

Two Trillion 1311

Chapter 1311 - The Cooked Duck Just Flew Away?_2

Why bother thinking so much, whether this purple clay teapot is that woman's liking, or their purpose for the trip.

Right now, this is his turf, and he's determined to own this prestige!

Moreover, with that purple clay teapot, there's a chance to interact with that woman, isn't the goal achieved? What's the use of pondering so meticulously?

"Twenty million, very well. Thirty million!" "Little Prince" Wang Xinmo raised his voice.

An increase of ten million in one go!

Such extravagant spending, even the elites present were stunned.

This price is beyond just an "extravagant" description!

Even the beautiful hostess on stage was momentarily stupefied!

Wang Xinmo, seeing everyone at the scene shocked, couldn't help but curve his lips into a smile.

He, the "Little Prince," wanted to show onlookers how he could splurge like no other!

With such a hefty sum, it instantly pressured the others to silence!

"Fifty million!"

Just as Wang Xinmo was reveling in triumph, a voice sounded, calm and ordinary, yet like a bolt from the blue to all.

Everyone at the scene held their breath, their necks stiff as they turned their heads, their faces filled with surprise.

Who is it!

Daring to challenge the "Little Prince"!

Who is it!

To raise the bid by twenty million in one breath!

Who is it!

In his eyes, is money not money anymore?!

A purple clay teapot, worth five million, is forced to fetch a price ten times its value!

Bai Xiaosheng sat there, lifting a finger.

That "fifty million" was called out by him.

Yue, standing beside him, had been mentally stalled since the beginning of the bid.

She stared blankly at Bai Xiaosheng, with only one thought in her mind, "Wow, how wealthy is this person!"

"Fifty... fifty million, right, that gentleman?" On stage, the hostess Xuexin widened her eyes, looking in that direction.

Gazing at the figure whose face was not clear, listening to the voice of a young man.

Xuexin's voice even trembled a bit.

Some people spend a billion on a villa, and that doesn't shock people, because the villa is worth that much.

But someone throwing half a billion on a teapot...

And with an unchanged voice, this is the true definition of opulence!

All at once, even Wang Xinmo's complexion turned as gloomy as water, shocked and surprised at once.

He could afford to spend thirty million, to make an impression.

Later, he could justify to the Wang Family that it was to enhance their reputation, a living advertisement, and the family would say nothing.

Moreover, he could later use the teapot to approach that woman, or even sell it to the Luo Family Siblings at a high price.

All in all, it would be a no-loss deal.

But no loss also has a prerequisite: the price can't be too outrageous.

After all, quantitative changes can lead to qualitative changes.

Thirty million and half a billion are already a great gap!

"This gentleman, fifty million, what a grand gesture!" Wang Xinmo looked towards Bai Xiaosheng's direction against the light and said gravely, "It seems that you are determined to get this item!"

"And will the 'Little Prince' follow?" Bai Xiaosheng asked calmly.

The two conversed across the air.

The entire crowd, as if they were nothing, held their breaths in anticipation, without a peep or a word.

Wang Xinmo, for the first time, was publicly overpowered, his face losing the usual breeziness.

Fortunately, under the dim light of the environment, others couldn't see how dark his face was.

"I can still raise it by ten million!" Wang Xinmo pondered and said.

"Seventy million!" Bai Xiaosheng raised the bidding paddle next to him and bid directly.

Another increase of ten million!

Around the room, the sound of inhaling and swallowing saliva was so clear in this environment.

Even the hostess Xuexin on stage didn't know what to say anymore.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged glances.

Bai Xiaosheng's overbearing bidding style, while seeming to throw away a lot of money, was a tactic to crush the opposition from the bottom of their hearts!

This overwhelming bid not only suppressed Wang Xinmo, but also everyone present.

Luo Jiahao was dumbstruck.

Luo Jiaqi was agape in shock.

The Luo Family Siblings didn't know what to say.

Wang Xinmo sat stupefied for a good dozen seconds, ultimately stood up with a calm face, raised both hands, and began to applaud.

Although he was at a loss for complimentary words, he, the "Little Prince," should show proper decorum and did so.

Wang Xinmo's applause awakened everyone present, and in a moment, hundreds of people in the audience clapped in unison.

Celebrating Bai Xiaosheng's dominance!

Celebrating Bai Xiaosheng's generosity!

Bai Xiaosheng also acknowledged the crowd and said to Wang Xinmo across the air, "Thank you, 'Little Prince,' for your willingness to concede this item to me."

Although he publicly crushed Wang Xinmo, Bai Xiaosheng still gave him an out, as there were no personal grudges between them.

Leave some room today, for a better relationship tomorrow!

Hearing Bai Xiaosheng give him a way out, Wang Xinmo finally spoke up with a smile, "Sir, I also thank you for your generous support to the 'Jiang Wang Charity Gala.' With this, I announce that from today onwards, you are the highest-level member here!"

The two started to show mutual admiration.

The applause around them grew even more intense.

Luo Jiahao and Luo Jiaqi looked at Wang Xinmo with shocked faces.

Wasn't it agreed that he would vent anger on their behalf?

How could the "Little Prince" turn his back on them in an instant!

Is the word of a businessman so unreliable?

Wang Xinmo didn't even glance at the Luo Family Siblings, his face wearing a smile, gallant, his true feelings perhaps known only to himself.

In reality, if Bai Xiaosheng's background was only stronger than the Luo Family Siblings, Wang Xinmo wouldn't mind advocating for his ally, but if Bai Xiaosheng's backing was even stronger than the entire Luo Family, on the same level as the northern Wang Family, Wang Xinmo could completely disregard the embarrassment he had just suffered!

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Power determines how others treat you!

Moreover, from this perspective, Wang Xinmo "Little Prince" truly isn't a title for show.

Even Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but secretly sigh.

First, he sighed at the fickle nature of the people from the merchant families.

Secondly, he sighed at Wang Xinmo's restraint and tolerance.

The stir caused by the "Whisper" Yixing teapot continued until the end of the auction.

Few of the remaining items received bids.

Everyone was excitedly discussing the scene that had just occurred.

With Bai Xiaosheng's table at the center, people at surrounding tables cast sidelong glances while engaging in endless chatter.

All sorts of stories about the identities and backgrounds of the three at Bai Xiaosheng's table suddenly emerged.

For someone to drop seventy million on a Yixing teapot, such grandeur suggests a well-known figure even in Linshen.

Yet surprisingly, no one recognized them!

This, undeniably, was a strange affair.

As the auction ended, the beautiful hostess Xuexin announced to everyone with a microphone, "For our next banquet segment, please follow your guides to the sixth floor. Our Mr. Wang Xinmo has brought over a chef from France to prepare a feast for everyone to enjoy."

As the crowd dispersed in batches, people left through several doors, removing their masks along the way. If you weren't paying collective attention, by the time you got outside, it'd be almost impossible to tell who was who.

Many people resolved to remember Bai Xiaosheng's face and make his acquaintance at the upcoming banquet, eager to get to know the most generous young patron there.

Bai Xiaosheng and his companions were about to leave when four individuals approached them from the first and second rows of tables.

They merely greeted Bai Xiaosheng, but the three were instantly shocked and immediately stood up.

Wang Xinmo, who had been keeping a constant eye on Bai Xiaosheng's table, also took note of the newcomers with surprise.

Wang Xinmo swiftly called someone over to make arrangements.

The crowd still had to disperse, nonetheless.

All guests, including the Luo Family Siblings, were ushered out.

Only Bai Xiaosheng's table and the people who had greeted them were left behind.

The bystanders, including the guides, were all sent away.

Yue, in her blissful dizziness, also followed her boss's orders and left first to wait outside.

The door to the auction hall was subsequently closed.

In the end, Wang Xinmo walked over to Bai Xiaosheng's table himself and announced to everyone, "Lights on!"

The auction hall, always in dim light, suddenly became brightly lit as if it were daylight.

Those surrounding Bai Xiaosheng also smiled as they removed their masks.

Zhang Yudong, Wang Dong, Zhang Tianze, Chen Xiaoya!

All these individuals with distinguished family backgrounds were unexpectedly here!

"Bai Xiaosheng, I knew it was you," Zhang Yudong said with a smile.

Zhang Yudong, the grandson of Zhang Xi, a disciple of Master Song Kai and friend of Xiahou Qi, shared a combative but recognizable relationship with Bai Xiaosheng. His friend Wang Dong had even earlier scrapes with Bai Xiaosheng, but those were in the past.

There's no need to mention Zhang Tianze, who once spiked Shang Wanwan's drink and received a harsh lesson from Bai Xiaosheng.

As for Chen Xiaoya, this girl had always gotten along well with Bai Xiaosheng.

"I didn't expect to see you here, it's been such a long time!" Chen Xiaoya was even a bit excited.

"I didn't expect to run into you all here either!" Bai Xiaosheng also smiled at the four people.

Although there had been misunderstandings and conflicts, in the end, it could be called a case of 'no discord, no concord', and they had ultimately become friends.

At this moment, Zhang Yudong and Chen Xiaoya, among the four surrounding Bai Xiaosheng, chatted and laughed warmly.

Wang Xinmo, standing outside, was quite astounded.

All these friends he had made were so enthusiastic about that young man, which was unexpected to him!

Added to this was Bai Xiaosheng's casual splurging of seventy million to buy a Yixing teapot.

It made him reveal a thoughtful expression.

This person, I must befriend!

Wang Xinmo firmly decided, almost immediately choosing to "abandon" the Luo Family.

To make an acquaintance, one must first be introduced.

But watching the group's heated conversation, Wang Xinmo struggled to find a moment to interject.

He had no choice but to wait.

Just then, an assistant hurried over and whispered something into Wang Xinmo's ear.

Wang Xinmo's expression changed immediately, his gaze towards Bai Xiaosheng turning complex.

Eventually, Wang Xinmo sent the assistant away and stepped forward.

After catching Bai Xiaosheng's attention, Wang Xinmo said apologetically, "I'm really sorry, my friend. I'm afraid you won't be able to take the Yixing teapot you bid for!"

Bai Xiaosheng, who thought Wang Xinmo had something to say, never expected these words.

Bai Xiaosheng was momentarily taken aback and frowned.

Behind him, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying's expressions changed dramatically.

While remaining calm, Bai Xiaosheng asked, "Mr. Wang, what's going on here?"

He demanded an explanation!

Zhang Yudong and Chen Xiaoya, among the four, looked at Wang Xinmo in shock.

Wang Xinmo sighed heavily with a frustrated look and said gravely, "I never expected this to happen!"

"The consignor breached the contract!"

"They were in charge of the Yixing teapot, and they've left with the item!"

"However, they have already paid the penalty fee. Even more, they included a 10% compensation for you!"

Hearing such words, Bai Xiaosheng was still infuriated.

What!

A cooked duck flying away!

And leaving an egg as compensation!

Chapter 1313 - Out of the Woods and Into the Light

Attending a charity auction hosted by wealthy families and throwing around huge sums of money with no regard - that's nothing special. Dominating the entire event is also nothing unusual.

But winning an item only for the owner to break the contract, resulting in an unexpected profit of seven million - that's rare!

After all, for ordinary people, a stroke of luck is like winning a five-million lottery.

Zhang Yudong, Chen Xiaoya, and others are children of wealthy families, and money is no object to them. But even for them, seven million is not a small amount, and they feel that Bai Xiaosheng is indeed blessed with fortune today, a cause for celebration.

Wang Xinmo shares that sentiment.

Don't be fooled by his tens of millions in bids; that's because he can "resell" the items later, and it's also about making a name for the family that he dares to do so.

Tens of millions are still a significant amount to him.

Even seven million could sway him.

Apart from Bai Xiaosheng, only those who knew the details, like Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, thought that Bai Xiaosheng had made a profit and should be happy, while everyone else felt similarly.

In everyone's eyes, Bai Xiaosheng furrowed his brows deeply and asked Wang Xinmo, "Mr. Wang, did the seller say why they aren't selling the item anymore?"

The starting price of the purple sand teapot was five million, and a fictitious story was fabricated around it being a "beloved item of a Ming Dynasty senior minister"; wasn't it all in pursuit of greater profit?

A closing bid of seventy million would send anyone through the roof with joy!

How could they possibly breach the contract!

And they even readily paid a hefty compensation fee to the Wang Family and to themselves!

This is clearly not normal!

"You're still concerned about that teapot!" Wang Xinmo looked at Bai Xiaosheng's reaction in surprise.

The man seemed anything but happy and persisted in inquiring about the purple sand teapot?

What courage to want to purchase a teapot for seventy million!

Making a clean profit of seven million, yet showing no joy at all!

Should this be called wilfulness or dominance...

Wang Xinmo considered himself to be unrivalled among his peers, but today, facing Bai Xiaosheng, he truly felt-

Convinced!

"What background does this guy have! Probably even Lu Qingfeng, the Director of Tengyun, isn't so lavish. Is a purple sand teapot worth that much..." Wang even criticized quietly to himself.

He had no idea that for Bai Xiaosheng, the purple sand teapot had a significance far beyond its actual value as a gift.

Forget seventy million, if Wang had continued to bid up the price at that time, Bai Xiaosheng would have been willing to throw in a billion!

At this moment, although Wang Xinmo was surprised and confused by Bai Xiaosheng's persistence, he felt even more that this man had an air of "grandeur and boldness"!

Must make a deal!

"In that case, don't worry. I happen to know that seller; he's American. I'll call him now to ask." Wang Xinmo offered soothingly.

"That would be much appreciated!" Bai Xiaosheng responded without much courtesy.

Wang Xinmo smiled and turned to make the call.

Zhang Yudong, Chen Xiaoya, and the others also stood by. Initially, their thoughts aligned with Wang Xinmo's: although the item was not acquired, making a profit of seven million was indeed a stroke of fortune.

But seeing Bai Xiaosheng's determination to obtain the purple sand teapot, disregarding the seven million and willing to spend seventy million, they were thoroughly impressed as well.

"Xiaosheng, why do you want that purple sand teapot so bad?" Chen Xiaoya couldn't help but ask.

This question was also the wonder of the three, including Zhang Yudong.

"This is a gift I plan to give to someone; there's an old man who particularly likes purple sand teapots," Bai Xiaosheng frankly stated, but he did not elaborate.

Having said this, Bai Xiaosheng seemed to think of something, his eyes lighting up as he looked at the people in front of him.

"Do any of your families have a high-quality purple sand teapot that you can spare? Price is no issue!"

Bai Xiaosheng thought, these individuals are all from eminent families, who knew what treasures they had in their homes; perhaps, there are even better purple sand teapots than that "Whisper".

However, Bai Xiaosheng was soon disappointed to see Chen Xiaoya and the others continuously shaking their heads.

"We do have purple sand teapots, and some are of good quality, but even the best would only be worth about one or two hundred thousand. I'm afraid they won't suit your purpose," Zhang Yudong explained.

A purple sand teapot worth one or two hundred thousand is actually quite remarkable!

Unfortunately, if it were to be given to the Wei Family, it would probably not even merit a glance from Grandfather Wei Xuelian, seen as a blemish.

Bai Xiaosheng sighed lightly.

"How about this, when we go back, we can phone home and ask our families to help inquire," Zhang Yudong suggested.

Chen Xiaoya and the others nodded in agreement.

On one hand, they admired Bai Xiaosheng's character. On the other, just from today's auction, they could see that Bai Xiaosheng was not what he used to be.

The hidden power he possessed was probably something even the elders of several families would take seriously.

This suggestion was well-meaning, and Bai Xiaosheng smiled at the three of them, "Then, please help me to inquire about it."

It was another avenue to explore. Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

As they were chatting, Wang Xinmo hurried back, his expression sour.

"The other party said that someone had directly offered a high price for the purple sand teapot," Wang Xinmo said, "and they even assumed the losses from this auction!"

Hearing this news, Bai Xiaosheng immediately said, "I can increase the offer too!"

If it's something that money can solve, then it's negotiable!

Wang Xinmo looked deeply at Bai Xiaosheng, then said with a wry smile, "Actually, it's not about the money anymore. Let me reveal a bit more. The issue with them has involved the seller's personal safety. The buyer's power is... overbearing! Moreover, the benefits offered are not just money; I heard there are also shares involved! Overall, it's no longer a matter of money!"

Bai Xiaosheng's breath hitched, and it seemed that the last sliver of hope had also shattered.

"In that case, if you need a purple clay pot, I can keep an eye out for you! Our information channels here are pretty convenient!" Wang Xinmo said enthusiastically.

He had made up his mind to cultivate a good relationship with Bai Xiaosheng.

"Thank you, Mr. Wang," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, shaking hands with Wang Xinmo.

At this point, one might as well grasp at straws.

Bai Xiaosheng accepted Wang Xinmo's kindness.

"However, I only need a top-quality purple clay pot recently. After a month or two, it won't be necessary anymore," Bai Xiaosheng asserted.

Wang Xinmo was momentarily taken aback.

Bai Xiaosheng briefly explained that the purple clay pot was meant as a gift and was a time-sensitive request.

Only then did Wang Xinmo have a sudden realization, claiming that he would inquire as soon as possible.

Afterward, Bai Xiaosheng, who had little interest left, did not want to go to the restaurant and subject himself to the prying of many guests.

He declined Wang Xinmo's entreaty to stay, said his farewells to Zhang Yudong, Chen Xiaoya, and the others, skipped dinner, and left with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

He had arrived full of enthusiasm, delighted after the successful bid, only to end up empty-handed in the end.

Even with an extra check for seven million in his pocket, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't feel any joy.

Even on the ride back, he appeared somewhat listless and weak.

After Bai Xiaosheng left, Wang Xinmo inquired a little with Zhang Yudong, Chen Xiaoya, and the others to learn more about Bai Xiaosheng.

Among the four of them, Zhang Yudong knew the most about Bai Xiaosheng.

But even he was unclear about the depth of Bai Xiaosheng's background.

What could and could not be said, Zhang Yudong and the others knew without being told, and the information Wang Xinmo obtained was extremely limited.

However, this shrouded Bai Xiaosheng in an even more mysterious aura, which made Wang Xinmo even more attentive.

That evening, whether it was Wang Xinmo or Zhang Yudong, Chen Xiaoya, they all actively contacted their families, informed them of the situation, and asked for help in finding a top-quality purple clay pot.

However, purple clay pots are such that tens of thousands denote good quality, hundreds of thousands mark a treasure, and over a million represent an extremely high level.

But with Bai Xiaosheng bidding seventy million for a historically significant top-quality piece, the standards of selection for these families naturally rose steeply, and for a while, it was actually difficult to find rare treasures.

That day, two minor incidents also occurred at Jiangwang International Hotel.

Luo Jiahao and Luo Jiaqi, the siblings, were informed that the "Little Prince" had urgent matters to attend to and, after they had their meal, they could leave on their own as it was inconvenient for them to stay the night.

Thus, the Luo Family siblings were inexplicably given an eviction order.

Of course, Luo Jiaqi tried to contact the "Little Prince" but to no avail.

In the end, the siblings could only leave in disgruntlement.

After Bai Xiaosheng and the others departed, at the entrance to the sixth-floor restaurant of Jiangwang International Hotel, the guide Yue waited eagerly and still anticipated Bai Xiaosheng and his party.

Of course, what she eventually waited for was General Manager Sun.

General Manager Sun took Yue aside, smiling at the girl, "Come with me, the 'Little Prince' wants to see you."

The tone of Manager Sun was exceedingly polite.

"Ah, the 'Little Prince' wants to see me! What for?" Yue was extremely shocked.

She was just a worker, and someone like that wealthy boss was out of her league.

Manager Sun looked around, smiled at Yue, and said, "I'll let you in on a piece of news in advance. It's about your promotion and pay raise, as well as your bonus and commission for this time."

Guides receive a commission when a VIP purchases an item, but the commission has a cap of not more than one hundred thousand.

For Yue, a hundred thousand was already a huge sum.

Yue was immediately overjoyed, but then she couldn't help saying, "But I still need to attend to those guests... "

"They've already left," Manager Sun interrupted, looking at the young girl with a sense of emotion, "But before leaving, they told the boss, they appreciated your hospitality. That's why the boss holds you in such high regard! You have to admit, you're one lucky girl, meeting such generous benefactors today..."

They left?!

Shocked by the news, Yue was stunned momentarily but then smiled sweetly after two seconds, "Yes, they were all very good guests!"

...

Elsewhere.

Bai Xiaosheng, feeling dispirited, took a car ride with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying back to the vicinity of their residence and entered a high-end Western restaurant.

During the meal, Bai Xiaosheng ate listlessly, feeling like it was all tasteless.

However, halfway through the meal, his phone began to ring with notification tones, one after another.

Bai Xiaosheng took it out and saw that he had received multiple messages.

"Li Ni?" Seeing this name, Bai Xiaosheng perked up and started looking through the messages.

When he saw the pictures that followed, he was suddenly energized.

Li Ni sent a message with a smug emoticon—

"Bai Xiaosheng, how do you like it! This is the retro design of the purple clay pot from my family's notes, simulated on a computer, pretty isn't it!"

"I assure you, it's one-of-a-kind in the world, priceless!"

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Chapter 1314 - Rushing to Dacheng

Looking at the message from Li Ni, the originally "sickly" Bai Xiaosheng suddenly sat up straight, his back rigid, eyes shining brightly as if he'd been injected with chicken blood, reviving him completely. Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying beside him were startled into a large jump.

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't bother to explain to them and quickly replied to Li Ni.

"Has the production of the purple clay teapot started yet!"

Li Ni quickly replied, "Not yet, it's not that fast. I am planning to turn the family concept into reality, so the craftsmanship and even the raw materials can't be taken lightly; they must be well-considered."

"Traditional clay, I don't think it's suitable. I'm currently researching several solutions."

"If you have time, you can come and have a look!"

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's interest in his research, Li Ni was also very excited, even extending an invitation.

In an instant, Bai Xiaosheng's eyes lit up, suddenly shining brightly.

Seeing this, Lin Weiwei couldn't help but nudge Lei Ying, who was also stunned.

Bai Xiaosheng had a further chat with Li Ni.

Bai Xiaosheng was so excited, "If it's a success, can I have the first purple clay teapot! I'll buy it!"

Li Ni replied instantly, "You can't!"

Bai Xiaosheng was about to send another message, but then he saw a message from Li Ni before he could—

"How could I take your money! I want to give it to you!"

Bai Xiaosheng saw the message and immediately burst into laughter, shouting, "Li Ni, this guy, is awesome!"

After laughing and shouting, Bai Xiaosheng then realized they were still in the Western restaurant.

He looked up to see Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying staring at him as if frozen.

A loop of pasta dangled from Lei Ying's fork, silently sliding off.

They were in a high-end restaurant, surrounded by quiet diners, and at that moment, everyone turned to look at him.

Bai Xiaosheng was suddenly embarrassed, hurriedly offering smiles and apologies around and even to the waiter who rushed over.

Somehow, Bai Xiaosheng managed to smooth over the little disturbance.

"What's going on, Xiaosheng? Why are you so excited?" Lin Weiwei moved closer and asked in a hushed tone.

Lei Ying also looked on curiously.

Bai Xiaosheng showed them his phone, and they instantly understood.

Lin Weiwei's eyes widened in disbelief, "Could it be that you plan to use Li Ni's creation?"

"Seeing how confident Li Ni is, it shouldn't take long once he gets started! Timing-wise, it's feasible!" Lei Ying added.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at them, first saying to Lin Weiwei, "Indeed, I'm planning to use Li Ni's creation!"

Who says only antiques can be top notch!

This new one, if executed to a certain degree, can be even more refreshing!

Having said that, Bai Xiaosheng turned to Lei Ying, "However, we won't just wait for him to finish; we need to get over there and complete it together with him!"

"That's real commitment!" Bai Xiaosheng's lips curled into a smile.

The body of the pot could be made by Li Ni, but for the calligraphy and poetry on the surface, that was his expertise!

And it's not just that, Li Ni also brought up some difficult points in the crafting process, and Bai Xiaosheng felt he could lend a hand, especially with Red Lotus aiding him.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged a glance, both nodding in agreement.

Since Bai Xiaosheng had made this decision, they naturally had no objections.

"Weiwei, book the tickets. We're heading to Dacheng City first thing tomorrow morning!" Bai Xiaosheng was full of enthusiasm, "It's only a two-hour journey, then we can get to work together!"

"Alright, leave it to me." Lin Weiwei smiled and then blinked her eyes, wondering, "Dacheng? Is Li Ni in Dacheng City?"

Then, Lin Weiwei muttered, "I remember that Ron and the others acquired that plot of land there, the one that caused the conflict with the Luo Family, it's also in Dacheng, right?"

It certainly was a coincidence, but it was unrelated, and besides, the conflict between Ron and the Luo Family had already been resolved into a "win-lose" situation, so there was no need for concern.

Lin Weiwei just mentioned it in passing, and all Bai Xiaosheng did was acknowledge it with an "Oh", without giving it much thought.

Now that there had been progress on the purple clay teapot front, Bai Xiaosheng was in a good mood, which naturally improved his appetite.

After a hearty meal, the three returned to their accommodation.

There were no further discussions that night.

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Early the next morning, Bai Xiaosheng and his group hurried to the high-speed rail station.

Thanks to rapid transportation development, two hours later, Bai Xiaosheng and company were already standing on the ground of Dacheng City, and the time was just half past nine.

After getting off the train, Bai Xiaosheng and his group had a local specialty breakfast in Dacheng City.

Dacheng City's development is currently only average, but the surrounding cities scheduled for major development are geographically forming a semi-encirclement, a done deal. Zunbai Zhisheng's big data analysis indicates that there should be key planning in place here too, it's just that specific policies and measures have not been announced yet.

Ron originally thought to take advantage of this "value depression" before it got developed and decisively grabbed a large piece of land, waiting for its value to surge.

Only, Ron's choice of partner was unfortunate, picking the wolfish Luo Family as a partner.

If it weren't for Bai Xiaosheng and his group accidentally stumbling upon this situation, Ron would not have faced the worst outcome, but he might have had to make a painful decision and cut ties with this place.

Bai Xiaosheng felt a bit emotional about this.

After breakfast, Bai Xiaosheng and his group got in touch with Li Ni.

Li Ni ran a small-scale company in this city, initially lacking equipment and personnel. After Xue Lian Wan He got financing and various assistance from business consultants, according to him, the company has been transformed.

Hearing that Bai Xiaosheng and his group had arrived, Li Ni immediately expressed his wish to come pick them up.

Bai Xiaosheng was also considered a benefactor to Li Ni, and the two were friends with common interests.

So, Li Ni was especially enthusiastic.

Bai Xiaosheng and his group waited at the agreed location for forty minutes before Li Ni personally drove over in a seven-seater MPV.

After boarding the vehicle, Bai Xiaosheng did not sit in the back but took the front passenger seat.

"Mr. Li, despite receiving an investment of several million, still personally came to pick us up. Quite the model of austerity," Bai Xiaosheng teased Li Ni.

"Don't make fun of me! What Mr. Li? I'm just a passionate young man chasing his dreams," Li Ni replied with a smile, humorously.

"You're still a young man; aren't you being modest," Bai Xiaosheng continued to tease.

The brief exchange lifted any slight sense of unfamiliarity that arose from not seeing each other for a while.

Subsequently, Li Ni drove while Bai Xiaosheng began chatting with him from the front passenger seat.

After a few sentences, the two delved deep into the craft of purple clay pottery making.

Bai Xiaosheng, through Red Lotus, had already done some homework on this topic.

When Li Ni discovered that Bai Xiaosheng knew a great deal about the subject, he was even more delighted, even complimenting him as half an expert.

Bai Xiaosheng just laughed it off.

In reality, he was still holding back. If he were to speak freely, Li Ni would probably be astounded.

The two enthusiastically exchanged technical terms along the way.

On the other hand, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, who were sitting in the back, were like two curious babies, continuously inquiring about various things.

Li Ni patiently explained to them.

Bai Xiaosheng then asked about the raw material problem, which made Li Ni turn towards him.

"Purple clay has many varieties, each burned to produce different colors, textures, and feels. Do you know why I wanted to set up a factory-like company in Dacheng? It's because there's a place here rich in Xiao Hongni, which is particularly suitable for use in craftsmanship! Of course, according to my family's notes, apart from this ingredient, I still need to find another special mineral material! I don't have any leads on that yet. But with Xiao Hongni, we have already succeeded seventy to eighty percent. Once we find the rest, we can start production immediately," Li Ni said to Bai Xiaosheng.

"Is it that complex with the materials, with one still missing?" Lin Weiwei exclaimed in surprise.

"The complex craftsmanship recorded in my family's notes itself has a high level of innovation and is ahead of its time. Even though it was envisioned by my ancestors, I believe it was impossible to accomplish with the craft and equipment of that era!" Li Ni said, "But with today's technology, it should not be a problem!"

Li Ni seemed quite excited as he spoke.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded and smiled, saying, "From your descriptions and the sample image you've produced, I'm really looking forward to the finished product!"

Li Ni particularly loved hearing this and burst into hearty laughter.

However, after the laughter, Li Ni added, "But there's a problem with the Xiao Hongni we found here. That area, I heard, has changed hands. A big data company from Linshen bought it. I just don't know if we'll be able to negotiate with them to continue mining Xiao Hongni."

That area was bought by a big data company from Linshen?!

Bai Xiaosheng and the others couldn't help but exchange surprised glances.

"What's the name of that company? Something Zun..." Li Ni seemed to have trouble recalling.

"Zunbai Zhisheng!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

"That's right, that company! Ah, you know about it! I wonder if they will start guarding that land strictly!" Li Ni mused, "After all, that's a large enterprise, and we're worlds apart from them! Sheng, since you're here, you have to help me plead with them for some leeway. Even if it's embarrassing, we'll face it together!"

Chapter 1315 - A Little Trouble

Li Ni was driving, taking Bai Xiaosheng and two others, and after a full forty minutes, they finally turned into a special area.

Huge pipelines hanging overhead, industrial buildings with sharp lines, it was clearly an old factory district, quite large, even crisscrossed with several streets.

The area wasn't deserted; vehicles were coming and going.

Artistic decorations on the street corners made the place look vivid and alive.

Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself, there's an art district in the capital that was transformed from an old state-owned electronics industrial area, where industrial vibes and modern art blend together, being both a center of art culture and an excellent sightseeing spot.

It looks like this place is of the same type!

"This used to be an old factory, after the renovation it was divided into LOFT apartments, the environment and atmosphere here are really good. Working here is awesome! I used all my savings to buy a place here. I bought early in the best location. Now it has appreciated in value, many wealthy people have their eyes on it but, unfortunately, they can't buy it anymore!" Li Ni said, somewhat proudly.

This was probably his best "investment" ever.

Li Ni's introduction also confirmed what Bai Xiaosheng had thought.

"Wow, I never expected Dacheng to have such a great place!" Lin Weiwei exclaimed as she looked out the window, endlessly praising it.

With various artistic elements decorating the place and excellent greenscaping efforts, it was truly a unique scenic area.

Lei Ying also nodded silently.

Being in close contact with Bai Xiaosheng and Lin Weiwei, he had also developed a bit of taste.

"Just around the corner, and we will reach my 'workshop,'" Li Ni winked and said to Bai Xiaosheng, "Over there, I've got several beautiful ladies, I'll introduce you later."

And yet you're still single.

Bai Xiaosheng just chuckled at this.

Moreover, he seemed quite proud with the "I have a girlfriend" attitude.

Li Ni glanced at the rearview mirror to see Lin Weiwei giving him a sideways glance, and he quickly added with a smile, "And there are handsome men too."

Lin Weiwei snorted coldly and turned her head away.

In the middle of their conversation, Li Ni's car had already made the turn.

"Why are there so many people up ahead!" Bai Xiaosheng exclaimed in surprise.

Li Ni was also shocked.

In front of a store near the corner, at least dozens of people had gathered, and from it came a noisy clamor, as if they were arguing loudly.

"'Li Ni Workshop,' isn't that your store!"

When Bai Xiaosheng saw the signboard, he immediately looked towards Li Ni.

"Damn, those people are causing trouble again!" Li Ni gritted his teeth, his face looked terrible, as he steered the steering wheel and stepped on the accelerator, rushing to park.

Bai Xiaosheng, Lin Weiwei, and Lei Ying looked at each other and then towards Li Ni, "What's going on?"

"A bunch of hoodlums. I've already said, my shop is not for transfer!" Li Ni said angrily.

In front of the Li Ni Workshop.

Three men and four women, dressed in the workshop's custom uniforms, were standing in front of the shop, confronting a group of fierce-looking people. The leader was surprisingly a very young and pretty girl, but her demeanor was no less intimidating than the bald man standing opposite her.

"Young lady, go call your boss out. For you, brother here is gentle and considerate, wouldn't want to be rude." The bald man, touching his chin, said with a sneer.

The young lady named Chen Yundi had a broom in her hands as a weapon, looking furious and quite spirited.

Behind the bald man stood about a dozen people dressed differently, some sneering, some looking cocky.

Those people were holding things like baseball bats and steel pipes.

Further back, there was a crowd of onlookers.

"Our boss isn't here right now! What do you want by blocking the front of our shop with so many people?!" Chen Yundi said fearlessly.

Behind Chen Yundi, the several "Li Ni Workshop" employees, however, had somewhat pale faces, fearfully watching those people.

Even a female employee quietly tugged at the young lady's sleeve, urging her not to be so aggressive.

After all, these people looked tough to deal with.

In this factory district, there were only a gatekeeper and a patrolling boy, and right now, both were nowhere to be seen.

These people only came to collect a management fee each month, and really weren't reliable for anything else.

Right now, they were on their own without any help, facing these thugs.

It was unwise to be too bold, otherwise, they would suffer!

But Chen Yundi seemed determined to protect the shop.

In response to her question, the bald man smiled slyly, looking very reasonable, and patiently said, "Your boss, he's just a fool. Why not relocate this what's-it-called lousy workshop somewhere else. This place has such a good location, it should be fully utilized. Opening what workshop here, what a waste! Moreover, we are not unreasonable people. What's wrong with transferring it to us, it's just that the money we offered was a bit low. Can't we make friends?"

They simply wanted to force a purchase, and it wasn't just a little money, it was ridiculously inadequate.

With that money, in the current status of this factory area, they couldn't even buy the most inconspicuous shop.

"Then why don't you guys find another place!" Chen Yundi retorted coldly.

"No!" The bald man raised his chin, his eyes narrowed, said curtly, "No means no. We tried to talk nicely twice, and your boss didn't listen, so don't blame us for not being reasonable. We're here today, not to hurt anyone, just wanting to do a bit of remodeling here! Young lady, you better step aside, don't get hurt! We won't be paying any medical expenses!"

Faced with the bald man's unreasonable behavior, Chen Yundi trembled with anger, and those men and women behind her immediately turned pale, nervously swallowing saliva, watching those holding tools menacingly.

Chapter 1316 - A Bit of Trouble_2

If they really start a fight, not only will they suffer, but this place won't be preserved either.

"Yundi, what should we do, should we give way first... Call the boss and have him come back quickly."

The female employee who had been pulling Chen Yundi whispered nervously in her ear.

Just listening to that voice, they were trembling.

"We can't let them, if they dare to mess around, I'll call the police!" Chen Yundi gritted her teeth, looking at Baldhead.

"This place is quite remote, it will take the police half an hour to get here. Don't you think that time is enough?" Baldhead looked at the young girl in front of him with a smirk, "Besides, we haven't installed any cameras here yet."

"Go, give them a makeover!" As he spoke, Baldhead's expression turned severe, and with a wave of his hand, he shouted.

Behind Baldhead, a tall, fat man couldn't hold back any longer, with a hideous smile, he strode forward.

"Don't mess around!" Chen Yundi shouted out, trying to stop him.

"Such delicate and tender little sister, looks so pitiable. Come, big brother will pamper you!" The fat man lunged at her with a lewd face.

The broom that Chen Yundi used as a weapon was snatched away and broken into two pieces like a straw and thrown on the ground.

The fat man pounced at the young girl like a bear.

Although Chen Yundi was braver than most, she was still a young girl, and seeing the lewd fat man pouncing at her, she was so frightened that her face turned pale, and with her hands protecting her front, she buried her head and screamed, "Get away!"

The weak girl's shout made Baldhead and his men burst into laughter.

If voices could repel people, what use would they have for them!

The onlookers from afar pointed and commented, angry and lamenting, but no one dared to step forward, and even faced with two men with sticks watching them, they didn't dare to take out their phones to sneak pictures.

But then, everyone who looked over was stiffened.

In their eyes, filled with disbelief!

Following Chen Yundi's shout of "Get away," the fat man really did roll away.

No, it would be more accurate to say "flew away."

Baldhead was still chuckling, but then he felt a darkness before his eyes.

A huge mass slammed directly into him, knocking him to the ground, nearly crushed to death by the massive weight.

On top of Baldhead, the fat man rolled his eyes back and passed out.

Chen Yundi heard exclamations but didn't feel violated, and hesitantly looked up with her arms lowered.

In front of her stood a tall man.

What happened?

Chen Yundi herself was still a bit confused, not quite understanding the situation, but her colleagues behind her saw everything clearly, and a few women were still standing with their mouths covered, stunned.

Just now, in the nick of time, the man came running from the side, and with one kick, he sent the fat man who looked to be over two hundred pounds flying five meters away!

This was simply, unbelievable!

It was like a scene straight out of a martial arts drama!

"Yundi!" A sharp call came.

Another voice followed, unhurried and tinged with teasing, "Yo, what a bunch of bold heroes, bullying a little girl in public, how impressive. Remarkable!"

Everyone present turned their heads to look.

The boss of Li Ni Workshop, Li Ni, came running over quickly.

The man following him, who had spoken, was young, with black hair and eyes, a smile on his face, and a pleasant voice.

By his side, there was also a woman with a great figure and a beautiful demeanor, smiling and grinning, seemingly amused by those words.

Who are these people?

The crowd was astonished.

"Ow, damn!" Baldhead struggled to push off the fat man who nearly crushed the crap out of him, clambering up looking disheveled and glaring over, "Who the hell are they?!"

This question was also what most people present were wondering.

Li Ni ran up to Chen Yundi, asked her a couple of questions, checked if she was injured, and then looked towards Lei Ying's back.

Truth be told, he was also shocked.

To kick a living person flying, especially such a large man, what kind of strength was that?

Was Bai Xiaosheng's friend a martial arts master?

Li Ni exclaimed inwardly.

Faced with Baldhead's astonished question, Lei Ying remained silent, his gaze icy and piercing.

Baldhead was a big shot on the streets too, believed he had seen all sorts of scenes, but today, with one glance from this big man, he felt a chill rise from the bottom of his heart, feeling a sense of dread.

Baldhead quickly turned to look at the approaching Bai Xiaosheng.

Seeing the demeanor, it seemed that the pretty boy was the leader. Baldhead thought to himself, attempting to converse with Bai Xiaosheng.

"Do you leave on your own, or do we make you leave?" Bai Xiaosheng, on the contrary, directly asked him.

Baldhead was stunned for a moment.

On the way here, Li Ni had informed Bai Xiaosheng of the situation.

The matter was simple: a group of people took a liking to his place and wanted him to vacate it, offering a completely unreasonable price.

Moreover, Li Ni had already told them, it didn't matter if Mr. Qian offered more money, he wasn't going to change places.

After all, everything here was set up well, and he was about to launch his heartfelt project of Li Ni Workshop, how could he possibly give up.

So, the other side kept threatening.

Today, they had never expected that they would actually resort to force directly.

Bai Xiaosheng understood and, since it was completely justified, at this moment, he wasn't prepared to mince words with Baldhead and his gang.

As the saying goes, it takes a thug to grind a thug.

So, if there are no thugs to do the grinding, then Bai Xiaosheng himself would play the role of the "fierce one."

Bai Xiaosheng also bluntly put it out right there, dropping a "street-smart phrase."

Walk away, or, we'll make you leave!

Baldhead and his buddies, all tough guys from the streets, had heard plenty of tough talk, but they had never heard such a phrase that made them feel so choked with no words to respond.

Chapter 1317 - A Minor Trouble_3

What a cocky bunch, kick them out!

"You're telling us to leave? Kid, that's a big talk! All by himself!" Baldhead pointed at Lei Ying and shouted aggressively, "I've got twelve men here! Can he beat us all?"

Baldhead's fierce words were alarming, making the onlookers worry uncontrollably for Bai Xiaosheng and his friends.

Li Ni, Chen Yundi, and the people behind them couldn't help but feel anxious.

It's tough to fight alone against multiple opponents; even heroes fall when outnumbered!

"Sheng, how about letting Lei Ying intimidate them while I try to talk to them again," Li Ni couldn't resist suggesting to Bai Xiaosheng in a lowered voice.

They needed a temporary solution; it was better not to let the situation escalate. This was Li Ni's thought.

Though he had no clue how to negotiate, it was surely better than resorting to violence.

Chen Yundi was also looking at Bai Xiaosheng.

She realized that how things would unfold relied heavily on what this young man decided to do.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at Li Ni and, as he looked towards Baldhead, he gave Lei Ying an order.

"Beat them up."

The words were spoken casually, but under the gaze of the entire audience, they carried an immense presence, much like a scene in a movie where a gambling king pushes all his chips forward with a smile, boldly declaring "all-in."

Hearing Bai Xiaosheng's words, Lei Ying first let out a slight smile, then the smile disappeared, and his eyes turned fierce and vicious.

It had been quite some time since he last flexed his muscles!

But Lei Ying's daily practice never ceased, even while in the professional world!

Lei Ying charged at the opponents.

On the other side, Baldhead was stunned and dumbfounded.

What? Beat them up?

Isn't starting a fight without a word supposed to be their "patent"?

This pretty boy is stealing our lines!

However, seeing the big guy charging at them, Baldhead thought of the fat man's fate and retreated at full speed, shouting loudly, "Go, go! Give him a good thrashing!"

Baldhead's men, armed with clubs and sticks, swarmed forward.

What followed was a brutal scene.

Every spectator was wide-eyed.

But the ones in a sorry state were Baldhead's brothers.

Lei Ying was like a wolf amongst sheep, wreaking havoc in all directions.

The wooden bats and metal pipes desperately aimed at Lei Ying missed many times, but several also struck solidly.

Hitting Lei Ying's arms, back, and even the head.

However, the tough street thugs were suddenly terrified to find that the one they were beating was not a human at all, but a bear.

The clubs did nothing; instead, their own cries of pain echoed as they were met with fist and foot.

Some even tried to block with their bats sideways, only to have them broken by a punch!

A monster!

This was simply a monster!

The onlookers were also stunned, then exclamations erupted continuously, with some even cheering on.

"Damn, this isn't a movie shoot, right?"

"That roundhouse kick, so freaking cool!"

"This kung fu is too fierce!"

Li Ni, Chen Yundi, and those from the Li Ni Workshop were gobsmacked.

This Lei Ying was actually an extraordinary master!

One against twelve, and they're armed with weapons, yet he's giving chase and fighting!

Baldhead stares dumbfounded, his mouth moving as if crushing garlic, repeating one sentence over and over, "This is so damn fake!"

More real than reality itself!

In less than five minutes, more than half of the twelve people were knocked down.

The remaining ones scatter, fleeing everywhere.

"This can't go on, or sooner or later it'll be my turn!"

Baldhead's mind works quickly, his teeth gritted, when he suddenly spots Bai Xiaosheng.

He grabs a stick from the ground and charges straight at him.

"That pretty boy is the leader; as long as I get him, that monster will have to behave!" Baldhead thinks to himself.

Chen Yundi is watching the fight, taken aback when she sees Baldhead lunging over, a thick wooden stick in hand, heading straight for the young man next to her, looking like he's aiming for a sneak attack.

The girl only has time to yell out, "Careful!"

In her view, Bai Xiaosheng is happily chatting with a beautiful lady next to him, not paying any attention to Baldhead at all.

Plus, it's hard to imagine this clean-featured, young brother with an elegant demeanor being a match for Baldhead.

Especially since Baldhead is armed.

Li Ni is startled by Chen Yundi's loud scream, and when she sees Baldhead swinging his stick at Bai Xiaosheng, her eyes widen in horror.

She doesn't even have time to shout a warning.

Baldhead, seeing that the youngster hasn't noticed him even when he's close, is elated, his stick raised in position, ready to strike down.

But at that moment, Baldhead sees Bai Xiaosheng turn and look at him; the reflection of the stick even visible in his eyes.

Baldhead thinks he may be seeing things, but it looks like the pretty boy is smiling at him.

Then, with a simple and straightforward punch, Bai Xiaosheng throws it as casually as if brushing dust off his shoulder.

Yet, to Baldhead's eyes, it's fast, so fast that it's a blur.

It's only when Bai Xiaosheng's punch lands squarely on Baldhead's eye socket that Baldhead feels it—

That punch, so heavy!

The ferocious and menacing Baldhead is knocked back by a single punch, his head and neck jerked backward, fainting on the spot, and his body falls stiffly to the ground.

Bai Xiaosheng doesn't even spare Baldhead a glance, turning back to continue joking with Lin Weiwei.

Chen Yundi is astonished.

This brother is also so fierce!!

"Alright, that's about enough, just round up the few left, or who's going to haul these guys away." Bai Xiaosheng calls out to Lei Ying.

Lei Ying is busy chasing the last four people.

Hearing Bai Xiaosheng's words, Lei Ying throws his stick aside and strides back.

"Hey, haul these people away." Bai Xiaosheng raises his voice to those people, then smiles at Li Ni, "Come on, lead the way to your workshop."

Li Ni immediately snaps to attention, nodding quickly and leading the way; Chen Yundi watches Bai Xiaosheng in a daze, following behind.

After a few steps, Bai Xiaosheng remembers something, beckoning Lei Ying over to whisper a few words to him.

"Got it!" Lei Ying nods.

Bai Xiaosheng, Lin Weiwei, accompanied by Li Ni and Chen Yundi, head towards the workshop.

The workshop employees' eyes are shining, flanking them on both sides.

Spectators are left in awe, their gazes following them.

This whole commotion is just a minor interlude for Bai Xiaosheng.

And what's urgent for him is to see the progress of Li Ni's work.

Chapter 1318 - Human Greed Knows No Bounds

The people from the Li Ni Workshop surrounded Bai Xiaosheng and escorted him into the store, while Lei Ying didn't follow. Instead, he kept his eyes fixed on the Baldhead's gang, who were leaving in a sorry state, and followed them.

The onlookers outside showed fear and trepidation, stepping aside to let Baldhead's group pass through.

However, as soon as they saw Lei Ying approaching, their eyes lit up, and they crowded around him.

"Young man, you're really impressive!"

"Big bro, were you a commando or did you practice martial arts? You're super badass!"

"Handsome guy, you're so cool!"

Men and women, old and young, the rubbernecking crowd all warmly praised Lei Ying.

Lei Ying responded casually as he tried to push through the crowd.

Although most people were left behind, a few young men and women ran directly in front of Lei Ying and to his sides. As Lei Ying moved, they moved, echoing his steps, incessantly singing his praises.

Seeing that Baldhead and his goons were getting further away, Lei Ying frowned and politely said to the young man leading the group in front of him, "If it's not too much trouble, please make way."

"Big bro! Would you take disciples?" The young man's eyes shone earnestly.

Clearly, he had a request!

"Yeah, are you taking disciples?"

"Count me in, I've got great talent."

"I also want to learn some self-defense techniques!"

Not just him, several men and women around him also said eagerly, their eyes sparkling.

To them, Lei Ying's skills were like those of a legendary hermit.

Lei Ying was taken aback, seeing that these young folks were hell-bent on pestering him, while Baldhead and his gang had gotten even further away.

Lei Ying then firmly said, "Yes!"

The young men and women's eyes immediately lit up even more.

"Push-ups, sit-ups, squats, parallel bar dips, pull-ups, plus a hundred-meter sprint, non-stop, do a hundred of each. Whoever can do it, go to the Li Ni Workshop and sign up, I'll take you! Those who can't, better luck next time." Lei Ying patted the shoulder of the man in front of him, encouraging him earnestly.

Then, while they were still stunned, Lei Ying took the opportunity to break out of the "encirclement" and chase after Baldhead and the others.

The young men and women hadn't snapped out of it yet, looking at each other and blinking.

"Push-ups, sit-ups, what else was it?"

"A hundred of each? And without stopping? Isn't that a bit too much?"

"Seeing the hero's skills just now, it must require going through some hard training!"

"Let's find a place and give it a try, I feel like I might be capable of it!"

These people were eager to give it a shot.

Unfortunately, they would soon realize the harsh reality.

They had overestimated their own physical fitness.

In fact, what Lei Ying gave them were the "Special Forces physical selection 'six hundreds'" that he had seen online.

If they could do it, that would already be the physical fitness level of basic Special Forces.

...

Baldhead's gang left the factory area like defeated soldiers, supporting each other, and after walking for another fifteen minutes, they turned into an urban village.

There, they had their "stronghold."

Walking into a yard with "Demolition" written on the wall and several excavators parked inside, Baldhead and the others were warm with relief.

Finally back, this time they had really suffered.

"What happened, second brother, why are you all in such a state?" A tall and skinny man came out from inside the house and was shocked to see this scene.

"Big brother, we were bullied!" Baldhead, with eyes like panda's, complained pathetically.

They were used to bullying others, but this time they were the ones who got bullied.

Society is treacherous, and you never know when you might slip up.

"Was it the people from 'Li Ni Workshop'?" The skinny boss exclaimed in surprise.

To beat their dozen brothers into such a state, could it be that the other side had received advance notice and prepared three or four dozen people?

"It was their people, we encountered a tough guy!"

"Just one, but he fights really well!"

"We all got bullied by that person!"

The crowd complained in distress.

The tall and skinny man was bewildered and even more astonished.

One person knocked down more than a dozen of their brothers?!

This...

Was simply unbelievable!

"Come inside first, treat your wounds, and then we'll make a long-term plan," said the skinny boss with a fierce look in his eyes, "We must get revenge!"

"Are you looking for someone to take revenge on? Perhaps me?" A voice came from outside the gate.

Upon hearing this voice, Baldhead's gang panicked, clumsily scrambling to take cover behind the skinny boss, each trying to hide better than the last, like mice seeing a cat.

The skinny boss was horrified and looked over.

Lei Ying was smiling as he entered, his gaze sharp as a knife.

"My friend said, in real-life situations, when you beat the small ones, the big ones come. If hard tactics don't work, they resort to sneaky ones. This keeps on coming wave after wave; it's a never-ending cycle. You guys are just a cliché, and what he hates most is this kind of pattern. So, he sent me to sort out this trifle!"

"Indeed, it seems you're not ready to let bygones be bygones!" Lei Ying said with a smile, "I used to be in your circle; I'm particularly good at settling disputes. Look, you must be their leader, right? I'll come negotiate with you."

The skinny boss looked ferocious, his eyes proud and indignant, "You talk about peace with me? It's not that easy to settle, you think you can just get away with bullying my brothers? You don't know who I, Thin Tiger, am. Negotiations are out of the question, not in this lifetime! So what if you can fight, come on, do you think I'm scared of you? I'll tell you today, there's no room for negotiation!"

Thirty minutes later.

Thin Tiger, with a bruised face, was extremely deferential, leading a group of underlings begging for mercy, saying continuously, "Lei bro, Lei big boss! Rest assured, we won't go near that factory area anymore! If we break our word, let us be struck by lightning, spend our lives penniless, and never have a wife! We beg you, please leave us be!"

Chapter 1319 - Greed Is Endless Like a Snake Swallowing an Elephant_2

Lei Ying's prowess wasn't just physical strength; his tactics made Thin Tiger's heart tremble, realizing that he and his gang of social misfits were no more than a bunch of "good-natured common folk" compared to Lei Ying.

Li Ni Workshop.

Full of excitement, Li Ni led Bai Xiaosheng around to see the new instrumentation equipment recently acquired by the workshop, and also showed him various mineral sample materials.

Chen Yundi followed along, initially planning to explain things to this young man.

But to her surprise, she found that the young man was actually able to discuss with Li Ni in depth about the characteristics of various minerals, as well as various techniques used in the pottery-making process—many of which she didn't even know!

Even Li Ni was frequently lectured by him.

This is a real expert!

Well, after all, could a person valued by the boss be ordinary?

Suddenly, Chen Yundi became like an apprentice, wishing she could take notes on everything Bai Xiaosheng said.

Li Ni too gained many inspirations from what Bai Xiaosheng said.

"Actually, rather than trying to mix raw materials bit by bit, it might be better to reverse-engineer the necessary materials from the concept of the finished product, break them down into elements and components to proportion the materials. Wouldn't this reduce detours?" Bai Xiaosheng, holding a piece of Xiao Hongni clay from Dacheng, said to Li Ni.

Reverse-engineering the composition of materials from a finished product?

That idea is rather sci-fi.

Li Ni, Chen Yundi, and even Lin Weiwei were all astonished.

Can it really be done like this? Quite a thought...

"But by doing so, while you save on time and appear to improve the effect, won't the cost increase significantly? Are we supposed to send various materials for analysis to see their composition? That's just... too far-fetched." Chen Yundi couldn't help but retort.

Although Bai Xiaosheng had been acting like an expert, these words were definitely those of an amateur.

The traditional method of trial and error may be slow, but at least it is cheap and feasible.

What this Xiaosheng Brother is saying sounds quite enlightening at first glance, but it's somewhat unrealistic.

The equipment and technology required for such compositional comparisons probably don't even exist in all of Dacheng, not to mention they must be expensive even in big cities.

Li Ni nodded, sharing the same thoughts.

Even Lin Weiwei thought that Xiaosheng had exaggerated this time.

At first listen, it seems like an efficiency breakthrough, but in reality, it's not very practical.

No, it's too impractical!

Bai Xiaosheng smiled without saying anything, turning the piece of Xiao Hongni clay over in his hand.

In his mind, he heard the voice of Red Lotus, "Weight determination complete, density measurement complete, spectral analysis complete, surface scanning complete..."

"Xiao Hongni's compositional structure is as follows..."

With ease, Bai Xiaosheng obtained the component analysis that Li Ni, Chen Yundi, and Lin Weiwei thought would be difficult to acquire.

This isn't surprising; compared to expensive testing instruments and cutting-edge detection technology, the presence of Red Lotus is an existence many times superior to both.

"Actually, I have a friend in a scientific research institute. I can ask for his help—no problem at all. We can find the materials you haven't discovered even faster!" Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

"Really?!" Li Ni was immediately thrilled.

Lin Weiwei and Chen Yundi were also taken aback.

Bai Xiaosheng dared to say such things because he had something to rely on!

If he has such resources, that would be terrific!

Bai Xiaosheng, having seen the concept diagrams produced by Li Ni on the computer, now asked him in detail what characteristics the missing mineral material should possess.

Li Ni knew everything and told all.

Bai Xiaosheng then let Red Lotus begin the analysis in his mind.

However, even for Red Lotus to complete the analysis, a considerable amount of time would be needed.

Linking the entire network's mineral data to analyze and compare them for similar or close properties isn't difficult.

But to deduce the chemical reaction with this piece of Xiao Hongni clay and to match the final result would require some time.

Of course, Bai Xiaosheng also believed that Red Lotus would reach a conclusion in the short term.

After all, Red Lotus has never disappointed him.

While the group was talking, Lei Ying stepped in.

"Hero Lei, where have you been?" Li Ni asked curiously, pointing at Bai Xiaosheng, "I asked him, and he said you went to deal with some problem."

Lei Ying smiled, "Bald Guy and his gang will no longer cause trouble for you. You can rest assured."

So, Lei Ying went to sort things out with them!

Li Ni and Chen Yundi suddenly realized and were immediately moved by the attention to detail of Bai Xiaosheng and his companions.

Eliminating a trouble is always a good thing!

"Then I really need to thank you! Let's have a good meal for lunch, my treat!" Li Ni grandly declared with a wave of his hand, full of generosity.

...

At lunchtime, true to his word, Li Ni took Bai Xiaosheng and the others, together with everyone from the workshop, to a Michelin two-star restaurant for a feast.

When paying the bill, Li Ni was quite emotional.

These people really didn't hesitate to spend money when it wasn't their own!

After lunch, it was already past two in the afternoon. Li Ni sent the workshop employees back first and accompanied Bai Xiaosheng and the others to visit the area where Xiao Hongni clay was sourced.

Driving there, Li Ni personally drove the car. While watching the road ahead, he seriously said to Bai Xiaosheng, "For the original person in charge over there, I've put in a lot of effort, making connections and entertaining with meals to get permission for us to enter and collect clay. The raw material gathered is not easy to preserve as its components can oxidize, and with our continuous experiments, we have used a lot. So we have to establish a good relationship with them to allow us multiple extractions. But I heard that the company has changed hands, and it's uncertain whether that person managing the land has changed or not. I'm afraid we might have to renegotiate from scratch!"

Chapter 1320 - Human Greed is Insatiable Like a Snake Swallowing an Elephant_3

This matter has always been weighing heavily on Li Ni's mind.

If negotiations fail, his supply of raw materials will be cut off!

Then he wouldn't be able to continue work!

He could purchase soil from them, but the owner of the land now is a major corporation who wouldn't care about the money.

If there's a change in the person in charge, whether they would exploit their power for personal gain, that's uncertain.

Moreover, seeing their dire need for that specific type of Xiao Hongni clay, would they sit on the ground and hike up the price enormously? It's possible!

Although Li Ni financed five million at Xue Lian Wan He, that sum wasn't handed over all at once. Inclusive of equipment purchases, experimental funds, and subsequent commercial operations, it's a lengthy process.

Li Ni fears the money he currently has might be tight!

When telling Bai Xiaosheng about the situation, Li Ni actually felt quite heavy-hearted.

He's not exactly an optimist, facing issues, he first thinks of the worst outcome.

This isn't a good habit; it tires people out and easily leads to pessimism!

However, now that Bai Xiaosheng is here, Li Ni feels that he is a capable man and suddenly feels like the burden has been lifted.

However, after Li Ni's lengthy exposition, when he looked at Bai Xiaosheng, he found him engrossed in his phone!

Li Ni was shocked.

"Hey, hey, are you even listening to me."

"I'm listening, just focus on driving."

Bai Xiaosheng did not look up, still texting.

Li Ni instantly felt less confident about Bai Xiaosheng...

Dacheng Northern District is a new area, filled with constructing tall buildings, and the roads are impressively wide, though not many vehicles are around.

Li Ni drove Bai Xiaosheng and the other two, turning into a fenced plot of land. The land stretched vast, dotted with vegetation and trees. At the entrance to one side, there were three rows of prefabricated color steel houses common on construction sites, which appeared to be of decent quality from the outside, all equipped with external air conditioning units.

Li Ni parked the car, then took Bai Xiaosheng and the others straight to a specific location.

"Forgot to tell you about the situation here. Originally, there were two main persons responsible for this land. The top person is often absent, and the second in command is actually in charge. I don't know if the change of the company owning the land will affect the person in charge. It might not, since the land is actually managed by a third-party group. With the change of ownership, a short-term handover might not be that fast, plus, these third-party people are familiar with the area here, they only require a small payment, and it's convenient for them too." Along the way, Li Ni explained to Bai Xiaosheng, "Now that I think about it, since the third-party people only do land leveling work, perhaps there's no need to change them."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded, following Li Ni with Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying.

Upon arriving at the door of a prefabricated color steel house, Li Ni knocked on the door, and a lazy voice came from inside, "Come in!"

"That voice sounds familiar, it seems to be the old Han!" Li Ni's eyes lit up.

Thinking it would be troublesome if there was a change in the responsible person, but now seeing it's still the same person, that would make things easier!

Li Ni pushed the door open.

Bai Xiaosheng and the others followed him.

In the office, a man with a scruffy beard dangled a cigarette, his eyes glued to the computer screen, one hand on the keyboard and the other on the mouse, intensely engaged, but after a moment, he sighed heavily, pushed the mouse and keyboard, and leaned back in his chair, removing the cigarette from his mouth, extinguishing it in the ashtray.

"Yo, isn't this Mr. Li Ni?" The scruffy-bearded old Han suddenly brightened his eyes, grinned, showing his smoke-stained yellow teeth.

Before getting up, he first maneuvered the mouse to close something.

"Mr. Han, what's keeping you busy?" Li Ni smiled.

"Just dealing with some documents." Old Han chuckled.

Bai Xiaosheng found it amusing.

The moment they entered and saw old Han's demeanor, it was clear he was playing games.

"Come, come, have a seat." Old Han gestured towards the sofa by the side for Li Ni and the others.

Despite being a prefabricated color steel office, the interior didn't look bad at all, equipped with desks, computers, sofas, air conditioning, and everything a regular office would have, albeit a bit messy.

"These are my friends," Li Ni briefly introduced.

Old Han shook hands with each, his eyes particularly bright when facing Lin Weiwei, extending the handshake for an extra second.

"Mr. Han, it's about what I mentioned last time, the price remains the same, we want to haul some more Xiao Hongni." Li Ni smiled.

Since it's still the same person, that simplifies matters a lot.

Li Ni thought it simple, but old Han he-he laughed, tilting his head, scratching the itch behind his ear with his little finger, and said to Li Ni, "Originally, there would be no problem. But, you see, we've got a new owner now, a big corporation, they manage strictly. I can't really do this deal with you on the side, right."

"But it's still you managing here, right? I see all familiar faces outside." Li Ni couldn't help but say.

Bai Xiaosheng surrendered.

He had no idea how Li Ni had even established this contact previously; old Han clearly had the expression of wanting to raise his price.

Perhaps, was it because the game needed recharging?

Lin Weiwei, Lei Ying, and Bai Xiaosheng, with two or three years of experience, also saw through this.

Only Li Ni still "didn't get it".

"Mr. Li, this new owner sends people to inspect every few days, don't I need to host them well? If they find something out, I would need something good to shut them up, right? Then this money just won't be enough." Old Han, still chuckling, looked at Li Ni, "It's going to cost more."

"More money?" Li Ni finally understood, his brow slightly furrowed, "Then, how much more?"

Old Han held out three fingers.

"Thirty percent more?" Li Ni was taken aback.

Old Han laughed, "Brother, what are you joking about? Seeing how much you like our one-of-a-kind mud, naturally, its value must also be cherished."

"I meant, triple the price!"

This statement made Li Ni jump in shock.

This is "insatiable greed!"