperately "sought the truth", frantically searching for any clues like a lunatic, and just as crazily suppressed the idea of those few people submitting reports.

Having reached this point, he had no choice but to cling to the last thread of hope, running around in desperation.

Sadly, his sincere plea failed to move the heavens.

On the morning of the third day, Bai Xiaosheng and the others submitted all the investigation reports at once, holding the remaining people accountable in one breath.

The investigation here came to a complete end!

The moment An Zaiyi heard this news, he went completely mad.

Over at the headquarters.

Shen Peishen had been extremely busy these last two days, but he did not slacken in his attention to Bai Xiaosheng and the other Senior Affairs Officers, even tasking Lin Yu to keep a close watch.

The news received over the past two days generally pleased Shen Peishen.

Whether it was Bai Xiaosheng, Li Haofeng, Zheng Honghu, or Xu Youruo, their investigations had "stalled", and Lin Yu's reports were coming in one after another.

His loyalists weren't seeking help as frequently anymore.

Over these two days, Shen Peishen believed that very soon, the reputation of Bai Xiaosheng and his group would plummet, completely and utterly.

Then, the news he received was—

All investigations were completed!

Those giddy loyalists were caught in one fell swoop.

It must be said, this was thanks to the Affairs Officers who Bai Xiaosheng had found good new positions for; they had taken back their work, working through the night.

This allowed the investigation to be greatly expedited.

On the morning of the third day, Bai Xiaosheng, Li Haofeng, Zheng Honghu, and Xu Youruo, the four Senior Affairs Officers from all sides, booked their tickets, ready to return in triumph.

At that moment, Lin Yu, who had received the news, went to find her mentor with a grim expression, silently waiting for punishment with her head down.

Exhausted from the paperwork and lifting his head, Shen Peishen was somewhat stunned to learn that in one day, all the remaining loyalists had been "wiped out," his fingers trembling uncontrollably.

To this day, Shen Peishen had lost all his external influences, with only a few people left at the headquarters, unable to support the big picture, and even worse off than some of his allies.

"No, I still have the position of Acting President. I'm far from defeated!" Shen Peishen gritted his teeth.

Even if the mountain of affairs associated with the Acting President could be ignored or delayed, Bai Xiaosheng could not be overlooked.

That kid was the biggest disaster!

"Bai Xiaosheng, I'll be waiting for your return!"

Chapter 1254 - Bai Xiaosheng's Demand

When Lin Yu brought the news, Shen Peishen was sitting in Xiahou Qi's former seat.

After becoming the acting president, Shen Peishen worked in this office.

Not only did he not change the location, but even the layout and furnishings of the room remained largely unchanged. Apart from more cups and decorative items on the desk, everything was exactly the same as when Xiahou Qi was there.

Some said that this was Shen Peishen paying respect to the former leader.

Others said that this showed Shen Peishen's modest and low-key style.

If someone asked him in person, Shen Peishen himself would say that it was more or less for these reasons.

But in fact, Shen Peishen was truly fascinated by everything in this room.

He had been fascinated for decades!

In the past, every time he entered, Shen Peishen would add a bit more desire in his heart, "If I were sitting here, in control of the entire Greater China Region, what a sight it would be!"

After decades of dreaming and longing, he finally achieved his goal in his silver-haired years.

But only when he truly sat at the summit of power did he realize that everything was not as beautiful as he had imagined.

Compared to the "leisure" of a Senior Affairs Officer, being the president was exhausting!

Especially after just taking office.

Every day there was an endless stream of documents needing approval piled on his desk, waiting for him to handle.

There were many situations, many pieces of information he didn't know, which required him to spend the entire night reading, studying, and understanding.

The so-called allies who had helped him climb to this position were always clamoring to divide up the interests.

When the head office sent people to see Xiahou Qi, he also had to take charge of the hospitality, busy all around.

Peers from other continents, on congratulating him in the last two days, would also casually inquire about cooperation with the Greater China Region, and he would have to dig through documents to figure out the situation.

...

In short, Shen Peishen could only sleep four to five hours a day, wishing he could throw his life into his work.

When Xiahou Qi first became president, although the Senior Affairs Officers also had their own schemes, they generally cooperated and assisted with the work.

Now look, Bai Xiaosheng in one breath took away three Senior Affairs Officers and half of the Affairs Officers, tirelessly undermining his position!

Look how thoroughly he's doing it!

Exhausting his mind and body, his "foundation" was being hollowed out.

Even someone as steadfast as Shen Peishen could not help but be "consumed by urgent fury"!

At this moment, having heard the report from Lin Yu, Shen Peishen's eyes reddened, and his anger grew worse the more he thought about it.

He had originally planned to deal with Bai Xiaosheng when he came back, but now, Shen Peishen changed his mind, slamming the table, "I want to fire him, now, immediately, right away!"

Even if Bai Xiaosheng is a Senior Affairs Officer, he is still the president!

That's how it will be done, fire him!

Regardless of the consequences, it shall be done!

It was rare for Shen Peishen to be so impulsive, but now he truly was.

This impulse was probably also related to the recent hard work and emotional stress.

"Old Shen, restrain yourself!" Fang Beijun, who had been sitting on the side, drinking tea silently, suddenly said.

Shen Peishen looked at him furiously, "Do I, as the president of the Greater China Region, not even have the power to deal with a subordinate?"

"Of course, you do."

Fang Beijun said calmly and seriously looked Shen Peishen in the eye.

"But first, you need to get rid of that 'acting' title to have that authority!"

"You see, as the acting president, to put it nicely, you're just a high-level temp. Do you understand temp? It's different from a permanent position. Not only can you be used as a scapegoat, you can also be replaced at any time!"

Fang Beijun smiled, his expression cold.

"You should never think that the president of the Greater China Region must be chosen from within the region itself. If that's the criterion, the position would definitely be Shen Peishen's!"

"The key point is that the head office can also appoint someone else to assume the position in the Greater China Region! You're not the only option!"

"Do you want all your efforts to be in vain?"

Fang Beijun's words, like a sword of ice, pierced through Shen Peishen's heart that was thundering with rage, rapidly cooling it down.

"Don't keep giving those who covet your position an excuse!" Fang Beijun took a sip of tea, his head lowered.

Shen Peishen's eyes narrowed, and he fell silent.

Lin Yu's expression also became grave.

"Lately, you've been a bit too active on your side. Ninety Affairs Officers got laid off? Even for an acting president like you, they're small fry, but little by little, quantitative changes can lead to qualitative changes!" Fang Beijun said leisurely after sipping his tea.

"Punishing a few people and causing a group to lose faith in Bai Xiaosheng, you knew about this, and even agreed to it!" Shen Peishen glared at Fang Beijun and said in a low voice.

"Yes, I know, but times change. I didn't expect you to act against so many at once, and moreover, someone from the upper management asked about it."

Fang Beijun shrugged, in no way willing to take responsibility for this matter, "And look, what have you achieved with your actions?"

"Bai Xiaosheng is still Bai Xiaosheng, and you don't even know how he turned things around. What news have those people you planted got!"

"A series of triumphant reports, right? Great, and then at the last moment, you let the situation get reversed?! If you make a wrong move in chess, don't dwell on it, just move on quickly!"

Fang Beijun said earnestly, "And Old Shen, haven't you neglected something important, something fatal?"

"What do you mean..." Shen Peishen said.

Then his eyes narrowed, he thought of it!

"You thought of it, right!" Fang Beijun said heavily, "The inspection team from the head office still exists!"

"Although they have been quiet in the Greater China Region these past two years due to the tug-of-war at the top, even disappearing from view, they have always been around!"

Chapter 1255 - Bai Xiaosheng's Demand_2

"Everything that happens here, I believe they will all see some of it, and report it to some big shot at headquarters!"

"Even back when Mr. Xiahou Qi clashed with you constantly, he couldn't easily move against a Senior Affairs Officer!"

"You, as an acting CEO, want to dismiss a Senior Affairs Officer just by saying the word? What's the reason?"

"My Shen Peishen, acting CEO, you don't have the power to cover the sky with one hand yet!"

Fang Beijun's reminder allowed Shen Peishen to completely calm down.

Lin Yu couldn't help swallowing hard.

In the office, competition at the higher levels is truly like palace intrigue.

You wish the other party dead but can't be too "clean and decisive."

The one with greater power ends up being more restricted.

"So, what do you suggest we do..." Shen Peishen asked.

"This time, let's not be so thrilling; there will be other days," Fang Beijun said with a smile.

Shen Peishen kept silent, while Fang Beijun watched him calmly.

After a long while, Shen Peishen finally exhaled a heavy breath, "Then this time, I'll listen to you..."

Shen Peishen, whose corners had been undercut by Bai Xiaosheng, finally swallowed his anger for the moment.

Just then, the office door was knocked twice.

Following that, Cheng Liu entered with a report in hand, "Sir Shen, just received this application... it's from Bai Xiaosheng!"

"Oh?" Shen Peishen's eyes narrowed, "Bring it here, let me see!"

Fang Beijun and Lin Yu were also slightly surprised.

An application from Bai Xiaosheng?

What application?

Cheng Liu walked over and handed the document to Shen Peishen.

It was two pages long.

Shen Peishen took it and quickly browsed through it, his expression immediately turning somewhat shocked and angry.

"He actually itemized such detailed entries, asking for rewards!" Shen Peishen was incredulous.

After looking at the first page, Shen Peishen handed it to Fang Beijun and looked at the next page.

Fang Beijun gave it a brief glance.

It was Bai Xiaosheng's request for various rewards for the Affairs Officers involved in the investigation.

The list of people requesting rewards covered everyone, including those brought by Li Haofeng, Zheng Honghu, and Xu Youruo.

Fang Beijun casually passed it to Lin Yu.

After taking a look, Lin Yu frowned and said, "Bai Xiaosheng is seeking rewards on behalf of those Affairs Officers. If we give out exactly what he asks for, wouldn't Bai Xiaosheng have sold these people a favor?"

"So what do you suggest, not to give, or to give less?" Fang Beijun asked with a smile, "I believe Bai Xiaosheng has already notified those people."

"If you grant the full reward, it's Bai Xiaosheng who has sold them a favor."

"If you don't give it, guess who these people will resent? Will they resent Bai Xiaosheng, who asked for their rewards, or will they resent us for not giving it?"

"Even if you don't give enough, their discontent will fall on us, and they'll become even closer to Bai Xiaosheng instead."

After Fang Beijun said this, Lin Yu was momentarily at a loss for words.

"Although I don't know how Bai Xiaosheng solved this problem, letting those dismissed Affairs Officers leave peacefully, this time, he has given us a multiple-choice question. If we do as he requests, we help him to consolidate people's hearts. If we don't handle it that way, we push people to the opposing side," Fang Beijun sighed lightly, "Smart play."

"It's his. Damned. Smart play!"

Suddenly infuriated, Shen Peishen slammed the paper onto the table and gritted his teeth, "It's bad enough to give out rewards!"

"He even wants me to make a big scene welcoming them back; that's just too much!"

Shen Peishen was furious.

Fang Beijun looked surprised, picked up the paper Shen Peishen had slammed onto the table, and read the content.

Bai Xiaosheng's original words were polite enough, simply stating that by the order of Mr. Xiahou Qi, everyone had gone to various provinces and cities for teamwork and investigation, achieving significant results, with everyone uplifted and setting an example for the Affairs Department. He hoped that the headquarters could organize a welcome ceremony, and it would be best if acting CEO Shen Peishen could personally attend. The location of the welcome ceremony could be at the outside plaza of the headquarters building...

Reading this, Fang Beijun chuckled.

Bai Xiaosheng's request, for the current Shen Peishen...

Was really...

Thrilling...

"As for how to handle this matter, I won't make any suggestions. Whether to refuse or to accept, that's up to you. If you ask me, since you have to curry favor anyway, the headquarters might as well curry a big favor with these people. You, Sir Shen, can decide for yourself, I'll take my leave," Fang Beijun said, picking up his teacup and walking away.

Fang Beijun said he wasn't giving advice, but his last sentence clearly suggested they run the welcome ceremony.

After all, this major investigation was commissioned by Mr. Xiahou Qi before he fell ill.

This fact, presumably, is well known to everyone.

As the acting CEO, Shen Peishen has always crafted an image of respecting the senior leadership, whether in his choice of office location or his frequent visits to see Xiahou Qi; regardless, he had already shown the appropriate gestures.

Once he had created this image for others to see, he couldn't easily break it!

Shen Peishen also realized this and abruptly let out a thick exhalation from his nostrils.

Bai Xiaosheng, this little bastard, is full of schemes!

In comparison, his own most valued student, although his thoughts had changed and he had sided with him, was still far from meeting his expectations...

Shen Peishen glanced unintentionally at Lin Yu.

From the teacher's look, Lin Yu instantly felt an immense pressure...

...

On a high-speed train from Nanyu to Linshen.

Bai Xiaosheng and his group had booked a business compartment in advance, to be used by these hard-working Affairs Officers, except for An Zaiyi and a few others.

As for how An Zaiyi and his cohorts would get back without tickets, that was their own problem...

Chapter 1256 - Bai Xiaosheng's Demand_3

Before them, the Affairs Officers were truly exhausted, each of them deeply asleep in the vehicle.

Lin Weiwei was sitting next to Bai Xiaosheng, lowering her voice to a whisper audible only to the two of them, she asked, "Xiaosheng, do you really think Shen Peishen will approve your celebration request?"

"I guess he will, what do you think?" Bai Xiaosheng said humorously.

After thinking for a moment, Lin Weiwei smiled and said, "He should, after all, such great achievements should be made known to everyone. There's no reason not to reward everyone accordingly. Otherwise, it's very difficult to silence public opinion."

Lin Weiwei continued, "Just that, the part about the welcoming ceremony, and having Shen Peishen personally greet us... That's..."

"I don't think he will agree!"

If Shen Peishen attends, does it mean that he acknowledges this investigation? Then, what about the punishment he previously levied on those Affairs Officers who were sent on the investigation? It would be hard to justify!

It's difficult to reconcile!

If he doesn't attend but still rewards them, it is an affirmation of this operation, and with verifiable merits, it would also make his previous punishments hard to explain.

Lin Weiwei was actually starting to worry about Shen Peishen.

"If Shen Peishen really comes to greet us, he will inevitably meet Xiaosheng. What would their conversation be like at that time!"

"Surely, they won't confront each other in public, but it will likely be a battle of words, full of tension..."

For some reason, Lin Weiwei was even a little excited about it.

Perhaps she believed that Xiaosheng had never been at a disadvantage in such matters...

Bai Xiaosheng closed his eyes to rest, looking serene.

...

The high-speed train sped on, and by noon, they had arrived in Linshen.

Under the leadership of Bai Xiaosheng, the triumphant team returned in great numbers.

Indeed, many among them were missing, having been dismissed by the headquarters.

But those who were missing were the ones envied by everyone in this team.

Although the remaining officers didn't get the "second chance in life," their victorious return ensured that rewards were due according to regulations, so everyone's mood appeared to be good.

The vehicles sent by the headquarters to pick them up had already arrived outside the train station.

A fleet of black business MPVs, and Bai Xiaosheng's sedan, came with a dedicated car and driver.

However, after Bai Xiaosheng got there, he replaced the driver with Lei Ying, and when the convoy set off, his car was at the very back.

It bore the hint of a general bringing up the rear.

The convoy, like a dragon, headed straight for the headquarters.

Upon reaching an intersection, Bai Xiaosheng directly told Lei Ying, "Don't go left, turn right!"

He actually wanted to break away from the main group.

Though curious, Lei Ying still quietly left the convoy as instructed.

Lin Weiwei, curious, asked Xiaosheng, "Brother Xiaosheng, where are we going if not to the headquarters?"

The people who came to pick them up had already said that the headquarters really had banners up, flowers arranged, and a welcoming ceremony prepared downstairs at the big building, and that Shen Peishen was indeed there waiting to greet them.

Now, Bai Xiaosheng was not going?

"What should we do first upon returning to Linshen?" Bai Xiaosheng said calmly, "Go to the hospital, see Elder Xia!"

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying suddenly realized.

"That's proper!"

"Yes, the right thing to do!"

The two of them responded in succession.

Bai Xiaosheng silently gazed out the window.

They say Elder Xia's condition has stabilized for now...

They say Elder Xia is still in a coma...

They say, such a coma could last a day, a month, a year, or even a lifetime...

Lin Ke and Feng Li would go there every day.

...

The grand convoy arrived at the headquarters building, where the Affairs Officers disembarked one after another, greeted by the festive scene before them, and couldn't help but smile.

Coming toward them was a group of people.

Surrounded by a throng of stars, Shen Peishen walked over with a genial smile on his face.

Had they not experienced the misfortune of possible dismissal, these just disembarked Affairs Officers would indeed feel the spring-like care from their leader.

At that moment, everyone maintained a polite and properly distanced smile.

"Where is Xiaosheng, the Senior Affairs Officer? Where is he?" Shen Peishen asked cordially and cheerfully.

Everyone hurriedly looked around.

However, after a search, they found that he was not there!

"Sir Shen, the Senior Affairs Officer Xiaosheng told me to pass on a message to you, he said that he is concerned about Mr. Xia and has no desire to enjoy this jubilant atmosphere, so everyone doesn't need to wait for him..." said the driver originally assigned to Bai Xiaosheng's car, timidly.

Shen Peishen was stunned for a moment.

He had just been stood up by Bai Xiaosheng!

Was this a public snub, a humiliation?!

Under everyone's gaze, Shen Peishen laughed heartily and said, "That's right, that's right, in fact, you ought to visit Elder Xia first. But Elder Xia needs rest and cannot be disturbed. Well, shall we continue here?"

With the leader's voice, the welcome ceremony naturally continued.

Only, Lin Yu, standing beside Shen Peishen, saw his teacher's hand clenched into a fist, the veins popping out, and being so close, heard that voice he usually admired utter, in an untimely manner in public, an exceedingly vulgar curse—

"Motherf*cker."

Chapter 1257 - Elder Xia, Are You Awake?

An Gong Hospital is the best comprehensive hospital in Linshen and ranks within the top ten nationwide.

Xiahou Qi is in the special care ward of the West District at An Gong Hospital.

Bai Xiaosheng and his group parked their car in the underground parking lot of An Gong Hospital and followed the address sent by Lin Ke and Feng Li.

The hospital originally was a top-tier public hospital, but now, its main operations are limited to the East District.

After capital infusion, the West District was developed into a high-level special care ward area and a recuperation area, resembling a serene villa community.

There, under the shade of green trees, the scenery is picturesque and elegant, with each ward section consisting of delicately constructed small buildings.

On the green paths, patients in hospital clothes, none of low status, walked with their family members.

Bai Xiaosheng's group, with no time to enjoy the scenery, hurried toward the building where Xiahou Qi resided.

As they reached the building, Bai Xiaosheng was just about to turn in when Lin Weiwei tugged at his sleeve.

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Lin Weiwei puzzlingly as she gestured towards another direction.

Bai Xiaosheng looked over, and his gaze immediately sharpened.

There, a person was also running towards them, carrying things, his forehead glistening with sweat.

From a distance, that person also saw Bai Xiaosheng and burst into a big smile.

Getting closer, the person hurriedly greeted Bai Xiaosheng with a smile, "Sheng, you're back!"

"Yeah, I'm back!" Bai Xiaosheng's eyes brightened, and he smiled, "Brother Wang, long time no see!"

The comer was none other than Xiahou Qi's assistant, Wang Mubei!

"Indeed, it has been a long time." Wang Mubei laughed with the trio, "You just got off the car and came to see Elder Xia, let's go together. I thought you would come later."

Bai Xiaosheng, grinning, didn't help Wang Mubei with the items but walked alongside him into the building, chatting, "How could I be so heartless!"

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying silently followed behind Bai Xiaosheng.

Outside this building, many patients moved to and fro.

However, once inside, it was quite quiet.

Wang Mubei led them straight to the elevator.

Midway, Bai Xiaosheng gently patted Wang Mubei's shoulder, smiling and pointing at a corner, "Brother Wang, don't rush. Let's go over there, I want to talk to you for a moment."

Wang Mubei hesitated, starting to speak but eventually nodded and walked over.

Bai Xiaosheng waved his hand.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying stayed where they were.

Reaching the secluded corner, Wang Mubei turned around with a smile, "Sheng, you wanted to talk to me about..."

Wang Mubei couldn't finish his sentence as he was hit with a heavy punch in the abdomen.

The punch was fierce, ruthless, and powerful!

Caught off guard, Wang Mubei staggered back several steps, the items in his hand scattering on the ground.

His expression instantly turned extremely painful, so much that his face contorted.

"This punch is for Sir Shen!"

"Wang Mubei, you ingrate!"

"To think Sir Shen trusted you so much, and yet you repay his kindness with betrayal, worse than a beast!"

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes were fierce as he squeezed out these words through clenched teeth.

He approached Wang Mubei, "Did you think I knew nothing just because I was away? Huh! And you still acted normal, talking and laughing with me?!"

Wang Mubei painfully gasped, one hand pressed against his abdomen unable to straighten up, the other hand raised as if to stop Bai Xiaosheng and ask for a pause.

"Look at me!" Bai Xiaosheng ordered.

Wang Mubei gasped, struggling to raise his head.

Bai Xiaosheng's second punch hit him directly in the face, knocking Wang Mubei to the ground.

"This one is for myself!"

"It's disgraceful how I was fooled into thinking well of you!" Bai Xiaosheng angrily said.

Yu Ying had revealed to him that Wang Mubei betrayed Xiahou Qi, angering him to the point of spitting blood, which shocked and enraged Bai Xiaosheng.

His ability to read people's minds and emotions is strong.

Yet, he is unable to see through people's hearts!

Human nature is perhaps the most fickle thing in the world!

Until the final critical moment, you will never know whether the so-called allies will stab you in the back to save themselves!

Each heavier punch from Bai Xiaosheng represented how deeply disappointed he felt.

Wang Mubei was once a person he genuinely wanted to befriend, yet he unexpectedly did such a "reward pleases the foe, hurts the friend" action.

After throwing two punches, Bai Xiaosheng felt both the exhilaration of venting his anger and a deep sense of loss.

Across, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying stood unmoved and silent, showing no pity for the betrayer!

Bai Xiaosheng coldly looked at Wang Mubei, who was curled up like a shrimp, holding his abdomen, his head touching the ground, and spoke in a cold, emotionless voice, "Resign on your own in two days!"

"Otherwise, I will spare no expense to deal with you first!"

Bai Xiaosheng's voice was harsh, his expression ferocious.

"Ha!"

Wang Mubei on the ground suddenly laughed out loud, subsequently coughing which altered his laughter, yet he continued to laugh.

"Are you challenging me?"

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze was icy as he looked at the person on the ground.

Wang Mubei, with a swollen face and blood trickling from his mouth, strangely appeared pleased, "Elder Xia wasn't wrong about you!"

"But he was wrong about you!"

As soon as Xiahou Qi was mentioned, Bai Xiaosheng became uncontrollably angry and even lifted his foot to kick the scoundrel.

"Stop!"

Suddenly, a loud shout came.

Bai Xiaosheng paused and looked over, frowning.

The voice was very familiar.

Chapter 1258 - Elder Xia, are you awake?!_2

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying turned around as well.

Suddenly, a woman rushed from behind them, passing directly between Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, and ran to Bai Xiaosheng's side.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes narrowed slightly in surprise, "Yu Ying!"

The newcomer was the "Information Trafficker" from the Greater China Region Headquarters, Yu Ying.

Yu Ying hurriedly helped Wang Mubei up, frowning as she spoke to Bai Xiaosheng, "Why are you beating someone here and so severely at that!"

"This is none of your business!" Bai Xiaosheng said indifferently, then added with a hint of sarcasm, "What brings you here? Shouldn't you be with Shen Peishen and his people at this time? What happened, did they turn their backs on you, or did you suddenly develop a conscience and decided to come see your old leader!"

After saying this, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly felt it was inappropriate.

Initially, his relationship with Yu Ying was purely an intelligence cooperation. However, as soon as Elder Xia encountered trouble, Yu Ying was the first to inform him of the news and process without even asking for an intelligence fee; she didn't treat it like a transaction.

Bai Xiaosheng was indeed very grateful to her.

Thus, mocking Yu Ying was inappropriate at this time.

Bai Xiaosheng sighed, took a step back, "That said, I owe you a favor. Fine, if you think I shouldn't be hitting him here, then out of respect for you! Here, I won't touch him any further!"

Hearing Bai Xiaosheng say this, Yu Ying bit her tongue but finally scoffed angrily, "Then I must thank you for that!"

"No need." Bai Xiaosheng responded flatly.

Yu Ying laughed sarcastically, "It's all for Elder Xia, shall I take Wang Mubei away then, will you give me that respect?"

Bai Xiaosheng remained silent.

Ignoring him, Yu Ying picked up Wang Mubei's scattered belongings from the ground and helped him walk out.

Wang Mubei had a bruised and swollen face, but he still smiled when he looked at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes cooled, wanting to stop Yu Ying, but ultimately he just exhaled heavily.

"Let's say I owe this woman!" Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself, "Once upstairs, Lin Ke and Feng Li will also stop Wang Mubei, I guess I will give Yu Ying this favor."

Bai Xiaosheng did not stop them further.

His non-resistance meant that Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also did not take any action, but watched indifferently as Yu Ying and Wang Mubei passed between them.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others followed from a distance.

Once they reached the elevator area, everyone was forced to take another ride.

The atmosphere inside the elevator was silent, heavy, and oppressive.

Yu Ying pulled out tissues for Wang Mubei, even personally wiping for him.

Bai Xiaosheng watched, full of confusion.

When did these two become so close!

Even Bai Xiaosheng couldn't figure it out.

The elevator "dinged" as they reached the floor, the doors opened, and someone was waiting outside.

It was actually Feng Li.

"Bai Xiaosheng, you're back!" Feng Li was overjoyed to see Bai Xiaosheng.

Then, she saw the bruised and swollen Wang Mubei and was immediately startled, "What happened here!"

"It was him who hit him!" Yu Ying sourly pointed at Bai Xiaosheng.

Feng Li couldn't help but look towards Bai Xiaosheng.

"How is Elder Xia?!" Bai Xiaosheng ignored Yu Ying's accusation and directly asked Feng Li.

"The situation is still okay. Come on, I'll take you there." Feng Li said.

Hearing this, Bai Xiaosheng felt a bit relieved.

Feng Li noticed Yu Ying holding things and still supporting Wang Mubei, so she took those items from her hands.

Feng Li's nature was gentle, even if Wang Mubei had betrayed Xiahou Qi, she could still suppress her anger.

That aspect, she is stronger than me! Bai Xiaosheng silently admired.

But if a person has no spirit, can they still be called human! Bai Xiaosheng secretly thought.

Feng Li led the way, followed by Bai Xiaosheng, then Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

Yu Ying, supporting Wang Mubei, lingered at the back of the line.

The group walked along a corridor to the end, where there was a room.

"You guys go in, I will stay at the elevator entrance. Just in case Shen Peishen and his group come again, it's better to be aware." Feng Li said.

Aware of what?

Afraid it would affect Elder Xia?

Bai Xiaosheng did not ponder deeply, replying to Feng Li, "Is it still necessary? Shen Peishen is currently at the headquarters for a welcoming ceremony, he won't have time to come here."

"But what if he brings those newly returned Affairs Officers under the guise of visiting Elder Xia, to disturb Elder Xia's rest? Moreover, by showing those officers Elder Xia's current state, he can silently threaten them. Do you think he wouldn't do that?" Feng Li argued.

That made sense.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, no longer trying to dissuade her.

"To think a Senior Affairs Officer can run circles around the acting president, I didn't believe it before, now even a young woman like me admires it." Yu Ying mockingly jested from behind at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng ignored her.

Feng Li handed the items she was holding to Lin Weiwei, who was initially reluctant to touch anything brought by Wang Mubei, but out of respect for Feng Li, she pinched her nose and took them.

After Feng Li left, Bai Xiaosheng gently pushed open the door of the room and led the way in.

The room was a suite; entering it led to a living room, neat and tidy.

If not for the faint smell of disinfectant, it almost made one think it was a high-end hotel.

In one corner of the living room, a little Lolita was holding a smartphone and playing.

Hearing the noise, she couldn't help but look up, saying as she did, "Feng Li, you're back so soo..."

Then, seeing Bai Xiaosheng coming in, she paused, and then her face lit up with a surprised smile, "Sheng! You're back!"

Lin Ke.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, looking at the girl who was spirited and in good spirits.

Before he could speak, Lin Ke's mouth was already chattering like a machine gun.

Chapter 1259 - Elder Xia, are you awake?_3

"I heard about your actions in Nanyu, impressive! You even left Shen Peishen's side helpless!"

"Actually, when Shen Peishen and his team issued those penalties to the Affairs Officers, I was very worried, thinking you couldn't handle it."

"We even thought about sending you a good strategy to save you from being at your wit's end, but to our surprise, you organized a recruitment event that firmly won people's hearts. You really don't play by the rules."

"You know, when we figured out what happened, our jaws dropped."

"Hey, do all those big companies have your close buddies? How else could they cooperate the moment you called them?"

"This method solved the problem indeed, but it also caused us to lose a lot of talent. However, making Shen Peishen widely criticized and seen as disloyal and unethical, it was worth it."

"Also, remember, if headquarters still needs those Affairs Officers in the future, your friends had better release them!"

"After all, they are talents painstakingly nurtured by our Greater China Region. If they all leave, it really breaks my heart!"

Lin Ke is "unrestrained" and talks incessantly.

It's not surprising she knows about these things, although Bai Xiaosheng never told her, he mentioned it to Feng Li, because Feng Li is more reliable.

But who would have expected the reliable Feng Li to actually spill the beans to the unreliable Lin Ke.

Right now, Lin Ke has spilled everything in one breath.

Bai Xiaosheng is also startled and can't help but look back to see if someone who shouldn't be there heard something they shouldn't have.

This caused Bai Xiaosheng great regret.

Yu Ying and Wang Mubei, two untrustworthy people, have already been let in and probably heard every word of Lin Ke's.

Bai Xiaosheng sighs helplessly inside.

Although Lin Ke is usually outspoken, she isn't usually this unreliable. What's with her behavior now, has she been shocked by Elder Xia's incident?

Seeing that those two have come in as well and keep talking recklessly.

Now Yu Ying and Wang Mubei know as well.

And I can't just silence them...

After feeling helpless, Bai Xiaosheng doesn't care anymore.

Sooner or later Shen Peishen will find out, would I be afraid?

But I still need to talk to Lin Yu.

Bai Xiaosheng looks at Lin Ke with a mild reproach, "Why are you outside, not looking after Elder Xia inside? What if the elder wakes up?"

Lin Ke immediately makes a silly face.

Bai Xiaosheng looks inward with a heavy expression, "I rushed over as soon as I got out of the car! In fact, when Elder Xia fell ill, I should have come immediately! It's just, had I moved at that time, the situation would collapse, and Elder Xia's careful plans would have gone down the drain!"

"Therefore, not only did I not return, but I also persuaded Li Haofeng, Zheng Honghu, Xu Youruo to stay!"

"In this matter, considering the whole situation rationally, I did nothing wrong."

"But, I still feel guilty towards Elder Xia!" Bai Xiaosheng's face was full of deep sadness, "The one I have let down, is Elder Xia alone!"

In the room, everyone is silent.

The deeply emotional words of Bai Xiaosheng touched everyone.

"Elder Xia would be moved if he heard this. Moreover, he won't blame your decision. If you hadn't done that, would you still be called Bai Xiaosheng? Wouldn't that really disappoint him?" Lin Ke spoke softly.

Bai Xiaosheng, with a melancholy expression, shook his head, "It was my desire to win being too strong, my excessive youthfulness. I thought I really seized Shen Peishen's weakness, aiming for a blitz, but who knew Shen Peishen intentionally exposed his vulnerability, then directly targeted our king."

"If I could choose again, I'd rather not have that chance! I just wish Elder Xia could be completely healthy!"

"The medical care here is very advanced, but not the best for Elder Xia's condition! This time, I came to try to help Elder Xia transfer hospitals, to do everything possible to aid him in recovery. Otherwise, I won't be at peace for the rest of my life." Bai Xiaosheng said with intense sincerity and a grave expression.

Lin Ke looked at Bai Xiaosheng, smiling relaxedly and giving a thumbs up.

Knowing Bai Xiaosheng, she feels, is truly good!

"Is it that serious? Well, for the sake of your peace of mind, I must also get better quickly."

A humorous voice suddenly sounded.

Upon hearing this voice, Bai Xiaosheng was first startled, then his face showed disbelief.

He looked over.

From the inner room rolled out a wheelchair, Xiahou Qi was sitting on it, smiling at him.

Looking spirited!

Bai Xiaosheng was dumbfounded.

Elder Xia, awake?!

When did he wake up?!

Chapter 1260 - No One Else But You Can Handle This!

"Elder Xia, you!" Bai Xiaosheng exclaimed in surprise, scrutinizing Xiahou Qi's complexion.

The old man's face was withered yellow and waxen white, genuinely looking like someone gravely ill.

But the brightness and vitality in his eyes were very much alive and kicking.

"These days, I've been getting good rest, my eyes are much brighter," said Xiahou Qi, laughing heartily as Bai Xiaosheng paid attention, and even pointing at his own face, "Look at this complexion, but don't let it fool you, this is a 'painted wall' done by Lin Ke."

"What 'painted wall', this is called makeup," Lin Ke corrected with a pout, dissatisfied.

"Alright, alright, it's called makeup, makeup!" Xiahou Qi placated with repeated assurances, still laughing.

Lin Ke inspected Elder Xia's complexion with pride, "Don't underestimate me for loving my bare face, I'm actually a master at this!"

Bai Xiaosheng listened in silence.

But now, he really understood!

Behind him, Lin Weiwei, Lei Ying also got it!

Elder Xia, was indeed feigning illness!

"Are you really alright?!" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but ask, "I've examined you. Given your condition, if you overexerted yourself so many days in a row, my medicine wouldn't be that effective! You should've... collapsed..."

Xiahou Qi smiled and explained, "My current attending doctor here is an old friend who has just returned from abroad. He brought back some special medication from overseas targeting my condition, which greatly alleviates my pain. But his diagnosis is the same as yours, the only way for me to be completely free of this illness is to step down."

Xiahou Qi said with a smile, "When you get old and feeble, even if you don't want to step down, your body won't agree."

With this, Bai Xiaosheng's doubt was resolved.

In the midst of their talk, Xiahou Qi looked at Wang Mubei, "How did you get hurt like this, it was Sheng who hit you, right? You didn't explain at the time."

"He didn't give me a chance to explain. Besides, even if I did, would he have believed it? It's important for you to take the lead," Wang Mubei responded.

Hearing the two of them talk like this, Bai Xiaosheng immediately looked at Wang Mubei, his eyes narrowing.

Elder Xia could feign illness.

So could Wang Mubei be pretending to betray them?!

The answer, now it seems, is affirmative!

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng looking over, Wang Mubei instantly grinned and smiled.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also looked over, their expressions shocked.

If it was not clear before, they should understand it now from what Elder Xia meant.

Wang Mubei did not betray them, he is still one of their own!

Everything was just a show put on for Shen Peishen and his people!

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Wang Mubei's swollen face and felt a surge of guilt.

Those punches had truly been fierce; he had not held back at all!

"Brother Wang..." Bai Xiaosheng said, embarrassed to speak.

Wang Mubei made a "stop" gesture with his hand.

"Say nothing, we're all family here! Plus, those punches of yours, I admire them!"

Wang Mubei grinned and gave a thumbs-up.

"You, Bai Xiaosheng, just need to know that while I, Wang Mubei, may not be a man of iron, I do have a spine!"

Bai Xiaosheng felt even more embarrassed.

"Actually, with this injury, it's even better. At least, it fits the narrative 'I betrayed Elder Xia, and you vented your anger when you came back', so Shen Peishen won't suspect that I was faking," Wang Mubei reassured him.

This reasoning, indeed, made sense.

With this understanding, Bai Xiaosheng felt slightly more at ease.

"If it weren't for Mubei playing along with me, it wouldn't have been so convincing, convincing enough to deceive Old Shen," Xiahou Qi said with a laugh.

"Actually, from the beginning, when Old Shen made a move, I knew what he was up to!"

"After all, we are all old foxes, having been around each other for so long, who doesn't know the tricks of the others?"

"At that time, I really wanted to resist. But coincidentally, my friend returned from abroad, visited me, treated me, and recommended the special medicine. At the same time, Mubei was being threatened privately by Old Shen's men."

"That's when I changed my mind. Even if I resisted, I wouldn't be able to hold on for long. Instead of resisting openly, it's better to deceive the deceiver, retreating in order to advance, moving in secret! Find another way to restrain Old Shen!"

"He wants my position, then I'll give it to him! President of the Greater China Region, hehe, something he's aspired to for decades, now attained in one fell swoop. He'll be so pleased he'll lose his grounding. Besides, I know how tough that position is!"

"Starting the new position, with pressures from all sides, will drain Shen Peishen's last bit of energy. His status as the president, in many respects, is actually less free than being a Senior Affairs Officer, subjected to even more constraints!"

"If Old Shen doesn't tackle you himself, I don't believe there's anyone else who could suppress you, Bai Xiaosheng!"

Xiahou Qi's words represented tremendous trust and faith in Bai Xiaosheng.

This expectation even surpassed that for Li Haofeng, Zheng Honghu and others.

Wang Mubei and Lin Ke looked at Bai Xiaosheng with intense gazes.

They knew, they believed!

Bai Xiaosheng was worthy of this expectation!

To prevent Li Haofeng and others from returning, to unite the Affairs Officers into one force, not falling behind in the slightest in the contest with Shen Peishen's side!

Even frequently gaining the upper hand!

"Just, I never expected that Lin Yu would turn out like that, setting up a poisonous scheme for Shen Peishen, using the dismissal of a large number of Affairs Officers as a means to create a rift amongst our people," Xiahou Qi lamented.

Lin Yu, once a role model among the Affairs Officers and a student of Shen Peishen, had also been looked upon favorably by Xiahou Qi, who had intended to support him strongly.

But who would have thought, in just two or three years, Lin Yu would undergo such a drastic change.